

### Will Levy Conditions Foil Foiled Again?

With a win last week in his \$50,000 division of the third leg of the George Morton Levy Memorial Series for older pacers at Yonkers Raceway, Foiled Again went past the \$1-million mark in earnings in just the Levy Series alone. Now



**"We are interested in selling either of the other two.... It works for us in many ways."**

—Ron Burke

Heading into this week's action, Foiled Again is in a three-way tie for fourth place in the Levy standings, a list that is topped respectively by Burke trainees Something For Doc and Annieswesterncard. Because the Levy conditions preclude a trainer from starting more than two horses in the final (the same conditions apply for other races, such as the William Connors Memorial at Hazel Park), that could pose a problem for Burke, especially if Foiled Again is third on his stable list following the preliminaries. Or does it?

"We are interested in selling either of the other two," said Burke. "We're taking offers; that is something we are exploring.

"It works for us in many ways," he continued. "It maybe gets Foiled in the final and we sell a horse that still has their best earning potential for somebody else. They can take a shot on buying a nice horse and have a chance to buy into a great final too."

Burke said while he first has his eye on \$5 million for Foiled Again, he is also looking toward the \$5.5 million and \$5.6 million won by trotters Moni Maker and Varenne, respectively.

"I'd love to get to \$5 million first of all, and then go from there to try and become the winningest horse of all time," he said. "You can't ask for a better horse. You just can't have a better horse."

nine, the two-time Levy champ (2009-10) has a spectacular career Levy slate of 24-16-6-2 with \$1,006,650 in earnings, about a quarter of his record career total of \$4,669,484.

Including Saturday night's fourth leg of the Levy, when Foiled Again will start from post two in the third of four splits, there are still two weeks left before the final on April 27. With a final purse that will top \$400,000, a winner's check will go a long way toward Burke's goal of Foiled Again reaching the \$5-million mark in career earnings.

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Foiled Again has a chance to move up in the Levy standings as Something For Doc, third-place Forever Just, and Casimir Jitterbug and Dancin Yankee, who are tied with him in fourth, drew into the final Levy division. Something For Doc looks to be in a great spot to remain unbeaten in Levy action this year as he has drawn post one.

Annieswesterncard will also start from post one in the second Levy split. In a best-case scenario, the three Burke horses could occupy the top three spots in standings heading into week five.

"Things will work their way out," said Burke. "I have a couple weeks to figure it out. Let them all keep racing good and I'll worry about it as we get closer." —By Gordon Waterstone

## Star Trotters To Make Debuts Friday At Meadowlands

The 2010 Kentucky Futurity winner Wishing Stone, who spent the better part of the past two years racing in Europe, will make his 2013 debut for new trainer Ron Burke in Friday night's \$30,000 A-1/Free-For-All Handicap Trot at the Meadowlands. The race won't be easy as the seven-horse field also includes the \$3.7 million-winner Arch Madness and 2012 Hambletonian runner-up Guccio, both also making their season debuts.

For Wishing Stone, the start will be the first for the 6-year-old son of Conway Hall since he finished fourth in the \$180,000 American National on Nov. 10 at Balmoral Park, his third North American appearance after returning from a European stint. After his scores as a 3 year old included the Kentucky Futurity, Matron and American National, he was sent overseas where five victories included the Grand Prix du Sud Quest in France, the Kings Trophy in Sweden, and the Copenhagen Cup in Denmark, the latter being on June 10, 2012, the last time he reached the winner's circle.

"Everybody has been very happy with every turn with him," said Burke, who is conditioning the trotter for owners Cowboyland Aalborg, TLP Stable, Jerry and Theresa Silva Stables, and Deo Volente Farms. "This will be a test this week and a really hard race for his first start. But he's ready. Then we'll start mapping out where we're going with him. "He is just a nice horse," he added. "Whatever you want to do, he'll do."

Wishing Stone made just three starts in North America last year, his first being a fourth-place finish in the Allerge in early October at The Red Mile. That was followed with a second-place outing in a Preferred Trot at Woodbine that led to his start in the American National. The decision was made over the winter to move the horse from trainer DeWayne Minor—who shares ownership as Cowboyland Aalborg—to Burke.

Burke said he believes he has a very strong trotting contingent in his barn this year, including Wishing Stone, recent Horse & Groom final winner Quick Deal, and new purchase Tall Cotton, who has a first, second and third in top-class events at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs and the Meadowlands this year.

"Hopefully we'll have a bigger year with the trotters than we've ever had," said Burke. "Quick Deal is pretty good right now and I bought Tall Cotton. I'm having a hard time right now separating the three. We'll race them and find out

old son of Conway Hall since he finished fourth in the \$180,000 American National on Nov. 10 at Balmoral Park, his third North American appearance after returning from a European stint. After his scores as a 3 year old included the Kentucky Futurity, Matron and American National, he was sent overseas where five victories included the Grand Prix du Sud Quest in France, the Kings Trophy in Sweden, and the Copenhagen Cup in Denmark, the latter being on June 10, 2012, the last time he reached the winner's circle.

