Will Trotter Named Derby Be A Winner On Derby Day?

Not since American Winner in 1993 has the winner of the Dexter Cup gone on to take home the Hambletonian trophy. In fact, not since 2001, when SJ’s Caviar scored a Dexter Cup victory, has the winner arguably gone on to become a major player in the division. While SJ’s Caviar wasn’t eligible to the Hambletonian, his 15-win season still led to honors as the 3-Year-Old Colt Trotter of the Year in 2001.

Just four starters in Saturday’s $115,370 Dexter Cup are Hambo eligible this year, including Sarcasmatic Man, King City and Sumatra, respectively the one-two-three finishers in last weekend’s single elimination. The race was marred by a mid-pack miscue before the first-quarter marker by even-money favorite Well Built, which scattered the trailing horses.

The Kentucky Derby will be raced Saturday at Churchill Downs so wouldn’t it be fitting if a horse named Derby scored a victory during the day? It could happen with the Ray Schnittker-trained Derby in the Dexter Cup.

After being interfered with and finishing sixth in the elim, Derby will start from post 2. He is part of a three-pronged uncoupled entry with stablemate Sheer Action, who will start from post 5 after finishing fifth in the elim, and Donato’s Wish, who will start from post 3 after also being bothered and finishing 9th in the elim.

While Schnittker will be in the bike behind Donato’s Wish, he’ll be handing the lines on Derby to Jordan Stratton and on Sheer Action to Jeff Gregory.

“I drew a 5, 8 and 9 last week with the three I had in there and you can’t draw much worse than that,” he said. “I think I’ve probably raced 30 horses in the Dexter and I’ve never had the rail.”

“One thing about my guys is that they don’t make breaks, and that helps out a lot…”

– Ray Schnittker

$115,370 Dexter Cup 3YOCT

Freehold Raceway, Saturday, May 3, Race 10, Post Time: 3:57 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yearling Sale (Price)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Sumatra (Muscles Yankee)</td>
<td>B. Sears/T. Fanning</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>Perretti Farms &amp; Black Horse Racing/HB ($8,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2—Derby (Deweycheatumhowe)</td>
<td>J. Stratton/R. Schnittker</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Little E LLC/HB ($20,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3—Donato’s Wish (Donato Hanover)</td>
<td>R. Schnittker</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>W. Fister &amp; W.S. Fister LLC/Lex ($105,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4—King City (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>G. Brennan/J. Czernyson</td>
<td>9-2</td>
<td>M. Katz &amp; A. Libfeld/Lex ($52,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5—Sheer Action (Deweycheatumhowe)</td>
<td>J. Gregory/R. Schnittker</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>Lindy Racing Stable/Lex ($25,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6—Dave Briggs (Muscles Yankee)</td>
<td>Jo. Takter/Jo. Takter</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Winbak Farm/Lex ($27,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7—Consumer Rate (Malabar Man)</td>
<td>D. Dubel/R. Harmon</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>Winbak Farm/HB ($22,000)</td>
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<td>8—Sarcasmatic Man (Tom Ridge)</td>
<td>R. Pierce/G. Wrubel</td>
<td>7-2</td>
<td>Robert Key/Homebred</td>
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Although Derby is still winless in eight career starts, Schnittker said he believes the son of Deweycheatumnhowe is his best chance to give him his fourth career Dexter Cup trophy. “He’s probably the best of the bunch,” Schnittker said of Derby, who finished second in his Peter Haughton Memorial elimination last year before finishing seventh to Father Patrick in the $280,500 final. “It’s not an overwhelming bunch, probably the one who made a break in the elim (Well Built) was the one to beat, but he’s not in there.”

A $20,000 yearling purchase by Schnittker, Ted Gewertz and Jeff Gural’s Little E LLC, Derby is out of the mare Third Reef, whose two career victories include the 2005 Historic Coaching Club Oaks at the Meadowlands. Derby also made a break in his seasonal debut April 11 at the Meadowlands, so he brings a modest career bankroll of just $15,396 into the Dexter Cup.

Sheer Action was a two-time winner last year but comes into the Dexter Cup winless in five starts this year. The son of Deweycheatumnhowe was parked the first half of the elim before finally clearing to the lead, after which he tired to fifth.

“When Jeff (Gregory) got off the bike with Sheer Action he was glad he didn’t get killed in there as he was basically parked the whole mile,” said Schnittker.

Schnittker has a reason he will drive Donato’s Wish, who is winless in 10 career starts but did earn a nice payday with a fourth-place finish in the Haughton final at odds of 90-1.
More Confirmation The OLG Bungled The Horse Racing File

It’s too bad “I told you so” doesn’t pay the bills, because this week Ontario’s Auditor General confirmed the Ontario Lottery and Gaming corporation (OLG) caused significant damage to the province’s horse racing industry by cancelling the Slots at Racetracks Program (SARP).

The findings, a sharp rebuke of the OLG’s failed gaming modernization strategy, will come as no surprise to anyone in the industry in Ontario and it won’t bring back the estimated 9,000 jobs lost, but I guess it’s something to have an official government body confirm that the people screaming foul aren’t nuts.

