

Buckeye Harness Bulletin

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Hank LeVan Has High Hopes for Ohio Fairs Championships

By Wes Mayberry

With 14 horses from his stable in the Ohio Fairs Championships, trainer-driver Hank LeVan will be a significant presence at Northfield Park Racino on Saturday (Oct. 10).

"I'm excited," says LeVan, of Woodstock, Ohio. "I hope we have some luck. It took a lot of starts and a lot of success to get to this point, and hopefully we can capitalize on the year we've had and all the hard work we've put in and be able to get some recognition for all the horses' connections."

Primarily driving horses from his own stable at tracks throughout the Ohio fair circuit, LeVan has racked up a combined 226 wins (117 driving, 109 training) and \$1,465,735 in earnings this year. His 2026 Ohio Fairs Championships entries include three — Otis L, Dobby Do L, and Ranger Lonnie L — in the freshman colt trot division's eight-horse field, which, he says, could be a blessing or a curse.

"Hopefully they all three race well, but they could also get in each other's way, so you never know," he says. "We started with four 2-year-old



Hank LeVan

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Otis L and Hank LeVan win at Circleville on June 20. Credit: Conrad Photo

trotting colts, and three of the four made the fair finals, so hopefully we have some luck and do well.”

With three starters in the same race, LeVan had to pick which one to drive on Saturday. Otis L was his choice.

“I sat behind him most of the summer, and of those three, I thought he could be the most challenging to drive,” LeVan says. “He’s a good-gaited horse, but he’s a little different to drive.”

Chris Page will guide Dobby Do L, and Aaron Merri-man has been tabbed to drive Ranger Lonnie L. While all three of the LeVan horses have had success this year, none are among the top choices on the morning line. Otis L and Ranger Lonnie L opened at 8-1 and 9-1, respectively, with Dobby Do L at 25-1. After drawing the rail, Krazy Caviar (Sam Widger) is the top choice on the morning line at 3-2. C R Mission (Dan Noble), who finished atop the Ohio Fairs Championship standings with 666 points, is the 2-1 second choice.

Otis L

Otis L was the top LeVan trainee in the standings, compiling 595 points to place second behind C R Mission. Owned by LeVan Stables, Richard Freese, Brake Farms, and Megan LeVan, he elicits high praise from his trainer.

“I don’t think you could ask for it to be a lot better,”

LeVan says of Otis L’s season thus far. “He took to everything pretty quickly. He’s a really good-looking horse, and he’s nice to be around. He’s a little quirky going into the barn, but overall, he’s a nice horse, and he’s shown up and raced well most of the summer.”

The Centurion Atm gelding out of Windowshopper has hit the board in 13 of 17 starts with nine wins. His first career victory came in his second start, tripping the wire in 2:07.1 at the Pickaway County Fair in Circleville. He trailed leader Bullseye Lane by more than six lengths at the quarter pole but continued to close the gap en route to winning by a neck.

“The majority of his wins have set up about like that race did,” LeVan remembers. “He doesn’t have a ton of gate speed but likes to be out in the flow of things and chase other horses down. That’s what he’s done most of the summer.”

Driven by LeVan all season, Otis L added victories at fairs in Marion, Piketon, Marysville, Athens, Celina, Richwood, Marietta, and Kenton. His lifetime mark of 2:04.1 came at Athens after trailing by eight lengths at the half and five lengths at the three-quarter pole.

Otis L will leave from post two on Saturday.

Dobby Do L

Dobby Do L is one of LeVan’s favorites.

“He’s very good-looking and is fun to race and fun



Dobby Do L wins at Ottawa on June 23. Credit: Conrad Photo

to be around,” he says of the In Range gelding out of Osonice owned by LeVan Stables, Darmofal Racing, and Megan LeVan. “I thought early on that he could be a horse that could be competitive in the Buckeye Stallion Series or Ohio Sires Stakes, but he got a little bit hot there after a few starts, so I just took him to the fairs to teach him a little bit.”

That patience paid off in the form of seven wins and three runner-up finishes in 16 starts, which put him fifth in the standings. He finished second in his career debut at Paulding and won at Ottawa in his next start. But his next two outings, an overnight race and a BSS event at Scioto Downs, both ended with sixth-place finishes. LeVan, who has driven Dobby Do L in all starts except the BSS, went on to guide the gelding to a berth in Saturday’s Ohio Fairs Championships on the strength of victories at Bucyrus, Tiffin, Napoleon, Richwood, Wauseon, and Kenton. He will leave from the far outside.

