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SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

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Comments? Questions?
Email the Editor DGiwner@DRF.com

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Ups and Downs of a day with trainer Ron Burke



JESSICA HALLETT

The "Burke Brigade" was out in full force as they led It's Academic to the track for the MGM Yonkers International Trot under the watchful eye of Ron Burke (far left, rear).



EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Giwner

[@harnessveguy](https://twitter.com/harnessveguy)

Trainer Ron Burke is in a state of constant motion, which is no surprise since he is the main man behind the leading Standardbred barn in North America. From my position in the paddock at Yonkers Raceway on MGM Yonkers International Trot Day, it was hard to miss the 53-year-old trainer with an astronomical 14,000-plus wins to his credit pacing around with a cell phone in

his hand while never stopping to sit down for a rest, unless you count sitting in a jog cart while warming up horses.

While most stables may've had one or two horses vying for the \$3.3 million in purse money up for grabs on the September 9 afternoon card, the Burke stable had 10 horses spread through seven of the 11 races. The barn's earning potential was \$1.375 million and it was clearly a day of peaks and troughs, though the depths of despair when things didn't go as planned weren't very deep.

The day began with Burke picking up a pair of third-place checks in a couple of \$225,000 New

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3](#)

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SWEET LOU

THE YEAR OF "LOU"

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OCT 2-6, INCLUDING:



CONFEDERATE

HIP 15 - FROM THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF WORLD CHAMPION **DARLIN'S DELIGHT** (1:49.1, \$2,901,926), **DARLINONTHEBEACH** (1:48.1, \$1,068,648) AND TOP 3YO **CHRISTCHURCH** (1:48.2, \$219,587).

HIP 41- O/O **PLEASE TAKE OVER**, IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF **BYTHEMISSAL** (1:47.1, \$1,463,666).

HIP 258 - A HALF-BROTHER TO **HANDLELIKEAPORSCHIE** (1:50.1, \$287,507).

HIP 289- FROM THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF MULTIPLE STAKES WINNER **NO LOU ZING** (1:49, \$820,737).

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York Sire Stakes races with horses that could win but were hardly expected to do so. Then came the \$250,000 Bob Miecuna Trot where his M-M's Dream made an early winning move to the front, but along the way to victory, parked out her stablemate Hillexotic (fifth) in the process.

"It's the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat when your two horses are going at it against each other," said Burke, who is no stranger to that on-track occurrence.

M-M's Dream scored her sixth victory in nine starts this year and career win 24 from 30 starts despite racing on a surface smaller than seven-eighths for the first time in her career.

"I talked to the Amish people who trained her down and they told me [racing on the half-mile track] would be no issue. They trained her on a half her whole life and they said she would go around anything," said Burke, who put the 4-year-old's future in perspective. "I think next year she could be special; we'll see."

M-M's Dream will start next in the Miss Versatility final on Little Brown Jug Day (September 21) at the Delaware County Fair before heading to the Dayton Oaks at Hollywood Dayton on September 30.

One of the highlights of the day for Burke certainly came one race later when Chapercraz set a track record of 1:53 4/5 winning the 3-year-old colt and gelding NY Sire Stakes final. The son of Crazy Wow joined the barn in early June and Burke has high expectations for the distant future.



DERICK GIWNER

Trainer Alessandro Gocciadoro hinted he may bring Vivid Wise As back to the International Trot in 2024 as a 10YO.

winning as the 3-2 second choice, barn-mate Sevecheetah finished sixth as a longshot.

The highlight for Burke was supposed to be the \$1,000,000 MGM Yonkers International Trot as It's Academic, the richest older trotter in North America this year, took his shot against global competition. When the gate sprung, most people in the paddock were surprised that driver David Miller didn't have the 6-year-old forwardly placed. Instead the 3-1 second choice was on and off the cones in mid pack before uncorking a burst of speed down the backstretch the final time to engage the leader. It's Academic loomed boldly but lacked staying power and faded to fourth, beaten six lengths.

"David and I agree he drove badly but we just don't agree on where he drove badly. I thought he should've left and dropped in the two-hole.



(ABOVE) MIKE LIZZI; (BELOW) DERICK GIWNER

Ron Burke trainee Chapercraz set a track record for 3-year-old colt trotters at Yonkers Raceway on September 9. (below) Bythemissal and driver Yannick Gingras return from their Aria Pace victory.



He thinks he should've waited longer to make his move," said Burke, who brought up an interesting point that perhaps goes unnoticed by the general public. "It's Academic had a little trouble pulling out today; he didn't act like himself, so maybe he wasn't as good as he's been. Some horses, when you take them out of their routines and they aren't home for 30 hours [due to detention at Yonkers], it's different for them. He's a very anxious stud that likes to scream and I'm sure he was trying to show everyone what a clown he can be."

Burke said that his team would "go over" It's Academic before his next start on September 22 in the Caesar's Trotting Classic at Harrah's Hoosier Park to make sure "everything is copasetic with him."

Even though It's Academic only finished fourth in the International Trot, Burke hasn't given up on the possibility of sending the Brad Grant-owned near double millionaire to Paris in late January for the Prix d'Amerique.

"That is a bigger track where he can race his style more. I would still love to do it and I would go over early enough to give him time to adjust. I would go with him too, so that would make a difference as well, I hope," said Burke.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



GIMPANZEE

DON'T MISS 21 YEARLINGS BY THE
3-TIME BREEDERS CROWN WINNER
AT THE **LEXINGTON SALE OCT. 2-6, INCL:**

HIP 48 – O/O WORLD CHAMPION **MISSION BRIEF**
(1:50.2, \$1,599,587), FROM THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY
OF THE HOT, YOUNG SIRE **TACTICAL LANDING**.

HIP 118 – SECOND FOAL O/O O'BRIEN AWARD WINNER
EVIDENT BEAUTY (1:52.2, \$805,301).

HIP 286 – FIRST FOAL O/O HANNAH, FROM THE
IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF **YOU ATO DREAM**
(1:52.2, \$593,852) AND ZWEIG MEMORIAL WINNER
ARI FERRARI J (1:51, \$488,311)



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YEARLINGS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE LUCRATIVE
KENTUCKY SIRE STAKES (KYSS) BONUS!

Things were back on a high note after the \$250,000 Aria Invitational Pace when Bythemissal and driver Yannick Gingras were able to rate a very soft 30 3/5 third quarter before sprinting the final half in 55 seconds to win easily by three lengths. The 4-year-old gelding has now won seven of nine races on the year and a spectacular 21 of 26 career starts.

"I don't think there is a limit on what he can do; he's very versatile, he can race any way on any size track. He's a gelding so the only goal is to win races, not make a stallion, so any time there is money available we are going to try to get it," said Burke, who then spoke on the possibility that Bythemissal could break the 1:46 winning-time barrier. "For sure he can. If someone gets him down there in 1:18 he'll be right on their back. With him, I don't care because he's a gelding. If he goes in 1:43 it doesn't matter. I just want to have a long career with him and win a lot of money."

Bythemissal is scheduled to make his next appearance in the Hoosier Park Pacing Derby on September 22.

Burke's Yonkers racing day wrapped up with a fourth-place finish by Taste Of Honey in the final NY Sire Stakes event on the card. He finished that portion of his afternoon by seeing eight of his 10 horses get checks and earning \$473,000. Despite some ups and downs, he was happy (perhaps because we spoke after Bythemissal's win).

"Overall, when you win three races for over \$225,000 in a day you're happy," said Burke, whose day of watching races was hardly over. The trainer still had 19 horses in-to-go on Ohio Super Night at Scioto Downs as well as many other horses racing at other tracks in the evening. While most would think he'd be on the go with some of the drivers catching a plane for Ohio, Burke was staying put on the east coast so he wouldn't miss a minute of the action.

"If I went to Ohio I would miss a third of the card while in flight. I'll just go back to the hotel and watch or watch from The Meadowlands," said Burke.

International Trot Day News and Notes

While the initial general consensus on social media about the \$5 "Lucky" Pick 5 wager offered for four cards at Yonkers Raceway was negative, that the end result was a \$139,000 carryover and \$462,986 total pool on International Trot Day was intriguing and makes you wonder about the viability of offering a high-minimum wager on a more regular basis.

While I only go back 35 years or so, even my memory includes the \$3 base trifecta bet Yonkers used to offer. I don't recall liking it then but my bankroll was also a lot smaller in those days.

Whether you took a dive into the \$5 minimum pool or not, you have to give credit to the SOA of New York and Yonkers Raceway for their willingness to try something new. SOA President Joe Faraldo agreed that perhaps the \$5 minimum was too high and a lower number may make the wager more reachable for the "everyday Joe" while still providing the challenge necessary to induce large carryovers.

Hopefully Yonkers – or some other track – will embrace the idea for the long haul with perhaps a \$2 minimum. Personally I'd prefer it with a 75-25% split so those with the most winners get something each night. I'd also like to see a mandatory payout every time the pool hits \$100,000 because that really gets people talking about the bet.

And for those of you who don't like the higher minimums because of the investment needed to play, find some friends and make a community ticket. That's what I did, and so did others I know.

Huge Yonkers Handle

Powered by the huge "Lucky" 5 carryover, Yonkers posted what could be the highest handle it has seen in decades. For 11 races the total was a solid \$1.54 million according to totals on the USTA's results page. For historians of the game, the all-time record at Yonkers came on December 15, 1969 when the track handled \$3.2 million. As that was pre-simulcasting, you can bet it was all on-track.

