

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

The late closing winter pacing series at the Jackson - at - Northville meeting took a new turn Wednesday when Racing Secretary Tom Smith discovered the entry of Easy Tom among those slated to meet in Saturday's co-features.

It was Easy Tom who came out of the woods during the December series to rank as the top contender and then supplied the finishing kick with an easy triumph in the \$10,000 championship.

The speedy star missed the first two legs of the 1974 win-

ter series before checking in for the final three events. The series climaxes with the \$10,000 finale on Saturday, Feb. 2, closing night of the current campaign.

This week's stake had to be split into two divisions because of 15 entries. Winners of the first two legs drew into the second heat... the eighth race... with seven going to the post.

The first heat has eight starters including Easy Tom who could go off as the odds-on favorite. The five-year-old faces plenty of competition but it doesn't appear to be as formidable as that in the second dash.

Going against Easy Tom are: Fair Haven Hanna, Daddy O Ranger, Rocket Chip, Royal Spectator, Ritzie Range, Steve N.Z., and Golden Major.

His stiffest challenge could come from Daddy O Ranger.

Ritzie Range and Rocket Chip... especially the last mentioned since it will have the services of veteran driver Merritt Dokey.

The second qualifier could be one of the best tests of the new year since the seven starters include: Tiger Jet, Ardens Rader, Blazer Chip and Kimber R. Range.

Each has been a victor in the first two legs. Ardens Rader and Tiger Jet in the initial races three weeks back and Blazer Chip and Kimber R. Range a week ago.

And again one would have to take a good look at Blazer Chip, a surprise victor last Saturday with Dokey in the sulky.

Each of the races is worth \$3,750 and the co-features are listed on the program as the seventh and eighth events.

Those who follow the pacers and trotters closely will be watching the performance of Jane's Amigo, the sometimes fleet pacer owned by Livonia school superintendent Ron Upton. The pacer is returning to the races after a rest of more than a month.

It goes in the ninth against such fast ones as Canadian K. Brads Afternoon, Knight Desire, Supreme Gold, Peppy Relco, Moving Comet and Hera Sue.

From Northville comes a story of a successful bettor (at least on one night) who has the most unusual method of picking winners we have ever heard of.

For instance last Saturday he had four winners in the first six races including the nightly double.

His system... he and his wife take eight cards out of a deck, then they carefully pick one of the cards for each race. Then they follow the numbers for the entire evening. Sounds a bit wild but then who cares as long as the horse bearing that number for the race comes in first.

We don't know if the system will work for everyone but it would have to be worth a try.

Glenn Sinks Mason High

Westland John Glenn splashed past Mason, 87-75, for its sixth consecutive victory. Glenn took seven of the 11 first places, Tom Bird and Roger McCreery double winners. Results:

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY: 1-John Glenn (Don Westfall, Bill Borgeading, Roy Broyles, Joe Hicks) - 1:57.3; 2-Erie - Mason - 1:57.4.3; 3-Erie - Mason.

200-YARD FREESTYLE: 1-Tom Bird (JG) - 1:58.2; 2-Holbrook (EM); 3-Blevins (JG).

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY - 1-Roger McCreery (JG) 2:21.5; 2-Joe Bird (JG); 3-Taylor (EM).

50-YARD FREESTYLE - 1-R. Elinski (EM) - 23.8; 2-Aitwood (JG); 3-Wright (EM).

DIVING - 1-Roscoe (EM) - 177.75; 2-Joe Hicks (JG); 3-Wencko (JG).

100-YARD BUTTERFLY - 1-B. Taylor (EM) - 1:03.1; 2-Pangrazzi (JG); 3-Broyles (JG).

100-YARD FREESTYLE: 1-Roger McCreery (JG) 1:44.0; 2-Elinski (EM); 3-Millett (EM).

500-YARD FREESTYLE: 1-Tom Bird (JG) - 5:31.2; 2-Jeff Garbus (JG); 3-Connelly (EM).

100-YARD BACKSTROKE: 1-Wade Blevins (JG) - 1:04.8; 2-Scott Aitwood (JG); 3-Don Westfall (JG).

100-YARD BACKSTROKE: 1-B. Wright (EM) - 1:10.0; 2-Vordrug (EM); 3-Bill Borgeading (JG).

