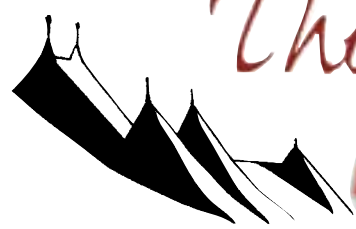


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The

SARATOGA



Special



Year 9 • No. 28

SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

Project Runaway

Icon Project rolls to Personal Ensign win

Inside

- ◆ Ahvee's Destiny eyes second '09 stakes win
- ◆ Rachel Alexandra preps for Woodward
- ◆ Today's entries and handicapping
- ◆ Jockey, Trainer and Owner standings



Tod Marks Photo

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achieved. That striving, that ambition is
an essential part of our newspapers, a
cornerstone of what we have been,
what we are, and what we will be."

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

Here & There at Saratoga

Worth Repeating

"It took us this long to get out of Giants Stadium."
Travers Day fan, while sitting in traffic

"That's not right."
Trainer Steve Asmussen, when seeing a photo of him riding in 1983

"He was Superman today."
**Jockey Kent Desormeaux, comparing Summer Bird
in the Travers to Summer Bird in the Haskell**

"We've already had our long conversation."
**Owner Perry Bolton, after a visit with trainer Tom Voss,
deciding it was time to go Monday morning**

"I told them they had to leg Javier on the horse and they said 'No, he can
do it.' In Germany, the jockeys get on by themselves."
**Anastasie O'Connor, to representatives of badly behaved
Ballston Spa winner Salve Germania Saturday; Castellano got a leg
up (several actually) from NYRA's Bruce Johnstone
and Neal Cutrone and went on to upset the Grade II stakes**

"... I also wanted to thank the guys at The Saratoga Special for letting Ben
come out and have fun tonight. If you go to the track read that paper."
**The newly married Andy Flint thanking the newspaper at his wedding
reception for allowing staff writer/graphic designer Ben Meyers to
attend a wedding on Travers Day instead of being on the desk.**

Take A Number

- 0:** Seagulls on the Oklahoma turf course rail at 5:45 Monday morning.
- 8:** Seagulls on the Oklahoma turf course rail at 7:45 Monday morning
(they missed Rachel Alexandra).
- 23:** Photographers snapping shots of Rachel Alexandra getting a bath
Monday morning. She did not seem impressed.
- 2:** Boxes of beer delivered — via UPS — to The Special office Tuesday.
Thanks Jill. For readers with children under age 21, beware of this new
technique for securing alcohol while underage.

License Plates of the Day

SPAAAAAA, New York (guess who).

SPAFAN, Virginia.

Name of the Day

Baiser Francais, 10th race. The 3-year-old colt is by Western Expression,
out of French Manicure. The name translates to French Kiss.

Tip of the Day

Don't leave town without your dry cleaning.

Weather

Today: Sunny. High 78. **Tonight:** Mostly clear. Low 52.
Thursday: Mostly sunny. High 80, low 56.
Friday: Mostly sunny. High 80, low 57. **Saturday:** Sunny. High 77, low 56.
Sunday: Partly cloudy. High 72, low 57.
Monday: Mostly sunny. High 76, low 57.
Tuesday: Who cares?



Tod Marks
Jockey Race. Ramon Dominguez (right) and Rajiv Maragh get in
a little extra work while hustling to the paddock for Sunday's first race.

Quote of the Morning

"I had a Hall of Fame trainer tell me once, the difference be-
tween a good jockey and a bad jockey is a good jockey doesn't
test them at the half-mile pole. You're either going to have it or
you're not going to have it. But, when they're telling you they
have it, dude, that's ultimate."

**Kent Desormeaux, when asked what he was
thinking at the half-mile pole in the Travers**

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5



**THE WOODWARD
STAKES (G1)**


SARATOGA
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Days of Summer

Travers winner eyes next assignment

BY KAREN M. JOHNSON

Tuesday dawned brisk and cool, and Travers winner Summer Bird was feeling frisky, according to trainer Tim Ice.

Usually, the chestnut colt walks for four days following a race, but Ice said that won't be possible following his victory in Saturday's \$1 million Travers.

"Watching him yesterday and this morning, he came out of the race super," Ice said as his eyes followed Summer Bird being hand-walked around the stakes barn. "He was actually scheduled to walk again tomorrow but looking at him, I'll probably have to go back to the track. He's full of himself. He's come out of this race better than any race before. I think part of it has to do with the cool weather. He's going to have to go back to work tomorrow."

Summer Bird, who won the Belmont Stakes and was second to Rachel Alexandra in the Haskell, is scheduled to leave Saratoga by the end of the week for Belmont Park. Ice said the next race for Summer Bird, owned by Drs. Kalarikkal and Vilasini Jayaraman, is most likely the \$750,000 Jockey Club Gold Cup Invitational (Gr. I) at Belmont Oct. 3. It will mark Summer Bird's first start against older horses.

The ultimate goal remains the \$5 million Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa

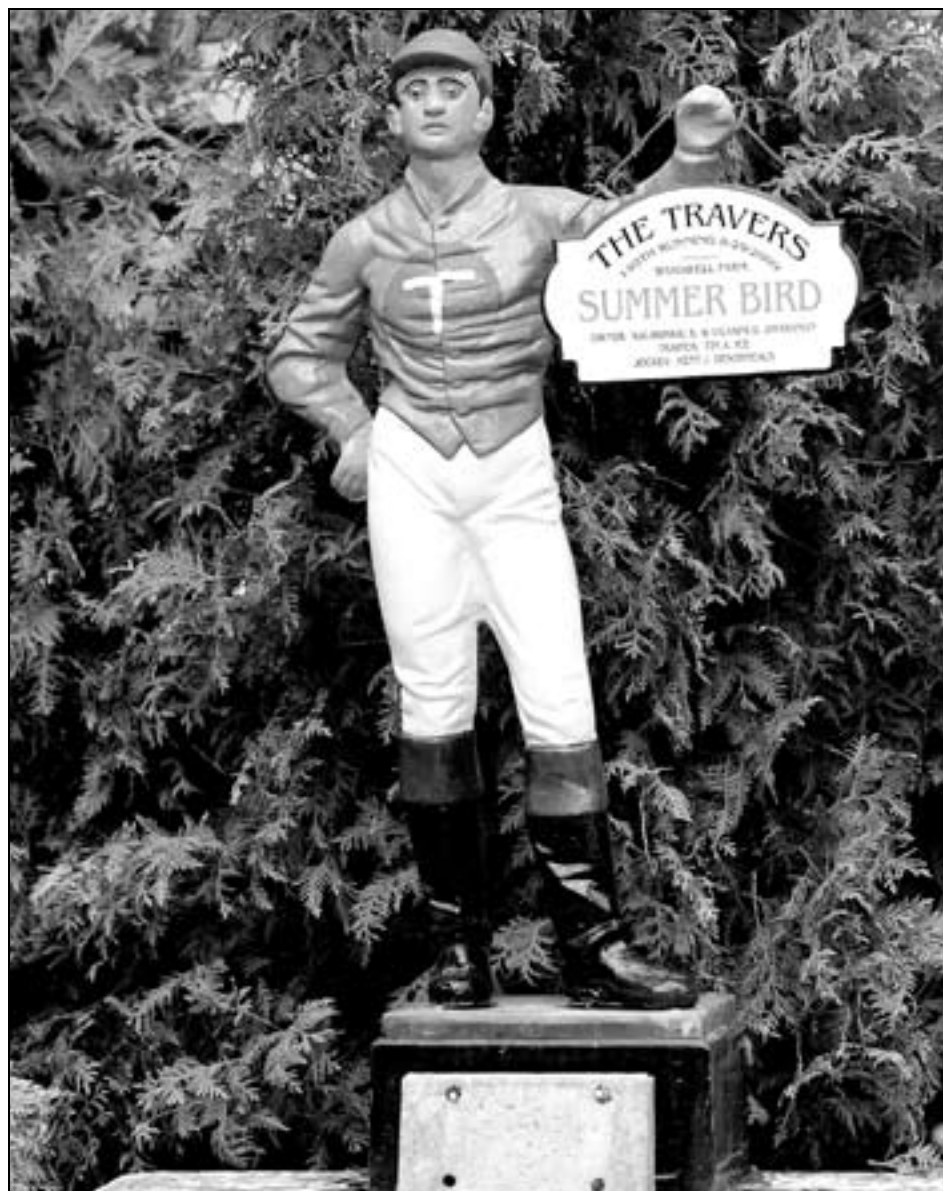
SARATOGA NEWS & NOTES

Anita Nov. 7. Summer Bird has trained on Santa Anita's Pro-Ride surface but has never raced on it. If Ice wanted to get a prep over the track for the Classic, he could run his 3-year-old in the \$350,000 Goodwood on Oct 10.

For now, the 1 1/4-mile Gold Cup is the preferred spot, partly because Summer Bird's rider, Kent Desormeaux, has a commitment the day of the Goodwood at Keeneland aboard Mr. Sidney in the Shadwell Turf Mile.

"We're about 80 percent sure of the Gold Cup," Ice said. "Kent, and the fact he likes Belmont, are why we are leaning toward the Gold Cup. I don't want to lose Kent, and if it comes down to making a decision, I would rather run in the Gold Cup and keep Kent. Then there's no interference for which race Kent would have to choose between. I don't want him to have to choose between either one of them. There is a race we can run in the week before the Goodwood, anyway. It's not like we are changing our schedule. The Gold Cup was already one race we were looking at and considering. It plays a major role in the decision that we can keep Kent to ride in the Gold Cup."

See **NEWS** page 5 ►



Tod Marks

The paddock's Travers jockey already sports the colors of this year's winner.



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News —

■ Continued from page 4

Hall of Famer Desormeaux first rode Summer Bird in the Belmont Stakes, and stayed with him for the Haskell and Travers. Ice said he knew horse and rider clicked when Desormeaux climbed aboard the son of Birdstone for the first time in a breeze before the Belmont Stakes.

"I think Kent is a huge factor," Ice said. "He's part of the team. Kent is an aggressive rider. He has good hands. He knows where to have this colt at in the race. He studies the races hard. He watches all the replays. He knows pretty much where he is going to be when he goes into the race. Kent having the experience in these big races . . . the two of them get along very well. I saw that the first time he worked him at Belmont."

Looking ahead to the Breeders' Cup, Ice is not overly concerned about Summer Bird's lack of racing experience over a synthetic surface.

"He has adapted well to each race-track he has been on. He had been training at Santa Anita with John Sandler — from October until I got him in January," Ice said. "I think he had nine works over that track already. After we have him out there for a week and work him, we'll find out more. You can't say for certain he's going to like it or hate it; not until he actually gets out there and trains on it."

In a way, Summer Bird is going back home when he leaves Saratoga for Belmont. Not so for Ice, whose wife, Heather, is due to give birth to their first child, a baby boy, in Louisiana Sept. 29. Ice, in his second year of training, is quickly learning the sacrifices that come with training horses.

"It's tough," he admitted. "I talked to my wife and told her it's bad timing that a race is coming up when she is due. Unfortunately, it's hard to have a family in this business. When you have a good horse like this, you're not going to keep him in the stall, and you don't want to lose the horse. It's one of those things that we'll get through."

Ice, 35, said he couldn't have imagined that he would be training a horse of Summer Bird's caliber. He shook his head in amazement.

"A year ago, I hadn't even won my first race. I won it on Heather's birthday, Sept. 26. Now, I have a horse that has won two Grade I classic races."

• Rick Mettee, Godolphin Stable's North American racing manager and assistant to trainer Saeed bin Suroor, summed up the events of this past Saturday by saying: "Bittersweet."

The good news came in the form of Music Note winning the Grade I Ballerina and Sara Louise winning the Victory Ride (Gr. III). The triumphant return of Vineyard Haven in the King's Bishop (Gr. I), a race he won by a head over Capt. Candyman Can, was tempered when the 3-year-old was disqualified and placed second for interference in the final yards.

All in all, Mettee couldn't be happier with how the Saratoga meet has unfolded. The blue and white Godolphin silks have been seen in the winner's circle seven times; on five occasions in stakes, including three Grade Is. The stable's other Grade I winners besides Music Note were Seventh Street (Go for Wand) and Flashing (Test).

Godolphin endured a sluggish Belmont spring/summer meet (1-for-13), but Mettee is looking forward to a return to Belmont for the fall.

"This has been nice, especially after the meet we had at Belmont," he said Tuesday morning. "It was slow getting everyone back going again this year. It's been a couple of years since we've [prepared] the American string out of Dubai; we had been in Florida for a couple of winters. Some of them can acclimate right away, and some of them just take some time. But it looks like they are coming right at the right time, anyway."

In the King's Bishop, Vineyard Haven was making his first start since finishing fourth in the UAE 2000 Guineas at Nad al Sheba in February. The robust son of Lido Palace was purchased by Godolphin last fall from trainer and co-owner, Bobby Frankel.

