



Millican, Janis clinch titles at Norwalk

Clay Millican might have won the war, but Doug Foley keeps winning the battles.

Foley topped Millican in the Top Fuel Final of the World Nationals presented by PPG at Norwalk Raceway Park Saturday. It was his second consecutive finals win over the perennial IHRA Top Fuel power. Foley was joined in the winner's circle by Pat Moore (Pro Modified), Jim Sickles (Funny Car) and Mike Bell (Pro Stock).

But Millican did clinch his fourth consecutive World Title in the class, while Mike Janis clinched the 2004 IHRA Pro Modified crown at the rescheduled World Nationals.

The Nationals were originally held in August, but was postponed due to inclement weather. Millican clinched his fourth consecutive title just by showing up, and Janis captured his second overall—the first coming in 2001.

The win at Norwalk handed Foley his third Iron Man of his rookie season.

"I've never been in a situation where it was a pedal-fest," Foley said. "Clay has a tremendous amount of experience in that type of a situation, and I don't. I took one stab at it, looked to my side and he wasn't there, so I just kept going."

Getting down the track safely was his biggest concern.

"I pedaled it, trying to keep it as safe as I could," Foley said. "But I wasn't going to let up that easy."

Foley and his team hope the momentum can continue into the off-season.

"We want to be one of the major players and be a team player within the IHRA," Foley team owner Tim Lewis said. "We want to be a contender and nobody is more amazed at our progress than we are."

The Pro Modified final was another close race, with Pat Moore just getting the best of Quain Stott by posting a run of 6.31 seconds to Stott's pass at 6.35 seconds.

But all of the drama wasn't just in the finals. Upsets seemed to be the order of the day as at least one underdog from each professional class made it to the finals. In the Pro Modified semi-finals, Pat Moore beat out Mike Janis with an elapsed time of 6.47 seconds at 213 mph.

In the second race, Stott defeated Rick Distefano with a pass of 6.21 seconds at 230 mph.

In the Funny Car final, Sickles eked out a win against Frederick Tigges, 5.88 seconds against 5.92 seconds.

"We've been struggling, not on our game," Sickles said. "But we went some rounds and got to the finish line. Get the car from A to B, that wins races and we certainly proved that."

In the Funny Car semis, Sickles defeated reigning champ Rob Atchison with an elapsed time of 5.98 seconds at 237.34 mph.

Tigges beat Mark Thomas with an elapsed time of 5.86 seconds. This ruled out an

Atchison/Thomas final, a much anticipated race between the two points leaders.

In Pro Stock, Mike Bell beat out Ron Miller with an elapsed time of 6.52 seconds at 212 mph — his first IHRA national victory of the season.

In the Pro Stock semis, Bell's reaction time of .003 got the best of Steve Spiess. In the second semi, Miller beat Tony Gillig, who had earlier posted a Norwalk Raceway Park elapsed time record at 6.47.

While the championships are a foregone conclusion in Top Fuel and Funny Car, the other two professional classes will be down to the wire as IHRA heads down to Rockingham Friday through Sunday for the Ninth Annual Bethesda Softworks World Finals, the final event on the IHRA calendar.

The results of action at NRP is listed below:

Top Fuel — Doug Foley, 6.722 seconds, 220.04 mph def. Clay Millican, 9.535 seconds, 84.79 mph.

Pro Modified — Pat Moore, Chevy Bel Air, 6.310, 219.86 def. Quain Stott, Chevy Corvette, 6.358, 228.27.

Funny Car — Jim Sickles, Dodge Avenger, 5.929, 239.57 def. Fred Tigges, Chevy Camaro, 5.881, 240.21.