The 70-page report prepared by Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk is highly critical of the OLG in a number of areas, including the “abrupt” termination of SARP when the lottery corporation was “fully aware that the decision to cancel the program would have a significant impact on the horse racing industry in Ontario.”

Lysyk concluded the OLG: failed to adequately consult the horse racing industry before terminating SARP; provided unrealistic revenue figures and timelines to the public for its modernization strategy; has suffered from instability in its leadership and governance thanks to five different board chairs, seven CEOs and the fact it has reported to four different ministries since 2005; and failed, in conjunction with the Ontario Racing Commission, to provide proper benchmarks and oversight of how the horse racing industry spent its share of slot revenue.

As an example of the OLG’s exaggerated revenue expectations for its gaming plan, Lysyk points out that “as of March 31, 2014, OLG lowered its original projection of an additional $4.6 billion in gaming profits between 2013 and 2018 by 48 per cent, or about $2.2 billion.” The Auditor General estimated the reduction could be “as much as $2.8 billion,” or about 60 percent less than forecast.

There’s poor estimating and then there’s outright fantasy. This falls into the latter category even accounting for the failure to land a mega-casino in downtown Toronto that was expected to contribute a sizable chunk of the new revenue. The truth is, the OLG completely overestimated municipal interest in ditching the racetrack slots in favor of bigger casinos. In fact, municipalities throughout Ontario have shown a greater understanding of the economic value of SARP in their communities than the OLG that ran the program.

As for the future, Olsson wrote, “a year ago, the premier asked OLG to incorporate horse racing into our plan—and it has done so. Ultimately, this will help support a sustainable horse racing industry in the province.”

Therein lies the rub, of course. While there has been some progress and much logic in plans to try to rebuild the industry, truth is, the OLG completely overestimated municipal interest in ditching the racetrack slots in favor of bigger casinos. In fact, municipalities throughout Ontario have shown a greater understanding of the economic value of SARP in their communities than the OLG that ran the program.

The Horse Racing File

Last week I bemoaned the lack of a decent app for harness racing. After the column ran I became aware of an app called Horse Races Now that does offer many of the features I mentioned, including the ability to wager from your account and watch races live or on video stream. Trouble is, Horse Races Now only features Thoroughbred racing at the moment. Working with the app developers to include harness racing or produce a separate, similar app for our sport might be a good place to start.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I had been searching for a good Harness Racing app for my iPhone for so long that I finally gave up looking six months ago. Dave’s “Stretch Call” column couldn’t highlight the issue any better. But you know what, it’s not just an “App” it’s another step towards bringing harness racing back to the future, or into the 21st century at least! The “Killer App” that Dave describes is mainstream these days, it’s not rocket science, it can be done and should be done for the well-being and the future of the sport. Great article Dave and hopefully this will bring some attention and focus to an area that will yield big returns, very quickly, if the Harness Racing powers-that-be can come together to make this happen soon.

Brian Meaney
(Harness Race FAN)

To Dave Briggs:

Dave, you’ve got to be kidding. About 30 years ago the USTA board of directors passed a rule which required the organization to maintain and have available records of North American horses and hopefully their production as well who were exported overseas. Now, three decades later, they have done next to nothing in implementing THEIR OWN RULE. After all, their primary job is as a record keeping organization. One would think that maintaining complete records of North American bloodstock would be one of their primary concerns.

You expect our leadership to get into the technology of the second decade of the twenty first century when they haven’t been able to get out of the 1980’s.

As I said above “you’ve got to be kidding.”

Murray Brown

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.
Nominations close Thursday, May 15, 2014

Event #16
MEADOWLANDS PACE
FOALS OF 2013 TO BE RACED IN 2016

Nomination Fee:
May 15, 2014 ....................... $50

Future Payments:
On Two-Year-Olds March 15, 2015 .. $ 400
*Two Year-Old Supplemental
March 15, 2015 ....................... $ 1,000
On Three-Year-Olds
February 15, 2016 ................... $ 2,000
**Three-Year-Old Supplemental..... $ 7,500
March 15, 2016 ....................... $ 2,500
Declaration Fee: Elimination Races, $ 2,500
Declaration Fee: Final ................ $ 5,000
Estimated Total Purse: ................ $ 750,000 E

Event #42 - Trot - 4 Year Old Mares
“IMA LULA”

1. Friday, July 18 ..................... $ 20,000
2. Friday, July 25 ..................... $ 20,000
3. Saturday, August 2 ................ $ 60,000 E
   (Hambletonian Day) ($35,000 Added)

Nominating Fee: $1,000

REMINDER:
MEADOWLANDS MATURITY
4 Year Old Open Pace

Friday, June 13th ($75,000 Added) • $100,000 Est.
Race at one (1) mile and limited to a maximum of ten (10) starters based on USTA lifetime earnings at time of entry.
One payment only, due at time of entry: $2,500

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<th>Event No.</th>
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<th>Color</th>
<th>Sex/Age</th>
<th>Sire</th>
<th>Dam</th>
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Entered by ___________________________ Owner or Authorized Agent

Address ____________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Telephone No.________________________________________________________

Trainer_____________ Telephone No.______________________

E-Mail _____________________________________________________________

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
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Mail to:
Peter J. Koch
Director and Race Secretary of Standardbred Racing
Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment
1 Racetrack Drive
East Rutherford, NJ 07073

