

NIXIE VOLO (Yankee Glide – No I'm Not – Windsong's Legacy)



Onwers: Kentuckiana Racing Stables, VIP Internet Stables, 83 Racing, Eddie Gran

Trainer: John Butenschoen

Driver: Corey Callahan

Purchase: \$22,000 Lexington Selected Yearling Sale

A winner of six races in 15 starts, earning \$142,086, **Nixie Volo** finished fifth in her Hambletonian Oaks elimination (to **Phaetosive**) after having not raced since June 24. She scratched from her July 3 start in a division of Pennsylvania Sires Stakes due to sickness. The John Butenschoen trainee returned to the track on July 14 and qualified at the Meadowlands with an off-the-pace effort timed in 1:53, and a :27.2 final quarter, behind world-champion JI Cruze.

“I thought, yeah, that was a good qualifying mile,” Butenschoen said. “And then I see Phaetosive win [her Del Miller division that night] in 1:51 and I thought, my qualifying mile wasn’t very good. And then I see Plunge and Manchego go in 1:49.4, and I’m thinking we’re in trouble here. (Laughs)”

Nixie Volo competed eight times at two, winning on three occasions: in two divisions of Kentucky Sires Stakes and a lifetime-best win of 1:53.4 in a \$58,000 division of International Stallion Stakes. She also broke several times her freshman year including in the \$250,000 Kentucky Sires Stakes Final and in a \$66,000 division of the Bluegrass Stakes.

At three, she's won three times in seven starts, two of which were in divisions of Pennsylvania Sires Stakes and the third in a \$24,455 division of the Currier & Ives at The Meadows.

"She's been real consistent," Butenschoen said. "She showed what she could do last year in her last start at Lexington. She came first up in the International Stallion [Stakes] and won in 1:53[.4]. You knew she had some talent there. She's come back real good and strong this year. I'm very happy with how she is.

"She's just a good filly," Butenschoen also said. "She's not a real big filly, a typical Yankee Glide, but has got a quick turn of foot. She just tries. She always shows up and she tries."

Trainer Butenschoen made his Oaks debut with Fine Tuned Lady in 2017, finishing sixth (to Ariana G). This is Butenschoen's second finalist. Driver Corey Callahan made his Oaks debut in 2013 with Jonas Czernyson-trainee Ma chere Hall, finishing seventh. His best finish in the race was in 2015, finishing second with Rules Of The Road (to Wild Honey) for trainer Janice Connor. Both he and Butenschoen try for their first Oaks win.