

Betting Line Ready For SBSW, Then NA Cup

After Betting Line had to settle for fourth after a tough front-end trip in last October's Breeders Crown final for 2-year-old colt pacers at Woodbine Racetrack, trainer Casie Coleman admitted she had her fingers crossed the hard-fought journey didn't take too much of a toll on her star.

Coleman can certainly uncross those fingers now as the 3-year-old Betting Line has returned to the races in 2016 in sharp form, finishing second and first in two starts at Mohawk Racetrack. After a pair of conditioned races against older horses, Betting Line finds himself on Saturday night at Mohawk in post 2 in the first of two \$75,000 divisions of the Somebeachsomewhere for 3-year-old pacers (Race 6), the final prep before the Pepsi North America Cup elims on June 11. The second division (Race 8) features 2015 O'Brien Award winner Control The Moment, who is making his sophomore debut.



Chris Gooden Photo

"He seems to be real good and prepped properly going into the Cup, so fingers crossed we'll see what happens."

—Casie Coleman

"He seems to be real good and prepped properly going into the Cup, so fingers crossed we'll see what happens," Coleman said about Betting Line, a winner of more than \$400,000 last year who is owned by West Wins Stable, Christine Calhoun and Mac Nichol.

Coleman said her winter concerns were that fractions of :25.3, :53.2 and 1:22.2 in the Crown final may have been too much for the son of Bettor's Delight, whose six wins in 2015 included the Ontario Sires Stakes Super Final.

"He raced great every time he raced, but it was just so tough on him, especially the Breeders Crown final, it was just crazy the trip he had to go," said Coleman. "I hate when a colt finishes up like that. I was scared all winter just wondering if he would come back off that."

"But he looks like a million bucks. He is sound and healthy and I couldn't be any happier the way he's raced so far this season."

Although Betting Line's two races this year were in conditioned events and he was the betting favorite in both, Coleman said her colt had his work cut out for him.

Continues on page 2 >>>

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New Image Media Photo

Betting Line

“He was thrown right to the bears. He was the only 3 year old both times he raced against aged horses that showed pacing in 1:49,” said Coleman. “I know it would have been an easier race to take him to the Gold against the 3 year olds (at Western Fair), but I didn’t want to put him at London to start his season. I know he was the favorite, but those were some nice, nice horses he was in against. I wasn’t overly happy having to go against aged competition with a 3 year old, but there weren’t enough 3 year olds to fill a 3-year-old open.”

Jonathan Drury, who works for Coleman, has driven Betting Line in both of his starts this year and he retains the drive in the Somebeachsomewhere.

“JD’ has been driving him and he works for me so he’s sat behind him a lot,” explained Coleman. “He’s done a real good job driving and I couldn’t be any happier with the way he’s been handling the horse. He’s given him some really good trips from off the pace. I didn’t want to see the horse leaving out of there when he was up against the kind of company he was in against.

“JD’s going to drive him in the Somebeachsomewhere on Saturday, but saying that—and JD already knows—it will probably be David Miller who will be driving Betting Line once we come up for the other stakes races. I told Dave, he’s your drive, but if JD goes some big mile with him it’s kind of hard to kick him off for the NA Cup. But it looks like we’ll be using Dave when he’s in the big stakes races and JD will get a chance to drive him in the (Ontario Sires Stakes) Golds.” —By Gordon Waterstone


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THIS WEEKEND'S FEATURED RACES

Saturday, June 4 All times listed are local.

3:20p	Mea8	PASS	3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
3:40p	Mea9	PASS	3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
7:40p	M2	NJSS	3CP final	Trackmaster PPs
8:20p	M4	NJSS	3FP final	Trackmaster PPs
8:25p	HoP9	INSS	3CP final	Trackmaster PPs
8:50p	Moh5	Graduate	4YO Trot	Trackmaster PPs
9:00p	M6	NJSS	3FT final	Trackmaster PPs
9:05p	HoP11	INSS	3CT final	Trackmaster PPs
9:10p	Moh6	SBSW	3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
9:40p	M8	NJSS	3CT final	Trackmaster PPs
9:50p	Moh8	SBSW	3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
10:10p	Moh9	Graduate	4YO Pace	Trackmaster PPs

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Somebeachsomewhere 3YOCP

Mohawk Racetrack, Saturday, June 4, 1st \$75,000 division, Race 6, Post Time: 9:10 pm

Post—Horse (Sire)	Driver/Trainer	Odds	Breeder/Yearling Price (Sale)
1—Stonebridge Beach (Mach Three)	C. Christoforou/S. Larocque	15-1	A. Stiller/\$46,000 (HB)
2—Betting Line (Bettor’s Delight)	J. Drury/C. Coleman	8-5	Fair Winds Farm/\$60,000 (HB)
3—American Passport (American Ideal)	S. Zeron/T. Alagna	3-1	Brittany Farms/\$29,000 (HB)
4—Flaherty (Up The Credit)	T. Henry/W. Budd	15-1	J. Boyce, Dr. R. Boyce/—
5—Voracity (Sportswriter)	B. Miller/T. Alagna	12-1	S. Stewart/\$47,000 (Lex)
6—Dreamfair Mesa (Somebeachsomewhere)	R. Waples/P. Fletcher	12-1	J. Lamers/Homebred
7—Michael’s Victory (Rocknroll Hanover)	S. Fillion/M. Silva	6-1	J. Snyder/Homebred
8—Some Gold (Somebeachsomewhere)	J. MacDonald/I. Moore	10-1	R. Aerenson/\$90,000 (HB)
9—Nvestment Bluechip (Shadow Play)	J. Jamieson/D. Menary	8-1	Blue Chip Bloodstock/\$40,000 (HB)
10—Magnum J (Big Jim)	D. McNair/G. McNair	12-1	F.Tomcala/\$10,000 (FC)

