

FREE



The SARATOGA *Special*



Year 7 • No. 26

SARATOGA'S DAILY PAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Saturday, August 25, 2007

Make Sense

*Derby/Jim Dandy
winner Street Sense
lords over Travers field*

INSIDE

- A quote about every stakes starter today
- Entries, Handicapping, Detailed Analysis
- Jerkens wins Personal Ensign with Miss Shop

Photo by Tod Marks

Pulpit

A.P. INDY – PREACH,

BY MR. PROSPECTOR



Pulpit's Newest G1 Winner: 2007 Del Mar Oaks-G1 winner RUTHERIENNE has won 5 straight stakes.

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Street Sense goes all in

Heavy favorite faces six in Gr. I

BY SEAN CLANCY

Carl Nafzger walked back to his barn Friday morning and summed up today's Travers.

"Just remember," Nafzger said, "nobody in this race has anything to lose but us."

That's what happens when you win a championship at 2, the Kentucky Derby and Jim Dandy at 3 and never finish off the board in 10 starts. Street Sense faces six dice rollers in the Travers. Street Sense risks everything. Helsinki, C P West, For You Reppo, Grasshopper, Loose Leaf and Sightseeing risk nothing.

Still, Nafzger wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

"At some point, you've got to get it on," said Nafzger, a former bull rider. "There's nothing worse than waiting behind the chutes to crawl down on that big bull. Once you crawl down on

TRAVERS STAKES PREVIEW

him, life's good. Same here."

Nafzger circled the million-dollar stakes before Street Sense had galloped out in the Preakness. Curlin nailed him by a head and busted the Triple Crown. So Nafzger counted backward from the Travers and made a plan. The Jim Dandy served as the logical prep for the 1 1/4-mile Travers, and Street Sense chalked it up with aplomb, winning by a comfortable 1 1/2 lengths over C P West and Sightseeing. C P West ran hard, reached the lead but couldn't hold him off; Sightseeing hit his best stride late, closing roughly 6 lengths through the 1 1/8-mile stakes, but still fell 2 1/4 lengths short of first.

Owned and bred by Jim Tafel and ridden by Calvin Borel, Street Sense has trained forwardly all meet, ticking off his works with ease and sauntering through routine gallops. Nafzger put him through three drills since the Jim Dandy; a half in 49 seconds, five-eighths in 59 3/5 and another five-eighths in 1:00 Tuesday morning. Nafzger won



Dave Harmon

Street Sense hits the line in total command of the Jim Dandy here July 29.

the Alabama here last week with Lady Joanne and aims to be the first trainer since Leroy Jolley in 1976 to pull off the Alabama/Travers double. Lady Joanne trained smartly all meet, tipping her hand every morning; Street Sense is playing an open hand, his cards face-up on the table. He's trained exceptionally since he arrived from Churchill Downs.

Now, it's time to put the next check mark on the road that led from Pimlico

to Saratoga and will ultimately finish at Monmouth Park Oct. 27 for the Breeders' Cup. Purchased by Darley for stud duty, this will most likely be Street Sense one and only trip through Saratoga.

"As far as his career, he's already been sold. He's an unusual horse and you want him to go as far as he can go," Nafzger said. "It's fun to run – it's the reason we're all in this business, for the

See **TRAVERS** page 6 ►

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Tod Marks

BIRD TOWN. Before the horses take to the track at about dawn in Saratoga, the geese move elsewhere.

Take A Number

37: People on a backstretch tour waved to by Hall of Fame trainer Allen Jerkens (who rode by on stable pony Circus) Friday morning.

8: Photographers and onlookers watching Rags To Riches get new shoes at the barn Friday morning.

Weather

Travers Day (TODAY): Hot, hot, hot. Partly cloudy skies. A stray afternoon or evening thunderstorm is possible. Heat index near 105. High 96. Winds SSW at 10-15 mph.

Tonight: Scattered thunderstorms in the evening followed by a few showers overnight. Low 67. Winds WSW at 5-10 mph. Chance of rain 40 percent.

Sunday: Mix of sun and clouds. High in the low 80s and low in the 50s.

Monday: Mix of sun and clouds. High in the low 80s and low in the 50s.

Tuesday: A few clouds. High in the mid 80s and low in the upper 50s.

Name of the Day

Incriminate, 11th race. The \$1.5 million yearling, owned by Darley and trained by Eoin Harty, is out of Roll Over Baby.

Name of the Day (Buddhist Edition)

Borobudur, third race. The 4-year-old son of Kingmambo is named for a ninth century Buddhist Mahayana monument in Indonesia. The monument comprises six square platforms topped by three circular platforms, and is decorated with 2,672 relief panels and 504 Buddha statues. The monument is both a shrine to the Lord Buddha and a place for Buddhist pilgrimage. If he beats you in a photo, remember to remain fully awakened and at peace with the world around you.

Noble Truth, sixth race. The 3-year-old son of Buddha is named for the most fundamental of Buddhist teachings. The Four Noble Truths are: all life is suffering; suffering is caused by desire; to eliminate suffering, eliminate desire; and to eliminate desire follow the Eightfold Path. The Eightfold Path is "right view, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right concentration." Now go to the track and make money – maybe 4-8 in the double.

The SARATOGA Special

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Knight Ridder chief executive, in 1974

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Here & There at Saratoga

Worth Repeating

"On cold dope, they both need to get a whole lot better. But, you keep thinking, keep doing . . . and you never know what's right."

Trainer Allen Jerkens, when asked if he had a shot in the Personal Ensign with Miss Shop and Teammate. Miss Shop upset the Grade I stakes.

"Stevie Zito, how are you?"

Wayne Lukas to reporter Steve Haskin as he drove past Lukas' barn on his way to Zito's barn

"Thought I recognized some steeplechase plates down here in the 'hood."

Trainer Neil Howard, while jogging past the Saratoga Special home/office

"He said some other stuff, but I couldn't understand it."

The Special's Jim Mulvihill after interviewing trainer Aurelio Valdes for today's paper

"Not many people can do that."

Trainer Carl Nafzger as he watched Calvin Borel gallop Lady Joanne Friday morning

"You've got to go out there with a no-fear attitude."

Jockey Herb McCauley, 50, who's making a comeback after nine years away from the saddle

"I don't know how they don't break their tails, they must not have any nerve endings in their tails."

Rick Violette as Dudley, a Labrador Retriever, greeted the trainer Friday morning

"If he doesn't make it as a racehorse, he could be a steeplechase horse."

Jockey Edgar Prado, talking about Cosmonaut and the trip they had in the Dixie at Pimlico, where they were forced to hurdle a fallen rival.

"He's a degenerate. And I mean that in a good way."

Reporter Bob Fortus, describing a racetracker



Dave Harmon

Miss Shop gets a well-deserved shower after her Grade I victory in Friday's Personal Ensign. See page 9.

"He's been a member of the family for a long time."

Trainer Rick Schosberg, after finding out Calculator had been claimed out of Friday's seventh race.

"I'm like 0-for-140 when he's up there."

A press box handicapper, after learning a colleague was heading to the roof to watch the eighth race.

"Yeah, I'm older. I was here first. He's just famous."

Greg Blasi, older brother of Scott, assistant to trainer Steve Asmussen

"You know what the old football player said, 'When you lose, say a little. When you win, say less.'"

Trainer Neil Howard, approaching the Travers

I told the owner 'I think she is worth \$50,000.' Well, she's worth \$50,000 now."

Trainer John Kimmel, recalling a conversation with a potential owner, about purchasing Cato Major, who scored in her debut at more than 18-1

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Travers —

■ Continued from page 3

adrenaline rush. It goes on for two or three days, then it all comes crashing to an end one way or another. It's like having your son or daughter in a contest, you want them to win. Not for what they do for you, but because you're so proud of them. Same thing here with this horse."

Street Sense is a nose and a head away from being six for his last six, all since Nafzger equipped the son of Street Cry with front wraps. After the Travers, Street Sense will probably run once more and then it's all down to a battle royale with Curlin, Hard Spun, Any Given Saturday and any other rivals who show up for the Breeders' Cup Classic at Monmouth. For now, Nafzger's trying to take it all in rhythm.

"I probably get as nervous about a good maiden as I do for any horse. When you've got a good 2-year-old maiden, one you think can really do it, the one you've been looking for, I'm as nervous as a cat then. What we all love about this business is the potential of how far we can go," Nafzger said. "At this level, you just want your horse to execute and run his race, that's the way life is, the odds don't count when they open the gates. There's seven in there, I've got six to beat."

Nafzger turns 66 Wednesday. After almost 40 years in the shedrow, he's slowly winding down his day-to-day training duties. An Eclipse Award for Street Sense would make a nice bookend. Not that he's admitting to worrying.

"The hard part is to just chill out, you can't do anything about it, it's there, it's what it is, I try to keep it pretty simple, as long as my horse executes, then I'm OK," Nafzger said. "If he doesn't, then you try to find out what happened. The fear is whether you're going to fire and execute. If you do that, then it's all you can do. He has so far."



Helsinki trains for his chance in the Travers.

Tod Marks



Tod Marks

Looking for an upset, Grasshopper hops into the Travers.

The five trainers taking on Nafzger know all about that.

Shug McGaughey, with Sightseeing, has ducked the likes of Street Sense all year. A son of Pulpit, Sightseeing started the year as an allowance runner at Gulfstream Park. He failed in two tries against first-level allowance foes, shipped north for the Wood Memorial and rallied to finish second to Nobiz Like Shobiz. McGaughey never considered the Derby, Preakness or Belmont.

"It hasn't worked yet, but as of right now, it's worked. Who knows what's going to happen Saturday afternoon? Right now, it's worked. After he ran good in the Wood Memorial, my deal was, 'I can't wait until I get him to Saratoga, to run around two turns around a bigger racetrack,'" McGaughey said Friday morning. "This was the gameplan all along. There were never any thoughts of running him in the Derby and we weren't going to the Preakness. When he won the Peter Pan, everybody asked if we were going to the Belmont. I left the door open in case it fell apart, but I always thought if I stepped up to the plate too quick we might not be talking today."

Sightseeing slapped a single, winning the Peter Pan at Belmont Park in May but still wasn't running straight-and-true like McGaughey wanted. The Hall of Fame trainer added blinkers for the Dwyer and the dark bay colt finished third, 9 lengths behind Any Given Saturday and Nobiz Like Shobiz. The former went to Monmouth and swept the Haskell while the latter went to the turf, winning the Hall of Fame Stakes here earlier in the meet. McGaughey stayed the course, disappointed, but still patient, waiting for the immature colt to grow up and get to Saratoga. Well, here he is.

"After the Dwyer, I was pretty discouraged. Not that he was going to beat the winner but he should



Tod Marks

Sightseeing represents trainer Shug McGaughey.

have been competitive for second and he wasn't," McGaughey said. "I didn't know if we were going to have to go to the grass. If he didn't run good in the Jim Dandy, he was going to be in the Saranac or something."

Under Edgar Prado, Sightseeing dropped out the back, nearly 10 lengths off the pace before making a long and grinding rally to finish third. If you believe in gallop-outs, Sightseeing wanted to go around again. The Travers adds another furlong.

"I was happy to see him relax and then make a sustained move in the Jim Dandy. I was encouraged at what I was seeing as opposed to what I had seen in the Dwyer," McGaughey said. "I felt like it was a step forward. I could tell at the quarter-pole, he was still sitting against him so I was encouraged, but I was looking at the race as more of a step forward – I wanted to win, but I wanted to be encouraged rather than discouraged. But, look, I've got a lot of respect for Street Sense. Sightseeing might go over there and run the race of his life and not win."

Nick Zito has chased Street Sense all year and opts for a two-pronged attack today with Jim Dandy runner-up C P West and two-time winner Helsinki. Owned by Robert LaPenta, C P West stepped up and finished fourth in the Preakness, then faded to fifth in an oddly-paced Belmont. Freshened for the Jim Dandy, C P West battled on the lead and ended up splitting Street Sense and Sightseeing. Zito's philosophy is line up and try again.

"The whole key is Street Sense has got to have an off day and you've got to have a better day. You've got to be really good. No question, you're not supposed to beat a horse like that," Zito said. "You can't go in there, saying, 'C P West is going to win and Hel-

See **SARATOGA** page 7 ►

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Travers —

■ Continued from page 6

sinki's a live long shot.' You've got to go in there saying, 'Maybe we're good that day and maybe he has an off day.' But that horse never has an off day; it's just once in a while it's not as great as the others. That's it."

Neil Howard comes from the same camp as Zito and McGaughey — trainers with nice horses, taking a shot at the Travers while respectful of Street Sense.

Howard sent out Grasshopper to win a second-level allowance race earlier in the meet. A son of Dixie Union, he trounced eight rivals to earn his way into the Travers mix. Owned by Will Farish, Edward Hudson and James Elkins, Grasshopper makes his stakes debut.

"The horse is doing good, he's ready for the next step, it's not like there are that many races around, we looked at the Pennsylvania Derby, but we figured we'd go ahead and go here," Howard said. "Carl shouldn't be scared of any-

body. I'm sure he's apprehensive, just like anybody would, with a horse like that, hoping that the horse runs well and nothing goes wrong. Mr. Farish and I went at this thing like we always do, analyze it but don't over analyze it."

When told about Nafzger's point that Street Sense is the only horse in the race with something to lose, Howard laughed.

"That's a good point, but that horse will run well, he's one of the best 3-year-olds I've seen in a long time," Howard said. "He's more than accomplished at the distance, he won the greatest race in the world at a mile and a quarter, just like he was going three eighths of a mile, so there's not much more you can say about him."

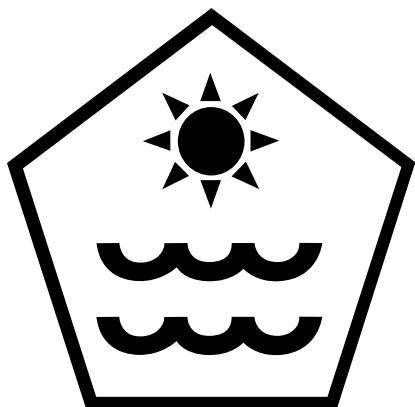
For You Reppo for trainer Helen Pitts and Loose Leaf for Ken McPeck complete the field.



Tod Marks

Loose Leaf tries the Travers for trainer Ken McPeck.


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Where Are They Now?

The 2006 Travers Bernardini



Tod Marks

The Special takes a look back at the Saratoga stakes winners of last year, and what's happened in their lives since they found glory at the Spa.

Upstate railbirds got their first look at Bernardini four weeks earlier when he turned the Jim Dandy into a Grade II timed work, effortlessly notching his fourth consecutive win. But down on the Jersey Shore, Bluegrass Cat had cruised like an IROC in taking the Haskell. Bernardini blew his doors off in the Travers, and with no one in the field playing the part of Holding Pattern, the result was a 7 1/2-length romp. Suitably scared, only three horses turned up to take their drubbing in the Jockey Club Gold Cup. He would get caught by Invasor in the Breeders' Cup Classic, but as folks realized, there was no shame in that. Retired to Darley at Jonabell, Bernardini stands for \$100,000; his first book reads like a Hollywood tell-all. Consider the ladies (who shall remain anonymous) that came to call:

Champions: 9

Dams of Champions: 8

Grade/Group I winners: 22

Dams of Grade/Group I winners: 39

Siblings to Grade/Group I winners: 28

Daughters of Grade/Group I winners: 11

Who's Next?



Miss Shop pulls away late to win the Personal Ensign for Hall of Fame trainer Allen Jerkens.

Dave Harmon

Shop Lifting

Jerkens filly makes off with Grade I score

BY JIM MULVIHILL

Shortly after Miss Shop charged past five other fillies to win Friday's Personal Ensign, trainer Allen Jerkens answered a few of the requisite post-race interview questions.

Do you feel she's better on dirt or turf?

"When she won the Sunshine thing, it looked like she'd be a nice grass filly, but I'm not a grass man."

What did you think of the pace?

"The fractions weren't too fast; it looked like they were legitimate."

Were you impressed with the effort?

"It's just amazing; she's run a lot of times for a 4-year-old in this day and age and this was her best race."

And, naturally, the mother of all post-race queries: What's next?

"Well, I have one in a maiden race tomorrow, then

there's the Ballerina, and I got four for Wednesday."

Actually, what we meant, Chief, was what's next for the filly? But the response pretty much sums up the thought process the Hall of Famer's kept throughout a career of more than 50 years, endearing him to railbirds and horsemen alike. Five minutes after an authoritative Grade I triumph and he's already thinking about the first-time starter he likes the next day.



Allen Jerkens

For those who would like to relish the moment a little longer, at least until Sleeping Indian starts in today's sixth, here's how it all went down.

Grade I winner Sugar Shake bounded out of the gate and sped to an early 1-length lead through an opening quarter-mile in 23.64 seconds, an ambitious clip for a

PERSONAL ENSIGN STAKES RECAP

10-furlong route. Jerkens had his bases covered regardless of the pace, as his gray Teammate tracked in second, a head in front of Saratoga-loving Indian Vale. Meanwhile, Miss Shop, runner-up in the Go For Wand here opening week, dropped 6 lengths back as jockey Javier Castellano watched the leaders scurry away.

"There were only six horses in the race, but three of them were all speed," Castellano said. "You can feel they're going fast, and you know that sooner or later they're going to come back to you. There's just no way they can keep up with that pace. She settled down for me beautifully the first quarter-mile and those fillies came back to me very easily – that's how I took advantage."

Sugar Shake clung to a half-length advantage as she hit the half-mile pole in 47.70. The top three continued together, separated by less than a length, while post-time favorite Unbridled Belle followed alone in fourth. As longshot Lila Paige saved ground along the rail, Castellano and Miss Shop were taking aim on all of them from the rear.

"That's where I wanted to be," Castellano said. "She pulled me a little bit and by the three-eighths pole she was right on top of the other horses. I didn't want to move too soon because I was afraid she'd hang a little bit at the top of the stretch, but I knew at the three-

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 10 ►



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#262 AWESOME AGAIN colt
#291 GIANT'S CAUSEWAY colt
#302 STORM CAT colt
#330 RAHY colt

Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 9

eighths pole. She pulled me right there and I could've gone to the lead easy, but I waited for the stretch."

Into the stretch, Indian Vale hit the quarter-pole first in 1:36.81. Sugar Shake and Teammate had to face reality and began their retreats just as Unbridled Belle and Miss Shop were launching their bids around the field, with the favorite leading the way inside the eventual winner. Miss Shop let loose the superior rally, though, and took command with a furlong to go.

