

August 3, 1978

"FALCON" FLIES THROUGH RAIN TO VICTORY

This was the last year the heats and final of the Meadowlands Pace were held on the same evening. But not even a foot or so of mud could deter Falcon Almahurst from his appointed task, tackling and successfully handling some of the top sophomores of the year, most notably Abercrombie and Flight Director.

Bill Haughton drove the 9-5 favored son of Meadow Skipper to a decisive score in 1:55.1 with Abercrombie and Glen Garnsey next. Abercrombie, one year later, would set a track standard of 1:53 flat that would hold for three years.

Joe O'Brien would make his only Meadowlands Pace

appearance, finishing third with Flight Director. Falcon Almahurst would go on to a successful Ohio stallion career, while Abercrombie, as of 1999, has produced sons and daughters with earnings of \$115 million, including Artsplace and Life Sign.

This event also marked the first appearance of a filly in the Meadowlands Pace Final, Courageous Lady. Lew Williams' mercurial madam finished sixth as the third choice at 9-2. Pats Gypsy finished fifth for the final check.

Haughton was the only driver to appear in each of the first two Pace Finals.

1ST DIVISION - 8/3/78 - 1:54²

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Falcon Almahurst	William Haughton	William Haughton
2	Armbo Tiger	Herve Filion	Lou Meittinis
3	Courageous Lady	Lew Williams	Lew Williams
4	Brittany Road	Bruce Riegler	Gene Riegler
5	Pats Gypsy	Bill Herman	Sal Gati

2ND DIVISION - 8/3/78 - 1:56

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Flight Director	Joe O'Brien	Joe O'Brien
2	Abercrombie	Glen Garnsey	Glen Garnsey
3	League Leader	William Haughton	William Haughton
4	Timelys Best Man	Frank O'Mara	Frank O'Mara
5	Race To Win	Mack Hayman	Mack Hayman

\$280,000 FINAL - 8/3/78 - 1:55¹

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Falcon Almahurst	William Haughton	William Haughton
2	Abercrombie	Glen Garnsey	Glen Garnsey
3	Flight Director	Joe O'Brien	Joe O'Brien

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RACE 9	1 MILE	MEADOWLANDS PACE-FINAL PURSE \$280,000						Quarter times 28 ¹ , 56, 1:25, 1:55 ¹	TRACK: SLOPPY	OFF: 11:52					
8	Falcon Almahurst	8	4 ^o	1 ^o	1	1 ²	1 ²	1:55 ¹	W. Haughton	Mutuels	(8)	5.80	4.00	2.80	*1.90
6	Abercrombie	6	7	6 ^o	7 ^{oo}	2 ^{3/4}	2 ^{3/4}	1:55 ³	G. Garnsey		(6)		7.40	4.80	8.50
1	Flight Director	1	3	2	2	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1/2}	1:56 ²	J. O'Brien		(1)			3.20	2.00
2	Brittany Road	2	5	5	6	5 ¹	4 ^{nk}	1:56 ²	B. Riegler						7.60
3	Pats Gypsy	3	6	7	7	6 ^{1/4}	5 ^{3/4}	1:56 ²	W. Herman						83.50
5	Courageous Lady	5	2	4	3	4 ^{1/2}	6 ^{4/4}	1:56 ³	L. Williams						4.60
7	Timelys Best Man	7	8	8	8	7 ¹	7 ^{3/4}	1:57 ³	F. O'Mara						35.60
9	League Leader	9	9	9	9	9 ^{1/2}	8 ^{1/2}	1:58 ¹	B. Webster						32.20
10	Armbo Tiger	10	10	10	10	10	9 ^{1/2}	1:58 ²	Her. Filion						13.40
4	Race To Win	4	1 ^o	3	4 ^o	8 ^{ns}	10	1:58 ²	M. Hayman						96.80

Winning Owner: Hill Farm
Winning Trainer: William Haughton