Palone, Croghan Look To Rule
Adios With Prince Of Tides

Will a “Prince” rule in Saturday afternoon’s 53rd annual $400,000 Delvin Miller Adios Pace for the Orchids at The Meadows? Driver Dave Palone and trainer Ross Croghan sure hope so as they team up with Prince Of Tides, whose current five-race win streak includes an open-lengths, 1:49.4 score in his Adios elimination last Saturday.

Three eliminations were contested, with the top three finishers in each advancing to the final. The total field was reduced by one by the early scratch of arguably the pre-race favorite Workin Ona Mystery due to sickness.

The connections of the three elimination winners—all odds-on favorites on the toteboard—earned the right to choose their post for the final, and after Southwind Ozzi grabbed post 3 and Captain Victorious post 4, Croghan and Palone selected post 1 for Prince Of Tides. It’s the same starting spot as the elim for Prince Of Tides, who cruised to a six-length victory. Palone believes Southwind Ozzi, who overcame the outside post 9 in his elim to win in 1:49.3, is the one to beat in the final.

“I was happy with my horse,” said Palone. “One thing I learned about him is that I don’t think he’s a sprinter. His strong suit is that when you get him up to speed he can carry it quite a ways. Those kind of horses usually bode well here, when you can forwardly place them and hit the gas and stay on the gas.”

Croghan noted Prince Of Tides’s imposing presence, one that led to Palone finding a bigger sulky to use for the elim.

“He’s a big colt but he races in a regular bike and has a nice, straight gait,” said Croghan, “and he never hit anything before, but Dave looked at him and said, ‘Holy #&$@’ and went and got a bigger bike.”

Palone believes Southwind Ozzi, who overcame the outside post 9 in his elim to win in 1:49.3, is the one to beat in the final.

“I thought Southwind Ozzi was super impressive and I’d make him the favorite, but anything can happen in a horse race.”

Continues on page 2 ››››

“His strong suit is that when you get him up to speed he can carry it quite a ways. Those kind of horses usually bode well here…”

–Dave Palone
race,” said Palone. “It’s very hard to win here from the nine hole with two or three moves and get home in :27 when you’re three deep in the last turn. If he comes back with a number like that, we’re going to have to step up.”

Prince Of Tides is a son of Somebeachsomewhere out of the 2008 Three-Year-Old Filly Pacer of the Year Tug River Princess. Owned by co-bredre Let It Ride Stables in partnership with Dana Parham and Howard Taylor, Prince Of Tides made just four starts last year at two, posting a first, a second and a third. Prince Of Tides’ lone freshman win came in a Pennsylvania Stallion event at The Meadows.

“He was a big, growthy colt and just wasn’t kicking into high gear,” Croghan explained about curtailing Prince Of Tide’s rookie season after less than a handful of starts.

Prince Of Tides came out of the box strong this year at three, finishing second and first in the Wiggleit Jiggleit Series prelims at the Meadowlands before capturing the $58,500 final in 1:49.4. Prince Of Tides started his current win skein on May 27 at Harrah’s Philadelphia when he cruised to a 6 ¼-length, 1:50 triumph in a PA Stallion division. He posted an identical clocking the following week in Philly in an overnight, and then cruised to a career-best 1:48.3 win in a conditioned pace at the Meadowlands on June 22.

Croghan said the Adios is the lone major stakes on Prince Of Tides’ calendar this year, so he’ll head back to the Pennsylvania-sired circuit afterward.

“Believe it or not, this is his only major race this year since he didn’t show that much at two,” said Croghan. “He has some New Jersey homegrown stuff too.”

A win by Prince Of Tides would end long Adios droughts for both Palone and Croghan. Despite dominating the drivers’ standings at The Meadows for decades, Palone’s lone win in the track’s signature event came in 1999 with Washington VC, who upset eventual Horse of the Year Blissfull Hall. Croghan’s drought goes back to 1996 when Palone/ Croghan’s lone win in the Adios came in 1996 with Palone/ Croghan.

The Meadows, Saturday, July 27, Race 15, Post Time: 4:05 pm

**Post Position Wins at The Meadows**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PP</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
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<tr>
<td>wins</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>124</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>place</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>show</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Percent in Money**

| win | 11.5 | 12.4 | 13.0 | 17.3 | 18.0 | 10.8 | 9.2 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 4.8 |
| place | 24.6 | 25.1 | 25.7 | 30.0 | 32.6 | 23.8 | 21.0 | 12.7 | 11.7 | 11.9 |
| show | 375 | 378 | 410 | 24.2 | 46.4 | 35.7 | 30.9 | 21.7 | 17.0 | 21.2 |

$400,000 Delvin Miller Adios Pace

**The Meadows, Saturday, July 27, Race 15, Post Time: 4:05 pm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yearling Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Prince Of Tides (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>D. Palone/R. Croghan</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>Let It Ride Stbs, Docs Fm, Robert Cooper Stbs/Homebred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2—Stag Party (Bettor’s Delight)</td>
<td>D. Dunn/C. Coleman</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>F. Hertrich III/$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Captain Victorious (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/R. Burke</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>White Birch Farm/$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4—Southwind Ozzi (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>B. Sears/B. MacKenzie</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Southwind Farms/$85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—Wild Wild Western (Western Ideal)</td>
<td>M. Wilder/N. Parker</td>
<td>20-1</td>
<td>F. Hertrich III/$55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—Escapetothebeach (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/T. Alagna</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Bambone Racing/$175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7—Reigning Deo (Rock N Roll Heaven)</td>
<td>A. McCarthy/B. Pelling</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>Deo Volente Farms/$45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8—Branquinho (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>T. Buter/R. Schnittker</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>R. Schnittker, C. Iannazzo/Homebred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9—Quatrain Blue Chip (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>D. Miller/C. Oakes</td>
<td>20-1</td>
<td>Blue Chip Bloodstock/$180,000</td>
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### PENNSYLVANIASCOREBOARD

