

FREE



The SARATOGA *Special*



Year 8 • No. 25

SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Friday, August 22, 2008

While back

**Pletcher filly repeats
in Ballston Spa**



Wait A While (right) holds off
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ARTISTS DISPLAYED

Top left to right, Kate Upton, Terry Lindsey,
Susie Cronin, Jaime Corum, Werner Rentsch,
Kathy Partridge, Louise W. King,
Louise Peterson plus 30 more wonderful artists.



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sought and one day acquired and then
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an ambition which must be pursued
each day, never ending, never totally
achieved. That striving, that ambition is
an essential part of our newspapers, a
cornerstone of what we have been,
what we are, and what we will be."

— Lee Hills, Pulitzer Prize winner,
Knight Ridder chief executive, in 1974

Here & There at Saratoga



Connie Bush

My (tin) cup runneth over

Fans (we presume) of Tin Cup Chalice were in a celebratory mood after the horse took the Big Apple Triple Wednesday.

“*Don't say that;
you don't know
what winter's
like here.*”

**Colleen O'Brien, when
hearing it felt like winter
Thursday morning**

Worth Repeating

"Somebody get Curlin out of the way so I can
saddle my maiden – wait, it must be an omen;
maybe I'm going to run against him soon."

**Trainer Bruce Alexander, whose horse
Notorious Ness circled anonymously in the
paddock while a crowd eyed paddocking
superstars Curlin, J Be K and Pyro**

"I only brought what I knew would fit. I've
learned to not bring 25 up here."

**Trainer John Ward,
who was 3-for-5 as of Friday**

"You gave me an extra win. I hope you know
something I don't."

**Jockey Ramon Dominguez, when reading
The Saratoga Special standings, which
mistakenly credited Dominguez with 21 wins**

"I'll reduce the day before."

**Retired jockey Angel Cordero,
who is set to ride in the Legends on Tour
race Oct. 18 at Santa Anita, while
eating a doughnut Thursday morning**

"As George Weaver says, 'Where Cindy goes,
Drum Major goes.'"

**Dogwood Stable's Mary Jane Howell
about Bernard Baruch entrant Drum Major,
who is Cindy Weaver's designated ride**

"When I ran two seconds and then I had a 2-year-
old I really liked shin buck, I already saddled the
duck up. That don't bother me."

Trainer Tom Proctor

"I don't want to get in on that."

Proctor, regarding his voting preference

More Here and There on Page 4

FIRST EVER winner of the OTB's Big Apple Triple!

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Here & There at Saratoga



Connie Bush

It's OK – I'm with the band

A young music fan gives clarinet player Dan Levinson his due.

Worth Repeating

"If I work 50 horses over the Polytrack, 48 of them like it in the morning. They travel on it and they go. I get on some horse with arthritis, they jog right off."

Angel Cordero, on the benefits of a synthetic racetrack

"We'll take a gift from Frankel."

Trainer John Terranova, after Pretty Carina fumbled away a victory to Awesome I Am Wednesday

"Just eyeing these hurdles – thinking about the future."

Jockey Robby Albarado, while leaning on the rail overlooking the hurdles in the infield of the Oklahoma training track

"That Dallas Green . . ."

Greeting to trainer Dallas Stewart

Take A Number

3 Kids riding one bicycle on Union Avenue Wednesday afternoon.

Name of the Day

Proven Right, second race. The 2-year-old filly is by Vindication.

Sugarless, third race. The 6-year-old mare is out of Unreal Cupcake.

Weather

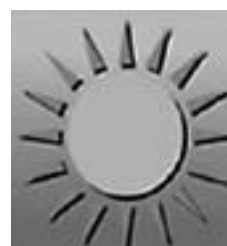
Today: Sunny. Warm. High 86. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: A few clouds. Low 59. Winds light and variable.

Travers Day: Sun and clouds. High in the low 80s and low in the low 60s.

Sunday: Sun and clouds. High in the low 80s and low in the low 60s.

Monday: Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm. High in the mid 70s and low in the low 50s.



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Here & There at Saratoga

The Big Horserace

The Special's straw (well, hay) poll began back at Keeneland in April, and we'll keep a running total of the votes around town.



McCain

Richard DePass
Danielle Hodsdon
Kip Elser
Bruce Brown
Steve Adika
Pat Reynolds
Al Stall
Matt Muzikar
Lenny Pike
Bill Mott
Mark Hennig
Stan Hough
Mitch Friedman
Robby Albarado
Rusty Arnold
Don Nichols
Cindy Nichols
Danny Peitz
Sal Russo
Tim Ritvo
Steve Young
Brant Laue
Doc Richardson
Jerry Bailey
George Weaver
Gary Contessa
Terry Finley
Rick Violette
Kieran McLaughlin
Mike Geraghty
Roger Horgan
Simon Harris
Jose Cuevas

Pat Kelly
Beth Fout
Barry Schwartz
Randy Romero
John Hennig
Dallas Stewart
Loretta Lusteg
Barclay Tagg
Robin Smullen
Jimmy Toner
Matt Firestone
Rick Lang
Bill Graves
Max Hodge
Noel Twyman
Trish Moseley
Jeff Hooper
Steve Rushing
Dr. Hunt
Matt Cumani
Grey Price
Rita Cutler
Robert Cutler
Jean-Luc Samyn
Webb Carroll
Susie Hart
Pug Hart
Guy Torsilieri
Beverly Torsilieri
Alex Neuman
Bob McNair
Ben Haggin
Colum O'Brien
Scott Schwartz

Pam Ritter
Billy Badgett
Daisy Phipps
Stuart Janney
Tom Voss
Mike Sellito
Jamie Lamonica
Eddie Brown
Bonner Young
Harry Walker
Pat Hennig
Matt McCarron
Ciarran Dunne
Moon Gamble
Roddy Valente
Dave Rarey
Craig Peretz
Bessie Gruwell
Eileen Cornacchia
Joe Cornacchia
Gregg Ryan
Duke Burris
Sandi Burris
Mary Ryan
Bill Hirsch
Jack Fisher
Ann Via
Sonny Via
Rose Hennig
Peter Willmott
John Morrison
Dick Powell
Jeff Odintz
Nancy Brennan

Jeanne Wood
Nathan Wood
Vic Gilardi
Anthony Mormino
Jeannine Edwards
Tom Stone

Obama

Tom Goff
Sam Maloney
Sandy Maggio
Pat Correa
Jeffrey Sanchez
Helen Richards
Del Carroll
Winston Heslop
Jorge Chavez
Keith O'Brien
Carlos Martin
Mike Hushion
Barbara Livingston
Bobby Frankel
Richard Migliore
Angel Cordero
Dr. Castro
Fay Donk
Steve Bass
Seth Benzel
Cindy Weaver
Dr. Galvin
Barry Watson
John Kimmel
Sonny Taylor
Eibar Coa
Conor Foley

Pat Turner
Jim Gallagher
Brian Walls
Derek Smith
Leah Gyarmati
Charlton Baker
Dave Grace
Wendy (clocker girl)
Little Wendy (clocker girl)
Joanne Jones
Toadie Taylor
Alan Garcia
Tony Micallef
Sherry Ross
Phil Janack
Mary Jane Howell
Van Cushny
Tara O'Brien
Duncan Hinkle
Maxine Correa
Nick Martinez
Pam Donehower
Alix Michel
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Jan Woods
Colleen O'Brien
Gaile Fitzgerald
Barbara Brown
Michael Martin
Trevor McCarron
Javier Castellano
Bruce Levine
Larry Hausman
Althea Richards
Sheryl Schwartz

Ann Macleod
John DeStefano
Gerry Donk
Melaina Phipps
Will Phipps
Kyle Brownell
Allen Iwinski
Peter Pugh
Flaco Escobar
David Engel
Heather Craig
Michael Thomas
Elliott Masie
Susie Bricker
Tim McKinsey
Kathy Jones
Ethan Jones-Potts
Joan Ciampi

Independent

Barry Wiseman

Ross Perot

Dan Pride

Daffy Duck

Chris O'Connor
Gus Brown

Richard Nixon

Alan Brodsky

Margaret Thatcher

Jeremy Edge

Undecided

Skip Dickstein
Mike Trombetta
Dave Grening
Wayne Lukas
Jimmy Jerkens
Tiffany Mueller
Tom Albertrani
The Fruit Man
Javier Castellano
John Adger
Mitch Levites
Ray Amato
Jeff Carle
Doug Cauthen
Tom Bush
Joe DiAngelo
Steve Klesaris

Neither

Doc Danner
Doug Fout
Rich Cristiano
Richard DeStasio
Josh Cooper
Freddie Bond
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Danielle Rosier
Norm Casse

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Allan Lavin



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Ginger Snap

Fans rave about champion mare as she sets sights on another Gr. I

BY SEAN CLANCY

PERSONAL ENSIGN PREVIEW

Nuno Santos gets to gallop Ginger Punch. Angel Cordero gets to breeze her. Ruben Loza gets to oversee her. Jose Cuevas gets to pretend he's training her.

The foursome did their level best Thursday morning, a day before the reigning champion was set to take on five rivals in the Grade I Personal Ensign. Trainer Bobby Frankel traveled to California and left the training duties to Santos, Cordero, Loza and Cuevas.

By 9 in the morning, Ginger Punch had cooled out from her gallop (moved up an hour because she was running the next day) and was eating from her hay net. The chestnut mare rattled the hay net, then grabbed the rubber runner across her stall and went back to eating.

Her compatriots were busy, but not too busy to talk about the \$2.7 million earner.

"Class. Class. Class. She's easy to ride. She does whatever you want," Santos said. "No attitude, other than she hates when you push her, if you smooch at her, even a little, she pins her ears, that's it."

Born in Portugal, Santos has been galloping Ginger Punch for about a year. He's watched her fill out and grow up.

"She changed totally. Her weight, her attitude, she keeps her weight, she's stronger. She's just classy," Santos said. "This is one of those things that give you goosebumps. The way she gallops, she's happy. Happy. This is her year."

So far, Ginger Punch has won four of five starts; the only blemish came when she was on the lead in the Apple Blossom and faded badly, finishing 8 lengths behind the undefeated Zenyatta.

Any advice about galloping her, Nuno?

"Just leave her alone, let her do her job, she just floats around there," Santos said. "A horse passes her, she plays with the horse. Just leave her alone."

And if she were a woman?

"Halle Berry," Santos said. "Definitely Halle Berry."

Santos hands the reins to Cordero for all breezes. The Hall of Famer put her through an easy 5 furlongs over the



Tod Marks

Champion Ginger Punch goes after another Grade I in today's Personal Ensign.

Oklahoma in 1:00 2/5 a week ago. It could have been 58 or 1:04.

