Ryder Set To Debut Jesse Duke N

A trio of three-week series tagged “Leap Year Series” get underway this weekend at the Meadowlands, with three divisions for trotters on Friday and two splits each of a pair of pacing divisions on Saturday.

On Saturday, trainer Chris Ryder sends out a starter in each of the $16,000 divisions of the Leap Year—which carries a primary condition of non-winners of $10,500 last five starts—including stalwart Bushwacker and Down Under import Jesse Duke N, who will be making his North American debut.

Jesse Duke N, who as a yearling was the sale-topper with a price of approximately $200,000, according to Ryder, was a star while racing in Australia and New Zealand for trainer Mark Purdon, earning more than $313,000 (U.S.) in 25 career starts. Following a win in a $100,500 Grade 1 race last June in New Zealand, Ryder purchased the son of Bettor’s Delight. Jesse Duke N made a handful of starts for Ryder Down Under before the pacer was brought to the U.S. Ryder has since sold an interest to Deo Volente Farms and Tom Pontone.

Ryder said Jesse Duke N arrived in his New Jersey barn in early September. A bit unruly, Jesse Duke N was gelded.

“Mark Purdon had him in New Zealand and after I bought him he took him to Australia and he got all studdy on him,” said Ryder. “He didn’t race too good. I brought him up here and he needed gelding. So I gelded him, turned him out for a while, and brought him back on Lasix.”

Ryder gave the now 5 year old some time off before bringing him back in late January where he qualified twice at the Meadowlands. In the first qualifier on Jan. 24, Jesse Duke N rallied late with a final quarter of :26.4 to finish fourth, race-timed in 1:54. In the second qualifier on Jan. 31, Jesse Duke N closed even faster with a last quarter of :26.

Jesse Duke N will start from post 5 for driver Dexter Dunn in the first series division (Race 8). Ryder said he hopes Jesse Duke N’s first few starts will lead to bigger things, including possibly the MGM Borgata Series (formerly George Morton Levy Memorial) that gets underway on March 14 at Yonkers Raceway.

“I think we have a pretty decent horse,” said Ryder. “I think we are ready for this first start. Who knows where his bottom is, but we’re happy with him. We now get the luxury of racing him before we have to decide (on stakes payments).”

“I think we have a pretty decent horse. Who knows where his bottom is, but we’re happy with him.”

—Chris Ryder about Jesse Duke N
Results Of Super Bowl Picks Are In

The Kansas City Chiefs came from behind with three touchdowns in the last 6:31 to roar past the San Francisco 49ers to win last Sunday’s Super Bowl LIV by a score of 31-20. The outcome came as no surprise to the majority of those who gave their prognostications to HarnessRacing Weekend Preview, as 29 of 50 backed the Chiefs.

Many of the 21 who picked the 49ers did so because of their strong defense, but the Chiefs scored three touchdowns in the last half of the last quarter to win going away. Of the 29 who went with the Chiefs, many said they did so because of the talents of quarterback Patrick Mahomes, and after a slow start his skills were put on full display as he led his team to victory and then honors as the game’s MVP.

Trainer Tom Fanning nearly hit the game perfectly as he predicted a final score of Chiefs 31, 49ers 21. Three others also had the Chiefs winning with 31 points: Northwood Bloodstock’s Bob Boni, trainer Todd Buter and Weekend Preview’s Gordon Waterstone.

Trainer Nancy Takter picked the Chiefs to win 28-21, so she gets props for hitting the 49ers score on the head.

