

BREEDERS CROWN PREVIEW ISSUE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024



CERTIFIED

FRESH



Twin B Joe Fresh could cap off a Horse of the Year campaign with a Breeders Crown victory

DRF BETS CROWN OFFERS: 5% REBATE FRI. / \$10 WIN INSURANCE SAT.

TWIN B JOE FRESH headlines Breeders Crown for Ryder, Dunn

Daley, Melander hold strong hands

By Derick Givner

While all things must come to an end, each conclusion also marks the start of a new beginning. When Twin B Joe Fresh lost her Breeders Crown elimination – and nine-race winning streak – it was certainly unexpected but hardly a detriment to her quest for Horse of the Year.

Twin B Joe Fresh remains the clear leader in the battle for the sport's most coveted yearly equine honor when she takes the stage at The Meadows this weekend along with 120 of the best Standardbreds in North America as they compete for \$7.29 million in purses in the Breeders Crown year-end championships.

A 4-year-old pacing mare, Twin B Joe Fresh has reached the pinnacle of the sport by dominating her division. After a second-place finish to start the year, the daughter of Roll With Joe was unbeatable regardless of trip, not only winning nine straight races but eight of them were stakes events. Then came her Breeders Crown where it seemed like business as usual for the superstar until it wasn't.

Driver and co-owner Dexter Dunn sent Twin B Joe Fresh to the front from post 10 and was able to rate a reasonable middle half of 56 2/5. The pair opened up by a couple of lengths as she began to sprint home in a strong 26 seconds. The victory seemed a certainty until Grace Hill, a winner of over \$1.8 million during her stellar career, ripped off a sizzling 25 3/5 final quarter to power past in the stretch.

"I actually thought she was very good and I wasn't unhappy with her. All winning streaks end and she got beat by a good horse," said trainer Chris Ryder, who co-owns Twin B Joe Fresh along with Peter Trebotica and Barry Spak. "All horses are vulnerable when they cut the fractions from the 10-hole. If there is a good horse in the race they get you."

Despite the defeat, Twin B Joe Fresh stills has the upper hand in the race for Horse of the Year because her closest rivals – the undefeated Jiggy Jog and Chantily – in the weekly Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll won't be competing for the rest of 2024. The former has retired due to injury and the latter isn't eligible to the Breeders Crown. There is a case to be made that if Twin B Joe Fresh can't win the Breeders Crown that Jiggy Jog could win the title without racing.

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BREEDERS CROWN WAGERING HIGHLIGHTS

THE MEADOWLANDS - POST TIME: 6:20 PM (10/25 & 10/26)

| | POST | RACE # | PURSE/CONDITIONS |
|----------|-------|------------------------------------|---|
| FRIDAY | 8:22 | 6 | \$700,000 Breeders Crown 2YO Filly Trot |
| | 8:47 | 7 | \$700,000 Breeders Crown 2YO Filly Pace |
| | 9:22 | 8 | \$700,000 Breeders Crown 2YO Colt Trot |
| | 10:17 | 10 | \$700,000 Breeders Crown 2YO Colt Pace |
| | | | KEY WAGERS: \$100,000 GTD Pick 4 (R6-9) \$10,791 Pick 6 Carryover (R8-13); \$50K GTD Pick 4 (R10-13) |
| | POST | RACE # | PURSE/CONDITIONS |
| SATURDAY | 7:36 | 4 | \$496,000 Breeders Crown Mare Trot |
| | 8:01 | 5 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown 3YO Filly Trot |
| | 8:28 | 6 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown 3YO Filly Pace |
| | 8:55 | 7 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown 3YO Colt Trot |
| | 9:22 | 8 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown Open Pace |
| | 9:49 | 9 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown Open Trot |
| | 10:17 | 10 | \$600,000 Breeders Crown 3YO Colt Pace |
| 10:45 | 11 | \$400,000 Breeders Crown Mare Pace | |
| | | | KEY WAGERS: \$100,000 GTD Pick 4 (R6-9) \$50K GTD Pick 4 (R10-13) |

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All in the family for Crown 2024

Best Bets and Analysis

Karl pulled from Breeders Crown; Crissman-Bier, Teague take Harrington titles

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

DRF Bets



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The Meadows I Post Time: 6:20 PM (EDT)

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Friday & Saturday, October 25 & 26

Breeders Crown on Fox Sports



'America's Day at the Races'

LIVE from The Meadowlands

with Gabe Prewitt and Jessica Otten
and Acacia Clement & Paul Verderosa

FS1 • Friday, Oct. 25 • 8:00–11:00 pm EDT

FS2 • Saturday, Oct. 26 • 7:30–11:00 pm EDT

Breeders Crown Livestream

Fri., Oct. 25 • 8:00–11:00 pm EDT

with Mark McKelvie, Emily Ratcliff & Mike Carter

Sat., Oct. 26 • 7:30–11:00 pm EDT

with Greg Blanchard, Emily Ratcliff & Mike Carter

PLUS post-race interviews with Heather Vitale

LIVE from the Diamond Creek Winners Lounge

★ Hambletonian: Facebook & YouTube channel

★ COSA-TV: Facebook & YouTube channel

Breeders Crown

'In-House' show from The Meadowlands

Fri., Oct. 25 • 5:45–11:30 pm EDT

with Greg Blanchard, Dave Little & Jenna Otten

Sat., Oct. 26 • 5:45–11:30 pm EDT

with Mark McKelvie, Dave Little & Jenna Otten

★ Meadowlands Racetrack: RTN & YouTube channel

USTA Preview Show

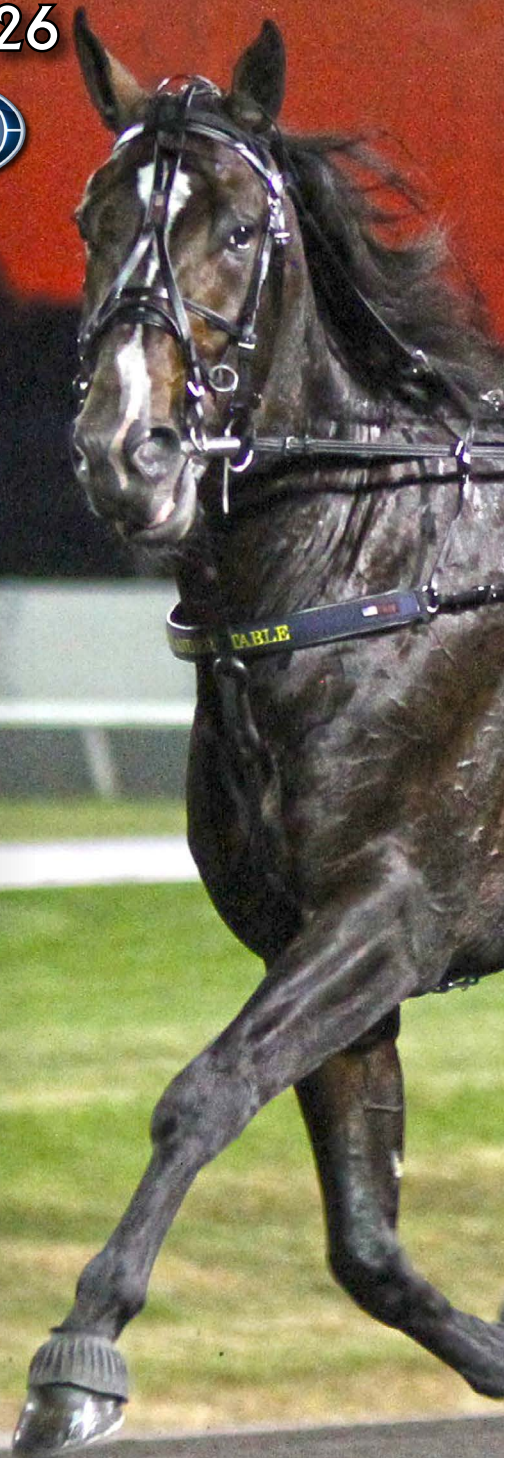
Sat., Oct. 26 • 5:00–6:00 pm EDT

with Wendy Ross and Gabe Prewitt

Breeders Crown

Information and History: hambletonian.com

Meadowlands Racetrack: playmeadowlands.com



\$400,000 MARE PACE - RACE 11 (SATURDAY)

| PP | Horse | Driver | Trainer | Odds |
|----|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | Always B Naughty | Yannick Gingras | Nancy Takter | 10-1 |
| 2 | Strong Poison | Tim Tetrick | Virgil Morgan Jr. | 12-1 |
| 3 | Grace Hill | Todd McCarthy | Virgil Morgan Jr. | 4-1 |
| 4 | Silver Label | Scott Zeron | Nick Gallucci | 8-1 |
| 5 | Twin B Joe Fresh | Dexter Dunn | Chris Ryder | 4-5 |
| 6 | Kobe's Gigi | David Miller | Ron Burke | 20-1 |
| 7 | Beach Cowgirl | Jason Bartlett | Ron Burke | 25-1 |
| 8 | Dabarndawgswatchin | Louis Roy | David Menary | 20-1 |
| 9 | Sylvia Hanover | Bob McClure | Mark Steacy | 6-1 |
| 10 | Valar Dohaeris | Mark MacDonald | Ake Svanstedt | 25-1 |



AMANDA STEPHENS

Driver Dexter Dunn (left) and trainer Chris Ryder are the team behind Twin B Joe Fresh.

the 69-year-old has never had a Horse of the Year.

"We've been runner-up a few times," said Ryder on his past attempts for Horse of the Year. "There is a lot riding on this race. It's ok, I've got broad shoulders, I think. They might not look that big, but I can handle it. It's a challenge and it comes with the territory. I'm just blessed to have a horse in this position.

"I have to be honest, it would mean a lot. I'd be disappointed if I didn't get it. Special things don't happen very often. It's a big achievement."

The retirement of Jiggy Jog combined with a Breeders Crown victory by Twin B Joe Fresh could seal the deal for Ryder, but he certainly wasn't celebrating the trotter's demise.

"I wish everyone luck because we all get our fair share of bad luck," said Ryder. [Jiggy Jog's] a terrific horse and it was a real shame. It just shows you have tough it is when you see these unexpected injuries. You never know what is around the corner even with a sound horse. Things happen when you race."

Twin B Joe Fresh will take on most of the same faces she raced against in her elimination. Silver Label and Strong Poison took byes last week and join the group as Prohibition Legal and Zanatta are excluded after finishing at the back of the pack in the elimination. Twin B Joe Fresh gets a better post to work with this week as she'll start from the five-hole in the \$400,000 Breeders Crown Open Mare Pace slated as race 11 on the Saturday card. Grace Hill goes from post three and Sylvia Hanover, who bested Twin B Joe Fresh throughout their 3-year-old campaigns, has post nine.

"I believe we're in a better position from getting beat than if we had won," said Ryder. "Now we know that we have to be a little careful. You can't just think you're the best and point them. It is ok for a while but sooner or later it catches up to you. Maybe you can win three or four like that and then you don't.

"I'm always concerned going into a race but I'm very optimistic."

Dunn, who has driven some of the best horses in the sport over the last half-dozen years, including the trotting mare Jiggy Jog, marvels at Twin B Joe Fresh's ability.

"She's right up there [as one of the best he's driven], especially what she's done this year. It's the ride of a lifetime owning her," said Dunn.

Others that would seemingly be in contention should the mare lose in her Crown quest on Saturday include top 3-year-old pacing colts Nijinsky and Captain Albano. Both have at least as many wins as Twin B Joe Fresh in slightly more starts, and perhaps more importantly to voters, they have all earned more money than the mare since the male divisions race for higher purses.

For all of Ryder's accomplishments that have gotten him elected to the Harness Racing Hall of Fame this year,

Dunn a force to be reckoned with this weekend

Dexter Dunn has won Driver of the Year honors in four of the last five years and is poised to notch a record-setting fifth title this year with a big Breeders Crown weekend. The New Zealand native is driving four morning-line favorites over the 12 Breeders Crown races, including Champagne Problems in the 2YO Filly Trot and Maryland in the 2YO C&G Trot on Friday, My Girl EJ in the 3-year-old filly pace final and Twin B Joe Fresh in the older mare pace on Saturday.

For Dunn, the rise to stardom since arriving in the United States in 2018 has been unexpected.

"I wanted to do as good as I could but I think my main goal was to win one stakes race," said Dunn. "I didn't know how I was going to do, to be honest."

Dunn, who described his best year in Australia and New Zealand as driving horses to earnings between \$3.5 and \$4 million, has posted six straight seasons of over \$10.8 million since arriving in North America. In 2024 he holds a slim \$400K lead over Yannick Gingras atop the earnings leaderboard at just under \$13 million. Gingras is expected to handle two post-time favorites.

