

Sunday, January 3, 2021

In 2020, harness racing showed its resiliency...

... and the Woodbine Entertainment Group led the charge in a most challenging year.

by Dave Briggs



Harness racing's famed resiliency was put to the test in 2020. But even in an extremely trying year, the industry deserves kudos for continuing to function at a remarkable level considering so many other businesses struggled to operate at all during the pandemic.

It helps, of course, that harness racing is conducted outside and requires relatively few participants for each race to be contested. Yet, even compared to other outdoor sports, harness racing, for the most part, managed to shine as an example of how to operate safely and effectively.

That's what makes the current lockdown in Ontario so frustrating. Despite the fact the Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG), in particular, proved to be a global leader in how to operate safely during a pandemic, all horse racing in the province has been halted. It's just another example of inconsistent and illogical rules being applied by pandemic politicians that close some businesses and allow others to thrive.

That said, I'm not an anti-masker or anti-vaxxer. I understand the urgency to get the current spike under

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control, I understand the threat to the most vulnerable and I understand the need to send one simple, consistent message that as many as possible need to stay home as much as possible.

If 2020 is any indication, the harness racing industry in Ontario will get through this latest challenge. It won't be pretty for some that rely on that racing income to stay afloat, but I hope and believe most will find a way to survive.

The year 2020 was also a good example of that old adage that one's true colors will appear when faced with adversity.

Woodbine stepped up mightily to help all of horse racing in 2020 and I hope those efforts leads to much less knocking of WEG – a tired old mantra that stretches back through the mists of time to when the company went by the name the Ontario Jockey Club and was alleged to favor its thoroughbreds. The oft-repeated line is that WEG doesn't care about harness racing, doesn't care about other horse racing outfits in Ontario and doesn't care about the plight of horsepeople.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

That was never more evident than during what turned out to be the last card of 2020 at Woodbine Mohawk Park. On Dec. 23, two days after the city of Hamilton went into lockdown forcing the closure of Flamboro Downs and the cancellation of Dec. 22 card already drawn, WEG offered to take the races at Mohawk with a special afternoon card prior to its own night card to help the Flamboro horsepeople. That the afternoon card was ultimately scratched due to poor track conditions caused by weather isn't the point. The point is WEG went out of its way to help the greater horse racing community and it wasn't the first time in 2020.

WEG routinely advertised and promoted racing at other Ontario tracks.

It took some schedule juggling, but despite two shutdowns of racing, WEG still managed to stage its major stakes races in 2020, including the inaugural Mohawk Million, which was a success when the metrics are adjusted for the global health crisis that kept patrons away.

During the pandemic, in sharp contrast to some casino tracks in the U.S. that made little effort to return to racing, WEG not only lobbied the province to get horses back on the track, it also successfully lobbied national sports network TSN to broadcast both standardbred and thoroughbred racing on a weekly basis giving the sport tremendous exposure to the benefit of all.

At the same time, WEG also launched new betting app DarkHorse as a further tool to try to draw more bettors to its

product.

All this while imposing strict COVID-19 safety protocols at Mohawk designed to keep the horse and greater community safe and the races rolling.

WEG CEO Jim Lawson and senior vice-president of racing Jessica Buckley and their team deserve a lot of credit for all of it.

Proving, hopefully once and for all, that WEG is not the enemy some horsepeople sadly still believe it to be.

We are lucky to have them, just as Ontario is lucky to have the Central Ontario Standardbred Association (COSA), which continued to pump out numerous rolling billboards promoting the sport through its successful trailer wrap program. In conjunction with Cujo Entertainment, COSA also provided tremendous exposure for the sport through COSA-TV.

In 2020, we were also fortunate to have the Hambletonian Society, which managed to stage most of its events, including all of its classics. That was no easy feat and, all things considered, the Hambletonian at the Meadowlands and Breeders Crown at Harrah's Hoosier Park were both great events despite few spectators and the enhanced safety protocols.

Both the Meadowlands and Hoosier deserve kudos for their work to stage those and other events.



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That the Katz-Libfeld Partnership's Breeders Crown Charity Challenge managed to raise more than \$125,000 for charity during this awful year – and has raised more than \$400,000 in two years – is a testament to the heart of this industry.

Kudos, as well, to all the sale companies that found different ways to still stage horse auctions in 2020; sales that are vitally important to the industry's breeders. That the results were not off as much as many predicted is proof many still see a viable future for harness racing.

On the track we were treated to Tall Dark Stranger, Party Girl Hill, Ramona Hill, Perfect Sting, Bettor's Wish, Gimpanzee, Kissin In The Sand, Manchego, Atlanta, Amigo Volo and many more.

Even harness racing handle wasn't too bad, all things considered. Standardbred Canada reports handle was off 1.2 per cent in Canada (over \$485 million compared to over \$491 million) and down 18.4 per cent in the U.S. in 2020 (some \$1.1 billion down from about \$1.4 billion). But, less overall racing due to the pandemic meant the average bet per race was up 21.6 per cent in Canada (from \$42,303 to \$51,425) and 12.9 per cent in the U.S. (from \$39,991 to \$45,140).

But perhaps the most notable positive development in 2020 came in March when some 30 people were indicted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for alleged doping violations. If the sport is to have a sustainable future it has to seriously address those within it that harm horses to enrich themselves by cheating both their fellow horsepeople and the betting public.

Those arrests were just the start, as is this list of positives from 2020. I'm sure I'm missing some other notables.

But what I did mention suggests not everything in 2020 was as dark and dire and depressing as it first seems – though, let's not kid ourselves, 2020 wasn't fun.

Yet, the sport wasn't decimated as some predicted.

Rather, it showed its resiliency.

Giving us something to build on for 2021.

Here's hoping for better days ahead.

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HARNESS RACING UPDATE

About Harness Racing Update

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Dave Landry

Brian Brown is currently training 53 2-year-olds.

The book on talented trainer Brian Brown

The Ohio horseman on why he's all in with Downbytheseaside's first crop and much more.

by Murray Brown

It's a rarity in most businesses, let alone ours, for a person's name to often be preceded or followed by such positive terms such as "great guy, wonderful person" and similar words or phrases. That however is the case with the outstanding Ohio horseman Brian Brown.


If there is a person who has ever uttered a negative word about him, I've never known of him or her.


As with likely the majority of people in harness racing, Brian Brown was born into the business that has kept him occupied for the vast majority of his life.

He started his career in harness racing under the tutelage of his father Robert and his uncle William.

They mostly trained 2- and 3-year-olds that were raced on the Ohio Fair Circuit.

From working for his family, Brian then went to work for Ivan Sugg, a man he credits with being his greatest teacher

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Dave Landry

Brown is training 20 horses sired by his champion Downbytheseaside (above).

in the business.

If one followed Ivan and did what he did, you were bound to benefit.

While working there, Brian became a quasi-member of the Sugg family. He would have dinner with them several times a week, go to the movies and of course train with them.

Ivan is now retired and Brian said he regrets that he rarely sees him anymore. He still sees Ivan and Patty's two sons Kurt and Duke often.

From working with the Sugg family, Brian began his first public stable where he raced mostly overnight horses at Northfield Park.

He soon decided that was not for him. He loved the challenge of buying yearlings and hopefully developing them into stakes quality 2- and 3-year-olds.

With the odd exception of a real good older horse, that has been the focus of his operation since.

He presently has 53 2-year-olds in training; 17 2-year-olds and one 5-year-old, the good stakes horse Workin Ona Mystery.

When asked about the makeup of his stable this year his

answer is, "I bet the ranch on Downbytheseaside," he said referring to his former trainee.

Of the 53 yearlings, 20 are by Downbytheseaside and four are by another outstanding alumnus of his stable Fear The Dragon.

"If those two horses have good years with their first crops, I'm guessing, so will I. If not, I'm probably going to be in trouble – big trouble.

"Thus far, they are all doing fine. Some look better than others. There isn't a single one of the 24 that I regret having in the stable."

The Brown operation is a family one.

Brian, together with wife Jennifer, are the head honchos.

Son Beau is involved as a trainer and sometimes driver and Brian said he has great confidence in his son's horsemanship.

His daughter Jessica also trains and is married to Cameron McCown who is an up and coming trainer/driver on the Ohio circuit.

There are also several nieces, nephews, sisters in law and a brother also involved in the stable's operation as caretakers.

Brian, you presently have 53 2-year-olds in your stable, how are they made up?

"We actually have a few less than we've had in the previous two years. I've had as many as 70. That probably was too many. I feel that I'm able to handle the number we have now. Twenty of them are by Downbytheseaside, four by Fear the Dragon, a few by Captaintreacherous, Always B Miki, a few other Ohio- and Indiana-breds and even one trotter that I own myself. He is a My MVP colt that I've renamed Floyd William after my uncle. In Indiana, I especially like J K Endofanera. I trained two of them last year. One, the lesser one in my estimation, finished second in the Indiana stakes final. The other one, who I thought might have been the best colt in the stable, fractured a P1 right before he was scheduled to qualify."

From that stable makeup, it seems like you've figuratively put most of your eggs in one basket.

"I guess I have. Downbytheseaside was as good a horse as I've ever had anything to do with. He was a big, strong colt who could do everything well. If there is anything I regret about him, it's that we didn't bring him back to race at 4. He finished off his 3-year-old season as strong and as good as he ever was. He won his last four races going into December fairly easily all around 1:48 or better. There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever that he would have been an awesome free-for-aller as a 4-year-old. When I looked at his yearlings, I really liked them. They reminded me of him. In my heart, I have no doubt that he will be a great sire. But, as you well know, there are no guarantees in this business. It's nice to like them as yearlings. It's even nicer to have them train well as 2-year-olds. But the bottom line is how they perform on the racetrack. I guess at this time next year, I might be considered a genius or a fool."

