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Friday, December 28, 2018

News of possible track closure terrible Christmas present to Ontario horsepeople

Western Fair District president Hugh Mitchell said the leaked announcement that Gateway Casinos had leased land elsewhere for a new casino in London, ON has thrown the future of The Raceway at The Western Fair into doubt. Though, he remains optimistic the provincial government will support racing there.

by Dave Briggs



Courtesy Western Fair

Western Fair president Hugh Mitchell.

All The Best For A Great New Year!



HIP 107 **BETTOR'S UP** p,3,1:49.4 (\$725,994)
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Hugh Mitchell said the timing was particularly bad less than a week before Christmas when news “inadvertently leaked” that Gateway Casinos had leased land for a potential new location for its gaming operations in London, ON. It is a move that, if consummated, could lead to the closure of The Raceway at The Western Fair District which depends on the more than \$6 million in annual lease payments Gateway currently pays to operate a casino at the track.

“I feel for the horsemen, honestly,” said the president of the Western Fair District when reached on Dec. 21. “A lot of us in management are pretty close to the situation and we have more information than probably the rank-and-file horseperson has, so when they get that news of a possible closure of Western Fair Raceway, that’s pretty troubling at this time of year – at any time of year, never mind Christmas. So, I empathize with them tremendously. We had no control over the circumstances. We understand that it was inadvertently leaked. Nobody planned it to be announced this week on Gateway’s end, but that happens. So you deal with it as it happens and that’s what we did.”

That said, Mitchell said Western Fair is working diligently on other funding options, should Gateway decide to move its casino operations. The first step has been to approach the provincial government.

“We submitted to the Minister of Finance a proposal and a request for the government to fill the void that might be left behind if Gateway decides to relocate because we were only prepared to negotiate a deal with Gateway if it supported racing,” Mitchell said. “That was the only way we were going to get a deal... We said to the government that we’re looking to the government to fill that void so we can continue to



Claus Andersen

57 years of racing at The Raceway at The Western Fair District may come to an end if Gateway Casinos leaves the facility and alternative funding cannot be found.

In today’s HRU

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support racing to the degree we do today.”

Mitchell said he is waiting for feedback from the Minister’s office, but is mildly optimistic, especially since the new Progressive Conservative government, led by premier Doug Ford, has been “pretty supportive of racing” since being elected last June.

“We’re optimistic that the government will find its way to continue to support racing to the degree they have in the past and we’ll have a bright future. That’s what we’re hoping for. Those discussions will begin in earnest in the new year,” Mitchell said, adding he can’t rule out the prospect the government may authorize a slot hall to remain at Western Fair to support racing even if Gateway moves its main operation to a new location in the city.

“That is an option, yes. We have seen it – at Kawartha

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Hip 107 **BETTOR'S UP**
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Hip 109 **SEVIYORUM**
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(Downs) particularly – and there are rumors of it happening in Sarnia. So that is a possibility and that we would support, because the infrastructure is there and it's integrated with racing. We would like to eventually retrofit that grandstand and make it more relevant for today's audience... consolidate it, update it and modernize it. And if there were a few slots adjoining it or part of it retrofit that would be acceptable, subject to the money being very similar to what it is now."

Mitchell said the impasse between Gateway and the Western Fair occurred over two things – money and potential land use.

"Their plan for operating a casino on our site was to build on the main footprint, the main parking lot and operate a standalone gaming facility. Our concern with that was – a) parking and b) it would not be integrated with racing and it's our view, our very strong view, that racing and gaming needs to be integrated so there can be synergies, cross-promotion and it can be a symbiotic relationship, which was the original intent of the Mike Harris government in 1998 when it brought the Slots At Racetrack Program (SARP) into play. So, that was the first issue we disagreed on," Mitchell said.

"The second thing was that our rent that was negotiated with the OLG (Ontario Lottery and Gaming corporation) after the cancellation of the SARP program was about \$6.2 million and Gateway was not prepared to pay anywhere near \$6.2 million, actually a fraction of it. I understand that.

"When we negotiated the \$6.2 million it was contingent on us continuing to race. There were a lot of conditions around that lease that supported racing. Now that Gateway has taken over the lease and it's set to terminate in March of 2020, they wanted a new deal that was much less expensive because they weren't prepared to support racing. That's not part of their business model or their mandate."

The new site Gateway has leased in south London still needs to be zoned for gaming by London city council, which has previously voted in favor of keeping the casino at Western Fair. Even if the city refuses to zone the new site for gaming – which could happen – Mitchell said there are still some challenges to resolve before the new casino could be built at Western Fair.

"We would still stand really tough on there being enough money to support racing, for one. And, two, whatever is built, needs to be at least somewhat integrated with racing. Those are two conditions. We were prepared to let them walk and

that's what apparently they are doing. We were prepared to do that, to stand on those two points," Mitchell said.

He stressed Western Fair is not asking for more money from Gateway than the company is already paying for its lease.

"In fact, if the negotiations went positively, we would have taken a little bit less to make it work, but there was too much of a gap. What we don't want to have happen is gaming on our site and racing finished. That is not the model that we want to support," Mitchell said.

The Raceway is said to support some 5,000 – mostly rural – jobs.

"It's pretty significant," Mitchell said of the number of jobs. "(The decision) has a huge trickle down impact, negatively or positively, however the outcome.

"I remain optimistic. I thought it was important that we put a stake in the ground and we did. There's always a silver lining in every cloud and we'll find it."

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Photo: Ann Stratman



The good, the bad and the ugly in 2018

by Ron Gurfein

THE GOOD

- The arrival of, Oliver, my second grandchild, in a four-month period.
- Harness Racing Update
- Adriano Sorella / Jimmy Freight. The best positive media PR in ages in a sport bent on negativity. Thank you.
- Jimmy Taker's retirement. A very smart man has decided to put health ahead of money. A good friend and a great horseman has taken a path less traveled for his good and the good of his family. I wish him well.
- My trip to Coolmore Stud in Ireland was a fabulous experience. Seeing the great stallion Galileo and No Nay Never the up and coming new kid on the block owned by Lindy Farms and David Reid was great. They have a museum on the grounds that is a treasure chest of all the trophies and memorabilia from the racing and breeding achievements of the Coolmore stallions and racehorses. To top it off the people of Ireland are as warm as warm can be.
- Justify winning the Triple Crown. After seeing the Santa Anita handicap victory, I was one of the first on the bandwagon and my readers got to share in the profits. The second Triple Crown winner for Bob Baffert in this decade. Amazing.
- Purses are great throughout the industry with few exceptions. Indiana and Ohio and Massachusetts all showed huge increases for their indigenous races as well as overnight events.
- The sales results were unreal. The opening sessions at both major sales was an experience of a lifetime for the people in attendance.
- Atlanta, the fabulous filly trained by Rick Zeron and driven by Scott Zeron wins the Hambletonian beating the

boys. The first filly to win in 22 years. I remember the last one well. What a wonderful scene in the winner's circle with Scotty and Rick who could not have been more gracious in victory.

- New faces were sighted in the winner's circle at the Breeders Crown. Marcus Melander and Verlin Yodor topped off magnificent years with their first Crown titles.
- How about Blake MacIntosh and Courtly Choice and Matt Kakaley and Dorsoduro Hanover.
- McWicked. Need I say more?
- Best year for first year stallions I have ever witnessed. Father Patrick, Trixton, Captaintreachorous and Sweet Lou all have give us reason to look forward to the performance of their sophomores.
- Kentucky crushing North Carolina.
- I see fresh hope in the resurgence of The New Meadowlands
- I still have a job....

