

Skip By Night First

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WESTBURY, L.I., May 29 — Finishing with a burst of speed, Keystone Arbor Stable's favored Skip By Night won the \$148,000 George Morton Levy Memorial Pacing final at Roosevelt Raceway tonight.

The fleet 5-year-old son of Meadow Skipper was clocked in the New York season's fastest time of 1:57 for the mile, beating Miller's Scout to the wire by five lengths. The winner's time was only two-fifths of a second off the track record.

The crowd of 14,449, which sent Skip By Night off as the \$3.40-for-\$2 choice, saw Ted Wing bid his time before rushing Skip By Night into contention after Miller's Scout had turned in fractions of :29 for the quarter and :59 2/5 for the half mile.

"I wasn't inclined to hurry," said Wing, "although it looked as if we were hung out once we got past the quarter-mile mark. I didn't want to take the chance of trying for the lead too early. But I've raced this horse off

the pace and on the outside before. As usual he was sharp as we rushed for home."

Miller's Scout, who had led from the first turn, was unable to challenge as the two charged for the wire. Skip By Night, who had rushed up on the outside, was in command midway in the stretch. In gaining his ninth triumph in 20 starts this season, Skip By Night paced the closing quarter in :28 3/5. His time of 1:57 was his fastest ever on a half-mile track.

"I knew this horse had something left," said Wing. "And when I put my foot on the pedal, he really went all out. I think he could have gone a fifth or two-fifths of a second faster if it had been necessary."

League Leader, who competed as an entry with Miller's Scout, finished third, 3/4 lengths behind his stablemate. But he never was in contention. Fifth in the six-horse field at the half, he showed better speed in pacing the track's final circuit.