

Sport Of Kings Fails To Lure Office Interest

By FRED DELANO

FIVE OF MY SIX CLOSEST CELLMATES in this literary jungle are females, and although that does make the odds about even it restricts discussion of certain topics. Among the topics restricted, but only because these five darlings don't know anything about the subject, is the art of thoroughbred handicapping.

To demonstrate just how disgusting it is, we didn't even have an office pool on the Derby, and despite absence of the Free Press and News for crying out loud don't ask, "What Derby?"

It's the first Derby I didn't attend since War Admiral won in '37, that's what Derby.

It's run among horses of the nursery school age of three and they don't have to go much further than from the Enterprise & Observer to the Danish Inn. Two minutes and two seconds, give or take a fraction, isn't bad time depending upon your thirst and hunger.

AFTER SIX MONTHS, it took me until this week to cut through the cloak of conservatism which shrouds Farmington and finally find out where the horse players say their prayers.

It's easy enough to buy a Racing Form in Bloomfield Hills or Birmingham, which aren't exactly the most liberal towns extant, but it has the way my office mileage report skyward to go all the run of Livonia to get my own daily copy.

In this, the greatest week of racing at a twispired spot they call Churchill Downs, they ran on Tuesday afternoon a thing called the Derby Trial. Proper Proof won it and on his nose in the Kentucky Derby Saturday at Louisville (by messenger, of course) I put \$2 for my wife and another token for my boss to cover payroll advances.

What I'll do with next week's pay depends on what post order they draw for the Preakness.

ON THE SAME DAY The Derby Trial was contested, the supporting program included a six-furlong romp for three and four-year-old maidens, among them a Farmington-owned colt who was well backed (again, by special messenger, what with the restrictions against bookmaking) by the local hot-pot.

As a word of polite explanation, the term "maiden" at a race track refers to a goat which has yet to see the winner's circle. No sex is implied.

There's another saying which pops up often among patrons of the turf, including the kings and queens of high finance who bankroll an improvement in the breed.

The words are only two, but they are descriptive: "Also Ran."

The Farmington horse, which went off at \$2.10 to \$1, broke well, got to the leaders, then faded and was said in the Racing Form chart to have "tired badly from his early efforts."

He finished sixth, and his owner isn't back yet. Ever hear of the Saturday night bight? Well, those who took theirs on Tuesday this week got cleaned right down to the fingernails. Like true believers, however, they'll all be back aboard the next time out. After all, how else can one get even?

Romney Proud Of Faith, Prayer

LANSING -- Gov. Romney's voice broke as he described his pride in his faith at the fifth annual prayer breakfast Wednesday.

"It has not hurt me in my public or private life to keep the Sabbath Day holy," he said, Romney said, who rose from a Mormon family forced to flee Mexico to a top automobile executive and governor of Michigan, cited the Old and New Testaments in his statement of moral principles.

"CERTAINLY, no nation on earth needs to hear and heed the words of the Old Testament more than we," he said. "The New Testament (St. Paul) shows that we're in the last days, and his description of men in these days was very accurate."

He said the blessings heaped upon man will not continue unless man heeds the warnings



SH-SH-S-S-S — Pre-schoolers at William Grace School "sh-sh-s-s-s" like snakes as Mrs. Florence Sharp, speech therapist, shows them the goitly in sound during the first session of the school's "Pre-Kindergarten Story-Time" program. Each Thursday until May 23, youngsters meet in "their" school to become acquainted with "their" staff and the school surroundings.

Trout Opener Good

Trout season in southeastern Michigan got off to a good start last weekend, the State Conservation Department district office at Pontiac reported.

"Excellent" catches of rainbows were reported at Fenton, Davisburg and Pettibone trout ponds and from Union Lake.

Paint Creek and the Clinton River produced some large brown trout, but fishing in general was rated only "fair". Cooley, Orchard and Teeple lakes yielded fair rainbow catches. Maceday Lake was good for salmon.

Waters were clear and generally a little below normal for this time of the year.

Perch and bluegills were being taken from the Huron River, notably in the Flatrock and Pointe Mouillee areas.

The Detroit River produced some walleyes.

Rough fish are still being taken from the north branch of the Clinton River, the Huron River at Rockwood, and the Salt River.