**IMPORTANT PENNSYLVANIA-Sired WINNERS FROM JULY 16-JULY 20, 2019 INCLUDE THESE HIGHLIGHTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE &amp; TRACK</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>WINNER</th>
<th>OWNER/BREEDER</th>
<th>SIRE-DAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 16</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$188,016 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Gangster Hanover</td>
<td>Ake Svansedd Inc., S R F Stable, Brittany Farms/ Brittany Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 16</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$188,016 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>King Alphonso</td>
<td>Ake Svansedd Inc., Bender Sweden, Little E LLC, Douglas Sippre/ Order By Stables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 16</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$188,016 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Real Cool Sam</td>
<td>Fashion Farms/ Fashion Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$189,705 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Sorella</td>
<td>Elmer Farnin, Crawford Farms/ Elmer Farnin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$189,705 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Queen Of The Hill</td>
<td>At Libby/ Paynag Racing, Louis Willinger, James Bafna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$189,705 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Crucial</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., Weaver Bruscemi, J &amp; T Silva-Purnell &amp; Libby, W. J. Donovan, J. S. Soward, Maurice River Stb., Black Creek Fm., M. Schmutzer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$189,705 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Sans Defaut</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., Weaver Bruscemi, J &amp; T Silva-Purnell &amp; Libby, Crawford Farms/ Crawford Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$189,705 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Sister Sledge</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., Weaver Bruscemi, J &amp; T Silva-Purnell &amp; Libby, Crawford Farms/ Crawford Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>Hoosier</td>
<td>$150,000 Nadia Lobell</td>
<td>Sylph Hanover</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., William Switalsa, James Martin, Joseph Cirelli/ Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Captain Kirk</td>
<td>Britannia Farms, Marvin Katz, Brad Grant, Crawford Farms/ Brittany Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Chief Mate</td>
<td>Britannia Farms, Marvin Katz, Brad Grant, Crawford Farms/ Brittany Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Capricornus</td>
<td>JJ Stable/ Windsong Stable</td>
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<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Stay Close</td>
<td>Val D’Or Farms, Ted Gewertz, Steven Arnold, Richard &amp; Joyce McClelland</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Chestnut Hill</td>
<td>Melvin Hartman, David McDuffie, Little E LLC, M. Hartman, H. Liverman, D. McDuffie</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>JK First Lady</td>
<td>3 Brothers Stables/ 3 Brothers Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 19</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$10,000 Kindergarten</td>
<td>Ramona Hill</td>
<td>Brad Grant, Crawford Farms, Hobart LeBlanc, In The Gym Partners/ Crawford Farms</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$187,040 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Shouldabeenad</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stable, Weaver Bruscemi/ Burke Racing Stable, Weaver Bruscemi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$187,040 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Lyons Sentinel</td>
<td>Geoffrey Lyons Mound/ Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$187,040 (div.) PASS</td>
<td>Sweet Ace</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., L. Kari, J. Melillo, J &amp; T Silva-Purnell &amp; Libby/ Crawford Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$25,000 Adios Elim</td>
<td>Captain Victorious</td>
<td>Burke Racing Stb., L. Kari, J. Melillo, J &amp; T Silva-Purnell &amp; Libby/ Crawford Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadows</td>
<td>$25,000 Adios Elim</td>
<td>Prince Of Tides</td>
<td>Let It Ride Stb., D. Parham, H. Taylor/ Let It Ride Stb., Docs Farm, Robert Cooper Stables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$25,000 Adios Elim</td>
<td>Southwind Ozzi</td>
<td>Vincent Ali Jr., Alma Iafelice/ Southwind Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$100,900 (div.)</td>
<td>Green Manali</td>
<td>Courant Inc./ AB Svensk Reklamfinans</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$100,900 (div.)</td>
<td>Marseille</td>
<td>Ake Svansedd Inc., Order By Stables, Howard Taylor/ Order By Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 20</strong></td>
<td>The Meadowlands</td>
<td>$93,600 (div.)</td>
<td>Seaside Bliss</td>
<td>S R F Stable/ Valley High Stable</td>
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</table>

standardbredbreederspa.org
Improving Seaside Bliss Ready For Hambletonian Oaks

This year’s Hambletonian Oaks for 3-year-old filly trotters attracted a field of 19, which were divided into a pair of eliminations on Saturday night at the Meadowlands.

The top five finishers in each elim will advance to the $500,000 final on Hambletonian day, Saturday, Aug. 3.

The Oaks entrants are the cream of the crop of the division, dating back to the 2017 yearling sales. The four highest-priced filly trotters sold at auction that year have all been entered in the Oaks: Beautiful Sin ($480,000), The Ice Dutchess ($320,000), Seaside Bliss ($300,000) and Personal Paradise ($265,000). Also entered were Cloud Nine Fashion ($225,000) and When Doves Cry ($205,000), thus six of the most expensive yearling trotting fillies in 2017 are competing in the Oaks.

Trainer Paul Kelley says he always had faith in Seaside Bliss, even after a five-start freshman season in 2018 that brought only two seconds and two thirds. That faith is now being rewarded as the daughter of Cantab Hall comes into her Oaks elimination off a career-best 1:51.4 victory in a Tompkins-Geers division on July 20 at the Meadowlands. Seaside Bliss starts from post 3 in the first elim (Race 5) with Scott Zeron driving.

Seaside Bliss’s latest mile is the second fastest trotted by a 3-year-old filly trotter this year, behind only Millies Possession’s 1:51 victory in a Reynolds division on July 5 at the Meadowlands, a race where Seaside Bliss finished 3½ lengths behind in fifth.

“The races were all tests and she improved each time and that was obviously what we were looking for.”

—Paul Kelley

“Her’s always shown plenty of promise but we shut her down last year because she just wasn’t ready,” said Kelley, who trains Seaside Bliss for Lennart Agren’s SRF Stable. “This year I tried to find the easiest spots I could for her. So I was thinking Chester (Harrah’s Philadelphia) or Pocono, but the problem was that she just didn’t trot the turns on the five-eighths mile track as good as I liked. It didn’t matter who was driving her, they couldn’t drive her through the turns that well.”

After finishing third in her season debut at Philadelphia, Seaside Bliss won a maiden race in 1:57.1 at Pocono. After finishing sixth in her next start at Pocono, Seaside Bliss headed to the Meadowlands where she finished a late-closing third for driver Zeron.

“I took her to the Meadowlands and the first time Scott drove her she finished third and trotted home in :26 and a piece, and Scott came back and said her lines don’t look anything like that,” remembered Kelley. “He was a little surprised but happy. I told him she was just struggling on a five-eighths mile track and she’s more comfortable here so I wasn’t really that surprised.

Contines on page 5 ››››

Hambletonian Oaks 3FT eliminations (first five finishers advance to final on Aug. 3; elimination winners draw for posts 1-5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yealring Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Evident Beauty (Trixton)</td>
<td>D. Miller/R. Norman</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>White Birch Farm/$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2—Starita (Trixton)</td>
<td>B. Sears/J. Holloway</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>Britanny Farms/$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Seaside Bliss (Cantab Hall)</td>
<td>S. Zeron/P. Kelley</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Valley High Stable/$300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4—Asiago (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/P. Engblom</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>James Wilhite/$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—Sonnet Grace (Muscle Massive)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/R. Burke</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Rod Allen Inc./Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—Queen Of Trixs (Trixton)</td>
<td>A. McCarthy/L. Wallin</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Steve Stewart/$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7—Grimmie Hanover (Cantab Hall)</td>
<td>C. Callahan/J. Cullipher</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8—Millies Possesion (Possess The Will)</td>
<td>D. Dunn/J. Campbell</td>
<td>5-2</td>
<td>Fashion Farms/Homebred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9—Golden Tricks (Trixton)</td>
<td>A. Svanstedt</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>Little E LLC/$24,000</td>
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</table>

2nd $50,000 elimination, Race 8, Post Time: 9:47 pm

<table>
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<th>Breeder/Yealring Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Miss Trix (Trixton)</td>
<td>B. Sears/M. Melander</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2—Sweet Chapter (Chapter Seven)</td>
<td>M. Kakaley/B. MacIntosh</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Winbak Farm/$37,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Beautiful Sin (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>D. Dunn/P. Engblom</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>Jeffrey Gural &amp; Moon Goddess LLC/$480,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4—Cloud Nine Fashion (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/J. Campbell</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$225,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—When Doves Cry (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>S. Allard/R. Allard</td>
<td>7-2</td>
<td>William Weaver III/$205,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—Southwind Casha (Cantab Hall)</td>
<td>S. Zeron/J. Bax</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>Southwind Farms/$22,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7—Personal Paradise (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>A. Svanstedt</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Fair Winds Farm/$265,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8—The Ice Dutchess (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/J. Johansson</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>Stephen P. DeY III &amp; David P. Reid/$320,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9—American Kronos (Donato Hanover)</td>
<td>A. Miller/J. Miller</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Allevamento Kronos/Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10—Princess Deo (Trixton)</td>
<td>A. McCarthy/L. Wallin</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Deo Volente Farms/$47,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“I skipped a week and raced her back in the Reynolds and she finished fifth, beaten 3 ½ lengths, and Scott came back in and said she was just getting better and better.”

Next up was the $47,050 Tompkins-Geers, but with Zeron in action that night at Saratoga, Kelley turned to driver Marcus Miller.

“Scott had to go to Saratoga and that morning at the baby races (at the Meadowlands) he asked me who was driving her,” said Kelley. “I said Marcus Miller. He said to just tell Marcus to get her in play and have her somewhere close when they turn for home and she has a hell of a shot to win.”

