DRF HARNESS DIGEST

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2026



CONRAD PHOTO

Wrong Sounds Right was the answer to trainer Jim Campbell's prayers in 2026 after his biggest client decided to sell off his stock at the end of last year



JAYWALKING

By Jay Bergman BergmanJay

Last year at this time trainer Jim Campbell was left to wonder about the future of his stable. Longtime patron Jules Siegel had just completed a full dispersal of his racing and breeding stock. Annually a steady flow of homebreds and expensive yearling purchases by Siegel would provide Campbell with a host of horses with stakes and Hambletonian potential. Following the dispersal Campbell was left with just seven horses.

"I had a lot of faith in Jesus Christ," Campbell said when asked of where he was spiritually at the time.

With just a few horses, keeping a positive outlook was essential to Campbell and drawing on his religious beliefs helped him to keep the faith.

Following the Breeders Crown this year and the dominating performance of Wrong Sounds Right, Campbell's prayers were answered in an overwhelming way. The homebred of Scott Farber had completed a memorable season, locking up divisional honors and certainly stamping himself as the favorite for the 2027 Hambletonian among other stakes events planned for his 3-year-old season.

Unlike Campbell's first two Hambletonian champions – Tagliabue (1995) and Cool Papa Bell (2022) – for Farber, Wrong Sounds Right's quest for the title won't come at The Meadowlands, with the race shifting to Hoosier Park for the 2027 edition.

"Yes, I'm stabled in New Jersey," said Campbell. "It would make it easier to race here, but it's

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The Hambletonian so wherever they race it I want to be in it and try to win it."

Managed perfectly throughout his 2-year-old campaign, Wrong Sounds Right, a son of Tactical Landing, has been turned out in Kentucky and will return to training for Campbell in mid-January.

"Once the stakes schedule comes out, Scott and I will map out a plan just as we did this year," said Campbell regarding Wrong Sounds Right's future racing plans.

Over the years Campbell has trained some exceptional 2-year-olds including 2002's Breeders Crown and divisional champion, the undefeated Broadway Hall. Asked to compare Wrong Sounds Right against the others, Campbell said of this year's champion, "He's number one and it's not close."

Obviously, the racing canvas has changed dramatically in nearly a quarter century, and when pointing to Wrong Sounds Right, Campbell made the distinction in what separates this horse from his past champions.

"If there's one word to describe him, I'd say professional," Campbell said. "When training down he would always trot right through the wire."

Still, like most trainers, Campbell couldn't be certain that training miles would turn into racing miles, but Wrong Sounds Right understood what was to come and continued to thrive once in against top-level New Jersey Sire Stakes company.

Wrong Sounds Right captured his first two legs of the New Jersey Sire Stakes platinum division at The Meadowlands but was unable to track down Lifetime Dreamer in the final on Hambletonian Day in a track record 1:51 1/5 mile. There was nothing to be ashamed of given Wrong Sounds Right's relentless closing speed and the fact that the horse had gone from trotting a mile in 1:56 four weeks earlier to a 1:51 4/5 clocking in a second-place finish.

The Sire Stakes defeat would be the last Wrong Sounds Right would suffer for the remainder of the season. He quickly came back to avenge his loss just a few weeks later while capturing the $250,000 New Jersey Classic final and earning his own 1:51 4/5 speed badge in the process while taking down a solid field that included Lifetime Dreamer.

Leaving New Jersey for the first time to race in the Mohawk Million could have been a concern for Campbell given the short trips the horse had previously made to The Meadowlands. The trainer was relieved of that major concern when Wrong Sounds Right easily adapted to the new situation.

"He made the long ship with Rebecca Titus," said Campbell of the horse's journey to Woodbine Mohawk Park. "He got off the trailer and was in the feed tub in the next hour."



Derick Giwner

Trainer Jim Campbell (holding horse on left) chats with longtime owner Scott Farber after Wrong Sounds Right won the Breeders Crown 2YO C&G Trot.

Wrong Sounds Right was more than a professional in the Mohawk Million, springing from the gate with quickness to find position in a flashy 26 3/5 opening quarter. When driver Todd McCarthy called on him, Wrong Sounds Right shifted gears and rolled on to an effortless 1:51 1/5 career-best clocking.

Travel wouldn't be a concern of Campbell's for the Breeders Crown but certainly the move to the five-eighths mile track would be a new challenge for Wrong Sounds Right. The Scioto Downs excursion found Wrong Sounds Right easily winning his elimination race on October 16, with few wishing to challenge his dominance and risk missing the rich final a week later.

In the October 23 Grade 1 $700,000 Breeders Crown final, Wrong Sounds Right would meet likely the toughest field he'd faced all year. Lifetime Dreamer, also an elimination heat winner, would be the main challenger and the Ake Svanstedt trainee would start inside of Wrong Sounds Right. Despite being sent to post as the 3-5 choice Wrong Sounds Right had to reckon with a host of horses leaving fast in a wicked 26 4/5 quarter. Once the dust had settled, driver Todd McCarthy used the straightaway in the second turn to advance with Wrong Sounds Right and the pair cleared the lead in a demanding 54 3/5 first half. A persistent challenge by the improving Access Now on the backstretch appeared to put Wrong Sounds Right in position to be outkicked by Lifetime Dreamer sitting in the pocket. Yet, in the stretch there was no battle, with Wrong Sounds Right establishing a new track record of 1:51 3/5 in his final effort of 2026.

"I was happy for Scott," said Campbell of the Breeders Crown win. "He'd been very loyal to me over the years, and it reminded me a lot of 1987 when about three quarters of my stable were horses I trained by Murray and Arlene Traub. After the Meadowlands Pace they took all the horses away and it was Run The Table owned by Scott's father that was one of just seven horses I had left."

Given the breadth of well-bred and conformed colts and fillies that find themselves in just a few major stables each year, it's somewhat remarkable that a homebred that didn't bring enough money at a yearling sale, would slay his rivals. Not quite the biblical David vs Golaith tale but not that far removed from it.

Campbell's faith has been rewarded as he'll enter the 2027 season with a stable that hovers around 20, with a majority of those coming 2-year-olds. Topping the group will be the early book favorite for next year's Hambletonian.

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Ranking the best pacing mares of the last half-century



EDITOR'S EYE

By Derick Giwner

HarnessEyeGuy

Watching Twin B Joe Fresh coast down the stretch at The Meadowlands on November 14 – in what was thought to potentially be her final race – sparked an internal conversation in my head on the 6-year-old's place in history among Harness Racing's elite pacing mares. What began as an innocent pondering turned into a deep dive down a rabbit hole that was seemingly endless.

The task of ranking horses of different generations is daunting. Even limiting the field to the previous 50 years, it is virtually impossible to compare the speed of a horse from 2026 to that of 2006, no less one from 1976. The earnings are also difficult to consider because there are so many additional opportunities now that didn't exist 10, 20, 30 or 50 years ago.

Seemingly the only logical way to embark on this mission is to separate horses by decades and compare them to their peers before considering a true Top 5 type list. Even then I found myself attempting to split hairs evaluating these Standardbred amazons over the last half-century. With that, below we'll present my top three from each of the last five decades and grudgingly narrowed down to just five horses (keep in mind that this is subjective and open to each person's opinion). Only mares that made some impact at age 4 or later are being considered.

1976 TO 1985

FAN HANOVER – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2000); 1981 Horse of the Year & 1982 Older Pacing Mare

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
72	45	9	8	$960,724	150 4/5TT	1980-1982

HANDLE WITH CARE – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2002)

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
99	53	7	10	$809,689	154 2/5	1973-1976

Notes: Raced against and beat the boys.