Detention Barn

Trainer Ron Burke brought it up briefly above, but it is worth mentioning that having a detention barn in the paddock at Yonkers Raceway isn't exactly ideal. The thought of ensuring that every horse is competing on a level playing field is a good one, but simply taking horses out of their comfort zone certainly produces a new handicapping variable that is a big unknown.

It's My Show absent from KY Sire Stakes final on Sunday - Jug Bound!

By Derick Gwerner

When the entries for Sunday's octet of \$400,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes at The Red Mile were revealed on Wednesday afternoon (Sept. 13) a noticeable absentee was 3-year-old pacer It's My Show.

The North America Cup winner, who won a Sire Stakes leg on August 14 in a remarkable 1:46 4/5 over the Red Mile surface, was certainly eligible to compete, but perhaps the presence of divisional leader Confederate (8-7-1-0, 1:46) played into the decision by owners Richard and Joanne Young along with It's My Show's trainer Linda Toscano.

"That's a funny question," said Richard Young when asked if he is trying to avoid racing against Confederate. "Did I duck Confederate to enter a \$1 million race of which I'm eligible and where I'll be one of the favorites? I can't win. I was criticized for not putting up \$83,000 to enter in the [Meadowlands] Pace. Now I'm likely to be criticized for entering a race that I'm eligible for that goes for a \$1 million. We enter the races that are the most logical and with the best possible rate of return. We don't choose to not enter a race because of a horse."

It is worth noting that a third-place finish in the Little Brown Jug, which has a total purse for both heats of \$1,000,000, is worth a similar amount as finishing second in the Kentucky Sire Stakes final.

"We just couldn't resist the opportunity to compete in the Little Brown Jug," said Richard Young, who earlier was against the idea. "When you think about it, winning the Jug is a once in a lifetime opportunity, not just for me but also for Linda."

It's My Show has won eight of 11 starts in 2023 and sits third in earnings among all horses this year with \$623,584.

Entries for the 78th Little Brown Jug, which will be contested on Thursday, September 21, are due this weekend. The card will also feature a number of Grand Circuit races for horses of all ages.



9/15 Ohio Jug Sale Sale starts at 10:00 a.m.

#206, CENTER STORY, P, C, OH

Well Said-Art Center-Art Major

• Dam is a full-sister to Art Two D Two, p, 1:51.1f (\$422,035)

#219, FIRE AT DAWN, P, C, OH

Fear The Dragon-Before Dawn-Cambest

• 1/2-brother to Golden Tree, p, 1:55.4h (\$113,824)

#224, FAST TALKING GUY, P, C, OH

Well Said-Better Speed-Betterthancheddar

• Dam is a 1/2-sister to Powerful Mist, p, 1:50f (\$618,631)

#260, FEARLESS LIZZY, P, F, OH

Fear The Dragon-Elizabeth Spencer-Western Ideal

• Dam is a full-sister to Vintage Master, p, 1:48.1f (\$2,160,953)

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ALWAYS B NAUGHTY (1:48.2, \$244,244) o/o
OOH SHESA BADLANDS.

HIP 918 – A half-brother to World Champion
CHARLIE MAY (1:47.1, \$1,989,185) o/o
STIPPLE HANOVER.

HIP 938 – A full brother to OSS Champion
and Breeders Crown runner-up
GULF SHORES (1:50.3, \$653,270)
o/o **WESTERN DRAG**.

HIP 964 – A full brother to **SLING SHOCK**
(1:49.3, \$383,062) from the immediate family of
Little Brown Jug winner **CAPTAIN BARBOSSA**
(1:47.1, \$644,389) o/o **SHOCKING BEAUTY**.



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Metro hopeful Legendary Hanover living up to his name

By Jay Bergman

You would think there would be high expectations when Hanover Shoe Farms names one of their foals Legendary Hanover. It probably wasn't the name but the pedigree that attracted a strong amount of bidding at the Harrisburg sale last fall.

Roughly 10 months later, the Huntsville-sired Legendary Hanover enters one of two C\$40,000 Metro Pace eliminations on Saturday night at Woodbine Mohawk Park and appears to be meeting predictions, at least thus far. Undefeated in five lifetime starts with two stakes victories already to his credit at the 1:50 level, Legendary Hanover appears poised for greatness.

Trainer Anthony Beaton has guided the forces of Legendary Hanover since being sent north by Casie Coleman in May.

"I was really fortunate to get this colt along with a lot of other nice ones from Casie," said Beaton. "He was very professional from the first time he arrived."

Beaton trains Legendary Hanover's half-brother Linedrive Hanover and sees similarities between the two as well as differences.

"Both horses love to do their work. I took Legendary Hanover out for a jog at 8:00 and he was still full of himself when we hit the track at 11:00," said Beaton.

As for other comparisons: "Both are very quick-footed; Legendary is a bigger horse."

Coleman purchased Linedrive Hanover for \$75,000 when the Betting Line-sired colt sold in 2019. With his success the price for his Huntsville-sired half-brother escalated to \$260,000, with Beaton as an interested party.

"I looked at him and liked him, but he was out of my price range," said Beaton.

Legendary Hanover gave Beaton and driver James MacDonald a vote of confidence following his victory in a Champlain division last Saturday (September 9) at Woodbine Mohawk Park. The colt paced to his second 1:50 mile, but it wasn't the time that impressed.

"James [MacDonald] told me that he knew the horse that was chasing him [Chain Gang] was a good one because he had driven him and felt good that he was able to hold him off," said Beaton.

Those two will once again hook up in the seventh race and first Metro elimination for juvenile pacing colts and geldings. Legendary Hanover landed post eight while Chain Gang drew post four.

Going a pair of 1:50 miles in your first five starts was not something Beaton was looking to do with Legendary Hanover.

"I was out of town [August 12] for the Dream Maker final and I didn't think he needed to go that much to win the race," said Beaton. "But when I saw him again the following Monday, he was full of himself."

Eight horses drew into the second C\$40,000 Metro elimination heat (race 9) with multiple stakes winner Mirage Hanover (post 2) looking for his fifth victory in his last six starts for trainer Scott McEneny. The Bettor's Delight-sired colt drew post two coming off a 1:51 2/5 score in an Ontario Gold event on September 2 at Woodbine Mohawk. Mirage Hanover will be surrounded by a pair of colts with very similar bloodlines. Captains Quarters (post 1) is a Captaintreacherous colt from a full sister to the dam of 2019 Metro winner Tall Dark Stranger. Total Stranger (post 3) is a full brother to the 2019 champion. Captains Quarters has one win in three starts but shows encouraging form, coming from well off the pace into quick final halves. Total Stranger doesn't seem to have the same killer instinct as his full brother but has managed four second-place finishes in five starts all against stakes company this year.

Just 13 fillies entered for the She's A Great Lady juvenile filly pace and Beaton is hoping his Elodie Hanover is good enough to qualify for the rich final.

"She's been knocking on the door," said Beaton of the Betting Line-sired filly that landed post three in the second C\$35,000 She's A Great Lady elimination (race 3).

"She's been chasing some good ones and holding her own."

Following a victory in the Whenuwishuponastar final (August 12), Elodie Hanover finished third behind Caviart Belle in the Eternal Camnation (August 26).

"Nancy Takter's filly [Caviart Belle] has been exceptional," said Beaton, who hopes his filly can stay close to her and earn a finals berth.



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

Legendary Hanover is undefeated in five career starts.

Caviart Belle landed post six in the field of just seven fillies.

Champlain winner It's A Love Thing drew post six in the first She's A Great Lady elimination (race 1) and appears the one to beat with recent Pennsylvania Sire Stakes runner-up My Girl EJ (post 5) likely to be her main rival in the field of six fillies.

The stakes-filled program includes elimination races for both the Canadian Trotting Classic for sophomore colt and geldings and the Eleganti-mage for sophomore trotting fillies. The feature of the night will be the C\$220,000 Milton Stakes final, with all nine that entered represented in the evening's 10th race.

With the 2022 Milton champion Test Of Faith now retired it would appear as if Silver Label, a 4-year-old Bettor's Delight-sired mare, is the one to beat. One of two Nick Gallucci-trained mares in the stand-out field, Silver Label has won eight of her 14 races this year including victories in the Lady Liberty and Perfect Sting at The Meadowlands this summer. Stablemate Prohibition Legal (post 5) needed extra time to regain her form this year but the Big Jim-sired mare was explosive in her second start back off the shelf with a 1:50 score, getting the best of her stablemate (Silver Label) in an Open affair at Woodbine Mohawk Park on September 1.

Grace Hill captured the Roses Are Red earlier this season at Woodbine Mohawk Park and hopes to regain her winning stakes form. A winner in seven of 10 starts this year for trainer Virgil Morgan Jr., Grace Hill prepped for the Milton with a 1:52 winning qualifier on September 8 over this surface capped off with a 25 3/5 final quarter.

Mikala, the winner of the Dorothy Haughton at 41-1, drew post two for the Milton with George Brennan coming north for the drive. Mikala drew the same post in last year's Milton and finished second in that race.

Not to be overlooked in the strong Milton field is local favorite So Much More. The 7-year-old daughter of Big Jim has an astonishing 66 wins during her racing career. So Much More drew post three.

First post for Saturday's 12-race Woodbine Mohawk Park program is listed for 7:10 p.m. with the track offering a mandatory Hi-5 Jackpot Payout in the 12th race with a starting pool of \$583,607.95.

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Plenty of stallions and pedigree in Ohio Selected Jug Sale



AT THE TRACK

By Darin Zoccali [@AtTheTrack7](#)

Little Brown Jug week is nearly upon us and that means the Ohio Selected Jug Sale is on tap this Friday (Sept. 15).

Last year, 266 yearlings went through the sales ring, bringing a total of \$7,478,500 in sales. At present there are 273 yearlings scheduled to sell in this year's sale.

