





Monday, October 7, 2013

Creatine Give Bluegrass Boys a Big Win

Sory and photos by Dean A. Hoffman

Grand Circuit, The Red Mile became The Red Mess.

And Creatine upset the favored Royalty For Life to give Mike Lachance his second straight Kentucky Futurity victory. For trainer Bob Stewart, it was his first Futurity victory, a special thrill for the local boy.



Creatine proved best in a sloppy **Kentucky Futurity**

When asked how he'd write the headline for the race. Stewart laughed and said, "Local boy makes good."

Brian Sears put the Hambo winner Royalty for Life on the lead out of the gate and everyone

else hunted for holes. The strapping colt seemed to have the race within his grasp as he put some separation between him and his pursuers in the last turn.

Once they turned into the stretch, Mike Lachance smelled a chance for an upset. He had a dream second-over trip following the cover of Your So Vain when he noticed that Royalty For Life wasn't such a sure thing.

"I could see that Brian [Sears, driving Royalty For Life) was coming back to me," said Lachance.

Creatine overtook Royalty For Life and Your So Vain and then held off a late threat from David Miller and All Laid Out. Creatine is son of trainer Stewart's former star Andover Hall. The victory was sweet for Stewart because it came on his home track, but also because the famed "band of brothers" he trained (Andover, Conway, and Angus---all with the surname Hall) never won the Kentucky Futurity.

Creatine is a homebred owned by Adam Bowden's Diamond Creek Racing. Diamond Creek has made a name for itself as a market breeder and now it has an attractive stallion candidate in its racing operation.

Torrential rains pelted the Bluegrass, causing headaches for the track crew and prompting several rain delays. Water swamped the track and pylons came loose and floated along in the river of water on the inside of the track.

This was my 50th consecutive Kentucky Futurity and I've never witnessed racing conditions to rival what horses, horsemen, and track officials endured today. The storms came in waves; just when you thought it was safe for horses to go back on the track, the heavens opened again.

The first elimination heat was a perfunctory affair as Brian Sears put Royalty For Life in front away from the gate and the race was effectively over then. Sears and the bold-gaited

colt dared anyone to challenged, and no one could and no one did. Royalty For Life was eased to the wire in 1:53.3 LEXINGTON, Ky-On the best racing card of the Lexington over Creatine, who sat in the pocket the entire mile. E L Rocket made a mild move in entering the stretch but was unable to pose any threat and settled for third.

> In the second elim Spider Blue Chip got to the lead easily and driver Ron Pierce decided to turn the race into a walk in the rain as he cut fractions of :29.4and :59.

Tim Tetrick got fed up with the front-end dawdling and shot Your So Vain past the leader to the lead just past the half. He rebuffed the challenge from All Laid Out Spider Blue Chip searched futilely for racing room. By the time Pierce found room Your So Vain was at the wire and home free.

To Dream On, last year's champion freshman trotting filly, got a sweet win for trainer-driver Jimmy Takter in the Kentucky Futurity filly division by winning the decisive second heat. She rallied off cover in deep stretch to collar odds-on favorite Ma Chere Hall.

Last year To Dream On lost only once and this year she had won only once. That's why Takter said this victory was so sweet.







Trainer George **Ducharme watches** anxiously as Royalty For Life leads in the final heat

In the second heat. Yannick Gingras shot Shared Past to the Classic Martine into the two hole with the first heat winner Ma Chere Hall following her. Corey Callahan and Ma Chere Hall came to call past the half and Jimmy Takter positioned To Dream On perfectly behind Ma Chere Hall as they rounded the final turn. Classic Martine was sitting in the pocket. Ma Chere Hall wore down Shared Past but Callahan looked to his left and saw trouble brewing as Takter tipped To Dream On out for the drive. She soared past a tiring Ma Chere Hall as Taker raised his whip in iubilation. Ma Chere Hall was second and Shared Past third.

Owner Marvin Katz was overjoyed in the winner's circle interviews, mentioning how frustrating this season has been for his partners on To Dream On after such a stellar

freshman campaign. Takter paid tribute to the owners for their patience and confidence in the filly.