Amount $ _______________

Conditions available upon request

For information contact: Peter J. Koch
Director and Race Secretary/Standardbred Racing
201-THE-BIGM • www.PLAYMEADOWLANDS.com

Text “Meadowlands” to 84700 for Racing Office information
O’Donnell’s “Freak” Of A Filly
Ready For PASS

O’Donnell’s “Freak” Of A Filly
Ready For PASS

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Ready For PASS

O’Donnell’s “Freak” Of A Filly
Ready For PASS

Weeper won five of seven starts last year, including wrapping up her freshman season with three straight victories, including a career-best 1:51.4f effort in her lone Pennsylvania Sires Stakes (PASS) appearance on Aug. 16 at The Meadows, a race in which she paced her individual back half in :54.3 after closing from 7 ½ lengths behind at the half.

“We call her ‘The Freak,’” O’Donnell said with a laugh.

“Shes built like a big colt and races like a colt, that’s why we call her ‘The Freak.’”

– Kelly O’Donnell
on Weeper

O’Donnell admits with a wink he’s been “weeping” tears of joy because of Weeper’s impressive start to her 3-year-old season. The homebred of Joe and Joann Thomson’s Winbak Farm (racing as Bay Pond Racing Stable) is a daughter of Allamerican Native out of the Badlands Hanover mare Pleasant Yet Bad, a full sister to Winbak’s $1.5-million winner Badlands Nitro.

“We call her ‘The Freak,’” O’Donnell said with a laugh.

“Shes built like a big colt and races like a colt, that’s why we call her ‘The Freak.’”

O’Donnell said he hopes for a change of strategy on Saturday.

“We’re hoping Saturday to maybe get a trip as I don’t want her to be on the front end; I want her to race off the pace a little bit and sit in the two or three hole,” he said. “We’d like to find a way to race her in a hole and see how much difference it makes. We don’t want to get her too fired up.”

O’Donnell said Weeper’s next stakes start would come May 20 in the Historic Series at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs.

“If she races really good Saturday I probably won’t even race her again until then,” he said. “I got her ready early as it is, and it will be a long summer. She takes care of herself pretty good so I won’t overrace her.”

While Weeper is listed as the 2-1 morning line choice in her $70,382 division, the 3-1 program favorite in the first $69,982 split is Beach Gal, who had two wins last year and didn’t miss a check, including third-place finishes in the She’s A Great Lady final and both Grand Circuit starts at The Red Mile. Breeders Crown champion Uffizi Hanover makes her first start of the year in the $70,382 division, but saddled with post 8 she has been listed at odds of 6-1. Also Encouraging, fourth in last year’s PASS final and a 1:53.4 winner in her 2014 debut last time out, is the 3-1 choice from post 1.—

By Gordon Waterstone
On Monday, April 28, Mack Lobell, one of the greatest horses of the modern era, celebrated his 30th birthday in Sweden.

Mack was born April 28, 1984, at Lana Lobell Farms in Bedminster, N.J. His accomplishments on the track included world records, major wins, such as the Hambletonian, Breeders Crown and two editions of the Elitlopp, and Horse of the Year honors in 1987 and ’88. Mack also has the distinction of giving John Campbell his first Hambletonian victory. When Mack finished his career he had raced 94 times with 71 wins and earnings of approximately $3.4 million.

Today Mack is living out his life at Menhammar Stud not far from Stockholm’s Solvalla racetrack, the home of the Elitlopp. The Menhammar staff made sure the great horse had treats for his birthday, but as you might expect, Mack’s retirement itself is an idyllic existence for a horse. He lives in a small barn with a few other stallions and has a paddock nearby. When it is time for a little exercise, he and his caretaker, Anette Jonsson, walk a narrow path through a wood of birch trees to reach the paddock.

Last July, publicist Ellen Harvey and photographer Barbara Livingston made a quick trip to Sweden so they could capture Mack’s retirement years for their soon to be published book “Standardbred Old Friends” (which can be purchased at www.harnessmuseum.com).

One of Livingston’s photos of Mack is on the cover of the book’s dust jacket.

“IT was lovely to see him looking so well,” said Harvey of Mack Lobell. “He had only a sprinkle of gray throughout his coat. It was like you took a handful of flour and threw it on him.”

Harvey said Mack was described by Jonsson as being a bit of a grumpy old man, but she and Livingston saw her coax the old stallion into having a bit of fun. While Jonsson and Mack were walking to the paddock, suddenly Jonsson climbed on his back and rode him the rest of the way.

Mack Lobell certainly earned a chance at a pleasurable retirement but as a sire he never quite achieved the degree of success he did on the track. After being campaigned by Lou Guida from ages two through four, Mack was sold to a group headed by Swedish horseman John-Erik Magnusson’s ACL Farm and became a dominant trotter in Europe until he was retired to stud at ACL Farm in Sweden.

Unfortunately, from the very beginning Mack’s fertility was low. Eventually, he was shipped back to the U.S. so American veterinarians could work to improve his fertility, but no great progress was made. In Sweden Mack has only 398 registered foals, with another 84 registered in North America and maybe another 20 or so in other European countries.