"When I swung her to the outside she finished very, very good," said Castella-

no, who hand-rod the Deputy Minister filly across the wire in 2:03.48, clear by 3 lengths. Miss Shop's ninth victory in 25 starts made her a millionaire, as her share of the \$400,000 purse boosted her total earnings to \$1,054,038.

There were no excuses for runner-up Unbridled Belle, who raced alone behind the leaders down the backstretch under Ramon Dominguez and was in a perfect striking position at the clubhouse turn. But she couldn't find the form that produced a 7 3/4-length win in the Grade II Delaware Handicap last month.

"I had her right where I wanted her," Dominguez said. "She tried real hard turning for home, but the other filly just closed on us. Last time at Delaware she

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 11 ►

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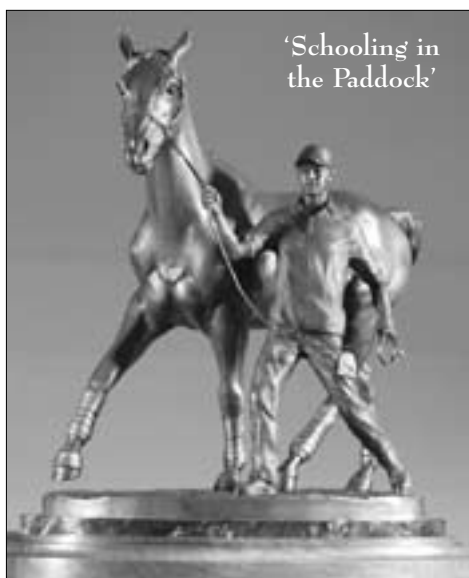
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'Schooling in the Paddock'



Dave Harmon

Miss Shop and Javier Castellano return to the winner's circle.

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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 10

was very forwardly placed and she was dragging me, and when it was time to go and make a run she just went on. Today she ran like a long-striding horse but when it looked like she was laboring a little bit I got her clear and she came back to get second."

It was the first Grade I win for Miss Shop in several attempts, including her runner-up finish to Ginger Punch last month in a race that didn't unfold as advantageously.

"In the Go For Wand she was second-best, but she was the only one that came running from behind and that really helped set her up for this," Castellano said. "The mile-and-a-quarter is a perfect distance for her."

Jerkens wasn't so sure about stretching her out farther, but Castellano, who rode Miss Shop for the first time in the Go For Wand, did the convincing.

"I didn't know that she wanted to go quite that far, but he told me last time, 'Oh, don't worry about her, she'll get the distance,'" Jerkens said. "She trained good and she ran good, and he rode her great, of course. It goes to show, you never know."

Indeed.

But hold on, Chief, there's still one thing you haven't told us. What really is on the agenda for Miss Shop the rest of the season, now that she's a Grade I winning millionaire?

"They say Monmouth Park doesn't suit come-from-behind horses, but my guess is somebody's going to come from behind there someday."

Perhaps October 27.



Miss Shop leads Unbridled Belle home in the Personal Ensign.

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Dave Harmon

Montauk hits the finish line first in Monday's opener to give veteran jockey Norberto Arroyo Jr. the first victory of his comeback.

In the tack, and on track

Arroyo rebuilds career after injury

BY DAVID KOSAK

Winning at Saratoga is always difficult, but for jockey Norberto Arroyo Jr., it was a tougher trip than usual this year. Setting aside that the Spa offers the best competition in the country, he overcame injury and emotion to return to the winner's circle.

Eleven days after getting back in the saddle following injuries sustained in a fall this spring at Belmont Park, Arroyo captured his first victory of the meet aboard Montauk in Monday's opener. It was only his eighth mount of the meet, as rides have been hard to come by for Arroyo, the leading jockey in New York in 2000.

"It feels great. Just coming back itself without winning feels good because when you are out of this game you miss it and you get a little bit frustrated," the 31-year-old jockey said. "You watch the other guys ride and you want to be in the same spot, in the same situation, but

you can't since you're hurt. So just getting back is wonderful. Winning, that's just a plus; it's a blessing, especially in Saratoga."

Arroyo broke his collarbone in a fall at Belmont Park May 25. It was in the far turn of the mile turf race when his first-time starter, Lady Alice, fell over Our Montana Dream and jockey Andrew Lakeman. The fall occurred after Our Montana Dream clipped heels with Irish Senorita, sending Lakeman head first into the grass.

Lakeman and Arroyo were rushed to North Shore University Hospital on Long Island. Lakeman arrived in critical condition with severe spinal injuries, a fractured chest and a punctured lung. He was left paralyzed from the waist down as his spinal cord was severed at the T5 vertebrae.

"It's very sad and frustrating to know that one of the guys who went down with you can't do this anymore.

See **ARROYO** page 14 ►



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Arroyo —

■ Continued from page 12

He can't ride anymore and he's going to have to struggle for the rest of his life in a wheelchair," Arroyo said Monday outside the jocks' room. "After we went down together, we were in the same hospital and it was horrible. There's definitely an encouragement to ride for him since we came out of the same fall. It humbles me to know I could've been in the same shoes he's in right now."

It would be 11 weeks before Arroyo rode again, finishing fifth aboard Missed The Tower here Aug. 10.

"I was actually ready three weeks before I started riding here, but I wanted to take some extra time," the jockey said. "Number one, my mother was here and I wanted to spend some time with her. It was really good for me because it got me healthier and got me fitter. It worked out well."

Arroyo isn't a stranger to comebacks. He's broken his back and his neck since riding his first winner in 1999. However, there's something different about this recovery and return to the track.

"Comparing this time to other times I've come back from injury, this is the best I've ever felt. I'm the healthiest, the fittest. It was that little bit of extra time, those three weeks," he said. "Always on the first mount back you get tired. You're out of air and it doesn't matter how much you train to get back for your first race. And this time when I came back, I felt great, like I'd been riding every day. Maybe it's just something I learned coming back from injury that



Dave Harmon

A crowd joined jockey Norberto Arroyo Jr. in the winner's circle after Montauk's victory at Saratoga Monday.

I didn't know before. That extra time off helps."

He's ready to go; there are no butterflies for this veteran jockey.

"I'm not nervous. I'm actually excited and anxious to get out there and compete in this game with the other guys. I love competition," he said. "There's no nervousness, nothing like that at all."

One thing distracts him from focusing on winning — finding business. Arroyo and former jockey Jose Amy, his agent since November, are having to work extra hard to get mounts.

"My agent and I had a lot of business before I got hurt. We had very good business. But when this happened, I had to be out for several weeks and all those horses that we had ridden, I couldn't ride them," Arroyo said. "So someone else had to ride them. And basically they all ran well because we had good business. When you have good business, all the horses you can't ride are going to run well when you're not there. So it's tough to get those horses back because the new riders are doing well with them. But time will bring some of those horses

back and hopefully others."

Arroyo will keep working to get on more horses, but for now, he's just happy to be riding at all.

"Since I'm able to ride again and I'm not in the same shoes that Andrew's in it shows me that I've got to take advantage and appreciate all of this more," he said. "A lot more than I did before. I've got to take advantage of this 100 percent. It could be over at any minute."

• Through Friday, Arroyo was 1-for-11 at the meet.

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2007 Breeders' Cup Challenge Schedule



Hong Kong

CONGRATULATIONS!

\$1.031 M Champions Mile (Gr.I)

Winner: **Able One (NZ)**

Mile Division



New York

CONGRATULATIONS!

\$250K A.G. Vanderbilt H. (Gr.II)

Winner: **Diabolical**

Sprint Division

\$500K Diana H. (Gr.I)

Winner: **My Typhoon (IRE)**

F&M Turf Division

\$250K Go For Wand H. (Gr.I)

Winner: **Ginger Punch**

Distaff Division

\$750K Whitney H. (Gr.I)

Winner: **Lawyer Ron**

Classic Division



Illinois

CONGRATULATIONS!

\$400K Secretariat S. (Gr.I)

Winner: **Jambalaya**

Turf Division

\$750K Beverly D. S. (Gr.I)

Winner: **Royal Highness (GER)**

F&M Turf Division

\$1 M Arlington Million (Gr.I)

Winner: **Shamdinan (FR)**

Turf Division



California

CONGRATULATIONS!

\$400K Del Mar Mile (Gr.II) [Includes \$100k in BC Funds]

Winner: **Crossing the Line (NZ)**

Mile Division

\$1 M Pacific Classic S. (Gr.I)

Winner: **Student Council**

Classic Division

\$300K Pat O'Brien H. (Gr.II) [Includes \$100k in BC Funds]

Winner: **Greg's Gold**

Sprint Division

Closing: Sep 15/Race Date: Sep 30

\$600K Beldame S. (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP F & M, 1 1/8 M

Distaff Division

\$750K Jockey Club Gold Cup (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP, 1 1/4 M

Classic Division

\$600K Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invit'l (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP, 1 1/2 M (T)

Turf Division

\$400K Vosburgh S. (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP, 6 F

Sprint Division

Closing: Sep 22/Race Date: Oct 6

\$500K Champagne S. (Gr.I)

2 YO, 1 M

Juvenile Division

Closing: Sep 26/Race Date: Oct 6

\$400K First Lady S. (Gr.II)

3 YO & UP F & M, 1 M (T)

F&M Turf Division

\$500K Lane's End Breeders Futurity (Gr.I)

2 YO, 1 1/16 M

Juvenile Division

\$250K Phoenix S. (Gr.III) [Includes \$100k in BC Funds]

3 YO & UP, 6 F

Sprint Division

\$600K Shadwell Turf Mile S. (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP, 1 M (T)

Mile Division

Closing: Sep 26/Race Date: Oct 7

\$500K Juddmonte Spinster S. (Gr.I)

3 YO & UP F & M, 1 1/8 M

Distaff Division

Closing: Sep 20/Race Date: Sep 29

\$500K Goodwood H. (Gr.I) [Includes \$100k in BC Funds]

3 YO & UP, 1 1/8 M

Classic Division

Closing: Sep 27/Race Date: Oct 7

\$300K Ancient Title S. (Gr.I) [Includes \$100k in BC Funds]

3 YO & UP, 6 F

Sprint Division

\$250K Lady's Secret H. (Gr.I) [Includes \$75k in BC Funds]

3 YO & UP F & M, 1 1/16 M

Distaff Division

\$250K Oak Tree Mile S. (Gr.II) [Includes \$50k in BC Funds]

3 YO & UP, 1 M (T)

Mile Division

Note: Del Mar, Keeneland and Oak Tree race on All Weather Surfaces.

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Saturday's Saratoga Entries

Saturday, Aug. 25. Post Time 12:45 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (12:45) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. ALW/OPT CLM 50,000. PURSE \$70,000.

1	1	Got the Last Laugh	Desormeaux K J	Mott Bill	12-1
2	2	Broadway Producer	Castellano J J	Terranova II John	12-1
3	3	Dancing Forever	Velasquez C	McGaughey Shug	6-1
4	4	Loconia	Dominguez R A	Motion Graham	3-1
5	5	Mathematician (IRE)	Gomez G K	bin Suroor Saeed	6-1
6	6	Menacing	Prado E S	Ritchey Tim	15-1
7	7	Tiverton	Coa E M	Donk David	9-2
8	8	Santa's Gold	Pino M G	Jacobson David	15-1
9	9	True to Tradition	Luzzi M J	Lake Scott	8-1
10	10	Gaelic Storm	Velazquez J R	Romans Dale	5-1
11	MTO	Mint Slewlep	Hill C	Bailes Robert	4-1
12	MTO	Three in the Bag	Velazquez J R	Dutrow Tony	5-2

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

2ND (1:20) 6 FURLONGS. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	2	Burgenland Kid	Albarado R J	Sanders Jamie	6-1
1A	5	Sir Paul Thau	Hill C	Sanders Jamie	6-1
2	1	Grand Minstrel	Gomez G K	Jerkens Jimmy	5-1
3	3	Mythical Pegasus	Velasquez C	Lukas Wayne	6-1
4	4	Baystreet Bully	Leparoux J R	Jolley Leroy	20-1
5	6	He's Solid Gold	Desormeaux K J	Zito Nick	3-1
6	7	Eagle Strike	Bejarano R	Frankel Bobby	6-1
7	8	Sonic Boom	Dominguez R A	Contessa Gary	15-1
8	9	Elusive Schemes	Prado E S	Harty Eoin	8-1
9	10	Cowboy Cal	Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd	4-1

A-Coupled: Burgenland Kid and Sir Paul Thau
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pick 3 (2-4), Pick 4 (2-5)

3RD (1:55) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. MSW. PURSE \$63,000.

1	3	On Fire	Velazquez J R	McGaughey Shug	12-1
1A	MTO	Inquisitive	Leparoux J R	McGaughey Shug	12-1
2	9	Borobudur	Prado E S	Frankel Bobby	3-1
2B	10	Fast Thought	Bejarano R	Frankel Bobby	3-1
3	1	Peace Mon	Garcia Alan	McLaughlin Kieran	5-1
4	2	Do I Havea Witness	Borel C H	Romans Dale	12-1
5	4	Konqueror (GER)	Velasquez C	Callejas Bernardo	8-1
6	5	Hot Table	Desormeaux K J	Mott Bill	8-1
7	6	Rocket Legs	Dominguez R A	Pletcher Todd	8-1
8	7	Jump It	Gomez G K	Terranova II John	20-1
9	8	Virginia Minstrel	Coa E M	Tagg Barclay	7-2
10	11	Turkish Victory	Leparoux J R	Dollase Wally	20-1
11	12	Hostile Takeover	Castellano J J	Violette Rick	20-1
12	MTO	Unrestricted	Prado E S	Albertrani Tom	2-1
13	MTO	Pegasus Power	Velasquez C	Ward John	8-1

A-Coupled: On Fire and Inquisitive; B-Coupled: Borobudur and Fast Thought
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (3-5)

4TH (2:30) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 4&UP. CLAIMING 35,000. PURSE \$46,000.

1	1	Forget the Judge	Luzzi M J	Parisella John	4-1
2	2	Noah A.	Desormeaux K J	Kimmel John	3-1
3	3	Incredible Speed	Rojas R I	Martin Carlos	30-1
4	4	El Prado Rob	Hill C	DiSanto Glenn	12-1
5	5	Gebb's Power	Morales P	Torelli Stacy	50-1
6	6	Wallstreet Scandal	Coa E M	Contessa Gary	6-1
7	7	Ruggles Road	Bracetty J A	Shevy Michael	30-1
8	8	Westmoreland	Gomez G K	Stall Jr Al	5-2
9	9	Taming the Tiger	Prado E S	Klesaris Robert	5-1
10	10	Chameleon	Samyn J L	Jacobson David	15-1
11	AE	Military Major	Bejarano R	Reynolds Pat	5-1
12	AE	Lieutenant Danz	Rojas R I	Russo Frank	20-1
13	AE	Royal Guard (GB)	Dominguez R A	Motion Graham	6-1
14	AE	Grand (IRE)	Velasquez C	Romans Dale	5-1
15	MTO	Seeking the Money	No rider	Everett Scott	10-1
16	MTO	Bailero (ARG)	No rider	Dutrow Richard	6-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pick 3 (4-6)

5TH (3:06) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. ALLOW. PURSE \$67,000.

1	10	Holy Trouble	Dominguez R A	Contessa Gary	20-1
1A	AE	Upscale Storm	Desormeaux K J	Contessa Gary	20-1
2	1	Genuine Devotion (IRE)	Garcia Alan	McLaughlin Kieran	12-1
3	2	Bridled Path	Borel C H	Romans Dale	30-1
4	3	Double Down Dixie	Prado E S	Dutrow Tony	12-1
5	4	Smartgabrielle	Coa E M	Levine Bruce	6-1
6	5	Diamondrella (GB)	Bejarano R	Violette Rick	12-1
7	6	Enchantal	Castellano J J	Hough Stan	5-1
8	7	Little Miss Martha	Hill C	Bailes Robert	30-1
9	8	Forest Jazzy	Desormeaux K J	Mott Bill	12-1
10	9	Motor City Mama	Velazquez J R	Rice Linda	8-1
11	11	Sophie's Salad	Velazquez C	Pletcher Todd	9-2
12	12	La Presse	Gomez G K	bin Suroor Saeed	3-1
13	AE	Life Is a Cabernet	Leparoux J R	Clement Christophe	12-1

A-Coupled: Holy Trouble and Upscale Storm
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (5-7)

6TH (3:42) 6 1/2 FURLONGS. 3&UP. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	7	The Duke of Stanco	Garcia Alan	McLaughlin Kieran	10-1
1A	13	Feastorfamine	Coa E M	McLaughlin Kieran	10-1
2	1	Hedge Fund	Leparoux J R	McGaughey Shug	5-1
3	2	Sleeping Indian	Velasquez C	Jerkens Allen	15-1
4	3	Roi Maudit	Gomez G K	Mott Bill	4-1
5	4	Interest Rate	Castellano J J	Tagg Barclay	12-1

6	5	Noble Truth	Bridgmohan S X	Asmussen Steve	15-1
7	6	Putnam County	Velazquez J R	Weaver George	20-1
8	8	Salzburg	Bejarano R	Dutrow Richard	5-1
9	9	Pescatorio	Flores D R	Terranova II John	20-1
10	10	Forest of Dreams	Desormeaux K J	Jerkens Jimmy	8-1
11	11	John's Road	Borel C H	Lukas Wayne	30-1
12	12	Now a Victor	Dominguez R A	Trombetta Michael	15-1
13	14	Giant Deputy	Prado E S	Hough Stan	6-1

A-Coupled: The Duke of Stanco and Feastorfamine
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (6-8), Grand Slam (6-9), Daily Double

7TH (4:20) BERNARD BARUCH (GR. II). 1 1/8 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. PURSE \$200,000.

1	1	Shakis (IRE)	Garcia Alan	McLaughlin Kieran	4-1
2	2	Big Prairie	Castellano J J	Arnold Rusty	20-1
3	3	Drum Major	Bejarano R	Weaver George	8-1
4	4	Linda's Lad (GB)	Leparoux J R	Kenneally Eddie	8-1
5	5	Outperformance	Coa E M	Violette Rick	20-1
6	6	Cosmonaut	Prado E S	Biancone Patrick	3-1
7	7	Karelian	Borel C H	Arnold Rusty	15-1
8	8	Stay Close (GB)	Velazquez J R	Zwiesler Michael	20-1
9	9	Silver Whistle	Desormeaux K J	Mott Bill	10-1
10	10	Woodlander	Luzzi M J	Contessa Gary	12-1
11	11	Ballast (IRE)	Dominguez R A	Motion Graham	6-1
12	12	Gun Salute	Velasquez C	Mott Bill	12-1
13	MTO	Evening Attire	No rider	Kelly Pat	5-2

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 4 (7-10), Pick 6 (7-12)

8TH (4:55) KING'S BISHOP (GR. I). 7 FURLONGS. 3YO. PURSE \$250,000.

