

B.C. Standardbred Times

NEWS from the BC Standardbred Association and BC Standardbred Breeders' Society

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December 2008

Remembrance Day unforgettable for harness fans

B.C. Breeders Classic Day

They came, they saw and they conquered at Fraser Downs on a Remembrance Day that will not soon be forgotten by local harness racing fans.

Superstar Ontario drivers Mark MacDonald and Rick Zeron combined to win seven races on the \$400,000 BC Breeders Classic Day card and both donated their winnings to help raise funds for 12-year-old Cole Rutter, seriously injured in an ATV accident in September. Young Cole is the son of Fraser Downs trainer Carol St. Amand.

Working with local trainer Rod Therres, MacDonald won the \$100,000 Robert Murphy BC Breeders Stakes driving Royal Morn from the outside post and winning by five lengths in a final time of 1:54.3. MacDonald also won the \$50,000 BC Breeders Stakes for 2-year-old colts and geldings by putting undefeated Primary Purpose on the lead before cruising home in a final time of 1:56.1. MacDonald's two other victories were in the fillies and mares open with B Bar Marilyn for trainer Amber Lancaster and the \$15,000 Claimer with Walter Slopianka-trained Western Collection.

Zeron's three wins included the \$50,000 BC Breeders Stakes Filly Final for 2-year-olds with the Barry Treentrained Promisinggoodnews along with the Rick Lancaster-trained stablemates Maxilla Future and Red Star Wildone, both \$4,000 claimers. The major upset of the day was posted in the \$100,000 Mary Murphy Final when Alexaastordinaire driven by Jim Marino won by 11 lengths in a final time of 1:56.3. The appearances of MacDonald and Zeron generated tremendous response and the betting turnover soared to over \$304,000.

Almost \$32,000 raised for Cole

Along with the donations made by visiting reinsmen, MacDonald and Zeron, the Fraser Downs racetrack, BCSA, Fraser Downs trainers, drivers, owners, staff and fans boosted the fund raising tally for Cole Rutter to an amazing \$31,836.73.

Bake sales, silent auctions, driver fee donations, 50/50 raffles and community support all assisted in building the tally. Fraser Downs racetrack and casino matched the drivers donations dollar for dollar.



Photo by: Jim Reynolds

Mark MacDonald in action. He drove two Stakes winners and bagged four races on the card.

David Aldred to return to Australia

David Aldred, the executive director of harness racing in British Columbia, resigned his position this month and will return to Australia in February 2009 to continue his career. David who is in his third term as the executive director of the BC Standardbred Association and BC Standardbred Breeders' Society has been appointed as the new head of Harness Racing for South Australia. HRSA selected David to lead their industry after an international search and his appointment was unanimously endorsed by the harness racing board in SA. BC Standardbred Association president, Jim Vin-

nell said that his board was hoping that David would continue to lead the industry in BC for another three years. "We have just completed a major study of our industry and commenced real projects as part of our five year plan and there is still plenty that needs to be achieved in BC. We were hoping that David would be here to take us forward. David's resignation is a huge blow to us and for horse racing in BC," Mr. Vinnell said. Until his departure, David plans to focus on achieving the short term priorities for the BCSA and BCSBS and assist the board in identifying his replacement.



Davis and Hoerdts the Western Canada reps in the Nationals

The National Driving Championship is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2009 at Fraser Downs.

Fraser Downs GM said the track is planning for a great event with plenty of promotions and activities for the fans. The following drivers will be competing:

Gilles Barrieau – Maritimes
Marc Campbell – Maritimes
Bill Davis – West
Brad Forward – Ontario

Guy Gagnon – Quebec
Kelly Hoerdts – West
Paul MacDonell – Ontario
Daniel Potvin – Quebec

Bill Davis on target for 5000 wins before the end of 2008

Get ready for a big celebration when Fraser Downs' number one reinsman Bill Davis celebrates his 5000th driving win.

With five victories at the two cards raced at Fraser on Friday and Saturday, Davis is just four wins away from the major milestone.

He could have reached the magic number this weekend but the snow and unsafe track conditions forced the cancellation of the Sunday race card. He was down for seven drives and his odds for success were good. The champion reinsman is now racing the calendar to reach the 5000 wins before the end of the year

"Nailing 5,000 career wins is like an NHL player scoring 500 career goals or a baseball player hitting 500 career home runs."

