



Sunday, June 10, 2012

Gural Lifts Brennan Ban

By Bill Finley

Jeff Gural's ban of George Brennan for comments he made in a New York Times story ended yesterday after the driver and the track owner spoke at Tioga Downs.

"We talked and Jeff realized he misinterpreted my quotes and I assured him several times that I do not condone cheating," said Brennan, who declined to answer any further questions.

Gural could not be reached for comment.

Brennan was informed by Meadowlands management last week that he was banned at all the Gural-owned tracks because of comments he made to the New York Times in a story regarding the Lou Pena suspension. Gural believed Brennan's comments were tantamount to condoning cheating.

Though Brennan does not drive regularly at the Meadowlands he does appear there for some major races and won the 2011 Hambletonian and Hambletonian Oaks at the Big M.

Because he did not want to punish owners who had already secured the driver's services Gural permitted Brennan to compete Friday at Vernon Downs and yesterday at Tioga. Considering that Brennan is now allowed back at the Gural tracks, the ban may not have kept him out of a single race.

Brennan won two races yesterday at Tioga.

Again) and **Bettor Sweet** (Bettor's Delight) in a blanket finish. Clear Vision was part of a four-horse favored Ron Burke entry and was driven by Matt Kakaley.

The early stages of the race produced some wild fractions, as defending champion Bettor Sweet went right to the lead and reached the opening quarter in a blistering :25.3. Foiled Again



Clear Vision (far left) won a squeaker in the Bettor's Delight

was allowed to settle in the pocket behind the world champion, while Clear Vision was taken off the pace sitting mid-pack in 6th position.

Razzle Dazzle (Real Desire) was the first to move to the outside and led the outer flow through a :54 half-mile, but his bid was only brief as he stalled on the backstretch. Clear Vision moved past Razzle Dazzle, and then tracked Foiled Again who pulled the pocket nearing the three-quarter pole, which was hit in 1:21.1. Bettor Sweet led into the stretch, while Foiled Again and Clear Vision fanned out across the track in a driving finish that left the Tioga Downs crowd buzzing.

In the end, Clear Vision reigned victorious in a sparkling 1:48.2, just 1/5th of a second off Bettor Sweet's world record.

Driver Matt Kakaley could not have been happier with his trip.

"Things just worked out perfectly," said Kakaley. "I knew I had horse and when Foiled Again pulled in front of me, it allowed my horse to relax and track him into the stretch. I knew we had two great horses to chase down, and Bettor Sweet raced his guts out. I'm just happy we hit the wire first."

We Will See (Western Hanover) came from a tough spot, but rallied well to finish fourth. **Won The West** (Western Hanover), who could have gone past \$4 Million lifetime with a win, came from a dozen lengths back to be 5th. Rounding out the order of finish were Aracache Hanover, Meirs Hanover, Real Nice and Razzle Dazzle. Rockincam did not finish.

Not to be outdone, the most talented Free For All mare pacers went to the post as well Sunday in the \$184,000 Artiscap. The race featured the winners of the last two editions of the event, **Androvette** (Riverboat King) (2011 winner) and **Dreamfair Eternal** (Camluck) (2010 winner).

NEWS Today sponsored by

HESTON BLUE CHIP

p,2,1:50.4f; 3,1:52h-'12 (\$435,709)
by American Ideal

His full sister, Tacumwah Blue Chip, will sell at the 2012 Harrisburg Yearling Sale.

Wallkill, NY 12589 845-895-3930 www.bluechipfarms.com

Clear Vision Wins Thrilling Bettor's Delight

By Darin Zoccali

NICHOLS, NY--The best Free For All Pacers in the country converged upon Tioga Downs in Nichols, New York on Sunday to do battle in the \$182,000 Bettor's Delight. The event has produced world record miles in each of its first two editions. While no world records fell on Sunday, the race yielded one of the most exciting stretch drives harness racing has seen in 2012.

