



Harness Racing WEEKEND PREVIEW

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

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Woodside Charm Returns To Indiana Off World-Record Win

Friday night's stakes-laden card at Hoosier Park includes several contests that feature intriguing match-ups. Most certainly that should be the case for the rubber match between McWicked and Lazarus N in the \$177,000 Hoosier Park Pacing Derby. Lazarus N beat McWicked in the Dan Patch and then McWicked turned the tables in the Canadian Pacing Derby.

Also on tap is the \$155,000 Jenna's Beach Boy, which attracted Messenger runner-up Jimmy Freight and Indiana star Always A Prince; the \$172,000 Moni Maker, which has top-ranked Manchego starting from the trailing 10 post; and the newly-named Caesars Trotting Classic (formerly the Centaur), with the field including Crazy Wow, fresh off his win in the Maple Leaf Trot, and 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover, whose connections are hoping their mare can get back on track after a string of sub-par performances.



"She has blood, that's the big thing. And she loves her work!"

—Verlin Yoder

Two-year-old fillies—both pacers and trotters—will also be on

the track in the Kentuckiana Stallion Management. It was good news for Hoosier Park when owner-trainer-driver Verlin Yoder decided to bring back home to Indiana his 2-year-old filly trotter Woodside Charm, who will line up in Friday's \$236,000 contest in lieu of racing in the \$225,000 New York Sires Stakes (NYSS) final on Saturday at Yonkers.

Woodside Charm should receive a hero's welcome at Hoosier Park as she comes into the Kentuckiana race off a 1:53.4 victory in a NYSS division on Sept. 13 at Saratoga. The mile shattered the previous world record for freshman



Woodside Charm

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filly trotters on a half by nearly two seconds. The performance was also the second fastest mile ever trotted at Saratoga regardless of age.

That victory was Woodside Charm's fourth in as many starts. The daughter of Chapter Seven out of Fireworks Hanover has cruised to open-length victories every time. If Woodside Charm is to run her streak to five straight wins, she'll have to do it starting from post 8 in the nine-horse field.

"I don't like the 8 hole but it seems that's all they want to give me here," Yoder said with a laugh.

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Woodside Charm won her lone qualifier on June 27 at Hoosier Park in 1:57.4, romping home a 17-length winner. "She did all the right things leading up to there," said Yoder. "I waited late to qualify her. I've made some equipment changes but she's done the right thing."

"We had to make some shoeing changes through the season, which you have to do with trotters," added Yoder, noting Woodside Charm now wears aluminums with black pads in the front and razor shoes in the back.

Yoder said Woodside Charm's success has come as no surprise.

"It was about the middle of March and I came back and told my wife Rachel, 'Oh So Easy who?'" he said with a laugh, referring to his Indiana champion of 2017. "At that stage of the game she was just so much farther ahead than 'Easy' ever was."

Yoder said his faith in Woodside Charm came from her pedigree. She is a half-sister to the \$1.5 million winner Explosive Matter and the \$349,000 winner Winning Fireworks.

"She has blood, that's the big thing," said Yoder. "And she loves her work."

Yoder said he had an early hunch Woodside Charm was ready for a big effort at Saratoga.

"When I warmed her up I warmed her up pretty stiff because I wanted to make sure she could get through a half-mile track," said Yoder. "I warmed her up in (2):12, coming a back half in :56 and last quarter in :27. When she did that last half I thought, 'Oh boy.'"

In that race, driver Scott Zeron crossed over early with Sensibility, but Yoder didn't wait long to move Woodside Charm to the front.

"When I went it was the fastest I ever passed a horse," said Yoder. "When I got past (Sensibility) I was saying to myself to just not fall out of the race bike. I knew I was going some but I missed the quarter pole. I didn't know what it said but I knew I was going a pretty good clip. When I saw the half I thought, 'Oh boy.' But she did good and took it."

Yoder confirmed the Breeders Crown late next month at Pocono Downs has been circled in ink on the calendar.

"The idea is to go to the Breeders with a fresh horse," he said. "I always said you can't go big miles with a 2 year old with 11 or 12 starts. You can go big miles with a 2 year old between six and eight (starts). After that, you're playing with fire."

Woodside Charm has earnings of \$91,158. No matter the success, Yoder said the filly is not for sale.

"We've had offers but we put a damper on it," said Yoder. "We said not for sale because our initial goal was to go to the Breeders Crown if she was that caliber of a horse. The guy who raised her (Lester Beechy) wants her back as a broodmare and that is a very good choice on his part. We don't have to sell, this is what we all go to the yearling sales for."



THIS WEEKEND'S FEATURED RACES

All times listed are local.

