

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024

# CANADIAN INVASION



**Colts trained/driven by Canadian-based horsemen won both Meadowlands Pace eliminations and loom as favorites in the \$650K final**



MARK HALL/USTA PHOTOS



## MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT!

**SATURDAY, JULY 13  
POST TIME 6:20 PM EDT**

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**Comments? Questions?**  
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# Canadian drivers look to end 37-year Meadowlands Pace dry spell



## EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Givner

[@harnesseveguy](#)

The Meadowlands Pace is rich in history with 47 previous editions of the 3-year-old classic in the record books and 16 winners going on to Dan Patch Horse of the Year honors. Winning horses, trainers and owners have come from all regions around North America to capture this important trophy, but on the driving front, the road team has mostly been on the outside looking in.

Since the turn of the century, every winning driver of the Meadowlands Pace except one – Montrell Teague, Wiggle It Jiggleit – has been at least a semi-regular of the driving colony at the New Jersey track. During that time, Tim Tetrick has won an amazing six Pace finals, Yannick Gingras, Brian Sears and Ron Pierce have each won three, John Campbell won twice (he has a record seven wins in the race), and six other regulars won one apiece.

To be clear, the doors to the club aren't closed. Many "outsiders" have come to town with the hopes of lifting the trophy. In recent years, unsuccessful drivers include Matt Kakaley, Lauren Tritton, Mike Wilder, Doug McNair, Louis Roy, Trevor Henry, Eric Abbatiello and Trace Tetrick.

While history would have you believe that Saturday's (July 13) \$650,000 Meadowlands Pace will follow the same patterns we have seen over the last three-plus decades, 2024



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Canadian National Drivers Championship winner James MacDonald looks to add a Meadowlands Pace trophy to his collection.

has brought with it a new wrinkle in the form of three top-quality Canadian drivers sitting behind arguably the best horses in the race. Each of these men will try to beat the streak and also become the first Canadian-based reinsman to win the Pace since Trevor Ritchie accomplished the feat in 1987 with Frugal Gourmet.

Three-time reigning O'Brien Award winner and recent Canadian National Driving champion James MacDonald handles Legendary Hanover in the Meadowlands Pace for trainer Anthony Beaton and the ownership group of Eric Good, West Wins Stable and Mark Dumain. He amazingly knew the Trevor Ritchie answer to the trivia question, with an assist from historian Bob "Hollywood" Heyden.

"I only knew that because Hollywood sent me a note yesterday," said MacDonald about knowing Trevor Ritchie was the last Canadian to win the Pace. "I was very surprised. I didn't realize Canadians had such bad luck in the race. I was thinking back to [Somebeachsomewhere] and some of the others. It is surprising."

MacDonald hit on Somebeachsomewhere, who possibly put in the best race of his career in his 2008 Meadowlands Pace defeat (his only career loss) as the 1-9 favorite for Canadian driver Paul MacDonell. In 2012, fellow Canuck Randy Waples failed as the 2-1 bettor's choice, finishing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## 2024 MEADOWLANDS PACE JULY 13 – RACE 11 – 10:43 EDT

1-ITS SATURDAY NIGHT (ANDREW MCCARTHY – NIFTY NORMAN) 20-1

2-FUNTIME BAYAMA (DEXTER DUNN – ANDREW HARRIS) 7-2

3-NIJINSKY (LOUIS ROY – ANTHONY BEATON) 2-1

4-MIRAGE HANOVER (TIM TETRICK – JAKE LEAMON) 9-2

5-GEM QUALITY (YANNICK GINGRAS – CHRIS RYDER) 10-1

6-LEGENDARY HANOVER (JAMES MACDONALD – ANTHONY BEATON) 3-1

7-CAPTAIN ALBANO (TODD MCCARTHY – NOEL DALEY) 5-1

8- CAPTAIN LUKE (SCOTT ZERON – TONY ALAGNA) 15-1

9-CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS (JODY JAMIESON – HERB HOLLAND) 8-1

10-NUMBER CRUNCHER (JORDAN STRATTON – ERV MILLER) 20-1

**MEADOWLANDS PACE PPS ON PAGE 17**

## Meadowlands Pace Night Schedule

RACE # - CONDITIONS	OFF TIME	WAGERING OPTIONS
1: 3-YEAR-OLD OPEN	6:25	DD (1-2) - PICK 5 (1-5)
2: NON-WINNERS 2 RACES LIFE	6:48	PICK 3 (2-4)
3: MISS VERSATILITY	7:10	SURVIVOR 7 (3-9)
4: \$125K DEL MILLER	7:33	\$50K GTD PICK 4 (4-7)
5: \$100K JERRY SILVERMAN	7:56	PICK 3 (5-7)
6: \$135K STANLEY DANCER	8:23	PICK 6 (6-11)
7: \$140K DOROTHY HAUGHTON	8:51	PICK 3 (7-9), Hi-5
8: \$135K STANLEY DANCER	9:19	\$100K GTD PICK 4 (8-11)
9: \$425K HAMBLETONIAN MATURITY	9:46	PICK 3 (9-11)
10: \$428K WILLIAM HAUGHTON	10:13	PICK 5 (10-14)
11: \$650K MEADOWLANDS PACE	10:44	PICK 4 (11-14), Hi-5
12: \$100K JERRY SILVERMAN	11:12	PICK 3 (12-14)
13: \$125K DEL MILLER	11:33	DD (13-14)
14: NON-WINNERS \$7,500 L5	11:53	

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Dorothy Haughton Memorial

**\$135,000**

Stanley Dancer Memorial

TWO DIVISIONS

**\$125,000**

Del Miller Memorial

TWO DIVISIONS

**\$100,000**

Jerry Silverman Memorial

TWO DIVISIONS

**\$40,000**

Miss Versatility Mare Trot Leg 4

POST TIME 6:20 PM

**\$50,000 G**

Early Pick 4

Races 4-7

**\$100,000 G**

Late Pick 4

Races 8-11

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sixth with Thinking Out Loud. The year prior, Phil Hudon missed by a scant neck as the 8-5 chalk with Big Jim.

The here and now has MacDonald sitting behind a Pace elimination winner as Legendary Hanover was able to hug the pylons in third until the three-quarter call in 1:22 4/5 before sprinting home in 24 4/5 for the rather easy 1:48 victory.

“In the North America Cup [June 15] and the Metro [Sept. 2023] I just wasn’t able to work out a good trip for him. Even bringing him into those finals, I had raced him hard to get there and he was coming in a little tired or beat up. Maybe he’s not super brave so I wanted to make sure that even if I didn’t win [the elimination] he got a nice trip on Saturday, and it couldn’t have worked out any better,” said MacDonald. “He’s got electric speed off a helmet. He’s a really good horse with a powerful engine.”

MacDonald, who starts from post six, expects trip to play a vital role in who wins the Pace final, meaning the drivers will need to use all of their tactical skill to work out a path to success.

“It was the same in the NA Cup. It looked like there were six or seven who could win it and the horse that got the best trip did win it. Nijinsky

## GIWNER'S PACE FAIR ODDS LINE

1 – ITS SATURDAY NIGHT	<b>75-1</b>
2 – FUNTIME BAYAMA	<b>7-2</b>
3 – NIJINSKY	<b>2-1</b>
4 – MIRAGE HANOVER	<b>12-1</b>
5 – GEM QUALITY	<b>25-1</b>
6 – LEGENDARY HANOVER	<b>4-1</b>
7 – CAPTAIN ALBANO	<b>6-1</b>
8 – CAPTAIN LUKE	<b>25-1</b>
9 – CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS	<b>5-1</b>
10 – NUMBER CRUNCHER	<b>90-1</b>

had me in front of him, followed me the whole way and popped right by me,” said MacDonald, recalling the North America Cup where Legendary Hanover was first-over and finished fifth.

The last time a regular Canadian catch-driver even appeared in the Meadowlands Pace final was 2018 when both Doug McNair and Louis Roy finished third and fourth with Stay Hungry and Jimmy Freight, respectively. Roy is back again in 2024 and driving 2-1 morning-line favorite Nijinsky, who is also sent out by Beaton for a similar ownership group that swaps out Eric Good for John Fielding.

“Yes it is surprising,” said Roy when told that a Canadian hadn’t won since 1987. “I know the majority of the best drivers and trainers move and base themselves in the States, but Toronto also has a group of good drivers and trainers coming from all over Canada. It’s surprising that none have won that race over the last 35 years. This year might be different, with more Canadian contenders.”

Nijinsky (post three) has proven to be one of the most versatile horses in the 3-year-old pacing division, displaying the ability to

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win from almost any spot on the racetrack at the head of the stretch. Roy went on the attack first-over at the half with Nijinsky in their elimination and cleared the front at the five-eighths. He then fended off the uncovered Funtime Barama with a 26 2/5 final quarter on the end of a 1:47 3/5 mile.

“He was definitely impressive, with still some left on the end after working more than usual to get him in a good position to win,” said Roy about the elimination performance. “He makes my job easy, being so handy. So for sure, I’m really confident every time I drive him. He gives me confidence, and I try to give him confidence as well.”

Jody Jamieson has driven in the Pace final on three occasions – 2007, 2010 and 2013 – with his first appearance, a second behind Tell All, his best showing. He was also the regular driver on eventual Meadowlands Pace winner He’s Watching (2014) heading into the North America Cup but had to bow out due to a suspension. Jamieson now makes what he hopes will be a triumphant return with North America Cup runner-up Captain’s Quarters for trainer Herb Holland and owner Rich Stiles.

“Timmy [Tetrack] got away fourth or fifth on the rail and got stuck in. I think even that day in the [after race] interview he said he was screwed around the first turn. He ended up coming up the rail and getting inside of me at the wire. I was first-up a long way because my horse could live on the outside, but when you have a horse save ground at that level it is hard to fend them off,” said Jamieson, recalling his defeat to Southwind Lynx in 2007 driving Tell All. “Maybe I was a touch unlucky but he went on to win the Jug and have a great year.”