"If you look at the horses I've driven [over the last six years] it has really been amazing. I owe it all to the owners, trainers and horses for giving me the shot," said Dunn. "Chris Ryder and Nifty Norman gave me a shot early, and then Tony Alagna. They put me up in stakes races and got me going."

Daley with plenty of bullets in Crown finals

Noel Daley doesn't have the most starters on Breeders Crown weekend but what he lacks in quantity he's making up for in quality. The trainer will start live longshot Miss Belmar (10-1) in Friday's 2-year-old filly trot (race six), and on Saturday, 8-5 morning-line favorite Captain Albano in the 3-year-old colt and gelding pace (race 10) and 3-1 second choice Sig Sauer for the same age/sex group for trotters (race seven).

Along with one other horse in the \$700,000 filly trot final, Miss Belmar has the lightest résumé at just four starts. After a couple of poor performances to start her career in late August and early September, she closed very well in the International Stallion Stakes at The Red Mile and in her Breeders Crown elimination last weekend, finishing third on both occasions.



LISA PHOTO

Captain Albano was a winner in his Breeders Crown elimination.

"If she was second-over last time instead of third-over, she would've won that," said Daley, who added that the filly will race without shoes in the final. "She's headed in the right direction. I had to start late with her because she wasn't that sound and she's very green. Her last start at Lexington she pulled up at the quarter pole and the three quarter pole. We gave up nine lengths and got beat by a half to a couple of good ones. She is pretty good and she behaved herself and did everything right [in her elimination].

"Because she hasn't had many starts you would think she is still on the up and the others have had enough."

Miss Belmar starts from post seven with Andrew McCarthy in the bike. Champagne Problems (post three, 5-2) was installed as the morning-line

favorite with Scott Zeron driving and Luna Lovegood (3-1) is the second choice with Dexter Dunn steering from post six.

As one of the leading sophomore pacers, Captain Albano provides Daley with his best chance on paper to win a Breeders Crown. The son of Captaintreacherous has posted nine wins in 14 starts for over \$800K in earning in 2024 and could vault well over the million dollar mark with a victory in the \$600,000 final.

In last week's elimination with regular driver Todd McCarthy at the controls, the pair brushed to the front passing the half and fended off a very game Captain Luke to win in a career-best 1:48 1/5. Other than a qualifier on October 10 over the Meadowlands surface, that was his first pari-mutuel start since winning the Little Brown Jug on September 19.

"That was his first start in a month so he should be sharper for the final," said Daley, who was also quick to point out how well Captain Luke and others raced in the eliminations.

Captain Albano's main competition is likely to come from Mirage Hanover (post one) with Dexter Dunn in the bike and Nijinsky (post two, Louis Roy), who were separated by just a head in last week's elimination round.

Daley will send out Sig Sauer in the \$600,000 final for 3-year-old male trotters as the likely second choice behind elimination winner T C I, who went down the road in 1:51 1/5. Sig Sauer finished fourth in the mile and had a bit of trouble handling the surface.

"I had aluminum shoes on him for the first time and he didn't handle them. He won't have shoes next week," said Daley, who raced the horse without shoes in the Kentucky Futurity in his previous start, a 1:49 3/5 victory. "I didn't want to go another week with no shoes, so we put the aluminums on, but he wasn't that safe in them. At least [Andrew McCarthy] got him there."

Sig Sauer won the Kentucky Futurity from post eight and he's saddled with that post again in the Crown final as he battles with not only T C I (post six, David Miller) but also fellow elimination winner Daiquiri Hanover (post two, Ake Svanstedt), Highland Kismet (post four, Tim Tetrick) and Tony Adams S (post 10, James MacDonald).

One Daley starter that didn't make the Breeders Crown final is 3-year-old stakes-winning trotting filly Buy A Round. "She was wild [Saturday] and out of control. It was probably her last start [before being sold at Harrisburg]; terrible way to go out," said Daley.

Melander loaded with trotting talent

Unlike Daley, trainer Marcus Melander has the best of both worlds in

the Breeders Crown with strength in numbers as well as plenty of horsepower. The 32-year-old sends out 10 horses throughout the weekend and an amazing quartet in the \$700,000 colt and gelding trot for 2-year-olds carded as race eight on Friday.

Melander's lead horse in the male freshman Crown trot is multiple stakes winner and divisional leader Maryland, but he is closely followed by Kentucky Sire Stakes champion Super Chapter.

"They are two different horses," said Melander. "I think Super Chapter is quicker off a helmet and Maryland, when he gets up to speed, he can carry it a little longer. They are two very good horses. It's going to be a good race."

The two horses have taken different paths to the final. Maryland (post two, 5-2) last started on September 21 when winning the Mohawk Million and since only qualified on October 10 at The Meadowlands. Super Chapter (post six, 9-2) won at The Red Mile on October 4 and finished second by a head in his Breeders Crown elimination.

"Obviously we had the qualifier with Maryland and we wanted to take it a little easy because he was fired up in the Mohawk Million. He closed good; never asked him really. He trained great this morning [Oct. 19], so I'm confident. It's not like he had eight weeks off. It is five weeks and he raced really tough going from Canada to Hoosier to New Jersey. He needed that break. He's just a 2-year-old," said Melander, who didn't discount his other two starters as well. "Both of those colts can win and Blank [post eight, 20-1] raced huge in his elimination. Meshuggah [post one, 8-1] raced great on the lead."

Dexter Dunn had a choice between Maryland and Super Chapter and chose the former. David Miller gets the assignment on Super Chapter while James MacDonald drives Meshuggah and Andrew McCarthy is on Blank.

As for the rest of his six-pack of starters, Melander felt Kadena would be an exotics factor in the \$700,000 Crown for 2-year-old trotting fillies (race six) and Luna Lovegood was a force to be reckoned with in the same event. He has high hopes for Date Night Hanover (post seven) on Saturday in the \$600,000 sophomore Crown for trotting fillies (race five) and lamented her bad luck this year.

"Date Night raced great again; tough trip for her [in the elimination. She's had bad luck with post positions in the big races," said Melander, who also has a big shot with Periculum (post seven) and Oh Well (post 11) in the \$600,000 Open Trot, race nine on Saturday.

All of the Breeders Crown festivities get underway at 6:20 PM each night and the track will offer multiple guaranteed wagers, including \$100K Pick 4's in race 6 and \$50K Pick 4's in race 10 on both cards. Friday's program also features a \$10,791 Pick 6 carryover commencing in race eight.

\$700,000 2-YEAR-OLD FILLY TROT - RACE 6 (FRIDAY)

| PP Horse | Driver | Trainer | Odds |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| 1 Sound Judgement | David Miller | Jim Oscarsson | 5-1 |
| 2 Delaney Hanover | Tim Tetrick | Lucas Wallin | 6-1 |
| 3 Champagne Problems | Scott Zeron | Nancy Takter | 5-2 |
| 4 Kadena | Doug McNair | Marcus Melander | 20-1 |
| 5 Lady Landia | James MacDonald | Ake Svanstedt | 7-2 |
| 6 Luna Lovegood | Dexter Dunn | Marcus Melander | 3-1 |
| 7 Miss Belmar | Andrew McCarthy | Noel Daley | 10-1 |
| 8 Aperfect Annie | Todd McCarthy | Carter Pinske | 8-1 |
| 9 Spicy Nice | Yannick Gingras | Nancy Takter | 20-1 |
| 10 What A Bid Hanover | Ake Svanstedt | Ake Svanstedt | 15-1 |

\$600,000 3-YEAR-OLD COLT AND GELDING TROT - RACE 7 (SATURDAY)

| PP Horse | Driver | Trainer | Odds |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| 1 Private Access | Louis Roy | Luc Blais | 15-1 |
| 2 Daiquiri Hanover | Ake Svanstedt | Ake Svanstedt | 6-1 |
| 3 Amazing Catch | Dexter Dunn | Ake Svanstedt | 10-1 |
| 4 Highland Kismet | Tim Tetrick | Mark Etsell | 9-2 |
| 5 Security Protected | Scott Zeron | Marcus Melander | 15-1 |
| 6 T C I | David Miller | Ron Burke | 5-2 |
| 7 Greenspan | Todd McCarthy | Jim Campbell | 20-1 |
| 8 Sig Sauer | Andrew McCarthy | Noel Daley | 3-1 |
| 9 Secret Agent Man | Andy Miller | Julie Miller | 20-1 |
| 10 Tony Adams S | James MacDonald | Ake Svanstedt | 5-1 |

\$700,000 2-YEAR-OLD COLT AND GELDING TROT - RACE 8 (FRIDAY)

| PP Horse | Driver | Trainer | Odds |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------|
| 1 Meshuggah | James MacDonald | Marcus Melander | 8-1 |
| 2 Maryland | Dexter Dunn | Marcus Melander | 5-2 |
| 3 Maximus Mearas S | Scott Zeron | Lucas Wallin | 3-1 |
| 4 Emoticon Legacy | Louis Roy | Luc Blais | 7-2 |
| 5 Hidalgo | Yannick Gingras | Ron Burke | 15-1 |
| 6 Super Chapter | David Miller | Marcus Melander | 9-2 |
| 7 Go Dog Go | Todd McCarthy | Carter Pinske | 6-1 |
| 8 Blank | Andrew McCarthy | Marcus Melander | 20-1 |
| 9 Tactical Dynasty | Tim Tetrick | Ron Burke | 15-1 |
| 10 Memento Mori | Anthony MacDonald | Jason McGinnis | 20-1 |

\$600,000 3-YEAR-OLD COLT AND GELDING PACE - RACE 10 (SATURDAY)

| PP Horse | Driver | Trainer | Odds |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------|
| 1 Mirage Hanover | Dexter Dunn | Jake Leamon | 9-5 |
| 2 Nijinsky | Louis Roy | Anthony Beaton | 3-1 |
| 3 Calicojack Hanover | James MacDonald | Luc Blais | 15-1 |
| 4 McCrunch | Andrew McCarthy | Nancy Takter | 15-1 |
| 5 Captain Albano | Todd McCarthy | Noel Daley | 8-5 |
| 6 Sweet Beach Life | Tyler Buter | Travis Alexander | 20-1 |
| 7 Timeisonmyside | Anthony MacDonald | Tim Twaddle | 20-1 |
| 8 Gem Quality | Tim Tetrick | Chris Ryder | 15-1 |
| 9 Captain Luke | Scott Zeron | Tony Alagna | 10-1 |
| 10 Howlenth hills | Matt Kakaley | Travis Alexander | 25-1 |

Breeders Crown SHOP NEW ITEMS



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Deciphering what to make of the Crown Elimination upsets



JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman

[BergmanJay](#)

It's the autumn season where leaves change color and fall to the ground. This past weekend the landscape of many of the sport's divisions took a different shape as well when favorites fell by the wayside, opening the door to a change of the guard come the 12 Breeders Crown finals slated for this weekend at The Meadowlands.

Elimination races can be boring and though drivers were continually prodded in post-race interviews of the "value" of winning a \$25,000 race that comes in advance of one that's \$600,000, there was ample evidence that the answers were more a wink and a nod than confirmation.

For the most part the eliminations had action and intrigue, but it was also evident that they had strategy, with many opting for the easier path to the finals, post position guarantees on the first 60 percent of the starting gate be damned.

Perhaps the biggest surprises came when horses like Disney and Daquiri Hanover rallied from out of the clouds at huge numbers to post dramatic upsets. In Disney's case, few could have expected a filly to come from last

off slow fractions to conquer as she did. The daughter of Always B Miki has been improving and her victory was no fluke, but at the same time the fractions in this elimination race were soft enough to allow Todd McCarthy to put her in striking distance for a final-quarter sprint. In an era of speed, speed and more speed, it doesn't come as a surprise when slower-than-class three quarter times lead to covered-up sprinters surprising. For my money, I wouldn't condemn the losers in this division or elevate Disney to elite status.

As for Daquiri Hanover's late-race heroics, it was a complete different set of circumstances and I guess an unfortunate revealing of the group a week too early for those looking for a division that should have all come down to the Breeders Crown finale. The long-awaited battle between division rivals Karl and Highland Kismet finally took shape this past Saturday (October 19) with the two squaring off in head-to-head combat that produced the most satisfying spectacle of the weekend's programs if not a shocking outcome. Unlike many of the other Breeders Crown eliminations, the division with Karl and Highland Kismet was set up for drama when drawn, with a few new twists to the plot thrown in. When the two last met in the Kentucky Futurity neither was victorious, but the reasons were different. Highland Kismet was hard-used, some might say over-used in the battle for the front in the Futurity, and paid the price. Karl had the same trip he enjoyed winning the Hambletonian but struggled in the stretch, finishing fifth in the Futurity. A few weeks later Karl would add Lasix and Highland Kismet would change drivers to Tim Tetrick. Perhaps each of the connections thought they had the exact answer for defeat and would remedy the problem in the Breeders Crown elimination.

