

Sunday,
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ON STRIDE
Bill Finley

Who's To Blame in Pa. and Ontario? Look in the Mirror

It's been a tough couple of weeks for harness racing in Pennsylvania and Ontario, two places looking at doomsday scenarios after their elected officials decided that perhaps there are better ways to spend the slot machine windfall than on purses. People are mad at the politicians, and they should be, particularly in Pennsylvania. There, Governor Corbett flat out lied to the industry while on the campaign trail when he promised he would not touch the Horse Race Development and Gaming Act.



Don Drummond has a plan...to destroy Ontario racing

Corbett and Don Drummond, the author of the Drummond Report, which is looking to strip slots subsidies to racing in Ontario, have turned a blind eye to the many economic

benefits the sport provides local communities. Racing is important and necessary. It provides jobs and preserves open space.

Yet, horsemen and other industry stakeholders have to share some of the blame for what is nothing less than a terrible predicament. Harness racing can't stand on its own two feet and it has to have subsidies to survive because it is badly broken. The grandstands are empty, the pari-mutuel handles are abysmal. The sport loses more customers every day and nothing is happening to replace them. The problems are everywhere, and they run deep.

Everyone knew that the situation—a failing industry kept alive by subsidies during harsh economic times—would never last. Whether it was going to be today, tomorrow or 10 years from now, there was going to be a Corbett or a Drummond somewhere who was going to derail the gravy train. It had to happen.

So what did harness racing do to prepare for the inevitable? In too many cases the answer was nothing. With the slots money inflating the purses people were fat, dumb and happy. Complacency ruled at a time when there needed to be a sense of urgency.

Nowhere was this more evident than in Ontario. In 2010, Standardbred Canada developed a comprehensive plan to

revitalize the industry, which it called the Ontario Racing Development and Sustainability Plan. According to a July, 2010 press release from Standardbred Canada, the concept was to “establish, fund and execute an aggressive plan aimed at making Ontario harness racing self-sufficient through a concerted investment in development, marketing and advocacy.”

The plan was to raise \$180 million and the money was to come from a five-percent levy on purses.

It was a terrific idea, and very necessary. With just 5 percent coming out of purses, hardly enough to cause any serious pain for owners, trainers or drivers, great strides could have been made to get Ontario racing back on track.

Maybe if the Ontario Racing Development and Sustainability Plan had become a reality, \$2 million would have been wagered Friday night at Woodbine and not \$1,484,047 and maybe Flamboro would have done a lot better than a pathetic total wagering pool Friday night of \$158,890. Maybe there would have been a huge upswing in momentum for Ontario harness racing and people could look at the Drummond Report without wanting to jump of the CN Tower.

Nominations close Mar. 1 for the Blue Chip Matchmaker Mare FFA Pacing Series



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The plan was rejected by horsemen. The holes in their feet, the one from the gunshot wounds, have yet to heal.

At the Dan Patch Awards, Jeff Gural asked for the U.S. racing industry to come together and do what the Canadians wouldn't. Gural said if five percent of the slots money that currently goes to purses was instead directed to a marketing campaign harness racing could get itself back on track. Gural got a standing ovation. Will his plan come to fruition? No chance.

There was no such plan in Pennsylvania, where Corbett wants to take \$72 million a year away from standardbred and thoroughbred purses, but neither has anyone been proactive about trying to solve the sport's problems. The notable exception is the Pennsylvania Harness Horseman's Association, which was worked tirelessly to promote racing at Chester and Pocono and doesn't mind spending money to do so. But they can't do it alone.

One of the problems in Pennsylvania is that the race-tracks there, all run by casino companies, seem particularly uncaring about harness racing. They are notorious for doing nothing to promote the sport and don't even try to hide their desire that it simply go away. No track is worse than Chester, whose director of racing Barry Brown will never return a phone call from media members, the majority of whom are simply looking to publicize his racetrack.

Why are they allowed to get away with it? When table games were approved for the Pennsylvania tracks it was written into the legislation that the tracks had to promote live racing. That must have gotten a good chuckle in the boardrooms of places like Harrah's. They pay no attention to the order and no one seems to care. Has anyone complained to Harrah's? To the Pennsylvania Racing Commission? Has anyone attempted the impossible and tried to get Barry Brown on the phone to ask him exactly Harrah's is doing to promote live racing?

It didn't just have to be marketing. The slots window presented the sport with an opportunity to redefine itself, rebuild and rise again.

