

Wolverine Continues Record Making

The fastest dead heat in Michigan history and one of the fastest of all time — largest crowd ever to attend a harness racing program in the state — highest single night wagering — most hot dogs ever sold at a Michigan race track — largest attendance for the pacers and trotters over a weekend — largest two night hand — and 19,715 jamming their way into the stands including some 3,000 youngsters.

That was almost 10,000 more than attended running races at Hazel Park in the afternoon. Added to the 11,920 that were on hand for Saturday's card, the

total attendance of 31,635 for the weekend was 5,000 more than the Hazel Park figures for the same two days.

THE FRIDAY throng was in an eating and betting mood. It consumed more than 50,000 hot dogs during the evening — there was still some available when the crowd was leaving after the 10th race — and they wagered an all-time high of \$850,882. In the process the record for wagering on a single race went by the board with a total of \$881,150 on the sixth race. That bettered the previous high of \$85,370 set on Aug. 15.

The handle for the two nights shattered all previous marks with a total of \$1,647,554. The old high was \$1,553,100 two weeks earlier.

And to make the weekend more memorable, Friday's Big Perfecta combination of 5-7-4-1 paid a record \$61,995 to one ticket holder. Then came the unprecedented dead heat in the second half of the Big P on Saturday with three tickets — one was worth \$2,113 and the other two paid \$15,049 each.

After 40 nights Wolverine's attendance shows a nightly average of 8,408 for an increase

of 51 per cent and the wagering is up 30 per cent with an average of \$93,000.

DOKEY REWROTE the record books Saturday when he won the three featured races, one resulting in the dead heat in the last of 2:00.

He started his big night by guiding Fanny Mile, Michigan's premier pacing mare, to a half length victory in the Invitational Pace in 2:00.1.

Fanny Mile, owned by Bill Bongo of Farmington, was held back in the No. 3 position until midway through the backstretch when Dokey let her go and she charged into the lead and stayed there.

Dokey brought Gaviland, owned by Sid Leckhart of Pontiac, from way back in the field in the seventh race to finally close even with Johnny G. at the wire in 2:00.

The judges examined the films for five minutes and then finally flashed the dead heat sign. It was the fastest dead heat in Michigan and one of the fastest in the record book.

Strange enough, another Michigan owned pacer, Rusty Range, who carried the colors of Red Eggers of South Lyon,

was involved in a 1:58 dead heat in 1963 with Mr. Bulldog in California. That was a \$50,000 stake race.

THIS TIME the dead heat gave the method calculators a busy time. They had to refigure the mutual prices and the Big Perfecta. The crowd roared when the price of \$30,173 was posted on the combination of Johnny G and Gaviland and \$15,089 on the combination of Gaviland and Johnny G.

The crowd had hardly settled down after the dead heat until Dokey had them standing and cheering again when he brought Cashing Beauty to the front in the stretch and went on to win the eighth race by two lengths in 2:01.1.

That was his third in a row and the third feature he won.

Wolverine's 60 night meeting continues through Oct. 13 and track officials predict it will continue on the present record making pace.

Highspots of the remaining weeks are the \$15,000 Majron for three-year-old trotters on Oct. 2 and the week-long championship series of Michigan colt stakes beginning Oct. 5.

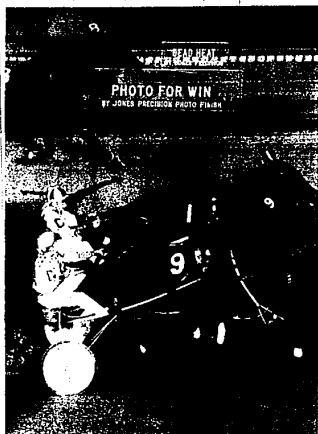


PHOTO FOR WIN BY JAMES PETERSON PHOTO FINA

TWO ON THE WIRE at the same time resulted in the fastest dead heat in Michigan history Saturday at Wolverine Raceway when Johnny G (1) and Gaviland (9) were clocked in 2:00. It not only was the fastest in the state but one of the fastest in harness racing annals. Gaviland, on the outside guided by Merritt Dokey, made up two lengths in the stretch to collar Johnny G in the final stride.

Inspired Farmington Spoils Bentley Opener

As the young Bentley Bulldogs prepare to play host to Dearborn High school Friday night, they have good cause to recall that they learned one of football's oldest lessons — the hard way — in losing their opener to Farmington, 18-7.

Johnson kicked the extra point and the Bulldogs were off.

Playing alert football they seemed well on their way to repeating the 18-0 victory scored over Farmington last year. They outplayed Farmington and only a holding penalty stopped them from a second touchdown with six seconds to play in the second period.

It was a different story when play resumed. Taking the kickoff Steleke cut up the field, raced by several Bulldog tacklers and headed for the sidelines. By the time he got to midfield he was in the clear and there was no stopping him.

The try for a two-point conversion failed and Farmington still trailed 7 to 6, but it was a different ball game.

