

ROAD TO THE MEADOWLANDS PACE

Week 9 (of 10) – Thursday, June 27

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	Nijinsky (\$529,890 – 1:48.1)	L. Roy, A. Beaton West Wins Stable, John D Fielding, Mark B Dumain	Nijinsky is hoping to become the first horse since Tall Dark Stranger in 2020 to pull off the North America Cup/Meadowlands Pace double. Beaton: “He’s been good. Last week, we gave him an easy week. this week, we have been jogging him up good and will train him up good at the end of the week. We’ll head down to Jersey, and hopefully, we can get the same result as we did in the North America Cup.” Breeding: Bettor’s Delight-Pirouette Hanover Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 1 st (1:48.1)
2	Captain’s Quarters (\$594,456 – 1:49.1)	J. Jamieson, H. Holland Rich P Stiles	Off a giant effort in the Cup, this one is ready for another top try. Holland: “He came out of the North America Cup excellent. We trained him [Tuesday] and he was very good. Everything is looking good for next week. I’m going to head down [to New Jersey] Wednesday.” Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Prescient Beauty Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 2 nd (1:48.2)
3	Funtime Bayama (\$381,948 – 1:49.1)	TBA, A. Harris William Pollock, Bruce Areman, Andrew Harris	A blockbuster private sale finds this one in a new barn, just in time for the Pace. These are the same owners who acquired big-name performers Abuckabett Hanover, Seven Colors and El Rey within the last two years. Harris: “I’ve had him just a couple of days. He got here Monday. He’s going to train on Saturday at The Meadowlands. We’d love to win the Meadowlands Pace and the Little Brown Jug. On Saturday, we will reveal who his driver will be.” Breeding: He’s Watching-Tymal Sugrbabydoll Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 3 rd (1:48.3)
4	Captain Albano (\$552,915 – 1:49.2)	T. McCarthy, N. Daley Patricia Stable, L A Express & Sjoblom Inc, Michael E Dolan	Was he the best horse in the Cup, but simply had no room late from the pocket? He certainly looked good earlier in the mile, making two moves to the top. Daley: “He seems good, nice and bright. I’m happy with him. He came out of the race well and traveled well. He’s pretty relaxed.” Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Angelou Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 4 th (1:48.4)
5	Legendary Hanover (\$377,209 – 1:48.3)	J. MacDonald, A. Beaton Eric K Good, West Wins Stable, Mark B Dumain	Keep in mind, this one was the fastest 3YO of the year until his stablemate went faster in the Cup. He’s got big game. Beaton: “He’s been great since the North America Cup. I couldn’t ask for a horse to come out of a race any better, especially after the [first-over] trip he went. I’m very confident in Legendary and I’m sure he will get his day. These races, it comes down to trips. Maybe Legendary gets the trip in the Pace that Nijinsky got in the Cup. I’ll take either one winning. I’m not fussy.” Breeding: Huntsville-Lillian Hanover Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 5 th (1:49)
6	McCrunch (\$39,555 – 1:49)	Y. Gingras, N. Takter 3 Brothers Stable, Caviart Farms, Joe Sbrocco, JAF Racing LLC	Led to the top of the stretch with some tough older foes before getting nailed on the wire by a nose in a 1:49 mile. No need to drop this one in the poll off a performance like that. Takter: “I was really happy with him. He was probably a little bit short and needed the race. He’ll train a mile [Thursday] and train back again next Wednesday, and then it’s the Pace elims.” Breeding: Captain Crunch-McGibson Last Race: 6/22/2024 – NW\$14,000 – 2 nd (1:49)
7	Captain Luke (\$354,174 – 1:49.3)	S. Zeron, T. Alagna Robert J Leblanc, Pryde Stables Inc, Bradley J Grant, Steven Head	The Governor’s Cup winner from last year is in Saturday night at The Big M, facing Nos. 8, 9 and 10 in the poll. Alagna: “He’s really good. He trained well [Wednesday]. As long as his blood work stays good, he’s just as competitive as any of them in there.” Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Bodacious Hanover Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup final – 6 th (1:49.2)
8	Mirage Hanover (\$186,883 – 1:49.3)	T. Tetrick, J. Leamon Marvin J Rounick	Leaves from post seven Saturday in a race that includes Nuclear, Captain Luke and Gem Quality. Are you good with that, Jake? Leamon: “It’s a good thing. I want to get him a race, get him a tightener. With the way my horse races, I think he’ll benefit by following one of them. He takes care of himself. He’s either sleeping or up hollering at the other horses.” Breeding: Bettor’s Delight-Mayhem Seelster Last Race: 6/15/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup consolation – 3 rd (1:49.2)
9	Gem Quality (\$488,401 – 1:50)	D. Dunn, C. Ryder Let It Ride Stables Inc, Odds On Racing, Bradley J Grant, Enviro Stables Ltd	Except for one race, this one has had a good year. Ryder: “There was no class for my horse to race, so it morphed into this race on Saturday. I’m happy about it. It’ll be his first start on Lasix.” Breeding: Captain Crunch-Twinkle Last Race: 6/8/2024 – Wbsb – N.A. Cup elimination – 5 th (1:51)
10	Nuclear (\$107,920 – 1:48.4)	A. Miller, J. Holloway Val D’Or Farms	Makes just his second start of the season. The first one was fabulous. Holloway: “He feels fine and trained well. He raced enough last year for experience, so he’ll figure it out.” Breeding: Always B Miki-Can’tgetenuffofyou Last Race: 6/14/2024 – M1 – NW2 – 1 st (1:48.4)

