

## Wet weather dampens final

By ALEX TOUGH

Friday's rain put a damper on the ladies finals of the season and led to a cool Saturday at Bolton for the last day of the season. However, last Wednesday was foggy for a while and did not halt the games.

Senior men Mariners and Villa are out of the playoffs. Villa have been unable to field a team for most of their playoff games, which is a pity. Mariners fell to

## Metro Stakes pace race at Mohawk

The Ontario Jockey Club is proud to present the 1990 edition of The Metro Pacing Stakes for two year olds.

For the first year in the three year history of The Metro, the talented rookie stars will be showing off their talents at one of the fastest yet most charming tracks in Canada...one where the city meets the country—Mohawk Raceway.

The 1990 edition of The Metro will be Canada's richest harness race for two year olds and the richest event in the history of Mohawk, with a purse of \$797,400.

In 1988, Totally Ruthless paced to a 1:55.6 victory for driver Bill O'Donnell in the \$491,000 inaugural edition of The Metro at Greenwood.

The pain may have subsided briefly for driver Trevor Ritchie as he reined the rookie On The Road Again colt Road Machine to a nifty 1:56.2 winning effort in the \$491,500 Final of The Metro Pacing Stakes at Greenwood on Saturday, August 19th.

Ritchie was suffering from badly bruised ribs, incurred in a spill at Greenwood the previous Monday. Despite the pain, Ritchie gave Road Machine a masterful drive.

The Metro sits among some very exclusive company. Its \$797,400 purse puts it in the major leagues for two year old events along such races as: The million-dollar Woodrow Wilson, the \$700,000 Governor's Cup, and the \$570,000 Breeders Crown.

Saturday, another Metro champion will be crowned.

After three "win, place, show, or you're out" elimination events on September 15, nine of North America's finest freshman colt pacers will be on track Saturday to contest the \$797,400 metro final at Mohawk Raceway.

Artsplace, Silky Stallone, and June's Baby emerged victorious in their respective \$40,000 eliminations on Saturday.

Veteran Ohio harness horse trainer Gene Riegler will be seeing double when the third edition of The Metro goes postward.

Silky Stallone and Artsplace are both trained by Riegler.

As for comparing the two colts, Riegler says, "Silky's come a long way and has improved more, but Artsplace started out more mature. I just hope one of them peaks for The Metro!"

June's Baby paced a 1:54.3 effort for Bill O'Donnell and trainer Mark Lancaster to defeat Happy Family in the third elimination.

Dave Entwistle and fellow Meteors by 2-0. Big Dave pounced on indecision in the early going to give Meteor the lead, then went into goal upon an injury to Ian Syme and proceeded to shut out the eager Mariners. A late penalty sealed the result. Mariners dominated play all the way and could not score when most needed. Another late season Ancient special. United and Eagles played to a 4-4 tie at Alcott, Eagles again forcing with a late equalizer. Ajax had a belated win over Milton by 3-1, just too late to qualify for the last stages. Stingers went to Merseyside and had no referee show. The teams played a 'friendly' with the replay last Sunday.

Games at Cedarvale this Wednesday were 7:00 and 9:00, with a Thursday game at Cedarvale at 7:00 rounding off the round robin games and settling the semi finals.

Hamilton Steelers voted local player Gary Morrow the 1990 player of the year. Quiet and unassuming, Morrow is that type of player. Never the spectacular, just very steady, very solid, at the heart of the defense. The award was handed out just prior to the Wednesday playoff game with Suprs, Montreal's dour defensive, successful team of the year. Steelers were not expected to do well against a team which had only conceded twelve league goals. However, Steelers Justine Fashanu scored twice to give the home side an advantage for the second leg in Montreal. Atrocious conditions led to a tactical game. Steelers played Supra at their own game and defended stoutly throughout. A late goal from Fashanu sent the Steelers into the Eastern division final against Kitchener.

A safe goalie in Dino Perry and two steady centre backs in Al Lukic and Morrow will give Steelers a better than even chance against whichever opponent.

