



# Wolfgang

Bay colt, 3 by My MPV – Summer Savory by Mr Vic

**OWNER:** Brixton Medical (Charles Goodwin), Goran Falk, NJ; Hatfield Stables (Bud Hatfield), OH; Fair Island Farm Inc (Leah Cheverie & Arthur Zubrod III, KY)  
**BREEDER:** Fair Island Farm Inc, KY  
**SALE INFO:** Lexington Select Yearling Sale, KY \$60,000  
**TRAINER:** Jimmy Takter  
**DRIVER:** Yannick Gingras

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2018	3	3	0	0	\$200,415	1:51.2 M
2017	10	3	3	0	\$316,275	1:54.2 M
LIFETIME	13	6	3	0	\$516,690	1:51.2 M

- Wolfgang has emerged as the top contender from Jimmy Takter's Hambletonian battalion this season despite only three starts in 2018. Looking to follow in the footsteps of 2016 Hambletonian champion Marion Marauder, Wolfgang kicked off his season with easy wins in his elimination and the \$202,160 Goodtimes Final at Mohawk. Wolfgang could give Takter a record tying fifth Hambletonian and Yannick Gingras looks for his first Revere Bowl.
- After missing a month of racing due to a procedure to remove a testicle, Wolfgang dominated division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial in a career best 1:51.2 on July 14.
- "We actually had to remove a testicle right after the Goodtimes," said Takter. "He had a testicle that was bothering him for two months and I told (the owners) we had to do this to have a chance at Hambletonian. He had started kicking stalls and was very unhappy. So he had the surgery and I lost 10 days with him."
- "He was very good. I thought he was tremendously impressive," said Gingras. "He missed a lot of time. Jimmy told me he was ready, but obviously he's not 100% fitness-wise. I couldn't be any happier. He was strong finishing. It makes me feel really, really good going into the Hambletonian. This horse is really good to drive, and I think he can race either way. I think he stamped himself pretty good now."
- Wolfgang's freshman highlights included a second in the \$250,000 Kentucky Sires Stakes Final at The Red Mile, a 1:55.3 upset in the \$203,900 Matron Final at Dover Downs and a second in the \$464,650 Valley Victory Final at the Meadowlands.
- By the time Wolfgang arrived the day before St. Patrick's Day in 2015, Art Zubrod admits he had almost given up hope that the lone mare he and his wife, Leah Cheverie, own privately would produce a champion — except Cheverie was having none of his pessimism on the matter. "My wife is always on me. She says, 'You never give up on a trotting mare. You can give up on a pacing mare, but don't ever give up on a trotting mare,'" said Zubrod, the farm manager for famed Brittany Farms of Kentucky where Cheverie serves as the office manager. "So, when (Wolfgang) came along and we brought him up to the barn, he just kept getting better and better. In the paddock he was awesome." Wolfgang, named for famed chef Wolfgang Puck, only improved from there and is now one of the favorites for the \$1 million Hambletonian.

