

# On The Day is in the money

Speed and space proved to be an unbeatable combination for driver Tony Kerwood and his filly On The Day in the \$91,300 final of the Princess Pacing Series Saturday night at Mohawk Raceway in Campbellville.

Going as fast as she could for as long as she could, Kerwood elected to put the pedal to the metal early in the race, open up the field and outstagger them through the stretch. It worked as On The Day logged a one and three-quarter length victory over heavily favoured Love To Shop in a 1:57.2 mile over a greasy, rain-soaked track.

Leaving from the second hole in the nine-filly field, Kerwood hugged the rail, parking behind One Sad Bister through the opening quarter in 27.4. At the half, On The Day and Kerwood were alone in front by two lengths in 57 seconds with U Drive It five lengths back in third.

Love To Shop, meanwhile, who had coasted to easy wins in the preliminary legs in 1:57.4 and 1:58.1, was saddled with a poor starting post, the seventh, and was forced to tuck into fifth spot through the opening turn.

"I knew she (Love To Shop) was the one to beat so once I got on tip I wanted to put as much distance between us as I could," said Kerwood after the race. "I figured Love To Shop would have to go back at the start so I wanted her to have to make up as much ground as she could and tire out trying to catch me."

The strategy worked like a charm.

Close to six lengths back in fourth spot at the half, Dave Wall moved Love To Shop on the outside and into second spot, two lengths back at the three-quarters pole, which was reached in 1:26.1.

Entering the stretch On The Day was still ahead by two lengths and although tiring, so was her rival.

"In the stretch I didn't have a lot of horse left and could hear Dave's filly behind me," said Kerwood. "But she (Love To Shop) didn't seem to have a lot left either. In

## Hoof Beat

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the stretch it was simply a question of who would outlast who."

The win was the fourth on the year for On The Day, who is trained by William Keeping for Dr. David Fisher of Windsor. Earlier this year she was victorious in the final of the Blizzard Pacing Series and finished fourth in the \$107,000 final of the Damsel Pacing Series at Greenwood.

The \$23,000 Free For All was another big payday for Bill Robinson's Barely Visible who won in 1:56.4, his fifth straight victory in the Free For All ranks.

Sunday's racing was highlighted by the seasonal debut of Harold Shipp's Shipps Scorch who lived up to his name in his sophomore debut by clocking a 1:55.3 mile.

On of the top-rated three-year-old colts of 1989, Shipps Scorch won eight of 25 starts last year and earned \$346,000 with his best effort coming in a division of the Governor's Cup when he won in 1:54.4.

Trained by John Burns, Shipps Scorch is being pointed towards the W.E. Miller Memorial May 13 at Rosecroft, followed by the Windy City Series May 20 and 27 at Maywood Park in Chicago. Then it's back home to Greenwood for the Burlington June 3 and 10 followed by the North America Cup June 17 and 24.

And finally, Kawartha Pal's track record-setting streak ended at two races when the five-year-old gelding finished third in the \$23,000 Free For All Trot. Kawartha Pal had set consecutive records with miles of 1:58 and 1:56.2 in consecutive weeks.

The race was won by Jayport Worthy Vic who is driven and trained by Harold Stead, in 1:57.3 which is a lifetime best.

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