

Top Damsels Compete In DRC Milette

One of the greatest arrays of fillies and mares ever named to a single race in Detroit Race Course history awaits Saturday's (July 11) fourth running of the richest race remaining on the track's 1970 schedule, the \$40,000-added Milette Handicap.

Designed as the staff's counter part of the "Michigan Mile," the winner of the Milette has drawn 26 nominees headed by last season's winner of the New York Triple Crown for fillies.

Mrs. Whitney Stone's Shuvee.

This daughter of the famed Nashua is a six-time stakes winner, including a track record performance for a mile and 1/16 in winning the \$50,000-added Cotillion Handicap under top weight at Liberty Bell, in Philadelphia.

HIGHEST FINANCIAL score came in winning the \$100,000-added Coaching Club American Oaks at Belmont.

where the winner's share was more than \$70,000. This victory was a mile and a quarter, dispelling any fear as to whether the 4-year-old can handle the route of the Milette.

Miss Barbara Hunter's Patee Canyon, with five victories this year, also looms as one of the top challengers in the contest. One of the most impressive performances by the hard-hitting mare was her four-length victory in the Two-

light Year Handicap at Arlington Park.

W.A. Lofton's Miss Danalee, whose triumph in the 1969 Milette was one of the three stakes victories she has scored at the DRC, is expected to go after her second Milette crown to make amends for her disappointing performance in the Rose Leaves Handicap last month. In that one she was a 1-5 favorite but finished third to Marion H. Van Berg's Vic's Turn.

The latter, whose 11-length triumph in the Rose Leaves was her second victory of the year, also is expected to go after the starter Saturday along with M.A. MacDonald's Miss Creole, second in the Rose Leaves.

Foremost among other candidates are such standouts as Walter Trammitt's What A Dream, record breaking winner at Garden State; Hobbe-

Farm's Taken Aback, victor over Patee Canyon at Hialeah last winter, and the R.C. Astor's estate's Frederick Street, triple winner at Liberty Bell this summer.

Starters for the Milette will be named Thursday, and the race will be the top attraction of a 10-race event program Saturday. Horses in the first race will go postward at 2:10 p.m.

observing sports

It's been a week now since Denny McLain came back to the Tigers and received the welcome of a hero.

The long, lost son was home and some 54,000 fans, plus more than a 100 connected with newspapers, TV and radio flocked to salute his return.

He had come back from "serving time" for violating the rules of baseball; perhaps, even the rules of life.

Add to it the fact his name had produced headlines just a few weeks before over the bankruptcy he was filing. The "poor" guy was more than \$400,000 in debt with very little left in the way of assets, the claim alleged.

But the baseball fans turned out some 30,000 more than the night before or the night after when Joe Niekro came within a whisker of his no-hitter and all because Denny was coming back.

If you're a reader of this twice-a-week episode, you couldn't be surprised by what happened at Tiger Stadium a week ago.

We had said when Denny first was suspended by baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn that while many thought the penalty wasn't severe enough, it would make no difference to the fans when he eventually returned.

The followers of the Tigers would arise, almost as one, to cheer him back and they did.

MAYBE, THAT'S JUST the way we as people are.

We're easy to forgive. And we're just as fast at forgetting.

When the McLain "celebration" was completed, we sat and talked with Joe Falls of the Free Press. The subject got into deeper things than just sports—the human behavior and reaction elements.

"I suppose that's the way it just has to be...that we forget and bounce back," Falls was saying. "If it weren't that way, we'd all be cases for the mental doctors."

In short, we're for giving the underdog a break. When a youngster, or even an adult, gets into a jam, we think he should rate a second chance.

When tragedy strikes among us — like death — we manage to roll back. We adjust. We live on.

So to get back to Denny McLain. He had done wrong. No question about that.

But, then, maybe we say to ourselves: "We have done some wrong, too."

Besides, we look to sports to give us relief from the various world headaches that have beset us, from those headlines which dominate about Vietnam and the Near East and the necessity for more tax money from our pocketbooks.

RIGHT NOW, the Tigers are a hot subject. A few weeks ago, they didn't stand much of a chance in the American League-East race. They were something like 10 and 11 games out.

But the past week has seen them gain some ground. It's still a long season. The Tigers are playing better and they also have their top pitcher back in McLain.

If you know Denny and have talked to him you know that if there's one guy who can turn things completely around for the Tigers — it's McLain.

So far, the team has lacked a consistent winning pitcher. Mickey Lolich started well and has sluffed badly since. Earl Wilson, Joe Niekro and Mike Kilkenny have had their ups and downs.

Maybe McLain will, too, but history dictates that he'll be a winner...a big winner after a few games of getting back into the groove.

It took something for Denny to go out there last week and pitch against the Yanks.

Many of us would have run for cover and the river under similar pressures.

Remember, the pre-game buildup that was attached to that game. When he finally got to Tiger Stadium, he was besieged by writers, photographers, by TV people, by others.