After a lengthy photo finish, the win photograph revealed the nose in front belonged to **Clear Vision** (Western Hanover) who chased down both **Foiled Again** (Dragon

In the end, Dreamfair Eternal, trained by Patrick Fletcher, became the first mare to win The Artiscape twice as she rallied off a perfect second-over cover trip for Jody Jamieson to score a decisive victory over **Rocklamation** (Rockroll Hanover).

Drop The Ball (Western Terror) rallied from dead last to be a fast closing third.



Dreamfair Eternal won the Artiscape for the second time

Jamieson has had a great deal of success over the past few years at the Nichols, N.Y. oval.

"I've had a good run here lately, that's for sure," said Jamieson, who won the 2011 World Driving Championship and the 2011

Tioga-Meadowlands Driving Championship thanks in great part to his success at Tioga Downs.

"It's easy to have big days when you get to drive horses like this. She hadn't found her best stride so far this year, but today all I had to do was give her a trip, show her race-track and she exploded."

Dreamfair Eternal hit the wire in 1:49, eclipsing her own track record which she established winning the 2010 Artiscape.

Favored **Put On A Show** (Rockroll Hanover), who made a brush to the lead 3/8th's of a mile into the race tired in the stretch and faded to ninth. Androvette got caught behind the tiring leader, and finished a disappointing seventh.

In earlier New York Sire Stakes action for three year old filly pacers, driver George Brennan and trainer Casie Coleman teamed up for a pair of wins with **New York Kitty** (American Ideal) and **Eighthundredollarbill** (Bettor's Delight). The third and final leg of the Sire Stakes went to **Major Look** (Art Major), who after desperately seeking racing room, was able to chase down favored **Handsoffmycookie** (Art Major), runner up in the 2011 Breeders Crown.

© Copyright Harness Racing Update.

This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, MB Publishing Inc. Information as to the races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published by the United States Trotting Association and utilized here with the permission of the copyright owner.

Want to Subscribe for FREE?

Visit www.harnessracingupdate.com/websignup.cfm and fill out the free subscription form.



BRUSH and CRUSH

Dean Towers

Whoa Nellie, This Could Get Interesting

A funny thing happened on Saturday night at about 10PM at Mohawk Racetrack. A North America Cup elimination race was held, but a North America Cup Final broke out.

In an elimination race, when we have a 1-5 shot from the wood who has garnered all the press, his main rival with the six, off a month with sickness, we expect an elimination coronation. We've seen it dozens of times. On this night, though - not on your life.

Jody Jamieson, driver of **Warrawee Needy**, was not about to let **Sweet Lou** pick his post position without a fight. The 3-year-old gave him all he could handle, stinging him in a brutal 53 flat half, on a track that didn't even look super-fast. It was shades of Somebeachsomewhere against Art Official in the Meadowlands Pace final, but it was for \$50,000.

Sweet Lou responded masterfully and set a Canadian and track record in the process. Warrawee Needy proved he belongs in any conversation regarding the top colts. Game on.

Now we move onto the Cup Final next week for \$1.5 million, and I find there may be more questions than answers. Ask any trainer what he or she hopes for in an elimination race, and they'll say "an easy trip with little taken out of my colt". They say that for a reason - because



when you race hard a week before, your horse can get sore, or have the wind taken out of his sails. If we watch the end of that elimination race,

we see two pretty tired horses. Can both bounce back with another huge effort? Will both regress next week? It's a question we won't know the answer to until next Saturday night.

Lost in Saturday night's main event was the marvelous race by **Hurrikane Kingcole**. This colt is for real. He broke before the gate, rushed to catch it and caught the field turning for home showing blazing speed. He paced his last half in 51.4 and his last three quarters in 1:18.3, losing by only eight. He should've lost by 80. That is one wonderful animal, and this crop better be on their toes when they face him next. It's a crying shame he is not in the Final.

In addition, I thought **Thinking Out Loud** was super, off dead cover in a fast mile. He looks ready if any of the top

colts falter next week.

