

### Will Golden Receiver Be A Two-Time Presidential Winner?

Golden Receiver's quest to join Red BowTie (1998-99) as the only repeat winner of the Presidential final at the Meadowlands begins Saturday night when the 8-year-old gelding lines up behind the gate in post one in the first of two \$40,000 divisions of this year's renewal of the series for older pacers.



Joseph Kyle Photo

**"He's well and healthy and we have to race, but I won't say he will (repeat). That's why we go race!"**

— Mark Harder

Trainer Mark Harder declined to answer when asked about Golden Receiver's chances for back-to-back Presidential final victories. This year's \$110,000 (est.) final is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 26.

"You can't get too far ahead of yourself; horse racing is horse racing and anything can happen," he said. "He'll probably go into it as the favorite. He's well and healthy and we have to race, but I won't say he will (repeat). That's why we go race."

Golden Receiver swept his way through the 2012 Presidential Series, including an all-time January-fastest 1:48 mile in the opening round. That clocking also happens to be a career mark for the son of Village Jove. Golden Receiver then won his division of the second round in 1:49.2, which was followed up by a 1:49.1 score in the \$110,500 final.

Golden Receiver has a career slate of 122-50-18-23, with a stellar record at the Meadowlands of 53-20-8-12. Golden Receiver has career earnings of \$1,609,758, with \$807,010 earned at the Big M.

Besides the Presidential final, Golden Receiver's other major victories at the Big M last year included the \$180,000 Graduate

*Continues on page 2 >>>*

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### PRESIDENTIAL SERIES

#### Meadowlands, Sat., Jan. 12, \$40,000 1st div., Race 2, Post Time: 7:34 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Golden Receiver	T. Tetrick/M. Harder	4-5
2—Modern Legend	J. Campbell/D. Drew	6-1
3—Abelard Hanover	C. Callahan/A. Callahan	20-1
4—Meirs Hanover	Y. Gingras/R. Burke	4-1
5—Fred And Ginger	D. Miller/R. Burke	9-2
6—Malak Uswaard N	R. Pierce/P. Tritton	12-1

#### \$40,000 2nd div., Race 6, Post Time: 8:51 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Nob Hill High	E. Carlson/B. Saunders	8-1
2—Second Wind N	T. Tetrick/P. Tritton	12-1
3—Annieswesterncard*	R. Pierce/R. Burke	7-2
4—Dial Or Nodial	D. Miller/Ji. Campbell	9-5
5—Rockin The House*	Y. Gingras/R. Burke	7-2
6—Versado	A. Miller/N. Surick	9-2
7—Mr. Hasani N	Jo. Campbell/D. Cassar	3-1

\* coupled in wagering

final, the \$242,500 U.S. Pacing Championship and the \$431,400 William Haughton Memorial.

Brian Sears directed Golden Receiver to his 2012 Presidential victory, but Harder has now enlisted the services of Tim Tetrick. Tetrick has driven Golden Receiver seven times over his career, with his only victory coming last time out on Jan. 5 when the pacer won a Free For All at the Meadowlands in gate-to-wire fashion in 1:48.4—with a last quarter of :25.4. The effort was Golden Receiver's 16th sub-1:50 victory, tying him with Lis Mara with the most all time.

The race was also Golden Receiver's first since finishing second in the Nov. 10 American National at Balmoral Park.

"He's not a horse that likes to be turned out," said Harder. "He stayed in the barn and jogged every second day for a bit. He freshened up really quick. We plan to follow the same route as we did last year." — *By Gordon Waterstone*

### A Winning Hand For Holdingallthecards

For most card games you only play with what is in your hand. Luckily for Wisconsin-based owner William McIntyre, he is holding all the cards when it comes to the opening round of the Clyde Hirt Series at the Meadowlands on Friday.

Holdingallthecards is a 4-year-old gelding by Cam's Card Shark who is the 9-5 favorite in his division of the Clyde Hirt. He has earned \$68,335 in less than a year of racing and kicked off 2013 with an impressive performance at the Meadowlands for trainer Scott DiDomenico and driver Tim Tetrick. Trainer John Butenschoen originally purchased Holdingallthecards at the 2010 Harrisburg sale for \$8,500.

"He was a real good colt who I loved and staked into everything, Breeders Crown and all," said Butenschoen. "We trained him down to 2:08, and he bowed both tendons. We decided to turn him out and sold him later on."

McIntyre bought the horse when he was unraced for "a little more than Amish price," according to Robert Phillips, who trained the horse while he was in Illinois.

**"He is the horse to beat in this series for sure."**

— *Tim Tetrick on Holdingallthecards*

A leading trainer in Illinois, Phillips said that from the first training, Holdingallthecards was "easy going and never pulled. He was good plain and simple."

Phillips started the horse in early summer with modest results. The colt continued to drop seconds off his time each race with several speedy last quarters including one last panel in :26 flat. Once September and October rolled around, Holdingallthecards was stringing several wins together. The victories included a lifetime-best 1:50.4 effort on Oct. 27 at Balmoral Park.



New Image Media Photo

## WEEKEND FEATURED RACES

### Friday, January 11

All times listed are local.

