1985

The Meadowlands • August 3, 1985 • Purse $1,272,000

Prakas: O'Donnell Gets First Hambletonian Win

Hambletonian records were at the mercy of Prakas and Bill O'Donnell in 1985. They won the 60th edition of the race in straight heats at the Meadowlands, and stopped the clock in 1:54^{3} in the second heat — snapping the record 1:55 for the fastest heat shared by Speedy Somolli and Florida Pro.

The first division was captured by Torway and Howard Beissinger in 1:55^{2}. Torway, a 37-1 shot, had only one win and raced mostly in New York Sire Stakes prior to the Hambletonian. The record crowd of 37,652 backed Mark Six, who had captured the Canadian Trotting Derby at Greenwood earlier in the year.

Prakas garnered the title of pre-race favorite by virtue of his six wins and three seconds in nine starts and his track records at Vernon Downs and the Meadowlands, both in 1:56.

When the gate left, Ben Webster and Flak Bait grabbed the lead with a :28.2 first quarter. O'Donnell then pulled Prakas from the two hole and carried the field through clockings of :57^{3} and 1:26^{4}. In the stretch, O'Donnell waved his whip at the colt and Prakas opened up to win by three and a half lengths in 1:55^{1}.

In the final, Flak Bait was again the first to show, Piggvar dropped in second and Mark Six was parked to the quarter in :28^{2}. Prakas, after getting away fifth, challenged and took the lead past the half in :56^{4} and the three-quarters in 1:25^{2}.

They turned for home and Prakas' victory was sealed when Mark Six, the biggest threat, started to fade. A tired Prakas drifted out as he neared the wire, but had enough left in the tank to set the record of 1:54^{3}.

The purse of $1,272,000 was the richest ever for the Hambletonian, and Prakas took home $636,000 for owners Hans Enggren, Iain MacKenzie and Carl Vizzi. Enggren was the breeder of not only Prakas, but also Torway, whom he sold as a yearling for $32,000. Prakas was trained by Per Eriksson, who arrived from Sweden with the father-son team of Soren and Jan Nordin, but had recently struck out on his own.

- Co-owner Hans Enggren bred not only Prakas, but also Torway, the winner of the first elimination heat in 1:55.2, a track record for 3-year-olds.
- Prakas reclaimed the 3-year-old standard when he won his elim in 1:55.1, then set a new Hambletonian stake record of 1:54.3.
- 23-year-old Per Eriksson became the youngest trainer to win the Hambletonian.
- Prakas was voted the Trotter of the Year.
- The Hambletonian was simulcast for the first time.
- It was the first Hambletonian win for the Meadowlands perennial leading driver, Bill O'Donnell; Prakas was the fifth horse he'd driven in the classic. O'Donnell closed out 1985 with more than $10 million in earnings, the first driver to mark that milestone. Two of his regular drives, Prakas and Nihilator, set single season's earnings marks that year.

PRAKAS, b c, by Speedy Crown—Prudy Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: Bill O'Donnell Trainer: Per Eriksson
Owner: Hans G. Enggren, Iain L. Mackenzie, Carl J. Vizzi
Breeder: Hans G. Enggren, PA
Groom: Tina Eriksson
Sale History: Bid in at $47,000 as a yearling at the Kentucky Standardbred Sale in Lexington, KY., and then sold privately to partners. . . . x 1 1

TORWAY, Speedy Crown-Tori Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: Howard Beissinger Trainer: Howard Beissinger
Owner: R. Mumma, Arden Homestead Stable and A. Beissinger . . . 1 x 5

RON B. HANOVER, Super Bowl—Really Noble, by Noble Victory
Driver: Jan Nordin Trainer: Soren Nordin
Owner: Simon Bonnier and Bjorn Nordstrand . . . x 3 2

FLAK BAIT, Speedy Somolli—Whims and Wishes, by Noble Victory
Driver: Ben Webster Trainer: Mark Webster
Owner: Barbara A. Ustin and Ben F. Webster . . . x 2 4

MARK SIX, Speedy Scot—Franella Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: John Campbell Trainer: Soren Nordin
Owner: Iain L. MacKenzie and Carl J. Vizzi (Lessees). . . . 2 x 8

Also competed: Piggvar x-5-3, Workaholic 3-x-7, Somolli Star x-4-6, Master Willie 4-x-10, Nearly Perfect 5-x-9, JRs Chip, 6-x-ro; Megatrend, x-6-ro; Hots of Waverly, 7-x-ro; Anglers Line, x-7-ro; Collectors Work, 8-x-ro; Another Miracle, x-8-ro; Bon Sport, 9-x-ro.

TIME BY QUARTERS:	1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE	
1st Heat		:28^{1}	:57	1:26^{1}	1:55^{2}
2nd Heat		:28^{2}	:57^{3}	1:26^{4}	1:55^{1}
Final		:28^{2}	:56^{4}	1:25^{2}	1:54^{3}

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT, FIRST ELIMINATION

Torway	76.40	12.40	6.80
Mark Six		2.80	2.60
Workaholic			4.20
EXACTA:			232.60

FIRST HEAT, SECOND ELIMINATION

Prakas	2.40	2.10	2.10
Flak Bait		3.20	2.10
Ron B Hanover			2.10
EXACTA:			17.60

FINAL HEAT

Prakas	2.60	2.10	2.10
Ron B Hanover		4.80	2.10
Piggvar			2.10
EXACTA:			14.00

1984

The Meadowlands • August 6, 1984 • Purse $1,219,000

Historic Freight: On the Fast Track

Historic Freight, racing in a claiming event with a price tag of $52,500 only weeks before, captured the 59th Hambletonian which featured a record purse of $1,219,000.

A record number of 26 entries were scheduled to go postward (two divisions of 13 each) but three scratches in the first division reduced that event to ten.