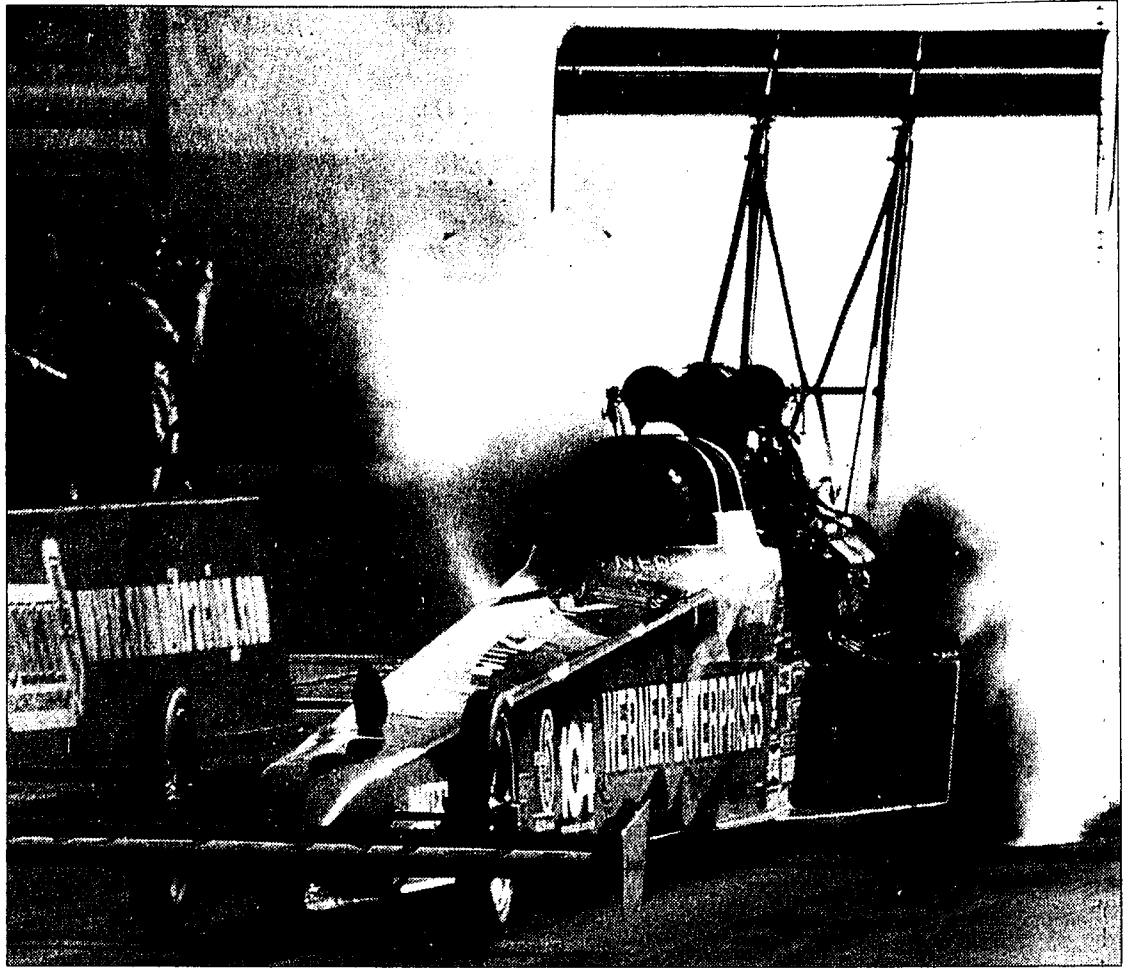
Pro Stock — Mike Bell, Ford ZX2, 6.525, 212.59 def. Ron Miller, Chevy Cavalier, 10.023, 87.67.

Top Stock — Matt Morgan, Chevy Camaro, 9.616, 137.43 def. Monty Bogan Jr., Chevy Corvette, 9.733, 137.55.

Top Sportsman — Marco Abruzzi, Chevy Camaro, 7.057, 192.88 def. Gary Bingham, Pontiac Grand Am, 7.056, 189.83.

Top Dragster — Bob Mandell, Dragster, 6.909, 192.63 def. Bruce Holland, Dragster, 6.728, 200.62.

Quick Rod — Bobby Cireddu,



JEFF VAN NATTA/REFLECTOR

Clay Millican, of Werner Enterprises, gets ready to roll Saturday during the World Nationals at Norwalk Raceway Park. Millican captured his fourth straight World Title in the top fuel class with a second-place showing in Saturday's event.

Dragster, 8.897, 148.17 def. Marty Brown, Dragster, 8.892, 159.46.
Super Rod — Steve Furr, Chevy Camaro, 9.860, 152.78 def. Chris Cipollone, Dodge Viper, 9.900, 154.26.
Hot Rod — John Swink, Chevy Nova, 10.903, 147.17 def. Kevin Edmonds, Chevy Camaro, 10.934, 139.21.

