

**2026 HAMBLETONIAN**  
**Road to the Hambletonian Top 10 – Week 6**  
**The 101st Hambletonian will take place on Saturday, Aug. 8**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Horse</b>	<b>Driver, Trainer, Owner</b>	<b>Ken Warkentin's Comments</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apex</b>  (Walner)	Dexter Dunn, Marcus Melander, Jeffrey Snyder, S R F Stable, Steve Stewart	Dan Patch Award winner won Big M qualifier in 1:53.3 (:26.1) May 22, rallied from post 11 to finish second by a neck to stablemate American Power in 3YO debut June 5, final quarter in :25.2, post three in NJSS Final June 12
<b>2</b>	<b>Spencer Hanover</b>  (Chapter Seven)	Jason Bartlett, Marcus Melander, Jeffrey Synder, Arthur Pronti	Breeders Crown champion dominated Oak Grove Derby elim in 1:53.4 in 3YO debut, equaled 1:51.3 track record in final, easily made it three-for-three this season with a 1:53.3 romp (track good) in NYSS @ Vernon Downs May 25, post five in EBC June 12
<b>3</b>	<b>Endurance</b>  (Captain Corey)	Andrew McCarthy, Christopher Beaver, Super Endurance Stable, Bill Manes, Leo Fleming, Mark Moger	Captain Corey colt unleashed track record equaling 1:51.3 in Oak Grove Derby elim in 3YO debut, then a gallant second in final, dominated PASS division in 1:51.4 June 6, not in to go
<b>4</b>	<b>Diabolic Hill</b>  (Muscle Hill)	Todd McCarthy, Annie Stoebe, Mario Mazza, AC Crawford Racing Stable	Breeders Crown elimination winner, close second in final, beat Spencer Hanover in Valley Victory in 1:53.3, banked \$506,636, won Big M qualifier in 1:53.3 on May 8, wire-to-wire in 1:53.2 Big M qualifier May 29, first over third in strong 3YO NJSS debut June 5, post four in NJSS Final June 12
<b>5</b>	<b>American Power</b>  (Walner)	Mattias Melander, Marcus Melander, M Biasuzzi Stable Inc	Beat Spencer Hanover in 1:55.3 qualifier May 16, rallied in :26.3 again to win Garden State division May 16, won NJSS Platinum Division

in 1:54.3 over sloppy track May 23, took new mark of 1:52 in NJSS Leg 2 June 5, post six in NJSS Final June 12

<b>6</b>	<b>Magic Punk</b> (Wishing Stone)	Yannick Gingras, Ake Svanstedt, Magic Punk Inc.	Second in Wellwood & Peter Haughton, third in Kindergarten Final, banked \$220,878, 1:53.1 stakes record Dexter Cup in 3YO debut, fourth (1:54.1) in Big M qualifier May 29, romped to a new mark of 1:51.1 in first Goodtimes elim June 5, post three in final June 13
<b>7</b>	<b>Big Ranger</b> (In Range)	Tim Tetrick, Anette Lorentzon, Madison Global	2025 Ohio Horse of the Year went seven-for-seven, set track records @ Scioto Downs & Dayton, broke in 3YO debut April 23, fourth in Oak Grove Derby elim, wire-to-wire in Silver consolation in 1:52.3, set Scioto Downs track record 1:51.2 in OHSS May 25, then underwent a barn change, did not race last week, post three in OHSS division @ Scioto Downs June 13
<b>8</b>	<b>Neighver Punt</b> (Bar Hopping)	Marcus Melander, Courant Inc	Gives Marcus Melander four in the Top Ten, has suddenly blossomed @ three upsetting a Goodtimes elimination in career best 1:51.4 June 5, post five in final June 13
<b>9</b>	<b>Al</b> (Chapter Seven)	Yannick Gingras, Ron Burke, Burke Racing Stable, Hatfield Stables, Knox Services Inc, Weaver Brusceci LLC	Won NYSS Final, second in Kindergarten Final, banked \$395,073, in 3YO debut second (1:51.4) in Oak Grove Derby elim, fourth (1:52.1) in Final, second (1:54) in NYSS @ Tioga Downs June 5, post one in EBC June 12 with Tyler Buter driving
<b>10</b>	<b>Highland Destiny</b> (Greenshoe)	Scott Zeron, Nancy Takter, Highland Thoroughbred Farm	Greenshoe gelding unraced at two, now four-for-four as a sophomore, winning PA Allstars division in 1:52 May 18, then a PASS division @ Pocono in 1:54.1 June 6, not in to go

