



POINT OF PERFECT

Bay colt, 3 by Walner – Southwind Fiat – Muscle Hill



OWNER: Burke Racing Stable, PA; Hatfield Stables, Ohio; J&T Silva Stables, NY; Knox Services [Carolyn Brechler], OH
BREEDER: Black Creek Farm & Northern Lane Farm, IN
SALE INFO: \$205,000 Lexington Selected
TRAINER: Ron Burke
DRIVER: David Miller

YEAR	STARTS	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2023	7	3	1	0	\$85,468	1:51.2 M
2022	15	0	2	5	\$131,678	Q 1:58.4 M
LIFETIME	22	3	3	5	\$217,146	3 1:51.2 M

- Drew post five in the final.
- Yannick Gingras hustled Point Of Perfect off the wings as the cavalry charged through the first turn, where Kierkegaard K made an uncharacteristic break. Point Of Perfect planted himself on top past a :27.1 first quarter, but yielded control to Little Expensive across the backstretch, though only for a short time. Gingras circled Point Of Perfect back to the top before a :54.4 half and attempted to rate through the final turn. As the tempo slowed, 3-5 favorite Oh Well pulled first over under confident handling and strode to the leader's neck, marching to three-quarters in 1:23. Oh Well continued his attack into the lane but Point Of Perfect re-engaged, sliding to a slightly wider lead at the eighth pole. Point Of Perfect stayed game to the finish as the backfield came swooping in late to claim a half-length victory in 1:51.2.
- "He's a pretty aggressive horse and we had some stuff in his mouth to try to get him to calm down a bit, and he wasn't really liking it," Yannick Gingras said of the colt's tendency to gallop. "Every time you'd grab a hold of him, he'd shake his head and make breaks. The breaks he made, it was always when he was on the move to do work. [Ronnie] changed a few things around and he's got him on point now. He's perfect to drive, lets me do my job and he obviously did his tonight."
- Came into his Hambletonian elimination off a 1:52.2 win in a Tompkins-Geers division on July 22.
- Breaking issues continued into this sophomore campaign throughout the NJSS legs and final. He rolled to a four-length victory in a three year old non-winners of two event at the

Meadowlands on July 1 in 1:52.3, and followed that up with a second place finish with the same conditions on July 8.

- Point of Perfect failed to score a win as a two year old. Breaking issues plagued many of his starts. He had a second place finish in a NJSS leg and was a 3P2 in the NJSS Final. He also recorded five third place finishes, three of which came in the Kentucky Championship Series at the Red Mile.
- David Miller won the 2012 Hambletonian Oaks with Personal Style, trained by Richard “Nifty” Norman.
- Miller is seeking his first Hambletonian trophy. He had third-place finishes with Gimpanzee in 2019, Uncle Lasse in 2015, and Corky in 2013. In 2017, he drove What The Hill, who crossed the finish line first, but was disqualified for interference in the stretch. In 2021, he drove Take All Comers to a fifth place finish. Keg Stand finished tenth in 2022.
- A 2014 inductee into the Hall of Fame, Miller ranks No. 2 all time in purses with \$275 million and has finished among the top five in earnings 23 of the past 24 years. John Campbell, now president and CEO of the Hambletonian Society, holds the sport’s record for purses with \$300 million. Miller is No. 4 all-time in wins with more than 14,000.
- In 2003, Miller led the sport in purses and drove No Pan Intended to the Pacing Triple Crown and Horse of the Year honors. In 2016, he was the driver of Horse of the Year Award winner Always B Miki, who paced a world record 1:46 at The Red Mile.
- In 2015, Miller set a record with five Breeders Crown wins in a single year.
- Miller was the regular driver of 2021 Horse of the Year winner Test Of Faith, who became the fourth 3-year-old female pacer to receive the honor.
- Miller, who received the 1993 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association, was already a standout in his native Ohio when he headed to the East Coast in the late 1990s. He captured multiple driving titles at the Meadowlands Racetrack in the early 2000s and has been a force on the Grand Circuit ever since he made the move.
- Burke has had four previous Hambletonian Oaks finalists, with a best finish of fourth in 2020 with Crucial.
- In 2020, Burke-trained filly Sister Sledge who finished eighth in the final after breaking.
- No trainer in history comes close to Burke’s production in terms of wins and purses. He is on his way to leading the sport in both categories for the 15th consecutive year. His nearly 14,000 lifetime victories are more than 6,600 ahead of second-place Virgil Morgan Jr. and his \$306 million in career purses are more than \$175 million ahead of retired Hall of Famer Jimmy Takter.
- In May, Burke became the first person to reach \$300 million in North American purses in harness racing history.

- Burke took over the family's training stable from his father Mickey, the 2006 Trainer of the Year, in late 2008. In his first full year, he won 762 races and \$14.8 million in purses, totals that he has exceeded every year since. No other trainer has ever won more 663 races or \$13.4 million in purses in a year.
- He has topped 1,000 wins in a year four times and \$20 million in purses nine times. His record totals both came in 2014 when he had 1,093 victories and \$28.4 million in purses.
- Burke's past stars include 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover, 2014 Pacer of the Year Sweet Lou and 2011 Pacer of the Year Foiled Again, who retired following the 2018 season as the richest harness racing horse in history with \$7.63 million in lifetime earnings.
- He was named Trainer of the Year in 2011, 2013, and 2018.
- In addition to Burke's success as a trainer, Burke Racing was named Owner of the Year (with partners Mark Weaver and Mike Brussemi) in 2013 and 2018.
- Burke trained 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover, a 2023 Hall of Fame inductee. His other many stars have included 2014 Pacer of the Year Sweet Lou and 2011 Pacer of the Year Foiled Again, who retired following the 2018 season as the richest harness racing horse in history, with \$7.63 million in lifetime earnings. Foiled Again, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019, won 109 races and joined fellow Hall of Famer Rambling Willie as the only pacers with at least 100 wins and more than \$2 million in purses in the past 40 years. Sweet Lou was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2021 and Foiled Again was inducted in 2019.
- Sire Walner, a standout trotter sidelined in his three-year-old year due to injury. His other notable offspring include older trotter Venerable, 2022 Hambletonian Oaks winner Fashion Schooner, 2022 Breeders Crown winner King Of The North and standout four year old mare Jiggy Jog S. Walner sends out four Hambletonian finalists.
- Gingras on Point Of Perfect, "I think my horse is better following, but I think (in the elim) he showed some guts. Oh Well is a great horse and he fended him off. In the last turn, I was thinking that Oh Well is a tough horse and if he was going to go by me, I might be fifth. But at the top of the stretch my horse felt really good and Timmy was calling on his, so at that point, it was all system's go and try to get a good post for the final. So, now we're guaranteed that.

I'm not sure if being on the front is his best game, but he is so quick off the gate. He's great to drive. Knowing Ronnie, he'll probably make a couple changes next week to try to get him to go a little bit faster. I think he's got a shot. He beat a lot of the good ones (in his elim). We'll see what happens.

This horse is so quick the first couple steps out of the gate, he's probably one horse that (post position) doesn't really matter."