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**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025**

# Armitage Delivers Tuesday



**HIP 182 Jimdougie Armitage  
(Captain Corey - Quick Bet)**

## Armitage Farm makes immediate impact at Lexington Selected Sale

**By Greg Reinhart; Quotes from Derick Giwner**

Armitage Farm, a newcomer to the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale, served notice that they may be a force in the breeding and selling market when their HIP 182 Jimdougie Armitage fetched \$750,000 to lead Tuesday's session. That put Jimdougie Armitage fourth overall on the board and made him the highest-priced colt.

A Captain Corey colt, Jimdougie Armitage is the first foal out of Quick Bet, a full sister to Winner's Bet (1:49 3/5, \$1,364,508). He was purchased by agent Ake Svanstedt.

"He's a good-looking horse and the family is good also," said Svanstedt, who purchased the horse for three of Captain Corey's owners, plus

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# TEE OFF

WITH A PEBBLE BEACH  
YEARLING THIS FALL

33 first yearlings from  
Breeders Crown and  
NA Cup Champion Pebble Beach  
selling in Lexington, including:

**Hip 221** Ingot

Pebble Beach x Rocknificent filly  
Daughter of the accomplished racing  
mare **ROCKNIFICENT** (\$1,152,822)  
from the maternal family of Dan Patch  
Mare **ROCKLAMATION** (\$2,77,384).

**Hip 242** Water Hazard

Pebble Beach x Dolphins Can Talk filly  
From a producing mare with  
multiple stakes-winning offspring and the  
family of **PUT ON A SHOW** (\$2,406,628).

**Hip 628** Kevin's Bud

Pebble Beach x Tularosa colt  
Family of **IN THE ARSENAL** (\$1,035,898).  
**DOWNBYTHESEASIDE** half-brother is a  
stakes winner in Ohio and Kentucky.



DOWNBYTHESEASIDE - SANTA ROSA  
(1:48.1, \$1,720,875)

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one new owner, all from Sweden. "Conformation was good. He's a big horse, but Captain Corey was a big horse also. They really wanted to have him."

Based in Midway, Kentucky, Armitage Farm is owned by Dr. Rita Armitage and Jim McLane. They've had success on the racetrack as owners with fillies such as R Melina and R Dutchess recently, and today represented the breeding operation's high-water mark thus far.

"This is our first consignment. These are out of mares that we bought two years ago," noted Armitage Farm's general manager Dale Holly. "We got quite fortunate that there were some nice mares available publicly that we were able to get. We got a few privately as well. We're in the early stages of building our broodmare band and getting the farm started."

"The price was a surprise, but we knew he was a good horse. He's a big, strong, correct horse that everyone likes. We had a lot of vet work on him, but \$750,000 is completely a surprise to us. We're lucky that we had two or three people that were on him. It is satisfying to have a big horse like that, of course," he said. "At the end of the day, you're always going to have some surprises and some disappointments, and you hope that it all kind of averages out at the conclusion of the sale. We're very happy to have such a good horse."

Holly is hopeful that the sale of Jimdougie Armitage leads to the farm's reputation only going up, and that they can draw more attention from the harness racing industry as they continue to bring yearlings to sales.

"Any disappointments, the sting is kind of softened a little bit with that horse. We're very excited about getting our first consignment over and we're really happy with the way that we've been received by people in this industry," he stated. "It takes a while to get your name and people being comfortable with you that you can raise good horses. We have yet to prove that, but I hope that in the years to come that we prove that we can raise good horses and people can feel confident buying from us."

Another trotting colt in HIP 184 Kountry Win was the second-highest seller on Tuesday, going to Brad Grant for \$425,000. Kountry Win is the second foal out of the Credit Winner mare Winndevie (\$787,646, 1:53) and a half-brother to Winnpanzee (\$196,676, 1:52). He was bred and consigned by Ola Yoder's Kountry Lane Standardbreds.

"He is Ontario (eligible), which I want to get more and more into. I'm a big fan of King Of The North. This colt, to me, showed me everything you want in a trotter," Grant remarked. "I think I was at my limit there. Did we overpay? Maybe, but at the same, he's one I really loved. I've had people ask about him. I might keep for myself. I just haven't decided yet."

Since late July, Grant has been a part-owner of Winnpanzee, who won a leg of the Kentucky Commonwealth Series and two prelims in the Kentucky Championship Series.

"Since we got her, she's just been outstanding, and, of course, that piqued my interest that much more," he added.

Ron Burke trains Winnpanzee and will also handle Kountry Win.

In total, seven yearlings - six trotters and one pacer - brought \$250,000 or more on Tuesday.

As was the case yesterday, today's Lexington Selected Yearling Sale session was down year-over-year in both average (\$86,333 this year versus \$97,678 last year) and gross (\$19,166,000 for 222 horses sold today versus \$22,173,000 for 227 yearlings sold in 2024). While noting that some evaluations will have to be made, co-sales manager David Reid remained upbeat about how things have gone thus far.

"Here again, I thought the market was pretty strong there today. We



(above) HIP 184 Kountry Win was the second-highest seller on Tuesday and went to Brad Grant.  
(below) Dale Holly is Armitage Farm's general manager.



had a good run in the afternoon, but there are definitely some soft spots. I'll go through the makeup and see what the components were to that," he said. "If the numbers prove to be that we're down eight, ten percent or something like over that over last year, I'm still happy."