1	1	E Z Warrior	Flores D R	Baffert Bob	6-1
2	2	Spin Master	Gomez G K	Romans Dale	12-1
3	3	Hard Spun	Pino M G	Jones Larry	3-1
4	4	Pauillac	Leparoux J R	Biancone Patrick	30-1
5	5	Longley	Velazquez J R	Motion Graham	20-1
6	6	Forty Grams	Prado E S	Asmussen Steve	15-1
7	7	Teuflesberg	Albarado R J	Sanders Jamie	7-2
8	8	Most Distinguished	Bejarano R	Zito Nick	5-1
9	9	First Defence	Castellano J J	Frankel Bobby	6-1
10	10	Bold Start	Desormeaux K J	McPeek Ken	30-1
11	11	King of the Roxy	Dominguez R A	Pletcher Todd	10-1

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

9TH (5:40) THE TRAVERS (GR. I). 1 1/4 MILES. 3YO. PURSE \$1,000,000.

1	1	Helsinki	Leparoux J R	Zito Nick	20-1
2	2	C P West	Velasquez C	Zito Nick	5-1
3	3	For You Reppo	Gomez G K	Pitts Helen	20-1
4	4	Street Sense	Borel C H	Nafzger Carl	3-5
5	5	Grasshopper	Albarado R J	Howard Neil	8-1
6	6	Loose Leaf	Desormeaux K J	McPeek Ken	12-1
7	7	Sightseeing	Prado E S	McGaughey Shug	6-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3 (9-11), Pick 4 (9-12), Daily Double

10TH (6:15) VICTORY RIDE (GR. III). 6 FURLONGS. FILLIES. 3YO. PURSE \$100,000.

1	1	Appealing Zophie	Bridgmohan S X	Asmussen Steve	10-1
2	2	Street Sass	Borel C H	Weaver George	30-1
3	3	Russian Gypsy	Castellano J J	Dollase Wally	10-1
4	4	Graeme Six	Luzzi M J	Amoss Thomas	9-2
5	5	Debbie Got Even	Desormeaux K J	Zito Nick	15-1
6	6	Allude	Pino M G	Albertrani Tom	6-1
7	7	Time's Mistress	Garcia Alan	Lukas Wayne	20-1
8	8	La Traviata	Leparoux J R	Biancone Patrick	5-2
9	9	Musical Start	Rosario Y	Valdes Aurelio	50-1
10	10	Featherbed	Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd	5-1
11	11	Ticket to Seattle	Dominguez R A	Klesaris Steve	20-1
12	12	Half Time Crown	Velasquez C	Gullo Gary	30-1
13	13	Magical Ride	Bejarano R	Arnold Rusty	15-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 (10-12), Daily Double

11TH (6:48). 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. ALW/OPT CLM 75,000. PURSE \$67,000.

1	5	Incriminate	Prado E S	Harty Eoin	4-1
1A	10	Blue Sky God	Luzzi M J	bin Suroor Saeed	4-1
2	1	Starforaday	Albarado R J	Wormser Donna	30-1
3	2	Blackfoot Trail	Velasquez C	Dollase Wally	10-1
4	3	Garifine	Gomez G K	Pletcher Todd	6-1
5	4	Kong the King	Desormeaux K J	Reynolds Pat	6-1
6	6	Westwon	Chavez J F	Lukas Wayne	12-1
7	7	Time to Grow Up	Garcia Alan	Schosberg Rick	20-1
8	8	Vicarian	Borel C H	Wilkes Ian	3-1
9	9	South Pacific	Coa E M	Jerkens Jimmy	7-2
10	11	Executive Search	Castellano J J	Ubillo Rodrigo	15-1

A-Coupled: Incriminate and Blue Sky God
Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

12TH (7:20) 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. NY BRED. ALLOW. PURSE \$61,000.

1	1	Mor Chances	Albarado R J	Lauer Michael	12-1
2	2	Any Which Way	Bejarano R	Gullo Gary	20-1
3	3	Makin Me Famous	Luzzi M J	Terranova II John	9-2
4	4	Frontier Sky	Dominguez R A	Lake Scott	30-1
5	5	Yeah Mon	Borel C H	Wilkes Ian	30-1
6	6	Wally World	Coa E M	Levine Bruce	10-1
7	7	Zipperoo	Velasquez C	Bond James	5-2
8	8	Love Abroad	Desormeaux K J	Hertler John	15-1
9	9	Connectivity	Bracetty J A	Dunham Bob	50-1
10	10	Stolen Forest	Velazquez J R	Schosberg Rick	15-1
11	11	Mondo Diverso	Garcia Alan	Sciacca Gary	30-1
12	12	Sunny Boy 'n Ben E	Hill C	Barbara Robert	20-1
13	13	Alright Now	Prado E S	Dutrow Richard	3-1
14	14	Helene's Dream	Leparoux J R	Pregman Jr John	20-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

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Pete Fornatale



Alan Mann



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Race #				
1	Loconia Broadway Producer Dancing Forever	Broadway Producer Mathematician Loconia	Gaelic Storm Tiverton True To Tradition	Broadway Producer Tiverton Dancing Forever
2	Grand Minstrel He's Solid Gold Eagle Strike	Cowboy Cal Burgenland Kid Mythical Pegasus	Mythical Pegasus Cowboy Cal Eagle Strike	Mythical Pegasus Burgenland Kid Elusive Schemes
3	Frankel entry Konqueror Virginia Minstrel	Konqueror Peace Mon Virginia Minstrel	Peace Mon Virginia Minstrel Konqueror	Do I Havea Witness On Fire Borobudur
4	Taming The Tiger Noah A. Forget The Judge	Noah A. Taming The Tiger Westmoreland	Noah A. Forget The Judge Wallstreet Scandal	Forget The Judge Wallstreet Scandal Taming The Tiger
5	La Presse Enchantal Forest Jazzy	La Presse Smartgabrielle Enchantal	Genuine Devotion Smartgabrielle Diamondrella	Genuine Devotion Forest Jazzy Motor City Mama
6	Giant Deputy Interest Rate Salzburg	Forest Of Dreams Salzburg Giant Deputy	Interest Rate Noble Truth Salzburg	Sleeping Indian Giant Deputy Hedge Fund
7	Gun Salute Linda's Lad Ballast	Shakis Drum Major Cosmonaut	Shakis Gun Salute Woodlander	Gun Salute Big Prairie Cosmonaut
8	King Of The Roxy Hard Spun Teuflesberg	First Defence King Of The Roxy Teuflesberg	First Defence Hard Spun Teuflesberg	Spin Master Longley Most Distinguished
9	Street Sense Grasshopper Sightseeing	Sightseeing Street Sense C P West	Street Sense Sightseeing Grasshopper	Sightseeing Street Sense Loose Leaf
10	Graeme Six La Traviata Magical Ride	Allude La Traviata Graeme Six	Allude Featherbed Time's Mistress	Street Sass Debbie Got Even Half Time Crown
11	Vicarian Blackfoot Trail Garifine	Vicarian Blue Sky God Garifine	Garifine Kong The King Incriminate	Westwon Time To Grow Up Executive Search
12	Makin Me Famous Alright Now Helene's Dream	Alright Now Zipperoo Makin Me Famous	Zipperoo Wally World Alright Now	Alright Now Stolen Forest Zipperoo
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Saturday's Detailed Analysis

RACE 1: The tactically oriented LOCONIA has already scored at the meet and has a chance to improve with that one under his belt. BROADWAY PRODUCER finished in front of a few of these last time and he has a chance to beat them all today, especially if he can save some ground. DANCING FOREVER looked like a one-paced plodder last time but maybe he gets one more chance on the cutback. On dirt, it's THREE IN THE BAG.

RACE 2: I don't like backing 2-year-olds on the rail but GRAND MINSTREL goes on top anyway. He was horrified by the impressive Maimonides in his first start but should be fine against mere mortals. HE'S SOLID GOLD has the look of a live firster based on his trainer and sire; check the tote and paddock for further clues. EAGLE STRIKE is also bred to be a freak; Bobby Frankel probably wouldn't mind winning one for Juddmonte on the Travers undercard.

RACE 3: BOROBUDUR (coupled with FAST THOUGHT) certainly needed that Opening Day effort, his U.S. and 2007 debut; he finished up like a good turf horse and can turn the tables on his returning rivals. KONQUEROR ran a big one in his unveiling downstate. Normal second-out improvement could land him in the winner's circle; he entices Cornelio Velasquez, which in turn entices me. VIRGINIA MINSTREL made the lead in the stretch last time but finished second despite a good trip up to that point. That's worrisome, but I'll use him as he's run against some good ones. If on dirt, UNRESTRICTED.

RACE 4: TAMING THE TIGER is a consistent sort who ran against better last time and reunites with the win rider. NOAH A has been knocking on the door; should improve in his second start at the meet. FORGET THE JUDGE is a Saratoga horse-for-course who could be set for a peak effort.

RACE 5: LA PRESSE carries European turf-sprint form; a reprint of any of those efforts will have the others running for second money. The last is a total toss and she should be ready to fire back on her preferred surface. ENCHANTAL has done her best work dashing on the lawn and rates a long look here. FOREST JAZZY will need to settle better if she's going to get involved, but I could see a scenario where she steps up in her second try at the meet. On dirt, MOTOR CITY MAMA.

RACE 6: The pricey GIANT DEPUTY goes out for Stan Hough, who excels with young horses. He unveiled Discreet Cat on Travers Day two years ago, and this one should enjoy 6 1/2 furlongs. INTEREST RATE is bred to improve as the distances get longer and showed an affinity for the track in his workout. SALZBURG ran a big number in his debut at Monmouth Park, possesses tactical speed and gets Lasix.

RACE 7: GUN SALUTE outran his odds in his season opener, finishing within a length of his freak of an ex-barnmate Shakespeare. I'm guessing this race was the goal and that this cool horse will be dangerous. LINDA'S LAD ran races in England and France that suggest he'll be very comfortable with these; moves up on the off going. BALLAST has some nice bits of graded form and could be ready for a peak effort in his third race of the form cycle. On dirt, try the old boy EVENING ATTIRE.

RACE 8: After KING OF THE ROXY's Hutcheson score I thought, "There's the King's Bishop winner." His stretchout attempts weren't all bad but I suspect this is what he really wants to do. His longer sprint efforts have been tremendous and he's got a real shot at a price on the cutback. HARD SPUN has legitimate excuses for just about all of his losses and runs like he'll be well-suited to today's test. TEUFLESBERG has shown flashes of amazing talent throughout his career and ought to be fit enough going from two turns on turf to one on the dirt.

RACE 9: You don't need me to tell you that STREET SENSE is going to win the Travers. He had the perfect prep and he's been pointing to this race since the day after the Preakness; a free square in the Pick Whatever's. If you can't

take the 1-2 on him, however, maybe try a lightly raced, improving horse such as GRASSHOPPER. I'm a big Neil Howard fan and he'll have this one ready to fire his best shot. I can conjure a scenario where the pace is soft and the top one moves too early. If that happens, perhaps the stoutly bred SIGHTSEEING could be the beneficiary. But 90 percent of my play goes through the top one.

RACE 10: GRAEME SIX looks really dangerous on the form book after seconds to Dream Rush and Burmilla and might be able to work out a nice stalking trip. Mike Luzzi has had a tough meet, but there's no restorative like a Saratoga stakes score. LA TRAVIATA might be the third freaky-fast filly that Graeme Six runs second to. She's done nothing wrong and has the potential to be a champion; for more than just Giuseppe Verdi fans. This race is named for MAGICAL RIDE's mom and while the daughter has never really put it together since her promising debut, she's worked well and rates a look.

RACE 11: VICARIAN ran well with trouble in his first start at the meet from a tough post. He gets a better post today and should be really fit on the cutback. BLACKFOOT TRAIL improved several lengths in his last start and this barn is quietly having an excellent meeting. GARIFINE set the pace in a race that fell apart Opening Day and deserves another look.

RACE 12: MAKIN ME FAMOUS is tactical and has been part of the exacta in his last four starts, including two tries at this condition; rates a big shot. Though he's not a maiden, ALRIGHT NOW is the type of horse you'll want to check out on the tote and in the paddock. If he's bet and/or looks the part, you're free to bet. HELENE'S DREAM isn't an ideal horse but it's notable that two of the five exacta finishes in his long career came here. A chance to round out the number at boxcar odds.

— Pete Fornatale

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- Ballerina (GI) \$250,000

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Detailed Stakes Analysis

The King's Bishop. Grade I. 7 furlongs. 3YO. Purse: \$250,000.

The Special's Alan Mann gives detailed analysis of major stakes during the meet. The idea of these previews is to go through and make comments horse-by-horse, trying to come up with a loose value line to guide the betting. Some horses get dismissed rather quickly, but this exercise can really help illuminate contenders and knock off vulnerable favorites.

The Picks: First Defence, King of the Roxy, Teuflesberg.

E Z WARRIOR: Lost all chance when he stumbled badly at the start of the Grade I Bing Crosby, his first race since January. That Del Mar stakes was a confident placing by trainer Bob Baffert, and his charge has worked well over the main track here since shipping east. This son of Exploit can rate but, leaving from the rail with the speedy Spin Master just outside, David Flores may take him in front as far as he goes . . . or he could perhaps sit a trip behind pacesetters. Either way, the seventh furlong is an unknown, and I'd demand 6-1.

SPIN MASTER: Couldn't keep up with committed speedballs Idiot Proof and Southwestern Heat at Monmouth Park, but still continued on well for second. Used his speed to win a stakes in his prior effort, and has won at 7 furlongs too. Lightly raced son of Distorted Humor has shown potential for Dale Romans, but will get a test for class in this spot, especially with E Z Warrior drawn just inside. 25-1.

HARD SPUN: Seemingly by popular demand, makes his long-awaited turnback to a sprint. While the distances of the Triple Crown may have been beyond his sweet spot, he's done his best work around two turns, beaten only by the best the division has to offer. He's training well for Larry Jones, looks grand and there's little reason to think he won't run well. But he's facing far more experienced sprinters here and doesn't seem like a worthwhile investment below his 3-1 morning line.

PAULLIAC: A million-dollar son of Mr. Greeley with a nice closing kick, which he's used to win two of his three starts. May get a favorable pace here too, but with his lack of experience and the severe rise in class from an entry-level allowance, he'd have to be 50-1.

LONGLEY: Cuts back from routes where he's utilized a pressing style to good effect, including a stakes win at Delaware two races back. Seems unlikely this son of Seeking The Gold has the speed to stay close to the action today. But he came from off the pace to win his debut, over this track at 5 1/2 furlongs. Enters off a disappointing effort in which he was beaten by King Of The Roxy, but barn is sharper than its win-percentage indicates and a score wouldn't be a total shock. Take a shot at 30-1.

FORTY GRAMS: Fourth in the Amsterdam (behind Most Distinguished), his first sprint of the season following a long string of routes. It was an even effort, similar to his other graded-stakes tries, but doesn't make me think he can improve the way he'd needs to against these. 30-1.

TEUFLESBERG: The hardest working horse in show business has raced nearly once a month for trainer Jamie Sanders since his debut in April 2006. He's gone short, long, dirt, turf and Poly, and all with at least a modicum of success. But it just might be that 7 furlongs is what the son of Johannesburg really wants. He's 2-for-2 at the distance, including his surprising last-to-first win in the Woody Stephens. Robbie Albarado has many options, but one suspects he'll employ similar tactics as he did in the Stephens. 9-2 seems fair odds to bet that he can pull it off.

MOST DISTINGUISHED: Took him eight tries to graduate, but he's progressed in each race since then, culminating in his Amsterdam win last month. He's developed into a mid-pack closer, and that strategy could serve him well at 7 panels, with a potential quick pace to boot. Nick Zito repeats his winning workout pattern of a sharp half-mile a week before the race, and this son of Dixie Union seems ready to roll. I could get behind at 9-2.

FIRST DEFENCE: Versatile fellow won sprinting before stretching out successfully to take the Long Branch at Monmouth. The son of Unbridled's Song cuts back to 7 furlongs, the distance at which he ran sensationally at Belmont under no urging whatsoever by Javier Castellano. He has four impressive works over the track, and a post position from where he could be the controlling speed. One gets the feeling that Frankel has this one razor sharp, and he looks worthwhile at 9-2.

BOLD START: Seems to be entered ambitiously by Ken McPeck, but he was only 2 1/4 behind King Of The Roxy in the Hutcheson at 7 1/2 furlongs. He leaves the turf today and returns to dirt, a surface over which he's placed in two graded stakes. But he'd be a big surprise and rates 50-1.

KING OF THE ROXY: Like Hard Spun, he cuts back to a sprint after trying the Triple Crown Trail. But unlike the Derby runner-up, the Todd Pletcher trainee has won graded sprint stakes (two to be exact) and one – the Futurity – at today's distance. Team Valor is on a roll, and it certainly wouldn't be a shock to see this son of Littleexpectations rolling down the center of the track in the stretch. Seems worth a bet at 6-1.

– Alan Mann

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Where Are They Now?

The 2006 King's Bishop **Henny Hughes**



Tod Marks

The Special takes a look back at the Saratoga stakes winners of last year, and what's happened in their lives since they found glory at the Spa.

Ever since he won the Tremont by 15 lengths, folks had stopped calling him 'Henry.' They knew who he was. Saratoga railbirds recalled him winning the Special and placing in the Hopeful. So when he returned to the Spa off only a warm-up win in the Jersey Shore, they sent him off as the chalk, and didn't care when he came home a winner nearly a half-second slower than Discreet Cat had the day before. Henny would put on perhaps his best show six weeks later at Big Sandy in the Vosburgh, only to be at his worst at Churchill in November, running dead last in the Breeders' Cup Sprint. Retired and standing for \$40,000 at Darley at Jonabell, breeders with the need for speed have been jetting to Lexington. Just read his book of mares:

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Detailed Stakes Analysis

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The Picks: Sightseeing, Street Sense, C P West.

HELSINKI: Showed promise for Nick Zito with a string of solid performances in the spring, stretching out seamlessly and displaying a nice late turn of speed. However, he hasn't yet proved capable of competing at this level in two subsequent stakes tries. Zito takes the blinkers off and will look for him to come from Finland; it would take 75-1 to get me along for the ride.

