

With Burke Brigade Domination, Levy Entries Fall

And then there were three. After five divisions of the opening round of the six-week George Morton Levy Memorial Series for older pacers and then four divisions the next two legs, 21 horses were divided into just three \$50,000 splits for round four on Saturday night at Yonkers Raceway.

Although trainer Ron Burke told Weekend Preview last week he sat out a horse in round three of the Levy because he didn't want to race three in a single division, he

has no choice this time around as the dwindling divisions mean three of his horses will line up behind the gate against each other in two of the contests.

And just to spice things

up even more, the Burke-trained Foiled Again and Bettor's Edge, who are tied atop the Levy standings after each posted wins in the first three rounds, drew in together in the third Levy division on the card. Foiled Again and Bettor's Edge are also the only two horses undefeated in the series thus far.

"What are you going to do?" said Burke, whose horses have earned \$352,750 in the first three legs of the Levy. "You have to race however they decide to race it. So far the series has been good to us."

Burke's horses have won 10 of the 13 Levy legs contested thus far, with Yannick Gingras in the sulky behind seven. George Brennan can take credit for the other three victories. Tim Tetrick (twice with the P.J. Fraley-trained Mach It So) and Jody Jamieson (with the Ben Wallace-trained Apprentice Hanover) are the only other drivers to score in a Levy division.

Gingras has driven Foiled Again and Bettor's Edge to all their victories, with his other win coming with Itrustyou. Six of Gingras's scores came in wire-to-wire fashion, with the

BURKE'S LEVY BRIGADE

- ▶ 28-10-6-3
- ▶ \$352,750
- ▶ 54.2 percent of total \$650,000 in purses

Levy Dash Standings

Driver	Starts-1st-2nd-3rd	Earnings
1. Yannick Gingras	13-7-1-1	\$193,500
2. George Brennan	13-3-3-2	134,250
3. Tim Tetrick	12-2-1-1	79,000
4. Jody Jamieson	7-1-3-1	71,750

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other coming when he directed Bettor's Edge up the pylons after sitting a two-hole trip.

"When you have the best horse you have to put him up close," Gingras explained of his front-end strategy. "I have a lot of power in it so it makes my job driving a lot easier, that's for sure.

"I've been lucky so far that Foiled Again, Bettor's Edge and Itrustyou have drawn into different divisions. Itrustyou wasn't quite as good last week (seventh to Apprentice Hanover after leading early) and then on top of it, my best ones drew in against each other this week. But that's the way it goes."

Continues on page 2 >>>>



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Gingras will again drive Foiled Again on Saturday while Brennan picks up the drive behind Bettor's Edge. The reigning Pacer of the Year breezed through his first two Levy legs and then last week had to withstand a late bid up the inside by PH Supercam to win by a head.

"I knew that other horse in the two hole could sprint, and then around the last turn I kept Foiled Again going pretty good to make sure we weren't going to be out-sprinted," said Gingras. "If you notice, I never used the whip after that."

Burke said he doesn't plan on resting any of his Levy starters in leg five on April 19, which is the final preliminary before the April 26 final.

"I lean toward racing them straight through, but every week is different," said Burke. "Right now, I would say no."

Although Burke's horses currently occupy eight of the top 13 places in the series standings, he is limited by the conditions to just two starters in the final, and he has said he would consider selling one of his contenders if necessary, which he did last year (he sold Something For Doc prior to the race). — *By Gordon Waterstone*

WEEKEND FEATURED RACES

All times listed are local.

Friday, April 11

- 8:05p Wdb3 **Blossom** 3FP final [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:10p YR4 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:30p YR5 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:56p M6 **Artistic Vision** Pace [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:30p YR11 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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

Saturday, April 12

- 7:34p M2 **A2/A1/FFA** Pace [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:10p YR4 **Levy Mem. Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:30p YR5 **Levy Mem. Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:51p M6 **Whata Baron Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:27p M11 **Whata Baron Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:30p YR11 **Levy Mem. Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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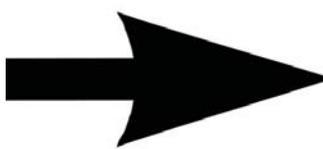
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STRETCH CALL

