

Leicester Speedway

LIONS '79'



BERGER GRAND PRIX

(In association with the "Daily Mirror")

INCORPORATING

Qualifying Round of the "SUNDAY MIRROR"
1979 WORLD SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP

TUESDAY
MAY 1st
7.30 p.m.

7th Meeting
27th Season

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - PRICE

15p



View Point by Vic White



Last Tuesday proved to be an unfortunate evening all round with a disappointing result but even more unfortunate was the injuries received by Tony Davey, who suffered a broken femur, concussion and a crushed vertebrae in his back, as a result of a first bend incident with his own partner in heat 4. Tony is in the Leicester Royal Infirmary, Ward 16 and I am sure that he would be very pleased to hear from you, which would undoubtedly cheer him up a bit.

Machine problems, once again, played their part in our defeat with Ila being hardest hit, seizing his engine whilst leading in one race and then his ignition box broke down whilst second to Tito in another race and the points lost in those two races alone would have won us the match. John McNeill, too, suffered from a mis-fire all evening and this reduced his very impressive 8 paid 9, by a couple of points. We still have other problems team wise but we are all aware of these and what must be done to overcome them.

One man who will NOT be able to assist is Jerzy Rembas who we were informed last week has now been called up for the Polish Army and is therefore not available to race here this season.

Tonight we stage one of the qualifying rounds for the 1979 Grand Prix, sponsored this year by BERGER, the paint people and of course it is also one of the stepping stones to the World Championship as far as U.K. riders are concerned. The top 16 Grand Prix men will battle out the final, this year at Wimbledon, on Thursday, 23rd August, and the scene is set once again for an exciting series of Speedway, culminating in perhaps another new winner for the fourth consecutive year.

On the domestic front the top 32 U.K. riders will contest the two semi-finals of the British rounds of the World Championship, one of which we will be staging, so they have two targets to aim for. Should be interesting!

Next week we take on Cradley in the first round of this year's Speedway Star K.O. Cup Competition and on the following Tuesday we present our round of the National 4-Team Tournament which is a new competition this year. After each group of 4 Clubs has completed its series, the winning team from the 6 groups go to Sheffield on Sunday 24th June to contest the semi-finals and the finals in a feast of speedway. With Coventry in our section it is bound to be a tough battle and we will be joined by Birmingham and Peterborough, all chasing a place in the semi-finals at Sheffield.

Finally may I extend a welcome to our newest sponsors BERGER, one of the most famous names in the Paint world. I feel sure that the association will be a fruitful one for both Berger and Speedway and hope that our names will be synonymous for a long time to come.

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Good Evening,

Welcome to all the supporters from far and wide. Are you interested in a trip to the World Final? If you are pop and see Pat and Pam who are taking names, also there are still a few vacancies for the week-end in London for the Intercontinental Final, £22 "Interested" Roy Tattersall has all the details. Roy can be found at the old programme stall next to the track shop.

Tonight we are taking bookings for Cradley, 12.5.79: Birmingham, 14.5.79: Eastbourne, 18.5.79: Coventry, 19.5.79. The Treasure Hunt is on 6th May, we are limited by the police to 12 cars so hurry for details if you want to join in.

Available soon will be the sponsored walk forms, please try to take part in this, proceeds to go to the Riders' Fund.

'bye till next week,
Geoff King,
Chairman.

NOTE—The Management reserve the right to alter this programme should it be necessary through any cause to abandon the meeting prior to the start of the sixth race in the Programme. Re-admission tickets issued at entrances (available for any one of the next three meetings) will become valid. In no circumstances will any moneys be refunded. Rights of admission are reserved. Motor sports events are dangerous and all persons attending this meeting do so entirely at their own risk. It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion, and / or organisation, or conduct of the meeting, including the owners and lessees of the stadium and the owners and drivers of the vehicles and passengers in the vehicles are absolved from all liability arising out of accidents causing damage or personal injury to spectators or ticket holders. Betting is absolutely prohibited at this meeting. The management reserve the right to make alterations or additions to the programme. Vendors will be prosecuted.

A MESSAGE from BERGER

Sponsors of the Grand Prix

Berger, who announced their sponsorship of the Speedway Grand Prix earlier this month, are one of Britain's largest paint makers.

Already well known for our sponsorship of the Berger Isthmian League, the South of England's leading soccer league, our backing of the Grand Prix is another association between our company and the pursuit of sporting excellence.