You were fortunate to have two great horses from the same crop in your stable at the same time.

"Both Seaside and Fear The Dragon were great. There were times when maybe one could have been considered better than the other. It depended pretty much when. Fear The Dragon was great in the early part of the year. Then unfortunately he got sick. Later in the year Seaside went on a rampage. To be frank with you, if I were looking at Fear The Dragon as a yearling, I probably wouldn't have bid on him. There was nothing wrong with him, but he just wasn't my type. I was never a great Dragon Again fan and I like a big, robust yearling. Fear The Dragon was an average-sized yearling who grew into a great looking horse, but at the time, he just wasn't what I was looking for. I guess I was just fortunate that Bruce Trogon gave him to me to train. They

were both great at different times. At the end of the season, Fear The Dragon tailed off because he got sick. With Seaside, it was the opposite, he just kept getting and feeling better and better."

You are a Buckeye. Obviously, as with most Ohioans in harness racing, your greatest thrill would be to win the Little Brown Jug. You've had two great shots at winning it. Both times, you didn't quite get there.

"To be very frank with you, each time I was terribly depressed for several days later. Lost For Words lost to Wiggle It Jiggle it by the smallest of noses in a race in which many consider to be the greatest race they've ever seen. In the 2017 race, things just didn't work out well for us. Fear The Dragon and Downbytheseaside went into the race in good condition. I thought we had a good chance to win it or even finish first and second in it. All I can say is the race didn't work out as well as we thought it would. In retrospect, I've gotten over it."

How great is it to have a horse in perhaps the greatest pacing race many people have ever seen? In the other one, how many trainers are fortunate enough to have arguably two of the top three horses in their respective divisions in the same race?

"There was actually a third one where I was late to the dance. I had Limelight Beach and I wasn't doing near as well with him as I felt the horse was capable of doing. I suggested that the owners either sell him or give him to someone like Ronnie Burke who might be able to improve upon him. They did both, they sold part of him to Ronnie and his group and he ended up winning the Jug for them. I can honestly say that I felt no remorse there. If he were still with me, I doubt that he would have won the race."

You have a large and diverse group of people who have horses with you. How many are there?

"At one time, we had as many as 70 owners. Right now it's around 50. Through it all we've had the Koehler family (Country Club Acres) and guys like the Wingfield brothers and Joe Sbrocco as mainstay owners. We've been incredibly fortunate to have people who've stayed with us through the good times and the not so good times."

As a trainer, do you get upset when an owner moves his horses to another stable?

"Generally speaking the answer to that question would be no. As a matter of fact, there have been times when I've felt I wasn't doing well enough with a horse that I actually suggested that another pair of eyes or a change of scenery might do the horse some good. The only time I have really gotten upset is when I was doing well with an owner's

horses and he decided that someone else would do better. Even then, it's his money and his horse and he has the final say on how he uses them."

Do you have any favorites among the hundreds of horses that you've trained?

"I suppose that would be Lost For Words. He was a wonderful horse who had a great personality. If not for Wiggle It Jiggle it having a longer nose, more people would be aware of him."

I've seen you in action at sales. It seems you get there early the day before the sale begins and look at loads of yearlings, never stopping.

"I suppose I would be better off if I were able to get to the bigger farms before the sales and have a good part of my work finished by the time I got there. Unfortunately, my schedule hasn't allowed me to do so. I look at a guy like Tony Alagna. I know he does his homework better than almost all trainers. He goes to the farms and looks at most of them. He's at the sales early and still is looking. He never seems to slow down. I know he's doing the right thing. Because what he does in the days leading to the sales is the chief determining factor on how well his stable will do the following year."

What do you look for in a yearling?

"I suppose your interview with Jack Darling a few weeks ago expressed it well. I want size and everything else to be a little more. I don't want a scrawny little horse. I want a good-sized one that looks healthy. If I were excusing faults, I'd be less inclined to do that with the front end of a horse than with the back end. With trotters it would be the other way around. But even there, there are exceptions. I really don't want a pacer that toes out, especially one who toes out with its right front. Limelight Beach did exactly that. The folks who wanted to buy him still wanted him. They persuaded me to watch his video. Much to my surprise, not only did he not come close to a knee but he actually paddled a little. We bought him and to my knowledge he never came close to hitting a knee."

What trainers have you learned the most from?

"I'd start with my dad and uncle, from there Ivan Sugg, watching and listening to Gene Riegle, Ron Potter, Ronnie Burke, Tony Alagna and others."

What do you do different than most trainers?

"I don't know that it's different, but I train my horses hard. I don't believe in vacations. That certainly does not mean that if a horse is sick or sore that I won't give it some time off, if I feel that it needs it. There are no rain days. If it's raining, we still jog every day. I look

at every training day as building a block in a foundation. If the foundation is missing any blocks it will be weakened. I have pretty much the same philosophy when it comes to racing. When I enter a horse to race, that is what I expect it to do. I'm not about to enter a horse that I don't believe is not capable of racing to its utmost."

How about drivers? Who are your favorites?

"There are so many good ones out there, probably more than there have ever been. Overall, it would have to be Purple Jesus, David Miller. He's done a lot for me and I like to think that my horses have done a lot for him. Ronnie Burke stole my ace in the hole last year. I thought that Chris Page was as good as anybody in prepping a young horse to race. I used him a lot. So what does Ronnie do, he comes to Ohio and gives Chris first call on all his horses here. He has him, so now I barely have access to him."

You said that your career changing horse was Won The West. It was that horse that changed the perception of you from being an adequate horse trainer to one who is well known.

"Yes, he was. Ironically we hit a dull time with him and I suggested that perhaps a short change of scenery might benefit him. I suggested that we give him to Ronnie Burke to try and see what he could do. He did so well, that I never saw him again. Actually, it was I who told his owners to allow him to stay with Ronnie because he was doing so well."

One thing among many that I've admired about you is that you are generous with your time. You are never too busy to speak with someone to answer questions. In 2017, you had the favorite for the North America Cup. WEG was doing a press conference in conjunction with the draw. You drove up there from Ohio because you were invited and drove back after it was over.

"I strongly believe that all horsemen have an obligation to promote the sport in any and every way they can. This was their most important race of the year. They were putting it on to support us and for our benefit. The least I could do was show up to help. Every time a member of the media asks a question of me, I am more than willing to respond. Moreover, I always thank them for taking an interest in our sport."

Where do you see yourself in 10 years Brian?

"I'd like to see a smaller stable entirely focused on quality, with my son Beau and daughter Jessica in charge with me in the background as somewhat of a senior consultant."

Have a question or comment for The Curmudgeon?

Reach him by email at: hofmurray@aol.com .

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The 10 most read HRU stories of 2020

A special thank you to our advertisers, readers and contributors for the continued growth of HRU, which is still adding subscribers in its fifth year under new management.

by Dave Briggs

Happy New Year! All of us at Harness Racing Update (HRU) send our deep gratitude to our advertisers, readers and contributors for the support in 2020, particularly given the challenges posed by the pandemic.

This week marks five years since the new management took over HRU in January of 2016. Since that time, we have gained a little over 2,100 HRU subscribers, an increase of 36 per cent.

That growth continued over 2020. Even after removing over 500 subscribers whose emails were no longer valid, HRU still ended the year making up for that and more by adding some 600 new subscribers during the year to push our total number to its highest ever.

Even more important, HRU's average click and open rates continues to greatly exceed industry standards.

In 2020, our average open rate was just shy of 50 per cent and our click rate was over 47 per cent.

According to an article called [Email Marketing Benchmarks on GetResponse](#), the average open rate for email campaigns is 21.6 per cent and the average click rate is 14.7 per cent.

That means HRU's open rate is 130 per cent higher than the industry average and 220 per cent higher than the average click rate, meaning readers are engaged with the content.

HRU continued to post steady growth in other areas, as well. In 2018, we launched our popular [broadcast division](#) with 2-year-olds in Training and sales coverage. In 2020, our YouTube subscribers topped 1,200, up more than 500 from the end of 2019.

Also, the number of people that like our [Facebook page](#) has organically grown (not paid) by nearly 2,000 (up more than 30 per cent) just in 2020 alone.

Finally, our number of Twitter followers increased by 750 in 2020.

Which means HRU is showing positive growth in virtually every category.

As for top stories, in 2016 we listed our [Top 5 stories](#) by the

number of shares they received.

For 2017, our production guru Brian Fuller did one better and calculated the five most read HRU stories of the year using stats gathered from online statistics. [That story can be read here.](#)

In 2018, the [top 10 most-read stories.](#)

In 2019, the [top 10 most-read stories.](#)

In 2020, the 10 most read HRU stories were:

