

Parnelli Home as Champion

Rufus Jones is home. And he's a big man now.

Better known as Parnelli, the 27-year-old Torrance race driver left California seven months ago to join the rigorous United States Auto Club racing circuit, including Indianapolis.

He's returned a hero, no doubt about that, AND a national champion, as well.

IT'S IN HIS newest role — champion — that Parnelli makes his triumphant return. He's the lead in a strong east which J. C. Agajanian has assembled for Saturday's

night's final USAC sprint car event at Ascot Park. Parnelli is king of the country's sprint car pilots.

Jones won the crown in a torrid three-way scrap with A. J. Foyt of Houston, the Indianapolis 500 winner, and Jim Hurtubise of Lennox, the fastest man in Indianapolis Speedway history (149.592 mph for one lap).

THE THREE of them go at it again Saturday night at Ascot in a 40-lapper.

"It's been a good year for me," said Parnelli. "And with

a little luck in the big cars it could have been a great year. But don't misunderstand, I'm not complaining. I got my share of luck in the sprints."

The year's big money winner, of course, is Foyt — something like \$90,000 from purse winnings of \$175,000. But Parnelli figures he isn't doing badly and probably will end the year in the \$25,000 to \$30,000 bracket.

"EVERYTHING went right for me in the sprints," said the Indianapolis co-rookie of the year. "I won nine of the



PARNELLI JONES
Torrance Driver

22 races this season (Foyt won six and Hurtubise four as the "big three" monopolized the purses).

"Little things seemed to bug me in the big cars," he continued. "I'm not discouraged, though. I led five of this year's championship races, only to fall out due to one thing or another. I did get six second places in the past two years."

PARNELLI'S biggest disappointment, naturally, with Indianapolis. As a rookie, he led for several laps in Agajanian's Willard Battery Special. He was struck over the left eye by a flying object thrown up by another car and lost sight of the eye for a few laps as his goggles filled with blood. He finally salvaged 12th place,

nursing his car home on two cylinders.

He's anxiously and optimistically awaiting next year's race. "I know now I can move in that company. But I wish there were two 500-milers a year," he said. "It's tough waiting a year to get back there."

Marionettes to Portray Story of Princess

The Allan Bratton Marionettes are now showing "A Wish for the Moon," the story of a little princess whose wishes for the moon come true. It will be shown for the next two weekends, Saturdays and Sundays, at 2 p.m. Parents are invited to attend the performances with their youngsters as the productions are suited for young and old alike.

Anyone interested in learning the art of puppeteering may contact Bratton at the following numbers: FR 5-5259, FR 2-5658, or FR 8-9017 evenings.



EARLESS PETS . . . Mike Haun, 9, of 20841 Denker Ave., feeds a carrot to his pet earless rabbits. The rabbits can hear and are normal in every other way. Mike is raising rabbits as part of the Cub Scout training. (Herald Photo)

Earless Rabbits Set Neighborhood Buzzing

Nine-year-old Mike Haun of 20841 Denker Ave., got more than he bargained for in raising rabbits as a Cub Scout project. His pet rabbit, Dee Wiggle Nose, gave birth to nine earless little ones.

Mike's father, Donald, who is an electronics inspector at Douglas, says he has been raising rabbits ever since he was a boy and this is the first time he has ever heard of a doe having earless rabbits.

It has caused quite a stir around the Haun household since their seven children, three of their own and four foster children, are also raising rabbits or will have one of their own soon.

WEE Wiggle Nose's earless rabbits can hear and are normal in every other way. Three of the earless rabbits died which leaves six now, two of them with just one ear. The

mother "has had five litters and they've always been normal before," Mike says.

Mike is a members of Cub Scout Den 1 Pack 228 at Halldale School.

"ALL OF THE children are or will be in scouting and raising rabbits helps teach them how to care for animals," Haun says.

Haun said the family will probably keep a couple of the earless rabbits and use the others as meat. They are Giant New Zealanders and become big enough to butcher in about eight weeks.

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