Sweet Lou Not Only Horse Streaking Into Dan Patch

Sweet Lou is listed as the 4-5 morning-line choice in Friday night’s $250,000 Dan Patch Invitational Pace at Hoosier Park, the centerpiece of a 14-race card.

“The race worked out but it was a lot of hard work,” said Hoosier Park race secretary Scott Peine. “I am thankful to all the trainers and owners who put in their horses.”

The Dan Patch field includes local entries Night Pro and Our Lucky Chip, and Peine said he was glad he got a third Midwest-based entry in Carol’s Comet, who has won his last five races, including four in the top-class event at Scioto Downs and another at The Meadows.

“(Carol’s Comet) has raced here before and I think he is the best invitational horse in Ohio, and I wanted to have another Midwest representative,” said Peine.

Dancin Yankee brings a six-race win streak of his own to Hoosier Park.

Peine said the 2013 Dan Patch champ Bolt The Duer automatically received an invitation but it was declined. As a result, the Dan Patch will continue its revolving door of winners as there has never been back-to-back winners in the race since its inauguration in 1994.

Starting from post 5 with Ron Pierce driving, Sweet Lou brings an eight-race win streak to the Midwest as he has climbed to second in the Hambletonian Society/Harness Racing Communications poll behind top-ranked trotter Sebastian K. His last five victories have all come in 1:48 or better, which is an all-time record.

Sweet Lou’s streak coincides with the sulky switch to Pierce. Pierce has been outspoken in his assessment of Sweet Lou’s efforts, going as far as to say he not only believes the 5-year-old pacer can beat the all-time race record of 1:46.4 as well as the all-time record of 1:46.1 set by Cambest in a 1993 time trial, but move deep into 1:45 territory.

“He is a great driver, but...” trainer Ron Burke answered with a laugh when asked about Pierce’s comments about Sweet Lou pacing a sub-1:46 mile.

“There is no doubt in mind he can beat 1:46.4, but I don’t know how much,” added Burke, who became the sport’s all-time winningest trainer last Saturday when he won his 5,224th career race to move past Virgil Morgan Jr.

Burke said he hopes conditions are right during the fall Grand Circuit stand at The Red Mile for Sweet Lou to take a shot at securing the all-age world record. Sweet Lou, who still owns the world record for a 2-year-old pacer at 1:49, set

Continues on page 2
world records for aged stallion pacers this year with his 1:47f victory over Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs’ five-eighths mile oval on June 28 in the $500,000 Ben Franklin, and his 1:47.1 win in the $463,300 William Haughton Memorial final July 12 at the Meadowlands.

Sweet Lou comes into the Dan Patch less than $92,000 away from reaching the $3-million mark in career earnings. This will be only the second time the son of Yankee Cruiser has raced at Hoosier Park; he finished fourth in last November’s Indiana Pacing Derby.

Burke said he plans on racing Sweet Lou in the Winbak Pace on Jug Day on Sept. 18 at Delaware, Ohio. He admits besting Pet Rock’s all-age world record of 1:48.1 set in last year’s Winbak might be an insurmountable task, but believes the aged stallion mark of 1:49 (Jet Laag and Ponder) isn’t out of reach.

“I’m going to race him on Jug Day in the Winbak, but that record (1:48.1) is the hardest to break,” he said. “That was an unbelievable, great, great mile. It would be cool if he could be the world-record holder on every size track.”

Burke said one horse he is very wary of in the Dan Patch is Dancin Yankee, who starts from post 1. Sweet Lou finished third behind Dancin Yankee in the Van Rose Memorial on May 3 at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs and hasn’t lost since. This will be the first match-up since that race.

Dancin Yankee brings a six-race win streak of his own to Hoosier Park.

“I think Lou is running into another horse that is racing as good as anyone in the country,” said Burke, who also starts Bettor’s Edge from post 7 in the Dan Patch. “I’m actually nervous. I think that horse is super sharp, career sharp, too.”

While Peine attracted a stellar field for the Dan Patch, one horse missing is Captaintreacherous, who finished fifth behind Sweet Lou in last Saturday’s U.S. Pacing Championship at the Meadowlands and has now come up short in five straight races since winning his first start of the year in the Meadowlands Maturity on June 13.