2nd \$75,000 division, Race 8, Post Time: 9:50 pm

Post—Horse (Sire)	Driver/Trainer	Odds	Breeder/Yearling Price (Sale)
1—Bettor Memories (Bettor’s Delight)	C. Christoforou/R. Norman	10-1	F. Hertrich III/\$85,000 (HB)
2—Arsenic (Bettor’s Delight)	D. McNair/S. McEneny	8-1	Diamond Creek Farm/\$25,000 (HB)
3—Lyons Snyder (Well Said)	S. Fillion/M. Silva	9-2	Hanover Shoe Farms/\$130,000 (HB)
4—Control The Moment (Well Said)	R. Waples/B. Maxwell	5-2	Dr. F. Kruszelnicki/\$47,000 (Lex)
5—Nocturnal Bluechip (Bettor’s Delight)	P. MacDonell/M. Steacy	6-1	Blue Chip Bloodstock, S. Demeter/\$97,000 (HB)
6—Major Hill (Art Major)	J. Jamieson/D. Menary	9-2	T. Hill/Homebred
7—Cruise Patrol (Bettor’s Delight)	J. MacDonald/J. Takter	12-1	Brittany Farms/\$60,000 (Lex)
8—Brookdale Sonny (Bettor’s Delight)	M. Saftic/I. Moore	10-1	R. & L. Tucker/\$15,000 (HB)
9—Highlandbeachycove (Somebeachsomewhere)	S. Zeron/T. Alagna	8-1	Highland Thoroughbred Farm/\$100,000 (Lex)

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Can Jack Vernon Upset “Frank” In NJSS Final?

Four \$100,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes (NJSS) finals for 3 year olds of both gaits highlight Saturday night’s card at the Meadowlands, with arguably the main attraction the race for 3-year-old male trotters that features the pre-season Hambletonian favorite Southwind Frank. The defending NJSS champ comes into the contest riding an 11-race win streak dating back to last year.

Southwind Frank scored a 1:52.1 victory in his 2016 debut in the opening round of NJSS on May 20 and then sat out the second leg last week. Despite having drawn the outside post 8 for the final, the Ron Burke-trained, Yannick Gingras-driven colt is the prohibitive favorite to capture back-to-back NJSS titles.

One possible thorn in the side of Southwind Frank could be Jack Vernon, whose 1:53.3f effort last August at Tioga Downs was tied as the third fastest mile by a 2-year-old male trotter in 2015, behind only Southwind Frank’s 1:52.2 and Brooklyn Hill’s 1:53.1 efforts at The Red Mile.

Driven by Corey Callahan, Jack Vernon starts from post 6 in the Sires Stakes final. Brooklyn Hill will start from post 7 with driver David Miller.

With three wins in his first five career starts last year, including the track-record, national season’s best victory at Tioga Downs, Jack Vernon had cemented himself among the division’s upper echelon. However, one month after his Tioga score things suddenly began to unravel for Jack Vernon as he made breaks in a pair of Kindergarten starts at The Red Mile.

“I’ve been looking forward to this horse since Randy (Beeckman) shut him down last year.”

—Corey Callahan
about Jack Vernon

“He got a little lame because he hits his elbows,” explained Callahan.

As a result of the back-to-back breaks, trainer Randy Beeckman called it a year with Jack Vernon, with the trotter showing a first-year re-

sume of 7-2-1-1 and \$26,003 in earnings for Miller’s Stable, which paid \$50,000 for the son of Muscle Hill as a yearling. Last November Robert William “Bobby” Miller passed away, so his wife, Barbara, is campaigning Jack Vernon.

Although Jack Vernon made a late break in his sophomore debut in the NJSS opener on May 20, Callahan said it wasn’t a case of déjà vu.

“I really don’t know why he broke,” said Callahan. “Randy thinks that when Dave (Miller, with Brooklyn Hill) hit the pylon in front of him it jumped out and he jumped it. He was loaded and going to be second. I wasn’t catching Southwind Frank.”

In the second NJSS round last weekend, Jack Vernon took the overland route the entire mile and despite a last quarter of :26.4, came up a neck short in second in 1:51.4.

“I was the favorite and hoping to cut it but when they left inside of me really hard, it put me in a bad spot,” Callahan

\$98,250 GRADUATE 4YO TROT

Mohawk Racetrack, Saturday, June 4, Race 5, Post Time: 8:50 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Crescent Fashion	S. Zeron/A. Svanstedt	10-1
2—Whataworkout	B. Miller/F. Antonacci	15-1
3—Rubber Duck	J. Moiseyev/J. Walker	15-1
4—Honor And Serve	A. Svanstedt	6-1
5—Musical Rhythm	M. Baillargeon/B. Baillargeon	7-2
6—Canepa Hanover	J. Takter	4-1
7—Centurion ATM	R. Zeron/A. Svanstedt	20-1
8—Crazy Wow	M. Kakaley/R. Burke	8-1
9—Lookslikeachpndale	S. Filion/L. Blais	20-1
10—Crazshana	J. MacDonald/J. Bamond Jr.	9-2
11—Wings Of Royalty	J. Jamieson/G. Ducharme	5-1