Northfield Park’s Dave Bianconi, driver George Brennan and driver Dave Palone predicted a final score totaling 51 points so they all were spot on. Except that they all picked the 49ers, so it doesn’t count. Weekend Preview’s Kathy Parker had the Chiefs winning 28-24, so her 52 points is closest to the target with the right winner.
**Early Closing Events**

**MEADOWLANDS**

EVENTS CLOSE FEB 17, 2020

Winner of Cutler Memorial may receive invitation to the 2020 Elitlopp

**2YO**

- $1,500,000 Kindergarten Classic Pace & Trot with $20,000 Legs. 2020 Kindergarten Finals at the Meadowlands.
- $450,000 Valley Victory 2YO Colt Trot
- $450,000 Goldsmith Maid 2YO Filly Trot
- $450,000 Governor’s Cup 2YO Colt Pace
- $450,000 Three Diamonds 2YO Filly Pace
- $400,000 Peter Haughton Memorial 2YO Colt Trot
- $350,000 Jim Doherty Memorial 2YO Filly Trot

**3YO**

- $650,000 Meadowlands Pace
- $300,000 Stanley Dancer Memorial Colt Trot
- $250,000 Del Miller Memorial Filly Trot
- $200,000 Mistletoe Shalee Filly Pace

**OLDER HORSES**

- $1,000,000 TVG FFA Championship Pace & Trot with mare divisions for both.
- $500,000 Graduate 4YO Pace & Trot Finals with $75,000 Legs.
- $450,000 William R. Haughton Memorial FFA Pace*
- $300,000 John Cashman Memorial FFA Trot*
- $260,000 Sam McKee Memorial FFA Pace*
- $200,000 Lady Liberty FFA Mare Pace*
- $200,000 Golden Girls FFA Mare Pace*
- $200,000 Arthur Cutler Memorial FFA Trot*
- $155,000 Dr. John R. Steele FFA Mare Trot*
- $100,000 Miss Versatility FFA Mare Trotting Series*

*denotes leg of TVG championship series

Meadowlands stakes and race dates at playmeadowlands.com

**TIOGA + VERNON DOWNNS**

EVENTS CLOSE MAR 15, 2020

**NY Sired**

- $1,000,000 Empire Breeders Classic 2YO, 3YO & Stallion Nomination for both Pacers & Trotters

**OLDER HORSES**

- $175,000 Artiscape FFA Mare Pace*
- $175,000 Joie De Vie (Formerly Muscle Hill) FFA Mare Trot*
- $175,000 Crawford Farms FFA Trot*
- $175,000 Roll With Joe FFA Pace*

All Four FFA Stakes will be raced at Tioga Downs in 2020

Tioga & Vernon stakes and race dates at tiogadowns.com/horsemen

All purses not listed as guaranteed (g) are estimates.
PA Budget Proposes Cuts; Some Lawmakers Already Questioning Plan

Horse racing was rocked on Tuesday when Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf announced that his 2020-2021 budget proposes to take $204 million from the Race Horse Development Trust Fund (RHDTF) to pay for a new initiative for college scholarships. Such a deduction from the fund would decimate the horse racing fund, which provides approximately 88 percent of purse money at Pennsylvania racetracks.

“Let’s bet on our kids instead of bankrolling race horse owners,” Wolf said during his budget address Tuesday in Harrisburg.

Wolf’s initiative is called the Nellie Bly Tuition Program, which prompted the following headline in the Harrisburg Patriot-News: “Horse racing industry says ‘whoa, Nelly’ to Wolf’s plan to raid its trust fund to pay for college scholarships”

Pennsylvania’s fiscal year ends June 30, which means legislators will be negotiating and finetuning a final budget over the course of the next few months.

According to pennlive.com, the website of the Harrisburg Patriot-News, Wolf’s proposal to take from the Race Horse Development Trust Fund was met with a “tepid response” from the mostly Democratic lawmakers in attendance at the budget press conference.

Senate Democratic Leader Jay Costa of Allegheny County, where Pittsburgh is located, said he believes the governor’s proposal is worthy of consideration. He is open, however, to funding options.

“It doesn’t necessarily have to be from that pot of money at the end of the day,” Costa said in the Patriot-News story. “So our goal is to be able to figure out a way to enact the legislation and look at other possible revenue streams to try to address that if we need to.”