There are three 2008 race cards remaining, December 26, 27 and 28.

"Everybody at the track is excited and counting down with him,"

veteran trainer Wayne Isbister told Horse Racing Central.

"Nailing 5,000 career wins is like an NHL player scoring 500 career goals or a baseball player hitting 500 career home runs.

I'm proud to say that probably 500 of Bill's wins came while he was driving for me in the 1990's. I'll be one of the first in line to congratulate him when number 5,000 is officially in the books." Davis has had a stellar year.

He also advanced to the National Driving Championship next March along with Alberta's Kelly Hoerdts after finishing two wins and 62 points in the recent Regional Final at Fraser Downs.



Photo by David Aldred

Bill Davis shooting for career milestone



Focused Event Thinking

BC Horse Racing Industry Size & Scope Study completed - Results to be presented to industry

The horse racing industry is a complex mix of sport, business, entertainment and community, rolled into a product and pastime enjoyed by many.

In British Columbia, the racing industry operates within complexities that are not common in other parts of the world. This does not make the BC structure incorrect, however it does pose unique and specific challenges to racing participants, associations and track operators. In a Size and Scope Study commissioned by the BC Horse (Thoroughbred & Standardbred) Racing Industry as the initial project for the BC Horse Racing Industry Business Plan Development, Australian company

IER Pty Ltd. has found that although there is already a significant amount of research into the economic importance of the racing industry in BC, many of these studies have fallen short of developing a complete conceptual framework of the industry. IER says that "such a concise industry definition forms a pillar of any such work, allowing meaningful analysis and measurement as an industry and for the various sectors and stakeholders involved."

The consultants believe that essentially the industry must encompass all activities for which the racehorse is the key focus as well as the business and activity which occurs, at least in part, to cater for this industry. IER will present a detailed

outline of the "racing industry" concept as part of their report to the BC Horse Racing Industry at Fraser Downs in the near future. The Size and Scope Study has been developed after an exhaustive information gathering process by the company.

IER's findings are the result of studies conducted in BC earlier this year. They researched the BC horse racing industry -- going out into the workplaces of industry participants, racetracks, breeding farms, peak racing associations and regulatory bodies with face to face interviews, on-line research, customer research and participant research and in tandem conducted a financial and economic review of the industry.

Quality broodmares to be auctioned January 5th

The BC Standardbred Breeders' are offering three quality broodmares; Hank's Girl, Arzu Hanover, and Four Starz Angel, at an auction on Monday January 5. The auction will be held at 7:00pm in the Showbarn located at 6050A - 176th Street, Surrey, BC. Entry forms for the Broodmare / Mixed Sale are available at the BCSBS office, to be submitted no later than December 29, 2008

FOUR STARZZ ANGEL

p2 1:58.3

(In foal to *The Panderosa*)

Artsplace
Artiscape
Delinquent Account

Four Starzz Angel (2002)

Presidential Ball
Angel Be Better
Angel Be Good

Angel Be Better is a Stakeswinner at 2yrs. Winner NJSS at Freehold. At 3yrs timed in 1:56.4. Second dam Angel Be Good is the dam of 10 winners including Brandons Cowboy (1:50.3). Infoal to *The Panderosa*.

HANK'S GIRL

(in foal to *Bettors Delight*)

Abercrombie
Artsplace
Villa Storm

Hank's Girl (2002)

Storm Damage
Villa Storm
Village Secretary

This mare is in foal to NY sire Bettors Delight. This is the same pedigree cross that produced Kenneth J (1:49.3) \$1.4m. and Southwind Tempo (1:49.3) \$1.2m. Stud fee refundable if no Live Foal.

ARZU HANOVER

(in foal to *Village Jolt*)

Western Hanover
The Panderosa
Daisy Harbor

Arzu Hanover (2004)

Artsplace
Articize
Romanticize

From the family of Art Major (1:48.4) \$2.7m. Carrying her second foal which is sired by Village Jolt (1:50.4). This family has also produced Worldly Beauty (1:49.3) \$1.9m; Real Artist (sire) 1:51.

New Friday post time for Fraser Downs

Starting on Friday January 2, 2009 the first race for all Fridays at Fraser Downs will be 7:30 p.m. (10:30 eastern).

