

Heaven Hanover (Father Patrick-Hillarmbro-Muscle Hill)

Heaven Hanover flushed out cover coming to three-quarters to sit second-over in the first Hambletonian Oaks elimination on July 29 at the Meadowlands and ended up finishing third, a length and a quarter behind winner Walner Payton. She was timed in 1:52 with a final quarter of 27 seconds.

At age 2 Heaven Hanover was the Pennsylvania Stallion Series champion, and so far as a sophomore, she has picked up wins in a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes division at Pocono Downs at Mohegan Pennsylvania and in a Del Miller Memorial split at the Meadowlands. She has compiled a summary of 4-5-2 from 13 total starts, has earnings of \$179,731 and has a mark of 1:51.3 taken in her Del Miller Memorial triumph.

Quotes

“She’s been racing good all year in Pennsylvania and the last two starts at the Meadowlands she’s been racing great. She raced great (in her elim), she came home in :27 flat. She will be right there with them if we draw good. It’s such an open race that the draw will matter a lot. I think it’s very important to draw good.

“She didn’t have the speed last year. She won the (Pennsylvania) Stallion Series final at Pocono. We just kept her in the Stallion Series because she wasn’t fast enough. She could go in like (1):57 but she was not quick enough to go faster than that. So, we kept her there and let her develop that way. She was big last year, too, so she might have needed that year to just get some experience. This year, she’s a totally different horse. She feels like she has a lot more speed.’ - **trainer Marcus Melander**

Breeding Notes

Heaven Hanover would be the first Hambletonian winner for sire Father Patrick, who was the favorite in the 2014 Hambletonian but broke at the start and finished 11th. Her dam, the Muscle Hill mare Hillarmbro, competed in the eliminations for the 2017 Hambletonian Oaks but finished seventh and did not advance to the final.

Bred by Hanover Shoe Farms Inc., Heaven Hanover sold for \$180,000 as HIP 75 in the 2021 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. Hanover Shoe Farms is third all-time in number of Hambletonian Oaks winners bred with three (Berna Hanover in 1974, Syrinx Hanover in 2001 and Windylane Hanover in 2002).

Driver Bio

TIM TETRICK

Born: 11/22/1981 – Birthplace: Flora, IL – Resides: Woolwich Township, NJ

Hall of Fame: Class of 2020.

Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year: 2013, 2012, 2008, 2007.

Hambletonian wins (1): Market Share, 2012.

Hambletonian Oaks wins (3): Fashion Schooner, 2022; Bar Slide, 2010; Danae, 2007.

Tim Tetrick won the 2012 Hambletonian with Market Share, trained by Linda Toscano. Market Share received divisional Dan Patch Award honors and finished second to stablemate Chapter Seven for Trotter of the Year.

Last year, Tetrick finished sixth with Rebuff in the Hambletonian final. Rebuff later won the Kentucky Futurity, the third jewel in the Trotting Triple Crown (with the Yonkers Trot and Hambletonian).

Tetrick has finished second in the Hambletonian final on three occasions, with Spy Booth in 2021, Smilin Eli in 2013, and Crazed in 2008.

He has three wins in the Hambletonian Oaks, which is tied for third among all drivers in the event. Tetrick won with Fashion Schooner in 2022 for trainer Jim Campbell, Bar Slide for trainer Joe Holloway in 2010, and Danae for trainer George Teague Jr. in 2007.

Tetrick's top wins in 2022 included the Mohawk Million for 2-year-old trotters with Oh Well.

His top victory so far this season came on July 15 in the Meadowlands Pace with Confederate. Tetrick has won the race six times, just one shy of the record in the event.

Tetrick ranks third in all-time driver purses with \$260 million. He led the sport in earnings in 2019 and 2018 as well as for seven consecutive years, 2007 through 2013. He has finished no worse than third in the money standings in each of the past 15 years.

He ranks seventh in career wins in North America with more than 13,400. He was second in wins in 2021 with 658 and has finished among the Top 10 each of the past 18 years.

In 2007, Tetrick won a record 1,189 races and was named the U.S. Harness Writers Association's Rising Star Award winner as well as Driver of the Year. That season he became the first driver to lead the sport in both wins and purses (a then-record \$18.3 million) in the same year since 1991.

Tetrick was the regular driver of 2012 Horse of the Year Award winner Chapter Seven and 2019 Horse of the Year Award winner Shartin N.

He represented the U.S. in the 2015 World Driving Championship and finished third.

Tetrick grew up in Illinois and followed his father, Tom D. Tetrick, into the sport. Brothers Tom T. and Trace also are involved in harness racing. Trace is the all-time leader in driving wins at Hoosier Park.

Trainer Bio

MARCUS MELANDER

**Born: 7/1/1992 – Birthplace: Sweden – Resides: New Egypt, NJ
Dan Patch Award Trainer of the Year: 2019.**

Marcus Melander is seeking his first Hambletonian trophy. In 2022, he finished second with filly Joviality S, third with Temporal Hanover and fifth with Periculum.

Melander also finished second, third and fifth in the 2019 final, with Greenshoe, Gimpanzee and Green Manalishi S. Greenshoe and Green Manalishi S were elimination winners. Greenshoe was the 2019 Trotter of the Year.

His first Hambletonian was in 2017. He saw Enterprise win his elimination and finish fourth-placed-third in the final. In 2018, Melander-trained Evaluate finished fifth in the final. In 2021, Melander finished sixth with Sonofamistery.

Melander has finished second twice in the Hambletonian Oaks, with Hypnotic AM in 2020 and Iteration in 2021.

In 2019 at the age of 27, Melander became the youngest trainer ever voted Trainer of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers Association. The recognition came one year after he was named the Rising Star Award winner by the same organization.

A native of Sweden, Melander came to the U.S. and worked for four-time Hambletonian-winning trainer Takter before starting his own stable in late 2014. He is based in New Egypt, N.J., at a farm that was home previously to each the legendary Stanley Dancer, a five-time Hambletonian winner, and Continental Farms stables.

Melander has won more than 470 races and \$24 million in purses in his career. Last year, he ranked fifth among trainers in North America with \$4.96 million in earnings. His top victory in 2022 came with Oh Well in the Mohawk Million at Woodbine Mohawk Park. He also won the MGM Yonkers Trot with Joviality S.

His uncle, Stefan, won the 2001 Hambletonian as trainer and driver of Scarlet Knight.

Owner Bio

S R F Stable, Lighthouse Point, Florida-Rick T Wahlstedt- Heights Stable, New York, New York- Amg Stable Inc, Lighthouse Point, Florida

She would be the first Hambletonian Oaks champion for any of her owners. S R F Stable (Lennart Agren) was part of the ownership group of 2021 Hambletonian champion Captain Corey and solely owned 2017 champion Perfect Spirit. Jan Johnson, who is second all-time for Hambletonian Oaks training wins with six, is an officer in both S R F Stable and AMG Stable.