**"This will be a test this week and a really hard race for his first start."**

—Ron Burke on Wishing Stone

## WEEKEND FEATURED RACES

### Friday, April 12

All times listed are local.

- 8:10p YR4 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:50p YR6 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:10p YR7 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:11p M7 **Night Styles Pace** [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:50p YR9 **Matchmaker Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:27p M11 **A1/FFA**Trot [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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

### Saturday, April 13

- 7:15p M1 **Hudson River Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:10p YR4 **Levy Memorial Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:42p Wdb5 **Youthful 3YOCP** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:50p YR6 **Levy Memorial Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:51p M6 **Hudson River Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:10p YR7 **Levy Memorial Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:50p YR9 **Levy Memorial Pace** div. [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:18p Wdb10 **Preferred Pace** [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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which one steps up. I'm hoping that between the three of them that I have a pretty strong bunch."

The Burke barn is as busy as ever as the stable already has nearly 900 starts with more than 240 victories and \$3 million in purse earnings. That's why Sunday, April 14, will be a rarity as nary a Burke-trained horse will line up behind the gate in North America.

"I'm not a big fan of Sunday racing and with Chester (Harrah's Philadelphia) not racing their top races on Sunday, it's easier for me not to race," explained Burke. "I like my people to have off on Sunday. They work hard and don't need to be working every day. Since I'm top heavy with better horses, it's not an issue for me having to race on Sunday. Now I can spend the day with my kids, who play baseball on Sunday." — *By Gordon Waterstone*

## Burke Has Four Ready To Ride The Hudson River

Two \$18,000 divisions of the first leg of the newly-introduced Hudson River Series are on the Saturday night card at the Meadowlands.

There were 23 nominations for the series for 4- and 5-year-old pacers by sires standing in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, who are non-winners of four pari-mutuel races or \$150,000 lifetime through March 15, 2013.

Following first-leg action at the Big M, the series shifts to Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs on April 21 and then to Tioga Downs on May 4. The event culminates in a \$75,000 (est.) final on May 11 at the Meadowlands.

Trainer Ron Burke has four going postward in the opening leg of the Hudson River, with Take It Back Terry and I'm The Pied Piper coupled in the wagering in the first split due to common ownership, and Verdad and Visible Gold lining up together in the second split as separate wagering entities.

Visible Gold won once in 26 starts last year and finished fifth in his 2013 debut at Woodbine in early January. But the 5-year-old son of Bettor's Delight was then purchased by Burke Racing Stable, Weaver BrusceMI LLC and RTC Stables, and has been flawless since. Racing at The Meadows, Visible Gold has won six straight for his new connections and will try for seven in a row after starting from the outside post eight.

Burke said his interest in Visible Gold was piqued because the gelding is a half brother to his \$3.9 million-winner Won The West, voted the Older Pacer of the Year in 2009 and 2010.

"Him being a half brother to Won The West was what drew our attention to him," said Burke. "'West' got better with age so maybe this is a horse we can do well with."

Burke said being able to drop Visible Gold in class once he shipped into The Meadows was a main reason for a turnaround in form.

"It was probably the change; he had been in the same barn his whole life," Burke explained. "Change is good

sometimes. I was able to race him down where he was a little cheaper in class and he just needed to get on a little bit of a roll."

Also in this division is Holdingallthecards, winner of the \$67,400 Clyde Hirt Memorial Series earlier this year at the Meadowlands.

In the first Hudson River split, Take It Back Terry was a six-time winner last year, including a 1:51.4f career mark set at The Meadows and a season-ending 1:52.2 score in a Circle City division at Indiana Downs.

As for I'm The Pied Piper, the son of Western Ideal won the Diplomat Series final last May at Woodbine and was purchased by Burke Racing Stable, Weaver BrusceMI LLC, JJK Stable and Panhellenic Stable last June and moved into Burke's barn. I'm The Pied Piper won three of his first four starts for his new connections, including a career-best 1:49.4f effort at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs. Although he made a couple of forays into stakes competition, I'm The Pied Piper raced primarily in overnights while amassing \$148,076 in earnings.

Also in this division is Domethatagain, who scored a come-from-behind 1:50.2 win last Saturday night in a series prep race, and Ideal Champ, who finished fifth as the beaten favorite in that contest after leading through fast early fractions. — *By Gordon Waterstone*

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# TIOGA DOWNS 2013 LATE CLOSING EVENTS

(TO CLOSE MAY 1, 2013)

For 3-5 Year Olds - Separated by Sex & Gait

**Event # 1**  
**“Morrisville College Sale”**  
**TROT**  
**Colts & Geldings**

Non Winners of 5 Pari-Mutuel races and/or \$60,000  
 Lifetime through and including April 30, 2013.  
 W/O \$100,000 Lifetime NE

Leg # 1	Saturday, May 25	Purse \$10,000G
Leg # 2	Saturday, June 1	Purse \$10,000G
Final	Sunday, June 9	Purse \$40,000E

