Form rules in Tuesday NYSS at Yonkers

-by Frank Drucker, publicity director, Yonkers Raceway

Yonkers, NY---Form ruled Tuesday afternoon (Sept. 1), with Yonkers Raceway hosting the \$166,874 New York Sire Stakes Mike Cipriani Trot for 3-year-old fillies.

It certainly did in the second (\$82,687) division, as Barn Doll (Jeff Gregory, \$2.10) won as she pleased. Near the back off the early bus from position No. 5, she methodically moved to the lead just passing the half, then put the hammer down.



The final margin was an unasked 5-¼ lengths in 1:55.3. Northern Obsession (Tyler Buter) was a rallying second, with Zanna Blu (George Brennan) third.

For Barn Doll, a daughter of <u>Conway Hall</u> co-owned by (trainer) Steve & Nancy Pratt and Purple Haze Stables, it was her 10th win in a dozen seasonal starts (17-for-21 lifetime). The exacta paid \$7.20, the triple returning \$62.

Tom Berg photo

Barn Doll won her NYSS division in 1:55.3

for driver Jeff Gregory.

Form was also in play in the opening (\$84,187) sire stakes event, as second choice Lady Winona (Miller)–from post No. 3--snapped pace-setting 6-5 choice

Jewels In Hock (Jim Morrill Jr.) in a 1:55.3, two-speed number (no misprint, the winning times were identical). The margin here was three-quarters of a length. Frou Frou (Brennan) "won the bob" for third as the 52-1 rank outsider.

For Lady Winona, a <u>Credit Winner</u> miss trained by Julie Miller for owner Stroy Inc. (which includes Ms. Miller), she's now 3-for-15 this season. The exacta paid \$17.20, with the triple returning \$459. The hard-working lass was second (ironically, beaten from the pocket) in this past Saturday night's final of the Hudson Filly Trot.

Tuesday's sire stakes event honored the memory of Yonkers' longtime, award-winning track photographer, whose family—including son, Ralph—made the winner's circle presentations.

Special Tuesday props to Grain Of Truth (Jordan Stratton, \$17.20) as the ageless (actually 14-year-old) gelding won the \$19,000, fifth-race trot in 1:56.1. It was the 81st career win in 336 starts for the now-\$1.5 million earner, owned by Charles Iannazzo and trained by Ray Schnittker.