

NORTHEAST

CONNECTICUT MAINE MASSACHUSETTS NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW YORK RHODE ISLAND VERMONT



Solomini has had notable success with his first crop of 2-year-olds, a surprise to Joe McMahon, who said, "He really shouldn't be a 2-year-old sire. The Curlins are really not."

Coming in Hot

FIRST-CROP SIRE SOLOMINI QUICK OFF THE MARK

By TERESA GENARO

T HIS PAST SUMMER AT SARATOGA Race Course, Jane McMahon got some up-close-and-personal looks at the progeny of the stallion that stands at her family's farm.

Manager of McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, McMahon rode horses in the morning for trainer Bill Mott this summer. An unanticipated benefit was seeing Solomini's first crop on the track, and she liked what she saw.

"They've got that Curlin look," she said, referring to Solomini's sire. "They were usually pretty easy to spot."

The word on the track from the riders who rode them in the morning confirmed her own impressions: it was no secret that the stallion's 2-year-olds were running well.

Solomini is the only first-crop stallion outside of Kentucky that ranks in the top 10 by progeny earnings, with

ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH NOV. 6

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McMahon of Saratoga Stallions for 2024



NEW to McMahon

BUCCHERO

by Kantharos | Fee: \$7,500

A Leading Sire of 2YO Stakes
Winners including **BOOK'EM DANNO**,
MATTINGLY and BC 5th placed **Shards**
10.8% Black type runners



CENTRAL BANKER

by Speightstown | Fee: \$7,500

NY's Leading Sire 2021-2023
12 Stakes Winners, incl. Graded Placed
GENERAL BAKER (\$481,943, pic), **BANKIT**
(\$1,421,405), **MORNING MATCHA** (\$830,990)
and **BANK STING** (\$664,050)



REDESDALE

by Speightstown | Fee: \$2,500

Second Crop 2YO **CABLE READY** (pic)
Won the Tin Cup Chalice S. on Nov. 7
Sire of MSW **RAMBLIN' WRECK** (\$341,060)
12.5% Stakes Horses in first crop
Dam is MGSW sister to **DANEHILL**



SOLOMINI

by Curlin | Fee: \$6,500

TOP TEN FIRST CROP SIRE
SW **SOLOSHOT** & **SPL My Shea D Lady**
are among his 9 Winners,
8 are MdSpWt winners.
Top Ten First Crop 2YO Sale Sire by Avg.

All Stud Fees are Live Foal, Stands & Nurses

2023 LEADING SIRES IN MASSACHUSETTS For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2023 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2023 Earnings	Foals	BT SWS	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Indian Ocean (02, Stormy Atlantic)	N/A	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Let's Make a Zeen, \$5,900)	\$6,150	*268	6	0.74	1.17
2	Silk Broker (96, Pentelicus)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Big Stock Winner, \$1,243)	\$1,243	34	3	0.62	0.45

** includes Southern Hemisphere foals*



The McMahon family work as a team at their Saratoga Springs, N.Y., farm. From left, Anne, John, Jane, and Joe

eight wins this year for earnings of \$626,834 through Oct. 24. With plenty of racing left this year, particularly for New York-breds, he has a good shot to move up from his current No. 10 spot.

“There’s not much difference in earnings between the horse at No. 6 and him,” observed Joe McMahon, Jane’s father and the owner of the farm. “It’s not going to take a whole lot to get him up there.”

“It’s definitely not out of the realm of possibility that we could move up,” said John McMahon, Joe’s son, who has taken over much of the running of the farm. “But the season could end tomorrow and we’d still be pretty happy.”

In addition to eight wins, Solomini runners have placed second 13 times, leaving even McMahon a little



McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, five minutes from Saratoga Race Course, was founded in 1971. Its initial 100 acres grew with the addition of 140 acres bought by the McMahon family in 1994

