

The *Saratoga* Special

Saratoga's Daily Newspaper
on Thoroughbred Racing

Thursday, August 21, 2014

Year 14 • No. 27



Back on Track

Demonstrative eyes another Turf Writers

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Connie Bush

Ice Bucket Challenge. Rajiv Maragh stands on a chair to douse trainer Gary Contessa in the winner's circle as part of the ALS awareness ice-bucket challenge. Learn more at www.als.net.

here&there... at Saratoga

NAMES OF THE DAY

Well Composed, fifth race. Bradley Thoroughbreds' filly is out of Patience Pays.

Atrous, fifth race. Listed as dark bay, Michael Dilger's filly surely is jet black.

Accord, fifth race. Treadway Racing's filly is out of Hug It Out.

BY THE NUMBERS

80,900: Dollars earned by Syros since starting for a \$20,000 claiming price in May.

434,286: Dollars earned by Spy In The Sky before being claimed from Wednesday's jump race.

6-5: Odds that Paige Wyatt, 4, will say hello to trainer Jack Fisher.

10-1: Odds James Wyatt, 6, will say hello to Fisher.

50-1: Odds Fivel Wyatt (the dog) will say hello to Fisher. (Odds submitted by Fisher)

WORTH REPEATING

"Good morning. I'm new to the company."

Ryan Clancy, 21, returning to the distribution department at The Special

"My future."

Jimmy Toner, while serving as a crossing guard, Wednesday morning

"We're upset, the kid leaves and he never says goodbye?"

The Quarter Pole Gap crew, after The Special's Jack Clancy headed to college (don't worry, he didn't say goodbye to his uncle either)

The Lonh and the short of it!

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here&there... at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

Trainer Peter Pugh: "Are you an Asmussen?"

Nine-year-old Natalie Breedon: "I don't even know what that is."

"I'm Special."

T-shirt slogan for The Special, by reader Frank Durkee

"We do a lot of tinkering."

Trainer Bill Mott, while going through saddle pads Wednesday morning

"That's just gravy."

Trainer Jack Fisher, on winning a flat race with steeplechaser Syros at Belmont Park in June

"I'd like to give a shoutout to The Saratoga Special for helping make my dreams come true."

Jockey Rajiv Maragh, beginning an interview the way all jockeys should (now, if he'd only done that on Fox)

"Champagne or boat?"

Chappy Motion, weighing his options after his dad won the Sword Dancer Sunday night

"I'm not cold."

Motion, through chattering teeth on Saratoga Lake

"It was Judom, not Junum. Don't worry, only the bookkeeper Mrs. Stone knew his correct name."

Ralph Theroux, when correcting the spelling of former Jerkens' pony boy

"He told Julie Krone to blow out Missy's Mirage an eighth of a mile as fast as she could run and then pull her up quick at the wire. Julie looked at him and said, 'You do it.'"

Jerkens' assistant Bill Higgins on the long-ago practice of blowing out horses on race day

"Are they flying south?"

Railbird, watching geese fly in the air Saturday morning

"You have no idea what that column meant to him. It's tangible evidence that people care. Thanks again, Dr. Clancy."

Anne Hodge, after reading the "Get Well Frank" column in The Special

"I'm noticing, every morning it's a little later."

Owner Anthony Bonomo to The Special crew at the start of Week 5

"We made it a long way, from Shug's barn to Mott's barn."

Niall Brennan, after spending most of Tuesday morning between the two Hall of Famers

"How do you know I didn't make the beds?"

Trainer Jack Fisher, after his landlord thanked Fisher's wife for making the beds

"Everybody wanted to do it. I did it."

Luzzi, when explaining why he punched a bully after an eighth-grade Catholic League basketball game

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I could hear a lot of kicking and slapping behind me so that gives you a bit of confidence."

– Jump jockey Jack Doyle, on leading a 2 3/8-mile race on the final turn



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Mane Event. A lead pony got dressed up for the races.

Connie Bush

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- 885 F Here Comes Ben - Rock Hall Honey
- 898 C Here Comes Ben - Ryann Rocks
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Sweet dreams.

Photo by Connie Bush

The Chief . . . Day 27

"We didn't used to worry about win percentages. If a horse ran bad, we'd say 'Well, 'freshen em up a little bit, change it up.' Racing secretaries want you to run, then you run where you don't belong and your percentage is no good, then everybody thinks you don't know what you're doing. I could never give a horse a race, that was the trouble with me. It always had to be the World Series, every race. That's the best way to do it, though. These 3-year-olds, get them two-thirds fit, tell the jock not to hit them, learn how to get dirt in their face, best thing in the world for them. They used to run them in the short races, they knew how to get bumped, take dirt in his face, some of these horses get to the Derby and they've never had dirt in their face, he's never been bumped around."

- Trainer Allen Jerkens



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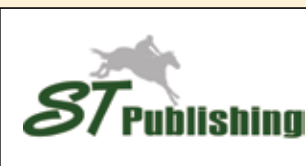
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Riding Writers

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BY SEAN CLANCY

As Magellan said, it's all about the trip.

Today's New York Turf Writers Cup (post time 12:25 so show up early) is all about the trip. And everybody knows their trip and their rivals' trip. The first six finishers from the Grade 1 A.P. Smithwick return for the Grade 1 Turf Writers.

Three weeks later, five-sixteenths of a mile farther, an extra turn and one hurdle added, the Turf Writers offers a rematch for the 1-2 finishers Makari and Demonstrative and a chance at redemption for Pleasant Woodman, All Together, Staying

See **TURF WRITERS** page 10 ►



Makari (right) and Demonstrative (center) renew their battle in today's Grade 1 New York Turf Writers Cup.

Tod Marks

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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 8

On and Italian Wedding who finished 7 ¼ to 11 lengths behind the runaway exacta finishers July 31.

In addition to the first six home in the Smithwick, Barnstorming returns after finishing ninth, Charminster leaps out of a runner-up effort in an optional claimer July 30 and the highly regarded Irish-bred, British-raced For Non Stop makes his major track debut after finishing third in the Grade 1 Iroquois going 3 miles in May.

Makari won five of his last seven starts in England before Merriebelle Stable imported the 7-year-old for an American campaign. No time for jet lag, the 7-year-old won the Smithwick two weeks after arriving. Settling near the back of the 10-horse field, Makari jumped accurately and moved acutely, slipping through on the inside to nail Demonstrative by a nose. Jack Doyle was aboard that day and is aboard again for trainer Elizabeth Voss.

“Just get him settled early, hopefully two and three eighths won’t be a problem, hopefully ride the same race, if we can get a trip as good as the Smithwick...he’s pretty straightfor-

ward, once you get him covered up, he settles and travels so well,” Doyle said. “Everybody got a good trip in the Smithwick, there didn’t seem to be too much jostling for position.”

With the Turf Writers running under allowance conditions, Makari picks up eight pounds from the Smithwick.

“That’s a bit of a worry, but he’s a big horse, he should be able to carry the weight. We won’t do anything different. I’ll try to keep an eye on Demonstrative and For Non Stop but I’ll ride my horse the way he likes to be ridden,” Doyle said. “I wanted to be down on the inner, if you have enough horse, you’ll get there. I thought going to the last I was going to win snug enough, but I didn’t jump it as well as Demonstrative but he’s tough, he stuck his head out.”

Doyle rides Makari every day. It’s been a good three weeks.

“He’s in fantastic form,” Doyle said. “We are confident, but it’s a tough race. As long as he shows up and runs a good race like the last time, we’ll be happy.”

A nose behind Makari, Demonstrative returns to avenge that loss. Jacqueline Ohrstrom’s 7-year-old scoured Saratoga in 2012, winning



Tod Marks

Italian Wedding seeks a second win in the Turf Writers for Jonathan Sheppard.

the Jonathan Kiser and Turf Writers. The son of Elusive Quality capped the year with last-to-first bombardment in the Colonial Cup. Last year, he picked up where he left off, winning the Iroquois. Then everything went wrong. He lost four in a row, had off-season wind surgery and returned with a poor effort in the Iroquois in May. Training better, Demonstrative strutted around

Saratoga before the Smithwick and did everything but earn the big check. Trained by Richard Valentine, Demonstrative showed he’s back to his best form. Robbie Walsh knew it when he nearly bucked him off when climbing on from the mounting block at Valentine’s base in The Plains, Va.

