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THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025



Drivers at New York tracks like Yonkers Raceway face stiff fines for the same infraction that offers more of a slap on the wrist in Pennsylvania



EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Giwner
[@harnesseveguy](https://twitter.com/harnesseveguy)

When you are driving on the highway are you the type of person to slow to a crawl to check out an accident or do you roll by and continue on your way in an expedient manner? I'd argue that the majority of us fall somewhere in the gray area of taking a quick peek (known as rubbernecking) as we slow ever so slightly to observe the situation.

Since the majority of us aren't out on the track and accidents in racing thankfully don't occur at the ridiculously high levels as on the road, perhaps the harness racing version of rubbernecking deals with the fines and suspensions report released each Friday by the USTA. Like a new song from an artist, the listing of wrongdoings is dropped each week to anticipation by many. I'm not among them. While I completely understand the need for the report and agree that it should be released, it always includes bad news and I try to keep things a bit more positive.

Simply due to an obligation to be aware of everything going on in harness racing for my job, I do browse the report many weeks and did

so on June 20. What struck me is not so much the number of whipping violations (14) but the severity of them.

Jason Bartlett, the leading driver in the sport in terms of earnings and second in wins this year, was fined \$250 and suspended three days for "excessive or indiscriminate use of the whip" when driving Ayr Corleon GB on May 13 (Race 4 at Yonkers Raceway). The fine explanation added that he caused injury to the horse (welts) and that it was his second whipping-related offense in 365 days.

I've watched Bartlett drive thousands of races and never thought him to be a person that carelessly whipped his horses. So I went back to watch the replay and while he used the whip more than perhaps in a normal race, it was nothing but light taps that perhaps landed in the same area and caused the irritation. It is also worth noting that Bartlett's horse was somewhat difficult to steer and seemed to need repeated encouragement to keep his mind on business.

"He was very steppy in all the turns and I was just keeping the whip on his tail or tapping him to make sure he stayed up on the bit," said Bartlett. "I was very surprised that I weltsed the horse considering how much I touched him [with the whip] and how it looks on the video."

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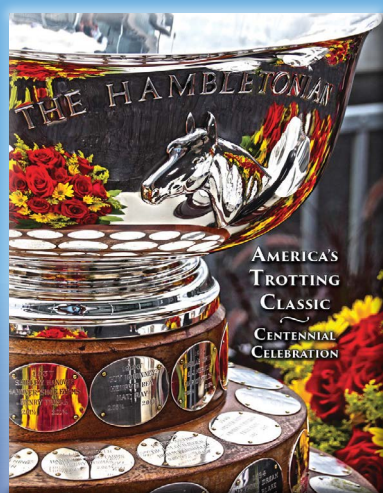
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ATLANTA, a bay filly by Chapter Seven out of the Cantab Hall mare Hemi Blue Chip blazed into racing's consciousness in the 2018 Hambletonian. She set the fastest recorded fractions to date in her elimination heat even though she finished second by a neck to Crystal Fashion.

She returned in the final heat that day in rein to Scott Zeron to become the first filly in 22 years to win

the Hambletonian, going down in history next to legendary names like Continentalvictory, Duenna and Rosalind.

There have been very few Breyer Standardbred stablemates issued, most notably a trotter done for the 75th Hambletonian anniversary in 2000 and the pacer Foiled Again, the leading money winner Standardbred of all time with earnings of \$7,635,588.

The full scale model of Atlanta was released by Breyer in 2024 and packaged with a reprint of Marguerite Henry's Book Born To Trot, about the 1936 Hambletonian filly winner Rosalind. The stablemate version was commissioned by the Hambletonian Society in honor of the 100th edition of the Hambletonian. (\$7⁰⁰)

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Next I went to check Bartlett's previous fines and suspensions to see what his "official" track record is when it comes to these offenses. He was suspended seven days and fined \$500 for whipping Outlaw Man N after the wire in race five on February 4, 2025 at Yonkers Raceway. The replay confirms that he did strike the shaft and likely the horse once after the wire but it is curious because he was only lightly tapping the horse with the whip in the late stages of the race when he was clearly tiring. So, was there a purpose to the decision?

After listening to Bartlett's explanation, I described it to him as almost a teaching moment for the horse to deter poor behavior, but the driver stopped me. "Yeah, but I shouldn't have done that," admitted Bartlett, who added that the horse was running out on the last turn and trying to pull himself up a bit in the stretch.

Digging deeper into Bartlett's whipping infractions, he has two from 2024, none in 2023 and two in 2022. That is six total incidents in 9,128 drives. Hardly a large number. So the question looms, is a driving suspension warranted when the number of incidents is so small relative to the sample size?

In 2024, the New York State Gaming Commission adapted new rules for whipping violations in an effort to promote "health and safety" in an environment where mistreatment of horses has been heavily under the microscope. The penalties are as follows:

NEW YORK WHIPPING FINES/SUSPENSIONS

| | Suspension | Fine |
|----------------|------------|---------|
| First offense | none | \$100 |
| Second offense | 3 days | \$250 |
| Third offense | 7 days | \$500 |
| Fourth offense | 15 days | \$1,000 |

Fifth or more: For each subsequent offense, the penalty for both suspension days and the amount of the fine shall be double the last penalty imposed.

For Bartlett, he isn't completely against the new fines system. "I don't think that the penalties are too stiff, I just think in the moment of battle while trying to win a horse race some of us forget and raise our elbows too high or put in four hits when it should be three," said the driver. "[The new fines] probably needed to come, but it is just a hard adjustment and you don't have too many chances during the year to mess up."

While Bartlett hasn't faced some of the stricter penalties on the list, driver Anthony Napolitano hasn't been quite as lucky. He was hit with a \$1,000 fine and a 15 day suspension on May 19 at Yonkers for violating the whipping rule by "using more than forearm and wrist action". His previous infractions over the last 365 days – Sept. 2 (whip above shoulder-\$200), July 8 (whipping after wire causing visible injury - \$250), July 6 (whip above shoulder - \$200) and March 11 (whip above shoulder - \$200) – all occurred at Pocono Downs in Pennsylvania where the rules are more lax.

While New York is cut and dry, the language for whipping fines is much more vague in Pennsylvania. Infractions are placed into two categories - minor and major. While it isn't clearly outlined, it appears that "causing visible injury to the horse" and "whipping a horse after the finish or after a horse is no longer in contention" are considered major offenses. The fines are as follows in Pennsylvania:

PENNSYLVANIA WHIPPING FINES/SUSPENSIONS

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Minor offense | \$200 | \$200 | \$200 |
| Major fines | \$250 | \$500 | \$500 |
| Major suspension | 3 days | 5 days | 10 days |

The key to the above is that minor offenses do not include suspensions in Pennsylvania but do count against the driver in New York. So, again, Napolitano had to serve 15 days even though he only had one New York offense. If that fourth infraction occurred in Pennsylvania he would've only gotten a \$200 fine. Interestingly, on July 8 he was fined for whipping after the wire at Pocono but didn't get a suspension. So are the rules even the rules?

Napolitano has six whipping-related violations on his record dating back to 2022 in 5,256 drives. Certainly worse than Bartlett in terms of percentage but hardly over the top from a numbers standpoint. Did he deserve a 15 day suspension? In a world where you need a separate license to race in New York and Pennsylvania, should an action in one state carryover into another one?

"I do think it is too strict that way, but I understand why they are doing it," said Bartlett – who drives at both Pocono and Yonkers – on infractions from different states staying on your record.

Using a loose parallel, if you commit a moving violation in Pennsylvania you get a fine but won't receive points on your New York license. Should New York have a similar rule for drivers in a race and charge the fine but not include a suspension if the previous violations came elsewhere? My reasoning here is that violation can be different in each state or even track to track depending on who the Judges are in the booth. Two people could interpret the same action differently.

"It costs us a lot of money," said Bartlett about the suspensions. "Not only do you get hurt during the days off but you feel it for two to three weeks after, because now you've lost some of the drives that you would normally have."

Drawing on personal experience, and I'm far from a professional driver, but there was more than one time when I was out on the track when I simply forgot to pull the earplugs in the moment. I recall only one time when after the fact I felt I excessively whipped, but when you are in the race your mind is focused on winning, not necessarily how many times you whipped the horse or the shaft.

Just ask winning Kentucky Derby jockey Junior Alvarado, who was suspended two days and fined \$62,000 for hitting Sovereignty eight times with the riding crop instead of six. I can only imagine how much concentration it must take to count strikes when trying to win the Kentucky Derby. He appealed the decision.

"[The Judges] tend to think we can be perfect but we are all in the moment sometimes, whether we are driving a \$5,000 claimer or an Open pacer. I'm trying to win," said Bartlett.

I completely understand the reasoning for strict whipping rules and in no way condone excessive or extreme whipping of horses. If someone is consistently doing something wrong they should be properly punished. That said, in this system a person that drives 50 times a year and commits three whipping violations is treated the same as someone who drives 2,000 times and has the same number of infractions. Logic would state there is a greater chance of making a mistake in the moment the more you are on the track. Shouldn't the rules reflect that?



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Harris with a full slate for big Meadowlands stakes card

Zeron looking for good showing from Periculum, It's My Show

By Jay Bergman

A major night of stakes action comes to The Meadowlands on Saturday night (June 28) and trainer Andrew Harris has compiled a stable with designs of being represented on nights such as this. His Abuckabett Hanover rose to the Dan Patch Award in 2024 racing and beating the best Open pacers in North America. Abuckabett Hanover is back and Harris believes the 7-year-old is in quite similar form as he hopes to get the ball rolling in 2025 with a win in one of two divisions of the Dave Brower Memorial.

