

# A PS MONEY MAKER

p, 2, 1:58.3f, 3, 1:52.1f, 1:49.1s-'10 (\$579,838)

Cardmaster Hanover – Mint Kondition – As Promised

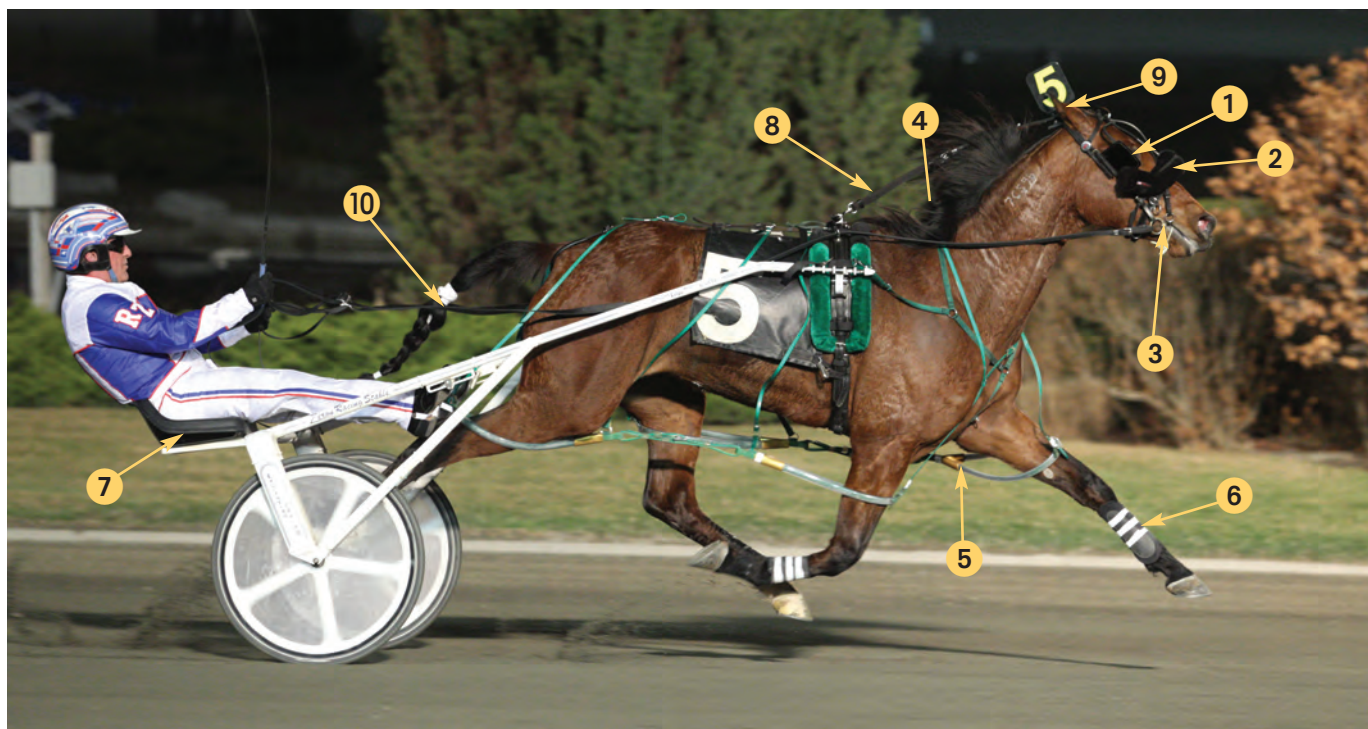


Photo by New Image Media

1. She's worn a blind bridle since the start of her career. She wears a happy bridle when she's training throughout the week.
2. She has a turned up shadow roll as she tends to look down at things and it helps her pay attention.
3. Her bit is a steel snaffle with a straight overcheck bit.
4. Every once in awhile she wears a line pole, not often though.
5. She has medium weight hobbles at 60 inches, I think when she started they were 57.
6. I have a pair of light shin boots on her.
7. The race bike is an Advantage bike of Rick's (driver Rick Zeron).
8. Her check is normal; she holds her head fairly straight.
9. She doesn't have earplugs because she doesn't need them.
10. We tie her tail, she can suck air in a race and that helps.

