

Plato settles down to gain real success

Driver Ray Schnitker described Armbro Plato as "a lunatic" on the racetrack last season, but what a difference a year makes.

The new and improved three-year-old Armbro Plato gave Schnitker his first of what could be multiple Ontario Sires Stakes trotting titles with a convincing five and three-quarter length win in the recent \$101,720 Gold Series final for colts and geldings.

Starting from post position nine in the second tier, Schnitker waited for the traffic to clear before steering the Balanced Image gelding to the front past the opening quarter. Once he was safely in command, Armbro Plato left little doubt as to the eventual outcome, before stopping the teletimer in 1:59 for his fourth consecutive win. Proudfoot, with an impressive closing brush of his own, finished second for Carman Hie, with Coon Creek third.

"He was kind of a lunatic last year," said Schnitker, who decided to geld Armbro Plato after his final start last November in hope of settling him down. "He was still pretty goofy training down this year, (but) now he acts like he's more manageable. I don't know if he's the best of them but he can stay with anybody if he stays sound."

Last year turned into a roller coaster campaign for Armbro Plato. After qualifying for the rich Peter Haughton final he missed the race due to sickness and then was shelved again with a cracked knee. Still, he managed to win three of eight starts including a track record 1:58.1 mile at Pocono Downs.

Armbro Plato, who was coupled with stablemate Captain Claude as the prohibitive 1-5 betting entry, picked up \$50,860 for the victory to boost his season earnings to \$168,619. His career earnings now stand at \$233,845.

With the number of local stakes races, Schnitker said Armbro Plato will spend most of his schedule in Ontario. "He has the Colonial, the Canadian (Trotting) Classic, the Simcoe, of course the Sires Stakes and the Breeders Crown here," Schnitker said. "Actually he only leaves back for the (United) States once for the Hambletonian. A lot of guys asked me why I didn't stake him to the Yonkers Trot and all this but at the time he was pretty goofy and pulling and lugging. I knew he had the speed but I didn't know if he could control it."

The OSS trot final ended the Mohawk spring schedule. Standardbred racing moved to Woodbine Racetrack for the summer.

Barbecue and bowl at club's special event

Outdoor enthusiasts are invited to join the Milton Lawn Bowling Club.

The Commercial Street club will host a barbecue and bowl evening next Monday, June 9 starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission is just \$4. A junior night will be held next Friday, June 6 starting at 7:30 p.m.

New and past members, of all ages, are invited to join. A \$50 social bowling fee will cover new members for the 1997 season while junior members pay just \$25 for the year. To register, or for more information, call Ken Armstrong at 878-8920 or Mike and Heather Comba at 854-2114.

CATCH-UP CLINIC FOR HEPATITIS B IMMUNIZATION

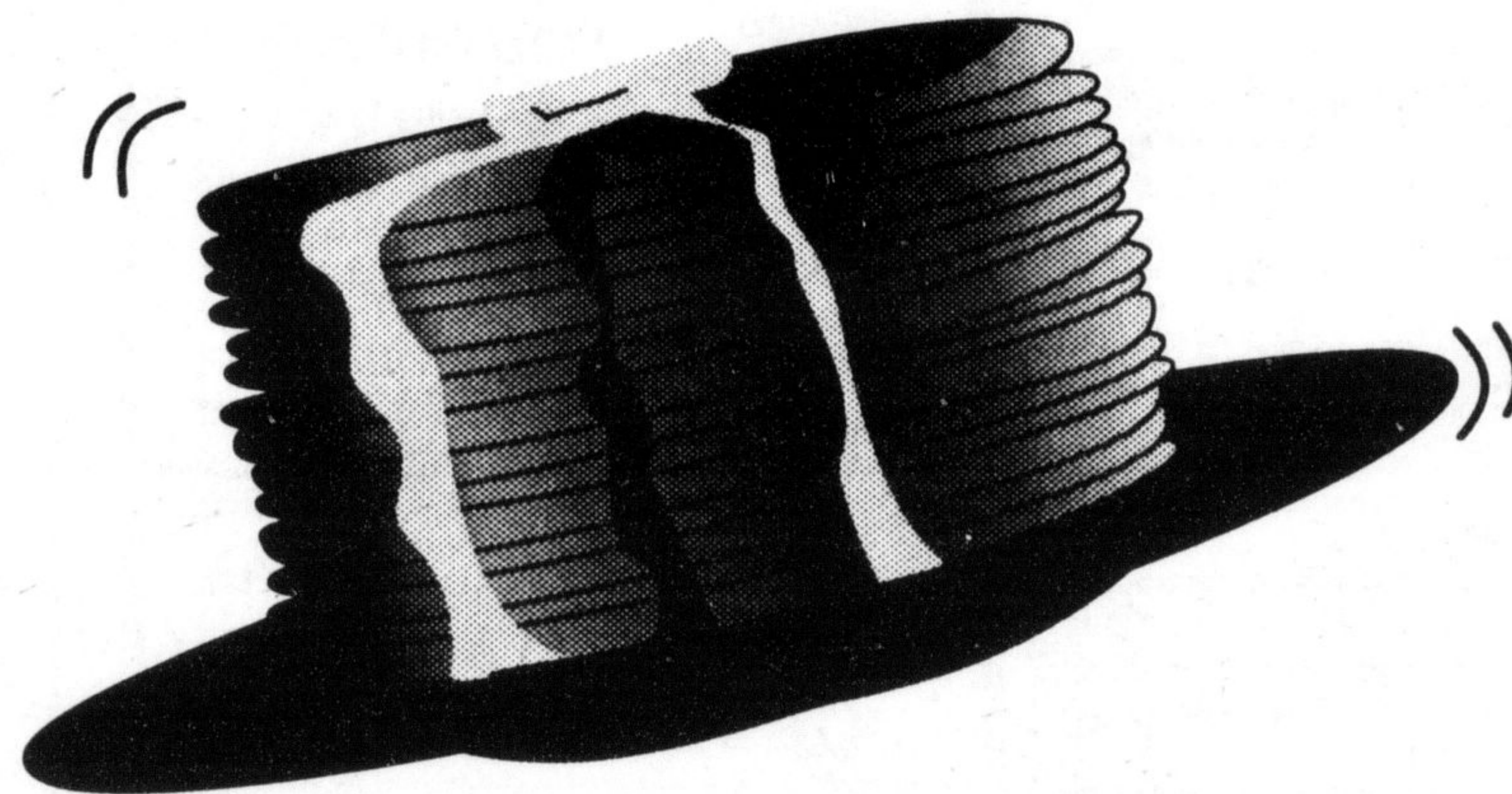
It takes 3 shots of hepatitis B vaccine to be fully immunized against hepatitis B. Elementary and high school students who started immunization this school year and who need to complete the series of 3 shots are invited to the catch-up clinic on:

Monday, June 2, 1997
Bishop Reding Secondary School
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

There must be at least one month between the first and second dose and at least 4 months between the 2nd and 3rd dose to receive hepatitis B immunization at the catch-up clinic.

No appointments are necessary. Students will be required to wait 15 minutes following immunization.

For more information, call the School Hepatitis B Immunization Information Line at 825-6060 ext. 7368.



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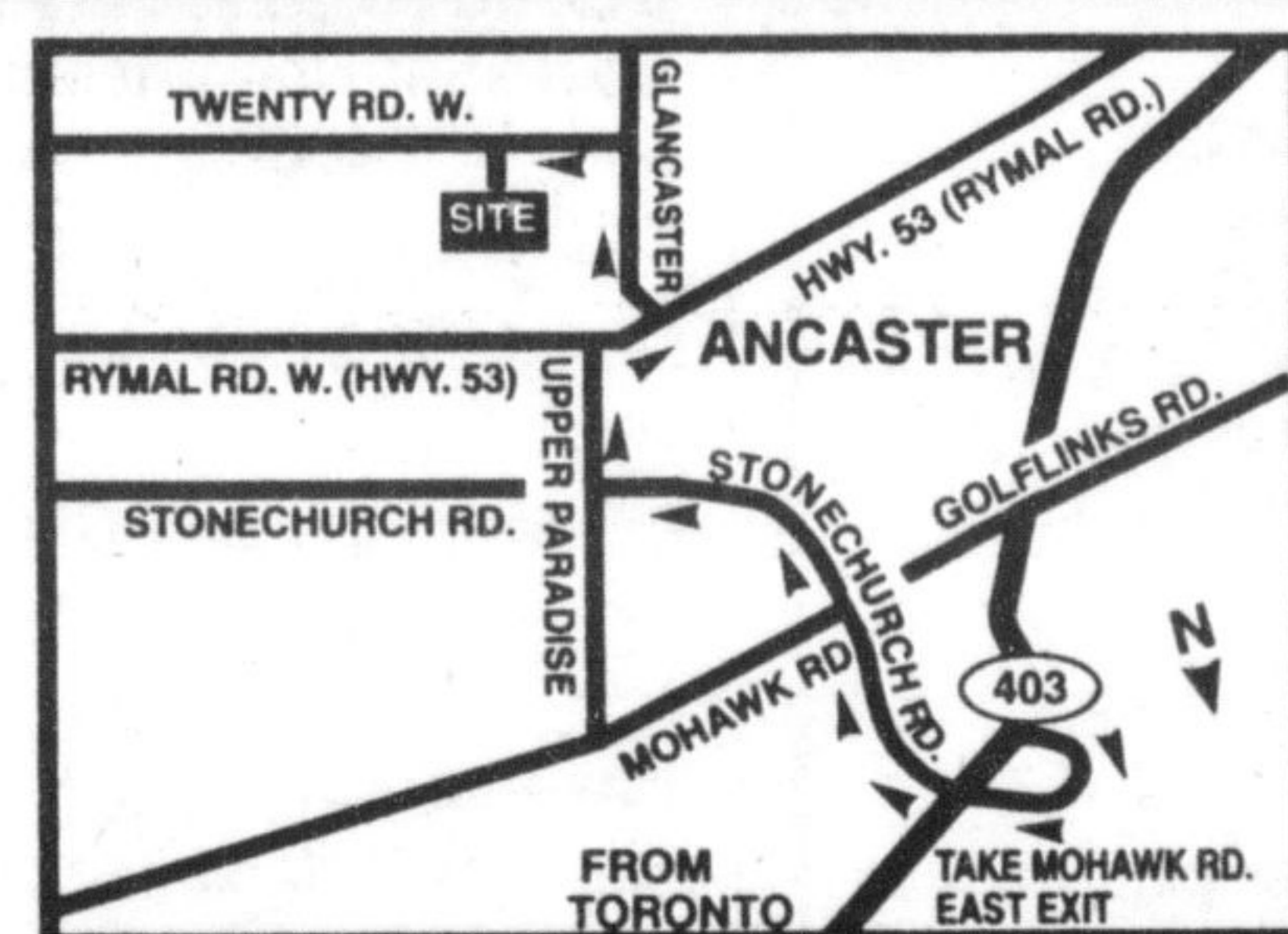
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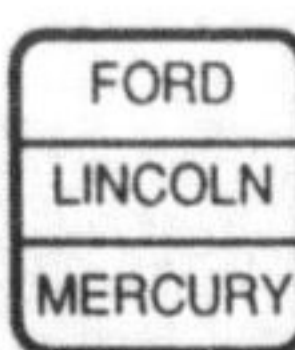
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