

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026

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**Comments? Questions? Email the Editor [DGiwner@DRF.com](mailto:DGiwner@DRF.com)**



### EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Giwner  
[@harnessseyeguy](#)

"We can rebuild him. We have the technology. We can make him better than he was. Better... stronger... faster."

The iconic opening from the 1970's TV show *The Six Million Dollar Man* is often how I view Harness Racing. The foundation of a great sport and industry are in place, the powers that be simply need to infuse the proper technology to spark it into the current times.

Despite the fact that the industry offers about 35,000 races annually for people to consume, harness racing has a content and presentation problem. Even the best efforts of some tracks that provide in-house handicapping shows and the occasional interviews aren't enough to satisfy the

needs and wants of a public which doesn't even realize they are being left in the dark.

A year or two ago we started seeing videos pop up on social media of racing first-hand from the drivers' perspective using special recording glasses. At a cost of just \$250 per pair, Ray-Bans Meta glasses are available to record or stream live video. Certainly that technology would make the possibilities of content streaming endless.

Recording audio and video during races is far from a new idea. Almost 40 years ago Herve Filion was recorded during a race and provided a running vocal commentary on what was happening around him during the race. From my layman's point of view, recent innovation seemingly has gotten us to the point where we can take this concept to the next level without breaking the budget.

To show the power of these videos, the 2025 North America Cup replay posted by Woodbine Mohawk Park has 14,000 views on YouTube. The

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3](#)



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*NJ Classic Champion!*



### BE PERFECT BG

p,2,1:50.1 -'25 (\$166,803)  
*NJSS Champion!*

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### Also the sire of...

**BE STING** p,2,1:50 -'25 (\$139,799)    **ROCKNACIOUS** p,2,1:53.1 -'25 (\$129,650)  
**EVERLAST STING DEO** p,2,1:52 -'25 (\$124,065)    **PERFECT LYNN** 1:52.2 -'25 (\$123,596)

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live stream of the entire card has 39,000 views. The first-person video of driver Braxton Boyd's pre, during and post-race assignment behind runner-up Madden Oaks has over 200,000 views. The product alone certainly has an audience but the more personal account of the action is where we truly reach people.

Imagine what can be accomplished and the people we could reach if every driver in every race were mandated to wear either Meta Glasses or a helmet cam. Now take that a step further to the possibilities if this audio and video content was streamed in real-time. Think of the content possibilities and the real moment we'd catch.

Great idea, right? Unfortunately, this is why we have the term armchair expert and I was the picture boy prior to speaking to Curtis MacDonald, who operates CuJo Entertainment, an Ontario-based company that specializes in live online video production and has presented many big races including the North America Cup and Hambletonian.

"The Meta glasses are definitely impressive, and the technology is advancing quickly. Capturing a POV from a driver – whether for recording or even basic live streaming – is relatively straightforward on its own. However, integrating that into a professional live production environment is a completely different challenge," said MacDonald. "Setting battery limitations aside for a moment, most of these devices are currently designed with social media in mind. They're not built to integrate into broadcast workflows like simulcast feeds or network television. At this stage, manufacturers simply don't provide a practical way to get those signals into a production pipeline. That said, nothing is impossible – but right now, glasses likely aren't the right solution for this application."

In addition to battery life and power constraints, MacDonald cited connectivity issues with regard to signal strength and the need for a certain amount of manpower to manage daily setup and monitoring during the operation.

In the course of a couple of paragraphs MacDonald quickly dashed my grand vision of a livestream subscription service where people could watch the feed of any driver at a participating track to provide an exclusive insider experience to those who desire the access – fans or handicappers.

With the technology falling still a bit short to provide a completely revamped visual product, perhaps there is another way to deliver a more valuable experience to handicappers that will go a long way towards education and hopefully broadening the harness racing audience.

The current system of broadcasting races ranges from the bare-bones experience of showing the post parade and race to a somewhat more enlightening approach of also including visuals of score-downs after the post parade and handicapper analysis. Each track can take this to the next level by offering a more insightful experience.

The first step would be to mic-up the drivers in every race. There is no denying that this will require unprecedented cooperation from drivers and trainers, along with their staff, but given their love for the sport and desire to see it last for generations, it is truly a small ask.

From the moment the post parade ends until the horses are called behind the gate, that time is now going to be dedicated to not only showing the horses warming up but having the broadcast team talking to at least the major contenders in each race to get their feelings on how the horse is warming up . . . How does the horse feel today? Do they seem sharp? Shaper than last week? What are your thoughts on strategy?

How many times have you heard a driver or trainer say after the race that they knew during the warm-up or post parade that the horse was ready for a big mile? Wouldn't this information be valuable to handicappers in real-time before the race starts?

Also, with so much conversation about CAW (Computer Assisted Wagering) players, perhaps the added conversations with the drivers can level the playing field a bit since this information isn't part of any algorithm.

Prior to digging a bit deeper into how this new production will be handled, it made sense to check in with MacDonald to make sure I'm not dreaming too big again. Is it feasible to put a mic on drivers in every race and communicate with them independently?

"On the audio side, bi-directional communication with drivers is actually much more achievable with the right equipment. However, even that requires dedicated support. For example, Mohawk has staff specifically responsible for fitting, testing, and managing driver comms before they head onto the track," said MacDonald, referencing Woodbine Mohawk Park's version of driver interviews where they talk to one driver in a race. "Where things start to get complicated is when you scale up. Once you're dealing with 10 drivers, frequency coordination becomes a major challenge and can quickly turn into a limiting factor.

"Beyond that, you need the proper audio infrastructure. A setup like

this would require a sufficiently large audio console with multiple aux sends and pre-fade capabilities, allowing you to monitor and communicate with drivers off-air without putting everything live. It's all achievable, but the complexity ramps up very quickly."

While the glass-half-full crowd might see things differently, what I'm hearing from MacDonald is the idea having a coms system with every driver in a race is very possible. Yes, it will be costly, probably in the \$20,000-\$40,000 range to get setup. You'll likely need a professional to do initial setup and then you will need another person or two to handle operations, but it is doable.

In terms of dissemination of the new value-added product, I propose we revisit the subscription model referenced above. What if we split the simulcast feed? There is the raw feed where we show just the odds, ads, post parade, race and winner's circle that goes to non-paying ADWs and the general public. Then we have a paid feed that includes the analysts and their conversations with the drivers as well as other value-added nuggets. Maybe that includes talking to drivers after the race as well or I'd love to include some discussion of warm-ups with an analyst/host and a skilled horseperson.

It is important to note that on-track patrons will experience the enhanced feed, thus providing a benefit to showing up at the track rather than watching from home where it will cost you extra money to view it.

The subscription idea for harness racing started developing in my mind almost a full year ago. After seeing someone I knew 25 years ago was participating on the PBA 50 Tour (for bowlers over 50), I was intrigued to watch as he was also competing against many of the people I watched on TV in my teens and 20s, names like Amleto Monacelli and Pete Weber. That's when I stumbled on BowlTV, a multi-channel livestreaming platform operated by the United States Bowling Congress.