"He came into this race last year after finishing third in the Gold Cup at Mohawk," said Harris. "This year he was third again and just had no room."

Abuckabett Hanover used the prep in Ontario last year as a springboard to victories in the Brower and then William Haughton Memorial races that were two weeks apart last year and once again in 2025. He landed post three this year in the sixth race and first \$86,500 Brower division on The Meadowlands 14-race card after drawing posts eight and 10 in his last two starts at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

"This division is always tough," said Harris when asked if he expected Abuckabett Hanover to handle rivals this year as he did a year ago. "There are horses like Bythemissal who has come back strong and then you add Captain Albano and Nijinsky to the mix, and you know it's going to be tough."

In Saturday's contest Abuckabett Hanover will be looking for his first win of the year against Ken Hanover (post 8), a recent winner in the Battle of Lake Erie who enters the Brower riding a four race winning streak.

Harris has another horse in the second \$86,500 Brower division carded as race eight, but he didn't seem as confident about Seven Colors chances despite landing the pole position.

"Those last two starts he was used very hard. He's going to need an easy race just to get his confidence back," said Harris.

Seven Colors pushed Ken Hanover hard in the Battle of Lake Erie and paid the price in the stretch. Two weeks ago, he was used again in the third quarter and tired in an Open pace at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

Perhaps Harris' feelings about Seven Colors may have something to do with the quality of the field he's up against, with Bythemissal returning to The Meadowlands just seven days after scorching the Scioto Downs oval in 1:47 1/5, a career-best mile for the 6-year-old son of Downbytheseaside. It was a big bounce-back mile for Bythemissal following a lackluster overland journey in the Battle of Lake Erie.

Last year's Breeders Crown winner Coach Stefanos returns to East Rutherford for trainer Erv Miller hoping to get on the winning track. In five starts this year Coach Stefanos has won just once.

Ontario invader Ervin Hanover has been razor-sharp for trainer Dave Menary and he was explosive winning an Preferred event at Woodbine Mohawk on June 21 in 1:48. Ervin Hanover drew post six,

Locally, Maximus Miki (post 3) has put two impressive victories together over the Meadowlands mile surface but will meet much tougher foes on Saturday.

Driver Scott Zeron was more than pleased with the first start for It's My Show, the 2023 North America Cup champion. "He's always good fresh," said Zeron of the 5-year-old who paced a 25 4/5 final quarter finishing third behind Maximus Miki in his 2025 debut.

"If he's in the right spot turning for home, he's always a factor," said Zeron with supreme confidence in the Linda Toscano-trained son of Sweet Lou. Last year It's My Show was in the right spot when he took down Abuckabett Hanover in the Canadian Pacing Derby.

Zeron has the likely favorite in Periculum in Saturday's richest race, the \$164,000 Crawford Farms trot (race 9). Periculum has raced just once this year and that came in May when he captured the Cutler Memorial over this surface in 1:51 4/5. Since then, he's been preparing via qualifiers.

"When I went with him (in a qualifier) on June 14 he was by himself, and they wanted me to go in 1:57 and that's what they did. They knew he would have a second qualifier," Zeron said.



LISA PHOTO

Abuckabett Hanover won the Brower Memorial in 2024 over a sloppy surface at The Meadowlands.

Periculum was just as strong last Friday (June 20) winning in 1:53, exactly the time trainer Marcus Melander was looking for when he sent Zeron to the track.

"He's just very sharp and at the top of his game right now," said Zeron, who guides Periculum (post 3) against eight rivals including stablemate Aetos Kronos S, the winner of the Maxie Lee at Harrah's Philadelphia on May 25 who was denied entry into the Cutler for lack of earnings. Aetos Kronos S drew post six.

Harris has another pair racing on Saturday, with the 3-year-old Yo Tillie making just her second start of the year. Eligible in Kentucky, Harris has chosen to keep the daughter of Tactical Landing in New Jersey.

"I didn't want to race her at Oak Grove," said Harris. "We'll have this race on Saturday (\$33,375 Reynolds Memorial – race 10) and then go for the Del Miller Memorial (July 12)."

Yo Tillie was awesome in her sophomore debut winning the Garden State on May 17 at The Meadowlands in a career-best 1:52 3/5 clocking. "She was very strong in her qualifier," said Harris of the June 14 prep.

My Girl EJ (post 2) races six rivals in the \$116,500 Perfect Sting for older pacing mares (race 11) and Harris is more than realistic about her chances. "You have to do a lot of work just to get in the right position behind Twin B Joe Fresh," Harris said.

My Girl E J was able to finish second behind the defending Horse of the Year in the Betsy Ross at Harrah's Philadelphia on May 25 but got used very hard in the Roses Are Red at Woodbine Mohawk on June 14 and finished off the board.

The Perfect Sting pits rival Sylvia Hanover (post 1) against Twin B Joe Fresh (post 3). The former was the dominant of the two in 2023 when they were sophomores but last year Twin B Joe Fresh was close to invincible.

The Perfect Sting also drew Blue Chip Matchmaker champion Aardie B Miki N (post 5), a 5-year-old daughter of Always B Miki that was third in the Roses Are Red.






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Wrenn surrounded by green in North America Cup win



HARNESS FOCUS

By Jessica Hallett [X @JHallettPhoto](#)

As the wings of the car drew away, the crowd buzzed with excitement. The field of 10 pacers thundered from their post positions, all vying for good position in the mile for C\$1 million as the 42nd North America Cup commenced.

The sophomores swung around the first turn. The inside path along the pylons was led by Madden Oaks, a 3-year-old Huntsville colt guided by 25-year-old Braxten Boyd for 25-year-old trainer Cameron Capone. The North America Cup was the team's first chance at the big stage as they not only contended with the field of top-notch pacers, but with post 10 and 53-1 odds. Boyd and 'Madden' chased the car out and made a beeline to the top, leading his opponents through the opening quarter in 26.

At the corner of their eye was Louprint and Ronnie Wrenn, Jr. Getting caught on the outside in the first turn, the pair continued progressing forward on the charge to take the lead. Donning the green number four and sharing odds as the bettors' choice in the mile, the son of Sweet Lou is no stranger to the big stage. A winner of his elimination, the millionaire pacer has had a five-win streak of victories since his triumph in the Breeders Crown at The Meadowlands in October 2024. Wrenn, like Boyd, was taking the lines in his first N.A. Cup appearance.

"Going into a race like that, I don't think you can really figure the races out, you just kind of go in with a bunch of different game plans depending on what other horses decide to do off the gate. I thought maybe a couple other horses would leave from the outside, but it didn't surprise me that Swingtown and Madden Oaks both left," Ronnie Wrenn Jr. recalled on the start of the race.

At the 53 1/5 half, Madden and Louprint met eye-to-eye and Louprint edged ahead to take command.

"To be able to get the horse to the front just past the half, and be on the lead and trust that he's a great horse, I was pretty happy," said Wrenn.

Settling in on the pylon path, Louprint stepped away, hitting the three-quarters in 1:19 1/5. Madden Oaks and Boyd were shuffled back to third. Down the stretch, the crowd cheered. Madden fought back and used Louprint's drifting out to his advantage to sneak up the inside. The race became between the longshot and the favorite, between two Michigan-born and raised horsemen who were making their first start in the biggest race in Canada.

"When we got to the three-quarters – 19 and a piece – at that point I knew we were going fast," said Wrenn. "He still felt like he was pretty strong and had pace, but at that point, I was thinking about all the closers in the race, when are they coming at me, and I kept kind of glancing to the right and he drifted off the rail a little bit. Madden came up the rail and for like a second it surprised me because for that horse to leave out, get used hard and have a lot of pace finishing, I have to give a lot of credit to Braxten and Madden Oaks. He did a tremendous job getting that horse in position to win."

The camera flashed across the wire and the crowd fell silent. Who won? That was the question passed around the grandstand as the two horses crossed the finish line in unison. The video replay was broadcast on the big screen in the center of the track and the horse, and driver, donning a hint of green were the ones to cross first by a head in 1:47 1/5.

There was no question of who won between the drivers on the track, though. As soon as the timer was stopped, Braxten Boyd cheered, "That was for Hunter, baby!"

Boyd and Wrenn exchanged congratulations and excitement while pulling their horses up in the turn before Wrenn embarked on the path to the winner's circle.

There's no doubt that Wrenn's mind was racing in the moments after the win and on the way to that winner's circle celebration. The rush from the minute and 47 seconds of pure adrenaline on the track accompanied by the biggest win of his career carried more than the weight of that victory. In fact, the significance of the victory extended far beyond the track, beyond purses and trophies.

Carrying more than lines in his hands, Wrenn carried a tribute on



JESSICA HALLETT PHOTO

The memory of Hunter Myers was prominently displayed on driver Ronnie Wrenn, Jr.'s colors with his initials and green armband.

his arm and a memory in his heart. With every stride and every pulse, Hunter Myers was along for the ride as Wrenn carried him in his mind in addition to the green band strapped around his upper arm.

Hunter Myers was a young up-and-coming driver at The Meadows and on the Ohio circuit. He was a runner-up in the 2024 USHWA Dan Patch Awards for the Rising Star Award and was well-loved and well-known for not only his skills on the track, but his personality and character. In March of this year, a race-related accident claimed the life of the 27-year-old at The Meadows, devastating the harness racing industry and leaving a lasting impact on all those who knew him, including Ronnie Wrenn, Jr.

