Harness Racing’s Best To Be Honored Sunday At Dan Patch Banquet

The U.S. Harness Writers Association’s (USHWA) annual Dan Patch Awards banquet, presented by Hoosier Park, is set for Sunday night at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas. While the names of all the winners—both equine and human—were previously announced, a crowd of more than 425 is expected.

The awards banquet kicks off with a cocktail party at 6 p.m. (PT) that evening, with the dinner starting promptly at 7 p.m.

With all of the award winners previously announced—including Always B Miki as the 2016 Horse of the Year—the Dan Patch awards dinner will not be video streamed live. However, the video of the night will be available for viewing on Monday morning, Feb. 27, on the U.S. Trotting Association Youtube page, which can be accessed here, as well as at www.ustrotting.com/video, which links directly to the video page on the USTA website. In addition, the video will be available for viewing on the USHWA Facebook page.

USHWA and the Harness Horse Youth Foundation (HHYF) are again teaming up to offer an exciting silent auction at the awards banquet on Sunday night, with proceeds to benefit both organizations.

In addition to on-site bidding in Las Vegas, USHWA and HHYF are offering advance bidding on all of these items. Contact Steve Wolf at (954) 654-3757, or Ellen Taylor at (317) 908-0029 for bidding requirements and information.

Included among the silent auction items are:
— a 2017 Preakness package on May 20. That package includes two tickets to Turfside Terrace at Pimlico, including admission, seating, buffet, beer and wine, and parking;
— two-night stay at any Caesar’s property, along with a dinner for four;
— special works of art, including a 22x8x22 inch stone, fiberglass and resin horse head statue title “Champagne;”
— a framed, double matted 25x33 inch “Stretch Drive,” signed print by renowned artist James Crown
— a 14x18 inch Greyhound framed print by R.H. Palenske;
— a Bow River two heart horse pendant and necklace featuring a .10 carat diamond and 14K gold necklace;

WHAT’S INSIDE . . .

Nuncio wins first start of 2017 — pg. 2
Breeding Banter — pg. 4
Matchmaker possibles race this weekend — pg. 6
Update on glaucine research — pg. 8

—an equine-themed L.V. Harkness etched whisky decanter. Also on Sunday, two days of meetings of the USTA begin at the Rio All-Suite Casino and Hotel. The Monday morning session will include the election of officers, including a five-man race to replace retiring USTA president Phil Langley.
Nuncio Easily Wins
First Start Of 2017

Nuncio, the winner of the 2016 Elitlopp and runner-up to Trixton in the 2014 Hambletonian, made his first start of 2017 on Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Axevalla track in Sweden, and it was a walk in the park.

Driver Örjan Kihlstrom put Nuncio on the lead after 200 meters and in the first 500 meters Nuncio trotted in a leisurely mile rate time of 2:04.2. He covered the first 1,000 meters (.62 miles) in a mile rate time of 2:06.

Speed wasn’t the goal, and it didn’t matter anyway. In the homestretch, Nuncio trotted away and won by a wide margin. He trotted his last 1,000 meters in a mile rate time of 1:57.1. His mile rate time for the 2,140-meter race was 2:01.4.

“He was very good in the warm up; better than ever,” said Stefan Melander, who trains and owns the 6-year-old stallion by Andover Hall.

Kihlstrom was satisfied as well. “Very easy; he felt as good as he can.”

Nuncio’s return to the track, and the announcement that two-time Prix d’Amerique champion Bold Eagle will compete in the Elitlopp, has given the Swedish classic a bit of early-season buzz. — By Claus Freidenvall
Ohio Sires Stakes
~Nomination Deadline~
March 15, 2017

Nomination forms available at http://www.racing.ohio.gov/Development.html
Kimberly Rinker, OSDF Administrator  614-779-0269  kim.rinker@racing.ohio.gov
Ohio Sires Stakes, 77 S. High Str., 18th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215
Harness Racing Weekend Preview, 4 of 12  February 24, 2017  www.harnessracing.com

The world champion Mission Brief will soon be back grazing the fields of her birthplace, Hunterton Farm in Paris, Ky.