\$98,250 GRADUATE 4YO PACE

Mohawk Racetrack, Saturday, June 4, Race 9, Post Time: 10:10 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Shades Of Bay	S. Filion/S. Mehlenbacher	12-1
2—Rock N Roll World	M. Kakaley/R. Burke	5-1
3—Americanprimetime	C. Christoforou/R. Dane Jr.	7-2
4—Dude’s The Man	J. Jamieson/H. Okusko Jr.	4-1
5—Freaky Feet Pete	S. Zeron/L. Rheinheimer	7-5
6—Rockin In Heaven	T. Henry/I. Moore	8-1
7—My Hero Ron	J. MacDonald/R. Burke	10-1

remembered about the trip. “So I grabbed up. I could have got in there in front of Honor Above All in the first turn, but that wouldn’t have done me any good. It looked like Marcus (Johansson, with Dominion Beach) was getting parked and his horse is a nice horse, so I figured he’d take me where I needed to go.

“He just didn’t get me quite far enough,” he added with a laugh.

Callahan said post 6 on Saturday should lead to a good trip with Jack Vernon.

“He’s in a good spot,” he said “Southwind Frank has the eight hole so he’s going to have to work a little bit. I think if I can work out a nice covered trip it will be good.”

Callahan said he hopes for big things in 2016 for Jack Vernon.

“I’ve been looking forward to this horse since Randy shut him down last year,” said Callahan. “He just showed so much speed; 1:53 as a 2 year old is pretty big.”

The 2015 Two-Year-Old Colt Pacer of the Year Boston Red Rocks starts from post 4 in the six-horse NJSS final for 3-year-old male pacers (Race 2). Trained by Steve Elliott and driven by Tim Tetrick, Boston Red Rocks has a first and third in the two NJSS preliminaries.

Boston Red Rocks finished second in last year’s NJSS final to Ideal Rocky, who starts from post 6 on Saturday for driver Corey Callahan. One horse absent from the field is Michael’s Victory, who upset Boston Red Rocks last time out but is instead racing the same night in a \$75,000(C) Somebeachsome-where division at Mohawk Racetrack. — By Gordon Waterstone

Taking Week Off, WIJI MIA from Graduate

While owner George Teague Jr. hoped to race Wiggle It Jiggleit in Saturday's second leg of the Graduate Series at Mohawk Racetrack, he decided to instead let the reigning Horse of the Year rest on the laurels of his track-record victory in last Sunday's \$200,000 Dorothy Mullin Invitational at Harrah's Philadelphia.

Wiggle It Jiggleit won the Mullin in 1:47.3, the fastest mile in the 11-year history of the five-eighths mile oval, and just one-fifth of a second off the world record. With the Mullin coming eight days after Wiggle It Jiggleit's 1:49.4 win in the \$200,000 Battle Of Lake Erie, as well as the fourth straight week the reigning Horse of the Year has raced, Teague said it was time

to give the superstar a rest.

"You have to pick some you have to leave alone!"

—George Teague Jr.

"You have to pick some you have to leave alone," Teague explained Thursday morning by cell phone while driving back to his home in Delaware after speaking Wednesday

at the U.S. Trotting Association's Driving School in Ohio. "From where we're at, it was a 10-hour trip to Canada and then a 10-hour trip back. I just decided to leave this one alone."

Teague said he plans on racing Wiggle It Jiggleit in the third leg of the Graduate Series on June 12 at Tioga Downs. Up next will be the Ben Franklin elims on June 25 at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, hopefully followed by the final on July 2. The \$250,000 Graduate final is then scheduled for July 9 at the Meadowlands.

"I got lucky that only seven dropped in this week and that gives me a shot to make the final," Teague noted of Wiggle It Jiggleit advancing to the rich final despite missing the first two legs of the Graduate Series.

Teague noted Wiggle It Jiggleit has been setting records despite an on-going foot issue.

"Every start the foot seems to be getting better," said Teague. "He's getting sounder than he was last year and it seems to be holding up a lot better!" — By Gordon Waterstone



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Where In The World Is Ron Pierce? Arctic Circle!

Needing neck and back surgery, Hall of Fame driver Pierce last climbed into the sulky in early March 2015. While the procedures went well, the overall prognosis did not ensure he would escape further injury if involved in a race accident.

As a result, Pierce continues to remain on the sidelines after 9,570 wins and \$215 million in career earnings. In the meantime, Pierce has done some traveling, which included his posting on his Facebook page on May 30 this photo of him and his dog at the Arctic Circle.

Pierce has yet to officially announce retirement and in some reports has stated he hasn't totally ruled out a return to driving.

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Will Another WIJI Or Freaky Feet Pete Emerge From Indiana This Year?

The Indiana Sires Stakes season is underway and Saturday night at Hoosier Park the first \$75,000 finals will be contested. So could there possibly be another Wiggle It Jiggle It or Freaky Feet Pete among the contenders in the 3-year-old pacing colt division?

"It's way too early to say!" laughed Kristin Shetler, whose homebred Bourbon Chase is a solid contender in the 3-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Pace Final (Race 12, estimated post time 9:25 p.m.).