“That has an impact on jobs and those communities” where horse breeding is a vibrant business, said Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman, a Republican from Centre County, about raiding the Race Horse fund. “The governor, it makes a nice line here for him and that’s important. But as we go through, we need to vet these proposals and see the total impact of them and make decisions.”

While Wolf is a Democrat, there are Republican majorities in both the Senate and House.

Russell Williams, CEO and president of Hanover Shoe Farms, which is located about 48 miles from the Pennsylvania state capitol building, once served on the board of the York County Historical Society with Wolf. Williams said he has not had the opportunity to discuss the budget proposal with him.

“Pennsylvania has a surplus right now; the state is not broke,” noted Williams. “I don’t see why we have to be killing off industries.

“The Race Horse Development Trust Fund supports an important part of agriculture,” he added. “We know we have friends in the legislature and we just have to buckle down and explain our impact on the economy. This budget proposal, as with all budgets, is going to be dismantled and rebuilt before it is approved.”

In addition to having a peak horse population of around 1,000 animals, Hanover Shoe Farms occupies 3,000 acres in Adams and York counties. Forty families live on that land because one or more family members are employees of the farm, among about 80 employees total.—By Kathy Parker

What is the Race Horse Development Trust Fund?

Money in the Race Horse Development Trust Fund (RHDTF) comes from a percentage of gross terminal revenues from slot machine gaming. The legislature specified in the 2017 Race Horse Industry Reform Act that the money in the Fund “are not funds of the Commonwealth” and that the “Commonwealth shall not be rightfully entitled to any money” in the RHDTF.

Legislators created the trust after a budget passed in 2012 took $72 million from horse racing support over a three-year period. Later, the racing and breeding segments of the horse racing industry explained to lawmakers that long-term investments could not be made in the industry if there was uncertainty about future funding.

Horsemen Speaking Up About PA Governor’s Plan

Horsemen based at The Meadows were interviewed for Pittsburgh area TV newscasts on Wednesday, the day following Gov. Tom Wolf’s announcement that he would take the racing industry’s share of slots money to begin a new scholarship program in the state. In addition, Meadows track photographer Chris Gooden and Meadows Standardbred Owners Association (MSOA) marketing director Dawnelle Mock have begun creating a social media campaign to highlight harness racing’s economic impact.

The MSOA also has a Facebook Live feature each Friday called Straight from the Gate. The 10-minute interview show airs on Facebook Live at 12:15 p.m. Mock conducts the interviews while track photographer Chris Gooden provides the video. To access Straight from the Gate, click here.
In addition, trainer John Butenshoen posted the following on Facebook. Butenshoen had operated a stable in his home state of Illinois before relocating to Pennsylvania. (Spelling errors have been corrected in the posting.)

Economic impact on Pa. from my stable alone. This year I have 21 two year olds that are either Pa.-bred, or bred by a farm in Pennsylvania. These cost at sale $700k ($700,000); also held over are 12 three year olds with cost of $500k. Pretty substantial investment into state’s program. This is the beginning of the 12th year for me in Pa. The allure of the Pa. program led me here. Simple math now on local economic impact. Approximately $15 per day to just feed and bed each horse (including supplements); 50 x $15 equals $750 per day, equals $22,500 per month, x number 12 months; 50 x $400 per month stall rent equals $20,000 per month; every 3.5-4 horses needs one employee.

Approximately 14 jobs created plus my wife and self. Another $10-$11,000 per week in wages. Three employees and ourselves have purchased homes in the area while others rent. All these came from out of state. $5-$6,000 per month diesel fuel bill.

They call it a subsidy. By definition, what we receive would best be classified as indirect subsidy. I may be misspoken, but to me we are in a profit-sharing agreement between the casinos and horsemen, on the taxation of the gaming dollars. The state takes X amount of dollars, the gamblers get paid back X amount of dollars and the remaining taxed dollars get split between casino operators and horsemen.

If the state needs money for education, why don’t they try and take an extra percent of the casino’s tax? The money paid in purses goes back into the state economy. While the casino profits are used to expand gambling operations, who knows where? Follow the dollars and see where they lead.