Trainer Ron Burke had resumed training the now 5-year-old mare after she recovered from a leg injury last year. As recently as December he still had hopes that she would return to racing in 2017 and perhaps even compete in the Elitlopp. Instead, she’s been retired from racing and has been purchased by a group that includes her breeders.

“We had her vetted out this morning (Wednesday, Feb. 22) by Dr. Richard Meirs and she looks great, all of her plumbing, so to speak, is fine, and that was the last piece to make the deal,” said Steve Stewart, who owns and operates Hunterton Farm with his wife, Cindy.

The new owners of Mission Brief are Stewart, Grabill, Indiana’s Black Creek Stable (John A. Schmucker, Jacob A. Schmucker, Jess A. Schmucker and James A. Schmucker), and George Lowenfeld of Andrea Lea Racing—the three breeders of the mare. Also buying an interest in Mission Brief are Maumee River Stable (Ben Schmucker), Four Corners Farm (Tom Schmucker) and Hickory Hollow Stables (Elmer Miller), all of Indiana, and Ohio’s Dublin Valley Farm (Robert Hershberger). Stewart said the group paid $650,000 for Mission Brief.

“There were more people who wanted in on Mission Brief than there were pieces,” said Stewart of the partnership.

A daughter of Muscle Hill, Mission Brief is out of the Varenne mare Southwind Serena, who has had five yearlings collectively sold for $1,395,000 at public auction. Her most expensive yearling thus far was Tactical Landing, who brought $800,000 at last fall’s Lexington Selected Yearling Sale.

Mission Brief set a 1:50.2 world record and earned $1,599,587 for the ownership group of Weaver Bruscemi LLC, Burke Racing Stable, Our Horse Cents Stable and J&T Silva Stables.

Mark Weaver said the decision to sell the two-time Dan Patch Award winner was only recently made.

“She was coming back good and everything was fine,” said Weaver. “Ronnie (Burke) trained her before the stakes payments (on Feb. 15) had to be paid up, but she just didn’t seem right. A normal horse, Ronnie said he would have gone on, but not with her. Just not with her.”

Weaver said the ownership group had considered breeding Mission Brief to Cantab Hall this year before deciding on selling.

“Mission Brief’s full brother (Tactical Landing) brought $800,000 last year (at the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale) so the family is pretty strong,” noted Weaver.

Stewart said Cantab Hall is one of three stallions his group is considering as a mate for Mission Brief. The other two are Father Patrick and Chapter Seven. Mission Brief’s dam, Southwind Serena, is by Varenne and is out of Spice On Ice (Pine Chip-Spicy Bones, by Bonefish). But Stewart already has Mission Brief’s mating for 2018 planned.

“I can’t see any reason why we wouldn’t breed her to Walner,” he said, naming the 2016 Two-Year-Old Colt champion whose sire is Chapter Seven.

Mission Brief has 19 wins and three seconds in 27 career starts. At two her nine victories included the $352,050 Merrie Annabelle and $500,000 Breeders Crown on her way to divisional honors. In 2015, at age three her 10 wins included the $307,040 Elegantimage, $185,000 Zweig Filly and $174,000 Moni Maker while repeating divisional accolades. She also took on the colts in the Hambletonian, capturing her elimination before finishing second in the $1 million final.

In other breeding news, the first mare bred to JK Endofanera, winner of the 2015 North America Cup, has been pronounced in foal. The first for the Indiana-based stallion, who stands at Victory Hill Farm, was U Reeka BB p,3, 1:54.3 (Always A Virgin-U Neek BB, by Cam’s Magic Trick). U Neek BB is the dam of the winners of $932,256, among them U All BB p, 1:49.3 ($275,360). Michelle Linnert of Canonsburg, Pa., owns U Reeka BB.—By Kathy Parker
2017 EMPIRE BREEDERS CLASSIC
Sustaining/Supplemental Payment