Late season reflections are a way of journalistic life and I much prefer to look forward, there is nothing can be done about the past. Yet we should look to the past for only to learn about the future. The 1990 World Cup was a disaster in my opinion. Soccer is basically a defensive game and more so at professional levels. The game begins with each side tied and teams play to preserve that one point. At the top level the game is no longer a game, it is a business, and a profit is to be made where the franchise is a successful one.

At the lower levels, such as locally, the game can be an attacking game and much better to watch. Better to go down with all colors flying than to give the game away with poor defensive play. Here is a thought. Let one team start a game with a goal or two lead, draw the team out of the hat at centre field before the game. Another is to play each game to a finish. No ties just as over here in other sports. Have the penalty kick shoot out before the game, as someone suggested, then we know the winner and at least one team will have to attack. I do not believe in making the goals larger, maybe take the goalkeeper away. That would remove some of the excitement from the game, however.

See you around.



### STEELER'S MVP

Georgetown's Gary Morrow had the perfect ending to the 1990 Canadian Soccer League (CSL) regular season: that being named Hamilton Steelers' Most Valuable Player (MVP). Here Morrow displays the

trophy he won the result of the honor. Morrow and the Steelers tangle with Kitchener Spirit this weekend in the East Division final.

## Lights out season opener for '90 Halton darts league

By ALEX TOUGH

The Halton league opened with a bang last Monday. Literally, with a bang. The lights went out and some matches were abandoned not knowing when action would be restored. Is it my imagination, or have we experienced a number of breakdowns in recent times, much more than years ago?

With new teams and players it is going to be an interesting season to say the least. Several returning players have changed teams and right now it looks a little tighter than last season.

With a new squad Time Out lead the way with a 12-2 win over Copper Kettle #1. McGibbon #1 took out Station House 11-3. Station #2 lost 3-1 to O'Tooles #3. The first tie of the season, 7-7, came to Hollywood and Copper Kettle #2. Station House #1 defeated McGibbon #2 by 9-5. Two matches between O'Tooles and George & Dragon were abandoned due to the power failure, the other match - O'Tooles 10, George & Dragon 4.

The first maximum, 180, was fired in by Jon Brown, Station, a

high finish of 110 by Rick Harden, no team name, and 100 by O'Tooles. 140 scores were made by Greg Thoms, Colin Hicks, Paul Kirby, Bonnie Schell, Dave Scutt, Vic Lovell, Stan Rhynold, Jeff Richardson, Ian McDonald, Sean McQuarrie and Mark Snow. A few others reached extra points with 130-139 efforts.

Team names and full names on games sheets please, a league requirement also a help to the scribe.

On Wednesday, the Industrial league entered the second week at the Legion. The possibility of playing up and down exists and hopefully the cramped conditions for players and Legion members will not be for too much longer.

Westenders, Gasketman, High Rollers and Hustlers are first division winners for the week. Outlaws, Panthers, Inter County and Acadian win in the second flight. Westenders and Outlaws are the respective leaders at this early juncture. Exports and Bandits hold sway at the foot. These positions will no doubt change often along the way.

Jim Fisher had three opens and two closes including a start of 100. Dennis Thorogood and Ray Ackroyd shot 140. Brian Hicks and George Gaskell topped 120. Ian McDonald continued form with form opens, two closes and 140. Terry Hancock opened with 152 and Dan Abercrombie closed 92 to go with three finishes. Ron Scarlett had four opens and two closes with Rod Beaumont scoring high with 174. Bruce Hope finished on 124 and Jeff Richardson closed three and both players scored tons. Roy Rudiger and Russ Daigle each opened four as Laurie Hopkins scored 125. Marty Claude had a 3-3 showing in opposition to Mike Hope with a 3-2 effort. George O'Neil had five opens and two closes, Ron Corbett supporting with 140. Dan Fraser had two opens and tons. Paul Kavanagh had three starts and two closes.

Joe Poitier had three finishes, Bruce McCartney shot 127. Dean Hancock and Lloyd Westlake each had three starts. Gord Botoms shot 125 and Jim Watson had three opens and a close.