

"GOURMET" COOKS UP WINNING TRIP

Frugal Gourmet, driven by 31-year-old Canadian reinsman Trevor Ritchie, held off the late charges of Laag and Run The Table to win the 1987 edition of the Meadowlands Pace by a neck.

Heavily favored Jate Lobell got stuck in traffic, both literally and figuratively, and wound up a disappointing seventh for driver Mark O'Mara. Jate was stuck in a traffic jam on the New Jersey Turnpike until around eight p.m. and barely made it to the track in time to start.

In the race itself, Jate was far back early behind dead cover and never reached a contending position.

A son of French Chef, Frugal Gourmet was sent to the front just past the opening quarter and controlled the tempo

until the top of the stretch. With distance between himself and main challengers Laag and Run The Table, the Blair Burgess trained colt was able to hold on to a neck victory for the biggest paycheck of his career in the \$902,500 event.

A \$15,000 yearling purchase by Blair's father, Bob Burgess, and the Excellent Meeting Stable of Cantario, Ontario, Frugal Gourmet had defeated Jate Lobell by a neck in his elimination for the Pace the week before. Despite that, the colt was still sent off at odds of 6-1. Trainer Burgess summed it up best when asked about Frugal Gourmet being left alone on the lead for so long.

"You can wait in a \$30,000 claimer," Burgess said. "But you can't afford to wait in the Meadowlands Pace."

1ST ELIMINATION - 7/10/87 - 1:51³

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Frugal Gourmet	Trevor Ritchie	Blair Burgess
2 Jate Lobell	Mark O'Mara	Mark O'Mara
3 Dictionary	Bill O'Donnell	Jim Campbell
4 Montrachet	Ben Webster	Mark Webster

2ND ELIMINATION - 7/10/87 - 1:51⁴

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Run The Table	John Campbell	Jim Campbell
2 Marvel	Buddy Gilmour	W. (Buddy) Gilmour
3 Meadowbranch Bret	Tom Haughton	Tom Haughton
4 Happy Affair	Ben Webster	Charles Marsh Jr.

3RD ELIMINATION - 7/10/87 - 1:52¹

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Laag	Bill O'Donnell	Rich Farrington
2 Burning Chance	John Campbell	D. Harding
3 Golden Greek	Tom Haughton	Tom Haughton
4 Devilish Fella	Ron Waples	Tom Haughton

CONSOLATION - 7/17/87 - 1:52⁴

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Savage Breeze	Mickey McNichol	Joe Caraluzzi
2 Stage Door Stevie	Buddy Gilmour	Mark Gilmour
3 Maxamilion Hanover	Bill O'Donnell	Del Insko

\$902,500 FINAL - 7/17/87 - 1:52

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Frugal Gourmet	Trevor Ritchie	Blair Burgess
2 Laag	Bill O'Donnell	Rich Farrington
3 Run The Table	John Campbell	Jim Campbell

1987

RACE 8	1 MILE	MEADOWLANDS PACE-FINAL	PURSE \$902,500	Quarter times 27 ² , 55 ⁴ , 1:24 ³ , 1:52	TRACK: FAST	OFF: 10:25
7 Frugal Gourmet	7 3 1	1 ² 1 ² ₂ 1 ^{nk}	27 ² 1:52	T. Ritchie	Mutuels (7)	14.80 5.80 5.00 6.40
1 Laag	1 8 ^o 8 ^o	7 ^{o7} ₄ 7 ⁷ ₄ 2 ^{nk}	26 1:52	W. O'Donnell	(1)	5.00 4.60 3.40
8 Run The Table	8 6 ^o 6 ^o	6 ^{o6} 4 ⁶ 3 ^{nk}	26 ¹ 1:52	J. Campbell	(8)	4.80 3.50
4 Burning Chance	4 2 3	3 ³ ₄ 3 ⁴ ₄ 4 ³ ₄	27 ² 1:52 ³	J. Moiseyev		171.90
2 Meadowbranch Bret	2 7 7	8 ⁷ ₄ 8 ⁹ 5 ³ ₄	26 ³ 1:52 ³	T. Haughton		183.40
11 Happy Affair	11 5 5	5 ⁶ 6 ⁶ ₄ 6 ³ ₄	27 1:52 ³	M. McNichol		180.80
9 Jate Lobell	9 10 ^o 10 ^o	9 ^{o9} 9 ¹¹ 7 ⁴ ₄	26 ² 1:52 ⁴	M. O'Mara		*.80
3 Montrachet	3 1 2	2 ² 2 ² ₄ 8 ⁵ ₄	28 1:53	B. Webster		44.60
5 Marvel	5 4 4	4 ^{o4} ₄ 5 ⁶ ₄ 9 ⁹ ₁₄	28 ² 1:53 ⁴	W. Gilmour		54.40
12 Golden Greek	12 9 9	10 ⁹ ₄ 10 ¹³ ₄ 10 ¹⁰	27 ² 1:54	R. Remmen		194.50
6 Devilish Fella	6 11 11 ^o	11 ^{o11} 11 ¹⁵ ₄ 11 ¹³ ₄	27 ⁴ 1:54 ³	R. Waples		145.30
10 Dictionary	10 12 12 ^o	12 ^{o11} 12 ²⁰ ₄ 12 ¹⁹	29 1:55 ⁴	G. Gendron	Exacta (7-1)	49.60 61.10

Winning Owner: Excellent Meeting Stable
Winning Trainer: Blair Burgess