

Birthday (Sweet Lou-Breakheart Pass-Western Hero)

Birthday is a Sweet Lou gelding. Sweet Lou raced in four Breeders Crowns. Sweet Lou won the 2011 2-Year-Old Colt and Gelding Pace, then finished second in the 2012 3-Year-Old Colt and Gelding Pace and the 2014 Open Pace and sixth in the 2013 Open Pace.

Birthday is making his first start in a Breeders Crown final this year after finishing second in his elimination. He finished 2 3/4 lengths behind winner Pebble Beach and was timed in 1:49.1. He did race in an elimination of the 2-Year-Old Colt Pace in 2021 but finished seventh and didn't advance to the final.

Birthday's lone stakes win this year came in a Keystone Classic division at The Meadows. He was second in the Max C. Hempt Memorial Consolation II at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono and fifth in the Little Brown Jug.

He is one of two horses that will be sent out by trainer Ron Burke in the Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final. Burke won the 2018 edition of the race at Pocono with Dorsoduro Hanover. Overall, Burke is the second-most successful trainer in Crown history in terms of trophies (18) and earnings (\$10.82 million), trailing only Jimmy Takter.

Birthday is owned by Burke Racing Stable LLC. (Sylvia Burke) and Weaver Brusceci LLC. (Mark Weaver and Michael Brusceci). Burke Racing Stable and Weaver Brusceci LLC. are the second- and third-winningest owners in Breeders Crown history in terms of trophies (13 for Burke Racing and 12 for Weaver Brusceci) and earnings (\$8 million for Burke Racing and \$7.1 million for Weaver Brusceci).

Lou's Pearlman is a homebred for the Burke Racing/Weaver Brusceci partnership. They haven't bred a Breeders Crown champion to date.

Bythemissal (Downbytheseaside-Dismissal-Western Terror)

Bythemissal is a gelded son of Downbytheseaside, a two-time Breeders Crown participant. Downbytheseaside won eliminations for both the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace and 3-Year-Old Colt Pace but finished second in the final on each occasion.

Bythemissal is making his Breeders Crown debut this year and won the second elimination by three-quarters of a length in 1:49.1.

After making just one start as a rookie, Bythemissal has been one of the standouts of the 3-year-old male pace division, winning the Little Brown Jug, Adios, Carl Milstein Memorial, and the Ohio Sires Stakes Championship. He was also second in the Max C. Hempt Memorial.

He is one of two horses that will be sent out by trainer Ron Burke in the Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final. Burke won the 2018 edition of the race at Pocono with Dorsoduro Hanover. Overall, Burke is the second-most successful trainer in Crown history in terms of trophies (18) and earnings (\$10.82 million), trailing only Jimmy Takter.

Bythemissal is owned by Burke Racing Stable LLC. (Sylvia Burke), Eric Good, Rich Lombardo Racing LLC., and Weaver Brusceci LLC. (Mark Weaver and Michael Brusceci). Burke Racing Stable and Weaver Brusceci LLC. are the second- and third-winningest owners in Breeders Crown history in terms of trophies (13 for Burke Racing and 12 for Weaver Brusceci) and earnings (\$8 million for Burke Racing and \$7.1 million for Weaver Brusceci). He'd be the first Breeders Crown champion for Lombardo or Good.

Bythemissal was bred by Dr. Stephen Dey and sold for \$135,000 at the 2020 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. Dey won last year's Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Filly Pace final with Niki Hill for his lone Breeders Crown title to date.

Driver Chris Page:

You're always a bit apprehensive about who the horse is on the outside of you, but (Bythemissal) felt really good. He kind of got a nice third-quarter breather, so I knew he would have a pretty good punch coming home. I wanted to get a breather somewhere. The track I thought earlier was playing bias to closers, but then King Of The North and Mark (MacDonald) proved it wrong, you could win right on the front. It was a little faster to the half than I wanted to go, but we were able to get a little third-quarter breather.

My first start behind the horse was back earlier in the year in a nonwinners of two, so who would have thought that from there we would be here for the Breeders Crown. To win the (Little Brown) Jug was definitely on top of my bucket list, and this is up there near the top, so we have to finish it next week.

Captain Cowboy (Captaintreacherous-Odds On Lassomyhrt-Western Hanover)

Captain Cowboy is a Captaintreacherous colt. Captaintreacherous was third in the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace final in 2012 and won the 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final the next year.

Captain Cowboy will make his Breeders Crown debut after finishing fifth in his elimination. He finished 6 3/4 lengths behind winner Bythemissal and was clocked in 1:50.3.