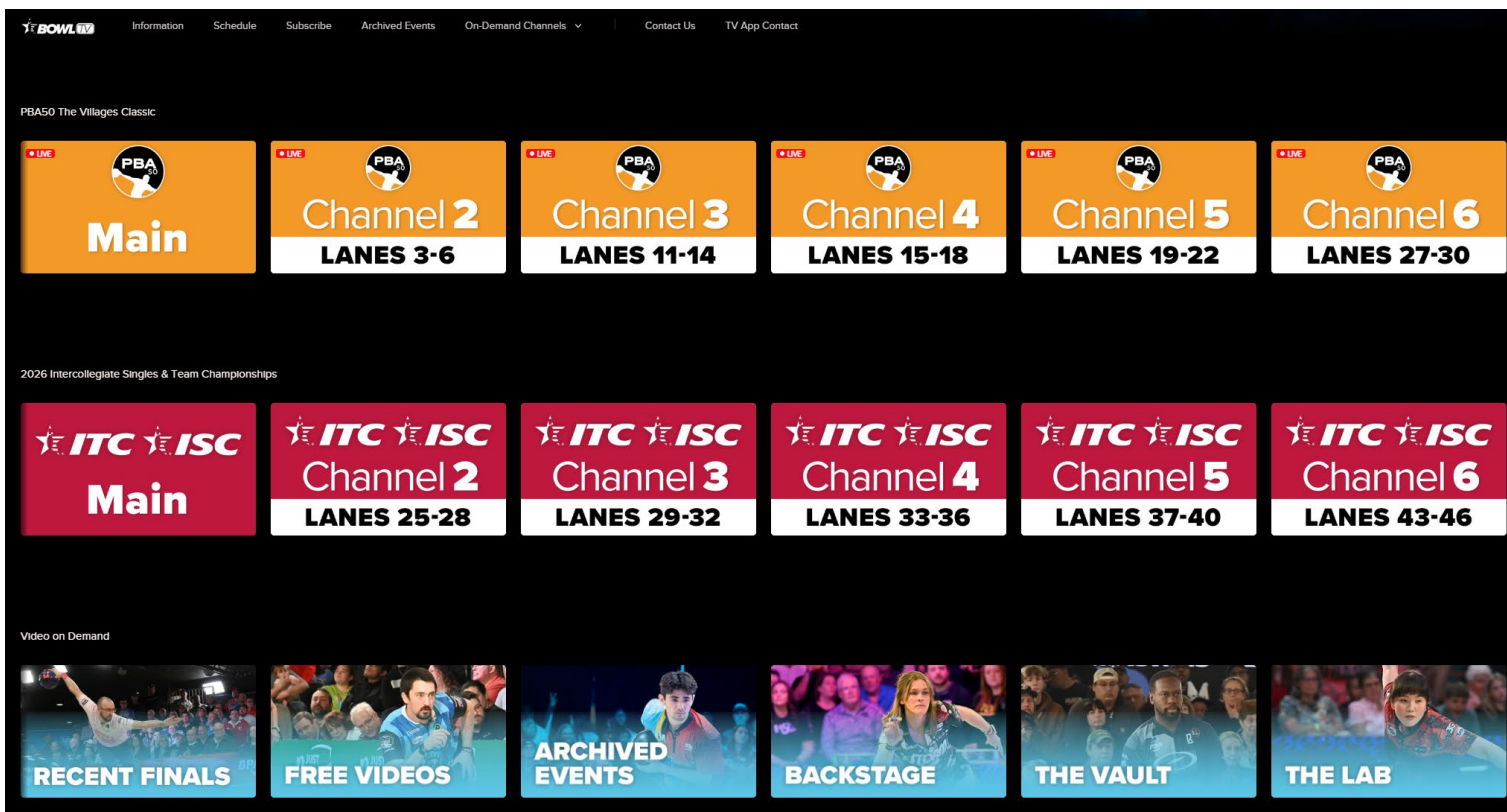
For \$139.95 plus taxes and fees (about \$175), you can get access to thousands of hours of live and on-demand bowling content on BowlTV. This includes not only professional competition but collegiate as well. Personally, I think the price is a bit high and I elected for the \$24 monthly plan (after taxes and fees) for two to three months each year to watch the PBA 50



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[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3](#)

and PWBA women’s tour. For the \$48 or \$72 I get to watch (I do more listening than watching) every minute of every tournament stop during that period. Each stream allows you to watch any group of lanes or to watch the main broadcast with a team of two to three commentators. The PWBA in particular does a great job doing sideline interviews with women after they finish to provide a more personal touch to the broadcast. The production isn’t perfect but there is plenty of entertainment value for someone who enjoys bowling and the people who participate in the sport.

Getting back to harness racing, originally with the video element part of the equation, I thought perhaps an organization like the USTA (United States Trotting Association) could take charge of it and create a new harness racing channel with this exclusive content from tracks across the country. That seems less feasible now until technology catches up to my dream vision. Tracks will be on their own in this endeavor, though perhaps they can get funding from the USTA.

But wait, there’s more!

Maybe there is an opportunity for a USTA-led project without the “driver cams” in the conversation. Could there be a market for a subscription channel that takes the “regular Joe” to the training centers, barns, sales and beyond? The USTA is already doing this on a smaller scale to promote the sport by having its social media and video personnel doing “Top Contender” videos and reports from major races and sales. I’d like to see things pushed one step further with roving field reporters visiting the bigger barns and top horses on a weekly basis, providing additional information on how horses are training and doing leading up to the races. Did the horse see the vet this week? Did they get new shoes? Have they been sick previously? Now subscribers will know.

This is also a great opportunity for fans to learn more about the people involved in the sport. Reality TV shows like *Survivor* have stood the test of time because it provides people at home the opportunity to see themselves – flaws, emotions and all – in other people. Most fans of racing have no idea who the people behind the scenes are because interviews are rare and last only a minute in the winner’s circle. We get snippets from different sources throughout the year but it is hardly an ongoing “storyline” if you will that keeps us in touch with the actual people. There is no chance for people to form a connection with the participants and care about the person or the horse.

Bowling in general allows that personal experience more than any

other sport. All you have to do is show up at a bowling alley that is hosting a pro tour and you can meet your favorite person and perhaps if you buy them a beer or an order of chicken fingers, can even chat with them for a little while. It is very interactive. While horse racing has a long way to go to get people this kind of access, one of the things I love about the professional women’s tour bowlers in particular is that many are very active on social media. Names like Ashly Galante, Verity Crawley, Daria Pajak and others are often posting and interacting with fans. This creates a relationship and helps people to form a bond with the bowler and the sport.

Even PBA Commissioner Tom Clark is visible on social media and once took the time to answer a question I posed to him last year. That’s how you get people engaged, by showing a passion for your job and interacting with your customers. It’s great to mingle with clientele at the track but if the people consuming your product are mostly at home you have to reach them in their comfort zone.

Whether as part of a paid service or run separately by sales companies, at least at the Lexington Selected Sale in Kentucky and Standardbred Horse Sale in Pennsylvania, there should be more coverage of what is going on rather than one camera angle of the horse selling. DRF Harness, USTA, HRU and other media outlets do a fine job of trying to uncover the stories behind the scenes that you can’t see but wouldn’t it be great to watch a bidding war in real-time and see the real action?

Along a parallel thought pattern, I just finished watching a five-part series called *Born To Bowl* on HBO Max created by Ben Stiller. It was a look at bowling in general with features on five bowlers in particular. Wouldn’t a horse sale make for a great documentary on that part of the sport? We could follow around a few top owners/trainers, watch them sometimes try to hide where they are bidding or move locations to fool other bidders. It would be great drama to watch the bidding wars develop between two people who are unwavering in their desire to get the next “best” horse.

All the above is to say there is more we can do, not just for the people who are part of the harness racing realm now but to attract new audience members. There is no doubt in my mind that at least some of the plan can be implemented. Whether it would generate a profit as a subscription service is unknown at this time. Maybe tracks should simply do it for the growth with no subscription involved. I would argue that it is an investment in the future of harness racing and the cost is worth the potential return of a wider and more educated audience. We need to move forward and do a better job of not only engaging our customers but educating them. This idea is a step in that direction.

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# Laterza thrilled with the results of his Weiss Series standout



## JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman ✕ [BergmanJay](#)

When Braylon Mullins sank a 35-foot shot to propel Connecticut to the Final Four on March 29 over Duke, somehow I got the feeling we'd seen this ending before. No matter the exquisite drama, basketball over time has evolved and with it the aspect of freshman in college hitting big shots has become more commonplace than I would have ever imagined. Even the distance the shot was taken from, while deep, has been attempted and converted many times in games with less meaning.

Just a few days after the game at a sporting event in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, a 3-year-old put on a performance I thought more remarkable. Twin B Thriller, making his first start of the year after just two 1:55 qualifying miles, scorched the Mohegan Sun Pocono Downs five-eighths oval in 1:49 4/5 to capture a division in the first round of the Bobby Weiss Series.

