

ROAD TO THE MEADOWLANDS PACE

Week 2 (of 10) – Thursday, May 9

The Meadowlands Pace is on Saturday, July 13, 2024

RANK	HORSE (EARNINGS – MARK)	DRIVER, TRAINER OWNER(S)	DAVE LITTLE'S (AND TRAINER'S) COMMENTS
1	CAPTAIN ALBANO (\$445,680 – 1:49.2)	T. MCCARTHY, N. DALEY PATRICIA STABLE, L A EXPRESS & SJOBLUM INC, MICHAEL E DOLAN	FINISHED SIXTH AND LAST IN HIS MEADOWLANDS QUALIFIER FRIDAY MORNING. TIME TO HIT THE PANIC BUTTON? DALEY: "I WAS OK WITH IT. IT WAS HIS FIRST WEEK. WE'LL OBVIOUSLY LOOK TO DO A LOT MORE THIS [FRIDAY IN A MEADOWLANDS QUALIFIER]." DALEY PREFERS A MORE PATIENT APPROACH. "THERE'S PLENTY OF GUYS WHO TRAIN IN [1]:53 OR [1]:54 AND HAVE SUCCESS. I DON'T DO IT THAT WAY." BREEDING: CAPTAINREACHEROUS-ANGELOU LAST RACE: 5/3/2024 – M1 – QUALIFIER – 6TH (1:55)
2	BETTER IS NICE (\$517,620 – 1:50.3)	A. MCCARTHY, T. ALAGNA ALAGNA RACING LLC, PRYDE STABLES INC, BIRNAM WOOD FARMS	RALLIED WELL TO FINISH SECOND TO PACE INELIGIBLE ARBITRAGE HANOVER IN WHAT WAS A SOLID EFFORT IN HIS FIRST START OF THE SEASON SATURDAY. ALAGNA: "I WAS REALLY HAPPY WITH HIM. WE WERE WORKING ON A FOOT ISSUE AND GOT IT RESOLVED. HE'S GOT THE SECOND LEG OF THE NEW JERSEY SIRE STAKES SATURDAY NIGHT." BREEDING: BETTOR'S WISH-THATSOEVERYVERNICE LAST RACE: 5/4/2024 – M1 – NJSS – 2ND (1:52)
3	CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS (\$389,143 – 1:49.3)	J. JAMIESON, H. HOLLAND RICH P STILES	QUALIFIED WELL AT MOHAWK IN HIS SECOND OUTING OF THE YEAR. THE FIRST DID NOT GO VERY WELL. HOLLAND: "IF YOU DON'T HOOK WHEELS, IT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE. [IN MONDAY'S QUALIFIER] HE WAS AWESOME. EAR PLUGS IN, AND WAS NEVER ASKED TO GO. WE'LL TAKE A WEEK OFF AND RACE IN AN OVERNIGHT ON THE 18TH. I DON'T WANT TO BE TOO HARD ON HIM. I'M LOOKING TOWARD SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER." BREEDING: CAPTAINREACHEROUS-PRESCIENT BEAUTY LAST RACE: 5/6/2024 – WBSB – QUALIFIER – 1ST (1:53)
4	CAPTAIN LUKE (\$332,109 – 1:51)	T. MCCARTHY, T. ALAGNA ROBERT J LEBLANC, PRYDE STABLES INC, BRADLEY J GRANT, STEVEN HEAD	SCRATCHED OUT OF HIS QUALIFIER LAST WEEK DUE TO SOME BLOODWORK THAT WASN'T QUITE RIGHT. ALAGNA: "ALL GOOD. HE HAD ROOM IN HIS SCHEDULE TO SKIP LAST WEEK. THIS FRIDAY WILL BE HIS SECOND QUALIFIER. AFTER THAT, WE'LL LOOK FOR AN OVERNIGHT AT THE MEADOWLANDS. WITH ONLY TWO WINS, HE'S GOT SOME ROOM ON HIS CARD SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND SOMETHING." BREEDING: CAPTAINREACHEROUS-BODACIOUS HANOVER LAST RACE: 4/20/2024 – M1 – QUALIFIER – 1ST (1:52)
5	GEM QUALITY (\$438,940 – 1:50)	D. DUNN, C. RYDER LET IT RIDE STABLES INC, ODDS ON RACING, BRADLEY J GRANT, ENVIRO STABLES LTD	CAME FROM JUST OFF THE PACE TO TAKE HIS SECOND CONSECUTIVE "Q." RACES SATURDAY IN THE POCONOS. RYDER: "ALL GOOD. THE HORSE SEEMS RIGHT ON TARGET. WE'LL HEAD FOR THE SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE. IT'S EXACTLY WHERE WE WANTED TO BE, HAVING THREE OR FOUR STARTS BEFORE THE NORTH AMERICA CUP." BREEDING: CAPTAIN CRUNCH-TWINKLE LAST RACE: 5/3/2024 – M1 – QUALIFIER – 1ST (1:52.4)
6	LEGENDARY HANOVER (\$303,114 – 1:50)	J. MACDONALD, A. BEATON ERIC K GOOD, WEST WINS STABLE, MARK B DUMAIN	PACED HIS BACK HALF IN :53.2 TO WIN HIS SECOND QUALIFIER LAST FRIDAY AT MOHAWK. BEATON: "HE WAS SUPER. HE DID IT SO EASILY. [DRIVER] JAMES [MACDONALD] SAID HE WAS UNBELIEVABLE. WE'RE GOING TO FACE OLDER SATURDAY AT MOHAWK. WE'D HAVE LIKED A 3YO OPEN, BUT THERE'S NOT ENOUGH OF THEM AROUND HERE RIGHT NOW." BREEDING: HUNTSVILLE-LILLIAN HANOVER LAST RACE: 5/3/2024 – WBSB – QUALIFIER – 1ST (1:50.4)
7	CLEVER CODY (\$415,872 – 1:50.1)	A. MERRIMAN, DR. I. MOORE CLEVER CODY STABLE	OK, IT'S EARLY IN THE SEASON, BUT CLEVER CODY GETS INTO THE TOP 10 OFF A WIN IN THE OHIO SIRE STAKES THAT WAS THE BEST EFFORT I'VE SEEN THUS FAR IN THE 3YO MALE PACING DIVISION. WERE YOU SURPRISED AT HOW GOOD HE WAS, DOC MOORE? "I WAS NOT AMAZED. WE HAVE A LOT OF ANTICIPATION FOR HIM. I WAS VERY PLEASED. IF THEY LET ME IN THAT WINNERS-OF-4 NON-WINNERS-OF-7 AT MOHAWK NEXT SATURDAY, THAT'LL GIVE ME TWO WEEKS TO PREP FOR THE JUNE 1 SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE. IF NOT, WE'LL FIND A RACE IN OHIO." BREEDING: THE PANDEROSA-CAMS VAN GO LAST RACE: 5/4/2024 – MVR – OHSS – 1ST (1:50.1)
8	NEWSROOM (\$247,565 – 1:49.4)	D. MILLER, J. HOLLOWAY VAL D'OR FARMS	HIS FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE SEASON COMES FRIDAY WHEN HE TAKES ON CAPTAIN ALBANO AND CAPTAIN LUKE IN A BIG M QUALIFIER. HOLLOWAY: "THE GOAL IS TO GET AROUND THE TRACK, FINISH STRONG AND GO A DECENT MILE." WITH 7 WINS ON HIS CARD, IT'S POSSIBLE THIS ONE'S FIRST RACE WILL BE THE SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE. BREEDING: ALWAYS B MIKI-WELL HELLO THERE LAST RACE: 11/25/2023 – M1 – GOVERNOR'S CUP – 7TH (1:52.2)
9	BOSTON ROCKS (\$357,922 – 1:53.4)	T. MILLER, S. ELLIOTT PETER R BLOOD, RICK BERKS	MADE A BIG MOVE TO TAKE COMMAND ON THE WAY TO THREE-QUARTERS AT TIoga BEFORE GOING ON TO A DOMINANT SCORE IN A SOFT SPOT. ELLIOTT: "WE'RE GOING TO GIVE HIM THE WEEK OFF, THEN RACE AGAIN NEXT WEEK TO GET READY FOR THE [NEW YORK] SIRE STAKES AT SARATOGA AT THE END OF THE MONTH." BREEDING: BOSTON RED ROCKS-SCIROCCO SARAH LAST RACE: 5/4/2024 – TGDn – NW6 – 1ST (1:53.4)
10	McCRUNCH (\$21,360 – 1:50.3)	Y. GINGRAS, N. TAKTER 3 BROTHERS STABLES, CAVIART FARMS, JOE SBROCCO, JAF RACING LLC	LAST RACED ON APRIL 27, BUT HAVING ALREADY RACED FOUR TIMES THIS YEAR AFTER BEING UNRACED AT 2, A WEEK OFF WAS LIKELY A GOOD THING. TAKTER: "I TRAINED HIM [WEDNESDAY] AND WAS VERY HAPPY. [THE PA ALL-STARS ON SATURDAY AT POCONO] IS A GOOD SPOT FOR HIM. I'M HAPPY WITH HIS PROGRESSION." BREEDING: CAPTAIN CRUNCH-MCGIBSON LAST RACE: 4/27/2024 – M1 – NW2 – 1ST (1:50.3)