Downbytheseaside will continue to lead the Buckeye charge as he will see 32 of his offspring walk through the sales ring this Friday. Among them, HIP 7 Downthejerseyshore is a half-sister to Major Millie and Always B Laughin, a pair of six-figure earners from the maternal family of Ideal Weather, a multiple stakes winner of more than \$850,000 who is likely to catch the eye of buyers.

HIP 138 Spring By The Sea is a half-sister to Zoe Ellasen, a near half-million earner and a stakes winner, and is from the family of the double-millionaire Bettor's Edge.

HIP 152 Swingtowntown figures to be one of the more sought-after yearlings in the sale. Out of stakes winner Swinging Beauty, an earner of nearly \$900,000, he is a half-brother to Whichwaytothebeach, an earner of \$663,000 and Captain Barbossa, a stakes-winning earner of \$637,000.

The same could be said for HIP 158 Sees The Bay, who is a full brother to What An Ocean View, who sold at this sale last year to Ron Burke for \$120,000.

HIP 252 Seasing Gray is a half-brother to \$638,000 earner Gratian Hanover, who is a 34-time winner, as well as quarter-million earner Gadsen Hanover.

Last year, Downbytheseaside had 41 yearlings sold with an average of \$45,780, and while there are nine less yearlings for him this year, he is certainly positioned to challenge that average once again.

Volstead had the sales-topper in 2022, a filly that cost \$170,000. This year he is represented by six yearlings at the sale.

One of them is HIP 221Madame Berdie, a half-sister to Sweet Thing, a 16-time winner of \$238,009 and multiple Pennsylvania Sire Stakes legs.

Volstead will have a tough time matching his average price of \$67,333 from 2022, but he once again sends out a select group of yearlings that should catch the eye.

Staying on the trotting side, What The Hill and Uncle Peter are once again well-represented in the sale.

Uncle Peter has 23 yearlings in the sale and one of the more notable of the group is HIP 59 Peterbuttercupcake, a filly out of ML Cupcake who was the Ohio 2-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year in 2010. She has produced three six-figure earners.

HIP 87 Perfect In Pink is an Uncle Peter filly out of the mare Pink Ribbons, a \$213,000 earner on the racetrack, which makes this lass a



DEAN GILLETTE

Sons and daughters of Downbytheseaside will be in the spotlight as more than 30 will sell on Friday at the Ohio Selected Jug Sale.

half-sister to Datsyuk, a \$473,000 earner. This filly's full-sister sold at this sale last year to Joyce McClelland and Larry Wills for \$105,000.

HIP 150 Relatively Courtney is a kin to a filly that sold to The Stable, ca last year for \$57,000 and the dam is a kin to several impressive racehorses, including the 44-time winner Hldontghttoyurdrms.

HIP 162 My Next Chapter is a full brother to Do What's Right, who sold for \$40,000 in this sale last year to Greg Luther and has already been second in an Ohio Sire Stakes leg this year.

The last and certainly not least Uncle Peter yearling to mention is HIP 186 Action Kas. He is a full brother to the 2- and 3-year-old Ohio Trotting Colt of the Year from 2019 and 2020 and the World Champion Action Uncle. The dam, Action Broadway, was a millionaire and a Dan Patch winner as Trotting Mare of the Year in 2011.

What The Hill sends out the most yearlings of any stallion in the sale, represented by 38 in total. Last year, What The Hill had 33 yearlings

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10](#)

Don't miss the Ohio Harness
Horsemen's Association coverage of

LITTLE BROWN JUG WEEK

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2022 LITTLE BROWN JUG CHAMPION - Bythemissal

bring an average of \$35,152 and is represented very strongly once again. In fact, if you asked me to pick one stallion who could potentially steal the show in Ohio this year, my answer would be What The Hill.

For What The Hill, HIP 48 The Mighty Maxine catches the eye. She's a full sister to the World Champion and Ohio 2-year-old Trotting Colt of the Year from 2021, The Mighty Hill. That colt earned \$438,000 on the racetrack, amassing 14 wins in the process. Another full-sister to this filly sold at this sale last year to Christopher Beaver for \$35,000.

HIP 53 DJ Watson is a colt and the first foal out of a mare in Miss Kendra D who earned \$84,000 while being stakes-placed from the family of Hambletonian Oaks winner Bar Slide.

HIP 68 Bluebirdtuxedohill is a colt that is a half-brother to Date Night, stakes-winning earner of \$447,000 out of a mare who is a kin to Day For Night, the 3-year-old Trotting Filly of the Year in 2000.

HIP 71 Stateline Nova is a What The Hill filly with a mighty pedigree, being out of the mare Zorgwijk Nova, a winner of over \$540,000 on the racetrack. The pedigree features one of the real throwback names of Ohio trotters in the maternal side of the family in Overcomer.

HIP 75 Guns And Rosies is a colt whose dam One More Rosie is a full sister to Riveting Rosie, a \$900,000 earner who was the Trotting Filly of the Year in Canada at ages 2 and 3, and won multiple stakes races including the Peaceful Way and Ontario Sire Stakes Super Final. This is the first foal from the mare.

HIP 118 Jet Wings is a What the Hill colt with some recent Ohio success on his catalog page. He is a full-brother to Jet Hill, a World Champion and multiple Ohio Sire Stake leg winner that earned over \$300,000.

HIP 143 Massive Hill is a colt out of Striking Volo, who is a half-sister to Stroke Play, the magnificent world champion millionaire who was the Dan Patch 3-Year-Old Trotting Filly Champion of 2003 and O'Brien Award winner as Older Trotting Mare of the Year in 2004.

HIP 222 Bravo Hill is a very intriguing What The Hill colt that is the first foal out of the mare Bessie, who was a half-million dollar earner on the racetrack and reached the winner's circle 49 times in her incredible career, which featured the Pennsylvania fair circuit.

Lastly, HIP 265 Hill Love Me, which is a filly that is a kin to John Dutton, a \$260,000 earner that won multiple legs of the Ohio Sire Stakes at ages 2 and 3, and this filly's half-sister Speed Dating (Long Tom) sold at this very sale last year to Richard Gutnick for \$60,000.

As far as other stallions, a yearling that caught my eye was HIP 144 Rose Run Ari, a son of Triumphant Caviar out of the mare Rose Run Keepsake. She was the Champion Trotting Filly in Ohio at ages 2 and 3 in 2008 and 2009, and an earner of \$436,000. This colt is already a full-brother to Rose Run Yolanda, last year's 2-year old Trotting Filly of the Year in Ohio, and at this sale last year this colt's full-brother sold to Greg Luther for \$80,000.

HIP 106 Catch The Cowboy (Catch The Fire) is a half-sister to Cowboy By The Sea, a Downbytheseaside colt who sold last year for \$127,000 to The Stable.ca, while similarly HIP 148 When In Chrome is a Catch The Fire colt that is a half-brother to Rip Tide (Downbytheseaside), who sold to Ron Burke last year for \$100,000. It will be interesting to see how this pair fares moving from Downbytheseaside to Catch The Fire.

The Ohio Selected Yearling Sale has no shortage of potential, with popular stallions returning, strong catalogs, and brother and sisters to some big-priced babies filling up the pages as well. The 2023 sale is shaping up to be one of their best!

Tattoo Artist to stand stud in 2024?

DRF Harness is hearing that Tattoo Artist, a 6-year-old son of He's Watching, will be standing stud at Deo Volente Farms in New Jersey for the 2024 breeding season.

A career winner of more than \$2.5 million, Tattoo Artist owns a stellar 36 wins in 89 starts. His 2023 stakes wins include the Canadian Pacing Derby at Woodbine Mohawk Park and the Jim Ewart Memorial at Scioto Downs.

Currently trained by Dr. Ian Moore for the ownership group of Let It Ride Stables, F Cannon, Diamond Creek Racing and Bottom Line Racing, Tattoo Artist has a number of stakes left this year including the Dayton Pacing Derby, Breeders Crown at Hoosier Park and Fanduel at The Meadowlands.

Karl aims to make more noise in KYSS final

By Ken Weingartner

If actions speak louder than words, Karl's performances to begin his career virtually shout. The 2-year-old male trotter has won all three of his races, by a total of 15-1/4 lengths, and his 1:52 1/5 triumph last month at Lexington's Red Mile is the fastest of the season for freshman trotters.

On Sunday, Karl will look to continue his winning ways when he meets nine rivals in the \$400,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes Championship Series final for 2-year-old male trotters at the Red Mile. The colt will leave from post one with Yannick Gingras driving for trainer Nancy Takter and is the even-money favorite on the morning line.

"He hasn't been tested yet, but that's going to come at some point," Gingras said. "He'll be tested this weekend, and in the future. But so far so good. Every start he's had so far, he's done it easily and had something left at the end each time. At some point we'll get to the bottom, but we haven't been there yet."

After qualifying once, winning in 1:54 4/5 at The Meadowlands, Karl made his pari-mutuel debut in a division of the Kindergarten Classic Series on Aug. 4 at The Big M. The colt rolled to victory by six lengths in 1:54 1/5, with a 26 3/5 last quarter-mile.

"Nancy had mentioned him a few times in the spring and early summer and said they were taking their time with him, but that they thought they had a nice horse," Gingras said. "I knew he had trained a pretty good mile before I qualified him, so when he went in (1):54 4/5, it wasn't a big surprise. He qualified really good, and I knew that day I had so much left in the tank."

In his second start, a leg of the KYSS Championship Series at the Red Mile, Karl went to the front from post seven and posted a seven-length win with his 1:52 1/5 mile. On Sept. 3, in the last preliminary round of the Championship Series, he sat third for the opening three-quarters of a mile before following a horse around the last turn and marching home in 27 1/5 to win by 2-1/4 lengths.