Raced at Tioga Downs

#1) THREE YEAR OLD COLT PACE
$12,500 E  Eliminations: Sunday, Aug 13
$250,000 E  Final: Sunday, Aug 20
(2016 Purse $240,000)

#2) THREE YEAR OLD FILLY PACE
$12,500 E  Eliminations: Sunday, Aug 13
$250,000 E  Final: Sunday, Aug 20
(2016 Purse $240,000)

Raced at Vernon Downs

#3) THREE YEAR OLD TROT
$12,500 E  Eliminations: Friday, June 9
$250,000 E  Final: Sunday, June 18
(2016 Purse $215,000)

#4) THREE YEAR OLD FILLY TROT
$12,500 E  Eliminations: Friday, June 9
$250,000 E  Final: Sunday, June 18
(2016 Purse $215,000)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
MARCH 15  $1,000
SUPPLEMENTAL  $6,000
ENTRY FEE  $2,500

#5) TWO YEAR OLD NOMINATION FOR FOALS OF 2015

There is no yearling payment required to be eligible to the EBC
This $200 payment makes the nominee eligible to the 2018 EBC.

NOMINATION DUE MARCH 15  $350
IN-LIEU-OF-FEE  $1,000
A list of eligible 2YO’s (foals of 2014) to race in 2017 & EBC nominated sires for foals of 2015 to race in 2018 are available at Tioga & Vernon Downs’ website.

See website for forms on Stallion Nomination for foals of 2016 to race in the 2019 Empire Breeders Classic.

OPEN EVENTS FOR OLDER HORSES & MARES
ALL FFA EVENTS RACED AT TIoga Downs

#6) CRAWFORD FARMS (Open Trot)
Sponsored by: Crawford Farms
Sunday, August 27
$175,000 E
(2016 Purse $193,000)

#7) JOIE DE VIE* (More Trot)
Sponsored by: Joie De Vie Farm
Sunday, August 27
$175,000 E
(2016 Purse $170,000)
*Formerly known as the “Muscle Hill”

#8) ARTISCAPE (More Poo)
Sponsored by: Artiscape Syndicate
Sunday, August 27
$175,000 E
(2016 Purse $200,000 )

#9) ROLL WITH JOE (Open Poo)
Sunday, August 20
$175,000 E
(2016 Purse $160,000)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
March 15  $2,000
April 15  $2,000
Entry Fee  $3,000

Sign up for Tioga & Vernon Race Office Text Service to receive important messages on your phone. Text “Meadowlands” to 84700 on your mobile device. Message & data rates may apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>HORSE</th>
<th>C/F</th>
<th>SIRE</th>
<th>DAM</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All owners, trainers and drivers of nominated horses must be approved to race or entry may be denied.

Total

Nominator: ___________________________ Trainer: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Checks Made Payable to Tioga Downs
Send to: Racing Office c/o Tioga Downs, LLC. 2384 West River Road, Nichols, NY 13812
Likely Matchmaker Mare Starters
In Action This Weekend

Nominations close March 1 for the rich Blue Chip Matchmaker and George Morton Levy Memorial Series at Yonkers Raceway, and with substantial nomination fees—$4,000 for the gals in the Matchmaker and $5,000 for the Levy—folks are sizing up their horses this weekend before writing the checks.

There will be quite a few Matchmaker possibles in action on Friday night. One of them is the Midwest star American Girl.

The connections plan for her to head east for the series. A career winner of $759,888, American Girl is the 5-2 morning line favorite to win Miami Valley's $22,000 Filly and Mare Open on Friday.

American Girl, a now 8-year-old daughter of Art's Chip, is owned by Stanley Rosenblatt and Darla Gaskin, the wife of veteran horseman Ernie Gaskin. The Gaskins bought American Girl for just $6,000 as a yearling and the mare is showing no signs of slowing down.

“This is a special mare,” said Ernie Gaskin of sending American Girl to Yonkers. “She’s the kind of mare that anyone can drive, she’s got great gate speed and she’s got quick speed, and we want to give her a shot.”

The Gaskins’ nephew, Tyler George, handles the training of American Girl these days.