7:15p	M1	<b>Clyde Hirt Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
7:34p	M2	<b>Clyde Hirt Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
7:54p	M3	<b>Clyde Hirt Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
8:32p	M5	<b>Clyde Hirt Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
9:30p	YR8	<b>Open Trot</b>	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>

[Click here to download all Friday PPs](#)

### Saturday, January 12

7:34p	M2	<b>Presidential Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
8:50p	YR6	<b>Open Pace</b>	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>
8:51p	M6	<b>Presidential Pace</b> div.	<a href="#">Trackmaster PPs</a>

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### HarnessRacing Weekend Preview

**Kathy Parker**

[kparker@harnessracing.com](mailto:kparker@harnessracing.com)

Editor/ General Manager

**Lynne Myers**

[lm Myers@harnessracing.com](mailto:lm Myers@harnessracing.com)

Advertising Manager

**Gordon Waterstone**

[gwaterstone@harnessracing.com](mailto:gwaterstone@harnessracing.com)

Associate Editor

**Jay Hochstetler**

[jhochstetler@harnessracing.com](mailto:jhochstetler@harnessracing.com)

Intern

**Suzanne Starbuck**

[sstarbuck@harnessracing.com](mailto:sstarbuck@harnessracing.com)

Production Manager

**Heather Kemper**

[hkemper@harnessracing.com](mailto:hkemper@harnessracing.com)

Assistant Production Manager

**Suzy Hall**

[shall@harnessracing.com](mailto:shall@harnessracing.com)

Production & Design

**Stephanie Condron-Hall**

[scondronhall@harnessracing.com](mailto:scondronhall@harnessracing.com)

Editorial Art Director

**Sherry Lane**

[slane@harnessracing.com](mailto:slane@harnessracing.com)

Accounting & Circulation

For mail sent via U.S. Postal Service, either P.O. Box 8480, Lexington, KY 40533, or 1910 Harrodsburg Rd., Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503. (859) 276-4026

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**To sign up for the Weekend Preview please visit [www.harnessracing.com/members\\_sign\\_up.php](http://www.harnessracing.com/members_sign_up.php)**

Holdingallthecards went to the Meadowlands for his first 2013 appearance under the care of DiDomenico and won that Jan. 5 start in 1:51.3 under the direction of Tetrick.

"He looked like the best horse in the race so I gave him a shot," said Tetrick. "He is a very good horse with great gate speed and gives you an honest effort out on the track. He is the horse to beat in this series for sure."

If the "cards" are in his favor Friday night in the last of four Hirt divisions, Holdingallthecards looks to be the winning hand for all of his connections. — *By Jay Hochstetler*

## Bartlett, Buter Team Up With Arthur

Lining up in post five in the last of four divisions of the Clyde Hirt Series for 4-year-old pacers on Friday night at the Meadowlands is Arthur, a recent addition to trainer Amber Buter's barn after being purchased at last November's mixed sale in Harrisburg.

Buter, the wife of driver Tyler Buter, brings Arthur into the Clyde Hirt off a 1:52.3 qualifying victory Jan. 3 at the Meadowlands. Since the purchase at Harrisburg for \$30,000 by Tyler Buter and Kristen Bartlett, the wife of driver Jason Bartlett, Arthur has two wins and two thirds in four starts.

"Tyler talked to Tony (previous trainer Tony Alagna) at the sale about the horse and he was honest with us," said Amber Buter. "Jason (Bartlett) had qualified the horse once and he said, 'Hey, I kind of like that horse.' He happened to be in our price range; he fell right into our category. He definitely has turned out to be a nice horse."

A son of Modern Art, Arthur is out of the Magical Mike mare Magical Leah, who won the New York Sires Stakes final as a 3 year old. Arthur's half brother is Keep It Real, who won more than \$534,000 while competing in major stakes throughout his career. Arthur's second dam is Breeders Crown runner-up Lavish Laura, a winner of more than



New Image Media Photo

\$400,000 and a half sister to the \$999,000-winning multiple stakes champ Dignitarian.

Buter said she didn't make any changes on Arthur since arriving from Alagna's barn.

"He was racing good with Tony so we didn't do anything different, just probably the routine," said the 27-year-old Michigan native now stabled at Mark Ford's training center in Middletown, N.Y. "I'm sure Tony's routine is different than ours, and ours is different from Mark Ford and anybody else." — *By Gordon Waterstone*

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### HIP 164 I FOUND MY BEACH

bg 4 p,2,1:53.4h, 3,1:51.1-'12 (\$399,280)  
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### HIP 156 DANDOVER

bh 4 3,1:56.2-'12 (\$54,906)  
*Donato Hanover - Maryanne K - Yankee Glide*



### HIP 158 DIVULGE

bg 4 p,2,1:51.3 (\$86,982)  
*Tell All - Pop Diva - Western Ideal*



### HIP 95 ROCKY MOUNTAIN GUY

bc 3 p,2,1:52.4-'12

*Rocknroll Hanover - Camadian - Camluck*



### HIP 201 FOOLS GOLD

bh 6 p,4,1:48.4 (\$214,204)

*I Am A Fool - Trinketsntreasures - Artiscap*



### HIP 153 CHICAGO HANOVER

bg 4 p,3,1:50.2-'12 (\$80,799)

*Dragon Again - Armbro Romance - Artsplace*



### HIP 208 LOOKINGFORADVENTURE

bh 5 p,2,1:51.3, 4,1:51.1-12 (\$398,354)

*Rocknroll Hanover - Student Driver - Jate Lobell*



### HIP 169 MCBOOGIE

bg 4 p,2,1:52f (\$142,338)

*McArdle - Banska Bela - Kiev Hanover*



### HIP 215 SOUTHWESTERN DREAM

bg 8 p,4,1:48.2 (\$902,102)

*Cambest - Lady Of Art - Western Hanover*

### RACE VIDEOS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT SALE

Check for important updates as many of the entries will be racing to time of sale... and many have been nominated to the lucrative 2013 Late Closer events.