In the first elimination, Gentle Stroke, handled by George Sholty, used his second tier post 11 to perfection and won the heat in 1:57^{4}. Overlooked in the wagering, Gentle Stroke paid $21.40 to win. The 70 to 1 chance, Father Soren, finished second.

In that event, Wholly Arnie took the lead immediately and had a four-length lead at the eighth pole, but reminiscent of the 1933 Hambletonian when Brown Berry stumbled while leading, he, likewise, went to his knees and wound up fifth, placed seventh.

In the second division, the 60 to 1 shot Delvin G. Hanover, driven by Hakan Wallner, upset his field by defeating pacesetting Historic Freight in 1:56^{2}. Delvin G. Hanover's win price of $126.20 remains the largest in the race's history.

Delvin G. Hanover had the ten post and was twelfth at the quarter, eleventh at the half, and still tenth with a quarter of a mile remaining.

In the second heat, driver Webster rated Historic Freight on the lead and sealed the heat with a :28^{2} final quarter, winning in 1:57^{3} over the fast closing Delvin G. Hanover.

The three winners, Delvin G. Hanover, Gentle Stroke, and Historic Freight, came back for the deciding heat and, once again, Webster gave his trotter a picture perfect drive.

From the two post, Historic Freight immediately took command and led the field, the opening quarter in :29^{2}. With no challengers materializing, Webster grabbed hold of his charge, gave him a breather with a second panel in :31^{1}, and a third quarter in :30^{3}. It was all over with a final quarter of :28^{2}, closing the door on Delvin G. Hanover and Gentle Stroke. Delvin G. Hanover was disqualified and placed third in the final for a lapped-on break at the wire.

- Third heat race-off in the Hambletonian to determine the winner.
- Historic Freight had raced for a $52,500 claiming price only weeks before the race.
- Gentle Stroke, winner of the first elimination of the 1st heat, was the only heat winner to subsequently be gelded.
- Delvin G. Hanover (driven by Hakan Wallner) was the longest shot ever to win a heat of the classic winning his elimination at 62-1 ($126.20). The exacta with Historic Freight paid $1,149.00. Delvin G. Hanover finished second the second heat and was third with a break in the stretch in the final three-horse raceoff.
- Breeders Crown® championship series and Breeders' Cup™ started.

HISTORIC FREIGHT, b c, by ABC Freight—Proper Freight, by Hickory Smoke
Driver: Ben Webster Trainer: Skip Lewis
Owner: ABC Stables, Inc., Fort Lee, NJ
Groom: Tony Veen . . . x 2 1 1

DELVIN G. HANOVER, Super Bowl—Delicious, by Kimberly Kid
Driver: Hakan Wallner Trainer: Hakan Wallner
Owner: Kurt G. Bertmark . . . x 1 2 3

GENTLE STROKE, Noble Gesture—Eydie Hanover, by Ayres
Driver: George Sholty Trainer: George Sholty
Owner: Castleton Farm, Jack Liggett and William Simon . . . 1 x 9 2

FATHER SOREN, Super Bowl—Mom, by Florican
Driver: Hakan Wallner Trainer: Hakan Wallner
Owner: Jan Johnson and Joseph Mendelson . . . 2 x 7 ro

BALTIC SPEED, Speedy Somolli—Sugar Frosting, by Carlisle
Driver: Jan Nordin Trainer: Soren Nordin
Owner: Baltic Farm, Inc. . . . x 4 3 ro

Also competed: Super Lamar 3-x-4-ro, Desert Ruler x-3-5-ro, Normandy Lobell 4-x-6-ro, Cornstalk x-5-6-ro, Sandy Bowl 5-x-10-ro, Restless Spirit, x-6-ro-ro; Speed Merchant, 6-x-ro-ro, Keystone Shiloh, x-7-ro-ro, Wholly Arnie, 7-x-ro-ro, Gallant Pro, x-8-ro-ro; Money Hanover, 8-x-ro-ro; Doc Spiegler, x-9-ro-ro, Classic Cast, 9-x-ro-ro; Keystone Tripoli, x-10-ro-ro; Why Not, 10-x-ro-ro; Pathfinder, x-11-ro-ro; Crowning Point, x-12-ro-ro, Giorgio D, x-13-ro-ro; Bold Vigil, scr; Cogee, scr, Socrates Lobell, scr..

TIME BY QUARTERS:	1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE	
1st Heat		:28^{3}	:59	1:28^{4}	1:57^{4}
1st Heat, 2nd Div.		:29	:58	1:27^{2}	1:56^{2}
2nd Heat		:29^{3}	:58^{1}	1:29^{1}	1:57^{3}
Race Off		:29^{2}	1:00^{3}	1:31^{1}	1:59^{3}

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT, FIRST ELIMINATION

Gentle Stroke	21.40	13.20	8.20
Father Soren		32.20	12.80
Super Lamar			6.00
EXACTA:			852.40

FIRST HEAT, SECOND ELIMINATION

Delvin G Hanover	126.20	38.80	22.20
Historic Freight		11.20	6.00
Desert Ruler			12.40
EXACTA:			1,149.00

RACE OFF

Historic Freight	4.60*	—	—
EXACTA:			13.60

*Win and exacta betting only

SECOND HEAT

Historic Freight	12.60	5.00	3.00
Delvin G Hanover		4.60	2.60
Baltic Speed			2.80
EXACTA:			46.40

1983

The Meadowlands • August 6, 1983 • Purse $1,080,000

Duenna: A Storybook Ending

In what can only be described as a storybook ending, Duenna overcame seemingly unbeatable odds, and driver Stanley Dancer conquered painful grief to win the 58th edition of the Hambletonian.

The drama of the 1983 Hambletonian began long before post time.

Dancer's prize colt, Dancer's Crown, overwhelming favorite to win that year's Hambletonian, died 18 days before the race of complications resulting from a displaced colon.

Dancer's hopes of winning the classic seemed all but gone, but owner Norman Woolworth gave Dancer a second chance—however remote it seemed—when he decided to bypass the Hambletonian Oaks and enter his filly against colts in the Hambletonian.

