

## Distaffers, freshmen headline Vernon closing night

by James Witherite, Vernon Downs racing media

**Vernon, NY ---** Top older mares of both gaits and 2-year-old trotters of both sexes will vie for more than \$800,000 in purses on a blockbuster closing night card this Saturday (Nov. 1) at Vernon Downs.

Triple millionaire Anndrovette headlines the \$178,000 [Artiscape](#) Mares Pace (race six), and the 7-year-old veteran will square off against seven rivals in the first leg of an all-stakes Pick-4.

Trainer PJ Fraley listed Tim Tetrick to drive the 41-time winner, and she'll line up in post three, just outside her entymates Krispy Apple (Brett Miller) and Shelliscape (John Campbell). Double millionaire Rocklamation also figures to be among the standouts, having won the Lady Liberty and the Golden Girls at the Meadowlands this summer. Yannick Gingras is listed to drive the 6-year-old for trainer Ron Burke.

In all, the [Artiscape](#) field boasts 200 career wins, along with combined earnings in excess of \$11.9 million.

Races seven and eight are the culmination of the Kindergarten Classic series, with nine 2-year-old trotting colts and geldings competing for a \$240,500 purse in the seventh race.

Indiana standout Airman Batten (Marcus Miller, post one) has won 10 of 13 career races, and the Erv Miller-trained [Swan For All](#) colt figures to be prominent along with the Jimmy Takter-trained French Laundry (Yannick Gingras, post five). The son of [Muscles Yankee](#)-Creamy Mimi has won five of his nine career races, taking a 1:54.4 lifetime mark in his Kindergarten preliminary at the Red Mile on Sept. 18.

Freshman fillies contest a \$250,500 purse in the eighth race, with five-time winner Bee The Queen (Brian Sears, post nine) coming in off multiple Kindergarten preliminary wins. While she consistently shows speed, the George Ducharme-trained daughter of [Donato Hanover](#)-Bee Line has a number of four-time winners lining up to her inside, including Allerage Star (Corey Callahan, post one), Josie's Joy (Tim Tetrick, post five), Lady Clarabella (David Miller, post six), and Sweet Thing (Charlie Norris, post eight).

Ten top distaff trotters square off in the \$178,000 [Muscle Hill](#), carded as race nine on the 11-race program. Bee A Magician, fresh off her third-place finish to Natural Herbie and Commander Crowe in the Yonkers International Trot Preview, has drawn post nine in the full field. Usual driver Brian Sears is listed to drive the 30-time winner for trainer Richard "Nifty" Norman.

The other millionaire in the field is 27-time winner Maven (post seven), making her debut from the Ron Burke stable off a sharp 1:54 qualifier at Pocono. Yannick Gingras has been nominated to retain his drive aboard the 5-year-old [Glidemaster](#) mare.

The closing night card is scheduled for a 6 p.m. (EDT) start time, with a long-sleeve T-shirt giveaway to commence an hour earlier (while supplies last). A fireworks display over the Central New York sky will take place following the evening's final race.

