

"It's the Saugeen air"

Royal Chocolate makes surprising and winning return for JH

An amazing, and unexpected recovery from an injury which was to have ended his racing career, Royal Chocolate, J.H. Stafford's Queen's Plate hero, came back in "Royal" fashion at Greenwood race track last weekend.

A thrilling triumph in the Bold Venture Stakes, winning by a stride, put Royal Chocolate into the \$200,000. earning bracket. The Saturday victory won him \$16,700. He has now earned \$204,120.

Owner Jack Stafford is a former business man and publisher of Port Elgin. He still owns several hundreds of acres in Saugeen Township. Two farms - one on the 6th Concession and another on Hwy. 21, south of Port Elgin.

Many of the top horses and money winners, have, at one time or another, been rested at these farms, including Royal Chocolate. Following the Queen's Plate victory

of Royal Chocolate, owner "Jack" stated to the press, "It's good training and that good old Bruce County air that made him the horse he is, plus the fresh and energy-building Saugeen Township grass".

Of Royal Chocolate, Stafford's trainer, Gil Rowntree said, "He's the greatest Canadian-bred horse for heart I've ever trained". Royal Chocolate, six year-old, won three outings last season and then was sidelined with a hairline fracture of a sesamoid bone in his left front ankle.

Stafford figured he would never run again and planned to send him to stud. During the winter the fracture healed of its own accord, so Rowntree commenced the training exercises.

The Stafford stables have an entry for this year's Queen's Plate. Proud Tobin, among the favorites.



Former Port Elgin business man and publisher, J. H. "Jack" Stafford, is shown above in the winner's circle with Royal Chocolate, following that horse's winning of the prestigious Queen's Plate three years ago. Attending the function, as shown, were Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. Royal Chocolate came back from an injury which was to have ended his racing career, to win a week end Stake race, which sent his earnings over the \$200,000. mark.



Bank of Nova Scotia defeated District Trust 4-1 to win the Port Elgin Minor Hockey Association Pee Wee House League championship, last Thursday evening at the arena. Members of the winning team include, front row, left to right; Andy McCulloch, Danny Lee, Mark Fournier, Danny Guy, Paul Martin, Mike Pridham and Rob Little. Back row, left to right, are; Don Snyder (coach), Chris Lizmore, Darryl Mullen, Steve Marshman, Rob Snyder, Jamie Short and Paul Mullen (coach).



These young models at Sunday's Carribean Garden Party at Elgin Lodge forgot all about stage fright when escorted by two funny clowns. Fashions were from local merchants. The Carribean band, Syncona, provided the musical background.