

DRF

HARNESS DIGEST

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026



50TH MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT!

SATURDAY, JULY 11
POST TIME 6:35 PM EDT

BET \$50+, GET UP TO \$50

- ✓ FREE HARNESS EYE PPs
- ✓ VIDEO ANALYSIS

LEARN MORE

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Next Gen champs seek success in OHSS

Wiesman pair hoping for Maturity magic

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



By Derick Giwner

Those living in Freehold, New Jersey know Brandon Blvd as the hot spot for spectacular Christmas lights – 14,000 of them according to bigredbulb.com. While only the hardest of holiday aficionados are contemplating decorations in July, there will be plenty of attention for Brandon Blvd this Saturday as the block's namesake is the expected heavy favorite in the \$810,000 G1 Meadowlands Pace.

"That's our family's block," said William Pollock, principal owner of Punisher 11 stable, which also includes Bruce Areman and trainer Andrew Harris. "Andrew thought of [the name]."

The signature race at The Meadowlands, which is celebrating its 50th edition this year, the Pace will offer the richest purse since 2012 when the race ended a 23-year run of going for at least \$1,000,000. The Meadowlands Pace is the featured attraction on a 14-race card offering 11 stakes events highlighting the best horses 3 years old and up.

The Meadowlands Pace represents the second of five Grade 1 stakes for 3-year-old male pacers in 2026. The first round went to Odds On Mr Mamba in the North America Cup as Brandon Blvd was dealt a difficult post (10) and an even tougher first-over trip when second by a half-length.

This marquee race found Odds On Mr Mamba on the sidelines as a single elimination was contested last Saturday and Brandon Blvd took advantage. The son of Downbytheseaside followed cover to the three-eighths, brushed to the front and powered home in 26 2/5 for the sharp 1:47 3/5 score over Sweet Lovin Lou, who rallied from third-over to be a willing second.

"Brandon was well within himself and finished with the [ear] plugs in. It was a super-sharp effort and [driver] Dex [Dunn] was able to shut him down coming for home to save a little for the final," said Harris. "I'm pretty pumped with the whole effort by him and Dex."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



JULY 11

Celebrating 50 years of Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment's signature nighttime event!

Top 3-year-old pacers take to the track to compete for the Meadowlands Pace title.

OVER \$2.5 MILLION IN STAKES

\$810,000

Meadowlands Pace

\$271,400

William R Haughton
Memorial
2 DIVISIONS

\$290,550

Stanley Dancer Memorial
2 DIVISIONS

\$165,750

Dorothy Haughton Memorial

\$425,000

ET Gerry Jr
Hambletonian Maturity

\$285,050

Del Miller Memorial

\$180,120

Jerry Silverman
Memorial

\$40,000

Miss Versatility Leg 3

NEW WAGERS FOR 2026

**Midcard
Daily
Double**

**\$5 Late
Double**
Last 2 Races

**\$3 Late
Pick 3**
Last 3 Races

POST TIME 6:35 PM

NATIONAL BROADCAST ON FS2

**8-11 PM
ET**


MEADOWLANDS
RACING & ENTERTAINMENT.

playmeadowlands.com

*Purses estimated. 18+ to wager; 21+ to sports wager. Gambling Problem? 1-800-GAMBLER.



Owner Bill Pollock.

DERICK GIWNER

Brandon Blvd, who hasn't been worse than second in five starts this year and owns a stellar 15-10-4-0 career record with \$685,977 in earnings, earned the right to an inside post with his elimination victory and landed the two-hole as the 3-5 morning-line favorite with Dexter Dunn once again listed to drive. For Pollock, who has invested plenty of money and seen good success with horses like 2025 Dan Patch winner Yo Tillie, a Pace win would be extra special.

"It would mean quite a lot to us as it is a prestigious race and also it would show us that we are on the right track with the process we decided on in the very beginning," said Pollock.

Off the good elimination mile, Sweet Lovin Lou (post seven) was installed as the 6-1 second choice. Scott Zeron, who picked up the drive in the North America Cup final and kept it for the Meadowlands Pace, was encouraged by what he saw from the bike last week.

"I couldn't have been happier with his performance on Saturday night. To finish as strong as he did into a headwind shows he's in top form heading into the final," said Zeron of the Dan Lagace trainee.

Arguably the most disappointing elimination participant was Gentleman's Club, who was the 5-1 second choice behind Brandon Blvd in the race.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

2026 MEADOWLANDS PACE JULY 11 ~ RACE 10 ~ 10:33 EDT

1 - TOBY ORNOT TOBY (TIM TETRICK - SCOTT DI DOMENICO) 20-1

2 - BRANDON BLVD (DEXTER DUNN - ANDREW HARRIS) 3-5

3 - LINDY DRAGONWATER (JAMES MACDONALD - RON BURKE) 20-1

4 - GENTLEMAN'S CLUB (ANDREW MCCARTHY - AARON LAMBERT) 8-1

5 - MELILLO (RONNIE WRENN JR - RON BURKE) 10-1

6 - BOOKIE J (JASON BARTLETT - CHRIS RYDER) 12-1

7 - SWEET LOVIN LOU (SCOTT ZERON - DAN LAGACE) 6-1

8 - AL PAPI (YANNICK GINGRAS - RON BURKE) 10-1

9 - AZRAEL BLUE CHIP (BRETT BECKWITH - BESIM ODZA) 30-1

10 - UBRUTE (TODD MCCARTHY - RON BURKE) 15-1



Congratulations to MCWICKED'S MCBUBBLES

WINNER OF \$50,000 KIN PACE FINAL
IN DIV. TRACK & STAKES RECORD
OF 1:54.1 AT CLINTON!

p, 2, 1:54.2s; 3, 1:51.4s -'26 (\$67,030) CAD

Mcwicked-Lady Bubbles-Sportswriter

Trainer: John Pentland / **Driver:** Jody Jamieson

Owner: Hutt Racing Stable

Breeder: Winbak Farm

Look for McWicked Yearlings at 2026 Sales!



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The Aaron Lambert-trained colt followed good cover but couldn't make a dent in his trailing margin late in the mile while finishing fourth beaten 3 1/2 lengths. That said, Lambert had a different view of the performance.

"We were happy with the effort last week. We achieved what we wanted to in making the final," said Lambert. "We will look to race him a little more aggressively this week."

Andrew McCarthy drives Gentleman's Club (8-1) from post four.

Driver Yannick Gingras had an interesting decision as he was listed on three of the four Ron Burke-trained horses – Melillo (post five), Al Papi (post eight) and Ubrute (post 10).

"I'm going to go with Al Papi," said Gingras on Wednesday evening. "The horse has been really sharp and even though the post isn't great, I do think he's handy enough to put himself in a spot to win."

Al Papi, who was recently second in the Messenger Pace at Yonkers and fourth in the North America Cup before that, took a bye to make the final. He is 10-1 on the morning line.

Ubrute made two early moves to secure the lead in the elimination but still got shuffled back to third on the rail before rallying for the show money in the stretch. Gingras admitted the post is the only reason he elected to look elsewhere.

"He actually raced great and I think he's coming into great form," said Gingras about the 15-1 early choice Ubrute.

Todd McCarthy picked up the drive on Ubrute while Ronnie Wrenn Jr. will drive Melillo (10-1).

Completing the field are Toby Ornot Toby (Tim Tetrick, post one, 20-1), Lindy Dragonwater (James MacDonald, post three, 20-1), Bookie J (Jason Bartlett, post six, 12-1) and Azrael Blue Chip (Brett Beckwith, post nine, 30-1).

Other on-track highlights on the Meadowlands Saturday program that begins at 6:35 p.m. (EDT) are the \$425,000 G1 Hambletonian Maturity for 4-year-old trotters featuring recent North American record-setter On To Norway (1:48 3/5) and the \$165,750 G2 Dorothy Houghton Memorial featuring a rematch of stablemates Miki And Minnie and Twin B Joe Fresh. The Chris Ryder trainees finished just a neck apart in last Saturday's G3 Perfect Sting.

Meadowlands Pace Night Schedule

RACE # - CONDITIONS	OFF TIME	WAGERING OPTIONS
1: NON-WINNERS \$15,000 L5	6:45	DD (1-2), PICK 5 (1-5)
2: \$141,900 DEL MILLER	7:07	PICK 3 (2-4)
3: \$143,150 DEL MILLER	7:29	PICK 6 (3-8)
4: \$145,900 STANLEY DANCER	7:51	PICK 3 (4-6)
5: \$180,120 JERRY SILVERMAN	8:14	PICK 3 (5-7)
6: \$144,650 STANLEY DANCER	8:42	\$50K GTD PICK 4 (6-9)
7: \$165,750 DOROTHY HAUGHTON	9:06	PICK 3 (7-9), Hi-5
8: \$135,700 WILLIAM HAUGHTON	9:32	PICK 5 (8-12), DD (8-9)
9: \$425,000 HAMBLETONIAN MATURITY	9:58	PICK 3 (9-11)
10: \$810,000 MEADOWLANDS PACE	10:33	\$50K GTD PICK 4 (10-13)
11: \$135,700 WILLIAM HAUGHTON	10:57	PICK 3 (11-13)
12: \$40,000 MISS VERSATILITY	11:18	\$3 PICK 3 (12-14)
13: NON-WINNERS \$10,500 L5	11:38	\$5 DD (13-14)
14: TRACKMASTER 80.55 OR LESS	11:57	Hi-5

*WPS, EXACTA, TRIFECTA & SUPERFECTA WAGERING ON ALL RACES

** PICK 4/5/6 & Hi-5 OFFER 15% TAKEOUT

Bettors will have plenty to keep them occupied during the evening with two \$50,000 guaranteed Pick 4 wagers (Races 6-9 and 10-13) and a few of new menu items. The track is adding a mid-double combining races eight and nine, a \$3 Pick 3 on the final three races and a \$5 late double to close out the night.

WINBAK FARM

Congratulates

A CLEAN DEAL

**WINNER OF \$140,000 ONTARIO SIRES STAKES
GOLD LEG IN 1:49.3 AT WOODBINE-MOHAWK!**

**Cattlewash-Ideal Talker-Western Ideal
p, 2, 1:50s; 3, 1:49.3 -'26 (\$659,726) CAD**

Trainer: Kyle Fellows

Driver: Doug McNair

Owners: N. Yolanda Fellows, Blair Corbeil, Windermere Stable LLC & James Ross

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INDIANA SIRE STAKES WINNER

**ACES AND
CINCHES**

p,3,1:48.1-'26
(\$93,400)



BY ODDS ON EQUULEUS

ACES AND CINCHES led the field from the start to take the victory in the \$94,000 Indiana Sire Stakes 3-Year-Old Colt and Gelding Pace at Hoosier Park on July 3 in a career best 1:48.1!

