

Division Honors Still In Play In Cleveland Classic

A high-powered field of six will line up behind the gate in Saturday night's \$130,000 Cleveland Classic for 3-year-old colt pacers at Northfield Park, including Meadowlands Pace winner A Rocknroll Dance and North America Cup champion Thinking Out Loud.

Those two sophomores, along with Little Brown Jug winner Michael's Power and Tattersalls Pace victor Sweet Lou, had been considered the front-runners for divisional honors for most of the year. A recent string of wins in the Breeders Crown,

"It's a very hard division to pick. If he wins it would certainly make his case stronger."

— Bob McIntosh on Thinking Out Loud

Progress Pace and Matron has added the name of Heston Blue Chip to the Dan Patch Award mix.

With arguably five solid contenders, this year's voting for division honors could result in one of the closest contests in history. Both Bob McIntosh and Jim Mulinix, respective trainers of Thinking Out Loud and A Rocknroll

Dance, believe their millionaire horses have strong cases to be voted 3-Year-Old Colt Pacer of the Year, and a win in the Cleveland Classic would add to their argument.

"My colt paced in 1:47.4 back in June and he's pacing 1:48 now; he's been good all year," noted McIntosh of Thinking Out Loud's winning time in the North America Cup and runner-up effort in the Matron. "He's been amazing. His sire, Ponder, was a tough horse like that. And he's built like his daddy.

"We're very pleased with his year; he's been a dream horse, that's for sure," he added. "A win would be a big deal for division honors. It's a very hard division to pick. If he wins it would certainly make his case stronger. The top horses all have credentials, and they also have some knocks."

Randy Waples directed Thinking Out Loud to his North America Cup victory and also drove him in the Little Brown Jug, but the Ontario-based driver did not make the trip to The Meadows for the Adios or The Red Mile for the Sept. 29 Bluegrass, when McIntosh turned to John Campbell. Campbell and Thinking Out Loud won their Bluegrass division and it's been the Hall of Famer in the sulky ever since.

But with Campbell on vacation this weekend, McIntosh has enlisted David Miller for the Cleveland Classic. With Miller having been in the sulky behind A Rocknroll Dance his last two starts, in the Windy City (third) and Messenger (fourth), Mulinix had to make the switch to Peter Wrenn, who directed the colt to a seventh-place finish in the Monument Circle on Nov. 3 at Indiana Downs.

Besides the Meadowlands Pace, A Rocknroll Dance also won the Battle of the Brandywine at Harrah's Philadel-



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WHAT'S INSIDE . . .

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\$130,000 CLEVELAND CLASSIC 3YOCP

Northfield Park, Saturday, Dec. 8, Race 11, Post Time: 10:50 pm

Post—Horse	Driver/Trainer	Odds
1—Thinking Out Loud	D. Miller/R. McIntosh	2-1
2—Pet Rock	D. McNair/V. Morgan Jr.	4-1
3—Bolt The Duer	M. MacDonald/P. Foley	7-2
4—Rockin Finish	T. Smith/V. Morgan Jr.	12-1
5—Mortal Zin	M. Kakaley/R. Burke	15-1
6—A Rocknroll Dance	P. Wrenn/J. Mulinix	6-1

phia in a career-best 1:48.1. If history follows suit, that's the same path used by Roll With Joe to capture honors as the 2011 Three-Year-Old Colt Pacer of the Year. A Rocknroll Dance also won the Max Hempt Memorial at Mohe-

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gan Sun at Pocono Downs for his third major stakes coup this year.

Mulinix said A Rocknroll Dance came out of the Nov. 16 Windy City slightly sick, and that after a scope revealed small traces of blood in his lungs he will race the horse for the first time on Lasix in the Cleveland Classic.

"He had some mucous after the race," said Mulinix. "The vet said he saw little traces of blood so he said to try him on Lasix

"This year, a different horse showed up every week. But overall, for the whole year my horse was just as solid as anyone."

— Jim Mulinix on
A Rocknroll Dance

whole year my horse was just as solid as anyone. He showed up for all the big races and we never backed down or dodged anyone. It would be nice to get one more big race."

Allamerican Captor's 1:50.2 win in a 1993 Cleveland Classic division still stands as the stakes and track record for 3-year-old colt pacers. Pet Rock is the 2012 national season's leader for the division with his 1:50.3 victory on Little Brown Jug day on Sept. 20 at Delaware, Ohio.

for this start so we'd have some information for next year. He's been training good and is as sound as he could be."

As for possible Dan Patch honors, Mulinix simply said, "We can just do what we can do. This year, a different horse showed up every week. But overall, for the

WEEKEND FEATURED RACES

Friday, December 7

All times listed are local.