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	L. Toscano	D. Palone	Timeisonmyside	Solid Character	1:50.1

			Booming Economy Captain Fear Not	R. Burke K. Troy	M. Wilder J. Indof	Tenacious Hanover LYONS BENJAMIN	Hugh Heston Solar Solution	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	Solid Character GEM QUALITY IVY PARK Women Layer	R. Burke C. Ryder N. Takter B. Pelling	D. Miller D. Dunn Y. Gingras T. McCarthy	Target Aquired Timeisonmyside Armada Hanover Southwind Celcius	Solar Solution Dream Bird Captain Fear Not Americagreatagain	1:51.3 1:53 1:51.3 1:51.3
5/11	NJSS	M1	Arbitrage Hanover Endofstory	B. Pelling D. Dilloian Jr.	T. McCarthy T. McCarthy	Bonaparte Mr Three O Five	BETTER IS NICE Royal Desire	1:51 1:50.4
5/18	PaSS	PcD	Sweet Beach Life CAPTAIN ALBANO Rush In GEM QUALITY	T. Alexander N. Daley L. Toscano C. Ryder	M. Kakaley T. McCarthy S. Zeron D. Dunn	Solid Character IVY PARK CAPTAIN SKIPPY Armada Hanover	Tenacious Hanover ITS SATURDAY NIGHT LYONS BENJAMIN Lou's World	1:50.4 1:50.4 1:50.2 1:51
5/25	NJSS Final	M1	Arbitrage Hanover	B. Pelling	T. McCarthy	BETTER IS NICE	Mr Three O Five	1:49.1
5/26	PaSS	Phl	Rush In CAPTAIN SKIPPY CAPTAIN ALBANO	L. Toscano A. Svanstedt N. Daley	S. Zeron D. Dunn T. McCarthy	IVY PARK Southwind Celcius GEM QUALITY	LYONS BENJAMIN Armada Hanover ITS SATURDAY NIGHT	1:49.4 1:50.2 1:49.4
6/1	Somebchsomewhere	Wbsb	FUNTIME BAYAMA NIJINSKY	R. Moreau A. Beaton	S. Filion L. Roy	LEGENDARY HANOVER CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS	Fast Louie NEWSROOM	1:49.1 1:49
6/8	N.A. Cup eliminations	Wbsb	CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS FUNTIME BAYAMA NIJINSKY	H. Holland R. Moreau A. Beaton	J. Jamieson S. Filion L. Roy	CAPTAIN ALBANO LEGENDARY HANOVER STORM SHADOW	IVY PARK CAPTAIN LUKE TOTAL STRANGER	1:49.1 1:50.1 1:50.2
6/15	N.A. Cup final	Wbsb	NIJINSKY	A. Beaton	L. Roy	CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS	FUNTIME BAYAMA	1:48.1
7/6	Meadowlands Pace elims	M1						
7/13	Meadowlands Pace Final	M1						