Friday, September 21


- 6:52p HoP2 **Elevation** 2CP [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 7:46p HoP5 **Kentuckiana Stallion** 2FP [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:22p HoP7 **Kentuckiana Stallion** 2FT [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:40p HoP8 **Jenna's Beach Boy** 3CP [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 8:58p HoP9 **Moni Maker** 3FT [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:50p HoP11 **Hoosier Park Pacing Derby** [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:15p HoP12 **Caesars Trotting Classic** [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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

Saturday, September 22

- 8:32p Wbsb5 **She's A Great Lady** final [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:15p Wbsb7 **Milton** OMP final [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 9:30p YR9 **NYSS** 3CP final [Trackmaster PPs](#)
- 10:06p Wbsb9 **Metro** 2CP final [Trackmaster PPs](#)

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PA Champ Proof Looking To “Elevate” In Indiana

The Elevation for 2-year-old colts and pacers is part of the big stakes program at Hoosier Park on Friday night and one of the contenders is the Pennsylvania colt champion Proof. He'll be starting from post 7 in the eight-horse field that includes several Indiana-sired speedsters.

Trained by Brian Brown, Proof was a 16-1 outsider in the Pennsylvania Sires Stakes final held at The Meadows on Sept. 1. But with a big move at the start, Proof secured a two-hole trip behind the undefeated De Los Cielos Deo and then, with a :27.3 last quarter, edged by his rival in the stretch to win by one-half length.

The PASS championship victory pushed Proof's earnings to \$212,591, with three other wins and a couple of places supplementing the purse money earned in the PA final. The result is so much more than breeder-owner Adam Bowden of Diamond Creek Farm and Racing ever expected from the colt.

“He was supposed to be sold as a yearling, but he got a foot infection and it went into his coffin bone,” shared Bowden, who operates Diamond Creek Farm and Diamond Creek Racing. “He was lame for two to three months. That's why we kept him.”

Proof is a son of A Rocknroll Dance and \$1.9 million winner Ginger And Fred. Proof is Ginger And Fred's second foal.



Proof (between horses)

Her first, a colt by Somebeachsomewhere, sold for \$140,000 as a yearling.

“I wasn't shocked that he won; but mostly I thought he'd get a good piece of it,” said Bowden. “He'd raced against the other colt (De Los Cielos Deo) and was first-up on him but wasn't going to beat him.”

While De Los Cielos Deo and other top colts went north of the border for the Metro, Bowden said he talked with Brown and they decided to give Proof a break and instead enter the Elevation.

“Yes, he was eligible and originally we thought about the Metro. But he's not a big horse, and they can only go so many fast miles, so we decided to skip the Metro and go to the Elevation,” said Bowden.—By Kathy Parker

History never really says goodbye. History says, “see you later.”

Eduardo Galeano



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Burke Has Two Serious Metro Finalists

Woodbine Mohawk Park will showcase 2-year-old pacers on Saturday night in two of the sport's richest events, the \$890,000 Metro for colts and the \$590,000 She's A Great Lady for fillies.

Tony Alagna trains the morning-line favorites in each race, Captain Ahab in the Metro and Tall Drink Hanover in the filly event. Both will be starting from post position 4.

Naturally, with that kind of money on the line, there may not be smooth sailing for Captain Ahab and Tall Drink Hanover, who are both offspring from the first crop of Captaintreacherous, who was also trained by Alagna.

Capatain Ahab won his Metro elimination in 1:50.4 after taking the lead at the half. While he was crossing over as the half-mile time flashed :55, De Los Cielos Deo was second-over in the outside flow, but 5 ¾ lengths behind the leader.

A winner of all but one of his career starts going into the Metro, De Los Cielos Deo had started from post 8 in the Metro elim, which put him at a disadvantage from the start. The colt's trainer, Ron Burke, wasn't sure that the post position was that much of a problem for his horse.

"I think he's been in a little bit of lull the last two races; I don't think he was as sharp," said Burke of De Los Cielos

Deo, who finished second in the Pennsylvania Sires Stakes championship on Sept. 1, a defeat that snapped his unbeaten streak. "But I'm hoping he's turning the corner because there's a lot of racing left."

For the Metro final, however, De Los Cielos Deo received bad luck at the draw—yep, he'll be starting from post 10.

Burke has a second Metro finalist in Semi Proof, who finished second in the elim won by Stag Party in 1:51.1.

"I like my other colt's chances (Semi Tough) a lot," shared Burke. "From post 2, he can make his own luck and force the pace. Captain Ahab is a good colt, obviously, so it won't be easy."

As for Captain Ahab, after his Metro elim victory, driver Andrew McCarthy offered the following observations:

"I kicked the earplugs out tonight and made him pace in the stretch because I've got so much respect for Burke's colt (De Los Cielos Deo)," said McCarthy following the victory.

Burke will also be starting Pennsylvania Sires Stakes champion Sylph Hanover in the She's A Great Lady final. The daughter of Somebeachsomewhere will be starting from post 7. She finished second in her elimination, which was won by Ideation Hanover in 1:51.2.

