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**Friday, June 10, 2016**

# Tara Hills buys into Control The Moment

*The Ontario breeding farm put together a group to buy a 13 per cent share in a colt many people pegged as the pre-season favorite to win the Pepsi North America Cup.*

by Dave Briggs



New Image Media

**Thirteen per cent of pre-season Pepsi North America Cup favorite Control The Moment (Randy Waples) has been sold to Tara Hills Stud of Port Perry, ON**

Tara Hills Stud in Port Perry, ON has brokered a deal to purchase 13 per cent of Pepsi North America Cup hopeful Control The Moment on behalf of some 10 partners. Price was not disclosed, but the deal does not include breeding rights.

"I don't have a deal in place for him to stand stud, but, obviously, (Tara Hills gets) first dibs," said Control The Moment's part-owner Howard Taylor of Philadelphia. "But there's been no commitment whatsoever that we stand the horse at Tara Hills."

Control The Moment, a son of Well Said out of the Life Sign mare Life'sliltreasure, was purchased for \$47,000 at the 2014 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale by Taylor, Ed Gold of Phoenixville, PA, Ben Mudry of Boca Raton, FL and the colt's trainer, Brad Maxwell, of Guelph, ON. Control The Moment

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Dave Landry

**David Heffering of Tara Hills Stud said he's excited to buy into Control The Moment. "He is a gorgeous horse," Heffering said.**

won eight of nine starts and \$347,757 in 2015 and was named Canada's two-year-old pacing colt of the year.

Tara Hills' owner David Heffering said he thought Control The Moment might have been out of his price range, but he called some colleagues who were interested in the horse and the deal was finalized this week.

"Everybody took a pragmatic view of this. First off, we're buying into a racehorse and let's hope that things go along well for him. After that, you look at a stud career. Anything can happen," Heffering said. "The horse has a value already. He was two-year-old pacing horse of the year last year (in Canada). His record speaks for himself as a two-year-old. He's got a value there to be a stallion. When I went down and looked at him, you couldn't help but fall in love. First of all, his pedigree is good enough to be a stallion and then when you looked at the individual himself, he's a great-looking horse. He has all the pieces to be a great racehorse and deserves to go on to be a stallion."

Taylor and Heffering declined to disclose the purchase price, but Taylor said, "it was a lot of money. It was top dollar. They weren't getting in cheap."

The deal, which transfers ownership of the horse to the Control The Moment Stable, came at the same time a potential deal fell through that would have given a New Zealand farm 25 per cent ownership and Control The Moment's southern hemisphere breeding rights.

"Lawyers screw everything up. You've got to know that. I hate lawyers," Taylor quipped. "We've been talking to some people in New Zealand since November, December. They proposed a price. We had thought about it and they were supposed to get something together. In the meantime, I guess the horse came through the winter well and his price went up as he was training down and as we were incurring tremendous costs in staking and training and insurance. We took all the risks, so the price went up. Long story short, we had back and forth, back and forth and we had the framework of a deal in place... In the middle of the whole thing, they got a lawyer to address the contract, which ended up being a 12-page contract on a stud deal.

"In the end, there was so terms and so many things that we had to go back and forth on. The proposition always was, 'Once he qualified all deals are off, because if he qualifies poorly, you're not going to want to go through with the deal and if he qualifies great, we're not going to want to stand by the deal.' At the 11th hour, they were inserting terms. I'm a lawyer and I pride myself on being as good at reading a contract as anybody and finding any loopholes and all that. They sent me a contract that I didn't even understand... One of the partners just lost it and said, 'To hell with these people. I don't know them. I don't necessarily trust them. We're too late in the ballgame.' The horse had qualified, but had not raced. He said, 'I think the horse qualified fantastic, so I don't really want to sell at that price.' Without him selling, there wasn't enough to sell to get the 25 per cent. I said, 'Listen, I feel bad for you guys, but you brought it on yourself. You had six months to work this thing out and you didn't start until three weeks before. There's no deal.'"

Control The Moment will start from post three Saturday at Mohawk, in race five, the first of two \$50,000 (Cdn) Pepsi North America Cup eliminations. Heffering said his group is excited. "Hopefully, everybody that's in the group will get down to watch the races and hopefully will get a chance to get in the winner's circle. You never know. It's not easy. There are a lot of good horses out there."

Last Saturday (June 4), Control The Moment made his 2016

pari-mutuel debut and was a strong second in his \$57,750 Somebeachsomewhere division at Mohawk.

"He came out of (the Somebeachsomewhere) good. Actually, (Maxwell) said he came out of the race great," Taylor said. "He had him scoped and everything was perfect. He's gone over him with a fine-toothed comb and the horse is really full of himself. So, we're looking forward to having some fun."

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## They Said It...

with Randy Waples

Asked if he was excited to drive Control The Moment this year, Waples said, "The idea of sitting behind him gives me a hard on."

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# Celebrating the glory of Ohio Fair Racing

*No state is home to more fair racing than Ohio, which kicks off its 2016 season at the 156th Paulding County Fair this week, the first of 63 meetings in 88 counties.*

**by Bob Roberts**

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Jay Wolf

**The Darke County Fair in Greenville, OH, features some of the best fair racing in the state.**

The historic grandstand, made of some kind of wonder lumber, is 144 years old. Its foundation has recently being reinforced and is ready for the railbirds. And, oh yeah, grab a sausage sandwich before you scale the bleachers and sit down to handicap, because Dave Phillips, the speed committee's director and superintendent, is touting them as the best you'll ever taste.

Welcome to the 156th Paulding County Fair, home to three evenings of harness racing from June 13 through June 15.

It's not like Presidents Bush or Obama or William Howard Taft (he was the very first) throwing out major league baseball's opening day pitch in Washington D.C., but when the field assembles behind the mobile starting gate around dinner time this Monday in Paulding, one of the smallest counties in Ohio will once again kick off the largest and longest parade of county fair harness racing dates in North America.