There were 25 names in the entry box, necessitating two divisions, with 12 and 13 respectively, in the first million dollar Hambletonian. Duenna and Winky's Gill were the only fillies.

In the first division, the highly regarded Joie De Vie, handled by John Campbell, conquered a second tier 12 post and a tough trip on the outside to score over a sloppy oval in 1:59.

In the next division, Duenna also had to overcome a second tier post to win. Away exceptionally well, Duenna swept three-wide into the lead shortly after the half and drew away for an easy win in 1:57^{3}.

In what turned out to be the final, Duenna easily won in 1:57^{2}, leading almost every step of the mile. There was a five-horse photo for second and the picture showed the other filly,Winky's Gill, a neck ahead of Speedy Claude for the place spot. Joie De Vie and Astro Hill dead-heated for fourth.

Duenna thus became the twelfth filly to win the prestigious Hambletonian, and the first since Kerry Way outclassed her field in 1966.

For Dancer, it was his fourth Hambletonian win, a feat accomplished at that time by only two other drivers: Ben White and Billy Haughton. (John Campbell joined that elite group in 1995 and went on to win his fifth and sixth Hambletonians in 1998 and 2006, respectively. In 2003 Mike Lachance became the fifth driver to win four Hambletonians.)

- First $1,000,000 purse in the Hambletonian.
- Duenna was the twelfth filly to date to win the Hambletonian – the first filly winner since the Hambletonian Oaks was inaugurated in 1971.
- Trainer/driver Stanley Dancer won his fourth Hambletonian (record tying fifth as trainer). He is was the only driver to win the classic in three different decades. John Campbell joined him in 2006.
- For only the third time in the history of the classic, fillies finished 1-2 in the final as Winky's Gill was 3-x-2 in the heats. In 1927 Iosola's Worthy and Nescopec were 1-2 in the final heat; Emily's Pride and Sandlewood were the first two across the wire in 1958.
- It was a storybook ending as 2-year-old champion Dancer's Crown, owned, trained and driven by Dancer, died just 18 days before the race.
- Duenna, a daughter of 1977 Hambletonian winner Green Speed, was voted Trotter of the Year. She passed away in early 2008 at age 28.

DUENNA, b f, by Green Speed—La Soubrette, by Nevele Pride
Driver: Stanley Dancer Trainer: Stanley Dancer
Owner & Breeder: Clearview Stable, New Canaan, CT
Groom: Tania Holiverda . . . x 1 1

JOIE DE VIE, Super Bowl—Heidi Rodney, by Duke Rodney
Driver: John Campbell Trainer: Howard Beissinger
Owner: M. Siegel, Crown Stable, P. Nigito and Lana Lobell Farm
. . . 1 x 4(DH)

WINKY'S GILL, Bonefish—Lassie Blue Chip, by Speedy Scot
Driver: Hakan Wallner Trainer: Jan Johnson
Owner: Castleton Farms . . . 3 x 2

ASTRO HILL, Speedy Crown—Another Love, by Blaze Hanover
Driver: Ray Remmen Trainer: Howard Beissinger
Owner: W. Rosenberg, J. Mendelson, Crown Stable, Inc., and A. Beissinger . . . 2 x 4(DH)

T V YANKEE, Speedy Crown—Yankee Bambi, by Hickory Pride
Driver: Tom Haughton Trainer: William Haughton
Owner: Leon and Lorraine R. Machiz. . . . x 2 6

TIME BY QUARTERS:	1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE	
1st Heat		:28^{4}	:57^{1}	1:28	1:59
1st Heat, 2nd Div.		:30	:59^{2}	1:27^{4}	1:57^{3}
Final		:29^{1}	:58^{2}	1:27^{3}	1:57^{2}

Also competed: Speedy Claude 4-x-3, Nevele Action 3-x-9, Sea Chanty x-4-7, Premium Lobell 4-x-10, Lass Quick , 5-x-8, Play Action, 6-x-ro; Shane T. Hanover, x-6-ro; Power Seat, 7-x-ro; Desert Night, x-7-ro; Mr Drew, 8-x-ro; Grand Rapids, x-8-ro; Brittany Bay 9-x-ro; Yankee Peak, x-9-ro; Coleman Lobell, 10-x-ro; Micron Hanover, x-10-ro; Speed Anthony, 11-x-ro; Brookside Pride, x-11-ro; Super Spy, 12-x-ro; Florida Sun, x-12-ro; Sherwood Lobell, x-13-ro.

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT, FIRST ELIMINATION

Joie De Vie	3.20	3.20	2.40
Astro Hill		3.20	2.40
Winkys Gill			3.00
EXACTA:			10.40

FIRST HEAT, SECOND ELIMINATION

Duenna	8.00	3.60	3.00
T V Yankee		3.00	2.60
Nevele Action			3.40
EXACTA:			22.60

FINAL HEAT

Duenna	5.60	5.20	8.80
Winkys Gill		14.00	16.80
Speedy Claude			25.20
EXACTA:			82.80

1982

The Meadowlands • August 7, 1982 • Purse $875,000

Speed Bowl: Another Haughton Wins

Speed Bowl won the 57th Hambletonian, enabling Tommy Haughton at age 25, to become the youngest driver in history to win this classic.

In the first division, Arndon was the 6 to 5 favorite and he led through fractions of :29[1], :57[4], and 1:27[2]. At the top of the stretch, he made a break and finished far back.

Winning the heat was Jazz Cosmos, who was away sixth from second tier post 11. He gradually improved his position throughout the mile, then blew by the competition to win by almost four lengths in 1:57[3].

In the next division, the huge Meadowlands crowd made Mystic Park the 3-10 favorite. Speed Bowl was second choice at 7-2.

The 85-1 shot Kingfish took the field to the :28[1] quarter, but Mystic Park soon took over and carved fractions of :57 and 1:27[1]. Then, without warning, he made a break, ruining his chances.