"You can't go up every year. They have to level out to a degree. To me it's a healthy marketplace, we've had a good flow and good rhythm. The market tells you what they're worth, and it doesn't matter what the statistics show. Overall I'm happy enough with the sale."

Three days remain in the 2025 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. Wednesday's action will begin at 1 p.m. and see HIPs 363 through 597 available for purchase.





# 9/29-10/3 LEXINGTON HIGHLIGHTS

## Day 3 Lineup & Day 4 Highlights

Sale starts at 1 pm on 10/1 & 10/2

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### #446, CHRIS ANN

#### Day 3 NJ Pacer

##### PERFECT STING

**#500, STING AWAY, F**  
Perfect Sting-Free Show-Badlands Hanover  
Dam is **Free Show**, p, 3, 1:51.3s (\$228,034).  
1/2-sister to **Freestarflight**,  
p, 3, 1:52s -'23 (\$190,522)

#### Day 3 NJ Trotter

##### MUSCLE HILL

**#429, CHARGE THE HILL, C**  
Muscle Hill-Andie Sophia-Like A Prayer  
Dam, **Andie Sophia**, 3, 1:54.4f (\$449,322),  
is a 1/2-sister to the dam of **T C I**,  
3, 1:50.4 -'24 (\$1,831,072)

#### Day 3 NY Pacers

##### AMERICAN IDEAL

**#382, SMART AMERICAN, F**  
American Ideal-Smart Girl-Roll With Joe  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Wisdom Tree**,  
p, 1:49.1s (\$687,376)

**#388, AMERICAN BARBIE, F**  
American Ideal-Sports Chic-Sportswriter  
Full-sister to **Vivians Dream**,  
p, 2, 1:50.4s (\$633,782). Dam is a 1/2-sister  
to **Rainbow Blue**, p, 3, 1:49.2s (\$1,428,594)

**#520, DARE TO STARE, C**  
American Ideal-Hypnotize-Artiscape  
Dam is **Hypnotize**, p, 1:52.2f (\$374,152).  
1/2-brother to **Blank Stare**,  
p, 3, 1:50.1f (\$689,839), & **Cast No Shadow**,  
p, 3, 1:50.4s (\$334,225)

##### HUNTSVILLE

**#435, STAMP OF APPROVAL, C**  
Huntsville-Authorize-Western Ideal  
Dam is **Authorize**, p, 3, 1:50.3 (\$385,425).  
1/2-brother to **Legal Power**,  
p, 1:51.3f (\$241,062)

**#440, SAN FRANCISCO BAY, F**  
Huntsville-Bay Girl-Royal Mattjesty  
Dam is **Bay Girl**, p, 3, 1:50s (\$576,130).  
1/2-sister to **City By The Bay**,  
p, 3, 1:53.2f (\$189,183)

**#575, HUNT ME DOWN, C**  
Huntsville-Planet Ocean-Cam's Card Shark  
1/2-brother to **Camealongway**,  
p, 2, 1:52.2s (\$100,633). Dam is a 1/2-sister  
to **Geez Joe**, p, 1:47.4s (\$387,832), & a  
full-sister to the dam of **Southwind Gendry**,  
p, 1:47.2f -'23 (\$1,334,622)

All information as of 9/30/25

#### Day 3 ON Pacers

##### BETTOR'S DELIGHT

**#450, TWO PIECE, F**  
Bettor's Delight-Bikini Genie-Sunshine Beach  
First Foal. Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Weeper**,  
p, 3, 1:49f (\$569,511). Family of  
**Badlands Nitro**, p, 3, 1:50f (\$1,597,638)

**#454, DEALERS DELIGHT, F**  
Bettor's Delight-Break The Deal-American Ideal  
First Foal. Dam, **Break The Deal**,  
p, 1:51.2 (\$74,607), is a 1/2-sister to  
**Bettor Than Spring**, p, 1:49.2h (\$843,046)

##### CATTLEWASH

**#564, SIDE DISH, F**  
Cattlewash-Ms Mac N Cheese-Badlands Hanover  
Dam is **Ms Mac N Cheese**,  
p, 1:50.4s (\$651,383)

#### Day 3 PA Pacers

##### ALWAYS B MIKI

**#446, CHRIS ANN, F**  
Always B Miki-Bet On Chrissy-Betting Line  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Vivians Dream**,  
p, 2, 1:50.4s (\$633,782). Family of  
**Rainbow Blue**, p, 3, 1:49.2s (\$1,428,594)

##### BETTOR'S WISH

**#552, WISHING ON A STAR, F**  
Bettor's Wish-Makena Hanover-Fear The Dragon  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Martini Hanover**,  
p, 1:49 (\$487,939)

##### PAPI ROB HANOVER

**#493, PAPI EXPRESS, C**  
Papi Rob Hanover-Feeling You-Cambest  
Dam is **Feeling You**, p, 1:48.4 (\$1,028,496).  
1/2-brother to **American Fling**,  
p, 1:50f -'24 (\$496,715)

**#524, PAPI'S WORLD, C, PA/KY**  
Papi Rob Hanover-Inanotherworld-Artsplace  
1/2-brother to **World On Edge**,  
p, 3, 1:49.3 (\$237,384). Dam is a full-sister to  
**Worldly Beauty**, p, 1:49.3 (\$1,900,255)

**#587, FAST GETAWAY, C, PA/KY**  
Papi Rob Hanover-Warrawee Quick-Sportswriter  
1/2-brother to **Warrawee Veloce**,  
p, 1:50.3f -'23 (\$281,566). Dam is a  
1/2-sister to **Warrawee Ubeaut**,  
p, 2, 1:48.3 (\$1,849,063), &  
**Warrawee Needy**, p, 1:46.4 (\$1,258,027)