[10. Monticello taken to court over refusal to resume racing](#)

by Dave Briggs – July 22

[9. What Does Ray Say? -Suspend second trainers in barns where there is a major PED positive and also scrap qualifiers](#)

by Ray Schnittker / Dave Briggs – April 10

[8. Ask The Guru –Does a driver know a horse has had performance-enhancing drugs?](#)

by Ron Gurfein – Dec. 11

[7. Between The Lines –A 'new' Pat Lachance is on fire at Yonkers](#)

by Brett Sturman – Dec. 5

[6. Wire to Wire –Swedish trotting association's mistakes could cost Redén his career](#)

by Dave Briggs – June 5

[5. Buzzworthy –Unanimous scorn for “worst call in harness racing history”](#)

by Garnet Barnsdale – Aug. 26

[4. Rene Allard latest to be arrested as part of horse doping scandal](#)

by Bill Finley – March 15

[3. Harness trainers Surick, Oakes, Banca, Marino and Dane among 28 indicted in doping scheme](#)

by Bill Finley – March 13

[2. Wire to Wire – The willful ignorance of Pennsylvania governor Tom Wolf](#)

by Dave Briggs – May 15

[1. Wire to Wire – Something is rotten at Yonkers](#)

by Dave Briggs – May 15



2020 North American Final Stats

stats provided by USTA

North American Drivers by Earnings

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	Dexter Dunn	1841	395	273	251	\$11,163,638	0.342
2	Tim Tetrick	2408	511	411	311	\$9,944,144	0.35
3	Yannick Gingras	1376	266	193	184	\$9,221,542	0.316
4	David Miller	1468	235	237	228	\$8,379,356	0.302
5	Andrew McCarthy	1437	202	212	186	\$6,663,240	0.266
6	Aaron Merriman	3729	725	650	532	\$5,924,836	0.339
7	Scott Zeron	1212	178	163	154	\$5,485,729	0.264
8	Bob McClure	1429	233	196	177	\$5,450,018	0.281
9	Chris Page	2354	366	311	284	\$5,255,766	0.269
10	Jason Bartlett	1804	324	284	254	\$5,113,860	0.314
11	Trace Tetrick	2369	436	324	277	\$4,825,094	0.299
12	Brett Miller	2590	411	342	332	\$4,801,750	0.275
13	Doug McNair	1749	289	275	212	\$4,733,833	0.293
14	Matt Kakaley	1722	231	220	251	\$4,686,053	0.254
15	Sylvain Filion	1616	264	211	220	\$4,609,857	0.281
16	George Napolitano Jr.	2257	507	364	274	\$4,373,841	0.355
17	Joe Bongiorno	1439	235	217	192	\$4,339,711	0.292
18	Brian Sears	426	65	60	45	\$4,331,177	0.266
19	Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	2130	523	379	283	\$4,305,261	0.389
20	George Brennan	1687	305	233	197	\$4,066,905	0.296

North American Trainers by Earnings

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	Ron Burke	4096	883	622	492	\$17,541,537	0.34
2	Nancy Takter	414	127	68	53	\$8,077,979	0.441
3	Tony Alagna	719	149	104	86	\$5,330,460	0.327
4	Ake Svanstedt	485	84	81	68	\$5,213,649	0.313
5	Richard "Nifty" Norman	533	113	96	64	\$4,456,467	0.352
6	Marcus Melander	298	60	51	46	\$3,823,805	0.348
7	Julie Miller	427	79	69	78	\$3,309,462	0.336
8	Linda Toscano	356	76	68	52	\$3,295,585	0.368
9	Jim King, Jr.	702	149	130	95	\$3,031,487	0.36
10	Erv Miller	874	149	129	121	\$2,792,660	0.299
11	Richard Moreau	1601	236	222	203	\$2,729,520	0.267
12	Chris Ryder	314	68	44	38	\$2,704,026	0.335
13	Carmen Auciello	1487	170	178	175	\$2,474,796	0.22
14	Andrew Harris	979	151	149	107	\$2,414,675	0.275
15	Luc Blais	196	46	36	22	\$2,330,226	0.374
16	Virgil Morgan, Jr.	878	207	111	117	\$2,320,533	0.35
17	Jim Campbell	232	49	27	25	\$2,291,128	0.312
18	Benoit Baillargeon	602	124	77	75	\$2,241,169	0.319
19	Jennifer Bongiorno	667	138	125	88	\$2,066,069	0.355
20	Chris Beaver	648	101	97	99	\$2,056,440	0.29

North American Drivers by Wins

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	Aaron Merriman	3729	725	650	532	\$5,924,836	0.339
2	Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	2130	523	379	283	\$4,305,261	0.389
3	Tim Tetrick	2408	511	411	311	\$9,944,144	0.35
4	George Napolitano Jr.	2257	507	364	274	\$4,373,841	0.355
5	Trace Tetrick	2369	436	324	277	\$4,825,094	0.299
6	Brett Miller	2590	411	342	332	\$4,801,750	0.275
7	Dexter Dunn	1841	395	273	251	\$11,163,638	0.342
8	Kurt Sugg	2428	384	388	366	\$2,901,189	0.297
9	Dave Palone	1584	368	232	165	\$2,988,793	0.348
10	Chris Page	2354	366	311	284	\$5,255,766	0.269
11	Jason Bartlett	1804	324	284	254	\$5,113,860	0.314
12	George Brennan	1687	305	233	197	\$4,066,905	0.296
13	Doug McNair	1749	289	275	212	\$4,733,833	0.293
14	Tyler Smith	2363	284	302	323	\$3,538,181	0.237
15	Wally Hennessey	1018	284	219	146	\$1,587,813	0.446
16	Brett Macdonald	1937	278	249	239	\$1,370,870	0.256
17	Yannick Gingras	1376	266	193	184	\$9,221,542	0.316
18	Sylvain Filion	1616	264	211	220	\$4,609,857	0.281
19	Jeremy Smith	2022	263	269	243	\$2,307,906	0.244
20	Ryan Stahl	2094	258	264	262	\$2,189,897	0.235

North American Trainers by Wins

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	Ron Burke	4096	883	622	492	\$17,541,537	0.34
2	Richard Moreau	1601	236	222	203	\$2,729,520	0.267
3	Bill Rhoades	869	213	151	120	\$1,375,339	0.388
4	Virgil Morgan Jr.	878	207	111	117	\$2,320,533	0.35
5	Carmen Auciello	1487	170	178	175	\$2,474,796	0.22
6	Scott Di Domenico	1043	169	122	139	\$1,871,326	0.271
7	C Brian Loney	801	159	115	100	\$1,028,566	0.32
8	Kelly Hoerd	554	157	108	72	\$664,648	0.435
9	Andrew Harris	979	151	149	107	\$2,414,675	0.275
10	Jim King Jr.	702	149	130	95	\$3,031,487	0.36
11	Tony Alagna	719	149	104	86	\$5,330,460	0.327
12	Erv Miller	874	149	129	121	\$2,792,660	0.299
13	Sam Schillaci	982	146	141	133	\$1,086,236	0.274
14	Jennifer Bongiorno	667	138	125	88	\$2,066,069	0.355
15	Nancy Takter	414	127	68	53	\$8,077,979	0.441
16	Anette Lorentzon	714	127	116	86	\$1,542,679	0.308
17	Tyler George	416	125	61	48	\$1,027,404	0.42
18	Jeff Cullipher	930	125	110	127	\$1,813,382	0.246
19	Benoit Baillargeon	602	124	77	75	\$2,241,169	0.319
20	Rob Harmon	723	120	99	90	\$1,016,371	0.284

North American Drivers by UDRS (500+ starts)

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	J Brandon Campbell	704	208	140	106	\$961,966	0.456
2	Wally Hennessey	1018	284	219	146	\$1,587,813	0.446
3	Marc St Louis Jr.	779	244	128	78	\$712,675	0.438
4	Gilles Barrieau	684	174	128	101	\$373,928	0.408
5	Shawn Gray	683	176	121	98	\$1,421,302	0.404
6	Guy Gagnon	612	169	98	67	\$705,828	0.402
7	Jeff Nisonger	522	123	100	88	\$631,310	0.398
8	Marc Campbell	735	179	128	118	\$410,708	0.394
9	Michael Merton	716	187	100	114	\$696,117	0.392
10	Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	2130	523	379	283	\$4,305,261	0.389
11	Nick Roland	830	186	161	137	\$990,728	0.387
12	Kelly Hoerd	682	163	127	89	\$677,236	0.386
13	Jim Morrill Jr.	749	181	135	94	\$1,295,909	0.384
14	George Napolitano Jr.	2257	507	364	274	\$4,373,841	0.355
15	Tim Tetrick	2408	511	411	311	\$9,944,144	0.35
16	David Kelly	546	122	84	65	\$478,365	0.349
17	David Dowling	608	118	115	90	\$263,587	0.349
18	Dave Palone	1584	368	232	165	\$2,988,793	0.348
19	Dexter Dunn	1841	395	273	251	\$11,163,638	0.342
20	Aaron Merriman	3729	725	650	532	\$5,924,836	0.339

North American Trainers by UDRS (500+ starts)

Ranking	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	UDRS
1	Kelly Hoerd	554	157	108	72	\$664,648	0.435
2	Bill Rhoades	869	213	151	120	\$1,375,339	0.388
3	Jim King Jr.	702	149	130	95	\$3,031,487	0.36
4	Jennifer Bongiorno	667	138	125	88	\$2,066,069	0.355
5	Richard "Nifty" Norman	533	113	96	64	\$4,456,467	0.352
6	Virgil Morgan Jr.	878	207	111	117	\$2,320,533	0.35
7	Gary Messenger	502	97	92	75	\$447,497	0.345
8	Ron Burke	4096	883	622	492	\$17,541,537	0.34
9	Tony Alagna	719	149	104	86	\$5,330,460	0.327
10	C Brian Loney	801	159	115	100	\$1,028,566	0.32
11	Benoit Baillargeon	602	124	77	75	\$2,241,169	0.319
12	Jessica Roegner	521	94	81	74	\$678,877	0.314
13	Jodie Cullen	580	100	95	83	\$733,714	0.311
14	Anette Lorentzon	714	127	116	86	\$1,542,679	0.308
15	Erv Miller	874	149	129	121	\$2,792,660	0.299
16	Scott Betts	515	101	60	52	\$710,509	0.294
17	Dylan Davis	565	93	86	71	\$1,517,392	0.291
18	Chris Beaver	648	101	97	99	\$2,056,440	0.29
19	Rob Harmon	723	120	99	90	\$1,016,371	0.284
20	Andrew Harris	979	151	149	107	\$2,414,675	0.275



Have an announcement you would like to share?

