

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

# Bythemissal wins Little Brown Jug



CONRAD PHOTO

Ohio native Chris Page piloted Bythemissal, the first Ohio-bred Jug winner since 1988.

By Greg Reinhart

Bythemissal made the \$45,000 supplement payment his connections made to put him in the Little Brown Jug worth it as he won his \$50,000 elimination and then the \$541,550 final of the classic for 3-year-old colt and gelding pacers on Thursday at the Delaware County Fair.

Fouever Boy (Dexter Dunn), who won the other elimination, landed the pole position for the final and blasted out, putting Bythemissal (Chris Page) in the pocket from post two. Atlas Hanover (Anthony MacDonald) also showed speed from post five but got left out by Fouever Boy and backed off before the 27 1/5 opening quarter.

Dunn and Fouever Boy continued on the front-end to a 55 3/5 half and a 1:24 1/5 three-quarters, but Page guided Bythemissal to the outside nearing the latter marker, and Bythemissal came with a quick brush that got him the lead on the outside around the final bend. In the lane Fouever Boy tried to fight back and Night Hawk (David Miller) closed from second-over, but there was no catch-

ing Bythemissal, as he scored by three-quarters of a length with Page waving his whip triumphantly. Fouever Boy held off Night Hawk for second, Six Feet Apart (Matt Kakaley) was fourth, and Birthday (Ronnie Wrenn Jr.) got fifth.

"I was fortunate enough to sit behind the sire of him, Downbytheseaside, who was also a great horse. Winning the Little Brown Jug has been my dream ever since I was a little tyke, so today, I feel like somebody oughta pinch me, like I'm gonna wake up sometime," said Page. "My first Little Brown Jug was 1994, and I haven't missed one since. This is what really pulled me in and made me want to drive horses and fall in love with it."

"Either I was going to be in the front, or I was going to be in the two-hole, and if I was in the two-hole I was going to sit there until the action behind me came, and I wasn't going to get stuck in. Tim Twaddle has done a good job with that horse, and Dexter Dunn's a magician in the bike, so you never count them out, but the first elimination my horse

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CONRAD PHOTOS

(above) Driver Chris Page gets congratulations from Governor Mike DeWine, who also met four-time Jug-winning trainer Ron Burke (below).



was very well wrapped-up and well within himself, so I was very confident in him."

Ron Burke trains Bythemissal, who was bred by Dr. Stephen Dey III, for owners Burke Racing Stable LLC., Eric Good, Rich Lombardo Racing LLC., and Weaver Brussemi LLC. Bythemissal has a record of 11-2-0 from 13 career starts, and he has now banked \$833,525.

"That's four [Little Brown Jugs] for us, so that's pretty cool," stated Burke, who also won the race last year with Lou's Pearlman. "I believed he was the best horse today. He drew in a great spot, and I knew Chris would be confident enough to give him the right trip."

"He's got the sires stake final next week [at Dayton Raceway], so we go there first. We've got to get that."

Bythemissal paid \$2.80 as the 2-5 favorite.

#### ATLANTA CAPTURES MISS VERSATILITY



CONRAD PHOTO

Atlanta controlled the pace and wired the Miss Versatility field.

One thing that Atlanta hadn't done in her career is win a race on a half-mile track, but she was able to change that in the \$115,500 Miss Versatility Series final for trotting mares on Thursday at the Delaware County Fair, scoring in 1:53 2/5.

Driven by Yannick Gingras and starting from post one, Atlanta went right to the front and set easy fractions of just 28 1/5, 58 1/5, and 1:26 3/5. When Dovescry (David Miller) tried to mount an offensive out of the pocket in the last quarter, but Atlanta closed in 26 4/5 to defeat When Dovescry by a length and a quarter. Refined (Mitchell Cushing) came in third.

"There was never a doubt in my mind she'd get around here. I think she'd get around Monticello if she had to," said Gingras. "She's very good-gaited, and that was not one of my worries."

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#7, CABANA NANA, P, F, ON

Betterthancheddar-Beaches N Dreams-Rocknroll Hanover

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### #5, BAGA CASH, P, C, ON

Shadow Play-Bagaholic-Dragon Again

- Dam is a full-sister to Roddy's Bags Again, p, 1:48.4 (\$725,622)

### #7, CABANA NANA, P, F, ON

Betterthancheddar-Beaches N Dreams-Rocknroll Hanover

- Dam is a 1/2-sister to Cabana Fever, p, 1:51 (\$486,189)

### #9, SPORTS BANQUET, P, C, ON

Sportswriter-Black Stilletos-If I Can Dream

- Dam is a 1/2-sister to Voracity, p, 1:49f -'21 (\$910,773)

### #14, FAST BUCK FOUT, T, C, ON

Archangel-Command A Buck-CR Commando

- Dam is a 1/2-sister to Striking Sahbra, 3, 1:56 (\$217,492)

### #24, ROYAL ALLURE, T, F, ON

My MVP-Georgia Baby-Mutineer

- Dam is a 1/2-sister to Sj's Caviar, 3, 1:53.4 (\$1,288,466)

### #38, WORDSTOINSPIRE, P, C, ON

Artspeak-Mom's Bella-Quik Pulse Mindale

- Second dam is Sanabelle Island, p, 1:50.4s (\$1,660,526)

### #47, BETTOR'S RUSH, P, C, ON

Bettor's Delight-Sister Pippa-Sportsmaster

- Dam is a 1/2-sister to Lets Getit Started, p, 1:49.4 (\$532,230)

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# Katz holding a good hand heading into rich Metro Pace final



## JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman [@BergmanJay](#)

It's hard to get even one horse into the final of the Metro Pace at Woodbine Mohawk Park. For the 3 Brothers Stable, that was an objective when they went to the 2021 Harrisburg sale looking for yearlings.

"That's what we were looking for," said Alan Katz. "We want to be in these kinds of stakes races."

For Katz and his stable, the Metro is doubly nice considering that two of the horses they own in partnership with Caviart Farms have qualified for Saturday's C\$900,000 Metro for 2-year-old colts and geldings, and are among the favorites to capture the richest event of the year for that division.

"I've always been a big fan of Captaintreacherous," said Katz about the purchase of Save America, a Captaintreacherous-sired colt that's a half-brother to 2018 Metro Pace champion Stag Party.

Save America captured one of the two \$40,000 eliminations last Saturday at Woodbine Mohawk Park, pacing a mile in 1:49 4/5 for the second time in his brief racing career.

"Two starts back he got a little hot," said Katz of the Champlain victory on September 10. "Nancy [Takter] made same changes and he was much better last week."

Katz teamed with Caviart [Buck and Judy Chaffee] and paid \$300,000 for Save America, who appears well on his way towards earning more than that in his first year at the track.

"We have a great relationship with them," Katz said. "We were partners with them on Captain Crunch and No Lou Zing and got along very well."

Trainer Takter has had a long successful relationship with the 3 Brothers stable going back to the 2014 Horse of the Year JK She'salady.

The memory of success north of the border doesn't escape Katz, who will venture north on Saturday to witness firsthand both Save America (post 4) and Tickertape Hanover (post 8), a second place finisher in the other Metro elimination race.