THE BAD

- Steve Williams' premature passing. Terrible loss to his family and the entire industry. He was a wonderful man and will be missed by all.
- The Pennsylvania Racing Commission has three major

BOLT THE DUER

"I really like the Bolt The Duer yearlings I have. They are doing great and are very athletic." - Peter Foley, Trainer

p, 2, 1:51; 3, 1:47.4f (\$1,828,995)
Ponder-Wonderbolt-Artsplace

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positives disappear for almost a year and then decides not to prosecute because of the lengthy time involved. Lovely.

- Kentucky killed by Duke in the first important game of the year.
- Miami Marlins send Stanton to the Yankees and all the other good players anywhere they could. It's the same thing they did after winning the World Series.
- Reallocation of racing funding in Ontario will help the thoroughbreds and hurt us.
- The Lazarus failure in America representing Taylor Made's first major step toward entering the standardbred arena seems a sad situation involving what could be a new major player.
- Where is our sports media? Nick Surick had almost a dozen horses scratched on one day in the state of New Jersey and with the exception of a blurb from Harnesslink with no explanation at all there has been nothing published anywhere. If that happened to a top thoroughbred trainer it would make the New York Times. I consulted with two major media personalities and my answer was we don't like to promote negativity. Another said I have requested information from the New Jersey Racing Commission and they didn't return my request for further information.

• Shame on the Hall of Fame selection committee for diluting the 2019 induction ceremony into a circus. It is a great honor to be selected, but to share induction with a busload certainly takes away from the experience. They would have been better off splitting the new members into two years. On top of that, where will they put all those people and what time will the speeches end? Maybe they will add morning Brunch to the agenda. It's like having a six-way tie for Best Actor at the Academy Awards.

THE UGLY

- Gun violence.
- Gun laws.
- Politics, politics, politics.

I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year.

Have a question for The Guru?

Email him at GurfTrot@aol.com.

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Dave Landry

Foiled Again and trainer Ron Burke at the Little Brown Jug stop on the Foiled Again Farewell Tour. The horse was voted the Proximity / Bergstein Award and the man was voted Trainer of the Year and Owner of the Year in conjunction with partners Weaver Brusceci LLC.

Foiled Again, Burke and Weaver Brusceci honored

Foiled Again has been voted the Stan Bergstein / Proximity Award winner, while the pacer's conditioner, Ron Burke, has been voted Trainer of the Year and the Owner of the Year in conjunction with Weaver Brusceci LLC.

by U.S. Harness Writers Association

Foiled Again, the highest money-winning standardbred racehorse of all-time with \$7,634,938 in his bankroll, in the final stages of a whirlwind Foiled Again Farewell Tour as he faces mandatory retirement upon reaching 15 years of age on Jan. 1, has been selected for the Stan Bergstein / Proximity Award, the highest award in the sport voted on exclusively by the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), harness racing's leading media association.

Foiled Again is an altered son of Dragon Again out of the Artsplace mare In A Safe Place. He raced for trainer Herman Heitmann at two and three, and into his fourth year before being purchased by Sylvia Burke, Weaver Brusceci LLC (Mark

Weaver and Michael Brusceci), and JJK Stables LLC (Joseph Koury Sr. and his sons Joseph Jr. and Kevin). Mickey Burke, Sylvia's husband and Ron's father, was transitioning from raceway activities to overseeing the younger horses, and he handled the conditioning of Foiled Again until Ron took over full-time training responsibility in November 2008.

Foiled Again reached his full potential under his new connections, staying a vital member of the free-for-all pacing community for half-a-dozen years. He was Older Pacing Horse of the Year in 2011, 2012, and 2013, during each of which he earned over \$1 million. Foiled Again took his mark of 1:48 in 2013 at the age of nine, in the elimination race of the Ben Franklin Pace at Pocono, coming back the next week to win the Franklin Final and then later in the year to sweep his Breeders Crown action over the red clay.

Fans grew to embrace Foiled Again as he battled on at a high quality of performance over the years; they latched onto this "evergreen pacer" who they knew would always give them every ounce of his energy. Once he broke the record for earnings (\$5.8 million by the trotter Ready Cash), he gained

even more cache, and attracted media attention like few other standardbreds (or any racehorse).

As he entered his 14th year, perhaps a step or two off his peak speed, but still competitive every time behind the gate, his connections decided to establish a “Foiled Again Farewell Tour,” matching him against local horses and letting fans around the United States and Canada give one last salute to the gallant pacer. He raced at 18 different tracks during 2018, in 10 different states and provinces, and seemed very little the worse for wear. When he raced at Harrah’s on Dec. 9, he returned to a track where he had first raced 4,165 days – 11 years, 4 months, and 25 days – earlier.

Foiled Again’s 331st and final start comes on Monday at The Meadows, the home track of the Burkes and Weaver Brusceci, and as has been noted, “it’s unlikely there will be a dry eye in the house.” (Start 330 came at Mohawk last Saturday, where Foiled Again posted career victory 109).

Foiled Again is only the second horse to win the Bergstein – Proximity Award: the other was Rambling Willie, who was honored in 1984 after a career that strikingly parallels Foiled Again’s in longevity, earnings record-setting, competitiveness in the free-for-all ranks for years, and popularity among the race-going public. In an ever-changing world, Foiled Again reaches across 34 years to join another horse who didn’t know the meaning of the end of a mile, the end of a career, or making outstanding contributions to harness racing.

It seems fitting that as the spotlight finds Foiled Again in his last campaign, it also finds his trainer and his ownership, who have been instrumental in the tremendous success of the horse – Ron Burke has been named Trainer of the Year for the third time (2011 and 2013, previously), while the Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Brusceci LLC combine will follow their 2013 Owners of the Year prize with another in 2018, in voting conducted by USHWA.

Burke, who as noted took over the training of the Burke Stable in late October 2008, has been an unstoppable force the last 10 years, achieving success levels unreached in the sport. He will reach 1,000 victories with his far-flung barn in 2018, his third time posting four figures, and his stable will top the \$21 million mark in purses won for the sixth year. For his outstanding 2018, Burke got more votes from USHWA than did any other human (one horse did top him, though – Foiled Again).

And as always, there was quality in with the quality. The stable sent out divisional champions Warrawee Ubeaut (2PF) and Dorsoduro Hanover (3PC and millionaire); these two teamed with Percy Blue Chip (3PF) to give Burke three Breeders Crown championships during 2018. Seasoned pacers Filibuster Hanover and Rockin Ron also earned over \$500,000, giving Burke Racing / Weaver Brusceci five horses who took down over half a million; trainer Burke had a sixth in 3PF Youaremycandygirl. And then there was of course Foiled Again, who kept in good condition to race every year a standardbred can race – 13, from the minimum of age two to the maximum of age fourteen.

Youaremycandygirl is an exception to the usual makeup of Ron Burke’s outfit – most of its horses are earned, in whole or in part, by Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Brusceci LLC. So if trainer Burke has a good year, it’s probable that Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Brusceci LLC followed along in suit.

An important component of Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Brusceci LLC is the amount that they give back to the sport, which has provided them with successes and thrills. The Foiled Again Farewell Tour is a prime example. So, too, is their “policy” of usually having partners on most of their stakes horses – this is a way to give owners who might have a slight chance (to no chance) to have a Grand Circuit horses be a part of the excitement of campaigning a world-class competitor against the best in their division throughout the stakes season.