Inspired by the sudden turn of events they ripped and slashed and took control of the game.

MEANWHILE the Bulldogs lost much of the fire they had shown in the first half and finally saw their chances for victory slip when, late in the third period, John Holappa broke away at midfield and raced to the Bentley 20-yard line. He was intercepted by the 10-yard line on a quick play, and then went the rest of the way on the first play of the final quarter to put his team in front 12 to 7.

Forced to trail for the first time Bentley tried to fight back, but there was no denying Farmington. They executed victory and made certain of it in the final minutes when Bobkin intercepted a pass and ran 13 yards into the end zone to make the final 18-7.

"Our team learned a lesson out there tonight!" was all that Coach Bob Goode would say after the game.

"We are young and inexperienced," he added later, "and there isn't much you can do when the other team controls the ball."

In victory Farmington produced an oddity in that it didn't gain a yard passing while picking up 227 on the ground, in registering 12 first downs to Bentley's six. The Bulldogs gained 117 yards on the ground and added 48 more through the air.

But there was no stopping Steleke who gained 123 yards in 22 carries.

It long has been known that one play, coming at the right time, can inspire an underdog team and carry it to victory against all odds.

That's exactly what happened when Dan Steinke, the fleet-footed Farmington halfback, took the opening kickoff in the third period and raced 83 yards through the entire Bentley team to score a touchdown and change the entire trend of the game.

AT THE TIME Bentley was leading 7 to 0, on a touchdown score in the first period when Bob Sitkauskas, making his debut as a starter, hurled a pass to Chuck Cennara on the six-yard line from where Tony Ramono rannned his way to the one-yard line and Sitkauskas sneaked it over. Mark

When, on several occasions the Wolverines punted on fourth down near midfield with one and two yards to go.

THIS WASN'T the type of football they had come to expect and for the first time since he took the job a year ago "Bo" heard the home fans booing him.

"We won, didn't we?" he commented in the dressing room after the game, but the

With his passing from the scene the system changed, and the Wolverines under Fritz Crister, then Bennie Oosterbaan and Bump Elliott took chances. They gambled.

And when "Bo" Schenckler took over the reins last year he vowed, "We may not win, but we'll play exciting and interesting football."

That's just what they did as they won a share of the Big Ten title and went off to the Rose Bowl.

That's why many in the huge crowd last Saturday who saw Michigan struggle to beat Arizona 20 to 9, were shocked

words came from a coach who was far from happy.

He realized the fans knew he was calling the plays, but calling for punts on fourth down at midfield with short yardage, was his way of telling the Michigan followers that the offensive line was not yet ready for Big Ten football and that a lot of work has to be done, especially since they'll be meeting the Washington Huskies who crushed Michigan State 42 to 16, next Saturday in the Pacific Northwest.

Because of the weakness up front the game didn't afford a real test for the experiment of having Glenn Doughty and Bill Taylor, the speedsters, in the same backfield.

True, Taylor broke away for 29 yards and the first touchdown, but neither he nor Doughty was able to skirt the ends or cut off tackle for long gains as they did a year ago.

By the same token Doughty's passing wasn't up to his usual standard. He didn't have the precision he had a year ago and his passes were basty and often fell short.

And unless "Bo" can whip his "front four" into shape on the offense, the defense will have to carry the brunt of the battle on Saturday up in the salmon country.

took 35 years but Fin Mackey, 3301 Myrna Drive, Livonia, finally made it... a hole-in-one at the Brookline Golf Course on the 121-yard No. 16 hole.

Mackey, playing with his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Norton, lofted a nine iron shot high in the air and then watched in amazement as the ball hit the green and took one hop into the cup.

It was his first ace in 35 years of play and reflected on his score, a neat 70.

Michigan Uses Three Ps To Turn Back Arizona

The ghost of "Hurry Up" Yost hovered over Michigan Stadium Saturday and many in the gathering of more than 80,000 spectators couldn't believe what they saw.

When he guided the football destinies of the Wolverines he installed what was commonly referred to as the "punt, pass and prayer" system.

It was a system in which you never kept the ball in your own territory. Instead you'd kick, hoping that the other fellows would make a mistake.

"No use trying to back the ball over from Ypsi when the goal posts are in Ann Arbor," Yost often explained.

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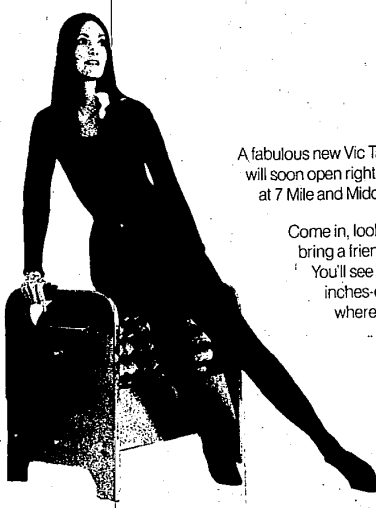
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