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For further information please contact us at...

Bob Boni/Jillian Luff  
201-863-2082 | fax: 201-863-4104  
www.northwoodbloodstock.com  
Email: nwbloodstock@aol.com  
P.O. Box 2053 Secaucus, New Jersey 07096

Northwood Bloodstock Agency

## Other Tracks Benefiting From Strong Big M

The Meadowlands is harness racing's flagship racetrack and as the New Jersey site goes, so does racing. If the Big M's start to 2013 is any indication, this will be a good year for racing. On-track wagering has been even with the 2012 meet, so the increase in wagering is coming from off-track sources.

Woodbine, which has also seen a handle increase in 2013 on its product, wagered \$154,950 on the Jan. 5 Meadowlands card, an increase from \$108,310 on last year's initial Saturday night program.

"It's a positive message for the industry when the Meadowlands is doing well," said Woodbine Entertainment Group vice president of Standardbred racing Bruce Murray.

Balmoral Park general manager Jim Hannon said wagering in Illinois on the Jan. 4 Meadowlands card increased from \$98,442 in 2012 to \$140,773 this year, and on Jan. 5 the

**"It's a positive message for the industry when the Meadowlands is doing well!"**

— Bruce Murray

handle increased to \$164,426 from \$149,070 last year.

"Full fields and very competitive racing," Jim Hannon answered when asked what he believes to be the reason in the increased play on the Meadowlands.

Hannon noted that while Balmoral's handle on its own Jan. 5 and Jan. 6 race cards both topped \$1 million, the numbers decreased slightly from 2012.

"The customer dictates the market based on how he performs at the window," said Hannon. "One reason that Balmoral does better than Maywood is the value of the bet. Bettors turn away from short-price horses, so the longer-priced the favorite is they see better value and back it more. Balmoral has always done well in regard to value for the bettor."

Northfield Park director of racing Dave Bianconi said his track's wagering on the Meadowlands has increased significantly so far in 2013. On Jan. 5, \$23,066 was bet on the Big M, a jump from \$16,671 in 2012. This year's number was second—by only \$500—to wagering on Gulfstream Park.

"The Meadowlands has come out of the box in 2013 with a strong product and competitive racing, and that's definitely led to the increase in betting," said Bianconi.

Over the first three nights of racing in 2013, favorites have won 12 of 33 races (including all five legs of the Jan. 5 Pick 5) at the Meadowlands. The 36.3 percent average is far less than the 43 percent win average for favorites in 2012 at the Big M. Adding in the two nights raced at the end of 2012, favorites have won 19 of 58 races (32.7 percent).

Interestingly, the handle increase at the Meadowlands is not coming from on-track patrons. According to director of racing operations Darin Zoccali, the on-track handle numbers have remained constant from 2012, with \$207,920 wagered on Thursday, Jan. 3, \$307,509 on Friday, Jan. 4, and \$340,466 on Saturday, Jan. 5. — By Gordon Waterstone



Photo courtesy Olive Branch Farm

### A Sweet Vacation

Sweet Lou p,3, 1:47.4 (\$1,768,823), the winner of the 2012 Tattersalls Pace, is one of the horses enjoying a little southern hospitality at Chris and Georgia Coyle's Olive Branch Farm in North Carolina before he returns to training in the Burke Stable. He took a moment out of his busy day grazing to pose for this photo. Sweet Lou's Burke Stable colleagues Rocklamation and Darena Hanover are also at Olive Branch Farm.

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## Dadoyan Named Exec. Director Of SOANY

The Standardbred Owners Association of New York is pleased to announce that Alex Dadoyan, most recently the New Meadowlands Racetrack's director of racing operations, has accepted the position of executive director of the SOA, effective Feb. 1.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Alex's abilities and background join us at the SOA," said Peter Venaglia, SOA first vice president and chairman of the Personnel Committee.

"Alex has worked in various roles at the Meadowlands in his professional career, and his experience in all facets of racetrack operations will greatly benefit the SOA membership."

During his tenure at the Meadowlands, Dadoyan played extensive roles in the television, simulcasting and off-track wagering aspects of the Meadowlands' operations, serving as director of simulcasting from 2004-2007. Since 2008, he has also served as a director of the United States Trotting Association. He received his B. A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from Fordham University. Alex served and helped develop and grow the Meadowlands for well over a decade.

"I'm really excited about the opportunity to join the SOA of NY team," stated Dadoyan. "They are working on countless projects to preserve and improve the racing industry in New York and the harness racing industry overall. I am confident that the many years of experience I gained on the racetrack management side in New Jersey will prove to be very beneficial to the organization going forward."

