

FREE



The SARATOGA *Special*



Year 8 • No. 29

SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Thursday, August 28, 2008



1

Sales yearling



2

New York-bred maiden



3

Grade I
steeplechase
starter

Step By Step

Be Certain leaps through Saratoga stages to earn stakes start.

INSIDE: CAGEY GIRL WINS WILMOT STAKES • ENTRIES/HANDICAPPING • WEDNESDAY RACING RECAP

Tod Marks

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

Here & There at Saratoga



Clothes horse

Jockey Jorge Chavez
takes advantage of some
good deals at the back-
side shirt sale.



Connie Bush

Worth Repeating

"I'm afraid to leave Saratoga."

**Dave Duggan, after upsetting Wednesday's
Mollie Wilmot Stakes with Cagey Girl;
the filly gave the trainer his sixth
win from just 15 starters at the meet.**

Wife, just a bit steamed: "Silence is golden."
Husband, trying to save himself: "It just goes to
show that I make a mistake once very 10 years
or so. I'm entitled, aren't I?"
Wife: "When I said silence is golden, I didn't
mean me."

"The fat lady hasn't sung yet, but I can hear her
humming in the background and tapping her
foot."

**Owner Ken Ramsey, on his prospects for
winning the Saratoga owners' championship**

"As soon as the Travers is over, it's Thanksgiving."
Trainer Carl Domino

"I can't go for Migliore-Luzzi?"

**Special reader Patrick Kerrison,
on his dream Presidential ticket**

"Tom Durkin better say this the next time Demo-
crat, the horse, runs: 'Democrat, Biden his time
on the rail. Boxed in on his right, waiting for a
path. He's found it and there he goes. Democrat!
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by 4, now by 5! He won't be caught today unless
Karl Rove meets him before the wire.'"

Special reader Jim Lanson

"She's the Intangible Roo. Her nickname was
Roo and I was trying to figure out how to name
her. She was the intangible. It fits her."

**Owner Carl Grether,
on naming Ballerina winner Intangaroo**

"I'm not worried about fall, I'm worried about
what follows it."

**Trainer Tom Bush,
when told it felt like fall**

More Here and There on Page 4

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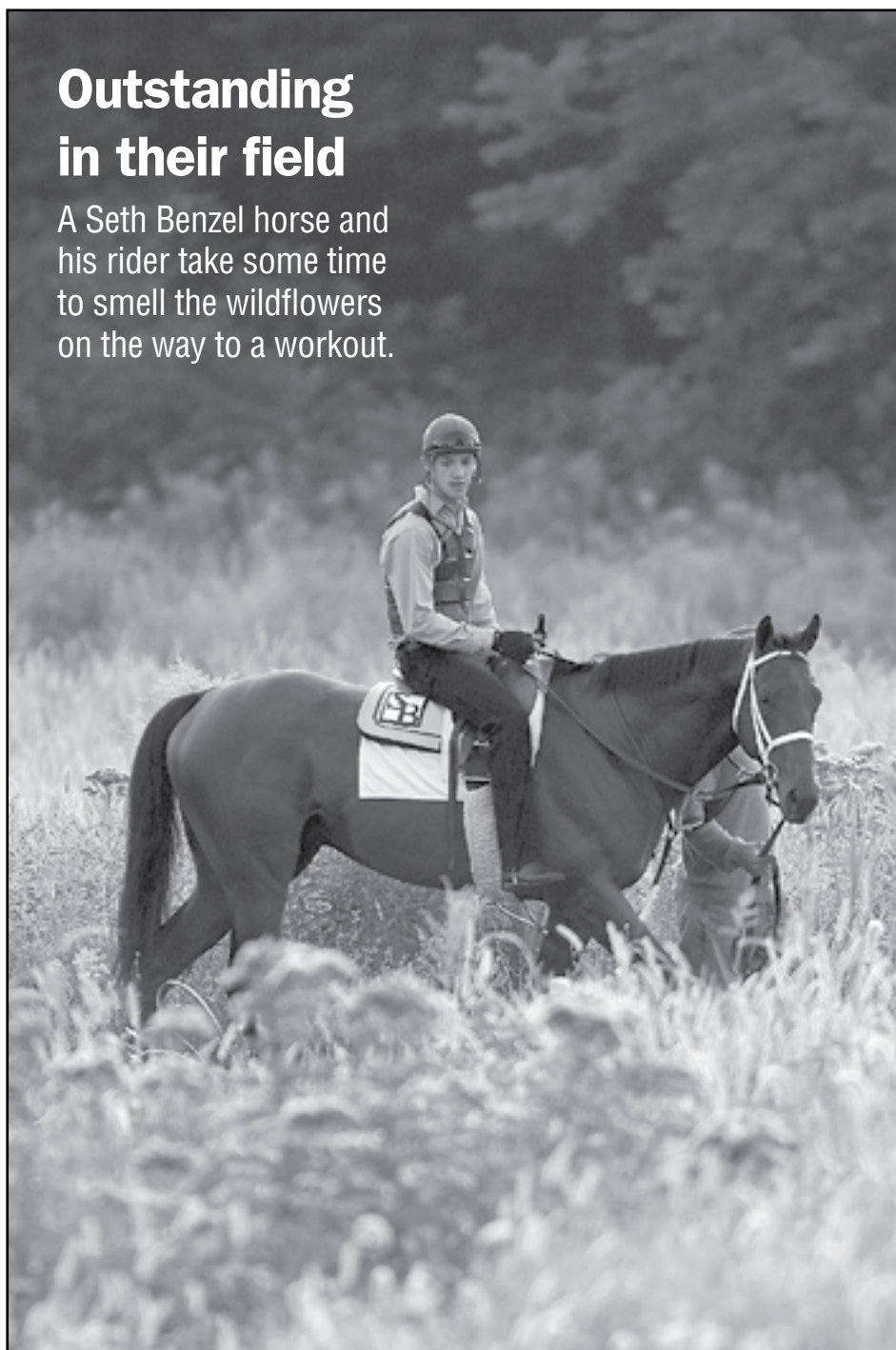
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Here & There at Saratoga

Outstanding in their field

A Seth Benzel horse and his rider take some time to smell the wildflowers on the way to a workout.



Tod Marks

Take A Number

23 Reserved seat tags stuck to the bars above the down side of the big escalator from the second floor of the clubhouse.

Name of the Day

Caesar Beware, first race. When your sire's named Daggers Drawn, you can feel a little threatened. Plus, a little advice never hurt (though that bit about the "Ides of March" didn't help Julius much).

Weather

Today: Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High around 80. Winds light and variable.

Tonight: A few clouds from time to time. Low 57. Winds light and variable.

Friday: Partly to mostly cloudy. Slight chance of a rain shower. High 78. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: Times of sun and clouds. High in the upper 70s and low in the low 60s.

Sunday: Cloudy with showers and thunderstorms. High in the upper 70s and low in the low 60s.



Tod Marks

Rearing to go

This Thoroughbred practices for the two-legged race.

HISTORY



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Here & There at Saratoga



The Big Horserace

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

McCain

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

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

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

Jeanne Wood
Nathan Wood
Vic Gilardi
Anthony Mormino
Jeannine Edwards
Tom Stone
Derek Ryan
Patrick Kerrison

Undecided

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

Independent

Barry Wiseman

Richard Nixon

Alan Brodsky

Obama

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

Dave Grace
Wendy (clocker girl)
Little Wendy (clocker girl)
Joanne Jones
Toadie Taylor
Alan Garcia
Tony Micallef
Sherry Ross
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Mary Jane Howell
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Ethan Jones-Potts
Joan Ciampi
Tim Hills
Tracy Attfield
Vicky King
Paul Keane
Vicky Rose
Mike MacAdam
Emma Brockaway
Brendan Pendergast
Maria Mann
Joe Spadaro
Rob Sauer
Diana Baker
Jim Lanson

Ross Perot

Dan Pride

Daffy Duck

Chris O'Connor
Gus Brown

Joe Biden

Mike Luzzi

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Doc Danner
Doug Fout
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Why Certainly

Steeplechase newcomer Be Certain jumps up stakes ranks for Voss

BY SEAN CLANCY

Tom Voss walked back to his barn at the Oklahoma Annex yesterday and thought back to one year ago. The last Wednesday of the meet. That's when his former jockey Roger Horgan, now training, asked him to come look at a New York-bred 3-year-old who'd stalled after two starts.

"It was the last schooling day of the meet, might have been today, a year ago," Voss said. "He went out there and jumped the rolls perfect. He never met one before, that's the way he was, made it easy."

Today, that horse goes for his first Saratoga stakes victory, in the \$150,000 New York Turf Writers Cup Steeplechase – today's eighth race. Be Certain rose from jumping rolls in the Oklahoma infield to a Grade I steeplechase horse – in one year.

Voss and Horgan would like to say they knew it all along. But, no, this is a story about a horse who did the heavy lifting. He liked to jump, relished the 2-miles plus and knew a good thing when he saw it. The 4-year-old son of Thunder Gulch, with a cool \$100,451

NEW YORK TURF WRITERS CUP

in his bank account, now resides on Voss' expansive farm in Monkton, Md. Not bad for a horse who couldn't get within 6 3/4 lengths of the winner in a state-bred maiden on the Saratoga turf last summer.

Be Certain jumped those initial rolls willingly – that's about all a trainer's looking for when a horse makes his foray into the air – and then ran twice over hurdles last fall. The \$300,000 yearling purchase (across the street) hunted around in his debut, finishing third at Far Hills, N.J. in October and then put it all together in his second start, a front-running effort in the Raymond G. Woolfe Stakes for 3-year-olds at Camden, S.C. in November.

"It's amazing, he hadn't even jumped a fence a year ago," Voss said. "He went to Far Hills, schooled around easy, then he won at Camden, just grabbed the bit and took off, surprised all of us."

Be Certain became a stakes winner in his second start over jumps and has yet to finish worse than second this year (he was disqualified from a second when the jockey failed to weigh in). In May,



Barbara Livingston

Be Certain preps over jumps in the Oklahoma infield earlier this week.

he upset Voss' highly regarded, more experienced entymate, Planets Aligned in the Grade II National Hunt Cup at Radnor.

"Planets Aligned, I think, is a pretty damn good horse and he fought that horse tooth and nail and beat him. He got a lot of weight from him but he wasn't backing down, barely saw the last fence, came home and swallowed his dinner in 10 minutes," Voss said.

"If they don't have the disposition, if you're worried about shaking them up or overfacing them, then you wouldn't do it, but he's more mature than most anything I've ever had."

In steeplechasing, 4-year-olds rarely handle older horses. Only four 4-year-olds have won the New York Turf Writers Cup since 1970. Be Certain will at-

See **BE CERTAIN** page 8 ►



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Be Certain —

■ Continued from page 6

tempt to become number five when he takes on eight rivals in the 19-furlong stakes. He carries 139, compared to top weight of 154 shouldered by Irish import Salford City.

Horgan, who trains a small stable of flat horses, is happy his former pupil got another chance.

"We were up against it with him, he's too nice a horse to drop down . . . I'm not into the claiming game, that's not our gig at all. We had it in the back of my mind because he was an athletic horse all along," Horgan said. "When you come from that background, you think about it where a lot of people wouldn't. From the moment he walked up and looked at a hurdle, you know when you know one is going to go do it, popped over a couple of rolls, he loved it."