Although we are best known to the public for our decorative paints - Magicote, Colorizer and, in trade circles, Brolac, we have also shown - in our recent television commercials - that we supply paint for virtually every industry in Britain.

All four British car makers use Berger paints and finishing materials. If you have your car repaired or resprayed after an accident, chances are it will be done with our refinishing paints. Every civil aircraft made in Britain has Berger sealants in its structure - even Concorde, where Berger materials seal the cabin and the wings.

Oil rigs, refineries, bridges, food packaging, printing inks, oil tankers, luxury liners, office machines, Matchbox toys - all these products and thousands more benefit from paints and coatings, special resins or adhesives supplied by us.

In Britain we have eight manufacturing and distribution Sites, employ 2,800 people and are the largest Company in the World-wide Berger Group.

We at Berger, look forward to this year's Speedway season with interest and excitement. The qualifying heats and final of the Berger Grand Prix will, we hope, be one of the leading attractions in this year's sporting calendar and we know that it will attract your support and provide a real test of international top riders' skills.

Graham Baker . . . writes about the *Berger-Daily Mirror Grand Prix*

The Grand Prix lives! And, indeed, Britain's top individual speedway tournament has emerged from a troubled close season stronger and more vibrant than ever.

It's four years now since the *Daily Mirror* introduced the Grand Prix with a novel method of points scoring that gave an alternative to the straight-forward knock-out principle of world championship racing.

Immediately, the tournament caught the imagination of the public and the top riders in the world.

Already Peter Collins, Ole Olsen and Chris Morton have won the Grand Prix title following three dramatic Finals at White City. This season the Final switches to Wimbledon on August 23rd.

But at one stage during the close season the future of the Grand Prix was most uncertain. Our joint sponsors Volkswagen withdrew after two years.

Happily, the situation was saved when the leading paint manufacturers Berger decided to fill the vacant sponsorship of the Grand Prix.

Already Berger back soccer's Isthmian League. This is their first speedway venture - and we are delighted to welcome them as co-sponsors of the renamed *Berger-Daily Mirror Grand Prix*.

The name has changed. But the thrills are the same. And the format that gives the Grand Prix a unique flavour is unaltered.

Putting it simply, the Grand Prix system makes every race count - and yet it allows riders to repair the damage of an occasional slip up or temporary loss of form.

Riders from every Gulf British League club will be involved in three qualifying rounds each. First place in each qualifier will score ten points, second will get nine down to one for tenth.

After totting up the qualifying round points the top sixteen will go through to the Grand Prix Final. Their qualifying points will count towards the Final total.

But even the lowest qualifiers can win overall with a brilliant display at Wimbledon - as Belle Vue's Morton proved last season.

Their qualifying scores will be added to the Final premium points of 50 for first, 45 for second down to five for tenth.

It sounds complicated, I know - but it is the fairest possible way of deciding the top overall rider of the season.

I'm looking forward to the action - and I know that our friends from Berger share the sentiment. I hope you all feel the same way.

Graham Baker

Riders' Individual Scores	1	2	3	4	5	T
1 Michael Lee (Kings Lynn)						
2 Ila Teromaa (Leicester)						
3 Keith White (Hackney)						
4 Steve Finch (Ellesmere Port)						
5 Vaclav Verner (Exeter)						
6 Mike Farrell (Leicester)						
7 John Boulger (Leicester)						
8 Preben Eriksen (Ipswich)						
9 John Jackson (Ellesmere Port)						
10 Tom Owen (Newcastle)						
11 John Louis (Ipswich)						
12 John Titman (Leicester)						
13 Bobby Beaton (Hull)						
14 Billy Burton (Stoke)						
15 Ian Turner (Kings Lynn)						
16 Edward Jancarz (Wimbledon)						
17 Chris Turner (Leics.) Res.						
18 Chris Sully (Leics.) Res.						

Heat Time	Rider	Substitute	Col	Pts
1	1 Michael Lee 2 Ila Teromaa 3 Keith White 4 Steve Finch		R B W Y/B	
2	5 Vaclav Verner 7 John Boulger 6 Mike Farrell 8 Preben Eriksen		R B W Y/B	
3	10 Tom Owen 11 John Louis 9 John Jackson 12 John Titman		R B W Y/B	
4	15 Ian Turner 14 Billy Burton 16 Edward Jancarz 13 Bobby Beaton		R B W Y/B	
5	13 Bobby Beaton 1 Michael Lee 5 Vaclav Verner 9 John Jackson		R B W Y/B	
6	14 Billy Burton 10 Tom Owen 2 Ila Teromaa 6 Mike Farrell		R B W Y/B	
7	11 John Louis 15 Ian Turner 7 John Boulger 3 Keith White		R B W Y/B	
8	4 Steve Finch 8 Preben Eriksen 12 John Titman 16 Edward Jancarz		R B W Y/B	