Fast forwarding to last week’s elimination when the field lined up in post-position order away from the gate, Jamieson bided his time in the four-hole and followed winner Legendary Hanover to the rim past the three-quarter call. Captain’s Quarters paced home in 24 4/5 to easily be fourth and earn a spot in the final.

“I wasn’t worried for a second about making the final and he had a bit of an eventful week, so I thought it was better to look after him,” said Jamieson about the elimination effort. “I think I have the best horse and I just have to put him in the best place, but Nijinsky really impressed me. His North America Cup trip was great and he flipped off cover to outspurt us all, but he really showed what he is made of in the Pace elimination.”

Jamieson will have a difficult assignment on Saturday of navigating post nine, which has produced just two Meadowlands Pace champions (Gallo Blue Chip in 2000 and Allamerican Theory in 2003) in 47 years.

Interestingly, recent history has been very kind to Canadian-trained horses in the Meadowlands Pace. Five of the previous 10 Pace champions have been trained by stables that reside to the north of the border, including Beach Glass (2022, Brent MacGrath), Lawless Shadow (2021, Dr. Ian Moore), Courtly Choice (2018, Blake MacIntosh), Control The Moment (2016, Bradley Maxwell) and He’s Watching (2014, David Menary).

Dividing lines are often blurred in the breeding world as a Canadian group or trainer can purchase a Pennsylvania or New York bred as easily as they can a horse by a Canadian sire. Legendary Hanover was bred by Hanover Shoe Farms, sold at the Lexington Selected Sale for \$260,000, owned by people who live in Maryland, Florida and New York, trained by a Canadian and sired by the Cameo Hills Farm (NY) stallion Huntsville. The same can be said of Captain’s Quarters, who was bred and sold (\$235,000) in Kentucky, purchased by Stiles from Michigan, trained by the Canadian native Holland and a son of the Pennsylvania-based stallion Captaintreacherous.

Canadian stallions are represented by Nijinsky and Mirage Hanover (Bettor’s Delight) as well as Funtime Bayama (He’s Watching). All three finished either first or second in their Pace eliminations and have clear chances to win the final, as do third-place finishers Gem Quality and Captain Albano, the last of which ran into some issues with his gait

before appearing loaded with pace in the stretch.

“He was pretty doubled-up and I had a lot of horse under me. I started to tip him right to make my way to the outside of the two ahead of me and I think he might’ve given his knee a little brush or something,” said Captain Albano’s driver Todd McCarthy. “Because we were at such high speed he just got discombobulated and I really had to take a big hold of him so he could slow down and get his gait back. As soon as he hit his gait again he took right off.”

Despite the elimination issues, McCarthy has lost no faith in the Noel Daley trainee.

“I just have so much faith in that horse. He has so much heart and determination,” said McCarthy.

“Sometimes that just happens

to horses when they are going really fast and they get a little roly. The thing that I love is that he gathered himself up and went forward again. That just speaks volumes of the horse’s ability.”

Rounding out the field are Captain Luke, who got shuffled in his Pace elimination and finished up willingly, and longshots Number Cruncher and Its Saturday Night.

So the questions remains, will a Canadian driver break the 37-year jinx that has kept them from the winner’s circle in the signature race at The Meadowlands?

“I think for a lot of years there was a stigma that when you go to the states you can’t win without an American-based driver,” said James MacDonald. “Over the last few years that stigma has kind of come to an end. Bob [McClure] won the Hambletonian and Louis [Roy], Doug [McNair], myself and a few others have won big races in America. Hopefully we can end that stigma and show we can drive with anyone.”

The Meadowlands Pace is part of a blockbuster Saturday Meadowlands card that includes 14 races and kicks off at 6:20 PM (EDT). The undercard features the \$425,000 Hambletonian Maturity, \$428,000 William Haughton Memorial and eight more stakes while wagering is highlighted by a \$100,000 Guaranteed Pick 4 starting in race eight and ending with the Meadowlands Pace.



HAMBLETONIAN SOCIETY/DEUCE PHOTO  
**Captain Albano is trying to rebound after losing his gait for a period in last weekend’s Meadowlands Pace eliminations.**

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# Silverman's legacy honored in two thrilling Saturday stakes



## JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman

BergmanJay

The late Hall of Famer Jerry Silverman will be honored for the first time on Saturday night with a race in his name at The Meadowlands, a site he came to prominence at during its infancy. Silverman's decades in the business gained public attention in the mid-60's when at the age of 31 he guided Romeo Hanover through a Triple Crown of Pacing season. Yet it wasn't until the arrival of the Meadowlands in late 1976 and the subsequent start of its Million Dollar Babies stakes races for 2-year-olds that Silverman and a host of eager owners began investing at the yearling sales and looking for prospects to pursue the seven-figure purses.



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**Jerry Silverman was an expert at developing young talent.**

man's success and at the time of the Million Dollar Babies they helped fuel the yearling sales as buyers were thrilled with the potential to race fillies and then turn them into broodmares in a universe that at the time was expanding rapidly.

One of Jerry's prized fillies showed brilliance early in her career but was unable to showcase her talents over time. The Big Towner filly Rodine Hanover got plenty of notice when she won as a 2-year-old in a 1:54 mile at Springfield (a wickedly fast mile for the times) and some of that was typical Jerry Silverman hype. Most of it had to do with the blinding speed Rodine Hanover exhibited on the racetrack.

Much of Rodine Hanover's excellence on the racetrack came as a 2-year-old, as she won six of her 13 starts in 1984 but would struggle with only one victory in seven starts as a sophomore. Rightfully so at the time, Rodine Hanover's racing career would be the perfect one for those looking to breed mares with proven early success and high speed for future generations. The sport was hungry for those that could advance the breed and produce champions that hit the ground pacing in time for the seven-figure races at The Meadowlands.

Silverman's ability to spot horses with talent was exceptional but in the case of Rodine Hanover, a horse that he became attracted to as a yearling, the connection was pedigree. While she lacked something in the way of size, Rodine Hanover had the blood of champions and Silverman knew that firsthand. Her dam Romona Hanover was in fact a full sister to the 1966 Triple Crown winner Romeo Hanover.

That Silverman found gold in Rodine Hanover may look like a no-brainer today considering the breeding connection, but that wouldn't be fair to conclude since Romeo Hanover had a far more accomplished sister in the champion filly Romalie Hanover that never quite caught on as a broodmare.

While Silverman may have been recognized initially for Romeo Hanover and later some quality pacing colts like upset Meadowlands Pace winner Hilarion (1986) as well as Die Laughing, to me he'll always be remembered for having a keen eye towards pacing fillies, with many ready to peak early in their 2-year-old seasons.

It was those fillies that were key to Silver-

In honoring Silverman's memory with the re-titling of the Mistletoe Shalee, a race that has two divisions this Saturday at The Meadowlands, the track has somehow come up with the race of the year for those sophomore pacing fillies Silverman would have loved to have found at auction or trained up to this very level. The second \$100,000 division (race 12) may well be one of the best collections of sophomore fillies in one race The Meadowlands has seen in quite some time. With due respect to last year's final. Mistletoe Shalee champion Sylvia Hanover's epic performance in defeating archival Twin B Joe Fresh, the 10 fillies assembled in the second Silverman stanza make this race much deeper.

It is no surprise that nearly 40 years following Rodine Hanover's days on the racetrack, both daughters and sons descending from her life as a broodmare find themselves in the very race honoring Silverman. Take Miraculous Deo (post 2) as a primary example. Her dam Worldly Beauty was able to achieve on the racetrack in a major way, earning \$1.9 million in the process. To many of the sport's history buffs, Worldly Beauty's size and high speed reminded them of her granddam Rodine Hanover in so many ways. They were both on the small side but had incredibly high turn of foot. Rodine's daughter World Order is the dam of Worldly Beauty, and while she is lesser known among the family hierarchy, it should be noted that World Order retired as the third richest daughter by Nihilator, a champion on the racetrack but less so in the breeding shed.

While Miraculous Deo carries the blood of Rodine Hanover, that may not be enough for her to capture the first Jerry Silverman Memorial. Another filly from the identical maternal family, Odds On Steno, a filly by Bettor's Wish that drew post six, could be the sleeper that helps complete the fairytale story. The New Jersey Sire Stakes champion has captured three of her four starts this year for trainer Tony Alagna. Odds On Steno's dam Odds On St Lucie hails from the now more famous side of the Rodine Hanover family. She's a daughter of She's Some Treasure, herself a full sister to champion racehorse and leading sire Captaintreacherous. Worldly Beauty's full sister Worldly Treasure earned \$1.8 million less on the racetrack, but her worth in the breeding shed far exceeds that for the family and the sport.

Captaintreacherous is well-represented in the Silverman Memorial with three fillies in the second division – Flawless (post 1), Reigning Jade (post 3) and Rocket Deo (post 9) – and one in the fifth race first division, Caviart Belle (post 8).

Both Flawless and Rocket Deo have put forth quality sophomore seasons after limited success as 2-year-olds. Flawless, a filly that was more than 100-1 versus this quality in the Fan Hanover, has found her form in Pennsylvania Sire Stake action recently for trainer Nancy Takter and enters the Silverman with high speed and confidence following a 1:49 3/5 victory on June 30 at Harrah's Philadelphia.

Rocket Deo (post 9) has two Sire Stakes wins to her credit among four wins in five starts this year.

