

**Dave Little's Road to the 2026 Meadowlands Pace**  
**Week 9 (of 10) – Thursday, June 25**  
**The Meadowlands Pace is on Saturday, July 11**

| Rank | Horse<br>(Earnings – Mark)                          | Driver, Trainer,<br>Owner(s)                     | Dave Little's (and trainer's) comments  |
|------|---|--|---|
| 1    | <b>Odds On Mr Mamba</b><br><br>(\$740,405 – 1:47.4) | J. MacDonald, M. Wrenn<br><br>Odds On Racing     | Wrenn: "We are racing Friday night in a leg of the Indiana Sires Stakes. We really didn't get many starts going into the Cup, so that was sort of the plan. We want to keep him involved with the Indiana fan base. After the Meadowlands Pace, we'll see where we are at. We may possibly go to the Adios."<br><br><b>Breeding: Odds On Equuleus-Honky Tonk Woman</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 1<sup>st</sup> (1:48.1)</b>  |
| 2    | <b>Brandon Blvd</b><br><br>(\$660,977 – 1:48.1)     | D. Dunn, A. Harris<br><br>Punisher 11 Stable LLC | Is staying on the sidelines this week giving an advantage to your opponents? Harris: "We had three starts in a short amount of time. I think if you actually look at most of the Pace winners other than last year, most of the horses take off between the Cup and the Pace. Ours is actually going to The Meadowlands (Friday), where we are going to train him nice and easy."<br><br><b>Breeding: Downbytheseaside-Alexis Faith</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 2<sup>nd</sup> (1:48.1)</b> |
| 3    | <b>Beau Jangles</b><br><br>(\$1,416,919 – 1:48.3)   | B. McClure, Dr. I. Moore                         | Moore: "We'll go Saturday at Mohawk in the Ontario Sires Stakes Gold. I trained him (Wednesday) and he was really good. We are looking forward to the weekend. I think he's   |

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|   |   | Graham Grace Stables LLC,<br>Kiwi Stables LLC,<br>Bolton Stables   | ready to go. As the going gets tougher (on the Grand Circuit), now maybe we need to go second-over. This year, you have (the Top 3 horses in the poll) who could trade blows all summer long.”<br><br><b>Breeding: Cattlewash-Mrs Major Hill</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 3<sup>rd</sup> (1:48.1)</b>   |
| 4 | <b>Al Papi</b><br><br><b>(\$476,820 – 1:48.1)</b> | Y. Gingras, R. Burke<br><br>Burke Racing Stable LLC,<br><br>J&T Silva – Purnel & Libby,<br><br>Lawrence Karr,<br><br>Weaver Brussemi LLC | With the Pace so close, why send Al Papi and Melillo to the Messenger? Burke: “I was going to train them fast anyway, so, they’re sound, I’m going to race them. I went back and forth on it. It wasn’t an easy decision. Al Papi puts himself in the right position to be competitive.” The Messenger is on Friday night at Yonkers.<br><br><b>Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Baron Remy</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 4<sup>th</sup> (1:48.2)</b>  |
| 5 | <b>Melillo</b><br><br><b>(\$462,787 – 1:48.4)</b> | R. Wrenn Jr., R. Burke<br><br>Burke Racing Stable LLC,<br><br>Jason Melillo,<br><br>Weaver Brussemi LLC                                  | Like his stablemate, will give the Messenger a go. Burke: “He got caught in a bad spot (in the North America Cup) and decided to stay in. By the time he got out, the race was over. This horse does everything pretty well. He doesn’t do anything great yet.” What about the two Pace-eligible horses you have racing at The Meadowlands Friday night? “Lindy Dragonwater is on a trial run this week, and I think Ubrute will be good.”<br><br><b>Breeding: Sweet Lou-Rosemary Rose</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 5<sup>th</sup> (1:49)</b> |