Congratulations to owners Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver Bruscermi LLC, Frank Baldachino and Michael Rosenthal, breeder Alpine Stables, trainer Ron Burke and driver Kyle Wilfong.

From 67 starters, **ODDS ON EQUULEUS** is the sire of 45 in 1:55 and 15 \$100,000-plus winners, led by the fastest 2-year-old ever and 2026 North America Cup winner **ODDS ON MR MAMBA** p,2,1:47.4 (\$751,805), **TRICK OF THE LIGHT** p,1:49.3f (\$695,358), **LYIN' EYES** p,1:50.4f-'26 (\$495,551), **ODDS ON ALPHA MALE** p,4,1:50.3 (\$277,640), **AIN'T NOTHINGUCANDO** p,3,1:51.3 (\$271,365), etc.

ODDS ON EQUULEUS
Stands in Indiana at Premier Acres

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Beaver with powerful pair in Maturity, Dancer; Smedshammer looks for another strong effort from Walspea

By Jay Bergman

The E.T. Gerry Jr. Hambletonian Maturity (Grade 1) has become an interesting race since its inception as it brings the best 4-year-olds to The Meadowlands to compete for a large purse, with a baker's dozen trotters traveling one and one eighths miles this year. With three trailers and a long run to the first turn, the race, which goes for a \$425,000 purse on Saturday's card, is a classic on the program page and could prove so once the dust settles.

Trainer Chris Beaver is hoping the extra distance is a bit of an equalizer for his Gimpanzee Dancer. Of the 13 horses in the contest, Gimpanzee Dancer has won more races and money in 2026 than any horse, dominating action at Oak Grove with seven wins and \$254K banked.

"He was a good horse last year," said Beaver of Gimpanzee Dancer. "He's become a much tougher horse this year. Horses from his family have been known to improve with age."

The results just in the first six months of 2026 prove Beaver's point since Gimpanzee Dancer had won only six times total during his freshman and sophomore campaign.

"This is a very tough group of horses he'll be facing, and I know they went in world-record time last week," said Beaver of the 4-year-olds that are moving on after last week's Graduate Series final. "I think the extra distance will be good for us."

Andrew McCarthy handles Gimpanzee Dancer from post four in Saturday's ninth race, inside the one-two finishers in the Graduate, On To Norway (post 8) and Super Chapter (post 6).

Trainer Trond Smedshammer sends out a pair in the Maturity but believes that Walspea (post 2) is his only legitimate shot in the race.

"She came out of the race (Graduate final) feeling fresh," said Smedshammer. "I know she went some fast fractions, but she wasn't actually tired in the stretch; it was her pulling herself up."

For Smedshammer Walspea's incredible speed is her edge but a lot of times it's been compromised in races.

"I told Tim (Tetrick) last week that he should ignore the odds board (63-1) and get her to the front and don't take up to let horses go," said Smedshammer, who will call on James MacDonald to drive this week.

That move led to Walspea cutting wicked fractions, turning into the stretch following a 1:21 1/5 three quarters on a clear lead. Like Gimpanzee Dancer, Walspea has also shown vast improvement over the years and Smedshammer believes she's a bit easier to handle as a 4-year-old. "She was a hot horse to hold as a 2-year-old," said Smedshammer. "She was better last year and a bit better this year."

Smedshammer believes Walspea races best when she isn't caught inside or forced to slow down excessively. The 13-horse field and added distance could work to her advantage once again in the Maturity given the improved draw.

Greenma (post 12) is a gelding that has had his share of mishaps this year.

"That every horse gets one percent of the purse is probably the only reason we entered him," said Smedshammer of his thought process for entering the son of Greenshoe.

The Maturity could prove a showcase for defending Dan Patch winner

Super Chapter and Graduate champion On To Norway. On To Norway provided cover for Super Chapter in last week's Graduate final and eventually found an inside path to victory for Yannick Gingras. Super Chapter traveled a bit of extra distance going wide on the final turn, and that left him a neck short on the wire. Dexter Dunn handles Super Chapter, a \$1.8 million career winner, while Yannick Gingras will drive On To Norway, a winner 32 times in 39 lifetime starts and a world record 1:48 3/5 mark taken last Saturday (July 4).

Beaver is looking for a measure of revenge as well as some experience for his sophomore sensation Endurance. The Captain Corey-sired colt has won three of his four starts this year, with the only defeat coming at the hooves of Spencer Hanover in the \$500,000 Oak Grove Trotting Derby. The two will meet in the first of two divisions of the \$145,900 Stanley Dancer Memorial (Grade 3), going as race four.

"I wanted him to get at least one start over The Meadowlands before the Hambletonian," said Beaver.

Endurance (post 4) has rebounded nicely following the second-place finish at Oak Grove and most recently captured the \$90,675 Currier & Ives at The Meadows (June 26) in 1:52 4/5, overcoming post nine and a long overland trip.

"Andy (McCarthy) has done a great job with the horse," said Beaver. "He's come back after the races and told me that there was plenty left in the tank."

Just a \$14,000 yearling purchase, Endurance is already approaching \$800K in career earnings, with the purse money ramping up as we enter the major summer stakes action.

Spencer Hanover tasted defeat for the first time in 2026 when he broke stride in the Yonkers Trot on June 26 and finished ninth. Prior to that the Marcus

Melander-trained son of Chapter Seven followed Endurance's cover in the Oak Grove Derby for driver Jason Bartlett to gain victory and then followed that up with a score in the \$176,530 Empire Breeders at Vernon Downs on June 2. Spencer Hanover landed the rail in the eight-horse field.

There are other talented sophomores in the Dancer field, including Silverstein, most recently third in the Yonkers Trot for trainer Matt Burkholder. Matt Kakaley guides the Chapter Seven-sired gelding from post five.

Nix Nacken (post 8) is the fastest sophomore trotter this year by virtue of his 1:50 victory in the New Jersey Sire Stakes (Silver) final on June 12 at The Meadowlands. That, however, was the lone win in six attempts for the gelded son of Muscle Hill this year.

Highland Destiny, a half-brother to the 2024 Hambletonian runner-up Highland Kismet, was unraced as a freshman and had captured his first four races before making a break in the July 4 Reynolds at The Meadowlands. Trainer Nancy Takter put him right back in the box for the Dancer with Scott Zeron in the bike from post two.

Trainer Linda Toscano has another solid sophomore trotter in It Could Be Worse. The son of Captain Corey enters this Dancer division following a career-best 1:50 3/5 mile capturing a \$33,625 Reynolds division at The Meadowlands on July 4.

Division leader Apex (post 2) will meet stablemate American Power (post 3) as well as Yonkers Trot champion Inexpressable (post 7) in the \$144,650 second Stanley Dancer Memorial division carded as race six of 14 on The Meadowlands program.



CURTIS SALONICK PHOTO

Endurance has already won at three different tracks in 2026, including at Pocono Downs (pictured).



50TH MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT!

SATURDAY, JULY 11 | POST TIME 6:35 PM EDT

✓ FREE HARNESS EYE PPs ✓ VIDEO ANALYSIS

SPECIAL 50TH PACE PROMO **(powered by 1/ST BET PRO)**

TOTAL WAGERED	BONUS
\$50-\$99	\$5
\$100-\$249	\$10
\$250-\$499	\$25
\$500+	\$50

LEARN MORE

MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT HANDICAPPING

Race 2
\$141,900
Del Miller

Race 3
\$143,150
Del Miller

Race 4
\$145,900
Stanley Dancer

Race 5
\$180,120
Jerry Silverman

Race 6
\$144,650
Stanley Dancer

Race 7
\$165,750 Dorothy
Haughton

PICK 6

\$50K GTD PICK 4



(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S should control this race from the outset.
(2) LEADING LADY
(4) ALL TIME TROT S

(7) JAILBIRD JOG was great last week; trip was impossible
(3) R RO
(2) YGRITTE

(8) NIX NACKEN gets off the rail and gets more aggressive tonight.
(7) IT COULD BE WORSE
(1) SPENCER HANOVER

(6) LOUA DIPA is the Queen of this division until dethroned.
(5) PERFECT THOUGHT
(9) BE PERFECT BG

(2) APEX - the Hambo favorite should handle these
(7) INEXPRESSABLE
(3) AMERICAN POWER

(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH crushed in this race last year; is coming back to form.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(1) LOUIES GIRL N



(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S should have short field at her mercy.
(4) ALL TIME TROT S
(2) LEADING LADY

(2) YGRITTE has shown heart in every start.
(7) JAILBIRD JOG
(3) R RO

(4) ENDURANCE can do it from on or off the pace.
(1) SPENCER HANOVER
(5) SILVERSTEIN

(5) PERFECT THOUGHT could provide the upset off a hot pace.
(6) LOUA DIPA
(9) BE PERFECT BG

(2) APEX faces the softer division and should have his own way.
(3) AMERICAN POWER
(6) REQUIEM

(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH has the position edge over her stablemate this time.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(3) UNREASONABLE



(2) LEADING LADY draws well in short field to sit closer to strike.
(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S
(6) LAINEY W

(7) JAILBIRD JOG was game in defeat and could cruise here.
(3) R RO
(5) SHE'S MONI

(4) ENDURANCE is a freak. F-R-E-A-K freak.
(1) SPENCER HANOVER
(5) SILVERSTEIN

(6) LOUA DIPA wins until proven otherwise.
(9) BE PERFECT BG
(1) I'M A LOU LOU

(2) APEX appears primed for another Hambo primer.
(3) AMERICAN POWER
(7) INEXPRESSABLE

(3) UNREASONABLE could perch in a ripe spot for an upset.
(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH
(1) LOUIES GIRL N



(3) SOUTHWIND CHASKA could take advantage in short field.
(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S
(6) LAINEY W

(5) SHE'S MONI was trip compromised in latest; should offer value.
(7) JAILBIRD JOG
(2) YGRITTE

(4) ENDURANCE combines talent with a perfect post this week.
(8) NIX NACKEN
(5) SILVERSTEIN

(7) DARLIN'S ANGEL may be as good as the best in here and will be a much better price.
(9) BE PERFECT BG
(6) LOUA DIPA

(2) APEX is the King of the Hill among 3YOs right now.
(7) INEXPRESSABLE
(6) REQUIEM