C P WEST: Proved his breakout performance in the Preakness was no fluke with his dead-game second to Street Sense in the Jim Dandy, and a bullet half-mile work last week convinced Zito to try the Derby champ again. There's no Flashstorm here, so this son of the Classic winner Came Home is your likely pacesetter. No questioning his fitness, but he's never quite been this far. I'd consider for the upset at 6-1 or more.

FOR YOU REPP0: Flashed talent for trainer Helen Pitts, and actually defeated Sightseeing in a Gulfstream allowance earlier this year. The son of El Corredor is, however, eligible for entry-level allowance races, coming off a third at that level on the grass. He's been fairly consistent, and you never know . . . but it would take odds north of 99-1 to get me on board.

STREET SENSE: Well capable of succeeding at a mile and a quarter – he won the Kentucky Derby, after all. In fact, the son of Street Cry is the only entrant to even have attempted the distance. His comeback win in the Jim Dandy, while efficient, was hardly dominant, and he felt the sting of Calvin Borel's whip a dozen times. We can presume Carl Nafzger will have him primed for this race, his true mid-summer objective, and the trainer has amply proven he can have Street Sense ready for the big race. He'd be value at 4-5.

GRASSHOPPER: Won impressively at 9 furlongs here last month, defeating a field which included several runners who returned to compete in a slowish allowance affair Thursday. The son of Dixie Union is obviously quite talented, drew away in that win as if he'll relish the extra distance and earned a competitive speed figure. Bit of a wild card in his test for class, and could be enticing at 35-1.

LOOSE LEAF: Came from far back to sweep past a restricted stakes field which included Helsinki here earlier this month. The son of Notebook competed respectably in a couple of prior open stakes, including the Grade II Northern Dancer at Churchill Downs, and trainer Ken McPeck obviously feels his horse will benefit from the added ground. Kent Desormeaux, who has enjoyed success aboard this colt (and at this meet) returns to ride. Worth a shot at 40-1.

SIGHTSEEING: Shug McGaughey has handled his charge with ultimate patience, eschewing the temptation of Churchill in May in favor of Saratoga in August. The Travers may have become a step, and apparently an optional one, on the road to the Breeders' Cup for some, but the son of Pulpit has been trained with this objective in mind. He finished up extremely well for third in the Jim Dandy after having to alter course late, galloped out well and has two excellent drills since. Bred to run all day, he's primed for the upset, and I'll take a seat on the tour bus at 4-1.

– Alan Mann

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Blast Off

After missing Million, Cosmonaut lands in tough Spa turf spot

BY KAREN JOHNSON

Patrick Biancone has a positive attitude concerning Cosmonaut missing the Arlington Million two weeks ago.

After scoring a front-running, victory in the Grade III Arlington Handicap July 21, Cosmonaut was pointed to the Grade I Million. A foot abscess, however, aborted that mission and Cosmonaut missed a week's training.

Instead of looking at the negative – missing a million-dollar race and running today for a purse that is \$800,000 less – Biancone believes the week off and more time in between races has done some good for the son of 1999 Travers winner Lemon Drop Kid.

Cosmonaut is the 122-pound starting highweight in the 9-furlong Bernard Baruch on the Mellon Turf Course and figures to go off as a slight favorite. A field of 12 contests the wide-open Grade II affair, with Evening Attire waiting in the wings as a main-track-only entry. Cosmonaut concedes five to eight pounds to his rivals.

"He's a good fresh horse right now," Biancone said Thursday. "You can't go in a race when there is a problem and now he is doing very well."

Cosmonaut, who will be ridden by Edgar Prado,



Tod Marks

Drum Major (4) exits a runner-up effort behind Silver Tree in the Fourstardave Aug. 5.

won last year's Arlington Handicap before finishing fifth in the Arlington Million. A winner of more than \$700,000 for his owner, Flying Zee Stable, the 5-year-old is a consistent sort who rarely throws in a clunker.

The powerful barn of Bill Mott, the meet's leading trainer and the conditioner of five Baruch winners, will be represented by two runners, Gun Salute and Silver Whistle.

Gun Salute, a Grade I winner for Laue Ranch, is the more accomplished of the uncoupled duo. After

winning three consecutive graded stakes as a 3-year-old in 2005, Gun Salute only raced once in 2006 due to an illness.

"He was really sick with a fever," Mott said. "It took a long time for him to bounce back."

Gun Salute has raced three times this year without a win, but his last effort, a close-up third in an optional claimer here Aug. 2, should have him ready for a big effort today.

See **BARUCH** page 26 ►

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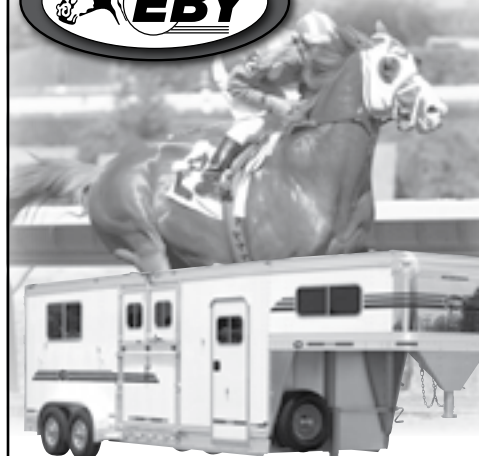
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Baruch —

■ Continued from page 24

Cornelio Velasquez rides Gun Salute from the outside post. On paper, at least, the Baruch isn't top-heavy on speed. Gun Salute, despite the difficult draw, should be among the early leaders.

Silver Whistle, a Stronach Stables homebred, seeks his first win since taking the Grade III Pan American at Gulfstream Park in April 2006, nine races ago.

Silver Whistle gets the services of Kent Desormeaux. He drew post 9.

Shakis, a Shadwell homebred, is trained by Kiaran McLaughlin.

The trainer hopes the distance of the Bernard Baruch produces a pace scenario to Shakis' liking. In his last start, the 7-year-old finished fourth as the favorite in the 11-furlong Bowling Green at Belmont Park July 15. Shakis ran a huge race on Belmont Stakes Day to finish third behind turf stalwarts Better Talk Now and English Channel in the 10-furlong Manhattan Handicap. Only a head separated Shakis from winner Better Talk Now.

"At 9 furlongs I'm hoping there is a faster pace and he can finish," McLaughlin said. "He finished up very fast when he last ran 9 furlongs."

McLaughlin was referring to Shakis' win in an optional claimer at Belmont in May. The final eighth of a mile was run in 10.90 seconds.

Alan Garcia rides Shakis from the inside post.

Ballast, under Ramon Dominguez,



Big Prairie brings a 2-for-2 mark over the Saratoga turf into the Bernard Baruch.

Tod Marks

figures to be prominent in the early going if he can secure a good position from post 11. His runner-up finish after a tough trip in a Delaware Park stakes last month took on added meaning when the winner, Silver Tree, came back and won the Fourstardave here Aug. 5. Graham Motion trains Ballast for Richard C. Thompson.

The intriguing Linda's Lad makes his American debut for trainer Eddie Kenneally. A Group I winner in France, the Sadler's Wells colt won the prestigious Criterium de Saint-Cloud as a 2-year-

old in 2005. Although he won a Group III last year in England, Linda's Lad hasn't been able to replicate his superior 2-year-old form. Julien Leparoux rides for owner Sean Mulryan, who campaigned the colt in Europe. He drew well in post 4.

Drum Major is capable of a good effort for Dogwood Stable. The son of Dynaformer was a game second to Silver Tree in the Fourstardave at 17-1. He figures to be a shorter price today for trainer George Weaver and jockey Rafael Bejarano. Drum Major drew directly

to the inside of Linda's Lad.

Big Prairie has shown an affinity for the course, having won two races in as many starts here on grass. Trained by Rusty Arnold, Big Prairie makes his second start off a layoff. Arnold believes his 5-year-old could be ready for a big effort. Big Prairie finished fifth in a mile stakes at Monmouth Park July 14 in his first race since January.

"The Monmouth race was too short for him," Arnold remarked of the Dinwiddie Farm homebred. "I would like to see them go fast up front here and then he can make up some ground."

Javier Castellano rides Big Prairie, who drew post 2.

Arnold also entered Karelian, who is not coupled in the wagering with Big Prairie. Karelian, owned by D. Richard Masson, is making his graded stakes debut. Karelian has Calvin Borel in the saddle and breaks from post 7.

Woodlander's trainer, Gary Contessa, said the key to his horse's success depends upon how jockey Mike Luzzi reads the pace. In April at Aqueduct, Woodlander won the Grade III Fort Marcy by laying close to slow fractions.

"Luzzi will have to recognize the pace," Contessa said. "If the pace is fast, I would like to see him six or eight lengths off the leaders. If the pace dictates he be close, he is a willing participant."

Winning Move Stable owns Woodlander, who breaks from post 10.

Outperformance (Eibar Coa) for trainer Rick Violette and Stay Close (John Velazquez) for Michael Zwiesler round out the Bernard Baruch field.

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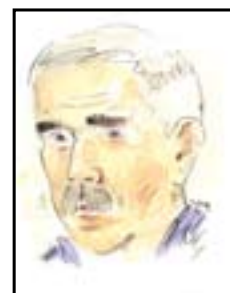
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SARATOGA Sketchbook

IMAGES OF SARATOGA

BY BILL ROBERTS

Bill Roberts is a professor of arts at Wells College in Aurora, N.Y., and the owner of Blue Horse Studio. He has been covering the races and exhibiting his work in Saratoga since 1979.



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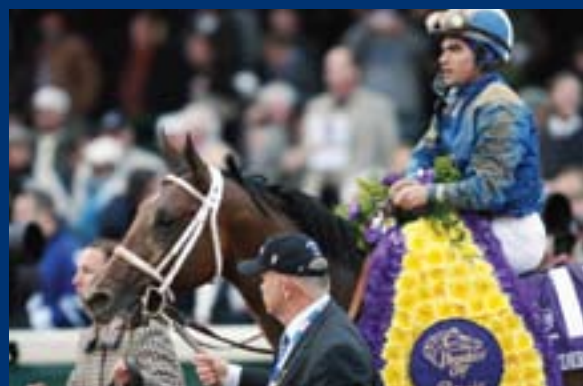


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SATURDAY STAKES PREVIEW

For the fifth consecutive year, *The Special* dispatched its team to gather comments about every Travers Day stakes entrant. Interviews were conducted by Joe Clancy, Sean Clancy, Karen Johnson, David Kosak, Jim Mulvihill and Brian Nadeau. The **"Stakes Speak"** pages appear on pages 32-38 and provide insight into each of the day's stakes starters.

The 12-race card (which begins at 12:45 p.m. – though gates open at 7) features four stakes:

The Bernard Baruch

Named for a former Wall Street bigwig, member of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "brain trust" and Thoroughbred owner, the 9-furlong Baruch is a test of stamina and speed over the Mellon Turf Course. Today marks the race's 49th running. Cosmonaut was installed as the light 3-1 morning line favorite.

The King's Bishop

The year's most important event for 3-year-old sprinters is named for a stakes-winning colt owned by Craig Culligan Jr. This is the 23rd running of the King's Bishop. Kentucky Derby runner-up Hard Spun is favored on the morning line at 3-1 in a deep and contentious race.

The Travers

The Mid-Summer Derby, as it's often called, is the oldest 3-year-old stakes in the country and the most highly anticipated race of the meeting. Named for the first president of Saratoga Race Course, William R. Travers, the \$1 million race is being run today for the 138th time. Kentucky Derby and Jim Dandy winner Street Sense will be the overwhelming favorite and is listed at 3-5 on the morning line.

The Victory Ride

For 3-year-old fillies going 6 furlongs, the Victory Ride joins the Travers Day lineup in its fifth renewal, replacing the Ballston Spa, which was run Thursday. The race is named for the winner of the 2001 Test Stakes. The undefeated La Traviata is favored on the morning line at 5-2.

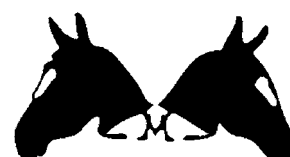


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Purse \$200,000.
1 1/8 miles turf. Grade II.
3-year-olds & up.
Post Time 4:20 p.m.**



Tod Marks

Gun Salute is a Baruch contender for trainer Bill Mott.



Barbara Livingston

Cosmonaut goes out for trainer Patrick Biancone.

1. Shakis

Shadwell homebred raced in Dubai before shipping to United States this year. Irish son of Machiavellian started three times at Belmont Park, including a third in the Grade I Manhattan behind Better Talk Now and English Channel (beaten a head). Suffered loss as the favorite in last, finishing fourth in Grade II Bowling Green July 15, but won an optional claimer at the Baruch's distance in May. Figures to be stalking the pace after breaking from the rail under Alan Garcia.

Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin: "The Bowling Green didn't look like that tough of a race, but looking back, Sunriver had an easy lead and then came back and ran well in the Arlington Million. We underestimated him and the distance wasn't to his liking. He's drawn well, they're going to take down the rail so he gets good, fresh ground. I don't feel like he's tailing off after three runs in this country, usually they get better because we learn a little more about them."

2. Big Prairie

Undefeated in two starts at Saratoga in 2006, winning back-to-back turf outings at 1 3/16 miles. Has only raced twice this year, winning a Gulfstream Park optional claimer in January and running fifth in the \$60,000 Bob Harding at Monmouth Park in July. The 5-year-old, with Javier Castellano, should make a late move.

Trainer Rusty Arnold: "He got hurt in Florida after winning that race. We wanted to run because he's 2-for-2 here. He's the type of horse that wants to go farther. Although saying that, he hasn't yet won at (11 furlongs or 12 furlongs). He had a lot of time off before his last race and he was fifth, only beaten 3 lengths and the horse behind him came back and won the Sword Dancer. I knew it was too short, but I just had to get a race into him."

3. Drum Major

Five-year-old son of Dynaformer stepped up big time earlier in the meet, running second to turf monster Silver Tree in the Grade II Fourstardave, missing by only three-quarters of a length. Took a Grade III at this distance last year, winning the Knickerbocker Handicap at Aqueduct. Rafael Bejarano rides again for trainer George Weaver, who's won four times in the last week.

Trainer George Weaver: "We are really happy with him. I'll tell you what – you can't fault his last race. I think that was an indication he is in the best form of his career. If he can step it up just a little bit from that race we should be right there. We have been on a good run of late and hopefully we can keep it going."



Barbara Livingston

Silver Whistle looks for his first win of 2007.

4. Linda's Lad

European wild card makes his United States debut. Group I winner as a juvenile in France, the son of the immortal turf sire Sadler's Wells has adapted nicely, and will have Julien Leparoux aboard. Has made only one start in his 4-year-old season, a close fifth in Newmarket's Group II Jockey Club Stakes.

Trainer Eddie Kenneally: "I have had him since the first of July and he has done really well since he got here; he has a lot of class. He was a top-class horse in Europe. He just maybe needed a change of scenery and there might be more opportunities for a horse like him here. He is a Sadler's Wells out of an Alleged mare, which means stamina, so I assume that after this race we will stretch him out. He should be a come from off-the-pace type of horse; the more pace the better for him."

5. Outperformance

Son of Aptitude sports eight on-the-board finishes in 12 turf starts. Knocked heads with talented Remarkable News in last two, finishing third in the Dixie at Pimlico and third in the Firecracker at Churchill. Winner of the Grade III Hill Prince last year, 4-year-old colt needs to break through. Eibar Coa rides.

Trainer Rick Violette: "He's a really neat horse, he wants to be a good horse. If there's pace in the race, I think we'd be very, very dangerous."

6. Cosmonaut

Son of 1999 Travers winner Lemon Drop Kid won the Grade III Arlington Handicap in 2006 and 2007. Missed a start in the Arlington Million with a foot abscess. Highweight at 122 pounds and 3-1 morning-line favorite, the 5-year-old has a versatile running style and is likely to be placed on or near the lead by Edgar Prado.

Trainer Patrick Biancone: "This Cosmonaut is an amazing horse because he just repeats the same thing every time he runs. He's like a high-performance Xerox machine – all the time he runs the same numbers and all the time he tries his best. Most of the time when you run him in a Grade I he finishes third or fourth, and when you run him in a Grade III or Grade II he wins. He's in good form. We had one little setback with his foot after the race at Arlington, which made us miss the Arlington Million, but maybe it's for the better because it gives him five weeks between races."

7. Karelian

Five-year-old son of Bertrando makes just 13th career start, his first in graded company. In top form this year, winning two of four, including a second in his most recent start, the \$60,000 Kittens Joy at Colonial Downs. Calvin Borel, who rode him to a Churchill Downs victory earlier in the year, gets back aboard.

Trainer Rusty Arnold: "He's a really nice horse with a lot of problems. He hasn't run too many times but he gives everything he's got every time. I was surprised he lost down there in Virginia; I wanted to win a stakes with him, and he got a little wide and he might not have gotten the ground he wanted. He's doing really good, but he's got to prove it. When you say that, he's beat good horses – he beat that horse who wins everything in Canada, Sky Conqueror. Ashkal Way beat him a neck. On his best, he probably belongs."

8. Stay Close

Travels from Delaware Park for trainer Mike Zwiesler and picks up John Velazquez. Gelded son of Belong To Me has traversed the east from Tampa Bay to Toronto while going 4-for-7. In his last start, the Grade II King Edward at Woodbine, he was beaten only 2 1/2 lengths by Canadian heroes and Grade I winners Sky Conqueror and Jambalaya; the latter returned to take the Arlington Million.

Trainer Mike Zwiesler: "This is a tough race but we will see what happens. The horse is going really good and he seems to be getting better with age. There are some more accomplished horses in here, but there are also some horses we have beaten in the past. I think this horse likes two turns a bit better than the one-turn 9 furlongs he got last time at Woodbine."

9. Silver Whistle

Third in the Bowling Green under Kent Desormeaux, who has the return mount. Though seeking his first win since the Grade III Pan American Handicap in April 2006, the 5-year-old usually picks up a check, as evidenced by his record of 3-5-2 in 17 starts.

Trainer Bill Mott: "He's a steady, fun horse. He's a knocker."

10. Woodlander

Moved to Gary Contessa's barn over the winter, the 5-year-old kicked off his campaign with a win in the Grade III Fort Marcy at the Big A. Hasn't found the winner's circle since, but has put in some solid efforts, finishing second in Grade III Poker July 14 at Belmont and fourth in the Fourstardave here Aug. 5. Mike Luzzi, aboard for those outings, returns.

