Hambo Champ Vs. Oaks Champ
In Zweig Memorial 3FT

Racing for the first time since capturing the Hambletonian and Hambletonian Oaks on Aug. 8 at the Meadowlands, Ramona Hill and Sorella will square off in Friday afternoon’s $160,400 Dr. Harry M. Zweig Memorial for 3-year-old filly trotters. The card also includes the $330,000 Dr. Harry M. Zweig Memorial for 3-year-old male trotters.

When Ramona Hill became the 15th filly to win the $1 million Hambletonian, it set the stage for Friday’s showdown with Oaks champ Sorella. Two years ago, when the filly Atlanta won the Hambo, she met up with Oaks winner Manchego in her next start two weeks later in the Casual Breeze at Woodbine Mohawk Park, with that race won by Manchego. However, while Atlanta sat the following week out after her historic Hambo win, Manchego raced against the boys in the Zweig Memorial, where she finished second by a note to Met’s Hall.

For Sorella, her Oaks win was her fourth of the year in five starts. In her 1:50.2 career-best win in the Reynolds on July 15 at the Meadowlands, Sorella bested third-place finisher Ramona Hill by three lengths. Ramona Hill turned the tables the following week in the Delvin Miller Memorial.

Trainer Nancy Takter said the only thing different in the Zweig is that she’ll have a new driver in Dexter Dunn as regular pilot Yannick Gingras is racing in Canada.

“'It’s a great race and a great race for harness racing fans to watch.'

--Nancy Takter going to be the one who moves? I think short fields can be a little bit more exciting.

“It’s a great race and a great race for harness racing fans to watch. I’m excited to watch the race—and in person,” laughed Takter, noting she cannot travel to Canada for Saturday’s North America Cup eliminations due to covid-19 travel restrictions.

Takter will also be sending out Hambletonian runner-up Ready For Moni in the Zweig for males. Ready For Moni is the 9-5 morning-line favorite from post 4, with Hambletonian third-place finisher Back Of The Neck the second choice at 5-2 from post 1 with Scott Zeron driving. Both colts captured their respective Stanley Dancer Memorial divisions heading into the Hambletonian.

Continues on page 2 ››››
“He came out of the race absolutely super,” Takter said about Ready For Moni. “I just trained him very, very lightly (Wednesday) morning just a very slow mile. I trained him a little bit of a quicker mile last Saturday and let him stretch out a little bit (Wednesday) and he was fabulous.”

Takter also has to use a different driver on Ready For Moni, and she turned to Matt Kakaley for the Zweig.

“He’s pretty handy and I think Matt can do whatever he wants. I think they’ll get along great. I think he’s in a really good spot (from post 4).

“It’s hard to use Matt because he’s (Ron) Burke’s first call a lot of times in stakes races. I would like to use Matt; if you looked up mine and Matt’s statistics you’d probably find one of the highest win percentages. In this situation I knew he wasn’t going to have a conflict.” — By Gordon Waterstone

Gabe Prewitt has been named director of racing for Caesar’s Entertainment-Racing. Prewitt, 37, has been the announcer at Pompano Park and the Red Mile and will continue in that role at both racetracks this year. He will also manage post times, gambling menus and social media at Caesar’s Entertainment’s harness tracks and be on-site at northern tracks when Pompano is dark.

“Gabe will wear many hats and he’s a great asset to our team,” said Joe Morris, vice president of racing for Caesar’s Entertainment-Racing, in making the announcement. “He has a great depth of knowledge about working with the mutuels for setting post times. He knows handicapping.

“He’s been instrumental in managing post times and the wagering menu that’s resulted in our record handles at Scioto Downs this year,” added Morris. “He’s a bright young guy and he’s already established a substantial audience for our racing product with his ‘Send It In’ social media campaign on twitter.”

Prewitt, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, also owns and breeds Standardbred racehorses.

Caesar’s Entertainment-Racing owns and operates harness meets at Pompano Park, Hoosier Park, Scioto Downs and Harrah’s Philadelphia.

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BAD MS JOHNSON p,3,1:53.3f-'20 ($45,481)

BIG BAD JOHN - Jenava - Art Official
Winner in a lifetime best 1:53.3!

Owner: Rico Johnson
Breeder: Michael Gillock
Trainer/Driver: Hank Le Van

CROWNTIME PET p,3,1:53.2f-'20 ($55,974)

PET ROCK - Crowntime Noreturn-Noble Return
Three-length winner in a career best 1:53.2!

Owners: Jason Shumway & First Up Racing Stable
Breeder: Esther Crownover
Trainer: Tom Blankenship • Driver: Austin Hanners

NARINA HANOVER p,3,1:52f-'20 ($60,146)

YANKEE CRUISER - Natural Paradise-Western Ideal
Took her 4th win in 2020 in 1:53.3!

Owners: Foulk Stables Inc. & William Hartt
Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms
Trainer: Clarence Foulk • Driver: Tyler Smith

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Tall Dark Stranger’s Road To NA Cup Goes Through Buffalo

Trainer Nancy Takter will be like an anxious mother away from her child for the first time on Saturday night as she watches Tall Dark Stranger race in the Pepsi North America Cup eliminations at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

Unable to make the trip to Canada herself because of covid-19 travel restrictions, Takter on Thursday sent Tall Dark Stranger and her other Mohawk starters to a farm in Buffalo, N.Y., where they will be shipped across the border on Friday to assistant Josert Fonseca, who has been in quarantine the past two weeks.

