

DRC Business Booming; Wagering Climbs 6.4%

With less than three weeks remaining of its 90-day meeting, the Detroit Race Course is headed for its most successful campaign in history and has better than an even chance of winding up with an average daily mutuel handle of \$1 million.

At least that is the anticipation of track officials who point to record wagering and a decided hike in attendance despite inclement weather—a typical late spring and early summer in Michigan.

Figures for 72 days ending last Saturday, show the track has handled \$69,416,392 compared to \$65,253,224 a year ago at the same time. That adds up to a daily average of \$964,116 against the \$906,294 in 1969.

Matter of fact the handle is up 6.4% attendance shows an increase of 7.5%.

THE TURNSTILE COUNT for 72 days is 801,929 against 746,215 a year ago, reflecting the highest pass policy ever adopted by a thoroughbred track in the Midwest.

Determined to tighten down

on passes, Vice President and General Manager Paul Ryder clamped down.

Whether that policy has built up good will remains to be seen but a point has been proven...the average paid attendance for 72 days is 11,182. That compares to 10,264 in 1969 for the same number of days.

Saturday's crowd of 18,840 poured a record high total for that day of \$1,625,578. That bettered the previous mark for a Saturday of \$1,567,159 set on Aug. 13, 1966.

A HARD-HITTING father

and son entry looms as the big threat in the first annual running of the Lake Huron Handicap at the Detroit Race Course next Saturday. There are 19 horses on the nomination list.

For a purse of \$30,000-added, it's the longest distance of any stake race in Michigan, at a distance of one mile and three-sixteenths for three-year-olds and upward.

Ogden Mills Phipps' Beau Brummel, a four-year-old Round Table colt, made history when he beat the two-year-old of the year Top

Knight, in the rich Garden State Stake and collected \$187,596 for the win in 1968.

The other half of the entry, both are trained by Ed's Newley, is the elder Ogden's ship's King of the Castle, foal in the rich Michigan Mile last month. The King triumphed in the \$50,000-added Arlington Governor's Cup on Memorial Day.

Additional likely rivals are George Schmiedes's Hipp's Etony, winner here in the Michigan Mile Trial, on June 14, and the \$73,000-added

New Orleans Handicap last winter at the Fair Grounds; Maxfield Stable's seven-year-old Building, who won the Good Neighbor Handicap here earlier in the summer, and W.A. Lofton's brilliant filly, Miss Danalee. The latter is a triple stakes winner over this racing strip the last two seasons.

THE 90-DAY season will continue through Saturday, Aug. 1, and the remaining big money features after this week will focus upon two and three-year-olds.

The Lake Huron thus becomes a giant stepping-stone towards determining the meet's handicap champion and will be the top attraction of the 10-race card Saturday.

A TRIO OF long shots dominated Saturday's fourth running of the \$46,350 Millee Handicap for fillies and mares at the Detroit Race Course as Live Oak Plantation's Peace Movement, off at 36-to-1, triumphed by four lengths.

Boxcar mutuels saw Peace Movement return \$74.60, \$27.40 and \$18.40, with Frank Hol-

brook's second place Princess Jo Jo paying \$43.90 and \$14.60. Elias Brothers' 40-to-1 shot Eloquent Es ran third and was worth \$15.20.

Miss Danalee, Texan W.A. Lofton's three-time stakes winner over this same racing strip, was the 8-to-5 wagering choice but failed to finish fifth in the 1 1/2 horse field leading the first seven furlongs of the mile and 1/2 test.

R.L. Baird, the 45-year-old jockey who was up on Peace Movement, had the four-year-old filly by Admiral's Voyage even with the pace-setting Miss Danalee coming out of the gate and kept her second until the far turn.

Both Peace Movement and Marion Van Berg's Vic's Turn, under Larry Snyder, challenged Miss Danalee rounding the bend, with Peace Movement seizing the lead and improving his margin through the stretch.

In the final furlong both Princess Jo Jo and Eloquent Es made strong drives, Princess Jo Jo reaching the wire three-fourths of a length ahead of Eloquent Es. Fourth in a closing rush was A.C. Mim's Imperial Rag, a neck in front of Miss Danalee who was a length to the good over Vic's Turn.

The winner covered the route in 1:49 3/5 and victory was worth \$30,127.50 to her stable.

Ex-Tiger Hits Attitude Of Sandlotters

Offers Advice To Players

If you're a hot baseball player in the American League, the Connie Mack of the American League is George Lerchen. He has advice for you.

Lerchen manages the Garden City West team in the Greater Livonia Mack League.

HE GUIDES Garden City's older boys team in the Adray League.

In years gone by, he also

has been identified with Little League and Babe Ruth baseball around Garden City.

Before that, he played in the majors. At one stage in his career he was with the Tigers.

"I hope the sandlotters don't get mad by what I have to

say," Lerchen said the other evening after a game at Ford Field in Livonia.

"But, somehow I don't think they have the real desire they should when they're out there playing.

"They seem to be lackadaisical at times. They become easily discouraged. And they don't hustle enough," Lerchen paused.

"What I try to stress to my players is that they have to keep themselves up—individually and collectively.