TOY POODLE – 1981 Older Pacing Mare

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
54	31	10	5	$434,793	153 4/5	1979-1984

HONORABLE MENTION: Green With Envy & Mistletoe Shalee

1986 TO 1995

ARMBRO FEATHER – 1988 & 1989 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
90	56	21	5	$1,454,927	151 3/5	1986-1989

SHADY DAISY – 1992, 1993 & 1994 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
142	53	28	20	$1,807,755	151	1990-1995

ELLAMONY – 1995 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
73	53	5	9	$1,425,285	150 3/5	1992-1996

HONORABLE MENTION: Delinquent Account

1996 TO 2005

RAINBOW BLUE – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2012); 2004 Horse of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
32	30	0	1	$1,428,934	149 2/5	2003-2005

Notes: 4-for-4 as a 4-year-old; career cut short due to tendon injury.

ETERNAL CAMNATION – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2011); 2001, 2002 & 2003 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
101	47	18	5	$3,748,574	149 2/5	1999-2004



FILE PHOTO

Rainbow Blue won 30 of 32 races and was perfect in four starts at age 4 before an injury ended her career.

BUNNY LAKE – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2010); 2001 Horse of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
93	47	20	14	$2,843,476	149	2000-2004

HONORABLE MENTION: Burning Point, Loyal Opposition, She's A Great Lady, Glowing Report

2006 TO 2015

PUT ON A SHOW – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2025)

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
50	31	9	2	$2,406,628	147 3/5	2009-2012*

Notes: *Missed 2011 season due to injury.

ANNDROVETTE – 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
144	45	22	27	$3,544,930	148	2009-2016

Notes: Finished tied for OPM award in 2014 with Rocklamation.

SOUTHWIND TEMPO – 2009 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
67	38	14	5	$2,396,362	148 2/5	2006-2010

HONORABLE MENTION: Rocklamation

2016 TO 2026

TWIN B JOE FRESH – 2024 Horse of the Year; 2025 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
64	44	12	3	$3,586,670	147 3/5	2022-2026

Notes: Likely 2026 OPM Award winner.

SHARTIN N – Harness Racing Hall of Fame (2025); 2019 Horse of the Year; 2018 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
55	39	9	1	$2,479,512	146 4/5	2018-2020

TEST OF FAITH – 2021 Horse of the Year; 2022 Older Pacing Mare of the Year

Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Life Mark	Years Raced
47	33	9	2	$2,416,011	147	2020-2023

HONORABLE MENTION: Pure Country, Sylvia Hanover, Grace Hill

Now comes the hard part. How do I choose the best between generations? How do I avoid bias to more recent horses which have faster times due to equipment and breed development? How do I evaluate horses from the 1970s and 1980s which I never watched with my own two eyes?

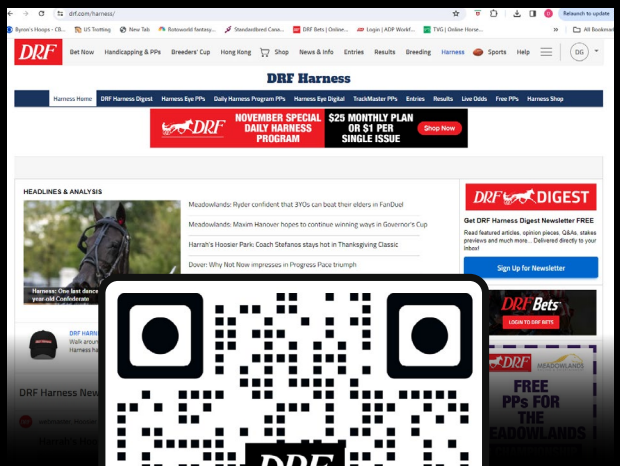
There are no easy answers to the above questions but ultimately I'm going to lean on a combination of facts and personal experience. Hopefully

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the explanations make sense to you, and if not, feel free to email me your top 5. I'd be happy to publish it.

1-SHARTIN N

In my eyes Shartin N and Twin B Joe Fresh could be 1 and 1A, but a decision had to be made. While I loved watching both horses, Shartin N wins by the narrowest of margins. Maybe it is the fact that she is the fastest pacing mare in history at 1:46 4/5. Everybody loves a show of speed! The Jim King Jr. trainee also owns a slightly better North American win percentage (70.9% to 68.7%). Additionally, Shartin N is the only older female pacer in history to eclipse the $1 million mark in a single season (2018).

2-TWIN B JOE FRESH

Again, I could've very easily placed her first on the list. Her statistics are phenomenal and maybe she would have a faster lifetime mark if co-owner Dexter Dunn didn't smartly conserve her speed as much as he did over the years and instead went for a record. Now that it has been announced that she will return as a 7-year-old in 2027, there is no reason to believe she won't produce another stellar season. Any moderate success (a couple of stakes wins) would make her the richest pacing mare of all time (she is only $674,290 away from becoming the third-richest Standardbred in North American history) and lock up the number one spot on this list.

3-RAINBOW BLUE

Rainbow Blue was the trickiest horse to evaluate because her career was cut short just four starts into her 4-year-old season due to a tendon injury. That said, she won all four of those third-year starts and there is no reason to believe that success wouldn't continue. As great as the horses on this list are, her 30-for-32 career record is other-worldly.

4-ETERNAL CAMNATION

While Eternal Camnation lacks the stellar win percentages of some of the other top mares on this list, she gets extra credit due to her competition. The Jeff Miller trainee had to knock heads with millionaires Bunny Lake, Burning Point, Loyal Opposition, Worldly Beauty and Carolina Sunshine. Despite the tough foes, she was able to win Older Pacing Mare of the Year honors three times and sits as the all-time leader in earnings for her division.

5-FAN HANOVER

I wasn't even in double digits in terms of age when Fan Hanover was in action but in her case the numbers speak for themselves. She won Horse of the Year as a 3-year-old and followed it up with a championship season at 4. She also is the only filly to win the Little Brown Jug. At a time in history where Niatross was the only horse capable of breaking the 1:50 barrier, Fan Hanover was second with a 1:50 4/5 time trial, placing her ahead of her time in terms of speed.



DERICK GIWNER PHOTO

When Twin B Joe Fresh walked out of the winner's circle at The Meadowlands on November 14 after winning the FanDuel Mare Pace, it was unknown if that would be her last race. According to a report on Standardbred Canada and confirmed by a USTA story, trainer Chris Ryder and the ownership group have decided to bring her back to race in 2027.

Read more on the decision for Twin B Joe Fresh to return to the races in 2027 here:

https://www.drf.com/news/harness-ryder-looking-forward-continue-racing-twin-b-joe-fresh



Giving thanks to the "little guys" in Standardbred Racing



CONFESSIONS

By Keith Gisser

It's November and that means with Thanksgiving around the corner, it's thankful time. It was just about six years ago that I was writing my DRF column from a hospital room, while the medical team tried to figure out why "my heart needed more cowbell." I also learned during that stay that Lasix is not a performance enhancing drug, unless you were talking about the number of bathroom performances you made. I am thankful that I am still here to joke about it.

As you know, I get sick and tired of people saying the little guy can't make it in this business. It simply isn't true. So I am going to tell you why I am thankful for some of the "little guy" (or people to keep it politically correct) stories this year.

First on my list, I am thankful for Pony Chrome, who won the Buckette for 3-year-old filly trotters at Delaware and two days later won the Illinois Sired Dygert championship at Springfield. While trainer Lewayne Miller is not a "little guy" with over 1,000 starts in all but one of the last 13 years, driver Lamar Wingard is. He has a whopping 31 drives this year, with seven wins. It is his most prolific year ever as a teamster, the first where he has topped the 30-drive mark. And Wingard, in his winner's circle comments at Delaware said, "This filly can make a bad driver look good. She's got a world of heart. I'm still in awe and in shock to even be here." It was a quote to rival John Campbell saying his Little Brown Jug win with Life Sign may have been the worst drive ever. By the way, Pony Chrome, a daughter of Southwind Chrome, sold for $8,900 at the Heartland Yearling Sale in Minnesota.

