

Back Stretch

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Mention of the great-grandire of Mike Casey's colt brings to mind the exploits of Minor Heir, that Mr. Savage, owner of Inter-national Stock Food Farm, Min-nneapolis, bought as his champion Dan Patch 1.55 was starting to fade. Minor Heir was a medium size horse with a tremendous burst of speed and like Dan Patch, raced free-legged. While he did not speak the world with exhibitions of speed like the immortal Dan, yet he was a great campaigner and held world's records.

Jerry also sent us under separate cover a copy of the Amherst News and Sentinel, on the back of which appears photos of Cecil Fletcher's two fast pacers purchased from S. A. Wathen & Son, Fort Fairfield, Maine, Direct Mile (4) 2.06 3-4 and Mighty Deb (2) 2.08. Mr. Fletcher is quoted as saying "I expect with the addition to their winter racing prospects to have one of the outstanding, if not the out-standing, racing stables in the Maritimes in 1953." The horses came by rail to the border and from there were transported by special trailer to their winter quarters on U.S. 80th arrived in fine shape and now under the guidance and watchful eye of George Gardiner of Halifax, are being given slow work and fattened up for the 1953 season.

At the opening of the harness horsemen's winter haven, Dufferin Park, Toronto, the largest crowd that ever attended an opening afternoon was present. Making his first start for his owner Lucien Dugre of Sherbrooke, Que. and driven by Jimmie Larente, Harold Abbe won both heats of the Free For All Pace and headed such top pacers as MacBingen, Williamsburg, Castle Brooke, Canada Direct, Junior Counsel and Selby's Pride. The first heat at one mile was in 2:18 and the second heat in 2:33 2/5. Compare these times with Harold Abbe's other performances and you will see how slow the Dufferin track is in its fall and winter racing form. He was sold as No. 1000 in the 14th annual auction at Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 13th and was described as an eight-year-old gelding by Bert Abbe 1.59 1/4, dam, Lady Kate, dam of four in 2:10. He has a mile track record of 2:02 3/5 and a half-mile track record of 2:03 4/5 and had equal-

led his half-mile track record at Yonkers this season. He holds the world's pacing record for nine-sixteenths of a mile and his total earnings were at that date \$52,000. He was knocked down to Mr. Dugre for \$7,800. By the way, he raced for a \$500 purse at Dufferin.

At a later meeting we noticed where Money Maker 2.07 4/5 had won one dash in a two dash race at Dufferin. Money Maker, as our horsemen friends know, was bred by Harry O'Brien, Alberton, and was sired by Singing Sam 2.10. Money Maker is twelve years old and has won upwards of \$15,000 in his racing career. He has been a tough horse and raced all season on U.S. tracks.

We had the pleasure of a visit yesterday afternoon from Staff Sgt. Alec D. Grant of Picton, N.S., who is here relieving Sgt. MacLeod at the recruiting station. He is a six-foot highlander with magnificent physique and every inch a soldier and, as he says himself, "the smallest boy in the family." He is a constant reader of Down the Back Stretch and our Fox and Mink Notes, and on the side operates a mink ranch which is looked after by the family. He is quite an authority on mink and has won prizes in the show ring with his pastels, which he obtained from the fountain head ranch of Otto Grosse in Illinois. He plans on visiting Bus Jones, with whom he is well acquainted and whose mink he is greatly interested in. We talked about horses and found that his son attends the races at Truro very frequently and also his dad when he can. From what we can learn the son knows his horses and their capacities and has not fared too badly in his pari-mutuel investments. We also talked about other subjects and have his promise that he will be back again to see us before leaving for home.

Basketball Games At P. W. C. Tonight

Two Abegweit House League Basketball games will be played at the P. W. C. auditorium tonight. P. W. C. will meet the Abbies at 7:30 and the Arabs will play Rays in the second contest.

OCEAN PESTS

Dogfish on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts are small sharks that prey on fish in shallower waters near shore.

Sport Echoes

From Prince County

We've heard that Peter Pope who has been attending Acadia University is coming home to spend the winter in Summerside. That should be good news for Summerside hockey fans. Pete might be persuaded to play with the Summerside "Orphans", and we understand that Pete has developed into quite a hockey player since he last spent a winter in his home town. He was one of the stars of Horton Academy hockey team for the past two years.

In lining up the available talent in Summerside in our last column, we left out a pretty important hockey personality. We refer to Joe "Snake" Perry, who has been developing into a pretty good goalie in recent winters. Joe, we understand, has been practising in his back yard before Jack Frost arrived, and his enthusiasm for the sport is bound to improve his game as time goes on.