“It’s not ideal, but he has a lot of gate speed and is very handy, so hopefully he can get away good and be in a good position to win,” LeVan says.

Ranger Lonnie L

Though not quite as successful as his stablemates in this race, Ranger Lonnie L ended up at the same destination after seventh in the point standings. The In Range gelding out of Culinary Delight had an inaus-

picious start to his career, missing the board in each of his first six races. But he has since rebounded to produce a 3-6-1 record through 17 starts.

“We joked with my wife’s grandfather, which is who the horse is named after, that he’s not going to make it. But he’s made a nice turnaround,” LeVan says.

“He was really a late bloomer. For part of the spring, I wasn’t quite sure whether he was going to make the cut. He would just kind of go through the motions and wasn’t very fast. But eventually, the light bulb came on, and he’s kind of blossomed here late in the season.”

Owned by LeVan Stables, Edward Perry, Megan LeVan, and Richard Freese, Ranger Lonnie L scored his first career win in his seventh start, leading gate to wire at Sidney in what was a turning point in the horse’s season.

“He drew inside, and I was at the point where I was like, ‘You either race well, or you’re going to find a new address,’” LeVan remembers. “He made the front, and we didn’t go a whole lot. But the last quarter, he was really strong. He opened my eyes to the ability that he has.”

Primarily driven by LeVan, Ranger Lonnie L finished no worse than second in each of his next seven starts, including wins at Wapakoneta and Marietta, where he recorded his lifetime mark of 2:04.1. He added finish-



Ranger Lonnie L and Hank LeVan win at Wapakoneta on Aug. 5. Credit: Conrad Photo

es of third at McConnelsville and second at Delaware but enters Saturday coming off a sixth-place performance in the Montgomery County Fair race card at Dayton Raceway. After drawing post four, LeVan is hoping for a strong finish.

“I think that’s a good spot for him,” he says. “He’s been solid, so hopefully he can make the board.”

A brief look at each of the other seven \$50,000 divisions of the Ohio Fairs Championships is below. First-race post time for Saturday’s 15-race card at Northfield is 6 p.m.

Freshman Colt Pace

Sonnys Big Brother (Justin Irvine) opened as the 8-5 favorite after drawing post two. The Wayne Bowman trainee has six wins in 11 seasonal starts. Thee Town Buckeye (Jason Beattie) and Vh Dancin Guy (Noble) are co-second choices at 5-2.

Freshman Filly Trot

Guardian Queen (Noble) is the 9-5 morning-line favorite and will leave from post four. The Herman Hagerman trainee has eight wins in 15 starts this season. Twila L (LeVan) opened at 5-2 after drawing the rail.

Freshman Filly Pace

Despite drawing the far outside post, Seaside Masquerade (Alex Hawk) opened as the favorite at 8-5. Trained by Randy Smith, she has 10 wins in 13 seasonal starts. Bit Of Honey (Jeff Nisonger), the 3-1 second choice, will leave alongside her in post seven.

Sophomore Colt Trot

Out Of Range (Page) opened as the slight favorite at 3-2 over 9-5 second choice Lane Holding Court (Nisonger). They will leave side by side from posts one and two, respectively. Out Of Range is trained by Steve Carter and has 10 wins in 20 seasonal starts. Mark Winters trainee Lane Holding Court has 10 wins in 21 starts this season.

Sophomore Colt Pace

Rock On Beach (Noble) is the 5-2 morning-line favorite after drawing post three. The Rosy Weaver trainee has 10 wins in 22 starts this year. He will leave alongside 3-1 second choice Fired Up Henry L (Page) in post two.

Sophomore Filly Trot

Hagerman trainee Flirtin Tomi (Ronnie Wrenn Jr.) is a slight morning-line favorite at 3-1 over 7-2 second choice Princess Karolyn (Braiden Rhoades). They will leave from posts seven and three, respectively. Flirtin Tomi has hit the board in 24 of 26 seasonal starts with nine victories, while Weaver trainee Princess Karolyn has nine wins in 23 starts on the year.

Sophomore Filly Pace

Vh Goldie (Noble) opened as the 5-2 favorite ahead of 3-1 second choice I Love Desi (Nisonger). They will leave side by side from posts three and two, respectively. Trained by David Young II, Vh Goldie has eight wins in 24 seasonal starts. I Love Desi, trained by Winters, has won seven times in 19 starts this year.