It certainly seemed that both camps felt confident when watching the race this past Saturday because Yannick Gingras was most assertive driving Karl, much as he had during his early season dominance with power. Perhaps different in October than May was the presence of other talented and now less intimidated rivals. Tony Adams S was a colt that had seen a 52 4/5 first half personally in the Kentucky Futurity and driver Dexter Dunn was able to gain the front with him in a 27 first quarter in the Crown elimination and not grab up entirely before allowing Karl to pass. That produced a solid opening half for Karl and Gingras of 55 2/5 and in theory gave Tetrick all the ammunition he needed to attack and give Highland Kismet that chance to look Karl in the eye.

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Five to watch in 2024 Breeders Crown



EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Giwner

[@harnesseveguy](#)

Through 20 Breeders Crown elimination races contested last weekend we witnessed a little bit of everything. There were some favorites who delivered, some who raced

gamely in defeat and others that simply came up empty when it counted. The elims also brought us a fair number of unexpected outcomes, with eight winners paying over \$10.00 and two north of \$135.00.

As you can imagine from 20 elimination races, handicappers were busy jotting down numerous trip notes in hopes of finding value or simply a winner in the 12 finals worth over \$7.2 million this Friday and Saturday night at The Meadowlands. Below you'll find my top five horses to watch.

MISS BELMAR (2YO FILLY TROT – RACE 6 – FRIDAY)

Kicking off the \$100,000 Guaranteed Pick 4 on Friday is my favorite play of the weekend. For the second straight start she found herself loaded with late trot and too far back. Often a horse that does this is a bad play because either she doesn't have what it takes to stay close or she ends up taking more money than warranted off a seemingly good mile. I completely discredit those possibilities with her because she only has four career starts. We have yet to see anywhere near her bottom and the shoes are literally expected to come off for the final.

GO DOG GO (2YO C&G TROT – RACE 8 – FRIDAY)

Is there a better race to start off with a price play than in the \$10,791 Pick 6 carryover? Go Dog Go came into the Breeders Crown eliminations off consecutive starts where he broke in deep stretch, the latest of which it looked like he was well on his way to a 1:51 and change victory. Tactics changed for the Crown and trotting hobbles went on. The son of Greenshoe did throw his head a bit early in the mile but afterward showed no signs of a miscue and charged home in 26 4/5 with no shot to win. With that flat mile under his belt, I'm expecting driver Todd McCarthy to put him in play, and he may not have to since this race has a number of potential early speed players on the inside of the gate.

DIRECTION (3YO FILLY PACE – RACE 6 – SATURDAY)

You won't be able to see it in the past performance line but driver Todd McCarthy made two moves to the front before the three-eighths marker. She ended up sitting what looked to be a good pocket trip, but the pair never found room in the stretch and the daughter of Always B Miki appeared to have more in the tank. Despite the troubled trip, Direction is sure to be a sweet price on the board as the elimination winners as well as Rocket Deo and the also-traffic-troubled Its a Love Thing will take plenty of tote action.

TONY ADAMS S (3YO C&G TROT – RACE 7 – SATURDAY)

Here is another horse that went to the front, yielded into the pocket and got trapped in until just before the wire while having plenty left in the tank. He certainly has the looks of one of the fresher horses going into Saturday's \$600,000 race and any decrease in price value due to the troubled trip will be countered by him drawing post 10. He does have the tactical speed to overcome that spot if you don't believe in the horses to his inside.

IT'S MY SHOW (OPEN PACE – RACE 8 – SATURDAY)

One thing we've learned about It's My Show this year is that if you give him an easy trip he can deliver in a big spot. He did not have a relaxing journey in the elimination. After leaving the gate for the front, he was then shuffled back to fourth on the pylons and forced to come first-over – literally the worst place for him. In a situation where Bythemissal will be odds-on and Ruthless Hanover and Abuckabett Hanover will take plenty of tote action, this guy is a legitimate price contender.



Northwood

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2024 HARRISBURG YEARLINGS

Hip 14 STING ON THE BEACH bf (NJ)

Perfect Sting-Perfectbeachday-Somebeachsomewhere

Hip 68 PEPSI POP bc (PA)

Papi Rob Hanover-Worlameri-American Ideal

Hip 97 JL SERENITY bf (PA/KY)

Captain Corey-Cheesy Hanover-Cantab Hall

Hip 149 PERFECT SKY bc (NJ)

Perfect Sting-Lightning Paige-McArdle

Hip 166 WINNING BAR bf (PA)

Bar Hopping-Margot-Donato Hanover

Hip 185 GREEN BROADWAY bc (PA)

Greenshoe-Nights On Broadway-Muscle Hill

Hip 232 HOOKMEUP bf (PA)

Sweet Lou-Sandy Hook Hanover-Somebeachsomewhere

Hip 239 BUTTERFLY PV bf (NJ)

Perfect Sting-Seeking Nirvana-Somebeachsomewhere

Hip 259 STAGE ACT bf (PA)

Always B Miki-Soixante Hanover-Somebeachsomewhere

Hip 279 GREEN LOLLIPOP bc (ON)

Green Manalishi S-Sunshinenlollipops-Garland Lobell

Hip 361 THE FEAST bc (PA)

Stay Hungry-Bernadette-Big Jim

Hip 435 JENNY DA VIE brf (ON/KY)

Green Manalishi S-Etra Da Vie-Credit Winner

Hip 452 FINE TO STING bc (NJ/KY)

Perfect Sting-JK Fine Art-Art Major

Hip 521 CRUNCH A POSE bc (PA/KY)

Captain Crunch-Just A Pose-A Rocknroll Dance

Hip 574 PATRICK'S MONARCH brf (PA)

Father Patrick-Muscle Work-Donato Hanover

Hip 599 TWILLINGATE bf (OH/KY)

What The Hill-Pole Dancer-Majestic Son

Hip 615 FRONT BATTLE brf (NJ)

Tactical Landing-Red Wies And Blue-Lucky Chucky

Hip 625 CAPTAIN PREEMPTIVE bc (PA)

Captain Crunch-Sara's Lucky Charm-Electric Yankee

Hip 635 PERFECT BANG bf (NJ)

Always B Miki-Shabang-Art Major

Hip 664 TALK SOFTLY bc IN/KY)

JK Endofanera-Stolen Kisses-Always B Miki

Hip 694 NY SWAN bc (IN)

Swan For All-Tresbien Volo-Yankee Glide

Hip 708 VALENTINO DE VIE bc (NY/NJ)

Huntsville-Valentina De Vie-Bettor's Delight

Hip 724 KEG MAN bc (NJ)

Six Pack-You're Majestic-Majestic Son

Hip 725 YS DELIGHT SPEED bf (ON/QUE)

Bettor's Delight-YS Downonthebeach-Sunshine Beach

Hip 752 TELL IT LIKE THIS bf (IN)

Tellitlikeitis-Atomic Fireball-Sweet Lou

Hip 761 MERRIDANCE bf (PA)

Father Patrick-Keystone Bella-Yankee Glide

Hip 763 CRUNCHY MUNCH bf (PA)

Captain Crunch-Bettertime-Bettor's Delight

Hip 778 SUEETA bf (PA)

Cantab Hall-BWT Majia-Tagliabue

Hip 785 HUNTHEHUNTR DE VIE bc (NY/NJ)

Huntsville-Chillin It De Vie-Well Said

Hip 805 DIAMOND JACKIE bf (NJ/KY)

Tactical Landing-Daisy Jane-Conway Hall

Hip 810 HAIR PRODUCT bc (PA)

Bar Hopping-Desert Pepper-Sebastian K

Hip 815 ZOES MAGIC bf (ON/KY)

Muscle Mass-Donnafugatta-Kadabra

Hip 825 RONDA MAY K brf (ON/KY)

Muscle Mass-Encantado-Lou's Legacy

Hip 833 CHROME DE VIE bc (NJ)

Tactical Landing-Executive Decision-Conway Hall

Hip 836 INTERCEPTOR blk (NJ)

Lazarus N-Fashion Mystery-Real Artist

Hip 842 LEIGE bc (PA)

Captain Corey-First Tracks-Cantab Hall

Hip 848 GYPSY ANGEL ROW bf (NJ/KY)

Tactical Landing-Gentle True Spirit-Cantab Hall

Hip 849 CAPTAIN TATE bc (PA)

Captain Crunch-Ginger Tree Nina-Western Ideal

Hip 852 COMMANDER CRUNCH brf (PA)

Captain Crunch-Go For Sand-Santanna Blue Chip

Hip 869 JONNY CRACKER bc (PA)

Father Patrick-Honestly-Deweycheatumnhowe

Hip 887 I DID bc (NJ)

Lazarus N-Keystone I Wish-Art Official

Hip 890 CRUNCH CHAMP bc (PA)

Captain Crunch-L's Ideal Champ-American Ideal

Hip 901 TACTICAL LEXI brf (NJ)

Tactical Landing-Lexi Marie-Lucky Chucky

Hip 902 LIFESTORY MIKI bc (PA)

Always B Miki-Lifestory Hanover-Somebeachsomewhere

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Stuart McCormick Photo

The two leading sophomores hooked up in a spirited fight, but much like the Hambletonian's final eighth of a mile, this Breeders Crown elimination found the pair quite winded, opening a huge door for an upset. While Daiquiri Hanover and Greenspan both had clear paths to pass the exhausted leader, Tony Adams S and Dunn were clearly compromised, losing all momentum yet still making the final.

While Karl and Highland Kismet have clearly lost the edge they had over rivals early this year, and the former electing to skip the final due to sickness, this Saturday's race will be one that requires close examination of not just the program pages but that announcements concerning shoeing. Give credit to team Burke for rejuvenating T C I to the position of Breeders Crown contender. Driver David Miller seemed sort of happy in his winner's circle interview while suggesting that the final might prove much faster and more contentious than the walk-in-the-park performance in T C I's elimination heat. Yet T C I really wasn't the biggest story in his division as visually it was Sig Sauer, the impressive Kentucky Futurity champion that had hoped to sail into and through the Breeders Crown with a championship in sight.

Sig Sauer's demeanor was noticeable when he stepped on the track and started throwing his head. Previously trainer Noel Daley had suggested that the Muscle Hill-sired colt could be a pain in the a** before a race and that was exactly how he appeared with Andrew McCarthy doing his best to keep him calm. Bettors on the other hand appeared to take notice and the odds on Sig Sauer, following his dominant and authoritative performance in the year's only sub-1:50 mile for sophomore trotters, drifted up accordingly as those prone to wagering on the chalk decided to look for safer options.

McCarthy did his best to get Sig Sauer away cleanly from the rail position. Unlike his assertiveness with the colt at The Red Mile, this time Sig Sauer started slowly from the rail and hardly made a move, with McCarthy gauging the number of horses behind him as opposed to the front.

Closers had little chance in the stretch, with T C I comfortable and sprinting home and the battle was always for the last four spots in the final. McCarthy had a moment in the stretch where it appeared that Sig Sauer was about to lose his stride, but the driver saw that didn't happen and calmly got him over the line in fourth and earned a spot to next week's bigger dance. Those



AMANDA STEPHENS

Sig Sauer will need to overcome post eight but was able to successfully do that in the Kentucky Futurity at The Red Mile.

who bet him at 6-5 odds may want to follow up this week if he looks calmer and perhaps is sporting less shoes for the Crown final.

While Karl and Highland Kismet had something to prove, Twin B Joe Fresh really didn't in an elimination race her connections saw to be in as opposed to taking a bye. Likely because of inactivity, trainer Chris Ryder wanted to have a prep for the sport's number one ranked horse and the results were surprising but not exactly shocking. Grace Hill sat a pocket and charged by Twin B Joe Fresh in an elimination that saw all but two of the 10 mares advance to the final. Mission accomplished for those, even though Twin B Joe Fresh's winning streak was snapped in the process. It's safe to say that Dunn gave his mare a chance to win without extending her or for that matter being overly concerned by what horse was sitting behind him. The previous version of Grace Hill we have seen this year didn't appear to be up for the performance we witnessed this past Saturday. That said, the Grace Hill reveal could make the Crown final more interesting, yet Twin B Joe Fresh and Dexter Dunn will still have a host of trip options for the final and remain the logical favorites to secure the title.