There are plenty of horses with speed in the field, with the fastest record holder the Roger Cullipher-trained Matrix Of Luck, who won his Sires Stakes preliminary leg in 1:50.3 on May 28. He'll start from post 1 on Saturday.

Bourbon Chase, who has three wins in three starts, drew post 3 and will be driven by Shetler's father, Dan.

"I'm happy with the draw," said Kristin. "He's a smart colt. He jogs and trains with two fingers."

Bourbon Chase has been a big bright spot in the Shetler Stable at the Indiana State

Fairgrounds, where the family is presently training 26 horses. Kristin bought his dam, Stonebridge Beauty, at the Blooded Horse Sale in Delaware, Ohio.

"I was not in the market for a broodmare, but Stonebridge Beauty was selling early and I was flipping through the catalog pages and it was the end of Pet Rock's 2-year-old season and I saw him on the page, and he showed a record of 1:52 and a piece (Stonebridge Beauty is a half sister to Pet Rock). She came in the ring and had a leg the size of a fence post from her elbow down. But I knew the breeding and knew Camluck mares were doing well, so I bought her for \$400 as a broodmare. My father thought I was insane when he saw her leg, but I told him to take a look at her pedigree."

Stonebridge Beauty was bred to the Western Ideal son Palone Ranger and she delivered a colt at Hunterton Farm in Kentucky. Kristin named the colt Bourbon Chase after she saw a college friend mention the 200-mile relay race along Kentucky's Bourbon Trail in a Facebook posting.

"He's just a dream to have in the barn and on the track," said Kristin. "He rests. If he's not on the track, he's sleeping. He didn't race at two because he was colt sore, sore in the knees, although he trained down to 2:08. I thought it best to quit with him and turn him out."

While Bourbon Chase will be racing around the Hoosier Park oval, Stonebridge Beauty is in Kentucky, at Hunterton Farm, with a Western Ideal filly born in March by her side. She was recently bred to Rockin Image. — *By Kathy Parker*

Linscott Photo



Driver Tourneys In Quebec, Pennsylvania

A star-studded field has been assembled for Sunday afternoon's inaugural All-Star Drivers Tournament at Hippodrome 3R in Quebec. The drivers will battle in eight races with \$10,000 in prize money on the line.

The field includes John Campbell, Tim Tetrick, Yannick Gingras, Daniel Dube, Sylvain Fillion, Jody Jamieson, Denis St.-Pierre and Mario Charron.

"What a super group of top drivers we have for this first-time event," said Vincent Trudel, general manager at the Hippodrome 3R. "Never before has such a tournament like this with many of the best drivers in the world taken place not only in Quebec, but many tracks throughout racing. It will be very exciting for our fans, our horsemen and our staff to see this competition Sunday."

Also, the Pennsylvania Harness Horsemen's Association has set up a \$100,000 Driver Challenge Series to be contested at Harrah's Philadelphia and The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono.

Points will be accumulated Fridays and Sundays at Harrah's, and Sundays and Mondays at Pocono. The first-place prize is \$40,000, with second through eighth worth from \$4,000 to \$15,000.

The series got underway on May 27, with the final set for Sunday, Sept. 18, at Harrah's. In the final, the eight highest point earners, in order of their rankings, will each select a race, and the horse they will drive in it. Purses for those races will be increased 20 percent, and horses finishing sixth through eighth will each receive \$300.

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Result Chart Links	NO	YES



ONES TO WATCH

On Friday at the Meadowlands, Race 1 is for amateur drivers and among those set to compete is Sarah Svanstedt, the wife of Ake Svanstedt. Ms. Svanstedt has only one qualifying drive in North America, but assists with the stable daily. She's driving Real DJ Hanover.

Also Friday at the Meadowlands, the field in Race 2 includes **JIMMY WILLIAM**, a 3-year-old Hambletonian eligible trained by his namesake, Jimmy Takter. Race 3 features 3-year-old pacing fillies, several with little racing experience, while Race 6 includes New York Sires Stakes champion **BARN DOLL**, who is back in action after being scratched sick on May 28 at Yonkers.

New York Sires Stakes are underway and 3-year-old pacing fillies will compete at Saratoga Friday night in Race 2 (7:05 p.m. post), Race 4 and Race 11.

At Scioto Downs on Friday night, pacing mares will compete for a \$22,000 purse in Race 7, with two seven-time winners this year in the field—**AMERICAN GIRL** (post 7) and **ROCK N ROLL XAMPLE** (post 8).

Moving on to Saturday, four races for 2 year olds will kick off qualifying action at the Meadowlands. Post time is 9:30 a.m. With just a quartet of baby races, the official start of the track's "Breakfast With The Babies" promotion has been postponed until next week. Trotters owners' club will be closed on Saturday but will be open for next week's races.

Also on the Meadowlands qualifying card, **TRAVEL PLAYLIST**, one of the top 2-year-old pacing colts in 2015 with five wins in seven starts, makes a third qualifying start after winning his last on May 25 in 1:52.3. The Art Major colt is not eligible to the North America Cup but is eligible to the Meadowlands Pace.

Sixteen sophomore male pacers will be in Pennsylvania Sires Stakes (PASS) action Saturday afternoon at The Meadows. **CHECK SIX**, who won the PA Classic final and his PASS division last time out on May 22 at The Downs at Mohagan Sun Pocono, looks to bring his 2016 record to 5-5-0-0 when he starts from post 6 in the first of two splits (Race 8) Check Six is one of six sent out by trainer Ron Burke, joined by **JK WILL POWER** and **MORE DRAGON** in his division and with **BIG TOP HANOVER**, **MANHATTAN BEACH** and **FERNANDO HANOVER** in the second division (Race 9).

