Crown Finals Set For Saturday; Rivalry Renewed In Older Horse Pace

Twelve Breeders Crown championships are set for Saturday at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, with the action kicking off with a special early post time of 5:30 p.m. An Invitational Pace for 3-year-olds (featuring Jimmy Freight vs. Stay Hungry) and Invitational Trot get things underway before the 2-Year-Old Filly Trot begins the parade of Crown finals in Race 3.

With a few of last weekend’s eliminations being an example of “expect the unexpected,” there could be surprises on Saturday. Betting opportunities will be aplenty, especially with the reduction of the takeout rate to just 15 percent for all wagers.

Trainer Jimmy Takter will start 14 Crown finalists in what appears to be the Hall of Famer’s swan song in the championship series as he plans on retiring at the end of the year. Takter’s last Crown final is the $430,000 Open Horse Pace (Race 14) where he sends out Down Under superstar Lazarus N, who starts from post 2 with Yannick Gingras driving.

With McWicked starting to Lazarus N’s right in post 3, the heated rivalry between the two pacing stars will continue. The pair have met four times, with each winning twice. The pair have met four times, with each winning twice. A fifth match-up had been scheduled in the $250,000 Dan Rooney Invitational on Oct. 13 at Yonkers Raceway, but McWicked was winning the race, Lazarus N was at Takter’s New Jersey farm after being scratched “sick.”

With only eight entered in the Open Horse Pace there were no eliminations, which caused Takter some concern.

“I was hoping he had another race under his belt, but it is what it is,” said Takter. “The horse has been feeling really, really good the last few trainings.” Takter said having Lazarus N inside McWicked is an advantage. He also noted the importance of a victory as not only is a Crown trophy at stake, but also a spot in the TVG final next month at the Meadowlands. Not eligible to the TVG, Lazarus N can receive a ticket with a Crown victory.

“My horse can leave better than McWicked so I was very happy with the draw,” said Takter. “I hope he wins it because then he has the TVG.” McWicked won the Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace in 2014 and if driver Brian Sears is successful in directing the now 7 year old into the winner’s circle on Saturday he would become just the second to capture Crown titles four years apart. Wesgate Crown is the only horse to accomplish the feat, winning the 2-Year-Old Colt Trot in 1993 and the Older Horse Trot in 1997.

Also, if McWicked wins he would join Bettor Sweet (2012) and Foiled Again (2013) as the only Open Pace winners older than age six.

“I don’t know what there is to be said; everybody that’s watched him race knows what he is,” trainer CasieCole-Continues on page 2 ››››
man was quoted as saying about her horse McWicked, the year’s richest Standardbred with more than $1.1 million in earnings. “I couldn’t be any happier with the horse. He’s never thrown in a clunker. Every time he goes behind the gate he gives me everything he’s got. Even when he’s had a few bad posts and a few bad trips he does all he can.

“You wouldn’t know he’s 7 years old, that’s for sure.” — By Gordon Waterstone

Watch The Breeders Crown Live

If you’re not able to be at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono for Saturday night’s Breeders Crown championship card, you can still watch all the action from home. Post time is 5:30 p.m. with the first Breeders Crown final for 2-year-old filly pacers carded as Race 3.

The live stream will be free on the track’s website at www.mohegansunpocono.com. You can access the website via the homepage of harnessracing.com. Just scroll down to the video box and click “Breeders Crown finals.” Also, the live feed can be seen on the Breeders Crown Facebook page as well as drf.com.

Also, TVG will provide live coverage of all the Crown action on Saturday night, with Tom Cassidy hosting the broadcast.
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**Takter Aims For Big Crown Sendoff**

Jimmy Takter won his first Breeders Crown in 1993 with the 2-year-old filly trotter Gleam; 25 years later he enters Saturday night’s $6 million championship card at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono as the all-time leading trainer in Crown history with 33 trophies.

Takter qualified 15 horses for Saturday’s 12-race Crown extravaganza, but the number is reduced by one with the scratch “sick” of 3-year-old colt trotter Wolfgang. With the 58-year-old Hall of Famer just two months from a retirement he announced late in 2017, his 14 starters give him one last chance to add to his all-time totals.

Takter has won at least three Crown finals in each of the past six years, including a record six in 2015. His 14 starters will compete in 10 of the 12 finals on Saturday.

“I am going in there with a bunch of really nice horses, so if the wind blows my direction it could be a good night.”

—Jimmy Takter

Takter talked about his success in the event.

“Takter answered Tuesday afternoon (Oct. 23) when asked if his Crown approach is any different with his impending retirement. “I don’t know if it’s another day in the office, but it’s the Breeders Crown and it’s the Breeders Crown.”

In an interview with Heather Vi
tale for the Breeders Crown, Tak
ter said while Pinkman would probably love to have his trainer in the sulky, it’s best to leaving the driving to Yannick Gingras.

Pinkman got the rail and that’s perfect, but he never goes for me,” said Takter. “He’s one horse I cannot drive. He knows me too well. He’s a lazy horse and doesn’t work and when I drive him he won’t pick up the bit at all. He knows when I’m sitting behind him. He wants me to drive him because then he gets away with everything, Yannick gets along great with him.”

—By Gordon Waterstone
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<tr>
<th>DATE &amp; TRACK</th>
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Can Lather Up Rebound In Crown Final?

Despite making a break in the first turn of his Breeders Crown elimination last Saturday night at The Downs at Mohawk Sun Pocono, Lather Up managed to finish third and earn a spot in this Saturday’s $520,000 final.

Lather Up came into his Crown elim with 11 wins and one third in 14 starts, with his only two off-the-board finishes coming after he made breaks in the $400,000 Carl Milstein Memorial at Northfield Park and the $500,000 Max Hempt Memorial at Pocono.

Lather Up’s lofty record led to owners Gary and Barbara Isles writing a check for $62,500 to supplement the colt to the Breeders Crown. Knowing that Lather Up won both starts following his earlier miscues, driver Montrell Teague is expecting the same for the rich Crown final.

“It wasn’t the track at all,” said Teague, noting the “sloppy” race surface as a result of a steady rain. “We had adjusted some things after the qualifier and now we’ll make another simple equipment adjustment.”

Starting from post 5 in the last of three Crown eliminations for 3-year-old male pacers, Lather Up was caught three wide heading into the first turn. Just as Teague was ready to clear the lead, Lather Up went off stride. Although Lather Up regained his gait quickly, he dropped back to last in the six-horse field.

“I tried to get out of the gate to see what everybody was doing,” said Teague, “and two of them kept me high in the turn way longer than I figured they would. Right when I was going to cross over he made a break. So it messed up the whole trip anyways. If he didn’t make a break in that turn I don’t think there would have been any problem at all.”

After Lather Up gathered himself, he was on the move, but found himself third-over. While the first-over Shnitzle-dosethin finally cleared in the last turn to go on to the 39-1 upset victory, the 3-5 favorite Lather Up went wide around a tiring second-over Done Well before getting passed late by Grand Teton for place honors.

While the trio of elim winners drew for posts 1-5, Lather Up went into the open draw with the other six finalists and landed post 8.

“I was just praying to not get the nine hole; the eight hole isn’t much better,” said Teague. “At least we’re inside one horse. Anything can happen. I think there is going to be a lot of early speed...we’ll see if we can pick up the pieces.” — By Gordon Waterstone

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Toscano Looks For Crown Love With No Mas Amor

Trainer Linda Toscano would like nothing more than to cap off a year in which she was elected into harness racing’s Hall of Fame than win a Breeders Crown final. Toscano’s lone chance on Saturday night at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono comes with the 2-year-old colt pacer No Mas Amor, who won his elimination last Saturday in 1:50.3.

What makes No Mas Amor’s Breeders Crown presence even more intriguing is that No Mas Amor is a newcomer to Toscano’s barn, having been sent there after the son of Sweet Lou sprung a maiden-breaking 1:49.1 win at odds of 114-1 for trainer Ron Burke in an International Stallion Stake division at The Red Mile on Sept. 29.

“I didn’t know if that was just a fluke and he was the beneficiary of a good trip,” admitted Toscano. “I gave him a week off to freshen him up a little bit after the long ship from Kentucky. I trained him up a little bit and liked him.”

“Right now he seems to like a target and he’s finishing up really well.”
–Linda Toscano

Matt Kakaley drove No Mas Amor to his surprise victory in Lexington, and he was again behind the colt when he won his Breeders Crown elim at odds of 9-1. Leaving from post 5 in a field of five, Kakaley sat last with No Mas Amor as front-end fractions of :26.4, :55.3 and 1:22.4 were posted. Seeing room up the inside turning for home, Kakaley urged No Mas Amor home in a final quarter of :27.1 to edge past leading Air Force Hanover in the final strides.

Elimination winners earned the right to draw for posts 1-5, and No Mas Amor landed post 2. Toscano said Kakaley will be back in the bike for Saturday’s $600,000 Crown final.

“I was fortunate enough to get Matty to drive him again,” said Toscano. “Matty obviously gets along with him very, very well with him.”

Toscano downplayed the fact that No Mas Amor won the fastest of the three Crown elim, which were captured by Proof in 1:52.1 and Captain Trevor in 1:52.3.

“It’s just the pace of the race,” said Toscano. “(No Mas Amor) just knows how to finish. Right now he seems to like a target and he’s finishing up really well. He’s pacing forward at the right time of the mile.”


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No Mas Amor is a $110,000 yearling purchase by Ken Jacobs, who owned the 2012 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace champ Heston Blue Chip, who was trained by Toscano. No Mas Amor’s back-to-back victories brought his earnings to $73,556.

In 2012 Toscano became the first female to be voted Trainer of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers Association. The second female ever elected into the Hall of Fame, in addition to Heston Blue Chip Toscano has five other Crown trophies on her mantel, including Molly Can Do It (2002), Chapter Seven (2011 and 2012), Market Share (2013) and Walner (2016). — By Gordon Waterstone
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Baillargeon Tackles Crown 3CT With Run Director

Ontario-based trainer Ben Baillargeon believed he had a leading contender in this year’s 3-year-old colt trotting ranks in Alarm Detector, who capped off his O’Brien Award-winning freshman season in 2017 with a win in the William Wellwood Memorial at Woodbine Mohawk Park. Baillargeon hoped at this time he would be eyeing a big Breeders Crown victory with Alarm Detector, especially after the colt won his Goodtimes elimination in his sophomore debut and then was third in the final.

