

Across the finish line . . .

The horses are in the starting gate- and they're off!

The last words of the announcer are lost in the cheer of the crowd at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Lincoln. This summer the horses have been racing there from July 15 to August 16. As reported by the Lincoln Star, the opening day of the races brought crowds of 6,220 people.

This year's increase in attendance, up 9% over 1974 figures, is one of the highest in U.S. track racing this year.

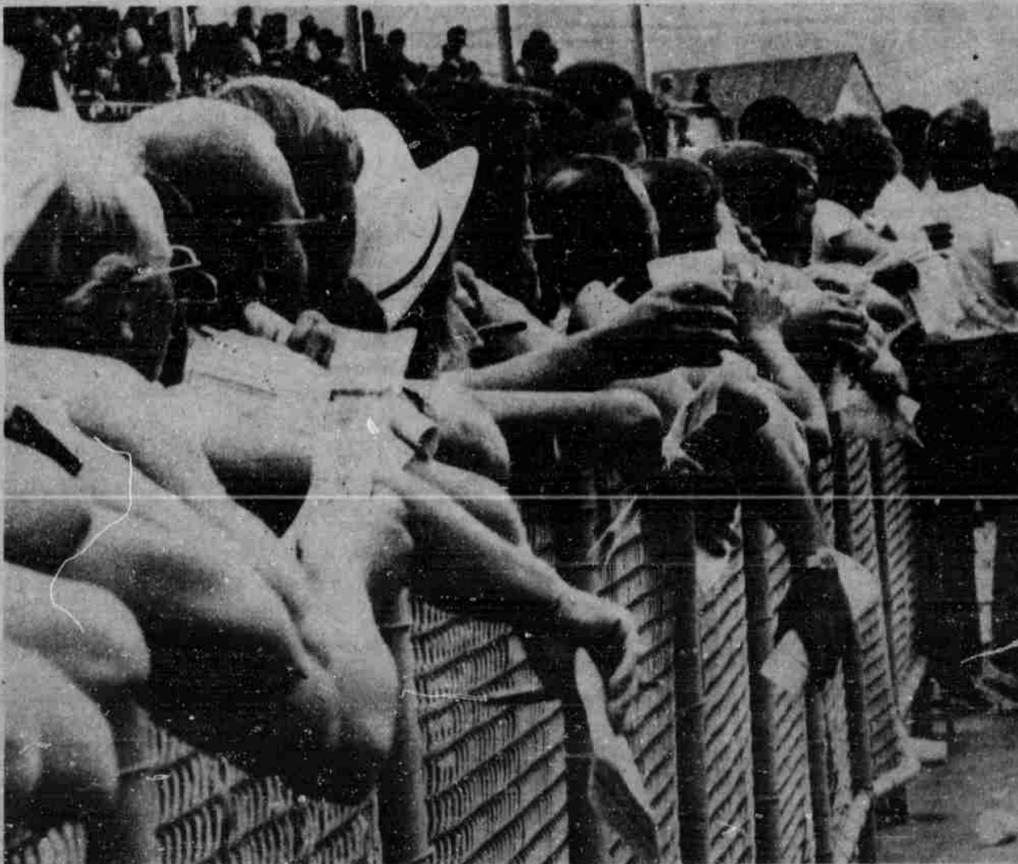
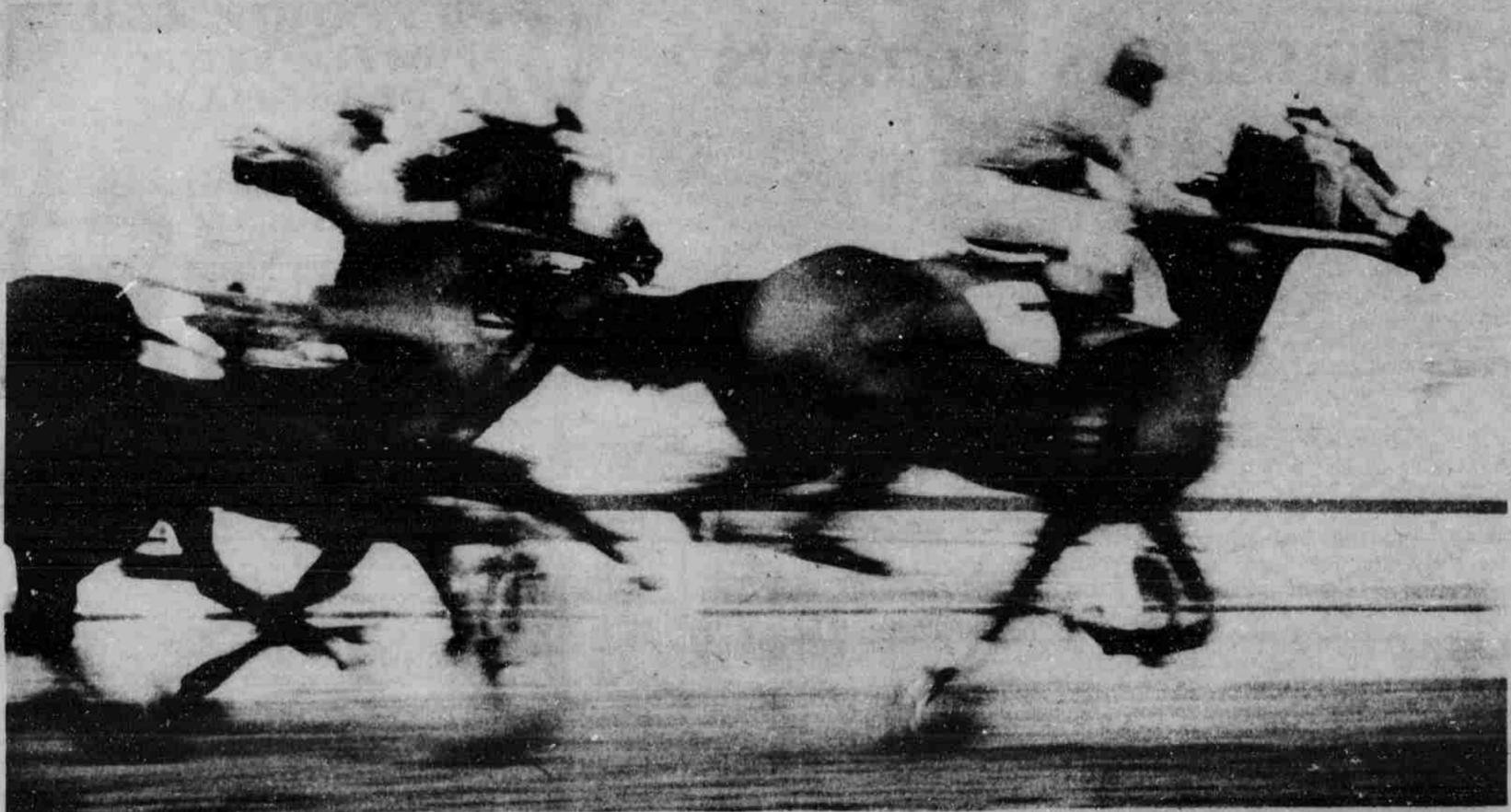
Each day, eight to ten horses race in a total of up to nine races. Included in those races each day are an Exacta and a Daily Double. To collect in the daily double, the ticket holder must have a

ticket combining the winners of the first and second race. The Exacta, also called the perfecta, is a bet on the first and second place winners of a single race.

Many people choose various ways to bet at the races. One couple said that they come to the races once a year. When they do bet, they bet on every horse in a race. They explained that this way they do not lose a great deal of money, and if a long shot wins, so do they. On this day, they had lost \$1.50 each and were planning to quit with the loss.

Most of the bettors this reporter spoke with were not winning. Many were just hoping to break even on the season. One man said, "At this point, I'm so far behind I could never catch up".

PHOTOS AND STORY BY ELY MARSH



Top: Winning jockey Terry Barnes gives a smile of relief after a successful ride on "Dugan's Dandy".

Center: Down the stretch, the horses run so fast their numbers are barely visible.

Lower left: All eyes look over the fence and down track to the starting gate.

Lower right: As each race begins, the horses are led from the stable - the anxiety is seen on the jockey's face, of the race ahead.