Ohio more than doubles its closest rival. The Buckeye State will play host trot and pace meetings in 63 of its 88 counties, with two independent fairs thrown in for good measure. What starts in Paulding on Ohio's northwest border with Indiana, won't end until Oct. 14 when the final racing card at

the Fairfield County Fair in Lancaster wraps up.

According to the United States Trotting Association's annual Trot and Pace Guide, the state with the next most fair race meetings is Illinois with 32. Iowa has 26, New York 24, and Indiana 23.

"We like being first," said Phillips of the Paulding's presentation, part of the 22-fair Ohio Fair Racing Conference. "We go three programs due to the number of eligible horses. It seems that every horseman wants to bring their horses out to race. Of course, it's tough betting on two-year-olds this early because they're not proven, but we have a great fair."

Phillips is most proud of what he says separates Paulding from every other fair in the state.

"Our fair is the only free fair in Ohio," he said. "There is no admission charge to the fairgrounds. The corporations of Paulding County, through sponsorship, support us."

Some counties work extra hard at gathering dollars from eager sponsors, none more creative than the Wyandot County Fair in Upper Sandusky. Among its programmed races are the Double K Sanitation Pace and the Stombaugh Batton Funeral Homes Pace.



Jay Wolf

**The Darke County Fair has five racing cards just like at the Delaware County Fairgrounds, home of the Little Brown Jug.**

If the Daily Racing Form is the bible of thoroughbred horseplayers, the Huff's Fair Guide spreads the gospel for Ohio horsemen. The 100-page booklet offers condition sheets, post times, stall information and most importantly, the phone numbers of key personnel for each and every county fair.

The guide costs \$9 and quickly sells out at tack shops on the backside of the four commercial Ohio harness tracks. This year's cover proudly proclaims "110th annual edition" and adds that "Fair Time is Fun Time."

Perhaps nobody agrees with the Huff's leisure time motto more than Kenny Carrossellia. He lives in suburban Cleveland, is a regular at Northfield Park, but annually attends 20 to 25 fairs.

"It's racing getting back to the basics," said Carrossellia. "As a bettor, I feel I have an advantage over the farmers and fairgoers. The pools aren't big, so the objective is to grind it out. If I'm having a good day, I can make \$200 to \$300."

Carrossellia says he's probably been to more than 35 different Ohio fairs and says his favorite is the Knox County Fair in Mt. Vernon.

"I love the place. The fair sits atop a hill and the track is down in like a valley. And I love fair food, especially the lemonade."

What makes the Ohio fair network so unique is how the different counties promote their racing and the pride they take in the presentation of the sport.

It will be hard for any fair in the state or in the country, for that matter, to say they have a better race than Auglaize County. On Aug. 3, for the 12th time, it will present the \$2,000 (guaranteed) Moon Walk Pace.

The race is named for Neil Armstrong, who in 1969 became the first man to walk on the moon. Armstrong, who died in 2012, is a native of Wapakoneta, host city for the Auglaize races.

"Yes, Neil did attend the races here and saw the race that

was named in his honor," said Wayne Lybarger, the superintendent of the speed committee for Wapakoneta races. "But he was a low key person. He didn't want to present the trophy, didn't want anybody to fuss about him being there. So that's how we handled it."

Putnam County (Ottawa) celebrates the Kentucky Derby when it races June 21-22 with decorated hat contests for both men and women. Ottawa County (Oak Harbor) tantalizes by saying "Enjoy racing on the picturesque shores of the Portage River."

Fayette County (Washington Court House) offers a race for fillies and mares called the "Classic." It's for freshman filly and colt pacers sired by stallions standing in Fayette County in 2013. If you have one, consider yourself lucky. The only foals eligible have to be by Art Official, Big Bad John or Feelin Friskie.

Break a track record at Knox County (Mt. Vernon) and get a brand new stop watch. Muskingum County (Zanesville) believes in cash. Break the track record there and the owner gets \$500. The Huff's page calls the prize money a "bounty."

Most fairs warn of stall shortages. Clinton (Wilmington) and Columbiana (Lisbon) Counties go the extra step. Their page in the Huff's guide read, "Be prepared to race out of trailer."

There may be plenty of space at Jackson County (Wellston) but it may not be the biggest fan of communicating other than face to face. It warns, "Telephone entries are made at the caller's risk."

Officials of the Richland County Fair (Mansfield) may suffer from "Home Alone" syndrome. It's Huff's page cautions, "No horses left overnight."

The largest and smallest counties with fairs with racing are Cuyahoga (Berea) with a population of 1.2 million and Monroe (Woodsfield) in southeast part of the state with a population of 14,589.

The most well-known county fair meeting in Ohio is Delaware County, home to five days of racing, including the Little Brown Jug, a jewel in the Triple Crown of pacing.

But the proudest of all the Ohio fairs is Darke County (Greensville), which like Delaware has five racing cards. A few years back, when asked why many people consider Darke the best, a woman there told a reporter, "Honey, compared to our fair, the rest of those fairs are just carnivals."

See you in Paulding. At the races... and at the sausage sandwich stand.

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## Lessons in Customer Service

*Tracks could learn a lot from tiny Grand River Raceway in Elora, ON which has the spirit of a wacky minor league baseball club and a prime directive to listen to its customers and provide them with a positive experience.*

What do harness racing customers want, besides lower takeout?

It's one of the great customer service quandaries in a sport with more than its share of challenges.

But it's not a mystery at Grand River Raceway (GRR) in Elora, ON.

"They want a good time," said Kelly Spencer, the track's unconventional manager of marketing and communications.

How does she know? This may surprise you, but Grand River asked them.

At Grand River, extensive customer research is not only the norm, it's seen as critical to their continued existence.

"For the last couple of years we've invested a lot of effort and, I think, a significant budget into developing a guest care program and training for our staff," Spencer said.