Captain Cowboy's one win in 2022 came in a Liberty Bell Stakes division at Harrah's Philadelphia. He was third in the MGM Messenger Stakes final and fifth in the Max C. Hempt Memorial and the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes Championship.

He is trained by Ake Svanstedt, who won his first two Breeders Crown races a year ago with Ecurie D in the Open Trot and Felicityshagwell S in the Open Mare Trot.

Captain Cowboy is owned by Ake Svanstedt Inc., Little E LLC. (Jeff Gural), and PCW Racing LLC. (Peter Weisberg). Ake Svanstedt Inc. co-owned Open Trot champion Ecurie D in 2021 and Little E LLC. was co-owner of Rocknificent, the Open Mare Pace winner a year ago. PCW Racing hasn't won a Breeders Crown to date.

Bred by Fred Hertrich III, Captain Cowboy was an \$80,000 purchase at the 2020 Standardbred Horse Sale. Hertrich III has collected five Breeders Crown trophies as a winning breeder, including with Test Of Faith in the 2021 3-Year-Old Filly Pace.

Dreamfair Arnie B (Sportswriter-Dreamfair Eternal-Camluck)

Dreamfair Arnie B is a colt by Sportswriter, the runner-up in the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace final in 2009.

Dreamfair Arnie B is a first-time Breeders Crown participant and was fifth in his elimination. He was 9 3/4 lengths behind winner Pebble Beach and was timed in 1:50.3.

Dreamfair Arnie B's dam, the Camluck mare Dreamfair Eternal, was the champion of the 2010 Breeders Crown Open Mare Pace. She was then ninth in an elimination in 2011 and didn't make the final and finished tenth in the final in 2012.

Dreamfair Arnie B was a regular in the Ontario Sires Stakes Grassroots Series program this year, winning two legs and an elimination for the final of that series.

He's the first Breeders Crown finalist for trainer Jodie Cullen. Owner John Lamers also campaigned Dreamfair Eternal when she captured her Breeders Crown.

Lamers also bred Dreamfair Arnie B. Dreamfair Eternal is the lone Breeders Crown champion Lamers has bred to date.

Fouever Boy (Sweet Lou-Macharoundtheclock-Mach Three)

Fouever Boy is a Sweet Lou colt. Sweet Lou raced in four Breeders Crowns. Sweet Lou won the 2011 2-Year-Old Colt and Gelding Pace, then finished second in the 2012 3-Year-Old Colt and Gelding Pace and the 2014 Open Pace and sixth in the 2013 Open Pace.

Fouever Boy made his first career Breeders Crown final after finishing fourth in his 3-Year-Old Colt Pace elimination. He was 7 3/4 lengths behind winner Pebble Beach and was timed in 1:50.1. Fouever Boy raced in the 2021 Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace eliminations but finished seventh and didn't make the final.

Fouever Boy has won the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes Championship, a division of the Simcoe Stakes, and an opening heat of the Little Brown Jug this year. He was second in the Little Brown Jug final.

Fouever Boy is trained by Tim Twaddle, who hasn't won a Breeders Crown as a trainer but did drive 1994 3-Year-Old Filly Pace champion Hardie Hanover. Twaddle also co-owns Fouever Boy with Micki Rae Racing Stables LLC. (David J. Cohen). He'd be the first Breeders Crown champion for either of them.

Fouever Boy was bred by Birnam Wood Farms and fetched \$50,00 at the 2020 Standardbred Horse Sale. Birnam Wood Farms has bred two Breeders Crown champions, including Fouever Boy's sire Sweet Lou.

Trainer Tim Twaddle:

The first order of business was to get to the final, but it's a little disappointing because I thought he would be 1-2 in there. He was a little flat, maybe. Dex (Dexter Dunn) said he was good. He was going to follow (All About The Hunt) but then he was worried they were going too fast and he was going to be stuck first over. He didn't want to do that. Then he was stuck making up a lot of ground into a fast half. He didn't have much bad to say about (Fouever Boy), I just thought he would be a little better. That's all right. He bled on me at the Red Mile in (the Tattersalls), so I kind of gave him some time to get over that. He's feeling like a million bucks, so I just was expecting him to be a little better. I'll have him a little sharper next week.

On the season: He's holding his weight and he looks good, but I know it's catching up to him. It has to, right? He's been in every race. He's been a real treat for us. I'd just like to finish up strong.

Greatest Ending (Somebeachsomewhere-Lady Be Great-Western Ideal)

Greatest Ending is a colt by the late Somebeachsomewhere, the champion of the 2008 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace.

