Twenty-five enter Vernon EBC trots, colts straight to final
by James Witherite, Vernon Downs Racing Media

Vernon, NY---Twenty-five New York-sired 3-year-old trotters have committed to the Empire Breeders Classic events at Vernon Downs on Sunday, June 21, with 14 fillies contesting a pair of eliminations this Sunday (June 14).

Sunday's sixth and ninth races will determine the finalists for the $248,275 Empire Breeders Classic filly division, with seven entrants in each elimination. The fields, with nominated drivers, are as follows (listed in post position order):

Race 6 - First Elimination
1. Jewels in Hock (John Campbell)
2. Spell That (Sam Schillaci)
3. Shaqline (Brett Miller)
4. Barn Doll (Jeff Gregory)
5. Allerage Belle (Yannick Gingras)
6. Lock Down Lindy (Tim Tetrick)
7. Northern Obsession (Greg Merton)

Race 9 - Second Elimination
2. Katniss (Daniel Dubé)
3. Lady Winona (Andy Miller)
4. Counsellor As (Brett Miller)
5. Stirling Debutant (driver TBA)
1. Zanna Blu (Gingras)
1a. Frou Frou (Gingras also named)
6. Concentration (Chris Lems)

The top four fillies from each elimination and one fifth-place finisher will contest the following week's final, with the connections of elimination winners granted their choices of post positions in the final.

Eleven 3-year-old trotting colts and geldings entered for their $255,325 division, and all of them will advance straight to next week's final. They are as follows (in alphabetical order):

Apostles Creed, Crazshana, Crazy Wow, Fashion Creditor, Habitat, Maestro Blue Chip, Mythology Blue Chip, Royal Deceptor, Royal Lad, Wings of Royalty, Workout Wonder.

In addition to the Empire Breeders Classic finals on June 21, 3-year-old pacing colts and geldings will contest a round of the New York Sire Stakes series.

This weekend, Vernon Downs hosts live racing on Friday and Saturday evenings at 6:45 p.m. Eastern time. Saturday's program will feature the annual camel and ostrich races in between pari-mutuel events. The weekend concludes with the aforementioned Sunday card, beginning at 1:15 p.m.