While the disqualification was tough to swallow, Mettee and Suroor were quite pleased with the effort, and have already begun mapping out plans. At this point, it does not appear that the colt will run in the Breeders' Cup.

"We'll play it by ear with Vineyard Haven. Obviously, he ran very hard," Mettee said. "We'll be careful not to run him back too quick. Saeed said the Cigar Mile (Nov. 28 at Aqueduct) is probably the ultimate goal right now. Saeed said that is the race he wanted to win with him. Getting him to a race like that, we have the Jerome (Oct. 11 at Belmont), so that's something to think about."

"The fact that he didn't train all that well over the Tapeta in Dubai and didn't

train all that well over the Keeneland Poly while he was in quarantine before going to Dubai . . . Saeed gave me the impression they weren't really thinking about (the Breeders' Cup) right now."

Some options opened up for Music Note after her win in the 7-furlong Ballerina. Last year, the daughter of A.P. Indy finished third in the Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic behind the winner, Zenyatta, and runner-up and stablemate, Cocoa Beach. Now with a Grade I victory in a sprint, Mettee said they can go two ways with 4-year-old Music Note at the Breeders' Cup.

"She won that race so well at one turn," Mettee said. "We have the Beldame (Oct. 3 at Belmont) for her, or we might just bring her to Santa Anita a fresh filly. Saeed indicated to me that if we were happy with her we might just wait and run her in either the (Filly and Mare Sprint or Ladies' Classic)."

The Ladies' Classic at 9 furlongs and the 7-furlong Filly and Mare Sprint are also options for Cocoa Beach, who finished fourth on the grass in Saturday's Grade II Ballston Spa Handicap. But first, Mettee said the 5-year-old mare would need to show him that she was up to the task of the Breeders' Cup by running well in the Beldame, a race she won last year.

"We might have compromised Cocoa Beach's management to suit some of these other fillies, Seventh Street and Music Note," Mettee said. "We just felt she was so fresh off winning the De La Rose on the turf, but we also knew she would have to run better than that to win on Saturday. She ran about the same, which was good enough to get

her beat about 2 lengths. We'll point her to the Beldame and get her back on the dirt and that will tell us if she is good enough to take back to Santa Anita."

Sara Louise will most likely be pointed to the Gallant Bloom (Gr. II) at 6 1/2 furlongs at Belmont Sept. 26. Seventh Street is scheduled to run in the Ruffian (Gr. I) on Sept. 12.

Godolphin will have more opportunities to add to its win column before the meet concludes Monday. Pyro is scheduled for Saturday's Forego (Gr. I). The 4-year-old worked Tuesday over the main track, covering 4 furlongs in an easy 51.26 seconds.

• Rachel Alexandra, with exercise rider Dominic Terry aboard, had her final work Monday in anticipation of her start in Saturday's \$750,000 Woodward Stakes.

New York Racing Association clockers at the Oklahoma training track caught the daughter of Medaglia d'Oro in 49.09 seconds for 4 furlongs, with a 5-furlong gallop-out time of 1:02.23. Her opening half-mile was timed in 25.53.

The Woodward field will be drawn Wednesday at 11 a.m. Among those expected are Asiatic Boy, Bullsbay, Cool Coal Man, It's A Bird, Macho Again and Past The Point.

Rachel Alexandra, who won Monmouth Park's Haskell against 3-year-old males in her last start, will be facing older males for the first time in the 9-furlong Woodward. The filly will make an appearance Thursday in a paddock schooling session during the fifth race.













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John Panagot



Brian Nadeau



Pete Fornatale



Gaile Fitzgerald



John Shapazian

Race #	John Panagot	Brian Nadeau	Pete Fornatale	Gaile Fitzgerald	John Shapazian
1	Strike The Bell Lost Without You Tempest Storm	Strike The Bell Mine All Mine Smart Trade	Lost Without You Strike The Bell Mine All Mine	Smart Trade Strike The Bell Lost Without You	Cocktail Attire Dawn Chorus Lost Without You
2	Napkins Jazz Hands Pegasus Fever	Pegasus Fever Kelode Napkins	Napkins Pegasus Fever Unbridled Cardinal	Jazz Hands Unbridled Cardinal Napkins	Jazz Hands Big Flirt Pegasus Fever
3	Headache Autry Captain Sword	Headache Matador Run Autry	Autry Headache Matador Run	Headache Autry Captain Sword	Headache Matador Run Autry
4	Simplify J Z Warrior Fascinatin' Rhythm	Fascinatin' Rhythm J Z Warrior Newport Harbour	Choragus Simplify J Z Warrior	Simplify Fascinatin' Rhythm J Z Warrior	J Z Warrior Fascinatin' Rhythm Newport Harbour
5	Chief Counsel Fayoum Roulette Winner	Fayoum Chief Counsel Brother Stuart	Chief Counsel Royal Stocks Roulette Winner	Fayoum Chief Counsel Bonavento	Chief Counsel Bonavento Rein King
6	Split Pot Grace's Valentine American Land	Grace's Valentine Split Pot Playful Majesty	Split Pot Playful Majesty Grace's Valentine	Playful Majesty Grace's Valentine In Spite Of	Grace's Valentine Split Pot Lovely Promise
7	Zilva Senada Veil Of Tears	Orchestrator Senada Veil Of Tears	Zilva C. C. Coco Senada	Orchestrator Limeheart Ziptronic	Orchestrator Senada Veil Of Tears
8	Dixieland Star Ziptronic Raffie's Deer	Success Fee Raffie's Deer That's Rich	Ziptronic Dixieland Star Katskill Bay	Ziptronic Raffie's Deer Dixieland Star	Ziptronic Kimmel Entry Client Eight
9	Smart And Fancy Canadian Ballet Ahvee's Destiny	Smart And Fancy Ahvee's Destiny Canadian Ballet	Smart And Fancy Pretty Carina Ahvee's Destiny	Smart And Fancy Ahvee's Destiny Canadian Ballet	Ahvee's Destiny Smart And Fancy Canadian Ballet
10	Mr. Vantastic Kelly Entry Monastir	Monastir Jac Roxs Baiser Francais	Jac Roxs Star Of New York Monastir	Monastir Star Of New York Franklin Delano	Monastir Star Of New York Mr. Vantastic
To Date:	75/254	55/254	46/254	70/254	77/254

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Laura D'Angelo

WEDNESDAY'S DETAILED ANALYSIS

BY COLIN BEAURY

RACE 1: DAWN CHORUS looked good in her second start off a layoff and first on the grass. Figures to take another step forward and show she's worth the \$425,000 yearling price tag. STRIKE THE BELL should benefit from a firmer surface and the presence of the leading jockey. SMART TRADE goes for a barn that hits at 30-percent first-off the claim.