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Qualifying Round of the
"SUNDAY MIRROR" 1979
WORLD SPEEDWAY
CHAMPIONSHIP

LEICESTER
SPEEDWAY



Promoters: DISOFAST LTD

Directors: R. A. V. Fearman, V. H. White

THE STADIUM

BLACKBIRD ROAD, LEICESTER

Telephone:

Leicester 354335 and 353136

(Race days only)

Track length: 347.5 metres

Official 4-lap Record: 64.0 secs.

John Titman 12/9/78

Starting positions are: Red—Gate 1. Blue—

Gate 2. White—Gate 3. Yellow/Black—Gate 4.

Points: 1st—3, 2nd—2, 3rd—1, 4 laps.

Clutch Start

Held under the Regulations of the Speedway

Control Board

S.C.B. Licence No. 79/2

OFFICIALS

Clerk of the Course

A.C.U. Referee

Timekeeper

Announcer

Team Manager

Machine Examiner

Starting Marshal

Pit Marshal

Medical Officers

Mike Holt

S. Green

W. Daff

John Doyle

Vic White

L. Smith

T. Aitken

C. Raven

Dr. W. J. Heffernan and

Dr. J. W. Craig

St. John Ambulance Brigade in attendance

Time Heat	Rider	Substitute	Col	Pts
9	16 Mike Farrell 6 Edward Jancarz 1 Michael Lee 11 John Louis		R B W Y/B	
10	12 John Titman 5 Vaclav Verner 15 Ian Turner 2 Ila Teromaa		R B W Y/B	
11	8 Preben Eriksen 9 John Jackson 3 Keith White 14 Billy Burton		R B W Y/B	
12	13 Bobby Beaton 4 Steve Finch 10 Tom Owen 7 John Boulger		R B W Y/B	

Interval (Time Permitting)

Time for Refreshments, Drinks, etc.

13	7 John Boulger 12 John Titman 14 Billy Burton 1 Michael Lee		R B W Y/B	
14	2 Ila Teromaa 13 Bobby Beaton 8 Preben Eriksen 11 John Louis		R B W Y/B	
15	16 Edward Jancarz 3 Keith White 10 Tom Owen 5 Vaclav Verner		R B W Y/B	
16	9 John Jackson 6 Mike Farrell 4 Steve Finch 15 Ian Turner		R B W Y/B	
17	1 Michael Lee 8 Preben Eriksen 15 Ian Turner 10 Tom Owen		R B W Y/B	
18	9 John Jackson 2 Ila Teromaa 7 John Boulger 16 Edward Jancarz		R B W Y/B	
19	3 Keith White 12 John Titman 13 Bobby Beaton 6 Mike Farrell		R B W Y/B	
20	5 Vaclav Verner 14 Billy Burton 11 John Louis 4 Steve Finch		R B W Y/B	

"PAWS" FOR THOUGHT

Welcome tonight to all the competitors in this World Championship/Grand Prix qualifying round. While the Lions' riders will be going all out for those Grand Prix points, others in tonight's line-up will also be chasing points to help them onto the next stage of the World Championship. We wish them all the best of luck, and a trouble free meeting.

* * *

And talking of trouble-free meetings, which last week's was definitely not, our commiserations to Tony Davey who took a nasty tumble to collect an injury that could keep him out of the sport for some time. Here's hoping his recovery is quicker than at the moment anticipated.

* * *

You had to hand it to those Witches, who, handicapped by the sidelining of Tony and Preben, really got stuck into the task of chasing those league points without a weak link in sight.

* * *

Machines still seem to be causing too many problems for the Lions. Tom Godal, who has switched to a JAWA this season, still hasn't got it weighed up. "I'm getting a lot of spin," Tom told me after his first race. When he went out for his second, it looked as if he had "cracked" the problem. But no, there he was, losing ground again in his third ride.

* * *

The skipper was also feeling pretty miserable over the way things were going. But I'm sure he'll get it all together. What he needs now, is one good meeting to set him up, and I'm convinced we shall see the old J.B. "smiling face an' all".

* * *

J.B. is not wasting any time in trying to put matters right. In fact, while waiting for the fence to be repaired for the re-run of heat 3, he nipped smartly back into the pits to make some rapid adjustments to his rear wheel.

