

Stallion Station Newsletter

February 19th 2008

Volume 21



Somebeach tops USTA Experimental Ratings

The boom **Mach Three** colt **Somebeachsomewhere** has been projected to pace a mile in 1:47.6 this year - a new world record - in the United States Trotting Association's Experimental Championship Ratings released last week.

Ratings analyst and respected publicist Stan Bergstein has made the colt his top choice in the rankings for 2008. The 1:47.6 rating for the world record holder is the fastest time ever given out in the history of his prognostications.

"The sky is the limit for him," said Somebeachsomewhere's driver Paul MacDonell. "Any colts he faced last year he left in his wake. He's a cocky horse. He knows he's good."



Somebeachsomewhere

Rustler Steve hoists new mark of 1:50.8

Rustler Steve, a five-year-old **Rustler Hanover** gelding, took full advantage of a clever drive by Rick Zeron to outgun his rivals in the \$45,000 Open Pace at Woodbine on Saturday night.

After gaining a saloon passage through sectionals of 25.6, 28.8 and 28.4, Zeron was able to stick-handle Rustler Steve up the rail and the ground-saving drive gave Zeron what Rustler Steve needed to hit the line first in a lifetime best of 1:50.8.

Out of a Pacific Rocket mare, Rustler Steve has earned a cheque in 14 of his last 17 outings.

Rustler Hanover landed a notable double on the 13-race card with **Video Express** (8YO gelding ex Camtastic mare) winning in 1:53.

Another Rustler winner in Canada was **Major Memory** (8YO gelding ex Armbro Emerson mare), who prevailed at Windsor Raceway in 1:55.6 last Wednesday.

IN BRIEF

- **Mystic Knight**, a four-year-old **Day In A Life** entire ex Vance Hanover mare, notched his second win on the grass track at Stratford last Sunday
- **Brendons Camotion**, a four-year-old **Camotion** gelding ex Run The Table mare, won at Western Fair, Canada in 1:59.8 recently

Rocket Man rides to victory

Our Rocket Man, a **Caprock** gelding bred in NZ, owned in Victoria and trained in Western Australia, notched his 10th lifetime win and his first at Gloucester Park when he led throughout last Friday.

Out of a Lordship mare, the seven-year-old gelding boosted his stake earnings to \$66,715.

Meanwhile, **Unattached**, a seven-year-old gelding ex Bo Scot's Blue Chip mare, came from last at the bell to post win No. 8 at Palmerston North, New Zealand.

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Pacific Fella's four

The Cam Fella horse, **Pacific Fella**, who is again riding high on the winner's list this season, produced a quartet of winners in Victoria this week.

They were the three-year-old filly **Howards Dilemma** (ex Albert Albert mare), who notched her third win from her last five starts at Kilmore, **Pacific Emperor** (3YO gelding ex Jef's Emperor mare), a winner at Maryborough in 1:58.9, **The Jamaican** (4YO gelding ex Entrepreneur mare), who posted win No. 5 at Shepparton, and **Becky Cee** (4YO mare ex Catch A Flight mare), who won her fourth race at Stawell.

In America, the Pacific Fella gelding **Pacific Playboy**, who is out of an Artsplace mare, won at Saratoga in 1:53.6 – the fastest time of the year on the one-mile track.

Mach Three's smart duo

Precious Lord and **Dancing In Roma**, a pair of New Zealand bred **Mach Three** three-year-olds, flew the flag for the champion sire in Australia last weekend.

Bred by Kiwi bloodstock agent John Curtin, **Precious Lord** (ex Acquisitor mare) made it two out of two in leading most of the way over 2150 metres at Bendigo. He rated a smart 1:59.5 for the middle distance trip with the last 800 in a sizzling 57.6.

Riverboat 40% strike rate

The Cam's Card Shark horse, **Riverboat King**, who has an amazing 40 percent winners-to-foals record with his Australian crops, produced notable winners on both sides of the Tasman last week.

Safin, a three-year-old filly out of a Genghis Khan mare, stamped herself as a genuine NZ Oaks candidate with a barnstorming win over 2200 metres at Alexandra Park. After settling four back on the markers, the filly gained racing room for the first time at the 600 metre mark and sprouted wings in the home straight to post her third win.

Mymax, a four-year-old gelding ex The Contender mare, recorded his second lifetime success at Penrith on Thursday.

New winner for "Icon"

Joni James, a three-year-old gelding, became the fifth winner for **Falcon's Icon** when he overcame a poor barrier and a chequered passage to win over 2400 metres at Winton last Friday. He is out of an Apollo's Way mare.

Peace Of Art's treble

The Artsplace stallion **Peace Of Art** continues to churn out the winners...

Dream Fantasy and **Ganni**, a pair of five-year-olds, won at Wagga and Newcastle respectively, while **Picasso Star**, a seven-year-old trotting gelding, came off the back mark of 20 metres to prevail at Globe Derby Park.

Dream Fantasy, who is out of a What's Next mare, took a new lifetime mark of 1:59.8.

Breeder Profile

Name: Craven Family Group

Occupation: Dairy Farmers

How long have you been involved in breeding standardbreds? 25 years

Who is the best racehorse you have bred or owned? Jilliby Gold

Who is best broodmare you have owned? Jilliby Diamond

How many broodmares do you currently own? 15

How many horses do you have racing and who does the training for you? 12 – Margaret Lee, Peter, Kerry and Michelle Manning

Who is best horse you have seen? Gammalite

Are you on any committees and do you hold any memberships? Trainers & Drivers Association, Harness Racing Owners Association and Victorian Standardbred Breeders & Studmasters Association

What is your overview of the current state of harness racing in Victoria? We feel it is going OK. Our country circuit is very strong compared to other States but our stakemoney seems to be not keeping up as good as WA or Tasmania

What would be the top of your wish list for harness racing? A more flexible ruling for sectional times and whip use given to the stewards so we could encourage our young drivers to go out and think about how to win a race; not having to go out and worry about how to avoid a fine. We need to encourage them to stay-not drive them away

