


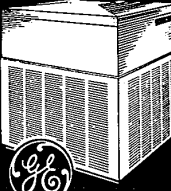
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Rockets Blast Oak Park, 10-2

The John Glenn Rockets enjoyed a good takeoff in Northwest Suburban league baseball action with a 10-2 triumph over Oak Park.

Glenn lashed out 11 base hits and utilized eight Oak Park errors enroute to its fourth straight win.

Jeff Hodgkins went the distance for Glenn allowing seven hits, walking one and striking out one. Randy Farber and Marv Raufman worked on the mound for Oak Park with Farber taking the loss.

J.P. McBride singled to open the Glenn assault and was sacrificed to second by Hodgkins. Roger Sanders was safe on an error and Mike Borders drilled a single to center scoring McBride.

The Rockets added one in the second on a walk to John

Lee, a stolen base and a run producing single by McBride. The score remained 2-0 to the top of the fourth.

Glenn's Jim Laughren walked, stole second, advanced to third on an error, and scampered home on a double by Lee. Russ Rayburn was safe on an error scoring Lee and scored himself on McBride's third straight hit ... a double to right.

HODGKINS and Sanders followed with singles and the Rockets were up by six going into the bottom of the fourth.

Oak Park put together singles by Stuart Zander and Jerry Muskovitz to get one back in its half of the fourth but Glenn bounced back in the top of the fifth.

Borders walked, moved to second and then to third on

two passed balls. Laughren walked. Rich Kaufman was safe on a fielder's choice. Jeff Brittain singled and Dave Hein doubled, and was Glenn, 8-1.

Jerry Muskovitz doubled and scored on an error for Oak Park's second run in the sixth but the Rockets weren't through.

Three errors and a triple by McBride produced two more runs and the Rockets had an eight run victory.

McBride was the big story with four hits in five at bats in the Glenn attack, including a double, triple and four runs batted in.

GLENN hosts league rival North Farmington today (April 26) with a non-league game against Ypsilanti on Friday.



ONE TO WATCH in Saturday's Observer-land Relays is Farmington's sprinter Mark Timmons. He is currently No. 1 in the 220 yard dash and No. 2 in both the 100 yard dash and 440 yard run. (Observer photo)

Churchill Edges Mott

It was a scoreless battle up to the bottom of the 10th inning.

Waterford Mott and Livonia Churchill found themselves locked in a pitchers duel with Mott's Jim Zimmerman pitted against Charger Ken Wood, but Churchill pushed across a run in the 10th inning to win, 1-0.

Both teams had rallied on different occasions but neither

could score, that is until Churchill came to bat in the bottom half of the 10th.

Sophomore catcher Rod Hanratty walked and with one out was moved to second on a sacrifice on Wood. Bob Bissett walked to put Chargers on first and second with two outs.

Roy Henriksson then became the man of the hour with his fourth hit and

Hanratty dashed home with the winning run.

It was Henriksson's 10th hit in 21 at bat this season for a .476 batting mark.

Churchill Coach Roger Frayer was especially pleased with the backstop duties of Hanratty who found himself in the first string lineup with the absence of starting catcher Bruce Van Wagner.

But the extra inning show belonged to Wood and Zimmerman. Zimmerman allotted Churchill five hits, two walks and struck out 15. Wood gave up hits, walked two and struck out 12.

MOTT left seven runners on the bases with one getting as far as third in the fourth inning.

Churchill stranded only five in the extra inning contest.

The Chargers travel to Wayne Wednesday and host Walled Lake Western Monday.

GC West Cindermen Hit 90 Mark Twice

Garden City West found a lucky number in 90.

The Tiger trackmen topped Melvindale and Garden City East by identical 90-33 scores

and Coach Bob Lee is looking forward to Saturday's Observer-land Relays with a hopeful eye.

West is taking up its share of the top times, distances and heights in the area's top ratings and the Tigers remain undefeated in dual competition.

West shutout East in the low hurdles and shot put and blanked Melvindale in the two mile, shot put and pole vault.

880 YARD RUN: 1 - MacGlinn (W); 2 - Snabes (W); 3 - Tamsen (M). Time 2:06.1.

MILE RELAY: 1 - Garden City West (Bash, Snabes, Anderson, MacGlinn). Time 12:28.2.