BY DAVE BRIGGS

Gural Happy Banned Trainers Thriving Elsewhere

As far as banned trainers go, it was a banner night. March 22, during the season-opening card at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs, 28 percent of the purses were earned by seven trainers that share the dubious distinction of being banned from racing at the Meadowlands (along with Jeff Gural's two other tracks – Vernon Downs and Tioga Downs). The (not so) Magnificent Seven won four of the 14 races at Pocono, finished second five times and third five

Through April 8, those banned seven trainers have raced nearly 1,000 times already in 2014, reached the winner's circle 213 times and earned \$2.27 million combined.

times and gobbled up \$60,025 of the \$214,500 in purses offered.

That night, and the continuing success of those suspect trainers, adds a black mark to harness racing and is particularly troubling for a sport struggling to survive due to waning public interest.

Overall, through April 8, those banned seven trainers have raced nearly 1,000 times already

in 2014, reached the winner's circle 213 times (with an enviable winning clip of 22 percent) and earned \$2.27 million combined. Almost all of their earnings come from New York and Pennsylvania, jurisdictions with racinos. Three of them currently rank among the top 12 trainers in North America in earnings.

You might think Gural would be seething about it. He is one of the sport's most ardent integrity advocates. Instead, he sees it as a business opportunity.

"I'm actually glad that these other tracks allow them to race because hopefully it will encourage owners and trainers who don't use these guys to race at the Meadowlands where they know they have a better chance of competing on a level playing field than they have at some of the tracks we compete with," Gural said.

He said the list of trainers excluded from racing at his tracks is a lengthy one, though he declined to say how many people were on that list. While Gural hopes to attract only honest participants, he does question why the industry at large is so apathetic about a problem that tarnishes the brand.

"I'm amazed that these tracks don't seem interested in why we don't let them race. No one's ever called me," Gural said. "I've only had calls from two owners who aren't al-

lowed to race because their trainers are not allowed to race. You would think if a trainer told his owner that they were no longer allowed to race at the Meadowlands, they might be curious as to why. Maybe they know. I think they probably know and it doesn't bother them."

Gural said he spends about \$150,000 a year on added security at his tracks. Recently, it paid off with a major bust on the New Jersey Turnpike. On March 1, Brice Cote, the head of security at the Meadowlands, tailed a horse van to a rest stop and observed a man throwing a paper bag into a trash can shortly after exiting the back of the van. Cote retrieved the bag and found it contained syringes. Alvin and Marvin Callahan later admitted to injecting drugs into two horses scheduled to race that night at the Meadowlands. This week, the New Jersey Racing Commission suspended the two Maryland men for five years and fined them \$5,000 apiece. Caretaker John Hollingsworth was fined \$1,000 and suspended one year for assisting.

Gural has taken on the integrity issue himself because he knows racing commissions are hamstrung.

"I think the problem the commissions have is they just don't have the budget. My guess is they don't want to get sued. It looks bad if they have to spend money that's not budgeted on legal fees," Gural said.

Gural said the fact he won a lawsuit initiated by excluded trainer Lou Pena has "definitely helped me. Had we lost that case it would have been open season. It's a moral issue for me. I didn't spend \$100 million to create a place to have people that I don't trust."

As for tracks that have slot machines, Gural said there's no excuse for them not to improve integrity.

"They have tons of money to spend and they don't want to spend it," he said. "I'm spending my own money and these guys are profitable and don't want to spend money."

He believes tracks with slots may be looking the other way on purpose.

"You want my honest opinion? I would think the slots tracks want harness racing to disappear as quickly as possible. They look at it like, 'Sooner or later this will get the attention of government and they will be less receptive to using so much money for purses.' They all lose money on the racing, so why wouldn't they want it to disappear?"

It's a scary premise. But anyone quick to ignore Gural's warnings and dismiss him as doomsayer haven't taken a close enough look at his winning percentage.



Dave Briggs was the editor of The Canadian Sportsman for 18 years and is an award-winning journalist. His column appears in HarnessRacing Weekend Preview in part through the advertising support of Hanover Shoe Farms and Woodbine Entertainment Group. Any opinions expressed in this column are his own and not necessarily those of the Horseman Publishing Company and its publications or its advertisers.