**Event # 2**  
**“Nichol’s True Value”**  
**PACE**  
**Colt & Geldings**

Non Winners of 5 Pari-Mutuel races and/or \$60,000  
 Lifetime through and including April 30, 2013.  
 W/O \$100,000 Lifetime NE

Leg # 1	Sunday, May 26	Purse \$10,000G
Leg # 2	Sunday, June 2	Purse \$10,000G
Final	Sunday, June 9	Purse \$40,000E

**Event # 3**  
**“Williams Auto”**  
**TROT**  
**Fillies & Mares**

Non Winners of 5 Pari-Mutuel races and/or \$60,000  
 Lifetime through and including April 30, 2013.  
 W/O \$100,000 Lifetime NE

Leg # 1	Saturday, June 15	Purse \$10,000G
Leg # 2	Saturday, June 22	Purse \$10,000G
Final	Sunday, June 30	Purse \$40,000E

**Event # 4**  
**“M&J Oil & Lube”**  
**PACE**  
**Fillies & Mares**

Non Winners of 5 Pari-Mutuel races and/or \$60,000  
 Lifetime through and including April 30, 2013.  
 W/O \$100,000 Lifetime NE

Leg # 1	Sunday, June 16	Purse \$10,000G
Leg # 2	Sunday, June 23	Purse \$10,000G
Final	Sunday, June 30	Purse \$40,000E

**Nomination Fee \$400**  
**No Starting Fee**

Conditions are available upon request. Pari-Mutuel wins for a purse of less than \$2,000 not considered.  
 A total of \$30,000 will be added to each event 1-4.

EVENT	HORSE	AGE	GAIT	SEX	SIRE	DAM	AMOUNT
<b>TOTAL</b>							

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

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



# BREEDING

## Banter

*During the breeding season, HarnessRacing Weekend Preview will check in with breeders to learn about life on the farm at this time of the year.*

Although Rocknroll Hanover has passed, he is likely to have more than 200 offspring who have not yet raced that could burnish his legacy as a sire. Rocknroll Hanover has 119 two year olds that are members of the freshman class of 2013. In addition, in 2012 he was bred to 149 mares, and with a conception rate of between 72 and 80 per-

cent for his previous seasons at stud, that could give him another 110 to 120 offspring.

As for the 2013 breeding season, Rocknroll Hanover had been bred to about 40 mares before he was stricken by a gastric impaction. A limited amount of doses from the sire had been frozen and remained available to syndicate members.

U.S. Trotting Association rules permit the registration of foals conceived by frozen semen in the year a stallion is either castrated or dies. So Perretti Farms, Rocknroll Hanover's home during his years at stud and the syndicate manager of the horse, conducted a lottery for his remaining frozen semen on Wednesday, April 3, at the farm's offices in New Jersey.

"We simply had a lottery drawing for the syndicate members using a respected computer program, and we had Mike Gulotta and Dr. Steven Dey, who are both syndicate members, in attendance, and we also videotaped the proceedings," said Bob Marks of Perretti Farms. "We made sure that of the mares bred on the remaining semen, that their foals would be eligible per the registration rules of the U.S. Trotting Association, and we received word that the Pennsylvania Sires Stakes program uses the USTA's rules."

Select Breeders Services, the largest provider of frozen semen services in the world, will handle the breedings with the frozen semen.

"The odds of pregnancy with one dose of frozen semen on a first breeding are typically 50 percent, but the best results come with intense management of the mare," said Paul Loomis of Select Breeders.

Loomis said mares must be shipped to the Select Breeders facility in Maryland to be bred.

"When mares come to us we put them on a schedule. With only one attempt, you have to be sensitive to the fact that there is a narrow window of opportunity for breeding, either 12 hours prior to ovulation or six hours after, to get the best chance for a pregnancy," Loomis explained.

*Village Madonna poses with her first foal, a colt by Art Major who was born at Winbak Farm on April 6. Village Madonna (Rocknroll Hanover-Michelle's Fantasy) is a half sister to Armbr Deuce p,3, 1:50.2 (\$757,230).*



Photo courtesy Winbak Farm

Perretti Farms is still booking mares to its trotting sires Muscles Yankee and Lucky Chucky, who are both standing at its Pennsylvania annex.

"Muscles is a little ahead of last year in bookings and Lucky Chucky has definitely picked up, moving from New York to Pennsylvania," said Marks.

On the broodmare front, the prolific Bold Dreamer and her daughter The Queen have both lost their foals. Bold Dreamer's foal by Andover Hall was born dead and The Queen, her 5-year-old daughter, delivered a filly by Muscles Yankee that was born paralyzed and euthanized.

Bold Dreamer is owned by Bill Weaver's Valley High Stable and he told me that she was bred to Cantab Hall and has been pronounced in foal. The Queen is owned by Diamond Creek Farm and the farm's Adam Bowden reported on his blog that The Queen's foal was taken to the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center before she was euthanized, and veterinarians determined the filly's hind-leg paralysis was due to a congenital defect.

