



Fourth Dimension

Bay colt, 3 by Chapter Seven – Corazon Blue Chip by Muscle Hill

OWNER: Courant Inc., Delray Beach, FL
BREEDER: Ray Schnittker, Steven Arnold, Blue Chip Bloodstock, NY; Arden Homestead Stable, NY
SALE INFO: Lexington Select Yearling Sale, Kentucky \$200,000 (sold as Seventh Wonder)
TRAINER: Marcus Melander
DRIVER: Brian Sears

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2018	3	0	1	0	\$11,785	Q1:52.4 M
2017	11	8	1	0	\$397,410	1:52.4 M
LIFETIME	14	8	2	0	\$409,195	1:52.4 M

- Fourth Dimension was the 2017 Dan Patch Award winner for best 2-year-old male trotter.
- His wins last year included the Valley Victory Stakes at the Meadowlands, four divisions of the New York Sire Stakes, a division of the International Stallion Stakes, and his elimination for the Breeders Crown.
- This year, Fourth Dimension made his seasonal debut with a second-place finish in a division of the New York Sire Stakes at Tioga Downs, and then went off stride in his elimination for the Earl Beal Jr. Memorial at Pocono. He also went off stride in his division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial on July 14 at the Meadowlands.
- Fourth Dimension enters the Hambletonian off a 1:52.4 win in a qualifier on July 21 at the Meadowlands.
- “I was very happy with his qualifier here, he was very good,” trainer Marcus Melander said. “He did (1):52.4 very easily. I think he’s going to show a lot more in the Hambo. His season has been a little strange. First he was very good in his first start and then two breaks. It’s been a little weird.
- “But he feels very good and I’m very happy how he feels. I think he’s very sharp and in good form. Last year a lot of these horses that are good now maybe weren’t as good last year and they’ve caught up to him.”
- As far as Fourth Dimension’s breaks, Melander said, “At Pocono he got stuck in a knee boot or shin boot, so that was just unlucky. Here in the Stanley Dancer we tried some new shoes on him and he got too pacey with them. It’s just been a little unlucky. I’m not worried about that.”
- Marcus Melander, 26, made his Hambletonian debut in 2017 and saw Enterprise win his elimination and then finish fourth-placed-third in the final. Melander’s Long Tom also raced in an elimination, leading through three-quarters of a mile before going off stride and failing to reach the final.
- Melander came to the U.S. from Sweden less than five years ago and worked for four-time Hambletonian-winning trainer Jimmy Takter before starting his own stable in late 2014. He is based in New Egypt, N.J., at a farm that was home previously to each the legendary Stanley Dancer, a five-time Hambletonian winner, and Continental Farms stables.
- Last year, Melander’s horses won 38 races and \$1.31 million in purses, nearly tripling his earnings from the previous season. His victories in 2017 included the Valley Victory Stakes with Fourth Dimension, a division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial with Long Tom, and the aforementioned elimination of the Hambletonian.

- Melander's uncle, Stefan Melander, won the 2001 Hambletonian as trainer and driver with Scarlet Knight.
- Growing up in Sweden, Melander stayed up all hours of the night following the results of U.S. harness racing. He was making a name for himself as a driver in Europe, but was always fascinated by racing in the States. At age 19, Melander won Sweden's equivalent to the U.S. Harness Writers Association's Rising Star Award. He had just more than 100 wins when the Melanders moved to America.
- Melander has a stable of approximately 40 horses.
- Brian Sears, 50, is a three-time winning driver in the Hambletonian and two-time winner of the Hambletonian Oaks.
- He won both the Hambletonian and Oaks in 2009, earning his Hambletonian victory with Muscle Hill and Oaks triumph with Broadway Schooner. He became the first driver to win the Hambletonian and Oaks in the same year. In 2013, he repeated the double, winning the Hambletonian with Royalty For Life and the Oaks with Bee A Magician.
- In 2015, Sears won the Hambletonian with Pinkman. Yannick Gingras drove Pinkman to victory in his elimination, but opted to drive filly Mission Brief, also an elimination winner, in the final.
- Sears is among five drivers to win the Hambletonian three times. John Campbell holds the record, with six, and there are four drivers tied for second place, with four. They are Ben White, Billy Haughton, Stanley Dancer, and Mike Lachance.
- For his career, Sears has won nearly 10,000 races and \$185 million in purses. He ranks 15th in North American history for wins among drivers and sixth in purses. He led the sport in earnings in 2005, with a then-record \$15 million, and has finished among the top 10 in purses 13 of the past 14 years.
- Sears leads all active drivers in wins in the Breeders Crown, with 27, and is tied for third in the history of the series.
- This year, Sears' top wins have come with older pacer McWicked, in the William R. Haughton Memorial and the Ben Franklin Pace. Last year, his wins included the Yonkers Trot with Top Flight Angel, Valley Victory with Fourth Dimension, and Messenger Stakes with Downbytheseaside.
- Sears has driven three Horse of the Year award winners --- Rocknroll Hanover in 2005, Muscle Hill in 2009 and Bee A Magician in 2013. He received the 2009 Driver of the Year Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association and was the 1991 Rising Star Award recipient from the same organization.
- A native of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Sears is a third generation horseman, following in the footsteps of his grandfather Gene and dad Jay. Both are in the Florida Harness Racing Hall of Fame.
- Sears was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y., in 2017.
- Courant Inc. is Peter Weisberg, Sabine Kagebrandt and Anders Strom. Strom founded the international gaming website Unibet in 1997. He now holds a small share of the business, but still serves as chairman of the board of directors. He also runs a family investment company.