(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH has tactical edge and can get revenge on stablemate.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(3) UNREASONABLE



(5) DAYS AWAY broke maiden at M1 last July; excess cover in Reynolds.
(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S
(4) ALL TIME TROT S

(2) YGRITTE steps up after game first-over victory; undefeated at 3.
(7) JAILBIRD JOG
(3) R RO

(1) SPENCER HANOVER - trailing post ended four-race win streak for beaten fave.
(4) ENDURANCE
(5) SILVERSTEIN

(9) BE PERFECT BG crushed in qualifier after first, narrow loss; late speed.
(6) LOUA DIPA
(7) DARLIN'S ANGEL

(2) APEX lowered lifetime mark June 12; fastest closer in Saturday qualifier.
(7) INEXPRESSABLE
(3) AMERICAN POWER

(1) LOUIES GIRL N is undefeated from rail in North America.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH



(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S is a classy miss with too big a kick for these.
(2) LEADING LADY
(4) ALL TIME TROT S

(7) JAILBIRD JOG just missed to KAMADO in latest, can win with any trip.
(6) ISABELLA BI
(3) R RO

(4) ENDURANCE renews rivalry with 'Spencer'. Back on mile track.
(1) SPENCER HANOVER
(8) NIX NACKEN

(6) LOUA DIPA won post draw; that's enough to beat her rival here.
(9) BE PERFECT BG
(1) I'M A LOU LOU

(7) INEXPRESSABLE is an improving sort that gets the big track off big win; price still right.
(2) APEX
(3) AMERICAN POWER

(1) LOUIES GIRL N moves inside vs. Ryder pair; capable of upset with a trip.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(5) ALWAYS B NAUGHTY



(4) ALL TIME TROT S returns off a win; watch for no shoes.
(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S
(2) LEADING LADY

(3) R RO put in a big effort from first-over last week.
(2) YGRITTE
(7) JAILBIRD JOG

(4) ENDURANCE can take a ton of air and keep going.
(1) SPENCER HANOVER
(7) IT COULD BE WORSE

(9) BE PERFECT BG makes amends for Fan Hanover defeat.
(6) LOUA DIPA
(5) PERFECT THOUGHT

(2) APEX leads strong Melander duo in here.
(3) AMERICAN POWER
(7) INEXPRESSABLE

(3) UNREASONABLE had pace after a shuffle last week.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH



(6) LAINEY W isn't far off in talent department and offers value.
(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S
(2) LEADING LADY

(7) JAILBIRD JOG had too much to do in Reynolds; won't be case here.
(6) ISABELLA BI
(5) SHE'S MONI

(1) SPENCER HANOVER broke at YR; don't hold that against him.
(5) SILVERSTEIN
(4) ENDURANCE

(6) LOUA DIPA is nearly perfect as a 3YO and gets another stakes win.
(1) I'M A LOU LOU
(9) BE PERFECT BG

(3) AMERICAN POWER returns to a top catch driver as J Mac is listed.
(7) INEXPRESSABLE
(2) APEX

(1) LOUIES GIRL N seems overdue for a better trip; more than capable.
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE
(3) UNREASONABLE



(1) NEZUKO KAMADO S is a leading Oaks contender and looks prominent here.
(4) ALL TIME TROT S
(6) LAINEY W

(5) SHE'S MONI had a tough trip last out and can rebound here.
(2) YGRITTE
(7) JAILBIRD JOG

(4) ENDURANCE continues a solid march towards the Hambo.
(1) SPENCER HANOVER
(5) SILVERSTEIN

(6) LOUA DIPA wasn't favored in Fan Hanover and I still cannot believe it.
(9) BE PERFECT BG
(1) I'M A LOU LOU

(2) APEX trotted 1:50 3/5 in his 2nd start off the bench.
(3) AMERICAN POWER
(7) INEXPRESSABLE

(1) LOUIES GIRL N might have needed last start off three weeks.
(7) TWIN B JOE FRESH
(8) MIKI AND MINNIE

MEADOWLANDS PACE NIGHT HANDICAPPING

Race 8 \$135,700 William Haughton

PICK 5/MID DOUBLE



GARNET BARNSDALE

(2) ERVIN HANOVER may be just too good for these currently.
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(1) CALICO JACK HANOVER

Race 9 \$425,000 Hambletonian Maturity



JAY BERGMAN

(2) ERVIN HANOVER is on his game now and benefits from the draw.
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(3) SWINGTOWN

(6) SUPER CHAPTER got out tripped last week; revenge time.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(3) EURO BANK HANOVER

(6) SUPER CHAPTER will make amends after hard luck defeat.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(4) GIMPANZEE DANCER

Race 10 \$810,000 Meadowlands Pace

\$50K GTD PICK 4



RAY COTOLO

(2) ERVIN HANOVER has to regress to lose. Most likely he doesn't.
(6) FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC

(6) SUPER CHAPTER may find the optimal trip for big money this time.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(2) WALSPEA

(2) BRANDON BLVD is top dog now with the two other main colts sidelined.
(8) AL PAPI
(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU

(2) BRANDON BLVD has clearly risen to the top of the class.
(4) GENTLEMAN'S CLUB
(8) AL PAPI

(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU is the logical counter if a fast Pace.
(2) BRANDON BLVD
(8) AL PAPI

Race 11 \$135,700 William Haughton



DERICK GWINN

(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC owns two sub-1:47 wins in last three starts.
(2) ERVIN HANOVER
(4) MAXIMUS MIKI

(4) GIMPANZEE DANCER has been super at Oak Grove and deserves his shot at nice price.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(6) SUPER CHAPTER

(2) BRANDON BLVD appears to be too powerful for this group; brush and crush.
(4) GENTLEMAN'S CLUB
(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU

(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR went a big mile when 2nd to Ervin Hanover last week.
(4) KEN HANOVER
(6) LOU HILL

(4) KEN HANOVER will prove very hard to catch with first good draw.
(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO is back on the gate, back towards the lead. Yippee!
(4) KEN HANOVER
(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR

Race 12 \$40,000 Miss Versatility

\$3 PICK 3



MELISSA KEITH

(2) ERVIN HANOVER won latest by his largest margin this year.
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(5) HUNTIN THE LAST DOLLAR

(2) WALSPEA cut fractions in World Record Graduate final; edged out late.
(6) SUPER CHAPTER
(7) R DUTCHESS

(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU makes second start Lasix; fastest last quarter in elim.
(2) BRANDON BLVD
(4) GENTLEMAN'S CLUB

(2) COACHES CORNER raced fourth-over Saturday; gaining on Ervin Hanover late.
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR

(1) ELISTA HANOVER should be tighter in second start after six-week break.
(9) BRAVO ANGEL S
(10) YO TILLIE

(3) DIAL SQUARE S was caught in near back of field Saturday; driver change.
(1) ELISTA HANOVER
(7) LASTING DREAM



MIKE PRIBOZIE

(2) ERVIN HANOVER returned as sharp as ever; have to eat a short price here.
(5) HUNTIN THE LAST DOLLAR
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC

(6) SUPER CHAPTER just missed in record Mile as the chalk; can turn tables.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(2) WALSPEA

(2) BRANDON BLVD has no excuses here; horse to beat with main rivals home.
(8) AL PAPI
(5) MELILLO

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO shows up when the \$ is down this year. Better draw.
(4) KEN HANOVER
(1) OAKWOOD ARDAN IR

(1) ELISTA HANOVER gets a better spot to produce her kick and get on track this year.
(4) CONVERSANO
(7) LASTING DREAM



GREG REINHART

(2) ERVIN HANOVER has looked unbeatable so far in 2026.
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(4) MAXIMUS MIKI

(6) SUPER CHAPTER just needs a cleaner trip here.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(4) GIMPANZEE DANCER

(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU closed with plenty of pace in elim.
(2) BRANDON BLVD
(4) GENTLEMAN'S CLUB

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO should be on or near the lead here.
(6) LOU HILL
(2) COACHES CORNER

(10) YO TILLIE trotted home in 26 and change last week.
(1) ELISTA HANOVER
(4) CONVERSANO



MATT ROSE

(2) ERVIN HANOVER was powerful in his Med return and has the tactical edge.
(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC
(3) SWINGTOWN

(8) ON TO NORWAY saw huge streak snapped... rebounds with record mile; deserves call.
(6) SUPER CHAPTER
(7) R DUTCHESS

(2) BRANDON BLVD doesn't face household names, makes him Top Dog in Pace.
(8) AL PAPI
(10) UBRUTE

(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO is the most accomplished pacer in here; perfect post.
(2) COACHES CORNER
(4) KEN HANOVER

(7) LASTING DREAM is a good one from Luc Blais; Dan Dube fits her well.
(10) YO TILLIE
(2) CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS



DARIN ZOCCALI

(7) CAPTAIN OPTIMISTIC - looking for his speed to be the difference here.
(2) ERVIN HANOVER
(5) HUNTIN THE LAST DOLLAR

(6) SUPER CHAPTER was left with just a little too much to do last time, rebounds.
(8) ON TO NORWAY
(4) GIMPANZEE DANCER

(7) SWEET LOVIN LOU - loved how he finished with the addition of Lasix.
(2) BRANDON BLVD
(4) GENTLEMAN'S CLUB

(6) LOU HILL continues to be very sharp and no reason for him to regress.
(5) CAPTAIN ALBANO
(4) KEN HANOVER

(10) YO TILLIE has post 10 again, but have to think things tonight go differently.
(7) LASTING DREAM
(9) BRAVO ANGEL S

\$50K/Pick 4

Tickets

Races 6-9

R6: 2
R7: 1,7,8
R8: 2
R9: 2,3,6,8,11,13
Total = \$9

R6: 2
R7: 7,8
R8: 2
R9: 2,4,6,8
Total = \$4

R6: 2
R7: 1,3,7
R8: 2,6
R9: 6
Total = \$3

R6: 2,7
R7: 7
R8: 2,7
R9: 4,8
Total = \$4

R6: 1,3
R7: 1,7,8
R8: 2,7
R9: 2,6
Total = \$12

R6: 2,3,7
R7: 1,8
R8: 2
R9: 2,5,6,8,11
Total = \$15

R6: 2
R7: 3,7,8
R8: 2
R9: 2,4,6,8,11
Total = \$7.50

R6: 2,3,7
R7: 1
R8: 2,7
R9: 4,6,7,8,11
Total = \$15

R6: 2,3
R7: 1,7,8
R8: 2,7
R9: 6
Total = \$6

Remembering Pace history as the race hits 50 years



CONFESSIONS

By Keith Gisser

It was July of 1977. I graduated high school the previous month and was already a Northfield Park regular. Some of the railbirds were talking about this amazing new track (they called it The Swamp) that had opened the previous fall in New Jersey and that they were hosting a big race for 3-year-old-pacing colts.