Super Stock — Chuck Nagy, GMC Sonoma, 10.189, 128.46 def. T.C. Morris, Chevy Nova, 11.065, 117.64.
Stock — Craig Marshall, Dodge Dart, 10.972, 115.06 def. Chuck Garey, Pontiac Firebird, 10.777, 120.87.
ET Bracket — Mary Jo West, Dragster, 7.798, 160.38 def. David

Banks, Ford Roadster, 9.938, 129.83.
ET Box — Mary Jo West, Dragster, 7.780, 165.17 def. Ray Nealey, Chevy Camaro, 9.996, 133.24.
ET No Box — David Banks, Ford Roadster, 9.926, 127.38 def. Shawn Coon, Chevy Nova, 10.880, 121.11.

Norwalk, Willard compete at Fostoria

FOSTORIA — Norwalk's boys' team brought back a third-place showing in the Red Division of Saturday's Sky Bank Booster Invitational.

The Truckers scored 108 points to finish behind winner Maumee at 49 and Bryan with 105.

Norwalk produced two of the top-eight runners as Adam Wetzel claimed sixth in 17:24, while James Kasten checked in at eighth 17:30.

Also for the Truckers, David Springer captured 17th at 17:30, followed by Eddie Christie, 38th, 18:55; Adam Warner, 39th, 18:59; Andy Wetzel, 51st, 19:23 and Stephen Reitzel, 53rd, 19:28.

In the jayvee race, Brian Kovach took 36th with 19:59, while Erik Bogen had 74th in 21:39.

Willard was also in attendance and ended up fifth with 122.

Richard Featheringill notched a top-five finish at fourth in 17:19. Also for the Flashes, Craig Wolfe recorded 21st in 18:03, followed by Wes Popa, 40th, 19:00; Mikjail Vera, 42nd, 19:04; Ross Violette, 63rd, 19:55 and Thomas Niedermeier, 65th, 19:58.

On the girls' side, Willard posted fourth with 115, while Norwalk took eighth in 175.

For the Lady Flashes, Stephanie Reiderman registered 20th in 21:52, followed by Alicia Niedermeier at 23rd in 22:02; Megan Van Pelt, 30th, 22:54; Rebecca Keefer, 33rd, 22:46; Mandy Reber, 63rd, 25:05 and Ashley Sexton, 64th, 25:27.

Meagan Music topped Norwalk at sixth in 20:34. Brittany Van Natta gained 34th in 22:54, followed by Brooke Goostree, 38th, 23:29; Amy O'Donnell, 44th, 23:45; Jillian Hoyt, 53rd, 24:16; Jessica

CROSS COUNTRY

Brown, 57th, 24:45 and Cara Smith, 58th, 24:46.

In the open race, Leann Hipp picked up 54th with 26:33, while Brittany Lesch grabbed 69th in 28:11.

Napoleon garnered first with 23, followed by Sandusky Bay Conference schools Port Clinton with 93 and Oak Harbor at 111.

Both Norwalk and Willard are scheduled to compete in the Northern Ohio League meet Saturday at Galion.

Foster wins

MEDINA — Sarah Foster ran to a first-place finish Saturday during the Medina Invitational. The junior finished in 19:34 to claim the Division II girls' individual title.

The Lady Chargers finished 11th in the team standings with 269.

Also for Edison, Carrie Shover picked up 52nd in 22:13, followed by Mandi Wurmser, 61st, 22:35; Caitlin Smith, 70th, 22:46; Jessica Pulaski, 85th, 23:27 and Kelsey Parker, 24:26.

Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy topped the field with 96.

In the boys' competition, Edison claimed sixth with 205.

Josh Dow led the Chargers at 20th in 17:26, followed by Pete Hill, 28th, 17:49; Zach Rospert, 40th, 18:03; Jeff Meinert, 57th, 18:18; Tyler Johns, 60th, 18:22; Cameron Ground, 72nd, 18:36 and Bryant Strayer, 74th, 18:38.

The Chargers are scheduled to participate in the Sandusky Bay Conference meet Saturday at Margareta.

NL at Worthington

WORTHINGTON — New London went to Central Ohio to scope out competition Saturday during the Les Eisenhart Invitational.

The Wildcat boys' team showed ninth place with 270.

Zach Sendelbach paced the way at 13th in 16:44. Troy Coombs attained 15th in 16:53, followed by Brandon Lang at 71st in 18:02; Nathan Grys, 78th, 18:16; Kyle Cramer, 93rd, 18:37; Kyle Anderson, 105th, 18:54 and Travis Missler, 129th, 19:56.

Cincinnati LaSalle took first with 32.

In the girls' race, New London gained 17th with 415.