"She's beautiful. She's nice, quiet, very obedient, sound, doesn't make a noise, very smart, very good to hang around with. She will go in any time Bobby wants her to go in," Cordero said. "I used to work Sightseek for him - she was tough, she'd go in 58, 59, no matter how hard you tried. This one is very obedient, she knows the rules. She goes by herself,

she doesn't make you worry. She's very athletic, although she doesn't look like it, if you didn't know it was Ginger Punch walking past you, you wouldn't think anything about her."

And if she were a woman?

"Mariah Carey," Cordero said, "but better."

Loza and Cuevas couldn't decide.

"Britney Spears," Cuevas said.

"Not even close," Loza said.

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Punchers' Chances

BY BRIAN NADEAU

Ginger Punch, who tries 1 1/4 miles for the first time, is not the only horse in the Personal Ensign – today's ninth race and the first of four Grade I stakes on the weekend.

Spring Waltz will be a more than capable backup should the favorite not start. Also trained by Bobby Frankel, Stronach Stable's daughter of Silver Charm exits a fourth in the Grade II Delaware Handicap at 10 furlongs, her first start in more than four months. Prior to the Del Cap, Spring Waltz dominated a pair of 9-furlong contests at Gulfstream Park, including an easy win in the Grade II Rampart March 9. Javier Castellano has the call should Spring Waltz start Friday.

Unbridled Belle enters as the most experienced 10-furlong horse in the race with five starts at the distance. Trained by Todd Pletcher for Team Valor Stable, Unbridled Belle comes in off a third in the Del Cap, a race she won last year before running second as the favorite in the Personal Ensign. The Broken Vow mare defeated Ginger Punch in the Grade I Beldame at Belmont in October and finished fifth to the favorite in the Breeders' Cup Distaff.

Unbridled Belle began her 2008 season with an easy score in the Grade III Obeah at Delaware June 14. In the paddock before the Delaware Handicap, she froze and then fell, but rebounded to run well, considering the circumstances.



Tod Marks

Unbridled Belle defeated Ginger Punch last year.

"I don't really know what happened to her that day, it was very odd and atypical of her behavior because she usually handles herself so well. But we've schooled her since then and she's doing excellent and training great," Pletcher said. "A mile and a quarter is kind of her game and something she handles very well so we're looking forward to Friday."

Ramon Dominguez has the return call.

Darley Stable's Golden Velvet (Eibar Coa to ride) was freshened after a distant second to Ginger Punch in the Grade I Ogden Phipps. The daughter of Seeking The Gold stretches back out in the Personal Ensign and her last two-turn start was a runaway score in the Grade III Sixty Sails Handicap at Hawthorne April 19. Kiaran McLaughlin took over as trainer last fall after Golden Velvet left Saeed bin Suroor's Dubai barn, and she immediately paid dividends. She took an optional claimer last October and dead-heated for the win in the Grade III Sabin January 6 at Gulfstream Park.

With four races through the first half of the season, McLaughlin opted for a break and circled the Personal Ensign. She shows three works over the Polytrack at Godolphin's Greentree Training Center.

"Golden Velvet worked really well over the Polytrack and we've had three or four horses do that and come over to the main track and win, so I think the horses are moving forward off that surface. She took the last race pretty hard so we decided to give her a little time in between starts. We gave her about 10 days off after the Phipps and since then she's been training fabulous," McLaughlin said. "She's a better filly going two turns and we're excited to stretch her back out. I don't know how we beat Ginger Punch; she's a very good horse. But Golden Velvet wants 10 furlongs, no question about it."

Lemon Drop Mom comes in off a second in the Del Cap, where she beat Unbridled Belle. Robert Evans' homebred has matured this season under Tim Ritchey's tutelage and the 4-year-old Lemon Drop Kid filly rates an upset chance. Regular jockey Jose Caraballo put Lemon Drop Mom on the front in the Del Cap and she responded with a strong effort behind runaway winner Hystericalady. The Kentucky-bred could find herself on the lead again in a paceless race and Ritchey enters full of guarded optimism.

"The Del Cap was her best race so far and she's come out of it well so we're excited. Certainly she's got to step up her game again, there are some tough fillies in there, but that's why they run the races," Ritchey said. "Her pedigree says she should handle the trip no problem. Last year she wasn't a graded-stakes caliber filly but this year she's turned into that."

Indescribable (Kent Desormeaux) chased Ginger Punch home in the Go For Wand, rallying from last to check in third. Don Adam sent the 4-year-old Pleasant Tap filly to Bill Mott two starts back after a win in the Grade III Arlington Matron for Graham Motion.

Mrs. Leverett Miller's So Glitzy (Cornelio Velasquez) owns a win over the track July 25, when she won an optional claimer by a nose at 9 furlongs. Trainer Allen Jerkens upset the Personal Ensign last year with Miss Shop.



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Photograph by Maggie Furbay

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FRIDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Friday, August 22. Post Time 1:00 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) 1 1/8 MILES. 3YO. CLAIMING 35,000. PURSE \$45,000.

1	1	Globalization.....	Coa E M	Violette Rick	2-1
2	2	Jumpenthebandwagon.....	Dominguez R A	Pecoraro Anthony ...	3-1
3	3	Yankee Chief.....	Velasquez C.....	Hennig Mark.....	8-1
4	4	High Brass.....	Castellano J J.....	Jerkens Allen.....	7-2
5	5	Stone Bird	Leparoux J R.....	Lukas Wayne.....	5-1
6	6	Oldham.....	Morales S.....	DiPrima Greg.....	10-1
7	7	Love Everybody.....	Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary.....	12-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (1-3), Daily Double

2ND (1:33) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. FILLIES. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$63,000.

1	3	Platinum Girl.....	Velazquez J R.....	Pletcher Todd	3-1
1A	5	Weekend Strike	Dominguez R A	Pletcher Todd	3-1
2	1	Concorde's Dance	Bridgmohan S X.....	Hough Stan	5-2
3	2	Skip Away Belle.....	Prado E S.....	Ward Wesley	6-1
4	4	She's From Queens	Castellano J J.....	Arnold Rusty	12-1
5	6	Proven Right.....	Velasquez C.....	Hennig Mark.....	10-1
6	7	Dream Empress.....	Albarado R J.....	McPeck Ken	5-1
7	8	Dynaslew.....	Desormeaux K J.....	Mott Bill.....	9-2
8	9	Cat Grace.....	Leparoux J R.....	Badgett Billy	15-1
9	AE	Banker's Choice.....	Albarado R J.....	Wilkes Ian	4-1
10	AE	Warm Shower	Velazquez J R.....	Penna Angel	3-1
11	AE	Americas Dreaming (IRE)	Garcia Alan.....	Toner Jimmy.....	9-5
12	MTO	Siren Serenade.....	Leparoux J R.....	McGaughy Shug.....	7-2

A-Coupled: Platinum Girl and Weekend Strike

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pick 3 (2-4), Pick 4 (2-5), Daily Double

3RD (2:06) 7 FURLONGS. F&M. 3&UP. CLAIMING 25,000. PURSE \$39,000.

1	3	Tight Storm	Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary.....	7-2
1A	5	Speedstorm.....	Dominguez R A	Contessa Gary.....	7-2
2	1	Sugarless	Luzzi M J.....	Albertrani Tom.....	6-1
3	2	She Belongs to Us.....	Rodriguez R R.....	Signore Jr J L.....	8-1
4	4	Mutakaway	Velazquez J R.....	Trombetta Mike.....	3-1
5	6	Martha's Mandate.....	Berrios Cruz J	Callejas Bernardo	6-1
6	7	Tzipi	Hill C	Arroyo Enrique	9-5

A-Coupled: Tight Storm and Speedstorm

Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (3-5), Daily Double

4TH (2:39) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	1	Cocktail Attire.....	Dominguez R A	Trombetta Mike	2-1
2	2	Angel Alana	Luzzi M J.....	Barbara Bobby.....	12-1
3	3	Grand Finesse	Leparoux J R.....	Dollase Wally.....	12-1
4	4	Elusive Moment (IRE)	Coa E M	Hough Stan	8-1
5	5	Pleasant Song	Bridgmohan S X.....	Stewart Dallas	15-1
6	6	Artistic Talent	Castellano J J.....	Frankel Bobby	4-1
7	7	Gaffney's Grits.....	Garcia Alan.....	Bailes Robert.....	8-1
8	8	Wicked Beauty.....	Albarado R J.....	Friedman Mitch	20-1
9	9	Onoitsmymothermlaw.....	Migliore R.....	McLaughlin Kiaran	7-2
10	MTO	Crosswater.....	Velazquez J R.....	Pletcher Todd	5-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (4-6), Daily Double

5TH (3:13) 7 FURLONGS. 3&UP. NY BRED. MDN CLM 35,000. PURSE \$25,000.

1	1	Narration	Rodriguez R R.....	Serpe Phil.....	20-1
2	2	Smell My Carrots	Gomez O	Candlin John	30-1
3	3	Sophie's Splinter	Luzzi M J.....	Galluscio Dominic	7-2
4	4	Slick Wheelie.....	Dominguez R A	Domino Carl	4-1
5	5	Knife and Fork	Morales S.....	Contessa Gary	8-1
6	6	Five Cases	Cardoso D	Gyarmati Leah	15-1
7	7	Mississippi Rag.....	Gutierrez J A	Barrera Jr Oscar	12-1
8	8	Nolite Timere.....	Sanchez J.....	Ferraro James	15-1
9	9	Rock Key	Velasquez C.....	Hertler John	8-1
10	10	Captain Sword.....	Prado E S.....	Dutrow Jr Richard	2-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (5-7), Pick 6 (5-10), Daily Double

6TH (3:47) 6 1/2 FURLONGS. F&M. 3&UP. NY BRED. ALW/OPT CLM 25,000. PURSE \$63,000.

1	1	Greg's Lassy.....	Coa E M	McLaughlin Kiaran	5-1
2	2	Western Sweep	Prado E S.....	Schosberg Rick	10-1
3	3	Seventeen Love	Luzzi M J.....	Hills Tim	20-1
4	4	Dancing Fern	Caraballo J C.....	Ritchey Tim	7-2
5	5	Critical Cathy	Hill C	Hushion Mike	3-1
6	6	One Tough Belle	Dominguez R A	Badgett Billy	12-1
7	7	Blue Devil Bel	Garcia Alan.....	Clement Christophe	6-1
8	8	Sunset Cocktail	Maragh R.....	Ryan Derek.....	30-1
9	9	Say Toba Sandy.....	Bridgmohan S X.....	Hough Stan	15-1
10	10	Smokin Sarah.....	Velazquez J R.....	Englehart Chris.....	9-2

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (6-8), Grand Slam (6-9), Daily Double

7TH (4:21) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. CLAIMING 35,000. PURSE \$36,000.