Foiled Again and his connections will be honored at USHWA’s annual Dan Patch Awards Banquet, celebrating the best and brightest of harness racing in the past year. The banquet honoring the champions of 2018 will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando FL, the climax of a weekend that also finds USHWA holding its annual national meetings.

Reservations for those attending can be made through USHWA’s website, www.ushwa.org; a link to the hotel’s computer is on the front page of the website.



Harness Racing Update on Facebook

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Looking at the last go-rounds for 14-year-olds

by Brett Sturman

In just two days the expiration date will arrive for 14-year-olds of 2018, as their racing careers will come to a mandated close. For some of these horses that first took to the track in 2006 as 2-year-olds, the final race of their careers marks the end of a truly long and remarkable journey.

Through the years there have been efforts to honor these types of horses through races with unique conditions. Most notably, Monticello has consistently tried to fill an "Au Revoir" race; a race limited to 14-year-olds to take place on New Year's Eve. Unfortunately, there has only been a handful of instances during that time that the race has been able to fill as with the general population of horses dwindling, so is the total number still standing and racing by the end of their 14-year-old season.

Although not restricted entirely to 14-year-olds, Freehold is showcasing 12, 13 and 14-year-olds in what's being called at Old Timers Pace. Interestingly the two 14-year-olds in the race are 1 and 2 in the morning line choices.

Beginning with the 9-5 programmed favorite, Esprit De Kayjay A was scratched last out as were all Surick trained horses, but that doesn't seem to be an issue as Julie Miller takes over training responsibilities and Andy Miller remains aboard as usual. A winner of 11 out of 23 on the year, the iron-tough horse is a winning machine and has the post edge on anyone that could reasonably threaten. With 82 career wins, he races again on Monday so he could conceivably close out his career with two more wins. Stormin Rustler is the another 14-year-old in the race, though he



lands the outside post 7. His only chance into it would be to leave, and I'll note that he did go wire to wire from post 5 in 1:59 six races back. Must Be The Bunny invades from Monticello where he went three-wide in a 1:58:2 mile; relatively quick for that track. Blue Strike raced twice recently in \$7,500 claimers at the Meadowlands; could threaten if the race sets up for him.

Selections: Esprit De Kayjay A, Must Be The Bunny, Stormin Rustler

You may have noticed one glaring omission from the Freehold Old Timers Pace, but there's no need to fret. The richest – and arguably the most popular ever – standardbred will be in action before year's end.

Foiled Again races for the final time at The Meadows in what will go as Race 10 on New Year's Eve. As the closing race of the wildly successful and well-received farewell tour, it's almost not fair that Foiled Again drew the outside post 8 in the \$13,000 open. Will Foiled Again be able to go out a winner?

Amazingly, Foiled Again hasn't been any worse for wear lately. In fact, he's been as consistent as ever. He's won 6 times in his last 9 starts, with two second-place finishes to go with that. Last out at Woodbine he won with a well-timed first over move to win going away in 1:53.2 against a pretty classy foe in Alexas Jackpot.

In the race at The Meadows, Southwind Yukon starts from post 7, but being co-owned and trained by Burke, it's hard to imagine that driver Palone would give any issue to Gingras and Foiled Again leaving around him. The morning line favorite is the probable post-time favorite, which is Shooter's Dream who comes off a game speed try at Northfield. Racing well in the opens there, he's been a sub-1:50 winner last year



and the year prior and any number of those Northfield miles look like they'd be good enough in here. Nathan Feelsgood steps up from the \$12,500 claiming ranks, but hasn't been worse than second since being reclaimed by Stratton three back. Knocking Around draws the rail and closed willingly three back in the preferred handicap; figures to be around for a share and maybe more.

Selections: Foiled Again, Knocking Around, Shooter's Dream

The final harness race of 2018 will take place at Pompano Park Monday evening. Pompano used to have a "midnight mile" years ago where the final race of the year began at 11:59 pm and ended at 12:01 am and with only 8 races on the card, I don't think the final race will approach that midnight witching hour (though I suppose it could if post times are dragged out just a little more than usual).

In attempt to go out the year as a winner, race 8 is for F&M non-winners of \$1,050 in their last 4 starts pace.

Unfortunately if you're looking for a price, it looks to be about a \$2.40 win mutuel coming for backing the likely odds-on choice Sun Belle Slippery. The 4-year-old mare

comes off a 1:58.3 win where she went right by the heavily favored Rockin Desire against similar competition just a few days ago in a race where the top 3 were miles clear of anyone else. She makes her second start at the reduced level, lands the rail and six back won in 1:52.3; seems liable to crush these. Looking underneath, Ashley's Desire could never get close from the second tier last out, but actually made up decent ground in the middle part of the mile. I don't know if it would have mattered, but Drea's Good Powow was shuffled last week behind a 99-1 shot despite having every chance to pull from fourth at the half; one more try? Rockin Blue Star only missed by a couple lengths last out and now drops. Short Term makes her second start back since some issues earlier in the month but still looks a little cheap.

Selections: Sun Belle Slippery, Rockin Blue Star, Ashley's Desire

And with that, harness racing concludes another year. Happy New Year, everyone!

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Aaron Merriman, Michelle Crawford, Ray Cotolo and Chris Gooden to be honored

Merriman was voted Driver of the Year, Crawford was voted the sport's Good "Guy", Cotolo the Breakthrough winner and Gooden the sport's Unsung Hero.

by U.S. Harness Writer's Association

Aaron Merriman, the first driver to win over 1,000 races in two consecutive years and a man set to post the second-highest one-season victory total in North American history, has been selected as Driver of the Year in a vote among members of the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), harness racing's leading media group.

Merriman is only 40 years old, but he is already a "veteran" of 20+ years of the sulky wars, learning from his father Lanny, mostly at Northfield Park near Cleveland. He had 182 winners in 2000, his first year of full-time exposure, but he has been gaining with every step, with 10,857 victories in the 21st century and 6926 visits to Victory Lane in the first nine years of the this decade.

Merriman will post the second-highest win total for a



Dave Landry

After recording back-to-back 1,000-win seasons, Aaron Merriman has been voted the Driver of the Year.

driver in harness racing history, behind only Tim Tetrick's standard of 1189 in 2007; Aaron was at 1118 after Wednesday's racing. This total eclipses his personal best of 1,093, taken last year, and this year he has reached another important milestone with his mounts earning over \$10.3 million – his first eight-figure season.

And the level of competition Aaron faces at the main terminals of his endless miles on the road is very high – at Northfield, he consistently races against Ron Wrenn Jr., who was the last person to dethrone him for the national title (2014, by a 847-841 count), and at The Meadows near Pittsburgh he competes against Dave Palone, the winningest driver of all-time (18,640 and counting), and the leading pilot at The Meadows since shortly after high-wheeled sulkies went out of fashion, so it seems.

Michelle Crawford may not keep quite as unremitting a schedule as Merriman, but she comes very close. An unbridled enthusiastic voice for harness racing, Crawford is foremost the co-operator with her husband Al of Crawford Farms, a mid-state New York breeding facility, and his racing component Crawford Farms Racing, always looking to acquire the next big star and improve the overall quality of horses associated with Crawford. One giant step towards that goal in 2018 found Michelle in the winner's circle of the sport's biggest race, the Hambletonian, as a partner on the filly Atlanta, who upended the boys in the classic race for 3-year-old trotters and then went on to a million-dollar season, and now looms as potentially a great broodmare. Crawford Racing also is co-owner of Homicide Hunter, whose 1:48.4 mile at Lexington earned him "World's Fastest Trotter" honors.