Joe Faraldo, president of the SOA, thanked George Casale, the SOA's outgoing executive director, for his years of service to the SOA. "I am confident that Alex will pick up right where George left off. In addition, Alex's unique experience will allow the SOA to continue to aggressively pursue opportunities such as international simulcasting as we partner with Yonkers Raceway in continuing to produce the best year round harness racing product in the country," noted Faraldo.

"The addition of such a highly regarded and qualified individual as Alex Dadoyan makes me confident that we can achieve much more with the quality product that we have in New York. Alex has experience in several different areas, including publicity, television production, simulcasting and off-track wagering. He will be an asset in racing development and distribution at Yonkers and we at the SOA of NY are excited about the opportunity to put all of his talents to work here in New York," added Venaglia. (SOANY)

## Meadows Reports 15 Percent Jump In Handle

The Meadows Racetrack & Casino closed out its 2012 racing season with strong gains in its key indicators, including a 15 percent jump in all-sources handle.

Average daily handle in 2012 was \$501,550, an increase of more than \$65,000 per card from 2011. On-track wagering grew

22 percent, an indication that competitive racing and an attractive, diverse betting menu are drawing more fans to the track.

"We have emphasized full, competitive fields that yield the kind of payoffs bettors want," said Mike Jeannot, president of Meadows Racing. "Our 2012 results demonstrate that patrons are responding favorably to that initiative."

Average field size during the year was 8.36 starters (up from 8.28 in 2011), a phenomenon that, coupled with the track's diverse wagering menu, brought handsome returns to bettors. The average win payoff in 2012 was \$12.78 (compared to \$12.66 the previous year), meaning that winning horses were sent off, on average, at odds of more than 5-1. That figure compares favorably to those of harness tracks throughout the industry.

Jeannot noted that The Meadows' outstanding 2012 performance also is good news for the track's partners—horsemen and horsewomen, as represented by the Meadows Standardbred Owners Association (MSOA), and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; the MSOA and the state share in wagering proceeds.

"The MSOA worked diligently with us to create an entertaining product, and that hard work paid off," he said. "Our 808 stalls for our resident horse population are full, with dozens of other horses shipped in daily to realize the benefits of racing at The Meadows. Horse owners, trainers and drivers enjoyed an unprecedented opportunity in 2012 to share in our success."

He said the track's growth benefits the Commonwealth in ways beyond taxes on pari-mutuel handle.

"The Meadows' prominent position in harness racing helps spark growth in the state's breeding industry, and it drives expansion in such businesses as the hotel/restaurant sector," he said. "All that means more jobs and revenue for Pennsylvania."

In 2012, the track completed the \$6.25 million construction of six new, state-of-the-art barns, and it implemented a "green" initiative that features the recycling of frying oil for biodiesel fuel, straw and manure for mushroom fertilizer, and runoff water for racetrack irrigation. (*The Meadows*)

## Centaur Approved To Purchase Indiana Grand Casino And Downs

Indianapolis-based Centaur Holdings LLC received the Indiana Gaming Commission's conditional approval Thursday of its agreement to purchase Indiana Grand Casino and Downs in Shelbyville, Ind. The state commission's unanimous decision, the second of two state-level regulatory approvals needed, comes after last month's Indiana Horse Racing Commission endorsement. A final review by the Chairman of the Indiana Horse Racing Commission and several financing and federal regulatory and legal approvals will complete the purchase.

"Both the Indiana Gaming and Horse Racing Commissions' unanimous approvals place the purchase of Indiana Grand Casino and Downs near completion, with several regulators still needing to fully review the finalized agree-

*Continues on page 7 >>>>*



ment," said Rod Ratcliff, Centaur Holdings LLC chairman and CEO. "Centaur is ready to expand our Indiana roots, investment, and positive community relationships through the successful completion of this acquisition."

## Yonkers 1996 Race Makes The Tonight Show

Harness racing got a plug on national TV on Monday night, Jan. 7, but in a strange sort of way. A race that was contested 16 years ago at Yonkers received play as part of The Tonight Show with Jay Leno's "Headlines" feature.

In the segment, Leno displays an assortment of material, including advertisements with typos or words that are suggestive. Usually those headlines are current, but on Monday Leno showed a race chart from a race that was contested at Yonkers on Dec. 30, 1996, noting that the name of the last-place horse was "Emphysema," who was driven by Ray Schnittker. Leno also noted that the horse who finished just ahead of Emphysema was named "Fudgesundae."

To see the video, please click [here](#). "Headlines" is part of the second segment of the video clip of the entire one-hour show.

Interestingly, in the \$3,000 race, the winner was Play Money, driven by Mike Stevenson, with the 1989 Breeders Crown champion Delray Lobell finishing second as the betting favorite with driver Luc Ouellette.

It is unknown whether Leno and his producers were aware that the race chart shown was from a Yonkers race contested 16 years ago. If anyone knows how Leno received the chart, please email [editorial@harnessracing.com](mailto:editorial@harnessracing.com).

## Carroll Suspended 4 Years For Red Mile Meth Positives

The Red Mile's presiding judge Rich Williams told harnessracing.com Thursday afternoon that trainer Joe Carroll has been suspended four years by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission for a pair of methamphetamine positives last August at The Red Mile.