RACE 2: JAZZ HANDS might be lone speed in a race that doesn't appear to have much early pace. NAPKINS finished second here at the distance Aug. 13 and fits at this level. FRIENDS BELIEVE IT has me believing he's worth the shot trying blinkers for the first time.

RACE 3: AMERICAN ROCK ships in from Philadelphia Park off a nice run, has a snappy pedigree and should offer value. HEADACHE goes back to a distance he won at in June and figures to get a reasonable pace to run into. MATADOR RUN drops in class for a barn that usually spots its droppers well, especially when aiming at a training title.

RACE 4: J Z WARRIOR ran second to impressive winner Thunders Dove in the Addison Mallory last out. A nice post draw seals the deal. SIMPLIFY also finished second to a juggernaut in her last and rates a look. FASCINATIN' RHYTHM comes in from a layoff but shows up every time. Finished a close third in the Grade II Barbara Fritchie and just behind Go For Wand winner Seventh Street.

RACE 5: CHIEF COUNSEL figures to go off at a short price but seems deserving as he finished a strong second to impressive Darley first-out winner Liston Aug. 15. FAYOUM also finished a strong second in his debut and would be no surprise. REIN KING ran third in his debut and turned in a 5-furlong bullet over the Oklahoma training track Aug. 27

RACE 6: SPLIT POT hasn't gotten a clean trip in her last three. An outside draw, a stretch in distance and jockey Javier Castellano seem like a recipe for success. IN SPITE OF comes off a third at the distance at Belmont. Goes for a trainer who has limited starters at the Spa but seems to pick them nicely. GRACE'S VALENTINE figures to go to the lead early. Looms dangerous with no other legitimate speed signed on.

RACE 7: LIMEHEART looks like a major steal at her morning line of 15-1. Broke slowly in her debut and closed from 10 lengths out to get up for third. Dogwood Stable has been hot with 2-year-olds this meet and the stretch in distance might suit this one well. A solid price in a race with many uncertainties. Stranger things have happened. THE UNDERLING was runner up to Beautician in her debut. I'm willing to overlook her second start for a barn that seems long overdue. ORCHESTRATOR jumps from synthetic to turf for trainer Ken McPeck, who hits at 29-percent with that angle.

RACE 8: DIXIELAND STAR has finished in the top two in all three starts this year and looked good winning here earlier. CLIENT EIGHT goes for a barn quietly having an outstanding meet. Finished out of the money for the first time in his last when he was pushed wide. Back on the main track and holds a win at the distance. Expect a return to earlier form and a much better price than ZIPTRONIC, whose odds will plummet based on connections alone.

RACE 9: SMART AND FANCY lost by a neck as the favorite in the Finney Stakes Aug. 9 but had a ton of trouble. Although she's the morning line favorite you should get reasonable odds with the Linda Rice trio each taking money. Ramon Dominguez and Tony Dutrow are hitting at 34 percent together the past two years. CANADIAN BALLET always runs her race and enters off a close second in the Grade 3 Royal North at Woodbine. AHVEE'S DESTINY loves Saratoga (4-for-5) and was a game winner of the Finney.

RACE 10: STAR OF NEW YORK finally breaks through after a tough loss here August 15. JAC ROXS should improve in his second start and shows a string of serious recent works. MONASTIR rallied for third here Aug 19. Look for a repeat performance with Dominguez getting the return call.

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WEDNESDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Wednesday, September 2. Post Time 1 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) F&M 3&UP ALLOWANCE

PURSE: \$52,000

1	1	Dawn Chorus.....	Desormeaux K J...	Mott William I.....	6-1
2	2	Daily Star.....	Chavez J F.....	Terranova John.....	20-1
3	3	Eightyfive S.....	Lezcano J.....	DiPrima Gregory ...	15-1
4	4	Cocktail Attire.....	Maragh R.....	Trombetta Mike J....	3-1
5	5	Strike the Bell.....	Dominguez R A....	Donk David.....	4-1
6	6	Lost Without You	Leparoux J R.....	Pugh Peter D.....	7-2
7	7	Mine All Mine.....	Castanon J L.....	Ward Wesley A.....	10-1
8	8	Tempest Storm.....	Castellano J J.....	Contessa Gary C.....	6-1
9	9	Smart Trade.....	Albarado R J.....	Maker Michael J.....	8-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (1-3), Daily Double

2ND (1:33) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP MDN CLM (\$20,000) PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Pegasus Fever.....	Theriot H J II.....	Lukas D Wayne.....	10-1
2	2	Triple Glory.....	Dominguez R A....	Barbara Robert.....	12-1
3	3	Big Flirt.....	Castanon J L.....	Ward Wesley A.....	9-2
4	4	Hudson Heights.....	Chavez J F.....	O'Brien Colum.....	30-1
5	5	Friends Believe It.....	Castellano J J.....	Kimmel John C.....	15-1
6	6	Jazz Hands.....	Coa E M.....	Galluscio Dominic ..	3-1
7	7	Napkins.....	Maragh R.....	Hennig Mark.....	4-1
8	8	Unbridled Cardinal....	Garcia Alan.....	Zito Nicholas P.....	7-2
9	9	Kelode.....	Desormeaux K J...	Phipps William.....	6-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (2-4) Pick 4 Races (2-5), Daily Double

3RD (2:06) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP CLAIMING (\$20,000) PURSE: \$24,000

1	1	Wayoutsidethebox....	Luzzi M J.....	Dunham Bob G.....	30-1
2	2	Headache.....	Leparoux J R.....	Zito Nicholas P.....	2-1
3	3	Matador Run.....	Velazquez J R.....	Pletcher Todd A.....	3-1
4	4	American Rock.....	Coa E M.....	DeMasi Kathleen.....	5-1
5	5	Captain Sword.....	Maragh R.....	Arroyo Enrique.....	9-2
6	6	Autry.....	Theriot H J II.....	Stall Albert M Jr.....	4-1
7	7	Bocce Ball.....	Castellano J J.....	Kopaj Paul.....	12-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (3-5), Daily Double

