

By Sam Pendolino

Hamburg, NY---Eight divisions of the Niatross Series began here at Buffalo Raceway Saturday night, for horses that have started for a base claiming price of \$4,000 or less from 6/1/2009 to and including 1/23/2010.

In this first leg, the purses were worth \$4,000, and to claim a horse, it cost an owner \$5,000. In each leg, the purses and the claiming price goes up \$1,000. There were four claims on the night, with two more legs to be contested before the \$20,000 final on Saturday Feb. 27.



The field of 64 will be cut down to 32, which will be four races next Saturday Feb. 13, with a purse of \$5,000. To claim a horse next Saturday, it will cost \$6,000.

The winner's Saturday night were, Rhino (\$9.40) and driver Ray Fisher, Jr., for trainer Jim Graham.

The thirteen-year-old Gehrig, (\$3.40) with reinsman Jim McNeight, who is nearing the one million dollar mark in earnings.

Trainer Brenda Ohol's Wawanosh Trail (\$4.90) won with driver Ken Holliday aboard, for the Nickel City Ranch.

Holliday Racing's Long Beach Tea (\$8.00) for trainer Sheri Holliday with husband Ken in the bike.

Full Of Speed (\$5.30) a one length winner in 2:01.1 for reinsman Ray Fisher, Jr.

Sandra Beback's HF Velma (\$4.10) won with husband Ron in the sulky.

Clear For Flight (\$39.20) in 1:59, which was the fastest winner of the night, for owner-trainer Laurie Patistas, and driver Jimmy Whisman.

Encil, (\$10.20) for trainer Sue Stockwell and driver Tom Agosti. Encil was the only winner that was claimed.

Racing will resume on Wednesday February 10, with first post scheduled for 6:40 pm.

Photos by Paul White
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