

## Yonkers hosts NYSS Armand Palatucci Pace

by Frank Drucker, publicity director, Empire City at Yonkers Raceway

**Yonkers, NY** --- The Empire's best 3-year-old colts and geldings -- save for He's Watching -- invaded Yonkers Raceway Thursday night (July 17) for the \$221,000 New York Sire Stakes Armand Palatucci Pace.



*Mike Lizzi photo*

**Twin B Tenacious (Steve Smith) won the \$72,800 first division from second-over.**

The odds-on gelding Twin B Tenacious (Steve Smith, \$3.90) won the \$72,800 first division from second-over. Unhurried from the pole, Twin B Tenacious chased Twin B Speedo (Mark MacDonald) through intervals of :27.2, :58 and 1:25.4. Twin B Tenacious swung wide and whipped the leader by a half-length in 1:54. Third went to Keystone Honor (Matt Kakaley).

Smith is now four-for-four since picking up the drive behind Twin B Tenacious.

"To be honest, I had the drive the first time (Meadowlands) when a lot of the guys were out of town," Smith said. "He had some chicken lines (breaks) previously, and doesn't always relax. I learned you have to let him settle, but when I've asked him, he's finished very well.

Twin B Tenacious, a son of [Bettor's Delight](#) trained by Casie Coleman for owner West Wins Stable, is four-for-eight this season. The exacta paid \$12, with the triple returning \$114.

The \$74,100 second statebred event was supposed to be a fairly simple work night for Art Rooney Pace winner All Bets Off (Kakaley). However, despite a perfect tow from entrymate I'm All Heart (George Brennan), the 1-5 tandem found themselves run over.

Capital Account (Yannick Gingras, \$35.80), third-over from post position No. 4, snapped All Bets Off by a half-length in 1:52.4. Big Boys Dreams (Jason Bartlett) was third.

Fifth choice Capital Account, a Brittany Farms homebred [American Ideal](#) colt trained by Jimmy Takter, is now four-for-11 this season. The exacta paid \$76, with the triple returning \$336.50.

"This was his best race so far," Gingras said. "Sometimes, he's been known to throw in steps, but tonight, this worked out. When I saw Matt (Kakaley) working (on All Bets Off), I knew I had him beat.

"The last time he was here (NYSS last month), he was locked in. If I had come first-up, he'd have won but I had to use him leaving. It was a much better trip tonight."

Thursday night's \$74,100 final sires soiree saw Forty Five Red (Brennan, \$22.60) -- last season's winner of the Lawrence B. Sheppard Pace here -- make the lead right at the half and hold sway.

Forty Five Red, from post No. 4, took over from Sir Jake's Z Tam (Jordan Stratton) after that one's :27.3 opening quarter-mile. After a :56.3 intermission, it was a 1:24.1 three-quarters and a season's-best 1:52.3 finale, which found Forty Five Red a length better than Winds Of Change (Tim Tetrick). Neat (Marcus Miller) was third, while 1-2 choice Stay Up Late (Brian Sears) was a never-in-it dead-heat for fifth.

Forty Five Red, a son of [If I Can Dream](#) co-owned (as Burke Racing) by trainer Ron Burke and Our Horse Cents Stable, has won his last couple after beginning the season zero-for-six. The exacta paid \$133, with the triple returning \$379.50.

"Last week (overnight here), he was all out to win and just didn't race well," Brennan said. "Tonight, I scored him down much harder; he was a totally different horse -- on the bit and alert."

Forty Five Red's winning time Thursday was more than two seconds faster than his previous effort.

After Saturday night's \$125,000 final of the Sheppard Pace (2-year-old colts/geldings), New York Sire Stakes continue Tuesday night (July 22), with the \$200,200 Clyde Hirt Pace for 2-year-old fillies. Four \$50,050 groupings go as races two, four, five and six.