Speaking of little guys and the Heartland Sale, let's go to Minnesota and talk about trainer Dan Roland. While by his own admission he is no longer a little guy, his stable is. He has never had more than 140 training starts in a year, but 2026 ended a streak of five straight years (since moving to Minnesota from Iowa) where he trained at least one Minnesota champion. Not only that, but several of his trainees are homebreds and he has bred several other Minnesota champs. Roland has only posted a UTRS under .300 three times since 1997, and from 2008-2018 he was only below .400 once. Amazingly, he was north of .500 five times in a six-year period. I am thankful to have him training horses for me in the Land of 10,000 Lakes.

How about trainer Daren Harvey? After having never started more than 80 horses in a year until 2021, he has won Ohio Sires Stakes Championships in each of the last three years (LT Loverboy – 2- and 3-year-old colt trotter in 2024 and 2025) and 2-year-old pacing colt Dontruckwithme this year. "Trucker" also won the Next Generation and Ohio State Fair Stakes at Scioto Downs and ended his season with a second-place finish in the Ohio Breeders Championship, just missing an Ohio Triple Crown. Harvey has posted a gaudy .360 UTRS over the last two years while winning 101 races. In fact, throw in 2024 and he has won more races in three years (139) than he had in the 17 years prior (101). I am thankful that another "little guy" has proven he can be successful in the business.

How about being thankful for a little girl? Or filly. Express Go (Ready Express) stands 14.7 hands tall, much smaller than the average Standardbred. When she was mentioned to me, I could not find her in Pathway. That's because the 3-year-old trotter races in Norway. She is 11-for-11 this year. She wears no overcheck or headpoles and regularly beats the colts. She also has a Facebook fan club with over 8,000 members. I am thankful that someone pointed out this remarkable filly's story to me.

This year I am thankful for Scioto Downs (a "little" five-eighths track), which hosted the Breeders Crown this fall. I admit to being a proud Buckeye (heck, I have three horses named after lyrics in the Ohio State fight song), but I have never been prouder of our state's Standardbred industry. Joe Morris, Jason Roth and the Scioto team put on a great show over two weekends, with outstanding racing and a great atmosphere.

I am thankful for an Ohio high school basketball coach named John Cahill. Cahill started going to Raceway Park with his dad when he was a kid, and eventually got involved in horse ownership, even training a few of his own over the years, most notably Accanto Hanover, who John Campbell drove in an Arden Downs Stake at The Meadows in 2004. John was the founder of Cedar Point Beach Racing, the fractional group that got me back into horse ownership in 2021. Now, some 30 horses later, I am running my own small fractional group and having a blast doing it. John never had more than a couple horses at a time, but he is another "little guy" who was successful in our business.



CONRAD PHOTO

Pony Chrome winning the Buckette at the Delaware County Fairgrounds with Lamar Wingard in the bike.

And now for a couple of personal observations. I am thankful for all the trainers and drivers who have been involved with horses I own or owned. I am a little guy in horse ownership, and yet in each of the last four years I have had at least one horse racing for a state championship, winning titles in 2023, 2024 and 2025. This year I had four horses racing in state finals, and while we were unable to bring home a trophy, you can't tell me that was not a success. That success would not be possible without the horsemen I am affiliated with. Thank you.

I am thankful that my $1,000 mare Maggie's Way (who I have profiled here before and is now my $30,000 mare between training and breeding costs) has a perfect Sunfire Blue Chip colt on the ground and is back in foal, this time to Breeders Crown champ Gem Quality. Maggie can be a bit of an Alpha mare, but I am thankful that the folks at Spurwood Farm in Marysville, Ohio do such a great job with her and Sunny (Maggie's First Sun).

And of course, I am thankful for you reading my column and for all the tickets I have cashed this year. I hope you also get a chance to go cash sometime this month. Happy Thanksgiving!

Holloway with a NJSDF Final "Goal" at Meadowlands Saturday

By Jay Bergman

The Meadowlands stakes season closes out on Saturday night (Nov. 21) with freshman in action in four finals of the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund. Trainer Joe Holloway is hoping to close out the year on a winning note sending out Goal Oriented, a 2-year-old gelded son of Perfect Sting, in the $48,000 event for 2-year-old colt pacers.

"I knew it was going to be tough for him drawing post nine in the Governor's Cup," said Holloway, reflecting on the impossible journey in the November 14 $300,000 Grade 1 event at The Meadowlands. "Andy (McCarthy) had to choke him off the way they were racing."

Goal Oriented had found his footing late in the season and Holloway was hoping in entering the Governor's Cup that the race would look more like the winning effort in an elimination for the New Jersey Standardbred Fund that Goal Oriented captured over the Meadowlands surface on November 7. In that race, Goal Oriented waltzed to the half on the lead in just 57 and then paced a big final half winning in a career best 1:51 3/5 clocking.



LISA PHOTO

Goal Oriented won the final leg of the NJSDF series at The Meadowlands.

"He was making breaks earlier in the year," said Holloway. "We decided to geld him and he's been maturing."

Just a $17,000 yearling purchase at last year's Lexington Selected Sale, Goal Oriented is a half-brother to the 65-time winning Pointomygranson, a winner of $900K, as well as a pair of $500K plus winners in Burnout and Bath Bomb. With that kind of pedigree Holloway is hopeful that Goal Oriented will not only be good enough to capture Friday's contest but perhaps go on to greater success as a sophomore.

"I think if he continues to mature next year, he might be able to go against the top horses," said Holloway, who also trained Goal Oriented's sire Perfect Sting, a top sire in New Jersey.

"Perfect Sting's had a very good year," said Holloway of the stallion. "I think he's in the top seven for 2- & 3-year-olds."

Perfect Sting's sons represent three of the five horses in Saturday's second race at The Meadowlands. Goal Oriented starts from post five and will have to be at the top of his game facing Aintmyfirstro Deo (post 3), a winner in six of his 10 starts this year and on the board in his other four. Aintmyfirstro Deo finished second behind Goal Oriented the last time the two met, but that was in a $10,000 preliminary event and there's more on the line in Saturday's final. Trained by Megan Scran, Aintmyfirstro Deo has earned $220K this year and captured the $150,000 Platinum division final of the New Jersey Sire Stakes in a career-best 1:52 clocking on Hambletonian Day (August 7).

The New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund eligibility extends to horses bred within the state and thus Vavoom, a son of the New York-based stallion Huntsville, is eligible because he was bred at Walnridge Farms in Cream Ridge. Vavoom (post 4) has made but five starts this year but looks to have some talent if his 1:51 4/5 victory in just his second career start at Harrah's Philadelphia is any indication. Vavoom finished third behind Goal Oriented in his first appearance on the Meadowlands mile track and looks to improve for trainer Petter Englbom.

The $48,000 New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund final for 2-year-old filly pacers (race 6) finds Perfect Sting as the sire of five of the six finalists. Perfect Body (post 2) has won more races than the other five fillies in the field combined this year for trainer Chris Choate. Just a $20,000 yearling at Harrisburg in 2025, Perfect Body has earned $243,530 this year, with five wins in her 12 freshman starts. Brett Beckwith guides the filly looking to close out her season on a winning note.

A pair of $48,000 finals for trotters are on tap with six colts and geldings entered in race three and seven fillies behind the gate in race five. The fifth race looks to have a little more star power with HL Kapara (post 7), a winner of the $125,000 Kindergarten Series final here on October 31, seeking her fourth win of the year for trainer Harry Landy. HL Kapara, a daughter of Chapter Seven, was a strong closing third in the Grade 1 Goldsmith Maid final on November 14.

