

Levy Round 1: Foiled Again Vs. Apprentice Hanover

Eighteen wins, seven seconds and two thirds in 27 starts, with \$1,169,150 in earnings. Those numbers mark a stellar career for a racehorse. But that isn't a lifetime resume. Those are the numbers posted by Foiled Again in only his career appearances in the George Morton Levy Memorial Series at Yonkers Raceway.

Entering 2014 with \$6,030,968 in career earnings, the 10-year-old Foiled Again has amassed 19.3 percent of his bankroll in the Levy Series. The son of Dragon Again—who is making his sixth consecutive Levy appearance—is a two-time Levy final winner in 2009 and 2010. He then came up just short in photo finishes each of the last three years. In 2011 Foiled Again was third by a half length, in 2012 he was

Any suspense leading to a showdown between Foiled Again and Apprentice Hanover will be quickly erased as the two drew in together in Race 11.

second by a head, and then last year he finished second by a neck.

The Levy Series consists of five preliminary rounds (\$50,000 each division) and then the final on Saturday, April 26. The nomination fee remained the same this year at \$5,000 per horse, but new is a starting fee of \$1,000 for each leg.

This year's Levy Series for older pacers attracted 47 nominees, with Foiled Again one of 10 nominated by trainer Ron Burke. All 10 are scheduled to line up behind the gate in Saturday's opening round, divided by groups of two in each of the five splits and coupled in the wagering.

Any suspense leading to a showdown between Foiled Again, who hasn't raced since his win in the TVG final last Nov. 30 and comes into the event off two winning qualifiers at the Meadowlands, and Apprentice Hanover, who arrives at Yonkers riding a nine-race win streak dating back to last November, will be quickly erased as the two drew in together in Race 11. Apprentice Hanover drew post 3 with regular driver Jody Jamieson making the trip from Canada, while the Yannick Gingras-driven Foiled Again will start from post 6 as part of an entry with the pole-sitting Hillbilly Hanover.

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Levy Memorial Series Stats

Year	Nominees	1st-leg Entries	1st-leg Div.	Eventual Champion
2007	55	37	5	Maltese Artist
2008	38	24	3	Special Report
2009	34	31	4	Foiled Again
2010	52	43	6	Foiled Again
2011	59	46	5	Real Nice
2012	51	42	6	Atochia
2013	50	42	6	Razzle Dazzle
2014	47	36	5	?

Displaying the talent that was expected when Ontario-based Brad Grant purchased Apprentice Hanover early in his 2-year-old season, Apprentice Hanover, a 4-year-old son of Somebeachsomewhere, comes into the Levy off of six wins in the Preferred at Woodbine, and all were by open lengths except for one. Trainer Ben Wallace stated after Apprentice Hanover's victory on March 15 that he doesn't expect any issues with the half-mile racetrack, pointing out his horse's Dec. 14 win in the Cleveland Classic at Northfield Park.

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"Whether we go five weeks in a row with him or not is another story, but I think a half-mile track suits him great," said Wallace, noting Apprentice Hanover has been racing on an every-other-week schedule throughout his streak. "He was really good at Northfield. I don't think there is a track that bothers him. He's just a nice horse right now."

As for Foiled Again, Saturday's start will be the 199th of his illustrious career in which he has posted 76 victories. He is by far the richest pacer ever, currently standing nearly \$2 million ahead of former leader Gallo Blue Chip (\$4,260,959). — *By Gordon Waterstone*

Buter Hopes Feeling You Feels Like A Million

Just \$13,054. That's all Feeling You needs to earn to reach the \$1-million mark in career earnings. The 7-year-old pacing mare has a great chance to reach the milestone on Friday night when she lines up in post 5 in the third of four \$40,000 divisions of the opening round of the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series at Yonkers Raceway.

Trained by Amber Buter and owned by her husband, driver Tyler Buter, in partnership with Steve Oldford and Oldford Farms, Feeling You is the defending Matchmaker champion. A total of 29 mares were entered for Friday's first round of the six-week series (final on April 26), including 2012

Matchmaker champ Rocklamation, who drew post 4 in the first division, and Anndrovette, the Older Pacing Mare of the Year the last three years, who landed in post 3 in the second split.

"We were hoping it would happen in her last start last year, but she wasn't healthy (tying up a few times) so we quit with her," said Buter of pursuing the milestone. "A million, it's just a number, but she's a great horse and I'm obviously honored to have something of this caliber in my barn. But you can't get stuck on a number and hopefully she'll go on and make as much money as some of her other rivals in the series."

Buter said Feeling You wintered at Chris and Georgia Coyle's Olive Branch Farm in North Carolina and looked "sensational" when she arrived at her barn at Mark Ford's training center near Goshen, N.Y., earlier this winter.

"She came back sound and healthy and in a better frame of mind," Buter said of the daughter of Cambest. "We're hoping she's just as good, if not better, than last year."

Feeling You romped by eight lengths in 1:57 in her lone qualifying appearance on March 7 at Yonkers, and then finished seventh in her 2014 pari-mutuel debut last Friday in the Open Pace after starting from post 7.

"We got to train her pretty good at the farm and then qualified her once," said Buter. "Then as luck would have it, we got the seven hole and raced conservatively, but she finished with a ton of pace. She made up four lengths in the

Continues on page 3 >>>

WEEKEND FEATURED RACES

Friday, March 21

All times listed are local.