Gabrielle Wuensch amassed 17th in 19:59, followed by Danielle Wuensch at 49th, 20:59; Megan Shepherd, 103rd, 22:23; Tiffany Trimble, 120th, 22:56; Jennifer Bottomlee, 126th, 23:11; Holly Perkins, 134th, 23:43 and Emma Schwinn, 143rd, 24:17.

Worthington collected the top spot with 114.

New London is scheduled to compete in the Firelands Conference league meet Saturday at Crestview High School.

Plymouth, Western win

PLYMOUTH — Plymouth boys and Western Reserve girls emerged as champions Saturday in a tri-match.

On the boys' side, Plymouth picked up first with 30, followed by Western Reserve at 41.

Plymouth's Evan Fackler was the overall winner at 18:09.

In the girls' competition, Western Reserve took first with 36. Monroeville gained second at 42, followed by Plymouth

with 45.

Western's Sam Boyd showed the top spot in 20:56.

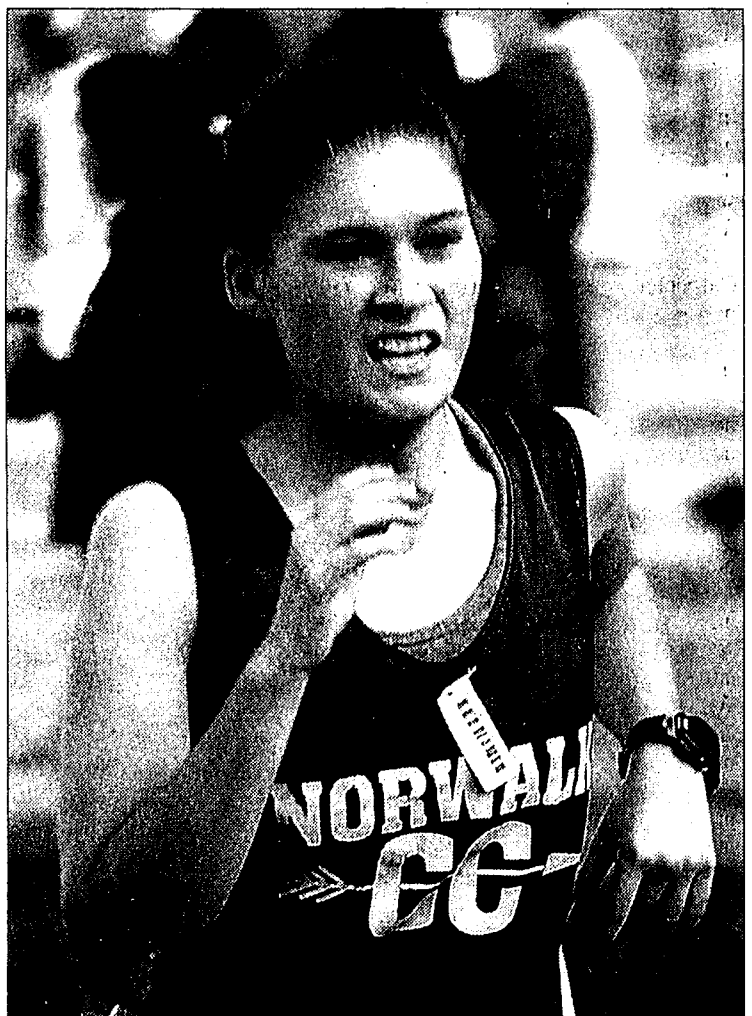
Plymouth, Western and Monroeville are all slated to appear in the FC meet.

The results, including junior high, are listed below:

- Boys**
- 1. Evan Fackler (P) 18:09
 - 2. Skylar Branstool (P) 18:17
 - 3. Jon Wilhelm (M) 18:39
 - 4. Jared Simon (M) 18:45
 - 5. Perry Tracht (WR) 19:00
 - 6. Matt Ball (P) 19:27
 - 7. David Movrin (WR) 19:55
 - 8. Jeff Rennert (WR) 20:22
 - 9. Ryan Burch (WR) 20:31
 - 10. Bryant Foster (P) 20:33
 - 11. Mike McKenzie (P) 20:48
 - 12. Kieffer Williams (WR) 21:30
 - 13. Nick Swan (WR) 22:10
 - 14. Brad Hale (P) 22:18
 - 15. Bryan Combs (WR) 22:43
 - 16. Kevin Boehler (M) 23:04