"He got a little excited on me the day he won in (1):52 1/5," Gingras said. "I was more a passenger, I didn't really want to go that fast, but he got a little anxious. In his last start, it was slow fractions, but I sat him in the hole anyway. He was nice and relaxed and was really happy with that. He followed cover in the last turn and kicked home like a nice horse in the stretch. That's all you can ask for."

Karl, a son of Tactical Landing-Avalicious, sold for \$135,000 at last fall's Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. He is owned by Christina and Nancy Takter, Black Horse Racing, Crawford Farms Racing, and Bender Sweden. He was bred by Crawford Farms.

"He doesn't have a whole lot of racing experience, but he's a smart horse, and ability-wise he's right there," Gingras said. "He's got crazy speed. He's shown it already, that he's got that 26 speed in him. Not many trotters have that, let alone 2-year-old trotters."

"He's also strong. He can carry (his speed) a long way. He's got a great gait, an efficient gait, that covers a lot of ground, and he's got a great attitude. I really like him and I'm excited to drive him. He's got the tools, now he's got to do the job. We'll let the horse do the talking."

The Red Mile hosts all eight Kentucky Sire Stakes Championship Series finals Sunday afternoon. Three returning champs will be in action — 3-year-old male trotter French Wine, 3-year-old female trotter Special Way, and 3-year-old female pacer Twin B Joe Fresh — as well as the sport's No. 1-ranked horse, 3-year-old male pacer Confederate.

In addition, the finals will include seven horses, including Karl, that led their divisions in points: 2-year-old filly trotter Allegiant, 2-year-old male pacer Better Is Nice, 2-year-old female pacer Geocentric, 3-year-old male trotter Tactical Approach, 3-year-old female trotter Mambacita, and 3-year-old female pacer Strong Poison.

Geocentric is undefeated in six lifetime starts and already has a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes title to her credit. French Wine also won a PASS crown this season, as did 3-year-old filly trot finalist Railee Something, while Special Way and Better Is Nice both were champs in New Jersey. Tactical Approach, another Takter trainee, won the Hambletonian last month.

Racing begins at 1 p.m. (EDT).



CONGRATULATIONS

2023 Ohio Sires Stakes Champions



CLEVER CODY
2-Year-Old Colt Pacing Champion



WICKED CHARACTER
3-Year-Old Colt Pacing Champion



DAISY'S STAR
2-Year-Old Filly Pacing Champion



TARAPASTA
3-Year-Old Filly Pacing Champion



TENNESSEE TOM
2-Year-Old Colt Trotting Champion



GRAND REVIVAL
3-Year-Old Colt Trotting Champion



SUGAR INSTEAD
2-Year-Old Filly Trotting Champion



ROSE RUN YOLANDA
3-Year-Old Filly Trotting Champion

From Hoosier Park to The Red Mile, Wallin has talent in play



JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman [BergmanJay](#)

Trainers tend to have a belief in their own horses that is unique and not always in line with past performances. Trainer Lucas Wallin wasn't lacking confidence when he sent out his juvenile trotting filly in last Friday's (September 8) New Jersey Classic at The Meadowlands. Though the daughter of Walner was at the back of the pack and seemingly out of contention on the final turn, Wallin himself was confident.

"I knew she would finish strongly," said Wallin. "I didn't know if she could win the race, but I would have been happy with a second or third."

Wallin saw Soiree Hanover roll past a solid group of fillies on her way to a career-best 1:53 1/5 victory, covering the final quarter in a snappy 26 4/5 and rapidly putting the first-year filly in the conversation among the leaders in the division.

"She came out of the race great," said Wallin. "I'm going to train her lightly on Tuesday (September 12) and if she's good we'll enter her in the Doherty."

True to his word Wallin not only put Soiree Hanover in the Doherty but stablemate The Moment as well. With earnings being the criteria to gain admission to the \$400,000 contest, The Moment's third-place finish in the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes final at Pocono earned her a spot in the Doherty as well.

Wallin wasn't picking his favorites between the two entered on Friday or the one that will race on Sunday in the \$400,000 Kentucky Championships by the name of Dolce Amara.

"I think all three have potential," said Wallin, not wanting to overstate the power within his stable.

On the other hand, it's safe to say that Soiree Hanover has been a favorite from the start.

"We loved her as a yearling. She showed talent from the time we broke her," said Wallin.

The trainer purchased Soiree Hanover for \$110,000 and she's already earned \$192K in just five starts, with three wins and two seconds in five races, all over the Meadowlands surface. Her trip to Indiana's Hoosier Park for Friday's contest will be a first test against Grand Circuit talent, but she's done nothing wrong thus far.

"I don't tell the drivers how to drive," said Wallin, who admitted that he only drives these days when looking to fine tune a young horse while in a race. "But I do like to see my horses race from off the pace because I think it helps to give them confidence."

Soiree Hanover may need to show some speed on Friday, having drawn post nine in a field of 10 with a trailer. The Moment, a son of Father Patrick, landed post three and her trainer is happy with her progression.

"I think the return to the big track will be good for her," Wallin said of The Moment, a Kindergarten leg winner at The Meadowlands on August 4. "She has raced well but hasn't drawn well and it's tough to close from far back at Pocono."

The Moment trailed at the half in the September 2 \$252,000 Pennsylvania Sire Stakes final over the five-eighths surface and finished third beaten just a half-length.

The Doherty field is rather deep, with Peaceful Way third-place finisher Gracful Design (post 1) in prime position after the draw. The Nancy Taktier-trained Cheval Rapide appeared to be one of the better fillies in training after her first few starts at The Meadowlands. The well-bred Father Patrick-sired lass faded badly in her Peaceful Way trial on August 19 at Woodbine Mohawk Park and returns for the first time in four weeks with Lasix added.

There's considerable local talent in the Doherty, with trainer Jay Hochstetler sending out two. The Indiana-bred Ponda Title (post 4) is looking for her sixth career win in just her eighth start. The multiple-Sire Stakes leg winner is a daughter of Muscle Massive. Miss Dior (post 8) is a filly from the first crop of Six Pack that had been racing in the top tier of the Kentucky program with limited success but has won her last two starts over the Hoosier surface.

This will also be the first year that the Peter Haughton Memorial is raced away from The Meadowlands and the \$420,000 contest drew a

strong field of 10 headed by William Wellwood Memorial champion T C I. Nearly perfect with seven wins in eight starts this season, T C I arrives in Indiana fresh off a sparkling 1:54 4/5 effort in capturing the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes for freshman trotting colts and geldings. Ron Burke trains the son of Cantab Hall.

The Ohio-bred Spaaaaanzano had his five-race winning streak broken in the September 9 Ohio Sire Stakes final at Scioto Downs, but that came after the gelding missed a few weeks due to sickness. Spaaaaanzano has earned \$253K this year for trainer Chris Beaver and drew post 10 in the second tier on Friday.

Mars Hill (post 3) hopes to avenge his defeat at the hooves of T C I in the Wellwood for trainer Tony Alagna in the Haughton. A \$325,000 yearling at last year's Lexington-Selected auction, Mars Hill has won three of his five career starts.



LISA PHOTO

Soiree Hanover starts from post nine in Friday's Jim Doherty Memorial at Harrah's Hoosier Park.

Trainer Marcus Melander has a two-pronged entry in the Haughton, with Gimpanzee's full brother Thinker Monkey (post 6) and recent Pennsylvania Sire Stakes runner-up Security Protected (post 8) in the lineup.

Wallin will be in Lexington Sunday for a host of stakes events, including

the two championships for juveniles trotting fillies and colts. The aforementioned Dolce Amara was an impressive 1:54 1/5 winner in the \$80,000 Kentucky Championship leg at The Red Mile on July 31. She last raced on August 14 and her trainer is optimistic.

"She got sick and was unable to make the New Jersey Sire Stakes final," said Wallin. Unfortunately Dolce Amara again fell victim to sickness in the last leg of the Sire Stakes but Wallin believes she's good again and hopes for a solid effort on Sunday.

On the colt side, Duke Of Walner has shown the talent to compete at the highest level. Following a first and second in legs of the Kentucky Sire Stakes, Duke Of Walner made a miscue in the September 3 leg but Wallin didn't seem that concerned.

"We've made some changes," Wallin said after revealing that Duke Of Walner touched a knee in the race. Duke Of Walner was a \$90,000 yearling at last year's Lexington auction.

"It's going to be tough for him against Karl," Wallin said, "But I think he can go with him."

Karl has been outstanding this year thus far for trainer Nancy Taktier, winning easily on two occasions over the Red Mile surface.

With a stable made up primarily of 2-year-olds at the time, Wallin believes he's got a few more quality horses that have yet to surface on the national scene. Mosquito has been a bit late to the game but has blossomed in the last few weeks. A \$250,000 yearling and fifth foal from Amour Heir-ess, Mosquito's four previous siblings were all stakes winners. Mosquito finished second in the New Jersey Classic behind a more seasoned Sig Sauer.