editor@harnessracingupdate.com



2020 North American Final Stats

stats provided by USTA

North American Breeders by Earnings

Ranking	Name	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
1	Hanover Shoe Farms Inc	995	669	1934	24,736,308
2	Winbak Farm	908	581	1563	13,939,358
3	Brittany Farms LLC	166	112	334	5,799,429
4	Seelster Farms Inc	188	130	410	3,937,853
5	White Birch Farm	140	87	239	3,906,427
6	Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc	151	106	341	3,638,165
7	Order By Stable	31	24	56	3,206,014
8	Diamond Creek Farm LLC	127	89	247	3,032,703
9	Frederick Hertrich	118	77	213	2,861,457
10	Crawford Farms LLC	79	51	134	2,365,020
11	Midland Acres Inc	141	93	290	2,304,000
12	Robert Key	152	82	212	2,141,394
13	Southwind Farms LLC	59	34	92	2,032,195
14	Steve Jones	80	44	120	1,966,737
15	James Avritt	39	24	61	1,767,939
16	Tom Hill	35	27	94	1,699,391
17	Victory Hill Farm Inc	97	70	210	1,687,872
18	Fair Winds Farm Inc	51	31	107	1,626,489
19	Fox Valley Standardbreds	104	61	206	1,568,940
20	Spring Haven Farm	93	55	150	1,560,461

North American Breeders by Wins

Ranking	Name	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
1	Hanover Shoe Farms Inc	995	669	1934	24,736,308
2	Winbak Farm	908	581	1563	13,939,358
3	Seelster Farms Inc	188	130	410	3,937,853
4	Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc	151	106	341	3,638,165
5	Brittany Farms LLC	166	112	334	5,799,429
6	Midland Acres Inc	141	93	290	2,304,000
7	Diamond Creek Farm LLC	127	89	247	3,032,703
8	White Birch Farm	140	87	239	3,906,427
9	Frederick Hertrich	118	77	213	2,861,457
10	Robert Key	152	82	212	2,141,394
11	Victory Hill Farm Inc	97	70	210	1,687,872
12	Fox Valley Standardbreds	104	61	206	1,568,940
13	Emerald Highlands Farm	79	55	161	1,269,667
14	Spring Haven Farm	93	55	150	1,560,461
15	Vieux Carre Farms	89	56	145	1,531,463
16	Angie Stiller	58	41	139	945,365
17	Bulletproof Enterprises	56	43	135	890,360
18	Crawford Farms LLC	79	51	134	2,365,020
19	William Andrew	61	38	132	643,227
20	VAE LLC	50	34	124	786,162

North American Breeders (individual) by Earnings

Ranking	Name	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
1	Hanover Shoe Farms Inc	996	671	1943	24,842,059
2	Winbak Farm	909	581	1563	13,939,358
3	Brittany Farms LLC	204	141	409	7,415,217
4	Steve H Stewart	234	153	418	6,887,826
5	Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc	194	126	391	4,283,671
6	Seelster Farms Inc	206	143	441	4,125,919
7	White Birch Farm	140	87	239	3,906,427
8	Diamond Creek Farm LLC	138	96	268	3,381,626
9	Order By Stable	31	24	56	3,206,014
10	Midland Acres Inc	164	110	348	3,003,736
11	Frederick W Hertrich III	118	77	213	2,861,457
12	Steve Jones	99	55	150	2,660,083
13	Crawford Farms LLC	82	52	138	2,394,441
14	Spring Haven Farm	136	84	227	2,372,852
15	Jorgen Jahre Jr	23	14	54	2,310,421
16	Concord Stud Farm LLC	43	31	98	2,298,867
17	Kentuckiana Farms LLC	61	34	84	2,207,056
18	ROBERT MCINTOSH STABLES INC	121	80	227	2,195,072
19	Robert J Key	152	82	212	2,141,394
20	Southwind Farms LLC	62	35	93	2,049,608

North American Breeders (individual) by Wins

Ranking	Name	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
1	Hanover Shoe Farms Inc	996	671	1943	24,842,059
2	Winbak Farm	909	581	1563	13,939,358
3	Seelster Farms Inc	206	143	441	4,125,919
4	Steve H Stewart	234	153	418	6,887,826
5	Brittany Farms LLC	204	141	409	7,415,217
6	Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc	194	126	391	4,283,671
7	Midland Acres Inc	164	110	348	3,003,736
8	Diamond Creek Farm LLC	138	96	268	3,381,626
9	White Birch Farm	140	87	239	3,906,427
10	Spring Haven Farm	136	84	227	2,372,852
11	ROBERT MCINTOSH STABLES INC	121	80	227	2,195,072
12	Frederick W Hertrich III	118	77	213	2,861,457
13	Robert J Key	152	82	212	2,141,394
14	Victory Hill Farm Inc	99	71	212	1,699,260
15	Fox Valley Standardbreds	113	64	209	1,625,551
16	Emerald Highlands Farm	90	64	187	1,526,709
17	William E Andrew	82	53	184	832,439
18	Vieux Carre Farms	103	68	163	1,778,942
19	Steve Jones	99	55	150	2,660,083
20	Angie M Stiller	59	42	141	1,037,479



Ontario



The deep legacy of trainer Ross Henry

The five-time winner of the Ontario Sires Stakes' leading trainer award was the influential patriarch of a successful racing family now in its third generation.

by Sandra Snyder

When Ross Henry purchased his first horse in 1965, he almost certainly had no idea that he was setting out on a journey that would see him earn five Johnston Cup titles as the top trainer in the Ontario Sires Stakes (OSS) program, result in three generations of family members enjoying successful careers in harness racing and have friends and family from Florida to Ontario sharing countless stories and memories on his passing at the age of 91.

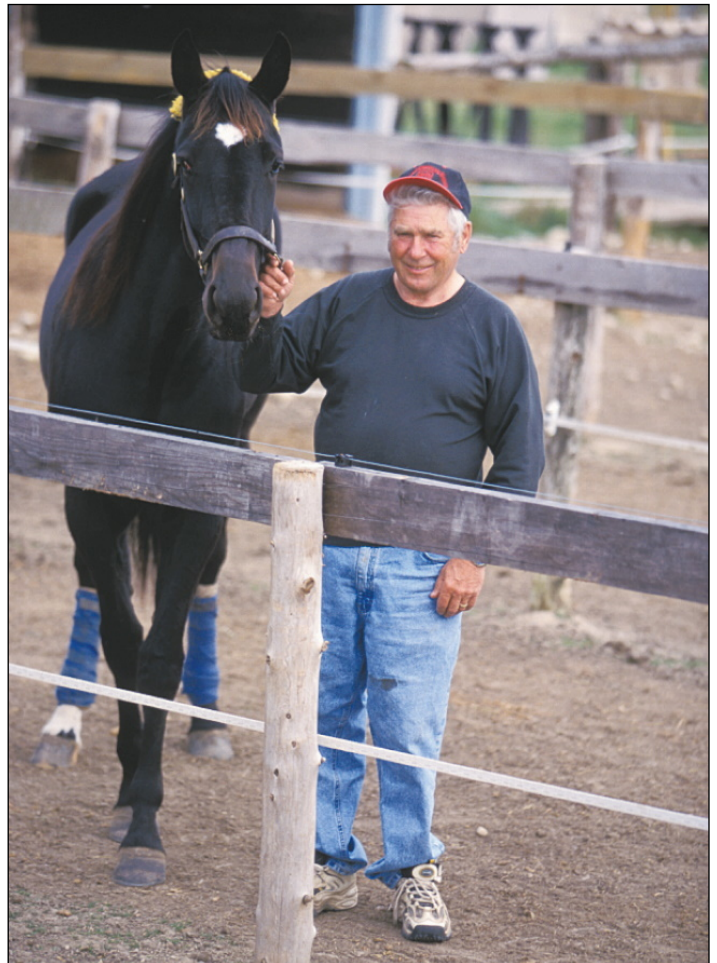
Born in Kerrobert, SK, Henry lived from the age of two until his Dec. 19 death in Arthur, ON. After spending his early years farming, and likely in spite of some misgivings from his parents George and Viola, he made the leap into harness racing with a pair of horses purchased from eventual Hall of Fame member Earl Rowe.

Like most horsemen of his generation, Henry trained and drove his own horses through the first decade of his career, but a serious driving accident at Hanover Raceway convinced him training was a wiser career choice and saw him hand the lines over to son George and catch drivers such as Bill Cass.

"I started driving Ross' horses in the early '70s in Orangeville," said Cass, who celebrated his 79th birthday on Dec. 31. "And Priscilla and I, my wife and I, who I lost a couple of years ago, we were friends with Joyce and Ross. Every Saturday evening they'd come in from Arthur and have dinner with us at our house and then Sundays I'd be driving his horses.

"We raced at all those tracks, Owen Sound, Hanover, Orangeville; we were always on the go somewhere. He was good horseman, Ross, and a good fella. Geez, he was a good fella."

Cass said the whole Henry family, sons George, Brian, Wayne, Paul and Trevor and daughter Sharon, helped him and Priscilla with the ins and outs of operating their first farm, but noted their expertise on agricultural matters was not universal.



The late Ontario trainer Ross Henry with Royal Angel in 1998.

"When my boys (the late Jimmy and Joey) were seven and eight years old they wanted chickens, so my wife went down to Snelgrove and came back with a dozen chicks. We had them in the basement under the lights and they couldn't wait for Joyce and Ross to come on Saturday to show them the chicks," said Cass. "So when Joyce and Ross came they went downstairs to look at them and she come up laughing and Priscilla came up pretty sad and I said, 'What's wrong?' And she said, 'Ross and Joyce said they're roosters.'"

"Well to make the story straighten up, as soon as they grew up those 12 roosters laid an egg every day. They were god-damned chickens, they weren't roosters! It was funny and I always teased both of them about it. We had a lot of good times together."

When Cass started driving for Ross, the trainer had both pacers and trotters. In fact, his first OSS win in 1974 was with pacing filly March Marian (Keith Abbe–Widow C Hal) who remained a favorite throughout his career. It was a pair of hard-to-gait acquisitions and the arrival of stallion Orbel G G (Speedy Crown–A Cs Lin) to the Arthur farm that provided the spark that saw Ross shift his focus to trotters in

the latter stages of his career.

