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1976 ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, January 16th; 35 Club members attending.
Approved current dues remain basically the same as those of 1975: \$2.00 regular family member with late membership benefit of \$1.00 dues for those enrolling after August 31st; additional family members residing in same dwelling with regular member will be assessed .50.
The shirt design remains unchanged at least for 1976.
The Club awarded only its third honorary life membership to date, the recipient being Al Morrison. Al also was elected as honorary Club coach.
1976 Social Committee: Jim Rowan, John Martin, Phil Ludlow, Sean Spillane, and V. P. John Leslie as ex-officio. Refer ideas to these individuals. Addresses and phone numbers appear in the attached roster.
Brian Heidtman, one of the Club's founding fathers, was granted a year's honorary membership.
Responsibility of assuring Club representation at the Conn. A. A. U. meetings was cast upon the Executive Board. Prospective volunteers included Al Morrison, Bob Dempsy, Jack Curran, Phil Ludlow, Wil Zinser, and the current officers.
The Executive Board was delegated to investigate the dismissal of a group of athletes from the New England AAU for participating in a YMCA road race in Massachusetts, and to draft a letter of grievance to that Association. (This task has been completed.)
The 1975 officers were elected to another term.
John Martin, one of Mohegan's founding fathers, donated \$100.00 towards a trust fund to aid Olympic hopefuls running under the Mohegan Striders. The Club membership entitled the trust "The John P. Martin Fund." \$25.00 was appropriated specifically to Amby Burfoot should he desire to attend the Olympic trials. Other specifics for the fund's use are yet to be established.
A second \$25.00 appropriation was voted from the Club general fund for Amby Burfoot's expenses to the Olympic trials.

HONORARY MEMBER - AL MORRISON

Lover of the sport 1/16/76

Only the third life member in the Club's four year history, Al joins former sports writer John DeGange, and Harold Tantaquidgeon, noted Mohegan - Pequot Indian. Unlike the prior two life members, whose professional background had much to do with their induction, Al's background was simply one of love for the sport and the Club, along with his enthusiastic desire to aid the cause whenever possible. Al has served as chute master, timer, placer, statistician, trainer, and coach. Hence, the Club also unanimously voted him as honorary coach of the Mohegan Strider Association.
Don Pirie explained it best when he compared Al's influence on him to that of Johnny Kelley's. The same sentiment was expressed by Bob Dempsy. Those who really know Al can appreciate the comment offered by Wil Zinser, the proverbial "Last of the Mohegans". "Al even waits for me at the finish." Enough said? Congratulations, Al!

THAT THE SPIRIT OF '76 MAY PROPEL JAN MERRILL AND JUDY FONTAINE INTO THE UNITED STATES' OLYMPIC REPRESENTATION: A MOHEGAN STRIDERS' WISH.

THE FLYING ARROWHEAD

The most unpredictable issue of the annual meeting was the Club's controversial shirt design. Since the first ordering of shirts back in 1972 there have been numerous movements to change the design. Committees have existed; new designs have been offered; dissatisfaction has been voiced; and yet once again the flying arrowhead and the old English letters remain immovable. After some debate the Club unanimously voted to leave its trademark alone. A simple explanation lies in the growth of a solid sentimental tradition over the nearly four years of the shirts' existence. During the Club's infancy the shirts' readability and insignia were questioned frequently by many. Now, however, the design has become a familiar "coat of arms", and whosoever wears it is readily identified as a Mohegan Strider. Its a good bet that the familiar design will exist happily ever after with the Club.

SHORTS

Please report address and phone changes to Bob Carbray, 464-9022 . . . Steve Flanagan placed sixth in the U.S. International X-C Team Trials which now will take him to the International 12,000 M. X-C Championships in Wales in March . . . Jim Euell is currently pouring his energies into the Campus Crusade for Christ. He and his wife are aiding college students in developing a sound spiritual awareness. They are at the U. of Kansas . . . The Club has received \$125.00 from the Conn. A.A.U. to help defray the expenses of the six members who competed in the National 10,000 M. in Philadelphia in November. . . Mississippi's Ross Huntington runs PR 9:31 deuce on boards.

BUSY FEBRUARY

Feb. 7th, 20-K, Masters at Storrs: Ralph Thomas wins it in under 72 min. George Maine (83 min.) placed 11th overall. Tag placed 5th in his division, and Jim Rowan hit 1 hr. 54 min. for the trek . . . Feb. 14th, Fresh Pond action included Tim Smith 1st in 5-mile (26:40) and Rob Huntington 1st in 2 1/2 at 13:06 . . . Feb. 15th, Silver Lake Marathon: Tim Smith (2:31:45) grabs third and John Brady runs 3:29:41. In Washington D.C. Rory Suomi runs 2:34:19 for 1st in his division and seventh overall. In Newark 12-mile Amby misses victory by 18 seconds as Carl Hatfield beats Burfoot's 59:02. Jim Butler ran 72:03 and Bill Billing 72:28. Rob Huntington (23:13) and Marc Gottesdiener place ninth and fifteenth respectively behind winner Mike Cotton (22:14) in the Hamden 4 1/2-mile.

CONN. AAU MARATHON, MARCH 7TH

Joe Kolbe (2:28:56) and the Holy Cross Track Club (13 pts.) burnt the Striders in both top individual and top team, but the Club still managed some notable efforts, including top Conn. AAU team (32 pts.) and also top master runner in Gene McMerriman who recently turned 40 and looks to be making the most of his new status. Gino was 19th overall in 2:47-plus. Ahead of Gene, in the field of 206 were Tim, Amby, Julio, and Hal Bennett, ranging from 7th thru 16th spots. 22nd and 23rd went to Jimmy Butler and Bill Billing in 2:49-plus while George Maine and Doug Knight ran in the 2:50's for 40th and 42nd. John Barry, John Leslie, and Jim Rowan also fared well among the 142 finishers. This is the 3rd straight Conn. Marathon Championship for the Club. Kathy Gervais set a new Conn. women's standard: 2:57-plus. Gerry Browning clocked 3:13.

TO THE RACES

March 28th, Nat'l. 20-K. at Gloversville, N.Y.; April 17th, 5-Mi. at Rockville; April 19th, The Big "M" at Boston; May 2nd, Conn. AAU 25-K. at Middletown; May 9th, 7-Mi. at Windsor; May 15th, 10-Mi. at Glastonbury; May 16th, 5-Mi. at Plainville.

NOTES BENES (?)

Your fellow members now total 69 strong for the current Club year. This is very promising especially since past years have shown a large enrollment only after the weather breaks - around late April. The Club's letter to the New England AAU re: the suspension of 15 runners from that Association has aided in the full reinstatement of 14 of the 15 runners. One runner did not show up at the hearing, but the Club still hopes for his reinstatement.

LAST NEWSLETTER FOR NON-PAIDS!

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