"He was obviously a great kid. I feel like he affected a lot of people in the industry that knew him and even people that didn't know him or know him because of how tragic something like that is...someone getting in a horse racing accident and passing away in this business at such a young age," Wrenn explained on his perspective of Myers and his impact on the business. "You know, he was the kind of kid that if he was in a group of people he could easily light up a room."

"Everyone misses him. Mostly just because of the fact that he could do something [make people smile] that he didn't really try to. It was just who he was. As a driver, he was continuing to climb to the top."

Myers and Wrenn didn't know each other just on the track or in passing, the pair were neighbors and became good friends while carpooling to the track together.

"Driving with him in the car, I live next to him, we raced the same circuit," said Wrenn. "Deep down, he wanted to be a driver on the Grand Circuit or Sire Stakes, those kind of races, that was his main goal and I think he was going to reach it. He was already trending that way the last couple years. It's unfortunate it's not going to happen. If I can carry his name a little bit by wearing the patch and make sure people don't forget who he was, I'm very proud and happy to do that."

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 8](#)

Post position four that Louprint drew after winning his elimination carried a bit more significance than the typical “luck of the draw” impression. In addition to his initials on his pocket, the freshly painted helmet, and the band on his arm, Wrenn and Louprint were able to share in their Myers representation with the green saddle pad that outlines number four. Almost a hint of fate in that regard.

“When the draw came out, I was watching with my wife and the first thing she said to me was, ‘look at the color of that number’ and you know, maybe it’s coincidence, maybe it’s not,” said Wrenn. “The fact that Louprint was heading down the stretch and kept going, I think it shows obviously he’s an amazing horse, but maybe Hunter had something to do with it, too. I’d like to think that. I’ve had a lot of people tell me that horses don’t just go that fast and be able to hold off the field, it’s pretty impressive.”

Chloe, Hunter’s fiancée, echoed her enthusiasm for the victory on numerous social media posts, even declaring how proud Hunter would have been for Ronnie, a driver whom Hunter looked up to.

“Chloe told me the stories when I won the Breeders Crown how excited he was, and the next day when I got home we would ride to the track together and he would talk about a horse that I drove the night before that he watched on his way home from his track that he was racing at,” said Wrenn. “It seemed like he was always checking in on me and it was pretty cool. I kind of felt like a mentor to him and it was kind of a brotherly relationship, so I mean, I was just very thankful to spend as much time as I did with Hunter while he was here.”

On their drives to the tracks together, Myers and Wrenn had plenty of time to talk and Wrenn echoes a familiar statement that many people remember as Hunter’s catch phrase.

“We’ve had a lot of great talks over the years. He loved saying, ‘God bless.’ God bless was his thing that he always said when he’d leave to go home. I can just picture him every time saying it in the locker room before he left,” said Wrenn.

And while that phrase stands out above the rest, Wrenn said that his talks with Myers were about anything, everything or even nothing at all.

“It was just more of the friendship we had. We could talk pretty easily without even really trying. We could sit in the car and shoot the s*** for hours.



MICHAEL BURNS PHOTO

Louprint (4) with Ronnie Wrenn, Jr. and Madden Oaks with Braxten Boyd came to the wire together in the North America Cup.

And we could also sit there and listen to the radio and not talk with each other. It just says a lot about the kid. He’s going to be missed,” said Wrenn.

There’s no doubt Hunter Myers looked up to Ronnie Wrenn Jr. as a driver – as his mentor – and rightfully so as Wrenn has the positive mindset and character to drive him far, literally and figuratively. So, what advice does Wrenn have for the next generation?

“When I first started, my schedule – when I finally wanted to be a catch driver – was I raced Hazel Park on a Friday, Saturday night for not a lot of money, got done racing at midnight. I would drive 10.5 hours, most of the time by myself, sleep a little bit in the afternoon, then race Running Aces Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Drive back to Michigan 10.5 hours, get some sleep, drive down to Lexington overnight – which I think the total card

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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went for about 10 hours – then drive back home and race Hazel Park. I don't know if it was the right thing to do or not; I just wanted to drive horses and get my name out there. I was trying to get some opportunity," said Wrenn. "Then I was kind of forced to move to Northfield and make it work, and luckily it did. Any time somebody asked me to come and race a horse, I would do it, whether it was a good horse or bad.

"So, for the younger generation, I would just say: don't be scared to work hard or travel. Put your name out there, don't be afraid to make mistakes – top drivers still make mistakes. They make mistakes every day driving horses. And just never give up."

On the same note as the younger generation, Wrenn found himself in that stretch drive for the win with one of those rapidly up-and-coming drivers in that generation, Braxten Boyd.

"I used to drive for his dad. His dad used to announce in Michigan. I knew them, but I didn't know him," said Wrenn. "He's quite a bit younger than me so I had already moved from Michigan to Ohio when he was still in school, then racing in Michigan a little bit I believe, and then made the decision to move out east. I know he's doing pretty well for himself, he's pretty young and to get an opportunity in a race like that at such a young age and have a horse that going into the race was maybe a little bit overlooked, have the courage to leave out of the 10 hole and get in a good position and have the horse respond to it, it's pretty impressive. I think it says a lot about Braxten and hopefully the future holds some good opportunities for him. I think the way that horse raced, I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot more about them."

Taking a moment to reflect on his own race and his future with Louprint, Wrenn says that he is simply an amazing horse and it was just a special moment.

"It was pretty awesome. Kind of setting in now, but I'm looking forward to the next race now – the Meadowlands Pace. It was a great week and couldn't have gone any better.

"Ronnie [Burke] has given me a lot of opportunity to get on the Grand Circuit and then giving me the chance to drive this horse, trusting me and sticking with me throughout last year, he's definitely my game changer. I'm really just trying to enjoy it. I guess I'm at the middle point in my career and I've been lucky to drive a lot of great horses whether overnights or Sire Stake horses, and for him to come along, and I think it's pretty safe to say he's probably the best horse, at least colt, that I've ever driven, and I'm just really looking forward to the rest of this summer."

While others can look up to Wrenn as an idol, he looks up to other drivers that he holds a lot of respect for on the track. After his win in the million-dollar race, Wrenn was met with congratulations on and off the track – in the winner's circle, on the way back to the paddock, and in the paddock – all from drivers in and out of the race.

"I would say almost all of the top guys are genuine people," said Wrenn. "They all want to win, they are super competitive, they are great drivers, but after getting defeated, right after the race, their sportsmanship speaks volumes for all of them. They congratulate you.

"To see [Tim Tetrick, Todd McCarthy, and Andy McCarthy] when I walked back...I respect all three of those guys so much. You know, first off, it's surprising that those three weren't in the race. I'm sure I'll be battling against them in many big races the rest of the year, but just for them to take the time to come up and congratulate me was a special moment. Like I said, I respect all three of those guys. They've been there and done that. They've won all the big races. It was a pretty cool feeling, pretty special moment."

In addition to carrying a tribute to Hunter Myers on his journey through races from the overnights to the big stage, Wrenn holds in his mind a memory of his dad, who was a prominent driver in the '70s racing against the likes of John Campbell and other top drivers back in that day.

"Anytime he gave me driving advice, I'd always try to take it in and listen to him," said Wrenn. "I'd like to think that a lot of my success comes from his knowledge and passing it on to me. It's been a long time, but I'm still thinking about him. I think about him all the time, but it's really nice to be able to get the job done for both of them. It's a pretty cool feeling. Pretty special."

'Special' certainly defines the night for Wrenn, who started at the fair tracks and continued to grow from there with Louprint punching his ticket in the Grand Circuit.

"Yeah, that was definitely a goal," said Wrenn about reaching the Grand Circuit. "I think a lot of drivers have a goal to get to that point. But with that said, I love being a family person. And sometimes it's really hard to tussle the two of them. It can be difficult because a lot of people are depending on you to be on a racetrack, but my kids are expecting me to be home, so I got to thank my wife for really stepping up. There's a lot of nights I have to go to a track and she's at home with three kids, running and being a full-time mom.

"I think she helps with my success because it relaxes me knowing she's at home taking care of the kids and everything other than just going to the track and trying to win the race."

Purses and final times, track records and names – those are the things that can be read on a program. Facts and figures. That's the information needed to go into a race and do well. But it's what you don't see in the program – the stories of the people and the stories of the horses, the memories they hold and the impact they have – that carries a winner to the wire.

Ronnie Wrenn Jr. went into the 42nd North America Cup with one race on his mind. He had the program with all the facts and figures. He knew the field and he knew his horse. But as he got ready in the driver's room, he slid the

green band over his arm – as he has done every day since March – with a purpose. The color green surrounded Wrenn as he demonstrated a powerful tribute to his friend on one of the greatest stages in harness racing.

Chasing wins and chasing dreams are the highest goals in harness racing and Wrenn achieved that while also representing the greatest sportsmanship and horsemanship that harness racing has to offer.

"God Bless" – Hunter Myers.



JESSICA HALLETT

Driver Tim Tetrick gives Ronnie Wrenn, Jr a congratulatory hug after the NA Cup win.



Winbak Farm

Congratulates

SMOOTH DREAM

**WINNER OF NJ STANDARD BRED
DEVELOPMENT FUND FINAL IN 1:49.3
AT THE MEADOWLANDS!**

p, 3, 1:49.2 -'25 (\$227,600)

Cattlewash-Dreamlands Latte-Artsplace

Trainer: Noel Daley / Driver: Todd McCarthy

**Owners: Bay Pond Racing Stable, CTC Stable,
& KDP Stable LLC**

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Top fillies clash on Triple Crown undercard at Yonkers Raceway



JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman [X BergmanJay](#)

They say contrasting styles make for great boxing matches. The same could be true for sophomore stakes races where horses with freshman experience tangle with rivals that didn't exist a year earlier but have advanced to the top rung.

