

# QUICK PITCH

Owner: Fortune Peter Ryan

Trainer: E. Barry Ryan

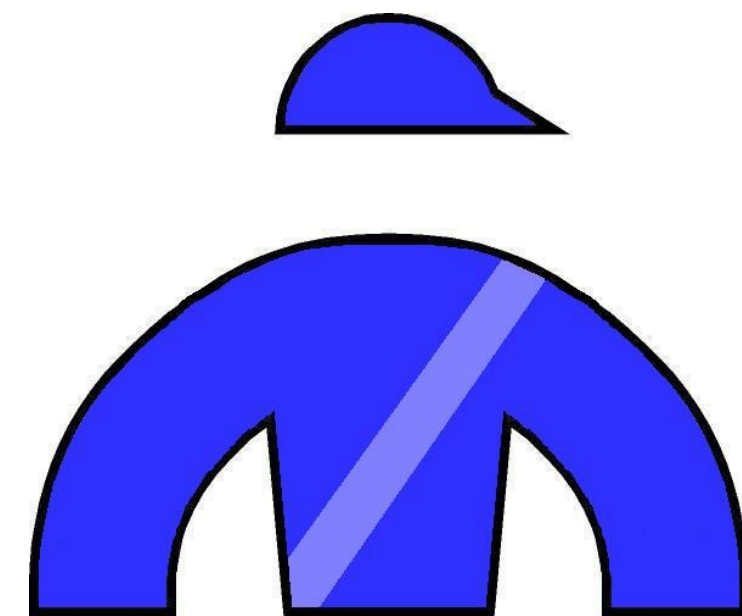
Breeder: Fortune Peter Ryan

Foaled: March 17, 1960  
in Kentucky

Sire: Charlevoix

Dam: The Ghizeh

Chestnut Gelding



Silks of  
Fortune Peter Ryan

## FAVORITE FINISHES 16 LENGTHS AHEAD

Aqueduct Record Broken  
Despite Bobble Near End  
—Winner Pays \$2.80

By JOE NICHOLS

An unbelievably wonderful performance by Fortune Ryan's Quick Pitch thrilled and delighted the crowd of 26,974 at Aqueduct yesterday. The 7-year-old gelding carried the awesome burden of 172 pounds to victory in the \$11,650 Rouge Dragon Hurdle Handicap for his sixth straight success.

The victory was enough in itself, but the manner in which it was scored caused the fans usually almost aloof from the jumping aspect of thoroughbred racing hereabouts to applaud roundly and sincerely. And not only because he paid \$2.80, \$2.80 and \$2.80 across the board.

1967 American Champion Steeplechase Horse

Elected to the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing  
Hall of Fame and Museum on  
January 23, 1977

### Win Highlights:

- 1965 Bernard Baruch Handicap
- 1965 Jockey Club Cup Handicap
- 1965 Niagara Handicap
- 1967 Bushwick Hurdle Handicap
- 1967 Rouge Dragon Hurdle Handicap
- 1967 Holly Tree Hurdle Handicap
- 1967 Midsummer Hurdle Handicap

### QUICK PITCH'S RACE RECORD

Year	Age	Starts	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	Earnings
1962	2	2	2	0	0	\$ 4,050
1963	3	13	3	4	1	\$ 35,027
1964	4	14	4	3	0	\$ 24,140
1965	5	14	4	2	3	\$ 70,582
1966	6	14	4	3	1	\$ 38,067
1967	7	7	6	0	1	\$ 45,351
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>64</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 229,217</b>

For the formidable animal won by 16 lengths over his nearest rival, Gay Sparkle; he did it in the record-breaking time of 4:30 2-5, and he brought it about after a dramatic bobble on the final jump that almost caused his jockey to pitch forward and that caused the gathering to catch its collective breath in anxiety.

#### Mahoney on Winner

Jim Mahoney rode Quick Pitch and he guided the son of Charlevoix to the front from the start. He kept him there all the way, rated him perfectly, and the only question was, how far could he win?

That universal optimism was almost shattered, though, when Quick Pitch, who had taken all the other jumps with serene flawlessness, just about charged through the final one. The great cheering stopped for an instant, was replaced by a hush, then was resumed in greater volume as the favorite proceeded to the wire. Back of Gay Sparkle came Brandon Hill, Sandhill Flight and Lumiere, while Amble Up broke down.

Mahoney was crestfallen as he talked to trainer Barry Ryan, a cousin of the owner, for having permitted the horse to "loaf" on the final obstacle. But he brightened up when he joined the group for the victory photograph, for Miss Virginia Guest, daughter of Raymond Guest, made the presentation to Ryan.

In his last race, at Saratoga on Aug. 18, Quick Pitch carried 170 pounds and won a 2 1/16-mile hurdle race by 18 lengths in record time for the course. In the Rouge Dragon, his performance was 1 1/5 seconds faster than the previous Aqueduct mark. No hurdle horse had ever carried as much as 170 pounds to victory, but heavier burdens have been carried by winners of steeplechase races, which are run more slowly.

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