

The Meadowlands • August 6, 2011 • Purse \$1,640,000

Broad Bahn Wins In Big Day For Brennan

The 2011 Hambletonian had as many storylines and as much drama as an afternoon soap opera. After 18 colts dropped in the box and were split into two eliminations the field was established for the \$1.5 million final. In the first elimination, the favorite's role was played by the Linda Toscano-trained Chapter Seven, who had prevailed by a determined head in his Stanley Dancer division prep race, his first start of the year and entrymate Blue Porsche, fresh off a win in the Goodtimes Trot in Canada.

George Brennan nailed leading driver honors at the Meadowlands in 2010, and was hot on the trail of a second title. He drove Broad Bahn, a big son of Broadway Hall sharply out of the eight hole and was able to steal the race in rated fashion, tripping the timer in 1:53, nearly a length ahead of Chapter Seven. Fawkes, Whit and Luckycharm Hanover completed the first five finishers to advance. Entrymate Blue Porsche was dull, and had a tough time regaining his freshman form for the rest of the year. Orlando and Big Sky Storm both made early miscues and were counted out of the final.

In the second elimination, the favorite, Manofmanymissions, performed as expected. After a six-length blowout in his Dancer division, the colt trained by Erv Miller and driven by his brother Andy seemed primed for a big effort. Never in doubt about his speed, Miller instead worried that a nagging foot problem might lead to the occasional break in stride Manofmanymissions had displayed on the rare occasion. So Andy Miller cautiously floated out of the gate, settled briefly in fourth, then attacked first over to win by a length in 1:52.4. George Brennan, driving Magnum Kosmos was second while defending Dan Patch champion Pastor Stephen was third. The last two finalists were Opening Night and Whiskey Tax to complete a field of 10.

The connections of elimination winners Manofmanymissions and Broad Bahn picked their post positions prior to the draw to set the remainder of the 10-horse field. Broad Bahn's name was picked first out of the hat, so trainer, Noel Daley chose post position number one. "He's got [gate] speed and he has the 'Minister of Speed,'" Brennan said, referring to his own nickname around the track.

That prompted Erv Miller to select the two slot.

"We're going to take the two hole, right beside (Broad Bahn)," Miller said. We don't want to be out too far and don't want to get other horses in between us." Manofmanymissions also earned the favorites role by virtue of his faster elim time, going off at 8-5.

The post positions for the other eight 3-year-old trotters were determined in an open draw.

On a hot and bright Saturday afternoon the field gathered behind the starting gate for the 86th Hambletonian, the 31st time the classic event would race over the host track of the Meadowlands.

The race was over before it started for Magnum Kosmos and Brian Sears with an ill-timed break behind the gate. Longshots Whiskey Tax (Randy Waples) and Luckycharm Hanover (David Miller) both made attempts at leaving, but the Minister of Speed used Broad Bahn's pole position and quick early foot to stuff them in behind him. Brennan unfurled a :27.1 first quarter, brisk but not excessive, then let Broad Bahn relax through a :56 half.

This is where the battle should have been joined, as Manofmanymissions began his slow but steady march up the outside to try to wear down Broad Bahn. But Brennan was ready for the attack and asked his colt for another notch, which Broad Bahn easily gave.

After a quickening third quarter of 1:23.4 the two colts seemed set for an epic stretch duel. In deep stretch Manofmanymissions began to falter then jumped it off, leaving Brennan and Broad Bahn clear sailing to the wire in 1:53, a time identical to his elimination win. The pocket-sitting Whiskey Tax was three and a quarter lengths back and the opportunistic Opening Night finished third for brothers John and Jim Campbell.

Second favorite Chapter Seven closed for fourth, a good effort after he appeared to gap behind cover on the backstretch. Pastor Stephen followed along to earn the final fifth place money.

