



# Tactical Landing

Bay colt, 3 by Muscle Hill – Southwind Serena by Varenne

**OWNER:** The Tactical Landing Stable, Perrysburg, OH  
**BREEDERS:** Steve Stewart, KY; Black Creek Farm, IN; Andrea Lea Racing Stables, QC  
**SALE INFO:** Lexington Select Yearling Sale, KY \$800,000  
**TRAINER:** Jimmy Takter  
**DRIVER:** Jimmy Takter

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3 <sup>RD</sup>	EARNINGS	MARK
2018	3	2	1	0	\$12,500	1:52.3 M
2017	2	0	0	0	\$1,500	Q1:56.0 M
LIFETIME	5	2	1	0	\$14,000	1:52.3 M

- Tactical Landing was purchased for \$800,000 at the 2016 Lexington Selected Sal, the second-highest yearling price in harness racing history behind Detour Hanover at \$825,000 at the 2011 Standardbred Horse Sale.
- The colt is a full brother to Mission Brief, the two-time Dan Patch Award-winner and multiple world-record-holding filly who finished second to Pinkman in the 2015 Hambletonian. Mission Brief was the most recent filly to take on the boys in the Hambletonian, prior to Atlanta this year, and won her elimination.
- Tactical Landing made two starts at age 2, both in the Kentucky Sire Stakes series at Red Mile, and went off stride in both races. He posted a mark of 1:56 in an Aug. 18 qualifier win.
- The horse joined the stable of four-time Hambletonian-winning trainer Jimmy Takter in the spring. He was trained previously by Bob Stewart, whose wife Lynda is among the horse's owners.
- On July 6, Tactical Landing made his seasonal debut in a conditioned race at the Meadowlands and finished second, beaten by a head, to fellow Hambletonian hopeful Classichap in 1:51.1. He followed that start with consecutive wins in conditioned classes at the Big M, with his most recent triumph coming by 1½ lengths over Southwind Chrome, another Hambletonian entrant, in a career-best 1:52.3. He trotted his final quarter in :26.3.
- "He has three lifetime starts basically," Takter said. "These types of horses today, they come into speed. I don't think two heats will bother him. He's a low-pulsed horse; he recovers very well after races. His lack of experience might hurt him. He's more a grinder type of horse. He doesn't care if he's outside. I like him.
- "His last start, I felt comfortable with him. I felt I could trust him a little bit more. The first start, I had to be very cautious with him. The second start was a little better and this third one was the best he's felt. I think he has confidence. He's a smart colt. If he wins this race it will be a remarkable story. I don't think it's impossible."
- The Tactical Landing Stable ownership group is made up of Kevin Greenfield, Andrea Lea Racing Stables, Michael Creps, Wayne Farthing, Michael Frank, Lynda Stewart, Taylor Stewart, Christina Takter, Howard Taylor, and Jean Pierre Dubois' D Farm LLC.
- Jimmy Takter, 57, has trained the winner of the Hambletonian four times and the Hambletonian Oaks a record seven times, including the four most recent editions.

- Takter is tied with Chuck Sylvester for the second-most training wins in the Hambletonian. Billy Haughton, Stanley Dancer and Ben White share the record of five. Takter won the Hambletonian in 1997 with Malabar Man, 2010 with Muscle Massive, 2014 with Trixton, and 2015 with Pinkman.
- He has one Hambletonian win as a driver, with Trixton.
- Hambletonian Oaks winners for Takter were Gleam in 1994, Southwind Allaire in 2003, Passionate Glide in 2006, Lifetime Pursuit in 2014, Wild Honey in 2015, All The Time in 2016, and Ariana G in 2017.
- Takter is the only trainer to ever twice sweep the Hambletonian and Hambletonian Oaks on the same day. Jan Johnson accomplished the feat once, in 1988.
- Malabar Man was the first of three Takter-trained horses named Horse of the Year. Malabar Man received the honor in 1997 and was followed by two-time recipient Moni Maker in 1998 and 1999. Moni Maker, a female trotter who won races in North America and Europe, retired in 2000 as the richest harness racing horse in history, with \$5.58 million in purses. Male pacer Always B Miki, who in 2016 became the fastest horse in harness racing history when he won in 1:46 at Lexington's Red Mile, was named 2016 Horse of the Year.
- Takter and Stanley Dancer are the only trainers with at least three different Horse of the Year winners. In addition, Takter is the fifth trainer to have both a pacer and trotter receive Horse of the Year honors. He joined Dancer, Blair Burgess, Billy Haughton, and Clint Hodgins in that group.
- A native of Sweden, Takter could have enjoyed a comfortable career there, where his father, Bo, was already established as one of the sport's top trainers. But after getting a taste of racing in the U.S. as a teenager during a 10-month stint with the powerful Continental Farms Stable, Takter decided at the age of 22 to make his home in the States for good. He became a U.S. citizen in 2000.
- Takter has been named Trainer of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers Association a record six times: 2016, 2015, 2014, 2010, 2000 and 1996.
- His horses have earned more than \$123 million in purses, the second-highest total for a trainer in history, trailing only Ron Burke. He has won more than 2,000 races as a trainer and more than 800 as a driver.
- In 2012, Takter was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y.