Nobody knows what Eric Johnson's Mercury will do now, since their bid to enter the South Shore League was turned down. It is possible they will merge with the High School team, or they conceivably may try to get a franchise in the North Shore League which plays its games in Kensington. The R. C. A. P. hockey aggregation might do likewise.

The distance to travel would be approximately the same, and the Kensington hockey moguls might welcome these two teams into their league. There has been no word of the annual meeting of the North Shore League as yet.

Cribbage is taking a lot of the limelight in Summerside these days with talk of championships being won and lost about every other day. Whether champions will continue to be uncrowned and crowned in this rapid fashion for long depends pretty much on whether cribbage is a game in which skill plays a predominant part. Hockey, baseball, basketball, etc. are sports which depend for success on about 90 or 95 per cent skill, and 5 or 10 per cent luck. We don't pretend to be a skilled cribbage player, but we would judge that cribbage is scarcely 50 per cent skill. If this be so, then you'll have twenty or thirty title holders before the winter is out.

Trucks May Not Report To Browns

DETROIT Dec. 5 (AP) — Pitcher Virgil Trucks said Thursday from his hospital bed that because of his physical condition he might not report to St. Louis Browns to whom he was traded by Detroit Tigers in a six-player deal.

Trucks, 33-year-old right-hander who hurled two no-hit games for Detroit last season, underwent a gall-bladder operation last week. "I don't know yet about my physical condition," he explained to reporters when informed of the deal that also sent pitcher Hal White and outfielder Johnny Groth to Browns.

"My arm is fine, but it's my stomach I'm worried about."

Hunter's Corner

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tortuous channel and entered the Cove. I do not know how many gunners were on the boat but the equipment included a powerful spot light and a good supply of rifles and shotguns. Dribbling silently in on the sleeping mass of wildgeese, the spot light was turned on them and the night silence was rent by the crash of gunfire and the cries of terrified geese. My information shows that the kill was heavy and wildgeese were peddled in Summerside the following day.

The second violation occurred at Mill's Point, opposite Little Curtain Island on the east side of Malpeque Bay on Friday night, November 28 (incidentally the night of the game meeting at Kensington). Nine geese was the kill on this occasion. On Sunday the price had dropped to \$2.00 each as being shot out of season they (the poachers) didn't want to place them in storage and were afraid they'd spoil. This is not guess-work. I have the facts to back this up.

My informant told me that the Summerside Game Association members were pretty hot under the collar and would talk. I was given the name of one member who had vowed he was "going to spill the works" but was warned not to let on I knew any particulars of the infractions or that he himself knew anything. I figured this was purely a matter of rounding the culprits up and teaching them a lesson. I happened to meet the gentleman in question on the street. We talked affably for a few minutes and then I asked: "What do you know about the Salutation Cove and the Mill's Point affairs?"

His whole manner changed instantly. He glanced up and down the street to see if anyone was looking and was silent for about 10 seconds. I could read his face like a book and knew what his thoughts were: "If I spill the works where will it end... how many of my friends bought geese... it would never do to bring what so and so and so and so did out in the open... and I knew I had lost. He suddenly pulled out his watch and exclaimed: "I have to meet a guy in five minutes... I'll see you some other time." He left in such a hurry I expected to see a section of Water Street hurtle skyward in a matter of seconds. I was no wiser when I left Summerside than when I entered it. Lip was buttoned as tight as the gold vaults at Fort Knox. I thought ruefully: "Those buccos knew what they were doing when they peddled the geese. It was a smart move. It was like tangling up a ball of yarn."

I could have told my friend where it would have ended, if he had dared to be a Daniel, in seven, maybe nine culprits being trotted into Court and, if they were meted out punishment relevant to the offence there are several goose hunters who would think twice, maybe three times, before pulling another Salutation Cove or Mill's Point. A combination of rifle and spot light will drive every wildgoose out of any district. As a goose hunter of my acquaintance remarked when I told him of the incidents: "Good stuff. Let 'em tear away... we'll have all their geese down in Queen's County if they keep that up."

The Week at S.D.U.

Continued from page 6

It does not seem very long since we last announced the holding of exams, but the drive is on again. Term exams will be held from the 9th to the 18th. To many it seems almost incredible that the time should have gone so quickly—and this is reasonable, considering all that has happened since September. The multitudinous activities besides studies, along with the fact that there is no snow as yet, give one the false notion that there is still plenty of time. In the academic picture it appears that there has been more work done in general so far this year. In sports, besides the history-making feats of the first team, intramural and juvenile leagues both enjoyed a successful year with full lines, and good playing.

