



**Name:** Lewis Bennett (Deerfoot)

**Years:** 1828- 1897

**Residence:** Buffalo, NY

**Biography:** Bennett was a famous Seneca long distance runner. A common Seneca legend states that he caused a horse to die from exhaustion because of the long duration of Bennett's run. Bennett rose to fame in America when he won races in record times, this caught the attention of Englishmen and distance coach, George Martin. Bennett went to England with Martin to train and compete. He never strayed away from his Native American heritage, even in Europe, often racing in wolfskin, moccasins, and feathered headbands. In England he won races against some of the best runners at the time including, Teddy Mills and Jack White. He returned to America at the conclusion of his successful running career and passed away in Buffalo, NY.

**Major Accomplishments:** Bennett was one of the best distance runners during the 19th century. He held world records in the 10 mile run and 12 mile run with times of 51 minutes and 26 seconds (51:26) and 1 hour and 2 minutes (1:02:00), respectively.

**More Information:** Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame, <http://buffalosportshallfame.com/member/lewis-deerfoot-bennett/>

**Resources:** Seneca Nation of Indians, <https://sni.org/culture/historic-seneca-leaders/>