

Turf Tips, Quips

By Doc Minard

Sunday racing for the thoroughbreds in Michigan and probably before the first of June? Hard to believe but that's the word from Lansing, where the Senate approved such a bill earlier in the week with the expectation the House will follow suit quickly.

The Sunday racing set moved much quicker than one would believe, probably because both the Detroit Racing Association and the Hazel Park Racing Association are very much interested. Management at each track firmly believes Sunday racing will be the biggest boon to the runners in a long time.

It will be recalled that thoroughbred racing started to go downhill three or four years back at both plants, more noticeably at the DRC than at Hazel

Park. Perhaps the catalyst of Sundays could prove to be just what is needed. Time alone will tell.

Once approved Sunday races this year for the first time and there was an immediate pickup in the Cleveland area, that is, until the mutual clerks union decided it needed more money to work on the Sabbath and wanted to listen.

The strike continued for three days until an agreement was reached. It could well be that such a thing will take place in Michigan when the Sunday act finally passes.

Even though the bill is still in the talking stage, there already is considerable talk among the mutual clerks at the Detroit Race Course. They are talking about double time for the Sabbath — management is just listening, it doesn't have to do anything until the bill is approved.

Then one can expect loud cries from the churches, the anti-gamers at local and state levels and just about everyone else but rest assured that once the bill is passed, there'll be Sunday racing and large crowds to watch the programs.

This has been a rather interesting year for racing. First, Racing Commissioner Leo Shirley issued dates for the trotters and pacers that called for Northville Downs and Hazel Park to go against each other for six nights, then Shirley changed his mind and took the six nights away from Northville, limiting that summer meeting to 24 nights.

In Lansing, the Senate gave some consideration to a dog racing bill, then suddenly it was recalled to committee where it has been resting ever since and definitely is dead for this session of the Legislature.

There was some consideration for a bill to boost the track's share of the mutual handle for the runners to aid the DRC and Hazel Park. There has been talk of a bill to change the format of the Racing Act from a single, all-powerful commissioner to a three-man commission. The bill provides that one must be from harness racing, one from thoroughbred racing and the

third to be a party well acquainted with both types of racing. It just may suddenly appear from committee in the very next future.

From Chicago comes word that Joe Marsh Jr., the 29-year-old Findlay, O. trainer-driver whose 322 winning drives topped all U.S.-born harness horsemen last year, has been selected by the Harness Tracks of America to represent the United States in the fifth world driving championships which started today (April 15) in Berlin.

Marsh, leading driver on the Chicago parimutuel circuit, finished fifth in last year's world competition in Europe.

Opposing Joe will be Gilles Gendron of Canada, Ulf Thoresen of Norway, Adolf Ubleis of Austria, Gilbert Martens of Belgium, Gerard Muscat of France, John Smolenski of New Zealand and Francis Kevin Brook of Australia.

Thoresen won the crown in 1973. The 1974 champion will be crowned on Sunday, April 21.

The Detroit Race Course will present its annual "Old Times Day" next Saturday with children under 12 will be admitted free if accompanied by an adult.

Grandstand admission for the day will be 50 cents and management has a number of surprises in store for patrons throughout the afternoon as well as perhaps the finest racing program of the season.

Just in case you are interested, Hawaii Boy, a four-year-old brown gelding, is the only Hawaii-bred thoroughbred to race at the DRC. Matter of fact none of the oldtimers can recall an island bred competing at a local track before.

The computer selections on the program made by Bert McCann after careful consultation with his computer, have been paying off. Just a week ago Bert had four winners on the program including both ends of the daily double and a couple of other long shots.

It also had three of four winners in the Big P and two-thirds of the trifecta.

Borgess 2-hit gem stops Sacred Heart

Behind the two-hit pitching performance of Mark Gergel, Bishop Borgess dumped Sacred Heart in its baseball opener, 3-1.

Gergel struck out 12 in the seven innings worked and gave up three walks.

Borgess scored in the opening inning when Dan Kelly singled, stole second, Kevin Killeen singled and Kelly scampered home.

Sacred Heart got that run back in the last of the second. Gary Ferenechik drew a walk, Scott Schart singled and Ferenechik dashed in on a passed ball.

Borgess upped it to 2-1 in the sixth. Mike Milisch was safe on an error and with one out, Greg Heimburgh singled him to third and Gergel helped

his own cause with a single to score Milisch.

The Spartans added an insurance run in the seventh on two Sacred Heart errors, a walk to Kelly and single by Killeen.

Area skaters sparkle

Livonia, Farmington and Westland were well represented in the ninth annual Tri-State Free Skating Championships held at Bowling Green, Ohio.

From Livonia, nine - year - old Laura Cannon captured third out of a field of 112 in the ladies first test. Twelve - year - old Thera Romano placed sixth and 15 - year - old Debbie Romano was fifth.

Amy Shomberger, a 12 - year - old from Westland, finished third in the ladies second test and eight - year - old Brooke Fournier, also of Westland was fifth overall.

Fourteen - year - old Angela Heath of Farmington scored the solo first in the ladies first test.

