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Invitational Trifecta Highlights Philly Sunday Card

A trio of \$150,000 Invitationals highlight Sunday afternoon's 13-race card at Harrah's Philadelphia, with post time set for 12:40 p.m.

The 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover will be in action on Sunday, but not in the Maxie Lee Memorial Invitational Trot. The Ron Burke Stable will be represented in the Maxie Lee by defending champion Crazy Wow, so with double barn invites not handed out, it sent Hannelore Hanover into a \$30,000 leg of the Great Northeast Series Open.

The separation of the two star stablemates also gives Yannick Gingras a chance to drive both. Hannelore Hanover—who won the \$150,000 Cutler Memorial at the Meadowlands on May 5 in her only start this year—will start from post 5 as the odds-on favorite in the seven-horse Great Northeast,

"In the Confederation cup elimination he was good but in the final he was great."

—Yannick Gingras
about Filibuster Hanover

while Crazy Wow will also line up in post 5 in the Maxie Lee as a 7-2 morning-line choice.

Crazy Wow is making his fourth start of 2018 on Sunday, but his first with Gingras in the bike. With David

Miller driving, Crazy Wow won his debut on April 27 at the Meadowlands, followed up by a third-place finish behind Hannelore Hanover in the Cutler and then a sixth behind Marion Marauder in the Great Northeast Series last time out on May 20 at Harrah's Philadelphia.

"I thought his first start was tremendous," said Gingras, who drove Crazy Wow to his 1:52 victory in last year's Maxie Lee Memorial. "The second week (in the Cutler) was a mile and an eighth and he got beat by a horse that sat on his back the whole way in Hannelore Hanover. That's no knock there. And then last week he got parked. I think the horse has come back good and he drew a great spot for Sunday."

It won't be easy for Crazy Wow as starting from post 1 is Marion Marauder, the 2016 Triple Crown champion and Trotter of the Year and last year's Older Trotter of the Year at age four. Driven by Scott Zeron, Marion Marauder overcame post 7 in his season debut in the Great Northeast Series to score in 1:52.1.

"It was hard to expect that in his first start of the year, but his qualifiers looked good and he progressed each one and was well in hand," said Zeron, who celebrated his 29th birthday on May 23. "I didn't know trotters could go :26 and :54 over Chester, and the fact that we did it and went 1:22 (to three-quarters) and he was able to draw off, it impressed me."

Zeron admits post 1 isn't the best spot for Marion Marauder.

"The rail is not quite for him so I'm going to try and get away best I can, fourth or fifth, ideally," said Zeron.

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Gingras also won last year's Betsy Ross with Lady Shadow, but later lost the victory when that mare had a positive test and was disqualified. He will drive Pure Country in this year's Betsy Ross renewal from post 1 for trainer Jimmy Takter.

A three-time Dan Patch Award divisional champion, Pure Country comes into the race with a second and third in a pair of Great Northeast Series starts in her only appearances of the year. While Brett Miller initially and most recently Mark MacDonald has been in the sulky behind the 5-year-old mare, Gingras gets the mount for only the second time in her 49 career starts. Gingras is one-for-one

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\$150,000 MAXIE LEE MEMORIAL OHT

Harrah's Philadelphia, Sunday, May 27, Race 10, Post Time: 3:40 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Marion Marauder	S. Zeron/P. Wellwood	5-2
2—Rubber Duck	Jo. Bongiorno/Je. Bongiorno	15-1
3—I Know My Chip	V. Kirby/W. Haynes Jr.	12-1
4—Will Take Charge	T. Tetrick/J. Gillis	3-1
5—Crazy Wow	Y. Gingras/R. Burke	7-2
6—Warrawee Roo	D. Dube/L. Blais	9-1
7—Broadway Donna	D. Miller/J. Campbell	6-1
8—Tuonoblu Rex	A. Miller/J. Miller	8-1

\$150,000 BETSY ROSS OMP

Harrah's Philadelphia, Sunday, May 27, Race 11, Post Time: 4:00 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Pure Country	Y. Gingras/J. Takter	5-1
2—Caviart Ally	A. McCarthy/N. Daley	12-1
3—Divas Image	Jo. Bongiorno/Je. Bongiorno	15-1
4—Shartin N	T. Tetrick/J. King Jr.	9-5
5—Agent Q	B. Miller/C. Oakes	7-2
6—Apple Bottom Jeans	V. Kirby/K. Switzer	20-1
7—Darlinonthebeach	D. Miller/R. Norman	9-2
8—Blue Moon Stride	C. Callahan/M. Harder	8-1

\$150,000 COMMODORE BARRY OHP

Harrah's Philadelphia, Sunday, May 27, Race 12, Post Time: 4:20 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Beckhams Z Tam	R. Macomber Jr./J. Macomber	15-1
2—Western Joe	S. Zeron/C. Choate	9-1
3—Heaven Rocks A	D. Miller/R. Croghan	5-1
4—Filibuster Hanover	Y. Gingras/R. Burke	2-1
5—Rockeyed Optimist	B. Miller/J. Leamon	8-1
6—Rodeo Romeo	A. McCarthy/C. Ryder	6-1
7—McWicked	B. Sears/C. Coleman	6-1
8—Mach It So	G. Napolitano Jr./J. Bamond Jr.	5-1

though having scored a victory with a 3-year-old Pure Country in the Simcoe in 2016 at Mohawk Racetrack.