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

For Free For All Pacers
-\$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

The breeding business lost one of its most enthusiastic players on Sunday night (April 6) when Steve Brown, who together with his wife Martha operated Dunroven Stud in Lexington, died at age 81.

Steve wasn't born into harness racing, but he quickly grew to love the sport. Having moved to Lexington to attend the University of Kentucky, Steve landed a job at Walnut Hall Farm where he first worked in the reproduction laboratory and on the paint

crew. The Walnut Hall job changed his life since it was there that he met Martha Nichols, whose parents, Willis and Katherine Nichols, operated the farm. Steve and Martha were married for 51 years.

Although for many years Steve managed Walnut Hall Farm, Steve and Martha teamed up on their own for Dunroven Stud, where they stood stallions and assembled a broodmare band.

Steve had a very good memory for the characteristics of the various horses he worked with over the years, and what many might not know is that he was also a cattle farmer. In the past decade or so Steve and Martha spent the winter months in South Florida, not far from Pompano Park, and when they returned to Kentucky in the spring Steve not only had to check up on the horses but also drove through fields looking at the Charalois calves that had been born.

A couple of years ago I asked Steve about the family of Madam Cool, the granddam of the top fillies Pampered Princess and To Dream On. Walnut Hall bred Madam Cool and after the filly's racing career Steve and Martha brought the good-looking mare into the Dunroven broodmare band. Steve brought me up to speed on horses on both the paternal and maternal sides of the family going back several generations.

Today Dunroven has three of Madam Cool's daughters in its broodmare band and two of them have foaled thus far this year. Princessndiamonds delivered a filly by Andover Hall on Feb. 8 and Madam Super Bowl gave birth to a filly by Credit Winner.

The day after Steve passed away Dunroven farm manager Ron Foster learned that the farm's mare Exceed Expectation, the dam of 2012 Kentucky Futurity champion My MVP, who Dunroven bred, was in foal to Cantab Hall (the sire of My MVP) after losing her foal last year. Then early in the afternoon on Tuesday, April 8, South Bay, a half sister to Guccio, foaled a filly by Credit Winner at Dunroven.

Those who knew Steve will always remember him as a guy who filled up a room more than most because of both his size and genial nature. Steve had friends throughout harness racing and he treasured the camaraderie of the Standardbred community.

One spring, when Steve felt that enthusiasm in the sport had fizzled for one reason or another, he walked into The Horseman's offices and invited the staff to a pig roast at Dunroven on Memorial Day. I'll never forget Steve proclaiming in his booming voice, "We're going to put some fun back in this damn business!" I think it rained on the pig roast that year, but it didn't dampen Steve's spirits.

It seemed like almost everyone in the Bluegrass harness racing world turned out for Steve's funeral on Thursday morning. He was one of the good guys in harness racing, another one who will be greatly missed. — *By Kathy Parker*

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Hazel Park Opens Saturday For Possible Harness Finale

Hazel Park Raceway begins its 62nd year of harness racing on Saturday, but the feeling is a bit melancholy as it could be the final time Standardbreds ever compete over the five-eighths mile oval.

Officials at the racetrack in suburban Detroit have reached an agreement with the state's Thoroughbred horsemen to bring back Thoroughbred racing beginning later this year. The track's contract with the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association expires at the end of the year, which means the landscape of racing in the Wolverine State will likely look totally different in 2015.



"This is the best Saturday night card that we've had in a long time."

— Ladd Biro

If there was any silver lining for this year's abbreviated meet it is that the accumulated purse pool of approximately \$1 million will have to be distributed. Hazel Park race secretary Ladd Biro said the number translates to \$106,000 in daily purses, the most in recent memory, and certainly the most since Biro took over the job in 1998.

"I had 126 horses entered for the first card and that's good and up from last year," said Biro. "We filled all the classes, including seven in the Invitational and nine in an Open. We got pretty much nines across the board."

With expanded gaming and the plethora of casinos in the state—those operated by Indian tribes and three in downtown Detroit—the number of Standardbred dates continued to decrease over the years, with this year's meet a far cry from the 168-date meets conducted in the 1980s and 1990s.