“I never thought that my plans for the week would entail going to Buffalo,” Takter said with a laugh. “This situation of us not being able to go across the border makes everything a little bit more complicated and a little messier. It’s not ideal how I like to do things, but it’s the situation that we’re in. His groom can’t go with him and his trainer can’t go with him, but we’ll make best of it.”

Tall Dark Stranger is returning to the track where he made seven of his nine starts last year. He won six of those seven starts, including $562,500 Metro and the $600,000 Breeders Crown final on his way to divisional honors in both Canada and the U.S.

Despite Tall Dark Stranger’s familiarity with Mohawk Park, Takter admits some apprehension with the NA Cup elim being his first time back on that track since the Breeders Crown last October.

“Josert will warm him up, but the horse has not gone over that track yet this year so I would have liked to have done it myself,” said Takter. “But Josert is really capable and if he needs to he can call me and give me information if we need to make any changes. Hopefully we won’t need to do that and he’ll be good to go.”

Tall Dark Stranger, who won the $636,650 Meadowlands Pace on July 18, comes into the race off a career-best 1:47.1 victory in the $273,125 Cane Pace on Aug. 8 at the Big M. Yannick Gingras, who has sat behind the 3-year-old son of Bettor’s Delight in all 14 of his career starts, will be in the sulky after heading to Canada late last week.

“Obviously, I preferred to have Yannick drive him; that’s the ideal situation,” said Takter. “As I said, he hasn’t been around that track at all yet this year. Like how one driver wants a horse to drive, another driver might not want to drive the horse that way.

“(Tall Dark Stranger) raced really good at the Meadowlands so there is no reason not to be happy with him.”

—Nancy Takter

Tall Dark Stranger starts from post 3 in the first of two NA Cup elim (Race 6). That division is stacked as it includes recent Carl Milstein Memorial winner Odds On Osiris and Ontario Sires Stakes standouts Beaumond Hanover and Tattoo Artist.

“A lot of times the easier division ends up going faster than the tougher division because everybody thinks they have a shot and they overdrive their horses,” said Takter. “If you’re going to make the final you’re going to race the best horses so it really doesn’t bother me.”

In the second elim, Captain Kirk, third to Tall Dark Stranger in the Cane Pace, starts from post 1 with Mark MacDonald. Lining up on the outside in post 7 is Meadowlands Pace third-place finisher Allywag Hanover, who will be driven by for the first time by Louis Philippe Roy. — By Gordon Waterstone

Pepsi North America Cup 3CP
(first five finishers in each elim advance to $1 million final on Aug. 29)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post—Horse (Sire)</th>
<th>Driver/Trainer</th>
<th>Odds</th>
<th>Breeder/Yearling Price (Sale)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Beaumond Hanover (Sportswriter)</td>
<td>J. Jamieson/J. Darling</td>
<td>7-2</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2—Warrawee Vital (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>T. Henry/R. Fellows</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Warrawee Farm/$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—Tall Dark Stranger (Bettor’s Delight)</td>
<td>Y. Gingras/N. Takter</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>J. Avritt Sr./$330,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4—Capt Midnight (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>D. McNair/T. Alagna</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5—Odds On Osiris (Rockin Image)</td>
<td>S. Filion/M. Wrenn</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>M. Schwartz/$60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>6—Beach Blanket Book (Sportswriter)</td>
<td>J. MacDonald/B. MacIntosh</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Winbak Farm/$17,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7—Tattoo Artist (He’s Watching)</td>
<td>B. McClure/Dr. I. Moore</td>
<td>9-2</td>
<td>Tara Hills Stud/Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8—Captain Barbossa (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>L. Roy/T. Alagna</td>
<td>15-1</td>
<td>Steiner Stock Farm/$70,000</td>
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Post—Horse (Sire) | Driver/Trainer | Odds | Breeder/Yearling Price (Sale) |
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<tr>
<td>1—Captain Kirk (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>B. McClure/T. Alagna</td>
<td>9-5</td>
<td>Brittany Farms/$200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2—Velocity Rukkus (Sportswriter)</td>
<td>R. Waples/M. Evers</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Emerald Highlands Farm/$40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3—Moneymen Hill (Somebeachsomewhere)</td>
<td>J. Drury/C. Aubio</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>Tom Hill/Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4—Aneto (Bettor’s Delight)</td>
<td>C. Christoforo &amp; R. Boyd</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>Southwind Farms/$44,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5—Denali Seelster (Sunshine Beach)</td>
<td>T. Henry/D. I. Moore</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>Seelster Farms/$34,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>6—Mayhem Hanover (Sportswriter)</td>
<td>D. McNair/G. McNair</td>
<td>10-1</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7—Allywag Hanover (Captaintreacherous)</td>
<td>L. Roy/B. Pelling</td>
<td>7-5</td>
<td>Hanover Shoe Farms/$95,000</td>
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Tattoo Artist Rides Five-Race Win Streak Into NA Cup Elims

Ontario Sires Stakes (ONSS) standouts Beaumond Hanover and Tattoo Artist have been able to avoid each other thus far this year, but that’ll change on Saturday night at Woodbine Mohawk Park when the pair of sophomore pacers will line up behind the gate together in the first of two $50,000 eliminations of this year’s $1 million Pepsi North America Cup.