Captaintreacherous Racing spokesman Myron Bell said he and trainer Tony Alagna were waiting for bloodwork results before deciding on racing in the Dan Patch. Although the tests came back normal, Bell said he called Peine at 8 a.m. the morning of the draw to inform him of the decision to remain home.

“Last week was his first dull race that he’s put in. Even though he paced in 1:48.2 and came home in :26, he didn’t fire like we are used to,” explained Bell. “He’s never put in a bad race so I didn’t want to ship him to Indiana. Instead, we’ll race him a week from Saturday in Canada in a prep race for the Canadian Pacing Derby (elims on Aug. 23 at Mohawk).

“He’s OK and I’m not making any excuses. Things happen. Sweet Lou had it last year and Artsplace had it at three, that’s why we raced Artsplace at four.” — By Gordon Waterstone
East Meets Midwest In Hoosier’s $20,000 Drivers’ Challenge

There will be a $10,000 guaranteed Pick 3 on Races 7 through 9 on Friday night’s Dan Patch card at Hoosier Park, with those trio of contests also being used as the East Meets Midwest Drivers’ Challenge.

The Drivers’ Challenge will pit the top five drivers at Hoosier Park against five top drivers from the east with the winning team going home with their share of the $20,000 prize. It’s a winner-take-all scenario, so each of the drivers on the winning team will receive $4,000.

Comprising Team Midwest is: Ricky Macomber Jr., Tyler Smith, Trace Tetrick, Sam Widger and Peter Wrenn. Team East is comprised of: Tyler Buter, Corey Callahan, John Campbell, Aaron Merriman and Ron Pierce.

“I think the East guys should just pack up and go home. I’ve already spent my share,” laughed Wrenn. “If you’ve got power, things are going to work out in a race. It’s a big track with lots of straightaway.”

With Hoosier starting nine across on the gate, post 10 in the three Challenge races will start from the second tier. The morning-line favorites in the first two races both go to Midwest-driven horses (Double Dribble, post 1, Tetrick, and ER Melvin, post 1, Wrenn), while the East has the morning-line choice in the last leg (Astreo’s Love, post 2, Merriman).

Eye On Hoosier Park

Weekend Preview’s Gordon Waterstone came through in a big way in the late Pick 4 on Hambletonian Day at the Meadowlands, with his $96 ticket returning $1,569.10 (for a 50-cent ticket). Oaks winner Lifetime Pursuit kicked off the ticket with a $22 payoff, followed by Trixton’s $10.60 score in the Hambletonian and favorite Rocklamation’s $6.60 win in the Lady Liberty. The icing on the cake was Voice Of Truth winning the nightcap overnight race and returning $45.80.

While Hoosier Park will offer a $25,000 guaranteed superfecta pool on the Dan Patch Invitational Pace on Friday, Waterstone is hoping to continue his winning ways by handicapping the $10,000 guaranteed Pick 3 which is comprised of the $20,000 East Meets Midwest Drivers’ Challenge. The Pick 3 has a 21.5 percent takeout with a 50-cent minimum.

**RACE 7**

JAKES SPUR hasn’t raced that bad from outside posts the last two starts after arriving at Hoosier; the two hole could be just what he needs. DOUBLE DRIBBLE has speed to redeem as beaten choice from inside. Another speedster is RED HOT YANKEE, who picks up Callahan. WHITE RULER has had some long overland trips, maybe Campbell can work it out. TIZA MOJO returns to Hoosier after good efforts at Maywood. CROCADILE CANYON steps up a notch off big win.

**RACE 8**

A REAL MIRACLE hung tough off a first-over trip last time out. ER MELVIN is the one to beat from post one with Wrenn.

**HRTV To Broadcast Dan Patch**

Hoosier Park’s Friday race card, featuring the Dan Patch Invitational Pace, gets underway at 5:15 p.m. According to HRTV’s schedule, the network will broadcast the card beginning with Race 3. The coverage includes the Dan Patch, which is Race 12 with a scheduled post time of 9:30 p.m. HRTV is available on some cable networks and can be found on Channel 404 on the Dish Network.

**PLAY:** 1,2,3,4,5,7/1,2,3,4,10/1,2,5,6,8
**.50 TICKET COST:** $75
**ECONOMY PLAY:** 1,2,4/1,2,3/2,5,6 ($13.50)

**Electric Lad** also appears to fit fine in here. Look for Pierce to work out a trip from the trailing post with LEGAL TRANSFER. Toss out the last from LETTHEROCKBEGIN and he looks like a contender.

