

Catching up

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growers got an early start planting, and those fields are already up 6-8 inches.

Lueck said in some areas of Lancaster County tobacco plants are going into the fields. He said blue mold has been found by some growers and cautioned farmers to take proper protective measures.

All other crops were reported to be in normal stages of planting or growth with no major insect problems.

Throughout the state, Liles said barley is heading slightly with only about 57 percent of the crop headed as opposed to 61 percent the same time last year. Lueck said that in Lancaster

County the crop is 100 percent headed and harvesting should begin in 2 weeks. He said smut is a problem this year.

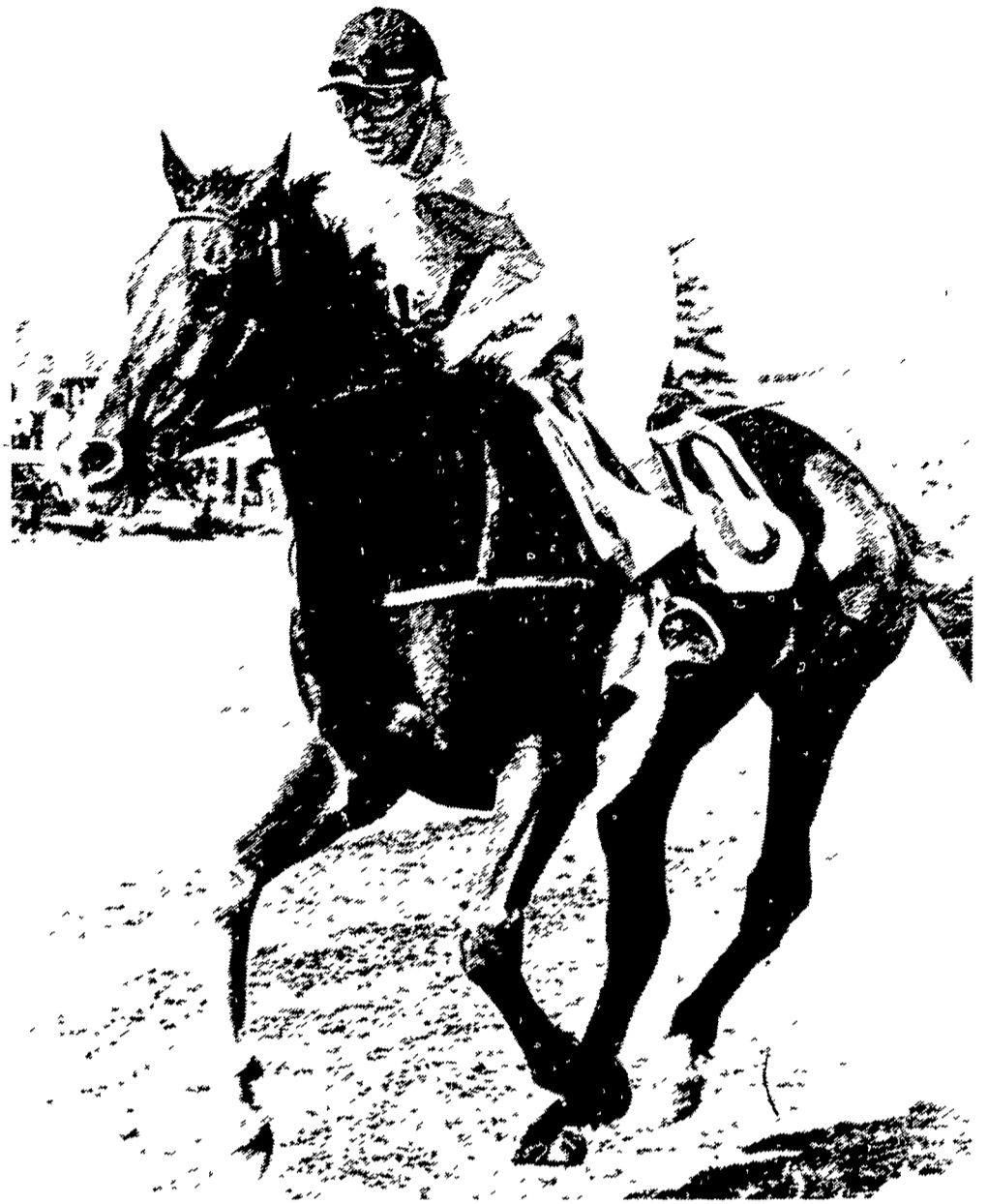
Lueck mentioned that wheat is right on schedule in the county, just starting to flower. Last year head blight was a problem and growers should be on the lookout for the disease this year.

Liles said reports on alfalfa, timothy and clover hay stands are about three-fourths good and a quarter fair. First cuttings have been started, many are harvested. Lueck said drying conditions the past few days have been excellent, and while the hay crops were a few days past

their prime, the yields should be abundant.

Strawberry growers in some areas of the state, particularly in the western part irrigated a few nights last week to protect the tender crop from frost, Liles said. Lueck mentioned that in Lancaster County, growers are finding strawberries ahead of schedule. Commercial growers began picking this week. He said the weather has been excellent for blossom set.

Lueck also said peaches have set heavily and will require lots of thinning to protect the branches. He said apples are better than in the past 2 years. PK



Jockey Toinette Jackson, of Unionville, Pa., rides University of Delaware-bred Valid Nade to his third steeplechase win in Oaklands, Va.

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University bred horse winning purses

MIDDLETOWN, Del. — Valid Nade used to be involved in education, but now he's winning races instead. The eight-year-old Thoroughbred, now owned by Dr. and Mrs. William H. Wright of Labadie Mill Farm, Middletown, was bred and raised at the University of Delaware's College of Agricultural Sciences.

According to Dr. C. Melvin Reitnour, head of the equine science program, the University breeds horses for teaching rather than racing purposes. Reitnour has over 250 students in his horse science, horsemanship, equine management and equine husbandry classes.

The University's horse breeding program receives generous support from the community, Reitnour points out. The couple who purchased Valid Nade, Lana duPont Wright, a former Olympic rider, and her husband, a veterinarian, have donated a number of horses to the program. Other interested people have also donated horses or stud services.

Valid Nade was bred from

excellent stock, Reitnour says. From birth he received topnotch care and training by students and faculty who really love horses. He was a very good combined training horse.

Now all that breeding, care, and training are paying off for his new owners—he's winning races, on the turf and over timber. His racing record to date is three wins, three seconds and one third.

A horse such as Valid Nade provides a valuable learning experience for the students, while his sale provides additional funds for the popular equine science program.

What do equine students do after they graduate? With all the race tracks and pleasure horses in the area, Reitnour says, there are a number of horse-related job possibilities.

Some graduates go on to veterinary school, while others go into veterinary pharmaceutical sales. Others, to be sure, become doctors, nurses, lawyers, pet shop owners and airline pilots, but in each of their backyards you are likely to find at least one extremely healthy, well-groomed, well-nourished horse or pony. Maybe it was even bred at the University of Delaware.

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