See **TURF WRITERS** page 12 ►

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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 10

Walsh navigated a sweet trip in the Smithwick, losing the race at the head of the stretch when Makari sidled through on the rail. In the Turf Writers, he'll try to settle just off the pace, put his jumping to good use and then use his late gears to exact revenge on Makari.

"I don't change much, unless we go quicker and then I'll be further back," Walsh said. "The only thing you could think about changing from the Smithwick was turning for home, possibly going to the inside but we talked about not getting his run stopped because we were a little worried that the turn of foot that used to be there might not be there. That's why I tipped out, while screaming at Gerard (Galligan) to stay in, the other horse was going well enough to get through. I winged the last, if anything he waited a bit for company."

Doyle, Walsh and every jockey in the race will base all strategy on Pleasant Woodman. He's the constant. Owned by Virginia Lazenby and Farm D'Allie Racing Stable, Pleasant Woodman knows one way. The 6-year-old son of Woodman has led at the first three calls in his eight most recent races. He's won three of them and took the field a long way in the Smithwick before succumbing to the late kicks of Makari and Demonstrative. Trained by Doug Fout and ridden by Gerard Galligan, Pleasant Woodman held off All Together, Staying On, Italian Wedding and Barnstorming in the Smithwick. He'll



Tod Marks

Third in the Smithwick, Pleasant Woodman makes his presence felt with front-running tactics.

stretch his stamina another five-sixteenths of a mile in the Turf Writers.

"We'll put him on the front where he likes to be, we're not going to fight him, we'll let him do his thing and try to get him in his routine, his rhythm and hope he stays the extra distance," Galligan said. "Ideally, two miles is his best thing but if he settles, he's a tough horse, he'll battle on and he sure will be trying. He ran a good race in the Smithwick, his jumping was great. I have to be careful to not let anybody up my inside, there will be lads trying."

Pleasant Woodman stayed 2 ¼ miles up the taxing hill at Iroquois to win the Marcellus Frost Nov-

ice Stakes in May.

"You can win races on the front here but you need to dictate the pace and go steady. At the hunt meets, it's easier to get breathers. Here, it's flat so he'll bowl again," Galligan said. "He does it all himself, I just sit there, he's very clever, he knows when to give himself breathers and he knows when to open up. Dougie says if he's pulling you're going too slow. You just let him rock and roll. He enjoys it, he loves running and jumping. He used to run frantically but he's almost mastered it, running fast but relaxing."

Sam Jones settled All Together in the Smithwick and the 9-year-old veteran stayed well to be fourth, beaten 8 ¼ lengths by Makari. A 30-start veteran over hurdles, All Together rated in sixth along the inside, just off Demonstrative for the entire trip in the Smithwick. Owned by Sheila Williams and Andrew Brewster, the son of Danzig (yes, Danzig) posted another consistent effort against the best in the game. Trained by Jack Fisher, All Together finished second to Italian Wedding in last year's Turf Writers, one of five runner-up efforts since dropping to the \$30,000 claiming ranks last summer.

"No excuses, he'll need to improve a little from that day. The extra few furlongs will help, we get weight from the winner of the Smithwick," Jones said. "I felt like all he did was just keep galloping once we turned in and the others quickened. The winner and the second horse will be hard to beat, I was happy with the way things went, they just quickened. I dropped him to switch him off and

See **TURF WRITERS** page 26 ▶

An advertisement for Bona Venture Stables. It features a photograph of three jockeys racing horses. The jockey in the center is wearing a green helmet and blue and yellow silks. The jockey on the left is wearing an orange helmet and orange and blue silks. The jockey on the right is wearing a green helmet and green and pink silks. The horses are brown and black. The text "Heart-Rounding Excitement; it's what we deliver!" is overlaid on the image. Below it, the text "Bona Venture Stables, Offering Affordable Racing Partnerships." is written. In the top left corner, there is a logo for Bona Venture Stables featuring a green and yellow jacket with a white star. At the bottom, contact information is provided: "For information contact: dfcollins@bonaventurestables.com or visit us on the web at: www.bonaventurestables.com". On the right side, there is a vertical copyright notice: "©Bona Venture Stables 2014. Photo: ©Adam Mooshian 2014".



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Connie Bush

Risky Rachel is a slight favorite in today's Union Avenue.

Right at Home

Risky Rachel seeks repeat of 2012 stakes win for Coronel

BY TOM LAW

UNION AVENUE PREVIEW

Manny Coronel snagged an overnight for today's races, scanned for the \$100,000 Union Avenue Stakes and liked what he didn't see.

Nowhere on the entries for the \$100,000 race for New York-bred fillies and mares did he see the names Willet or La Verdad. He's sending out 7-5 favorite Risky Rachel and expected to see at least one of the names, maybe even both, so when he didn't it changed his outlook.

"Those two fillies are amazing; they are the best New York-breds right now," Coronel said just outside his barn on the corner of the first turn on the Oklahoma. "I was very happy when I saw the entries come out. Very happy."

Coronel was happy, yes, but definitely not overconfident.

Coronel worked for Frank Martin, Angel Penna Jr. and Jim Bond before going out on his own in 2012, so he knows that Risky Rachel still needs to be at her best in the 6 1/2-furlong Union Avenue because there are still five others in the field. The group includes Sunny Desert, who could easily be in the argument for "best New York-breds right now" and the 8-5 second choice.

Fortunately for Coronel and owner Sanford Bacon, who bred the 7-year-old mare out of his consistent multiple stakes winner Dancin Renee, Risky Rachel is a proven commodity at Saratoga. She's won twice and finished second twice in four starts, including a victory in the 2012 Union Avenue over the aforementioned Balserina Stakes-bound Willet.

"She likes it here and her better races are always here," Coronel said, a few yards from the attentive and inquisitive Risky Rachel poking her head out of her stall. "If she wins it will be her second in this stakes. With those two fillies not in there I think she can be right there. I don't know if she'll be favorite or second choice,

but she'll be there."

Risky Rachel being back in the Union Avenue is pretty big in itself.

She dominated the 2012 edition, defeating Willet by 3 1/2 lengths for her third win in six starts to that point. She raced next in the 7-furlong Iroquois Stakes at Belmont Park during the Empire Showcase program. The track was sloppy that day and the daughter of Limehouse came out of the race with a tendon issue.

Bacon, who kept half siblings Dancin Renee in training through her 5-year-old season and legendary New York-bred Say Florida Sandy until he was 9, wasn't in any hurry and put no pressure on Coronel to bring Risky Rachel back quickly. She was off nearly 15 months.

"In December after we got her back from the farm and training, we took X-rays and she was perfect," Coronel said. "We were at Gulfstream Park. When you're there you've got two choices, run at Gulfstream in some tough races, or go to Tampa."

Coronel and Bacon decided on Tampa Bay Downs, where Risky Rachel won two small, open-company stakes in as many starts. Risky Rachel hasn't won since, finishing off the board in the Broadway against state-breds in March at Aqueduct and the My Juliet at Parx in May. She picked her head up a bit when third behind La Verdad and Willet in the Dancin Renee before a good second to Willet in a tough allowance at Saratoga July 30.

"She's a 7-year-old now, so you've got to be smart and pick the right races," Coronel said. "You've got to pick the races where she belongs. It's not the same as when she was 5 or 4. Now she's 7, but she's training very good here. She likes to be here and this looks like a perfect spot."

See **UNION AVENUE** page 15 ►

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Union Avenue —

■ Continued from page 14

Sunny Desert lands in the same seemingly ideal spot for her first start since the 2012 Saratoga meet.

The now 5-year-old daughter of Wild Desert won an allowance/optional race in her only try at the Spa and then ended her sophomore season with back-to-back stakes wins. Sunny Desert won three of four starts from January to April last year before pulling a muscle and going to the sidelines.

Sunny Desert was transferred from the since retired John Parisella to Bruce Levine last year and she popped a splint on the eve of her fall return and was off again until late March. Sunny Desert, a finalist for champion New York-bred older female honors last year off her three stakes wins, finished a solid third behind La Verdad and Hot Rendezvous in the Broadway.

Linda Rice trains La Verdad, who is entered for Saturday's Grade 1 Ballerina, sends out two starters



Connie Bush

Champagne Ruby tackles Thursday's co-feature.

in the Union Avenue in Uncle Southern and Champagne Ruby.

