

Red's Racetrack Rambles

Hello again — all you racing fans. Well, the racing season is now officially open — at least in our neck of the woods, and do you know what? Yes, we actually had two nights and an afternoon of real nice warm weather — for a change.

Friday night, we went over to the McKean County Fairgrounds at Smethport, Pa., where the Rew Fire Department opened up their new track over there. And did they ever have some nice races.

The covered grandstand is large enough to hold 4,000 spectators, and there is plenty of parking space for everyone. The races were run off in real fine shape, with the cars all lined up and ready to pull out on the track as soon as the preceding event was finished. The boys had a little too much water on the track for the beginning of the race, but it was in fine shape by the time that the features rolled around. And no dust — even after both features. We imagine that the boys will have a little more work to do on the track — but for an opening night, it was more than everyone expected.

In the Modern Class there were plenty of good hot cars, with quite a few of them being '66 models. Our old friend Ray Jordan, No. 32, was there with his new '66 Chevy; Squirt Johns and his familiar No. 511, a '66 Plymouth; Bill Layfield, No. 1X, driving a new '66 Chevy; Herby Layfield driving No. 7X; Floyd Greene driving his new No. 7; Ed Kisko, No. 6; and Jim Hakes driving No. 04; as well as many more that we were not familiar with.

In the Sportsman Class, Larry Swander, No. 99, was there with a rebuilt Hudson; Bob Grove with his familiar No. 79; Phil Mott with another No. 5; Ed Stayre driving No. 19; and Lee Gausman with No. 6 Jr.

All of the races were so thrilling and hard fought battles that it would be difficult to single out any one for particular highlights so will give the racing results and let it go at that.

In the Sportsman Class: Gordon Freer, No. 65 Jr., won the 1st heat; L. Skiver, No. 30, the 2nd; Lee Gausman, No. 6 Jr., the "Consy"; and in the Feature — Lee Gausman, No. 6 Jr., was 1st; Larry Swander, No. 99, 2nd; Bob Grove, No. 79, 3rd; Phil Mott, No. 5, 4th; and Ed Stayre, No. 19, 5th.

In the Modern Class: Herb Layfield, No. 7X, took the 1st heat; Squirt Johns, No. 511, the 2nd heat; Ray Jordan, No. 32, the "Consy"; in the Semi-Feature — Floyd Green, No. 7, was 1st; Ed Kisko, No. 6, 2nd; Squirt Johns No. 511, 3rd; Clair Anderson, No. 67, 4th; and Ed Emerson, No. 124, 5th.

In the Main Feature — Jim Hakes, No. 04, came in 1st; Ray Jordan, No. 32, 2nd; Squirt Johns, No. 511, 3rd; Ed Emerson, No. 124, 4th and Ed Kisko, No. 6, was 5th.

Sam Smith from Emporium, Pa., Bardahl Distributor for Central Pa., presented a Silk Bardahl Jacket to Lee Gausman, No. 6 Jr., winner of the Sportsman Feature.

Saturday night we went over to the Sportsman's Raceway at Mills, Pa., with things pretty normal even

for their 1st racing night of the season. It was a warm-balmny evening with plenty of action, thrills and chills.

In the Sportsman Class, Jim Williams, No. 00, seemed to have it in for yours truly as he kept hitting the pile of dirt in the infield on the No. 2 turn and finally hit it so hard that his car went up on its right side and almost went over. However, Jim managed to spin the wheel in the right direction and snapped it back on its wheels without going over. (What a hard way to get a picture taken!)

Then in a later race, Jol Cook, No. 8, from Alfred, went over the bank near the No. 3 turn landing on its wheels after dropping down around a 30-foot embankment. Naturally, the race was stopped with the ambulance tearing over to pick up the driver — but, fortunately he apparently wasn't injured although we don't imagine his car fared as well. Incidentally, this is the first time in all the years that we have been going over there that we ever saw a car go over the high dirt bank along the back-stretch — although we have seen many of them go up on their side and then roll over back on the track.

In the Modern Feature, No. U2 hit Floyd Green, No. 7, on the No. 2 turn in the first lap and spun him out with several other cars piling into each other before they could get stopped. Thus it took several minutes for the boys to get their cars back in operation, and after the re-start, Basil Schutt No. 13, got out to an early lead and was never headed.

For a re-cap of the racing results: In the Sportsman Class — Bob Hancock, No. 8, took the 1st heat; Warren Kinney, No. 243, the 2nd heat; Larry Swander, No. 99, took the "Consy"; and in the Feature — Phil Pipo, No. 71, came in 1st; Bob Hancock, No. 8, 2nd; Larry Shelton, No. 13, 3rd; Jim Williams, No. 00, 4th; and Warren Kinney, No. 243, 5th.