My buddy Jay and I had already made plans to spend a week in August at The Meadows for the Adios, so I would be on my own, but I knew I had to take a road trip. I was on the road early on that July 12, checking into the lovely Motel 6 in Elizabeth, New Jersey and then making the 20-minute trip to the track. It was a time when Motel 6 was strictly no frills – you even had to pay to watch television.

It was my first time at M1, as we started to call it (a lot nicer than The Swamp), and I was impressed. I didn't get carded when I tried to buy a beer and the caliber of horses was somewhat better than the horses I saw at Northfield. I remember the race was won by Escort with trainer/driver Carl LeCause, who I, frankly, had never heard of and don't think I ever did again. The purse was a very generous \$212,500 and the winner paced in 1:54 4/5. For a half-mile track guy who rarely saw a two-minute mile, it was a show of speed I never thought I would see again. Boy was I wrong.

Two years later, The Meadowlands made a huge splash as the 1979 edition of the race carried a \$750,000 purse and made headlines again in 1980, stating the race would carry a \$1,000,000 purse (the actual purse ended up being \$1,101,000, although I am not sure why; perhaps due to a supplement?). For the next 32 years, the Pace would carry at least a one-million-dollar purse in all but two of them. The 1979 race was won by Sonsam and in the 1980 edition, Niatross was the victor.

Something unusual happened in 1982 when John Campbell was the first catch driver to win the race, steering Hilarion to a win for Jerry Silverman. The first five Paces all had trainer/driver winners. After Campbell's win, a new trend would begin as catch drivers became the norm except for one more time. In 1990 Ray Remmen trained and drove Beach Towel to victory. No trainer/driver in the last 35 years has made it to the winner's circle.

In addition to Niatross's win, there have been several Meadowlands Paces where the purse was over \$1,000,000. The richest was in 1984 when On The Road Again took home \$646,500 (50% on the \$1.293 million total purse) for driver Buddy Gilmour, trailer Harry Poulton and owners Gordon & Illa Rumpel. That broke the previous year's record \$1,251,000 purse, of which the lion's share in 1983 went to Ralph Hanover and Ron Waples. Stew Firlotte trained for Waples, who co-owned the colt with Pointsetta Stables and Grants Direct Stables.

While many trainers have been listed as owners, only Clint Galbraith (Niatross) and Rod Allen (Carlsbad Cam in 1992) share the honor with Waples as drivers who also shared an interest in the horse. Rod Allen and Carl Allen are the only son/father driver/trainers to be victorious, although an argument can be made for Wiggle It Jiggleit, who was driven



by Montrell Teague and trained by Clyde Francis, although dad, George Teague Jr., was actively involved in managing the colt he owned.

In 2019, Linda Toscano made history as the first female trainer to win the race. She conditioned Richard and Joanne Young's Best In Show to the victory that year, and Nancy Takter followed suit the next year, winning with Tall Dark Stranger, who was owned by Crawford Farms Racing, Marvin Katz, Caviart Farms and Howard Taylor. They remain the only two female conditioners to make it to the winner's circle.

The race has certainly had its share of controversy over the last decade. Last year, Prince Hal Hanover won the race but was disqualified and Madden Oaks was elevated to the win, while in 2021 Lawless Shadow was placed first when race-winner Charlie May was disqualified on a very controversial interference call where it appeared he had been interfered with first, which caused him to interfere with other horses. Litigation on that one continued for years. At one point a Judge actually ruled Charlie May the winner, but that was later overturned, making him (technically) the only horse to be disqualified from the Meadowlands Pace twice.

This year? I am not sure what will happen. Although arguably the top two sophomore pacers – Odds On Mr Mamba and Beau Jangles – won't be in New Jersey, I think Legendary Hanover's stakes record of 1:46 3/5 (2024) may fall. After watching the elimination, it's hard not to pick Brandon Blvd, who was very sharp in the elimination, even though he could have taken a bye to the final. I think a horse to watch could be Ubrute. He was used twice and it looked like Yannick Gingras was holding on for dear life around the final turn with a ton of horse and nowhere to go. He got the worst of the post draw, though. My sentimental choice is Azrael Blue Chip, trained by former HHYF student Besim Odza and owned by Charles Taylor's CT Stables.

One thing is sure. I am going to do my damndest to get back for another Meadowlands Pace before I die. Heck, the Motel 6 offers free TV now.

That's it for this time. No go cash, either on the Pace itself or the powerful undercard.

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JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman

 [BergmanJay](#)

When we speak about trotters quite often trainers reveal how talented they are physically but not always mentally. It's a subtle jab at horses that can run fast and freely but when asked to relax or stay composed can't handle the consequences mentally and rebel. The reality of our sport is that the fastest horses don't always win races or for that matter, it's not always the driver that can make the most speed that gets the job done.

Last Saturday, while the Meadowlands Pace elimination was being held, the highlight of the night for me was the Graduate Series final for 4-year-old trotters. It was an incredible mixture of horse talent, and in less than 1:49 (1:48 3/5 to be exact), revealed the finest characteristics in the sport's elite horses as well as some incredibly quick-thinking drivers.

To recap, On To Norway and Yannick Gingras prevailed in a race that for 95 percent of its action looked to be an impossibility. The race was a departure of 99 percent of all races contested at The Meadowlands in the fact that a 63-1 shot, namely Walspea, one of two mares in the race, was cutting the pace and not simply looking to yield to the favorite. Driver Tim Tetrick used the incredible quickness the Walner-sired mare possesses to sprint to the lead quickly with Walspea and not simply grab up and wait for the favorites to arrive. Tetrick's decision added to the mystique of the race as it forced the hands of both Yannick Gingras with On To Norway and Dexter Dunn behind the favorite Super Chapter.

While Walspea established command through a solid 26 3/5 opening quarter, Gingras and On To Norway were conducting their own race in

the middle of the pack. Super Chapter, with Dunn, had put himself behind the second choice On To Norway deftly on the first turn, but was not advancing as Gingras patiently handled his horse through a 53 4/5 first half and awaited something he knew was going to happen next.

Ake Svanstedt had third choice Mr Mouton in third for the opening half and certainly wasn't going to stay there with the 63-1 shot in front followed in second by 21-1 Meshuggah. Gingras had to always know this but still to his credit also must have had extreme confidence in On To Norway's capacity to take air and keep trotting.

Mr Mouton did not prove to be much help to either Gingras or Dexter Dunn behind Super Chapter. While the half appeared to be something likely to strain the leader, Walspea and Tetrick continued the torrid pace, obviously trying to distance themselves from as many horses as possible before the stretch drive and then hold on as best as possible in the final quarter.

Tetrick's mastery was in force as Walspea hit three quarters on a clear lead in 1:21 1/5 and had gained separation from the group, with Mr Mouton spinning his wheels on the outside, Meshuggah struggling to keep pace, and eventually Warrior making a miscue on the final turn that would be key to Gingras' winning moves.



DERICK GIWNER

**Hall of Fame driver
Yannick Gingras.**

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 12](#)

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When Warrior broke, Gingras moved On To Norway closer to the pylons and this put Dunn and Super Chapter now following a stalled Mr Mouton as the crucial final quarter approached. While On To Norway saved great distance, Super Chapter had to go three wide through the final turn.

Surprisingly Walspea continued to respond to Tetricks urging and seemed on the verge of pulling off an incredible upset for much of the stretch drive. Super Chapter was gaining ground slowly but surely and seemed to have the leader in his sights with enough time to seal the victory. Gingras had a refreshed On To Norway, a horse that clearly knows where the finish line is following an historic winning streak in Indiana, was looking for room to rally. While Gingras had made all the right moves up until this point, he still needed a little hand from lady luck and she answered the call as Meshuggah broke stride in the pocket and in doing so opened a clear lane for On To Norway to explore.

On To Norway surged through and showed the heart of a champion to earn the victory and World Record in the process, as well as the lion's share of the \$230,000 purse. It was a master class by Gingras, giving On To Norway every chance to win despite a bad draw (post 9) and a predominantly overland journey.

Dunn recognized early with Super Chapter that it would require a trip for him to win and put himself behind the horse he needed to beat. The outcome for Dunn changed when Gingras went inside and the cover that replaced him stalled his momentum. Tetricks for his part drove brilliantly as well, as he took advantage of the situation and did not grab leather and look for the proverbial two-hole trip with his longshot. Walspea was brilliant racing with the boys and finished the mile in a world record 1:48 3/5, one she won't get credit for but essentially did all the work.

The cerebral part of driving is often overlooked but was clearly on display, not just in the Graduate final for trotters but in the Dave Brower Memorial. While Dexter Dunn got the favored Ervin Hanover home with a sharp drive that got him the front before the half and eventually a bit of cover in the pocket, to me James MacDonald showed the instinct and intelligence in winding up second here with Oakwood Ardan IR. MacDonald, driving the 35-1 veteran from post three, refused to get pinned along the pylons going into the first turn. His move put Oakwood Ardan IR in the outer flow with favored Ervin Hanover and Ken Hanover, first and second over in front of him respectively.

Oakwood Ardan IR would eventually lose that cover but he would be close enough to the action when the three quarters was reached in 1:19 4/5, with Ken Hanover in front and Ervin Hanover ready to roar out of the pocket. MacDonald kept his charge motivated right to the wire and despite the arduous journey bravely held off Jason Bartlett and Coaches Corner for the runner-up spot.

While we can all appreciate great horses, it's important to recognize not just the physical attributes of our leading drivers. The top pilots need to navigate between horses before they get on the track and then map out strategy, quite often changing plans multiple times within a race. Their true brilliance is often revealed under the most pressure in the biggest races.



On To Norway parades through the Meadowlands winner's circle with his caretaker Alex Peralta.

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EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Givner

[@harnesseyeguy](#)

Random handle thoughts

With tracks cancelling left and right due to excessive heat last week, we saw the places left standing on the wagering menu hit new heights. Namely The Meadows, which set a handle record on July 2.

Bettors poured \$1,686,400 into the pools on an afternoon when Monticello, Plainridge and Harrah's Philadelphia all elected to close on the Standardbred side and Belterra Park, Delaware Park, Ellis Park, Colonial Downs, Woodbine and Parx all followed suit for the Thoroughbreds. The only tracks left standing outside of The Meadows were Presque Isle and Thistledown, which both concluded a few races before The Meadows completed its card.