**RACE 9**

Look for Merriman to press the pace with ASTREO’S LOVE and he could be tough to catch. Campbell should also be moving forward off the gate with CARTOONIST. SHOOTER’S DREAM should get a much better trip from a much better post. GIBBS has been all over the track, look for Pierce to straighten him out. ROCKET FUEL could pick up the pieces if the front end falters.

**PLAY:** 1,2,3,4,5,7,1,2,3,4,10/1,2,5,6,8
**.50 TICKET COST:** $75
**ECONOMY PLAY:** 1,2,4/1,2,3/2,5,6 ($13.50)
Big Weekend Of Sires Stakes, Empire Breeders Classics

When the calendar turns to August, racing for 2 year olds is in full swing with sires stakes at pari-mutuel tracks and fair racing at the one-mile ovals of Springfield and Indianapolis. Eliminations for Illinois State Fair races were scheduled for the weekend of Aug. 8-9, with the venerable Grand Circuit Review Stakes on Monday, Aug. 11, and Tuesday, Aug. 12.

In Pennsylvania, The Meadows wraps three divisions of Pennsylvania Sires Stakes for 2-year-old pacing colts around the Currier & Ives for 3-year-old colt trotters on Friday night, with last year’s Valley Victory Trot winner Southwind Spirit making his first start of the season in the Currier & Ives. On Saturday at Pocono, the seven-for-seven Sandbetweenurtoes competes in one of three divisions of Sires Stakes for 3-year-old pacing fillies.

Ohio-sired youngsters compete in stakes at Scioto Downs on both Friday and Saturday nights, and on Sunday New-York-sired 2- and 3-year-old pacers will compete in Empire Breeders Classics, Sires Stakes and Excelsior events.

The Sires Stakes season in Kentucky also gets underway on Sunday night at The Red Mile with 2 and 3 year olds in action.

This weekend Hoosier Park has two big cards scheduled with the Dan Patch Invitational, accompanied by Indiana Sires Stakes—both finals and consolations—for 2 year olds, and a driving competition. The Indiana-sired 3 year olds take to the track Saturday night.

The richest of the Indiana-sired competitors is easily the 3-year-old pacing colt Always B Miki, whose earnings of $288,532 includes his big purse check from his second-place finish in the Meadowlands Pace. Always B Miki’s sire is Always A Virgin, who stands at stud at Victory Hill Farm.

“Miki,” as the colt is called by those around him, won his elimination for the Sires Stakes final on Aug. 2 with an easy 6 1/2-length score in 1:49.

Peter Wrenn, no stranger to good horses, drove him for the first time for trainer Joe Holloway.

“I had talked to Dave (Miller, who drove Always B Miki in the Meadowlands Pace) and he told me not to worry about the trip, that this horse doesn’t get tired, and he was right,” said Wrenn of his first race behind Always B Miki. “After the race I told Joe that he was just as fresh finishing as he was at the start.

“Very seldom do you see a three-quarter time in 1:21 and change at Hoosier Park, so the race set up very well for him,” added Wrenn of the hot early pace of :26.1 and :53.3, fractions carved out thanks to a battle between Always The Sun and Aramblin Hanover. —By Kathy Parker

HOOSIER PARK DRIVER STANDINGS

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<th>Starts/Wins</th>
<th>UDR</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trace Tetrick</td>
<td>1036-171-136-117</td>
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<td>Tyler Smith</td>
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<td>Sam Widger</td>
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<td>Peter Wrenn</td>
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<td>Ricky Macomber Jr.</td>
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$244,875 EMPIRE BREEDERS CLASSIC 3YOFPP

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<tr>
<td>1—A La Notte Hanover</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/R. Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>2—Major Dancer</td>
<td>B. Sears/C. Coleman</td>
<td>2-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3—Precocious Beauty</td>
<td>D. McNair/G. McNair</td>
<td>5-2</td>
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<td>4—Delightful Dragon</td>
<td>D. Miller/N. Daley</td>
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<td>5—Blush Hanover</td>
<td>J. Morrill Jr./L. Toscano</td>
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<td>6—Medusa</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/P. Kelley</td>
<td>15-1</td>
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<td>7—Just Fine</td>
<td>J. Gregoy/G. Ducharme</td>
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<td>8—Suplemental Income</td>
<td>J. Bartlett/P. Fraley</td>
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<td>9—it Was Fascination</td>
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$255,625 EMPIRE BREEDERS CLASSIC 3YOCPP

