

PHAETOSIVE (Explosive Matter – Phaeton – Angus Hall)



Owner: Purple Haze Stables LLC

Trainer: Trond Smedshammer

Driver: Trond Smedshammer

Purchase: \$65,000 Harrisburg Select Yearling Sale

Entering the Hambletonian Oaks on a three-race win streak (including a 1:51 lifetime-best win in her elimination), she looks to beat the other elimination winner **Manchego** in their fourth match up, having finished behind her on three occasions (all at two): the \$330,800 Jim Doherty Memorial, \$307,500 Peaceful Way and \$600,000 Breeders Crown Final, finishing third.

“[Manchego] got the best of me last year every time they hooked up, but I think it’s a little closer this year,” Smedshammer said after winning the elimination.

When asked if she’s ever been racing better, Smedshammer said “No.”

A winner of seven races in 11 starts, Phaetosive has compiled \$377,358 in career earnings. Her resume includes wins (at two) in the eliminations for the Doherty Memorial, Peaceful Way and Breeders Crown and (at three) in a division of Pennsylvania Sires Stakes and the \$128,500 Del Miller Memorial at the Meadowlands.

“She’s been good her whole life,” Smedshammer also said after the elimination. “She just keeps impressing me.”

Trainer Trond Smedshammer, a native of Norway, tries for his second win in the Oaks, having conditioned 2008 winner Creamy Mimi, who was also his most recent Oaks finalist. Smedshammer last year sent Hillarmbro in the eliminations, finishing seventh. Smedshammer also tries for his driving win the Hambletonian Oaks.

Smedshammer has won nearly 1,200 races as a trainer and over 640 as a driver, with his horses having earned over \$47 million in purses. He also trained and drove Windsong’s Legacy, who won the 2004 Hambletonian and was the first trotter since Super Bowl in 1972 to win the Trotting Triple Crown. He has since been followed by Glidemaster (2006) and Marion Marauder (2016).