Throughout the race, Speed Bowl was tenth at the quarter and still next to last at the half. He was eighth and charging with a quarter of a mile remaining and then used an unbelievable burst of speed to sweep by the field and win by almost six lengths in 1:56[4].

The 71-1 outsider, Roz T. Collins, finished second and the 109-1 longshot, Rosalind's Guy, finished third.

In the ten-horse final, Speed Bowl and Jazz Cosmos had earned inside posts as a result of victories in their respective heats and that's the way they finished. After Jazz Cosmos cut honest fractions of :28[3], :57[3], and 1:27[4], Speed Bowl began to draw on the leader and he pushed his neck in front in the final few strides to record the win in 1:57.

- PONY is the acronym for the home states of the owners: Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York.
- The Haughtons were the second father and son trainer and driver duo to win the Hambletonian. It was son Tommy's third drive in the Hambletonian – his father Bill drove the winner four times (1974, 1976, 1977 and 1980).
- Bill Haughton trained his fifth Hambletonian winner, equaling the record of Ben White.
- Hanover Shoe Farms bred its record tenth Hambletonian winner.

SPEED BOWL, b c, by Super Bowl—Speedy Love, by Speedster
Driver: Tom Haughton Trainer: William Haughton
Owner: Pony Stable, (W. R. "Bill" Haughton, Dale Miller, Paul Soldner, Floyd Miller, Max Hempt & Bowman Brown), Jericho, NY
Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, PA
Groom: Gary Billings
Sale History: $60,000 yearling originally named Sebastian Hanover at the Standardbred Horse Sale in Harrisburg, PA . . . x 1 1

JAZZ COSMOS, Speedy Crown—Jessamy Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: Mickey McNichol Trainer: Joe Caraluzzi
Owner: Sunbird Stable, Inc . . . 1 x 2

ROZ T. COLLINS, Texas—Rosana Collins, by Torrence Hanover
Driver: Lloyd Gilmour Trainer: G. Forshey
Owner: Dan Gernatt Farms . . . x 2 4

SELF CONFIDENT, Speedy Crown—Some Pride, by Duke Rodney
Driver: Doug Ackerman Trainer: Doug Ackerman
Owner: Richard S. Staley . . . 2 x 10

MESSERSCHMITT, Nevele Pride—Flying Cloud, by Florican
Driver: Berndt Lindstedt Trainer: Jan Johnson
Owner: Joseph Mendelson and Ulf Moberg. . . . 4 x 3

Also competed: Incredible Nevele 3-x-7, Rosalinds Guy x-3-8, Spirits Supreme x-4-9, Mr. Kingfish x-5-5, Bone Meal 5-x-6; Nimitz, x-6-ro; Happy Crown, 6-x-ro; Little League x-7-ro; Go Gator, 7-x-ro; Kingfish, x-8-ro; Arndon, 8-x-ro; Mystic Park, x-9-ro; JDs Tryst 9-x-ro; Swallow, x-10-ro; Diamond Exchange, 10-x-ro; Bone Lover, x-11-ro.

TIME BY QUARTERS:	1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE	
1st Heat		:29[1]	:57[4]	1:27[2]	1:57[3]
1st Heat, 2nd Div.		:28[1]	:57	1:27[1]	1:56[4]
Final		28[3]	:57[3]	1:27[4]	1:57

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT, FIRST ELIMINATION

Jazz Cosmos	8.20	4.20	3.40
Self Confident		7.60	5.20
Incredible Nevele			3.00
EXACTA:			64.00

FIRST HEAT, SECOND ELIMINATION

Speed Bowl	9.00	4.80	3.60
Roz T Collins		10.40	7.40
Rosalinds Guy			26.20
EXACTA:			113.20

FINAL HEAT

Speed Bowl	4.60	2.60	2.60
Jazz Cosmos		3.00	2.60
Messerschmitt			5.00
EXACTA:			9.20

1981

The Meadowlands • August 8, 1981 • Purse $838,000

Shiaway St. Pat: First At The Meadowlands

Shiaway St. Pat became the third gelding in history to win the prestigious Hambletonian when he captured the 56th edition of the classic, and first at the Meadowlands, over a racetrack slowed by heavy rains.

A total of 24 entrants, seeking a share of the richest trotting race to that date, $838,000, were divided into two divisions of 12.

In the first division, Olaf, handled by Carl Allen and fourth choice in the wagering, took the lead just after the quarter and led the rest of the mile to score a tiring win over Arnie's Aim, Graf Zepplin, Super Juan and the favorite, Smokin Yankee, in 2:03[4]. The last quarter in the mile was :32[3], the slowest final quarter in the Hambletonian history.

It was Shiaway St. Pat's turn on stage in the second heat and the gelded son of Tarport Devlin rose to the occasion, winning in 2:02[3] after being eighth and three wide at the quarter and still three wide at the half. Shiaway finally took command around the far turn, opened a six-length lead at midstretch and cruised, with Ray Remmen driving.

The ten survivors came back for a second heat and Super Juan, driven by Howard Beissinger, scored an upset with a close photo finish win over Shiaway St. Pat in 2:01[1].

The three heat winners, Olaf, Shiaway St. Pat and Super Juan came back for the final, and, in an exciting event in which all participants had the lead at one time or another, Shiaway St. Pat closed from third and last in the stretch to win in 2:02[1] after an opening quarter in :32[2].

Shiaway St. Pat became the first gelding to win since 1973 when Flirth took it in straight heats. Greyhound was the first gelding to win the Hambletonian, reporting home a straight heat winner in 1935.

For Ray Remmen, it marked his initial start in the Hambletonian, and he became the eleventh "first appearance" winner in the classic's history, and first since Howard Beissinger's victory with Lindy's Pride in 1969.

