

Benny Lightfoot



Mentions in [The Daily Herald-Tribune](#), Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada

Meet a success

The Grande Prairie Gymkhana club held its second successful open meet of the year yesterday and riders put their mounts through the various races, held for enjoyment and profit.

Ruth Alloway came up with top time in the ladies barrel racing followed closely by Ella-May Rutherford in second and Donna Quick in third.

Al Nault and Gordon Ingledew rounded the barrels ahead of the pack to tie fast top spot in the men's competition, followed by Benny Lightfoot.

Junior barrel racing competition saw Donna Wright take first place with Valerie Perry second and Debbie McLaughlin a close third.

Ruth Alloway on Barney added to her victories with a first in ladies pole bending with Donna Quick in second.

Gordon Ingledew beat Al Nault out for first men's pole bending while Valerie Perry took a first in junior pole bending.

Ella-May Rutherford teamed up with Gordon Ingledew to capture the doubles barrel race followed by Wayne Hodges and Jack Johnston.

In rescue racing Al Nault took top honors in collaboration with Gordon Ingledew, and Art Small and Benny Lightfoot took second.

In the final and special event, chariot racing, Francis Sluyzers galloped first place followed across the line by Fred Waldorff.

The next open gymkhana meet takes place July 13.



WINNERS (left to right) William Hodges, Al Nault, Frances Sluymers, Benny Lightfoot, Ruth Alloway, Valerie Perry.

Annual Gymkhana trophy presentation

Presentation ceremonies Sunday
 saw the tops in the Gymkhana club
 receive their trophies for the year's

men's barrel racing trophy and
 went to Ruth Alloway for
 the Ella Mae Rutherford, sec-
 ond men's barrels were won by
 Benny Lightfoot and Al Nault; girls
 under barrel racing Valerie
 Perry and Brenda Henning; boys 16 and

under barrel racing William Hodges;
 ladies' pole bending competition Ella
 Mae Rutherford and Ruth Alloway;

men's pole bending winners were
 Benny Lightfoot and Al Nault; girl's
 16 and under pole bending Valerie
 Perry and Brenda Henning; double
 barrels Al Nault and Ella Mae
 Rutherford for first place and Marie
 Henning and Ruth Alloway in second

place; pony chariot races were won
 by Frances Sluymers first and Benny
 Lightfoot second.

The club has been busy this year
 with their regular Sunday riding, a
 week's camp out on Nose Mountain,
 a day-long ride and steak-fry and a
 few short jaunts into the country. The
 group is planning a sleigh-ride party
 next month for a rousing winter out-
 ing.

Gymkhana season winds up

By MARY DYKSTRA
of our staff

Two Grande Prairie girls received the highest awards given at the wind-up ceremonies of the Grande Prairie Gymkhana club recently for top marks in horsemanship.

Eleven-year old Lori Whitlock who took a total of 41 out of a possible 50 points for her efforts in the various categories of the 12-and-under horsemanship group, will receive the Gymkhana club trophy.

Donna Wright, 15, earning 38 out of a total possible 50 points in intermediate junior horsemanship (12-16 years) was presented with the Grande Prairie Auction Mart trophy.

The two girls were chosen out of about 30 riders by judge Elmer Gillespie of Grande Prairie.

They were judged on handling of their horses during the gymkhana meets as well as mounting and anchoring the animals. Conformation, which included grooming and the condition of the horses' hooves, was also judged.

In senior trail course competition Mavis Cun-

ningham was presented with the B and B Department Store trophy, while for the 13-16 years-group trail course William Hodges received the St. Clair Shop trophy. Lori Whitlock was presented the Double N Transport trophy for her efforts in the 12-and-under trail course competition.

The average time for the year in double barrels was 22.1 seconds and raced by the team of Donna Wright and Mavis Cunningham. They were awarded respectively with a trophy from the Victory Shoe Store and a trophy from Ed's Trucking Service.

Lee Nilsson and William Hodges, who came in second with an average time of 25.2, were each awarded ribbons donated by the gymkhana club.

For the lowest average time of 35.3 seconds in the pony chariots, Francis Sluymers received the Carrington-O'Brien Foods Ltd. trophy and Dick Bernard of Dawson Creek was presented with a ribbon from the gymkhana club for the second lowest average time of 36.4 seconds.

The remaining winners each received a trophy from the Grande Prairie Gymkhana organization for their best average times in each event. Second place winners received ribbons, also donated by the club.

Benny Lightfoot was awarded a trophy for the best average time of the year of 24.9 seconds in the men's pole-bending races, while Bob Tuson placed second with an average time of 28 seconds.

Mavis Cunningham was presented a trophy for her best average time of 27.6 seconds in the ladies' pole-bending races while Valerie Perry placed second with a time of 31.4.

In the 11-16 poles Brian Nilsson was the recipient of a trophy for his best average time of 24 seconds and Lee Nilsson placed second with a time of 25.1.

Donna Wright was presented a trophy for her time of 26.8 seconds in the girls' 13-16 poles, while Rosemarie Hodges placed second with 29.2 seconds.

Kenny Nilsson was winner of the boys' 12-and-under

poles with a time of 37.4 seconds. There was no second place winner.

In the 12-and-under girls' poles, Lori Whitlock won with a time of 29.8 while Linda Sinclair took second with an average time of 38 seconds.

Benny Lightfoot was the recipient of a trophy for his top time of 18 seconds in the men's barrel racing, while Bob Tuson placed second with a time of 20.4.

In the ladies' barrel, Mavis Cunningham won with her average time of 18.4 seconds while Valerie Perry won second with a time of 21.3.

Brian Nilsson was awarded a trophy for his time of 18.5 in the boys' 13-16 barrels, with Lee Nilsson taking second with 18.8.

The girls' 13-16 barrels saw Donna Wright obtain first place with a time of 18.2 seconds with Rosemarie Hodges making second on a time of 19.5.

In the 12-and-under boys' barrels, Kenny Nilsson was again awarded a trophy for his 26.1 average time, with no one placing second.

Lori Whitlock received another trophy for her time of 21.7 seconds in the 12-and-under girls' barrels, while Linda Sinclair took second with a time of 22.2 seconds.

The affair began with a banquet at 7.30 p.m. in the Circle 'J' Steak House with about 40 people attending. It was the first formal gathering of the club for the presentation of trophies and awards.

Lightfoot loses chariot lead on barrel error

Ben **Lightfoot** ran into some misfortune last night in the pony chariot races and the first round leader has now slipped into seventh place.

After recording a record 28.1 time Monday, **Lightfoot** missed a barrel which added a big chunk to his total time, now 62.9.

George Prerie, driving the Modern Food Store outfit, rambled to a 29.2 time last night to take a lead after two days with a 58.0 total.

Aaron Dreger and his Won-O-Won Service machine climbed into second with a 28.2 for a two-day total of 58.1. Barney McNally and his Keith's

Small Engine rig moved into third place after a 28.6 time for a 60.0 total.

Action concludes tonight. The Gordell's Trailer Hauling pony team is jinxed. At least that's what the riders are beginning to believe. Both nights, each time with different drivers, the team has thrown the pilot around the first barrel.

RESULTS

1. Modern Food Stores (George Prerie) 29.2, 28.8 - 58.0.
2. Won-O-Won Service (Aaron Dreger) 28.2, 29.3 - 58.1.
3. Keith's Small Engines (Barney McNally) 28.6, 31.4

- 60.0.

4. Northern Power (Norm Miliken) 28.9, 31.4 - 60.3.

5. Retarded Children's Home (Ken Gutau) 29.2, 31.6 - 60.8.

6. GP Feed Service (Gerrit Sluymers) 28.8, 33.1 - 61.9.

7. Ben **Lightfoot**, 28.1, 34.8 - 62.9.

8. Pacific 66 (Roy Ogden) 32.6, 31.7 - 64.3.

9. City Discount, Highland Park Esso (Fred Oltmann) 31.6, 33.0 - 64.6.

10. CN Tanchuk Transport (Art Tollefson) 37.3, 37.1 - 74.4.

11. SepCess of the Peace (Don Hunt) 38.0, 44.2 - 82.2.

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Action fast & furious at DeBolt Sports Day

By JEFF HARRIS
of our staff

DeBOLT

An estimated 1,500 persons trekked to DeBolt Saturday for the hamlet's annual Sports Day.

Residents of Crooked Creek, Goodwin, Watino and the farming area north of DeBolt took part in the day-long event which included 18 rodeo competitions.

A smattering of rain was just enough to keep down the infield dust during the 18 rodeo events, said Smoky River MLA Marv Moore, master of ceremonies.

The day began at 8:30 a.m. in the community hall, with a pancake-and-bacon breakfast. The 250 early-risers consumed 20 pounds of bacon — about 450 strips. Twenty-five pounds of flour was used to make pancakes which were smothered in 20 pounds of syrup.

The centre of activity shifted to DeBolt's main street for the parade, leading participants and spectators to the sports grounds one mile southwest of the hamlet.