* * *

Of course, not all is gloom and despondency at the Lions' Den, and the way Robert Henry is shaping up here brought some smiles last Tuesday. It's easy to see why more than one Gulf British League outfit were showing a lot of interest in him. It's good to hear from him that he likes it at Leicester ... and good to know that the Lions beat those other clubs for his signature. Robert is also his own strongest critic. After he had considered he had dropped a point that he shouldn't have, he said to Vic White: "If I do that again, kick me!" Somehow, I don't think Vic will have many occasions to take him up on that offer.

Ila, the Lions' "long distance runner" was having an expensive evening, what with "blowing" one motor, and then dropping more points due to ignition trouble. But "Tito" stepped into the breach, once with a loaned "box" and once with a complete bike.

* * *

It's good to see that "Tito" has settled in quickly and got down to his form of last season. And seeing that he has commented before that he doesn't really get going until the warmer weather arrives, what can we expect then?

* * *

John McNeill was having ignition troubles even though you wouldn't have thought it by the way he started off the meeting. Later when his bike was playing up, he tried to pull out of the race but the cord on his safety cut-out was so strong he had to pull his arm down again quick. In the meantime the bike picked up again. Talk about stop/go.

* * *

In spite of his own problems, Ila found time to discuss John's problems, and it was decided perhaps it was not all ignition trouble, but could be carburettor trouble. So it was decided to try a slight modification. We now await results.

* * *

John McNeill has been doing quite a bit of travelling besides that which he's been doing with the Lions, for he's been to several different tracks with his brother Greg who is over here for his first season of British speedway. One journey he won't forget in a hurry is the one he made recently with Greg all the way to Glasgow where Greg was due to line-up with Milton Keynes. "Greg's car developed a squeaky wheel bearing," said John. "Talk about drive you up the wall." I understand it cost J.M. about £18 to get it fixed before the return journey. "Worth every penny for a quiet ride home," cracked John.

* * *

Just had a preview of Mike Holt's booklet, the History of Leicester Speedway. It'll certainly bring back a few memories for you ... treat yourself ... you'll like it.

* * *

Next week sees the return of those Cradley Heathens. Well, not really a return, because the rain-maker put the mockers on the last attempts. Here's hoping for a vast improvement in the weather and some great speedway

John's Jottings...

By now we should all know how the Lions went on in their first home League match of the season last Tuesday, after two disappointing away results.

I don't know how many of you managed to make the away trips to Swindon and Poole, but if the general atmosphere at Blackbird Road is anything to go by I would imagine that the support away from home is quite good.

I'm beginning to feel really at home now at Leicester, even though I live in Manchester, and I think we can really look forward to some great nights here, particularly in the sunny weather.

As you will have heard me announce before, it's very distracting to have people wandering into the box during the meeting with requests, so would you please send them in by post or hand them into the Speedway office.

On the subject of war-cries, we've had a few of those already, but if any of you have got any special ones for individual riders, perhaps you would send me the details and we can then involve the whole crowd in cheering the Lions.

Before you start saying that the riders can't hear war cries when they're wearing helmets, etc., don't forget that there are five other Lions in the pits who can hear every word I say and every war-cry from the crowd.

So keep cheering and on with the racing. . . .

John Doyle

On Sale at the Speedway Shops

CLUB BADGES 60p ★ SUN VISORS 50p ★ ROSETTES 50p
CAR STICKERS 20p ★ PROGRAMME BOARDS 90p ★ TRANSFERS 15p
BOBBLE HATS £1.00 ★ PENNANTS 50p ★ LIONS PENS 10p
SCARVES (Woollen) £1.90 ★ SCARVES (Satin) £1.00
LIONS V-NECK JUMPERS £4.50 ★ JUNIOR RACE JACKETS £1.50
COLOUR PHOTOS: Postcard 30p ★ Star Pix 45p
AND MANY OTHER ITEMS

★ SPONSORS URGENTLY REQUIRED ★

ALL RIDERS DESPERATELY NEED SPONSORSHIP TO HELP COMBAT ESCALATING COSTS AND MOST OF OUR TEAM RECEIVE SOME ASSISTANCE (ALTHOUGH NOT ENOUGH). A FULL LIST WILL BE PRINTED IN THE PROGRAMME SHORTLY. OUR TWO NEWCOMERS MIKE FARRELL AND CHRIS TURNER HAVE NO SPONSORSHIP WHATSOEVER HAVING LOST THEIRS BY CHANGING CLUBS, CAN ANYONE HELP? NO MATTER HOW LARGE OR HOW SMALL, IT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. PLEASE HELP THE LADS TO SUCCESS.