## Trainer Travis Umphrey's comments:

*"She's pretty plainly rigged, I haven't had to change anything with her. At the beginning I thought she might have some soundness issues given that she has an offset knee but that hasn't bothered her at all. She had a splint taken care of this year and that seemed to help her quite a bit."*

*"The only problems she's had she's basically caused herself. She's her own worst enemy. Her entire stall is rubberized and she has her own jolly ball to play with outside."*

*"We wear kicking chains on her in the stall and when she's being shipped to help keep her from kicking. You can feel her in the trailer when you're shipping her as she hip checks the partition."*

*"She'll be back next year with a similar schedule to this year if everything goes okay."*

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**Taki**

# ng The Valley By Storm

**JAMIE COPLEY is the star trainer at Rideau Carleton Raceway these days and has a real chance to be the first to win \$1 million in purses at the Ottawa, Ontario track in a single season.**

**By Harold Howe**

It's Thursday afternoon and Jamie Copley has a busy night ahead of him with nine horses into go at Rideau Carleton Raceway.

The results are acceptable. There are two winners, a third, four fourths, a sixth and an eighth. It's not an award winning performance but more a reflection of the steady grind that has characterized Copley's style this year, one that has produced the best results of his career training horses.

Beyond the confines of the Ottawa Valley track and of course in his native Nova Scotia, Copley is largely unknown. But prior to 2010 there was really no reason why anyone should know this horseman from Inverness. Since arriving from the Maritimes his best season before this year training horses was 2008 when he won a mere \$160,000 in purses.

But times have changed. Through late October his barn has earned over \$800,000 giving him a chance to have a million dollar

season. Nearly all of it came at his home track and winning a million dollars racing exclusively at Rideau Carleton Raceway would be a huge accomplishment to say the least as it's never been done before.

Copley cut his teeth on racing at Inverness Raceway which for the uninitiated is located on the west coast of Cape Breton Island. It's a village numbering approximately 3,000 souls, most of Scottish descent.

The track, which was started in 1926, is one of the village landmarks although many would argue that the Glenora Inn & Distillery located south of Inverness in the hamlet of Glenora is the biggest attraction as the only producer of single malt whiskey in Canada.

Copley is only 30 and starting to garner some attention in the game as evidenced by the wide cross-section of owners he has attracted. Despite his Maritime roots the bulk of his support has come from elsewhere.

# COMPLETE DISPERSAL OF JOHN HU

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## 33 Weanlings by such sires as

CRAZED  
DEWEYCHEATUMNHOWE  
SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE  
SJ'S CAVIAR  
TOM RIDGE  
QUIK PULSE MINDALE  
MCARDLE  
METROPOLITAN

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## 1 Trotting Stallion

World Champion  
**GARTH VADER** 1:55.2h (\$206,100)  
*Garland Lobell - Cunnng Vixen - Super Bowl*

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## Stallion Shares

1 share of <b>CRAZED</b>	2 shares of <b>SJ'S CAVIAR</b>
1 share of <b>DEWEYCHEATUMNHOWE</b>	1 share of <b>SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE</b>
1 share of <b>EXPLOSIVE MATTER</b>	2 shares of <b>TOM RIDGE</b>
2 shares of <b>MUSCLE MASS</b>	1 share of <b>WELL SAID</b>

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SALE

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**HIP 1352 NF JESSAMY** 3,1:57f (\$41,484)

*Bm Sierra Kosmos – Armbro Jessamy – Speedy Crown*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1353 NF NOTABLE**

*Bm Conway Hall – Nobly Hanover – Sierra Kosmos*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1360 SAMANTHA COE** 4,1:56.3 (\$40,662)

*Bm Striking Sahbra – Catherine Coe – Master Willie*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1368 TEXAS SORRO** 4,1:59.4

*Bm Deliberate Speed – Witsend's Nimble – Texas*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1447 BLAZING CAVIAR** 3,1:58.1f (\$32,794)