“We’re in our transition in life,” said Ernie about turning the horse over to George. “When she was five she got sick. I got her back in good shape and I was going to send her east then, but instead I gave her to Tyler and she’s done well.”

Last year American Girl made 30 starts and earned $142,180. Gaskin said American Girl has needed some vet work to keep her racing.

“It’s taken good management. Instead of injecting cortisone in the joints we’ve used the IRAP” he explained. “It’s really worked fantastic to keep her sound.”

IRAP therapy involves drawing a horse’s own blood into a specialized syringe which stimulates the production of the antagonist protein; then after the blood is incubated for 24 hours, placing it in a centrifuge and the plasma which is rich in the antagonist protein is separated from the blood cells in multiple syringes. IRAP is then injected into the joint once every 7-10 days for 3-5 treatments.

Friday’s $50,000 Open Handicap Pace for fillies and mares at Yonkers naturally has likely Matchmaker nominees. Among the entries in the eight-horse field is Empress Deo, who has finished second to Bedroom Confessions in the last two Yonkers’ Opens.

Wayne Givens trains Empress Deo while the 6-year-old mare races under the ownership of Legacy Racing of DE Inc. (Vicki Givens). Wayne Givens purchased Empress Deo for just $12,000 in November of her 3-year-old season.

“I went to the Harrisburg sale and I really bought her for a broodmare,” said Givens of the daughter of Rocknroll Hanover and Little Miss K, who won six of 11 starts as a 2 year old, including the She’s A Great Lady, before she shattered a pastern bone in her right front leg.

“I started racing her, and she just kept racing good so I just kept racing her,” said Givens of abandoning plans to make Empress Deo a broodmare.

When Givens bought Empress Deo, she had not raced at age two and had been racing—without much success—at Scioto Downs and Dayton Hollywood. The filly won her first four starts for Givens. Last year she made 32 starts and banked $173,633.

Empress Deo is 7-1 on the morning line for the Yonkers Open on Friday, but Givens thinks his mare is a solid contender and he’s leaning toward nominating her to the Matchmaker.

When asked about the mare’s prowess on half-mile ovals, he shared, “She’s fine on every track. I think her first start on a half was at Ocean Downs and she set the track record.”

—Wayne Givens on Empress Deo

“She's fine on every track. I think her first start on a half was at Ocean Downs and she set the track record.”

—Wayne Givens on Empress Deo

By Kathy Parker
OHIO WELCOMES TOP THREE-YEAR-OLD MONEY EARNER FOR 2016

Information regarding syndication or individual bookings may be obtained by contacting Hickory Lane Farm, c/o Ashley Stickel, Office Manager, (419) 422-3004, ashley@hickorylanefarm.com; or, Kevin Greenfield, Syndicate Manager, Hickory Lane Farm, (419) 346-0609, kgreenfield@gkflaw.com.

SHARES ARE SELLING QUICKLY, DON'T GET SHUT OUT!
Taylor, RMTC Comment On Glaucine Information

Last week the New York Gaming Commission announced its actions involving a rash of positive tests for glaucine, some of which date back to January 2016.

Because of the possibility that horses ingested glaucine while bedded on shavings and incurred accidental contamination, New York did not give trainers hearings or write rulings on the positives, although horses were immediately suspended.

Last week the Gaming Commission issued a statement that some of the positives were likely from environmental contamination but others, with particularly high levels of glaucine, would result in more than $100,000 in purses being returned and 11 disqualifications, plus a $1,500 fine.

The Johnson-trained Rubber Duck won two Open Trots at Yonkers, resulting in $58,000 in purse winnings, with high post-race tests for glaucine. The horse is owned by Blair and Erna Corbeil of Beaumont, Alberta.

Johnson had been racing horses at the Meadowlands but his entries are now being denied following the action by the New York Gaming Commission. He is the second-leading trainer at the Meadowlands with 10 wins in 46 starts and a UTR of .437.