#### Day 3 PA Pacers (cont.)

##### STAY HUNGRY

**#407, KEEP IT TO URSELF, F**  
Stay Hungry-Upfrontandpersonal-Bettor's Delight  
1/2-sister to **Alabama Hannah**,  
p, 3, 1:51.2 -'23 (\$200,842). Dam is a  
1/2-sister to **Miso Fast**, p, Q1:49 (\$877,947)

**#548, FEED THE VILLAGE, F**  
Stay Hungry-Village Madonna-Rocknroll Hanover  
1/2-sister to **Travel Playlist**,  
p, 2, 1:49.2s (\$327,216), & **Leanne's Choice**,  
p, 3, 1:50.2f -'24 (\$231,492)

##### SWEET LOU

**#405, ELSIE'S LOVE, F**  
Sweet Lou-Typhoon-A Rocknroll Dance  
1/2-sister to **Monsoon**, p, 2, 1:52.4 (\$68,869).  
Family of **Galleria**, p, 1:49.1 (\$1,814,453)

#### Day 3 PA Trotters

##### CAPTAIN COREY

**#476, CAPTAIN'S RULES, C**  
Captain Corey-Debra Hall-Cash Hall  
1/2-brother to 2025 Reynolds Memorial  
Winner, **Read The Room**,  
2, 1:57.1f -'25; BT1:55.3-'25 (\$74,099)

##### INTERNATIONAL MONI

**#436, CRISP MONI, C, PA/KY**  
International Moni-Autumn Treasure-Kadabra  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Watkins**,  
1:53f (\$1,042,573)

#### NEW! Day 4 KY Pacer

##### PEBBLE BEACH

**#718, BEACH BEATS, C, KY**  
Pebble Beach-Hearts N Flowers-Artiscape  
Dam is **Hearts N Flowers**,  
p, 1:52.1f (\$342,031)

#### NEW! Day 4 NJ Trotter

##### ALRAJAH ONE IT

**#685, CRYSTAL VISION, F, NJ/KY**  
Alrajah One IT-Devanly-Donato Hanover  
1/2-sister to **Gymboree**,  
3, 1:58.3h -'25 (\$66,099). Dam is a 1/2-sister  
to **Crystal Fashion**, 1:50 (\$2,410,162)

#### NEW! Day 4 ON Trotter

##### KING OF THE NORTH

**#620, GOLDRUSH KING, C, ON**  
King Of The North-Tantalizing Donna-Donerail  
1/2-brother to **Dontteasehim**,  
3, 1:57.3h (\$168,778)



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## Yearlings sold for over \$200K at the Lexington Selected sale

HIP-Horse	Sire	Price	Sex	Consignor	Buyer
70-DEJEUNER	Walner	\$1,000,000	F	Kentuckiana Farms, Agent	Noel Daley, Agent for Winning Key
94-TURTLE DOVE	Walner	\$900,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Jeff Snyder & SRF Stable
4-TYNDALL	Gimpanzee	\$800,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Martinez Equine, Agent
182-JIMDOUGIE ARMITAGE	Captain Corey	\$750,000	C	Armitage Farm LLC.	Ake Svanstedt Inc.
50-VALOROUS	Alrajah One It	\$575,000	C	Cameo Hills Farm	David McDuffee, Agent
44-SEASIDE UBEAUT	Downbytheseaside	\$500,000	F	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Andrew Harris, Agent William Pollock
93-SOCIAL HOUR	Walner	\$500,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Al Libfeld
59-TEMPLE OF TROT	Walner	\$485,000	F	Cameo Hills Farm	M & L of Delaware / Armitage Farm
19-UMBRIA	Tactical Landing	\$475,000	C	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Andrew Harris, Agent William Pollock
96-TEMPERAMENTAL	Muscle Hill	\$475,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	M & L of Delaware / Armitage Farm
27-TONY PRO	Chapter Seven	\$425,000	C	Cameo Hills Farm	Jeffrey Snyder
184-KOUNTRY WIN	King Of The North	\$425,000	C	Kountry Lane Standardbreds	Bradley J. Grant
77-MOUNTAIN MAMA	Muscle Hill	\$410,000	F	Preferred Equine Marketing	Sabine Kagebrant, Agent Courant Inc.
66-VAINQUEUR	Bulldog Hanover	\$375,000	C	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Andrew Harris, Agent William Pollock
60-DAY ONE DANDY	Walner	\$350,000	F	Cameo Hills Farm	David McDuffee
72-SWEETIE	Chapter Seven	\$330,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	M & L of Delaware / Armitage Farm
38-ISCHIA	Father Patrick	\$320,000	F	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Lynn Curry
41-GAGOSIAN	Walner	\$300,000	C	Concord Stud Farm, Agent	Marcus Melander
57-DYNAMIC YANKEE	Muscle Hill	\$300,000	C	Preferred Equine Marketing	Marcus Melander, Agent
71-CREAMY ARMITAGE	Walner	\$300,000	F	Armitage Farm LLC.	Linda Toscano, Agent
195-CITY OF LIGHT	Chapter Seven	\$300,000	F	Alliance Bloodstock, Agent	Nancy Takter, Agent
281-AMORE INSOLENT	Tactical Landing	\$290,000	C	Preferred Equine Marketing	Sabine Kagebrant, Agent Courant Inc.
34-EMI	Chapter Seven	\$275,000	F	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Lynn Curry
63-OLIVER BLU	Ecurie D Dk	\$275,000	C	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Lucas Wallin
113-DOWN BY THE SEA	Downbytheseaside	\$275,000	C	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Burke Racing Stable LLC.
46-MIDWIND BRIDGETTE	Tactical Landing	\$260,000	F	Peninsula Farm, Agent	M & L of Delaware / Armitage Farm
149-SAMUEL STATION	Bulldog Hanover	\$260,000	C	Spring Station Bloodstock	Tony Alagna, Agent
263-OLBIA	Muscle Hill	\$260,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Marcus Melander, Agent
23-WYOMING	Walner	\$250,000	C	Preferred Equine Marketing	Ake Svanstedt Inc.
156-A TALE OF KEMP	Walner	\$250,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Reijo Liljendahl
21-ROCKIN JADE DEO	Captaintreacherous	\$240,000	F	Preferred Equine Marketing	Determination
111-CAPTAIN CAVALIER	Captaintreacherous	\$240,000	C	All American Harnessbreds	Casie Coleman, Agent
30-NALANI STORM	Chapter Seven	\$225,000	C	Crawford Farms, LLC.	Kenneth Jacobs
85-JOT IT DOWN	Gimpanzee	\$225,000	F	Hunterton Sales Agency, Agent	Marcus Melander, Agent
114-SEVEN DONS A DEO	Chapter Seven	\$220,000	C	Preferred Equine Marketing	Andrew Harris, Agent William Pollock
179-PERCIVAL	Tactical Landing	\$220,000	C	Cane Run Farm, Agent	Trond Smedshammer
102-WHITNEY	Muscle Hill	\$210,000	F	Kentuckiana Farms, Agent	Lucas Wallin
327-JUST DIOR HER	Greenshoe	\$210,000	F	Kentuckiana Farms	Wiesman Farms
237-TALBOT TYCOON	Walner	\$207,000	C	Preferred Equine Marketing	Kenneth Jacobs