While Mullins was a high recruit, the same could not be said for Twin B Thriller, a horse that proved unwanted by his owner late last year and found a new home with Dennis A. Laterza following an exchange at the Harrisburg Mixed sale. The price, just \$27,000, a fraction of what most people would pay for a horse following the Weiss victory, but a bit of a gamble on the purchase day.

"There was a reason," said Laterza when asked about the price paid for the son of Always B Miki. "He hit his knees really badly."

So, despite four wins in six tries as a freshman and a 1:52 4/5 record taken at Pocono in September, Laterza was able to walk away from Harrisburg and bring the then 2-year-old to Yonkers to train and prepare for a 3-year-old season for very little money.

"What I was looking for was a horse that could race in \$30,000 claimers at Yonkers," Laterza said, suggesting he hadn't set his sights very high in the early days following the purchase. "We made some shoeing changes and he was better, but he still does hit his knees."

Twin B Thriller trained down nicely over the winter with Laterza, who is stabled at Yonkers, using the half-mile track to get him conditioned in advance of his 2026 debut. "He qualified well both times at Pocono and I felt he was ready when we put him in the Weiss," said Laterza.

Still it was hard to imagine that Laterza or anyone from his camp expected Twin B Thriller to go sub-1:50 at first asking.

"George (Napolitano Jr.) had other choices in the race and he took our horse," said Laterza of the confidence he had going in. "The time surprised me a little but I thought he was fit going into the race and George drove him to win."

Twin B Thriller was under pressure for most of the first half in his April 4 debut, cutting fractions of 26 4/5 and 53 4/5 while parking the 2-5 favorite Stingman mercilessly. A 27 2/5 third quarter gave him some separation but when Southwind Galvestn, a horse trained by Kevin Lare, the former conditioner of Twin B Thriller, came up on the final turn it appeared Twin B Thriller was in trouble. It turned out to be the opposite

as the colt marched on to a victory with his rival spent from chasing and weaker in the end.

Laterza had spoken to Lare following the purchase and since, and was grateful for the input. "He's been a true gentleman," Laterza said of Lare. "After the race he came right over to congratulate me."

Obviously the opening-leg victory was just race one in a 3-year-old season that could prove a lot more lucrative for Laterza and the owners should success continue.

"He was a bit tired after the race, but he cooled out fine and was full of himself the next day," said Laterza, who perhaps in the past might have been concerned that the race was too much to ask of a young horse. Yet just as basketball has evolved into a 3-point shooting contest, so has racing when it comes to preparing for a first race and recognizing that the 1:50 barrier is no longer the end point but in fact the starting point to the season.

The good news for Laterza and company was that Twin B Thriller didn't bounce off his opening-week performance but he did get a nice breather as the 3-10 favorite on April 11. In the Weiss second round he got all of the respect of his rivals and was able to cut more sensible fractions, hitting the half nearly three full seconds slower in 56 3/5 this time and racing a back half in 55 flat for a second straight victory.

"He's eligible to the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes," said Laterza, only looking briefly down the road to imagine what could be next for Twin B Thriller following the Weiss series.

Next right now will be this Saturday's third round of the series. With Twin B Thriller already assured a spot in the final, he'll face five others in the eighth race, a \$17,500 contest from post two.

A virtual unknown coming into the series, Twin B Thriller now must try to prove that he can deal with hitting a knee here or there and still march on successfully. He looked to do that in the second leg of the series briefly on the final turn with Napolitano chilly in the bike. While just a \$7,000 yearling with



CURTIS SALONICK

**Twin B Thriller is perfect in two starts this year for new trainer Dennis A. Laterza.**

confirmation that may have been an indication of future issues, it should be noted that Twin B Speed Dial, a half-brother to Twin B Thriller's dam Twin B Captivating, went on to race 252 times (including 5 in 2026) with 43 wins. Twin B Speed Dial had a very similar 2-year-old season.

The third round of the Weiss drew just 18 horses with three \$17,500 divisions carded as races four, six and eight on the 14-race program. Twin B Thriller will again meet Stingman (post 6), a gelded son of Perfect Sting that had captured his first four starts at The Meadows prior to the Weiss and has gone down as beaten favorite in the two legs. First-leg winner Magic Monarch (post 4) has three wins in seven starts this year.

In the opening Weiss division (race 4), Vizcaya hopes to visit the winner's circle for the first time in the series, having won the first leg but was disqualified and then come up a neck short following a solid pacesetter mile in the second round on April 11. Vizcaya (post 1) faces second-leg winner Norther Attitude (post 5).

Barrow, a winner in four of five starts this year could be a lukewarm choice in the sixth race division from post six. Barrow paid the price of attempting to leave in last week's effort against Twin B Thriller. He was put up in the opening leg following a second-place finish and looks to rebound for trainer Brett Pelling.

The \$50,000 Bobby Weiss series final for 3-year-old colt and gelding pacers is slated for April 25.

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# Two sides of the coin in ongoing New Jersey casino debate



## AT THE TRACK

By Darin Zoccali ✕ [AtTheTrack7](#)

After several years of some relief, it appears that once again New Jersey horse racing is coming to a crossroads.

I won't pretend that New Jersey has been gifted the same luxuries as New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio these past few years. The \$20 million purse subsidy that was implemented under Governor Phil Murphy's administration always felt like a stop-gap until the time casinos were developed in New Jersey outside of Atlantic City.

There have already been some rumors that under new Governor Mikie Sherrill, there is no guarantee that this purse subsidy will be extended beyond 2026. In fact, there is a provision in her proposed budget for the next fiscal year that would cut that \$20 million subsidy down to just \$5 million.

On the thoroughbred side, the Monmouth Park summer meet has already been trimmed to 50 days of racing and Dennis Drazin has been on record saying that without that purse subsidy being extended, further racing day cuts may be necessary.

On the standardbred side, The Meadowlands does have the advantage of having the most popular sportsbook in the country in its building, and that provides a revenue stream to racing. But even that cash cow has been in slight decline the past couple of years as online wagering for sports betting increases. This is a similar trend to on-track horse racing betting handle and the impact that advance deposit wagering sites have had on the on-track numbers.

For many years, Jeff Gural has raised a number of issues impacting The Meadowlands. He has cited the significant amounts of money both he and the racetrack have lost. He has at times asked for help from the industry. An example of this is obtaining sponsors for its industry-leading stakes program.

Gural has long said that at some point, The Meadowlands will need a casino if it is going to survive. He took a run at getting a referendum passed a decade ago, but it was soundly defeated. It is clear that the New Jersey racing industry is taking another run at it in 2026.

Drazin and Monmouth have been presenting their plans for a reimagined Monmouth Park, which would become a massive complex of not just a racetrack and casino, but also a hotel, nearly 300 residential units, restaurants and more.

What are the chances of a casino referendum getting passed this time around? Well, that depends on which polls you believe. On April 3, Fairleigh Dickinson University published the results of a poll and the results mirrored the results of a similar poll taken prior to the last effort to get this referendum passed. In a 2016 poll, 41 percent of voters said they supported the expansion of casinos beyond Atlantic City. This year, that number through a Fairleigh Dickinson poll was 44 percent. This is viewed as a "statistically insignificant change," mostly because the percentage opposing the expansion remained stable at 50 percent.

However, this week a new poll was published by Global Strategy Group on behalf of Jeff Gural and The Meadowlands, and this poll revealed quite a different result. Of the 800 voters polled, 61 percent indicated they are now ready to vote yes on a casino at The Meadowlands. There is an interesting note in these published results, however. Following that 61 percent, the results note they voted yes "to combat newer casinos that are drawing New Jersey state residents into New York."

With these two polls yielding substantially different results, I have to

wonder how the question or questions in each poll were phrased. Did the first poll phrase a question to lead the voter to believe that casinos outside of Atlantic City would damage New Jersey and Atlantic City specifically? Similarly, did the most recent poll phrase the question to lead the voter to believe that the downstate casinos in New York City will take revenue out of New Jersey and that lost revenue would have to be made up in some other way?