The RMTC Glaucine Task Force, which includes some of the leading racing chemists and analysts in North America, among them Dr. Scott Palmer, New York State Equine Medical Director, and Dr. Mary Robinson, who manages the laboratory used for testing by the Pennsylvania horse racing commissions.

All glaucine research conducted thus far has been reviewed by the RMTC's specially-appointed Glaucine Task Force, which includes some of the leading racing chemists and analysts in North America, among them Dr. Scott Palmer, New York State Equine Medical Director, and Dr. Mary Robinson, who manages the laboratory used for testing by the Pennsylvania horse racing commissions.

All glaucine research conducted thus far has been reviewed by the RMTC's specially-appointed Glaucine Task Force, which includes some of the leading racing chemists and analysts in North America.
WHY SETTLE FOR LESS
WHEN YOU CAN SETTLE FOR MORE?

Vote for JASON M. SETTLEMOIR for USTA president on February 27
Contact your USTA District Director below

Ohio
Dan Ater
dater@bright.net
Donald W. Hooivil
shoovler@hoovlerfinancial.com
John C. Mossbarger
midlandacres@prodigy.net
Mark Loewe
mark.loewe@pngaming.com
Richard Brandt Jr
rick.brandt@loganclaypipe.com
Stacy Cahill
scahill@sciotodowns.com
Steve McCoy
mccoyst@aol.com

Michigan & Indiana
Jay D. Cross
cross301@msn.com
Marilyn Breuer-Bertera
marilynbertera@charter.net
Mike P. Sweeney
Sweeney3082@gmail.com
Scott Peine
scottpeine@yahoo.com
Steve Oldford
steveoldford@oldford.biz

Illinois
Jim Reynolds
nreyno@earthlink.net
Kenneth L. Walker
kiwalker32@gmail.com
Sam Lilly
sam@trotandpace.com

Pennsylvania
Barry Brown
Babrown@harrahs.com
Richard Gillock
gillockracing@aol.com
Russell C. Williams
rcwilliams@hanoverpa.com
Samuel A. Beegle
gingertree@frontiernet.net

New York
Bruce Tubin
wnyh1@aol.com
Jason M. Settlemoir
jsettlemoir@newmracing.com
Kim L. Crawford
olcrw112@aol.com
Mark Ford
markford1070@gmail.com
Michael Kane
mkane@westernotb.com
Ray Schnitker
harnessray@yahoo.com
Shawn F. Wiles
swiles@empireresorts.com

New York
Jordan Stratton
strattonracing@gmail.com
Joseph A. Faraldo
faralوثorn.net
Michael P. Kimmel
mikekimmel64@gmail.com
Robert J. Galterio
galterio@yonkersraceway.com
Timothy J. Rooney
trooneyjr@yonkersraceway.com

AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM,
OR, UT, WA, WY, HI, AK
Ben Kenny
benben@gmail.com
Christopher Schick
sulkschick@hotmail.com
Ivan L. Axelrod
iaxelrod@aol.com

AR, IA, KS, MN, NE, OK,
TX, MO, ND, SD, WI
Gabe J. Wand
gabewand@yahoo.com
Robert W. Yohn
robert.yohn@gmail.com
Royal Roland
royalin@iowatelecom.net

FL, AL, GA, KY, LA,
MS, NC, SC, TN, WV
Alan J. Leavitt
ajw@walnuthall.com
Frank Antonacci
frank@indyfarms.com
Jerry M. Haws
jhawks@bloodedhorse.com
Joe Pennacchio
joseph.penacchio@yahoo.com

DE, D.C., MD, VA
Dan Bittle
debittle63@gmail.com
Russell J. MacKinnon
russjmackinnon@aol.com
William F. Moffett, DVM
wfmoffett@aol.com

CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
Donald G. Marean
don.marean41@gmail.com
Fred Nichols
frogmanor1@gmail.com
George G. Ducharme
gmgj11@msn.com
Stephen O’Toole
sotoole@prcharness.com
Timothy C. Powers
tcpowersdvm@gmail.com

New Jersey
Christopher McErlean
christopher.mcerlean@pngaming.com
Jacqueline Ingrassia
ladyjay23@aol.com
Jeff Gregory
jeffgregory@comcast.net
John R. Brennan
johnbrennan2@gmail.com
Nick Salvi
elanspur@yahoo.com

*paid for by Tioga and Vernon Downs
glaucine-containing products are FDA-approved in the U.S., but they are available via the internet.

