

Race 1 News

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes



Life's a beach for trainer Brett Pelling

by Jay Bergman

Following a 12-year absence from the North American training scene, trainer Brett Pelling needed some time to regain his footing. The one-time Meadowlands leading conditioner returned with a self-confidence that was not initially met by others. The first few years saw Pelling race many of his own horses as he regained footing on the continent.

Last year many of the pieces finally fell in place as Pelling guided the fortunes of two Breeders Crown winners in Caviart Ally and Papi Rob Hanover. To be perfectly correct, Papi Rob Hanover crossed the wire first in his Breeders Crown final only to be disqualified and placed second.

While the disqualification was a sting at the time to Pelling, now a few months removed, the trainer has set his sights on a 3-year-

MAJOR LEGACY

Moved from back, gapped the flow far turn, then rallied on okay into the fast mile. Noteworthy post and class relief; Luke returns as well.

GENERAL TIME

Out nearing half, covered soon-after, bad flow, didn't rally much into swift final panel. Better post, James stays.

MYSTIC RULER

Took out midturn to top, attacked into last bend, not much resistance. Drops another level. Gotta like him too.

BLUE STAR TROOPER

Moved from last 3rd over far turn, came wide, urged, fair close. Post relief and Mooney gets aboard.

ASPLODE HANOVER

Left 3wide, parked full attacking, faded out final turn. Another with better post and Dean chose. Thought.

EDDIE BRUSH

Rode cones at back, cleared gapper near 3/4s, angled wide, urged to narrow gap. Stuck outside again. Tries Jacob.

ZACHARIAHS HONOR

Left well, yielded, stalked to lane, driven, closed on to save 2nd spot. What's the plan from outer post?

TERMINOLOGY

WIN: The horse you select must come in first.

PLACE: The horse you select must come in first or second.

SHOW: The horse you select must come in first, second, or third.

DAILY DOUBLE: A bet attempting to pick the winner of two consecutive races.

PICK THREE: A bet attempting to select the winners of three consecutive races.

PICK FOUR: A bet attempting to select the winners of four consecutive races.

PICK SIX: A bet attempting to select the winners of six consecutive races.

EXACTA: A bet attempting to select the first two finishers in exact order.

TRIFECTA: A bet attempting to select the first **THREE** finishers in exact order.

SUPERFECTA: A bet attempting to select the first **FOUR** finishers in exact order.

PICK 5 (16% Takeout) - 20¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

50 Cent Wagers	Your Cost		
1 x 1 x 1 x 1 x 1	\$.20	2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2	\$6.40
1 x 1 x 1 x 1 x 2	\$.40	2 x 2 x 2 x 3 x 3	\$14.40
1 x 1 x 1 x 2 x 2	\$.80	2 x 2 x 3 x 3 x 3	\$21.60
1 x 1 x 2 x 2 x 2	\$1.60	1 x 2 x 3 x 4 x 5	\$24.00
1 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2	\$3.20	2 x 3 x 3 x 3 x 3	\$32.40
1 x 1 x 3 x 3 x 3	\$5.40	3 x 3 x 3 x 3 x 3	\$48.60
		2 x 3 x 4 x 5 x 6	\$144.00

Race 2 News

old campaign. "He was out for seven weeks and he's back now and looks magnificent," said Pelling. "He's put on some weight, not that he needed to, and is back training."

Pelling has Caviart Ally back in training as well and the Bettor's Delight mare looks to build on her bankroll and move towards the \$2 million mark in career earnings. "I'm happy they brought her back. I didn't think it should have been a hard decision considering what she made last year and what she could this year," Pelling said. "It's going to be a bit of a tougher campaign for her this year as we're going to start her in the Matchmaker." The series at Yonkers Raceway is less than two months away and Pelling expects Caviart Ally to be ready.

Papi Rob Hanover lost the Crown decision to Tall Dark Stranger and Pelling is hopeful that his son of Somebeachsomewhere will become an even better 3-year-old. Pelling has a history of improving most of

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MME MAVIS

Led from gate, yielded quarter, angled back into lead, held okay, mild urging. Looks pretty iffy for her Expo debut.

BIG HERO

Led into turn, backed up to final bend, came on the train, urged to narrow gap. Extra week off. Usable in this compact quintet.

DOUGS HOBBY HORSE

Broke past the quarter, lost contact. Drops back down. Adds Luke. Obviously a big danger if she behaves.

BANKERS FOR ALL

Sat in, gapped out. Disappeared. Extra time off. Blame it on the track?