Breeding roots aside, what makes the first edition of the Jerry Silverman Memorial must-see is the rematch of My Girl EJ (post 4) and Fan Hanover champion It's A Love Thing (post 5). Last year's Breeders Crown champion My Girl EJ finished third behind Its A Love Thing in the Fan Hanover but since then has looked every part the champion with a pair of Sire Stakes wins to her credit. The Sweet Lou-sired homebred hopes to give leading trainer Ron Burke his first-ever win in this stakes event.

Its A Love Thing showed speed and determination in her first-over Fan Hanover score and makes her Meadowlands debut on Saturday night for trainer Dave Menary.

The role of trainer in this sport has taken on different meanings over time. Jerry Silverman was likely ahead of his time in crafting relationships with owners and the media in a way that helped advance his career and the sport we love at the same time.

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# Del Miller provides one final stakes test for Hambletonian Oaks

By Jay Bergman

With the Hambletonian Oaks scheduled for three weeks from Saturday, the gloves are beginning to come off and the trainers are sparring for the last time hoping to have their trotting fillies in perfect condition.

For trainer Marcus Melander, the gloves in the form of shoes came off in the last start of Date Night Hanover and the daughter of Chapter Seven found the winner's circle for the first time this year, capturing the Zweig filly division at Vernon in a career-best 1:51 4/5 on July 4.

Date Night Hanover faces eight fillies including a few with exceptional talent in one of two \$125,000 divisions of the Del Miller Memorial at The Meadowlands on the stakes-filled Saturday night (July 13) program.

"I was very happy with the way she's come back in the first few races," said Melander of Date Night Hanover. "She qualified well and finished well in those first two starts. She was OK in the Empire Breeders and then got jammed up in her next race at Yonkers."

For Melander, there was still an enormous résumé to build upon with Date Night Hanover, a \$600,000 purchase at Harrisburg in 2022 that enjoyed a solid season as a 2-year-old.

"She raced well last year winning the Kentucky championships at The Red Mile," said Melander, "but then she got sick along with a lot of the rest of the stable and didn't come back strongly after that."

As far as Date Night Hanover's recent equipment change and the difference it made, Melander has been plotting shoe removal for some time.

"I wanted to be prepared to take the shoes off under the right conditions for the Oaks," said Melander. "I thought about doing it at The Meadowlands but was concerned the surface might be too hard. The conditions at Vernon were perfect and after she warmed up, I decided to pull them before the Zweig."

Date Night Hanover responded to the newfound freedom and went on the offensive first-over for Dexter Dunn, overpowering her rivals and drawing clear with a 27 1/5 final quarter and a personal best clocking. Among the fillies she defeated was last year's Breeders Crown champion Warrawee Michelle, who couldn't match strides with her on the backstretch or to the finish.

Saturday's second Miller division (race 13) not only finds Date Night Hanover on the outside of the field but sees her facing perhaps the best collection of quality horses all year. Trainer Noel Daley has had high praise for Buy A Round and following her victory in the Reynolds (June 29) at The Meadowlands it's pretty easy to see why.

"There's three horses in my stable that I wouldn't trade for any others," said Daley, referring to Meadowlands Pace finalist Captain Albano, a 2-year-old filly and Buy A Round. "Look at how she raced after 42 days off."

Visual proof was on display in a major way with Buy A Round's quick turn of foot disposing of favored Honey's Sweet on the backstretch and her finishing off the mile on cruise control. A winner in six of nine starts as a freshman, the homebred Buy A Round won for the second time in three starts this year with Daley's filly looking better with each start. Buy A Round drew post seven and that could be an obstacle for a filly that seems at her best when finishing miles.

The New Jersey-bred Allegiant (post 3) has taken her act on the road recently with Grand Circuit victories in the Currier & Ives (June 7) and Moni Maker (July 6) to her credit. A daughter of Tactical Landing, Allegiant returns to the mile track with confidence and a solid draw, with post three for trainer Vernon Beachy in this division.

Honey's Sweet, one of four fillies in the field sired by Chapter Seven,



FOTOWON

Date Night Hanover looks to build on her Zweig Filly win at Vernon.

drew post two as she looks to rebound for trainer Tony Alagna. A winner of the Empire Breeders Classic on June 14 at Vernon, Honey's Sweet has shown the talent to upset.

Trainer Ake Svanstedt is never in short supply for the sport's major 3-year-old contests and his Senorita Palema (post 1) and Slip Sliding Away (post 6) could be ready to rise to the occasion as the competition becomes more meaningful. Senorita Palema overcame post eight in a runner-up spot to Date Night Hanover in the Zweig and now has post advantage over her main rivals.

Svanstedt has a pair in the first Miller division (race 4), with New Jersey Sire Stakes champion French Champagne (post 6) meeting eight rivals, among them Svanstedt's Warrawee Michelle (post 8) making just her second start as a sophomore.

French Champagne took a lifetime best 1:52 1/5 mark in capturing the New Jersey Sire Stakes in May over The Meadowlands surface. The Muscle Hill-sired homebred has won seven of her 13 career starts.

Warrawee Michelle could have been short entering the Zweig at Vernon on July 4 considering she had only qualified once and that came nearly a month earlier at The Meadowlands. The Walner-sired filly is likely to be more assertive in her second sophomore start.

Soiree Hanover (post 9) won six of her 10 starts as a freshman and was just a head behind Warrawee Michelle in the Breeders Crown final. Soiree Hanover wasn't ready to trot home in 26 seconds in her first start, finishing off the board for just the second time in her career in the Reynolds on June 29.

Chapambro has yet to win in five starts this year but this exceptionally well-bred daughter of Chapter Seven showed speed and staying power timed in 1:51 in an overnight race at The Meadowlands on July 6 and could be primed for a major effort for trainer Trond Smedshammer from post three.

The Del Miller divisions go as races four and 13 on the 14-race card. Post time is 6:20 PM (EDT).

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# MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT HANDICAPPING



**GARNET BARNSDALE**



**JAY BERGMAN**



**RAY COTOLO**



**DERICK GWERNER**



**MELISSA KEITH**



**MIKE PRIBOZIE**



**GREG REINHART**



**MATT ROSE**



**DARIN ZOCCALI**

**Race 4**  
**\$125,000**  
**Del Miller Memorial**

Start of \$50K All-Stakes Pick 4

(9) SOIREE HANOVER got a tightener in; it's go time now.  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE

(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE has been solid thus far for Svanstedt.  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE  
(3) CHAPARM-BRO

(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE is the most in-form and should be well placed.  
(3) CHAPARM-BRO  
(9) SOIREE HANOVER

(3) CHAPARM-BRO is coming off a 1:51 mile and should be in prime position.  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE

**(3) CHAPARM-BRO** was runner-up in fastest 2024 mile by 3YO trotter.  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE  
(7) COOL MA BELLE

(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE kicks fast every week; Ake exacta likely.  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE  
(9) SOIREE HANOVER

(3) CHAPARM-BRO went a big mile last week & draws well.  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE

(9) SOIREE HANOVER is hindered by post but will be moving forward.  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE  
(4) GLAMOROUS HANOVER

(9) SOIREE HANOVER should be fit and ready to go in her 2nd off layoff.  
(8) WARRAWEE MICHELLE  
(6) FRENCH CHAMPAGNE

**Race 5**  
**\$100,000**  
**Jerry Silverman Memorial**

(8) CAVIART BELLE excels here; 7-4-3-0 record at The Mecca.  
(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP  
(2) PASS LINE

(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP impressed over this surface; can surprise.  
(1) LYONS LEGEND  
(8) CAVIART BELLE

(8) CAVIART BELLE is good over this track and remains a threat.  
(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP  
(2) PASS LINE

(2) PASS LINE perked up with Lasix and has turned the corner.  
(1) LYONS LEGEND  
(8) CAVIART BELLE

(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP was covered-up last at Harrah's Philly in latest; loose late.  
(7) ASWEET-BEACHHERE  
(2) PASS LINE

(2) PASS LINE was exceptional at 2; added lasix in last.  
(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP  
(8) CAVIART BELLE

(8) CAVIART BELLE returns to the track she races best at.  
(3) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP  
(1) LYONS LEGEND

(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP was respectable in the Fan Hanover and a Big M winner prior.  
(8) CAVIART BELLE  
(2) PASS LINE

(1) LYONS LEGEND is rapidly improving for King; ready for a top effort?  
(8) CAVIART BELLE  
(4) CANIG-ETALOUPOUP

**Race 6**  
**\$135,000**  
**Stanley Dancer Memorial**

**(8) KARL** is the King and he keeps rolling.  
(6) MARS HILL  
(1) TONY ADAMS S

**(8) KARL** has been on top of this division since he stepped on the track.  
(6) MARS HILL  
(1) TONY ADAMS S

**(8) KARL** is Karl.  
(1) TONY ADAMS A  
(3) DAME GOOD TIME

(8) KARL gets his toughest test of 2024 and should pass.  
(6) MARS HILL  
(3) DAME GOOD TIME

(8) KARL: Hambo favorite is undefeated and untested this year.  
(1) TONY ADAMS S  
(4) AMAZING CATCH

(8) KARL is impossible to pick against; too fast for these.  
(1) TONY ADAMS S  
(2) SIG SAUER

(3) DAME GOOD TIME gets the acid test tonight; is fast enough.  
(8) KARL  
(1) TONY ADAMS S

**(8) KARL** looks like Yannick's Hambo winner; takes another.  
(3) DAME GOOD TIME  
(7) SECURITY PROTECTED

(8) KARL went 1:51 without breaking a sweat last out.  
(1) TONY ADAMS S  
(3) DAME GOOD TIME

**Race 7**  
**\$140,000**  
**Dorothy Haughton Memorial**

(3) SYLVIA HANOVER is getting better and she's not going winless in 2024.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(1) GRACE HILL

(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH can make her own trip when necessary.  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER  
(5) ALWAYS B NAUGHTY

(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH has yet to go full torque and still dominates.  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER  
(6) STRONG POISON