- Wolfgang is the son of the underappreciated young Ohio-based stallion My MVP out of the Brittany owned Mr Vic—Mixed Spice mare, Summer Savory. Brittany sold Summer Savory for \$3,000 as a yearling to Leith Waite of Prince Edward Island. She earned just \$2,130 at the races. It was on one of their visits to PEI — Cheverie's home province — in the summer of 2005 that Cheverie and Zubrod saw Summer Savory race and decided right then and there they needed to buy her back as a broodmare. "She just had a great gait. We were both impressed with her desire. She was on a half-mile track and Leith's brother is probably 6'4" and 250 pounds, if not more. He just set her on the outside and let her grind it out. You could tell that the week before that's what she had done. She did the exact same thing the next week. I was impressed with her. She looked like a mare to me that could become an open type mare. Maybe not the highest level, but make some money. So, we took a shot at her," Zubrod said. The price was \$20,000. "I don't remember if that was \$20,000 Canadian or \$20,000 U.S.," Zubrod said, laughing. "We bought her, basically, to breed to Cantab Hall."
- Zubrod said Wolfgang had a presence in the paddock and the shedrow, even as a baby. "He commanded respect from the other yearlings, but he didn't demand it. In other words, he didn't beat them up to get it. He naturally had it. When he walked in the shed, they were aware that he was in there," Zubrod said. "It's a trait that I like seeing in a yearling. Horses that fight a lot I don't like at all. They're not interested in racing. When they get beat, they don't want to race anymore. That's it for them." Takter and his main yearling inspection expert, Perry Soderberg, both liked Wolfgang, too.
- "I was pretty sure Takter was going to get him," Zubrod said. "He stands behind me, basically, at the (Fasig-Tipton sales) ring all the time. He wasn't there on the night this horse sold. Per Engblom, the big guy that's Takter's second trainer bought the horse." The price was \$60,000. "I knew he was going to the Takter stable," Zubrod said. "I walked out to the walking ring and called Perry (Soderberg) immediately and I said, 'Are you with Jimmy?' He said, 'Yeah.' I said, 'I'd love to have a piece of that horse.' The future owners were at the table eating dinner with Jimmy and they said, 'We'd love to have you in because it tells us what you think of that horse.' So, I got a quarter of that horse that night and the rest is history."
- Zubrod and Cheverie's Fair Island Farm Inc. — named for Prince Edward Island — share Wolfgang with Brixton Medical Inc., Goran Falk and Hatfield Stables.
- Zubrod said naming Summer Savory's foals after famous chefs was Leah Cheverie's idea. "She does all the naming... I give her 100 per cent of the credit for that," Zubrod said. "We would have started (the chef names) with the first (foal), but I did want to name the first one after Leith Waite, somehow. I liked the name Can't Waite using his last name as Waite, but after that one died I didn't feel like continuing that. All the rest are chefs. Bayless is Rick Bayless of Chicago fame. Wolfgang Puck and there's a Bourdain after Anthony Bourdain. Chef Lee is Ed Lee who had a New York restaurant of fame and then moved to Louisville and had a couple or three restaurants there and now is in a D.C. restaurant. He's pretty good with Korean/U.S. fusion or American fusion. Chiarello is out of California. He cooks in Napa Valley. He's got a couple of high-end restaurants in Napa. Then Mario Batali and Julia C is Julia Child." Zubrod said Summer Savory did not get in foal last year, but is currently carrying a Father Patrick foal. "We're kind of excited about that one, too. You never think you would have a second champion, but you're not going to give up," Zubrod said. For now, most of his and Cheverie's focus is on Wolfgang.
- His sire MVP finished third by a neck in the 2012 Hambletonian and went on to win the Kentucky Futurity. Wolfgang is his fastest and richest performer from his first crop. Wolfgang is the sixth foal from his Mr Vic dam Summer Savory.
- For the second time in his young career, Yannick Gingras was voted Driver of the Year in 2017. He was the sport's leading money winner, passing the \$12 million mark for the sixth straight season and scored 395 wins. Gingras drove his first Horse of the Year, Hannelore Hanover, won his fourth consecutive Hambletonian Oaks with Ariana G and campaigned the outstanding freshman trotting filly Manchego to an undefeated 12-for-12 season. He also won his third Peter Haughton Memorial with You Know You Do, rallied for a huge upset in the Sam McKee Memorial with Check Six, scored a Breeders Crown grand slam and locked down the two-year-old filly pacer division with Youaremycandygirl in the Three Diamonds.
- Despite spending several weekends on the major stakes trail, Gingras remained in the top three at the Meadowlands during the 2015-16 meet with 78 wins and was the meet's leading money winner with just over \$3 million. For the third year in a row, Gingras had the Hambletonian favorite and finished second by a nose in the \$1 million final with elimination winner Southwind Frank. He also won his third straight Hambletonian Oaks with All The Time, whose younger sister won the Jim Doherty Memorial with Gingras in the bike. He campaigned the sport's top trotting mare Hannelore Hanover, who beat the boys in the Hambletonian Maturity and won the TVG Mares Trot Final. Gingras also took the TVG Mares Pace with division standout Lady Shadow, who also won both the Golden Girls and Lady Liberty with Gingras at the lines.
- Fresh off his first Driver of the Year Award in 2014, Gingras cruised to his fourth straight Meadowlands driving title in 2015 with 140 wins and \$4,639,179. In late November of 2014, Gingras equaled the record of four Breeders Crowns in one season, winning with Mission Brief, Sayitall BB, Pinkman and Father Patrick. He also capped a career best season with 559 wins and \$17,297,581. Going into the 2015 Hambletonian, Gingras was the regular pilot for the top-rated gelding Pinkman, as well as super filly Mission Brief. After guiding both trotters to elimination wins, Gingras was faced with the biggest decision of his young career, and only had a few precious minutes to make it. Gingras chose to drive Mission Brief in the \$1 million final and had to settle for second behind Pinkman and Brian Sears. Also on Hambletonian Day 2015, Gingras won the \$500,000 Hambletonian Oaks for the second straight year with Wild Honey, and the \$349,850 Peter Haughton Memorial with New Jersey Sires Stakes champion Southwind Frank.