Day One Dandy (post 1) finished third behind HL Kapara in the Kindergarten final but hopes to turn the tables with the inside draw and addition of Lasix on Saturday. Trained by Nifty Norman, Day One Dandy, a $350,000 yearling purchase at the Lexington Selected sale in 2025, took a 1:54 mark capturing the $40,000 Silver division final of the New Jersey Sire Stakes on August 7.

First post for Saturday's 14-race Meadowlands card is listed for 6:20 p.m. (ET).

Update on injured driver Bruce Ranger

On Tuesday, November 17, the pacer The Unit fell behind the gate before the start of the race and driver Bruce Ranger was thrown to the infield. Ranger was stabilized on site before being transported to Rhode Island Hospital.

As a result of the fall, Ranger suffered multiple injuries including facial fractures, a concussion, a brain bleed, 11 fractured ribs, three fractured vertebrae and a fractured clavicle and spent the night in ICU. Ranger remains in ICU today (Nov. 18) but is being closely monitored and is expected to be moved to a private room, possibly as soon as this afternoon.

On a call to Bruce's wife Mary this morning, she said he is awake and in good spirits and is counting the number of races he has missed since the accident. And despite the number of broken bones he suffered, there are no surgeries scheduled as all are expected to heal on their own. If Ranger continues to remain stable and show improvement, he may be released as soon as this weekend to continue to heal at home.

Any further updates will be released if information becomes available.

A lifelong resident of Maine and a New England racing legend, Ranger is one of the most respected drivers in the sport. He is the all-time driving leader at Pompano Park and has been at the top of the driving colony at Plainridge Park for the last eight years. He has won 10,800 times during his career while posting earnings of over $53 million.

-release (By Tim Bojarski for Plainridge Park)

Brandon Blvd remains No. 1, Super Chapter closes the gap in Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Top 10 poll

by Ken Weingartner

Brandon Blvd retained the No. 1 spot in the Week 23 edition of the Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll, which saw one change in the Top 10 following the final major Grand Circuit stakes card of the season this past Saturday at the Meadowlands.

Brandon Blvd, who was idle, was at the top of the rankings for the fourth consecutive week. Super Chapter, who defeated On To Norway by a head in last week's FanDuel Open Trot Championship at the Big M, moved up to No. 2 in a swap of positions with On To Norway.

All the remaining positions in the Top 10 were unchanged. Twin B Joe Fresh was the only other horse in the Top 10 in action last week, winning the FanDuel Mare Pace Championship.

This season's final Grand Circuit event, the Progress Pace for 3-year-old male pacers at Bally's Dover, will be on Nov. 25. Eliminations were not necessary.



DERICK GIWNER

Super Chapter moved up to #2 in the voting after winning the FanDuel Open Trot final at The Meadowlands.

A poll will not be released next week. The final 2026 Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown poll will be released Dec. 2.

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: Week 23 – 11/18/2026

Rank	Name (1st Votes)	Age/Sex/Gait	Record	Earnings	Pts	Prv
1	Brandon Blvd (22)	3cp	14-10-3-1	$1,513,695	333	1
2	Super Chapter (9)	4ht	11-8-2-0	$1,343,207	321	3
3	On To Norway (1)	4gt	17-13-3-0	$1,010,500	244	2
4	Twin B Joe Fresh (2)	6mp	15-8-3-1	$724,191	241	4
5	Wrong Sounds Right	2ct	9-7-1-0	$948,750	191	5
6	Wall Of Fame (1)	2ft	10-10-0-0	$608,250	143	6
7	Nezuko Kamado S	3ft	12-8-1-0	$927,055	113	7
8	Miss Jum Jabber	3fp	19-14-3-1	$1,013,389	90	8
9	Big Ranger	3ct	14-9-1-1	$768,710	43	9
10	Apex	3ct	11-5-3-0	$971,803	39	10

ALSO: Women Layer 31; Loua Dipa 27; Diabolic Hill 23; Eastie Boy 13; Jersey Bulldog, Starstruck Dreamer 11; Birr Castle 9; Blazin Lou 7; Emoticon Legacy 6; Al Papi 5; Blue Ranger, Nix Nacken, Seaside Ubeaut, Warrawee Michelle 4; Shalom Hanover 3; Dandy Ideal, Redland Rocket Man 2; Shark Week 1.

Chris Coyle is Monticello-Goshen's Good Guy

Chris Coyle will be the recipient of the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) Monticello-Goshen Chapter's John Gilmour Good Guy Award at their annual awards banquet on December 8 in Campbell Hall, NY, which is presented by the New York Sire Stakes, and will be dedicated to John Manzi.

Perhaps best known for his stellar work on breeding farms and the care of and preparation of Standardbreds, New Hampshire native Chris Coyle actually got his start with trainer Earl Beatty on the backstretch stable areas of Rockingham and Foxboro at age fifteen. "I would clean stalls and take paddocks at night after high school," noted Coyle.

A gentle giant of a man, it was not until he was in college at the University of New Hampshire that he found himself inspired by the peaceful, yet productive nature of farm life at a local N.H. breeding facility. Without a doubt it has been a tremendous benefit for the harness racing industry that he continued to 'rub' horses until the right opportunity presented itself.

"Following college," Coyle continued, "I took a job with Gary Cameron at Pinehurst and ended up taking care of several colts owned by the Kimelman family."

It was shortly thereafter in 1983 that Hall of Famer William S. Brown offered Coyle a job prepping yearlings at Blue Chip Farm in Wallkill, New York. His talent was immediately evident to farm manager Brown, who sent a young Chris Coyle down to New Bolton Center to look after an injured Most Happy Fella.

Over time Coyle was promoted to foreman at Blue Chip and helped oversee the reign of such notable sires as On The Road Again, Meadow Road, Goalie Jeff and Precious Fella, just to name a few. Coyle spent nine years at the famed New York nursery before being offered a job as director of operations for Walnridge Farm in Cream Ridge, New Jersey in 1992.

Working closely with David A. Meirs III, Coyle was involved with some of the leading sires in the state of New Jersey, including Direct Scooter and Beach Towel, who are both grandsires of Somebeachsomewhere. This relationship was the catalyst that spawned one of the most memorable expeditions in harness racing history…the Niatross Tour.

"During a two-year span, 1996 and 1997, we visited 20 different cities and racetracks each year with the horse. Ellen Harvey organized the events and chronicled the experiences. It was a fabulous promotion, which was as fulfilling for me as it was for the fans. Everyone loved Niatross, he was a great hero for the sport," Coyle recalls.

In the late 90s a family matter facilitated a move down to a piece of land in North Carolina that Chris and his wife Georgia originally purchased a decade earlier as a retirement destination. Little did he imagine that this homestead would transform him and his talents into one of the most sought after Standardbred lay-up facilities on the East Coast.

Coyle's Olive Branch Farm was originally utilized by his longtime friend from Maine, Gordon Corey, who winters in Pinehurst. Eventually the local supporters grew to the late Buck Norris and Bob Bloodgood. When word got out how fit and sharp these racehorses looked when put back into training the big names with the big trucks started to roll in.

A familiar sight at the major yearling auctions, Coyle still shows yearlings and greets prospective customers for the Meirs family's Concord Stud Farm. Quick with a smile, or tidbits from his infallible memory of fifth generation genetics, Coyle is beloved by many and will be honored with the Good Guy Award when the Monticello-Goshen USHWA Chapter holds their 67th annual Awards Banquet, presented by the New York Sire Stakes, on Sunday, December 6, 2026.

As part of the annual festivities, the chapter will convey all of this season's New York Sire Stakes and U. S. Trotting District 8 Awards, which will be presented in addition to the year-end awards for horses and horse people from the local tracks.

Tickets for the gala event at The Country Club at Otterkill, Campbell Hall, NY, can be reserved by contacting Shawn Wiles at (845) 798-4074, or Email: swiles@rwcatskills.com.