Uncle Southern is 10-1 on the line off a win in an off-the-turf 5 ½-furlong allowance/optional July 31. The 4-year-old daughter of Uncle Camie makes her stakes debut.

Champagne Rudy exits a win in the Niagara

Stakes 12 days ago at Finger Lakes and takes on older rivals for the first time. The 3-year-old daughter of Utopia snapped a six-race losing skid in the Niagara.

"It was a short field, nice purse and it was against New York-bred fillies and mares," Rice said of her reasoning for taking a shot. "At this time of year a 3-year-old filly like her is going to run out of opportunities to run against straight 3-year-olds. She seems to like to be a come-from-behind sprinter and I thought, 'well, we don't have that many opportunities left, let's give it a whirl.'"

Vicki's Dancer is the 6-1 third choice as she switches from the turf to the main track. The 5-year-old Disco Rico mare is 0-for-2 at Saratoga but won a division of the New York Stallions Series going 7 furlongs on the main track last November at Aqueduct for trainer Rudy Rodriguez.

Charlton Baker sends out his Make the Moment, a 4-year-old daughter of Indygo Shiner who was fourth in the Broadway three starts back and fourth in the Willet-Risky Rachel allowance earlier in the meet.

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SARATOGA ENTRIES

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Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	Barnstorming	W. McCarthy	J. Sheppard	5-1	
1a	.....	Italian Wedding	.....	B. Dalton	.....	J. Sheppard	.....	5-1	
2	.....	4.....	Charminster (IRE)	.....	C. Sloan	.....	C. Murphy	.....	7-2
2b	.....	8.....	For Non Stop (IRE)	.....	R. Geraghty	.....	C. Murphy	.....	7-2
3	.....	3.....	Demonstrative	.....	R. Walsh	.....	R. Valentine	.....	3-1
4	.....	5.....	Staying On (IRE)	.....	P. Young	.....	J. Fisher	.....	12-1
5	.....	6.....	All Together	.....	S. Jones	.....	J. Fisher	.....	8-1
6	.....	7.....	Pleasant Woodman	.....	G. Galligan	.....	P. Fout	.....	15-1
7	.....	9.....	Makari (GB)	.....	J. Doyle	.....	E. Voss	.....	2-1

2ND (1:00PM). \$42,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 6F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	From Tiz Moment On	.....	A. Worrie	.....	A. Ronen	.....	20-1
2	.....	2.....	Tiz May West	.....	R. Albarado	.....	A. Stall, Jr.	.....	8-5
3	.....	3.....	Morning Star	.....	S. Bridgmohan	.....	B. Cox	.....	5-2
4	.....	4.....	Shesgotthemoves	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	R. D'Alessandro	.....	12-1
5	.....	5.....	Gem City Gal	.....	M. Franco	.....	J. Servis	.....	3-1
6	.....	6.....	Ocean Boulevard	.....	J. Lebaroux	.....	I. Wilkes	.....	6-1

3RD (1:32PM). \$73,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Bryce Bryce Baby	.....	J. Ortiz	.....	J. Kimmel	.....	8-1
2	.....	2.....	Jacob's Here	.....	J. Castellano	.....	P. Quick	.....	6-1
3	.....	3.....	Blue Shark	.....	J. Velazquez	.....	M. Dilger	.....	9-5
4	.....	4.....	Harbor King	.....	E. Prado	.....	R. Metivier	.....	12-1
5	.....	5.....	Sea Raven	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	S. Hammond	.....	15-1
6	.....	6.....	Fictionalcharacter	.....	D. Davis	.....	J. Ryerson	.....	5-1
7	.....	7.....	Vagarious	.....	J. Rosario	.....	R. Violette, Jr.	.....	2-1

4TH (2:04PM). \$55,000, STR \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Lonely Teardrops	.....	J. Ortiz	.....	M. Scherer	.....	5-2
2	.....	MTO	Legally Bay	.....	J. Cook	.....	M. Coffey	.....	4-1
3	.....	3.....	Boca Babe	.....	C. Velasquez	.....	D. Jacobson	.....	4-1
4	.....	4.....	Under Scrutiny	.....	A. Arroyo	.....	R. Ubillo	.....	15-1
5	.....	5.....	Wine Burglar	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	2-1
6	.....	6.....	Funky Munky Fever	.....	J. Alvarado	.....	D. Donk	.....	3-1
7	.....	7.....	Northern Smile	.....	E. Prado	.....	K. Boniface	.....	8-1
8	.....	MTO	Island Candy	.....	J. Rosario	.....	B. Brown	.....	5-2

5TH (2:37PM). \$83,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1	.....	2.....	Margaret Reay	.....	L. Saez	.....	M. Wilson	.....	15-1
1a	.....	AE	Bullet Sister	.....	J. Ortiz	.....	J. Terranova, II	.....	15-1
2	.....	1.....	Sashay	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	C. Clement	.....	5-2
3	.....	3.....	Zeezee Zoomzoom	.....	J. Rocco, Jr.	.....	A. Tarrant	.....	15-1
4	.....	4.....	Greywalls	.....	J. Rosario	.....	J. Terranova, II	.....	6-1
5	.....	5.....	Well Composed	.....	J. Castellano	.....	C. Brown	.....	5-1
6	.....	6.....	Fusaichi Red	.....	J. Alvarado	.....	G. Weaver	.....	8-1
7	.....	7.....	Sunnysammi	.....	L. Mejias	.....	N. Esler	.....	20-1
8	.....	8.....	Overspending	.....	J. Velazquez	.....	T. Pletcher	.....	3-1
9	.....	9.....	Atrous	.....	S. Bridgmohan	.....	M. Dilger	.....	10-1
10	.....	10.....	Accord	.....	R. Maragh	.....	L. Gyarmati	.....	12-1
11	.....	AE	Hooligan	.....	A. Lezcano	.....	W. Ward	.....	8-1
12	.....	AE	Partisan Politics	.....	J. Castellano	.....	C. Brown	.....	3-1
13	.....	AE	Presto Magic	.....	P. Lopez	.....	K. Breen	.....	6-1
14	.....	MTO	Clothes Fall Off	.....	.....	.....	K. McLaughlin	.....	3-1
15	.....	MTO	Diannestillworks	.....	M. Franco	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	8-1

6TH (3:10PM). \$100,000, STK - THE UNION AVENUE, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 6 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Make the Moment	.....	T. Rice	.....	C. Baker	.....	8-1
2	.....	2.....	Risky Rachel	.....	J. Castellano	.....	J. Coronel	.....	7-5
3	.....	3.....	Sunny Desert	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	B. Levine	.....	8-5
4	.....	4.....	Vicki's Dancer	.....	J. Velazquez	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	10-1
5	.....	5.....	Uncle Southern	.....	L. Saez	.....	L. Rice	.....	6-1
6	.....	6.....	Champagne Ruby	.....	C. Velasquez	.....	L. Rice	.....	12-1

7TH (3:43PM). \$83,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Dragonberry	.....	J. Castellano	.....	T. Pletcher	.....	6-5
2	.....	2.....	Smart Ashley	.....	J. Lebaroux	.....	G. Arnold, II	.....	6-1
3	.....	3.....	Por Que Te Sueno	.....	S. Bridgmohan	.....	E. Guillot	.....	15-1
4	.....	4.....	Absolutely Anita	.....	A. Worrie	.....	G. Gullo	.....	30-1
5	.....	5.....	M B and Tee	.....	J. Alvarado	.....	D. Schettino	.....	8-1
6	.....	6.....	Illapa	.....	J. Lezcano	.....	N. Zito	.....	10-1
7	.....	7.....	Guilty Verdict	.....	J. Ortiz	.....	C. McGaughey III	.....	2-1

8TH (4:16PM). \$50,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Downtown Hottie	.....	M. Franco	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	6-1
2	.....	2.....	Casual Elegance	.....	M. Chavez	.....	G. Goodwin	.....	30-1
3	.....	3.....	Holiday Drama	.....	R. Napravnik	.....	M. Maker	.....	5-2
4	.....	4.....	Rhythm Queen	.....	C. Lanerie	.....	B. Brown	.....	8-1
5	.....	5.....	Bargaining Table	.....	T. Rice	.....	J. Toscano, Jr.	.....	12-1
6	.....	MTO	Ah Gaga	.....	J. Castellano	.....	G. Contessa	.....	5-1
7	.....	7.....	First Whippoorwill	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	H. Motion	.....	9-5
8	.....	8.....	Tidal Slam	.....	R. Maragh	.....	N. Terracciano	.....	15-1
9	.....	9.....	Dance With Gio	.....	C. DeCarlo	.....	P. Kopaj	.....	5-1

