

In Adrian

Michigan breeders prep for \$100,000 jackpot

On Sunday, Aug. 24, little Adrian, Michigan, population 23,000, will be the harness racing capital of the world as it hosts the \$100,000 Michigan Breeders Futurity for trotters and pacers.

For that Sunday the Lenawee County Fair will be devoted exclusively to the standardbred, with the race being followed by a chicken and ham dinner, also open to the public. In the evening candidates for next year's race, will be sold at public auction.

There will be no betting on the races, thus making this event ideal for family entertainment. After the races the barn area will be open and the public will have the opportunity to

see the horses close-up and speak with the participants. Also available for inspection will be the yearlings that will be sold that evening.

This is the first time that this race which features Michigan Bred or Sired two year old trotters and pacers will have been held. It is expected that this will be a yearly feature of the Lenawee County Fair and that in addition to the two year old races there will also be three year old divisions.

This year there will be four divisions for the two year old trotters and pacers with the colts and geldings racing in separate divisions from the fillies. Each of the four divisions will go for \$25,000.

ing, including on Wednesday Aug. 20 when some of these same colts will be racing as part of the Michigan Colt Stakes Blue Circuit starting at 5:00 P.M. There will be six races going for total purses of \$27,000.

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WHEN THE RACE was announced over a year ago, over 600 yearlings were nominated. This is more than had ever been eligible to any Michigan race at that stage. This spring owners of over 300 of these kept their horses eligible by paying \$50. It is anticipated that over 50 owners will pay the \$250 entry fee required to start.

The races will begin at 1:30, the dinner will follow promptly after the races at 3:30 and the sale will begin at 8:30.

The favorite in the pacing colt division has got to be Shway Chatham, sold at this same auction last year for \$8,000 to a syndicate that races under the name of the Gas House Gang, which includes his breeder, Shway Farm, Inc. Chatham earned this distinction by a brilliant win in the Geers Stake at Hazel Park where he beat some of the best in the nation. Since that time Chatham has been racing well, but not well enough as he has been beaten on three occasions in the Michigan Colt Stakes by Dreammaker (Dick Oldfield, Adrian), Nutzi Too (Sacco and Rosenberg, Oak Park and M. Doherty, Westland), and Shway Hornet (Irv Johnson, Brighton). Other leading contenders include Shadow Don Time (Paul and Jim Felice, Pontiac), who had a third in the Grand Circuit race at Goshen, Titan Knox (C. M. Saunders, Perrysburg, Ohio), Painter Five (M. A. Benson, Jr., Pontiac), and Hy Wings (Waldo McMillamurray, Novi).

In the pacing fully division, it looks right now that Betty Skipper owned by Paul Jensen of Pontiac, Mary Graham of Birmingham, and Adolph Silverstein of Detroit, has the race all but locked up. She has had 5 consecutive wins, one more impressive than the other. She is by the nation's leading stallion, Meadow Skipper who stands for the highest stud fee in the history of the sport, \$15,000 and is the seventh consecutive winning foal of the good Ericaway mare, Frisco Gold.

The competition is expected to come from Classy Sample (Ada Ackerman of Galtier), Nell's Satin Doll (Judith Heslop of South Lyon), Drisina Maria (Norm Forsyth of Milington), Beppy Knox (Robert Leithner E. Nottle of Battle Creek), and Augusta Wind (George Horan of Allegan).

The Lenawee County Fair Board has scheduled three other days of racing.

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