To place a congratulatory ad, or a John Manzi remembrance ad in the souvenir journal, please contact Chris Tully at (845) 807-7538, or Email: tullytrot@yahoo.com.

-edited release (Monticello-Goshen USHWA Chapter)

RACE OF THE WEEK

2 MEADOWLANDS SAT

1 Mile Pace. NEW JERSEY STANDARDBRED DEVELOPMENT FUND - FINAL. 2 YEAR OLD COLTS & GELDINGS (DECLARATION FEE - $500) Purse $48,000

EXACTA AND TRIFECTA | 2nd HALF DAILY DOUBLE | PICK 3 (2-3-4)

1 TWIN B PLATINUM

2 1:55.3 (5/8) $2,258 SHS-HBG $19,000

b g 2, by Perfect Sting, Rhodium by Captaintreacherous

William W Shults,Watchung,NJ;Michael Shults,Fords,NJ

Last 5 Sts–$10,550 | 1:55.3 Phl 5/8 | 26 M1 1 0 0 0 $500 | 25 M1 0 0 0 0 | 24 M1 0 0 0 0 | 26 Tot 6 1 2 0 $13,550 | 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 – | Life 6 1 2 0 $13,550

8-1 D. Dunn 291-67-56-38 (.230) — **Pe. Engblom** 75-12-5-11(.160) — Br.- Twinbrook Limited,ON, CA

7 Nov26	2M1	fst51°	281	:57	1:243	1:513	NJ SDF	10000	4	441	44	443	45	571	DeDunn	PtrEngblm	29	284	274	272	1:53	85	+4 5w	24.70	GoalOrntd AntMFstRD Vavoom	Rode rail,no bid-6
23 Oct26	5Phl	fst60°	284	:58	1:263	1:542	2yoCGnw2	12000	2	213	211	211	23	22	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	291	29	283	28	1:544	82	+7 8w	1.80	TwnWldfre TwnPlatnm HngryRFed	-5
16 Oct26	12Phl	fst71°	273	:563	1:242	1:514	2yoCGnw2	12000	8	333	331	331	33	471	MHrschbrgr	PtrEngblm	282	284	274	281	1:531	90	+9 8w	30.80	TheTleGuy AsHnv Percival	-8
9 Oct26	10Phl	fst73°	282	:581	1:264	1:553	CGnw1PM	10500	2	113	111	2hd	12	11	SiAllard	PtrEngblm	282	294	283	284	1:553	78	+6 5w	*.70	TwnPlatnm BostnBchB RdoStrngr	-7
12 Sep26	8Phl	fst78°	28	:571	1:241	1:514	CGnw1PM	10500	5	543	45	461	45	471	SiAllard	PtrEngblm	29	291	271	274	1:531	90	+12 7w	30.10	Vavoom Seyltrhtr PrpleWyne	-8
4 Sep26	5Phl	fst87°	282	:581	1:264	1:553	2yoCGnw2	12000	1	334	331	331	32	212	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	29	294	283	282	1:554	77	+7 4w	8.50	FblsFiny TwnPlatnm NoEasyTch	-7
25 Aug26	3Phl	fst75°	31	1:02	1:314	2:014	Qua		5	13	132	211	412	24	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	31	31	30	294	2:014			nb	RchlsGirl TwnPlatnm DarkBeach	-5
18 Aug26	1Phl	fst80°	284	:582	1:273	1:552	Qua		6	211	212	212	33	352	PtrEngblm	PtrEngblm	29	293	291	283	1:562			nb	HesSMrvls FancyMiki TwnPlatnm	-6

2 JERZY GEORGE

2 1:53.3 (1) $3,530 SHS-HBG $15,000

br g 2, by Lazarus N, Holy Trinity by Captaintreacherous

Anthony L Olswfski,Florence,NJ

Last 5 Sts–$10,480 | 1:53.3 M1 | 26 M1 8 2 0 1 $27,450 | 25 M1 0 0 0 0 | 24 M1 0 0 0 0 | 26 Tot 11 3 1 1 $38,830 | 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 – | Life 11 3 1 1 $38,830

10-1 Y. Gingras 220-50-31-32 (.227) — **C. Freck** 21-2-0-1(.095) — Br.- Buckstone Land Livestock,PA

13 Nov26	2M1	gd41°	283	:564	1:241	1:52	4u nw2cd	20000	1	44	533	504	67	661	BrChishlm	ChFreck	292	281	272	281	1:531	86	-1 5w	12.60	DctrArgnHngrySprtEghtyOn	Sat,3w bf 3/4,no bid-8
7 Nov26	2M1	fst51°	281	:57	1:243	1:513	NJ SDF	10000	5	553	551	571	561	471	TiTetrick	ChFreck	292	283	28	27	1:53	85	+4 5w	25.80	GoalOrntd AntMFstRD Vavoom	Sat,ang ln,no bid-6
30 Oct26	9Phl	fst70°		:	:		2yoCGnw2	12000		scratched-sick													+4 6w			-6
17 Oct26	1M1	fst46°	272	:562	1:244	1:522	Rsance	45000	2	44	433	407	353	35	MHrschbrgr	ChFreck	281	29	29	271	1:532	84	-6 4w	nb	AntMFstRD FivAlrmFr JerzyGrge	-5
26 Sep26	13PcD	sly58°	282	:574	1:26	1:543	2YOCG	16000	6	661	4031	201	311	421	AnMcCrthy	ChFreck	293	284	274	284	1:55	87	+3 3w	5.70	Crunchsty TmCllns ShadowHil	Unc,chall,tired-6
11 Sep26	8Phl	fst82°	271	:554	1:234	1:52	2yoCGnw2	12000	1	331	33	111	11	23	MHrschbrgr	ChFreck	274	283	272	282	1:521	95	+10 4w	*1.20	LyknsValy JerzyGrge Smhrznsmw	-8
28 Aug26	9Phl	fst84°	284	:583	1:263	1:544	2yoCGnw2	12000	3	32	111	12	12	12	MHrschbrgr	ChFreck	291	292	28	281	1:544	82	+7 7w	*.10	JerzyGrge SocIJstce DreamHntr	-8
15 Aug26	6M1	fst77°	272	:554	1:242	1:524	Home Grown	45000	8	814	810	808	741	52	MHrschbrgr	ChFreck	301	273	281	271	1:531	85	+6 5w	23.50	YlwJcktBcsOddsOnVlvtDtch	Sat bk,2w bf 3/4,pace-9
7 Aug26	3M1	gd80°	28	:57	1:254	1:52	NJSS-Pltnm-R1	180000	5	563	56	56	591	58	AnMcCrthy	ChFreck	292	284	284	263	1:533	83	+3 6w	13.90	AntMFstRD VelvtDtch WeWantEzy	Traild,no bid-5
31 July26	2M1	fst79°	274	:571	1:251	1:533	NJSS-Silvr	10000	5	551	57	571	45	1hd	AnMcCrthy	ChFreck	284	294	28	27	1:533	82	+4 3w	nb	JerzyGrge YelowJckt KngOfStng	-5
17 July26	1M1	fst80°	29	:572	1:252	1:541	NJSS-Silvr	10000	1	214	221	211	21	1nk	AnMcCrthy	ChFreck	291	283	274	283	1:541	79	+4 5w	nb	JerzyGrge WhiskyStn KngOfStng	-4
10 July26	14M1	fst80°	283	:581	1:273	1:541	NJSS-Pltnm	25000	5	610	674	6061	781	791	BrBeckwth	ChFreck	303	29	291	271	1:56	71	+2 6w	39.10	AntMFstRDPerfctJoeVlvtDtch	Off pace,cvr,no bid-7
4 July26	8M1	fst85°	301	:592	1:283	1:564	Qua 2YO		1	211	22	211	22	211	AnMcCrthy	ChFreck	302	292	29	281	1:57			nb	Hascalvci JerzyGrge Furino	Pkt,ang ln,stdy lt-5

