

NY Sire Stakes 2-YO Filly Pacers Invade Buffalo Raceway on Wednesday

by Brian J. Mazurek, for Buffalo Raceway

HAMBURG, N.Y. --- There's a lot of hope and promise on Wednesday night (July 1) at Buffalo Raceway as many of the 2-year-old filly pacers kick off their careers in three divisions of the New York Sire Stakes worth \$36,566 each.

Of the 21 filly pacers entered, only four have had a pari-mutuel start. The remaining 17 have had a couple of 'baby' races or qualifiers but that's it. With the hours of preparation in getting them to the races now completed, it's time for the ladies to strut their stuff, and for those who are successful, they will find a large paycheck awaiting them at the finish line along with some happy owners, trainers and drivers.

The Sire Stakes will go off as the second, third and fifth races on the solid 12-race program that is scheduled for 5 p.m.

With nine records either broken or tied at Buffalo Raceway this season, the freshmen fillies will be taking dead aim on 1:56.3 standard set in 2011 by Silk Purse and tied in 2012 by Summertime Lea.

The sire Roll With Joe has nine off-spring entered in the stakes event while Art Major follows with five, Rock N Roll Heaven four and American Ideal three.

The first event features a field of six who not have a pari-mutuel start between them. Gotmyredressonnit gets the early nod at 5-2 after putting in a 1:55.3 time in a baby race at Pocono Downs over a sloppy track on June 19. Jason Bartlett gets the call aboard the Janice Connor-trained Gotmyredressonnit (Roll With Joe-Western Top Cat) and will start from the six post.

Rockin Date, a \$47,000 purchase from the Lexington Sales last year, is the second choice at 3-1 with Sire Stakes leading driver Jim Morrill Jr. in the bike. Starting from the five hole, Rockin Date (Art Major-Rockin Beauty) is trained by Ron Burke and finished in fourth place behind Gotmyredressonnit in her last prep. Morrill Jr. has 13 victories this season on the Sire Stakes circuit and nearly \$450,000 in purse earnings.

The second leg is a wide open affair with a field of seven heading to the post. Angels Rockn Pink is 3-1 morning line choice with John MacDonald to be in the sulky. Arriving from Vernon Downs for trainer Homer Hostetler, Angels Rockn Pink was impressive in winning her two qualifiers at Vernon. She last won by 3-3/4 lengths in 1:55.4 back on June 19.

Soft Idea, a \$70,000 purchase at the Lexington Sales, draws the six post for trainer Linda Toscano and driver Scott Zeron. Soft Idea (American Ideal-Walk Softly) went 1:58.4 in her last tuneup, winning by 2-1/2 lengths.

Buffalo Raceway's leading driver Kevin Cummings gets the call on Vino And Formaggio off the rail. Sitting at 4-1 on the line, Vino And Formaggio (Art Major-Pasta LaVista) has gone wire-to-wire in her two qualifying victories at the Meadows.

The final division features Encore Deo, a \$100,000 buy at Lexington. The Burke-trained Encore Deo, coupled with Dime A Dance (Roll With Joe-Hat Dance), starts from the five post and gets the services of Cummings. Encore Deo (Rock N Roll Heaven-Docdor Cameo) hopes to start earning her keep begin what could be an solid career.

The main danger to the Burke entry could be Ghost Runner (Art Major-Spirit Of The West). She gets the pylons for trainer/driver Tom Jackson and is the 5-1 second pick. She finished sixth at Pocono Downs in 1:55.1 in her last appearance.

The card also will feature a pair of Excelsior 'A' Series races and a race in the Excelsior 'B' Series.

Also on tap on the stellar card includes the \$10,500 Open Trot, the \$9,500 Fillies and Mares Open Pace, and the \$8,500 Fillies and Mares Open II Pace.

For more information including the latest news, upcoming promotions, race replays and results, go to www.buffaloraceway.com