The first elimination was a competitive affair that too asked more questions than answered them, for this handicapper anyway. Last week **A Rocknroll Dance** looked a little off, and I read that the connections thought he needed to chase, rather than be on the lead. Saturday night he chased, but was really no better. His first start was sparkling, his last two not quite as good. Which horse shows up next week? If you feel the one who raced at Mohawk in the Metro will, you'll get a good price. The other qualifying colts were closing in a pack and none really stuck out, in my opinion. But they are all capable horses and add to an already intriguing Cup Final.

We just went through a pretty interesting Triple Crown chase in thoroughbred racing. If Saturday night's action is a harbinger, this season in harness racing may be one for the ages. Will we see a Somebeachsomewhere-Art Official-Shadow Play crop, where we have a standout and two very, very good colts? Will we see a Jate Lobell crop, where there were about six or seven good ones? The jury is still out and it is a very long season, but at this early stage it appears we may be looking at one of those two scenarios. I don't know about you, but I personally can't wait to find out.

Saturday Night Thoughts: Handle broke \$2M at Mohawk Saturday, a very good elimination haul...**Big McDeal** was locked and loaded mid-stretch against **American Jewel** ...**Romantic Moment** looked as good as I have ever seen her in the post parade, and despite a cushy trip, was super-impressive ...**Sarandon Blue Chip** was steppy almost every stride ...**Il Mago** closed beautifully in his Goodtimes elim ... **Michaels Power** had nowhere to go in Cup elim one, **Mel Mara** was flat ... Both **Guccio** and **Know Nothing** were awesome, setting up a good final... **Economy Terror** went a 26.1 third quarter and deserved to be tired at the end, setting up a good final.

Sponsored by



FEEDBACK!

Turn your racehorses into COOL CASH!
*Consign with Preferred Equine Marketing
at the Meadowlands July 29 Summer Mixed Sale*
Call (914) 773-7777 or click [here](#) for online entry form

P.O. Box 2200 • Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 • www.preferredequine.com

Sweet Lou Deserves Spotlight

Now that I'll Have Another is no longer racing, the national media (whatever is left of it) for horse racing should turn their focus on Sweet Lou! It's a great story about a great family and a great driver who have dominated our sport and a horse with a not so popular pedigree who could be our best ever. Seize the moment!

Chris Coyle

Wants Answers in Pena Case

Pena trained horses raced at many different racetracks in several states. I understand Pena is charged by NYSRWB

with "illegally drugging and racing" the horses he trained in 675 +- NY races over the past two years. If Pena is guilty as charged... why didn't his horses have any positive drug tests in the past two years? Are we to believe something is wrong with each state's drug testing programs? If that is the case, was Pena the only trainer smart enough to devise a system to pass each state's lab testing? Should NY investigate their own lab testing program? Should NY summon the vet records of all other trainers who have won races in NY in the last two years? Were some people jealous of Pena? Was someone out to get Pena? Did NY investigate other trainers in the same manor as they did Pena? Did Pena's vet only treat Pena trained horses? A lot of questions need to be fully answered successfully.

Dean Richardson

Brennan Has Right to Speak Out

Jeff Gural, although has the right to say what he likes within reason as a free democratic society permits, so does George Brennan. Mr. Gural has his business to conduct and so does Mr. Brennan. Mr. Gural, maybe just maybe should work at getting the best drivers back to "The Big M" much the same way he's trying to fill the stands with customers. Banning the best drivers because he does not like what they say! How does any country or any business grow without differences? The best drivers in North America are so correct when they decide to drive elsewhere to support their careers. It's a choice that all people have...Come on, if you were not making money in a business venture anybody would pull up stakes and move on, that is your right and so goes for the any driver in North America.

I'm sure the old saying is true ...it's a two way street.

Steve Richards

A Meadowlands Fan

In response to Peter Taylor, the Big M is not a dump and the racing there is first class, even without Brennan and Sears. The competitiveness is unparalleled with about 50% winners wire-to-wire and 50% coming from off the pace. Great ratio! I also feel it will only get better as they acquire more racing dates and Gural gets his new building in the next two years.