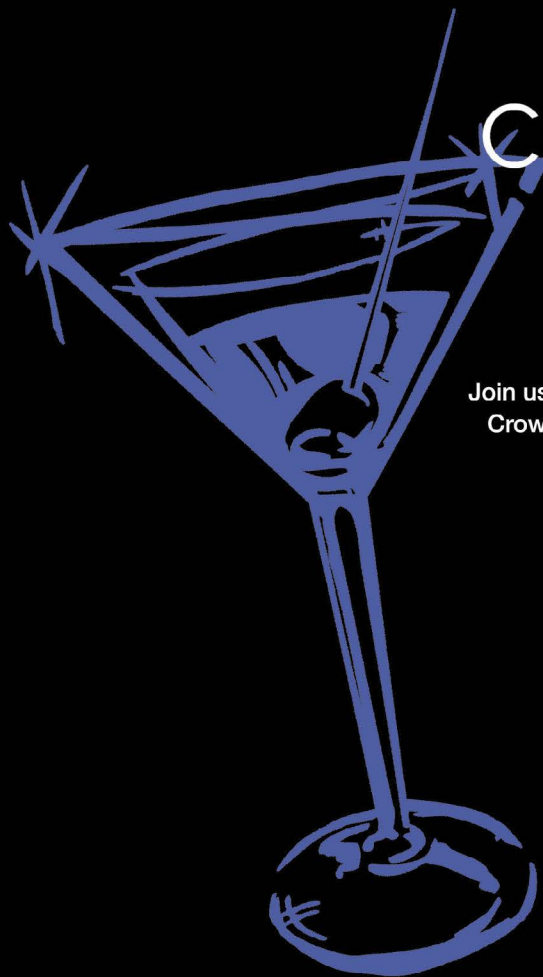
"I have to give credit to the owners for having the patience and waiting on him," said Wallin. "He just wasn't strong enough earlier in the year and needed to build muscle."

Mosquito will likely look for another overnight event and point towards Grand Circuit action at The Red Mile.

The Walner-sired Life On The Bluf won his second straight for Wallin at The Meadowlands on September 8 with a 1:55 2/5 clocking. He has potential having made his qualifying debut at the end of August.

For July, a Greenshoe colt and half-brother to Cuatro De Julio, has encouraged his trainer but will need more seasoning. "He's got the talent," Wallin said.

Hopefully for Wallin all of his entrants will show talent this weekend.



COCKTAILS FOR A CAUSE

Join us for a special cocktail reception to launch the 2023 Breeders Crown Charity Challenge. 'Cocktails For A Cause' will be held at Lexington's Selected Yearling Sale at Fasig-Tipton in Lexington, Kentucky.

Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Noon - 1:00 pm



THANK YOU - The Indiana Standardbred Association would like to express our sincere appreciation to the following, for donating stallion breedings to be auctioned off in Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio this fall. 100% of all proceeds will be donated to the four deserving charities participating in the Breeders Crown Charity Challenge.

LEXINGTON: Selling October 3rd
at 1pm, prior to session
two of the sale.

WALNER
(Walner Syndicate)
BULLDOG HANOVER
(Seelster Farms)
TRIXTON
(Deo Volente Farms)
TALL DARK STRANGER
(Hanover Shoe Farms)
SWEET LOU
(Diamond Creek Farm)
CAPTAIN CRUNCH
(Diamond Creek Farm)
BETTORS DELIGHT
(Blue Chip Farm)

INDIANA: Selling October 20th
at 10am, prior to the
HOOSIER CLASSIC SALE.

SWAN FOR ALL
(Kentuckiana Farms)
HELPISONTHEWAY
(Jon Weisman)
ROCKIN IMAGE
(Victory Hill Farm)
REBUFF
(Victory Hill Farm)
TEMPORAL HANOVER
(Ola Yoder)

**Over \$1.2 million
raised to date
for local charities!**

OHIO: Selling September 15th by
SILENT AUCTION... closes
at the end of the
OHIO SELECTED JUG SALE.

IN RANGE
(Hickory Lane Farms)
MONTE MIKI
(Midland Acres)
LONG TOM
(Midland Acres)
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
(Midland Acres)
READY FOR MONI
(Midland Acres)
LATHER UP
(Sugar Valley Farms)
CATCH THE FIRE
(Greg Luther Racing, CT Stables
& Sugar Valley Farms)

Campbell, McDuffee elected to HOF; Bojarski, Brower to CHOF

The United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), in conjunction with the Harness Racing Hall of Fame, is pleased to announce the election of trainer Jim Campbell and owner/breeder David McDuffee to the greatest honor in the industry, membership in the Living Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y.

USHWA has also elected veteran writer Tim Bojarski and broadcaster Dave Brower to the Communicators Hall of Fame.

Jim Campbell brought attention to his many stellar years of conditioning racehorses when, in 2022, he sent out the winners of the Hambletonian, Cool Papa Bell, and Hambletonian Oaks, Fashion Schooner, on the same day, only the third trainer to do so. He also joined the ranks of Billy Haughton, Joe O'Brien, and Jimmy Takter as horsemen who have trained two Hambletonian and two Hambo Oaks winners. That impressive campaign helped Campbell earn the Trainer of the Year award from USHWA.

Jim hails from an elite Ontario harness racing family that started with Canadian Hall of Famer Duncan Campbell and has progressed through father Jack and brother/Hall of Fame driver/Hambletonian Society President John. John and Jim combined to win the 1995 Hambletonian with Tagliabue. In 1987, Campbell became "established" with the pacer Run The Table, in a stable that has focused in recent campaigns on developing young stakes trotters while capturing six Breeders Crown championships.

Award-winners trained by Campbell include Tagliabue, Galleria, Broadway Hall, Broadway Schooner (his other Oaks champion), Broadway Donna, Real Cool Sam, and Cool Papa Bell.

Campbell is fortunate in that his patrons tend to stay with him for a long and mutually profitable time. Jim has trained for Jules Siegel and his late wife, Arlene, as Fashion Farms for nearly 30 years and with the Farber family, first Sandy and then his son Scott, since Run The Table's stellar days.

David McDuffee, an insurance agent by trade, entered harness racing in the 1980s with partner Tom Walsh, and has expanded his Standardbred "footprint" as an owner by several degrees of magnitude in the intervening years, with nine Breeders Crown victories, two Hambletonian Oaks, two Little Brown Jugs, and three Kentucky Filly Futurities numbering among his successes. He was USHWA's Owner of the Year in 2021.

Over the years, McDuffee put together a small but elite broodmare band that did well on the racetrack and continued to do well in the breeding shed. Their names are familiar — Pizza Dolce, Bella Dolce, and 2013 Horse of the Year Bee A Magician. He also campaigned the highly successful racehorse and later stallion Kadabra.

Continuing this trotting mare tradition for McDuffee was his most recent star Bella Bellini, a distaff McDuffee also bred. Unspectacular at 2, she exploded during her sophomore form, winning the Hambletonian Oaks and earning divisional honors. Her sharpness continued in 2022, when she was named Trotter of the Year.

Campbell and McDuffee will be joined in entrance to the Hall of Fame by trainer/driver Eddie Lohmeyer, who enters the Hall through the special Veterans designation as picked by USHWA's Hall of Fame Screening Committee.

Joe Faraldo, a winner of the 2019 Bergstein-Proximity Award, came up just shy of the 75 percent of "yes-no" votes required from the balloting to be elected to the Hall in

his first appearance on the HOF ballot. This showing should put him in good stead for upcoming elections.

Tim Bojarski began his contact with harness racing communications in 1986 at Batavia Downs, near his western New York home of Akron, authoring a tip sheet and writing profiles of horsemen. He is in his 23rd year of writing for Hoof Beats, the award-winning magazine of the U.S. Trotting Association, for which he has been a columnist for 11 years. The busy Bojarski is employed by Plainridge Park near Boston, the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts and that state's stakes program, the New York Sire Stakes, and Batavia Downs.

Dave Brower, who passed away unexpectedly in October 2022 at the age of 53, was a mainstay of The Meadowlands for many years, achieving his biggest recognition as a broadcaster on the nightly racing show from the New Jersey oval, in addition to being that track's morning-line maker and handicapper. The author of the book "Harnessing Winners" was also a highly visible contributor to the Hambletonian Day television coverage on many occasions and worked in broadcasting during the Grand Circuit meets at the Delaware County Fair in Ohio and at Lexington's Red Mile.

Campbell, Lohmeyer, McDuffee, Bojarski, and Brower will be honored in two upcoming ceremonies. They will receive their first formal recognition at the Dan Patch Awards Banquet, presented by Caesars Entertainment, on Feb. 25, 2024, at the Rosen Centre Resort in Orlando, Fla. The second event will, of course, be their formal introductions to their Halls in Goshen on July 7, 2024.

Further information on both events will be available in the coming months.

The United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) is the leading group of communicators about the Standardbred horse. USHWA conducts the official annual balloting for the sport's most prestigious honors: induction to the Hall of Fame and Communicators Hall of Fame, along with the selection of the Horse of the Year, Trotter and Pacer of the Year, and the leading divisional horses of each season.

Each year USHWA hosts the Dan Patch Awards Banquet, honoring the best and brightest performers in North American harness racing. This banquet is the Association's principal source of funding, and with generous financial support from the harness racing and breeding industry, USHWA is able to host the banquet at a world-class facility in a world-class manner.

**-release (United States Harness Writers Association)
-all photos courtesy USTA except Dave Brower (Chris Tully Photo)**





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**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 16, 2023**

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ROAD TO THE MOHAWK MILLION



The Mohawk Million for 2-year-old trotters is scheduled for September 23 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. Below are the Top 10 horses on the Road to the Mohawk Million (Week 2 - September 13) as rated by DRF Harness Editor Derick Giwner along with his comments. (Horses are considered not only by on-track performance but chances of being in the race considering ownership)

1-KARL (3-3-0-0, 1:52 1/5)

Driver: Yannick Gingras – **Trainer:** Nancy Takter

Owners: Christina & Nancy Takter, Black Horse Racing, Crawford Farms Racing,
Bender Sweden – **Breeder:** Crawford Farms

Giwner: At this point in terms of 2-year-old trotters there is Karl and there is everybody else. The son of Tactical Landing owns a lifetime mark that is a second faster than any of his peers and no foe has come within a dozen lengths of him in two starts. His latest victory was effortless on September 3 at The Red Mile. Only negative for him is the Mohawk Million would be racing back in six days following the Ky Sire Stakes final (race 5) on Sept. 17 at The Red Mile.

