

Puddle Jumpers compete at Placid post marathon

By Victoria Levitt

The Flatland Puddle Jumpers of Potsdam jumped a lot of puddles on their way to logging 189 miles and a second place finish in the 24-hour long post marathon held in Lake Placid on July 31 and August 1. The nine-member team fought rain, darkness and fatigue not so much to win as to "just last it out," they said. Team organizer Bob Riggs said they were all responding to a challenge. "We didn't know if we could do it and what the effects on us would be."

Lee LaBarre, interviewed before the race, had a similar attitude. "Don't even talk about winning," he said. "We just want to be able to finish." Responding to a question about why he entered the race he explained, "I'm doing it to see what kind of condition I'm in and maybe to give impetus to improve my condition. And," he joked, "there's a certain amount of peer pressure involved. The rest of them won't let me run on the Maxey Hall track if I don't go."

Averaging 21 miles per runner, Puddle Jumpers finished 16 1/4 miles behind the first place Lake Placid team, which turned in a total of 205 1/4 with eight of their ten starters finishing the full 24 hours. A second Potsdam team, the "Wild Bill Bunch" withdrew about half way through the competition after completing 110 miles. A spokesman for the Wild Bills, Matt Hafer said the team was hampered by a lack of adequate tents and sleeping facilities and was under considerable strain because they were "running short" with only five men in the race at the time they withdrew. "We really weren't prepared for the weather," Hafer said, "and we couldn't keep warm. Everyone kept cramping up and we felt it was best to drop out before anyone was hurt or got sick." He said the Bills are looking toward next year's race with an eye to finishing and perhaps winning.

Two other teams originally scheduled to compete, from Tupper Lake and Gouverneur, did not enter the marathon. The Puddle Jumpers are a unique group of runners. Scott Baxter, Jeannie Chapple and Melanie Johnson are teenage students, while Nancy Drago, Lee LaBarre, Dick Lunt, Lora Lunt, Allan Newell and Bob Riggs range in age from mid-twenties to late forties and pursue an assortment of careers from teaching to dentistry. As a competing team they are also a bit unusual in that they include both men and women.

But they share a sense of determination and commitment to follow through, and now that the race is over, they share a feeling of accomplishment and pride in themselves and each other. Nancy Drago, who was one of the prime movers in getting the team together said after the race that she was "amazed at how good I feel; how great it was to be able to do it."

Teammate Riggs commented that what he found most striking was "the camaraderie among the people we met—we were all miserable together. But even though we were competing, we all wanted the other team to finish." Both Riggs and Drago described how the other runners would run round a lap or two with a competitor, offering advice and encouragement.

Lora Lunt, who had intended to go along as a sort of manager for the team, ended up running the full race. She decided to start the race and then drop out, but found herself going on each time her mile came up. "The hardest part," she maintained, "was crawling out of the sleeping bag and putting on wet clothes to run." She, too, was impressed by the friendly spirit of the other competitors. "People who endure something have a special feeling for each other," she said.

But she also commented on the isolation of the individual runner. "During the night I felt like I was alone, then one of these guys would go

steaming by, hair flying, and then I'd be alone again."

The major problem, given the rain and cold temperatures, was keeping warm and dry, said Dick Lunt. "But we ate the right foods to keep our blood sugar level stable. We had fruit pemmican, tiger's milk, and Gatorade. You can't eat heavy foods, especially fats, he explained, "because fats can cause an acid stomach, and that's the last thing a runner wants."

But, he said, "eventually everyone was hurting somewhere. We would finish our runs and come off the track with every kind of ache, some had headaches and flickering vision, and we really hit the wall. At one point I got a lot of encouragement and medical help from Dr. Bob Lopez who was running on the Placid team. As we both were running our laps, he had me taking deep breaths to get rid of chest pain. And then there was the quiet dedication of Melanie Johnson's father and Bob Riggs' son David, who sat under a tarp with a flashlight recording times for all the teams through the night and through the rain. "They were cold and shivering, even had gloves on," Bob Riggs said, but they stuck it out with us."

The Puddle Jumpers say they have gained a great deal of personal satisfaction in living up to the challenge and in discovering their own "sheer guts" as Nancy Drago put it. It was only after they entered the competition that most of the Potsdam runners found out that their entry fees and other contributions would go toward the Lake Placid Kiwanis fund raising drive for Muscular Dystrophy. Each of the runners received prizes for their participation, as well.