That's the case this Friday night when Canada's champion 2-year-old trotting filly from 2024 Monalishi makes her U.S. debut in one of two divisions of the New York New York at Yonkers Raceway. A proven commodity as a freshman, the filly from the first crop of Green Manalishi will also be making her first start over a half-mile track and meeting sophomores she's not seen before.

Then there is EL Nightwish, a Chapter Seven-sired filly with royal bloodlines that made just one start as a 2-year-old and then returned this year for trainer Lucas Wallin to start her stakes season in Excelsior company in New York as opposed to the top tier of the Sire Stakes. Now a winner in all four of her starts including a division of the Empire Breeders Classic, EL Nightwish faces her toughest test to date.

"She needed time to mature and we gave it to her," said Wallin of EL Nightwish, a half-sister to New York stallion E L Titan and a host of solid performers from a maternal line that includes the brothers Angus, Andover and Conway Hall.

Wallin's approach has paid off nicely so far with EL Nightwish not only winning but going faster and racing against better in the process. "She needed to get some experience, and I thought putting her in the Excelsior would allow her to get it and hopefully do well," said Wallin.



FOTOWON

EL Nightwish captured the Empire Breeders Classic at Vernon Downs in a lifetime best 1:52 4/5.

The 1:52 4/5 lifetime best achieved in the Empire Breeders Classic on June 13 at Vernon Downs was a convincing performance as driver Dexter Dunn kept EL Nightwish in third through an extremely soft pace yet flashed a 27 1/5 final quarter to win going away.

"I don't think we've seen the bottom yet," said Wallin, who said that the

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 11](#)

WINBAK FARM

Congratulates

PERFECTLY CHIC

**WINNER OF \$140,000 ONTARIO SIRES STAKES
GOLD LEG IN 1:50.4 AT WOODBINE-MOHAWK!**

**Betterthancheddar-Fit N Bad-Badlands Hanover
p, 2, 1:52.3s; 3, 1:50.4s -'25 (\$266,166) CAD**

Trainer: John R. Pentland / **Driver:** Bob McClure

Owners: Steve F. Mihalic, John R. Pentland & 2729346 Ontario Inc.

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FIT N FIERCE, a Bettor's Delight half-sister, sells at Lexington!



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filly is Hambletonian Oaks eligible. "I'm not sure if she'll be at her best in August or October."

Wallin was hoping to find the New York New York a bit easier than it came up, with the sixth race \$50,000 division much deeper. "It's definitely the tougher of the two," said Wallin. "You've got Monalishi and R Lady W. Those are two very nice fillies."

Trainer Blake MacIntosh had a banner year with Monalishi last year, winning six of 10 starts including the Peaceful Way at Woodbine Mohawk Park. She was good enough for a spot in the Mohawk Million as well and finished the year with six wins and \$413,280 earned. Though she captured her first start in early May, MacIntosh wasn't happy with the way she finished. A second-place effort in the SBOA of Ontario stakes on May 17 was an improvement of sorts but high winds that night played havoc on the filly's performance.

"Her third start, a Gold division, she didn't race well, and her blood came back off, so we treated her with antibiotics and gave her a few weeks to recover," said MacIntosh.

Monalishi regained top form with an outstanding effort on the front end in her June 20 domination of Ontario Gold series, trotting home in 1:52 3/5 and tying a career best.

MacIntosh recognizes this will be Monalishi's first start ever over a half-mile track, but he didn't seem overly concerned. "She's been around the five-eighths turns and had no trouble," said MacIntosh. "She'll also have a different driver."

The new hands will be those of Yannick Gingras subbing for regular pilot James MacDonald.

Dexter Dunn was EL Nightwish's third different driver this year and he'll stick with the filly following their success in the Empire Breeders. EL Nightwish drew post three and Monalishi landed post five in the seven-horse field that includes two other stakes winners in R Lady W (post 4) and Seventh Gen (post 2).

Sophomore pacing fillies also get a chance to shine in the MGM Yonkers Trot and MGM Grand Messenger program on Friday night and the second \$50,000 division of the Park MGM finds a field of five fillies some with maternal backgrounds that have much to do with how they arrived in this particular stakes event. Though Martini Star (post 4) has only won once in her 13 career starts, the Huntsville-sired filly just may have the pedigree to handle this assignment. A daughter of Shanghai Lil who captured this race at Yonkers when it was known as the Lady Maud back in 2009, Martini Star is the eighth foal from the \$1.07 million-winning daughter of Jenna's Beach Boy.

In 2008, Cheyenne Trish won an elimination race for the Lady Maud at

Yonkers. The gifted daughter of Artiscap would be a stakes star in her early years and a top pacing mare in her later years, doing well on both sides of the Hudson for trainer Robbie Siegleman. Like her dam, Please Be You enters the Park MGM following a victory in a New Jersey Standardbred event at The Meadowlands last Friday where she came out of nowhere to score in a career-best 1:50 3/5 mile. Unraced as a freshman, Please Be You has advanced nicely in 10 starts this year and could be the horse to beat from the pole position for trainer Linda Toscano on Friday.

The Last Martini is the actual star of the Martini tandem in the Park MGM divisions (races 2 and 4). The Breeders Crown runner-up to divi-



NEW IMAGE MEDIA

Monalishi ships down from Canada to face six others in the \$50,000 NY NY Mile at Yonkers Raceway. Yannick Gingras picks up the drive from James MacDonald.

sion champion Miki And Minnie in 2024 has returned to form for trainer Jared Bako following up a third-place finish in the Fan Hanover and a dominating 1:51 effort in a New York Sire Stakes at Vernon on June 21. The Last Martini went over \$600K in career earnings with the victory, her sixth in 14 career starts. She drew post three in the first division of the Park MGM. Martini Star is the other cocktail-oriented filly and she goes in the second division from post four.

MacIntosh noted that the \$28,000 yearling buy Monalishi is not eligible to the Hambletonian Oaks and will return to Ontario for Sire Stakes and Grand Circuit racing until the fall where he hopes she'll be ready to battle in the Breeders Crown. Quite astute at the yearling sales each year, MacIntosh went to his iPad for more details before pulling the trigger at the 2023 Harrisburg sale.

"I didn't like the way either of the mares' previous two foals looked," said MacIntosh. "One toed out and the other toed in."

Monalishi hails from a full sister to the 2013 Hambletonian winner Royalty For Life.

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Super Chapter aims to author \$300,000 Yonkers Trot win

By Ken Weingartner

After opening his campaign with back-to-back wins, including a victory over stablemate and returning Dan Patch Award winner Maryland, Super Chapter will look to capture the first jewel in the Trotting Triple Crown when he faces four rivals in Friday's \$300,000 Grade 2 MGM Yonkers Trot at MGM Yonkers Raceway.

Super Chapter, trained by Marcus Melander, will start from post one with driver Dexter Dunn and is the 2-5 morning-line favorite in the event for 3-year-old trotters. Melander is a two-time winner of the Yonkers Trot, with the colt Gimpanzee in 2019 and the filly Joviality S in 2022.

In his most recent race, June 13 at Vernon Downs, Super Chapter defeated Maryland by 1-3/4 lengths in a career-best 1:50 4/5 in an \$87,250 division of the Empire Breeders Classic. The time is the second fastest of the season by a 3-year-old trotter.

The son of Chapter Seven-Lifetime Pursuit opened his season on May 26 with a four-length win over Monserrate in 1:53 3/5 in a \$59,100 division of the New York Sire Stakes at Vernon.

Eliminations for the Yonkers Trot, which had been scheduled for June 20, were unnecessary as all five entrants advanced directly to the final at the half-mile oval.

"I was happy there was no eliminations, we could go straight to the final and not have to race him three weeks in a row," Melander said. "The two races at Vernon were great, and he's doing well after the last race. Everything looks good."

Last year, Super Chapter hit the board in nine of 11 races, winning five and banking \$521,260. He was second in earnings among freshmen trotters, behind only Maryland at \$1.22 million. His victories included a division of the International Stallion Stakes and the Kentucky Sire Stakes Championship Series final, both at Lexington's Red Mile. He finished second to Monserrate in the Valley Victory Stakes at The Meadowlands to cap his campaign in late November.

His mark of 1:52 was only one-fifth of a second off the season's best for a 2-year-old trotter.

"He was a great horse last year already," Melander said. "Early last year, he showed a lot of potential; he was a fast horse. He's always been a horse that's very professional out on the track. He's so easy to handle, he's so easy on himself, and very nice to drive. You can put him on the front, he can chase horses down, he never gets grabby or anything like that. He goes around any size track. He has everything you need to be a good horse."

Super Chapter is owned by Jeff Snyder and Arthur Pronti. The colt was purchased under the name Lorax Hanover for \$300,000 at the 2023 Standardbred Horse Sale. His mom, Lifetime Pursuit, won the 2014 Hambletonian Oaks.

Melander also will send out the morning-line second choice in the Yonkers Trot, Variegated at 3-1. The son of Chapter Seven-White Cheetah will start from post three with Scott Zeron in the sulky.

Variegated opened his season with a win in the \$100,000 Grade 3 Battle of Bunker Hill at Plainridge Park on May 15, then romped to a six-length victory in a career-best 1:52 3/5 in a division of the New York Sire Stakes at Vernon. In his most recent outing, he finished second to Chat Room in a division of the Empire Breeders Classic.

