

GALLO BLUE CHIP GOES THE DISTANCE

When Gallo Blue Chip cleared the lead at the three-quarter pole in the 2000 Meadowlands Pace, trainer Mark Ford breathed his first sigh of relief. The second came when the three-year-old gelding crossed the finish line in 1:50.4, capturing the 24th edition of the Meadowlands' signature event.

Gallo Blue Chip, the 6-5 favorite, and driver Daniel Dube tipped three-wide and assumed the front on the final turn, steering clear of an incident involving Tyberwood, Aces N' Sevens and Ain't No Stopn Him. The son of Magical Mike drew away to a three and three-quarter length victory.

"I needed to leave a little bit and I wanted to retake," Dube said. "I knew he had pace, I held him the whole time, when I asked, he took off. It's a big win, just as big as the North America Cup. It's nice to be able to back up that one with this one. I didn't want to be up front at the start. I wanted to take my time getting there. Coming to the line [is when I knew I'd won], you never can be sure who is coming at you."

Gallo Blue Chip's victory was his second in a million-dollar race in three weeks, after capturing Canada's North America Cup on June 24 at Woodbine for owner Martin Scharf of Lawrence, New York.

"I'm just so relieved that it is over with," Ford said. "He's

really been more than I ever thought he was. Tonight with the nine-hole, he simply had to be the best. I knew there was a bunch of leavers in there, and I knew that he [Gallo Blue Chip] would be last out on the front. I was just hoping he'd stay back and stay out of trouble. I was cautiously optimistic. Thank God things worked out!"

Aces N' Sevens and Cat Manzi commanded the lead early, and refused to yield to Tyberwood and Richie Silverman down the backstretch. After a 53.4-second half, Tyberwood swerved to the inside, interfering with Aces N' Sevens and setting off a chain reaction which started with Ain't No Stopn Him and Jersey Bouncer being knocked off-stride.

Though he did not find the winner's circle on this summer night, trainer Brett Pelling tightened his hold as the leading-money earner in Meadowlands Pace history as his entry of Astreos and High On Emotion finished second and third.

For the first time in Meadowlands Pace history, a horse was supplemented to the race for a fee of \$150,000, raising the final purse to \$1,150,000. The supplemented horse, PB Bullville, broke stride in his elimination division and failed to reach the final, but went on to set a world record for three-year-old pacers with a 1:48 clocking at The Red Mile.

1ST ELIMINATION - 7/8/00 - 1:51²

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Jersey Bouncer	Jack Moiseyev	Larry Remmen
2	High On Emotion	Ron Pierce	Brett Pelling
3	San Gimignano	Mike Lachance	George Berkner

2ND ELIMINATION - 7/8/00 - 1:50¹

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Gallo Blue Chip	Daniel Dube	Mark Ford
2	Ain't No Stopn Him	Mike Lachance	Joe Holloway
3	Indian Territory	Cat Manzi	Rick Bilach

3RD ELIMINATION - 7/15/00 - 1:50³

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Mr Prez	George Brennan	Chris Ryder
2	Tyberwood	Richie Silverman	Gary Machiz
3	Aces N' Sevens Jr.	Cat Manzi	Robert Baggitt

CONSOLATION - 7/15/00 - 1:50⁴

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	The Firepan	John Campbell	Chris Marino
2	Riverboat King	Mark Kesmodel	Sreve Elliott
3	MacArt	David Miller	Kelvin Harrison

\$1,150,000 FINAL - 7/15/01 - 1:50⁴

	Horse	Driver	Trainer
1	Gallo Blue Chip	Daniel Dube	Mark Ford
2	Astreos	Chris Christoforou	Brett Pelling
3	High On Emotion	Ron Pierce	Brett Pelling

2000

RACE	PACE	1 MILE	MEADOWLANDS PACE	\$1,150,000	Quarter times: 26 ⁴ , 53 ⁴ , 1:21 ² , 1:50 ⁴	TEMP.	67-0	TRACK: GOOD	OFF: 10:00
8	Gallo Blue Chip	9 4 ^{3/4}	3 ^{1/4} 1 ^{1/4} 1 ⁵ 1 ^{3/4}	29 ²	1:50 ⁴	D. Dube	Mutuels	(8) 4.40	3.00 2.80 *1.20
1	Astreos	1 5 ^{5/8}	5 ^{1/4} 2 ^{1/4} 2 ⁵ 2 ^{3/4}	29 ⁴	1:51 ²	C. Christoforou Jr.	(1)	6.40	7.20 e-6.40
1A	High On Emotion	7 9 ^{1/2}	10 ^{1/4} 8 ^{9/8} 7 ^{9/8} 3 ⁵	28 ²	1:51 ⁴	R. Pierce	(1A)	6.40	7.20 e-6.40
7	Aces N' Sevens	8 2 ¹	2 ^{1/2} 3 ^{1/4} 3 ^{5/8} 4 ⁵	30	1:51 ⁴	C. Manzi			10.70
9	Indian Territory	10 10 ^{13/16}	8 ^{13/16} 6 ^{8/8} 4 ^{7/8} 5 ^{5/8}	28 ⁴	1:51 ⁴	L. Ouellette			63.80
5	Ain't No Stopn Him	5 1 ¹	4 ^{1/2} 9 ^{11/16} 6 ^{9/8} 6 ^{7/8}	28 ³	1:52 ¹	J. Campbell			11.70
4	Mr Prez	4 7 ^{8/16}	7 ^{1/2} 5 ^{4/8} 8 ¹¹ 8P7 ^{10/16}	30 ⁴	1:53	G. Brennan			15.00
6	San Gimignano	6 8 ^{10/16}	9 ^{1/2} 7 ^{8/8} 9 ^{11/16} 9P8 ¹¹	30	1:53	M. Lachance			4.20
2	Jersey Bouncer	2 6 ^{7/8}	6 ^{1/2} 10 ^{dis} 10 ^{dis} 10P9 ^{dis}	--	--	J. Moiseyev			43.40
3	Tyberwood	3 3 ^{1/4}	1 ^{1/2} 4 ^{1/4} 5 ⁹ 7P10 ^{9/8}	31	1:52 ⁴	R. Silverman			5.00

Winning Owner: Martin Scharf
Winning Trainer: Mark Ford

Exacta (8-1) 28.20
Trifecta (8-1-7) 204.20
Racing Pick 3 (6-1-8) 87.60