1	1	Cinder Cone.....	Morales S.....	Devereux Joseph.....	8-1
2	2	Thunder Minister.....	Velazquez J R.....	O'Brien Leo	12-1
3	3	Mogul Man	Castellano J J.....	Brown Chad	7-5
4	4	Riz Sauvage.....	Hill C	Quick Patrick	20-1
5	5	Stormy Success	Sanchez J.....	Grennan George	20-1
6	6	Bright Illusion.....	Leparoux J R.....	Jerkens Allen	10-1
7	7	Academy Royale.....	Rodriguez R R.....	Pugh Peter	30-1
8	8	Role Play	Castillo E.....	Kettell James.....	20-1
9	9	Quick Comeback	Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary.....	12-1
10	10	Fitness.....	Coa E M	Fout Doug	5-2
11	AE	The Cuban Hawk	Prado E S.....	Dutrow Jr Richard	3-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (7-9), Pick 4 (7-10), Daily Double

8TH (4:55) 1 3/16 MILES. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. ALW/OPT CLM 50,000. PURSE \$78,000.

1	4	Lookalike.....	Velasquez C.....	Matz Michael	12-1
1A	MTO	Hamsa.....	Coa E M	Tagg Barclay	12-1
2	1	Viva La Flag.....	Velazquez J R.....	McGaughy Shug.....	3-1
3	2	Double Dinghy Day.....	Hill C	Alexander Frank.....	20-1
4	3	Caprice (GER)	Prado E S.....	Motion Graham	5-2
5	5	Pretty Carolina (BRZ).....	Luzzi M J.....	Frankel Bobby	15-1
6	6	Palm Princess	Albarado R J.....	Romans Dale.....	12-1
7	7	Goat Cheese	Leparoux J R.....	Proctor Tom	6-1
8	8	Duchess Royale (IRE)	Garcia Alan.....	Clement Christophe	7-2
9	9	Sunshine for Life.....	Dominguez R A	Schosberg Rick	15-1

A-Coupled: Lookalike and Hamsa

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (8-10), Daily Double

9TH (5:30) THE PERSONAL ENSIGN (GR. I). 1 1/4 MILES. F&M. 3&UP. PURSE \$400,000.

1	5	Ginger Punch	Bejarano R	Frankel Bobby	4-5
1A	7	Spring Waltz.....	Castellano J J.....	Frankel Bobby	4-5
2	1	So Glitzy	Velasquez C.....	Jerkens Allen.....	20-1
3	2	Lemon Drop Mom.....	Caraballo J C.....	Ritchey Tim	12-1
4	3	Indescribable.....	Desormeaux K J.....	Mott Bill.....	12-1
5	4	Unbridled Belle.....	Dominguez R A	Pletcher Todd	9-5
6	6	Golden Velvet	Coa E M	McLaughlin Kiaran	8-1

A-Coupled: Ginger Punch and Spring Waltz

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

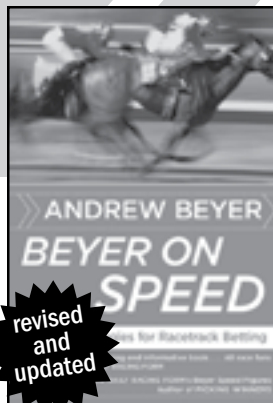
10TH (6:04) 1 3/8 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. ALLOW. PURSE \$84,000.

1	1	So It Goes	Velasquez C.....	Donk David.....	7-2
2	2	Hidden Glance	Albarado R J.....	Howard Neil.....	15-1
3	3	Constabulary	Desormeaux K J.....	Mott Bill.....	6-1
4	4	Guadalcanal.....	Leparoux J R.....	Seitz Fred	15-1
5	5	C Street	Prado E S.....	Trombetta Mike	3-1
6	6	Good Request	Dominguez R A	Frankel Bobby	9-2
7	7	White Holiday	Garcia Alan.....	Ryerson James	15-1
8	8	Quasicobra	Velazquez J R.....	Romans Dale	15-1
9	9	My Man Lars	Castellano J J.....	Weaver George.....	6-1
10	10	Orebanks.....	Coa E M	Fout Doug	30-1
11	AE	Sailaway Pops	Hill C	Merryman Ann	20-1

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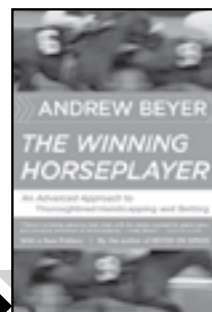
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Pete Fornatale



Sean Clancy



Brian Nadeau



John Panagot

Race #				
1	Globalization Jump on the bandwagon Stone Bird	High Brass Yankee Chief Jump on the bandwagon	Globalization Stone Bird Love Everybody	High Brass Globalization Oldham
2	Concorde's Dance Pletcher entry Dream Empress	Dream Empress Dynaslew Platinum Girl	Dream Empress Platinum Girl Dynaslew	Pletcher entry Dream Empress Concorde's Dance
3	Contessa entry Tzipi She Belongs To Us	Martha's Mandate Tzipi Mutakaway	Tzipi Tight Storm Mutakaway	Tzipi Contessa entry Mutakaway
4	Artistic Talent Cocktail Attire Onoitsmymothernlaw	Cocktail Attire Artistic Talent Onoitsmymothernlaw	Cocktail Attire Artistic Talent Onoitsmymothernlaw	Cocktail Attire Artistic Talent Elusive Moment
5	Captain Sword Slick Wheelie Rock Key	Captain Sword Sophie's Splinter Knife And Fork	Captain Sword Sophie's Splinter Slick Wheelie	Captain Sword Sophie's Splinter Slick Wheelie
6	Dancing Fern Critical Cathy Blue Devil Bel	Critical Cathy Smokin Sarah Blue Devil Bel	Dancing Fern One Tough Belle Critical Cathy	One Tough Belle Greg's Lassy Say Toba Sandy
7	Mogul Man Fitness Cinder Cone	Mogul Man Fitness Riz Sauvage	Fitness Mogul Man Quick Comeback	Mogul Man Fitness Cinder Cone
8	Viva La Flag Caprice Duchess Royale	Duchess Royale Caprice Viva La Flag	Viva La Flag Caprice Duchess Royale	Viva La Flag Caprice Palm Princess
9	Unbridled Belle Ginger Punch Indescribable	Ginger Punch Unbridled Belle Lemon Drop Mom	Unbridled Belle Ginger Punch Golden Velvet	Ginger Punch Unbridled Belle Spring Waltz
10	Guadalcanal So It Goes Hidden Glance	C Street Constabulary So It Goes	C Street So It Goes My Man Lars	Good Request C Street My Man Lars
To Date:	54/224	57/224	58/224	69/224

FRIDAY'S DETAILED ANALYSIS

BY BRIAN NADEAU

RACE 1: GLOBALIZATION appears first-time for a tag and could prove to be the controlling speed in this 9-furlong contest; experience going two turns is always a plus. STONE BIRD is another who plummets after chasing much better in the spring. LOVE EVERYBODY has some back form to suggest he can compete at this level, even though he figures for a wide trip.

RACE 2: DREAM EMPRESS got to stretch her legs in her debut at Ellis Park; that she shows up here is most encouraging. By just betting Ken McPeck's second-time starters or first-time Lasix users you'll retire to a life of luxury. Judging by her morning trials PLATINUM GIRL looks to be a bit faster than her stablemate Weekend Strike and she goes for a barn that's been winning these 2-year-old turf routes with regularity. DYNASLEW has a nice turf pedigree for a barn long overdue to win.

RACE 3: TZIPI gets a perfect attack post in this spot and should be a factor from the opening bell; Enrique Arroyo is one of the best claiming trainers you've never heard of. TIGHT STORM chased tough customers downstate and should appreciate the drop. MUTAKAWAY wheels back on two weeks rest after the claim by Mike Trombetta and that's a mighty good sign.

RACE 4: Take a deep breath and hope COCKTAIL ATTIRE hits the wire first in this sprint; she did everything but win in her local bow and should be that much tougher today. ARTISTIC TALENT is a threat once again, but she's been knocking at the door a little too long for me to fall in love. Not sure what to make of ONOITSMYMOTHERNLAW on the shortened trip but she won't have to sprout wings to fit.

RACE 5: CAPTAIN SWORD was claimed by Rick Dutrow Jr. after a half-length loss downstate; he should move forward mightily off that effort and looks tough to deny at about even-money. SOPHIE'S SPLINTER ran well against open company earlier in the meet and looms the main danger. SLICK WHEELIE figures off his start two back and can be forgiven for his last, when he caught slop against special-weights.

RACE 6: DANCING FERN gets to play against state-breds for the first time in her six-race career and should enjoy the company; comes in off a big

allowance win at Delaware Park and could get set up nicely. ONE TOUGH BELLE has some hidden form and her last start on fast dirt would win this for fun. CRITICAL CATHY ran huge last time but benefited when the odds-on favorite was eliminated at the break; gets no free passes today.

RACE 7: We almost got FITNESS home last time at almost 12-1, and though he'll be a third of that today he's still worth a play. The day's **best bet** should move forward and seemingly has only favorite MOGUL MAN to worry about. That one rates a long look off his last three but how much is left in the tank? QUICK COMEBACK will take them as far as he can on the engine.

RACE 8: VIVA LA FLAG has to win on Personal Ensign day, right? The Phipps' stable Friday color-bearer disappointed at Belmont Park but she's been freshened for a big run today. CAPRICE made a favorable first impression at DelPark and figures a major player. DUCHESS ROYALE has regrouped since a poor run in the Grade III Orchid and merits respect for a top turf barn.

RACE 9: The Graveyard of Favorites has claimed many over the years, including champion Ashado at 2-5 in this very race in 2005. With that in mind let's look for some value and take UNBRIDLED BELLE, who had little chance in the Del Cap after encountering some paddock woes prior to the race, and then monster Hystericalady during it. She figures to love the 10 furlongs, a distance that GINGER PUNCH may or may not appreciate. The champ is a deserving favorite but save her Phipps win at Belmont – which was at one turn – she really hasn't run faster than any she meets today. She's every bit of 1-2, so it's worth trying to beat her at a distance she's never tried. GOLDEN VELVET has run well at two turns and should get a nice trip today stalking a pace that figures to be very, very pedestrian.

RACE 10: C STREET gets a lot of bonus points for just missing against winners after breaking his maiden in his debut; he looks to have a very bright future that extends far beyond this allowance. SO IT GOES ran well against subsequent stakes winner Summer Patriot and drew a cozy post. MY MAN LARS wheels back on short rest after a big run in the West Point against state-breds Aug. 10.