Greatest Ending advanced to his first Breeders Crown final by finishing third in his 3-Year-Old Colt Pace elimination. He was four lengths behind winner Bythemissal and was timed in 1:50 flat.

Greatest Ending's victories this year include the Max C. Hempt Memorial Consolation II and a leg of the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes. He was second in the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes Championship.

Greatest Ending is trained by Dr. Ian Moore, who won the 2020 Open Pace final with Century Farroh for his lone Breeders Crown victory. He'd be the first Breeders Crown champion for owner Reginald Petitpas.

Petitpas also bred Greatest Ending with Hamstan Farms. They haven't bred a Breeders Crown champion to date.

Greatest Ending sold to Adam Bowden for \$265,000 on ongait.com online auction but must remain with Trainer Ian Moore.

Driver Mark MacDonald:

I thought he raced super. It looked like he'd raced tough against aged horses in his last few, so I thought I would put him up close and get him behind a few of the better ones, and I thought he raced super. Those are good horses and he stayed with them. I think if they mix it up a little, as handy as he is, he's a nice horse. He's tough.

I Did It Myway (Captaintreacherous-Flyme To The Moon-Bettor's Delight)

I Did It Myway is a Captaintreacherous colt. Captaintreacherous was third in the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace final in 2012 and won the 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final the next year.

I Did It Myway was the runner-up in the second Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace elimination on Saturday night (October 22). He was three-quarters of a length behind winner Bythemissal and timed in 1:49.2.

I Did It Myway also raced in the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace in 2021. He was third in his elimination and ninth in the final.

This year, I Did It Myway's wins include three legs and the final of the Kentucky Championship Series and a Bluegrass Series division at The Red Mile. He was third in the Tattersalls Pace and the Meadowlands Pace final.

Trainer Tony Alagna captured the 2013 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace with Captaintreacherous and the 2016 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace with Racing Hill. Alagna has six Breeders Crown trophies in total.

I Did It Myway was bred by co-owner Joe Sbrocco, who also is part owner of fellow finalist Pebble Beach. Other members of the ownership group are Country Club Acres Inc. (James Koehler), Don Latore, and Alagna and Fodera (Tony Alagna, Alagna Racing LLC., and John Fodera). Country Club Acres is also part owner of Pebble Beach, as is John Fodera. Fodera co-owned two-time Breeders Crown champion Boulder Creek.

Trainer Tony Alagna:

He was very good. He's never as great when he has to leave and make speed early, but it was the thing to do, or they were going to get to the half cheap and you take the chance of being too far out of it. (Andrew McCarthy) made the decision to leave, and it worked out good. He was following the best horse in the race (Bythemissal) and gave a good showing of himself. He finished strong. He had his best pace at the wire.

He's been very good. As long as you can space his work out a little bit so that he doesn't have to go too many weeks in a row, that's why he liked Lexington. People asked why he got so good in Lexington, and it's because they race 10 days apart, 13 days apart, nine days apart; they space it out. That helps him a lot.

Mad Max Hanover (Always B Miki-Mayhem Seelster-Mach Three)

Mad Max Hanover is a gelding by Always B Miki. Always B Miki won an elimination for the 2014 Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace but was scratched out of the final. He came back to win an elimination and the final of the 2015 Open Pace and the final of the 2016 Open Pace.

Mad Max Hanover moved on to the Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final by finishing fourth in his elimination. He was 5 3/4 lengths behind winner Bythemissal and was timed in 1:50.2. This is his first Breeders Crown appearance.

Mad Max Hanover's wins this year include a division of the Tompkins-Geers, a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes leg, and a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes split. He was second in the Meadowlands Pace final, the Cane Pace, and the Tattersalls Pace.

He'd be the first Breeders Crown champion for trainer Jake Leamon. Owner Marvin Rounick won the Breeders Crown Open Mare Pace in 2005 with Glowing Report.

Mad Max Hanover was bred by Hanover Shoe Farms and sold for \$50,000 at the 2020 Standardbred Horse Sale. Hanover has the most earnings by a breeder in Crown history and is second to Brittany Farms for number of trophies (27).

Trainer Jake Leamon:

He raced well, Timmy (Tetrick) said, he's just not much of a sprinter. He's more of a grinder, so you need the fractions to set up for you.

I had two tough posts in big spots (10 in the North America Cup final and 9 in the Meadowlands Pace), and overcame it in the Meadowlands Pace, not so much in the North America Cup. I think the toughest post we drew all year might have been the rail at The Meadows (in the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes final). That's a tough spot to get off the gate, for him especially.

He seems to be a horse that doesn't get tired, he just lacks a little bit of quickness. In the modern day racing, you kind of need that. But he tries hard.