"I think all of my horses will benefit from having only serious contenders in the race," said Burke.—By Kathy Parker

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3 at the **BUCKEYE CLASSIC**
September 25 • Springfield, OH
Winterwood Farm, Agent

Hip 21 KITE, Bay Filly

Manofmanymissions-Kitefin Hanover-Muscles Yankee
Half-sister to Kite Flyer 2,1:59. From a half-sister to stakes winner Aunt Mel 3,1:54f (\$280,345-dam of stakes placed 2-year-old Eowyn 2,1:57.3-'18-\$9,020), Aequitas 4,1:55.3f (\$155,286) and Keepsake Hanover 2,1:58f (\$54,315). From the family of Cantab Hall.

Kentucky & Ohio Eligible

Hip 125 TUNED, Bay Colt

Manofmanymissions-Vintage Chip-Pine Chip
Half-brother to multiple stakes winners Edit 1:54.3h (\$289,542), Production 2,1:56.3f (\$142,070) and Posterity 2,1:56 (\$99,296).

Kentucky & Ohio Eligible

Hip 174 MC CAM, Bay Colt

McArdle-Delightfully Cam-Bettor's Delight
First colt from Delightfully Cam p,3,1:55.3f (\$18,388), half-sister to multiple stakes winner Cam-mikey p,3,1:49.4f (\$362,671). Second dam is multiple stakes winner Always Cam p,1:49.2 (\$969,333), three-quarter sister to Marathon Day p,3,1:50.2f (\$280,944) and to the dam of multiple stakes winner Mosquito Blue Chip p,3,1:49.2f (\$719,511).

Kentucky & Ohio Eligible

1 at the **HOOSIER CLASSIC**
October 19 & 20 • Indianapolis, IN
Cornerstone Stock Farm, Agent

Hip 300 FOREVER MUV, Bay Filly

Rockin Image-Forever Cam-Western Hanover
Full or half-sister to Forever Just p,1:50 (\$690,541), Bettorever p,4,1:50.4 (\$436,866), Ladystar p,4,1:52.3f (\$240,241), Forever Libby p,4,1:54.1h (\$194,238), Forever Liza p,3,1:51.3 (\$158,639) and Lady Juno p,2,1:53.2 (\$15,716). From stakes winner Forever Cam p,2,1:54 (\$185,690), half-sister to Seven Card Hanover p,3,1:51.1 (\$230,158). Second dam is Sara Loren Rd p,1:53.4f (\$963,768).

Kentucky & Indiana Eligible

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Miller Hopes To Throw Stag Party In Metro

Driver David Miller's Hall of Fame resume includes victories in many major stakes, but the Metro for 2-year-old pacers is still one omission.

Miller has a great chance to fill in that slot on Saturday night at Woodbine Mohawk Park when he drives Stag Party in this year's \$890,000 Metro Pace. The son of Bettor's Delight is trained by Casie Coleman, who captured the 2009 Metro with Sportswriter in a stakes-record 1:49.2 (with Mark MacDonald driving).

Stag Party starts from post 3 in Saturday's rich Metro final, which the connections selected after the freshman won his elim last weekend in a career-best 1:51. Captain Ahab, who captured the second elim in 1:50.4, will start from post 4.

In the elimination, Miller got away sixth with Stag Party before tipping to the outside at the half. Ranging up first-over to be second to leader Semi Tough at the three-quarters, Stag Party remained game and he was able to muscle by in deep stretch to win by 1 1/2 lengths.

The win was the fifth in seven starts for Stag Party, who was steadily brought up the class ladder by Coleman. After winning his debut in a 2-year-old overnight on July 3 at Mohawk in 1:52.2, Stag Party overcame post 10 to win an Ontario Sires Stakes Gold one tick faster. Stag Party drew post 10 for his next start in another Gold and although he again crossed the wire first in 1:51.2, he was disqualified because of interference and placed back to second.

While Coleman had used Doug McNair for Stag Party's first three starts, she turned to Miller for a Gold event on Aug. 15 at Grand River Raceway and the colt rebounded from his DQ to score by five lengths in a track and Canadian record 1:52.3.

With Miller retaining the drive, Stag Party's next start came in open competition in a Nassagaweya division at Mohawk, and he had no problems as he romped to a 10-length win in 1:52.2. He then finished a game second in a Simcoe split, which gave driver and trainer concern.

"He's impressed me in a couple of starts," said Miller. "His start at Grand River and his start (in the Metro elim) was very impressive. I like the horse a lot; he's very game and a tough little horse.

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Claims & Trainer Change Details	NO	YES
Auction Sales Data	NO	YES
Yearling Prices & Stud Fees	NO	YES
Race Replay Links	NO	YES
Result Chart Links	NO	YES



"In the Champlain he wasn't any good at all. He was a little sore and a little sick, but he bounced back."