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| 6 | <b>Bookie J</b><br>(\$375,868 –<br>1:48.4)        | D. Dunn, C. Ryder<br>Ken Jacobs  | He got beat, but by another Ryder student, Obliterate, in the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund final. Ryder: “Obliterate is very good, but Bookie J had a bit of an off night. He paced a little rough in the stretch. He’ll take this week off, then we’ll get him set up for the Pace. Time to get serious.”<br><br><b>Breeding: Perfect Sting-Skyy</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/20/2026 – M1 – NJSDF final – 2<sup>nd</sup> (1:50)</b>   |
| 7 | <b>Sweet Lovin Lou</b><br>(\$233,437 –<br>1:48.2) | S. Zeron, D. Lagace<br>Lagace Stables,<br>Edwin Buhler,<br>Big Als Stables,<br>Brittany Farms Micki<br>Rae | Lagace: “We trained him (Wednesday) at Mohawk a pretty fast trip. He is going to qualify on Monday and if all goes well, we’ll ship down to The Meadowlands on Tuesday. He’s healthy. He’s sound, and he’s ready to go.”<br><br><b>Breeding: Sweet Lou-Lover’s Dream</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 6<sup>th</sup> (1:49.1)</b>  |
| 8 | <b>Always B<br/> Charlie</b><br>(\$32,768 – 1:51) | S. Zeron, N. Takter<br>Upstart Racing  | Qualified fourth in the wake of Fragment’s 1:51.1 clocking. Now, a Big M race to get ready for the Big M Pace. Will leave from post 3 Friday night. What do you think your chances are in the Pace? Takter: “Obviously, it’s a Group 1 race for a reason. It’s a tough race to win. He’s still green. He’s still lazy. But I do think we can get a chunk of the purse (in the Pace).”<br><br><b>Breeding: Always B Miki-My Little Delight</b><br><br><b>Last Race: 6/19/2026 – M1 – Qualifier – 4<sup>th</sup> (1:52.4)</b> |
| 9 | <b>Azrael Blue<br/> Chip</b>                      | A. McCarthy, B. Odza   | Has drawn post 6 in the overnight at The Big M to get ready for the Pace. Odza: “I’m happy  |

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|    | (\$158,550 – 1:51)  | CT Stables LLC   | <p>with him. He trained great (Wednesday). I still think he’s at like 90 per cent right now. There are still things I am working on, but right now, he’s right where I want him to be.”</p> <p><b>Breeding: Perfect Sting-Bathsheba</b></p> <p><b>Last Race: 6/13/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup – 10<sup>th</sup> (1:54.1)</b></p>   |
| 10 | <p><b>Gentlemans Club</b></p> <p>(\$256,481 – 1:50.2)</p> | <p>A. McCarthy, A. Lambert</p> <p>Anthony Licastro</p> | <p>Hasn’t been seen since his North America Cup elimination but is back in The Big M overnight Friday against a handful of other Pace hopefuls. Has post 5. Lambert: “He’s good. He trained well (Wednesday). I think we’ll race him off the pace this week. (In the Pace) unless you are an absolute standout, you still need a trip. I think we are in good shape.”</p> <p><b>Breeding: Downbytheseaside-See You At Peelers</b></p> <p><b>Last Race: 6/6/2026 – Wbsb – North America Cup elimination – 7<sup>th</sup> (1:49.3)</b></p> |

**Key Prep Races**  
**MEADOWLANDS PACE ELIGIBLES IN CAPS**  
**Supplements are permitted per the conditions of the race**