“Ross’s preference for trotters came by way of Orbel G G,” said Trevor and Shannon Henry. “Speedy Tatler (Speedy Rodney–Gracious Gift) and Porters Demon (Porterhouse–Demons Queen) would also be credited to Ross preferring the trotting gait. Those two horses were brought to Ross as their trainers couldn’t get them to go and he was successful at turning both of those horses into racehorses. The thrill of getting one to ‘stay flat’ then became an addiction.”

Stallion Orbel G G is the first horse that comes to mind for trainer Gregg McNair when he thinks about Ross’ long career.

“Orbel G G horses, it seemed like they raced a lot of them and they’d go around any size of track. When they’d bring them to the track they sure had them ready to go good and early and they minded their manners. I don’t know what their average was, but they seemed to get most of them to the races,” said McNair. “Dad (Bob McNair), he bred a few mares to Orbel G G, and he said to Ross he had trouble finding him to breed to and Ross said, ‘We just don’t advertise him too much. I really don’t like racing against them.’”

McNair, who would go on to four Johnston Cup titles of his own, also recalls how welcoming Ross was to a young man getting his start in the business. “He always made sure he’d say ‘Hello’ to you when you were younger. Guys remember that.”

In the mid-1980s, Ross and long-time owner Ray Odorico purchased land in Okeechobee, FL and built a winter training centre, which soon lured visitors from Ontario, including McNair, who purchased his own farm near the town a decade ago. Visitors were welcomed into the house and often into a jog cart, but as Ross neared retirement and his vision started to wane they were warned to stay out of his lane on the outside of the track.

“As his sight began to worsen he still loved to jog horses, so in Florida the track had deeper sand on the outside and he could have a track made with each horse he drove, wheels perfect in a line,” recalled Wayne and Shelley Henry. “He would know if someone was trying to follow his path messing up his wheel ruts.

“I have to say he was a man of great patience when it came to handling a horse, especially trotters. He could handle any type of horse; it must have been ‘in the hands.’ We were talking the other day about training babies with some fellow horsepeople and I mentioned that dad never carried a stopwatch until well into early spring, just let them do their own thing. Maybe that’s why he was successful with

the young trotters, lots of foundation into them.”

At its peak, the Henry Stable encompassed 80-some horses and the farms in Arthur and Okeechobee. With Wayne and Trevor working at his side, Ross dominated the OSS trotting circuit, winning Johnston Cup titles in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2004 and 2005. Wayne carried on the tradition, claiming the title in 2006 and 2007 and Trevor captured the Lampman Cup as the program’s leading driver in 1996, 2007 and 2019.

McNair recalled following the family around Ontario one weekend as they won 11 of 15 OSS events they entered. Ross, always modest in his expectations, never took success for granted and Wayne recalled one outing that did not work out quite as well.

“I remember taking 12 or 13 fillies to Rideau one summer for a sires stake. I think they were 3-year-olds, shipped them in with the one owner’s transport. It was a big night having that many in, but what a terrible night it was. I think we snagged one third out of the whole ordeal,” he recalled. “I can remember dad sitting on a pail when all was said and done not saying one word, not a word about how bad the night was.”

When he retired from training horses in the spring of 2006, Standardbred Canada credited the horseman with 533 wins and \$7,135,137 in earnings; however Ross got his start in harness racing well before the launch of modern record keeping so those numbers are only a fraction of what the trainer accomplished.

“He certainly wasn’t anybody to brag about his accomplishments, he just went about his business and expected to have results based on his work ethic and his knowledge of the horses,” said Brian Tropea, whose father Norm trained off the Henry farm while building his own facility in Arthur in the early 1970s. “It’s a testament that the family farm is still there and they’re still training horses. He’s left a legacy. He set his family up in a good position to be successful in the business that he loved. If we can all do that we’ll have a successful life. You’re not often judged by what you did, it’s what you left behind and he certainly left a legacy behind.”

Ross’ family gathered to celebrate his legacy on Dec. 23. [The obituary and service can be viewed here.](#)

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Linda Toscano

by Victoria M. Howard

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Linda Toscano and her brother and sister often accompanied their father to the horse races. Although her family was not involved in the business at that time, it wouldn't be long before Linda would change that.

"My father loved sports – especially the horse races. He favored the thoroughbreds, but often went to Roosevelt Raceway, as well.

"When we moved to Long Island I was devastated. I missed the city and was miserable, so my mother suggested I take riding lessons. I immediately fell in love with horses and at that time had thoughts of becoming a veterinarian.

"I took riding lessons on Long Island and became friends with a girl who kept her horse at the stable there. She suggested I get a job where she worked – Roosevelt Raceway – for trainer Buddy Regan.

"I went and met Mr. Regan and was hired. I worked for Buddy several years and learned quite a lot. After leaving Buddy, I went to work for two of harness racing's greats: John Campbell and Buddy Gilmour."

Unknown to Linda at the time, working with the horses would launch a successful lifelong career. In fact, decades later, Toscano has rightfully earned her stature among harness racing's top trainers, compiling over 2,100 career wins, and banking more than \$52 million in earnings.

And that's just for openers for Toscano and her four-legged kids have conquered The Hambletonian, The Meadowlands Pace, seven Breeders Crown wins, The Canadian Trotting Classic, The Maple Leaf Trot, Peaceful Way, Nat Ray, Progress Pace, Monument Circle, TVG Trot, Zweig Memorial, American National, Titan Cup, Art Rooney, The Golden Girls, and many other stakes races.

Adding to these incredible accomplishments is that Toscano is the only woman trainer/driver who has been inducted into harness racing's Hall of Fame.



Vicki Wright

Hall of Fame trainer Linda Toscano.

Ironically, this prestigious and remarkable feat didn't go to Toscano's head. Quite the contrary, for Toscano is a humble and grateful woman who questioned whether she deserved such an honor.

"Working under some of harness racing's best: Regan, Campbell and Gilmour, I was fortunate to learn so much from these incredible, talented men.

"I decided to go out on my own and gradually built my stable. In 1995, I picked up my first divisional champion with the trotting mare GIANT MERMAID. 4,1:54.4. (\$365,039). That was also the year I trained a 2-year-old named JET LAAG, p, 6, 1:49h (\$1,001,746) who would go on to set a world record at the Delaware Fairgrounds at the age of six. JET LAAG won 44 of his 140 starts and also placed 43 times, earning over \$1 million in purses."

Other top horses in Toscano's stable have included 2002 MOLLY CAN DO IT, multiple stakes-winner KENNETH J, and Jugette heat-winner SPRIG HANOVER.

The year 2012 was very special for Toscano and her partner/husband Brad McNinch, for they had not one, not two, but three Dan Patch winners. They were:

Three-Year-Old Trotting Colt of the Year MARKET SHARE 5,1:50.2f (\$3,792,101), Three-Year-Old Pacing Colt of the Year



Pick-5 pool exceeds \$360,000 at Big M

Fans of The Meadowlands' 20-cent Pick-5 bet the popular puzzle with both hands Saturday night (Jan. 2), and after three favorites won during the sequence, many players visited the mutuel windows to cash in.

Last Saturday's (Dec. 26) Pick-5 carryover of \$46,731 led to a \$150,000 guaranteed pool and players went at it hot and heavy from the get-go, adding to the carryover with \$314,217 in "new money" for a total pool of \$360,948.

Since the carryover is not subject to the already low 15 per cent takeout, the return to players Saturday night – instead of the usual 85 per cent – was 99.87 per cent.

"This is an example of how carryovers can create big pools, big excitement and big value for bettors," said Big M chief operating officer and general manager Jason Settlemoir. "And we want to thank all our fans who played not only the Pick-5, but the entire race card as well. Our first race tonight took in over \$565,000 in action, which is an extraordinary number."

The winner's odds for the Pick-5 sequence were 5-1, 1-5, 6-5, 5-1 and 4-5.

Those who correctly selected five winners collected \$343.74.

—*Dave Little / Meadowlands media relations*

Grant, Moreau, Filion retain Woodbine titles

The recently-concluded 2020 Woodbine standardbred meet saw no changing of the guard, as the titles of leading owner, trainer and driver remained with their previous holders.

Brad Grant, Richard Moreau and Sylvain Filion led their respective categories once again in 2020, adding to their already impressive collection of Woodbine titles.

Moreau won his fifth consecutive and ninth overall

Woodbine training title. The Puslinch, ON resident posted 156 wins in 2020, 36 more than runner-up Carmen Auciello.

Moreau, who also led all trainers in earnings with \$3 million, won his first Woodbine training title in 2010 and has won the title in every year since, except for 2011 and 2014.

Filion won his sixth Woodbine driving title with a runaway total of 245 wins. Bob McClure finished second with 208 wins, while Doug McNair was third with 206.

McClure led all drivers in earnings with \$6 million.

A resident of Milton, ON, Filion has now won the Woodbine driving title in back-to-back years. He first won the title in 2012, sharing it with Jody Jamieson, and then was a solo winner in 2013, 2015 and 2016 prior to this recent double.

Brad Grant led all owners at Woodbine in 2020 with 58 wins to collect his fifth consecutive leading owner title. The Milton, Ontario resident, who was again prominent on the Grand Circuit scene, has won the leading owner award in each year since Woodbine revived the award in 2016.

Millar Farms finished runner-up with 37 wins, while Determination led all owners in earnings with \$2.1 million and scored 36 wins.

The Woodbine standardbred season for 2020 concluded on Dec. 23 due to the current province lockdown imposed by the Government of Ontario. The start of the 2021 standardbred season is to be determined.