Canada has done a great job towards self-sustainability. This won’t happen in Pennsylvania at Chester or Poconos under current management. The casinos do nothing to attract customers for the racing. If their argument is that racing is too expensive and a drain on them, they make our argument for us. Those dollars it costs to operate a race-track are spent directly in the community, proving the amount of money is spent in state. Until the decisions of the track operators affect them exactly as they effect the racing, they will continue to make decisions to their benefit and not mutually.

It took years of educating the government to get the program in place. With elections held every two years, the turnover of government people who are unaware of the racing leaves a void of uneducated. Years pass and low and behold there goes the money.

Our investment into the state, and our business, was made under the presumption that these monies were legally protected. If stripped and racing crumbles, are there any protections for us on this? Is this an illegal money grab?
2019 foals will be eligible for $400,000 in bonus monies if raised in Virginia for at least six months before they turn 2! Make plans to bring your yearlings to Virginia by July 1 this year!

Awards are distributed from money earning starts when they race as 2 and 3-year-olds!

For more details on this program and even more lucrative ones for the '20 foal crop and beyond, visit vhha.net or call Debbie Warnick at 443-463-0917.

Fall Harness Racing at Shenandoah Downs
September and October 2020
shenandoahdowns.com
Super Bowl Sunday Success At Pompano Park

Pompano Park director of racing Stacy Cahill told Weekend Preview she “had a feeling it would be a good decision” to race a live card against the Super Bowl last Sunday night, and the numbers proved she was correct.

Super Bowl LIV kicked off approximately 6:40 p.m., and the first race at Pompano Park on Sunday went off at 7:27 p.m. The 10-race card generated $413,223 in handle. Add in another $100,688 wagered in the building on simulcast signals and the track handled $513,911 on the day.

“The wagering and pools have been tremendous this year at Pompano and racing on Super Bowl Sunday was a good business decision since I would have had to make that day up somewhere in May to get my 126 days in,” said Cahill. “The number was $513,000 all in and that number is better than any day I could have put in in May when I would’ve had to make this day up.

“Even though they were many people doubting that it was a good decision, I guess they didn’t understand I have to race that day somewhere, and it would be in May. But it’s typical for people to make comments before they understand the entire situation.”

Only three other harness tracks raced live cards against Super Bowl LIV, all in Canada. Two in Western Canada—Century Downs and Fraser Downs—raced afternoon programs, while Flamboro Downs in Ontario raced at night. Flamboro Downs handled $503,105 on its 10-race card.

Cahill said a decision has already been made regarding racing against Super Bowl LV on Feb. 7, 2021 in Tampa, Fla. “Yes, I definitely plan to race that day in 2021,” said Cahill. “And no, I will not be racing Easter Sunday in 2020 or 2021!”—By Gordon Waterstone

Pocono Downs Opens 2020 Meet On Saturday

The trotters and pacers take to the track at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono Saturday for the earliest seasonal opening in 55 years of the harness sport in northeast Pennsylvania, with the first of 13 races scheduled for 5 p.m.

The opening set of features during February’s racing at The Downs will be part of the new Game of Claims Series, grouping horses of varying values. It’s appropriate that the claiming horses will provide the early season highlights at a track where 483 claims resulted in $9,465,025 turnover during 2019.

Saturday’s Game of Claims’s first preliminary rounds will have two groups of horses with a base claiming price of $25,000 going for $25,000 a division, and three sections of $15,000 basic-level horses racing for $15,000 purses. The claiming price will go up slightly for prelims two and three, with each group’s top point earners in the preliminaries getting a chance to race for the throne as their Game Of Claims division’s champion on Saturday, Feb. 29. In the finals, a $50,000 bounty will be on the line for this week’s $25,000 base-price horses, and $30,000 will be up for grabs by the leading $15,000 base-price competitors.