7:15p	M1	Horse & Groom	Trot div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:10p	YR4	Matchmaker	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
7:54p	M3	Horse & Groom	Trot div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:50p	YR6	Matchmaker	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
9:30p	YR8	Open	Trot	Trackmaster PPs
9:50p	YR9	Matchmaker	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
10:10p	YR10	Matchmaker	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs

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Saturday, March 22

7:30p	YR2	Levy Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:10p	YR4	Levy Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:30p	YR5	Levy Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:51p	M6	Hirt Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
9:11p	M7	Hirt Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
9:50p	YR9	Levy Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs
10:08	M10	Winter Survivor	Pace final	Trackmaster PPs
10:30p	YR11	Levy Mem.	Pace div.	Trackmaster PPs

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Blue Chip Matchmaker Final Winners

Year	Purse	Winner (driver)	Time
2013	\$285,000	Feeling You (T. Buter)	1:52.4
2012	\$297,000	Rocklamation (Y. Gingras)	1:51.3
2011	\$301,000	Tomorrowpan (D. Dube)	1:53
2010	\$237,000	Ginger And Fred (T. Tetrick)	1:52
2009	\$229,000	Pancleefandarpels (J. Stratton)	1:54.4

stretch and came her last quarter in :26.4, and that's not too bad at Yonkers."

Feeling You drew into a tough division. Leaving from post 1 is Charisma Hanover, who is making her 4-year-old debut. Charisma Hanover is a perfect three-for-three in her career on half-mile tracks, having won last year's Courageous Lady at Northfield Park and then capturing her elim and final of the Lady Maud at Yonkers, the former being a track-record 1:51.4 effort.

Starting from post 6 is the 2012 Two-Year-Old Filly Pacer of the Year Somwherovrainbow, now in the barn of trainer Joe Holloway after an ownership change in November, when trainer George Teague Jr. and K&R Racing sold their interest to Diamond Creek Racing, who shares ownership with Ted Gewertz. The 4-year-old daughter of Somebeach-somewhere was most impressive in her seasonal debut last Friday night at the Meadowlands where she coasted to a 3/4-length win in a career-best 1:49.1. — *By Gordon Waterstone*

Pocono Opens Saturday; Hoosier Park Gearing Up

Even though winter weather hasn't completely abated, tracks that have been closed for the winter are opening. Earlier this month Saratoga Casino & Raceway opened, Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs holds its first program on Saturday night, and Hoosier Park geared up for a March 28 opening with its first qualifiers on March 19.

Indiana has been particularly hard hit by snow and cold temperatures this year and Hoosier Park race secretary Scott Peine said although he has allotted the track's 630 stalls, he knows some horses are behind in their training.

"It's where you would expect it to be with this winter," said Peine. "The first big test for the horse population will come when we go to five days a week, which is the second week of April."

Despite the harsh winter, the track surface has been completely rebuilt. A brown limestone material has been added as well as banking in each turn. The paddock has also been re-painted and double gates were installed in the stalls. The paddock office has been updated and construction recently began on a new horsemen's lounge.

Pocono has a full card of 14 races on Saturday, including four divisions of the first leg of the Bobby Weiss Series, a late-closer for 3 and 4 year old colts and geldings. The third division field includes Dinner At The Met, a four-time winner this year, who won a leg of the Buddy Gilmour Series at the Meadowlands last month.

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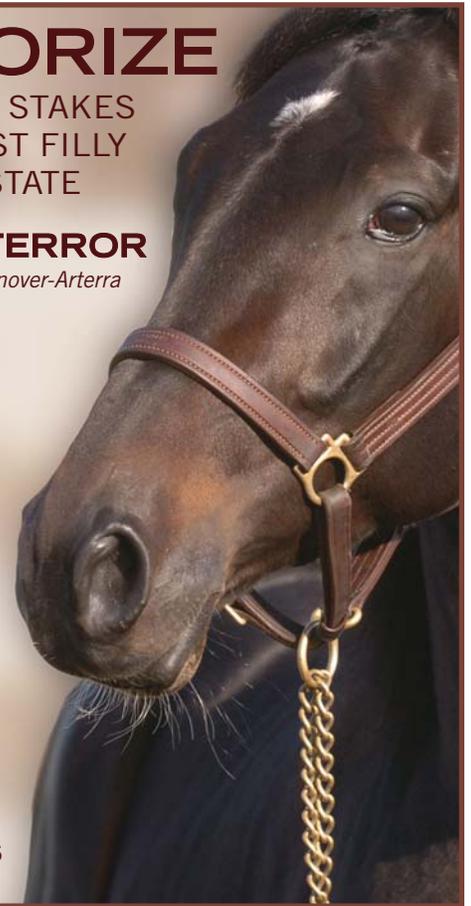
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Pocono will be racing four days a week through June, with a couple of exceptions, then play host to five live cards a week through July and August before dropping back to four and then closing out its 2014 meet on Saturday, Nov. 22.

PAYMENTS DUE APRIL 15

One list and one check keeps your horses eligible to these top events.