# CRAWFORD FARMS

SELLING WEDNESDAY (10/1) IN LEXINGTON



← **Hip # 404 • Redbottomroyalty**  
*INTERNATIONAL MONI (PA/KY)*  
half-sister to  
**CRAZYLAND 1:54.2f-'25 (\$176,342).**

**Hip # 386**  
**Tiberio →**  
*ALRAJAH ONE IT (NJ/KY)*  
COLT from a half-sister to  
Horse of the Year  
**GLIDEMASTER**  
**3,1:51.1 (\$1,968,023).**



← **Hip # 434**  
**Matchadelite**  
*CAPTAIN COREY (PA/KY)*  
FILLY from a CHAPTER SEVEN  
granddaughter of  
World Champion  
**SHIPPS DREAM**  
**3,T1:56.2 (\$652,199).**



**Hip # 511 • Warcry Echo →**  
*PEBBLE BEACH (KY)*  
COLT from a full sister to World Champion  
**SOUTHWIND TEMPO 1:48.2 (\$2,396,362).**



# Plucking pedigree from days three and four at Lexington



## JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman X [BergmanJay](#)

There's always a sense when one first looks at a yearling catalog that the pages are stacked with the best horses selling on the first or second day of the auction and horses with less potential selling afterwards. No matter how many years pass and how many of those later day's yearlings turn into major stakes winners, it's still hard to shake the impression left by the calculus of the sale order.

With that in mind, here's a hopeful list of a variety of yearlings selling Wednesday and Thursday at the Lexington Selected sale that may be worth taking a first look at prior to the auction. Missing a page or two could be the difference between another owner and trainer walking away with a stakes winner in 2026.

There is always a sense of intrigue in the first crop of any sire and one particular horse captivated the imagination on the racetrack with an incredible turn of speed. If he can pass that electrifying burst to the next generation his sons and daughters will be an instant success. Alrajah One IT turned heads in North America upon arrival and was a special horse indeed, with the kind of raw speed that often made his competition appear to be standing still while he was in motion. Only 11 foals from his obviously limited first crop have been registered and eight of those will sell at this auction.

**HIP 386 TIBERIO** is a dual-eligible colt (New Jersey and Kentucky) from that first crop with a solid maternal family. Tiberio is just the second foal and first colt from a mare that's a half-sister to Hambletonian winner Glidemaster. Though the pedigree on this one's page may appear dated, one should take note that Think Twice, a sister to the dam of this colt, sold a foal for over \$500,000 just three years ago at Harrisburg.

On the pacing side of the ledger, Bulldog Hanover has already proven the capacity to sire a top horse from a limited supply in his first crop that hit the racetrack this year. A second and full book of mares have yearlings on the block in 2025 and **HIP 413 BEACHBULL YANKEE** could be one of the better ones. A colt and fourth foal from A Beach Cowgirl, the mare is already a 100 percent producing dam by the sensational Somebeachsomewhere. The dam herself was a stakes-winning sub-1:50 performer on the racetrack and has had some success from her first three foals, but could hit the big-time with the first cross to a horse with Bulldog Hanover's performance and pedigree.

The first crop of Captain Corey hit the racetrack this year and the reviews have been positive on many fronts. A total of 43 yearlings from his second crop are spread throughout this sale with **HIP 491**, a colt named **NIGHT CAPTAIN**, catching our eye. In addition to an impressive video, Night Captain has an impressive maternal line and perhaps more important to prospective buyers, dual eligibility in Pennsylvania and Kentucky, given this year's freshman Kentucky champion was Endurance, also a son of Captain Corey. Night Captain's dam Evelyn is a full sister to Dream Child, a mare that's had an outstanding broodmare career, having produced top horses Ari Ferrari J and You Ato Dream.