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All The Winners (Through Thursday)

Jockeys		Trainers	
John Velazquez	27	Todd Pletcher	13
Alan Garcia	24	Richard Dutrow Jr	9
Cornelio Velasquez	22	Steve Asmussen	8
Eibar Coa	21	Tony Dutrow	8
Edgar Prado	21	Kiaran McLaughlin	8
Ramon Dominguez	20	Barclay Tagg	8
Julien Leparoux	16	Gary Contessa	7
Javier Castellano	12	Bobby Frankel	7
Rajiv Maragh	12	Linda Rice	7
Shaun Bridgmohan	10	Michael Maker	6
Kent Desormeaux	10	Wesley Ward	6
Robby Albarado	9	Bruce Levine	5
Channing Hill	7	Jonathan Sheppard	5
Mike Luzzi	6	George Weaver	5
Jose Espinoza	5	Chad Brown	4
Richard Migliore	4	David Duggan	4
Elvis Trujillo	4	Wayne Lukas	4
Jorge Chavez	3	Shug McGaughey	4
Sebastian Morales	3	Nick Zito	4
Jeffrey Sanchez	3	Enrique Arroyo	3
Danielle Hodsdon	2	Bob Baffert	3
Rudy Rodriguez	2	Saeed bin Suroor	3
Gabriel Saez	2	Christophe Clement	3
Jamie Theriot	2	Stan Hough	3
Aldo Arboleda	1	Mike Hushion	3
Rafael Bejarano	1	Allen Jerkens	3
Garrett Gomez	1	Eddie Kenneally	3
Pedro Rodriguez	1	Ken McPeck	3
Jean-Luc Samyn	1	Pat Reynolds	3
Robbie Walsh	1	Tom Voss	3
Padge Whelan	1	John Ward	3
Paddy Young	1	Billy Badgett	2
		Charlton Baker	2
		Bobby Barbara	2



Trainer (and freelance proofreader) Mark Hennig shakes hands with Eibar Coa, who'd just won his second of three races on Thursday's card.

Bruce Brown	2	Graham Motion	2
Mark Casse	2	Bill Mott	2
Greg DiPrima	2	Angel Penna	2
David Donk	2	Bob Ribaud	2
John Fahey III	2	Tim Ritvo	2
Dominic Galluscio	2	Dale Romans	2
Eoin Harty	2	Rick Schosberg	2
Mark Hennig	2	Gary Sciacca	2
Mike Hernandez	2	Phil Serpe	2
John Hertler	2	Dallas Stewart	2
Pat Kelly	2	John Terranova II	2
Carlos Martin	2	Mike Trombetta	2
Mike Miceli	2	Rick Violette	2
John Morrison	2	Tom Albertrani	1

Michael Aro	1
Jonathan Buckley	1
Tom Bush	1
Bernardo Callejas	1
Dave Carroll	1
James Corrao	1
Wally Dollase	1
Bob Dunham	1
James Ferraro	1
Doug Fout	1
Elizabeth Gray	1
Leah Gyarmati	1
Neil Howard	1
Jimmy Jerkens	1
Larry Jones	1
John Kimmel	1
Steve Klesaris	1
Scott Lake	1
Mike Lecesce	1
Lisa Lewis	1
Michael Matz	1
Michael McDonald	1
Jeff Odintz	1
Paulino Ortiz	1
Randi Persaud	1
John Pregman Jr	1
Peter Pugh	1
Patrick Quick	1
Jamie Sanders	1
Alan Seewald	1
Scott Schwartz	1
Al Stall Jr	1
Rodrigo Ubillo	1
Ronny Werner	1
Ian Wilkes	1

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Spotlight on UK Racing

by Timeform & Racing UK

Friday, August 22nd, Newmarket (UK) Race 4 (9:05 am)
Darley Yorkshire Oaks Gr1 (3yo+ Fillies & Mares) 1m½; Purse \$325,000

RACE ANALYSIS (In Program Number Order)

- 1 ALLEGRETTO** Effective at this trip and further. Finished fourth in the Ascot Gold Cup in June, and she was second in this race last year. She runs in a visor here for the first time since then. Her trainer is a master with older horses, and he will most likely need to draw a little more from Allegretto than she has shown to date in order to win. **Timeform Rating 124**
- 2 PASSAGE OF TIME** A creditable third over this trip in the Prix Vermeille at Longchamp last October. She has belatedly confirmed on her last two runs that she retains the ability she showed as a three year old, winning a listed race at Newbury in July and then finishing a close-up third to Halfway To Heaven and Lush Lashes in the Nassau Stakes at Goodwood last time. **122**
- 3 CAPE AMBER** Has been running in most of the major fillies' races this season, her best effort coming when second behind Lush Lashes in the Musidora Stakes at York. She tends to run freely, and that has seemed to prevent her from repeating her best form on her three outings since. It also suggests she may be better at short of today's trip. **114**
- 4 DAR RE MI** Finished third in the Musidora Stakes, and has shown a fair amount of improvement since. Displayed smart form over this course and distance in a listed contest in July, having raced quite freely off a steady pace, then recorded her first pattern race success with a Gr2 win at Deauville. She's possibly capable of better still. **117**
- 5 LUSH LASHES** Unlucky not to be a dual Gr1 winner already, winning the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot then beaten only a head after finding plenty of trouble in the Nassau Stakes. She's bred to stay twelve furlongs, but disappointed on her only previous attempt at the trip when a well-beaten favorite in the Oaks, so stamina must still be a worry. **129**
- 6 MICHITA** Finished one place ahead of Lush Lashes in seventh at Epsom, looking unsuited by the course, then won the Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot over this distance, so her stamina is not in doubt. Unexposed after just five career runs but, on form, she has something to find with Lush Lashes. **124**

CONCLUSION

Riding tactics could be interesting in this small field. This track, with its uphill finish, places more of an emphasis on stamina than York, which would not seem to suit **LUSH LASHES** given her performance in the Gr1 Juddmonte Oaks over 1 1/2 miles at Epsom. She has improved since then however, and she is so far ahead on form that she is worth another chance here. The resurgent **Passage of Time** was unsuited by the slow pace in the Gr1 Nassau at Goodwood on her last run, and was ultimately only beaten a head by Lush Lashes that day. She may well prove to be the main threat.

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York Ebor Meeting Changes: Darley Yorkshire Oaks, Coolmore Nunthorpe and DBS St. Leger Stakes moved to Newmarket Aug. 22; Totesport Ebor Handicap moved to Newbury Aug. 22; Juddmonte International moved to Newmarket Aug. 23.

Sandown Park

August 29 - August 30 ~ featuring the Gr3 Solario Stakes plus plenty of early action leading into Sunset Friday



Friday, August 22nd, Newmarket (UK) Race 6 (10:05 am)
Coolmore Nunthorpe Stakes Gr1 (2yo+) 5f; Purse \$325,000

RACE ANALYSIS (In Program Number Order)

- 1 BENBAUN** Winner of last year's Prix de l'Abbaye at Longchamp. Fifth in this race in 2005 at its regular home. A poor tenth in the July Cup here on his latest start, but that was over a furlong further. **Timeform Rating 124**
- 2 BORDERLESCOTT** Stalwart of the handicapping scene. Showed very smart form, not to mention a great deal of early pace, when second in the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood on his latest start. **124**
- 3 DANDY MAN** Has shown his form just once in three starts for his new stable, when fourth in the King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot. A poor third at Goodwood latest, he blew his chance by hanging right late on. **124**
- 4 DESERT LORD** Speedy front-runner, he won the Prix de l'Abbaye in 2006. He has been quite inconsistent this season, and a disappointing run last time won't fill anyone with confidence. **119**
- 5 MOORHOUSE LAD** Lightly raced this season, where he has been disappointing on both starts. Capable of very smart form, but it's over a year since he showed it. **124**
- 6 PRIME DEFENDER** Creditable run on his only five-furlong outing of the season, second by a neck behind Ancien

Regime. Unlucky seventh in the July Cup on his penultimate start, having found little room to mount a challenge. **121**

- 7 SAKHEE'S SECRET** A high-class sprinter last season, winning the July Cup. Ran creditably when second in the Palace House Stakes on his reappearance (his first run over five furlongs). Disappointed in the Golden Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot latest, but possibly had excuses having been bumped and reportedly lost a shoe. **127**
- 8 CAPTAIN GERRARD** Received 14 lb when the conqueror of Sakhee's Secret in the Palace House, ran poorly in France on his only subsequent start. A front-runner, with plenty of speed. **119**
- 9 EQUIANO** Became the first Spanish-trained Gr1 winner when causing a shock in the King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot. Now trained in England, it will be interesting to see if he improves again on his second British start. **128**
- 10 KINGSGATE NATIVE** Won this race last year as a juvenile. He won't receive so much weight this year, but he proved he has trained on when winning the Golden Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot. He seemed to run out of steam over six furlongs here last time. **127**
- 11 NATIONAL COLOUR** Has made only one British start, finishing a smart sixth in the King's Stand, showing good speed. Won a minor event at the 2007 Dubai Carnival, but it is hard to get a handle on her form nevertheless. **119**

12 FLASHMAN'S PAPERS 100/1 winner of the Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot. He has continued to show useful form since, and the stiffer track should help, but he has lot to find here. **114**

13 PERCOLATOR Speedy front running two year old who has been progressing all year, winning a French Gr3 on her penultimate outing. Needs to improve still further if she's to figure here. **122**

14 SHYRL Completes a trio of two year olds, and showed useful form when second in the Queen Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot. Hasn't gone on from that though, and refused to settle when disappointing in a listed race last time. That gives her a lot to find here. **111**

CONCLUSION

An interesting renewal of this famous race, with both an unusual venue and an open field. Ability to see out five furlongs well is essential, and the stiffer finish at Newmarket may find out some of the front-runners. **KINGSGATE NATIVE** has a fine record at the top level and won this race last year as a two year old when run at York. After looking like six furlongs here at Newmarket blunted his strong finish last time, a testing five furlongs with plenty of pace throughout the field may be right up his street. The British Horseracing Authority weight allowance for two year olds is more generous than it should be, and **Percolator** is the youngster most likely to take advantage by running into a place at generous odds.

Waiting Game

For Wait A While, it was about pace

BY SEAN CLANCY

BALLSTON SPA RECAP

It didn't take long for John Velazquez to handicap Thursday's Ballston Spa Stakes. Five horses. Two possible pace scenarios. He'd be in front on Wait A While and Kent Desormeaux would stalk aboard Sharp Susan. Or Sharp Susan would be in front and Wait A While would stalk.

"Him or me," Velazquez said Wednesday. "It's simple."

A day later, Velazquez broke from the inside post aboard Wait A While and eyed Desormeaux, breaking from the 3 stall.

What's it going to be?

Velazquez instantly knew the answer. Him. Desormeaux scooted Sharp Susan to the lead and Velazquez knew he had one move to make, ease off the rail and get outside the pace.

From there it all came easily for the 4-5 favorite, who inhaled Sharp Susan when the time came and won by a comfortable length over late-running Carriage Trail and Rutherienne. Arindel Farm's 5-year-old mare collected her second straight Ballston Spa (Grade II) title, her third Saratoga stakes victory and 11th career victory. The win, worth

\$120,000 of a \$200,000 purse, nearly pushed her past the \$2 million mark. The daughter of Maria's Mon increased her bankroll to a cool \$1.94 million while going the 1 1/16 miles in 1:39.70 over the Mellon Turf.

