

Damascus Runs Into Jinx

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Damascus may have been the Horse of the Year in 1967 and top candidate for the same recognition this year but he was just another top star to bite the dust and become buried in the Detroit Race Course graveyard Saturday in the 20th renewal of the \$100,000 added Michigan Mile.

It was the biggest day in Michigan history for those who like to wager on the thoroughbreds with an all-time high total of \$2,136,604 going through the mutual machines, shattering the previous high of \$2,019,715 set at the DRC on Michigan Mile Day in 1966.

BUT IT TURNED OUT to be the saddest day of the year for the 3-10 favorite who was seeking his 22nd victory in 30 starts. The mere mention of Damascus was enough to make most of the horse owners think of second money rather than the winner's share of the rich purse.

Then when the chips were down, with a crowd of almost 26,000 sitting on the edge of seats, Damascus followed the pattern of other great stars entered in the Mile and was lucky to take second place.

It was Nodouble, the only three-year-old in the field of 12, who had the most in the drive to the wire, finishing more than two lengths ahead of Damascus in near record time of 1:49 for the mile and an eighth.

In fact, Damascus, who appeared to have trouble with the track, barely nipped 73-1 longshot Misty Run at the wire for second.

As expected, Hedevar, stablemate of the great four-year-old, set a sizzling pace with Misty Run, owned by Mrs. Anne McDonnell Ford, racing with him. But Damascus didn't come on as the experts figured he would and was sixth at the head of the stretch.

THAT'S WHEN Jockey Martinez Heath flicked Nodouble lightly once or twice and the three-year-old streaked for the wire with Misty Run close behind. Jockey Braulio Baeza finally shook Damascus up enough that the four-year-old started to fly — but it was too late. He was going fast out of all at the wire and probably would have caught Nodouble had the race been a furlong longer — which it wasn't.

All of which leads one to wonder if Baeza, leading rider for the past three years during which he won national championships, didn't err in calculating the length of the stretch at the DRC.

THE HUGE CROWD didn't exactly appreciate the fact that Damascus lost — there was considerable booing when Baeza came back to the front of the grandstand to dismount.

The bettors poured an all-time race pool of \$366,770 on the race of which \$237,333 was wagered on the Damascus-Hedevar entry. Of that \$108,401 went down the drain on the win end. As it was the track had to shell out \$6,144 in a minus pool in the show payoff.

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Oil Industry Must Increase Output

NEW YORK — The domestic petroleum industry is faced with the task of producing 64 million barrels of liquid petroleum between 1965 and 1980 while maintaining adequate reserves, according to a new U.S. Department of the Interior study.



THOMAS BOSCO has been appointed Director of Development at Madonna College. Bosco, active in business, commerce and insurance for over 35 years, has been a member of the college's advisory board since 1964 and was one of the first organizers of its parent club.

Fined \$100

Wendell E. Smith, 35, of 14302 Shadywood, Plymouth, has been fined \$100, plus \$25 court costs, by Municipal Judge Michael Hans of Farmington after entering a plea of guilty to the charge of reckless driving.

Upon occasion of his original arrest by city of Farmington police last April, Smith was charged with driving under the influence of liquor. However, Judge Hans last week agreed to accept the plea to the reduced count, with police consent.

Smith is national president of the Jaycees and was not in court at the time his case was settled, the guilty plea being entered through his attorney.

Expect 500 To Attend Scout Meet

Nearly 500 Commissioners, professional staff members and special guests are expected to attend the 1968 Commissioner's Conference of the Detroit Area Boy Scout Council on Saturday, at Oakland University.

The Commissioners, who serve the more than 2,000 Cub packs, Scout troops and Explorer units in the local council, will attend the 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. conference to learn of the important role they will play in the "BOYPOWER '76" long-range program of the Boy Scouts of America to be launched January 1, 1969.

Making his first appearance in Detroit since he became Region Seven Scout Executive a month ago, will be R. Glenn Singleton. Among other things, Singleton will point out that the local Detroit Area Council is the second largest council in Region Seven, largest Region in the nation, and that what happens on the local Scouting scene is tremendously important to the national program goals and objectives.

AN ADDED FEATURE at the conference is the invitation that has been extended to the wives of the Commissioners to attend the evening dinner program, and sit in on the address by the Regional Scout Executive.

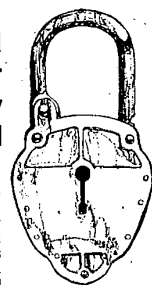
In addition, the ladies will

have an opportunity to tour the Oakland University campus, the Meadow Brook Theatre, and other points of interest.

Detroit Area Council Commissioner F. Lloyd Smith said that this annual meeting is the most important affair of the year for his volunteer Scouters.

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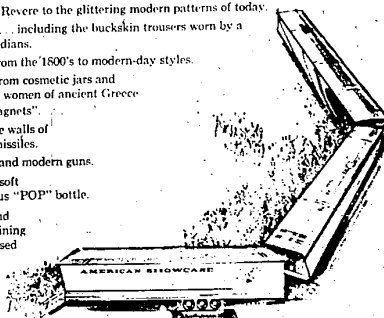
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