

Practice Session Precedes Riverside Race on Sunday

A full day of practice for drivers entered in the postponed Motor Trend-Riverside 500 has been ordered tomorrow by NASCAR officials.

The practice session will precede the rescheduled race, which will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday. It is the second time in the seven years of the stock car race that weather has intervened.

The practice session will take the pressure off such drivers as A. J. Foyt, who has the pole position for the race but whose car is suffering from "flat spotted" tires suffered in a slide during practice over the week end.

NASCAR vice-president Lyn Kuchler ordered the extra day of action so the temperamental race can be sorted out after a week of illness, up on blocks, under lock and key in the Riverside International Raceway garage area.

Two years ago, when the 500 was interrupted by rain after 115 miles, leader Fred Lorenzen was forced to resume the race behind the safety car with one flat tire.

He had to limp around the 2.7-mile road course once before pitting to change the tire.

The different procedure was explained by NASCAR technical director Bill Gazaway:

"We're going to give the fellows all day tomorrow to warm their cars up and make whatever legal changes are

necessary to insure a safe race. Some of them haven't been on the track since Friday afternoon.

Foyt himself was reported in good condition at his Riverside Hotel.

He had suffered ill effects from medication Saturday afternoon for a virus illness and had a 104-degree temperature.

Raceway president Les Richter estimated the cost of the postponement at \$25,000, down from the \$45,000 expense for the 1967 race.

Riverside County Sheriff's deputies estimated the pre-dawn crowd inside the gates of the raceway at 18,000 or more.

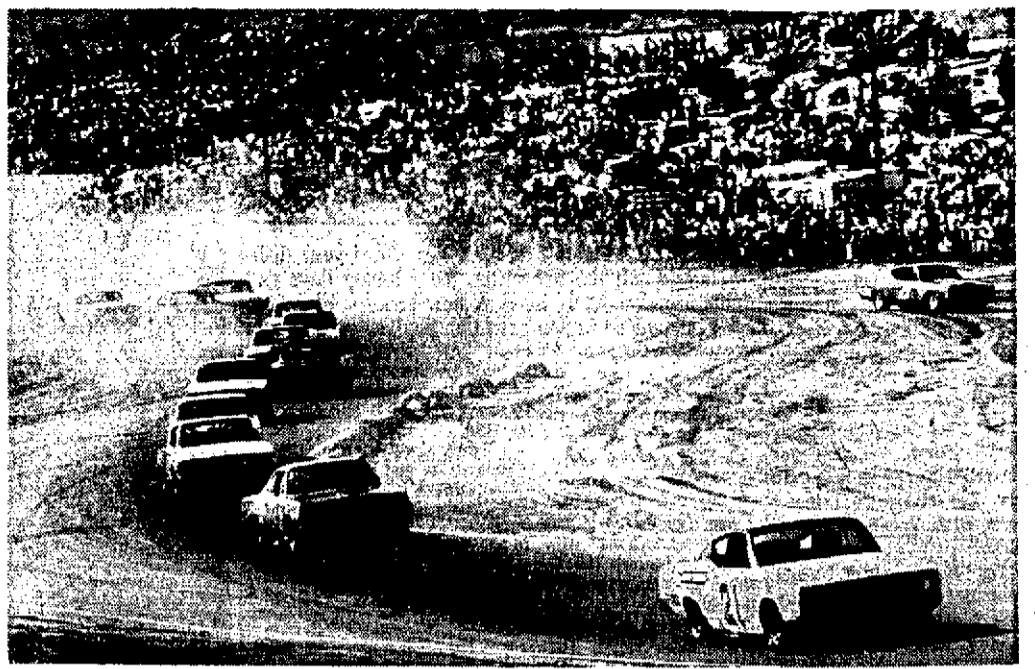
Several thousand other spectators were waiting to get in when the race was called off at 8 a.m. Sunday.

All tickets will be honored, whether they were used or not.

Advance tickets were printed with a rain date stub. Tickets, in fact, will remain on sale at regular outlets during the week.

Meanwhile, veteran stock car driver Eddie Gray of Gardena remains in serious condition Sunday at Riverside Community Hospital.

He had suffered a heart attack Saturday during the Permatex 200.