Trainer Gary Contessa: "We can win the Baruch, but we really need (Luzzi) to recognize the pace. The way the Poker was run, it set him up for a late run. If the race dictates it, we can be closer like we were in the Fort Marcy. It's in Luzzi's hands."

11. Ballast

Gelding has been training at Motion's base in Fair Hill., Md., and heads north following a sterling runner-up effort to Silver Tree in the Caesar Rodney at Delaware Park. Son of Desert Prince notched a stakes win in the Grade III Tropical Turf at Calder in December. Ramon Dominguez gets aboard the 6-year-old.

Trainer Graham Motion: "We gave him a little break after the Gulfstream race (Jan. 6), not for any reason, but just to give him a break. He seems to have come back really well. He was beaten in his first start back at Delaware by a neck and when he ran in the stake (Silver Tree) won, we just had a terrible trip. He was probably the best horse, but he just couldn't quite get up. Bill Mott's horse came up here and won the Fourstardave, and the horse that was third behind me (Silent Roar) came back and won the next stakes at Monmouth. The form from that race is pretty good and we just had a lousy trip that day."

12. Gun Salute

Had an amazing year in 2005 when he won several stakes, including the Grade I Secretariat. Illness forced him to the sidelines in 2006 and as a result, he only started once last year. Looking for his first win in three starts this year. Close-up third behind Shakespeare in an optional claimer here Aug. 2. That effort should have him primed for a good race, and Cornelio Velasquez climbs aboard for the 11th consecutive time.

Trainer Bill Mott: "Earlier this year, we shipped him to Tampa for his first race in nearly a year and he washed out badly. I think it was too much anxiety for him first race back. Then he popped a splint at Gulfstream in his second start. His last race was good. When he was 3, he was very good. We thought enough of him then to give him a chance in the Breeders' Cup."

13. Evening Attire

Entered for main-track only, the old warrior has more than three times the earnings of any horse in the race. A little rain fell Thursday night but it's fairly certain the 9-year-old will stay in the barn.

Trainer Pat Kelly: "They won't take it off, it's part of the million-dollar guaranteed pick four. It would have to rain all week."



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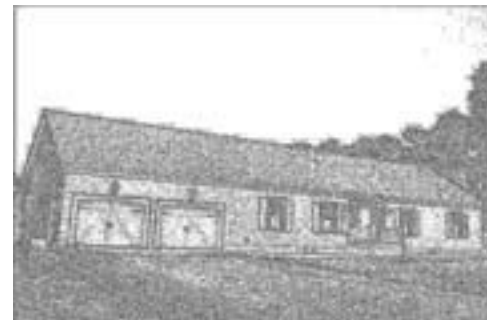
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8TH

**The King's Bishop
Purse \$250,000.
7 furlongs. Grade I.
3-year-olds.
Post Time 4:55 p.m.**



E Z Warrior (left) and Most Distinguished.



1. E Z Warrior

Shipped east as part of trainer Bob Baffert's assault on Saratoga that included impressive debut winner Maimonides and Grade II Adirondack winner More Happy. Son of Exploit started career 3-for-3 before heading to shelf in January. Returned in July to finish eighth against older horses in the Grade I Bing Crosby. David Flores flies in for the ride.

Trainer Bob Baffert: "He's coming in good; he's only had one bad race and that race was a throw-out. He broke poorly and got knocked around and he was never really comfortable. We always thought about the King's Bishop. He has trained really well since he got here. Seven-eighths from the one-hole is not ideal, but he is undefeated from there; he has three wins. You sort of have to go from there though, especially with speed horses going outside of you. It's a tough spot; Chilukki had it in the Test and she broke slow and made the gap and it was a disaster."

2. Spin Master

The Distorted Humor colt earned his first stakes victory in May taking the 6-furlong Matt Winn in 1:08 1/5. Runner-up in the Grade III Jersey Shore last time out, he enters off two local works, including a 5-furlong bullet Aug. 11. Garrett Gomez gets aboard for the first time today.

Trainer Dale Romans: "They had him a little too big of a price (on the morning line). He just got outrun (in the Jersey Shore). That other horse, Idiot Proof, ran a freaky race. I don't think a whole lot happened; he just got outrun. He's doing good and he's going to run good. That (bullet) work was maybe a little faster than we wanted, but it was two weeks out so there was plenty of time to get over it. He came back with a nice even work on Saturday and proved that he does like this racetrack."

3. Hard Spun

Well-travelled millionaire started career with four wins (none longer than a mile). Took the Grade II Lane's End on the Polytrack at Turfway, and fought his way through all three legs of the Triple Crown, coming within 2 1/4 lengths of Street Sense in the Derby. Returns to sprinting today under regular rider Mario Pino.

Trainer Larry Jones: "A lot of people say he has a difficult time going over a mile – he's won well over a million dollars going two turns so you can't say he can't do it. But he's undefeated going one turn, so we'll give it a try. I'm fortunate, I have a lot of options with my horse and we're going to exercise those options."

4. Pauillac

The Mr. Greeley colt is 2-for-3 in short career, beating winners for the first time Opening Day. Comes in from Keeneland, where he trained steadily over the Polytrack. Julien Leparoux has the call.

Trainer Patrick Biancone: "Pauillac is a future good horse. He's in very tough and a few horses need to not perform to give us a chance to win. It's only the fourth race of his life and if he runs third or fourth in a field like that we will be happy. He's an outsider. Two things need to happen for him to be in the first three – we need a couple of horses to underperform, and we need him to outperform what he has done. But we targeted this race and he's fresh. He lacks a little bit of experience, but c'est tout. He's run twice with a lot of runners, he relaxed behind them and came running. He won two times, but the second race was not as good because there was no pace and he was caught wide. The fact that there will be a lot of runners will help him, the fact that there will be a lot of pace will help him, and from there we shall see."



Hard Spun and trainer Larry Jones take a spin at Saratoga.

Tod Marks

5. Longley

Courtlandt Farm homebred went on a tear from April to June, winning three in a row, including the \$59,000 Floor Show at Delaware Park. Son of Seeking The Gold disappointed last time against Xchanger and King Of The Roxy in the Grade III Barbaro at 1 1/16 miles. Tried 7 furlongs once, finishing third to Spin Master in a Gulfstream Park allowance. John Velazquez gets the call.

Trainer Graham Motion: "The past performances don't read true. He really had a poor trip that day (in the Barbaro). It was the kind of race to put a line through. He broke very awkwardly and found himself in the back of the field, which is not his usual running style. So we are kind of starting him fresh. If we were going to run him up here this was the race to run; he's got a lot of speed. Obviously, a Grade I is a huge step up. It was preferable to point for a 7-furlong race rather than a two-turn race, like the Pennsylvania Derby. He broke his maiden here last year going 5 1/2, so we just felt it was something he was able to do if he has a good trip."

6. Forty Grams

Shortened up in his last start, the Grade II Amsterdam at 6 furlongs here July 30, he rallied late to finish fourth, beaten 4 lengths by Most Distinguished. Made headway earlier this spring by finishing close in some major Triple Crown preps and picked up a stakes score two back in the \$100,000 Alysheba at Lone Star.

Trainer Steve Asmussen: "He's doing good. I have nothing but respect for the field. The winner is going to get a trip. There's a lot of ability in the race. He's definitely an excellent seven-eighths to a mile horse. The Amsterdam was too short but it definitely served its purpose. He broke to the right and this is 7 furlongs as opposed to 6 furlongs and there is some obvious speed with the way they are drawn."

7. Teuflesberg

Iron horse makes his 20th career start, fresh off his turf bow as a runner-up in the Glow here Aug. 4. Five-time winner earned stakes scores at Fair Grounds and Oaklawn Park and took Grade II Woody Stephens at Belmont Park in June. Robby Albarado, aboard for his maiden breaker (as well as two other wins), flies in for the ride.

Trainer Jamie Sanders: "He always runs his race. He's a very versatile horse and he likes 7 furlongs. Most of the speed is inside him and I think he'll run very well. He always has a chance. He doesn't surprise me. Donnie (Kelly) and I picked this horse out at the sale, we thought he was stunning and he's gotten better and

better with every race. The bad thing about all that is whenever they start to get good, some people get a little greedy and try to discredit you. How often do you get a \$9,000 horse and do what he's done?"

8. Most Distinguished

Started to live up to his name with three wins in his last five starts, including an impressive Amsterdam score here in his latest. Rafael Bejarano returns aboard the son of Dixie Union.

Trainer Nick Zito: "He's a much-improved horse, he's come a long way. It just shows you, the horse has gotten better and better. We always knew he was a quality horse; I tried to go long with him, I tried to go short, but we've found the distance for him. You look at the Tampa Bay race when he was fourth to Street Sense and Any Given Saturday, that's a hell of a race."

9. First Defence

One of the "now" horses, having won both his starts this year in impressive fashion. Son of Unbridled's Song (out of Honest Lady) negotiated two turns in Monmouth Park's Long Branch in latest, but shortens up to one turn today. Javier Castellano, aboard for all five career starts, takes the call again.

Trainer Bobby Frankel: "He worked really well the other day and he's coming into this great. I didn't really know if he wants to go a mile and a quarter so after the Monmouth race I thought maybe one turn is his best trip. He's not like his mother; actually, their styles are different. He's real quick leaving the gate and his mom we used to take back and make a run with; she was a closer. You watch the Breeders' Cup (2000 Sprint) and she came from 15 lengths out of it (to finish second behind Kona Gold). Actually, she was probably the best horse that day. If she could have split horses or saved a little ground she might have won; another jump or two she's a winner anyway."

10. Bold Start

Jump Start colt exits two turf tries; the blinkers come on for his 14th career start. Had rough trip in the Glow here Aug. 4, one of only four times he's missed the board. Career best came at Gulfstream when finishing second to King Of The Roxy in the Grade II Hutcheson in March. Never won a stakes but has hit the board in the Cradle, Hutcheson, Illinois Derby and Derby Trial. Kent Desormeaux rides for the first time since the Hutcheson.

Trainer Ken McPeck: "He's been a mystery, I've tried a little of this and a little of that, he's always run decent but he's never run great. Desormeaux thinks he's a sprinter, and I don't totally disagree. I add the blinkers back and he should run well. He needs to run a really good race and he will. He won on the turf, then he got stuck down inside in the Glow, he got beat 2 1/2 lengths to Teuflesberg and we had a hideous trip; it's a complete throwout. Desormeaux told me this spring, keep him short and point for the Breeders' Cup Sprint."

11. King Of The Roxy

Another shortening up after trying longer in the spring. The King's Bishop will be his first one-turn start since his sophomore debut, when he cruised in the Grade II Hutcheson at Gulfstream. Runner-up in the Grade I Santa Anita Derby, the son of Littleexpectations comes in off a second in the Grade III Barbaro Stakes at 1 1/16 miles at Delaware Park. Ramon Dominguez rides.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "He ran pretty well at Delaware but he got stuck in an awkward spot inside and found his best stride late. I have always felt that his best distance is a one-turn seven-eighths or a mile. We are backing up to his preferred game, but obviously this is a very tough spot."

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9TH

The Travers
Purse \$1,000,000
1 1/4 miles. Grade I.
3-year-olds.
Post Time 5:40 p.m.

Street Sense charges home in the Jim Dandy, and he'll try to duplicate the effort in the Travers.

Tod Marks

1. Helsinki

Unraced as a freshman, son of Distorted Humor is 2-for-6 since hitting the track. Foremost accomplishment to date is an easy entry-level allowance score at Delaware Park. Last by double-digit lengths in the Grade II Dwyer and fourth in his latest, a restricted stakes here three weeks ago. Julien Leparoux is in the irons.

Trainer Nick Zito: "He's an interesting horse, he doesn't look like he belongs on paper, but he really does. He's a mile-and-a-quarter horse, if you look at the Dwyer, it's deceiving because he was completely out of the picture and he didn't run a bad race. He's OK, he's going to show something. Last time he had the blinkers, they come off. He was stopping and going; this way, you know he's going to stay back and make a run. It's a million dollars."

2. C P West

The second of Nick Zito's uncoupled runners finished 1 1/2 lengths behind Street Sense in the Grade II Jim Dandy under Cornelio Velasquez, who retains the mount. The Came Home colt earned his only win in his debut here a year ago and put forth decent efforts earlier this season to finish second in the Grade III Withers and fourth in the Preakness, but was more than 15 lengths back of Rags To Riches in the Belmont.

Trainer Nick Zito: "A terrific horse, an amazing horse. His Preakness was an amazing race and I've said it a million times, I don't know why I ran in the Belmont. But he came back, he ran a great Jim Dandy and hopefully he runs a good race here. He should get better."



Barbara Livingston

C P West gallops at Saratoga in preparation for the Travers.

3. For You Reppo

Another contender with only a maiden victory to his name, the lightly raced El Corredor colt comes off a third in an Arlington Park turf allowance. Garrett Gomez gets aboard for the first time.

Trainer Helen Pitts: "He's doing good. I know we're shooting high in the sky but we'll take a shot. He's a real nice horse and he should love the distance. We beat Sightseeing in Florida and I've been fighting feet issues ever since. We went out to the Arkansas Derby and he popped an abscess and he's been on the sidelines ever since. He's doing great, I wish I had one more race in him. He's honest, he'll be there for you."

4. Street Sense

The Kentucky Derby hero, Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner and champion 2-year-old colt enters the Travers an overwhelming favorite off a dominant Jim Dandy win. Regular rider Calvin Borel gets the call again. Trainer Carl Nafzger and owner Jim Tafel won the 2000 Travers with Unshaded.

Jockey Calvin Borel: "I know him like the back of my hand. In the Jim Dandy, he was settled, he broke a little sharp but he'd been off for a while. He broke a little harder, but down the backside he was happy, he was settled – he did it with style. It felt like the Derby, they love the horse. It's good for horse racing; I've made so many friends, I'm a happy-go-lucky guy, I love the kids, I enjoy it. You have to, it's like Carl always says, 'If we get beat, we get beat, don't worry about it. Enjoy yourself, have fun, take what they give you – it's all you can do. You know what kind of horse he is; if you think he's that kind of horse, he'll get us there.' I don't have to worry about anything, win, lose or draw, I'm going to ride him back, it takes so much pressure off. If he gets left or something I do what I want, if he breaks on the lead, I do what I want; after the race I come back and explain it to Carl. It's always been good. It's a big help. If you have people second-guessing you . . . it can really mess with your head."

5. Grasshopper

Dixie Union colt makes his stakes debut following a 6-length romp in a second-level allowance here last month. Robby Albarado, aboard for two previous scores, rides.

Trainer Neil Howard: "We're not taking a thing away from Street Sense, but (Grasshopper's) a nice colt. He's got a good running style for a race like this, he shouldn't be too far back and hopefully it'll work out where he'll be a few lengths off the early pacesetter and you see if you have enough to hold off Street Sense and Sightseeing, which is a big thing. He's very genuine, he's a little light on seasoning but he's a good colt."

6. Loose Leaf

The most experienced colt in the field, the son of Notebook has raced at eight tracks in 13 starts, winning four times, the most recent being an effortless score in an overnight stakes here three weeks ago. Kent Desormeaux is in the irons again.

Trainer Ken McPeck: "Street Sense has to stub his toe big time and we've got to run the race of our life. He's doing good, but

he's never competed at this level. Admittedly, he's up against it, but weirder things have happened here. He likes this track and he's doing really well. When you have a horse doing as well as him, that's when you swing high and hard. That's the only reason we're in, and it's a short field. Other than Street Sense, there isn't anyone else to be real scared of – the rest of them are a-others-thans. If you run third or fourth, there's nothing to be ashamed about. You've got make him run for it, maybe he's over the top, who knows? His last wasn't that great. Who knows, maybe Calvin gets stuck down on the rail and can't get out and we sneak through. Kent will be sitting, waiting, waiting, waiting and if he's good enough, we'll run some of them down. If he isn't, we'll go after that 50-added somewhere else."

7. Sightseeing

Hit the scene as the runner-up in the Grade I Wood Memorial, then came back to win the Grade II Peter Pan with a last-minute charge. Finished third in the Dwyer and returned to finish a hard-closing third in the Jim Dandy behind Street Sense and C P West. Regular rider Edgar Prado takes the call on the Phipps homebred.

Trainer Shug McGaughey: "I figured this was the way it was going to be, he's a big immature horse who's very athletic. I knew going from the mile and an eighth in the Peter Pan to a mile and a sixteenth in the Dwyer wasn't his best thing, but I thought he needed to run. I felt like mentally he needed the whole process. He was a little slow coming out of the Dwyer, but when he started picking it up, he picked it up in a hurry. He had a good work before we came up here, and then every day was a good day leading up to the Jim Dandy, and it's been that way ever since."



Tod Marks

Trainer Helen Pitts (right) leads For You Reppo and exercise rider Lorna Chavez on to the track Friday morning.

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\$68,000 Allowance/optional claiming hurdle.

Thursday, August 23

\$70,000 M.G. Walsh Memorial novice hurdle stakes.

Wednesday, August 29

\$70,000 Novice/allowance hurdle.

Thursday, August 30

\$150,000 added New York Turf Writers Cup Stakes (Gr. I).

Photo by Tod Marks

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10TH

The Victory Ride
Purse \$100,000
6 furlongs. Grade III.
Post Time 6:15 p.m.
3-year-old fillies.

1. Appealing Zophie

Won Grade III Silverbulletday at Fair Grounds in February, but has finished off-the-board in three subsequent starts, including La Troienne at Churchill Downs. Shaun Bridgmohan, aboard for her win here in last year's Grade I Spinaway, has the mount.

Trainer Steve Asmussen: "We would like her away from the gate clear; not covered up. We are hoping to get her back on track. She likes the surface and had her best victory here."

2. Street Sass

Daughter of Street Cry finished fourth in state-bred stakes earlier in the meet and owns a 3-for-10 career record.

Trainer George Weaver: "We took a look at that race and actually we're not going to run. We're going to try her on the grass for her next start."

3. Russian Gypsy

Unraced at 2, she spots experience to most of these, but does own two wins in three starts and looked good winning here early in the meet. Javier Castellano rides the daughter of Unbridled's Song.

Trainer Wally Dollase: "We don't know a lot about her, she's a very special filly, but it's a tough race, awesome. A lot of nice horses. She's got a lot of class, she's bred to be a miler so this will probably be her last sprint. She does everything, she's a real trier. She looks the part, she's come a long way, she's much more relaxed. She was kind of running scared, now she's more relaxed and we'll probably sit just off the pace."

