

## 3-YEAR-OLD FILLY TROT

**AMAZONE DUHARAS** (Muscle Hill-Cleopatre Duharas-Cantab Hall)



Out of the mare Cleopatre Duharas, who competed in the 2011 Breeders Crown 3YO Filly Trot and finished fifth. This Muscle Hill filly made four starts as a 2-year-old, all in stakes – finishing third in the \$84,500 Pure Ivory Final and ninth in the \$335,000 Peaceful Way Final. Came back gradually as a 3-year-old racing in overnight company until stepping up to the Grand Circuit in a \$75,400 Casual Breeze division at Woodbine Mohawk Park, which she won in 1:53.4. She followed that effort with a second in the \$160,260 Simcoe Stakes and a win via disqualification in a \$75,200 Bluegrass split at The Red Mile. She sat a pocket trip in her Breeders Crown elimination but faded in the stretch to finish fifth (to **ALTAR**). A homebred for Haras De L Estrie Inc., which has yet to win a Breeders Crown. Trained by Denis Gueriel, who makes his Breeders Crown debut.

**SHIRLEY GOODNESS** (Swan For All-Stirling Debutant-Credit Winner)



A phenom out of Indiana, she was prominent on the Indiana Sires Stakes (INSS) circuit as a 2-year-old with three victories in preliminaries and a third in the \$270,000 Super Final. Her freshmen season ended with a 1:54.4 victory in the \$70,000 Madison Stakes at Harrah's Hoosier Park. She left trainer Melanie Wrenn's barn at the start of her 3-year-old season for LeWayne Miller's stable, but returned following a series of breaks in the INSS. After winning leg four of the INSS for Miller, she made her first start back in the Wrenn barn, finishing third. After finishing sixth in the \$115,000 Moni Maker on Sept. 24, she uncorked three-straight wins culminating with a 1:53.3 win in the \$270,000 INSS Super Final, her final start before the Breeders Crown eliminations. She broke stride at the start of her elimination, but regrouped with an eighth of a mile before the start to then come from off the pace and secure a spot in the final with a fifth-place finish (to **BELLA BELLINI**). Bred by Alan and Larry Troyer of Lagrange, Ind., who will have their first Breeders Crown competitor with this filly. Trainer Melanie Wrenn has had only one

other Breeders Crown starter in Chin Chin Hall, who finished fifth in the 2018 2YO Colt Trot. Owned by Bill Beechy, Brad Maxwell and Kenneth Frieder.

**BELLA BELLINI** (Bar Hopping-Bella Dolce-Kadabra)



Winner of the 2021 Hambletonian Oaks, she will try to become the 11<sup>th</sup> filly to win both the Oaks and the Breeders Crown final, which was last accomplished in 2017 by Ariana G. An under-the-radar 2-year-old, she made one stakes appearance at The Red Mile – a seventh-place finish in an \$88,000 Bluegrass Stakes split (won by **ANOKA HANOVER**). She debuted as a 3-year-old on April 20 to a 15-1/4-length romp in a prelim for the Bobby Weiss Series at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. She racked up wins in overnight races and a Pennsylvania Sires Stake prelim before going to the Hambletonian Oaks, where she was second in her elimination before winning as the 1-2 favorite in the final. Her only other win after that came in the \$253,000 Pennsylvania Sires Stakes final prior to her swift-footed closing effort to win her Breeders Crown elimination. She otherwise was second in the \$414,000 Elegance and in the \$351,000 Kentucky Filly Futurity. A homebred for David McDuffee, who sits 11<sup>th</sup> among owners for all-time Breeders Crown earnings and has won seven trophies. With horses he bred, McDuffee has finished third in four finals: two with Chestnut Hill (2019 2YO Colt Trot & 2020 3YO Colt Trot) and two with We Will See (2010 3YO Colt Pace & 2011 Open Pace). Trained by Richard “Nifty” Norman, who won in this event in 2013 with Bee A Magician and has six trophies to his name.

**CHABLIS** (Muscle Hill-D’orsay-Yankee Glide)



Until Sept. 10 of this year, Chablis was a maiden – in total through 20 starts. Nonetheless, she competed against stakes competition through her 2- and 3-year-old seasons starting with a third and a second in the