Last year, he captured the New York Sire Stakes championship for freshman male trotters at Yonkers Raceway. He has hit the board in nine of 11 lifetime starts, winning four and earning \$324,798 for owner S R F Stable.

"Super Chapter is the favorite, and he should be, but Variegated is not a bad horse," Melander said. "He jogged in the sire stakes in (1):52 at Vernon. He wasn't as sharp in his last start, I don't really know why, but he seems good training and he's gone around half-mile tracks before, so he'll be all right there."

Chat Room, who will start the Yonkers Trot from post four with Tyler



FOTOWON

Super Chapter is the 2-5 morning line favorite in Friday's MGM Yonkers Trot.

Buter driving for trainer John Butenschoen, is the 6-1 third choice.

The Yonkers Trot is followed in the Trotting Triple Crown by the Hambletonian Stakes (Aug. 2 at The Meadowlands) and Kentucky Futurity (Oct. 5 at the Red Mile).

Yonkers on Friday also will host the first jewel in the Pacing Triple Crown, the \$200,000 Grade 2 MGM Grand Messenger Stakes for sophomore pacers. Twisted Destiny, who won one of last week's two eliminations, is the 5-2 morning-line favorite in the final. He will start from post three with Dunn driving for trainer Chris Ryder.

In addition, there will be two \$50,000 divisions of the Grade 3 Park MGM Pace for 3-year-old fillies and two \$60,000 divisions of the Grade 3 New York New York Mile for sophomore trotting fillies. Monalishi, an O'Brien Award winner in Canada last year, is among the horses in the New York New York Mile. It will be her first time racing anywhere other than Woodbine Mohawk Park.

Racing begins at 6:45 p.m. (EDT) at Yonkers. The Yonkers Trot is race seven on the 11-race card, followed by the Messenger as race eight.

COME FOR THE RACES, ENJOY DINNER

The Empire Terrace Dining Room opens at 6 p.m. (EDT) and no reservations are required.

The Empire Terrace Dining Room menu for MGM Yonkers Trot night is as follows:

Salads

- Classic Caesar Salad

- Mediterranean Style Salad- Lettuce, Feta Cheese, Vine Ripe Tomatoes, Red Onions, and Kalamata Olives.

Hot Food

- Herb – Roasted Chicken

- Garlic Butter Shrimp

- Pan-Seared Pork Chops

- Cheese Ravioli w/ Sage butter sauce

- Horseradish Mashed Potatoes

- Sautéed Green Beans

Dessert

- Chocolate Brownies

- Assorted Cookies

- Petit Fours

The buffet will cost \$50 (does not include auto-gratuity and tax) per person.

BABY TALK

FINAL 2-YEAR-OLD QUALIFIERS AT GAITWAY

By Ken Weingartner

Gaitway Farm hosted its third and final session of qualifiers for 2-year-olds Wednesday, with trainer Ron Burke winning six of the seven events for the freshmen, including a 1:52 4/5 victory by pacing colt Frantic Hanover.

Frantic Hanover (Stay Hungry-Francia) finished third in his only previous qualifier, timed in 1:56 on June 11. On Wednesday, he had the lead at the half-mile point and scooted home in 54 2/5 from there, with a 26 3/5 last quarter for driver Tim Tetrick.

Bred by Hanover Shoe Farms, the colt is owned by Burke Racing Stable, Brad Grant, Knox Services Inc., and Weaver Brussemi LLC. Frantic Hanover was purchased for \$35,000 at the Standardbred Horse Sale. His family includes 2017 Pacer of the Year Downbytheseaside.

Al Papi (Papi Rob Hanover-Baron Remy) notched his second win in as many tries with a 1:53 2/5 score for driver Yannick Gingras. The homebred pacing colt is owned by Burke Racing Stable, J&T Silva-Purnel & Libby, Larry Karr, and Weaver Brussemi.

Other second-time winners for the Burke Brigade were pacing filly Kissedbyastranger (Tall Dark Stranger-Kissinyougoodbye) in 1:55 4/5, trotting colt Maga Hill (Muscle Hill-Goo Doo Doll) in 1:56 2/5, and trotting filly No Promises (Tactical Landing-It's Hallright) in 1:56 4/5.

Rounding out the group of victors for Burke was pacing filly I'm A Lou Lou (Sweet Lou-Benear) in 1:55 1/5. She previously was second in 1:55 4/5 on June 18. Benear was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a broodmare. I'm A Lou Lou is a half-sister to millionaire Limelight Beach as well as stakes-winners Manhattan Beach and Mommas Got A Gun.

Pacing colt Riddle Me (Papi Rob Hanover-Sudoku) prevented a Burke sweep, winning in 1:53 4/5 for trainer/driver Joe Bongiorno.

For Wednesday's complete charts, click [here](#). To watch a replay of the qualifiers, courtesy of The First Mile, click [here](#).



KEN WEINGARTNER/UTSA

Frantic Hanover was the fastest winner at Gaitway in 1:52 4/5.

HOT BABY BARNS IMPRESS AT HOT POCONO

The theme of a Wednesday morning baby race session at Pocono Downs at Mohegan Pennsylvania which started at 9 a.m. to beat the coming stifling heat (it was already 86 degrees by 10 a.m.) was indeed "hot stables" in the respective divisions.

Driver Matt Kakaley and trainer George Ducharme combined with a trio of first-time trotting colts who now all show a win on their first charted line while taking all three of that section's races. Quickest was Navigator One (Walner - Bee The Queen), who came home out of the pocket in 58 2/5 - 29 to win in 1:58 3/5 for owner Alfred Ross. The other pair in Team Kakaley / Ducharme's three-of-a-kind were False Dogma (Captain Corey - Sister Christina) in an on the engine 1:59 3/5 - 59 2/5 - 29 3/5 tally, and the Tactical Landing - Red Wies And Blue baby Tactical Red, also a leader throughout in 2:00 - 58 3/5 - 28 4/5.

Steve Salerno is a five-time Pocono title winner over his distinguished career, but in semiretirement he hadn't won even a qualifying race in over four years when he took the sulky seat behind two Emily Bost 2-year-old trotting fillies by Greenshoe and keep their winning streaks going in a divisional sweep.

Alexandriabluechip (dam Queendom) now has three wins, one at Saratoga and two here, after she was the quicker, front-ending in 1:59 4/5 - 59 for owners Frank Salino Jr., Bruce Potter, Guy Roemer and Theresa Naylor. Ms Bojangles (dam Explosive High) also has done the Saratoga - Pocono double after coming back quarters each in 29 2/5 on the lead for a 2:01 2/5 win.

"Sweeps" certainly weren't confined to the trotting action. The two

pacing colt sections were both captured by Travis Alexander pupils, with the faster the Perfect Sting - Little Miss K colt Everlast Sting Deo, owned by Morrison Racing Stables and coming from third to win in 1:55 3/5 - 56 3/5 - 28 for driver Braxten Boyd as the barn was 1-2-3 in this contest. Matt Kakaley was the driver for the Sweet Lou - Life Is A Beach colt Sweet Joel, who won his first start controlling the throttle in 1:58 1/5 - 57 4/5 - 28 4/5.

Alexander / Kakaley also won a pair of the four sections for pacing fillies, but the fastest winner was Say Goodnight (Papi Rob Hanover - One Last Kiss). In her first start she came from way back to win; here she vacated the pocket past the half and sped her own last half in 55 to stop the timer at 1:54 3/5 for driver Tyler Buter, trainer Nicholas Devita, and owners David Hamm and Glenn Phillips.

The winning baby fillies under the Alexander / Kakaley banner were Big Weekend (Captaintreacherous - Tica Hanover), who opened the session with an engine win in 1:55 - 56 2/5 - 27 1/5, and the Huntsville - All On Top Hanover miss Odds On Monetary, coming home in 56 2/5 - 28 in a 1:56 1/5 success story. The fourth frosh pacing filly added a local win to an earlier Monticello victory: Ev Does It (Roll With Joe - Tesla Hanover), a 1:57 3/5 - 58 winner for driver Braxten Boyd and trainer Mark Ford.

Live racing resumes at Pocono on Saturday with a 1 p.m. card. Replays of the baby races can be found at www.ppha.org.

-edited release (PHHA/Pocono)

THREE FILLIES DOUBLE UP IN PHILLY BABY Q'S

Three 2-year-old fillies recorded their second victories in as many starts during freshman qualifiers at Harrah's Philadelphia on Tuesday morning.

Perhaps the most eye-catching was the Tactical Landing - Lima Novelty trotting miss Abbey Blue Chip, who sprinted home in 57 4/5 - 28 4/5 to complete a 1:58 3/5 mile for driver Troy Beyer, trainer Ron Coyne Jr., and the ownership of Ron Coyne Stables Inc, Blair Corbeil, Edward Pachuta, and Richard Carney. Coyne also had the fastest baby trotting male at 1:59 3/5 - 59 - 29 1/5, and that one was also by Tactical Landing, Southwind Alamo (dam Amber Ella), for many of the same owners as have his barnmate.

Trainers Scott Di Domenico and Roland (Polie) Mallar, neither a stranger to success with 2-year-olds so far this year, had the two pacing filly repeaters, and they also had another success from their barn in this division as the two conditioners swept the filly paces. The faster two-time winner here was the Courtly Choice - Jungle Genie N distaff Miss Genie Man, who went the quickest mile of the session in 1:57 2/5 - 57 4/5 - 28 1/5 for driver Johnathan Ahle and owners Shaun Vallee and D P V Racing Stable. Ahle also handled Mallar's other success story, the 1:58 1/5 - 57 4/5 - 28 winner Patriot Miss (American Ideal - Big City Betty).