This one was all about the pace.

"It worked out the way we thought," Velazquez said. "We knew if he goes, we'll lay second and if he doesn't go, we'd end up on the lead. He went pretty quick in front, it was much better than I thought."

Trainer Todd Pletcher watched from his box seat and begged Velazquez to make the move. That's why they win races together; Velazquez made it about the same time Pletcher pleaded for it.

"We talked about it in the paddock and I thought we'd be on the lead, the only other one that could go was Sharp Susan," Pletcher said. "When she went, I couldn't tell what Johnny was going to do, I was like, 'Let that one go, let that one go, let that one go.' It was almost like he heard me because he did it right then."

Hey, that's why he's leading rider at the meet.



Dave Harmon

Wait A While (right) and Sharp Susan break from the gate.

Sharp Susan refused to settle through a quick opening quarter-mile in 23.93 seconds and a half in 47.08. She opened 3 lengths heading down the backside while Wait A While traveled smoothly in second. Carriage Trail (Edgar Prado) sat third with Valbenny (Ramon Dominguez) and the confirmed closer Rutherienne (Julien Leparoux) in last. Velazquez knew Sharp Susan was rolling on the lead. How did he know?

"By my horse. By how my horse is moving. She's relaxed, going a good pace, but not overdoing it. If we go 48

and change, she's going to be pulling my guts out, believe me, no matter what," Velazquez said. "I rode her before, I know it, especially on this kind of track. As we got to the first turn he went on and she didn't pull, you can see she's in a good rhythm."

Desormeaux tried to slip away at the half-mile pole. Nobody bit.

"He opened up 3 lengths on me down the backside, I was like, 'I'm not taking any of that, I'm going to wait and

See **BALLSTON SPA** page 14 ►



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Ballston Spa —

■ Continued from page 16

bide my time.' It worked out perfectly," Velazquez said. "I caught up with him at the five sixteenths pole and then I waited until I felt Prado's horse come, I got after her and I had the other one inside so I'm kind of pushing the other one in, Prado was the only one running down the lane but she responded right away."

Making her second start after a six-month layoff due to a stress fracture in her left tibia, Wait A While performed like she never left. Time forced Pletcher's hand earlier in the meet, as he ran Wait A While in the Diana over a rain-soaked turf course. She went off the favorite that day but struggled over the good turf, finishing seventh. She breezed twice since that performance. A half-mile move Aug. 15 convinced Pletcher the old Wait A While was back.

"I thought her work the other day was as good as she's ever worked," Pletcher said. "She tipped her hand, she came out of it well, I had a positive feeling. When you know she's training well, doing well, you know she's good on this turf course, you get confident. The only concern I had was with the weather, the rain Tuesday morning, I was like, 'Oh, man, we're getting close.' I felt pretty good when they ran that five and a half race earlier and they went in 1:02 and 2, it looked like the Mellon turf was firmer than the inner turf. Once I saw that, my confidence level was pretty high. Everything seemed to be coming together."



Dave Harmon

Wait A While (right) stays clear of Carriage Trail (left) and Rutherienne in Thursday's Ballston Spa.

Wait A While injured herself after winning the San Gorgonio at Santa Anita in her 5-year-old debut this January. Pletcher conferred with owner Alan Cohen and everyone decided to give her the time and bring her back for the Saratoga meet.

"It's really a credit to Mr. Cohen," Pletcher said. "A lot of guys would have stopped and bred her but she's such a good mare, we told him, 'Look, we're confident, this thing will heal, we've got to just give her time and she will come back.' The Breeders' Cup was always the target anyway so we could give her

enough time. The decision on his part was clear, 'She's going to be OK, let's run her.' She's been perfect."

Wait A While made her career debut at Saratoga in 2005. She finished fifth that day and broke her maiden on the turf in the fall. Pletcher returned her to the dirt where she won the Miss Grillo (after it was rained off the turf) and the Grade II Davona Dale at a sloppy Gulfstream Park. She picked up placings in the Grade I Ashland and Kentucky Oaks before going back to the turf, picking off the American Oaks, Lake Placid and Yellow Ribbon on her way to a champi-

onship in 2006. Last year, she won two of six starts including a front-running score in the Honey Fox and a late arriving win in the Ballston Spa.

"It's the fourth year we've had her at Saratoga. From her 2-year-old year, we liked her then, she was champion 3-year-old, some of her best races have come here, the Lake Placid, the two Ballston Spas," Pletcher said. "She's run great here and we know she likes Santa Anita so we're excited about the Yellow Ribbon and maybe the Breeders' Cup if all goes well. That could be it, chances are this will be her last year."

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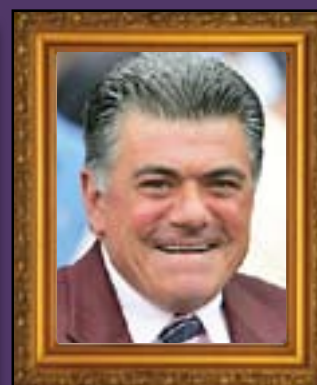
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Tod Marks

Trouble Maker (right) leaves the competition behind during the Old Red Stakes, her first win in more than a year.

Mare's win brings blue skies to Albertrani

BY JOHN PANAGOT

The dark cloud hanging over Trouble Maker dissipated Thursday as she drew into, then won, the \$83,500 Old Red Stakes, giving trainer Tom Albertrani his first victory of the meet.

Tough luck had followed the 5-year-old of late; her last start ended with

OLD RED STAKES RECAP

a bob-of-the-head defeat to Carriage Trail in the De La Rose. Prior to that, she endured a three-wide trip over the Belmont Park lawn to finish third, by a neck, in the Caress.

But when Chestoria scratched and Trouble Maker drew in off the also-

eligible list for Thursday's 1-mile turf stakes, the worm began to turn.

Bred by Albert and Randy Cohen and owned by Hickory Plains Farm, the daughter of Labeeb avoided trouble and tough luck to score her first win since July 2007. Eibar Coa placed Trouble Maker nicely along the back-

See **OLD RED** page 19 ►

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Trouble Maker checks out the winner's circle after the Old Red Stakes.

Tod Marks

Old Red —

■ Continued from page 18

stretch just a few lengths off the leaders. On the turn, the jockey made a three-wide move, and drove home to win by a half-length over hard-charging Lady Carlock (Robby Albarado), with Final Refrain (Channing Hill) third.

Albertrani enjoyed himself Thursday, exiting both the AE list and the duck (winless) list.

"Oh, it made my luck change a little bit," the trainer said. "Last time was a tough loss. When I saw she got in I thought maybe the luck is changing."

Last time, Trouble Maker ran huge, but the nose of Carriage Trail claimed top honors in the De La Rose. Albertrani made the decision to bring his mare back because of the way she looked afterward.

"She came out of the last race training well enough to come back in just

three weeks. She held her form well and she deserved to win," he said. "A mile is her limit; I think between seven-eighths and 1 mile is best for her."

Coa, who notched a hat trick Thursday, piloted Trouble Maker to her hard-fought second in the De La Rose, and was out to settle scores as well.

"We got a little redemption today. Last time was a very, very tough beat. I felt so bad for all the connections," Coa said. "When a horse tries that hard and doesn't win, it's tough. I knew that she was going to come back and I was hoping for a good trip. And let me tell you, I had a perfect trip out there. I didn't have the best post but the horses inside of me had speed, so I knew they would clear and then I could get over. In the lane when I asked her, she really responded with the way she was supposed to. She really gave me a good run. I knew after last time, when she tried so hard, that she was going to come back and run her race today. I knew if she came back and ran her race it was going to be just fine."

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Sheppard, Pape, Hodson and horse enjoy Saratoga Springs

BY BRIAN NADEAU & JOHN PANAGOT

THURSDAY RACING RECAP

The Price Of Love came north looking for attention. Jonathan Sheppard came to Saratoga looking to add to his Hall of Fame resume. Bill Pape traveled looking for an excuse to stay through the Grade I New York Turf Writers Cup Aug. 28.

Danielle Hodsdon made sure everybody got their wish.

Hodsdon gave Pape's The Price Of Love a perfectly timed ride – for the second time this meet – and the Sheppard trainee did the rest, holding off a late charge from favored Dynaski to take the \$70,000 Mickey Walsh Stakes by a measured neck.

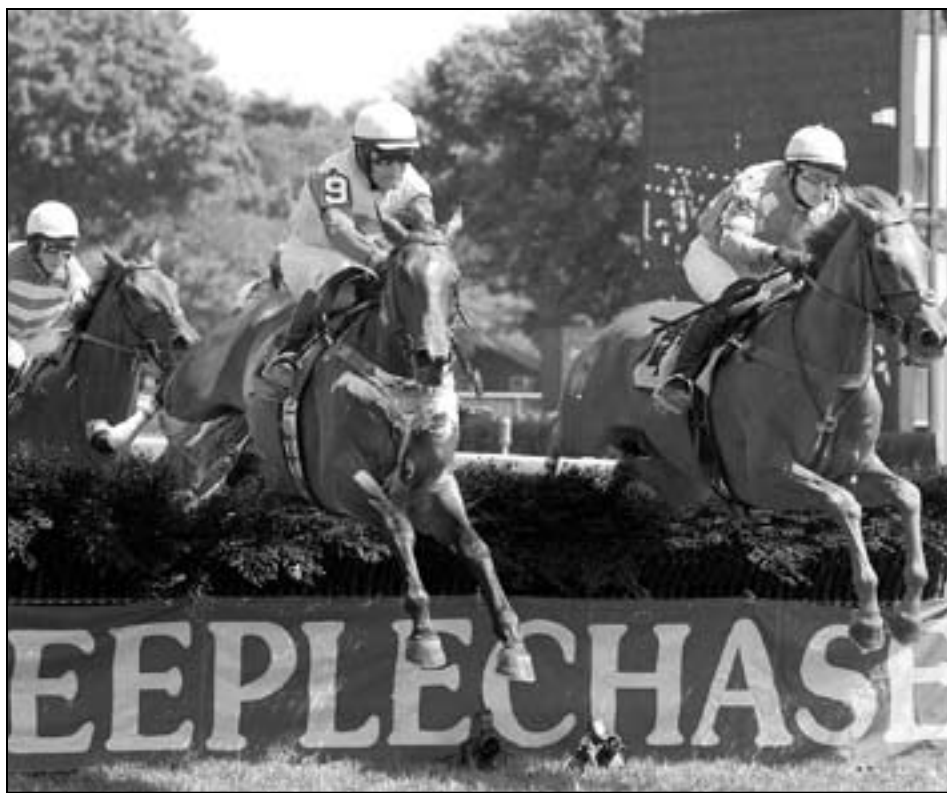
"He's the type of horse that loves attention and I think he's thrived up here because of it," Hodsdon said. "Up here with a nine-horse string, instead of at the farm with 50, they get a lot of personalized attention and I think he really, really thrives on that."