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BREEDERS CROWN HANDICAPPING



FRI. - Race 6
\$700k 2yoF Trot
Breeders Crown

FRI. - Race 7
\$700k 2yoF Pace
Breeders Crown

FRI. - Race 8
\$700k 2yoC Trot
Breeders Crown

FRI. - Race 10
\$700k 2yoC Pace
Breeders Crown

SAT. - Race 4
\$496k Mare Trot
Breeders Crown

SAT. - Race 5
\$600k 3yoF Trot
Breeders Crown

\$100K GTD PICK 4

\$10,791 C/O PICK 6

\$50K GTD PICK 4



GARNET BARNSDALE

(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD was impressive last week; recency edge on #3
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS
(1) SOUND JUDGEMENT

(4) ROSE had excuses last week; bounces back at a better price.
(6) THE LAST MARTINI
(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU

(2) MARYLAND got hot at the right time for the Breeders Crown.
(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S
(4) EMOTICON LEGACY

(2) SWINGTOWN looked terrific last week and showed a new dimension.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(3) SIPPINONSEAROC

(3) CALL ME GOO carries the Svanstedt flag with star stablemate retired.
(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO
(5) M-M'S DREAM

(5) ALLEGIANT gets a pace setup and zooms by late.
(7) DATE NIGHT HANOVER
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION



JAY BERGMAN

(7) MISS BELMAR could benefit from a very quick pace.
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS
(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD

(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU gets the best of the draw in prime condition
(9) MIKI AND MINNIE
(2) DURATION

(2) MARYLAND should be well rested after a brilliant win streak.
(7) GO DOG GO
(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S

(4) PRINCE HAL HANOVER needed a start and is primed for the upset.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(3) SIPPINONSEAROC

(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO hopes to do what her sire did in 2019.
(5) M-M'S DREAM
(3) CALL ME GOO

(7) DATE NIGHT HANOVER went a huge trip in her prelim; in top hands.
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION
(8) R MELINA



RAY COTOLO

(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD appeared under restraint and still crushed.
(8) APERFECT ANNIE
(10) WHAT A BID HANOVER

(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU stands to work an excellent trip. Hers to lose.
(10) RODEO DRIVE DEO
(8) UNREASONABLE

(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S should be in the right spot to pounce.
(2) MARYLAND
(7) GO DOG GO

(9) LOUPRINT kept fighting from a tough trip. Smoother sailing here.
(8) FALLOUT
(2) SWINGTOWN

(3) CALL ME GOO never stops pushing. Give her a helmet and she'll roll.
(5) M-M'S DREAM
(2) WARRAWEE XENIA

(5) ALLEGIANT could land in the right part of the shuffle.
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION
(8) R MELINA



DERICK GWINNER

(7) MISS BELMAR will take the gloves and shoes off tonight.
(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD
(1) SOUND JUDGEMENT

(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU has a post and slight talent edge.
(9) MIKI AND MINNIE
(4) ROSE

(7) GO DOG GO seems to be more confident with hobbles added.
(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S
(2) MARYLAND

(9) LOUPRINT finally offers good value due to poor post.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(8) FALLOUT

(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO almost won despite costly break in last; clean mile wins.
(5) M-M'S DREAM
(3) CALL ME GOO

(7) DATE NIGHT HANOVER has earned \$485K despite bad luck.
(10) WARRAWEE MICHELLE
(8) R MELINA



MELISSA KEITH

(7) MISS BELMAR was beaten 2/1 favorite and flew home in elim.
(1) SOUND JUDGEMENT
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS

(6) THE LAST MARTINI was Chantilly's top rival and stung BC elim rivals in stretch.
(10) RODEO DRIVE DEO
(4) ROSE

(4) EMOTICON LEGACY was "blocked with trot", opened up when loose in elim.
(2) MARYLAND
(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S

(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC put away 1/5 Fallout head-to-head in elim stretch duel.
(3) SIPPINONSEAROC
(8) FALLOUT

(5) M-M'S DREAM was second to Jiggy Jog S in 2023 BC; crushed in latest.
(3) CALL ME GOO
(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO

(8) R MELINA was beaten 2/5 elim fave; stung in stretch after cutting fractions.
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION
(6) ELISTA HANOVER



MIKE PRIBOZIE

(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD looks faster than these on paper; catch her to cash.
(8) APERFECT ANNIE
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS

(6) THE LAST MARTINI was huge in Elim with 26 2/5 kicker. Needs trip to beat Burkes.
(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU
(4) ROSE

(3) MAXIMUS MEAEAS S exploded in Elim; gets pace to chase here.
(2) MARYLAND
(6) SUPER CHAPTER

(3) SIPPINONSEAROC was loaded behind dead cover in last. World record holder.
(2) SWINGTOWN
(8) FALLOUT

(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO flew late 10/6 after early break; improved greatly.
(3) CALL ME GOO
(7) TACTICAL MOUNDS

(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION got perfect prep in Elim. Can win with any trip.
(5) ALLEGIANT
(7) DATE NIGHT HANOVER



GREG REINHART

(7) MISS BELMAR should get pace to chase; watch for shoes off.
(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS

(10) RODEO DRIVE DEO has a bad post which should inflate value
(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU
(6) THE LAST MARTINI

(7) GO DOG GO added trotting hobbles and it kept his mind on business in elim.
(2) MARYLAND
(4) EMOTICON LEGACY

(9) LOUPRINT will follow cover this time; should offer value.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(2) SWINGTOWN

(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO almost won in Lexington despite early break.
(3) CALL ME GOO
(5) M-M'S DREAM

(8) R MELINA may pull the shoes like in Lexington.
(3) SUGAR INSTEAD
(5) ALLEGIANT



MATT ROSE

(1) SOUND JUDGEMENT followed up big upset with sharp elim win.
(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD
(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS

(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU keeps Gingras as the sharper Burke entrant; good draw.
(6) THE LAST MARTINI
(8) UNREASONABLE

(7) GO DOG GO was first-time hobbles for his elim and trotted nicely; one of my favorite angles.
(4) EMOTICON LEGACY
(2) MARYLAND

(2) SWINGTOWN gets Yannick now after powerful Crown elimination; tactical options from post.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(9) LOUPRINT

(5) M-M'S DREAM was runner-up to Jiggy Jog in last year's BC.
(3) CALL ME GOO
(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO

(5) ALLEGIANT was an upset winner in elim first-time Toscano and is ready for more.
(7) DATE NIGHT HANOVER
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION



DARIN ZOCCALI

(3) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS has been consistently strong all season and is at her best now.
(2) DELANEY HANOVER
(6) LUNA LOVEGOOD

(6) THE LAST MARTINI looked good rallying from off the pace last week.
(1) LOOKSGOODINLOULOU
(8) UNREASONABLE

(3) MAXIMUS MEARAS S has never put forth a less than sharp effort.
(2) MARYLAND
(4) EMOTICON LEGACY

(3) SIPPINONSEAROC may escape at a square price here.
(5) CAPTAIN OPTIMISITC
(8) FALLOUT

(8) NELSONBRITEAGLE NO almost caught 'Goo' after a miscue at the start.
(3) CALL ME GOO
(5) M-M'S DREAM

(6) ELISTA HANOVER was out the entire mile last week and can improve.
(2) DRAWN IMPRESSION
(8) R MELINA

BREEDERS CROWN HANDICAPPING



*SAT. - Race 6
\$600k 3yoF Pace
Breeders Crown*

*SAT. - Race 7
\$600k 3yoC Trot
Breeders Crown*

*SAT. - Race 8
\$600k Open Pace
Breeders Crown*

*SAT. - Race 9
\$600k Open Trot
Breeders Crown*

*SAT. - Race 10
\$600k 3yoC Pace
Breeders Crown*

*SAT. - Race 11
\$400k Mare Pace
Breeders Crown*

\$100K GTD PICK 4

\$50K GTD PICK 4



GARNET BARNSDALE

(2) MY GIRL EJ is the best mare, has the best driver and a good post
(6) DISNEY
(3) ASWEETBEACHHERE

(3) AMAZING CATCH should be better this week; capable with the right trip.
(6) T C I
(8) SIG SAUER

(6) BYTHEMISSAL is back; enough said.
(1) RUTHLESS HANOVER
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER

(7) PERICULUM has freshest legs late, sails by.
(5) WINNER'S BET
(4) IT'S ACADEMIC

(1) MIRAGE HANOVER is the "now" horse; was relentless last week
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(2) NIJINSKY

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH draws much better and makes amends.
(6) KOBE'S GIGI
(3) GRACE HILL



JAY BERGMAN

(2) MY GIRL E J has proven versatile and is extremely game.
(6) DISNEY
(8) ITS A LOVE THING

(8) SIG SAUER will handle these if he arrives on his best behavior
(2) DAIQUIRI HANOVER
(3) AMAZING CATCH

(6) BYTHEMISSAL is fresh, fit and inside his main competition.
(3) IT'S MY SHOW
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER

(5) WINNERS BET has prepped smartly for his biggest race of the year.
(11) OH WELL
(10) LOGAN PARK

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO should only be better following first start in a month.
(1) MIRAGE HANOVER
(2) NIJINSKY

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH will be the last to the lead once dust settles.
(4) SILVER LABEL
(1) ALWAYS B NAUGHTY



RAY COTOLO

(5) CAVIART BELLE has a chance to rebound if she gets a tow.
(2) MY GIRL EJ
(4) DIRECTION

(6) T C I wins if he gets an easy lead.
(1) PRIVATE ACCESS
(8) SIG SAUER

(6) BYTHEMISSAL is in the best form of his life.
(4) VOUKEFALAS
(7) COACH STEFANOS

(5) WINNER'S BET draws the prime spot to do as he wants.
(6) HILLEXOTIC
(2) UP YOUR DEO

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO leads the top league and figures to get first jump.
(2) NIJINSKY
(8) GEM QUALITY

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH was short from tough post; easier path here.
(4) SILVER LABEL
(3) GRACE HILL



DERICK GWINN

(4) DIRECTION had traffic trouble in elim. PP lines say she's as good as any.
(7) ROCKET DEO
(2) MY GIRL EJ

(8) SIG SAUER had wrong shoeing in elim; shoeless in final.
(10) TONY ADAMS S
(4) HIGHLAND KISMET

(3) IT'S MY SHOW could get lucky behind fast pace set by #1.
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER
(6) BYTHEMISSAL

(5) WINNERS BET has been awesome and toughest competition drew badly.
(11) OH WELL
(10) LOGAN PARK

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO will only be sharper in his second start since 9/19.
(1) MIRAGE HANOVER
(2) NIJINSKY

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH moves to a better post; makes amends.
(3) GRACE HILL
(1) ALWAYS B NAUGHTY



MELISSA KEITH

(8) ITS A LOVE THING made multiple elim moves; "blocked with pace" late; beaten 6/5 fave.
(6) DISNEY
(2) MY GIRL EJ

(6) T C I won elim on front end by comfortable margin.
(8) SIG SAUER
(4) HIGHLAND KISMET

(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER ran out of racetrack in elim; beaten even-money fave.
(6) BYTHEMISSAL
(7) COACH STEFANOS

(5) WINNERS BET has three wins by open lengths since Maple Leaf Trot miscue.
(4) ITS ACADEMIC
(11) OH WELL

(9) CAPTAIN LUKE gained ground late in elim; field's-fastest 25 2/5 last quarter
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(1) MIRAGE HANOVER

(9) SYLVIA HANOVER is Bob McClure's one BC drive; 2- and 3-year-old BC champ.
(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH
(4) SILVER LABEL



MIKE PRIBOZIE

(5) CAVIART BELLE needed last and kicked 26 2/5. Loves M1 and is classy.
(2) MY GIRL EJ
(7) ROCKET DEO

(8) SIG SAUER got his prep after Futurity win; ready for best now.
(2) DAIQUIRI HANOVER
(10) TONY ADAMS S

(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER just kept coming last week; needs to catch 'Missal'.
(6) BYTHEMISSAL
(1) RUTHLESS HANOVER

(5) WINNERS BET has turned the corner this season; post edge here.
(10) LOGAN PARK
(7) PERICULUM

(2) NIJINSKY was game in Elim; his best will be too tough vs. these.
(1) MIRAGE HANOVER
(6) SWEET BEACH LIFE

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH lost Elim but her resumé this season speaks volumes.
(3) GRACE HILL
(9) SYLVIA HANOVER



GREG REINHART

(4) DIRECTION would have won her elim if she had gotten room.
(2) MY GIRL EJ
(8) ITS A LOVE THING

(8) SIG SAUER will be handled more aggressively; shoes off too likely
(10) TONY ADAMS S
(6) T C I

(6) BYTHEMISSAL looks like he's back to his best after time off.
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER
(1) RUTHLESS HANOVER