"Post 1 is a good spot for her," said Gingras. "She's had two starts now so she should be ready for a good performance."

Gingras is also looking forward to driving Filibuster Hanover in the Commodore Berry Invitational for older pac-



THIS WEEKEND'S FEATURED RACES

All times listed are local.

Saturday, May 26

8:30p YR6 **Rooney 3CP** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)

9:05p M6 **Escort Pace** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)

9:28p M7 **Rainbow Blue Pace** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)

9:50p M8 **Hot Lead Pace** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)

11:10p Lon12 **Camluck Classic** OHP [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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Sunday, May 27

3:40p Ph110 **Maxie Lee Mem.** Trot [Trackmaster PPs](#)

4:00p Ph111 **Betsy Ross Mares** Pace [Trackmaster PPs](#)

4:20p Ph112 **Commodore Barry** Pace [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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ers. The 4-year-old son of Somebeachsomewhere has been on a tear since capturing last year's Little Brown Jug, including not missing a beat in his return this year as he comes into the race perfect in three starts.

After winning his debut in a Graduate leg at the Meadowslands, Filibuster Hanover went north of the border to Flamboro Downs where he won his elimination and \$142,350 final of the Confederation Cup.

"In the Confederation cup elimination he was good but in the final he was great," said Gingras, who will start from post 4 in the Commodore Barry. "He's come back so, so sharp. I'm hoping for good things from him. Last year he got really good and he's gradually matured into a really good open horse."

Owned by Burke Racing Stable, Joe DiScala Jr., J&T Silva Stable and Weaver BrusceMI LLC, Filibuster Hanover comes into the race with \$941,153 in earnings, thus a victory would catapult him to millionaire status.— *By Gordon Waterstone*

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American-Bred Propulsion Top Elitlopp Contender

Sweden's famed Elitlopp Trot will be held Sunday at the Solvalla racetrack in Stockholm, Sweden, and although there can always be a surprise, it appears three horses have the best chance to win this year's edition of the race which is forecast to be conducted under sunny skies.

This year's Elitlopp has horses representing owners from 10 different countries, which is a new record for the race that has been contested since 1952. The winner of the Elitlopp final receives approximately \$340,000 while winning an elim is worth about \$24,000.

There is no American representative in this year's race. Hannelore Hanover, who as the defending Horse of the Year was an obvious candidate, was not pointed to the race. Trainer and co-owner Ron Burke said he was not interested in shipping the mare to Europe at the beginning of her lucrative 2018 campaign and instead may consider keeping her in training for a possible attempt at the Prix d'Amérique in Paris in late January.

The winner of this year's Prix d'Amérique, Ready Express, is skipping the Elitlopp, but Bold Eagle, the winner of the great Paris race in 2016 and 2017, is one of the top candidates to capture the Swedish classic, along with Propulsion. Last year Bold Eagle and Propulsion were the Elitlopp favorites but instead the race was won by Timoko, who became a repeat winner (he also won in 2014).

Bold Eagle and Propulsion are the main candidates once again along with Ringostarr Treb.

Last year Bold Eagle set a new record in Europe with his 1:50 victory in an Elitlopp elimination, but in the final he was fourth.

"We have learned from the mistake in the elimination and will not get him empty in the elimination!"

—*Sébastien Guarato*

"I have changed the training schedule, and did it before the Prix d'Amérique this year too," said Bold Eagle's trainer, Sébastien Guarato. "We went to the ocean and let Bold Eagle train on the beach. He

covers mares four days a week, he trained on a straight track, and three weeks ago I started training him on the grass lane at the track in Rambouillet. It is very soft and fits Bold Eagle's sensitive hoofs.

"I cannot say that Bold Eagle is better this year," Guarato added, "but he's at least as good. We have learned from the mistake in the elimination and will not get him empty in the elimination."

Propulsion, bred by Rikki Caldwell of Cane Run Farm and Bluestone Farm, makes his third start in the Elitlopp. After finishing fourth and second, trainer Daniel Redén hopes the third time is a charm.

"To me, the second place last year felt like a victory," he said.

Propulsion was sold for \$250,000 as a yearling to agent Myron Bell and trained by Tony Alagna as a 2 and 3 year

ELITLOPPET—SUNDAY, MAY 27

Solvalla track, Stockholm, Sweden; Distance: 1,609 meters (one mile); Final Heat—Race 14; Post Time 11:38 a.m. (ET)

FIRST ELIM HEAT—Race 9; Post Time: 9:22 am (ET)