3:20p	PhI9	Open Pace	Trackmaster PPs
8:10p	Wdb3	Niagara 3FP div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:50p	YR6	F&M Open Pace	Trackmaster PPs
9:30p	YR8	Open Trot	Trackmaster PPs
9:50p	Wdb8	Niagara 3FP div.	Trackmaster PPs

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

Saturday, December 8

7:30p	Wdb1	Valedictory 3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
8:12p	Wdb3	Preferred Pace	Trackmaster PPs
8:50p	YR6	Open Pace	Trackmaster PPs
10:38p	Wdb10	Valedictory 3CP div.	Trackmaster PPs
10:50p	Nfld11	Cleveland Classic 3CP	Trackmaster PPs

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Sunday, December 9

8:30p	DD10	DSBF 2CP final	Trackmaster PPs
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Golden Gun Aims For Late-Season DSBF Final

For Delaware-based trainer Bart Dalious, it's a case of "better late than never" for his 2-year-old gelding pacer Golden Gun, a homebred of Frank Deliberti's The Wiz Kid Stable.

A son of Headmaster, Golden Gun will be making just his fourth career start in Sunday night's \$100,000 Delaware Standardbred Breeders Fund (DSBF) final for freshman male pacers at Dover Downs. But with two wins and a second in his initial three attempts, he has been installed the 8-5 morning-line favorite.

"He was a little bit wild when he was younger, and he ran through a fence and cut himself up, that's why the late start," explained Dalious of Golden Gun not making his first qualifying start until Nov. 7 and then his first pari-

mutuel appearance on Nov. 20, both at Dover Downs. "Then he got a little sick. But he looked good so we shot for this. Everything looks like it's turned out good for us."

– *Bart Dalious* After a fourth-place finish in his lone qualifier, Golden Gun won his

pari-mutuel debut in come-from-behind fashion in 1:54.1 in a conditioned race. Golden Gun then raced in a pair of DSBF preliminaries, finishing a late-closing second and a gate-to-wire first, both with Dalious driving.

"I knew he had a burst and that's what we did in the first race," explained Dalious, who trains a stable of 10 at the Dovington Training Center. "The second race, I could have burst with him and won the race, but I wanted to ease him up there. But he was a little bit green coming off the last turn. He never quit coming and they came home in :27 and a piece. The next time I was planning on letting a couple go and then moving to the front, but I decided to put him on the front."

Although he has driven Golden Gun in all four starts, Dalious is turning the lines over to Corey Callahan for Sunday's DSBF final, with the pair starting from post two.

"I think he'll probably get more respect than I would on the track going for \$100,000," he said of enlisting the track's leading driver.

Dalious already has a DSBF final victory to his credit, capturing the 2010 spring final at Dover Downs with Golden Gladiator. But his biggest career victory came in 2009 when his 3-year-old filly pacer Scarlet McZara won the \$200,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes final at the Meadowlands at odds of 19-1, one week after scoring a huge 68-1 preliminary-leg upset.

"That was probably my biggest moment in racing," said the 42-year-old Dalious. "It was the most exciting time I ever had."



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Brooks Brigade Primed For Woodbine Series

Ontario conditioner Jeffrey Brooks and owner-breeder Prince Lee Acres will be busy this weekend at Woodbine. The pair will send out a trio of starters in the last two stakes engagements of the year.

PL Firstlady will contest the first round of the Niagara Series on Friday and PL Fighter and PL Faststrike will contest the opening leg of the Valedictory Series on Saturday.

When PL Fighter crossed the wire first in the \$60,000 Autumn Stakes final this past Saturday at the Toronto oval at odds of 16-1, he caught the betting public off guard as well as his trainer.

"Oh, yes, I was certainly surprised by that victory as I'm sure everyone else was," Brooks said. "I wasn't surprised by his late kick because I always knew he had that, but him defeating Au-

"He's a cocky horse. When he won the other night, he knew he did something special or something right."

– Jeffrey Brooks
on PL Fighter

favorite, Autumn Gottem, in the final strides to win in 1:52.

The pair will be battling once again in the \$20,000 first leg of the Valedictory.

"He's the type of horse that the race has to set up for him," Brooks said of PL Fighter. "He doesn't enjoy being on the front or first-over, but if he can get covered up with a good trip, he's got that late kick that he really benefits from."

Unraced as a rookie, PL Fighter has amassed a 4-4-2 record from 23 starts with \$77,000 in earnings.

"He got off on the right foot with two straight wins," said Brooks. "But then he'd get sick on us from time to time. He was picked to win the Ontario Graduate final at Georgian a few starts ago, but we couldn't race him because of that. I guess this past Saturday made up for that."

Brooks admits that his pupil has a certain presence about him.

"He's a cocky horse," Brooks laughed. "When he won the other night, he knew he did something special or something right. He had the look. He's such a good-feeling horse, which is a good thing. He's not really big, but he doesn't know that."

PL Fighter, who will leave post three for driver Chris Christoforou, will kick off the Saturday program's first race, which will get underway at 7:30 p.m.

In the second division, Christoforou will also steer post one starter PL Faststrike for Brooks and Prince Lee Acres.

Before PL Fighter and PL Faststrike can contest their dashes, stablemate PL Firstlady will try to take all the spoils in Friday's \$20,000 first leg of the Niagara Series.

The 3-year-old daughter of MachThree is fresh off a victory at Georgian Downs and will begin from post six for Christoforou.

tumn Gottem caught me off guard. I didn't think we could beat that horse."