3 AINTMYFIRSTRO DEO

2 1:52 (1) Q ★ $22,075 LEX-SEL $27,000

b g 2, by Perfect Sting, Some Renditions by Somebeachsomewhere

Hutchison Harness LLC,North Ridgeville,OH

Last 5 Sts–$80,500 | 1:52 M1 | 26 M1 10 6 2 2 $220,500 | 25 M1 0 0 0 0 | 24 M1 0 0 0 0 | 26 ★ 10 6 2 2 +$220,750 | 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 – | Life 10 6 2 2 +$220,750

8-5 S. Zeron 269-30-35-34 (.112) — **M. Scran** 31-6-4-6(.194) — Br.- Deo Volente Farms LLC,NJ

7 Nov26	2M1	fst51°	281	:57	1:243	1:513	NJ SDF	10000	1	211	211	201	21	23	ScZeron	MeScran	282	284	273	27	1:514	94	+4 5w	*.50	GoalOrntd AntMFstRD Vvm	Pkt,2w bf 3/4,stdy-6
31 Oct26	7M1	fst51°	28	:563	1:242	1:503	Kndrgarten-G3	125000	7	214	211	214	22	321	ScZeron	MeScran	281	283	274	262	1:51	95	+4 0w	12.80	StrStrkDr Seine AntMFstRD	Pkt,ang ln,no bid-10
23 Oct26	8M1	fst51°	27	:543	1:23	1:504	KNDRGARTEN	25000	[11	523	505	4002	2hd	313	BrBeckwth	MeScran	273	28	274	274	1:511	97	-2 5w	2.00	Seine DbnrAntMFstRD	2nd ov,ld lane,ovrtkn-11
17 Oct26	1M1	fst46°	272	:562	1:244	1:522	Rsance	45000	5	112	114	121	123	12	BrBeckwth	MeScran	272	29	282	273	1:522	90	-6 4w	nb	AntMFstRD FivAlrmFr JerzyGrge	-5
8 Oct26	2M1	fst60°	292	:574	1:263	1:532	Qua		4	66	56	541	23	241	JaBartltt	MeScran	303	282	282	264	1:541			nb	SeineAntMFstRDThTlGy	Sat bk,2nd ov,no bid-6
11 Sep26	11M1	fst73°	272	:561	1:241	1:514	NJClassicF-R2	150000	9	43	3012	112	12	2hd	ScZeron	MeScran	28	282	274	273	1:514	93	-1 5w	*.20	FvAlrmFrAntMFstRDGlOrntd	Brsh,ld bf 3/4,tuf beat-9
29 Aug26	2M1	fst72°	274	:563	1:243	1:521	KNDRGARTEN	25000	1	104	114	112	122	113	CoCallahn	MeScran	274	284	28	273	1:521	91	+5 8w	*.05	AntMFstRDYlwJcktKngOfStng	Pkt,ld pst 1/4,handy-6
7 Aug26	3M1	gd80°	28	:57	1:254	1:52	NJSS-Pltnm-R1	180000	2	114	112	112	12	142	YaGingras	MeScran	28	29	284	261	1:52	93	+3 6w	*.20	AntMFstRD VelvtDtch WeWantEzy	Ld,won handily-5
31 July26	1M1	fst79°	272	:57	1:26	1:52	NJSS-Pltnm	25000	2	113	114	112	112	12	ScZeron	MeScran	272	293	29	26	1:52	92	+4 3w	nb	AntMFstRD VelvtDtch WeWantEzy	-3
17 July26	3M1	fst80°	28	:57	1:25	1:523	NJSS-Pltnm	25000	6	661	551	533	331	1nk	ScZeron	MeScran	291	284	274	264	1:523	87	+4 5w	*.60	AntMFstRDVlvtDtchWWntEzy	Bad cvr,fand out,drvng-6
10 July26	14M1	fst80°	283	:581	1:273	1:541	NJSS-Pltnm	25000	2	113	112	114	11	11	ScZeron	MeScran	283	293	292	263	1:541	81	+2 6w	*.70	AntMFstRD PerfctJoe VelvtDtch	Ld,won handily-7
1 July26	5PcD	fst86°	292	:591	1:273	1:553	Qua		5	112	114	112	12	11	ScZeron	MeScran	292	294	282	28	1:553			nb	AntMFstRD Harbaugh CocoWells	-6
19 Jun26	1M1	fst75°	302	:584	1:273	1:541	QUA 2 YR C		3	333	341	3021	333	233	DeDunn	MeScran	311	282	282	27	1:55			nb	WshwvAntMFstRDABtrDrm	Sat,2w bf 3/4,clr 2nd-7

4 VAVOOM(L)

2 1:51.4 (5/8) Q $3,820 SHS-HBG $20,000

b g 2, by Huntsville, Outtathisworld by Rocknroll Hanover

William W Shults,Watchung,NJ;Michael Shults,Fords,NJ

Last 5 Sts–$19,700 | 1:51.4 Phl 5/8 | 26 M1 2 0 1 1 $6,200 | 25 M1 0 0 0 0 | 24 M1 0 0 0 0 | 26 ● 5 2 2 1 $19,100 | 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 – | Life 5 2 2 1 $19,100

2-1 J. Bartlett 269-45-33-38 (.167) — **Pe. Engblom** 75-12-5-11(.160) — Br.- Walnridge Farm Inc & Sherri K Meirs,NJ

7 Nov26	2M1	fst51°	281	:57	1:243	1:513	NJ SDF	10000	2	334	321	3024	321	32	JaBartltt	PtrEngblm	284	283	273	27	1:52	92	+4 5w	2.80	GoalOrntd AntMFstRD Vavoom	3hole,2nd ov,stdy-6
24 Oct26	11M1	fst51°	274	:553	1:24	1:51	4u nw2cd	20000	1	44	441	4021	311	223	BrBeckwth	PtrEngblm	283	274	28	271	1:513	93	+6 5w	*.30	SwetPtePvVvmCvndsh	Rail,2w bf 3/4,no bid-9
16 Oct26	9Phl	fst71°	27	:573	1:251	1:531	CGnw1PM	10500	4	15	111	12	14	163	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	27	303	273	28	1:531	92	+9 8w	*.05	Vavoom OdsAmster DaveSpdro	-7
12 Sep26	8Phl	fst78°	28	:571	1:241	1:514	CGnw1PM	10500	3	334	331	12	112	121	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	284	29	262	273	1:514	97	+12 7w	*.60	Vavoom Seyltrhtr PrpleWyne	-8
4 Sep26	12Phl	fst87°	272	:56	1:231	1:511	2yoCGnw2	12000	6	810	810	7093	67	26	SiAllard	PtrEngblm	292	283	271	271	1:522	96	+7 4w	3.40	BetOnMoke Vavoom Beeville	-8
25 Aug26	1Phl	fst75°	303	1:021	1:31	1:582	Qua		2	463	45	201	12	12	CoCallahn	PtrEngblm	32	311	274	272	1:582			nb	Vavoom Vandros BigMDimnd	-5
18 Aug26	3Phl	fst80°	302	:592	1:281	1:57	Qua		3	22	22	211	21	114	PtrEngblm	PtrEngblm	304	29	283	283	1:57			nb	Vavoom Whtmywnts Vandros	-5

5 GOAL ORIENTED

2 1:51.3 (1) $4,781 LEX-SEL $17,000

b g 2, by Perfect Sting, Sangaal by Real Desire

Val D'Or Farms,Bluffton,SC

Last 5 Sts–$12,250 | *1:51.3 M1 | 26 M1 7 2 1 1 $35,250 | 25 M1 0 0 0 0 | 24 M1 0 0 0 0 | 26 Tot 9 2 1 1 $43,030 | 25 Tot 0 0 0 0 – | Life 9 2 1 1 $43,030