2YO PAYMENTS

BREEDERS CROWN No. 28

To race Friday, Nov. 21 or Saturday, Nov. 22, at The Meadowlands
Elimination heats, if necessary, will be raced Friday, Nov. 14 or Saturday, Nov. 15.
Purses for the 2-Year-Old Finals in 2014
U.S. \$500,000
Sustaining Fee: \$500 • Final Sustaining Payment: \$600, due May 15
Entrance Fee: \$5,000

THE ELEVATION

\$150,000 Est in 2014
-\$500-
Open. To be raced Saturday, September 20 at Hoosier Park
Final Sustaining Payment: \$500, due May 15
Entrance Fee: \$750

KENTUCKIANA STALLION MANAGEMENT PACE 2014

2 Year Old Filly Pace
\$250,000 Est.
To race Saturday, September 20 at Hoosier Park.

KENTUCKIANA STALLION MANAGEMENT TROT 2014

2 Year Old Filly Trot -- Open To The World.
\$200,000 Est.
To race Saturday, September 20 at Hoosier Park.
-\$500-

Schedule for Sustaining Payments:
Final Sustaining Payment: \$1,000, due May 15
Entrance Fee: \$1,250

MADISON COUNTY

-\$75,000 Est. in 2014-
-\$300-
All Divisions to race Saturday, October 25 at Hoosier Park
Entrance Fee: \$300

MATRON SERIES 2014 for 2-year-olds

Early Closing Event for 2-year-olds
\$791,800 Total 2-Year-Old Purses In 2013
-\$400-
To race Thursday November 6 at Dover Downs
Final Sustaining Payment May 15: \$500
Entrance Fee: \$1,000

3YO PAYMENTS

BREEDERS CROWN® No. 27

Each of the four 3-year-old finals will be guaranteed U.S. \$500,000 in 2014
US \$900 (all payments in U.S. Funds)
To race Friday, Nov. 21 and Saturday, Nov. 22, at The Meadowlands
Eliminations, if necessary, will be raced Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15.
For more information about supplements and regular entries, please contact the office
Entrance Fee: \$7,500

EARL BEAL JR MEMORIAL TROT

-\$500,000 Final in 2014-
-\$1,750-
Open. Saturday, June 28 at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs
Eliminations, if necessary, will be raced Saturday, June 21.
Final Sustaining Payment May 15: \$2,000
Entrance Fee: \$4,000

MATRON SERIES 2014 for 3-year-olds

\$825,350 Total 3-Year-Old Purses In 2013
-\$750-
To be raced at Dover Downs Thursday, November 6
Top 8 format.
Entrance Fee: \$1,500

CARL MILSTEIN MEMORIAL (New in 2014)

\$400,000 Est. in 2014
-\$1,250-
Final Sustaining Payment May 15: \$1,500
To race Friday, August, 15, at Northfield Park
Consolation: \$100,000 Est.
Entrance Fee: \$4,000/ Cons \$1,000

MONUMENT CIRCLE

\$250,000 Est. in 2014
-\$1,000-
Colts & Geldings only. To race Friday, October 31 at Hoosier Park
Entrance Fee: \$2,000

CARL ERSKINE (formerly Oliver Trot)

-\$250,000 Est. in 2014
-\$1,000-
Open. To race Friday, October 31 at Hoosier Park.
Entrance Fee: \$2,000

4YO AND OLDER PAYMENTS

BEN FRANKLIN 2014

-\$500,000 Final in 2014-
-\$1,750
Open. Saturday, June 28 at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs
Eliminations, if necessary, will be raced Saturday, June 21.
Final Sustaining Payment May 15: \$2,000
Entrance Fee: \$5,000

BOBBY QUILLEN

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-\$200,000 Est.-
-\$500-
Open. To race Monday, September 15 at Harrington Raceway
Eliminations, if necessary, will race Monday, September 8
Entrance Fee: \$2,500

2014 BREEDERS CROWN No. 26

For 3-Year-Old & Older Trotters: \$500,000
Entrance Fee: \$10,000
For 3-Year-Old & Older Pacers: \$400,000
Entrance Fee: \$8,000
To race Saturday, November 22, at The Meadowlands
Eliminations, if necessary, will be raced Saturday, November 15.
-\$1,500-

DAYTON TROTTING AND PACING DERBY (New in 2014)

\$100,000 Est. each in 2014
Nomination -\$750-
To race Friday, October 24 at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway
Final Sustaining Fee, May 15: \$1,000
Entrance Fee: \$2,000

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BREEDING

Banter

She may be one of the classiest mares racing in a C-2/C-1 Handicap race these days, but the lines of Firstclassprincess clearly show she was in need of class relief after struggling in B-2 conditions in her two previous Meadowlands starts. On Friday night she'll start from post 5 in Race 10 at the Meadowlands, but the 6-year-old mare's owner, Michael Andrew, said he doesn't know what to expect.

"She's trained well but her attitude isn't so great,"

said Andrew of Firstclassprincess, a daughter of Classic Photo who sports a lifetime mark of 1:53.2f and career earnings of \$324,965.

Firstclassprincess will be making her sixth start of the season for trainer Trond Smedshammer. She took the early months of 2013 off to have a baby and was put back into training when she failed to get in foal.

"We got a nice Muscle Hill filly from her and then we bred her back, five or six times, and we couldn't get her in foal," added Andrew. "So she looked good and I thought maybe we would just try and race her again, because she had raced while in foal."