Also on Saturday at The Meadows (1 p.m. first post because of the Belmont card), warhorse **FOILED AGAIN** will compete in a race that should be easier for him than the Battle of Lake Erie, when he finished sixth behind Wiggle It Jiggle It. But The Meadows race may not be a walk in the park as it includes **DAPPER DUDE** and **UNLOCKED**, both sub-1:50 winners at The Meadows.

Northfield Park starts its Saturday night program at 6 p.m. and one of four divisions of Ohio Sires Stakes kicks off the card. The event is for 3-year-old colt and gelding trotters, with each division—Race 1, 3, 5 and 8—carrying a purse of \$40,000.

The field in Race 5 (third division) includes **MJB GOT FAITH**, who in addition to winning last year's Sires Stakes championship also won hearts of many because of his young owner, Breana Carsey. The two were featured on the CBS Evening News. The horse and owner haven't had much luck thus far this year as "MJB" has failed to hit the board in three starts. He'll have the benefit of post 1 and Ronnie Wrenn Jr. for this race.

Three-year-old filly pacers will be in action in Ontario Sires Stakes Gold events on Saturday night at Mohawk. The second \$105,000 division (Race 3) features **LA DELIGHT**, who had her 12-race win streak dating back to early last year snapped last time out when she finished fourth in the Ontario Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association final at Mohawk. **GOOD WILL HANOVER**, who scored the upset win over LA Delight, starts in the first division (Race 2).

With the Ontario Sires Stakes, two Somebeachsomewhere divisions, two Graduate events, and a Preferred Pace, the Mohawk Saturday card is full of top performers. Locally-dominant **MUSICAL RHYTHM** will be back on his home dirt in the Graduate Trot (Race 5) after finishing fourth in the Graduate leg at the Meadowlands. The field for the Preferred Pace (Race 4) includes **EVENIN OF PLEASURE** (post 8), fresh off his victory in the Molson on Sunday, along with **STATE TREASURER**, **SHAMBALLA** and **REVEREND HANOVER**.

It will be worth staying up late on Saturday night if you want to see **ALWAYS B MIKI** race live. He's set to compete at the Meadowlands in Race 11, a \$25,000 Open Pace. "Miki" will start from post 6 with David Miller driving. The field also includes **MCWICKED** and **MEL MARA**.



Tom Tanner Photo

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Morton “Morty” Finder, 82, Dies

Morton Finder, a prominent Standardbred horse owner and breeder, passed away in his sleep Wednesday morning, June 1, in the VA Hospital in New York City, where he was admitted for health problems two weeks earlier. Mr. Finder was 82.

A legendary owner and breeder, Mr. Finder became a harness racing enthusiast by first attending races at Yonkers and Roosevelt. Despite being a city boy, he had a keen eye for horses, which became evident early when at age 30 he bought 25 percent of Romeo Hanover when the horse was a 2 year old. Romeo Hanover, who won the 1966 pacing Triple Crown, was trained by Jerry Silverman.

“He legitimately managed that horse,” said Silverman of Mr. Finder. “It was tough to train for him because he had an opinion, but he had a very good opinion of a horse. I would listen to him if he told me something.”

Mr. Finder’s daughter, Robin Arnold, said while her father was not a horseman, he loved the horses.

“In his later years my father lived vicariously through the horses of my ex-husband, Steve Arnold, who owned part of Donato Hanover,” said Robin. “They continued to talk horses even after we divorced.”

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. Finder was a graduate of Erasmus High School in Brooklyn, well known as a school that produced U.S. senators, judges, an attorney general, and entertainers Barbra Streisand and Neil Diamond. He also attended New York University and served in the U.S. Coast Guard before devoting himself to a career in harness racing.

Mr. Finder established Pine Hollow Stud Farm in New York with Charles Slutsky of Nevele Acres and Al Eidelberg. In addition to becoming the home of Romeo Hanover when he was retired from racing, Pine Hollow also stood the stallions Niatross, Sonsam, 1977 Horse of the Year Green Speed, Lucky Eden, Speedy Rodney, Truluck, Wayne Eden, Torpid and Fulla Napoleon.

Mr. Finder’s interest in bloodlines resulted in the acquisition of two broodmares that put Pine Hollow on the map as a top commercial breeder. Tiffy Time produced the top pacing colts Computer and Masquerade (winner of the 1986 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace) and the accomplished filly Dawn’s Debut, and Noreen Napoleon was the dam of the successful pacing filly Passing Glance as well as the colt Escape Artist, who was sold as a yearling for \$260,000, a record price at the time.

In 1971 Pine Hollow Stud Farm was recognized as the New York State Breeder of the Year. In later years Mr. Finder joined with Lou Guida to syndicate the great pacer Niatross, who stood at Pine Hollow after he left Castleton Farm. Mr. Finder and Guida also formed Finder-Guida Enterprises, which became an industry leader in stallion syndications.

Several bloodstock managers active in Standardbred breeding today worked for Mr. Finder, among them Bob Boni of Northwood Bloodstock and Mike Klau of Southwind Farms.