FRANKS BEST

2nd over near half, good lead up, stalled out final panel. Drops. Dean returns. Has speed to be on or near the lead.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

TERMINOLOGY

BOXED IN: A horse that is racing on the rail (or fence) and is surrounded by other horses in front, outside and behind it. A horse that is boxed in is held up and unable to gain a clear passage.

BREAK: To start galloping and lose natural trotting or pacing rhythm. It usually occurs more with trotters than pacers.

BROODMARE: A female horse, generally retired from racing, used for breeding purposes.

CARD: Another term for a program of racing. For example, a person may refer to there being twelve races on the card, it simply means 12 races will be staged that particular day.

CATCH DRIVER: A driver which doesn't train his or her own horses, and is engaged by other trainers and owners to drive their horses.

CLAIMING RACE or CLAIMER: A race where any of the entrants may be claimed (purchased) for a specified amount.

January 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	

February 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	1

Race 3 News

his stable from freshman to sophomores so expect Papi Rob Hanover to be up to the task. "I don't think it's just going to be those two horses," Pelling said, referring to rival Tall Dark Stranger. "There are some nice horses out there that are going to step up."

Ironically, or perhaps purposefully, Pelling is now training the 2-year-old Somebeachsomewhere half-brother to Tall Dark Stranger.

"He's a beautiful colt," said Pelling, who went to last fall's yearling sales with a specific breed in mind. "I went after the 'Beaches,'" Pelling said, referring to the offering of the late Somebeachsomewhere. "I couldn't be happier with the group. They were tough to break but they're the complete package."

While the stakes guide has yet to come out, Pelling suggested that he will have Papi Rob Hanover ready for the three big races that come quite early in the season. "Those six weeks

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

MYSTERY DRAGON

Saved ground, backed up behind last turn gapper, cleared along cones, rallied fastest. Segues from Goudreau final. One of many.

PANCETTA

Stuck afar early, rode cones, 5hole far turn, urged, fair close. Finally gets into a spot where he can strut his stuff. Also moves inside.

HE GRINS AGAIN

Sped from gate, middle half breather, shook off attacker, some urging to deny pocket fave. Now he tackles considerably tougher.

KEY WORD

Left well, tripped to midfar turn, angled out, urged, flew final yards, away. Steps up another level now. Who knows?

PRODIGAL

Sent from gate, out near quarter to regain, attacked last bend, gave way grudgingly. Been tossing hints. One more in the mix.

QUEENACE BLUE CHIP

Left well, back on rim last bend, led deep in the drive, caught near wire. Fair form but what's his plan here?

BURNTISLAND BILLY

1st out well before half, advanced to top of stretch, flattened. Trainer hops aboard. Outside post a concern.



CLASS: A horse which has raced adequately against better foes may find his way into the winner's circle, while a horse who has beaten inferior foes may find tougher horses not to its liking. A fairly reliable way of checking class is comparing the purses of the previous races and the present race.

COLORS: The special colorful jacket worn by drivers when in a race. Unlike Thoroughbred racing, drivers register their own colors and wear them every time they race.

COLT: A male 3 years of age or less.

CONDITIONED RACE: A race where eligibility is based on age, sex, money won, or races won. For example, "3-year-old fillies, non-winners of \$10,000 or 4 races."

COVER: A horse that races with another horse in front of him is said to race with cover, as the leading horse cuts the wind resistance.

CROSS FIRE: When a horse's hind foot strikes the opposite front foot or leg.

CAL EXPO PICK 3 RULES

1. Any scratch in the first leg of a Pick Three is now a refund.
2. A wager with a scratch in the second leg creates a consolation pool.
3. A wager with a scratch in the third leg creates another consolation pool.
4. A wager with scratches in the second and third leg creates another consolation pool.
5. A consolation pool is the sum of all wagers that include the scratch(es) for that leg or legs. The winning combination for the consolation pool is a wager with the winner or winners of the non-scratch leg(s).

Race 4 News

are demanding," Pelling said in looking at the North America Cup, Max Hempt Memorial and Meadowlands Pace.

With last year's success, Pelling has filled up his 27-stall barn completely and has been forced to turn away some horses. Two major additions to the stable came via Adam Bowden's Diamond Creek Racing that sent over the 4-year-old Blood Money and the 5-year-old Grand Teton. "Together they've won more than a million dollars," said Pelling, who hopes to point the pair for Open-type company in the near future.

Upgrading the stable is what it's all about now for Pelling, having gone from nearly \$1 million in stable earnings in 2018 to \$2.2 million in 2019. "I've got a few horses in the non-winners category that I'll probably try to move," said Pelling.