(1) GRACE HILL is back on track and a potential price play vs. heavy chalk #2.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER

(4) SILVER LABEL won two 2023 M1 stakes; outperformed odds in Perfect Sting.  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH

(3) SYLVIA HANOVER just missed in last; should find a win here.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(4) SILVER LABEL

(1) GRACE HILL is back in form; can steal this on the lead.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER

(3) SYLVIA HANOVER is getting closer to reaching 'Joe Fresh' and can edge by tonight.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(7) ZANATTA

(1) GRACE HILL may have found her form in time for a race known for upsets.  
(2) TWIN B JOE FRESH  
(3) SYLVIA HANOVER

**Race 8**  
**\$135,000**  
**Stanley Dancer Memorial**

Start of \$100K All-Stakes Pick 4

(5) HIGHLAND KISMET gets class tested; should be up to it.  
(2) T C I  
(6) SITUATION-SHIP

(5) HIGHLAND KISMET is a potential star who seems up to biggest test.  
(6) SITUATION-SHIP  
(2) T C I

(5) HIGHLAND KISMET gets good shot at strong American introduction.  
(2) T C I  
(4) GRUESOME TWOSOME

(6) SITUATION-SHIP is better on the big track and has the speed to get position at a price.  
(5) HIGHLAND KISMET  
(1) CABALLERO

(5) HIGHLAND KISMET going-away Goodtimes winner makes M1 debut en route to Hambo.  
(2) T C I  
(6) SITUATION-SHIP

(6) SITUATION-SHIP gets coveted big track; better at age 3.  
(5) HIGHLAND KISMET  
(2) T C I

(1) CABALLERO had trot in Reynolds; second-time with Tetrick  
(5) HIGHLAND KISMET  
(2) T C I

(2) T C I has the experience edge on this oval and tactical edge.  
(5) HIGHLAND KISMET  
(6) SITUATION-SHIP

**(5) HIGHLAND KISMET** is the new kid on the block and proves he's a Hambo threat.  
(2) T C I  
(6) SITUATION-SHIP

**Race 9**  
**\$425,000**  
**Hambletonian Maturity**

(2) CALL ME GOO was a victim of pace in the Six Pack.  
(7) SPECIAL WAY  
(5) HASTY BID

(7) SPECIAL WAY has gotten better with each start and seems primed.  
(4) BESTFRIEND VOLO  
(11) WINNER'S BET

(7) SPECIAL WAY is returning to form when it matters.  
(12) FRENCH WINE  
(9) GHOSTLY CASPER

(7) SPECIAL WAY needs to show speed and prove she can handle the front.  
(12) FRENCH WINE  
(11) WINNER'S BET

(7) SPECIAL WAY just missed in Graduate final; closed in field's-fastest 26 3/5.  
(11) WINNER'S BET  
(3) ARI FERRARI J

**(7) SPECIAL WAY** needs no Lasix; draws better; speed coming.  
(5) HASTY BID  
(11) WINNER'S BET

**(7) SPECIAL WAY** has been close in 2024; comes through tonight.  
(4) BESTFRIEND VOLO  
(3) ARI FERRARI J

(7) SPECIAL WAY is still winless on season but razor-sharp; good post in bulky field.  
(5) HASTY BID  
(2) CALL ME GOO

(7) SPECIAL WAY has been knocking on the door and just needs the right trip here.  
(11) WINNER'S BET  
(2) CALL ME GOO



# MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT HANDICAPPING



**GARNET BARNSDALE**



**JAY BERGMAN**



**RAY COTOLO**



**DERICK GWONER**



**MELISSA KEITH**



**MIKE PRIBOZIE**



**GREG REINHART**



**MATT ROSE**



**DARIN ZOCCALI**

<p><b>Race 10</b> \$428,000 <i>William Haughton Memorial</i></p>	<p>(2) CHARLIE MAY draws well and always performs here. (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER (1) ALLYWAG HANOVER</p>	<p>(2) CHARLIE MAY just seems to thrive over this track; post edge. (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER (1) ALLYWAG HANOVER</p>	<p>(5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER is the best trip horse with a clear path. (2) CHARLIE MAY (4) VOUCHEFALAS</p>	<p>(1) ALLYWAG HANOVER has the foundation he needs to fire a big shot. (4) VOUCHEFALAS (2) CHARLIE MAY</p>	<p>(2) CHARLIE MAY: 2023 Haughton winner gets post relief after strong Brower. (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER (4) VOUCHEFALAS</p>	<p>(2) CHARLIE MAY won this last year, loves this racetrack; price again. (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER (1) ALLYWAG HANOVER</p>	<p>(1) ALLYWAG HANOVER just needs a clean trip, unlike last time. (2) CHARLIE MAY (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER</p>	<p>(7) IT'S MY SHOW was a top 3YO inching towards peak form and looks at perfect tow for upset. (5) ABUCKABETT HANOVER (2) CHARLIE MAY</p>	<p>(2) CHARLIE MAY has a knack for racing huge at The Meadowlands. (5) ABUCKAETT HANOVER (1) ALLYWAG HANOVER</p>
<p><b>Race 11</b> \$650,000 <i>Meadowlands Pace Final</i></p>	<p>(2) FUNTIME BAYAMA went a big trip in elim, turns the tables tonight. (3) NIJINSKY (6) LEGENDARY HANOVER</p>	<p>(3) NIJINSKY has the power and the will to handle big assignment. (2) FUNTIME BAYAMA (7) CAPTAIN ALBANO</p>	<p>(8) CAPTAIN LUKE may triumph over potential speed mayhem. (3) NIJINSKY (2) FUNTIME BAYAMA</p>	<p>(7) CAPTAIN ALBANO is as good as any in here and will offer great value. (4) MIRAGE HANOVER (3) NIJINSKY</p>	<p>(8) CAPTAIN LUKE was first off gate in elim; passing horses in stretch (6) LEGENDARY HANOVER (3) NIJINSKY</p>	<p>(3) NIJINSKY is the best right now; can win with any trip. (2) FUNTIME BAYAMA (9) CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS</p>	<p>(7) CAPTAIN ALBANO will be better than last week and with value. (2) FUNTIME BAYAMA (3) NIJINSKY</p>	<p>(6) LEGENDARY HANOVER had an easy trip but epic sprint in elim; gutsy trip in NA Cup; fair price. (3) NIJINSKY (8) CAPTAIN LUKE</p>	<p>(2) FUNTIME BAYAMA went a huge trip in his elimination; Dunn will put him in the right spot (3) NIJINSKY (6) LEGENDARY HANOVER</p>
<p><b>Race 12</b> \$100,000 <i>Jerry Silverman Memorial</i></p>	<p>(5) ITS A LOVE THING: Fan Hanover win was outstanding. (4) MY GIRL EJ (9) ROCKET DEO</p>	<p>(4) MY GIRL EJ is back in top form and makes amends here. (1) FLAWLESS (5) ITS A LOVE THING</p>	<p>(5) ITS A LOVE THING likely stalks and is vicious off a helmet. (4) MY GIRL EJ (9) ROCKET DEO</p>	<p>(4) MY GIRL EJ is coming into the race in great form. (5) ITS A LOVE THING (1) FLAWLESS</p>	<p>(5) ITS A LOVE THING returns after matching Canadian record in Fan Hanover final. (1) FLAWLESS (4) MY GIRL EJ</p>	<p>(4) MY GIRL EJ has speed, class and wins over this surface. (5) ITS A LOVE THING (1) FLAWLESS</p>	<p>(5) ITS A LOVE THING went a giant trip in the Fan Hanover final. (4) MY GIRL EJ (1) FLAWLESS</p>	<p>(4) MY GIRL EJ was the 2YO Crown champ and Burke filly gets slight nod. (1) FLAWLESS (5) ITS A LOVE THING</p>	<p>(4) MY GIRL EJ never gives a poor showing and there's no reason to expect otherwise. (5) ITS A LOVE THING (9) ROCKET DEO</p>
<p><b>Race 13</b> \$125,000 <i>Del Miller Memorial</i></p>	<p>(3) ALLEGIANT looked great winning the Moni Maker last week. (7) BUY A ROUND (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER</p>	<p>(7) BUY A ROUND looks ready to show her brilliance for Daley. (3) ALLEGIANT (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER</p>	<p>(3) ALLEGIANT is serious speed if given smooth sailing. (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER (1) SENORITA PALEMA</p>	<p><b>(7) BUY A ROUND</b> powered away from her foes in last and is only getting better. (3) ALLEGIANT (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER</p>	<p>(5) R MELINA moves to big track; 2023 Goldsmith Maid elim winner. (7) BUY A ROUND (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER</p>	<p>(3) ALLEGIANT returned with a sparkling win; Scotty Z lands here. (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER (7) BUY A ROUND</p>	<p>(3) ALLEGIANT looks sharper now than she did earlier this year. (7) BUY A ROUND (9) DATE NIGHT HANOVER</p>	<p>(7) BUY A ROUND was sick for the NJSS final but bounced back with sharp performance in Reynolds. (3) ALLEGIANT (5) R MELINA</p>	<p>(7) BUY A ROUND came back with a vengeance off some missed time; looked great (3) ALLEGIANT (1) SENORITA PALEMA</p>
<p><b>\$100,000 All-Stakes Pick 4 Races 8-11</b></p>	<p>R8: 5 R9: 2,4,5,6,7 R10: 1,2,5 R11: 2,3,6 Total = \$22.50</p>	<p>R8: 5 R9: 4,7,11 R10: 2,5 R11: 3 Total = \$3</p>	<p>R8: 2,5 R9: 7 R10: 1,2,4,5 R11: 2,3,6,7,8,9 Total = \$24</p>	<p>R8: 5,6 R9: 7,11,12 R10: 1,2,4 R11: 3,4,7,9 Total = \$36</p>	<p>R8: 2,5 R9: 7,11 R10: 1,2,4,5 R11: 2,3,8,9 Total = \$32</p>	<p>R8: 2,5,6 R9: 5,7 R10: 1,2,5,10 R11: 3 Total = \$12</p>	<p>R8: 1,2,5 R9: 7 R10: 1,2 R11: 2,3,7,9 Total = \$12</p>	<p>R8: 2,5 R9: 2,5,7 R10: 2,5,7 R11: 3,6 Total = \$18</p>	<p>R8: 5 R9: 1-8,11 R10: 1,2,5 R11: 2,3,6 Total = \$40.50</p>



**MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT!**

**SATURDAY, JULY 13 | POST TIME 6:20 PM EDT**

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# Marty Monkouser reaches the end of his career for Strattons



## HARNESS FOCUS

By Jessica Hallett

X @JHallettPhoto

In a game with a lot of uncertainties, there happen to be a few guarantees involved – changes, travel, and milestones.