The Price Of Love broke running in the 2 3/8-mile contest and Hodsdon was able to negotiate a ground-saving

trip behind early leader Red Letter Day, who set a measured pace up front. Well-backed Seer (Xavier Aizpuru) traveled in tandem, to the outside of The Price Of Love while Dynaski (Padge Whelan) was content to track in behind on the hedge.

Red Letter Day took the field by the stands for the final time and the procession continued to the clubhouse turn. And then a race broke out. Aizpuru moved Seer up on the outside of Hodsdon and The Price Of Love as the leaders hit the turn. The cadence quickened on the backstretch and Red Letter Day reasserted himself on the lead. Seer and The Price Of Love sharpened their knives behind the leader as Dynaski began revving up in fourth.

Hodsdon eased the Price Of Love outside turning for home and the 5-year-old stuck a head in front of Red Letter Day, with Seer following that move to the outside. Whelan began urging Dynaski behind the trio and as the field straightened away in the lane the decision remained undecided. The Price



Tod Marks

The Price Of Love (right, Danielle Hodsdon) sails the final fence on the way to victory in Thursday's hurdle stakes.

Of Love flew the last while Seer almost went to his knees. Dynaski lost momentum over the final hurdle and The Price Of Love drew clear in mid-stretch. Dynaski got going late, making a last-ditch attempt at the winner only to fall short by a neck, the same margin he carried over Seer.

The win was the second of the meet for Hodsdon and The Price Of Love, who she guided to another ground-saving score in the Jonathan Kiser novice July 31.

"We fell into a pretty trip out there and it worked out perfectly. My horse tends to be very keen and there looked to be a few speed horses in there, so I figured I would try and hold mine in behind," Hodsdon said. "I was really lucky that the pack was happy to go steady and I was able to let Red Letter Day open up a little bit. My horse really relaxed out there today and he jumped 100 percent better than he did last time, when he was in tight quarters."

Prior to the Kiser score, the homebred ran a distant third to Be Certain and Planets Aligned in the Grade II National Hunt Cup at Radnor May 17. Sheppard backed off and gave The Price Of Love a training flat race at Open House July 20 before aiming for the Kiser, where his charge avenged his earlier defeat to Be Certain.

"He likes being up here a lot, and the freshening has helped a lot. He had a couple of pretty hard races this spring; the race at Middleburg when he was second by a neck; he carried a lot of weight. Then he came back at Radnor and that was his first stake," Hodsdon said. "I think the freshening helped and then flat run (at the Open House) helped too. After that we just tuned him up and didn't have to do much with him before the last race. At Radnor he didn't handle the ground and that's been the only race that he's been beat a good distance. I just don't think he likes the softer ground; he wants to be on top of it on a firmer, faster surface."

Pape has won with The Price Of Love and Look At Him with Sheppard at Saratoga this summer. They entered

the Spa season long on talent but short on accomplishments. Look At Him hadn't won since taking a maiden in October 2006. The Price Of Love had only a Camden maiden win, March 29, to his credit.

What a difference a summer in Saratoga can make. Look At Him took the George Sloan Aug. 14 and heads to the Turf Writers next Thursday. The Price Of Love now rates as a two-time stakes winner and one of the most exciting hurdle prospects for the fall.

"It's been a great summer and the horses have run great," Pape said. "We've got this one behind us and we're looking forward now to the Turf Writers. I think I'll hang around for it – I've got a good reason to."

• If you can't find Dominic Galluscio at the track, you're just not trying. The trainer's sartorial selections are as vibrant and varied as the rainbows that have graced the Saratoga sky this summer. And that's no coincidence.

"I've got all the colors in the rainbow," said Galluscio in the winner's circle Thursday, resplendent in a red sports coat.

Robbins' Brooker D took the second, a \$25,000 claimer, over Game Of Skill (Jose Espinoza) and Tenacious Star (Rudy Rodriguez).

Eibar Coa gunned the 4-year-old to the lead and they instantly shook free, clocking a quarter mile in 22.76 seconds, rolling through a half in 45.94 and increasing their advantage under the line to coast home 3 1/2 lengths clear.

Galluscio entered the day just 1-for-24 but had seven seconds and four thirds to his credit. Thursday he gave credit to Coa, who ranks as one of the best gate riders on the circuit.

"When you have a good rider it makes all the difference. (The horse) broke sharp and Coa got him over and was able to get in front," Galluscio said. "Our horses have been running good, it's been frustrating. I've got all these seconds and some thirds. But the horses have been running good."

See **THURSDAY RECAP** page 20 ►

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Thursday Recap —

■ Continued from page 21

• Even though the main course isn't until Saturday afternoon Bill Casner wasn't averse to having a little appetizer Thursday. WinStar Farm's chairman and co-owner, who'll have Colonel John in the \$1 million Travers tomorrow, visited the winner's circle yesterday when Mickleless (Channing Hill) took the fourth race over Prominent (Rajiv Maragh) and Key Trip (Coa).

Bob Dunham trained the winner, a 3-year-old daughter of Cherokee Run who was winless in her first five starts. Hill bided his time in seventh while Caitie Boo set a quick half in 45.91. Tipping four-wide turning for home Mickleless rallied down the center of the track to win by 2 1/2 lengths at better than 17-1.

"Hopefully this is the start of a good weekend. It's the perfect way to get it going, that's for sure," Casner said. "This filly was nice surprise today. She's been training well and Bob's done a nice job with her. She's been a hard-luck filly; she's been a bit green and had some tough trips. We have four horses with Bob and it's great to see him win up here, he's a class guy."

• Invisible Ink finished second in the 2001 Kentucky Derby, and Peachtree Stable's John Fort is still proud of him. So much so that Fort went out looking for sons of Invisible Ink to add to his stable. The result was Beckham Bend, winner of Thursday's fifth; the getting there was difficult.



Dave Harmon

Beckham Bend (right) scores on the turf for Peachtree Stable.

"I put a little ad out looking for some Invisible Inks," Fort said, "so I wind up going down to Florida. This lady had two mares, and some oak trees and a field, but not a blade of grass. This is a place where they don't really deal with people; she'd send someone out to get her cigarettes or whatever. She didn't get out much. When they get up in the morning they'd just get to work with what they had on. So this lady puts on her coat, with her nightgown on underneath. She's got curlers in her hair. Her lead is just a rope with a clip at the end. We can't catch (Beckham Bend). She finally gets him and the colt takes off and starts dragging this lady for five or ten yards, curlers in her hair, nightgown on, until she finally lets go. So I say 'OK, I'll buy that one,' since I've already put this lady through all that. But we still can't get him. So I say, 'Can we shoot him with a tranquilizer gun?' So we shot him with the tranquilizer dart."

Fort's purchase and unique experience paid off when Beckham Bend (Alan Garcia) split horses in midstretch and edged clear to win the \$45,000 maiden claimer by 1 3/4 lengths. Propensity (Sebastian Morales) finished second and Handsome Sport (Jose Espinoza) finished third. The triple paid a ridiculously large \$6,197, while the superfecta paid a stupendous \$102,977.



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THURSDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

1ST. THE MICHAEL G. WALSH NOVICE. 2 3/8 MILES. HURDLE. 4&UP. PURSE \$70,000.

4	The Price of Love	Hodsdon D	7.30	3.10	2.30
8	Dynaski	Whelan P		2.70	2.30
9	Seer	Aizpuru X			2.60

Finish Time: 4:41.40

Trainer: Jonathan Sheppard. Owner: Bill Pape.

Ch. g. 5 Prenup-Solitary Signal, Caveat.

Bred by Bill Pape & Jonathan Sheppard (PA).

\$2 Exacta 4-8 Paid \$15.40; \$2 Trifecta 4-8-9 Paid \$27.40

2ND. 6 1/2 FURLONGS. 3&UP. CLM 16,000. PURSE \$25,000.

8	Brooker D	Coa E M	7.60	4.30	3.40
3	Game of Skill	Espinoza J L		20.20	7.50
7	Tenacious Star	Rodriguez R R			7.50

Finish Time: 1:17.24

Trainer: Dominic Galluscio. Sanford Robbins.

Dk.B./Br. c. 4 Montbrook-Late Nite Fan, Diablo.

Bred by Phyllis Dudley (FL).

\$2 Exacta 8-3 Paid \$125.50; \$2 Quinella 3-8 Paid \$87.00; \$2 Trifecta 8-3-7 Paid \$906.00; \$2 Daily Double (4-8) Paid \$30.80

3RD. 7 FURLONGS. 3&UP. NY BRED. MSW. PURSE \$56,000.

1A	Success Fee	Coa E M	4.10	3.20	2.80
4	Pegasian	Prado E S		4.60	4.30
2	Sir Sapphire	Arboleda A			5.40

Finish Time: 1:22.89

Trainer: Mark Hennig. Owner: J. Paul Reddam.

B. c. 3 Mineshaft-Immerse, Cox's Ridge.

Bred by Chester and Mary Broman (NY).

\$2 Exacta 1-4 Paid \$25.40; \$2 Trifecta 1-4-2 Paid \$209.00; \$2 Pick 3 (4-8-1) 3 Correct Paid \$66.50; \$2 Daily Double (8-1) Paid \$17.80; \$2 Superfecta 1-4-2-5 Paid \$887.00

4TH. 7 FURLONGS. F&M. 3&UP. MDN CLM 25,000. PURSE \$22,000.

4	Mickeless	Hill C	36.20	10.00	5.60
5	Prominent	Maragh R		3.30	2.50
6	Key Trip	Coa E M			3.10

Finish Time: 1:25.34

Trainer: Bob Dunham. Owner: WinStar Farm.

Dk.B./Br. f. 3 Cherokee Run-Illume, Alwuhush.

Bred by Cornachhia & Swyer (KY).

\$2 Exacta 4-5 Paid \$107.00; \$2 Quinella 4-5 Paid \$40.60; \$2 Trifecta 4-5-6 Paid \$261.00; \$2 Pick 3 (8-1-4) 3 Correct Paid \$477.50; \$2 Daily Double (1-4) Paid \$97.50; \$2 Superfecta 4-5-6-8 Paid \$3,044.00

5TH. 1 1/8 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. MDN CLM 45,000. PURSE \$31,000.

6	Beckham Bend	Garcia A	25.80	13.60	8.90
3	Propensity	Morales S		31.20	14.80
9	Handsome Sport	Espinoza J L			12.80

Finish Time: 1:51.16

Trainer: Christophe Clement. Owner: Peachtree Stable.

Dk.B./Br. c. 3, Invisible Ink-Tambien Me Voy, Orono.

Bred by Needmore Thoroughbreds (FL).