In the first heat, Callahan moved Ma Chere Hall to the front after the first quarter, dictated that fractions, and readily yielded to Frau Blucher past the half.

"Ron came at me hard and I was happy to turn him loose because I wanted to save my filly for the stretch," said Callahan. "Then she really dug during the stretch and held off Timmy's filly [Classic Martine] who is a really good filly."

The first heat was timed in 1:52.4.

The pelting rain didn't bother the old warrior Arch Madness as he won the \$172,000 Allerage Farm Trot over nine rivals in an action-filled event. His victory pushed Arch Madness past \$4 million in career earnings.

Golden Receiver darted right to the lead in the \$175,000 Allerege Pace for older males and as the favorites stacked up behind him hoping to get a trip. Golden Receeiver made his own trip on the front end and converted it into his 58th career victory with a 1:50 mile. Corey Callahan drove him with confidence.

Clear Vision came first over to challenge the leader while Sweet Lou, A Rocknroll Dance, and Pet Rock waited to pick up cover. While they were waiting, Golden Receiver and Clear Vision were duking it out for the lead. It was a performance much like that of Captaintreacherous' victory yesterday as Clear Vision headed Golden Receiver in the stretch but Golden Receiver fought back to reclaim the lead before the wire.

Golden Receiver paid a generous \$27.80.

The race featured Pet Rock's attempt to break the world record on a mile track, which would have given him a clean sweep of the records on all three circumferences. But the conditions made a fast time all but impossible for Pet Rock

or anyone else. Pet Rock finished sixth.

Shelliscape rolled past pacers in the deep stretch to win front from post six as Tim Tetrick put the \$81,000 Allerge Pace for older mares as heavy rains pelted the track. She triumphed over Camille and Rocklamation in 1:51.2, but conditions were so bad that the winner's circle ceremonies were scrapped because the inside of the track was a water-filled moat.

Before and after this race, carded as the eighth of the afternoon, the program was under a rain delay as officials felt that conditions made racing unsafe.

Maven was simply relentless in running down pacesetting Check Me Out in the \$76,000 Allerage for older mare trotters. The sport's top older trotting mare moved past the half after the leader. She drifted out in the stretch but she never lost her courage or her desire and outfooted Check Me Out in the final strides. The time was 1:52.3. Bax Of Life was third.

It was the eighth win in 11 starts for the determined Glidemaster mare trained by Jonas Czernyson. She's owned by W. J. Donovan of Florida.

Red Mile Judge: Tetrick Did Nothing Wrong

By Bill Finley

Red Mile judge Rich Williams admitted yesterday that Tim Tetrick's right leg left the stirrups and made contact with Captaintreacherous during the stretch drive of the Tattersalls Stakes Saturday, but said the driver did nothing wrong.



The Tattersalls finish, did Sears and/or Tetrick do anything wrong? (Nigel Soult photo)

The incident and whether or not Tetrick violated any rules boils down to how "kicking" is interpreted. While Kentucky racing rules specifically prohibit a driver from kicking a horse, they also read: "Removal of a foot from the stirrups in and of itself shall not constitute the act of kicking."

Did Tetrick kick Captaintreacherous or nudge him with his leg to encourage him? Williams believes the latter is the case.

"Unless the horse is being abused I don't have a problem with the kicking," he said. "I would rather see that than have them thumping on them with the whip. If you watch

the head-ons here most of the drivers use the inside foot. I know Tim did use the outside foot on him real late in the stretch. Personally, kicking does not bother me unless they are swinging their foot. If it's just contact with the leg, the hock, that's better than beating them with the whip."

The replay of the Tattersalls reveals that Brian Sears, driving runner-up Vegas Vacation, was also making contact with his horse with his foot. Sears used his left foot.

Williams said the judges meet with the drivers before the meet begins to go over what they can and cannot do

"I explain to them that I don't mind if your foot comes in contact with the hock, he said. "The important part is we treat everybody the same here. It's not that one person can do that and another can't."

Williams said no action will be taken against Tetrick or Sears.