4. Graeme Six

Runner-up at 21-1 in the Grade I Prioress (her stakes debut) to Dream Rush, who returned to win the Darley Test here earlier in meet. Her only off-the-board finish came in the slop in a Churchill Downs allowance. Mike Luzzi, aboard for first time in Prioress, gets the return mount.

Trainer Tom Amoss: "Very encouraged by her last two races. Both Dream Rush and (Burmilla), horses that beat her, came back and won. Those races make her legitimate — solidified those two efforts. She can position herself according to the pace. She will be available, however the race shapes up."



Alysse Jacobs

Featherbed enjoys some fresh air before her start in today's Victory Ride.

5. Debbie Got Even

Daughter of Stephen Got Even broke her maiden here at first asking last year, and has notched two allowance scores in seven tries since. Shortens up after running seventh in the 7-furlong Test. Kent Desormeaux gets the return call.

Trainer Nick Zito: "There's going to be a lot of speed and it should set up nice for her. She's a come-from-behind sprinter and these kind of races are usually won that way. We'll see what happens and Desormeaux is riding great."

6. Allude

Daughter of Orientate makes her eighth career start and comes in off three consecutive smart efforts, including runner-up finishes in the Beautiful Day at Delaware Park and the Weekend Surprise here. Mario Pino, aboard for her Del Park score, comes up for the ride.

Trainer Tom Albertrani: "She's got a chance if she puts her best foot forward and improves a little bit. Patrick (Biancone) is pretty high on his filly (La Traviata) and she looks like the one to beat on paper. But she's coming into this race as good as her last few races, so I think she'll make a good presentation. Featherbed got out there and had it her way, we ran up there late; if she could run that race again, she should be right there."

7. Time's Mistress

Daughter of Mr. Greeley won two straight earlier in the year, including the Grade III Miss Preakness. Sports a 5-for-14 lifetime slate, but exits disappointing efforts in the Azalea at Calder and the Darley Test. Alan Garcia rides.

Trainer Wayne Lukas: "If we could turn the clock back and get that race she ran on Preakness Day, we're competitive; she threw in a real good one that day. We can certainly throw out the one at Calder, but the other day is a mystery — I thought she'd run real well and she didn't. We're realistic about it, we realize we don't have Landaluce or Ruffian . . . I wouldn't have even dropped her in the box but she's done so damn well up here, we'll give her the benefit of the doubt and take a shot at it."

8. La Traviata

Won maiden race at Churchill and the Post Deb Stakes at Monmouth, her only starts, by a combined margin 18 1/4 lengths. Daughter of Johannesburg sold for \$1.1 million as a 2-year-old at Fasig-Tipton February. Julien Leparoux has the return mount.

Trainer Patrick Biancone: "She was not mature enough and not seasoned enough to go in the Grade I (Test), but I can tell you one thing — she is the fastest horse I ever trained. I think as long as she breaks clean the race is over. She faces a little bit of new circumstances because it's the first time she's run with so many runners, and she's the least-experienced horse in the race, but I think her talent should compensate for her lack of experience. I'm telling you she's the fastest horse I've ever trained. She ran twice and twice she equaled the track records (or came very close). Everybody can see she's faster so they'll have to be pretty fast if they're going to challenge her."

9. Musical Start

Boston-based filly enters today's race off three consecutive scores at Suffolk Downs by margins of 8 1/4, 6 3/4 and 3 3/4. Daughter of Jump Start is 5-for-9 overall and hasn't missed the board but once. Suffolk regular Yamil Rosario ships in to ride.

Trainer Aurelio Valdes: "Maybe I'll be like Allen Jerkens. I'm playing Allen Jerkens in this race. When I was a kid, in 1963, you know, Allen Jerkens only had two horses and look what he did. You just never know. I'm reaching for the moon. If I win this race she'll have made \$120,000, and I claimed her for \$16,000. This filly is no slouch; she's a nice filly. She's doing everything right and she's winning so easy. She's beats them all so easy. Maybe this is a tough field, but I'll give her a chance."



Tod Marks

Russian Gypsy charges into the Victory Ride off two consecutive wins for trainer Wally Dollase.

10. Featherbed

Enters the Victory Ride in arguably the finest form of her career after two straight sprint wins, the last in the \$82,250 Weekend Surprise Stakes here Aug. 6. In her 2-year-old finale, she was beaten a head in the Grade I Matron at Belmont Park. Ridden by John Velazquez, the front-running Smart Strike filly is 3-for-4 at today's distance.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "She's one-dimensional, so we'll let her ramble away from there. The post is difficult, but if we get lucky, she'll go straight to the lead. We'll stick with what has worked so far because she is aggressive and likes to go . . . she is coming up to the race very good. Obviously she showed last year in the Matron that she is a top-quality filly. She came out of that race with a slight pastern injury and we couldn't quite make the Breeders' Cup with her. I expect her to run well."

11. Ticket To Seattle

Three-time winner finished fourth in the Prioress, behind Darley Test winner Dream Rush.

Trainer Steve Klesaris: "We're going to pass on the race. There's a lot of depth in there and it wasn't what we were looking for when we entered. She's a really nice filly but we'll look for another spot with her."

12. Half Time Crown

Longshot enters off solid second in off-the-turf sprint here Aug. 8, but was distant seventh in Prioress after leaping at the start. Gilded Time filly is 2-for-10 lifetime, and picked up a 6-furlong win over the inner dirt at the Big A in March. Cornelio Velasquez, aboard for half her career starts, gets the call.

Trainer Gary Gullo: "Last time out was a good race. She came up on the inside, but I think we were second best that day. The winner ran very well. (The Prioress), that's actually a better race if you watch the film. She kind of leaped out at the gate and spotted the field maybe 10 lengths. She made a run around the turn, but just couldn't keep up with those kinds of horses. I think with a clean start, she should run well. She's always run great on the dirt; never been worse than second other than that start. She'll be a big price and she'll be worth a bet."

13. Magical Ride

Great story if she wins this race, which is named for her mother. First foal out of Victory Ride seeks first stakes win. Was third to Octave here in the Grade II Adirondack last year, but a well-beaten eighth in the Prioress in her last start July 7. Daughter of Storm Cat will wear aluminum pads on her front feet because of ongoing feet issues, according to her trainer. Rafael Bejarano rides.

Trainer Rusty Arnold: "She broke through the gate in her last race and became really excited. You have to throw out the race. She's been well-schooled in the gate since then. She has her moments; she has some of that Storm Cat in her. She's doing great — I hate the 13 hole but that's where she's at, and maybe there will be some scratches. She's had her problems but she's doing really well right now so I'm really happy about running her. She's one that looks like she doesn't fit, but she does."

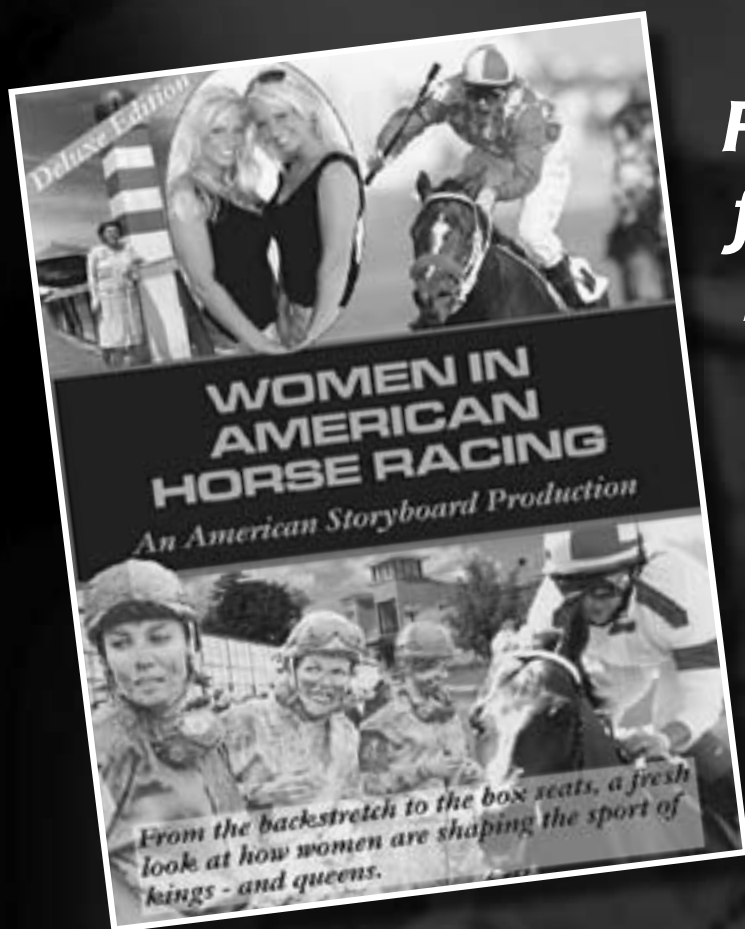


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How to make a good Pizza

BY FRANCES KARON

PEDIGREE ANALYSIS

Surveying the list of winners after racing concluded Thursday, there was only ever one possibility for today's column: Pizza. Due to the enormous power of suggestion, reinforced by Tom Durkin's call ("That's-a nice-a pizza!"), it just so happened that a pizza was the only option for dinner as well.

Pizza has a mouthwatering family. Her dam, Mt. Cuba (by Forty Niner), can unwrap a jubilant cigar for her latest winner, the fifth of her six foals of racing age to reach the winner's circle. Owned by Peter Callahan, the 3-year-old filly brought trainer Scott Everett his first win of the meet.

Mt. Cuba is a daughter of Crone's Nest (by Topsider), a regally bred mare who produced five winners as well, without distinguishing herself. But her dam, Obeah, is proof that Crone's Nest's family is not out of any old hag.

Named for a type of West Indian folk magic, Obeah cast her own spell on the stud book. The daughter of Cyane won two Delaware Handicaps before retiring to produce her voodoo-centric progeny. Her first foals, both by Northern Dancer, were stakes winners Black Powder and Dance Spell, the latter winning the Jerome Handicap and Saranac Stakes and becoming the damsire of End Sweep. They were followed by a sister, Discorama, who won the Gazelle and placed in Saratoga's Alabama and Test. Full-brother Carnivalay had little impact on the track, yet proved to be the best of Obeah's sons as a top Maryland stallion. One of her daughters by Assert, Throw Away Line, produced two stakes winners.

Obeah's penultimate foal – Pizza's cousin a few times removed – left us with a mixed bag of emotions. She was like a Michelangelo, only the title of her biography could be recast as "The Ecstasy and the Agony." Go For Wand

was so named to cast a spell, and that she did. The champion 2- and 3-year-old filly won 10 of 12 starts (with two seconds) before her fatal fracture in the Breeders' Cup.

Maybe there was something about being in close proximity to Go For Wand's infield gravesite for Pizza, who prior to Thursday had finished fifth at Aqueduct and eighth at Belmont. Dropping down from maiden-special company probably didn't hurt, either.

Book Of Verse foaled a Cannonade half-sister to Obeah, Targa. She won the Grade II Santa Maria and prompted TV star John Forsythe to once define himself with pride as "just Targa's owner." As the voice of Charlie from "Charlie's Angels," Forsythe was accustomed to watching his girls succeed from the sidelines and he was happy to do the same with this angel, whom he owned in partnership. Procuring a season to Nijinsky for his newly-retired racemare, Forsythe sent the stallion a postcard care of Claiborne that read "I am looking forward . . ." and signed Targa's name. The foal from that mating was Miss Evans, after the actress who portrayed Forsythe's TV wife, Linda Evans. Miss Evans (the horse) was not too special but did place in a few provincial stakes in France. Targa's best was the Copelan filly Mamselle Belette, who won four Grade III races racing for Forsythe.

Another half-sister to Obeah, Ameriverse, had Molly Pitcher winner Garden Verse (by Obeah's sire), who went on to produce Garthorn, one of the best foals by Believe It and victor of the Met Mile in 1986.

Book Of Verse was a half-sister to the mare Mixed Marriage, who gave us Native Dancer's second-most important son – Atan. Atan got a paltry four stakes winners from 212 foals, but one was somehow Sharpen Up (sire of Diesis, Kris, Trempolino and Selkirk). Mixed Marriage also produced Tamerett, later dam of Known Fact, Tentam and maternal granddam of Gone West.

Pizza is from the first crop of the brilliant Buddha, who was unplaced in one start at 2 and undefeated in three outings as a sophomore. He was victorious in his lone stakes attempt, the Grade I Wood Memorial, with Medaglia d'Oro a head behind. A series of ailments – foot bruise, cough and finally a torn muscle in a hindquarter – led to Buddha's early retirement. Standing for \$15,000 at Hill 'n' Dale in Kentucky, he was extremely popular with breeders, siring 133 foals in his first crop and 143 in his next (the 2-year-olds of 2007). The son of Unbridled's Song and a Storm Cat mare bred for \$10,000 this year, with two stakes winners to his credit. One of them, the juvenile filly Hisse, is 5x5 to 1967 Broodmare of the Year Kerala, Buddha's fourth dam who also produced Horse of the Year Damascus.



Tod Marks

Pizza delivers a Saratoga victory Thursday.



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Breaking Through

Luzzi ends drought with score for Weaver

BY BRIAN NADEAU

Mike Luzzi is far too accomplished as a jockey to go winless at the Spa. Though it seemed difficult at times, sooner or later the Delaware native was going to shoot that particular duck. Friday just happened to be the day. Luzzi guided Philharmonic (\$16.40) home for trainer George Weaver in the fifth, a \$75,000 maiden claimer for 2-year-olds.

Dogwood Stable entered Philharmonic for a tag following a disappointing debut against open maidens Aug. 8. Appreciating the drop in company, Philharmonic was put on the lead immediately by Luzzi, and the duo quickly opened up daylight turning for home. Philharmonic cruised from there, crossing the wire 8 1/4 lengths clear of runner-up Fuffy.



Mike Luzzi

"Long time waiting," said a relieved Luzzi after receiving a raucous ovation in the winner's circle. "I'm very shocked, to be honest with you, but I haven't been riding that much. You don't win, then you don't pick up anything else, so I'm happy just to be here today. It was wearing on me a little bit. I have young kids and a family at home, so it's hard. I'm 37 years old, so if it was 20 years ago, I'd be a little bit nervous. But I laid in bed one summer wishing I could be here."

Luzzi missed the 2004 Saratoga season with a broken leg.

- As the owner (and co-breeder) of Grade I-winning filly Aldiza, Helen Alexander already had experience accepting a trophy in the Saratoga winner's circle. Aldiza upset heavily favored champion Escena in the Go For Wand Stakes here in 1998.

Things came full-circle Friday when Aldiza's daughter Altesse (\$3.80) won the \$78,000 Heavenly Prize Stakes for co-owners Alexander, Helen Groves and DD Matz. Trained by Shug McGaughey (who also schooled the race's namesake), Altesse won her first



Tod Marks

Mike Luzzi pushes Philharmonic to the finish line with a win in Friday's fifth race, his first win of the meet.

stakes after settling for minor awards in several previous attempts.

"We're very excited to get her a stakes win. We're hoping she'll be able to take things to the next level. This could be a nice progression for her," Alexander said. "She had a little problem with her breathing and we corrected it and it has made a huge difference. Her mom was such a nice horse so it's nice to see her come back here and do what her mom did so well."

With the field reduced to only four entries after the early scratch of Tap Gold, Altesse was sent off as a heavy favorite over A True Pussycat. The duo made the public look good as they played chess for the first mile, with A True Pussycat and jockey Alan Garcia controlling the early tempo through a half-mile in 49.51 seconds. John Velazquez kept Altesse within reach of A True Pussycat and the pair began to open daylight on the trailers Soul Search and Leo's Pegasus. A race finally broke out turning for home and Altesse surged to the lead under a confident Velazquez as they hit the eighth-pole. They widened the margin to 2 1/4 lengths at the wire, with A True Pussycat almost 8 lengths clear of Soul Search in third.

- Glenn DiSanto returned to the winner's circle Friday with Cardiff Road (\$8.30) in the first, just a day after scoring his first victory of the season at the Spa with Longingfortheone. The back-to-back victories were somewhat connected by more than the calendar, as DiSanto bred both winners.

"I bought the mare and she broke down, but she's foaled nothing but winners," DiSanto said. "My own-

er lives down in Ohio, so he sent the horse to (Speedy) Smithwick, where he ran at Churchill and Colonial. He gets to see them train and race there, but he loves Saratoga, so he comes up here and I get the horse back in the summer."

Run on the inner turf, the opener was for state-bred maidens and represented a class drop of sorts for the 3-year-old son of Cryptoclearance, who faced open company in Kentucky and Virginia. DiSanto gave Cardiff Road a go over the main track in an off-the-turf affair here Aug. 10; he finished eighth, but the 9 furlongs of off-going served its purpose.

"The last race was a mile and an eighth and he was right up there, but at the end, when it was time to go, he was just spinning his wheels," the trainer said. "But he got a lot out of it and it helped him today backing up to a mile."

Cornelio Velazquez had horse when he needed it, and Cardiff Road split horses late to score by a 1 1/4 over Galaxy Express. It would be the start of a big day for the meet-leading jock.

- John Kimmel has taken a step back in time this meet. Once known as a potent first-out trainer, in the past few years he's been giving his horses a run or two before gearing them up. Yesterday, Kimmel saddled his third successful debutante of the meet when Poor Richards Stable's Cato Major (\$39.60) streaked through the lane to win the second, a freshman sprint for maidens on the Mellon course.

See **FRIDAY** page 44 ►



Bentley Smith's Lady Joanne by ORIENTATE wins the Alabama S.-G1 at Saratoga on 8-18

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Friday —

■ Continued from page 43

"My first-time starters have been running well all year long," Kimmel said. "I've just been getting some more precocious horses. A little better group, maybe. I've got some nice ones that haven't even started yet too."

Velasquez took the early double by sweeping in late aboard Cato Major to collar Libor Rate by 3/4-length. Lagging in fifth early and still over 5 lengths behind after the field had gone three-eighths of a mile, Velasquez began his rally on the turn of the 5 1/2 furlong sprint. Closing powerfully with each stride, the daughter of E Dubai stamped herself as a filly with a future after her eye-catching late move.

"Cornelio worked her and he said she gave him the feeling she might be better on the grass. So, I put her in for \$75,000 (on dirt) and the race didn't go. The next day they had one on the grass so I said 'we'll see how smart he is,' " Kimmel said. "The filly has always impressed me with how well she finishes and gallops out. It took a really fit horse to win on this turf course, as there is a lot of cut to it. She has a nice cruising speed yet she finishes with good energy; I don't think going farther is going to be a problem. She has tremendous staying power."