While Beaumond Hanover comes into the elim riding a four-race win streak, Tattoo Seelster is on a five-race win skein. And while three of those wins for each came in ONSS action, the pair drew into separate divisions.

Beaumond Hanover is trained by Jack Darling, while Tattoo Artist is conditioned by Dr. Ian Moore. The two trainers are both based at Classy Lane Training Centre in Ontario and, ironically, the two standout pacers are virtually side by side.

“He’s actually a little guy,” laughed Dr. Moore when asked how ‘The Big Guy’ in his stable is doing heading into the NA Cup elims. “He’s not a big horse; he’s quite small in stature. Compared to Beaumond Hanover. And those two horses are stabled about 20 feet apart.”

While Beaumond Hanover will start from post 1 with driver Jody Jamieson, Tattoo Artist will line up in post 7 with driver Bob McClure. Dr. Moore will also send out Denali Seelster from post 5 with driver Trevor Henry in the second NA Cup elim.

As for Tattoo Artist, the reigning Ontario Sires Stakes champion completed his freshman season with five wins in eight starts. Dr. Moore said Tattoo Artist’s disposition has completely turned around since he first hit the track in 2019.

“He was very difficult as a 2 year old, to put it mildly,” Dr. Moore said about the son of He’s Watching owned by Frank Cannon and Let It Ride Stables. “But as time went on he got to be better and better and was a pretty nice horse at the end of the year. This year he’s just a sweetheart. When he’s on the racetrack he’s all business.”

Among Tattoo Artist’s five wins this year is a career-best 1:48.2 effort in an ONSS Gold split on July 4 at Mohawk Park. Tattoo Artist then got a three-week break before winning an ONSS Gold in 1:49.1 on July 25 at Mohawk, and then it was another three weeks before he raced and won an ONSS Gold at Rideau Carleton last Sunday (Aug. 16) in 1:50.4 over a “good” racetrack.

“The schedule maker up here should be shot, quite frankly,” said Dr. Moore. “There was no reason for it. The only reason I can see is that they were waiting to see what would happen at the border with the U.S. horses.

“I really didn’t want to truck him 10-11 hours to Rideau six days before the NA Cup but we couldn’t get a start (at Mohawk).”

“I think good horses need to be trained harder and trained to very close to where they are going to race.”

—Dr. Ian Moore

With the gaps between races, Dr. Moore said he had to alter his training regimen, and it paid off in his Rideau Carleton effort.

“I trained him a lot harder this time around,” he said. “The first time around he almost got beat in the second to last race (at Mohawk Park). I think good horses need to be trained harder and trained to very close to where they are going to race. If you don’t do that, then they are not going to be as good when it comes to race time.

“He raced very well last Saturday. Those were two monster miles (Beaumond Hanover also won his ONSS division in 1:50.2) on the track that had got all chewed up on the inside because it rained heavily.”

As for Denali Seelster, the son of Sunshine Beach has two wins in eight starts this year, including a career-best 1:50 effort in an Aug. 1 overnight at Mohawk Park.

“He’s gone in 1:50 flat three times,” noted Dr. Moore. “The last time he did it (in his win) was quite impressive. He was parked to the quarter in :26 flat and came home in :26.3. He’s been very sharp lately.”

Dr. Moore admits he’s taking a gamble with Denali Seelster, but it’s a risk owner Dave Ratchford was willing to take.

“Denali Seelster is a nice little colt but I don’t think he’s the caliber to race against some of these guys. But something could happen in a week, I guess,” said Dr. Moore. “Dave Ratchford asked me if I would race him in there, I said no. But he called me (Tuesday) at 9:30 in the morning (an hour before the entry box closed) and said his three girls told him to spend some money so he spent $8,000 to enter him.”

Neither Tattoo Artist nor Denali Seelster is eligible to the Little Brown Jug, a race Dr. Moore won in 2008 with Shadow Play and one he considers his favorite. A NA Cup win would allow both colts to be supplemented to the Jug, which will be raced on Sept. 24 at Delaware, Ohio.

“I love the Jug. I think it’s the best race,” he said. “I go every opportunity I can go.” — By Gordon Waterstone
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Big Changes Coming For Kentucky Medication Regulations

The recent spate of bute positives in Standardbred racing in New Jersey followed a change in withdrawal guidelines that failed to get passed along to state veterinarians and horsemen. Now Kentucky is poised for medication regulation changes, and while notification of the potential changes has been given, these regs are much more sweeping.

On Tuesday, Aug. 25, a final hearing will be held about Kentucky’s proposed medication regulation changes. The meeting will be held while a live race program will be underway at the Red Mile, meaning few if any horsemen will be able to attend.

If approved on Aug. 25, the regulatory medication changes take effect immediately, that very day. The list of changes is extensive and would apply to horses treated BEFORE Aug. 25 but racing on that day or a subsequent day, which means a horse could test positive under the new rules. The changes include:

- A 48-hour NSAID restriction and a ban on stacking (using more than one of these drugs);
- A 14-day stand-down on intra-articular corticosteroid injections and ban on stacking;
- A 24-hour restriction on furosemide (Lasix) administration for 2 year olds (in other words, you can train on Lasix but not race with the medication);
- A restriction on race day use of electronic therapeutics (no nebulizers, vibrating plate/floor use, electric massage or lasers).

