

DG's Giantstep returns to action in Gold Series

At the end of August driver Roger Mayotte came off the track at Woodbine and told trainer Robert Young that DG's Giantstep had raced very well.

Young said thank you to the filly's regular reinsman, took DG's Giantstep home and turned her out for 10 days, missing all of September's Grand Circuit stakes at Mohawk Raceway.

Tonight the Dexter Nukes daughter returns to action in Gold Series eliminations at Mohawk and, in spite of her lengthy lay off, Young is confident that she will collect a significant share of the \$39,804 purse.

"When I bought her it was time for stake payments and I never put her in to the Champlain or Harvest (Stakes). She was eligible for the Robert Stewart, but I decided I didn't want to beat her up against the American-breds," said Young.

"She'll have seven or eight starts left after this and 14 to 15 starts is enough, so I decided to give her a month off to freshen her up.

Win easy in qualifier

DG's Giantstep prepped for tonight's contest with a September 28 qualifier at Mohawk which she won by 17 lengths with a 1:56.4 effort, the same clocking she recorded in her last start.

"We qualified her 10 days out and I think she's tight enough and fresh enough to go the rest of the year," said Young, who trains the filly for Brian Barton of Carlisle, William Childs of Burlington, Robert Howie of Oakville and James Howie of Etobicoke.

"She's healthy and stronger now, what she needs hopefully to go through to December."

The filly and Mayotte will start from Post 2 in the eighth race tonight and their primary competition will come from Robert Stewart Stakes winner Firstariseetonite, who has drawn Post 8.

"Bob's (McIntosh) mare has been awesome all year. Steve (Condren) has done a great job driving her," said Young. "A couple of the fillies I didn't even know. I had to look through the back of The (Canadian) Sportsman to see some had been racing in the Grass Roots."

Firstariseetonite is the richest of all 17 fillies that will compete for a spot in the October 15 Gold Final. The Camluck daughter has earned \$203,952 from six wins and four seconds in 11 starts for trainer Robert McIntosh Stables Inc. of Windsor, NHLer Paul Ysebaert of Corunna, Clifford Grundy of Howell, MI. and CSX Stables of Liberty Center, OH.

Among the talented pacer's credits are the Robert Stewart Final and Elimination, a Gold Series Final and runner-up finishes in both the Champlain and Harvest Stakes.

Georgetown is just too much to handle

Milton's AA minor atoms came up on opposite ends of 4-2 finals last weekend.

The Machine Shop Winterhawks started things off by beating Guelph Saturday. They scored three times in the final frame to double up their opponents.

Mike Brown and Craig Howse led the way with a goal and assist each while also lighting the lamp were Jeff Lynch and Jon Monk. Assists went to Mike Hannah and Mac Fillman. Goaltender Joey De'Athe turned away 17 shots for the victory.

Brown tallied twice the following day, but it wasn't enough to counter Georgetown, whose physicality and sharp offence were a little too much to handle.

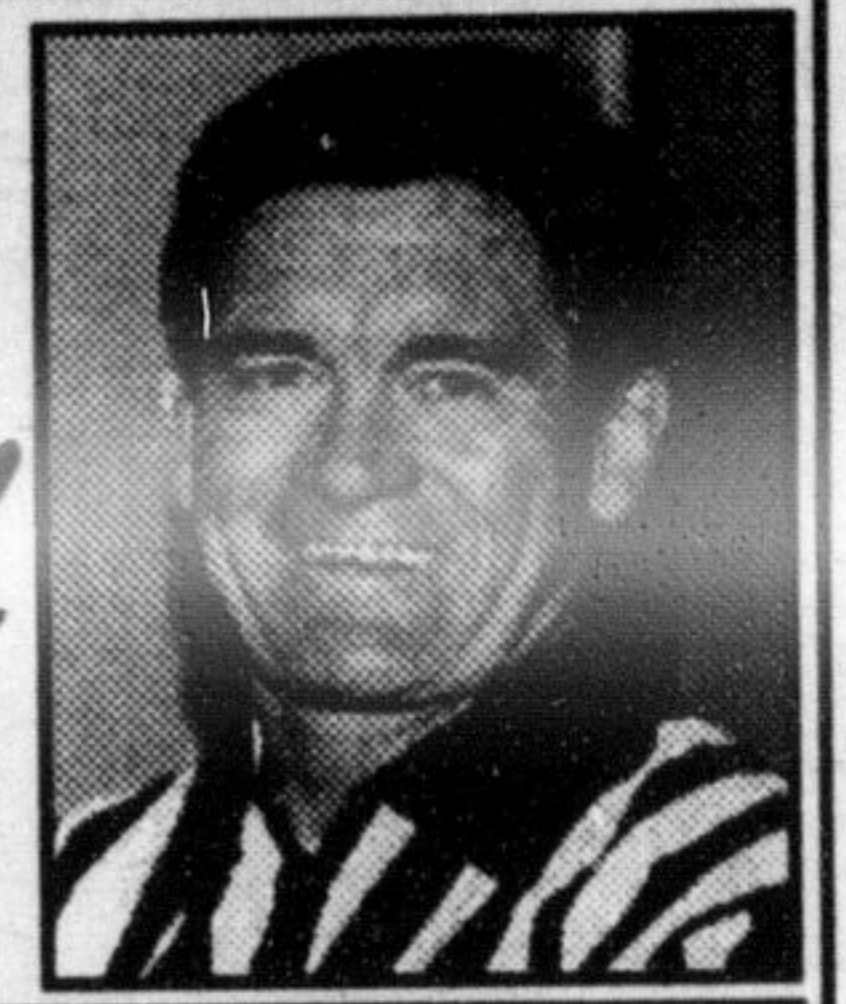
Justin Bailey was a standout on defence for the local lads while picking up assists were Howse and Brad Mewhinney. Making 15 saves in a sound performance was netminder Devin Medland.

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