Fraser Downs Simulcast Manager Dan Jukich who notified the schedule change said that the Friday Fraser card would span a three hour block with the last race on the night at approximately 10:30 p.m. (1:30 eastern).

Happy New
Year 2009



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The local real estate market has eased off from past records. Interest rates are still low & there is ample supply of new listings available. If you are considering purchasing a home or farm, you may find sellers receptive to negotiate a favourable price. With many years as a professional realtor and a fellow horseman, I understand your needs. For personal service or advice on any Real Estate matter, give me a call.

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2008 O'Brien Awards to be announced January 31

Standardbred Canada has announced the finalists for the 2008 O'Brien Awards, which honour Canada's best in harness racing over the past season. The awards are named in honour of the late Joe O'Brien, an outstanding horseman and a member of The Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame. The winners will be announced at the O'Brien Awards banquet on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Somebeachsomewhere has unanimously won his category as Canada's Three-Year-Old Pacing Colt of the Year.

Seventy-two voters from across Canada awarded the Mach Three colt his third O'Brien trophy. Following a perfect freshman season in 2007 which included a World Record and two O'Brien's, one as co-winner of Canada's Horse of the Year, 'The Beach' gave Canadian racing fans lots to cheer about in 2008. The son of Mach Three all but rewrote the history books as he set a seasonal earnings record with more than \$2.5 million, paced three World Record miles and won all but one of his races. He was the sport's richest and fastest in '08, pacing to a 1:46.4 World Record effort at The Red Mile in a division of the Bluegrass Stakes. Owned by the Schooner Stables, a six-member group from Bible Hill, Nova Scotia, The Beach's stakes victories included the Burlington, North America Cup, Confederation Cup, Ontario Sires Stakes Super Final, Simcoe, Tattersalls, Messenger and Breeders Crown. Co-owner Brent MacGrath, who makes his living selling cars, took 2008 off to manage the colt's career.

Paul MacDonell, who has been Somebeachsomewhere's regular reinsman for two seasons, is looking to capture his first O'Brien as Canada's Driver of the Year and is up against defending champion, Jody Jamieson. MacDonell has driven 193 winners to date and horses to earnings in excess of \$8 million. Jamieson has made 325 trips to the winner's circle and driven winners of over \$8.5 million, including O'Brien nominee Federal Flex.

Bob McIntosh, 56, of Windsor, ON will be looking for his fourth O'Brien Award as Canada's Trainer of the Year and is up against Casie Coleman, 28, of Cambridge, ON, a two-time winner in this category. McIntosh led all trainers in the Ontario Sires Stakes with his stable earning over \$1 million in OSS events. His stable earned \$3.7 million in purses in '08 and won 159 races. Coleman trained 153 winners, including O'Brien nominees Chancey Lady and Tigerama and earned over \$3.6 million in purses.

Two colts that exemplified consistency throughout the year earned nominations in the Two-Year-Old Pacing Colt category. Nebupanezzar, North America's top money-winning juvenile pacing colt with over \$1 million to his credit, won 10 of 14 races including seven Ontario Sires Stakes events. Major In Art, a winner of six races and almost \$900,000, won the two signature stakes events for juvenile pacers - The Woodrow Wilson and The Metro Pace.

St Lads Popcorn and Arts Star are finalists in the Two-Year-Old Filly Pace category. St Lads Popcorn won 12 of 15 and over \$600,000 for the Jack Darling Stable. The daughter of Twin B Champ dominated the Ontario Sires Stakes, winning eight events. Arts Star was also a consistent OSS winner with over \$185,000 in earnings.

BC owned, Chancey Lady, winner of the Fan Hanover, is up against OSS Super Final winner Voelz Hanover in the sophomore pacing filly category. Chancey Lady, won nine races and over \$715,000 on the year, while Voelz Hanover won six races and \$410,000.

Two of North America's top-ranked mares will battle it out for top honours in the Older Pacing Mare category. My Little Dragon, North America's leading money-winning pacing mare with earnings of over \$831,000, had 19 of 22 top three finishes while Southwind Madonna hit the board 18 of 22 times for over \$333,000 in purse money.