Why is that you can play a slot machine at a racetrack and the machine returns 92 cents on the dollar but only 80 cents on the dollar is returned at the same place on a bet on a horse? The revenue from wagering is all but meaningless at all slots tracks. So why not cut the takeout to six or seven percent, which might just have revolutionized pari-mutuel wagering and added hundreds of millions to the betting pools. Why should such a big chunk of the slots money go to horsemen and none whatsoever to bettors?

Whether marketing, whether a reduction in takeout, there has to be something, there has to be a plan, a vision. There is none.

Your backs are up against the wall. Two weeks ago it was Pennsylvania. Last week it was Ontario. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has hinted that he, too, might reconsider whether or not racing deserves such largesse. There's always a whiff of peril in Indiana.

Do you want to do something about it or do you want to sit around and idly watch your sport die?



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Elmo Almost Ready To Go

By Lucas Marquardt

At this time last year, **St Elmo Hero** (Western Hero) was taking the harness racing world by storm, compiling a winning streak that would reach 24. Twelve months later, he is getting a dose of R & R, preparing for the 2012 season.

Elmo has not raced since Nov. 12.

"He's doing fine," owner John Barnard said. "We turned him out and started up with again in the middle of January. We're looking to race him early in the spring and will probably start him up in Canada. He's doing well, is acting like a happy horse and we've staked him to a number of big races.

"I claimed the horse in the middle of July, 2010 and,

Nominations close Mar. 1 for the George Morton Levy Memorial Open FFA Pacing Series



\$1,500,000 estimated

NOMINATION FEE \$5,000
(U.S. funds only)

\$50,000 prelims start March 24.
\$200,000A final April 28.

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except for some time he missed with a foot problem. He raced for much more than a year straight. It was time to freshen him up. He deserved it."

Barnard said he would like to win a major race with St Elmo Hero in 2012, but is more interested in simply getting him back to the winner's circle.

"Our goal? It's always the next race," he said. "That hasn't changed. With this horse, we want to win every race we race in."

Fourteen, But Young at Heart

By Lucas Marquardt



Golden oldie, Sir Valahad (Skip Smith photo)

Sir Valahad (Super Bowl) is back in the entries for Monday night at Pompano Park, which means there might be another round of what has been perhaps the strangest claiming war ever.

Sir Valahad has been claimed three times this year as no one seems to care (or notice?) that he is 14 years old. At the end of the year, he will be banned from racing. Each claim has been for \$5,000. He has been claimed away from trainer Mark Major on two occasions, but Major keeps taking him back. He will race Monday in a \$6,000 claimer for Major and owner-driver Joseph Pennacchio. Despite his advanced age, Sir Valahad is 2 for 5 on the year.

Another \$3 Million Night at Meadowlands

The Meadowlands had its biggest betting night of 2012 when the players pushed \$3,144,519 through the windows on the 12-race card. It was the most bet at the track on a single night this year and the second time in 2012 that the Big M had topped the \$3 million mark

On the same night last year the handle was \$2,912,142. Last night's figure represented an 8 percent increase.

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It's the Distance, Stupid

While everyone is mired in the "integrity" issue, finally someone comes out with a really salient point about the major problem of our business. I totally agree with Pete Kleinhans--distance is the problem. Not enough of it. With the focus on speed in the breeding industry and the huge leaps in the development of equipment, from the race bike, right down to the boots and the harnesses that have gone from all heavy leather to lighter synthetics, this sport has morphed the mile distance from a long-distance race for the awkward-looking jughead to a sprint for the now sleeker- looking thoroughbred we see today. Unfortunately, this has been a disaster for the gambling end of the sport. You want to know why speed is holding up even on mile tracks? Same reason speed holds up in the 100 yard dash where the strategy is go to the front and improve your position. Banking the track isn't going to make very much difference, but add an 1/8th or a 1/4 mile, let alone a 1/2 mile, and you'll bring strategy and drama back to the races. Mindless drives on the front end by drivers known to "make speed" will no longer be the call of the day, but clever, well-rated races by drivers with hands as well as craftiness will bring a daily onslaught of longshots and excitement back to our tracks. To really make my point, check out the racing in the fall at the cylindrical track they call Delaware. There's more drama in the race office for the draw then there ever will be race day and everyone knows it. Yonkers? Please...Thank God for slots every day, boys. The mile distance was adopted as a "standard" in our industry so as we could standardize the time it would take a thoroughbred to trot one mile over 150 years ago and define the "standardbred". Meanwhile, since then, the runners have leaped over us and right by in popularity in no small part because they are not attached to one distance or even one type of track. Not unlike the breeders' attachment to afternoon racing in Lexington, which everyone on the backstretch likes for obvious reasons but unfortunately the betting public doesn't, we cling to this pre-conceived notion that it's more important to pacify the horsemen and the breeders than the betting public. And now we are where we are--a sick industry surviving off state welfare and investing in lobbying and lawyers instead of new and innovative ideas and blaming our downfall on "integrity" which is an issue, by the way, that every other major sport has had to deal with, not just ours.