9TH (4:49PM). \$78,000, AOC \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

1	.....	1.....	Neck of the Moon	.....	J. Velazquez	.....	C. Brown	.....	5-1
2	.....	2.....	My Jopia	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	D. Schettino	.....	4-1
3	.....	3.....	Desert Bliss	.....	R. Maragh	.....	J. Englehart	.....	12-1
4	.....	4.....	White Sangria	.....	J. Rosario	.....	T. Bush	.....	3-1
5	.....	5.....	Image of Noon	.....	M. Franco	.....	J. Ryerson	.....	15-1
6	.....	6.....	Lumineuse	.....	C. DeCarlo	.....	P. Quick	.....	30-1
7	.....	7.....	Hot Squeeze	.....	C. Velasquez	.....	G. Weaver	.....	6-1
8	.....	8.....	Subtle	.....	J. Castellano	.....	J. Servis	.....	4-1
9	.....	9.....	Fancy Boss	.....	J. Ortiz	.....	J. Englehart	.....	10-1
10	.....	10.....	Your Time Is Up	.....	L. Saez	.....	R. Violette, Jr.	.....	20-1
11	.....	AE	Ave's Halo	.....	J. Rocco, Jr.	.....	D. Cannizzo	.....	6-1

10TH (5:22PM). \$45,000, MCL \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/8M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	.....	1.....	Quarla	.....	J. Castellano	.....	C. Brown	.....	5-2
2	.....	2.....	Dreaming of Kitten	.....	R. Napravnik	.....	D. Gargan	.....	20-1
3	.....	3.....	Path to Power	.....	A. Solis	.....	L. Lewis	.....	15-1
4	.....	4.....	Sweetdreamsaboutme	.....	A. Lezcano	.....	K. Feron	.....	30-1
5	.....	5.....	Lady Seeker	.....	L. Saez	.....	G. Contessa	.....	30-1
6	.....	6.....	Winner's Legacy	.....	J. Lezcano	.....	G. Weaver	.....	5-1
7	.....	7.....	Risk Control	.....	M. Franco	.....	R. Violette, Jr.	.....	12-1
8	.....	8.....	Beauty Surprise	.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....	C. Clement	.....	3-1
9	.....	9.....	Late Night Artist	.....	R. Albarado	.....	D. Romans	.....	4-1
10	MTO	Untiltherewasyou	A. Solis	L. Lewis	6-1
11	11.....	More Everything	E. Prado	G. Weaver	8-1

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Chad Summers

Race #

1	Murphy entry Makari All Together	Makari Demonstrative All Together	Demonstrative For Non Stop All Together	Makari Demonstrative Staying On	Demonstrative Murphy entry Makari
2	Tiz May West Morning Star Gem City Gal	Tiz May West Gem City Gal Morning Star	Tiz May West Morning Star Gem City Gal	Gem City Gal Morning Star Ocean Boulevard	Tiz May West Gem City Gal Ocean Boulevard
3	Jacob's Here Fictionalcharacter Sea Raven	Blue Shark Vagarious Jacob's Here	Vagarious Blue Shark Jacob's Here	Fictionalcharacter Vagarious Jacob's Here	Blue Shark Vagarious Fictionalcharacter
4	Wine Burglar Funky Munky Fever Boca Babe	Island Candy Funky Munky Fever Wine Burglar	Lonely Teardrops Wine Burglar Funky Munky Fever	Funky Munky Fever Under Scrutiny Wine Burglar	Boca Babe Wine Burglar Lonely Teardrops
5	Sashay Accord Partisan Politics	Clothes Fall Off Sashay Well Composed	Overspending Sashay Well Composed	Sashay Partisan Politics Well Composed	Overspending Sashay Well Composed
6	Sunny Desert Vicki's Dancer Risky Rachel	Risky Rachel Sunny Desert Vicki's Dancer	Risky Rachel Sunny Desert Uncle Southern	Risky Rachel Make The Moment Sunny Desert	Risky Rachel Sunny Desert Make the Moment
7	Dragonberry Guilty Verdict Smart Ashley	Dragonberry Guilty Verdict M B and Tee	Guilty Verdict Dragonberry M B and Tee	Dragonberry Guilty Verdict Por Que Te Sueno	M B and Tee Dragonberry Smart Ashley
8	Ah Gaga First Whippoorwill Holiday Drama	First Whippoorwill Ah Gaga Holiday Drama	First Whippoorwill Holiday Drama Rhythm Queen	First Whippoorwill Ah Gaga Bargaining Table	Holiday Drama First Whippoorwill Rhythm Queen
9	My Jopia Ave's Halo White Sangria	White Sangria Neck of the Moon Subtle	White Sangria Neck of the Moon Hot Squeeze	White Sangria Fancy Boss Desert Bliss	Your Time is Up My Jopia Desert Bliss
10	Winner's Legacy Quarla Late Night Artist	Quarla Beauty Surprise Late Night Artist	Beauty Surprise Winner's Legacy Quarla	Late Night Artist Beauty Surprise Quarla	Beauty Surprise Winner's Legacy Late Night Artist
2014 Records:	73/293	92/293	83/293	67/293	63/293

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Jose Lezcano 11
 Manuel Franco 10
 Rosie Napravnik 9

Through Wednesday

Surface Score

Heart to Heart goes gate-to-wire in return to the grass for Lynch

BY TOM LAW

Brian Lynch was one of the last people out of the Saratoga Race Course paddock a few minutes before Wednesday's inaugural running of the \$100,000 Better Talk Now Stakes.

When he made it to the spot where the plastic fenced walkway hits the pavement, he snuck a quick glance at the lighted odds, saw Heart to Heart at 7-2 and made his way to the clubhouse. He checked the odds again when he hit the big screen area, walked out front, back inside, and finally to a smaller monitor near the betting windows.

Lynch watched the 1-mile turf stakes from there, and he watched it unfold exactly the way he wanted. Heart to Heart led the Better Talk Now field from the start, spurted away on both turns and waltzed to a

BETTER TALK NOW RECAP

3-length win under John Velazquez.

"He got [the lead] comfortably and they left him alone," Lynch said. "He was unpressured there, he got game and like I said, I really think this horse runs the turns well. He sort of surprised us how he scoots away from them. When he does that he gets his confidence. Absolutely thrilled with the way he ran."

Heart to Heart is the latest shipper from Lynch's barn at Woodbine to make an impression in New York.

Others are Clearly Now, who won the Grade 3 Belmont Sprint Championship in track-record time July 5 at Belmont Park, and Grand Arch, who nearly upset the Grade 2 Fourstar-dave July 9 when it took a course record for Seek Again to win it. Lynch



Tod Marks

Heart to Heart is clear at the finish of the Better Talk Now.

is bringing Five Iron, who won last year's Grade 3 Saranac, for next weekend's Grade 2 Bernard Baruch.

Lynch also won an allowance/optional earlier in the meet with Silver Freak in near-track record time of 1:33.58 for 1 mile on the inner turf and his starters are 5-for-6 on the board so far.

"I've been lucky this year to have a good group of horses and I've picked

the right ones to come down," Lynch said as he headed off to celebrate with friend and bloodstock agent Luis Bouza. "It's nice when a plan comes together because it's a long drive home when you don't get the bacon. When you don't get any ham on the bone, it's a long drive home. And you get tired when you drive, but when you win one you get a little pick up."

See **BETTER TALK NOW** page 19 ►



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Better Talk Now —

■ Continued from page 18

Lynch hopes to stick around town for a bit, especially with a few more runners in the final two weeks of the meet. When he does return to Toronto he can look back at Heart to Heart's victory over a small but quality field and get the pick-me-up he needs.

What he'll see is Velazquez ask the son of champion English Channel ever so slightly for some speed leaving the gate as he ran alongside Quick Call Stakes winner Pure Sensation heading into the first turn. Pure Sensation and Jose Lezcano conceded the lead and when the quarter-mile was posted in :23.48, Heart to Heart was up by a length and relaxed on the lead.