SMP DICKSTEIN PHOTOS

2023 LEADING SIRES IN NEW YORK

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2023 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2023 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Central Banker (10, Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	131/62	3/4	3/3	(Scocciatore, \$199,620)	\$3,451,783	369	12	1.31	1.14
2	Tourist (11, Tiznow), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	116/45	2/2	2/2	(Journeyist, \$139,185)	\$2,580,187	*312	6	0.91	1.16
3	War Dancer (10, War Front), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$7,500	91/35	1/1	1/1	(Mz Big Bucks, \$149,950)	\$2,007,201	183	4	0.96	1.09
4	Freud (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	Private	59/24	3/4	2/3	(Therapist, \$544,545)	\$1,934,837	*1433	60	1.43	1.19
5	Bustin Stones (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$2,500	60/36	1/1	1/1	(Bustin Bay, \$298,685)	\$1,885,068	297	13	1.28	1.19
6	Mission Impazible (07, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	Private	48/26	0/0	0/0	(Zeebear, \$165,660)	\$1,282,375	313	8	1.01	1.15
7	Bellamy Road (02, Concerto)	Pnsd	52/25	0/0	0/0	(Ciccibello, \$126,825)	\$1,064,035	*754	32	1.08	1.20
8	Union Jackson (12, Curlin), Sequel Stallions New York	Pnsd	43/26	0/0	0/0	(Jackson Heights, \$74,075)	\$942,477	86	2	0.83	1.03
9	Big Brown (05, Boundary), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$5,000	60/20	0/0	0/0	(Big Brown Shoes, \$76,890)	\$931,689	*893	29	1.02	1.36
10	Micromanager (10, Medaglia d'Oro)	Pnsd	33/15	0/0	0/0	(Mason Mania, \$110,480)	\$803,424	92	0	0.75	1.16
11	¶ Solomini (15, Curlin), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$6,500	32/9	1/1	1/1	(Soloshot, \$110,295)	\$692,476	66	1	0.80	1.08
12	Redesdale (13, Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	31/11	1/2	1/1	(Ramblin' Wreck, \$182,850)	\$688,665	64	1	0.89	0.89
13	The Lieutenant (13, Street Sense)	Died, 2019	17/9	1/1	1/1	(Lifetime of Chance, \$187,567)	\$674,182	*67	2	1.78	1.12
14	Slumber (GB) (08, Cacique), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	10/4	2/2	1/2	(Fluffy Socks, \$404,900)	\$585,909	23	3	2.10	0.94
15	Boys At Tosconova (08, Officer)	Died, 2022	22/14	0/0	0/0	(Boys Code, \$80,507)	\$552,753	99	4	1.16	1.13
16	Frost Giant (03, Giant's Causeway)	Died, 2022	30/17	0/0	0/0	(Smithwick's Spice, \$64,760)	\$509,758	*476	16	1.08	1.08
17	Honorable Dillon (10, Tapit)	N/A	15/4	0/0	0/0	(Bernt Again, \$125,650)	\$456,682	*134	1	0.67	1.06
18	Majestic City (09, City Zip)	Died, 2022	37/13	0/0	0/0	(Majestic Tiger, \$47,070)	\$424,133	124	1	0.61	1.00
19	Courageous Cat (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$2,500	19/12	0/0	0/0	(Ifihadachance, \$120,689)	\$391,827	238	8	0.85	1.03
20	Teufflesberg (04, Johannesburg)	Died, 2022	12/7	0/0	0/0	(Clover Street, \$99,825)	\$379,877	183	4	1.09	1.04
21	Frank Conversation (13, Quality Road), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	27/8	0/0	0/0	(Violets Smile, \$79,387)	\$315,961	*63	0	0.31	1.01
22	Bank Heist (07, Maria's Mon), Kaz Hill Farm	\$1,000	11/7	0/0	0/0	(Athena Beach, \$84,840)	\$312,445	108	2	0.76	1.19
23	Weekend Hideaway (10, Speightstown)	Pnsd	9/3	1/1	1/1	(Itsallcomintogetha, \$157,650)	\$278,810	15	1	0.85	0.98
24	A Shin Forward (05, Forest Wildcat), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Shinfull, \$53,470)	\$239,434	48	0	0.57	0.81
25	Golden Ticket (09, Speightstown)	Pnsd	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Hope for Gold, \$49,020)	\$196,972	53	1	0.53	0.78

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

surprised by the sire's success.

"He really shouldn't be a 2-year-old sire," said Joe McMahon. "The Curlins are really not. Certainly, Solomini was precocious to some extent; he was second in two grade 1s as a 2-year-old, and he'd have been a grade 1 winner at 2, if he hadn't been disqualified.

"So I think his offspring are going to get better with time," he went on, "and I think that they're going to be better stretching out. There are a lot of them out there, and I think the numbers are there for him to easily get 10 or 12 winners by the end of the year."