EVENT RESULTS:

Ladies' barrel race: Joan Helenedy (19.8 seconds), Marg Scott, Laura Morrison; **Men's barrel race:** Duane Stevenson (17.2), Leonard Valengood, Lee Stevenson; **Quarter-mile, 14 years and under:** Gordon Stevenson, Alvin Valengood, Brent Minni; **Ladies' half-mile open:** Bev Lenes, Laura Morrison, Marg Scott; **Sack Race, 14 years and under:** Gordon Stevenson, Edwin Windifield, Danny Alexander; **Open stake race:** Lee Stevenson (22.8 seconds), Lynn Valengood, Roger Reiger; **Quarter-mile stock horse race:** Benny Lightfoot, Duane Stevenson, Lawrence Gaboury.

Chariot race: Larry Clegg (44.6), John Neilsen, Everett Morrison; **Open pole bending:** Alvin Valengood (28.2), Byron Minni, Ralph Trotter; **Pop race:** Chip Valengood, Kevin Massey, Tammy Morrison; **Open**

walk, trot, run: Duane Stevenson, Darrel Waldner, Clay Matlock; **Cowhide race:** Lee Stevenson and Laura Morrison (23.5 seconds), Marv Moore and Gordon Newman, Bruce Stevenson and Duane Eslinger; **Half-mile open:** Benny Lightfoot, Leonard Valengood, Duane Stevenson; **Flag Picking:** Duane Stevenson, Lee Stevenson, Sherman Minni; **Two-horse chuckwagon race:** Everett Morrison (58.8), John Neilsen (60.6), Neil Holmes (64.0).

Pony chariot race: Benny Lightfoot (52.0), Ray Ogden (53.7), Benny Lightfoot (53.9); **Four-horse chuckwagon race:** Everett Morrison (54.7), John Neilsen (exhibition, unscheduled race).

The day's feature event, the DeBolt Hotel one-mile Derby was won "by a nose," by Duane Stevenson, followed by Delmer Weeger and Laura Morrison.

Julie Peterson sponsored by the East Smoky Ladies' Auxiliary, was crowned Queen at the dance held in the evening.

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DeBolt Sports Day

DEBOLT

Pancake breakfast, parade, ball games, horse races, rides, horseshoes and foot races.

You name it and it was part of the annual DeBolt Sports Day held here yesterday from dawn until dusk — and just a little later.

The annual day of fun began with a free pancake breakfast at the Centennial Hall at 8:30 a.m.

Before the last of the flapjack eaters had licked the maple surup off their lips, a parade, with the theme of "Happy Birthday Canada and RCMP", had begun to wind its way through the hamlet and out to the grounds.

Julie Peterson, last year's queen, officially opened the festivities and the 1973 edition of the sports Day was under way.

Next year the duties will be up to Debbie Jantz. The D. C. C. Riding club representative was crowned queen of the DeBolt Sports Day at a dance last night.

Runner-ups were Colleen Tarrent, 4-H clubs; Heather Robertson, Ridgevalley Students Union and Carrie Gaboury, Royal Canadian Legion and Auxiliary.

Close to 1,000 spectators took in the various events which began at the grounds at 1 p.m. and continued until 7:30 p.m.

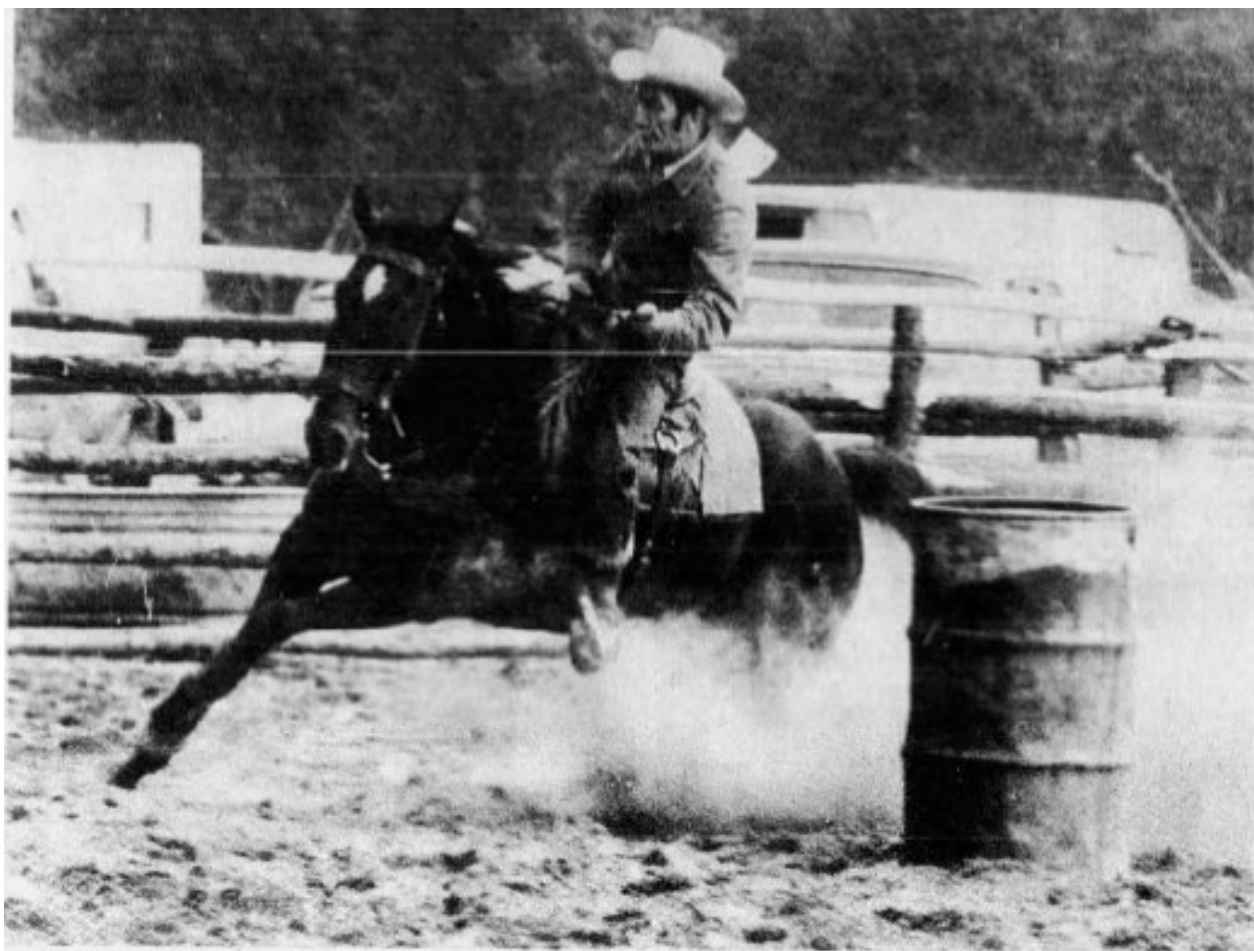
Here are the results:

Parade - Best club or school - 1. Royal Canadian Legion and Auxiliary. 2. DeBolt and Crooked Creek Riding club. 3. 4-H clubs. Best decorated bikes - Boys - Darrell Fichett, Dureen Walchyn, David Klassen. Girls - Cheryl Rieger, Valrie Walchyn, Francis Tarrent. Best dressed

horse and rider - Ladies - Turdy Halabisky. Mens - Melford Newman. Childs - Lana Halabisky. Best comic entry - Walt and Gordon Outfitting. Best business - DeBolt Hotel. DeBolt Store. Best farm entry - Marg and Jackie Scott. Hewett Ditrich. Marv and Fran Moore.

Ladies' barrel race - Miss Holinaty 18.05, Laura Morrison 19.00, Debbie Phillips 22.00. Men's barrel race - Ben Lightfoot, 17.05. Len Valengood, 18.01. Lee Stevenson, 18.06. 14 and under $\frac{1}{4}$ mile - Sandy Dichenback on "Jiffy", 23.1. Roy Klassen, 23.3. Gordon Stevenson, 23.4. Ladies' $\frac{1}{2}$ mile - Laura Morrison, 41.2. Sandy Richenback on "Jiffy", 42.1. Debbie Eslinger, 43.4. Sack race 14 and under - Chip Vanlingood. Gordon Stevenson. Denise Eslinger. Stake race - Gordon Newman. Lee Stevenson. Daryl Welander. Stock $\frac{1}{4}$ mile - Ben Lightfoot. Lee Stevenson. Sherman Minnie.

Chariot race - Neil Holmes, Larry Clegg Everett Morrison. Pole bending - Wally Gitzel. Daryl Welander. Lyle Morrow. Walk, trot and run - Lorne Richenback on "Jiffy". Lyle Pealo. Larry Clegg. Pop race 14 and under - Alvin Holingood. Roy Klassen. Cowhide race - George Morrison and Glen Unger. Lawrence Thomsen and Tom Sorken. Half mile open - Ben Lightfoot. DeBolt Hotel Derby - Tom Sorken, 1:26.0. Gordon Stevenson, Lym Valengood. Flag picking - Lee Stevenson, 33.7. Walter Gitzel. Ricky Lawrence. Wagon race - Lee Groves, 62.9. Everett Morrison. Neil Holmes. Pony chariot race - Ben Lightfoot. Tiddy Welding. Lyle Carpenter.