Changes are guaranteed in harness racing. From one day to the next, the barn can change, horses change, and horsemen change. Even something as simple as equipment changes as often as the calendar changes. Changes are expected. Travel is also expected. Whether for the horsemen, the horse, or both, a lot of time is spent on the road. There is always a lot of movement – to ship and race or to move to a new home. And milestones. There's always the milestone of a first time to the track, first race, and first win before moving on to the greater achievements and then the benchmark that celebrates the finale of a career.

For the Strattons, these certainties are all true, especially with their horse and latest retiree, Marty Monkouser A.

Marty Monkouser A is a 15-year-old gelded son of Village Jasper – Penny The Pussycat foaled in Australia. In his time Down Under, 'Marty' added triumphs in the Breeders Crown to his résumé. Under the guidance of Shane and Lauren Tritton, he raced overseas until about halfway through his 6-year-old campaign. In June of 2016, Marty moved stateside under the guidance of Jody Riedel until October 2019 when Cory Stratton claimed him out of Yonkers.

After a second in the first start, Jordan Stratton drove the gelding to his first win under trainer Cory Stratton. The pair had four starts together before the barn shuffled. In late 2020, Marty even moved north to race in Canada for five months before returning to the care of Cory in October 2020. In May 2021, the barn shuffled again off a claimer and it wasn't until late 2021 that Marty was a mainstay in the Stratton barn.

In June 2023, Vicki Stratton took over training Marty and Cory drove him to victory. He was once again claimed in August 2023 and raced in Pennsylvania until March 2024.

"Last year he got claimed as a 14-year-old at Pocono and we made a promise that we would get him back no matter what. We tried to buy him back at the end of last year, but it just didn't work. In March of this year, we bought him back for \$6,500," Cory said. "Before he was claimed last time, I promised Vicki that he would be her amateur horse so I had to get him back."

April 5, 2024 was their first start together with Vicki in the bike for Cory. The race was an \$11,500 Meadowlands Amateur Drivers Club event with 10 entered at The Meadowlands. Vicki sent Marty forward off the center of the wings and achieved the early lead. Without looking back and opening up at every pole in 27 4/5, 56, and 1:23 4/5, Vicki and Marty stormed home to win by 11 lengths in 1:53 1/5. A milestone victory. The win was Vicki's first career driving win.

"Her first race she won I was actually at Yonkers and I made it over just as they were behind the gate, but she took a victory lap just to make sure I made it to the winner's circle," Cory said. "She didn't know if I was going to make it or not. I texted her, my GPS showed 6:25 p.m. and there ended up being a delay and the race went off at 6:27 p.m., but she took a victory lap just to make sure that I was there. We were both crying in the winner's circle."

"It was pretty awesome to get my first win with him considering he's been in and out of the barn however many times and he's just such a cool horse," said Vicki. "You train him and never know he's as old as he is. He can be a little bit funny like if you don't know him, he can catch you off guard a little bit. He really is a perfect gentleman. Through the mile, I never thought about it any time I've drove before, but I looked up at the Jumbotron of us out there on the screen and I was like wow, that's pretty cool. Then I looked over there after we won and it was just a surreal feeling."

Marty and Vicki shared the track for 12 starts, winning another race on May 10 by 3-1/2 lengths in 1:54 3/5.

Fast forward to their 12th start together on July 5, Marty's planned final start if he wins.

Vicki and Marty lined up in post six in the field of 10. The wings drew



JAMES LISA/LISA PHOTO

Cory and Vicki Stratton with Marty Monkouser in the winner's circle at The Meadowlands.

away and Kissinbythebeaches and Peter Kleinhans designated themselves as the pacesetter for the mile. Yayas Hot Spot N and Yogi Sheridan got away second to the opening panel in 27 1/5 while Marty Monkouser A was third. The field shuffled en route to the 56 2/5 half and Marty continued along the pylons now in fifth. He was still fifth at the 1:24 4/5 three quarters while Kissinbythebeaches maintained his lead. Turning for home, Marty found an opening to come off the pylons and challenge the leader down the lane. Kissinbythebeaches was relentless, but Marty powered enough to win by a neck in 1:52 2/5. His final win.

"The whole stretch all you could hear was Vicki yelling, come on Marty this is your last one," Cory said.

"She was emotional all day," Cory added. "She knew he would win the other night. It was the same thing, I was at Yonkers and I got there five minutes before the race and she was crying already, so I was like, 'what's wrong?' and she said, 'it's sad that it's his last start'. I said, 'well, if he doesn't win, he's racing again' and she's like 'he's gonna win, I'm telling you.' She knew."

"It was pretty special to get his final career win," Vicki said. "Considering he had spent so much time with so many wins in our barn."

Marty Monkouser A recorded his 61st career tally, moving his record to 61-57-40 in 348 starts with \$765,756 earned. Twenty-three of his 61 wins were with the Strattons.

Technically Marty is eligible to race one more time in the amateur ranks at The Meadowlands since the rules allow for 15-year-olds to earn up to \$25,000 in a year. His yearly total stands at \$24,930 but it was important for the Strattons that he went out a winner.

"I thought it was a cool thing that we got him back and Vicki was able to get her first win. I wanted him to go out a winner so it worked out well the other night. He's absolutely a dream horse to drive for Vicki. He can leave the gate, you can take him off the gate and finish strong. He's really been a blessing for all of us," said Cory. "All three of us – Jordan, Vicki, and myself – have won driving with him, so it's pretty cool."

As a great portion of his life was spent with the Strattons, Marty did not find himself in the harness as often in training.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



JESSICA HALLETT

Marty Monkhouser winning by open lengths at The Meadowlands with Vicki Stratton in the bike.

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13**

“We always towed him [keeping one horse on a lead chain in one hand behind/next to you while having another horse in a jog cart]. He was my favorite to tow because he didn’t do anything wrong, and even though I didn’t necessarily sit behind him a lot, he was always right next to me,” Vicki said. “I could take pictures and videos of him towing and there was never an issue.”

After a life of travel from Australia to the States to Canada and back across the East Coast of the U.S., Marty has found his forever home. His life of travel ends at the Stratton’s new farm in Middletown, New York where he will spend his retirement. The farm is situated on 10 acres and even has a trail in the back.

“We live on a farm so he’ll live in our backyard forever,” Cory said. “I want to keep him in training to train him with the babies next year, but he won’t let anyone beat him so that won’t work. Vicki will start breaking him to ride pretty soon and we plan on going trail riding.

“He loves to be outside,” Cory continued. “He’s kind of a bit of a sourpuss in the barn, he pins his ears, but as soon as you pet him he’s fine. He’s never bit anybody or anything, but as soon as you pet him, he’s perfect. He only tows, we haven’t put a harness on him since he’s been back. He just loves his life. He’s a cool horse, gets along with everybody. He’s one of the toughest horses I’ve ever seen. What he did for Vicki was the most amazing part to me.

“He goes outside with all the good horses every day and comes in, he’s the boss, he does whatever he wants. Anybody can be around him. He can be a little aggressive jogging, but walking anybody can do that. He’s a great horse. He deserves a great home.”

Though she agrees with Cory’s assessment of Marty, Vicki said that Marty does have his quirks.

“He is a perfect gentleman, but you never really know which version of Marty you’re going to get,” Vicki said. “The week prior to his final start, he was kind of a jerk in post parade and I couldn’t get him to turn. Sometimes he’ll get a little hot, not so much to be stupid, but he’ll half throw himself. You don’t feel like you’re going to get thrown out of the bike, but he doesn’t wear an overcheck so when he gets his head down, he’ll get his earplugs out. When I ended up going a first quarter in 25, he was doing that in post parade and got his earplugs out and I was doomed from the word ‘go.’”

The gelding, full of life and personality, is owned in partnership by the Vip Internet Stable LLC and Stratton Stable Inc. He joins another retiree at the Stratton’s farm for a life of well-deserved rest and happiness.

“I owe a lot of thanks to our partners. To pay \$6,500 for a 15-year-old to just race in the amateurs is unrealistic but as soon as I told them they said, ‘we’ll take him.’ It’s good for them, too. A lot of the members that owned him when we first had him bought back into him at 15 and they were all in the winner’s circle the other day. He’s everybody’s favorite horse.”

Now in their stable together, Cory and Vicki have 37 horses.

“Vicki came down and worked for Jeff Gillis from Canada and I was just branching out on my own in 2018 and I had like three horses,” Cory said. “In 2019, Jeff and I bought a few horses together and Marty was actually one of them. We claimed him together and then I sold him and the other one we owned together to Jeff, and we split up and Vicki and I stayed together and grew from there. I had three and then five and then seven, and now we have 37. We’re busy and on the road just about every day, but I wouldn’t change it for the world.”