“He was very involved as a New York breeder and worked with Dr. Zweig to create the New York Sires Stakes,” recalled Boni. “He also brought Southwind Farms and the Katz family (JK She’salady and JK Endofanera), Ralph and Ann Branca, and Bob Suslow into the horse business.”

Before making his mark as a successful owner and breeder, Mr. Finder became well known at New York tracks as an astute and successful handicapper. John Cirillo, a former publicity director at Yonkers Raceway who works as a sports publicist in New York City, remembered Mr. Finder fondly on his internet blog, johnnycigarsports247.

“As teenagers, we were harness racing zealots,” wrote Cirillo in his post. “Vinny, Johnny and I would make the trek out to Westbury and Yonkers from Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, to bet the trotters and pacers, with Stanley and Uncle Ralph, who provided both the car ride and entertainment. The big bettors at Yonkers and Roosevelt were Morty Finder and Ernie Dahlman, and Ralphie and Stanley would often dispatch us to follow them to the windows in hopes of gleaning where the ‘smart money’ was going. Mort was a particularly shrewd handicapper and it was well-known throughout the grandstand and clubhouse at both New York harness tracks.”

In addition to his daughter Robin, Mr. Finder is survived by two sons, David and Jeffrey; four grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three brothers. — *harnessracing.com*

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Nuncio captures Elitlopp over Resolve

U.S.-bred Nuncio, the winner of the 2014 Kentucky Futurity, captured the Elitlopp final at the Soilvalla track in Stockholm on Sunday afternoon. Owned and trained by Stefan Melander, Nuncio was parked virtually every step of the one-mile race but in the homestretch went past the leader Un Mec d'Heripre and also held off the rally of Resolve, who was representing the U.S. for Hans Enggren. [more](#)

"A Nap," Carlson Hurt in Pocono accident

Jennifer Starr, the racing marketing manager at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, told harnessracing.com Wednesday afternoon that in the aftermath of Tuesday's race accident, driver Anthony Napolitano sustained broken ribs and is still undergoing tests for back pain, and driver Eric Carlson is being treated for a fractured ankle. [more](#)

Boston Red Rocks ready to roll in NJSS

After a journey in his most recent engagement that caused his connections' hearts to leap into their throats and their bodies slacken from the wave of terror that engulfed them, champion Boston Red Rocks is as fit as a fiddle and poised to return to the winner's circle on Saturday at the Meadowlands in the \$100,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes final for 3-year-old male pacers. [more](#)

18 race, \$100,000 Grand Circuit Challenge

The 2016 Grand Circuit Challenge, which will be hosted on <http://www.harnessracingfanzone.com/> as part of the Harness Racing Social Media Initiative, will offer a \$100,000 grand prize to any contestant who can successfully pick the winner in each of the contest's 18 races. [more](#)

Meadowlands wants 30 and under handicappers

In its continuing effort to attract younger fans to the racetrack and engage them in playing the races, the Meadowlands Racetrack is offering a free handicapping contest exclusively for fans age 30 and under. The contest will take place Friday, June 3 and offers a \$5,000 total prize pool, sponsored by Jeff and Paula Gural's Allerage Farms. [more](#)

RMTC forms task force on glaucine

The Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) has formed a task force to review information on glaucine and address the issue of recent positives for the substance. [more](#)

Big M bettor hits \$1.4 million Santa Anita Pick 6

Anthony Altomonte is one of the most well-known horse-players at the Meadowlands and is no stranger to big scores betting the horses. He estimates that he has been a part of at least two six-figure winning tickets and even cashed a Pick Four ticket on the Meadowlands for about \$80,000. But this past Memorial Day will forever be remembered for the score of a lifetime. Altomonte and two partners purchased the single winning ticket on Santa Anita's Pick 6 worth \$1,478,942.40. The winning ticket was purchased at the Meadowlands Racetrack and cost \$2,160. [more](#)

Bee A Magician sidelined with leg injury

Standardbred Canada reported on its website Tuesday morning that the injury that forced star trotting mare Bee A Magician to miss this past Sunday's Maxie Lee invitational trot has her sidelined for the time being and will keep her out of the upcoming Armbro Flight Stakes at Mohawk Racetrack. [more](#)

RCI Standardbred Town Halls at Meadowlands, Harrington

Two Standardbred Racing "Town Hall" focus group meetings to gather input from racing industry participants will take place in June, one at Harrington Raceway in Delaware on Tuesday, June 14, at 10:30 a.m. and the other at the Meadowlands in New Jersey on Saturday, June 18, at 1 p.m. [more](#)

Horse owner wants to drive to winner's circle

Don Tiger has visited the winner's circle as a racehorse owner, but he would like the chance to make it there another way—by driving himself. Tiger, a 45-year-old from Canonsburg, Pa., is among the 33 participants in the 17th annual U.S. Trotting Association Driving School, which got underway Wednesday at the Delaware County Fairgrounds. [more](#)

Hockey star, horse owner Rick MacLeish dies

Rick MacLeish, 66, a three-time National Hockey League all-star and a longtime Standardbred owner, died May 30. Mr. MacLeish had been battling meningitis, along with kidney and liver problems, according to his daughter, Brianna MacLeish. [more](#)



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RACE LINES

Standardbred Poll

Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Poll compiled by
 Harness Racing Communications for the week of May 31, 2016