USTA

Good "Guy" winner Michelle Crawford.



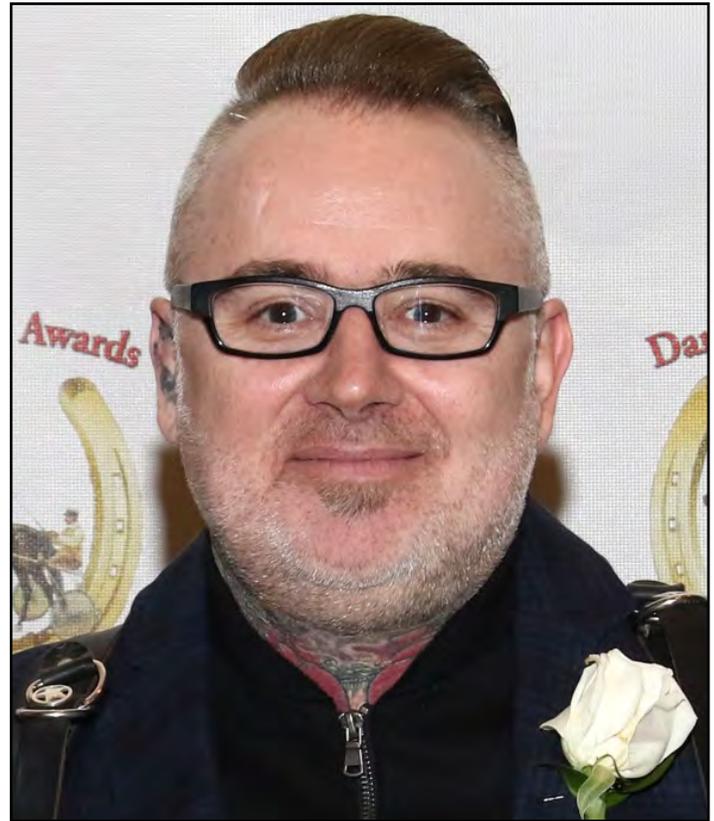
USTA

Breakthrough winner Ray Cotolo.

Michelle is aware of the “bigger picture” in harness racing, reflected in her serving as vice-president of the Harness Horse Breeders of New York, and especially as a board member of the newly-formed Standardbred Transition Alliance, where she will undoubtedly put into practice on a continental level the well-established programs to take care of former racing and breeding stock that she has established at Crawford. Her knowledge and enthusiasm make her one of the more positive forces – a real Good “Guy” – for the sport.

Two other USHWA honorees serve the sport on a communications level, with one of them involved in the chronicling of the sport half his life – and he’s only 19! Ray Cotolo, winner of the Breakthrough Award as an up-and-comer on the non-training-driving side, started accompanying his journalist father Frank to the major races, and swiftly picked up the necessary knowledge to combine with his natural communications skills to become a source of knowledge for the industry and fans in several areas: a podcast called North American Harness Update, a pioneer (2012) project which went “on the road” for the first time in 2018; freelance work, mainly writing, for such important entities as the Hambletonian Society, The Meadowlands, Standardbred Canada, the Woodbine Entertainment Group, and the Red Mile; and as a budding announcer.

And Ray is doing all this while enrolled at Elizabethtown (PA) College, as a communications major benefitting from the Harold Snyder Memorial Scholarship Fund of the late on-track television pioneer.



USTA

Unsung Hero Chris Gooden.

Chris Gooden works as the photographer for the racing at The Meadows racetrack, in addition to “regular” jobs his business picks up in his southwestern Pennsylvania area. But what is “Unsung” – and remarkable – about Gooden is the amount of work he does gratis, of his own volition, to keep The Meadows at the forefront of the new forms of “social” communications media (and beyond).

Facebook coverage of live racing? Check. Including “live-from-the-bike” camera photography? Double check. Keeping up a high profile on Twitter? Check. And there’s one above and beyond the call of duty. When illness hampered a local horseman’s finances a few months ago, Gooden posted a Facebook notice that he was selling a special photo of Foiled Again – the Bergstein/Proximity winner, and based at Gooden’s “home track” of The Meadows – and would donate the money minus shipping to the beleaguered family. And over \$1500 has been raised so far. No fanfare, just results. That’s why Chris Gooden is an Unsung Hero.

Merriman, Crawford, Cotolo, and Gooden will be honored at USHWA’s annual Dan Patch Awards Banquet, celebrating the best and brightest of harness racing in the past year. The banquet honoring the champions of 2018 will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando FL, the climax of a weekend that also finds USHWA holding its annual national meetings.

Reservations for those attending can be made through USHWA’s website, www.ushwa.org; a link to the hotel’s computer is on the front page of the website.



New tickets for Prix d'Amérique

by Thomas Hedlund

The \$135,000 Prix Tenor de Baune for 5-year-olds and \$270,000 Criterium Continental for 4-year-old trotters were held at Vincennes racetrack in Paris on Sunday, Dec. 23.

Two tickets for Prix d'Amérique were at stake, but after the two races, it seems like just one of the winners will make a serious step towards the great race to be contested on the last Sunday in January.

In the Prix Tenor de Baune, Jean-Michel Bazire's Norwegian bred Looking Superb (Orlando Vici) made his second start for the new trainer and even if the bettors were alert (Looking Superb was second choice in the race), the fact that Looking Superb now is a horse for Prix d'Amérique is, in retrospective an upset for many fans. Norway can now, most certainly, put the trust in two horses in Prix d'Amérique since Lionel (Look

de Star) has enough earnings for a place in the race and he has great experience from Vincennes since earlier attempts in Paris.

Looking Superb was served a cover trip behind leader Global Trustworthy and when Bazire attacked in the home stretch, Looking Superb exploded and cruised to a safe win in mile rate 1:58 over 1.7 miles.

Bazire had already qualified two other horses for Prix d'Amérique. Davidson du Pont and Belina Josselyn will make Looking Superb company at Vincennes in January.

In the Criterium Continental, Sébastien Guarato-trained Eridan (Ready Cash) sprinted to victory in strong mile rate 1:53.1 over 1.3 miles and the reason for the great winning time is spelled Vitruvio. The Italian horse had to sacrifice a lot of power to reach the lead after a quarter of a mile and driver Alessandro Gocciadoro never really slowed down the pace during the race.

Leader Vitruvio and Earl Simon, who raced first over, fought strongly but could not defend themselves when Eridan found open lane in the home stretch. Sébastien Guarato's trotter cruised to the win, but soon after the race, French media announced that the trainer will pass a start in Prix d'Amérique in 2019.

Ready Express is back

Timo Nurmos trained Ready Express is back in Paris. The son of Ready Cash will try to defend his title in Prix d'Amérique 2019 and will race the third B-race, the \$135,000 Prix de Bourgogne over 1.3 miles at Vincennes on Sunday, Dec. 30.

Nine horses will start from first line behind the gate and Ready Express will be one of them. Bold Eagle, Bird Parker, Belina Josselyn and Carat Williams are opponents from the same line and basically all of them have a spot in Prix d'Amérique, even if they haven't all qualified via earlier B-races.

Qualified horses for Prix d'Amérique:

Prix de Bretagne:

Davidson du Pont, Delia du Pommereux, Bird Parker.