Paul Schmidt

Denmark



6-10 Charlottenlund, Copenhagen

Race 10. Copenhagen Cup (G1). \$227,000. 2,011 meters. 1:54.3 (mile rate)

Wishing Stone (h, 5, Conway Hall-Meadowbranch

Magic) O-Cowboyland, Deo Volente, TLP, & Jerry Silva. B-Brittany Farms & Daisy Acres. T-Bo Westergard. D-Jeppe Juel, \$126,000, Lifetime Record: 44-14-10-6, \$1,668,000

To view race click [here](#)

Missed an Edition of the HRU?

Check out our archive at www.harnessracingupdate.com

ITALY



6-10 Napoli

Race 7. Gran Premio Regione Campania (G2). \$96,300. 2,100 meters. 1:58.4 (mile rate)

Orsia (m, 4, Angus Hall-Tigre Om) O-Paola Maria Agnello Monja. B-S. Andrea Srl Sc. T-Enrico Gocciadoro. D-Alessandro Gocciadoro, \$40,300, Lifetime Record: 31-10-3-4, \$253,000. To view race click [here](#)

Harrington Report

1, Har, \$20,000, Trot, DELAWARE STANDARD BRED BREEDERS FUND 3 YEAR OLD FILLIES 2nd Elimination - 1st Division, M, 29.4, 1:00.3, 1:31.0, 2:00.2, FT

Commitment To Win (f, 3, Cr Commando--Independence, by Baltic Speed), \$4,700 2010 WINBAK O-Joshua L Green & Baron Racing Stable. B-Winbak Farm. T-Josh Green. D-Roger Plante Jr, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 10-2-4-1, \$103,260. To view replay click [here](#)

3, Har, \$20,000, Trot, DELAWARE STANDARD BRED BREEDERS FUND 3 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS 2nd Elimination - 1st Division, 30.0, 1:00.3, 1:31.1, 2:00.2, FT
Windshield (c, 3, Political Briefing--Cr Mimosa, by Cr Commando), \$9,000 2010 WINBAK O-Nanticoke Racing Inc & Ross T Wolfenden. B-Winbak Farm. T-Les Givens. D-Ross Wolfenden, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 15-13-1-0, \$235,299. To view replay click [here](#)

8, Har, \$20,000, Trot, DELAWARE STANDARD BRED BREEDERS FUND 3 YEAR OLD FILLIES 2nd Elimination - 2nd Division, 30.1, 1:00.0, 1:31.1, 2:00.0, FT
Alleigh Girl (f, 3, Don Boss Vita--Armbr Odalisk, by Super Pleasure) O-Nanticoke Racing Inc & C Delbert Cain. B-Sylvia J Malone & Hilda Houlihan & Michael Balea. T-Les Givens. D-Ross Wolfenden, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 15-12-2-1, \$216,440. To view replay [here](#)

10, Har, \$20,000, Trot, DELAWARE STANDARD BRED BREEDERS FUND 3 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS 2nd Elimination - 2nd Division, 29.2, 1:00.4, 1:32.1, 2:02.4, FT
I'm So Striking (g, 3, So Striking--Ringside Katie, by Dream Vacation) O/B-E & K Stable Inc & Lois G & Earl J Walters. T-Eddie Dennis. D-Eddie Dennis, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 10-6-2-1, \$86,118. To view replay click [here](#)

12, Har, \$20,000, Trot, DELAWARE STANDARD BRED BREEDERS FUND 3 YEAR OLD FILLIES 2nd Elimination - 3rd Division, 29.1, 59.4, 1:30.0, 2:01.0, FT
Da Boss Lady (f, 3, Don Boss Vita--Rompaway Ruth, by Tabor Lobell) O-Nanticoke Racing Inc & Robert I Wyatt.