--Gaetan "Gates" Brunet

The Sulky Factor

Peter Kleinhans and I agree that harness racing isn't as exciting as it used to be. This is the underlying problem. The races are too speed favoring. On half-mile and five-eighth tracks, we often see a horse set insanely fast fractions but draw off to win easily while the rest of the horses are never in contention. Peter and I disagree on the reasons for this. We've discussed this before. Peter, and others, believe that the horses are much faster than they used to be. I think that the sulkies are much faster. Perhaps the answer is somewhere in between, but the bottom line is that the product isn't as good as it used to be and the main reason is the speed-favoring nature of the sport. Thoroughbred racing doesn't have this problem because the racing is essentially the same as it always was. That's why the thoroughbred handle hasn't declined as sharply as it has in harness racing.

In terms of the sulky, the conventional wood sulky was the best because it helped create a level playing field. Joe King's "modified" sulky, made of steel, introduced in 1977, had an immediate and negative impact on the sport, producing significantly faster times and more front-running winners. But it wasn't a terrible bike and the sport may have survived with it.

But unfortunately, the industry had no vision or leadership and allowed a constant evolution of steel sulkies in the past 35 years, each faster and more speed-favoring than its predecessor. About nine years ago, Tom Harmer introduced the first off-centered sulky, the Advantedge 6.3, which was over 6 inches off-centered. It was a wide frame bike which became the standard until recently. This particular sulky produced extremely fast times and was very speed-favoring. In my opinion, the Harmer bike has been devastating for the industry and a big reason why the handle has dropped so sharply. In the past two years we've seen more bikes introduced and most drivers have spent over \$6,000 to switch to either the UFO or one of the other sulkies.

So, okay, we've identified a major problem—the races are not as exciting as they used to be because they're too speed-favoring. Peter Kleinhans suggested that we try longer races, such as the mile and a half races that the Meadowlands raced recently. That is something that we can test. But be forewarned that racing \$7,500 claimers a mile and a half was not a good test. Sure, those races were dominated by closers, but I'm not sure that the longer distance would make that much of a difference with higher-quality horses. Also, we have to remember that the Meadowlands is a one-mile track and it doesn't have as severe a problem with the speed bias as most harness tracks. In my opinion, in the next 10 to 20 years, harness racing on half-mile and five-eighth tracks will cease to exist. The only U.S. tracks that currently go over a million in handle on a card are Balmoral and the Meadowlands, and they are both one-mile tracks. People say they still like half-mile track racing, but that isn't reflected in the handle.

But we should also run some test races with the old conventional sulkies. Why not? People have told me, "Well if

we go back to the conventional sulky, everyone would have to buy a new sulky." How can that be a problem when over the past year and a half almost every driver in the sport purchased one of the new, expensive sulkies? Every few years this happens: new bike, everyone buys it, races go faster, the handle goes down.

I don't think you have to reinvent the wheel. I think you have to go back to what worked. The Meadowlands and Balmoral may be able to stay in business, even with the fast bikes. The one-mile layout, particularly during the winter, produces a consistently fair race where closers can win. During the summer, the speed bias is more of a problem. However, even on one mile tracks, the racing would be better with slower bikes, such as the conventional sulky. Again, I have talked to expert handicappers, professional gamblers, who agree with me on this.

But, I can assure you that the half-mile and five-eighth tracks will shut down if they don't do something to make the racing more exciting. As I said in my last letter, you must have a consistent outside flow and horses have to win from off the pace. In other words, the racing has to be more like it was when the sport was popular. Racing longer distances is an interesting idea, and could work. But going back to the conventional wood sulky might solve the problem quickly. Isn't it worth trying? Run a few races in wood bikes, see what happens.