It's Time To Start Taking Things Seriously

We all watched the Tattersalls Pace yesterday and we all saw Tetrick and Sears kick their horses repeatedly in the stretch. Social media exploded with outrage on this issue, and yet those in charge do not seem to think this is a problem. Well whether they think it is or not, when thousands anyone cares to respond is this: If The Captain is as great of people on social media have a negative reaction to the same thing, it's a problem.

Not only is kicking horses against the rules, it causes outrage and repulses those who are watching. No one wants Garnet Barnsdale to see a driver's foot make contact with any part of an animal. It gives us a bad image, which translates to less people going to the track. Some think it's not a big issue. I had one person tell me, "Most people watching the race couldn't even see that." This point may be true. At first glance, many people might have missed it. But then they check their Twitter and see 10 posts about kicking. They watch the race and see it. What do you think they do? They make their own Twitter post about it and all of their followers see it. It's a snowball effect that makes the sport look cruel and turns people off to racing. Besides, when has covering an issue up and hoping no one notices ever been the answer?

Kicking needs to stop now. Some drivers do it all the time. They repeat the violation, get a \$100 fine (maybe, if the judges felt like doing their jobs that day), and do it again. It is not enough. If you repeatedly break the rules, you deserve to horse-Why do we need to scare the horse? Why not get punished for it. Some suggest bigger fines and suspensions for kicking. That's not enough either. I say the horses need to start getting disqualified. Last time I checked, kicking is illegal in the sport. If you win a race by using illegal methods, you did not deserve to win and should be disqualified. It's that simple. The first time someone gets disqualified for kicking, they will never do it again,

guaranteed. Drivers will not risk losing drives. The owners and trainers will not stand for it. It is the only way to ensure without a shadow of a doubt that kicking will stop.

Now the ball is in the judges' court. Will they see the reaction of the public and react accordingly? **Brandon Valvo**

Why is Kicking Allowed?

Can someone explain to me how it is firstly within the rules of harness racing to boot a horse in the back of the legs during a race and secondly why this practice seems to be accepted from within the industry? In 35 years of watching and wagering on harness racing I don't think I have ever seen more blatant booting than what Tim Tetrick was doing with Captaintreacherous this past Saturday at The Red Mile. I just want one person to respond and tell me why this is acceptable and accepted by the horse's owners.

On one hand they are worried about racing twice in one day, but they are okay with a driver booting their star horse repeatedly during a race? If you dare post anything about it anywhere, the typical responses are: "They all do it"; "They've been doing it for 30 years" and "They're great drivers!" (total red herring). Although it is not as blatant, Sears was also using the left boot on Vegas Vacation. How is it possible that one year Odds On Equulus gets DQ'ed by The Red Mile judges for...?...I'm still trying to figure that one out...but blatant repeated booting of horses goes unpunished and likely unnoticed? My final question if as everyone claims-and I'm not saying he isn't, I respect his speed, talent and heart-why does he need to be booted 8 times down the stretch of a race?

Give Booting the Boot

Don't get me wrong, I love a great stretch duel, especially when it's Captaintreacherous and Vegas Vacation, but when it's tainted with drivers who are not following the rules, we might as well take 50 steps back as an industry; it's called regression. We're struggling as it is to try and promote our product as a worthwhile endeavor to investors, major sports networks, the public, and even our own Ontario government, but if we refuse to fix one area of the industry, however inconsequential (as some describe it), we'll never succeed. Every horse that "puts hooves to track" deserves a fair drive, a competitive drive, and a drive that keeps the horse out of harm's way. The betting public and the fans deserve this as well.

Many say "booting" is no big deal, it just scares the release a pack of wild dogs out at the 1/2 and have them chase the horses? They wouldn't hurt them, it would just scare them. I know, I know, that analogy sounds ridiculous; to even compare the two methods of "urging" is absurd. But rules are rules, and at what point are we going to draw the line, crack down and enforce fines and penalties that actually have an effect on the decisions

these drivers/trainers/owners make?

Performance enhancing is performance enhancing, whether it's an internal "boost" or an external "boost". I dislike whipping, but I understand that some horses need to be "reminded" of why they're on the track...Not BEAT, "reminded". On the positive side, I applaud those in the industry who are racing for the betterment of the sport; the ones that no matter how many losses, keeps coming back and trying, and to those judges who aren't "wearing blinders" while watching a race.

