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New World Record set in Ohio Sires Stakes

Pacing youngsters vie in Northfield trio

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by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Standardbred Development Fund Administrator

Ocean Rock paced to a new world record clocking of 1:51.1 in the first of three \$40,000 Ohio Sires Stakes contests. The son of Rockin Amadeus established the new mark for 2-year-old gelding pacers on a half-mile track.



Ocean Rock

Driven smartly by trainer Danny Noble, Ocean Rock grabbed the lead at the start of the one mile test and never looked back, pacing easily through panels of :26.1, :54.1 and 1:22.2 before posting a :28.4 final panel to prevail by 5½ lengths over 8-1 **Rocktheafterparty** (Kyle Ater) with 7-1 **Isowantapetrock** (Ronnie Wrenn, Jr.) nabbing third place honors.

The win was the fifth in six tries for Ocean Rock who was bred and is owned by Sandra Burnett of Wilmington, Ohio. This speedy youngster now has \$78,167 in career earnings. He is the first foal out of the On The Attack mare Ocean Pearl, p, 5, 1:53.2f (\$143,637).

The second OSS division went to divisional **leader Elver Hanover**, the 8-5 choice and driver Chris Page, who was steering the youngster for trainer Ronnie Burke and partners B. Jacblonsky, J. Melillo and J&T Silva-Purnel-Libby.

Elver Hanoer was timed in 1:53.2, completing his sweep of all four OSS legs, and placing him in the top spot in the OSS standings.



Elver Hanover

The son of Yankee Cruiser, the 8-5 favorite, was slow getting into the mix initially but then pulled first over at the three-quarters before pacing home in a brisk :26.2, finishing half a length in front of 6-1 **Standford Court** (Ronnie Wrenn, Jr.). Can B Perfect (Tyler Smith) was third at 3-5 odds.

Elver Hanover is now five for five lifetime and has \$106,500 in his career bankroll for his connections.

Finally, it was the 3-5 homebred **Gray Dragon** taking the third OSS division handily in 1:54 for driver Brett Miller and trainer Virgil Morgan, Jr.

This gray colt, by Dragon Again-Rock For Glory-Rocknroll Hanover is owned and was bred by the Emerald Highlands Farm of Mount Vernon, Ohio. He raced for most of the mile parked on the outside of the leading 5-2 **Opportune Hanover** (Chris Page) and nudged by his rival in the late going to win by three-quarters of a length. Third place went to 9-1 **One Rock** (Greg Grismore).



Gray Dragon

This was the second career victory for Gray Dragon, who now has \$66,460 in career earnings from two wins and two seconds in five starts.

The following eight 2-year-old pacing colts are now eligible to participate in the \$300,000 Championship set for Ohio Super Night, Sept. 1, at Northfield Park. They are: Elver Hanover (204 points); Gray Dragon (137 points); Rockntheafterparty (116 points); Opportune Hanover (109 points); Ocean Rock (103 points); Can Be Perfect (90 points); Rock Smart (84 points); and Mr Ds Rock (74 points).