But then things went awry for Alarm Detector as he went winless his next nine starts, eventually landing in conditioned company where he made breaks his last two attempts earlier this month. But while Alarm Detector was having his problems, the Baillargeon-trained 3-year-old colt trotter Run Director was making a name for himself. With just one off-the-board finish in his lone start last year at two, Run Director was an unknown commodity heading into 2018. The son of Kadabra made up for lost time as he posted three wins and a second in Ontario Sires Stakes Gold competition—including a career-best 1:54 at Mohawk—before capturing the $173,250 Super Final on Oct. 13 as the odds-on favorite.

While Baillargeon didn’t start Alarm Detector in the Crown elims, he did send out Run Director, who rewarded the conditioner and breeders-owners Thomas and Elizabeth Rankin with a third-place finish last weekend at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. Receiving a nice trip from driver Sylvain Filion, Run Director finished just a length behind the favorite Six Pack.

After Baillargeon had a bad string of luck with post position draws in major stakes with Alarm Detector, he was surprised when Run Director drew post 1 for Saturday night’s $600,000 final. However, Baillargeon said that might not be the best starting spot for his Crown hopeful.

“I’m not sure the rail is good for him as he really doesn’t leave from the gate,” said Baillargeon, “and from what I’ve seen here the pole is no good. If I get away fifth or sixth I’ll be happy.”

Baillargeon did not have Run Director in his barn last year, but he liked what he saw from the get-go this year.

“Right off the bat I liked him,” he said. “He ran his third start and then we went on forward. He’s been nothing but good. He likes to go. There’s no quitting in him, let’s put it that way.”

Run Director is out of the Revenue S mare Keep The Spirit, who earned $112,364 over a 34-start career in 2008-10 for the Rankins.

“Mr. Rankin says Run Director has some of the Revenue blood, some of the French blood in the backbone of him and he just keeps going,” said Baillargeon, who has two seconds and a third in 10 previous starts in Crown finals. As for Alarm Detector, Baillargeon said the trotter hurt himself in his last start when he made a break.

“Last week he cut himself pretty bad between the foot and the ankle and it needed stitches,” he said. "Fortunately it didn’t go through the ligament. So we shut him down. “

“I don’t really know what happened to him this year. We’ll bring him back next year and hopefully things will go better. We still have a lot to prove and hopefully he’ll come back strong next year. It was very frustrating.” — By Gordon Waterstone
## New York Pacers
### AMERICAN IDEAL

**#90, WISHFUL DREAMS**, F  
American Ideal-Mako Wish-Cam's Card Shark  
Dam is a full-sister to **Shark Gesture**, p, 1:48.1s ($2,822,092)

### ART MAJOR

**#333, WIGGLE IT GIRL**, F  
Art Major-Winbak Wiggie-Well Said  
First Foal. Dam is a 1/2-sister to Mr Wiggles, p, 3, 1:49.1f ($1,168,231)

### BOLT THE D UER

**#522, WINTER D UER**, C  
Bolt The Duer-Boggie Woogie Fiu-Armuro Mackintosh  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Mini Me**, p, 1:49 ($1,143,558)

**#562, THE TRICKS ON ME**, F  
Bolt The Duer-Dominatrix-Magical Mike  
1/2-sister to **Major Hottie**, p, 1:48.3s ($754,588)

### HESTON BLUE CHIP

**#770, SHE'S GOT GAME**, F  
Heston Blue Chip-She's Game-The Ponderosa  
Dam is **She's Game**, p, 1:52.3f ($245,821)

### ROLL WITH JOE

**#63, BLAZING JOE**, C  
Roll With Joe-Jersey Pearl-Dragon Again  
1/2-brother to 2017 NYSS Final Winner, **Jersey Jim**, p, 3, 1:52.2h -18 ($219,676)

**#254, ROCK STAR HANNAH**, F  
Roll With Joe-Feelinglikeastar-Artiscape  
1/2-sister to **Zero Tolerance**, p, 2, 1:51 -18 ($248,641). Dam is a full-sister to **Rainbow Blue**, p, 3, 1:49.2s ($1,428,594)

## New York Trotters
### CHAPTER SEVEN

**#754, HOYAL CHAPTER**, C  
Chapter Seven-Royal Family-Yankee Glide  
Dam is a full-sister to **Stroke Play**, 1:53.4s ($1,174,302)

### CONWAY HALL

**#787, SPARK PLUG**, F  
Conway Hall-Stopa Up-Muscles Yankee  
First Foal. Dam is a full-sister to **Lhasa Muscles**, 1:52.3 ($457,816)

## New York Trotters (cont.)
### MUSCLES YANKEE

**#184, ANY OL’ BARSTOOL**, C  
Muscles Yankee-Bar Ballad-Windsong’s Legacy  
1/2-brother to **Fury Road**, 3, 1:57h -18 ($242,946)

## Ontario Pacers
### BADLANDS HANOVER

**#546, LAND OF BLUES**, C  
Badlands Hanover-Coed Blues-Arturo  
Full-brother to **Bringhome Theblue**, p, 1:50.4s ($153,614)

### BETTERTHANCHEDDAR

**#612, IRISH CHEDDAR**, C  
Betterthancheddar-Armuro Ocasey-Abercrombie  
1/2-brother to **Hidden Land**, p, 1:51.4h ($475,612)

### BETTOR’S DELIGHT

**#363, PACIFIC DELIGHT**, F  
Bettor’s Delight-Pacific Philly-Pacific Fella  
Dam is **Pacific Philly**, p, 1:50.4f ($494,724)

### MACH THREE

**#613, IMTHEBIGESIS**, F  
Mach Three-Imthebig Star-Art Major  
First Foal. Family of **Art Maker**, p, 1:49.1 ($1,036,217)

### SHADOW PLAY

**#295, DOUBLE PLAY**, F  
Shadow Play-Lady Leslie-Walton Hanover  
1/2-sister to **I’m All In**, p, 1:52.3f ($387,125)

### SPORTSWRITER

**#744, EXPRESS WRITER**, F  
Sportswriter-Red Carpet Queen-Western Hanover  
1/2-sister to **Red Carpet Dude**, p, 3, 1:51.3f ($296,819)

## Ontario Trotters
### ARCHANGEL

**#603, GUARD MY HEART**, F  
Archangel-Heartbeat Hanover-Donerail  
1/2-sister to **Lukes Devon**, 1:58.1f ($151,262)

### KADABRA

**#505, CRAVING YOU**, F  
Kadabra-Back On Track-Donerail  
1/2-sister to **Palm Beach Chic**, 3, 1:54.4s ($155,933)

## Ontario Trotters (cont.)
### ROYALTY FOR LIFE

**#594, ROYAL PEACH**, F  
Royalty For Life-Georgia Baby-Mutineer  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **SJ’s Caviar**, 3, 1:53.4 ($1,288,466)

## Pennsylvania Pacers
### WELL SAID

**#620, BO KNOWS**, C  
Well Said-Jenny’s Money-Dragon’s Lair  
1/2-brother to **Stagecoach Hodelp**, p, 1:51.4f ($280,263)

### WESTERN IDEAL

**#758, COWGIRL LILLY**, F  
Western Ideal-Sand Speed-Matt’s Scooter  
1/2-sister to **Speed Again**, p, 1:48.1s ($1,040,686)

## Pennsylvania Trotters
### ANDOVER HALL

**#635, MARTINSONTHEBAY**, F  
Andover Hall-Lady Tini-Sand Vic  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Peach Martin**, 3, 1:55f ($587,686)

### DONATO HANOVER

**#446, BIG NUDGE**, C  
Donato Hanover-Victors Ricky-Velly-Victor  
Dam is **Victors Vicky**, 1:55f ($712,342)

**#794, ALITTLEBITOF SUGAR**, F  
Donato Hanover-Sugarcane Yankee-Windsong’s Legacy  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Strong Yankee**, 3, 1:50.3 ($1,434,351)

### EXPLOSIVE MATTER

**#686, DETONATED**, C  
Explosive Matter-Ms Kristin-Donerail  
Dam is a 1/2-sister to **Lassies Goal**, 3, 1:54.2 ($596,739)

### SEBASTIAN K S

**#44, AMAZING ALLISON**, F  
Sebastian K S-Galeah’s Damsel-Pine Chip  
1/2-sister to **Oh Sweet Baby**, 1:54.4s ($655,300)

### YANKEE GLIDE

**#646, FLOATING ON AIR**, F  
Yankee Glide-Lucerne De Vie-Angus Hall  
Dam is **Lucerne De Vie**, 1:55f ($113,605)

* Stored Stem Cells available  
* First Crop Yearlings Sell in 2018  
All Information as of 10/15/18
Leaders of Breeder's Crown


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<th>Breeder (alone/in partnership)</th>
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Breeders Crown Team Handicapping Contest Announced

Twelve of harness racing's top handicappers will be playing for charity on Saturday night in a unique contest on the 12 Breeders Crown championships at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. The Breeders Crown Handicapping Contest is sponsored by the Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown with total prize money of $1,750 to be awarded to three designated charities.

The 12 players have been divided into three teams of four members each. The team with the most money at the end of Saturday night's Breeders Crown championship card will earn $1,000 for its designated charity. Second place is worth $500 and third place will earn $250. The teams and the designated charities they are playing for are: Foiled Again/Harness Horse Youth Foundation; Gallo Blue Chip/New Vocations; and Moni Maker/Standardbred Retirement Foundation. All team names honor past Breeders Crown champions, who are also the three richest North American-based horses of all-time.

“The Hambletonian Society was proud to support the Grand Circuit Wagering Contest which was responsible for thousands of dollars raised for equine aftercare charities and is happy to be a part of the new format,” said Hambletonian Society COO and director of publicity Moira Fanning. “The Breeders Crown Handicapping Contest will help support these charities as well as encourage real wagering on the unprecedented 15 percent low takeout on all Breeders Crown wagers.

“Good luck to all the new members of the #SenditinArmy.”

Each team member will handicap three races. All wagers are mythical and players for each race will be limited to $100 maximum win or win/place combination, $100 maximum in total exacta wagers, and $120 maximum in total trifecta wagers. The selections will be available via a press release sent out prior to Saturday night’s finals, with the results announced on Monday, Oct. 29.