It is also interesting to note that Global Strategy Group, who conducted the most recent poll, is the organization used by Governor Mikie Sherrill to conduct polls as well.

There is also a lot of resistance for this bill in the southern part of the state. That has not changed since 2016 and Monmouth being close to Atlantic City makes their hurdles seem a bit higher than The Meadowlands, which has just about unanimous support from the North Jersey legislators.

I certainly want to believe that there is a better chance of this referendum passing in 2026 than there was in 2016, but I know all too well the power that South Jersey yields, beyond just the legislators. There will be huge money in opposition of the referendum once again. Perhaps the threat of New York City casinos will be the ace in the hole for The Meadowlands and Monmouth Park this time around. The next few months will be very interesting and also potentially critical to the future of horse racing in the Garden State.



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# Alexander seeks Borgata Final spots with his Monday trio

By Jay Bergman

If you knock on the door hard enough eventually you will break through. That appears to be the theory for trainer Travis Alexander as his three entries in the MGM Borgata Series enter Monday's (April 20) fourth round of action still searching for a first victory.

"I thought we had one last night," said Alexander, lamenting the nose defeat that Sweet Beach Life suffered in a division of the Borgata's third leg at Yonkers on April 13 to the odds-on favored Redwood Hanover.

Alexander's three horses have gotten checks in every leg of the series to date, but wins can help you qualify for the final and that's likely what's at stake this week and in the April 27 final round.

Sweet Beach Life has improved his standing with each start, finishing fourth in the opening leg and third in the second round of action. Last week's effort showed him racing strong in the early stages but ultimately accepting a two-hole trip. In Monday's final (race 7) \$50,000 Borgata division, Sweet Beach Life is likely to find himself in a different position as he's surrounded on the starting gate by previous leg winners. Captain Albano (post 1), Soho Firestone A (post 3) and Redwood Hanover (post 4) are already likely finalists, with Soho Firestone A and Redwood Hanover multiple leg winners.

Sweet Beach Life, a 5-year-old gelding by Sweet Lou, doesn't look pretty warming up for the races, often galloping through the post parade, but once in the race he settles down nicely and has been a model of consistency.

"He's been doing that his entire life," said Alexander of the antics. "It's something we've gotten used to."

Alexander liked the draw for Howlenthedhills in Monday's sixth race and second division on the program.

"That wasn't his kind of trip," said Alexander of a two-move effort coming first over against Coaches Corner. "I was very happy with how he finished but you're not going to catch Jason (Bartlett) and Coaches Corner once they get a breather."

It was a 29-second second quarter that put the closers on the defensive, with Howlenthedhills trying to gain into a 54 2/5 final half and finishing a creditable third for his effort.

This week Howlenthedhills drew post four inside the only leg winner in his field, that being Huntinthelastdolar (post 5), and that could set him up for a preferred trip and perhaps a spot in the winner's circle. This grouping also includes one of the two 4-year-olds attempting to chase down older company in the series, Twisted Destiny (post 2). Twisted Destiny finished third and fourth in the opening rounds of the series but took a week off.

Alexander's other starter Ima Perfect Choice (post 1) has the draw advantage in a field of seven but has his work cut out for him in a field that appears to be the strongest. Monday's fifth race and first \$50,000 division have the appearance of a prep for the final with four preliminary leg

winner in the grouping including three that competed in last year's rich final. Mossdale Ben N was last year's champion and Chase H Hanover the runner-up. Coaches Corner finished fifth in that race having drawn post eight.

"We put him in the series quite frankly because we didn't think there was going to be any Opens to race in during the series and he was racing very well at the time," said Alexander of his 4-year-old that finished fifth behind Mossdale Ben N in last week's fastest mile of the series, a 1:50 1/5 clocking.

In Mossdale Ben N's winning mile he had to survive an inquiry following an incident on the final turn. "I'm not sure he should have stayed up," said Alexander with respect for the race winner and pilot Jimmy Marohn Jr. "He caused confusion and Yannick (guiding Captain Moore A) had to check up and move to the outside. We were sitting third on the rail and if things opened up, I think we could have been second."

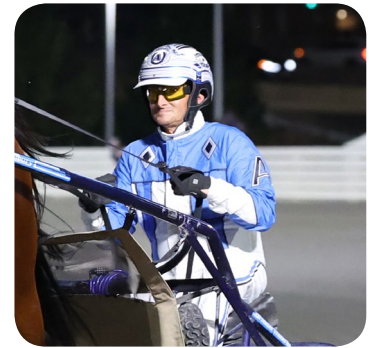
As it turned out, Ima Perfect Choice looked to be full of pace but never found room once Mossdale Ben N was guided back to the inside. Beaten less than three lengths, Ima Perfect Choice settled for a fifth-place check.

Donegal Luther N will be Gingras' steer this week against Mossdale Ben N and the two-leg winner trained by Jared Bako has burst onto the scene with a vengeance since his arrival in North America this winter. In his last start Donegal Luther N took on tremendous early pressure and then staved off a move by Ima Perfect Choice to secure the victory. After a week on the sidelines, he'll face his toughest test yet on Monday.

Mossdale Ben N put in the best race of his career in North America on April 11 and exhibited his newfound versatility with a career-best performance showcased by a 26 4/5 first quarter and a 27 2/5 final quarter. A steering issue on the final turn aside, the effort gave strong indication that Mossdale Ben N won't have to fear how the track is playing or what post he draws in the coming weeks.

Coaches Corner added Lasix for the first time making just his second Borgata appearance in 2026 in the April 13 third round of action. Jason Bartlett got him to the top and following a soft opening half Coaches Corner looked every bit as good as ever finishing the mile. While Bartlett has been one of best in the sport at timing the starting car and overcoming outside draws, Coaches Corner may have to race from off the pace with the power inside.

The Monday Yonkers program starts at 6:45 PM (EDT).



MIKE LIZZI PHOTO

Trainer Travis Alexander.

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# Hackett starter Blood Queen looks to keep progressing

By Ken Weingartner

For a while last year, trainer Ryan Miller thought female pacer Blood Queen might never get to the races. Now that the well-bred 3-year-old filly has three wins in six lifetime races under her belt, Miller is anxious to see what she could become.

Blood Queen was a \$70,000 yearling purchase at the 2024 Lexington Selected Sale. She is a daughter of Downbytheseaside-Blood Diamond and her siblings include Grand Circuit winners Blood Brother, Blood Line and Blood Money. Her second dam is Hall of Fame broodmare Arterra (whose foals include millionaires If I Can Dream and Western Terror) and her third dam is Hall of Fame racehorse and broodmare Delinquent Account (dam of millionaire Artiscape). A deeper dive into the family reveals another six millionaires, including Dan Patch Award winning fillies Miki And Minnie, Treacherous Dragon and My Little Dragon.

“My wife (Stacey) bought her and it kind of caught me off guard,” Miller said, with a laugh. “She wasn’t one of the horses on our radar, but my wife thought she might have brought a little more, so I can credit my wife for that one. Not that (\$70,000) is cheap, by no means, but for being a Downbytheseaside out of that family, we thought that if anything she’s a broodmare value.”

Initially, it appeared that might be the extent of Blood Queen’s potential value. She was difficult to get started last season as a 2-year-old, and she made breaks in her first two qualifying attempts in July at Harrah’s Hoosier Park.

“I never thought she would race,” said Miller, who trains the filly for his own Miller Racing Stable, Redracer LLC, and Melinda Hayes. “She was one of the worst horses I’ve ever trained early on. Tough to break, tough to get gaited; she did everything wrong. She qualified terrible, but then we ironed a few things out, and she started to come around. She was a very late bloomer.”

After a third-place finish in her third qualifying try at Hoosier Park, Blood Queen headed to Ohio’s Eldorado Scioto Downs for her debut, which she won by 4 lengths in 1:53 1/5. Sickness derailed her in her next two starts, both at Lexington’s Red Mile, but she rebounded to capture a Buckeye Stallion Series division in 1:55 2/5 at the Delaware County Fairgrounds. She finished her campaign with a fourth-place finish in a Kentucky Sire Stakes leg at Cumberland Run in mid-October.