While much will be expected from Caviart Ally and Papi Rob Hanover in 2020,

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

FOX VALLEY HOSS

Sat in for a mile plus, surged out with last turn cover, urged by leader, driven to hold. Solid form but facing much tougher now.

KING OF THE CROP

Parked half turn to tuck behind top duo, chased rest of the way, urged, 3rd best. In store for another easy run. Figures in the mix.

PART TIME

Sat in to final bend, followed winner out on rim, urged to narrow gap. Returns to top class. Has had excuses.

MR VARSITY

Saved all ground behind blazing clip, driven thru the stretch, no rally. Good form but was no match for top pair last week.

ALLMYXSLIVENTEXAS [post 9]

Sped to pocket, chased to lane, urged enough to get up by a whisker. Probably firing out again. Repeat of last week?

HEZA REAL DIAMOND [post 10]

Flew to top, blazed the clip to lane, never relented, game in defeat. First time he's been outside of #5. His plan?



DAM: The female parent, or mother, of a horse. Also a term occasionally used when you take a tough beat in a photo finish.

DEAD HEAT: A situation in which the judges cannot separate two or more horses when judging the outcome of a race.

DISTANCED: A horse that is out of touch with the rest of the field at any point of the race, usually more than 25 lengths behind the leader. This is often referred to as finished distanced.

DRIVER: The person holding a license or permit to drive harness horses. There are different types of licenses, which correspond to differing levels of experience.

EARLY/LATE CLOSER: A race requiring payments which start much closer to the actual race date than a stake "Early" and "Late" involve specified periods of time.

FILLY: A female 3 years of age or less.

PYLON RULE

(For Horses Racing Without Interference)

1. Going inside two (2) pylons and lapped-on at the finish: The offending horse will be disqualified and placed behind any lapped-on horses at the wire.
2. Going inside three (3) or more consecutive pylons: The offending horse will be disqualified and placed last.
3. If an unfair advantage is gained by going inside, over, or in-between one or more pylons in order to pass another competitor: The offending horse will be disqualified.

The steward's discretion applies to all placement.

Race 5 News

Pelling feels he could have a sleeper in the 3-year-old pacing filly Alexis's Beach. "She showed some talent last year," said Pelling. "The owner wanted to stop with her and I think that was the right move."

A daughter of Somebeachsomewhere, Alexis's Beach took a 1:53 4/5 record while winning twice in 2019.

Before stakes season begins in earnest Pelling's stable has gotten off to a fast start at The Meadowlands, with the blossoming 4-year-old Duddies Lor showing particular promise with consecutive victories in 2020. He's another Somebeachsomewhere and a solid example of the faith Pelling has in this particular breed with his high speed and rugged demeanor.

Seems when it comes to the Pelling stable it's beach season year round.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

SPECIAL SAUCE

Stuck at back to 3/4s, accelerated 3wide with cover, urged to save show slot. Post relief and drops as well. Gotta like.

VICIOUS ALOICIOUS

Left on delay, parked turn, yielded, brushed back 5/8s to top, swallowed up deep str. Been tossing hints. Another must.

ADIOS AMIGOS

Last from the outset, remained there for the balance, never involved. Likely longshot again.

MURDER MYSTERY

Rode cones to far turn, cleared traffic, urged, fair off no use. Segues from Goudreau. He can play with these.

ALS BRIEFS

Away well, easy trip to the lane, urged, didn't make any progress. Extra week off and drops from claiming class. Another use.

MIKIS MAGIC RIDE

Left well, yielded to fav mid-bend, stalked to lane, urged, away. Dean returns. Plan from outer post?

ROCKIN EDDIE

Looped leaving, tucked, backed up to 3/4s, traffic again in lane, urged, okay. Eddie's way outside. Tough but not impossible spot.



FIRST-OVER: The first horse to make a move on the leader in a race, moving up on the outside. Those following the first over horse on the outside are second over, third over, etc.

FOAL: A newly born horse. Also describes the act of a mare giving birth.

FREE LEGGED: A pacer which races without wearing hobbles.

GELDING: A castrated male of any age.

HANDICAPPING: The first step in successfully picking a winner (or "handicapping") is becoming familiar with reading the racing program. Each program has a section explaining the information format used at that particular track. Probably the best place to start when handicapping Standardbreds is time. Since over 99 percent of all harness races are conducted at the one-mile distance, valid comparisons can be made among horses.