Here are the teams, and the charity they will be playing for:

**TEAM FOILED AGAIN**, playing for Harness Horse Youth Foundation:

- **Allan Schott**—Seasoned handicapper who was the coordinator for the Horseplayer’s Association of North America (HANA) Grand Circuit Handicapping Contest.
- **Dave Brower**—Race analyst and oddsmaker at the Meadowlands, host of nationally-televised Hambletonian broadcast.
- **Derick Giwner**—Editor of drf.com/harness, DRF Harness Weekend Newsletter and Harness Eye for Daily Racing Form.
- **Dave Weaver**—Announcer for TVG for nearly 20 years. He lived out his dream covering this year’s Meadowlands Pace and Hambletonian and his favorite Breeders Crown moment is Foiled Again winning the 2013 Open Pace.

**TEAM GALLO BLUE CHIP**, playing for New Vocations:

- **Ellie Sarama**—Former host and handicapper at Meadowlands, Freehold and The Racing Network, as well as commentator for ESPN’s Breeders Crown shows.
- **Garnet Barnsdale**—Veteran handicapper and harness reporter/writer currently working as the Mohawk Park public handicapper for DRF Harness. Won the HANA Grand Circuit Shootout charity handicapping contest in 2014.
- **Gabe Prewitt**—Announcer at Red Mile and Pompano Park as well as race analyst at Meadowlands.
- **Gordon Waterstone**—Communicators Hall of Famer, associate editor of The Horseman And Fair World, HarnessRacing Weekend Preview and harnessracing.com.

**TEAM MONI MAKER**, playing for Standardbred Retirement Foundation:

- **Mark Mc Kelvie**—Communications director for Woodbine Mohawk Park.
- **Megan Maccario**—Featured contributor for Thoroughbred Insider, also participated in the HANA Grand Circuit contests.
- **Michael Carter**—The 2017 Breakthrough Award winner, social media and publicity coordinator for the USTA as well as co-host of Mike and Mike.
- **Sally Hinckley**—Oddsmaker and public handicapper for decades, won the 2015 HANA Grand Circuit contest.

(Breeders Crown)
Featuring brothers and sisters to stakes-winning performers and from stakes producing families!

**Hip 221 Hold On Watch This, bc**
Art Major-Crazy Eights-Bettor's Delight
Full foal to brother to stakes winner Cash Crazy Express r.t. p.2,1:55.3-'18 ($7,225). Third foal and first colt from CRAZY EIGHTS p.4,1:52.2 ($77,250), half-sister to stakes winner WINNING IT p.3,1:52.1f ($151,998) and A HARD DAYS NIGHT p.1:53.3h ($98,718). Second dam is stakes winner DAY AFTER DAY p.1:51 ($366,161), three-quarter sister to GOTCHA COVERED p.1:50.3 ($213,487). From the immediate family of CAMTASTIC DREAM p.1:50.4 ($448,491) and TOWN DREAMER p.1:53.4 ($424,908).

**Hip 616 Rodeo Rosie, bf**
Well Said-Indulge Me-Bettor's Delight
Full foal to multiple stakes winner REIGN ON ME p.2,1:52.4f ($267,112); half-sister to SPENDABUCKONME p.2,1:54.2f ($75,966) and NEVERHABITSOGOOD p.3,1:54.4f ($18,466). From multiple 2 & 3-year-old stakes winner INDULGE ME p.2,1:52 ($675,165). Second dam is the brilliant racemare and producer SUMMER CHILD p.3,1:52.2 ($493,609)—from 13 foals she is the dam of 9 winners including the trio of multiple stakes winners THE FIREPAN p.3,1:50.4 ($617,097), POLISHED SATIN p.3,1:52.2 ($113,652) and SUMMERTIME LEA p.4,1:50.4f ($715,804).

**Hip 412 Catch The Spirit, bf**
Art Major-Spirit Of The West-Western Hanover
Half-sister to BELIEVEINTHESPIRIT p.1:50.2 ($253,912), SCALPED p.3,1:51.1 ($87,387) and LADY ORB p.3,1:51.1-'18 ($30,791). From SPIRIT OF THE WEST p.4,1:51.4 ($142,241), half-sister to PACIFIC OKEY DOKEY p.4,1:52.2 ($408,040), DESTINY CRUISE p.1:52.3f ($178,065), etc. Second dam is a half-sister to World Champion PACIFIC FELLA p.4,1:50.4 ($1,064,631), PACIFIC REGALIA p.4,1:50.2f ($213,487) and PETITE PAN p.4,1:54.2h ($380,932).

**Hip 558 Day Of Honor, bc**
Bettor's Delight-Day After Day-Western Hanover

**Hip 642 Ain't Seen Nothin, bc**
Muscles Yankee-Loch Katrine-Andover Hall
Full foal to multiple stakes winner STAYINSTRONG 3,1:57.2 ($125,554). From multiple stakes winner LOCH KATRINE 1:56.1f ($214,953), half-sister to ELLEN'S ISLE 4,1:53.2f ($279,295), HANG TEN p.4,1:50.1f ($316,662) and CRANN TARA 3,1:54.1 ($145,432). Second dam is a half-sister to BANNOCKBURN 1:55.1 ($302,916) and DALLAS DUH 1:58.2h ($199,185).

**Hip 664 Greek Legend, bc**
Manofmanymissions-Medusa Blue Chip-Credit Winner
Full foal to CHARIOT RACER 3,1:56.1f-'18 ($35,301). From MEDUSA BLUE CHIP 2,1:58f ($78,224), half-sister to HARPER BLUE CHIP 3,1:54.3 ($882,951), VIBE BLUE CHIP 3,1:53.3f ($294,144), OPTIMIST BLUE CHIP 4,1:53.2f-'18 ($160,663) and MONOPOLY BLUE CHIP 4,1:54.3f ($133,553). Second dam is a full sister to stakes winner MYOLIN 3,1:55.4 ($197,112-dam of MYLYN MYERS 1:56f-$96,468).

**Hip 774 Skipping Stone, bc**
Pet Rock-Skinny Dip-Western Ideal
Half-brother to NOT BEFORE EIGHT p.4,1:49.3 ($264,435), BIG SURF p.3,1:52.2 ($130,271), BROOKDALE SONNY p.1:53.2f-'18 ($73,540) and DARK FORCE p.3,1:52.1f-'18 ($81,043). From SKINNY DIP p.2,1:57.2h ($86,920), full or half-sister to THONG p.3,1:50.2 ($705,185), HANG TEN p.4,1:50.1f ($316,662), ALL TUCKED UP p.4,1:52 ($186,631) and WINNERS OVER p.3,1:53.4f ($132,405).

**Hip 803 Reel Em In, brc**
Crazed-Take The Plunge-Donerail
Full foal to Critique p.4,2:00.2h-'18 ($18,584). First colt from a half-sister to multiple stakes winner of over $3million ALL BETS OFF p.1:48-'18 ($3,068,257), ARM BRO CARRUTHERS p.1:51.3 ($341,878), PENNY PINCHER p.1:52.3f ($253,208-dam of PENNYSFROMHEAVEN p.4,1:51.2-18 ($65,948), RESPECTEDBELoved p.4,1:51.4 ($173,102) and ARM BRO VAGARIOUS p.4,1:53.2h ($168,599). Second dam is multiple stakes winner ARM BRO PENELope p.2,1:56 ($166,224).
Eye On Pocono

With takeout reduced to 15 percent for all bets on Saturday night’s Breeders Crown card at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, there will be plenty of opportunities to cash a nice ticket.

Three Pick 4s will be offered on the card, all with $40,000 guarantees as part of the U.S. Trotting Association’s Strategic Wagering Program. The first Breeders Crown final is Race 3 and it kicks off the first Pick 4. Race 7 begins the second Pick 4, and Race 11 begins the third Pick 4.

There is also a Rainbow Pick 5 on the last five Crown finals (Races 10-14). While the pool is usually paid only if there is a single winning ticket, that won’t be the case on Saturday as there is a mandatory payout with a guaranteed pool of $75,000. The Rainbow Pick 5 pool was frozen on Oct. 9, so there is a carryover of $20,238 heading into Saturday’s pool. The Rainbow Pick 5 has a 20-cent minimum ticket.

In order for you to cap off the night with a winning ticket, Weekend Preview’s Gordon Waterstone offers his Rainbow Pick 5 selections:

**RACE 10**
SHARTIN N has been nearly untouchable this year and from post 2 she will be tough to beat. Starting from post 3, CALL ME QUEEN BE could turn the tables. Her elim win over the sloppy track was sensational. You can also throw in CAVIART ALLY as a “just in case” as she finished third as the betting favorite behind Shartin N in that elim, but the nine hole presents problems.

**RACE 11**
It would be a shocker if any other filly besides the “Big Four” come up a winner here. I’m going to give a slight—and I mean slight—edge to PHAETOSIVE here. To say she got an easy trip in the elim would be an understatement, and trainer Trond Smedshammer has turned the lines over here to George Brennan. Look for her late.

ATLANTA had her own way in the elim and that doesn’t seem likely here as MANCHEGO should be pressing the issue early. Svanstedt could really shake things up in the early going if he is aggressive with PLUNGE BLUE CHIP from post 1.

**RACE 12**
I can make a case for eight of the nine starters so I’m going to be brave and use them all except the outside horse. If I had to make a top pick I’d go with DORSODURO HANOVER as I look for Kakaley to get a great trip from post 1, probably looking for the inside in the stretch. Division honors could be on the line for LATHER UP as he absolutely needs a win to be in the mix. He raced big last time after making an early break while on the move, I expect gate speed again here. THIS IS THE PLAN raced big in his elim, and SPRINGSTEEN could be a danger if close turning for home.

What Will The Weather Mean For Crown Night?

You can’t control the weather, but the folks associated with the Breeders Crown championship at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono sure wish they could. On Thursday, the forecast posted on the website of WNEP, the local ABC television affiliate for the area, read for Saturday: “windy and wet with an all day rain and temps stuck in the 40s...double yuck”

Fans can take refuge in the building, but the horses and their drivers will be stuck dealing with the conditions. So how might rain and a cold, gusty wind affect the horses and racing?

“Usually at Pocono, speed holds up. It’s a speed-favoring track. If you pull three wide in the last turn, you lose ground,” said Corey Callahan, who regularly drives there. “With rain and wind and a sloppy track, it’s really hard to tell how the track is going to play until you watch a couple of races.

“It could be a tiring track for front runners,” he added. “Especially if it’s windy, it will make it tough on those out in the breeze.”

Trainer Trond Smedshammer, who will send out Phaetosive in the 3-Year-Old Filly Trot and Celebrity Ruth (Older Mare Trot), said he is not too sure how the track will play.