Miller said it's been a learning process for both he and Stag Party as he tries to teach the horse to win while also trying to teach him how to race.

"It's a bit of a fine line," he said. "But the good ones know how to do it anyways, and I think he is a good one."

Stag Party was purchased as a yearling for \$125,000 from breeder Fred Hertrich III. His Metro elim win brought his career earnings to \$150,928 for owners John Fielding, Mac Nichol, McKinlay & Fielding and West Wins Stable. — *By Gordon Waterstone*

\$890,000 (C) Metro 2CP

Woodbine Mohawk Park, Saturday, Sept. 22, Race 9, Post Time: 10:06 pm

Post—Horse (Sire)	Driver/Trainer	Odds	Breeder/Yearling Price (Sale)
1—Better Up (Bettor's Delight)	J. Jamieson/C. Coleman	20-1	Matthew Gartland/\$35,000 (HB)
2—Semi Tough (Somebeachsomewhere)	M. Kakaley/R. Burke	8-1	Vieux Carre Farms/\$115,000 (Lex)
3—Stag Party (Bettor's Delight)	D. Miller/C. Coleman	2-1	Fred Hertrich III/\$125,000 (HB)
4—Captain Ahab (Captaintreacherous)	A. McCarthy/T. Alagna	9-5	Brittany Farms/\$100,000 (Lex)
5—Shake That House (American Ideal)	S. Zeron/C. Oakes	6-1	Fair Winds Farm/\$160,000 (HB)
6—Buddy Hill (Roll With Joe)	D. McNair/C. Ryder	20-1	Tom Hill/Homebred
7—Goldberg (Mr. Wiggles)	M. Teague/B. Teague	12-1	Montrell Teague/Homebred
8—Lyons Night Hawk (Sweet Lou)	B. Miller/J. Gillis	15-1	Vieux Carre Farms/\$60,000 (HB)
9—Lyons Johnnyjnr (Well Said)	L. Roy/J. Gillis	20-1	Hanover Shoe Farms/\$45,000 (HB)
10—De Los Cielos Deo (Captaintreacherous)	Y. Gingras/R. Burke	9-2	Deo Volente Farm & L. Willinger/\$140,000 (Lex)
AE—Captain Crunch (Captaintreacherous)	S. Zeron/N. Johansson	15-1	Walnridge Farm, S. Meirs/\$85,000 (HB)

Kentucky Owner Hoping A “Beauty” Wins She’s A Great Lady

Can lightning strike the same spot twice? Or rather can an owner, who breeds and races fillies, win the same big race five years later, in this case, the \$590,000 She’s A Great Lady? “It would be magic for me,” said Jim Avritt Sr. of Lebanon, Ky.

Avritt won the 2008 She’s A Great Lady final with Precocious Beauty and this year he has a chance to capture the race with her full sister, Prescient Beauty.

Prescient Beauty finished second in her She’s A Great Lady elimination. She had been directed to a two-length lead on the front end (:27.3) by driver Doug McNair, with Quebec Blue Chip and Warrawee Ubeaut second and third behind her at the opening quarter. Quebec Blue Chip rushed up to claim the lead by the :55.2 half, with Prescient Beauty staying second along the pylons as Warrawee Ubeaut was on the attack at the three-quarters, which was reached in 1:24.1.

Tall Drink Hanover was looming second-over at the three-quarters, a fortunate position for driver Andrew McCarthy’s filly. When the battling Quebec Blue Chip and Warrawee Ubeaut made contact in the stretch, Tall Drink Hanover flew on to victory in 1:51.2, with a 2 3/4-length lead over Prescient Beauty at the wire.

Gregg McNair, who trained Precocious Beauty and also trains Prescient Beauty, said “Prescient” was likely not at her best in the She’s A Great Lady elim.

“She’s had stomach issues,” said McNair whose son, Doug, drives the filly. “After the elim she was tired. She did a lot of the work. I hope she’s better this week for the final.”

Avritt said that if Prescient Beauty races well and continues to hold her form, she will go on to the Breeders Crown, where she’ll likely be joined by her stablemate, Beautyonthebeach. That filly is the first foal of Precocious Beauty and she won the Kentucky Sires Stakes final on Sept. 16 at the Red Mile, giving her \$181,383 in earnings. Precocious Beauty’s second foal is a yearling colt by Bettor’s Delight that Avritt will be selling at the upcoming Lexington Selected Sale. Precocious Beauty’s three-quarter brother is the million-dollar winner Sportswriter. — *By Kathy Parker*



Precocious Beauty

Nigel South/Photo

CANE RUN FARM

2018 YEARLINGS Lexington Selected Sale, October 2 - 6

Hip 2 BELIEVE YOU CAN, b.f. PA/KY

Muscle Hill-Bar Slide-Yankee Glide

Half-sister to **BRIGHT BABY BLUES** 3,1:54.2 (\$492,203), **SLIDING HOME** 3,1:55f (\$270,000-Int.) and **BRAND NEW KEY** 3,1:55.4f (\$60,653). From **BAR SLIDE** 3,1:52.4 (\$647,971), full or half-sister to **MODEL BEHAVIOR** 3,1:53.2 (\$103,784) and the dam of **FURY ROAD** 3,1:57h-'18 (\$216,166).