DERICK GIWNER

**HIP 491 Night Captain** is a colt from Allerage Farm being sold by Preferred Equine.

The family has consistently sent out six-figure type yearlings and Night Captain could join that group this year.

"She's the nicest baby yet out of that mare," said Allerage Farm Manager Ashleigh Bennett.

Getting back to first crops, there was enough pedigree and more than enough performance by King Of The North on the racetrack to indicate that he'll have a solid chance to succeed in his second career, both in Ontario where his horses are eligible primarily, and beyond. **HIP 521 KING TALBOT** is a colt from a full sister to the 2015 Hambletonian champion Pinkman. King Talbot is just the third foal from the dam and the first from a Chapter Seven/Walner line stallion.

On the pacing side, no stud has been hotter in 2025 on the racetrack than Sweet Lou. With a broadening body of work and consistently producing stakes winners with the ability to pace in 1:47 or thereabouts, it is always worth it to look at any yearling, son or daughter, from this sire so not to let one slip through the cracks. **HIP 528** is a colt named **STONEBRIDGE KINGLY** out of a Somebeachsomewhere-sired mare that has had some success from her first three foals. Stonebridge Kingly's dam Inverse Hanover was a \$357K winner on the racetrack and a 1:49 2/5 performer. This colt represents the dam's first foal from a non-Bettor's Delight sire and that may be the key ingredient to elevate the dam's game to the next level on the track. A nice-looking video accompanies a solid pedigree for this colt.

Perhaps a few weeks ago **HIP 593 SPOILED TO A T** would have been a sleeper in this sale, but given the results from the first week of the Red Mile Grand Circuit and the announcement that followed a Bluegrass stakes win, this filly by King Of The North should get plenty of looks with bids to follow. Spoiled To A T is a half-sister to the sensational 1:51 2/5 Bluegrass winner Mr Big Spender, a son of Captain Corey that has enjoyed a big freshman campaign thus far and is clearly in the conversation for a Breeders Crown title. That said, his younger sister, eligible in Ontario and Kentucky, has value both on the racetrack and likely as a future broodmare.

Moving on to Thursday's sale, the pickings could get slimmer but that just could mean more opportunity for those who dig just a little big deeper

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 8](#)



into pedigree. **HIP 628 KEVIN'S BUD** is a colt and one of 33 from the first crop of Pebble Beach. Kevin's Bud is just the third foal from an Artiscapre-sired dam that has already produced a sub-1:50 performer. As a Kentucky-sired colt he'll be eligible for additional bonus money competing in the Bluegrass state's exciting regional program in the years to come.

Like Pebble Beach, Gimpanzee is a Kentucky-based stallion and as such his foals are eligible for additional funds from stakes in their home state. **HIP 682 REIGN OF A WISEMAN** is a colt and just second foal from a successful Father Patrick-sired dam.

Experimentation has marked much of the last decade in the trotting sport, with a large infusion of European trotting talent coming to North America and crossing with mares and stallions on this side of the Atlantic. This year a Hambletonian winner Nordic Catcher S was the product of a trotting stallion breeding to pacing-sired mare. In that spirit, **HIP 739** goes one step further. **OSCURO**, is a dual-eligible colt in Pennsylvania and Kentucky by Captain Corey, himself with pacing blood on his stallion side from a dam with only pacing blood. Oscuro's dam Kimberlee has had two winners from her first two matings to pacing stallions and now crosses over. Could this type of pedigree represent the future of trotting?



DERICK GIWNER

**HIP 682 Reign Of A Wiseman sells for Weaver Standardbred Farm.**



DERICK GIWNER

**HIP 628 Kevin's Bud is a colt from the Anvil And Lace consignment selling on day four.**

**HIP 752 INKED CCL** is a nice-looking colt from the first crop of Ecurie D Dk. Eligible exclusively in New Jersey, Inked CCL hails from a 100 percent producing dam named Magic Marker that could benefit from a mating with new blood on the stallion side.

With new blood comes opportunity and anyone looking deeply enough in the third and fourth sessions of this year's Lexington Selected Sale should be able to find what they are looking for.

## NJ Sire Stakes adds Silver divisions

By Derick Giwner

Perhaps lost in the chaos of Grand Circuit racing and preparation for the Lexington Selected Sale was a key announcement from the New Jersey Sire Stakes that a new lower-rung series has been added to supplement the current main division.

In 2025 the Premier division (now changed to Platinum) offered multiple \$25,000 legs and a \$225,000 final for 2- and 3-year-olds of both gaits (some divisions went for slightly less money). The new Silver division will include three \$10,000 legs and a \$40,000 final. Nominations only need to be made for the main division for a horse to be eligible to both.

"The biggest thing the SBOA Board is trying to accomplish is create a program for the greater good. We need to have a program where everyone is making money," said New Jersey-based trainer Julie Miller. "This will allow for a horse that maybe couldn't compete in the main New Jersey Sire Stakes to get money on their card and put money in the owner's pocket so they can reinvest in the New Jersey program."

While Miller hardly has a smaller barn, some would think that the new series doesn't benefit trainers that spend big at the yearling sales and are targeting the top Grand Circuit races, but trainer Marcus Melander was clear that just because you have dreams of a horse doing great things on the track, some never make it to that level and others take time to mature.

