

MACKENZIE A WINS FRIDAY NIGHT 40G DISTAFF DERBY
FRANK DRUCKER, Publicity Director, Empire City @ Yonkers Raceway

YONKERS, NY, Friday, December 15, 2017—Nothing, not even an outside assignment can stay Mackenzie A (Jordan Stratton, \$10) from the swift completion of her appointed rounds.

She did it again Friday night (Dec. 15th), winning Yonkers Raceway's \$40,000 Filly and Mare Open Handicap Pace.

With the seven lasses all moving inside one notch after a pole-sitter defection, Mackenzie A floated away from the gate, nestled fifth from her mandated impost. She watched as 3-10 fave Lady Shadow (Jason Bartlett) went over Lovineveryminute (Dan Dube) before a :27.2 opening quarter-mile.

It was a 57-second intermission before the Matchmaker conquering heroine did her usual first-up routine.

Mackenzie A hooked Lady Shadow in and out of the 1:25.1 three-quarters, poking her schnoz in front entering the lane. She drew out by a couple of lengths in a cold and snowy 1:54 (full disclosure that the snow had stopped a few races earlier). Lady Shadow did save second, failing at odds-on in both starts since her local return.

Pretty Image (Matt Kakaley), Annabeth (Greg Merton) & Truth and Liberty (Eric Goodell) settled for the remainder.

For second choice Mackenzie A, a 5-year-old Down Under daughter of Rock N Roll Heaven co-owned by Ellen Kinser & Harry von Knoblauch Stables and trained by Peter Tritton, it was her sixth win in 15 seasonal starts (third consecutive, fourth in last five tries). The exacta paid \$24.60, with the triple returning \$110.50.

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(photo-Darragh Riordan-accompanies)

(FFI...Frank Drucker, Yonkers Raceway Publicity Director, 914-968-4200)