"We haven't been there since 2014 when JK Endofanera won the North America Cup and JK She'salady won the She's A Great Lady," said Katz.

Tickertape Hanover is a Huntsville-sired colt trained by another longtime 3 Brothers trainer Linda Toscano.

"He was the best colt we looked at last year at Hanover Shoe Farms," said Katz. "He's a Huntsville and another son of Somebeachsomewhere, so we liked that. But we bought him [\$160,000] as a horse to race on the Grand Circuit. If Linda told us he was just going to be good enough for the New York Sire Stakes we probably would've sold him."

It's a good thing Toscano knew what she had from the start because Tickertape Hanover has been as impressive as a 2-year-old could be without winning many races this year. With but one win in six starts, at first glance one might question his credentials, but to anyone that witnessed his effort in the Metro trial, the hard-fought second-place finish ahead of formerly undefeated Stockade Seelster was most impressive.

"That was a pretty tough first quarter he had to go racing three wide," said Katz, noting that Stockade Seelster and driver Jody Jamieson had squeezed out into the first turn keeping Tickertape Hanover and driver Dexter Dunn wide and eventually forcing him into a tuck following a brisk 27 opening quarter.

Later in the mile Tickertape Hanover pulled the pocket and would eventually go past the leader but had to settle for second.

"That other horse [Tip Top Cat] was able to come along the pylons and beat him," said Katz. "I thought it was a huge effort considering he hadn't raced for three weeks."

Katz revealed that Tickertape Hanover had gotten sick. "It was just for one day," Katz said. That was enough for Toscano to pass on putting Tickertape Hanover back in at Woodbine Mohawk in the Champlain stakes and instead prep him well for the Metro.

"Scottie [Zeron] did a great job with this horse," Katz said, crediting the



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

**Since a defeat in his career debut, Save America is undefeated in four starts and is the presumptive favorite in Saturday's Metro Pace.**

sidelined driver with teaching the colt to be a racehorse in qualifiers and then a few stakes engagements.

"We're happy Dexter [Dunn] chose him," Katz said of Dunn, who has sat behind Tickertape Hanover in his last three starts including his lone victory, a 1:51 2/5 mile in capturing a Nassagawaya division on August 27 at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

While the 3 Brothers stable did pay significantly to come up with the pair entered in Saturday's Metro, it's a stunning feat to make it this far especially given that they started the year with just five 2-year-olds in training.

While Save America earned a solid draw with his elimination victory, he is surrounded by some extremely talented first-year performers including Stockade Seelster, who landed post 2 for Dr. Ian Moore. The State Treasurer-sired colt had won his first six starts of the year for Moore prior to last week's third-place finish while setting a lively pace. A 1:49 3/5 career mark was taken by Stockade Seelster and given the favorable draw he figures to be right there in the contest.

Tip Top Cat got his first stakes victory for trainer Gregg McNair with the Metro elimination upset at odds of 31-1. Likely to be a much more modest offering this week, Tip Top Cat landed post 3 for the Metro final, the best post he's drawn during his brief career. Doug McNair guides the son of Always B Miki, the sire of last year's Metro and Breeders Crown champion Monte Miki.

Hall of Fame trainer Bob McIntosh has a gelding from the first crop of All Bets Off that is more than a sleeper for this year's Metro. Moment Is Here (post 5) paced his final half in near 53 seconds but couldn't withstand the late pressure of Save America while finishing second in last week's trial. Moment Is Here is a McIntosh homebred.

Trainer McNair has a second qualifier for the Metro in Huntinthelastdollar, an altered son of Huntsville that finished a game second in the New York Sire Stakes final at Tioga on September 10. He came back to finish fourth in the elimination captured by Save America after suffering some road trouble in early stretch. Huntinthelastdollar gets significant post relief landing the pole for the Metro.

The Metro is part of a power-packed card at Woodbine Mohawk Park on Saturday that also includes the million-dollar Mohawk Million for 2-year-old trotters and the C\$615,000 Canadian Trotting Classic for 3-year-olds among the five stakes on the program which kicks off at 7:00 PM.

Katz is also looking forward to this year's yearling auction with Captain Crunch utmost on his mind. "We've got a few we're going to keep," Katz said, referring specifically to a Captain Crunch colt from Horse of the Year JK She'salady. "We're definitely going to look for a few and support him like we did JK Endofanera."





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# Ken Warkentin will take his rightful place in the Hall of Fame



## AT THE TRACK

By Darin Zoccali [@AtTheTrack7](#)

This past week it was announced that Ken Warkentin had been elected to the Communicators wing of the Harness Racing Hall of Fame, joining his former Meadowlands colleagues Bob “Hollywood” Heyden and the late, great, Sam McKee.

It is hard to believe that over 30 years have passed since Warkentin first joined the team at The Meadowlands, initially as television host and as the associate track announcer alongside John Bothe. Following Bothe's departure, Warkentin was elevated to the role of primary announcer and would share both the announcer's booth and the host chair on the television set with Sam McKee for nearly the next 20 years. A partnership that undoubtedly would still exist today if not for the tragic passing of McKee in 2017.



LISA PHOTO

**Ken Warkentin has been at The Meadowlands for more than 30 years despite management and other changes.**

To say that Warkentin's place in the Hall of Fame is well-deserved would be a vast understatement. He has been the centerpiece of harness racing's number one television signal for 30 years. He has been the voice of the Hambletonian since 1999 when Self Possessed put forth an awesome display of speed and power for trainer Ron Gurfein.

I am admittedly not an objective party when it comes to Ken Warkentin, or any of the great colleagues I have had the privilege to work with at The Meadowlands, but Warkentin has not only been a consistent face and voice in harness racing for nearly four decades, he has been one of its brightest stars.

Sadly, in some instances, race callers and television talent like Warkentin are not viewed the same by the industry itself as they were years ago. In the years of Tom Durkin, Dave Johnson, Jack E. Lee and others, track announcers were larger than life characters. In the old Meadowlands grandstand, the television set used to be located on the Clubhouse level, just outside the Clubhouse Teletheatre and it was always surrounded by the Meadowlands faithful. Many of them throughout the night just trying to get a few words in with the likes of Warkentin, McKee, Heyden and Dave Brower. I know this because as a young boy in his pre-teen and early teen years, I was one of those people. The highlight of my night would be making a coffee run for them midway through the card. Unfortunately,

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 7](#)

## 9/25 Ontario Select Yearling Sale

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### Highlights Featuring New Sires

#### PACERS

##### #1, ADVICE PARTY, C, ON

Stag Party-Advice Column-Sportswriter

Second dam is Nines Wild, p, 1:51.1s (\$1,120,321)

##### #11, SINGLE TO MINGLE, F, ON

Stag Party-Bunkhouse Play-Shadow Play

Dam is a 1/2-sister to Vintage Babe, p, 1:52.2f (\$303,944)

##### #12, MCWICKED MOVE, F, ON

McWicked-Call Your Mamma-Cam's Card Shark

Family of Western Hanover, p, 3, 1:50.4 (\$2,541,647)