Prix du Bourbonnais:

Delia du Pommereux, Belina Josselyn, Bird Parker

Prix Tenor de Baune:

Looking Superb

Criterium Continental:

Eridan

The last B-race, **Prix de Belgique**, is scheduled for Jan. 13, two weeks before Prix d'Amérique.

HARNES RACING UPDATE

About Harness Racing Update

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Mark Hall / USTA

Russell Williams has been named president and CEO of Hanover Shoe Farms.

Big changes at Hanover Shoe Farms

Hanover Shoe Farms has announced that effective immediately Dr. Bridgette Jablonsky has been promoted to executive vice president and syndicate manager. This follows last week's announcement of Russell Williams being named company president and CEO. Former assistant farm manager Patti Murphy will replace Dr. Jablonsky as farm manager.

Dr. Jablonsky started with the farm in 1996 and said, "I am excited to start this new chapter in my career at Hanover. While I will still oversee the breeding operation and raising of the foals and yearlings I will now be able to focus more on stallion management, customer relations and the administration of the farm as a whole. I want to sincerely thank Russell for giving me this opportunity to advance at a farm I am so passionate about."

Effective Dec. 18, Williams became president and CEO of Hanover Shoe Farms Inc., and James W. Simpson has become chairman of the board.

"Our message comes down to business as usual," said Williams. "I intend to build on the excellent foundation that Jim Simpson has built here over more than 20 years.

"One of our advantages is the 80-year relationship we enjoy with the Standardbred Horse Sales Company. That will continue."

Paul F. Spears is president and CEO of Standardbred.

"I often think of what Dale Welk said at the end of Dean Hoffman's book about Hanover. 'At the Shoe Farms, Dale said, 'we've got the greatest group of people in harness racing.' I think he's right," Williams said."

— Hanover Shoe Farms

Woodbine standardbred season concludes; Grant, Moreau and Roy honored

The 2018 Woodbine standardbred season concluded Wednesday afternoon (Dec. 26) with an 11-race card at Mohawk Park, featuring a pair of series finals for 3-year-old pacers and award presentations to the season's top performers.

A field of eight colts and geldings battled in the \$34,400 Valedictory final, while a field of seven fillies clashed in the \$32,600 Niagara final.

Phantom Seelster capped off 2018 as the hottest horse at Woodbine Mohawk Park by running his win streak to six in a row with a 1:51.4 victory in the \$34,400 Valedictory Series final.

Driven by Bob McClure, Phantom Seelster took his time in the beginning and got away fourth. Legal Power and driver Doug McNair wanted control and claimed the top spot to post opening fractions of :27.3 and :56.3.

Phantom Seelster committed first up nearing the half and that gave McNair his cue to try and pace away at the top with Legal Power, who paced a :27.2 third-quarter to create a few lengths of separation turning for home.

In the stretch, Phantom Seelster put his work boots on to track down and charged by Legal Power to win by 2 ³/₄ lengths in a career-best equaling 1:51.4. Legal Power held second, while Larrys Petrock was third and R Bazingga fourth.

Trained by Richard Moreau, Phantom Seelster six-race win streak came all in series events by sweeping the Harvest Series in November and the Valedictory in December. The gelded son of Mach Three is now six for 20 this season to bring his career numbers to nine wins and \$133,135 for owners Gestion Mastel Inc, Conrad Leber and Marcel Barrieau.

A \$2 win ticket on Phantom Seelster returned \$3.40.

The \$32,600 Niagara Series final was filled with drama, as



New Image Media

Leading owner Brad Grant and leading trainer Richard Moreau were presented with framed photos of their 2018 victories by Woodbine Mohawk Park's Jessica Buckley (president), Bill McLinchey (director of racing) and Scott McKelvie (racing secretary).

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New Image Media

Phantom Seelster (Bob McClure) ran his win streak to six in a row with a 1:51.4 victory in the \$34,400 Valedictory Series final.

a thrilling stretch battle led to a length inquiry and disqualification of the winner.

Odds On Stephanie and driver Doug McNair shot out to the lead and cut the mile, posting fractions of :29.1, :59.1 and 1:27.3. Lyons Hedgeabet and driver Bob McClure came first up from fourth to challenge the leader turning for home.

In the stretch, Lyons Hedgeabet pushed forward to take a narrow lead, but Odds On Stephanie wouldn't go away and battled back. The fillies battled side by side to the line with Lyons Hedgeabet winning by a nose.

The AGCO Judges posted the inquiry sign and reviewed the stretch battle, determining that Lyons Hedgeabet interfered with Odds On Stephanie at the rail and reversed the top-two finishers.

Odds On Stephanie went off as the second-choice at 7/2 behind Lyons Hedgeabet at 3/5.

Owned by Odds On Racing, Odds On Stephanie finished fourth in the series' second leg after finishing second in round one. The daughter of Somebeachsomewhere picks up her third win 17 starts this season and increases her career earnings to \$66,128 after racing just once as a two-year-old.

Odds On Stephanie was sent to the barn of Richard Moreau for Niagara Series from trainer Tony Alagna. A \$2 win ticket on Odds On Stephanie returned \$9.20.

Sophomore pacers, who were non-winners of \$60,000 lifetime as of October 31, 2018, were eligible for nomination to the Valedictory and Niagara Series.

Woodbine Entertainment took time during Wednesday's card to recognize its top owner, trainer and driver for the 2018 racing season.

Brad Grant led all owners during the 2018 season in wins and earnings on the Woodbine Entertainment circuit. The Milton, ON resident finished the year with 51 wins and \$1.2 million in earnings.

Grant's top horses in 2018 included Hambletonian champion Atlanta, Preferred star Easy Lover Hanover and multiple-stakes winner Captain Ahab.

Richard Moreau captured his fourth consecutive Woodbine standardbred training title. The Puslinch, ON resident sent



New Image Media

Odds On Stephanie (inside horse, Doug McNair) won the \$32,600 Niagara Series final after a lengthy inquiry and disqualification of the first horse to the wire, Lyons Hedgeabet.

out more than 1,200 starters in 2018 and led all conditioners with 208 wins and \$3.7 million in earnings.

Moreau was recently named a finalist for the O'Brien Award as Canada's Trainer of the Year, an award he has won in each of the last five years.

Louis Philippe Roy did not compete on Wednesday's program, but the Mont-Joli, QC native did claim his first Woodbine Entertainment driving title. Roy made 288 trips to the winner's circle and drove the winners of more than \$5.5 million in 2018.

Roy's big year could lead to another accomplishment, as he was recently named a finalist for the O'Brien Award as Canada's Driver of the Year.

Live racing at Woodbine Mohawk Park now takes a short-break over the holidays before resuming on Saturday, Jan. 5 at 7:10 p.m. The 2019 live racing season will feature 221 race dates.

Replays available at www.YouTube.com/WoodbineReplays
– **Mark McKelvie / Woodbine communications**

Western Fair qualifiers postponed to Monday

With heavy rain forecasted Thursday night and into Friday morning and temperatures expected to climb to double digits, officials at The Raceway at Western Fair District have moved Friday's qualifying session to Monday, Dec. 31 at 11 a.m.

Live racing is slated for Friday night at 6:55 p.m. Officials will closely monitor track conditions over the next couple of days in order to make a decision on the status of the Friday night program.

– **Western Fair**



RACE RESULTS

HRU Race Results Criteria

The following race results are contained in Harness Racing Update: U.S. and Canadian races with a purse of 15K and over, plus stakes races 10K and over.