Other tracks could learn a lot from Grand River, a small, modern (est. 2004) half-mile track located in a picturesque artisan community north of the twin cities of Kitchener-Waterloo (pop. 205,000) and the city of Guelph (pop. 115,000). Grand River excels so much in the area of customer experience that this year it won a major Business Excellence Award in Hospitality and Tourism from the greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce.

How many tracks can say that?

"It is a really big deal," Spencer said proudly of the award. "It was a huge business gala. There were 900 people there. It was really an incredible achievement for us. We attribute that to the insight that we gained from our best customers through the research – and thanks to them. They were able to tell us what they like about Grand River Raceway so we can continue to improve and help our employees on the front lines deliver the experience.



Iron Horse Photo

**Grand River Raceway mascot Grandy with longtime guest Ray Rowarth and Greeter Tom Williams. For the past decade, Tom has greeted guests at the front door every race night.**



Iron Horse Photo

**Showtime Staff Training is part of the Guest Care Training program for new employees. With the Hands On Horses Program, new employees learn the basics of harness racing and jog a racehorse alongside industry experts, such as Ron Waples.**

“To chalk it up into a few words, they want a clean, safe environment and by safe I don’t just mean safe at face value, as in a place where they feel safe. I mean a place they feel safe bringing their friends and family, knowing that there’s little danger of them disappointing their friends and family when they bring them here for the first time. They want warmth and connection and they want the opportunity to really be engaged in the atmosphere.”

Employee training has been a key focus in recent years at GRR, which opened its 2016, 48-date live racing season on June 1 and races Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through Sept. 28.

“One of the challenges for a smaller racetrack, obviously, is that it’s a seasonal operation. In terms of your human resources you’re always bringing people in and releasing them once the season’s finished and then trying to bring them back.

“We learned quite a few years ago that it’s our responsibility to ensure our staff is engaged in what they’re selling and what they’re selling is an experience. It’s up to us to give them the training to deliver the experience that people want when they come to a racetrack. We’ve been fortunate that we’ve always had great staff who are really tuned into racing and tuned into guest service. But we wanted to make sure that we kept the momentum running. So we really began focusing heavily on the guest care aspect of our business.”

Grand River’s customer service initiative is similar to what one might find at Walt Disney World. All employees are trained to be friendly and helpful to guests. Since the day Grand River opened they have had a greeter welcome customers and shake their hands as they enter the building.

“The (survey) respondents name our employees by first name,” Spencer said, referring to work done by market research company 365° Integrated. “They know the names of

all the employees. They really talk about those little moments that they had that really engage them. We think of ourselves as a customer service organization first and then a racing and entertainment destination second. We’re really here to provide an experience.”

That experience has rubbed off on the participants who frequently name Grand River as a favorite place to race.

“There are a lot of comments about when a driver stops to talk to somebody along the fence when they’re walking back from the winner’s circle, or ‘so-and-so driver is always smiling in the bike when he comes out in the post parade.’ Things that you wouldn’t necessarily assume would resonate with people really impacts their experience here,” Spencer said, adding kudos to the horsepeople for their cooperation.

“I can’t think of any time I’ve ever had any issue with any horseperson when I’ve asked them to do different publicity and marketing – and I’ve asked them to do a lot of crazy stuff over the years. I’ve never met any resistance whatsoever. I’ve always found them to be very accommodating. I think on the whole today horsepeople are super aware of the importance of that. They wave in the winner’s circle, impromptu. They’re often coming out smiling when they know they’re on camera.”

Grand River is a little like a minor league baseball team where wacky ideas abound and fun is a prime directive. The track does a nightly Tarmac Show of promotions and really ramps up the silliness on Fridays – for what it calls Fun and Frivolity – and especially for its annual big stakes card called Industry Day.

Last year, the track played host to a wiener dog race for the first time. The event was so successful it rivaled the attendance for Industry Day and allowed Grand River to secure a sponsor for this year’s event.

“No one was more shocked than me,” Spencer said with her trademark infectious laugh, referring to the parking lot being jammed with cars to watch wiener dogs sprint down part of the stretch. “It just goes to show that people really do come to a racetrack to play, to lose themselves for a couple of hours.”

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# Antonacci equine education Down Under

*Philip Antonacci on his once-in-a-lifetime experience working for top thoroughbred trainer Gai Waterhouse.*

by Philip Antonacci

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Gai Waterhouse

**Top Australian thoroughbred trainer Gai Waterhouse with Philip Antonacci.**

*Editor's note: This story originally appeared in the June 7 edition of [Thoroughbred Daily News](#) as part of the regular column by leading thoroughbred trainer Gai Waterhouse of Tulloch Lodge. Antonacci is part of harness racing's famed Antonacci family of Lindy Farms in Connecticut and is the younger brother of standardbred trainer Frank M. Antonacci.*

After meeting Gai in Saratoga last summer through our mutual friend and my personal mentor, Wesley Ward, I was immediately drawn to Gai as both a person and trainer. The aura around her was something that I had never experienced before, as she seemed to brighten the room with an abundance of energy and excitement. In terms of her draw as a trainer, her record speaks for itself: 134 Group 1 wins highlighted by six Golden Slippers and a Melbourne Cup. After speaking with Gai for some time, she invited me Down Under to work at the fabled Tulloch Lodge.

Naturally, acceptance was the only option for such a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so I decided to dedicate my summer before senior year at the University of Pennsylvania to learning as much as possible from one of the world's premier trainers. It has been over a week since I have arrived in Sydney and despite the short time being here, I have noticed several differences in Australian racing and training, yet more importantly several attributes of Gai and her training methods that have led to such an unprecedented

rate of success.