NEXT TUESDAY — MAY 8th — 7.30 pm

KNOCKOUT CUP 1st Round — 1st Leg

LEICESTER v CRADLEY

Starring: Bruce Penhall — Bobby Schwartz — Steve Bastable
John Titman — John Boulger — Ila Teromaa, etc.

Leicester Speedway Fixtures 1979

MARCH				Result
Sat 17	A	Coventry ...	EMB	Rain-off
Tu 20	H	COVENTRY ...	EMB	33-45
Tu 27	H	CRADLEY HEATH ...	CH	Rain-off
APRIL				
Tu 3	H	CRADLEY HEATH ...	CH	Rain-off
Tu 10	H	MID. RIDER'S ...		
		C'SHIP S/FINAL ...	IND	P. Crump
Sat 14	A	Swindon ...	GOBL	19-59
Mo 16	A	Cradley Heath ...	CH	34-44
Tu 17	H	ENGLAND v ...		
		ENGLISH LIONS ...	TEST	51-57
We 18	A	Poole ...	GOBL	28-50
Tu 24	H	IPSWICH ...	GOBL	36-42
Fri 27	A	Hackney ...	GOBL	
MAY				
Tu 1	H	GRANDE PRIX/ WORLD C'SHIP ...	IND	
Tu 8	H	CRADLEY HEATH ...	KOC	
Sat 12	A	Cradley Heath ...	KOC	
Mo 14	A	Birmingham ...	4TT	
Tu 15	H	LEIC/COV/B'HAM ...		
		/P'BORO ...	4TT	
Fri 18	A	Eastbourne ...	GOBL	
Sat 19	A	Coventry ...	4TT	
Tu 22	H	WORLD C'SHIP ...		
		SEMI/FINAL ...	IND	
Sat 26	A	Belle Vue ...	GOBL	
Tu 29	H	HALIFAX ...	GOBL	
JUNE				
Fri 1	A	Peterborough ...	4TT	
Tu 5	H	OPEN ...		
Tu 12	H	COVENTRY ...	GOBL	
Tu 19	H	Res (WIMBLEDON) ...	KOC	
Thu 21	A	Res. (Wimbledon) ...	KOC	
Sat 23	A	Coventry ...	GOBL	
Tu 26	H	POOLE ...	GOBL	
Thu 28	A	Sheffield ...	GOBL	

JULY				
Tu 3	H	MIDLAND ...		
		PAIRS H'CAP ...	PAIRS	
Tu 10	H	SWINDON ...	GOBL	
Tu 17	H	WOL'HAMPTON ...	GOBL	
Mo 23	A	Birmingham ...	GOBL	
Tu 24	H	KINGS LYNN ...	GOBL	
We 25	A	Hull ...	GOBL	
Tu 31	H	RESERVED ...	MC	
AUGUST				
Sat 4	A	(Reserved Swindon) ...	MC	
Tu 7	H	EXETER ...	GOBL	
Tu 14	H	WIMBLEDON ...	GOBL	
Mo 20	A	Exeter ...	GOBL	
Tu 21	H	"STRONGBOW" ...		
		Golden Gauntlets ...	IND	
Mo 27	A	Kings Lynn ...	GOBL	
Tu 28	H	BELLE VUE ...	GOBL	
Th 30	A	Wimbledon ...	GOBL	
SEPTEMBER				
Tu 4	H	CRADLEY HEATH ...	GOBL	
Th 6	A	Ipswich ...	GOBL	
Fri 7	A	Wolverhampton ...	GOBL	
Tu 11	H	EASTBOURNE ...	GOBL	
Sat 15	A	Halifax ...	GOBL	
Tu 18	H	Reserved FINAL ...	MC	
Mo 24	A	Reading ...	GOBL	
Tu 25	H	HACKNEY ...	GOBL	
Sat 29	A	Cradley Heath ...	GOBL	
OCTOBER				
Tu 2	H	SHEFFIELD ...	GOBL	
Tu 9	H	HULL ...	GOBL	
Tu 16	H	READING ...	GOBL	

(To be arranged—Leicester v Birmingham GOBL)

Key: GOBL—Gulf Oil British League. EMB—East Midlands Bowl. IND—Individual. MC—Midland Cup. CH—Challenge. KOC—Knockout Cup.