Major winner Benny Lightfoot cuts around barrel at DeBolt Sports.

DeBolt ignores the holiday weather

By DON MOON
of our staff

DEBOLT — About 1,500 people took in the ninth annual DeBolt Sports Day held here yesterday despite cool temperatures and a spattering of rain.

Throughout the day light rain did hamper the comfort of the spectators but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the contestants who put on a good show despite a somewhat slippery track.

While the wetness did help to keep the dust down it also contributed to an unfortunate accident that sent a young rider to the Grande Prairie hospital.

Gord Stevenson was rushed to the hospital when his horse slipped causing the youngster to hit the turf heavily. Stevenson did not receive any major injuries but was kept in the hospital

for observation.

The day kicked off in the morning with a parade down main street. This year's theme was "Our Heritage". Included in the parade were queen contestants, Ivy Judd, sponsored by the student's union, and Elizabeth Halabisky, sponsored by the Legion auxiliary.

This year spectators and contestants were treated to a brand new track and grandstand area. The layout is a real tribute to the organizers of the event who put in many hard hours of work getting it ready for yesterday's big day.

Here are the results:

PARADE

Business - Pirker Apiaries. Comic - Morrison Bros. Family - Lawrence Klassen.

Fancy dress (Men) - Lee Stevenson. (Children) -

Ricky Groves. (Ladies) - Marilyn Groves.

Western dress (Men - Gordon Workman. (Ladies) - Mrs. Trotter. Best Club - Ridgevalley 4-H.

Bikes - (Boys) - Murray Newman. (Girls) - Cheryl Rigler. Valrie Walchyn. Jerri Jantz.

EVENTS

Ladies barrel race - 1. Joan Halanaty. 2. Laura Morrison. Men's barrel race - Benny Lightfoot. Walter Gitzel. Rick Lawrence.

1/4 mile 14 and under - Tammy Morrison. Kevin Massey. Darrell Peel. Ladies 1/2 mile open - Laura Morrison. Kathy Waddell. Denise Eslinger.

Sack race 14 and under - Gordon Stevenson. Kevin Massey. Denise Eslinger. Stake race, open - Benny Lightfoot. Eddie Rycroft. Henry Peel.

Chariot race - Everitt

Morrison. Lee Groves. Pole bending, open - Dwayne Stevenson. Ealine Campbell. Denise Eslinger. Pop race 14 and under - Kevin Massey, Terry Moore. Rick Lawrence.

Walk, trot and run - Gordon Newman. Judy Haugen. Denise Eslinger. Open cowhide - Kevin Massey. Laura Morrison. George Morrison.

Peewee barrel - Tammy Peel. Kelly Rycroft. Gail McLoy. Half mile, open - Benny Lightfoot. Billy Rycroft. Laura Morrison.

DeBolt Hotel Derby - Tommy Serken. Flag picking - open - Rick Lawrence. Lenard Massey. Wagon races - Everitt Morrison. Pony chariot - Benny Lightfoot. Lyle's Carpentry. Pony chuckwagon - Lyle's Carpentry. Mix Bros.

GP rig wins pony chariots

Ben Lightfoot and the GP Feed Service outfit won the pony chariot championship and Jim O'Dwyer of Dawson Creek took the pony chucks event after the final night of racing at the Country Fair last night.

Lightfoot circled the infield and crossed the finish line with an aggregate of 1:37.8 to win his category while O'Dwyer made the half-mile trip around the track with a four-day total of 5:05.1.

Here are the top placers in

each event:

CHARIOTS

1. GP Feed Service. Driver - Ben Lightfoot. 1:37.8. 2. Planet Sales. Driver - Dave Williams 1:40.7.

3. Fred Oatman. Driver - Mike Lewis. 1:45.1. 4. 101 Service. Driver - A. Dudger. 1:45.8. 5. Pacific Petroleum. Driver - Mike Lewis. 1:46.1.

CHUCKS

1. Jim O'Dwyer, Dawson Creek - 5:05.1. 2. George Privie, Fort St. John - 5:14.0. 3. Ray Ogden, Grande



Benny Lightfoot

Prairie - 5:15.9.

4. B. Hollingshead, Doe River - 5:21.8. 5. A. Hollingshead, Doe River - 5:29.1. 6. Mix Bros., Grande Prairie - 5:37.8.

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Leaders' margins are slim

By DON MOON
of our staff

The top drivers in both the pony chariot and pony chuckwagons hold slim leads after the first day of racing at the Grande Prairie County Fair.

In the pony chariots Ben Lightfoot and the Patterson livestock Hauling outfit of Grande Prairie and Dave Williams of Dawson Creek are deadlocked at 31.7 after day one.

Not far back is Mike Lewis and the Norweld Equipment ponies of Dawson Creek at 32.5 and hot on Lewis' heels is Haine Kirstein of Sexsmith at 34.1.

Twelve drivers are competing in the pony chariots including two ladies.

Unfortunately the women both came in with no time yesterday. Driving in the same heat they collided their first trip around the infield.

Linda Ogden, driving the Norland Feeds steeds of Grande Prairie, fell out of her rig and was slightly shaken up. The other driver, Lonnie O'Dwyer of Dawson Creek, managed to bring her horses under control. One of them became tangled in the harness but was not injured.

In the pony chuckwagon event Jim O'Dwyer of Dawson Creek is tops with a 1:14.4 timing and holds a two-second edge over runner-up Mike Lewis and the R.L. Bain Trailer Sales rig of Dawson Creek.

Bill Hollingshead with the R and M Petroleum ponies of Dawson Creek and Al Hollingshead's L. Smashnuk rig of Dawson Creek are tied for third at 1:16.1.

Both the chariot and pony chuckwagons continue today and tomorrow beginning at 4 p.m. Here are the standings after the first day:

PONY CHARIOTS

Ben Lightfoot; Patterson Livestock Hauling, Grande Prairie - 31.7. Dave Williams, Dawson Creek - 31.7. Mike Lewis; Norweld Equipment, Dawson Creek - 32.5. Haine Kirstein, Sexsmith - 34.1.

Bob Kitten; Petroleum Maintenance, Grande Prairie - 34.4. Jake Friesen; Kaps Transport, Fort Nelson - 31.3 (plus five seconds) 36.3. Gordie Hill, Worswan, B.C. - 31.7 (plus five seconds) 36.7. Bob Hollingshead, Backing III Ranch, Dawson Creek - 31.5. Linda Ogden and Lonnie O'Dwyer - No time.

PONY CHUCKS

Jim O'Dwyer, Dawson Creek - 1:14.4. Mike Lewis; R.L. Bain Trailer Sales, Dawson Creek - 1:16.0. Bill Hollingshead; R and M Petroleum, Dawson Creek - 1:16.1. Al Hollingshead; L. Smashnuk Welding, Dawson Creek - 1:16.1.

Ben Lightfoot; Patterson's Livestock Hauling, Grande Prairie - 1:16.5. Ray Ogden; Lentz Livestock Hauling, Grande Prairie - 1:16.9. Fred Olman, Grande Prairie - 1:15.2.

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Staff Photo by Don Mason

Benny Lightfoot heads for the wire in the Pony Chucks

Lightfoot fastest with chariot

By DON MASON
of our staff

Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie yesterday came in

with the fastest time for the third straight day to win the pony chariot race event at the Grande Prairie County Fair.

Lightfoot rode the Patterson Livestock Handling outfit of Grande Prairie to a three-day overall time of 28.5 seconds, beating out Mike Lewis and the Norwood Equipment rig of Dawson Creek and Dave Williams of Dawson Creek who tied for second at 32.4.

Twice rigs took part in the pony chariot races.

Jan O'Dwyer of Dawson Creek pulled off the same feat in the pony chucks-yapons.

He had the best time for the third race day in a row yesterday, completing the circuit in 1:36.8 to give him an overall clocking of 4:21.7 and a 14 second edge over runner-up Mike Lewis and the R.L. Hair Trailer Sales rig of Dawson Creek.

Six pony chucks competed.

Here are the three-day totals:

PONY CHARIOTS

1. Patterson Livestock

Handling, Grande Prairie, Driver - Benny Lightfoot, 21.7-19.7-12.1-59.5.

