

The 1956 Grand National has become known as the Hard Luck National for Devon Loch ; the year of sensation when one of the two entries from the Queen Mother's stable slipped and fell, after his jockey, Dick Francis, had brought him safely to within fifty yards of victory. We're going to take you back ^{to the} to look at this great race that was shown in full in the last issue of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Universa~~ ^{Universal} News - - giving, this time, special attention to Devon Loch. To show how, while others fell, he ran on; and how good luck ran with him until the last moment. At the Canal Turn you ~~can~~ see his jockey, Dick Francis, keeping him out wide on the left of the picture. Devon Loch ^{- No. 5 -} had a clear jump ~~and he jumped strongly and well.~~

Again, at Jump No. 10 --- Devon Loch is kept clear on the far side; but here he moves ~~him~~ and has his first lucky escape, when he narrowly misses being brought down by another horse's mistake.

At this point of the race --- the start of the second time round - every eye was on the leading horse, Armorial. Armorial had taken the lead almost from the start; ~~but~~ now --- follow the arrow and see Devon Loch close behind; and here's ^a ~~another~~ second lucky escape as he swerves at the jump and narrowly misses a collision.

x At Becher's the second time round Devon Loch is lying fifth ~~---~~ there he is, nearest the camera --- and here he makes no mistake.

Once again --- the Canal Turn; and once again Jockey Francis keeps Devon Loch clear of trouble, on the left of our picture.

After the Canal, Devon Loch shows terrific power as he comes sweeping round the sharp left-handed turn, and moves up to take second place to Armorial.

Now for Jump No. 26 --- where Armorial's lead finished with a crash.

Let's examine that in detail -- there's Devon Loch under the arrow.

AS WELL AS

~~these~~ ~~gone~~ / Armorial; Much Obligated ~~and~~ and Polonius ~~has~~
~~also~~ came down; ~~at this jump~~ ~~and~~ now watch how Devon Loch just missed
being brought down with them --- but his luck held once more. A
swerve quicker than thought kept him still in the race.

Now Devon Loch --- ~~is~~ No. 5 --- is at Jump No. 27. He goes ~~on~~
in front place; and from now on it looks like certain victory;
the near misses are behind him..... he's ~~leading the field and~~ *going into the lead and*
every yard shows that he's still got plenty of pace and plenty of
stamina.

Into the straight; on the far side of the rails you can see ~~the~~
the Water Jump which is only taken on the first circuit. Perhaps
Devon Loch can see it too. Watch how he seems to take that
Water Jump that isn't there.

Let 's go back to that Wager Jump. Observe the action, as
Devon Loch gathers himself for the leap.

Now let 's look again at that fall on the flat -- the same
gathering action is repeated.

It certainly does look as if he imagined he was going over
that Water Jump that you see in the background.

And here comes E.S.B. to pass the Queen Mother's horse and
gallop on to victory. E.S.B. is another name on the steeplechasers'
roll of fame: Devon Loch is the name of the horse that would have
won --- if he hadn't been deserted by Lady Luck.

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FIGHTING FOR

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