



Awesome Trix (Trixtion-Awesome Chrissy-Majestic Son)

Dispatched at 24-1 in the second Hambletonian Oaks elimination, Awesome Trix trailed at the opening quarter, saved ground and picked up spots on the inside in the middle-half, then rallied through a seam on the pylons in the stretch to get up and win by a length in a life's-best 1:52.4.

Winless in ten starts in 2020, the Hambletonian Oaks elimination was Awesome Trix's third victory of her sophomore campaign. Her prior two tallies came in overnight events at Ohio's Miami Valley Raceway and Pennsylvania's Pocono Downs. She was second in both of her New Jersey Sire Stakes legs and the runner-up to fellow Hambletonian Oaks finalist You Ato Dream in a Currier & Ives tilt at The Meadows. She has total earnings of \$106,611 to go with a record of 3-6-4 from 20 tries.

Quotes

Trainer/co-owner Chris Beaver: "We've been getting better, and she's been a really nice horse for us. She interfered a lot as a 2-year-old, but she showed a ton of speed, a ton of grit.

"She's just getting stronger, and she's learning to go."

On her trip in the elim: "I thought [Scott Zeron] was crazy at first, sitting clear at the back. I had told him to try to get her in close at some point, and he found a way. He's sat behind her before.

"They're all a little scared of her at first because she's bumpy going, but once they drive her, they know she can finish.

"I'm very excited. I've been in the Hambo, I've been in the Oaks, but never with one coming off an elimination win."

Breeding Notes

Awesome Trix would be the first Hambletonian Oaks champion sired by 2014 Hambletonian winner Trixtion. Her dam, Awesome Chrissy, is an unraced full sister to Charmed Life (\$1,446,009), and Awesome Trix is her third foal.

Bred by William L. Jones and Steve Stewart, Awesome Trix was purchased for \$13,000 as HIP 762 at the 2019 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale.

She would be Jones and Stewart's first Hambletonian Oaks winner, though Stewart bred 2019 Hambletonian champion Forbidden Trade and was also part of the breeding partnership of Trixtion.

Driver Bio

SCOTT ZERON

Born: 5/23/1989 – Birthplace: Montreal, Quebec – Resides: Campbell Hall, NY

Hambletonian wins (2): Atlanta, 2018; Marion Marauder, 2016.

Scott Zeron won the Hambletonian in 2018 with Atlanta, trained by his father Rick, and in 2016 with Marion Marauder, trained by Paula Wellwood.

Marion Marauder went on to capture the Yonkers Trot and Kentucky Futurity to sweep the Trotting Triple Crown. Marion Marauder was the ninth Trotting Triple Crown winner and was named Trotter of the Year. With Marion Marauder, the then 27-year-old Zeron was the second-youngest driver to win the Hambletonian and youngest driver to win a harness racing Triple Crown, either trotting or pacing.

On July 14 of this year, Zeron got career win 4,000. He has earned \$82 million in purses.

A native of Montreal, Zeron made a name for himself in Ontario before relocating to the U.S. near the end of 2013. He twice led all Canadian drivers in wins, in 2011 and 2010.

Zeron received the 2012 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association.

Trainer Bio

CHRIS BEAVER

Born: 3/4/1972 – Birthplace: Columbus, OH – Resides: Radnor, OH

Chris Beaver has had two Hambletonian finalists. Il Sogno Dream finished fourth in 2014 and Triumphant Caviar was eighth in 2009. He had a Hambletonian Oaks finalist in 2015, Smokinmombo, who finished eighth-placed-seventh.

Beaver has won more than 1,200 races and \$24 million in purses lifetime. He set a career high for purses in 2019, with \$2.95 million. He was 23 when he bought the horse that changed his life. Her name was Raging Samantha and Beaver and his mother, Johanna, purchased the future stakes-winning trotter at a yearling auction in 1995 for \$9,500.

His family has been involved in harness racing since the mid-1950s. Beaver's grandfather, Henry, got the family started and his father, Charlie, enjoyed success as a trainer (and owned several horses with the late Academy Award-winning actor Don Ameche).

Owner Bio

Christopher F. Beaver, Radnor, OH-Aaron E. Merriman, Northfield, OH; Robert Mc Nerney, Newton, NJ

Would be the first Hambletonian Oaks winner for any of her owners.

Merriman is one of harness racing's most successful drivers. He owns over 13,000 career victories, making him one of only six drivers based in North America to be in that club, and his charges have earned in excess of \$90.1 million.