“You would think that when the track is off it would not be as biased,” said Smedshammer, “but last week (Saturday night) it didn’t matter. Horses still won off the front end.”

Last Saturday, when rain made the track sloppy for the eliminations for 3 year olds and older horses, horses on the front end fared very well. The following horses, either on the front or first-over en route to landing on the lead, won 10 of the 14 Crown elimins: Call Me Queen Be, Emoticon Hanover, Shartin N, Six Pack, Atlanta, This Is The Plan, Youaremycandygirl, Guardian Angel S and Top Flight Angel.—By Kathy Parker

**RACE 13**
ARIANA G shines on the big stage so I look for a big effort. EMOTICON HANOVER certainly would not be a surprise as she has tactical speed and will likely get a great trip. Beware BROADWAY DONNA as she had excuses her last two with the miscues.

**RACE 14**
I give MCWICKED the narrowest of edges in the rubber match with LAZARUS N. Look for McWicked to gun down his rival in the shadow of the wire.

**PLAY:** 2,3,9/1,3,7,8/1-8/1,5,8/2,20-CENT TICKET COST: $115.20

**ECONOMY PLAY:** 2,3/1,3,7,8/1,2,3,8/5,8/2,3 COST: $25.60
Don’t Miss Winbak’s Yearlings & Racehorses
 Selling at the 11/8 & 11/9 Harrisburg Mixed Sale

Winbak’s Mixed Sale Yearling Highlights Selling 11/8

Delaware Pacers (Selling 6)

ARTIZNA
#913, BLAZING ART†, C
Artizna-Fire One Up-Rustler Hanover
1/2-brother to Cougar Creek,
p, 1:52.1f ($135,807)

#935, NEXT TREASURE†, C
Artizna-Treasure Valley-Roddy's Bags Again
Dam is a 1/2-sister to Foxland,
p, 1:52.2f ($246,955)

BADLANDS NITRO
#918, AMERICAN NITRO†, C
Badlands Nitro-Jet America-Allamerican Native
1/2-brother to Hawker,
p, 1:55.3f ($142,458)

DREAM AWAY
#930, CUONTHEBACKSTRETCH†, F
Badlands Nitro-See You Hanover-Cam's Card Shark
1/2-sister to Skateboard Chic,
p, 1:52.2f ($167,201)

WINBAK’S Agent Racehorse Lineup Selling 11/9

3-Year-Old Pacers (Selling 6)

BETTERTHANCHEDDAR
#1412, KIM’S THE BEST, F, NY
Betterthancheddar-Kim’s Caper-Badlands Hanover
p, 3, 1:59h -’18 ($19,634) - Fits NW of 2!
• Sired by the hot sire, Betterthancheddar
• Hall of fame pedigree. Currently racing

BETTOR’S DELIGHT
#1496, JUSTWIGGLEIT, G, PA
Bettor’s Delight-WiggleHanover-Life Sign
p, 3, 1:54h -’18 ($179,190)
• Good-looking & well bred
• Sound. Green. Full of potential

SPORTSWRIGHT
#1411, ASHLEE’S SPORT†, F, ON
Sportswright-Ashlee’s Star-Western Hanover
p, 2, 1:56.2h ($23,948)
• Stakes-winning filly. Currently racing
• Immediate family of Betterthancheddar & Courtly Choice! Broodmare potential!

WESTERN IDEAL
#1414, YOUNG N CRAZY, F, PA
Western Ideal-Fast Princess-Artsice
p, 3, 1:59.2f -’18 ($9,995)
• User-friendly & well-bred 3-year-old

All information as of 10/15/18. Check for racing updates at sale time! Any questions, call Jeff Fout, at 443.945.0507. 

Delaware Trotters (Selling 6)

CR COMMANDO
#906, CURRENT COMMAND†, C
CR Commando-Current Yield-Like A Prayer
1/2-brother to Odessa, 1:55.3f ($199,016)

#922, GO COMMANDO†, C
CR Commando-Ms Marshmala-Malabar Man
1/2-brother to Smart Strike,
3, 1:59.2f ($118,245)

#926, HIS LEADING EDGE†, C
CR Commando-Radical Missy-Mr Lavoc
Dam is a 1/2-sister to Majestic Son,
3, 1:52.2s ($1,760,365)

POLITICAL BRIEFING
#900, ALL LIES†, C
Political Briefing-Bobbi Jo’s Ex-CR Excalibur
Family of Snow White,
2, 1:52.4 ($1,433,551)

#939, BLAZIN POLITICS†, C
Political Briefing-Adore Eleanor-Conway Hall
Family of Prakas, 3, 1:53.2 ($1,956,056)

Ontario Pacer

SHADOW PLAY
#901, BOOK LIST†, F
Shadow Play-Book Order-Three Wizards
1/2-sister to Newberry Winner,
p, 1:53s ($221,647). Family of Anndrovette,
p, 1:48s ($3,543,218)

Pennsylvania Pacer

A ROCKNROLL DANCE
#905, DREAM DANCING†, F
A Rocknroll Dance-Clearly Foxy-Royal Mattjesty
2nd dam is Armbro Feather,
p, 1:51.3 ($1,454,927)

DELMARVALOUS
#914, YOU SO FUNNY†, C
Delmarvalous-Funny Card-Cam’s Card Shark
Family of Handsoffmycookie,
p, 1:51.3f ($1,408,440)

#927, BETHANY BEAUTY†, F
Delmarvalous-Rare Filly-Village Connection
1/2-sister to Evolution Tour,
p, 2, 1:52.4f ($179,718)

*Stored Stem Cells Available

3-Year-Old Trotters (Selling 6)

WESTERN IDEAL (cont.)
#1495, IDEAL FLIP, C, PA
Western Ideal-Flip For Love-Riverboat King
p, 3, 1:51.4f -’18 ($103,807)
• High class, stakes-winning colt
• His family makes money!
• Eligible to Matron & Progress

ANGUS HALL
#1569, JAMMIN JACK, G, ON
Angus Hall-Luscious Lindy-S J’s Photo
3, 1:55.4s -’18 ($58,494)
• Extra nice young trotter
• Family of many top money winners
• Winner of 2018 ONSS Grassroots Final

EXPLOSIVE MATTER
#1568, EXUBERANCE, G, PA
Explosive Matter-Love To Flaunt-Angus Hall
3, 1:57.3f -’18 ($28,761)
• Extra nice young trotter who likes his job
• Can race on any size track

3-Year-Old Trotters (cont.)

GLIDEMASTER
#1444, MS SPARTAN, F, ON
Glidermaster-Alot Of Pump-Angus Hall
3, 2:01.1h -’18 ($9,897)
• Nice, big, solid race mare
• Gets over any size track. Good gate speed

MUSCLES YANKEE
#1413, MUSCLE UP HAZEL, F, NY
Muscles Yankee-Call Me Hazel-Call Toll Free
3, 1:57.2s -’18 ($15,876)
• Big, high speed, trotting filly
• Solid family of race horses

MUTINEER
#1597, NASHVILLE FLASH, G, NY
Mutineer-Commando Chic-Cr Commando
• Green, young trotter. Fits NW 1!
• Just starting his racing career

4-Year-Old Pacer

VINTAGE MASTER
#1445, SNAPPY DRESSER, M, ON
Vintage Master-Elegant Girl-Allamerican Ingot
p, 1:53f -’18 ($63,977)
• Upper class mare. Solid & fresh horse
to race over the winter

Visit www.winbakfarm.com for complete Harrisburg Mixed Sale Lineup!
Garrett Bell, General Manager / James Ladwig, Yearling Manager
155 Yearling Row, Chesapeake City, MD 21915 / (410) 885.3059 / james.ladwig@winbakfarm.com
Kakaley, Dorsoduro Hanover
Favored In 3CP

Matt Kakaley hopes to make a memorable year with Dorsoduro Hanover even better.

Dorsoduro Hanover, trained by Ron Burke, is the 3-1 morning-line favorite in Saturday’s $530,000 Breeders Crown final for 3-year-old male pacers. The 30-year-old Kakaley, who is among the leading drivers at Pocono, will enter the night aiming for his first Breeders Crown trophy. The duo will start from post 1 in the field of nine.

Dorsoduro Hanover won his Breeders Crown elimination last weekend by 1 1/4 lengths over Thinkbig Dreambig in 1:50.1 over a “sloppy” track. The 3-year-old gelding has won nine of 17 races this year and earned $916,612. His wins include the Adios, when he delivered Burke and Kakaley their first victory in the event at Burke’s home track of The Meadows, and Pennsylvania Sires Stakes championship.

He was second in the Little Brown Jug, beaten by a neck, and in the Meadowlands Pace from post 10.

“He’s had some close calls and a few big wins and it’s been a lot of fun,” said Kakaley, who has driven Dorsoduro Hanover in all but three of his 31 lifetime starts. “He’s had a solid season. I think he likes Pocono too. He usually gives a good effort every time he’s at Pocono.”

Dorsoduro Hanover has won five of six starts at Pocono this year. His victory in his Breeders Crown elimination followed a second-place finish to Grand Teton in a division of the Tattersalls Pace at Lexington’s Red Mile.

“I was a little disappointed with Lexington, to be honest, because when he cleared (leader) This Is The Plan off the last turn I thought he was going to pace away and hide,” Kakaley said. “He eased up on me a little late and Grand Teton got him at the wire. But he was really good (Saturday). When Thinkbig Dreambig got to his bridle he just took off again. I was really happy with him.”

Dorsoduro Hanover’s recently-added stablemate This Is The Plan, also an elimination winner last weekend, is the 4-1 second choice in Saturday’s final. He won his elim by 3 1/4 lengths over I’m A Big Deal in 1:51 in his second start for the Burke stable and driver Yannick Gingras.

“He was really good,” Gingras said. “I fired him up too much in Lexington and he was loose on the lead. He was way more relaxed (Saturday) and when I called on him he was there. It is going to be an interesting final. I think there are nine horses that can win this race. It’s wide open.”

Dorsoduro Hanover is owned by Burke Racing Stable, Silva Purnel & Libby, the Weaver Bruscemi partnership, and Wingfield Five. This Is The Plan is owned by Burke Racing, Silva Purnel & Libby, Weaver Bruscemi, and Larry Karr. (Ken Weingartner)
Book Your Dan Patch Rooms
At Rosen Shingle Creek

Not only is it Breeders Crown time, it’s also time to start booking rooms for the U.S. Harness Writers Association’s (USHWA) 2019 Dan Patch Awards banquet.