(5) WINNER'S BET comes off outstanding miles at Dayton & Hoosier.
(10) LOGAN PARK
(7) PERICULUM

(2) NIJINSKY seems to have an extra gear at the Meadowlands.
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(1) MIRAGE HANOVER

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH gets post improvement; makes all the difference.
(3) GRACE HILL
(1) ALWAYS B NAUGHTY



MATT ROSE

(2) MY GIRL EJ suffered bad luck in the Jugette but quickly shook it off and is back on top.
(8) ITS A LOVE THING
(6) DISNEY

(6) T C I added Lasix and cruised in elim; peaking at right time.
(8) SIG SAUER
(3) AMAZING CATCH

(6) BYTHEMISSAL got a late start to his season; firing on all cylinders.
(3) IT'S MY SHOW
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER

(4) IT'S ACADEMIC has been Mr. Reliable for years now; gets another signature win.
(5) WINNER'S BET
(2) UP YOUR DEO

(1) MIRAGE HANOVER was huge in Jug, huge in Lexington and primed for signature win.
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(2) NIJINSKY

(3) GRACE HILL has quickly gone from also-ran to BC Elimination winner; can trip out for upset.
(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH
(4) SILVER LABEL



DARIN ZOCCALI

(2) MY GIRL EJ is a filly I think is in one of the best spots of any horse this Crown.
(1) COLLUSION HANOVER
(8) IT'S A LOVE THING

(6) T C I looks to dominate with Karl retired
(1) PRIVATE ACCESS
(8) SIG SAUER

(1) RUTHLESS HANOVER gets the nod in a very close matchup.
(6) BYTHEMISSAL
(8) ABUCKABETT HANOVER

(7) PERICULUM will be very dangerous in a live outer flow.
(1) ARI FERRARI J
(5) WINNER'S BET

(1) MIRAGE HANOVER appears to be peaking at the right time.
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(8) GEM QUALITY

(5) TWIN B JOE FRESH bounces back off a post 10 defeat.
(3) GRACE HILL
(4) SILVER LABEL

Congratulations

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association wishes the best of luck to all the Ohio-connected horses competing in the Breeders Crown.



Photo: James Lisa

Bythemissal - 2023 Breeders Crown Open Pace Champion



**Every Standardbred Racehorse Has a Place in Ohio:
BREED • BUY • RACE • WIN IN OHIO**



Longtime owner Rounick enjoying the ride with Mirage Hanover

By Jay Bergman

Owner Marvin Rounick has spent more than a half-century owning standardbreds. On Saturday night his Mirage Hanover will try to make a reality of his pursuit of a champion when he battles in the \$600,000 Breeders Crown sophomore colt and gelding pace at The Meadowlands.

Rounick has limited his yearling purchases in recent years and surprisingly that strategy has perhaps paid off better than any of his past endeavors, producing a pair of solid sophomore pacers in Mad Max Hanover a few years back and now his half-brother Mirage Hanover. That pattern is quite familiar to a duo of fillies Rounick gained prominence with more than 20 years ago.

"I had Must See and she won the Sweetheart," said Rounick of the 2002 2-year-old pacing filly. "Then I bought her sister Glowing Report the following year. I like sticking with specific families."

The move paid off richly for Rounick with Must See, a filly by Artsplace earning \$487K through a 2-year-old career before being sold and becoming a broodmare. Glowing Report would prove to be Rounick's richest racehorse with earnings more than \$2 million through a career that saw her compete in four Breeders Crown races without a victory, but capture plenty of stakes races in between including the 2004 Jugette for the late trainer Jerry Silverman.

Well, actually, Glowing Report, a fourth-place finisher in both Breeders Crowns as a 2 and 3-year-old, finished second in a Crown Open Mares event in 2005 at Woodbine Racetrack and years later was awarded first prize when the courts would confirm that race-winner Loyal Opposition had raced with hidden ownership contrary to the rules of racing.

"I was with Jerry for 20 years," said Rounick, recalling the time. "At one point I got up to owning 22 horses."

With the benefit of experience, Rounick looked back somewhat puzzled at how he allowed himself to get that carried away.

"I've got between three and six horses now," said Rounick. "It's mostly 2- and 3-year-olds where I buy a couple at the sales."

Trainer Jake Leamon has handled Rounick's horses and done a fabulous job just looking at the results with Mad Max Hanover and Mirage Hanover. Mad Max Hanover has gone over three-quarters of a million dollars in earnings, a solid return-on-investment for Rounick who plucked the Always B Miki-sired colt from the 2020 Harrisburg auction for just \$50,000. Leamon brought Mad Max Hanover along slowly during his 2-year-old campaign and saw the gelding blossom with a brilliant performance, flying for second in the Governor's Cup at odds of 50-1.

Mad Max Hanover would duplicate that effort for Rounick in the Meadowlands Pace in 2022. Again as a 50-1 offering, he flew home to finish second behind Beach Glass. A few weeks later it was another bridesmaid finish in the Cane Pace.

Lessons of the past were inevitable for Rounick, who did not step in when Mad Max Hanover's sister sold in 2021 but came back a year later to pluck Mirage Hanover. As is generally the case, the 84-year-old Rounick had to pay a premium for his own success story, and Mirage, a son of Bettor's Delight, cost \$175,000.

"I'm not in the breeding business," said Rounick, who did admit to dabbling in it 20 years ago. "I did breed Glowing Report but eventually sold her."

Looking back in hindsight, Rounick recognized what can happen when

you get attached to a particular family. "I stayed too long with the Grand Lady family."

Rounick sold Must See after her racing career and she has proven to be an incredible broodmare.

"Must See produced Well Said," said Rounick, referring to the 2008 Breeders Crown 2-year-old champion who was trained by Steve Elliott, a conditioner that has handled all of Rounick's stock in recent years.

"Steve breaks and trains them before sending them up to Jake," said Rounick.

Leamon was a long-time second-trainer for Elliott. Elliott is currently racing in Kentucky with an improving 2-year-old named Boomerang for Rounick. The son of Downbytheseaside recently won a Kentucky-sired event at Cumberland following a third-place finish in Grand Circuit action at The Red Mile.

Elliott helped develop Mirage Hanover and the fruits of his labor have really taken off as the season has progressed. So much so in fact that he has cast aside the image of runner-up in recent weeks and now enters

the Breeders Crown final as a bona fide contender. Rounick didn't seem to want to get too excited while looking ahead to Saturday's race. When asked about whether Glowing Report was his best horse he wouldn't commit.

"I'd like to see what happens on Saturday first," Rounick said with a clear understanding of what's on the line, not just in his mind but on the racetrack.

Mirage Hanover has helped provide sire Bettor's Delight with a renaissance year of sorts with epic performances over the last six weeks. Following a pair of solid efforts in the Little Brown Jug, including a parked-the-distance second-place finish in the final, Mirage Hanover paced the second-fastest mile of the year in capturing a Tattersalls division in 1:46 3/5 for driver Dexter Dunn at The Red Mile on October 6.

Mirage Hanover came back last Saturday and took on

North America Cup champion Nijinsky in one of two \$25,000 Breeders Crown elimination races. It was no small task trying to track down that oft-winning son of Bettor's Delight, but Mirage Hanover showed his toughness, earning a head decision. The victory proved valuable with Mirage Hanover drawing the pole position for Saturday's finale.

Last year's Mirage Hanover's sister sold at Harrisburg, but Rounick stayed on the sidelines.

"If I had been bidding, I would have been out long before the end," said Rounick, referring to the \$300,000 price tag on Millie May Hanover, a filly that has already earned six-figures for trainer Andrew Harris. "They're going to make out just fine with her as a broodmare."

As for Saturday night, Rounick is hopeful that Mirage Hanover will continue as he has throughout his entire career. "He's been an incredibly consistent horse," said Rounick.

That said an elusive Breeders Crown victory after decades buying yearlings annually and hoping to hit a home run could be the type of event that would find an owner doing anything to witness it in person.

"I'll be watching from my home," Rounick said with certainty. "I watch every one of my horse's races, but don't go to the track anymore."

A lot has changed in the sport over the last 50 years and Rounick's rationale for staying at home makes perfect sense. "It's too aggravating to drive home after disappointment," Rounick said.

Hopefully on Saturday night Mirage Hanover will give Rounick the ride of his life and capture an elusive Breeders Crown title.



AMANDA STEPHENS

Mirage Hanover starts from post 1 in the 10th race Breeders Crown for 3-year-old colt & gelding pacers.



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Fractional ownership allowing people to join in what they love



HARNESS FOCUS

By Jessica Hallett

[@JHallettPhoto](#)

Fractional ownership has become the next step forward for the harness racing industry, allowing fans to join in on the action and own a piece of a horse. It's a small commitment with a large return. And while the new owners only share in a fraction of the horse, they can enjoy the whole experience that comes with it.

At the Saratoga Harness track, there are hundreds of trainers that show up in the ink of the program with hundreds more owners below their names. While the ownership varies from horse to horse and stable to stable, it isn't uncommon to see one entity owning a horse, whether it is TheStable.ca or a private stable name. One of the more common stable names is the VIP Internet Stable, which has not only had success in bringing new faces to the game at the Spa half-mile oval but has brought those owners success along the way.

At the forefront of a few VIP Internet Stable-owned horses is trainer Amanda Kelley, a fixture of Saratoga and a trainer since 2015.

"I was crazy about horses my whole life, my room was covered with them, I would daydream about them...the only problem was, my mom didn't like them," Kelley said. "She had ponies as a kid, but that's where it ended. I would spend hours at my grandmother's table listening to her stories about all her past horses and just wish that I could have that. But after years of wishing, I started babysitting for a neighbor that had a horse and that was it! I tagged along to every local auction, learned to feed for her, anything I could to be around horses. After I graduated high school, I went to work in a bank and after a couple years, a man came in and asked what I'd be doing if I could pick any job. I said, 'Work with horses!' He happened to own a farm closer to my home and said to stop by. So, I did. I walked right into the barn, the wrong barn, and asked for a job. Well, it turned out that these people that hired me, only rented out the barn from the owner, but that mistake changed my life.

"I spent the next decade working with American Saddlebreds at Wrighthall Stables, working under Darlene Wright," Kelley continued. "I had very little clue what I was doing and started at the bottom and was a total 'yes' girl. No job was below me and I loved every minute. She taught me everything – how to break babies, to longline, to harness, to jog, and I'd go to shows on the east coast with them and sleep in a stall. When I didn't go, I ran her farm and the lesson program. After that experience, I thought it might be best to look for a 'grown up' job and I moved closer to home again and became a secretary at an auto glass company. But eight months in, horses were calling me and I ended up working for Stirling Brook Farms prepping yearlings and helping with the foaling and mare care. And like the show barn, I dove into this new breed, the standardbred. I studied bloodlines and crosses and learned all I could. And after a few years there, I ventured to the racetrack."

After working for a couple of different trainers, Amanda Kelley met Fred Scheigert and his family.

"I worked for a couple trainers, then met the Scheigerts who gave me the biggest opportunity I've ever had. I learned with them, made plenty of

mistakes, and they still would buy incredible horses for me to train. Oh, and somewhere in about 2017, I met my husband (after saying I'd never date a track guy). That's a whole other story, but we joined our stables, and he had previously worked with VIP Stable. I reached out to them about some racing opportunities and we joined up and have been pretty successful," Kelley added.

In fact, Kelley's husband Joe DeCarlo worked with Bunny Lake, and now their horse Bout Damn Time A won the Bunny Lake Memorial Pace Final on Monday, October 21 at Saratoga Harness.

"I've been involved with VIP for a few years now. I reached out about some racing opportunities at Saratoga and Plainridge and we've done business ever since," Kelley said. "Sometimes they will send a horse that I have no piece of personally, but mostly I own pieces of them as well. That's the main difference in the fractional ownership horses is that I usually own a piece. I also get to be directly involved in choosing the horses that we purchase together. A big part of training for a fractional ownership group that I never realized before and that I've really enjoyed is all the connections I've made with the owners in the group. I've had

several people reach out through Facebook for updates on their horses and barn visits. I've taken a few on paddock tours, gotten them rides in the starting car, and more. I really love how excited the partners get when we are coming up on a race day, have a good post, or for some series and stuff. I think that's important, for those owners to be as involved as they can or want to be."

Bout Damn Time A is a recent transplant from Australia, arriving to the United States under the care of Amanda Kelley in late April. The 5-year-old Art Major-Sounds Alive mare is owned by the S&K Misfit Racing LLC in partnership with the VIP Internet Stable LLC. She has six wins, two seconds, a third, and a fourth in 12 starts since arriving stateside, producing earnings of \$55,730. In the barn, she is known as Lizzie, after the singer of About Damn Time, Lizzo.