Post—HORSE
(Age, Sex, Sire-Dam-Sire of dam) Trainer/Driver

1—DREAMMOKO
(5h, Timoko-Uranie d'Atout-Kaisy Dream) R. Westerink/B. Goop

2—RAJESH FACE
(5h, Raja Mirchi-Nippy Girl-Ginger Somolli) L. Kolgjini

3—LIONEL
(8h, Look de Star-Aurora Sign-Smok'n Lantern) D. Reden/G. Antonsen

4—VOLSTEAD
(7h, Cantab Hall-Madame Volo-Yankee Glide) S. Melander

5—BOLD EAGLE
(7h, Ready Cash-Reethi Rah Jet-Love You) S. Guarato/F. Nivard

6—MAORI TIME
(9h, Pegasus Spur-Sundonna-Sundon) B. Lilley/T. McCarthy

7—TAKETHEM
(8h, From Above-D'Cherie-New Quick) S. Juul

8—UP AND QUICK
(10h, Buvetier d'Aunou-Fichtre-Quiton du Coral) A. Lherete/J. Kontio

SECOND ELIM HEAT—Race 10; Post Time: 9:49 am (ET)

No.—HORSE
(Age, Sex, Sire-Dam-Sire of dam) Trainer/Driver

1—RINGOSTARR TREB
(8h, Classic Photo-Farsalo Egral-Supergill) J. Riordan/W. Paal

2—COKSTILE
(5h, Quite Easy-Joystile-Cocktail Jet) J. Waaler/L. Kolle

3—ORLANDO JET
(5h, Orlando Vici-Chicolina-Super Arnie) R. Haller

4—PROPULSION
(7h, Muscle Hill-Danae-Andover Hall) D. Reden/Ö. Kihlström

5—NADAL BROLINE
(8h, Yankee Glide-Aimee's Promise-American Winner) R. Liljendahl/U. Ohlsson

6—PASTORE BOB
(5g, From Above-Estrada O.R.-Supergill) J. Untersteiner

7—UZA JOSSELYN
(7h, Love You-Teza Josselyn-Ganymede) R. Aebischer/E. Adielsson

8—AMIRAL SACHA
(8h, Ganymede-Nostalgique-Goetmals Wood) F. Lamare/G. Gelormini

old. He started in four qualifiers late in the year at the Red Mile and trotted in 1:56.2, but never made a pari-mutuel start. As a 3 year old he took a mark of 1:52.3 in Lexington in the fall and then at age four he won five of 13 starts and won in 1:52.1 at the Meadowlands before he was sold at the Tattersalls Summer Mixed Sale for \$210,000. Redén bought the horse for Bengt Agerup's Stall Zet. Agerup is an active owner in the U.S., campaigning such horses as Hambletonian champion Trixon under the name of Brixton Medical.

Like Bold Eagle, Propulsion has had two jobs since the winter race meet at Vincennes, when he finished third in the Prix d'Amérique and Prix de France.

Continues on page 4 >>>

“We planned a race break after his starts in France,” said Redén. “We have been able to train him as usual all the time because he also works with the stallions on our farm. Everything has been fantastic and he’s coming into the Elitlopp in better condition than previous years.”

Since his layoff, Propulsion has two wins in two starts, and in his last victory he scored in 1:52.2 wearing shoes on all four hooves. In the Elitlopp and other big races he races barefoot, as do most European trotters.

“Things can happen,” added Redén, “but things feel very stable right now.”

Ringostarr Treb is carrying the Elitlopp hopes of two men who have tried to win the race before and hoping their luck changes.

“Seven times before, I’ve been in the Elitlopp and this year is the first time I have a real chance to win the race,” says driver Wim Paal, who gets the chance behind the Jerry Riordan-trained Ringostarr Treb.

Riordan, a former assistant to Hall of Famer Chuck Sylvester, has had 11 starters in the Elitlopp but has also never won.

The 58-year-old Paal, who has worked in many countries and was in the U.S. between 2007 and 2012, teamed up with Ringostarr Treb for a fantastic victory in the Olympic Trot on April 28 in a mile rate time of 1:52.3. — *By Claes Freidenvall. Freidenvall is editor of Sweden’s Sulky Scene magazine.*

Iowa’s Minnie Vinnie Has Shot With Rail In Rooney

The \$300,000 Art Rooney final is set for Saturday night at Yonkers Raceway and it’s a Cinderella moment for the horse Minnie Vinnie and his connections, who hail from Iowa and Wisconsin.

Minnie Vinnie was bred in Iowa and as a 2 year old won 12 of 13 starts on the Iowa fair circuit. Early this year Curtis Carey, who trained the horse for owners Thomas “Jeff” Carey, John DeLong, Rick Huffman and Larry Mather, began talking with DeLong about taking a shot in one big early race for 3 year olds, the Rooney.

Minnie Vinnie not only got to the Rooney final, but he has drawn post 1 and will have Tim Tetrick as his driver.

“The rail and Tetrick at Yonkers is a pretty good way to start,” said Curtis Carey, a third-generation horseman from Columbus Junction, Iowa, a town of about 2,000 people.

Gareth Dowse is the programmed trainer of Minnie Vinnie, but Carey said he flew east before the Rooney elimination to help make a few equipment adjustments.

“I sent him to Gareth because I knew him from when I had been racing in New York, and I wanted to send the horse to someone who wouldn’t make wholesale changes on him without me being involved,” explained Carey. “After he raced at Pocono (when he made a break at the start) I took his hobbles up a couple of notches.”

