

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Takter reflects and previews what's to come in 2021

Reigning Trainer of the Year Nancy Takter breaks down some of her potential stars.

by Brett Sturman

BETWEEN THE LINES



with **BRETT STURMAN**

I caught up with reigning trainer of the year Nancy Takter on Saturday (April 10). Coming off a record season in which horses from her barn earned over \$8 million while producing a monstrous UTRS of .441, Takter was on her way to the Meadowlands to train 10 horses there and then qualify another six. Here's what she had to say as her stable gears up for another big season.

Of your horses qualifying at the Meadowlands Saturday, Fortify and No Lou Zing were colts that impressed last year at 3; particularly No Lou Zing who really developed into a fast horse as the year went on. Similarly, last year's 2-year-old pacing colt Always A Miki stepped up with a huge effort to win in the Governor's Cup to close out the year. How have those horses come back?

"All three of them are coming back really nicely. Today (Saturday) is just their first start back so we're not going to be crazy out there. They'll get two qualifiers before they race. I would say for 90 per cent of the time, aside from some unforeseen circumstance, I always try to get everyone two qualifiers. So today, we're just going to race them maybe a little bit from behind and have them finish well. But all three

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have trained back good and have all matured nicely. With Always A Miki, he's not a very big guy. He didn't grow much height-wise, but for sure he's filled out. He's a little bit of an overachiever so I guess he's my biggest question mark going into 2021, it being a question of much does size matter, because he doesn't have a lot of it, but he's got a big heart so hopefully that outweighs some of the physical stature. If you have a horse like One Eight Hundred or Summa Cum Laude coming up on the outside of him, I'm sure he looks small then, but he does have a big gait to him and so he covers a lot of ground. Covering ground and covering it quickly is what makes you fast, not necessarily your size."

Speaking of One Eight Hundred (highest priced yearling pacer ever at \$800k), he couldn't have looked any more impressive last week at Pocono in the Bobby Weiss series. Last year, he showed some flashes of high speed, but what's been the difference you see in him between now and last year?

"He trained down really well last year, and I had really high expectations for him. He was big though and he ended up with a little bit of a chip in his left front ankle last year that they had to take out in June, so we lost some time there and it messed up his season just a little bit, and we were playing some catch up and so forth. And in the Red Mile (the race where he went to the half mile in 52 seconds) I had a closed bridle on him that day and he just kind of took off. It was probably more my fault than anyone else's fault just because he got a little too revved up. I just trained him this morning and it's just amazing that a big horse like that – because he's on the opposite side of Always A Miki; he's a really big horse – (is) so light on his feet, and I swear that he paces a turn better than any horse I've ever had in my entire life. And so, the way he paced that :26.1 final quarter at Pocono last week; you don't see that often. He's come back super nice. I'm happy with him and I'm actually happy with myself that I stopped with him after that Lexington race. I never turned



Dave Landry

Reigning Trainer of the Year Nancy Takter is conditioning nearly 80 horses this year, many potential stars.



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him out, but I didn't race him anymore after that mile. Because I think after that experience, if I would have kept pushing him, he would have gone the wrong way. These Somebeachsomewheres are tough as nails, but their feelings can be nimble and if they get hurt (mentally) it can take them a while to bounce back from it. He's been straight super all winter and he has unlimited potential so I have to hope that he stays healthy and sound; that's usually the deciding factor with these 3-year-olds because they race so hard for so many weeks."

When you're training a horse like One Eight Hundred or any of these other higher-priced younger horses, does that come with any additional pressure for those horses to perform, and is your approach different at all with those horses?

"No, it's not really any different. As soon as they enter my barn and we throw a harness on them for the first time, they're all kind of at square one. I never really think about the price tag on the horses. I have owners that are all experienced owners, and they know what they're getting themselves into when they pay a lot of money for the horses. There's no guarantee that a more expensive horse is going to be better on the racetrack. Always A Miki was only \$40,000 so you just never know. You have to train all the horses the

same. Some people, I think if they do feel some added pressure, they try to be more careful, but I don't think you can do that because these horses need to be tough and they do need same education and sometimes need to get their asses kicked a little bit so that they know what they're supposed to do. You have to treat them all the same."

I know you signed as the buyer for a number of yearlings last year from Timonium and from Lexington, including a pair of high-priced Muscle Hills. What are your 2-year-olds looking like so far from what you can tell?

"This is the biggest group of 2-year-olds that I've ever had, having 40 of them. And this is the first year I'm ever going to say this, but I'm actually really strong on trotters, which is kind of odd. My dad was always very strong on trotters and I never really was, but we were able to purchase some really nice trotters this year. We have the Muscle Hill brother to Greenshoe, who is a very nice colt. He's a high-speed colt but he's very smart... Greenshoe wasn't always that great mentally and that kind of got to him as a 2-year-old. He was hard to manage a little bit, and they (Melander and team) did an excellent job with that one, he could have gone the wrong way completely. But this colt is super smart and the nicest, smartest colt to be around, so I'm hoping for big

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things from him. I have the brother to Venerate, who is also nice. There's a nice Muscle Hill colt named Looks Like Moni, out of That's All Moni, and he's a nice-looking colt, too. On the trotting filly side, I have a Walner filly named American Beauty out of All The Time. There's a Muscle Hill sister to Panem that's looking really good. I also have an Always B Miki colt out of JK She'salady, so that's a full brother to JK Alwaysbalady. There's a few nice Sweet Lous that we bought at good prices for around \$50,000 that I'm also really happy with. On the pacing filly side, I have three very nice Captaintreacherous fillies, a nice Always B Miki filly out of Idyllic Beach, and any one of them could be anything. And it's kind of getting down now into the training. They all trained down nicely as a group, and everyone has been in between 2:20 and 2:15 at this point. They've kind of all trained down strong as a group and the groups held together really well, but I would say in the next four weeks is really when you can start to see some separation between the big boys and the big girls from the rest, so it's an exciting four weeks ahead."

What are your thoughts on replicating last year's dream season, knowing that you're losing horses such as Dan Patch winners Tall Dark Stranger and Kissin In The Sand?

"Obviously, it's hard to see Tall Dark Stranger and Kissin In The Sand go. Those two alone made almost \$2 million last

year so it's hard to replace them, but at the same time my barn is bigger than it was last year. I only had 45 horses that raced last year and now I have 79 horses, so as far as numbers go there's more there. I think I actually like this group of 2-year-olds as a whole better than the group that I had last year, so I think there's a lot more potential in that group. But in the same sense I'm happy with the way that I get to race some of these 4-year-olds back like No Lou Zing, Fortify, JK First Lady and Peaky Sneaky; they're all coming back I think that they'll make a good impression of themselves in the open ranks. And then I'll have a few horses from Diamond Creek that I didn't train last year that I think will be nice horses, like Altar. She won the New Jersey Sires Stakes final last year for 2-year-old filly trotters and I have her in training now. But, like I said, it's tough to lose those guys, but you can't live in the past. You have to look at what you have now and towards the future. There's no guarantees in this sport. If you look back at this time last year nobody knew who Party Girl Hill was. So maybe there's a new one of those in my group, you can always hope for that."

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Ohio

Luther's million-dollar experiment approaches \$4 million as he buys Hackett finalist

Ohio-based Greg Luther recently purchased Katie's Lucky Day for his brother, Todd Luther, to train. The filly will start in the \$40,000 James K. Hackett Memorial championship at Miami Valley on Monday.

by James Platz

When Katie's Lucky Day lines up behind the gate in Monday's (April 12) \$40,000 James K. Hackett Memorial championship at Miami Valley, she will do so under new ownership. Days after winning her Hackett elimination for owner and trainer Bill Cottongim, the trotting filly was purchased by Greg Luther's Black Magic Racing LLC. Luther, who last fall embarked on a "million-dollar experiment," ([full story here](#)) continues to add horses to the stable, trained by

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Brad Conrad

Ohio's Greg Luther has purchased Katie's Lucky Day (shown winning her James Hackett Memorial elimination on April 5 at Miami Valley with Trevor Smith) from owner/trainer Bill Cottongim. The filly will start in Monday's \$40,000 final.

his brother Todd, and his spending spree is now approaching \$4 million since last September.

"It's a little bit of an addiction," said the real estate coach and marketer based out of Reynoldsburg, OH. "Originally, I wanted to do the yearlings, try to do an even million-dollar experiment to see what we can create as far as pedigree, conformation, that type of thing, in an effort to develop some Grand Circuit stock. In the meantime, while doing that, I started seeing a lot of horses that were already Grand Circuit caliber that were 2, 3 and 4-year-olds, so I started acquiring some of those, too."

In January, Luther purchased 4-year-olds Captain Kirk and Chief Mate at the Tattersalls Winter Mixed Sale, spending \$435,000. Earlier that month he acquired Adios victor Catch The Fire. In March, Luther purchased Indiana-sired Dojea Gizmo after the open pacer won his 4-year-old debut at The Meadowlands in 1:50.2.

Luther currently owns 54 horses, 20 of which are babies, and has a goal to build the stable to between 70 and 80 trotters and pacers. Construction is underway on a 50-stall barn at Virgil Morgan Jr.'s Winner's Circle Training Center that will allow for nearly all Black Magic Racing horses to be in one place.

"For the last 25 years I've mostly been in the claimers. Over the last seven years I've gotten more into the yearlings," Luther said. "This is the first year I'm really going big. I'm trying to give my brother every shot to get to the big time."

While his ever-expanding experiment is an aggressive approach to reaching the Grand Circuit, so also is his pursuit of top-caliber horse flesh. In a business where horsepeople make the rounds and closely follow qualifiers and early races looking for horses to acquire, Luther is employing different tactics. He recently launched the website sellmyhorsenow.com, where an owner can submit a horse, asking price, and a few other pieces of information. Luther, in turn, reviews each submission and either says 'Yes' or 'No'.

"I actually just put together the website in an effort to try to buy horses because I'm always looking to buy and it's always been a call around and see what's for sale type of thing," he said. "My brother posted it on his Facebook page one time, that was it. I think we've had 80 or 85 submissions in a week. They just give me their price and I tell them yes or no. It's given everyone a chance to eliminate needing to wait for an auction or pay commissions. I think I bought five of them so far and I'm talking to four or five others."

Part of the website reads: "We are currently buying high end horses that are currently racing. Prices anywhere from \$25,000 to \$500,000 are considered."

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"You will generally have a yes or no answer within hours and we can immediately wire you the funds for purchase."

Despite his online presence, the Ohioan still employs the tried-and-true methods to build his stable. After Katie's Lucky Day scored in 1:56.1 in her second seasonal start April 5, Luther reached out to Cottongim to inquire about the filly. Luther also owns Incomeorexperiences, which he purchased as a yearling. Incomeorexperiences finished third in the other Hackett division to favored Ozma. Cottongim's asking price turned out to be higher than expected, but Luther felt the Uncle Peter—Yansky filly was worth it.

"In the Hackett elimination I saw that Katie's Lucky Day raced great. She came from way back, was two lengths off at the start and still won the race. I figured, 'Hey, things are good right now, we might as well take a shot at it and see if we can get another good one for the year,'" said Luther.

As a freshman, Katie's Lucky Day won six of 12 seasonal starts and finished off the board only twice. She was a gate-to-wire winner last fall in the \$75,000 Ohio Sire Stakes consolation, covering the Northfield Park oval in 1:56.2 as the second choice. This season she trotted fifth in her sophomore debut before capturing her Hackett division.

Katie's Lucky Day has drawn post nine in Monday's \$40,000 final. Incomeorexperiences, Luther's other hope, will line up fourth. A top-four finish will automatically qualify the fillies for the \$50,000 Scarlet & Gray Invitational on April 23.

Luther has poured millions into the stable over the last handful of months, with another \$350,000 in stakes payments due shortly. Monday will serve as the first test for his "experiment" during a long stakes season. Besides the Hackett championship, Chief Mate will slug it out in the fifth round of action in the MGM Borgata Pacing Series at Yonkers. The pacer also has the Graduate Series on his slate in the not-too-distant future.

"My brother jokes with me that I'm eventually going to be on an episode of Hoarders. I call myself a collector, he says I'm a hoarder," said Luther, laughing. "It's starting to turn into a lot of fun as summer is right around the corner. Stakes season is here now and it's starting to get exciting."

TrackMaster PPs for Monday's Hackett final at Miami Valley available [here](#).



Locked down, but not shut out

Ontario horses still welcome at Buffalo Raceway, Saratoga Harness, but Canadian horsepeople are not.

by Melissa Keith

With Ontario in a new COVID-19 lockdown since April 3, owners and trainers in Canada's harness racing stronghold are facing some difficult questions. The most urgent is: where can they still race their horses?

Ryan Clements is one owner who has recently found mixed reactions to Canadian horses being entered stateside.

"It's not very good. It actually seems to be two totally opposite responses," he said, observing how Ontario horseman Anthony MacDonald has been able to enter horses and even get vaccinated in one state, while other tracks have reportedly banned Canadian horses and/or horsepeople. "Ohio welcomes him with open arms, and could potentially be a huge savior for some Canadian horsemen, but then Buffalo and Saratoga go in the exact opposite direction."

Clements isn't alone in his frustration. Not only did COVID-free Ontario tracks lose their ability to conduct live, spectator-less racing for an audience of online bettors; there was also a discouraging text alert from the Buffalo Raceway race office in circulation. The original text message announced: "Beginning IMMEDIATELY no Canadian horses will be permitted at Buffalo Raceway." The message went out just as the Ontario government declared an "emergency brake" lockdown that was to shut down all racing in the province for at least four weeks. Clements said he initially wasn't sure what to think when he saw the race office message from the Hamburg, NY track. Could it be a rumor, or a bad joke? A response on Twitter confirmed that the bad news was real. Clements noted there was "a reply from the Buffalo Raceway account saying, 'Yes, this is us.'"

CANADIAN HORSES, NOT PEOPLE WELCOME AT BUFFALO

But are Canadians really unwelcome to race there? Race secretary Tom Agosti set the record straight. "We are allowing Canadian horses to be sent down to American trainers and stay here and race," he told HRU. "We're not letting people ship in and out, because Canada is locked down and we don't want people coming in and out of here, just for the health and safety of everybody here."

Buffalo Raceway has been operating with essential staff only, and not open to the general public. Agosti said he's sympathetic to the situation of Ontario horsepeople, but his track cannot allow them to relocate there.

"Once the government up there put everybody on lockdown, we can't say, 'Oh well, come on over here,' because if somebody from there comes over here and gets somebody here sick... Oh boy. It has nothing to do with the people. We've always let Canadians come down here and race, no problem. But not during this."

New York



In the past, some Ontario horsemen have shipped in to race, then left Buffalo immediately afterward. Not anymore. "Correct," confirmed the race secretary. "Guys from Flamboro and stuff. I mean, not as much as before; the Canadian horses have really gotten cut down the past couple of years. Very few have been coming down to race, but they were welcome to come. We didn't have any problem with them coming, but now that this [Canada-U.S. border closure and Ontario lockdown] has hit, we've put a 'whoa, Nelly' on that stuff."

Agosti warned that people intending to race horses and then head back across the border are not allowed at Buffalo Raceway. "We will check, you know. We're not going to let you sneak them in, back and forth, back and forth," he advised. "It has nothing to do with Canadians. It's just with them in a lockdown up there, we are on high alert. We've been trying to keep this [COVID-19] out of here for a year now. That's all it is. We're just trying to keep our own guys safe. We just don't want an outbreak at our track. That's all it comes down to."

SIMILAR STORY AT SARATOGA

Saratoga Harness is another New York State track where Ontarians have been looking to enter horses since the



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lockdown. Amy Gentile, racing department administrative assistant, was able to answer questions about who is and isn't permitted on the grounds. "We are accepting horses, but not the people," she said. Race secretary P.J. Iovino was in a meeting, so Gentile provided clarification for Canadians. "Actually, I was just looking at the [program] proof and there are horses that were racing at Rideau Carleton. This particular trainer said her owners wanted to send their horses to the states so they could race. [Iovino] said 'I will accept horses, but they have to go to a local trainer. It's not great for the trainer in Canada, but at least the owners aren't completely [without racing options], and I'm sure they'll bring the horses back as soon as they can.'"