Multi-time leading Pocono trainer Rene Allard will be sending out horses in four of the five Game Of Claims cuts, three of them new to the barn. The holdover is Maxdaddy Blue Chip, who was the 2017 Pacer of the Year at Pocono, and is still going strongly at age eight.

Another “golden oldie,” the 11-year-old Atta Boy Dan, returns to Pocono in a $14,000 pace after being named the 2019 Pocono Pacer of the Year. Atta Boy Dan, who will be starting from the outside in a field of seven, was the winningest harness horse in the United States last year with 19 victories, and he was the focus of the attention of many stables, being claimed no fewer than 17 times, for a total of $670,000. (Pocono/PHHA)
3-year-old Trotters
Arden Downs
Breeders Crown
Carl Erskine
Circle City
Crossroads of America (Filly)
Currier & Ives
Dexter Cup
Hambletonian
The Horseman
Keystone Classics
Landmark Stake E.C.
Liberty Bell
Matron Series
Pegasus Series
W. N. Reynolds Mem. E.C.
John Simpson Mem. E.C.
Star Destroyer Series
Tompkins-Geers E.C.
MGM Yonkers Trot

3-year-old Pacers
The Delvin Miller Adios
Breeders Crown
Cane Pace
Circle City
Courageous Lady (Filly)
The Horseman
Jenna's Beach Boy
Keystone Classics
Landmark Stake E.C.
Liberty Bell
Matron Series
MGM Grand Messenger Stakes
Monument Circle
Pegasus Series
Progress Pace
W. N. Reynolds Mem. E.C.
John Simpson Mem. E.C.
Star Destroyer Series
Tompkins-Geers E.C.
USS Indianapolis Mem. (Filly)

2-year-old Events
Breeders Crown
Kentuckiana Stallion Mgt. Pace
Kentuckiana Stallion Mgt. Trot

Open Events
Breeders Crown
Caesar’s Trotting Classic
Clara Barton Distaff Pace
Dan Patch
Dayton Trotting & Pacing Derbies
Dayton Distaff Pacing Derby
Hambletonian Maturity* (2yo only)
Hoosier Park Pacing Derby
Spirit of Massachusetts Trot

Be sure to check our website for complete conditions, race dates and payment forms!

The Hambletonian Society | Breeders Crown • 109 South Main Street, Suite 18 • Cranbury, NJ 08512-3174
Phone: 609-371-2211 • Fax: 609-371-8890 • Web: hambletonian.com

*per USTA rule 12.02 all payments must be postmarked by midnight Tuesday, February 18
Tanner, Crawford In Washington To Address Federal Legislation

Harness racing’s Mike Tanner, CEO of the United States Trotting Association, and Michelle Crawford, who operates New York’s Crawford Farms with her husband, Al, were in Washington, D.C., last week because of federal legislation. Tanner was there to meet with legislators and attend the hearing on HR 1754, the Horse Racing Integrity Act. This bill is backed by many in the Thoroughbred world, who have taken the position that the entire future of “horse racing” will be in jeopardy if the bill is not passed. As of Feb. 1, the bill had 236 co-sponsors.

One component of the bill is a ban on race day administration of Lasix, a medication proven to prevent bleeding in racehorses.

The USTA is opposed to the bill in its present form, as are some in Thoroughbred racing. One component of the bill is a ban on race day administration of Lasix, a medication proven to prevent bleeding in racehorses.

The Horse Racing Integrity Act specifies that federal regulation of horse racing will be handled by the Horse Racing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority (HADA). The bill’s proponents have indicated that the new entity would be funded by a fee per starter at all tracks.

Based on the 2018 figures of the number of Standardbred starters per year and the number of Thoroughbred starters, if the fee was $45 per start, as has been suggested, harness racing would pay $13.8 million of the $28.9 million raised through the levy—or 47.75 percent. Thoroughbred racing would pay for only 43.53 percent of the total amount, with Quarter Horses and Arabians accounting for the remainder.