Miller gave a textbook drive as he sat second until tipping out at the top of the stretch and going on to the 1:51.4 victory at odds of 7-1, which brought Seaside Bliss’s career earnings to $47,330.

“The races were all tests and she improved each time and that was obviously what we were looking for,” said Kelley.

Seaside Bliss is out of the Credit Winner mare You Want Me, trained by Kelley, who dominated the New York Sires Stakes circuit at two in 2012, but never returned as a sophomore.

“About three weeks prior to You Want Me qualifying her 3-year-old year, almost overnight something went wrong and she couldn’t function at all,” remembered Kelley. “We tested her for EPM and that was negative, and we did a Lyme test on her and she was off the charts positive for Lyme Disease. We did all we could as far as treating her but after five weeks she still wasn’t that much better. My partner Bill Weaver bought me out and bred her.”

You Want Me’s first foal was You Know You Do, who won the 2017 Peter Haughton Memorial. Seaside Bliss is You Want Me’s second foal.

“You Want Me could trot around the turns on half-mile tracks in New York all day long and had no problems, and then here is this filly, a Cantab (Hall) who was a really good-gaited filly, but for whatever reason Seaside Bliss is just not handy on a smaller track,” noted Kelley.

Kelley is optimistic Seaside Bliss will advance to the rich final on Aug. 3.

“She’s come a long ways,” said trainer John Bax of his filly, who did not race as a 2 year old. “Her legs aren’t all that straight, so that’s why we left her alone as a 2 year old. Then early this year she got a gravel in a foot and that took a long while to heal.

“She’s been improving so we thought we’d take a chance,” added Bax of Southwind Casha, whose second dam, Cruise Team, finished third in the 1997 Oaks. Also of note, Bax once trained another of this year’s Oaks elimination starters, Grimmie Hanover. In early June she was sold to trainer Jeff Cullipher and owner Tom Pollack.

“Jim (Bullock) was the majority owner and he had three Cantabs (including Southwind Casha), and he got a good offer for Grimmie Hanover so that’s why she was sold,” Bax explained.— By Kathy Parker
Ohio Sires Stakes
Upcoming Schedule

July 26 at Scioto Downs
Leg 3 for 3-Year-Old Filly Trotters & Pacers

July 27 at Scioto Downs
Leg 3 for 3-Year-Old Colt Pacers

August 9 at Northfield Park
Leg 3 for 2-Year-Old Filly Pacers & 2-Year-Old Colt Trotters

August 10 at Northfield Park
Leg 3 for 3-Year-Old Colt Trotters & 3-Year-Old Filly Pacers

August 14 at Northfield Park
Leg 3 for 2-Year-Old Filly Trotters

August 16 at Scioto Downs
Leg 4 for 3-Year-Old Filly Trotters
Gingras Eyes Sixth Straight Hambletonian Oaks

People always say there is no sure thing in horse racing, but there is one positively guaranteed result in this year’s Hambletonian Oaks for 3-year-old filly trotters: Having retired at the end of 2018, trainer Jimmy Takter will not win the trotting classic for the sixth consecutive year.

However, Yannick Gingras, who directed Takter’s quintet of winners, has a chance to make it six straight as he has a drive in each of the two eliminations on Saturday night’s card. Gingras will drive the Ron Burke-trained Sonnet Grace in the first elim (Race 5) and the Nancy Johansson-trained The Ice Dutchess in the second elim (Race 8).

The Ice Dutchess, who won last year’s $357,450 James Doherty Memorial for 2-year-old filly trotters with Swede Johnny Takter driving, starts from post 8 for Gingras in the Oaks elim. The Ice Dutchess has a pair of wins and a trio of thirds in five starts this year, coming off a freshman campaign that saw the daughter of Muscle Hill post five wins and three seconds on her way to $424,540 in earnings for John Floren’s Coyote Wynd Farms, which purchased her as a yearling for $320,000.

The Ice Dutchess lowered her career mark to 1:52 in a conditioned event on May 17 at the Meadowlands and since then added a 1:53.2 score in a Pennsylvania All-Stars division at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. Her three third-place finishes includes last time out in a Delvin Miller Memorial division behind Millies Possession.

“She’s coming into the race really good,” said Gingras. “Maybe on paper her last few starts don’t look as good as you’d like, but in that last start she got locked in the two hole. I think if she gets loose at the top of the stretch, I think she beats them. I wouldn’t trade my horse for any of them. “Nancy (Johansson) really focused on the first Saturday in August from the beginning of the year when she asked me to drive her.”

–Yannick Gingras about The Ice Dutchess

The Ice Dutchess, who won last year’s $357,450 James Doherty Memorial for 2-year-old filly trotters with Swede Johnny Takter driving, starts from post 8 for Gingras in the Oaks elim. The Ice Dutchess has a pair of wins and a trio of thirds in five starts this year, coming off a freshman campaign that saw the daughter of Muscle Hill post five wins and three seconds on her way to $424,540 in earnings for John Floren’s Coyote Wynd Farms, which purchased her as a yearling for $320,000.

Woodside Charm Still Pointed Toward Woodbine Mohawk Stakes

Woodside Charm, the 2018 Dan Patch 2-Year-Old Filly Trotter of the Year, was scheduled to compete at Harrah’s Hoosier Park last week, but was scratched sick. Verlin Yoder, the filly’s owner-trainer-driver, said on Monday (July 22) the filly had improved and jogged well.

“I just need a couple of races for her before September, ” said Yoder, who made Woodside Charm eligible to the Canadian Trotting Classic and Elegantimage, which are both slated for Sept. 14 at Woodbine Mohawk. “I’m sure they’ll find me a race or two at Hoosier and hopefully she’ll keep getting better.”

1:55 win at Harrah’s Philadelphia to show for six starts this year. Sonnet Grace finished second last time out for driver David Miller in a Tompkins-Geers division at the Meadowlands behind Seaside Bliss, who also drew into the same Oaks elim.

Although Gingras said Sonnet Grace has been improving, he admits her work is cut out for her in a tough field that also includes the undefeated Millies Possesion and Evident Beauty, winners of the Delvin Miller Memorial divisions last weekend. Sonnet Grace will also be off Lasix this week, per the race conditions precluding the use of the anti-bleeding medication.

“She’s been getting a little better week in and week out,” said Gingras. “She made a break two starts back (with Gingras driving) but it was more of her being herself. She’s a hard horse to handle; she’s really not a kid’s horse.

“She had been a puppy in the post parade her last three or four starts but trot-wise she might not have had as much speed as she had early on in the season. But with David (Miller) driving last week I heard she was pretty grabby in the post parade last week and she had a better race.” —By Gordon Waterstone
Evident Beauty Heads To Oaks
Off Miller Victory

Before trainer Jimmy Takter went on his record run of five consecutive Hambletonian Oaks wins, Richard “Nifty” Norman posted back-to-back victories in the sport’s premier race for 3-year-old filly trotters. Norman could become only the fourth trainer in history to collect three trophies if all goes well for Evident Beauty the next two weekends.

“This is the race you circle on the calendar,” Norman said. “These next two weeks are the weeks you want to race your horses at the Meadowlands; it’s something to look forward to.

“We’re here, we’ll just let the chips fall where they may.”

Evident Beauty was among 19 horses entered in the Hambletonian Oaks eliminations Saturday at the Meadowlands, the top-five finishers in each returning for the $500,000 final on Aug. 3. The first Oaks elimination features four of the five fastest 3-year-old filly trotters of the season: Millies Possesion (1:51.1), Seaside Bliss (1:51.4), Golden Tricks (1:52.2) and Evident Beauty (1:52.3).