\$223,673 EMPIRE BREEDERS 3CT FINAL

Vernon Downs, Monday, May 28, Race 8, Post Time: 3:25 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer
1—Southwind Chrome	S. Zeron/P. Wellwood
2—Six Pack	A. Svanstedt
3—Seven Iron	D. Miller/L. Toscano
4—Helpisontheway	T. Tetrick/L. Toscano
5—Classichap	T. Smedshammer
6—OnThe Ropes	A. Svanstedt
7—Purpose Blue Chip	D. Daley
8—Voss Volo	C. Callahan/J. Butenschoen
9—Clive Bigsby	S. Zeron/G. Ducharme

\$238,613 EMPIRE BREEDERS 3FT FINAL

Vernon Downs, Monday, May 28, Race 9, Post Time: 3:45 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer
1—Natalie Hanover	A. Svanstedt
2—Plunge Blue Chip	A. Svanstedt
3—Repentance	T. Tetrick/L. Toscano
4—Atlanta	S. Zeron/R. Zeron
5—Golden Muscle	D. Monti/T. Rooney
6—Supergirl Riley	M. Miller/E. Miller
7—Ciao Dolce	A. Miller/A. Svanstedt
8—Tribute To Seven	D. Miller/L. Toscano
9—Seven Karats	Y. Gingras/L. Toscano

Although Iowa-bred, born, raised and based last year, Minnie Vinnie has not been in his home state yet this year. He was training with DeLong in Wisconsin at the beginning of the year, but because of the brutal winter, he was sent south to Carey, who was training a handful of horses at the Burke family’s training compound in central Florida. Minnie Vinnie quickly made up for lost time and won a qualifier at Spring Garden Ranch in 1:56.2 on April 19.

Minnie Vinnie won his first start of the season, an overnight at Pocono. Then came the miscue at Pocono. And even last week, in his elimination for the Rooney, Minnie Vinnie broke stride.

“Brett (Miller) said he had to grab him up suddenly and that’s what caused the break last week,” Carey explained.

Win or lose, after the Rooney Minnie Vinnie will head home. He’ll get a couple of weeks of time in a field at the DeLong’s farm in Indiana, and then will settle in at the Carey family farm in Columbus Junction. His first Iowa-restricted race is June 23.

And if you are wondering if Minnie Vinnie was named because he is small in stature, that’s not the case. Carey explains the name:

“My friend Vinnie Fusco had the stud Millionaire Cam, and I’m friends with the whole family. I had told Vinnie that when the horse was finished racing, I’d like to have him to breed mares to in Iowa. When the horse first got here we called him Vinnie. So when the first foal by Millionaire Cam was born, we named him Minnie Vinnie. But he’s not mini. He’s a big animal.” — *By Kathy Parker*

Tritton Gears Up For Camluck Classic

When the field of eight line up for the inaugural Camluck Classic Saturday at The Raceway at Western Fair District, trainer Peter Tritton is hoping a new tradition kicks off right where it ended.

His star-studded pacer Bit Of A Legend N captured the final edition of the Molson Pace last season before the signature event was renamed the Camluck Classic.

Tritton, who resides in Pine Bush, N.Y., will once again make the trip north of the border with the classy 9 year old, who starts from the trailing post 8 with driver Jordan Stratton.

“I would say pound-for-pound he’s the best half-mile track horse in North America.”

—Peter Tritton

“He’s coming into the race really well,” Tritton said. “We’ll keep the same routine as we did last year, because it worked out so well. Canada has been good to us and we’re happy to return. The plan is to stay for

the week then head to Northfield for the Battle of Lake Erie.”

The son of Bettor’s Delight is no stranger to half-mile track racing. In fact, from 65 starts on North American soil, Bit Of A Legend N has only raced six times outside a half-mile oval. The winner of over \$2.1 million has been a regular fixture at Yonkers Raceway over the past few seasons. Last year alone, Bit Of A Legend N captured signature half-mile track events such as the Molson Pace, Gerrity and Bobby Quillen with \$547,070 in seasonal earnings.

“I would say pound-for-pound he’s the best half-mile track horse in North America,” Tritton continued. “I think we have the best horse in the race and Jordan (Stratton) thinks he’s better right now than last year, which is quite amazing, really.”

Tritton admits post position plays a major role in the outcome of the race on the half and is satisfied with beginning from the trailing tier.

“I’m happy with the draw. Obviously you don’t want the outside on a half, and I’m content starting from the second tier. It could be an interesting start into the first turn with a lot of speed, so I’m happy to be inside.