After a long racing career in which he never repeated his brilliance of Hambletonian Day, Shiaway St. Pat was purchased by the Meadowlands in 1988 and retired. He spends winters at North Woodland Farm in Columbus, NJ, and summers in his own paddock in the track's Paddock Park, greeting guests every night.

- Conditions were changed to rule out the Hambletonian going four heats in a race-off; the 1981 race was decided in three heats.
- Shiaway St. Pat won more money in the first classic at The Meadowlands ($419,000) than any previous Hambletonian had been worth.
- Shiaway St. Pat, by Tarport Devlin, is the only winner sired by a Michigan stallion. Just four states were responsible for the sires of all the other winners: Kentucky and Pennsylvania (30 each), New Jersey (10) and New York (3).
- Howard Cosell provided the color commentary on ABC's Wide World of Sports alone after he had Stan Bergstein dropped from the on-air talent team. He was teamed with industry breeder and Hambletonian Society director Alan J. Leavitt. Leavitt has been a principle on two winners, Speedy Somolli (1978) and Victory Dream (1994). Cosell's expertise for the most part consisted of reading the graphics on the screen that were available to the television audience.

SHIAWAY ST. PAT, b g, by Tarport Devlin—Patricia Sue, by Speedy Scot
Driver: Ray Remmen Trainer: Ray Remmen
Owner & Breeder: Shiawassee Farm, Inc., Harrison, MI
Groom: Diane Podaris . . . x 1 2 1

SUPER JUAN, Super Bowl—San Juan, by Noble Victory
Driver: Howard Beissinger Trainer: Howard Beissinger
Owner: Ann Beissinger and Barbara Mumma. . . . 4 x 1 2

OLAF, Noble Victory—Queen Martha, by Darnley
Driver: Carl Allen Trainer: Carl Allen
Owner: L. Houston, Z. Wolfram, and C. Allen. . . 1 x 10 3

ARNIE'S AIM, Arnie Almahurst—Picture Dart, by Dartmouth
Driver: Archie McNeil Trainer: Archie McNeil
Owner: H. B. Willis . . . 2 x 4 ro

BANKER BARKER, Speedy Crown—Wee Dram, by Hickory Pride
Driver: Mike Zeller Trainer: Mike Zeller
Owner: M. A. Benson, Jr. and Paul and Jim Felice. . . . x 2 5 ro

Also competed: Charter Party x-3-3-ro, Graf Zeppelin 3-x-6-ro, Snack Bar x-4-9-ro, Hotblooded x-5-7-ro, Smokin Yankee 5-x-8-ro; Day Care, 6-x-ro-ro; Tarrys Boy, x-6-ro-ro; Nathan Lobell, 7-x-ro-ro; Classy Rogue, x-7-ro-ro; Armbro Wellwood, 8-x-ro-ro; Nimble Haste, x-8-ro-ro; Tuneful Contest, 9-x-ro-ro; Mo Brandy, x-9-ro-ro; Red Coach Pride, 10-x-ro-ro; Tarpor, x-10-ro-ro; Exceptional Way, 11-x-ro-ro; Sigo Hanover, x-11-ro-ro; Santa Ana, 12-x-ro-ro; Chauncy Lobell, x-12-ro-ro; Spice Island, scr; Camp David, scr.

TIME BY QUARTERS:	1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE	
1st Heat		:30[3]	1:00	1:31[1]	2:03[4]
1st Heat, 2nd Div.		:31[4]	1:01[1]	1:31[2]	2:02[3]
2nd Heat		:29[2]	1:00	1:30[4]	2:01[1]
Final		:32[2]	1:02[3]	1:32[2]	2:02[1]

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT, FIRST ELIMINATION

Olaf	15.40	5.80	4.00
Arnies Aim		3.40	3.00
Graf Zeppelin			5.20
EXACTA:			46.80

FIRST HEAT, SECOND ELIMINATION

Shiaway St. Pat	7.20	3.40	3.00
Banker Banker		3.00	2.40
Charter Party			3.60
EXACTA:			17.40

RACE OFF

Shiaway St. Pat	4.40*	—	—

*Win Bets Only

SECOND HEAT

Super Juan	17.40	8.00	6.80
Shiaway St. Pat		4.80	4.40
Charter Party			13.80
EXACTA:			74.80

1980

DuQuoin State Fair • August 30, 1980 • Purse $293,570

Burgomeister: Final Hambletonian at DuQuoin

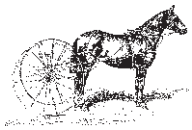
Burgomeister, owned by the estate of Peter Haughton and handled by his father, Billy Haughton, dramatically captured the 55th edition of the Hambletonian.

With a field of 19 necessitating two divisions, the first event featured a field of ten, and it was Final Score, handled by Bill Haughton's son Tom, who scored a 1:56^{3} win over Devil Hanover and Noble Hustle.

In the next division, Bill Haughton drove Burgomeister to a win in 1:58 over Nevele Impulse and Thor Viking.

The Hambo crowd made Burgomeister the logical and sentimental favorite, and he didn't disappoint anyone, charging through the stretch to roll home a winner by almost three lengths.

Devil Hanover and Noble Hustle followed the winner in the 1:56^{3} mile. It was an emotional and exciting win in this final Hambletonian at DuQuoin, and a wonderful remembrance to a young man who had tragically lost his life in an automobile accident only months before. Peter Haughton had become a prominent force in the sport while still in his twenties, and his father's Hambletonian win, with the colt he had owned and campaigned at two, was a fitting tribute.



- Conditions limit the Hambletonian maximum field to 16 before splitting into eliminations.
- Bill Haughton won the last Hambletonian at DuQuoin, a record-tying fourth, and a victory overloaded with emotional significance. Burgomeister was co-owned by his son Peter, who at the age of 25 died tragically in an automobile accident at The Meadowlands earlier that year.
- For the second time in history, eliminations were required when 19 horses were entered. Tommy Haughton won the first elimination heat with Final Score, trained by his father, Bill. It was the first time that both the elimination heats were won by the same stable.