2-T C I (8-7-1-0, 1:54 1/5)

Driver: David Miller – **Trainer:** Ron Burke

Owners: Burke Racing Stables, Hatfield Stables, Knox Services, Weaver
Bruscemi – **Breeder:** Concord Stud Farm

Giwner: Cantab Hall colt has now won seven straight starts including the William Wellwood final and PA Sire Stakes Championship. His Sire Stakes win on September 2 saw him get away with slow fractions before sprinting home impressively. As a non-Kentucky eligible, he has no conflict with that Sire Stakes final six days prior and should be well-rested for the Million as the only guaranteed starter since he won the William Wellwood Memorial.

3-ALLEGIAN (8-5-1-0, 1:52 2/5)

Driver: Scott Zeron – **Trainer:** Vernon Beachy

Owner: Ryan Smith

Breeders: Atlantic Trot Inc., Steve Stewart

Giwner: Filly owns multiple wins under 1:54 including a 1:52 2/5 score that ranks as the second fastest on the year. Those accomplishments are certainly something for her to hang her hat on. That the daughter of Tactical Landing was co-bred by Steve Stewart, whose Hunterton Farms & Partners owns a Million ticket, has to bode well for her opportunity to get into the race. She's in-to-go in Sunday's \$400,00 KYSS final at The Red Mile (race 2).

4-SIG SAUER (4-4-0-0, 1:53 3/5)

Driver: Andrew McCarthy – **Trainer:** Noel Daley

Owners: Patricia Stable, Joe Sbrocco, JAF Racing, Allister Stables, Caviart
Farms – **Breeder:** Southwind Farms

Giwner: Muscle Hill colt is perfect in four starts now and seems to have a nose for the wire. His latest success on September 8 in the New Jersey Classic final saw him storm home in 26 4/5 to close from ninth and win by a neck. He's not in-to-go this weekend, so if the Mohawk Million is on his schedule he should be well-rested.

5-DRAWN IMPRESSION (3-3-0-0, 1:54)

Driver: Louis Roy – **Trainer:** Luc Blais

Owner/Breeder: Determination

Giwner: Muscle Hill filly is undefeated in three starts including an impressive Peaceful Way victory by nearly five lengths last time out. That she is owned by Determination, who has two tickets to the Million, means she's probably a lock to be in the race. Watch her Thursday in race two at Woodbine Mohawk Park, the first division of the Champlain.

6-WILLYS HOME RUN (7-4-3-0, 1:55 1/5)

Driver: James Macdonald – **Trainer:** Robert Fellows

Owner: Sara Gatchell, Jake Higgs, Reg Higgs, N Yolanda Fellows

Breeder: Reg Higgs

Giwner: Archangel-sired filly finished second behind Drawn Impression in the Peaceful Way and she's never been worse than second in her career. She absolutely dominated an Ontario Gold field on September 4 at Woodbine Mohawk Park. That she is stabled in Canada means her chances of showing up are increased. She's in-to-go Thursday night in race six at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

7-FRENCH CHAMPAGNE (4-4-0-0, 1:53)

Driver/Trainer: Ake Svanstedt

Owners/Breeders: Marvin Katz and Al Libfeld

Giwner: Daughter of Muscle Hill is perfect in four starts and her last effort where she came uncovered and set a 1:53 lifetime mark was certainly impressive. That is now the second-fastest mark by a 2-year-old trotter in 2023. That her ownership group resides in Canada could add to the allure of bringing her north from Kentucky. She's in-to-go Sunday in the first race at The Red Mile - \$100,000 KY Commonwealth Final.

8-SUGAR INSTEAD (8-6-2-0, 1:55)

Driver: Ron Gillespie – **Trainer:** Virgil Morgan Jr.

Owner: Joyce McClelland and Larry Willis

Breeder: Elmer Dean

Giwner: Here is a new shooter on the list. Ohio has made great strides in the last few years and certainly this daughter of Volstead has earned the right to take a shot on the big stage. She dominated the Ohio Sire Stakes final by nearly five lengths in a lifetime best 1:55 at Scioto Downs.

9-WILLOWTIME (2-2-0-0, 1:54 2/5)

Driver: Bob McClure – **Trainer:** Mark Etsell

Owners: Mark Etsell, Terry Devos and Perry Porter

Breeder: Terry Devos

Giwner: Only two starts to evaluate thus far but both were pretty good. He won his debut by 10 lengths and dropped nearly four seconds last time. He gets a true test at Woodbine Mohawk Park Thursday versus a full, solid field in the open division of the Champlain (race seven).

10-TOP MAST (7-3-2-1, 1:56 4/5)

Driver: Travis Cullen – **Trainer:** Desiree Jones

Owner: Gino Toscani

Breeders: Steve Stewart, Martti Ala-seppala

Giwner: This guy has some early speed in his arsenal and was second in the Wellwood elims. Walner colt is owned by Gino Toscani, who has a pair of tickets for the Million. Another from his contingent is Tactical Strike and one of them seems likely to show up. Both horses are in-to-go Thursday at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

RACE OF THE WEEK

10 HOOSIER FRI

1 Mile Trot **THE JIM DOHERTY MEMORIAL** 2 YEAR OLD FILLIES. Purse \$400,000

EXACTA | 50 CENT TRIFECTA | 20 CENT SUPERFECTA | 50 CENT PICK 5 (10-11-12-13-14)

1 GRACEFUL DESIGN

21:58.1 (1) Q \$1,379 LEX-SEL \$67,000

3-1 A. McCarthy 0-0-0-0 (0.00)

26 Aug23	7Wbs	fst64 ⁺	273	:56 ⁺	1:26	1:54	PEAC
19 Aug23	5Wbs	fst68 ⁺	271	:56 ⁺	1:25	1:54	PEAC
4 Aug23	10M1	fst77 ⁺	282	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:54	KNDR
28 Jul23	5M1	fst86 ⁺	283	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:54	KNDR
15 Jul23	5M1	fst79 ⁺	294	1:00 ⁺	1:29	1:58	2yr F
1 Jul23	7M1	fst77 ⁺	304	1:01	1:31	1:59	2yr F

b f 2, by Father Patrick, Princess Stephanie by Kadabra
Pydie Stables Inc, ON; Bottom Line Racing LLC, Boca Raton, FL; Coyote Wynd Farms, ON
T. Alagna 11-2-4-1 (182)
Br.- Andrew J Shrock, OH

Last 4 Sts-\$49,290

1:58.1 M1Q

23 HoP 0 0 0 0

22 HoP 0 0 0 0

21 HoP 0 0 0 0

- 23 Tot 4 0 2 1 \$45,516
- 22 Tot 0 0 0 0 -
- Life 4 0 2 1 \$45,516

2 CHEVAL RAPIDE (L)

21:54.2 (1) \$5,250

5-1 Y. Gingras 0-0-0-0 (0.00)

19 Aug23	5Wbs	fst68 ⁺	271	:56 ⁺	1:25	1:54	PEACEFUL W	22200	2	3 5	3 3 3	2 nd 2 1	6 5 1	8 1 2	YaGingras	NaTakter	281	29	28	30	1:56 ⁺	75	+8.9w	2.20	DrawnImpRlyShmRnGrCtDsgn	Unc, chase, caved-8
4 Aug23	7M1	fst77 ⁺	282	:58 ⁺	1:27	1:55	KNDRGARTEN	20000	10	7 th 4 1	5 5	5 th 4 1	5 4 3	5 2	YaGingras	NaTakter	284	30	29	27	1:56	71	+8.5w	1.10	ThMmriSdrstMssL	Tuk, gppd, ov, late gain-10
28 Jul23	5M1	fst66 ⁺	283	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:54	KNDRGARTEN	20000	4	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	YaGingras	NaTakter	283	29	28	28	1:54 ⁺	80	+6.6w	nb	ChvRpdGrCtDsgnGrFGrGn	2wide, led, held sway-9
7 Jul23	9M1	fst62 ⁺	302	1:00 ⁺	1:29	1:56	KNDRGARTEN	20000	3	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	YaGingras	NaTakter	302	30	28	27	1:56	69	+6.5w	nb	ChvRpdThMmriMrgnChr	Led, well-held, held on-8
24 Jun23	2M1	gd70 ⁺	303	1:01	1:30	1:58	2yr F	2	1 2 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	YaGingras	NaTakter	303	30	29	27	1:58	2	+9.5w	nb	ChvRpdDistanceHarlyQn	Led, steady, drew off-6

b f 2, by Father Patrick, Shake It Cerry by Donato Hanover
Solveig's Racing Partners, East Windsor, NJ
N. Takter 0-0-0-0 (0.00)
Br.- Solveig's Racing Partners, NJ

Last 4 Sts-\$21,000

1:54.2 M1

23 HoP 0 0 0 0

22 HoP 0 0 0 0

21 HoP 0 0 0 0

- 23 Tot 4 2 0 0 \$21,000
- 22 Tot 0 0 0 0 -
- Life 4 2 0 0 \$21,000

3 THE MOMENT

21:55.4 (1) Q \$15,039 SHS-HBG \$95,000

10-1 B. Sears 0-0-0-0 (0.00)