But would they do it again? Lora Lunt said, "I felt all along that it was kind of a crazy thing to do, and havin' done it once I don't think I need to do it again."

Drago is thinking about a 15-kilometer race coming up soon, and she hasn't ruled out next year's post marathon. The others on the team can't be pinned down. They're testing some muscles and resting on laurels for the moment. But maybe next year...



KEEPING LOOSE: Bill Landmesser moves off the Lake Placid High School track where he and his team mates logged an average of 23 miles per person to cop first place in the post marathon. (Dick Lunt Photo).



HANDING OFF the baton to Allen Newell, Lora Lunt completes a mile in the post marathon in which the Potsdam team finished in second place. (Dick Lunt photo).

Playoffs roll on in softball loop

By Chris Wells

The first round of playoffs in the Potsdam Slow-Pitch League produced only one upset—and a mild one at that. The fifth-place finisher in Division I, Kentucky Fried Chicken, stole two close contests away from fourth-place Saga Food Service. Other than that there were no surprises. The top three teams in Division I and the top four Division II advance to the quarterfinals:

Duciewicz vs. Kentucky Fried Chicken
Whiskey One vs. Ted's Treads
Timber Tavern vs. The Hut
Quonset Pioneers vs. Green's

"A" Bracket

Dugway Tavern forfeited their series with Duciewicz.

Kentucky Fried Chicken 6-Saga Food Service 5. Dave Eldridge's grounder back to the pitcher proved to be the winning hit when Saga's first baseman lost the short toss in the sun, allowing two runs to score. Tracy LaPoint was the winning pitcher, and Tom Eschen was the outstanding defensive player for KFC. Jet Tischler hit 2-4 with two rbi's. Kim Burns had a homerun and two rbi's, and John Carrigan and Dave Ellis each batted 2-4. For Saga, Charlie Carpenter went 2-3 with an HR, Larry Taube was 2-3 with two triples, and Jack Cutler hit 2-3.

KFC 7-Saga 4. Tom Cook was credited with the win and Tom Eschen again sparkled in the field. Jet Tischler went 2-3 with an HR and three rbi's. For Saga, Marty Bartholdi, Bill Wixted, and Jon Harrington had two hit apiece.

Whiskey One 24-Swan's 9. For Whiskey, Jeff Terrillon hit 5-5, Ace Thompson was 3-4, Joe Doyle went 3-5, Bill Varner batted 2-4, and Chip Giardano had a homerun.

Whiskey One 18-Swan's 13. Ted Prah was the winner, Mike Mero collected three hits, and Jack Farrell, Ducky Thomas, and Wayne Currier added two each. Currier was the defensive standout. For the Quonset, Con Stebner was the losing pitcher, Dave Wilson hit 2-4, Steve Barr was 2-3.

Ted's Treads 15-Quonset 2. Prah picked up another win and equaled Jack Farrell's and Jeff Covell's three-hit performances.

"B" Bracket:

Timber Tavern 24-WRWC 1. Dick Wickwire was the winning pitcher; Bernie Bronson and Mike Greene had three hits and a homerun; George Harmon and Ken Richardson had three hits each.

Timber 21-WRWC 2. Dick Wickwire pitched the four-inning win that was

LaRose, Meyerdierks capture net finals

Eight mixed doubles teams competed last weekend in Potsdam's Fifth Annual Tennis Tournament. Watertown's up and coming Tim LaRose, teamed with Betsy Meyerdierks, overcame Jerry Leek and Patricia Walsh of Canton in a seesaw final, 7-5, 2-6, 7-5. LaRose and Meyerdierks worked their way to the top in tough matches against last year's second place team, Celia and John Bohannon, Canton, 7-5, 6-3, and another with Marge Kirchgasser and Jerry Kreuzer, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. The Leek-Walsh combination beat Joanne and John Wisniewski, 6-1, 6-0, and Dave and Niki Jordan 6-1, 6-0. It was Ann Crannond and Chris Angus over Linda Lee Riordan and Dave Dunn, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. Angus and Crannond then lost to the Jordans, 6-1, 6-4. Niki and Dave Jordan chaired the weekend matches.

A large turnout is expected for Men's Singles scheduled for August 14 and 15. Sr. Men's Singles (50 years and older) and Men's Doubles complete the series, August 21 and 22.