—*Mark McKelvie / Woodbine communications*

Free full card past performances for the Meadowlands Racetrack

Starting with the first race card of 2021, Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment now offers free full card past performances for each race night through the Winter/Spring and Championship Meets.

Working with TrackMaster, the Meadowlands Racetrack was able to come to an agreement that allows the track to provide free Platinum TrackMaster Past Performances through Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021.

The PPs are available for download [here](#).

"I have always recognized the importance of getting program information in everyone's hands. We have now entered into an agreement with TrackMaster that enables us to do just that and post our programs on our website for each live race card so anyone can download and print the program free of charge," said Jason Settlemoir, COO and GM of Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment.

"When I found out about this opportunity I jumped on it for our customers as the price seemed right after speaking with David Siegel president of TrackMaster. Mr. Gural agreed to give it a try for our customers. As the premier harness track in North America to be able to disseminate our information for free to everyone puts us on par with professional sports leagues such as the NFL, NBA, MLB and all the others with free information available to our customers and fan base. We will give this a try and see if it moves the needle for handle.

"We are also working on another exciting project with TrackMaster as well that should be completed hopefully in February. More details to follow on that initiative as we move forward."

—*Rachel Ryan / Meadowlands media relations*

MGM Northfield Park adds Pick-6 to wagering menu

MGM Northfield Park kicked off the new year with a revamped wagering menu highlighted by a new 50-cent Pick-6 each night. The new wager offers a low 14 per cent takeout rate and will begin in Race 8 starting Sunday (Jan. 3).

The non-jackpot 50-cent wager will pay out a consolation of 25 per cent of that night's total pool and feature a 75 per cent carryover if the wager is not solved.

Northfield's wagering menu will feature a few changes with the Early Pick-4 moving to Race 2 and the Pick-5 moving to Race 6.

MGM Northfield Park's 2021 racing season continues every Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday through the winter. Post time is currently set for 4:20 p.m. due to the statewide Ohio curfew.

—*Michael Carter / MGM Northfield Park*

Merriman/Rhoades sweep titles at MGM Northfield Park

Aaron Merriman and Billy Rhoades concluded the 2020 MGM Northfield Park racing season with victories in the driving and training titles, respectively.

Merriman carved out 519 victories, while his nearest competitor, Ronnie Wrenn Jr., drove 452 winners, followed by Kurt Sugg (308), Chris Lems (235), and Ryan Stahl (230) to complete the top five.

Merriman a resident of Northfield, also won his sixth national dash championship leading all drivers in wins

throughout the U.S.

Merriman has been on a tear the previous four seasons, with 1,000 wins or more in his previous three seasons prior to 2020. COVID-19 limited Merriman from reaching that milestone again, but he still managed to score 725 wins with over \$5.9 million in earnings.

Merriman, who began driving in 1997, has won 12,692 races and earned just over \$86 million in purse earnings.

"Northfield is home to me, I'm beyond happy and privileged to drive for the horseman here," said Merriman.

Rhoades won his first ever training title in 2020 with 181 victories in 708 starts with just over \$1.1 million in earnings.

Brian Loney (154), Sam Schillaci (141), Ron Burke (138), and Jessica Roegner (86) completed the top five in conditioner standings.

Rhoades, who celebrated his birthday on Saturday (Jan. 2), finished third among conditioners in North America in wins (213) behind Ron Burke and Richard Moreau.

Looking back on his first training title, Rhoades commented, "It's a great feeling, I hope it's not the last."

Merriman and Rhoades teamed up for many victories together throughout the 2020 season.

"Northfield is my favorite place to race," said Rhoades. "I love being able to race there with my favorite driver (Merriman)."

Rhoades began his training career in 2004 and has 635 victories in just over 2,600 starts with over \$4 million in earnings.

"It's a good feeling to do something you love as a job and to be able to provide for my family," said Rhoades.

—*Michael Carter / MGM Northfield Park*

Closing date for Pocono series nominations changed

The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono would like to alert horsepeople to a couple of late changes relating to its set of four Game Of Claims late-closing series.

The nomination deadline for the four Game Of Claims series for pacers (valued at a base price at \$25,000, \$15,000, \$10,000, and \$7,500) has been extended until Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021. The nomination deadline for the Game of Claims Series for \$15,000 base-price trotters has been extended until Saturday, Feb. 20.

A complete set of the conditions and schedule, with

revisions, for the Game of Claims Series can be found at www.phha.org.

Pocono's 2021 racing season will begin on Saturday, Feb. 6 and extend through Saturday, Oct. 30.

If there are further questions, Pocono director of racing Rick Kane can be reached at 570-831-2126 beginning Jan. 10.

– PHHA / Pocono

OHHA P.A.C.E.R. Stallion Auction set for January

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association (OHHA) Stallion Auction to benefit P.A.C.E.R. (Political Action Committee for Equine Racing) will be conducted via online bidding through HoofBid.com beginning Jan. 9. The auction will run through Jan. 16.

P.A.C.E.R. helps the OHHA to support candidates and initiatives that impact Ohio harness racing.

The services of 22 stallions are being offered in the

auction. To view the preliminary list of stallions in the auction, visit <https://hoofbid.com/OHHA>.

Bidders can create an account in the HoofBid app. Phone bidding will also be accepted on the final day of the auction beginning at 1 p.m. EST.

The online bidding time for each stallion auto extend in one-minute increments, until the bidding activity stops for one full minute.

Any owners wishing to offer their stallion to the P.A.C.E.R. Auction can contact the OHHA office at 614-221-3650.

For more information contact:

Frank Fraas

ffraas@ohha.com

614-221-3650

– Frank Fraas / OHHA



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Boni responds to Sturman, provides education on process for Living Horse Hall of Fame

Reading Brett Sturman's Dec. 28 column "Hall of Fame criteria for horses prone to missing the mark," ([full story here](#)) I was struck by a number of inaccuracies and misrepresentations.

As a co-chairman of the Living Horse Hall of Fame Committee with Seth Rosenfeld, we feel it is important that we let the process be known and clarify any areas of question.

Any interested party [can go here](#) to easily find the Living Horse Hall of Fame election guidelines.

Brett spent three paragraphs bemoaning the fate of the brilliant DARLIN'S DELIGHT as not being eligible based on the numbers, when in fact she is, as her earnings of \$2,901,926 far exceeds the necessary \$2.5 million.

And for starters he highlighted MACH THREE as one that would not qualify, and this time he was correct, but only because the acknowledged sire of SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE is deceased and for that alone would not be eligible for Living Horse Hall of Fame. Prior to his death MACH THREE was in fact on the list of eligible and was considered by virtue of his having sired over 100 winners of \$200,000 or more.

Certain requirements have been established, however contrary to what was indicated in the Sturman column, for those notable horses that for whatever reasons do not meet the benchmarks there is clearly a provision where committee members can also nominate a racehorse or racemare or stallion that does not meet that criteria.

I don't think anyone will have to worry about TALL DARK STRANGER making the ballot.

We feel that we have an exceptional committee, and we take the honor of induction into the Living Horse Hall of

Fame very seriously.

In addition to Seth and myself, the other committee members are John Campbell, Tom Charters, Jerry Connors, Bob Heyden, Dean Hoffman, Mike Klau, Mark Loewe and Janet Terhune.

I may be partial, but that is a pretty damn good lineup of expertise and opinion, and amongst ourselves our often-discussed objective is that every horse that is nominated and inducted be deserving, drawing from a listing of 40 to 50 annually that meet the standards that have been set.

To that end, the number of inductees has been increased now to three each year, from two, and also with different measures for females. While there may be some deemed worthy that do not make it on a year-to-year basis, I can confidently say that any horse that makes the ballot and is eventually voted in would be considered to be one of the very elite.

It should also be noted that the final and most important step in the process, electing three inductees from the six candidates that appear on the ballot, is done by a vote of the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame membership.

I read a column like this, and others of similar opinion, and I only ask why Brett didn't think it was worthwhile to contact one of us and question the process directly and perhaps answer some of his questions.

Related to the column, I followed a number of the Facebook and Twitter comments questioning how certain horses, many on our base listing of 40-50, could not already be in the Hall of Fame. And then with some simple research I find that many of those making such definitive comments are not even members of the Hall of Fame, even for the minimal \$35 membership that would have also granted them the opportunity to vote and have their voice heard where it counts most.

I hope this was helpful and, in many ways, educational. As a committee, we are easily accessible and always open to any suggestions of possible nominees, and in fact we look forward to that input.

As always, I thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to clarify a few of the apparent misconceptions regarding the Living Horse Hall of Fame

— **Bob Boni / Secaucus, NJ**

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To send us your feedback!



It's time for TCE

As the horse racing industry reflects on 2020 once thing is certain, its landscape going forward in 2021 has forever been changed. Passage of the HISA (Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act) and criminal indictments have guaranteed that. Harness racing may or may not be in full control of its destiny. Past norms and business as usual no longer acceptable. The need to better monitor how stakeholders address issues inhouse going forward needs to be the norm and not the exception. The alternative is letting other interests control how harness racing monitors its' business.

It seems a major point of contention is should the USTA take a leadership role in harness racing or simply be a record-keeping organization? The answer is not an easy one, but I think we can all agree that the USTA is our national governing body which licenses all trainers and asst. trainers who participate. Without a USTA license, with limited exception, you cannot participate in harness racing in the United States. It begs the question, what can the governing body of harness racing like the USTA do to influence and control our sport. The issuance and requirements to obtain and maintain a trainer or assistant trainer license is one of those issues.