“He’s a special horse, that’s for sure,” Tritton continued. “He paces the turns so well and doesn’t lose any ground. Jordan (Stratton) has done a great job looking after him and we’ve been rewarded.” — By Ken Weingarter/USTA

\$150,000 CAMLUCK CLASSIC OHP

Western Fair, Saturday, May 26, Race 12, Post Time: 11:10 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Sunfire Blue Chip	T. Henry/J. Takter	9-2
2—Isitfridayyet	A. Carroll/R. Moreau	8-1
3—Killer Martini	S. Coulter/R. Bucci	10-1
4—Rockin Ron	L. Roy/R. Burke	5-2
5—Easy Lover Hanover	D. McNair/B. Wallace	7-2
6—Evenin Of Pleasure	Jo. Bongiorno/Je. Bongiorno	4-1
7—Dr. J Hanover	J. MacDonald/T. Alagna	8-1
8—Bit Of A Legend N	J. Stratton/P. Tritton	2-1

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Macomers Hit The Road With Beckhams Z Tam

After spending the better part of the past four years at home in Indiana, returning Breeders Crown champion Beckhams ZTam is ready to step out for what trainer Jamie Macomber hopes is the first of numerous road trips this season.

Beckhams ZTam will leave Indiana for only the second time in his life when he visits Harrah's Philadelphia on Sunday for the \$150,000 Commodore Barry Invitational for older male pacers. Beckhams ZTam's only previous road trip came last year for his elimination of the North America Cup in Ontario, where he finished ninth.

Following that race, Beckhams ZTam hit the board in 14 consecutive starts, winning seven, including the Breeders

"As long as he seems to be OK with the traveling and racing at the high-competition level, then we'll continue on the stakes season."

—Jamie Macomber

Crown for 3-year-old male pacers on his home turf at Hoosier Park. Overall in 2017, Beckhams ZTam won 11 of 20 races, was top three a total of 18 times, and earned \$512,545.

This year, the 4-year-old stallion is ready to give the Grand Circuit a try on a regular basis.

"We're going to give it a shot," said Macomber, who trains

Beckhams ZTam for owner Bill Matz's ZTam Stables. "As long as he seems to be OK with the traveling and racing at the high-competition level, then we'll continue on the stakes season. You always wonder how they're going to handle the travel and the hard races every week, but for some reason, it doesn't concern me with Beckham. I think he will handle it fine.

"He's a relaxed horse, so as long as I don't change his schedule too much—he likes to eat breakfast and then go back to sleep, take a nap, and then get up to do his work—I think he will be OK. I don't plan on changing much, except where he sleeps at night."

Beckhams ZTam heads to the Commodore Barry off a second-place finish in his seasonal debut in the May 11 Invitational at Hoosier Park. He will start the Commodore Barry from post 1 in a field that includes Confederation Cup winner Filibuster Hanover (unbeaten in three races this year)



Gurjan Patel/Photo

Hannelore Has A Brother

The Hanover Shoe Farms' broodmare High Sobriety, the dam of 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover, is pictured here with her young son by Muscle Hill.

The 2017 Trotting Broodmare of the Year, High Sobriety gave birth to the colt at Hanover Shoe Farms on May 3. The young colt is the fifth foal of High Sobriety and only her second colt.

and two horses with more than \$2 million in career earnings, Mach It So and McWicked.

"I would have liked a couple more starts, but we're happy with the one start that we did have," said Macomber, who turns over the driving lines to her husband, Ricky. "He didn't get a lot bigger (over the winter). He filled out some, but not a lot. His personality is still awesome. If anything, he is just a little bit more mature."

Macomber hopes that maturity helps Beckhams ZTam make the transition to racing against older foes in stakes competition. Beckhams ZTam, a son of Always A Virgin out of Sara's Lucky Charm, has won 11 of 27 lifetime starts and earned \$565,494.

"When he's racing he's all business," Macomber said. "He's not been raced a lot, so hopefully he's got plenty of good miles left in him." —By Ken Weingartner/USTA



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NJSS Leg, Series Finals Set For Meadowlands

Round two of New Jersey Sires Stakes (NJSS) for 3 year olds are on tap Friday night at the Meadowlands, with a trio of series finals highlighting the Saturday night card.

With only two 3-year-old male pacers entered, that race will be contested at 6:15 p.m. prior to the pari-mutuel card. Melanie's Fran and Hypnotico respectively finished one-two in all three NJSS races last year and nothing has changed in 2018 as Melanie's Fran cruised to a 9 3/4-length win in the first preliminary.

Short fields are also in play for the other three NJSS divisions, and carded as Races 1, 3 and 4, it could pave the way for bettors to get a jumpstart on hitting the Survivor Pick 10 pool.

Race 1 is a five-horse, NJSS for 3-year-old filly trotters. Samis Rolin Stone took control at the half in the opening leg and closed out the mile with a final quarter of :27.4 for a 1:56.4 victory as the 1-5 favorite. Trainer-driver Dewayne Minor will direct Samis Rolin Stone from post 2.

Race 3 is the NJSS for 3-year-old colt trotters, with four lining up behind the gate. Shoshie Deo, trained by Minor but driven by George Brennan, coasted to a 2 1/2-length, 1:56.2 victory in the opening round. Five 3-year-old filly pacers go behind the gate in NJSS action in Race 4, with favorite Hypnotic Tale, a 1:53.1 winner in leg one, looking to repeat from post 5 for driver Linda Toscano and driver David Miller.

The Pick 3 on Races 6, 7 and 8 on Saturday night at the Big M encompass the three series finals.