Saratoga is currently racing three afternoons a week (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday), without spectators in attendance. "Here, the owners have been able to come, with a reservation, to watch their horses race," said Gentile. "We're hoping that it changes and we can have spectators soon. Per our own gaming commission, we're not allowed to have spectators. We're waiting. They opened up event, entertainment and art venues, and this is a sporting venue. We also have a casino that's allowed to open at 25 percent capacity, but they said racetracks are different, and they haven't had anything else to say. Everybody thinks they're waiting for Belmont to open before we let fans in. I don't know if that's true, but that's what the rumour is."

The presence of trackside spectators may not matter to Ontarians looking to enter a horse, yet it would indicate a further easing of restrictions in New York State, as more residents are vaccinated and its COVID-19 numbers become more manageable. There's no ban on Canadian horses, nor race conditions written to keep them out of Saratoga Harness, confirmed Gentile. She said that there was likely a misunderstanding when someone contacted the race office: "It could have been that the trainer from Canada called and said, 'Can I enter my horses?' and was told no, because we're not taking the people."

Gentile recommended that Canadians looking to race their horses at Saratoga make arrangements with locally-based trainers. "You can send your horses to somebody that's here; there are a lot of farms. You can absolutely contact the race office. [...] Somebody might already have an idea of who they want to put the horse with, but maybe not have the phone number, so we can help with that. If they're interested in racing at Saratoga, they can contact the race secretary." (The race office direct line is (518) 581-5860.)

Currently, Clements has four overnight horses, two on each side of the U.S.-Canada border. Their situations are markedly different: PL Notorious finished fifth at Yonkers Wednesday night, and Mall Peen Hammer was fifth at Monticello Thursday afternoon.

"Yeah, I'm glad I sent those two down," he told HRU. "I claimed two more horses the week before the shutdown [J S Perfect Cache and Racebytheseaside] and got stuck with those ones up here, but at least I have something going, or it would be twice as bad as it is currently. I know that everyone's in an impossible spot. It's a total guessing game,


trying to decide, 'Do I wait or do I send horses down south?' There's no guarantee, because we don't know if we're going to be racing in a month, or if we're not going to be racing for the rest of the year."

J S Perfect Cache and Racebytheseaside remain in training with Dorchester, ON trainer/driver Lorne House, for now. "The decision is made on a weekly basis, but our temporary decision is to keep both horses in active training so that they're ready to be entered the day that the box opens" at Western Fair, where the two were claimed, said Clements. "The best move is to just keep them ready, so basically I'm not reducing costs at all. They're going to be in the same training they would be if the racetracks were opened. That might change if a month goes by and it looks like we're still not going to open for a couple of months."

Buffalo is now racing twice a week, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, with most horses coming from its own backstretch.

"We've got farms around here that horses are stabled at and then they come here, but it's basically our guys that are here. They race, they stay here; they don't go to the farm," said Agosti. "We've got a list of people that are allowed on the grounds, and that's it."

Canadians can reach out to locally-based trainers if they want to enter horses at the Hamburg, NY track, he said. "Most of the guys up there know people down here, and if they called and said, 'Look, I'm going to send four horses to this guy, whoever it may be, they are more than welcome to send four horses down here to anybody and they can race them



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here, no problem. But they can't come." He noted that a new text message from the race office was sent out April 8, informing owners and trainers that unaccompanied horses were welcome from anywhere.

Agosti said that he understood why Canadians were dismayed by the controversial race office text message, which was coincidentally sent out on April Fools' Day. "What happened was, the Ontario government put out something saying there was a lockdown, so our general manager said, 'We don't want anybody coming from there.' Then we got talking a couple of days ago: You know, the horses don't have the disease — it's the people. The more he got to thinking, he said, 'That's right, you're right, so we'll let the horses come, but they've got to get permission.' To say they can't come is incorrect. They are allowed to come as long as the trainer from here comes in, checks with me, and we clear it all."

Whoever delivers the horses from Canada to Buffalo Raceway must be prepared to follow the strict rules to keep the backstretch COVID-19-free. The race secretary noted that they "will probably have to park outside the gate. The trainer will have to go get [the horses], walk out and walk them in, because we don't want anybody on the grounds." The raceway's ABCD classification system does not have any conditions added to restrict Canadian entries, he added. He doesn't want Ontario horse owners or trainers to feel shut out, because the policies aren't in place to eliminate competition from outside horses: "We'll take anybody right now! We're only going two days a week, and barely getting the 12 races a day, so it's not like we're flooded with horses."

"Buffalo Raceway has always welcomed Canadian trainers here, always. Unfortunately, we're at a time right now where we can't, not because they're Canadian trainers, but just because we can't right now because of the epidemic. We've got to protect everybody's health on the grounds--that's our main concern. Once this is all over, of course they'll be racing in Canada and they won't come anyway, but they will be more than welcome."

Locals must also abide by strict rules in order to race at Buffalo. "We only allow the trainer and one groom per horse. No two grooms for a horse, or just people hanging out--that's out of the question," explained Agosti. "We're trying to limit, as best we can, crowds and everything. Everybody's got to wear a mask the entire time they're here. Honestly, we've sacrificed races to do it, because we've limited horses and people coming in, and, realistically, we actually hurt ourselves business-wise to do it, but for the protection of the people, we had to do what we had to do."

Clements is watching and waiting, trying to make the best decision about where to race or train his two Ontario-based overnight horses. They might go to Tioga Downs, when that New York State track opens, but he knows that if they go, they won't be returning to Ontario.

"Just like Mall Peen Hammer and PL Notorious, when they get on that truck and leave, they're not coming home," he said. "Stakes horses and stuff will go back and forth, but for horses of this value, it just doesn't make any sense, because you're paying a good percentage of the cost of the horse just

to put them on the truck one-way."

Ontario's loss is New York's gain, or the gain of any state where the horses of the lockdown can get back to work.

"Even though you'd be bringing in a few new horses, you could actually be growing the sport in your state by using this opportunity," explained Clements. "I know a lot of people bet on and tune in to these tracks, when they might otherwise not, because we don't have any racing up here. If my horse is racing at Monticello, I'm watching a track that I normally would never watch." And fuller fields mean more wagering.

His observation is similar to one made by Tom Agosti. "We had a nice handle last night," said the Buffalo race secretary. "Over \$330,000 last night [April 7]. We're doing okay. It's nice to have people up here, but we're surviving anyway. We're just doing the best we can."

At Buffalo, the welcome mat is out, but it's horses-only for the time being. "Especially for our upper classes," said Agosti. "We're going with fives and sixes all the time. We could use them. The horses are more than welcome. The people are just going to have to wait." (If interested in entering horses at Buffalo Raceway, the race office can be reached at (716) 649-1280, extensions 6234,6235,6236.)

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The evolution of horseman Mike Wilder

Already a leading driver at The Meadows, Wilder now is starting the transition toward training horses.

by Murray Brown

From the time he was a child, Mike Wilder knew that he wanted to become a driver. He started driving in matinees at 14, fairs at 16 and at 18 professionally at Lebanon Raceway. He began under the tutelage of his step-father, Dave Ritter.

He remains a professional driver at 48 and a darned good one. He has been the second leading driver at The Meadows for the last several years. Considering that the person he has trailed in each of those years is the sport's all-time dash-winning driver, Dave Palone, with a number approaching 20,000 wins, that is far from a minor achievement.

In recent years however, Wilder's motivation has changed somewhat. He most certainly wants to become as good as he possibly can be on the racetrack. But that ambition has been somewhat overtaken by his desire to become a successful trainer/owner specializing in training and developing 2- and 3-year-olds.

All credit towards leading him on that path goes to his wife, Heather, and his father in law, Dan Altmeyer.

To those that know Dan and his family, there are no greater role models in all of harness racing.

Mike was still at Lebanon when he and Heather first began dating. That did not work out as well as it could have if they were living closer to each other.

Love won out and in 2001 Mike took his whip, helmet and colors to The Meadows.

Mike was pretty much an unknown when he first arrived. But he was guaranteed at least a few drives behind horses from the Altmeyer Stable.

A problem was that Mike started driving at The Meadows



Dave Landry

Mike Wilder has returned from a winter in Florida and is ready to take on the season as The Meadows.

in the winter, when Dan and his horses, all 2- and 3-year-olds, were still in Florida.

Mike considers himself fortunate that prominent trainer Randy Bendis gave him first shot behind all of his stable's horses. That opportunity was seized upon. Mike did reasonably well and his success led to greater opportunities.

The driver that came to The Meadows is nowhere near the driver that Mike Wilder has become.

"I was aggressive, probably much too aggressive," Mike said.

Through the influence of Dan, Heather and his experience on the track, he realized that being aggressive isn't necessarily bad, but that it certainly did not suit all horses or all racing situations. Through a period of time and through the utilization of his father in law's favorite term "patience," he has become the well-rounded driver that he now considers himself to be.

Top driver? Yes. Top all around horseman? Not yet, but on his way.

As he began to drive young horses for Dan and others, Mike's education grew. To a very great degree this was different than driving the same overnights week after week.

The challenges were greater, but so were the potential rewards.

He had been wanting to join Dan in training and developing a group of youngsters in Florida for the last

several years.

He finally took the plunge this year.

He and Heather are the part-owners of 17 head including 12 2-year-olds in the Dan Altmeyer Stable.

It was shortly after he had returned from his Florida sojourn, to as he put it "get back to work" that we spoke.

So, how was Florida?

"I loved it. Not only was every single day a pleasure, but most of them were learning experiences. It was a great time to recharge my batteries. Not only training with Dan, but also observing and learning from the terrific horsemen who were stabled at Spring Garden Ranch. You'd have to be pretty dense to be around people like Chuck Sylvester, Brian Brown, George Ducharme, Kelly O'Donnell, Charlie Norris, Chris Beaver and Howie Okusko and not learn anything."

What specifically did you learn from training with Dan?

"If I had to sum it up in just one word, it would be 'patience.' Never get them to go near as fast as you think that they might be able to go. If even the slightest thing away from the norm becomes evident, then back off. It doesn't have to be consequential in the slightest, still back off. If it's speed you are looking for, if they have it, it will be there when you

need it. On the other hand, don't encourage any negatives. Young horses will adapt habits — good and bad. Try to emphasize the positives. As soon as any negatives become evident, address them immediately."

Heather and you are partnered on 17 horses, 12 of them are 2-year-olds. What do you think of what you have?

"Generally speaking, I'm pretty pleased. There are a few that stand out at this point, but thankfully there are none that are disappointing. With the exception of one New York bred, an American Ideal colt, they are all Ohio and Pennsylvania breds. We have five Ohio trotting colts. All the Pennsylvania breds are pacers."

Which are the ones that stand out?

"As I said, there are no disappointments. We can still dream about each of them. But if I were asked to pick two at this point, I would say we have a Wishing Stone colt that could be special and an Always B Miki filly that looks very good. But they are just babies and babies can and often do change."

How was life different for the Wilders as opposed to being up north racing? What did you do for fun?

"In a few words, far more laid back and relaxing. We had plenty of leisure time. We did pretty much whatever suited

The graphic depicts a stable interior with seven stalls. Above the stalls is a large sign that reads "HOW DIVERSIFIED IS YOUR STABLE?". Each stall has a sign above it: "STALLIONS", "BROODMARES", "RACEHORSES", "STOCKS", "BONDS", "MUTUAL FUNDS", and "INSURANCE". Each stall contains a horse's head. In the foreground, there are two jockey figurines. The one on the left is wearing a green jacket and is holding a sign that says "TRIPLE PLAY TROTTERS", "WET MY WHISTLE", and "ELECTRAPEDIA". The one on the right is wearing a white jacket with red accents and is holding a sign that says "JANO ACRES", "PRINCESS DONUT", and "JANO JADE". In the center foreground is a large sign with a horse silhouette and the text "WIRE to WIRE WEALTH". At the bottom, a small line of text reads: "Matt Franklin is a Registered Representative offering Securities and Advisory Services through UNITED PLANNERS FINANCIAL SERVICES, Member FINRA, SIPC Wire to Wire Wealth and United Planners are not affiliated."

Heather. I'm not hard to get along with. We took lots of walks. Went out for dinner with friends regularly and enjoyed life and living."

It seemed as though last year's racing was more of a turnaround one for you. In addition to driving regularly at The Meadows you drove in stakes races there and on the road more often than you have in the past. What were the main differences between driving in overnights and driving in stakes races?

"At The Meadows, the racing was generally more predictable. In just about every race, I knew all the horses and who was driving them. This might be difficult to comprehend, but I thought it was generally easier to drive in the stakes races. Guys like Dexter Dunn, David Miller, Yannick Gingras, the McCarthy brothers and others are the best in their craft. You rarely have to be concerned about any of them doing anything stupid out there. The same thing applies with the horses. That doesn't mean that our guys aren't very good, as well. David (Palone) can drive with everyone, anywhere. It's like Bill Parcells said, 'You are what your record says you are.' Dave's record is all alone. Guys like Aaron Merriman, Tony Hall, Dan Rawlings, Ronnie Wrenn can drive well. We've got three kids racing here — Brady Brown, Hunter Myers and Drew Monti who will be heard from."

For quite some time, it seems you've been second pick to Dave Palone for Ronnie Burke and his vast stable.

"It's certainly been an honor and I'm very appreciative of the opportunities the Burkes have given me. One thing about driving for Ronnie, he treats his drivers like the professionals they are, in the manner in which I believe they should be treated. In the many times I've driven for him, he has never complained about a bad drive or an error I've made. I've sure made some. But he knows that I know."

In the years you've driven at The Meadows, aside from Dan Altmeyer and Ronnie Burke, who would your rate as the three top trainers, you've driven for?



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"There are a whole lot of good horsemen here. But if you held me to only three, I suppose I'd go for Randy Bendis, Norm Parker and Tim Twaddle."

Speaking of The Meadows, the same people race there all year long, year after year. They are friends. Some of them are family. Do you think that this leads to less competitive racing?

"Probably a little. It's only human nature. You aren't going to purposely harm a person's chances of doing well that you see every day. I suppose it's probably similar at most places where they race year around. I see some of it at Mohawk and probably a little less at Northfield."

Your wife Heather has fashioned out her own career in the sport. How does that affect you?

"In two words, it's wonderful. She is one of my true heroes. I've learned a great deal from her. Probably the most important thing is patience. She, in turn learned that from her great parents. I believe that in just about everything she's tried in harness racing, she has excelled at. The most recent has been her great work on the Twos in Training features carried by HRU."

You have two daughters. Tell us about them.

"I could not be more proud of them. Scarlett is in nursing school. She is also a competitive barrel racer, having reached the national finals in Las Vegas two years ago. Lauren has been accepted to Penn State's main campus as a pre-med major. She is also an exceptional singer. The girls along with Heather are my cheering squad."

You have won 8,392 races and the horses you've driven have earned \$69,122,950. You are near your 49th birthday as this is written. What does the future hold for Mike Wilder?

"I'm still a very competitive person. I still want to win every race that I'm in. I believe as I have aged, I have improved as a driver. I also want there to be a successful Part 2 of my career in harness racing. I've started on that phase of my life. I doubt that, as long as I am able, I will ever stop driving horses. But there will probably be a time, likely not all that far off, when the bulk of my efforts will be placed in training, owning and developing young horses. It's taken me a little while to learn this. But it's something that I've discovered is both challenging and something that I love doing."

**Have a question or comment for The Curmudgeon?
Reach him by email at: hofmurray@aol.com.**



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Horse breeding is an art, not a science

by Alan Leavitt

Through a lifetime of study and experience, I have learned that the best indicator of a stallion's sire potential is racetrack brilliance at 2. Playing supporting roles are physical qualities such as sharp-headedness, good, big eyes, and sharp use of ears. Physical size also plays a role, in that for me, I'm leery of horses that are over-sized or dramatically under-sized. In genetic terms, all of these qualities constitute the phenotype, or visible qualities. But equally significant, in genetic terms, is the genotype, which is the genetic makeup of the horse, and it is invisible.