I understand running on hay and oats is a pipe dream, but High Stable. T-Jimmy Takter. D-Jimmy Takter, \$102,550, it's no wonder so many race horses get resentful, sour, and refuse to try on the track any more. Do we want a horse, that when you pass by his stall, he lunges at you, teeth barred, trying to rip your head off? Trust me, I have seven off the track standardbreds on my farm, all who were destined for slaughter, that apparently were never subjected Callahan, \$51,275 to anything that would "harm" them. You and I both know that's untrue, unless ankles are supposed to be bulbous, knees are supposed to resemble footballs, an abundant amount of stomach ulcers "just happens naturally", and yes, I've even been told that capped hocks result only from stall or paddock injuries-never race related. Ahem.

Look, I love this sport-I respect it's equine athletes, I love the people that devote themselves to it, and I love the fact that its fans are the greatest, most passionate people I have associated with. We may not be able to predict the future of harness racing, but we certainly have the power to structure it in a positive way whereby everybody wins, both on and off the track.

Claudette Lemesurier

The Only Thing to Fear Is...

Hey, Bill Finley, you had to see the Bionic Boot kicking him, will HRU mention it, or, are you afraid of upsetting Tetrick, Alagna, Bell? Matt Welch

The Red Mile Report

2, Lex, \$87,900, Trot, 3 Year Old Filly Trot, 28.1, 56.1, 1:24.0, 1:52.4, GD

1-Ma Chere Hall (f, 3, Deweycheatumnhowe--Margarita Hall, by Conway Hall), \$18,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-Walnut Hall Limited & Aldebaran Park Inc. & Joe Sbrocco. B-Walnut Hall Limited. T-Jonas Czernyson. D-Corey Callahan, \$43,950, Lifetime Record: 24-10-4-1, \$489,933 2-Classic Martine (f, 3, Classic Photo--Drinking Days, by Andover Hall) O-Hauser Bros Rong Ent LLC & Susan M Oakes & Conrad E Zurich & Edwin J Gold. B-Todd M & Christine L Schadel. T-Chris Oakes. D-Tim Tetrick, \$21,975 3-Mistery Woman (f, 3, Donato Hanover--My Dolly's Dream, 2-Camille (m, 5, Camluck--Art Of Design, by Artsplace) by Pine Chip), \$102,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-Millstream Inc & Misty Miller & W J Donovan & Aldebaran Park Inc.. B-Lindy Racing Stable. T-Jonas Czernyson. D-David Miller, \$10,548

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

Finish Order: Frau Blucher, To Dream On, Time To Kill, Handover Belle, Perfect Alliance, Shared Past To view replay click replay

5, Lex, \$205,100, Trot, 3 Year Old Filly Trot, 26.4, 54.2, 1:23.0, 1:52.1, GD

1-To Dream On (f, 3, Credit Winner--Satin Pillows, by Conway Hall), \$200,000 2011 SHS-HBG O-Marvin Katz, CA & Al J Libfeld, CA & Sam A Goldband, CA. B-Valley Lifetime Record: 22-10-2-3, \$975,395

2-Ma Chere Hall (f, 3, Deweycheatumnhowe--Margarita Hall, by Conway Hall), \$18,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-Walnut Hall Limited & Aldebaran Park Inc. & Joe Sbrocco. B-Walnut Hall Limited. T-Jonas Czernyson. D-Corey

3-Shared Past (f, 3, Chocolatier--Armbro Deja Vu, by Donerail), \$130,000 2011 SHS-HBG O-W J Donovan. B-Fair Winds Farm Inc. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$24,612

Calls: 7, 2H, 1T, 1H, 2Q

Finish Order: Time To Kill, Classic Martine, Mistery Woman, Perfect Alliance, Frau Blucher, Handover Belle To view replay click here