BURGOMEISTER, b c, by Speedy Count—Burger Queen, by Lindy's Pride
Driver: William Haughton Trainer: William Haughton
Owner: Estate of Peter Haughton and Marcello Fiorentino
Breeder: Robert M. Mumma, PA
Groom: Pat Troll
Sale History: $16,000 yearling purchase at Standardbred Horse Sale . . . x 1 1

FINAL SCORE, Super Bowl—Gretchen C, by Sharpshooter
Driver: Tom Haughton. . . . 1 x 7 Owner:Russell Hill

DEVIL HANOVER, Speedy Count—Delicious, by Kimberly Kid
Driver: Delvin Miller . . . 2 x 2

NEVELE IMPULSE, Nevele Pride—Floral Princess
Driver: Richard Macomber . . . x 2 10
Owner:Karl Hubbert

NOBLE HUSTLE, Noble Gesture—Bustle, by Florlis
Driver: Doug Ackerman . . . 3 x 3
Owner:John Ackerman

Also competed: Super Crown x-4-5, Native Reel 4-x-5, Thor Viking x-3-8, Choctaw Brave 5-x-6, Armbro Vanguard x-5-9, Able Mission 6-x-ro, Dixon Hannover x-6-ro, Balboa 7-x-ro, Demon Renvaeh x-7-ro, Manno Hannover 8-x-ro, Leonard Hannver x-8-ro, Wonder Child 9-x-ro, Tracey Collins x-9-ro, Speedy Bones 10-x-ro.

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT			SECOND HEAT			THIRD HEAT		
6.20	3.00	2.20	4.20	2.60	2.40	3.00	2.20	2.10
	2.80	2.20		5.20	3.00		3.60	2.40
		2.60			2.40			2.40

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:28^{4}	:57^{1}	1:26^{3}	1:56^{3}
			1:58
:28	:58	1:27^{1}	1:56^{3}

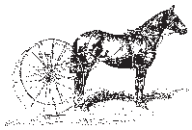
1979

DuQuoin State Fair • September 1, 1979 • Purse $300,000

Legend Hanover: Sholty & Illinois Owner First Victory

Legend Hanover was two-year-old Trotter of the Year in 1978 and was one of the early choices for Hambletonian favorite. But coming into the race, he had only four wins in 19 starts and he was to be driven in the biggest race of his life by a driver who had never ushered him around a racetrack.

But Legend Hanover overcame these obstacles and provided one of the most interesting Hambletonian victories ever with a straight heat 1:57, back in 1:56[1] triumph in the sport's greatest race. George Sholty, who had driven Florida Pro to a world record 1:55 heat win in 1978, got his first Hambletonian victory with two flawless drives of the Messenger Stable's Super Bowl colt.



- Hambletonian was awarded to The Meadowlands, its present host, beginning in 1981.
- First $300,000 purse in the Hambletonian.
- Because of pari-mutuel wagering, George Sholty got the last minute driving assignment after Illinois racing officials ruled that Joe O'Brien, Legend Hanover's regular catch-driver, could not drive him because O'Brien trained another horse in the race. The problem was ironic given that it was only the second year of pari-mutuels at DuQuoin.
- Legend Hanover was owned by Dr. Arthur Galt, the only Illinois resident to win the Hambletonian during its tenure at DuQuoin.
- Corinne Tripp, wife of trainer Ray Tripp, was the regular caretaker for Legend Hanover. Mrs. Tripp was so nervous on race day that she watched the Hambletonian from the grandstand while veteran groom Pat Troll "heeled" the horse in the paddock that afternoon. It was Troll's second visit to the Hambletonian winners' circle; he took care of Christopher T (1974). In 1980 he was the caretaker of Burgomeister and is believed to be the only groom to care for three Hambletonian winners.
- Legend Hanover was a three-quarter brother to Somolli, the dam of 1978 winner Speedy Somolli.
- The filly division purse topped $100,000 for the first time and was won by Pagan Princess.

LEGEND HANOVER, b c, Super Bowl—Laurita Hanover, by Hoot Mon
Driver: George Sholty
Trainer: Ray Tripp
Owner: Messenger Stable (Raymond Galt), Golf, IL
Groom: Corinne Tripp and Pat Troll
Scot Sale History: $87,000 yearling at the Standardbred Horse Sale in Harrisburg, PA . . .1 1

CHIOLA HANOVER, Hickory Smoke—Clorita Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: James Allen
Owner: Alnoff Stable . . . 2 2

BUTCH LOBELL, Speedy Crown—Briana Hanover, by Hoot Mon
Driver: Delvin Miller
Owner: John DuCharme and Dana Irving . . . 3 3

CLASSICAL WAY, Speedy Night—Kerry Way, by Star's Pride
Driver: John Simpson, Jr.
Owner: Clarence F. Gaines . . . 7 4

GRIDIRON LAD, Noble Gesture—Beach Girl, by Speedy
Driver: Carl Allen
Owner: Carl Allen, James Koehler, Loren Huston . . . 4 11

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT			SECOND HEAT		
24.60	6.40	4.60	7.80	2.60	3.00
	2.60	2.80		2.60	2.80
		6.80			6.80

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:27[3]	:54[4]	1:27[2]	1:57
:28[3]	:57[4]	1:27[2]	1:56[1]

1978

DuQuoin State Fair • September 2, 1978 • Purse $241,280

Speedy Somolli: In Historic Miles

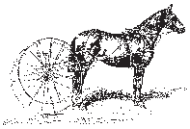
For the sixth time in seven years, the heat of the Hambletonian battle produced world marks. First, Speedy Somolli hauled Howard Beissinger around the DuQuoin mile oval in 1:55, trotting the final three-quarters in 1:25 and holding off Brisco Hanover and Florida Pro.