Mets are champs in NL

The Mets, coached by Mark Sisson and Jim Boak, won the National League Championship by virtue of their 6-2 win over the Dodgers. The Mets were led by the pitching of Brian Collins, Doug Curry, and Don Lozo. Steve Hurley and Lozo each had two hits including a double by Lozo. Brian Loveless and Larry Cole also had base hits in the five run uprising in the fourth inning.

Entry blanks are available

Entry forms for the 1976 St. Lawrence National Bank Northern Invitational Golf Tournament have been distributed to all branches of the bank and to most golf pro shops in the area.

Increased interest in this tournament, year after year, makes it very important that all persons interested in playing post early entries. About 60 entry forms have been returned already, embracing almost all of the five flights. The field must be restricted to approximately 160 players, with the entries with the earliest postmarks being shown preference.

This year's tournament is being played for the benefit of the Clifton-Fine Hospital in Star Lake, and is scheduled for Saturday, September 11. Final date for entry forms is set for August 28, but actual cut-off will be earlier due to player limit. The tournament will be played at the St. Lawrence Golf and Country Club in Canton, one of the finest courses in the north country. Those interested in playing are again urged to pick up an entry form at any office of the bank, or at their golf course pro shop, and forward it immediately with \$12 entry fee, to The St. Lawrence National Bank, 85-91 Main Street, Canton 13617. The entry form with check may be left at any office of the bank if desired.

Pin-a-rama meeting set for August 23

The Pin-A-Rama Bowling League meeting will be held at Market Lanes, August 23 at 7:30 p.m. All team captains or an authorized representative should attend. We welcome new teams. For more information, please call Julie Hart, Secretary at 265-2056 or Margaret Tyo at 262-2121.

An organizational all-league meeting for Norwood-Norfolk Women Bowlers will be held at 7 p.m. on August 25 at LaVigne's Hotel, Norfolk.

The Golden Knight

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ACTUAL USE REPORT			⑥
(A) CATEGORIES	(B) CAPITAL	(C) OPERATING / MAINTENANCE	THE GOVERNMENT OF POTSDAM TOWN
1 PUBLIC SAFETY	\$	\$	has received General Revenue Sharing payments totaling \$ 91,172
2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	\$	\$	during the period from July 1, 1975 thru June 30, 1976
3 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION	\$	\$	ACCOUNT NO 33 3 045 028
4 HEALTH	\$	\$	POTSDAM TOWN 446
5 RECREATION	\$	\$	TOWN SUPERVISOR
6 LIBRARIES	\$	\$	ST LAWRENCE COUNTY
7 SOCIAL SERVICES FOR AGED OR POOR	\$	\$	POTSDAM N Y 13676
8 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	\$	\$	
9 MULTIPURPOSE AND GENERAL GOVT	\$ 96,571		
10 EDUCATION	\$	\$	(D) TRUST FUND REPORT (refer to instruction D)
11 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	\$	\$	1 Balance as of June 30, 1975 10,749
12 HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	\$	\$	2 Revenue Sharing Funds Received from July 1, 1975 thru June 30, 1976 91,172
13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$	\$	3 Interest Received or Credited (July 1, 1975 thru June 30, 1976) 3,066
14 OTHER (Specify)	\$	\$	4 Funds Released from Obligations (IF ANY) 104,987
15 TOTALS	\$ 96,571	\$	5 Sum of lines 1, 2, 3, 4 104,987
			6 Funds Returned to ORS (IF ANY) 104,987
			7 Total Funds Available 96,571
			8 Total Amount Expended (Sum of line 15, column B and column C) 8,116
			9 Balance as of June 30, 1976

NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET (E) CERTIFICATION I certify that I am the Chief Executive Officer and with respect to the entitlement funds report herein, I certify that they have not been used in violation of either the priority expenditure requirements (Section 903) or the matching funds provision (Section 904) of the Act.

Signature of Chief Executive Officer: Joel Morrison 8/11/76
Name and Title: Supervisor Date

(F) IF THE NEWS MEDIA HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT A COMPLETE COPY OF THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN A LOCAL NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION I HAVE A COPY OF THIS REPORT AND RECORDS DOCUMENTING THE CONTENTS. THEY ARE OPEN FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY AT Town of Potsdam Office, 35 Market St., Potsdam, N. Y.

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