In the good news department, now that spring is here and mares are delivering foals, many breeders who have waited to book their mare are picking up the phone.

"It seems like here in Ohio, a lot of people don't book until their foals are born. They want to see their foals first," said Joe McLead of Sugar Valley Farm, where six stallions stand at stud.

McLead also shared that David and Misty Miller have booked their mare Autumn Escapade to Sugar Valley's trotting stallion Big Rigs. Big Rigs is a son of Andover Hall out of a Donerail mare, and Autumn Escapade is by Victory Sam, a son of Valley Victory, so the resulting foal—which will be Autumn Escapade's first—will have a 3x4 cross to Valley Victory.—By Kathy Parker



## Ackerman Stable Ready To Head North for Stakes Season

Doug R. Ackerman has been enjoying himself in scenic Pinehurst, N.C., but the looming stakes season has most of the Ackerman Stable heading to Goshen, N.Y., next week to prepare for the summer season. While D.R.'s father, Doug J., will keep a few at the historic Pinehurst Driving and Training Club until later in the year, D.R. has high hopes for the group heading north.

The top of the 2-year-old crop appears to be the filly **Lindy's Firework** (Explosive Matter-Dream On Lindy). Her dam is a half sister to trotting superstar, Dream Vacation.

"She has been very good. She could trot from the beginning. I am going to give her a try in 2:09 tomorrow, and she has not had a misstep all year," Ackerman said.

Two other 2 year olds seem to have the ability to take the top spot in Ackerman's eyes from Lindy's Firework. **Hot Type** (Chocolatier-Lithograph) has shown the speed but not the consistency that Ackerman prefers. The dam, Lithograph, is a half sister to \$576,149 winner, Coventry.

"He's good when he gets his mind right. The ability has always been there. I think he just needs more practice for it to come together," he said.

**Simply Impressive** (Yankee Glide-Yankee Marvi) has the consistency to develop into the top trotter in the stable.

"He is very good. He doesn't break, and that will make you money as a 2 year old," said Ackerman.

Another 2 year old that Ackerman has very high on his list is on the pacing side. **Rockville Mentor** (Rocknroll Hanover-Plan On It) has shown all the right moves for Ackerman this spring. He is the son of Plan On it, who notched a 1:52.3 lifetime mark at three and is a sister to the flashy Somebeachsomewhere filly South Pacific p,2, 1:52.3f. Despite being known as stable with a prowess for trotters, Rockville Mentor may be the colt to switch the trend, although in the past the Ackerman Stable included such pacing stars as the filly Albaquel.

"He is excellent," said D.R. of Rockville Mentor. "He has done whatever I tell him to."

Outside of the 2 year olds, Ackerman has had some success this week qualifying his older horses. On Wednesday (April 10) at Pinehurst, Ackerman coasted to a three-length victory with the 3-year-old **Mogul Hanover** (Somebeach-

somewhere-Mary Mattgalane) in 1:55, including an impressive :27 last quarter. He is a half brother to the speedy Meirs Hanover, a winner in 1:48.1 in 2012. The 4-year-old gelding **Mr. Candyman** (Chocolatier-Minnesota Carol) also notched a nine-length victory in 1:58 to kick off his 2013 campaign.

Plenty of Pennsylvania-sired 3 year olds have been prepping for sires stakes action in the Keystone state, and Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs was a showcase for talent on Tuesday night, April 9.

The fastest of the winners was **Smokealittlesmoke**, who scored in 1:51.3 for trainer Tom Fanning. The Yankee Cruiser colt was sold at last fall's Harrisburg mixed sale for \$65,000. Another colt to watch is the Erv Miller-trained **Some Kinda Beach** (Somebeachsomewhere-Art's Fantasy), who was under wraps in 1:52.2.

On the filly front at Pocono on the same card, the Joe Holloway-trained **Shebestingin** (Bettor's Delight-Armbro Tussel) blew away her foes while on the engine, scoring in 1:53.4 with a :27.2 last quarter. Jimmy Takter Jr. drove **Live Entertainment** (Real Artist-West Side Glory), a half sister to See You At Peelers, to a two-length, 1:52.3 score for his father, and Joe Pavia Jr. got a nice performance from **Sapere Hanover** (Allamerican Native-Special Beauty), who won by 3 3/4 lengths in 1:53 to pick up her first career victory after only making one start as a 2 year old. Sapere Hanover's dam Special Beauty is a sister to Precious Beauty, the dam of Sportswriter. — *By Jay Hochstetler*

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## Meadowlands Summer Mixed on July 28

The Meadowlands Summer Mixed Sale will remain in its traditional spot on the calendar this summer, as it is scheduled for Sunday, July 28, a week before the racetrack wraps up its championship meet with the Aug. 3 Hambletonian. Entries for the sale are now being accepted.

The annual mixed venue, conducted by Tattersalls Sales Co., will carry on the company's emphasis on selling top-quality racehorses.