“She finished up real strong,” Miller said. “I do think there is a lot of talent if we can get everything ironed out.”

Blood Queen has raced once this season at 3, winning by a neck over 4-year-old Caviart Maria in 1:53 3/5 at Miami Valley Raceway. Her next start will also be at MVR, Thursday (April 16) in a \$25,000 elimination of the James K. Hackett Memorial for sophomore pacing fillies. She will leave from post 1 in the first of two elims, with Kayne Kauffman in the sulky. She is the 3-1 third choice on the morning line.

The top four finishers from each elim and a fifth-place finisher drawn by lot will advance to the \$75,000 final on April 23.

“I think she’s a sire stakes filly from the vibes she’s giving me, but the Hackett will be our telltale sign the next week or two, if we make the final. We’ll know a lot more about her this week. I think she’s got wicked speed, I think she’s got a giant set of lungs, and I think she’s got talent. Now you need class to go with the rest of it. So, we’re working on the class. It’s coming. When I first qualified her, I didn’t know what was going to happen, if she was going to behave. But she’s had enough starts now that I know she’s going to behave, and she likes her work.

“Every time she goes on the track it’s a little better than the day before. I love her now, but she was definitely a difficult child. Her floor is little lower than I’d prefer it to be on a nice horse, but her ceiling is very high. She could be anything.”

The second Hackett Memorial elimination for the pacing fillies includes last year’s Ohio Sire Stakes champion, Seaside Shuffle, from the stable of trainer Ron Burke.

In addition to the two Hackett elims for the pacing fillies, there will be two Hackett elims for the 3-year-old male pacers and one each for the 3-year-old male and female trotters. The top eight finishers from each of the trot elims will advance to next week’s finals.

Racing begins at 4 p.m. (EDT) at Miami Valley Raceway.



CHRIS TULLY PHOTO

Blood Queen was a 2025 winner at the Delaware County Fairgrounds.

An advertisement for New Vocations. It features a woman in a black jacket and white breeches standing next to a brown horse in an outdoor setting. The text reads: "After They Race, We Find Them A Place." Below this is the New Vocations logo, which includes a silhouette of a horse and rider, and the tagline "Rehab. Retrain. Rehomed." The website "newvocations.org" and phone number "734-320-7918 | STA Accredited" are also listed.

## Beckwith now on road to recovery

According to a post by Carly Beckwith on Facebook, driver Brett Beckwith was discharged from the hospital on Tuesday (April 14) following successful surgery on his broken wrist on Monday. The 23-year-old suffered the injury, along with a broken jaw, brain bleed and hearing loss as a result of a pre-race accident at Saratoga Raceway on Sunday (April 12).

The Tuesday post by Carly said that Brett was in a lot of pain but that he no longer needs any CT scans for the brain bleed but will have to return to the hospital on Friday for his broken jaw.

“We appreciate all the calls and texts more than you know & while I’m sure you all want to talk to Brett, please just text him and refrain from calling for now; that would be best. Rest is the most important thing for him,” said Carly.

Brett ranks second in North America with 185 wins in 2026. He finished fourth last year with 593 victories.

It is unknown at this time when he will be able to return to the bike but the team at DRF Harness wishes him a speedy recovery.

# RACE OF THE WEEK

## 5 YONKERS FRI

1 Mile Pace THE MGM URSULA MCINTYRE F&M PACING SERIES LEG #4. Purse \$50,000

\$1 PICK 5 (5-6-7-8-9) | \$2 EXACTA | \$2 TRIPLE | \$.10 SUPERFECTA

### 1 COACHELLABOUND N(L)

51:49.1 (1) Q \$2,836

10-Apr-26 4YR fst<sup>56</sup> 273 .56 1:24 1:52 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>65</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 1YR fst<sup>45</sup> 271 .56 1:24 1:52 UM #1  
 13-Mar-26 6YR fst<sup>40</sup> 28 .56 1:25 1:54 FNM20000L5  
 6-Mar-26 8YR fst<sup>40</sup> 28 .57 1:26 1:53 FM INV  
 27-Feb-26 4YR fst<sup>34</sup> 284 .57 1:26 1:53 FNM24701L5  
 20-Feb-26 4YR gd<sup>36</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:54 FNM20000L5  
 13-Feb-26 9YR fst<sup>32</sup> 281 .57 1:25 1:54 FNM30000L5  
 5-Feb-26 3YR fst<sup>22</sup> 283 .58 1:27 1:56 **Qua**  
 5-Dec-25 11YR fst<sup>31</sup> FNM20766L5 23000 **scratched-ig-ineeligible**

b m 8, by Sweet Lou, We Love To Party by Fake Left  
 Flatland Racing, Cambell Hall, NY

R. Buccini 118-12-13-13 (102)

50000 1 44<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 4<sup>0</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 54<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 65<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 7 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 7<sup>6</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 66<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 79  
 50000 5 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>9</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 4<sup>0</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 4<sup>6</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 3<sup>8</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
 23000 4 1<sup>0</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 35000 3 5<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 23000 1 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 23000 6 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>7</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>0</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 27000 1 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 4 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Last 5 Sts-\$14,550 1:56.3 YRQ  
 26 YR 8 0 2 1 \$23,490 26 Tot 8 0 2 1 \$23,490  
 25 YR 27 3 5 1 \$104,200 25 Tot 28 3 6 1 \$110,200  
 24 \* 29 7 8 3 \$279,410 Life 109 24 12 12 \$611,570

Br- Woodlands Stud Nz Inc,NZ

28 284 274 281 1:53 97 +6.7w LrB Holland Ribucci 28 284 274 281 1:53 97  
 30 29 272 273 1:54 92 +4.7w L63.40 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketD  
 284 293 271 284 1:54 91 -1.4w L21.54 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketD  
 28 284 283 292 1:54 90 -1.7w L2.45 ShrArtsiCchblndMyRdS  
 284 293 281 282 1:55 87 -3.6w L27.06 CostiBabeTckALochElusiveA  
 29 29 283 274 1:54 90 +4.2w L11.99 CostiBabeCchblndMysPrgrn  
 29 29 274 291 1:55 88 -8.5w L17.98 FmPgStySkCdJrdngLok  
 28 29 283 291 1:55 86 -3.7w L2.27 LlydsLous Strutsvie TrmHPage  
 283 293 284 293 1:56 83 -3.7w Lrb Coachlndn StayHappy BronzMixr  
 -3.7w -6

### 2 ALWAYS BSTUNNING N

61:49.3 (5/8) Q \$14,500

10-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>56</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>65</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 3YR fst<sup>45</sup> 28 .57 1:26 1:54 UM #1  
 13-Mar-26 2YR fst<sup>40</sup> 30 .59 1:28 1:55 **Qua**  
 25-Nov-25 8PRC fst<sup>50</sup> 261 .54 1:21 1:51 Opn  
 17-Nov-25 7PRC fst<sup>40</sup> 262 .54 1:21 1:50 Opn Hcp  
 10-Nov-25 10PRC wf<sup>50</sup> 27 .54 1:22 1:50 Opn FM  
 23-Oct-25 8PRC fst<sup>60</sup> 271 .56 1:23 1:52 Opn Hcp FM  
 9-Oct-25 7PRC fst<sup>40</sup> 263 .54 1:23 1:51 Opn FM  
 2-Oct-25 10PRC fst<sup>61</sup> 261 .54 1:22 1:51 Opn FM

b m 7, by Always B Miki, Simply Stunning by Art Major  
 Richard Pollicci, South Easton, MA

G. Athearn 3-1-1-1-1 (333)

50000 3 44<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 4<sup>0</sup>/<sub>3</sub> 4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 24<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 5000 4 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 50000 6 6<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>9</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 3 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 25000 6 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>0</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 25000 1 6<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 7<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 25000 5 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 25000 8 8<sup>9</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 8<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 25000 7 7<sup>7</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 25000 8 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>