Sent off as the 6-1 third choice in the field, Broad Bahn returned \$14.60, \$7.00 and \$5.60 across the board. Whiskey Tax, a 39-1 shot, returned \$26.00 and \$11.60 for place and show. Opening Night paid \$6.40 to show.

The exacta pairing Broad Bahn and Whiskey Tax paid \$462.40 for a \$2 ticket, eclipsing the \$292.20 record set in 2003. The trifecta with Opening Night returned \$3,700.40, also topping the 2003 previous record of \$2,630.80.

The winners circle was a whirlwind of "firsts". It was the first Hambletonian champion bred by the Mullen family's Fair Winds Farm of Cream Ridge, NJ, though the farm had shared ownership on 1987 champion Mack Lobell and bred 2010 Oaks winner Bar Slide. The win was also the first Hambletonian victory for Danish owner Leif Alber's Fam Alber Horse Racing LLC., and for trainer Noel Daley and driver George Brennan. It was the first Hambletonian credit for stallion Broadway Hall, an undefeated two-year-old of 2002 who was the Hambletonian winter book favorite but never made the race after a career-ending injury in the spring of 2003.



- Broad Bahn won for the fourth time in eight starts and oddly he would add only one other victory to his slate by year's end: the Zweig at Tioga, though his Hambo win and \$750,000 payday would secure him Dan Patch year-end honors.
- George Brennan became just the second driver to sweep both the Hambletonian and Hambletonian Oaks in the same afternoon. Brian Sears accomplished the feat in 2009 with Muscle Hill and Broadway Schooner.
- Broad Bahn was \$20,000 yearling purchase at the Standardbred Horse Sale, Harrisburg, PA. He was a massive yearling, said Alber's agent Ole Bach, who selected the son of Madonarail, a mare whose five previous foals from five different stallions ranged in price from \$6,000 to \$80,000 without a distinguished performer. Yet Madonarail's dam Worldly Woman won the 1992 Hambletonian Oaks, so the pedigree was there for those willing to roll the dice. Even breeder Fair Winds farm had enough with Madonarail and sold her to Sweden after Broad Bahn was weaned.
- Trainer Noel Daley was not happy with how big a yearling Broad Bahn was when he arrived in his barn. His displeasure disappeared when Broad Bahn turned out to be a willing pupil who progressed rapidly on the trot.
- By the fall of 2010, Broad Bahn earned a name for himself on the PA Sire Stake trail, and lost by a neck to Pastor Stephen in the Wellwood final. He won his Breeders Crown elimination at Pocono Downs but then disaster struck in the form of fractured hind coffin bone, so minor that it did not show on regular x-rays. Broad Bahn was retired for the year to heal.
- Ironically, when Broad Bahn was scratched from the 2010 Crown final, Manofmanymissions drew into the race and won it. To have the top three colts in year-end balloting return to the races and meet again in the Hambletonian was a bit of a rarity.
- Owner Leif Alber, his wife and three children elected to forgo conventional means traveling from their native Denmark to the metropolitan New York area for the sport's biggest race. Instead, Alber and company hopped a plane from Copenhagen to Los Angeles where they rented an auto and embarked on a cross-country journey, through places like Las Vegas and Memphis (two homes of Elvis Presley). Then they turned north hitting the nation's capital before making it to the winner's circle at the Meadowlands on July 30.
- It was Alber's second shot at Hambletonian honors as he won elimination in 2008 with 22-1 shot Atomic Hall, only to finish ninth in the final.
- Trainer Noel Daley, 49, grew up in Mt. Isa, Australia and worked for Qantas Airlines before coming to the United States to pursue a career in racing. He first settled in California, racing at Los Alamitos, and then shipped East in 1990 to work for Brett Pelling. Daley helped propel the Pelling stable to six training titles at the Meadowlands before the two trainers parted ways in 1998. He quickly filled a stable with the help of his primary owner Adam Victor and won his first Meadowlands training title in 2003.
- Daley's top trainee Mr. Musclemans retired with \$3.5 million in career earnings. His only other Hambletonian starter was Explosive Matter, who finished second in Muscle Hill's record-setting 2009 Hambletonian. Daley's Oaks contender Cedar Dove, just missed making the final with a sixth place finish in her Oaks elimination, but won divisional honors after annexing wins in the Kentucky Futurity and Breeders Crown.
- Driver George Brennan made his fifth start in the Hambletonian final a winning one. He finished third in 2006 with Blue Mac Lad and again in 2010 with Wishing Stone. His stats of 754 wins and \$14.5 million in earnings got him voted Driver of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers for the second straight year and won the HTA Driving title as well.

