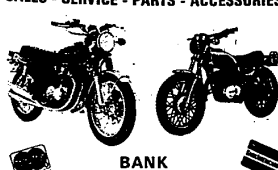
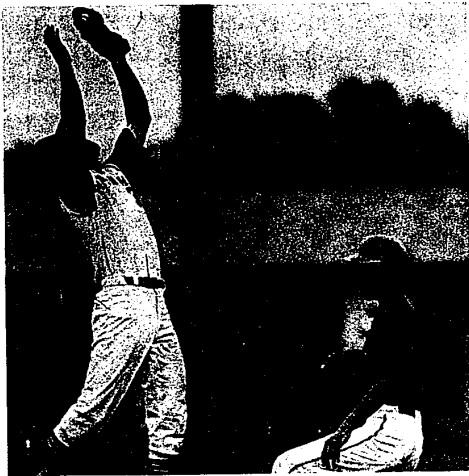


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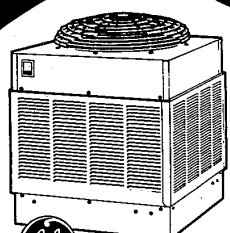
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HIGH TOSS TO SECOND -- Birmingham's Bart Bates goes high in the air to grab a throw from his catcher with Westland's Phil McMillan sliding into second with a stolen base. The Westland Burger King crew won, 4-2. (Observer photo)

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Top Stock Card At Mt. Clemens

The greatest stock car program in the history of the Mt. Clemens race track. That is the prospect for the eighth Mt. Clemens 200 - two 100 - lap super-stock races back-to-back-on Thursday, August 3rd, for a purse of \$8,430. The event is expected to bring out the best field of pilots in the history of the track.

This will be an open competition: Any driver can enter, provided he and his car meet the track's standards. It is not necessary to belong to the Wonderland Auto Racing Association, the track's sanctioning body, in order to compete.

Drivers will start in the first race according to the speed at which they qualified. The 33 fastest qualifiers will take part, with the fastest on the pole, the second fastest in the second position and so on.

After the first race, there will be a short intermission.

Then the drivers will line up for the second 100 lappers. If any starter is unable to go in the second race, the 34th fastest qualifier will get his chance.

A DRIVER will have a chance to win \$2,200 for the night's work. First prize in each race will be \$1,100. Second place is worth \$600. All 33 starters will share in the rich purse.

On Saturday, Aug. 5, the Mt. Clemens Race Track, on the North River Road near the Edsel Ford Expressway, offers stock cars events each Thursday and Saturday night. Time trials start at 7 p.m., with the first heat race at 8:30 p.m.

Pistons Schedule Series With Pacers

The Detroit Pistons have scheduled a "home and home" pre-season series with the Indianapolis Pacers, champions of the American Basketball Association.

The two teams will meet on Oct. 4 at Indianapolis and again the following night at the IMA Auditorium in Flint.

Former Detroit Pershing High School star Mel Daniels is one of the stars on the Pacers. They are coached by Bob Leonard, who will be remembered by Pistons' fans when he played for the Minnesota and later Los Angeles Lakers, then with the Chicago Zephyrs before coaching Chicago and the Baltimore Bullets.

With the six-foot, nine-inch Daniels helping to lead the way, the Pacers beat out the New York Mets last spring in the ABA championship playoff round.

GENERAL MANAGER Edwin E. Coll of the Pistons, in announcing the games, said the engagement at Indianapolis would be played under ABA rules.

Northville never hit \$500,000 on any night even though it was close on several occasions. It never equaled the high of \$608,000 set a year ago but everything considered, Executive Manager John Carlo tabbed it as a good meeting.

MALCOLM PHILLIPS, of Battle Creek, and Don McMurray, of Novi, will have to go down in the record books as the hard luck drivers in Michigan harness racing.

Don suffered serious head injuries during the Northville winter meeting and was hospitalized for two weeks and out of action for the better part of a month.

Mal broke both wrists in an accident at Wolverine Raceway and was sidelined for almost two months.