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<td>7—Ideal Magic</td>
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<td>8—JK Endofanera</td>
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<tr>
<td>9—Western Conquest</td>
<td>B. Holland/E. Miller</td>
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*coupled in wagering; **coupled in wagering
2YO Trotters

MILE TRACKS

2C 1:53.2 CENTURION ATM, S.J’s Caviar-Ens Tag Session-Tagliabue Courant Ab & Knutsson Trotting. Eleizer Solomon (M 8-2) A. Svantstedt. A. Svantstedt (CR Commando, Muscle Network, Centurion ATM 1:53.2)

CR Commando, Muscle Network, Centurion ATM 1:53.2

2F 1:52.2 MISSION BRIEF, Muscle Hill-Southwind Serena-Varenne Weaver Bioscien, Burke Rcg. Stb, Our Horse Cents Stbs. & J&T Silva Stbs. S. Stewart, Black Creek Fm. & Andrea Lea Rcg. Stbs. (M 9-2) Y. Gingras. R. Burke

Designed To Be, Mission Brief 1:55.2

2G 1:56.4 INSOMNIAC, Crazed-Catch Some Zs-Self Possessed W. Weaver III & P. Kelley. Bloodstock Fm. & Stbs. (VD 8-2) M. MacDonald. P. Kelley

Outburst 1:53.1

FIVE-EIGHTHS MILE TRACKS

2C 1:56.2 BILLY FLYNN, Cantab Hall-Zeta Jones-Sokys Atom Bender Sweden. Brittany Fms. (Mee 7-26) B. Miller. S. Lind


Father Patrick 1:52.1

2F 1:55 SPEAK TO ME, Muscle Massive-Ms Naughty-Kadabra Brittany Fms. & M. Hartman (Phl 7-18) Y. Gingras. J. Takter

COOLER SCHOONER 1:51.3


Correctamundo 1:55

HALF-MILE TRACKS

2C 1:58.3 GABETH Bearing, Lucky Chucky-Madam Hooch-Credit Winner R. Schnittker & Minix Stb. Hanover Shoe Fms. (YR 7-25) J. Stratton. R. Schnittker (Dontyouforgetit 1:55.3)

YOU’RE MAGNIFICENT, Majestic Son-You’re Adorable-Inspector G. Gillis. Sky Ridge Acres (VHD 7-1) R. Wrenn Jr. L. Whitaker (CR Kay Suzie 1:56.3)

2G 1:59.1 BUEN CAMINO, Cash Hall-Bella-Raffaelo Ambrosio Purple Haze Stbs. Ernest Martinez II & WCB Rcg. Stb. (YR 7-26) T. Smedshammer. T. Smedshammer (Bookem 1:57.2)

Data through 8/5/14. NEW LEADERS IN GREEN* Division, current season’s record, current leader, breeding Owner(s). Breeder(s). (Track and date) Driver. Trainer. (World record).

2YO Pacers

MILE TRACKS

2C 1:50.4 ARTSPEAK, Western Ideal-The Art Museum-Artsplace Courant Ab & Knutsson Trotting. Eleizer Solomon (M 8-1) S. Zeron. T. Alagna (Sweet Lou 1:49)

2F 1:52 JK SHE’S SALADY, Art Major-Reservation Lady-Reservation Ball 3 Brothers Stbs. J. Alagna

3 Brothers Stbs. (M 7-19) M. Johansson. T. Alagna (I Luv The Nitelife, Precious Beauty 1:50.1)

2G 1:52.4 DEALT A WINNER, Cam’s Card Shark-Lazan Hanover-Matt’s Scooter J. Snyder. Hanover Shoe Fms. (M 6-27) D. Miller. E. Hart

KELLY D, Panpsaucificflight-U Olive-Incredible Finale L. Breed. L. Breed (HoP 7-17) D. Magee. D. Simpson (Sheer Desire 1:49.3)

FIVE-EIGHTHS MILE TRACKS

2C 1:51 MCARDLES LIGHTNING, McArdle-Winning Venture-Jate Lobell Lightning Stb. Lightning Stb. (PcD 7-16) M. Kakaley. S. Elliott (Sometastarsomewhere 1:49.4)