On a sunny day in the Bluegrass, the world champion American Jewel p,2,1:50.2; 3,1:48.2 (\$1,840,656) kept an eye on her first foal, a colt by Somebeachsomewhere born on March 2 at Brittany Farms. American Jewel is a daughter of American Ideal out of the Camluck mare Trim Hanover, so this colt carries a 3x4 cross to Matt's Scooter and a 4x4 cross to Cam Fella. American Jewel was bred and is owned by Brittany Farms. *(Brittany Farms photo)*

The seven-horse Invitational Pace on Saturday will carry a purse of \$17,200, while the Open Pace races for \$12,000.

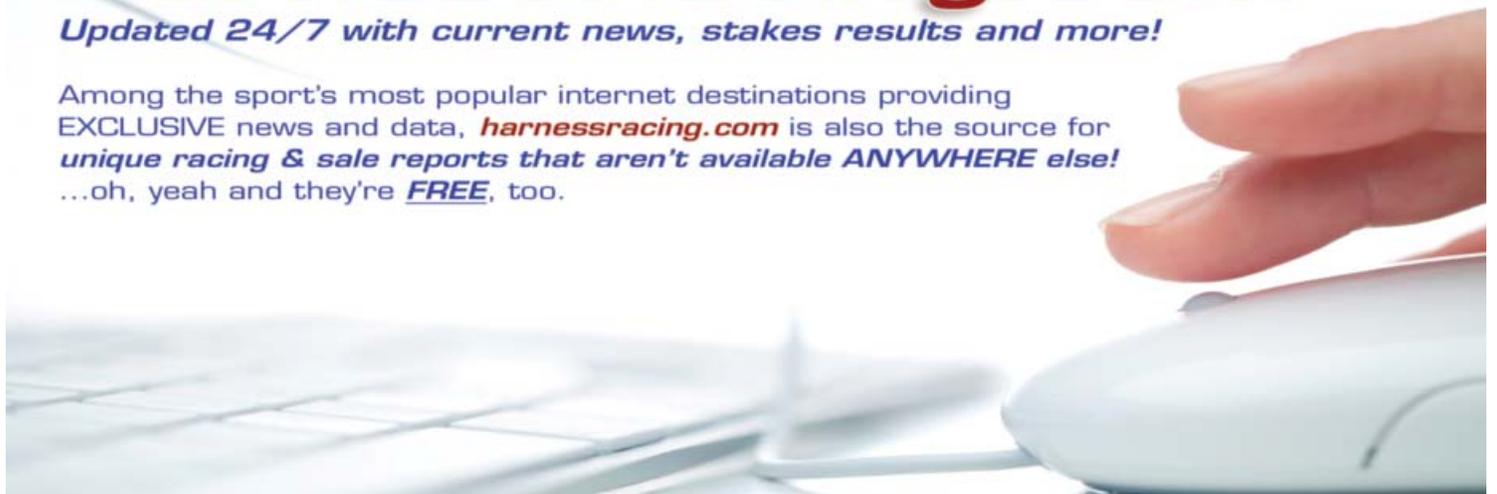
"This is the best Saturday night card that we've had in a long time and it's certainly the best opening night we've had in a long time," said Biro. "I'm going to try and write some higher claimers, in the \$30,000 range, and see what we can generate that way as well."

Hazel Park will race Sundays, Fridays and Saturdays through May 3, with the exception of Easter Sunday, which will be made up with a card on Monday night, April 21. Post time nightly is 7:30 p.m.—*By Gordon Waterstone*

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Moran To Call Final Race Friday At Vernon

In 1962, a young man named Jim Moran ventured from his home in Springfield, Mass., to central New York at the suggestion of his uncle Bud Hebert. Hebert, the Vernon Downs racecaller, would see his nephew assume the Clerk of Course position for that first season there. Moran then took on the role of assistant race secretary the subsequent season, and in 1964 would become the full-time announcer.



Jim Moran

Fifty years and 73,000 races later, Jim Moran will call his last race on Friday night as Vernon Downs opens for the 2014 season.

In a half-century atop the Vernon Downs grandstand, Moran has seen some of the greatest horses, trainers, and drivers in the history of American harness racing through his binoculars.