According to Williams, the positives occurred on the 2-year-old gelding pacer Jude Hall following a win in a \$15,000 Kentucky Sires Stakes leg Aug. 19 and on the 2-year-old filly trotter Dana Boko following a second-place finish in a \$15,000 Kentucky Sires Stakes leg on Aug. 30.

Original reports indicted Kentucky Equine Medical Director Dr. Mary Scollay said the test results did not reveal if the horses were administered the meth or picked it up secondarily. It was also noted when the story first came to light last month that one of Carroll's employee's had either undergone or was undergoing treatment for drug abuse.

Carroll, who is from Southern Pines, N.C., received a one-year suspension for the first meth positive and a three-year suspension for the second. Williams said Carroll has appealed the rulings.

## Carlson Hopes To Make Mark At Meadowlands

Last year, Eric Carlson was the new kid in town. It really didn't matter which town he was in, he was a newcomer trying to make his name. The 37-year-old Michigan native hopes to be considered more of a regular this year.

Carlson arrived on the East Coast in 2012 after a successful launch to his harness racing career in the Midwest and Canada. Carlson, who didn't start driving regularly until he was 33, won a career-high 603 times in 2010 and captured titles at Hazel Park, Northville Downs (fall meet) and Windsor Raceway (fall).

A year later, he posted 488 victories and was the top driver again at Hazel Park and claimed winter titles at Northville Downs, Sports Creek Raceway and Windsor Raceway.

In 2012, he headed east and saw his win total drop, but his earnings reached a career-best \$3.29 million. Carlson won 267 races, with his greatest success at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs, where he was sixth in the driver standings for wins and fourth in purses. He also won at least one race at Harrah's Philadelphia, Balmoral Park, Dover Downs, the Meadowlands and Freehold Raceway.

This winter, Carlson is trying to get established at the Meadowlands while also competing at Dover Downs.

"Transitional is the way I would describe last year," Carlson said. "I can't really complain on any level at all, to move out east and get work and drive for more money than I ever have. It's been successful, but it's also been hard. You don't always have success on a daily basis, but monetarily, that's what we're all here for; you want to make a better living. I guess I'm doing that.

"Some days are really tough, but that's how it is out here. You take the good with the bad and keep going."

The "good" would include Carlson notching career win No. 2,000 on Dec. 14 when he drove Donna Party to victory at Harrah's Philadelphia.

"It's noteworthy, but there are more things ahead to accomplish," Carlson said. "I just keep working. There are so many more guys that have won so many more races. I haven't accomplished anything near what a lot of these guys I'm racing with every day have done. You acknowledge (the milestone) and move on."

Carlson got a degree in sports business management at the University of Michigan and spent several years after college working for a wholesale mortgage lending company and an auto supplier while training and driving his own small stable on the side.

His father, a schoolteacher, owned horses, which is how Carlson initially caught the racing bug.

"I trained a lot, but driving is where the final piece of the puzzle is," Carlson said. "Race day is where the final execution comes out. I like being the guy who can orchestrate it

*Continues on page 8 >>>>*



on the track. To me, driving is the most enjoyable part of being involved with racehorses."

While racing in the Midwest, Carlson was often the go-to driver wherever he competed. Now he is hustling for work against already established drivers at the East Coast tracks.

"They get the best horses and they deserve it," Carlson said. "They deserve what they have and I'll take what I get. All I can do is pay my dues and climb the ladder.

"That's probably the hardest thing to do. You come to a new track and all the trainers have their set drivers. You get what's left over and most of the time that's the 40-1 shot out of the eight hole. That's the hardest thing to do as a driver, to work something out with that kind of horse. It's easy to drive the 1-5s; anybody can do that. It's driving the longshot and trying to trip them out; that's what is really challenging about being a driver.

"It's a growing experience. It's great. I wanted to be with the best trainers, the best horses, at the best tracks. I'm going seven days a week and trying to drive as many horses as I can and do the best I can with what I've got.

"I came out here and I didn't have any set goals. I just wanted to get work and drive for people and prove that I'm a good driver. That's still my plan." (HRC)

### Revenues to PA Race Horse Fund drop 4.6%

The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition reported on Tuesday (Jan. 10) that funds generated from slot machine gaming to the Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF) decreased by 4.6 percent, or \$6.36 million, over the past six months, the most significant decline in the history of the fund.

The Race Horse Development Fund was created by Act 71 of 2004, the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, to enhance live horse racing and breeding programs in the Commonwealth by supplementing purses and enhancing race horse breeding incentives.

"Despite an overall increase in slots revenues at Pennsylvania casinos in 2012, the funding from slots to the equine industry is decreasing, which will negatively impact purses at the state's six race tracks and hurt incentives to promote breeding of horses in Pennsylvania," said Pete Peterson, spokesperson for the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition, a statewide group representing more than 10,000 owners and trainers of the horse racing industry in Pennsylvania. "The decrease in funding will have effects well beyond the equine community, as many farms and other small businesses are dependent on the racing and breeding industry for work."

In 2010, the Department of Agriculture released data showing that between 2001 and 2008 the value of the racing industry in Pennsylvania more than quadrupled following the passage of Act 71. According to the Department of Agriculture, the overall value of the equine industry increased by 380 percent to \$3 billion with employment more than tripling from 13,870 to more than 41,100.