| Date | Stakes                | Site     | Winner  | Trainer                                       | Driver  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Horse   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Horse   | Time                                 |
|------|-----------------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| 5/2  | PaSS                  | Mea      | Sneaky Squeaky<br>Another C Note  | J. Bongiorno<br>R. Burke                      | T. Tetrick<br>R. Wrenn Jr.                        | MELILLO<br>Frantic Hanover  | AL PAPI<br>Twin B Thriller  | 1:50.1<br>1:51.2                     |
| 5/2  | NJSS                  | M1       | BOOKIE J  | C. Ryder                                      | D. Dunn   | AZRAEL BLUE<br>CHIP   | Thisbeesting<br>s Deo   | 1:50                                 |
| 5/9  | NJSS                  | M1       | Sonofanutcracker  | T. Cancelliere                                | D. Dunn   | AZRAEL BLUE<br>CHIP   | ROCKNACIO<br>US   | 1:50                                 |
| 5/9  | Pa All-Stars          | PcD      | Another C Note<br>Captain Apple<br>Traacherous Lou<br>Toast Of The Town | R. Burke<br>C. Ryder<br>R. Cleary<br>N. Daley | T. Buter<br>P. Ryder<br>T. Tetrick<br>T. McCarthy | Papi Rick<br>Southwind<br>Spencer<br>Easy Breeze<br>Superchamp<br>Hanover | Spunky<br>Hanover<br>Really Bright<br>TALBOT<br>ANDRETTI<br>Good Friday | 1:52.2<br>1:54.1<br>1:53.4<br>1:52.2 |
| 5/9  | Ontario SBOA<br>elims | Wbs<br>b | BEAU JANGLES<br>Borderline Mobby  | Dr. I. Moore<br>D. Menary                     | B. McClure<br>J. MacDonald                        | Tilthecowscome<br>h<br>ome<br>WINDOR                                      | Mega Moves<br>Redland<br>Rocket Man                                     | 1:51<br>1:50.4                       |
| 5/16 | Ontario SBOA<br>final | Wbs<br>b | BEAU JANGLES  | Dr. I Moore                                   | B. McClure  | Borderline Mobby  | WINDOR  | 1:49.3                               |
| 5/16 | PaSS                  | PcD      | APOCALYPSEBLUE<br>CHIP<br>Sneaky Squeaky<br>Another C Note              | J. Bongiorno<br>J. Bongiorno                  | J. Bongiorno<br>J. Bongiorno                      | Superchamp<br>Hanover<br>Captain Apple<br>MELILLO                         | Southwind<br>Spencer<br>Silent<br>Investor<br>Papi Rick                 | 1:50.3<br>1:51.1<br>1:50.4           |

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|      |                           |          |  | T. Buter                         | R. Burke                                      |  |  |  |
| 5/23 | NJSS final                | M1       | BOOKIE J                               | C. Ryder                         | D. Dunn                                       | AZRAEL BLUE<br>CHIP                                  | Thisbeesting<br>s Deo                            | 1:50.<br>2                             |
| 5/24 | PaSS                      | Phl      | MELILLO<br>Another C Note<br>Papi Rick | R. Burke<br>R. Burke<br>N. Daley | T. Tetrick<br>Y.<br>Gingras<br>A.<br>McCarthy | Easy Breeze<br>ALWAYS B<br>CHARLIE<br>Sneaky Squeaky | TALBOT<br>ANDRETTI<br>Thai<br>Hanover<br>AL PAPI | 1:48.<br>4<br>1:50.<br>3<br>1:50.<br>3 |
| 5/30 | Somebeachso<br>mewhr      | Wbs<br>b | BRANDON BLVD                           | A. Harris                        | J. Bartlett                                   | SWEET LOVIN<br>LOU                                   | No Waitlist                                      | 1:48.<br>1                             |
| 6/6  | N.A. Cup elims            | Wbs<br>b | SWEET LOVIN LOU<br>ODDS ON MR<br>MAMBA | D.<br>Lagace<br>M.<br>Wrenn      | J.<br>MacDon<br>ald<br>J.<br>MacDon<br>ald    | AL PAPI<br>BRANDON BLVD                              | AZRAEL<br>BLUE CHIP<br>BEAU<br>JANGLES           | 1:48.<br>2<br>1:48.<br>2               |
| 6/13 | N.A. Cup final            | Wbs<br>b | ODDS ON MR<br>MAMBA                    | M.<br>Wrenn                      | J.<br>MacDon<br>ald                           | BRANDON BLVD   | BEAU<br>JANGLES                                  | 1:48.<br>1                             |
| 6/26 | Messenger                 | YR       |  |                                  |   |  |  |  |
| 7/4  | Meadowlands<br>Pace elims | M1       |  |                                  |   |  |  |  |
| 7/11 | Meadowlands<br>Pace final | M1       |  |                                  |   |  |  |  |