The sophomore son of Jereme's Jet was 10 1/2 lengths back of the tempo-setter at the three-quarter pole before using a sizzling :26.3 final quarter to pick off the post-time fa-



PL Fighter

"She's becoming a nice filly," Brooks said. "Much like 'Fighter,' she has a tendency to get sick. After her last start, she was sick after the race. I guess there was a bug going through my barn."

The bay lass has banked \$19,675 this season from 12 starts, including four victories.

"She's got talent, but also has some soundness issues," said her conditioner. "She's a good-size filly and continues to progress in the right direction." (WEG)

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Reduced Threshold Level Causes NY Positives

The New York State Racing and Wagering Board (NYS-RWB) over the past few weeks has issued rulings against seven trainers for positives for the Class 2 drug levamisole with its metabolite pemoline, used as a lung wormer in horses. There are also at least two additional positives which have not yet resulted in formal rulings.

Harnessracing.com has talked to some of the trainers, who have nearly immaculate records, who claim that the threshold level was lowered without notice, which meant that the withdrawal time was extended, and that resulted in the positives. The published withdrawal time for levamisole is 72 hours.

"I gave mine 80 hours out to be sure. All of a sudden, without anyone knowing, there is a new test and you've got to give it a week (168 hours) out," said Jimmy Cruise, currently at his winter-training base at Reveille Farms in Florida, of his Aug. 4 positive at Tioga Downs on his horse Dangerismybusiness. "We've been using this as an immune stimulant for years after horses have been sick. We got this from a vet who dispensed it with instructions for using it within the guidelines. We have all the vet records."

Cruise was fined \$1,000 and suspended 20 days, but he has appealed.

"I'm not going to plead guilty when I didn't do anything wrong," said Cruise. "I don't know how you can be penalized for using medications per the guidelines."

Chuck Connor Jr., who received a levamisole positive on his horse Bettor's Reward on July 28 at Yonkers and has appealed the ruling, agrees with Cruise.

"It's not performance-enhancing; it's for the well-being of the horse and the health of a horse," said Connor, who was given a \$1,000 fine and 15-day suspension. "It didn't even enter in my mind a withdrawal time because it was something like 100 hours out. It never entered my mind and I was dumfounded.

"I've done nothing wrong. I am only minding the welfare of my horse and now I'm getting tortured for it? I don't believe I should be."

Connor said he purchased a \$10 tube of levamisole and divided the dosage equally between two horses, including Bettor's Reward.

"Whenever I bring horses in from the field that have been turned out for an extended period of time or getting ready to turn them out, I will often go through a program and give them a half of a tube," he said. "I had a horse race on Monday night who was getting turned out, and I knew the other horse who was racing was going to be turned out. I gave the one half of the tube and turned around and gave the

other half to Bettor's Reward. That was on Tuesday, the horse raced on Saturday night, and came up positive."

Connor said after the NYSRWB test results came back from the lab at New York's Morrisville State College, he sent a split sample to Louisiana State University, which also came back over the reduced threshold level put into place by the NYSRWB.

"This isn't helping our game and it makes some of our horsemen look like they have done something wrong when they did nothing wrong," said Standardbred Owners Association of New York president Joe Faraldo. "And the Racing Board takes the opportunity to level a penalty and fine against these people, and it's just out of order.

"There are people in this game who want to play games, but for the most part these people are administering therapeutic medications. You made them permissive medications, so how do you do that and say 'Ah ha, I got you now.' To me this does not enamor you to be respected by me nor the industry, because you are not doing us a service; you are just making it appear you did something."

The other trainers who have received recent positives for the administration of Levamisole and the presence of Pemoline, a metabolite of Levamisole are: Dave Dewhurst, Eric Felter, Steve Flanigen, Michael Pokornowski and Megan Wilson.

Meadowlands Announces New \$1 Million FFA Series

The stakes calendar at The Meadowlands will have a distinctly different look for 2013 with the focus shifting from 2 year old stakes to events geared for the older horse set.

Gone are the Woodrow Wilson and Sweetheart. The Reynolds and Simpson freshman stakes have been relocated to sister tracks Tioga and Vernon Downs and scheduled later in the season. The Final Four (Governor's Cup, Three Diamonds, Valley Victory and Goldsmith Maid) will be resurrected and added to the Meadowlands' 2013 fall meet around Thanksgiving, placing the emphasis on high dollar races for 2 year olds being offered from late August through November.

The really big news is a brand new free-for-all series, conceived by Jeff Gural. The series will include the top older events at the Meadowlands, Breeders Crown finals and Allerage Farm finals along with several \$50,000 Opens at the Meadowlands as legs from which points will be accumulated leading into the \$500,000 guaranteed final for both trotters and pacers on Nov. 30.

A provision in the conditions to invite the winner of the 3-year-old Breeders Crown or Hambletonian/Meadowlands Pace offers the hope that this year-end event may pit the top 3 year old against the best older horses as the Breeders

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Cup Classic does for the Thoroughbreds, giving this new race serious Horse of the Year implications.

The Meadowlands Maturity for 4-year-old pacers and trotters will debut in May with an estimated \$100,000 purse (\$75,000 added) offered just for the cost of the declaration fee.