In addition, once a horse is entered to race, trainers must submit that horse’s “medical history” and a veterinary examination certification to race to the track’s presiding judge.

Andy Roberts, D.V.M., who treats both Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds in Kentucky, believes the change in medication regulations will be causing vets and trainers headaches, and may not reduce the incidence of catastrophic breakdowns in Thoroughbreds, one of the primary drivers of the change in regulations.

“I expect us to have lots of positives at the Red Mile meet,” said Dr. Roberts, who serves on the board of the Kentucky Equine Drug Research Council. “There will be confusion. A lot of trainers use more than one vet because maybe one vet they think does something better, or they’re cheaper on some things. That alone could cause inadvertent stacking.”

In the past, the way to stay under a drug threshold and effectively treat a horse has been with “stacking,” using different drugs.

“The main thing for me is that the people who are willing to race horses that are sore will not be caught by these new regs. They’ll just use something else that can’t be detected by testing,” noted Dr. Roberts. “For the legitimate drugs, now the threshold is the limit of detection for everything except depo.”

He added that Adequan, one of the gold-standard products to keep joints moving in horses with degenerative joint disease, in not an NSAID but is now being used more frequently.

Dr. Roberts also sees problems with the Kentucky rules that will prohibit Lasix in 2 year olds in 2020 and in all stakes starters in 2021.

“Some states like Indiana don’t allow a horse to go off Lasix and then race within either 30 or 60 days,” said Dr. Roberts. “So you couldn’t race in a stake at the Red Mile and then go back on Lasix and race in Indiana.”

Perhaps the most radical of the new regs from a trainer’s standpoint is the one that requires them to submit a 14-day medical history of any horse entered to race.

“I’m making the assumption that they will enforce this as written,” said Dr. Roberts of the requirement for a horse’s medical history.

An electronic database for the Thoroughbred industry is being developed by the Jockey Club.

“Standardbred treatment records should be sent by paper, e-mail, text or fax until an electronic database is available,” said Bruce A. Howard, DVM, Equine Medical Director for the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission. “The offices at the Red Mile can be utilized or the fax number at the KHRC (859-246-2039) can be used.”

Dr. Roberts noted that he already turns in his daily treatment records to the track’s judges but knows few trainers—“and I do work for several top stables,” he said—who keep extensive records on hand.

As for the veterinary exam, Dr. Roberts said his understanding of the requirement is that within three days of a race, “I have to see a horse and create a document that the horse is fine.”

Click here to see the list of medications and the new withdrawal guidelines. —By Kathy Parker
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PETA-Backed Gambling Lawsuit Raises Concerns From Taylor

Standardbred horse owner and Philadelphia attorney Howard Taylor has issued the following statement regarding PETA’s Aug. 14 press release that disputed information Taylor shared about the recently settled case of Jeffrey Tretter v. Robert Bresnahan, Jr. And Bresnahan and J.L. Sadowsky, LLC.

A bettor had charged that because a horse trained by Bresnahan had a positive out-of-competition test at the Meadowlands, the bettor was harmed. PETA’s Aug. 14 press release also stated, “This should be the first of many such lawsuits.” Taylor’s Aug. 20 statement is below.

“It is not often that I am willing to do battle through the media, especially on cases that have been resolved,” said Taylor in an Aug. 20 statement. “However, I apparently touched a nerve with my statement concerning the settlement of Tretter v. Bresnahan. I am honored that an attorney from a small Philadelphia law firm could force such a reaction from the Senior Vice-President of PETA, one of the largest organizations in the country. My response is as follows:

“What I said in my statement was not carefully worded or misleading. Ms. Guillermo was not present during the negotiations and her response was not only inaccurate, but blatantly false.

“It was not Mr. Tretter’s request that $7,500.00 be donated to a horse rescue charity from the $20,000.00 settlement. Rather, it was our proposal that Mr. Tretter be paid $10,000.00 as a nuisance value settlement, with an additional $10,000.00 donated to an equine rescue charity. Mr. Tretter refused, and insisted on receiving no less than $12,500.00 with the remaining $7,500.00 to be donated to the horse rescue charity. Thus, I guess it was technically Mr. Tretter’s request that $7,500.00 be donated, but that was from the $10,000.00 proposed number that he insisted be reduced.

“Further, at no point was Mr. Tretter involved in any negotiation. In fact, when the Judge insisted that the parties attend a Settlement Conference, Tretter’s attorneys inquired as to whether a representative of PETA must be present, instead of Tretter.”

When contacted, Taylor added that people in horse racing should be fearful of PETA and lawsuits such as the one brought against Bresnahan.

“My fear from the beginning is that this could be the first of many lawsuits, as PETA threatened in their statement,” said Taylor. “It doesn’t have to be an Epogen positive. If I was Bob Baffert (who recently had two horses test positive for lidocaine) I would be shaking in my boots. People bet on computers and they have records of their bets. They can’t win these lawsuits, but they can bleed you to death with legal fees. Thankfully, where this gets weak is if someone tries to hire a lawyer, they’re not taking it on a contingency, unless PETA is paying.”