USHWA’s annual Dan Patch Awards banquet returns to Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Fla., on Sunday, Feb. 24, and room reservations are now available. The USHWA link to the hotel’s reservation page can be found below.

The 2018 Dan Patch Awards banquet was held for the first time at Rosen Shingle Creek and because of the tremendous positive response to the site and overall experience, USHWA decided to return for an unprecedented second year in a row.

“Last year’s event was so well received by many of the attendees and USHWA members that it was an easy decision to return for another year,” said USHWA president Shawn Wiles. “Rosen Shingle Creek is a first-class venue that offers many amenities for its guests, we look forward to another excellent event.”

Located just off Universal Boulevard, within 10 minutes of the Orlando International Airport and minutes from the many area attractions, the 1,500-room Rosen Shingle Creek is a five-star property that is ranked a top-20 U.S. meeting hotel by Cvent.

The stunning 230-acre property includes four swimming pools, two lighted tennis courts, sand volleyball, basketball, a spa that includes nine treatment rooms, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and an 18-hole, Arnold Palmer redesigned golf course. There are also 15 restaurant/lounges, including the upscale steakhouse A Land Remembered, the fine-dining bistro Cala Bella, Café Osceola, Tobias Burgers and Brews, Banrai Sushi, Mi Casa Tequila and Taquiera, and a 24-hour deli.

Dinner ticket prices and menu will be announced later, with a reduced price available for children 12 and under. All attendees will receive a 10 percent discount at all of the above-mentioned restaurants, a 10 percent discount at the Spa at Shingle Creek, and a green fees discount at the Shingle Creek Golf Club.

Rosen Shingle Creek offers complimentary shuttles to area theme parks and Orlando Premium Outlets.

The Dan Patch Awards banquet annually honors the best and brightest performers, both human and equine, of the previous season. The award winners are selected by USHWA, with all winners announced in advance except for Pacer of the Year, Trotter of the Year, and Horse of the Year, which will be revealed at the conclusion of the banquet. USHWA will hold its annual directors meeting on Saturday, Feb. 23, and its general membership meeting the morning of the banquet.

All standard rooms under the USHWA block are $199 nightly (plus applicable taxes). For room reservations, please click here for USHWA’s dedicated link. More details will be made available at the USHWA website, www.ushwa.org, and through trade media as they become available.

To inquire about several sponsorship opportunities for the weekend, including live video streaming, the Red Carpet reception and live feed hosted by Heather Vitale and Heather Wilder, please contact USHWA president Wiles at swiles@empireresorts.com.

SRF’s Feed Bucket Challenge Underway

McCauley Bros. Feed will generously give 100 of the Standardbred Retirement Foundation’s horses warm bellies for the winter with their feed bucket challenge match.

For every dollar donated McCauley’s will match it with their quality feed up to $7,000. The challenge started Oct. 23 and ends Sunday, Nov. 4 at midnight.

A pound of grain averages about 75 cents to $1.25. For the healthy SRF horse during the winter months, about seven pounds per day is needed. This does not include hay which should be free choice for them, especially during the cold season. Donations in any amount are very much appreciated and are tax-deductible.

This is one of the most trying times in SRF’s 29 year history with 403 horses under its expense and care. To help us meet this much needed challenge gift from McCauley’s Feed, a company that has supported SRF for nearly 20 years already, please call (609) 738-3255, email SRFHorsesandkids@gmail.com, visit our website at http://www.adoptahorse.org/ or see our Facebook page with the donation button.

Thank you so very much for helping and thank you to McCauley’s Feed for all their wonderful support, as well as to Reynolds Hay and Straw, the local distributor in our area. (Standardbred Retirement Foundation)
Remembering Bay’s Fella’s $140 Crown Payoff

“Well, there’s a hole in one for you,” said announcer Tom Durkin, as the winner crossed the finish line in the 1990 Breeders Crown for open pacers on Nov. 2, 1990.

That year, just the seventh edition of the Breeders Crown, saw a record established that lasted 18 years when 5-year-old stallion Bay’s Fella crossed the finish line first at odds of 69-1. The $2 win ticket payoff of $140.60 was topped in 2008 when Kadelia paid $152.

It was an unexpected spot for Breeders Crown rookie, 27-year-old driver Paul MacDonell, trainer Mike DeMenno, who started Bay’s Fella as a yearling with the help of some high school students, and the 20 golfing buddies who kicked in $400 each to buy a horse and called themselves the Par Birdie Stable.

The late Hugh Bentley and Bert Nash, already involved in the Standardbred industry, played golf most weeks with some friends in western New York. Their outings generally involved a trip to the track after the 18th hole and the 20 friends were a ready-made partnership.

Joe Smith, who’s owned more than a dozen horses since Bay’s Fella, was a Par Birdie Stable member and remembers the loose business plan that surrounded the acquisition.

“Friday nights, the guys I used to play golf with would go to Buffalo Raceway after playing,” said Smith. “We had a good time watching the horses and always said, ‘Geez, someday we ought to own a horse.’ Years later, in 1986, I got a call from one of my friends; he said we’re going to buy a racehorse, do you want to be in on it?”

DeMenno was given a budget and guidelines to shop for a yearling.

“(Bentley) said, ‘Well, we have $12,000, but we need money to train him,’” said DeMenno, now retired and living in Pinehurst, N.C. “I couldn’t buy one for six or eight thousand—not one that I would want to train.

“So now this is November; Bentley called me up and said we’re still looking. He talked to Keith Hamilton (a U.S. Trotting Association identification tech), who travels all over New York tattooing, and he asked him to see if he could find something. Keith called him up and said, ‘I’m in Saratoga and there’s a fella who wants to sell a horse.’

“They bought the horse, sight unseen, for $8,000. They took him off the trailer; he’s loaded with burdocks (weeds whose seed heads stick in manes and tails and are very hard to remove).

“We got the burdocks off him and polished him up, line drove him one day, hooked him to a cart and away we went. He was easy to handle. I’m thinking we’re just trying to make him a racehorse, a five claimer. The first time I turned him with a watch, I didn’t even cluck to him, didn’t carry a whip, tapped him on the rear with the line, he went a three-minute mile.”

Bay’s Fella kept improving and dominated the New York Sires Stakes and had more than a half million in earnings before his 5-year-old season in which he won the Breeders Crown. The 69-1 shot raced like a horse with much lower odds, setting a :27.1 first quarter, tucking in behind heavy favorite Topnotcher and sprinting to the finish to win by a half-length.

Bay’s Fella retired in 1991, after a career in which he had 28 wins in 93 starts, a career record of 1:51.3, and $805,234 in earnings. The son of Brand New Fella had a brief career as a stallion, with a select 11 progeny earning close to $350,000 before succumbing to colic. (Ellen Harvey)

Prominent Owners Joining New Vocations Breeders Crown Pledge

Prominent owners are stepping up to support aftercare by participating in the New Vocations Breeders Crown Pledge. This event asks owners, trainers and drivers of Breeders Crown finalists to pledge a percentage of their earnings or commissions from the championship races Saturday night. No amount is too small. Every dollar goes toward the rehabilitation, retraining and rehoming of Standardbreds leaving the track.

So far, Diamond Creek Farm has pledged their exceptional 2-year-old pacing colts Proof and Blood Money, as well as their stellar 3-year-old pacing colt Grand Teton and the awesome aged pacing mare Pure Country. Burke Racing Stable and Weaver Bruscemi have pledged their ownership interests in the crack 2-year-old pacing fillies St. Somewhere and Warrawee Ubeaut, along with the extremely fast 3-year-old pacing filly Double A Mint and the 3-year-old pacing star Dorsoduro Hanover.

Howard Taylor has pledged for his interest in the amazing elimination winners Atlanta, Tactical Landing and Shnitzledosomethin. Jim and Joanne King just came on as trainers.

“Diamond Creek Farm has always stressed the importance of aftercare for the Standardbred, from our herd of retired mares to our ex-racehorse babysitters,” said farm owner Adam Bowden. “We applaud the efforts of New Vocations, who with the support of others is able to directly contribute to the successful futures of many of these horses.

“The Standardbred is sadly often overlooked as a riding horse. Intelligent and durable, they can be some of the best companions in the ring or on the trail. Diamond Creek believes it is important to promote the versatility of the breed. We are proud to continue to support New Vocations through this pledge. Through their training and rehoming program, they have been able to educate the public on the attributes of the Standardbred as a riding companion and have provided successful and happy second careers for many deserving animals.”

New Vocations continues to seek pledges from additional owners, trainers and drivers through Saturday. Any that have not pledged but feel especially blessed following the races are encouraged to consider donating to this important effort. To make a pledge, contact Winnie Morgan Nemeth (734) 320-7918 or winnie@horseadoption.com or Dot Morgan (937) 947-4020 or dot@horseadoption.com or go to newvocations.org/breeders-crown-pledge. (New Vocations)
2YO FILLY TROT

1—WHEN DOVESCRY
“She is a great horse, and we knew she would be a great horse. We brought her along slowly, as we are looking to race her on at three and four—but obviously she was very good tonight.” —driver Simon Allard

2—WOODSIDE CHARM
“She’s an absolute professional. We don’t know how or why, but we’re enjoying the moment. When I figured out what she was, I tried to set up where she only races every so many weeks. The only close one I had was between Saratoga and Hoosier; it was eight days. When I do (2 year olds) I never see big miles in starts 10 to 12. I always see them between six and eight. That’s where you get your big miles. I always said that if I get one, I’m going to try to time it to where I can go to the Breeders Crown with a fresh one. That was the idea behind it. When we got to mid-summer, I wanted to race her every week, but I had to stick to the plan.” —trainer-driver-owner Verlin Yoder

3—CHAMPAGNE JANE
“She was a big surprise. She raced good last week, but it was another level tonight. I think everything worked good for her tonight. I think Bobby (driver Bob McClure) did a really good job with her. He took his time with her and didn’t use her too hard at the beginning. It worked out. (Earlier this season) she was sick and up-and-down. She was sick, we treated her, she came back. The weather change, I think she liked that too. The horse is feeling good right now and Bob did a very good job for us.” —trainer Luc Blais

4—CLOUD NINE FASHION
“We got lucky to get (to the final). She got a little rough finishing. I’m not sure what that was all about, but she hung in there. She’s got a great disposition about her and dug in and tried. We’ve got a little work to do to get her better for next week. She just wasn’t trotting as good as she normally does.” —trainer Jim Campbell