Dr. Dionne Benson, executive director and chief operating officer of the RMTC, said that while research has been underway to try to identify the injectable substances that contain glaucine separately from glaucine resulting from the tulip poplar and found in shavings, there has thus far been no success with that work.

Recent research conducted by New York and Pennsylvania officials, however, has shown that glaucine levels of 500 pg/ml or greater in a horse in a post-race sample indicate that the horse had to be given a substance on race day, and that the high level was not the result of contamination from shavings alone.

“At this point we can’t differentiate between a combination of the shavings and the injectibles, but it’s also important to note that even if we could, there could be two things going on,” said Dr. Benson. “Glaucine could be showing up because a horse was on shavings and had also been administered an injectible.”

Dr. Benson added research has found that there is a “very short detection window” for glaucine from shavings showing up in post-race testing.

“With conservative management, trainers should be able to avoid any positive tests for glaucine contamination from shavings,” said Dr. Benson. “Starting 24 hours before a horse races, I’ve heard that some horses are muzzled so that they don’t ingest shavings, or you could use bagged shavings, which are mostly pine, unlike bulk shavings, or wood-fiber pellets have been found to be OK as well.” — By Kathy Parker

Some See Retirement as an End, but for a Racehorse it’s Just the Beginning...
USTA Monday meeting to be streamed
The U.S. Trotting Association’s 2017 Board of Directors Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday (Feb. 26) through Tuesday (Feb. 28) at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. On Monday (Feb. 27) there will be a live stream of the Board of Director’s General Session. more

Ohio announces areas of focus for ’17
The Ohio State Racing Commission’s monthly meeting was held Feb. 22 at 10 am at the Riffe Center, Columbus, Ohio. The Commission discussed at length the three areas it intends to focus on in 2017: Advance Deposit Wagering (ADWs); medication policies and thresholds; and out-of-competition testing. more

Joe Bongiorno “working nearer to home”
Joe Bongiorno plans on working nearer to home this year, but hopes to be no less busy. The 23-year-old New Jersey resident, who in 2016 set career highs with 2,754 starts, 399 wins, and $3.79 million in purses, drove frequently at Ohio’s Northfield Park last season. more

CHHA scholarship applications available
The Christian Harness Horsemen’s Association (CHHA) wants to see our harness racing youth succeed. To help the students CHHA plans to award two scholarships in 2017. more

Window Wiper racing for new owners
Window Wiper turned in a solid effort in her first start for Robin Clements and David Siegel, checking in a close third in the Filly and Mare Open at Cal Expo after sitting a tracking journey. The 7-year-old daughter of Island Fantasy was claimed from her prior effort here. more

HANA handicapping contest to get underway March 17
HANA Harness is pleased to announce the return of its handicapping challenge to benefit Standardbred rescue for its sixth running. The 2017 Hambletonian Society Grand Circuit Handicapping Challenge sponsored by DRF Harness, Green Acquisition Corporation, The Hambletonian Society, Hoosier Park Racing and Casino, Meadowlands Racing and Entertainment, Northfield Park, Tioga Downs, Wellbourne Farms, and Vernon Downs kicks off on Friday, March 17, with the first leg of the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series at Yonkers Raceway, concluding on Nov. 30 with the Progress Stakes at Dover Downs. more

Les Stark to return to Racing From The Meadowlands
With Racing From The Meadowlands host Sam McKee on the mend, several industry participants have been recruited to support the existing team on the broadcast. Coming up on Saturday, Feb. 25, a welcome face from the past will settle into the co-host seat as Les Stark makes his return to the show after a 20-year absence. more

More from Horse Peoples' Alliance about Ontario racing
In a statement issued Thursday (February 22) the Horse Peoples’ Alliance of Ontario addressed Ontario Racing’s Letter of Intent webinar as well as a perceived lack of financial disclosure pertaining to the province’s horse racing industry. more