"As it has been for some time now, the market for upper-class racehorses is unquestionably the strongest segment in sales," said Tattersalls manager David Reid.

"With this sale falling right before the close of the Meadowlands meet, it's a perfect time for owners to cash in on their racehorses before the fall yearling sales. And with purses for those ready-made racehorses as they are, there's plenty of demand on the buyer end," he added.

Reid said he hopes to continue the momentum from the Meadowlands January sale, where a solid catalogue of racehorses produced excellent returns for consignors.

Those wishing to enter can use the online entry form on the Tattersalls website ([www.tattersallsredmile.com](http://www.tattersallsredmile.com)), email [tattersallssale@gmail.com](mailto:tattersallssale@gmail.com), or call the sales office at (914) 773-7777. (*Tattersalls*)

## Weekend's Guaranteed Pools

There are 11 guaranteed pools offered this weekend as part of the U.S. Trotting Association's Strategic Wagering Program. Included in the group are the late Pick 4s on Friday and Saturday night at the Meadowlands, which carry guarantees of \$50,000 and \$75,000, respectively.

To see the entire list of the weekend's guaranteed pools, please click [here](#). From that page, you can receive free program pages by clicking "[Free Program Pages](#)."

## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

It remains amazing to me how the powers that be at Harrah's Philadelphia absolutely refuse to take part in the harness racing aspect of their business. I called that Separation Center (where they separate people from their money), to speak with someone about this. The lady who answered the phone referred me to the track G.M. I told her I sooner jump off the backstretch into the cold Delaware River then to talk to that incompetent person (not using those exact words). I asked to talk to his boss. She said the boss, Ron or Rob, was "away for a few days" and asked if I wanted to leave a message. I told her I did want to leave a message. She gave me his email and I send him a quick note. Of course, as in typical Harrah's style, nobody answered (total incompetence top to bottom).

But here is it:

It was shocking to me when I followed the handle one afternoon at Harrah's. Their Win-Place-Show pools average about \$10,000 per race (on an excellent betting card). On that card, most of the purses exceeded the Win-Place-Show handle (purse \$17,000—WPS handle on that race \$9,795). Comparatively, the Big M handles approximately \$50,000 per race on their Win-Place-Show pools (purse \$17,000—WPS handle for that race \$52,559). And both tracks have the same driver and trainer colony. What is the problem? Do the people at Harrah's NOT see that?

Harrah's running a harness racetrack is incompetence at its finest!

Now that table game and slot revenues are on the decline at the casino (the idiots who bet the slots are broke and drying up), I thought they would try to capitalize on their excellent racing product. I thought they would try to make harness racing in the Delaware Valley relevant again. But the "brain trust" at Harrah seems to be lacking the one thing needed to have a "brain trust" (hint: brains).

It is blatantly obvious how they could position themselves, at this time, to capitalize on the success at the Big M. It would take sweeping changes, but nobody at Harrah's can either figure it out, or, they just don't care (guess: they just don't care).

I am looking forward to great racing at Harrah's this upcoming year. Can't wait for the stakes. I am looking forward

to warm afternoons at the track where myself, and seven other guys, will be there to bet on the exciting races. I, with those seven other guys, will keep the handle suppressed—for sure!

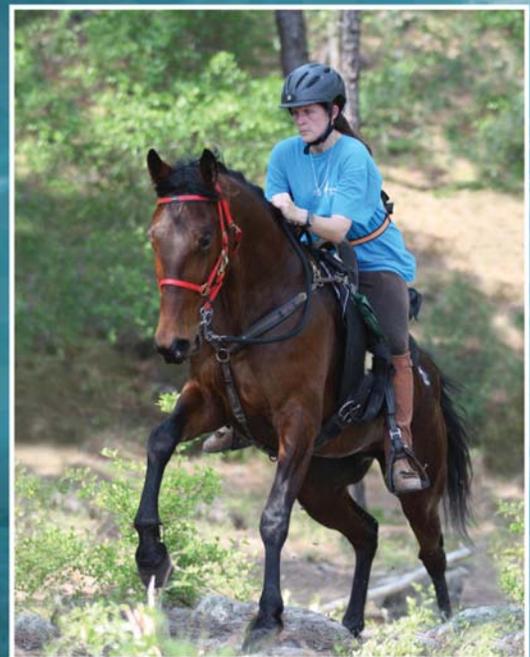
Harrah's corporate and Harrah's Philadelphia should be embarrassed at this debacle but allow it to continue, status quo. That's okay as long as they continue to pay the BIG purses and expect little in return (which they are receiving).

Harness racing in the Delaware Valley is non-existent!!

Sincerely,  
Alan Mitchell  
Atlantic City, NJ

P.S.—The food critic in the Philadelphia Inquirer wrote a hysterical piece, panning the new Pub at the track, called Philly Tap & Tavern. Commenting on the menu, "an American, cardiologist-dream menu." The menu includes beer-batter onion rings, fried green beans, bacon-covered potato skins, twice-fried chicken wings, and eight different burgers, including Kobe and bison. Angioplasty's extra!!