"We talked about it before the race and I just let him bounce out of [the gate] and see if anyone wants to take the lead," Velazquez said, adding that Lynch told him to take the lead if he wanted. "That's the way it worked out and he was rolling the whole way around."

Heart to Heart was still in front up the backstretch with Pure Sensation and 2-1 favorite Storming Inti chasing. Here's Johnny got in tight behind Storming Inti and Irad Ortiz Jr. was forced to put on the brakes. Same for Cornelio Velasquez on Mark My Way. The half went up in :47.03 and the other six were left with a lot to do when Heart to Heart zipped around the far turn.

Heart to Heart cut the corner and ran the last quarter-mile in :23.19 — faster than any of his other three quarters — and was home before the furlong marker. Los Borrachos made a belated run from the back of the pack but never seriously threatened to finish second, 2 3/4 lengths in front of Pure Sensation. The final time was 1:33.97, not far off the new course mark of 1:33.25 set by Seek Again.

Bred in Ontario and out of the Silver Deputy mare Ask the Question, Heart to Heart cost owner Terry Hamilton \$25,000 at the 2012 CTHS Canadian-bred yearling sale at Woodbine. The bay colt's distinct heart-shaped star made him easy to name.

"It's a unique marking isn't it?" Lynch said. "I always felt like he had a big heart, so when you combine them together he's heart to heart."

Heart to Heart showed promise

as a 2-year-old for Michael Stidham. The horse raced exclusively on Polytrack in five starts at 2, once at Arlington in his maiden-breaking debut, three times at Woodbine in restricted stakes and once in an off-the-turf allowance at Keeneland.

Lynch took over this winter and started Heart to Heart in a 1-mile allowance on the grass during Keeneland's spring meet. He won by 6 1/4 lengths gate-to-wire. Since Heart to Heart was bred in Ontario he was eligible for the Canadian Triple Crown, which required a move back to synthetic.

Heart to Heart finished sixth in his prep for the Canadian classics, beaten just 1 3/4 lengths in the 1 1/16-mile Marine Stakes against open company, then flopped when eighth in the 1 1/4-mile Queen's Plate.

Lynch said he "chased" a little too much trying the colt in that spot and got Heart to Heart back on the grass for his next start.

"He's probably not a Poly horse, but for a million bucks I'll give you a million reasons why I tried to get him there," Lynch said. "It was a lot further than he wants to run. I always felt that after the Keeneland race that is probably exactly what he wants to do, 1 mile on the turf. He's very quick, he runs the turns very well, so when this race came up I thought it was the perfect spot for him."



Tod Marks

The Better Talk Now winner shows off his distinct face.

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Pressure Producer

Strong Bodie Island holds off Virsito, wins 4th over jumps

When it comes to Bodie Island, trainer Richard Valentine tells jockey Kieran Norris things like, "Whatever you do, don't get there too soon. He's one we want to produce late." Then came Wednesday, where Bodie Island produced himself too soon and kept on producing.

Racing wide near the front, the 6-year-old made his forward position work, built a big lead on the final turn and hung on late to win by a rapidly diminishing head for owner/breeder The Elkstone Group. The 6-year-old son of Kafwain won for the fourth



Tod Marks

Bodie Island popped the last fence and wandered late but still hangs on to win the opener.

time over jumps and gave Elkstone its fifth win at the meet. Favorite Virsito finished second with Spy In The Sky third in 3:34.62 for 2 3/8 miles.

Meganisi made the early running, followed by Sal The Barber and You're The Top. To their outside and just behind, Norris tried to get Bodie Is-

land to settle. He obliged for a bit, but tugged at the reins and surged over his fences. With a circuit remaining, Bodie Island took the lead while racing behind loose horse You're The Top (who lost Ross Geraghty with a mistake at fence five). Still wide,

See **WEDNESDAY** page 21 ►

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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 20

Bodie Island took a 3-length lead into the second last and applied more pressure.

“He was keen and I wasn’t expecting him to do that,” Norris said. “I let him roll by one or two and he was on the muscle from there. There wasn’t much I could do with him. The loose horse hurt me at first, but he helped me too. Going into the far turn I just decided I’d give them a little bit to do and kick off the turn.”

Bodie Island kicked, then nearly got caught as he popped the last fence and wandered out in deep stretch. The win delighted Valentine, who took over Bodie Island’s training in 2013.

“He’s a cool, cool horse,” said the trainer. “If you watch him move, he’s not the best mover but we love him. He’s an incredibly kind horse. Winning races does improve their heads and to see running and jumping with his ears up, loving it, that’s nice to see. He got to waiting and drifting a little bit and I thought he might get caught. It was scary for a minute.”

When trained by Jonathan Sheppard in August 2012, Bodie Island suffered a heat stroke at Saratoga in 2012 and nearly died. He didn’t run again until May and didn’t win again until November. Donna Freyer at Custom Care Equine in Camden, S.C. helped the Kentucky-bred get past the issue and then Valentine took over. Bodie Island has won three of his last six starts.

“Donna did all the work, she rehabbed him and got to the root of the problem,” Valentine said. “He was not sweating right, we treated him for (neurologic disease) EPM and he came back.”

— Joe Clancy

• Bossy Saratoga didn’t take to Woodbine’s synthetic track and it didn’t take her long to show owner Ivan Dalos he made the right move sending her to Saratoga to race on dirt. The Street Boss filly



Tod Marks

Manuel Franco cools off Bossy Saratoga.

won her dirt debut when she took the second, a 7-furlong maiden claimer.

“She likes the dirt,” said Tom Morley, who took over the filly’s training from Nicholas Gonzalez. “Very kindly, (Dalos) sent her down here to me to see if we could win a race at Saratoga with her which we’ve managed to do, which is great.”

Bossy Saratoga won by three-quarters of a length over Ridingwiththediaboli.

“I’ve only had her for about a month so we’ve got a bit more fine tuning to do,” Morley said. “I’m delighted to get the win on the first out with her.”

— Katie Brush

• Captain Gaughen knocked on the door last year at Saratoga, finishing fourth in an allowance race and third in a small stakes. The 4-year-old Disco Rico gelding got it done Wednesday in the third race, winning a 1-mile allowance/optional for state-breds for his first victory of the season.

“He’s been a nice horse for us,” said trainer Jim Ryerson, who trains the homebred for Patricia Generazio. “He ran a couple of nice races here last year but narrowly got beat.”

Captain Gaughen finished 10th, beaten 9 ¼ lengths, in a similar race here last month.

“He was a little disappointing here earlier this year but he always comes through. He’s a nice horse,” Ryerson said.

— Katie Brush

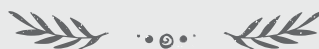
See **WEDNESDAY** page 22 ▶



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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 21

• Ken McPeek signed off on his first win of the meet with Signature Seven in the sixth.

“I’ve got this buddy of mine in Chicago, when I’m not winning he calls me McIce,” McPeek said. “When I’m winning he calls me McHeat. It was McDue today.”

McPeek was winless with his first 22 starters until Signature Seven. Another member of the winning team celebrated his first win at Saratoga. Art Lux, part of owner of the 3-year-old Zensational colt who races for Magdalena Racing and McPeek, pumped his fist walking down the clubhouse stairs and proclaimed, “I made it to the winner’s circle at Saratoga!”

“Since I was a kid my dream was always to be in that winner circle,” said Lux, who brought his nephew and some friends to the winner’s circle. “I told him, ‘tell your friends if that horse gets there I’m going to be (going crazy).’”

Signature Seven won three of eight starts prior to winning the sixth, a 7-furlong claiming race for \$25,000 tags.



Tod Marks

Kenzadargent rolls in U.S. debut for Martin Schwartz.

“This is his fourth win as a 3-year-old, its been a little tricky racing him” McPeek said. “He was at Churchill and we were struggling to find a race, the right distance, the right surface, the right conditions. The race came up as a sub race and we slipped him in there at the last moment.”

Alan Garcia, winning for the sec-

ond time of the meet, was aboard Signature Seven, who was claimed by Billy Fuccillo and trainer Chris Englehart.

Lux showed some sadness about the claim, but also saw an upside to the situation.

“So now I’m down to two horses which is better for my paycheck,”

Lux said before putting his fists up in the air one more time and adding, “I made it.”

— Kristin Brennan

• Martin Schwartz might have another stakes horse in the tried-and-true pipeline he’s developed with trainer Chad Brown.