4TH (2:39) LOUDONVILLE S. 6 FURLONGS F&M 3&UP PURSE: \$70,000

1	1	Simplify.....	Bridgmohan S X...	Asmussen Steve.....	5-2
3	2	Orinoquia.....	Velasquez C.....	Ritvo Timothy.....	6-1
4	3	Fascinatin' Rhythm....	Dominguez R A....	Small Richard W.....	7-2
5	4	Choragus.....	Borel C H.....	Wilkes Ian R.....	6-1
6	5	Thunder Sword.....	Morales S.....	Rojas Osvaldo.....	30-1
7	6	J Z Warrior.....	Desormeaux K J...	Mott William I.....	3-1
8	7	Newport Harbour.....	Leparoux J R.....	Kenneally Eddie.....	8-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (4-6), Daily Double

5TH (3:13) 5 1/2 FURLONGS 2YO MAIDEN PURSE: \$55,000

1	1	Rein King.....	Maragh R.....	Terranova John.....	8-1
2	2	Royal Stocks.....	Prado E S.....	Hough Stanley M.....	8-1
3	3	Chief Counsel.....	Desormeaux K J...	Mott William I.....	5-2
4	4	Swashbuckler.....	Leparoux J R.....	Lukas D Wayne.....	15-1
5	5	Fayoum.....	Bridgmohan S X...	Asmussen Steve.....	7-2
6	6	Brother Stuart.....	Theriot H J II.....	Stewart Dallas.....	12-1
7	7	Bonavento.....	Velazquez J R.....	Pletcher Todd A.....	6-1
8	8	Baatesh.....	Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran ..	5-1
9	9	Roulette Winner.....	Lezcano J.....	Serpe Philip M.....	15-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (5-7), Pick 6 Races (5-10) Daily Double

6TH (3:47) 1 1/8 MILES (INNER TURF) F&M 3&UP MAIDEN NY BRED PURSE: \$45,000

1	1	Point to Royalty.....	Espinoza J L.....	Campo John P Jr....	20-1
2	2	American Land.....	Leparoux J R.....	Contessa Gary C.....	5-1
3	3	Playful Majesty.....	Luzzi M J.....	Tschan April E.....	6-1
4	4	Caterina's Term's.....	Velasquez C.....	Sciaccia Gary.....	15-1
5	5	In Spite Of.....	Velazquez J R.....	Gyarmati Leah.....	10-1

6	6	Lovely Promise.....	Maragh R.....	Schettino Dominick..	12-1
7	7	Grace's Valentine.....	Dominguez R A....	Albertrani Thomas...	2-1
8	8	Split Pot.....	Castellano J J.....	Hennig Mark.....	5-2

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (6-8), Grand Slam Races (6-9) Daily Double

7TH (4:21) 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) FILLIES 2YO MAIDEN PURSE: \$51,000

1	6	Veil of Tears.....	Velazquez J R.....	Pletcher Todd A.....	8-1
1A	MTO	Thatsallshewrote.....	Leparoux J R.....	Pletcher Todd A.....	8-1
2	1	Orchestrator.....	Albarado R J.....	McPeck Ken.....	3-1
3	2	Kaila Ann's Kitten.....	Leparoux J R.....	Brown Chad C.....	6-1
4	3	The Underling.....	Bridgmohan S X...	Arnold George R II ..	5-1
5	4	Zilva.....	Rose J.....	Motion H Graham.....	4-1
6	5	Senada.....	Dominguez R A....	Tagg Barclay.....	5-1
7	7	Limeheart.....	Garcia Alan.....	Romans Dale.....	15-1
8	8	Celestial Sweep.....	Maragh R.....	Hennig Mark.....	15-1
9	9	C. C. Coco.....	Desormeaux K J...	Mott William I.....	8-1
10	MTO	Isn't She Grand.....	Dominguez R A....	Contessa Gary C.....	8-1

A-Coupled: Veil of Tears and Thatsallshewrote

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

8TH (4:55) 6 1/2 FURLONGS 3&UP ALLOW OC (\$25,000) NY BRED PURSE: \$57,500

1	1	Dixieland Star.....	Castellano J J.....	Kimmel John C.....	7-2
1A	10	Lookin At Her.....	Velasquez C.....	Hernandez Ramon...	7-2
2	2	That's Rich.....	Maragh R.....	Schwartz Scott M....	12-1
3	3	Ziptronic.....	Garcia Alan.....	Rice Linda.....	3-1
4	4	Client Eight.....	Velazquez J R.....	Hushion Michael ..	10-1
5	5	Olympic Pegasus.....	Theriot H J II.....	Levine Bruce N.....	15-1
6	6	Raffie's Deer.....	Dominguez R A....	Asmussen Steve.....	4-1
7	7	Success Fee.....	Migliore R.....	Hennig Mark.....	8-1
8	8	Katskill Bay.....	Studart M.....	Ubillo Rodrigo A....	12-1
9	9	Mr. Bourbon Street....	Lezcano J.....	Baker Charlton.....	15-1
10	11	C T Chimes.....	Grabowski J A.....	Lecesse Michael....	20-1
11	12	Putin.....	Chavez J F.....	Martin Carlos F.....	20-1

A-Coupled: Dixieland Star and Lookin At Her

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

9TH (5:30) LENA SPENCER S. 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) F&M 3&UP PURSE: \$70,000

1	1	Sly Storm.....	Lezcano J.....	Proctor Thomas F..	12-1
2	2	Twiceasbeautiful.....	Leparoux J R.....	Sharp Michelle S....	20-1
3	3	Pretty Carina.....	Albarado R J.....	McLaughlin Kiaran ..	15-1
4	4	Smart and Fancy.....	Dominguez R A....	Dutrow Anthony W..	3-1
5	5	Anofficerandalady....	Maragh R.....	Allard Edward T.....	6-1
6	6	Ahvee's Destiny.....	Velasquez J R.....	Rice Linda.....	7-2
7	7	Karakorum Elektra....	Velasquez C.....	Rice Linda.....	5-1
8	8	Canadian Ballet.....	Garcia Alan.....	Rice Linda.....	4-1
9	9	Trusty Temper.....	Theriot H J II.....	Werner Ronny.....	10-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Daily Double

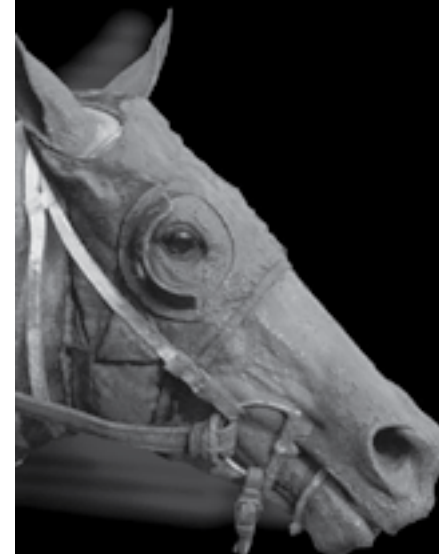
10TH (6:04) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3&UP MAIDEN NY BRED PURSE: \$45,000