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## USTA Still Fixing Handle Discrepancies

Because of what U.S. Trotting Association (USTA) officials called a “glitch in the coding,” handle figures for U.S. harness tracks that had been posted on its website that compared numbers from 2013 to 2012, have been taken down until the inaccuracies can be corrected.

Because of the glitch, as handle numbers were being accumulated for 2013, handle numbers from the similar days in 2012 from one racetrack were instead being erased. U.S. Trotting Association communications director Dan Leary told harnessracing.com that the USTA was also looking at a handful of days at a handful of other tracks that were suspicious. Leary said until the USTA is 100 percent sure the 2012 numbers are accurate, no data will be posted.

“The 2013 data is accurate and we will continue to use that, and when we’re confident that we have all the minor discrepancies fixed, then we’ll start to do comparison figures again,” said Leary, who added the correct numbers will likely be posted sometime next week.

Until the comparison figures were taken down, the 2013 handle showed an increase of more than \$60 million from last year, an increase of approximately 16 percent. Leary said he believes that when the data is fully checked and verified, the handle will likely land at an approximate six-percent increase.

## Following Surgery, Gingras Hopes To Return Friday

Driver Yannick Gingras told harnessracing.com Wednesday afternoon that he is “75 percent” sure he will be back in the sulky on Friday night (April 12) at Yonkers after recuperating from hernia surgery performed on Monday, April 8.

Gingras has a full slate of mounts this weekend at Yonkers, including several horses trained by Ron Burke scheduled to start in the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series on Friday and the George Morton Levy Memorial Series on Saturday.

“I talked to Ronnie yesterday about how I felt when he was making driver changes, and I told him it was about 75 percent chance that I’d make it and that I plan on being better,” said Gingras. “He said he’d roll the dice that I was going to be able to make it. It was his call. But I feel pretty good today so I’m confident.”

Gingras said he learned surgery was necessary only last week and had it scheduled immediately. He said it wasn’t until after he arrived home following the surgery and his phone was full of missed calls and text messages that he realized his wife, Vicki, had posted his health status on both their facebook pages.

“When I complained to Vicki she reminded me she’s had three c-sections,” Gingras said with a laugh. “She said to not complain to her as she had it worse than me. So she

knows when she said Friday night might be borderline for me to go back, but she thought for sure Saturday.

“The doctor told me that the third day I would be able to go back to work as it wouldn’t be a problem as far as reinjuring it,” added Gingras, who has won 107 races and \$1.6 million in purses so far in 2013. “Friday will be the fourth day. My doctor just called me and I told him I had some soreness but he said that was normal and I’d be better every day. I can see a big difference from yesterday to today.” — *by harnessracing.com*

## American Jewel In Foal To Somebeachsomewhere

Brittany Farms of Versailles, Ky., has announced that 2012 Dan Patch Award winner American Jewel has been pronounced in foal to Somebeachsomewhere.

Bred and campaigned by Brittany Farms, American Jewel earned \$1.8 million on the track in winning 17 of 25 starts, including such prestigious races as the Breeders Crown, Fan Hanover, Bluegrass, Simcoe and American National. The Jimmy Takter trainee set world records at ages two (1:50.2) and three (1:48.2). She was retired last fall after her victory in the American National at Balmoral Park.

American Jewel is by American Ideal and is out of the Camluck mare Trim Hanover. Her foal by Somebeachsomewhere will carry a 3x4 cross to Matt’s Scooter, who is the grandsire of Somebeachsomewhere and the sire of the dam of American Ideal.

## Cancellation of Slots At Tracks To Be Reviewed

Ontario’s auditor general has announced that it will investigate the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation’s expansion plans and the cancellation of the slots-at-racetracks program. The announcement came following a legislative committee voting for such action on Wednesday.

The gaming corporation’s president and chief executive officer Rod Phillips said the agency will support the auditor general’s review “in every way we can and we look forward to working with his office.”

## Niatross Elected To Canadian Hall Of Fame

World class racing greats Secretariat and Niatross headline the field of 13 new Hall of Fame inductees under new rules that allow international competitors into Canada’s Horse Racing Hall of Fame.

The Standardbred Inductees are: Niatross—Veteran Horse Category; Admiral’s Express—Male Horse Category; Eternal Camnation—Female Horse Category; Carl Jamieson—Trainer/Driver Category; William Rowe—Builder Category; Doug Harkness—Communicator Category.

*Continues on page 9 >>>>*



## Breeder Bob O'Donnell Dies At 88

Robert E. O'Donnell, 88, a prominent breeder for many decades, died Wednesday morning, April 10, in Florida after a long illness.

Mr. O'Donnell started Hobby Horse Farm in Grafton, Ohio, a carriage-trade breeding farm, in the 1960s and became a Standardbred breeder. His yearlings were always in great demand at prominent yearling sales. Hobby Horse Farm did not stand a stallion, but Mr. O'Donnell assembled one of the best small bands of pacing broodmares.