Mack’s court of mares included some of the sport’s most accomplished females on the track, among them

**Continues on page 9 ››››**
Peace Corps, Duenna, Delmonica Hanover and the great matron Peace A Pie (dam of Pizza Dolce), but his impact was limited. His sons Mack Action AS (out of Around The Action, by Royal Prestige), who earned about $655,000, and Easy Lover (out of Delmonica Hanover) raced at the top levels, but his greatest siring credit comes through his daughter Somack, who produced the flashy international star Commander Crowe, the third-place finisher in the 2012 Breeders Crown at Woodbine.

“He came to his infertility honestly because his sire Mystic Park was a very shy breeder,” noted Alan Leavitt, whose Lana Lobell Farms bred Mack Lobell. “They have found that infertility is hereditary through the tail-male line, and Victory Song (Mystic Park’s great-grandsire) had marginal fertility and Noble Victory (Mystic Park’s grandsire) had only manageable fertility.”

Mack cost Guida only $17,000 as a yearling, but Leavitt doesn’t remember the colt having any weaknesses except for—at the time—light production from his dam.

“When we were leading him, I remember that he had a lot of high action, and we didn’t have any weight on him. He wore a three-ounce rubber boot. Since originally I came from the show horse world, I was very aware of a horse’s motion up front.”

Mack Lobell’s dam is Matina Hanover, who Leavitt said he would not have owned if not for Jim Harrison, who managed Lana Lobell at the time.

“When Jim was running Lana Lobell for me, I lived in New York City at the time and he called me one day and told me, ‘I just bought a mare who isn’t up to our pedigree standards,’” recalled Leavitt. “That was Matina Hanover, who was good on half-mile tracks. We gave a $12,000 yearling credit for the mare.”

While Matina Hanover’s accomplishments as a broodmare were rather limited when Mack sold as a yearling, Leavitt says Mack, and his older stakes-winning sibling BJ’s Pleasure, weren’t complete flukes.

“It’s obvious that Matina genetically ignored her dam and other dams going all the back to Miss Bertha Hanover, a daughter of Miss Bertha Dillon and a sister to the great Hanover’s Bertha,” he explained.— By Kathy Parker

Maven, Shebestingin Lead Older Mares Into Miami Valley

Grand Circuit racing makes its first-ever stop at the new Miami Valley Racetrack just north of Cincinnati, Ohio, on Sunday night, with some of the top older pacing and trotting mares in action. Seven pacers will line up behind the gate for the $50,300 Sam “Chip” Noble III Memorial, while eight trotters go postward in the $60,000 Miami Valley Distaff.

Shebestingin, who set an all-time record for female pacers with her 1:47 effort last fall at The Red Mile, makes the second start of her 4-year-old season in the Noble Memorial. The Joe Holloway-trained mare cruised through two easy qualifying wins before scoring an easy 1:50.4 victory in a conditioned event April 11 at the Meadowlands. David Miller returns to his native state to direct Shebestingin from post 4.

Yagonnakissmeornot, who had four wins in the Blue Chip Matchmaker Series preliminaries at Yonkers Raceway before finishing second last Saturday in the $371,400 final, starts from post 2 with driver Daniel Dube.

Trainer Jonas Czernyson will send out half the field in the Miami Valley Distaff, including the 2013 Older Trotting Mare of the Year Maven, who is making her seasonal debut. Following the race Maven will be soon headed overseas for the famed Elitlopp in Sweden on May 25. Yannick Gingras will drive Maven from post 5. Also starting from the Czernyson barn are Kentucky Sires Stakes champ Ma Chere Hall (Corey Callahan), Muscle Hill winner D’Orsay (Dube), and Zweig Filly winner Mistery Woman (David Miller).

The inaugural Miami Valley meet closes with the 11-race Sunday night card, which gets underway at 6:30 p.m. The two features are slated as Race 8 and 9.— By Gordon Waterstone
Test Driving Mack Lobell
By Anders Abenius
(Reprinted from www.ACLFarm.com)

It was one of those early, bright and clear mornings before the humid heat of August descends on New York like a wet blanket. Photographer Claes Kärrstrand, owner John-Erik Magnusson and myself were inspecting Mack in his paddock. John-Erik joined Mack in the paddock and started to play with him, but suddenly Claes was alone in there with the horse and John-Erik was outside, cheering and laughing himself silly. Claes survived, even if shaky, and we could all confirm that The Mack was in good shape.

But something was missing, something we would fix the next day.

That afternoon I spoke to my editor at Expressen, the newspaper that had dispatched me to cover the World Championship (Yonkers International) and Mack Lobell. My colleague Thomas Pettersson, safe at home in Stockholm and always a source of bright ideas, shouted into the phone with a volume that made the earpiece unnecessary: “Of course you have to test-drive The Mack (one of Expressen’s standing features is tests of everything from cars to wine and mobile phones) the day before the race! It is a scooooop!”

Fortunately, John-Erik is also a man of crazy ideas so his only comment was, “Okay.” Of course he was aware that I was brought up with horses. But still, to trust a $50 million horse to a journalist just two days before the world championship race is not bad. Or maybe that is what it is....