5—SPECIAL HONOR
“She raced really good. I had to work a little harder earlier than I wanted to, but she dug in good in the lane. The one horse on the far outside got by her, but she fought off the two that were right next to her. I was really happy with her effort.” —driver Andy Miller

6—WHISPERING OAKS
“She raced good. I probably should have sat third on the inside, but she’s a filly that likes to follow a long way and she’s got a little move there on the end. I used her a little bit too early probably. But it was a good mile.” —driver Yannick Gingras

7—MISS YOU KELLY
“It wasn’t a shock because she was getting a good trip and I knew her times matched up with the other ones in the field. I was maybe a little disappointed that she didn’t finish second, but I’m not going to be choosy about it right now. She was racing on the left line finishing and that’s what cost her second money. With a horse alongside of her (Tim Tetrick) couldn’t allow her to drift out any. He had to keep hard on the left line to keep her straight. We’ll take a look at her and see if there is anything to fix before Saturday.” —trainer Bruce Lauer

8—THE ICE DUTCHESS
“I thought she raced really good. The other horse (When Dovescry) left really hard so we got away third. She’s got a lot of miles in her, but she seems really sharp.” —driver Yannick Gingras

9—STELLA JANE
“This has been Michelle’s (Michelle Crawford of Crawford Farms) baby from day one. She’s a big filly and qualified good. We decided to teach her a little bit instead of racing her on the half-mile tracks a bunch in New York. She raced once at Monticello; she finished back, but she trotted home good. We put her in the Kindergarten at the Meadowlands and she trotted (1):55. Three times we’ve raced Woodside Charm and three times we’ve been second to her. If that plays out next week, you wouldn’t be able to wipe the smile off my face for the rest of the year. She’s just a nice filly. She’s a great-looking filly. She tries. Everybody that drives her likes her. She shows up every week. She’s just very consistent. There are a lot of them that start out every year that don’t get this far.” —trainer John Butenschoen
2YO COLT & GELDING PACE

1—PROOF
“1 made a bridle change on him this week. That horse had been great all early in the year, tried hard, did everything right, and then the two races at Lexington he was just dull. I made a bridle change and it made him a lot more aggressive. But he sat at the back and came flying home. He raced really good (in his elimination). He’s been so consistent, which is why we were disappointed in him at Lexington. We thought he would go down there and race really good and he raced OK. He was kind of flat. (His elimination) made us feel a lot better.” — trainer Brian Brown

2—NO MAS AMOR
“I watched all his races and he seems to be better from off the pace. He’s kind of one of those horses that just seems to do everything right at this point.” — trainer Linda Toscano

3—LYONS JOHNNY JNR
“He raced great considering the slow half and being at the back. Brian (Sears) got a lot out of him. Giving him one run at the end might have been the best strategy for him there and he worked it out. I call him an overachiever because he’s just a little guy, but he’s got tactical speed and he gets himself in good spots usually. And he tries. I can’t knock him. He was very good in Lexington. He was good in the Metro final too to be fifth.” — trainer Jeff Gillis

4—CAPTAIN CRUNCH
“He raced really good. The other two horses on the front end were backing into him; Scott (Zeron) came off the track and said you could not believe how slow we were going in the last turn. They were backing into him. When he got open stretch, he went. But the horse that beat him, Proof, was coming off the turn and had momentum. But I was so happy with his performance. And he’s a very big colt, so for him to be able to sprint like that is really good. He’s a really big colt and we decided in February that we weren’t going to race him in any Pennsylvania Sire Stakes. That was by design, not that he wasn’t ready. Personally, I just feel like those Pennsylvania Sire Stakes, if you have big barns and lots of horses, go right at it because it costs a lot in the end. I think a lot of these eliminations prove that. A lot of those horses that raced tough in the sire stakes didn’t make the final or they’re not here at all. We just wanted to take our time with him. He was really good in the Nassagaweya and then caught some kind of virus up there in Canada, but luckily he bounced back in Lexington. I think he’s got a bright future ahead of him. This year, you would want a Captain (Captaintreacherous) or Sweet Lou, and he’s both because he’s a Captain out of Sweet Lou’s maternal family.” — trainer Nancy Johansson

5—CAPTAIN TREVOR
“He’s very handy. If we were closer inside (drawing post 5 for final), it would be nice. I can either push the speed or let the other guys do it.” — driver Andrew McCarthy

6—AIR FORCE HANOVER
“He raced really good. He gets a little aggressive sometimes, maybe he was at the half a little quick, but what can you say. The horse raced really good. Early in the year he was pretty decent and then in the middle of the year he wasn’t that good. I opened his bridle up to calm him down, put an eye hood with holes in, but I had the holes too big and he didn’t try. I closed them up, and then he was too aggressive. That week at Delaware he was near running off. So I put a little bigger hole, but not as big as the first one, and the horse has been really good. We’re happy with the way he’s turned out.” — trainer Brian Brown

7—LOVE ME SOME LOU
“I was saving ground on the inside (in the elim). I was just about to move out (going to the five-eighths mark) when Tetrick’s horse (Smooth Lou) broke down and was pulled up. I think I spotted them 10 lengths. He paced up there and caught the pack. Figuring I had used him, I stayed inside. He finished with tons of pace. I never even popped the plugs. He’s coming into the race sharp. But we’ve got to hope they mix it up in the final.” — driver Corey Callahan

8—MANGOGH
“We're in the dance. He raced really well and was charging at the finish line. Andrew (McCarthy) said he had to pull him a little sooner than he wanted to. I liked the strategy. He put the favorite in front of him and was going to be second-over; if the favorite had been really good and taken him to the promised land, he would have been in the photo. I think he can go with these horses. This is a very evenly matched group. He’s got a will to win. You saw how much he was charging at the finish line. For a 2-year-old to kind of lose his spot and be out there on his own and still come charging without really having a target—you never know who has got the ‘want to’ until they start racing. He’s got the ‘want to.’ He’s fast and he likes his job.” — trainer Bruce Saunders

9—BLOOD MONEY
“He raced really, really good. He raced as good as anyone. He’s been racing super and one of the best, actually. If he would have had the five post (in the final) I could have seen him very easily being the winner.” — trainer Jimmy Takter
CROWN CHATTER

2YO COLT & GELDING TROT

1—Hudson River
“...he was really good, where (in his elimination) he was not quite as good as those starts. But he raced good and he's got a shot. He's in the final and we’ll go from there.” — driver Yannick Gingras

2—Chin Chin Hall
“The rail is a tough spot for a lot of horses, and with him not having many starts, he was a little green about it. My main concern was to get him out of there in the right flow. But down by the wire he was getting the hang of it. I thought he trotted home nice. I’m very proud of him. He's a big, growthy colt. He's probably not as ironed out as we were hoping, but he’ll come. When he gets into his body and gets that mental strength to him, I think he’ll be a nice horse. He put a lot together at crunch time. He's jumped the ladder and proven he wants to be a nice horse. He's just starting to learn to trot fast. He's putting it together and we get to play the game.” — driver Peter Wrenn

3—Prospect Hill
“I was happy with his elimination race since he had post 7. It seems Gimpanzee is pretty dominant, but hopefully our horse will be able to get a good piece of it.” — trainer Julie Miller

4—Smart As Hill
“He's been a nice surprise. He always was a good training colt, but we didn’t know he was going to come to this level. He's just an all-around nice horse. He's got a lot of good attributes—size, strength, speed, all those things you need. When we bought him, he was smallish. He grew immensely and changed, but it took a lot of months to get him to finally fill out and grow up. Once he did, he just got stronger and stronger. If you look at his lines, we raced him in a series and brought him along very slowly. He is improving. He's still very coltish.” — trainer Paula Wellwood

5—Gimpanzee
“If you go (1):55 at Saratoga as a 2 year old, it’s a special horse. Of course, like always, the NewYork horses don’t get as much credit as the other ones. But I’ve been feeling he’s a very nice horse. He just does it very easy out there. He’s very strong, he’s got a lot of speed, he’s got a great attitude, and he’s been fresh and sound all year. The eight hole (in his elimination) is never good, so that was a little concern because you never know what kind of trip you will get. But it worked out good. He feels very sharp. I’m very confident in my horse. The final will be tougher, of course, but I’m very confident in him. You can leave with him and then you can just sit with him two fingers and he never gets overanxious. His technique is amazing. If you look at those half-mile tracks in NewYork, he just lays down in the turns like a car.” — trainer Marcus Melander

6—Super Schissel
“He's been getting better and better and better every start. I thought he raced a heck of a race in the elim. Gimpanzee raced very good and looks like the horse to beat. But with 2-year-old colts, everybody is beatable. I know that.” — trainer Jimmy Takter

7—Trix and Stones
“I think he raced great. Scott (Zeron) said he got a little on the right line. He said if he could have used him he would have been second with him. So I was pretty happy with him. He's been good. He raced in the New Jersey Sire Stakes final and I didn’t even think he would get there because it's so early. He finished second over there in (1):53. I raced him in the Peter Haughton and he got a little off. He needed some work done to him and we got him straightened out. He raced pretty good at home and in Kentucky he raced really well, so we decided to come down here. He's a very nice horse. For a stallion, he's very quiet and easy to handle. He's very clean gaited. I think he will be a hell of a 3 year old. I had him in the (Lexington Selected Mixed Sale) but he didn’t bring his reserve so I bought him back for $190,000. I don’t mind selling and taking the money, but I’m not going to give them away when I’ve got a good horse. He's paid up to the Hambletonian next year and it looks like he's racing with the best here and staying with them, so he should be all right.” — trainer Carl Jamieson

8—Green Manalishi S
“He was very good. I was very happy with him. He was a little grabby, so we went a little fast on the backside there, but I was very happy with him. The other horse (winner Smart As Hill) came very fast on the outside. I think he will be a stallion next week. He had some sickness problem when he got home from Lexington, so I was very happy with how he raced. We could have drawn a little better. It will make things more difficult, of course, but he's good enough to win anyway.” — trainer Marcus Melander

9—Kings County
“Sitting in the two hole, I expected a little bit better. But we got to the final. We’ll try to get him together and in better condition for the final. He raced well in Lexington and coming back home he looked good. We are going to scope him because we have some sickness around and, like I said, in the two hole I expected him to win this race. This was the first race he did not race well. Hopefully I can put him together for the final.” — trainer Domenico Cecere
CROWN CHATTER

