

FORT ERIE - July 20, 2026 - Race 4

CLAIMING - Thoroughbred

FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NOT WON A RACE IN 2026 OR WHICH HAVE NEVER WON FOUR RACES. Three Year Olds, 120 lbs.; Older, 124 lbs. Claiming Price \$5,000, if for \$4,750, allowed 2 lbs. (Races Where Entered For \$4,000 Or Less Not Considered In Eligibility)(Waiver Claiming Exempt) (Colts And Geldings Preferred)(*Plus Up To \$540 Ontario Bred/Ontario Sired Breeders Awards). (C) **Claiming Price:** \$5,000 - \$4,750

Distance: Six Furlongs On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Set in Stone - 1:08.18 - June 15, 2010)

All money values represented in Canadian currency unless noted otherwise

Purse: \$20,250

Includes: \$4,050 Ontario Sired / Bred Breeders Awards

Includes: \$2,700 State Bred

Available Money: \$20,250

Value of Race: \$17,335 (US\$12,367) 1st \$10,530 (US\$7,512) , 2nd \$2,700 (US\$1,926) , 3rd \$1,755 (US\$1,252) , 4th \$810 (US\$578) , 5th \$540 (US\$385) , 6th \$500 (US\$357) , 7th \$500 (US\$357)

Weather: Hazy, 75° C **Track:** Fast

Off at: 6:21 **Start:** Good for all except 4 **Timing Method:** Electronic

[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
29Jun26 ¹ FE ³	7	Where Is Essa (Crawford, Juan)	122	L f	7	1	¹ / ₂	¹ Head	¹	¹ Neck	5.80	3-p str, fought gamely
29Jun26 ⁵ FE ⁴	2	Nameofthegame (Reyes, Luis)	124	L br	2	3	³ Head	³ Head	³ / ₂	² / ₂ ¹ / ₂	1.20*	5-p str, rallied late
29Jun26 ¹ FE ¹	6	Commander Joe (Vanek, Helen)	124	L bf	6	2	² / ₁	² / ₂	² / ₁	³ Head	5.50	4-p str, held show
6Jul26 ¹ FE ¹	3	A La Carte (Johnson, Kirk)	124	L b	3	5	⁵ / ₁	⁴ / ₂	⁵ / ₂	⁴ / ₂	5.80	7-p str, needed more
21Jun26 ⁵ FE ⁵	1	Bill Needle (Gaskin, Da-Sean)	122	L bf	1	4	⁴ / ₁	7	⁶ / ₁ / ₂	⁵ Head	25.45	hstld, no real threat
12Jul26 ⁴ FE ⁴	4	Paperback Hero (Contreras, Luis)	124	L b	4	7	7	⁶ / ₁ / ₂	⁴ Head	⁶ / ₃ ¹ / ₄	4.25	ckd st, no late kick
6Jul26 ⁶ FE ⁴	5	Gus's Gamble (Jadoo, Steve)	124	L f	5	6	⁶ / ₁	⁵ Head	7	7	10.75	8-path str, no impact

Fractional Times: 23.09 46.15 58.53

Final Time: 1:11.94 **Time from Gate:** 1:13.80

Split Times: (23:06) (12:38) (13:41)

Run-Up: 38 feet

Winner: Where Is Essa, Dark Bay or Brown Gelding, by Signature Red out of Where Is Egbert, by Where's the Ring. Foaled Mar 14, 2019 in ON.

Breeder: Paul Buttigieg

Owner: Vetere, Jim, Green, Michael Thomas and Ceccato, Sharon

Trainer: Ceccato, Sharon

1 Claimed Horse(s): Gus's Gamble

New Trainer: Beverly Jeanette Curto New Owner: Beverly E. Collins

Claiming Prices: 7 - Where Is Essa: \$4,750; 2 - Nameofthegame: \$5,000; 6 - Commander Joe: \$5,000; 3 - A La Carte: \$5,000; 1 - Bill Needle: \$4,750; 4 - Paperback Hero: \$5,000; 5 - Gus's Gamble: \$5,000;

Total WPS Pool: \$40,538

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
7	Where Is Essa	13.60	5.60	4.00	\$0.20 Pick 3	2-5-7 (3 correct)	21.10	9,232
2	Nameofthegame		2.90	2.50	\$0.20 Triactor	7-2-6	24.42	15,012
6	Commander Joe			4.40	\$1.00 Daily Double	5-7	25.40	6,137
					\$1.00 Exactor	7-2	21.30	26,525
					\$0.20 Superfecta	7-2-6-3	93.33	9,688

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin
7	Where Is Essa	1	¹ / ₂	¹ Head	¹	¹ Neck
2	Nameofthegame	3	³ / ₁ ¹ / ₂	³ / ₂	³ / ₂	² Neck
6	Commander Joe	2	² / ₁ / ₂	² Head	² / ₁	³ / ₂ ³ / ₄
3	A La Carte	5	⁵ / ₂ ¹ / ₂	⁴ / ₂ ¹ / ₄	⁵ / ₂ ¹ / ₂	⁴ / ₂ ³ / ₄
1	Bill Needle	4	⁴ / ₁ ¹ / ₂	⁷ / ₄ ³ / ₄	⁶ / ₃	⁵ / ₃ ¹ / ₄
4	Paperback Hero	7	⁷ / ₄ ¹ / ₂	⁶ / ₄ ¹ / ₄	⁴ / ₂ ¹ / ₂	⁶ / ₃ ¹ / ₂
5	Gus's Gamble	6	⁶ / ₃ ¹ / ₂	⁵ / ₄ ¹ / ₄	⁷ / ₃ ¹ / ₂	⁷ / ₆ ³ / ₄

Trainers: 7 - Ceccato, Sharon; 2 - Wills, Daniel; 6 - Mileni, Jr., Nick; 3 - Mileni, Jr., Nick; 1 - Humber, Joseph; 4 - Agostino, Roy; 5 - Albu, Ken

Owners: 7 - Vetere, Jim, Green, Michael Thomas and Ceccato, Sharon; 2 -Jeanne M. Ryan; 6 -Nick Guy Mileni, Jr.; 3 -Bruno Schickedanz; 1 -Joseph Humber; 4 -Reginald Johnston; 5 - Six Brothers Stable;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

WHERE IS ESSA showed speed from the outside, had a slim lead on the turn and from the three path at the top of the stretch fought gamely for the win. NAMEOFTHEGAME was up close, raced evenly on the turn and from the five path at the top of the stretch rallied late. COMMANDER JOE stalked the early leader, forced the pace on the turn and from the four path at the top of the stretch held show. A LA CARTE was in mid pack and roused on the turn but from the seven path at the top of the stretch needed more. BILL NEEDLE was hustled early and saved ground on the turn but was no real threat. PAPERBACK HERO checked just after the start and had a mild gain on the turn but had no late kick. GUS'S GAMBLE was off the pace and hustled along on the turn but from the eight path at the top of the stretch had no impact.