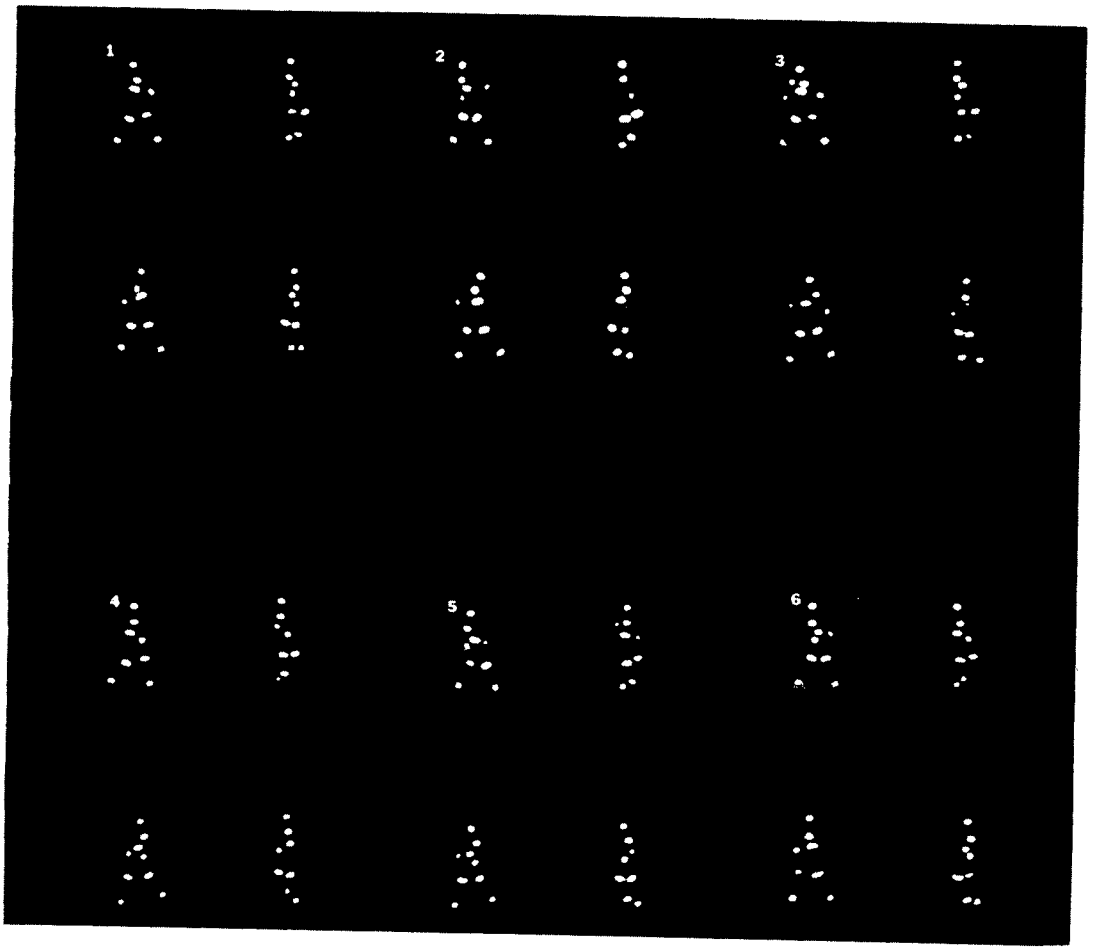

Figure 1. Each of the six walkers is portrayed in a cluster of four point-light configurations. Those at the top of each cluster show the individual walking from left to right, those at the bottom from right to left. The two configurations on the left portray the walker with arms and legs most outstretched, and those on the right with body most aligned, on one stiff leg with the other slightly raised. Walkers 1, 2, and 3 are female; 4, 5, and 6 are male. Dynamic arrays, but not the static ones shown here, are adequate for recognition of a particular person.

tape, yielding 60 trials: (6 walkers) × (10 separate tokens per walker). Each trial consisted of the individual walking from left to right across the monitor screen, followed by a 3- to 5-sec pause and the same person walking from right to left. An interval of 15 to 20 sec occurred between trials to insure that no "flop-over" of image on the monitor would occur within a trial. Barrel distortion and other degradations of the image due to rerecording were minimal.

Two months after the recording session we invited the six walkers back to determine if they could recognize one another. A seventh undergraduate, who knew the six well, also served as a viewer. All sat in a dimly lit room and viewed the test sequence on a monitor. For all viewers, the dynamic shapes subtended a visual angle of about 5 deg measured vertically. For each trial, viewers wrote the name of the walker and indicated confidence in their responses using a five-point unipolar scale. Before viewing, they ranked the individuals for how easy they would be to recognize by their walk; after viewing, they wrote a few phrases about how they had made their decisions about the identity of each walker. The entire session lasted about 40 min.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Our viewers did well, although they were far from perfect. Chance performance would be 16.7% correct identification. Overall, correct responses occurred on 38% of all trials [$t(6) = 4.6$, $p < .005$, one-tailed]. The range of performance was 20% to 58%, as can be seen in Table 1. Interestingly, the best viewer was a dancer and she was also second easiest to recognize. Although no feedback was given, performance improved over the course of the task. Viewers increased from 27% correct identification for the first three presentations of