

NEWS UPDATE



Muscle Hill

3 AUGUST 2017

Red-letter day for Muscle Hill

Leading trotting sire **MUSCLE HILL** had a red-letter day at The Meadowlands on July 16, producing three feature race winners on the stakes laden card.

Marion Marauder, last year's Trotter of the Year, topped the bill with his fighting win in the \$458,750 Hambletonian Maturity, sending his earnings over the \$2-million mark.

MUSCLE HILL provided the quinella pair, **Long Tom** (1:52.8) and **What The Hill**, in the \$161,500 Stanley Dancer Memorial for three-year-old colts and geldings, while star filly **Ariana G** captured a \$125,250 division of the Delvin Miller Memorial in 1:51.8.

WISHING STONE, second to **MUSCLE HILL** in this season's two-year-old premiership, sired two winners of \$100,000 New Jersey Sire Stakes at The Meadowlands in **U Need Stones**, a winner by four lengths in 1:55.4, and the filly **Princess Marxxx** (1:58), who led home a **WISHING STONE** trifecta.

\By Peter Wharton

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8 AUGUST 2017

Six Stakes winners on the one day!

Hambletonian Day (August 5) at The Meadowlands really belonged to champion trotting sire **MUSCLE HILL**!

He sired six Stakes winners on the program headed up by champion filly **Ariana G**'s 4-3/4 lengths romp in the \$500,000 Hambletonian Oaks in 1:51.4. It was her fourth sub 1:52 clocking this year and her 15th win from 18 lifetime starts.

The two-year-old colt **You Know You Do**, a \$350,000 yearling purchase, posted his most important win in the \$360,650 Peter Haughton Memorial in 1:54.8. Despite having to face the breeze, the colt asserted his superiority in the home straight to win by 2-1/4 lengths.

Manchego, a two-year-old filly, extended her unbeaten winning sequence to five when she captured the \$330,800 Jim Doherty Memorial in a career-best 1:52.8.

Resolve, the winner of \$2.5million, led in a **MUSCLE HILL** quinella in the \$303,050 John Cashman Memorial for open trotters, winning by 4-1/4 lengths from **Marion Marauder**. **Resolve** led from pillar-to-post, reaching the mile in a stunning 1:50.2.

Three weeks earlier **Marion Marauder** captured the \$458,750 Hambletonian Maturity at The Meadowlands, pushing his earnings to beyond \$2million.

Former Swedish mare **Pasithea Face S** notched her first win on American soil in the \$176,250 Dr John R Steele Memorial, scoring by two lengths in 1:51.4.

While Ice Attraction completed a huge day for **MUSCLE HILL** by outsprinting her rivals in a \$30,000 division of the Duenna Stakes in 1:53.2.

WISHING STONE, the leading first-crop trotting sire in America this year, left the winners of two \$100,000 finals of the New Jersey Sire Stakes for two-year-olds at The Meadowlands in **U Need Stones**, a winner by four lengths in 1:55.4, and Princess Marxxx (1:58).

LUCKY CHUCKY, a two-year-old filly, made it three for three when she captured a division of the New York Sire Stakes at Batavia Downs in 1:59.6.

On the homefront, **Smashthemcalder**, one of the first small frozen crop of **LUCKY CHUCKY**, posted win No 4 in the time-honoured The Maori Legend at Stawell, while the **LUCKY CHUCKY** filly **Aoraki** won the title of NZ 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year for 2016/17 from a crop only six live foals in NZ.

Dance Craze and **Glenferrie Burn**, a pair of **MUSCLE HILL** fillies, have been racing outstanding form recently. **Dance Craze** made it five from seven at Ballarat and finished a brave second in the Victoria Derby, while **Glenferrie Burn** won in Free-for-all company at Melton to push her earnings to almost \$200,000.

By Peter Wharton

NEWS UPDATE



Lucky Chucky

20 AUGUST 2017

Lucky Chucky 2YO wins \$53,500 feature

Perlucky, a 2YO colt by **LUCKY CHUCKY**, notched his maiden success when he captured a \$53,500 division of the New York Sire Stakes in 1:57.2 at Saratoga on August 16. His time was a new class record on a half-mile track.

MUSCLE HILL produced the quinella pair, **Yes Mickey** and **Ariana G**, in the \$320,000 Dr Harry Zweig Memorial at Vernon Downs on Friday (August 18).

Yes Mickey, who sat in the box seat trail, cut down **Ariana G**, who led from the half-mile mark, to score by a neck in a career-best 1:51.4. Out of a Pine Chip mare, **Yes Mickey** has earned \$223,087 in stakes.

On the same card, **Evelyn**, a 3YO **MUSCLE HILL** filly, took full advantage of an inside passage to win the \$135,000 Zweig Filly Final in 1:54.2. She has now earned more than \$190,000.

The siblings **Dance Craze** and **La Grange**, both by **MUSCLE HILL** from **La Coccaracha**, captured their respective heats of the Breeders Crown at Maryborough on Thursday (August 17).

Dance Craze, a 3YO filly, led for the last lap to notch her sixth win from nine outings, while **La Grange**, a 2YO colt, dashed home along the passing lane to grab his third success from seven starts.

\By Peter Wharton

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29 AUGUST 2017

Crown for Dance Craze

Brilliant **MUSCLE HILL** three-year-old filly **Dance Craze** notched her second win at Group level and earned a new speed badge of 1:58.8 when she captured the Group 1 \$65,000 Breeders Crown Final at Melton on Sunday (August 27).

Starting from the No 5 gate, the filly was sent forward from the outset and worked to the front 400 metres after the start.

She maintained a solid tempo in the vanguard, clocking 60.1 for the first half of the last mile.

Given more rein by Nathan Jack, **Dance Craze** upped the ante with a 29.8 third stanza and then roared home in 28.5 to leave her rivals gasping for breath.

Dance Craze has won seven of her 10 starts this season for \$94,260 in stakes.

Bred and owned by Pat Driscoll, the filly is out of the champion trotting mare La Coocaracha (by Safdely Kept).

Earlier in the day **Dance Craze's** younger full brother **La Grange** finished a creditable second in the Group 1 \$90,000 Crown Final for two-year-old colts and geldings.

In America, the **MUSCLE HILL** three-year-old gelding **Yes Mickey**, who won last week's Zweig Memorial, backed up to win a \$40,000 elimination of the Yonkers Trot in 1:56.2 at Yonkers Raceway, New York on Saturday night (August 26).

By Peter Wharton