

Eye Ofa Tiger As sets track record at Monticello

by Shawn Wiles, for Monticello Raceway

Monticello, NY---It was clear that the track record for 3-year-old-trotting colts was in jeopardy on Monday (July 17), on paper any three of the Sire Stakes heats had the power and ability of breaking the record. By the end of the day, all three divisions, either broke, tied or reset the record.

The action got started right away in the first race, first division of the regular Sire Stakes, Money Macintosh left from the rail in the short field of five, and had the lead at the first stanza in 28.2, not content to sit the pocket Jordan Stratton pulled Lord Cromwell and re-took lead before the half in 57.3.

Going down the backside Money Macintosh and Texican were both first over and in high gear, breathing down the Lords back and tripping the timer at 1:27.3. Money Macintosh had two lengths on the field as they turned for home, and won by the same margin in a track record of 1:56.1.

The mark of 1:56.1 erased the mark set by Habitat of 1:56.3. The [Credit Winner](#) – Apple Plush filly was trained and driven by Team Miller for owners Story Inc. of Township NJ. It was the first win of the year for Money Macintosh, Dexter Cup winner Lord Cromwell tired in deep stretch and finished third.

The sharp looking son of [Chapter Seven](#), Neon Lights, and Brian Sears let Cresurrey show the way briefly, but by the quarter mile pole Neon Lights was on the move first over and had the lead and showed the field thru panels of 28.2, 57.1, 1:26.3 to win by 2 lengths over Arch Credit (Jordan Stratton) and Top Flight Angel (Andy Miller) in 1:56.1, tying the track record set six races prior for 3-year-old trotting colts.

The 1/5 betting favorite Guardian Angel AS made a break at the start and lost all chances, but rallied to make up a ton of ground and held on gamely to finish fourth. The win was Neon Lights first NYSS trip to the winner's circle in 2017, for trainer George Ducharme, and paid \$26.40 to win.



Geri Schwarz photo

Eye Ofa Tiger As set a new track record form 3-year-old trotting colts in 1:56.

The race of the day came in race 8, final heat of the regular Sire Stakes, Eye Ofa Tiger AS was seeking his fourth-straight win, the son of [Chapter Seven](#), went down the road and lead at every station 28.1, 58.0, 1:27.0 and scored a scant neck wire to wire victory over a tough Stick With Kid to re-established a new track record of 1:56.0.

Eye Ofa Tiger AS is trained by Anette Lorentzon and was driven into the record books by Jason Bartlett and returned \$3.20. The Walner looking clone has now earned over \$90,000 for owners ACL Stuteri and Kjell Johansson Aces and Eights finished third.

The Excelsior A series saw Zacks Zoomer win by a head in 1:57.3, narrowly defeating Winneress for the Marcus Miller – Erv Miller team. Big Man EV gave Andy Miller his second win of the afternoon in 1:57.2, besting Sweetchap by a scant head for his second win of

2017. Southwind Cruze (Chapter 7) scored in 1:59.2 for Team Miller, giving them the hat trick.

In Excelsior B competition Deepwell ([Conway Hall](#)) won by 2 lengths in 1:59.4 - \$15.00, for trainer Ed Hart and driver Jordan Stratton and Too Much Man held off Barn Winner for driver Paul Long in 1:58.2, for his 4th win of the year.

[Chapter Seven](#) had three sons entering the winners circle, total handle on the 13-race card was \$520,133, Pick 5 carryover for tomorrows card is \$1,520.00. The next Sire Stakes are 2-Year-Old Colt Pacers on July 24th.