CHRB Rule No. 1699

(b) A horse shall not interfere with or cause any other horse to lose stride, ground or position in a part of the race where the horse loses the opportunity to place where it might be reasonably expected to finish.

(c) A horse which interferes with another and thereby causes any other horse to lose stride, ground or position, when such other horse is not at fault and when such interference occurs in a part of the race where the horse interfered with loses the opportunity to place where it might, in the opinion of the Stewards, be reasonably expected to finish, may be disqualified and placed behind the horse so interfered with.

Race 6 News

Chris Page coming off the best year of his life

by Ken Weingartner

Chris Page put together quite the superfecta in 2019. The 36-year-old driver piloted Ohio's Horse of the Year in 2-year-old male pacer Elver Hanover, notched career victory 5,000, increased his workload on the Grand Circuit, and got married.

"It was the best year of my life, horse racing wise and in my personal life," Page said. "I was very happy with all of it."

Page won more than 400 races for the seventh consecutive year in 2019 and nearly set a career high for purses despite taking off all but one day in December for his honeymoon. The Ohio resident visited the winner's circle 435 times and earned \$5.94 million. Although his purses failed to eclipse his \$6.19 million in 2018, his average earnings per start were better in 2019.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

LITTLE EMMA
Out from half, rim balance, kept marching into lead, urged to survive. James choice. One of many.

DOUBLE MYSTERY
Reserved to far turn, tipped out on the rim, didn't make much late headway. Extra week off. Stalks, rallies?

NOISY NORA
Rode cones, backed up to lane, angled, urged, closed well late. Inside post offers a glimmer of hope.

FREE RADICAL
Off gate 2, moved out behind winner from half, good lead up, urged, only fair. Slice maybe.

YOUOLDLOVELETTER
At the back from outset, never got into it, tough group. Back with claiming class.

DUET
Rode cones throughout, failed to keep up late stages. Luke's choice. Fires out here?

MISS SASSY PANTS
Tracked to far turn, came up with cover, only a mild close. Adds Jacob.

DONTCLOSEYOUREYES
3rd over into far turn, not a good flow, no chance into fast panel. Beat this class 2 back. Adds Gerry.

WIMPLES DIMPLE
Flew from gate, yielded, popped back out into far turn, stalled out last furlong. Dean hops aboard. Plan?

FIRE DANCE
Burst out 3/8s to top, attacked balance, urged, only fair late stages. Joins Roberts barn. Entered for \$4000 here.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

HARNESS: The gear which is used to attach the sulky to a horse, to carry the hobbles and to enable the driver to steer the horse.

HOME STRETCH or STRETCH: The straight length of the track, nearest the spectators, where the finish line is situated. It is called this because it is the final part of the track a horse travels down during a race -- on its run 'home' (or run to the finish line).

HOBBLES/HOPPLES: The straps which connect the front and rear legs on the same side of a horse. Most pacers wear hobbles to help balance their stride and maintain a pacing gait. The length of hobbles is adjustable and a trainer registers the length that best suits his or her horse. There are also trotting hobbles that work through a pulley system to help trotters maintain their gait.

HORSE: A male 4 years of age or older.

THE WARM-UPS

The track is busy between races, with horses warming-up for later races. Standardbreds are a rugged breed and this activity enhances their performance. About two hours prior to racing, the trainer will "jog" the horse, the same way any athlete runs to loosen-up prior to competing. Generally, the horse is jogged by going the "wrong way" (clockwise) on the track, follow-

ing a traffic pattern that is standard on tracks all over North America. About an hour before his race, he's warmed-up again. Different trainers have different methods. Some go slowly, others ask for speed. Only experts can detect such things as lameness. Look, though, to see if his gait is fluid. If it is, chances are he's ready to do his best. As a rule, those working out between races **ONE** and **TWO** are in final prepara-

tion for the **FOURTH RACE**, those between **TWO** and **THREE** will be prepping for the **FIFTH RACE**, etc.

SADDLE PADS

Saddle pads at Cal Expo will indicate the horse's betting number and the race number in a smaller size, in upper right hand corner. In the adjacent example: **HORSE NUMBER 3** IN **THE SEVENTH RACE**.

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Race 7 News

In addition to driving Elver Hanover, who was undefeated in nine races, Page drove Ohio champion 2-year-old filly pacer Looksgoodinaromper and had occasional drives with 4-year-old Mission Accepted, who was named Ohio's best older trotter. All three horses were from the stable of trainer Ron Burke.

"It was a very good year," Page said. "Honestly, I've got to thank the Burkes. They're the ones that made it possible. Between them and (trainer) Brian Brown, they've been very good to me.

