

# Red River Hanover prevails in impressive fashion at Mohawk

North American Cup eligible Red River Hanover was brilliant in victory at Mohawk Racetrack Saturday.

The \$300,000 yearling is blossoming into a top colt after an up and down season at two, when it took him four starts to earn a win. He then went on to win a total of six races and \$142,231 in purses as a rookie.

His victory on Saturday was his second in three starts this year. He recently set a track record in a stakes event at The Meadows April 27 — winning in a career best 1:52.1.

Owned by Jeffrey Snyder and Lothlorien Equestrian Centre, Red River Hanover was racing in an overnight conditioned race with Tony Kerwood at the helm.

"We got a perfect second over trip and when I asked him, he was full of pace," said Kerwood of his 1:53.2 triumph. "He finished up real strong."

Red River Hanover is trained by Bill



## Hoof Beat

with BRUCE MURRAY

Robinson.

Kerwood and Robinson also hooked up to win the \$60,000 Free For All Pace with False Alarm. The five-year-old Matts Scooter son found late racing room to prevail in 1:51.4.

Owned by Pennsylvania's Sampson Street Stables and Florida's Norm Smiley, the 17-time winner has \$178,000 in earnings this season, and is nearing \$536,000 lifetime.

Race favourite Electric Stena rallied late to place second with Milton's Steve Condren while E Dees Cam - making his

first-ever start in Canada - was third in rein to fellow Miltonian Mike Saftic.

Donven Promise was a handy winner in the \$42,000 Mares Open Trot Saturday at Mohawk.

Trainer Tom Strauss reined the four-year-old Promising Catch daughter to victory for Lee and Linda Devisser in a career best 1:55.1 in wire-to-wire fashion.

It was career victory 13 for the career winner of \$544,000.

"She felt good tonight. She felt as good tonight as she did last fall, when she was on top of her game," said Strauss.

Strauss hinted that Donven Promise will be entered into the next leg of the Classic Series — the Classic Oaks — at the Meadowlands June 1, but would like to get another race into her prior to that.

Off as the heavy favourite, she paid \$3.70 to win, outdistancing Dresden Dolly and Earl Of My Dream.

## Spartans, 'Stangs fall in first round

Bishop Reding baseball coach Joe Jurus said last month that at least one of Milton's three teams was likely to make Halton's final four.

As of yesterday, his Royals were the only ones left in the running — as both E.C. Drury and Milton District were knocked off during first-round play in Oakville Wednesday.

Drury's loss was particularly heartbreaking, since they held an early three-run cushion against the Iroquois Ridge

Trailblazers but wound up losing 4-3.

Fatigue played as much a role in the loss as stiff competition, since the Spartans had played a double-header the previous day. E.C. runs were scored by Evan Jeans, Andrew Kirkland and Brian McComb.

A lack of clutch hitting proved to be a major stumbling block as well — with Drury stranding four runners on base over the last two innings.

Meanwhile, MD's opening-round loss wasn't nearly as close.

Perhaps equally tired from a hectic schedule, the Mustangs had little to contribute either on the mound or at the plate and were hammered by Q.E. Park 10-2.

The Royals finished second in Halton's Volpe Division with an impressive 6-2 record — highlighted by last Friday's win over top-seated Loyola — to earn a first-round bye. They hosted Iroquois Ridge yesterday afternoon, looking to reach the semifinals for the first time in the school's history.

## Springers solid at the provincials

Milton gymnasts recently wrapped up their competitive season with solid showings at the provincial championships in Sudbury.

Two Springers — Jaimi Fellows and Julie Gagnon — attended as part of the Central Region team while the other three competed as independents.

Fellows contributed to her Junior 1 team's second-place finish with a fourth-place effort on the balance beam — delivering a score of 9.15. Younger teammate Gagnon was part of the third-place Pre-Junior squad.

Independents Eleanor Pineau-Levman (Pre-Novice 1), Stephanie Deumer (Junior 1) and Christina Chimonides (Junior 1) all gained valuable experience over the weekend. Pineau-Levman cracked the top-10 on vault, Deumer was 11th on bars and Chimonides finished 19th on vaults.