On Monday, Lizzie raced in the Bunny Lake Memorial Pace Final for her career-highest purse of \$29,800. Regular pilot Wally Hennessey got away fourth off the car, 5-1/2 lengths off the leader before moving first-up

through the half. Going into the final turn, Lizzie achieved the upper hand and set into cruise control to win by three-quarters of a length in 1:55 over a wall of five horses who shared a final time of 1:55 1/5.

"I'm really proud of that win, it was my 350th and pushed me over \$3.5 million in earnings," Kelley said. "Until today, I had 349 wins and 349 second places. Proud, proud day."

Lizzie was joined in the winner's circle by Amanda Kelley, caretaker Stacy Rose, friends and family of the connections, as well as Dawn Armour, an owner under the VIP Internet Stable.

"I found out about fractional ownership possibilities through the thoroughbred groups that exist and their TV ads during thoroughbred racing broadcasts," Armour explained. "Plus Seize The Grey, who has owners through My Racehorse fractional ownership, did so well this year and more and more information started surfacing about the groups. As I watched these ads, I so wished they had something just like that for standardbreds. I did start researching information about the thoroughbred partnerships and then, of course, once you start searching for something on the internet, multiple other suggestions eventually pop up. Finally, after a while, I did get some suggestions online and in my Facebook feed about some fractional ownership possibilities in harness racing. I read up on all of the information



JESSICA HALLETT

Amanda Kelley with VIP Internet horse Our Lady Lara A.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 17](#)

that I could find about them, especially focusing on their web pages and frequently asked questions sections so I could compare them.”

And so, Armour found the VIP Internet Stable and the opportunity to buy a piece of Lizzie.

“While I was deciding, I was very impressed with their day-to-day operations. Just about every question I had was answered on their website, but for other questions that I thought of they were very thorough and timely in replying back to me. The organization is run very professionally, where you receive a signed contract between you and them for each ownership share purchase that you make and the contract spells out all details. They also keep you very informed every day on which horses they have racing throughout the entire operation and there is a portion of the website that only owners can access that gives updates on every horse that they have in their stable. There is also a wide variety of ownership share pricing options dependent upon the horse.

“Once I decided to focus primarily on VIP, I was able to first sign up to be on their email list which allowed me to start receiving communications about horses with available shares for sale,” Armour continued. “When I would receive the information, I would also receive links to videos of the horse’s recent past races. I would also receive several weeks of past performance racing lines to look at. I went over that information, and I made my decisions of which one(s) to buy into based on that and what I had previously learned about the harness racing business through past ownership and what to look for and keep in mind when looking for horses to buy. Since VIP has many options available, it was easy for me to do that. I also wanted to buy into horses that were in somewhat close proximity to where I live so I could physically be there and watch them race whenever possible. That’s the best part for me, and I could do that through VIP.”

And while Armour has a past connection to harness racing, fractional ownership has allowed her to reignite her passion for the horses and become involved personally in the business again.

“I learned about harness racing at a very young age. My family enjoyed watching harness racing, and I became a huge fan as well. I enjoy the horses themselves as well as the whole science behind what goes into getting a horse to the races. I first got involved as an owner roughly 35 years ago through small partnerships with co-workers and eventually I did own a horse outright myself. Since then, due to fluctuating economies and budgets, ownership had become somewhat on and off, but this fractional ownership opportunity has changed all of that. It offers so many wonderful opportunities. There are still some risks to consider, but the fractional ownership helps reduce that impact somewhat.”

Armour owns a piece of four harness horses including Bout Damn Time A and John The Baptist, both under the care of Amanda Kelley at Saratoga.

“As far as the standardbreds go, I own between 1 and 2 percent of each and for the thoroughbreds my percentage is less than 1% of each. To me though, even that small percentage connection is providing me with the opportunity to once again have the time of my life and be back involved again in something I have always loved. The way I see it, even though the percentages are small, I do own some of each horse, and that’s something to be excited about. I think many other fractional owners feel the same,” she continued.

Armour is a native of Schenectady, New York and currently resides in Glenville, about a half hour from the harness track. She works in an administrative position as a Business Administrator for a local company and also part-time as a newspaper carrier. Most every race day of her two Saratoga horses, she can be found trackside and lately, in the winner’s circle on top of that.

“The best part of being an owner for me is and always has been being right there at the fence near the finish line when the horses race,” Armour added. “Since I got involved in fractional ownership just a few short months ago, I knew I wanted to be able to be there for as many races as I possibly could. With that in mind, I set aside some vacation time in case any of the horses had to race at a time other than weekends or evenings so I could be there, if at all possible. To me it is one of the greatest feelings in racing to be that close and being able to watch your horse competing. A combination of my love of horses, the excitement of the race, pride, and gratitude makes it like nothing else. The gratitude comes from being thankful to the trainers, grooms, and jockeys or drivers who also help make it possible for your horse to be out there racing and helping to keep them and the other horses in each race safe. The thrill of it all intensifies even more when your horse wins and you get that picture taken in the winner’s circle. That definitely makes the whole experience come full circle.”



(left to right) Caretaker Katie King, her boyfriend, Amanda Kelley’s dad, Dawn Armour, Wally Hennessey, Joe DeCarlo, caretaker of About Damn Time A Stacy Rose and Amanda Kelley.

Anthony Enokian is also a part of the VIP Internet Stable as an owner. The native of Detroit, Michigan was a graduate of Wayne State University and worked for over 40 years as a pharmacist. In October of 2021, he retired and relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada. He owns two horses as part of the VIP Internet Stable, including Bout Damn Time A.

“I am new to fractional ownership and have been with VIP Stables for just a couple months,” Enokian said. “I have a 5% interest in Bout Damn Time A, currently racing at Saratoga Raceway with Amanda Kelley as trainer and the great Wally Hennessey as driver, and a 25% interest in Rose Run Blondie, a filly who will make her first start in 2025.

“I have been watching live and simulcasted harness races for decades,” Enokian said. “I noticed that VIP Stables sponsored the race replays at the Meadowlands and started investigating the fractional ownership from that. I liked that they were supportive of the sport of harness racing in addition to supplying opportunities for ownership.”

And while Enokian is on the other side of the country, he is able to participate in a sport he loves as an owner.

“While I have yet to watch Bout Damn Time A race in person, I have subscribed to RTN (Racetrack Television Network) to have the ability to watch her races at home or I catch the simulcasts at the local casino,” Enokian said. “I am hoping to make a trip out east to watch both mares next year, once Rose Run Blondie starts. I have had no direct contact with the trainers, leaving that to the capable hands of Ed and Tom at VIP Stables. I would like to meet Wally Hennessey in a winner’s circle after one of the horses wins and get that photo; I’ve become a big fan of his and Amanda Kelley’s, even buying Wally’s biography, Driven to Win.”

Enokian has been a lifelong fan of harness racing.

“I started going to harness races in 1972 at 18 years old,” Enokian explained. “Living in Michigan, I attended live racing at the Detroit Race Course, Hazel Park Raceway, Northville Downs and Jackson Raceway, in addition to attending the Little Brown Jug in Delaware, OH annually. Unfortunately, Michigan was not supportive of the sport with blocked racino transitions and many of these tracks are now defunct.”

And while he has owned horses in the past, fractional ownership has allowed him the opportunity to see his name in the program again.

“I’ve owned Standardbred racehorses only. I had many in Michigan in the 90s; my best horse was Meadow Macho. Having the opportunity to own again through fractional ownership has been a great experience.

“I’d like to say that fractional ownership has only added to the thrill of the race. I get knots in my stomach before the race, the same way I did when I owned them outright and watched them race live,” Enokian added. “I would encourage fans of the game to explore fractional ownership. Without a large outlay, you can invest in as low as 1% of a racehorse and enjoy this sport on a different level.”

Enokian also added that it was easy to become a fractional owner.

“The VIP Stables website lists the horses and shares available, updated daily. It was easy to join and become a fractional owner online. I appreciate that VIP uses many different stables and trainers in the Midwest and out East and feel that there is excellent exposure to a variety of horses.”

And the ownership of horses through the VIP Internet Stable and other ownership groups extends among a great number of people. While only a fraction of the horse is owned, the immersion into the business and exposure to harness racing benefits everyone as a whole.

“The owners that make up the group might only own ‘a fraction’ but they are some of the biggest harness racing fans and supporters I’ve met!” Amanda Kelley concluded.