1	5	Ryan and Jack.....	Espinoza J L.....	Kelly Patrick J.....	15-1
1A	AE	Spa City Fever.....	Chavez J F.....	Kelly Patrick J.....	15-1
2	1	Mr. Vantastic.....	Desormeaux K J...	Lostritto Joseph A...	9-2
3	2	Star of New York.....	Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary C.....	7-2
4	3	Il Senatore.....	Morales S.....	Schettino Dominick..	20-1
5	4	Mr. Enrico.....	Samyn J L.....	Ortiz Paulino O.....	20-1
6	6	One Diamond.....	Luzzi M J.....	Galluscio Dominic ..	15-1
7	7	Franklin Delano.....	Castanon J L.....	Campo John P Jr....	6-1
8	8	Jac Roxs.....	Garcia Luis.....	Bailes W Robert.....	6-1
9	9	Monastir.....	Dominguez R A....	Hennig Mark.....	3-1
10	10	Baiser Francais.....	Lezcano J.....	Serpe Philip M.....	12-1
11	AE	Nugget of Wisdom....	Morales S.....	Wolferseder John...	20-1

A-Coupled: Ryan and Jack and Spa City Fever

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10) Wagers

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Rice Burner

Ahvee's Destiny goes for second stakes triumph of Saratoga 2009

BY BRIAN NADEAU

LENA SPENCER STAKES PREVIEW

Linda Rice may not have come to Saratoga with dreams of winning the trainer's title, but with one week left that's exactly the hot seat she occupies.

With 15 wins, she sits tied atop the standings with perennial Saratoga titan Todd Pletcher. Rice looks to add to her total with three horses on the program page for today's \$70,000 Lena Spencer Stakes for fillies/mares at 5 1/2 furlongs on the Mellon turf course. Not that she's looking that far ahead.

"There are still six racing days left so right now I'm trying to keep going and pick up a win here or there," she said after sending out Sigmondo for the stables 15th win Monday. "We've got some live horses left to run and hopefully we can keep it going through to the end of the meet."

Everything's Cricket Racing's Ahvee's Destiny has been like printed money over the Spa's turf course the past three years. Since losing her career debut here in September 2006, the daughter of Rizzi has won all four outings over the Saratoga lawn and enters as the horse to beat.

Ahvee's Destiny ran her local streak to four when she took the Finney Stakes Aug. 9 over Spencer rivals Smart And Fancy and Sly Storm. The 5-year-old mare went to the front immediately under Wednesday's jockey John Velazquez, set a pressured 44 1/5 half-mile and was a determined neck winner. All told, Ahvee's Destiny has nine wins from 22 career starts and \$342,890 in earnings. But it's upstate New York where she's most at home.

"She's run well all over but obviously she's done her best running over the Saratoga turf course," Rice said. "I think she likes those tighter turns much more so than the ones at Belmont or anywhere else. She's very consistent and goes out there and runs her race every time. She's been training very well since (the Finney) and I'm expecting another big run on Wednesday."

Obviously NY Stable's Canadian Ballet (Alan Garcia) also starts for Rice but is far from an insurance policy. The daughter of City Zip has finished first or second in nine of her 14 career runs, including six of eight since being switched



Tod Marks

Ahvee's Destiny, seen here winning at Saratoga earlier in the meet, is back today.

to the turf in May 2008. Canadian Ballet is not as prolific at Saratoga, but did run a big second to her stablemate in last year's Mechanicville Stakes, a race that saw Rice saddle the first four finishers.

Though she has won just once from three starts this year, Canadian Ballet enters off a second in the Grade III Royal North at Woodbine Aug. 1. She should be on or near the lead and with two entrants that both have speed to spare Rice will leave it up to the jockeys.

"Both John and Alan have ridden their horses before and they know them

well, so I'll just let them ride their own races," Rice said. "I don't see the fact that they have similar styles being a factor. Both horses are versatile and I think they'll both run their races."

Rice also has Karakorum Farm's Karakorum Elektra entered in the Lena Spencer, though she indicated that the six-time winner is likely to scratch and point to Belmont.

Those looking to beat the Rice triumvirate will land on Smart And Fancy (Ramon Dominguez), who endured a brutal trip in the Finney but somehow

See **SPENCER** page 9 ►

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Spencer —

■ Continued from page 8

just missed by a neck to Ahvee's Destiny. The 6-year-old mare, trained by Tony Dutrow for Park Avenue Racing, has been a stalwart throughout her 26-race career. Smart And Fancy has won 14 times, including six of nine sprinting on turf, and brings \$806,983 in career earnings to the Spencer. In the Finney, she was shuffled back at the half-mile pole and rallied furiously to come up a jump short. Smart And Fancy beat Canadian Ballet and Ahvee's Destiny in The Very One Stakes at Pimlico in May and rates a stretch danger once again.

Tom Proctor starts Glen Hill Farm's Sly Storm (Jose Lezcano). She was third, beaten 2 3/4 lengths in the Finney and the beautifully bred daughter of Storm Cat saw her modest 2-for-2 career mark on turf come to an end. She has the stalking style that could benefit from a potential heated pace in the Spencer. Though sprinting on the turf might not be Sly Storm's calling card when it's all said and done, Proctor will give it one more try on Wednesday.

"Ultimately she might want to go a bit longer, but she ran well here the other day and I've got no spot picked out so we'll try them again," Proctor said. "I'm not sure if we're fast enough to catch those two fillies that just beat us, especially Smart And Fancy, who got into a world of trouble last time, but she's worked really well over the turf up here."

Anofficerandalady (Rajiv Maragh) invades from Philadelphia Park for Ned Allard. Phillip Torsney's homebred has finished in the exacta in eight of nine career turf sprints and last September came within three-quarters of a length of Smart And Fancy in a Philadelphia Park allowance. The 5-year-old daughter of Officer owns one win from three starts this year and has the speed to be involved from the opening bell.

Twiceasbeautiful (Julien Leparoux), who has won four of seven at the distance, enters from Penn National for trainer Michelle Sharp. Pretty Carina (Robby Albarado), who makes her first start for Kiaran McLaughlin after running six times for Bobby Frankel, will look for her first career win on turf.

Trusty Temper was also entered in the Lena Spencer, but trainer Ronny Werner indicated early Tuesday morning that she had come up with a minor injury and would not start.

