

HAMBLETONIAN OAKS

The Hambletonian Oaks, inaugurated in 1971, is the filly companion race to the prestigious Hambletonian for three-year-old trotters.

The 1983 Oaks carried a purse of \$313,825, the richest ever, and it was Tarport Frenzy who emerged the champion in a three-filly race-off with the other divisional winners-Super Elma and Lady Lexington.

Tarport Frenzy, driven by Jan Nordin for owner Stein Dalseng of Norway, won her division in 1:57.4 and returned to take the race-off in 2:00.2. The daughter of Nevele Pride, bred by Hugh A Grant Jr., the Messenger Stable and Delvin Miller, was trained by Soren Nordin.

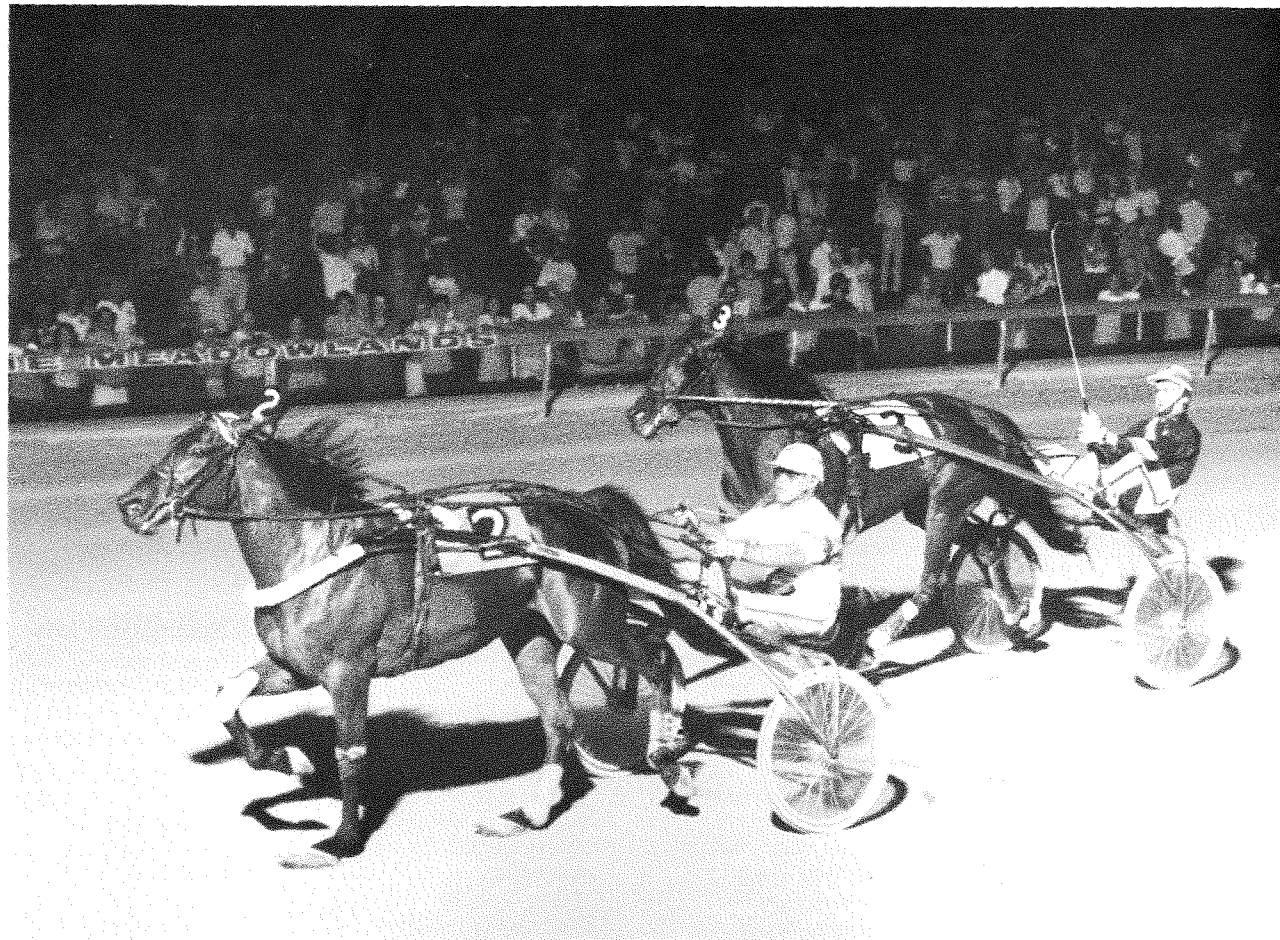
In 1982, the race was won by Dance Spell, giving Hall of Famer Howard Beissinger his first victory in the Oaks. Dance Spell is a daughter of Speedy Crown who Beissinger drove to victory in the 1971 Hambletonian. The Hamilton, Ohio, native also won the 1978 Hambo with Speedy Somolli and the 1969 edition with Lindy's Pride.

Later voted Three-Year-Old Filly Trotter of 1982, Dance Spell

was bred by AJT Farms. She raced for Hanley Dawson Jr., and Hugh A. Grant Jr. Dance Spell trotted in 1:58.4 to win the first division of the Oaks. Hanna Mining won the second division in 1:59. Dance Spell returned in the second heat, trotting in 1:58.3, to take the \$256,000 Hambletonian Oaks. Hanna Mining and Know the Way deadheated for second.

Spring Dash won the 1981 Oaks, the first at the Meadowlands. From the Hakan Wallner Stable, the Lindy's Pride filly was driven by Berndt Lindstedt who flew in from Europe for the race. Spring Dash, Pam's Key and Keystone Sister all had won heats and met for a third dash to determine the winner. Spring Dash flew up on the outside in the stretch to edge Pam's Key at the wire in 2:05 over a track labelled sloppy.

During the years at Du Quoin, Hall of Famer Glen Garnsey won three of the first four Hambletonian Oaks with Gay Blossom (1971), Colonial Charm (1973) and Berna Hanover (1974). Joe O'Brien, also a Hall of Famer, has driven two winners, Sara Lane Hanover (1972) and Ina Lula (1976).



Tarport Frenzy holds off Lady Lexington to win the Hambletonian Oaks race-off.