I was fortunate in having a long-term relationship with James C. Harrison, unquestionably the smartest man I ever knew in the horse business, or anywhere else, for that matter. Jim wrote the first chapter of the original *Care and Training of the Trotter and Pacer*, and in it he explained equine genetics better than anyone else, before or since. I am going to reframe his thoughts here, with a little of my own thoughts thrown in.

Equine genetics is a subject we know the least about, and every point one can make about it is only deductive, or after the fact. Yet, it is the most important single element in breeding horses.

To get down to cases, the dominant trotting sire today is Muscle Hill. True, he was a great colt trotter, winning everything at 2, but so was Deweycheatumnhowe. But today, Muscle Hill's breedings are the most expensive and sought after in our sport, while you can hardly give away a breeding to Dewey. While their phenotypes are obviously similar, which explains how both of them were great on the track at 2, their genotypes, the invisible genetic make-up of each horse, are totally divergent.

To understand better a stallion's genetic makeup, Jim's example of a deck of playing cards works well. Imagine the range of the gene that represents the ability to sire trotting speed, running from 1:48.4, the world record, to 2:05, which is too slow to meet any current track's qualifying standard.

Transpose that range to a deck of playing cards, with *Two* representing a sire time of 2:05, up to the *Ace*, representing the ability to sire 1:48.4 speed.

Imagine that every standardbred mare also has the same genetic range, which only makes sense, and her deck also runs from *Two* to *Ace*. At the time of conception, every horse's genotype, or genetic makeup, is created, with equal input from both the sire and the dam. Since the average card in a full deck is *Eight*, you could expect an average resulting foal, with the ability to trot around 2:00.

But that's not how it works. Every stallion and every mare contributes a different speed gene, or card, to every conception. And here's what makes Muscle Hill a great sire, in my reckoning. Although he theoretically has a full range of cards, or speed genes, in actual practice he mainly deals from the top of his deck. I can imagine that, in these terms, the lowest card he ever throws is a *Ten* and most of them are *Jacks*, *Queens*, and very occasionally a *King*. Thus, whatever card the mare contributes to the foal the two of them conceive, their foal is going to have a faster speed inheritance than the average foal sired by a stallion sans the use of any face-cards in his genetic deck.

That, in a huge oversimplification, is why one can reasonably expect any foal by Muscle Hill to be faster than the average foal, and if he gets any kind of help in the speed inheritance department from the mare, the foal will be exceptionally fast.

At this point, you probably need no help from me in figuring out why Dewey has been such a flop. Clearly, he routinely comes up with a low card, or slow speed gene, most of the time. He can sire a fast horse on the infrequent occasion when the genetic gods smile on him and he passes on a fast gene. But they don't smile very often. Yet the fact remains, that on the racetrack at 2, Dewey was every bit as good and successful as Muscle Hill. His phenotype, in technical terms, was great. But his genotype was the opposite, which is why so many of his progeny are pulling Amish buggies.

Clearly there is a need to identify the visible and knowable qualities, such as pedigree, in the broodmare, but that is a subject equally complicated, and for another time.

It's possible that someday there may be a scientific way created that will help to shed light on the genetics of our beautiful breed. But somehow, I doubt it. For me, horse breeding will always be an art, not a science, and art is always, at bottom, something unknowable.



EUROPEAN REPORT



with THOMAS HEDLUND

The top horses in Europe are starting to leave their barns after the winter and next up is Finland and the \$151,000 Seinäjoki Race on Saturday (April 17). Eight horses are invited to the race and Italian star Vernissage Grif, trained by Alessandro Gocciadoro, is one of them.

[Racing Mange replay.](#)

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Top trotters aim for Paralympiatravet

by Thomas Hedlund

Saturday (April 10) at Jägersro racetrack in Sweden, the first elimination was held for the \$351,000 Paralympiatravet at Åby set for May 8. First betting choice Racing Mange (Orlando Vici) scored the victory, holding his toughest opponent Cyber Lane on the outside and behind him at the wire.

Racing Mange had to use plenty of power reaching the lead after 600 meters and when Cyber Lane connected on the outside shortly after, the expected duel began.

Joakim Lövgren, trainer and driver of Racing Mange, trusted his horse in the home stretch when Cyber Lane tried to disarm the leader. In a tight finish, Racing Mange held on by a large nose and recorded a mile rate of 1:56.1 over 1.3 miles.

For the final of the Paralympiatravet at Åby racetrack, Racing Mange will join already invited Gelati Cut in the race.

Later on Saturday night (April 10), Åby's sports general Jon Walter Pedersen announced that two more horses have been invited to the final. Ecurie D, who won at Solvalla on Wednesday night, and French star Delia du Pommereux will both be participating in the big race.

Ecurie D. tried his luck among older elite trotters already last year and finished fourth in the Hugo Åbergs Memorial in July. Delia du Pommereux has been among the top French trotters the last few years and she can look back at a winter meeting in Paris where she beat Face Time Bourbon in the Prix de France.

Whether last year's most dominant 4-year-old – and Swedish Horse of the Year – Hail Mary will join in the Paralympiatravet is not yet known, but the horse made his debut for the year on Friday night (April 9) in northern Sweden, where trainer Robert Bergh found a suitable race to start the season. Hail Mary had zero opponents that could challenge him and the son of Googoo Gaagaa just cruised to safe win in a moderate mile rate of 2:02.4 over 1.3 miles.



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Forty years on, the Peter Haughton Memorial is anything but a Hambletonian preview

by Bob Heyden

In 1981, the year after the tragic passing of 25-year-old Peter Haughton, a freshman trotting colt race was named in his honor. It quickly became the biggest event for 2-year-old male trotters, an honor it would later share with the Breeders Crown.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Peter Haughton Memorial, the only 2-year-old trotting stake to ever go for \$1 million twice – 1984 (Another Miracle) and 1985 (Express Ride).

After going in three divisions for the one and only in 1981 – each for \$75,000 – the next eight Peter Haughtons were the eight richest 2-year-old trotting colt events ever held prior to the inaugural \$1 million Mohawk Million in 2020.

Yet, a funny thing has happened throughout the history of the Peter Haughton – and especially in its first 25 years – it became anything but a Hambletonian preview.

Here's a closer look at that fateful quarter century from 1981-2005 for this prestigious event:

During that stretch, never once did the winner of the Peter Haughton come back to take the Hambletonian at 3.

Never once did the winner of the Peter Haughton come back and take the divisional title at 3.

Eleven Haughton winners did not even make it to the Hambletonian final. Of the 12 winners that did, not one finished first or second.

Only Enjoy Lavec (1998-1999) won the Peter Haughton and finished on the board in the Hambletonian (third to Self Possessed and Angus Hall).

During that same time period, the winners of the Haughton's female equivalent, the Merrie Annabelle, made more money in the Hambletonian. That's right, even though only four Merrie Annabelle winners gave it a go in the Hambletonian, three finished third overall, good for \$404,764 – Winkys Gill 1982-1983, Britelite Lobell 1985-1986 and Peace Corps 1988-1989. Haughton winners banked just \$320,000 in that same quarter century.

One died – Dancers Crown dominated in 1982, including the Peter Haughton, but was lost the month prior to the 1983 Hambletonian.

One retired – Donerail, the 1994 Peter Haughton winner, called it a career the month prior to the 1995 Hambletonian paving the way for John Campbell and Tagliabue to find a path to Hambletonian glory.

Only four got money in the next year's Hambletonian – Supergill 4th in 1988, Giant Chill 5th in 1993, Express Ride 5th in 1986 and Enjoy Lavec 3rd in 1999.

Tom Ridge dominated in the 2003 Peter Haughton but came up well shy as the favorite in the 2004 Hambletonian, finishing eighth in a race won by Windsongs Legacy.

In all, the 25 Peter Haughton winners made \$7,205,500 in winning the Peter Haughton from 1981-2005-but just 4.5 per cent of that in the Hambletonian the next season.

Remember the shock of Father Patrick in 2014 as the big Hambletonian favorite going offstride at the start and finishing last? Oh yes, he won the 2013 Peter Haughton.

Remember the outstanding Wesgate Crown? The first and only trotter (McWicked (2014 and 2018) did so on the pace) to win a Breeders Crown four years apart? (1993 & 1997) Wesgate Crown's jinx extended well past just the Hambletonian where he broke and finished eighth in his heat. He was winless at 3.

So, you have to be a superhorse to win both. Only twice has this happened in 40 years – Donato Hanover in 2006 and 2007 and Muscle Hill in 2008 and 2009. Donato won 19 straight and Muscle Hill 20 in a row. Both were vote Horse of the Year at 3.





Cindy Stewart – breeder

by Victoria Howard

Hunterton Farm, one of harness racing's finest breeding farms, is located in Paris, Ky. Numerous champions have been bred, born, and raised on the historical land that was once known as Stoner Creek.

In 1980, the farm sported 80 acres, but today covers 900 acres that spread across three farms; the majority is on the Stoner Creek Stud farm where the great Meadow Skipper stood and is laid to rest.

Hunterton is owned and operated by Steve and Cindy Stewart.

"Steve and I have leased the farm from Margareta Kleberg since 1996 after the passing of Norman Woolworth," Cindy said. "The history of the farm is unsurpassable. There is a beautiful cemetery where the great Meadow Skipper and Nevele Pride are buried, along with the ashes of Mack Lobell who we stood two years before he went to Sweden. There is also the 1943 thoroughbred Triple Crown winner Count Fleet that was owned by John D. Hertz (who built the farm in 1938). Stoner Creek comes with a lot of history, which Steve and I were conscious of and worked very hard to keep the legacy going.

"Stoner Creek had produced five Hambletonian winners who were born on the farm before we got there and have added two more with Trixton and Forbidden Trade. We are hoping for a third this year with Venerate.

"That doesn't count the Jug, Jugette, Metro, and Meadowlands Pace winners, etc., and we are working on making that list longer.

"Surrounding the stallions in a horseshoe of gravestones are the dams of the Hambletonian winners, as well as Pizze Dolce, Annecrombie, Duenna, and Classical Way," said Cindy.



Dave Landry

Hunterton's Cindy Stewart, with her husband Steve, at the 2017 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale.

"It's really something to see."

Indeed, it is. When I was writing the book *Meadow Skipper* with Bob Marks, I flew to Kentucky to take photos and gather information and was lucky to have met Margareta Kleberg herself. What a classy lady.

The farm is exquisite and if you ever get a chance to visit, I suggest you do.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

So how did a girl born in Clarksville, TN, come to live every girl's dream?

"My father was in the army and stationed in Tennessee. We spent three months there before he was transferred to Germany, then moved around a great deal when I was young. I attended nine elementary schools, two high schools, and two universities before landing at the University of Kentucky, where I met Steve," Cindy said.

"We were both attending a fraternity party when he walked up to me and asked if he could buy me a beer! Comical — for the beer was free to everyone! But that's Steve. He's always been a charmer.

"Up until I was 16, I was in a ballet performing company in Northern Virginia. I really enjoyed it, but decided not to pursue it as a career.

"I considered becoming a veterinarian because I've always loved animals, but I'm glad I didn't go down that path

because I'm not sure I could handle the life and death decisions required on a daily basis."

Although Cindy wasn't brought up around racehorses, she did own a horse when she was young.

"My dad bought a horse for each of his three children: me, my younger brother, and older sister, trying to help a difficult cultural wake-up call when we moved to a rural base in Louisiana. I basically lived on a horse for the three years we were there, so I've always loved horses.

"When we re-located to the D.C. area, we had to sell the horses and it was Kentucky that gave me my 'horse fix' when I transferred there my last two years of college.

"But it was Steve and his family that introduced me to the business. Steve was working for his brothers at the Red Mile and I graduated from the university with a teaching degree in Special Education. We used to talk for hours about how Steve longed for a farm of his own and to be his own boss. Although we liked the track — the farm was our thing.

"Steve was the youngest son in a large family where all the other brothers were already involved in the business. That time taught us a lot about being patient, diplomatic, and believing in yourself — even when others told you that you couldn't do it.

"That's one of the reasons we came up with the name for the farm: Hunterton. Hunter is Steve's middle name, but it's also his mom's maiden name and a nod from the family member that was most in his corner."

THE BIRTH OF HUNTERTON

"In 1982, Steve and I got married and lived off my teaching salary for the first few years until the business started taking off. Once it began making money, we pooled my salary and started taking trips. At the time, Sweden was buying almost every trotting stallion they could and sending them overseas. Steve and I would take trips to every horse farm talking to as many people as we could.

"In 1985 we had our first child, a daughter named Liz, and in 1989 I gave birth to our son, Taylor. When I had the children, I stopped teaching and split my time between raising the kids and the farm.

"Our daughter Liz always loved horses and today has her own horse business as a professional three-day-event rider who trains, rides, competes, and teaches in Pennsylvania.

"When she was 5-years-old Liz said she wanted to ride horses when she grew up and today is living the dream and is exceptional at it. She's an amazing horsewoman in her own right and it's too bad we couldn't talk her into driving them for she would've be the trainer to beat!

"Our son Taylor is also an excellent horseman, but he kept growing taller. At 6' 5" the basketball coaches discovered him and he developed into a fantastic player. He was recruited out of high school by the United States Air Force Academy and started all four years for them. He graduated with an engineering degree and is now a pilot for the Air Force.

SOME OF THE CHAMPIONS

"We've always had favorite babies and mares at the farm. Some favorite mares have been Hustler's Best, who is the dam of Run The Table. We really loved that colt for he was big, beautiful, and incredibly smart.

"And there was Pizza Dolce, who was the sweetest mare ever, Emilie Cas El and Southwind Serena.

"Favorite horses we raised are Run The Table, Galleria, Nuclear Siren (I cried when we sold him), Forbidden Trade, Rock N Roll Heaven, Mission Brief (who is back at the farm and new staff favorite), Tactical Landing (my heart horse for sure), Trixton (a big prankster), and Venerate (always class).

"As for the babies, we usually raise 150 plus yearlings. Quite a few of them are not sold as yearlings, like Party Girl Hill, which we bred and raised for our client Tom Hill. We also consign some yearlings we didn't raise, such as Tall Dark Stranger, who we sold for longtime client Jim Avritt.

"All the yearlings we own go to the sales."

Cindy and Steve also own a couple of horses being trained by Linda Toscano and Chris Beaver.

THE FUTURE OF HUNTERTON

"People keep asking us how much longer we intend to keep running a large operation. The answer is, 'As long as we can,' because after 40 years at Hunterton Farm, it's still fun. And our son, Taylor, informed us that after his commitment is up with the Academy in two years, he will be coming back to the farm with his wife and first child, to help carry on the business — and anyone that knows Taylor knows he will do an excellent job.

"When I was young there was no way I could have imagined the life I would have. I love my work and don't think there is a better lifestyle in the world. I wake up every morning on a beautiful farm, work with a partner I adore, and am surrounded by beautiful horses. There is no better life."





In praise of the plainly rigged

by Dean A. Hoffman

I once stood in a stable area and watched a trainer take a horse to the track for a warm-up mile. The horse wore a blind bride, shadow roll, head halter, two burr headpoles, martingale, knee boots, tendon boots, bell boots and hobbles.

I looked closely and thought to myself, "I think there is a horse under all that equipment, but I'm not really sure."

I understand that the purpose of racing is to win, not necessarily to look good while doing so. It is horse racing, not a horse show or beauty contest.

Yet, I think many people agree that it's wonderful to see a horse good-gaited and so good-mannered that it wears basically the harness and nothing. It also helps if that horse is fast enough to win.

I think we can also agree that horses are beautiful animals and yet when they are covered in enough equipment to be a walking billboard for Big's D Catalog, some of the natural equine beauty is lost.

Again, the purpose of racing is to win. I'd rather have a horse covered in equipment win a race than one that wears practically nothing and finishes 11 lengths up the track.

Pretty is as pretty does.

But my highest admiration is reserved for those horses that can display their great ability without being encumbered by lots of equipment.

In 1985, I recall seeing the Swedish wonder horse Meadow Road sweep to victory in the Statue of Liberty series at the Meadowlands. When he came back to the winner's circle, I noticed that he wasn't wearing any shin boots.