2. Norwood Equipment, Dawson Creek, Driver - Mike Lewis, 32.5-18.2-12.3-63.0.

3. Dave Williams, Dawson Creek, 21.7-26.9-12.4-61.0.

4. Norwood Equipment II, Dawson Creek, Driver - Mike Lewis, 21.8-18.3-12.4-62.5.

5. McDay Bros., Dawson Creek, Driver - Jake Priesen, 30.3-27.9-12.5-70.7.

6. Elaine Kistritz, Sedgewick, 24.1-18.7-24.1-66.9.

7. Petrusian Maltesians, Grande Prairie, Driver - Bob Kethner, 34.4-22.4-13.4-70.2.

8. Gordie Hill, Wesson, 38.7-25.5-12.8-77.0.

9. Hooking J.H. Ranch, Dawson Creek, Driver - Bob Hollingshead, 28.5-18.7-15.6-72.8.

10. Kops Transport, Fort Nelson, Driver - Jake Priesen, 43.2-22.4-14.2-80.8.

11. Lennie O'Dwyer, Dawson Creek, No time - 18.2-12.5.

12. Norland Feeds, Grande Prairie, Driver - Linda Ogden, No time - 21.1-11.7.

PONY CHUCKS

1. Jan O'Dwyer, Dawson Creek, 1:11.4-1:42.1-1:36.8-4:29.7.

2. R.L. Hair Trailer Sales, Dawson Creek, Driver - Mike Lewis, 1:06.6-1:43.5-1:28.8-4:25.9.

3. R and M Petrusian, Dawson Creek, Driver - Bill Hollingshead, 1:16.1-1:49.5-1:27.1-4:32.7.

4. L. Smeetsuk Welding, Dawson Creek, Driver - Al Hollingshead, 1:16.1-1:49.2-1:28.5-4:34.0.

5. Patterson Livestock Handling, Grande Prairie, Driver - Benny Lightfoot, 1:15.3-1:38.8-1:32.9-4:27.0.

6. Larry Livestock Handling, Grande Prairie, Driver - Ray Ogden, 1:15.9-1:47.5-1:38.5-4:41.9.

GP reinsman grabs pony chucks victory

Grande Prairie's Benny Lightfoot had the best time both days en route to the pony chuckwagon championship at a rodeo held in Doe River, B.C. on the weekend.

Lightfoot had a 1:11.41 clocking the first day and then turned the oval with the best clocking of the meet the second day with 1:09.18 for a 2:20.59 total and victory for the Patterson Livestock Hauling outfit of the city.

Mike Lewis of Dawson Creek and the Taylor Confectionary rig of Taylor finished runner-up at 2:23.48 while Al Hollingshead of Dawson Creek and the Smashnuk Welding horses of

Dawson Creek placed third in 2:27.01.

A first-day penalty cost Ray Ogden of Grande Prairie and the Prairie Truck and Trailer outfit of the city a spot in the standings. He had to settle for fourth with a 2:29.20 total.

Lewis and the Leoppky Electric rig of Dawson Creek took top spot in the pony chariots with a time of 56.38. Lewis' Northern Glass outfit of Dawson Creek placed second in 58.10 while Jake Friesen of Fort St. John and the McCoy Bros. steeds of Dawson Creek placed third in 58.30.

Lightfoot and the GP Feed Services rig of the city grab-

bed fourth place in 58.69 while Linda Ogden and her Norlan Feeds outfit placed fifth in 59.14.

Here are the pony chariot results:

1. Leoppky Electric, DC. Mike Lewis, DC. 28.76 - 27.62 - 56.38.
2. Northern Glass, DC. Mike Lewis, DC. 29.29 - 28.81 - 58.10.
3. McCoy Bros., DC. Jake Friesen, FSJ. 29.43 - 28.87 - 58.30.
4. GP Feed Services, GP. Ben Lightfoot, GP. 29.21 - 29.48 - 58.69.
5. Norlan Feeds, GP. Linda Ogden, GP. 29.59 - 29.55 - 59.14.
6. Dave Williams, DC. Self sponsored. 30.31 - 29.63 - 59.44.

7. (Tie) Ken and Lance Edgar, UFA, LaGlace. Kevin Robinson, LaGlace. 30.32 - 29.69 - 60.01; 7. Herman Houghland, Spirit River. Self sponsored. 30.46 - 29.55 - 60.01.

9. GP Petroleum Maintenance, GP. Bob Kitner, DC. 30.09 - 30.25 - 60.34.

10. Country Playboys, DC. Arden Sterr, Doe River. 31.73 - 28.92 - 60.65.

11. Scott's Water Service, DC. Mike Lewis, DC. 32.15 - 28.71 - 60.86.

12. Koch Enterprises, FSJ. Jake Friesen, FSJ. 30.27 - 31.33 - 61.60.

13. Don McLean, DC. Self sponsored. 30.67 - 31.40 - 62.07.

14. Dawson Hotel, DC. Jim

Metcalf, GP. 31.67 - 30.49 - 62.16.

15. Greg Barton, Doe River. Self sponsored. 30.79 - 31.46 - 62.25.

16. Print Shop, DC. Ross Calson, DC. 31.04 - 31.57 - 62.61.

17. Robinson Trucking, LaGlace. Dwayne Robinson, LaGlace. 31.92 - 32.11 - 64.03.

18. Hans Welding, Pouce Coupe. Ben Brown, Dawson Creek. 33.19 - 32.15 - 65.34.

19. Gear Jammer Electronics, DC. Ivan Carlson, DC. 34.86 - 31.63 - 66.49.

20. Tom Hitchen, DC. Self sponsored. 34.91 - 31.92 - 66.83.

Here are the pony chuckwagon results:

1. Patterson Livestock Hauling, GP. Benny Lightfoot, GP. 1:11.41 - 1:09.18 - 2:20.59.

2. Taylor Confectionery, Taylor. Mike Lewis, DC. 1:11.97 - 1:11.51 - 2:23.48.

3. Smashnuk Welding, DC. Al Hollingshead, DC. 1:13.97 - 1:13.04 - 2:27.01.

4. Prairie Truck and Trailer Parts Ltd., GP. Ray Ogden, GP. 1:17.52 - 1:11.68 - 2:29.20.

5. Dawson Moving and Storage, DC. Bill Hollingshead, Doe River. 1:20.30 - 1:11.62 - 2:31.92.

6. Horse and Rider, DC. Jim O'Dwyer, DC. 1:14.76 - 1:18.03 - 2:32.79.

7. Dolan Agencies, DC. Art Guay, DC. 1:19.12 - 1:18.80 - 2:37.92.

8. Trunor Log Homes, DC. Bob Ogden, DC. 1:17.97 - 1:23.12 - 2:41.09.

8. Park Inn, DC. Art Henricksen, DC. 1:22.77 - 1:19.94 - 2:42.71.

10. Shorthorn Catering, DC. Jack Walper, Pouce Coupe. 1:22.48 - 1:20.93 - 2:43.41.

11. Floyd Rude Trucking, LaGlace. Floyd Bekkerus, LaGlace. 1:30.44 - 1:18.83 - 2:49.27.

12. Rolla General Store, Rolla. Bob Hollingshead, Rolla. 1:15.86 - 2:08.13 - 3:25.99.

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Pony chucks, chariots start off fast

By DEAN JOBB
of our staff

Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie displayed his winning form in the pony chariot races while Frank Lewis of Fort St. John was top driver in the pony chuckwagon heats as action opened at the County Fair last night.

Lightfoot, driving the Grande Prairie Feeds Services chariot, captured first with a time of 31:15, narrowly winning his heat over fourth-place

finisher Mike Lewis' Northern Glass rig from Dawson Creek who clocked 31:86.

Lewis was the winner of both the pony chariot and chuckwagon races at last year's County Fair as he dominated all three days of racing action.

He also holds down second spot in the pony chariots after last night's heats, having guided his Leoppky Electric rig to a slim 1-100th of a second lead over third-place Jake Friesen and the McCoy

Brothers team, also from Dawson Creek.

Sixteen chariots are competing in this year's County Fair races, up from a total of 12 in the 1977 fair.

In the pony chucks Frank Lewis is the man to watch for as his Beaver Transport rig ran a time of 1:17.19, giving him a comfortable 1½ second lead over second place Lightfoot driving the Patterson Livestock Hauling rig.

Third place after last night's action is held by Grande Prairie driver Ray Ogden with the Prairie Truck and Trailer team who was timed at 1:18.86.

Action continues this evening with the pony chariots scheduled to go at 4:30. The standings after one night of

racing are:

PONY CHARIOTS

1. GP Feed Services, Benny Lightfoot — 31.15,
2. Leoppky Electric, Dawson Creek, Mike Lewis — 31.70,
3. McCoy Brothers, Dawson Creek, Jake Friesen — 31.71,
4. Northern Glass, Dawson Creek, Mike Lewis — 31.86,
5. Taylor Confectionary, Mike Lewis — 32.24.

PONY CHUCKWAGONS

1. Beaver Transport, Fort St. John, Frank Lewis — 1:17.19,
2. Patterson Livestock Hauling, Grande Prairie, Benny Lightfoot — 1:18.47,
3. Prairie Truck and Trailer, Grande Prairie, Ray Ogden — 1:18.86,
4. Smashnuk Welding, Dawson Creek, Al Hollingshead — 1:20.23.

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Dawson driver dominates chariots

Mike Lewis of Dawson Creek is trying for a repeat of last year's domination in the pony chariot event while in the pony chucks, Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie clocked the best time of the past two days as racing continued at the County Fair.

Lewis not only turned in the top three times in the chariots yesterday but now holds down the top three positions as well. His Leoppky Electric outfit is on top with a two-day total time of 1:03.04, followed in second by the Northern Glass chariot and the third place Taylor Confectionary rig.

The only man with a good chance to beat Lewis was Monday's leader, Benny Lightfoot with the GP Feed Services team. That chance was lost on the last lap of the fourth heat when one of his ponies stumbled and Lightfoot himself slipped back into fourth position.