New Jersey Sires Stakes (NJSS) prelims as a freshman before finishing seventh in the \$160,000 final. She continued to collect checks in the Kindergarten Series and during the Grand Circuit fortnight at The Red Mile, and competed in the Breeders Crown eliminations last year but finished eighth. Her 2-year-old season ended with a break in stride in the \$252,300 Kindergarten Classic. Came back at 3 in the NJSS but failed to make the final. Finished fifth in the \$139,500 Del Miller Memorial and then seventh in her Hambletonian Oaks elimination. She then finished fourth in a \$30,000 Continentalvictory division at The Meadowlands and fifth in the \$125,000 Delmonica Hanover Consolation I at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. On Sept. 10, she powered to an 8-length victory in 1:53.4 against NW2 to finally break her maiden, and followed that effort with another victory at The Red Mile. Grabbing one more check in a \$75,200 Bluegrass division, she launched for position from post 9 in her Breeders Crown elimination to sit a ground-saving trip and take third at odds of 124-1 (to **BELLA BELLINI**). A homebred for Consus Racing Stable Inc. out of champion mare D'orsay, who competed in three Breeders Crown finals through her career – her best finish was a third in the 2013 Mare Trot behind stablemate Maven. Trained by Jonas Czernyson, who won in this event in 2012 with Maven. Czernyson's last Breeders Crown appearance came in this event in 2016 with Side Bet Hanover, who finished ninth.

**ALTAR** (Muscle Hill-Swan Hot Mama-Donato Hanover)



Started her career in Per Engblom's barn, demonstrating plenty of speed along with a tendency to break stride. She broke stride as the 2-5 favorite in her Jim Doherty Memorial elimination as a 2-year-old and then again in the \$350,300 final before shipping to Mohawk for the inaugural Mohawk Million, where she again gunned for the front but soon lost position and broke stride. After that race, she entered Nancy Takter's barn and continued to break stride until going to The Red Mile for the Kentucky Commonwealth Series. She won three prelims by a combined 25 lengths with her fastest time a 1:50.4 effort, won the \$50,000 final in 1:51.4 and romped by 7-3/4 lengths in a \$74,200 Bluegrass division over a "sloppy" track in 1:50.3. With not enough money in earnings to make the Filly Futurity final, she supplemented to the \$81,000 Allerage Filly & Mare Trot, where she got pocketed and jumped stride past the half to finish ninth. She returned to her steamrolling ways in her Breeders Crown elimination, coasting to a 1:51.2 victory. Bred by Diamond Creek Farm LLC and owned by its Diamond Creek Racing, which has bred winners of four Breeders Crown trophies: Pure Country (2015 2YO Filly Pace & 2017 Mare Pace), Divine Caroline (2015 3YO Filly Pace) and Creatine (2015 Open Trot). Trained by Nancy Takter, who sits 15<sup>th</sup> all-time in Breeders Crown earnings and has seven trophies to her credit.

**ANOKA HANOVER** (Donato Hanover-Aunt Mel-Yankee Glide)



Last year's Dan Patch 2-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year. Her award-winning freshman campaign consisted of 10 wins from 14 starts including victories in an \$88,000 Bluegrass Stake, \$75,750 International Stallion Stake, \$56,400 John Simpson Memorial, \$252,340 Kindergarten Classic and \$451,800 Goldsmith Maid. She returned as a sophomore with similar promise to win a Pennsylvania Sires Stake prelim on May 21 in 1:52.3 but slowly fell out of form. Her next closest finish was a second on June 6. She finished fourth in a \$49,550 Reynolds Memorial division and seventh in a \$46,450 Tompkins-Geers split before scratching sick from a PASS split on July 31. She did not step onto the track until Sept. 21 when she qualified at Harrah's Philadelphia in 1:56. She shipped to The Red Mile, finished third in a \$74,200 Bluegrass split and then eighth in a \$25,000 event for Filly Futurity eligibles before her Breeders Crown elimination, in which she parked the whole mile and rallied to finish fourth (to **ALTAR**). Bred by Hanover Shoe Farms and co-owned by trainer Noel Daley with Crawford Farms Racing, L A Express Stable LLC and Caviart Farms. Daley sits 19<sup>th</sup> all-time for trainers in Breeders Crown earnings and has won with four horses. He won twice in this event and did so in back-to-back years, winning the 2010 3YO Filly Trot with Impressive Kemp and the 2011 3YO Filly Trot with Cedar Dove.

**SPLASH BLUE CHIP** (E L Titan-Dunk The Donato-Donato Hanover)





A check-getter all through her 2-year-old season, racing in the New York Sires Stakes (NYSS) before stepping onto the Grand Circuit at The Red Mile with a fourth in a \$88,000 Bluegrass Stake and a second in a \$75,750 International Stallion Stake. She finished third in the elimination for the 2020 2YO Filly Trot and then finished third in the final before wrapping that season with a fifth in the \$451,800 Goldsmith Maid (to **ANOKA HANOVER**). She remained mostly on the NYSS track before resurfacing on the Grand Circuit in the \$140,000 Zweig Filly Trot, in which she finished eighth. She added Lasix for the \$200,000 NYSS Final but finished third (to **ITERATION**). After finishing sixth in a \$75,200 Bluegrass Stake, she pulled a 24-1 upset catapulting off cover in a \$25,000 Filly Futurity eligible race in a lifetime-best 1:51.4. Followed that effort with a pylon-skimming third-place finish in her Breeders Crown elimination (to **ALTAR**), where she was able to return with Lasix. Bred by Blue Chip Bloodstock, which sits 13<sup>th</sup> all-time in Breeders Crown earnings among breeders and has bred four winners. Trained by Ake Svanstedt and owned by his Ake Svanstedt Inc. along with Mellby Gard Inc.