Broad Bahn

BROAD BAHN, bay colt, 3, by Broadway Hall-Madonairail, by Donerail
 Driver: George Brennan
 Trainer: Noel Daley
 Owners: Fam Alber Horse Racing LLC [Leif Alber, Copenhagen, Denmark], East Windsor, NJ
 Breeder: Fair Winds Farm Inc, Cream Ridge, NJ
 Caretaker: Risa Tanaka
 Sale History: Purchased for \$20,000 Standardbred Horse Sale, Harrisburg, PA...1-x-1

WHISKEY TAX, bay gelding 3, by Revenue S-Bourbon Belle, by Muscles Yankee
 Driver: Randy Waples
 Trainer: Thomas Durand
 Owners: June & Thomas R. Durand, Puslinch, ON; Allan J. C. Smith, Oakville, ON
 Breeder: Little E LLC [Jeff Gural], New York, NY. . . X-5-2

OPENING NIGHT, brown colt, 3 by Broadway Hall-Rare Elegance, by Self Possessed
 Driver: John Campbell
 Trainer: Jim Campbell
 Owner: Runthetable Stables [Scott Farber], Montvale, NJ
 Breeder: Robert A. Tucker, Glen Gardner, NJ; Lauren B Tucker, Glen Gardner, NJ. . . X-4-3

CHAPTER SEVEN, bay colt, 3 by Windsong's Legacy-La Riviera Lindy, by Dream Vacation
 Driver: Mike Lachance
 Trainer: Linda Toscano
 Owners: Richard S. Gutnick, Blue Bell, PA; Gary J. Cocco, Newtown Square, PA; Southwind Farm, Pennington, NJ; Jerry Silva, Long Beach, NY
 Breeder: Richard T. Banca, Franklin Lakes, NJ. . . 2-X-4

PASTOR STEPHEN, bay colt, 3, by Cantab Hall-Gala Dream, by Enjoy Lavec
 Driver: Ron Pierce
 Trainer: Jimmy Takter
 Owner: Christina Takter, East Windsor, NY; John D. Fielding, Toronto, ON; Brittany Farms, Versailles, KY
 Breeder: Brittany Farms, Versailles, KY. . . X-3-5

TIME BY QUARTERS:	¼	½	¾	MILE	
1st elimination		:27.3	:56.1	1:24.2	1:53.0
2nd elimination		:27.4	:56.1	1:24.0	1:52.4
Final		:27.1	:56.3	1:23.4	1:53.0

PAYOFFS

FIRST ELIMINATION				SECOND ELIMINATION				FINAL			
BROAD BAHN	9.80	3.80	3.60	MANOFMANYMISSIONS	2.80	2.60	2.40	BROAD BAHN	14.60	7.00	5.60
CHAPTER SEVEN		2.20	2.10	MAGNUM KOSMOS		13.40	7.20	WHISKEY TAX		26.00	11.60
FAWKES			13.40	PASTOR STEPHEN			3.80	OPENING NIGHT			6.40