Hip 6 WHOSE BLUES, b.f. PA/KY

Cantab Hall-Bright Baby Blues-Andover Hall

First foal from multiple stakes winner **BRIGHT BABY BLUES** 3,1:54.2 (\$492,203), half-sister to **SLIDING HOME** 3,1:55f (\$270,000-Int.) and **BRAND NEW KEY** 3,1:55.4f (\$60,653). Second dam is **BAR SLIDE** 3,1:52.4 (\$647,971), full or half-sister to **MODEL BEHAVIOR** 3,1:53.2 (\$103,784) and the dam of **FURY ROAD** 3,1:57h-'18 (\$216,166).

Hip 335 CREATURE OF HABIT, b.f. PA/KY

Donato Hanover-Habit's Best-Muscles Yankee

Full or half-sister to millionaire racehorse and Yonkers Trot winner **HABITAT** 3,1:53f (\$1,262,221), **HAT TRICK HABIT** 3,1:52.3-'18 (\$220,054) and stakes placed **WINNING HABIT** 2,Q1:59.4-'18 (\$28,395). From a full or half-sister to **CIVIL ACTION** 3,1:53 (\$1,123,053), **OVER RULED** 1:55.2f (\$266,527), **CIVIC DUTY** 1:54.2f (\$232,490) and **HABIT'S LADY** 3,1:54.2 (\$104,796-dam of **TAKE MY PICTURE** 1:52.3-\$1,166,401).

Hip 438 MY STAR, b.f. PA

Sebastian K-All Star Hanover-Cantab Hall

From multiple stakes winner **ALL STAR HANOVER** 3,1:55.3f (\$333,328), half-sister to **ABATON HANOVER** 1:57.4f (\$122,896) and **ALMIROLA HANOVER** 4,1:55.4f-'18 (\$67,403). Second dam is **ASTRAEA HANOVER** 3,1:54 (\$217,665).

Hip 450 FAKE NEWS BABY, b.f. PA/KY

Donato Hanover-Baby I'm Bad News-Yankee Glide

Half-sister to **BARN SIS** 3,1:56.1 (\$61,850). From stakes winner **BABY I'M BAD NEWS** 2,1:57.2 (\$33,430) and the family of World Champion **CASH HALL** T1:51.1h (\$554,298), **CAPTOWN HALL** 2,1:56.1f (\$369,518) and **CARTIER HALL** 4,1:54.3 (\$363,106).

*Hip 484 PENANCE, b.c. PA/KY

Father Patrick-Yankee Etta-Muscles Yankee

Half-brother to **MISS CANTABULATION** 4,1:57.1f and the first from his dam by leading first-crop sire Father Patrick. Second dam is a half-sister to multiple stakes winner **EBONITA HANOVER** 3,1:56.1 (\$452,526) and to the dam of O'Brien 2 & 3YO Filly Champion **ELEGANTIMAGE** 3,1:55.4 (\$955,368).

Hip 569 GHOST PEPPER, b.c. PA/KY

Andover Hall-Spice Girl-Yankee Glide

Second foal from a half-sister to stakes winner **HOT CURRY** 3,1:54.4f (\$147,416) and **MUSCLES AND SPICE** 1:58.1h (\$77,939). Second dam is **SPICEBERRY HANOVER** 3,1:56.3f (\$153,239), full or half-sister to **CELEBRITY STIMULUS** 1:54.2 (\$211,718), **DESERT RUNNER** 3,1:53.1f (\$150,472), **SOMEDANCER HANOVER** 1:55f (\$143,634), **SKY HANOVER** 4,1:54 (\$136,049) and **SENIA HANOVER** 3,1:55.2f (\$51,420). From the family of Trotter of the Year **MARION MARAUDER** 4,1:51.2 (\$2,980,380).

Hip 680 AN OCEAN AWAY, b.f. PA

Yankee Glide-Oasis Dream-Cantab Hall

Half-sister to **ONLY PASSING THRU** 4,1:54.4f-'18 (\$96,944). From multiple stakes winner **OASIS DREAM** 3,1:53.4 (\$221,961). Second dam is **DREAM ANGEL** 3,1:56.2 (\$229,010), half-sister to **DREAM VACATION** 4,1:52 (\$616,257) and to the dams of **WILD HONEY** 3,1:50.4 (\$1,589,235), **STRUCK BY LINDY** 2,1:53.1 (\$514,765). From the family of **VICTORY DREAM** 3,1:53.2 (\$1,016,537).