"Wow, they got those boots off him in a hurry," I said to myself. It was only later that I realized that Meadow Road didn't wear any shin boots. But such trotters are rare.

I once heard – but never confirmed – that the great trotter Rodney hit his shins so badly that he needed a new pair of shin boots every time he started. Good thing Rodney won a lot of money.

Yet Speedster, a son of Rodney, was so clean gaited that he didn't even wear shin boots. Go figure.

The master horseman John F. Simpson, Sr. won two Hambletonians and two Jugs before vision problems sidelined his driving career. His horses often raced without breast collars or head halters. I once asked Simpson why he did this and he quipped, "Breast collars and head halters are just excess leather."

We all know that it's almost automatic for pacers to wear hobbles, but some of my favorites from the past went sans the straps. Two fillies that I did not see race but saw plenty of photos were Good Counsel and Countess Adios.

Frank Ervin had trained and raced Good Time and he loved that little bugger with all his heart. He told me that the fastest pacer sired by Good Time was not a colt, but instead the flying filly Good Counsel.

"She could be pacing a quarter at a 28-second rate and, if you chirped to her, you'd better brace yourself or she'd pull the sulky right out from under you," Ervin told me once.

Remember, Good Counsel raced was 65 years ago.



Ervin drove Good Counsel to a world record mile in 1:58.1 in 1956, which just astonished onlookers. What astonished me was the photo of Good Counsel flying through the air without boots or hobbles.

Countess Adios may have claim to being the best pacing female of the post-World War II era. Certainly, no other pacing female won two legs of the Triple Crown back when the Triple Crown was really special. Countess was a pacing marvel, but she wore knee and tendon boots and I therefore don't put her in the same category with Good Counsel in appearance.

As you might have guessed by now, I'm not a fan of trotting hobbles but that matters little to the trainers who regularly rely on them. There was a time when race meetings advertised that "No hobbled pacers permitted to race" at a certain track. Those days are long gone.

I love to see photos of horses campaigned by the old master horseman Ben White (1873-1958), a legend even during his lifetime. Harness shops would go broke if all trainers were like Ben. Few wore breast collars or head halters. Ben White's best wore the basic harness and bridle – and little else.

I would love to own horses that wear the basic harness and little else. I would also love to own a horse that won all its starts and wore every boot in the book.

If I had to choose between a plainly-rigged slowpoke and a fully-outfitted champion, I'll take the champion any day. Wouldn't we all?

I recall seeing Keystone Ore beat Armbrø Ranger in a slam-bang duel in the 1976 Adios. Keystone Ore wore the harness and only a blind bridle and light bell boots.

Six years earlier, I saw Most Happy Fella win the Jug and he wore just lots of boots and head rigging. Yet he became a great sire, while Keystone Ore was a nothingburger.

Most Happy Fella was the first colt that signaled how special Meadow Skipper was to become as a stallion. Following in MHF's hoofprints was Albatross and he also raced to his greatest wins by Stanley Dancer. Albatross wore no boots in front and just a Kant-See-Bak bridle. Dancer tried to get Albatross to wear a shadow roll, but the pacer was having no part of that.

The purpose of racing horses is to get to the finish line, but from my perspective I value most the horses that race plainly rigged.

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HRU Foal Spotlight



Betterthancheddar filly out of Iced Out loves her adoptive mom

photo and story by Janet Weinstein

This Betterthancheddar filly – the first foal out of Iced Out p, 1:52.3f (\$165,659), owned by Rick Howles – arrived at Winbak Ontario on March 6 and loves her adoptive mom, Carma, owned by Abbie Brander.

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HARNES RACING UPDATE

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New York



Alexa Skye and Blue Ivy score in last leg of the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series

by Yonkers Raceway

Alexa Skye and driver Todd McCarthy served notice in the final of five preliminary rounds of the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series at Yonkers Raceway on Friday night (April 9) with an imposing 1:52.3 victory in her \$35,000 division. The fleet-footed 4-year-old by Somebeachsomewhere had to work just a bit to gain control at the quarter, but from that point her four rivals chased her in vain.

Alexa Skye left the gate along with Monica Gallagher (Jason Bartlett) from the inside, with Siesta Beach (Matt Kakaley) between those two into the opening bend. Siesta Beach settled along the pylons, but McCarthy pushed Alexa Skye to the top and cleared passing a :27.4 opening fraction. Alexa Skye maintained the lead after that, setting fractions of :56.3 and 1:24.4, with Siesta Beach moving to the outside into the final turn as Monica Gallagher lost contact with the pace-setter.

McCarthy let his mare do the talking, and Alexa Skye spoke volumes, cruising home effortlessly with a :27.4 kicker to win by open lengths. Siesta Beach held down the place spot, with Soho Burning Love A (Austin Siegelman) showing decent late foot for third.

Sent off as the 1-5 favorite in the field, Alexa Skye paid \$2.40 to win. Alexa Skye won all four of the Blue Chip Matchmaker preliminary legs she participated in for co-owner Pollack Racing LLC. and co-owner/trainer Jeff Cullipher. The exacta returned \$4.50, with the two favorites first and second, and the triple came back \$11.40. Now a winner in seven of nine starts on the season, Alexa Skye moves into the \$232,800 final on April 19 as the clear horse to beat.

In the night's first section, which was raced as a non-wagering event, Blue Ivy led a field of four wire-to-wire



Chris Brokate

Alexa Skye (Todd McCarthy) winning her Blue Chip Matchmaker Series leg on Friday (April 9) at Yonkers.

for driver Tyler Buter to score decisively in 1:52.3 over Caviart Cherie (Kakaley) and Machnhope, with Lady Dela Renta A (Jordan Stratton) fourth in the group.

Blue Ivy had the pole position and discouraged leavers, blasting off into the opening bend and cutting a :27.1 quarter with no dispute. Buter was then kind to the 5-year-old daughter of Captaintreacherous, allowing her to stroll the middle-half in just 58 seconds, reaching three-quarters in 1:25.1 as Machnhope and Andrew McCarthy pulled to make a token bid.

No one would get within a length of Blue Ivy, as Buter called on her, and she responded with a :27.2 final quarter, holding a clear advantage to the wire. Caviart Cherie had raced in the pocket throughout and fought hard enough for the place spot.

Trained by Todd Buter and owned by Renee Bercury, Blue Ivy completed the five-leg preliminary round with an impressive scorecard that included three wins and two second-place finishes. Friday's 1:52.3 mile was her fastest of the series and her sixth win in 2021 in just 10 starts.

Unofficially, the eight mares that advanced to the \$232,800 Blue Chip Matchmaker Series final are: Blue Ivy (325 points), Alexa Skye (300), Machnhope (237), Siesta Beach (234), Caviart Cherie (222), Snobbytown (195), Monica Gallagher (178), and My Ruebe Star N (143).

The final leg of the MGM Borgata Pacing Series will take place on Monday night (April 12) at Yonkers Raceway with three \$40,000 fields set, including a final preview with Leonidas A, This Is The Plan and Hesa Kingslayer N in one division.



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Burke Brigade aims for trio in Borgata final

by Ken Weingartner / USTA media relations manager

With two horses already guaranteed spots in the final of the MGM Borgata Series for older male pacers, trainer Ron Burke will look to add a third on Monday (April 12) when Yonkers Raceway plays host to the last preliminary round of the six-week event.

Based on points accumulated in the series, the Burke Brigade's Rockapelo and This Is The Plan are among five horses to have already secured places in the eight-horse final on April 19. The others are Western Joe, Hesa Kingslayer N, and Leonidas A.

Burke's Backstreet Shadow is in the best position to join that group, pending the outcomes in Monday's last preliminary divisions of the series. Backstreet Shadow, sixth in points, is the 8-5 morning-line favorite in the first of the last three Borgata splits, starting from post one.

The six-horse field also includes four of the five horses directly behind Backstreet Shadow in the standings: San Domino A and Lyons Steel, who are tied for seventh, ninth-place Raukapuka Ruler N and 11th-place Tyga Hanover. The remaining horse in the field is series leader Western Joe.

Other horses that could bolster their chances of making the final with wins on Monday are Mach N Cheese and Mac's Jackpot, who are both in the second division, and Ostro Hanover, who is in the third. None are morning-line favorites.

Backstreet Shadow has a win and two seconds in the Borgata. A trainer can start only one horse in a division, and Burke has four horses in the series, so Backstreet Shadow sat out last week's leg after coming up sick in his second-place finish on March 29.

"He had a legitimate excuse his last start," said Mark Weaver, who is among the owners of Backstreet Shadow, as well as Rockapelo and This Is The Plan. "We had to give someone the week off, so it just made sense for it to be him. We expect him to be pretty good this start and then hopefully even better in the final."

Backstreet Shadow, a 6-year-old gelding, has won 25 of 63 career races and \$890,162. Last year, he won the Roll With Joe Stakes and hit the board in the Breeders Crown, TVG



Open Pace Series championship, Sam McKee Memorial, and Allerga Farms Open Pace.

"I think Backstreet Shadow and This Is The Plan are two of the top five or six aged pacers," Weaver said. "They've been factors the last several years. Hopefully, they are again, all season long. This is just the start of a long year, hopefully, for them."

This Is The Plan, a 6-year-old gelding with \$1.8 million in career purses, has a win and three seconds in the Borgata. He is the 2-1 second choice in Monday's third division.

Rockapelo, a 2018 New York Sire Stakes champion who has been lightly tested on the Grand Circuit, is sitting out Monday's action. The 6-year-old gelding has two wins, a second, and a fifth in the series.

Nine of his most recent 12 victories have come at Yonkers.

"He's kind of a Yonkers specialist, a grinder," Weaver said. "He's surprised us. This will be his Super Bowl, so to speak, for the year. After this, it will be back to overnights."

The Burke Stable has traditionally been deep with talented older male pacers. The returning group this season also includes a past Dan Patch Award winner, Dorsoduro Hanover, as well as millionaire Filibuster Hanover, Elver Hanover, The Greek Freak, and Covered Bridge.

"The aged division is kind of our bread and butter," Weaver said. "If you get a couple good ones, you can really do some damage."

"We try to treat them like a baseball team where you've got some major leaguers, but you're always looking to develop your minor league system. At some point, they're going to get called up to the big leagues. We're constantly trying to keep the pipeline going. Hopefully, we have some that can fill the void when the time comes."

Racing begins at 7:15 p.m. (EDT) Monday at Yonkers. For complete entries, click [here](#). For the Borgata standings, click [here](#).

[TrackMaster PPs for the Borgata divisions are here.](#)



Racing Reflections with Kevin Cummings as he approaches his 4,000th driving win

by Ken Weingartner / USTA media relations manager

Kevin Cummings was around the age of 8 when he began jogging horses with his dad, trainer John Cummings, Sr. Not surprisingly, as Kevin Cummings approaches win No. 4,000 in his driving career, he counts his father as the most important influence on his life.

John Cummings Sr., who passed away in 2019, won more than 700 races as a trainer. Among his top horses was Arm And A Leg, who in 2009 was named western New York's Horse of the Year by the Upstate New York chapter of the U.S. Harness Writers Association.

"He was an inspiration," Cummings said. "He was a hard worker. You try to remember all the tips he gave you, what you saw and how he would do things. He was a good horseman. There are horsemen and there are trainers, in my opinion. He was a horseman, for sure.

"We went to the barn with him every day. We got to jogging and training at a young age, but he didn't just throw you in the cart. He made you earn that cart first. You had to work and learn the discipline at the other end."

Cummings is one of four boys in the family, and the others — John Jr., Tony, and Todd — also have all won races as both drivers and trainers. In fact, Cummings' first win came in 1989 behind a horse named Orlando Otto, who was trained by Tony.

"That was special," Cummings said. "It was my second drive. I remember I drove two for him that night. I won with Orlando Otto and the other one I had the seven hole and finished second. He paid \$77 to place. That was a good night. That was a lot of fun."

Of all the horses to pass through the family's stable, two of Cummings' favorites were Windjammer Munk and Arm And A Leg. Windjammer Munk, who raced from 1979 to 1987, was one of the earliest horses in his dad's stable.

"He was probably the family pet," Cummings said. "He was a little horse, but he was tough. He would race. We kept him his whole life.

"Arm And A Leg was a real special horse for us. I drove him in the open every week and he got assigned the outside because he was better than the rest. He never had it easy, but he liked it. He was a gutsy horse, and he didn't like to not do good. That would probably be the horse I remember the most. He was just a good horse."

Other top moments for Cummings include two wins in the Robert J. Kane Memorial Pace at Batavia Downs. The first



Courtesy Batavia Downs

Kevin Cummings is closing in on 4,000 career driving wins.

came with a local horse, Michael Scores, in 2006. He got the second victory in 2016 with Foiled Again, the richest horse in harness racing history.

A year later, Cummings won again with Foiled Again, this time in the George "Duke" Dranichak Memorial Invitational. It was Foiled Again's 96th lifetime triumph. He finished his Hall of Fame career with 109 wins, the eighth most for a pacer in history.

"That was a big thing for me, to drive the richest horse ever," Cummings said. "He was a real easy horse to drive, just push-button. He was a special horse, you could tell. He just wanted it. I was two-for-two with him, but he did good for everybody."

The 50-year-old Cummings trains a small stable of horses in addition to driving. He has been the winningest driver at Buffalo Raceway six times and at Batavia on four occasions. This year, he is third in the standings at Buffalo.

"I'm having a pretty good year," Cummings said. "My horses are doing good, my stable, and I'm doing pretty good driving too right now. I can't complain."

He is looking forward to getting win 4,000. Entering Thursday, he had 3,993 victories.

"It means a lot," Cummings said. "Every thousand you get is a thousand more that you didn't have. It's a good milestone. I'd like to get to (5,000) but I don't know if it will happen. It's tough here because we only race a couple days a week. It doesn't accumulate as quickly."

And just like that young kid who accompanied his dad to the barn all those years ago, Cummings still looks forward to getting to work with the horses.

"You can't beat it," Cummings said. "You think about other things you could be doing, and you appreciate what you have. I've got it pretty good. I think that's what keeps me going."



What if it all goes wrong? (Part 3)

by Trey Nosrac

[Part 1 can be read here](#)

[Part 2 can be read here](#)

"The question is laid upon the table. Where does the sport of harness horse racing go if money dries up? How's that? Do I sound like a congressman?"

He answered, "No, you sound like an idiot. During your last filibuster, you claimed you would find a model in case the horseracing business collapsed. Did you find one?"

"Possibly. I will give you some clues. See if you can guess the sport."

After a dramatic eye roll, he asked, "Can't you just tell me?"

"Nah, it's too strange to hit you all at once. I need to sneak up, or you'll laugh in my face. Here are three clues - The sport is expensive to play, the participants are avid, and the sport does not depend on gambling."

"Hmmm...Polo?"

"Nope. No horses are involved. A few more clues: The sport is part dream, part business, has a long history, is male-dominated, rich or poor can play, and the participations chase purse money."

"Car racing?"

"No, but you're a little warmer. The sport has rural roots, is family-oriented, does not rely on government legislation, and has adapted well to modern technology. The participants work long and hard, often in solitude, as they pursue championships. Even during the pandemic, this sport is growing."

He shrugged. "I give up."

"Okay. A few weeks ago, I got a text from my nephew, Brush Hog."

"Brush Hog?"

"He's a competitive bass fisherman. He began in high school, then moved on to fishing teams like Fishers of Men and The Reel Naturals. For the past few years, he is a solo pro. These tournaments are a much bigger deal than you think, and the purse money is enticing."

"Fishing! You propose fishing as your model for a reboot if the horse racing wall comes crumbling down?"

"A few things got my attention a few weeks ago when I received a text to Livestream Brush Hog as he was about to weigh-in live on day two from Lake Eufaula in Alabama."

"They livestream fishing tournaments?"

"Oh yeah. The weigh-ins have all the drama of a missile launch. They also have cameras on the water watching the action. A lesson for my racing friends is that the livestream fishing feeds offer a clearer picture than many racetracks, and the announcers were enthusiastic to the point of hyperventilating."

"Where does this remotely fit into a harness horseracing rebirth?"

