



DOWN THE BACK STRETCH

We acknowledge with many thanks the following letter from Harold M. Haswell, proprietor of the Universal Driver Rating System and Chart, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.—"Enclosed you will find three lists of drivers rated as computed by the Universal Driver Rating System. One pertains to those drivers racing principally in the United States and having 200 or more starts. The second pertains to those drivers racing principally in the United States and having from 100 through 199 starts. The third pertains to those drivers racing principally in the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

The compilation of this Rating System involves a tremendous amount of research and work and Mr. Haswell must be an extra-

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ordinary man to be able to furnish these charts so soon after the racing season is over and the Year Book with 1956 summaries has not been issued. List No. 1 is harness horse drivers rated according to averages earned during the 1956 season as computed by the Universal Driver Rating System. This list includes all drivers racing principally in the United States having 200 or more starts during the year. In number one position you will be glad to see Joseph C. O'Brien, who is still a young man and has by his attention to his work, his knowledge of driving and the great skill he has displayed placed himself as a top Grand Circuit driver in the U. S. in 1956 and also as first in the drivers who have made 200 or more starts.

LIST NO. 1

Name of Driver	Starts	1sts	2nds	3rds	Average
1. Joseph C. O'Brien	426	109	81	71	.417
2. C. J. Hansen	204	52	38	15	.383
3. Edwin W. Boyer	213	56	29	23	.375
4. Richard J. Richardson	243	55	41	36	.369
5. Delvin G. Miller	320	61	48	34	.366
6. Edward Morgan	277	69	39	34	.362
7. Howard E. Scott	215	49	34	30	.358
8. William McMillen	235	55	37	26	.358
9. Stanley F. Dancer	754	163	118	115	.354
10. Joseph F. Ligh-hill	559	121	99	66	.354
11. John F. Simpson	496	115	76	53	.353
12. Franklin E. Sears	221	40	51	28	.351
13. Levi B. Harner	361	59	74	62	.350
14. Thomas Winn	511	93	102	82	.346
15. John E. Wilcutts	348	76	53	38	.339
16. Bernard J. Schmitt	264	46	58	34	.339
17. William R. Haughton	787	167	123	91	.338
18. Franklin E. Safford	391	76	65	50	.329
19. Frank Ervin	231	43	35	30	.314
20. Earle B. Avery	227	42	33	27	.305
47. Sanders W. Russell	296	52	32	20	.292
54. Angus D. Allen	313	43	49	55	.283

List No. 2 contains the drivers who have made 100 to 199 starts through the year with an average of 150 or more, racing principally in the United States. List No. 3 includes all drivers racing in the Maritime Provinces of Canada having 100 or more starts during the year with an average of 250 or more starts. At the top of the list is George Manger, who handles the stable of Harry Hirsch of Sydney and he had the second best

