

Mon Aug 20

Kittyhawk Snares Advantage Quickly In Rochester Race

By CLIFF CARPENTER

While Rochesterians crowded to watch from beaches, piers and a king-size floating gallery of spectator craft, a picture fleet of 16 of the Great Lakes' queenliest racing yachts took the starting cannon at 3 p. m. yesterday off the Port of Rochester and ghosted westward on the first leg of the world's longest fresh water race.

The start of the 377-mile fourth annual Rochester Race was a tailor-made thriller for the watchers and camera fans who packed spectator boats from canoes to schooners. But the breeze, never higher than eight miles from the north, soon began vanishing. At 8 p. m., five hours after the start, the U. S. Navy minesweeper Turkey, which with the Coast Guard buoy tender Maple is shepherding the racers, radioed to the host Rochester Yacht Club that the fleet leaders were about eight miles west of Braddock's Light.

That meant the pace-setters had covered 18 miles in five hours, or an average of less than four miles an hour with the wind barely flickering in patches. A continuation of those faint zephyrs would make it noon today at the earliest before the first boat rounded the Hamilton buoy 114 miles from Rochester and began the long second leg the length of the lake.

(At midnight last night, A. H. Gorsline, in charge of race operations of Rochester Yacht Club, said that a second radio contact showed the boats to be approximately in the same position and a few miles west of Braddock's.)

Kittyhawk Takes Lead

At the time of the radio message, Kittyhawk, scratch boat of the handicap race, the famous 70-foot Cleveland yawl handled by brothers Bob and John Timken, was in the lead. Running second was the other giant of the fleet, the 72-foot yawl Escapade of Detroit, to whom a victory in the Rochester Race would mean a grand slam of all Great Lakes distance classics this season.

George Ford's defending yawl from Rochester Yacht Club, the 52-foot Venture 3rd, sporting a handicap edge on the big leaders, was running in a handy fourth or fifth place as well as spotters could observe. Venture played the shoreline close, apparently hoping for a haul of the breeze, and was forced to take a short hitch back out onto the lake.

As the boats drifted slowly through the hours, it was far too early for predictions. But veteran observers noted a few significant points.

One was that the New York 32 Class 45-footer, the Apache, handled by one of the acknowledged keenest yachtsmen of the country, Wilfred (Toot) Gmeiner of Grosse Pointe, Mich., was running consistently in third or fourth. Sporting a fair handicap, Apache looked like a scalping party. With Apache was Gil Pingree's Red Head, 60-foot Grosse Pointe yawl, showing well under the handling of Pingree who has sailed 10 Mackinac races.

Lady Linden in 6th

A happy surprise for the home fleet was Arthur M. R. Hughes' 40-foot cutter Lady Linden, sliding along in a remarkable sixth place considering her comparatively small size and high handicap.

From Hamilton the fleet travels eastward 181 miles to Stony Island near the St. Lawrence, then slides 81 miles back to the finish line at Rochester.

Highlight of the start, by unanimous vote of the spectator fleet, was the timing of Chuck Harrison in the 51-foot yawl Stormy Petrel of Olcott. Harrison timed his start so perfectly he was across the line less than 2 seconds after the gun. But the big yawl sagged thereafter in the light going. The same gentle breezes penalized such heavy weather racers as RYC Commodore F. Ritter Shumway's schooner Skookum 3rd, and George Bass' big Michigan schooner Ben Bow.

Ritters Beaten By Manchester

Manchester blanked Ritters, 4-0, in the first round of the final double elimination bracket of Metropolitan Rochester Softball Tournament play last night at Bushnell Basin Field.

Kodak Park Dusties scored a 5-0 shutout over the Clinton Merchants in the first game.

Jack Curtin, Manchester pitcher, limited Ritters to an infield single and fanned seven.

Joe Snook scattered five Clinton Merchants hits to chalk up his first shutout in tourney play. The Dusties bunched five hits off the offerings of Jimmy Johnson, and combined with three Merchants' errors, saw five men cross the plate.

Sampson Sabers meet the Kodak Park Majors and the Rochester Post-office team plays Will Corporation in a tournament twin bill under the Kodak Park lights tonight.

K. P. Dusties	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	-	5	5	1
Clinton Merch.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	5	3
Snook and Dettman; Johnson, Cimino and Bianchi.											
Manchester	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	-	4	6	2
Ritters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1	3
Curtin and Jones; Kraus and Viscardi.											

Albert Leads 49ers To 45-14 Triumph

San Francisco —(AP)— Southpaw quarterback Frankie Albert, combining clever aerial and ground strategy, led the San Francisco 49ers to a 45 to 14 victory over the Washington Redskins in a National Football League exhibition at Kezar Stadium yesterday.

A crowd of 27,280 saw the local club outclass the visitors all the way.

Wilber, Church Wives Have Stork Vis

Philadelphia —(AP)— The wife of Philadelphia Phillies catcher Del Wilber, gave birth to a girl in St. Mary's Hospital, one hour later, Peggy Church, wife of pitcher Bubba Church, had a boy in Jefferson Hospital.

(Wilber caught for the Red Wings last season.)

Bill Kelly, Ed Peters, Tom Hanna, Kroeger, Jack Hanna, Durkin, Hagan, Art Lowenthal, Peters.

Bolton Tops

Harry Bolton Jr. squeezed out a series over Bob Corbett at the Mont Yacht Club on Lake Ontario. Bolton, skipper in order, was followed by Rutz, Jack P. Rutz, Walt Riley, Crayton.

Meekin

Clarence Meekin led his club in a single. Fleet victory was his club's first since a wrong-way race. Art Meekin was leading the wrong-way race but was backtracked by top skipper finisher. These flings were Strayson.