This begs the question, what are the licensing requirements of trainers and assistant trainers and upon relicensing and how do they stay in good standing with the organization? In this respect, the USTA does play the ultimate role. In many professions, continuing education is mandatory to comply with laws or maintain membership in an association. However, that is not the case for a standardbred horse trainer. Once licensed, horse trainers are not required to maintain their license by participating in any formal update of recent rule changes or educational training. No ethical formal reminders of what constitutes a paper trainer, updated rules passed by the USTA, latest substances banned by the ARCI or RMTC, etc. Missteps that can be made which can cause you to lose your license or have it suspended. Terms of art like "trainer responsibility", "paper trainer" or "24 hours vs 72 hours" are bandied about with the assumption that everyone knows the exact definition or when these changes went into effect. Instead, trainers and assistant trainers are left to figure it out on their own after licensing through on the job training, the Internet or backstretch banter. This may be sufficient for rigging or shoeing a horse, but does it address many of the recent issues raised by those who govern racing rules, PETA and federal prosecutors? The answer is a resounding no. Especially in an industry with an everchanging landscape like horse racing where penalties against trainers are common, rules and punishment are constantly changing and communication is vital. Instead of formally educating participants as to the do's and don'ts and putting them on notice as to these requirements, the approach taken is more of a "gotcha game" to catch the bad ones after the damage is done versus preventative education. Thoroughbred trainers in New York including assistants are required to obtain at least four hours each year in equine health, welfare and safety as well as small business, ethical and humane resource topics. Not harness racing.

No one likes mandatory continuing education. As an attorney, nothing is more boring than sitting through a lecture on bankruptcy when you have never done a bankruptcy case and have no intention of doing one just to satisfy a licensing requirement. However, when it comes to the field I concentrate in or recent ethical hypotheticals I do see their value. In fields where having a license is based on skill sets not everyone in the general public can easily learn, continuing education can assure the public and regulatory bodies that their licensees are up to date on the latest rules and requirements of their profession. Harness racing needs to tailor courses for standardbred trainers to fit our practical needs before someone else does it for us.

The time has come for Trainer Continuing Education (TCE) as part of a standardbred trainer's license renewal and it should be mandatory. The USTA should provide courses and require upon license renewal proof of these continuing education classes. This is something the USTA can do to take both a leadership role in harness racing and show the public that trainers are continuously being updated by leaders in the field as to their obligations and preconditions. Specific topics, hours per year, requirements based on length of licensees should not be burdensome. However, it should be enough to formally educate and show the public that maintaining a standardbred trainer's license is more than a rubber stamp if you have not been suspended or committed a crime. Is this something that can be implemented overnight? The short answer is no. Changes to either the USTA Constitution, By Laws or Rules and Regulations to implement a continuing education requirement will most likely be needed but it must be done.

Will TCE stop the really bad apples if they want to break the rules? The answer is no. Bad apples are just bad apples. It doesn't matter the profession. However, will it be a formal constant reminder year after year to those that have a license of the changes to the industry and what the ramifications are of bad actions. Will it make a licensee think twice before putting their name down as a trainer on a horse or do something different because they heard something in a continuing education class? To that, I would give an optimistic yes.

If there is one thing the passage of the HISA has taught us is that if the USTA and harness racing wants to be in control of our sport and tailor it to our individual needs it must take the initiative. Before rules are implemented as a result of the HISA or a racing jurisdiction sets the standard for continuing education for harness racing trainers not necessarily applicable to our needs the USTA needs to address it first. The alternative is someone else possibly doing it for them.

— Jonathan R. Klee, Esq. / Mineola, NY

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RACE RESULTS - THURSDAY

DOVER DOWNS *report*

Thursday's Results:

3, DD, \$16,000, Pace, DELAWARE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION WINNERS OVER SELECT HANDICAP W/O \$8,000 (DE \$9,600) LAST 5 STARTS OR WINNERS OVER \$100,000 LIFETIME POST POSITION #8 ASSIGNED, 26.4, 55.2, 1:24.1, 1:51.1, FT

1-Sandy's Bolt (h, 4, Bolt The Duer--White Sand, by Real Desire) \$9,600, \$5,500 2018 Buck-CL, Lifetime Record: 23-10-3-2, \$122,399

O-Joseph J Wehausen. B-Joel J Miller. T-Chuck Crissman Jr. D-Corey Callahan.

2-Beach Art (g, 7, Somebeachsomewhere--Artchitecture, by Artsplace) \$4,800, \$100,000 2015 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 108-16-15-15, \$173,031

O-Arty Foster Jr. B-Vieux Carre Farms. T-Arty Foster Jr. D-Russell Foster.

3-Q's Cruise (g, 7, Yankee Cruiser--Modern Hanover, by Western Hanover) \$2,304, \$20,000 2015 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 97-27-15-16, \$479,920

O-Jo Ann Looney-King. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jim King Jr. D-Tim Tetrick.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 4H, 4H, 2, 3, 3 - Finish Order: U S Captain, Persimmon A, Blazing Bobby Sox, Quick Shot, Princeoftheforest, Robbie Burns N

11, DD, \$15,000, Pace, CLAIMING HANDICAP \$25,000 - \$30,000 - \$35,000 POST POSITIONS DRAWN BY PRICE, 28.1, 56.1, 1:25.0, 1:53.1, FT

1-Da Magician (g, 7, Dragon Again--Hottie Hanover, by Real Desire) \$9,000, \$18,000 2015 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 99-44-14-9, \$375,674

O-Jeremy C Pentoney. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Les Givens. D-Art Stafford Jr.

Hanover ANOTHER WINNER BRED BY **HANOVER SHOE FARMS!**

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2-Grand Teton (g, 6, A Rocknroll Dance--Western Montana, by Western Hanover) \$3,750, Lifetime Record: 42-10-12-4, \$531,352

O-Christine M Crissman-Bier & Vincent P Ferriero Jr. B-Diamond Creek Farm LLC. T-Crissy Crissman-Bier. D-Sean Bier.

3-Keystone Tenacious (g, 6, So Surreal--Take My Pulse, by Rustler Hanover) \$2,160, \$42,000 2016 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 56-11-9-11, \$272,659

O-Andrew R Glassmeyer. B-Estate Of George F Hempt Trust. T-A Bobby Glassmeyer. D-Jonathan Roberts.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1Q, 4T, 2H, 1, 1T - Finish Order: Bluejeansredwings, Banderbear, Stark Hanover, Toureg Seelster, Kokanee Seelster, Little Ben

12, DD, \$20,000, Pace, OPEN HANDICAP POST POSITIONS 1 - 3 DRAWN POST POSITIONS 4 - 6 ASSIGNED, 27.1, 56.1, 1:24.0, 1:50.4, FT

1-Goldberg (h, 5, Mr Wiggles--Chausettes Blanche, by Christian Cullen) \$12,000, Lifetime Record: 43-14-9-11, \$269,786

O-Mst Racing Inc. B-Montrell S Teague. T-Brenda Teague. D-Montrell Teague.

2-Itsrockandroll A (g, 6, A Rocknroll Dance--Miss Worthy Whitby, by Bettor's Delight) \$5,000, Lifetime Record: 49-11-15-11, \$211,014

O-Michael Casalino Jr & Dylan P Davis. B-E Dewar, AS. T-Dylan Davis. D-Corey Callahan.

3-Trojan Banner N (h, 6, Bettor's Delight--Caitlin Banner, by Washington Vc) \$2,400, Lifetime Record: 53-16-4-7, \$115,855

O-Richard Poillucci & Jo Ann Looney-King. B-Banner Bloodstock LTD, NZ. T-Jim King Jr. D-Tim Tetrick.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1H, 1T, 1T, H, H - Finish Order: Thatswhatsaid N, Sweet Sun Daze, Late Mail N



HRU Author Directory
see all of our contributors here

RACE RESULTS - THURSDAY (CONTINUED)

13, DD, \$15,000, Pace, CLAIMING HANDICAP \$25,000 - \$30,000 - \$35,000 POST POSITIONS DRAWN BY PRICE, 27.1, 56.0, 1:23.3, 1:51.3, FT

1-Jj Flynn (g, 8, Western Ideal--Allamerican Cognac, by Real Desire) \$9,000, \$35,000 2014 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 138-35-20-13, \$545,142
O-Jason T Lynch. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jason Lynch. D-Jason Lynch.



ANOTHER WINNER BRED BY HANOVER SHOE FARMS!



Preferred Equine MIXED SALE GRADUATE

2-Hey Run Me Over (h, 4, Captaintreacherous--Charisma Hanover, by Dragon Again) \$3,750, \$52,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 32-8-2-4, \$63,690
O-Triple D Stables Inc & Bukers Stable. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Scott Di Domenico. D-Tim Tetrick.

3-Movin' On Up (g, 6, Bettor's Delight--Green Space, by Artsplace) \$2,160, \$20,000 2016 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 85-13-14-15, \$181,292
O-Andrew R Glassmeyer. B-Dunroven Stud LLC. T-A Bobby Glassmeyer. D-Jonathan Roberts.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1H, 1H, 2, 1H, 1H - Finish Order: Transitioning Joy, Always Flashing A, Iwontdothatagain, Skyway Fireball, Twin B Speed Dial, Shady's Shark Bait

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY

MEADOWLANDS *report*

Saturday's Results:

2, M, \$15,500, Trot, 5 Year Olds & Under N/W 4 (F&M or N/W L3 5) Ext. PM Races or \$50,000 (N/W L3 \$60,000) Lifetime, M, 28.2, 57.1, 1:25.3, 1:54.3, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-King Alphonso (h, 4, Muscle Hill--Amour Heiress, by Cantab Hall) \$7,750, \$110,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 19-3-3-3, \$233,715
O-Ake Svanstedt Inc & Bender Sweden Inc & Little E LLC & Douglas E Sipple. B-Order By Stable, SD. T-Ake Svanstedt. D-Dexter Dunn.

2-Look In My Eyes (g, 4, Lionhunter--Guilt Free, by Enjoy Lavec) \$3,875, Lifetime Record: 22-5-4-7, \$68,165
O-Anette Karin Lorentzon. B-Anette Karin Lorentzon. T-Anette Lorentzon. D-Yannick Gingras.