Another new series for 2013 is the Hudson River for 4- and 5-year-old New Jersey, New York or Pennsylvania sires stakes participants that have not won four pari-mutuel races or \$150,000 outside of the state-bred events. This one will travel, with \$18,000 legs planned for Pennsylvania and New York as well as the Meadowlands before the \$75,000 (est.) final at the Meadowlands.

New Meadowlands president Gural offered his observations on the revamped stakes program: "I believe that unlike in the past, our best 3 year olds are likely to race at four and as a result I believe the races for older horses will once again have the kind of excitement that I grew up with when I started going to Yonkers and Roosevelt over 50 years ago. I am looking forward to the upcoming season and hopefully we can give our customers a chance to see the best older horses at the Meadowlands more than once or twice as they try to accumulate points in order to race in these year-end races. Hopefully we can have a top 3 year old enter to add to the mix."

Also returning to the Big M in 2013 are the Moni Maker and Nadia Lobell, which are scheduled for the fall meet in late November.

Live racing returns to the Meadowlands on Dec. 28 with a new post time of 7:15 p.m. The schedule calls for racing Thursday, Friday and Saturday through March 16, then Friday and Saturday for the balance of the year. The 2013 Championship Meet begins on Friday, May 3, and will end with the Hambletonian Day card. (*Meadowlands*)

Balmoral Park Handle Increases In 2012

If the first week of December is any indication, Balmoral Park will cap off a stellar 2012 season with sizable gains in business. Handle for the opening weekend of December was robust. The Saturday, Dec. 1, handle of \$1,380,892 was \$128,107 higher than 2011, and the Sunday, Dec. 2, program handled \$1,135,362 versus \$954,770 last year, an increase of \$180,592. The combined two-day weekend handle of \$2,516,254 for 24 races was an average of \$104,843 per race.

Balmoral payouts and pool sizes are a big reason for that success. Several win pools surpassed \$22,000 and the exotic pools were large enough for people to play big numbers. Exacta pools averaged \$24,727 and trifecta pools averaged \$29,313. The 10-cent wagers were extremely popular. Ten-cent superfecta pools averaged \$21,926 and

the 10-cent High Five pool averaged \$22,446. The average High Five payout in 2012 is \$1,018 for a dime.

Multi-race pools continue to attract big players to the big track. The average Pick Five pool in 2012 is \$17,267. The Balmoral Pick Five is a 50-cent minimum wager which allows the player more coverage. The average 50-cent payout this year is \$2,517.

The Pick Four continues to do record business thanks to the USTA Strategic Wagering initiative, free program pages courtesy of TrackMaster and a low 15 percent takeout. Over \$4.5 million has been wagered on 143 Pick fours in 2012, an average nightly pool of \$31,694. The average \$1 payout this year is \$2,376.35. (*Balmoral Park*)

120-Time Winner Tattler's Jet Nears Retirement

In a few weeks, the career of 14-year-old pacer Tattler's Jet will come to an end. And as the final chapter is written in the life of the fastest horse ever bred in Wisconsin, 71-year-old breeder-owner Dave Carter might have provided the most amusing summation of the tale, which also features 68-year-old trainer Gene Miller.

"We're just two old guys and one old horse," Carter said with a chuckle.

Carter has owned Tattler's Jet for essentially his entire career, which has seen the gelding win 120 of 459 races and earn \$324,735. His 120 victories rank No. 5 among all North American pacers born in the last 40 years and his career-best win time of 1:49.2, set in 2010 at Colonial Downs at the age of 12, made him the fastest horse ever to hail from Wisconsin.

In 2011, Tattler's Jet and Carter received the James Laird Memorial Award for Excellence from the Wisconsin Harness Horse Association.

"It's been a lot of fun," Carter said. "He's a pretty tough old horse. It's kind of bad we have to quit with him, but that's the way it is."

All harness racing horses face mandatory retirement at the end of their 14-year-old season, as mandated by U.S. Trotting Association rules. Tattler's Jet was among 54 fourteen year olds that made a least one start this year.

Tattler's Jet won his most recent start, Nov. 23 at Sports Creek Raceway in Michigan, finishing in a dead heat for win with Mega Chips. He was scratched because of illness on Dec. 1, but Miller is hoping Tattler's Jet will make one more start at Sports Creek before heading to Monticello for the "Au Revoir" race for 14 year olds.

So far this year, Tattler's Jet has won nine of 37 races and earned \$21,192.

Tattler's Jet, a son of Tattler's Torpedo out of the mare Jodhpurs, saw his career get off to a slow start, mainly be-

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cause of immaturity. He was winless in his first 30 starts before getting his first victory during the summer of his 4-year-old season.

During his career, Tattler's Jet has visited 53 different race tracks. He also has become something of an ambassador of the sport, serving regularly to give fans rides once a week at Running Aces Harness Park in Minnesota.

Miller said there are "120 memories" associated with Tattler's Jet, referring to his win total, but the pacer's triumph on Oct. 5, 2010 at Colonial Downs in Virginia stands out. That's when Tattler's Jet won by two lengths in 1:49.2 with Mark Gray handling the driving.

