

Putty Tat' Meier Drives Like Wildcat

If you "t'ought you taw a putty tat" chances are it was Aberdeen's Arnie Meier in car number 83 as he makes his circles around the State Fairgrounds Speedway in the superstock races.

Meier's canary-yellow 1969 Chevelle doesn't sound much like a canary, however, with its growling 327-cubic inch Chevrolet engine.

A frequent racer at Huron's State Fairgrounds Speedway this year, Arnie and former point leader Don Bult engaged in one of the hardest-fought duels that Huronians had the pleasure of

seeing all season.

The race ended for the two front-runners in a spectacular crash that eliminated both of them from the racing scene for a week. His racing fever began when he attended his first car race at Huron five years ago. He enjoyed it so much that he decided to build his own car, and a year later he was touring the tracks with the rest of the stock cars.

Although cartoon characters Tweety the canary and Sylvester the cat accompany him as car decorations, his biggest fans are his wife and two children.

Blimey! It's The Flyin' Irishman

"Blimey! It's the Flyin' Irishman!"

With a name like Mahoney and and shamrock green 1957 Chevrolet with a 350-cubic inch power plant, a man should have the luck of the Irish!

And Dick Mahoney seems to have it. He began racing at Winner in 1969 with a 1957 Ford Class A stock car which has since been completely totalled.

Racing primarily at Central Speedway, Mahoney has done well against some of the top superstock cars in the state. With a liking for the pole position, Mahoney has the reputation of being first through the pack and taking an early lead.

He didn't win his first until early this season but chances are this second-year driver will have more than his share before he closes his racing career.

Mahoney is 30 years old, married and has two children.

Duane Parks

No. 127, Pierre

Another first-year hobby stock driver at the State Fair races today is Pierre's Duane Parks.

Parks is married, has no children and is currently riding in second place at Pierre's Oahe Speedway.

His 1955 Chevrolet has a 262-cubic inch V-8 engine.

Bob Tong,

'Beep Beep'

Miller Ace

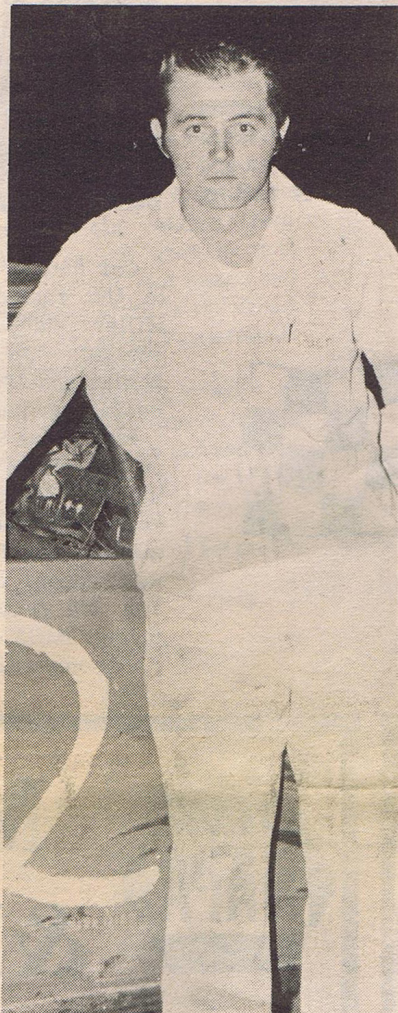
Amaible Bob Tong, although a native Ohio boy, speaks with a southern drawl and has racing fever. As a rookie last year, State Fairgrounds Speedway fans saw him place third in the State Fair feature, which Tong still considers one of the highlights of his short racing career.

The 30-year old Tong drives the Martin Muth-Special, car number 71. The 1958 Ford recently underwent a major face-lifting that saw the entire body being lifted and replaced by a different '58 Ford body. But the hard-running 352-cubic inch engine remains the same and if Tong has his way he'll place even higher in this year's Fair feature.

Tong is married and has two sons.

He is best-known for his rear-starting races when he picks his way through the field toward the top of the pack.