This marked the local club's biggest provincial contingent in recent memory.

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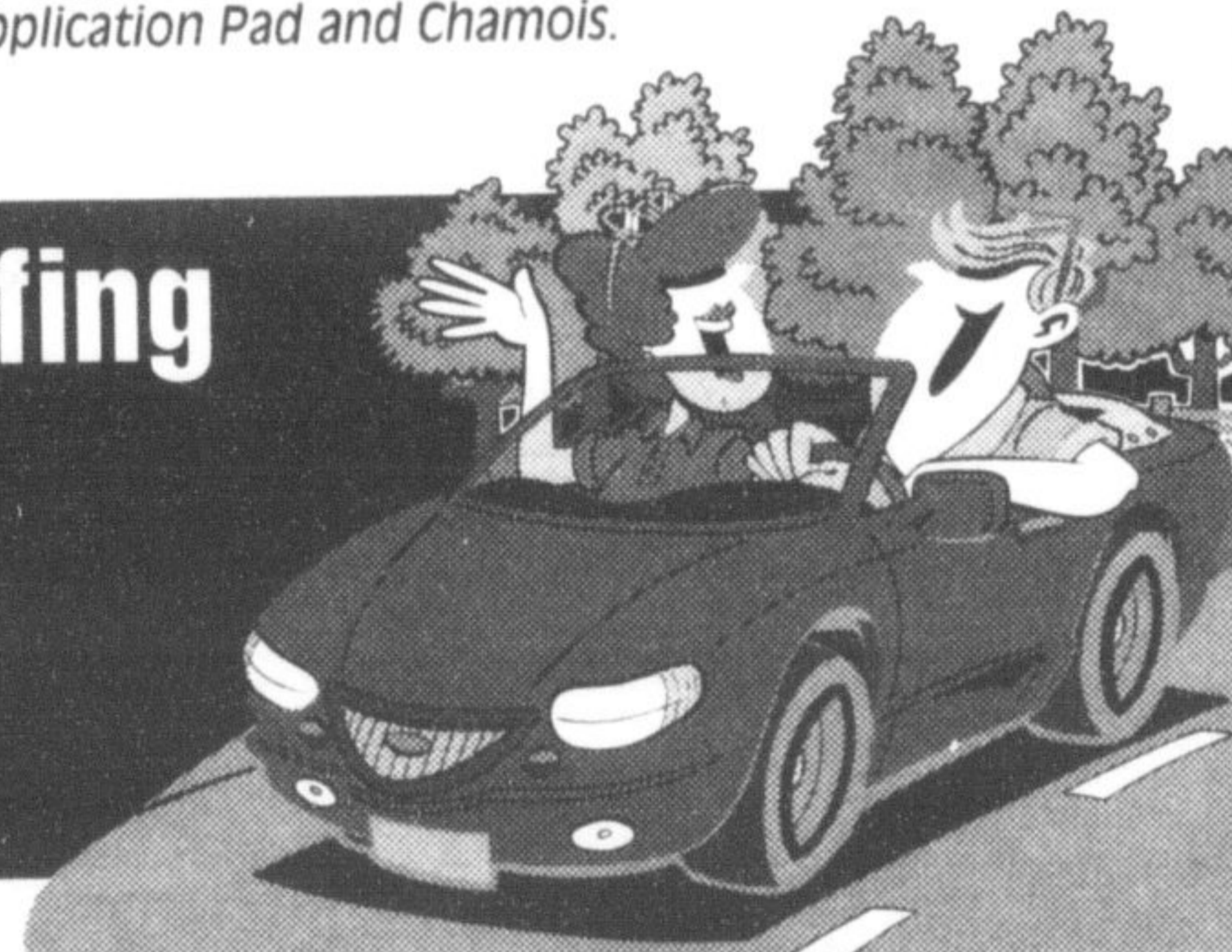
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