Beyond the impressive win time, Miller remembers the victory fondly because of an exchange with a rival driver-trainer prior to the race.

"A young man said to me, hang on to your rear end because I'm going in 1:50 tonight," Miller said. "I smart mouthed him right back and said he better hang on to his because if you get limber down the stretch we'll go in (1):49. I warmed the horse up three trips that night because I wanted him to be perfect for whatever was going to happen.

"That guy was lining himself up to get beat by everybody and I wanted to be the first one by him. We got lucky and were the first one by him and went in (1):49.2."

Carter and Miller hope to add a few more memories before the career of Tattler's Jet comes to an end. Interestingly, the two almost lost the chance to be involved in the horse's final races because Tattler's Jet was claimed from them in July. They claimed him back six weeks later, which marked the only period of time the gelding was not under Carter's ownership.

"It would have been disappointing," Carter said about not getting to finish what he started with Tattler's Jet. "When he gets done racing, we've got a 30-acre pasture and he'll be out there...I don't get rid of them. They did good for us, so we will do good for them, too.

"It's like your best friend. Why get rid of them?" (HRC)

NY Times Story Wins 1st Bergstein Award

The first annual Stanley Bergstein Writing Award was presented at a special luncheon in Lexington, KY, on Tuesday (Dec. 4). Sponsored by Barry Irwin's Team Valor International, the award went to writers Walt Bogdanich, Joe Drape and Rebecca Ruiz for their New York Times story about the role of veterinarians in the use of drugs in American horse racing.

The award included a check for \$25,000 and a trophy, but because the Times has an editorial policy which prevents writers from accepting awards, either in the form of money or gifts, Irwin instead gave the cash prize to the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium.

"In the spirit in which the piece was written, we have decided to give the \$25,000 award to the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium," said Irwin.

In addition to announcing the winner of the first Stanley Bergstein Writing Award, the luncheon also was a tribute to Bergstein's writing, which was dominated by commentaries about issues in horse racing that needed attention.

"When Stanley Bergstein died, it created quite a void in our business," said Irwin. "When he wrote, he wrote because he had something to say, and when he had something to say, it was worth listening to. The main goal (with the award) is I wanted to keep Stanley Bergstein's spirit alive."

Bill Nack, a nine-time Eclipse Award winning writer and well-known writer for Sports Illustrated, was in attendance at the luncheon and spoke of meeting Bergstein when both were working in Chicago as young men.

Bergstein's son, Al, traveled from his home in Seattle to attend the luncheon and noted that his father was a person "who pushed for excellence, but not perfection, an important distinction to know."

Al Bergstein said that even though his father wore many hats in harness racing, he "was always a writer, first and last."

Seven stories were considered for the first annual Stanley Bergstein Writing Award: the winning article, plus the following pieces. The panel of judges was Bill Christine, retired racing writer for the Los Angeles Times; Richard Eng, Las Vegas Review-Journal; Nack and Frank Deford, member of the Sportswriters Hall of Fame and a writer for Sports Illustrated and NPR.

New Testing by Louisiana State Racing Commission Results in 10 Drug Positives, by Bob Fortus for the New Orleans Times-Picayune

A Reflection on the Dark Side, by Bob Carson in the online newsletter Harness Racing Daily

Kelsey Lefever: 'Every One of Them Is Dead', by Ray Paulick of the Paulick Report website

Mangled Horses, Maimed Jockeys: Death and Disarray at America's Racetracks, by Walt Bogdanich, Joe Drape, Dara Miles and Griffin Palmer in the first part of a series in the New York Times

High Purses with Little Regulation Brings Problems, by Jay Bergman for the Daily Racing Form

The Lasix Legacy, by Bunny Hinzman, a 16-year-old blogger for the America's Best Racing website and her own site, Bits 'n Bunny.—By Kathy Parker

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Maywood To Start Between-Race Interviews

The Illinois Harness Horseman's Association (IHHA) on Friday will unveil unprecedented between-race interviews that promise to revolutionize the way that fans handicap and understand harness racing in Chicago.

"I hope racing fans tune in to the Maywood Park signal on Friday," said IHHA president David McCaffrey. "There are no other horseman's associations or racetracks going behind the scenes like we are, doing immediate post-race interviews with drivers and trainers."

The IHHA board decided during the summer to pursue post-race interviews with drivers in order to help fans understand why drivers make certain decisions on the track and to explain extraordinary circumstances.

By bringing the drivers into the living room, the IHHA hopes that the public will become more engaged and will use the interviews when they handicap races. The board also hopes that the interviews will bring more transparency to the sport. To that end, fans will eventually be able to submit questions via Facebook and Twitter.

"There are a lot of factors on the track," said IHHA board member and driver Marcus Miller. "A driver might get boxed in or there could be an equipment malfunction. Drivers make mistakes sometimes too. But the public needs an explanation. We need them to know that we're honest out there."

The concept is similar to what fans of other sports are accustomed to seeing in post-game interviews. Jeremy Day will be conducting the post race interviews. Drivers will be asked about their performance on the track and given the chance to explain what happened.