That's right. Firstclassprincess was racing when she was bred to Muscle Hill in April 2012.

"After her 3-year-old season, Trond thought she would fit the classes at The Meadows, so we sent her to Ron Burke, and she was doing very well. But while she was there I had her sent to Walnridge Farm and had her bred to Muscle Hill and she raced really well while she was pregnant. In fact, I think she raced better then than when she wasn't."

Firstclassprincess conceived on an April 18 breeding date and was back at the races on May 11, qualifying at

The Meadows. She made 11 starts before finishing her season in September, setting a track record of 1:53.2 at The Meadows on July 6—almost three months into her pregnancy—and picked up another \$74,900 in earnings, which put \$136,791 on her card for the year.

"She raced so well while in foal that I might breed her again and keep racing her," said Andrew of his plans for the mare this year. "If I breed her, she'll go to Andover (Hall)."

Andrew owns seven broodmares, plus has shares of four with Hunterton Farm and owns a mare in partnership with Chris Coyle, who operates Olive Branch Farm in North Carolina, where Firstclassprincess foaled her Muscle Hill filly. Among the group are two mares who have produced million-dollar winners, Malvictorian, the dam of Little Brown Fox, and Miss Molly Tamale, the dam of Likeabatoutahell.

Miss Molly Tamale (Final Score-Molly Also), now 18 years old, has also produced Chilitodayhotamale 3, 1:52 (\$326,249). The mare has a yearling filly by Muscle Hill named Pocomoon. Unfortunately, she aborted a Muscle Hill offspring nine months ago, so Andrew said he will probably use a surrogate if she conceives from a breeding date with Muscle Hill. Malvictorian is also being bred to Muscle Hill and Andrew kept her 2-year-old colt by Donato Hanover and has him in training with Smedshammer.

Andrew's broodmare band also includes mares that he breeds for the Maine program. There is legislation pending in the state Senate which would permit a casino at Scarborough Downs, a development that could give a boost to Maine's breeding program, but Andrew said he is not overly optimistic.

"This bill passed the House but I'm not sure it will pass the Senate or that the governor would sign it," he said.

"If it doesn't get through, I'm not sure what will transpire here. It could be that we'll be down to the fairs, and Hollywood at Bangor Raceway. It sure would be nice though to have something in southern Maine." — *By*

Kathy Parker

Classic Photo 3, 1:52.3	SJ's Photo 5, 1:53	Photo Maker 8, 1:55.2f	Yankee Bambino Waynette	
	Classic Winner 3, Q1:56.4	Sassy Jane 3, 2:03.1f	Kawartha Mon Ami Lady Jane	
FIRSTCLASSPRINCESS 4, 1:53.2f (\$324,965)	Supergill 3, 1:53.3	American Winner 3, 1:52.3	Super Bowl B J's Pleasure	<i>This filly by Muscle Hill-Firstclassprincess was photographed last spring at Olive Branch Farm in North Carolina, where she was foaled on April 1, 2013. (Photo courtesy Olive Branch Farm)</i>
	Princess Pan 2, 2:01.1	Classic Somolli 2, 2:02.3	Speedy Somolli Gypsy C	
Royalty Rates	Winky's Gill 3, 1:55.2	Star's Pride Pillow Talk	Bonefish Lassie Blue Chip	
	Royal Prestige 3, 1:55.1	Speedy Crown Rosemary		
	Tarport Lady Ann 3, 2:03f	Jamie Lady Ann Reed		

More Information, More Scrutiny?

Pre-race interviews of drivers and trainers have been going on for years, but last Saturday night at the Meadowlands the track's judges took what may have been an unprecedented action when they removed a driver from two of his mounts because of what he said about driving those horses.

During an interview with Wendy Ross on the Meadowlands simulcast show driver Joe Bongiorno was asked about the horses he would be driving that night, one by one. When Ross asked about Shoobee's Place, Bongiorno responded that the horse "competes with these horses," but since the horse was eligible to the Levy, the owners of the horse "don't want him raced too tough tonight. They want him raced very conservatively, and I'm going to have to do what the owners ask."

Ross then asked about Code Word and received a similar answer from Bongiorno, who said, "Again, the owners are aiming him for the Levy next week and they want me to race him conservatively."

Tim Schmitz, presiding judge at Hoosier Park and a former "PJ" at tracks in Illinois and the Delaware, Ohio, County Fair Grand Circuit meet, said he had never before heard of a driver being taken off horses for pre-race remarks. "This has to be a first," he noted.

"I've been in racing 30 some years and I can't remember this sort of thing ever happening before," said William "Bill" Crawford, executive director of the Ohio State Racing Commission, who has worked in various positions in racing during his career.

Meadowlands presiding judge John Tomasello also couldn't recall a previous case. He said he did not see Bongiorno's interview live, but received a phone call about it.

"The interview was brought to my attention," explained Tomasello. "I did speak to Joe shortly after the interview and he was open and honest. I don't think for a minute that he wasn't going to be driving to win. He's a very young and aggressive driver. But what he said was a poor choice of words."

When asked if he considered scratching the two horses, Tomasello said no. "There was no information presented to me that warranted that," he said.