440 YARD DASH: 1 - Garden City West (Cline, Battersham, Mike, Kirby). Time 46.5.

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Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

CHICAGO Inasmuch as none of the countries represented in the driving series has a building anywhere near the height of the Hancock, we wondered how the visitors felt when they looked down. At least we have been in tall buildings before but the visit to the Hancock was something else...just like standing on a rug and having it go straight up.

The eight champions include: Joe O'Brien, representing the United States; Herve Filion, last year's world's champion reinman with more than 500 victories, representing Canada; Vic Frost, Australia; Adolf Ubleis, the defending champion of the series from Austria; Giuseppe Guzzini, Italy; Gilbert Martens, Belgium; Peter Willenden, New Zealand; Willie Rode, West Germany.

All were at hand for the luncheon with the exception of Martens, Filion and O'Brien. One wondered how come all of the visitors from far off could make it but O'Brien couldn't. Martens was supposed to be ailing from the effects of his passport shots...personally we believe he heard of the 95 floor trips on the elevator.

O'Brien's phoned Bergstein to say he couldn't make it because he was making arrangements for the handling of his 60-horse stable while he was busy on the tour. Filion begged off for a similar reason.

Just to keep you accustomed to the magnitude of the series, it will have the drivers appearing at 11-member tracks of the HTA.

Maywood Park in Chicago officially opened the series Monday and the scene shifted to Painesville, O. on Tuesday. Wednesday was an open day for the drivers to visit the Fort Erie thoroughbred track at Fort Erie, Ontario.

Then it will be Vernon Downs on Friday, April 28; Meadows on Friday, April 28; Greenwood Raceway in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday, April 29; Blue Bonnets in Montreal on Sunday, April 30; Wolverine Raceway, next Monday (May 1); Roscroft Raceway in Maryland on May 3; Atlantic City Raceway, May 4; Saratoga Raceway in New York on Friday, May 5; and the windup at Liberty Bell Raceway in Philadelphia on Saturday, May 6.

Rules governing the competition make it mandatory that each driver appear in all races. The biggest problem is at the tracks where the management has to sell the owners and trainers on the idea of giving up control of their horses for as many as

five and no less than three races.

This can be a difficult since the drivers from Australia and New Zealand have never handled trotters and those from Europe have never piloted pacers...some owners don't like to have their pacers handled by Europeans and some with pacers prefer not to use the New Zealand and Australia champs.

The other rules are as follows:

Driving assignments will be drawn for each race by lot, at the time post positions and horses are drawn.

There will be eight horses, not including also eligibles, drawn for each race in the World Championship Series.

In the event a driver's mount is a late scratch in any race, the driver will receive, at the conclusion of the tournament, points for the scratch equal to the average number of points per start he has compiled in the tournament. Any scratches must be approved by the track veterinarian.

Horses driven in the series will be trotters and pacers entered by horsemen at each participating track, subject to conditions as announced on each track's advance condition sheet.

Points will be awarded in each race on the basis of 50 for first, 25 for second, 12 for third, 8 for fourth and 5 for fifth place.

All drivers must compete in all races in the series, unless unable to do so because of illness, injury or exceptional circumstances. In the event a driver is incapacitated or unable to compete, his driving assignments will be handled, at the option of Harness Tracks of America, by (a) a substitute international champion (b) the current leading race-winning driver at the track where the race is being contested, or the second leading driver if the first already is competing in the series or is unavailable, or (c) the regular driver of the horse involved.

In the case of (b) or (c), points earned by the substitute driver will not count toward the total of the driver whose place has been taken.

Individual trophies will be awarded to the highest point-scoring driver at each participating track, and the world championship trophy will be presented to the driver leading in overall point totals at the conclusion of the series. All drivers competing in the series will receive world championship gold medallions.

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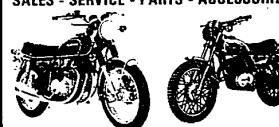
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Purse Hike At Wolverine

Horsemen at Wolverine Raceway will enjoy the second hike in purse money in less than two weeks, vice president and general manager Dick Wilson has announced.

With the nightly average parimutuel handle jumping from \$503,000 to \$554,800 during the past three weeks, Wilson unveiled a new purse structure which will range from \$200 to \$500 more per race compared with the opening of the Wolverine meeting on March 16.

Showing a minimum of \$1,500 for lower class trotter and pacers, the new purse format will range as high as \$7,000 for preferred events. Wilson said the latest increase will be effective Wednesday, April 26.