"I have bad horses, too," said Melander bluntly. "Sometimes you have horses where you want to take it easier in their first start and don't want to push them, or they aren't able to go super fast."

Another aim of the new series is to keep horses in the state of New Jersey rather than shipping to a state like Kentucky with four Sire Stakes levels offering purses of \$10,000 to \$80,000 in the legs and \$50,000 to \$400,000 in the finals. Melander pointed out that when you have a trotter that can only go in 1:57 it makes more sense to send him to Kentucky to compete in the lower-level Sire Stakes than keep him in New Jersey to face 1:54 trotters and finish near the back. He, like Miller, agreed that the new Sire Stakes series will allow them to change their strategy and keep more horses in the Garden State.

"Absolutely, this will be a game changer, especially for a New Jersey-based trainer like myself," said Miller. "If I can stay in New Jersey and drive an hour to the Meadowlands to compete, why would I want to bring my horses all the way out to Kentucky to a satellite stable?"

"This new Platinum/Silver Series will create more opportunities for NJ Sired horses to race in the Garden State at the Mecca of Harness racing in the world, the Meadowlands. In turn, these additional opportunities will help foster growth in the New Jersey economy and will increase interest in NJ Sired horses," said Nancy Grbelja, Chairman of the NJ Sire Stakes Board of Trustees, in the press release.

So when shopping at the Lexington sale over the next few days, maybe give an extra look to the 88 New Jersey-sired horses remaining. That same horse type of horse who failed to break even in 2025 could make you money next year.



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# In Range could be the next big thing in Ohio and beyond

By Derick Gwerner

There may be a new sheriff in town in terms of Ohio trotting stallions and if things continue on track the Buckeye state may not be his only stomping grounds. A son and daughter of In Range swept the Ohio Sire Stakes finals for 2-year-old trotters by a combined 15 lengths and certainly helped the first-year stallion mark his turf in 2025 and beyond.

His dominance in Ohio aside for a moment, In Range's first crop currently sits third in total earnings on the North American scale with \$2,377,948 from 83 foals and 56 starters. He trails only perennial leader Chapter Seven (\$2.68 million / 66 starters) and Captain Corey (\$2.86 million / 79 starters). On average earnings, In Range jumps to second with \$28,650 per starter, trailing only E L Titan who has just 11 starters to his credit.

"I'm telling you, In Range is the real deal as a stallion," said syndicate manager Kevin Greenfield before the Ohio Sire Stakes sweep even occurred.

Greenfield's words were certainly prophetic as Big Ranger coasted around the Dayton Raceway oval without an anxious moment to win the Ohio Championship for 2-year-old colt trotters in a track record 1:53 4/5. For trainer/driver Ronnie Gillespie, who won an Ohio Sire Stakes final as driver of Sugar Instead but only got to train down the horse before she was sold, it was a crowning moment in what has been a long career.

"It means a lot because I've been training for over 20 years," said Gillespie on getting the win as trainer. "Normally the best horse I have I end up selling it. To have the opportunity to prep a horse like this from the beginning all the way to the end is very special to me."

Gillespie, who trains about 25 horses, moved to Ohio about five years ago and has climbed the ranks nicely. The 53-year-old has made his mark enough lately that buying better horses is becoming more commonplace.

"I've already bought eight and the highest I purchased was \$77,000," said Gillespie, who was more used to prices of \$25,000 and under.

With regards to In Range, Gillespie is a big fan of first-time stallions and has liked what he's seen with In Range. "I'm big on buying first crop [sires] because most big trainers can afford the horses that have proven themselves already and when a new sire comes out they sometimes look over them until they can prove themselves," said Gillespie. "To me 80% comes from the mare, so if you can find one with a good family I'm always willing to try a new sire."

Big Ranger was just the stage-setter in some ways for In Range as his second act Setyoursightshigh was a 6 1/2 length winner in the 2-year-old filly trot final later on the card for trainer Marcus Melander. She stopped the timer in 1:54 1/5, setting another track record.

The victory not only completed the Sire Stakes sweep for In Range but gave Melander his first Ohio Sire Stakes championship. He of course placed all the credit with the horse.

"She's a great filly. She's been doing everything right the entire year. It's been a long season for her but she's still going strong," said Melander in the post-race interview.

Setyoursightshigh is expected to do just that and try to place In Range in the national spotlight by competing in the Breeders Crown at Woodbine Mohawk Park in a few weeks. While Big Ranger won't be joining her because Gillespie "chose wrong" according to him when he had to pick



(above) Setyoursightshigh winning the Ohio Sire Stakes 2-year-old filly championship. (below) Trainer/driver Ronnie Gillespie (right) was all smiles after he steered Big Ranger to the Ohio Triple Crown, winning the State Fair, Breeders Championship and Sires Stakes final.



one of his horses for the Breeders Crown payments, his Grand Circuit future will likely be in place for 2026.

"That will be the plan but we'll see how he comes out of this race and how he trains down, but our plan is to stake him to the big races next year," said Gillespie.

For In Range, a career winner of \$793,037 who too often had to settle for second or third behind horses like Captain Corey in the biggest races, he seems to be making up for it via his very talented progeny.



# Doug McNair wins three of four Golds on Mohawk Monday card

A quartet of Ontario Sires Stakes (OSS) Gold events were contested at Woodbine Mohawk Park on Monday night (Sept. 29) with driver Doug McNair piloting the first three winners.