Differences are many, from the obvious like clockwise racing, to subtler things like the difference in the American horse to the Australian horse. A quick look at a top American thoroughbred, you see that power and elegance are seamlessly engaged in the creation of a magnificent animal, yet the power is matched with a degree of slighthness as many have a tendency to be light boned. On contrast, the Australian thoroughbred seems to be equipped with the same degree of power — a large shoulder with great depth, but matched with significant bone and substantial hindquarters.

Another difference that has been of great contention back in the States is the use of race day medications like Lasix. A quick glance in the "form" on a race day afternoon in the United States, you'll be pressed to find a horse not racing on Lasix. While Lasix may help a horse with significant bleeding problems, it undeniably dehydrates the horse. This often is not a problem in the United States as horses are given several weeks after a race prior to reentry. Australia, which does not allow Lasix, races horses at a much quicker rate often re-entering in a week. These quick turnarounds are remarkable and are a true testament to the durability of the Australian horse.

Perhaps the most foreign concept in Australian racing is the "trials". There is absolutely nothing in American thoroughbred racing that is comparable to this. Essentially, trials are non-wagering and no purse races run prior to entry in a purse event. In the United States, the betting public is informed of the horse's form through official timed works that are published under the horse's lines in the form. Australia does not have official time works, so trials are used to show the horse's form and ensure that the betting public is protected. While the concept does not exist in thoroughbred racing, nearly the same thing is practiced in harness racing, which refers to the practice as "qualifying", which too serves the purpose of ensuring that the horse would be competitive in an official race.

While general differences between America and Australia are interesting and worth mentioning, the true astonishment from my time at Gai's comes from her unique twists on training. Every morning at exactly four o'clock, track work begins and for the ensuing four hours 120 horses come to

Gai's station in the infield of Randwick to hear their training orders. Despite the fact that Gai is stabled at a bustling racetrack, it often seems more like a private training center due to the variety of training tools she uses to make her horses well-rounded individuals. While other trainers, especially in America, tend to rely on a purely dirt track work schedule, Gai utilizes every part of Randwick from the sand, dirt, and turf tracks, to the smaller bullring, the infield, the pool, and even the local beach. These variety of training methods allow Gai to custom fit training to a horse she feels will thrive with one particular method over another. With 120 horses it would be easy to create a strict program that all horses must follow, yet Gai custom tailors each training program for each horse and for many this would be nearly impossible to keep up with, yet Gai's attention to detail, ability to read a horse's demeanor, and memory of her horses is remarkable and allows her to maximize her horses' potential.

After spending some time with Gai at track work it is easy to notice that she likes things to be done the right way. That applies to nearly every aspect of the stable, from leading a horse and legging up a rider, to dressing properly and standing in a relaxed, yet respectful, matter. In particular, this "doing it right" principle applies especially to barrier training. Every morning work is done at the barriers: loading and unloading, walking straight through then backing through, often times not even breaking, merely familiarizing the horse with the situation. When Gai feels the horse is ready, they will break from the barrier with a senior track rider on board ensuring that the horse breaks properly and learns the right way to do it. After watching several of Gai's runners race, it is easy to notice that the barrier practice has paid off as her runners consistently break sharp and clear of the field which allows them to be on the pace or close to it, a Gai Waterhouse signature. While it is easy to see the success of Gai's barrier training she remains strict on always improving the horse's barrier presence and their ability to break sharply.

Coming to Gai's as a college student with a background in racing, I was eager to learn as much as possible from someone I had the world of respect for. To my delight I found that Gai loves to spread her knowledge and is eager to see that the next generation continues doing things the right way in both racing and life. While I came to Australia to learn about training and racing, I find myself supplementing this knowledge with lessons that apply to a broader spectrum than just the racing world and will benefit me throughout the course of my life.

## **Two eliminations for 33rd Pepsi North America Cup**

The finest three-year-old pacers in harness racing will go postward Saturday (June 11) at Mohawk Racetrack in two eliminations for the 33rd Pepsi North America Cup.

A total of 18 three-year-old pacing colts and geldings have been split into a pair of \$50,000 eliminations. The top five finishers from each nine-horse elimination will advance to the June 18 \$1 million Pepsi North America Cup final.

Elimination winners will have the opportunity to select their post for the final.

The Pepsi North America Cup is the richest harness race in Canada and the richest event for pacers in North America.

The first Cup elimination is stacked with talent.

Control The Moment, last year's Metro Pace and O'Brien Award winner, has drawn post-three for driver Randy Waples and trainer Brad Maxwell. The son of 2009 Cup winner Well Said finished second in his season debut last Saturday in a division of the Somebeachsomewhere Stakes.

Control The Moment has over \$480,000 in career earnings and a mark of 1:49.4 taken as a two-year-old.

Lyons Snyder, who defeated Control The Moment last Saturday, starts from post-four in the first split. The Mark Silva trainee has emerged as an early-season star with four wins in six starts after going winless last year.

Sylvain Filion will handle the driving duties behind the son of Well Said.

The best from Pennsylvania and Ontario will also compete in the first Cup elimination.

Ron Burke trainee Check Six will start from post-two, while Casie Coleman trainee Betting Line will leave from post-six.

A son of 2008 Cup winner Somebeachsomewhere, Check Six has won four of five starts this season, including the Pennsylvania Classic. The Burke trained colt enters the Cup with over \$463,000 in career earnings and will have Yannick Gingras in the bike.

A son of 2001 Cup winner Bettors Delight, Betting Line is entering Saturday off a 1:50.1 victory in a division of the Somebeachsomewhere. The Coleman trained colt has won two of three starts this season after winning six of 12 last season, including a victory in the OSS Super Final.

Betting Line, a winner of over \$594,000, will have David Miller in the sulky.

Highlandbeachycove (PP1, Scott Zeron) and Racing Hill (PP9, Brett Miller) give the Tony Alagna barn two starters in the first elimination.

Beast Mode (PP5, Sylvain Filion), Im Some Graduate (PP7,

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John Campbell) and Ideal Rocky (PP8, Corey Callahan) complete the field for the first division.