Fifth place is held by Jake

Friesen of Fort St. John driving the McCoy Brothers chariot. With just over one-half second separating first and fifth positions the competition will be keen going into tonight's final races.

Lightfoot's Patterson Livestock Hauling outfit ran the best time in the pony chucks — 1:14.52 — to give him the lead after two days of action. Lightfoot took the top spot from Frank Lewis of Fort St. John who dropped back to second place with yesterday's time of 1:15.93.

Ray Ogden of Grande Prairie is in third after two days.

Racing action wraps up tonight at the County Fair with the pony chariots slated to go at 4:30 followed by the pony chucks and big chucks.

The standings after two days of racing and Tuesday's times are:

PONY CHARIOTS

1. Leoppky Electric, DC,

Mike Lewis — 31.34, 1:03.04, 2. Northern Glass, DC, Mike Lewis — 31.27, 1:03.14, 3. Taylor Confectionery, Mike Lewis—31.23, 1:03.47, 4. GP Feed Services, Benny Lightfoot — 32.41, 1:03.56. 5. McCoy Bros., DC, Jake Friesen — 31.92, 1:03.63,

6. Kaps Transport, FSJ, Jake Friesen — 32.54, 1:05.29, 7. The Print Shop, DC, Ross Carlson, — 33.16, 1:09.53, 8. GP Petroleum Maintenance, Dale Lindball — 31.89, 1:09.66, Norlan Feeds, GP, Linda Ogden — 34.42, 1:10.2, 10. Hollingshead Brothers, Greg Burton — 33.45, 1:11.36,

11. Thracker's Auto Body, Fairview, Haime Kirstien — 35.43, 1:11.67, 12. Dave Williams, Farmington, B.C. — 38.97, 1:11.85, 13. Gearjammer Electronics, Ivan Carlson — 39.93, 1:14.5,

14. Tom Hetchin, DC —

35.79, 1:17.83, 15. Mountain View Trailers, GP, Haime Kirstien — 44.81, 1:25.41, 16. Floyd Rude Trucking, LaGlace, Brian Robinson — 44.87, 1:25.59.

PONY CHUCKWAGONS

1. Patterson Livestock Hauling, GP Benny Lightfoot — 1:14.52, 2:32.99, 2. Beaver Transport, FSJ, Frank Lewis — 1:15.93, 2:34.12, 3. Prairie Truck and Trailer, GP, Ray Ogden — 1:15.83, 2:34.69, 4. Smashnuk Welding, DC, Al Hollingshead — 1:17.41, 2:37.64,

5. Dawson Moving, Bill Hollingshead — 1:16.14, 2:38.5, 6. Trunor Log Homes, Farmington, Bob Ogden — 1:20.73, 2:41.19, 7. Floyd Rude Hauling, LaGlace, Lloyd Bekkerus — 1:18.8, 2:41.22, 8. Rolla General Store, Bob Hollingshead — 1:21.09, 2:43.98, 9. Horse 'n Rider, Jim O'Dwyer — no time, 1:23.09.

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Lightfoot, Lewis play musical pony chairs

By DEAN JOBB
of our staff

Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie and Dawson Creek driver Mike Lewis spent last night jockeying for position in the pony chariot and chuckwagon races at the County Fair.

And when it was all over Lightfoot emerged as the winner in the pony chariots after beginning the evening in fourth spot behind three Lewis-driven entries. Lightfoot spirited his Grande Prairie Feeds Services ponies around the infield in a time of 31.5, the best of the night.

Lewis appeared to have his problems during last night's heats after dominating the first two days of action. He

finished second in two of his three heats but managed to muster the Leoppky Electric chariot into second position with a three-day time of 1:35.2, less than 2-10ths of a second behind Lightfoot.

The pony chucks were a different story. Lightfoot's Patterson Livestock Hauling team held a slight lead over Lewis entering last night's races but Lewis came up with the fast time of 1:18.19 to take first overall. Lightfoot had to be content with finishing a close third.

Ray Ogden of Grande Prairie finished up with a time of 1:17.98, the best of the evening and good enough to put his Prairie Truck and Trailer entry into second place.

Fourth went to Bill Hollingshead from Dawson Creek who finished well back with a 3:61.27 time.

Jim O'Dwyer, driving the Horse 'n Rider outfit continued to have troubles. In a repeat of Tuesday night's misfortunes, one of his ponies stumbled on the backstretch and forced him to draw no-time.

In the pony chariots, third place went to Jake Friesen of Fort St. John who clocked a total time of 1:36.46, just a shade ahead of the fourth place Northern Glass rig driven by Mike Lewis.

A total of 16 pony chariots and about half as many pony chucks raced at this year's County Fair.

Standings after last night's final races and total times are:

ONY CHARIOTS

1. GP Feed Services, Benny

Lightfoot - 31.5, 1:35.06, 2. Leoppky Electric, DC, Mike Lewis - 32.16, 1:35.2, 3. McCoy Bros., DC, Jake Friesen - 32.83, 1:36.46, 4. Northern Glass, DC, Mike Lewis - 33.51, 1:36.65, 5. Taylor Confectionery, Mike Lewis - 33.74, 1:37.2,

6. Kaps Transport, FSJ, Jake Friesen - 32.98, 1:38.27, 7. The Print Shop, DC, Ross Carlson - 33.63, 1:43.16, 8. GP Petroleum Maintenance, Dale Lindballe - 34.93, 1:44.59, 9. Hollingshead Bros, Greg Burton - 33.45, 1:44.81,

10. Dave Williams, Farmington, B.C. - 33.08, 1:44.93, 11. Norlan Feeds, GP, Linda Ogden - 35.81, 1:46.01, 12. Gearjammer Electronics, Ivan Carlson - 33.92, 1:48.42, 13. Thracker's Auto Body, Fairview, Haime Kirstien - 35.68, 1:52.35,

14. Tom Hetchin, DC - 37.04,

1:54.87, 15. Mountain View Trailers, GP, Haime Kirstien - 35.46, 1:60.87, 16. Floyd Rude Trucking, LaGlace, Brian Robinson - 36.34, 1:61.93.

ONY CHUCKWAGONS

1. Beaver Transport, FSJ, Mike Lewis - 1:18.19, 3:52.31, Prairie Truck and Trailer, GP, Ray Ogden - 1:17.98, 3:52.67, 3. Patterson Livestock Hauling, GP, Benny Lightfoot - 1:20.53, 3:53.52, 4. Dawson Moving, Bill Hollingshead - 1:22.73, 3:61.27,

5. Smashnuk Welding, DC, Al Hollingshead - 1:25.7, 3:63.84, 6. Trunor Log Homes, Farmington, Bob Ogden - 1:28.46, 3:69.35, 7. Rolla General Store, Bob Hollingshead - 1:25.58, 3:69.56, 8. Floyd Rude Hauling, LaGlace, Lloyd Bekkerus - 1:31.24, 3:72.46, 9. Horse 'n Rider, Jim O'Dwyer - no time, 1:23.09.

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Pony champ returns

Mike Lewis of Dawson Creek will again defend his title in the pony chuckwagon races at Stompede II at the County Fairgrounds with races getting underway at 5:45 p.m. starting tomorrow.

Lewis, who drove for Beaver Transport, walked off with top place last year not only in the pony chucks but also the pony chariots, leaving his rivals eating dust.

Most of the top drivers in the pony events will be in attendance as they try to take home some of the \$2,000 in prize money. The chucks purse is \$1,200 and the chariots winnings are \$800.

Approximately 12 entries have been posted in the pony chucks and 15 in the chariots. Races begin Friday from 5:45 p.m.-6:15 p.m. through to Monday.