"We got to see Bret Hanover, who was probably my all-time favorite horse," Moran reminisced. "I didn't get to call Bret Hanover as a 2 year old, but the following year (1965) I did get to call his race. We drew 14,000 people, which was the biggest racing crowd ever at Vernon. He won the race, continued his winning ways, and came back as a 4 year old. He also had a world record time trial at Vernon."

Fourteen years later, another young pacer graced the Vernon backstretch, and eventually proved himself as one of

the few worthy of being mentioned in the same breath as Bret Hanover. His name was Niatross.

"Then Niatross came along, and Clint Galbraith developed him on the Vernon backstretch," he said. "I crossed the paddock one night, saw Clint after Niatross had won a couple baby races, and said 'That's kind of a nice colt you've got there,' and he said 'Jim, he's gonna be something special.' Sure enough, he became Horse of the Year two times."

Moran has seen many developments in harness racing through his time documenting the sport, namely in terms of safety and speed.

"In my first season at Vernon Downs there were only four 2:00 miles," said Moran. "Last year, 1,100 of the races were 2:00 miles, including two of the fastest miles ever here."

In addition to calling a "Who's Who" of harness racing athletes, both human and equine, Moran has been feted for his efforts as a harness racing publicist and historian on numerous occasions. He received the North America Harness Publicists Association's Golden Pen Award in 1990, was elected to the Greater Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, and was inducted into the Communicators' Corner of the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in 2009.

While Moran looks forward to more time with his wife of 49 years Suzanne, their three children, and three grandchildren, he has every plan on capping his career at Vernon on a very high note.

"There are things I'm going to miss about the sport, I'm sure, and as far as calling the last race goes, I hope I can still do the job like I used to," he said. "I've told people in recent years that I may not be as good as I once was, but I can be good once as I ever was, and hopefully I'll be as good once on Opening Night." — *By James Witherite/Vernon Downs*



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N.J. Commission Issues Five-Year Suspensions

The New Jersey Racing Commission (NJRC) has suspended horsemen Alvin Callahan and Marvin Callahan each five years and groom John Hollingsworth one year for their roles in a March 1 incident at a New Jersey Turnpike rest stop that led to their admissions of injecting drugs into horses who were scheduled to race that night at the Meadowlands. The Callahans were also each fined \$5,000, while Hollingsworth was fined \$1,000.

According to earlier reports, Meadowlands head of security Brice Cote was following the horse van from a private training center when it pulled off the turnpike into a service area. Cote saw the three men go in the back of the van and upon leaving, throw a paper bag into the trash. Cote went and retrieved the bag and found it contained used syringes.

The three horses in the van, Twinscape, Dointimetogether and Abelard Hanover, were all scratched from their starts that night, with the three men admitting to the stewards that Twinscape and Dointimetogether had been injected with unspecified drugs.

According to the NJRC rulings obtained by harnessracing.com, the three men each provided sworn testimony that they either assisted or "knowingly and willfully administered foreign substances, by way of injection using hypodermic needles and syringes" to Twinscape and Dointimetogether.

In advance of the NJRC rulings, Meadowlands chairman Jeff Gural already had banned the three men from the grounds of the racetrack. The NJRC suspensions all began on March 1, meaning the Callahans are suspended through March 1, 2019, and Hollingsworth through March 1, 2015. — *harnessracing.com*

Stakes Payments Due April 15

April sustaining and nominating payments for Hambletonian Society stakes are due Tuesday, April 15, and per USTA Rule 12 section 4, must be postmarked by midnight on Wednesday, April 16.

With the exception of the Bobby Quillen Memorial Pace at Harrington Raceway, the only payments due on April 15 are those that required previous payments in March.

An additional \$1,500 payment due April 15 has been added this year for continuing eligibility to the \$500,000 Breeders Crown Pace and Trot to be raced Saturday, Nov 22, at Meadowlands Racetrack.

The Historic Stake No. 47, the E. H. Harriman Cup for 2-year-old trotting colts, originally scheduled for Monday, Oct. 13, at Harrahs Philadelphia, will now be raced on Sunday, Oct. 12.