Crawford’s mission in Washington was meeting with lawmakers about HR 961, the Safeguard American Food Exports (SAFE) Act. HR 961 would ban horse slaughter in the United States and end the export of American horses for slaughter abroad.

In addition to helping launch the Standardbred Transition Alliance, Crawford has become active in spreading the word about how buyers are holding horses for ransom and demanding large amounts of bail money from individuals and rescue organizations, particularly using social media, so the horses will be spared from the slaughterhouse.

One of the SAFE Act’s goals is to ensure horses that have been treated with drugs, either therapeutic or otherwise, are not for human consumption and thus a threat to public health.
THE HARNESS RACING MUSEUM & HALL OF FAME
2020 STALLION BREEDING AUCTION

Dream Away        DE  2,500
Glendemaster      DE  3,000
Class Included    IL  2,500
Time To Roll      IL  3,000
Always A Virgin   IN  6,000
JK Endofanera     IN  5,000
Musclesprincetian IN  2,500
Rockin Image      IN  4,000
Charlie De Vie    MD  1,500
Rusty’s For Real  MD  1,500
Artiscape         NY  2,500
Bolt The Duer     NY  4,000
Conway Hall       NY  5,000
Dude’s The Man    NY  2,000
So Surreal        NY  4,000
Whataworkout      NY  2,000
Art Director      OH  2,000
Big Bad John      OH  3,000
Coraggiooso       OH  2,500
Domethatagain     OH  3,000
Lucky Chucky      OH  3,000
Mister Big        OH  2,000
Racing Hill       OH  5,000
Sebastian K       OH  3,500
Stormin Normand   OH  3,000
Triumphant Caviar OH  5,000
Victory Son       OH  1,500
We Will See       OH  2,500
Well Said         OH  5,000
Western Vintage   OH  3,500
Yankee Cruiser    OH  5,000
Artspeak          ON  C$4,000
Royal Mattjesty   ON  C$3,500
Sportswriter      ON  C$6,500
Thinking Out Loud ON  C$4,000
Andover Hall      PA  6,000
Captain Ahab      PA  3,500
Possess The Will  PA  3,500

Invest in our future! Encourage our efforts to protect and preserve Harness Racing’s special memories and exciting times!

CONDITIONS

1. Mark stallion selection and highest bid on application (trotters listed in italics). Minimum bids, booking fees and semen transport charges may apply. Stallion manager may reserve right to approve mare. Call 845-294-6330 for additional information.

2. Return application with a check for 10% of amount bid (Canadian bidders may submit bids on Canadian stallions in Canadian funds). If bidding on more than one stallion, please use separate application or plain paper and write separate checks for each bid. All bids are confidential.


4. Make check(s) payable and send to The Harness Racing Museum, 240 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924. Call or email Joanne Young to let her know that your bid is in the mail.

5. Bidders will be notified starting February 24th.

6. If you are not the winning bidder, your deposit will be returned to you or you may donate it to the Museum. The successful bidder will owe the Harness Racing Museum the remaining 90% of stud fee at the time the mare foals. If no live foal results, a veterinarian’s certificate is required. Your deposit will be returned, or it may be donated to the Museum. Mares not presented for breeding will forfeit deposit.

7. Bids over the advertised stud fees are deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

Our sincere thanks to all donors for their generous support!
*Note: This is not a final list!*
Call 845-294-6330 for updates
development@harnessmuseum.com

BIDDING APPLICATION FOR 2020 STALLION BREEDING AUCTION
The Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, 240 Main St., Goshen, NY 10924

I bid $________ for a breeding to ______________________ for the mare ______________________
Sire ______________________ Dam ______________________ Mare is Maiden Barren In foal Due Date ______
A deposit check for $_______ is enclosed (Canadian bidders may submit bids on Canadian stallions in SC/Canadian funds)
Name ______________________ Phone ______________________
Mailing Address ______________________
City____________________ State____ Zip____ Email ______________________
If you aren’t a winning bidder, would you donate all/part of your deposit to the Harness Racing Museum? YES____ NO____
Signature ______________________ Date _____________, 2020
Nocardioform placentitis is less common than placentitis. It is caused by specific types of bacteria called actinomycets. The bacteria forms mucus that makes the placenta separate from the mare's uterus. The fetus itself is not infected, but because the infection interferes with nutritional support from the placenta, the foal is either aborted or may be born undersized and underdeveloped.

