

MOSTINTERESTINGMAN WINS SUNDAY 54G OPEN ‘CAP TROT’;
FRENCH-AMERICAN SERIES BEGINS
BY FRANK DRUCKER, Publicity Director, Empire City @ Yonkers Raceway

YONKERS, NY, Sunday, August 5, 2018—Favored Mostinterestingman (Jordan Stratton, \$4.40) was the third and last leader Sunday afternoon (Aug. 5th), winning Yonkers Raceway’s featured \$54,800 Open Handicap Trot.

The weekly trotting feature went as the early-PM opener, the first of a 10-race, all-trot card. Nine of ‘em were at the overflow field, mile-and-a-quarter ‘French’ theme.

Away alertly from post position No. 6, Mostinterestingman has to wait his turn. Inside rivals Fashion Creditor (Andy Miller) left, as did lass NF Happenstance (Jack Parker Jr.)

It was after a 28-second opening quarter-mile that Mostinterestingman made the lead from the mare. He then found a :56.2 half and 1:25.3 three-quarters with the other ma’am, longshot Weslynn Dancer (Jason Bartlett) fighting the first-over fight.

The 44-1 prompter hung in there while Mostinterestinman found a 1:54.2 milepost. He owned a length-and-a-quarter lead into the lane, with NF Happenstance angling out. That one couldn’t reach, as Mostinterestingman prevailed by a length-and-three-quarters, getting the added distance in 2:24.1

Fashion Creditor, who left the cones, offered a solid close to get third, with Cash Me out (Jim Maroh Jr.) and Such an Angel (Brian Sears) coming away with the minors.

For Mostinterestingman, a 5-year-old Manofmanymissions co-owned by (trainer) Ricky Bucci and Richard Solano, it was his sixth win in 26 seasonal starts. The exacta paid \$26, the triple returned \$108 and the superfecta paid \$393.50.

Sunday’s card also featured the opening round for the French-American Trotting Club Series. A pair of \$35,000 events for French-bred trotters that were purchased by ‘local’ interests.

The first event went to a down-the-road Alpha D’Urzy (Brent Holland, \$12.20) in 2:26.4, his fourth win in as many North American starts.

“I did get lucky with this one,” co-owner/trainer Rene Allard said. “He seemed to acclimate well, better than many of Australian and New Zealand horses that have come to me. He doesn’t wear much and he gets over these tracks.”

The second Club event saw odds-on Ursis Des Caillons (Joe Bongiorno, \$3.40) draw away from Undici (Steve Smith) in 2:26.2.

“Good manners and quick-footed,” Bongiorno said. “He opened up easily and I never took the ear plugs out.”

Sunday's latest installment of the 'New York, New York Double' featured a winning combination of 5-Into Mystic (Saratoga's 1st race, [winner for parimutuel purposes]) and 6-Ursis Des Caillons (Yonkers' 3rd race), returning \$16.20 for every correct \$1 ticket. Total pool was \$4,415.

The next Sunday matinee is Aug. 12th (post time TBA).

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(photos-Mike Lizzi-accompany)

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