7, Lex, \$172,200, Trot, Open Trot Final, 27.1, 55.0, 1:24.0, 1:51.3. GD

1-Arch Madness (g, 9, Balanced Image--Armbro Archer, by S J's Photo) O-Marc D Goldberg & Willow Pond LLC. B-Marc D Goldberg & Barry B Goldstein & Steven H Shapiro. T-Trond Smedshammer. D-Trond Smedshammer, \$86,100, Lifetime Record: 104-34-26-12, \$4,020,631 2-Mister Herbie (g. 5, Here Comes Herbie--Independent Lassie, by Brisco Hanover), \$67,000 2009 CAN-OPEN O-Jeffrey R Gillis, CA & Mac T Nichol, CA & Gerald T Stay. B-Warrawee Farm, CA. T-Jeffrey Gillis. D-Jody Jamieson, \$43,050

3-Market Share (h, 4, Revenue S--Classical Flirt, by Yankee Glide), \$16,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-Richard S Gutnick & T L P Stable & William J Augustine. B-Hayley A Moore. T-Linda Toscano. D-Tim Tetrick, \$20.664

Calls: 6H, 3, 1Q, H, NK Finish Order: Guccio, My Mvp, Sevruga, Southwind

Pepino, Wishing Stone, Appomattox, Quick Deal To view replay click here

8, Lex, \$81,000, Pace, Filly & Mare Open Pace, 27.2, 56.3, 1:24.1, 1:51.2, SY

1-Shelliscape (m, 4, Artiscape--Shell I Scoot, by Direct Scooter), \$25,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-Bamond Racing LLC. B-Midland Acres Inc. T-R. Nifty Norman. D-Tim Tetrick, \$40,500, Lifetime Record: 46-11-4-11, \$706,941 O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Bruscemi LLC & M1 Stable LLC & Jack B Piatt III. B-Larry J Pollard, CA. T-Ron Burke. D-Matt Kakaley, \$20,250

3-Rocklamation (m, 5, Rocknroll Hanover--Art Sale, by Artsplace), \$50,000 2009 SHS-HBG O-Our Horse Cents Stables & Stable 45 & J&T Silva Stables, LLC. B-Perretti Farms. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$9,720 Calls: 3H, 3, 2T, H, 1

Finish Order: Drop The Ball, Monkey On My Wheel, Swinging Beauty, Bettor B Lucky, Major Look To view replay click here

9, Lex, \$175,000, Pace, Allerage Farms Open Pace, 28.1, 55.3, 1:22.4, 1:50.0, SY

1-Golden Receiver (g, 8, Village Jove--Royal Gold, by Towner's Big Guy) O-Our Horse Cents Stables & Nina Simmonds. B-Nina Simmonds. T-Mark Harder. D-Corey Callahan, \$87,500, Lifetime Record: 140-58-20-24, \$1.951.136

2-Clear Vision (g, 7, Western Hanover--Artistic Vision, by Artsplace), \$180,000 2007 LEX-SEL O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Bruscemi LLC & The Panhellenic Stb Corp & James A Koran. B-Steve H Stewart & Charles & Julie R & Francene Nash. T-Ron Burke. D-Brett Miller, \$43,750 3-Sweet Lou (h, 4, Yankee Cruiser--Sweet Future, by Falcons Future), \$38,000 2010 SHS-HBG O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & Weaver Bruscemi LLC & Lawrence R Karr & Phillip Collura. B-Birnam Wood Farms. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$21,000

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

Finish Order: Bolt The Duer, Up The Credit, Pet Rock, Aracache Hanover, Escape The News, Our Lucky Chip, A Rocknroll Dance

To view replay click here

10, Lex, \$79,050, Trot, 3 Year Old Trot, 28.0, 56.2, 1:25.2, 1:53.3, SY

Donerail) O-Alfred Ross & Raymond W J Campbell Jr & Paul A Fontaine. B-Alfred Ross. T-George Ducharme. D-Brian Sears, \$39,525, Lifetime Record: 26-14-5-1, \$1,591,273

2-Creatine (c, 3, Andover Hall--Berry Nice Muscles, by Muscles Yankee) O-Diamond Creek Racing. B-Diamond Creek Farm LLC. T-Bob Stewart. D-Mike Lachance, \$19,762 3-E L Rocket (c, 3, Credit Winner--Courtney Hall, by Garland Lobell) O-Burke Racing Stable LLC & M1 Stable LLC & Howard A Taylor & Phillip Collura. B-Erkki Laakkonen, Fl. T-Ron Burke. D-Yannick Gingras, \$9,486 Calls: 1H, 1H, 1H, 1H, 1