2YO Filly Pace

1—BEAUTYONTHEBEACH
“She raced good. She struggled in the turns a little bit, so maybe we’ll have to pull her hobbles in an inch or so. Doug (McNair) said she was a little rough in the turns otherwise she probably would have been a little closer to them than she was.” — trainer Gregg McNair

2—ST. SOMEWHERE
“She raced really good. She got a good trip, good fractions, but I thought she raced great. She gets a good post (for the final) so that’s definitely an advantage. She’s been good all year. She’s got high speed. We worked on her manners a little bit in the middle of the year and (in her elimination) she was really relaxed.” — driver Yannick Gingras

3—TALL DRINK HANOVER
“She’s just been phenomenal. She was vicious (in her elimination). To leave like she did, remove, pace up the backside like they did against the fastest 2-year-old in history (Warrawee Ubeaut) and put her away and still have pace in the tank. I asked Andrew (McCarthy) how she was down by the wire and he said he grabbed hold of her again and still had pace. That’s a good feeling going into the final. She’s got a great work ethic. She doesn’t even wear earplugs. She’s very relaxed, very laid back, but she loves her job and you can do whatever you want with her. She trained good all the way down. She was a little slow to get started, but only because she had OCD surgery early and she came from Harrisburg (sale) so she was more behind the Lexington horses. It wasn’t because of ability.” — trainer Tony Alagna

4—WARRAWEE UBEAUT
“It was a bad drive, my fault. Everything I could have done wrong, I did wrong. We’re just thankful to be in the final and get another shot next week. She’s got crazy speed and crazy ability. She’s so fast.” — driver Yannick Gingras

5—QUEEN OF THE PRIDE
“She was a bit steppy. I tried some equipment changes that didn’t work out. But speed wise, I was very happy. She’s had a great season. She’s showed she can compete with the big girls and I’ve been very happy with her all year. She gives 100 percent all the time. She’s always willing to do it.” — trainer Kevin Lare

6—TREACHEROUS REIGN
“She was following a horse that wasn’t tracking well and we had to come three deep a lot earlier than we would have wanted to. Luckily she got in. She’s had a very solid season. She was as good as anything in Pennsylvania and she was second (in a dead heat) in the She’s A Great Lady to Tall Drink Hanover, so she’s held her own against the best all year.” — trainer Tony Alagna

7—ZERO TOLERANCE
“I would have loved to have drawn a little bit better (post 7 for final). I’m not afraid of any particular horse. Whoever gets the best trip will win.” — trainer Joe Holloway

8—PRESCIENT BEAUTY
“She went a big trip. Post position (eight) killed her. A five-eighths (mile track) doesn’t slow her down any. She was good. She was three-wide around the last turn. She’s a handy filly, too. When you train her, she’s quick. She’s got big speed. She’s maybe a little too aggressive if you start her up early. To train the pair of them (with stablemate Beautyonthbeach) together you would think Prescient Beauty is the faster horse. I guess next week we’ll know since they’re in together. They’re both nice fillies. I hate to pick.” — trainer Gregg McNair

9—ANNIE HALL
“She raced very well in her elim and then she drew bad. It will be tough from out there. She’s been racing close to the lead and now you’re a victim of circumstances from out there. You have to hope for a hot pace or hope she gets lucky somehow. Horses just don’t win out of the nine hole at Pocono.” — trainer Chris Oakes

3YO Colt & Gelding Trot

1—RUN DIRECTOR
“I was real pleased. He’s never raced against this type of horses. Like once, he was second in the Simcoe. In in the Canadian Trotting Classic we got away last and were never in the race. He showed his guts (Saturday). That’s a hell of a mile, (1):53 over that track off a half in :57. I didn’t think he would get beat for second because usually he doesn’t get beat.” — trainer Ben Baillargeon

2—EVALUATE
“He raced good. He was sitting last. I was very happy with him. He got a little sick after Lexington. We made the final and hopefully with a good draw we can get a good check. He won’t beat the best ones, but he can still get a good check. (His year) It’s been OK. He started out so good, so we had more expectations for him, but still he made like $270,000. It’s not bad. But he won early in (1):51 here in June (in a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes division) so maybe we had a little more high hopes, but he’s been there all the time. He was fifth in the Hambo final and raced very good; he’s been doing good races all year. It’s a good group of 3-year-olds. He’s been doing good.” — trainer Marcus Melander

3—FIFTYDALLARBILL
“I was happy with the way he raced. I would have been happier if we had a little earlier cover and been able to bring him up a little sooner. But he raced really well. He had a tough time in Kentucky with all that heat and got really dehydrated the second heat (of the Futurity). He came back five days later and raced at Hoosier (in the Indiana Sire Stakes final) and raced a
monster mile. That was a huge night. It was probably in the 30s, it was sleeting, it was cold, and the track was pretty hard that night. He continues to get better. He’s a real tough horse. He’s kind of incredible. I don’t know if any horse has come back with a five-day rest after racing two heats in 90 degrees, and the mile he raced at Hoosier was phenomenal.” — owner John Barnard

4—TACTICAL LANDING
“The elimination he went in the Futurity was one of the best I ever sat behind. I was a little worried with this being the first time he raced on a five-eighths track, but Brian (Sears) said he was like a lock. He’s got a hell of a set of lungs and he covers a lot of ground.” — trainer Jimmy Takter

5—SIX PACK
“He was good, but he is so lazy. He slows down and takes it easy and I must push him. If I relax, he can feel everything, and he takes his chance to be lazy. He can also feel when I’m serious, and then he is a different horse. He is a smart horse. He is a nice horse. He was in the detention barn and he was eating and drinking and sleeping like he was at home.” — trainer-driver Ake Svanstedt

6—JULA DOWNTON
“The owner (Karl-Johan Blank) really wanted to try him. I thought we were in maybe a little snug, but he raced super. It was first-time Lasix on him and Jody (Jamieson) drove him good. He won an Ontario Sire Stakes Gold early in the year in (1):54 and a bit. He ran into a few little issues, some colt soreness, some steering problems, and we kind of had to iron that out. I’d say the last three or four starts he’s gotten better. We changed his shoeing on him a little bit, fiddled with him. He’s pretty strong. If you have to go long route, I think he can do it.” — trainer Susanne Kerwood

7—CRYSTAL FASHION
“I was happy with the way he raced. With the track conditions the way they were, Timmy (Tetrick) was just going to play it by ear and see how to race him. He thought it was best to race him the way he did and I totally agreed with him. It’s his first race back after going two heats (in the Kentucky Futurity) and he seemed to come out of that OK.” — trainer Jim Campbell

8—MET’S HALL
“He got a little tired, but I had to use him a little more than I wanted to early. But he dug in and finished strong. The other horse (Tactical Landing) just beat him. He’s had a lot of issues and he fights right through them and shows up every week.” — driver Andy Miller

9—LAWMAKER
“Lawmaker has had a tremendous year. He owes us nothing, and we owe him everything. He was a bit short last week and if he’s healthy I’m sure he’ll be rolling in behind the gate on Saturday. Keep in mind, I’m well aware of the odds from post 9 in the Breeders Crown, racing the best colts in North America. But they are much less than the odds anyone gave us of getting a horse here three years ago. Yes we have the nine hole, yes it will be tough to get paid, but it will be fun trying.” — driver Anthony MacDonald

3YO COLT & GELDING PACE

1—DORSODURO HANOVER
“I was really happy with him. I was a little disappointed with Lexington (in the Tattersalls division), to be honest, because when he cleared This Is The Plan off the last turn I thought he was going to pace away and hide. He eased up on me a little late and Grand Teton got him at the wire. But he was really good (Saturday). I think he likes Pocono too. He usually gives a good effort every time he’s at Pocono. He’s just tough. He really is. When (Thinkbig Dreambig) got to his bridle he just took off again.” — driver Matt Kakaley

2—THIS IS THE PLAN
“He was really good. I fired him up too much in Lexington and he was loose on the lead. He was way more relaxed (Saturday) and when I called on him he was there. I think there are nine horses that can win this race. It’s wide open.” — driver Yannick Gingras

3—SPRINGSTEEN
“He raced really well last week and really well (Saturday) so I just hope he races really well again next week. He was out of the picture and just flew home like his old self. We skipped Lexington to freshen him up and I think it’s going to pay off. (Springsteen won the Hempt at Pocono on June 30) Hopefully we do it again.” — driver Simon Allard

4—THINKBIG DREAMBIG
“He raced OK. Yannick (Gingras) thought he had a winner at the top of the stretch, but Matt (Kakaley with Dorsoduro Hanover) had plenty of horse too. For a horse that didn’t race as a 2-year-old he’s been racing well.” — trainer Simon Allard

5—SHNITZLEDOSOMETHIN
“I’m tickled to death with him. He had a little bit of a dry summer, but he seems to be turning the corner. After last week’s effort and two starts prior to that, that’s when we made up our minds to come (to the Breeders Crown). He just didn’t seem like the Shnitzle of last year until his last three or four starts. We added Lasix and that seemed to make a big difference. I don’t want to talk bad about him, but he just hasn’t matured fast enough. He’s still big and clumsy and doesn’t know what he’s doing. He has no idea what he just did.” — trainer Dylan Davis

6—AMERICAN HISTORY
“He raced very well considering the cover trip. He was following the right horse (Courtly Choice), but he wasn’t the right horse because he didn’t fire. I thought he raced great considering he had to come three wide so early. He’s much better off if he can follow a horse at an even flow. When they start and stop a lot and you’ve got to fight him it takes a little bit away from him.” — trainer Tony Alagna
7—GRAND TETON
“He’s a great closer. He’s a little tough to get started and you’re losing ground at the start, but he always comes at the end. If the pace sets up for him he’s a good horse.”—trainer Jimmy Takter

8—LATHER UP
“I was just glad he came back and didn’t run for longer like he did the first time he was here (in the Hempt). We know what it is, and we’ll figure it out for next week.”—driver Montrell Teague

9—I’M A BIG DEAL
“He was better than his last couple starts. I figured he would be. It’s just a matter of how it all shakes out. He went :26 and :26 his last two quarters at Lexington; a horse can only do so much.”—trainer Chris Ryder

3YO FILLY TROT
1—PLUNGE BLUE CHIP
“She won easy. But Atlanta won easy also. We’ll see how it goes in the final.”—trainer-driver Ake Svanstedt

2—SUPERGIRL RILEY
“If they (the top fillies) butt heads early in the race, I hope I’m able to take advantage of it. They (top fillies) can’t be nice to each other. That won’t help me.”—driver Marcus Miller

