

200,000

Witness

Race Event

Watkins Glen—(AP)—Walter E. Hansgen, of Westfield, N. J., guided his screaming XK-120 Jaguar around the tight turns of this sports car course at an average speed of 76.1 miles an hour yesterday to win the Grand Prix, highlight of the sixth annual International Grand Prix.

Hansgen, a 32-year-old auto body-shop owner, took command

Bob Bucher of 15 Riverview Avenue, Binghamton, finished tenth in his Jaguar XK-120.

at the start of the 101.2 mile, 44-lap event and held it to the nineteenth when George Harris III of Geneva passed him on hazardous "homestretch turn."

Hansgen recovered with a burst of speed on the twenty-first lap and took the lead away from Harris, who drove a Cadillac-Allard J2, and didn't give it up. Harris, a strong contender in previous years, finished second and Travis H. McKenna, of Brockville was third in his XK-120 M Jaguar.

NO INJURIES

No injuries were reported in the three races but there were three accidents involving the souped up, flashy cars. In the five previous years of racing, two persons were killed.

A thrilled crowd estimated at "slightly less than 200,000" lined the 4.6 mile closed circuit of town highways, put into use for the first time this year and described by officials as one of the safest in spite of the high speeds of the cars. Overcast skies did not open up until the end of the feature Grand Prix race.

The XK-120 Jaguar of Jack Caruso of Greenwood, R. I., went out on a curve and over a bank but he was able to re-enter the race. Lt. John A. Baker of



BOB BUCHER

the Aberdeen Proving Grounds went out of control on "homestretch curve" and his car spun across the track, requiring other drivers to observe a caution light for two laps.

Hansgen's winning time for the feature race was one hour, 20 minutes and 23.5 seconds.

COLE OVERTURNS

"Homestretch turn," a 90-degree angle, was labeled the most dangerous section of the course. Bill Cole of Philadelphia walked away from his overturned Singer uninjured when it flipped in the Queen Catharine event. The turn is approached by a long straightaway where drivers get up to 125 mph and must brake fast. A number of hills, dips and tight turns make the course a challenge to drivers.

In the second race, the 101.2-mile Queen Catharine Cup Event for sports cars under 1500 cc., George Moffett of Mt. Kisco, and Henry W. Wessells III, of Ardmore, Pa., each held the lead twice in a tight duel on the 22 laps. Moffett took over in the nineteenth lap and held to the finish. Wessells was second and Dave Ash of Stony Point was third. Wessells and Moffett both drove Ocas and Ash piloted an MG Special. A field of 23 was entered.

SENECA CUP RACE

The 50.6 mile Seneca Cup race was taken when Dr. M. Roy Wylie, of Allison Park, Pa., spurted in the last 70 yards to edge out Phil Cade of Winchester, Mass. Third was Joseph Aldini of Louderville driving a Jaguar 120 M.

Wylie, driving his XK-Jaguar 120 M, set a new record of 72.3 miles an hour over the eleven laps.

The Grand Prix final event was cancelled last year when a 7-year-old boy was killed. The course at that time went down the main street of this community, but state and local agencies outlawed car races over their respective roads. The new course, west of the community, was approved later.

The summary:

1. Walter E. Hansgen, Westfield, N. J., Jaguar XK-120; 2. George Harris III, Geneva, N. Y., Allard J-2; 3. Hal Ulrich, Milwaukee, Excelsior J; 4. Travers McKenna, Brockville, N. Y., Jaguar XK-120 M; 5. Harry Grey, Mahanaset, N. Y., Jaguar XK-120; 6. L. Otto Linton, Exton, Pa., Slats; 7. Jack Caruso, Greenwood, R. I., Jaguar XK-120 M; 8. Richard Ferrin, Putnam, Conn., Jaguar XK-120 M; 9. Thomas Hoan, Hamilton, Ont., Jaguar XK-120; 10. Robert Bucher, Binghamton, N. Y., Jaguar XK-120.

Blaine Eason of the Detroit Lions led the National Football League in fumble recoveries during the 1952 season. Eason, a defensive end, pounced on five enemy fumbles.