The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition noted that for the first six months of the current 2012/2013 fiscal year—July 2012 through December 2012—funding for the Race Horse Development Fund dropped to \$131,419,633.08—a 4.6 percent or \$6.36 million decrease compared to the same time frame in 2011 when revenues to the fund totaled \$137,779,854.81.

With just \$131.4 million collected in the first half of the fiscal year, funding for the RHDF is far below projections. In the Governor's Executive Budget issued last February, the fund was projected to collect \$287.8 million in the 2012/2013 Fiscal Year.

"For the past four years the Equine Racing industry has seen the state divert more than \$200 million from the Racehorse Development Fund to augment the General Fund," said Peterson. "Given the current revenue trends for the Race Horse Development Fund, the Equine Coalition calls on the legislature to allow the current diversion of funds from the fund to terminate as promised when enacted." (Pennsylvania Equine Coalition)

### Ill. Session Ends With No Gaming Progress

The lame duck session for the Illinois legislature ended Jan. 9 with no progress toward legislation for a gaming bill to have slots at the racetracks across Illinois. The legislature also failed to extend legislation on ADW wagering, causing all Illinois residents to be unable to use wagering sites like Twinspires, Betzotic, TVG and XpressBet.

"The legislature had months and months to pass an extension; all horsemen groups supported the extension, race-tracks supported the extension, the IRB supported the extension and no one opposed the extension, not even the riverboats. But somehow, Springfield allowed the law to die," wrote Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association president Dave McCaffrey on the IHHA's website.

One possible chance for a gaming bill at this time remains since another gaming bill, SB 744, has been given to Gov. Pat Quinn to possibly be signed. This bill was passed in 2011 but never given to the Governor. This bill is quite similar to the bill that Gov. Quinn vetoed a few months ago. New legislation will hopefully be discussed when the legislature opens a new session in the spring.

### New To Hall: Bettor's Delight, Life Sign, Lady Ashlee Ann

The Living Horse Hall of Fame nominating committee of the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame has announced the results of recent balloting to determine the 2013 inductees into the Harness Racing Living Horse Hall of Fame. Annual members (in good standing) voted for the two horses they felt best exemplified greatness. Their choices are racehorse Bettor's Delight and stallion Life Sign.

The other nominees were Fool's Goal, Precious Bunny and Real Desire.

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Also entering the Living Horse Hall of Fame in 2013 will be broodmare Lady Ashlee Ann, having met the required criteria for induction.

Bettor's Delight, Life Sign and Lady Ashlee Ann will be inducted on Hall of Fame Day on Sunday, July 7. The ceremonies honoring these extraordinary Standardbred horses will take place during the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame's annual dinner. For information on the Hall of Fame weekend and other festivities surrounding this important occasion visit <http://www.harnessmuseum.com/> from April 2013 onward or call or write the Museum at 240 Main Street, Goshen, N.Y. 10924. Phone: (845) 294-6330.

Standardbreds are only eligible for nomination to harness racing's highest accolade if they comply with the following strict criteria:

They must be retired from racing for five years and had a drug-free career. In addition, racehorses must have won 75 percent of their lifetime starts, or gone undefeated in a single season campaign of 12 or more races, or been the winner of \$3 million lifetime or named Harness Horse of the Year (U.S. and/or Canada).

Stallions must rank among the 10 all-time leading money-winning sires at their gait or have sired at least 100 \$200,000 winners or been a leading money-winning sire at his gait in three or more seasons.

Broodmares are automatically elected if they have produced a \$1 million winner and two other winners of \$500,000 OR produced a Harness Horse of the Year (U.S. and/or Canada) and another \$500,000 winner. (*HOF*)

## Movie With Harness Racing Theme Now Available

A new movie, *Amazing Racer*, set in a harness racing setting, has been released and is available exclusively at [walmart.com](http://walmart.com).

*Amazing Racer*, which stars Daryl Hannah, Clare Forlani, Julianne Michelle, Louis Gossett Jr. and Eric Roberts, was filmed at and around The Meadows in southwestern Pennsylvania in 2008 and originally titled *Shannon's Rainbow* (<http://www.shannonsrainbow.com/>).

It tells the story of a teenage girl who finds the mother she never knew, befriends a wise horse trainer and learns to overcome hardships and emotional trauma by helping the trainer, played by Louis Gossett, Jr., train a filly named Rainbow. (*HRC*)

## Palone Sweeps Railbird Recognition Awards

The fans are the life blood of the harness racing industry, and it's the fans who vote for their all-stars in the Railbird Recognition awards. This is a two part honor that recognizes the most relevant racing moment as well as the most outstanding horse person of the year. 2012 provided an array of worthy candidates for both categories, but when it was all said and done, the fans knew history when they saw it.

After more than 6,000 votes were cast on the U.S. Trotting Association website, Dave Palone swept both awards.

The racing moment of the year occurred on July 6 at the Meadows when Palone won race number 15,181 and surpassed legend Herve Filion to become the all-time leading dash driver in North America. Palone garnered 25 percent of the votes for this category and was easily the fans' choice.