The \$1.68 million number more than tripled the \$512,940 handled by the track the previous Thursday.

That The Meadows eclipsed the previous record of \$1.53 million set on Adios Day 2023 with just a regular overnight program is notable because it shows the sport doesn't have a handle problem but a saturation problem. Too many tracks racing on the same dates and often at the same time causes a complete dilution of the handle across all entities.

This theory has been proven over and over again during times when schedules are light or tracks need to cancel. Do you recall the COVID-19 pandemic? Scioto Downs was the first track to reopen and often the only game in town. Card after card they put up huge numbers, including 12 consecutive cards over \$1 million and topping out at just over \$2 million on June 4, 2020.

Every winter we see the same phenomenon around the Christmas season when there are only a handful of tracks racing and those remaining all see a nice bump. Harrah's Philadelphia flirts with the \$1 million mark every year on Christmas Eve when facing no harness competition.

That number is well above a typical card.

I'm not suggesting that the sport begin a mass consolidation, but there is some dead weight out there which if trimmed would serve to bolster the field size of the remaining tracks and as a result, would also increase handle.

Of course, increasing handle by \$1 million a card isn't going to make the smallest dent in making a track profitable since that is only \$30,000 in revenue (\$1,000,000 x 3% signal fee), but that is a problem for another column.

The Saratoga mystery

It happened again on Tuesday, July 7 at Saratoga Raceway and it has been a fairly regular occurrence. Bettors were blinded by lack of proper information.

There was a carryover of \$14,237 up for grabs because no one hit the late Pick 5 on Monday. At Saratoga, if no one hits the late Pick 5 the money carries over to the late pick 5 on the next card. Similarly, the carryover money also goes from the early to the early pick 5 if that wager doesn't hit.

With no carryover in the early Pick 5 on Tuesday, the track handled a lofty \$29,257 in the wager. Then in the late Pick 5, with \$14K added to the pool, \$24,577 was wagered. So why was there more wagered without the carryover?

I'm not sure there is direct blame to go around but lack of proper communication to the wagering public is certainly high on the list, as is the fact that a major ADW always lists the carryover in the wrong race. While some sites just list the carryover as existing on the card with no information as to where, one did say it was in race one, and the bettors flocked to take advantage of a large carryover that really didn't exist.

Even I got fooled once. What do they say? Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me.

Higher minimums all around

A few weeks after Woodbine Mohawk Park offered a \$5 All-Stakes Pick 3 and a day following The Meadows' announcement that it would offer a \$3 Pick 3 on Adios Day, The Meadowlands joined the trend with a \$3 Pick 3 and a \$5 late double for this Saturday's Meadowlands Pace card.

I'm all for revisiting the higher minimum wagers. We need more variety in our game.

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Next Gen champions look to carry success into Ohio Sire Stakes

By Wes Mayberry for OHHA

One week after winning their respective \$150,000 Next Generation races, freshmen Made For More and Commanders Moni return to Eldorado Scioto Downs on Saturday (July 11) to kick off what their connections hope is a successful 2026 Ohio Sires Stakes campaign.

Scioto Downs is hosting seven \$50,000 divisions of the first leg of the OSS for freshman trotters — three for fillies and four for colts — on Saturday as part of a 16-race card starting at 5:25 p.m.

Made For More (Chris Lems) is in a favorable spot to continue her early season success. The daughter of Long Tom out of Obsessed Blue Chip drew the rail and opened as the even-money favorite in the third division of fillies. Trained by Vernon Beachy, she was the first Next Generation starter for owner and breeder John Schlabach, of Millersburg, Ohio. Making her debut purse start, she won that race by half a length in 1:56 4/5 after taking first in qualifiers at The Meadows in 2:03 on June 9 and 2:02 3/5 on June 16.

"I was really happy with her, but I wasn't surprised. I thought she was capable of that," Beachy said of the filly's Next Generation victory. "I was really happy with her qualifiers. I know they were only 2:02 and 2:03, but she did it the right way."

Made For More is a half-sister to Chip Shot, a 3-year-old Mission Accepted filly out of Obsessed Blue Chip who won a pair of Buckeye Stallion Series races as a freshman and has six victories in 11 lifetime starts. Schlabach co-owns Chip Shot with Walnut View Farm, and Beachy has been her trainer since midway through last season. Beachy believes Made For More has just as much potential as Chip Shot, and perhaps even more so as a top contender in the OSS.

"It's still early, but if she stays healthy and sound, I don't see why she wouldn't be a contender," he said.

Based on the morning-line odds, Made For More's top rivals in



CONRAD PHOTO

Commanders Moni was a Next Generation winner at Scioto Downs on July 4.

Saturday's race are Missredwhitenblue (Chris Page) at 4-1 and Rose Run Cybill (Kurt Sugg) at 9-2, who drew post three and two, respectively. While early-season performances from 2-year-olds tend to be unpredictable, Beachy has high hopes for Made For More on Saturday.

"We drew in a good spot, but she's still just a baby trotter making her second lifetime start, so anything can happen," he said. "But I think she probably has just as good of a shot as any of them in there."

Commanders Moni (Mike Wilder), a winner in the Next Generation by two lengths in 1:55 1/5, drew post two in the fourth division of colt

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 15](#)

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trotters and opened as the 3-2 favorite. A Ready For Moni colt out of Kelsey's Commando, Commanders Moni was bred by Midland Acres, of Bloomingburg, Ohio, and purchased by the Ohio-based partnership of Commanders Moni Stable, of Radnor, Mark Schwartz, of Westerville, and Mark Robinson, of Dublin, for \$21,000 at the Blooded Horse Sale last November. Trainer Chris Beaver has high praise for the colt, saying he in some ways reminds him of a highly successful stablemate.

"He has a lot of traits like Endurance — he's good-mannered and has a big gait, and when you want speed, he's got it," Beaver said. "He's been great to work with right from the start, and I thought he was my best training colt throughout most of the winter."

Thus, the Next Generation victory came as little shock.

"I wasn't surprised that he won," Beaver said. "The other horses had shown some bigger miles, but I knew he wasn't anywhere near the bottom."

Beaver was the winning trainer for 2023 Next Generation colt trot champion Spaaaanzano, who went on to earn \$272,150 as a freshman. He's hoping for similar success with Commanders Moni and believes the horse has the potential to have a big season.

"You always get pretty optimistic when you start winning races, but he seems like a really good horse," he said.

Commanders Moni is 2-for-2 this season, adding a win at The Meadows in his debut on June 25 prior to the victory in the Next Generation.

Looking to stay perfect, he'll face the likes of Sweet T's Ranger (Page), who finished third in the Next Generation and is the 4-1 second choice leaving from post four, and 6-1 co-third choices East King Street (Luke Hanners) and Within Range (Atlee Bender). Based on what he's seen so far, Beaver likes Commanders Moni's chances of another victory.

"I haven't taken a close look at the competition yet, but I think he would be the one to beat in there," he said.

Freshman Filly Trotters

Kissme Ifyoucan (Austin Hanners), the runner-up to Made For More in the Next Generation, opened as the even-money favorite in the first division after drawing post two. The In Range filly is trained by Todd Luther.

Driven and trained by Sugg, Global Republic S filly Sweet Stevie is the 7-5 morning-line favorite in the second division and will leave from post five.

Freshman Colt Trotters

Satan's Fury (Wilder), the runner-up to Commanders Moni in the Next Generation, opened as the 9-5 favorite in the third division. Trained by Beachy, the Volstead gelding will leave from the rail.

Sigurd, with trainer Sandy Beatty in the sulky, and Dalton Walls trainee Royal Moni (Trevor Smith), are the 5-2 and 2-1 morning-line favorites in the first and second divisions, respectively. Sigurd, a Long Tom colt, will leave from post seven. Ready For Moni gelding Royal Moni drew post six.

Wiesman pair hoping for Hambletonian Maturity magic

By Ken Weingartner

Wiesman Farms got its biggest win as an owner last year when Delaney Hanover captured the Grade 1 Kentucky Filly Futurity. Coupled with the way the female trotter finished her 3-year-old campaign, her connections decided against breeding the mare in 2026 and returned to the races.

Delaney Hanover won four of her final five starts last season, highlighted by her career-best 1:50 1/5 triumph in the Kentucky Filly Futurity at Lexington's Red Mile. That winning time made her the fastest sophomore female trotter of the year, and it was only two-fifths of a second off the world record for a 3-year-old filly trotter.

In addition, Delaney Hanover handed the division's eventual Dan Patch Award winner, Yo Tillie, her only loss of the year when she won a Grade 3 Bluegrass Stakes division in 1:50 2/5 at the Red Mile. Earlier in the season, she won a Hambletonian Oaks elimination before finishing a fast-closing third in the Grade 1 final, and she finished second to Yo Tillie in the Grade 1 Delmonica Hanover Stakes.

"For us, we love the racing aspect," said Colby Wiesman, who with his dad, Jon, operate Wiesman Farms and share ownership of Delaney Hanover with Shermay Stables and trainer Lucas Wallin. "She looked so good at the end of last year and her win in the Filly Futurity was a special one. I was there with my dad and mom. They went to that race early in their careers and maybe never expected to have horses racing in it. Now, to be out there winning it, was definitely special."

Wiesman's father spent more than four decades in the sport overseeing breeding operations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Kentucky. Wiesman Farms began with a single starter in 2016 but has blossomed over the past five years. In addition to Delaney Hanover, the Wiesmans have picked up graded stakes wins with homebred male trotter Go Dog Go, who also is competing this season as a 4-year-old.

Delaney Hanover and Go Dog Go both will be in action on Saturday night (July 11) in the \$425,000 E.T. Gerry Jr. Hambletonian Maturity, a Grade 1 event for 4-year-old trotters, at the Meadowlands. A field of 13 will go behind the starting gate and race 1-1/8 miles rather than the traditional mile.

On To Norway, fresh off his North American-record 1:48 3/5 win in last week's Graduate Series Trot final (G2) at the Big M, is the 5-2 morning-line favorite. He will leave from post 8 with Yannick Gingras driving for trainer Ron Burke. Super Chapter, who was just a neck behind On To Norway last week, is the 3-1 second choice and will start from post 6 with Dexter Dunn in the sulky for trainer Marcus Melander.

Delaney Hanover, with driver Scott Zeron, will start from post 5. She finished seventh from post 10 in the Graduate final, when she was

timed in 1:50 1/5. She was third in her previous race, the third leg of the Graduate, after making her seasonal debut with a fifth-place finish in which she was timed in 1:50 3/5. Incidentally, a mare has won three of the past four editions of the Hambletonian Maturity. Delaney Hanover is one of four mares in this year's race, along with Miracle Maven, Walspea, and R Dutches.