- Gingras continued to dominate The Meadowlands in 2014 and ran away with his third consecutive driving title, posting 153 wins and \$3.2 million. The season's leading money-winning driver was center stage on Hambletonian Day capturing five stakes, including the Miss New Jersey with Gettingreadytoroll, the Merrie Annabelle with world champion Mission Brief, a Townsend Ackerman division with Amped Up Hanover, his first Hambletonian Oaks with Lifetime Pursuit and the Lady Liberty with Rocklamation. With powerhouse clients like trainers Jimmy Takter and Ron Burke, Gingras also drove 2014 standouts like world champion and Stanley Dancer Memorial winner Father Patrick, Foiled Again, Lyons somewhere, Canepa Hanover, French Laundry and Archangel, who set the all-time world record for a mile track of 1:50.
- Jimmy Takter compiled another sensational season in 2017. The Meadowlands all-time leading money winning trainer passed the \$36 million mark at the Big M and \$121 million overall with his fourth straight \$8 million season. Takter also notched his 2,000<sup>th</sup> training win. Takter teamed with Yannick Gingras to win his fourth consecutive Hambletonian Oaks with Ariana G. He campaigned the undefeated freshman trotting filly Manchego to a perfect 12-for-12 season. Takter sent out six of the ten finalists in the Peter Haughton Memorial, won it with You Know You Do, and also finished second and fourth with Samo Different Day and Maxus. His Hambletonian Day "grand slam" included the Dr. John R. Steele with Pasithea Face S, and he won the Governor's Cup with Lost In Time. Takter pushed his Breeders Crown Series lead to 33 trophies, winning three with Ariana G, Manchego and Pure Country. The six-time Trainer of the Year announced he plans to cut back his stable in 2018 and take 2019 totally off.
- Takter continued to add stars to his Hall of Fame resume in 2016, with the amazing pacer Always B Miki leading his usual strong contingent. That five-year-old son of Always A Virgin became the fastest harness horse in history with a 1:46 clocking in the \$138,000 Allerage Farms @ The Red Mile. Always B Miki also posted three 1:47 world records on five-eighths-mile tracks, and set a mile and one eighth world record of 2:01.1 in the \$480,500 William Haughton Memorial at the Meadowlands, where he also won his second straight Breeders Crown. Always B Miki won his final career start in the \$400,000 TVG FFA Final. Takter's two other horses that banked over \$1 million in 2016 were Breeders Crown champion Bar Hopping and the outstanding sophomore filly pacer Pure Country. Takter won his third straight \$500,000 Hambletonian Oaks with All The Time and her two-year-old sister Ariana G won a \$600,000 Breeders Crown. Following a record six Breeders Crowns in 2015, Takter won three more to push his series leading total to 30. His other 2016 standouts included Idyllic Beach and Shake It Cerry.
- After another blockbuster Hambletonian Day in 2015, Takter became the richest trainer in Meadowlands history, flying past the \$31 million mark at the Big M. The Hall of Famer sent out five entries in the Hambletonian eliminations, four advanced to the \$1 million final, and the steady gelding Pinkman gave Takter his second straight Revere Bowl with back-to-back world records of 1:51.2 and 1:51. With Yannick Gingras opting to drive the Mission Brief, who won her elimination in 1:51.3, Pinkman picked up Brian Sears, and the pair held off Gingras and the gallant filly. It was Takter's fourth Hambletonian, and he also captured the \$500,000 Hambletonian Oaks again with Wild Honey, Takter's fifth win in that event.
- Takter was voted Trainer of the Year for the fourth time in 2014 when his stable earned a personal best \$13,360,290. The leading trainer in Breeders Crown history scored his third straight Crown triple with Shake It Cerry, Pinkman and Father Patrick. Shake It Cerry also gave Takter a record sixth Trotter of the Year. Takter campaigned the sport's top five money winning trotters in 2014 and won all three legs of the Trotting Triple Crown. Takter was going for his third Hambletonian in 2014 with not one, but with the top three rated sophomore trotting colts: world champion Father Patrick, Trixton and Nuncio. In the \$1 million final, Father Patrick drew post ten and made a rare break, Nuncio was pressured on the lead throughout, and that allowed Takter himself to guide Trixton to victory in 1:50.3. Takter also became only the second trainer to also win the Hambletonian Oaks on the same day when Lifetime Pursuit set a world record of 1:50.4.