A HALF HOUR before the game, we stood in the Tiger clubhouse, talking with Denny.

He remarked, how he'd like to have a few moments to take it easy, relax, soothe his nerves. But, it was not to be.

Reporters hung close to him as he put on his baseball shirt, picked up his cap and headed down the runway to the dugout. There, awaiting him, were hundreds more from the press, etc.

Everything considered, McLain pitched brilliantly that first day back. The fans appreciated him. The Tigers appreciated him.

It's like old times—for the Tigers—McLain is pitching.

What he did to get himself in trouble really doesn't make much difference now. He's paid for his "crime."

Johannesen Joins U-M

ANN ARBOR William A. Johannesen, former Michigan Big Ten wrestling champion, has been named Michigan's new assistant wrestling coach. Athletic Director Don Canham announced Johannesen's appointment following approval by the Board in Control of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Johannesen, 26, wrestled for Michigan in 1964-65 and won the Big Ten 137-pound championship his junior year and went on to place fourth in the NCAA. His sophomore and senior years he placed third in the Big Ten. Johannesen explained the 1966 Michigan team.

He replaces Rick Bay, who moved up to the head coaching spot at Michigan after Cliff Keen's retirement June 1. Johannesen and Bay have had almost identical careers. Both are from Waukegan (Ill.) High School, both were wrestling champions there, both attended Michigan and were captains and Big Ten champions. Johannesen is a year younger than Bay.

Al Kaline Program To Aid Rec Events

Al Kaline's day in the sun may help to provide a happier summer for many Detroit-area youngsters.

The Tiger star will be honored in "Al Kaline Day" ceremonies prior to the Detroit-Minnesota game at Tiger Stadium on Sunday Aug. 2. National and local government and sports figures, as well as representatives of Al's fan following, will participate in the tribute to Kaline.

Informed that unsolicited contributions will be sent in by some fans, Kaline said he would like to have such dona-

tions go to a Detroit-area summer recreation program for youngsters. "I'd like for these contributions to help me say 'thanks' for making my career here so wonderful."

Kaline has designated the Summer Youth Program of United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit as recipient of all contributions by fans. Richard F. Huegli, executive vice president of U.C.S., said the money will be "gratefully accepted," and will result in expanded baseball programs for children of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

"The donations will be used to buy more bats, balls and gloves for youngsters in public programs throughout Metropolitan Detroit," Huegli said. "The donations, which will be tax deductible, should be addressed to Al Kaline Day, P.O. Box 400, Detroit, Mich. 48231."



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MORE THAN 50,000 attended races during the long holiday weekend at the Detroit Race Course including 14,000 on Monday and this shows a portion of the Saturday crowd. Wagering for the three big days soared to more than \$4 million in track record for three consecutive programs.

Gals Brave Heat To Win Golf Prizes Primeau Inks Pact With A's

Intense heat and the threat of thunderstorms punctuated play at Whispering Willows for the Livonia Women's Golf League.

But the sizzling 90-degree weather failed to cool the putters of eight league members

who walked off with weekly prizes for best performances on the green.

A tight low putt honors went to Shirley Adams with 15. B flight saw a tie between Joan Wiljanen, Joyce Brandemil and Diane Holden, all carding 17. C flight prize went to Gloria Smith with 16 putts.

Joyce Woods had 17 to take D flight honors. It was a tie in E flight between Therese Caro-

sio and Rene Nasser, both with 20.

Three A flight members added to the state of the day with low gross scores of 4 and 49. Clare Capriellid did a career-rep of her 45 of several weeks ago, but this time it was 46 while Kay Copolla and Glen Davies both shot 49.

It was also "good show" for Joyce Woods, 60 D flight, who came in with a 59.

Top Teacher

Michigan's assistant basketball coach Fred Snowden has produced some outstanding players in another sport — baseball. Two current American League All-Stars were Snowden's pupils: when he coached baseball at Detroit's Northwestern High, Willie Horton, hitting 325 for the Detroit Tigers and leading the American League in RBI's, and the California Angels' Alex Johnson, second in the league in hitting.

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Brooklane Pro, Partners Win Pro-Am Event

Pro John Koch, of Brooklane Golf Course in Northville Township, joined with three amateur partners to capture the area pro-amateur at Gowanite a week ago.

The quartet has a baseball of 29-31 to take top honors. Playing with Koch were Bob Evans of Detroit, John Veipert of Plymouth and Ed Kryst of Northville.

Long Day

ANN ARBOR Southern Cal's 24 victory in 15 innings over Florida State in the NCAA World Series is reminiscent of Michigan's NCAA title in 1962. That year, Michigan downed Santa Clara 5-4 in a marathon 15 innings.

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The Only One

ANN ARBOR Tom Harmon, Michigan's legendary halfback of the early '40s, is the only Wolverine recipient of the prestigious Heisman Trophy.

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