5-2 J. Bongiorno 553-115-99-64 (.208) — **J. Holloway** 58-9-7-2(.155) — Br.- Mark A Smith,KY

14 Nov26	11M1	fst43°	272	:552	1:221	1:501	Gov Cup-G1	300000	9	7061	7005	1112	1115	1119	AnMcCrthy	JoHollowy	283	274	281	292	1:54	83	+1 6w	122.80	EastieBoy Hades Seine	3w,traild bf 3/4,trd-11
7 Nov26	2M1	fst51°	281	:57	1:243	1:513	NJ SDF	10000	3	114	114	11	11	13	JoBongirn	JoHollowy	281	284	273	27	1:513	94	+4 5w	3.60	GoalOrntd AntMFstRD Vavoom	Ld,won handily-6
31 Oct26	10M1	fst51°	281	:564	1:252	1:522	5u nw2cd	20000	1	523	53	505	312	23	AnMcCrthy	JoHollowy	284	283	29	261	1:523	88	+4 0w	59.50	EghtyOnGlOrntdChckOtLl	2nd ov,bad cvr,pace-9
17 Oct26	1M1	fst46°	272	:562	1:244	1:522	Rsance	45000	3	323	321	36	511	517	ViGinsbrg	JoHollowy	28	284	291	294	1:554	71	-6 4w	nb	AntMFstRD FivAlrmFr JerzyGrge	-5
2 Oct26	7Lx1	gd72°	28	:562	1:243	1:522	BLUEGRASS-G3	89300	7	712	610	663	663	662	AnMiller	JoHollowy	302	28	273	273	1:533	85		47.29	StnBlitz OceanPrty DogDareU	-8
11 Sep26	11M1	fst73°	272	:561	1:241	1:514	NJClassicF-R2	150000	3	661	653	54	45	321	AnMiller	JoHollowy	283	284	273	271	1:521	89	-1 5w	109.50	FivAlrmFrAntMFstRDGoalOrntd	Inside,ang ln,pace-9
1 Sep26	6Lx1	fst93°	281	:561	1:244	1:514	GOLDENROD	15000	2	673	7081	86	75	761	AnMiller	JoHollowy	294	28	281	27	1:53	88		57.50	ABetrDrem BrunoStn MdngtDrv	-8
23 Aug26	1Lx1	fst80°	301	:59	1:282	1:553	Qua 2YO		1	3021	12	12	121	111	AnMcCrthy	JoHollowy	303	282	292	271	1:553			nb	GoalOrntd EmmaStn SweetRoo	-5
16 Aug26	2Lx1	fst92°	281	:551	1:244	1:54	QUA T/P		6	x6dis	6°ds	5dis	520	5dis	AnMcCrthy	JoHollowy					2:004			nb	IntrnlDlg Sublime Crucio	-7
24 July26	3M1	fst74°		:	:		KNDRGARTEN	25000		scratched-sick													+4 9w			-7
17 July26	3M1	fst80°	28	:57	1:25	1:523	NJSS-Pltnm	25000	1	3bt021	6x91	616	620	6dis	AnMcCrthy	JoHollowy	282	302	292	311	1:592	55	+4 5w	5.30	AntMFstRDVlvtDtchWWntEzy	Wide pst 1/4,brk bf 3/4-6
10 July26	1M1	fst80°	281	:57	1:253	1:552	NJSS-Silvr	10000	1	1	1	1	x1	1	MHrschbrgr	JoHollowy				294	1:552	75	+2 6w	nb	GoalOrntd	-1
10 Jun26	2Gy1	gd78°	313	1:014	1:29	1:56	Qua 2YO		3	113	21	323	431	451	MHrschbrgr	JoHollowy	313	302	273	272	1:57			nb	Wishawave BluEydStr NorthRim	-4

No coupled entries per NJRC. Vavoom - First Lasix

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dgiwner@drf.com

MULTIPLE PLACEMENT DISCOUNTS

Meadowlands FanDuel/Fall Final Four recap

The Meadowlands hosted the final big night of stakes action on the 2026 harness racing calendar last Saturday (Nov. 14) night, and while real-feel temperatures were chilly in the high 30s, the action on the track was as hot as the Fourth of July.

Typically, Fall Final Four/FanDuel Championships Night at The Big M delivers outstanding performances from outstanding performers, with some of the outcomes likely going a long way toward determining some Dan Patch divisional champions.

The eight stakes races that took place that evening – with a snapshot of what went down – were:

• Race 4: $150,000 FanDuel Open Mares Trot – Marcus Melander-trainee Tactical Moni was looking for a third straight win and a likely divisional title, but the 3-5 favorite went off stride at the start, opening the door for Warrawee Michelle, an Ake Svanstedt student, to record a 1:51 3/5 win, which should give her a second consecutive Dan Patch Older Trotting Mare of the Year award.

• Race 5: $300,000 FanDuel Open Trot – In the evening's most-anticipated matchup, Super Chapter and On To Norway went at it for a fifth – and final – time. At the conclusion of a pulse-pounding 1:50 2/5, Super Chapter prevailed by a head over his rival, and likely will now walk away with not only divisional honors, but quite possibly, Trotter of the Year as well despite having two wins compared to On To Norway's three in their head-to-head meetings. Super Chapter is now heading for stud duty at Hanover Shoe Farms.

• Race 6: $150,000 FanDuel Open Mares Pace – The amazing Twin B Joe Fresh finished her season with a fifth consecutive win, crushing her foes by an easy 2 lengths. But was it the final start of a career that has seen her earn almost $3.6 million? After the race, trainer Chris Ryder left some hope for fans who want to see her return as a 7-year-old. It was reported on Wednesday (Nov. 18) that TBJF will be back to race in 2027, according to Ryder.

• Race 7: $300,000 FanDuel Open Pace – Women Layer crushed as the 3-5 favorite by three lengths in 1:47 4/5, taking down defending division-title holder Ervin Hanover, who finished second. This division is not an easy call as Breeders Crown champ Dandy Ideal figures to get respect at the ballot box for the Dan Patch trophy.

• Race 8: $383,830 Valley Victory (2YOCGT) – Bentley Blue Chip was on his way to an easy win before going off stride late, giving Command Center the victory.

• Race 9: $386,830 Goldsmith Maid (2YOFT) – Driver Yannick Gingras kept Nevis Peak close to the action before sailing past the previously unbeaten Kountry Plunge in a lifetime-best 1:53 2/5. Breeders Crown champion Birr Castle rallied to be a respectable fourth.

• Race 10: $300,000 Three Diamonds (2YOFP) – Tempting Flames used a remarkable drive from Jason Bartlett to win for the sixth time this year in 11 starts. She got shuffled to fifth at three-quarters and was still in traffic at the head of the stretch as Holy built a 4-length edge, but rallied along the inside late to pull off what was a miracle score as the 3-5 favorite.

• Race 11: $300,000 Governor's Cup (2YOCGP) – The final big dash of the night went to the Ron Burke-trained Eastie Boy, who will no doubt get plenty of divisional honor consideration when you consider that earlier this year he won the Metro at Mohawk.

FABULOUS FRIDAY: The feature race at The Meadowlands on Friday (Nov. 20) finds a star from the Burke barn, who specializes in racing on half-mile tracks, looking to win again on the mile oval.

Antognoni S, who will likely go in the MGM Grand Prix in December at Yonkers Raceway, will look to stay sharp in the eighth race. He will depart from post 8 taking on French Wine (post 7), who was third to Antognoni S on Nov. 6 before a sixth-place finish in the FanDuel Open Trot.

-edited release (by Dave Little for Meadowlands)

NO ELIMS NEEDED FOR PROGRESS PACE

A field of seven will compete in the $223,960 Progress Pace at Dover Downs on Wednesday, November 25 as eliminations were not needed for the 3-year-old showdown.