- The \$70,000 Loudonville Stakes is also on Wednesdays' card. Run as the fourth race, the 6-furlong filly/mare race is restricted to non-winners of a graded stakes race in 2009 and drew a field of eight, led by J Z Warrior and Simplify.

The former chased home the streaking Thunders Dove in the Addison Mallery Stakes here Aug. 16, while the latter was second to the freaky-fast Elusive Heat in the Geyser Spring Stakes here Aug. 9.

Orinoquia, third in the Mallery; Fascinat' Rhythm, third in the Grade II Barbara Fritchie in her last start in February are also entered, along with Choragus, Thunder Sword and Newport Harbour.

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Returning Big

Rosen, Wolfson get
Grade I victory
with Icon Project

BY SEAN CLANCY

Andrew Rosen and Marty Wolfson came to Saratoga, confident, for the Test Aug. 8. First Passage turned her head at the break, bobbled and the Grade I went up in smoke. The second choice rallied to finish fourth.

In horse racing, you take your lumps and sign up for more.

PERSONAL ENSIGN STAKES

Twenty-two days later, Rosen and Wolfson returned to Saratoga, this time with Icon Project in Sunday's \$400,000 Personal Ensign. Same cv; expensive yearling, started career in England, flourished at Calder since returning to America, taking money in a Grade I stakes at Saratoga.

Where everything went wrong with First Passage, everything went right for Icon Project. Under Julien Leparoux, the favorite dominated seven rivals and cruised to a 13 1/2-length romp.

Outsider Weathered broke sharply and went straight to the lead with Unbridled Belle finding a spot in second. Icon Project folded into a perfect spot, outside in third as Weathered posted fractions of 23.81 and 47.62 seconds. Weathered took the field through three

quarters in 1:11.31 as \$1.7 million earner Unbridled Belle retreated going into the turn. Icon Project rolled past Weathered and turned for home in command. Leparoux hit her left-handed at head of the stretch and she opened up a quick 5 lengths.

At the eighth pole, he hit her right-handed and she swapped to her left lead and then back to her right. That was about all she did wrong. Second choice Miss Isella flattened out as Swift Temper rallied mildly to finish second with Morena held third after 10 furlongs in 2:02.37.

After the Grade I score, Rosen and Wolfson were still thinking about the Test while celebrating the Personal Ensign.

"First Passage, she should have won the Test. She got left at the gate, I tried to get Julien but he was riding Informed Decision at Arlington," Wolfson said. "I expected this filly to win, I didn't know it was going to be that dominating."

"I came to the Test really confident. I thought there was no way I was going to lose the Test, so I didn't come here that confident," Rosen said, on his way to cash his tickets. "You've got to take the good with the bad, my dad introduced me to racing, I've been doing it my whole life so I understand, you

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 11 ►



Tod Marks

Julien Leparoux celebrates as Icon Project runs away from the rest of the Personal Ensign field.



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"I basically do three things, the first of which combines reading with statistical handicapping. I use the Racing Digest, which is my computer on paper, the Daily Racing Form, and a couple of independent clockers who are pretty good." Professional Handicapper James E. Allard AKA "Jimmy The Hat" - from an interview published in the March/April 2009 edition of Horse Player Magazine

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Today's Free Race Analysis

RACE # 3 Saratoga, September 2, 2009

Headache broke slowly and finished 3rd vs. NW2L \$35,000 sprinters Aug 8. He won at this trip vs. equally-rated \$50,000 Maiden-Claimers June 13 and either race would do well on paper. Let's hope for a clean break and make **Headache** the HF 15a. **Matador Run** also beat \$50,000 non-winners at Delaware Park June 28. He finished 7th vs. NW2 Starter Allowance foes Aug 10, but makes his third start off the bench and may bounce back. **American Rock** set the pace in the slop at Philadelphia Park and beat \$25,000 Maiden-Claimers July 21. That race tops the charting and that rising numbers pattern is easy to like. **Autry** graduated against \$30,000 non-winners June 26. He seems well-spotted in his first start against winners and Theriot knows him well. *by Today's Racing Digest*

Today's Free Fractional Charting *by Today's Racing Digest* (Projected times at each point of call for today's race)

NAME- BY ORDER OF FINISH	1/4	1/2	3/4	FINISH	LF	TRK, DATE & RCS BK
3 rd Post Time 2:00	:22.9	:45.9	01:11.0	01:24.4		(Avg This Level)
1 American Rock	22.6	46	01:11.3	01:24.6	38.6	PHA-07/21/09-1
2 Headache	23.7	46.9	01:11.8	01:25.1	38.2	SAR-08/08/09-1
3 Autry	23.3	46.7	01:12.0	01:25.3	38.6	CD-06/26/09-1
4 Matador Run	23.2	46.5	01:11.7	01:25.4	38.9	DEL-06/28/09-2
5 Captain Sword	26.9	48.6	01:12.4	01:26.2	37.6	BEL-07/18/09-2
6 Wayoutsidethebox	26	48	01:14.0	01:27.2	39.2	BEL-06/06/09-3
7 Bocce Ball	23.4	47	01:12.5	01:27.2	40.2	MTH-08/06/09-2

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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 10

enjoy these moments because there are lot more the other way.”

Rosen's father, Carl, campaigned 1974 champion 3-year-old filly Chris Evert and her grandson, 1984 2-year-old champion Chief's Crown. Heir to his father's fashion business, Rosen has continued his involvement in fashion, owning Theory Clothing Company and continued his involvement in racing, owning a string of horses that usually start in England with trainer Brian Meehan. If they don't turn out there, they come over here. First Passage and Icon Project have carried the Rosen flag this year.

First Passage, a \$1.2 million yearling, won four races including the Grade III Azalea at Calder before the Test. She had made one start in England, finishing 15th in her 2-year-old debut. Icon Project, a \$775,000 yearling, won one of five starts in England but had performed admirably against Grade II and listed stakes competition. Rosen shipped her here in November, she won an allowance race on turf at Gulfstream Park in April, finished third in the La Prevoyante and then came to life when the Grade III New York Handicap washed off the turf in June. She won that, then finished second in the Grade II Delaware Handicap when Swift Temper galloped on the lead. The Personal Ensign provided Icon Project's first Grade I triumph.

She came to Wolfson without much hype. “An a-other-than horse that had been running against good horses,” Wolfson said. “I looked back at her form and saw that Folk Opera beat her a head and a couple of horses she ran against I had followed. It took her a while to acclimate, but she did. First Passage was the same way.”