##### #18, PARTY STYLE, F, ON

Stag Party-Elegant Gift-Shadow Play

Dam is a 1/2-sister to Her Own Land, p, 1:52.3h (\$373,653)

##### #20, WATCHA STRIKESFAME, C, ON

McWicked-Creek Alley-Camluck

1/2-brother to Olliestrikesfame, p, 1:51s -'21 (\$173,050)

##### #27, NAUGHTY PURSUIT, C, ON

McWicked-Happy Kim-Camluck

Dam is a 1/2-sister to Royal Flush Shark, p, 3, 1:50 (\$404,464)

##### #31, WICKED PLACE, F, ON

McWicked-Jollie Place-Artsplace

1/2-sister to So Bad I'm Good, p, 1:52.3f (\$155,698)

##### #32, LADY WICKED, F, ON

McWicked-Lady Jen-Royal Mattjesty

Dam is Lady Jen, p, 1:52.2s (\$103,190)

##### #52, LOVE PARTY, F, ON

Stag Party-Two Sides Of Love-Sportswriter

Dam is a 1/2-sister to Still Chugging, p, 1:50z (\$313,671)

#### TROTTERS

##### #19, CASH TO ASH, C, ON

The Bank-Fiery Ash-Muscle Mass

Family of Saint John's Boy, 1:53.2 (\$634,888)

##### #26, ESSENTIAL QUALITY, F, ON

The Bank-Great Quality-Glidemaster

Family of Sj's Caviar, 3, 1:53.4 (\$1,288,466)

##### #44, HIT THE BANK, F, ON

The Bank-Queen Julia-Sand Vic

Dam is a 1/2-sister to Crown Prince Gar, 1:57.1f (\$231,862)

##### #53, GAMING QUEEN, F, ON

The Bank-Video Queen-Classic Photo

Second dam is Oolong, 3, 1:54.4 (\$744,086)

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in my opinion, the racing industry in general has lost its appreciation for their “on-air talent” as it relates to the racing business.

As years have passed, we have seen fewer and fewer racetracks employ people strictly as on-air talent. Due to cost-cutting measures, and words like “bottom line” or acronyms like “EBITDA,” racetracks now expect track announcers, television talent and morning-line odds-makers to contribute in other areas as well. For the most part, you can no longer be just a track announcer. You have to also be a publicity director, write press releases, work in marketing or sales, etc. The key factor that drove this is there is no tangible way to measure the value of on-air talent or track announcers and because there is no way to measure the value as it relates to the bottom line of an excel spreadsheet, many racetracks no longer want to pay a premium rate for that talent. Which is bizarre, because being able to call a horse race is a true talent that only a select few in the world can do and it should be appreciated as such.

Case in point, the New York Racing Association (NYRA) in thoroughbred racing. The “voice” of New York racing has historically been an iconic figure. Names like Chic Anderson, Dave Johnson, Marshall Cassidy and Tom Durkin all once called the NYRA announcer’s booth their home. It



DAVE BROWER FACEBOOK

**Dave Brower not only works at The Meadowlands but also at the Delaware County Fair.**

seemed as though NYRA would continue that tradition when it hired Larry Collmus, the voice of the Triple Crown, as its track announcer in 2015. But, in a weird twist, Collmus was replaced as track announcer in 2020 by John Imbriale, a full-time NYRA employee for decades within their television department and at times a back-up track announcer. Nothing against John Imbriale, but this was a change in direction for NYRA who had routinely hired racing’s well-known star voices as their announcer. Now with Imbriale stepping back some in that role, three different voices will fill the NYRA airwaves as racecaller in 2023. The reason is likely because they can pay those three people less than

what they would have to pay someone like Larry Collmus. You can’t measure the value of a racecaller, but most racing fans would tell you this takes some of the shine off the role at NYRA. It’s clearly just not viewed as it once was, which is unfortunate.

The single star voice of a racetrack has become increasingly rare. Warkentin is one of the few that remain and the fact that he has stayed in that role for over 30 years at one racetrack is more than enough reason for him to be in the Hall of Fame. But Warkentin is also one of the best to ever hold the binoculars and I for one am extremely happy for Ken.

So, if we look back over the last 30 years of racing at The Meadowlands, we have Sam McKee and Bob Heyden both in their rightful places in the Hall of Fame. Ken Warkentin is on his way this year. But for the last 30 years at The Big M, the faces of that television department have been a Mount Rushmore of harness racing and like that national treasure, there is a fourth face missing. For the last 30 years, Dave Brower has not only been a staple at The Meadowlands, but he too has been one of the faces and voices of harness racing. An odds-maker, television host and racing analyst, Brower isn’t a jack of all trades, he’s a master of each of them. In perhaps his most challenging role in racing, Brower was asked to sit in McKee’s chair as host of the Little Brown Jug broadcast, a role he is once again mastering this very week. An impossible position for anyone to be in, Brower has filled the cup of that Little Brown Jug broadcast to the very brim. Like Sam, Ken and Bob, Dave has carried himself with grace and class throughout his career. I was blessed at a young age to work alongside all four of them, to watch and learn from them and to listen to any advice they shared. I probably didn’t realize how blessed I was to spend those years working with those four men. After all, they are a Mount Rushmore. Congratulations Ken and next, let’s send Dave Brower to the Hall of Fame to take his rightful place alongside the other three faces and voices that filled The Meadowlands broadcast for the last 30 years.

## Treacherous Dragon downs Sea Silk in Jugette final heat

By Greg Reinhart

Treacherous Dragon, racing on Lasix for the first time, swept her \$25,000 elimination and the \$205,100 Jugette final for 3-year-old pacing fillies on Wednesday afternoon at the Delaware County Fair.

Sea Silk (Chris Page), who won the day’s other elimination, drew post one for the final and received big-time respect as the 3-5 favorite, as nobody left to her outside and the field lined up in post position order. Sea Silk got away with soft opening-half fractions of just 27 4/5 and 56 4/5, with fellow Ron Burke trainee Just Divine (Jordan Stratton) going first-up from third before the half.



CONRAD PHOTO

**Michelle Crawford (right) presents the Jugette trophy to trainer Nancy Takter and driver Dexter Dunn.**

Just Divine pressured Sea Silk to a 1:23 4/5 three-quarters but faded late on the final bend, allowing Dexter Dunn to angle out of the pocket with Treacherous Dragon. Once she had space, Treacherous Dragon had a powerful kick to go with it, and she out-finished Sea Silk to the wire, prevailing by a neck in 1:51. Sweet Treasure (Andy McCarthy) was third, giving trainer Nancy Takter a 1-3 finish in the final, and Trick Of The Light (Trace Tetric) and Galleria Hanover (Ronnie Wrenn Jr.) completed the top five.

“It was what it was. I wasn’t getting the front around Page,” Dunn said about his trip. “I was tossing out whether I was going to come out, but it was really depending when the outside flow came, and it came too early for me. We took a shot at getting some luck, and she got out late coming off the last turn, but she rallied very good in the stretch.”