Last 5 Sts-\$62,250 1:52.1 YR  
 26 YR 3 1 1 1 \$43,500 26 Tot 3 1 1 1 \$43,500  
 25 YR 0 0 0 0 -25 \* 21 12 5 1 \$169,576  
 24 YR 0 0 0 0 -Life 63 19 9 8 \$269,987

Br- Mrs J Champion & A Nicolson & Mrs B Ironmong

28 292 272 272 1:53 99 +6.7w 1.55 LsGrAlwaysBstnWlknOnSn 2nd ov,bad cvr,no bid-7  
 274 292 28 27 1:52 103 +4.7w 4.77 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketD  
 29 30 273 273 1:54 90 -1.4w 10.38 TckALchBnBmAbmsBstn 3rd ov,land out,pace-6  
 301 292 282 274 1:55 4  
 301 281 271 283 1:51 107  
 273 272 273 284 1:51 103  
 271 271 281 28 1:50 107  
 29 282 27 28 1:52 99  
 28 271 281 281 1:51 103  
 282 272 272 274 1:51 105  
 1.55 LsGrAlwaysBstnWlknOnSn 2nd ov,bad cvr,no bid-7  
 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketD  
 AlwaysBstn Arodal Ullyses  
 AlwaysBstn RcknRna AhnShnre  
 HntngZone AlwaysBstn HenkByth  
 AlwaysBstn ElegantiA Inthmscm  
 1.70 SidePace AlwaysBstn SweediStr  
 AlwaysBstn Waitovr RacyRoXa  
 AlwaysBstn SweediStr Inthmscm

### 3 ROCKET DEO(L)

31:48.3 (1) \$9,625

4-1 A. McCarthy 9-2-2-2 (000)

10-Apr-26 2YR fst<sup>56</sup> 283 .57 1:25 1:53 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>65</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 1YR fst<sup>45</sup> 271 .56 1:24 1:52 UM #1  
 20-Mar-26 3YR fst<sup>53</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:54 FM INV  
 14-Mar-26 5M1 fst<sup>50</sup> 293 .57 1:26 1:54 **Qua**  
 28-Feb-26 5M1 fst<sup>38</sup> 303 .59 1:28 1:54 **Qua**  
 21-Feb-26 2M1 fst<sup>50</sup> 281 .56 1:26 1:54 **Qua**  
 26-Sep-25 8YR fst<sup>74</sup> 272 .56 1:24 1:53 FM INV  
 13-Sep-25 4YR fst<sup>76</sup> 263 .55 1:23 1:53 FM INV  
 5-Sep-25 5PHI fst<sup>81</sup> 264 .56 1:23 1:51 Opn

b m 5, by Captaintreacherous, Rocklaman by Rocknroll Hanover  
 Morrison Racing, Stables Indiana, PA

T. Belling 3-1-2-1-4 (250)

50000 2 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 3 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 6 1<sup>0</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>1</sub>  
 35000 5 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 8 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1hd  
 3 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 3 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1  
 1 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 6 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2hd 1nk  
 25000 5 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Last 5 Sts-\$38,500 1:54 YR  
 26 YR 4 1 1 1 \$38,500 26 Tot 4 1 1 1 \$38,500  
 25 YR 9 5 1 1 \$177,200 25 Tot 15 8 1 1 \$215,865  
 24 YR 0 0 0 0 -Life 41 20 4 4 \$754,954

Br- Deo Volente Farms LLC & T L P Stable,NJ

291 282 273 281 1:53 99 +6.7w L\*2.49 ArdBMNSesDeDivaSkCld 1st up,rebud,tdl In-7  
 281 291 28 271 1:52 99 +4.7w L11.36 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketDeo  
 271 292 282 279 1:54 94 -1.4w L4.31 LsGr RocketD Cchblnd  
 29 29 272 274 1:54 93 +6.5w L1.52 RocketDeoFmPgStyCstBb 2nd ov,ang In,drng-5  
 29 28 29 28 1:54 4  
 304 283 283 264 1:54 4  
 29 340 27 30 274 1:54 4  
 274 284 282 292 1:54 94 +6.6w L2.31 SythwmdEkrAfmPgSty 1st up,14,ld,tree-7  
 278 282 274 29 1:52 101 +4.5w L\*3.99 RocketDeoDougsBabeSkCld Truck,tst up,safely-7  
 264 292 271 281 1:51 100 +0.6w L\*2.20 RocketDeo TieYpK RacnHvry -7

### 4 LYDEO(L)

41:51 \$3,350

20-1 Co. Kelly 357-48-55-58 (134)

10-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>56</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 7YR fst<sup>65</sup> 273 .56 1:24 1:52 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 4YR fst<sup>45</sup> 29 .58 1:25 1:53 UM #1  
 20-Mar-26 3YR fst<sup>53</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:54 FM INV  
 9-Mar-26 10PCD fst<sup>66</sup> 271 .55 1:23 1:52 M W/O  
 2-Mar-26 10PCD fst<sup>35</sup> 27 .56 1:24 1:53 M W/O  
 20-Feb-26 2YR gd<sup>36</sup> 273 .57 1:25 1:55 **Qua T/P**  
 17-Nov-25 10PCD fst<sup>38</sup> 282 .56 1:23 1:51 Mwf15000L  
 31-Oct-25 4YR fst<sup>48</sup> 272 .57 1:24 1:54 FM INV  
 17-Oct-25 3YR fst<sup>55</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:53 FNM30451L5

b m 7, by Sweet Lou, Show The World by Western Ideal  
 David Linker, Delray Beach, FL, Brian N Loman, Champaign, IL, Robert H Venable, Noblesville, IN

D. Dilloian, Jr. 101-28-13-10 (277)

50000 1 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 3 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 4 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 35000 2 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 27500 6 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2no 84<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 27500 6 6<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 5 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 22000 5 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 39000 5 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 30000 2 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Last 5 Sts-\$16,800 1:52.4 YR  
 26 YR 4 0 0 1 \$16,800 26 Tot 6 0 0 2 \$20,100  
 25 YR 24 6 3 4 \$120,160 25 Tot 26 6 3 4 \$129,320  
 24 YR 0 0 0 0 -Life 108 19 31 15 \$467,141

Br- Deo Volente Farms LLC,NJ

281 292 274 28 1:53 95 +6.7w L7.06 LouisGr AlwaysBstn WalknOnSn Pkt,no bid-7  
 281 291 281 272 1:53 97 +4.7w L16.49 CostiBabe FelsGrngr Lydeo Rode rail,no bid-7  
 294 291 273 28 1:54 89 -1.4w L14.48 SesDeDivaTarpastaTmHPg Shfd,ang In,no bid-6  
 283 293 28 281 1:54 91 +6.5w L28.57 RocketDeoFmPgStyCstBabe Sat,room rail,stay-5  
 272 282 274 293 1:53 89 -2.3w L3.00 TmHPageAvrClare Strutsvie Long,unc,gnss,fo-8  
 281 29 28 282 1:53 86 -3.4w L7.30 TmHPageDonzLth Mroy Lydeo Out,fn,grn,frsh-6  
 28 293 281 293 1:52 92  
 278 284 271 284 1:52 95 -4.4w L5.00 TheTmsBt LouisVgB GltmHpe Press final,tree-7  
 284 301 28 28 1:55 87 -3.5w L13.26 ArdBMNodsPlatmMyRdS Sat,botrd In,no bid-6  
 28 292 281 281 1:53 95 +0.6w L2.10 Lydeo SherArtsi PseCokr Led,bug In,safely-5

### 5 LOUIES GIRL N

61:52 Q \* \$18,750

7-5 J. Bartlett 446-144-55-56 (323)