400-YARD FREESTYLE: 1-John Glenn (Steve Pangrazzi, Roger McCreery, Joe Bird, Tom Bird) 3:40.5; 2-Erie Mason - 3:45.4; 3-John Glenn - 4:02.8.

Schoolcraft swamps Kellogg tankers

Coach Jim Millen's Schoolcraft College swimming team upped its record to 4-0 by sinking Kellogg Community College, 75-28.

The Schoolcraft tankers, who finished second in the nation among junior college teams last year, powered their way to first place finishes in nine of 13 events.

The Ocelots were paced by freestyler Steve Leclair, their talented All-American who holds four national junior college records. In addition to winning the 200 and 500 yard freestyle events, Leclair established a Kellogg

Community College pool record by turning a 1:55.0 clocking in the 200.

Also winning two events for Schoolcraft was diver Gary Wales who took first place off both the one and three meter boards.

Scoring first place finishes for Schoolcraft were: Tim Orians (200 yard breaststroke), Tom O'Hagan (200 yard butterfly), Dave Cravens (200 yard individual medley), Rick Vigil (1,000 yard freestyle) and the 400 yard medley relay team of Rick Phillips, Orians, Cravens, and Tom Osborn.

Livonia bowler hits 803 mark

Fred Ringrose, the tall, slender Livonia sharpshooter who has been flirting with bowling fame for several years, reached the peak of his career Tuesday in the Wonderland Classic.

Bowling with the K&S team he rolled an 803 and became the first to reach that pinnacle in Observerland for several years. On the way to the magic count he also posted a 300 game, the eighth rolled this season in the metropolitan Detroit area.

To get his big count, Freddie opened with the 300, then added games of 279 and 224 to gain his place on the na-

tional honor roll.

The 800 series was the second bowled under the jurisdiction of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association this season. It bettered an 801 registered by Rick McCotter at North Hills several weeks ago.

With Fred showing the way his team posted a 3286 series, but had to give way to the Koeplinger team for scoring honors. The Bakers turned in a 3414, another national honor roll total, on games of 1161, 1124 and 1129. To round out the night of high scoring Joe Wilson contributed a 724 and Ron Sharples a 712.

RU Panthers sink Farmington, 105-67

Redford Union won the 200 medley relay and swept all nine individual events to crush Farmington in a non-league swim meet, 105-67.

It was RU's second win against three losses.

The Panthers sported three double winners in Peter Simon, Randy Hurn and Rick Anthony. Simon won the 50 and 100 freestyle; Hurn the 200 and 500 yards freestyle and Anthony the 200 individual medley and 100 breaststroke.

200 medley relay: 1-Redford Union (Simon, Hurn, Martin, Doran); 2-Farmington (Hull, Koenig, Graham, Speldid). Time 1:58.8.

200 freestyle: 1-Hurn (RU); 2-McCrath (F); 3-Baskley (RU). Time 1:59.7.

Fordson downs East, 33-20

Fordson High recorded three pins and four decisions en route to a non-league, 33-20 wrestling victory over Garden City East. Results:

Meet results: Fordson 33, Garden City East 20.

100 - Wrenlock (F) pinned Demary (GCE), 1:54.

107 - Faltel (F) pinned Michalak (GCE), 5:48.

114 - Villard (F) pinned Harkness (GCE), 2:41.

121 - Gillespie (F) dec. Barnetabe (GCE), 7-1.

128 - Phelps (F) dec. Nelson (GCE), 11-0.

134 - Dembski (F) dec. Fugabon (GCE), 7-3.

140 - Oberless (F) dec. Cunningham (GCE), 5-0.

147 - Riner (GCE) won on a default over Gillespie (F).

157 - Ludke (F) drew with Savastano (GCE), 5-5.

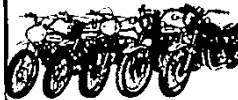
167 - Savastano (GCE) dec. Zehn (F), 8-6.

187 - Kolpacke (GCE) pinned Mamataki (F), 3:00.

HVV - Adkins (GCE) dec. Buoy (F), 4-0.

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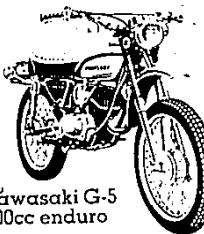


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