Taylor also noted that Bresnahan’s positive out-of-competition test for EPO at the Meadowlands “could never hold up in court because there is no chain of custody for the sample.” He said that Bresnahan asked for Meadowlands owner Jeff Gural to allow a split sample be tested, “but Gural wouldn’t agree to that. I have that in writing. Bob (Bresnahan) maintained that if there was Epogen in the sample, the sample wasn’t from his horse.

“Somebody wrote on horseplop that they were going to save all their bets and start looking at fines and suspensions,” said Taylor—By Kathy Parker
Multiple Grand Circuit Stakes Winner Including The $1,000,000 North America Cup!

He won the elimination and final of the North America Cup, taking his lifetime record of 1:48.4 while defeating Downbytheseaside, Huntsville and Filibuster Hanover.

His other Grand Circuit wins included the $500,000 Hempt Mem. (elim & Final), $400,000 Adios (elim & Final), $500,000 Little Brown Jug (first heat), $206,000 Tattersalls Pace (division), $140,000 Elevation, Arden Downs and six Pennsylvania Sires Stakes legs.

Grand Circuit Stakes Winner At 2 & 3 With A Tremendous Pedigree!

At 2, he took his freshman mark of 1:55.2, winning his Bluegrass division. At 3, he won the NJSS 3YO Colt Trot Championship, and his elim of the Beal Mem. (finishing a close second in the $500,000 final). He also won his Stanley Dancer Memorial division (defeating What The Hill) with a last quarter in :27.

He is the second foal of Ilija, her first the $300,000-plus winner Tight Lines. Ilija is from the maternal family of Yankee Duchess, the third dam of Muscle Hill, thus Long Tom carries three doses of this modern foundation mare, with a 4x5x5 cross.

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As NY Opens Gyms, Racing Leaders Hope Racinos Get OK Soon

As rumored, on Monday Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts and the Standardbred Owners Association of New York (SOANY) jointly announced an agreement to extend racing at the historic harness track through Saturday, Sept. 12. This will allow for the New York Night of Champions to be held as scheduled on Sept. 12, which will showcase the best trotters and pacers bred in New York State. The Yonkers Trot and Messenger stakes, however, were canceled.

Yonkers reopened for racing on June 22 following a three-month shutdown due to the covid-19 pandemic. The racino, however, has remained closed. At the time that it resumed racing, there was approximately $10 million in the track’s purse account. With funds running low as the casino has remained closed, the SOANY decided it would contribute $1.2 million to the purse account so the racing program could continue through the New York Night of Champions card.

“The funds the SOA transferred were in an account for administrative, welfare benefits and retirement benefits,” said Joe Faraldo, president of the SOANY. “We did not want to do anything more because we don’t want to adversely affect those programs. Some people suggested borrowing, but that’s not a responsible option.”

The New York Night of Champions will feature finals for the eight New York Sires Stakes (NYSS) divisions, with each final carrying a purse of $225,000 (the same as in 2019). Purses for the 2020 NYSS program are expected to total $10-11 million, down from the $14.7 million paid out in 2019.

M. Kelly Young, executive director of Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Fund, which administers the Sires Stakes program, said she is hopeful that New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo will open the state’s racinos soon so the Sires Stakes fund can begin to be replenished. The fund operates on a July-June fiscal year, which means revenues for 2021 would normally be earned beginning in July.

“With casinos open in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and other states, obviously no state program will feel the pain that New York will when it comes to how much money we’ll have for purses in 2021,” said Young. “We have a small amount of funding in reserve for 2021, and we’ve been receiving a small percentage from handle on New York harness racing generated via simulcasting and through ADWs (advanced deposit wagering). So if the racinos reopen, there has been a demonstrated demand for gambling and that would obviously help the Sires Stakes.”

Faraldo said he was somewhat optimistic that New York’s casinos might be given permission to open soon.

Big M Horsemen Owed $7 Million Due To Delay In Test Results

Published reports Monday (Aug. 17) stated that more than $7 million in purses have been delayed in getting results of post-race tests.

Harnessracing.com has learned Standardbred horsemen that raced at the Meadowlands are in a similar situation as more than $7 million in purses have also not been paid out since July 1.

The purses money that has been held by the New Jersey Racing Commission is what is owed to owners of the top-two finishers in each race. According to the Meadowlands, purses through the end of June were just released and were expected to be paid this week.

According to the story on app.com on Monday, the New Jersey Commission has a contract for testing with Truesdail Laboratories in California, which has delayed the results. The commission has used Truesdail since 2013.

“He has set protocols for the gyms to reopen, so the governor is moving toward reopening more things,” noted Faraldo. “There are people actively advocating for reopening the casinos.”

On the “Gamble On” podcast last week, Jeff Gural, who operates Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs and their casinos, offered his thoughts about Gov. Cuomo’s policy to keep gaming facilities closed.

“I think the governor is solely focused on the number of people dying, and keeping the number of people that test positive below one percent. And everything else is unimportant,” he said.

Gural said he’s not sure keeping casinos closed is keeping people safer from covid-19.