It takes a game owner to send a horse he paid \$300,000 for two years earlier to the jump world. Michael Chasanoff was more than game, he looked at it as an experiment, a fun thing to do and something that might give his horse a new lease on life. His old lease was about to be up.

Horgan sent the horse to Voss and said try him out, see what you think, if you don't like him we'll go to Plan B, or perhaps, Plan C.

"The horse went down there and I called Tom about 10 days later and he said, 'I'm trying to resist the temptation of taking him over the big hurdles already.' He was that far ahead," Horgan



Be Certain's first trainer Roger Horgan

said. "I called Mr. Chasanoff and gave him the report, he knows absolutely nothing about steeplechasing but he's game enough to give it a try, what do you have to lose?"

Bred by Sugar Maple Farm and purchased for Chasanoff by Kenny McPeck, Be Certain now has a chance at winning a Grade I stakes at Saratoga a year after losing a maiden race as a 3-year-old.

"Make no mistake, he was cut out to be a nice horse. He was quite precocious early on but he never trained on, I wasn't in a hurry so we ran him up here, he ran OK, just one paced, they quicken and he doesn't. Perfectly sound. I had an option of running him again, but it wasn't his game, why not give something different a try," Horgan said. "He wins a little stake in his second start. I don't care if it's at Yavapai Downs, owners like to win stakes. I give the credit to Mr. Chasanoff, he was brave enough to try it. Most people would have said get him off the books. Anything his horses need. Done. He gives them the best opportunity to succeed."



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Double Play

High Action tackles Spa steeplechase sweep

BY BRIAN NADEAU

High Action attempts to pull off a difficult double in today's Grade I, \$150,000 New York Turf Writers Cup Steeplechase. Winner of the A.P. Smithwick earlier in the meet, he tries to match the 1999 Saratoga campaign of Campanile, the last horse to take the Smithwick and Turf Writers in the same year.

Not that it will be easy.

The 2 3/8-mile test drew an evenly matched field of nine, including Dark Equation, who chased his barnmate home in the Smithwick.

"I think there are a lot of good, equal horses. I'd like to have the edge but it's always a tough call to run back-to-back in these races," trainer Doug Fout said Wednesday. "To me, I'm more worried about my horses. If you start worrying about the other horses you just start second-guessing yourself. It's hard to go from the A.P. to the Turf Writers but if it falls into place it falls into place."



Tod Marks

Smithwick starters (from left) Dark Equation, High Action and Salford City return for today's Grade I Turf Writers.

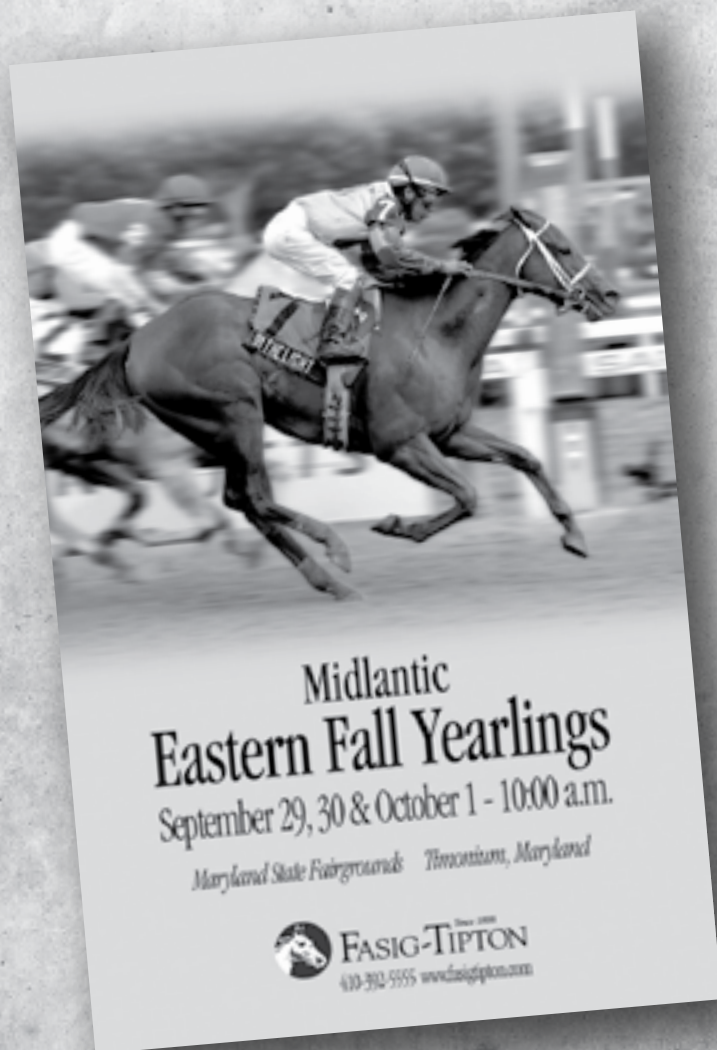
Things fell into place perfectly for Carl Barnes' High Action in the Grade II Smithwick Aug. 7. The 8-year-old sat off a solid pace set by Turf Writers entrant Salford City before pulling ahead to a 1 1/2-length win, staying perfect in his two U.S. starts since arriving from England in 2007.

High Action operated at high levels across the pond, knocking heads with the likes of Yeats as a flat campaigner. Barnes eventually elected to send the son of Theatrical to Fout in search of the firm ground rarely found in Europe. High Action made his long-awaited

U.S. hurdle debut June 15 at Colonial Downs, where he drew off late to win by 4 1/2 lengths. He came to the Smithwick as a relative unknown but didn't leave that way after getting the job done in the 2 1/16-mile stakes. Paddy Young, who scored his first career win at Saratoga in the Smithwick, has the return call at 150 pounds.

Dark Equation ran every bit as well as his more heralded stablemate in the Smithwick. Peggy Steinman's 7-year-old was up close throughout and fought

See **TURF WRITERS** page 11 ►



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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 12

hard to earn second, bettering Salford City by 2 1/4 lengths.

The solid effort marked a return to form for Dark Equation, who was sixth, beaten more than 17 lengths, in a Grade III May 10. Last season the son of Polish Numbers aired by 5 lengths in a Saratoga allowance and has shown an affinity for flat tracks. Regular jockey Matt McCarron takes the call at 152 pounds.

Fout kept his pair on similar schedules but in different places since the Smithwick. High Action went back to the stable's base in Middleburg, Va., while Dark Equation stayed put at Saratoga. The trainer enters with high hopes for both, while trying to walk the tight rope for fitness.

"They both had a blowout last Friday and had a school on Monday. We kept them ticking but I don't believe in schooling them the day before they run. These old horses just need a little exercise just to keep them there before they run. You don't need to do too much with them," Fout said. "I'm just trying to keep them on their game and hopefully I didn't do too much in between the two races. You have to do enough to get something out of it but not too much where it slows them down."

Alloff Stable's Be Certain could have the biggest chance to deny High Action. The 4-year-old has proven a quick study for Tom Voss after running here on the flat for Roger Horgan last summer. The son of Travers winner Thunder Gulch made his hurdle debut last fall at Far Hills in the Gladstone, finishing third. He returned to take the Woolfe at Camden in November and started the 2008 season looking to avoid the dreaded 4-year-old jinx.

After a pair of seconds (one in which he got disqualified when his jockey failed to weigh in after the race), Be Certain took an allowance at Great Meadow May 3 and then shocked stablemate and reigning novice champion Planets Aligned in the Grade II National Hunt Cup at Radnor two weeks later. He prepped for the Turf Writers with a closing second to repeat winner The Price Of Love in the Jonathan Kiser here July 31. Padge Whelan has the call and Be Certain gets in at a feathery impost. In a sport where timing is everything, Voss set his alarm for today's Grade I.

"He's carrying 139 pounds and the others are carrying 154, that should help. Running against not that strong a field, we're just taking a shot, distance won't hurt him, owner's game," Voss said. "The other horses are older, but it's halfway through the year, we're just going to ride him to see how he's going, not push him early, just see how he goes and where he takes him. You follow that group around and see where you end up. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, hopefully."

Jonathan Sheppard has won the Turf Writers an astonishing 12 times and he returns with three chances with Luongo, Free Admission and Look At Him. Though Sheppard's trio may not be favored, they're a diverse group capable of pulling an upset.

"The horses this year probably aren't the caliber of some of my other winners but they are all lightly weighted, are good jumpers with plenty of stamina

so you hope they can get a piece of it," Sheppard said. "I look at High Action as the horse to beat but winning the Smithwick and then coming back in the Turf Writers is a tough thing to do. Be Certain, you can't throw him out. He gets in light but he's a very nice horse and I think a 4-year-old can win this race. It's an interesting race and you can make a case for several in there."

Sheppard included.

Bill Pape's Look At Him (Robbie Walsh to ride, 142 pounds) enters with the best form, based on his win in the George Sloan Novice Stakes here Aug. 14 over the Turf Writers' 2 3/8-mile distance. The 6-year-old has been an enigma for Sheppard but is coming into his own after some mishaps earlier in the season, including throwing a shoe at Philadelphia Park and throwing his jockey here July 30.

After missing all of 2007, Look At Him returned to the races with a solid second in a Radnor allowance and may give Sheppard his best chance to win another Turf Writers.

"Look At Him is finally getting some races under him and he's progressing. It was a bit trying with him, to get him to the races, as he's always been a lovely looking horse," Sheppard said. "He'll be close to the pace. He doesn't have a big burst of speed but he does have a big strong gallop. He might finally be turning the corner."

Pape's Free Admission (Danielle Hodsdon, 142), coupled in the wagering with Look At Him, makes his first start since finishing fourth in the Grade III Ferguson Memorial at Colonial Downs July 13. The 9-year-old returned from 13 months on the sidelines earlier this year at Radnor and then ran second to High Action in a Colonial allowance June 15.

Lucy Lindsay's Luongo (Willie Dowling, 136) completes Sheppard's triumvirate. Termed a "stayer" by the trainer, Luongo went winless in two spring starts but should benefit from his light impost. The son of Foligno won a race at 3 miles last season and owns three career wins over jumps.

Salford City made his first American start over hurdles in the Smithwick and set the pace before tiring to finish third, though he was beaten only 3 3/4 lengths by High Action.

Trained by Gordon Elliot for Fergus Galvin and Adam Lord, the 7-year-old Irish-bred should benefit from his run over the course. Salford City gave 12 pounds to High Action in the Smithwick, but the playing field levels a bit to just four pounds this time around, though the Irish horse is still the 154-pound high weight. Paul Carberry, a leading jump jockey in Ireland, flies over again for the mount and should have Salford City setting the early pace.

Four Schools (Carl Rafter to ride, 146 pounds) enters off a decisive 6 1/2-length win in the Ferguson. Trainer Richard Valentine spent \$20,000 to claim the 6-year-old for Jacqueline Ohrstrom at Fair Hill May 24. Four Schools has hit the board in all three starts for his new barn but may find the water much deeper today.

Ann Stern's Duke Of Earl was sixth in the Smithwick for Jack Fisher after winning a starter allowance and a claimer earlier in the year. The 9-year-old checked in third behind Four Schools in the Ferguson and gets in light at 136 pounds. Xavier Aizpuru, the 2007 champion jockey and Turf Writers winner, has the call.