*Bm SJ's Caviar – ENS Brittonia – Go Get Lost*

In foal to Tom Ridge 3,1:50.2

**HIP 1453 DRIVE YOU WILD**

*Bm Lindy Lane – Chastity Hanover – Sierra Kosmos*

In foal to Crazed 3,1:52.2

**HIP 1456 KIDMAN HALL**

*Bm Like A Prayer – Kenwood Scamper – Texas*

In foal to Deweycheatumnhowe 3,1:50.4

**HIP 1459 NICOLE HALL**

*Bm Garland Lobell – Nicegirlsdon't – Super Bowl*

In foal to SJ's Caviar 3,1:53.4

**HIP 1462 PEBBLE LINK** 2,2:07

*Bm Yankee Glide – Lei – Crowning Point*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1463 PHOTO MAGIC** 3,2:02f

*Bm SJ's Photo – Chip's Scarlet – Pine Chip*

In foal to Tom Ridge 3,1:50.2

**HIP 1467 RADICAL MISSY** 2,2:08.1

*Bm Mr. Lavec – Celtic Contessa – King Conch*

In foal to Lear Jetta 3,1:54.1f

**HIP 1474 YANKEE GOLDRUSH**

*Bm Yankee Paco – Gratis Yankee – Speedy Crown*

In foal to Explosive Matter 3,1:52.3

## Pacing Broodmares

**HIP 1541 LYDIA HALL** p,3,1:53.3f (\$44,027)

*Bm Blissfull Hall – Lushkara – Albatross*

In foal to Somebeachsomewhere p,3,1:46.4

**HIP 1618 MAID IN SHADE** p,3,2:00.2h

*Bm Camluck – Naughty Shady Lady – Falcon Seelster*

In foal to Well Said p,3,1:47.3

**HIP 1622 NF DEBUTANTE**

p,3,1:56f (\$59,209)

*Bm Blissfull Hall – Born Famous – Directo Scooter*

In foal to Well Said p,3,1:47.3



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## TAKING THE VALLEY BY STORM



Photo by J.P. Aerial photo

His stable currently numbers 30 but after the Harrisburg sale there likely will be more. He and his partner Mandy Archer purchased a new home in nearby Kenmore and just rented a nearby farm in Greely to base the stable.

"I do feel pretty good about things but I was always told you associate with good people and good things happen."

Copley is not one to blow his own horn but he has taken a different path to get where he is today. He did not apprentice with a particular horseman, lure an owner and then strike out on his own.

He did spend varying periods with Bob McIntosh (six weeks), Joe MacIssac (one year), Chad Schmeidge (one summer), Peter Marostega (one summer) and a short spell with Clare MacDonald but he has by and large learned the game through hard knocks.

"There were some very tough years but that is nothing new to people from Cape Breton. And making it with horses is not easy anywhere. But I was never hard to please. Life has changed a lot though."

His father Jimmy and his maternal grandparents were the ones who exposed

**P H Bestman is currently the top horse in Copley's barn. The five-year-old Cambest horse is owned by Dr. Jim Shive of Nova Scotia and has taken in \$71,000 to date this year to put him over the quarter million dollar mark in life earnings.**

him to harness racing. They all retain strong interest in his accomplishments in Upper Canada.

"All through school all I ever wanted to do was move away and be with the horses. There is no money living back home where you race only about four months of the year. As soon as I was through high school I was gone," he recalls.

"But when I came west I'd work the winters and then go back home for the summer. When I was 22 though I got married and decided that I should become an electrician. I finished a year of that and was helping Clare MacDonald at the time but after the racing season at Inverness was over I headed back to Ontario."

Rideau Carleton was his base and it was anything but easy. He ended up getting divorced, going home to Inverness briefly before returning to Rideau in the

fall where he was given some horses to race by Quebec trainer Pat Lang.

Then one day Ottawa enthusiast Tom Crawford walked into the barn.

"That was in 2007, he wanted to claim a horse for around \$20,000. We got one for \$18,000 who proved to be no good for us but he didn't slow down. He tried again and we did okay which led us to go to Harrisburg where we had some more luck. Things were changing from that point."