Secrets Nephew and Tigerama, two of the sport's iron horses, are up for the title of Canada's Older Pacing Horse of the Year. Secrets Nephew dominated the open events on the Woodbine Entertainment Group circuit and netted over \$411,000 for his connections, while Tigerama had two of his 11 wins in the Masters and Spring Pacing Championships to his credit for \$348,000 in purse money. In the juvenile trotting filly category, Elusive Desire and Windsongs Soprano are finalists for the O'Brien trophy. Ontario Sires Stakes Super Final winner Elusive Desire had over \$395,000 in earnings, while Windsong Soprano had \$345,000 and the Peaceful Way Stakes to her credit.

Encore Encore's seven wins and \$406,000 has earned him one of the nominations in the rookie trotting colt category. The homebred son of Broadway Hall is up against the Muscles Yankee colt Federal Flex, a winner of over \$560,000 and several stakes including the Champlain and Valley Victory.

The Kadabra filly Bella Dolce, a winner of seven races and \$431,000 in purses including the Canadian Breeders Championships and Simcoe, is up for an O'Brien as Canada's Three-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year. The other candidate is the sport's richest sophomore trotting filly, Lantern Kronos, a winner of 12 races, \$920,000 and several stakes, including the Casual Breeze and Eleganimage.

Al Libfeld's homebred Define The World is up for sophomore trotting honours against Clerk Magistrate. Define The World won 14 races and \$751,000 with wins in the Simcoe, Canadian Breeders and OSS Super Final. Clerk Magistrate's victory in the Goodtimes was one of six wins in his \$820,000 season. Breeders Crown champion Brigham Dream and Falls For You, winner of the Armbr Flight, are the nominees for Canada's Older Trotting Mare title. Brigham Dream netted over \$222,000 for her connections, while Falls For You was a winner of \$368,000. In the Older Trotting Horse category, Arch Madness, winner of the Maple Leaf Trot and over \$842,000, hopes to pick up his second consecutive O'Brien, this time as

Canada's Older Trotting Horse, against Armbr Chronicle, a winner of the Earl Rowe, Frank Ryan and over \$510,000 in purse money.

Two outstanding all-round horsemen will compete for the O'Brien Award of Horsemanship - John Kopas, 52, of Milton, Ontario and Phil Pinkney, of Truro, Nova Scotia. Glengate Farms of Campbellville, ON and Robert Hamather of Exeter, ON are the finalists in the Armstrong Breeder of the Year.

2008 O'Brien Award Nominees

Pacers

Two-Year-Old Filly Pacer

Arts Star owned by Steve Calhoun, Chatham, ON, Michael Lindley, Chatham, ON and West Wins Stable, Cambridge, ON

St Lads Popcorn owned by Jack Darling Stables Ltd., Cambridge, ON

Two-Year-Old Colt Pacer

Major In Art owned by Major In Art Stable, Dillsburg, PA

Nebupanezzar owned by Peter Pan Stables Inc. Pepper Pike, OH

Three-Year-Old Filly Pacer

Chancey Lady owned by Niele Jiwan, Burnaby, BC

Voelz Hanover owned by Richard Berthiaume, Pointe-Aux-Trembles, QC

Three-Year-Old Colt Pacer -

UNANIMOUS WINNER

Somebeachsomewhere owned by Schooner Stables, Bible Hill, NS

Older Pacing Mare

My Little Dragon owned by Adam Victor and Son Stable, New York, NY

Southwind Madonna owned by Carl MacArthur, Brampton, ON & Talacadac Stable, Kleinburg, ON

Older Pacing Horse

Secrets Nephew owned by Lyle MacArthur, St. George, ON & Frank Grandinetti, Amherst, NY
Tigerama owned by Robert Hamather, Exeter, ON

People Awards

O'Brien Award of Horsemanship

John Kopas, 54, Milton, Ontario
Phil Pinkney, 71, Central Onslow, Nova Scotia

Armstrong Breeder of the Year

Glengate Farms, Campbellville, ON
Robert Hamather, Exeter, ON

Driver of the Year

Jody Jamieson, 32, Cambridge, Ontario
Paul MacDonell, 45, Guelph, Ontario

Trainer of the Year

Casie Coleman, 28, Cambridge, ON
Robert McIntosh, 56, Windsor, ON

HORSE OF THE YEAR

Each of the above named horse nominees and Trotter nominees is a finalist for Canada's Horse of the Year.