Tod Marks

High Action and Paddy Young aim to duplicate their win in the A.P. Smithwick three weeks ago.

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THURSDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Thursday, August 28. Post Time 1:00 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 3&UP. CLAIMING 35,000. PURSE \$45,000.

1	8	Unigold.....	Samyn J L.....	Jacobson David.....	15-1
1A	AE	Theconfidenceman.....	Desormeaux K J.....	Jacobson David.....	15-1
2	1	Storm N Lightning.....	Prado E S.....	Schosberg Rick.....	6-1
3	2	Rockhurst.....	Albarado R J.....	Dini Mike.....	6-1
4	3	Treasure Hunter.....	Leparoux J R.....	Lukas Wayne.....	15-1
5	4	Si O No (CHI).....	Rodriguez R R.....	Quick Patrick.....	20-1
6	5	Hurricane Annie.....	Velasquez C.....	Rice Linda.....	3-1
7	6	Caesar Beware (IRE).....	Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran.....	7-5
8	7	Sigh You.....	Espinoza J L.....	Kelly Pat.....	20-1
9	9	Skiptothegoodpart.....	Luzzi M J.....	Galluscio Dominic.....	12-1
10	AE	Can't Refuse.....	Samyn J L.....	Persaud Randi.....	12-1
11	AE	Lycurgus.....	Maragh R.....	Lake Scott.....	4-1

A-Coupled: Unigold and Theconfidenceman

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

2ND (1:33) 6 FURLONGS. FILLIES. 2YO. NY BRED. MDN CLM 50,000. PURSE \$32,000.

1	3	Millysglo.....	Gomez O.....	Rice Linda.....	5-1
1A	5	Irish Mama.....	Velasquez C.....	Rice Linda.....	5-1
2	11	Runnin On Guilt.....	Dominguez R A.....	Contessa Gary.....	3-1
2B	12	Just Another Story.....	Castellano J J.....	Contessa Gary.....	3-1
3	1	Karakorum Cayu.....	Rodriguez R R.....	Odintz Jeff.....	15-1
4	2	Smokin Pistol.....	Luzzi M J.....	Schettino Dom.....	10-1
5	4	Adelfia.....	Vargas R.....	Martin Carlos.....	20-1
6	6	Dellsittlerunaway.....	Hill C.....	Hushion Mike.....	15-1
7	7	Best for Last.....	Prado E S.....	Bush Tom.....	9-2
8	8	Saratoga Moonlight.....	Maragh R.....	Levine Bruce.....	8-1
9	9	Mona From Deltona.....	Coa E M.....	Violette Rick.....	6-1
10	10	Bellevue Belle.....	Leparoux J R.....	Harty Eoin.....	6-1

A-Coupled: Millysglo and Irish Mama

B-Coupled: Runnin On Guilt and Just Another Story

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

3RD (2:06) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 2YO. NY BRED. MSW. PURSE \$56,000.

1	1	Jacob's Dream.....	Espinoza J L.....	O'Brien Colum.....	20-1
2	2	Seeking Eldorado.....	Velasquez C.....	Rice Linda.....	3-1
3	3	J T Moore.....	Prado E S.....	Hough Stan.....	4-1
4	4	Coronation Day.....	Hill C.....	Weaver George.....	5-1
5	5	Show Me the Cash.....	Bridgmohan S X.....	Brown Bruce.....	15-1
6	6	Routine Addendum.....	Coa E M.....	Badgett Billy.....	6-1
7	7	Hangingonthefuture.....	Velasquez J R.....	Serpe Phil.....	6-1
8	8	Scientist.....	Luzzi M J.....	Jackson Bruce.....	9-2
9	9	Gargantua.....	Chavez J F.....	Sciacca Gary.....	15-1
10	AE	Saratoga Steve.....	Dominguez R A.....	Ritvo Tim.....	7-2
11	AE	Grand Morning.....	Vargas R.....	O'Brien Leo.....	30-1
12	MTO	Cat Three Approach.....	Velasquez C.....	Hernandez Mike.....	12-1
13	MTO	Haynesfield.....	Bridgmohan S X.....	Asmussen Steve.....	5-1

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

4TH (2:39) THE HALFMOON. 7 FURLONGS. F&M. 3&UP. PURSE \$80,000.

1	2	Striking Tomisue.....	Hill C.....	Zito Nick.....	9-5
1A	5	Debbie Got Even.....	Velasquez C.....	Zito Nick.....	9-5
2	1	Drama Lady.....	Garcia Alan.....	Hennig Mark.....	6-1
3	3	Are We Dreamin.....	Maragh R.....	Persaud Randi.....	7-2
4	4	Iron Butterfly.....	Leparoux J R.....	Dollase Wally.....	12-1
5	6	Silver Knockers.....	Velasquez J R.....	Zito Nick.....	8-5

A-Coupled: Striking Tomisue and Debbie Got Even

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

5TH (3:13) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 4&UP. ALW/OPT CLM 100,000. PURSE \$79,000.

1	1	Nergal (FR).....	Dominguez R A.....	Clement Christophe.....	7-2
2	2	Steve's Double.....	Albarado R J.....	Werner Ronny.....	5-1
3	3	Minister's Joy.....	Castellano J J.....	McGaughey Shug.....	5-1
4	4	British Blue.....	Velasquez J R.....	Abreu Reynaldo.....	15-1
5	5	Most Distinguished.....	Maragh R.....	Zito Nick.....	12-1
6	6	Gimme Credit.....	Coa E M.....	Hills Tim.....	10-1
7	7	Formal Decree (GER).....	Samyn J L.....	bin Suroor Saeed.....	3-1
8	8	Classic Campaign.....	Prado E S.....	Mott Bill.....	4-1
9	MTO	Evening Attire.....	Espinoza J L.....	Kelly Pat.....	2-1
10	MTO	Sinners N Saints.....	Maragh R.....	Dutrow Jr Richard.....	6-1
11	MTO	Greeley's Legacy.....	Maragh R.....	Schosberg Rick.....	12-1

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

6TH (3:47) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. FILLIES. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	3	Glacken Queen.....	Albarado R J.....	Romans Dale.....	8-1
1A	9	Megalicious.....	Prado E S.....	Romans Dale.....	8-1
2	1	Southern Oaks.....	Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran.....	4-1
3	2	Remedy.....	Bridgmohan S X.....	Asmussen Steve.....	5-1
4	4	Distant Storm.....	Desormeaux K J.....	Stewart Dallas.....	15-1
5	5	Catnandu.....	Coa E M.....	Werner Ronny.....	12-1
6	6	Belle Jour.....	Hill C.....	Zito Nick.....	6-1
7	7	Leonine.....	Castellano J J.....	Hennig Mark.....	12-1
8	8	Imandra.....	Maragh R.....	Badgett Billy.....	20-1
9	10	Rock Candy.....	Leparoux J R.....	Howard Neil.....	5-1
10	11	So Probable.....	Velasquez J R.....	Jerkens Jimmy.....	7-2

A-Coupled: Glacken Queen and Megalicious

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

7TH (4:21) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. CLAIMING 35,000. PURSE \$33,000.

1	1	Dose of Reality.....	Prado E S.....	Contessa Gary C.....	2-1
1A	MTO	Tempest Storm.....	No rider.....	Contessa Gary.....	2-1
2	AE	Smartgabriele.....	Maragh R.....	Levine Bruce.....	5-2
2B	AE	Skipping Class.....	Desormeaux K J.....	Levine Bruce.....	5-2
3	2	Donna's Sandee.....	Velasquez C.....	Hertler John.....	8-1
4	3	Talbots Shopper.....	Samyn J L.....	Kelly Pat.....	15-1
5	4	My Anna Rose.....	Dominguez R A.....	Sciacca Gary.....	15-1
6	5	Dressed to Win.....	Garcia Alan.....	Rice Linda.....	5-2
7	6	Flying Sappho.....	Velasquez J R.....	O'Brien Keith.....	8-1
8	7	Easy Ashley.....	Chavez J F.....	Ward Wesley.....	6-1
9	8	Crazy Thing.....	Bridgmohan S X.....	Johnson Cleveland.....	20-1
10	9	Yes by West.....	Leparoux J R.....	Dickey Charles.....	10-1
11	AE	Fiona Freud.....	Migliore R.....	Ritvo Tim.....	5-1
12	AE	Jetastik.....	Velasquez J R.....	Bazeos Peter.....	20-1
13	MTO	False Pretense.....	Luzzi M J.....	Violette Rick.....	10-1

A-Coupled: Dose of Reality and Tempest Storm

B-Coupled: Smartgabriele and Skipping Class

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

8TH (4:55) THE NEW YORK TURF WRITERS CUP STEEPLECHASE (GR. I). 2 3/8 MILES. HURDLE. 4&UP. PURSE \$150,000.

1	6	Free Admission.....	Hodsdon D.....	Sheppard Jonathan.....	5-1
1A	7	Look At Him.....	Walsh R.....	Sheppard Jonathan.....	5-1
2	1	Dark Equation.....	McCarron M O.....	Fout Doug.....	5-1
3	2	Duke of Earl (IRE).....	Aizpuru X.....	Fisher Jack.....	12-1
4	3	Four Schools (IRE).....	Rafter C.....	Valentine Richard.....	10-1
5	4	Luongo.....	Dowling W.....	Sheppard Jonathan.....	15-1
6	5	High Action.....	Young P J.....	Fout Doug.....	5-2
7	8	Salford City (IRE).....	Carberry P.....	Elliot Gordon.....	7-2
8	9	Be Certain.....	Whelan P.....	Voss Tom.....	4-1

A-Coupled: Free Admission and Look At Him

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

9TH (5:30) 5 1/2 FURLONGS. FILLIES. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

1	1	First to Come Home.....	Berrios Cruz J.....	Contessa Gary.....	15-1
2	2	Sara Louise.....	Albarado R J.....	Romans Dale.....	6-1
3	3	Be Smart.....	Luzzi M J.....	Lukas Wayne.....	12-1
4	4	Tapitha.....	Leparoux J R.....	Wilkes Ian.....	15-1
5	5	Atalaya.....	Dominguez R A.....	Pletcher Todd.....	8-1
6	6	Justwhistledixie.....	Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran.....	3-1
7	7	You Can Dream.....	Velasquez J R.....	Baffert Bob.....	5-2
8	8	Clear Cut.....	Prado E S.....	Arnold Rusty.....	8-1
9	9	Mia's First.....	Velasquez C.....	McDonald Michael.....	10-1
10	10	Stayawaystella.....	Castellano J J.....	Hennig Mark.....	12-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

10TH (6:05) 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. CLAIMING 40,000. PURSE \$36,000.