Evident Beauty has won four of five races this year and seven of 14 lifetime, missing the board only twice in her career. Her victories this season include the New Jersey Sires Stakes final and a division of the Delvin Miller Memorial, which came in her most recent start on July 13, also at the Meadowlands.

“Everything has gone to plan so far,” said Norman, who trains the filly for owners Mel Hartman, Jeff Gural’s Little E LLC, and Wayne Giles’ R A W Equine Inc. “Hopefully we get to race two weeks in a row here. She seems good, she’s been good all year, so we’ll hope she’s still good.”

Evident Beauty showed a new aspect to her game in the Miller, leading for much of the way in her neck triumph over Cloud Nine Fashion. It was only the second time in her career that she led a race prior to the stretch.

“Obviously, that’s not her forte; she’s better from off a helmet,” Norman said. “That’s her go really. She loves to chase a horse down. But then the fact she was able to leave the race before, she showed she could race either way, so I think that’s a big help.

“She’s a good honest horse, hardly ever makes a mistake. I wouldn’t swap her for anybody.”

Norman won his previous Oaks finals with Bee A Magician in 2013 and Personal Style in 2012. The only trainers with more than two Hambletonian Oaks wins are Takter (eight), Jan Johnson (six), and Glen Garnsey (three). (Ken Weingartner/USTA)
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Live Broadcast of the
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MEADOWLANDS RACING & ENTERTAINMENT
#Hambo19
### Road to the Hambletonian...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>HORSE</th>
<th>DRIVER, TRAINER, OWNER</th>
<th>KEN WARKENTIN’S COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>GREENSHOE</td>
<td>Brian Sears, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc, Hans Backe, Lars Grandqvist, Morten Langli</td>
<td>Two-time NJSS champion goes into the Hambo off an easy 1:50.1 career best in the Dancer, just a fifth off the stakes mark, Brian Sears looks for his 4th Hambo, and could become the 6th driver to complete the Meadowlands Pace-Hambo double.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>GIMPANZEE</td>
<td>Brian Sears, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc, S R F Stable</td>
<td>Made it 12-for-12 &amp; three-for-three this season by winning a NYSS division @ Tioga Downs on July 19 &amp; took a new mark of 1:52.4 after a 24-day layoff, dominated the EBC @ Vernon Downs in 1:54.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MARSEILLE</td>
<td>Ake Svanstedt, Ake Svanstedt Inc, Order By Stable, Howard Taylor</td>
<td>Outsprinted stablemate Soul Strong in :26.3 &amp; took a new mark of 1:51.1 in the Tompkins Geers on July 20 after missing three weeks, stole the Earl Beal, Jr. Memorial wire-to-wire in 1:52.3 at 55-1, Team Svanstedt is peaking a Hambo triple threat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>GREEN MANALISHI S</td>
<td>Tim Tetrick, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc</td>
<td>Tuned up for the Hambo with an easy 1:52.4 score in the Tompkins Geers @ The Big M on July 20, came off second [1:51.4] to Swandre The Giant in the Dancer, Melander said, “He’s a big horse, he needed one more race and this was the perfect race to be in.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>PILOT DISCRETION</td>
<td>Andrew McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Robert LeBlanc, David Anderson, John Fodera</td>
<td>In his final Hambo prep he kicked home in :26.3 to finish third [1:52] to Marseille in the Tompkins Geers on July 20, a solid second [1:51] to Greenshoe in his Dancer division, was coming off a career best 1:51.4 Big M qualifier, won the Goodtimes Final in 1:52.4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>FORBIDDEN TRADE</td>
<td>Bob McClure, Luc Blais, Determination</td>
<td>O’Brien Award winner 6 – 4-2-0 in Ontario this season, beat older foes in an overnight @ Mohawk in 1:55 on July 22, won his Goodtimes elimination in 1:53.1, a close second [1:52.4] in that final.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>SWANDRE THE GIANT</td>
<td>Dave Miller, Ron Burke, Diamond Creek Racing, J &amp; T Silva Stables, Howard Taylor</td>
<td>Indiana standout upset Green Manalishi S in his Big M debut with a career best of 1:51.3 in his Dancer division with Lasix added, Lasix not allowed in the Hambo, did not race last week, post 11 in Reynolds Memorial on July 27 @ Big M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>SOUL STRONG</td>
<td>Dexter Dunn, Ake Svanstedt, Stable Why Not</td>
<td>Father Patrick gelding finished a gutsy first over second [1:51.4] to stablemate Marseille in the Tompkins Geers after holding off stablemate Sheena’s Boy in :26.3 on June 28, the Dexter Dunn juggernaut soars into his first Hambo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>DON’T LET’EM</td>
<td>Yannick Gingras, Nancy Johansson, Brittany Farms, Christina Takter, John Fielding, Herb Liverman</td>
<td>Broke late &amp; finished seventh in his Dancer division, second in :26 to Pilot Discretion in a Big M qualifier on July 5 after dominating a Big M overnight in 1:51.3, did not race last week, post 10 in Reynolds Memorial on July 27 @ Big M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SHEENA’S BOY</td>
<td>Ake Svanstedt, Knutsson Trotting Inc, S R F Stable</td>
<td>Finished a solid second [1:53] to Green Manalishi S in the Tompkins Geers after taking a new mark of 1:53 @ Pocono, runner up to Greenshoe in a NJSS division, 7 – 3-3-0 this season, post 5 in Reynolds Memorial on July 27 @ Big M.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post 10 in a 12-horse field is definitely not ideal, said Gingras. “I don’t think I’ve ever seen him look as bad as he did last week and I saw the video and he looked tremendous.”

Don’t Let’em’s ownership of the son of Muscle Hill.

“The think he has the closest gears to Greenshoe, it’s just a matter of getting things all ironed out before next week,” said Gingras. “He wasn’t tired but I don’t think I was beating Greenshoe, but in my opinion I think he was going to be second ahead of Pilot Discretion. I think he has the closest gears to Greenshoe, it’s just a matter of getting things all ironed out before next week.”

Don’t Let’em is trained by Nancy Johansson, the daughter of the retired Jimmy Takter, whose wife Christina shares ownership of the son of Muscle Hill.

“They’ve made a lot of changes on him and they trained him last week and I saw the video and he looked tremendous,” said Gingras. “I don’t think I’ve ever seen him look as good. Post 10 in a 12-horse field is definitely not ideal the week before the Hambo, but you definitely want to make sure you get in a good experience before that.”

Eleven of the 12 starters are eligible to the Hambletonian, including the 1:51.3 Stanley Dancer Memorial division winner Swandre The Giant, who starts from the trailing 11 post. To his right in post 12 is Super Schissel, who was third in Don’t Let’em’s Dancer division.—By Gordon Waterstone

Kiara Morgan Off To Hot Start

In just her third career pari-mutuel start, Kiara Morgan, the 20-year-old daughter of veteran Ohio-based trainer Virgil Morgan Jr., scored a 19 ½-length victory in 2:01 with Action Metro Max (pictured) at the Washington County Fair in Ohio on July 17. Kiara added a second nine-length win that day with Tail Gunner Hall in 2:03. With a 2:01.2 win with Action B in a Lady Series Pace on July 21 at Marysville, and a 2:00.3 win again with Tail Gunner Hall on July 23 at the Shelby County Fair in Sidney, Kiara’s seven-start resume shows four wins and two seconds.

