



A miraculous victory for Miracle

Tiny hog sprints to early lead, holds off SchwarzenHOGGER to capture BOARmont Stakes and hearts of pig racing fans

Miracle was delivered her “glass slipper” this past weekend by her prince as the Cinderella story continued for the tiny hog that almost died in September due to a respiratory infection. Half the size of her fellow race mates – but every bit as spunky – Miracle sprinted to an early lead before Arnold SchwarzenHOGGER started to reel her in down the homestretch. The crowd roared as Miracle held him off at the wire for the “against-all-odds” finish that everyone was hoping for but nobody believed could really happen.

Well, except Miracle.

“Of course,” she snapped back, when asked at the post-race pig press conference if she really felt she had a hog’s chance in heaven to compete with the ‘big hogs’ in the BOARmont. “What do I look like, chopped liver?! Don’t answer that!”

Normally, it’s just the top hogs with the most victories from their respective sponsored groups that are selected to race in the three Marquee races (PIGTucky Derby, SQUEAKness and BOARmont Stakes). The field was set with Anytime Fitness’s SchwarzenHOGGER (15 wins), Westside Pizza’s PORKY Pig (8 wins) and Wally’s Drive In’s Ben SUUUUUbert (11 wins).

But because Miracle had won three races the previous weekend as a “fill in” for an ill BACON Fitz, and done so under such unheard of circumstances (almost dying in September and never having trained or raced before last weekend), she had become a very popular animal sports figure during this past week - even a trending topic on PIGGER, the hog version of TWITTER. Race series officials on Friday determined that the Cinderella story was so popular that it would be worth allowing for a late entry for Miracle into the BOARmont Stakes.

“Who didn’t want to think it was a possibility, to have this little pig that nobody gave a whisper of a shot at winning, actually racing in one of our crown jewel races?” track announcer Dennis “HOGMaster” Riley surmised. “It was a total ‘could you imagine?’ story that we knew would be interesting and intriguing with race fans and beyond. Even if we figured on her getting whooped in such a high stakes event, we thought it would be awesome for the crowd to see her at least in the race.”

Then the unheard of happened and much to the delight of a frenzied crowd at PIGlico Downs on Maris Farms. Yes, SchwarzenHOGGER – winner of the previous weekend’s SQUEAKness - made it close. But not one person in the place wanted him to catch her.

“That girl might be small, but she is a survivor and has something most of our fellow race mates don’t inside that little chest of hers...and I’m not talking about good ribs,” an exhausted SchwarzenHOGGER, who is twice the size of Miracle, said following the race. “She’s got a A LOT of heart!”

Although the clock has struck midnight on several of sports' Cinderella stories, this one seems to have some sticking power and it continues to transcend even the pig racing world.

“Rudy, Sea Biscuit, the 1980 US hockey team...they have all gone down as some of the greatest ‘Cinderella stories of all time,” Riley explained. “You can add little Miracle to that list now. She’s simply a true miracle.”





SchwartztenHOGGER still has the overall lead in victories heading into the final weekend with 15 and would secure an unprecedented third Triple 'PIG' Crown series title with 1 more win. Should he slip up and not win a race, it would open the door for BABE, who went 6-for-6 this weekend, and has now slipped into second place with 13 victories. Should the two tie with victories, SchwartztenHOGGER would win the series title by virtue of his victory in the SQUEAKness.

In all, \$277 was donated/bet on the races this past weekend and 483 wagers were made. Total money raised so far is \$988 with 1,495 wagers made. All proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

In addition to the title sponsors – Anytime Fitness, Westside Pizza and Wally's Drive In - several other sponsors are contributing cash and/or prizes to this event, including Applebee's of Bonney Lake, Monster Energy Drink, Chic-Fil-A of Tacoma and Smith Bros. Dairy. In addition to the PIGtucky Derby and SQUEAKness, the racing hogs will complete the TPC series with The BOARmont Stakes this Saturday at 2 pm PDT.

Our 9 competitors include:

		<u>WINS</u>
1.	<u>ANYTIME FITNESS Buckley/Orting Fitness Fanatics Competitors:</u>	
•	#1 arnold SchwartztenHOGGER (winner SQUEAKness)	15
•	#2 jack LaLOIN	8
•	#3 richard SOWmmons	2
2.	<u>WESTSIDE PIZZA'S Famous Pigs Competitors</u>	
•	#6 BABE	13
•	#7 PORKY PIG (winner PIGtucky Derby)	8
•	#8 Miss PIGGY	3
3.	<u>WHITE RIVER DRIVE IN'S Morning Radio DJ Competitors</u>	
•	#99.9 This Little MIGGY (KISW morning show)	4
•	#100.7 BACON Fitz (Wolf morning crew, Fitz in the Morning)	3
•	#100.7 The MIRACLE (filling in for BACON Fitz, winner BOARmont)	6
•	# 106.1 Ben SUUUUbert (KISS morning crew, Jackie & Bender)	11

HOW IT WORKS:

On a small round track near the animal barn, several races will occur during the course of a weekend day. Prior to each racing session (3 races per session, 3 sessions per day), racing fans can make donations of \$1 (1 ticket) and \$3 (5 tickets) and pick a pig they feel will win that race.

After someone donates, they will receive a numbered raffle ticket – they will keep half and put the other half in the slot of their “chosen” winner. At the end of the race, the announcer will draw a name from the “winning” pig’s slot, and that individual will win a prize from one of our sponsors. **ALL DONORS will earn a special “pignostication” pig nose for their contribution.** ALL DONATIONS will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The unprecedented racing series has raised over \$22,000+ for St. Jude's during its eight-year run.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, is the nation's leading children's cancer research and treatment hospital, and the only one that covers all of the costs for medicine, treatment, food, travel and lodging. Children come to St. Jude from across the country, and 85 cents of every dollar received supports research and treatment. Today Danny's legacy continues to thrive through the commitment of his children Marlo, Terre and Tony Thomas, who work tirelessly to honor their father's promise that no child is ever turned away because of a family's inability to pay.

Maris Farms, in its 16th year of operation at this current site, is located in scenic east Pierce County about 3 miles west of Buckley, Washington, at 25001 Sumner-Buckley Highway. It has been selling pumpkins for 19 years (first three years were at a different location). Check www.MarisFarms.com for more details.