"Everything just came together. The good thing about 2019 going into 2020, those horses that were 2-year-olds are coming back as 3-year-olds here in Ohio for the stakes program. With a little luck, we'll have a great year this year too."

Page drove Elver Hanover, by Yankee Cruiser out of Edra Hanover, in all but one of his nine races last

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

DIAMONDS ARE TRUMP
Sped to easy lead, braked while untested to lane, attacked, outrallied home. Nick's choice. Usable.

SARAH TOGA AGAIN
Flew from gate, braked hard to far turn, sped home when asked, held gamely. Hikes, moves inside, adds Luke.

NIGHTGIRL
Sat in the trip, improved position late far turn, rallied well to earn the runnerup. Usable in exotics.

PALOMA RUIZ
1st out before far turn, failed to close into fast final quarter. Post relief noted.

PECAN
Saved all ground to the lane, urged, no rally. Steps back up.

SAND AND ROCKS
Left well settled in for easy run to lane, cleared, urged to save place. Jacob returns.

JUNE MORNING
Moved from last behind the fave far turn, not a good flow, no chance. Braxten's choice here.

QUEEN OF MARCS
Tracked two faves to top of lane, tipped out, driven to save 3rd spot. Back outside, plan?

TABBAT MCREY
Grabbed cover from half, moved up to the lane, stalled bit final sixteenth. Extra week off. Stuck way outside.



INQUIRY: Stewards may conduct an inquiry as a result of any incident which may have occurred during a race, to determine whether or not certain drivers and/or horses were responsible for the incident and whether they should receive due punishment.

INVITATIONAL: A race for the top horses in the area. Also known as an Open or Free-For-All.

LAME: The term used to describe a horse which is limping or has difficulty walking properly, similar to leg cramping, or a Charley-horse.

LEASING: As opposed to buying a harness horse, people have the option of leasing one. Just like some people lease a car instead of paying the money up-front, leasing a horse gives people use of a horse without large capital outlay. An agreement or contract must be drawn up between the two parties, and the lease must be registered with the relevant controlling body.

STARTER'S RULES

1728. Starter's Control. The starter shall have control over the horses from the formation of the parade until he gives the word 'go.' The starter shall report to the stewards any misconduct or violation on the part of the driver and may order any unmanageable or disabled horse declared (scratched) from the race with the concurrence of the stewards.

1729. Starting the race. The starter shall bring the horses to the starting gate as near one-quarter of a mile from the starting point as the track may permit, and shall endeavor to get all horses away in position and on gait. If a horse refuses to come to the gate, is unmanageable or liable to cause an accident or injury to any other horse or driver, it may be declared and all monies wagered on that horse shall be refunded.

1730. Recalls. The starter may sound a recall for only the following reasons: 1-A horse scored ahead of the gate; 2- There is interference prior to the word 'go' being given; 3-A horse has broken equipment; 4-A horse falls prior to the word 'go' being given. There shall be no recall after the word 'go' is given and any horse, regardless of his position or an accident, shall be deemed a starter from the time he entered into the starter's control unless dismissed.

Race 8

News

season. Yannick Gingras was in the bike for the gelding's 1:48 3/5 world-record score in a division of the Bluegrass Stakes at Lexington's Red Mile. Page was back behind Elver Hanover the following week when he closed his season with a win in a division of the International Stallion Stakes.

"It's tough to say anything is perfect, but how do you say that he's not? More importantly, the horse got put away on top," Page said. "Anytime in the year, the horse never was taking tired steps. He was always pacing forward late. And he is user friendly. That makes my job so much easier when you can do whatever you want with a horse.

"I saw a picture of him the other day and he looks like a tank. He might have grown a little bit, in height and filled out, and he's always been a good-looking horse, anyway. It makes 2020 exciting driving horses like that."

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

URINGOODHANDS

Sent 3wide to midturn lead, marched hard rest of way, some stretch urging. Hikes, James choice over 2 others.

RAGINS FLIGHT

Left to midturn tuck, back on rim nearing half, urged to save show. Post switch should help.

ROLLING SEA

Moved up on cover train, on rim the balance, held fair considering. John returns to steer.

GENE EUGENE

2nd over nearing half, led up into in, angled wide, urged, tired deep in drive. Drops, Gerry's back in the bike.

MAJOR JESSE

Sat in along cones, some traffic to lane, tough to gauge late interest. Not worst price stab.

MUSICIAN

Looped leaving, parked quarter to clear, shook off 1st up foe, caught by 2holer, best of the rest. Dean hops aboard.