RU crushes Belleville

Redford Union stormed past Belleville in its Suburban Eight track opener, 82½ to 59½.

The Panthers swept the field events, won all three relays and took six of eight individual running events. Greg Broquet was a triple winner for RU with firsts in the long jump, pole vault and 220 yard dash. Results:

- SHOT PUT: 1 - Ross (RU), 51½'; 2 - Turrette (B); 3 - Lark (RU).
- DISCUS: 1 - Broquet (RU), 272½'; 2 - Darty (B); 3 - Sandoz (RU).
- POLE VAULT: 1 - O'Grady (RU), 47'; 2 - Darty (B); 3 - Baker (RU), 44½'.
- 100 YARD DASH: 1 - Broquet (RU), 17.2; 2 - Russell (B); 3 - Yule (RU).
- 200 YARD DASH: 1 - Buchanan (RU), 1:05.4; 2 - Miller (RU), 1:07.3; 3 - Kim (B).
- 400 YARD DASH: 1 - Miller (RU), 1:52.1; 2 - Van der Beek (B); 3 - Austin (RU).
- 800 YARD DASH: 1 - Conrad (B), 4:08.4; 2 - Healy (RU); 3 - Healed (B).
- 1600 YARD DASH: 1 - Eschbacher (RU), 11:42; 2 - Healy (RU); 3 - O'Grady (RU).
- 3200 YARD DASH: 1 - LaLonde (RU), 23:24; 2 - Blazer (RU); 3 - O'Grady (RU).
- LOW HURDLES: 1 - O'Grady (RU), 2:14; 2 - Van der Beek (B); 3 - Conrad (B).
- TWO MILE RUN: 1 - Vandehey (B), 19:22.4; 2 - Shannon (RU); 3 - Farnham (B).
- 4 MILE DASH: 1 - Broquet (RU), 12:43; 2 - Berk (RU); 3 - Farnham (B).
- 8 MILE DASH: 1 - Redford Union (Sarkady, LaLonde, Buchanan, White), 25:23.
- 16 MILE DASH: 1 - Redford Union (Broquet, O'Grady, Eschbacher, Schell), 51:4.

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In The Pocket.

By W. W. EDGAR



If there was any question about the highest scoring lanes in the Metropolitan Detroit area it was answered during the past week when the Ferris

Bros team shattered all records for the season at Wonderland Lanes. With Dick Preston, one of the area's all - star veterans, in the lead - off position, the team rolled games of 1085, 1189 and 1183 for 3457. This count not only bettered the previous mark rolled by the Stroh team when it opened the Michigan Major League season last August at Schaefer Lanes with a 3457, but it was good for eighth place on the national honor roll.

The real star of the scoring spree was Capt. Jack Carrier who came through with a 793 series on games of 247, 279 and 287. This big count came within 10 pins of the season's high single series of 803 rolled by Fred Ringrose in the same league title more than a month ago.

As the anchor man, Carrier opened with a bang and never let up and it was his showing that enabled the team to score in this manner: Dick Preston, 691; Ron Fournier, 620; Ben Narantorn, 686; Mike Mathis, 642; and Carrier with 793.

One other bowler in the Classic broke the 700 barrier when John McKeever came through games of 267, 216 and 228 for 721.

Another 700 popped up in the Sunday Mixed League at Wonderland when Brian Armstrong opened with a 289 and closed with 256 for a 718. It was the first 700 series recorded in the Sunday circuit.

Three 700 series in a week should prove something...

This is a big week for the country's top bowlers. It is Classic week in the ABC tournament down at Indianapolis and the Detroit Stroh team will be defending its Classic all - over title.

More than that, Stroh will be trying to better the showing of the rival Goebel team that furnished the doubles and all - events leader several weeks ago.

When Charles (Buck) Walby was inducted into the Detroit Bowling Hall

of Fame last Saturday, it marked the first time that two members of the same family have been honored.

Several years ago his father - in - law, Charles Roberts, owner of Thunderbird Lanes in Troy, was honored with a place in the coveted shrine.

Saturday's four inductees brought to 71 the number of persons enshrined since the Hall of Fame was inaugurated in 1957 in the Detroit Historical Museum.

Gary Zande is making a practice of topping the list in the Ladies Singles Classic at Livonia Lanes. This week she won the series with 462 - 138 - 500.

The individual game winners included Eleanora Slavin with 153 - 46 - 199; and Dot Fulton who won the second with 167 - 43 - 210 and the third with 169 - 43 - 212.

Detroit's sixth annual senior citizens tournament is scheduled at State Fair Lanes, 19600 Woodward Avenue, on Thursday, April 25. Entry forms may be obtained by contacting the Detroit Parks and Recreation Department.

Livonia boys win wrestling medals

Three Livonia boys won first place medals recently in competition with 1,000 other Michigan wrestlers in the 1974 United States Wrestling Federation state tournament at the Pontiac Central fieldhouse.

Wrestling in the eight and under age group, Franklin Beck captured first in the 43 - pound class, Robert Beck, Franklin's brother, won the 52 - pound competition, and Richie Terhorne took first in the 64 - pound category.

All three wrestle for the United Oaks Wrestling Club of Hazel Park.

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