---Bob Pandolfo

Yes, Bettors Matter

I thoroughly enjoyed reading what Bob Marks had to say about the current state of harness racing. His candid remarks highlighted what many bettors have felt for years. I have often been ready to quit the game after losing money on an odds-on favorite when it is painfully obvious that the driver was holding him back. I have given up betting on qualifying heats due to the fact that as Bob suggests, the drivers being content to earn a cheque instead of going all out. The fact that harness racing is hard to handicap by the average bettor, such as myself, could also be due to the fact that we have no insider information, as well as the sport as mentioned in the article, being corrupt. Mr. Marks words, "the needs of those putting on the show, conflict with those needed to finance it", should be written in stone and placed above the doorway of every racing barn and track involved in harness racing! I'm quite sure that everyone involved in the sport of harness racing puts forth a great deal of effort and hard work. Would it not stand to reason then that the same amount of effort be put into cleaning up the game? Remember, horse racing needs bettors, bettors do not need horse racing!

--Greg Turner

Setting the Record Straight

The [February 11 Harness Racing Update](#) carried Dean Towers' Brush and Crush column which touched on the USTA's Strategic Wagering Initiative. There, Mr. Towers endorses a more aggressive approach regarding guaranteed pools going forward. While bigger and more aggres-

sive guaranteed pools may make sense in certain circumstances, his analysis of the revenue being derived from wagering is completely flawed.

In his example, he states that with \$10,000 bet into the pick 4, the track and horsemen make \$2,000 with a 20% takeout. This may have been true in the 1970s and 1980s prior to simulcasting, but in today's horseracing world – where a great majority of handle comes from off-track locations - this conclusion is incorrect. At the Meadowlands for example, only 15% of the handle comes from on-track wagers whereas 85% of the handle comes from off-track locations. And in multi-leg wagers, the percentage of on track handle is even lower.

This past Saturday's Pick 5 pool was \$45,801, but only 7% of that or \$3,242 was wagered on track. So using Mr. Towers's 20% takeout example, while the track and horsemen would retain 20% of \$3,242, the bulk of that \$45,801 was wagered off-track where the track and horsemen get a much smaller share. The traditional simulcast host fee that other locations pay to the host track has been 3%. While there have been increases from that traditional 3% rate over the last decade for some simulcast locations, the fact remains that the amount flowing back to the track and horsemen from every simulcast dollar is significantly less than 20%. After paying purses and other statutory deductions, the amount of revenue the track receives from that \$45,801 is approximately \$1100 – not the \$9160 that his example would lead people to believe.

[I'm also a committee member of the USTA Strategic Wagering Initiative]
–Alex Dadoyan, Director Racing Operations (Meadowlands)

Bettors Should Not Be in the Dark

There are many answers to the question "where have the bettors gone?" I feel Bob Marks's answer was spot on.

My brother recently visited Hong Kong and went to the HKJC's Happy Valley Racecourse. Prior to his visit, we both dove into racing in Hong Kong so he could find out the differences and be somewhat familiar to what he was walking in to. It was amazing to see the amount of information that was available to the betting public. Strict records are kept each day on every horse whether they just jogged around the track, went to the pool for a swim or had a timed workout. Each horse that works must have a sensor put in their saddle (Trakus?) so the work could be properly timed.

Here in the USA we have horses working out in the cover of darkness to hide who they are and how fast they went. To Bob Marks's point, if a horse shows up in the entry box a month after his previous race with no published works, the bettor has no idea what that horse has done since his last race.

Thoroughbred racing often talks about the problem of having its stars retire after their 3yo campaign which makes it hard for the fans to really follow the sport (not to mention Thoroughbreds average 8.5 races per year...they talk about racing more than they race!). Harness racing doesn't have that problem. Each week, like clockwork, any horse I want to follow is right back in the entry box. Even the stars of the

sport never miss a week. I've recently looked forward to watching Special T Rocks, Ginger and Fred, Higher and Higher, etc...and each week they are right back at it. We have that built-in factor that we should capitalize on.

Thanks,
Vito Casucci, Las Vegas

The Worm Has Turned

Dear Sirs,

I like to make comments on your recent HRU discussions.

1) Pennsylvania situation

For a long time now (since they got slots) the owners, trainers & drivers have been having a financial party moving from track to track and racing for slot-infused money. But they (or most of them) are all greedy. When it comes time to allocate some of that money for drug testing or promoting the sport, they do not want to give anything. Now, the worm has turned. They should have looked ahead to see that racing was to dependent on slots. I, for one, hope that Pennsylvania & NY will cut subsidies because that can only improve racing at the only legitimate track (the Meadowlands). HRU should contact D. Gwiner at DRF and see if he can supply you with a two-page discussion they had with Tim Tetrick a few years ago that was printed in the Harness Eye. Basically, he echoes his reservations about the sustainability of these racino-type tracks when the parent company is doing badly or the state gets involved to take back some money because racing is a loss for these places and only is done because the law requires it.

Laws can be changed.