Peter Haughton Memorial 2CT elims (first five finishers advance to the final on Aug. 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yearling Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Ontoofthehill (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>D. Dunn/R. Burke</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Brittany Farms/$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2—Expectations (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>B. Sears/M. Melander</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>Dunroven Stud/$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Stay Close (Father Patrick)</td>
<td>D. Miller/J. Holloway</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>R. &amp; J. McClelland/$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4—Synergy (Father Patrick)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/P. Engblom</td>
<td>5-2</td>
<td>Southwind Farms/$275,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—Capricornus (Cantab Hall)</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/M. Melander</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>Windsong Stable/$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—Sixteen (Donato Hanover)</td>
<td>S. Zeron/A. Harris</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Winbak Farm/$160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7—Patriarch Hanover (Father Patrick)</td>
<td>M. Kakaley/R. Burke</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Brittany Farm/M. Hartman/$22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8—Savini (Explosive Matter)</td>
<td>A. Miller/D. Marshall</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>KR Breeding/$15,000</td>
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</table>

2nd $20,000 elimination, Race 9, Post Time: 10:10 pm

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yearling Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Take Shape (Donato Hanover)</td>
<td>K. Rickert</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Fair Winds Farm/$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2—Legion Of Honor (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>A. McCarthy/L. Wallin</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>S. Stewart, J. Carver/$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Dublin (Father Patrick)</td>
<td>M. Kakaley/R. Burke</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Shamphiliangiu Inc./$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4—Mister Walker (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>C. Callahan/J. Czernyson</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>Consus Racing Stable/Homebred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—Hellbent For AM S (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>B. Sears/M. Melander</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>AM Bloodstock/Homebred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—Back Off The Neck (Ready Cash)</td>
<td>J. Melander/M. Melander</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>Order By Stable/$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7—S Class (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/R. Burke</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>W. Mulligan—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8—Rome Pays Off (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>T. Tetrick/M. Melander</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>Order By Stable/$155,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9—Real Cool Sam (Muscle Hill)</td>
<td>D. Miller/J. Campbell</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Fashion Farms/Homebred</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Swedes Hoping To Move Donato Hanover To Sweden

Sweden’s Sulky Sport magazine has reported that Hans Nelén of Global Farms is finalizing acquiring enough shares in Donato Hanover to own a controlling interest in the horse and move him to Sweden.

“There are only a few veterinary papers that are missing before he can start the journey home to Sweden,” Nelén. “The idea is to freeze him (his semen) at Broline this year,” Nelén told Sulky Sport’s Claes Freidenvall.

Mats “Oxalis” Gabrielsson and Broline International are other Swedes with ownership stakes in Donato Hanover.

“We own a little over 70 out of 120 coverage rights; we bought out Hanover Shoe Farm’s breeding rights and the stud farm steps out as manager of the syndicate,” added Nelén. “Donato Hanover will be set up as a breeding stallion in Sweden next season.”

Nelén said Donato Hanover was bred to approximately 50 mares in Europe this year. The horse’s stud fee in the U.S. was $7,500 this year.

The winner of the 2007 Hambletonian, Donato Hanover has stood at stud at Hanover Shoe Farms in Pennsylvania since his retirement from racing. Hanover had no comment on the transaction reported by Sulky Sport.
Guardian Angel As Heads To Spirit of Massachusetts

Guardian Angel As has been on a roll of late and will come into the $250,000 Spirit of Massachusetts Trot at Plainridge Park razor sharp. He has won four straight stakes events against some of the best older trotters in North America before finishing fourth in a trip that saw him parked out the entire mile from post 9 at the Meadowlands.

In the $30,000 Great Northeast at the Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, Guardian Angel As dropped in second from post 5 and then took the lead by the half. From there he trotted away to a four-length win in 1:53.1 over a sloppy track.

Two weeks later it was the $100,000 Maxie Lee at Harrah's Philadelphia where he once again led most of the way and drew off to an easy seasonal-best 1:51 victory, defeating Pinkman and Fiftydallarbill in the process.

Then in a $40,000 leg of the Mr. Muscleman at the Meadowlands, he was cruising on the lead before digging in to hold off a very gritty stretch drive by Cruzado Dela Noche, eventually hanging on to win by a half-length in 1:52.1, with a swift :26.3 final quarter.

His next start would make history. On June 29 at Northfield Park in the $175,000 Cleveland Classic, Guardian Angel As turned a trip that left him parked out for seven-eighths of the mile into a wrapped-up win, stopping the timer in 1:52 and setting a new world record for older trotting horses on a half-mile track. That rewrote Crazy Wow's 1:52.3 standard set in 2017.

Anette Lorentzon trains Guardian Angel As and after four years of racing him is well aware of his speed and versatility.

“He'll do what you want but he doesn't really have much patience.”

—Anette Lorentzon

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Anette Lorentzon trains Guardian Angel As and after four years of racing him is well aware of his speed and versatility.

“We always knew he was a really good horse but what surprised us most at Northfield is the way he did it. He never pulled the plugs after being parked three-quarters of a mile. I wasn’t really sure how he would be there because he has such a big gait. But I also knew it’s a very good half-mile track at Northfield and he got around it fine,” said Lorentzon.

The 1:52 clocking on the half was amazing let alone the trip he went to get it, but this horse has always had a lot of speed and he showed it in the 2018 Allerage Trot at Lexington. Guardian Angel As finished second to Homicide Hunter in 1:48.4, which was the fastest trotting mile in the history of the sport. Guardian Angel As came first-over at the half and had taken the lead in the stretch before Homicide Hunter blistered home in :26 flat outside of him. Although he finished second, Guardian Angel As still trotted in an unbelievable 1:49.2.

The other asset that makes this 5-year-old son of Archangel special is his ability to strike from anywhere in the mile.

“He's the kind of horse that can race from any position. He likes to be up close but he's good if you also sit behind horses. He'll do what you want but he doesn't really have much patience. He is a stud and he knows it and he wants it his way,” Lorentzon explained.

Tim Tetrick, who will be in town to drive Shartin N in the Clara Barton Pace, will be at the lines behind Guardian Angel As. (Tim Bojarski)
Gingras, Callahan Not Hurt In Philly Race Accident

Yannick Gingras and Corey Callahan, two of harness racing’s leading drivers, both told harnessracing.com Thursday morning that while banged up a bit they were not seriously injured in a race accident at Harrah’s Philadelphia on Wednesday.

Gingras said he went to a hospital afterward for x-rays of his back, which were negative. Still sore, Gingras said he would take off his drives on Thursday afternoon at Harrah’s Philadelphia, giving him more than one full day to recover until returning to action Friday night at the Meadowlands. Callahan also took off his Thursday mounts at Harrah’s Philadelphia but was still hopeful he could drive on the nighttime Governor’s Day card at Harrington Raceway.

The incident occurred in Race 12 at Harrah’s Philadelphia. Gingras was driving Boogy Woogy J when the horse made an early break and fell back to last. Callahan, who was driving Start A Ruckus, had gotten good early position but when he tipped his charge to the outside heading to the quarter, the pacer suddenly fell down.

Callahan was catapulted from the sulky but landed on his feet. Meanwhile, Boogy Woogy J had regained his gait but was still trailing when Gingras said he heard driver Marcus Miller yelling. Seeing Miller go left with his horse and believing something had happened inside, Gingras went the opposite direction and directly into Callahan.

“I thought I was going to right and go around (Callahan), but I just went right into him,” said Gingras. “Corey’s horse was on the ground before I hit him. I never saw Corey until I hit him because I was paying attention to Marcus. Then I got thrown out.

“I’m fine, but just want to be careful. I’m going to take the day off and since I don’t have to race tomorrow afternoon, I don’t have to go back until tomorrow night.”

Callahan said he contemplated going to the hospital but decided against making the trip.

“I’m OK. A little sore but nothing broken,” said Callahan. “It’s my leg that’s hurting but I think I can sit in the bike fine.”

Callahan said that after Start A Ruckus fell he was relieved he emerged at the time unscathed.

“I landed on my feet and thought I was good, and thought, ‘Oh my God, thank goodness,’ and I turned around to see if anything was coming,” said Callahan. “I saw Yannick at the last minute; I saw his face and then it was boom! Yannick didn’t know my horse went down and Marcus was yelling and went left, and Yannick veered right, right into me.

