

Racing is fast and furious at Mohawk track

By Kathy Wade Vlaar
Special

The racing action was fast and furious at Mohawk last weekend as the Youthful Series, free for all trot and pace, and Graduate simulcast provided first-class harness racing at the Campbellville oval.

One of the more memorable wins was in Saturday night's \$25,000 Free For All Pace. Trainer Joe Stutzman's Abdul Kerim, a six-year-old son of Springer, paced to a 1:56 victory for driver Doug Brown.

Abdul was one of a few survivors from Mohawk's tragic barn fire last

April.

The fact that Abdul survived that event is in itself somewhat of a miracle but the fact he was able to return to the racing scene and regain his familiar winning form is even more of a miracle.

After an extended time off after the Mohawk fire, Abdul went on to have a very successful campaign and completed the year with 11 wins in 26 starts and \$114,000 on the year.

To date this year, Abdul has scored three wins in ten outings and banked just over \$50,000 for his owners which include Stutzman,

Hoofbeats



along with William Izaryk, Don Scott and Futile Chase Stable.

Abdul will always have a place in his stable, whether he's racing or retired, assures trainer Joe Stutzman. And Joe will also tell you that it's this horse that was responsible for his own personal recovery from that terrible tragedy.

South of the border, at The Meadowlands in East Rutherford, New Jersey, Canadian horses were taking the track by storm.

Bob Hamather's Staying Together, the OJC's sophomore pacing colt of 1992, paced to a world record (for four-year-old geldings on a mile track) 1:50.1 in the first \$75,000 division of the opening leg of the '93 Graduate Series.

The Graduate is for four-year-olds and upwards and is harness racing's travelling roadshow as the legs are scheduled at different tracks in the States as well as a leg at Montreal's Blue Bonnets Raceway.

Staying Together, a four-year-old son of Panorama left from post eight with driver John Campbell in the bike for trainer Bob McIntosh.

McIntosh recently took over training duties from Jack Parsons who managed Staying Together's successful sophomore campaign which included \$222,000 in earnings and 18 wins in 30 starts.

Fans were able to watch and wager on Staying Together as this division of the Graduate was simulcast to Mohawk and OJC intertrack outlets.

CKS was second and General Ring from the Bill Robinson stable took show money.

In the second \$75,000 division of the Graduate another Robinson trainee - Survivor Gold and driver Jack Moiseyev teamed up for a sparkling 1:51 effort.

Mohawk will simulcast a division of the second leg of the Graduate this Saturday from Rosecroft Raceway.

Four \$9,000 divisions of the opening leg of The Youthful Pacing Series for three-year-old colts and geldings, non-winners of three races or \$15,000 lifetime as of Dec. 31/92 went postward on Sunday night at the Campbellville oval.

Steamy Windows, from the Russell Taylor stable, paced to a head decision over Chance of Flurries in the first division with Steve Condren at the helm. The Falcon Seelster colt survived a first over trip to get past pacesetter Armbro Lariat who tired to finish third.

Trainer-driver John Kopas guided Bruce Lloyd's North America Cup hopeful, Make A Face, to a commanding three-length victory, timed in 1:57 in the second division. Laagical Move was a second with Trojaneseque taking third money.

Make A Face took over past the opening quarter and never looked back from that station en route to his fifth win in nine season efforts.

Trainer Bill Robinson's B GS Bunny colt, Bunnys First paced a wire-to-wire 1:57.2 three-and-a-quarter length win over Shrewd and Uptown Scooter in the third Youthful division for driver Bill Gale.

Owned by Tony Chiaravalle of Hamilton, it was Bunnys First's second win in three '93 starts.

The fourth division went to Mindale Pride, an Abercrombie gelding and driver Tom Strauss who was filling in for trainer-driver Randy Waples who was ill. The pair combined for a gate-to-wire 1:58.4 two-length effort over Arrive At Five and Vacillator.

Mindale Pride is owned by Waples Stable Inc. and W. & C. Armstrong Store Ltd.

The second leg of the Youthful goes postward on April 4th.

Sunday night's card also featured the \$25,000 Free For All Trot. Charlie Ten Hitch and driver Roge-Mayotte got up in the final stride to nose out Pola Crown and Impeccable Image for a 1:58 season's best mile for Charlie.

It was his fourth win in 11 starts and bumped his season's bankroll to \$94,350 for owners Woodstock Intern., W. Hoffman, R. Waler and Greenwich Stable of New York, and trainer Bill Sharp who manages Charlie when he races in Canada.

Trainer Bill Robinson enjoyed the hat trick on Saturday night. Robinson sent Bills Jet (1:53.4), Banquet Table (1:54.2) and Tough Hombre (1:53.2) all to the winner's circle.

Driver Doug Brown was also hot on Saturday as he guided four winners - Abdul Kerim, Whiteland Somolli, Fully Paid and Twin B. Kody.

Horses to watch

Some of 1992's star two-year-olds qualified last week at Mohawk. Ready To Rumble from the Rheal Bourgeois stable and a winner of \$71,000 last year won his qualifier over Jerry Duford's Wilcos Kosby who netted \$140,000 in '92. Time for the mile was 1:59.2 over a sloppy track.

Also, Prince Brian from the Rheal Bourgeois stable won his qualifier in 2:00.3. Prince Brian, a winner of \$150,000 and five-of-five in '92 for owner Nick Barbieri hasn't raced since April 25th last year.

Golden Age Bowlers

Team Standings:

Go Getters	109
Happy Gang	100
Good Guys	100
Blue Jays	97
Jet Set	92
Acey Deuceys	88
No Name	84
Braves	83
The Cubs	82
Snowbirds	79
Orioles	76
Harvey's Girls	71
Hopefuls	54
Feisty Five	52

High Average:

Ladies: Joan Archibald	196
Men: Norm Wilcox	198

Weekly High Scores:

Ladies:			
Audrey Martin	215/285	486/696	
Eleanor Fobert	185/277	423/699	
June Murphy	228/293	488/683	

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