Pocono set to open barn area on March 1
Spring is just around the corner, and the Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono is getting the stable area ready for our valued horsemen, with the gates officially opening for the 52nd season on Wednesday, March 1, at 7:30 a.m. All horsemen must have the required paperwork to enter with their horses, along with a valid Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission license, which must be presented upon entry at all times. more

SRF has breedings for sale
The Standardbred Retirement Foundation (SRF) has new breedings for sale, and also appreciates the donation of breedings throughout the season. To gift or purchase breedings, please contact Tammy at 732-446-4422 or email admin@srfmail.com. more

To sign up for the Weekend Preview please visit www.harnessracing.com/members_sign_up.php
### Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse</th>
<th>Starts</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Somewhere In LA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$87,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caviar Luca</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>86,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Hot Herbie</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>83,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springbank Sam</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>67,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Of Cashel</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>66,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedroomconfessions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>61,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roland N Rock</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>58,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber Duck</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Your Mind</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Bettor</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>52,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allerage Star</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>49,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Brother</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>46,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medusa</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage Seelster</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>44,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soto</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>44,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leading Money-Winning Drivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Starts</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Earnings (wk. diff)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jason Bartlett</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>49-52</td>
<td>$1,020,016 ($211,470)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Merriman</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>109-83</td>
<td>1,065,542 (144,078)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Zeron</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40-34</td>
<td>912,520 (190,950)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Brennan</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42-33</td>
<td>869,200 (134,215)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Stratton</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>45-41</td>
<td>860,115 (161,355)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey Callahan</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>63-56</td>
<td>779,262 (97,281)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Kakailey</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>45-33</td>
<td>729,379 (67,025)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Palone</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>30-37</td>
<td>623,122 (65,107)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Dube</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>38-35</td>
<td>584,458 (75,165)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayne Kauffman</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>42-51</td>
<td>582,250 (84,615)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yannick Gingras</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>46-39</td>
<td>577,916 (100,993)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug McNair</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>40-29</td>
<td>566,290 (91,079)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trace Tetrick</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>40-37</td>
<td>562,069 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Callahan</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>86-72</td>
<td>548,535 (78,389)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Kirby</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>50-40</td>
<td>538,788 (70,809)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leading Money-Winning Trainers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainer</th>
<th>Starts</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Earnings (wk. diff)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ron Burke</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>55-52</td>
<td>$1,015,513 ($184,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rene Allard</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>38-25</td>
<td>566,269 (83,582)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Banca</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21-22</td>
<td>431,426 (91,165)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Harris</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17-12</td>
<td>336,135 (49,625)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Moreau</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29-30</td>
<td>332,737 (41,830)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Harmon</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12-8</td>
<td>330,519 (56,675)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmen Auciello</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>30-23</td>
<td>301,054 (57,414)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Di Domenico</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17-17</td>
<td>273,914 (26,209)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan Davis</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20-17</td>
<td>272,442 (30,174)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Johnson</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>24-12</td>
<td>270,137 (42,293)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matias Ruiz</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8-13</td>
<td>225,381 (37,010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Ford</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17-17</td>
<td>220,792 (21,615)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Hammond Jr.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8-14</td>
<td>217,688 (28,496)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Surick</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>30-25</td>
<td>216,942 (45,230)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim King Jr.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16-5</td>
<td>197,528 (23,450)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through February 21, 2017 (week difference Feb. 15-21).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakes</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winbak Farm</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brittany Farms</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seelster Farms Inc.</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perretti Farms</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulletproof Enterprises</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Creek Farm LLC</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Birch Farm</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Winds Farm Inc.</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert J. Key</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSX Stables</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Stewart</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USHWA Dan Patch Awards dinner in Las Vegas</td>
<td>USTA meetings in Las Vegas</td>
<td>Mardi Gras</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DSBF 3CT (DD) Pettcoat F&amp;M Pace final (YR)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>