Bred in Kentucky by Glenna R. Salyer DVM, Solomini is out of the unraced Storm Cat mare Surf Song. He went through the ring at the Keeneland September Yearling Sale in 2016, bringing \$270,000 from Zayat Stables. Dan Barraclough was part of the team working with Ahmed Zayat at the sale.

"I was working for EQB at the time and we had Solomini on our shortlist," said Barraclough, who with his wife, Kathy, owns Saratoga Glen Farm, a breeding, boarding, and consignment farm in Schuylerville, N.Y. "We loved him. He was one of our four top picks of the sale. I was impressed with his

genetics, his heart scan, his walk, his conformation. He was athletic and straightforward from the start, and we snapped him up."

"A GRADE 1-PLACED SON OF CURLIN, IN TODAY'S MARKET, IS A LUXURY THAT NEEDS TO BE UTILIZED EVERY YEAR."

—JOHN MCMAHON

Debuting for trainer Bob Baffert at Del Mar in September 2017, Solomini won by 1¼ lengths as the even-money favorite. Running at Santa Anita later that month, he was a distant second to Bolt d'Oro in the FrontRunner Stakes (G1), then returned to Del Mar to finish second to Good Magic in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1).

Then came the Los Alamitos Futurity (G1).

The second choice at odds of 1.70-1 in the field of five, Solomini crossed the wire first, but was adjudged by Los Alamitos stewards to have impeded Instilled Regard, who finished third behind favored McKinzie. Less than a length separated the top three finishers, and Solomini was placed third.

"That was the luckiest day in our lives," said Joe McMahon. "If he'd stayed up, he'd have been standing for \$30,000 in Kentucky the first year."

Characterizing the disqualification as "questionable," Barraclough said that it nonetheless made Solomini an affordable acquisition for the New York stallion market.

"He's Kentucky quality, but if you're not a grade 1 winner, you often end up in a regional market," he said.

Which is just fine with breeders such as Chris Bernhard, who purchased shares in the stallion when approached by Joe McMahon. Bernhard, his partner Chris Larsen, and his former partner Elaine Peck are all represented on the list of Solomini's successes this year.

Bred by Bernhard's Hidden Lake Farm, May Princess was a neck short of winning her first race at Belmont Park

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in June. Bred in partnership by Hidden Lake Farm and Larsen's 3C Stables, Nicky Jolene was a length and a nose short of winning on debut at Belmont in June, returning to the races less than a month later to win by an impressive four lengths. And in September, the 3C-bred Brown Suga Babe won by 2½ lengths at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races.

One of the standouts of Solomini's first crop of runners is the Peck-bred Soloshot, out of her multiple stakes-placed Twirling Candy mare Sweet Queen. Peck sold Soloshot for \$30,000 as a weanling at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Fall Mixed Sale to Silver River Thoroughbred, which pinhooked her at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale, where Bregman Family Racing/Jackpot Farm/Swinbank Stables acquired her for \$290,000.

Sent to the barn of George Weaver, Soloshot crushed a field of maidens at Saratoga Race Course, winning by 7¾ lengths as the 2-1 favorite. Sent to Finger Lakes a month later, she again dominated, taking the Lady Finger Stakes by two lengths to become Solomini's first black-type winner. Her expected next start is the Nov. 18 Key Cents Stakes at Aqueduct Racetrack.

"This filly has been a delight," said Peck, who breeds as Rhapsody Farm. "She just does it so easy."

Peck also owns shares in Solomini and pointed to his pedigree as one of the reasons he's appealing.

"He's got Mr. Prospector on top and Northern Dancer on the bottom, if you go back," she said. "He's a nice individual and well-balanced, and he sure does throw a nice hip on a baby."

Characterizing Sweet Queen as "not real tall," Peck bred her to Solomini in



On the racetrack, Solomini was quick to impress by winning his maiden on debut and then following with a placing in the grade 1 FrontRunner Stakes



Solomini finished first in the grade 1 Los Alamitos Futurity, but was disqualified for interference, a serendipitous result, Joe McMahon said. "That was the luckiest day in our lives. If he'd stayed up, he'd have been standing for \$30,000 in Kentucky the first year."

the hope of getting a foal with "a little more leg," and she was so pleased with the outcome that she bred the mare back twice to Solomini. Sweet Queen's 2022 filly sold for \$27,000; she aborted her 2024 full sibling to Soloshot several months ago.

