

ALLAMERICAN THEORY EXTINGUISHES RIVALS

For Des Tackoor, a full-time fireman and trainer, Allamerican Theory's victory in the 2003 Meadowlands Pace was proof that a person can live two dreams at once.

"Working with the horses is something I always wanted to do," said Tackoor, who balances a job with the Toronto Fire Services with training a small stable of racehorses. "My dad used to go all the time as a two-dollar gambler. Dad is a doctor, and he was looking for one of us to go in that direction. I'm very fortunate to be doing two things I love. The horses are amazing, but working with the fire department is a great job. I had gotten married and had kids, so I needed some stability. There's only seven days in a month where I'm on a day shift. There's a four-day and then a three-day stretch. It's a busy life."

Tackoor purchased Allamerican Theory as a yearling for \$82,000 at the Kentucky Standardbred Sale for owners John Levy and Mark Scholes.

"I had noted him in the catalogue, and he was an outstanding looking horse," he recalled. "I wasn't real keen on the Jenna's Beach Boys at the time, but sometimes it's just the individual. We buy a couple each year, and I've got that leeway to buy the one that I want. Then there's a budget on the next one."

The colt showed immediate talent but in July of his two-year-old season he developed an infection that had to be

surgically drained and left him sidelined for the rest of the year.

At three, Allamerican Theory blossomed quickly and entered the Pace eliminations with a 1:49.3 mark set in a North America Cup elimination at Woodbine and earnings of \$137,917.

Allamerican Theory won his Meadowlands Pace elimination in 1:50.1, but was in need of a driver when David Miller opted to take No Pan Intended, the eventual Horse of the Year who was just starting to come into his own, in the final. Tackoor quickly approached an available Mike Lachance.

When the Hall of Famer popped him out of the pocket, he exploded by the 3-5 favorite Whatanartist and drew off to a 1:49.3 victory in the \$1 million final.

"He's got quick speed behind the gate, and I got lucky to get a two-hole trip," said Lachance. "I tipped him at the top of the stretch, and he dug in and went by like he could have gone another quarter of the mile. When I saw Brian [Sears] reached with the whip over his back and Whatanartist didn't respond, I knew we had a chance."

The Meadowlands Pace was the first of two million-dollar victories for Lachance that season. He went on to win the Hambletonian with Amigo Hall, another drive he picked up after the eliminations, producing the biggest upset in the history of the race. In addition, Lachance became the only driver to win both the Pace and the Hambletonian in the same season.

1ST ELIMINATION - 7/5/03 - 1:51³

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Boulder Creek	Mike Saftic	Mark Silva
2 Mt Vernon Hanover	Chris Christoforou	William Robinson
3 Quarter Carat	Daniel Dube	John McDermott

2ND ELIMINATION - 7/5/03 - 1:49

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Whatanartist	Brian Sears	Jim Campbell
2 No Pan Intended	David Miller	Ivan Sugg
3 Yankee Cruiser	Dean Magee	Timothy Pinske

3RD ELIMINATION - 7/5/03 - 1:50¹

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Allamerican Theory	David Miller	Des Tackoor
2 The Globe	Luc Ouellette	Ross Croghan
3 Armbr Animat	John Campbell	Jim Campbell

CONSOLATION - 7/12/03 - 1:50⁴

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Allamerican Native	John Campbell	Mark Capone
2 Brooklyn Hanover	Eric Ledford	Steve Elliott
3 West Gun	Brian Sears	Joseph Guarino

\$1,000,000 FINAL - 7/12/03 - 1:49³

Horse	Driver	Trainer
1 Allamerican Theory	Mike Lachance	Des Tackoor
2 Armbr Animat	John Campbell	Jim Campbell
3 Dream Wave	Jim Morrill Jr.	Brett Pelling

2003

RACE	PACE	1 MILE	MEADOWLANDS PACE	\$1,000,000	Quarter times: 27, 54, 1:22, 1:49 ³	TEMP.	80-0	TRACK: FAST	OFF: 9:49
8	Allamerican Theory	9 1 ^{1/2}	2 ^{13/16} 2 ^{1/2} 1 ¹ 1 ^{11/16}	27 ² 1:49 ³	M. Lachance	Mutuels	(8) 17.60	4.60 3.00 7.80	
1A	Armbr Animat	6 2 ^{1/2}	3 ^{3/8} 3 ^{2/8} 3 ^{1/8} 2 ^{1/2}	27 ² 1:50	J. Campbell	(1A)	2.40 2.10 e-*0.60		
5	Dream Wave	5 7 ^{7/8}	8 ^{7/8} 7 ^{5/8} 7 ^{3/8} 3 ^{4/8}	27 ² 1:50 ²	J. Morrill Jr.	(5)	4.80	22.00	
4	No Pan Intended	3 6 ⁶	6 ⁶ 6 ⁴ 5 ³ 4 ^{4/8}	27 ³ 1:50 ²	D. Miller			8.20	
2	The Globe	1 3 ^{1/4}	5 ^{5/8} 5 ⁴ 6 ³ 5 ^{5/8}	27 ⁴ 1:50 ³	L. Ouellette			17.30	
3	Yankee Cruiser	2 5 ⁴	4 ^{4/8} 4 ^{2/8} 4 ^{2/8} 6 ^{5/8}	28 1:50 ³	Dn. Magee			3.90	
1	Whatanartist	4 4 ^{2/8}	1 ^{1/8} 1 ^{1/8} 2 ¹ 7 ^{5/8}	28 ⁴ 1:50 ⁴	B. Sears			e-*0.60	
9	Boulder Creek	10 10 ¹⁰	7 ^{7/8} 8 ^{5/8} 8 ^{4/8} 8 ⁷	28 1:51	M. Saftic			49.80	
6	Mt Vernon Hanover	7 9 ^{8/8}	9 ^{9/8} 9 ^{6/8} 10 ^{5/8} 9 ^{8/8}	27 ⁴ 1:51 ¹	C. Christoforou Jr.			48.20	
7	Quarter Carat	8 8 ^{8/8}	10 ^{10/8} 10 ^{6/8} 9 ⁵ 10 ^{11/8}	28 ³ 1:52	D. Dube			36.90	

Winning Owners: John Levy Racing Ltd. & Mark Scholes
Winning Trainer: Desmond Tackoor

Exacta	(8-1)	40.20
Trifecta	(8-1-5)	372.20
Racing Pick 3	(6-10-8)	1,097.20
Superfecta	8-1-5-4)	1,103.30