For her career, Delaney Hanover has hit the board in 13 of 21 races. The daughter of Muscle Hill-Danielle Hanover has seven wins and \$582,421 in earnings.

"We brought her back slowly, kind of the same thing as last year," Wiesman said. "She's in deep with that competition, but she's just getting tight with the few starts she's got. I think she's a long shot, obviously, but coming out of the 5-hole there, 13 horses, you get the right trip, we know she's got the come-home speed (eight career sub-:27 last quarters) to compete with the other ones. We'll see what happens with her."

Go Dog Go, who is trained by Carter Pinske and co-owned by Wiesman Farms and Al Libfeld, will start the Maturity from the inside spot in the second row — post 11 — with Todd McCarthy in the sulky. He finished a parked-out fifth from post 8 in the Graduate final despite being timed in 1:49 2/5.

"That's not right," Wiesman said with a laugh. "Something is wrong with that line."

Go Dog Go opened this season with back-to-back wins in Kentucky Sire Stakes action for 4-year-olds at Oak Grove Racing & Gaming, then went off stride in the \$100,000 final. He was scratched sick from his next start before finishing second to Super Chapter in the second round of the Graduate and third behind Mr Mouton and On To Norway in the third leg.

For his career, the son of Greenshoe-Primary Target has hit the board in 17 of 28 races, winning nine and earning \$690,660. Last year, he won a Bluegrass Stakes division in 1:49 3/5, which is tied for the third-fastest mile in history by a 3-year-old trotter. He also won a division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial (G3) last season and finished third in the Breeders Crown final (G1) for the second consecutive year.

"We're waiting for him to surprise us," Wiesman said. "We know he has it. He's shown us the speed; he just hasn't been consistent. He did go in (1):49 2/5, so he's one of the top horses out there. I think he's the type of horse that if he gets a good post position and a good trip, he can win any race. We're not necessarily disappointed about (post) 11, it just depends how things develop in front of him there. I would rather have 11 than 8, 9 or 10."

Action from the Big M on Saturday can be seen on FOX Sports 1 (FS1) during a three-hour presentation that will feature an all-Meadowlands lineup of stakes races. The broadcast begins at 8 p.m. (EDT).

RACE OF THE WEEK

10 MEADOWLANDS SAT

1 Mile Pace. MEADOWLANDS PACE - FINAL (G1). 3 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS (DECLARATION FEE - \$5,000) Purse \$810,000