NORTHFIELD report

Saturday's Results:

8, Nfld, \$15,000, Pace, PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES FILLIES & MARES CLAIMING \$6000 (WITH ALLOWANCES). FINAL, 26.2, 55.3, 1:25.2, 1:57.0, GD

1-Artini (m, 5, J T Arturo--Call Me Tini, by Mark Johnathan) \$5,625, Lifetime Record: 94-10-9-10, \$78,699

O-Kurt Kane. B-Stephen K Fowble. T-Kurt Kane. D-Jason Merriman.

1-Braida Hanover (m, 4, Dragon Again--But I Like It, by Rocknroll Hanover) \$5,625, \$5,500 2015 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 74-12-3-13, \$99,626

O-Bradley R Schwartz. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-C Brian Loney. D-Aaron Merriman.

3-Miss Explosion (m, 5, Shadyshark Hanover--Brittney Place, by Park Place) \$1,800, Lifetime Record: 106-13-10-22, \$78,251

O-P T Stable. B-Lone Star Stables. T-Phil Goldwater. D-Simon Allard.

Replay - Calls: 1, H, H, H, 2 - Finish Order: Jetomatt, Mayabelle, Princess Baby Ella, In The Wheelhouse, Image Of Felicia, Unicorns N Glitter

10, Nfld, \$15,000, Pace, PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES CLAIMING \$6000 (WITH ALLOWANCES). FINAL, 27.2, 57.2, 1:26.1, 1:55.3, GD

1-Amora Beach (g, 6, Somebeachsomewhere--Amora Hanover, by Western Ideal) \$7,500, \$100,000 2013 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 117-17-16-19, \$165,067

O-William A Hartt. B-Garth S Bechtel, CA. T-Michael Hitchcock. D-Kurt Sugg.

A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.
THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

 **Preferred Equine** MIXED SALE GRADUATE

2-Thru N Thru (g, 9, Allamerican Native--Ima Early Riser, by Rustler Hanover) \$3,750, \$2,800 2010 BRDS-SEL, Lifetime Record: 194-27-19-18, \$186,069

O-Kerry A Merriman. B-Winbak Farm. T-Kerry Merriman. D-Jason Thompson.

3-Shooby Said (g, 6, Well Said--Shoobeedobeedo, by Jate Lobell) \$1,800, Lifetime Record: 142-16-17-16, \$95,012

O-Joseph Gary Cirasuola. B-David H Mc Duffee. T-Kody Massey. D-David Lake.

Replay - Calls: 7, 1T, 3, 7, 5 - Finish Order: Red Pine, Dali Special, Turbo Mach, Orion's Belt, High And Tight, Farmerssixfournine

Wednesday's Results:

2, Nfld, \$15,500, Trot, OPEN II, 29.0, 58.1, 1:27.1, 1:56.3, FT

1-Top Dollar (g, 6, Deweycheatumhowe--Mom's Millionaire, by Pine Chip) \$7,750, \$55,000 2013 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 108-17-12-17, \$170,262

O-Herman Hagerman & Marion W Chupp. B-Moni Market Breeders. T-Herman Hagerman. D-Simon Allard.

RAISED AND GRAZED AT 

A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.
THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

 **Preferred Equine** YEARLING & MIXED SALE GRADUATE

2-Impressive Chief (g, 7, Hard Rock N Roll--Savannah Legacy, by Windsong's Legacy) \$3,875, Lifetime Record: 163-27-22-27, \$205,088

O-John D Payne. B-Marlene L Hartung. T-John Payne. D-Jason Thompson.

3-Natural Forces (g, 9, Lockkeeper--Janie's Got A Gun, by Super Star Ranger) \$1,860, Lifetime Record: 245-73-25-34, \$478,895

O-E C S Racing LLC & Kevin A St Charles. B-E C S Racing LLC & Starwin Farm. T-Ron Van Wagoner. D-Tyler Smith.

Replay - Calls: 2H, 2H, 1, T, 3 - Finish Order: Eyes Cool, Bb Tinkerbelle, Tamarind, Keystone Chester, Trixie's Jethro

RACE RESULTS

5, Nfld, \$15,500, Pace, OPEN II, 27.0, 55.3, 1:24.3, 1:53.4, FT

1-Island Jet (g, 8, Jereme's Jet--Nojoke Island, by Island Fantasy) \$7,750, Lifetime Record: 220-30-20-26, \$282,077
O-River Roubaix & Mark L Headworth. B-Rick Howles. T-Mark Headworth. D-Aaron Merriman.

2-Anoche (g, 5, Another Mile--Cher Bono, by Pro Bono Best) \$3,875, Lifetime Record: 94-36-18-14, \$214,278
O-D L Balcom. B-D L Balcom. T-Al Tomlinson. D-Chris Lems.

3-Chocolate Crackers (g, 7, Western Terror--Chrome Hearts, by Grinfromeartoeat) \$1,860, Lifetime Record: 181-26-27-18, \$338,716
O-Bradley R Schwartz. B-Vae LLC. T-C Brian Loney. D-Brett Miller.

[Replay](#) - Calls: 6H, 3, 1H, T, H - Finish Order: World Of Gaming, Heisenberg Z Tam, Blayde Hanover, Ruffle Up, Captain Velocity, Classic Gent

7, Nfld, \$25,000, Trot, GUARANTEED \$10,000 PICK 4 STARTS HERE PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES CLAIMING \$10,000 (WITH ALLOWANCES) FINAL, 28.1, 57.2, 1:26.3, 1:55.4, FT

1-Chip Or Don (g, 5, Chip Chip Hooray--Donna L, by Striking Sahbra) \$12,500, \$3,200 2014 BHS, Lifetime Record: 84-18-16-11, \$142,572
O-Jessica L Roegner. B-Atlee D Weaver. T-Jessica Roegner. D-Aaron Merriman.

2-Skyway Jaguar (g, 5, Jailhouse Jesse--Jamie Hall, by Garland Lobell) \$6,250, \$7,500 2014 HOOSIER, Lifetime Record: 79-16-12-13, \$116,959
O-Matt E Rowe. B-Kenneth E Slabach. T-Daniel Jones. D-Brett Miller.

3-Well Connected Kid (g, 8, Cincinnati Kid--Connected Comer, by Overcomer) \$3,000, \$20,000 2011 IN-PREM, Lifetime Record: 188-31-32-28, \$239,287
O-Jessica L Roegner & Mark J Jakubik. B-Victory Hill Farm Inc. T-Jessica Roegner. D-Kurt Sugg.

[Replay](#) - Calls: 1H, 1H, 1H, 2, 2H - Finish Order: Dartmouth Hall, Upfront Chip Daddy, Soboro Hanover, Mischievous Jesse, Maximus Deo, Mr Lucky Luke

8, Nfld, \$35,000, Pace, PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES CLAIMING \$20,000 (WITH ALLOWANCES). FINAL, 26.4, 55.1, 1:24.3, 1:54.1, FT

1-J J Tanner (g, 4, Articulator--Fritzel Hanover, by E Dee's Cam) \$17,500, \$10,500 2015 ATL-CL, Lifetime Record: 62-16-6-5, \$102,318
O-Jessica L Roegner. B-Jamie J Mac Kinley, CA. T-Jessica Roegner. D-Aaron Merriman.

2-Ahdoughnolum (g, 8, Rocknroll Hanover--Cohenikova, by Camluck) \$8,750, \$10,000 2011 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 194-30-28-22, \$320,385
O-Adam B Short. B-Diamond Creek Farm LLC. T-Adam Short. D-Tyler Smith.

