

Dave Little's Road to the 2025 Meadowlands
Pace Week 2 (of 10) – Thursday, May 8
The Meadowlands Pace is Saturday, July 12

Rank	Horse (Earnings – Mark)	Driver, Trainer Owner(s)	Dave Little's (and trainer's) Comments
1	Louprint (\$758,499 – 1:48.4)	R. Wrenn Jr., R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver BrusceMI LLC, Phillip Collura, Lawrence R. Karr	Looked about as good as one can taking his 2025 debut at The Meadows. Burke: "The horse seems like he's in mid-season form. He could go [1]:48 today if he wanted too. [Despite the tough trip,] it wasn't that hard of a mile. The ear plugs were in all the way. He'll be back in at Pocono on the 17th. This is the best colt I've had since Sweet Lou." Breeding: Sweet Lou-Rockin Racer Last Race: 5/3/2025 – Mea – PaSS – 1st (1:49.3)
2	Captain Optimistic (\$454,830 – 1:49)	D. Dunn, N. Takter 3 Brothers Stables, Marvin Katz, Caviart Farms	Followed cover before rolling past Fallout in a qualifier that featured 30% of the Top 10 (Papis Pistol was third). Thus, he takes over the second spot. Takter: "I was very happy with him. Dexter never pulled the plugs." What's his best characteristic, Nancy? "He's very good at high speed." The 'Captain' will be off this week and then qualify after that. Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Cinamony Last Race: 5/2/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 1st (1:51.4)
3	Fallout (\$568,600 – 1:48.4)	T. Tetrick, T. Alagna Robert J. LeBlanc, Pryde Stables Inc, Caviart Farms	Was gunned down, but looked good nonetheless in that qualifier. Alagna: "I was very happy with my horse. We still have an open bridle on him, which means we have him relaxed. When we put the cups on, it'll fire him up. He's off this week and, hopefully, then we find an overnight." Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Aria Hanover Last Race: 5/2/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 2nd (1:52)
4	Papis Rocket	T. Tetrick, R. Burke	Went an inside trip, rallied for second to 1-5 Go Go Grasshopper in Western PA. A good first start? Burke: "He was good. Finished alertly. We're trying

	(\$298,183 – 1:50.4)	Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver Brusceci LLC, Knox Services Inc, Slaughter Racing Stable LLC	to build some confidence with him because he'll have to step his game up to beat these horses. We'll be back in at Pocono on the 17th." Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Real Touch Last Race: 5/3/2025 – Mea – PaSS – 2nd (1:50.3)
5	Papis Pistol (\$184,867 – 1:49.3)	A. Miller, S. DePinto Shannon C. DePinto, Chris Arvanitis, Anthony Perretti, Brad Shackman	Raced along the inside to be third to Captain Optimistic. DePinto: "I thought it went pretty well. Andy came back with a smile on his face and said he was really good. We'll qualify again on Saturday, then maybe we'll go in the sire stakes at Pocono on the 17th. We'll take it week by week." Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Bang Bang Last Race: 5/2/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 3rd (1:52.1)
6	American Son (\$176,815 – 1:49.3)	D. Dunn, C. Ryder Henderson Farms	Sat a two-hole behind older foe Remember The Alamo, settled for third after being outkicked by fellow sophomore Sugar Man. Ryder: "We were very disappointed in his performance. We were mystified, so we did a minor surgery Tuesday. He'll only be out for a week or two. We just wanted to remove some of the obstruction in his throat." Breeding: American Ideal-Lady Captain Last Race: 5/3/2025 – M1 – W2N5 – 3rd (1:50.3)
7	Making History (\$12,500 – 1:52.1)	B. Beckwith, T. Alagna Riverview Racing LLC	How's this for bursting onto the scene? He won his first lifetime start taking down 2-5 Manolete with a remarkable late explosion to debut in the poll at No. 7. Hey Tony, where ya been keepin' this one? Alagna: "He was a colt we were very high on last year. He ended up having a problem with an ankle. I was ultra-impressed. I know he's as good as any of them when he's on his game." He'll come right back this week in the sire stakes. Breeding: American History-Mystery Game Last Race: 5/3/2025 – M1 – NJSS – 1st (1:52.1)
8	Prince Hal Hanover	D. Miller, Dr. I. Moore	Had to race 3-wide into the 1st turn, led in :26.1 before a :27.2 kicker got him third at The Meadows. Solid Try. Pace ineligible Twisted

	(\$292,255 – 1:51)	Prince Hal Hanover Stable	<p>Destiny impressed at 3-5. Moore: “He was ready to go. [The trip] didn’t hurt him. I hadn’t planned on racing him this week anyway. I thought he raced well. We’ll race on May 17 at Pocono [in the sire stakes].”</p> <p>Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Percy Bluechip</p> <p>Last Race: 5/3/2025 – Mea – PaSS – 3rd (1:49.2)</p>
9	Manolete (\$238,493 – 1:50.4)	S. Zeron, B. Saunders M and L of Delaware LLC, M & M Harness Racing LLC	<p>Got nailed on the wire by Making History, in what was a good effort no matter how you slice it. After all, he did close in :26.2 in his bid for a wire-to-wire win. Saunders: “I wasn’t disappointed in him at all. When you turn these races into a sprint, these things can happen. I was surprised that horse had that much brush. We’re not panicking. We’ll stay out of his way this week and race on Saturday [in the sire stakes at The Meadowlands].”</p> <p>Breeding: Cattlewash-Glancewithme</p> <p>Last Race: 5/3/2025 – M1 – NJSS – 2nd (1:52.1)</p>
10	Fusion (\$106,322 – 1:50.4)	T. McCarthy, B. Pelling Diamond Creek Racing	<p>Finished a solid second in his qualifier at Chester. Pelling: “He went well and looked great out there gliding around. He’s a big, powerful horse. He’ll qualify at The Meadowlands next week.”</p> <p>Breeding: Always B Miki-Pure Country</p> <p>Last Race: 5/6/2025 – Phl – Qualifier – 2nd (1:53.1)</p>

Key Prep Races

MEADOWLANDS PACE ELIGIBLES IN CAPS
Supplements are permitted per the conditions of the race

Date	Stakes	Site	Winner	Trainer	Driver	2nd Horse	3rd Horse	Time
5/3	PaSS	Mea	Twisted Destiny LOUPRINT Go Go Grasshopper	C. Ryder R. Burke J. Bongiorno	D. Dunn R. Wrenn Jr. D. Palone	Railroad Station Dreamboat Hanover PAPI'S ROCKET	PRINCE HAL HANOVER WILD BILL WYATT Shipmaster	1:49. 1 1:49. 3 1:50
5/3	NJSS	M1	MAKING HISTORY Smooth Dream	T. Alagna N. Daley	B. Beckwith T. McCarthy	MANOLET E Twin Fury	Expedited Service TOM HORN	1:52. 1 1:49. 3
5/10	Pa All-Stars	PcD						
5/10	NJSS	M1						
5/17	PaSS	PcD						
5/17	WEG/SBOA	WM P						
5/24	NJSS final	M1						
5/24	OnSS Gold	WM P						
5/25	PaSS	Phl						
5/31	Somebchsomewhere	WM P						
6/7	N.A. Cup elims	WM P						
6/14	N.A. Cup final	WM P						

6/20	Messenger elims	YR						
6/27	Messenger final	YR						
6/28	OnSS Gold	WM P						
7/5	Meadowlands Pace elimis							