Fairview Eyes '68 Curriculum

Curriculum innovations for the coming year will be discussed at the May 8 meeting of the Fairview PTA in Farmington. The session will begin in the school at 8 p.m.

Jean Ralph, Fairview principal, and Mrs. Marjorie Brown, reading specialist, will participate in the program.

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, Farmington superintendent of schools will explain and answer questions about the four mill request which has been placed on the ballot of the June 10 school election.

An exhibit of student art will be on display during the meeting.

Safety Is PTA Topic

"Safety Measures in the Home" will be the topic at the Larkshire School's PTA meeting May 8. The session will begin in the Farmington School at 7:30 p.m.

Starting time has been set a half hour earlier than usual to allow for the installation of officers for the coming year.

Representatives from the Board of Education will be on hand to discuss the school millage issue which has been placed on the June 10 school ballot.

MAWA Receives \$54,845 Grant

The Labor Department has approved a \$54,845 grant to the Michigan Automotive Wheel-align Association in Lansing. The grant is for on-the-job training of 60 unemployed persons as mechanics or parts counter-men. The association will submit the contract to its members around the state.

William Grace Teaches Tots What Fun School Can Be

Because entering a school for the first time can overwhelm a five-year-old, William Grace School again this year is conducting its "Pre-Kindergarten Story-Time" program.

This is the sixth year Principal Nicholas Abid and his staff have had the program for pre-school tots who will attend William Grace next fall.

The first of the five get-acquainted sessions was held April 25.

Directing the first installment was speech therapist, Mrs. Florence Sharp, with "Telling Time Is Fun." Twenty-four youngsters in separate groups met at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. to learn about the sounds they make and hear and to learn some fingerplays using these sounds.

On May 2, Mrs. Winifred Voorhees, librarian, opened the door to the world of books for the children with "Let's Sing a Fun Song" and other musical games on May 9.

Art Consultant Grace Campbell has arranged "Paint Me a Picture" day on May 16. Dressed in Dad's old shirt as a smock, each child will be allowed to create his own work of art with some cans of paint and a brush.

Round-up day, May 23, will complete the series. Regular kindergartners will be dismissed from school that day and next year's crop will take over the classroom. They will experience a day of typical school activities.

Following in order will be "Show and Tell," a story, art, songs and snack time. Each child will have the opportunity to acquaint himself with school toys, activities and the staff awaiting him next fall.

Abid in assessing the program has said, "To a five-year old, starting school is a pretty serious business. Our staff also considers it an important business. The first look

Sex Education Schools' Duty

WASHINGTON -- The Supreme Court told the states they have the right—even the duty—to decide what kind of sex material youngsters may see and read. "The well-being of its children is of course a subject within the state's constitutional power to regulate," Justice William J. Brennan Jr., said in a 6-3 decision.

at his new school makes a lasting impression on a kindergarten youngster. We want to make his response a pleasant and enthusiastic one."

Garden Club To Show Color Film

Farmington Garden Club members and guests will see the color sound film, "Greek Earth Reborn" at a meeting at 12 noon May 6 in the Salem United Church of Christ.

The film was made by World Gardening and details the teaching of the Greek people better farming methods to help them toward financial independence. The Farmington club has donated \$10 to World Gardening to be designated for Greece.

There will also be a panel on "Grow and Groom Your Horticulture" in preparation for the club's efforts for the Founders Festival.

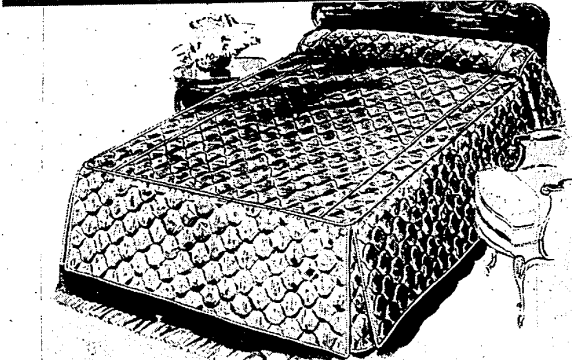
Hostesses for the meeting will be Mrs. Frederick Cordes, chairman, Mrs. Walter Krenkow, Mrs. Louis Doyle, Mrs. James Moore, and Mrs. Keith Willoughby.

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FAST FACTS by HUNTER

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Beep Beep

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