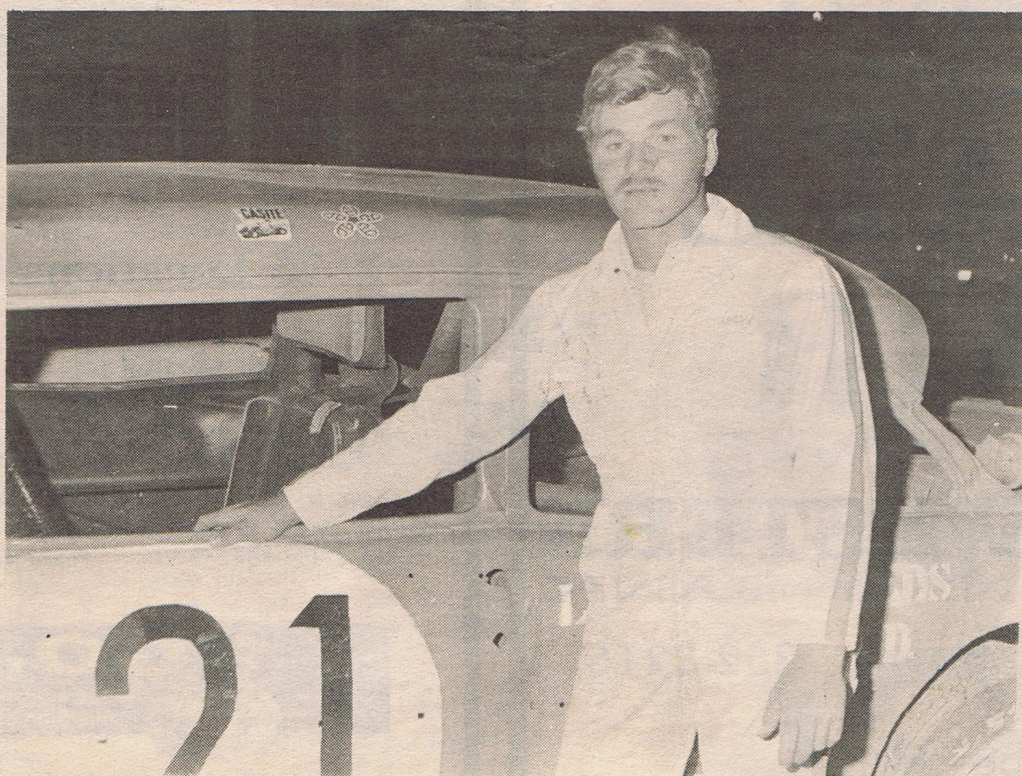
Rick Prestrude, No. 2, Estelline



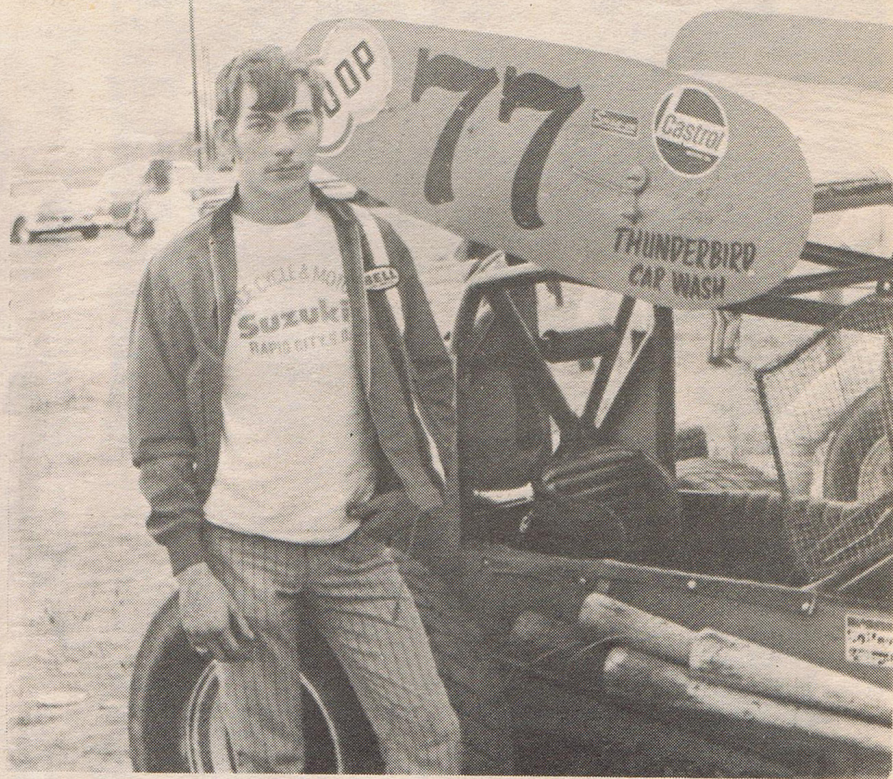
A five-year veteran of automobile racing, Estelline's Rick Prestrude will be reining a 1964 Chevelle Malibu with a 327-cubic inch engine.

Married, and the father of two children, Prestrude is the fourth place holder in the point standings at Brookings.

Gary Lippert, No. 121, Tolstoy



Bill Liebig, No. 77, Rapid City



Bill Liebig is the number one modified racer at the Black Hills Speedway in Rapid City this year.

Liebig's number 77 modified racer is expected to run some stiff competition against the rest of the feature field.

Being a racing rookie in his first season of automobile racing, Liebig has never raced on the South Dakota State Fairgrounds Speedway half-mile track. His car carries a 302 Chevrolet racing engine.

Don Bult, No. 40, Huron



An entire page could be written about Huron racer Don Bult and the success that he has enjoyed in his 1970 Plymouth Barracuda this season.

Bult began construction on the 'Cuda during the winter months and unveiled it at the first SDMA races this summer. The 340 cubic inch engine has run competitively with nearly everything that the larger engines have done.

A former SDMA point leader, Bult raced with super stock cars all season, but is eligible for class A running in the State Fair Association races. "I ran with the superstockers because I thought it would give me a better chance at Fair time," he said.

Vern Green No. 116, Murdo

Rookie driver Vern Green, Murdo, will be driving in his first South Dakota State Fair races today in his 1955 Ford hobby stocker.

The machine has a 292-cubic inch Ford engine.

He is married and has one son.