2F 1:52.3 BEDROOMCONFESSIONS, American Ideal-Turnoffthelights-Jenna’s Beach Boy Alagna Rcg. & Riverview Rcg. Riverview Fms., T. Alagna & Minisink Fms. (PcD 7-19) S. Zeron. T. Alagna (Allstar Rating 1:50.1)

2G 1:51 WAKIZASHI HANOVER, Dragon Again-Western Gesture-Western Hanover B. Kennedy. Stb. Hanover Shoe Fms. (PcD 7-16 C. Callahan. J. King Jr. (One More Laugh 1:49.2)

HALF-MILE TRACKS

2C 1:53.4 CARTOON DADDY, Art Major-Alice The Panderosa Burke Rcg. Stb. & J. Di Scala. N. Newnman (YR 7-31) Y. Gingras. R. Burke (On Golden Ponder, He’s Watching 1:52.2)

BAND OF ANGELS, Rock N Roll Hanover-Time And Again-Jatge Lobell W. J. Donovan. S. Stewart & Birch Hollow Fms. (YR 7-17) Y. Gingras. R. Burke (Isabella Blue Chip 1:53.1)

2G 1:56.3 SMOKING JOY, Riggins-You Don’t Know Me-Western Terror CTC Stb. Bulletproof Ent. (Har 7-2) G. Dennis. D. Lewis (Littlebitoflife 1:52.1)
Data through 8/5/14. NEW LEADERS IN GREEN* Division, current season's record, current leader, breeding (Track and date) Driver Owner(s). Breeder(s). [world record, all-age record in caps]
Yonkers International Trot Returns In 2015

As a precursor to the return of Yonkers Raceway’s International Trot next season, the Raceway is planning to host an Invitational Trot this fall. The date is Saturday night, Oct. 25, the evening coinciding with the finals of both Yonkers Trot and Messenger Stakes (along with their companion filly events). That is also the night after the $100,000 (est.) Dayton Trotting Derby at the new Hollywood Dayton Raceway.

The purse for the Yonkers race has not been announced. The best trotters in North America are requested to RSVP by contacting the race office at (914) 457-2627 for more information.

“We are gauging the interest of bringing the best trotters on the continent here,” Raceway chief operating officer Bob Galterio said. “We feel the date is perfect, a few weeks after Lexington and a few weeks before the Breeders Crown.

“Our race office is going to be reaching out in the near future to the connections of the elite trotters in both the United States and Canada,” Galterio said. “This race would make an already tremendous night of racing even better.”

As for the International, first held at Roosevelt Raceway in 1959 and last contested here in 1995, its return has been in the works for some time. No exact date has been scheduled as of now.

Burke Takes Top Spot On Trainers’ All-Time Win List

With a win with Windsong Jack at Scioto Downs on Saturday night, Aug. 2, Ron Burke became the sport’s all-time winningest trainer. The victory was the 5,224th of Burke’s career and moved him past Virgil Morgan Jr. for the top spot on the list. Morgan had scored his 5,223rd career victory the night before at Scioto Downs.

Combining Burke’s numbers with those of his father Mickey and brother Mickey Jr., the Burke Stable has held the top spot on the all-time stable win list for several years. With Windsong Jack’s win, the 44-year-old Burke now holds the number-one distinction on his own.

“I knew we were six behind going into Saturday, and we won 11 and (Morgan) didn’t win any,” Burke told harnessracing.com Tuesday morning. “I knew I passed him. This is neat for the whole barn.”

Burke started 45 horses on Aug. 2 at five racetracks: Scioto Downs, Meadowlands, Hoosier Park and Yonkers Raceway. He posted 11 victories, the biggest coming at the Meadowlands with Mission Brief in the Merrie Annabelle, Sweet Lou in the U.S. Pace Championship, and Rocklamation in the Lady Liberty.

At 5:43 p.m. on Saturday, Rocklamation’s win tied Burke with Morgan for the all-time lead. Two hours later Burke took the lead himself with Windsong Jack’s victory.

This is the second milestone Burke has passed this year. In May he went past the $100 million mark in career earnings. As of Monday, Aug. 4, Burke has 5,231 career wins and $108.2 million in purse earnings. Last year he set records with 1,090 wins and $22.2 million in purse earnings. This year Burke has 636 wins in 2,936 starts and $13.2 million in purse earnings.