1	1	Frisky Rosie.....	Coa E M.....	Sciacca Gary.....	8-1
2	2	Amanyara.....	Velasquez J R.....	Ward Wesley.....	9-2
3	3	Make It Come True.....	Velasquez C.....	Hennig Mark.....	6-1
4	4	Paint Me Red.....	Dominguez R A.....	Contessa Gary.....	20-1
5	5	Swamp Willow.....	Albarado R J.....	Proctor Tom.....	8-1
6	6	Spirit Line.....	Leparoux J R.....	Lukas Wayne.....	12-1
7	7	Frozen Prospect.....	Garcia Alan.....	Rice Linda.....	3-1
8	8	Fiddlers Princess.....	Maragh R.....	DiPrima Greg.....	12-1
9	9	Seeing Clearly.....	Castellano J J.....	Morrison John.....	4-1
10	10	Fairytale Story.....	Prado E S.....	Serpe Phil.....	15-1
11	MTO	Alchera.....	Hill C.....	Ortiz Paulino.....	15-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta



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Race #				
1	Caesar Beware Rockhurst Hurricane Annie	Caesar Beware Hurricane Annie Storm N Lightning	Caesar Beware Storm N Lightning Rockhurst	Caesar Beware Hurricane Annie Lycurgus
2	Mona From Deltona Rice entry Dellsittlerunaway	Contessa entry Rice entry Bellevue Belle	Best For Last Mona From Deltona Bellevue Belle	Mona From Deltona Contessa entry Saratoga Moonlight
3	Scientist J T Moore Seeking Eldorado	Seeking Eldorado Saratoga Steve J T Moore	Jacob's Dream Saratoga Steve J T Moore	Seeking Eldorado Routine Addendum Saratoga Steve
4	Silver Knockers Zito entry Are We Dreamin	Silver Knockers Zito entry Iron Butterfly	Drama Lady Debbie Got Even Silver Knockers	Zito entry Iron Butterfly Are We Dreamin
5	Nergal Classic Campaign Minister's Joy	Formal Decree Classic Campaign Steve's Double	Gimme Credit Formal Decree Steve's Double	Classic Campaign Steve's Double Formal Decree
6	Belle Jour Southern Oaks Remedy	So Probable Southern Oaks Rock Candy	Belle Jour Remedy Catnandu	So Probable Romans entry Distant Storm
7	Dose Of Reality Dressed To Win Flying Sappho	Dressed To Win Easy Ashley Dose Of Reality	Yes By West Dressed To Win My Anna Rose	Dressed To Win Easy Ashley Dose Of Reality
8	High Action Salford City Be Certain	High Action Be Certain Salford City	Salford City High Action Be Certain	Be Certain Sheppard entry Dark Equation
9	You Can Dream Sara Louise Justwhistledixie	Justwhistledixie You Can Dream Clear Cut	You Can Dream Justwhistledixie Mia's First	You Can Dream Justwhistledixie Sara Louise
10	Amanyara Fairytale Story Swamp Willow	Amanyara Swamp Willow Seeing Clearly	Seeing Clearly Paint Me Red Frozen Prospect	Seeing Clearly Fairytale Story Swamp Willow
To Date:	60/267	67/267	68/267	81/267

THURSDAY'S DETAILED ANALYSIS

BY BRIAN NADEAU

RACE 1: CAESAR BEWARE looks spotted to score for a hot barn poised to win the training title; he fits snugly at this level and should get a nice trip stalking STORM N LIGHTNING, who will take the field as far as he can on the engine. ROCKHURST ran well at this level earlier in the meet and could come calling late.

RACE 2: BEST FOR LAST showed speed versus special-weight foes and now goes in for a tag; those two angles are potent. Factor in that Tom Bush is 6-for-20 on the drop and that Edgar Prado sticks and we have the **best bet of the day**. MONA FROM DELTONA goes out for a solid debut barn and seems plenty fit. BELLEVUE BELLE took some money for her debut and should run better with that experience behind her.

RACE 3: JACOB'S DREAM goes out for a barn becoming legendary for its exploits in turf sprint and this colt looks very fast judging by his a.m. trials. When in doubt we'll side with Linda Rice. SARATOGA STEVE would be the main threat, provided he draws into the race, based on his July 30 run over the course and distance. J T MOORE showed speed in his debut, and that can never be discounted in these spots.

RACE 4: Nick Zito starts three of the six in the Halfmoon, but there's no value there, so we'll try DRAMA LADY, who was too bad to be true July 28. That was her first start in over six weeks so let's say she needed the race. DEBBIE GOT EVEN came home far in front the top choice last time and looms the logical chalk; coupled with Striking Tomisue. SILVER KNOCKERS finished ahead of her stablemate but may get softened by the pace.

RACE 5: GIMME CREDIT has quietly had a nice season and should find firm ground more amenable than the bog he overcame in the West Point. He'll be a price, too, never a bad thing to look for in a scramble like this. FORMAL DECREE ran too good to lose in his last and again looms a danger for expert connections. STEVE'S DOUBLE tried turf once before, and finished a huge third to a pair of stakes veterans who'd be 2-5 here. Look out.

RACE 6: BELLE JOUR was bet down to 6-5 in her debut (albeit in a five-horse field) and showed speed before tiring shortly thereafter. The blinkers

go on today; when Zito adds the headgear, head to the window. REMEDY had an eventful trip down inside in her debut and should be better for the experience. CATNANDU shows a limited number of works but enters for a solid debut barn; let the tote be your guide.

RACE 7: YES BY WEST is young, lightly raced and gets blinkers following a decent third on the main track Aug. 10. DRESSED TO WIN will go favored and it's a bit foolish to play against this barn sprinting on the grass, but we're on a mission for some value, so we'll use her underneath. MY ANNA ROSE did some decent work in a pair on the lawn earlier this summer and could surprise at a price.

RACE 8: SALFORD CITY ran a smasher in the A.P. Smithwick, considering he'd just arrived from Ireland and wasn't allowed much free rein on the lead by Guelph. Now he's had some time to acclimate, he'll have a chance to stretch his legs against a field that seems a bit soft on early lick. The call to turn the tables in a solid renewal of the Turf Writers. HIGH ACTION picks up eight pounds off a big run in the Smithwick but should find this longer distance more to his liking. He's clearly the main danger to the top one. Considering he hadn't even started over hurdles at this time last year BE CERTAIN'S path to this Grade I stakes has been nothing short of remarkable. Gets in light at 139 pounds, 14 less than he carried earlier in the meet; he has the talent to make this kind of class rise and should be respected.

RACE 9: YOU CAN DREAM sold for nearly 60 times her sire's stud fee; check her out in the paddock, she must look like Pegasus. JUSTWHISTLEDIXIE caught mud and spun her wheels a bit in her troubled debut, but Kiaran McLaughlin is known for his second-out success. MIA'S FIRST has shown some zip in the morning and could be dangerous if she's live on the tote.

RACE 10: SEEING CLEARLY just missed at this level last time and has paired up figures, often a sign improvement is forthcoming. PAINT ME RED invades from Monmouth Park and gets a live rider, so she should be respected. FROZEN PROSPECT will take them as far as she can on the lead and is dangerous if they let her slow things down up front.



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Alan Garcia	33	Kiaran McLaughlin	15	 <small>Tod Marks</small> Trainer Howie Teshar awaits his victorious Calling My Colors in the winner's circle Wednesday.	
John Velazquez	30	Todd Pletcher	13		
Ramon Dominguez	26	Richard Dutrow Jr.	11		
Edgar Prado	26	Steve Asmussen	9		
Cornelio Velasquez	23	Gary Contessa	9		
Eibar Coa	22	Bobby Frankel	9		
Julien Leparoux	18	Tony Dutrow	8		
Rajiv Maragh	15	Linda Rice	8		
Javier Castellano	14	Barclay Tagg	8		
Kent Desormeaux	13	Bruce Levine	7		
Robby Albarado	11	Wesley Ward	7		
Shaun Bridgmohan	11	George Weaver	7		
Channing Hill	10	Chad Brown	6		
Mike Luzzi	7	David Duggan	6		
Jose Espinoza	5	Michael Maker	6		
Richard Migliore	5	Shug McGaughey	5		
Sebastian Morales	5	Ken McPeck	5		
Jorge Chavez	4	Jonathan Sheppard	5		
Jeffrey Sanchez	4	Bob Baffert	4		
Elvis Trujillo	4	Saeed bin Suroor	4		
Garrett Gomez	3	Mike Hushion	4		
Rafael Bejarano	2	Wayne Lukas	4		
Danielle Hodsdon	2	Nick Zito	4		
Rudy Rodriguez	2	Enrique Arroyo	3	Angel Penna	3
Gabriel Saez	2	Charlton Baker	3	Pat Reynolds	3
Jean-Luc Samyn	2	Christophe Clement	3	Dale Romans	3
Jamie Theriot	2	Greg DiPrima	3	Rick Schosberg	3
Aldo Arboleda	1	David Donk	3	John Terranova II	3
Liam McVicar	1	Eoin Harty	3	Tom Voss	3
Alonso Quinonez	1	Stan Hough	3	John Ward	3
Pedro Rodriguez	1	Allen Jerkens	3	Billy Badgett	2
Robbie Walsh	1	Pat Kelly	3	Bobby Barbara	2
Padge Whelan	1	Eddie Kenneally	3	Bruce Brown	2
Paddy Young	1	Graham Motion	3	Tom Bush	2
		Bill Mott	3	Mark Casse	2
				John Fahey III	2
				Dominic Galluscio	2
				Leah Gyarmati	2
				Mark Hennig	2
				Mike Hernandez	2
				John Hertler	2
				Jimmy Jerkens	2
				Larry Jones	2
				Lisa Lewis	2
				Carlos Martin	2
				Michael Matz	2
				Mike Miceli	2
				John Morrison	2
				Bob Ribaudo	2
				Tim Ritvo	2
				Gary Sciacca	2
				Phil Serpe	2
				Dallas Stewart	2
				Mike Trombetta	2
				Rick Violette	2
				Tom Albertrani	1
				Frank Alexander	1
				Michael Aro	1
				Ed Barker	1
				Jonathan Buckley	1
				Bernardo Callejas	1
				Dave Carroll	1
				James Corrao	1
				Jimmy Day	1
				Wally Dollase	1
				Bob Dunham	1
				James Ferraro	1
				Doug Fout	1
				Elizabeth Gray	1
				Tim Hills	1
				Neil Howard	1
				David Jacobson	1
				John Kimmel	1
				Steve Klesaris	1
				Scott Lake	1
				Mike Lecesse	1
				Michael McDonald	1
				Jeff Odintz	1
				Paulino Ortiz	1
				Randi Persaud	1
				John Pregman Jr	1
				Peter Pugh	1
				Patrick Quick	1
				Jamie Sanders	1
				Alan Seewald	1
				Scott Schwartz	1
				Gary Sherlock	1
				Al Stall Jr	1
				Howie Teshar	1
				Rodrigo Ubillo	1
				Ronny Werner	1
				Ian Wilkes	1

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Spotlight on UK Racing

by Timeform & Racing UK

Thursday, August 28th, AYR Race 5 (11:10 am)
Class 4 Handicap (4yo & Up) 9f; Purse \$20,000

RACE ANALYSIS (In Program Number Order)

