

TIGHT LINES WINS SUNDAY 40G OPEN HANDICAP TROT
BY FRANK DRUCKER, Publicity Director, Empire City @ Yonkers Raceway

YONKERS, NY, Sunday, December 3, 2017—Rank outsider Tight Lines (Jeff Gregory, \$62.50) was the ground-saving star Sunday morning (Dec. 3rd), winning Yonkers Raceway's \$40,000 Open Handicap Trot.

With just a seven-horse field, the weekly trotting feature went as the late-morning opener, before the seven 'French' trots.

In play from post position No. 5, Tight Lines actually surrendered an early pocket to lone lass Charmed Life (Yannick Gingras), as both sat behind just-over-even-money favorite Melady's Monet (Jason Bartlett).

Meanwhile, Rubber Duck (Joe Bongiorno) found himself in no man's land and rushed up to prompt early intervals of :27.3 and :56.4.

Going toward the 1:25.4 three-quarters, Rubber Duck was retreating. Melady's Monet, meanwhile, owned a length lead into the lane before Charmed Life pulled pocket. The lady went past 'Melady,' but a cone-skimming Tight Lines went past both of 'em.

Tight Lines defeated Charmed Life by a half-length in 1:55.1. Melady's Monet faded to third. The minors went to DW's NY Yank (Jordan Stratton) and Muscles on Fire (Brent Holland).

For Tight Lines, a 4-year-old Yankee Glide gelding co-owned by his trainer/driver, Jesmeral Stable and William Richardson, it was his 10th win in 24 seasonal starts. The exacta paid \$164.50, with the triple returning \$530.

Those sagacious handicappers who unearthed Tight Lines and Taco Tuesday (Dan Dube, \$41.80) in the \$26,000, second-race trot took home a season-high \$1,279 daily double (last Sunday's early double paid \$1,162),

This 'New York, New York Double' saw a winning combination of 4-Dream Pauline (Aqueduct's 3rd race) and 3-Gruden (Yonkers' 5th race) returned \$13.30 for every correct \$1 wager. Total pool was \$4,927.

Sunday matinees, along with the 'New York, New York Double,' conclude Dec. 17th (post time TBA). It's the final program of the season.

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(photo-Chris Brokate-accompanies)

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