

Rockwood Hippies



Horse sense

by  
Pretty Fair

Slurp, choomp, more slurp. Wal, howdy folks, here I am back again tryin' to fill yew in on all the sound effects which is goin' on around here. There's an old orchard just around the corner from me and just a while ago some kid walked in and handed me an apple. Cute little feller with red hair an' freckles, couldn't hardly talk right an' kept callin' me "Pretty rare." Good job his speakin' disabilities came out right at that 'cause in the mood I'm in right now I mighta chopped off a finger or two. Ever notice how those little guys allus hands us horses apples with their fingers all squiled up like baswis? It there is hard to keep from bittin' em.

Milton Fair has shore been mouthin' it around s'to how I didn't do so good. Only came in fourth and fifth yuh know but what those wise guys probably don't car t'know is that I wuz werkin' aginst reel veterans. There I was runnin' with "A" class horses, some of em whubs been runnin' in Greenwood and places like that there. I'm here tuh tell yew I was my usual dang good self but Doug just sez that I need more experience. Gaw-ly, I made all my own expenses and that ain't hay. Got chased by a c-raxy dawg durin' one sprint, that wuz the time the filly called Soapstone won in the first race, she's the one wut's been runnin' at Greenwood and then I got reel friendly with another racer

called Abbe Go an we wuz camparin' notes back at the stables. Boy, does he have it good, lots o'tenthun and ruidowns an its no wonder the came in first in the second race. I told her that the boys is finished ball playin' now an maybe I might get sum o'thet spehul lookin' after.

"Was meanderin' down Guelph Street last week and I saw a crowd o'kids collected over at the Reverend Peter Tucker's house. Yew think the kids wuz excited but I'm tellin' yew, ole Peter himself wuz jumpin' around havin' himself a bawl like s'if he'd never seen a pony before. 'Cause that's wut was the big deal yew know. Him and Mrs. Tucker pur-chased a Shetland pony for their kids from the Quentin's Pony Farm at Bellwood about a week ago and folks has been enjoyin' watchin' him airin' Captain Red, (that the pony's name) all round the ole S.S. number nine school grounds. Nice guy that reverend, so's his wife and cute little kids.

Incidentally, fer those of yew who can remember my makin' personal re-marks about that Trooper Nag belongin' to Ray Ellis on Jackson Street wal, I gotta re-tract on my original reemarks regardin' that varmint 'cause he aint such a slob after all. He got himself a good placement in the Milton races last Saturday so I figgers he wuzn't bought cheap at the St. Lawrence Market after all but must have a pedigree like he sez. Ole Duke, Babs Ellis's horse, an my troo friend, showed up reel good too and wuz first in his class so I mosied over and winked at him on Saturday. Figger it's good publicity to be in with the big wheels.

Wal, looks as if I'm tawkin' too much agin an I gotta start trimmin' up fore my big race at London next Thursday pervidin' I get to run. Geese, they's only seventy horses allowed to compete n' already they's 172 entries turned in. 'Course, Dukie sez that with my poizanalitty I'm a cinch t'get in so, until I hears for ther have a good week.

Yers trooly,  
Pretty Fair.

### Elora victorious round robin tourney

Despite the cool dampness of the wind that wuffed continually around the Rockwood Ball Park, it could not quell the high spirits of the participants of the Round Robin Baseball Tournament held last Sunday afternoon and sponsor-hosted by the Al Nichol's Groceria.

Five teams lined up to play with a start-off time of 12.30 in the afternoon when the Moffat girls' team came up with a top score against Bellwood. Erin's girls' team then played off against Rockwood and Al Nichol's team was victorious. In the Elora and Glen Williams session, the Elora girls won, setting the positions of the three leading teams as Moffat, Rockwood, and Elora.

In the final sessions of the games, Rockwood drew Moffat to play against, and the girls from Moffat were just too good. However, in the last game, with

Moffat versus Elora, the latter was victorious and the score pad read that the Sunday afternoon, September 28 Round Robin Girls' Tournament's Lou Hiltz Trophy, was captured by Elora.