“I mean, the biggest disappointment for me is—because, I support the governor, and his job is to keep people safe; he has done an amazing job—but by keeping our casinos closed, he’s not keeping people safe. It’s doing just the opposite, because our customers are not waiting for us to open.

“He would be right if all the other casinos were closed. You’d say, ‘Why take a chance?’ But they’re going to other casinos, where it’s much more likely that there are people infected than there are in the Southern Tier (where Tioga is located), for example. I know, because I follow it.”

While Vernon Downs’ racino has been closed, the nearby Turning Stone casino, owned by the Oneida Native American Indian tribe, has been open since June.—By Kathy Parker
COLTS

**FIGHT SONG**, b.c. ON/KY

*Kadabra-Fortunes Of Fables-Muscle Hill*

Half-brother to multiple stakes winner **FADE INTO YOU** 3,1:54.4 ($215,628) and Fifty Ways 2,Q2:03.3f-20. First by Kadabra from a full or half-sister to **FEED YOUR HEAD** 3,1:52 ($245,662), **FALCOR BLUESTONE** 4,1:53.4 ($204,130) and **FERRISWHEEL JUNKIE** 1:53.4 ($124,938). Second dam is **FLAWLESS BLUESTONE** 3,Q1:53.4 ($389,935), half-sister to the dam of Dan Patch Award winner **BROADWAY SCHOONER** 3,1:53.3 ($885,933).

**WESLYNN CROWN**, b.c. PA/KY

*Father Patrick-Weslynn Legacy-Windsong's Legacy*

Half-brother to **WESLYNN DANCER** Q1:53.2 ($437,200) and **WESLYNN QUEST** 4,1:53f-'20 ($184,181). First by Kadabra from a full or half-sister to **FEED YOUR HEAD** 3,1:52 ($245,662) and Fifty Ways 2,Q2:03.3f-20. Second dam is **FLAWLESS BLUESTONE** 3,Q1:53.4 ($389,935), half-sister to the dam of Dan Patch Award winner **BROADWAY SCHOONER** 3,1:53.3 ($885,933).

**SHELL YEAH**, b.c. OH/KY

*Downbytheseaide-Swinging Cami-Cambest*

First foal from **SWINGING CAMI** p,3,1:52 ($128,389), half-sister to **SWINGING JENNY** p,1:52.4 ($115,027) and **BROW DOWN** p,4,1:53.3f ($49,286). Second dam is **SWINGING REBA** p,1:55 ($42,764).

FILLIES

**SUN TEMPLE**, b.f. PA/KY

*Cantab Hall-Temple Ruins-Donato Hanover*

First foal from multiple stakes winner **TEMPLE RUINS** 3,1:53.3f ($288,526), full sister to **SOUTHERN CROSS** 3,1:53.1 ($160,088). Second dam is a half-sister to the pair of multiple stakes winners **TEMPLE OF DOOM** 3,1:52.4f ($745,917) and **JIMMY SHIN** 1:54.3 ($420,882).

**SAFFRON GIRL**, b.f. NJ/KY

*Muscle Hill-Spice Girl-Yankee Glide*

Half-sister to Something Fine 3,2:00.1h ($24,011) and Six O’Clock News 2,02:01f-'20 ($2,000). First by Muscle Hill from a half-sister to stakes winner **HOT CURRY** 3,1:54.4f ($147,416) and **MUSCLES AND SPICE** 1:58.1h ($77,939). Second dam is **SPICEBERRY HANOVER** 3,1:56.3f ($153,239), full or half-sister to **CELEBRITY STIMULUS** 1:54.2 ($211,718), **DESERT RUNNER** 3,1:53.1f ($150,472), **SOME-DANCER HANOVER** 1:55.4 ($130,649) and **SKY HANOVER** 4,1:54 ($130,649). From the family of Trotter of the Year **MARION MARAUDER** 4,1:51.2 ($3,149,505).

**SUN TEMPLE**, b.f PA/KY

*Cantab Hall-Temple Ruins-Donato Hanover*

First foal from multiple stakes winner **TEMPLE RUINS** 3,1:53.3f ($288,526), full sister to **SOUTHERN CROSS** 3,1:53.1 ($160,088). Second dam is a half-sister to the pair of multiple stakes winners **TEMPLE OF DOOM** 3,1:52.4f ($745,917) and **JIMMY SHIN** 1:54.3 ($420,882).

All inquiries to
Rikki, Elizabeth or Danny Caldwell
1520 Lexington Rd., Georgetown, KY 40324
(502) 863-6091 • Fax (502) 863-1105
Cell (859) 509-0087

Yearling videos, will be available at
www.canerunfarm.com
Videos will include yearlings in action and separate walking/conformation videos
Party Girl Hill Passes On PASS To Race In Fan Hanover Elims

Party Girl Hill has given owner Tom Hill reason to celebrate. Unraced at two because of a stress fracture, the 3-year-old filly pacer is six-for-six in 2020. Party Girl Hill was scheduled to race in a Pennsylvania Sires Stakes division on Thursday at Harrah's Philadelphia, but she was scratched by trainer Chris Ryder as she will instead race on Saturday night at Woodbine Mohawk Park in the second of two eliminations of the Fan Hanover.