“It’s a good thing I grew up playing hockey because I can sure take a hit,” he added with a laugh. “Holy cow! It was like getting hit by (NHL player) Ovechkin.”

Gingras and Callahan both said their respective horses were OK afterward and suffered no major injuries.—By Gordon Waterstone
Changing Times: New Perspectives On Heat

It was 34 years ago that Nihilator, fresh off a stupendous, 1:50.3 world record victory by 7 ¼ lengths on Hambletonian Day at the Meadowlands, went on to The Meadows race-track to compete in the Adios. The Adios was not originally on the schedule for Nihilator, but Meadows founder Delvin Miller was very good friends with Nihilator’s trainer Billy Haughton, and when Delvin asked for the colt to come to the race, Haughton obliged.

Nihilator was scheduled to skip the Adios. That’s because the goal for Nihilator was a mid-August trip to the Illinois State Fair to lower the sport’s speed record. The loamy soil of the one-mile oval was well known for seeming to catapult horses to lower lifetime marks.

The Adios turned out to be the beginning of a month of disappointments for the Nihilator team. The Adios was raced in heats back then, with the winner required to capture a second heat. Nihilator was beaten in the first elim, came back and won a second but was then scratched from the race-off (won by Marauder). Nihilator went on to Springfield where rainy weather ruined any chance for an assault on the clock.

Besides time-tripping back 34 years, a look back to 1985 is a reminder that back then any goals to rewrite the sport’s speed records often included giving it a go at Springfield. In addition to the fast racing surface, horsemen believed the heat and humidity and general atmospheric conditions often prevailing in the heartland in August created perfect conditions for world records.

Harness racing was in a different place back then, and so was the world. Today our horses race fast miles all the time and the chase for speed records is rare. Racing at Springfield is almost exclusively for Illinois bred. And in another sign of the times, horsemen no longer see the benefits of racing their horses in extreme heat conditions.

Last weekend’s heat wave prompted cancellations of racing programs, delays to later evening post times, shorter post parades, and extra fans and water hoses in paddocks and barns. These measures may be seen by some as overkill, but I disagree. It doesn’t matter that we remember hotter than hell days in Springfield, or a Hambletonian day at the Meadowlands when it seemed the surrounding pavement was literally seizeing heat from the sky and radiating it back up to envelop us. It’s 2019, and we’re in new times of knowledge and sensitivity.

Can extreme heat be dangerous to humans and animals? Absolutely! There is no debate about that. Can humans and animals compete safely in athletic competitions in extreme heat? That probably depends on the exact definition of extreme heat, but we must always put the welfare and safety of the horse first.

Racetrack managers were scrambling last weekend to deal with the extreme heat and make decisions about whether to race, change post times, or cancel cards. Monmouth Park in New Jersey, which was scheduled to present the $1 million Haskell Memorial, was caught in a no-win situation as the heat index was forecast to be over 100 degrees. The Haskell program is the biggest day of Monmouth’s meet and thus is a money-maker for the track. Add in the appearance this year of the DQ’d Kentucky Derby winner Maximum Security, and it was poised to be a huge day for the track.

But when every single track located along the Eastern Seaboard except for Monmouth cancelled last Saturday, the heat was really cranked up on track management. According to reports, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy even called about Monmouth’s situation. That prompted the following jab by reporter Bob Ford in the Philadelphia Inquirer: “Murphy recently pushed through legislation that will provide as much as $100 million in bigger purses over the next five years in New Jersey…. The sight of a horse buckling on national television due to being run in excessive conditions would make repeal of that legislation more than likely.”

Yes, Thoroughbred racing is under much greater scrutiny than Standardbred racing because of the high number of horses euthanized at this winter’s Santa Anita meet due to catastrophic breakdowns. The Santa Anita situation continues to propel animal rights activists to criticize horse racing. On Tuesday, the Los Angeles Board of Animal Services fell just one vote short of sending a non-binding recommendation to the city council opposing horse racing in California.

So we’re horse racing, and we shouldn’t think we’re safe from scrutiny.

Last weekend’s heat wave revealed that some racing regulators have a heat advisory and specify a “heat index” number to use when considering cancelling programs. But is this enough?

The New York State Gaming Board’s “Heat Management Protocol” states, “If the National Oceanic and Atmospheric...”
Tips For Cooling Horses In Hot Weather

Dealing with extremely hot weather presents challenges for both horsemen and racetrack managers, and each can do their part to keep horses healthy.

The following recommendations by Professor Michael Lindinger were posted on the University of Guelph (Ontario) website. Lindinger, an animal and exercise physiologist with the University of Guelph in Ontario, began studying the effects of heat on horses when he was a lead researcher on the Canadian research team that contributed information on the response of the horse to heat and humidity for the Atlanta Summer Olympics.

“You can cool the horse two degrees in 10 minutes this way: pour on the water, scrape it off, pour on more, and just keep repeating it,” says Lindinger, who adds you should NEVER put a blanket or cooler on a horse in hot weather. “The scraping part is important because otherwise the water will be trapped in the horse’s hair and will quickly warm up. By scraping and pouring on fresh, cold water you keep the cooling process going.”

He also recommends that salts be replaced because the salts in horse sweat are four times as concentrated as in human sweat. Water is not enough; electrolytes are required.

Other recommendations include “wet and walk” between hosing. As water evaporates from the skin it removes body heat, causing the horse to cool. By walking in shady, breezy areas and increasing air flow over the horse’s skin, evaporation rates are improved.

Also, despite old-school ideas, horses should be allowed to drink as much fresh, clean water as they require after racing.

Administration heat index reaches 105...your racetrack veterinarian should contact the stewards or judges and track management to advise them of the presence of dangerous weather conditions. The track veterinarian, stewards or judges, horseman’s organizations and racetrack management should seek to cancel racing if local conditions are considered dangerous for horses and riders/drivers. Ideally, this decision should be made before the first race, whenever possible.”

In Ontario, if temperatures reach a certain range, the regulations call for a registered veterinarian technician “to monitor temperature, pulse and respiration rate of equine athletes pre-race and post-race.”

I’ve since learned that Harness Racing New South Wales, the regulatory group for harness racing in the Australian state of New South Wales, which includes Sydney, recently adopted a very detailed, six-page “Heat Policy” which uses the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature, a calculation developed and used by the US military.

The commonly used “heat index” (as noted in the New York policy above) temperature, which has been used as the standard in the US, only takes into consideration the air temperature and humidity. The Wet Bulb Globe Temperature also uses cloud cover, wind speed, and even the angle of the sun to calculate a temperature. In one example, a heat index temperature of 108 could result in a Wet Bulb Globe Temperature of 89 if there was a sufficient amount of cloud cover and wind.

It is obvious that the horse racing industry needs to improve its regulations that address protecting the welfare of the horse in extreme heat conditions. Just because we raced horses in extreme conditions in the past does not mean it is a wise, or acceptable, practice today.—By Kathy Parker

Sugg, MacDonald Hurt In Track Accidents

Two drivers are on the mend after being injured on the track over the past week.

Last Saturday night (July 20), while scoring down the colt Splash Brother prior to a New York Sires Stakes at Saratoga, Mark MacDonald was unseated and fractured a shoulder joint and sustained a hematoma on his right hip, plus whiplash.

On Monday night (July 22), John “Duke” Sugg was hurt while driving in a race at the Tiffin, Ohio, fair. Sugg, 48, was life-flighted to Toledo Hospital, where he remains on sedation. Sugg suffered small contusions and bleeding on his brain as well as a fractured wrist.

