



ITS SATURDAY NIGHT

Bay Gelding 3, by Always B Miki – Night Music - Somebeachsomewhere

OWNERS: Dune Road Stables [Ronald Gold], Montville, NJ

BREEDER: Steve Jones, NY

SALE: Homebred

TRAINER: R. Nifty Norman

DRIVER: Andrew McCarthy

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2024	7	0	1	2	\$23,776	
2023	7	2	3	2	\$153,277	1:53.2 M
LIFETIME	14	2	4	4	\$177,053	1:53.2 M

- Will leave from post one in the Final. Listed at 20-1 on the morning line.
- Trainer Nifty Norman following the elimination, “I thought he went pretty good. He didn’t have a very good prep. I had a few things go wrong with him after the North America Cup, but I thought he raced good. Andy had to take a big hold of him down the backside, and he thought he might have shut him off a little bit. The fact that he got home good enough to get in the final, I was really happy. If they mix it up like they did in the second elimination and he’s in the flow, he can get a piece. I was encouraged.

He always finishes. He’s a big immature horse, but he always finishes hard. His last quarters are always his best quarters. I think he’s still developing. He can be a horse. He was very immature last year, but he finished up the year good. I’m hoping he’ll finish up this year good. He needs to keep improving. These horses are the best. He’s not there yet, but I think he could get there. He’s a big guy. He’s probably going to be a good 4-year-old.”

- Was parked out third over for half the mile, finished fifth, and qualified for the final.
- He doesn’t have a win in 2024, but has hit the board in three of his seven starts. His second-place finish came in a 3YO Open at the Meadowlands on May 27th. He has two third-place finishes in Pennsylvania Sire Stakes action.
- Its Saturday Night finished his freshman season with a third-place finish in his Governor’s Cup elimination and a solid second-place finish in the Final behind Pace contender Captain Luke.



- Hit the board in all seven starts as a two-year-old. One win came in the \$59,900 Kindergarten Consolation at the Meadowlands in 1:53.2.
- In 2023, Andrew McCarthy won 229 races and \$6,689,270, passing the \$75 million mark in career earnings. His top horses included NJSS champions Sig Sauer and Buy A Round, KYSS champion I Did It Myway, and Goldsmith Maid winner Pizzelle.
- McCarthy is looking for his first Meadowlands Pace win. In 2023, he drove Cannibal to a sixth-place finish, I Did It Myway finished third in 2022, Abuckabett Hanover was ninth-placed-eighth in 2021, Capt Midnight was ninth in 2020 and Captain Ahab was eighth in 2019.
- After a chance meeting with trainer Noel Daley in 2007, Andrew McCarthy decided to take his talents from Australia to the biggest stage in the US. McCarthy won an Open Pace at the Meadowlands with Daley trainee Took Hanover, and \$20 million later, he has never looked back.
- McCarthy is a third-generation horseman. His brother Luke McCarthy was a leading driver in Australia and also spent time in the US, and his father has overseen one of the largest stables down under. His other brother, Todd, is one of the top ten drivers in the US and pulled the biggest upset in Hambletonian history with Cool Papa Bell in 2022.
- Richard “Nifty” Norman enjoyed another strong season in 2023, winning 109 races and \$3,094,410, and Norman passed the \$53 million mark in career purse earnings.
- Norman is a native of New Zealand. His father had thoroughbreds, yet when he came to the US in 1985 he began working with harness racing horses and trainer Ross Croghan in California. Norman spent nearly two decades as an assistant with seven-time Big M leading trainer Brett Pelling before striking out on his own in 2006. His star pupil was the Hall of Fame \$4 million winner Bee A Magician.
- Richard “Nifty” Norman enjoyed a career-best season in 2021 and was voted the Glen Garnsey Trainer of the Year. Norman campaigned Dan Patch Award winners Bella Bellini and Venerable, and both fillies had \$1 million seasons. Bella Bellini gave Norman his third Hambletonian Oaks, and Venerable beat the boys in the Mohawk Million.
- Norman is looking for his first Pace win, Its Saturday Night is his first Pace finalist.



- Sire Always B Miki is also the sire of 2020 Dan Patch award winner Perfect Sting, 2020 Governor's Cup winner Always A Miki, 2021 Dan Patch winner Niki Hill, and 2021 Breeders Crown winner and Metro Pace winner Monte Miki. He also sired older pacer Southwind Gendry, winner of over \$1.1 million, and four-year-old pacer Mad Max Hanover, winner of over \$700,000. Always B Miki, Perfect Sting, and Mad Max Hanover were all Pace runner-ups.

