

EXMODESTAN SETS SIGHTS—

Jerry Streeter Looks For Improved Year With Sacs

By Bernard Flynn

Jerry Streeter, 23 year old Modestan who is figured to be the second sacker for the Sacramento Solons, has his sights set high this season after a so-so year in 1955.



Jerry Streeter Bee Photo

And the eyes of the Sacramento Solons will be looking in the same direction as his—up. Jerry did not exactly burn up the Pacific Coast League in 1955. His final batting average of .245 did not leave him satisfied. It was the quiet, modest Modestan himself who pointed out "only one second baseman in the league made more errors than I did."

Made The Jump But that was last year and the mere fact that Streeter was able to make the big jump from C class to open classification and hold down a job as a regular must be considered an accomplishment.

Streeter, who starred for Modesto High School, Modesto Junior College and College of the Pacific, had been a pro only slightly more than a year when he was rushed into the Solon lineup in July of 1954. When he was called up he was hitting .293 for Idaho Falls after batting only .227 with Salt Lake City the year before.

Richie Meyers, who since has been sold by Sacramento to the Chicago Cubs, hurt his leg and Streeter was the only insurance the Sacs had. He was not supposed to be ready for PCL ball, but finished out the season—45 games—with a .260 average.

Wins Steady Job Last year Streeter managed to stick it out through spring training, and stay on the club, although he was warming the bench under veteran Hank Schenz. Three weeks after the season started, Jerry took Hank's job away—and kept it playing second instead of shortstop.

Streeter started out better than he ended up, and had a much better figure than .245 early in the campaign. Still, he managed to tie for the league lead in triples.

Streeter has a modest outlook about his future but nevertheless is not short on confidence. "I'm not disappointed about those errors," he says.

He is the hustling type infielder who is not afraid to go after a tough one at the risk of his fielding average, and often comes up with plays many others would not attempt.

Well Regarded Streeter is well regarded in the Sacramento front office. The Solons hope to make money off Jerry some day, by selling him to the majors.

A letter from Dave Kelley, the club's director of personnel, includes the following quotes: "Joe Gordon (scout for the Detroit Tigers) thinks the (Streeter) is a fine ballplayer. Joe worked out with him last week and corrected some of his defense at the base and also worked with him at the plate. You can quote Joe Gordon as saying Jerry is a sure shot for the big leagues. He would like to have him at Detroit."

"There has been considerable interest in him by several big league clubs. We could have disposed of his contract last year but we feel that Jerry needs another year or two in this ball."

"Tommy Heath (Sacramento's new manager) is figuring on going along with Jerry this year and was very well impressed when he was managing San Francisco by the way Jerry handled himself."

Likes New Position Streeter likes his new position better than shortstop, which he played all through high school, jaysee, at COP and in pro ball until last season. "You don't have the long throw and can relax a little more," he explains.

He is the father of two girls, 2½ and 3½, and his wife, Carol, is a high school sweetheart—is expecting a third in April. "This one is going to be a boy," Streeter says.

If Jerry does not reach the majors before long, he intends to take a job as a high school coach. Modesto baseball fans should have quite an interest in the Solons this year.

In addition to Streeter, there are two former Modesto Reds.

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Bee Sports

Flock Repeats As National Stock Car Race Champ

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—UP—Atlanta daredevil Tim Flock received the prize money from his second consecutive grand national stock car championship today, but some of the glory went to Ralph Moody, who did not let a roll over stop him from taking third.

Flock, 31 year old father of five children, gunned a 1956 model through driving rains and wind whipped sand over the beach and asphalt course yesterday to win the 160 mile race with an average speed of \$9.16 miles per hour.

Flock won the 160 mile championship in 1955 and placed first in the 125 mile modified stock car race two days ago. The races are sponsored annually by the National Association For Stock Car Auto Racing.

Zooms Into Lead Yesterday, Flock zoomed into the lead from his pole position during the first lap and only relinquished first place when he stopped a few minutes in the 23rd lap to refuel.

Flock finished 57 seconds ahead of second place Billy Meyers of Germantown, NC. But Moody, from Dania, Fla., got the biggest hand from some 32,000 spectators when he roared over the finish line in his battered 1956 model to take third, a lap and 10 seconds behind Meyers.

Moody, 36, ran into trouble on the 26th lap and his car rolled over, but landed on its wheels. Moody kept going despite a smashed in hood and broken windshield.

A downpour midway in the race made going tough for the drivers.

Betsy Rawls Captures Cancer Fund Tourney SARASOTA, Fla.—P—Betsy Rawls faltered on the last round of the Babe Zaharias Cancer Fund golf tournament yesterday, but recovered to win by a stroke over Betty Dodd.

Miss Rawls went into the final round with a six stroke lead over Miss Dodd and Louise Suggs.

Miss Rawls shot 77 yesterday, two over women's par for the 6,395 par Bobby Jones course, for a 72 hole total of 291. Miss Dodd finished with 72 for 292.

Skier Breaks Leg LENZERHEIDE, Switzerland —UP—Marvin Melville, Salt Lake City, Utah, 21 year old member of the United States Olympic ski team, suffered a double fracture of the right leg yesterday in an international meet. Melville was treated on the scene by a local doctor and then removed to a hospital at nearby Choire.

Bobby Brocato's Win Fails To Impress Swaps' Owner

ARCADIA—UP—The runaway victory of Bobby Brocato in the \$100,000 Santa Anita Handicap failed to impress Swaps' owner, Rex C. Ellsworth, who said today that his horse would have won the race had he elected to run him.

"But we weren't going to risk a million dollar horse on that kind of footing," Ellsworth told the United Press. "Every horse that ran in the race took a chance and we didn't want to take the risk with Swaps. It was a big disappointment to us not to run him. Had he run, he would have won."