WESTERN DEVIL

Sped to top, yielded past quarter, chased to lane, urged to get by stubborn leader. Probably firing out again.

WILDCAT BOBBY

Off gate pair, moved out past half, gapped bit, faded. Got another brutal post to overcome.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

MAIDEN: A horse which has not yet won a race.

MARE: A female 4 years of age or more.

PARI-MUTUEL RACE: A race in which wagering is allowed, held at a track licensed by a state's racing commission. Pari-mutuel races are held at licensed pari-mutuel racetracks or fairs.

PARKED: A horse racing on the outside, with at least one horse between it and the inside rail. A horse on the outside of two horses is said to be **THREE WIDE**.

PHOTO FINISH: When two horses cross the finish too closely to identify a winner, officials call for a photograph of the race, taken exactly at the finish line, to help them determine who was ahead.

POCKET: A horse in the pocket is sitting in perfect position behind the leader, also known as the **two-hole** or the **pocket**.

Pick Four (16%) - \$30,000 Guaranteed Pool

To win the **Pick Four**, you must select the winners of the four (4) races designated as the pick four races. Otherwise, pursuant to (CHRB 1976.9): **If no ticket correctly selects all four winners, 10% of the net pool will be paid to the winner(s) correctly selecting the most winners, 90% of the net pool will CARRYOVER to the next Pick Four Pool.**

Race 9 News

Chris Page has driven Looksgoodinaromper in all 12 of her races, winning five. She became the fastest 2-year-old filly pacer on a half-mile track with a 1:52 3/5 victory at Northfield in a division of the Ohio Sire Stakes.

"You can't forget about her," Page said. "I really liked her. I think she maybe got a little bit tired late in the year and we were drawing terrible. But she's a world-record-holder too."

Page, who studied to be a veterinarian before turning his full attention to driving, got his first win in 2001 and topped 1,000 starts and 300 wins for the first time in 2009. With the exception of last season when he took his honeymoon break, he has been one of the five busiest drivers in North America on a regular basis.

"Obviously, you have dreams; everybody dreams," Page said about his success. "But I kind of implemented a process

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

THEREALGOODS
Sped to top, pocket near quarter, tracked, faded out final turn. Post relief. Trainer steers.

WIZARD OF ODDS
1st over half, never covered, kept marching, 3vying for 2nd late. Adds Braxten.

MARC MELLOW MAN
Ohio invader off a few weeks, readiness is the obvious question. Dangerous if fit.

NAKED BURNER
Out near half, on rim to stretch, faded from the skirmish. Undercard thoughts.

FRED AND ROZ
Left 3wide, parked most turn, kept marching to lane, held tough to the end. Fast but iffy.

TIYAGA
Settled early, backed up behind last turn gapper, cleared, urged to narrow gap. Adds James.

MYSTICAL STORM
1st out past half, advanced past the leader into lane, urged to hold. Dean's choice over 2 others.

FEAR FACTOR
2nd over near half, kicked wide into lane, urged to eke out 2nd. Negative post switch an issue.

NANANA BAATMAN
Took out near half, gapped flow far turn, failed to show any late interest. Tough post but still a maybe.

CUSTARDS DUNGEON
Sped from gate, pocket into turn, kicked out entering lane, urged to get another. James choice in here. Steps back up.



POST POSITION: Generally, the closer a horse starts to the inside rail or barrier of the track (especially on smaller tracks), the better is its chance of winning. At the start, horses must either "leave" (start quickly) to get a good position or else find a place on the rail to avoid racing on the outside of other horses. When racing on the outside the horse is said to be "parked out", and loses ground on every turn. A horse on the inside has a better chance to get to the rail or quickly get a good position.

QUALIFIER: A race in which a horse must go a mile below an established time standard to prove itself capable of competing in pari-mutuel races.

SCRATCHING: A horse that is withdrawn (or scratched) from a race before the start.

SIRE: The male parent, or father, of a horse.