TWO WAYS TO GO — Cale Yarborough (21) leads field of stock cars up through Riverside Esses, while A. J. Foyt (27) explores portion of outside terrain during last year's Motor-Trend Riverside race. These drivers and country's other top performers will be in lineup Sunday along with Don Noel of Northridge and Newhall's Ranny Dodd when race, postponed last week by rain, will be held.



Here's how to get into auto racing. Hire 12 employees. Sign four drivers. Get Len Terry to design a car and John Surtees to test it. Send in an entry for Daytona and Sebring, and plan to run three other circuits.

Half a million dollars later, you have the job done. That's if you're James Garner, the actor and motion picture producer.

Garner has just unveiled his incredible plan to take American racing by storm. He owns a total of 11 racing machines, including five he is having his own team build from scratch.

It all started four years ago when he was cast in the role that helped to popularize open wheel road racing, "Grand Prix."

There was a time in Hollywood when the fun loving gentry burned up all its dough in carousing and wenching, in the expansive manner of John Barrymore or the swashbuckling image of Errol Flynn.

Today Hollywood's leading vice appears to be supporting its racing habit.

Garner, however, shouldn't be cast in the role of a profligate, drunkenly bestowing greenbacks on hero drivers.

Like other big name film idols these days, he is only part auto racing hobbyist and the rest businessman.

He started out a couple of years ago by forming a small company called American International Racing.

Placed in charge of the daily operation was an ex-Shelby American press agent, Don Rabbitt. (Shelby once told me Don has a brother named Peter, so help me.)

In the beginning AIR fielded a two-car team of Lola coupes in the Daytona, Sebring and LeMans long distance races.

The two coupes, completely rebuilt, are still assets of the company. They'll race again a week from now at Daytona.

What's new with the Garner venture is a \$250,000 program to build and race five Formula A road racing machines, a couple of four-wheel-drive Ford Broncos (Garner drives one himself) in desert races and two Group 7 sports cars to tackle the Can-Am circuit.

The prototype Formula A car was tested last week end in England by Surtees.

It is said to look like a Lotus wedge-shaped Indy car from the front and a conventional

NEW BRACKET CREATED AT LIONS STRIP

Lions Drag Strip will introduce another innovation at its Long Beach facility tomorrow night . . . the "whatever" eliminator.

The bracket owes its unique name to the fact that it's open to all kinds of chassis types, dragsters, roadsters and altered.

Adding further thrills will be a strong field of injected, fuel burning 316 cubic-inch junior fuel dragsters, junior gas rails; and "street" funny cars.

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Woods Favored at Whiteman



JOHNNY ON THE SPOT—Johnny Hateley, 16-year old Class A motorcycle racing star from Van Nuys, points out mechanical technicality to actress Judy Jordan, star of "Bigfoot" and speedway queen named to reign over reopening of racing tomorrow night at Whiteman Stadium. Miss Jordan will be on hand to greet fans and sign autographs at races, which begin at 7 p.m.

Drivers Try Again On Sunday at Ascot

Sixty of the West's wildest stock car roadracers, have had an extra week to prepare for Sunday afternoon's 10 event Figure 8 modified and stock car races at Ascot Park in Gardena. Racing starts at 2 p.m.

The criss-cross drivers were delayed by rain at last Sunday's double-header program. The first point race for the Figure 8 drivers in 1969.

The delay will give the drivers more time to prepare their cars for a afternoon of racing. Heading the field will be

Larry Peters of Covina and Ed Williams of Redondo Beach, winners of the last two features at Ascot.

Besides the two main events, other racing includes a 15 lap semi-final, four 10 round heat races, and a pair of six lap trophy dashes.

Other top drivers entered include, Don Crager and Lloyd Brooks of Gardena; Ed Hand and Earl Cox of Torrance; Dorsey Steele of Huntington Park; Bob Chismar of Burbank and Ed Ferro and Butch Farrell of Wilmington; Rick

Highley of Santa Ana; John and Clint Hutchins of Cypress; Gino Russo of Pacoima; Jon Cox of Culver City, and Ron Schuessler of Redondo Beach.

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Speedway Motorcycle Race Tomorrow on 20-Event Card

Rick Woods, fresh from a highly successful season on the Continent, has been installed the favorite tomorrow night at Whiteman Stadium when Class A speedway motorcycle racing returns to the Valley after an absence of two months.