The first elimination has been carded as Race 5.

The second elimination is headlined by last year's Dan Patch Award and Breeders Crown champion Boston Red Rocks.

The Steve Elliott trained colt has five victories in 12 career starts and earnings of over \$710,000.

Boston Red Rocks, who has never finished worse than third in his career, has plenty of previous Cup success on his side. He is a son of 2005 Cup winner Rocknroll Hanover, his trainer Elliott won the 2009 Cup with Well Said and his driver Tim Tetrick has won two of the last three editions (Wakizashi Hanover, 2015 & Captaintreacherous, 2013).

Boston Red Rocks will start from post two.

Big Top Hanover, who finished second to Boston Red Rocks in last year's Breeders Crown, will also line up in the second elimination. The Burke trainee will start from post six with driver Gingras. A winner of over \$600,000, Big Top Hanover is winless in five starts this season, but has hit the board in each start.

Burke will also send out Manhattan Beach (PP7, Yannick Gingras) in the second split.

The Ontario Sires Stakes (OSS) is well represented in the second elimination.

Nocturnal Bluechip (PP1, Paul MacDonell), Nvestment Bluechip (PP4, Jody Jamieson) and Magnum J (PP9, Doug McNair) are all previous OSS Gold division winners. The fourth Ontario sired horse in the field is Brookdale Sonny (PP3, Mike Saftic), who has won three of seven starts to begin his career.

Fresh off a solid second-place finish in a division of the Somebeachsomewhere, American Passport will start from post-eight with driver Scott Zeron. The Tony Alagna trainee is a multiple-Grand Circuit event winner.

Michaels Victory (PP5, Sylvain Filion) completes the field for the second elimination. The Silva trainee was a 1:49.1 winner two weeks ago in a New Jersey Sires Stakes division.

The second elimination has been carded as Race 7.

Since the inaugural Pepsi North America Cup in 1984, 17 of the 32 Cup winners have won their elimination. Last year's champion Wakizashi Hanover won his elimination in 1:49.2 before capturing the final in 1:48.

Saturday's Pepsi North America Cup eliminations card will also feature the eliminations for the Fan Hanover and Roses Are Red Stakes. Post time for the 12-race card is 7:30 p.m.

For full information regarding the 2016 Pepsi North America Cup, visit [www.NorthAmericaCup.com](http://www.NorthAmericaCup.com).

**Here are the full fields for the Pepsi North America Cup eliminations.**

*PP. Horse (Driver - Trainer)*

### 1st Elimination – Race 5

1. Highlandbeachycove (Scott Zeron – Tony Alagna)
2. Check Six (Yannick Gingras – Ron Burke)
3. Control The Moment (Randy Waples – Brad Maxwell)
4. Lyons Snyder (Sylvain Filion – Mark Silva)
5. Beast Mode (Sylvain Filion – Robert Reid)
6. Betting Line (David Miller – Casie Coleman)
7. Im Some Graduate (John Campbell – Tom Cancelliere)
8. Ideal Rocky (Corey Callahan – John Butenschoen)
9. Racing Hill (Brett Miller – Tony Alagna)

### 2nd Elimination – Race 7

1. Nocturnal Bluechip (Paul MacDonell – Mark Steacy)
2. Boston Red Rocks (Tim Tetrick – Steve Elliott)
3. Brookdale Sonny (Mike Saftic – Dr. Ian Moore)
4. Nvestment Bluechip (Jody Jamieson – Dave Menary)
5. Michaels Victory (Sylvain Filion – Mark Silva)
6. Big Top Hanover (Yannick Gingras – Ron Burke)
7. Manhattan Beach (Yannick Gingras – Ron Burke)
8. American Passport (Scott Zeron – Tony Alagna)
9. Magnum J (Doug McNair – Gregg McNair)

– Mark McKelvie / WEG standardbred communications

## More on Maine cobalt positives

More information has come to light in regard to the cobalt positives in Maine HRU first reported Jan. 29. The positives resulted in fines and suspensions for a number of racing participants.

News of the positives and rulings were first reported [late last week](#). The horsepeople that were handed fines and suspensions are Steven Vafiades, Randy Bickmore, Patricia Switzer, Stephen Murchison, Drew Campbell, Allison MacDonald, Frank Hiscock.

"It definitely is designed as a message," Maine Harness Racing Commission Chairman Bill Varney [has said](#) about the fines and suspensions. "The commission in the last year or so has stepped up the penalties. The new penalties are more severe than they have been in the past and they're testing for more things."

Another [article](#) on the situation has quoted Varney as saying that "the suspensions are based on how many times that they tested positive." He also said that some of the

horsepeople are appealing the rulings.

Varney also stated that Maine's harness racing commission just started testing for cobalt in 2015, and that "we have not had a single case of cobalt in 2016 thus far." He also added that "the word is out that we are testing, and it is working."

He explained that the cobalt violations date back to April of 2015 and that all of the samples were taken from horses that were racing at Scarborough Downs.

"By the time the tests started coming back, some of [the trainers] had three or four or five positives before they were notified about the first one," Varney was quoted as saying.

— *Standardbred Canada, with files from WCSH6 and the Bangor Daily News*

## Lems wins 1,000th race

Monticello Raceway was honored to be the site of driver Chris Lems' 1,000th career win Wednesday (June 8). Lems drove Manny to victory in the 3rd division of NYSS in 1:54.2. Manny (America Ideal-Foolish Kiss) is trained by Jessica Okusko, for owners M and L of Delaware & Victoria Dickson.

— *Shawn Wiles*

## Jackpot Hi-5 mandatory payout slated for Cup night

Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG) today announced that a mandatory payout for the Mohawk Jackpot Hi-5 is currently scheduled for the upcoming Pepsi North America Cup card.

The Mohawk Jackpot Hi-5 carryover currently sits at \$443,142 and horseplayers will only have three more chances at taking down the pool before a mandatory payout night.

