Gingras Driver of the Year; Brown Trainer of the Year

Hoosier Park was named winner of the Stan Bergstein/Proximity Award in year-end Dan Patch Awards voting by the U.S. Harness Writers Association.

In its 24th season of racing in 2017, Hoosier Park was the host site of the $6 million Breeders Crown championships, and the staff rolled out the red carpet to racing’s elite horses and humans. No amount of effort was spared in making the Breeders Crown experience memorable to everyone connected with it.

Hoosier Park’s leading driver, Trace Tetrick, won two of the Breeders Crown finals, which helped put an exclamation point on a season in which the 31 year old capped off by being voted the Rising Star of the Year. Tetrick won more than 560 races in 2017 with a career-high $6.7 million in purse earnings. Yannick Gingras was voted 2017 Driver of the Year and Brian Brown was selected Trainer of the Year.

Brown, 53, had been steadily making a bigger mark among North American conditioners over the last couple of years, had his breakthrough year in 2017, training Downbytheseaside and Fear The Dragon, the two 3-year-old colt pacers who were the leaders of their division much of the year and who were one-two in seasonal earnings.

Joining Downbytheseaside and Fear The Dragon, who combined for earnings of $2.95 million, was 3-year-old pacing filly Blazin Britches, a winner of $540,424. And the rest of the Brown barn contributed earnings in the vicinity of $2 million, giving the Ohio-based trainer a lifetime seasonal high bankroll of over $5.7 million, despite starting fewer than 550 horses (he had a .402 UTR).

Brown was also honored by being voted USHWA’s Good Guy Award, which recognizes his cooperation with the sport’s media.

Brown’s adept handling of Fear The Dragon and Blazin Britches brought out one solid performance after another from those talented horses, with their biggest cheerleader—owner Bruce Trogdon of Emerald Highlands Farm—usually present to share in the glory. Trogdon was also the breeder of Blazin Britches. The former newspaperman celebrated the 25th year of existence of his Emerald Highlands operation in the most successful way imaginable, capped by his winning the Owner of the Year award.

Gingras won 33 stakes races worth $100,000 or more in 2017, but it wasn’t all just going out there with the best horse and winning as expected. Gingras unexpectedly captured the Little Brown Jug with Filibuster Hanover, who going into the Jug final was two-for-13 on the season.

One of the top females regularly driven by Gingras was the older trotting mare champion Hannelore Hanover, whose dam, High Sobriety, earned honors as Trotting Broodmare of the Year. And that mother-daughter connection certainly factored into Hanover Shoe Farms being honored as Breeder of the Year—the farm bred Hannelore, but perhaps just as importantly it set a single-season record for

WHAT’S INSIDE . . .

SBSW still undergoing chemotherapy—pg. 4
Away My Baby makes first Big M start—pg. 4
Allblack Stride N at the Meadowlands—pg. 6
Propulsion in Prix d’Amerique qualifier—pg. 8

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Continues on page 2
the earnings of the produce of one nursery, with $31.3 million registered into the last days of the season.

High Sobriety she had just one win in a two-year racing career, and her first three foals had earned a combined total of $65,000, but then along came Hannelore Hanover, who earned more than $1 million in 2017 and also turned in the second-fastest trotting mile in history – a 1:49.2 win at Lexington.

Hanover Shoe Farms is usually among the top names considered for Breeder of the Year honors, which is no surprise since the farm has been the sport’s leading money-winning breeder for each of the 69 years that the USTA has been keeping that record. Hanover’s 2017 total, in excess of $31 million, broke the old record of $30.4 million, which Hanover set in 2015—with one breaking the old record set by Hanover in 2014.

The 2018 Dan Patch Awards banquet will be held Sunday, Feb. 25, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Fla. Those wishing to take out a congratulatory ad in the banquet program should contact Kim Rinker, Journal Committee chair, at trotrink@aol.com. Those wishing to attend the banquet can make room reservations online via a special “portal” on the USHWA website—but do so quickly to take advantage of the special room rates USHWA has obtained. Tickets for the banquet, priced at $175, can be obtained through Judy Davis-Wilson, Dinner Planning Committee chair, at zoe8874@aol.com.
## 2018 Ohio Sires Stakes Schedule

### 2-Year-Old Colt Trot
- 1-Northfield Park  
  Mon, July 2
- 2-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, July 20
- 3-Northfield Park  
  Mon, Aug 6
- 4-Scioto Downs  
  Tues, Aug 28

### 3-Year-Old Colt Trot
- 1-Miami Valley  
  Sun, May 6
- 2-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, June 15
- 3-Northfield Park  
  Mon, July 9
- 4-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, Aug 24

