

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Since Windsor Raceway appears from competition from Michigan tracks, Wolverine Raceway promises exactly what it offers its 82-night meeting Thursday.

Never one to pass up a chance to make the competition squirm a bit, Wolverine Vice President and General Manager Dick Wilson has announced free admission to the grandstand on opening night, a family night Friday with reduced admission races for young adults, ages 12 through 17, and on Saturday (St. Patrick's Day) all wearers of the green will be admitted to the grandstand free of charge.

It marks the first time in Michigan racing history that a track has had free admission on opening night. "Windsor preferred to race against Wolverine for three nights," said Wilson. "It could have ended its winter season last Sunday but deliberately carried the Provincial Cup on March 18.

"If it's competition they want, then we're the right ones to give it to them. Free admission on opening nights and the first Saturday of a meeting is unheard of in Michigan. We'll be making history and we hope the attendance will reflect it."

No less a treat to harness racing fans will be the strong midwest stables now moving into the big Wolverine barn complex. All of the top drivers and trainers from 1972, with no exceptions, are coming back.

Heading the list is Gene Riegler, major league harness racing's "slugging average" champion of last year. Fresh from winter training at his Greenville, O. farm, Riegler

has consigned more than 20 of his top performers to Wolverine, including pacesetter stars Jay Time and Big Kahuna.

Favorite of fans during last year's spring meeting, Riegler went on to win the national Universal Driver Rating System crown, the equivalent of major league baseball's slugging championship. In 372 starts, the husky Ohioan posted 107 victories, 53 seconds and 57 thirds for a winning percentage of .423.

Another national champ of 1972 will be on hand. He is 26-year-old Greg Wright, the Canadian star, who was fifth in the sport's "top 10" race winners with a total of 259 triumphs.

Other standouts in the drivers' colony include Mal Phillips, leader last year in a sulky mishap in training resulted in two broken wrists; Chris Boring of Adrian, Gerry Bookmyer from Ohio, Tom Merriman, Merritt Dokey, Corky Hammel and Gordon Norris. Veteran Tom Wilburn, last year's driving champion at the big mile track, will arrive in mid-April. He is still training his large public stable at his Mississippi plantation.

A new face this season will be Ohio's Joe Adamsky, a driving leader at Cleveland's Northfield park in recent years.

Barring a sudden change in the weather, the mile track should be in fine shape. Wolverine has installed an entire new racing surface, from base to surface, since the closing of racing last December. Wolverine begins its 24th season with the addition of

the \$2 superfecta, one of harness racing's most popular gimmicks. Replacing the 10th race trifecta, the superfecta calls for patrons to pick the first four horses in order at the finish.

A sixth race trifecta and a slightly double in the first two races will feature the 10-race programs. Post time for the meeting, which extends through June 19, will be 8:30 p.m. sharp.

The official family will be the same as that of a year ago with a few changes.

Mal Linehan, of Adrian, will fill in for Ed Casey, one of the three judges until mid-April. Casey is presiding judge at Pompano Park where the season continues for another month.

Dick Rudnicki, of Fowlerville, will handle the paddock judge duties, replacing Clayton Smith who has been assigned new duties as superintendent of buildings and the barn area.

Racing Secretary Bill Connors, who was stricken with a heart attack and missed six weeks of the 1972 meeting, is back and handled the drawing for opening night on Monday morning.

He will be assisted by Ray Magee until the end of the Pompano Park season when Ron Ghisels will join his staff as assistant.

Announcer Jack Riggs, who handles the "mike" at Wolverine, the Detroit Race Course, Hazel Park runners and trainers and Northville Downs, made history Saturday as the greatest "com" artist of his time.

Fog stilled the good voice for the final three races of Hazel Park Saturday afternoon, but Jack was at his best in the evening when

fog completely obliterated the scene at Northville Downs. The horses could be seen as they entered the first turn, they left the starting gate, when they passed the finish line on the first lap and then again at the finish.

Jack called the horses as they entered the first turn and then continued a description of the race for the entire mile. Fans were amazed because they couldn't see a thing.

Neither could Jack but he made the card interesting throughout the evening... a super job by a super con artist.

Hazel Park runners are off to an excellent start even though the racing strip is anything but good.

More than 13,000 were in the stands for Friday's opener and wagered \$975,000... it could have been over a million but hundreds were shut out at the mutuel windows and the track ran out of programs before the first race.

An additional 13,000 plus turned out Saturday and poured more than a million through the machines. Then just to make things interesting for the management, wagering went well past \$900,000 on Monday.

It would appear the east side track is headed for a big year even though management conveniently didn't stress the fact that admission to the clubhouse has been boosted to \$3 and that doesn't guarantee a seat and programs have been hiked a dime, to 35 cents.