"Money."

"Purse money?"

I nodded, "At the professional level, money is the lure. Brush Hog finished in 13th place at the end of a three-day tournament. Now, Brush Hog is a fisherman, and they tend to exaggerate, but he figures he will earn about \$10,000. That is a lot of money for a mediocre finish in a tournament."

"What was the top purse structure?" He asked.

"First place was **\$50,000, second \$30,000, third \$20,000, fourth \$15,000, and fifth \$14,000. They also pay deep, like 40 places.**"

He gave a dismissive wave, "They're not giving money away. I'm guessing the money is like stakes racing a horse, where the competitors need to invest, but only a few pick up big checks?"

"You are correct. There are several professional leagues. Brush Hog was texting from an event in *The National Professional Fishing League*. There are 125 anglers, and they have six qualifying tournaments, with two in the spring, two in the summer, and two in the fall. There is a National Championship for \$250,000. To get that kind of money, the entry fee for fishing in Alabama for three days was \$6,000. That means \$36,000 for each of the NPFL anglers to fish the tournaments in this circuit. And there are several circuits."

Using air quotes, he said, "So, in reality, your nephew netted more like \$4,000."

"After expenses, less than that. Heck, maybe Brush Hog lost

money. But here is the bottom line, he loves his sport, he can compete in his sport, and his sport stands on its own two feet."

"Fishing and racing horses are completely different. Purchasing and racing a yearling is expensive."

"Of course, they are different. We are trying to find a viable business model. After Brush Hog pays for his boat, *Reel Big Liability*, his travel, lodging, equipment, practice, and lost wages from working a traditional job, he could buy a horse. Pro fishing is a challenging, expensive road."

He said, "I don't know about this comparison."

"Look, horse racing and fishing for money are part business, part dream, part friendships, and part adventure. Both are more complex than they appear on the surface for the players and organizers. Outsiders see a trotter going around in a circle or see a guy in a boat throwing a lure. Insiders know that both sports are unbelievably deep. These are places for people with a passion who want to compete. Purse money is the measurement."

"But fishing?" He asked for the third time.

"I keep going back to the money and thinking about the competitors on those boats zipping around Lake Eufaula. In the sporting businesses, viability comes down to revenue stream. Competitive fishing has found a format that seems to have plenty in common with racing. A few competitors have the cash to burn, and fishing is how they enjoy burning it. Others, like yours truly, need to hustle to play their game. We need to scramble and sometimes do-it-yourself."

He nodded, "If horse racing hits the skids, there will be scrambling."

"For sure. Whether harness racing has a complete rebuild or keeps treading along the status quo, we could pick up on the business ideas I got while watching fishing on Lake Eufaula. When Bubba, or Skeeter, or Levar step up to the podium, they have a little chat with the announcers. The anglers wear long-sleeved jerseys covered with scads of advertiser patches. They make sure to thank people who have kicked in money to keep their bass boat and their dreams afloat. They thank their church, their bank, their uncle, their boat company, their charity, their kickstart group, their grocery store, or their tire company."

"In harness racing, for the most part, owners pay, and trainers train."

"Anglers seem to have a lot more angles. Players are small independent businesses hustling sponsors, and these days, much of the hustling is via social media. They have contracts to honor, social-media posts to enter, pictures to post,

sponsors to satisfy, schedules to make, reservations to make, and doors to knock on. The entrepreneurial side of fishing for a living is an interesting concept."

He said, "Still, they are so different, horses with drivers and fishermen with boats."

"Honestly, I don't know how horse racing would be structured. Maybe a week with a short sprint the first day, and then the same horse would go a mile and then a long race for the last day. The format would be up to the organizers in consultation with horse people. Racing would look different. Organizers start with ardent players and look for ways to make money. They could set up racing meets any way they want."

He chimed in, "Both the players and the organizers are entrepreneurs."

"For sure. To me, these fishing tournaments are small invasions of friends, family, and fans in small towns. Every invasion is a chance to grow fans. The week builds to a climax. The races could be unique for harness horse competitors. Imagine that you are a citizen of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and the horse racing circuit is coming to town. That would be cool for everyone."

He seemed a little enthused, "If the players are paying the purse money, organizers could look to other revenue streams from deals with local hosts, restaurants, campgrounds, and advertisers. Each week could be a festival. There might even be a way to insert some gambling."

I snapped my fingers. "Backdoor gambling, a side hustle. Not a bad bit of brainstorming. See, I'm not a crazy as you think."

"I hope not."





Somebeachsomewhere part-owner Garry Pye dead at 77

The following obituary was published in [The Chronicle-Herald](#) Saturday (April 10) .

Truro, NS businessman, Garry Victor Pye — best known in harness racing circles as a part-owner of the late Hall of Fame pacer Somebeachsomewhere — died after a hard-fought battle with cancer and cancer-related complications on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 6, 2021. He was 77 years old.

Garry was born June 12, 1943, the only child of the late Beatrice Louise Pye (MacCallum) and Russell Pye. He grew up in Bible Hill and attended school in Onslow and later at Success Business College. Over the years, Garry accumulated experience and knowledge working for Zellers and bookkeeping for Truro Volkswagen. His business career really started in the mid-1970's when he purchased several small apartment buildings. This is when he realized his love and passion for business and working on a new "deal"!

In 1983, he purchased Brett Motors (now Pye Chevrolet) which over the years led to the acquisition of four more



Dave Landry

The late Garry Pye (right) with Brent MacGrath at the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. The two were friends, business partners and co-owners of Somebeachsomewhere.

dealerships. During this period, Garry enrolled in St. Mary's University in the MBA program and graduated top of the class alongside of his daughter, Shannon, a very proud moment in his life. Garry truly loved the challenges of working in business and proved it by forging ahead. Through the years, he was involved in over 20 businesses that employed over 600 people, of which he was extremely proud that included his family.

Garry was a first-generation businessman who worked hard to get ahead, believed in the value of a handshake and felt strongly that his success was not due to him but to the combined skills, energy and enthusiasm of each of his managers, employees and partners. One of those partners was his devoted friend, Brent MacGrath, trainer and part-owner of Somebeachsomewhere. Garry and Brent complimented each other with a passion and good sense for business, realizing that hard work and practicing good business ethics was the right direction for achieving success. Garry served as Chairman of the Colchester East Hants Hospital Foundation, Chairman of the Board of Colchester East Hants Health Authority, Co-chair of the fund-raising committee for the new Truro hospital, served as Chairman of the Truro Police Commission, was a member of the Kiwanis and Rotary club for several years and served on the Toyota National Dealer Council.

Outside of his business career, Garry loved to spend time at his summer home in Lunenburg, a place very dear to him. He loved the beauty and peacefulness of the rugged Nova Scotia shore where his grandmother (four generations) landed in the late 1800's. Garry enjoyed boating, working in the woods and playing golf with his friends.

Garry is survived by his wife, Mary-Louise (Guillaume); children, Shannon Pye Wilson (Patrick Wilson), Traci Pye Roberts (Glenn Roberts), Andrew Pye, Alexandra Tung (Bryceton Tung); his stepchildren, James Macpherson (deceased), Heidi Macpherson (Andrew Caldwell), Jennifer Macpherson; and 10 wonderful grandchildren — all boys! Sincere thanks to the doctors and nursing staff at South Shore Regional Hospital, Fisherman's Memorial Hospital and Colchester East Hants Health Centre, Earth Angels, Today's Nurse and especially the compassionate care from the VON.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Victorian Order of Nurses and SPCA There will be visitation today (April 11) from 2-5 p.m. in Colchester Community Funeral Home, 512 Willow St., Truro. COVID-19 restrictions will be in place. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.ColchesterCommunity.com

—The Chronicle-Herald

Ontario Racing in discussions regarding standardbred equine benefit payments

Ontario Racing, in response to the latest impacts of COVID-19 on the provincial horse racing industry, is actively working with industry partners, government officials and others, in an effort to secure funds for equine-related support payments (subject to regulatory approvals) for Ontario standardbred horsepeople.

In response to the recent temporary pause of live racing across the province due to COVID-19, Ontario Racing, and the Ontario Racing-formed Standardbred Task Force are actively engaging in discussions with key industry partners on how to leverage unallocated purse monies in the form of equine benefit payments that would be directed to Standardbred horsepeople for the care and well-being of their horses.

Ontario Racing will provide an update with specific details early next week.

"In keeping with its commitment to serve the best interests of horsepeople in the province and ensuring the care and well-being of our equine athletes, Ontario Racing is working in concert with industry partners and others to address the need for equine benefit payments for Standardbred horsepeople affected by the stoppage of live racing, which was prompted by the province-wide lockdown on April 3," said John Hayes, independent chair, Ontario Racing.

—Ontario Racing

Bangor Raceway kicks off 138th season today

The 138th season of harness racing at historic Bangor Raceway will get underway today (April 11) with 66 horses

competing in nine races with a first race post time of 12:15 p.m.

"It's always exciting to get a new racing season underway, and this year with an earlier opening than in previous years we have made a few changes including an earlier post time on Sunday that will allow for more families to come and watch the races," said Michael Hopkins, manager of racing operations at Hollywood Casino Hotel & Raceway.

COVID-19 precautions including social distancing and mandatory masks for all visitors will be enforced.

Live racing will be conducted Wednesdays and Sundays through July 21 with no live racing on May 9 and 12. Post time for the Wednesday race cards will be 3 p.m. Independence Day (July 4) will feature a special evening race card and a special post time of 6 p.m. culminating with Bangor's famous fireworks display over the waterfront.

The fall racing season will start on Sept. 7 and continue through Oct. 30 with live racing Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturdays. The highlight of the fall meet will be the Oct. 16 Maine Sire Stakes Finals.

Admission to the grandstand is free daily. Race programs will be sold at the track starting the day before each race date for \$1 each.

For more Bangor racing information [please visit here](#).

Simulcast wagering from top racetracks around the country will be available every Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Win, Place & Show Lounge located under the grandstand. Simulcast wagering at the Race Book inside the Hollywood Casino Bangor remains closed until pandemic precautions are lifted. Hollywood Casino's gaming floor is open daily from 9 am to 12 midnight.

Horse racing fans that can't make it to the track can watch and wager on their favorite tracks at home or on their

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mobile devices at www.hollywoodraces.com.

Free live & replay video of the Bangor races can be found here.

Hollywood Casino Bangor is a Penn National Gaming property located on Main Street in Bangor, Maine. Hollywood features state-of-the-art gaming plus a hotel with 152 rooms and suites. For more information, visit www.hollywoodcasinobangor.com.

– *Christopher McErlean / vice president – racing Penn National*

Straight Talk, Mad Man Hill repeat in Weiss Series

Straight Talk and **Mad Man Hill** are now 2-for-2 in the Bobby Weiss Series for sophomore pacing males after four \$17,500 second round prelims were held Saturday afternoon (April 10) at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono.

Straight Talk was one of two Sweet Lou-sired winners trained by Ron Burke to take Weiss divisions; the colt left the field behind with a :26.4 third split under the direction of Matt Kakaley en route to taking a lifetime best of 1:51.4 for Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Brussemi LLC, William Switala and James Martin. The other Burke Brigade member to win was the gelding Emblaze Hanover, who bounced back from a break in the first leg to also reduce his mark to 1:51.4 for driver Joe Bongiorno and the partnership of Burke Racing Stable LLC, Dr. Bridgette Jablonsky, Jason Melillo, and J&T Silva- Purnel & Libby.

The Somebeachsomewhere colt Mad Man Hill, the only Weiss chalk to get home first, is perfect after two trips behind the gate this year as he came home in :55.4 to tie his mark of 1:52.4 for driver George Napolitano Jr., who had five winners on the card, trainer Chris Ryder, and owner Tom Hill. The fastest Weiss winner was the American Ideal colt Trevor's Ace, who lowered his speed badge by four seconds as he impressed in 1:51 for driver Jason Bartlett, trainer Jean Drolet, and the ownership of Stephen Schneider, Bill Siegel, and Marthe Drolet.

Babes Dig Me recorded the fastest mile of the season at Pocono when he posted a lifetime 1:49.4 best as he joined up with trainer Darren Taneyhill and owner Eric Provost after a claim. Jim Pantaleano sent the pacer zooming to the lead late on the backstretch around hard-used front-enders and had no problem in the latter stages.

Another non-Weiss race deserves mention because it created some unusual numeric situations. Rockin Inthe Hills, who had been placed first at a \$174.00 win mutuel two

starts back, again didn't get much respect in his first start after a claim by trainer Dan Maier – and he came up the inside to win in 1:51.2 and return \$51.80, becoming the first horse to pay \$50+ twice this year.

Also, the 4-year-old American Rebel became the largest-priced claim in Pocono history, as owner William Emmons gave \$50,000 to lead him back to the barn after the race. In all, 12 claims during the card produced \$316,000 changing hands, sending the seasonal claiming total over \$5 million via 275 transactions. (This was card 24.)

The trotting males take over the Weiss spotlight for tonight's (April 11) twilight card, with four \$17,500 divisions of their second preliminary round. Post time Sunday is 5 p.m.; program pages will be available at

<https://www.phha.org/downsmppps.html>.

– *PHHA / Pocono*

Qualifiers at Sunshine Meadows next Friday

Qualifying races will be held at Sunshine Meadows on Friday (April 16) at 11 a.m. at the cost of \$100 per horse. Entries may be made through the USTA online entries by 9 a.m. on Thursday (April 15). For more info call Sunshine Meadows at 561-495-1455.

– *Nick Salvi for Sunshine Meadows*

Down Under wonders McCarthy, Harrison have big day at Philly

The pairing of "Down Under Wonders," Australian Andrew McCarthy and New Zealander Kelvin "Red" Harrison, were the top newsmakers at Harrah's Philadelphia on Friday afternoon (April 9), with McCarthy driving five straight winners on the card, and Harrison training four of them.

Three of the four Harrison trainees that McCarthy guided to victory – Bigonpersonality N, Persimmon A, and Claytons Bettor N – were their race's favorite, and their fourth combination, Bettor Trix N, was a second choice. McCarthy's fifth winner, Eddard Hanover, was also a second choice for trainer Jeff Cullipher; all of the victorious quintet raced on the engine except for Bettor Trix N, who was a pocket rocket.

McCarthy might have added to his totals, but he left southeastern Pennsylvania after the ninth race to drive in an early Blue Chip Series race at Yonkers. Nevertheless, he is tied with Marcus Miller at the top win spot in the drivers standings with seven triumphs; Harrison is king of the hill on

the trainers side with five wins at the meet.

The 12-year-old McArdle stallion Mcerlean became harness racing's newest millionaire when he won for Andrew McCarthy's brother Todd. Trained by Darran Cassar for Muscara Racing Trust, Mcerlean moved his lifetime tally to \$1,004,130 – \$942,507 of that for the Muscara family – with his 47th career victory.

The best card of the young season will be held at Harrah's Philadelphia this afternoon (April 11), with half of the races not out of place as a feature event at most ovals. First post will be at 12:40 p.m.; program pages will be available at <https://www.phha.org/harrahspps.html>.

– PHHA / Harrah's Philadelphia

Underpinning of therapeutic medication policies to be assessed

Horse racing's current medication management policies will be under scrutiny next week as the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee (DTSP) considers whether sufficient cause exists to revisit how certain medications included on the RCI Controlled Therapeutic Schedule (CTS) are regulated.

The original CTS was initially adopted in April 2013, to bring uniformity to regulatory policies affecting a select group of therapeutic medications commonly used to keep horses healthy. Revisions to the policies have been made over the years and today's schedule largely reflects the work of the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium's Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).

Some of those policies have been questioned in recent years by the standardbred industry as well as the national Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association and the North American Association of Racetrack Veterinarians

(NAARV), although other organizations remain supportive.

In mid-February, the United States Trotting Association (USTA) filed a "critique" of the CTS, questioning some of the policies contained therein. At 1 p.m. (Eastern) on Monday, the Committee will meet online to explore whether there have been any subsequent developments or research that would necessitate a reconsideration of a policy regulating any particular substance or substances.