B-Suzanne Veader. T-Les Givens. D-Jim Morand, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 13-4-3-2, \$47,835. To view replay click [here](#)

Harrah's Philadelphia Report

4, Phl, \$20,000, Pace, NW \$18,000 in Last 5 Starts 4 Yr. Olds & Older Last Start for a purse of greater than \$25,000 ineligible AE: NW 9 Ext. PM Race or \$90,000 Lifetime, 26.2, 54.4, 1:21.3, 1:50.2, FT

Diggers Rest N (g, 9, Armbr Operative--Millburn Carolyn, by Farm Timer) O-Wj Mc Dougall Racing Inc. B-Millburn Farm LTD, NZ. T-Peter Tritton. D-Eric Goodell, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 103-15-17-11, \$149,810 To view replay click [here](#)

8, Phl, \$23,000, Pace, NW \$25,000 Last 5 Starts, 26.1, 55.3, 1:22.4, 1:50.1, FT

Rock'em (g, 4, Rocknroll Hanover--Don't Toy With Me, by Call For Rain), \$65,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-Bamond Racing LLC. B-Oldfield Farm Inc. T-Pj Fraley. D-Andy Miller, \$11,500, Lifetime Record: 35-13-6-4, \$289,235 To view replay click [here](#)

10, Phl, \$20,000, Pace, NW \$18,000 in Last 5 Starts 4 Yr. Olds & Older Last Start for a purse of greater than \$25,000 ineligible AE: NW 9 Ext. PM Race or \$90,000 Lifetime, 26.4, 54.1, 1:21.4, 1:49.4, FT

Mainland Key N (g, 7, Shiney Key--Eastwood Bluejeans, by In The Pocket) O-Harry von Knoblauch. B-L R Melholt, NZ & T C Behrns, NZ. T-Peter Tritton. D-Eric Goodell, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 95-22-17-13, \$387,902 To view replay click [here](#)

12, Phl, \$30,000, Pace, Winners Over \$25,000 Lifetime, 26.2, 53.4, 1:21.4, 1:49.3, FT
1-Transcending (h, 8, Grinfromeartoear--Apopka Denise, by Jenna's Beach Boy), \$10,000 2005 FOREST O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Jjk Stables LLC & Lawrence R Karr. B-Bill J Elliott, CA. T-Ron Burke. D-Tony Hall, \$15,000, Lifetime Record: 160-27-33-26, \$675,718

2-Dial Or Nodial (g, 6, Western Ideal--Smart Dialing, by Abercrombie) O-Fashion Farms LLC. B-Arlene L & Jules J Siegel. T-Jim Campbell. D-Corey Callahan, \$7,500

3-Bondy N (g, 11, Live Or Die--Killarney, by Falcon Seelster) O-Harry von Knoblauch. B-R G Hockham, AS. T-Peter Tritton. D-Eric Goodell, \$3,600 Calls: 4, 3Q, 1, T, Q

Finish Order: Whackamole Hanover, Custard The Dragon, Shoobee's Place, Bet The Town, Flipper J To view the replay click [here](#)

Tioga Downs Report

1, TgDn, \$43,643, Pace, New York Sire Stakes 3 Year Old Fillies 1st Division of 3, 27.1, 56.0, 1:24.1, 1:52.1, FT
1-New York Kitty (f, 3, American Ideal--Cheshire Kitty, by Abercrombie), \$20,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-J Robert Darrow & Casie Coleman Stables Inc, CA & Ron D Broadstone. B-Donald E Robinson & Robert A Mondillo & Steve H Stewart. T-Casie Coleman. D-George Brennan, \$21,821, Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-1, \$34,029

2-Vanity Fairest (f, 3, Bettor's Delight--Trulywork Of Art, by Artsplace), \$32,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-Charles E Keller III & Charles E Keller IV & E Daniel & Brett Douglas Bittle. B-Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par. T-Brett Bittle. D-Dan Noble, \$10,910

3-Another Hanover (f, 3, Art Major--Allamerican Cognac, by Real Desire), \$55,000 2010 SHS-HBG
O-Steven M Held & Stephen Gordon. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Joe Pavia Jr. D-Jim Morrill Jr, \$5,237
Calls: 4H, 4T, 1, NS, 2
Finish Order: Marinade Hanover, Sir Lb's Z Tam, Silk Purse
To view the replay click [here](#)