“I spoke to the race office (at Harrah’s Philadelphia) and told them what we were doing, and the judges were OK with it,” Ryder told harnessracing.com Tuesday afternoon. “We are in this situation because both races moved dates and if I didn’t enter her in the Sires Stakes and there weren’t eliminations of the Fan Hanover she would have been off three weeks (before the Fan Hanover final on Aug. 29).”

Because of the covid-19 travel restrictions, Ryder has sent Party Girl Hill to Ontario-based trainer Chantal Mitchell for the Fan Hanover. Regular driver Dexter Dunn is also not making the trip so Ryder has enlisted Doug McNair to drive.

The Ryder trainee has won all but one start by at least 1 1/4 lengths, including an 11 ¾-length romp in her debut June 12 at the Meadowlands. She won her most recent race, a sire stakes division at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, by 4 1/2 lengths in 1:49. It was her third consecutive sub-1:50 win on a five-eighths-mile track and the fastest mile on a five-eighths oval by a 3-year-old filly pacer in four years, only two-fifths of a second off the world record.

“I don’t know how fast she can go,” Hill said. “I don’t know where the bottom is. She’s a freak.”

Hill bred Party Girl Hill, a daughter of Captaintreacherous out of Look Cheap. Party Girl Hill trained well as a 2 year old but was injured just prior to qualifying.

“There was no surgery, we just had to give her the time to heal,” Hill said. “She was training like an absolute monster. If we didn’t have to quit with her, there’s no doubt she would have been a top-class 2 year old.”

Hill, who lives in England and will turn 70 next month, is no stranger to good horses. He owned two-time O’Brien Award winning trotter Caprice Hill, Breeders Crown champion Racing Hill, millionaire Western Silk, and North America Cup and Breeders Crown runner-up Art Colony.

But Party Girl Hill is something different.

“She’s the best horse I’ve ever been fortunate enough to own,” Hill said. “She’s just in a different sphere. We knew last year she was a tremendously fast horse, and a good horse. If I said I knew she would be as good as she is, I’d be telling you lies, but she had blistering speed and she was intelligent. Whatever you want to do, she will do it.

“Chris says she’s easy on herself, nothing bothers her. She travels good, she sleeps good, she eats good, and after a race you wouldn’t think she had one. She can race from the front, she can do it from behind, she can get parked out; it doesn’t matter. She’s the full package. That’s what makes a champion, when you get all those things coming together.

“I’m just hoping she carries on and stays healthy,” Hill said. “When she’s on her game, I don’t think there is a 3-year-old filly that can go with her. If she stays healthy, I think she can be a big contender for Horse of the Year. She’s just a special horse. She’s a gift from God.”

For now, Ryder is tempering his sentiments about Party Girl Hill.

“It’s obvious she is very good. I’m not going to put myself out on a limb…but she just speaks for herself,” he said. “She’s done everything a horse can do. Some people are making some silly comparisons that I’m not going to get into.” (with files from Ken Weingartner/USTA)
PET ROCK

$50,000 Ohio Sire Stakes 3YOFP - Northfield 8/15
CROWNTIMEROCKETTE
p.3,1:51.3h-'20 ($82,305)

PET ROCK - Crown Time Keeper-Feelin Friskie

Owners: Allan Schmucker Jr., Burke Racing Stable,
Weaver Bruscemi & Lawrence Karr
Breeder: Esther Crownover
Trainer: Ron Burke • Driver: Chris Page

$50,000 Ohio Sire Stakes 3YOFP - Northfield 8/15
ROCKNGO B B
p.3,1:53h-'20 ($29,750)

PET ROCK - Gitngo B B-Art's Chip

Owners: Burke Racing Stable, Frank Baldachino
Weaver Bruscemi & Lawrence Karr
Breeder: Robert Bendel
Trainer: Ron Burke • Driver: Chris Page

Swept the Ohio Sire Stakes 3YO Filly Pace at Northfield!

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www.midlandacres.com
New Dates, Protocols For Attending Lex Yearling Sale

The Lexington Selected Yearling Sales Co. has moved its sales sessions one day earlier on the calendar. Originally scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Oct. 6, the sale will now start on Monday, Oct. 5, and run through Friday, Oct. 9. The yearling sale will be followed by the company’s mixed sale, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 10.

All sale sessions get underway at 7 p.m. at Fasig-Tipton’s Newtown paddocks in Lexington, Ky. Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland, which operate Thoroughbred sales in Lexington, have announced protocols for their sales to comply with covid-19 risk mitigation.

Regarding protocols that will be in effect for the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale, sale manager Randy Manges said, “We are going to follow what Fasig-Tipton does, and we will be evaluating all of the protocols as we get closer to sale time. There is a Thoroughbred sale at the facility Sept. 9-10.’’

Keeneland will hold sales in Lexington Sept. 13-25.

“Given the proximity of our two sales in terms of both dates and locations, it is important that we provide consistent protocols for the convenience of our participants,” Keeneland president and CEO Bill Thomason and Fasig-Tipton president Boyd T. Browning Jr. said in a joint statement.

Manges said that the back bar (behind the back inside walking ring) and upstairs bar in the Fasig-Tipton arena building will both be closed. Tents will be set up with portable bars. The facility’s restaurant will be open during the sale, but at a reduced capacity and with servers handling the buffet line.