Takter trains Treacherous Dragon, a daughter of Captaintreacherous bred by White Birch Farm, for owner Hot Lead Farm. Treacherous Dragon now has 12 wins from 23 lifetime attempts, and she pushed her earnings to \$709,863. She returned \$7.40 to win in the final as the 5-2 second choice.

“I kind of was expecting that [trip]. When she drew the two-hole, I figured that’s where she may end up, but she raced super,” remarked Takter. “She’s a very game filly, so if she just got room, I knew that she was going to go all the way to the wire.”

“I’ve got to think about [her upcoming schedule] a little bit because you can’t race on Lasix in Lexington, and obviously Lasix made a difference for her. We’ll have to go back to the drawing board, but she does have the Breeders Crown, and that’s the ultimate goal at the end of the year.”

### BLUEBIRD DOVE FLIES TO WORLD RECORD IN BUCKETTE

Bluebird Dove soared in a 1:52 2/5 world-record effort in the \$91,500 Buckette for 3-year-old filly trotters on Wednesday afternoon at the Delaware County Fair.

[READ MORE](#)



# Bulldog Hanover headlines power-packed Hoosier Friday card

By Jay Bergman

The top dog is coming to town.

Bulldog Hanover, fresh off a superb wire-to-wire performance in the Canadian Pacing Derby, ships to Indiana for Friday's \$200,000 Hoosier Park Pacing Derby (race 13). The world champion 4-year-old landed post two against a field of nine rivals and will have regular pilot Dexter Dunn in tow as he begins a fall campaign that promises to be exciting.

"We're shipping him in on Thursday," said Jack Darling, trainer and part-owner of the son of Shadow Play. Bulldog Hanover returns to Indiana where in August he captured the \$315,000 Dan Patch in what for him was a slow mile timed in just 1:48 1/5.

"We're going to go to Dayton next," said Darling, "and then eight days later The Red Mile."

With a 1:45 4/5 mile at The Meadowlands making Bulldog Hanover the fastest horse in harness racing history, Darling is hoping that everything aligns properly when he sends the horse to Kentucky in just a few weeks.

"I think can he go faster," Darling said bluntly, while understanding fully that to do that conditions need to be ideal on the one specific opportunity that Bulldog Hanover will have.

There's still the matter of the nine horses that will go up against Bulldog Hanover on Friday and Darling, a longtime veteran conditioner, still approaches the race with obvious caution.

"You know what can happen," Darling said of the pitfalls that can occur even when everything points to success. That said Bulldog Hanover has been the dominant force in the older pacing division this year and having landed a good post in Friday's 13th race at Hoosier Park would seem to give driver Dexter Dunn all the tools necessary to put the horse in a good spot.



DEAN GILLETTE

**Bulldog Hanover will do his best to set a new track record at Hoosier on Friday and perhaps The Red Mile in October.**

For much of the year Rockyroad Hanover (post seven) has been a serious rival to Bulldog Hanover but the 4-year-old miscued before the start in the Canadian Pacing Derby and lost all chance. Prior that he finished a solid second behind Bulldog Hanover in the 1:45 4/5 world-record mile taken on July 16 in the Haughton at The Meadowlands.

Catch The Fire, a 1:46 4/5 winner in a division of the McKee at The Meadowlands on Hambletonian Day, has been idle since and just qualified on September 17 at Scioto Downs in 1:49 3/5 preparing for the Hoosier Park Pacing Derby. Catch The Fire drew the rail and should be forwardly placed.

Last year's Dan Patch award winner Allywag Hanover has watched from the sidelines on many occasions this year while ineligible to race but the 5-year-old enters Friday's contest following a rugged third-place finish in the Ewart at Scioto Downs on September 10. Allywag Hanover drew post six.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



By Derick Giwner

Harrah's Hoosier Park will present a stellar 15-race card on Friday that features nine major races for multiple age groups and is highlighted by an appearance from the fastest Standardbred in history – Bulldog Hanover. The on-track action is complemented by a strong guaranteed wagering program that includes a \$20,000 Pick 4 (race 12), \$25,000 Superfecta (race 14) and \$15,000 Hoosier Hi-5 in race 15. Let's tackle the Pick 4 below.

## RACE 12: \$110,000 ELEVATION PACE

(3) COACH STEFANOS gets his first real taste of Grand Circuit foes following a strong run in the Indiana Sire Stakes. While his last race was arguably the worst he has thrown in some time, the Erv Miller trainee adds Lasix here which could certainly help the cause after already starting eight times this year. (5) ERVIN HANOVER was a complete no-show in the PA Sire Stakes final, but something tells me that perhaps there was some sickness in the Ron Burke barn that weekend because he started eight in those championships across two tracks that weekend and none finished in the money. This guy has talent and can rebound at a price.

## RACE 13: \$200,000 HOOSIER PARK PACING DERBY

If there is a Standardbred that can go with (2) BULLDOG HANOVER right now then I haven't seen him. The 4-year-old has toyed with his competition all year and if you are still picking against him, there is no cure for stubbornness. The one horse I would give an outside chance to stay with him is (1) CATCH THE FIRE, but although he qualified great, can he really be sharp enough having missed seven weeks? (9) DESPERATE MAN can grind with the best of them and could be one to consider for the exotics at a big price.

## RACE 14: \$220,000 CAESARS TROTting CLASSIC

When the money is down (10) BELLA BELLINI tends to show up with a big effort. She's already won from the second tier this year and you may actually get a touch of value on her off a couple of races where she wasn't exactly in a position to win. (6) FORBIDDEN TRADE is another horse who could offer bettors some fair value. The 2021 CTC winner picked up some confidence last week up north and is capable from on or off the pace. (1) CUATRO DE JULIO has behaved nicely in his last two starts and took care of business rather easily. From top to bottom this looks like a tougher spot and the price won't be right.

You'll quickly notice that there is no race 15 analysis and that is basically due to the combination of my lacking an opinion and the complete wide-open nature of the field. I feel confident knocking out just one horse but that simply makes no sense to save just \$2 on ticket cost.

.50 TICKET: 3,5 / 2 / 6,10 / ALL = \$22



Trainer Ron Burke has three of his charges in the Pacing Derby and This Is The Plan (post eight) is always a threat whenever he's behind the starting gate. The \$2.8 million winning 7-year-old was a solid second in the Ewart.

Co-featured on the multi-stakes program at Hoosier Park on Friday is the \$220,000 Caesars Trotting Classic (race 14) with 10 horses going to post and Cuatro De Julio listed as the 2-1 favorite having landed the pole position.

Trainer Greg Wright Jr. will send out last year's Trotter of the Year Jujubee from post seven and the conditioner is hoping for a better effort than we saw in his debut at Scioto Downs on September 2.

"Everything went wrong there," Wright said of the race. "I put the wrong shoes on him, and his feet were stinging. We scoped him after the race and there was plenty of mucous."