“We now have the most money for a barn and a single trainer, and most wins ever and most wins in a year,” said Burke. “Basically, if there is a training record to hold, we hold it. I know why and that’s because we are racing more. But it gives the whole barn pride. Our people work hard and put long hours in.”

With all the records now in Burke’s name, what’s left for the stable?

“There are races we haven’t won,” he answered. “We haven’t won a Hambletonian, a Jug, a Meadowlands Pace, and I haven’t won an Adios.” — by harnessracing.com

Cobalt Options Weighed By Regulators

North American racing regulators have decided to consider the results of two scientific research studies that have been commissioned to help detect the deliberate administration of cobalt in racehorses before making a formal recommendation of a regulatory testing limit to commission testing.

At the RCI Model Rules Committee meeting last week, a proposed threshold was presented and later withdrawn by representatives of the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) pending further discussion by the RMTC Board of Directors. That threshold, which is based on an analysis of an RMTC-coordinated project that is funded by the Kentucky Equine Drug Research Council and conducted by Dr. Heather Knych, an Assistant Professor at the University of California at Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, was advanced with the support of 8 of the 14 members of the RMTC Scientific Advisory Committee.

A second research project, funded by the U.S. Trotting Association (USTA), is near completion according to remarks made at the meeting by Ivan Axelrod, Chairman of the USTA. That project is being conducted by George Maylin, DVR, PhD, at the New York Drug Testing and Research Program at Morrisville State College in New York. He is assisted by Karyn Malinowski, PhD, and Kenneth McKeever, MS, PhD, FACS, the Director and Associate Director, respectively, of the Equine Science Center at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Racing regulators are concerned that cobalt treatments may be given to racehorses with an intent to affect performance by inducing red blood cell production similar to the prohibited use of erythropoietin (EPO). All horses have some degree of cobalt in their system as a result of diet and environmental factors. Excessive amounts may indicate a deliberate administration of cobalt in racehorses before making a formal recommendation to commission testing.

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Concerns have been raised about horses with extremely elevated levels of cobalt and regulators are eager to better understand if an equine welfare threat exists. (RCI)
Yoder: Natural Herbie’s Win “Hasn’t Sunk In”

Verlin Yoder came to the big dance with no expectations and left singing a happy tune.

Yoder’s Natural Herbie, a standout on the Indiana circuit, won last Saturday’s $75,000 Vincennes Invitational for older trotters at the Meadowlands, besting Southwind Pepino and Master Of Law by more than a length in a career-best 1:51.4.

The victory, before a Hambletonian Day announced crowd of nearly 21,000 fans, came in Yoder’s first-ever drive at the Big M. The 40-year-old Yoder, an Indiana native, has won 110 races in his career. The Vincennes field included four Hall of Fame drivers not to mention three others that previously won the Hambletonian.

“It still hasn’t sunk in,” said Yoder, who spends the race season in Indiana and winter in Florida. “It was an honor just to be in with those guys, let alone win. That means a lot. I’ve got a lot of respect for those guys.

“Everybody (at home) is very excited. That was cool. It’s a big deal to go from Hoosier to the Meadowlands. You don’t get to go to the big city for a dance many times. For somebody to go out to the dance and win it, that’s something. If you have a good horse, it makes you look good. I give the horse all the credit, not me.”

Yoder trains and owns Natural Herbie, who headed to the Meadowlands off three consecutive wins in the Invitational Handicap at Hoosier Park, each in a track record clocking. The 4-year-old gelding, a son of Here Comes Herbie out of Ljanearl, is a two-time Indiana Sire Stakes champion and has won 19 of 38 career starts, good for $494,941.

“We’ve known the horse was a nice horse,” Yoder said. “He was racing here in Indiana and he was doing pretty good. He did real good last year. But I never knew if he was going to take that next step as a 4 year old, because that’s a pretty big step.

“It was nice to have an opportunity to race (in the Vincennes). I had no expectations. I drove the horse all his life, and I like the horse, and it’s in his hands, not mine. I was excited to be there that day. He was going to show me if he was going to go faster there or if he had enough heart to go with those guys. He stepped up to the plate and was big.”