	AGS	St-1-2-3	Earnings	Pts	Pvs
1. Wiggle It Jiggleit (35)	4pg	9-6-3-0	\$389,765	350	1
2. Rockin Ron	4pg	12-10-2-0	257,690	199	4
3. Bit Of A Legend N	7ph	13-9-2-0	473,750	181	2
4. Bee A Magician	6tm	3-3-0-0	107,000	176	3
5. Always B Miki	5ph	3-2-1-0	31,250	143	7
6. Check Six	3pc	4-4-0-0	328,443	118	5
7. Southwind Frank	3tc	1-1-0-0	12,500	104	8
8. Freaky Feet Pete	4ph	4-3-0-1	55,500	96	10
9. Resolve	5th	4-0-2-0	162,365*	82	—
10. Maestro Blue Chip	4th	11-10-0-1	154,000	73	6

Others receiving votes: Pinkman 52, Pure Country 46, All Bets Off 41, Obrigado 36, Missile J 32, Rockeyed Optimist 31, JL Cruze 20, Darlinonthebeach, Venus Delight 16, Nickle Bag 14, Evenin Of Pleasure 13, Boston Red Rocks 12, Cufflink Hanover 11, Yagonnakissmeornot 10, Dayson 8, Betting Line 7, Shamballa, Split The House 6, Bushwacker, Good Will Hanover, Hannelore Hanover, LA Delight 4, I Said Diamonds, Sell A Bit N 3, Bigtown Hero 2, Mach It So, Mel Mara 1.

* Resolve's earnings are approximate pending official receipt of purse information and currency exchange for foreign earnings.

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through May 31, 2016 (week difference May 25-31).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Bit Of A Legend N (7ph)	13	9	2	0	\$473,750
Wiggle It Jiggleit (4pg)	9	6	3	0	389,765
Check Six (3pc)	4	4	0	0	328,443
All Bets Off (5ph)	11	3	3	3	293,330
Rockin Ron (4pg)	12	10	2	0	257,690
Yagonnakissmeornot (7pm)	10	4	1	1	247,250
Sell A Bit N (6pm)	12	3	4	2	199,550
Missile J (3pg)	8	5	1	1	188,700
Pure Country (3pf)	3	1	0	2	169,029
JK Will Power 3pc)	4	2	1	0	164,257

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Jason Bartlett	1,065	266-188-140	.392	\$3,419,280 (\$176,080)
Tim Tetrick	1,156	234-177-137	.327	3,064,911 (267,079)
Aaron Merriman	1,787	391-294-271	.361	2,908,415 (173,086)
Matt Kakaley	1,142	146-150-159	.247	2,643,119 (200,430)
Brian Sears	787	157-133-100	.336	2,587,943 (264,350)
George Brennan	929	130-149-135	.277	2,394,479 (168,325)
Jordan Stratton	807	89-105-113	.229	2,251,376 (187,640)
Corey Callahan	1,273	199-187-171	.283	2,191,214 (103,883)
Yannick Gingras	679	128-95-96	.313	2,161,931 (0)
George Napolitano Jr.	966	222-148-122	.357	2,098,732 (246,985)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	1,446	316-226-190	.349	\$5,199,809 (\$392,828)
Rene Allard	820	167-143-100	.341	2,254,909 (132,600)
Jeff Bamond Jr.	387	61-55-49	.279	1,329,621 (158,325)
Richard Banca	493	104-75-65	.339	1,274,696 (57,550)
Richard Moreau	504	103-86-64	.341	1,241,467 (153,924)
Gilbert Garcia-Herrera	668	83-80-106	.244	1,104,826 (116,570)
Peter Tritton	136	24-22-21	.318	1,017,445 (44,610)
Carmen Auciello	626	73-87-79	.236	877,490 (68,897)
Thomas Milici	246	85-41-29	.477	875,606 (53,600)
Jimmy Takter	152	36-34-18	.401	875,377 (125,352)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	767	404	812	\$7,691,593
Winbak Farm	714	378	738	5,759,442
Brittany Farms	207	119	256	2,443,015
Perretti Farms	195	122	253	2,203,038
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	137	77	163	1,752,236
White Birch Farm	122	65	150	1,691,882
Bulletproof Enterprises	123	72	183	1,555,322
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	167	88	185	1,481,351
Seelster Farms Inc.	141	76	181	1,378,127
Frederick Hertrich III	118	64	132	1,189,177

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for May 25-31 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers

	Starts	W-P-S
Aaron Merriman	87	25-19-12
George Napolitano Jr	89	22-15-12
Bruce Aldrich Jr.	60	16-4-6
Josh Sutton	59	15-7-5
Trace Tetrick	62	15-8-12
Chris Page	70	13-7-7
Marcus Miller	84	13-9-10
Anthony Napolitano	44	12-4-7
Dave Palone	41	11-8-3
David Miller	54	11-5-7
Jason Bartlett	57	11-7-8
Jim Morrill Jr.	31	11-3-7
Matt Kakaley	68	11-14-6
Michael Merton	37	11-8-1
Jim Marohn Jr.	44	10-9-3
Victor Kirby	33	10-6-4
Brett Miller	43	9-5-7
Daniel Dube	54	9-4-5
John DeLong	59	9-7-12
Kevin Switzer Jr.	36	9-5-5
Peter Wrenn	69	9-9-8
Stephane Bouchard	37	9-2-4
Allan Davis	60	8-8-12
Bob McClure	41	8-9-4
George Brennan	45	8-6-5
Jimmy Whittemore	37	8-5-4
Jody Jamieson	29	8-4-3
Kayne Kauffman	60	8-8-4
Kevin Cummings	32	8-5-5
Sylvain Filion	34	8-3-2
Tim Tetrick	55	8-13-10