AMANDA STEPHENS

**Jujubee's poor finish in his last start was due to sickness and shoeing problems according to trainer Greg Wright Jr.**

Wright gave Jujubee, a 14-race winner as a 3-year-old in 2021, a few weeks off and was impressed with how he felt in a recent training mile. "I went a fast trip with him last Saturday and he felt back to himself," Wright said. Still with such a limited number of races this year's it's hard to say just where Jujubee will fit against a class of horses that are well seasoned.

With Jujubee's regular driver Andrew McCarthy committed to him, Cuatro De Julio saw Yannick Gingras in the bike for the first time on September 10 and the pair made easy work of the field in the \$200,000 Charlie Hill Memorial at Scioto Downs. The victory was the second straight for Cuatro De Julio after the 4-year-old son of Trixton had struggled with just one win in his first seven starts this season.

The Caesars Trotting Classic also marks the return of Bella Bellini to the racing wars against male competition for trainer Richard "Nifty" Norman.

"It's been a little tough with her keeping form with the races spread out like they have been over the last six weeks," Norman said. "She's coming into the race in good shape."

Bella Bellini last faced the "boys" in the Hambletonian Maturity at The Meadowlands on July 16, a race she also won from the second tier in world-record fashion. Dexter Dunn guides her from post 10 and the pair can follow Cuatro De Julio or any other horse in the first tier at the outset.

First post is slated for 6:15 p.m. on Friday night at Hoosier Park with six other stakes races scheduled to go for purses in excess of \$100,000 supporting the program.



## CAESARS TROT NIGHT AT HOOSIER!

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# ROAD TO THE MOHAWK MILLION



The Mohawk Million for 2-year-old trotters is scheduled for September 24 at Woodbine Mohawk Park. Nine owners paid C\$100,000 each to own slots for the C\$1,000,000 race. Each slot-holder may enter their own horse in the Mohawk Million or make arrangements with another owner to use the entry. In addition, a tenth spot in the million-dollar race was awarded to the winner of the William Wellwood Memorial on August 27 at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

Below is the field for the Mohawk Million along with fair odds and commentary as rated by DRF Harness Editor Derick Giwner.

## \$1,000,000 MOHAWK MILLION - RACE 10 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

**1 7/5 OH WELL (C--Muscle Hill) / Driver: Tim Tetrick**  
5-3-2-0 (1:53 1/5 - Med) / Trainer: Marcus Melander

Owner(s): S R F Stable / Hunterton & Partner Slot

Last Start: Won NJ Classic at The Meadowlands on 9/16

Giwner: Here is your Mohawk Million favorite! After being freshened up during August, the Muscle Hill colt came back and easily handled a decent field in the New Jersey Classic when he certainly could've come up short. It would be shocking if he didn't improve in his second start back from the six-week break in action and he's versatile enough to win on or off the pace.

**2 30/1 PROUD TO BE LINDY (F--Muscle Hill) / Driver: C. Christoforou**  
Record: 6-0-3-1 (2:02 1/5Q - Wbsb) / Trainer: John Bax

Owner(s): Bax Stable, Glengate Farms/Brad Grant slot

Last Start: 2nd in Champlain at Mohawk on 9/15

Giwner: She's winless in her career and seems like a stretch in this spot, but at least her most recent effort was encouraging. While she lost by more than six lengths it was to perhaps the best 2-year-old trotting filly in training and a horse that would've been one of the favorites had her owners decided to enter. A check seems like her ceiling here.

**3 3/1 OH LOOK MAGIC (C--Lookslikeachpndale) / Driver: M. Bax**  
Record: 7-4-0-1 (1:54 4/5 - Wbsb) / Trainer: John Bax

Owner(s): Bax Stable, Glengate Farms, The Cavalier Stable / Glengate slot

Last Start: Won Champlain at Mohawk on 9/15

Giwner: Bax trainee had some bad luck along the way but finally was able to truly shine last week in the Champlain with a new career-best effort. His early speed makes him dangerous here, but I can't help but think it also gets him in trouble in a spot like this one where multiple horses to his outside could be firing out. He can be viewed as a mid-priced contender to pull off an upset.

**4 6/1 YO BETH D (F--Helpisontheway) / Driver: Tr. Smith**  
Record: 7-5-1-0 (1:54 3/5 - HoP) / Trainer: Todd Luther

Owner(s): Black Magic Racing LLC / Doug Overhiser slot

Last Start: Won IN Sire Stakes at Hoosier on 9/13

Giwner: Team Luther bought this gal from Verlin Yoder and she has certainly kept her form, winning two of three starts and setting a lifetime mark. She was asked most of the stretch in her latest start and barely held on with just a 29 4/5 final quarter, but I'd expect her to be better this week. Indiana-bred is a contender on her best.

**5 11/1 HASTY BID (G--My MVP) / Driver: J. Macdonald**  
Record: 6-2-1-1 (1:55 3/5 - Wbsb) / Trainer: Paige Austin

Owner(s): 1000063663 Ontario Inc, Paige Austin / Steve Heimbecker slot

Last Start: 4th in Ont Sire Stakes Gold at Flamboro on 9/4

Giwner: This guy doesn't jump off the page as one of the leading contenders but maybe there is more than meets the eye here. A quick look into his past performances show a number of uncovered or "poor cover" trips. The one time he worked out a pocket journey the result was an easy win and it isn't like he laid over the field since he was 6-1. Perhaps there is some upset appeal here.

**6 4/1 WINNERS BET (C--Walner) / Driver: D. Dunn**  
6-3-2-1 (1:54 1/5 - Wbsb) / Trainer: Domenico Cecere

Owner(s): Lindy Farms of Conn, Robert Rudolph / Wellwood winner slot

Last Start: 2nd in Champlain at Woodbine Mohawk Park on 9/15

Giwner: Wellwood winner earned his way into this race. He was stuck in post 10 last week and was out the first quarter and during a backside brush to the front. Did that tough trip give him an excuse for getting caught late in the mile? Perhaps. His Wellwood win was off a perfect trip and he may wind up being a slight underlay come post time, though he can win if he improves a touch.

**7 25/1 SILLY ME HANOVER (F--Walner) / Driver: B. McCure**  
5-2-0-2 (1:56 1/5 - Wbsb) / Trainer: Luc Blais

Owner(s): Determination / Determination slot

Last Start: 3rd in Champlain at Mohawk on 9/15

Giwner: Filly had some late kick last time after nearly four weeks on the sidelines, so maybe there is some improvement coming. If anyone can get her to peak on Saturday it is trainer Luc Blais. She's clearly a longshot in here but one that could get into the exotics with improvement.

**8 30/1 DWS POINT MAN (G--My MVP) / Driver: L. Roy**  
Record: 7-4-2-0 (1:57 - FLD) / Trainer: Richard Moreau

Owner(s): Ecurie CSL, 91747998 Quebec Inc / Crawford Farms slot

Last Start: Won Ont Sire Stakes Gold at Flamboro on 9/4

Giwner: Gelding is perfect in two starts since shipping north and moving into the Moreau barn. That said, he may need to find as many as four to five seconds in order to compete on Saturday. He has early speed, so that's a plus.