On Wednesday, Sugg’s mother, Patty, posted on Facebook the following update:

“He is still on heavy sedation and ventilated. They do this to keep him as relaxed and still as possible. They take him off the sedation a couple times per day to see what his response will be. He must have been very tired on Tuesday because he just did not want to wake up! However, this morning when they turned sedation down, he was moving around a lot! He was even trying to sit up! I was so happy to see him moving!

“He is going to have an external fixator placed on his wrist. This is to keep his fractured bones in place before they do the final surgery with pins and screws.”

www.harnessracing.com
Friday night the big weekend of racing at The Meadows gets underway at 5:30 p.m. with the Arden Downs stakes for 2-year-old colt and gelding trotters (Races 1, 2, 3) and 2-year-old filly trotters (Races 7, 8, 9). The Race 7 field includes the three-for-three, 1:53.4-record filly SISTER SLEDGE, who races for trainer Ron Burke.

At Scioto Downs, where first post is 6:30 p.m., Race 2 is an Ohio Sires Stakes for 3-year-old pacing fillies, with QUEEN OF THE PRIDE set to compete. She finished third in last Friday’s $150,000 Nadia Lobell Pace at Harrah’s Hoosier Park. A second division for 3-year-old filly pacers is set as Race 4, while 3-year-old trotting fillies compete in Ohio Sires Stakes in Races 6 and 8. The Race 8 division includes the five-for-seven WICKED SUGAR and the defending divisional champ ONLY TAKE CASH.

Saturday’s stakes action gets underway early with first post at The Meadows 11:25 a.m. and the first three races are Arden Downs for 3-year-old filly trotters and 2-year-old filly pacers. The Arden Downs for 2-year-old colt pacers are Races 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12. Two divisions of the Adioo Volo for 3-year-old filly pacers are also on the 16-race card. The Race 13 division includes TREACHEROUS REIGN (winner of the Fan Hanover), STONEBRIDGE SOUL (winner of the Mistletoe Shalee) and SYLPH HANOVER (winner of the Nadia Lobell). The Race 14 division field is led by world champion WARRAWE UBEAUT, who drew the outside post 9.

Also on the Saturday card, the great Foiled Again will lead the post parade for the $50,000 Foiled Again Invitational Pace. Foiled Again’s trainer, Ron Burke, sends out the morning-line choice from post 1 in the Tim Tetrick-driven BACKSTREET SHADOW. The 4-year-old son of Shadow Play was recently purchased by the Burke Brigade, and in his first start for his new barn last time out on July 20 at the Meadowlands, scored a 1:47.4 victory in a Preferred, equaling his career mark set for his prior connections on June 22 at the big M.

Following The Meadows’ card, and in addition to the Hambletonian Oaks eliminations at the Meadowlands, stakes action can be found at Scioto Downs, with two divisions of the Ohio Sires Stakes for 3-year-old colt pacers. They are early on the card, Race 1 and 3, with the second $50,000 split featuring defending divisional champion HIGH ON PAYDAZE, who is still looking for his first win of the season, and the six-for-six ROCK CANDY. Both colts are trained by Brian Brian and will line up in posts 1 and 2, respectively.

Yonkers Raceway has two New York Sires Stakes 3-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Trotting divisions on its Saturday night card, Races 7 and 8. North of the border, Woodbine Mohawk has two short fields of 3-year-old filly pacers competing for six-figure Ontario Sires Stakes Gold purses (Races 2 and 8).

A $22,500 overnight at the Meadowlands on Saturday night (Race 10) includes a trio of millionaire trotters: HOMICIDE HUNTER, MARION MARAUDER and MANCHEGO.

With the Sam McKee Memorial looming on Aug. 3 at the Meadowlands, a pair of probables are scheduled to meet in the first of seven qualifiers Saturday morning at the Big M. LATHER UP, fresh off his win in the William Haughton Memorial and two starts removed from his world-record 1:46 victory in the Graduate final, starts from post 1 with Montrell Teague driving. The 2018 Meadowlands Pace and Little Brown Jug champ COURTLY CHOICE will line up in post 5 with driver David Miller.
What is the greatest harness race you’ve ever seen?
I’m old school, so I could go back to Life Sign in the Jug, but I’m going to say Somebeachsomewhere and Art Official (in the 2008 Meadowlands Pace).

Who is the best horse you have ever driven?
That’s another tough one. As far as accomplishments, Sweet Lou. And I was lucky enough to drive Artsplace.

Who is your favorite horse of all time?
I would say (Sweet) Lou, but Camorous. She was a gray mare that my brother trained and she was like a family member.

How much time do you think there should be between races?
Four minutes! (Laughing). Every other sport is trying to get quicker. I know it’s a proven fact that the drag helps handle, but don’t think it helps us get any new fans.

What are your favorite things to do when you are not racing?
Golf. And I really get a kick out of watching my wife (Beth Ann) and daughters barrel race, Horses, horses, horses! All three of my daughters, and Beth Ann, barrel race. I carry a lot of water buckets.

What is your idea of a great holiday/vacation?
We’re warm weather people and we’re beach people. This year we took the kids to the Bahamas.

What person or persons, living or deceased, would you like to have dinner with?
I’d give anything to be able to talk to my father again. But otherwise Arnold Palmer would be someone I’d like to sit down with. I actually got to train a horse for Arnold Palmer and Delvin Miller. I don’t think I appreciated it at the time, and I was probably more thrilled to be training one for Delvin.

Are you a music lover? If so, what music do you listen to?
For sure! I played in a rock band when I was in high school. I even had the mullet (hair style) going. My music is Bruce Springsteen, Bob Seger, Lynard Skynard.

What is your favorite meal?
I’m a steak guy, but now that I’ve had sushi I could eat that every day.

What is one thing about you most people don’t know?
Besides playing in a band, probably that I can recite verses of the Bible. My mom was a Sunday school teacher for 40 years.

How many racing accidents? Broken bones?
Too many to count, the worst one being the broken femur. Beth Ann (a physical therapist) had me back in the bike in seven weeks!
Shartin N heading to Clara Barton Pace
Rich Poillucci lives a short distance from Plainridge Park in North Easton, Mass., and raced his first horses at Foxboro Park in 1986. Now 33 years later, after completing a dream season with his Dan Patch Award winning mare Shartin N, he will bring his prized pacer back to where it all started for him for a homecoming as she makes a start in the inaugural $100,000 Clara Barton Distaff Pace at Plainridge on Sunday.  

McWicked wins Gerrity Memorial at Saratoga
The defending National Horse of the Year McWicked (McArdle) came to town for the first time on Saturday night to compete in the $260,000 Joe Gerrity Jr. Memorial Pace at Saratoga Casino Hotel. The Casie Coleman-trained Mcwicked earned more than $1.5 million in his award-winning 2018 campaign but recorded only one win in his first five starts in ’19 before heading into the season’s richest race at the Spa.  

Ohio Sires Stakes halftime report card
The 2019 Ohio Sires Stakes (OSS) season has now completed a little more than half of the events for 2- and 3-year-old Ohio-bred trotters and pacers of both genders. The last of the four legs will be contested this week through Aug. 24, with Super Night set for Sept. 1 at Northfield Park where the $300,000 championships for each division will be raced.  

New website for Ohio Breeders group
The Ohio Harness Horse Breeders Association is proud to announce the launch of its new website: https://ohioharnesshorsebreeders.com.  

Well-known Ohio owner Ken Bencic dies
Longtime horse owner Matthew K. “Ken” Bencic, 77, of Westlake, Ohio, died July 21.  

3 year olds set to battle in Ohio Sires Stakes
This weekend’s Ohio Sires Stakes (OSS) at Scioto Downs features round three action of the four-leg series, with a first race post time both nights of 6:30 p.m. On Friday, two $50,000 divisions of 3-year-old filly pacers and a pair of $50,000 contests for 3-year-old trotting fillies will line up behind the Scioto starting gate. Saturday night will feature two $50,000 OSS contests for 3-year-old pacing colts.  