**KEY PREP RACES**  
*Hambletonian Eligibles in Caps*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Stakes</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Driver</b>	<b>Trainer</b>	<b>2nd Horse</b>	<b>3rd Horse</b>	<b>Time</b>
May 2	Dexter Cup	M	MAGIC PUNK	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Southwind Alamo	WHOS EYES BLUES	1:53.1
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	Geologic	IMPOSSIB LE BI	1:53.4
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	Silverstein	Dave Miller	Matthew Burkholder	REQUIEM	KINGMEN	1:52.3
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	ENDURANC E	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	Al	NIX NAKEN	1:51.3
May 8	PASS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	Mea	Captain Vodka	Ridge Warren	Robert Baggitt, Jr.	GREENARROW HANOVER	HAMLET HALL	1:54.3
May 8	PASS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	Mea	Fineline Hanover	Ridge Warren	Ron Coyne, Jr.	Dilly Hanover	R TOMMY COLLINS	1:53.2
May 16	Battle of Bunker Hill	PR	NEBBIOLO	Sarah Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	MIDWIND CHIMP	Water Slide	1:54.2
May 16	Oak Grove Derby	OG	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	ENDURANCE	REQUIEM	1:51.3
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	MR PENNER	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	MINOAN	Captain Vodka	1:52
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	HIGHLAND DESTINY	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	JIM BEAM	DOLLAR DRAFT	1:52.2
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	Fineline Hanover	Todd McCarthy	Ron Coyne, Jr.	NEIGHVER PUNT	Confident Volo	1:52.2

May 23	NJSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	M	GABES LUCK	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	MEGA SHARK	PRACTICAL MAN	1:55.3
May 23	NJSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	M	King Of The Wind	Joe Bongiorno	Joe Bongiorno	MAGA HILL	NEVER SAY DIE	1:55.2
May 23	NJSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	KINGMEN	ARDONN E	1:54.3
May 23	NJSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	M	TRILLION TIMES	Jason Bartlett	Per Engblom	Ice Fall	Be Positive	1:57.3
May 25	NYSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	Ver	SEVENATO	Trond Smedshammer	Trond Smedshammer	WHOS EYES BLUES	Highway Six	1:54
May 25	NYSS 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg	Ver	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	Titan's Mischief	SECURED	1:53.4
June 5	NYSS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg	TD	READ THE ROOM	Sarah Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Highway Six	TWIN B SEVEN SINS	1:53.2
June 5	NYSS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg	TD	Silverstein	Matt Kakaley	Matthew Burkholder	AI	SEVEN GRAND	1:53.3
June 5	NJSS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Mattias Melander	Marcus Melander	APEX	DIABOLIC HILL	1:52
June 5	Goodti mes Elim	MO	MAGIC PUNK	Yannick Gingras	Ake Svanstedt	Strobe Light	WOLFP A CK CROWN	1:52.1
June 5	Goodti mes Elim	MO	NEIGHVER PUNT	Yannick Gingras	Marcus Melander	Touchedbyanang el	Royal Captain	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg	Poc	ENDURANC E	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	Geologic	HAMLET HALL	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg	Poc	HIGHLAND DESTINY	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	MINOAN	Captain Vodka	1:54.1
June 12	NJSS Final	M						

June EBC Ver  
12 Division

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12 Division

June Goodti MO  
13 mes  
Final

June Yonkers Y  
19 Trot  
Elim

June NYSS Buf  
24 3<sup>rd</sup> leg

June Yonkers Y  
26 Trot  
Final

June Currier Mea  
26 & Ives

July Reynold M  
4 s

July Reynold M  
4 s

July Stanley M  
11 Dancer

July Stanley M  
11 Dancer

July Zweig V  
19 Memori  
al

July NYSS Y  
23 4<sup>th</sup> Leg

July Tompki M  
25 ns-  
Geers

July Tompki M  
25 ns-  
Geers

Aug. Hambo M  
1 Elim

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1 Elim