Drivers expected to compete in the pony chuckwagon races are Lewis, Bill

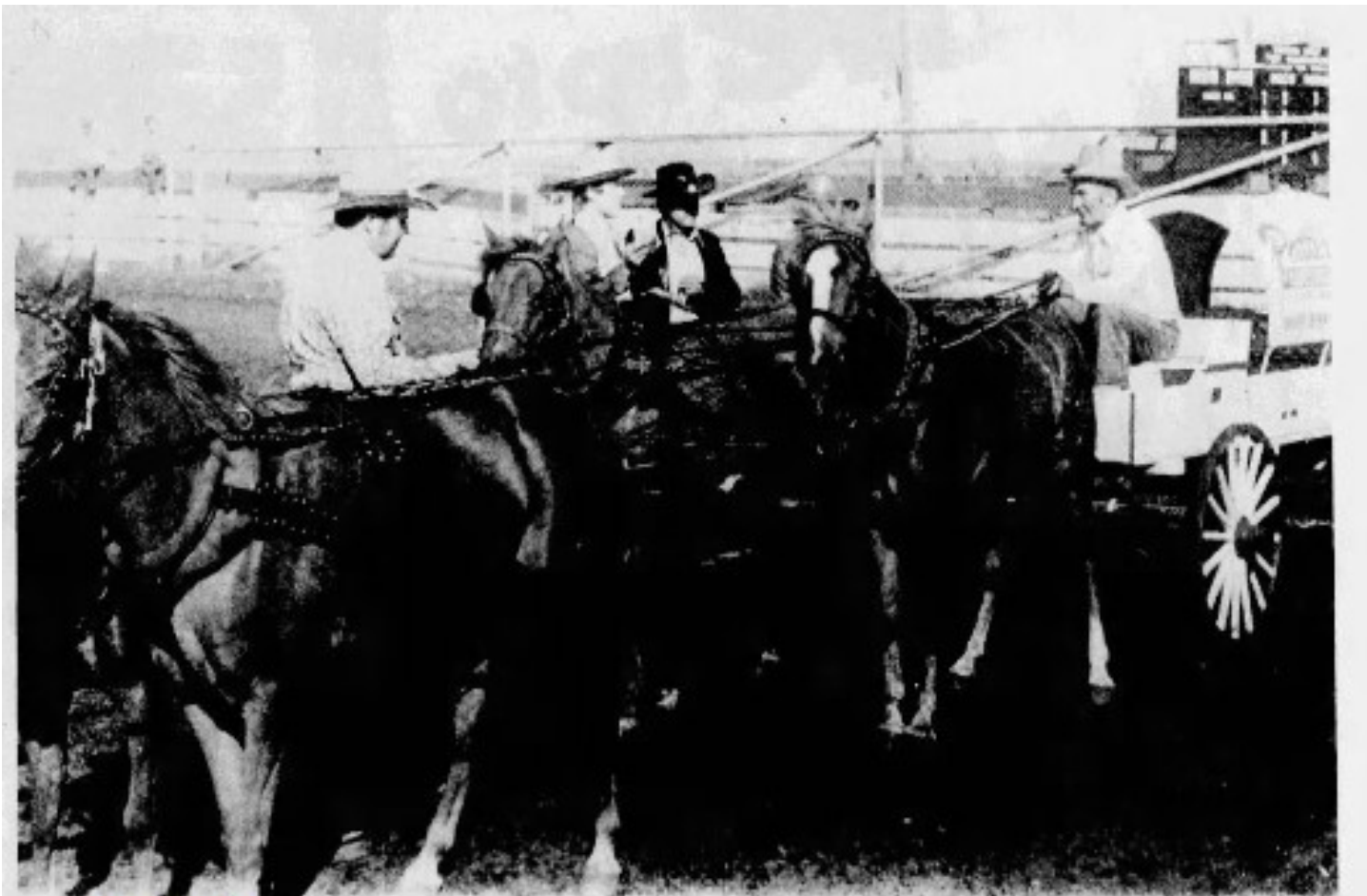
Hollingshead, Ray Ogden, Al Hollingshead, Jim O'Dwyer, Benny Lightfoot, Art Guay, Bob Hollingshead, Lloyd Bekkerus and Art Hendrickson.

New drivers competing in the event this year are Ross Carlson, Wayne Perry, Keith Havener and Shane Loiselle.

Competitors in the pony chariots are Lewis, Jake Friessen, Lightfoot, Dale Lindball, Linda Ogden, Dave Williams, Ivan Carlson, Bob Ogden, Kevin Robinson, Herman Hougland, Bekkerus, Tom Hitcher, Greg Burton and Aaron Dreger.

Gary Doonan, Brian Robinson and Colin Bennie are the new drivers entered in the competition.

There will be three heats in the pony chucks and four in the chariots each evening.



Benny Lightfoot gets pony chucks award from group including sponsor, Walt Patterson (left), Wayne Anderson, Dave Billek and Miss Grande Prairie Laura Sawchuk.

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Lightfoot top pony driver

Veteran pony wagon driver Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie, driving the Patterson Hauling wagon, completed the course with a sizzling 1:14.83 time to set the pace in the pony wagons at the Beaverlodge Sports Days yesterday.

Chasing Lightfoot for top time were Lloyd Bekkerus, driving the Floyd Rude Trucking wagon of LaGlance, and Ray Ogden, driving the Oyerhead Door entry of Grande Prairie.

They put on a super show in their heat while Lightfoot watched. Bekkerus, out of the number one barrel, hit the track first but Ogden picked up strides in the backfield to close the gap. Bekkerus came in at 1:15.08 seconds while Ogden was 1:15.68, that effort was good enough to give them second and third, respectively, overall.

Herman Haugland of Sexsmith,

driving his own wagon, came in fourth; Brain Robinson, driving for Peterson Drilling 1977 Ltd. of LaGlance, came fifth; while Art Hendrickson, driving for Aldar Trucking of Dawson Creek, was sixth.

Jake Friesen's Beaver Transport chariot took the pony chariot races with a 1:12.39 time. Friesen drove three teams in the races; his Holman Trucking Ltd. chariot team took third spot while his Land Transport took sixth.

Herman Haugland, driving for West Country Products of Grande Prairie, came in second. Fourth went to Garry Doonan, driving for Farmington General Store; fifth to Benny Lightfoot driving for Western Warehouse; seventh to Murray Gillespie driving for H & L Hauling.

The races count towards the year-end

awards. The drivers will be competing at Calgary next.

In the horse racing portion of the program, Audrey Stewart won the quarter-mile with Dennis Rycroft second and Ed Stewart third.

In the six furlongs, Bill Smith came in first, Max Sutherland second, and Jean Millikan third. Sutherland took the one-mile with Gordon Rycroft second and I. Moody third.

Kathy Burrott took the juniors race with Tera Brown second.

Gordon Rycroft took the 3/4-mile with Al Gaboury second and Steve McNally third. In the half-mile, Tom Rycroft was first, Shelly Jones second, and Percy Baron third.

Beaverlodge Sports Days was to have had the big chuckwagons but they were in Red Deer during the long weekend.

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Benny Lightfoot

Staff Photo by Don Hines



Miss Lewis

Staff Photo by Don Hines

Lightfoot, Lewis back for Stompede III races

By Don Hines
4-27-80

All-Britain champion Benny Lightfoot and Miss Lewis are back to race at the Stompede III.

Lightfoot, who won the 1979 All-Britain title, will race in the 1980 Stompede III on June 5 and 6.

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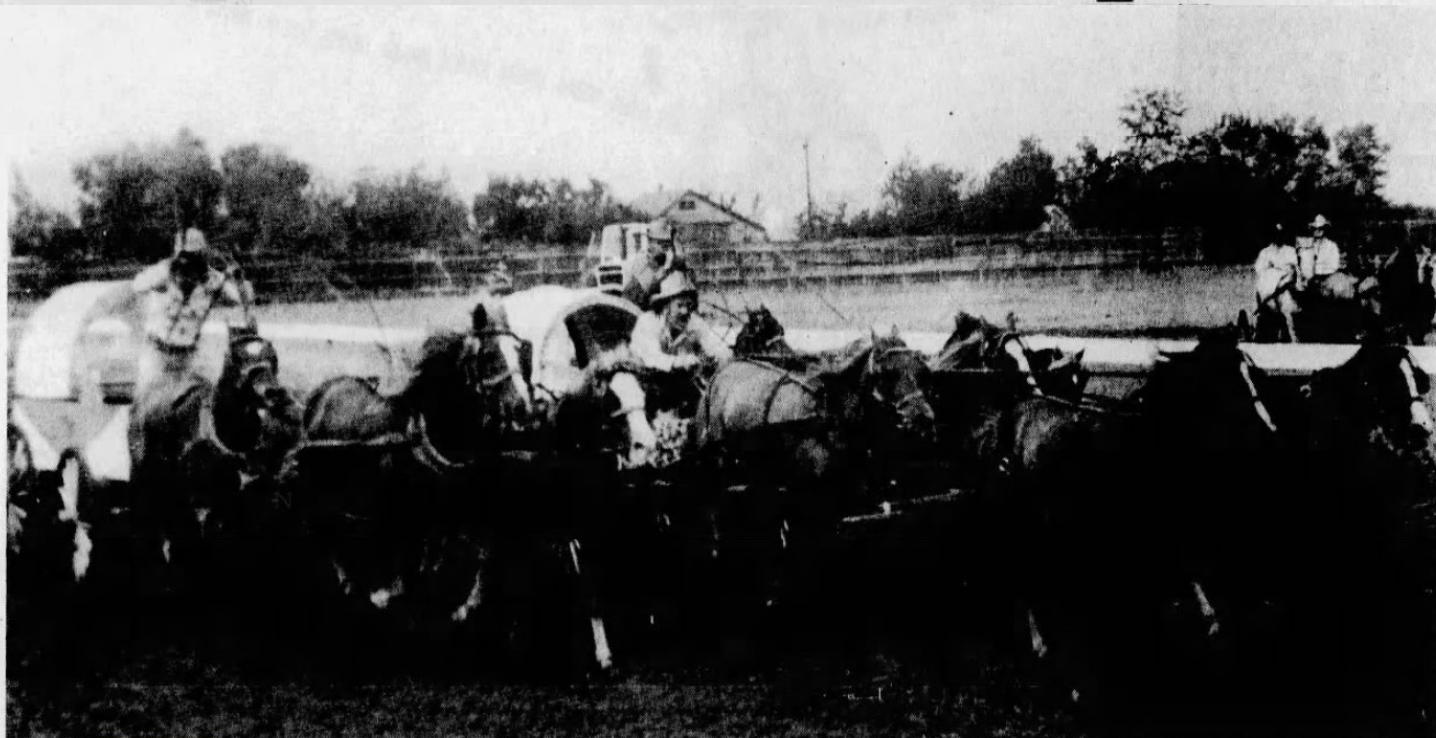
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Teepee Creek Stampede!