Up first is the \$47,000 Escort final. Round two was marred a bit when first-round winner and first-across-the-wire Life Happened was dq'd for interference and placed back to fourth. That elevated Thor De Vie from second to first. Thor De Vie starts from post 2 while Life Happened looks to get back on track from post 5.

In the \$42,500 Rainbow Blue final for 3-year-old filly pacers, KJ's Justine, who swept her two preliminaries, starts from post 3 in an eight-horse field that includes Ideal Talker and Come Get The Cash, who also captured earlier legs.

Anchoring the Pick 3 is the \$35,200 Hot Lead final. While the two divisions of the first leg were contested at a mile and won by Commentariat and Santiago Style, last week's single prelim captured by Ballerat Boomerang went 1 1/8th miles as a result of 11 entries.

With 10 behind the gate for the final it will be contested at a mile. Commentariat drew post 2 while Ballerat Boomerang starts from post 8. Santiago Style, who won his earlier leg from post and then broke on the move after starting from post 10 last week as the betting favorite, starts from post 1.

3YO Colt Pacer Done Well Edges Blazin Britches In Qualifier

Brian Brown, the 2017 Trainer of the Year, sent out a couple of his top contenders for 2018 in qualifying action at Scioto Downs on Tuesday morning.

Brown's 3-year-old pacing colt Done Well and 4-year-old pacing mare Blazin Britches finished on the wire together, with Done Well having the edge by a head in 1:52.2. After making his move to the lead in a :27.2 third quarter, Done Well paced home in :28.3 to finish the mile.

Blazin Britches won last fall's Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Filly Pace and was voted the Dan Patch honoree for her division. She is eligible to the upcoming Roses Are Red at Woodbine Mohawk, with the final of that race set for June 16, the same night as the Pepsi North America Cup final.

Done Well, a colt by Well Said out of Dagnabit Hanover, is eligible to the NA Cup. Brown had expected to start the colt earlier this season but the youngster developed an abscess in his lung that was discovered before a qualifier in late March. Brown described the abscess as "between the size of a dime and a quarter." The abscess popped and the colt was treated in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber in Lexington, Ky. When the lung healed, Done Well resumed training at Brown's base at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Ohio.

Last year Done Well took a mark of 1:51.2f and was undefeated in four starts, which included three Pennsylvania Sires Stakes, before he suffered an injury in early August. The colt cracked a cannon bone on his right hind leg and was sidelined from racing and training until last December.



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**harnessracing.com HEADLINES****Ross hired as USTA social media manager**

Wendy Ross has joined the U.S. Trotting Association's (USTA) Communications Department as social media and public relations coordinator and Jason Turner has been promoted to assistant editor of Hoof Beats and digital brand strategist for the USTA. [more](#)

June 1 entry deadline for Goshen Yearling Sale

The 2018 Goshen Yearling Sale will be held on Sunday, Sept. 9, at the Mark Ford Training Center in Middletown, NY and an important deadline concerning this year's event is looming. Anyone wishing to consign yearlings will have to hurry as all entries for the sale will have to be made by Friday, June 1. [more](#)

Ohio horseman James "Bill" Dailey dies

James W. "Bill" Dailey, 57, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, died Sunday, May 20, at home. As a driver, Mr. Dailey sat behind 18,470 horses (latest in 2017) since 1978, winning 2,301 times with \$10,231,234 in purse earnings. As a trainer, he sent 8,143 horses to the track with 1,287 wins with \$12,348,085 in purse earnings. [more](#)

Gutnick has high hopes for 2YO Hatikvah

Like many horse owners, Richard Gutnick heads into this season with hope for his 2 year olds, but in Gutnick's case it is quite literal. Among his horses generating optimism is homebred trotter Hatikvah, which is Hebrew for "the hope" and is the title of the poem-turned-song that became Israel's national anthem. [more](#)

Down Under star Dexter Dunn coming to NA

Standardbred Canada reported Wednesday that Down Under driving sensation Dexter Dunn has announced that he will be taking his skills to North America in hopes to compete against the best reinsmen the continent has to offer. [more](#)

Rawlings drives 1,000th career winner

Dan Rawlings collected career win 1,000 Wednesday at The Meadows when he piloted Moshannon Magic to victory in the sixth race. [more](#)

Canadian Hall of Famer JCs Nathalie euthanized

The Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame has announced the passing of 2015 Standardbred mare inductee JCs Nathalie at the age of 30. [more](#)

The road map to horse ownership

One might think that horse ownership is just for the rich. Or that you need to be an industry insider to be certain that you are getting good advice as to what horses to buy and which trainers to use. Yeah, horse ownership is just too tough for regular folks. [more](#)

Farrier, horseman Henry MacMullin dies

William Henry MacMullin, a retired resident farrier and horseman at Blue Chip Farms in Wallkill, N.Y., and a long-time resident of Ulster County passed away on March 24 at Orange Regional Medical Center in Middletown, NY, at the age of 87. [more](#)