Both A Clean Deal and Flowing Tribute won their fourth Gold events of the year. A Clean Deal won the C\$140,000 event for 2-year-old pacing fillies in 1:50 3/5. Flowing Tribute won her C\$90,000 Gold event for 2-year-old trotting fillies in 1:55, with Cher Hill taking the other C\$90,000 event in 1:54 1/5. Finally, Touchedbyanangel won his first career Gold event the C\$140,000 event for 2-year-old trotting colts in a career best 1:54 2/5.

A Clean Deal (McNair) got the ball rolling in race two, defeating a pocket-sitting Daya by three-quarters of length in a field of six. The win improved the daughter of Cattlewash—Ideal Talker to 5-0-1 in six career starts and upped her bankroll to \$304,464 for owners Yolanda Fellows, Blair Corbeil, Windermere Stables and James Ross. A Clean Deal was bred by Winbak Farm, was purchased for \$20,000 U.S. at the 2024 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale and is trained by Rob Fellows. Sent off as the favorite, A Clean Deal was sent off at 6-5 and paid \$2.50.

In race four, second choice Cher Hill (McNair) won a cavalry charge in the stretch after front-running Greek Manalishi (Todd Ratchford) faded. Cher Hill edged fellow closer Cupid Hall by a neck, with favorite Bingo Night (Tyler Jones) just a half-length in arrears. The win improved the homebred daughter of Muscle Mass—Lauramarie Hill to 3-0-2 in nine career outings and upped her bankroll to \$127,837 for Tom Hill of England. The Gregg McNair trainee was sent off at 9-5 and paid \$5.60.

In race six, Touchedbyanangel (Doug McNair) out-duelled favourite Strobe Light (James MacDonald) by a head to improve to 2-1-0 in 10 career starts and increase his bankroll to \$187,387 for Yolanda Fellows, Blair Corbeil, Mike McAllister and Peter Porter. Bred by Blair and Erna Corbeil, the Rob Fellows-trained son of Archangel—Rubys Are Nice was purchased for \$70,000 U.S. at last year's Standardbred Horse Sales Company auction in Harrisburg, PA. Sent off at 9-1, Touchedbyanangel paid \$21.50.

In race eight, Bob McClure spoiled Doug McNair's four-peat by going gate-to-wire with favourite Flowing Tribute and defeating Barbara May by 1 3/4 lengths for trainer Paul Reid and owners Patrick Dillon, Laurie Rooney, Brian Kleinberg and Richard Beinhauer. The daughter of Green Manalishi S out of Watch The Show, bred by Diane Ingham and Brenda Barnim, is now 5-1-0 in six starts and sports earnings of \$210,600. Sent off at 1-5, Flowing Tribute paid \$2.50.

The final Gold Standings are as follows:

2-Year-Old Filly Pace	2-Year-Old Colt Trot
1. A Clean Deal — 212	1. Strobe Lite — 117
2. Jen Tilly — 82	2. Another Great Mass — 91
3. Naughty Delight — 67	3. Touchedbyanangel — 86
4. Daya — 55	4. The Green Gazoo — 78
5. TH Check Me Out — 44	5. Mike Me Up — 75
6. Jay — 25	6. Cruncintheodds — 60
7. Pownal Bay Bobbi — 16	7. In The Black — 55
8. A Bets A Bet — 10	8. Tavern Onthe Green — 32
9. Lavender Seelster — 5	9. D A Mastermind — 31
10. Shes A Bulldog — 4	10. Trouble With Names — 28
2-Year-Old Filly Trot	
1. Flowing Tribute — 225	
2. Bingo Night — 149	
3. Cher Hill — 117	
4. Very Sassy — 86	
5. Barbara May — 78	
6. HP Crystalline — 75	
7. Timeless — 70	
8. Lo And Behold — 53	
9. Cupid Hall — 47	
10. Figuratively — 33	

edited release by Dave Briggs for Ontario Racing

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# Corner Store obliterates records in Massachusetts Stake action

By Tim Bojarski for Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts

The \$2.4 million Massachusetts Breeders Stakes continued at Plainridge Park on Tuesday (Sept. 30) as the top 3-year-old trotters and pacers of both genders lined up in seven events.

The speedy oval at The Ridge produced four stake records, three track records and five new lifetime marks, but no single effort was more outstanding than the mile turned in by Corner Store, who simply rewrote the record books across the board.

The opening stake was the first \$45,000 division of trotting fillies that was carded as a non-betting event and Tactical Moni (Tactical Landing-All Our Moni) set a new stake record and tied the track record for 3-year-old trotting fillies.

Tactical Moni (Brett Beckwith) got away fifth as the lead changed hands between Bridgeoverbroadway (Mitchell Cushing), Elegant Dance (Nick Graffam) and Peach Cocktail (Matty Athearn), the latter who then took the girls to the half in 57. As the race moved onto the backstretch, Beckwith had Tactical Moni out and trotting and flew past the field to take the lead at three-quarters and opened up a four length gap at the top of the stretch. From there the race was over as Tactical Moni won by 9-¼ lengths in 1:53 3/5.

Tactical Moni is owned and bred by Moni Maker Stable and trained by Domenico Cecere.

The previous stake record of 1:53 4/5 was held by Treatyofversailles (2024) and the existing track record of 1:53 3/5 is co-held by Decadence (2017) and Stash Some Cash (2025).