Cory has 383 wins and over \$6.3 million earned as a trainer, and as a driver he has 710 victories with nearly \$3.4 million earned. Vicki has three wins as a driver, all earned with Marty. As a trainer, she has 30 wins and is just shy of \$270,000 in earnings. The pair traveled to Saratoga Springs last year and won the \$250,000 Joe Gerrity Jr. Memorial Pace with Idealsomemagic A. They travel frequently across the northeast with starts at tracks from Pocono Downs to Yonkers Raceway and the Meadowlands.

Though there are a lot of uncertainties in harness racing, Cory and Vicki Stratton have found their solid ground together and with the help of Marty Monkhouser A.

“Marty’s definitely made me cry multiple times,” Vicki said. “I cried with the first win, cried with the last win. And Cory teased me because I basically cried all day – loading him in the trailer, getting him ready, when I was warming him up, and even now.”



# Dexter Dunn enjoying cool moments with Twin B Joe Fresh

By Ken Weingartner

After teaming up for a memorable stakes-and-milestone win two weeks ago, Twin B Joe Fresh and driver Dexter Dunn return to action Saturday (July 13) in the \$140,000 Dorothy Haughton Memorial for older female pacers at The Meadowlands.

Last time out, Twin B Joe Fresh posted a neck victory over Sylvia Hanover in the Perfect Sting Stakes at the Big M. In addition to being Twin B Joe Fresh's sixth consecutive triumph on the Grand Circuit dating back to last November, it was Dunn's 2,000th win since arriving in the U.S. from New Zealand in the summer of 2018.



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

**Twin B Joe Fresh has won 23 of 32 career races.**

Dunn is among the co-owners of Twin B Joe Fresh, with trainer Chris Ryder, longtime Ryder assistant Peter Trebotica, and Barry Spak.

"I had no idea at all about being close to 2,000 wins," Dunn said. "I came back to the paddock after the race, and they told me. I was already pumped up for winning the race, and that was like a cherry on top. It was quite cool to get it on her."

Dunn won 2,226 races in New Zealand, where he led the Premiership in victories for 10 consecutive years before moving to the States. He has been the U.S. Harness Writers Association's Driver of the Year four times since then, from 2019-2022.

He has sat behind a dozen horses to receive Dan Patch Awards, including 2022 Horse of the Year Bulldog Hanover and 2022 Trotter of the Year Bella Bellini. He has won 15 Breeders Crowns, eighth most in history.

"I've driven a lot of nice horses for a lot of good trainers," Dunn said. "I've been pretty lucky to sit behind these kinds of horses. When I came over (to the U.S.) I was just hoping to do a little bit of good. I couldn't have dreamed of winning the races I have. I still pinch myself sometimes. I'm very thankful."

Twin B Joe Fresh also keeps Dunn pinching himself. The 4-year-old daughter of Roll With Joe-Fresh Breeze has hit the board in 30 of 32 career races, winning 23 and earning \$1.67 million. She finished last season by winning the Matron Stakes and FanDuel Mare Pace Championship, becoming the first 3-year-old filly to defeat her older rivals in the nine-year history of the event.

After a second-place finish against male rivals in her 2024 debut, Twin B Joe Fresh romped to a stakes- and track-record 1:48 2/5 victory in the Betsy Ross Invitational at Harrah's Philadelphia, then captured her elimination and the final of the Roses Are Red Stakes at Woodbine Mohawk Park in Ontario. Her 1:48 clocking in the final was only one-fifth of a second off the Canadian record for a female pacer.

"She's come back super," Dunn said. "Physically, she's gotten stronger. She was already a tank of a horse, but she got bigger, which is kind of hard to believe. On the track, she's pretty intelligent; she knows what she's doing. What makes her so good, too, is she's a dream to drive. You

can really do whatever you want with her. When you ask her to go, she knows it's time to go and does her job."

In the Perfect Sting, Twin B Joe Fresh was fourth heading to the last turn, when Dunn moved her to the outside to follow first-over Sylvia Hanover. Twin B Joe Fresh paced her last quarter in 25 1/5 to overtake Sylvia Hanover, Canada's 2023 Horse of the Year, as they approached the finish line.

"Sylvia Hanover is such a good horse, it was tough to get past her," Dunn said. "It was a really good effort by Joe Fresh."

"Winning a big race is always cool, but it's a special feeling when you own a horse like her, especially with Chris and Pete and the team. I have about one horse a year; I don't expect to get another one like her. We're enjoying the ride with her."

In Saturday's Dorothy Haughton Memorial, Twin B Joe Fresh will see the second-through-fourth place finishers from the Perfect Sting: Sylvia Hanover, Silver Label, and Valar Dohaeris. The nine-horse field also includes Grace Hill, the pacing mare division's Dan Patch Award winner last year, and millionaire Kentucky Sire Stakes champ Strong Poison.

Twin B Joe Fresh, the 8-5 morning-line favorite, will start from post two. Sylvia Hanover, the 5-2 second choice, will leave from post three with driver Bob McClure. Always B Naughty, who was third in the Roses Are Red and second in the Betsy Ross, is next at 5-1 and will go from post five with Andy McCarthy.

The Dorothy Haughton is part of a stakes-filled night at The Meadowlands, highlighted by the \$650,000 Meadowlands Pace for 3-year-olds. The card also includes the \$428,000 William R. Haughton Memorial for older male pacers, \$425,000 E.T. Gerry Jr. Hambletonian Maturity for 4-year-old trotters, and divisions of the Jerry Silverman Memorial (formerly Mistletoe Shalee) for 3-year-old female pacers and Stanley Dancer Memorial and Delvin Miller Memorial for 3-year-old male and female trotters, respectively.

Racing begins at 6:20 p.m. (EDT) at The Meadowlands.



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# Mal Burroughs voted into Harness Racing Hall of Fame

*Tom Aldrich, Bob Boni, Chris Ryder on 2024 Hall of Fame ballot*

The Hall Of Fame Screening Committee of the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), after meeting with a select group of Harness Racing Museum trustees, announces that Malvern (Mal) Burroughs has been elected to the Harness Racing Hall of Fame. The direct election in the Veterans designation is provided for in the USHWA bylaws, allowing for one longtime distinguished contributor to the sport who has cut back on current direct activity being put straight in by the Committee, selecting from nominations made by chapters of USHWA.

Burroughs is often described as a “self-made man,” learning about life by living it with the assistance of the Seton Hall (NJ) Seminary, to which Burroughs always donated his fees as an amateur driver. Burroughs borrowed \$8,000 to purchase a used dump truck, with the business growing to the point of his construction company being used in excavation of the World Trade Towers site and, more importantly to racing, the building in the swampland of northern New Jersey of a racetrack named The Meadowlands, now North America’s flagship harness operation.



BC-THIS PHOTO

**Mal Burroughs (raising trophy on left) won the 1997 Hambletonian.**

Burroughs became an owner in the 1970s, and began to drive his horses in the Billings Amateur Series in the early 1980s. When he needed a full-time trainer to oversee his growing stable, he turned to a Swedish expatriate named Jimmy Takter, himself now a Hall Of Famer – and Burroughs’ harness racing successes really hit high gear, especially after purchasing Malabar Farms in New Jersey with his wife Barbara in 1982.

Burroughs and Takter teamed to produce the filly Gleam, an earner of over \$580,000 and the winner, with Burroughs driving, of the Hambletonian Oaks, filly companion race to the famed Hambletonian. But even brighter lightning was to strike for them only a few years later, with Malabar Man.

This Supergill – Lady Love McBur homebred had a rough start as a 2-year-old in 1996, with Burroughs needing heart surgery and Malabar Man needing to overcome foot difficulties. But at 2 Malabar Man won 13 starts including the Breeders Crown and was voted divisional champion, and at 3 in 1997, he had a storybook campaign, winning the Hambletonian for his amateur driver (still only the second amateur driver to win the classic), the Breeders Crown, the prestigious Orsi Mangelli Trot in Italy, and Horse of the Year honors. Malabar Man will now be “reunited” with his breeder/owner/driver in the Hall.

Malabar Man’s Hambletonian triumph, combined with Gleam’s Oaks win, makes Burroughs one of only a dozen drivers, and the only amateur, to “do the Hambo double,” with many of the other drivers already enshrined in the Hall.

Burroughs always found the time to make major contributions to the sport’s leading organizations, including the Hall Of Fame, the Hambletonian Society, and the Harness Horse Youth Foundation, in addition to

his largesse to the Seton Hall Seminary, which played such a large part in his early life.

Burroughs will be feted for his Hall Of Fame selection on two occasions: the first comes on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at the Dan Patch Awards Banquet hosted by USHWA, to be held at the Rosen Centre in Orlando. The second will be the official date of his Hall induction, Sunday, July 6, 2025, at the annual Hall Of Fame Dinner in Goshen.

## **Aldrich, Boni and Ryder**

The Hall Of Fame Screening Committee of the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), after meeting with a select group of Harness Racing Museum trustees, announces that Tom Aldrich, Bob Boni, and Chris Ryder will appear on this summer’s Hall Of Fame ballot.

The Hall Of Fame candidates, selected from nominations by USHWA’s chapters, will be voted on by members of the Hall Of Fame and by eligible USHWAs. The ballots, which will be distributed within the next few weeks, will also find USHWAs voting for the Communicators Hall Of Fame candidates Judy Davis-Wilson and Debbie Little, put forward by the writers’ directors from chapter nominations. A candidate must receive 75% of the yes-no ballots cast to earn election into the Hall. Results will be announced in mid-summer.

Tom Aldrich is perhaps most renowned for his 30+ years in upper management at Cleveland’s Northfield Park, where his innovation and attention to customer service combined with that of the track’s energetic late owner Carl Milstein and other key executives to make Northfield Park one of the shining examples of racetrack operation in North America, such as inaugurating the FFA pacing event the Battle Of Lake Erie.