Fields set for Grand River’s Battle elims
A total of five elimination dashes contested on Monday, July 29, will determine the finalists for Grand River Raceway’s two feature races during its 29th Industry Day event. Thirteen rookie pacing colts and geldings will compete in two $15,000 elimination divisions to earn a berth in the 22nd annual Battle Of Waterloo. The top four finishers and one of the fifth-place finishers (as drawn by lot) will advance to the $238,940 final.  

Aug. yearling supplement for Hambletonian Society races
In 2019, the Hambletonian Society is accepting Supplemental Yearling Nominations for the stakes and events they service that required a May 15 yearling nominating payment for foals of 2018. “It was brought to our attention by the staking services that there are always a handful of yearlings missed in the process in May,” said John Campbell, president of the Hambletonian Society, which owns and administers 137 of the richest stakes in North America. “The board accepted the premise that the odd yearling may have been left out when it comes time to catalog yearlings for fall sales.”  

Low takeouts pad Big M players’ pockets
Takeouts on exotic wagers have long been a concern for serious players, and management at the Meadowlands has been proactive on this hot-button issue for an extended period of time, leading to players walking away with far bigger payouts on some of the track’s most popular wagers.  

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### Standardbred Poll

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### Leading North American-Based Money-Winning Horses

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### Leading Money-Winning Drivers

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### August 2019

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| 28   | Clara Barton OMP (PRc)  
Great northeast OMP (PRc)  
Great Northeast OHT (PdD)  
MSRF 2CP (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CP (Btu)  
Spirit Of Mass. 3CT (PRc) |
| 29   | Battle of Belles 2FP elims (Grfr)  
Dream Maker 2CP (Wbsb)  
Glenview 5s 2FP elims (Grfr)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Mr)  |
| 30   | INSS 2CT (HoP)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Spa)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
Wentworthinerpastr St 3FP (Wbsb) |
| 31   | NYSS/Excelsior 2FT (Yr)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FP (Wbsb)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Wbsb)  
Pure ivory 2FT (Wbsb) |
| 1    | Danua 3FT (Mr)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Yr)  
Ohio St. Fair 2FP (Scd)  
Ohio St. Fair 2FT (Scd)  
ONSS Gold 3CP (Wbsb) |
| 2    | Townsend Ackerman 3CT (Mr)  
ONSS Gold 2CFP  (Wbsb)  
ONSS Gold 3CFP (Wbsb)  |
| 3    | Carone 3CP (Mr)  
Cashman Mem. OHT (Mr)  
Doherty Mem. 2FT final (Mr)  
Great Northeast OMP (PdD)  
Hambletonian 3CT (Mr)  
Hambletonian Oaks 3FT final (Mr)  
Ky. Fair Stake 2&3YO finals (Lex)  
Lady Liberty/Mckee Mem. (Mr)  
Ohio St. Fair 3CP/3CT (Scd)  
Shady Daisy/Steele Mem. (Mr) |
| 4    | Great northeast OMP (PdD)  
Great Northeast OHT (PdD)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (Btu)  
PASS/PA Stallion 2CFP (PdD) |
| 5    | KYSS 3CT/3FT (Lex)  
Crawford Farms OHT (TgDr)  
Emp. Breeders 3FP elims (TgDr)  
Great northeast OMP (PdD)  
Great Northeast OHT (PdD)  
Joie De Vie OHT (TgDr)  
PASS 3FP/PN St (PdD) |
| 6    | Dream Maker 2CP final (Wbsb)  
Gold Cup & Saucers elims (Chrt)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FT (Mr)  
ONSS Gold 3CT (Wbsb)  
PA St 2FP (Max)  |
| 7    | Buckeye Station 2FT (Scd)  
Buckeye Station 2CFP/3FP (Btu)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Yr)  
Wentworthinerpastr St 2FT (Wbsb) |
| 8    | INSS 3FT (HoP)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FP (Btu)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Wbsb)  
ONSS Gold 2FT (Grfr)  |
| 9    | Define the World 2CT (Wbsb)  
INSS 3CT (HoP)  
INSS 3FP (HoP)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CT/3FP (Lex)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CT/3FP (Max)  
NP PASS/PA St 3CP (Max)  |
| 10   | Charna Ohio-sired Inv. (Mr)  
Gold Cup & Saucer elims (Chrt)  
INSS 3FP/2CP (PdD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (PdD)  |
| 11   | Great Northeast OHT (PdD)  
Great Northeast OMP (PdD)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CP (Btu)  
PASS/PA St 2FP (PdD)  |
| 12   | KYSS 2CFP/3FT (Lex)  
Emp. Breeders 3CFP final (TgDr)  
Emp. Breeders 3FP final (TgDr)  
Great northeast OMP (PdD)  
Great Northeast OHT (PdD)  
Joie De Vie OHT (TgDr)  
PASS 3FP/PN St (PdD)  |
| 13   | Dream Maker 2FP final (Wbsb)  
Gold Cup & Saucer elims (Chrt)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FT (Mr)  
ONSS Gold 3CT (Wbsb)  
PA Stall 2FP (Max)  |
| 14   | Buckeye Station 2FT (Scd)  
Buckeye Station 2CFP/3FP (Btu)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Yr)  
Wentworthinerpastr St 2FT (Wbsb) |
| 15   | INSS 3FT (HoP)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FP (Btu)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Wbsb)  
ONSS Gold 2FT (Grfr)  |
| 16   | Define the World 2CT final (Wbsb)  
INSS 2CT (HoP)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Spa)  
PA Stall 2FP (Phl)  |
| 17   | Define the World 2CT final (Wbsb)  
INSS 2CT (HoP)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Spa)  
PA Stall 2FP (Phl)  |
| 18   | INSS 3CT (HoP)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2FP (Btu)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Wbsb)  
ONSS Gold 2FP (Grfr)  |
| 19   | NYSS/Excelsior 2CT (Mr)  
PASS/PA St 3FT (Max)  
Harrington Raceway Open  |
| 20   | NYSS/Excelsior 2CT (Mr)  
PASS/PA St 3FT (Max)  
Harrington Raceway Open  |
| 21   | Define the World 2CT final (Wbsb)  
INSS 2CT (HoP)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Spa)  
PASS 2FP (Phl)  |
| 22   | Define the World 2CT final (Wbsb)  
INSS 2CT (HoP)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CFP (Spa)  
PASS 2FP (Phl)  |
| 23   | Casual Breeze 3FT (Wbsb)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (Scd)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FT (Wbsb)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  |
| 24   | KYSS 3CT/3FT (Lex)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3CT (Scd)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  |
| 25   | Great northeast OMP (PdD)  
Great Northeast OMP/OTH (PdD)  
KYSS 3CP/3FP/3Lex (Lex)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT finals (OD)  
ONSS Gold 3CFP (RiDr)  
PASS/PA St 2CT (PdD)  
Reynolds 2YO (TgDr)  |
| 26   | INSS 2CT (HoP)  
MDSS 2CFP/2FT finals (OD)  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
PA St 2CP (Phl)  |
| 27   | 6A Elite 2YO/D3YO (Ind)  
NYSS/Excelsior 2CT (Spa)  
PA Stall 2FP (Phl)  |
| 28   | CHANCE TO WIN  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
PA St 2FP (Phl)  |
| 29   | CHANCE TO WIN  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
PA St 2FP (Phl)  |
| 30   | CHANCE TO WIN  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
PA St 2FP (Phl)  |
| 31   | CHANCE TO WIN  
NYSS/Excelsior 3FP (Wbsb)  
PA St 2FP (Phl)  |

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