So guess who were involved in an accident Saturday at Northville. You guessed it - Phillips and Don. Mal suffered back and leg injuries and McMurray a dislocated shoulder that probably will keep him out of the sulky for two weeks.

Phillips is reported to have returned to the track after being rushed to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia but it is thought he'll be idled for a while until his legs and back become normal again.

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

The runners returned to the Detroit Race Course Monday for the first of 108 programs and a crowd of 10,848 turned out under perfect weather conditions to see what the Livonia track is offering that's new and different.

It was a very satisfactory opening with a handle of \$84,807 and nary a one of the track's top management was singing the blues.

Matter of fact they were singing the praises of Jockey Oscar Sanchez who recorded a triple - all in a row - and then learned that he's starting a five day suspension Wednesday for an unsatisfactory ride Saturday at Hazel Park.

Sanchez started his winning streak in the third with Top Voltage (77) and then followed with Mysterious Sun (\$8.80) in the fourth and Sir Jester (\$11) in the fifth.

JACK VAN BERG, the top trainer in the land in 1971 and son of the late M. H. Van Berg who dominated trainers in the Detroit area for so many years, made his presence known by saddling four winners.

Van Berg had Canadian Jeff in front all the way in the \$12,500 Curtains Up Handicap and then concluded his big afternoon with a victory in the final race with Mr. Kat who paid a whopping \$63.80.

Incidentally that win made the ninth race trifecta worth \$1,157.

Hazel Park rang down the curtain on the first half of the state's thoroughbred season Saturday with a crowd of 16,473 wagering a season high of \$1,508,565.

The total attendance for the 132 days was 1,119,568, a state record and the total wagering was \$108,540,217. The daily average handle was \$83,000, just short of the \$86,000 predicted by track management at the start of the campaign.

It was the final meeting for the present track owners who will turn the property over to the new owners before the end of the week.

HARNESS RACING ended for the summer months on the west side of Metropolitan Detroit Tuesday when Northville Downs concluded its 29th campaign and then the pacers and trotters opened Wednesday (tonight) at Hazel Park.

The 'Downs meeting won't go in the record books as the best ever, falling short of the marks established a year ago, but it will be recorded as the best against competition from such a strong rival as Windsor Raceway.

With the exception of a few nights during the closing programs, Northville did more business and had more customers than its Canadian opposition.

But as mentioned several times in the past month, the head-on battle for the dollar actually evolved into a scrap over which track was going to get the most of what appears to be a rather set figure.

On practically every night, the total for both tracks was just about equal to that handled by Wolverine Raceway during its highly successful meeting.

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FROM HAZEL PARK comes word that veteran Presiding Judge Johnny Broderick will miss the first six weeks of the meeting after undergoing an operation in an Albany, N.Y. hospital for ulcers.

He will be replaced by C. Stuart (Mickey) McLean, an outstanding standardbred official for more than three decades who is returning to the Detroit area where he started his career at Northville Downs.

McLean has a wealth of experience as a racing secretary, presiding steward and general manager of eastern tracks. He served a stint at Northville in the '40s as a presiding steward and later as racing secretary.

Broderick's temporary absence reduces to six the number of officials who have been with Hazel Park since

the start of harness racing there.

Other veterans are: Racing Secretary Bill Connors, clerk of course, Wilma Power, plant superintendent Henry Groh, placing judge Dayton Matkin, associate steward Clair Cook and track superintendent Ken Marshall, Sr.

Football Flyers Available For Lions' Games

Detroit Lions' fans once again can count on DSR express service direct to Tiger Stadium starting Saturday, Aug. 5.

The first of the Lions' nine home dates is a pre-season game with the American Football Conference champions, the Miami Dolphins. Kickoff is 8 p.m.

DSR Football Flyers will leave the Northland shopping center from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Service from Wonderland center, Middle Belt at Plymouth, will be provided from 6 to 7:15 p.m.

LOADING POINTS for the Flyers are:

Northland - park and ride from Lot K. After game, board on Kallie Drive.

Wonderland - park and ride from Lot 6. After game, board on Michigan Avenue.

Last year, the DSR Football Flyers carried an average of 4,500 fans to each of the Lions' nine home games at Tiger Stadium.

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