10-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>56</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 5YR fst<sup>65</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:52 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 1YR fst<sup>45</sup> 271 .56 1:24 1:52 UM #1  
 16-Mar-26 10PCD slv<sup>66</sup> 27 .58 1:25 1:54 M NW7500PS  
 6-Mar-26 2YR fst<sup>40</sup> 28 .57 1:25 1:53 **Qua**  
 14-Nov-25 7YR fst<sup>44</sup> 274 .57 1:25 1:53 FM INV  
 7-Nov-25 2YR fst<sup>40</sup> 282 .57 1:26 1:53 FNM30000L5  
 31-Oct-25 2YR fst<sup>48</sup> 273 .57 1:25 1:53 FNM20000L5  
 17-Oct-25 3YR fst<sup>55</sup> 28 FNM30451L5  
 3-Oct-25 9YR fst<sup>66</sup> 273 .56 1:24 1:52 FNM20000L5

b m 6, by Lord Forbes, One Bad Dream by Badlands Hanover  
 Peaceful Acre Farm,Lititz,PA

P. Engblom 247-59-48-35 (239)

50000 7 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 14<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 6 4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 4<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 2 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 25000 4 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1nk  
 5 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 35000 5 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 27000 3 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 25000 5 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 30000 **scratched-sick**  
 25000 3 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>0</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Last 5 Sts-\$92,500 1:52.2 YR  
 26 YR 3 2 1 0 \$92,500 26 Tot \* 4 3 1 0 \$75,000  
 25 YR 6 6 0 0 \$81,000 25 Tot 13 7 0 2 \$89,356  
 24 YR 0 0 0 0 -Life 34 16 1 4 \$222,279

Br- G R Forbes & V W More,NZ

28 292 273 27 1:52 104 +6.7w \*1.27 LouisGr AlwaysBstn WalknOnSn Ld,wn handly-7  
 284 291 272 27 1:52 104 +4.7w \*11 AlwaysBstn LouisGr RocketDeo Truck,tst up,even-7  
 292 273 28 1:52 102 -1.4w \*11 LsGr RocketD Cchblnd 1st up,ld,stay,handy-7  
 273 311 272 282 1:54 86 -2.4w \*05 LouisGr SwethHyJl DougsBabe Pkt,fn on wire-8  
 283 292 281 27 1:53 1  
 283 29 273 281 1:53 99 +1.6w \*05 LsGrPrsCokrSythwmd 1st up,ld,3/4,handly-6  
 29 29 28 28 1:53 99 +1.6w \*15 LouisGrCrsArtmMyRdS 1st up,ld,stay,handly-6  
 273 292 283 28 1:53 96 -3.5w \*25 LouisGr PrsrCokr MachsLgcy Ld,wn handly-6  
 +0.6w -5  
 28 29 272 273 1:52 104 +6.7w \*07 LouisGrPrsrCokrIdltn 1st up,ld,tst,handy-7

### 6 SEASIDE DIVA(L)

41:50.2 (5/8) Q \$11,455

5-1 Y. Gingras 388-45-57-55 (116)

10-Apr-26 2YR fst<sup>56</sup> 283 .57 1:25 1:53 UM #3  
 3-Apr-26 6YR fst<sup>65</sup> 282 .57 1:26 1:53 UM #2  
 27-Mar-26 4YR fst<sup>45</sup> 29 .58 1:25 1:54 UM #1  
 12-Mar-26 9MVR fst<sup>47</sup> 271 .55 1:24 1:52 Opn Hcp FM  
 6-Mar-26 4MVR fst<sup>70</sup> 283 .58 1:26 1:55 **Qua**  
 26-Dec-25 11Dtn fst<sup>68</sup> 263 .55 1:23 1:52 Opn Hcp FM  
 11-Dec-25 11Dtn fst<sup>32</sup> 262 .55 1:23 1:51 Opn Hcp FM  
 26-Nov-25 8Mw slv<sup>44</sup> 262 .55 1:23 1:52 FMOPEN HCP  
 19-Nov-25 8Mw gd<sup>44</sup> 263 .56 1:24 1:51 Opn FM  
 12-Nov-25 8Mw fst<sup>47</sup> 264 .56 1:23 1:52 FMOPEN HCP

b m 5, by Downbytheseaside, Real Diva by Real Desire  
 Burke Rcg Stb & Weaver Brusconi,PA,Knox Services,OH,Let It Ride Stables,FL

R. Burke 115-17-24-16 (148)

50000 1 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 1 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1no 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 50000 2 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 36000 6 7<sup>6</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 7<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 8<sup>5</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
 4 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 3<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</</sub>

# Fox Sports to broadcast seven Big M cards in 2026

The TV teams at The Meadowlands and the New York Racing Association (NYRA) are joining forces for a sixth consecutive year to bring some of the biggest stakes events at the No. 1 harness track in the world to a national television audience on the networks of FOX Sports.

The seven broadcasts will be part of NYRA's "America's Day at the Races" series, a Thoroughbred-centric telecast that will expose that audience to some of the most impactful events in the harness racing industry.

"All of us at The Meadowlands are so pleased once again to be joining forces with NYRA to bring some of the biggest events we offer here at The Meadowlands into people's living rooms," said Big M Chief Operating Officer and General Manager Jason Settlemoir. "(Chairman and Chief Executive Officer) Jeff Gural and I know that if we are to grow our business, we need to have a national TV presence. The shows on FOX Sports enable us to do that with a production that is first rate."

"FOX Sports and NYRA are happy to team up with The Meadowlands for another great year of premier stakes coverage, highlighted by the Hambletonian and Meadowlands Pace," said NYRA Senior Director of TV Operations Eric Donovan. "FOX Sports remains committed to showcasing harness racing's marquee events."

The talent duo of Jessica Otten and Gabe Prewitt will return to provide live-on-the-scene analysis, commentary and selections.

The first of the seven shows will feature the \$175,000 Arthur J. Cutler Memorial on May 16, with the final telecast showcasing some of the best 2-year-olds in training on Fall Final Four Night on Saturday, Nov. 14.

Of course, one of the broadcasts will feature the 101st edition of the \$1 million Hambletonian, which takes place on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Here is the schedule for the seven shows that will feature Meadowlands stakes events on FOX Sports, with date, featured event(s), start and finish time and which network – FS1 or FS2 – the broadcast will be shown on:

- May 16 – \$175,000 Arthur J. Cutler Memorial, 8-11 p.m., FS2
- July 4 – \$250,000 Graduate finals for both pacers and trotters; \$175,000 Crawford Farms; \$175,000 Dave Brower Memorial; \$150,000 Six Pack; \$150,000 Perfect Sting; and \$50,000 Meadowlands Pace eliminations, 8-11 p.m., FS1
- July 11 – \$800,000 Meadowlands Pace; \$400,000 Hambletonian Maturity; \$300,000 Del Miller Memorial; \$300,000 Stanley Dancer Memorial; \$300,000 William Haughton Memorial; \$200,000 Jerry Silverman Memorial; and \$175,000 Dorothy Haughton Memorial, 8-11 p.m., FS1
- August 8 – \$1,000,000 Hambletonian; \$500,000 Hambletonian Oaks; \$300,000 Cane Pace; \$300,000 John Cashman Memorial; \$275,000 Sam McKee Memorial; \$175,000 Lady Liberty; \$175,000 Dr. John Steele Memorial; and \$120,000 Shady Daisy, TBA, TBA
- September 11 – New Jersey Classic Series finals for 2- and 3-year-olds – There are four events for pacers for \$150,000 each and four events for trotters for \$250,000 each, 8-11 p.m., FS2
- October 31 – Four \$125,000 Kindergarten Series finals for 2-year-olds, 8-11 p.m., FS2
- November 14 – The Fall Final Four: Valley Victory, Goldsmith Maid, Three Diamonds and Governor's Cup, all for a purse of \$400,000; FanDuel Championships: Two \$350,000 dashes for males and two \$175,000 events for females, 9-11 p.m., FS2

-edited release (by Dave Little for Meadowlands)

**MEADOWLANDS PICK 8 CARRYOVER IS \$52,425 ON FRIDAY (RACES 3-10)**

Follow  
**DRF Harness**



## DRF HANDICAPPER'S CORNER

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 head to your nearest ADW and simply make a win bet.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 16**

RACE 9

(5) SECURITY PROTECTED advanced from last to third in the final quarter of his mile a week ago. He makes his second start of the season from a better post tonight, and I'll give him top call.

