

State prep wrestling districts set

Twelve of 14 area high schools will be in the Walled Lake Western district in state wrestling competition. A total of 24 districts and 21 regional have been announced by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, with the district date on Feb. 22. State championships for Class A, B, and C will be held March 7 and 8 at Michigan State University.

The solo Class B school in the area, Clarencville, is in the Algonac District with the victor advancing to the Riverview Regional March 1.

The Walled Lake Western District will feature Class A foes: Bishop Borgess, Redford Union, Thurston, Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington, Garden City East, Garden City West, Bentley, Churchill, Stevenson, Jenkintown, Northville, Plymouth Salem, Plymouth Canton, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western, Wayne Memorial and Westland John Glenn.



The Green Thumb

So you want to eat fresh fresh vegetables from your garden in January? Then consider raising some turnips, parsnips, salsify (vegetable oysters), and carrots (mulched). Those items are hardy and can take quite a bit of winter cold.

Carrots can be left in the ground all fall and winter, if mulched with straw or leaves. In fact, the ground is the best place to keep carrots if you like them raw and sweet. They need some protection for those who live in a cold area.

If you want a real good Brussels sprouts try the Jade Cross. Seed sown in June will produce sprouts by October. If you plant early you can get a crop earlier. The plants live through the winter and by the time January rolls around you'll still have many firm, green sprouts, frozen solid, nesting under the green leaves.

These "snow sprouts" can be picked frozen and should be cooked within a few hours after picking. Or you can store them in your freezer. Being partially frozen in the garden, they tend to get soft and spoil if kept long above freezing.

PARSNIPS can be left in the garden for winter eating. The ground freezes but if you mulch them with straw,

they'll be easy to dig out. Or you can dig them up and store them in earth in a cold cellar. Freezing in the soil improves the flavor.

Salsify or vegetable oysters can also be left in the ground over winter and mulched with straw. Or you can dig them in the fall, trim the tops at least one inch above the root, and store in moist soil or sand-peat in the cool cellar.

Turnips like Just Right, maturing in 35 days) mulched with straw or leaves are great for eating in winter. Just Right grows to the size of a golf ball. It must be sown or grown in the fall only as it produces seed stalks if sown or planted early.

Do you have any other "winter vegetables" to add to the list?

GREEN THUMB CLINIC: We planted seed in potting soil bought from a store and nothing came up. We used it for house plants and they didn't fare too well. What are we doing that's wrong?

Answer: Some of the potting soils you buy are just ordinary peat or muck, an attractive black humus, not good for seed sowing or growing house plants. Try to doctor up the stuff by adding some sand and perlite to it.

What's cooking in Michigan

By LARRESTINE TRIMM MDA

If you're thinking of more economical dishes, think onions.

Pre-washed onions have been one of the few staple foods on the marketplace in recent months, according to marketing officials of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Michigan ranks fifth nationally in onion production. Most of the crop is grown in late summer, stored after harvest and shipped to the rest of the country and Europe in winter.

Largest commercial crops are grown in Allegan, Ottawa and Newago counties. Onions are perhaps most popular used as a condiment to add vigor and flavor to main dishes. But for a thrifty, savory dish try using them as a main vegetable.

Think of onions as an accom-

paniment to roast beef. Whole onions can be cooked in boiling water for 15 to 20 minutes, depending on size.

For creamed onions, simply add a white sauce or top with buttered crumbs and grated cheese for scalloped onions.

For a tempting casserole treat, cook three cups of small onions in salted water for 10 minutes. Drain and put them in a baking dish. Mix together 1/2 cup honey, 1/2 cup catsup and 1/2 tablespoons butter. Pour over the onions and bake in a 350 degree oven, basting occasionally. Uncover during the last 15 minutes if too juicy. Recipe serves six.

Lake green onions? Try mixing one tablespoon, chopped, with half a cup of soft butter. Form into a roll and chill. Slice into thin circles to serve on canapés, omelets, steaks and baked potatoes.

This will be a big weekend for Joe Sacco and Al Rosenberg, of Southfield. They'll be in Boca Raton, Fla., on Saturday for the annual meeting of the Harness Tracks of America to receive an award for owning the most outstanding aged pacer mare of 1974.

That happens to be Huff N Puff which gained its greatest fame at Wolverine Raceway where she won three races in times of less than 2:00 and established herself as the best in Michigan.

Then Huff N Puff went to New York for the races there and quickly won acclaim with her tremendous closing speed in the stretch. She attracted the attention of the nation's racing secretaries and they selected her for the national award.

Earlier she had won the top award in Michigan as pacer of the year and was thus honored at the annual meeting of the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association in mid-January in Lansing.

This is the first time a Michigan pacer or trotter won such a national award. There have been occasions when a Michigan-owned name was

three-year-old of the year after winning the Little Brown Jug or the Hambletonian but this was a first for an aged performer.

From the rumor mills, one hears that Hazel Park Raceway may have a change in starters this year. The rumors are current that Chuck Coon won't be back. We haven't been able to affirm or get a denial. Take it for what it's worth.

From the Detroit Race Course comes word that Bert McCann has resigned as mutuel's manager and has been replaced by Harvey Rice. Bert will remain as assistant but indicated he didn't care for all the pressure of the mutuel's manager.

In talking with Dick Wilson, vice president and general manager of the Detroit Racing Association and Wolverine Raceway, he makes it clear that Rice is mutuel's manager for the thoroughbred operation only. The Wolverine position hasn't been filled as yet.

It will be quite a switch for Harvey who for years has been one of the top negotiators for the mutuel, clerks union and now finds himself on the other side with management.

Rice had participated in this year's negotiations until the appointment and immediately notified the union officers of his change in status. Now he's busy making plans for the scheduled opening of the DRA 1975 season on Feb. 21.

You can get a wager either way that the track will or will not operate without a contract, and the two aren't that close right now.

After a successful experiment with its first free Saturday matinee last week, Northville Downs plans to repeat this Saturday and again the following week.

This week's matinee will follow the format of the opener with an eight race program starting at 2 p.m., with Michigan owned and bred trotters and pacers that haven't been able to get starts in recent weeks.

"We have to do something for these horses," says Executive Director John Carlo. Since the \$1,000 purses are from the horsemen's pot, then we feel they have a right to stage as many of these matinees as they want. Right now we have enough money

ahead to have matinees the next two Saturdays.

Drawings for the matinees were held Wednesday night and there wasn't any shortage of horses.

The matinees are free admission to all. They give parents a chance to take the youngsters to the races. Concession stands will be open on the ground level of the grandstand which is glass-enclosed and heated.

When in the evening, business will be resumed as usual with the \$4,500 open pace as the top feature. There's a bit of a difference this week. Spanish Mac isn't trying to extend a winning streak. He was whipped decisively last Saturday and will be trying a comeback with Lee Sattlerburg in the sulky.

Lee will be sitting in for Tom Merriman, Jr., who will be in Florida over the weekend testing a new horse, owner Bob Kalish brought while on a recent vacation.

The pacer, Roberman, has won two in a row with Don Hall driving and Tom will have to go quite a bit to improve on that.

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