Perhaps the new owners forget that for years the motto was "The Friendly Track." There isn't that same friendly atmosphere thus far this year.

BULLDOG SCORE - Franklin netminder Don Perrie reaches back too late to stop this Bentley goal, with a Bulldog raising his stick high in the background. Bentley won the first round of

Swim Ratings

200 MILEY RELAY		7. KIRSCHKE, Clarenceville		157.5
(State Qualifying Time, 1:46.5)		8. MUNRO, N.Farm		157.7
1. HARRISON	1:46.1	9. PETERSON, N.Farm		157.8
2. GC EAST	1:46.6	10. BARBU, John Glenn		158.1
3. PLYMOUTH	1:46.6			
4. N. FARMINGTON	1:47.4	100 YD FREESTYLE		(State Qualifying Time, 51.1)
5. LATHROP	1:47.6	1. STOLKEY, RU	49.9	
6. THURSTON	1:48.0	2. RADO, Harrison	50.2	
7. BENTLEY	1:49.6	3. SWEEZE, GC East	50.6	
8. STEVENSON	1:50.0	4. DUPREY, Bentley	51.1	
9. REDFORD UNION	1:51.8	5. FRIEDMAN, Lathrop	51.2	
10. FRANKLIN	1:53.2	6. CRISWOLD, N.Farm	51.3	
200 FREESTYLE		7. DOVE, Churchill	51.8	
(State Qualifying Time, 1:53.9)		8. BARBU, John Glenn	51.8	
1. STOLKEY, RU	1:50.2	9. MCNEELY, Plymouth	51.8	
2. RADO, Harrison	1:51.1	10. KRAAT, Plymouth	51.9	
3. GRISWOLD, N.Farm	1:52.5	400 YD FREESTYLE		(State Qualifying Time, 4:06.4)
4. CROSTHWAITE, Lathrop	1:54.0	1. CROSTHWAITE, Lathrop	4:01.0	
5. BRYAN, Churchill	1:55.3	2. GRISWOLD, N.Farm	4:03.3	
6. DOVE, Churchill	1:56.0	3. STOLKEY, RU	4:05.8	
7. ARNOLD, Harrison	1:56.5	4. ARNOLD, Harrison	4:07.5	
8. KENNEY, Franklin	1:56.7	5. DUDASH, Harrison	4:08.4	
9. DORR, Lathrop	1:57.1	6. BRYAN, Churchill	4:11.8	
10. STANISLOVITS, GC East	1:57.1	7. SMITH, Thurston	4:12.4	
200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY		8. KENNEY, Franklin	4:12.4	
(State Qualifying Time, 2:10.8)		9. DORR, Lathrop	4:13.1	
1. RADO, Harrison	2:04.4	10. BIRD, John Glenn	4:13.2	
2. DOVE, Churchill	2:09.7	100 YD BACKSTROKE		(State Qualifying Time, 59.3)
3. DUPREY, Bentley	2:09.7	1. RADO, Harrison	56.2	
4. ARNOLD, Harrison	2:10.4	2. BLANCHARD, GC East	56.3	
5. STOLKEY, Redford Union	2:11.0	3. SIEFER, Churchill	56.1	
6. GILMOUR, N.Farm	2:11.2	4. PETERSON, N.Farm	56.8	
7. SICK, Plymouth	2:11.2	5. BERNESTEN, Lathrop	1:00.6	
8. BERNSTEIN, Lathrop	2:11.6	6. DOVE, Churchill	1:01.3	
9. BALNAVES, Franklin	2:12.1	7. STOLKEY, RU	1:01.6	
10. BLANCHARD, GC East	2:13.2	8. SMART, Harrison	1:01.9	
50 YARD FREESTYLE		9. GILMOUR, N.Farm	1:01.9	
(State Qualifying Time, 23.3)		10. KENNEY, Plymouth	1:02.4	
1. SWEEZE, GC East	22.7	100 YD BREASTSTROKE		(State Qualifying Time, 1:06.3)
2. DUPREY, Bentley	23.1	1. GENROW, Thurston	1:05.1	
3. RADO, Harrison	23.2	2. HOWELL, Harrison	1:05.7	
4. MCNEELY, Plymouth	23.3	3. SICK, Plymouth	1:05.8	
5. FRIEDMAN, Lathrop	23.3	4. BARBU, John Glenn	1:06.6	
6. STOLKEY, RU	23.3	5. GASSER, N.Farm	1:06.9	
7. KRAAT, Plymouth	23.4	6. PETERSON, N.Farm	1:07.6	
8. PETERSON, N.Farm	23.4	7. CROWTHER, Plymouth	1:07.5	
9. ARKLE, N.Farm	23.6	8. HONECK, Harrison	1:07.8	
10. CRAVEN, Thurston	23.6	9. SIEFER, Churchill	1:08.7	
1. KRALL, Harrison	243.66	10. STEIN, Lathrop	1:08.8	
2. HODAN, Harrison	219.65	400 YD FREE RELAY		(State Qualifying Time, 3:28.9)
3. FERDOTT, Farmington	216.65	1. N. FARMINGTON	3:25.1	
4. MURPHY, Churchill	200.25	2. PLYMOUTH	3:30.4	
5. STOCKER, Plymouth	198.60	3. LATHROP	3:30.9	
6. STODOL, Clarenceville	194.20	4. GC EAST	3:31.1	
7. KRIVZODA, Thurston	191.50	5. HARRISON	3:31.7	
8. KALVODA, GC East	184.00	6. FRANKLIN	3:33.1	
9. HENRY, Plymouth	179.80	7. JOHN GLINN	3:38.2	
10. LARSEN, N.Farm	178.10	8. THURSTON	3:39.2	
100 YD BUTTERFLY		9. BENTLEY	3:39.6	
(State Qualifying Time, 56.7)		10. CHURCHILL	3:43.6	
1. STOLKEY, RU	55.2			
2. RADO, Harrison	56.2			
3. MUNRO, N.Farm	56.2			
4. BLANCHARD, GC East	56.6			
5. DUPREY, Bentley	57.3			
6. HULT, Stevenson	57.5			