- Linda Rice and Alan Garcia have quietly enjoyed a very successful Saratoga meet. Things got a little better yesterday, as trainer and jockey teamed up to score with Edward Lipton's Absoulute



Trainer Glenn DiSanto and jockey Cornelio Velasquez met in the winner's circle after winning the first, one of four wins on the day for the jockey.

Heaven (\$8.70) in the fourth, a claiming event for sophomore fillies. Garcia picked up his 12th winner, while Rice's sixth win brought her to a five-way tie for fifth.

Facing similar company a week ago, Garcia and Absoulute Heaven got buried in traffic and finished fourth. Yesterday, coming back from the short rest, things went a bit smoother for the filly, who experienced a ground-saving trip

during the early running. Angling out turning for home Garcia had Absoulute Heaven in full-flight to score by a half-length over Jocassee. The winner, a 3-year-old daughter of Not For Love, was claimed for \$35,000 by Bushwood Stables and trainer Graham Motion.

- Trainer Dominick Schettino saddled his first winner of the meet when Autumn Of My Years (\$75.50) wired

the sixth, a state-bred turf sprint, under Raul Rojas for owners GJ Hart and Donald Ogden. With the turf course playing to early speed the past few days Rojas put Autumn Of My Years out front from the opening bell and they were all-out to hold off favored Prime Obsession by 1 3/4 lengths.


- Premium Wine (\$9.40) took the seventh, an allowance/optional claimer for state-breds, for Ramon Dominguez and trainer Tony Dutrow. A 3-year-old son of Prime Timber owned by Zayat Stables, Premium Wine improved his lifetime record to three wins and two seconds from five starts, although it wasn't as easy as the nearly 5-length margin suggested.

Dominguez secured a forward position as Whistlin' hummed an opening half-mile in 45.82. Struggling as the field turned for home, Dominguez had all he could do to maintain his position in the bulky field. Straightening away in the lane, Premium Wine never looked a winner until in deep-stretch, when he drew off to a comfortable and somewhat-surprising score. On the way back to the jocks' room Dominguez was asked if his win could be termed a "busy ride."

"Precisely. That's exactly how it was. I had ridden him before but today he never really felt confident about winning the race because he felt like he was just trying to stay where he was," Dominguez said. "Turning for home I was working just to keep my position. I saw Johnny Velasquez coming on my outside turning for home and for a split-

See **FRIDAY** page 45 ►


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Tod Marks

Autumn Of My Years draws off to win Friday's sixth race.

Friday —

■ Continued from page 44

second I thought that I was going to get blocked but I kept on trying and he was really surprising that he gave me a really good kick. When it was time to go and I asked him I was very pleased and surprised that he kicked in like that."

- Auto City (\$9.80) scored in the eighth, a \$35,000 turf sprint for older horses. Velasquez got his third of the day with a wire-job for trainer Chris Englehart and owner Billy Fuccillo. It was the second victory of the meet for Auto City, a gelded son of Carson City, who scored over the main track Aug. 1.

- Not satisfied with a hat trick, Velasquez netted his fourth score with Champchu (\$10.80) in the nightcap, a \$25,000 claimer. Trained by Rick Schosberg for Mitre Box Stable, Champchu had been burning things up in the morning, highlighted by a bullet work in 47-flat Aug. 13.

"He's been training really, really good in the morning. Cutting back from 9 furlongs last time helped a lot too," Schosberg said. "This horse was off for a year, he's had a lot of time off throughout, and we brought him back

and he's been good. We should have won a race at Belmont earlier in the spring. Some horses just flourish up here, and he is one of them; you can see it by the workouts. With the way the track has been playing, the distance horses have really been running well when they cut back."

Velasquez stalked the leaders in fourth and held his ground along the rail as the field turned for home. As has been the case all meet, his timing was impeccable and he guided Champchu through an opening in deep-stretch to score by 2 lengths over Ocean Forest.

With nine racing days left Velasquez holds a four-win lead over Kent Desormeaux in the jockey's race. Each rider has risen to the other's challenge throughout the meet, never letting one get too far ahead. Expect more of the same.

Friday's claims: Fourth Race: Absoulute Heaven (\$45,000), Bushwood Stables, Graham Motion trainer; Jocassee (\$35,000), Harold Lerner, Gary Contessa trainer; Miss Buddhafull (\$45,000), Mitre Box Stable, Rick Schosberg trainer. Fifth Race: Fuffy (\$75,000), Max Pearson, Robert Bailes trainer. Seventh Race: Calculator (\$30,000), Winning Move Stable, Gary Contessa trainer. Eighth Race: R Loyal Man (\$35,000), Nassau CC Stables, Joe Imperio trainer. Ninth Race: Tahoe Warrior (\$25,000), New Suffolk Racing, Linda Rice trainer.

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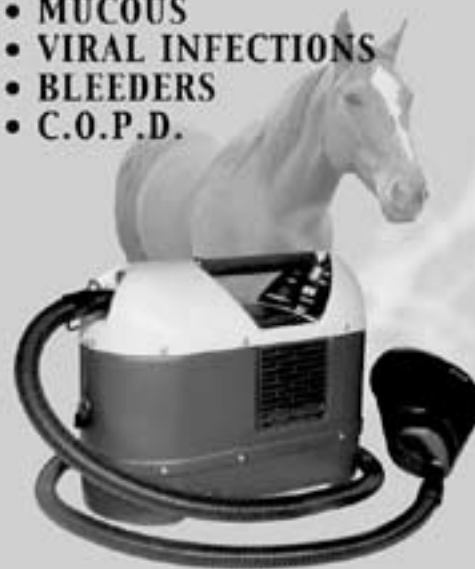
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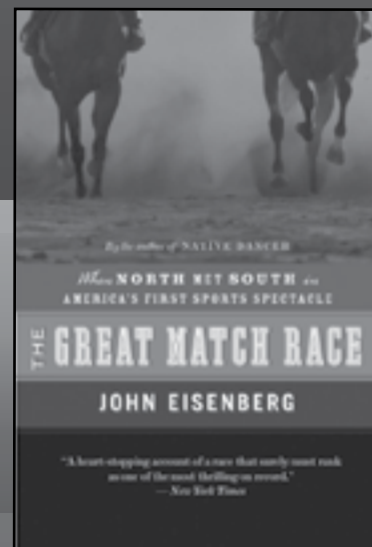
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Friday's Saratoga Results

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

1ST. 1 MILE. TURF. 3&UP. NY BRED. MSW. PURSE \$57,000.

3	Cardiff Road	Velasquez C	8.30	5.50	3.70
8	Galaxy Express	Hill C		9.20	6.10
1	Sky Dragon	Rojas R I			3.30

Finish Time: 1:37.05

Trainer: Glann DiSanto. Owner: William Ammann.
Dk.B./Br.c.3 Cryptoclearance-Heirloom Wish, Lyphard's Wish (FR).
Bred by William Ammann (NY).

\$2 Exacta 3-8 Paid \$79.50; \$2 Trifecta 3-8-1 Paid \$334.00

2ND. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. FILLIS. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

7	Cato Major	Velasquez C	39.60	15.40	9.60
2	Libor Rate	Dominguez R A		7.80	6.50
1	Equally	Desormeaux K J			4.60

Finish Time: 1:04.20

Trainer: John Kimmel. Owner: Poor Richards Stable.
Dk.B./Br.f.2 E Dubai-Love to Fight, Fit to Fight.
Bred by Steve Peskoff (KY).
\$2 Exacta 7-2 Paid \$287.50; \$2 Quinella 2-7 Paid \$126.50; \$2 Trifecta
7-2-1 Paid \$1,075.00; \$2 Daily Double (3-7) Paid \$148.50

3RD. THE HEAVENLY PRIZE. 1 1/8 MILES. F&M. 3&UP. PURSE \$78,000.

2	Altesse	Velazquez J R	3.80	2.40	out
3	A True Pussycat	Garcia Alan		2.90	out
4	Soul Search	Gomez G K			out

Finish Time: 1:51.39

Trainer: Shug McGaughey. Owner: Helen Alexander,
Helen Groves & Dorothy Matz.
B.f.4 A.P. Indy-Aldiza, Storm Cat.
Bred by Alexander Groves Matz LLC (KY).
\$2 Exacta 2-3 Paid \$6.60

4TH. 1 MILE. TURF. FILLIES. 3YO. CLM 45,000. \$PURSE \$47,000.

1A	Absoulute Heaven	Garcia Alan	8.70	4.80	2.80
7	Jocassee	Velazquez J R		6.70	4.10
5	Cagey Girl	Desormeaux K J			3.10

Finish Time: 1:35.69

Trainer: Linda Rice. Owner: Edward Lipton.
Dk.B./Br.f.3 Not For Love-Princess Caveat, Caveat.
Bred by David Cassidy (NY).
\$2 Exacta 1-7 Paid \$47.00; \$2 Quinella 1-7 Paid \$22.20; \$2 Trifecta 1-7-5
Paid \$112.50; \$2 Pick 3 (7-2-1) 3 Correct Paid \$373.00

5TH. 6 FURLONGS. 2YO. MDN CLM 75,000. PURSE \$40,000.

8	Philharmonic	Luzzi M J	16.40	7.90	5.40
4	Fufty	Bejarano R		4.00	2.60
1	Glowing Image	Coa E M			2.70

Finish Time: 1:12.54

Trainer: George Weaver. Owner: Dogwood Stable.
Ch.r.2 Hennessy-Zia Philomena, Coronado's Quest.
Bred by E. Mercaldo, R. Mercaldo & J. Perrotta (KY).
\$2 Exacta 8-4 Paid \$70.00; \$2 Trifecta 8-4-1 Paid \$260.50; \$2 Pick
3 (2-1-8) 3 Correct Paid \$151.50; \$2 Pick 4 (7-2-1-8) 4 Correct Paid
\$3,810.00

6TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 3&UP. NY BRED. MSW. PURSE \$56,000.

9	Autumn of My Years	Rojas R I	75.50	22.20	8.70
5	Prime Obsession	Velasquez C		3.90	2.80
6	Aly's Tough	Hill C			7.80

Finish Time: 1:04.22

Trainer: Dominick Schettino. Owner: Donald Ogden & G.J. Hart.
Dk.B./Br.g.3 Cape Canaveral-Sister Jones, Saratoga Six.
Bred by Ships Helm Stable (NY).
\$2 Exacta 9-5 Paid \$247.00; \$2 Trifecta 9-5-6 Paid \$3,314.00; \$2 Pick 3
(1-8-9) 3 Correct Paid \$2,740.00; \$2 Superfecta 9-5-6-4 Paid \$15,141.00

7TH. 6 1/2 FURLONGS. 3&UP. NY BRED. AOC 30,000. PURSE \$63,000.

8	Premium Wine	Dominguez R A	9.40	4.90	3.10
1	Run With the Lark	Desormeaux K J		6.70	3.90
4	Smash 'Em Sammy	Castellano J J			3.40

Finish Time: 1:16.03

Trainer: Tony Dutrow. Owner: Zayat Stables.
B.c.3 Prime Timber-Just a Bullet, Jolie's Halo.
Bred by Sez Who Thoroughbreds (NY).

\$2 Exacta 8-1 Paid \$72.50; \$2 Trifecta 8-1-4 Paid \$279.50; \$2 Daily Double
(9-8) Paid \$668.00; \$2 Pick 3 (8-9-8) 3 Correct Paid \$4,759.00; \$2 Consola-
tion Pick 3 (8-9-2) Paid \$540.00; \$2 Consolation Double (9-2) Paid \$96.00

8TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 4&UP. CLM 35,000. PURSE \$45,000.

8	Auto City	Velasquez C	9.80	3.80	2.80
1	R Loyal Man	Prado E S		2.80	2.10
6	Pegase Jem (FR)	Bejarano R			2.80

Finish Time: 1:03.83

Trainer: Chris Englehart. Owner: William Fuccillo.
Ch.g.7 Carson City-Saucy Maisie, Sauce Boat.
Bred by Ironwater Farms (KY).

\$2 Exacta 8-1 Paid \$24.20; \$2 Trifecta 8-1-6 Paid \$78.00; \$2 Pick 3 (9-8-8)
3 Correct Paid \$2,357.00; \$2 Consolation Pick 3 (9-2-8) Paid \$439.50

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

5	Miss Shop	Castellano J J	11.40	3.90	3.10
2	Unbridled Belle	Dominguez R A		3.10	2.50
6	Indian Vale	Velazquez J R			3.20

Finish Time: 2:03.48

Trainer: Allen Jerkens. Owner: Hobeau Farm.
B.f.4 Deputy Minister-Shopping, Private Account.
Bred by Hobeau Farm (FL).

\$2 Exacta 5-2 Paid \$37.60; \$2 Trifecta 5-2-6 Paid \$105.50; \$2 Grand
Slam (5/6/9-1/4/8-1/6/8-5) Paid \$63.00

10TH. 6 1/2 FURLONGS. 3&UP. CLM 25,000. PURSE \$27,000.

8	Champchu	Velasquez C	10.80	5.30	2.70
7	Ocean Forest	Coa E M		6.00	2.90
6	Tahoe Warrior	Velazquez J R			2.40

Finish Time: 1:17.01

Trainer: Rick Schosberg. Owner: Mitre Box Stable.
B.g.5 Quiet American-Daggett, In Reality.
Bred by Thomas/Lakin (NY).

\$2 Exacta 8-7 Paid \$53.50; \$2 Trifecta 8-7-6 Paid \$91.00; \$2 Superfecta
8-7-6-10 Paid \$296.00; \$2 Daily Double (5-8) Paid \$60.50; \$2 Pick
3 (8-5-8) 3 Correct Paid \$356.00; \$2 Pick 4 (8-8-5-8) 4 Correct Paid
\$2,764.00; \$2 Pick 6 (8-9-8-8-5-8) 5 Correct Paid \$8,199.00

Track: Fast; Turf: Firm
Attendance: 21,992 ; Handle: \$4,157,329

How We Did

RACE 1: Top choice ran third and second pick won.

RACE 2: Second pick finished third.

RACE 3: Altesse (\$3.30) got the win and topped a \$6.60 exacta
for us. No show or tri betting, but third pick still ran third.

RACE 4: Top pick scratched, third pick ran second.

RACE 5: First choice scratched.

RACE 6: Top pick ran second, third pick scratched.

RACE 7: Second pick won. Third pick finished, well, third.

RACE 8: Top pick scratched.

RACE 9: Third pick won.

RACE 10: Top pick scratched, second selection finished
third, third choice won.

SEASON TOTALS: 58 wins by top selection in 245 races.
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How We Did summarizes the performance of
The Special's handicappers in the "Detailed Analysis" section.

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All The Winners

Jockeys

Cornelio Velasquez	35	Xavier Aizpuru	2
Kent Desormeaux	31	Jose Bracetty	2
Javier Castellano	21	Eddie Castro	2
Garrett Gomez	21	Danielle Hodsdon	2
Edgar Prado	20	Mario Pino	2
Ramon Dominguez	18	Raul Rojas	2
John Velazquez	18	Roberto Alvarado	1
Rafael Bejarano	15	Norberto Arroyo Jr	1
Eibar Coa	15	Jorge Chavez	1
Alan Garcia	12	Fernando Jara	1
Shaun Bridgmohan	9	Mike Luzzi	1
Calvin Borel	8	Carlos Marquez Jr	1
Julien Leparoux	6	Chip Miller	1
Channing Hill	5	Corey Nakatani	1
Jean-Luc Samyn	3		

Trainers

Bill Mott	18	Mike Hernandez	2
Gary Contessa	11	Tim Hills	2
Todd Pletcher	10	Bruce Levine	2
Richard Dutrow	9	Shug McGaughey	2
Tom Bush	8	Graham Motion	2
Steve Asmussen	6	Atreo Persaud	2
Stan Hough	6	Jonathan Sheppard	2
Kiaran McLaughlin	6	Al Stall Jr	2
Linda Rice	6	Dallas Stewart	2
Barclay Tagg	6	John Ward	2
Christophe Clement	5	Ronny Werner	2
Tony Dutrow	5	Frank Alexander	1
Dominic Galluscio	5	William Allyn	1
John Kimmel	5	Rusty Arnold	1
Saeed bin Suroor	4	Enrique Arroyo	1
Bobby Frankel	4	Bobby Barbara	1
Rick Schosberg	4	John Destefano Jr	1
Rick Violette	4	Gregory DiPrima	1
George Weaver	4	Scott Everett	1
Nick Zito	4	Jack Fisher	1
Charlton Baker	3	Gary Gullo	1
Patrick Biancone	3	Leah Gyarmati	1
Wally Dollase	3	John Hertler	1
David Donk	3	Roger Horgan	1
Mark Hennig	3	David Jacobson	1
Neil Howard	3	Leroy Jolley	1
Mike Hushion	3	Scott Lake	1
Allen Jerkens	3	Michael Lauer	1
Jimmy Jerkens	3	Wayne Lukas	1
Pat Kelly	3	Mike Miceli	1
Steve Klesaris	3	John Morrison	1
Carlos Martin	3	Colum O'Brien	1
Michael Matz	3	Jeff Odintz	1
Ken McPeck	3	Ambrose Pascucci	1
Carl Nafzger	3	Guadalupe Preciado	1
Angel Penna	3	Pat Reynolds	1
Dale Romans	3	Robert Ribaud	1
Scott Schwartz	3	Tim Ritchey	1
Phil Serpe	3	Tim Ritvo	1
Tom Albertrani	2	James Ryerson	1
Billy Badgett	2	Dominick Schettino	1
Bob Baffert	2	Gary Sciacca	1
Glenn DiSanto	2	Howie Teshner	1
Debra Divitto	2	Mike Trombetta	1
Chris Englehart	2	Tom Voss	1
Eoin Harty	2		



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Where Are They Now?

The 2006 Victory Ride **Wildcat Bettie B**



Tod Marks

The Special takes a look back at the Saratoga stakes winners of last year, and what's happened in their lives since they found glory at the Spa.

Galloping into the Victory Ride (which was contested the Thursday of Travers week) off a huge Grade I score in the Prioress at Belmont Park, the daughter of Meadowlake kept the party going at the Spa, earning trainer Larry Jones his first Saratoga stakes win. Raced just once more that year, she finished second in the Grade III Safely Kept at Laurel in October. She embarked on her 4-year-old campaign with a third in an Oaklawn Park stakes in March, then finished 10th in the Grade I Humana Distaff at Churchill Downs. Returning to Jones' Delaware Park base, she notched two stakes scores, the latest coming Aug. 11 in the \$55,000 Xtra Heat. After exiting the race with a number of small issues, she was retired by owner Oasis Racing Stables having earned \$504,818 in the course of an eight-win career and will be offered at Keeneland's November breeding-stock sale.