"We want to address the questionable parts of the race," said Day. "If a driver's strategy seems questionable or there was an equipment malfunction, we're going to look at the replay and talk about what happened on the track." (IHHA)

Gilmour: "I Wanted To Go Out A Winner"

After his victory on Nov. 28 with his beloved trotter My Buddy Chimo, John Gilmour announced in the winner's circle that he was retiring from driving.

Unbeknownst to nearly everyone, Gilmour sprung that on the world although he admitted he'll continue training his current five-horse stable. "Now I'll leave the driving to them young fellers," he said, retiring with 4,492 wins.

Asked why all of a sudden he decided to retire, the 74-year-old reinsman simply said, "I wanted to go out a winner. It wasn't all of a sudden but I didn't want to say anything about it because I didn't know when it would happen. I don't drive that much anymore so it was hard for me to know exactly when I'd win my last race."

Ask Gilmour how many races he has won and you're apt to get an answer like "I don't know," or "I'm not sure," or

maybe even "I don't keep track of those things." Statistics were really not important to him.

Over the years many a horsemen learned that you never try to wrest the lead from Gilmour when he's on the front end. As a fellow driver once stated facetiously, "He'll let you go when his whip wears out!"

Affectionately known as "Sep," Gilmour is one of the famous Gilmour Brothers (Buddy and George, now gone, and Lloyd) who together accounted for more than 14,500 driving victories.

For "Sep," Monticello Raceway has been home since the early 1960s although he began his career at Buffalo Raceway and Batavia Downs, two tracks near his hometown of Lucan, Ont. In the mid 1960s, his brother Buddy sent a contingent of horses to race at Monticello Raceway with brother George in charge. John was second in command.

Although John started slowly, once the local trainers got a glimpse of his abilities he became one of the most sought after catch-drivers.

However, it wasn't until 1973 that John copped his first driving title. But from then on through the 1970s and into the early 1980s, Gilmour's name was on or near the top of the drivers' standings every season.

During that period Gilmour won nine driving titles—during a few seasons there were summer and winter meets—and three times he established new track records for most driving victories in a single season. (*Monticello*)

Somebeachsomewhere's Book Full & Closed

Hanover Shoe Farms president Jim Simpson has announced that the 2013 book for Somebeachsomewhere is officially full and closed.

"We expected an incredible response based on the success of Beach's first crop to the races and the way his yearlings sold at the fall sales," noted Simpson. "Nevertheless, we have been totally overwhelmed by the response we received. USTA rules limit his book to 160 mares. Thus far we have received over 200 applications for his services. Almost, without exception, these mares are worthy of this great horse's services. Nevertheless, we feel that our first duty is to the syndicate members and those who have previously supported him. We are now going through the almost impossible task of determining which mares will be accepted and which will regrettably be declined. We expect to be able to get back to those who have sent applications by mid-December."

Somebeachsomewhere is presently in Australia where he is serving a full book of mares at David James' Empire Stallions Corp. He will return to Hanover Shoe Farms in late January where he will begin his fifth year of service. (*Hanover Shoe Farms*)

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Crazed Moving To Hanover In 2013

World champion Crazed will move to Hanover Shoe Farms in 2013, it was announced Tuesday. He stood in New York at Blue Chip Farms since he entered stud in 2009, with full books his first two seasons and well over 100 mares bred in each of the past two.

His fee for next year has been set at \$6,000.

Crazed Syndicate manager David Reid said the move to Pennsylvania offers a "terrific opportunity" and the greatest long-term potential for him to succeed in the marketplace.

"Crazed had an outstanding season in 2012, both on the track with his first crop of 2 year olds, as well as in the sales ring," Reid said. "With this move, he'll bring the Credit Winner sire line into a state which will allow him to take advantage of an abundance of Broadway Hall, Cantab Hall and Andover Hall-line mares."

Crazed's first crop, eligible in New York, was led by six-time stakes winner and track record-setter Tirade Hanover 2, 1:55.4f (\$193,999), while his yearlings have sold for up to \$120,000.

Hanover Shoe Farms, under the guidance of Jim Simpson, will take over as syndicate and breeding manager of Crazed, effective with the 2013 breeding season. Crazed is fully syndicated, however, limited bookings are available. *(Hanover)*

Art Official To Stand At Midland Acres In Ohio

Kentuckiana Stallion Management together with Midland Acres is extremely excited to announce that multiple world champion Art Official p,3, 1:47 (\$2,082,885), by Art Major-Naughty Shady Lady, by Falcon Seelster, will stand the 2013 breeding season at Midland Acres, located in Bloomingburg, Ohio. Kentuckiana Stallion Management will continue to serve as Stallion Manager and, along with Midland Acres, will manage his breeding career.

Art Official retired to stud duty after a spectacular racing career as the fastest and richest son of the highly successful sire Art Major.

"We are very excited about this opportunity to work with Kentuckiana and the Muscara family to bring Art Official to Ohio. With the exciting new expanded gaming plan for Ohio, we are confident that Art Official will be an excellent stallion choice for breeders wanting to take advantage of the opportunity," said Dr. John Mossbarger.