\$2 Exacta 6-3 Paid \$592.00; \$2 Trifecta 6-3-9 Paid \$6,197.00; \$2 Pick 3 (1-4-6) 3 Correct Paid \$1,317.00; \$2 Pick 4 (8-1-4-6) 4 Correct Paid \$5,855.00; \$2 Daily Double (4-6) Paid \$382.00; \$2 Superfecta 6-3-9-8 Paid \$102,977.00

6TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 3&UP. CLM 35,000. PURSE \$35,000

6	Intuition Magic	Sanchez J	13.00	6.40	3.60
3	Chief Operator	Leparoux J R		5.50	3.70
7	Big Train	Hill C			2.60

Finish Time: 1:02.51

Trainer: Wesley Ward. Owner: Wesley Ward.

B. g. 4 Awesome Again-Reinfree, Unbridled.

Bred by Adena Springs (ONT).

\$2 Exacta 6-3 Paid \$60.00; \$2 Trifecta 6-3-7 Paid \$171.50; \$2 Pick 3 (4-6-6) 3 Correct Paid \$2,011.00; \$2 Daily Double (6-6) Paid \$205.50; \$2 Superfecta 6-3-7-2 Paid \$1,127.00

7TH. THE OLD RED. 1 MILE. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. PURSE \$83,500.

11	Trouble Maker	Coa E M	13.60	7.20	5.00
4	Lady Carlock	Albarado R J		8.70	6.30
1	Final Refrain	Hill C			9.90

Finish Time: 1:37.33

Trainer: Tom Albertrani. Owner: Hickory Plains.

B. m. 5 Labeeb (GB)-Deo Devil, Devil's Bag.

Bred by Albert and Randy Cohen (MD).

\$2 Exacta 11-4 Paid \$126.50; \$2 Trifecta 11-4-1 Paid \$1,299.00; \$2 Daily Double (6-11) Paid \$112.50; \$2 Pick 3 (6-6-11) 3 Correct Paid \$1,530.00; \$2 Superfecta 11-4-1-3 Paid \$9,614.00

8TH. THE BALLSTON SPA (GR. II). 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. PURSE \$196,000.

1	Wait a While	Velazquez J R	3.70	3.00	2.20
5	Carriage Trail	Prado E S		5.90	2.80
4	Ruthienne	Leparoux J R			2.60

Finish Time: 1:39.70

Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Owner: Arindel Farm.

Gr./Ro. m. 5 Maria's Mon-Flirtatious, A.P. Indy.

Bred by W.S. Farish & Temple Webber Jr. (KY).

\$2 Exacta 1-5 Paid \$26.00; \$2 Trifecta 1-5-4 Paid \$73.00; \$2 Grand Slam (3,6,9-3,6,7-1,4,11-1) Paid \$653.00; \$2 Pick 3 (6-11-1) 3 Correct Paid \$200.50; \$2 Daily Double (11-1) Paid \$26.20

9TH. 1 MILE. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. NY BRED. ALW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	Offhand Remark	Velazquez J R	4.90	3.70	3.40
9	Kitty Nip	Chavez J F		14.20	9.30
4	Dr. Jess Jr	Garcia Alan			5.10

Finish Time: 1:39.06

Trainer: Phil Serpe. Owner: Flying Zee Stable.

Ch. f. 3 Western Expression-Flippant, Thunder Puddles.

Bred by Flying Zee Stables (NY).

\$2 Exacta 1-9 Paid \$118.00; \$2 Trifecta 1-9-4 Paid \$656.00; \$2 Superfecta 1-9-4-3 Paid \$4,358.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-1) Paid \$11.00; \$2 Pick 3 (11-1-1) 3 Correct Paid \$82.00; \$2 Pick 4 (6-11-1-1) 4 Correct Paid \$497.50; \$2 Pick 6 (4-6-6-11-1-1) 5 Correct Paid \$480.50

TRACK: FAST; TURF: FIRM
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Easy Mover

Travers hopeful Colonel John looks at home in morning gallop

BY BRIAN NADEAU

Eoin Harty stood outside of the walking ring at his barn Thursday morning and asked Colonel John a question he knew the steely bay couldn't possibly answer.

"So, can you handle the dirt?"

Predictably, Colonel John stood there and then went about enjoying a scenic morning on the Saratoga backstretch while offering little in the form of a response. Not that Harty needed one.

"The dirt is no concern for me," Harty said. "The other people seem worried about, it but I'm not."

Normally based in California, Colonel John hit the Saratoga main track for the first time Thursday morning and galloped 1 1/2 miles, using each giant stride to further remove himself from the label of

synthetic-track specialist. WinStar Farm's 3-year-old enters Saturday's \$1 million Travers Stakes as a major contender, and Harty saw nothing in his morning gallop to make him think otherwise.

"He was very sensible and I was happy with the way he went."

Trainer Eoin Harty, on Colonel John's introduction to the Saratoga track

Colonel John walked onto the track at 9:04 with exercise rider Carl Aulsup in the irons and slowly traveled the wrong way to the frontstretch while accompanied by a stable pony. He reversed direction and gathered momentum as he hit the clubhouse turn for the first time. Harty and WinStar's Bill Casner watched from the backstretch as Colonel John went past.

"He's being very well-behaved," Casner remarked as Harty peered

intently at Colonel John's fluid gallop.

Colonel John continued around the far turn and through the stretch before reaching the clubhouse turn for the second time. As his horse motored through



Tod Marks

Owner Bill Casner (left) and trainer Eoin Harty look for a big effort from their Travers hopeful.

the bend, Harty smiled and casually remarked to Casner: "He's giving this kid all he can handle, I knew he'd pick it up the second time around."

Colonel John continued to the far turn and gradually slowed as he went through the stretch.

The strapping son of Tiznow exited the track through the backstretch gap and Harty and Casner kept a watchful

eye as Colonel John was led back to the barn.

"He seemed to handle it well out there. He was very sensible and I was happy with the way he went. It didn't look like he had any trouble with the surface at all," Harty said. "There are always some anxious moments anytime

See **COLONEL JOHN** page 25 ►

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Colonel John —

■ Continued from page 24

you bring a good horse onto the track but he looked great this morning.”

Colonel John rose to the top of several Kentucky Derby polls last winter based on his fast-closing second in the Grade I CashCall Futurity over Hollywood Park's Cushion Track. He started his 3-year-old campaign with a hard-fought win in the Grade III Sham over Santa Anita's synthetic surface March 1 and expanded his reputation when he closed with a rush to win the Grade I Santa Anita Derby April 5. The win sent Colonel John to Kentucky as one of the main challengers to favorite Big Brown. The son of Tiznow also went to Kentucky looking to test conventional dirt for the first time.

A 5-furlong workout in a quick 57.80 seconds April 27, left little doubt to the horse's ability to handle the main track. He started in the Derby as the second choice behind Big Brown and ran well to finish sixth while mired in traffic. Saturday he gets another chance to show he's capable of handling a conventional racing surface in the afternoon.

Harty watched as Colonel John cooled out after his gallop. Stopping to pose for pictures, the California invader seemed quite at home at Saratoga.

“Look at him, he's just a big ham,” Harty said. “He's from California and everyone wants to be a movie star out there — even the horses.”

A Travers win would go a long way toward securing a leading role.



Colonel John tests out the Saratoga main track Thursday morning.

Tod Marks

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Dress Code

Travers Day fashion covers all bases

BY MELAINA PHIPPS

If you've yet to don a hat this summer, then Saturday is the day. The 139th running of the Travers Stakes offers an opportunity to see the best of the best strut their stuff on the track – and in the clubhouse. If you haven't already chosen your outfit for the Travers, fear not. Saratoga is at no loss for shops catering to all racing fans of all styles.

A Spa standby, Soave Faire on Broadway boasts the largest selection of dress and casual hats – for ladies and men – in the Northeast. No matter your dress code, your style, or your budget you can find a topper here. And gentlemen, there's more to hats than baseball caps. In fact, there was once a time when you couldn't find a bare-headed man on the grounds of the Saratoga Race Course. So be it a boater or a fedora, just think of it as your contribution to a grand tradition.

Let's move on to clothing (we'll return to hats shortly). Saratoga is nothing if not fashionable, and a simple stroll up and down the main thoroughfare will prove such. From standards such as Banana Republic, Talbot's, Ann Taylor Loft, and Eddie Bauer to the individual boutiques that abound in Saratoga, every fashion need or desire is very easily satisfied.

Dresses for every mood can be found at The Shoppe or hit Aggie's and Violet's for great select designer wear. (Aggie's is one of those shops where the pieces are few . . . but fabulous.) Next door to Aggie's, inside the Downstreet Marketplace, discover Lucia, a tiny shop filled with lovely clothing and accessory treasures; I always find something here. Saratoga Saddlery provides more than just horse gear with selections of separates and dresses from various American and European designers. Rockabella has pretty and fun dresses for women of varying ages. Frivolous on Division Street covers everything from lingerie to accessories and the in-between; while the Pink Paddock supplies classic Lily Pulitzer.

La Sartoria (translated from the Italian as "the tailor" or "the seamstress") offers beautifully-made men's and ladies' fashions for day and evening. From hand-tailored men's suits, to hand-beaded evening wear for women, a purchase from here is a worthy indulgence.

Now for Saratoga Trunk. Named for Edna Ferber's novel-turned-movie, this could very well be the ultimate stop for Travers dressing. The finest offerings of ladies' fashion and accessories in Saratoga for the paddock, the par-



Wear the right thing Travers Day, and you could end up in the winner's circle.

ties and winner's circle. To complement the beautiful and unique frocks offered at the Trunk, designer hats (by Kokin, Nancy Matt and Le Beau Chapeau, to name a few) in every shape, size, color, fabric and with every imaginable adornment, fill the rooms. If you're looking to keep up with Jan Rushton, resident Saratoga paddock pre-race doyenne, you would do well to visit Saratoga Trunk. Additionally, a small selection of hats by Anne Sawyer (exclusive designer to Ms. Rushton) will be available until Labor Day at Saratoga Saddlery.

Now that you've got all your clothes set out and ready to wear, start Saturday

morning off properly – breakfast with mimosas at Chez Sophie, a massage at Sanctuary Spa, manicure and makeup at Aveda, hair styling with Philippe Bevan – just for example, mind. As you make your way to the track, dressed in your Travers best, remember you're dressed for the occasion: racing history made fresh every year.

Whether from the best seat in the clubhouse or a picnic table edging the paddock, you are part of that racing history when you cheer on your picks in Saturday's 11th.

Here's to looking your best and watching the best in Saratoga.