- Girls**
- 1. Samantha Boyd (WR) 20:56
 - 2. Ashley Schaffer (P) 21:03
 - 3. Lynsey Schaffer (M) 21:37
 - 4. Charlene Downing (M) 22:13
 - 5. Megan Schaffer (M) 22:28
 - 6. Angie Sterk (WR) 22:35
 - 7. Brittany Stark (WR) 22:53
 - 8. Colleen Nitchman (WR) 23:33
 - 9. Heather Stoodt (P) 23:39
 - 10. Megan Hursh (P) 24:31
 - 11. Kristin Keaton (P) 24:34
 - 12. Jess Schaffer (M) 25:02
 - 13. Heather McVey (P) 25:16
 - 14. Ashley Nestor (WR) 26:23
 - 15. Beth Albright (WR) 27:13
 - 16. Keely Telquist (WR) 27:33
 - 17. Brooke Waddles (P) 29:11
 - 18. Jenna Poths (M) 29:29

- Junior High Boys**
- 1. Zack Foster (P) 12:28
 - 2. Eric Bischoff (M) 12:56
 - 3. Kyle Fowler (P) 13:07
 - 4. Ven Beat (WR) 13:23
 - 5. Jordan Simon (M) 14:06
 - 6. Jason Blair (WR) 14:26
 - 7. Kyle Priddy (WR) 14:27
 - 8. Greg Taylor (WR) 14:41
 - 9. Adam Mastroianni (M) 15:52
 - 10. Ken Williston (WR) 17:54
 - 11. Steven Heyman (M) 19:32
- Girls**
- 1. Rachel Schaffer (M) 13:53
 - 2. Rebecca Schreiner (M) 15:25
 - 3. Libby Fackler (P) 16:35
 - 4. Sara Chafee (WR) 16:37
 - 5. Sunny Koh (P) 16:30
 - 6. Eryca Rineola (WR) 17:36
 - 7. Rebecca Workley (M) 17:48
 - 8. Lakin Clack (WR) 20:02
 - 9. Kelsay Telquist (WR) 21:59



JEFF VAN NATTA/REFLECTOR

Norwalk sophomore Leann Hipp competes Saturday in the Sky Bank Cross Country Booster Invitational at Fostoria.

Norwalk blanks Ross

Norwalk blanked Fremont Ross 3-0 Saturday at the Norwalk soccer complex.

Sophomore Brooke Seitz earned herself a hat trick with assists by seniors Keelie Webb, Ellen Walker and Whitney Welschenbach. In 2003 Seitz was the second leading scorer with 19 goals. She currently stands as the 2004 leading scorer with 20 goals thus far in the season.

Senior Alynne Neuberger had 13 saves in goal earning herself a shutout. Neuberger had a remarkable save in goal when a penalty kick was awarded to Fremont in the second half.

Sophomore Ashley Schaffer returned to the field this week after having been on injured reserved following knee surgery back in April.

"Ashley has been working real-

GIRLS' SOCCER

ly hard to get back in the game and it is great to see her on the field," coach Heidi Strong said.

Sophomore and newcomer to the game of soccer, Megan Osborn, had a noteworthy showing at fullback.

"Megan has shown great improvement throughout the season," Strong said. "She had some great headers today and is really getting her foot on the ball."

"Naturally, I am thrilled about the win but what I am really excited about is the way the girls played together as a team—that was the marker we aimed for today."

Norwalk closes the regular season at 7 p.m. today with visiting Upper Sandusky. It will be Seniors Night.

Licking Valley ordered to forfeit four victories

NEWARK, Ohio (AP) — A second Ohio high school football team has forfeited four victories after reporting that it had used an ineligible player this season. Newark Licking Valley enrolled a sophomore student whose family was in the process of building a home in the central Ohio

district east of Columbus. The school was required to notify the Ohio High School Athletic Association before the season in order to have the student declared eligible to play. The situation wasn't reported until last week, resulting in the violation.

"In the ruling that we have to for-

feit our wins, they ruled him eligible immediately and reinstated him for the rest of the season," said Licking Valley football coach and athletic director Randy Baughman.

The forfeits dropped Licking Valley's record from 5-2 to 1-6, likely costing the team its chances of

advancing to the playoffs for the fifth consecutive season. The OHSAA, the sanctioning body for prep sports in the state, will hear an appeal Thursday of a ruling that cost Lakewood St. Edward four victories for using a player who did not meet transfer rules.

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