Art Official retired to stud having earned his world-champion status on both a half mile and one-mile track and has career earnings of \$2,082,885. Along with the greats Somebeachsomewhere and Lis Mara, Art Official retired as one of only 3 horses in history to pace two winning miles in better than 1:48 (1:47 at age three and 1:47.4 at age four). Art Official posted these records while defeating two of the great-

est horses of all time in Somebeachsomewhere (\$4,143,492) and Mister Big (\$4,008,257).

Not only did Art Official demonstrate extreme speed, he was incredibly versatile having established personal records on a mile track of 1:47 (world record), five-eighths mile track (1:49.2) and half-mile track (1:50.4 world record).

The 2013 service fee for Art Official will be \$5,000, with a multiple mare program available to breeders.

Meadowlands Hires New Director Of Sponsorships

New Meadowlands Racetrack (NMR) is proud to announce the appointment of Jason Hall as the Director of Sponsorship Sales. Hall will also oversee sponsorship sales at Winners Bayonne OTW and continue to serve as Director of Sponsorships Sales at Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs in New York, sister properties to NMR.

"This is a great opportunity for me to help tap into a new revenue stream for New Meadowlands Racetrack," said Hall. "I've had success at Tioga and Vernon and look forward to bringing those kinds of results to NMR."

Hall has worked in sponsorship sales for more than a decade. He got his start in professional baseball, first with the Baltimore Orioles and then with the New York Mets organizations. He has spent the past three years at the Jeff Gural owned properties, Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs. During that time, he is responsible for a more than 600 percent increase in sponsorship revenue. *(Meadowlands)*

New Jersey Horsemen To Donate To Sandy Relief

New Jersey's Standardbred horsemen are donating their share of the revenue on Saturday, Dec. 15, at Freehold Raceway to benefit the victims of Hurricane Sandy. The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties will receive the proceeds from Freehold's "Racing toward Recovery Day."

"We will be donating our share of the live handle that day to the FoodBank," said Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association president Tom Luchento. "On a Saturday, that could represent several thousand dollars.

"Our office at 64 Business Route 33 in Manalapan also is serving as a drop-off point for donations," Luchento added. "We will accept non-perishable food items and cash for the FoodBank through Friday, Dec. 14."

Freehold Raceway has announced that it will name its feature race the Hurricane Sandy Pace on Dec. 15. Additionally, the proceeds for any race sponsorships that day will be donated to the FoodBank.

Freehold will offer a free live program to all patrons making a non-perishable food donation. *(SBOANJ)*

RACE LINES

Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through Dec. 4, 2012 (week difference Nov. 28-Dec. 4).

Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

	Sts.	W	P	S	Earnings
Market Share (3tc)	20	10	5	3	\$2,001,405
Michael's Power (3pg)	20	14	2	1	1,463,912
Foiled Again (8pg)	24	7	8	5	1,207,429
Thinking Out Loud (3pc)	23	7	5	4	1,199,764
American Jewel (3pf)	16	9	4	2	1,163,449
Sweet Lou (3pc)	20	8	4	3	1,082,176
A Rocknroll Dance (3pc)	21	4	5	3	1,070,529
Heston Blue Chip (3pc)	18	14	1	1	1,030,008
Chapter Seven (4th)	10	8	2	0	1,023,025
Mister Herbie (4tg)	12	6	4	0	956,343
Check Me Out (3tf)	15	11	2	1	955,326
Little Brown Fox (3tc)	19	7	5	5	952,261
Golden Receiver (7pg)	25	13	5	2	941,025
Captaintreacherous (2pc)	10	8	1	1	918,253
Pet Rock (3pc)	21	8	5	4	902,018

Leading Money-Winning Drivers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UDR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Tim Tetrick	2,929	636-448-413	.349	\$18,079,295 (\$115,385)
Yannick Gingras	2,234	397-372-303	.315	13,108,937 (175,183)
George Brennan	2,430	599-409-321	.384	10,510,735 (224,591)
David Miller	2,700	417-376-363	.277	10,392,425 (149,270)
Brian Sears	1,991	399-331-279	.339	9,553,826 (189,662)
Ron Pierce	2,696	406-385-382	.277	9,505,463 (129,039)
Jody Jamieson	1,747	305-241-207	.291	8,840,235 (169,120)
Dave Palone	2,481	642-384-255	.379	8,630,378 (73,084)
Scott Zeron	1,976	335-254-224	.279	8,396,873 (123,852)
Sylvain Filion	2,178	397-298-274	.300	8,203,553 (205,139)
Jim Morrill Jr.	1,526	404-299-196	.416	7,711,605 (0)
Jason Bartlett	2,632	395-359-350	.270	7,454,283 (128,682)
Corey Callahan	2,944	469-392-405	.279	6,899,677 (214,424)
Randy Waples	1,571	196-235-206	.252	6,841,998 (80,802)
Andy Miller	2,137	278-330-252	.255	6,742,335 (62,950)