**9 50/1 WHAT AN ANGEL (C--Archangel) / Driver: M. Macdonald**  
10-1-3-1 (1:59 - Wbsb) / Trainer: Desiree Jones

Owner(s): Gino Toscani / Gino Toscani slot

Last Start: 3rd in Champlain at Woodbine Mohawk Park on 9/15

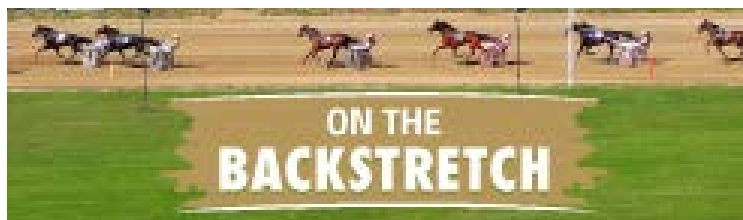
Giwner: Colt has started the most times in the field but hasn't had a ton of success. His last start where he displayed some speed at both ends of the mile was encouraging, but he has a long row to hoe from an outside post on Saturday and seems likely to be the longest shot on the board.

**10 10/1 CRANTINI (C--International Moni) / Driver: Y. Gingras**  
7-3-2-0 (1:56 2/5 - Phl) / Trainer: Megan Scran

Owner(s): Thestable Crantini Group / Thestable.ca slot

Last Start: 8th in Champlain at Mohawk on 9/15

Giwner: He's had some issues before around the gate and that's what happened in the Champlain last time. The good news is that he made up a ton of ground, most of it in a 27-second third quarter. The post offers up some obstacles to overcome but the ability seems to be there, as should the price at post time.



**BY DERICK GIWNER**

Steve Jones is on a long list of generational participants in harness racing. His father, Hall of Famer Hal Jones, started Cameo Hills Farm in 1982 and Steve has gone on to run and expand the operation along with his wife and sons.

With a broodmare band over 50 at the farm in New York and a strong presence as a stallion share owner, Jones has developed a winning profile that has produced a number of champions in New York and on the Grand Circuit.

In the weeks between the Goshen Yearling Sale and Lexington Selected Sale, Jones took the time to discuss his journey in the sport and what the future has in store for Cameo Hills Farm.



## BREEDER STEVE JONES

### How did you get started in harness racing?

My father was a manager of large farms growing up. He started out at Pickwick Farms in Ohio in the 50s and 60s. Then he became manager of Blue Chip Farm, then Hanover Shoe Farm after that, then he worked for Alan Levitt when he had Lana Lobell Farm. By the time I got out of college he was able to buy a place of his own so I went to work for him. The original property was 118 acres and there was no buildings or sheds or roads. We started from scratch and now it is 425 acres.

### Your dad started Cameo Hills Farm in 1982. Was he concerned at the time that it wouldn't succeed?

I don't think so. He had a lifetime of experience in the business and was very well respected. He had some luck with horses that he owned. The first horse he ever bought was a mare named Cameo Wick and that is what the farm is named after. He bought her when she was done racing for \$800. Her first foal was a free-for-all named Mike Pick. He raced against Meadow Skipper. Then years later when he was at Hanover he was able to buy a share of Albatross, so that was ultimately the seed money for the place.

### Was the growth of the farm from 118 acres to 425 the plan all along or a sign of its success?

There was no real plan. Our farm was bordered right next to Lana Lobell and that farm went away. We bought several parcels that at one time were part of Lana Lobell in New York. The last 150 to 200 acres were not continuous. There wasn't much of a plan except that we've done well and have been able to get bigger and upgrade our broodmare band along with buying shares of successful stallions. His hard work paid off and I'm trying to follow in his footsteps.

### How many broodmares do you currently have at Cameo Hills?

Mid 50s.

**When you took a chance to stand and support So Surreal did you ever think it would work out as well as it did?**

No. It was more of a favor for Ray [Schnittker] – we are friends – than a vision that I had. We bought 55% of him when he went to stud. I sold a few shares to get other people involved in the horse. He's done very well and continues to do well. He won one of the [NYSS] finals last year and in 2019 won three of them. For New York and for a horse that is modestly priced, it is kind of odd to produce the success that he's had from where he started. If you look at all the farms and try to find one like him – he only raced eight times – I don't think you'll find one.



DERICK GIWNER

**Steve Jones has bred a number of standouts including Hambletonian winner Deweycheatumnhowe.**

**The early returns have also been good on Huntsville, with Just Divine recently becoming a NY Sire Stakes champion and Early Action/Max Contract having Grand Circuit success. Did you consider him more of a sure thing going in?**

Yeah, I just thought there was an opportunity in New York for a horse of that caliber. American Ideal is a very good stallion but he is older and won't be around forever. Huntsville had a lot of ability. He's great looking and is well-bred, so he had everything going for him. We are glad that we could buy a piece of him when he was done racing. The first couple of crops have been terrific, those fillies you mentioned, and he has a colt [Tickertape Hanover] that qualified for the Metro this weekend. I expected him to do well and so far he has.

### What kind of car do you drive?

An older Mercedes convertible. I think it is a 2011. I like two-door cars because it is easier for me to get out of them.

### Favorite dinner meal? Snack?

Porterhouse for two, hash browns, creamed spinach and a bottle of red wine. For snack, strawberries and fresh tomatoes.

### What is your favorite track to visit?

The Meadowlands for a big day of racing or The Red Mile in the fall.

### What is your favorite big event in racing? Why?

I've been to the Prix d'Amerique and the Elitlopp but I'd probably pick the Hambletonian. I'd like to get to PEI to see the Gold Cup & Saucer and to see the Delaney [Wales].

### How often are horses or racing on your mind?

All the time.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 13](#)





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

## What is your favorite thing to do outside of the sport?

Play golf. I don't do it well but I do enjoy it.

## What is your favorite sport to watch? Team?

Basketball or Golf. I always liked watching Phil Mickelson because he is a fellow lefty but he is over the hill at this point. As far as team sports, I've followed the Mets since I was a kid.

## What is one thing about you most fans/bettors don't know?

That I work pretty hard. Most people see me at the sales laughing and carrying on but mostly I'm at the farm working.

## What is one word that describes harness racing for you?

Excitement.

## What was your best moment in harness racing?

When Pedigree Snob won the Sweetheart on Friday night, in 2008, and the next day Deweycheatumnhowe, who we bred, won the Hambletonian. That was a good weekend.

## You serve as a Trustee to the NY Breeding Development Fund, on the Board for the Hambletonian Society and as President of Goshen Historic Track. Are those positions a way to give back to the sport for you?

Yeah. I started at Goshen Track. They originally wanted my father for the position. I was very young – mid 20s – and didn't know very much but he wasn't interested or too busy to do it so he pushed the job on me. Since then I seem to be accumulating those non-paying jobs. I'm the Vice President of the Grand Circuit and a trustee for the Hall of Fame in addition to what you mentioned. I like to contribute if I can and sometimes it can be a pain but that is my little contribution.

## On the New York front, seeing as you also operate your farm in the state, do you think the Sire Stakes system, with some of the lowest finals purses in the sport, needs to be revamped?