### 2-Year-Old Colt Pace
- 1-Scioto Downs  
  Wed, July 4
- 2-Northfield Park  
  Mon, July 16
- 3-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, Aug 10
- 4-Northfield Park  
  Mon, Aug 27

### 3-Year-Old Colt Pace
- 1-Miami Valley  
  Sun, May 6
- 2-Scioto Downs  
  Sat, June 9
- 3-Northfield Park  
  Sat, July 7
- 4-Scioto Downs  
  Sat, Aug 18

### 2-Year-Old Filly Trot
- 1-Northfield Park  
  Tues, July 3
- 2-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, July 20
- 3-Northfield Park  
  Mon, Aug 6
- 4-Scioto Downs  
  Tues, Aug 28

### 3-Year-Old Filly Trot
- 1-Miami Valley  
  Fri, May 4
- 2-Northfield Park  
  Mon, June 11
- 3-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, July 13
- 4-Northfield Park  
  Mon, Aug 20

### 2-Year-Old Filly Pace
- 1-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, July 6
- 2-Northfield Park  
  Tues, July 17
- 3-Scioto Downs  
  Fri, Aug 10
- 4-Northfield Park  
  Mon, Aug 27

### 3-Year-Old Filly Pace
- 1-Miami Valley  
  Fri, May 4
- 2-Northfield Park  
  Sat, June 2
- 3-Scioto Downs  
  Sat, July 14
- 4-Northfield Park  
  Sat, Aug 11

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$275,000 Championships for 2- & 3-Year-Olds
Saturday, September 8 at Scioto Downs

$60,000 Consolations for 2- & 3-Year-Olds
Saturday, October 13 at Northfield Park

$60,000 Veteran Championships for 4-Year-Olds & Up
Pacing Horses & Geldings  
Pacing Mares  
Trotting Horses & Geldings  
Trotting Mares
Saturday, October 6 at Northfield Park

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Ohio Sires Stakes
Kimberly Rinker, OSDF Administrator  
kim.rinker@racing.ohio.gov  
614-779-0269
77 South High Street, 18th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.racingohio.net
Somebeachsomewhere Still Undergoing Chemo Treatments

Brent MacGrath, spokesman for the Schooner Stables, the original and still majority shareholder in Somebeachsomewhere, the sport’s leading pacing sire who stands stud at Hanover Shoe Farms in Pennsylvania, told Weekend Preview on Thursday morning (Dec. 28) that the 2008 Horse of the Year is still undergoing chemotherapy treatment for cancer. The cancer was diagnosed after Somebeachsomewhere suffered a mild bout of colic in November, which led to the first of the series of chemo treatments on Nov. 18 at the Mid-Atlantic Equine Center in New Jersey.

“He’s still being treated with chemo and it’s taken its toll on him,” said MacGrath. “It affects him the same as people and he doesn’t feel well. But over the last few days he seems to be bouncing back better and stronger. We have a few more treatments to do and hopefully he’ll be going home soon.”

MacGrath said while he remains hopeful, there have been no discussions regarding Somebeachsomewhere’s breeding future.

“We’re trying to keep him alive and doing everything aggressively for his longevity,” said MacGrath. “We’re not worried about his breeding career and the breeding season, we’re worried about his life. And that’s how we are treating him. We’re being 100 percent honest and we’re treating him to cure him. We’re treating him for longevity and hopefully we’re going to have a breeding season.

“We’re optimistic, but there is so little data on horses and there’s a lot more questions than answers,” he continued. “But I sleep very well at night knowing that we’ve done everything we can do. We will not leave a stone unturned. Hanover and the original six (owners) are on the same page on this. The cooperation and harmony in putting Beach first is important to Schooner and it’s important to Hanover. It’s really been a great partnership.” — By Gordon Waterstone

Ohio-Sired Away My Baby Making First Meadowlands Start

The third-place finisher in the 2017 Ohio Sires Stakes championship for 3-year-old filly trotters is spreading her wings. Away My Baby will be making her first start at the Meadowlands Friday in Race 5 with Billy Dobson driving her for the first time.

Away My Baby is a daughter of the Conway Hall-sired And Away We Go 3, 1:54.3 ($182,029), who has 12 horses with 2:00 records from just 27 starters. Away My Baby, who cost just $5,700 as a yearling, took a mark of 1:57.1f this year at age three and had a career resume of 10-6-5 in 30 starts, plus $118,755 in earnings, before she was recently purchased in Harrisburg by trainer Jenny Melander.