In the Modern Class: George Hilliard, No. 12, took the 1st heat; Basil Schutt, No. 13, the 2nd; and James VanPelt No. 2, the "Consy".

In the Feature — Basil Schutt, No. 13, was 1st; Gerald Prentiss, No. 41, 2nd; Jim VanPelt, No. 2, 3rd; Floyd Green, No. 7, 4th; and George Hilliard, No. 12, 5th.

On the way over to Woodhull Sunday afternoon, we drove thru a little shower — but then it cleared off pretty good and the sun came shining thru so didn't think too much about it.

The track was in good shape but for some unknown reason — the drivers seemed to have their slow shoes on and took their own grand time about getting lined up between each race. Thus, by the time the Amateur "Consy" rolled around — so did a short thunder-shower.

The shower only lasted around half an hour so by getting quite a few cars and a couple of trucks out on the track, the boys were able to get the track dried off enough to continue racing in another half an hour.

Both in the Amateur Class as well as the Modern, the spectators saw an entirely new bunch of winners — right on down the line. The Amateur Feature was really a tough fought battle with several of the previous winners running into bad luck and either cracking up or having to drop out

and was forced to drop out. Mike Clark, No. 7/11X, had the transmission go out of his car; Larry Shelton, No. 13, had the rear-end lock on his; and although we didn't see it — there was a collision on the back-stretch with at least three cars involved that saw Bill Deming, No. 11, end up by rolling over several times, forcing the race to be stopped, while the ambulance checked the drivers and the track was cleared. Thus, by the time that the race was over, less than half of the cars that started were able to cross the finish line.

In the Modern Feature, the track was still a little slick so that Paul Hidek, No. 6 1/2, skidded rounding the No. 4 turn on the 1st lap and ended up on the bank in front of the stands thus causing a re-start for this race. Jim Hakes driving No. 04 managed to take the lead in the early part of the race and was never seriously threatened, with the real competition being between Floyd Green, No. 7; Paul Hidek, No. 6 1/2; Basil Schutt, No. 13; and Ray Poyer, No. 1M, with the boys finishing in that order — except that Ray had car trouble

and was forced to drop out. For a re-cap of the racing results: In the Amateur Class — Don Halliday, No. 11/16, won the 1st heat; Larry Shelton, No. 13, the 2nd heat; and Bill Deming, No. 11, the "Consy". In the Feature — Butch Harris, No. 500, came in 1st; Daryl Dennis, No. 822, 2nd; Warren Kinney, No. 243, 3rd; No. 25, (driver unknown), 4th; and Bill Deming, No. 11, 5th.

No. 13, took the 1st heat; Chet Smith, No. 202, the 2nd; and Ray Poyer, No. 1M, the "Consy". In the Feature, Jim Hakes driving No. 04, won 1st; Floyd Green, No. 7, took 2nd; Paul Hidek, No. 6 1/2, 3rd; Basil Schutt, No. 13, 4th; and Chet Smith, No. 202, 5th.

Well folks, that's it for this week — so, so long for now, and see you at the races?

In the Moderns: Basil Schutt, Don't Drive After Drinking!

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PIGEON

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Tony Curtis,
Shelley Winters,
Howard Duff



TUESDAY
JUNE 14

OUTSIDE
the WALL

FIRST RUN SHOWING
Richard Basehart
and
Marilyn Maxwell



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

UNDERTOW

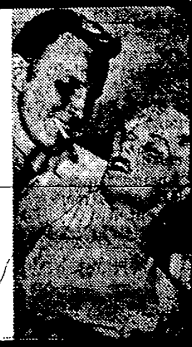
FIRST RUN SHOWING
Rock Hudson, Dorothy Hart, Scott Brady



THURSDAY
JUNE 16

RUNNING
WILD

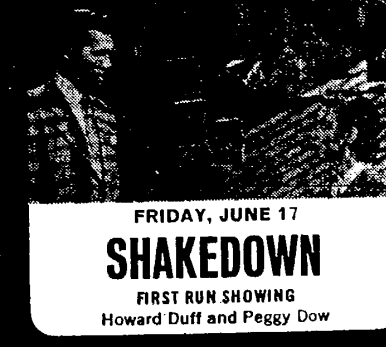
FIRST RUN SHOWING
Mamie Van Doren
and Keenan Wynn



FRIDAY, JUNE 17

SHAKEDOWN

FIRST RUN SHOWING
Howard Duff and Peggy Dow



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