



Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association

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The Circle is complete at Circleville

By Thom Pye

The Pickaway County Fair wrapped up its 2018 racing season as Sean Mayhugh with fellow speed committee members Sherri Fisher and Tami Hartman put together another enjoyable card of Ohio Colt Racing Association's youngsters including a classically-fought Ohio Ladies Pace Series and a very competitive \$8,500 Steamin Demon Pace.

In the first \$2,986 OCRA two-year-old filly pace Dan Noble took Vin Conte's daughter of Pet Rock-Belle, Marie Adorabella, into the Winners Circle by sizzling the half-mile oval in 2:02.3h over Martys Dream Girl and Rose Run Ultimate for her very first stake win.

Noble would take the 2nd half of the double with Lisa Gosselin of Eaton, Ohio's Christina One (Dragon Again) in the \$3,468 OCRA filly pace as well when the Pat Melloy Jr-trained 3-year-old added a new tab 2:01.2h over I'm Flying Free and Dragon Me Down.

David Swaney took his own and trained Big Bad John 3-year-old filly Milly B Gone and was gone in her \$3,468 OCRA division as she took a new lifetime mark over Grays Slick (Noble) and Bad Tigress(Bothman) in 2:02.3h over the Centerville oval.

The Mark Winters Sr.-conditioned How About Murph (Allamerican Native) and Jeff Nissonger took her 2-year-old \$2,986 OCRA pace with a time of 2:03.4h.

The Ohio Ladies Series produced another battle when veteran Emily Hay sent the team of owner Luke Hanner and trainer Alicia Hanner's Light Up The Sky wire-to-wire and held off an "upstart" first-time driver Amy Eubank and Art Degree in a scorcher of a mile in 2:02.1h. The 12-year-old Four Starzz Shark-Far Ahead Hanover by Abercromie gelding boasted a lifetime mark of 1:49.4f and had a tailor-made trip yet nobody bet him to win... *WELL, I WAS TOO BUSY!!!*

The Racing With The Stars contest brought another new face into the Winners Circle when participant "Feel Good" Phil Good enjoyed the win when the Jim Arledge Jr-trained Woodyoucolorwithme (Woodstock-Color My World) took her \$2,986 OCRA 2-year-old filly division in 2:05.1h. Jeremy Smith did the driving honors aboard the novice pacer.

In the Season's finale, the \$8,500 Steamin Demon Pace, Scioto Downs' leading driver Dan Noble put Chance I Might right on the front and cut a rugged mile of 1:59.2h but Shawn Barker II staged a rockin' and a rollin' rally to get them in a photo.

Entertainment abounded with The Pickaway County High School Harness Challenge as four schools sent out their most-courageous teachers - along with a most-professional driver for support - and produced a closely-fought contest.

And although it was an uncharted race for the annual Pickaway County 4H Outhouse Race in the 11th, it was a mad dash to the wire and quite the relief when it was over.

Lots of fun that we'll always remember.