The committee will meet concurrently with the RCI's Scientific Advisory Group which includes research scientists who conducted the critique as part of the USTA's Harness Racing Medication Collaborative as well as others who help develop the policies as members of the RMTC's SAG.

"It is important to note that political developments in the US will trigger a reassessment of all policies in this area and the ARCI intends to coordinate closely with both the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) and the USADA," said RCI president Ed Martin.

"If there is a compelling need to modify a policy immediately, the RCI reserves the right to do that. Otherwise, these discussions can be helpful to the coming HISA process by assisting to clarify matters soon to be under the sole authority of HISA in the US," he noted.

The meeting agenda, materials and registration link can be found on the Meetings page of the ARCI website:

<https://www.arci.com/meetings-events/>.

It is anticipated that those unable to attend the meeting may view it later when it is posted on the [Horse Racing Integrity ARCI YouTube Channel](#).

– Rebecca Shoemaker / ARCI

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In response to Leavitt's column on 2-year-olds in training sales

RE: [A big boat we keep missing](#)

There is no doubt in my mind that there would be plenty of buyers for a standardbred 2yo old in training sale with the parameters he has outlined – qualified 2yo's, fully staked and ready to drop in the box, with complete vet reports on repository. Watching the standardbred sales, there always seems to be a strong market for racehorses, often times the horse bringing more in the ring than what they would sell for privately or even through the claim box.

The thoroughbred 2yo in training sales are an industry all to themselves. Individuals, partnerships, and syndicates base their entire business model on purchasing yearlings in September specifically to "pinhook" them in the spring. Every spring, roughly 2,000 horses are offered in 2yo in training sales. They are trained specifically to go as fast as they can for an 1/8th, or maybe a 1/4 mile in March. They are rarely worked from the gate, or have any real race preparation. Those consignors will lean awfully hard on these babies to get top dollar, it's all about sale day.

The headlines truly are "gobsmacking", but the economic model of thoroughbred racing has shifted from racing, and more towards sales and the breeding shed. Sires need to be "commercial," as in their offspring need to bring high prices at the sales, and less on actual racing metrics such as purse earnings and durability. Those high priced 2yo's aren't just purchased to be racehorses aiming for the classics, but ultimately to become stallions or broodmares.

The 2019 Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream sale average price for 59 hips sold was \$495,000, a number that would be extremely difficult to earn back on the racetrack. The top 5 hips at that particular sale totaled \$9,300,000 and to date, as 4yos, their total earnings on the track is \$147,000.

The 2018 Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream sale, with an average sale price for 61 hips sold being \$385,000, produced a

stronger top 5. From \$5,150,000 spent on the top group, purses earned on track totaled \$771,800, producing 1 stake winner. The colt INSTAGRAN was the leader of the group. A Graded Stakes winner by leading sire INTO MISCHIEF, he was purchased for \$1.2 million, earned \$316,000 on track and is now standing stud in Kentucky for \$7,500. GOLD STANDARD, a filly, was also purchased for \$1.2 million. She is a stakes placed earner of \$269,000, and was sold this winter at auction for \$435,000 as a broodmare prospect. Tough economics.

The thoroughbred 2yo in training sales are quite something to attend. The breeze show is something to watch, a lot of very good bloodstock on display. The consignors have a great lingo, lots of catch phrases. It seems every horse in the sale has trained down quite nicely, nary a problem. When they go in the ring, as a very good veterinarian once told me, "this horse will never look this good again..."

As with any sale, there is a champion in there.

— *Justin J. Nixon / Amherstburg, ON*

Another response to Leavitt

RE: [A big boat we keep missing](#)

Mr. Leavitt fails to consider that most of the thoroughbreds take much longer to train to race readiness and proper muscular development than the standardbred. Come July 1, sire stakes for 2-year-olds commence, selling race ready stock must also include the expenses of the laggards incurred.

Now the seller, as well as the buyer, sees the speed/manners displayed in the qualifiers. Many evaluations are sugar plum hopes for sure. Many who worked hard to get these 2-year-olds to the gate, will wind up with no job in the summer, no commission on winnings, and no pride in making/developing their horse.

Thoroughbred horses are multi-person, joint effort training schedule. The spirit of the trotter is developing it into a racehorse. Money on investment is the breeders' view, most owners and trainers, grooms want the satisfaction part of making a champ, more than a long summer off.

— *Joel Kravet / New York, NY*

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RACE RESULTS - FRIDAY

HARRAH'S HOOSIER PARK *report*

Friday's Results:

7, HoP, \$20,000, Pace, Open Handicap, 26.3, 54.1, 1:22.2, 1:49.3, FT

1-Little Rocket Man (g, 5, Rockin Image--Gt Miss Royal, by Pilgrims Punch) \$10,000, \$18,000 2017 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 32-20-3-2, \$315,530
O-Russell E Beeman & Jack A Freeman. B-Victory Hill Farm Inc. T-Melissa Essig. D-John De Long.

2-Family Recipe (g, 4, Always A Virgin--Tia Maria Hanover, by Bettor's Delight) \$5,000, \$32,000 2018 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 37-11-9-3, \$229,861
O-Lewayne L Miller & Arnold W Manders, BM & Joseph A Vieira, BM & Never 2 Late Stable. B-Lyndar Stables. T-Lewayne Miller. D-Lewayne Miller.

3-Brassy Hanover (g, 5, Well Said--Bold Pink, by Big Towner) \$2,400, \$23,000 2017 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 38-9-10-8, \$382,905
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Sam Widger.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 10Q, 10H, 3, Q, 1 - Finish Order: He'zzz A Wise Sky, Bro, Fan Of Terror, Ana Malak N

MEADOWLANDS *report*

Friday's Results:

2, M, \$16,000, Trot, 5 Year Olds & Under Winners of 1 But Not More Than 2 Extended PM Races Life AE: N/W \$20,000 (F&M or N/W L3 \$22,500) Life (Stake Wins Excluded), 27.3, 57.0, 1:26.3, 1:55.1, FT

1-Believer (c, 3, Cantab Hall--Graceful Touch, by Pine Chip) \$8,000, \$45,000 2019 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 8-3-1-0, \$21,670
O-Mali A Norbye & Arnold N Witkin. B-Steve H Stewart & Black Creek Farm & Maumee River Stables. T-Randy Taft. D-Troy Beyer.

ANOTHER LEXINGTON GRAD *Selected Yearling Sale*

2-Vitani As (m, 4, Lionhunter--Karisma As, by Mr Vic) \$4,000, Lifetime Record: 23-3-4-2, \$30,593
O-Melander Racing Inc & Karen D Bernaski. B-Acl Stuteri Ab. T-Jenny Melander. D-Marcus Miller.

3-Cocktails N Dreams (m, 4, Father Patrick--Cocktail Attire, by Broadway Hall) \$1,920, \$50,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 41-6-8-6, \$108,510
O-Benjamin D Gordon & Never Too Late Racing LLC. B-Tony B & Linda J. Schadel. T-Katricia Adams. D-Corey Callahan.

▶▶ *Replay* ▶▶ Calls: 8, 4H, 1, 2Q, 1H - Finish Order: Muskingum, Shinkansen, Tequila N Roses, Da Boogie Man, Light Blue Movers

6, M, \$16,000, Pace, Fillies & Mares - 5 Year Olds & Under Winners of 1 But Not More Than 3 Extended PM Races Life (Series Wins Not Counted) AE: Maidens May Enter and Draw Inside, 28.3, 57.1, 1:25.4, 1:53.0, FT

1-Always B First (f, 3, Always B Miki--Gallie Beach, by Somebeachsomewhere) \$8,000, \$65,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-0, \$10,032
O-Oompa's Farm Inc & Robert A Mondillo & Craig W Henderson & Allen P Wenc. B-Fashion Farms LLC. T-Robert Cleary. D-Yannick Gingras.



PREFERRED EQUINE

Yearling Sale Graduate

2-Stephanie Deo (m, 4, American Ideal--Docdor Cameo, by Real Artist) \$4,000, \$60,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$12,750
O-Deo Volente Farms LLC & Brian S Gordon. B-Deo Volente Farms LLC. T-Noel Daley. D-Scott Zeron.

3-Ourlittlemiracle (f, 3, Bettor's Delight--Machnbyrd Princess, by Mach Three) \$1,920, \$17,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 12-2-2-3, \$40,259
O-Windermere Stable LLC & Robert K Muscara & William P Rochetti Jr & Tanya R Rochetti. B-Garth S Bechtel, CA. T-Darran Cassar. D-Andrew McCarthy.

▶▶ *Replay* ▶▶ Calls: 1H, 1H, 1Q, 1, NS - Finish Order: Ruby On Rails, Sound Idea, Kelly's Champ, A Better Game, So Delightful

RACE RESULTS - FRIDAY (CONTINUED)

MIAMI VALLEY RACEWAY *report*

Friday's Results:

11, MVR, \$16,000, Pace, FILLIES & MARES N/W \$8250 IN LAST 4 STARTS AE: N/W 8 PM RACES AE: CLAIMING \$20,000 W/ALLOWANCES, 27.1, 55.0, 1:23.2, 1:53.0, FT

1-Candy On The Beach (m, 4, Somebeachsomewhere--Candy's A Virgin, by Always A Virgin) \$8,000, Lifetime Record: 19-8-1-2, \$73,068
O-Emerald Highlands Farm. B-Emerald Highlands Farm. T-Timothy Lane. D-Tyler Smith.

2-Talkaboutaqueen (m, 6, Oaks Enforcer--Trouble Talk, by Badlands Hanover) \$4,000, \$2,500 2016 BHS, Lifetime Record: 89-17-21-13, \$188,103
O-Rodney J Allums Jr. B-Dannie Ray Hostetler. T-Jayme Laing. D-Brett Miller.

3-Coconut Beach (m, 4, Art Major--Gold Beach, by Somebeachsomewhere) \$1,920, \$47,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 40-6-3-10, \$99,082
O-Jeffrey Brewer. B-Big Als Stables Inc, CA. T-Jeff Brewer. D-Jason Brewer.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 6H, 3Q, 1H, NS, T - Finish Order: Play For Pay, Newsday, Slymar's Dragon, American Empress N, Arrival, Spee Dee Shark, Golden Paradise

12, MVR, \$25,000, Pace, FILLIES & MARES OPEN HCP PP'S 1-3 DRAWN; 4-7 & 10 DRAWN; 8-9 DRAWN, 27.1, 55.3, 1:23.2, 1:52.0, FT

1-Pace Baby Pace (m, 5, Sweet Lou--Breakheart Pass, by Western Hero) \$12,500, Lifetime Record: 60-18-6-6, \$269,750
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. T-Ron Burke. D-Chris Page.

2-Checks On The Way (m, 6, Believeinbruiser--Charm N Beauty, by Life Sign) \$6,250, \$3,700 2016 Buck-CL, Lifetime Record: 103-28-28-10, \$298,049
O-Scott A & Scott Tyler George. B-Scott W Hagemeyer. T-Tyler George. D-Brett Miller.

3-Pansy's Image (m, 5, Rockin Image--Pantidepressant, by The Panderosa) \$3,000, Lifetime Record: 50-8-10-8, \$231,436
O-Emerald Highlands Farm. B-Emerald Highlands Farm. T-Timothy Lane. D-Tyler Smith.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 2, 2, 1H, NS, H - Finish Order: Coral Reef Hanover, Danikova, Rocking Zoe, Big Bad Jane, Colorful Sky, Gone Girl, Sandy Sue

YONKERS RACEWAY *report*

Friday's Results:

1, YR, \$35,000, Pace, THE 2021 BLUE CHIP MATCHMAKER PACING SERIES MARE FFA 5TH LEG 1ST DIVISION **STARTING FEE \$800**, 27.1, 56.2, 1:25.1, 1:52.3, FT

1-Blue Ivy (m, 5, Captaintreacherous--Ali Blue, by American Ideal) \$19,250, \$90,000 2017 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 56-25-10-4, \$374,040
O-Renee J Bercury. B-Marvin Katz, CA & Sam A Goldband, CA. T-Todd Buter. D-Tyler Buter.

ANOTHER LEXINGTON GRAD
Selected Yearling Sale

2-Caviart Cherie (m, 7, Well Said--Caviart Sarah, by Rocknroll Hanover) \$8,750, Lifetime Record: 125-26-17-19, \$466,849
O-Eric A Prevost. B-Caviart Farms. T-Nicholas Devita. D-Matt Kakaley.

3-Machnhope (m, 6, Mach Three--Hope For Life, by Fit For Life) \$4,200, Lifetime Record: 103-29-18-11, \$404,994
O-Deo Volente Farms LLC & Thomas J Pontone & L. A. Express Stable LLC & Noel M Daley. B-Cmr Farms, CA. T-Noel Daley. D-Andrew McCarthy.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1H, 1H, 1H, 1H, 1Q - Finish Order: Lady Dela Renta A

2, YR, \$35,000, Pace, THE 2021 BLUE CHIP MATCHMAKER PACING SERIES MARE FFA 5TH LEG 2ND DIVISION **STARTING FEE \$800 + \$19.90 NYS STARTING FEE**, 27.4, 56.3, 1:24.4, 1:52.3, FT

1-Alexa Skye (m, 4, Somebeachsomewhere--Pirouette Hanover, by Western Ideal) \$17,500, Lifetime Record: 38-16-6-1, \$227,390
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Jeffrey S Snyder. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Todd McCarthy.



PREFERRED EQUINE

Mixed Sale Graduate

2-Siesta Beach (m, 5, American Ideal--Nikki Beach, by Somebeachsomewhere) \$8,750, \$25,000 2017 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 56-13-14-9, \$229,395
O-Eric A Prevost. B-Brittany Farms LLC. T-Nicholas Devita. D-Matt Kakaley.

3-Soho Burning Love A (m, 7, Auckland Reactor N--Soho Bordeaux, by Western Terror) \$4,200, Lifetime Record: 70-19-18-11, \$385,018
O-Richard Poillucci & Jo Ann Looney-King. B-R J Watson, WA. T-Jim King Jr. D-Austin Siegelman.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1, 1H, 2, 4, 2T - Finish Order: Monica Gallagher, My Ruebe Star N

RACE RESULTS - FRIDAY (CONTINUED)

7, YR, \$33,000, Trot, OPEN HANDICAP DRAW-1-3 DRAW-4-8, 28.1, 57.1, 1:25.2, 1:54.2, FT

1-Stormy Kromer (g, 7, **Dejarmbro--Benn's Riverdance, by Veeba Rova**) \$16,500, \$100,000 2015 OH-SEL, Lifetime Record: 125-36-22-19, \$543,874
O-Thomas Ceraso Jr. B-Bradley W Kramer & Timothy L Hall. T-Paul Stafford. D-Daniel Dube.

2-Mississippi Storm (g, 6, Cantab Hall--Mississippi Beauty, by Yankee Glide) \$8,250, \$20,000 2016 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 77-23-14-15, \$440,868
O-Joseph E Smith. B-Willow Oak Ranch. T-Tom Fanning. D-Todd McCarthy.

3-Full Rights (g, 5, RC Royalty--Cruella De Ville, by Yankee Glide) \$3,960, Lifetime Record: 63-12-7-9, \$160,511
O-Runthetable Stables. B-Runthetable Stables. T-Ray Schnittker. D-Jason Bartlett.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1T, 1Q, 1T, 4, 4H - Finish Order: Magical Journey, Kinda Lucky Lindy, Eye Ofa Tiger As, Swansea, Lean Hanover

8, YR, \$15,500, Pace, NW\$10,000 IN LAST 5 STARTS. STARTERS IN A CLASS HIGHER THAN "NW \$17,000 L5" OR WINNER IN "NW \$10,000 L5" IN LAST START NE. AE. WINNERS IN LAST START OF BASE CLASS "NW \$7,500 L5", 27.3, 56.4, 1:25.1, 1:53.4, FT

1-Genius Man (g, 4, **Art Major--Unred Hanover, by Western Ideal**) \$7,750, \$87,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 36-7-7-6, \$230,675
O-Ricky A Bucci. B-Winbak Farm. T-Ricky Bucci. D-Jason Bartlett.