Ski Heil

By
BILL CAMERON

Have you ever tired packing a suitcase for a three day ski trip? Of course you have. But think of all the decisions involved. I'm a rule of thumb is to set aside what you think you need, then get rid of half of it.

For men, a blazer and slacks can double for formal and informal occasions, just by changing from a turtleneck to a shirt and tie. At better off taking my cross ski areas, a suit is very inappropriate.

I guess I'd just as soon try a warm climate where I could go barefoot all day and get by with a pair of cut-offs. It sounds good!

Spartans Post 5-2 Puck Win

Livonia Spartans maintained its unbeaten Suburban Hockey League record this week with a 5-2 victory over Southfield, which also dropped a 2-1 decision to Livonia Franklin.

The first-place Spartans led Southfield 2-1 after the first period and 3-2 after the third. Period goals by Don Finn and Paul Verneish wrapped it up for Stevenson.

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"BUT REF, HE REALLY DIDN'T MEAN IT!"

--This is what the Plymouth basketball squad is, probably explaining to the official after their star Ron Egloff (42, on his knees) picked up his fifth foul to foul out of the district finale against

Churchill, Rocks' Tim VanWagoner (24), Bruce Johnson (32), Steve Robb (20) and Jim Szilagyi (10) question the call. Churchill didn't question the championship, topping the Rocks, 68-57. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Area Top Prep Cage Scorers

	G	Pts	Game High	AVG
MALABY, Lathrop	22	517	41	23.5
BOLLIN, Bentley	21	465	32	22.1
CARLINGTON, Glim	21	437	33	20.8
SIELOFF, Harrison	22	442	32	20.1
GRIGAL, GC East	21	403	36	19.2
*KASETA, Franklin	23	440	37	19.1
*SOPKO, Borgess	23	392	33	19.1
VANWAGONER, Plymouth	21	394	39	18.8
HABERMAN, Stevenson	21	382	26	18.2
PARKER, N. Farmington	20	368	26	17.9
FOLKES, Redford Union	20	353	28	17.6
BOEGLER, Bentley	21	381	28	17.2
*DAMASKA, Churchill	23	386	26	16.8
SAARELA, Clarenceville	19	314	31	16.5
KEENAN, Thurston	22	363	30	16.4
SIMONS, Clarenceville	19	298	26	15.7
KILBOURN, GC West	21	319	25	15.2
EGLOFF, Plymouth	17	246	23	14.6
BLERKE, Redford Union	19	272	25	14.3
SOYA, GC East	21	286	25	13.6
TRACY, Lathrop	22	299	31	13.6

*Still in State Tournament competition

Glenn's District Championship Tilt

JOHN GLENN (71)		FG	FT	TP
British	14.8	15	14	15
Kalamazoo	5	7	10	14
Kalamazoo	2	5	4	14
Carleton	9	9	10	18
Total	28	35	48	78
BELLEVILLE (68)		FG	FT	TP
Abraham	7	3	3	17
Bentley	1	0	0	2
Kalamazoo	11	12	2	2
Pate	2	0	4	4
Brown	1	0	0	4
Carleton	1	0	0	4
Cleone	8	0	0	4
Total	31	15	19	45
GLENN	19	19	21	13-71
BELLEVILLE	16	16	18	10-68

Going South

Michigan State's baseball team will play in the 1973 Hurston Tournament in March at Coral Gables, Fla. It's the first straight year for the Spartans in the competition.

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