- 1 GOODBYE MR BOND** The only course and distance winner in the race. Still capable of producing his best form, most notably on runs at Haydock and York in June where he finished second and first respectively. Tends to give his best earlier in the season, nine of his ten victories coming before July, but commands a lot of respect on form. **Timeform Rating 104**
- 2 MY PARIS** Although he is probably no longer capable of producing the smart form which saw him placed in the 2005 Cambridgeshire Heritage Handicap (Class 2 - \$260,000 purse), he has been dropping down the weights this year and, with his enthusiasm for the game still apparent, he looks sure to take advantage at some point. **100**
- 3 MAJOR MAGPIE** Has been fairly consistent in 2008 following a curtailed campaign last year. Scored his first win of the season at Pontefract on his last run and, having been raised only 3 lb for that win, he is sure to put up a bold bid once more. Second on two of his three previous visits to Ayr. **101**
- 4 SOLIS** Won three times when trained in Germany, but finished last of eight on his British debut at Musselburgh. The market may be the best guide to his chances, but he is best watched. **?**
- 5 NEVADA DESERT** Capable of useful form last year, but he is yet to repeat that in this campaign. Produced a season's best over this trip at York in June, although overall he has won just once in eight starts over nine furlongs. Typically carries his head high. **100**
- 6 JAMIESON GOLD** Inconsistent and moody, he is yet to win for his new yard, having moved there at the end of last season. Has won from a 13 lb higher than his current mark in his time, but don't rely on him reproducing that level anytime soon. **97**
- 7 SUPERCAS** Won here in June over a furlong further than this, and his subsequent outing over this trip at Hamilton resulted in his best run since his juvenile days. The step up to beyond a mile seems to have benefited and he is not one to rule out. **99**
- 8 PERSIAN PERIL** A dual winner in 2008, both his successes coming in claimers at Haydock. He has made little impact in handicaps though. This is his first start over this trip, and his first start over less than ten furlongs for more than a year, and it is a surprise that connections have dropped him in distance rather than sent him over further. **98**

CONCLUSION

The top three on the card seem to be in the best form, and of them **GOODBYE MR BOND** makes the most appeal. His course and distance win came from his current handicap rating fifteen months ago, and although matching his season's best is probably required, his claims look rock-solid. **My Paris** is now off an eye-catching low weight and may well prove to be the biggest threat.

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Thursday, August 28th, AYR Race 6 (11:40 am)
Class 4 Handicap (3yo & Up) 7f; Purse \$20,000

RACE ANALYSIS (In Program Number Order)

- 1 MY GACHO** Joined Mark Johnston after his final run last year, and showed himself to be better than ever when winning at Leicester on his penultimate start. Somewhat unreliable and, as this is his first attempt at seven furlongs for well over two years, there's a question mark surrounding trip as well. **Timeform Rating 96**
- 2 THE OSTEOPATH** 7 lb higher than when he last won (at Leicester in April) but ran very well at Newcastle in June and would have every chance if he were to repeat that form. His best performances this year have tended to come over this trip on ground softer than good, so conditions seem to be ideal. **97**
- 3 COUNTDOWN** A return to blinkers seems to have revitalized him on his last three runs, with two performances very close to his best. Managed to win from this mark just over a year ago and there's no reason why he can't produce a similar level of form. **93**
- 4 INK SPOT** He hasn't always been the most straightforward, although he has shown his form tried in a visor for the first

time on his two most recent runs. It's perhaps too early to tell if they have settled him completely, but he's one to watch out for. **95**

- 5 ESOTERICA** A consistent sort who has made the frame in his last eight starts. Won here and at York in July and has been raised 7 lb as a result to a lifetime high of 77. He will probably find one or two better weighted. **97**
- 6 CHARLES PARNELL** Dismissed any stamina doubts on his latest run, when he was perhaps a shade unlucky not to have won. A 2 lb rise shouldn't pose too much of a problem and he looks sure to go close again for a yard enjoying a decent run. **98**
- 7 ALQAAHIR** Lightly-raced and hadn't been seen on the track for three full seasons prior to this year. Has shown useful form on his return in maidens at around ten furlongs, and he's not sure to be suited by this step back in trip. Unexposed, but with many question marks. **94**
- 8 AMICUS MEUS** Another who is lightly-raced. He won a maiden at Doncaster on his seasonal reappearance and then found excellent improvement on his next start. He wasn't discredited on his only outing since, shaping as if this return to seven furlongs will suit. **96**

- 9 ZABEEL TOWER** Much improved form this term, winning five times, all at around this distance. He's now 21 lb higher in the weights compared to the beginning of the year, but a win on his most recent run at Musselburgh suggests he may not have finished progressing yet. **98**

- 10 FLORES SEA** Third behind Zabeel Tower at Musselburgh. He has something to find on that form, but the addition of first-time blinkers is interesting (showed best form in ages when fitted with first-time sheepskin cheekpieces at Musselburgh last time out). **95**

- 11 NO GROUSE** An eight-year-old that is almost as good as ever. Thriving of late, with two wins (one over course and distance) and three placed efforts in his last five runs. Has a chance. **96**

CONCLUSION

A very open race, in which several appeal on form. **Esoterica**, **Countdown** and **No Grouse** all look sure to give their running, but the progressive **ZABEEL TOWER** looks still to have a little in hand. His last race was much better than anything he'd shown previously, and that suggests that there may be more to come. **Charles Parnell** will not be far away if he is able to reproduce the form that saw him finish second on his latest run.

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Looking Good

Longshot filly upsets
New York-bred vets

BY SEAN CLANCY

Alan Quartucci thought about handing out white sunglasses, in honor of his late friend Mollie Wilmot, the namesake of Wednesday's feature, a \$83,250 stakes for New York-bred fillies and mares.

He should have. They would have looked perfect in the winner's circle.

Quartucci's Cagey Girl skipped through slow fractions in the mile turf stakes and then turned the corner like a cat burglar, upsetting eight rivals in just her second stakes try. Trained by David Duggan and ridden by Mike Luzzi, Cagey Girl went off as the longest shot on the board at 22-1 and led a wild trifecta of Nedjma (12-1) and Love Cove (18-1) that paid \$5,662.

Blind in her left eye, Cagey Girl needs the lead and the rail. Luzzi made sure of both, sending the 4-year-old filly to the lead from the inside post. Love Cove adopted a tracking spot in second while favorites Rewrite and You Go West Girl hedged their bets, content



Tod Marks

Cagey Girl (Mike Luzzi) hangs on to her lead late to win Wednesday's Mollie Wilmot Stakes.

to lag off the pace.

Cagey Girl posted the first quarter mile in 24.75 seconds, Duggan liked that. Cagey Girl posted the half in 49.29 seconds. Duggan really liked that.

"When they went the half in 49, I was walking down to the winner's circle. I knew they wouldn't beat her," Duggan said. "Numbers-wise she couldn't beat these, but the structure of the track and no speed, that gave me five lengths."

Cagey Girl only used 3 3/4 of that five, as she glided to the 1 1/4-length score. Luzzi opened up a length

on her chasers early, then quickly stretched it to 2 1/2 lengths in the stretch. Cagey Girl streaked along the rail as her pursuers fanned out in haste. Cagey Girl kept a comfortable margin on Nedjma (Channing Hill) who had a neck on Love Cove (Kent Desormeaux). Cagey Girl finished in 1:36.01.

Not bad for a one-eyed filly who lost her first five starts by a combined 78 3/4-lengths. Luzzi doesn't worry about her vision.

"I know it because I worked her before she ever

See **WILMOT** page 18 ►



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Horatius	Smart Alec
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Knight of Ireland	Swear by Dixie
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Lord Concorde	Touch 'n' Fly (Ire)
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Marine Brass	Valley Crossing
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Wilmot —

■ Continued from page 16

ran,” Luzzi said. “You used to be able to tell because she would get real upset, this is long ago. I don’t think it bothers her now. She gets a little worked up, just to get her calmed down in the post parade is key, and she did. She tugs a little, if you sneak a little, she handles the turns great. I’m sure it looks like it but it really feels like it, and she’s got more when she turns for home.”

Luzzi won his seventh race of the meet, doing what he does best.

“Some people call it my specialty, I don’t know if it is or not, what I like to do is establish the lead as easily as you can, then slow it down within reason without throwing their head in the air,” Luzzi said. “Especially on the inner turf course, you’ve got to let them out going into the turn, when they hit their left lead, you let them out and then hopefully again at the three-sixteenth pole. When it works, it really works.”

In her five career victories, Cagey Girl has led at every call. She broke her maiden by 27 3/4-lengths for a \$15,000 tag at Aqueduct on the dirt, then lost three in a row before winning a starter allowance, then lost four in a row before winning her entry-level allowance condition, then lost five in a row before Saratoga 2008. She’s earned more than \$100,000 this year.

Quartucci raced her dam, A Girls Gotta Eat, and then bred her to Crowd Pleaser. The mare kicked the foal, costing her the vision in her left eye, then Quar-



Tod Marks

Jockey Mike Luzzi and trainer Dave Duggan celebrate their stakes score.

“I brought eight horses to run, they all had conditions, but basically you look at it and say, ‘If they get lucky and they’re doing good, you have a chance.’ ”

Dave Duggan

tucci tried to sell the filly but couldn’t and eventually sent her to trainer Lisa Lewis’ father, Jim, to break. Federico

Tesio, perhaps not, but a breeder of a Saratoga stakeswinner nonetheless.

“Lisa’s dad said she was the most dif-

ficult horse he’s ever broken. Lisa had her at Saratoga, she looked OK, she had a shin, went back to Lisa’s dad, then I sent her Dave because he was in New York all winter,” Quartucci said. “The half brother by Tomorrows Cat I sold for \$12,000 at OBS. I gave the 3-year-old by Slew Gin Fizz away, he couldn’t run at all. I sold the mare for \$600, in foal to a \$3,500 stallion fee, just to stop the bleeding.”

Cagey Girl contributed her second win to Duggan’s impressive Saratoga docket. The young trainer brought eight horses to Saratoga (his wife, Lara, has the other 12 at Belmont Park) and has six wins to put himself in a tie with Chad Brown and Mike Maker for 13th on the leaderboard.

“I changed the way I trained her based on a numbers guy,” Duggan said. “He called me and said my late-pace numbers were horrible, so I trained her differently. I two-minute-licked her and let her run home fast. She came home the last quarter in 23 and change. She’s a fairly good mare when she’s right.”

Duggan and Quartucci were hoping for an extension to the Saratoga meet, at least for Cagey Girl, who improved her career record at the Spa to two wins, a second and two thirds in five starts.

“I was friends with Mollie Wilmot, when the ship got stuck in her house in Palm Beach years ago, I was over there,” said Quartucci, about the Venezuelan freighter that washed into Wilmot’s estate. “When I saw this race in the book, right after we won, I said, ‘Let’s put her back in.’ ”

Wilmot and the white sunglasses were all that was missing.

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Dave Harmon

Spy In The Sky (5, Liam McVicar) outfoots Swagger Stick (Willie Dowling) on the way to victory in Wednesday's Happy Intellectual stakes.

Rapid Recovery

McVicar heals in time to score first Spa win

BY BRIAN NADEAU & JOHN PANAGOT

Liam McVicar always dreamed of winning a race at Saratoga. After breaking two ribs and separating his shoulder in a spill this May, he figured that dream would have to wait for 2009. But with the help of some able doctors and a speedy 4-year-old, McVicar made his dream a reality Wednesday, guiding Randleston Farm's Spy In The Sky to a determined victory in the \$70,000 Happy Intellectual hurdle stakes.