Posting her second straight win for Di Domenico was Odds On Enigma, a Huntsville - Yellow Diamond filly who came home with identical back quarters of 28 2/5 in a 1:57 3/5 mile for driver Tim Tetrick and Odds On Racing. Tetrick and Di Domenico also clicked with Teton Beauty, another daughter of Huntsville who is out of Thirty K, winning in 1:59 2/5 - 57 4/5 - 28 3/5.

Philly baby races can be seen at www.ppha.org.

-edited release (Harrah's Philadelphia/PHHA)

DALEY GETS SIX, RYDER TRIPLES AT MAGICAL ACRES

Noel Daley watched six of his 2-year-olds pick up wins and Chris Ryder notched three victories - including with Ebony Hill, the debuting full sister to Party Girl Hill - as Magical Acres hosted its second session of qualifiers for freshman pacers and trotters on Thursday.

Daley, who had 32 freshmen in action last week at Magical Acres, had 17 travel around the training center's five-eighths-mile track on Thursday.

"It was like a breeze," Daley said with a laugh. "Like a walk in the park today compared to last week."

Pacing colt Callmebigpapi and trotting colt Highball Hanover were repeat winners for Daley. Callmebigpapi (Papi Rob Hanover-Dancethe-nightaway) won in 2:00 3/5 with Todd McCarthy in the sulky and Highball Hanover (Bar Hopping-Hall Of A Dream) triumphed in 2:01 4/5 with Andrew McCarthy at the lines.

Toast Of The Town had the fastest mile of the day, 1:57 3/5, for Daley. The homebred pacing colt is owned by Let It Ride Stables, Odds On Racing, and Magnificent Seven Stable. His second dam is millionaire Drop The Ball. Daley also saw his pacing colt Good Lookin (Papi Rob Hanover-Miss Babe Delight) score in 1:58. He was bred by Let It Ride Stables, which shares ownership with Richard Jack, Lawrence Rosen, and Enviro Stables.

READ MORE

RACE OF THE WEEK

9 MEADOWLANDS SAT

1 Mile Trot. CRAWFORD FARMS. FANDUEL - OPEN TROT (DECLARATION FEE - \$3,000) Purse \$164,000

EXACTA AND TRIFECTA | 10 CENT SUPERFECTA | PICK 3 (9-10-11)

1 OSCEOLA (L)

41:50.2 (1) \$5,490 LEX-SEL \$70,000

8-1 D. McNair 0-0-0-0 (000)

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|----------|-------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|------------|
| 16 Jun25 | 10Wbs | fst680 | 264 | 553 | 1:232 | 1:502 | Prf |
| 2 Jun25 | 9Wbs | fst680 | 271 | 562 | 1:243 | 1:513 | Prf |
| 19 May25 | 3Wbs | fst480 | 263 | 553 | 1:24 | 1:513 | Prf |
| 12 May25 | 2Wbs | fst640 | 271 | 56 | 1:24 | 1:514 | Prf |
| 5 May25 | 2Wbs | fst570 | 26 | 554 | 1:242 | 1:504 | Prf |
| 28 Apr25 | 5Wbs | fst590 | 271 | 553 | 1:234 | 1:521 | NW15000L5C |
| 21 Apr25 | 3Wbs | fst140 | 264 | 553 | 1:251 | 1:53 | Prf |

br h 5, by Muscle Mass, Armbo Exquisite by Conway Hall
R G McNair, ON, CA; Willow Oak Racing LLC, Rogersville, TN; Paul R Hawman, Pawleys Island, SC
Gr. McNair 2-0-0-0 (000)

Last 4 Sts-\$29,790

1:51.4 Wbs 7/8

1:51.4 Wbs 7/8

25 M1 0 0 0 0 -25 Tot 7 2 3 0 \$38,430
24 M1 0 0 0 0 -24 Tot 15 4 4 2 \$128,701
23 M1 2 0 0 1 \$12,000 Life 47 12 8 7 \$303,115

2 HASTY BID

41:50.2 (1) \$1,483 SHS-HBG \$35,000

20-1 Ja. Macdonald 4-0-0-0 (000)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|---------|
| 21 Jun25 | 8M1 | fst830 | 28 | 554 | 1:232 | 1:51 | NW15000 |
| 13 Jun25 | 10M1 | fst730 | 281 | 564 | 1:254 | 1:531 | NW12500 |
| 25 May25 | 3PHI | fst670 | 272 | 564 | 1:24 | 1:514 | Opn |
| 17 May25 | 10M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Cutler |
| 10 May25 | 5M1 | fst600 | 301 | 58 | 1:254 | 1:55 | Qua |
| 2 May25 | 2Wbs | fst530 | 291 | 581 | 1:271 | 1:55 | Qua |
| 25 Apr25 | 2Wbs | fst530 | 292 | 592 | 1:294 | 1:573 | Qua |

b g 5, by My Mvp, Sunshinelollipops by Garland Lobell
100063663 Ontario Inc, Guelph, ON, CA; Paige N Macdonald, Guelph, ON, CA
N. Takter 57-11-15-6 (193)

Last 4 Sts-\$3,875

1:50.2 M1

1:50.2 M1

25 M1 3 0 0 0 \$875 25 Tot 4 0 0 1 \$5,930
24 M1 8 2 1 0 \$101,181 24 Tot 14 2 2 2 \$132,616
23 M1 0 0 0 0 -Life 39 6 10 5 \$330,283

3 PERICULUM

31:50.3 (1) \$74,260 LEX-SEL \$340,000

3-1 S. Zeron 164-15-124 (091)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| 20 Jun25 | 16M1 | fst770 | 282 | 571 | 1:251 | 1:53 | Qua |
| 14 Jun25 | 12M1 | gd330 | 291 | 59 | 1:284 | 1:57 | Qua |
| 6 Jun25 | 10M1 | fst770 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Opn |
| 17 May25 | 10M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Cutler |
| 10 May25 | 5M1 | fst600 | 301 | 58 | 1:254 | 1:55 | Qua |
| 2 May25 | 2Wbs | fst530 | 291 | 581 | 1:271 | 1:55 | Qua |
| 25 Apr25 | 2Wbs | fst530 | 292 | 592 | 1:294 | 1:573 | Qua |

b h 6, by Muscle Hill, Amour Heiress by Cantab Hall
Brixton Medical Inc, Matawan, NJ; Holly Lane Stud East LTD, Vero Beach, FL
M. Melander 40-5-7-8 (125)

Last 4 Sts-\$312,250

1:50.4 Wbs 7/8

1:50.4 Wbs 7/8

25 M1 1 0 0 0 \$79,000 25 Tot 1 1 0 0 \$74,260
24 M1 9 2 2 1 \$261,413 24 Tot 17 6 4 3 \$821,084
23 M1 0 0 0 0 -Life 51 12 8 8 \$1,346,656

4 GET A WISH DK

\$3,392

10-1 T. McCarthy 213-40-33-3 (188)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------------|
| 21 Jun25 | 8M1 | fst830 | 28 | 554 | 1:232 | 1:51 | Opn Hcp |
| 30 May25 | 8M1 | fst680 | 264 | 553 | 1:241 | 1:503 | Opn Hcp |
| 17 May25 | 10M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Cutler |
| 2 May25 | 7M1 | fst700 | 291 | 582 | 1:263 | 1:534 | Qua |
| 7 Sep24 | 5YR | fst730 | 293 | 582 | 1:272 | 2:25 | D-MgmYint |
| 10 Aug24 | 11Swrd | 0 | | | | | AbyWorldGPG1 |
| 30 Jul24 | 10Swrd | 0 | | | | | HugoAbergsG1 |

br h 7, by Wishing Stone, Amanda Vang by Lindy Lane
Get A Wish Stable Inc, Delray Beach, FL
A. Svansstedt 30-4-3-5 (133)

Last 4 Sts-\$10,100

None in U.S.A.

None in U.S.A.