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|---|--|--|--|---|--|----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 MESHUGGAH 2:1544 (5/8) \$35,152 LEX-SEL \$120,000 | | b c 2, by Greenshoe, Starita by Tritoxn Courant Inc,Delray Beach,FL | | Last 4 Sts-\$230,650 | | 1:54.4 Mw 5/8 | 24 M1 | 1 0 0 0 | \$6,250 24 Tot | 9 2 5 2 | \$316,368 | |
| 8-1 Ja. Macdonald 12-0-2-1 (100) | | M. Melander 21-2-3-6 (095) | | Br. - Hanover Shoe Farms Inc,PA | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 5M1 fst165° 274 .554 1:24 1:52.3 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 8 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 2 ² / ₁ 3 ³ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 5 ⁵ / ₃ | | ScZeron | MarMeindr | 274 28 28 29 | 1:53 87 | +9 4w | 5.90 EmtronLgcyMeshuggahHldg | 2w pst 1/4 led,ovtnr-8 |
| 4 Oct24 10Lx1 fst179° 282 .554 1:24 1:51.4 INSTALION | | 80000 1 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 3 ³ / ₃ | | 14 ³ / ₃ 3 ³ / ₄ | | ScZeron | MarMeindr | 283 27 28 28 | 1:52 90 | | 2.13 GapKronos Hidgo Meshuggah | Moved up p.3-8 |
| 21 Sep24 10Wbs fst168° 271 .566 1:24 1:52.3 MOHS MILLI | | 740000 7 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1no 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ³ / ₃ | | ScZeron | MarMeindr | 271 29 28 28 | 1:53 89 | +12 5w | 17.30 Maryland LsngDrem Meshuggah | Press,tired-10 |
| 5 Sep24 8Mwa fst179° 274 .564 1:25 1:54.4 PASS-FINAL | | 252000 5 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 3 ³ / ₃ | | 1mk 3 ³ / ₃ | | ScZeron | MarMeindr | 271 29 28 28 | 1:54 84 | | 3.10 Meshuggah ElanHnv FatherTJ | -8 |
| 18 Aug24 7Phia fst181° 282 .573 1:26 1:54.1 PASS 2CG | | 79968 3 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | 2 ² / ₁ 2 ² / ₁ | | CoCallahn | MarMeindr | 282 29 28 28 | 1:54 82 | +3 5w | 1.80 FatherTJMeshuggah CheersHnv | -7 |
| 11 Aug24 12Pd 12Pcd fst166° 28 .571 1:26 1:54.4 PaSs 2yrCG | | 79569 3 2 ¹ / ₂ hd 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2hd | | 2mk 2mk | | MaKakaley | MarMeindr | 28 29 28 28 | 1:54 82 | +0 6w | *20 ElanHnvMeshuggah ArowhdHw | Pkt chl,nailed-6 |
| 2 MARYLAND 2:1523 (7/8) *\$113,625 LEX-SEL \$475,000 | | b c 2, by Chapter Seven, Crucial by Father Patrick Courant & Pow Rco & Holly Lane Stud East,FL,StewartHorn Stb,KY | | Last 4 Sts-\$777,750 | | 1:52.3 Wbs 7/8 | 24 M1 | 3 1 1 0 | \$20,642 24 Tot | 7 4 1 1 | \$735,378 | |
| 5-2 D. Dunn 51-8-8-13 (157) | | M. Melander 21-2-3-6 (095) | | Br. - Hanover Shoe Farms Inc,PA | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 10 Oct24 2M1 fst153° 293 .582 1:26 1:55.2 2yr CRG | | 74000 3 4 ⁵ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₁ 2 ⁵ / ₁ 2 ⁵ / ₁ | | 2 ⁵ / ₁ 2 ⁵ / ₁ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 30 28 28 28 | 1:56 | | nb Karinchak Maryland SevenLayr | Rail 1st up,trot-7 |
| 21 Sep24 10Wbs fst168° 271 .566 1:24 1:52.3 MOHS MILLI | | 74000 2 6 ⁹ / ₃ 7 ⁶ / ₁ 4 ⁴ / ₁ 4 ⁴ / ₁ | | 3 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 28 28 27 27 | 1:52 93 | +12 5w | *95 Maryland LsngDremMeshuggah | 3rd ov going away-10 |
| 13 Sep24 10HoP fst172° 271 .574 1:27 1:54.1 D-P Haughton | | 39000 8 4 ³ / ₃ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 274 30 29 27 | 1:54 86 | | *1.20 Maryland LsngDremEugnThrGns | -10 |
| 24 Aug24 10Wbs fst173° 281 .572 1:26 1:53.4 WM WELLWOOD | | 425500 9 1 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 28 29 28 27 | 1:53 85 | +8 2w | 17.25 Maryland NdcChtr SthCspn | Ykt,pkt going away-10 |
| 17 Aug24 8Wbs fst179° 29 .578 1:25 1:53.4 WM WELLWOOD | | 21900 4 5 ⁵ / ₄ 5 ⁷ / ₂ 5 ⁷ / ₂ 6 ⁸ / ₃ | | 4 ³ / ₃ 4 ³ / ₃ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 30 29 28 27 | 1:54 82 | +9 3w | 4.55 TactDylNdcLokmgMmto Maryland | Out fnl,game 3rd-9 |
| 2 Aug24 7M1 cd 274 .58 1:27 1:54.4 KNDRGARTEN | | 27778 7 7 ⁷ / ₃ 7 ⁵ / ₃ 4 ³ / ₃ 4 ³ / ₃ | | 2 ³ / ₃ 2 ³ / ₃ | | DDunn | MMelander | 29 29 28 27 | 1:55 76 | +0 4w | 2.20 PbrsrsNIMvndCstl | 2nd ov ang lane,even-11 |
| 3 MAXIMUS MEARAS 2:1524 (1) \$16,959 | | b c 2, by Chapter Seven, Darling Mearas S by Cantab Hall Kjell Magns Andersen,Walchwil,SZ | | Last 4 Sts-\$79,650 | | 1:52.4 M1 | 24 M1 | 1 1 0 0 | \$20,500 24 Tot | 5 4 1 0 | \$84,795 | |
| 3-1 S. Zeron 45-8-2-4 (178) | | L. Wallin 17-3-2-2 (176) | | Br. - Hanover Shoe Farms Inc,PA | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 11M1 fst165° 272 .562 1:24 1:52.4 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 4 2 ³ / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | 1hd 1hd | | ScZeron | LuWallin | 272 29 28 27 | 1:52 86 | +9 4w | 7.20 MxmsMersSupChprBlank | Led,shld,ang,dvng-8 |
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| 26 Sep24 4Lx1 fst168° 282 .562 1:25 1:54 Bluegrass | | 78300 7 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ | | 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | ScZeron | LuWallin | 28 28 29 27 | 1:54 83 | | *1.23 MxmsMers ElanHnv BlueCartr | -8 |
| 6 Sep24 14M1 fst172° 294 .594 1:29 1:56.1 283yorn2cd | | 16000 2 3 ¹ / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ 4 ³ / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | ScZeron | LuWallin | 30 30 29 26 | 1:56 69 | +2 7w | 5.50 MxmsMersFastAprchBlmnd | Rail,ang lane,handy-9 |
| 23 Aug24 2Phl fst179° 30 1:00 1:28 1:57.3 2yoCGnw2 | | 11250 5 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | LuWallin | LuWallin | 30 30 28 29 | 1:57 70 | +8 4w | *90 MxmsMers RmncRgms Belmond | -8 |
| 13 Aug24 4Phl fst174° 30 1:01 1:30 2:00 Qua | | 21900 1 4 ⁵ / ₄ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ | | 4 ² / ₃ 3 ³ / ₃ | | LuWallin | LuWallin | 31 30 29 29 | 2:00 | | nb MasvelMatr GlnDpsns MxmsMersS | -6 |
| 4 EMOTICON LEGACY 2:1523 (1) \$25,943 | | b c 2, by Walner, Emoticon Hanover by Kadabra Determination,Montreal,QC,CA | | Last 4 Sts-\$144,510 | | 1:52.3 M1 | 24 M1 | 1 1 0 0 | \$12,500 24 Tot | 6 4 0 0 | \$155,656 | |
| 7-2 Lo. Roy 92-1-1 (222) | | L. Blais 7-2-0-1 (286) | | Br. - Determination,Montreal,QC | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 5M1 fst165° 274 .554 1:24 1:52.3 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 7 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | LoRoy | LucBlais | 28 28 28 28 | 1:52 87 | +9 4w | 2.80 EmtronLgcyMeshuggahHldg | Ykt,pkt,room rail,handy-8 |
| 11 Oct24 2Wbs fst150° 311 .593 1:29 1:59.1 Qua | | 80000 8 2 ² / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | LoRoy | LucBlais | 31 28 29 30 | 1:59 93 | | nb LsngDrem EmtronLgcy HapyAngel | -8 |
| 21 Sep24 2Wbs fst168° 281 .562 1:24 1:53 MOHS MILLI | | 74000 1 7 ¹⁰ / ₉ 9 ⁸ / ₈ 5 ⁶ / ₆ 5 ⁶ / ₆ | | 5 ⁵ / ₅ 5 ⁵ / ₅ | | LoRoy | LucBlais | 29 28 27 27 | 1:53 88 | +12 5w | 5.55 Maryland LsngDrem Meshuggah | 4th ov,tiring-10 |
| 13 Sep24 5Wbs fst168° 28 .573 1:27 1:55.1 Champlain | | 12194 8 7 ⁷ / ₁ 6 ⁸ / ₈ 6 ⁴ / ₃ 3 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | LoRoy | LucBlais | 29 29 28 27 | 1:55 80 | +5 6w | *1.68 EmtronLgcyTrottingWldchHw | Tok,3rd ov strong-9 |
| 24 Aug24 10Wbs fst173° 281 .572 1:26 1:53.4 WM WELLWOOD | | 425500 2 4 ⁴ / ₃ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 3 ⁴ / ₄ | | 4 ⁹ / ₂ 4 ⁹ / ₂ | | LoRoy | LucBlais | 29 28 28 29 | 1:55 76 | +8 2w | 3.25 Maryland NdcChtr SthCaspn | Brush,caved-10 |
| 17 Aug24 10Wbs fst177° 283 .58 1:28 1:56 WM WELLWOOD | | 21900 4 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ^{3/₃ 3²/₂ 3²/₂} | | 1hd 1hd | | JaMacadrld | LucBlais | 29 30 29 27 | 1:56 74 | +9 3w | 3.35 EmtronLgcy NdcChtr Manforce | Strong on wire-8 |
| 5 HIDALGO 2:1541 (1) \$19,358 SHS-HBG \$800,000 | | b c 2, by Muscle Hill, Brooklyn by Conway Hall Brixton Medical Inc,Matawan,NJ,Hatfield Stables,Columbus,OH | | Last 4 Sts-\$139,825 | | 1:54.1 M1 | 24 M1 | 7 3 0 2 | \$68,000 24 Tot | 10 3 3 2 | \$193,575 | |
| 15-1 Y. Gingras 47-7-4-5 (149) | | R. Burke 61-10-8-7 (164) | | Br. - Order By Stable Ab,SD | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 5M1 fst165° 274 .554 1:24 1:52.3 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 5 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ 3 ¹ / ₂ | | 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | DeDunn | RoBurke | 28 28 28 28 | 1:53 87 | +9 4w | 3.50 EmtronLgcyMeshuggahHldg | 3hole,1st up,no bid-8 |
| 4 Oct24 10Lx1 fst179° 282 .554 1:24 1:51.4 INSTALION | | 80000 6 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ³ / ₃ 4 ³ / ₃ 5 ⁵ / ₅ | | 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | YaGingras | RoBurke | 29 27 28 27 | 1:52 90 | | 5.95 GapKronos Hidgo Meshuggah | Moved up p.2-8 |
| 26 Sep24 11Lx1 fst168° 29 .572 1:26 1:54.1 Bluegrass | | 77300 8 4 ⁴ / ₁ 5 ⁴ / ₁ 4 ³ / ₃ 3 ⁴ | | 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | YaGingras | RoBurke | 29 28 29 27 | 1:54 79 | | 7.10 HapyJackB Hidgo Montcstle | -8 |
| 13 Sep24 10HoP fst172° 271 .574 1:27 1:54.1 D-P Haughton | | 39000 7 3 ² / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | 2 ¹ / ₂ 2 ¹ / ₂ | | YaGingras | RoBurke | 27 30 29 27 | 1:54 84 | | 7.10 Maryland LsngDremEugnThrGns | -10 |
| 6 Sep24 11M1 fst177° 274 .575 1:25 1:53.4 NJClassicE | | 25000 1 3 ² / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 3 ² / ₂ 3 ² / ₂ | | YaGingras | RoBurke | 28 28 28 28 | 1:53 85 | +2 7w | 2.50 OnpntHidgoMmto | Brush,led pst 1/2,ovtnr-10 |
| 30 Aug24 5M1 fst177° 282 .572 1:26 1:54.3 NJClassicE | | 25000 4 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | YaGingras | RoBurke | 28 29 28 28 | 1:54 79 | +6 3w | *1.50 Hidgo OnpntHidgo KevlarCcl | Led,won handy-9 |
| 6 SUPER CHAPTER 2:1522 (1) \$42,498 SHS-HBG \$300,000 | | b c 2, by Chapter Seven, Lifetime Pursuit by Cantab Hall Jeffrey S Snyder New York,NY,Arthur S Pronti,Jersey City,NJ | | Last 4 Sts-\$246,250 | | 1:52 Lx1 | 24 M1 | 1 0 0 0 | \$6,250 24 Tot | 9 5 2 1 | \$382,480 | |
| 9-2 Dv. Miller 46-4-9-6 (087) | | M. Melander 21-2-3-6 (095) | | Br. - Hanover Shoe Farms Inc,PA | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 11M1 fst165° 272 .562 1:24 1:52.4 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 1 4 ³ / ₃ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 2hd 2hd | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 28 28 28 28 | 1:52 89 | +9 4w | *50 MxmsMersSupChprBlnk | Brush,led 1/2,t/2,beat-8 |
| 4 Oct24 12Lx1 fst179° 274 .554 1:24 1:52 D-INSTALION | | 80000 4 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 27 28 28 27 | 1:52 97 | | *33 SupChpr MxmsMersS ChafRoom | -9 |
| 26 Sep24 4Lx1 fst168° 282 .562 1:25 1:54 Bluegrass | | 78300 7 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ 4 ⁴ / ₃ | | scratched-sick | | | | | | | | |
| 17 Sep24 10Lx1 fst176° 28 .563 1:25 1:52 KYSS | | 40000 8 3 ³ / ₃ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 28 28 29 26 | 1:52 93 | | *1.04 SupChpr GoDogGo ChafRoom | -10 |
| 1 Sep24 6Lx1 fst179° 284 .563 1:25 1:53 KYSS | | 80000 1 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ² / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 31 29 28 27 | 1:51 99 | +4 6w | *20 Variategr CvlvDme MoonshotS | Rail 1st tm brk-8 |
| 18 Aug24 11Lx1 gd75° 283 .58 1:27 1:56 KYSS | | 80000 8 6 ⁹ / ₇ 6 ⁹ / ₇ 6 ⁴ / ₄ 4 ² / ₃ | | 3 ¹ / ₂ 3 ¹ / ₂ | | DeDunn | MarMeindr | 30 29 29 27 | 1:56 75 | | *10 ChafRoom GoDogGo SupChpr | -12 |
| 7 #GO DOG GO 2:153 (1) \$22,608 LEX-SEL \$110,000 | | b c 2, by Greenshoe, Primary Target by Muscle Hill Wiesman Farms LLC, York,PA,AJ Libfeld,Pickering,ON,CA | | Last 4 Sts-\$105,865 | | 1:53 Lx1 | 24 M1 | 1 0 0 0 | \$2,000 24 Tot | 8 2 2 0 | \$180,865 | |
| 6-1 T. McCarthy 43-7-10-1 (163) | | C. Pinske 2-0-1-0 (000) | | Br. - Wiesman Farms LLC,PA | | | 23 M1 | 0 0 0 0 | - 23 Tot | 0 0 0 0 | - | |
| 18 Oct24 11M1 fst165° 272 .562 1:24 1:52.4 D-Br Crown E | | 25000 5 7 ⁸ / ₈ 7 ⁷ / ₇ 6 ⁷ / ₇ 6 ⁶ / ₆ | | 4 ¹ / ₂ 4 ¹ / ₂ | | ToMcCrthy | CaPinske | 29 29 28 28 | 1:53 86 | +9 4w | 3.60 MxmsMersSupChprBlnk | Bad cvr,ang lane,trot-8 |
| 4 Oct24 10Lx1 fst179° 282 .554 1:24 1:52.3 INSTALION | | 80000 5 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | x2xp4p6 ³ | | ToMcCrthy | CaPinske | 28 27 28 28 | 1:52 92 | | *1.59 GapKronos Hidgo Meshuggah | Dq p.6-8 |
| 26 Sep24 9Lx1 fst168° 29 .581 1:26 1:54.3 Bluegrass | | 77300 1 3 ³ / ₃ 3 ³ / ₃ 2 ¹ / ₂ 1 ¹ / ₂ | | x1p5 ⁴ | | ToMcCrthy | CaP | | | | | |



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All in the family for Crown '24

Emoticon Hanover was a success in the Breeders Crown during her racing career, and her impact on the event has continued as a mom.