"I got injured in May so just to be back riding races is great. Winning my first race at Saratoga in August? That's just unbelievable," McVicar said. "I didn't even get my sutures out until June."

McVicar rode at the Open House here July 20 and rode Spy In The Sky to a solid fourth in the Grade II A.P. Smithwick Aug. 7 behind High Action, Dark Equation and Salford City – all entered in today's Grade I New York Turf Writers Cup.

Spy In The Sky enjoyed their absence in yesterday's 2 3/8-mile stakes and McVicar enjoyed the ride. The son of Travers winner Thunder Gulch settled in seventh, content to lag near the back of the eight-horse field as Swagger Stick (Willie Dowling) set a controlled and uncontested pace. Langburg, Sermon Of Love and Meneef followed his lead while Orpington, Prep School and Looks Good Junic kept the winner company in back.



Dave Harmon

Liam McVicar and Jimmy Day pose for the cameras in the Saratoga winner's circle.

Swagger Stick continued on the lead while McVicar slowly began to move his mount up on the outside. After 2 miles Spy In The Sky advanced to fourth and began a sustained run at the leader; McVicar angled his mount wide well into the far turn while Swagger Stick cut the corner with Langburg in close pursuit.

Spy In The Sky took over second from a tiring Langburg, then soared the last fence, collared the leader in

WEDNESDAY RACING RECAP

deep stretch and fought to a head victory over Swagger Stick, while Sermon Of Love (Danielle Hodsdon) closed for third.

"They were going too slow out there so I had to go wide on the backside. I knew the horse to beat was Willie up front, so I had to go outside around the bend. But once he got there, he's still green as grass, so he was just looking around, taking things in," McVicar said. "He didn't really know he was supposed to run but when he did he finished up good. He pinged the last for me and that was huge. He's still got a lot of improvement in him. He's a funny horse – the more he jumps the better he gets."

Jimmy Day trains Spy In The Sky, who broke his maiden in his fourth start over hurdles at Middleburg April 19. Since then he's been on the fast track. He tackled open company, and multiple Grade I stakes winner Mixed Up, this May in the Grade III Marcellus Frost (his first start versus winners). Spy In The Sky hinted at his talent, finishing second, beaten three-quarters of a length, to Dr. Bloomer. A prep run on the flat, where he was beaten a head in an entry-level allowance at Colonial Downs, sent Spy In The Sky to the Smithwick, where he finished fourth, 10 1/4 lengths behind High Action.

See **WEDNESDAY RECAP** page 20 ►

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LONGFIELD FARM

Wednesday Recap —

■ Continued from page 19

Day resisted the lure of the Turf Writers and aimed for the Happy Intellectual. Though Spy In The Sky tipped wide turning for home, his trainer explained it was all part of the plan.

"This was the first time I stretched him out so I wanted to park him in the back and make one run. I told Liam to bring him wide because he did it on the flat and it worked like a charm. When he gets in and around horses he just doesn't like it. He likes to be out there on his own and do his own thing," Day said.

"Last time he ran here he ran a huge race against the Turf Writers horses; I was really happy with that effort. He's a useful horse. The horse that beat him on the flat at Colonial came back to run fifth in the Virginia Derby. He's only a 4-year-old old so I'm going to take my time with him . . . He's just coming into his own."

• Tom Bush knew the expectations were high when Albert Weis and John Confort paid \$265,000 for a New York-bred filly last year at the Saratoga Preferred Yearling Sale. Her name — Our Golden Dream — said it all. The daughter of Medaglia d'Oro showed what all the fuss was about when she drew off to a 4 1/4-length win in the seventh, a state-bred turf affair.

"She's got a pretty serious New York-bred pedigree; the family is very strong. And that's why we were able to



Dave Harmon

Majestic Blue drives past Daimon's Glory late to take Wednesday's fifth under Alan Garcia.

pay the kind of money we paid for her. That's a lot of money for a New York-bred, but she can run," Bush said. "I wouldn't rule out a try on the dirt, but there's so much turf in her pedigree and she's just a big, leggy thing so she's probably made for the turf. We'll just

go along with her and see how she develops."

Our Golden Dream (Kent Desormeaux) broke in mid-pack and was content to sit off a slow first quarter mile of 25.85 seconds. Sensing the splits Desormeaux moved Our Golden Dream

to the front through a half in 51.13 and she drew off at will, and in hand over Judge Margaret (Ramon Dominguez) and Zipolina (Alan Garcia).

Out of the Rahy mare Adorahy, Our Golden Dream is a half-sister to stakes See **WEDNESDAY RECAP** page 21 ►

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Jean-Luc Samyn rolls home on the green aboard Yield Bogy in the ninth.

Tod Marks

Wednesday Recap — ■ Continued from page 20

winner Icabad Crane. Though she proved precocious Wednesday, Bush didn't see the signs right away.

"She was very awkward after we bought her as a yearling and I was worried to death about her in the fall. Then I saw her again in January and she was OK; she started refining and getting better," Bush said. "Then by the time she got to me in May you could see she had an athleticism about her and I knew we were OK."

- Put one on the board for Howie Teshler. The veteran trainer picked up his first score of the meet when Calling My Colors (Garcia) earned her first career victory in Wednesday's third. The trainer paid homage to Saratoga's leading rider.

"He rides her good. It's great to ride a good rider; he's a really hot rider. You get lucky when you have a good rider," Teshler said. "I've only had eight starts but it's nice to get one when you work hard."

The daughter of Carry My Colors had no problem grabbing the lead, then raced uncontested for the lead and opened up to win by 4 1/2-lengths. Ofcr. Sheila T Rex (Cornelio Velasquez) was sent off as the favorite and raced second the entire 6 furlongs, while Overuled (Channing Hill) got up for third.

- Majestic Blue (Garcia) out-dueled Daimon's Glory (Velasquez) to win the fifth, a \$62,000 5 1/2-furlong sprint for 2-year-olds, by three-quarters of a length. A \$675,000 purchase by Darley in February, Majestic Blue raced greenly and still managed to win his debut for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin.

The Darley-McLaughlin-Garcia trio has been just about unbeatable this summer, especially with their babies.

"We liked our 2-year-olds coming in," McLaughlin said. "Our Darley 2-year-olds are very nice. We've won three out of four, and the one that lost, Florentino, is very nice he just didn't break. But coming out of works on the Greentree (training track), they've been nice. Charitable Man was very impressive, we have had some nice 2-year-olds, and that's what the game is all about."

Majestic Blue stalked the pace set by

Daimon's Glory into the upper stretch, where Garcia skillfully managed the inexperienced son of Forestry en route to his debut victory.

McLaughlin and Garcia were at it again one race later when Stream Of Gold came from out of the clouds to score a 2-length victory. The 7-year-old gelded son of Rainbow Quest faced all sorts of problems throughout the 1 1/16 turf route, but Garcia maneuvered the winner to the outside at the three-sixteenth pole to win going away. Moonshine Hall (Shaun Bridgmohan) finished second and Storming Off (Velasquez) completed the triple.

- Jean-Luc Samyn displayed the best ride of the day aboard Yield Bogy in the ninth, a \$62,000 5 1/2-furlong sprint on the Mellon turf.

Samyn and Yield Bogy were blocked in behind a wall of horses in the upper stretch but the veteran jockey found a small seam between He Struck It Rich (Eibar Coa) and Excess Capital (Javier Castellano). Samyn poked his mount's head through the paper-thin hole and went on to win with something left for trainer Pat Kelly.

"They didn't look like they wanted to let me through, but I was on a horse where I could do what I wanted to do," Samyn said. "The hole was kind of tight but I had plenty of horse under me. When we got to the eighth-pole he got the lead. He seemed to have run the way he wants to – sit against him a little bit – and he got going in the stretch. He gave a good account of himself. I'm sure it would have been easier with a little bit more room, but the way he did it, he showed his ability and his guts."

The 4-year-old son of Langfuhr went on to win by 1 1/4 lengths, finishing ahead of He Struck It Rich and Excess Capital.



Tod Marks photo

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WEDNESDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

1ST. THE HAPPY INTELLECTUAL. 2 3/8 MILES. HURDLE. 4&UP. PURSE \$70,000.

5	Spy in the Sky	McVicar L	14.40	5.80	3.20
2	Swagger Stick	Dowling W		3.20	2.10
1	Sermon of Love	Hodsdon D			2.50

Finish Time: 4:42.60
Trainer: Jimmy Day. Owner: Randleston Farm.
Ch. g. 4 Thunder Gulch-Monaassabaat, Zilzal.
Bred by Gainsborough Farm (KY).
\$2 Exacta 5-2 Paid \$39.00; \$2 Trifecta 5-2-1 Paid \$77.00

2ND. 6 FURLONGS. 2YO. MDN CLM 100,000. PURSE \$41,000.

5	Thats a Good Thing	Bridgmohan S X	4.40	3.00	2.40
3	Frosty Diamond	Chavez J F		4.70	2.90
2	Retriever	Coa E M			3.50

Finish Time: 1:11.50
Trainer: Steve Asmussen. Owner: Curtis Green.
B. c. 2 Lion Heart-Competent Sort, Cahill Road.
Bred by Curtis Green (KY).
\$2 Exacta 5-3 Paid \$18.40; \$2 Quinella 3-5 Paid \$11.60; \$2 Trifecta 5-3-2 Paid \$55.50; \$2 Daily Double (5-5) Paid \$32.20

3RD. 6 FURLONGS. F&M. 3&UP. NY BRED. MDN CLM 35,000. PURSE \$25,000.

1	Calling My Colors	Garcia Alan	7.20	3.40	2.80
7	Ofcr. Sheila T Rex	Velasquez C		3.20	2.70
8	Overuled	Hill C			5.10

Finish Time: 1:12.47
Trainer: Howie Tesher. Owner: Sherrill Langsam.
B. f. 3 Carry My Colors-Charm Appeal, Scarlet Ibis.
Bred by Kandor Breeding (NY).
\$2 Exacta 1-7 Paid \$18.80; \$2 Trifecta 1-7-8 Paid \$174.00; \$2 Pick 3 (5-5-1) 3 Correct Paid \$111.50; \$2 Daily Double (5-1) Paid \$15.40; \$2 Superfecta 1-7-8-5 Paid \$620.00

4TH. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. CLM 20,000. PURSE \$35,000.

1	Indian Hawke	Dominguez R A	12.60	6.40	4.70
10	Blackfoot Trail	Leparoux J R		10.20	5.90
9	Golden Man	Maragh R			3.70

Finish Time: 1:10.75
Trainer: David Jacobson. Owner: Michael Ricatto Jr.
Gr./Ro. g. 5 Indian Charlie-Georgialina, Affirmed.
Bred by Joseph and Teresa Mangine (NY).
\$2 Exacta 1-10 Paid \$173.50; \$2 Quinella 1-10 Paid \$90.00; \$2 Trifecta 1-10-9 Paid \$870.00; \$2 Pick 3 (5-1-1) 3 Correct Paid \$57.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-1) Paid \$41.00; \$2 Superfecta 1-10-9-2 Paid \$4,501.00

5TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. 2YO. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

5	Majestic Blue	Garcia Alan	8.40	5.30	2.40
2	Daimon's Glory	Velasquez C		5.00	3.30
3	Mayor Marv	Prado E S			2.60

Finish Time: 1:04.24
Trainer: Kieran McLaughlin. Owner: Darley Stable.
Dk.B./Br. c. 2 Forestry-Cariada, Seeking the Gold.
Bred by Gulf Coast Farm (KY).
\$2 Exacta 5-2 Paid \$35.20; \$2 Trifecta 5-2-3 Paid \$79.50; \$2 Pick 3 (1-1-5) 3 Correct Paid \$147.00; \$2 Pick 4 (5-1-1-5) 4 Correct Paid \$285.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-5) Paid \$61.00

6TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. CLM 60,000. PURSE \$52,000.