Hip 688 PINTERESTING, b.f. PA/KY

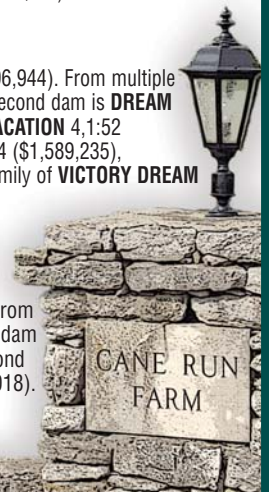
Yankee Glide-Possess Me-Self Possessed

Half-sister to **PUT ON THE DAY** 1:55.4f (\$131,259) and **AMANFORALLSEASONS** 3,1:57.3 (\$20,315). From **POSSESSME** 3,1:55.2 (\$54,614), half-sister to the dam of **FOUNDONABEACH** 1:54.3f-'18 (\$127,327). Second dam a half-sister to **RATE EXCHANGE** 1:55 (\$406,018).

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Pre Hoosier Derby Thoughts About McWicked, Lazarus N

Despite McWicked and Lazarus N failing to visit the winner's circle in their last pari-mutuel engagements, their connections anticipate each stallion to be at their best when they clash for the third time this season in Friday's (Sept. 21) \$175,000 Hoosier Park Pacing Derby.

"I've been thrilled with McWicked all year and really shouldn't say this, but I was a little disappointed with his last start," said Casie Coleman, the world champion's conditioner. "He was fourth (in a dead heat) at Scioto Downs (in the \$250,000 Jim Ewart Memorial on Sept. 8) and was only beaten a length, but I thought I had him better prepared. I put it out in the press about the quarter crack and maybe with all the rain that night the track was hard, so that foot could have been stinging him.

"Also, I know he has won at Scioto before (2017 Ewart Memorial), but I didn't realize how short the stretch is there. I was so happy with his trip when he was coming to the last turn second-over, in fact, I think it's the best trip he's had all year, but it takes him a little while to change gears. He can fly, but he needs the opportunity to get going and he might not have had it that night."

Coleman was not the only one that was a bit perplexed by the performance of her horse, as Duncan Taylor was not exactly satisfied with Lazarus N's two starts at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

After a stellar U.S. debut where the 6-year-old New Zealand star defeated McWicked in the \$325,000 Dan Patch Invitational at Hoosier Park on Aug. 10, Lazarus N was second to that rival in the \$462,000 Canadian Pacing Derby at Woodbine Mohawk Park on Sept. 1. The stallion then finished in the same position behind Nirvana Seelster over the

same surface in a \$26,180 preferred contest on Sept. 15 after a first-over journey.

"I was a little disappointed with what happened in Canada," said Duncan Taylor, who owns the horse with his brothers as Taylor Made Stallions. "The first race Jimmy (Takter, his trainer) said he came out of it sick, and Yannick (Gingras, his driver) said he knew at the half-mile point he wasn't himself. In the second race, Yannick was much happier with him, although he didn't win. He said he felt much better and there was a large improvement from the first race.

"Jimmy felt the same way and said we should send him back out to Hoosier Park. As with anything all we can do is see what happens, but Jimmy and Yannick both think he is ready for the race in Indiana."

"He can fly, but it takes him a little while to change gears."

—Casie Coleman

McWicked had last week off and will ship from Coleman's Ontario base to Hoosier Park.

"I've been shipping him short all year long, like the day before or the day of a race, but this time we are sending him a few days earlier," said

Coleman. "We are changing things so I can find out if there is something I need to fix so he is not flat like he was at Scioto. This way he gets a few days to recover from shipping, if that was the problem.

"After that he will go to Red Mile where he will be stabled. We will go to Dayton, then back to Red Mile to race there, and then we will bring him back to Canada to prepare for the Breeders Crown."

Taylor said Lazarus N will also head to Lexington following the Hoosier Park Pacing Derby. — By Kim French/Hoof Beats/USTA

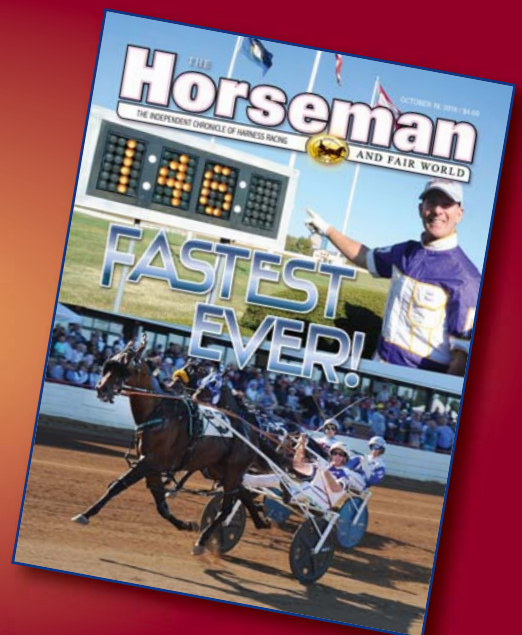
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NYSS Finals Set For Saturday; Smedshammer Talks About His Top 2YO Trotting Filly

