

For Immediate Release

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World Champion Georgia Pacific to race at Scarborough Downs

Scarborough, Maine (April 22, 2009) – The stars of big league harness racing continue to flock toward Scarborough Downs this season as the World Champion pacer *Georgia Pacific* becomes the latest immortal to set hoof on the southern Maine oval.

The winner of nearly \$1.3 million in purse earnings and arguably the richest pacer ever to compete in the state of Maine, will be sent to the post in Scarborough's \$6000 feature event on Saturday. He has been installed as the 2-1 morning line favorite with Heath Campbell listed to drive for the Valerie Grondin Stable.

Georgia Pacific has unabashedly squared off against the best of his generation at nearly every major North American venue, earning his World Champion's status while taking his lifetime mark of 1:49.1 in the 2004 Matron Stakes at Dover Downs while defeating the great *Holborn Hanover*. That victory enshrined him as the fastest three-year-old pacer of all time on a 5/8th mile racetrack.

His 1:50 performance in the 2004 Adios elimination (matched later by *Timesarechanging*) still stands as the fastest first heat in the history of that historic event. He went on to finish second in the Adios final.

Georgia Pacific continued to draw raves as an aged competitor, finishing second to *Boulder Creek* in the 2005 editions of both the U. S. Pacing Championship and the Breeders Crown. In 2006 he once again earned his way to a berth in the U.S. Pacing Championship, finishing third to *Holborn Hanover* in that pacer's miraculous 1:46.4 world record mile.

"In back to back days this weekend the fans at Scarborough Downs will be treated to Grand Circuit-style excitement" remarked Scarborough Downs spokeswoman Susan Higgins, "To have *Velocity Hall's* visit on Friday so quickly followed up by *Georgia Pacific's* appearance on Saturday -- the enthusiasm will surely reach fever point. What a great weekend for state of Maine harness racing."

Owned by local harness enthusiast William Varney of Bangor, Maine, *Georgia Pacific* will score from post three during Scarborough's ninth race on Saturday.

Scarborough Downs proudly features live harness racing every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening at 4:15 pm (EDT). The popular Sunday matinees feature a 1:30 pm post time.

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