I don't think so. The Kentucky money that is out there right now, there is an additional \$17 million that people are racing for. To me the divisions in Pennsylvania and New York are easier because of it. You have short fields and one division sometimes racing for good money. If we take money out of those to put money into one event where only the top five in one race get money and the rest get nothing. I don't see that as better. There is only so much money to go around. New York is also one of the few places where a leg at Batavia can go for \$110,000 and you don't see that in other places. Maybe it is something that can be reconsidered and the finals can be \$250,000 if that will make people feel better. To me it isn't that big of a deal.

## We are talking a few days after the Goshen Yearling Sale where you had the sale-topper and the overall numbers were way up. Can we look at that as a sign for what's to come in Lexington and Harrisburg?

I think so. The Thoroughbred sales are off to a good start as well and we usually follow what they do. The horses now are racing for more money and there is either the same number or fewer racing for it, so I don't know why the sales wouldn't be up. With all the short fields and big purses it makes sense that people would restock. You still have to have

what they want. Last year we did and sold five horses for over \$300,000. I don't think any farm did that, maybe Hanover Shoe Farm. You have to have quality stock and quality broodmares to do that.

## Speaking of Lexington, you have 25 horses selling. Can you give me the one that everyone will want and one that may go under the radar that people should take a second look at?

There is a Huntsville sister to Just Divine [HIP 33 I'm In Heaven]. I can't imagine that she won't sell very well. There is also a Greenshoe sister to Instagram Model [HIP 24 All Green]. There is a Huntsville colt out of Yellow Diamond [HIP 221 Ready To Shine] and my guess is he is the nicest looking horse in the sale. That mare has had a few, some that were ok and some that weren't, but if there is a better looking individual than him in the sale I'd like to see it.

## You currently run the farm with your wife Kathy. What does the future hold for Cameo Hills Farm say 10-20 years down the road?

Both of my sons, my oldest Tyler and youngest Jake, they both work full-time here at the farm. They are learning the business and learning to work. They seem to like what they are doing, which is the most important thing. I've been doing this my whole life and I like what I do. There is hard work involved and certain times during the year there are things to deal with, but our broodmare band is good and getting better all the time so I think we should be here for a long time to come.

## If you had the power to change one thing in the sport, what would it be?

Eliminate the silly Gural Rule. It is hurting the people who support the business and The Meadowlands the most. It has done nothing positive for the sport.

## How do you view the future of harness racing?

I'm optimistic about the future of the business and don't think it is going away. The experience of owning a good horse is something that you can't describe unless you've had one.

## What does the sport do when the older generation is no longer around to buy horses?

We may not know them yet but there are people one step younger than the older group who are buying, like Steve Heimbecker. There are people who are not 80 who are buying horses. I have been hearing gloom and doom about the business since the tax laws changed in the mid-80s. I was 25 then and I'm 62 now. There are people who want to own and race horses. Yes, it is a smaller business, fewer horses available and being bred, but the business is not going away.

## Time for the stretch drive.

**Best Horse you ever saw:** Niatross the best pacer and Muscle Hill the best trotter.

**Best Driver Ever:** John Campbell's résumé is sort of unmatched from a career standpoint. Of course he had tremendous opportunity to put it together with The Meadowlands opening up, but I don't think you could say one person stands above the rest. Bill O'Donnell, Tim Tetrick, Dexter Dunn; there are plenty of guys who are great. It is very subjective.

**Best Trainer Ever:** I think that Chuck Sylvester is pretty knowledgeable. I've seen what he has done with modestly-priced horses and in his prime he was the best.

**Lasix – Yes or No?:** I'm not really qualified to have an opinion on it but I would say yes.

**Favorite TV Show?:** NYPD Blue.

**Trotters or Pacers?:** I don't have a preference. One that can go fast.

# WOODBINE MOHAWK PARK



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - \$100,000 GTD ALL-STAKES PICK 5**

By Garnet Barnsdale

## RACE 6: \$525K SHES A GREAT LADY FINAL

(5) SYLVIA HANOVER's only loss so far came when she drew into the second tier and got out-tripped. She draws well here, and she gets the nod to prevail over a filly with an identical 5-1-0 record in six starts, (4) CHARLESTON. The latter was terrific in her elimination, racing uncovered on the rim yet still pacing a 53 3/5 back half while getting past to win. She will provide a stern challenge to the choice.

## RACE 7: \$350K ELEGANTIMAGE FINAL

(1) MON CHEVAL looked good winning a prep for this last week and I think she still will offer value in this spot; top call. (9) ADARE CASTLE was passively handled in that race and you know that will change here. She is a threat despite drawing wide. (11) WARRAWEE XENIA is probably the best in here, but with her gait issues she is risky starting from the second tier. What price will you accept?

## RACE 8: \$900K METRO PACE FINAL

(4) SAVE AMERICA paced a 26-flat third quarter racing first-up last week and he still drew off late, which is a rare feat for a rookie pacer. He could be a generational talent and I don't see him getting beat here.

## RACE 9: \$615K CANADIAN TROTTING CLASSIC FINAL

Great betting race here. I'll side with (6) KING OF THE NORTH to stalk the speed and roll by late. (3) KEG STAND comes off two narrow losses but his speed makes him dangerous. (7) BRANDED BY LINDY is sent out by connections that have had great success here and he is another one in with a good chance. Local hope (4) TWIN B ARCHIE has only missed the Exacta once this year and he has shown versatility. He should be in the mix. (9) PRETENDER traded decisions with the very good Temporal Hanover in the Beal and Jersey Classic and he is another that is hard to toss.

## RACE 10: \$1,000,000 MOHAWK MILLION

(6) WINNERS BET moves from the worst post to the best one here and he comes off a big effort in the Champlain that should have him primed to win this \$1 million race; top call. (1) OH WELL is the obvious threat and he has shown he can win on the front or stalking the leader; using.

**.20 Ticket: 4,5 / 1,9,11 / 4 / 3,4,6,7,9 / 1,6 = \$12**

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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

## RACE 9

(5) MAGICAL MISTRESS defeated NW30000L5's on September 1 and gets to drop out of that class here. I'll hope she gets overlooked a bit in the wagering and put on top.

-Greg Reinhart

**EMPIRE CITY.**  
CASINO  
YONKERS RACEWAY

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

## RACE 10

(10) VIVIAN'S DREAM threw in the first bad race of her career at the biggest moment in the NYSS Final. I'm going to chalk that up to a 24-hour overnight stay in detention that perhaps didn't agree with her and certainly didn't agree with many horse that day; can rebound.

-Derick Givner

**Harrah's**  
HOOSIER PARK  
RACING & CASINO

## RACE 9

(5) DREAMFAIR ARNIE B lays over Grassroots colts and he should have no problem beating these. He will be a single for me.

-Garnet Barnsdale



**WOODBINE**  
MOHAWK PARK

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

## RACE 7

(4) RAISED BY LINDY ran into a pair of horses last week that would be odds-on favorites in this spot. She seems to be sharp and drew a great post to race from on or off the pace. I expect Gingras to float away and try to be the last horse to the front.