LIST NO. 3

Name of Driver	Starts	1sts	2nds	3rds	Average
1. George Manger	150	56	35	18	.543
2. Donald R. Turner	137	40	22	18	.425
3. George S. Turner	293	65	64	52	.402
4. R. Eldon Kirkpatrick	101	22	15	13	.393
5. Hazen E. Fletcher	203	46	38	34	.386
6. Len O'Meara	245	55	43	45	.383
7. Joseph S. MacDonald	107	29	12	15	.380
8. Lloyd Walker	229	50	39	45	.378
9. Ruyf Barrieau	170	38	32	22	.371
10. Clayton M. Killam	135	24	28	27	.360
11. Clay'on R. MacLeod	176	38	26	30	.355
12. James W. MacGregor	150	28	29	26	.352
13. Aurele J. Gould	104	18	21	17	.340
14. Bradley Jones	171	34	27	24	.333
15. William M. Amey	104	18	21	17	.330
16. Worrell Lewis	107	22	13	16	.323
17. Harold T. Walsh	207	29	45	38	.322
18. Harvey J. Cormier	199	35	31	35	.321
19. Thomas Etter	122	24	15	19	.317
20. Robert A. Troy	142	29	12	26	.312
21. Edward C. H'ley	264	30	50	46	.311
22. Bertrand Cruikshank	172	28	28	36	.311
23. Malcolm Lawson	101	15	21	14	.310
24. Frank G. Daniels	428	71	74	61	.309
25. Michael P. Chasson	108	17	20	15	.307
26. George L. Queen	143	17	32	26	.304
27. W. Hazen Kirkpatrick	106	15	22	15	.304
28. Joseph H. Goguen	163	26	29	21	.301
29. Wilfred W. Baker	117	11	31	20	.298
30. Kenneth R. Kave	151	28	16	21	.291
31. Millet Coughlan	184	27	32	25	.289
32. Edward A. Langille	163	16	42	23	.288
33. Donald E. Ratchford	106	15	15	21	.296
34. Donald C. Rankin	176	30	19	27	.282
35. Allison G. Langille	185	29	20	34	.278
36. James Lang	264	29	23	27	.278
37. Arthur F. Davidson	143	23	18	20	.277
38. Laurie J. O'Brien	229	32	32	10	.276
39. Kirk A. Pinkney	146	21	24	18	.276
40. Harley Harrison	139	23	12	24	.271
41. Ray O'Brien	209	32	30	22	.268
42. Neil Campbell	144	19	22	22	.268
43. David A. Pinkney	100	11	19	14	.262
44. Aubrey C. Wood	183	21	24	23	.260
45. Cyril V. Smith	105	12	15	21	.260
46. Arthur Burbine	105	12	15	21	.260

Alfred Webster, Malpeque Road, recently shipped a very handsome yearling by Simcoe Harvester 2:04 1/2, dam Betty L. Budlong 2:12 1/2 to owner Charles Sutherland of Sydney, N. S. We also learn that Betty L. Budlong has been sold by Mr. Sutherland to James Beers of Cornwall, P.E.I. She is carrying a foal by Simcoe Harvester. Betty L. Budlong is the dam of Bettyplay 2:09 3/5, (record taken at Richelieu Park, Montreal, May 23, 1955, driven by Ramie MacDonald); Kalkuck (Rankin) 2:16 1/5 and several others. Betty will be remembered for the great race she went at Blue Acres Raceway, New Glasgow, N. S., August 3, 1946. She was owned by Thompson & Sutherland, North Sydney. It was Canada's richest race for 2:30 class horses, purse \$3,340. She was driven by Earle Semple and she breezed home in front in all three heats in 2:12 1/2, 2:15 1/2 and 2:13. Baldwin G. from the stable of L. M. Gillespie, Parrsboro, and driven by Fergie Baxter, was 4-2-2; Lock Hanover (O. Jardine) 3-3-4; Jean Budlong (J. Conroy) 3-3-3; Alpha Hal (H. Harrison) 6-4-5; Muddy (J. O'Brien) 5-0-5; Bucky Budlong (E. Stead) 7-5-7; Goldie Duds (G. Turner) 11-4-9; Duke of Hyland (Angie Allen) 10-7-8; Talugi (F. McAllduff) 3-3-4; Mamie Akworthy (T. Etter) 9-4; Iola Lee (E. Haley) 10-4.

Glancing across the page we notice that at New Glasgow's Union Track, N.S. on July 31st, Betty L. Budlong won the 2:26 Trot and Pace in straight heats, best time 2:15 1/2. The Free For All, purse \$1,000, was won by Anti-Aircraft (Miller), owned by C. H. Horton, Murray River, with 1-1-1; Wil Abbe (J. O'Brien) 3-4-3; Royal-at-Law (L. Moreside) 3-4-3; Whip Law (L. Moreside), three other starts (Bailey) 2-5-3; three other starts. Time: 2:09 1/2, 2:07 1/2, 2:09. Don't think they could drift in those days. It was an era of real speed.

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