2) Distance races

I can tell you (as a serious bettor) I do not want any part of distance races. They may be great from a purist angle but serious bettors are not going to go for it. Those 1 ½ mile races, I did not even look at them.

3) Hollywood Heyden

Since Jeff Gural now is the boss, he can do what he wants. But realistically you have to think when you bring some of these Tioga/Vermon people to the "big time," do they really fit ?

Best Regards,
John Christiansen

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Meadowlands Report

Saturday's Results:

5, M, \$57,600, Pace, AQUARIUS - FINAL 4 Year Old Open, 27.2, 54.2, 1:21.4, 1:50.0, GD

1-Rock'em (g, 4, Rockroll Hanover--Don't Toy With Me, by Call For Rain), \$65,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-Jeffrey P Bamond. B-Oldfield Farm Inc. T-Pj Fraley. D-Tim Tetrick, \$28,800, Lifetime Record: 26-10-5-3, \$240,570

2-Great Vintage (h, 4, American Ideal--Art's Vintage, by Artsplace), \$65,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-Christina Takter & John D Fielding, CA & Goran N Anderberg, SD & Falkbolagen Ab. B-Brittany Farms & Brian P Monieson Revtrust. T-Jimmy Takter. D-David Miller, \$14,400

3-Camaes Fellow (g, 4, Mach Three--Camae, by Camluck) O-Frank J Bellino. B-Larry John Murrell, CA & McMaster Stables Inc, CA & Luc R Ouellette, CA. T-Bruce Saunders. D-Brian Sears, \$6,912

Calls: 9, 7, 3, 1, 1H

Finish Order: Westwardho Hanover, I'm Feelin Good, Sir Ziggy's Z Tam, Townsight Hanover, Flipper J, Reckless Ric
To view replay click [here](#)

Rock'em (\$11.80) with Tim Tetrick calling the shots picked up the pieces after saving ground the whole way and scored a lifetime mark of 1:50 in the Aquarius final for 4 year olds.

Odds on favorite Westwardho Hanover (Yannick Gingras) threw in some steps early after tucking third around turn one. Once settled Gingras pulled out and attacked first over to challenge pacesetter Camaes Fellow (Brian Sears). After dueling with that one to three quarters Westwardho Hanover packed it in while Camaes Fellow tired to third. Rock'em who was reserved in fifth off that duel pulled out third over behind Great Vintage (Dave Miller) around the far turn and rallied past that one to score the 1 ½ length victory.

Rock'em notched his first win in three starts this year for trainer P.J. Fraley and owner Jeff Bamond. They paid \$100,000 for the gelded son of Rockroll Hanover at Preferred Equine's Harrisburg Mixed Sale last November. Rock'em has now hit the board in 18 of 26 career starts with earnings of \$240,570.

6, M, \$58,500, Pace, JUNIOR TRENDSETTER - FINAL 3 Year Old Colts & Geldings N/W 2 Extended PM Races or \$25,000 Lifetime Up to & Including 12/10/2011, 27.3, 54.2, 1:22.4, 1:52.1, GD

1-Eastwood Blue Chip (g, 3, Dragon Again--Shes Smashing, by Jate Lobell), \$10,000 2010 MORRIS O-Eric Ell & John M Emmons. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Eric Ell. D-Daniel Dube, \$29,250, Lifetime Record: 16-4-3-1, \$64,356

2-Llc Delight (g, 3, Bettor's Delight--Jett Away, by Dream Away) O-Johnny & Kimberley I Waite. B-Rodney Mitchell

Inc. T-Johnny Waite. D-Yannick Gingras, \$14,625

3-Take A Walk (c, 3, I Am A Fool--Walk Of Shame, by Western Hanover) O-The Wiz Kids Stable LLC.

B-Bulletproof Enterprises. T-Tony Dinges. D-Ron Pierce, \$7,020

Calls: 3T, 6, 3H, HD, 1H

Finish Order: Rock Three Times, Mr Govianni Fra, Big League, Upfront Countryboy, I'm The Pied Piper, Bigtime Rush, Social Network

To view replay click [here](#)

Eastwood Blue Chip (\$17) and driver Dan Dube worked out a perfect second over trip and rolled past to complete the Junior Trendsetter final series sweep for 3 year olds in 1:52.1. It was his third straight win. Llc Delight (Yannick Gingras) battled it out first over with even money favorite Take A Walk (Ron Pierce) and rallied past that one to finish second after that rival got rough-gaited down the stretch.