Finish Order: Punxsutawney, Home Turf, Master Of Law, **Deadliest Catch**

To view replay click here

11, Lex, \$79,050, Trot, 3 Year Old Trot, 29.4, 59.0, 1:26.2, 1:54.4. SY

1-Your So Vain (c, 3, Donato Hanover--Tennis Lover, by Muscles Yankee), \$60,000 2011 SHS-HBG O-P G Van Camp Stables, CA. B-Robert Rosenheim Stbs LTD. T-Bradley Maxwell. D-Tim Tetrick, \$39,525, Lifetime Record: 15-6-3-2, \$399,350

2-Spider Blue Chip (g, 3, Andover Hall--Southwind Catlin, by Muscles Yankee), \$60,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-David H Mc Duffee & Melvin Hartman, CA. B-Mclain L Ward. T-Chuck Sylvester. D-Ron Pierce, \$19,762 3-All Laid Out (c, 3, Yankee Glide--Adelaide Hall, by Conway Hall), \$32,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-All Laid Out Stable Inc. B-Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par. T-Noel Daley. D-Corey Callahan, \$9,486 Calls: 2, 1, 1, 1, 1Q

Finish Order: Lindy's Tru Grit, Wheeling N Dealin, High Bridge, Lauderdale

To view replay click here

13, Lex, \$76,000, Trot, ALLERAGE FARMS Filly & Mare Open Trot, 27.4, 55.0, 1:23.3, 1:52.3, SY

1-Maven (m, 4, Glidemaster--M Stewart, by American Winner), \$37,000 2010 LEX-SEL O-W J Donovan. B-All La Nuova Sbarra S.R.L. T-Jonas Czernyson. D-Yannick Gingras, \$38,000, Lifetime Record: 37-23-7-1, \$1,242,469 2-Check Me Out (m, 4, Donato Hanover--Illusion Bi, by Toss Out) O-Raymond W Schnittker & Steve Jones. B-Az Agricola Biasuzzi Srl & Scuderia Gina Biasuzzi. T-Ray Schnittker. D-Tim Tetrick, \$19,000

3-Bax Of Life (m, 5, Windsong's Legacy--Bax Machine, by Earl), \$24,000 2009 SHS-HBG O-Jerry E Duford, CA & Joanne S Wray, CA. B-Windsong Stable. T-Jerry Duford. D-John Campbell, \$9,120

Calls: 2H, 3H, 1, 1, NK

Finish Order: Real Babe, Unefoisdansmavie, Intense America, D'orsay, Cedar Dove To view replay click here

14, **Lex**, **\$368**, **900**, **Trot**, 3 Year Old Trot Final, 27.4, 55.4, 1:24.0, 1:53.2, SY

1-Royalty For Life (c, 3, Rc Royalty--Bourbon 'n Grits, by 1-Creatine (c, 3, Andover Hall--Berry Nice Muscles, by Muscles Yankee) O-Diamond Creek Racing. B-Diamond Creek Farm LLC. T-Bob Stewart. D-Mike Lachance, \$184,450, Lifetime Record: 20-10-4-1, \$544,209 2-All Laid Out (c, 3, Yankee Glide--Adelaide Hall, by Conway Hall), \$32,000 2011 LEX-SEL

O-All Laid Out Stable Inc. B-Kentuckiana Farms Gen Par.

T-Noel Daley. D-David Miller, \$92,225

3-Spider Blue Chip (g, 3, Andover Hall--Southwind Catlin, by Muscles Yankee), \$60,000 2011 LEX-SEL O-David H Mc Duffee & Melvin Hartman, CA. B-Mclain L Ward. T-Chuck Sylvester. D-Ron Pierce, \$44,268 Calls: 5, 4H, 3Q, H, H

Finish Order: Your So Vain, Royalty For Life, E L Rocket, Punxsutawney, Home Turf, Wheeling N Dealin, Lindy's Tru Grit

To view replay click here