Shoobee's Place was driven by Marcus Miller and finished fourth in a photo at odds of 4-1. Code Word, who is co-owned by Bongiorno's mother, Barbara, was driven by Steve Smith in the eighth race and was never a factor, finishing eighth at odds of 6-1.

Monitoring pre- and post-race interviews given by drivers and trainers is not something judges do routinely, and with the expansion of commentary via the social networking platform Twitter, there has been an explosion of pre-race information put forth by drivers. Most judges rarely see TV interviews or tweets—the information disseminated via Twitter.

Tomasello said the Meadowlands judges' stand has TVs broadcasting various camera shots of a race, and to watch



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the track's simulcast show and see pre- and post-race interview, they must change the channel on a TV and turn up the volume.

Schmitz concurred that judges rarely have a chance to listen to interviews.

"The TV will be on in the judges' stand, but you don't always hear every word if something else is going on," offered Schmitz, who said that pre-race interviews at Hoosier Park are usually only conducted on "big event" race programs.

"Tweeting," which limits communication to just 140 characters, is being done by quite a few drivers, most notably by younger reinsmen participating at the Ontario tracks and the Meadowlands.

Tweets are often incorporated into simulcast shows. Standardbred Canada also runs a "twitter" crawl on its website which allows those who are not following drivers directly via Twitter to see what they are posting.

Some of the tweets in recent weeks are interesting in light of Bongiorno being taken off of his drives. For instance, one driver tweeted, "Need to get back on track in a bad way. Tough to recommend." Another sample, "...but will need a race or 2 before I think she can be a big factor." Yet another, "Tonight, draws post 9 off 5 weeks... Do the math folks."

Greg Gangle and Ken Middleton of WEG's media department have managed the tweeting at Woodbine and Mohawk.

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"We don't necessarily 'monitor' each tweet by the drivers, but we copy and paste tweets from drivers/trainers, etc. on our simulcast each race for our viewers," said Gangle via email. "We've always asked drivers/trainers to focus on the positive things about their horses as opposed to the negative. Sure, it's sometimes hard to say something positive about a 99-1 shot, but they certainly do their best.

"We've had a lot of support from customers about tweeting and find it beneficial for everyone. Providing more information for the customer is always important."

Middleton, who is usually the one to sift through the tweets and sends them on to the television graphics department for posting for those who aren't followers of the drivers, said drivers have embraced tweeting at the WEG tracks.

"I know there have been some races where we'll use five or six tweets from different people," said Middleton. "Fans have submitted feedback, and the majority of it has been positive. To the best of my knowledge, there haven't been any issues with regards to any of the info our participants have shared in this manner."

In Ohio, drivers and trainers cannot comment during the races via a tweet since communication devices, including cell phones, are not permitted to be operated in the paddock.

"As far as someone doing it before they got to the paddock, in terms of monitoring this, I think it would be impossible to keep up, unless someone reported something to the judges," said the Ohio commission's Crawford.

The Kentucky Racing Commission also does not have any rules on its books dealing with tweeting.

"There's nothing specifically in our rule book against it, but I would discourage it," said Marc Guilfoil, deputy executive director of the Kentucky Racing Commission. "Nothing

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Race Replay Links	NO	YES
Result Chart Links	NO	YES



good can come out of it, so why would you want to put yourself in a situation? What if a driver says he has a great chance to win a race? There's a gazillion things that could happen to a horse to make him race bad." — *By Kathy Parker*

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Meadowlands Statement On Bongiorno Interview

Last Saturday night at the Meadowlands driver Joe Bongiorno was replaced on two of his mounts after a pre-race interview in which he stated that his instructions from the owners of those horses were to race those two horses conservatively in anticipation of upcoming stakes.

The judges at the Meadowlands, after listening to the interview, felt that he should be replaced to protect the interests of those wagering on the races discussed. Protecting the integrity of the racing is their job description.

Drivers and other racing personalities that may be interviewed or post comments on social media are certainly not trained in the field. Mr. Bongiorno has said publicly that he did not state his intentions clearly in the interview. At 20 years of age, his media exposure is limited but his enthusiasm for racing and his integrity are unquestioned.

Experienced horseplayers are aware that there is no substitute for observing the actions taken by drivers during a race to determine if the horse was driven properly. The interview comments made by drivers are similar to the way the NFL discloses injuries, to provide interested parties with the most current and accurate information possible as well as adding a personal component to the broadcasts.

In this age of information saturation, as we navigate through the process of utilizing the various social platforms to our best advantage, there will be missteps. So long as wagering is an element of our product, those will be magnified. While this situation may be regrettable, it was dealt with in an objective and thoughtful fashion.

The Meadowlands considers both information and integrity vital components to the future success of harness racing. Our expectation is that any horse entered to race at the Meadowlands is racing to win every time. (*Meadowlands*)

Meadowlands Changes Draw Schedule

Beginning with the draw for the weekend of March 28, the Meadowlands will shift to a Monday-Tuesday draw schedule. Going forward, the Friday card will be closed on Monday at 9 a.m. while the Saturday card will be closed on Tuesday at 9 a.m. In addition, beginning Saturday, March 29, qualifiers will be moved to Saturdays at 10 a.m. with the box for qualifiers closing at 4 p.m. on Friday. Those with any questions should contact the Meadowlands Race Office.