2026 Ohio Fairs Championship

Final Standings

Divisional Top 10

3-Year-Old Colt Pace

1. Captain's Dance- 580
2. Zumma World- 566
3. Keene Finale- 543
4. Hunka Hunka- 526
5. Fired Up Henry L- 492
6. Gc's Legend- 460
7. Ourcoltofmanycolor- 456
8. Rock On Beach- 427
9. Fire The Dems- 424
10. Gypsy's Brother- 357

3-Year-Old Colt Trot

1. Pump Action- 680
2. Rudedude L- 585
3. Kanye Catchme- 512
4. Dublins Striker- 465
5. Out Of Range- 464
6. Lane Holding Court- 398
7. Okay One More- 376
8. Jefferson Hanover- 369
9. Pickle Shot- 337
10. Wood You Rather- 333

2-Year-Old Colt Pace

1. Thee Town Buckeye- 513
2. Vh Dancin Guy- 501
3. Jackson Fire- 495
4. Mystro L- 456
5. Sonnys Big Brother- 417
6. Stormy Americano- 396
7. Summa L- 387
8. Paradise Breeze- 373
9. Vh Legendary Trick- 357
10. Landman- 351

2-Year-Old Colt Trot

1. C R Mission- 666
2. Otis L- 595
3. Liams Prize- 515
4. Bullseye Lane- 507
5. Dobby Do L- 476
6. Krazy Caviar- 413
7. Ranger Lonnie L- 401
8. Vh Tommy Boy- 376
9. Bald Bob- 369
10. Pleasing Jack- 346

3-Year-Old Filly Pace

1. Mt Camas- 755
2. Liberty Biberty- 573
3. Takeaway Hanover- 511
4. Rose Run Bella- 497
5. Twin B Malibu- 461
6. I Love Desi- 451
7. Its Nacho Turn- 437
8. Vh Goldie- 426
9. Racing Artist- 383
10. Dame Of Fire- 377.5

3-Year-Old Filly Trot

1. Tango L- 674
2. Lynn Range- 632
3. Supreme Dance- 573
4. Hangtighthoney L- 521
5. Flirtin Tomi- 517
- T6. Princess Karolyn- 472
- T6. Lady Lena- 472
8. Capturethephoto- 422
9. Rose Run Bridget- 416.5
10. Prolific Range- 388

2-Year-Old Filly Pace

1. Catch The Moment- 714
2. Seaside Masquerade- 513
3. Leonia L- 498
4. Nova's Legend- 460
5. Miki L- 450
6. Bit Of Honey- 436
- T7. Cpf Clean But Mean- 405
- T7. Cpf Predi- 405
9. Dragon My Britches- 395
10. Filly Rizzuto- 350

2-Year-Old Filly Trot

1. Margarita Breeze- 537
2. Miss Erie- 527
3. Royal Time- 491
4. Twila L- 432
- T5. Tricked Ya L- 413
- T5. Dun Cashed It- 413
7. Guardian Queen- 402
8. Ohio Cheerleader- 377
9. Mama Drama- 367
10. Flower's Victory- 348

Ohio Fairs Championship

Saturday, Oct. 10

Northfield Park Racino

2026 Buckeye Stallion Series Champions - Pacers

3-Year-Old Colt Pace Odds On Rpj



Owner: Odds On Racing **Breeder:** Odds On Nourrir **Trainer:** Virgil Morgan Jr. **Driver:** Luke Hanners

3-Year-Old Filly Pace Ima Beach Girl



Owners: Schillaci Stables, John Manning, Sam Bova Racing **Breeder:** Parent Racing Stable **Trainer:** Sam Schillaci **Driver:** Justin Irvine



2-Year-Old Colt Pace Passing Gear



Owners: Redline Racing Stables, Redracer, David Van Dusen, Daniel Schrock **Breeder:** Seven Lick Stable **Trainer:** Kayne Kauffman **Driver:** Kayne Kauffman

2-Year-Old Filly Pace Lyons Cartier



Owner: Three Lyons Racing **Breeders:** Marvin Katz, Sam Goldband **Trainer:** Erv Miller **Driver:** Marvin Luna