A graduate of Ohio State and the University of Cincinnati’s College Of Law, Aldrich had many positive formative steps along the way, working for the Ohio Harness Horsemen’s Association and as Executive Assistant at Harness Tracks of America to double Hall Of Famer Stan Bergstein. It was while serving as general manager of Rosecroft Raceway near D.C. that he met his late wife Lynn, daughter of a Pennsylvania racing family, herself a noted driver, and a worker in several Maryland official capacities.

Bob Boni rode a wave of steadily more-responsible jobs up the harness “ladder” – Pine Hollow Stud; the Wall Street Stable in partnership with Lou Guida, whose most spectacular star was champion Nihilator; Drea-maire Stud; and his own International Bloodstock, now his Northwood Bloodstock Company. The list of champions associated with him is too long to be categorized here, but must include the 1:46 pacer Always B Miki.

The innovator of using videos to market yearlings, Boni serves on the boards of the Harness Racing Museum, the Standardbred Owners and Breeders Association of New Jersey, and is the Chairman of USHWA’s Breeding Awards Committee. He was the point man in ensuring that New Jersey racing received a sizable appropriation from that state’s legislators, helping to revitalize racing in the Garden State.

New Zealand native Chris Ryder worked from a young age with horses – some thoroughbred, until his body outgrew his desire to become a jockey – in his native land, then came to North America with his wife Nicola, a CPA, when she got a job in Manhattan. He quickly established himself as a master of conditioning horses of all varieties, especially top performers, and even more so with female trotters and pacers.

McArdle, Bettor’s Wish, Tattoo Artist and Breeders Crown winner Gem Quality are among the male stakes and FFA stars he has trained. But the list of female Standardbreds benefiting from his services is longer, and just as distinguished: Cathedra Dot Com, Mystical Sunshine, Put On A Show, Party Girl Hill, Niki Hill, I Luv The Nightlife, and today’s star pacing mare Twin B Joe Fresh, now successful at 4 after stellar campaigns at 2 and 3.

The electees will be feted for their Hall Of Fame selection on two occasions: the first comes on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at the Dan Patch Awards Banquet hosted by USHWA, to be held at the Rosen Centre in Orlando. The second will be the official date of the Hall induction ceremonies, Sunday, July 6, 2025, at the annual Hall Of Fame Dinner in Goshen.

**-edited release (USHWA)**







**BY DERICK GIWNER**

Trainer Herb Holland has been immersed with harness racing for the majority of his life. The 67-year-old trainer has been going to the track since his age reached double digits and has maintained a small to mid-size barn for decades.

Good things come to those who wait and luck brought Captain's Quarters to Holland in 2023 and helped him reach new heights for stable earnings. The Captaintreacherous-sired colt finished second in the North America Cup for Holland and heads into Saturday's Meadowlands Pace as a serious contender.

The Canadian-based trainer took time from his busy schedule to discuss Captain's Quarters as well as his personal path in harness racing. Enjoy!

## TRAINER HERB HOLLAND

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

I started at a small track in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia called Black Diamond Park. It was down the road from my house and I started going there full-time as a kid when I was like 11 or 12 years old.

### Was there ever a chance that harness racing wouldn't be your path in life?

No. If I won the Hambletonian or Meadowlands Pace, I have a couple of siblings that might know the importance of it, but that would probably be the extent of it.

### More than 40 years into your career as a trainer, have things gone the way you expected when you started?

I didn't really have any expectations. It was just something I liked to do. Thank God I've been able to withstand the ups and downs. Of course I wanted to be the greatest driver in the world, but I was very average at that. I did win some races at all the major tracks.

### Looking at your stats, there were years when you had only a few horses and others when you had much more. Is that just the ups and downs of the industry?

I went back home to Nova Scotia for a couple of years when my kids were young. Because of the way the industry is, you're never at home and there are long hours with no time for family. So I went home for several years and just raced locally at fair-type tracks.

### Were you able to sustain yourself racing at those tracks?

What helps is that I don't drink, gamble or smoke. I don't have any bad habits to get me in trouble. The purses weren't very much, we were racing for only \$1,000.

### Where are you stabled and how many horses do you have?

Beachwood Acres in Burlington, Ontario. I have a dozen horses.

### What is your favorite track to race at? Why?

Mohawk because of the location and the purses are good. It is home for now.

### What is your favorite thing to do outside of harness racing?

Just chillin' out. I don't have any other hobbies.



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

**Herb Holland was born in Nova Scotia but has spent time training in many regions from Ontario to New Jersey.**

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

Sticktoitiveness, if that is such a word. By trial and error you win the day.

### What is the best advice you've ever gotten or given about harness racing?

Be honest, do the best job you can and have integrity. Integrity is number one.

### What was your best moment in harness racing?

Winning the Metro last year with Captain's Quarters.

### Is it safe to assume that Captain's Quarters is the best horse you've ever trained?

Yes, for sure. And I believe the best is yet to come from him.

### Courtesy of Captain's Quarters you had a career year in terms of earnings in 2023. Is he a dream come true?

I'm sure every trainer likes to have that kind of horse but most of the small trainers don't get horses like that in their barns. There is a big difference buying \$235,000 yearlings and \$20,000 yearlings that certainly can make your average much better.

### Speaking of the \$235K Lexington purchase price by current owner Rich Stiles of Michigan. How did he land in your barn?

I actually bought the yearling for Mr. Stiles at the sale because Greg Peck wasn't able to attend. Mr. Stiles picked the colt out and asked me to look at him and I approved it. Basically he was sent to Greg and eight million things happened wrong and it all went right for me, so to speak.

Greg had lost his license and couldn't race or train anywhere. I guess Mr. Stiles figured because I bid on the horse at the sale for him I deserved a shot. I had never met the guy. Greg called me in Lexington and asked me to look at the colt. When I opened the book I thought 'you have to have a lot of money to buy this colt' and he said it was for a new client.

### When did you first get the horse?

I think it was April 2023.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 19](#)





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

### **Captain's Quarters is one of a handful of horses in the Meadowlands Pace final with a big chance to win. Were you pleased with his elimination?**

I was very pleased. We didn't overtax him but there was a reason for that. He got injured the previous Saturday and I wasn't sure if he was even going to race. He kicked through the bars of his stall and got hung up in them. He was lame the next two days. Tuesday morning, after x-raying him and doing an ultra-sound – and he was sound – we decided to make the trip. He had a light week. I didn't train him, just jogged him light. He was off three weeks and I thought maybe he wouldn't be in top form, so I told Jody [Jamieson] make sure you make the final and drive him accordingly.

### **It sounds like you think Captain's Quarters will be much better in the Pace final, no?**

I don't think he could be much better. He still paced a half in 52 1/5 and home in 24 4/5, but at the same time I don't think we saw the best of him last week.

### **Has Nijinsky proven himself as the divisional leader or do you see it as wide-open?**

He went a big mile last week. I wasn't sure he was for real because he was getting tripped-out every time, but his mile on Saturday he was used hard and hung in there; he looked good.

### **Is the Meadowlands Pace final just going to come down to which horse gets the best trip?**

I would say that will be it. Do I still think I have the best colt? Circumstances got us in the North America Cup. We were used hard on the lead the way the race went. That was basically the first time he was stretched out. I expect him to get better and better. By the time we get to Lexington and some of these other major events they are going to know he's a serious contender.

### **You actually trained at The Meadowlands some 40 years ago. What would returning there to win a race like the Pace Final mean to you?**

I was married there. I'm not with that lady anymore but my daughters live there and will be up with my grandkids from Virginia. To me it is like a second home. I know most of the trainers down there, like Nifty [Norman] and Brett [Pelling]. It's significant to win it for sure.

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

Medications. The rules and some of the illegal things – performance enhancing stuff. It is ruining the horse and it is contributing to the shortage of horses around. That is why a lot of the older guys are not in it anymore, because the younger generation may not be able to put a harness together but they can get them to go. I think it is hurting our industry.

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

I think it is right on the fence and it can go one way or another. I think we need better leadership in Canada and the U.S.

### **What does a day in the life of Herb Holland look like?**

I'm an early riser and I go to the track every time we race. If Mohawk is racing five nights a week, four of them I could be racing. I get up early,



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

### **Captain's Quarters finished second in the North America Cup and is one of the main contenders in Saturday's Meadowlands Pace.**

go feed; I'm five minutes from the track and training center. Whenever I finish I'll go home, relax a little while, and most of the time I have to go back and race.

### **Time for the stretch drive.**

**Best Horse you ever saw:** Somebeachsomewhere would have to rank up there. There might be a trotter that is comparable but as a pacer he is one of the best.

**Lasix – Yes or No:** Yes.

**Trotters or Pacers:** I buy more trotters. Captain's Quarters might be one of only three or four pacers in my barn.



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# The Meadows starter Meshuggah could be a crazy-good trotter

Meshuggah is the Yiddish word for crazy, so if there were a Standardbred named Meshuggah, what images might that conjure up? A fractious young colt trying to dig his way under pasture fences to freedom? A fiery-tempered chestnut filly with a mind of her own?

Actually, there is a freshman colt named Meshuggah, and according to his trainer, Marcus Melander, he's anything but crazy — a perfect gentleman with talent, in fact. He looms large in Friday's \$163,135 Pennsylvania Sires Stake for 2-year-old colt and gelding trotters, known as the Hickory Pride, at Hollywood Casino at The Meadows.

The program also features an \$80,000 PA Stallion Series event for freshman colt and gelding trotters. First post is 5:10 PM.

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Courant Inc, the colt's owner, acquired the son of Greenshoe-Starita for \$120,000 at the Lexington Selected Sale. He sold as Starquake Hanover, but Courant's Anders Strom renamed him for the Swedish extreme metal band Meshuggah. Biographical material about the band, however, indicates the Yiddish word was the inspiration for the group's name, so one way or another, that's where all this craziness begins.