Nothing, however, could match the enthusiasm, the esprit de corps, and the general good natures of the Rockwood girls. This has been a great year for a team of youngsters who, with the exception of two players, had never played ball together before, and, under the direction and perseverance of Daryl Nichol as coach, mentor, and all-round organizer, were able to enter the Tri-County girls' league and come out in second place.

Already the 1970 optimism is showing through, and the late Sunday "after the tournament" fest of chips and hot chocolate, was the culmination of a progressive season.

### Comin's and Goin's

Judy and Mari Hendry feted Donna Milne with a miscellaneous shower last Monday evening held at the home of Lou and Helen Hiltz. Many friends gathered to share in the occasion.

Villagers and visitors to the Rockwood Conservation Park were delighted when the Guelph Citizen's Band picnicked and then played concert music for a whole Sunday afternoon's pleasure recently. It is hoped that such picnics could be regular affairs in the Conservation Park.

A minor catastrophe offset the Round Robin Tournament for the village and district girls'

softball team when Sandy Root tripped on her way to second base and broke her wrist last Sunday. X-rays photograph the break to be healing nicely.

George and Mildred Smith of R. R. Rockwood recently had Mildred's brother visiting for a few days. Erwin Lucas has now returned to Osaka, Japan, where he teaches English at the University there.

Friends of Linda Langdon, Alms Street, Rockwood, will be delighted to hear about her recent trip abroad when she and a friend from Guelph visited London, England, Holland, Switzerland, Austria, Vienna, and Paris, France.

## Canada's best boat racing driver combines nerve, stamina and charm

There is an aura about celebrities that makes people wonder what makes them tick, especially if that particular personality is involved in some exciting career that takes nerve, stamina, and just plain fortitude.

Curiously tatted my ears this summer when, at an Algonquin Park General Store, I overheard two teenagers blithely discussing boatmanship and racing feats with an athletic looking young man who appeared to me to know all the answers. Upon enquiry, I was informed and introduced to Canada's pride in boat racing circles, one Art Asbury, who is ranked by those who know, as Canada's best, if not the world's most prominent boat racing driver.

In the office of the Asbury Cabin resort at Ontonoguse Lake I talked to Art and his mother, and picked up a rounded understanding of what this colourful athlete represents. Gregarious, carefree, and, I learned as I became better acquainted a conservationist dedicated to the laws of nature-loving animals almost as passionately as he loves the thrill of racing boats; understanding and concerned about the protection and survival of deer and wolves as he is concerned about the future of boat racing in Canada. He is, in fact, one of the most genuinely charming athletes our country could chose as a representative and, those of us who live in Ontario, should be especially pleased that Art Asbury is one of its own residents so that, in vying for speed boat racing honours, our Haliburton country can speak with a loud voice.

The younger of two sons of a boat building father, he has four sisters, only the youngest of which shares his tremendous enthusiasm in boat racing, especially since her own son, is one of Art's present crew members.

Born in Dwight, Ontario, he had worked around and with boats all his life, delivering groceries from his father's store to all points on the Lake of Bays, but he had never even seen a boat race. He enlisted in the Second World War in the Royal Air Force and, as a Flight Engineer, was on a 12 Crew Liberator B4, as radar officer, spotting and picking up targets and chasing U boats.

It was not until 1948 when, at the age of 25, Hamilton's Art Hatch, asked him to join up with him as a driver for his famous Canadian race boat fleet of 225 and 266 class boats.