Who's Next?

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Ms. Cancelli in front of her "Travers Triptych: Bernardini, Bluegrass Cat, Dr. Pleasure and Hesanoltsal"

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Anybody seen a goose?

BY DAVID KOSAK

It's a rite of passage. Plain and simple. The rookie gets assigned the wild-geese chases.

And I'm no exception. Well, I at least knew I wouldn't find a wild goose, but I was still looking for a good story.

So I went searching, instead, for a history lesson and some laughs. I spent the morning visiting members of Saratoga's old guard on the backstretch. My goal was to uncover the truth about the "Graveyard of Favorites." Where is this

so-called burial ground at the Spa? If there really was an answer, I was going to dig it up.

It was going to be a good, old-fashioned ghost hunt of sorts. Leaving the office, I strapped on my boots and headed out the door. My tools, an updated Saratoga barn list and a reporter's notebook, were securely shoved into my back pocket.

Arriving at the gated entrance, I took a deep breath and stepped through the parting mist. And so the hunt began.

"It's in the same place where you can get the bucket of steam and the key to

the quarter pole," said a laughing Joe Brocklebank, owner of Erin American Bloodstock. "Sean's up to his old tricks again, I see."

But Brocklebank saw the sincerity in my curiosity. I wasn't leaving until he gave me some better clues.

"You're looking at it, it's the race track right there," he said with an all-inclusive wave of his hand toward the grounds. "Secretariat got beat by Onion right here in the Whitney. This track gets them all. Make sure you talk to Allen Jerkens, he's the one who created the saying."

Now I was getting somewhere. Weaving between barns, I made it to see the Chief. "They're pulling your leg," he said with a smile. "And I don't have the key to the quarter pole either."

He paused for a few seconds to reflect on the past.

"I'd say it started when Jim Dandy beat Gallant Fox, he was 100-1 that day. That definitely started all this nonsense," Jerkens said. "And of course, several horses I've had over the years. I did help it when Onion beat Secretariat."

Jerkens walked along the horsepath aboard his trusty pony, Circus.

"But the favorites get beaten everywhere. It seems people just like to make a big deal here in Saratoga; it's a special place," Jerkens said. "But it's no fun, though, if it happens to you."

After following the Chief back to his

barn, I found myself looking out at Clare Court. So I left barn seven and snuck across the smaller of the three Saratoga dirt tracks, and wandered back to barn five. Pulling out my notepad, I went up to trainer Frank Alexander.

"I don't know where it is," he said. "There's been a lot of favorites to lose. It's a bigger deal here. Everybody comes here with the best horses in the best condition. Everyone wants to win at Saratoga."

Sitting in his office, he looked out the open doorway.

"There's a real graveyard here, you know, but that's only been around for about 10 years."

A real graveyard? I know about the one across the street from our office on Lincoln, but there's one at the track? Finally some hard evidence. I may find that graveyard after all.

My interest perked. Right there in Clare Court, I found my answer. Facing to the east on a knoll, nestled under the maple trees sheltering the Clare Court tunnel, were three headstones and a smaller bronze plaque off to the left that read; Flaka (1970-1988) "Best Friend."

As for the headstones, there was Jim Dandy winner A Phenomenon, Saratoga legend Fourstardave and Daryl's Joy winner Mourjane. In the infield of the main track rests champion Go For Wand.

This begs the question . . . who else may be buried on the grounds of Saratoga?



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Other trainers include: Timothy Hills, Bruce Jackson, Catherine Day Phillips, Doug O'Neill, Mark Hennig, Rick Violette, John Shireffs, and many more!

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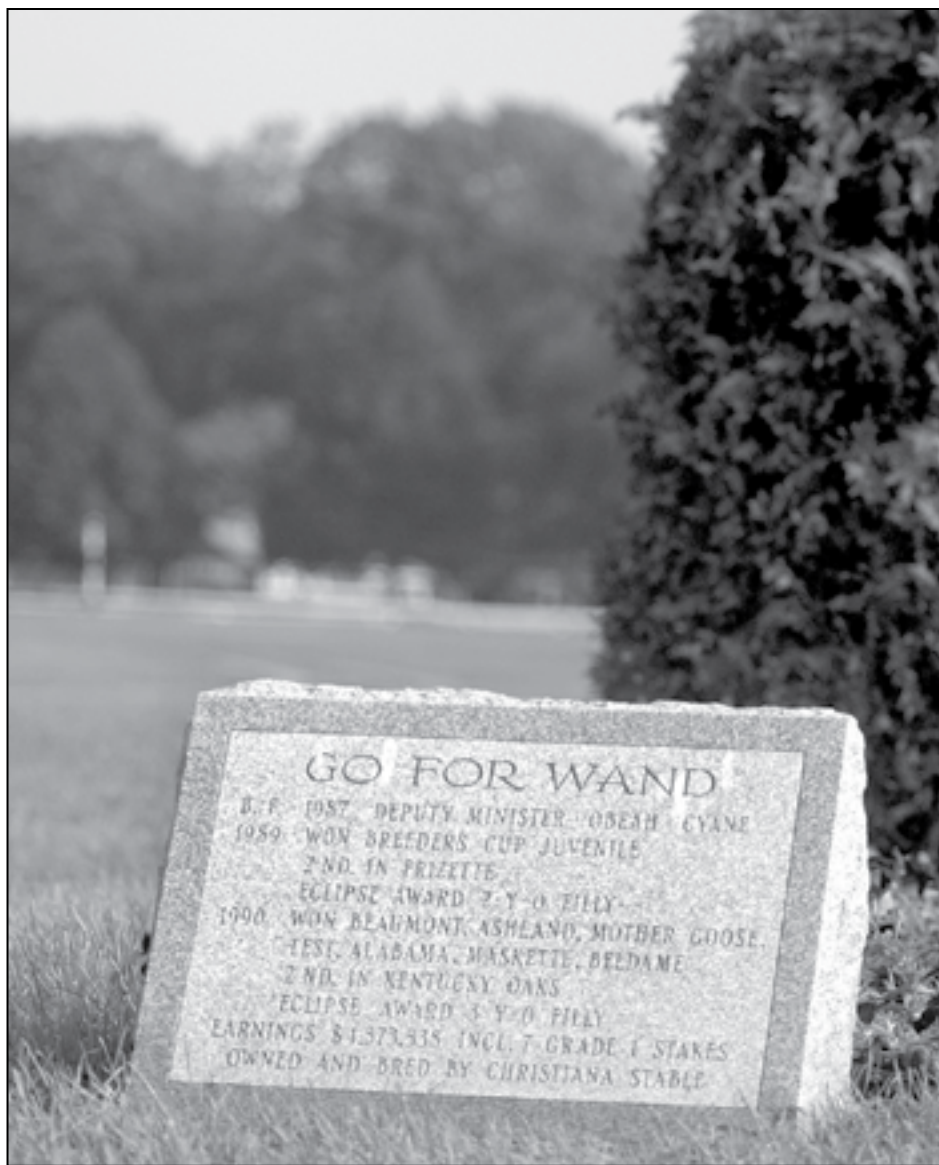
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Trainer: Doug O'Neill

SMOOTH AIR

Third in Florida Stallion Dr. Fager Stakes at Calder on August 11
Owner: Mount Joy Stables.
Trainer: Bernie Stutts Jr.

BOLD HAWK

Belmont Park maiden winner July 21.
Owner: Nicholson Family.
Trainer: Jimmy Toner.

MASSEUSE

Dance Smartly Stakes (Gr. 2) winner at Woodbine July 22. Owner: Henry Elser and Nicholson Family.
Trainer: Jimmy Toner.

MARSH SIDE

Second in Northern Dancer Breeders' Cup Turf Stakes (Gr. 2) at Woodbine July 22.
Owner: R.S. Evans.
Trainer: Michael Dickinson.

C P WEST

Second in Jim Dandy Stakes (Gr. 2) at Saratoga July 29.
Owner: Robert LaPenta.
Trainer: Nick Zito.

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NOW - SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SUNDAY EVENINGS at 5:30 p.m.

IT'S EASY TO GO!

Admission Available at the Gate Or...Enjoy Prepaid Express Entry! Purchase Polo Passes in Advance

- By Phone – 518.584.8108
- Online at SARATOGAPOLO.COM
- 1st National Bank of Scotia - All Branches
- Saratoga Saddlery, 460 Broadway, Saratoga Springs

CHOOSE HOW TO GO!

GO CLUBHOUSE STYLE!

VIP ADMISSION WITH BOX SEATING

- \$20.00 per Person
- Includes Box Seating (First Come First Served)
- Admission to Air Conditioned Clubhouse.

GO FREESTYLE!

GENERAL ADMISSION

- \$20.00 per Carload
- Pull Your Car Right Up to the Action
- Enjoy Polo Field Side (First Come First Served).

EXPERIENCE SARATOGA POLO'S AWARD-WINNING CUISINE

During the Game: Unlimited Chef's Selection of Tapas and Mingle Fare

Every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday – All Field Locations – 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Guests will be treated to a non-stop cornucopia of tastings using the freshest ingredients of the day expertly-prepared and butler-passed in the VIP area before and during each polo match.

Only \$20 per person with Clubhouse Admission

After the Game: Saratoga Polo's Famed Unlimited Station Dining

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday – 7 to 10 p.m.

Unlimited Food stations include five extraordinary entree selections and an array of salads, desserts, coffee and delectables. A variety of choices will always be offered to satisfy every palate. RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED.

Only \$35 per person



For more Information and Reservations
Call 518.584.8108 or visit SARATOGAPOLO.COM.



SARATOGA POLO
ASSOCIATION

Special Travers Day Selections	Race #	 Joe "Captain Deadline" Clancy	 Sean "Post Man" Clancy	 Jamie "Rewrite" Santo	 Jim "The Prodigal Writer" Mulvihill	 Brian "Soul Patch" Nadeau	 "Diamond" Dave Kosak
	1	Loconia Got The Last Laugh Mathmetician	Dancing Forever Loconia Mathematician	Dancing Forever Tiverton Gaelic Storm	Tiverton Mathematician Loconia	Gaelic Storm Tiverton True To Tradition	Gaelic Storm Tiverton Dancing Forever
	2	Grand Minstrel Eagle Strike Cowboy Cal	Grand Minstrel He's Solid Gold Mythical Pegasus	Grand Minstrel Elusive Schemes Sonic Boom	Cowboy Cal He's Solid Gold Burgenland Kid	Mythical Pegasus Cowboy Cal Eagle Strike	Burgerland Kid Cowboy Cal Mythical Pegasus
	3	Frankel entry Konqueror Virginia Minstrel	Borobudur Konqueror Virginia Minstrel	Virginia Minstrel Frankel entry Hot Table	Virginia Minstrel Borobudur Fast Thought	Peace Mon Virginia Minstrel Konqueror	Virginia Minstrel Konqueror Rocket Legs
	4	El Prado Rob Noah A. Westmoreland	Taming The Tiger Westmoreland Forget The Judge	Wallstreet Scandal Forget The Judge Westmoreland	Westmoreland El Prado Rob Forget the Judge	Noah A. Forget The Judge Wallstreet Scandal	Westmoreland Noah A. Forget the Judge
	5	La Presse Sophie's Salad Forest Jazzy	La Presse Motor City Mama Smartgabrielle	Smartgabrielle La Presse Motor City Mama	La Presse Enchantal Smartgabrielle	Genuine Devotion Smartgabrielle Diamondrella	Sophie's Salad Double Down Dixie La Presse
	6	Interest Rate Giant Deputy Sleeping Indian	Giant Deputy Interest Rate Forest Of Dreams	Roi Maudit Sleeping Indian Hedge Fund	Interest Rate Giant Deputy Sleeping Indian	Interest Rate Noble Truth Salzburg	Giant Deputy Interest Rate The Duke of Stanco
	7	Gun Salute Ballast Cosmonaut	Ballast Cosmonaut Gun Salute	Gun Salute Ballast Cosmonaut	Gun Salute Cosmonaut Outperformance	Shakis Gun Salute Woodlander	Drum Major Ballast Cosmonaut
	8	First Defence Most Distinguished King Of The Roxy	First Defence Hard Spun Teufflesberg	Hard Spun First Defence Longley	Teufflesberg Hard Spun Spin Master	First Defence Hard Spun Teufflesberg	Hard Spun Most Distinguished E Z Warrior
	9	Street Sense Grasshopper Sightseeing	Street Sense Sightseeing Grasshopper	Street Sense Sightseeing Grasshopper	Street Sense C P West Sightseeing	Street Sense Sightseeing Grasshopper	Street Sense Grasshopper C P West
	10	Russian Gypsy Magical Ride Featherbed	La Traviata Allude Featherbed	Graeme Six Featherbed Musical Start	La Traviata Featherbed Graeme Six	Allude Featherbed Time's Mistress	La Traviata Featherbed Russian Gypsy
	11	Incriminate South Pacific Vicarian	Vicarian Incriminate South Pacific	Time To Grow Up Kong The King Incriminate	Garifine Vicarian Incriminate	Kong The King Incriminate	Blackfoot Trail Garifine Blue Sky God
	12	Stolen Forest Wally World Zipperoo	Zipperoo Stolen Forest Wally World	Wally World Yeah Mon Love Abroad	Zipperoo Makin Me Famous Wally World	Zipperoo Wally World Alright Now	Stolen Forest Alright Now Zipperoo

We spend far more time in the office than at the track, but *The Special's* in-house staff goes to work handicapping the Travers Day card for you. The full-time handicappers' choices can be found on page 18 (and Brian is a repeat in both spots – long story, don't ask). Last year's champion among the non-handicapper set was Jamie Santo, who had six winners.

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Still hitting the Hard road

Trainers jammed the phone lines of the racing office Wednesday morning, eager to choose from the 16 races written in the condition book, plus a handful of extras. By the time the pills dropped for the 12-race card, 150 horses made their way onto the green 11 by 14 inch overnight.

Apart from the Travers, the smallest field rounds out at 10. More than \$2 million in purse money lies waiting to be doled out. Four stakes highlight this season's premier day at the races. New York racing is suffering? Not today.

Out of the 150 horses – from number 1 in the opener, Got The Last Laugh, to number 14 in the last, Helene's Dream – no horse will be analyzed like the 3 horse in the King's Bishop. Street Sense provokes awe. Teufflesberg, befuddlement. Hard Spun, critics.

Larry Jones knows it and accepts it. Grudgingly. "I'm just trying to stand up under all the criticism, to have broad enough shoulders to pack the load. When we went into the Derby, they said, 'You can't go in the Derby off of a six-week layoff,' 'You can't give the horse a 57 work the week before' . . . needless to say, I've had some pressure put on me because of him," Jones said, matter-of-factly. "It's funny, everyone wants to tell me how to train him; nobody cares about training my other horses. I've got 70 other crows around there that I train the same way and they want to train him – he's the one that doesn't need training. We just take him over there and run him."

Hard Spun rattled off four in a row to start his career, then flopped at 1-2 in the Southwest at Oaklawn Park. Jones fled Hot Springs like he'd lost a bet and sent Hard Spun to Turfway Park where he picked up the Lane's End over Polytrack. Then Hard Spun stretched his speed 1 1/4 miles in the Kentucky Derby, beating everybody but Street Sense. Two weeks

CUP OF COFFEE

By Sean Clancy



later in the Preakness, Hard Spun spurted off leaving the backside and wound up a third wheel in Curlin and Street Sense's two-man show. Jones kept going, tackling the 1 1/2-mile Belmont. Hard Spun finished fourth. Freshened, he went to Monmouth for the Haskell; he was no match for Any Given Saturday, yet fought off Curlin. Though he hasn't won since March, he's earned more than \$1.1 million this year.

But you knew all that.

Now Hard Spun shortens to 7 furlongs in the King's Bishop, the first time he's gone less than a mile since winning the Pennsylvania Nursery at Philadelphia Park in December. Naturally fast, Hard Spun has always seemed an enigma, a little too fast for 10 furlongs, maybe not fast enough for 6 furlongs. Not enough stamina to take the Derby, perhaps, but enough to put it tantalizingly within reach.

"The horse has spoiled me. I know it's going to be a long time if ever before I find one that can do everything he can do," Jones said. "Most horses are one dimensional – they either have to have the engine or come from the clouds. He'll lay wherever he has to. Chances are if you're in front of him early, you're going too fast, like the horses in the Derby that went

with him, they all finished in the last bunch. If you're behind him, he's hard to catch. He's a hard horse to try to figure out where you need to be to beat him."

Hard Spun has tackled nine racetracks and eight distances. The King's Bishop will be his 11th start, Saratoga will be his 10th surface and only the second time he lines up at 7 furlongs.

"The horse has covered my butt in all cases," Jones said. "He's absolutely a very good horse, he's game for whatever you want to do with him. I can put him on the truck and he'll eat while he's on the truck and if you dropped the ramp at the starting gate, he'd walk in and give it a try. The links in his chain might not be the biggest, but he doesn't have a weak link in there. He's solid."

With the criticism, comes fame. Not that Jones can believe that part. Decked out in his customary cowboy hat, Jones used to come to Saratoga and people didn't know if he was driving the van or opening for Toby Keith over at SPAC. Those days are over.

"It seems like more people know who I am, even at Saratoga," Jones said. "People who I have no clue who they are will come up and say 'good luck Saturday.' After the Haskell, we went into this little local diner and I spent 10 minutes signing hats, which is something I'm not used to. That's flattering. One lady got up and said, 'I don't know who you are but I can't believe these people won't allow you to eat.' I said, 'That's OK, believe me, I can catch up on eating.' My number one goal is no matter how much success I have, I know where my roots are and I'm still the same guy that I always was. If you see it change, slap me and say, 'Hey, this isn't the way I met you.'"

See him after the King's Bishop. He'll be the guy in the hat.

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2683 f Monarchos Listen Missy
2763 f Storm Boot Rehear
2784 f Sky Mesa Select Account
2830 c Horse Chestnut (SAF) Takipy
2852 c Indian Charlie Turquoise Bead
2863 c More Than Ready Violet Hill

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3851 c Rossini Kat's Chicken
4058 f Monashee Mountain True Wind
4066 c Pure Prize Valse Musette

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Does he hear the crowd
cheering his name?



Can You Hear It?

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