As of Feb. 5, there had been 46 foal deaths from nocardioform placentitis reported by the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. (This number includes all breeds of horses).

In a normal year, foal deaths from nocardioform placentitis may be in the single digits or low teens this time of year. Currently the numbers are on track to those reported in 2011 and 2017, when foal deaths topped several hundred in Kentucky alone.

Following the 2011 and ’17 outbreaks, researchers in Kentucky studied the condition to find out how bacteria gets past the mare’s vulva to her reproductive tract, but found no definitive reason. The prevailing theory is that nocardioform placentitis is in the soil and that more cases occur when there is unseasonably warm weather before foaling season, as is happening this year.

When asked about his concerns, Bowden said, “It’s just a part of the phases of breeding horses that we all go through.”

Like with regular placentitis, the first sign of nocardioform placentitis is premature lactation and vaginal discharge. The uterus can be ultrasounded to look for nocardioform placentitis lesions, though some of the lesions cannot be seen on ultrasound. Dr. Karen Wolfsdorf, a reproductive specialist at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, said that if a foal has been born and nocardioform placentitis is suspected, the placenta can be examined to see if lesions are present. If multiple placentas show lesions, it may be helpful to ultrasound other mares on the farm.—By Kathy Parker
New bets with low takeout at the Meadowlands

The opportunities will be plentiful for Meadowlands players interested in low takeout multi-race wagers effective with the race card of Friday, February 7, when, in addition to an extra Pick-4 and a brand new Pick-6, a new post time of 6:55 p.m. promises to get players home a little earlier after the last race hits the finish line. more

Burke Stable offering unique pair “sale” at Blooded Horse

To paraphrase horse owner Mark Weaver, everything old is new again. Weaver, part of the Weaver Bruscemi partnership that owns horses with trainer Ron Burke, is resurrecting the practice of offering two horses — at the same time — for sale at auction. more

NY announces 2019 breeders fund distributions

The Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund has released annual Breeders Awards for the 2019 racing season, totaling $1,000,000. A total of 332 New York-bred horses earned awards for 154 different entities. A total of 18 breeders earned more than $15,000 in awards. The full list of awards can be found at the New York Sire Stakes website. more

Goshen Yearling Sale set for Sunday, Sept. 13

The 2020 Goshen Yearling Sale will be held on Sunday, Sept. 13 at the Mark Ford Training Center in Middletown, N.Y. This is a real sweet spot for the sale this year as it’s slotted between the Yonkers International Trot and New York Sires Stakes finals at Yonkers Raceway which will be contested on Saturday, Sept. 12, and the New York Sires Stake consolations which will go at Monticello Raceway on Monday, Sept. 14. With the sale being conveniently located between those two events, owners and trainers competing will have the opportunity to easily schedule and attend this sale. more

Close contests as O’Brien vote totals announced

Standardbred Canada has released the breakdown of the voting for the 2019 O’Brien Awards. The ceremony took place Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale Hotel in Mississauga, Ont. more

Meadowlands 2020 stakes information

Horsemen should be aware of the following details as the nomination deadline for the 2020 Grand Circuit stakes at The Meadowlands draws near. Payments will be accepted with a Feb. 18 postmark as per USTA guidelines, what with the 15th falling on a Saturday and Monday the 17th a holiday. more

Lorentzon working toward successful ’20 campaign

When trainer Anette Lorentzon enters a new year, her hope is to better her stable’s previous season’s results. She’s accomplished that goal each of the past five years, but acknowledges it gets more difficult as the successes pile up. more