Benny **Lightfoot** of Grande Prairie (centre) drove his pony chuckwagon team to victory with the best time total over three days.

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Ogden, Friesen up to their old tricks

By DON MOON
of our staff

A lot of people enjoy Grande Prairie but none more than Ray Ogden and Jake Friesen.

Their love affair with the city is understandable whenever they get near the local race track they leave with a bunch of money.

Heading into the second day of pony chuckwagon and pony chariot races at the 30th annual Grande Prairie County Fair, Ogden and Friesen are continuing where they left off at last spring's Stonede and the 1979 County Fair — at the front of the pack.

Ogden, of Grande Prairie, has his Overhead Door outfit in first place in the pony chuckwagon event after turning a 1:15.40 time in the final heat of yesterday's five-heat competition.

Not far off Ogden's pace is Bob Callihoo of Assiniboine and his Baltic Drilling rig of Fort St. John. Callihoo, competing in the same heat as Ogden, made the circuit in 1:15.38 in the 15-wagon field.

LIGHTFOOT THIRD

Popular local driver Benny Lightfoot has his Paterson Trucking rig in third place at 1:16.40 while Mike Lewis, who used to dominate the pony scene but has taken a bit of a back seat the past couple of seasons, and his Bidd West Ltd. rig of Pouce Coupe are fourth at 1:16.45.

In the pony chariot competition, Friesen of Fort St. John is running away from the rest of the field. He currently holds down first and second place.

Friesen clocked the fastest time of the day in the very first heat yahooping the Beaver Transport steeds around the oval in 1:11.65. In the last heat of the 17-outfit event he guided the Land Transport ponies to a 1:11.73 clocking.

Gary Doonan and the Farmington General Store outfit is third in 1:13.01 while Lewis and his Leopyky Electric chariot of Dawson Creek are fourth in 1:13.04.

HUSBAND-WIFE RACE

In one of the more interesting heats of the day, the luck of the draw put Mike Lewis and his wife Sharon against each other in heat four. Mr. Lewis beat Mrs. Lewis by over six seconds but she still managed to



Staff Photo by Don Moon

Benny Lightfoot gets his ponies off to fast start.

avoid finishing last, ending up in 15th place overall.

The ponies hit the track again today for day two beginning at 5 p.m. and then wind up their three-day stand tomorrow at the same time.

Here are the times from the first day of competition:

PONY CHUCKWAGONS

1. Ray Ogden, Overhead Door 1:15.40. 2. Bob Callihoo, Baltic Drilling 1:15.38. 3. Benny Lightfoot, Paterson Trucking 1:16.40. 4. Mike Lewis, Bidd West Ltd. 1:16.45. 5. Mike Lewis, E and E Hotshot Ltd. 1:17.68. 6. Art Henrickson, Stan Mac Line Const. 1:17.68. 7. Lloyd Bekkerus, Floyd Rude Trucking 1:17.77. 8. Hermen Haugland R and B Farm Equipment 1:19.38. 9. Wayne Perry, Shorthorn Catering 1:19.81. 10. Brian Robinson, Peterson Drilling 1:21.38. 11. George Streeper, Fort Nelson Gravel 1:21.39. 12. Shane Laiselle, Big Jim Bulk 1:22.57. 13. Keith Johnson, Frontier Percheron Ranch 1:22.60. 14. Archie Patterson, Bear Canyon 1:23.04. 15. A. Hollingshead,

Dawson Creek 1:27.25.

PONY CHARIOTS

1. Jake Friesen, Beaver Transport 1:11.65. 2. Jake Friesen, Land Transport 1:11.73. 3. Gary Doonan, Farmington General Store 1:13.01. 4. Mike Lewis, Leopyky Electric 1:13.04.5. Mike MacNeil, Lube Tube 1:13.69. 6. Herman Haugland, West Country Products 1:14.10. 7. Benny Lightfoot, Western Warehouse 1:14.87. 8. Mike Lewis, Stan's Plumbing and Fisher Woodstoves 1:16.74. 9. Murray Gillispie, H and L Hauling 1:18.44. 10. Bob Callihoo, Fort Assiniboine 1:19.74. 11. Dave Williams, Top Welding 1:19.74. 12. Rod Berg, Marshall Wells 1:19.98. 13. Colin Bennie, Brian Clarke Trucking 1:21.41. 14. Colin Bennie, North Peace Truck and Trailer 1:22.00. 15. Sharon Lewis, Young's Industry Supply Ltd. 1:22.96. 16. Terrance Peterat, Koch Oil 1:23.23. 17. John Mona, Vally Motel 1:33.75.

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Muddy track doesn't slow Friesen, Lightfoot

By DON MOON
of our staff

A rain soaked track slowed times considerably in the pony chariot and chuckwagon races during day two of the County Fair yesterday but it didn't seem to deter defending champion Jake Friesen of Fort St. John.

Friesen came in with the second fastest time during last night's heats and continues to lead the pony chariot competition heading into tonight's final evening of racing.

Ray Ogden of Grande Prairie wasn't so fortunate. Ogden, also a defending champion, could only manage the night's fourth fastest time in the pony chuckwagons and has slipped from first place to fourth overall and is now almost three seconds behind leader Benny Lightfoot of Grande Prairie.

Friesen coaxed his Beaver Transport horses to a 1:16.26 clocking last night and now has a two-day total of 2:27.91. That isn't much in front of runner-up Mike Lewis of Dawson Creek and his Leoppky Electric ponies.

LEWIS REAL MUDDER

Lewis proved he is a real mudder by galloping

around the oval in 1:16.16, the night's fastest time, and moved himself from fourth place into second spot with that effort.

Friesen wasn't didn't have as much luck with his second outfit, the Land Transport rig. That unit has, after a five second penalty, dropped from second place to fourth in the standings. Lightfoot and his Western Wearhouse steeds now occupy third place, a jump up from seventh after Monday's competition.

The secret to Lightfoot, Friesen and Lewis' success may, however, not be in their driving skill but rather in the luck of the draw.

That threesome was fortunate enough to find themselves in the first heat last night when the track wasn't too messed up. It reflected in their times which were almost 10 seconds faster than the chariots in the second, third, fourth and fifth heats.

CHUCK TIMES CONSISTENT

The times, on the other hand, in the pony chuckwagon races were more consistent across the board. By the time they started racing the track was about as bad as it was going to get.

The mud didn't slow Lightfoot a heck of a lot. He still managed to tour it in 1:27.20 with his Patterson

Trucking outfit and has moved himself from third place to first with a two-day total of 2:43.60.

Lewis, steering the Bidd West Ltd. wagon, improved his lot from fourth to second with a 1:28.44 clocking and a 2:44.89 total while Bob Callihoo of Assinboine is third in 2:45.88.

Ogden, the 1979 Count Fair Champion and 1980 Stompede winner, trotted home with a 1:30.81 and a 2:46.21 overall and is still within striking distance sitting in fourth place.

Here are the leaders:

pony CHARIOTS

1. Jake Friesen (Beaver Transport) 1:11.65-1:16.26-2:27.91. 2. Mike Lewis (Leoppky Electric) 1:13.04-1:16.16-2:29.20. 3. Benny Lightfoot (Western Wearhouse) 1:14.87-1:19.96-2:34.83. 4. Jake Friesen (Land Transport) 1:11.73-1:23.58-2:35.31. 5. Mike MacNeil (Lube Tube) 1:13.69-1:21.66-2:35.35.

pony CHUCKWAGONS

1. Benny Lightfoot (Patterson Trucking) 1:16.40-1:27.20-2:43.60. 2. Mike Lewis (Bidd West Ltd.) 1:16.45-1:28.44-2:44.89. 3. Bob Callihoo (Baltic Drilling) 1:15.78-1:30.10-2:45.88. 4. Ray Ogden (Overhead Door) 1:15.40-1:30.81-2:46.21. 5. Art Hendrickson (Stan Mac Line Construction) 1:17.68-1:30.92-2:48.60.

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Lewis, Friesen & Halerewich clean up with their ponies

By RICK CHARLTON
of our staff

Mike Lewis, Jake Friesen and Joe Halerewich were the big winners in the pony chariots and wagons, last night at the Grande Prairie Chuckwagon Stompele.

Lewis, who showed up with five separate sponsors under his arm, took top honors in both the 48-inch chariots and 48-inch wagon events while placing well in both 50-inch categories.

"I've had better turney's and I've had worse," said the Dawson Creek cowboy. "This year I haven't been working with them (his ponies) that much, but I think they'll come around after awhile."

That can only spell bad news for his competition. Lewis already leads both Northwest Rodeo Association standings in the 48-inch category.

Lewis posted a 1:34.77 yesterday, boosting his Young's Industrial Supply sponsored outfit to a combined total of 6:36.59. That edged Raymond Ogden's four day mark of 6:37.67 after the Grande Prairie cowboy's Harry's Auto Parts rig totalled a time of 1:33.99 yesterday. Friesen was third, with the Jake's Ventures team, with a Monday mark of 1:32.90 and a combined 6:41.12.

