



By Greg Reinhardt (Ken Weingartner Photo)

## **WHOSE BLUES**

**(Cantab Hall-Bright Baby Blues-Andover Hall)**

Whose Blues readied for the Hambletonian Oaks in the prep race at the Meadowlands on August 1. She trailed the field in eighth and couldn't advance off cover, finishing 11 1/2 lengths behind winner Hypnotic AM and trotting her mile in 1:54.4.

Whose Blues has one victory this year, that coming in a Pennsylvania Sire Stakes division on July 15 at Harrah's Philadelphia. As a 2-year-old Whose Blues won her first four starts, including two legs and the final of the Pure Ivory Series at Woodbine Mohawk Park. In all she has a record of 6-1-1 from 13 trips behind the gate, has banked \$92,874, and owns a mark of 1:52.3.

### **Breeding Notes**

Whose Blues is by Cantab Hall, who was third in his elimination and second in the final of the 2004 Hambletonian. Cantab Hall has been the winning sire in two editions of the Hambletonian Oaks (2014, Lifetime Pursuit and 2015, Wild Honey). Whose Blues is out of the Andover Hall mare Bright Baby Blues (1:54.2, \$492,203), and Bright Baby Blues was third in her elimination and third in the final of the 2015

Hambletonian Oaks. Whose Blues's grand-dam Bar Slide (Yankee Glide) was the 2010 Hambletonian Oaks champion, and Whose Blues's great-grand-dam Marla Bar participated in the 2002 Hambletonian Oaks, finishing third in her elimination and eighth in the final.

Whose Blues was bred by Bluestone Farms LLC. and Fredericka V. Caldwell and was purchased for \$300,000 at the 2018 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale. Bluestone Farms LLC. has not bred a prior Hambletonian Oaks champion but was the winning owner with Bar Slide. Fredericka V. Caldwell is one of the most successful breeders in Oaks history, winning it with Bar Slide in 2010, Danae in 2007, Moni Maker in 1996, and Nan's Catch in 1988.

### **Driver Bio**

#### **DAN DUBE**

**Born: 6/8/1969 - Birthplace: Trois-Rivieres, Quebec - Resides: Millstone, NJ**

Dan Dube, 51, is in search of his first Hambletonian Oaks victory. His best finish was a second with Ariane Du Haras in 2001.

Dube has Breeders Crown triumphs with two Horse of the Year Award winners: 3-year-old male pacer Gallo Blue Chip in 2000 and 3-year-old male pacer Rock N Roll Heaven in 2010. In 2003, Dube drove Pans Culottes to victory in the Breeders Crown 2-year-old female pace, beating Kikikatie by a neck to hand the filly her only loss in 15 races that year.

Dube began his driving career at the age of 18 and six years later in 1993 won the trainer and driver of the year awards at Hippodrome de Quebec. He also took home the Roger White trophy as the outstanding trainer in the province of Quebec.

He represented Canada twice in the World Driving Championship, finishing ninth in 1995 and second in 1997. He received the Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association in 1997.

Dube has won nearly 9,200 races in his career, ranking 24th in North American history. His horses have earned \$123.5 million in purses, ranking 15th.

### **Trainer Bio**

#### **LUC BLAIS**

**Born: 2/21/1962 – Birthplace: Quebec – Resides: Campbellville, Ontario**

Luc Blais, 58, won the 2019 Hambletonian with Forbidden Trade, who upset favorite Greenshoe at odds of 15-1. Forbidden Trade went on to be named Canada's Horse of the Year. Blais' stable established a career high with \$2.14 million in purses.

In 2017, Blais started Jake in the Hambletonian. The horse finished sixth in his elimination and failed to advance to the final. Also in 2017, Blais' filly Dream Together finished third in the Hambletonian Oaks final.

Blais is a native of Papineauville in western Quebec, not far from Ottawa. He got hooked on racing at an early age, watching his father, a salesman, race his own horses on the Quebec fair circuit. After spending time in banking and construction, Blais pursued his passion and got involved full time in racing.

He worked for several stables, including Canadian Hall of Famer Yves Filion's Bayama Farms, before going on his own. He now trains for information-technology mogul Serge Godin's Determination stable.

Blais ranked eighth in purses among trainers in Canada in 2019, his third top-10 finish in four years.

In 2018, Blais trained two O'Brien Award winners: 2-year-old male trotter Forbidden Trade and older female trotter Emoticon Hanover. Past stars include O'Brien Award winner Intimidate.

### **Owner Bio**

#### **Determination (Serge Godin), Montreal, Quebec, Canada**

Serge Godin is the founder of CGI, an information technology company. Started in Godin's Quebec City basement, CGI has grown into a world-wide leader in the industry, with revenue in multi-billions of dollars annually.

Godin has not yet won the Hambletonian Oaks but got the thrill of a lifetime when his Forbidden Trade was victorious in the Hambletonian a year ago.