If the Jackpot Hi-5 does not have a single winner over the course of the next three cards of live racing at Mohawk, the pool will be suspended after Saturday, June 11 and a mandatory payout will be offered on Saturday, June 18, Pepsi North America Cup night.

There will be no Jackpot Hi-5 wager available on June 13, 14, 16 and 17 at Mohawk.

The current Jackpot Hi-5 carryover began building on Thursday, March 31 at Woodbine Racetrack.

In order to win the entire Jackpot Hi-5 pool, a horseplayer must have the only winning ticket for that evening's Hi-5. If there are multiple winning tickets, the winners share half of the evening's pool and the remaining half is carried over to the following card.

The Jackpot Hi-5 offers a 20-cent minimum wager and a 15

per cent takeout.

The three remaining cards this week to play the Jackpot Hi-5 at Mohawk are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Post time for each card is 7:30 p.m.

— *Mark McKelvie / WEG standardbred communications*

## ADW approved in Minnesota

The Minnesota horse racing industry received a significant boost from the State Legislature and Governor this session when legislation was passed and signed into law authorizing the licensing and oversight of Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) providers in the state.

Under the new law, an estimated \$1.5 million annually will be recaptured from newly licensed ADW providers and re-directed to increased purses at Canterbury Park and Running Aces Casino and Racetrack and increased financial awards for breeders.

"The new law will provide fresh economic stimulus to the state's racing and breeding industry, which, in turn, will encourage further expansion of this significant industry in the State of Minnesota. The new law will provide incentives for additional jobs and millions of dollars of direct and indirect economic impact. This is an economic development initiative that will help ensure the long-term health of the Minnesota racing industry," stated Minnesota Racing Commission (MRC) chair Ralph Strangis.

Horse racing in Minnesota has been on a significant upswing in recent years with record purses at both tracks, a recent takeout reduction at Canterbury Park, record breeder's awards paid out in 2015, and increasing foal counts.

— *Minnesota Racing Commission*

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# RACE RESULTS

## HRU Race Results Criteria

The following race results are contained in  
Harness Racing Update:  
U.S. and Canadian races with a purse of  
\$20,000 and over, plus stakes races

## MOHAWK report

### Monday's Results:

**6, MOH, \$24,000, T**, NW \$20,000 LAST 5 STARTS OR NW \$28,000  
LAST 10 STARTS. AE: OPT.CLM. \$50,000. AE: NW \$140,000 LIFETIME

**1-Ramas Last Son (b,g,5 - Majestic Son-Smokin Rama-Super  
Pleasure)** O-Baxmar Holsteins Ltd B-John Bosworth T-Russell Bax  
D-Michael Saftic, \$12,000, Lifetime Record: 73-11-10-10, \$171,230  
**2-Hillsonator** (b,g,4 - Muscle Hill-Wilsonator-Kadabra) O-Michael  
Pozefsky, Edward Wilson B-Michael Pozefsky T-Robert Don Fellows  
D-Richard Zeron

**3-Youre Majestic** (b,m,4 - Majestic Son-Youre Adorable-Inquirer)  
O-F Bellino And Sons LLC B-Sky Ridge Acres T-Tony O'Sullivan  
D-Jody Jamieson

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

### Tuesday's Results:

**3, MOH, \$34,000, T**, PREFERRED

**1-Intimidate (b,g,7 - Justice Hall-Fabulous Tag-Tagliabue)**  
O-Determination, Judith Farrow B-Judith Farrow, Luc Blais T-Luc  
Blais D-Sylvain Filion, \$17,000, Lifetime Record: 60-27-10-3,  
\$1,365,539

**2-Olympic Son** (b,h,4 - Majestic Son-Graceful Sister-Yankee Glide)  
O-Robert Key B-Robert Key T-Paul Reid D-Douglas McNair

**3-Whiskey Tax** (b,g,8 - Revenue S-Bourbon Belle-Muscles Yankee)  
O-June & Thomas Durand, Allan Smith B-Little E Llc T-Thomas  
Durand D-Randall Waples

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

## MONTICELLO report

### Monday's Results:

**2, MR, \$39,900, P**, NEW YORK SIRE STAKES THREE YEAR OLD  
COLTS AND GELDINGS STARTING FEE \$710, 27.2, 56.4, 1:26.0, 1:53.3, FT

**1-Talk Show (g, 3, Art Major--Lush Limbaugh, by Presidential Ball)**,  
\$40,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Talk Show Partners LLC. B-Dunroven Stud.  
T-Steve Elliott. D-Scott Zeron, \$19,950, Lifetime Record: 13-4-3-2,  
\$121,936

**A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.**  
THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

**2-Missile J** (g, 3, American Ideal--Cantor's Daughter, by Cambest),  
\$100,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Kj Stables LLC & Purple Haze Stables  
LLC. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc & Av & Son Bloodstock LLC.  
T-Linda Toscano. D-Tim Tetrack, \$9,975

**3-Nox Vegas Bluechip** (c, 3, Art Major--Casino Miss, by Cam's Card  
Shark), \$80,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-All Star Racing Inc.. B-Blue Chip  
Bloodstock Inc. T-Peter Foley. D-Jim Morrill Jr, \$4,788  
Calls: 2T, 1T, 1T, 1T, 1 - Finish Order: Ideal Son, Red Roll, Beaches De  
Vie, Hudsonandbernard

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**5, MR, \$15,000, P**, EXCELSIOR SERIES THREE YEAR OLD NYB C&G  
DIVISION A - STARTING FEE \$310, 27.4, 57.2, 1:26.2, 1:55.2, FT

**1-Brigadoon (g, 3, American Ideal--Armbro Agakhan, by Village  
Jiffy)**, \$20,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Dennis J & Simone H Noud.  
B-Barbara J Muschera. T-Monica Krist. D-Billy Dobson, \$7,500,  
Lifetime Record: 16-5-3-5, \$46,903