#### **ITERATION** (Chapter Seven-Steamy Windows-Muscle Massive)



A full-sister to three-time Breeders Crown winner Gimpanzee. Her 2-year-old season included wins in the \$225,000 New York Sires Stakes (NYSS) Final, \$221,000 Kentuckiana and in a \$75,750 International Stallion Stake before competing in the Breeders Crown eliminations and then making the final of the 2YO Filly Trot, in which she finished sixth. She began her 3-year-old season with a three-race win streak, winning a NYSS event, a \$102,500 Empire Breeders Classic division and the \$150,000 New York New York Mile (formerly the Hudson Filly Trot). Breaking stride in the \$139,500 Del Miller Memorial at The Meadowlands, she stayed to task and finished second in her Hambletonian Oaks elimination and then drew post 10 from the final, from which she fired and made a second move to take the front before being collared in the stretch (by **BELLA BELLINI**). Her last win came in the \$200,000 NYSS Final at Yonkers on Sept. 10. She hadn't hit the board in her three Grand Circuit efforts before her Breeders Crown

elimination, where she finished second (to **ALTAR**). Bred by Order By Stable and owned by Courant Inc. Trained by Marcus Melander.

#### **YOU ATO DREAM** (Donato Hanover-Dream Child-Muscle Hill)



Seconds and thirds have been this filly's game through most of her career. She won one race as a 2-year-old but finished second in seven including the \$253,000 Pennsylvania Sires Stakes (PASS) Final, a \$87,000 Bluegrass Stake and a \$76,750 International Stallion Stake. Her season ended when she broke stride in her Breeders Crown elimination, failing to make the 2YO Filly Trot final. She started to find the winner's circle early in her sophomore season with back-to-back wins in the PASS and a Grand Circuit victory in the \$60,470 Currier & Ives at The Meadows on June 25. She then won a \$139,500 Del Miller Memorial division before racing in the Hambletonian Oaks eliminations, making the final and finishing sixth from post 9. She then collecting more seconds and thirds with a third in the \$250,000 Delmonica Hanover at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono, a second in the \$253,000 PASS Final (to **BELLA BELLINI**) and a second in a \$74,200 Bluegrass Stake (to **ALTAR**). She entered the Breeders Crown elimination off a fourth in the \$351,000 Kentucky Filly Futurity and proceeded to finish fourth in her Crown elimination (to **BELLA BELLINI**). Trained by Jeff Gregory, whose only other Breeders Crown finalist was Barn Doll in the 2016 Mare Trot. Bred by M Biasuzzi Stable Inc., which also bred 2020 O'Brien Trotting Mare of the Year Hey Livvy. Owned by Jeff Gregory Inc., William Richardson, George Romanoff and Martin Garey.

#### **HERCULISA** (My MVP-Herculotte Hanover-Andover Hall)



Ohio invader. Never left the state until the Grand Circuit at The Red Mile as a 3-year-old. In Ohio, she only lost four races through her 2- and 3-year-old seasons, one of which was when she broke stride in the \$300,000 Ohio Sires Stakes (OHSS) Final as a freshman. She won three preliminaries of the OHSS as a sophomore before romping to a world-record 1:52.3 mile in the \$300,000 final at Northfield Park on Sept. 5. Followed that effort with a 1:53.1 victory in a \$74,200 Bluegrass Stake before supplementing for the \$351,000 Kentucky Filly Futurity but then breaking stride at the start. She recovered from that break to launch off the wings from post 10 in her Breeders Crown elimination and finish second (to **BELLA BELLINI**). Trained by Virgil Morgan Jr., who has just one Breeders Crown win to his name with Mister Big in the 2008 Open Pace. Bred by Joseph McLead, William Walters and Up Front Racing LLC and owned by Jesmeral Stable.

## 3-YEAR-OLD FILLY TROT QUOTES

**SHIRLEY GOODNESS**, driver Peter Wrenn speaking prior to the elimination: She just wasn't herself, she just wasn't firing [during the summer]. We came to find out that she had some allergies and a little sickness and bled a little bit. So, we gave her a couple weeks off, and that was the turning point. She got healed up, we put her on Lasix, and she turned the corner and went under the wire strong. She's sharp and she's got a lot of heart.