Trainers

	Wins
Ron Burke	22
Rene Allard	10
Gilbert Garcia-Herrera	8
Richard Moreau	8
Virgil Morgan Jr.	8
Dylan Davis	7
Carmen Auciello	6
Matias Ruiz	6
Tyler George	6
Chris Oakes	5
J.D. Perrin	5
Thomas Milici	5
Vincent Fusco Jr.	5
Walter Haynes Jr	5

JUNE 2016



sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
29 Betsy Ross 3&4FM Pace (Phl) Maxie Lee Mem. 3&4 Open Trot (Phl) NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (TgDn) Elitlopp Trot (Solvalla)	30 Memorial Day OHSS 3FP (ScD)	31	1 PA Stallion 3CT (Phl)	2 PASS 3CP (Phl)	3 Cathadra Dot Com F&M Pace (M) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Stga)	4 Caramore OHP (M) Graduate 4YO Pace/Trot (Moh) INSS 3YO finals (HoP) PASS/PA Stallion 3CP (Mea) NJSS 3YO finals (M) OHSS 3CT (Nfid) ONSS Gold 3FP (Moh) Somebeachsomewhere 3CP (Moh)
5 Tattersalls Spring Mixed Sale at East Rutherford, N.J.	6 D-Day NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (MR)	7	8 Horseman	9	10 Armbro Flight OMT elims (Moh) Cathadra Dot Com F&M Pace (M) Emp Brdrs Classic 3CT elims (VD) Emp Brdrs Classic 3FT elims (VD) Goodtimes 3CT elims (Moh) Scioto Mini Series 3&4FM Pace (ScD) Bluegrass Downs opens	11 Caramore H&G Pace (M) Charlie Hill Open Trot (ScD) Fan Hanover 3FP elims (Moh) Meadows Maturity OMT (Mea) North America Cup 3CP elims (Moh) OHSS 3CP (ScD) Roses Are Red OMP elims (Moh)
12 Ocean Downs opens Graduate 4YO Pace (TgDn) Graduate 4YO Trot (TgDn) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (TgDn) PASS 3CT (PcD)	13 DSBF 3CP (Har) ONSS Gold 3FT (Moh) PA Stallion 3CT (PcD)	14 Flag Day DSBF 3FP (Har) Scioto Mini Series 3&4HG Trot (ScD)	15 DSBF 3CT/3FT (Har) NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (BR)	16 PA Stallion 3CP (Phl) Scioto Mini Series 3&4FM Trot (ScD)	17 Cathadra Dot Com F&M Pace (M) Scioto Mini Series 3&4FM Pace (ScD)	18 Armbro Flight OMT final (Moh) Caramore H&G Pace (M) Fan Hanover 3FP final (Moh) Goodtimes 3CT final (Moh) Meadows Maturity H&G Trot (Mea) Mohawk Gold Cup Pace (Moh) North America Cup 3CP final (Moh) Scioto Mini Series 3&4HG Pace (ScD)
19 Father's Day Emp Brdrs Classic 3CT final (TgDn) Emp Brdrs Classic 3FT final (TgDn) PASS 3FT (PcD) Roll With Joe OHP (TgDn)	20 First day of Summer DSBF 3CP (Har) PA Stallion 3FT (PcD)	21 DSBF 3FP (Har) Scioto Mini Series 3&4HG Trot (ScD)	22 Horseman DSBF 3CT/3FT (Har) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (BR)	23	24 Cutler Memorial Open Trot (M) NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (YR) Town Pro 3FP (Moh)	25 Ben Franklin OHP elims (PcD) Earl Beal Jr. Mem. 3CP elims (PcD) James Lynch Mem. 3FP elims (PcD) Max Hempt Mem. 3CP elims (PcD) Summertime 3CP (Moh)
26 MDSS 4&5 Open Pace/Trot (OD) NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (BR) PA All-Stars 2CP (PcD)	27 ONSS Gold 3CT (Moh) PA All-Stars 2FT (PcD)	28 INSS 2FT (HoP) PA All-Stars 2FP (PcD)	29 INSS 2CT (HoP) INSS 3FT (HoP) NYSS/Excelsior 2FT (BR) PA Stallion 3FT (Phl)	30 INSS 2CP (HoP) INSS 3CT (HoP) PASS 3FT (Phl)	1 Canada Day (Can.) Excelsior 3CP/3FP (Gosh) INSS 2FP (HoP) INSS 3FP (HoP) Maine Breeders 2CP (Scar) Miss Versatility OMT (Moh) NJSS 2YOs (M) OHSS 3FT (ScD) Tompkins Geers 3CT/3FT (TgDn) Town Pro 3FP (Moh)	2 INSS 3CP (HoP) Ben Franklin OHP final (PcD) Cleveland Trot Classic (Nfid) Earl Beal Jr. Mem. 3CT final (PcD) James Lynch Mem. 3FP final (PcD) Maine Breeders 3CT/3FT (Scar) Max Hempt Mem. 3CP final (PcD) NYSS/Excelsior 2CT (MR) OHSS 3FP/Mini Series H&G Pace (ScD) ONSS Gold 3CP (Moh) Summertime 3CP (Moh)

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