

By Mike Sardella



On a weekend filled with longshots, it was one familiar favorite who starred on Saturday at Saratoga Gaming and Raceway.

Rare Jewel made his first local start of the year on Saturday in the season's first open pace. Coming off a year in which he was named Pacer of the Year at Saratoga, Rare Jewel came to town for the evening's \$15,500 feature and would not be denied. Moved to the lead after the start by driver Dan Cappello Jr, Rare Jewel never

looked back and was as strong as ever in the stretch, sprinting the final quarter in :28 to put the finishing touches on a two plus length win while stopping the timer in 1:53.3, an ultra impressive time for a March Saturday night.

The doubleheader saw horses win at win mutuels of \$85.00 (Richie's Fella) and an amazing \$171.00 (Eastover Court).

Live racing continues on Sunday afternoon with a matinee kicking off at 12:45pm.

Photo credit: [Dave Oxford](#)