3-The Book Of Life (g, 4, Bettor's Delight--Open Book Test, by Real Desire) \$4,200, \$35,000 2015 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 83-12-14-18, \$130,889
O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Winbak Farm. T-Ron Burke. D-Kurt Sugg.

[Replay](#) - Calls: T, 2, 1H, T, T - Finish Order: Bali, Valiente Stride, Gorgeous View, Supreme Mach N, Owen Hanover, Gypsy Leather

9, Nfld, \$25,000, Pace, PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES CLAIMING \$10,000 (WITH ALLOWANCES). FINAL, 26.4, 54.2, 1:23.4, 1:53.3, FT

1-Bubbie Boy (g, 10, Artiscap--Bubbie Rose, by Falcon Seelster) \$12,500, Lifetime Record: 243-38-32-36, \$460,177
O-Steve M Main. B-Ronald Mersky. T-Steve Main. D-Aaron Merriman.

2-B Seventeen (g, 6, Art Major--Armbo Bombay, by Western Hanover) \$6,250, \$125,000 2013 LEX-SEL, Lifetime Record: 111-13-21-7, \$122,181
O-Ameer Najor. B-White Birch Farm. T-Paul Holzman. D-Brett Miller.

3-Adversary Seelster (g, 8, Badlands Hanover--Alias Seelster, by Intrepid Seelster) \$3,000, \$35,000 2011 FOREST, Lifetime Record: 215-25-25-33, \$250,697
O-Victor R Finocchiaro. B-Seelster Farms Inc, CA. T-Jordan Hope. D-Chris Lems.

[Replay](#) - Calls: 3, 2H, 1Q, Q, 1Q - Finish Order: Brookdale Fletcher, Crosswinds Dodger, Yes Your Mattjesty, Lexington Avenue, Y S Joe, Cuz I'm Happy

10, Nfld, \$35,000, Trot, PROGRESSIVE CLAIMING SERIES CLAIMING \$20,000 (WITH ALLOWANCES) FINAL, 28.1, 57.2, 1:26.2, 1:56.3, FT

1-Undercover Strike (g, 10, Striking Sahbra--Under The Pines, by Pine Chip) \$17,500, \$17,000 2009 FOREST, Lifetime Record: 114-30-23-11, \$610,083
O-Simon Allard. B-Reg W & Donna M Higgs, CA. T-Chris Short. D-Simon Allard.



Preferred Equine MIXED SALE GRADUATE

2-Buzzen Garland (g, 6, Abc Garland--Royal Mozetta, by Royal Troubador) \$8,750, Lifetime Record: 121-17-16-18, \$167,169
O-Chelsey L Wibert. B-Jack L Marsh. T-William Rhoades. D-Aaron Merriman.

3-Winwood Scout (g, 8, Keystone Nordic--Lizzie Lavec, by Master Lavec) \$4,200, Lifetime Record: 197-36-42-34, \$363,047
O-Bruce A Soulsby & Allard Racing Inc, CA & Simon Allard. B-Winwood Farm & Earl J Robinson. T-Chris Short. D-Brett Miller.

[Replay](#) - Calls: 7Q, 7Q, 8T, 4Q, Q - Finish Order: Pop I, Just A Steady Hall, Queen's Ripsnort, Fleet Bumblebee, Revrac Harbour, Ridgeway Springs

HARNES RACING
UPDATE



RACE RESULTS

11, Nfld, \$19,000, Trot, GUARANTEED \$10,000 PICK 4 STARTS HERE OPEN HANDICAP (DRAW POST POSITIONS 1-3; 4-7; PP 8 ASSIGNED), 27.3, 56.4, 1:25.2, 1:54.0, FT

1-Grana Padanno (g, 6, Andover Hall--Her Culese, by Muscles Yankee) \$9,500, \$60,000 2013 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 137-24-23-21, \$320,583
O-Lasalle Racing Group LLC. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Edward Zubkoff Jr. D-Brett Miller.

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

2-Buddy Hally (g, 8, Angus Hall--Credibility, by Credit Winner) \$4,750, Lifetime Record: 189-29-32-29, \$565,000
O-David A Beachy. B-Reginald Mac Pherson, CA. T-Herman Hagerman. D-Chris Lems.

3-Gale Force Hanover (g, 9, Muscles Yankee--Giant Motion, by Giant Victory) \$2,280, \$17,000 2010 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 92-30-10-7, \$169,038
O-Martin D Yoder. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Jeff Hochstetler. D-Aaron Merriman.

Replay - Calls: 8T, 3, 1T, 1, 6 - Finish Order: Crosbys Clam Bake, Party At The Banks, Swan Leader, Annie's Rocketman, Pay The Winner

12, Nfld, \$19,000, Pace, OPEN HANDICAP (DRAW POST POSITIONS 1-5 & 9; 6 & 7; PP 8 ASSIGNED), 27.1, 55.1, 1:22.2, 1:51.2, FT

1-Southwind Amazon (g, 8, Camluck--Artoonist, by Artsplace) \$9,500, \$35,000 2011 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 183-69-25-27, \$756,547
O-Ameer Najor. B-Southwind Farm. T-Paul Holzman. D-Ronnie Wrenn Jr..



2-Stride Of Pride (g, 5, Manhardt--Apple B, by Stubby B) \$4,750, Lifetime Record: 66-24-12-9, \$206,417

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Rtc Stables Inc. B-Brian L & Kelly R Boring. T-Ron Burke. D-Aaron Merriman.

3-Fourboltmane (g, 6, Yankee Skyscaper--Sabine Hall, by Blissfull Hall) \$2,280, Lifetime Record: 85-24-11-12, \$123,846

O-Danny J Dubeansky. B-John A Carver. T-Danny Dubeansky. D-Kurt Sugg.

Replay - Calls: 1H, 1, 1, 1, 1T - Finish Order: Lancaster Park, Uncle Reimus, He's A Popper, Raiders Boy, War-n-munn, Montero Blue Chip

THE MEADOWS report

Wednesday's Results:

8, Mea, \$18,000, Trot, **PREFERRED HANDICAP P.P.1-4 DRAWN; 5-6 DRAWN, 28.2, 57.2, 1:25.3, 1:55.0, FT**

1-Dayson (g, 5, Conway Hall--Nervey's Taurus, by Sir Taurus) \$9,000, \$18,000 2014 MORRIS, Lifetime Record: 56-25-9-2, \$1,001,712

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & J&T Silva- Purnel & Libby & Lawrence R Karr. B-Salt Hill Farm LTD. T-Ron Burke. D-Dave Palone.

2-Parkhill Lancelot (g, 6, Muscle Mass--Harlequin Seelster, by Duke Of York) \$4,500, Lifetime Record: 123-26-21-18, \$298,627

O-Mel Rose Stable. B-Parkhill Stud Farm, CA & Betty Bax, CA & Kenneth J Andrews, CA. T-John Ryan Melsheimer. D-Chris Shaw.

3-P L Icabod (g, 6, Kadabra--P L Can Can, by Striking Sahbra) \$2,160, Lifetime Record: 90-15-12-14, \$145,538

O-Randall B Bendis & Jack B Piatt II & R Lewis Hauber. B-Prince Lee Acres, CA. T-Randy Bendis. D-Aaron Merriman.