25 M1 3 0 0 0 \$10,100 25 Tot 3 0 0 0 \$10,176
24 M1 0 0 0 0 -24 Tot 6 1 2 1 \$139,918
23 M1 0 0 0 0 -Life 48 16 5 7 \$468,726

5 HILLEXOTIC (L)

61:50.2 (5/8) \$2,915 SHS-HBG \$182,000

10-1 Ma. Kakaley 0-0-0-0 (000)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----------|
| 21 Jun25 | 1Mw | fst830 | 27 | 554 | 1:233 | 1:522 | NW6500L4 |
| 13 Jun25 | 9ScD | fst730 | 263 | 552 | 1:224 | 1:511 | nw16000L4 |
| 30 May25 | 9ScD | slv610 | 263 | 562 | 1:24 | 1:52 | Opn |
| 23 May25 | 10ScD | fst590 | 271 | 561 | 1:244 | 1:531 | Opn |
| 12 May25 | 6ScD | fst730 | 291 | 59 | 1:271 | 1:552 | Qua |
| 30 Nov24 | 10M1 | fst330 | 272 | 562 | 1:243 | 1:512 | D-FanDuel |
| 16 Nov24 | 10M1 | fst510 | 271 | 55 | 1:23 | 1:504 | Prf Hcp |

b g 8, by Muscle Hill, Exotic Destination by Dream Vacation
Greg Luther Racing LLC, Blacklick, OH
T. Luther 2-0-0-0 (000)

Last 4 Sts-\$11,660

1:52.2 Mw 5/8

1:50.2 Hcp 7/8

25 M1 0 0 0 0 -25 Tot 4 1 0 1 \$11,660
24 M1 6 0 0 2 \$76,800 24 Tot 21 5 1 2 \$300,071
23 M1 7 2 2 1 \$17,691 Life 91 31 19 9 \$1,291,802

6 AETOS KRONOS

91:51 (5/8) \$317,815

7-2 D. Dunn 144-27-19-22 (188)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| 15 Jun25 | 9PcD | fst650 | 28 | 563 | 1:242 | 1:522 | w25000L1 |
| 25 May25 | 11PHI | fst670 | 272 | 552 | 1:224 | 1:51 | M Lee Inv |
| 10 May25 | 8M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:232 | 1:513 | WO12500Hcp |
| 25 Apr25 | 6M1 | gd550 | 28 | 573 | 1:26 | 1:52 | NW12500L4 |
| 11 Apr25 | 10M1 | gd450 | 272 | 561 | 1:25 | 1:532 | nw1500L4cd |
| 29 Mar25 | 1M1 | fst790 | 303 | 1:001 | 1:283 | 1:56 | Qua |
| 22 Mar25 | 1M1 | fst600 | 301 | 572 | 1:25 | 1:531 | Qua |

blk h 9, by Bold Eagle, Will Of A Woman by Muscles Yankee
Jeffrey S & Michael S Snyder New York, NY
M. Melander 40-5-7-8 (125)

Last 4 Sts-\$81,250

1:51 Phil 5/8

1:51 Phil 5/8

25 M1 3 2 1 0 \$27,500 25 Tot 5 4 1 0 \$89,075
24 M1 0 0 0 0 -24 Tot 3 0 0 0 \$244
23 M1 0 0 0 0 -Life 67 23 11 9 \$1,464,041

7 CHAPERAZ (L)

51:51.2 (1) \$36,005

8-1 Dv. Miller 32-56-15-12 (174)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| 19 Jun25 | 10PHI | fst900 | 273 | 561 | 1:234 | 1:514 | W/O 10K |
| 25 May25 | 3PHI | fst670 | 272 | 564 | 1:24 | 1:514 | Opn |
| 17 May25 | 10M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Cutler |
| 2 May25 | 10M1 | fst750 | 271 | 552 | 1:233 | 1:512 | NW12500L4 |
| 25 Apr25 | 6M1 | fst650 | 28 | 573 | 1:26 | 1:52 | NW12500L4 |
| 11 Apr25 | 10M1 | gd450 | 272 | 561 | 1:25 | 1:532 | nw1500L4cd |
| 29 Mar25 | 1M1 | fst790 | 303 | 1:001 | 1:283 | 1:56 | Qua |
| 22 Mar25 | 1M1 | fst600 | 301 | 572 | 1:25 | 1:531 | Qua |

b g 5, by Crazy Wow, Chaperess by Chapter Seven
Burke Rqg Stp, Frdrcktn, PA; Weaver Brusconi, Cnsbrg, PA; P. Collura, Mntn Tp, PA
R. Burke 216-32-26-31 (148)

Last 4 Sts-\$28,750

1:54.2 M1Q

1:54.2 M1Q

25 M1 4 1 1 0 \$18,075 25 Tot 6 2 2 0 \$36,030
24 M1 1 0 4 4 \$36,524 24 Tot 22 3 6 6 \$533,305
23 M1 0 0 0 1 \$2,900 Life 46 10 12 11 \$1,048,719

8 UP YOUR DEO (L)

51:51 (1) \$5,558 LEX-SEL \$100,000

6-1 A. Svansstedt 17-4-4-4 (235)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----------|
| 21 Jun25 | 8M1 | fst830 | 28 | 554 | 1:232 | 1:51 | NW7PMLTCD |
| 13 Jun25 | 10M1 | fst730 | 281 | 564 | 1:254 | 1:531 | NW12500 |
| 7 Jun25 | 6YR | fst710 | | | | | WSBNMT7 |
| 23 May25 | 8M1 | gd580 | 27 | 554 | 1:24 | 1:512 | W/O Hcp |
| 2 May25 | 3M1 | fst700 | 283 | 571 | 1:26 | 1:53 | Qua |
| 2 May25 | 3M1 | fst700 | 283 | 571 | 1:26 | 1:53 | Qua |
| 30 Nov24 | 10M1 | fst330 | 272 | 562 | 1:243 | 1:512 | D-FanDuel |
| 16 Nov24 | 10M1 | fst510 | 271 | 55 | 1:23 | 1:504 | Prf Hcp |

b h 5, by Walner, Grand Stand by Cantab Hall
Ake Svansstedt, NJ; Suleyman Yusef Stp, FL; Deo Volente Fms, NJ; Van Camp Trotting Corp, ON
A. Svansstedt 17-4-4-4 (235)

Last 4 Sts-\$18,150

1:51 M1

1:54 Phil 5/8Q

25 M1 3 1 0 1 \$18,150 25 Tot 3 1 0 1 \$16,675
24 M1 8 0 1 0 \$39,700 24 Tot 10 1 1 1 \$10,020
23 M1 6 1 0 3 \$171,800 Life 34 7 5 6 \$861,597

9 LEXUS KODY (L)

51:49.4 (1) \$10,467

4-1 Y. Gingras 93-15-15-12 (161)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|------------|
| 21 Jun25 | 8M1 | fst830 | 28 | 554 | 1:232 | 1:51 | Opn Hcp |
| 30 May25 | 8M1 | fst680 | 264 | 553 | 1:241 | 1:503 | Opn Hcp |
| 23 May25 | 8M1 | gd580 | 27 | 554 | 1:24 | 1:512 | W/O Hcp |
| 17 May25 | 10M1 | fst740 | 28 | 553 | 1:233 | 1:514 | Cutler |
| 10 May25 | 8M1 | fst670 | 28 | 553 | 1:232 | 1:513 | NW12500Hcp |
| 25 Apr25 | 6M1 | fst650 | 28 | 573 | 1:26 | 1:52 | W/O |
| 18 Apr25 | 6M1 | fst600 | 274 | 572 | 1:24 | 1:531 | W/O Hc |

br g 7, by Archangel, Lexus Helios by Ken Warkentin
Burke Rqg Stp, Frdrcktn, PA; Weaver Brusconi, Cnsbrg, PA; P. Collura, Mntn Tp, PA
R. Burke 216-32-26-31 (148)

Last 4 Sts-\$72,625

*1:50.3 M1

*1:49.4 M1

25 M1 7 2 3 2 \$94,875 25 Tot 9 3 3 2 \$394,205
24 M1 9 6 1 1 \$95,035 24 Tot 20 8 5 2 \$215,170
23 M1 9 4 2 0 \$3,700 Life 78 29 10 10 \$655,747

No coupled entries per NJRC. Last receive 1% of purse

Saturday Big M card live on FOX Sports

The Meadowlands will stand alone this Saturday (June 28) night on a three-hour live presentation that will be brought to a national television audience.

Harness racing fans will be treated to four stakes events that night as The Big M will share the coast-to-coast spotlight with no other track. The New York Racing Association (NYRA) will feature three hours of Meadowlands coverage as part of its "America's Day at the Races" broadcasts on FOX Sports.

The show can be seen on FOX Sports 2 (FS2) beginning at 8 p.m. Chris Griffin and Paul Verderosa will anchor the program while Big M TV's Jessica Otten and Vice President and General Manager of Racing at Harrah's Hoosier Park Gabe Prewitt will provide commentary and analysis.

"It's exciting for all of us at The Meadowlands to present such a big card to a national TV audience as the stakes season continues to roll toward the [July 12] Meadowlands Pace and [Aug. 2] Hambletonian," said Big M Chief Operating Officer and General Manager Jason Settle-moir. "The TV crews at NYRA and FOX are first rate, and getting to show our product – especially when we will be the only track featured on the telecast – to an audience that normally sees Thoroughbred racing on the FOX shows helps the harness industry widen the appeal of our sport."

The four events that will be featured on the show are the \$114,500 Six Pack (open mare trot), \$173,000 Dave Brower Memorial (open pace, split into two divisions), \$164,000 Crawford Farms (open trot) and \$116,500 Perfect Sting (open mare pace).

Here is the schedule for the remaining FOX Sports shows, with the event(s) that will be featured and the time the show will be broadcast. Which FOX network the show can be found on – Fox 5 New York (locally), FS1 or FS2 – will be determined:

- June 28 – Perfect Sting, Brower Memorial, Crawford Farms, Six Pack, 8-11 p.m., FS2
- July 5 – Stan Bergstein Graduate finals; Meadowlands Pace eliminations, 8-11 p.m., TBA
- July 12 – Meadowlands Pace Night (multiple stakes), 8-11 p.m., TBA
- August 2 – Hambletonian 100 coverage throughout the day, 1-7 p.m., TBA
- September 5 – New Jersey Classic Series finals, 8-11 p.m., TBA
- November 1 – Kindergarten finals, 8-11 p.m., TBA
- November 15 – Fall Final Four, 8-11 p.m., TBA

WINE IS FINE: If you love wine, then head to The Meadowlands on Saturday (June 28) night, when the track's annual Wine Festival takes place.

VIP entry kicks off at 4 p.m. while general admission starts at 5 p.m. The wine keeps flowing until 9 p.m. Spend the evening sipping on delicious wines from Italy, Australia, the U.S., France, and other amazing places, all while enjoying music by DJ Alx, food and harness racing.