HI-FIVE - .20¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

10 Cent Wagers	Your Cost		
1 with 23 with 23 with 45 with 45	\$.80	1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 234567.....	\$16.20
1 with 23 with 234 with 2345 with 6	\$3.20	1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 234567810.....	\$28.80
1 with 234 with 234 with 234 with 567.....	\$3.60	1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 2345678910.....	\$32.40
1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 6.....	\$4.80	12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 123456.....	\$48.00
12 with 123 with 1234 with 12345 with 123456	\$6.40	123 with 1234 with 12345 with 123456 with 1234567.....	\$48.60
1 with 234 with 234 with 234 with 5678910	\$7.20	1 with 2345 with 23456 with 234567 with 2345678.....	\$51.20
1 with 23 with 234 with 2345 with 2345678910.....	\$9.60	1234 with 12345 with 123456 with 1234567 with 12345678.....	\$204.80
		123456 with 123456 with 123456 with 123456 with 12345678.....	\$288.00

and stuck to it. You've got to know a few people, but I believe in hard work. I put the work in, and I still do. Being there and trying to be cordial and respectful. These people, there are plenty of guys out there that they can choose to drive their horses. Sometimes, they might remember you for a simple hello.

"That's kind of how I got started. I don't have family per se in the business. My parents didn't do it. I need every inch I can get. And timing. When I got started driving, we didn't have the slots here at the racetracks. Your Brett Millers, your Dave Millers, they went out east and it opened up some room for a young guy like myself to get started."

Page likes to be as prepared as possible when he sits behind a horse. He also likes to help prepare a horse to maximize its potential.

"I'm a program reader and nowadays with the replays,

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

CHINA KING

Sent hard, yielded into turn, stuck in behind tiring foe far turn, cleared, urged, caught for 2nd. Facing a pretty tough bunch.

SENGA NITRO

1st out well before half, didn't advance, tired. Braxten's choice. Drops. Beat this class last month.

ALMOST CUT MY HAIR

At the back from the outset, remained there the duration. Another class dropper. Mooney hops aboard.

CONTEMPORAY LEGEND

Hopped aboard long cover train half, led up to lane, failed to rally. James returns.

DEWEYDIDDONEGOOD

Pushed hard from pole, yielded to fav quarter, stalked, surged late, up for another. Sharp, facing some tough droppers.

BESTINTHEBUSINESS

Sped from gate, braked to far turn, urged enough to deny pocket sitter. Extra week off. Nick steers here.

TO THE LIMIT

Sat in whole trip, asked to keep up far turn, driven, no rally into meet's fastest mile. Drops, outside, adds Gerry.

TIMETOPLAYTHEGAME

Took out near half, attacked the fave thru quick pace, tired. Negative post switch. Has speed.

MARCED MAGIC

Saved ground, popped out on rim far turn, stalled bit into fastest quarter of the mile. Week off. Should like class relief.



SIRE STAKE: Stake races designed to promote Standardbred breeding and racing within a state. Different states have different rules regulating eligibility to that state's sire stakes program. Rules include: a horse must be the offspring of a stallion standing in the state or a mare living in that state, owned by a resident of that state, or the horse was born in that state.

STAKE RACE: A race where owners make a series of payments, starting well in advance, to keep a horse eligible. If an owner misses a payment to a stakes race, the horse becomes ineligible.

STARTER: The person responsible for starting a harness race. The starter controls the start of the race from the back of the mobile starting car.

SULKY: Also known as the cart or race-bike, the sulky is attached to the harness and carries the driver and which the horse pulls.

C.H.R.B. BREAKING RULES

1722. Breaking. Should any horse break from its gait in either trotting or pacing, the driver shall:

(a) Where clearance exists, take such horse to the outside.

(b) Attempt to pull the horse to its gait.

(c) Lose ground.

1723. Lapped-on Break. The driver of a horse which has broken from its gait who has complied with the breaking rule shall not be set back unless a contending horse on his gait is lapped on the hind quarter of the breaking horse at the finish.

if I haven't driven a horse, I can type in his name and watch his last few races," Page said. "I do a lot of that; I watch replays quite a bit. It's like, Tom Brady watches film before he goes out and plays a game. You have to do your homework. I want to know as much as I can about the horse; what it can do and what it can't do.

"The (young horses) I drive, the first few starts I kind of babysit them. I race them off a helmet and make sure they're pacing late. Once they get that figured out, then you can add another element. Most horses can leave or can learn to leave very easily. But on the flip side, not as many can race off the pace, do stuff like that, because they get hot. I really take pride in my work and really try to do best by the horse."

Page was happy to take time off with his wife Brianna at the end of last year to enjoy a honeymoon, which included a week in the Bahamas and a week skiing in Michigan.

**Individual Recap
Last Race Footnotes**

CROOKSHANKS
Moved from back far turn, not a good flow, angled wide, urged. Drops, inside, and Luke steers. Figures to get bet.

DAATRUMPSTER
Settled in behind strong winner at once, chased to lane, some urging, held on okay. James choice. How ready will he be?

SHAKER TANK
Looped leaving, tucked mid-bend, tracked top trio rest of way, driven. Adds Dean. Undercard?