3, TgDn, \$44,443, Pace, New York Sire Stakes 3 Year Old Fillies 2nd Division of 3, 28.1, 56.4, 1:23.3, 1:51.1, FT
1-Eighthundolarbill (f, 3, Bettor's Delight--Mythical, by Artsplace), \$40,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-J Robert Darrow & Ron D Broadstone & Casie Coleman Stables Inc, CA. B-White Birch Farm. T-Casie Coleman. D-George Brennan, \$22,221, Lifetime Record: 7-7-0-0, \$70,783

2-Jk Fine Art (f, 3, Art Major--Presidential Lady, by Presidential Ball) O-3 Brothers Stables & William Jacobowitz. B-3 Brothers Stables. T-Linda Toscano. D-Jim Morrill Jr, \$11,110

3-Centralia Hanover (f, 3, Art Major--Calgary Hanover, by Western Ideal), \$60,000 2010 SHS-HBG
O-Rick D Phillips & W Springtime Racing Stb. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Mark Harder. D-Dan Noble, \$5,333
Calls: 1T, 1T, 1H, NS, H

Finish Order: Weekend Getaway, Heavens Bettorhalf, Hayworth Blue Chip, Ramalama
To view replay click [here](#)

7, TgDn, \$184,000, Pace, The Artscapes Open Mares, 26.1, 53.4, 1:21.0, 1:49.0, FT

1-Dreamfair Eternal (m, 8, Camluck--J Cs Nathalie, by Flight Of Fire) O-John P Lamers, CA. B-John P & Mary G Lamers, CA. T-Patrick Fletcher. D-Jody Jamieson, \$92,000, Lifetime Record: 126-54-17-11, \$2,437,439

2-Rocklamation (m, 4, Rocknroll Hanover--Art Sale, by Artsplace), \$50,000 2009 SHS-HBG O-Our Horse Cents Stables & Stable 45 & Jerry Silva. B-Perretti Farms. T-Ron Burke. D-Ron Pierce, \$46,000

3-Drop The Ball (m, 4, Western Terror--Mattcheck Girl, by

Matt's Scooter) O-Let It Ride Stables Inc & Mr Dana L Parham & Robert Cooper Stables LLC. B-Perfect World Enterprises. T-Ross Croghan. D-Yannick Gingras, \$22,080

Calls: 5T, 2T, 1H, 1Q, 1

Finish Order: Chancey Lady, Ginger And Fred, Higher And Higher, Anndrovette, All Spirit, Put On A Show, Krispy Apple. To view replay click [here](#)

9, TgDn, \$182,000, Pace, The Bettor's Delight "Bred in NY to take on the World" Open Horses, 25.3, 54.0, 1:21.1, 1:48.2, FT

1-Clear Vision (g, 6, Western Hanover--Artistic Vision, by Artsplace), \$180,000 2007 LEX-SEL O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brussemi LLC & The Panhellenic Stb Corp & James A Koran. B-Steve H Stewart & Charles & Julie R & Francene Nash. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley, \$91,000, Lifetime Record: 109-19-20-18, \$1,150,475

2-Foiled Again (g, 8, Dragon Again--In A Safe Place, by Artsplace), \$20,000 2005 SHS-HBG O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brussemi LLC & Jjk Stables LLC. B-Barbara L Matthews. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$45,500

3-Bettor Sweet (g, 7, Bettor's Delight--Sweet Future, by Falcons Future), \$45,000 2006 SHS-HBG O-John Cancelliere. B-Uptown Stable. T-Thomas Cancelliere. D-John Campbell, \$21,840

Calls: 8, 4H, 2, 1H, NS

Finish Order: We Will See, Won The West, Aracache Hanover, Meirs Hanover, Real Nice, Razzle Dazzle, Rockincam

To view replay click [here](#)



Want to Subscribe for FREE?

Visit www.harnessracingupdate.com/websignup.cfm and fill out the free subscription form.