A former factory worker who used to build RVs, Yoder has been involved in harness racing since 2004. It started as a hobby, but turned into a fulltime pursuit. He enjoys his best year in 2013, when he conditioned not only Natural Herbie but Indiana Sires Stakes 3-year-old female trotting champion Lady Blitz.

Yoder is uncertain when Natural Herbie will race next. The gelding is not staked to many races, other than the Indiana Sires Stakes in October.

“I always said if he’s that kind of (top) horse I can nominate him as a 5 year old,” Yoder said. “Four year old, it’s a big step. He doesn’t owe me nothing.

“I’ll start him out here in a couple weeks or something. He’ll be off this week, and next week we have a break at Hoosier. I don’t know what I’m going to do yet. I’ll get something figured out. I might end up taking him and (Lady Blitz) out east somewhere. I’ll just play it by ear right now.” (HRC)

Master Glide Sold To New Zealand Interests

Master Glide, the full brother to Passionate Glide 3, 1:52.2 ($2,060,447), has been sold by Brittany Farms to Max Grant and Arcadia Harness Racing Group, with Paul Davies acting as agent for the buyers. Master Glide is to stand at Wai-Eyre Farm in Christchurch, New Zealand.

“It was definitely a tough decision as he is such a farm favorite,” said Brittany Farms manager Art Zubrod. “We did not even have Master Glide on the market as he would have had a good home for life here at Brittany. However, it was evident from first contact that at Wai-Eyre, he would be provided the chance that he really never had here.” (Brittany Farms)

Northfield’s Wall Of Fame Dinner On Sunday

Northfield Park has announced that Aaron Merriman, Bill Pocza, Dunkster, Myopia’s Mop and Natural Ability will be the newest members of the Northfield Park Wall of Fame. Their formal inductions will highlight the Wall of Fame ceremonies at Northfield Park on Sunday, Aug. 10. The banquet festivities begin at 5 p.m.

The Wall of Fame banquet is a triennial event. At age 36, Merriman is the youngest Wall of Fame inductee since the awards were inaugurated in 1990. Other presentations will be made to Dean Davis for the Distinguished Owner Award, Dr. Dan Wilson for the John Lee Good Fellowship Award, Nadine Hadbe for the Willie C. Banks Ideal Employee Award, Deb Sweeney and Monica Drago for Outstanding Caretaker Awards, and drivers Dan Noble and Ronnie Wrenn Jr. (Northfield Park)
### Standardbred Poll

Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Poll compiled by Harness Racing Communications for the week of August 5, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse Name</th>
<th>AGS</th>
<th>St-1-2-3</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
<th>Pts</th>
<th>Pys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sebastian K (31)</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>8-7-1-0</td>
<td>$502,603</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sweet Lou (4)</td>
<td>5ph</td>
<td>11-8-1-1</td>
<td>791,500</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Father Patrick</td>
<td>3tc</td>
<td>7-6-0-0</td>
<td>520,992</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Triton</td>
<td>3tc</td>
<td>9-7-1-1</td>
<td>786,917</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. He's Watching</td>
<td>3pc</td>
<td>7-4-1-1</td>
<td>564,485</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. McWicked</td>
<td>3pc</td>
<td>9-6-2-0</td>
<td>618,830</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. JK Endoferana</td>
<td>3pc</td>
<td>8-5-1-1</td>
<td>569,792</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Nuncio</td>
<td>3tc</td>
<td>8-5-3-0</td>
<td>563,351</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Mission Brief</td>
<td>2tf</td>
<td>5-4-0-0</td>
<td>255,775</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**T10. Sandbetweenurtoes**

3pf | 7-7-0-0 | 211,157 | 47 | 9

**T10. Classic Martine**

4tm | 9-7-0-1 | 221,732 | 47 | —

**Others receiving votes:** Shake It Cerry, Dancin Yankee, Rocklamation, Centurion ATM 14, Market Share 12, Archangel 11, Intimidate, Lifetime Pursuit 10, Artspeak, Modern Family 8, Yankee Bounty 8, Perfect Alliance 2, Bee A Magician, I Like My Boss 1.

### Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through August 5, 2014 (week difference July 30-Aug. 5).