As a racehorse, the Luc Blais-trained trotter appeared in five Breeders Crown finals, winning two and finishing second twice. Her first foal, filly Drawn Impression, won a Breeders Crown elim last year at age 2 and finished fourth in the final. Last week, Drawn Impression captured her Breeders Crown elim again and will head to Saturday's \$600,000 final for 3-year-old female trotters at The Meadowlands as the 5-2 morning-line favorite.

But that's not all. Emoticon Hanover's second foal, colt Emoticon Legacy, also won a Breeders Crown elimination last week. He is the 7-2 third choice in Friday's \$700,000 final for 2-year-old male trotters at The Big M.

Drawn Impression and Emoticon Legacy have combined to hit the board in 16 of 21 races, winning 12 and earning \$630,953. Both were bred by Determination, which also raced Emoticon Hanover, and are trained by Blais.

"That's a good family," Blais said. "It's incredible when you think about that. It's exciting. Very exciting. It is quite special. I like that. That's my thing."

Drawn Impression, a daughter of stallion Muscle Hill, has won four of her past five races, with the loss coming by a head in the Elegantimage Stakes.

"She's a nice filly," Blais said. "She is very talented. She's got a nice gait, a beautiful animal."

Emoticon Legacy, a son of stallion Walner, counts the Champlain Stakes among his wins this season. He was fourth in the William Wellwood Memorial and fifth in the Mohawk Million.

"I think he's maturing and getting better and better," Blais said. "When I trained him, he knows what to do. He's got more confidence. I think time has helped him develop into a racehorse. He's a very quick horse. He can change gears very fast."

"He was a little bit aggressive when he started to race. We took our time and now he knows what to do."

Blais has won four Breeders Crown trophies in his career. Louis Roy, who will drive Drawn Impression and Emoticon Legacy, has won one.

Takter teams with her kids on Champagne Problems

For trainer Nancy Takter, working with 2-year-old female trotter Champagne Problems is family business. Literally!

Takter and her children, Ella and Marcus, make up the Family Business ownership group that is among the owners of Champagne Problems, who is the 5-2 morning-line favorite in Friday's Breeders Crown for freshman filly trotters.

Takter gave the kids a share of the horse as a Christmas gift last year. Champagne Problems has hit the board in seven of eight races this season, winning five and earning \$361,704.

"The kids are really lucky," said Takter, adding with a laugh, "How does that even happen? I was picking between her and a colt, and I picked the right one fortunately. I wouldn't have heard the end of that."

"It's definitely been fun. I think for a lot of kids of trainers and drivers, they might have a little resentment toward the sport unless they're super interested themselves. Parents end up missing out on a lot of their events. So, it's fun for them to have the excitement of having a nice filly. It's nice, too, when you're a teenager and you have a filly that's making nice money for you."

Champagne Problems advanced automatically to the Breeders Crown final thanks to her win in the Jim Doherty Memorial in September at Harrah's Hoosier Park. Her other victories include the New Jersey Sire Stakes championship and a division of the International Stallion Stakes, which she captured by 3-1/4 lengths earlier this month at Lexington's Red Mile.

"She's been super," Takter said. "She raced great in Lexington. I maybe wanted to race her both weeks down there, but she got rained out the first week. I was afraid she was going to be a little short in Lexington, but she trotted (1):53 super easy down there, and she was shut down halfway down the stretch."

Champagne Problems is a daughter of Tactical Landing-Miss Caviar. She reminds Takter of another offspring of Tactical Landing, her 2023 Trotter of the Year Tactical Approach, who counted the Hambletonian and a Breeders Crown among his triumphs.

"I've said this from the first time I ever jogged her that she is a female version of Tactical Approach," Takter said. "She carries herself exactly like he did."

"She qualified Saturday (in 1:55 4/5 at The Meadowlands) and was well within herself. I trained her (Tuesday) morning and she was super. All systems go with her. She's a really nice filly. She's been good to me."

Takter has won 10 Breeders Crowns in her career, putting her in a tie for sixth among all trainers in history.

-By Ken Weingartner

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, OCTOBER 24

RACE 10

(5) MACH SILVER crushed at this level twice and he likely threepreates here as a big chalk.

-Garnet Barnsdale



WOODBINE
MOHAWK PARK

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

RACE 11

(7) MANOLETE aborted his leave attempt last week when too many other advanced off the gate and that basically sealed his fate, especially when you consider that his best performances have been near the front. There is no competition this week and a wire to wire win is coming at short odds.

-Derick Giwner



RACE 1

(4) MIKI THE CLOWN ships back from The Meadows and rejoins the DiDomenico barn. Last year the mare went 4 for 12 here with a 1:52 3/5 mark facing much better.

-Matt Rose



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

RACE 13

(10) SWEET AMIRA should prove too classy for these despite drawing the worst post in the field. Expect a down-the-road attempt.

-Giwner



FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES

Freehold Analysis

[Friday](#)

Mohawk Park Analysis

[Thursday](#)

[Friday](#)

[Saturday](#)

Meadowlands Analysis

[Friday](#)

[Saturday](#)

Yonkers Analysis

[Thursday](#)

[Friday](#)

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

KARL TO BYPASS BREEDERS CROWN

After finishing sixth-placed-fifth in his Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Trot elimination on Saturday night at the Meadowlands, trainer Nancy Takter announced on Monday on Facebook that Karl will not compete in the final.

“Regretfully I am announcing that Karl will not be entered into the Breeders Crown final,” Takter’s post read. “After his race on Saturday, he was scoped and found to be sick. After discussions with partners and further tests by our veterinarian, we have collectively decided that it would not be fair to race Karl without being certain of his complete health.

“This was a very sad decision to make but I know it’s the right decision to make. Karl has had an incredible career and has brought us all immense joy and excitement. I must and will always prioritize his future well-being and ensure he is given the best chance for a healthy recovery.”

Shaun Laungani and Adam Bowden of Diamond Creek Farm disclosed on a recent edition of their podcast that the farm acquired a “significant portion” of Karl after the Kentucky Futurity and will stand him at stud in 2025.

-By Greg Reinhart

CRISSMAN-BIER, TEAGUE HONORED AS HARRINGTON MEET LEADERS

Harrington Raceway’s 78th season of live harness racing came to a close Wednesday evening after a 15-race program.

End of meet honors highlighted the card as trainer Crissy Crissman-Bier notched her second training title and Montrell Teague recorded his first driving title. Crissman-Bier took the lead in the standings in the fall and held off defending champion Joe Columbo, while Teague was back and forth with Corey Callahan for the lead before a four-win night Tuesday (October 22) and a double Wednesday helped secure the title.

On the closing night program, Allan Davis had three wins, including a victory in the \$16,000 trotting feature with Moni Talks LLC’s Not For Moni (\$2.60), who was a 1:56 1/5 winner over The Strawboss and Mickey Muscles. The Brendan Davis trainee recorded his third win of the season. Art Stafford Jr. also had three wins on the card.

Live racing on the Delaware circuit will shift to Bally’s Dover, who opens for live racing November 4 (post time 4:30 p.m.) with racing on a Monday through Thursday schedule.

-release (Harrington)

SIMPSON STAKES INCLUDED IN TUESDAY’S FAST MILES AT POCONO

On probably the last day the temperature will reach 80 degrees at Pocono Downs at Mohegan Pennsylvania for the next six months, Pressure Cooker (1:50) and Staying With Emily (1:50 2/5) won divisions of the \$80,000 Hardie Hanover, the John Simpson Sr. stakes for 3-year-old pacing fillies, while the 2-year-old pacing gelding Dandy Ideal equaled the local standard for his division, 1:50 3/5.

[READ MORE](#)

FOUR-YEAR-OLDS SPAR IN CUMBERLAND RUN KYSS

Four-year-olds took center stage in \$50,000 Kentucky Sires Stakes races on Tuesday afternoon at Cumberland Run.

Andy McCarthy won both of the contests for mares, taking the pace with Hers Hungry (by Stay Hungry, bred by All Four Won, paid \$7.26 to win) in 1:50 3/5 for trainer Travis Kolaczynski and owners Jeff Dauplaise and Aimee Scheid) and the trot with Railee Something (by International Moni, bred by owner Ron Mersky, paid \$2.10 to win) in 1:53 1/5 for trainer Roger Cullipher.

[READ MORE](#)

OHIO FEATURE RACE & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

The deadline for submitting 2025 Ohio Feature Race Grants and Fairgrounds Capital Improvement Grants is Thursday, October 31, 2024.

All applications must be postmarked by the deadline to be considered.

The Feature Race Grant Program is designed to assist individual county fair race programs to increase the purse for a feature race or races. Appli-

cations must be submitted by the county fair seeking the grant.

The purpose of the 100% matching funds Capital Improvements Grant Program is to facilitate construction and fund expenses for capital improvements to Standardbred racing industry-specific buildings or structures, equipment, and maintenance and repair of facilities used in conjunction with live race day programs.

For complete details of both programs, visit the Ohio Harness Horsemen’s Association website at www.ohha.com.

-release (OHHA)

PLAINRIDGE PARK TO HOST MEN WEAR PINK BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISER

Everyone knows someone whose life has been affected by cancer and since October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Plainridge Park is teaming up with the American Cancer Society and Men Wear Pink of Boston to raise funds for their Making Strides Against Breast Cancer campaign.

The Plainridge Park event is called Men Wear Pink: A Sulky Social and it will be held on Friday, October 25 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the racing side of Plainridge Park Casino.

At the track you can enjoy delicious food and drink, but you also have a chance at winning some big prizes. While watching the races at the Sulky Social, you can go to the casino and swipe your Penn Play card to get an entry to deposit at any of the promotional kiosks for a chance to win. Five lucky people will be drawn at 8 p.m. to win up to \$250 in Penn Slot Play. Your entry must be placed in the drum before 7:59 p.m.

Men Wear Pink is a distinguished group of community leaders, determined to raise awareness and money to support a mission to save more lives than ever from breast cancer. When communities unite to fight breast cancer, great things happen. By tapping into the power of pink, Men Wear Pink has raised more than \$40 million since its inception which fuels a live 24/7 helpline for answers and support, breakthrough breast research, and so much more.

Every dollar raised at the Sulky Social will help the American Cancer Society save more lives from breast cancer through early detection and prevention, breakthrough breast cancer discovery and research, and lifesaving patient support. Plainridge Park has stepped up to the plate to show their support and make a real impact by setting a goal of \$30,000 and working hard to achieve it.

As a strong kick-start towards that number, substantial monetary donations have been pledged by Plainridge Park, the Harness Horseman’s Association of New England (HHANE), the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts (SOMINC) and the New England Amateur Harness Driver’s Association.

The track is also encouraging that all connections of horses racing that day deck out their starters in pink from head to toe and to help facilitate that, Plainridge Park will provide pink Vetwrap on race day to enhance the look. HHANE has purchased white and pink driving gloves and will make sure every driver is wearing them. And SOMINC has purchased six presentation blankets that will be used in specific named races during the afternoon.

The track is also encouraging that donations be made by the connections of everyone racing that day, fans at the track and anyone not attending who can donate online, to do so to help this initiative.

Plainridge Park’s leading trainer Jimmy Nickerson is intimately familiar with this disease as his wife, Heidi, is a breast cancer survivor. Heidi fought and won her battle and she and Jimmy are now both fully focused on doing whatever they can moving forward to end this and other cancers in the future.

As part of their mission, they have formed “Team Nickerson” for this fundraiser and have the full support of all their owners and their driver, Matty Athearn. And every member of Team Nickerson will be donating 20% of all purse winnings from Friday to Men Wear Pink of Boston through the Sulky Social.

Team Nickerson has also put out a challenge to everyone who races at Plainridge Park, including those who will be on hand for the Massachusetts Breeders Stake finals on Thursday (Oct. 24), to meet this challenge and donate to this worthy cause as well.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution and help Plainridge Park reach the \$30,000 goal can donate directly to the American Cancer Society’s Men Wear Pink of Boston by following this [link](#).

-edited release (Tim Bojarski for Plainridge Park)