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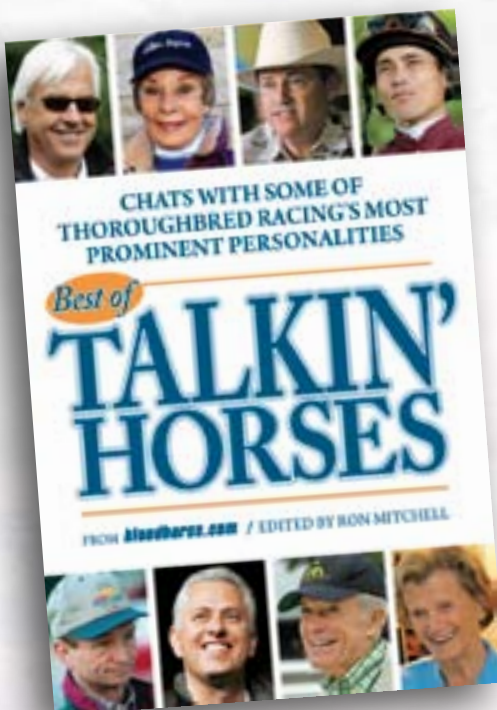
How do you balance family and work when you have to spend so much time at the barn and you have a young child at home? — Las Vegas, Nevada

We all sacrifice, but by the same token we all reap the rewards. Training is a 24/7 job. I may not be the first one to the barn in the morning, but I'm there every day. So far it's worked out great. [But] my ex-wife hates me, some days [my wife] Jill hates me, and Bode calls me Bob.

LARRY JONES

What do you like to do for fun when you are not working with the horses? Do you have other hobbies? — Newark, Delaware

I have two [other] things: I eat and I sleep. But horses are it. If I had an opportunity I would love to go watch the rodeos, see things, and be around things [like] I used to do, to see how it has changed. But basically, it is all horses all the time. It would be great to spend time with old friends.



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JERRY BAILEY

What did you eat for your first big meal when you knew your riding was completed? — Cincinnati, Ohio

My first lunch, I ordered a Reuben sandwich, something I had been wanting to do for at least ten years. I could only finish half of it.

DR. LARRY BRAMLAGE

What has been your most challenging surgical procedure in your career? — Eddyville, Kentucky

Alydar's hind limb fracture [because of the] complicated situation, bad patient, [and the] bankers and lawyers everywhere. It was not the toughest individual surgery, but [it was] the toughest situation.



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139th Travers Stakes (Gr. I)

Purse: \$1 million.

Distance: 1 1/4 miles

Post Time: approx. 5:45 p.m. (Race 11 of 12).

Television: ESPN, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.



PP	HORSE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	ODDS
1	Tale of Ekati	Charles Fipke	Barclay Tagg	Edgar Prado	20-1
2	Colonel John	WinStar Farm	Eoin Harty	Garrett Gomez	8-1
3	Da' Tara	Robert LaPenta	Nick Zito	Alan Garcia	8-1
4	Tizbig	Long Bay Stable	Allen Jerkens	Cornelio Velasquez	30-1
5	Macho Again	West Point Thoroughbreds	Dallas Stewart	Julien Leparoux	6-1
6	Cool Coal Man	Robert LaPenta	Nick Zito	John Velazquez	15-1
7	Amped	Robert LaPenta	Nick Zito	Jorge Chavez	30-1
8	Harlem Rocker	Stronach Stables	Todd Pletcher	Eibar Coa	4-1
9	Mambo in Seattle	Mrs. William Kilroy & Will Farish	Neil Howard	Robby Albarado	5-1
10	Tres Borrachos	Beau Greely	Beau Greely	Tyler Baze	15-1
11	Pyro	Ron Winchell	Steve Asmussen	Shaun Bridgmohan	7-2
12	Court Vision	IEAH Stables	Bill Mott	Kent Desormeaux	12-1

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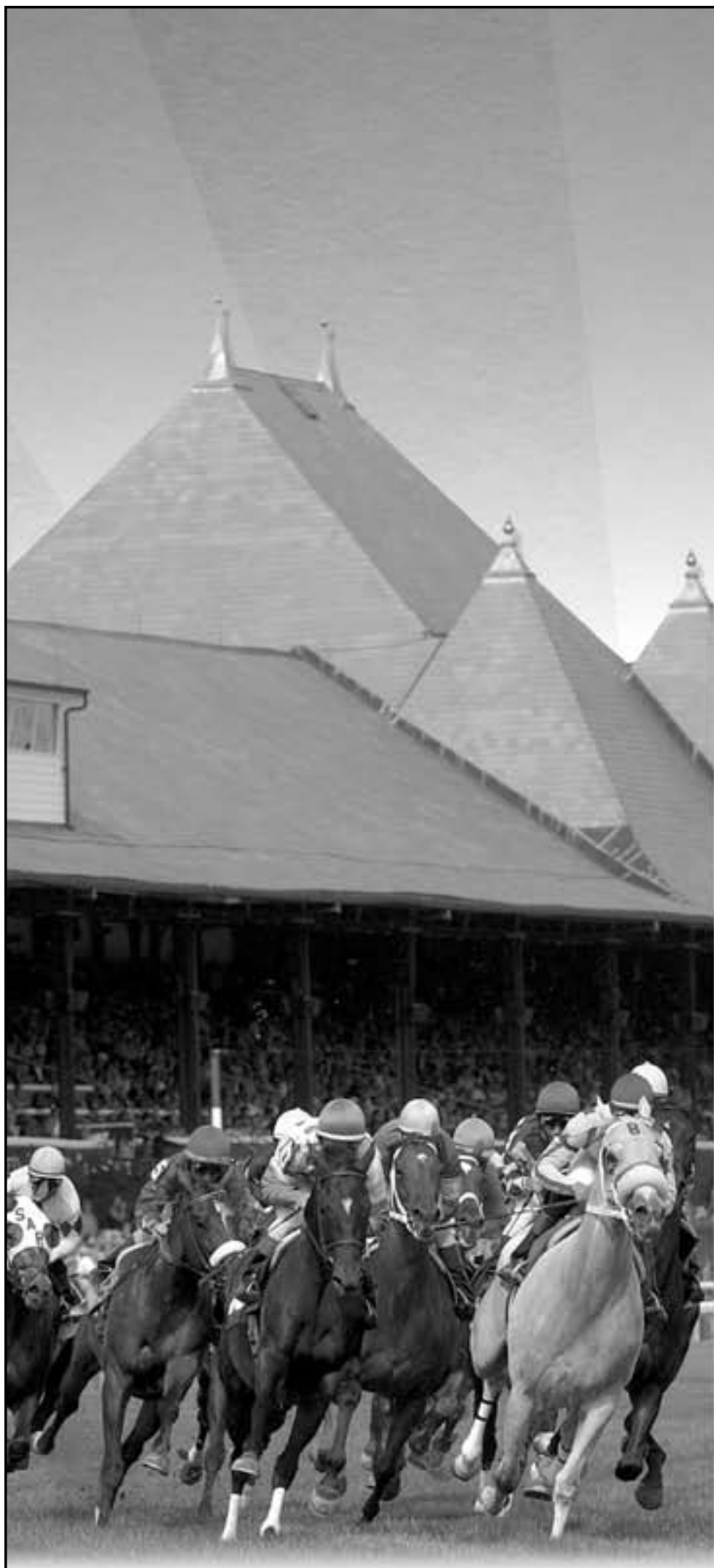
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Father knows best

Ramon Dominguez hung up on his dad.

He tried to end the conversation gracefully. His biggest critic kept criticizing his ride aboard Deal Making in the Hall of Fame Stakes Aug. 4.

"Dad, I really don't want to listen to what you have to say . . ."

"Dad, I really don't . . ."

"Dad . . ."

Click.

Yeah, Dominguez was frustrated with his slow start to the meet and he was even more frustrated by his ride on Deal Making. Dominguez allowed Javier Castellano aboard eventual winner, Wesley, to get first run on the turn while getting hemmed behind a wall of horses. Deal Making never had a chance.

"My dad follows my career closely. He can be pretty critical at times, he's pretty objective, but he doesn't sugarcoat things," Dominguez said. "When I finish the day's races, I talk to him. We don't always talk about horses but sometimes he'll be like, 'You know, I think you're doing this, you're doing that.' Sometimes he can get to me. But what bothers me the most, a lot of times he's right."

Dominguez feels like Deal Making was the best horse in the turf stakes. He chose to wait while Castellano decided to move and then nothing happened. The wall of horses in front never opened. Dominguez knows his decisions cost him the race.

"He should have won and it didn't happen. I could have handled it differently. I should have come out earlier, I should have anticipated," Dominguez said. "My dad got to me. It was the most critical he's ever been, of any ride I've ever given a horse. At the end, it's my dad, he really worries about me and he wants the best for me, but I hung up on him. Yeah, actually, I hung up on him. I called him back and we talked about it."

Deal Making was only part of the frustration as Dominguez endured a glacial start to the meet. He began 1-for-38. Yeah, that's frustrating.

"I don't want to think that I was riding the best horse and getting them beat. I don't want to say I was just riding bad horses, period, and I had nothing to do with it. But I'd be lying to you if I said I wasn't worried, that I knew it would pick up," Dominguez said. "You just try to continue to do the same things and not make any drastic changes. I really feel like I handled it pretty well, try and stay focused and do what I feel like has brought me here. I'm here because, hopefully, I've done things right in the past."

Maybe it was the phone call or simply timing or luck, but Dominguez began to

CUP OF COFFEE

By
Sean Clancy



right the ship somewhere after that slow beginning. With 10 cards remaining, he has clawed to sixth in the standings. With 20 wins, he lies seven back of leader John Velazquez. No, the 31-year-old Venezuelan probably won't be leading rider but he's certainly a long way from that woeful start.

"Things started falling into place, I didn't feel like, 'Wow, I'm really rolling now,' but at one point I stopped and looked and said, 'My God, I've really moved up in the standings.' I try to take it day by day," Dominguez said. "At the same time I was trying not to overreact and be like, 'Oh my God, what am I doing?' If this happened seven years ago, I'd have been a nervous wreck. You're always under so much pressure, you feel like you're supposed to show that you can do it. But it's not always up to you. I'm glad I didn't overreact."

Dominguez landed the riding title at the Aqueduct winter meet and rides the rest of the year at Delaware Park. Actually riding is an understatement. He dominates the jockey colony at Delaware. He's been away for a month and he's still 35 wins and nearly \$1 million ahead of his closest pursuer. Dominguez has made the same move in the past, but moving tack from Delaware to Saratoga takes adjustment.

"I don't ride the favorite nine out of 10 times here like I do at Delaware and because of that it makes it a little more challenging. You can't afford to make mistakes like you can at Delaware," Dominguez said. "Overall it makes you a better rider. Definitely, you learn new things every day here, you're riding against the best riders in the world. Horse racing at a different level. I like it. I don't like getting beat, especially when you're used to winning two or three a day. Now, looking back, I feel like it's really doing something for my career."

Friday, Dominguez has a chance to land his first Grade I of the Saratoga season when he rides Unbridled Belle against Ginger Punch in the Personal Ensign.

"Ginger Punch is the best filly in the country," Dominguez said. "We'll see, I wouldn't trade horses."

Win or lose, Dominguez will call his dad.



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