Schwartz buys horses in Europe, typically in France, races them and sends them to Brown. Then he waits for the results to roll in.

Stacelita went that route and won the 2011 Eclipse Award for champion turf female. Zagora won the same award in 2012. Could Kenzadargent be next?

It might be a fair question after the French-bred filly won her U.S. debut in a 1-mile allowance/optional race Wednesday on the inner turf.

“Chad’s taken care of a lot of my European horses and acclimated them into the U.S. very well,” Schwartz said. “They seem to do better on the turf until they’re more fully grown and they’re sounder there, so when they come they’re more mature. In the U.S. we have a lot of stakes races for 3-year-old fillies, so there’s a lot of money and you don’t have to run

See **WEDNESDAY** page 23 ▶

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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 22

against older horses. That's why we bring them in the middle of the year."

Kenzadargent, close in four group stakes appearances, seemed comfortable among her new peers. She won Wednesday's seventh by 1 length over Fade to Black in 1:35.34.

"She came over to me in terrific shape from the previous trainer," said Brown, referring to Jean-Claude Rouget. "She's been training super, but you never know until you get them over here. We thought this was a good spot to get her started. If she comes back in good shape we'll run her back in a graded stakes from here."

— Dan McDonough

• Trainer Chris Englehart swayed back and forth in front of the big screen in the clubhouse as he watched Chairman Now win his fourth straight in Wednesday's finale after a nose-to-nose battle with Bedouin Now to the wire.

Javier Castellano rode the 7-year-old Tiznow to victory in the claiming race, just as he did nine days ago in a similar race at Saratoga. Chairman Now's previous two wins came at Finger Lakes.

"I give a lot of credit to that rider, both of the races up here he gave him super rides," Englehart said. "That made the difference to me."

Chairman Now won for the 10th time in his 38th career start.

"The horse was gutsy today," Englehart said. "(Bed-

ouin Now) come up on the outside of him and he kept running."

Chairman Now was not claimed out of the race and will get a little rest, Englehart said.

"I'm not sure he likes that one turn at Belmont," he said. "He seems to be better going two turns, but we will see. I'm not sure yet."

— Kristin Brennan



Tod Marks

Captain Caughn exits the winner's circle after the third.

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TOO MARKS

Turf Success

New York-Bred of the Day



By Dan McDonough

Owner Peter Deutsch likes New York-breds. He likes Elusive Quality as a sire.

Watch a colt like Saratoga Dream break his maiden with ease like he did in Wednesday's eighth race at Saratoga and it's easy to understand why.

"I'm a big fan of New York racing and I like to focus my portfolio on New York-breds," Deutsch said. "I've purchased a number of horses over the years by Elusive Quality. I'm a big believer in the bloodlines there. This horse is versatile, has dirt potential, turf potential, and I think he's a special horse."

Trained by Christophe Clement, Saratoga Dream won the 5 1/2-furlong turf sprint in his debut by 2 1/4 lengths over Coastal Zip. Bred by Aynsford Holdings, Saratoga Dreamer is out of the Irish River mare St Francis Wood.

"He took to the turf today and clearly buzzed everybody away," Deutsch said. "It was awesome. We know he's bred for turf, so we work him on the dirt and then when he gets on the turf he'll feel like it's a breeze. The dirt would be a little bit more of a grind, so we tried him first on the turf and we'll see where we go from here."

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SARATOGA RESULTS

Wednesday August 20.

FIRST \$65,000, OPTIONAL CLAIMING \$30,000, 4 & UP, 2 3/8M

7	Bodie Island	K. Norris	\$8.00	\$3.80	\$2.90
4	Virrito	P. Young		\$3.00	\$2.60
6	Spy in the Sky	G. Dahl			\$3.30

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2008, by Kafwain - Sweet Carolina by Deputy Minister
Owner: The Elkstone Group LLC. Trainer: Richard Valentine.
Breeder: The Elkstone Group LLC (KY).
Late Scratches: Umbraggio
Claimed: Spy in the Sky claimed by Ryan, Colvin G. for \$30,000
Time: 4:34.62 Exacta (7-4), \$20.80; Trifecta (7-4-6), \$75.50

SECOND \$40,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

5	Bossy Saratoga	M. Franco	\$21.40	\$6.20	\$4.90
2	Ridingwiththedeevil	J. Lezcano		\$2.40	\$2.10
8	Requestada	C. Lanerie			\$5.90

Dk B/ Br Filly 2011, by Street Boss - Calling Saratoga by Phone Trick
Owner: Dalos, Ivan. Trainer: Thomas Morley.
Breeder: Tall Oaks Farm (KY).
Late Scratches: Di Lissa
Claimed: Ridingwiththedeevil claimed by Graham, Marshall for \$35,000,
Status claimed by Brewster, Clark O. for \$35,000, Unrepented claimed
by Imperio, Michael for \$35,000 Time: 1:25.32
Daily Double (7-5), \$154.00; Exacta (5-2), \$38.60; Quinella (2-5),
\$9.40; Superfecta (5-2-8-4), \$1,597.00; Trifecta (5-2-8), \$206.00

THIRD \$78,000, NY-BRED AOC \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

1	Captain Gaughen	J. Velazquez	\$21.20	\$8.50	\$4.30
6	Sanctify	M. Franco		\$3.20	\$2.40
5	Majestic Raffy	J. Castellano			\$3.10

Gr/ro Gelding 2010, by Disco Rico - V for Vera by Concorde's Tune
Owner: Generazio, Patricia, A.. Trainer: James Ryerson.
Breeder: Patricia Generazio (NY).
Late Scratches: Hear the Footsteps Time: 1:35.49
Daily Double (5-1), \$201.50; Exacta (1-6), \$82.00; Superfecta (1-6-5-8), \$1,456.00; Trifecta (1-6-5), \$252.50; Pic 3 (7-5-1), \$1,413.00

FOURTH \$56,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$75,000, 2 YO, 6F

1	Pancakesandbatter	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$16.80	\$6.80	\$3.80
5	Dangerous Cowboy	T. Rice		\$4.40	\$2.70
6	Richie's Rich	R. Maragh			\$3.00

B Colt 2012, by Henrythenavigator - Rosemark by Deputy Minister
Owner: Dubb, Michael, Bethlehem Stables and The Elkstone Group.
Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. Breeder: Turner Breeders LLC (KY).
Time: 1:12.65 Daily Double (1-1), \$222.50; Exacta (1-5), \$59.00; Quinella (1-5), \$30.40; Superfecta (1-5-6-4), \$829.00;
Trifecta (1-5-6), \$159.50; Pic 3 (5-1-1), \$2,174.00

FIFTH \$32,000, CLAIMING \$16,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

8	Conzig	J. Velazquez	\$6.90	\$4.00	\$3.30
6	Lemon and Honey	L. Saez		\$5.30	\$3.50
3	Mononoke	E. Prado			\$4.00

Dk B/ Br Mare 2009, by Congrats - Amber Myth by Holy Bull
Owner: Jump Sucker Stable. Trainer: Carl Domino.
Breeder: Cloverleaf Farms II, Inc. (KY).
Claimed: Conzig claimed by My Purple Haze Stables LLC for \$16,000,
Lemon and Honey claimed by DeeTee Stables for \$16,000
Time: 1:18.91 Daily Double (1-8), \$76.50; Exacta (8-6), \$31.00; Superfecta (8-6-3-2), \$521.00; Trifecta (8-6-3), \$117.00;
Pic 3 (1-1-8), \$1,071.00

SIXTH \$50,000, CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO, 7F

2	Signature Seven	A. Garcia	\$8.50	\$3.80	\$2.40
7	Roman Approval	L. Mejias		\$3.00	\$2.10
3	Bigger Picture	J. Castellano			\$2.30

Gr/ro Colt 2011, by Zensational - Disrupt by Deputy Minister

Owner: Magdalena Racing (Susan McPeck) and McPeck, Kenneth G..
Trainer: Kenneth McPeck. Breeder: Bridlewood Farm (FL).