20 Aug23	10PcD	fst72°	283	:583	1:264	1:544	PaSS
4 Aug23	5M1	fst77°	28	:582	1:273	1:554	KNDR
19 July23	11Phl	fst85°	281	:574	1:264	1:561	PASS
7 July23	9M1	fst82°	302	1:003	1:292	1:563	KNDR
17 Jun23	7M1	fst69°	281	:583	1:294	1:59	2yr F

b f 2, by Father Patrick, Myimpossibledream by Chocolatier
Al J Libfeld, ON; Marvin & Lynn Katz, ON; Sam A Goldband, ON
L. Wallin 0-0-0-0 (0.00)
Br.- Shmuel Farhi, ON, CA

Last 4 Sts-\$70,197

1:55.4 M1

23 HoP 0 0 0 0

22 HoP 0 0 0 0

21 HoP 0 0 0 0

- 23 Tot 5 2 1 2 \$75,156
- 22 Tot 0 0 0 0 -
- Life 5 2 1 2 \$75,156

4 PONDIA TITLE (L)

21:55 (7/8) Q \$19,810 HOOSIER \$32,000

6-1 K. Wilfong 910-102-97-109 (112)

6 Sep23	7HoP	fst74 ⁺	282	:58 ⁺	1:28	1:56	ISS-2F-LG5	66000	1	2 1 3	2 1 3	3 2	3 3 1	3 3 1	KyWilfong	JHchstr	283	30	30	27	1:56	72	+6.0w	8.40	SieraGrLpSlngTheMoment	Gd trip, gd try-8
23 Aug23	10HoP	fst60 ⁺	271	:56 ⁺	1:26	1:55	ISS-2F-LG4	66000	7	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	KyWilfong	JHchstr	272	29	29	29	1:55	79	+2.9w	3.60	SieraGrLpSlngTheMoment	Tk, gppd, ov, late gain-10
16 Aug23	12HoP	fst63 ⁺	281	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:55	ISS-2F-LG3	66500	1	3 2 1	3 2 1	1 2	1 2	1 2	KyWilfong	JHchstr	283	29	29	28	1:55	81	+3.4w	nb	ThMmriSdrstMssL	Led, re-mov, held on-10
25 Jul23	8HoP	fst78 ⁺	271	:57 ⁺	1:27	1:56	ISS-2F-LG2	65500	6	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	KyWilfong	JHchstr	273	30	30	28	1:56	78	+3.4w	nb	ThMmriSdrstMssL	Led, re-mov, held on-10
11 Jul23	11HoP	fst77 ⁺	281	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:55	ISS-2F-LG1	66500	7	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	KyWilfong	JHchstr	281	29	28	28	1:55	82	+1.0w	nb	ThMmriSdrstMssL	Led, re-mov, held on-10
4 Jul23	8HoP	fst79 ⁺	283	:59 ⁺	1:29	1:57	2F-nw1-ser	20000	7	1 2 1	1 2 1	2 1	2 1	1 1	KyWilfong	JHchstr	283	30	30	27	1:57	73	+2.9w	nb	ThMmriSdrstMssL	Led, re-mov, held on-10

b f 2, by Muscle Massive, Elin by Angus Hall
Connie J Hochstetler, Pinehurst, NC; Robert J Buddig, Hinsdale, IL; Allen N Schwartz, Chicago, IL
Ja. Hochstetler 22-37-24-35 (165)
Br.- Pond-A Acres, IN

Last 4 Sts-\$90,420

1:55 HoP 7/8

23 HoP 0 0 0 0

22 HoP 0 0 0 0

21 HoP 0 0 0 0

- 23 Tot 7 5 1 1 \$138,670
- 22 Tot 0 0 0 0 -
- Life 7 5 1 1 \$138,670

5 SANTA CROCE

22:01.4 (5/8) Q \$5,734 LEX-SEL \$185,000

20-1 T. McCarthy 0-0-0-0 (0.00)

2 Sep23	3PcD	fst78 ⁺	271	:57 ⁺	1:26	1:56	PASS Con	50000	6	x 6 1	5 2 4	5 1 9	5 1 6	5 1 6	JiCampbl	JiCampbl	293	33	28	28	1:59	58	+5.5w	nb	PrspcPtk IhavmDV DmrtHhv	Left, broke-7
20 Aug23	12PcD	fst70 ⁺	281	:58 ⁺	1:27	1:55	PaSS 2yr F	79474	3	4 3 3	4 3 3	4 3	4 2 1	3 4	TitTrick	JiCampbl	29	30	28	28	1:56	71	+2.9w	9.00	PaunaHnv ShShaq SantaCroce	Tip, fnl, beat weak-8
28 Jul23	9M1	fst66 ⁺	291	:59	1:28	1:55	KNDRGARTEN	20000	6	2 1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	TitTrick	JiCampbl	291	29	29	27	1:55	75	+6.6w	10.50	IntnlMldSantaCroceByARnd	2wide, led, 2nd best-10
19 Jul23	5Phl	fst65 ⁺	291	:58	1:27	1:55	PASS 2FT	40537	4	3 3	3 3	2 nd 1 1	2 1 3	2 1 3	TitTrick	JiCampbl	293	29	28	28	1:55	80	+3.4w	7.00	LitFrd SantaCroce Landaulci	-6
11 Jul23	4PcD	fst63 ⁺	284	:59	1:29	1:58	All-Stars	30000	4	5 5	5 5	6 5 1	6 4 1	5 6 1	TitTrick	JiCampbl	294	31	30	28	1:59	58	+4.8w	10.00	JaktHnv Landaulci FnlPkwz	Empty-7
22 Jun23	13Phl	fst69 ⁺	314	1:01	1:31	1:59	2YOF NW1PM	10800	scratched-sick																	

b f 2, by Father Patrick, Treviso by Muscle Massive
Coyote Wynd Farms, Oakville, ON, CA
Ji. Campbell 0-0-0-0 (0.00)
Br.- Moni Market Breeders, NY

Last 4 Sts-\$27,171

2:01.4 Phl 5/8Q

23 HoP 0 0 0 0

22 HoP 0 0 0 0

21 HoP 0 0 0 0

- 23 Tot 5 0 2 1 \$26,670
- 22 Tot 0 0 0 0 -
- Life 5 0 2 1 \$26,670

6 SLIP SLIDING AWAY

21:54.4 (1) Q \$19,699 LEX-SEL \$510,000

5-2 D. Dunn 0-0-0-0 (0.00)

2 Sep23	9PcD	fst ^{80°}	271	:56 ⁺	1:25 ⁺	1:55 ⁺	PaSS
20 Aug23	12PcD	fst ^{70°}	281	:58 ⁺	1:27 ⁺	1:55 ⁺	PaSS
4 Aug23	10M1	fst ^{77°}	282	:57 ⁺	1:26 ⁺	1:54	KNDR
19 July23	5Phl	fst ^{85°}	29	:58 ⁺	1:27 ⁺	1:55 ⁺	PASS
1 July23	5Mw	fst ^{84°}	283	:59 ⁺	1:28 ⁺	1:57	Pass

b f 2, by Father Patrick, Ice Attraction by Muscle Hill
Marvin & Lynn Katz, Toronto, ON, CA; Al J Libfeld, Pickering, ON, CA
A. Svanstedt 0-0-0-0 (0.00)
Br.- Little E LLC, NY; Ake Svanstedt Inc, NJ

Five dual-eligibles look to complete Sire Stakes double-dip in KYSS finals

By Derick Gwerner

The landscape of Standardbred racing has certainly changed with the increased purses in Kentucky and the viability of winning multiple Sire Stakes finals. On Sunday (9/17) at The Red Mile five hopefuls will look to win their second Sire Stakes Finals of 2023 and bolster their bankrolls by \$200,000 in the process.

As a 2-year-old pacing filly, Twin B Joe Fresh pulled off the New York/Kentucky daily double in 2022 but elected to skip the \$225,000 final on September 9 at Yonkers Raceway this year so she could compete the next day in an \$80,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes leg to qualify for Sunday's \$400,000 contest. This year's handful in search of a Sire Stakes two-fer include Geocentric (2YO Filly Pace), Better Is Nice (2YO Colt Pace), French Wine (3YO Colt Trot), Railee Something and Special Way (3YO Filly Trot). Geocentric, French Wine and Railee Something scored their first wins in on the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes circuit while Better Is Nice and Special Way are New Jersey Sire Stakes champions.

"Generally you have to pay for those horses," said Geocentric's trainer Brian Brown about dual-eligible types. "Luckily enough this horse sold at Harrisburg and maybe the people weren't concentrating as much on Kentucky-breds since they do most of that at Lexington. It has just been a godsend to have a horse like her. When you can go to both states and race, you still have to manage it out to make sure you don't overdo it so she is fresh for both finals."

Of the above group, only Geocentric, who was purchased for \$55,000, enters Sunday with a perfect career record (6-for-6), something trainer Brown is hoping remains intact. At the same time, he realizes that worrying about continuing the perfect streak won't help the situation.

"I try not to worry about it but I worry about things most people don't," said Brown. "When we've done our job for the week - pulled blood, trained them and other stuff - it is up to her and Timmy [Tetrack] to finish the job."

A daughter of Sweet Lou bred by Diamond Creek Farm and owned by Milton Leeman, Alan Keith, James Stambaugh and Joe Sbrocco, Geocentric has won each of her three Kentucky Sire Stakes races by at least four lengths and will likely be the 1-9 favorite when she leaves from post five in the third race on a card offering \$3.4 million in purse money.

"The goal right now is the Sire Stakes final and the next goal is the Breeders Crown," said Brown, who added that she is eligible to the Bluegrass and International Stallion stakes at The Red Mile but may only race in one to keep her fresh and at 10 starts for the year.