"I didn't find boat races, they found me," said the colourful Art Asbury, and since that time he has been driving class boats in competition and speed tests, well aware of the tremendous fatalities of boat racing drivers. The exhilaration, the drama, and the excitement, to him, a bachelor, are worth it. "Before nearly every race I have a feeling of foreboding" said the candid boatman, "But, after I get into the lead I lose my initial morbidity and, I am the sole master of my own destiny. Of course something g could go wrong with the craft, but barring

this, I am in complete control." A power-boat racing driver who reportedly adds colour and crowd appeal to every competition, his versatility and enthusiasm made him a logical choice for the position as Kenor Marine Captain supervising the physical operations of the marina at Canada's Expo '68, hosting many visiting dignitaries and well-known personalities.

With a crew comprised of Ron Purcell, Toronto; Harvey Payne, Montreal; Mike Scherf, a Mountie from Valleyfield; Bill Ellerington, a Forest Ranger from Dorset; Ted Keown, Ontonoguse Lake; Bill Cunningham, Dan Boothby, Port Cunningham; Don Goultie, Dwight, and Don Cobett, Huntville, Art Asbury is known in the pits as the only Canadian Skipper who has a syndicated ten man team, and in their special capacities, they each have their own responsibility to make dead certain that their particular area is covered and in good working order for the preparation and maintenance of the boat's condition throughout the race.

To most of us Art Asbury's greatest feat is that of breaking the unlimited class record for speed boats when he raced Miss Supertest to a world's shattering 184.45 miles per hour record bringing unheard of glory to Canada, formerly a position only held by the two great powers of Great Britain and the United States.

What can a person do for an encore? Where else can a person go?

Seeing the many world renowned trophies and medals decorating the shelves in his home gives one the impression that this man has every right to sit tight and rely on past laurels, but this is not the man with whom I chatted. Talking about the Miss Canadiana, after he had driven her to victory in the Grand Prix at Orillia, Ontario, this past July, he had all the enthusiasm of a fresh young

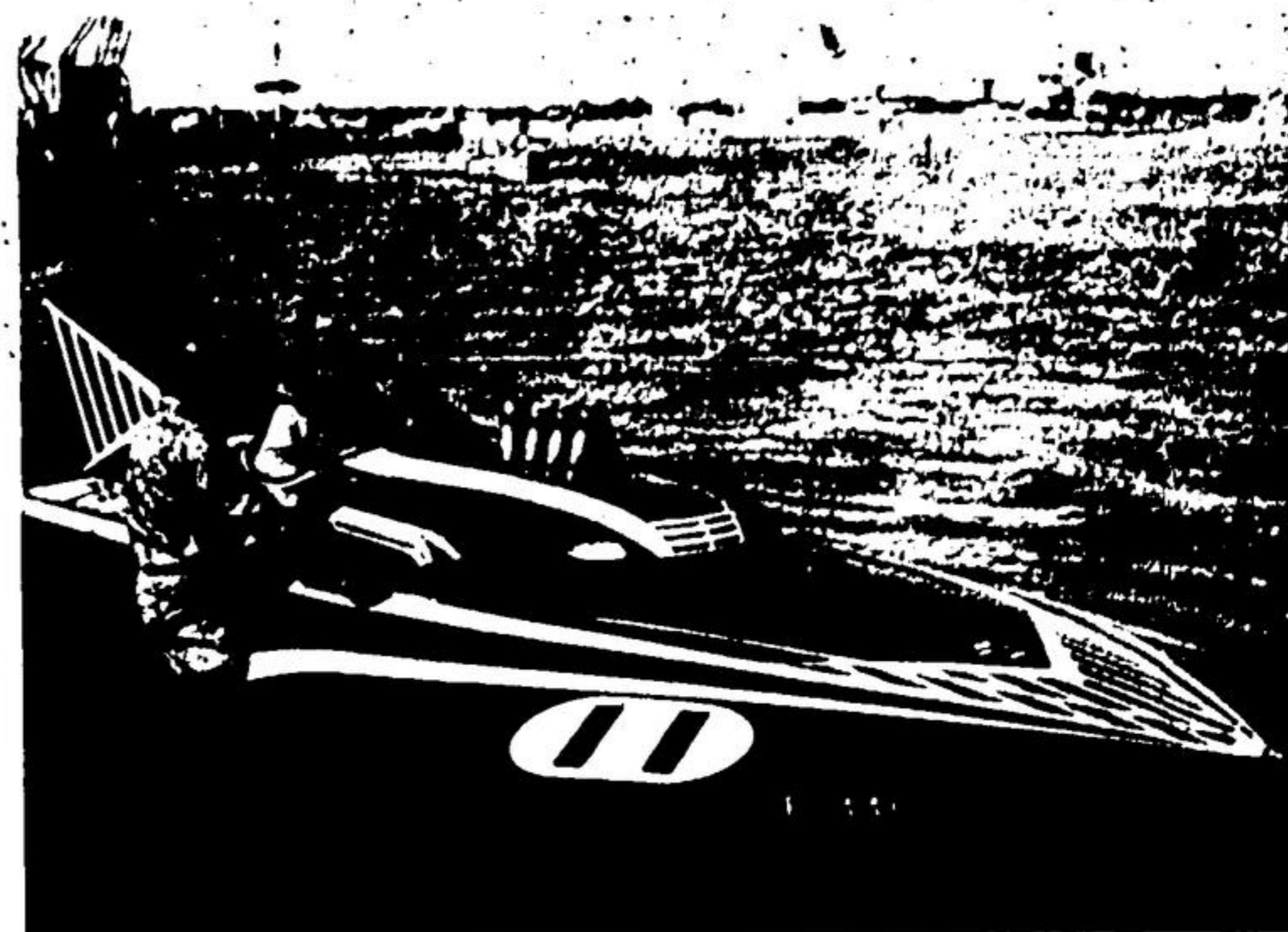
rookie who refers to his boat and crew with almost reverence. Reportedly his mahogany racing craft with its red, white and blue trim is eighteen foot long and eight feet, six inches wide, and planes at speeds up to 160 p.m.h. The 1967's recorded summer exploits tells of straight wins at Annapolis, four firsts at Pointe Aux Trembles, Quebec, two more consecutive wins at Grenville, Quebec, another two firsts at Lacoux Canada,