- Broad Bahn pushed his seasonal earnings to \$1.3 million, the most of any square-gaiter for the year, and 14th on the all-time single season list. He was retired to stud at Winbak Farms of New York.
- John Campbell, who has the most Hambletonian titles with six, kept his consecutive driving streak alive, making his 29th appearance in the classic race. Less than two months prior, the Hambletonian was the last thing on his mind, as he suffered a broken right shoulder and right knee in a racing accident at Harrah's Chester at the end of May. Still on crutches the week before the Hambo elims, Campbell drove his own trotter Live Jazz in the eliminations but was interfered with and finished eighth. Since Live Jazz did not qualify, Campbell's brother Jim gave him the mount on Opening Night, who was qualified by Brian Sears.
- Mauro Castano, from Carlo's Bake Shop in New Jersey and star of the TLC series "Cake Boss," unveiled two cakes at the 86th edition of the race. The cakes recreated the Meadowlands Racetrack along with the Hambo trophy in honor of the 30th edition of the Hambletonian taking place at the Meadowlands. The racetrack cake featured full details of the grandstand, each horse with its driver's colors, spectators, a working digital picture frame in place of the tote board that showed images of the past winners, and all the competing horses' names.
- Caretaker Risa Tanaka was born deaf. Her parents moved from her native Japan to New Zealand when she was two to give her more opportunity and to be treated like "everyone else." Tanaka first competed in show jumping and dressage before taking a job in harness racing. She worked for several trainers in New Zealand before making the move to Canada in 2007, and eventually joined Noel Daley's barn, where she cared for 2009 Breeders Crown champion Allspeed Hanover.
- Defending Dan Patch champion Pastor Stephen finished fifth in the Hambletonian but earned much more with a "Racing for Africa" promotion. Named in honor of the Rev. Stephen Heinzel-Nelson of Allentown Presbyterian Church in NJ, Pastor Stephen ownership group pledged a portion of the colts 2011 earnings to Villages in Partnership, for clean wells, schools and livestock in the impoverished country of Malawi.
- 1998 Hambletonian winner Muscles Yankee sired the last three winners of this race. He had no starts in this year's eliminations.
- The family name Houghton appeared for the 8th consecutive decade in a Hambletonian. Billy first made his appearance in 1949 and son Tommy starts Luckycharm Hanover as trainer.
- No unraced freshmen this year in the Hambo eliminations as all entered started at two, even maiden Orlando.
- The \$750,000 Hambletonian Oaks was won by Bold And Fresh, a daughter of SJ's Caviar. She was second in her elim to Iron Lady, but a perfect trip by George Brennan gave her the opportunity to sprint by odds-on favorite Crys Dream and second choice Jezzy to win in 1:53.1.
- Lady Rainbow raced well off the early pace but angled wide and charged home powerfully for the place spot. Crys Dream barely edged Jezzy in the battle for the third spot.
- With four wins in eight starts heading into the Hambo Oaks, Bold And Fresh had stamped herself a contender with a solid placing in her elimination heat. But when her catch-driver Mike Lachance opted for elim winner Iron Lady that left the door opened for the opportunistic Brennan.
- A 24-1 outsider in the wagering, Bold And Fresh returned \$51.40, 21.80 and 6.60 across the board. Lady Rainbow returned \$11.80 and 4.40 with Crys Dream returning \$2.10 for show as the beaten 2-5 favorite.
- Owner Don Bartling, who had been part of the SJs Caviar ownership, was ecstatic over his win. SJ's Caviar was the divisional champion of 2001, but was ineligible for the Hambletonian.
- Trainer Doug Miller was a second trainer for the legendary Bill Houghton stable, and a well-respected horseman. He saw his first Hambletonian in 1968- the great Nevele Pride - and decided then and there on his life's calling.
- Miller picked out Bold And Fresh, a daughter of the Garland Lobell mare Odre Coucou, bred by Claudean T. Cone in Kentucky for Bartling. He purchased the filly for \$40,000 under the name Coucoularue at the Standardbred Horse Sale. Miller also trained Bold And Fresh's half-sister Countantine.
- Bold And Fresh jumped her career earnings over the half million mark in one swoop.