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RACE LINES

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through May 22, 2018 (week difference May 16-22).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Shartin N (5pm)	11	9	1	0	\$343,975
Keystone Velocity (10ph)	6	2	2	0	320,000
Bit Of A Legend N (9ph)	7	2	4	1	225,000
Sell A Bit N (8pm)	11	5	2	1	216,450
Somewhere In LA (7pg)	10	4	2	3	168,920
NF Happenstance (8tm)	13	8	3	0	140,450
Motu Moonbeam N (6pm)	16	3	3	3	133,360
Mach It So (8pg)	8	3	1	2	132,060
Will Take Charge (5tg)	10	5	3	1	130,268
Dr J Hanover (5pg)	8	3	2	1	126,600
Killer Martini (6pg)	16	3	1	3	126,000
Jet Airway (7ph)	17	11	2	0	122,160
Seasoned Saint (5tg)	13	7	3	0	120,500
Long Live Rock (9pg)	12	3	3	3	119,000
Dudesalady (4pm)	15	5	1	3	117,140

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Jason Bartlett	1,005	194-171-149	.337	\$3,251,226 (\$199,266)
Jordan Stratton	962	178-158-123	.319	3,203,972 (176,459)
Aaron Merriman	1,604	378-294-226	.384	2,959,167 (200,619)
Tim Tetrack	949	186-165-123	.336	2,808,199 (216,165)
Trace Tetrack	1,084	237-173-131	.348	2,129,637 (95,055)
George Brennan	828	113-102-87	.240	2,023,774 (69,673)
Dan Noble	1,008	215-144-127	.335	2,000,813 (110,930)
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	1,218	291-185-166	.369	1,971,157 (139,883)
Corey Callahan	996	151-157-138	.285	1,909,063 (163,105)
Jim Marohn Jr.	1,043	175-147-140	.291	1,839,700 (80,930)
Chris Page	1,026	155-115-119	.252	1,732,432 (80,050)
Daniel Dube	714	70-75-87	.197	1,725,541 (68,165)
Louis Roy	861	198-147-123	.372	1,660,713 (135,978)
Yannick Gingras	564	91-77-69	.278	1,632,070 (220,061)
George Napolitano Jr.	729	140-129-90	.332	1,464,108 (153,617)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	1,258	256-193-148	.328	\$3,548,113 (\$335,847)
Rene Allard	578	124-85-72	.338	2,057,601 (156,185)
Scott Di Domenico	584	97-91-70	.293	1,484,395 (66,936)
Richard Moreau	611	137-97-73	.352	1,364,337 (74,245)
Richard Banca	380	63-62-55	.305	1,156,667 (73,801)
Gilbert Garcia-Herrera	474	70-58-54	.254	1,021,213 (45,511)
Nick Surick	680	130-108-88	.323	931,439 (50,788)
Jim King Jr.	175	35-29-23	.336	817,524 (42,072)
Carmen Auciello	590	57-57-69	.189	781,239 (42,452)
Jennifer Bongiorno	212	57-28-27	.385	770,609 (36,981)
Peter Tritton	100	24-20-14	.398	753,180 (29,970)
Andrew Harris	283	50-33-39	.287	690,351 (60,256)
Rob Harmon	277	41-36-37	.265	653,712 (14,249)
Dan Ater	282	44-53-30	.296	621,972 (43,825)
Kimberly Asher	237	49-52-35	.378	594,448 (10,485)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	702	353	661	\$7,114,538
Winbak Farm	682	341	636	5,676,175
Brittany Farms LLC	171	86	190	2,203,422
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	147	83	164	1,665,816
Perretti Farms	116	7.3	143	1,389,833
Seelster Farms Inc.	151	77	156	1,286,464
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	110	61	125	1,246,606
White Birch Farm	119	55	111	1,149,931
Diamond Creek Farm LLC	109	59	101	1,091,412
Steve H Stewart	130	54	107	1,038,381
Spring Haven Farm	94	51	100	997,026
Bulletproof Enterprises	97	50	110	973,040
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	84	48	112	883,876
CSX Stables	54	35	82	848,125
Midland Acres Inc.	113	46	80	804,658

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for May 16-22 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers	Starts	W-P-S
Aaron Merriman	87	23-12-11
Ronnie Wrenn Jr	76	20-13-12
Brett Miller	81	18-13-12
Dan Noble	54	17-10-3
Tim Tetrack	73	16-10-16
George Napolitano Jr	65	13-8-5
Shawn Gray	37	13-7-1
W. Drew Campbell	48	13-9-4
Casey Leonard	36	12-5-2
Billy Dobson	32	11-5-2
Brian Sears	42	11-8-6
David Miller	67	11-12-10
Doug McNair	48	11-4-7
Jason Bartlett	51	11-12-7
Corey Callahan	54	10-4-3
Jordan Stratton	53	10-7-9
Frank Coppola Jr.	43	9-6-5
Heath Campbell	25	9-4-2
Mike Wilder	46	9-3-5
Sam Widger	53	9-9-5
Trace Tetrack	53	9-12-4

Trainers	Wins
Ron Burke	17
Rene Allard	10
Patrick Shepherd	8
Mark Harder	7
Michael Hitchcock	7
Jim Nickerson	6
Jimmy Takter	6
Nick Surick	6
Ake Svanstedt	5
Jamie Copley	5
Jamie Macomber	5
Julie Miller	5
Kent Sherman	5
Michael Hall	5
Richard Moreau	5
Sam Schillaci	5
Scott Di Domenico	5
Virgil Morgan Jr.	5

