

ATHLETICS INTERNATIONAL

VOL 22, NO 1 – JANUARY 7, 2014

EDITED BY PETER MATTHEWS & MEL WATMAN

Olga GYARMATI-ACZEL (Hungary) (b. 5 Oct 1924 Debrecen) died on October 27 in Greenfield, Massachusetts, USA at the age of 89. She was Hungary's second female Olympic champion in athletics, winning the 1948 long jump (also 10th in 1952 and 11th in 1956). She also won World University Games titles in 1949 at long jump and 1951 at 200 metres, adding four silvers and two bronzes at the Universiade in 1949 and 1951. She competed in 31 Internationals 1942-56 at six events and won 24 Hungarian titles at individual events: 100m 1941, 1949 and 1951, 200m 1951-2, 80mh 1948-49 and 1951-5, high jump 1942 and 1949, long jump 1948-9 and 1951-6, and pentathlon 1950 and 1955. In addition, she won four national relay titles. She set 24 national records at six events. Pbs: 60m 7.8 (1950), 100m 11.9 (1951), 200m 24.8 (1951), 80mh 11.1 (1956), HJ 1.60 (1950), LJ 6.23 (1953), SP 11.12 (1952), JT 25.22 (1949), Pen 4160 (1955, 1954 tables). After the 1956 Olympics, she left Hungary, as did many Hungarian athletes in response to the Soviet invasion of their country. She first settled in England and became a British citizen. She married Hungarian writer Tamás Aczél (her second marriage), and they later lived in Orange, Massachusetts in the United States.