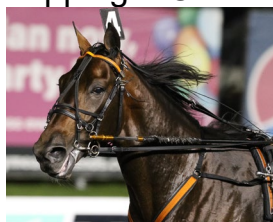


French Wine

Brown colt, 3 by Bar Hopping – Creamy Mimi – Conway Hall



OWNER: Andy Miller Stable, Millstone Twp, NJ; Daniel & Jean Christophe Plouffe, QC; One Legend Stable [Michael Cote Gagnon], Jupiter, FL
BREEDER: Marvin Katz & Al J Libfield, Ontario
SALE INFO: \$120,000 Lexington-Selected
TRAINER: Julie Miller
DRIVER: Andy Miller

YEAR	STARTS	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2023	6	1	2	2	\$126,410	1:53.3 Phl
2022	10	4	1	3	\$378,658	1:53.0 Lex
LIFETIME	16	5	3	5	\$505,068	2, 1:53.0 Lex

- Finished second in his Hambletonian elimination behind Celebrity Bambino. Drew post eight in the final.
- Came into the Hambletonian elimination after a third-place finish in his Stanley Dancer Memorial division on July 15 at the Meadowlands.
- “Andy and I have tried to find good spots for him to keep his confidence up, to race well and to race on the end of it,” Julie Miller said. “It’s the same as everyone else, you’re trying to manage your horse the best you can and make it to that first Saturday in August. It’s a marathon season. We’re just trying to keep him the best we can.”
- Only win of the season came in a PASS event at Harrah’s Philadelphia in 1:53.3 over a sloppy track. He followed that up with a fourth-place finish in the Zweig Memorial at Vernon Downs on July 8.
- “He’s always had a good attitude and personality,” Julie Miller said about French Wine. “He’s a sharp-looking horse when you see him. He’s definitely eye-catching. The best thing about him is he’s honest. He enjoys his work, he likes to race. When I put him on the track, I know he’s going to give Andy a hundred percent. He tries, and that means a lot.”
- Finished his freshman year with a third place finish in an International Stallion Stakes division.
- Finished second in his first two-year-old start before winning three in a row including two legs of the Kentucky Championship Series at the Red Mile. He later went on to capture the \$400,000 final in 1:53 on September 18.

- Andy Miller upset the 2008 Hambletonian Oaks with French Wine's dam Creamy Mimi (paying \$27.60), who was trained by Trond Smedshammer.
- Andy has had three consecutive top-three finishes in Hambletonian finals, 2016 through 2018. Met's Hall was second in 2018, Devious Man was third-placed-second in 2017 and Sutton was third, beaten only a neck, in 2016. All three were trained by his wife Julie.
- Miller ranks among the sport's top 15 drivers in career purses with \$138 million. He ranks among top 25 drivers in all-time wins with close to 10,000.
- His career began as a teenager on the Illinois fair circuit before establishing himself as a top driver in Chicago. He moved to the East Coast in 2006 and has ranked among the leading drivers at the Meadowlands, finishing as high as third in the standings there.
- Andy and Julie, also known as Team Orange Crush, were married in 1996 and started their harness racing stable the same year. Their son Tyler (T.J.) started driving on a regular basis in 2020.
- Andy Miller has twice represented the U.S. in the World Driving Championship, finishing fourth in 2005 and sixth in 2007.
- Julie Miller has had a Hambletonian finalist five of the past seven years. From 2016 to 2018, Miller posted three consecutive top-three finishes in the Hambletonian. In 2018, Met's Hall finished second to Atlanta. In 2017, Devious Man was third-placed-second in the final and a year earlier Sutton was a fast-closing third, beaten only a neck, in the race won by Marion Marauder. In 2020 Big Oil, went off stride from post nine and Venerate broke stride and finished eighth in 2021.
- In 2014, Miller-trained Designed To Be finished second in the Hambletonian Oaks while stablemate Take The Money finished third.
- On Hambletonian Day in 2009, the Miller-trained trotter Lucky Jim won the Nat Ray (now Cashman Memorial) in a then-world-record-equaling 1:50.1 with Andy driving at the Meadowlands. Lucky Jim was also a Dan Patch Award winner.
- Julie has finished in the top 25 among North American trainers in earnings each 12 of the past 14 years. She has finished in the top ten six times. She has won more than 2,250 career races and \$51 million in purses. She ranks 16th in purses since the inception of official trainer stats in 1991.
- In 2017, Miller was inducted into the Iowa Harness Racing Hall of Fame, where she joined her father, Owen Julius. Miller grew up in Iowa, where her family raced at the county fairs. Miller graduated from Southern Illinois University with a science degree but turned her attention to racing.
- After beginning her career in Illinois, Julie moved with her husband, driver Andy Miller, to the East Coast and became a nationally recognized trainer at the Meadowlands and on the Grand Circuit.

- If French Wine wins, Miller would become the third woman trainer to win the Hambletonian in the last eleven years [Paula Wellwood (Marion Marauder 2016) Linda Toscano (Market Share 2012)].
- French Wine is co-owned by driver Andy Miller, Daniel and Jean-Christopher Plouffe, and One Legend Stable Inc.
- Julie Miller: “We liked Bar Hoppings because we’ve had success with them. Andy actually drove Creamy Mimi to her Hambletonian Oaks win, so there’s a nice connection there too. We went and saw the horse at Kentuckiana and he was gorgeous. He had a really nice look about him. We liked him a lot. Luckily, so did the other owners, and a partnership was born that night.”
- Sire Bar Hopping, a son of Muscle Hill out of Cocktail Hour, hit the board in 21 of 28 career starts, winning 10. His victories included the Breeders Crown for three-year-old male trotters and Canadian Trotting Classic, both in 2016. He was trained by Jimmy Takter and earned \$1.29 million lifetime. Bar Hopping finished fifth as the heavy favorite in the 2016 Hambletonian. He died unexpectedly in November of 2022.