The affable Pennsylvanian was also selected horse person of the year for becoming the new leader in lifetime wins, a record he is certain to own for a long, long time. But that victory gave credence to the saying that "every vote counts" as he was only 15 tallies ahead of Linda Toscano for her unbelievable 2012 season with Chapter Seven, Market Share and Heston Blue Chip.

Palone will need a shopping cart for his hardwares this year as he will also receive the "W.R. Houghton Good Guy Award" from USHWA (the United States Harness Writers Association, co-sponsors of the "Railbirds" with the USTA) and the "Man of the Year Award" from Harness Horsemen International (HHI).

Palone will be honored on Sunday, March 3, at the Dan Patch Awards Banquet, the climatic event of Harness Congress VI weekend, to be held at the Westin Beach Resort and Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (*USHWA*)

## Gregory, Rinker Receive USHWA Honors

Helene Gregory, who spearheaded the movement in harness racing that has brought Racing Under Saddle (RUS) to prominence in North America, has been selected by United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) president Steven Wolf as the recipient of the 2012 President's Award.

Also, Kimberly Rinker, who has devoted most of her career to the writing about and promoting the industry she loves, has been voted by her peers as the 2012 USHWA Member of the Year.

"Not only did Helene do a heroic job in developing the RUS program, getting people involved, working with the United States Trotting Association and race secretaries, helping to secure sponsorships and setting up the tracks to host events, but also competed in the races and won several times," said Wolf. "Helene is very worthy of this special honor and I can only hope it will help keep her desire thriving for RUS to continue growing within our industry."

Rinker, who originally is from Ohio and is now a Chicago resident, is a 2007 USHWA Hervey Writing Award winner and a 2004 Hervey Award runner-up for excellence in magazine writing. In 2006 she won the Charlie Silver Award winner in co-writing a series of articles in *Produce Business*, a food-trade publication. For the past three years she has also been USHWA's Dan Patch Awards Journal Chairwoman.

"Kim has shown time and again her devotion not just to USHWA, but to the sport of harness racing through her su-

*Continues on page 10 >>>>*



perb writing talents, professional assistance when ever called upon, dedication and enthusiasm," said Wolf. "And during the 20 plus years I have known her she has been always smiling and always has an energetic character. All of these things combined merits her being the recipient of the 2012 USHWA Member of the Year Award."

Gregory and Rinker will be honored on Sunday, March 3, at the Dan Patch Awards Banquet to be held at the Westin Beach Resort and Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (USHWA)

### Ralph Jones Publishes Harness Racing Book

Ralph Jones, former Deputy Executive Secretary for the Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission, has announced his memoir "Buckeye Side Wheelers & Keystone Tail Sitters, Reflections of Harness Racing's Glory Days."

Jones, 86, is an Ohio native now residing in Mechanicsburg, Pa. He's been involved in harness racing throughout his lifetime—from his days as a youngster visiting the Delaware County Fairgrounds to watch the races with his parents to serving as a judge, racing publicist, photographer and journalist.

His memoir recounts various tales and thoughts from a lifetime involved with Standardbreds. Jones has attended

every Little Brown Jug since 1947, and his reflections of the people and horses involved in Ohio, Pennsylvania and elsewhere are sure to delight any harness racing fan. One such tale speaks of a stopwatch given to him by the legendary Sep Palin, trainer of the mighty Greyhound, and another anecdote reveals how revered trainer Harry Burrright's beloved bulldog suddenly went missing from his stable.

Jones also relives the early days of harness racing—before there were starting gates, before there were photo finish cameras, and before there were video replays of rough driving tactics used by crafty reinsmen at the county fairs and pari-mutuel ovals.

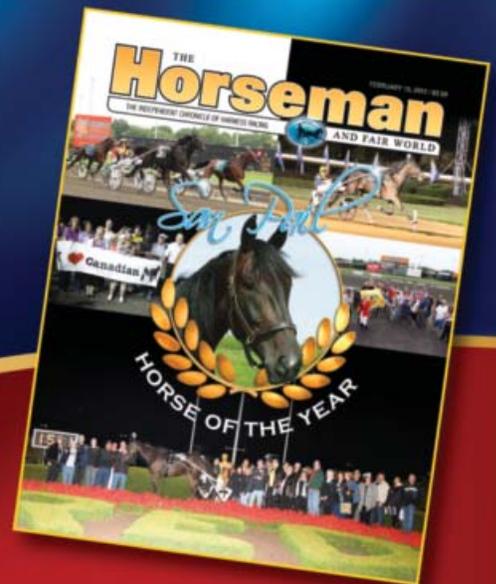
The 64-page, soft-cover volume includes 41 black and white photographs and retails for \$9.95. For those wanting to purchase Jones' book, they can do so by sending a check or money order for \$11.50 (to cover shipping & handling) to Ralph Jones, PO Box 309, Keedysville, Md. 21756. The book can also be found in the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame Gift Shop, 240 Main St., Goshen, NY 10924.

Jones' book will also be available for purchase at the upcoming Pennsylvania Fairs & Showmen Convention at Hershey, Pa, Jan. 23-26.

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**RACE LINES**

**Harness Racing Leaders**

Compiled by the USTA—through Jan. 8, 2013 (week difference Jan. 1-8).

**Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses**

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Define The World (8tg)	1	1	0	0	\$19,190
Stolen Car (5ph)	1	1	0	0	17,500
Golden Receiver (8pg)	1	1	0	0	15,000
Rusty's All In (7ph)	1	1	0	0	15,000
In Commando (4pg)	1	1	0	0	13,635
Continual Velocity (5pm)	1	1	0	0	12,625
Cantab Lindy (5tg)	2	1	0	0	12,250
Intense America (5tm)	1	1	0	0	11,615
Duke Of Donegal (5tg)	1	1	0	0	11,615
Talbotcreek Jewelry (4tm)	1	1	0	0	11,615
Palm Patrol (4pm)	1	1	0	0	11,615
Lifeimittatesart (4pg)	1	1	0	0	11,615
Come Together (7pg)	2	2	0	0	11,500
Catchmecullen A (10pg)	1	1	0	0	11,500
Anders Bluestone (7th)	1	1	0	0	11,500
Jeremes Sweetheart (4pm)	1	1	0	0	11,500

**Leading Money-Winning Drivers**

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Corey Callahan	96	20-17-11	.345	\$193,126 (—)
Ron Pierce	57	9-12-8	.322	137,365 (—)
Jody Jamieson	47	7-10-3	.288	113,311 (—)
Allan Davis	73	12-15-8	.315	111,010 (—)
Dave Palone	62	10-13-11	.337	107,120 (—)
Brett Miller	66	15-5-10	.320	104,480 (—)
Aaron Merriman	79	14-10-13	.302	99,010 (—)
Mike Wilder	56	9-12-8	.327	95,703 (—)
Scott Zeron	38	6-6-4	.281	94,389 (—)
Anthony MacDonald	56	11-4-9	.290	92,948 (—)
Billy Davis Jr.	60	10-10-6	.293	92,332 (—)
Ross Wolfenden	82	8-13-9	.222	90,474 (—)
Tim Tetrick	42	7-6-2	.262	82,024 (—)
Tony Morgan	68	15-6-5	.294	80,392 (—)
James MacDonald	57	11-8-9	.324	79,772 (—)

**Leading Money-Winning Trainers**

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	51	5-14-8	.303	\$98,239 (—)
Richard Moreau	43	9-7-9	.370	97,909 (—)
Michael Hall	23	9-4-2	.517	81,375 (—)
Rene Allard	28	11-3-1	.464	60,656 (—)
Wayne Givens	23	6-8-3	.498	53,815 (—)
Carmen Auciello	20	5-2-0	.306	43,889 (—)
Michael Palone	15	5-2-2	.452	36,738 (—)
Eric Ell	7	3-0-3	.571	36,695 (—)
Joe Pereira	20	3-6-3	.367	36,614 (—)
Blair Burgess	10	4-2-0	.511	31,716 (—)
Joe Hundertpfund Jr.	15	5-4-0	.481	30,940 (—)
Gregg McNair	6	2-2-1	.574	30,836 (—)
Les Givens	13	5-4-2	.607	29,430 (—)
Jamie Copley	19	6-3-5	.491	28,874 (—)
Jeff Gillis	7	1-2-0	.302	28,736 (—)

**Leading Breeders**

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	265	31	33	\$251,949
Winbak Farm	252	27	27	202,656
Brittany Farms	73	7	7	75,415
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	46	6	6	67,705
Perretti Farms	74	7	7	56,383
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	72	7	7	55,423
Walnut Hall Limited	58	9	9	54,120
Perfect World Enterprises	52	6	6	54,101
Fox Valley Standardbreds	52	5	5	42,647
White Birch Farm	42	7	7	40,144
Millar Farms	17	4	4	37,674
Robert J. Key	38	4	4	37,097
Tara Hills Stud Ltd.	24	4	4	32,065
Frederick Hertrich III	49	6	6	31,960
Steve Stewart	28	4	4	30,883

**Leaders Of The Week**

Ranked by wins for Jan. 1-8 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

**Drivers**

	Starts	W-P-S
Corey Callahan	96	20-17-11
Luke Plano	37	16-3-3
Brett Miller	66	15-5-10
Tony Morgan	68	15-6-5
Aaron Merriman	79	14-10-13
John MacDonald	39	14-8-3
Allan Davis	73	12-15-8
Tyler Smith	54	12-11-7
Chris Page	54	11-8-2
Dave Palone	62	10-13-11
Cat Manzi	29	9-4-3
George Dennis	66	9-1-11
John Roberts	30	9-1-1
Kevin Switzer Jr.	39	9-8-3
Mike Wilder	56	9-12-8
Ron Pierce	57	9-12-8
Kevin Wallis	32	8-2-8
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	55	8-6-13
Ross Wolfenden	82	8-13-9

**Trainers**

	Wins
Rene Allard	11
Michael Hall	9
Richard Moreau	8
Robert Lounsbury	8
Jamie Copley	6
Tim Brown	6
Wayne Givens	6
Bob Johnson	5
Gretchen Smith	5
Joseph Hundertpfund Jr.	5
Les Givens	5
Michael Palone	5
Ron Burke	5
Amber Buter	4
Carmen Auciello	4
Don Pfister	4
Frank Petrelli	4
Peter Pellegrino	4
Robert W. Clark	4