Pebble Beach (Downbytheseaside-Santa Rosa-Western Ideal)

Pebble Beach is a colt by Downbytheseaside, a two-time Breeders Crown participant. Downbytheseaside won eliminations for both the Breeders Crown 2-Year-Old Colt Pace and 3-Year-Old Colt Pace but finished second in the final on each occasion.

Pebble Beach captured the first Breeders Crown 3-Year-Old Colt Pace elimination by 2 3/4 lengths in 1:48.3. He also won an elimination for the 2-Year-Old Colt Pace in 2021 before finishing third in the final.

So far in 2022, Pebble Beach has won a division of the Somebeachsomewhere, the Pepsi North America Cup (elimination and final) and the Tattersalls Pace. He also won an elimination for the Adios and was third in the final. He was second in the Kentucky Championship Series final.

Trainer Noel Daley is a four-time Breeders Crown champion. Pebble Beach is owned by Patricia Stable (Harvey Fried), Joe Sbrocco, Country Club Acres Inc. (James Koehler), and Laexpressfoderadeovolente (John Fodera, Noel Daley, Louis Manfredi, and Mike Gulotta). Sbrocco, Country Club Acres, and Fodera also co-own finalist I Did It Myway and Fodera co-owned two-time Breeders Crown Open Pace champion Boulder Creek.

Bred by Brittany Farms, Pebble Beach was purchased for \$85,000 at the 2020 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. Brittany Farms has the most trophies in Breeders Crown history (28) and is second in earnings behind only Hanover Shoe Farms.

Trainer Noel Daley:

This was the best he's been. He finished it off. Todd said he was like a different horse. I don't know if it was the Lasix that made the difference. (The elimination) was even better than he was earlier in the year. He's had a bit of racing, but he got to hang out in Kentucky in one spot, not travel around. He was really, really sharp during the week here, literally kicking his shoes off in the paddock. I'm glad he just finished it off and showed he's back to form there.

On five consecutive second-place finishes in Lexington: It was disappointing all the time; I just knew he was better than that. The other horse (I Did It Myway) had the wood on us every start there. Looking at that, to me, it's obviously the Lasix and we don't even give him a big amount of Lasix. Todd just said he was night-and-day different (in the elim).

Ponda Warrior (Rockin Image-Sweetnsinful-American Ideal)

Ponda Warrior is a colt by Rockin Image. Rockin Image raced in the Breeders Crown twice during his career, finishing fourth in the 2009 2-Year-Old Colt Pace final and second in his elimination and seventh in the 2010 3-Year-Old Colt Pace final.

Ponda Warrior is making his first appearance in the Breeders Crown and was third in his 3-Year-Old Colt Pace elimination. He finished 3 3/4 lengths behind winner Pebble Beach and was timed in 1:49.2.

Ponda Warrior won an Indiana Sires Stakes leg and also the Super Final of that series.

Co-owner/trainer Jay Hochstetler is making his Breeders Crown debut. Ponda Warrior would also be the first Breeders Crown champion for co-owners Finkelberg Racing LLC. (Arthur and Amy Finkelberg) or South Of The Tracks Racing Inc. (William, Mark, and Diana Hunter).

Bred by Pond-A-Acres, Ponda Warrior sold for \$37,000 at the 2020 Hoosier Classic Yearling Sale. Breeder Pond-A-Acres hasn't bred by a Breeders Crown champion thus far.

Trainer Jay Hochstetler:

I was really tickled. I was sweating at the half. I thought the fractions were hot enough where he might have a shot to be fifth, but then he just exploded in the lane. Scott (Zeron) was just tickled with him. I couldn't be happier with the way he raced.

I hope I don't have to be sitting last in the final. It might not work out so well for us, especially with 10 horses. But he's real versatile. As long as he doesn't get too far back, I think he will be in a great position.

Early in the year, I was kicking myself that I wasn't eligible to the North America Cup and the Meadowlands Pace. He was super good in June and July. Then I took him to Northfield (for the Milstein) and he got parked the mile. It was kind of by design because I thought I could be second over by being parked, but nobody pulled. Then he got sick after that, got a nine hole, then he kind of bumped his head on the gate and made a little break. He was racing OK, it just wasn't working out. Finally, the (Indiana Sire Stakes) final came, and he was healthy, he was sound, and got to show what he actually was. That's what I thought he was the whole year.

On making the Crown final: He was always a quality horse training. But it's one thing to think about it, and it's another to actually do it. That's the cool part. I've been dreaming about it since I was old enough to know what a Breeders Crown was.

He just needs a little light work, and he stays fit. It won't take much to get him ready.