**2-Rocket J** (g, 3, Rock N Roll Heaven--Must See, by Artsplace),  
\$155,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Kj Stables LLC & Purple Haze Stables  
LLC. B-Fair Winds Farm Inc & Steve Jones. T-Linda Toscano. D-Tim  
Tetrack, \$3,750

**3-Fresh Cut** (c, 3, American Ideal--Flip For Love, by Riverboat King),  
\$30,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Bay Pond Racing Stable. B-Winbak Farm.  
T-Erv Miller. D-Marcus Miller, \$1,800  
Calls: 1H, 1T, 1T, 2H, 4 - Finish Order: Here's The Scoop, Ny Whitesox,  
Major Z Tam, Dow Joens

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**6, MR, \$15,000, P**, EXCELSIOR SERIES THREE YEAR OLD NYB C&G  
DIVISION A - STARTING FEE \$310, 28.3, 58.0, 1:26.3, 1:57.1, FT

**1-Combat (g, 3, Art Major--Barks Like A Dog, by Bettor's Delight)**,  
\$60,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-David L Van Dusen & Kenneth H Klein &  
Michael J Cimaglio & Old Block Stables Inc. B-Gregory S Dey.  
T-Steve Elliott. D-Scott Zeron, \$7,500, Lifetime Record: 10-2-2-2,  
\$23,950

**2-Joes On A Roll** (g, 3, Roll With Joe--Lovely Lady, by Die Laughing),  
\$22,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Black Magic Racing, LLC. B-White Birch  
Farm. T-Sherri Holliday. D-Ken Holliday, \$3,750

**3-No Shame Blue Chip** (g, 3, American Ideal--Mariah Blue Chip, by  
Sealed N Delivered), \$9,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Arden Homestead  
Stable. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc. T-Janice Connor. D-Bruce Aldrich  
Jr, \$1,800

Calls: 6T, 7, 6, 2Q, 2 - Finish Order: Cobra Joe, Fast N Victorious, Uncle  
Hal, Richin Powerful, White Rolls

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**HARNESS RACING**  
**UPDATE**

## RACE RESULTS

**7, MR, \$15,000, P**, EXCELSIOR SERIES THREE YEAR OLD NYB C&G DIVISION A - STARTING FEE \$310, 28.3, 58.3, 1:27.2, 1:55.3, FT

**1-Spendabuckonme (g, 3, Art Major--Indulge Me, by Bettor's Delight)** O-Robert A & Lauren B Tucker. B-Robert A & Lauren B Tucker. T-Ed Lohmeyer. D-Daniel Dube, \$7,500, Lifetime Record: 17-2-0-3, \$24,180

**2-Gaius Crastinus (c, 3, American Ideal--Biggest Big Bertha, by Little Steven)** O-Marilee E Keene. B-Marilee E Keene. T-Tom Fanning. D-Jason Bartlett, \$3,750

**3-Acting Out (g, 3, Art Major--Shake That Junk, by Camluck)**, \$25,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Michael H Simons & Christopher Giaccio & Albert P Abdala III. B-Fair Winds Farm Inc. T-John Butenschoen. D-Mike Simons, \$1,800

Calls: 1T, 1T, 2T, 4, NS - Finish Order: Cool Breeze De Vie, Rocknrollroyalty, Long Legs Linguine, Zac And Forth

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**8, MR, \$39,200, P**, NEW YORK SIRE STAKES THREE YEAR OLD COLTS AND GELDINGS STARTING FEE \$710, 27.3, 56.3, 1:25.0, 1:53.2, FT

**1-Craftship (c, 3, Art Major--Capri Hanover, by Western Ideal)**, \$65,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Crawford Partners, LLC & J Fodera N M Frank Stable & Joe Sbrocco & Craig W Henderson. B-Brittany Farms. T-Tony Alagna. D-Scott Zeron, \$19,600, Lifetime Record: 11-5-2-1, \$66,250

Another **BRITTANY FARMS** Bred Winner!

**A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.**  
THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

**2-Artmagic (g, 3, Art Major--Sammy's Magic Girl, by Western Hanover)**, \$70,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Purple Haze Stables LLC. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Trond Smedshammer. D-George Brennan, \$9,800

**3-Autotune Hanover (c, 3, Art Major--Anderosa Hanover, by The Panderosa)**, \$120,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Rick D Phillips & Deena Rachel Frost & Peter Paul Venturini & Mark A Harder. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Mark Harder. D-Jason Bartlett, \$4,704

Calls: 1T, 1T, 1T, 1T, 1T - Finish Order: Carlos Danger, Endeavor, Ideal Kiss

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**9, MR, \$15,000, P**, EXCELSIOR SERIES THREE YEAR OLD NYB C&G DIVISION A - STARTING FEE \$310, 28.2, 57.3, 1:26.0, 1:55.1, FT

**1-Kj Erich (g, 3, Roll With Joe--Michelles Scooter, by Matt's Scooter)** O-Scott D Woogen & Brenda M Messenger & Philip W Shapiro. B-Scott D Woogen & Brenda M Messenger & Philip W Shapiro. T-Gary Messenger. D-Jim Taggart Jr, \$7,500, Lifetime Record: 17-7-3-2, \$45,218

**2-Dateline Hanover (g, 3, Rock N Roll Heaven--Don't Deny Me, by Allamerican Ingot)**, \$40,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Rick D Phillips & Peter Paul Venturini & Deena Rachel Frost & Mark A Harder. B-Hanover Shoe Farms Inc. T-Mark Harder. D-Scott Zeron, \$3,750