2-Century Fury (g, 5, Sunshine Beach--Up Front Holly, by American Ideal) \$3,875, \$40,000 2017 LONDON, Lifetime Record: 70-13-7-7, \$95,819
O-Robert M Weinstein. B-Glenn E Bechtel, CA & Century Spring Farms, CA. T-Jennifer Bongiorno. D-Joe Bongiorno.

3-Machiatto A (g, 8, Mach Three--Braeview Express, by Badlands Hanover) \$1,860, Lifetime Record: 94-21-11-17, \$166,644
O-Save M Manzi. B-S J Ferraro, AS & N E Ferraro, VI & J Ferraro, AS. T-Mark Kesmodel. D-Austin Siegelman.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1Q, 1H, 1H, 1H, 2 - Finish Order: Alta Leroy N, Tom Me Gun N, Keystone Phoenix, Capozzo, Picard A

9, YR, \$19,500, Trot, NW \$17,800 IN LAST 5 STARTS. AE. WINNERS IN LAST START OF THE BASE CLASS "NW \$10,000 L5" AE. OPT. CLMG. ALLOW. \$25,000 AE. 4,5&6 YO NW 9 P-M RACES., 28.0, 57.2, 1:26.0, 1:55.4, FT

1-Mostinterestingman (g, 8, **Manofmanymissions--No Sugar Tonight, by Angus Hall**) \$9,750, Lifetime Record: 154-33-24-21, \$675,746
O-Ricky A Bucci & Richard L Solano. B-Lisa C Demetrius, CA. T-Ricky Bucci. D-George Brennan.



PREFERRED EQUINE

Mixed Sale Graduate

2-The Last Chapter (g, 7, Chapter Seven--J C Josie, by American Native) \$4,875, \$24,000 2015 Goshen, Lifetime Record: 108-22-18-15, \$371,440
O-Richard S Gutnick & Joseph A Lozito Jr & T L P Stable. B-Concord Stud Farm LLC. T-Edward Hart. D-Jason Bartlett.

3-Beerthirty K (g, 4, Credit Winner--Venus Hall, by Conway Hall) \$2,340, \$23,000 2018 GOSHEN, Lifetime Record: 28-6-3-5, \$197,351
O-Don P Atlas. B-Arden Homestead Stable & Frank J Baldassare. T-John Berger. D-Jim Marohn Jr.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 2H, 2H, 2H, 2, 2T - Finish Order: Cool Clifford, In My Dreams, Secret Bro, With Out A Doubt, Yes

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY

HARRAH'S HOOSIER PARK *report*

Saturday's Results:

7, HoP, \$20,000, Trot, Open Handicap, 27.3, 57.1, 1:26.1, 1:53.2, SY

1-Whata Swan (h, 5, **Swan For All--Tanya's Legacy, by Lou's Legacy**) \$10,000, \$39,000 2017 MICHIANA, Lifetime Record: 66-18-5-10, \$252,923
O-John E Barnard. B-Leonard J Miller. T-Luis Quevedo. D-Trace Tetrack.

2-Jeffery P (g, 6, Full Count--Betty Jean, by S J's Photo) \$5,000, \$14,000 2016 OH-SEL, Lifetime Record: 88-25-14-9, \$231,778
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Bruscelli LLC & Phillip Collura. B-Robert G Slowey & Anthony V Minute & Dennis J Osterholt. T-Ron Burke.
D-Ricky Macomber Jr.

3-Two O B Wonkenobi (g, 6, Dejarmbro--Shannon Hall, by Garland Lobell) \$2,400, Lifetime Record: 56-18-11-8, \$358,120
O-Shara Weaver & Madeline C Roche. B-Pond- A- Acres. T-Lewayne Miller. D-Lewayne Miller.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 1H, 1H, 1T, 5H, 5Q - Finish Order: Bridge To Jesse's, Swan Chase, Tj's Top Pick

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

9, HoP, \$20,000, Pace, Fillies and Mares - Open, 27.1, 55.3, 1:24.2, 1:51.3, SY

1-Annabelle Hanover (m, 4, Somebeachsomewhere--Always On A Roll, by Rocknroll Hanover) \$10,000, \$60,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 27-7-5-2, \$221,428
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Sam Widger.

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

2-Rockin Nola (m, 5, Rockin Image--Gottogetoutmore, by Keystone Raider) \$5,000, \$15,000 2017 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 46-21-11-4, \$570,907
O-J P Racing, LLC & Suttons Bay Racing. B-Mahlon E Lambright. T-Joe Putnam. D-Joe Putnam.

3-Somebodyslilly (m, 4, Time To Roll--Somebody's Artist, by Artiscap) \$2,400, Lifetime Record: 25-7-5-5, \$162,840
O-Eli L Schwartz. B-Eli L Schwartz. T-Eli Schwartz. D-Michael Oosting.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 1Q, 1T, 1H, 1H, NK - Finish Order: Maggie Rhee, Bettor's Up, Sweet Filly, Dealmaker Hanover, Mildrix

MEADOWLANDS report

Saturday's Results:

2, M, \$18,000, Pace, 6 Year Olds & Under Winners of 2 But Not More Than 4 (N/W L3 5) Extended PM Races or \$40,000 (N/W L3 \$45,000) Life AE: 4 Year Olds N/W \$7,000 L5 Starts, 26.4, 55.0, 1:23.2, 1:50.0, FT

1-Rockin The Aces (g, 4, Rock N Roll Heaven--Mattaroni, by Matt's Scooter) \$9,000, \$60,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 38-11-4-4, \$243,358
O-Beverly Schiffman. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Bruce Saunders. D-Yannick Gingras.

2-Barrage Hanover (g, 4, Western Ideal--Baberhood, by Real Desire) \$4,500, \$22,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 20-4-4-4, \$61,432
O-Christopher J Ryder. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Chris Ryder. D-Dexter Dunn.

3-Environs Hanover (g, 4, Somebeachsomewhere--Erma La Em, by Cam's Card Shark) \$2,160, \$22,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 12-4-2-1, \$38,687
O-Joseph Davino & Brad Shackman, CA & Drennan Stable LLC & Clinton M Guitard, CA. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Nik Drennan. D-George Brennan.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 2Q, 1Q, T, T, 1 - Finish Order: What Ya Thinkin, Sea Of Life, Rockin Rocko, Bourbons Courage, Island Of The Sea

5, M, \$20,000, Pace, Fillies & Mares N/W \$15,000 (N/W L2 \$17,500) L5 AE: TMR 87.5 or Less as of 4/6 or N/W 9 Ext. PM Races Life. (N/W \$10,500 (N/W L3 \$11,800), TMR 84 or Less or N/W 7 Ext. PM Races Life Drawn Inside), 27.0, 56.0, 1:24.0, 1:50.3, FT

1-Wingding Hanover (m, 4, Somebeachsomewhere--Wiggle It Hanover, by Dragon Again) \$10,000, \$80,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 37-6-6-6, \$107,270
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Tim Tetrick.

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



2-Rose Run Vantage (m, 4, Big Jim--Eagle Hilarious, by Dragon Again) \$5,000, \$17,000 2018 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 26-6-8-3, \$229,955
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Rose Run Farm. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Scott Zeron.

3-April Ava (m, 5, Delmarvalous--Jenava, by Art Official) \$2,400, \$2,000 2017 BHS, Lifetime Record: 48-16-16-7, \$138,206
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brussemi LLC. B-Michael C Gillock. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 2H, 2H, 3Q, 2H, H - Finish Order: Ideation Hanover, Sweet Lucy Lou, Betalady, Sweeter Lulu, Juxta Cowgirl, Sly Eleanor N

6, M, \$30,000, Trot, Preferred, 26.4, 54.3, 1:22.2, 1:50.3, FT

1-Scirocco Rob (g, 6, Explosive Matter--Fun At Parties, by Lindy Lane) \$15,000, \$20,000 2016 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 81-28-14-9, \$551,604
O-Lewis W Whitaker Jr & Kathleen A Whitaker. B-Russell C Williams. T-Mark Silva. D-Tim Tetrick.

2-News The Moment (g, 6, Credit Winner--Glide By, by Yankee Glide) \$7,500, \$65,000 2016 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 84-22-24-9, \$336,812
O-Sonya L Mac Donald. B-Diane N Ingham, CA & Harry A Rutherford, CA. T-L Alex Macdonald. D-Mark Macdonald.

3-Morairtime (m, 5, Airzoom Lindy--Moir Hall, by Conway Hall) \$3,600, \$16,000 2017 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 62-13-13-7, \$259,331
O-James D Moore III. B-John M Bontrager Jr. T-Carol Jamieson-Parker. D-Jack Parker Jr.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1Q, 1Q, 1Q, Q, 4Q - Finish Order: Double Account, Pikachu Hanover, Buck Dancer, JI Cruze



Harness Racing Update on Facebook
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RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

7, M, \$20,000, Pace, N/W \$15,000 (N/W L3 \$17,500) in Last 5 Starts AE: Winners Base Class N/W \$12,500 or Less L/S AE: N/W \$10,500 in Last 5 Starts or Winners B/C N/W \$8,000 or Less Last Start Drawn Inside, 27.0, 55.2, 1:22.3, 1:50.0, FT

1-U S Captain (h, 5, Captaintreacherous--American Jewel, by American Ideal) \$10,000, \$180,000 2017 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 58-15-9-6, \$318,557
O-Forrest L Bartlett. B-Brittany Farms LLC. T-Kevin Lare. D-Tim Tetrick.

Another **BRITTANY FARMS** Bred Winner!

ANOTHER LEXINGTON GRAD
Selected Yearling Sale

2-Franco Totem N (g, 8, Changeover--Treaty Franco, by Badlands Hanover) \$5,000, Lifetime Record: 95-27-16-9, \$244,970
O-Enzed Racing Stable Inc & Kovach Stables LLC. B-Spreydon Lodge LTD, NZ. T-R. Nifty Norman. D-Dexter Dunn.

3-Italian Delight N (g, 8, Bettor's Delight--Chivasso, by Save Fuel) \$2,400, Lifetime Record: 95-18-12-17, \$193,010
O-Windermere Stable LLC. B-M A Boyd, NZ. T-Darran Cassar. D-Todd McCarthy.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1, 1Q, 1H, 1Q, H - Finish Order: Paduka N, Harambe Deo, Thatswhatsaid N, Bechers Brook A, Billy Badger N, Hundie N

8, M, \$21,000, Trot, 6 Year Olds and Under Winners of 5 But Not More Than 8 (F&M or N/W L3 10) Extended PM Races Life (State Bred or Late Closer Wins Excluded), 27.4, 56.0, 1:24.2, 1:51.4, FT

1-Lovedbythemasess (g, 4, Muscle Mass--Incredibility, by Northern Bailey) \$10,500, Lifetime Record: 27-12-1-5, \$166,879
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-Wade J Peconi, CA & Windemere Farms, CA. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Simon Allard.

TARA HILLS
Stud

Another **MUSCLE MASS** Winner!

2-Emma Town Bud (g, 4, Big Stick Lindy--Centerfold Lady, by Credit Winner) \$5,250, Lifetime Record: 26-8-7-2, \$235,411
O-Summit Pacing Acres LLC. B-Mervin D Lehman. T-Travis Alexander. D-Andrew McCarthy.

3-Winnerup (h, 5, Credit Winner--Up Front Hotsey, by SJ's Caviar) \$2,520, \$60,000 2017 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 38-8-11-6, \$302,150
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Phillip Collura. B-C Ed Mullinax & Noel M Daley & Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Ron Burke.
D-Yannick Gingras.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 3Q, 1H, 1, 1Q, 1Q - Finish Order: Patriarch Hanover, Gotwuteverittakes, Kenziesky Hanover, Hl Revadon, Cupid Hanover, Reign Of Honor

9, M, \$21,000, Pace, 6 Year Olds & Under Winners of 5 But Not More Than 8 (N/W L3 9) Extended PM Races Life AE: N/W \$80,000 Life (State Bred or Late Closer Wins Not Counted), 26.4, 55.1, 1:22.1, 1:49.0, FT

1-Poseidon Seelster (g, 4, Sunshine Beach--Porsche Seelster, by Artistic Fella) \$10,500, \$16,000 2018 LONDON, Lifetime Record: 28-8-4-6, \$106,757
O-Donald Lindsey, CA & Paul W Kleinpaste, CA & William V Alempijevic & Garth S Bechtel, CA. B-Seelster Farms Inc, CA. T-Nik Drennan. D-George Brennan.

2-Nicholas Beach (g, 5, Somebeachsomewhere--Michelle My Gal, by Dragon Again) \$5,250, \$110,000 2017 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 14-11-3-0, \$82,900
O-John E Lengacher & Michael Cote Gagnon, CA & Jennifer Bongiorno Stable LLC. B-Hamstan Farm Inc, CA & Reginald G Petitpas, CA. T-Jennifer Bongiorno. D-Joe Bongiorno.

3-Levine (g, 4, American Ideal--Sangaal, by Real Desire) \$2,520, \$24,000 2018 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 30-8-6-7, \$115,845
O-Scott Richard Zeron. B-Kenneth Solomon. T-Megan Scran. D-Scott Zeron.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1H, 1Q, H, T, NK - Finish Order: My Pal Joe, Always And Again, Team Best, Mcmike, Stone Hanover, Sundown Kid, Seeyou At Thebeach

12, M, \$30,000, Pace, Preferred (N/W \$20,000 in Last 5 Starts or TMR 94.8 or Less as of 4/6 Drawn Inside), 27.2, 55.4, 1:23.3, 1:49.4, FT

1-Ana Afreet N (h, 6, Bettor's Delight--Anna Livia, by Tinted Cloud) \$15,000, Lifetime Record: 50-24-4-3, \$198,272
O-Pollack Racing LLC & Jeffrey W Cullipher. B-G A & J C Maghzaal, NZ. T-Jeff Cullipher. D-Tim Tetrick.

2-Colossal Stride A (g, 6, Bettor's Delight--Tailamade Lombo, by Troublemaker) \$7,500, Lifetime Record: 36-12-6-5, \$101,913
O-Paul J Sunderhaus & Derek A Menchofer & En Ess Stable & Enzed Racing Stable Inc. B-E & M Stride, NZ. T-R. Nifty Norman. D-Dexter Dunn.

3-Vettel N (g, 8, American Ideal--Talk To Angels, by Bettor's Delight) \$3,600, Lifetime Record: 106-26-10-12, \$161,347
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: H, 1Q, 1H, 1Q, NS - Finish Order: Yacht Seelster, Dealer's Table, J M Mandamin, Chaser Hanover

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RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

MIAMI VALLEY RACEWAY *report*

Saturday's Results:

4, MVR, \$15,000, Pace, JAMES K. HACKETT MEMORIAL 3 YEAR OLD OHIO-SIRED COLTS 1ST ELIMINATION -1ST (4) FINISHERS FROM RACES 4 & 6 AND FASTEST 5TH PLACE RETURN FOR (9) HORSE FINAL, 27.3, 57.2, 1:24.3, 1:52.1, SY

1-Laughagain Hanover (c, 3, McArdle--Laughing Once More, by American Ideal) \$7,500, \$15,000 2019 OH-SEL, Lifetime Record: 9-5-2-1, \$120,984
O-Michael J Cimaglio & William A Richardson & Rhonda K Gilmartin. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Christi Noble. D-Dan Noble.

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

2-Just Playing (c, 3, Art Official--Twin B Genuine, by The Panderosa) \$3,750, \$3,000 2019 BHS, Lifetime Record: 7-3-2-1, \$18,830
O-Larry Plank. B-Midland Acres Inc. T-Michael Johnson. D-Josh Sutton.

3-Third Edition (g, 3, The Panderosa--Fantail Hanover, by No Pan Intended) \$1,800, Lifetime Record: 11-0-3-4, \$14,229
O-James R Beluscak. B-James R Beluscak & Robert K Carson. T-Save Carter. D-Brett Miller.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 1, 1, 2H, 5, 8 - Finish Order: Siri Said, Just Marvelous, Barnard Hanover

5, MVR, \$20,000, Pace, HORSES & GELDINGS OPEN II, 26.4, 55.2, 1:22.2, 1:51.3, SY

1-Omega Cat (g, 5, Real Desire--Fishen Mermaid, by Whitefish Falls) \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 74-13-6-12, \$116,470
O-Save J Brannan. B-Save J Brannan & Frederick C Shiere. T-Save Brannan. D-Tyler Smith.