In the 50-inch chariots, Friesen gave himself all the competition he could handle as his Beaver Transport rig came in with a time of 6:14.51 — edging out his own Clark

Trucking outfit which posted a combined total of 6:15.21. Both are Fort St. John sponsors.

The Beaver Transport team had a Monday time of 1:29.59 while Friesen's other rig posted a 1:29.77. Benny Lightfoot, self-sponsored, had totals of 1:33.25 and 6:40.47 for third place.

Lewis was the easy winner in the 48-inch wagons. His E&E Hotshot outfit came in at 1:36.61 while racing with the 50-inch wagons. His four day total of 6:37.12 easily beat that of second place finisher Danny Smoole, who saw his Wendies Esso outfit from Whitecourt post a combined 6:51.42. Smoole had a 1:40.65 yesterday, including two seconds in penalties.

Third place went to Leonard Frisely's Beaverlee Farms rig from Prince George which posted marks of 1:40.90 and 6:54.68.

In the 50-inch wagons, Halerewich wiped his opposition up with the track as his combined 6:26.58 beat Marcel Routhier by close to 10 seconds.

Halerewich's T&D Carriers outfit from Whitecourt picked up a 1:31.86 yesterday while the Routhier Trucking rig, piloted by Routhier, had marks of 1:35.37 and 6:36.08. Third spot went to Roger Annis whose Universal Convoy wagon had times of 1:39.05 and 6:39.58.

Here are the final pony standings:

CHARIOTS (48")

(1.) Mike Lewis, Young's Industrial Supply, 6:36.59. (2.) Ray Ogden, Harry's Auto Parts, 6:37.67. (3.) Jake Friesen, Jake's Ventures, 6:41.12. (4.) Harland Roth,

6:41.19. (5.) Dave Williams, Top Welding, 6:48.75. (6.) Lewis, Collier's Jewellery, 6:48.89. (7.) Herman Haugland, West Country Products, 6:55.40. (8.) Meryl Tyacki, 7:01.86. (9.) Haugland, R&B Farm Equipment, 7:03.30. (10.) Jim McDonald, 7:09.30. (11.) Roth, 7:09.53. (12.) John Menu, Can North, 7:12.54. (13.) Jerry Mounce, Ralph Todd Agencies, 7:20.69.

(50")

(1.) Friesen, Beaver Transport, 6:14.51. (2.) Friesen, Clark Trucking, 6:15.21. (3.) Benny Lightfoot, 6:40.47. (4.) Joe Halerewich T&D Carriers, 6:55.89. (5.) Mounce, Ralph Todd Agencies, 7:21.55. (6.) Lewis, McDermott's Real Foods, 7:23.24. (7.) Roger Annis, Universal Convoy, 7:25.74. (8.) Rod Ollenberger, Damer's Ag. Service, 7:54.20.

WAGONS (48")

(1.) Lewis, E&H Hotshot, 6:37.12. (2.) Danny Smoole, Wendies Esso, 6:51.42. (3.) Leonard Frisely, Beaverlee Farms, 6:54.68. (4.) Wayne Perry, Argus Catering, 7:00.62. (5.) Lightfoot, Patterson Trucking, 7:16.40.

(50")

(1.) Halerewich, T&D Carriers, 6:26.58. (2.) Marcel Routhier, Routhier Trucking, 6:36.08. (3.) Annis, Universal Convoy, 6:39.58. (4.) Ogden, Overhead Door, 6:39.80. (5.) Smoole, 6:39.81. (6.) Alec Moore, A. Moore & Sons Const., 6:40.29. (7.) Lewis, Sandy Shoes, 6:41.00. (8.) Brian Fredlund, Nolan Risvold Gulf, 6:54.76. (9.) Art Hendrickson, Jim and Phyllis Williams, 7:13.19. (10.) Bill Hollingshead, Dawson Moving and Storage, 7:51.43.



Staff photo by Don Moon

Mike Lewis (right) battled Ray Ogden in chariot race.

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BENNIE LIGHTFOOT

Mr. Bennie Lightfoot passed away suddenly on Sunday, April 27, 1986, at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie, Alberta, at the age of 55.

He was born in Spirit River, moved to Grande Prairie at the age of 11, and lived in the Glen Leslie district since the early 1950's. Bennie was known for his love and ability with animals. His lifestyle reflected his love of horses and nature.

He is survived by his special friend, Charlotte; his mother, Mary Lightfoot of Grande Prairie; sister, Betty Wilburn of Edmonton; brothers: Robert of Eaglesham, Howard (Melva) of Redcliff, Ed (Jean) of Grande Prairie, Leonard of Elmworth, and Jim (Muriel) of Grande Prairie; and numerous nieces, nephews and close special friends.

He was predeceased by his father, George, in 1984.

Funeral service for the late Bennie Lightfoot will be held at the Oliver Funeral Chapel, Grande Prairie, Alberta, on Thursday, May 1, 1986, at 11 a.m., with Pastor Vern Begalke officiating. Interment to take place at the Glen Leslie Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements by Oliver Funeral Chapel & Crematorium, Grande Prairie. Telephone 532-2929.

Ben Lightfoot: Legendary horseman



Every summer Bennie Lightfoot could be seen tearing around race tracks in his pony chuckwagon outfit!

By RANDY POULIS
Herald-Tribune staff

Grande Prairie lost another leaf of its history last Sunday with the passing of Bennie Lightfoot at the age of 55.

Lightfoot's abilities with horses are almost legendary in the Peace region. He was born into an era when horses were still the primary focal point of farming. His relationship with horses fulfilled a lifetime.

He proved as a jockey, Roman standing rider and later a pony chuck and chariot racer that there was little he couldn't do with a horse.

"Horses were his life," recalls older brother Jim. "That was his life . . . the farm and horses."

Bennie was born into a family of five brothers and one sister in Spirit River and moved to Grande Prairie when he was 11 years-old.

From his early years as a teen when he spent the summer racing as a jockey for Ewart Ellis or the winter when he worked the Bill Salmond farm (present site of McDonald's), his knowledge and ability to work with horses was his calling card.

"He was kind of a quiet lad," remembers Marjorie Ellis, "but he sure loved the horses and liked to be around them and riding."

Ewart Ellis owned a pair of thoroughbreds which he raced during the summertime and Bennie, who could never be described as big, was the perfect jockey. As need necessitated, he was also head groom, trainer, veterinarian and even stable boy for the Ellis horses. But it was on the track where he really shone.

"He was a pretty good little jockey," explains Norman Hollingworth, who became one of Lightfoot's closest friends. "Ewart used to bring two horses to each race and the free-for-all was always the big race. Ewart would find someone else to race one and Bennie would race the other, but it didn't matter which one Bennie rode, he would win the race."

Hollingworth, who was also a jockey for his father on the circuit, eventually outgrew his summertime job and Bennie took over as the preferred jockey for both horse owners. The two would not race again until the popularity of Roman standing swept its way through the Peace in the 1960s. It was the Peace region's own version of "chicken".

Roman standing is relatively simple in design; take two horses, strap their bridles together with a two-foot leather strip, place a pad on each horse secured by a strap around the girth, hold the reins in hand while standing with a foot on the pad of each horse . . . and race.

"That was quite the thing at that time," explains Jim, nine-years Bennie's elder. "There wasn't many fellows who did it. It was quite the thing to watch."

"I don't know (why we did it)," says Hollingworth. "For the thrill I guess. It wasn't as hard as it looked. People in the crowd though would sure holler and get excited."

There was nothing that involved a horse and racing over a set distance which was difficult for Bennie. Not even after losing all the fingers of his left hand following a lumber saw accident when he was in his early 20s.

"It was amazing, you know, that he could do that," explains Hollingworth. "It (missing fingers) didn't handicap him at all. He just went on and did everything else that he had did before."

Through the following years, Bennie clung to his bachelorhood (he would never marry) and began farming east of the city. He raised crops and horses including a cherished old sorrel mare that rumor has it he lassoed wild on the snow covered banks of the Smoky River.

His racing interests turned to chuckwagon and pony chuckwagon racing and in 1967 he started cross-breeding quarterhorses and Shetland ponies for use in pony chariot racing. Again he was to prove himself a master of the track.

"He had a knack with animals," says Mike Lewis of Dawson Creek. Lewis and Bennie became fiery competitors on the chariot track and friends off of it.

"His horses really performed for him. He'd get the most out of them. I know, he beat me quite often. When you were racing him, you knew you were in for a race."

"He was a super person. In all the time I raced Bennie (some 15 years), he was both a good person on and off the track. He was one of the best competitors to ever hit the track."

At various times a director of the Peace River Pony Racing Association, Bennie seemed to have a secret in his life. At least many thought so because of his abilities with horses as a rider and as a breeder. His success made him an important figure to racing throughout the Peace Country.

"With his qualities and the horses' qualities, it was pretty tough to beat him," adds Lewis.

Funeral services for Bennie Lightfoot will be held tomorrow in Grande Prairie's Oliver Funeral Chapel at 11 a.m.

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