

10/17/62



Hans Oldag Herb Mols George Bertsch Gus Gressel Roland Murray Edward Jetter Oscar Lorentz

Oldtime track stars show off trophies as they re-live their big moments in sports

Scotch Lil Triumphs at Batavia

Special to The Courier-Express

VIA—Scotch Lil mounted a drive which carried her to victory in the \$1,000 race at mud-spattered Batavia Tuesday.

She was sloppy and the race was up plenty of mud, falling through much of the race.

She returned \$8.20 after a 3-1. Frank Cuff was her fifth in 31 minutes. The time was 1:10.4.

She was with a neck and favored leader, going with sulky. Marian was pacer.

She led at the half, changed at the three-quarters and before she reached the finish.

Ex-Track Stars Gather at Reunion

About 50 former local track stars reminisced and exchanged yarns covering more than six decades of athletic endeavors at a reunion dinner Tuesday night at the Downtown YMCA.

Most of those present competed either for or against the Downtown Y Track Club.

Their track histories ranged back to 1897, when the venerable Gus Gressel, now 85, began his fabulous career, up to the 26-year-old Frank Finnerty, an alumnus of Hutch-Tech and Alfred University.

Finnerty was an excellent miller whose best time was 4:12—a clocking which would have been a world record during the heyday of most of the guests.

Among the guests was Hans Oldag, who was a marathon runner in the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Another was the colorful George Bertsch, known as the "flying fireman," who

qualified for the 1924 Olympics in Paris in both the 1,500-meter run and the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Fractured Ankle

However, an ankle fracture prevented him from running in the Olympics. He has for many years been a handicapper at local racing events.

Herb Mols, past president of the Niagara District AAU, was the guest speaker who related the role of the AAU in track.

He also suggested an old-timers' track meet to honor the famous runners of the past and the idea seemed to appeal greatly to those present.

Other guests included Gardner Debo, Erie County recreation director, and Miles W. Joyce, former North Tonawanda mayor who was a distance runner.

William Whitcher served as toastmaster and Roland Murray was dinner chairman.

Harness Form at Batavia

FIRST—Trot C-3, mile, \$700. (F 7 yr. olds & older).

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 2 Duke's Lucy, Chamberlain... | 7-5 |
| 3 Mable Forbes, Gilhooly | 2-4 |
| 8 Rascal Sandy, Webster | 1-4 |
| 1 Evelyn M., Bell | 4 |
| 6 Butch Mac, E. Harner | 2 |
| 5 Red Treasure, Jensen | 2 |
| 7 Topsy Messenger, Nichols | 2 |
| 4 Mr. Jive C., Mehlenbacher | 2 |

SECOND—Pace C-3, mile, \$700.

3, 4 & 5 yr. olds).

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 8 Flash's Dream, J. Hodgins... | 7-5 |
| 4 Triple C., Webster | 2-4 |
| 3 Half Way, Manges | 1-4 |
| 2 Look Out Pick, K. Beadle | 4 |
| 6 Social Worker, Geo. Gilm | 2 |
| 7 Margrit Will, Gilhooly | 2 |
| 1 Capri Diamond, William | 2 |
| 5 Sinful Hec, Jensen | 2 |

THIRD—Pace, claimin'

3 Amber Dillon, Gunter

6 Take, B. Gilmour

7 Oyster, Wallace

8 King Spud, Hodgins

1 Nell Laird, Bomar

2 The Great Major

4 Clara Tarr, Vanc

5 Lucky Spirits, D

FOURTH—Pace

3, 4 & 5 yr. olds)

1 Guy Dares, E.

2 Irish Rose Ler

6 Rudy's Girl

7 Governor H

5 Sunset Lee

3 Justa Min

4 Haltonia

8 Grand

FIFTH—

1 Fran

3 Ele V

7 Maze

4 Mig

5 Cro

6 He

2 D

Aces Shade Indians, 4 to 3