JUNE 2018



sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
27 Betsy Ross F&M Pace (Phl) Beulah Dygert Mem. 3FT (Haw) Erwin Dygert Mem. 3FT (Haw) Maxie Lee Mem. Open Trot (Phl) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Stga) PA Stallion 3CT (PcD) PASS 3FP (Phl) Elitlopp Trot at Solvalla, Sweden	28 Memorial Day Emp. Br. Classic 3CT final (VD) Emp. Br. Classic 3FT final (VD) NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (VD) ONSS Gold 3CT (Wbsb) PA All-Stars 3CP (PcD) PA Stallion 3FP (Phl)	29	30 INSS 3FT final (HoP) MDSS 3YO finals (RcR)	31 INSS 3CT final (HoP)	1 Buckeye Stallion 3FP (ScD) Cardinal 3CP (Haw) INSS 3CP final (HoP) NJSS 3YO finals (M)	2 Battle Of Lake Erie OHP (Nfld) Bill Thompson F&M Pace (HoP) Graduate 4YO Pace (Wbsb) Graduate 4YO Trot (Wbsb) INSS 3FP final (HoP) OHSS 3FP (Nfld) Somebeachsomewhere 3CP (Wbsb) Violet 3FP (Haw)
3 Cardinal 3CT (Haw) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (TgDn) Violet 3FT (Haw) Ocean Downs opens	4 NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (MR) ONSS Gold 3FT (Wbsb) PA All-Stars 3FP (PcD)	5 Currier & Ives 3FT (Mea)	6 Currier & Ives 3CT (Mea) NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (BR)	7 Rose OT (HoP)	8 Armbro Flight OMT elims (Wbsb) Buckeye Stallion 3CP (ScD) Goodtimes 3CT elims (Wbsb) Trimble OHP (HoP)	9 Charlie Hill OT (ScD) Fan Hanover 3FP elims (Wbsb) NA Cup 3CP elims (Wbsb) OHSS 3CP (ScD) Roses Are Red elims (Wbsb) Thompson F&M Pace (HoP)
10 Graduate 4YO Pace (TgDn) Graduate 4YO Trot (TgDn) NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (TgDn)	11 DSBF 3CP (Har) OHSS 3FT (Nfld) PASS 3FP (Mea)	12 Buckeye Stallion 3FT (ScD) DSBF 3FP (Har) PA All-Stars 3FT (PcD) PA Stallion 3FP (Mea)	13 DSBF 3CT (Har) DSBF 3FT (Har) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (BR)	14 Flag Day Buckeye Stallion 3CT (ScD) Rose OT (HoP)	15 Cardinal 2CP (Haw) NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (TgDn) OHSS 3CT (ScD) Trimble OHP (HoP)	16 Armbro Flight OMT final (Wbsb) Fan Hanover 3FP final (Wbsb) Goodtimes 3CT final (Wbsb) Mohawk Gold Cup Inv. (Wbsb) NA Cup 3CP final (Wbsb) Roses Are Red OMP final (Wbsb) Thompson F&M Pace final (HoP) Violet 2FP (Haw)
17 Father's Day Cardinal 2CT (Haw) NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (BR) PA All-Stars 3CT (PcD) Violet 2FT (Haw)	18 DSBF 3CP (Har) NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (MR)	19 DSBF 3FP (Har)	20 DSBF 3CT (Har) DSBF 3FT (Har) NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (BR)	21 First day of Summer NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (YR) Rose OT final (HoP)	22 INSS 3FP (HoP) Trimble OHP final (HoP)	23 Ben Franklin OHP elims (PcD) Beal Jr. Mem. 3CT elims (PcD) Dygert Mem. 3FT (Haw) Lynch Mem. 3FP elims (PcD) ONSS Gold 3CP (Wbsb) Hempt Mem. 3CP elims (PcD) ONSS Gold 3FP (Wbsb)
24 Carey 3CP (Haw) Dygert Mem. 3CT (Haw) MDSS 3CT (OD) MDSS 3FP (OD) NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (TgDn)	25 MDSS 3CP (OD) MDSS 3FT (OD) NYSS/Excelsior 2FT (MR) ONSS Gold 3FT (Wbsb)	26 NYSS/Excelsior 2CP (YR)	27 INSS 3FT (HoP) NYSS/Excelsior 2CT (BR)	28 INSS 3CT (HoP)	29 INSS 3CP (HoP) INSS 3FP final (HoP) Landmark 2YOs/3YOs (Gosh) NJSS 2YOs (M) Tompkins-Geers 3CP (TgDn) Tompkins-Geers 3FP (TgDn)	30 Beal Jr. Mem. 3CT final (PcD) Ben Franklin OHP final (PcD) Cleveland Trot Classic OHT (Nfld) Excelsior 3CP/3FP (Gosh) Hempt Mem. 3CP final (PcD) Lynch Mem. 3FP final (PcD)

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