As for the others attempting to pull off the Sire Stakes double dip, Better Is Nice will be the heavy favorite to down his five foes in the sixth race for driver Andrew McCarthy and trainer Tony Alagna. However, they were defeated by Dancin Champion (post two) on September 5 at The Red Mile.

One race later French Wine looks for his third straight victory for the husband-wife team of Andy and Julie Miller. The Bar Hopping colt has perhaps the toughest assignment of the quintet starting from post eight versus a strong field that includes multiple leg and Hambletonian winner Tactical Approach.

Only one from the final pair trying for the Sire Stakes two-fer can walk away victorious since Railee Something (post one) and Special Way (post three) face each other in the ninth race. Undefeated in four starts this year, Special Way is of course the horse to beat after returning from injury with a victory last weekend.

The aforementioned Twin B Joe Fresh will look to continue her Kentucky dominance. The Chris Ryder trainee has six wins and a second in seven starts over The Red Mile. She'll start from post seven as the odds-on choice in the fourth race.

On a day of stars, the marquee attraction is clearly Confederate. The top-earning horse in the country, who most recently set a world record 1:46 1/5 over this track, heads a field of seven in the 3-year-old colt and gelding pace. Tim Tetrack will guide the son of Sweet Lou for trainer Brett Pelling from post five.

Post time at The Red Mile is 1 PM (EDT) and the track will offer a pair of \$10,000 guaranteed wagers, a .20-cent Pick 8 in race two and a \$1 Pick 4 in race six.

DRF Bets

Handicapper's Corner

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At DRF Harness we strive to provide the best handicapping information in the sport. Each week we'll use this space to bring you some of our handicappers' best bets and value plays. Use this information as one of your tools when wagering or simply click on the link above and head to DRF Bets to wager now.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

RACE 5

(2) ROSE RUN YANKEE cruised over NW4's at Yonkers on August 24 and returns to overnight action tonight after the connections took an unsuccessful swing at the New Jersey Classic.

-Greg Reinhart

EMPIRE CITY.
CASINO
YONKERS RACEWAY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

RACE 11

(2) ROCKAPELO gets a hugely important driver change from the owner to Joe Bongiorno as he makes his second start for this barn trying to turn things around.

-Matt Rose

EMPIRE CITY.
CASINO
YONKERS RACEWAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

RACE 12

(2) HP MOMENTUM is in top form and he should get a good setup for his late kick here. My tickets for this mandatory Hi-5 bet will focus on him in the top two positions. (7) NO FREE LUNCH took a few starts to reach his best form and he is sharp and dangerous now. He is another that should be flying late here. (4) POINTS NORTH was a strong winner last week and he can be a factor again despite stepping up in class. (6) ROCKME ROLLME has Brennan listed and if he drives, he will likely send this gelding for as far as he goes. He should get a piece of this. (1) CENTURY HEINEKEN gets McNair back and that makes him a threat in a spot where he could trip-out. (5) RON rarely misses a check. He is a good one to use underneath here. (11) HIGHLANDBEACHLOVER is capable of sneaking into the Hi-5 from his second-tier post and he will offer a big price with Plante driving this time.

20-Cent Tickets:

2/1,4,6,7/1,4,6,7/1,4,5,6,7,11/1,4,5,6,7,11,12 = \$38.40

1,4,6,7/2/1,4,6,7/1,4,5,6,7,11/1,4,5,6,7,11,12 = \$38.40

-Garnet Barnsdale



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

PONDA TITLE SET FOR DOHERTY TEST AT HOOSIER

Among the many admirable qualities possessed by Ponda Title, perhaps the most valuable is the one not readily visible: The desire to win.

Ponda Title has five victories in seven races this season (with a second and third in her two setbacks) and \$138,670 in purses, a total that ranks among her division's best. All her starts have come at Harrah's Hoosier Park, where on Friday she will make her Grand Circuit debut against nine rivals in the \$400,000 Jim Doherty Memorial for 2-year-old female trotters.

[READ MORE](#)

NEW YORK EXCELSIOR "A" SERIES FINALS TAKE PLACE

Eight \$55,000 divisions went postward in the \$440,000 New York Sire Stake Excelsior finals that were held at Batavia Downs on Wednesday night (Sept. 13). Several streaking horses were victorious again and had the support of the betting public.

[READ MORE](#)

CARRYOVER, GUARANTEED POOL IN THURSDAY'S PICK 5 AT YONKERS

When live racing resumes on Thursday night (September 14) at MGM Yonkers Raceway, there will be a \$3,490 carryover and a \$10,000 guaranteed pool in the Pick 5 after the wager was not hit on Tuesday night's (September 12) card.

The guarantee in the Pick 5 is being offered as part of the United States Trotting Association's Strategic Wagering Program. Free Harness Eye past performances for the Pick 5, will be available [here](#). The Pick 5, which begins in race five, has a takeout rate of 20 percent.

[-release \(Yonkers Raceway Media\)](#)

OHIO SELECT SALE OFFERS GATEWAY TO BUCKEYE RICHES

The Ohio Selected Jug Yearling Sale is this Friday (September 15) at the Pickaway Ag Center, Circleville, Ohio, which means that the focus of many of the Buckeye state's Standardbred owners and trainers has turned to a search for the next champion harness horse.

[READ MORE](#)

ON CLOUD NINE LEADS GOSHEN YEARLING SALE

The Goshen Yearling Sale was held on Monday (Sept. 11) in the sales arena at the Mark Ford Training Center, and, despite all the rain, an eager crowd of bidders was on hand in the gallery, while online bidding managed by Cattle In Motion collected remote bids from registered users.

[READ MORE](#)

KATHY PARKER IS 2023 LADY PACE HONOREE

Kathy Parker, Hall of Fame Communicator and longtime editor of The Horseman and Fair World magazine, will be saluted as the 2023 Lady Pace honoree by the Delaware County Fair.

[READ MORE](#)

SPAAAANZANO SEEKS TO REBOUND IN FRIDAY'S HAUGHTON

He may not be a household name outside of Ohio, but Spaaaanzano will seek to remedy that situation when he makes his first foray outside of his home state and his first Grand Circuit appearance on Friday (Sept. 15) in the \$420,000 Peter Haughton Memorial at Harrah's Hoosier Park.

[READ MORE](#)

REMINDER OF SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE 2023 JUG AND JUGETTE

Just a reminder that any three-year-old pacer not currently eligible for the 78th Little Brown Jug may, with a payment of \$45,000, supplement to the 2023 Little Brown Jug. Supplemental entries are due by Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Those currently eligible must submit

their entry by Monday, September 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

History of Little Brown Jug Supplements

Year	Horse	Results	Earnings
2001	Four Starzzz Shark	2-x-x-3	\$71,711
2008	Art Official	x-x-1-3	\$66,147
2011	Betterthancheddar	x-2-3	\$59,001
2014	Lyonssomewhere	7-x-x	\$0
2015	Wiggle It Jiggleit	x-1-1	\$330,376
2018	Courtly Choice	x-2-1	\$243,960
2021	American Courage	X-5-X	\$6,618
2022	Bythemissal	1-x-1	\$295,775
2022	Pleaseletmeknow	x-6-x	\$0

Any three-year-old filly pacers not currently eligible for the 53rd Jugette may, with a payment of \$15,000, supplement to the 2023 Jugette. Supplemental entries are due by Friday, September 15, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Those currently eligible must submit their entry by Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

[-edited release \(Little Brown Jug\)](#)

WOODBINE ADDS \$75,000 OPENS TO MOHAWK MILLION CARD

Woodbine Mohawk Park's Race Office has announced the addition of two C\$75,000 Free-For-All events to the rich Mohawk Million card on Saturday, September 23.

A C\$75,000 Free-For-All Pace and C\$75,000 Free-For-All Trot will both be held on Mohawk Million night.

The entry box for the Million card will close Tuesday, September 19 at 10:30 a.m.

More than C\$3.6 million in purses will be up for grabs on the Mohawk Million card, making it Canada's richest night of racing in 2023.

The Million card will also feature the C\$970,000 Metro Pace, C\$660,000 Canadian Trotting Classic, C\$540,000 Shes A Great Lady and C\$381,000 Elegancetime.

[-release \(Woodbine\)](#)

EDITOR DAVE BRIGGS TO RECEIVE TOM WHITE MEDIA AWARD

Hall of Fame Communicator, Dave Briggs has been named the Tom White Media Award winner for 2023 by the Little Brown Jug and the Delaware County Fair.

A native of Windsor, Ontario, Briggs graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a Masters of Journalism degree and began working at the London Free Press. He quickly parlayed an early career story on Western Fair Raceway into a job at The Canadian Sportsman – at the time, Canada's longest running publication.

Briggs worked for The Canadian Sportsman for 19 years before it ceased publication in 2013. He currently serves as the editor of Harness Racing Update and for Catena Media.

Briggs has won nearly 30 national and international awards – including a record 12 United States Harness Writers Association's (USHWA) John Hervey Awards and four Standardbred Canada O'Brien Media Excellence Awards.

In 2017, Briggs received the sport's highest honor, induction into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame's Communicator's Corner by the members of USHWA.

Briggs will be presented his award at a ceremony on Tuesday, September 19th in the Delaware County Fair Log Cabin.

The award honors the legacy of long-time Little Brown Jug and Hall of Fame publicist, Tom White, who passed away in 2019.

Past Tom White Media Award winners were Paul Ramlow (2019), Brad Schmaltz (2021) and Dean Hoffman (2022).

[-release \(Little Brown Jug\)](#)

\$250

DEPOSIT MATCH

\$10

FREE BET

& FREE DRF PAST PERFORMANCES

DRF Bets

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