1	Stream of Gold (IRE)	Garcia Alan	3.60	2.40	2.20
7	Moonshine Hall	Bridgmohan S X		4.20	3.90
9	Storming Off	Velasquez C			5.80

Finish Time: 1:42.54
Trainer: Kieran McLaughlin. Owner: Zabeel Racing International.
B. g. 7 Rainbow Quest-River Dancer (IRE), Irish River (FR).
Bred by Ballymacoll Stud Farm (IRE).
\$2 Exacta 1-7 Paid \$12.80; \$2 Trifecta 1-7-9 Paid \$88.00; \$2 Pick 3 (1-5-1) 3 Correct Paid \$85.50; \$2 Daily Double (5-1) Paid \$15.60

7TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. FILLIES. 2YO. NY BRED. MSW. PURSE \$57,000.

9	Our Golden Dream	Desormeaux K J	5.70	3.60	2.50
10	Judge Margaret	Dominguez R A		7.00	5.00
4	Zipolina	Garcia Alan			3.50

Finish Time: 1:45.83
Trainer: Tom Bush. Owner: John Confort and Albert Weiss.
B. f. 2 Medaglia d'Oro-Adorahy, Rahy.
Bred by Gallagher's Stud (NY).
\$2 Exacta 9-10 Paid \$67.50; \$2 Trifecta 9-10-4 Paid \$262.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-9) Paid \$15.00; \$2 Pick 3 (5-1-9) 3 Correct Paid \$42.00; \$2 Superfecta 9-10-4-8 Paid \$935.00

8TH. THE MOLLIE WILMOT. 1 MILE. TURF. F&M. 3&UP. NY BRED. PURSE \$83,250.

1	Cagey Girl	Luzzi M J	47.00	23.20	12.20
4	Nedjma	Hill C		12.20	8.20
8	Love Cove	Desormeaux K J			7.10

Finish Time: 1:36.01
Trainer: David Duggan. Owner: North Shore Racing.
B. f. 4 Crowd Pleaser-A Girls Gotta Eat, Ordway.
Bred by Alan Quartucci (NY).
\$2 Exacta 1-4 Paid \$578.00; \$2 Trifecta 1-4-8 Paid \$5,662.00; \$2 Pick 3 (1-9-1) 3 Correct Paid \$659.00; \$2 Daily Double (9-1) Paid \$283.00; \$2 Superfecta 1-4-8-5 Paid \$16,442.00

9TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 3&UP. MSW. PURSE \$62,000.

5	Yield Bogey	Samyn J L	16.60	5.90	4.30
6	He Struck It Rich	Coa E M		3.70	3.00
4	Excess Capital	Castellano J J			2.60

Finish Time: 1:03.60
Trainer: Pat Kelly. Owner: Fox Ridge Farm.
B. g. 4 Langfuhr-Upper Noosh, Red Ransom.
Bred by Fox Ridge Farm (KY).
\$2 Exacta 5-6 Paid \$61.00; \$2 Trifecta 5-6-4 Paid \$170.50; \$2 Grand Slam (1,7,9-4,9,10-1,4,8-5) Paid \$655.00; \$2 Pick 3 (9-1-5) 3 Correct Paid \$6,471.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-5) Paid \$605.00; \$2 Superfecta 5-6-4-2 Paid \$1,044.00

10TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. NY BRED. ALW. PURSE \$62,000.

7	Unflagging	Hill C	17.20	6.90	6.50
2	Piazza Di Spagna	Dominguez R A		4.60	3.60
8	Ode to Revolution	Velazquez J R			8.20

Finish Time: 1:42.27
Trainer: George Weaver. Owner: C'est Tout Stable.
Gr./Ro. g. 4 Wheelaway-Wave Off, Personal Flag.
Bred by William Hettinger (NY).
\$2 Exacta 7-2 Paid \$75.00; \$2 Trifecta 7-2-8 Paid \$519.00; \$2 Superfecta 7-2-8-4 Paid \$3,277.00; \$2 Daily Double (5-7) Paid \$171.00; \$2 Pick 3 (1-5-7) 3 Correct Paid \$5,766.00; \$2 Pick 4 (9-1-5-7) 4 Correct Paid \$32,303.00; \$2 Pick 6 (5-1-9-1-5-7) 6 Correct Paid \$58,020.00, 5 Correct Paid \$467.00

TRACK: FAST; TURF: FIRM
ATTENDANCE: 14,434; HANDLE: \$2,452,469

WEDNESDAY'S CLAIM BOX

4th: Indian Hawke by Charlton Baker,
Sonny Pajamas by Dominic Galluscio for Sanford Robbins,
Storm Boot Gold by Enrique Arroyo for Roberto Urrutia.

6th: Stream Of Gold (IRE) by Mike Maker for Ken and Sarah Ramsey.




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1 Spy In The Sky



2 Thats A Good Thing



3 Calling My Colors



4 Indian Hawke



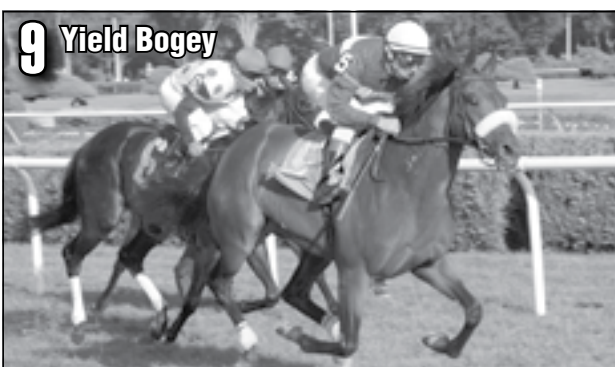
5 Majestic Blue



6 Stream Of Gold



7 Our Golden Dream



9 Yield Bogey



10 Unflagging



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Ramsey reaches for owners' crown

BY JOE CLANCY

"That may be good and it may be bad, but that's Ken Ramsey."

And that's Ken Ramsey talking about himself.

One of racing's busiest and most successful owners, Ramsey manages horses and trainers as if he's on Wall Street, not Union Avenue or Harrodsburg Road. At Saratoga, Ramsey and his wife, Sarah, have won nine races and lead Darley Stable by three.

If the standings hold, the Ramseys will add Saratoga to their list of race-track owners' championships that already includes Churchill Downs (13 times), Keeneland, Gulfstream Park, Ellis Park and Turfway Park.

The wins and losses of owners don't get the play of those of trainers and jockeys, but they matter to guys like Ramsey. Just like trainers or jockeys, owners walk a little taller when they

win the meet. Success vindicates the effort and the expense.

The Saratoga run came to be after Ramsey decided to have a go at the Churchill crown this spring. He ran horses, claimed horses and moved horses around to edge Maggi Moss for the title – then had so many extra horses he decided to head for Saratoga.

"We never had enough bullets in the holster to get it done in Saratoga," he said Wednesday from his Kentucky home. "It's tough up there, but we were going well at Churchill, we had the horses and we decided to give it a try. It was pre-planned and hopefully we can keep it going through the last week."

Ramsey has claimed 17 horses this meet and may have lost a similar number from the various trainers he employs – Charlton Baker, Chad Brown, Mike Maker and Wesley Ward at Saratoga. Ramsey holds his trainers to a 20-

See **RAMSEY** page 26 ►



Owner Ken Ramsey and past Saratoga winner Roses In May.

Tod Marks

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Ramsey —

■ Continued from page 24

percent rule, meaning they must win 20 percent of their races or they won't be his trainers. But Ramsey doesn't simply demand, he helps get it done.

"I'm the type of guy who runs a \$50,000 claimer for \$35,000, the 35 claimer for 25, the 25 claimer for 15 and the 15 claimer for the bottom," he said. "I place my horses where they are competitive and I expect my trainers to do well."

Of course, that comes with high expectations and extra work. Ramsey studies condition books and helps choose jockeys. He factors in dosage numbers, speed figures, racing surfaces. He calls — often. He asks questions, lots of questions.

"He wants to win the meet, that's his whole plan for the year," said Baker. "He claimed horses at Churchill to try and win the meet and he told me to look for horses to run here; his goal was to win this meet."

And Ramsey can set some goals.

In the same conversation, he might mention his horses competing in the Sanford, the Hopeful, the Melbourne Cup, the Irish Derby, the Travers, the Kentucky Derby, the Blue Grass, the Preakness, the Belmont Stakes, the Cheltenham Gold Cup.



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"I've got it all planned out, I just need the horse to co-operate," he said with a big laugh at the end. "I'm actively engaged in the whole process. I love to win. I'm very competitive and I've got a big ego. I enjoy leading those horses into the winner's circle — any of them, big races, small races, it doesn't matter."

Ramsey's racing operation includes horses with various trainers, 1,200-acre Ramsey Farm in Nicholasville, Ky., 190 broodmares, stallions Kitten's Joy and Catienus, even steeplechasers with Tom Voss.

He believes a good horse can come from anywhere and tries to prove it. He buys, he sells, he claims, he breeds, he plans, he gambles.

Ramsey's Saratoga has included success of all types. Homebred Talking Treasure (a daughter of Catienus) won two New York-bred stakes for Baker, Maker saddled six winners and Brown came through with a victory in Monday's finale.

"He and his wife deserve to get the leading owner," said Brown after the win. "He's put a lot of money in the game, he's passionate about it. He came here wanting to do it, a guy from Kentucky. He doesn't have million-dollar horses, but the guy's going to do it."

Ken Ramsey hasn't been able to enjoy the success in person as much as he would like as he has stayed home in Kentucky to help care for his wife. Sarah suffered a stroke in 2007 and does not travel to the races, though she was on hand at Churchill's spring meet finale to celebrate the owners' championship.

And they don't miss much.

"We have Saratoga on every day and it's a big uplift for her," he said. "She can't raise her right arm, but her left hand is up in the air waving the horses in. We can't be there, but we're living through it and having fun."

Ramsey will be in Saratoga this weekend to see Notonthesamepage run in the Grade I Three Chimneys Hopeful Stakes. The 2-year-old set a track record at Churchill Downs this spring for trainer Wesley Ward, but missed the Sanford with a fever. The son of Catienus aims to bounce back in the closing day feature — a perfect cap to an owners' championship.

"That would really be something, to close it out with a Grade I win," Ramsey said. "We're going to see if we can get it done that way. And now that I've claimed all these horses, we'll just roll it on to Keeneland Fall."

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\$70,000 Ninepins hurdle stakes.

Thursday, July 31

\$70,000 Jonathan Kiser Memorial Novice Stakes.

Thursday, August 7

\$80,000 added A.P. Smithwick Memorial Stakes (Gr. II).

Thursday, August 14

\$70,000 George Sloan hurdle stakes.

