

Porsche Places 9th

# Holbert Takes Class Win At Sebring Endurance Race

By BOB STOCKTON

"Some people play golf for a hobby — I race," said Warrington's Bob Holbert, explaining his pastime.

Holbert's latest success was at the Sebring 12 Hour Endurance Race two weekends ago in Florida. He drove a factory Porsche Two Liter Coupe to ninth overall and first in the under two liter class. His was the highest placed Porsche and the highest placed car overall other than the all conquering Ferraris and a pair of E Jaguars.

This weekend Holbert will journey to Marlboro Raceway in Upper Marlboro, Md., to compete in the Sports Car Club of America's first 1963 national race. Holbert will drive his own Porsche Spyder, an RSK. He also owns an RS-61 which is a newer car, but the older model will be a little better suited for the tight course at Marlboro.

### Routine Race

For Holbert, his recent performance at Sebring was "old hat." Although the result was impressive, Holbert's preparation for one of the most important sports car races in the world appeared to be exceptionally casual.

After arriving at the track on Wednesday afternoon, Holbert stepped from his station wagon



BOB HOLBERT  
Porsche Pilot . . .

into one of the factory team Porsches. He was attired in sports clothes and was puffing on one of the largest cigars in existence.

"We didn't run the cars much," explained Holbert. "We knew the track and wanted to save the cars."

More of Same  
On Thursday, practice was

much the same. There were two sessions, one in the afternoon and one at night. The night practice is necessary because the race runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Again Holbert appeared to take the whole business in stride. He has raced at Sebring since 1958.

"It was nothing new. We got familiar with the markers before the turns and adjusted the headlights".

There was no practice session on Friday. That day was left to get the cars in order for 12 hours of racing on Saturday. Although Holbert is a fine mechanic in his own right, factory mechanics worked on his car for this race. It was a day off.

### Leads Off

Saturday beamed bright and clear as race time approached. Holbert was assigned to lead off in the car he was to co-drive with teammate Don Wester. In the LeMans type start, Holbert ran across the track, jumped into his car and was off. He drove steadily for the next two and one-half hours during his first drive. This was to be the trademark of the Porsche team performance for all 12 hours: a smooth, steady race in order to finish.

"We did not lap as fast as I thought we could," said Holbert, "but we finished and won our class."

Holbert's performance earned Porsche nine world championship points in the under two liter grand touring class. This was what the factory was after.

### Car Banned

Holbert would have rather raced his Spyder at Sebring for a higher overall placing, but the rules committee banned his car on a rule technicality. It is definitely faster than the coupe he drove at Sebring. Holbert finished second at Sebring in 1960 in a Spyder.

What's ahead this summer for Warrington's busiest automobile dealer?

"I'll take in all the SCCA nationals and the United States Road Racing Championship series of eight races. This is a new series for strictly modified cars, divided into two classes over and under two liters," revealed Holbert. "I'd also like



### FEMALE CHAMPIONS . . .

second half of the Upper Moreland League girls' division at went on to take the season's last week. Team members, Pisano; Cyndi Scharmann, Kulin, and Ginny Cook.

## Upper Moreland Runners Feel North Penn's Power

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we'll be flying a little easier," added Gamble.

### MEET RESULTS

- 120 HH—Phillips (NP) Brown (UM) Rissmiller (NP)—15.8
- 100 Dash—Murphy (NP) Moros (NP) Hager (NP)—10.6
- Mile Run—Bricker (NP) Heins (UM) Hillman (NP)—4:46.4
- 500 Relay—North Penn—Moros, Gilbert, Krum, Kuss—1:36.5
- 440 Dash—Murphy (NP) Hager (NP) Smith (NP)—53.2
- 180 LH—Rissmiller (NP) Phillips (NP) Brown (UM)—21.1
- 880 Run—J. Phillips (NP) Heins (UM) Rissmiller (NP)—2:06.9
- 220 Dash—Murphy (NP) Hager (NP) Moros (NP)—23.4
- Mile Relay—North Penn—D. Phillips, Whipp, Smith, Bricker—3:41
- Broad Jump—Phillips (NP) Krum (NP) Gilbert (NP)—18'9"
- Javelin—Crawford (NP) Festa (UM) Hanna (NP)—175'2½"

- High Jump—Tie Festa (UM) Kane (NP) Lacher (NP)—5'6"
- Discus—Loy (NP) Geremia (NP) Jaros (NP)—139'8½"
- Shot Put—Loy (NP) Jaros (NP) Festa (UM)—48'4"

### Listed On Roster

Two area boys are listed on the spring sports rosters of Lebanon Valley College. Bob Zweitzig, Southampton, is a first base candidate on the baseball team and George Thomas, Warminster, is on the tennis team.

## To Vote On R

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league for the past several years."

Upper Dublin will play in Class A competition next fall.

### Growing Fast

"Our school is growing too fast for Inter-County League competition," said Frank Gilronan, Upper Dublin athletic director. "We expect the competition of the Suburban League to be stiff, but we expect to im-

to race in the first regional at Vineland but I can't possibly make them all."

Wins First

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All the Porsches are under two liters of displacement. Holbert does not have to take an overall first place to win his class. He has already gained a class win in the first of the eight road racing championships races in his Spyder. He did this by finishing second overall at Daytona in February. Incidentally, Holbert is offering one of his fast Spyders for sale.

Holbert owes a large portion of his success to his combined interests.

### No Problems

"Cars are both my business and my hobby. Being able to prepare my own car is a big factor," explained Holbert.

Although Holbert can devote quite a bit of time to his racing preparation is not the entire story. He is the finest Porsche sports car driver in the country, possibly the world. His list of successes is too long to begin here.

In addition to his racing, Holbert owns a Volkswagen-Porsche dealership on Easton Road in Warrington. He resides at 2181 Longview Rd., Warrington with his wife Elinor and two boys, Al and Larry.

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