Eligibility lists for races that had a final payment on February or March 15, 2014 are posted on the website. Race con-

ditions, payment forms and much more information is now available online. For additional information call the Society offices at (609) 371-2211.

Payments are due for the following stakes:

Ben Franklin
Breeders Crown
Bobby Quillen Memorial Pace
Carl Erskine (was Oliver Trot) 3 year olds
Earl Beal Jr. Memorial Trot
The Elevation 2-year-old pacing colts
Dayton Derby 4 & older
Kentuckiana Stallion Mgt. Filly Pace & Trot (2-year-old fillies)
Madison County 2-year-olds (was Circle City)
Matron Series (2 year olds)
Matron Series (3 year olds)
Carl Milstein Memorial 3 year olds
Monument Circle 3 year olds
(Hambletonian Society)

Injury Sidelines Top 3CP Arthur Blue Chip

Last year's O'Brien Award winning 2-year-old colt pacer Arthur Blue Chip has been sidelined and will miss the 2014 Pepsi North America Cup.

In a conversation with Standardbred Canada's Trot Insider on Monday, April 7, the colt's trainer and co-owner Dr. Ian Moore reported from Florida that the son of Shadow Play suffered an unspecified stall injury a few weeks back, and that injury will keep Arthur Blue Chip off the track for an undetermined amount of time.

"He incurred a stall injury and he's off the track for a little while right now. The prognosis is pretty good for full recovery."

Arthur Blue Chip scored six wins in 11 starts and bankrolled \$390,912 for his connections, Shadow One Stable of Guelph, Ont. The son of Shadow Play took a mark of 1:51.2 in his Metro Pace elimination at Mohawk before being scratched "sick" from the final. His most lucrative payday was a runner-up finish in the Governor's Cup. He also won a handful of Ontario Sires Stakes races, an elimination of the Battle of Waterloo and a division of the Nasagaweya Stakes.

"It's kind of knocked us a little bit, all of us," said Moore with a clearly dejected tone. "There are a lot of expectations there so it's been quite devastating. It's just one of those deals of how in the horse business you can be so high one minute and down the next."

Moore noted that the colt will miss a "significant part of the year" but could return to the track later in 2014.

"Hopefully we'll be around towards the end of the year, and maybe the rest will get tired." (SC)

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Remembering Duncan MacTavish

Duncan Delbert MacTavish was a unique and unforgettable figure in the history of the sport. He died Monday in Ottawa, Canada, after a brief illness, at the age of 74, just before the Masters golf tournament he surely would have enjoyed watching.

He was born into harness racing royalty—the son of Del MacTavish Sr., one of the ablest horsemen and sternest men anyone might ever meet. Duncan's brother, Del Jr., also was a horseman. In Quebec, in Ontario, at Saratoga, the family raced all over North America from their yearling base in Florida. But Duncan would always be associated with Blue Bonnets Raceway, on Decarie Boulevard in the heart of Montreal, where for decades he had a barn right near the jogging track at the edge of the backstretch. I can still see Daniel Jean, and Rae, and Edgar all there sweeping the straw from the stalls.

In 1966, at the age of 27, Duncan was named the Canadian Horseman of the Year. Never mind the horses, and there were scores of them worth remembering over the years, names like Fiddlers Fun and Knight Whiz and Duke of Halifax and Rooster.

He bought his best horse, Safe Arrival, as a yearling and never fully got the credit he deserved for that horse's brave performances. A few years earlier, from the Lexington sale, he had wanted to buy Abercrombie but chose not to for reasons that today still make my mind want to melt. Duncan loved Lexington in the fall—who doesn't? And one of the fondest memories of my father's life in harness racing was a trip there with Duncan one year to watch the fall trots. From Duncan my father learned the immutable truth that horses can race well and still not win.

Hall of Famer Mike Lachance told me one story after another late Wednesday after he learned of Duncan's death: "He was a wonderful friend. He had a good heart. When I started to drive in the late '60s, he put me down at horses at Richelieu Raceway, some of the best horses he ever had."