Leading Money-Winning Trainers

	Sts.	W-P-S	UTR	Earnings (wk. diff)
Ron Burke	3,959	852-641-505	.348	\$18,983,855 (\$191,424)
Jimmy Taktar	502	126-82-59	.381	9,131,452 (25,500)
Linda Toscano	439	101-79-69	.382	6,716,668 (93,581)
Casie Coleman	749	211-138-96	.427	6,659,721 (34,280)
Tony Alagna	672	115-89-82	.285	4,833,032 (8,260)
Erv Miller	1,422	259-248-191	.324	4,275,691 (7,140)
Mark Ford	1,800	237-240-220	.246	4,063,062 (64,962)
Bob McIntosh	588	110-88-83	.317	4,060,995 (46,589)
Ray Schnittker	825	108-115-95	.247	3,947,063 (7,500)
Jeff Gillis	604	108-86-70	.297	3,862,957 (27,876)
Tony O'Sullivan	685	143-99-87	.331	3,663,845 (65,364)
P.J. Fraley	891	179-128-131	.330	3,609,605 (44,250)
Richard Norman	446	86-5053-.295		3,558,072 (6,120)
Rene Allard	1,550	405-285-190	.404	3,414,167 (124,419)
Richard Moreau	1,274	297-205-156	.363	3,264,412 (110,758)

Leading Breeders

Breeder	Starters	Winners	Wins	Earnings
Hanover Shoe Farms Inc.	1,077	746	2,363	\$28,922,853
Winbak Farm	1,086	672	1,970	19,518,916
Brittany Farms	315	217	749	10,495,141
Perretti Farms	354	250	750	8,945,592
Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par	303	200	603	7,581,125
Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.	184	131	439	6,132,694
White Birch Farm	168	110	375	6,061,208
Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.	160	116	418	5,544,223
Walnut Hall Limited	244	171	557	4,942,019
Steve Stewart	139	95	317	4,448,173
Arlene & Jules Siegel	173	130	413	4,340,623
Perfect World Enterprises	185	126	402	4,049,947
Robert J. Key	134	72	191	3,639,304
Fox Valley Standardbreds	238	156	455	3,613,920
Frederick Hertrich III	164	121	396	3,453,268

Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for Nov. 28-Dec. 4 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

Drivers	Starts	W-P-S
Corey Callahan	81	23-10-13
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	58	17-12-11
Trevor Henry	41	14-7-5
Simon Allard	64	13-12-5
Sylvain Filion	59	12-14-6
Billy Parker Jr.	38	11-6-2
Brian Sears	49	11-8-9
Aaron Merriman	72	10-18-8
Billy Dobson	45	10-6-10
Dan Noble	35	10-4-5
David Miller	52	10-10-6
George Brennan	51	10-10-5
Sam Widger	47	10-5-4
Scott Coulter	36	10-5-6
Tim Tetrick	48	10-7-4

Trainers	Wins
Rene Allard	11
Gilberto Garcia-Herrera	9
Josh Green	8
Mark Ford	8
Ron Burke	8
Dylan Davis	7
Richard Moreau	7
Wayne Givens	7
Brandon Simpson	6
Randy Bickmore	6
Bob Johnson	5
Calvin Hollar	5
Carmen Auciello	5
Kent Sherman	5
Mark Winacott	5
Scott Di Domenico	5
Adrian Wisner	4
Amber Buter	4
Angie Affrunti	4
Don Sherman	4
Heidi Rohr	4
Jimmy Taktar	4
Joseph Cirusuola	4
Kevin McDermott	4
Kyle Moore	4
Larry Clabaugh	4
Steve Wiseman	4

2012 DECEMBER



sunday monday tuesday wednesday thursday friday saturday



1
Autumn 3CP final (Wdb)

2 DSBF 2CP elims (DD) Matron 3CP final (DD)	3 Autumn 3CT final (Wdb)	4 DSBF 2FP elims (DD)	5	6 Autumn 3FT final (Wdb)	7 Niagara 3FP (Wdb)	8 Hanukkah Cleveland Classic 3CP (Nfid) Valedictory 3CP (Wdb)
9 DSBF 2CP final (DD)	10	11 DSBF 2FP final (DD) Frank Chick's Mixed Sale at Harrington, Del.	12	13	14	15
16	17 Niagara 3FP (Wdb) Valedictory 3CP (Wdb)	18	19	20	21 First day of Winter	22
23	24	25	26 Boxing Day (Can.) Kwanzaa Niagara 3FP final (Wdb) Valedictory 3CP final (Wdb)	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve	<p>Best wishes to all for the coming year! We look forward to doing business with you again in 2013.</p> <p>2013 Sale Dates:</p>				

<p>WINTER SPEED SALE DELAWARE, OHIO CO. FAIRGROUNDS</p> <p>February 11 & 12</p>	<p>SPRING MIXED SALE DELAWARE, OHIO CO. FAIRGROUNDS</p> <p>May 13 & 14</p>	<p>PRE-JUG MIXED SALE DELAWARE, OHIO CO. FAIRGROUNDS</p> <p>August 26 & 27</p>	<p>FALL SPEED SALE DELAWARE, OHIO CO. FAIRGROUNDS</p> <p>November 18 - 20</p>
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