"He's nice to be around and nice to drive," Melander said. "He has a good pedigree, and he's a good-looking horse. He's a big horse who's come to his speed early."

Meshuggah debuted in a PA All-Stars split at Pocono and was a strong second, beaten only a neck in 1:57 2/5. That's his lone start to date.

"He came home in 27 2/5, and I was very happy with him," Melander said. "He's staked to most of the big races, but we'll start in PA Sires Stakes and go from there."

As a game plan, that doesn't sound meshuggah at all.

Meshuggah goes from post 3, race three, with Dave Palone aboard. By the way, the horse that defeated Meshuggah in that PA All-Stars event, the Jim Campbell-trained Fashion Green, also is in the Hickory Pride. He leaves from post 2, race one, with Palone in the sulky.

-edited release (Evan Pattak for MSOA)

## ADIOS DAY TO FEATURE NON-STOP GUARANTEED WAGERS

Hollywood Casino at The Meadows is pleased to announce the "Richest Day in PA" for bettors, as the track will offer a record \$200,000 in guaranteed pools on Saturday, July 27.

Featuring the Delvin Miller Adios Pace, the stake-filled day will guarantee a total of 11 pools during the 16-race card. The richest guarantees come in the Adios Final where the trifecta will be promised at \$50,000 and the superfecta at \$25,000.

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### THURSDAY, JULY 11

#### RACE 5

(9) LITE UP THE WORLD will take plenty of action here based on his debut where he stormed home in 25 4/5 in a Grand Circuit race. He is strictly the one to beat.

-Garnet Barnsdale



**WOODBINE**  
MOHAWK PARK

### FRIDAY, JULY 12

#### RACE 12

(1) RECKLESS ABANDON has a gold star on my trip notes list from her baby races. Last time she was kept on hold until being asked late and was loaded while under a big hold late.

-Derick Givner



#### RACE 10

(2) SILK CLOUD A has been making a good living at the F&M Invite level and now she is able to drop to face a bit easier; class edge and improved post can get her back over the top.

-Matt Rose



### SATURDAY, JULY 13

#### RACE 5

(2) PASS LINE raced with Lasix for the first time in the Nadia Lobell last weekend at Scioto and the race was a clear turning point in my mind. She took a bit of a shuffle and closed good ground in the stretch on a foe that got the jump on her.

-Givner



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# NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

## FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT AND T-SHIRTS ON MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT

Saturday, July 13th is the Meadowlands' signature night-time event – The Meadowlands Pace! On the track, \$2.5 million in stakes is up for grabs, including the top 3-year-old pacers competing for the \$650,000 Meadowlands Pace title.

In addition to the exciting on-track action, fans can ride the mechanical shark, do some axe throwing, dance with DJ ALX, and get a commemorative "Pace Be With You" t-shirt (while supplies last). Fans can also enter to win a \$500 win bet by entering [here](#) (winners must be 18+ and onsite on 7/13 to participate).

Pace Night also hosts the annual Meadowlands Racetrack Burger Battle. From 5 to 11 p.m., nearly 30 food trucks will serve everything from burgers to empanadas, BBQ, lobster rolls, and lemonade.

Those looking for dining have three other options:

- **Café Table for 4 - \$100 (includes \$100 food credit at the Café)**
- **Lounge Bar Seat or Table – (Includes food credit)**
- **\$49.95 Pink Buffet (plus tax & gratuity) – 201-The-BigM for reservations**

All Pace night details can be found [here](#).

-edited release (Meadowlands)

## INDIANA SIRES STAKES DOUBLE FOR TEAM MACOMBER

Two-year-old pacing fillies got their Indiana Sires Stakes season underway with three divisions of the first leg on the Wednesday (July 10) card at Harrah's Hoosier Park. The driver/trainer combo of Ricky and Jamie Macomber secured victories in the first two flights with Loveyoucookie and JK's Flirty Girl before Kaks The Boss and driver Kyle Wilfong stormed to victory in the final section for trainer Jeff Cullipher.

[READ MORE](#)

## INDIANA SIRES STAKES SEASON KICKS OFF FOR FRESHMEN

Two-year-old stakes season kicked-off at Harrah's Hoosier Park on Tuesday, July 9 with three \$45,500 divisions of Indiana Sires Stakes for the trotting fillies highlighting the 13-race card. Despite heavy rain throughout the card, the trotting fillies flashed big-time performances in their first of six rounds of sire stakes.

[READ MORE](#)

## HOMEBREDS VICTORIOUS IN TUESDAY'S OSS GOLD SERIES

The Ontario Sires Stakes Gold Series season for 2-year-old trotting colts and geldings got going on Tuesday night at Woodbine Mohawk Park with two C\$95,000 divisions won by LMC Wagon Wheel and Galen Erso.

LMC Wagon Wheel and trainer/driver Pat Hudon lingered back in fifth through fractions of 28 1/5, 57 1/5 and 1:27 2/5, but Hudon fanned him out widest past three-quarters, and behind a 29 2/5 final kicker, he'd get up to tally by a length in 1:57 4/5. Getthegreen (Roger Mayotte) also closed well from off-the-pace for second and Gravenhurst (Sylvain Filion) came in third.

[READ MORE](#)

## SHENANDOAH FALL MEET TO CLIMAX WITH VIRGINIA CHAMPIONSHIP DAY

Racing applications for the ninth annual fall pari-mutuel harness racing season at Virginia's Shenandoah Downs are now available online. Trainers can access and submit applications at [shenandoahdowns.com](#) under the "Horsemen" header. Deadline to submit an application is August 5.

The 7-week meet in Woodstock will run from September 14 - October 27 with racing every Saturday and Sunday at 1:05 PM. A series of Virginia Breeder's races will begin on September 28 and culminate with a Championship Day on October 27. Two and three-year old pacers and trotters of both sexes will compete in a pair of \$8,000 elimination races prior to the finals. Championship day itself features eight divisional title matches with a minimum \$80,000 purse.

[READ MORE](#)

## ONE-OF-A-KIND MEMORABILIA OPPORTUNITY TO BENEFIT HHYF

The Harness Horse Youth Foundation is most pleased to offer a unique pair of cleats donated by New York Yankees starting pitcher Nestor Cortes Jr. to the highest bidder in a special online auction graciously hosted by Preferred Equine Online.

The shoes which feature Standardbred racehorse Tam Major were worn by Mr. Cortes during the May 2023 Yankees victory versus the Tampa Bay Rays. In exquisite detail, artist Marcus Rivera captured the pacer co-owned in part by Cortes and Joe Lee, member of the Yankees staff and harness racing amateur driver. The cleats will sell "as is" including dirt streaks and field dirt; no certificate of authenticity will be provided.

The auction will open Friday, July 12 at 3PM ET and run through 3PM ET Tuesday, July 16. Bidding may be conducted through [this link](#).

Successful bidder will be notified after the auction closes and payment will be due at that time. Shipping and handling charges will also be paid by the successful bidder. Additional information is available by contacting the HHYF office at 317.908.0029 or [ellen@hhyf.org](mailto:ellen@hhyf.org).

-release (HHYF)

## SATURDAY PICK 5 CARRYOVER WAITING AT MGM NORTHFIELD

On a misty Wednesday night (July 10th) in Ohio a 48-1 winner from the 8-hole lit up a lot of tickets ensuing a \$3,444 carryover in the pick-5. The pool will roll over to the Saturday night (July 13th) program.

The \$1 wager beginning in race 6 will feature an estimated pool of \$20,000 and as always sports the player friendly 14% takeout. There is also a \$1,570 pick-6 carryover starting in race 8 with the 50-cent base.

Post time for the 15 race program on Saturday is 6 p.m.

-edited release (MGM Northfield)

## HISTORIC TRACK RECEIVES \$4,000 FROM MONTI-GOSHEN USHWA

On Saturday's (July 6) card of Goshen Historic Track's Grand Circuit meet the Monticello-Goshen Chapter of the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) made their annual \$4,000 donation to the world renowned harness racing track.

Track president Steve Jones accepted the donation from chapter president Chris Tully and chapter Vice Presidents Shawn Wiles and Janet Terhune.

Jones said, "Year in and year out, we can always count on the Monticello-Goshen chapter for their support. The track is indeed grateful for the decades of unwavering support from our local scribes."

Tully stated that, "Historic Track is one of the truly great places in all of harness racing. Each year the grandstand comes alive amid the cheers from the throngs of racing fans. It is truly a sight to behold. We consider it a privilege to continue to raise money for both of our cherished 'Cradle of the Trotter' facilities."

The organization makes annual donations to both Goshen Historic Track and the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, two separate and distinct entities that share the same hallowed ground and a mutual purpose of preserving and promoting harness racing.

This year's Monticello-Goshen USHWA awards banquet will be the chapter's 65th annual event and is being held at the Wallkill Golf Club on Sunday, December 8, 2024, with plans underway to incorporate and include the presentation of the annual New York Sire Stakes awards.

-edited release (Monti-Goshen USHWA)

## JESSIEJESORJESSICA SEEKS ANOTHER RED SHORES WIN

With a pair of Open Trot victories in the rearview mirror, Jessiejesorjessica will head to the gate in the Thursday evening feature at Red Shores Racetrack and Casino at the Charlottetown Driving Park. The 11-dash program starts off at 6 P.M.

Race 8 is the top assignment in the \$3,300 Open Trot with Jessiejesorjessica the morning line favourite from the assigned post 6 for driver David Dowling, trainer Jennifer Doyle and owner Danny Birt. The Justice Hall 8-year won his last two outings at this level and now sits at 47 lifetime wins.

-edited release (Red Shores)