When I reached John Campbell late Wednesday night he was eloquent: "Before I even knew Duncan I knew from my family how important his family was to the sport. They were the fabric of Canadian harness racing in the '50s, '60s and '70s. And Duncan was such a good horseman. People didn't always associate Safe Arrival with Duncan but that was his horse.

"One of the funniest stories I can share is this. He had sent some horses down to Peter Seaman to race at the Meadowlands. I qualified two or three of them. Duncan put them in to race and put me down on them. I picked against him and he didn't know it. He called me up the day of the race, and he has no idea that I didn't pick his horse, and he tells me all about the horse.

"And I didn't have the heart to tell him that I wasn't on his horse, plus I didn't want to hear him bitch about not taking his horse. And after the race he called up irate. He said: 'I

don't mind that you didn't take the horse but you let me go on and on telling you all about this horse and you were even driving him!' I laughed. We were close enough friends that I knew he would be pissed off but I also knew it would never come between us.

"We stayed in touch. He called me every time I got hurt. I never lost track of the fact that he was more concerned with how I was doing physically than how I was doing on the race-track. He was just a true horseman." — *By Andrew Cohen. Cohen, a journalist, is a Standardbred owner and breeder, who just returned home after a visit to Lexington with his son. Click here to read Cohen's complete tribute to Duncan MacTavish.*

Canadian Hall Of Fame Announces Inductees

The Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame has announced its 2014 inductees. The Standardbred inductees are:

Male Horse: **Rocknroll Hanover**

Female Horse: **Dreamfair Eternal**

Veteran Horse: **Albatross**

Trainer/Driver: **Wally Hennessey**

Builder: **Dr. Ted Clarke and Robert Murphy**

Communicator: **Bill Galvin**

Maharajah Out Of Elitlopp; Jalopy's Son Panne de Moteur In?

Maharajah, the Swedish trotter who won the Prix d'Amérique earlier this year, has been ruled out for the Elitlopp next month at the Solvalla track in Stockholm. Thankfully for his trainer, Stefan Hultman, he has another gun ready for the Elitlopp battle: Panne de Moteur, a 6-year-old son of Credit Winner out of 2005 Hambletonian Oaks champion Jalopy.

Maharajah, a son of Viking Kronos (American Winner-Conch), will not participate in any of the big races this summer. The 9-year-old superstar has been busy breeding, but combining stud work and training has taken its toll on the horse.

"Basically, the load has been too heavy on him and his body is worn after training and breeding full time," said Hultman. "Naturally, things feel very sad right now because it would have been cool to be able to defend our gold in the Olympic Trot, but we need to look ahead. We'll aim to defend our title in Prix d'Amérique next year instead."

Hultman delivered the bad news on Wednesday afternoon and later that night Maharajah's stablemate, Panne de Moteur, turned in a stunning performance at Solvalla, a performance that had Elitlopp written all over it.

Panne de Moteur, who started from post six behind the gate, came home in the astounding time of 1:53.2 over 1,640 meters (about one mile). He was parked outside the leader the entire way and won by three lengths, with a lot of strength to spare against stiff opponents.— (ATG.se)

RACE LINES

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through April 8, 2014 (week difference April 1-8).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Apprentice Hanover (4ph)	8	6	2	0	\$123,590
Bettor's Edge (5pg)	7	5	1	0	113,250
Hldontghttoyurdrms (5tg)	9	5	2	0	108,480
Easy Again (5pr)	10	4	1	3	98,860
Yagonnakissmeornot (5pm)	9	5	3	0	98,750
Dw's Ny Yank (5tg)	7	5	1	1	92,100
Dancin Yankee (6ph)	9	5	2	1	89,750
Amigo De Grande (8tg)	10	5	3	1	87,451
Nova Artist (7ph)	12	4	2	2	85,350
Angels Delight (4pm)	11	6	5	0	85,000
Avatartist (4pg)	10	4	1	1	81,689
Fashion Guru (3pf)	9	4	4	0	75,925
Foiled Again (10pg)	3	3	0	0	75,000
Time To Quit (4tg)	10	6	2	1	74,634
Ideal In Vegas (5pm)	10	3	1	0	74,330