Replay - Calls: 1H, 1H, 1H, H, 1T - Finish Order: Media Buzz, True Blue Stride, Classic Banker

Thursday's Results:

3, Mea, \$18,000, Pace, **F&M PREFERRED HANDICAP P.P.1-3 DRAWN; 4 ASSIGNED; 5-6 DRAWN, 27.2, 57.4, 1:26.0, 1:54.0, FT**

1-Camera Lady (m, 4, Dragon Again--Ann Van Go, by Modern Art) \$9,000, \$5,000 2015 Goshen, Lifetime Record: 83-44-11-9, \$275,798

O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Olive Branch Farm & Ann-Mari Daley. T-Ron Burke. D-Dave Palone.

2-Fox Valley Charm (m, 6, Yankee Skyscaper--Fox Valley Cherub, by Sportsmaster) \$4,500, \$2,500 2013 WALKER, Lifetime Record: 112-31-26-22, \$376,460

O-Peter J Karras. B-Fox Valley Standardbreds. T-Dirk Simpson. D-Aaron Merriman.

3-Sansovina Hanover (f, 3, Somebeachsomewhere--Shacked Up, by Western Terror) \$2,160, \$70,000 2016 SHS-HBG, Lifetime Record: 32-7-2-7, \$221,869

O-Frank T Poerio Jr. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Doug Snyder. D-Jim Pantaleano.

Replay - Calls: 1H, 1H, H, H, 1 - Finish Order: Easy Three, Circle The Page, Real Fine

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HARNES RACING
UPDATE

RACE RESULTS

WOODBINE MOHAWK report

Wednesday's Results:

3, Wbs, \$18,000, Trot, NW 3 (FM 5) RACES OR \$50,000 (FM \$60,000) LIFETIME, 29.1, 59.1, 1:28, 1:57.2

1-Donato Lane (b,g,3 - Donato Hanover-Hollybrook Lane-Lindy Lane) \$9,000, Lifetime Record: 16-5-0-1, \$51,040

O-Ken Fitzgerald, William Latimer, Jeff McFadden, Jeff Roberts B-Harry & Iris Horowitz T-Michiel Vanderkemp D-Michiel Vanderkemp

2-Pennant Seelster (b,g,4 - Manofmanymissions-Pepi Lavec-Mr Lavec)

O-Dustin Jones Stables Inc, Glengate Farms, Jocelyn Hebert B-Seelster Farms Inc T-Meg Crone D-Chris Christoforou

3-Bosston Glide (b,g,3 - Yankee Glide-Bosston Bell-Don Boss Vita)

O-Kenneth Frieder, Thestable BG Group B-Virginia Louthan T-Jason McGinnis D-Anthony MacDonald

[Replay](#)

4, Wbs, \$16,000, Pace, 4 YEAR OLDS & YOUNGER, NW 2 RACES OR \$25,000 LIFETIME, 28.2, 57.4, 1:26, 1:55.4

1-Sports Charm (b,g,2 - Sportswriter-Western Charmer-Western Hanover) \$8,000, Lifetime Record: 10-2-0-2, \$19,880

O-Rene Dion, Susanne Kerwood, Stanley Zipkin B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc T-Rene Dion D-Phillippe Hudon

2-Agedcheddar Hanover (b,g,2 - Betterthancheddar-Artistic Hanover-Western Ideal)

O-M&S Racing Stable Inc B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc T-Robert Don Fellows D-James MacDonald

3-Delorean Seelster (b,c,3 - Big Jim-Designer Seelster-Modern Art)

O-Kristopher Haskell, Stanley Henderson B-Seelster Farms Inc T-Kristopher Haskell D-Bob McClure

[Replay](#)

5, Wbs, \$18,000, Trot, NW \$10,000 LAST 5 STARTS OR NW \$20,000 LAST 10 STARTS. AE: OPT. CLM. \$30,000, 28.4, 58.3, 1:27.2, 1:57.1

1-Kameran Hanover (b,h,4 - Donato Hanover-Kandor Hanover-Tagliabue) \$9,000, Lifetime Record: 36-9-9-7, \$143,480

O-Charalambos Christoforou, Banjo Farms, Carolyn Polillo B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc T-Per Henriksen D-Chris Christoforou

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

2-Daylon Magician (b,h,10 - Kadabra-Daylon Marvel-Super Pleasure)

O-Daylon Farms Ltd B-David Lemon T-David Lemon D-Michael Saftic

3-Ole Jack Magic (b,g,7 - Kadabra-Whitesand Electra-Angus Hall)

O-Home Stretch Holdings Inc B-Joanne Wray T-Jerry Duford D-Bob McClure

[Replay](#)

6, Wbs, \$32,600, Pace, NIAGARA - FINAL - 3 YEAR OLD FILLIES. NW \$60,000 LIFETIME AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2018, 29.1, 59.1, 1:27.3, 1:56

1-Odds On Stephanie (b,f,3 - Somebeachsomewhere-Worldly Treasure-Artsplace) \$16,300, Lifetime Record: 18-3-6-1, \$66,128

O-Odds On Racing B-White Birch Farm T-Richard Moreau D-Douglas McNair

White Birch Farm ANOTHER WINNER FROM WHITE BIRCH FARM, 2012 & 2013 BREEDER OF THE YEAR **White Birch Farm**

2-Lyons Hedgeabet (b,f,3 - Mach Three-Hedgie Blue Chip-Art Major)

O-Geoffrey Lyons Mound B-Northfields Farm Inc T-Jeffrey Gillis D-Bob McClure

3-Thrillonthebeach (b,f,3 - Somebeachsomewhere-Tutu Hanover-Western Ideal)

O-Howard & Joshua Kaufman B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc T-Terrance Langille D-Paul Macdonell

[Replay](#)

8, Wbs, \$22,000, Trot, NW \$15,000 LAST 5 STARTS OR NW \$28,000 LAST 10 STARTS. AE: NW \$120,000 LIFETIME. AE: OPT. CLM. \$40,000, 28.4, 58.1, 1:27, 1:55.3

1-On A Sunny Day (b,m,4 - Muscle Mass-Dicent No-Promising Catch) \$11,000, Lifetime Record: 37-15-7-2, \$633,866

O-Determination B-Luc Blais T-Luc Blais D-Bob McClure

2-Fly Beyond (b,g,4 - Explosive Matter-Alot Of Pump-Angus Hall)

O-373818 Ontario Ltd B-Winbak Farm T-David Frey D-Douglas McNair

RACE RESULTS

3-Buzz (b,g,6 - Kadabra-Annie Hall-Like A Prayer)

O-Wheelhouse Racing Stable B-Beechwood Acres T-Carmen Auciello D-Jonathan Drury

[Replay](#)

9, Wbs, \$34,400, Pace, VALEDICTORY - FINAL - 3 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS. NW \$60,000 LIFETIME AS OF OCTOBER 31,2018, 27.3, 56.3, 1:24, 1:51.4

1-Phantom Seelster (ro,g,3 - Mach Three-Pantecostal-No Pan Intended) \$17,200, Lifetime Record: 29-9-4-0, \$133,135

O-Gestion Mastel Inc, Conrad Leber, Marcel Barrieau B-Seelster Farms Inc T-Richard Moreau D-Bob McClure

2-Legal Power (b,g,3 - Somebeachsomewhere-Authorize-Western Ideal)

O-Douglas Dunbar, Frederick Woolford B-Brittany Farms Llc T-Richard Moreau D-Douglas McNair

3-Larrys Petrock (b,g,3 - Pet Rock-Perfect Sport-Sportsmaster)

O-Gerrie Tucker, David Lumsden, Barry Bird B-Gerrie Tucker T-Barry Bird D-James MacDonald

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