

Yonkers hosts NYSS Hugh Grant Pace Monday, Funknwaffles Fastest of the Night

by Frank Drucker, Publicity Director for Yonkers Raceway

Yonkers, NY---The downstate denizens took their turn Monday night (July 10), with Yonkers Raceway hosting the \$169,500 New York Sire Stakes Hugh Grant Pace for 3-year-old colts and geldings.

A quartet of divisions began the local statebred season, with a first-division (\$42,975), first-up America's Fleet (Jason Bartlett, \$29) holding off What's Goin' On (Jim Morrill Jr.) in 1:55. Barry Hanover (Brian Sears) was third.

The winner, from post position No. 5, put away a folding 7-10 Art Scene (Scott Zeron) after that one put up intervals of :27.3, :57.2, 1:26.1. He eventually faded to sixth.

For America's Fleet, an [American Ideal](#)-Wishfora Fullhouse gelding trained by Ed Hart for co-owners Randy Bendis and Tom Pollack, it was his third win in 13 seasonal starts. The exacta paid \$97, with the triple returning \$519.



Mike Lizzi photo

The second (\$42,175) sire stakes event saw death-and-taxes Funknwaffles (Corey Callahan, \$2.10) prevail. Away third from post No. 5, he improved into a pocket after a rival broke, last season's frosh Empire champion tracked Outkast Blue Chip (Bartlett) through sub-sections of :27.1, :56.1 and 1:24.3.

Funknwaffles then disposed of that foe, winning by 2½ lengths in a night's-fastest 1:52. Second went to Pointomygranson (Brian Sears), with 'Outkast' third.

Funknwaffles won the quickest sires stakes split in 1:52.

For Funknwaffles, an [American Ideal](#)-Hatsoff Hanover gelding owned by Crawford Farms Racing and trained by John Butenschoen, it was his second win in six seasonal starts. The exacta paid \$8, with the triple returning \$19.60.

"You can do anything you want with him and he gets around this track very well," Callahan said.

Monday night's third (\$42,175) sire stakes gathering was not quite the same puny proposition as pole-sitting Heaven's Gait (Dave Miller, \$2.70) eased past leading (:27.2, :56.3, 1:24.1) and stubborn Cultural Paradise (Brian Sears) late.

The margin was a neck and the mile went in 1:52.2. Twin B Cowboy (Mark MacDonald) wound up third.

For Heaven's Gait, a [Rock N Roll Heaven](#)-Booya Beach colt owned by John Cummins and trained by Nicholas Devita, he's now 5-for-10 this season. The exacta (two wagering choices by a wide margin) paid \$5, with the triple returning \$37.

"It was tough coming first-up, but he hung in there," Miller said.

The night's final (\$42,175) sire stakes excursion saw the third of four odds-on numbers, In a Single Bound (Billy Dobson, \$2.70) deliver the goods.

Two-moving from post No. 3, he held sway (:27.1, :55.4, 1:24.1, 1:52.3), holding off a slow-starting Uffizi (Miller) by a length. Ideal Wheel (Sears) was a pocket third, while second choice Music is Art (Brennan) jumped it off early.

For In a Single Bound, a Roll with Joe gelding co-owned by Dennis & Simone Noud and trained by Monica Krist, it was his sixth win in eight seasonal starts (five consecutive wins, 3-for-3 in NYSS). The exacts paid \$11.80, with the triple returning \$34.40.