

NYSS 2-year-old filly trotters to end Buffalo Raceway season

by Brian J. Mazurek, for Buffalo Raceway

Hamburg, NY --- The 2014 Buffalo Raceway live racing season comes to an end on Sunday afternoon but the track will close with a bang as the New York State Sire Stakes for 2-year-old trotting fillies highlight the final card of the year.

There will be four \$27,251 divisions of the Sire Stakes along a trio of \$12,600 Excelsior A Series races and a \$6,700 Excelsior B race in the 11-race program that is set for 1:05 p.m.

And while there are some talented filly trotters taking to the track, it's like a 'who's who' that will be driving them. Former Western New York regulars Jeff Gregory, Ray Schnittker, Jim Morrill Jr., John Stark Jr., Phil Fluet, Sam Schillaci and John Cummings Jr. all will be returning to Western New York for the day. They'll be joined by others including Dan Daley, Chuck Connors Jr., Charlie Norris, Chris Lems, Gates Brunet, Jim Meitinis, Rick Zeron, Robert Shepherd, Jim Marohn Jr. and Tyler Raymer.

The Sire Stakes will be contested in the first, third, sixth and seventh races.

The first leg features Counsellor AS (Gregory) who has a 1-1/2 length win in the Excelsior A Series at Vernon Downs on June 26 in 2:00.1. Counsellor As ([Conway Hall](#)-Cordele AS) broke stride in her last appearance at Tioga Downs on July 11. She'll look to rebound starting from the three post as the 3-1 morning line choice.

Her main threat should come from 4-1 second choice Meshugana Miss ([Crazed](#)-Daring Marisa) who starts from the four post. She has a pair of second place finishes in both of her pari-mutuel starts and will be handled by Connor Jr.

The second division has Betcha (Betcha-Ruccoucou) as the 3-1 choice with Daley in the bike. Betcha cruised to an easy two length decision in the \$27,250 Sire Stakes at Tioga Downs in 1:59.4 on July 11. She may play 'catch-me-if-you can' from the four spot.

The toughest leg could be the third which will go as the sixth race. It finds My Twisted Sister ([Lucky Chucky](#)-Pretzel Hanover) and Barn Doll ([Conway Hall](#)-HeadinthecLOUDS) ready to battle it out.

My Twisted Sister (Morrill Jr.) showed plenty of heart in posting a neck victory in the \$27,750 Sire Stakes at Tioga Downs in 2:00 on July 11. She'll get the inside post and should get a perfect trip.

Barn Doll drew a tough post, the seventh spot, but can overcome it after posting a pair of big victories of more than three lengths in her last two starts, including a 1:59.1 decision at Tioga on July 11 in the Sire Stakes. Barn Doll gets Jeff Gregory as her pilot.

The final division has Spell That ([Conway Hall](#)-Mouche Hanover) the 3-1 early choice with Sam Schillaci in the sulky. She was last seen on June 26 at Vernon Downs where she suffered a narrow neck defeat in the Sire Stakes. She'll start out of the six post.

The main threat could come from Northern Obsession ([Conway Hall](#)-Northernpossession). This 2-year-old has a pair of competitive third place finishes in two Sire Stakes starts and gets trainer-driver Ray Schnittker on the reins. They'll score from post position three. For more information including simulcast schedule, race replays, results and the latest news, go to www.buffaloraceway.com