"Suppose you're struggling with the bat. You're in a slump. Well, you can help your team with a strong glove.

"It works the other way around. If you're having trouble in the field, you have to work all the harder to pick your team up with the bat."

Another pause.

"SOMETHING ELSE I've noticed and I seek to correct.

"I see many of the boys who fail to hit the first two times in a game suddenly plunge into despair and by the time the game reaches the fifth or sixth inning, they're just wishing that it's all over.

"Somehow, they forget that in baseball as long as there's anything left, or even one out, you still have a chance.

"Remember back a couple of years ago when the Tigers won the pennant...all the games they won with rallies after the seventh inning.

"Sandlot ball is no different. Kids should take the same approach."

By and large, though, Lerchen is impressed with sandlot baseball.

"It's made big strides in the last few years. The kids are playing well. We have some excellent pitchers in our area...and some real good hitters, too.

"I like the way most of the high school teams are sticking together. That's good. It's what we have needed, better and more baseball at the teenage level."

Host Again

Bob White, Wayne State University's veteran trainer, served as host trainer for the 1970 NCAA Indoor Track Championships in Detroit, the sixth straight year he has been selected for the post.



TOO LATE. Garden City's Dave Carroll makes a long slide across the plate in an effort to score on an infield out but Catcher Ken Warren, of Northwestern, had the ball well ahead of the slide. (Observer photo by Vince Witek)

Northville Horse Wins Honors In Morgan Show

A three-year old chestnut mare, Taffy Tail and her 16-year-old rider, David Earehart of Northville, won high point honors at the Michigan All-Morgan Horse Show at the State Fair Coliseum held July 11 and 12.

Taffy Tail, with Earehart in the saddle won three championships, stock seat equitation, saddle seat equitation, and English pleasure. The mare is owned by Joseph Symons of Flint, and is on lease to Earehart's Popular Farm in Northville.

Taffy Tail won the Albert Earehart high point trophy awarded to the horse amassing the highest number of show points.

The All-Morgan Show concluded with 300 Morgans participating in 80 classes for \$2,000 in prize money. Over 300 riders and drivers from the East, Midwest and Canada filled the classes.

Sue Racz, of Plymouth, won the English Pleasure class.

Other participants from Plymouth included: Kathy Holt, Barbara Derr, and Ann Fenkel.

THE COMPLETE LIST of champions:

PARK HARNESS — King's Donana, 3-mare, George Warner, Jr., Fredonia, Pa.

STOCK SEAT EQUITATION — Taffy Tail, 3-mare, David Earehart, Northville.

ENGLISH PLEASURE, SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION — Taffy Tail, 3-mare, David Earehart, Northville.

PLEASURE DRIVING — Nuggets Linden Girl, 9-mare, P.M. Sullivan, Bellevue, O.

WESTERN PLEASURE —

Val's Jus-March, 5-stallion, G. Cameron Buchanan, Franklin.

PARK SADDLE — Fleetwing's Prophet, 5-stallion, P.M. Sullivan, Bellevue, O.

ENGLISH PLEASURE — Taffy Tail, 3-mare, David Earehart, Northville.

JUNIOR PARK HARNESS — Val's Pen Pal, 5-stallion, C.B. Hanna, Polk, Pa.

JUNIOR CHAMPION MARE (IN HAND) — Mar-Jo's Angella, 2-mare, Floyd Voss, Howell.

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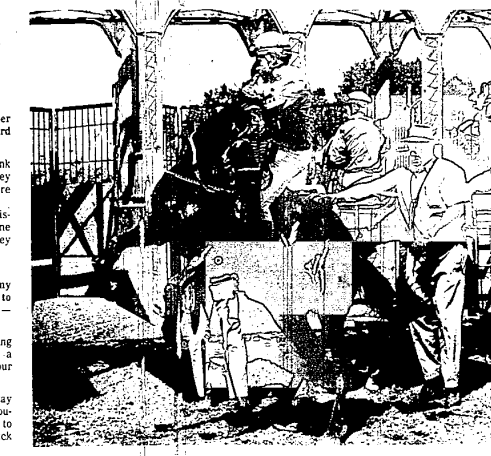
F'ton Boy Places In Skate Race

A 15-year-old Farmington boy has won second place in a junior boys speed skating race for roller skaters in Detroit. Skaters from five states competed in the regional contest sponsored by the Roller Skate Rink Operators of America (RSROA).

Eugene Catenacci, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Catenacci, 23385 Lakeshire, is now eligible to go to the RSROA national finals in Lincoln, Neb.

Eugene will be a junior in the fall at Farmington High School. He showed he had a talent for roller skating when he won a five-mile race last year against older skaters in an RSROA-sponsored meet in Michigan.

Tiger Pitcher Mike Kilbenny was sent congratulations by the Prime Minister of Canada and the Queen of England when he signed his first professional baseball contract.



IT WAS TOUGH AND GO for a few seconds in the first race at the Detroit Race Course when the two-year-old filly, Well Ann, decided to go in the opposite direction. When she was lined up for the straightened out and placed in the gate she didn't have any trouble proving the fact that she was ready for the five furlong sprint, winning by four lengths.

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