

SIX PACK WINS 64TH YONKERS TROT
FRANK DRUCKER, Publicity Director, Empire City @ Yonkers Raceway

YONKERS, NY, Saturday, September 1, 2018—Odds-on Six Pack (Ake Svanstedt, \$2.50) took his time making the lead, then took it to the teletimer Saturday night (Sept. 1st), easily winning Yonkers Raceway's 64th Yonkers Trot.

The half-million-dollar second jewel of the Trotting Triple Crown attracted just eight entrants, thus no previous-week elimination races.

Six Pack, after his 'adventurous' Hambletonian hi-jinx, left nothing to chance here. From post position No. 4, he slowly worked his way to the front, encountered a surprise first leader in 80-1 rank outsider Lindsey's Pride (Marcus Miller). Pole-sitting Helpisontheway (Jim Morrill Jr.), the lone \$30,000 supplemental entrant in this race, was tardy leaving, settling third as Six Pack found :28.4 opening quarter-mile.

The Veteran (Jordan Stratton), put in play from behind the eight-ball, was in somewhat tight quarters and set to wrangle in fourth when he jumped it off.

Back to the front, with Six Pack rating a :29.2 second subsection (:58.1 intermission), effectively ending the suspense. He had a couple of lengths and gapped-out rivals in and out of a 1:26.3 three-quarters as Helpisontheway took out of third.

Six Pack then widened, hurting feelings along the way. The lead was five lengths off the final turn and 7¾ lengths at the wire, which he found in 1:54 (:27.2 final quarter). The mile wiped Archangel (1:54.1 in 2012) out of the annals as fastest 3-year-old trotting colt as well as the fastest Trot held here.

Helpisontheway did finally get past Lindsey's Pride and into second, with a recovering The Veteran and Lindy's Big Bang (Deter Dunn) grabbing the minors. Maxus (Mark MacDonald), Tito (Louis-Philippe Roy) and early misbehavior Mississippi Storm (Jason Bartlett) rounded out the order.

For Six Pack, a \$30,000 (Lexington) son of Muscle Mass co-owned by his trainer/driver, Little E LLC, Stall Kaimer and Lars Berg, it was his sixth win in nine seasonal starts (career 10-for-17, \$849,840). The exacta (two wagering favorites) paid an even-money \$4, the triple returned \$56 and the superfecta paid \$203.50.

"I thought Jimmy (Morrill Jr., with Helpisontheway) was the one to beat," Svanstedt said after his first Trot win. "So, when I saw it was Marcus (Miller), I knew I didn't have to stress.

"He's just been a good horse (at 2 and 3). Good horses take care of themselves."

According to Svanstedt, Six Pack, the New York Sire Stakes frosh champ, won't try to qualify for this season (Sept. 22nd). Rather, the plan is to buy in to the (Oct. 7th) Kentucky Futurity.

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(photo-Mike Lizzi-accompanies)

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