In the second heat, Florida Pro, driven by George Sholty, moved out past the half following Speedy Somolli, then engaged the first heat winner from the five-eighths pole home and was up by a scant nose to grab victory in an identical 1:55 time.

It was the first time in harness racing history that trotters had raced in 1:55, and two of them did it on the same afternoon.

Florida Pro was shuffled back to fifth in the third and concluding heat while Speedy Somolli and Brisco Hanover fought it out up front. Brisco appeared to be mounting a drive inside the seven-eighths pole when he went off stride, with Howard Beissinger gaining his third Hambletonian victory with a 1:57 mile behind Speedy Somolli.

The winner was bred by Howard's wife, Anne, and Barbara Mumma of Harrisburg, Pa., and was owned at the time of his victory by Alan Leavitt, William Rosenberg, the Beissingers and Mummas.



- First Hambletonian mile in 1:55. Speedy Somolli won the first heat in 1:55 – the fastest race mile ever by a trotter of any age. Florida Pro won the second heat in an identical 1:55. It was the sixth time in seven years that a world record had been set in a heat of the Hambletonian.
- Speedy Somolli had a third generation Hambletonian winner pedigree. He was the first horse to be sired by a Hambletonian winner (Speedy Crown) who was also sired by a Hambletonian winner (Speedy Scot).
- Beissinger's wife Ann was the breeder of Speedy Crown.
- Speedy Somolli also won the Yonkers Futurity, but made breaks in both heats of the Kentucky Futurity which was won by Doublemint.
- Speedy Somolli was voted Trotter of the Year.
- In addition to 15 minutes live with Frank Glieber and Stan Bergstein on CBS following U.S. Open Tennis, the Hambletonian was broadcast live on the Mutual Broadcasting Co. radio network.
- First year of pari-mutuel wagering at DuQuoin.

SPEEDY SOMOLLI, b c, by Speedy Crown—Somolli, by Star's Pride
Driver: Howard Beissinger
Trainer: Howard Beissinger
Owner: Ann Beissinger, Hamilton, Ohio; Barbara Mumma, Harrisburg; PA; Alan J. Leavitt, Bedminster, NJ; William Rosenberg, Delray Beach, FL
Breeder: Robert Mumma; breeding provided by Howard Beissinger
Groom: Osvaldo Formia
Sale History: Syndicated for $2,000,000 before his 3-year-old season . . . 1 2 1

FLORIDA PRO, Arnie Almahurst—Promissory, by Dartmouth
Driver: George Sholty Trainer: George Sholty
Owner: Gesture Farm . . . 2 1 3

BRISCO HANOVER, Super Bowl—Brief Romance, by Victory Song
Driver: Jim Miller
Owner: Barr M. Stable. . . 3 3 2

DOUBLE MINT, Speedster— Evening Star, by Worthy Boy
Driver: Peter Haughton
Trainer: William Haughton
Owner: Em-Ar-El Stable . . . 4 4 5

WAY TO GAIN, Star's Pride—Silken Hanover, by Dean Hanover
Driver: John Simpson, Jr.
Owner: Clarence Gaines . . . 6 5 4

PAYOFFS

FIRST HEAT			SECOND HEAT			THIRD HEAT		
3.60	2.80	2.80	8.00	2.80	2.40	3.60	2.40	2.10
	3.20	2.60		2.40	2.20		3.60	2.10
		3.40			2.40			
								2.10

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30	:58[3]	1:26[2]	1:55
:28[1]	:57[2]	1:25[3]	1:55
:29	:59[1]	1:27[4]	1:57

1977

DuQuoin State Fair • September 3, 1977 • Purse $284,131

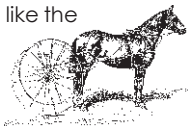
Green Speed: Colt That Had Raw Speed

Although it took Bill Haughton nearly 20 years to win his first Hambletonian, this famous trainer-driver now has a strangle hold on trotting's top prize after Green Speed rolled to two world record miles with Haughton in the bike in 1977.

A son of the Rodney stallion, Speedy Rodney, Green Speed turned in two letter-perfect miles in 1:55^{3}, equalling the all-age mark for trotters held by Noble Victory and lowering the Super Bowl—Steve Lobell three-year-old mark by nearly a full second.

Green Speed was the favorite, and he looked and acted like the best all day. Texas tried gamely in both heats but was no match for the winner. It seemed the outcome would have been no different under any circumstances.

The winner was bred by Lloyd Lloyds, a longtime patron of the Haughton Stable, and was given to his wife, Beverly, after she refused to purchase the horse. He was syndicated in the off-season for $3.2 million for stud duty at Pine Hollow Stud in New York.



- Green Speed was consigned as a yearling to the Standardbred Horse Sale and had actually been shipped to Harrisburg, PA. He was withdrawn from the sale at the last minute after a call from Haughton, who had seen the colt, and asked Lloyds not to send him through the sale. Lloyds turned ownership of Green Speed over to his wife, Beverly, and sent him off to the Haughton Stable for training.
- Green Speed's 1:55 ^{3}/5 first heat was a world record for a 3-year-old (the first sub-1:56 mile for a 3-year-old) and ties the all-age race mark for a trotter. His second heat was an identical 1:55 ^{3}/5. When asked about three or four heats, Haughton said, "I would not have started Green Speed in the 3rd heat if we had lost the 2nd. I do not believe in racing more than two heats in this weather… perhaps I would later in the year."
- The only serious threat to Green's Speed's journey down DuQuoin's Victory Lane came from stablemate Cold Comfort, driven by Haughton's son, Peter. The younger Haughton mounted a serious challenge in the stretch, getting within a neck of the Green Speed, but Cold Comfort eventually faded to fourth.
- Comedian Red Skelton made the trophy presentation. CBS televised the race, which featured both the colorful attire and commentary of Heywood Hale Broun.
- Green Speed won the Yonkers Trot earlier in the season. The Hambletonian marked the 5th consecutive Trotting Triple Crown event for the Haughton Stable: Steve Lobell won the 1996 Yonkers Trot and Hambletonian, while Quick Pay (with son Peter driving) won the 1996 Kentucky Futurity. The string would come to an end; Green Speed was not kept eligible to the Kentucky Futurity, "an oversight for which Haughton accept[ed] responsibility."
- Green Speed was voted Horse of the Year