Freehold To Pay Accident Equipment Claims

Chris McErlean, vice president of racing for Penn National Gaming, parent company of Freehold Raceway, has sent a letter to Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association president Tom Luchento that noted claims already submit-

ted for damage suffered in a race accident Jan. 10 have been approved.

"I have been informed by our legal counsel involved with our insurance company that any claim submitted for payment for damages of equipment involved in the Jan. 10 accident at Freehold has been approved and payments are being made," wrote McErlean. "There may be further claims out there but they have not been submitted and there have been claims on other items apart from racing equipment that are being handled separately."

The accident sent several drivers to the hospital, including Cat Manzi and Debbie Rucker, both of whom suffered injuries that have precluded them from yet returning to racing.

Fan Zone Introduced; Top 100 Moments Contest

To help drive greater awareness of and engagement with the sport of harness racing to current and new fans, the U.S. Trotting Association (USTA), in partnership with social consultancy Converseon and key industry constituents, have officially launched a new socially powered, consumer-facing website, The Harness Racing Fan Zone (<http://www.harnessracingfanzone.com/>).

The Harness Racing Fan Zone is an innovative new, online content hub designed for current and potential new fans and owners to "see, share, connect and play" through the power of social media. The mission of the Fan Zone is not to replace current industry websites or marketing initiatives but to serve as a key central platform that will help unify, amplify and positively brand the sport.

Also, in celebration of the rich history of harness racing, the USTA, in partnership with the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, announced Tuesday the launch of the "Top 100 Moments in Harness Racing" contest.

The contest will allow fans from around the world to upload and share their favorite personal harness racing moments for industry recognition and a chance to become part of the sport's history. The winning top moments will be celebrated in a special exhibit at the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y.

The contest is accessible at [Facebook.com/OfficialHarnessRacingFanZone](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialHarnessRacingFanZone) and leverages Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms, together with the new Harness Racing Fan Zone.

Using a crowd-sourcing approach, the contest, which ends June 15 at 9 p.m. (EDT), allows participants to upload, display and share their photos, videos, stories and memories and enables fans to vote for their favorites.

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Entries will be divided in the following categories: Horses, People, Races, Places, as well as a special "Heart" category designed to celebrate some of the personal stories that exhibit extraordinary determination and courage. Voting will be split between fans and a five-person judging committee consisting of a representative from the USTA, the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, The Hambletonian Society, U. S. Harness Writers Association and sport historian Dean Hoffman. The committee will oversee final judging. *(USTA)*

Meadowlands To Pay Tribute To Roosevelt

Harness racing is in the midst of a new era at the Meadowlands, as the brand new \$90 million facility stands tall on what used to be the backstretch of the Meadowlands, home to many of the sport's biggest starts. Many of those same stars that left their hoof prints where the new state-of-the-art facility gleams in the night skies of East Rutherford, N.J., also wrote harness racing history with those same hoof prints just 30 miles away at Roosevelt Raceway in Westbury, N.Y.

On Saturday night, May 17, the Meadowlands will turn back the clock and bring many of those stars to life with a night dedicated to the legacy of Roosevelt Raceway.

The highlight of the night will be a driver autograph session including many of the famed reinsmen that called Roosevelt Raceway their home for so many years. Drivers confirmed for appearances include Carmine Abbatiello, Ben Webster, Frank Popfinger, Bill Popfinger, Merritt Dokey, Bobby Vitrano, Jim Marohn Sr., Mike Lachance, Herve Filion, Rejean Daigenault, Ted Wing, Gerry Sarama and more.

If any other members of the Roosevelt Raceway racing colony would like to take part in this special event, please contact Sam McKee at (201) 460-4090 at the Meadowlands.

The current stars of the Meadowlands driving colony will pay tribute to the drivers of Roosevelt Raceway in a Meadowlands race by donning the colors of the historic drivers of Roosevelt.

Famed broadcasters Dave Johnson and Spencer Ross will be appearing to add to the nostalgia of the evening.

In addition, the racing program will feature a commemorative Roosevelt Raceway cover and beautiful Roosevelt Raceway memorabilia will be displayed in the grand foyer of the Meadowlands. The food and beverage choices will remind many of Roosevelt not only by the items offered, but by the pricing as well. *(Meadowlands)*

New Drivers Tourney At Meadowlands

Beginning Saturday, March 22, the Meadowlands will host a six-week tournament for drivers that pits the sport's established stars against the emerging new talent. Each Saturday night through April 19 (five legs), a point tally determined

by each driver's order of finish will be kept over the course of the entire race card and the top point earner for each of those two groups will be awarded \$2,000 for their efforts.

The tournament will conclude on April 26 with a final in which the top point earners over the course of the five preliminary legs will compete in a series of races on the card. The winner of the final will be awarded \$15,000, second place is worth \$5,000, third \$3,000, and all other finalists will receive \$1,000.

This event is jointly sponsored by Jeff Gural and the Meadowlands, with no effect on the purse account.

There will be no specifically dedicated races for this contest. All drivers will be competing for their own interests; there is no team element other than to determine the top point earners for the purpose of awarding the prizes.