The next morning I walked across the infield of Yonkers with a helmet under my arm. I had not been able to rustle up a pair of white pants or white gloves like Campbell used to wear, but still.

The Mack’s groom, Eva, looked my way and saw the helmet as she was waking the horse towards the track. She had not been informed of the day’s event.

“What do you think you are doing?” she asked.

“I’m driving the Mack.”

“So let’s hear the one about Santa Claus too!”

But then she saw John-Erik’s big grin from the corner of her eye and started to realize what was going on. After one circuit in deep thought she pulled up, shook her head and wordlessly turned the reins over to me. I was sitting behind the world’s best trotter and the location was Yonkers Raceway, New York.

It was heavy. Lead heavy. We guys have a way of fantasizing about winning a million, about heroic deeds, about making the goal that wins the World Championship, about turning the last turn in the Elitloppet with a horse full of run and a gap between horses coming up.

I had plenty of time for thoughts like that during my two tums around Yonkers. Mack Lobell jogged around and I enjoyed myself, when I wasn’t worrying that he would take a bad step and hurt himself with me in the cart. What did it feel like? Like a Swiss watch. Like a Ferrari. Like a dream!

The moment I turned over the reins I knew I would spend the rest of my life regretting that I didn’t dare turn him lose and get the feel of some speed.

But I think you understand my reasons. I felt slightly intoxicated when I made my way back to the hotel to put my feelings on paper. It was sheer pleasure at the keyboard when the door suddenly opened. Claes Kärrstrand, transformed to a wet dishrag with a body language that screamed defeat, fell into a chair. After a couple of minutes he started to speak. But all he could say was: “Son of a bitch!”

After a while he got it out. The guy who was to develop the film had used the wrong developer. Color for black and white or was it the other way around? Either way, it was a catastrophe.

No pictures of my grand scoop. And hardly possible to do again tomorrow. Now who would believe that I had driven the Mack without photographic evidence? After a couple of terrifying moments we realized that Claes might be able to find a way to save some of the photos. And he did.

But the framed picture on the wall in my office, with the proud inscription “Mack Lobell-Anders Abenius, Yonkers Raceway, New York August 1989” has too much green for a color picture. Or black and white for that matter.
Words About Weekend Starters

“Nobody knows how horses will come back at (age) 3. You’ve got to stay sound and healthy and have some luck; a lot can go wrong. But you’ve got to be hopeful. Horses like him give you hope.” — Alan Katz, who shares ownership of JK Endofanera with his brothers Ron and Steve, about the 3-year-old pacing colt’s season debut in the Simpson Saturday night at the Meadowlands. The colt finished his 2-year-old campaign with a victory in the Governor’s Cup at the Meadowlands.

“That’s what you can call bad luck. I like the way Ron (Pierce) is driving this horse, but he’s going to have a tough time from (post eight). He’s going to have to be Superman to win from there. I just want to see him get a chance. I don’t mind being first-over and coming in last.” — breeder-owner Bob Key about Sarcastic Man drawing post 8 in Saturday’s $115,370 Dexter Cup for 3-year-old male trotters at Freehold Raceway. Horses starting from post 8 have won just 3.4 percent of 378 races at the half-mile oval this year. Key is hoping history repeats itself though as his colt American Winner won the 1993 Dexter Cup from post 8 at odds of 51-1—with Pierce driving. American Winner went on to win the Hambletonian less than three months later.

Trainer Julie Miller has had her hands full lately, with husband, and racing partner, driver Andy Miller on the mend from broken vertebrae sustained in a driving accident on April 15. Sevruga, the 6-year-old trotter from their stable, on the other hand, is well on his way following his own recovery, with two consecutive wins coming into Friday’s $30,000 Free for All Handicap at the Meadowlands.

Sevruga, who won nine of 22 races and earned $484,575 in 2013 for owner KDM Stables, had surgery for a bone chip in a hind ankle last fall. His wins included the John Cashman Jr. Memorial and Arthur J. Cutler Memorial, both at the Meadowlands, and he finished worse than third only once in his first 19 starts.

He was off the board in his last three races and missed the final of the TVG Free For All Series after ending the preliminary rounds as the points leader.

“We gave him the recommended recovery time that Dr. (surgeon Patty) Hogan wanted and he seems to have bounced back really good. Now we’re going at it with the higher level competition on Friday night. He’ll stay domestic, if we can do well here, that’s our agenda.” — trainer Julie Miller about Sevruga, who had surgery to remove a bone chip in a hind ankle last fall and starts Friday night at the Meadowlands. Last season he won the John Cashman Jr. Memorial and Arthur J. Cutler Memorial, both at the Meadowlands. Following is the field Friday’s FFA Handicap: 1. Quick Deal, 2. Sweet Justice, 3. Not Afraid, 4. Daylon Magician, 5. Sevruga, 6. Arch Madness, 7. Uncle Peter.

“Trainer Ross Croghan has made a few (bridle) changes. We’ve been sticking her right on the gate in her qualifiers and we’ve had no problems with her.” — driver Corey Callahan about the 6-year-old pacing mare Drop The Ball, who he’ll be up behind Friday night at the Meadowlands. The field in post order: 1. Handsoffmycookie, 2. Spend It All, 3. Art Ideal, 4. Macharoundtheclock, 5. Marty Party, 6. Shine N Shimmer, 7. Scandalous Hanover, 8. Momma Rock, 9. Drop The Ball.