EXACTA AND TRIFECTA | 50 CENT LATE PICK 4 (10-11-12-13) (\$100,000 GUARANTEED POOL) (TAKEOUT 15%) | 10 CENT SUPERFECTA

1 TOBY ORNOT TOBY 21:51 (1) Q \$4216 LEX-SEL \$40,000 20-1 Ti Tetrack 139-18-19-16 (129)		b g 3, by Tall Dark Stranger, Mackie Hanover by Captaintreacherous Oompa's Farm Inc, Creamridge NJ, Joseph Barbera, Melville, NY Last 5 Sts--\$22,085 1:51.1 Lx1		26 M1 3 1 0 0 25 M1 0 0 0 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$18,050 26 Tot 7 2 0 0 - 25 Tot 8 1 0 3 - Life 15 3 0 3		\$29,590 \$26,515 \$56,024			
4 July/26 7M1 fst85° 271 :53.3 1:21.1 1:47.3 M Pace E 28 Jun/26 5Ph1 fst78° 271 :55.2 1:23.3 1:50.1 CGNW5PM 19 Jun/26 8M1 fst77° 274 :56.2 1:24.3 1:51.3 3&4yow3cd 12 Jun/26 3M1 wfr82° 282 :57 1:25 1:52 3&4yow3cd 24 May/26 7Ph1 fst61° : : : PASS-3YOCC 16 May/26 12PcD fst78° 27 :56.2 1:23.4 1:50.4 PASS 3YOCC		50000 7 893 88 97 763 661 13500 5 692 68 65 542 422 32500 3 44 44 20 20 112 22500 3 43 43 64 54 42 37335 scratched-sick 36935 3 33 32 52 42 44		Br - Spring Station Bloodstock, MD TiTetrack ScDiDomnc 291 26 272 261 1:48 106 +4.5w TiTetrack ScDiDomnc 29 28 273 26 1:503 103 +10.9w TiTetrack ScDiDomnc 283 283 273 264 1:513 95 +4.4w TiTetrack ScDiDomnc 291 283 28 263 1:522 88 +11.8w		136.00 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrt *80 EveristEasyBreeze MoneyHGb 2.40 TobyOrntRocknassBtBb 7.90 RocknassSndsSwtGrsgsWsh		Off pace, ang, ind, shy-10 1st up, ld, lane, handy-7 Shll, pace in, traf, lt-7 No rally-6			
2 BRANDON BLVD 31:47.3 (1) * \$59,316 LEX-SEL \$425,000 3-5 D. Dunn 141-36-27 (255)		b c 3, by Downbytheseaside, Alexis Faith by American Ideal Punisher 11 Stable LLC, Freehold, NJ A. Harris 58-11-6-5 (190)		Last 5 Sts--\$314,580 1:47.3 M1 1:48.4 Wbs 7/8		26 M1 1 1 0 0 25 M1 0 0 0 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$25,000 26 : 5 3 2 0 - 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 - Life 15 10 4 0		\$298,580 \$389,397 \$585,977	
4 July/26 7M1 fst85° 271 :53.3 1:21.1 1:47.3 M Pace E 13 Jun/26 11Wbs fst77° 261 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.1 NA CUP-G1 6 Jun/26 9Wbs fst68° 262 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.2 NA CUP 30 May/26 5Wbs fst68° 262 :54.1 1:21.2 1:48.1 SOMEBOCH-G3 15 May/26 5M1 fst67° 284 :56.1 1:23.3 1:50.3 Qua 2 May/26 7PcRA fst52° 263 :55.1 1:23 1:51.1 REVERE-G3		50000 3 423 190 111 123 112 720000 10 53 43 23 20 20 21 36000 8 57 53 32 21 20k 101160 6 32 11 13 13 13 1 11 13 18 19 18 100000 6 45 32 12 12 12		Br - Crawford Farms LLC, NY DeDunn AnHarris 273 26 273 262 1:473 115 +4.5w DeDunn AnHarris 264 28 263 264 1:481 117 +10.3w DeDunn AnHarris 274 27 264 264 1:482 115 +7.5w JaBaritt AnHarris 263 28 264 264 1:481 113 +8.5w DeDunn AnHarris 284 272 272 27 1:503 DeDunn AnHarris 273 28 272 281 1:511 105		*30 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrt 6.80 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldJngls 6.00 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls *20 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrtWaist rb BmrbldBldStrefHaw Lastchdwd *05 BmrbldBldHuntOTHP WchEmWin		Brsh, ldt, pst, 1/2, handy-10 Tok, chd, ldt, try-10 Tok, chd, try-8 Tok, brush, handy-10 Ld, won, handy-3 No rally-6			
3 LINDY DRAGONWATER (L) 21:51 (58) \$5,021 LEX-SEL \$100,000 20-1 Ja. Macdonald 1-2-24 (167)		b g 3, by Downbytheseaside, Imagine Dragon by Dragon Again Burke Rcg Stb, FrodoKnw, PA, Knox Services, Mt Vm, OH, Beasty, Ls Vns, NVB Grant, ON R. Burke 196-26-25 (133)		Last 5 Sts--\$22,050 1:51 ScD 5/8		26 M1 1 0 0 0 25 M1 0 0 0 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$17,500 26 Tot 7 0 1 1 - 25 Tot 10 5 0 2 - Life 17 5 1 3		\$35,150 \$30,140 \$336,390	
26 Jun/26 13M1 fst80° 271 :54.2 1:21.2 1:47.4 3yo nw5cd 13 Jun/26 11Wbs fst77° 261 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.1 NA CUP-G1 6 Jun/26 7Wbs fst68° 263 :54.1 1:20.4 1:48.2 NA CUP 25 May/26 8ScD fst74° 252 :53.3 1:20.1 1:50 OSS 3C 2 May/26 13MVR fst49° 27 :54.3 1:23.3 1:51.1 OHSS 3C 23 Apr/26 6MVR fst82° 264 :55.1 1:22 1:50.2 HACKETT-R3		35000 1 113 32 42 51 51 720000 6 97 97 107 98 76 36000 4 63 63 66 54 54 50000 6 42 12 12 15 2hd 75000 8 21 33 43 33 49 75000 4 64 44 54 54 53		Br - Lindy Farms Of Conn, CT JoBongirn RoBurke 27 273 271 27 1:48 106 +7.6w JaBaritt RoBurke 273 281 264 264 1:492 108 +10.3w RoBurke 281 272 262 27 1:49 109 +7.5w ChPage RoBurke 254 274 263 294 1:50 109 RoBurke 271 28 284 292 1:53 92 ChPage RoBurke 28 28 264 281 1:51 106		L6.80 GentlmnCzAzeBldUbrute L107.00 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls L26.85 SwtLnLbUrt AlpApi AzeBld L9.80 Mybopank LynDragnw PstPrt 13.20 ProctBld CoodStat CalouHm 1.70 CoodStat ProctBld SpknsNre		Ld, shll, ang, in, no bid-7 Late, little-10 3d ov, little-8 -9 -10 -9			
4 GENTLEMANS CLUB 31:47.4 (1) \$63,313 LEX-SEL \$120,000 8-1 A. McCarthy 118-7-14-14 (059)		b c 3, by Downbytheseaside, See You At Peelers by Bettor's Delight Anthony Licastro, Eastern Creek Nsw, AS A. Lambert 87-15-11-17 (172)		Last 5 Sts--\$29,625 1:47.4 M1 1:50.2 M1		26 M1 3 1 1 0 25 M1 3 2 1 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$25,250 26 Tot 6 2 2 0 \$180,125 25 Tot 10 5 1 1 - Life 16 7 3 1		\$37,875 \$239,756 \$277,631	
4 July/26 7M1 fst85° 271 :53.3 1:21.1 1:47.3 M Pace E 26 Jun/26 13M1 fst80° 27 :54.2 1:21.2 1:47.4 3yo nw5cd 6 Jun/26 9Wbs fst68° 262 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.2 NA CUP 30 May/26 8M1 fst59° 263 :54.1 1:22.2 1:48.3 NW10500L5 23 May/26 1PcDA sly48° 27 :55.1 1:23.1 1:51 w4-7PM CG 9 May/26 1PcDA sly53° 262 :55.4 1:24 1:52.4 w4-7PM CG		50000 4 55 54 52 43 43 35000 5 32 11 13 76 76 36000 1 32 11 13 76 76 15000 3 21 21 21 22 22 17500 2 21 21 21 21 21 17500 8 42 11 11 11 11		Br - Frederick W Hertrich III, DE AnMcCrthy AaLambert 281 261 272 262 1:481 110 +4.5w DeDunn AaLambert 272 27 271 261 1:474 116 +7.6w AnMcCrthy AaLambert 264 272 272 262 1:493 107 +7.5w AnMcCrthy AaLambert 264 281 273 262 1:49 105 +3.3w AnMcCrthy AaLambert 271 281 28 274 1:512 102 -1.7w AnMcCrthy AaLambert 264 29 281 283 1:523 96 -9.7w		5.70 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrt *1.10 GentlmnCzAzeBldUbrute 45.00 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls 16.00 CaptnLuke GentlmnCz Efringham 2.60 DmbyWmGentlmnCzHevnNdsMe 2.20 GentlmnCzGentlmnCzHevnNdsMe		2nd ov, 3w, pst, 3/4, even-10 Ust, pst, 1/4, ldt, jndy-7 Brush, press, fold-8 Pkt, even finish-7 Pkt, 2nd best-5 Pkt, press, game-8			
5 MELILLO 31:48.4 (58) \$14,061 10-1 R. Wrenn Jr. 0-0-0-0 (000)		b c 3, by Sweet Lou, Rosemary Rose by Foreclosure N Burke Rcg Stb LLC, Fredericktown, PA, J. Mellillo, Powell, OH, Weaver Bruscem LLC, Canonsburg, PA R. Burke 196-26-25 (133)		Last 5 Sts--\$82,782 1:48.4 Phl 5/8 1:48.4 Lx1		26 M1 0 0 0 0 25 M1 1 0 1 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		- 26 Tot 7 2 2 0 \$83,500 25 Tot 14 3 6 3 - Life 21 5 8 3		\$98,430 \$380,357 \$478,787	
26 Jun/26 8YR fst82° 281 :57.1 1:26.2 2:21.4 MGM G M F-G2 13 Jun/26 11Wbs fst77° 261 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.1 NA CUP-G1 6 Jun/26 9Wbs fst68° 262 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.2 NA CUP 24 May/26 7PhIA fst61° 271 :54.4 1:21.4 1:48.4 PASS-3YOCC 16 May/26 12PcDA fst78° 27 :56.2 1:23.4 1:50.4 PASS 3YOCC 9 May/26 6MwA fst48° 264 :54.4 1:22.1 1:50.1 PASS-3YOCC		200000 7 79 79 53 43 43 200000 1 31 54 75 65 54 36000 3 11 21 42 43 43 37335 6 11 11 11 12 12 36935 6 11 21 33 31 21 54601 1 32 33 21 23 2no		Br - Burke Rcg Stb, PA, J. Mellillo, OH, Weaver Bruscem RonWmnr Jr RoBurke 30 29 28 2:223 +7.4w RoBurke 263 282 271 264 1:49 109 +10.3w RoBurke 262 28 271 272 1:49 111 +7.5w RoBurke 271 273 27 27 1:484 114 +5.5w TiTetrack RoBurke 27 293 272 27 1:51 99 +5.6w RonWmnr Jr RoBurke 271 281 27 274 1:501 110		6.86 FragmentAlpApiMightyMat 42.40 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls 25.00 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls *70 Melillo EasyBreeze TabdAnr 2.50 AnthChle Melillo PapiRck 3.50 ShelySoky Melillo AlpApi		11, 12, 13, 2nd ov, no bid-7 No rally-10 Yld, pkt, little-8 -6 Yld, pkt, 2nd best-6 -7			
6 BOOKIE (JL) 31:48.4 (1) Q \$24,241 LEX-SEL \$50,000 12-1 J. Bartlett 153-31-20-23 (203)		b g 3, by Perfect Sting, Skyy by Somebeachsomewhere Kenneth E Jacobs, Baldwinville, NY C. Ryder 57-14-7-5 (246)		Last 5 Sts--\$147,500 1:48.4 M1 1:51.1 M1		26 M1 7 5 1 0 25 M1 11 4 2 3 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$168,750 26 Tot * 7 5 1 0 \$212,490 25 Tot 11 4 2 3 - Life 18 9 3 3		\$169,688 \$208,680 \$378,368	
4 July/26 7M1 fst85° 271 :53.3 1:21.1 1:47.3 M Pace E 20 Jun/26 11M1 fst85° 263 :55.1 1:22.3 1:49.4 NJ SDF 12 Jun/26 9M1 wfr82° 271 :55 1:22.2 1:48.4 NJ SDF 23 May/26 6M1 sly63° 264 :54.4 1:22.3 1:50.2 NJSS-Pltnm-R1 15 May/26 6M1 fst67° 29 :56.3 1:24.2 1:50.4 Qua 2 May/26 7M1 fst55° 27 :55.1 1:23.1 1:50 NJSS-Pltnm		50000 1 31 2no 21 22 543 60000 1 42 43 42 21 21 23 10000 1 11 11 11 11 11 225000 5 14 21 21 22 1nk 1 46 44 44 45 44 25000 1 31 11 11 12 1no		Br - Yankeeland Partners LP, MD JaBaritt ChRyder 272 261 274 271 1:483 109 +4.5w ChRyder 27 283 274 263 1:50 102 +6.5w DeDunn ChRyder 271 274 272 263 1:484 108 +11.8w ChRyder 264 28 28 273 1:502 107 -4.6w ScZeron ChRyder 301 271 274 263 1:514 DeDunn ChRyder 271 274 281 264 1:50 103 +5.7w		10.20 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrt *10 OblierteeBookieJConvStng *10 BookieJ TheSbSnDe ConvStng *120 BkAzBlcTheSbSnDe nb BmrbldCpnmhrhWtnFrsh *100 BkAzBlcTheSbSnDe		Ust, pst, 1/4, ldt, trd-10 2nd ov, outkrm, evn-9 Ld, won, handy-6 2w, pst, 1/4, ldt, drng-9 Took bk, rail, no bid-5 Brsh, ldt, pst, 1/2, game-11			
7 SWEET LOVIN LOU (L) 31:48.2 (78) \$13,018 SHS-HBG \$70,000 6-1 S. Zeron 193-12-15-20 (086)		b c 3, by Sweet Lou, Lover's Dream by Somebeachsomewhere Lagace Sts, OH, E V Buhler, Wantagh, NY, Big Als Sts, ON, Britany Fms Micki Rse, Versailles, KY D. Lagace 1-0-1-0 (000)		Last 5 Sts--\$57,892 1:48.2 Wbs 7/8 1:50.4 Wbs 7/8		26 M1 1 0 1 0 25 M1 0 0 0 0 24 M1 0 0 0 0		\$12,500 26 Tot 5 1 2 1 - 25 Tot 11 4 2 2 - Life 14 4 4 4		\$65,092 \$403,102 \$485,937	
4 July/26 7M1 fst85° 271 :53.3 1:21.1 1:47.3 M Pace E 29 Jun/26 3Wbs fst73° 284 :57.2 1:26.1 1:53.2 Qua 13 Jun/26 11Wbs fst77° 261 :54.1 1:21.1 1:48.1 NA CUP-G1 6 Jun/26 7Wbs fst68° 263 :54.1 1:20.4 1:48.2 NA CUP 30 May/26 5Wbs fst68° 262 :54.3 1:21.2 1:48.1 SOMEBOCH-G3 16 May/26 4Wbs fst64° 272 :55.4 1:23 1:50.1 W63-Srl-cd		50000 2 66 65 60 53 21 5 12 15 12 12 12 72000 4 86 86 64 54 61 36000 6 44 44 33 1hd 11 101160 7 21 33 43 45 22 17520 9 79 79 78 67 33		Br - Joseph Davino, Clarksburg, NJ, Brad Shackman, Ca ScZeron DaLagace 282 261 272 254 1:474 113 +4.5w JaMacdnld DaLagace 284 283 284 271 1:532 ScZeron DaLagace 273 28 262 271 1:491 110 +10.3w JaMacdnld DaLagace 272 283 262 27 1:484 114 +7.5w JaMacdnld DaLagace 261 29 264 263 1:483 113 +8.5w JaMacdnld DaLagace 291 282 27 261 1:504 102 +7.6w		L9.00 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrt nb SwtLnLbUrt VelaLuka PanoRay 10.00 OdsMlMmbaBmrbldBldBeauJngls *60 SwtLnLbUrt AlpApi AzeBld 3.95 BmrbldBldSwtLnLbUrtWaist 2.25 FgmetnMajorThrSwtLnLbUrt		3rd ov, land, out, pace in-10 -5 10, 10			

No coupled entries per NJRC. All horses in this race have participated in a pre-race stakes barn show 12 PM Saturday. 6-last receive 1% of purse. Elimination winner drew 1-6. Bookie J - First Lasix

Miki And Minnie the new Top 10 poll Queen

For the second week in a row, there is a new No. 1 in the Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll.

Miki And Minnie, who won the Grade 3 Perfect Sting for older female pacers this past Saturday at the Meadowlands, moved from third to first in the Week 4 edition of the rankings released Wednesday (July 8). Miki And Minnie, a two-time Dan Patch Award-winner who spent six weeks at No. 1 in 2025, received 15 of 35 first-place votes. She has won four consecutive races, including the Roses Are Red (G1), after beginning her campaign with a third-place finish in the Betsy Ross Invitational.

Loua Dipa, who was idle last week, dropped from first to second. She received 12 first-place votes. Brandon Blvd, who won the lone Meadowlands Pace elimination, moved from fourth to third while On To Norway, who captured the Graduate Series Trot final (G2) in a North American-record 1:48 3/5 at the Big M, vaulted from seventh to fourth.

Odds On Mr Mamba, who was idle, dropped from second to fifth.

Rounding out the Top 10 were Dave Brower Memorial (G3) winner Ervin Hanover, Graduate Series Trot runner-up Super Chapter, Six Pack (G3) winner Bourbonista S, idle Spencer Hanover and idle Apex.

The top six horses in the rankings all received at least one first-place vote.

Bourbonista S was the only newcomer to the Top 10. Endurance dropped out.

The Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll, which will continue weekly on Wednesdays through the Grand Circuit season, does not determine year-end awards. The members of the U.S. Harness Writers Association vote on all Dan Patch Award division winners plus Trotter of the Year, Pacer of the Year, and Horse of the Year.

Rankings based on the votes of harness racing media representatives on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis.

Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Standardbred Poll: - 7/8/2026

Rank	Name (1st Votes)	Age/Sex/Gait	Record	Earnings	Points	Pvs
1	Miki And Minnie (15)	4mp	5-4-0-1	\$226,320	312	3
2	Loua Dipa (12)	3fp	4-3-1-0	\$203,732	287	1
3	Brandon Blvd (4)	3cp	5-3-2-0	\$296,580	233	4
4	On To Norway (2)	4gt	6-5-1-0	\$179,750	228	7
5	Odds On Mr Mamba (1)	3gp	4-3-0-1	\$437,400	205	2
6	Ervin Hanover (1)	6hp	3-3-0-0	\$130,247	203	6
7	Super Chapter	4ht	3-2-1-0	\$104,625	105	5
8	Bourbonista S	5mt	7-3-2-1	\$158,240	57	--
9	Spencer Hanover	3ct	5-4-0-0	\$391,932	43	8
10	Apex	3ct	2-1-1-0	\$118,750	37	9

ALSO: Captain Optimistic, Lexus Kody 36; Endurance 35; Be Perfect BG 27; Antognoni S 22; Prince Hal Hanover 17; Mossdale Ben N 11; Periculum, Twin B Joe Fresh 5; Beau Jangles, Nezuko Kamado S 4; Captain Albano, Fragment 3; Bookie J, Unstable Genius 2; Miss Jum Jabber, My Taylors Swift, Windemere Skye 1.

-release (Ken Weingartner for Hambletonian Society)

PARTY WITH THE STARS AT THE MEADOWLANDS PACE

Come on out for the biggest party in harness racing Saturday (July 11) night at The Meadowlands and experience a huge night of fun and top-notch harness racing, featuring the \$810,000 Meadowlands Pace presented by Genova Burns LLC.

The program will offer 14 races with purses totaling \$2.5 million, and it would be difficult to not conclude that this is the best program in the sport thus far in 2026. Eleven of the dashes are stakes events, so it's no surprise that many of the sport's equine standouts will be on the track.

In addition, there will be so much going on, everyone will find something interesting to do or see on the night of the mile oval's signature event. There will be plenty for youngsters to do as well, so bring the kids.

On your way in the door, pick up your free Meadowlands Pace T-shirt, which commemorates the 50th edition of the storied stakes event as well as paying tribute to the World Cup soccer tournament.

There are also rides, games, live music and food trucks, so this is one night when you have to be at the track.

For complete information, go [here](#).

-edited release (Meadowlands)

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, JULY 9

RACE 8

(2) KAYS IN CHARGE tallied handily in his debut for this trainer two weeks ago and moves in on the gate from the six-hole to post two. Jordan Stratton picks up the live drive here.

-Greg Reinhart

EMPIRE CITY.
CASINO
YONKERS RACEWAY

FRIDAY, JULY 10

RACE 6

(5) CLARKY would have probably won his debut if he didn't break. Obviously, we'll never know, but a lot of people are going to back Erinwood Triton a few races later, and that's who he was going to beat.

-Kevin Plowcha

WOODBINE
MOHAWK PARK

RACE 8

(2) WALL OF FAME was very impressive in both of her morning miles including a 26 2/5 final quarter last time.

-Derick Gwerner

MEADOWLANDS
RACING & ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY, JULY 11

RACE 3

(5) SHE'S MONI was stacked five wide into the first turn last time as there were a host of leavers to her inside. Eventually she found a seat along the cones and finished up willingly when asked in the stretch. She could be good value here.

-Gwerner

MEADOWLANDS
RACING & ENTERTAINMENT

FULL CARD ANALYSIS / PAST PERFORMANCES

Mohawk Park Analysis

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

Meadowlands Analysis

[Thursday](#) [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

SPICED UP BETTING MENU SET FOR PACE NIGHT

In an effort to titillate player's palates, The Meadowlands will increase the minimum bet on two existing wagers as well as adding a new one altogether to what is already one of the most interesting and popular betting menus in the harness game.

All of this will be happening Saturday (July 11) on the track's biggest night of the year, when eight stakes events – featuring the \$810,000 Meadowlands Pace presented by Genova Burns LLC – will be contested for estimated purse money totaling more than \$2.4 million.

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PURSE HIKE FOR SPIRIT OF MASSACHUSETTS TROT

On Sunday, July 19, Plainridge Park will once again host two outstanding Grand Circuit events when its signature stakes, the G2 Spirit of Massachusetts Trot and G3 Clara Barton Distaff Pace, will go postward during a special matinee card scheduled to start at 2 p.m. But this year, increased purses for both have seen nominations rise.

The Spirit of Massachusetts Trot has been contested for \$250,000 since it was first introduced in 2017. However, this year that purse was increased to \$300,000. And the Clara Barton, which has been run since 2019, saw a similar bump of \$50,000 from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

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HALL OF FAME WELCOMES CLASS OF 2026

The venue was different, but the celebration remained the same.

A power outage Sunday morning, coupled with a forecast for heavy rain and lightning later in the day, resulted in Sunday evening's Harness Racing Hall of Fame induction ceremony to be relocated from the lawn at the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y., to the Country Club at Otterkill in nearby Campbell Hall. Nevertheless, a large crowd gathered at the new location to celebrate the sport's Hall of Fame Class of 2026.

Vieux Carre Farms owner Dr. John Egloff, breeder/owner Marvin Katz, Blue Chip Farms founder Michael G. Kimelman, and Preferred Equine owner David Reid led the group, which was honored during the annual induction dinner on the museum lawn.

Inducted into the Communicators Hall of Fame were Dereck Givner and Tara Ellen Taylor.

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MOHAWK ROOKIE GRAND CIRCUIT RACES SET TO BEGIN JULY 10

Woodbine Mohawk Park is set to ramp up its Grand Circuit 2-year-old stakes with the Tompkins-Geers first up followed by a new format and increased purses for the Dream Maker, Whenuwishuponastar, Millard Farms and Pure Ivory.

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ADIOS \$3 PICK 3 ANNOUNCED AT THE MEADOWS

Hollywood Casino at The Meadows announces a new guaranteed pool wager that will be featured during the Adios Day card on Saturday, July 25.

The Adios Pick-3 will culminate in the \$350,000 final of the Grade 1 Delvin Miller Adios Pace for the Orchids, presented by 1/ST BET.

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BARTLETT ROLLS A SEVEN DURING WEDNESDAY'S BUFFALO PROGRAM

The New York Sire Stakes came to Buffalo Raceway on Wednesday with 2-year-old pacers of both sexes taking center stage, and while there were no major upsets, some good efforts were put in.

But the top performance belonged to driver Jason Bartlett, as he made the shuffle off to Buffalo well worth it, garnering seven victories, a second- and a third-place finish in 10 races. He collected two Sire Stakes wins and five in the Excelsior Series.

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BLOODED HORSE SALES COMPANY MOURNS PASSING OF JERRY M. HAWS

It is with profound sorrow and immense respect that the Blooded Horse Sales Company announces the passing of the Company's longtime General Manager and President, Jerry M. Haws. He was 85 years old. Jerry passed away peacefully on July 3, 2026, surrounded by his family following a battle with lung cancer.

Driven by Jerry M. Haws's deep commitment to the Company's long-term future, the Board of Directors placed a strong emphasis on proactive succession planning. To ensure a seamless transition, the Board appointed Jerry Haws, Jr. (JJ), as General Manager and President at the beginning of this year.

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TROTTERS CLASH IN 17 KENTUCKY SIRE STAKES CONTESTS AT OAK GROVE

Driver Dexter Dunn posted another five-win day on "Tuesday at the Trots" (July 7) at Oak Grove Racing, Gaming & Hotel, including a sweep of the \$60,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes (KYSS) "A" divisions for trotting 3-year-olds with a pair of Marcus Melander pupils, which were part of a three-win day for the trainer.

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HOPE HILL LOWERS TRACK RECORD IN KENTUCKY SIRE STAKES TRIUMPH

Virgil Morgan Jr. trainee Hope Hill out-footed the surrounding early speed to take the lead and cruise on the muscle to a track-record 1:49 1/5 victory in the \$80,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes (KYSS) "A" division for 3-year-old pacing fillies on Wednesday afternoon (July 8) at Oak Grove Racing, Gaming & Hotel.

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CALLIE ROCKS, MYSTICAL JK SCORE IN INDIANA SIRE STAKES

Two-year-old pacing fillies began their Indiana Sire Stakes journey at Harrah's Hoosier Park on Wednesday, July 8 with a pair of divisions. Callie Rocks, driven by Trace Tetrack for trainer Tyler George, set the tone by winning the \$65,500 first split. Meanwhile, Mystical JK, driven by Kyle Wilfong for trainer Jay Hochstetler, was shot out of a cannon down the stretch to take down the second section.

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ADIOS, ADIOO VOLO SUPPLEMENTAL ENTRY REMINDER

Hollywood Casino at The Meadows would like to remind horsemen that the track's two top stake races, the Grade 1 Delvin Miller Adios Pace, presented by 1/ST BET, and the Grade 3 Adioo Volo, both accept supplemental entries. The Adios, which is an Open 3YO pace, accepts supplemental entries for \$35,000. The Adioo Volo 3YO Filly Pace has a \$7,500 supplemental entry fee. Any questions regarding supplementing to the events should be directed to Race Secretary Tom Leasure at 724-225-9897.

-release (The Meadows)

2026 ARQANA SELECT YEARLING SALE CATALOGUE

The 2026 edition of the Select Yearling Sale will take place from Wednesday 2 to Friday 4 September. A total of 496 lots will be offered under the hammer during the three days. An exceptional selection of yearlings from the most prestigious breeding establishments and the best pedigrees will be available to buyers.

The most important stallions in the world will be represented at the sale, including Face Time Bourbon, Idao de Tillard, Walner, Muscle Hill, Boccador de Simm, Booster Winner, Tactical Landing, Gimpanzee, Hohnneck, Italiano Vero, Just A Gigolo, Krack Time Atout, Royal Dream, Ready Express, Horsy Dream, Bold Eagle and Father Patrick, etc.

The traditional showing in hand will take place at 2pm in the rue Jules Sausisse on Wednesday 2 September.

-edited release