



# Miracle's popularity overshadows SchwartzenHOGGER's TPC title

## Winless on weekend, SchwartzenHOGGER still the champ, but tiny hog the story of the 2015 Triple 'PIG' Crown series

In very melodramatic fashion, Arnold SchwartzenHOGGER captured the 2015 Triple 'PIG' Crown series title on Saturday at PIGlico Downs in Buckley. The Anytime Fitness sponsored racing hog – in his strongest effort since the series started more nine years ago – went winless in three races during the rainy, gusty day but still managed to tally the most victories (15) on the season, plus took home one of the three marquee races (SQUEAKness).

But the story in the pig-race paddock Saturday turned to 'the little pig who almost died,' before the season even started. That being Miracle, sponsored by Wally's Drive In of Buckley. Nearly half the size of her eight fellow race mates, Miracle was considered an "extra" and never even expected to race this season. She fell ill a week before October and nearly died, but miraculously healed after taking an antibiotic just hours from heading to 'hog' heaven. Then, when BACON Fitz (another Wally's Drive In sponsored hog) fell ill himself mid-season, Miracle became an emergency replacement, meant more as just a "warm body" to fill the race chute. That "warm body" stunned the pig-race world and fans at PIGlico Downs by winning 3 races her first weekend – without ever training or running a race until that weekend. She went on to win a total of 7, including her first race on Saturday.

"Whoever says we shouldn't be given anything "unnatural" to help us remain healthy, stay alive, well I'd have to disagree," a humbled and subdued Miracle explained late Saturday afternoon following the season's final race, emphasizing the word 'unnatural' with her two-hooved pig paw. "I'm all for living a natural life...until it means dyin'."

Miracle did the unthinkable last weekend, taking the third and final leg of the Triple PIG Crown series with a stunning, runaway victory in the BOARmont Stakes. The spunky little Yorkshire beat SchwartzenHOGGER – who outweighs her by nearly twice her weight - by 5 pig-links.

"I know I'm the series champ, but Miracle is what keeps the American pig dream alive, of the underHOG overcoming all odds to become successful," a smitten 'HOGGER beamed, acknowledging her place in hog history. "Shoot, she inspired me."

Westside Pizza's BABE (who won all 3 of his races this weekend) and Wally's Drive In's Ben SUUUUbert (who won 2 of 3) finished in a tie for second with 13 wins apiece. PORKY Pig (sponsored by Westside Pizza), who captured the PIGtucky Derby, finished third with 11 wins. PORKY also won all 3 of his races this weekend.

In all, \$47 was donated/bet on the races this past weekend and 69 wagers were made, despite there being a tiny crowd due to the stormy weather. Total money raised for the season was \$1,035 with 1,564 wagers made. All proceeds will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The month-long series event has now raised more than \$23,000 for St. Jude's during its 9-year run.

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.





**Our 9 competitors included:**

		<u>WINS</u>
1.	<u>ANYTIME FITNESS Buckley/Orting Fitness Fanatics Competitors:</u>	
•	#1            arnold SchwartzenHOGGER (winner SQUEAKness)	15
•	#2            jack LaLOIN	8
•	#3            richard SOWmmons	5
2.	<u>WESTSIDE PIZZA'S Famous Pigs Competitors</u>	
•	#6            BABE	13
•	#7            PORKY PIG (winner PIGtucky Derby)	11
•	#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)	7
•	# 106.1     Ben SUUUUbert (KISS morning crew, Jackie & Bender)	13

# **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 \$23,000+ for St. Jude’s during its 9-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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.MarisFarms.com) for more details.