Eastwood Blue Chip now has four wins in 16 career starts with earnings over \$64,000. The Dragon Again gelding was a \$17,000 purchase at the Harrisburg Sale by trainer Eric Ell and co-owner John Emmons.

10, M, \$74,600, Pace, EXIT 16W - FINAL 4 Year Old Stallions & Geldings N/W 3 Extended PM Races or \$100,000 Lifetime Up to & Including 12/10/2011, 27.1, 54.2, 1:23.2, 1:50.2, FT

1-Itrustyou (g, 4, Third Straight--Dynamic Lady, by Abercrombie) O-Burke Racing Stable LLC. B-Dean T Collins. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$37,300, Lifetime Record: 35-16-1-5, \$251,075

2-Special T Rocks (g, 4, Rockroll Hanover--Ladys Special Girl, by Artiscap) O-Daryl Scott Bier & Forrest L Bartlett & Joann Dombeck. B-4 For 3 Stable. T-Daryl Bier. D-Daryl Bier, \$18,650

3-Mickey Hanover (h, 4, The Panderosa--Michelle's Luck, by Cam's Card Shark), \$15,000 2009 SHS-HBG O-Gestion Mario Audet Inc, CA & Rene M Allard, CA & Daniel Dube. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Rene Allard. D-Daniel Dube, \$8,952

Calls: 1H, 1Q, 1, 2Q, HD

Finish Order: Bettor's Reward, Whogoesfirst, Cam B Zipper, Risk Management, Real Flight, Fearless Diablo, Sonic Dancer

To view replay click [here](#)

Itrustyou (\$3.60) and Yannick Gingras kept the streak alive by notching his 13th win in a row and capturing the Exit 16W final. Itrustyou a 4-year-old gelded son of Third Straight began his skein on Oct. 30, 2011, at Colonial Downs.

Itrustyou was used early by Gingras to clear the lead from Special T Rocks (Daryl Bier) past the quarter. After fending off first over pressure Itrustyou opened up a couple lengths turning for home when asked and had enough late to hold off a desperate last effort from Special T Rocks by a head in 1:50.2. Mickey Hanover (Daniel

Dube) who was poised for the drive off a live second over trip from Fearless Diablo (Matt Kakaley) rallied up for third under urging.

Trustyou now has 16 wins in 35 career starts with earnings over \$251,000 for trainer Ron Burke and Burke Racing Stable LLC of Fredericktown, Pa.

Woodbine Report

Saturday's Results:

1, Wdb, PACE, \$27,000. NW \$25,000 LAST 5 STARTS.

26.2, 54.2, 1:22.4, 1:51.4, FT

Lennon Blue Chip (b,g,7 - No Pan Intended-Dark Fiber-Artsplace) O-Keith G Cassell B-Blue Chip Bloodstock

Inc,NY T-Richard Moreau D-Sylvain Fillion

Lifetime Record: 121-25-23-15, \$793,771

To view replay click [here](#)

6, Wdb, PACE, \$50,000. HORSEPLAYER INTERACTIVE -

FINAL - 4 YEAR OLD & OLDER MARES NW \$50,000 (3 YEAR OLDS \$75,000) IN 2011. (MINIMUM 10 STARTS)

27, 56.1, 1:23.3, 1:52.3, FT

1-Bay Girl (b,m,5 - Royal Mattjesty-Whitley Bay-Tylers

Mark) O-Michael J Sergi B-Winbak Farm,MD T-Corey

Johnson D-Paul MacDonell

Lifetime Record: 54-12-10-7, \$520,381

2-D Gs Tinkerbelle (br,m,4 - Cambest-Bolero Ultima-Jate

Lobell) O-Daniel Surprenant,Guylaine Fortin B-Denim

Stable,NY T-Richard Moreau D-Luc Ouellette

3-Synergy Seelster (b,m,4 - Mach Three-Silver

Seven-Albert Albert) O-Lindsey & Connie L Rankin B-

2086729 Ontario IncSeelster F T-R Gregg Mcnair D-Doug Mcnair

Winning Margin: T

To view replay click [here](#)

Bay Girl (\$7.20) and driver Paul MacDonell scored a 1:52.2 victory and surpassed \$500,000 career earnings in the HorsePlayer Interactive Series Final.

After wiring the field in her division last week, MacDonell used similar tactics as he cleared to the lead past the opening quarter which was set by D Gs Tinkerbelle (Luc Ouellette). MacDonell would then tap on the brakes heading towards the half. They were still in command past three quarters but the field started to take closer order.