2026 Buckeye Stallion Series Champions - Trotters

3-Year-Old Colt Trot Bitcoin King



Owners: Chris Beaver, Part Time Stable
Breeder: Part Time Stable **Trainer:** Chris Beaver
Driver: Aaron Merriman

3-Year-Old Filly Trot Mockingbird As



Owner: Anette Lorentzon **Breeders:** Acl Stuteri
 Ab, Anette Lorentzon **Trainer:** Anette Lorentzon
Driver: Marvin Luna



2-Year-Old Colt Trot Lou Armstrong



Owner: Thestable Lou Armstrong
Breeder: Thestable My Jazz Group **Trainer:** Jason
 McGinnis **Driver:** Anthony MacDonald

2-Year-Old Filly Trot Rose Run Classy



Owners: Dark Horse Farm, Matthew Burkholder,
 Enos Miller **Breeder:** Rose Run Farm
Trainer: Matthew Burkholder **Driver:** Chris Page

2026 Ohio Sires Stakes Veteran Champions

Horse & Gelding Pace Paris's Dragon



Owners: Burke Racing Stable, Dennis Owens, Weaver Bruscelli, Lawrence Karr **Breeder:** Dennis Owens **Trainer:** Ron Burke **Driver:** Chris Page

Horse & Gelding Trot Hung Over



Owners: Bluestone Farms, Lynda Stewart **Breeder:** Bluestone Farms **Trainer:** Bob Stewart **Driver:** Dan Noble



Mare Pace Fearless Ginger



Owners: Burke Racing Stable, Weaver Bruscelli **Breeder:** Emerald Highlands Farm **Trainer:** Ron Burke **Driver:** Chris Page

Mare Trot Abbey D



Owner: Bradley Delaney **Breeder:** Kenneth Sommer **Trainer:** Deborah Swartz **Driver:** Dan Noble

Congratulations!

Super Chapter Has Record Night



Super Chapter won the \$250,000 Dayton Trotting Derby in record fashion at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway on Oct. 3. Driven by Dexter Dunn, the 4-year-old son of Chapter Seven tripped the wire in 1:50.2, setting a new track record and equaling the world record for 4-year-old male trotters on a five-eighths mile track. The prior track record of 1:51.4 was set by Back Of The Neck in 2021. Super Chapter equaled Emoticon Legacy's world record set at Eldorado Scioto Downs on Sept. 12, 2026. He is trained by Marcus Melander for owners Jeffrey Snyder, Arthur Pronti, and Hanover Shoe Farms.

Lake Charles Scores 50th Career Victory



Lake Charles recorded the 50th win of his career on Oct. 4 at Northfield Park Racino. Driven by Justin Irvine, the 9-year-old Well Said gelding won the Open Handicap Trot in 1:51, increasing his career earnings to \$699,637 from 181 starts. He is trained by Paul Holzman for owner Ameer Najor.

2026 New All-Age Track Records at Ohio Fairs

Pacing

Circleville - Burnout, 1:56
Bellefontaine - Gypsy's Brother, 1:56.1
Mount Vernon - Gypsy's Brother, 1:55.2
Marysville - Fired Up Henry L, 1:54.3
Sidney - Ants Marching, 1:56
Athens - Gc's Legend, 1:56.1
Celina - Ants Marching, 1:52.3
Zanesville - Hunka Hunka, 1:56
Napoleon - Woodrow Blue Chip, 1:56.3
Lima - Carbine, 1:54.3
Woodsfield - Gc's Legend, 1:55
Canton - Stoke The Fire, 1:57
Findlay - Carbine, 1:55.1
Canfield - Charlie May, 1:53.1
Kenton - Heerzadiamondstud, 1:55.4

Trotting

Bucyrus - Lynn Range, 1:58
Athens - Out Of Range, 1:59
Berea - Where Theres Smoke, 1:59.4
Napoleon - Macmorris Hanover, 1:59.3
Wellington - Macmorris Hanover, 1:58
Woodsfield - Out Of Range, 1:59
Findlay - Jefferson Hanover, 1:58.2
Marietta - Lady Lena, 2:00.1
Wauseon - Macmorris Hanover, 1:56.2
Kenton - Tango L, 1:57



SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE RACES
PRESENTED BY OHIO HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

LIVE COVERAGE OF THE
OHIO FAIR CHAMPIONSHIPS
NORTHFIELD PARK RACINO
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
POST TIME 6:00 PM

WATCH ON THE OHHA YOUTUBE CHANNEL

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