Thursday, August 21

\$70,000 Mickey Walsh Memorial Novice Stakes.

Wednesday, August 27

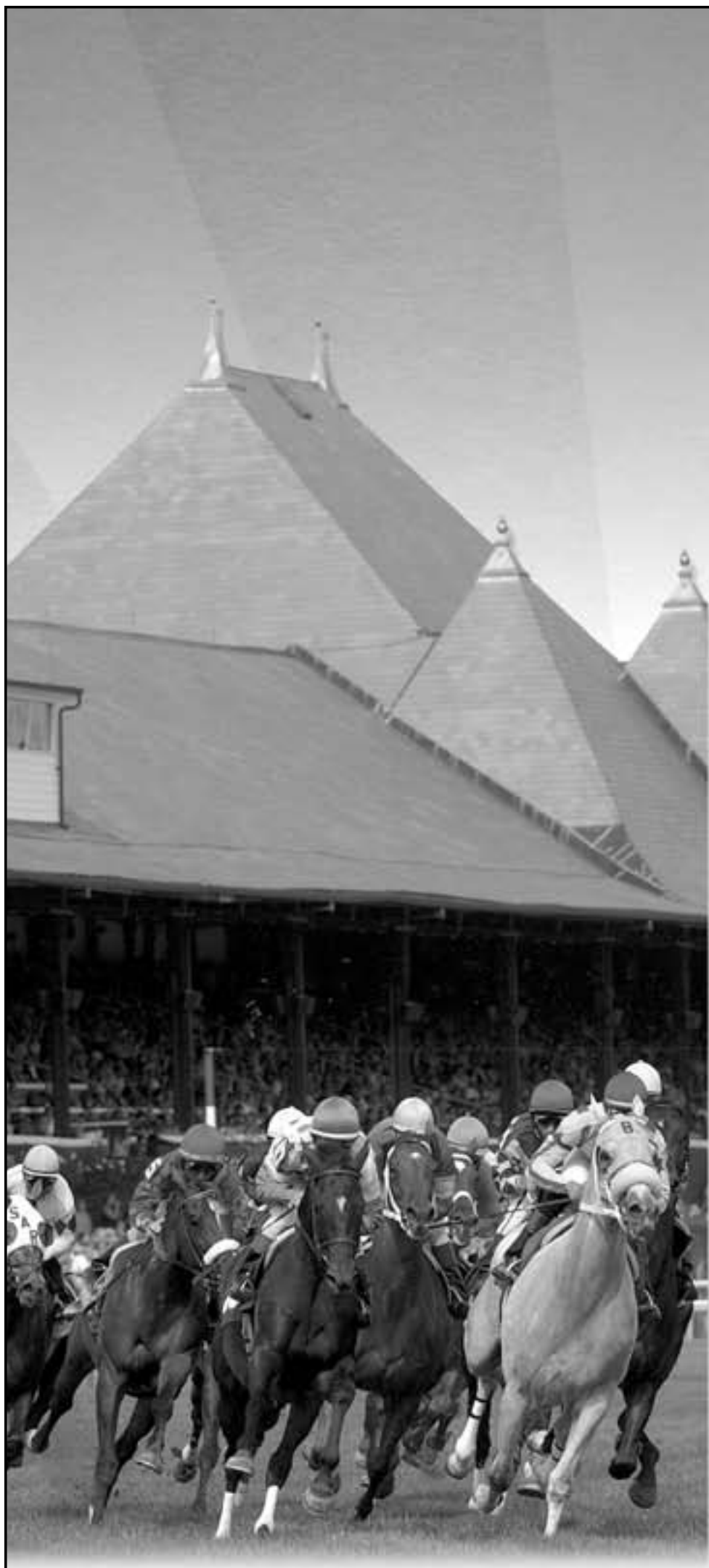
\$70,000 Allowance/optional claiming hurdle.

Thursday, August 28

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

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Photo by Tod Marks



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Keep rolling, keep 'em rolling please.

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Stay over, Sandy. Stay over, hon. OK, let's go, roll 'em.

Come on, hurry up. Stay over, Ward.

What's your daughter doing, Gail? Wait 'til I call you.

Comin' across? Come on, come on. Yup, go ahead.

All righty, how we doin'?

Come on if you're coming'.

Comin' back today?

No sir, I'm finished.

Then have a great day.

You too, boss.

And on and on it goes.

An institution every bit as much as the 17-minute bell or the Travers Canoe, Hutzky keeps the peace at the gap on the turn as horses cross the dirt to train on the turf. Open three mornings a week (conditions permitting) from 9:45 to 10:30,

the turf gets busy, usually upward of 80 horses.

Hutzky, a former Schuylerville schoolteacher for 30 years, has been on the gap longer than anyone can estimate.

"Long time, a long time, too long," he said the other day. Not that he doesn't appreciate his job. "I like the people, everything about it, I don't know really. It's stressful getting the horses on and off there. It's not easy sometimes, but I like it."

Combining a booming voice with a

sharp knowledge of the situation, Hutzky makes the perfect gatekeeper. He maintains order, helps riders stay safe and understands the job. Horses come at Hutzky from four directions – galloping on the turn of the dirt track, jogging the wrong way on the dirt track, walking through the gap across the dirt to the turf and coming off the turf toward the dirt. There are racehorses, lead ponies, the occasional pedestrian, even a dog or two some days.

"He's got to have a fairly commanding presence and know the personalities or what to say to them to get their attention and obviously, you can tell he does," said Bruce Johnstone, NYRA's manager of racing operations. "There's nobody I would rather have in that spot than him. He's the man for the job – maybe somebody else could make the same calls, but they don't carry the same gravitas – is that word I'm looking for? – that he does."

Gravitas is defined as "seriousness or sobriety, as of conduct or speech," and Hutzky has plenty.

He's also got a sense of history and duty to his job. He started working at Saratoga Race Course when he was 14 and recalls playing soft-



Connie Bush

Paul Hutzky mans his post at the entrance to the Oklahoma turf course.

THE OUTSIDE RAIL



By
Joe Clancy

ball with jockey Eric Guerin (of Native Dancer fame) and other legends. Hutzky rattled off horses such as Nashua, Candy Spots, Needles, Secretariat and other greats on his list of Saratoga racing memories. Today it's Dancing Forever and Shakis, yesterday it was Lure and Fourstardave, before that it was Tentam and Hawaii.

"My first job was picking the weeds and cleaning up the horse manure around the trees in the old paddock – remember when they used to have the trees numbered out there?" he said. "I worked on the dirt track, drove a water truck and a tractor. I worked for the blacksmith one year – we had to put up all these metal railings because the insurance company wouldn't let us open the track without railings for the people."

So how much has changed since he started?

"It all changes, it all changes," he said, "but it's still Saratoga."

And then he went back to the gap, where everything stays the same.

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Riding along with the riders

Edgar Prado leaned on the wooden rail outside Bobby Frankel's barn Tuesday morning and asked the simple question.

"Who are you rooting for in the jockey race?" Prado asked.

First you have to look at the standings. Table's cleared and set. Six cards left and it's tied. John Velazquez and Alan Garcia stand at the top with 30 wins. Prado lies in wait, third with 26 victories. Comeback kid Ramon Dominguez has clawed his way to fourth with 25 wins. Defending champion Cornelio Velasquez owns a quiet 23 wins while Eibar Coa stands as the last man within a glimmer, eight wins behind the leaders.

That was Tuesday.

By Wednesday evening, Garcia had dispatched Velazquez at the top. The 22-year-old Peruvian won three races Wednesday; riding the rising tide of leading trainer Kiaran McLaughlin who dropped in Grade II stakes winner Stream Of Gold for a \$60,000 claiming price and unleashed another rapid first-time starter in Majestic Blue. Garcia picked up his third victory of the day for Howie Teshler. Dominguez picked up one while the others were blanked.

But don't count anybody out. Not just yet.

Velazquez has experience on his side. He's won it before. Three times to be exact.

Garcia counts inexperience on his side. He's never been here before and sometimes that works in your favor.

Prado has three Saratoga titles and rides without a worry.

Dominguez, Velasquez and Coa have put together stellar meets but need miracles to contend with Garcia, Velazquez or Prado.

Right now, they're all chasing Garcia.

Steered by agent Tony Micallef, Garcia has arrived. He's humble, he's happy, he rides hard and he's here to stay.

"I'm so happy, so content," Garcia said earlier in the meet. "My agent is doing a good job, we're working hard to stay here at Saratoga with the leading jockeys. These are the best jockeys in the world. You can keep going down the list, Hall of Famer Prado, Kent Desormeaux win the Kentucky Derby, Javier Castellano win a lot of good races, Ramon, Johnny Velazquez win a couple of Eclipse Awards, Albarado win the Dubai Cup and rides the best horse in the world. I'm a young guy, to be in with these guys, I'm so happy and so proud. My agent does an excellent job securing the mounts and I do the second part, trying to ride winners."

Garcia won 21 races at Saratoga last summer, and that was a huge meet. This year he's eclipsed that mark and pasted a 5-win stamp on Travers Day. Yes, Travers Day. He won the King's Bishop with a cool ride on Visionaire. And he won his second straight Bernard Baruch with Shakis.

"Everybody has goal to be leading jockey in Saratoga. It's my goal too, but

■ CUP OF COFFEE

**By
Sean Clancy**



first I want to be happy, keep the trainers happy. There's no pressure, when I make a mistake I forget about it. I try to ride good horses and keep smiling," Garcia said. "The only goal I have is to make the trainers happy and make myself happy. I don't want to be making my head big thinking about winning a title. The more I do that, the more I get nervous and make mistakes. I'm not trying to be leading rider, I'm just trying to make the trainers happy and win races."

For now, Garcia doesn't need advice, doesn't need to be reminded of all the phenoms who had the racing world by the scruff, only to fall into oblivion. But if he needs advice, Dominguez and Velazquez would be good places to start. Dominguez went 1-for-38 to start the meet. Velazquez hit the ground six times in the first 10 days of last year's Saratoga meet. They're both back near the top of the standings, with perspective riding shotgun.

"I find the time when my riding's going the best and things are clicking in place, I open the program up and see it so clear, 'This is the way it's going to be.' A lot of times that's the way it happens," Dominguez said. "Other times, when you really want to make sure this doesn't happen or this guy doesn't keep you in here, you start riding defensively and things tend to go the opposite. I'm not saying you should go out there with no plan, but at the same time you have to let things fall into place and not go by what you think should happen versus what is really happening. If that makes any sense."

Certainly for Velazquez.

"It's a tough business. It's an emotional rollercoaster, you've got to roll with it. It's hard, you're always competing. If someone says they don't care, they're lying to you let me tell you. It's not that easy," Velazquez said. "You're under a microscope all the time, everybody's watching you. Sometimes I can brush it off, but I'm hard on myself. I like to learn every year, I like to be competitive up here every year. Because I care. This is what I chose to do, this is what I thrive to be. To ride good horses, to be at a competitive level that you're proud of, because you've got to be proud of yourself, when you have the highs you've got to enjoy them. When you have the lows, you've got to swallow them and keep going. They're hard to swallow."

As for Prado, he was reminded that he was only four back, at least on Tuesday.

"I need to get going," Prado said.

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ARTISTS DISPLAYED

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



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