A 2021 filly by Solomini out of Pleasant Harbor (by Rockport Harbor) that Peck co-bred with Jonathan

K. Davis sold for \$22,000 as a weanling at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Fall Mixed Sale, the auction at which Peck now exclusively sells, and at this year's sale, she sold another Solomini, this one out of Natural Mist (by Emcee), who went for \$30,000 to Mouse Stables.

"For a horse that stands for \$6,500, he's done quite a bit," she said. "He's been good to us."

Count the partners in America's Pastime Stables as among Solomini's biggest fans. The partnership purchased broodmare Toni Tools at last year's Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale for \$15,000 and bred her that spring to Solomini. They intended to sell the weanling at this fall's Fasig-Tipton Saratoga sale, but they are so pleased with the colt and with a recent catalog update that they elected to wait to sell him at next year's Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale of New York-bred Yearlings in August.

On Oct. 6, Toni Tool's 2021 filly Candied (by Candy Ride) won the Alcibiades Stakes (G1) at Keeneland, prompting the America's Pastime Stables account to post on X (formerly Twitter), "Congrats to Candied—on to the Breeders Cup!! Candied is the daughter of one of our broodmares Toni Tools, making Toni a Grade 1 producer!!!!!! She and her weanling Solomini colt both reside at (McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds)."

The partnership also owns several other Solominis, as well as breeding shares in the stallion. Two horses that failed to meet their reserves at auction were sold to them privately. Nano Man was bred by the McMahons and Empire Equines and is owned by a consortium that includes Jerold Zaro, Denholtz Stables, Sleeping Giant Stables, and Michael Valenti; he was second, beaten by three-quarters of a length on debut late in



Photo Credit: Alex Zhang

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the Saratoga meeting for trainer John Kimmel.

Trained by David Donk, Solo Rye'd is owned with Bourbon Lane Stable, Empire Equines (his breeder), Seidman Stables, J. Svaasand, Exact Change Racing, W. Lynn, E. Hart, Brady Horse Racing, R. Carroll, and Copper Beech Stables.

And America's Pastime is eagerly awaiting the debut of Sohana, who sold for \$200,000 at this year's Ocala Breeders' Sales' March Sale of 2-Year-Olds in Training.

"Our best Solomini is Nano Man," said Brian Spagnola, managing partner of America's Pastime Stables. "He's small—thus his name—and dark, but he's super, super competitive. We bought him privately after watching him train. He has a huge heart, he's super fast, and we're really excited about him."

As shareholders in the sire, America's Pastime has bred "a bunch of mares" to Solomini.

"His foals are beautiful," said Spagnola. "There was a lot of buzz about them at Ocala in both March and April, and we're really excited about what's going to happen with him. He's had a bunch of winners, and there are a lot of really good ones out there that haven't run yet." While many of the breeders and owners of Solomini progeny mention



The stakes-placed My Shea D Lady provided Solomini with his first winner when she won her career debut at Gulfstream Park in July

New York's robust breeding and racing program and its generous rewards, the stallion's highest-price offspring has spent most of his time 2,800 miles from the state in which he was born.

The first time that Wynstock went through the sales ring, he brought \$50,000 at the 2022 Keeneland

September Yearling Sale. Selling to Gerardo Barragan, the chestnut colt bred by Empire Equines returned to auction seven months later at the OBS 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale, selling for a whopping \$700,000 to Dr. Ed Allred and Liebau.

Now based in Southern California, Wynstock has raced three times, most recently breaking his maiden at Santa Anita Park Oct. 15, winning by 7½ lengths for trainer Bob Baffert.

Through Oct. 24, 53 colts and fillies by Solomini have sold at auction this year for an average of \$62,115; 10 of those brought six figures.

"He brings grade 1 quality and what people are looking for outside of the state, right into New York," said Jane McMahon.

Her brother John concurred.

"A grade 1-placed son of Curlin, in today's market, is a luxury that needs to be utilized every year," he said. "So many times, sires fall off in their third year at stud, and I don't think good breeders will fall off Solomini. He's really the nicest thing to be on offer in New York for quite a while." **BH**



Soloshot became Solomini's initial stakes winner when she captured the Lady Finger Stakes in September

TOP: GUGLIANESE PHOTOS/RYAN THOMPSON; BOTTOM: SV PHOTOGRAPHY