

For Immediate Release:

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Scarborough Downs goes Pink with Women's Driving Series supporting Breast Cancer Research



Scarborough, Maine – July 17, 2008: Scarborough Downs Harness Race Track will host the Mildred Williams International Lady Driving Series on Sunday, July 27th and has named *Ribbons to Ribbons* as the charity it will support for breast cancer research.

This exclusively female driving series is named for Mildred Williams, a winner of over 500 races and a pioneer in getting the United States and Canadian Trotting Associations to license women drivers. This unique racing event is being hosted in conjunction with a fundraiser for breast cancer awareness, treatment, and research.

When the Downs heard that sixteen-year-old Bonney Eagle High School Student, Meaghan Martin, had turned her love of horseback-riding into a fundraising initiative for breast cancer research at Maine Medical Center, inspired by her grandmother's recent battle with the disease, it was a great match. Meaghan, of Hollis Center, owns a 7-year-old retired Standardbred racehorse (the breed of horses used in harness racing), Charlie, who was retrained as a pleasure/riding horse. The two will compete in a series of dressage competitions around the region in an undertaking Meaghan has named, "Ribbons for Ribbons," a nod to the ribbons she aims to win and the pink ribbon that signifies breast cancer awareness.

"It was the perfect fit," said Susan Higgins, Director of Marketing at Scarborough Downs. "Meaghan has sung the National Anthem here at the Downs, and assisted us with our Standardbred Retirement Ceremony last winter, so when we heard about her undertaking, we knew it would be perfect for the Mildred Williams."

According to harness race driver and series coordinator, Ann Curran, who was a close personal friend of Mildred Williams, says the Lady Driving Series is similar to the CKG Billings Amateur Driving Classic, a national driving series for men, with the major

difference being that it is for fully licensed women only. The Mildred Williams Series is meant to provide opportunity to female drivers and encourage participation among the missing demographic of women harness race fans. The women drivers will be donating their share of the purse money to the charity named. Over 37 harness tracks across North America are participating in the series, including Saratoga, Rockingham, and Plainridge race tracks.

Charlie will be at the track during the event, donned in special pink ribbons in his mane for the event. In fact, a framed and matted 9x12 piece of artwork “painted” by Charlie will be raffled off as part of the fund raising efforts. Raffle tickets are \$1 each; 6 for \$5. Meaghan will be singing The National Anthem before live racing.

For more information on Ribbons to Ribbons, log on to , <http://ribbonsforribbons.tripod.com> or email Meaghan at ribbonsforribbons@yahoo.com

For more information on the Mildred Williams women’s driving series, log onto www.mildredwilliams.ca/about/index.html

Dining in the Downs Club is available on Sunday 7/27 and begins at 12:30 pm. For reservations call 207-883-3022.

For more information, contact Susan Higgins at 207-883-4331.