At the Meadowlands Friday, Away My Baby will be starting from post 5. On paper, the filly is competitive, although there are two horses in the race who have shown 1:55 speed in their last starts—Future Secured, who is starting from post 3, finished third, trotting her own mile in 1:55.3, on Dec. 17 at Harrah’s Philadelphia and Signal Hill (post 8) will start off of a 1:55.2 qualifying win on Dec. 2.

Away My Baby was trained and co-owned by Ohio horseman Jimmy Lupton until Melander bought the filly for $35,000. Friday’s race will be the filly’s second start for Melander, who shares ownership with her husband, Marty Noonan (Noonan Harness Racing) and Brian Clark’s Clark Stables.

“She’s been a little hard to judge. She’s raced twice for me, at Chester, but she wasn’t really fit yet, she needed more training miles,” said Melander, who also noted the filly had been off the month of October.

“We’ve changed her rigging several times,” added Melander, “and she’s a little moody and hot-headed, like a lot of trotting fillies. So she’s been a little hard to judge. But I think she is a pretty nice filly.”

Melander’s 40-horse stable also includes several older horses she is racing this winter and 11 soon to be 2 year olds.— By Kathy Parker

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Allblack Stride N Another
New Face At Meadowlands

The Meadowlands’ Saturday card is filled with newcomers, among them the 7-year-old pacing gelding Allblack Stride N. A son of leading New Zealand sire Christian Cullen, Allblack Stride N will be making his 58th career start—but just his second in North America (and at the Meadowlands)—in Race 7.

Allblack Stride N is trained by Mark Harder for Australia owners Emilio and Maria Rosati. Harder is training seven horses for the Rosatis, among them the 2017 freshman filly trotter Lily Stride.

“He’s one of Emilio’s horses that reached the top of the class ladder down there, so he sent him and another over here,” said Harder of Allblack Stride N. “I’ve had him a few months, but he was turned out for four to six weeks before he shipped over here, so he’s needed some work.”

Allblack Stride N finished sixth in his career debut in the Preferred Pace at the Meadowlands pacing his mile in 1:51.2 after being used in a :26.2 opening quarter. He is down in class for Saturday’s race, a non-winners of $15,000 in last five starts, with an AE condition of N/W $100,000 in 2017.

“It wasn’t the trip I wanted for his first start,” said Harder. “I would prefer a faster closing quarter for him than an opening quarter.”

With more than $300,000 in money-winnings while racing Down Under, Harder said Allblack Stride N was a classy competitor who just missed competing against the best in such classics as the Inter Dominion and Miracle Mile. “He’s a very simple horse—open bridle, no poles, no boots,” added Harder.

Harder said Allblack Stride N raced at both mile and longer distances, so he believes he will adapt fine to the American style of racing.

“Most horses adapt well to their new circumstances, so the racing won’t be any problem,” he said.

Harder said he wasn’t sure if Allblack Stride N ever competed against another fairly recent New Zealand-sired import, Christen Me N, since Allblack Stride N was based in Australia while Christen Me N campaigned in New Zealand. Christen Me N finished up 2017 with six wins in 11 U.S. starts and a new lifetime mark of 1:49.2f, and his regular driver, Tim Tetrick, has said the plan is to “win next year in the bigger races.”

As for Allblack Stride N’s potential, Harder offered: “I’m not sure where this horse will end up.”

Corey Callahan will drive Allblack Stride N, starting from post 8 in the nine-horse field. The morning line favorite in the race is Starznheaven, who won in 1:50.1 at the Meadowlands on Dec. 16. The 5-year-old son of Rock N Roll Heaven is making his first start for trainer Ron Burke.— By Kathy Parker
The fastest 3-year-old in Breeders Crown history, Racing Hill retired with credentials of a true champion!

At 2, Racing Hill established a freshman record of 1:51.2, en route to winning the Bluegrass Stakes, the International Stallion Stakes and a Breeder’s Crown elimination.

At 3, Racing Hill was the second leading money winner of all aged horses ($1,594,366) to Wiggle It Jiggleit. His clocking of 1:48 in the 3-Year-Old Pacing Colt Championship was the fastest in Breeders Crown history (surpassing the great Somebeachsomewhere’s mark of 1:48.3). Racing Hill also recorded triumphs in the $500,000 Hempt Final at Pocono, the $500,000 Messenger Stakes at Yonkers, & the $400,000 Adios Pace at The Meadows. As well, he was a fast-closing, photo finish second in The Meadowlands Pace and a strong second in the $1 million North America Cup.