“She’s starting to show that she’s a Breeders Crown winner, but in her first race of the year, with a lousy post, I don’t mind if she races off the pace.” — trainer Jimmy Takter after his 3-year-old filly pacer Uffizi Hanover drew post 8 in her 2014 debut in a Pennsylvania Sires Stakes division Saturday at The Meadows. Uffizi Hanover won just twice last year, but one of those was the Breeders Crown final at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs.
Stakes championship, but it was in early April that he really
$241,315. Last year, he captured the $250,000 Kentucky Sires
Youth, and Warrawee Needy.

million during his career, as well as Sweet Lou, Dynamic
Van Rose winner Golden Receiver, who has earned $2.13

tion of the Van Rose Memorial. Bandolito's foes include 2013
pacer so far this season, faces eight rivals in the third edi-
Memorial Invitational at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs.

older pacers in the world in Saturday night's $50,000 Van Rose
expects him to stand tall when he takes on some of the best

The 4-year-old sensation, who owns the fastest mile of any
turned heads thanks to a 1:48 win at Dover Downs. His time
equaled the fastest mile ever by a horse of any age at five-
eighths-mile Dover Downs and is the fastest mile of this year.

He followed that victory with a 1:48.2 triumph on April 10
at Dover Downs in which he covered the final half-mile in
:52.1, with a :25.4 last quarter. On Saturday at Pocono
Downs, he raced first over to win the preferred handicap by
a neck over DynamicYouth in 1:50.2.

“I think he will be better than he was last week,” said Bier, who
trains and drives Bandolito. “He was coming off a 16-day layoff
and I thought he might be a little short. I was thrilled with his
race. I think the field last week was a step up from what he had
been facing. I expect him to race very well (in the Van Rose).”

With Daryl Bier handling the training and most of the driv-
ing, Bandolito won nine of 11 races last season. He was given
time off following his Kentucky Sire Stakes victory in Sep-
tember and returned to action in December, but Bier thought
the horse was not himself in three starts that culminated with
a third-place finish in an open on Jan. 9 at Dover Downs.

Bier discovered Bandolito was suffering from a foot ab-
scess, which kept the horse out of action until late March.

“He’s been awesome since he came back,” Bier said.

“I’ve never had a horse like him. He can go a quarter in
26 (seconds) and still have another gear. He’s got gears
I’ve never seen.” (HRC)

Account Set Up For TV Fund

The Meadowlands has set up a special account for industry
participants and racing fans who have pledged support for the
television broadcasts of the 2014 Little Brown Jug and the
Meadowlands Pace which will air on the CBS Sports Network.

“Ontario trainer Jack Darling first mentioned the idea of in-
dustry support for this project on his Standardbred Canada
blog and the response to his challenge has been overwhel-
m ing,” said Jeff Gural, chairman of New Meadowlands Race-
track. “We’d like to thank everyone for helping to make this
happen. We intend to pursue other avenues to secure sponsor-
ship, both within and outside of the industry, with the idea of
being able to televise one of the Breeders Crown nights in ad-
dition to the Jug, Hambletonian and the Meadowlands Pace.”

“We realize TV is just part of the equation in the effort to
promote and grow our sport,” said Meadowlands CEO and
general manager Jason Settlemoir. “This is an opportunity
for harness racing to work hand in hand with other compa-
ies and organizations to develop a synergy of social media
efforts, television, and other strategies to benefit everyone
involved and we are looking forward to this joint effort.”

Checks can be made out to and mailed to:
Meadowlands Racetrack TV Fund
1 Racetrack Drive
East Rutherford, N.J. 07073
(Meadowlands)
Uncle Peter Joins Maven For Elitlopp Start

World champion Uncle Peter is confirmed to go to the Elitlopp. The 5-year-old stallion by Cantab Hall is trained by Jimmy Takter. Takter plans for the trotter to race at the Meadowlands this Friday night and then ship to Denmark, where he will compete in the Copenhagen Cup on May 11. The Elitlopp is Sunday, May 25. Maven, owned by American Bill Donovan, has already committed to race in the Elitlopp.

As for Uncle Peter, “He’s a horse that we have really, really longed for,” said Tore Fyrand, sports director at the Solvalla track in Stockholm, where the Elitlopp is held.

Last year Uncle Peter set a 1:50.4 world record over the five-eighths mile oval at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs. Both the Elitlopp and Copenhagen Cup will be contested over five-eighths mile tracks, although only the Elitlopp is at a distance of one mile. The Copenhagen Cup is 2,100 meters, or about 1.3 miles.

Meanwhile, the defending Elitlopp champion, Nahar, is trying to make the big race. He did not race well in his first start of the season, breaking stride, which prompted speculation about his chances of defending his Elitlopp crown. He was treated for a knee injury following that race and missed the Olympic Trot last weekend.