In deep stretch MacDonell asked the daughter of Royal Mattjesty for more and he got it as she responded by scoring a three-quarter length victory. D Gs Tinkerbelle held gamely for second with Synergy Seelster (Doug Mcnair) third.

It was the 12th victory in 54 lifetime starts for Bay Girl who is trained by trainer Corey Johnson for owner Michael Sergi. Bay Girl was bred by Winbak Farms, MD.

8, Wdb, PACE, \$50,000. WEGZ - FINAL - 4 YEAR OLDS & OLDER. NW \$50,000 (3 YEAR OLDS \$75,000) IN 2011. (MINIMUM 10 STARTS) 26, 54.1, 1:22.1, 1:50.3, FT



Bay Of Sharks (New Image Media photo)

1-Bay Of Sharks

(b,h,6 - Cams Card Shark-Whitley

Bay-Tylers Mark) O-

Michael J Sergi B-

Winbak Farm,MD T-

Corey Johnson D-

Jody Jamieson

Lifetime Record: 70-

16-8-8, \$391,007

2-Anderlecht (b,h,7 - Cams Card

Shark-Princess Chablis-Artsplace) O-Black Road

Stable,Point Zero Seven Racing B-White Birch Farm,NJ T-

Igor Vrablic D-Randall Waples

3-Topcornerterror (b,g,6 - Western Terror-Almahurst

Dandy-Cambest) O-Edward T Hayman B-John A

Lockie,Zephyr,ON T-Des Tackoor D-Michael Saftic

Winning Margin: 4H

To view replay click [here](#)

Trainer Corey Johnson and owner Michael Sergi racked up big time as Bay Of Sharks who's half-sister (Bay Girl) won earlier on the card took the WEGZ Series Final and completed the series sweep.

Bay Of Sharks (\$2.90) and driver Jody Jamieson were sent off at 2-5 but made a lot of people sweat after failing to see the pylons while parked every step of the way. Yet, they still powered past 4 ½ lengths to victory in 1:50.3.

The early pace was quick as Anderlecht (Randy Waples) reached the opening quarter on top. Anderlecht led his rivals past the half with Bay Of Sharks left to grind it out first over. As Anderlecht passed three quarters, Bay Of Sharks was looming on the outside after marching gradually. Entering the stretch, Jamieson gave Bay Of Sharks his cue and he did not disappoint finding another gear and motoring past impressively. Anderlecht held on for second with Topcornerterror (Mike Saftic) rallying up for third.

The victory gave Bay Of Sharks his 5th win in 6 starts this year and also his 16th in 70 lifetime starts with earnings over \$391,000.

10, Wdb, PACE, \$27,000. NW 4 RACES OR \$127,000 LIFETIME. AE: 4 YEAR OLDS, CLAIMING \$75,000. AE: 4 YEAR OLDS, NW OF A RACE LAST 6 STARTS. 26.4,

56.3, 1:23.4, 1:52.1, FT

Audreys Dream (br,g,4 - Rocknroll

Hanover-Belovedangel-Artsplace) O-Bradley J Grant B-

Susan E Grange,Lothlorien Eque T-Benjamin Wallace

D-Scott Zeron

Lifetime Record: 30-9-4-5, \$138,594

To view replay click [here](#)

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11, Wdb, PACE, \$50,000. OPEN. 27.1, 56.1, 1:24.3, 1:52, FT

1-Mystician (b,h,4 - Camluck-Mystic Mistress-Dexter Nukes) O-Jeffrey R Gillis, Ken A Henwood, Mac T Nichol, Gerald T Stay B-Warrawee Farm, ON Edward J Howa T-Jeffrey Gillis D-Jody Jamieson

Lifetime Record: 37-11-14-4, \$1,604,942

2-Brave Alex Semalu (b,g,5 - Yankee Cam-Signature Semalu-Beach Towel) O-Theresa G Silva, Martin Scharf, Bramdeo Singh, John C Polvinale B-Semalu Inc, Laval, QC T-Ryan Maxwell D-Randall Waples

3-Upfront Hoosierboy (b,g,6 - Western Hanover-Artaffection-Artsplace) O-Richard Berthiaume B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc, PA T-Benoit Baillargeon D-Mario Baillargeon

To view replay click [here](#)

7, YR, \$20,000, Pace, NON-WINNERS OF \$18,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.2, 56.4, 1:25.1, 1:54.1, FT

Major Belle (g, 4, Art Major--Meghan's Belle, by No Nukes), \$20,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Joseph Di Scala Jr & Cynthia Lynn Massari. B-Dr Scott H Leaf. T-Ron Burke. D-Jason Bartlett, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 37-8-4-6, \$129,224