3-Beyond Ordinary (h, 4, Kadabra--Allmar Victory, by Angus Hall) \$1,860, \$18,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 29-3-8-8, \$80,514
O-Melander Racing Inc & Noonan Harness Racing LLC. B-Diane N Ingham, CA & Harry A Rutherford, CA. T-Jenny Melander. D-David Miller.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 2H, 1, 1H, 1H, 2Q - Finish Order: No Time To Play, President, Split Rail, Sweet Tea, Bronze Yankee, Roger Rabbit, Moveoutofmyway K

6, M, \$15,500, Pace, 5 Year Olds & Under N/W 4 (N/W L3 5) Extended PM Races or \$50,000 (N/W L3 \$60,000) Lifetime AE: N/W \$75,000 Life, N/W Race Since 2/1/20, M, 26.3, 54.2, 1:22.0, 1:49.4, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-My Pal Joe (g, 4, Roll With Joe--Ph Diagnosis, by American Ideal) \$7,750, \$60,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 15-7-0-2, \$50,471
O-United Process Control Co. B-Winbak Farm. T-Alek Chartrand. D-Alek Chartrand.



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Preferred Equine MIXED SALE GRADUATE

2-Sailboat Hanover (h, 4, Captaintreacherous--Shacked Up, by Western Terror) \$3,875, \$75,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 20-3-2-3, \$46,991
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Joseph Di Scala Jr & Frank A Canzone & Weaver Brussemi LLC. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Ron Burke. D-David Miller.

3-Lou's Sweetrevenge (g, 4, Sweet Lou--Before The Poison, by Rocknroll Hanover) \$1,860, \$140,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 31-3-5-8, \$72,123
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Phillip Collura & J&T Silva-Purnel & Libby & Weaver Brussemi LLC. B-Sergent Stables LLC. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1Q, 1Q, 1Q, 1H, 2H - Finish Order: Tail Hook, No Quarter, Fantastic Voyage, Quagmire Bluechip, Full View, Duddie's Lor, Level Up

7, M, \$15,500, Trot, N/W \$11,500 (NISO, N/W L3 or F&M \$12,500) L5 Starts (Amateur Earnings Excluded) AE: Winners Base Class N/W \$8,000 or Less L/S. Starters in a Class Higher Than N/W \$16,000 (M'lands \$17,500) or Winner This Class L/S N/E Opt. Claim \$30,000, M, 27.4, 56.0, 1:25.0, 1:55.0, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-Thisishe (m, 6, My MVP--No Doubts At All, by Striking Sahbra) \$7,750, \$5,000 2016 BHS, Lifetime Record: 79-19-19-6, \$121,774
O-Gdl Corp. B-Ervin Miller Stable Inc & Geis Enterprise LLC. T-Raymond Vizzi. D-Geo. Napolitano Jr.

2-Sweet Chapter (m, 5, Chapter Seven--Mom's Sweetie Pie, by Donerail) \$3,875, \$37,000 2017 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 49-8-7-12, \$285,665
O-Hutt Racing Stable & Blake C Macintosh, CA & Mortgage Boys Stable. B-Winbak Farm. T-Blake Macintosh. D-David Miller.

3-Gruden (g, 8, Muscles Yankee--Minibar, by Malabar Man) \$1,860, Lifetime Record: 60-23-14-8, \$280,414
O-Rick Arthur Dobson. B-Dan Shetler Jr & Jo Anne Shetler. T-Monica Krist. D-Corey Callahan.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 5T, 5, 6T, 2Q, T - Finish Order: Marion Gondolier, Take A Wish, Money Maven, New Heaven, Odd Ball, Classic Venture, Fingals Wave

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

8, M, \$19,000, Pace, Fillies & Mares N/W \$17,500 (N/W L2 \$20,000) in Last 5 Starts AE: N/W 9 Extended PM Races Lifetime or \$50,000 in 2020, M, 28.0, 56.2, 1:23.4, 1:51.4, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-Marloe Hanover (m, 4, Captaintreacherous--Mesmerize Bluechip, by Sportswriter) \$9,500, \$47,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 34-8-8-6, \$434,633
O-Let It Ride Stables Inc. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-R. Nifty Norman. D-Yannick Gingras.

2-Seaswift Joy N (m, 8, Bettor's Delight--Swift Belle, by Christian Cullen) \$4,750, Lifetime Record: 79-25-8-8, \$403,935
O-Bradley J Grant, CA. B-M J Prendergast, NZ & Mrs P G Redmond, NZ & M I Shinn, NZ. T-Tony Alagna. D-Andrew McCarthy.

3-Dbldelitebrigade N (m, 7, Bettor's Delight--Smithie's Delight, by Smooth Fella) \$2,280, Lifetime Record: 70-15-13-11, \$81,962
O-Anthony J Gruppo & Timothy L Bojarski. B-Mrs S A Matthews, NZ & R & C A Faulkner, NZ. T-Tom Fanning. D-Geo. Napolitano Jr.

►► **Replay** ►► Calls: Q, 2, 2T, 4H, NK - Finish Order: Stellenbosch, Callmequeenbee A, She's Nun Bettor N, Clear Idea, Lucky Artist A, Its Mesmerise N, Dibaba N

9, M, \$19,000, Pace, N/W \$17,500 (NJSO or N/W L3 \$20,000) in Last 5 Starts AE: Winners Base Class N/W \$12,500 (M'lands \$14,000) or Less Last Start Starters in a Class Higher Than N/W \$22,500 or a Winner of This Class or Higher in Last Start Ineligible, M, 26.2, 54.0, 1:21.3, 1:49.2, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-De Los Cielos Deo (g, 5, Captaintreacherous--Lisjune, by Camluck) \$9,500, \$140,000 2017 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 51-11-5-3, \$489,613
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Lawrence R Karr & J&T Silva- Purnel & Libby & Weaver Bruscemi LLC. B-Louis A Willinger & Deo Volente Farms LLC.
T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras.



Preferred Equine YEARLING SALE GRADUATE

2-B Stoney (g, 5, Sunfire Blue Chip--Terror Proof, by Western Terror) \$4,750, Lifetime Record: 35-10-6-2, \$216,607
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Douglas W Millard, CA. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-David Miller.

3-Heza Real Diamond (g, 5, Allamerican Native--Missy's Diamond, by Real Desire) \$2,280, Lifetime Record: 78-21-17-9, \$145,810
O-Orlando F Nevarez. B-Frank Nevarez. T-Edwin Quevedo. D-Mark Macdonald.

►► **Replay** ►► Calls: 8Q, 5Q, 4Q, 2H, T - Finish Order: Rockin The Aces, Franco Totem N, Respect Our Flag, Twin B Tuffenuff, Somebaddude, Boiling Oar, The Bus A

10, M, \$28,000, Pace, Open - Preferred Handicap, M, 26.1, 53.2, 1:21.2, 1:48.1, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-Let It Ride N (g, 8, Rock N Roll Heaven--Love A Gamble, by Bettor's Delight) \$14,000, Lifetime Record: 58-22-6-8, \$346,958
O-Enzed Racing Stable Inc. B-N F Nixon, NZ & Mrs M Carson, NZ. T-R. Nifty Norman. D-Dexter Dunn.

2-Hesa Kingslayer N (g, 8, Christian Cullen--Millwood Manhattan, by Bettor's Delight) \$7,000, Lifetime Record: 37-16-4-5, \$98,662
O-Michael D Deters & Joel T Warner. B-K J Carville, NZ. T-Michael Deters. D-Andrew McCarthy.

3-Vettel N (g, 8, American Ideal--Talk To Angels, by Bettor's Delight) \$3,360, Lifetime Record: 102-26-9-10, \$148,762
O-Jennifer Bongiorno Stable LLC & Joseph Bongiorno LLC & Brent L Hershberger & Robert J Devine. B-Breckon Farms LTD, NZ. T-Jennifer Bongiorno.
D-Joe Bongiorno.

►► **Replay** ►► Calls: 6T, 4, 3, 2, 2 - Finish Order: Western Joe, Springsteen, Rockapelo, Hignalator, Harambe Deo, Rock Diamonds N

12, M, \$15,500, Pace, N/W \$11,500 (NJSO or N/W L3 \$12,500) in Last 5 Starts AE: Winners Base Class N/W \$8,000 or Less L/S Starters in a Class Higher Than N/W \$16,000 (M'lands \$17,500) in Last Start Ineligible Optional Claiming \$30,000, M, 27.0, 55.2, 1:22.4, 1:50.4, FT

Preliminary Results: Meadowlands had not made results official via USTA at publication time

1-Paduka N (g, 7, Bettor's Delight--Nicky's Last Chance, by Christian Cullen) \$7,750, Lifetime Record: 55-6-9-8, \$56,142
O-Thomas J Maloney & Pamela Herbst Maloney & Jonathan C Pirozzi. B-P I Renwick, AS. T-Katricia Adams. D-Todd McCarthy.

2-Bechers Brook A (g, 7, Somebeachsomewhere--Cyclone Betty, by Bettor's Delight) \$3,875, Lifetime Record: 59-19-13-6, \$238,433
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-G P & J A & K M Fusinato, AS. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-David Miller.

3-Seeuinnashville A (g, 7, Mach Three--Zoeyzoey, by Fake Left) \$1,860, Lifetime Record: 47-16-6-3, \$93,770
O-Windermere Stable LLC. B-I D & K Sutherland, AS. T-Darran Cassar. D-Yannick Gingras.

►► **Replay** ►► Calls: 1H, H, 1Q, 1Q, NS - Finish Order: Love The Blues N, Betterlatethnnever, No Ordinary Man, Soho Leviathan A, Ziggy Sky, Lucan Hanover, Big Bad Bill



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