New York will crown its 2018 champions on Saturday night at Yonkers Raceway with eight divisions of the New York Sires Stakes, each carrying a purse of \$225,000.

The stars of the program include the undefeated 2-year-old colt trotter Gimpanzee, the 3-year-old trotting filly world record holder Plunge Blue Chip (1:49.4), and Max Hempt Memorial winner Springsteen.

The Sires Stakes parade gets underway with Race 2, the 2-Year-Old Filly Trot, and the field includes the fast and consistent Winndevie. This is the filly who finished second to Woodside Charm in her 1:53.4 world record in the last leg of the Sires Stakes, contested over the half-mile Saratoga oval on Sept. 13.

“My filly was undefeated at that point...”

—Trond Smedshammer

Trond Smedshammer trains and drives Winndevie and said he had tried to avoid having his filly race against Woodside Charm, but they finally drew in together at Saratoga.

“My filly was undefeated at that point, and I knew of course that other filly was very, very good. But I was surprised that they showed up in Saratoga. I thought maybe they didn’t want to put her on a half, but I guess they wanted some more money on her card make sure they got in the Indiana race (Kentuckiana Stallion Management Trot),” said Smedshammer.

“They were going like hell early (:27.3 and :55.2) and I was back quite a bit at the half (racing third, 5 ½ lengths behind Woodside Charm,” Smedshammer said of the Saratoga race. “If someone told me five years ago that a 2-year-old trotting filly would go in 1:53 at Saratoga, I would have said they’re crazy. But you can’t be surprised about any times any more. There’s just so much speed.”

As for Winndevie’s chances in the New York Sires Stakes, Smedshammer is naturally optimistic about his precocious Credit Winner filly owned by Wanda Polisseni’s Purple Haze Stables. They will be starting from post 3 in the final.

“She’s been good, but it’s the final and a lot can happen in the final because people do crazy things,” he said. “We still have to stay out of trouble.”

Smedshammer also will be starting Perlucky in the 3-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Trot for Purple Haze Stables. The son of Lucky Chucky drew post 6, to the outside of Helpisonthe-way, the runner-up in the Yonkers Trot. Perlucky has two wins in 10 starts this season but goes into the final following a 1:56.1 Sires Stakes victory at Yonkers on Sept. 11.

“For him, it all depends on how the race goes. I would like to be more inside, but I will say he’s better racing from behind,” said Smedshammer.

Last weekend Smedshammer won the Elegantimage final at Mohawk with the Purple Haze Stable’s Phaetosive. It was the first time the filly beat Atlanta and Manchego, and

Smedshammer had to stop his filly almost on a dime in order to change course late in the stretch drive.

“She got stopped big time,” he confirmed. I took a chance by sitting (at the pylons), I knew that. The rail does open up nine out of 10 times up there. I went up inside a little too soon, before I could get the bike in, and he (Scott Zeron, driving Atlanta) said, ‘No, no,’ and corrected his filly. So then I went outside.”

Smedshammer said he hopes to race Phaetosive the first week in Lexington in the Bluegrass but not in the Kentucky Filly Futurity. “We’ve got the Breeders Crown, so I want her to be fresh for that,” he said. — *By Kathy Parker*



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RACE LINES

Standardbred Poll

Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Poll compiled by
 Harness Racing Communications for the week of September 18, 2018

	AGS	St-1-2-3	Earnings	Pts	Pvs
1. Manhego (13)	3tf	10-6-3-0	\$564,234	287	2
2. Atlanta (11)	3tf	9-6-2-1	759,233	277	1
3. McWicked (3)	7ph	12-7-2-1	902,114	231	3
4. Shartin N (1)	5pm	19-14-1-0	759,111	210	4
5. Courtly Choice (2)	3pc	12-9-0-0	655,393	169	5
6. Kissin In The Sand (1)	3pf	11-7-4-0	599,070	102	7
7. Lather Up (1)	3pc	12-10-0-0	664,865	99	8
8. Marion Marauder (1)	5th	9-5-4-0	444,680	98	9
9. Stay Hungry (1)	3pc	11-5-0-4	650,000	96	10
10. Crystal Fashion (1)	3tg	13-9-3-0	908,207	94	—

Others receiving votes: Hannelore Hanover 87, Ariana G 31, Phaetosive 28, Green Manalishi S 24, Captain Ahab 14, Six Pack 12, Plunge Blue Chip 11, The Ice Dutchess 10, Jimmy Freight 9, Dorsoduro Hanover, Wisdom Tree 7, Caviart Ally, Lazarus N, Youaremycandygirl 4, Met's Hall, Will Take Charge 3, Woodside Charm 2, Melodies Major, Only Take Cash 1.