-Greg Reinhart



**FRIDAY, APRIL 17**

RACE 6

This is a big drop for (4) FRENCHY HANOVER who was holding her own in one of the most recent Pop-Up Series. Look for Davis to put her in play with a good draw.

-Kevin Plowcha



**WOODBINE**  
MOHAWK PARK

RACE 14

(4) FATHER J tucked, came uncovered and couldn't quite sustain his rally in his first start since October. He likely gained something from that effort and I expect he'll be handled with maximum aggression here.

-Derick Gwerner



**SATURDAY, APRIL 18**

RACE 10

(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR was given no chance to succeed despite ample opportunity in his first start of 2026. Interestingly we get a new driver now along with facing a slightly softer field. I'll be surprised if we don't get a big effort.

-Gwerner



**FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES**

Mohawk Park Analysis

Friday Saturday

Meadowlands Analysis

Friday Saturday

Yonkers Analysis

Thursday Friday

DHP PPS

HARNESS EYE PPS

TRACKMASTER PPS

FREE PPS

INSTANT RACING UPDATES VIA TWITTER: @DRFHARNES

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

## CONCISE, ALLIOOP BLUE CHIP NOW TWO-FOR-TWO IN WEISS SERIES

Concise and Allioop Blue Chip were repeat winners in Bobby Weiss Series action for 3-year-old trotting females on Tuesday afternoon, while on the pacing side no first prelim winner could duplicate that victory in their divisions of the second leg. Each purse on both gaits was \$17,500.

[READ MORE](#)

## SOPHOMORE PACING COLTS PREP FOR STAKES IN PHILLY QUALIFIERS

Many of the horse vans coming to Harrah's Philadelphia for Tuesday morning qualifiers contained stakes horses looking to solidify their racing preparations for their upcoming sophomore campaigns, and upon going home many of their connections must have thought "Mission Accomplished."

[READ MORE](#)

## MOSSDALE BEN N FASTEST IN ROUND THREE OF THE MGM BORGATA SERIES

Defending champion Mossdale Ben N served notice to the rest of the competition in this year's MGM Borgata Pacing Series with a sizzling 1:50 1/5 mile in the third and final \$50,000 division on Monday night (April 13) at MGM Yonkers Raceway. Jason Bartlett-driven and Per Engblom-trained Redwood Hanover and Coaches Corner won the other splits.

[READ MORE](#)

## HANOVER SHOE FARMS STATEMENT ON BARN FIRE

To the Harness Racing Community:

On Sunday (April 12) Hanover Shoe Farms experienced the worst thing that can ever befall a horse farm, a devastating fire that unfortunately claimed the lives of 12 horses.

[READ MORE](#)

## KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE OVERRIDES GOVERNOR'S GAMBLING BILL VETO

Both chambers of the Kentucky legislature overwhelmingly voted on Tuesday night to override a veto issued by Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear of a wide-ranging gambling bill that allows racetracks to offer fixed-odds bets on horse races.

The House voted to override the veto by a tally of 67-7, while the Senate voted to override by 26-5. Republicans in the Kentucky legislature have a veto-proof majority in both chambers, and on Tuesday they voted to override nearly every one of the 32 vetoes that Beshear issued Monday.

In a message explaining the veto, Beshear said that language added to the bill in committee that would allow the Kentucky Lottery Corporation and the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation to promulgate "emergency or ordinary" rules without his signature would undermine the executive branch's powers.

"Authorizing an agency to file an emergency regulation in this manner would prevent the Governor from carrying out his constitutional duties and allow boards and agencies to impose rules on Kentuckians without executive oversight, including boards whose decisions impact public safety," Beshear wrote.

Most notably for the horse racing industry, the bill will allow Kentucky racetracks to offer fixed-odds betting on horse races to Kentucky residents. It also contains language that will strip The Jockey Club of its authority to register Thoroughbreds in the state if the organization adopts a rule limiting the number of mares that a stallion could cover in a breeding season.

It has been unclear since the bill passed nearly two weeks ago whether any racetrack in Kentucky plans to offer fixed-odds betting in the immediate future.

-by Matt Hegarty

## MA ISABELLE, KAZIO DK GO BACK-TO-BACK IN JOHN BRENNAN SERIES

The final preliminary round of the John Brennan Trotting Series on Wednesday (April 15) at MGM Yonkers Raceway went just like the second leg did as Ma Isabelle and Kazio DK both won for the second straight week.

[READ MORE](#)

## BIG M'S 'GRAND' HANDICAPPING CONTEST SET FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

For the fourth time this year, patrons who have some handicapping game will go at it for \$1,000 in cash prizes on Friday (April 17) night, when Leg 4 of the popular Meadowlands Monthly Handicapping Contest takes place.

It's important to finish at or near the top of the leaderboard, as the four players with the highest bankrolls at the end of the night will win some cash (on a \$500-\$250-\$150-\$100 basis), but only the top two finishers will earn spots in the \$10,000 invitation-only contest final, which takes place on Saturday, Dec. 12.

The first leg of the 2026 contest was on Saturday, Jan. 10, with Del Kern and Stefan Ferrara finishing 1-2 to advance into the year-end tussle.

On Friday, Feb. 20, the Leg 2 "exacta" was Robert Glaser over Emile Issa. Sean Loeb, who won the 2025 contest's \$10,000 final and the first prize of \$5,000 that went with it, put himself in position to repeat by taking the top spot in Leg 3 on Saturday, March 21, with Ken Belhumer making a huge score in the 14th and final race to get second.

There is no entry fee, but a \$100 live-money bankroll is required for players, and the prize pool is guaranteed at \$1,000, funded by The Meadowlands. Players must register/check-in at the Clubhouse Lobby by 6:35 p.m.

To register for the competition, go [here](#).

-edited release (Meadowlands)

## MSOA ANNOUNCES 2026 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Meadows Standardbred Owners Association (MSOA) is proud to announce that applications are now open for its 2026 Scholarship Program, offering more than \$59,000 in financial support to deserving students as they pursue their next level of education.

Each year, the MSOA is committed to investing in the future of its community by supporting students with strong academic performance, character, and ties to the harness racing industry. The 2026 scholarship lineup reflects the generosity and continued dedication of individuals and organizations who believe in empowering the next generation.

The following scholarships are available for the 2026 application cycle:

- \$30,000 Bob Key Memorial Scholarship, donated by Patty Key
- \$7,400 Greenshoe Scholarship, donated by Hanover Shoe Farms
- \$5,000 MSOA Scholarship
- \$5,000 Burke Racing Scholarship, donated by Burke Racing
- \$5,000 In Memory of Mickey Burke Scholarship, donated by Sylvia Burke
- \$3,800 Heston Blue Chip Scholarship, donated by Winbak Farm
- \$2,500 Amulet Rehabilitation and Conditioning Scholarship, donated by Tom and Janet Svrcek

• \$1,000 Meadows Scholarship, donated by Hollywood Casino at The Meadows  
"These scholarships represent an incredible opportunity for students to achieve their educational goals," said Dawnelle Johnston, MSOA executive Director. "We are deeply grateful to our donors whose generosity continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people."

Applications are now being accepted, and eligible students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, the deadline is Friday, May 22, 2026.

For more information on eligibility requirements, application deadlines, and how to apply, please contact the Meadows Standardbred Owners Association or visit online at [themsoa.com](http://themsoa.com).

-release (MSOA)

## THURSDAY TRAINING AT THE MEADOWLANDS

Beginning Thursday, May 7th and continuing each Thursday morning through Thursday, May 28th the Meadowlands Racetrack will offer its racing oval to those trainers wanting to train their horses over the surface. The gates to the backstretch and paddock will open beginning at 7am and the track will be available until noon for training purposes. This year the costs associated with training horses will need to be split evenly between trainers and the number of horses training that day. For example the cost for each day is \$ 5,000 to cover the Meadowlands Racetrack expenses if 5 trainers reserve the track and each has 10 horses the cost would be one hundred dollars per horse. Trainers must bring a check made out to the "New Meadowlands Racetrack".

-edited release (Meadowlands)