“He feels way better now and it feels like Elitloppet should be a possible race to compete in, but he will not start in Gävle one week earlier,” said Robert Bergh, Nahar’s trainer and driver. “We don’t push him too much right now and his performances just look better and better. It feels like he will be ready when we get to the Elitlopp weekend.” — harnessracing.com, with files from ATG.se

NA Cup Eligibles Increase 45 To 62

The connections of 62 three-year-old pacing colts and geldings have kept their charges eligible to the 31st edition of the $1 million Pepsi North America Cup at Mohawk Racetrack by making the April 15 sustaining payment. A total of 70 had been eligible through the March 15 payment with 77 eligible through the Feb. 15 payment. Last year only 45 sophomores were eligible through the March 15 payment.

Eliminations for the NA Cup are scheduled for Saturday, June 7, while the rich final is scheduled to be raced Saturday, June 14.

Headlining this year’s group of nominees is the Dan Patch Eliminations for the NA Cup are scheduled for Saturday, June 7, while the rich final is scheduled to be raced Saturday, June 14.

Eliminations for the NA Cup are scheduled for Saturday, June 7, while the rich final is scheduled to be raced Saturday, June 14.

Headlining this year’s group of nominees is the Dan Patch Award winner and undefeated He’s Watching, who set two world records last season along with five track records for trainer and co-owner David Menary.

NA Cup-eligible Western Vintage, who swept last year’s New Jersey Sires Stakes for 2-year-old colt pacers, is among 22 made eligible to the $250,000 (est) Anthony Abbatiello New Jersey Classic on Aug. 2 at the Meadowlands. Twenty-nine fillies were nominated to the $125,000 (est.) Thomas D’Altrui Miss New Jersey.

Jim Carr Dies At 70

Popular longtime horse owner James “Jim” Carr died Sunday, April 27, after battling cancer. He was in his 70th year. Mr. Carr campaigned the top pacing colts Big Jim and Panther Hanover, who both now stand at stud.

Mr. Carr, a native of Hamilton, Ont. made his living as a process server, delivering court documents in Hamilton and Toronto. But it was arguably in the harness racing industry where his deliveries made the most impact.

In 2010, Big Jim turned heads with his 1:51.1 win in the final of the Dream Maker. Mr. Carr turned down all of the offers that came in for the colt trained by James “Friday” Dean. Big Jim didn’t win the Metro that year, but he atoned for that loss with wins in the Breeders Crown and world record score in the Governor’s Cup to conclude his award-winning season. With every win, Mr. Carr would invite anyone interested to the winner’s circle to have their picture taken. Mr. Carr would even lift kids up to pet the young stallion, and Big Jim would stand with perfect manners.

Mr. Carr’s gracious attitude was apparent at the forefront of numerous industry events. He donated a Big Jim breeding to Newfoundland’s Amy MacDonald when her family lost horses in a fire. He donated the proceeds from auctioning off a Panther Hanover breeding to photographer Sylvain Gagnon, who lost vision in his eye when hit by a starting gate. He rallied behind 4-year-old Josh Woodward, whose struggles with kidney disease made mainstream headlines.

In 2010, during Standardbred Canada’s effort to initiate the Racing Development and Sustainability Plan, Mr. Carr demonstrated his tremendous passion for the sport. Upon hearing of the efforts, he publicly supported the concept and immediately began to hold five percent from the purses earned by his horses, reserving the funds to market and promote the sport, if the plan was approved. His actions have inspired many in the harness racing industry, to pass it forward. (SC)

Ohio Fairs To Get Almost $2 Million From VLTs

At the monthly meeting of the Ohio State Racing Commission in Columbus on Tuesday, April 29, five resolutions related to various aspects of racing in the state were approved.

Resolution 2014-9 spelled out the sample testing costs for Thoroughbred ($154) and Standardbred ($163) races at commercial racetracks effective on July 1. Horsemen will pay the cost of testing winning horses. The racing commission will pay for special tests requested by state stewards and presiding judges. The cost of testing human samples is also paid by the commission.

Continues on page 12
The variation in testing costs between breeds is a result of the cost of testing at county fairs. This testing is subsidized by the increased amount paid from purse pools at harness tracks.

Resolution 2014-10 details the recipients of taxes ($1,988,039.41) on gross casino revenue forwarded to the commission on April 15. Breed development funds (Standardbred and Thoroughbred) each received $377,700, and, in total, $835,000 will be added to purse pools at commercial tracks.

Four racetracks do not have an ownership stake in an Ohio casino—Miami Valley Gaming & Racing, Northfield Park, Belterra Park and Scioto Downs. Each will receive $74,500. The commission will get $99,400 to support certain, pre-approved activities.

Resolution 2014-11 will allow the commission to receive $1.96 million from the Video Lottery Terminal revenue. The money, pending approval by the Ohio Controlling Board, will be forwarded to Ohio county fairs. Each of 65 fairs where racing takes place will receive an equal share of $1.5 million to use for purses. Racing fairs will also get $6,500 to defray expenses. Non-racing fairs will receive $1,300 for expenses.

The last two resolutions, 2014-12 and 2014-13, relate to requests by Penn National Gaming Inc. The second resolution allows the transfer of permits from Raceway Park in Toledo (HJC/PDC Holdings LLC) to Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway (Dayton Real Estate Ventures LLC).