To view replay click [here](#)

8, YR, \$27,000, Pace, WINNERS OVER \$25,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.3, 57.0, 1:25.3, 1:53.3, FT

Code Word (h, 5, Western Terror--Numberone Treasure, by Northern Luck), \$110,000 2008 FOREST O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Frank D Baldachino & Weaver Brusceci LLC & Lawrence R Karr. B-Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par. T-Ron Burke. D-Jason Bartlett, \$13,500, Lifetime Record: 66-13-13-11, \$486,266

To view replay click [here](#)

9, YR, \$20,000, Pace, NON-WINNERS OF \$18,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.3, 57.1, 1:25.3, 1:54.2, FT

Shortstacked (g, 6, Astreos--Lornakin, by Cam Fella) O-Shaun F Vallee. B-Omer J Miller & Ervin Miller Stable Inc. T-Anita Vallee. D-Shaun Vallee, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 115-24-17-11, \$361,131

To view replay click [here](#)

10, YR, \$20,000, Pace, CLAIMING ALLOWANCE \$50,000 WINNERS OVER \$65,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS NOT ELIGIBLE. 3 YO 50%, 4 YO 25%, F&M 20%, 28.1, 57.2, 1:26.1, 1:55.0, FT

Report For Duty N (g, 10, Washington Vc--Aerospace, by Sokys Atom) O-Gilberto Garcia-Herrera & Michi Yvette Abday & Barbara D & Donald G Arnstine. B-B D West, NZ. T-Gilbert Garcia-Herrera. D-Brent Holland, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 103-29-8-15, \$547,452

To view replay click [here](#)

11, YR, \$23,000, Pace, NON-WINNERS OF \$25,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.3, 57.2, 1:25.3, 1:54.2, FT

Bj's Bequia (h, 5, Rocknroll Hanover--Plant A Kiss, by Blissfull Hall), \$32,000 2008 SHS-HBG O-James F Snyder. B-Perretti Farms. T-Mark Ford. D-Jason Bartlett, \$11,500, Lifetime Record: 75-16-13-9, \$295,170

To view replay click [here](#)

12, YR, \$23,000, Pace, NON-WINNERS OF \$25,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.3, 57.4, 1:26.1, 1:54.2, FT

Spy N (g, 8, Falcon Seelster--Urgent Need, by Nihilator) O-R.B.H. Ventures Inc & Shari Watchman. B-Christopher H & Mrs T J Barlow, NZ. T-Ross Croghan. D-Eric Goodell, \$11,500, Lifetime Record: 85-18-16-12, \$246,193

To view replay click [here](#)

Yonkers Report

Saturday's Results:

5, YR, \$20,000, Pace, NON-WINNERS OF \$18,000 IN LAST 6 STARTS, 27.3, 56.1, 1:24.1, 1:54.0, FT

Lolas Cruiser (g, 6, Yankee Cruiser--Lola Jean, by Good To See You) O-Joann & Edward A Fucci. B-Alfred J Melega & Martin D Yoder & Thomas M Sullivan. T-Scott Di Domenico. D-Jordan Stratton, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 107-21-16-12, \$236,573

To view replay click [here](#)



Summer Camp (Lizzi photo)

6, YR, \$33,000, Pace, OPEN HANDICAP POST POSITIONS 1-3 ASSIGNED POST POSITIONS 4-7 DRAWN POST POSITION 8 ASSIGNED, 27.4, 56.4, 1:24.3, 1:53.4, FT

1-Summer Camp (g, 5, Rocknroll

Hanover--Roman Art, by Artsplace), \$28,000 2008 SHS-HBG O-Baron Racing Stable & Vip Internet Stable LLC. B-Perretti Farms. T-Josh Green. D-Jason Bartlett, \$16,500, Lifetime Record: 56-20-10-3, \$325,210

2-Rock To Glory (g, 4, Rocknroll Hanover--Faded Glory, by Laag), \$25,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-Mac T Nichol, CA. B-Emerald Highlands Farm & W James Sprow III. T-Casie Coleman. D-Eric Goodell, \$8,250

3-Here We Go Again (g, 5, Dragon Again--Odds On Jenna, by Jenna's Beach Boy), \$30,000 2008 LEX-SEL O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brusceci LLC. B-Odds On Nourrir. T-Ron Burke. D-Jordan Stratton, \$3,960

Calls: 1, 1, NS, 1H, H

Finish Order: P H Jackpot, Sea Venture, Corky Baran, Gallant Yankee, Tobago Cays To view replay click [here](#)