The Cleveland native operated a very successful beer distributorship, but his true love was the horses. He became active as a trainer and even drove in races on a limited basis.

His proudest moment in harness racing, however, came when he and his wife, Betty, were spectators at the 2005 Little Brown Jug and watched P-Forty-Seven, trained by their son, Kelly, win the Little Brown Jug.

Mr. O'Donnell was a member of the Ohio Harness Racing Hall of Fame and was also a past president of the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association. He served as a USTA director for many years.

Fifty years ago, Mr. O'Donnell bred Hobby Horse Tar, later the dam of Silent Majority and Landslide. He also bred Misty Raquel, winner of the 1976 Jugette, from his mare Richelle Hanover. Descendents of Richelle Hanover include 2001 Horse of the Year Bunny Lake, See You At Peelers, and Chairman of the Board. O'Donnell and partners also bred the 1988 Woodrow Wilson winner, Kassa Branca.

Other top pacers with Mr. O'Donnell's imprint were the millionaire mare Leah Almahurst and the top colts Survivor Gold and Big Band Sound.

In addition to his wife, Betty, he is survived by his children, Marianne (Bob Ivany), Tricia (Vince Jiovanazzo), Mike (Rhonda), Kelly (Jeannine), Tim (Pam), and Rob. He has 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren with one more on the way.

## Campbell Trio On Track For May Debuts

Jim Campbell trains three of the top 22 trotters listed in the Hoof Beats/TrackMaster Predictive Rankings, but he is not going to get too excited over anything he sees in print or, for that matter, anything he sees during training miles.

Campbell's Fashion Athena, Fashion Blizzard and Hall Of Muscles are approximately three weeks from heading to the racetrack to qualify. All three horses are training well, but Campbell is not making any predictions.

"I guess I've been doing this too long; it's good when one trains good, but I don't start making bold plans off of training miles," said Campbell, who trains the highly regarded

trio for owner Fashion Farms. "I'll make bold plans off of good races, but not off of training miles.

"You want them to train good compared to not training good, but you have to keep everything in context. It's just a training mile and it means nothing. Most of them can go out and train good, anyway. I get excited when they do good in a race." (HRC)

## Palone Tops Pennsylvania Award Winners

Dave Palone, who last season eclipsed the North American record for most driving records ever, will soon receive an award that will be dear to his heart—for it is announced that the Keystone Chapter of the U.S. Harness Writers Association has voted Palone the Mary Lib Miller Award, named after the wife of "Mr. Meadows," Hall of Famer and Meadows founder Del Miller, at whose track Palone has been the leading driver for over two decades.

Other award winners:

Owner: Richard Gutnick

Trainer: Ron Burke

Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms

Caretaker/Small Stable: McMullen Stable

Sires Stakes Horse: Economy Terror

Pa-sired Horse: Foiled Again

Pa. Horse: Winning Mister

Presentations of these awards will be made at the "home tracks" of the award winners throughout the spring. (PHRC)

## Saratoga Casino Announces Record Revenue

Saratoga Casino and Raceway has announced record revenue for the state fiscal year ending March 31, including growth in funding for education, agribusiness and local governments. The casino reported gross gaming revenues of \$159 million, an increase of two percent over the previous fiscal year.

More than \$76 million was generated for education during this period, also a two percent increase over the prior year. This was the highest funding produced for education by Saratoga Casino and Raceway since opening in January of 2004 as the first video lottery facility in New York.

During fiscal year 2012-13, Saratoga Casino and Raceway produced \$2 million for local governments including \$500,000 for Saratoga County and \$1.5 million for Saratoga Springs.

The property also generated \$16 million for the racing industry over the year. This funding supports family farms, breeders, feed producers, horsemen, veterinarians and other industry jobs, all of which are significant contributors to the rural economy especially upstate. (Saratoga Gaming)

**RACE LINES**

**Harness Racing Leaders**

Compiled by the USTA—through April 9, 2013 (week difference April 3-9).

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

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Golden Receiver (8pg)	7	6	0	0	\$144,150
Versado (6pg)	13	6	2	0	143,830
Something For Doc (5pg)	9	6	0	0	130,300
Casimir Jitterbug (6pg)	8	4	3	1	112,695
Anniwesterncard (7pg)	8	4	1	0	96,250
Escape The News (4pg)	7	5	2	0	92,875
Greystone Ladylike (4pm)	11	4	5	1	91,187
Oil Magnet (9pg)	8	7	0	1	90,330
Monochromatic (8pm)	10	6	2	0	88,650
Do Me Honor (5pm)	11	7	3	1	87,450
Dancin Yankee (5ph)	8	3	2	1	87,250
Warrawee Koine (7pm)	10	4	3	0	86,450
Rusty's All In (7ph)	13	3	4	1	86,150
Code Word (6ph)	11	5	1	1	83,420
Watkins (6tg)	11	2	4	2	81,951