Penn National also won permission to close Raceway Park on June 30, two months before the scheduled closing date. The racetrack has accepted simulcast wagers only in 2014.

Dayton Raceway is expected to open for simulcasting on Sept. 1, with live racing scheduled to begin there on Oct. 1. The racetrack is currently under construction.

The commission also heard updates on efforts to reach agreements by mid-June on the percentage of VLT revenues set aside for purses. Representatives of harness horsemen, Miami Valley and Northfield Park all reported progress. (OSRC)

**Spring Mixed Sale Catalog Now Available.**

The sale catalog and past performances for the Meadowlands May 18 Spring Mixed Sale are now available for download on the Tattersalls website, www.tattersallsredmile.com.

The catalog and racelines may be downloaded in their entirety as PDF files, or users may wish to view individual horses from the sortable sale roster. The catalog will be available on the Equineline sales catalog app for iPad users later this week.

This new Tattersalls venue is strictly a racehorse sale, and 105 head in all have been cataloged.

This year—and in years to come—the sale will feature 2 year olds in training, and 22 have been entered for this inaugural edition. The freshman pacers and trotters will train for prospective buyers and other interested parties on Friday, May 16, after the morning qualifiers at the Meadowlands.

Supplements will be accepted until May 9. Those wishing to enter supplements or request a print catalog and racelines should call the Tattersalls office at (914) 773-7777 or visit their website. (Tattersalls)

**Indiana: No Clenbuterol Within 14 Days Of Race**

At its April 30 public meeting, the Indiana Horse Racing Commission unanimously voted (5-0) to approve the Association of Racing Commissioners national uniform medication rules and multiple medication violation penalties. The newly approved rules apply equally between all breeds and become effective beginning with the racing programs on May 15, 2014.

Horsemen should be aware that the new threshold levels will result in some medications having longer suggested withdrawal times than they currently do. This is especially true for a drug such as clenbuterol; its suggested withdrawal time changes from five days to 14 days. It is vital that horsemen and veterinarians be especially mindful of this, and treat their horses accordingly.

Prior to the May 15 implementation date horsemen are urged to adhere to the longest published withdrawal time for each medication in order to avoid a positive test. Additional information regarding medication withdrawal times will be posted on the IHRC’s website at www.in.gov/hrc.

**Win $1 Million In Meadowlands Ball Drop**

Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment is giving one lucky fan a chance to win $1 million in their first-ever Million Dollar Ball Drop.

Guests can sign up every live racing night May 2-July 11, with the Ball Drop taking place on Friday, July 25. Each guest is allowed one entry per person, per live race day. After the close of entries, 500 names will be randomly selected and assigned a numbered golf ball.

During live racing on July 25, 500 numbered golf balls will be dropped from the top of a fire truck ladder onto a target area in the infield of the racetrack. If the golf ball closest to the target hole matches the pre-selected number in the sealed envelope, that guest wins $1 million.

However, if the ball dropped closest to the target area does not match the pre-selected number, the guest still wins a first-place prize of $5,000.

Prizes will also be awarded for the next 24 closest golf balls to the target hole as follows: 2nd Place: $3,000, 3rd Place: $1,500, 4th Place: $1,000, 5th Place: $500, 6th-15th Place: $100, 16th-25th Place: $50. (Meadowlands)
### Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>W</th>
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### Leading Money-Winning Drivers

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<td>Jody Jamieson</td>
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### Leading Money-Winning Trainers

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<td>Randy Bendis</td>
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### Leaders Of The Week

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<td>Perretti Farms</td>
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<td>114</td>
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<td>123</td>
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<td>White Birch Farm</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>990,797</td>
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<td>Arlene &amp; Jules Siegel</td>
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<td>Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.</td>
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<td>Seelster Farms Inc.</td>
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<td>Frederick Hertrich III</td>
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<td>Perfect World Enterprises</td>
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### Drivers

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<td>Jim DeVaux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Merriman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Page</td>
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<td>Trevor Henry</td>
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<td>Yannick Gingras</td>
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<td>Ronnie Wrenn Jr.</td>
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<td>Casey Leonard</td>
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<td>Tony Morgan</td>
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### Trainers

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<td>David McCaffrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan Derue</td>
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<td>Daryl Bier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Elliott</td>
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<td>Joe Cirasola</td>
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<td>Josh Green</td>
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<td>Les Givens</td>
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<td>Linda Wallis</td>
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<td>Marissa Tyler</td>
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<td>Rene Allard</td>
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<td>Trent Stohler</td>
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The Blooded Horse Sale now offers TWO Black Type Yearling options for 2014!

**Sell Early** – Among the First Yearlings Offered – **August 25**

Or

**Sell Late** – The Last Chance to Buy a Yearling – **November 17**

You've got plenty of time to decide which option is best for you. Short entry deadlines & reasonable fees make the decision easier.

**Sell Early**
- July 15 deadline for August 25 session
- October 1 deadline for November 17 session
- $150 entry fee + 5% (minimum $100) commission

**Sell Late**
- $150 entry fee + 5% (minimum $100) commission

Details available at [www.bloodedhorse.com](http://www.bloodedhorse.com)
or email [jhaws@bloodedhorse.com](mailto:jhaws@bloodedhorse.com)