Late Scratches: Kearney Square
Claimed: Signature Seven claimed by Fuccillo, William B. for \$25,000,
Roman Approval claimed by Three Diamonds Farm for \$25,000, Big-
ger Picture claimed by Mulberry Stable for \$25,000
Time: 1:24.50 Daily Double (8-2), \$34.60; Exacta (2-7), \$23.80; Superfecta (2-7-3-4), \$87.00; Trifecta (2-7-3), \$60.00;
Pic 3 (1-8-2), \$329.00; Pic 4 (1-1-8-2), \$4,339.00; Pic 5 (5-1-1-8-2),
\$75,601.00

SEVENTH \$85,000, AOC \$75,000, 3 YO, 1M

8	Kenzadargent (FR)	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$4.50	\$3.00	\$2.60
4	Fade to Black	J. Velazquez		\$3.90	\$2.80
9	Miss Melinda	J. Alvarado			\$4.90

Gr/ro Filly 2011, by Kendargent (FR) - Quiza Bere (FR) by Epistolaire (IRE)
Owner: Schwartz, Martin, S.. Trainer: Chad Brown.
Breeder: Guy Pariente (FR).
Late Scratches: Pretty Fancy, Ireland, Bartiromo, Whispering, Soul Tittle, Faith Hall Time: 1:35.34
Daily Double (2-8), \$29.20; Exacta (8-4), \$16.00; Superfecta (8-4-9-5), \$731.00; Trifecta (8-4-9), \$113.50; Pic 3 (8-2-8), \$84.50

EIGHTH \$73,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 5 1/2F

10	Saratoga Dreamer	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$8.10	\$5.30	\$3.70
8	Coastal Zip	M. Franco		\$15.60	\$7.90
6	Boldlee	S. Husbands			\$12.00

Ch Colt 2012, by Elusive Quality - St Francis Wood by Irish River (FR)
Owner: Deutsch, Peter. Trainer: Christophe Clement. Breeder: Aynsford Holdings, LLC. (NY). Time: 1:02.51
Daily Double (8-10), \$13.60; Exacta (10-8), \$106.50; Superfecta (10-8-6-3), \$15,308.00; Trifecta (10-8-6), \$1,845.00; Pic 3 (2-8-10), \$109.50

NINTH \$100,000, STAKES - BETTER TALK NOW S., 3 YO, 1M

2	Heart to Heart	J. Velazquez	\$9.70	\$5.20	\$3.70
1	Los Borrachos	C. DeCarlo		\$7.50	\$4.10
7	Pure Sensation	J. Lezcano			\$3.10

B Colt 2011, by English Channel - Ask the Question by Silver Deputy
Owner: Hamilton, Terry. Trainer: Brian Lynch.
Breeder: Red Hawk Ranch (ON). Time: 1:33.97
Daily Double (10-2), \$47.20; Exacta (2-1), \$57.50; Superfecta (2-1-7-3), \$1,389.00; Trifecta (2-1-7), \$193.00; Pic 3 (8-10-2), \$116.50;
Place Pix Nine (2/3/7-4/8/9-6/8/10-2), \$50.50

TENTH \$32,000, CLAIMING \$16,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

6	Chairman Now	J. Castellano	\$11.60	\$6.00	\$3.50
9	Bedouin Now	B. Hernandez, Jr.		\$11.40	\$4.90
7	Le Deluge	J. Ortiz			\$2.60

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2007, by Tiznow - Lady From Shanghai by Storm Cat
Owner: My Purple Haze Stables LLC. Trainer: Chris Englehart.
Breeder: Hurlingham Partners (KY).
Late Scratches: Maserati (BRZ)
Claimed: Le Deluge claimed by Drawing Away Stable for \$16,000, Battle Hardened claimed by Ramsey, Kenneth L. and Sarah K. for \$16,000
Time: 1:52.49 Daily Double (2-6), \$71.50; Exacta (6-9), \$100.00; Superfecta (6-9-7-5), \$2,191.00; Trifecta (6-9-7), \$350.50;
Pic 3 (10-2-6), \$302.00; Pic 4 (8,10,12,13,14,15,16/10/2/6), \$999.00;
Pic 6 (8/2/8,10,12,13,14,15,16/10/2/6), \$119.00; Pic 6 (8/2/8,10,12,13,14,15,16/10/2/6), \$9,576.00

On Track Handle: 2,816,599
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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 12

then halfway down the back, he was flat out. Hopefully, it's a true-run race where they go a gallop and stamina is brought into it."

Fisher sends out Michael Moran's Staying On. The Irish-bred 9-year-old dropped to last in the Smithwick before rallying mildly to be fifth, beaten 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths. In five starts since moving to Fisher's barn, Staying On has produced two wins and a second against novices and a third and fifth against open stakes horses. Paddy Young, who finished seventh aboard Spy In The Sky in the Smithwick, replaces Jeff Murphy.

"It's a big ask, he seems to be in good form, he didn't have a hard race in the Smithwick," Young said. "If he finishes in the first three, it would be a big run for him. With Pleasant Woodman, you have your scenario, I don't think he needs to be as far back as he was, I'll ride him a little bit closer and go from there. The first two were so far clear of the others, if they run their races back again, and there's no reason to think they wouldn't, there were no hard-luck stories in the Smithwick. Everybody was there at the second to last, the better ones quickened away and the rest plodded home. He just needs to run faster."

Jonathan Sheppard, in search of his first stee-

plechase win at the meet, sends out Italian Wedding and Barnstorming. Italian Wedding upset the Turf Writers last year while part of a loaded Sheppard entry. The 9-year-old son of Alphabet Soup returned to finish third in the Grade 1 Lonesome Glory, eighth in the Grade 1 Grand National and third in the Grade 1 Colonial Cup. This year, he's winless in three tries, including a sixth in the Smithwick. Paying the price for his victory last year, Italian Wedding carries 154 and gives weight to every horse except for Demonstrative. Bernie Dalton, who guided Italian Wedding to win the 2013 Turf Writers win, returns.

"I'd like to think he'll improve and be a bit sharper," Dalton said. "When he's getting 5, 6, 7 pounds off these horses like he did last year he's better. Giving weight away, I'm not sure he's as good. He's up against it a little bit. My dream trip would be to be able to sit third or fourth and see what happens from there. His best race is when he can stay in there and keep going and going. Last year it looked like he was getting quicker at the end, but it was because they came back to him a little bit."

Dalton hopes the Smithwick effort, his first since May, propels him forward.

"In the Smithwick, he stayed on well. He'll be better for that race. It was his first run since May. I rode him in a work on Monday and he felt great and went nicely. It's hard to tell with these guys going five-eighths, but I was happy with him," Dalton said. "I hope he'll step up a little bit and he could


get a piece of it. He runs his race and if it's good enough it's good enough, the rest is kind of up to how the other horses run. We'll see."

For Non Stop adds mystery to the recognizable field. Owned by Irv Naylor and trained by Cyril Murphy, the 9-year-old faced classy chasers Sprinter Sacre, Menorah, Cue Card and Sir Des Champs while campaigning in England. Purchased last year, the son of Alderbrook burst on the scene with a 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ -length romp in the Imperial Cup before finishing third in the Iroquois. Ross Geraghty returns.

"I'll ride him handy like I did in the Iroquois and he'll handle the rest," Geraghty said. "I was very happy with the Iroquois, we learned a lot about him. Cyril has taken his time with him and we have a nice fresh horse coming here. He gets in with a lightweight, we'll see what happens."

Murphy bolstered his entry with Naylor's Charminster. The Irish-bred 8-year-old finished second to Virsito in an optional claimer July 30. Before that, he danced in the Lonesome Glory, Grand National, Colonial Cup and National Hunt Cup before taking a year off and returning here. Carol-Ann Sloan returns.

Barnstorming finished ninth in the Smithwick, his first start since falling in April. Owned and trained by Sheppard, the 8-year-old won the Mickey Walsh Novice Stakes last summer and finished second in the Colonial Cup. Willie McCarthy rides for the first time.



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Bodie Island wins the first.

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Pancakesandbatter wins the fourth.



Tod Marks photos

We're well past the halfway point of the meet and even further past the halfway mark of putting this paper out on an almost daily basis.

I was going to wait until later in the meet to do a little experiment, but found myself waiting to read copy and some page proofs Tuesday night and thought there's no time like the present. It's something I'd like to call, the words of my life as a writer and editor at The Saratoga Special.

The Google search space in the top right corner of the Firefox browser on the laptop I use at The Special office on Spring Street has gotten a workout.

Whether it's checking copy, writing copy or simply looking for a phone number to find out how late a spot is staying open or winning a bar bet without being in a bar, there's a wide array of words and phrases that have been searched.