The MIDD had a rather late beginning this year and as a result did not get off as many trial debates as was planned. In the last debate, Bob Mooney and Gud Dorais won over John Trainor and Wedge who were supporting the affirmative and negative respectively of the resolution, "Resolved; that compulsory military training should be adopted in Canada."

After the holidays, the first intercollegiate debate will be with Acadia. Although the Dramatic Society sponsored the College and High School Drama Festival, it did not stage a presentation of its own. Father Roche and his troupe have a very excellent play under way which we can expect early in the new year. Most of the campus committees have now set shop for the term except those of WUSC and CFCS. The latter group is making its voice heard in a plea, "Bring back Christs to Christmas." On account of the coming exams the activity of CFCS comes at an inconvenient time and the students to be commended on the time they have given to support this move.

In basketball, the second team defeated the Abbies 46-28 in a game played at P.W.C. Shea set the pace for the point-getters with 18 followed by Slowey with 11 points. Performing in the second team are: Shea, Slowey, Lawlor, MacEwen, Bennett, Lyden, McGuigan and Farmer. The first team continues their regular practices and judging by their general performance, much can be expected of them in intercollegiate play. In the intramural league four teams enter the play-offs. In order of points these are, Sophomores, Seniors, Grade XII (who are tied for first place), followed by the Juniors, Freshmen, Grade X and XI have teams but are not in the finals. High-score winner in the intramurals is the illustrious football star, Lloyd Gaudet with 140, while the juvenile winner is Aquinas Ryan (no less illustrious in his own right), who has added up 123 points.

The hockey teams are getting a limbering-out in the Forum every Thursday as that phase of College sports draws around again. The almost balmy weather of the last few weeks has not been very helpful to the Rink Committee who are very anxious to get a piece of ice formed. Leo McGinnis is at the head of this group and has the following Jack Prosters to help out: Leo McQuaid, Chick Morrison, Bill Quinn, Basil Campbell, Jack MacAdam, Earl Handrahan, Eugene Mooney, Russell MacAnnis, Jack Gavin and Joe McQuaid.

Wednesday night the final page was closed on a historic year for football at SDU, when the champs were feted at a testimonial dinner at the Charlottetown Hotel, and later presented with the McCurdy Cup. Among those present were His Hon. Lieut.-Gov. T. W. L. Prowse, Premier J. Walter Jones, Bill Grant, president of M.R.U., Rt. Rev. R. V. MacKenzie, Sir W. J. P. MacMillan, Gordon Bennett and Picton McCormac. Mr. Lorne Driscoll, president of the Alumni was M.C. for the evening with the address given by Rev. Ted Butler. Later in the evening the famed cup was presented in the College Gymnasium to Mr. MacAdam and Captain Clair Callaghan. The many speeches of the evening paid fine tribute to the success of the team and to the work and interest shown by both players and coaches.

Due to pressure of exams this will be the last Week for this term. However with the advent of the New Year, an effort will be renewed to give you weekly jottings of the happenings at S.D.U. Sometimes this report may read something like a sports write-up or a "virtuous" little homily, but although the writer tries to give a general picture, he often fails miserably. Until next year, the Week wishes you one and all a very holy and joyful Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthful New Year.

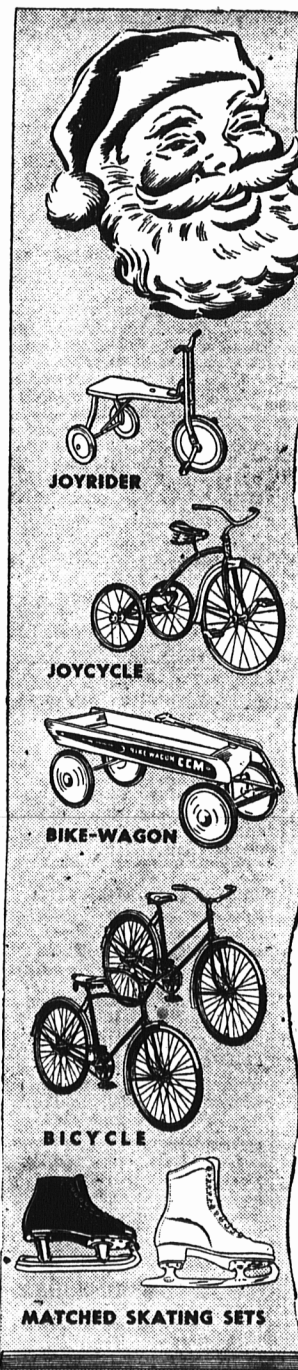
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Advertisement for Two Key Men Of Leafs To Play, featuring Toronto players Max Bentley and Howie Meeker.

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