Catalogs for the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale are expected to be available the first week in September.

The Keeneland and Fasig-Tipton statement said the covid-19 safety protocols were developed in collaboration with local and state health officials. They include:

- All consignors and their staffs, veterinarians and their staffs, farriers, van counter representatives, media and any other person who will be interfacing with the public on a daily basis are required to receive a negative covid-19 test within 10 days of entry to the grounds.
- Buyers are not required to be tested but must complete a health questionnaire prior to the sale. Testing will be available to buyers if requested.
- All sales participants must pre-register online.
- Daily screenings, including temperature checks and health questions, are required for everyone accessing the grounds.
- Everyone is required to wear a face covering at all times.
- Social distancing of at least six feet is required throughout the grounds.
- Capacity will be limited in the sales pavilions, including the sales arena, and throughout the grounds.
- Attendance will be limited to credentialed sales participants. – By Kathy Parker
Antonacci feeling fantastic about Ready For Moni
Frank M. Antonacci is more than happy with Ready For Moni as the colt heads to Friday’s $330,000 Harry M. Zweig Memorial for 3-year-old trotters at Vernon Downs, and only a length separated Antonacci from being ecstatic. more

No spectators, invitation only for NA Cup Night
Woodbine Entertainment has announced the upcoming 37th Pepsi North America Cup on Saturday night, Aug. 29 at Mohawk Park will not be open to the general public. more

Marohn Sr. named SOANY field rep at Yonkers
Jimmy Marohn Sr. remembers walking winner Meadow Paige around the Yonkers Raceway paddock as a groom for Billy Haughton after the 1967 Cane Pace. Marohn also reflects fondly on winning the 1981 Cane Pace at Yonkers with Wildwood Jeb, one of his 5,358 career driving wins. Although Marohn hung up his driving colors in 2014 after over 44,000 starts, he now finds himself back in the Yonkers Raceway paddock as the new field representative for the SOA of NY. more

Harrington adds Wednesday cards as of Sept. 2
Harrington Raceway has added Sept. 2 to its live racing calendar for 2020. Currently on a Monday/Tuesday schedule through the balance of August, Wednesdays will be added effective Sept. 2 and continue on a three-day schedule until closing day, Oct. 21. more

All Landmark Stakes moved to Sept. 6 for 2020
The eight Landmark Events for 2-and 3-year-old trotters and pacers that comprise the Grand Circuit stop at Goshen Historic Track in Goshen, N.Y. have moved from Monday, Sept. 7 to Sunday, Sept. 6, joining the NYSS County Fair finals on that date. more

Maverick wins debut at Red Mile in 1:57.2
Maverick, who sold last fall as a yearling for a record $1.1 million, made his long-awaited debut a winning one Monday afternoon at The Red Mile. With Joe Bongiorno driving for trainer Tony Alagna, Maverick broke his maiden in 1:57.2. more

Dream Away dies at Winbak Farm at age 26
Dream Away passed away at the age of 26 on Aug. 18 at Winbak Farm of Delaware. more

Scioto adds $100,000 Invitational Pace to Sept. 5 card
Harnessracing.com has learned a $100,000 Invitational Pace will be added to the race card on Saturday, Sept. 5, at Scioto Downs. It is closing night for the 2020 season and track officials are hoping the $100,000 #Senditin Stakes will lead to record wagering. The track earlier this year topped the $2-million mark for the first time in its history. more

Diamond Creek announces sale division
In the Bluegrass, as the summer winds down and turns to fall, Diamond Creek’s Kentucky farm is bustling with activity as more than 50 yearlings are being prepared for sale. These horses are from the farm’s herd as well as several partners and clients. more

USHWA’s Drive Me Some Cash gets underway Thursday
The United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA), with Scott Alberg, have come up with the best free handicap contest of the 2020 harness racing season and it all revolves around the Pepsi North America Cup at Woodbine Mohawk Park. more

Horses with strangles at Sawgrass in Illinois
On Tuesday (Aug. 18), management at Harrah’s Hoosier Park and the Indiana Horse Racing Commission were made aware of a horse diagnosed with strangles stabled at the Sawgrass Training Center in Illinois. more

Ont. Select Yearling Sale has website
The Ontario Select Yearling Sale has announced that its brand-new website, www.ontarioselectyearling.com, has been launched. more

PA releases July revenue report for racinos
Figures released today by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board shows total gaming and fantasy contests revenue generated during July 2020 was $283,051,763 which represents a 0.56 percent increase over revenue generated in July 2019. The state’s taxes on gaming topped $67.8 million. more

Ohio Harness Horsemen’s Assn. awards 8 scholarships
The Ohio Harness Horsemen’s Association (OHHA) is awarding eight scholarships, totaling $15,000, to college and post graduate students for the 2020-2021 academic year. more
Harness Racing Leaders

Compiled by the USTA—through August 18, 2020 (week difference Aug. 12-18).

Leading Money-Winning Horses

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<td>161</td>
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<td>1,501,566</td>
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<td>ORDER BY STABLE</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>WHITE BIRCH FARMS</td>
<td>135</td>
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<td>1,416,127</td>
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Harness Racing Weekend Preview, 18 of 18

August 21, 2020

www.harnessracing.com