With a lineup of over fifty wineries, there is something for everyone.

Don't miss out on the extremely limited VIP tickets, which are still available at \$70. These tickets offer early entry, special wine tastings in the VIP Tent, and a picnic buffet. General admission is \$45 in advance or \$50 at the door.

Racing starts at 6:20 p.m., adding a bit of extra excitement to the mix.

For tickets, go [here](#).

KERN COLLECTS FIRST PLACE: Del Kern and Gary Scogna both hit big early – by having winning tickets on the 20-cent Pick-5 – and held on by a considerable margin to take first- and second-place, respectively, in the sixth edition of the 2025 Meadowlands Monthly Handicapping Contest, which was contested on Friday (June 20). The contest goes for cash prizes totaling \$1,000.

Kern finished the night with a bankroll of 1,902.42, which earned him the first prize of \$500, while Scogna tallied \$1,342.42, to take home \$250.

The duo have now earned entry into the year-end invitational contest, which takes place on Dec. 13. That competition will be limited to 22 players vying for \$10,000 in cash prizes. Scogna is in good shape, as he's now earned two entries into the year-end competition.

The seventh edition of the 2025 Meadowlands Monthly Handicapping Contest takes place on Friday, July 18, and offers players a chance to win a share of another \$1,000 in prize money.

Complete contest rules and regulations can be found [here](#).

-edited release (Meadowlands)

DRF Bets Handicapper's Corner

SIGN UP NOW

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, JUNE 26

RACE 1

(3) FLOWING TRIBUTE is coming into her career debut off one qualifier on June 7, but it was a damn good one. This daughter of Green Manalishi S was given her cue late in the stretch and made steady gains on a winner who had opened up on their rivals.

-John Rallis



WOODBINE
MOHAWK PARK

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

RACE 4

(2) MONSERRATE takes on older here but hardly runs into a difficult group. He raced well in the EBC at Vernon and this is a good spot to pick up some confidence and gain some respect ahead of the Hambletonian.

-Derick Givner



RACE 5

(7) TEXSONG SOPRANO draws poorly but has overcome outside posts in the past and she drops to face a significantly softer field tonight..

-Matt Rose



SATURDAY, JUNE 28

RACE 10

I've been patiently waiting for the right spot where the competition level and price will meet on (9) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS and this is it. I'm expecting a more aggressive try this week.

-Givner



FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES

Mohawk Park Analysis

[Thursday](#) [Friday](#) [Saturday](#)

Meadowlands Analysis

[Friday](#) [Saturday](#)

Yonkers Analysis

[Thursday](#) [Friday](#) [Saturday](#)

DHP PPS

HARNESS EYE PPS

TRACKMASTER PPS

FREE PPS

INSTANT RACING UPDATES VIA TWITTER: @DRFHARNES

NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

BELIEVING IN THE POWER OF THE MEADOWLANDS PACE AND CHARLIE MAY

This is a story about a boy and a girl who loved a racehorse so much that he inspired them to combine a little old-fashioned stubbornness with a little divine intervention for the greatest gift of all.

Amy and Dean May are a married pair of 30-year-olds who love going to The Meadowlands. They aren't regulars, but the one date etched in stone on their calendar every year is Meadowlands Pace Night, a card they've attended for about a decade now.

[READ MORE](#)

OFFSPRING OF CHAPTER SEVEN SCORE IN NEW YORK SIRE STAKES

In the doubleheader of New York Sires Stakes and Excelsior Series action at Buffalo Raceway on Wednesday afternoon (June 25), setting the pace was the best way to get to the winner's circle.

The only exception to that strategy came in the \$119,700 race for the 3-year-old trotting colts and geldings, as Fadeaway Hanover (\$5.60) came from behind and nailed BJM's Lil Man by a length in 1:57 over the fast track.

[READ MORE](#)

KEN HANOVER, NIJINSKY MAKE MOVES IN TOP 10 POLL

Ken Hanover moved up three spots and Nijinsky joined the Top 10 in the Week 2 edition of the Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll released Wednesday.

Ken Hanover notched his fourth consecutive win last week, scoring in 1:48 3/5 at Mohegan Pennsylvania's Pocono Downs, and moved from eighth to fifth in the rankings. The 5-year-old stallion has won each of his past four starts in 1:48 3/5.

[READ MORE](#)

\$22,198 PICK 5 CARRYOVER AT YONKERS THURSDAY

MGM Yonkers Raceway will have a \$22,198.09 carryover and a \$75,000 guaranteed pool in Thursday's (June 26) Pick 5 sequence.

The guarantee in the Pick 5 is being offered as part of the United States Trotting Association's Strategic Wagering Program, and free Harness Eye past performances for the Pick 5 are available [here](#). The Pick 5, which begins in race five and has a \$1 minimum, has a takeout rate of 20 percent.

MGM Yonkers Raceway is now operating on a Monday/Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday live racing schedule with post time each night at 6:45 p.m. (EDT).

-edited release (Yonkers Raceway Media)

KAT'S FANCY IMPRESSES IN DSBF ELIMINATIONS

A quartet of Delaware Standardbred Breeders Fund (DSBF) \$20,000 second leg divisions for trotters headlined the Wednesday program at Harrington Raceway on a day where temperatures reached near-record highs.

[READ MORE](#)

DETAILS AVAILABLE FOR HALL OF FAME WEEKEND

The annual Harness Racing Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place Sunday, July 6, 2025 at the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame in Goshen, New York. The Ceremony begins at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner tickets are \$175 and are available by calling 845-294-6330.

[READ MORE](#)

WOMEN LAYER POLISHES OFF SEVEN-FOR-SEVEN MARK IN KYSS

Virgil Morgan Jr. trainee Women Layer completed a full sweep of Kentucky Sire Stakes (KYSS) action at Oak Grove, winning in every prelim of both series as well as in both finals when he capped the second series with a 1:49 2/5 stroll in the \$150,000 final on Tuesday (June 24) to remain unbeaten from seven starts this season.

[READ MORE](#)

ZWEIG MEMORIAL DRAW AND DETENTION INFORMATION

The Dr. Harry M. Zweig Memorial trot will be raced at Vernon Downs on the evening of Thursday, July 3 with a first post of 5:05PM.

The draw for the stake will be part of a double draw on Monday, June 30, the box closes at 9:00AM.

The Zweig main event for both the open and filly divisions will be comprised of the top nine lifetime money winners that declare. Consolation races are offered, contingent upon a sufficient number of entries.

You will find that condition sheet [here](#) soon and the stake conditions [here](#).

The Zweig Main Event Open & Filly divisions will require horses to report for detention by 8:00pm on Wednesday, July 2. Contact number for detention is (315) 717-2617.

Those in need of a room at the Vernon Downs hotel should make that request at vernonracing@vernondowns.com in advance.

-release (Vernon Downs)

THE GREATNESS OF THE NATIONAL STANDARDBRED HORSE SHOW

Veterinarian Michelle Clarke said it best, lamenting, "People just don't realize the versatility of the standardbred horse."

"After a racing career is over, they are the most agile athletes of all equine breeds and can be used as a riding horse, show horse, therapy horse and much more for anybody in need."

Probably the greatest proof of the versatility of the standardbred comes in the form of the three day National Standardbred Horse Show, to be showcased at The Horse Park of New Jersey in Allentown from September 19-21—this being the 31st edition of the show.

Spokesperson Helene Gregory has been a champion for the show, managed by the Standardbred Pleasure Horse Organization of New Jersey, for well over 20 years and is excited about this year's show, saying, "This show has the ingredients of our best show in history as we have classes for riders in age groups '12 and under,' '13 through 18,' '19 to 49' and '50 plus' in well over 100 class events."

Those classes include Dressage, In Harness, Obstacle Driving, Barrel Racing, Walk/Trot, English/Western, Equitation Horsemanship, Hunter Under Saddle, Showmanship, Western Pleasure and Ranch Horse, to name a few—all featuring standardbreds.

Helene Gregory continued, "I got involved because we had a young trotter who just didn't quite make it as a racehorse."

"But, instead of 'throwing the horse away,' we re-trained the horse and the agility and learning ability has been absolutely astounding and heart-warming and well worth it!

"From there, I got 'JB' and, here it is 17 years later, he's with me for this year's show!"

Yet another entrant in this National Standardbred Horse Show is Twin B Impressive, now retired from the racing wars at age 16.

Twin B Impressive raced just before last year's show, as well as after the show, and chalked up 53 lifetime wins in 351 starts, earning \$681,928. He won every year during his 15 years on the track.

Trainer Mary Beth Ranger explained, "He's living proof of the versatility of the standardbred and is readying for this year's show...quite an amazing horse, he is!"

The show welcomes retired horses—some are still racing—and past participants have given much pride and joy to their owners, especially for those that come away with 'ribbons'!

Sponsorships are available in the form of "Presenting Sponsors," as well as Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors and there are "supporter" sponsors, with mention in the show program and social media shares with company/farm links. (SPHONJ.org/sponsorship)

United States Harness Driver's Club (USHDC) Treasurer Tom Eichas chimed in saying, "This show is one of the greatest events highlighting the standardbred in North America."

The USHDC is sponsoring several classes in the 13-18 year-old classes and Eichas is inviting other amateur driving clubs to join in furthering the standardbred breed in the 2025 edition of the National Standardbred Horse Show.

The advertising deadline is July 1, 2025.

-edited release (by John Berry)