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Pierce	918	157-167-136	.321	\$1,987,515 (\$198,459)
Corey Callahan	923	170-140-127	.314	1,747,767 (207,010)
Brian Sears	614	146-100-72	.367	1,612,052 (92,060)
George Brennan	654	100-83-76	.262	1,410,270 (143,600)
Matt Kakaley	640	97-100-92	.286	1,305,545 (175,065)
Jason Bartlett	622	95-86-87	.276	1,237,330 (136,470)
Aaron Merriman	1,083	181-167-155	.301	1,233,906 (111,114)
Dave Palone	636	148-106-93	.374	1,217,173 (95,303)
Yannick Gingras	412	91-66-47	.348	1,203,602 (159,640)
Brett Miller	710	123-90-92	.287	1,129,035 (123,000)
Tim Tetrick	416	84-66-50	.330	1,058,182 (270,655)
Mike Wilder	644	110-97-86	.299	1,012,541 (43,049)
David Miller	483	69-66-73	.269	920,079 (108,965)
Jody Jamieson	413	80-60-60	.323	896,863 (78,919)
Ross Wolfenden	633	86-99-87	.269	880,853 (73,787)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	928	213-145-122	.360	\$2,806,713 (\$377,759)
Rene Allard	317	84-47-44	.394	804,489 (124,990)
P.J. Fraley	262	36-41-36	.270	657,710 (95,390)
Carmen Auciello	351	44-53-26	.234	628,861 (67,494)
Josh Green	182	46-35-19	.394	534,004 (60,450)
Corey Johnson	199	36-36-21	.317	513,117 (33,282)
Julie Miller	140	39-19-20	.402	465,815 (89,140)
Richard Moreau	283	51-42-32	.300	424,444 (38,450)
Dylan Davis	195	47-27-28	.366	401,200 (16,580)
Darran Cassar	138	27-11-25	.300	399,735 (49,210)
Mark Ford	287	26-36-23	.187	391,835 (57,100)
Gilbert Garcia-Herrera	176	37-29-21	.342	378,416 (93,930)
Scott Di Domenico	215	27-35-32	.266	376,810 (46,120)
Nick Surick	236	39-44-28	.308	369,821 (42,399)
Randy Bendis	215	32-37-27	.286	367,211 (30,571)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	634	257	449	\$3,705,133
Winbak Farm	549	209	343	2,723,243
Brittany Farms	164	77	131	1,316,791
Perretti Farms	212	97	163	1,217,720
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	142	50	87	795,820
Arlene & Jules Siegel	96	40	81	774,213
White Birch Farm	90	45	87	755,358
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	110	51	72	613,467
Walnut Hall Limited	101	42	65	549,342
Seelster Farms Inc	91	44	74	532,281
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	75	32	57	461,898
Steve Stewart	73	36	69	424,375
Robert J. Key	80	30	46	418,777
Perfect World Enterprises	76	35	58	417,425
Frederick Hertrich III	91	36	62	416,227

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for April 2-8 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers

Driver	Starts	W-P-S
Tim Tetrick	68	21-9-8
Josh Sutton	75	20-12-10
Aaron Merriman	88	17-17-12
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	70	16-13-10
Brett Miller	63	15-3-9
Andy Miller	68	14-8-9
Corey Callahan	103	14-17-17
Billy Dobson	42	12-8-4
Dave Palone	44	12-5-5
Matt Kakaley	77	12-20-13
Tony Morgan	57	12-9-3
Trevor Henry	47	12-6-7
Allan Davis	62	11-7-8
George Napolitano Jr.	75	11-15-8
John DeLong	30	10-4-3
Kayne Kauffman	55	10-10-9
Ron Pierce	82	10-14-13
Tyler Smith	50	10-4-5
Casey Leonard	41	9-6-8
George Brennan	32	9-3-4
James MacDonald	44	9-5-4
Mike Simons	47	9-5-6
Yannick Gingras	43	9-8-3

Trainers

Trainer	Wins
Ron Burke	28
Rene Allard	11
Gilberto Garcia-Herrera	8
Julie Miller	7
Tracy Brainard	7
Les Givens	6
Victor Puddy	6
Brewer Adams	5
Gail Wrubel	5
John Mungillo	5
P.J. Fraley	5
Tim Maier	5