**3-Hash-tag Chrome (g, 3, American Ideal--Native Hanover, by The Panderosa)** O-Matthew K Bencic & Peter F Barbato & Samuel Bova & Howard E Berke. B-Blue Chip Bloodstock Inc & Av & Son Bloodstock LLC. T-Sam Schillaci. D-Bruce Aldrich Jr, \$1,800  
Calls: 1T, 1H, 1H, 2H, T - Finish Order: Skip Jive, Major Plans, Best Of Ribera, Redneck Rally

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

**10, MR, \$39,900, P**, NEW YORK SIRE STAKES THREE YEAR OLD COLTS AND GELDINGS STARTING FEE \$710, 27.3, 56.2, 1:25.4, 1:54.2, FT

**1-Manny (c, 3, American Ideal--Foolish Kiss, by Art Major)**, \$50,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-M And L Of Delaware LLC & Victoria Dickinson. B-Lindy Racing Stable. T-Jessica Okusko. D-Chris Lems, \$19,950, Lifetime Record: 14-4-2-0, \$71,525

**RAISED AND GRAZED AT** 

**A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.**  
THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

**2-Fine Diamond (c, 3, Rock N Roll Heaven--Yellow Diamond, by Western Terror)**, \$50,000 2014 LEX-SEL O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brussemi LLC & Lawrence R Karr & The Panhellenic Stb Corp. B-Steve Jones & Fair Winds Farm Inc. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley, \$9,975

**3-Concur (g, 3, Art Major--Yes Maam, by Western Hanover)**, \$41,000 2014 SHS-HBG O-Oompa's Farm Inc & Shannon C Depinto. B-Diamond Creek Farm LLC. T-Sam De Pinto. D-Jim Marohn Jr, \$4,788

Calls: T, 1H, 1H, 2T, 1H - Finish Order: Bottom Deals, Jk Heaven Sent, Cenovis, Rodeo Rock

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

## POCONO DOWNS report

### Sunday's Results:

**7, PcD, \$25,000, T**, Winners Over \$27,500 Lifetime, 26.2, 56.0, 1:23.3, 1:53.3, SY

**1-Cash Me Out (g, 5, Cash Hall--China Victory, by Valley Victory)**, \$11,500 2012 MORRIS O-Traylor Racing LLC. B-Lawrence S Smith. T-Kyle Spagnola. D-Andrew McCarthy, \$12,500, Lifetime Record: 71-19-18-8, \$524,299

**2-Wind Of The North (g, 6, Cantab Hall--Talk To The Wind, by Pine Chip)**, \$5,000 2011 SHS-HBG O-Daryl Scott Bier & Joann Dombeck. B-Quantum Farms Corp. T-Daryl Bier. D-Sean Bier, \$6,250

**3-Luminosity (g, 6, Cash Hall--Brighten My Way, by Conway Hall)** O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Brussemi LLC. B-Antonia H Poklembo. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley, \$3,000

Calls: 6H, 3T, 2, 2, H - Finish Order: Tag Up And Go, E R Ellie, Somebody As, Royal Max, Aggressive, Undercover Strike

[To watch the race replay click here](#)



## RACE RESULTS

**10, PcD, \$25,000, P,** Mares Winners Over \$27,500 Lifetime, 26.0, 55.3, 1:22.1, 1:51.2, SY

**1-Devil Child (m, 4, American Ideal--Kattimon, by Astreos),** \$27,000 2013 LEX-SEL O-Susan M Oakes & Crawford Farms LLC. B-Winbak Farm. T-Chris Oakes. D-David Miller, \$12,500, Lifetime Record: 37-10-11-1, \$448,138



### A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.

THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

**2-God Forbid N (m, 6, Elsu--Hurricane Dancer, by Christian Cullen)** O-Kenneth R Tucci & Kenneth R Schwartz & Aaron J Lambert. B-L K Hodgson, NZ & Studholme Bloodstock LTD, NZ. T-Aaron Lambert. D-Andrew McCarthy, \$6,250

**3-Bettor N Better (m, 4, Bettor's Delight--Vanite Semalu, by Chief Marty),** \$24,000 2013 SHS-HBG O-Bamond Racing LLC. B-4 Rose Stable. T-Jeffrey Bamond Jr. D-Jason Bartlett, \$3,000  
Calls: 5H, 4H, 2H, 1T, T - Finish Order: Regil Elektra, Tessa Seelster, Lovineveryminute, Gallie Bythe Beach, Stacia Hanover, Mosquito Blue Chip

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

## THE MEADOWS report

### Wednesday's Results:

**9, Mea, \$20,000, T,** \*W/O \$10,000 LIFE/PREFERRED HANDICAP\* P.P.1-7 DRAW W/O; 8 & 9 ASSIGNED - PREFERRED, 27.2, 56.0, 1:24.1, 1:54.0, FT

**1-Tamarind (h, 8, Angus Hall--Spicegirl Kosmos, by S J's Photo),** \$50,000 2009 LEX-SEL O-William T Bercury. B-Christopher F Beaver & David S Lang. T-William Bercury. D-Aaron Merriman, \$10,000, Lifetime Record: 180-52-26-19, \$838,099



### A LEXINGTON SUCCESS STORY.

THIS WINNER WAS SOLD AT THE LEXINGTON YEARLING SALE.

**2-Cue Hall (h, 4, Andover Hall--Curli Cue, by Muscles Yankee)** O-Robert J Key. B-Robert J Key. T-Rich Gillock. D-Tony Hall, \$5,000  
**3-Monte Cristo Spur (h, 5, Cantab Hall--Sweet Gabriella, by Malabar Man),** \$34,000 2012 SHS-HBG O-Richard W Davis. B-Vieux Carre Farms. T-Richard Stillings. D-Richard Stillings, \$2,400  
Calls: 6, 4H, 1H, 1H, 1T - Finish Order: Chef Lee, Tsm Photo Bugger, I Know My Chip, Rompaway Galaxy, Obee, Classcality

[To watch the race replay click here](#)

## MESSAGE TO OUR READERS

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from the  
new HRU Team!



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