Ellsworth said there was nothing wrong with Swaps' foot which had been operated on and the horse can handle any sort of going. But he said he and trainer Mesach Tenney felt all along he was behind in his training and the slow, sticky track that prevailed Saturday could have hurt the horse.

Most Satisfying For Bobby Brocato's owner, Oklahoma oilman Travis M. Kerr, it was the biggest win and the most satisfying in his six years of racing.

The 5 year old Bobby Brocato could not have asked for better breaks than he received in the race. He got in with 118 pounds, his lightest impost in five months; he had the services of the top rider on a front runner in America, Johnny Longden; and he got the type of track he likes in setting the pace. With Swaps out, there was nothing in the race that could catch him.

The final result was a six length win for Bobby Brocato who was coasting at the finish with Longden easing the horse. Turk's Delight was a distant second, with Honey's Alibi next, while back up the track were such known performers as Social Outcast, Trackmaster, Traffic Judge and Rejected in the field of 12 starters.

But Swaps' declaration less than two hours before post time left the crowd of 62,500 somewhat disappointed.

Some Justification Horsemen, however, felt Ellsworth and Tenney had some justification for their decision, for it was on the same sort of holding track that Nashua beat Swaps last August at Chicago. Swaps had run all last year with a tender spot in his right front hoof and he injured it so badly in the match race that large section had to be cut away thereafter.

Ellsworth is indefinite on his future plans. He has reserved stalls at Gulfstream race track in Florida but said whether the stable goes there depends on the performance of its 3 year olds next Saturday in the \$100,000 Santa Anita Derby. Ellsworth said Like Magic and Terrang are scheduled to go Saturday and if their performances are satisfactory he will take the entire string to Florida, including Swaps.

Florida Born Needles Is Flamingo Stakes Winner MIAMI, Fla.—P—In a blazing finish, Florida born Needles shot up from 12th place to win the \$148,800 Flamingo Stakes at Hialeah Saturday.

The five pound weight advantage awarded Florida bred colts apparently helped Needles as he went to the outside in the stretch and rocketed past the leaders to defeat Golf Ace by two and one half lengths. Another two lengths back in third was Fabius.

Needles rewarded his backers with a \$7.20 win payoff. Golf Ace returned \$11.60 to place and Fabius \$3.90 to show.

Army's football team will visit Archbold Stadium for the first time next October 20th to play Syracuse.

Cummings Loses To Ward, 1 Up

McClatchy Newspapers Service SAN FRANCISCO—Former Modesto Junior College star Jack Cummings almost pulled off the biggest upset of the golfing year yesterday when he carried national amateur champion Harvie Ward to the final hole before losing in the San Francisco City tournament.

The third round match saw Ward holding out for a par four on the 18th good for a half and a one up victory.

The determined 19 year old Cummings, who was one of the top swingers for MJC's state champion golf teams the last two years, took an early lead.

Now a San Jose State student, Cummings still was one up after seven holes. But Ward came back to win the next three and take a two hole advantage.

Even Battle They battled evenly through the 15th, but when Ward took a bogey on the 16th Cummings cut the lead to one.

They halved the 17th and 18th with pars. Cummings had won two earlier matches before taking on Ward.

One upset marked the third round of play. John Mazza defeated heavily favored Bob Silvestri, 3 and 1.

Others advancing to the quarterfinal round besides Ward and Mazza were Ken Ventura, Morgan Barofsky, Ed Castagneto, Bob Cardinal, Walt Gilliam and George Studing.

Gun Dog Champ UNION SPRINGS, Ala.—P—Beau's Snow Man, owned by four Birmingham men, won the national shooting dog championship yesterday with fine handling of seven coveys.

Young Trained Hunters Prove More Safe

SACRAMENTO—P—Young hunters who were trained in gun safety were 17 times safer during 1955 than boys in past years who were not required to take a safety course to get a license, according to the fish and game department.

Only one trained junior hunter caused a fatality, it noted in a press statement.

During last year there were about 640,000 hunters in the field. Of that number there were 33,000 youths who took the four hour safety course.

The department said there were 31 hunting fatalities due to firearms and 101 injuries during the year.

Occidental Star Vaults 15 Feet

LOS ANGELES—UP—Bob Gutowski, Occidental College, became the sixth 15 foot pole vaulter in history Saturday night when he cleared 15 feet, one quarter inch in a dual meet with California Institute of Technology.

Gutowski missed in two attempts at 15 feet, 3¼ inches. He also is only the fourth vaulter to clear 15 feet during a college career.

Lost Money HIALEAH, Fla.—P—Racing fans at Hialeah Park in 1955 failed to cash \$4,195 worth of winning mutuel tickets.

SF 49ers Will TV All Road Grid Games

SAN FRANCISCO—P—All 49er road games will be televised in the San Francisco Bay area next fall.

The pro football team said yesterday it had signed a three year contract with Columbia Broadcasting System. The road games will appear here on station KPIX.

Games played at Kezar Stadium also will be televised but not within 100 miles of San Francisco.

Only three road games were televised in SF in former years.

Five Year Study Of Deer Is Completed In San Benito

A five year deer management study of the area near the town of San Benito in the Coast Range has been completed, with the recommendation that the deer population be held to the 1953 level.

The state department of fish and game says that year the herd grew to 2,800 animals following a spectacular die off from foot rot and malnutrition in 1951.

Either sex hunting is recommended to maintain the herd at levels consistent with range use, and to harvest the annual increase, the report states.

The study consisted of population estimates, methods of improving forage, herd composition ratios between bucks, does and fawns, crop depredation, and habitat improvement.

Ranchers in the area favor either sex hunting, the report says.

shortstop Ted Bell and outfielder Russ Rosburg—in the lineup. Both were moved up at the end of last season.

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