



E-NEWS AND E-NOTES FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14th, 2026



# THE STARS 2025

Congratulations to all the 2025 Awards winners at the OHHA Banquet held this past weekend in Westerville, Ohio. There were so many stars we ran out of sky so I'll mention Ronnie Wrenn Jr and Bud Teeters in the comments and a hats off to Joe and Fran Darmofal for going the extra mile in their unwavering support of the Sport. And to think it all began with a visit to the Tent. The OHHA presented the Dick Brandt Sr. Extra Effort Award, Terry Holton Youth Award, Outstanding Groom Award, Maynard & Stella Hagemeyer Significant Contribution Award, and the OHHA Special Recognition Awards. In addition, the United States Harness Writers Association Ohio Chapter's annual awards were presented as well as the Ohio State Racing Commission's Kaltenbach Awards.

Once again: the Buckeye State is on top and leading the way!

STILL TIME TO VOTE



They say he's so fast  
his registration number  
is on *Speed dial*...



### ***Fringe benefits...***

It was that Championship Season... 1977. Little Stevie Cauthen was making worldwide headlines in his first full year of jockeying while he broke records.

Shalee dominated her division in New York and New Jersey Sire Stakes being their, as well as the Harness Tracks of America's, Filly of the Year. She would capture the Jugette. The accolades were nice and she did Rachel proud being a homebred foaled right on the farm under Bert Harper's watchful eye. Rachel would be placed in the top ten of the breeders and would often come out to watch her train when we were back at the farm. I would jokingly complain to her that "that Cauthen kid, that that Kentucky *kernel*, is stealing all our press."

One time after we finished a mile and Stanley handed the filly back to me, Rachel noted that ***Playboy*** had contacted her and wanted to do a photo op called *Filly of the Year* using Mistletoe as the centerpiece. All of the Playmates of the past 12 months... in one photo.

?What?

"Well," I blubbered as I tripped over my own words, "I'll, I'll have to be there to, to, to make sure she behaves and I, ah ah..."

I looked at Stanley with my eyes popping out of my head as my nostrils flared and whispered *Holy cauliflower*.

Stanley puckered his lips in anticipation and just mouthed "ew."

Rachel paused and quickly shot looks back and forth between the two of us and grimaced a bit. "Ohhhhhhhh," she said worriedly, "... I don't think so."

For some reason the photoshoot was never brought up again. I mean, I would have behaved myself.

Somewhat. And it would've given me something to remember in my old age.