GREEN SPEED, b c, Speedy Rodney—Peridot, by Hickory Pride
Driver: Bill Haughton Trainer: Bill Haughton
Owner & Breeder: Mrs. Beverly Lloyds, New York, NY
Groom: Jean Camirand
Sale History: Homebred . . .1 1

TEXAS, Super Bowl—Elma, by Hickory Smoke
Driver: Bill Herman
Owner: Charlotte Sheppard and John Simpson, Jr. . . . 2 2

NATIVE STARLIGHT, Star's Pride—Carolina Rodney, by Rodney
Driver: James Dennis
Owner: Victor and Morris Zeinfeld, Capital Hill Farms . . . 3 3

REPRISE, Noble Victory—Fluoridate, by Great Lullwater
Driver: Joe O'Brien
Owner: Saint, Neal and Ryan . . . 4 9

COLD COMFORT, Hickory Pride—Carilla Hanover, by Hoot Mon
Driver: Peter Haughton
Owner: H. P. H. Stable. . . 16 4

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:28^{3}	:58^{2}	1:27^{1}	1:55^{3}
28^{1}	:57^{3}	1:27^{1}	1:55^{3}

1976

DuQuoin State Fair • September 4, 1976 • Purse $263,524

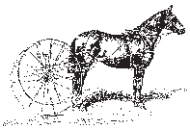
Steve Lobell: Second Straight 4-Heat Clash

In the long and storied history of the Hambletonian, only six races had taken four heats to declare a winner. In 1975, Bonefish proved toughest of all and in 1976, Steve Lobell and Bill Haughton responded to the call of greatness with a record-breaking victory.

Haughton, who won his first Hambletonian with Christopher T. in 1974, returned to Victory Lane for the second time in three years with Steve Lobell, a son of Haughton pupil Speedy Count.

The first heat of what would be the sixth four-heater in history was taken by the cleverly named Zoot Suit, a son of Nevele Pride—Glad Rags, who trotted in 1:58[2] for Vernon Dancer. Steve Lobell and Haughton returned in the second, equalling Super Bowl's three-year-old record of 1:56[2]. Then the filly queen, Armbro Regina, knocked the colts over with a resounding 1:56[3] photo decision of the narrowest kind with Zoot Suit and Quick Pay right there.

The final was cut out by Armbro Regina, but Steve Lobell prevailed in the final sixteenth for Haughton and his owners.



- First heat winner Zoot Suit was a son of 1965 winner Nevele Pride and the multiple stakes winning pacing mare Glad Rags (who was second to Meadow Skipper in his last career start). Despite his mixed gait pedigree (a trotting sire on a pacing dam) Zoot Suit became one of the foremost trotting stallions in Sweden.
- Steve Lobell's 1:56.2 second heat was a world record for a 3-year-old; the first sub-1:57 3-year-old trotting mile.
- Armbro Regina's third heat in 1:56.3 was a world record for a 3-year-old filly.
- Winner Steve Lobell collapsed after an exhausting fourth heat race-off. This, along with the four heats of the 1975 race, precipitated a change in the conditions to limit the greatest number of heats to three (beginning with the 1981 race).
- Steve Lobell also won the Yonkers Trot, but was beaten in the Kentucky Futurity by less than half a length in each of three heats. He lost by a nose to Soothsayer in the first heat and by a nose and a neck to the eventual winner Quick Pay, ironically driven by Haughton's son Peter.
- Steve Lobell was voted Trotter of the Year.

STEVE LOBELL, b c, by Speedy Count—Sophia Hanover, by Star's Pride
Driver: Bill Haughton
Trainer: Bill Haughton
Owner: Mill Island Stable, Brooklyn, NY
Breeder: Bonnie Keek Farm, (Don Millar), Ohio
Groom: Markku Vartianen
Sale History: Sophia Hanover sold in foal at the Tattersalls Mixed Sale for $14,000 to Peter Rhulen and Lana Lobell Farms. Steve Lobell was sold as a yearling in the Harness Breeders Sale at Liberty Bell Park, Philadelphia, PA for $10,000. . . 14 1 4 1

ZOOT SUIT, Nevele Pride—Glad Rags, by Greentree Adios
Driver: Vernon Dancer
Owner: Clearview Stable . . . 1 6 2 2

ARMBRO REGINA, Speedy Scot—Armbro Flight, by Star's Pride
Driver: Joe O'Brien
Owner: Armstrong Bros . . . 17 2 1 3

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	**1/2**	**3/4**	**MILE**
:28[3]	:58[1]	1:28[3]	1:58[1]
:28	:56[4]	1:27	1:56[2]
:27[3]	:57	1:26[4]	1:56[3]
:30[3]	1:02[4]	1:34[4]	2:02[3]

DARING PRIDE, Nevele Pride—Daring Speed, by Speedster
Driver: Howard Beissinger
Owner: Louis and Mildred Resnick . . . 2 1 10 ro

QUICK PAY, Star's Pride—Spry Hanover, by Hoot Mon
Driver: Peter Haughton
Owner: Soldner, Miller, Hempt, Haughton . . . 4 3 3 ro

Also competed: Pershing 3-4-5, Lola's Express 7-5-8, Aladdin Hill 5-14-6, Peridot Pride 6-17-6, Soothsayer 10-13-7, Tropical Storm 8-10-13, Vintage Year 13-8-15, Closed Circuit 12-9-12, Sharp Steel 9-16-11, Seafoot 11-12-14, White Knight 15-7-dr, Chompers 16-15-dr, Nevile Thunder 18-dnf-dr