The contest will consist of all races on each of the Saturday programs and the process will remain as it normally is so far as entering horses and driver selections. The trainers will enter their horses listing the driver of their choice. The drivers will make their choices with the judges by scratch time and trainers will be required to call the judges and react to those choices, then name whomever they wish if their first choice has gone elsewhere.

The "Legends" will be comprised of Yannick Gingras, David Miller, Corey Callahan, Tim Tetrick, Andy Miller and John Campbell (who expects to return to the sulky on March 28). The "Phenoms" will include Scott Zeron, Andy McCarthy, Joe Bongiorno, Marcus Miller, Jimmy Marohn Jr, and Tyler Smith, among others.

Any drivers not listed above who race at the Meadowlands on the tournament Saturdays will compete as members of the "Phenoms" and are eligible for any prize awarded to that group.

The drivers named above and any others will compete of their own volition, as their personal schedule allows. They may compete in as many or as few of the preliminary legs as they choose. *(Meadowlands)*

Raffle Tickets For Elitlopp Helping SRF

The Standardbred Retirement Foundation (SRF) has a trip to the celebrated Elitlopp in Solvalla Stockholm (Sweden), one of harness racing's largest events, up for grabs through a fund-raising raffle.

This fabulous trip begins with an airfare voucher valued to \$1,600 and includes a five-day/four-night stay for two at a four-star hotel in the heart of the Stockholm; a welcoming dinner and get together Thursday night; on Friday, tour of Menhammar Stud Breeding Farm; tour of one of the most successful European training centers; a trip to The Elite Year-

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harnessracing.com HEADLINES

ling Sale; a private tour of the Royal Castle and other historic sites; and entrance to the Solvalla Racetrack Saturday and Sunday; and an English-speaking tour guide during your entire stay.

Raffle tickets are \$25 each and funds raised will be used to provide hay and grain, medical and farrier care, rehabilitation, vaccinations, and other related needs for more than 180 Standardbreds currently in SRF's care. More than half of these horses are unadoptable due to age or injury and are under the full care and expense of SRF for the rest of their lives.

If you have not received your tickets by mail, they are also available for purchase by contacting admin@srfmail.com, or by phone at (732) 446-4422. The winning ticket will be drawn Friday, April 17, at noon at Showplace Farms in Millstone Twp., N.J.; the winner does not need to be present. Help with selling tickets is also much appreciated. Please use the contact information noted. (SRF)

Coletta Lawyers File Lawsuit Against Harrah's Philadelphia

Attorneys for the family of Anthony Coletta, who was seriously injured in a race accident last November at Harrah's Philadelphia, revealed Monday, March 17, they have filed a lawsuit against the racetrack, alleging the track surface was "dangerously defective" and posed a threat to the safety of the drivers and their horses and that track officials knew of the issues two years ago.

In the complaint filed on behalf of Coletta by his attorneys from Saltz, Mongeluzzi, Barrett & Bendesky, P.C., it is alleged that the track owner-operator, despite knowing of the hazardous conditions, failed to take corrective measures because it did not want to spend the necessary time or money.

The following was included as part of a press release issued by the law firm representing Coletta and his family:

"Prior to Anthony Coletta's injuries (Nov. 17, 2013), Harrah's Philadelphia and Caesars failed to correct known defects in the racetrack and instead put the lives of the professional harness drivers at risk." It added, "Harrah's Philadelphia and Caesars failed to take any action with respect to assessing and/or redoing the track during the September 2013 racing season break, which was just two months prior to Anthony Coletta's injuries.

"Coletta, 31, suffered numerous fractures, brain and skull injuries as a direct result of being thrown from his sulky and then trampled. It was impossible for him to avoid the horse in front of him that stumbled on the defective surface, setting off the horrific accident. The one-time widely acclaimed driver remains hospitalized following several operations and is fully dependent on others for all forms of life care."

RMTC Adopts Protocol For More Medications

The board of directors of the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) held a regular meeting March 17 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

At that meeting, the board took several actions intended to further the process of uniform nationwide adoption of medication rules, penalties and testing. With respect to the "Schedule" of controlled therapeutic substances—the list of 24 medications at the center of the uniform medication rules—the board:

- 1) adopted a detailed set of protocols for adding to or amending the original list of 24 medications;
- 2) recommended to the Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI) that the bronchodilator albuterol and the corticosteroid isoflupredone be added to the Schedule;
- 3) recommended to RCI a reduction in the threshold for the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory ketoprofen;
- 4) recommended to RCI an increase in the withdrawal time guidance for the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory flunixin;
- 5) approved funding for the scientific analysis of five therapeutic medications at the request of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), and voted to join the AAEP in petitioning RCI to remove the restricted administration times and replace them with withdrawal guidance as originally proposed by the RMTC.