The field will include: Al Papi, Fragment, Highland B Best, Melillo, Odds On Mr Mamba, Show Me Your Ace and Toast Of The Town.

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, NOVEMBER 19

Race 8

(7) THE BRODSTER continues to have no luck with getting a good post position but his form is great, and he's back in the stable he won out of on October 8 & 15.

-Greg Reinhart

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Race 2

(6) LULULEMON HANOVER nearly won her career debut, finishing second by a head, and should improve with that experience.

-Kevin Plowcha

Race 4

(3) KIT KAK dropped a couple of starts back but drew poorly both times. She moves to the inside of the gate now versus a formless field and could be an interesting play.

-Derick Giwner

Race 7

(1) FRONT PAGE STORY never gives a poor effort and when in the right scenario she'll be right there at the wire. I can't pass on her starting from the rail.

-Matt Rose

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Race 6

(2) PERFECT BODY jumps off the page as much the best. Expect an aggressive steer at short odds.

-Giwner

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

NEWS FROM AROUND THE HARNESS INDUSTRY

CRUISING MIST CONQUERS AGAIN IN DSBF FILLY PACE

Legacy Racing of Delaware's homebred Cruising Mist cemented herself as the likely favorite in next week's $110,000 Delaware Standardbred Breeders' Fund series championship for 2-year-old pacing fillies with her 1:55 3/5 win in the first of two $20,000 second-round divisions on Wednesday (Nov. 18) at Bally's Dover.

READ MORE

COMMAND CENTER, NEVIS PEAK EARN FINAL DERBY AND OAKS BERTHS

The Road to the 2027 Oak Grove Trotting Derby and Oaks officially concluded its automatic qualifying series this weekend as Command Center and Nevis Peak captured their respective Fall Final Four events at The Meadowlands.

READ MORE

MGM GRAND PRIX PACE & TROT CHANGED TO INVITATIONALS

The 2026 MGM Grand Prix Pace and MGM Grand Prix Trot are coming up on Saturday, December 19 at MGM Yonkers Raceway. Unlike previous years, this year they will be one race each rather than a series, with 10 horses going for $200,000 at 1 1/4 miles on each gait.

READ MORE

BIG M TO STAY WITH LOWER 2YO STAKES PAYMENT

In this era of tariffs irritating one and all, management at The Meadowlands has decided to dial back on stakes payments for a quick-approaching check that owners of 2-year-olds will have to write if they wish to race in some of the sport's biggest races at its top venue in 2027.

The track's Chief Operating Officer and General Manager Jason Settlemoir put out this statement:

"Originally, we were going to implement a $600 tariff on yearlings that wanted to race here that came from a farm that did not sponsor at The Meadowlands. (Big M Chairman and Chief Executive Officer) Jeff (Gural) and I have agreed to remove the $600 and go with $400 only. That $400 for all 2-year-olds is due on Feb. 15th to race at The Meadowlands."

-release (Dave Little for Meadowlands)

PREFERRED EQUINE ONLINE MIXED SALE GROSSES $857,550

Preferred Equine Online (PEO) conducted its November 16 Mixed Sale yesterday, with 38 horses selling for a gross of $857,550 and an average of $22,567.

Leading the way was Hip 13, a share in the stallion Captain Corey, which sold for $180,000. Also among the stronger sellers were the three-year-old filly T H Check Me Out, selling for $61,000 and the broodmare Marilyn Ruth, who sold in foal to In Range for $60,000.

The results continue Preferred Equine Online's consistent track record of solid trade since launching in 2022. Past sales have regularly produced strong averages, high clearance rates, and standout lots ranging from high-quality racehorses to breeding stock and shares, reflecting ongoing buyer confidence in the platform's transparency and reach.

Complete results are available at preferredequineonline.com.

The next PEO Mixed Sale is scheduled for Monday, November 23. Entries already include stallion shares, 2027 breedings, in-foal broodmares, and racehorses.

For more information, visit preferredequineonline.com or contact Preferred Equine Online at 914-773-7777.

-release (Preferred Equine)

MARYLAND STALLION REGISTRATION DUE DECEMBER 1

The Maryland Standardbred Race Fund reminds breeders, owners, and stallion managers that stallion registration for the 2027 breeding season is due by December 1, 2026.

All stallions standing in Maryland must be registered with the Maryland Standardbred Race Fund for their resulting foals to be eligible to compete in the Maryland Sire Stakes program. The registration fee is $500 if submitted by December 1, 2026. Late registrations will be accepted, but at an increased rate: $750 if received after December 1 but on or before January 1, 2027 $1,500 if received after January 1 but on or before February 1, 2027.

It is strongly recommended that all payments and forms be sent via certified or priority mail for tracking purposes to: Maryland Standardbred Race Fund P.O. Box 1530 Ocean Pines, MD 21811-1530

Updated Stallion Registration forms are available online at www.msrfonline.com or by contacting the office at (410) 775-0152.

The Maryland Sire Stakes program continues to experience exciting growth, with 2026 Finals purses reaching $100,000 — the largest in program history. Finals are held at both Ocean Downs (⅛-mile track) and Rosecroft Raceway (5/8-mile track), showcasing the strength and competitiveness of Maryland-sired Standardbreds.

With record purses and expanding opportunities, Maryland remains an ideal location to stand both first-year sires and relocated stallions.

-release (Maryland Standardbred Race Fund)

RACING APPLICATIONS FOR 2027 AT YONKERS NOW AVAILABLE

Racing applications for the 2027 MGM Yonkers Raceway racing season are now available.

Copies can be picked up in the Yonkers race office, on soaofny.com or by emailing jpiassek@empirecitycasino.com. Applications must be filled out, signed, dated and sent to the race office by December 15.

Anyone who is interested in racing at MGM Yonkers Raceway in 2027 must fill one out.

Outside of Saturday programs on December 7 and 14 that begin at 3:30 p.m. (EST), MGM Yonkers Raceway is operating on a Monday through Friday live schedule with first race post time each night at 6:45 p.m. (EST).

-release (Yonkers Raceway Media)

HELPISONTHEWAY HEADS TO MICHIGAN FOR 2027 BREEDING SEASON

After seven successful breeding seasons in Indiana, nationally ranked trotting stallion Helpisontheway is on the move to Michigan, where he will stand at LilliVin Farm for the 2027 breeding season at a service fee of $4,000.

Owner Jon Wiesman sees the relocation as an opportunity for the son of Chapter Seven to establish another successful chapter in his breeding career, while contributing to renewed optimism surrounding Michigan's harness racing industry.

"I think it's a great opportunity for Michigan," said Wiesman. "They're kinda starting over, he's kinda starting over. And we know he can produce. I think the sky's the limit for the horse."

Helpisontheway made an immediate impact on Indiana's breeding industry. With his first crop, he ended Swan For All's decade-long reign as the state's leading sire of two-year-old trotters, establishing himself as a major force in the regional market.

He has produced Indiana Sires Stakes champions every year since, including Yo Beth D, a Super Final champion with earnings of almost $800,000 and two-time Super Final champion Eugene The Genius, with earnings of nearly $526,000.

His influence has extended to the national stage through Helpfirstedition, a Breeders Crown finalist and Indiana Sires Stakes Super Final champion with earnings exceeding $635,000.

Internationally, Harperseven has added to his sire's credentials, earning Australian 2-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year honours and becoming a Group 1 winner.

Overall, Helpisontheway's offspring have earned more than $10 million, with 111 having recorded miles in 2:00 or faster and 28 achieving marks of 1:55 or faster.

A Vote of Confidence in Michigan Racing

The announcement is being welcomed as an encouraging development for Michigan's harness racing industry, where efforts are underway to strengthen the state's racing and breeding programs.

-release (AK Media)