**Leading Money-Winning Drivers**

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Corey Callahan	1,151	235-164-155	.328	\$2,306,096 ( <b>\$227,610</b> )
Brian Sears	604	159-106-91	.411	2,256,017 ( <b>215,947</b> )
Tim Tetrick	759	141-107-100	.308	1,797,099 ( <b>326,000</b> )
Matt Kakaley	627	118-80-99	.312	1,735,498 ( <b>175,030</b> )
Ron Pierce	866	137-129-109	.283	1,713,774 ( <b>216,520</b> )
George Brennan	642	97-123-78	.298	1,698,745 ( <b>132,870</b> )
Yannick Gingras	551	107-90-84	.336	1,651,916 ( <b>210,280</b> )
Dave Palone	670	189-105-70	.404	1,381,054 ( <b>104,955</b> )
David Miller	618	93-91-79	.275	1,278,586 ( <b>151,645</b> )
Jody Jamieson	616	115-91-71	.307	1,179,036 ( <b>94,952</b> )
Jason Bartlett	577	61-69-76	.216	1,154,768 ( <b>52,762</b> )
Scott Zeron	482	86-65-49	.287	1,104,782 ( <b>61,333</b> )
Ross Wolfenden	802	100-108-104	.243	1,059,971 ( <b>128,700</b> )
Andy Miller	582	80-79-76	.256	1,041,303 ( <b>159,430</b> )
Allan Davis	809	101-98-95	.231	1,030,805 ( <b>114,973</b> )

**Leading Money-Winning Trainers**

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	876	244-128-111	.402	\$3,043,710 ( <b>\$351,227</b> )
Rene Allard	500	121-88-49	.372	1,094,336 ( <b>89,198</b> )
Richard Moreau	440	87-74-64	.340	836,227 ( <b>61,295</b> )
Mark Ford	416	54-51-55	.242	820,780 ( <b>84,534</b> )
P.J. Fraley	224	39-30-31	.295	691,192 ( <b>95,855</b> )
Michael Hall	286	59-52-37	.350	679,803 ( <b>43,840</b> )
Tony O'Sullivan	185	37-36-18	.341	656,131 ( <b>84,314</b> )
Mark Harder	149	32-16-24	.328	517,637 ( <b>44,900</b> )
Gilberto Garcia-Herrera	179	38-34-18	.351	509,645 ( <b>73,805</b> )
Josh Green	213	54-27-28	.368	508,935 ( <b>28,030</b> )
Dylan Davis	218	48-29-34	.346	470,547 ( <b>31,240</b> )
Carmen Auciello	264	30-34-28	.221	426,786 ( <b>21,152</b> )
Erv Miller	223	45-28-28	.313	409,420 ( <b>83,728</b> )
Joe Hundertpfund Jr.	205	52-30-27	.379	393,911 ( <b>37,590</b> )
Randy Bendis	247	38-37-36	.286	386,289 ( <b>36,028</b> )

**Leading Breeders**

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	661	287	515	\$4,481,827
Winbak Farm	618	255	425	3,498,035
Brittany Farms	189	88	176	1,601,131
Perretti Farms	205	81	151	1,336,812
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	163	65	121	1,148,082
Perfect World Enterprises	118	51	82	791,861
Walnut Hall Limited	142	58	95	761,748
White Birch Farm	91	44	86	758,365
Frederick Hertrich III	104	44	92	704,519
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	94	39	79	689,951
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	97	47	86	652,329
Arlene & Jules Siegel	103	43	78	635,431
Peter Pan Stables Inc.	78	34	62	628,637
Steve Stewart	74	37	77	558,733
Seelster Farms Inc.	101	46	83	543,153

**Leaders Of The Week**

Ranked by wins for April 3-9 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers	Starts	W-P-S
Corey Callahan	105	21-9-19
Tim Tetrick	79	21-13-13
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	70	18-14-9
Bruce Aldrich Jr.	82	16-10-11
Dave Palone	52	16-8-6
Andy Miller	60	15-12-7
Jim Morrill Jr.	51	15-7-7
Ron Pierce	96	15-11-9
Brian Sears	49	14-8-8
Chris Page	48	14-4-8
Dan Noble	73	14-9-11
Peter Wrenn	46	14-6-2
Matt Kakaley	69	13-10-10
Michael Oosting	49	13-7-7
Billy Dobson	52	11-8-6
David Miller	78	11-11-7

Trainers	Wins
Ron Burke	22
Erv Miller	8
Jose Godinez	7
Richard Moreau	7
Brad Irvine	6
Daniel Gill	6
Gilberto Garcia-Herrera	6
Joseph Hundertpfund Jr.	6
Mark Ford	5
P.J. Fraley	5
Rich Gillock	5
Robert Phillips	5
Tony O'Sullivan	5
Colin Johnson	4
Darrell Wright	4
Gerry Sarama	4
Joe Pavia Jr.	4
Melissa Beckwith	4
Philip Sowers	4
Randy Bendis	4
Rene Allard	4
Russell Bratt	4
Scott Di Domenico	4
Terry Leonard	4
Tim Brown	4
Virgil Morgan Jr.	4