Inductees into Fla.’s Hall of Fame announced

The Florida Chapter of the United States Harness Writers Association has announced the 2019 inductees to the Florida Harness Racing Hall of Fame. The four new human inductees are Tony Alagna, Frank Antonacci, Tom Merriman and Laurie Poulin. There was one equine inductee, the pacing stallion McWicked. more

Bruce Kearns, owner of Backstreet Guy, dies at 81

Bruce Lawrence Kearns, 81, of Wayne, Pa., died Feb. 2. Mr. Kearns campaigned the 1989 Peter Haughton Memorial Trot winner Backstreet Guy T1:54.4 ($754,573). more

Horseman Calvin LaQuan Harris, 25, dies

Horseman Calvin LaQuan Harris, 25, died Feb. 2. Born on May 9, 1994, Mr. Harris resided in Forest, Miss. Growing up with a love of horses, he learned the sport of harness racing from his uncle, Chad Parker. more

Former owner Gail Wahl, 84, dies

Former Standardbred owner Gail R. Wahl, 84, of Wilmington, Del., passed away peacefully Feb. 1. more
Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

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<td>Twin B Speed Dial (6pg)</td>
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<td>The Dark Shadow (6pg)</td>
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<td>Fixed Idea (4pg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pet Shark (7pg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endeavor (7pg)</td>
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<td>Moments Of Joy (6pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bettor Memories (7pg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Boy (5pg)</td>
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<td>Sweet Mr Pinetucky (6tg)</td>
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<td>Little Ben (9pg)</td>
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<td>Danikova (5pm)</td>
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Leading Money-Winning Tainers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sire Name</th>
<th>Foals</th>
<th>Starters</th>
<th>Earnings (wk. diff)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victory Hill Farm Inc.</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Haven Farm</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert McIntosh Stables Inc.</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Hertrich III</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond Creek Farm LLC</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Stewart</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winbak Farm</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>129</td>
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Leading Breeders

<table>
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<th>Breeder</th>
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<th>Winners</th>
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<tr>
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<td>108</td>
<td>129</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Brittany Farms LLC</td>
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<td>Steve Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc.</td>
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<td>Midland Acres Inc.</td>
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<td>White Birch Farm</td>
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<td>Robert J. Key</td>
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<td>Frederick Hertrich Ill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vieux Carre Farms</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Haven Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victory Hill Farm Inc.</td>
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Leading Money-Winning Sires

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<td>115</td>
<td>518,926</td>
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<td>119</td>
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<td>ALWAYS A VIRGIN</td>
<td>792</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Prix d’Amerique Trot (Vincennes)</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Groundhog Day</em></td>
<td><em>Pepsi H&amp;G Trot (Wbsb)</em></td>
<td><em>Dailey Medley Pace (MVR)</em></td>
<td><em>Wine &amp; Roses F&amp;M Trot (Wbsb)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Pepsi H&amp;G Trot (Wbsb)</em></td>
<td><em>Blinded Horse Winter Sale (Springfield, Ohio)</em></td>
<td><em>Valentine’s Day</em></td>
<td><em>Pepsi H&amp;G Trot (Wbsb)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Saratoga Harness opens</em></td>
<td><em>Presidents’ Day</em></td>
<td><em>Pepsi H&amp;G Trot final (Wbsb)</em></td>
<td><em>Beissinger Medley Trot final (MVR)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>USHWA Dan Patch Awards dinner in Orlando, Fla.</em></td>
<td><em>Mardi Gras</em></td>
<td><em>Ash Wednesday</em></td>
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** Presidents’ Day, February 17, 2020. **


**Pepsi H&G Trot (Wbsb), February 3, 2020. **

**Dailey Medley Pace (MVR), February 8, 2020. **

**Beissinger Medley Trot final (MVR), February 14, 2020. **

**Beissinger Medley Trot final (MVR), February 21, 2020. **

**Dailey Medley Pace final (MVR), February 22, 2020. **

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[playmeadowlands.com](http://playmeadowlands.com)