

VAST THROG SEE SPEEDERS IN HOT RACES

**Disbrow, Chevrolet, Cooper,
and Cody Carry Off Firsts
In Hair-raising Drives
Under Wire**

Seven thousand persons packed the West Side race track grounds at the opening of the auto races Monday afternoon, to see world champion drivers battle for supremacy on the dirt. The races opened at 2:30, and long before the time set to start practically every seat in the amphitheater and the wings were taken, and large groups of sports hung around the fence, eager to see the start between the speeders. The rivalry was keen, and each contestant battled to the limit for every inch of ground. Disbrow, Chevrolet, Cooper, Cody, Strickler, Wonderlich, each holding a world record for speed and endurance, were the entries for Monday's races.

Eight events were featured, and each was contested by world champion speeders, the main feature being the three-mile flying start in which Disbrow, Chevrolet and Cooper raced neck and neck, see-sawing at the corners, and battling for every advantage, Disbrow winning by less than a car's length in the final stretch.

In the two-lap flying start between Cody and Wonderlich, the two champions fought hood to hood, first one machine nosing ahead and then the other, and coming down the home stretch at an even break until within ten feet of the wire, when Cody made a dash, going under the wire less than half a wheel's length ahead.

In Event No. 1—Distance three miles, flying start, Class Race, division C for cars of 300 cubic inch piston displacement or under, which was contested by Cody, D'Allen, Strickler and Wonderlich, Wonderlich driving a Buick, came under the wire first, Cody, driving an Ogreen Special, second, Strickler, driving a Super Six third and D'Allen, driving a Disbrow Special third. Time 3:37.

In Event No. 2—Distance 3 miles, flying start, first heat, three cornered match race for the dirt track championship between Earl Cooper, Gaston, Chevrolet and Disbrow. Disbrow came under the wire in the lead by two laps, with Chevrolet honking at his tail and Cooper following a close third. The race was a battle royal from the start between Disbrow and Chevrolet, first one and then the other taking lead, until the last lap, when Disbrow made a spurt that carried him under the wire two lengths in advance. Time 2:33.

Event No. 3—Time trials for track, state and world's record by all contestants, distance one lap, flying start was won by Disbrow, who broke the 33 1-5 record of last year by making the lap in 33 seconds. The race was a fight from start, with Wilson, driving a Ford, Strickler driving a Super Six, Wonderlich driving a Buick, Cody driving an Ogreen, Chevrolet driving a Sunbeam, Cooper driving a Stutz and Disbrow driving a Simplex. Wilson and his little Ford made the slowest time, being 37.2 seconds. Time 33 seconds.

Event No. 4—Handicap Pursuit Race, distance five miles, standing start, with Cooper, Chevrolet, Strickler and Wonderlich as the contestants, was a "hoss race" from the start, ending with Cooper, driving a Stutz in the lead followed close by Chevrolet. Strickler with a Super Six was in the running until the ninth round when Cooper passed him, which forced him out of the race. Wonderlich had a blow-out in the fourth lap, which forced him out. Cooper and his Stutz caught the crowd by passing both Wonderlich and Strickler and winning the race.

Event No. 4 consisted of a military drill and tournament by the famous United States Army (regulars) drill team of Ft. Leavenworth, which convinced the 7000 people present that the claim of the best drilled team in the world was correct and justly merited. When the team marched in front of the grand stand the crowd cheered long and loud, but when the boys got into action, the cheering ceased, and 7000 American men and women looked with admiring eyes on the boys in khaki. The military drill tournament was by far the big feature which captured and held the crowd, the climax coming when the team went through the regular routine without orders and without command.

Event No. 6—Novelty race and wheel change contest, distance 3 laps, standing start, between Cooper and Chevrolet, was won by Chevrolet, the time taken in changing the wheel being 10 seconds.

Event No. 7—Distance two miles, flying start, special race for a side bet of \$100, between Cody and Wonderlich, was won by Cody, whose machine nosed ahead by only a few inches as both men went under the wire. Time 2:31.

Event No. 8—"Liberty Sweepstakes, distance 10 miles, standing start, in which all the contestants of the former races started, was won by Cooper, followed by Chevrolet, with Disbrow third. In the start Disbrow's car went bad, and the other speeders got the advantage of half a lap before he got started, but he made time and was coming down the home stretch as a close third in the final round up, passing Strickler and Wonderlich and putting them out of the running.

The races Wednesday promise to be more fiercely contested than those of today, and each of the speeders has the other's capacity, and will fight to the last inch to gain the championship of the Wichita track.