

Robinson stable dominates season opener at Mohawk

Mohawk Raceway opened in "grand style" Sunday night for the fall season premiere showcasing North America's finest two and three year old pacers along with the most prominent and accomplished horsemen in the sport.

Presidential Ball, Riyadh, Expensive Scooter, and Historic shared top billing along with super drivers John Campbell, Jack Moiseyev, Ron Waples and local aces Doug Brown and Steve Condren.

The night proved to be an especially lucrative one for the Bill Robinson stable as he sent three stakes winners, and four third place finishers postward in Grand Circuit events.

Robinson's roll started in the first \$63,527 Champlain event for freshman pacing colts which was won by Greenwood track record holder, Expensive Scooter.

Expensive Scooter, handled by Jack Moiseyev for owners Marvin Katz and Sam Goldband took over past the quarter and never looked back from that station to pace to a 1:54 neck win over hard-driving Water Tower with Lookout man, another Robinson trainee taking show money.

Star sophomore colts Presidential Ball and Riyadh swept the Simcoe Stakes. Riyadh, sharp off his recent Cane Pace victory, was a handy three length winner in 1:52.4 for Jim Morrill Jr. and owner Peter Heffering. Riyadh is looking like a bargain purchase as he now has over \$860,000 banked on the year for Heffering who shelled out \$200,000 for the Jate Lobell colt at the start of the year.

It was no contest for Presidential Ball as he stole a 1:53.1 mile with no real challenge from any of the other seven starters. Regular driver Jack Moiseyev was at the controls of the millionaire athlete who has amassed over \$2.4 million for Hamilton owner Tony Chalaravalle.

Robinson's third place stakes finishers included freshman colts Lookout Man, Sable Matters and Armbo macKintosh along with the three year old colt Iron Blue Chip.

The evening was worth a total of \$180,671 for the stable, not a bad

Hoof Beat

Kathy Wade Vlaar

night's work for Robinson who is currently North America's leading trainer.

Historic sets record

Robert Grand's two year old pacing colt, Historic paced to a 1:53.2 Canadian and track record mile in the \$65,526 Champlain Pacing Stakes for two year old colts. Trained by Stew Firlotte and driven by Doug Brown, the win was the fourth in 7 starts for the Nihilator colt, a full-brother to stakes winner Digger Almahurst which Grand also owned.

Grand admitted that earl in the year he didn't have great expectation for Historic since he was a very clutzy horse and wasn't training very well. Historic has matured into a very pleasant surprise! Perhaps the best is yet to come as he preps for the Nassagaweya and Metro Stakes.

National Hockey League player Paul Ysebaert enjoyed a visit to Mohawks's winner's circle following an impressive 1:56.1 win by his freshman colt Viking Terror in the third \$65,526 division of the Champlain Stakes with Steve Condren at the helm.

Attendance for opening night was 8,314.

