

Greg Clum wins kit car division

Raber gets 2nd Derby title shot

By MARC RAPPOR

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Twelve-year-old Philip Raber took his first step toward becoming the first All-American Soap Box Derby back-to-back title holder Saturday.

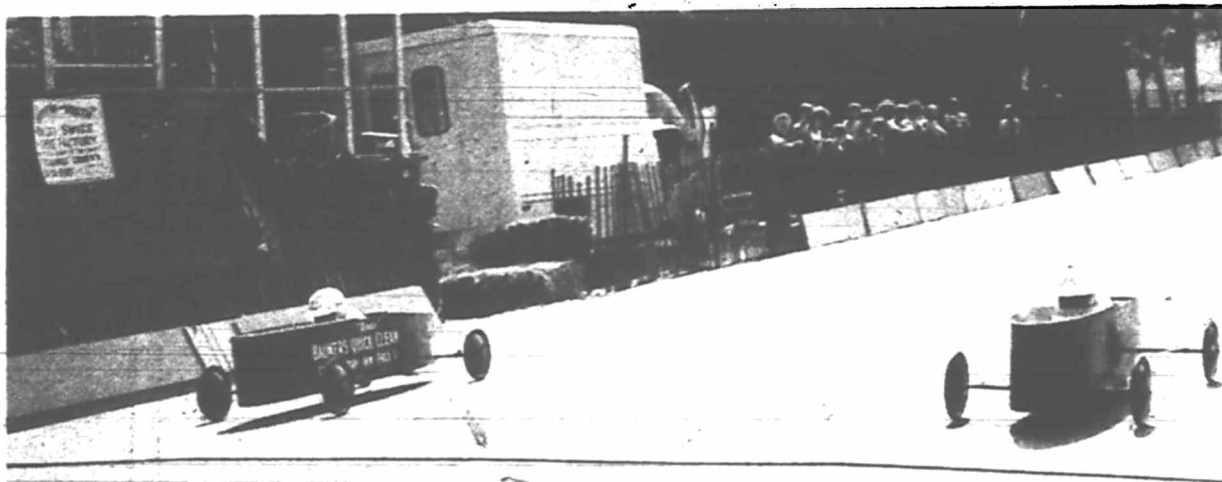
Phil and Greg Clum, 12, of New Philadelphia were the division winners in the Tuscarawas County Soap Box Derby in New Philadelphia.

The race down Derby hill (Wabash av.) featured one of the largest fields in years as 41 drivers battled it out in the kit car division and 21 cars were entered in the senior division.

Raber will make his second trip to Akron in August to compete in the national gravity classic, this time in the senior division. Last year he won the newly inaugurated national kit car trophy. Derby rules prohibit a champion from returning in the same division. Greg will be making his first trip.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Raber

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BROTHERS CROSS LINE IN KIT CAR PHOTO FINISH

Bruce (L) and Steve D'Ostroph of New Philadelphia



PHIL RABER TOOK SECOND COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
He'll try for unprecedented second title in Akron



KIT CAR CHAMP GREG CLUM IN HIS WINNING RACER
He beat 40 other contestants for division title

(Photos by Jim Celuch)

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Raber gets 2nd Derby shot

of Sugarcreek, this is Phil's second year of derby competition. Three of his brothers also won the county event. Mark in 1974, Eric in 1973 and Chris in 1970.

Phil's victory was not easy. He lost his first heat to Doug Wolf, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Davy Wolf of Bolivar, and had to fight his way to the top through the losers bracket in the double elimination competition. In the finals he met undefeated Jim McCormick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCormick of Stone Creek, and beat Jim twice to take the title.

Greg, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Clum of 729 Fair av. NE, also came through the losers bracket, taking two heats in the finals from Ronald Klein, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Klein of Baltic, who was undefeated until then.

"THE COMPETITION was really tough this year," said a visibly relieved Raber. "There were a lot of good cars and I knew after I lost that first time, each race could be my last."

Phil, looking to Akron and the national championships, said, "I guess I have as good a chance as anybody else to win there."

He said that while he'll miss derby competition, "I won't miss giving up all my Saturdays and evenings like I've had to for the last month to get my car ready."

Helping to cheer Phil to victory was Joan Ferdinand of Canton, last year's national champion in the senior division.

Phil will get a \$100 savings bond for his efforts Saturday. Runnerup McCormick will receive a \$50 bond and third place Doug Frautschy, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Frautschy of RD 2, Dover, will take home a \$25 bond.

Awards will be presented at a banquet in Buckeye Joint Vocational School tonight at 6:30.

Greg will receive a \$50 bond for winning the kit car division, while runnerup Klein gets a \$25 bond. Steve Addy of 1140 3rd st. SE, New Philadelphia, took third place, good for \$10.

In addition to the bonds and cash prizes, each winner will receive a trophy and each entrant will be given windbreakers, participation trophies and derby T-shirts.

Phil had the best heat of the day with a time of 22.989 seconds and averaged 23.086 seconds in his nine winning heats. Greg's average time in his nine winning heats was 23.433 seconds and he turned in the fastest kit car time of 23.318 seconds.

The race ran smoothly despite a two-hour delay in preparing the track because of early morning rains and four racer mishaps. The most serious was when Dean Starkey, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Starkey of Bolivar crashed through a snow fence and had to be taken to Union Hospital for examination and treatment of minor injuries.

Bill Cooper of Glass Lumber, one of the sponsoring companies, drove to victory in the Oil Can Derby, beating representatives from the other three sponsors, Burger King Inc., Kiser Paint Mfg. and Mueller's Swiss Cheese.



DEAN STARKEY GETS HELP AFTER CRASHING THROUGH FENCE
He was treated at Union Hospital for minor injuries