In response to recent media coverage that erroneously suggested the RMTC has changed course or retreated from an earlier position regarding substances not listed on the Schedule, the RMTC board affirmed its position that the Schedule does not preclude the use of medications other than those on the Schedule. However, in using non-Scheduled medications, participants proceed at their own risk without the guidance provided with respect to medications found on the Schedule or the protections found in other parts of the uniform rules. (RMTC)

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RACE LINES

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through March 18, 2014 (week difference Feb. 12-March 11).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Dw's Ny Yank (5tg)	7	5	1	1	\$92,100
Apprentice Hanover (4ph)	5	5	0	0	76,840
Addison Bay (7pm)	8	5	1	0	67,310
Dancin Yankee (6ph)	6	5	1	0	67,250
Hldontghttoyurdrms (5tg)	6	4	0	0	65,445
Time To Quit (4tg)	7	5	1	1	63,384
Nova Artist (7ph)	9	3	1	2	59,575
A J Corbelli (7pg)	6	5	0	0	58,400
Amigo De Grande (8tg)	8	3	3	1	56,851
Automatic Slims (8ph)	9	7	1	0	56,440
Perfect Alliance (4tm)	5	5	0	0	55,350
Kg Dragonator (4pg)	9	4	4	1	54,417
Daylon Miracle (5tm)	8	5	0	2	54,110
All Stienam (5pg)	8	4	1	0	53,550
Lorrie Please (7pm)	8	2	2	1	52,860

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Pierce	703	125-137-109	.338	\$1,625,050 (\$171,925)
Corey Callahan	741	147-108-94	.322	1,404,317 (104,095)
Brian Sears	481	116-80-59	.374	1,186,050 (180,010)
Jason Bartlett	481	81-64-65	.287	959,250 (82,280)
Aaron Merriman	821	133-121-119	.292	919,514 (113,718)
Dave Palone	494	116-84-66	.374	917,346 (104,127)
George Brennan	516	68-63-57	.236	889,257 (75,427)
Mike Wilder	491	93-78-70	.325	835,197 (100,535)
Matt Kakaley	411	50-56-71	.252	818,415 (60,110)
Yannick Gingras	306	70-44-33	.345	757,422 (59,147)
Brett Miller	515	85-68-62	.279	741,669 (83,893)
Ross Wolfenden	501	69-76-62	.263	679,216 (47,080)
Jody Jamieson	322	62-39-47	.308	655,137 (74,015)
Eric Carlson	372	33-53-29	.194	593,105 (62,950)
Scott Zeron	379	43-48-51	.229	581,589 (80,050)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	611	134-95-83	.351	\$1,625,050 (\$158,204)
Rene Allard	219	62-28-35	.407	516,638 (61,486)
Carmen Auciello	261	33-37-21	.232	450,886 (71,325)
Corey Johnson	149	28-31-16	.339	399,287 (31,273)
Josh Green	125	41-24-8	.456	391,887 (34,990)
P.J. Fraley	187	25-31-25	.270	385,290 (28,375)
Richard Moreau	226	41-30-25	.292	335,553 (21,103)
Dylan Davis	156	40-21-20	.374	331,805 (19,755)
Julie Miller	95	24-17-12	.394	292,850 (54,775)
Randy Bendis	165	23-30-21	.283	285,174 (30,216)
Scott Di Domenico	160	19-26-26	.263	266,580 (32,675)
Victor Puddy	239	40-35-37	.300	260,449 (22,358)
Darran Cassar	99	17-10-20	.295	256,180 (33,650)
Nick Surick	176	28-32-21	.300	255,626 (19,110)
Heidi Rohr	142	23-17-18	.271	244,602 (26,534)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	519	205	329	\$2,551,168
Winbak Farm	457	159	244	1,710,303
Brittany Farms	142	65	98	939,905
Perretti Farms	172	68	112	795,452
Jules & Arlene Siegel	82	33	57	529,660
White Birch Farm	75	35	62	527,964
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	122	39	51	491,760
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	90	35	51	434,214
Seelster Farms Inc	77	34	54	369,009
Walnut Hall Limited	89	30	45	366,682
Peter Pan Stables Inc.	53	20	34	303,416
Frederick W. Hertrich III	73	29	49	302,838
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	62	24	38	296,857
Perfect World Enterprises	71	29	47	292,409
Steve H. Stewart	58	28	49	284,296

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for March 12-18 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers

	Starts	W-P-S
Brian Sears	54	19-10-5
Aaron Merriman	64	16-9-10
Ron Pierce	80	16-12-14
Brett Miller	52	13-3-7
Bruce Aldrich Jr.	61	12-13-9
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	56	12-15-11
Trevor Henry	46	11-9-4
Dave Palone	45	10-11-6
James Kennedy	22	10-1-5
Casey Leonard	31	9-4-4
Corey Callahan	52	9-9-6
Jim Morrill Jr.	30	9-10-2
Mike Wilder	54	9-8-7
George Dennis	56	8-8-4
James MacDonald	40	8-4-1
Scott Zeron	44	8-4-5
Tony Morgan	45	8-8-6
Tyler Smith	53	8-13-3

Trainers

	Wins
Ron Burke	10
Rene Allard	8
Julie Miller	7
Carmen Auciello	6
Gary Messenger	6
Daniel Gill	5
David McCaffrey	5
James Kennedy	5
Jose Godinez	5
Joseph Hundertpfund Jr.	5
Kevin Efimetz	5
Mark Harder	5
Andrew McCabe	4
Chris Short	4
Conor Flynn	4
Gilberto Garcia-Herrera	4
Jeff Brewer	4
Joel Smith	4
Josh Green	4
Marie St Charles	4
Scott Di Domenico	4
Tony O'Sullivan	4
Victor Puddy	4
Virgil Morgan Jr.	4