But all those records changed drastically again in the very next race, which was the second \$45,000 division of trotting fillies where Corner Store (Six Pack-Seven Eleven) put on an eye-popping performance.

Brett Beckwith fired Corner Store to the front and opened up a gapped advantage ahead of R Lady W (Matty Kakaley), who had settled in second. After fast fractions of 27 and 54 4/5, Corner Store and R Lady W had broken away from the rest of the pack and were trotting up a storm at three-quarters in 1:22.3. After the race made its way through the turn, R Lady W was making up some ground as they headed down the stretch, but Corner Store was wrapped up and heading for home an easy winner by 1-1/2 lengths in 1:51 3/5, which was a new lifetime mark.

The time was also a new stake and track record and was only two-fifths of a second away from making Corner Store the fastest 3-year-old trotting filly ever bred in Massachusetts, a record held by Raised By Lindy (1:51 3/5).

Corner Store (\$3.20) is owned by her trainer Paul Kelley, in partnership with Matthew Lamont, Ellen Palillo and Leo Bauer.

The pacing fillies were up next in two \$45,000 splits.

In the first, it was a one-horse race as Cindy's Faith (Roll With Joe-Ravenna Star) was a runaway winner.

Bruce Ranger set up shop on the point with Cindy's Faith, and cut quarters of 27 2/5, 55 and 1:22 4/5 as the rest of the field followed with no answers. Cindy's Faith rounded the bend and bolted for the line while Ranger sat chilly to win by 10-1/4 lengths in a new lifetime record of 1:51 2/5.

Cindy's Faith (\$2.80) is owned and bred by Shark Racing and trained by Larry Stalbaum.

Then in the second division, Wassail Blue Chip (Courtly Choice-Baccara Hanover) tuned in the mile of her life in victory.

Beantown Deuce (Matty Kakaley) was leading at the quarter, but soon succumbed to Wassail Blue Chip (Yannick Gingras), who had floated on the outside to gain command. Once in front, Wassail Blue Chip paced confidently to the half in 56 2/5 and three-quarters in 1:24 2/5. Challenges came from Beantown Deuce and Moneymakesherhappy (Brett Beckwith) in the final panel, but Wassail Blue Chip turned them both away to win by 2-1/4 lengths in a career best 1:52 2/5.

Wassail Blue Chip (\$17.00) is owned by Erv Miller Stable, Andray Farm and David J. Miller and trained by Alicia Gray.

Blue Chip Bloodstock bred Wassail Blue Chip.

The pacing colts and geldings then took to the track in two \$45,000 divisions.

The first group was won by Courageous Warrior (Huntsville-Chief Karen) who tied the stake record and took a new lifetime mark.

Courageous Warrior (Matty Athearn) lined up first in the turn before



**Brett Beckwith guided Corner Store to a 1:51 3/5 stake and track record at Plainridge Park on Tuesday.**

Digging For Gold (Nick Graffam) pulled from third to take the front at the quarter in 27 2/5. Digging For Gold then got to the half in 56 and three-quarters in 1:23 3/5 while Courageous Warrior kept his nose on Graffam's helmet. Halfway through the turn, Athearn tipped Courageous Warrior and drew alongside Digging For Gold at the top of the stretch. The two matched strides to the line where Courageous Warrior moved to the lead by a neck in 1:51 1/5.

Courageous Warrior (\$20.40) is owned by Curran Racing and Nicker-son Racing and trained by Jimmy Nickerson.

The stake record for 3-year-old pacing males is now co-held by Rock-nroll Lou (2024).

The second division went to Jon I Love Dat (Downbytheseaside-Fran-ney Love Dat) who moved early and then hung on late for the win.

It was a five-horse mad dash off the gate that eventually saw Southpaw (Jimmy Whitemore) take command at the 26 3/5 quarter. But that lead was short lived as Gingras pulled Jon I Love Dat from third and had the front before the half. With only a minor threat posed by Massive Speed (Kevin Switzer Jr.) as they approached three-quarters, Jon I Love Dat and Southpaw continued to be the players as they made their way around the last turn. When they reached the top of the stretch, Southpaw pulled and tried to advance, but he came up three-quarters of a length short as Jon I Love Dat hung on to win in 1:52.

Jon I Love Dat (\$2.80) is owned and bred by Robert Lovett and trained by Janice Connor.

The final stake event of the day was a single \$75,000 division on trotting colts and geldings that was won by Te Quiero Lindy (Walner-Adios Lindy), who set a new stake record, tied the track record and tied his own lifetime mark with the victory.

Te Quiero Lindy (Tyler Miller) took the lead from stablemate My Degenerate (Andy Miller) in the first turn and then passed the quarter in 27 2/5. While Moni Man (Brett Beckwith) sat third, Te Quiero Lindy marched to the half in 57 3/5 and three-quarters in 1:25 1/5 with My Degenerate still waiting to move from the pocket. That came at the top of the stretch when Miller pushed My Degenerate to the outside and bore down on Te Quiero Lindy, matching strides with the leader all the way to the wire where it took a photo to show that Te Quiero Lindy had won by a nose in 1:53 2/5.

Te Quiero Lindy (\$3.80) is owned by Andy Miller Stable, PJ Hoopes and Lindy Farms of Connecticut, who also bred the winner.

The previous stake record was 1:53 3/5 (Big Man Ev 2017 and Pepper Wow 2024) and the track record is now co-held with Spanzaaano (1:53 2/5, 2024).

Live racing will resume at Plainridge Park on Thursday (Oct. 2) at 2 p.m.