-Givner



**WOODBINE**  
MOHAWK PARK

**FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES**

Mohawk Park Analysis

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Yonkers Analysis

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

DHP PPS

HARNESS EYE PPS

TRACKMASTER PPS

FREE PPS



INSTANT RACING UPDATES VIA TWITTER: @DRFHARNES





# NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

## CHALKY RESULTS IN STANDARDBRED FOR FRESHMEN AT DELAWARE

Heavy favorites Volume Eight and Bugaboo Lou emerged victorious from their Standardbred Grand Circuit tests for 2-year-old colts and geldings on Thursday afternoon at the Delaware County Fair.

[READ MORE](#)

## S I P SIZZLES TO WORLD RECORD MARK AT DELAWARE CO. FAIR

The stakes action on Little Brown Jug day at the Delaware County Fair began with a world record, as S I P won the \$88,600 Old Oaken Bucket for sophomore colt and gelding trotters in 1:51 2/5, becoming harness racing's fastest-ever 3-year-old trotter on a half-mile track.

[READ MORE](#)

## LITTLE BROWN JUG SOCIETY MEETS, ADDS BURKE TO BOARD

The Little Brown Jug Society held their annual meeting on Wednesday morning (9/21) at the Delaware County Fairgrounds' Ag Center.

The society accepted the resignation of George Teague, Jr. and named him as an Honorary Member. The society then voted to add trainer/owner Ron Burke to its twenty-five-member board.

[READ MORE](#)

## ONTARIO SIRE STAKES FINALS PURSES INCREASING IN 2023

Ontario Racing's Standardbred Improvement Program Committee is announcing a C\$720,000 increase to the purses for the 2023 Ontario Sires Stakes Gold Super Finals and Grassroots Championships, and raising the purse for Prospect Series legs to C\$8,000.

All eight Gold Super Finals will have a purse of C\$300,000 in 2023, a boost of C\$75,000 and a 33 percent increase from the C\$225,000 offered in 2022.

[READ MORE](#)

## ONTARIO SELECT YEARLING SALE IS SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 25th, Winbak Farm of Canada will host the third annual Ontario Select Yearling Sale. The sale will start at noon.

The sale preview will be held on September 24th from 10am-4pm.

Winbak Farm of Canada is located at 14709 Hurontario St, Inglewood, Ontario L7C 2E2.

The 2022 sale will feature 50 yearlings sired by top Ontario stallions including Archangel, Artspeak, Betterthancheddar, Bettor's Delight, He's Watching, Looklikeachpndale, McWicked, My MVP, Royalty For Life, Shadow Play, Sportswriter, Stag Party and The Bank.

This will be the first year for yearlings by McWicked and Stag Party. This will also be the first North American crop from The Bank.

The sale catalog is available online [here](#).

[READ MORE](#)

## ROSE RUN FARM-BRED FILLIES IN FULL BLOOM IN OBC AT DELAWARE

Rose Run Yolanda and Rose Run Yanae gave breeder Rose Run Farm a sweep of the two \$59,057 Ohio Breeders Championship clashes for 2-year-old trotting fillies on Wednesday afternoon at the Delaware County Fair.

[READ MORE](#)

## TRACK-RECORD MILE FOR VALLEY OF FEAR IN STANDARDBRED

Valley Of Fear picked up her first career stakes victory in impressive fashion on Wednesday afternoon at the Delaware County Fair, taking the \$41,531 Standardbred Grand Circuit event for rookie pacing fillies in a track-record time of 1:52 2/5. Brunella overcame post eight to win the companion \$46,331 tilt for trotters.

[READ MORE](#)

## LEXINGTON MIXED SALE CATALOGS 81 LOTS

The Lexington Selected Mixed Sale, which will get underway at 7 p.m. on

Saturday, Oct. 8 at the Fasig-Tipton Newtown Paddocks, has cataloged 81 lots that include broodmares, weanlings, stallion shares and racehorses.

[READ MORE](#)

## ATLANTA MAKING HER FINAL GRAND CIRCUIT ROUNDS

Multiple-award-winning female trotter Atlanta will see her career come to a grand finale at the conclusion of this season, but not before harness racing fans get the opportunity to meet the world champion mare as she travels the Grand Circuit for the final time.

[READ MORE](#)

## STANDARDBRED OWNERS OF MASSACHUSETTS RELAUNCH WEBSITE

With the 2022 Massachusetts Sire Stakes starting this Sunday (Sept. 25) at Plainridge Park, the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts have updated and relaunched both their website and Facebook page in order better cover all the racing action that will take place over the next month, as well as moving forward.

The website ([sominc.net](http://sominc.net)) now has a news page, updated links and is the "go to" spot for forms, eligibles, payments and information about breeding Standardbreds in the State of Massachusetts. The [Facebook page](#) will carry comprehensive news, pictures and links concerning the upcoming Massachusetts Sire Stakes, but will also be updated with news all year as the breeding season progresses. Both will be valuable resources if you have any interest or participation in harness racing in the Bay State.

There are 83 2-year-old and 76 3-year-old trotters and pacers eligible for this year's \$2.5 million (est.) Massachusetts Sire Stakes and the connections of all 159 horses have the following dates circled on their calendars.

Sunday (Sept. 25) - 3-yo first leg; Monday (Sept. 26) - 2-yo first leg; Sunday (Oct. 2) - 3-yo second leg; Monday (Oct. 3) - 2-yo second leg; Sunday (Oct. 16) - 2-yo third leg; Monday (Oct. 17) - 3-yo third leg; Monday (Oct. 24) - 2 & 3-yo finals.

-edited release (Tim Bojarski for Standardbred Owners of Mass.)

## DIAMOND CREEK ANNOUNCES OPEN HOUSE AND MORE FOR LEXINGTON

Diamond Creek will host its third Yearling Open House on September 26th at the Georgetown, Kentucky farm.

Prospective yearling buyers are invited to visit the farm from 10 - 1pm to view Diamond Creek's Lexington Selected Yearling Sale consignment. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

RSVPs can be sent by text to 717.638.7100. No RSVP is required to attend, but it is appreciated.

## Champions and Champagne returns

Last year's popular "Champions and Champagne" stallion show will take place during the 2022 Lexington sale week.

The show will take place in the brand new stallion barn on the Georgetown, Kentucky location, just 20 minutes from Fasig Tipton. It will feature the trotting stallions of Diamond Creek; Gimpanzee, Father Patrick, Creatine, Southwind Frank and Marseille. Visitors are welcome to come and view these champions up close while enjoying a glass of champagne. There will be plenty of opportunity for photos and up close time with the stallions.

"Champions and Champagne" will run from October 3 - 6, from 10-1pm. RSVPs (are not required, but appreciated) or any questions/issues during show week can be texted/whatsapp to Caroline at 717.668.5151.

For more information follow our [Facebook page](#).

## Another "Seaside" Party is on the horizon

On October 7th from 5-7pm, come party with Diamond Creek (Barn 7 at Fasig-Tipton) and enjoy cold drinks, tacos, and some beachy vibes before the sale! You can also find out more by following us on [Facebook](#).

-edited release (Diamond Creek Farm)