KEY PREP RACES

MEADOWLANDS PACE ELIGIBLES IN CAPS – Supplements are permitted per the conditions of the race

Date	Stakes	Site	Winner	Trainer	Driver	2 nd Horse	3 rd Horse	Time
5/4	PaSS	Mea	Rush In Booming Economy Captain Fear Not	L. Toscano R. Burke K. Troy	D. Palone M. Wilder J. Indof	Timeisonmyside Tenacious Hanover LYONS BENJAMIN	Solid Character Hugh Heston Solar Solution	1:50.1 1:51.4 1:51.2
5/4	NJSS	M1	Arbitrage Hanover Endofstory	B. Pelling D. Dilloian Jr.	T. McCarthy T. McCarthy	BETTER IS NICE Royal Desire	Alritealritealrite Ain't Nostopn Time	1:51.4 1:51.1
5/11	Pa All-Stars	PcD						

5/11	NJSS	M1					
5/18	PaSS	PcD					
5/25	NJSS Final	M1					
5/26	PaSS	Phl					
5/26	NYSS	Stga					
6/1	Somebchsomewhere	Wbsb					
6/5	NYSS	BR					
6/8	N.A. Cup eliminations	Wbsb					
6/14	NYSS	VD					
6/15	N.A. Cup final	Wbsb					
6/21	Messenger elims	YR					
6/28	Messenger final	YR					
7/6	Meadowlands Pace elims	M1					
7/13	Meadowlands Pace Final	M1					