In the fall of 2008 he caught another break when David Tingley gave him the Dexter Nukes son Duke to race at Rideau. In no time at all the horse won nine in a row and with Copley getting 50 per cent of the earnings. Life was looking much better.

Did It Again, a \$25,000 investment came his way right at the very start of 2010 and while not a world beater he has settled in nicely to the conditioned ranks at

**“There were some very tough years but that is nothing new to people from Cape Breton. And making it with horses is not easy anywhere. But I was never hard to please. Life has changed a lot though.”**

Rideau where he has banked \$52,000 to date.

“Through all this people started to notice what we were doing and came to me with horses. They come from all over too, not just Maritimers.”

Dr. Trevin and Dr. Jim Shive of Nova Scotia have been responsible for one of his best horses though. They sent him PH Bestman, arguably one of the top horses at the Ottawa track. That son of Cambest is the best horse in Copley’s stable at the moment.

He also makes a point of crediting fellow horseman Matthew Dupuis with giving him guidance on the racing business. Like Copley, Dupuis has made his mark by grinding it out.

Copley’s barn has won over 150 races so far this year. While Ron Burke should not feel threatened, Copley attempts to have a horse for virtually ever class at the Rideau track.

“I’m pretty much a claiming guy and spend most of my time now hunting for horses. I am on the computer a lot and more or less looking for the best horse in a given class.

“It takes a lot of work to find horses these days and you have to be prepared to go just about anywhere,” he says.

“When I claim one I’m not expecting to improve on it. It’s just renting the horse for a period and if he’s the best in a class he’s the best for a reason. People are not afraid to claim off me either, I turn over a lot.”

Copley has just made a major change to his operation setting up shop at a

nearby training farm at Greely rather than staying in the seedy backstretch at Rideau Carleton.

“The barn is looking pretty good for the winter. I went to the New Jersey Classic Sale where I bought three yearlings, two Real Artists and a Lis Mara.”

Given his origins Copley admits it’s a big deal back in Inverness that he’s doing so well.

“The family is behind everything that is happening. My partner Mandy is into the horses as much as she can be as she’s also a civil servant in Ottawa. We have a little boy, Jacob, together and it’s just a great feeling seeing things going this well,” he says.

“I think we’re in good shape for the winter racing but with horses changing so often it’s difficult to say. We don’t have any plans to do much different.

“Stephane Gendron does most of our driving. But I’m not the first one to the barn anymore. Between trying to spend time with my little fella and finding horses it keeps me hopping.”

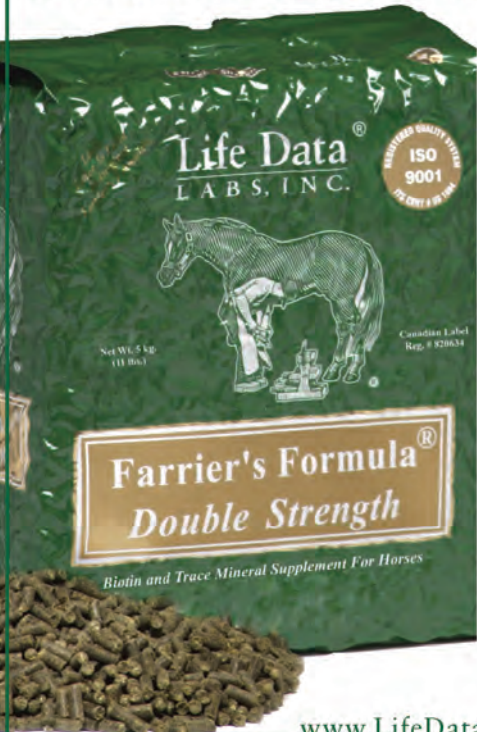
Copley is on a roll right now but he’s taking nothing for granted. The search for horses is relentless. The Harrisburg mixed sale may present some opportunity for him.

“Being a Maritimer I don’t get too stressed. I don’t need a lot in my life and the horses are what I always wanted to do.

“I’m doing that and doing the best I can. If this continues I would be very happy.” 🐾

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