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through September 18, 2018 (week difference Sept. 12-18).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Crystal Fashion (3tg)	13	9	3	0	\$908,207
McWicked (7ph)	12	7	2	1	902,114
Atlanta (3tf)	9	6	2	1	759,233
Shartin N (5pm)	19	14	1	0	759,111
Six Pack (3tc)	10	7	1	1	694,573
Dorsoduro Hanover (3pg)	13	7	2	1	687,362
Lather Up (3pc)	12	10	0	0	664,865
Courtly Choice (3pc)	12	9	0	0	655,393
Stay Hungry (3pc)	11	5	0	4	650,000
Met's Hall (3tc)	8	3	2	2	637,119

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Tim Tetrick	2,055	419-327-279	.338	\$9,284,422 (\$648,667)
Yannick Gingras	1,211	232-180-151	.316	7,636,498 (678,640)
Aaron Merriman	3,227	760-563-471	.381	7,290,688 (236,817)
Jason Bartlett	1,889	389-311-268	.345	6,947,214 (152,665)
Jordan Stratton	1,738	306-276-225	.307	6,452,438 (222,863)
David Miller	1,280	212-197-200	.303	6,145,237 (462,494)
Scott Zeron	1,068	160-135-145	.265	5,400,274 (230,359)
George Brennan	1,579	270-223-177	.287	5,000,585 (211,445)
Corey Callahan	1,884	277-284-259	.277	4,971,784 (361,820)
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	2,162	529-347-282	.377	4,941,300 (116,269)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	3,242	665-494-438	.335	\$13,506,464 (\$457,846)
Jimmy Taktar	466	113-92-53	.390	5,726,021 (769,823)
Rene Allard	1,290	286-191-158	.345	4,622,987 (139,585)
Scott Di Domenico	1,187	197-162-142	.282	3,121,994 (79,768)
Tony Alagna	425	95-65-62	.357	3,019,746 (350,905)
Julie Miller	500	117-84-58	.366	2,972,144 (197,473)
Brian Brown	411	94-75-51	.371	2,597,656 (232,264)
Richard Moreau	1,192	224-194-158	.323	2,590,593 (49,460)
Erv Miller	764	123-129-106	.301	2,561,226 (175,071)
Ake Svanstedt	400	67-53-58	.289	2,547,535 (35,659)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	957	624	1,751	\$22,045,262
Winbak Farm	924	596	1,637	15,799,906
Brittany Farms LLC	224	154	495	8,066,455
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	199	142	414	5,406,148
Diamond Creek Farm LLC	160	110	271	4,032,534
Steve Stewart	197	119	314	3,858,347
White Birch Farm	170	109	287	3,475,177
Seelster Farms Inc.	193	129	357	3,416,960
Perretti Farms	126	95	302	2,883,854
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	141	99	303	2,844,023

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for Sept. 9-17 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers	Starts	W-P-S
Aaron Merriman	107	28-20-18
George Napolitano Jr.	88	24-17-5
Jim DeVaux	76	23-11-12
Tim Tetrick	71	18-10-6
Trace Tetrick	55	17-4-4
Michael Merton	68	16-14-10
Dan Noble	56	15-10-3
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	66	15-14-7
Wally Hennessey	32	14-4-5
Mitchell Cushing	51	13-8-8
Andy Miller	48	12-9-6
Brian Sears	53	12-12-2
Chris Lems	57	12-5-5
Corey Callahan	54	12-5-9
Dave Palone	56	12-8-8
George Brennan	58	12-10-8
Jody Jamieson	19	12-2-0
Ryan Stahl	52	12-5-6
Casey Leonard	40	11-10-6
Chris Page	58	11-6-6
Jason Bartlett	61	11-9-12
Jim Marohn Jr.	61	11-6-10
Jordan Stratton	58	11-7-8

Trainers	Wins
Ron Burke	35
Anette Lorentzon	9
Julie Miller	9
Erv Miller	8
Rene Allard	8
Domenico Cecere	7
Donald Billings	7
Jamie Macomber	7
Jimmy Taktar	7
Ross Croghan	7
Tony Alagna	7
Tyler George	7
C. Brian Loney	6
Clyde Francis	6
Homer Hochstetler	6
Jim Campbell	6
Jimmy Nickerson	6
John Butenschoen	6
Melissa Beckwith	6
Nick Surick	6