VILLA FOR RENT
Sat in whole trip, no rally into the blazing mile. Mooney's choice here.

SPORTS DRAMA
Settled in behind top pair, chased to the lane, stalled in quick quarter. Probably gonna need one.

FOX VALLEY B GUMP
Sped to pocket behind winner, tracked rest of way, urged, 4 across late. Outside again. Leaves?

MYSTIC WONDER
Sent to top, regained passing quarter, yielded before half, mild traffic, stalled. Extra week off. Hikes, adds Nick.



TIME TRIAL: An attempt to have a horse beat its own best time in a non-competitive event. A time trial is not a race. Galloping horses hitched to sulkies, called prompters, are used to push a horse to its best effort.

TOTE BOARD: An electronic board, usually in the infield of a track, which posts the odds, amount of money bet, results of a race and the wagering pay-offs.

WEANLING: A baby horse, up to its first birthday.

YEARLING: Any horse between its first and second birthday; all harness horses share the birthday of January 1st.

- FAST TRACK:** The optimum condition for a dirt track, dry, fast and even.
- GOOD TRACK:** Condition between fast and slow, generally a bit wet.
- SLOPPY TRACK:** A track that is wet on surface with firm bottom.
- SLOW TRACK:** A track with some moisture in it that is not fast, between good and heavy.
- MUDDY TRACK:** Deep condition of racetrack after being soaked with water.
- HEAVY TRACK:** Condition of track when wet similar to muddy but slower.

Race 12 News

The couple was married in September.

"I never take time off," Page said. "I might take a day or two here or there, but not really any significant time since I started racing. She works in an orthodontist office. She works in the morning, I work at night, so to get to spend some time together is nice. Plus, it was Christmas time and we got to spend time with the families at Christmas. We just had a ball, really. It was the quickest month of my life."

Was it difficult to adjust to not rushing around?

"No, not at all," Page said. "I'm usually always looking at my watch because I have stuff to do, but for a whole month I didn't pay attention to the time. I kept telling myself I was on vacation and it didn't matter. My biggest chore was figuring out what to eat that day."

A very good way to end a very good year.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

WET SHARK

Sat in to final bend, took cover into lane, urged, solid come-backer. Inside tonight. Should be tighter too.

TICKET TO ROLL

1st over from half, didn't make much progress, tired. Soft trip, hoping for part.

PANEDICTINE

Reserved leaving, gapped last throughout, avoided a break. Dean's choice. Iffy. Not totally impossible.

CENALTA DIESEL

Parked past quarter, no pressure to lane, opened up, caught near wire. Figures well in here.

STYLEMASTER

Pocket at once, sat there to deep stretch, tipped near wire, solid rally. Very dangerous but how ready?

CHIEF SARATOGA

2nd over half, not a good flow, tried wide bid far turn, tired. James returns to steer.

ROCKET POWER

Left well, took cover into far turn, driven, just a mild rally. Braxten returns to the sulky.

JUST B TALKING

Rode rail throughout, some stretch urging, failed to show any late interest. Negative post switch. Tough call.

LAISSEZMOIPICOLER

Pushed leaving, back first over nearing last bend, stalled from the skirmish. Back outside. Tries John.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

The New Year Claiming Effect One angle to watch out for at the end of the year, and at the beginning of the next year is what happens with 3 and 4 year olds who are racing in claimers. When racing against older horses, 3 year olds are given a 50% allowance, and 4 year olds are given a 25% allowance. Here's what this means.

Say you own a 3 year old, and you think the horse is worth, say \$30,000. That's what you are willing to lose him for. So you put him in for a \$30,000 claiming tag and he's racing against older horses. What is the claiming price on these older horses? \$20,000. In other words, your horse (who you value at 30 grand) is racing against older horses who's owners value them at 20 grand. It's an advantage.

Now January 1 comes along, and your horse now has a 25% allowance, not 50%. If the same situation applies, and you still think he's worth 30K, then you will have to race him against older horses who are valued at \$25,000, versus \$20,000 when he was 3.

HI-FIVE (16% Takeout) - .20¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

10 Cent Wagers

Your Cost

1 with 23 with 23 with 45 with 45	\$.80	1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 234567.....	\$16.20
1 with 23 with 234 with 2345 with 6	\$3.20	1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 234567810.....	\$28.80
1 with 234 with 234 with 234 with 567.....	\$3.60	1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 2345678910.....	\$32.40
1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 6.....	\$4.80	12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 123456.....	\$48.00
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