



# \$500,000 Breeders Crown

## Open Pace

<b>Won The West</b>	
<b>Breeding</b>	4, b, g, by Western Hanover - Gabrielle- Dragon's Lair
<b>Breeder(s)</b>	Fair Winds Farm Inc [Edward & Mark Mullen], Cream Ridge, NJ
<b>Owner(s)</b>	Strollin Stable [James J, James N, John R & Randall Kantzer], Marion, OH; William J Robinson, Findlay, OH; James C Koehler, Findlay, OH
<b>Sales Info</b>	\$35,000 Standardbred Horse Sale, Harrisburg PA
<b>Trainer</b>	Ronald Parsons
<b>Driver</b>	Greg G Grismore

Year	Starts	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	US. Earnings	Mark
2008	14	3	3	1	\$354,820	1:50.0 Hop
2007	28	16	4	3	\$650,374	149.1Lex
<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$1,005,194</b>	<b>1:49.1 Lex</b>

<b>Stakes Summary</b>					
Date	Purse	Stakes	Finish	Time	Track
08/16/2008	\$702,000	Canadian Pacing Derby	2p4/1T	1:50.2	Moh
08/02/2008	\$332,000	US Pacing Championship	4/3Q	1:49	M
07/26/2008	\$250,000	Classic Series Final	2/3H	1:56.4	M
07/19/2008	\$85,000	Classic Series	2/H	1:48.3	M
07/12/2008	\$600,000	Haughton Final	5/T	1:49.1	M
07/05/2008	\$50,000	Haughton Elim	4/2T	1:48.4	D
06/28/2008	\$32,000	4-yr Open	2/H	1:50	M
06/15/2008	\$500,000	Ben Franklin Final	7/10	1:50	Chst
06/08/2008	\$50,000	Ben Franklin Elim	4p3/4T	1:49.1	Chst
05/24/2008	\$200,000	Dan Patch Invitational	1/Q	1:50	Hop
05/17/2008	\$284,000	Graduate Final	4/1T	1:49.2	M

<b>PREVIOUS BREEDERS CROWN STARTS</b>					
Date	Purse	Stakes	Finish	Time	Track
11/24/2007	\$555,000	Breeders Crown Final	4/3H	1:53.1	M
11/17/2007	25,000	Breeders Crown Elim	3/1QH	1:53.2	M

### Quotes & Notes

Won The West's top win of the year came in the Dan Patch Invitational at Hoosier Park in May, when he defeated Artistic Fella by one-quarter of a length.

He was second-placed-fourth for going inside the pylons in the Canadian Pacing Derby in his most recent start. In the Pacing Classic at the Meadowlands, Won The West was second to Artistic Fella, who set a world record for the distance of 1-1/16 miles.

"The horse rarely disappoints you," co-owner Rob Kantzer said. "He's raced [42] times and he's only had one bad race. He'll be all right. If there's nothing wrong with him, he may surprise some people. It's just nice to have a horse in a race like this."



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Won The West was unraced as a 2-year-old because of a broken bone in an ankle. As a 3-year-old, he won the American-National Stakes and was second in the Adios. But the best moment of the campaign came when Won The West raced in the Little Brown Jug for his Ohio-based connections. He finished fourth.

“We always had a dream to have a horse in the Little Brown Jug,” Kantzer said. “He’s been a dream come true. We just do it for fun. We take road trips and eat good food and drink good wine and he pays for it all. We go places and do things we normally wouldn’t get to do. There’s nobody that enjoys it more than us and it keeps you a little tighter [as a family] than you would be.”

Last year, Won The West was supplemented to the Breeders Crown for \$62,500. He finished fourth after being involved in a hotly contested pace with early leaders Tell All and Always A Virgin. Tell All ended up finishing eighth and Always A Virgin was ninth.

“[Won The West] was the only one that hung, but he didn’t hang enough,” Kantzer said, laughing.

Strollin Stable, named after the Kantzers’ first horse, is Rob Kantzer, his father Jim, his brother Jeff, and his cousin Randy. Rob is in the lawn-care business while Jim is a retired veterinarian. Jeff is in the mortgage business and Randy is a small-animal vet.

William Robinson is a Columbus, Ohio businessman who has owned horses since the mid-1980s.

Ron Parsons trains Won The West in Canada for the Mickey Burke Stable. The Burke Stable topped \$10 million in purses last year and is nearing \$7 million this season.

In 2006, Burke was named Trainer of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers Association. He and his wife, Sylvia, have a 30-acre farm in Fredericktown, Pennsylvania. Each of the Burkes’ five children has, at one time or another, worked in the barn with Mickey. Ron and Michelle split their time between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, while Mickey Jr. manages a string of horses in Indiana. Burke’s two other daughters, Melissa and Becky, assisted their father while in high school and college.

Although he worked with horses at a young age, Burke did not start his full-time career in the harness business until he was 45 years old. He drove his first harness race at the Warren, Ohio, Fairgrounds in 1956, but decided he needed a steady income and went into the car business. It wasn’t until 1982 that Burke started training horses full time. Burke’s best performers include open pacer Maltese Artist, a winner of more than \$850,000 lifetime, and pacing filly Ideal Weather, a consistent presence on the stakes circuit.

Stable Record	Horses	Starters	Events	Champions	Earnings	Sts W-P-S
Parsons, Ron	1	1	1		\$18,750	1-0-0-0

Owner Record	Horses	Starters	Events	Champions	Earnings	Sts W-P-S
Strollin Stable	1	1	1		\$47,400	1-0-0-0
Robinson, William	1	1	1		\$47,400	1-0-0-0
Koehler, James	1	1	1		\$47,400	1-0-0-0

Breeder Record	Horses	Starters	Events	Champions	Earnings	Sts W-P-S
Fair Winds Farm	13	20	21		\$407,743	14-0-1-0

**Driver Greg Grismore** has only one other start in the Crown series – last year driving Won The West to a fourth place finish in the sophomore Crown event.