Quebec, and since the time of writing, he has probably added more honours to his already bulging collection.

Right now Art Asbury is contemplating a new Miss Canadiana, an exact replica of her predecessor, whose feats could bring even greater esteem to Canada. His plans for the

future still lean towards his avid interest in the field of boats and racing but I am left with the impression that this is one versatile and energetic man who could do well in any endeavour. However, summer sport pages will be keeping us up to date on the exciting career of this dashing Canadian sportsman.

## Rockwood News



ART ASBURY AT THE CONTHOLS OF MISS CANADIANA

### Family float

Correction from last week's fall fair account: the float that won second prize in the novelty section was entered by Mr. and Mrs. John Turkoz. It depicted the Mother Goose story.

### Bowling league off to a rolling start

The August organizational meeting of the Rockwood Bowlers with Duncan McPhedran, president, presiding, assisted by Dick Dupuis as vice president, secretary Muriel Buttenham taking notes, and Ivy Ritchie in her capacity as treasurer, was responsible for getting the Bowling League rolling to a good start last Tuesday, September 16th when the following ten six-man teams played under their various league names. The Norton's, Carneys, Untouchables, Stratton's, Queen of Hearts, Whitewashers, Elmer's Alley Cats, Four Corners, and two other teams presently called No. Sevens and No. Eights until they come up with something better, are a good representation of avid bowlers in and around the vicinity of the village.

These are the results of start-off games: High triple flat, Harvey Jestin 753, Shirley Salmon 633. High single flat, Harvey Jestin 320, Shirley Salmon 299. High single with handicap, Sam Nyhold 306, Shirley Salmon 310. High triple with handicap, Lloyd Marsden 721, Ivy Ritchie 721.

The Rockwood League bowlers play off in the Sportman Bowling Alleys in Guelph every Tuesday evening at nine o'clock and any interested spectators are welcomed.

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