TOTAL CONFIDENCE

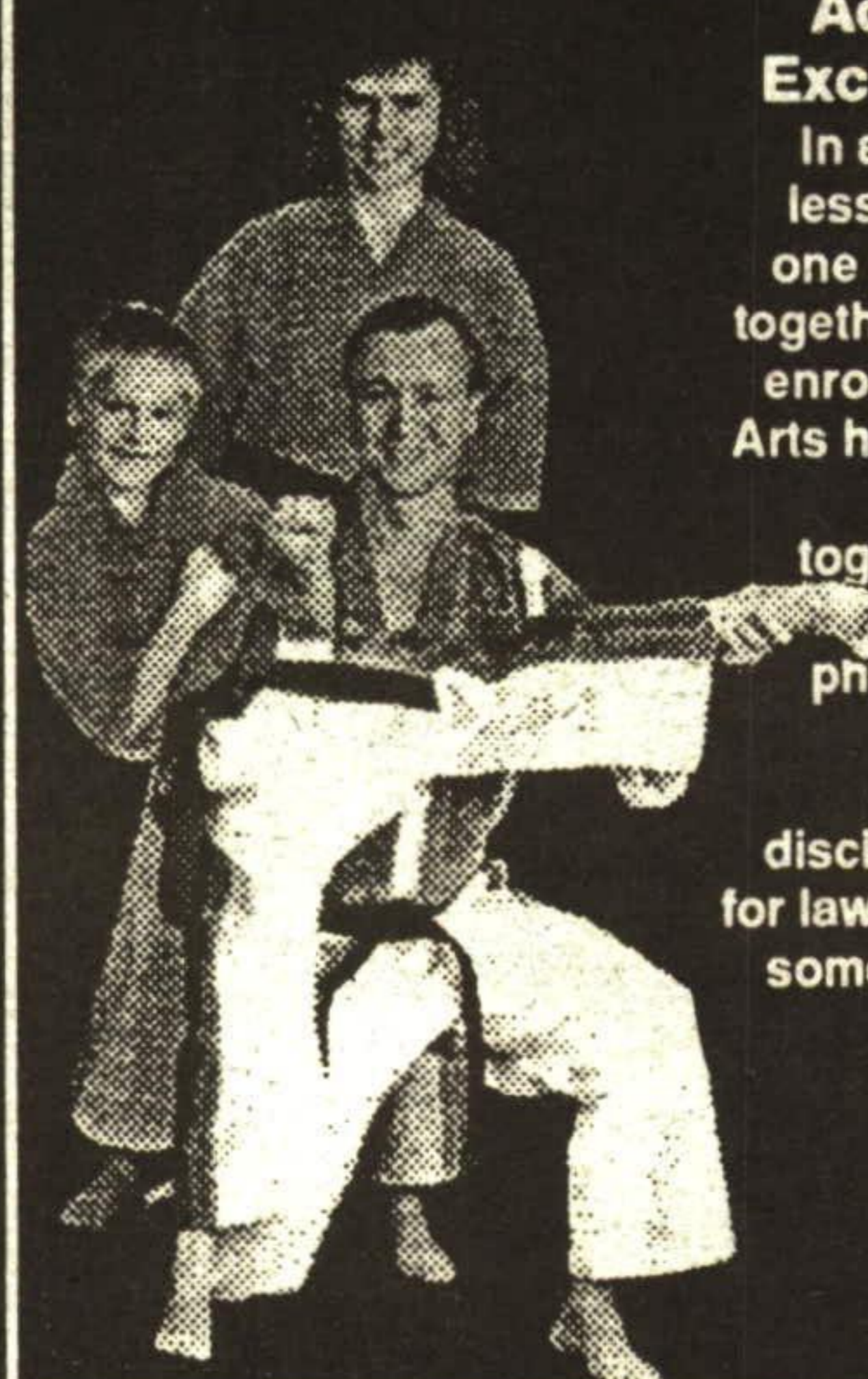
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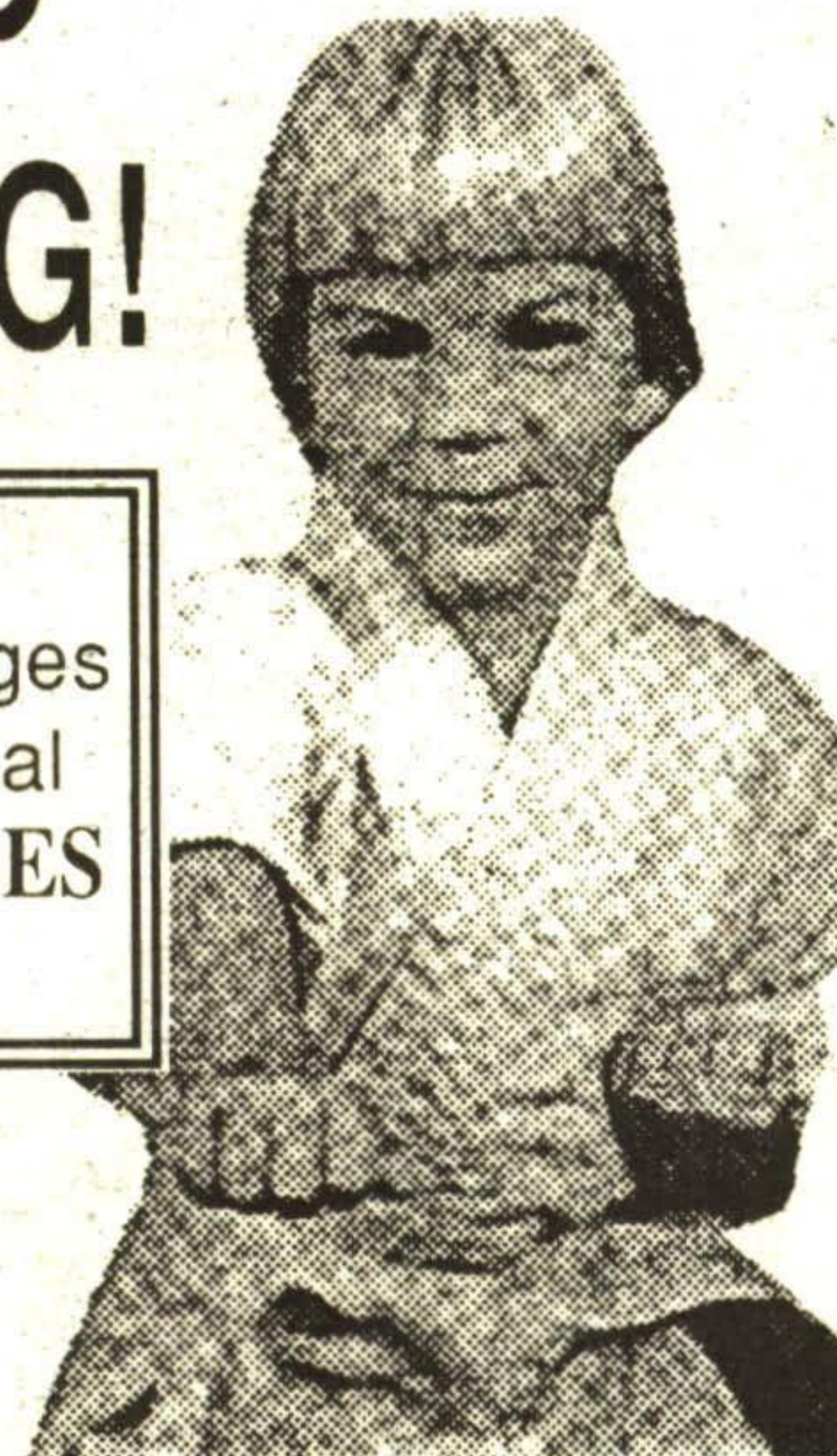
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