2-Yacht Week (g, 5, Somebeachsomewhere--Auniqueaquisition, by Cole Muffler) \$5,000, \$85,000 2017 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 77-10-13-16, \$173,882
O-Brian Witt & Chad P Slone. B-Save H Stewart & John A Carver. T-Larry Finn. D-Kayne Kauffman.

3-Grantmeawish (h, 6, Camluck--Fbs Terror, by Western Terror) \$2,400, Lifetime Record: 81-16-14-8, \$213,943
O-William A Hartt. B-Harness Horsepower Inc, CA. T-Michael Hitchcock. D-Josh Sutton.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 4H, 2, 1H, 2, NS - Finish Order: Big Bad Mike, Drawing Dragons, Havefaithinme N, Funatthebeach N, Secret Threat, Lieutenant

6, MVR, \$15,000, Pace, JAMES K. HACKETT MEMORIAL 3 YEAR OLD OHIO-SIRED COLTS 2ND ELIMINATION -1ST (4) FINISHERS FROM RACES 4 & 6 AND FASTEST 5TH PLACE RETURN FOR (9) HORSE FINAL, 28.0, 57.1, 1:23.3, 1:51.4, SY

1-Charlie May (g, 3, McArdle--Stipple Hanover, by Western Hanover) \$7,500, Lifetime Record: 10-8-2-0, \$336,127
O-Don R Tiger. B-Don R Tiger. T-Save Carter. D-Brett Miller.

2-Heart Of Chewbacca (c, 3, Bring On The Beach--Jt's Chewbacca, by Four Starzzz Shark) \$3,750, \$20,000 2019 OH-SEL, Lifetime Record: 8-5-3-0, \$199,348
O-Dennis R Owens & Norman Rae Racing LLC. B-Spring Haven Farm. T-Ron Burke. D-Dan Noble.

3-Official Bean (g, 3, Art Official--Lady Callaway, by Western Hanover) \$1,800, Lifetime Record: 22-5-6-1, \$28,867
O-William Lee Bean. B-William Lee Bean. T-Bret Schwartz. D-Trevor Smith.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 5, 1T, 1, 1Q, T - Finish Order: Jw's Chrome, Imagine It, Truly Noble, Open My Eyes

7, MVR, \$16,000, Pace, HORSES & GELDINGS N/W \$8000 IN LAST 4 STARTS AE: N/W 8 PM RACES, 26.4, 56.1, 1:23.1, 1:51.0, SY

1-Wild Bill (h, 6, Somebeachsomewhere--Wild West Show, by Western Hanover) \$8,000, Lifetime Record: 81-8-13-9, \$177,447
O-Hinchcliff Racing & Rtk Racing LLC & Bret L Greiner. B-Raymond W Schnitker & Charles V Iannazzo. T-Kris Hinchcliff. D-Brett Miller.



PREFERRED EQUINE

Mixed Sale Graduate

2-Voracity (g, 8, Sportswriter--Lu Lu Q, by McArdle) \$4,000, \$47,000 2014 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 151-26-24-17, \$696,590
O-Donald F Morris & Norman Rae Racing LLC. B-Save H Stewart. T-Christi Noble. D-Dan Noble.

3-Aeroblast (g, 5, Feelin Friskie--Six Sigma, by The Big Dog) \$1,920, Lifetime Record: 85-17-17-14, \$136,788
O-Daniel H Hale. B-Daniel H Hale. T-Daniel Hale. D-Chris Page.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 1, 1, 1, 1H, H - Finish Order: My Buddy Ninkster, Snowmoon, Hell On Wheels, Letitrock, Lucky Lime, Odds On Boca Raton

8, MVR, \$22,500, Pace, HORSES & GELDINGS OPEN I HCP PP's 1-5 DRAWN; 6-7 DRAWN, 26.1, 55.4, 1:23.1, 1:52.0, SY

1-Gold Digger King (g, 5, Pet Rock--Hope For Pot Gold, by Panspaciflight) \$11,250, Lifetime Record: 46-14-13-5, \$280,387
O-Linda E Van Camp. B-T D Van Camp. T-Scott Mogan. D-Tyler Smith.

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

2-The First Step (g, 5, Betterthancheddar--Mery Linny Lee, by Riverboat King) \$5,625, \$18,000 2017 LONDON, Lifetime Record: 65-14-13-10, \$185,184
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Phillip Collura. B-Winbak Farm. T-Ron Burke. D-Chris Page.

3-Americanfirewater (g, 7, American Ideal--Lucky Turn, by Bettor's Delight) \$2,700, \$31,000 2015 Goshen, Lifetime Record: 120-26-20-14, \$304,077
O-Kenneth M Rucker & The Panhellenic Stb Corp. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Ken Rucker. D-Kayne Kauffman.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 4, 2H, 2, 2, HD - Finish Order: Shagnwiththedragon, American Dreamer, My Hero Ron, Our Majordan A

9, MVR, \$18,000, Pace, HORSES & GELDINGS N/W \$10,000 IN LAST 4 STARTS (N/W \$8000 LAST 4 DREW PP's 1-2), 26.4, 56.4, 1:23.3, 1:52.1, SY

1-East Beach (g, 5, Beachtrea--All East, by Allamerican Native) \$9,000, \$3,300 2017 BHS, Lifetime Record: 68-10-13-10, \$109,782

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Marion M Mast. T-Ron Burke. D-Chris Page.

2-Jet Rock (g, 5, Rock N Roll Heaven--Jet Wash, by Jereme's Jet) \$4,500, \$15,000 2017 MORRIS, Lifetime Record: 66-15-5-8, \$172,838

O-Perry W Smith. B-Crawford Farms LLC. T-Perry Smith. D-Trevor Smith.

3-Great Vintage (h, 13, American Ideal--Art's Vintage, by Artsplace) \$2,160, \$65,000 2009 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 220-55-38-26, \$1,505,226

O-Stacey M Van Huizen. B-Brittany Farms LLC & Brian P Monieson Revtrust. T-Stacey Van Huizen. D-Brett Miller.

Replay Unavailable - Calls: 6H, 3T, 4, 3, HD - Finish Order: Big Booty Rudy, Townline All Good, Lettucerocthem A, B Like Cruiser, Seattle Hanover, Fourboltmane

THE DOWNS AT MOHEGAN SUN POCONO *report*

Saturday's Results:

5, PcD, \$17,500, Pace, "The Bobby Weiss Series" L.C. No. 6 - 2nd Leg - 1sr division of 4 3 Yr. Old Colts & Geldings NW 2 Ext. Pari-Mutuel Races or \$30,000
Lifetime as of & including February 1, 2021, 27.0, 55.4, 1:23.3, 1:51.4, FT

1-Emblaze Hanover (g, 3, Sweet Lou--Edra Hanover, by The Panderosa) \$8,750, \$140,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 14-2-0-2, \$41,390

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Bridgette S Jablonsky & Jason V Melillo & J&T Silva-Purnel & Libby. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Ron Burke. D-Joe Bongiorno.

Hanover ANOTHER WINNER BRED BY HANOVER SHOE FARMS!

2-Stop Staring (g, 3, So Surreal--Paramelons Hanover, by Dragon Again) \$4,375, \$95,000 2019 GOSHEN, Lifetime Record: 10-0-3-2, \$44,858

O-Raymond W Schnittker & Theodore Gewertz & Steven Arnold & Paul L Bordogna. B-Steve Jones. T-Ray Schnittker. D-Mark Macdonald.

3-Mikibytheseaside (g, 3, Always B Miki--Seashell Hanover, by Somebeachsomewhere) \$2,100, \$90,000 2019 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 13-1-5-2, \$31,687

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Joseph D Critelli & William L Switala & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Marcus L Schmucker. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 3H, 5, 3, 1H, NK - Finish Order: Tarkio, Win Place'n Show, Saranac Blue Chip, Grand Cayman, What About Bob

7, PcD, \$17,500, Pace, "The Bobby Weiss Series" L.C. No. 6 - 2nd Leg- 2nd division of 4 3 Yr. Old Colts & Geldings NW 2 Ext. Pari-Mutuel Races or \$30,000
Lifetime as of & including February 1, 2021, 26.4, 55.4, 1:23.1, 1:51.0, FT

1-Trevor's Ace (c, 3, American Ideal--Trevor's Bebe, by Bettor's Delight) \$8,750, Lifetime Record: 17-3-2-4, \$40,825

O-Stephen B Schneider & Bill W Siegel & Marthe Drolet. B-Stephen B Schneider & Bill W Siegel. T-Jean Drolet. D-Jason Bartlett.

2-Coalition Hanover (g, 3, Somebeachsomewhere--Crooked Halo, by Big Bad John) \$4,375, \$30,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 14-2-3-2, \$33,726

O-Christopher J Ryder & Dexter J Dunn & Peter F Trebotica & Barry Spak. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Chris Ryder. D-Anthony Napolitano.

3-He's A Snob (g, 3, So Surreal--Hallmark Hanover, by Arturo) \$2,100, \$32,000 2019 GOSHEN, Lifetime Record: 9-0-0-3, \$8,510

O-Raymond W Schnittker & David M Pepin & Julie Farlow. B-Steve Jones. T-Ray Schnittker. D-Mark Macdonald.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1Q, 1Q, 1Q, 1Q, H - Finish Order: Barrywhite Hanover, Move The Line, Hulou, Perfectboy Hanover, Stellar Yankee

9, PcD, \$17,500, Pace, "The Bobby Weiss Series" L.C. No. 6 - 2nd Leg - 3rd division of 4 3 Yr. Old Colts & Geldings NW 2 Ext. Pari-Mutuel Races or \$30,000
Lifetime as of & including February 1, 2021, 27.2, 56.4, 1:23.3, 1:51.4, FT

1-Straight Talk (c, 3, Sweet Lou--Well Read, by Bettor's Delight) \$8,750, \$24,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 12-2-4-0, \$60,692

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & William L Switala & James J Martin & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Vieux Carre Farms. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley.

2-Kyuquot (g, 3, Sportswriter--Wickaninish, by Somebeachsomewhere) \$4,375, \$65,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 13-1-2-2, \$21,537

O-Robert O Di Nozzi. B-David S Willmot, CA & Clay Harland Horner, CA. T-Daniel Renaud. D-Tyler Buter.

3-Warrawee Whynot (c, 3, Sweet Lou--Great Memories, by Apaches Fame) \$2,100, \$130,000 2019 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 4-0-0-2, \$3,252

O-Singh & Soulsby & Gilbert D Short & Alan F Weisenberg. B-Warrawee Farm, CA. T-Shane Tritton. D-Simon Allard.

►► *Replay* ►► Calls: 1T, 1Q, 1Q, 1H, 1Q - Finish Order: Batterup Hanover, Six Degrees, High St Corridor, Sweet Success, First State Joni

RACE RESULTS - SATURDAY (CONTINUED)

10, PcD, \$17,500, Pace, "The Bobby Weiss Series" L.C. No. 6 - 2nd Leg - 4th division of 4 3 Yr. Old Colts & Geldings NW 2 Ext. Pari-Mutuel Races or \$30,000 Lifetime as of & including February 1, 2021, 27.4, 57.0, 1:24.3, 1:52.4, FT

1-Mad Man Hill (c, 3, Somebeachsomewhere--Uneek Delight, by Bettor's Delight) \$8,750, Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, \$24,516

O-Tom Hill, UK. B-Tom Hill, UK. T-Chris Ryder. D-Geo. Napolitano Jr.

2-Captain Sleaze (g, 3, A Rocknroll Dance--Da Sleazy One, by Sportsmaster) \$4,375, Lifetime Record: 16-1-5-4, \$89,432

O-Engel Stable Of IL LLC. B-Engel Stable Of IL LLC. T-Erv Miller. D-Marcus Miller.

3-Terry A Hanover (c, 3, Artspeak--Triplet Hanover, by Big Towner) \$2,100, \$10,000 2019 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 21-6-8-4, \$55,652

O-Christine L Schadel & Caitlin J Solt. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Todd Schadel. D-Todd Schadel.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: H, 1Q, T, 1H, 2 - Finish Order: Lou Ed Zeppelin, Major Makover, Gretzky, Special Tyler, Bud Truck, Always A Joy

11, PcD, \$16,000, Pace, Claiming Handicap \$30,000-40,000 Post Position by Price, 27.1, 54.4, 1:22.1, 1:51.2, FT

1-Rockin Inthe Hills (g, 6, Rockin Image--Lake Hills Melody, by Sportsmaster) \$8,000, \$36,000 2016 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 118-20-15-11, \$204,120

O-Beasty LLC. B-Victory Hill Farm Inc. T-Daniel Maier. D-Anthony Napolitano.

2-Native's Sweetlou (g, 5, Allamerican Native--Windsong Filou, by Astreos) \$4,000, Lifetime Record: 60-12-9-8, \$198,035

O-P T Stable. B-Thomas B Cave. T-Tee Wine. D-Geo. Napolitano Jr.

3-Uptown Funk (g, 6, Shadow Play--Lucks Mistress, by Camluck) \$1,920, \$18,000 2016 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 68-12-11-5, \$98,840

O-Nicole Dicostanzo. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Nicole Dicostanzo. D-Tyler Buter.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1Q, 3H, 2H, 2H, NS - Finish Order: Albergo Hanover, Barbados, Tullow N, American Rebel, Apex Seelster

12, PcD, \$16,000, Pace, Claiming Handicap \$30,000-40,000 Post Position by Price, 26.4, 56.0, 1:23.1, 1:51.2, FT

1-Lyons Amusements (g, 5, Well Said--Lyons Luck, by Camluck) \$8,000, Lifetime Record: 67-12-10-9, \$67,391

O-Susan A & John O Marshall. B-Joseph Lyons-Mound, EN. T-Susan Marshall. D-Tyler Buter.

2-Iammrbrightside N (h, 11, Julius Caesar--Onedin Spur, by Jaguar Spur) \$4,000, Lifetime Record: 219-39-35-27, \$474,314

O-James B Slendorn. B-A K Wylie, NZ. T-Chris Height. D-Jason Bartlett.

3-Glengarry Knight N (g, 7, Changeover--Glengarry Lass, by Live Or Die) \$1,920, Lifetime Record: 79-16-14-10, \$191,209

O-William E Emmons. B-J L & Mrs A M Van Rooyen, NZ. T-William Adamczyk. D-Simon Allard.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1Q, 1Q, 1Q, 1H, H - Finish Order: Class Six, Sports Teen, In Spades, Tucker Creek, A Real Miracle

13, PcD, \$16,000, Pace, Claiming Handicap \$30,000-40,000 Post Position by Price, 25.4, 54.4, 1:21.4, 1:49.4, FT

1-Babes Dig Me (g, 6, Somebeachsomewhere--Western Babe, by Western Hanover) \$8,000, \$100,000 2016 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 79-12-17-11, \$420,336

O-Eric A Prevost. B-Rejean Lassonde, CA. T-Darren Taneyhill. D-Jim Pantaleano.

ANOTHER LEXINGTON GRAD
Selected Yearling Sale



2-Scott Rocks (g, 11, Rocknroll Hanover--Plant A Kiss, by Blissfull Hall) \$4,000, \$15,000 2011 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 205-67-33-25, \$1,104,485

O-Hunter William Oakes & Scott S Bice, CA. B-Perretti Farms. T-Hunter Oakes. D-Geo. Napolitano Jr.

3-Love The Action (g, 6, Bettor's Delight--Koutzina, by No Nukes) \$1,920, \$20,000 2016 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 93-7-14-10, \$93,090

O-Ameer Najor. B-Frederick W Hertrich III. T-Marta Piotrow. D-Anthony Napolitano.

►► [Replay](#) ►► Calls: 1Q, 1Q, 2, 3, 5 - Finish Order: Proven Desire, Foo Fighter N, My Mind Is Madeup, Sunset Braydon, Barnabas

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