**BELLA BELLINI**, trainer Nifty Norman: She was dynamite. She got a nice trip and trotted home good and strong. I think she likes the Meadowlands best.

From the winner's circle interview: She likes to have a little bit of cover even if it's not that great. It was a little bit like her Hambletonian Oaks run today, enough cover to sprint home.

On losing the photo in previous start: It felt long for me, I'll tell you that. The one in Canada was tough too. She just got nipped twice there but she raced good both times.

Owner David McDuffee in winner's circle: Yeah, I was a little worried there, Donna Soprano didn't look like she was handling the turns very good there. It was scary for a minute. She looked good. Hopefully we can carry that forward to next week. Norman has done a great job, he sure has.

**CHABLIS**, trainer Jonas Czernyson: I'm very happy. She's showed me all along that she's a nice horse, we just have had a lot of bad luck. When we raced in the Delmonica Hanover [consolation], she was sick. That's where she might have had a chance to get money on her card again. She's been finishing sixth or seventh, beaten three lengths, two lengths. She's been right there. She's right with them, but just far enough out that nobody knows who she is. She wants to race, she likes to race. She's all business out there. She loves her job.

**ALTAR**, trainer Nancy Takter: She was well in hand, I think. She's been good. I'm just happy Yannick [Gingras] got a feel for her because he hasn't driven her before. I know she can be a little difficult, or she was before, but it looks like she's kind of turned herself into a racehorse. He never pulled her plugs and he said she was very strong across the wire. I think she's just kind of gotten a little more confident. She used to look for excuses all the time. Once she hit her stride, she found it. And she stopped interfering the stronger she got. And it's funny, everyone wants to talk about pulling shoes, and she wears very heavy shoes in front. It's what the horses can go with. I always liked her.

Owner Adam Bowden, winner's circle: On decision to race against older mares in the Allerage - We knew we weren't getting in on earnings to the Filly Futurity, so we decided to take our chances in the Allerage. We tried earlier in the year to take on the boys in the Canadian Trotting Classic, but we didn't have enough earnings.

Nancy Takter believed in her and thought racing in the Commonwealth was the best spot for her. She needed to gain some confidence and it ended up working out for us.

On break in her last race – There was a recall and that probably affected her. She isn't the strongest mentally, but she is awfully fast as you saw today.



**ANOKA HANOVER**, trainer Noel Daley: She was great. We're back on track there. Andy [McCarthy] read the race perfectly. I told him not to sit last. He said, I'll be parked for a little while. I said, yeah, that's fine. It's just unfortunate that as soon as he got cover, he had to come three deep. But she was great. [In the final] we can't let Altar just run on in front and outrun us, because she will. I don't if someone looks her in the eye if we can get there. I don't know if that's us, I hope it's someone else looking her in the eye.

On her year: It's been terrible. After her first start, I honestly left Chester thinking I was going to race the boys, she's going to beat the boys, and then she's never been sound since. To me, she's got a better motor than all of them, it's just a matter of her being half sound. She's got a good capacity to keep going. She's probably a European-style horse, race a mile-and-a-quarter, mile-and-a-half.

**SPLASH BLUE CHIP**, trainer Ake Svanstedt: She has changed a little, but you never know with her if she is going to come home good or is she going to stop. She is always the same, and then we you come to the stretch, she stops. But now, she has come home good two times. I don't know why. She always trains good, she always feels the same. She can't win the final, but she can make money. I'll be happy if she makes money.

**ITERATION**, trainer Marcus Melander: She actually raced very well in the Filly Futurity, to be honest, even if she didn't get a check. She got dragged far back in the last turn and she finished very strong. She finished very good [in her elimination] as well. I think it will be hard to beat Altar, but she can be second or third in there. She always shows up.

**YOU ATO DREAM**, trainer-driver Jeff Gregory: I thought I got away soft enough where she would have a little more trot than that finishing. It's actually one of the first times I've been a little disappointed in the way she raced. I thought she would have a little more fight to her in the stretch. We're going to check her out, make sure she doesn't have a little sickness after shipping from Lexington. She felt great, felt sound, she just didn't finish the way she normally does. We'll see. We'll hope for the best next week.

**HERCULISA**, trainer Virgil Morgan Jr., from earlier this month: She was a little eager, a little antsy last year. Sometimes, she wanted to go from second gear to fifth gear like right now. She's much more seasoned now. She's really tactical, and she has a real quick turn of speed. She's won on the front end with some nice miles, and she's won from off the pace with some nice miles. So, I think her strongest assets right now are her attitude and her versatility. I've been blessed to have some really nice trotters, and some really nice trotting fillies, throughout my career. She definitely ranks up there with them.