Words starting with every letter of the alphabet but Q and V have been searched.

Why there's no Q or V I'm not sure, but I'll work on it.

Here's a sampling:

Alacrity, Aron Wellman, Ambassador Noel Kilkenny.

Told you it was random. How about these?

Big Tuna, Bread Basket, Bow Tie Cinema, best selling U.S. wines. Cut of the jib, Cady Hill, Cajun celebration chant, Camden Training Center.

Dr. Wilfred Thompson, Druthers, Donn Handicap.

Elite Racing Club, Eddie Delahoussaye, electric slide, Eric Guillot food.

Forno Toscano, Farrell Jones, Filimbi Head Maarek, Fox Sports 1.

Gary Jones, Greentree Road, Goldfinger, Green-House 17.

Hard Spun Darley, Harry M. Stevens Museum, Horseshoe Inn, Healthy Living Market.

I'm as happy as a pig in slop, Idle Hour Country Club, Indiana Grand, Italian restaurants Saratoga.

Jerry and Ann Moss, Jess Jackson, Jess's Dream, Joe Gleeson.

Kendall Jackson, Kentucky Oaks points, Kentucky Diagnostic Lab, KTA Vision 20/20.

Lelands auction, Lucky Pulpit stud fee, Little Mike, Leonard Reggio.

Midnight Cry, Mark Casse Best Pal, Magnolia Mountain Bloodstock, Maryland football coach.

Nat Rea, Nolan Murphy, Noonmark, Netflix. Olivia Saylor, Ochre House Stables, Ommegang, One Caroline.

Parx Racing, Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Parkside Eatery, Patricia Generazio.

Rags to Riches Belmont, Regis Farms, Reigh Count, Reiley McDonald Will Take Charge.

Stephens Thoroughbreds, shingles, squirrel, Seek Again Wise Dan.

They're like strawberries, Terrence McCarthy, The Elkstone Group, Tom McGreevey.

Union Craft Brewery, Unbridled's Song, Under Armor second quarter earnings, Union College Kentucky.

Warrior's Reward, Wayne Catalano sick, Willis Horton, Wertheimer and frère. Xavier Aizpuru.

You can't touch this, York Road Timonium. Zenyatta.

So there you have it, A to Z (almost) in the world of turf writing and editing. Perhaps I'll update this list at the end of the meet.

Or better yet, just come up with something that starts with Q or V to incorporate into a story.

Look close the rest of the way. You'll find it.



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Words

KEVIN "Brooklyn Cowboy" COX'S PLAY OF THE DAY

Saratoga Race Course Feature Race

RACE 1: Well here it is, the highlight of the Saratoga steeplechase season...the Grade 1 Turf Writers for 150 big ones, and it's proving to be a salty affair. **#2B (Only) FOR NONSTOP (IRE)** returned off a one year layoff to score by a Brooklyn block 4 months ago, then was thrown to the wolves in the Grade 1 Iroquois, where he was forwardly placed before fading a bit to finish 3rd. Not much second flight speed here, and this one, shedding 16 pounds (I'm jealous), and cutting back 5/8th's may get the 1st jump on the pacesetter. **#6 PLEASANT WOOD-MAN.** This one was our top choice last out, and was a game 3rd @ 17-1 in the Smithwick. Lone speed drops 8 pounds---dangerous. **#5 ALL TOGETHER** held on for 4th despite a slight fence mishap in same race. 2-1-2 local record last 7 starts. **BEATABLE FAVORITE: #7 MAKARI (GB)** was life and death to win the Smithwick by a lip, and no horse has completed this double in 15 years. Adds 8 lbs., and may bounce.



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Gladiators

Nine jockeys will compete in today's feature. Nine foreign-born jump jockeys of varying experience and ability aim at the season's biggest prize, the New York Turf Writers Cup. One is a four-time champion father of three, one is an apprentice, one is a woman amateur. Some have made homes here and are staying for good. Others are simply passing through, a busman's holiday at America's best track.

Willie McCarthy struggled for mounts during his first few years here, now he's in front in the standings. The Irishman opened a big lead in the spring and now feels pressure from former champions Geraghty and Young. McCarthy gallops for Rusty Arnold at Saratoga this summer, Michael Matz the rest of the year. Wednesday morning, Arnold watched McCarthy gallop past, "What a good guy." I said, "He's a good rider." Arnold said, "Every jump jockey I've ever known is a good rider." McCarthy rides longshot Barnstorming today.

Bernie Dalton has notched one Saratoga win this summer with his wife's horse, Cat Feathers. The meet is made, the year is made, that money doesn't pass go, it goes straight home. Dalton upset the New York Turf Writers Cup with Italian Wedding last year. This year, he tries again. If he wins, you can be assured Anthony Bonomo and the rest of the Dominic Schettino barn will meet in the cashing lanes. Kieran McLaughlin called Dalton the best there's ever been.

Wednesday morning, Robbie Walsh caught a break between sets at Graham Motion's barn on the edge of the main track. Walsh rides his best horse, Demonstrative in the Turf Writers, well, his best afternoon horse. His best morning horse? Take your pick, Sword Dancer winner Main Sequence is near the top. Walsh and Demonstrative upset the Turf Writers in 2012, won the Iroquois in 2013, then lost six straight, but the last one shouldn't count. In



front a stride before the wire and a stride after the wire of the Smithwick, they lost a nose decision to Makari who they face again today.

Carol-Ann Sloan has won at a 40 percent clip this year. An amateur from Ireland, she works for trainer Cyril Murphy in the morning and has produced for him in the afternoon. She might give away style points but that's all, she's beaten four-time champion Paddy Young in eight out of nine photos (his count) and can simply ride. In search of her first Saratoga win, she has a chance on Charminster who rises from the \$30,000 claiming ranks.

The reigning champion Paddy Young seeks his fourth win of the meet. Ahead of numerous high-profile flat riders (I won't mention them) in the standings, Young said his meet was made when he won his first aboard Virsito. He added two more and has crept closer to McCarthy. Young rides Staying On for the first time in the afternoon. The champ at a price.

Sam Jones followed his brethren from England to America. He left after a 3-for-63 slog through the 2013-14 season in England. Arriving this spring, he won three races for leading trainer Jack Fisher and returned for a spell at Saratoga. Winless so far, he grazed his Turf Writers mount All Together Wednesday morning. "I'd sure like to win one," Jones said.

There is none like the Turf Writers.

Gerard Galligan hosed off saddle towels and polos on the wash rack outside the Annex Wednesday morning. His trainer, Doug Fout, grazed a horse in the shade behind him. Galligan came to America last year, looking for an opportunity after his career had run its course in England. He rides his big horse, Pleasant Woodman, he'll take them as far as he can.

Ross Geraghty came to America to ride for Tom Voss. That job blew up, Geraghty researched riding bulls before deciding to stick it out. Based in Maryland, he built his business back up and earned a championship in 2012. I critiqued his form over a fence a few weeks ago and Geraghty laughed, "Yeah, I know but I've been doing it 20 years. I don't think I'm going to change." Wednesday morning, Geraghty finished riding and was about to leave the Annex when Elizabeth Voss asked him to breeze a 3-year-old filly, he said, "sure," while wishing to do anything else. Geraghty rides For Non Stop in the Turf Writers. He's confident. He's always confident.

Jack Doyle, here for the summer, knew "very little" about Saratoga when he arrived. He had heard it was a great place to come to have fun. The British-based jockey said he came here to ride winners. In his first foray in America, Doyle has put up skillful rides aboard Makari in a tear-jerking A.P. Smithwick and Syros in a wire-to-wire allowance win. Doyle will go home this fall, freelance with visions of returning. As for the money, in the 2013-14 season in England, Doyle won 16 races from 196 rides, his horses earned roughly \$280,000. If he wins today, his horses will have earned \$190,000 in five starts.

McCarthy, Dalton, Walsh, Sloan, Young, Jones, Galligan, Geraghty and Doyle –gladiators in the best Grade 1 steeplechase stakes of the meet.



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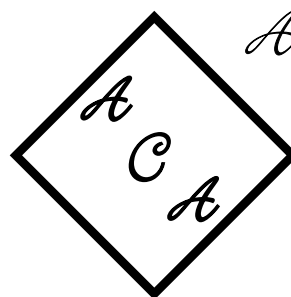


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