Woods, the slick rider from Orange County, gained considerable experience in Europe riding the speedy lightweight machines and will be the man to beat on the fast fifth-mile oval.

Chief competition for Woods is expected to come from a brace of Southern California's top young pilots.

Included are Sonny Nutter, of Santa Monica, who has patterned his style after former world champion Ivan Mauger of Australia; Skip Van Leeuwen of Sherman Oaks and young phenom Johnny Hateley of Van Nuys.

Hateley, a 16-year-old Birmingham High School student, is believed to be one of the youngest performers on the motorcycle circuit and performs like a seasoned veteran. He represents Burbank Triumph.

Highlight of the evening will be the appearance of actress Judy Jordan, female lead in Gemini International's forthcoming production of "Bigfoot" starring Jim Mitchum.

Miss Jordan was flown in from Miami, Fla., to reign as queen over tomorrow night's races and will greet the fans and sign autographs at the track.

The two hour program of racing is scheduled to get underway at 7 p.m. at the oval, located at Pierce St. and San Fernando Rd.

The center will be complete with a high performance service division and is another part of Galpin Ford's automobile department store concept.

Galpin Ford service manager Ron Hornaday, a former West Coast NASCAR driving champion, will share the 24-hour driving time with Ken Cargill, customer relations director at Galpin Ford.

The run, which will begin at 12 noon, is open to the public.

CHECK POINT

Calendar of coming events for Sports Cars.

Jan. 24 — La Mirada SCC "Nyte Ryder". Straight navigational rally with 4 classes. Starts 8:00 p.m. La Mirada Blvd. & Rosecrans, La Mirada. Fee: \$2.50. Open to all cars. Information: 393-5217.

Jan. 25 — Bird Owners Ltd. membership dinner meeting. Starts 8 p.m., Carter Bowl, 2300 S. Lemon, Fullerton. Dinner: \$4 tax & tip included. Guests welcome. Tickets only please. Information: 767-4448.

Jan. 25 —EMM "Siddallywhahwah". Scramble rally. Starts 7:30 p.m., Scripps Ranch Recreation Center, Hurlbuck & Balboa Blvds., Encino. Fee: \$3 includes DP. Trophies presented at finish. Open to all cars. Information: 763-3672.

Jan. 26 —Rallymasters "Mark II". Navigational rally. SCC & state championship classes A, B, C. Starts 9 a.m., Eastland Shopping Center, San Bernardino Fwy. at Citrus. Closes. About 5 hours. Trophies in all classes. Information: 645-5535.

Jan. 26 —Early Birds of Southern Calif. Rally for January. Starts 10 a.m., Denny's Coffee Shop, 800 N. San Fernando Rd., Burbank. Fee: \$2.50 members, \$3 guests. 55-57 1/2-Birds only. Dinner, Trophies & DP's. Information: 268-8776.

Jan. 26 —Porsche Club of America annual breakfast & slalom in Apple Valley. Starts 7:30 a.m., Ruffalo Restaurant, West Covina. Breakfast Apple Valley Inn, Apple Valley. Slalom 12:30. Fee: \$4 PCA, \$5 guests. All classes. About 5 hours. Coffee break. Bring lunch. Information: 268-7456.

Jan. 26 —Vette Set run to Orange County Fairgrounds for slalom. Starts 5:30-9:30 a.m., Wooden Shoe, Hawthorne Blvd. & Sepulveda, Torrance. All classes. Advance notice & registration. \$35-57. Information: 338-5174.

Jan. 27 —Porsche Owners Club general membership meeting. Starts 8 p.m., Roger Young Young Auditorium, 828 Washington Blvd., Los Angeles. All Porsche owners welcome. Information: 762-8126.

Mail items for this column to: Alvie Stearns-Check Point Sheet, Van Nuys News & Valley Green Sheet, Van Nuys, Calif. 91406.

Feb. 1 —DORC "Speed Demon 2". Glamour rally & slalom. Starts 8:30 a.m., Scripps Ranch Recreation Center, Burbank & Balboa Blvds., Encino. Fee: \$3.50 includes DP. Trophies. Three classes: advanced, novice & beginner. Two complete courses. Open to all cars. Information: 834-2825, 762-1683.

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