

Campbell Will Drive Mach Three In Third Jug Elimination; Lachance Will Pilot Favored Art Major in Same Elim

By Tom White
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Delaware, Ohio--John Campbell has made his decision. Harness racing's leading money-winning driver of all-time, with over \$210,000,000 in purses, will drive Mach Three in Thursday's \$618,625 Little Brown Jug. He picked Meadowlands Pace winner Mach Three over Art Major, who won the Cane Pace in his last start, the first leg of Pacing's Triple Crown.

By the luck of the draw, the two pre-Jug favorites, trained by Canadian Bill Robinson, landed in the same elimination in the 30-horse field. Normally, horses trained by the same trainer start in different eliminations, but because Robinson entered four horses, two of them had to be in the same elimination, and the two were Mach Three and Art Major.

Mach Three has 10 wins in 14 starts, earnings of \$1,135,892, a record of 1:49 and victories in the \$1,000,000 Meadowlands Pace, \$300,000 Berry's Creek and \$141,250 Oliver Wendell Holmes. Joseph Muscara's son of Matt's Scooter finished second in the \$1,000,000 North America Cup and in his last two efforts was fifth to Art Major in the Final of the Confederation Cup and third to non-jug eligible The Commissioner in last week's Simcoe Stakes. Campbell drove Mach Three in all but one of his starts this season.

Art Major has won 10 of 17 starts, earned \$691,826, has a record of 1:50.3 with victories in the \$500,000 Hoosier Cup, \$326,000 Confederation Cup and \$450,000 Cane Pace. Campbell also has driven the Artsplace colt seven of his last eight starts. Art Major will be driven by Mike Lachance in his Jug elimination for owners Deena R. Frost, TLP Stable and Sampson Street Stables.

Mach Three, who will start from Post 6, is 5/2 in the morning line while Art Major, who must start from the second tier in Post 10, is the 2-1 favorite.

According to an article written by Brad Schmaltz in Sunday's Columbus, Ohio Dispatch, Robinson doesn't think bad posts will be a factor. It doesn't matter. They're the two best colts in the country. If they start in the grandstand, one of 'em will win. But I can't pick between 'em. They're pretty tight.

Robinson added that he thought Campbell would go with Mach Three. I'll leave that to John. I don't know what he'll do. We haven't talked about it. But he'll probably take Mach Three. He's on the (starting) gate. That's only my guess, but it's an educated guess.

Campbell Will Break Billy Haughton's Record

John Campbell, with 56 Jug starters, will surpass leader Billy Haughton in Thursday's 2002 Little Brown Jug. Haughton holds the record of 57 Jug drives. Haughton and Lachance lead in Jug championships with five followed by Stanley Dancer with four. Campbell is tied with Del Cameron, Frank Ervin and John Simpson, Sr. with three victories.

Besides Mach Three, Campbell will drive Million Dollar Cam (5-2) in the second elimination. He also could pick up a drive in the first elim.

Post Time Changes At Delaware

The first race on Wednesday's program will go postward at 10:45 a.m. because there are 22 races scheduled with a possibility of a 23rd. The extended program features two eliminations of the Jugette for three-year-old filly pacers. Should a race-off be necessary, there will be a total of 23 races.

Monday's first post is 12:30 p.m. while Tuesday's first race will be 12-noon.