#### Leading Money-Winning Horses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse Name</th>
<th>Sts.</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweet Lou (5ph)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$791,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triton (3tc)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>786,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McWicked (3pc)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>618,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JK Endoferana (3pc)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>569,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He's Watching (3pc)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>564,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuncio (3tc)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>563,351</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Leading Money-Winning Drivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver Name</th>
<th>Sts.</th>
<th>W-P-S</th>
<th>UDR</th>
<th>Earnings (wk. diff)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yannick Gingras</td>
<td>1,339</td>
<td>314-213-168</td>
<td>.365</td>
<td>$6,687,955 ($885,369)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Tetrick</td>
<td>1,528</td>
<td>294-224-262</td>
<td>.283</td>
<td>6,588,375 (414,716)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Pierce</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>294-206-190</td>
<td>.338</td>
<td>5,602,047 (333,729)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burt Miller</td>
<td>1,996</td>
<td>283-230-268</td>
<td>.251</td>
<td>4,530,964 (249,740)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Leading Money-Winning Trainers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainer Name</th>
<th>Sts.</th>
<th>W-P-S</th>
<th>UTR</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ron Burke</td>
<td>2,951</td>
<td>637-508-398</td>
<td>.356</td>
<td>$13,248,389 ($1,113,988)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Takter</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>89-52-38</td>
<td>.400</td>
<td>4,833,806 (1,309,325)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.J. Frawley</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>84-99-101</td>
<td>.260</td>
<td>2,527,734 (141,322)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rene Allard</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>207-138-122</td>
<td>.345</td>
<td>2,418,729 (100,095)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Miller</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>100-62-69</td>
<td>.366</td>
<td>2,410,066 (246,432)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erv Miller</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>130-111-107</td>
<td>.315</td>
<td>1,168,353 (161,725)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leading Breeders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breeder Name</th>
<th>Starters</th>
<th>Winners</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>1,481</td>
<td>$15,281,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winbak Farm</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>1,143</td>
<td>9,339,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britanny Farms</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>7,157,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perretti Farms</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>4,965,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>3,294,689</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for July 30-Aug 5 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

#### Drivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver Name</th>
<th>Starts</th>
<th>W-P-S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George Napolitano Jr</td>
<td>.92</td>
<td>26-10-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronnie Wrenn Jr</td>
<td>.89</td>
<td>26-16-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Merriman</td>
<td>.86</td>
<td>18-19-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Page</td>
<td>.70</td>
<td>18-3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Brennan</td>
<td>.69</td>
<td>17-9-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yannick Gingras</td>
<td>.57</td>
<td>17-6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Palone</td>
<td>.54</td>
<td>15-11-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Roberts</td>
<td>.34</td>
<td>15-3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Ryan</td>
<td>.31</td>
<td>14-5-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh Sutton</td>
<td>.67</td>
<td>14-11-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Tetrick</td>
<td>.74</td>
<td>13-11-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Bartlett</td>
<td>.77</td>
<td>12-18-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trace Tetrick</td>
<td>.65</td>
<td>12-4-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Sears</td>
<td>.70</td>
<td>11-9-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Aldrich Jr</td>
<td>.67</td>
<td>11-9-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John DeLong</td>
<td>.52</td>
<td>11-12-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Allard</td>
<td>.46</td>
<td>11-7-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin Siegelman</td>
<td>.35</td>
<td>10-4-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Miller</td>
<td>.62</td>
<td>10-3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey Leonard</td>
<td>.53</td>
<td>10-12-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey Calahan</td>
<td>.67</td>
<td>10-11-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Miller</td>
<td>.71</td>
<td>10-7-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Stalbaum</td>
<td>.64</td>
<td>10-12-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James MacDonald</td>
<td>.47</td>
<td>9-4-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim DeVaux</td>
<td>.61</td>
<td>9-9-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Smith</td>
<td>.70</td>
<td>9-12-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Trainers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainer Name</th>
<th>Starts</th>
<th>Wins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ron Burke</td>
<td>.35</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rene Allard</td>
<td>.11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Oakes</td>
<td>.10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Takter</td>
<td>.9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Alagna</td>
<td>.9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erv Miller</td>
<td>.8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heidi Rohr</td>
<td>.7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Ford</td>
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<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allan Johnson</td>
<td>.6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Brown</td>
<td>.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilbert Garcia-Herrera</td>
<td>.6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Langley</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregg McNair</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Kash Jr</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Moreau</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Wiseman</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>