3—ATLANTA
“I didn’t evaluate the elim as how the other horses were as much as she was coming back from Kentucky. I wanted to get a really good sense of her being back in a good rhythm and it seems Kentucky didn’t faze her. (In the final) I drew well when everybody else didn’t. (Plunge Blue Chip) drew the rail but I don’t love the rail either. I was fortunate enough to draw the three hole with Plunge Blue Chip inside and the other two good ones (Phaetosive and Manchego) far outside. It’s an interesting shake-up because the guys on the outside have their hands full and have to push forward. But at the same time, I’d love to command the lead. It’s going to be a hell of a race. I don’t think there is a horse in the universe that can go with mine when I open her up in the turn. If I open mine up in the middle of the last turn, nothing can go with her. It’s Pocono; maybe I can get five lengths on them and that’s all she wrote.”—driver Scott Zeron

4—LILY STRIDE
“She’s been good the last few weeks. She was very good at Lexington. Plunge Blue Chip stopped right in front of her in the final of the Futurity and just took her out of the race. I’m happy to be in it. But it’s tough trotting fillies. Atlanta, Manchego, Phaetosive—you race them every week it’s tough going. She’s right there competitive with them, but they’re so good.”—trainer Mark Harder

5—LOOKING FOR ZELDA
“She’s raced well a lot. She had the inside (in elimination) and got her spot and was able to hang on (finishing third in the elim won by Plunge Blue Chip). This was the first time she’s raced in the mud where I thought she went her kind of race.”—trainer Norm Parker

6—COURTENEY HANOVER
“I got a really good trip. Second would have been a bonus, but I really expected her to finish third at least. There’s not a lot more to say. This is the most serious division there is out of all of them. She is tackling some really tough fillies.”—driver Scott Zeron

7—PHAETOSIVE
“It’s the last race of the year for her, so I thought I’d change it up (of lining up George Brennan to drive). Atlanta has a big advantage because she can sprint off the gate. My filly didn’t race too hard last week in the elim. When the first quarter popped up (a slow :28.2), I knew I was screwed (racing sixth in the six-horse field) so I sat back and made sure she qualified to the final. That’s the problem with that track; you can’t make a move from behind and win. She will absolutely be better this week. She will be tighter. She hadn’t raced in three weeks.”—trainer Trond Smedshammer

3YO FILLY PACE
2—ALEXA’S POWER
“I was very happy with her. She left out of there nice. It was a good race for her. She got covered back up and gave (Youaremycandygirl) a little bit of a run down the lane. My filly got stretched out a little bit and it was just what we wanted.”—trainer Jim Campbell

5—YOUAREMYCANDYGIRL
“I was really happy with her. I thought she raced real good. It turned into a sprint and she’s not really much of a sprinter, so the other one (Alexa’s Power) was gaining on her a little bit. I think she is coming back to her own and I was really, really happy with her. I think she will be that much stronger next week.”—driver Yannick Gingras
9—**KISSIN IN THE SAND**—nancy

“She had the nine hole in the Lynch (at Pocono, which she won). She really hasn’t drawn well all year. She hasn’t been inside post 5 since the Mistletoe Shalee (on Hambletonian Day) and then she was in a 12-horse field. But she’s happy and fresh and ready to go. She trained a fast mile at the farm last week—she went a back half in :54 and a piece. Her heart rate was 64 afterward. She has a good foundation.” —trainer Nancy Johansson

7—**NEWBORN SASSY**

“She had the rail so I was pretty sure that was going to be to her benefit. I was hoping that she would sneak in and get fourth. Even better, we were third. I think it will be tough for her to beat these mares, but we’re going to give it a go. It’s just been a great year. I don’t know why I deserve it, but I’m taking it.” —owner Jo Ann Looney-King

MARE PACE

1—**TWINKLE**

“Her last start at Mohawk she should have been second. She faded to fourth and came back with an elevated liver enzyme. I brought her home and gave her 10 days off and the numbers stabilized. I thought she would race good (Saturday). It was her first start in four weeks. I think next week she will be even better. I’ve always been very high on that filly. She’s got great speed. She’s a very talented filly. She has issues on and off, but when she’s good she’s good.” —trainer Ross Croghan

8—**BLUE MOON STRIDE**

“I was very, very happy. A couple months ago, six weeks ago, we were struggling a little bit. She had a couple really bad races. I thought she might not get back to this level again. But her last race at Lexington and then (Saturday) I think she’s coming into the final just about spot on. She paced right through the wire, very strong. I always thought she needed a lot of work to get through her tie-up problems, and I think I got to the stage where I just worked her too hard. I backed off of her and freshened her up and she’s responded.” —trainer Mark Harder

5—**PURE COUNTRY**

“She ended up behind a horse that was in the way a little bit. When you have bad cover, second-over is a bad spot here. I’d rather be first up. But she always closes that last sixteenth like a demon. It’s like last year, started a little bad, but she’s been racing good the last part of the year. The last couple months she’s been racing well. She will be a contender in the final. I would not rule her out.” —trainer Jimmy Takter

MARE TROT

1—**BROADWAY DONNA**

“David had to grab into her pretty good (when Dream Together went off stride). She lost her momentum and then couldn’t get back going again. She looked like she was going to be OK in there. I don’t know if she was going to catch (NF Happenstance) or not.” —trainer Jim Campbell

3—**NF HAPPENSTANCE**

“The trip worked out. She came to a complete stop (when Dream Together went off stride) so she had a little bit of an excuse. She needed that race. Both of mine were a little short. I qualified them last week but they really haven’t raced much in a month because it’s so tough to find races for them.” —trainer Trond Smedshammer

5—**CROWN CHATTER**
division (Saturday). It’s going to be real tough (in the final) because those other two horses (Emoticon Hanover and Ariana G) drew off in (1):52.4.” — driver Jack Parker Jr.

4—CAPRICE HILL
“She couldn’t function the other night with shoes on. She was hitting everything but the track. I raced her in Lexington barefoot—no boots and no shoes. You can’t race them barefoot every single week so I left the shoes on, and with the weather so crappy, she was pathetic. I don’t care if it’s pouring down rain on Saturday, she’s going barefoot.” — trainer Chris Oakes

5—EMOTICON HANOVER
“She had a good mile. She followed the favorite and everything worked out. When she feels good she can race with those horses. This year has been a little up and down. Last year she had a very big year. She went everywhere and she raced tough. Sometimes, I think, you see when they have a big year it can be tough. It was the first time she went everywhere; at 2 and 3 we stayed in Ontario. But she’s come back good now. I think she likes the fall too. She’s like the Yankees.” — trainer Luc Blais

6—CELEBRITY RUTH
“She wasn’t overly sharp. She was better earlier in the summer. She was always good at the Meadowlands for some reason. She’s not as good on a five-eighths as she is on a mile track.” — trainer Trond Smedshammer

7—PINK PISTOL
“She didn’t race as well as I thought she would; I thought she would be better. She’s in the final and we’ll see what happens.” — trainer Pete Shody

8—ARIANA G
“Maybe she should have won (her elimination) but she got surprised a little bit by the horse from behind. She will be better in the final.” — trainer Jimmy Takter

9—ICE ATTRACTION
“She doesn’t like first-over so much; she is very lazy when she comes first-over. But she was OK. Her year started out bad because she had an issue with her throat. We treated her and now she’s raced better.” — trainer-driver Ake Svanstedt

OPEN TROT

1—PINKMAN
“He’s been racing really good, he just hasn’t had luck with post positions. Mentally, it gets hard on a horse. He just needs to get his confidence up a little there. I was really proud of his performance (in the elim). The track was maybe a little hard for him. He races so much better barefoot and the track was a little tough for him. He might be a little better on Saturday. You don’t make $2.7 million if you’re average. He’s a warrior.” — trainer Jimmy Takter

2—DUNBAR HALL
“I was real happy with him. I was trying everything and didn’t get much of a chance to drive in the stretch so I was lucky to be second. But he fought horses off right to the wire and I was real proud of him. It was a big trip for him. You haven’t seen the best of him yet, for sure.” — driver Jody Jamieson

He was a bit short last week and if he’s healthy I’m sure he will be rolling in behind the gate on Saturday.

3—GUARDIAN ANGEL AS
“He likes to be driven aggressively. He’s not one that you’re going to trip-out too much. He can take air.” — assistant trainer Anna Lorentzon

4—TOP FLIGHT ANGEL
“We were hesitant with him being a 4 year old, but it seems like the older horses were maybe not as good and our horse is fresh. We’re hoping for another good race from him.” — trainer Julie Miller

5—HOMICIDE HUNTER
“He was sick at Yonkers so he was on antibiotics all week (before the elims) so I just wonder if that didn’t dull him a little bit. He seems fine now and I have an ace in the hole that I’m going to take his shoes off, like he raced in Lexington. I’m looking at the weather and it’s supposed to rain, so then I might have to leave the shoes on.” — trainer Chris Oakes

6—CRUZADO DELA NOCHE
“He was first-up and it was a pretty slow first half. He’ll be good next week. We’ll take off his shoes next week and he will step up a little bit. Normally he is a better horse if we can take the shoes off.” — trainer Marcus Melander

7—WARRAWEE ROO
“He went a big race. He was super. He doesn’t know where the finish is, he’s always grinding. We put him on Lasix and I think it helped him a lot.” — trainer Luc Blais

8—WILL TAKE CHARGE
“The horse has been off form a little bit and we’re concerned that he’s maybe a little tired at this point in the season so the plan was to race him conservatively. I wish the Breeders Crown and the International Trot were held in May because I feel like there wasn’t a horse in North America that he couldn’t beat at that time.” — co-trainer Mike Keeling

9—MARION MARAUDER
“I was pretty encouraged by the finish. It was a trap race. If you let someone get away with cheap fractions they’re going to get away. But you don’t want to put him on the front like we did the other day (in the International Trot) so we had to kind of live with it. That’s the way it goes.” — co-trainer Mike Keeling

(Contributions by Ken Weingartner)
Standardbred Poll
Hambeltonian Society/Breeders Crown Poll compiled by Harness Racing Communications for the week of October 23, 2018

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Leading Money-Winning Drivers

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Leading Money-Winning Trainers

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Harness Racing Leaders
Compiled by the USAT—through October 23, 2018 (week difference Oct. 17-23).

Leaders Of The Week
Ranked by wins for Oct. 17-23 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.
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