Racing Hill serviced a full book of mares in 2017!

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Propulsion Set For Sunday’s Prix d’Amerique Qualifier

Another qualifying prep for the Prix d’Amerique is set for Sunday at the Vincennes track in Paris. The 120,000 euro Prix de Bourgogne has a field of 17 entered for the 2,100-meter race (about 1.3 miles). The top three finishers receive invitations to the Prix d’Amerique, which will be held Sunday, Jan. 28.

The Prix de Bourgogne is contested with a mobile starting gate, but with a field of 17, there will obviously be trailers.

Among the entries in the “Bourgogne” is the French sensation Bold Eagle, who won last year’s Prix d’Amerique as well as the Prix de Bourgogne. The Bourgogne field also includes the American-bred Propulsion, who races for Sweden’s Bengt Agerup. The son of Muscle Hill finished fourth in last year’s Prix d’Amerique.

Reden has another Prix de Bourgogne starter in Lionel, and he could have other Prix d’Amerique contenders, among them the 2015 Hambletonian Oaks champion Wild Honey. Wild Honey was scheduled to race on Dec. 24 in Paris, but was scratched when she was coughing before the race. Reden has revealed that his horses stabled at Grobois outside of Paris (where Propulsion is based) have been healthy but he has had sickness at his second Paris base at Chamant, where Wild Honey is stabled.
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In addition to the 2018 service fee, the amount of the stallion nomination fee must include a surcharge as follows:

a) For stallions that stand for a fee from US$3,000 to $5,099 (or $3,856 CAD (Canadian Dollars) to $7,712 CAD), an additional amount equal to 40% of 2018 service fee must be paid;
b) For stallions that stand for a fee from US$6,000 to $9,999 (or $7,712 CAD to $12,853 CAD), an additional amount equal to 75% of 2018 service fee must be paid;
c) For stallions that stand for a fee of US$10,000 ($12,854 CAD), or more, an additional amount equal to 200% of 2018 service fee must be paid.

For stallions that stand for a service fee of less than US$3,000 or $3,856 CAD, no additional surcharge is necessary for nomination.

Note: For the purpose of determining the surcharge in other than U.S. funds, the December 1, 2017 exchange rate is used; a rate of $1.265 CAD per U.S.

Stallion nominations for other than first-year stallions that are postmarked after January 15, 2018, but on or before December 31, 2018, will be accepted upon payment of an additional penalty amount equal to 50% of the above stallion nomination fee (including the above surcharge). Likewise, stallion nominations for first-year stallions that are postmarked after the above sixty-day deadline, but on or before December 31, 2018, will be accepted upon payment of an additional amount equal to 50% of the above stallion nomination fee (including the above surcharge).

For more information contact: The Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown at (609) 371-2211 or www.Hambletonian.com

BREEDERS CROWNSTALLION NO. 35 Nomination Blank

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Sire ___________________________ Dam ___________________________ Sire of Dam ___________________________

Farm: ___________________________ State/Province ___________________________

Owner(s) ___________________________

Please check [ ]: In-production stallion (by Jan. 15, 2018) [ ] With penalty (additional 50% after Jan. 15, 2018)

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2018 Championship Series
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October 27, 2018
A look back at 2017

There were a lot of memorable moments during the 2017 harness racing season. As we prepare to turn the calendar to 2018, let’s look back at some of the newsmakers of this campaign. more

The road to success for Jim Devaux

There is something to be said for the road less traveled, but a well-worn road can yield rewards as well. Jim Devaux’s road, for example. more

International champ Twister Bi prepping for Prix d’Amerique

Although it’s been over two months since Twister Bi stormed to a 5 ½-length victory in the Yonkers International Trot, trainer Jerry Riordan is still processing what the win means to him. The history and lore behind the International means Riordan sees himself re-examining and reliving that moment for years to come. more

Big fields + big pools = Big payoffs at Big M

While winter’s chill has been covering the Northeast of late, the action—as well as the payoffs—at the Meadowlands have been white-hot. more

MSOA names 2017 divisional award winners

The Meadows Standardbred Owners Association has proudly announced its annual awards for the top horses at The Meadows in 2017. Each winner among the 12 categories now has an opportunity to be voted Pacer/Trotter of the Year and Meadows Horse of the Year. Balloting will take place among the MSOA’s members. more

Dec. 31 foal registration deadline reminder

As the Dec. 31 deadline to register your 2017 foal approaches, the USTA would like to remind breeders of the online foal registration reporting and live foal/no foal feature. more

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<td>Groundhog Day</td>
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