Wolfson sent Icon Project and First Passage to Barry Eisaman's training center in Ocala for freshening before heading back to Calder. Based at Calder, Wolfson suggested dirt for Icon Project immediately after she came into his barn. Rosen wavered and they sent



Tod Marks

Trainer Marty Wolfson and owner Andrew Rosen (center) greet Icon Project after Sunday's Personal Ensign.

her out three times on the turf. When the New York Handicap came off the grass, Wolfson was counting his money.

“She had trained great on the dirt all along but she had come over as a grass horse. I didn't want to cross anybody but I told him the first race she ran I wouldn't mind it if came off but it didn't,” Wolfson said. “This is the same way she ran in the New York Handicap, everything changed then. I don't think you have to carry around the track with her.”

Rosen listened to Wolfson but wanted to win a stakes with Icon Project before they began experimenting with the dirt.

“I was being cautious, Marty kept telling me, ‘We've got to run this horse on the dirt, and I said, ‘Marty, let's just see if we can knock out a stakes then we can do anything,’ ” Rosen said. “I didn't want to

take any chances, I had another filly we ran on the dirt and she bowed a tendon so I was always nervous about the whole thing. She's got tremendous class and quality. I buy a lot of horses and not too many of them like this.”

Rosen lives in Manhattan but sends all his horses to Meehan (who picks them out as well) in England, mostly because of the training style and atmosphere there. The New York Handicap was the first New York win photo he appeared in since 1995.

“It's not about me seeing the horses, it's about developing the best possible horse I can develop,” Rosen said. “It's not about watching them run, it's a philosophy and a program I have, I work very closely with Brian, days like this make it seem like it's working, but there's been a lot of other days that I question what I'm doing. We knew this was going to happen eventually.”

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Calling His Shot

Contessa wins with longshot 2-year-old

BY BRIAN NADEAU & COLIN BEAURY

Gary Contessa stood quietly in front of a mini-TV while waiting for the field to load for Sunday's eighth race. Asked how his filly Far Isle would fare, Contessa offered two pieces of wisdom.

SUNDAY'S RACING RECAP

"She's talented but we were hoping for the race to be on turf because that's what she really wants to do," he said. "But I would put my money on my horse in the last race."

Valuable Lady, Contessa's runner in the last of 11 races on the card, went to post as a 16-1 outsider in her debut. And then the gates opened and the 2-year-old daughter of Value Plus showed why Contessa was so confident.

Valuable Lady (Mike Luzzi) set the pace to the top of the stretch and then scooted clear to score the upset by 3 3/4 lengths over Stellaluce (Ramon Dominguez) and Rosalie's Dance (Rajiv Maragh).

Contessa walked calmly to the winner's circle and offered a matter-of-fact, "You heard it here first."

Not quite Babe Ruth in the '32 World Series, but not too bad either.

Owned in a partnership led by Steve Sigler's Winning Move Stable. Valuable

Lady cost \$50,000 at the OBS 2-year-old sale this February. She showed five published moves leading up to her debut, including a bullet 5 furlongs in 1:03 at Aqueduct Aug. 2.

Sigler entered confident that Valuable Lady could win, he just thought it would come a different way.

"We actually thought coming in that she would be off the pace and then make a late run but when I saw her on the lead and the way she was doing it I was happy," Sigler said. "Gary told me right when we bought her that we had a stakes winner on our hands and then the more she worked the better we felt about it. She certainly looks like a filly with a future."

Contessa got off to a slow start at the meet, going winless with his first 32 starters, but he's steadily risen up the leaderboard, winning with nine of his last 58 starts. Known as one of New York's leading trainers with older claiming horses, Contessa picked up his second 2-year-old win of the meet.

"I worked her the other day and she went great. I knew she had speed but I told Mike 'whatever you do, don't send her, let her take you there.' And that's what she did," Contessa said. "I was training her in blinkers and decided this

See **SUNDAY** page 21 ►



Dave Harmon

Valuable Lady crosses the wire to end Sunday's race card.

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Sunday —

■ Continued from page 12

morning that I'd like to run her without blinkers because I wanted to see how she goes. She's still learning out there and she's only going to get better with racing."

• Though Tutti Va Bene won the last race on the Aug. 8 card for Gary Sciacca, the first thing the trainer wanted to talk about was a disappointing 10th by Piazza Di Spagna earlier in the day. The son of Lycius consumed Sciacca's thoughts again Sunday, but this time for good reason.

Piazza Di Spagna (Rajiv Maragh) won the fourth, an optional claimer for New York-breds at a mile on the grass. Owned by One Pond Stable and Giuseppina Piazza, Piazza Di Spagna broke last in the nine-horse field and remained there for most of the early going. Maragh swung the 4-year-old colt wide turning for home and they were up late for a nose win over Missinglisalewis (Javier Castellano) and Karakorum Legend (Alan Garcia).

Piazza Di Spagna, who improved to 3-for-17, has enjoyed a solid 2009. Aside from that curious 10th place flop Aug. 8.

"I don't know what happened to him last time, he just didn't run a jump. I liked him that day; he's a nice horse that always trained well. He just didn't fire. He came back to the barn fine; no problems," Sciacca said. "I blew him out for this race. He likes the turf a little bit soft, and it came up soft. I was worried on the backside when he dropped out of it, but then he started moving at the three-eighths pole. He's a big, good-looking horse, and I trained his mother (Enter) also. I'm just glad we figured it out, and I hope he keeps getting better."

• To say Charles Casale was a little excited Sunday would be like saying Cookie Monster doesn't mind an occasional chocolate chip.

Casale, part owner of Soda Pop Kid, celebrated rambunctiously as the son of Lemon Drop Kid took the fifth, a 6-furlong starter allowance. Trained by Bruce Levine for Casale, Roddy Valente and Tom Lemme, Soda Pop Kid (John Velazquez) stuck his head in front of Immortal Eyes (Cornelio Velasquez) down the stretch and drew clear by three-quarters of a length. Half A Note (Garcia) joined late for third.

As Soda Pop Kid crossed the wire, Casale and friends celebrated like Super Bowl champions.

"It's my first time in the winner's circle; it's unbelievable," Casale said. "My good friend Roddy Valente brought me in. He gave me a call and we bought Soda Pop Kid in Hollywood. I had a horse before but never won, so this is great."

Valente, Casale and Lemme claimed Soda Pop Kid June 19 and shipped him to Levine after one start in Hollywood for trainer Bill Spawr. Soda Pop Kid traveled east for a summer in Saratoga, and finished a close second in his first start Aug. 19, which seemed the norm for the trainer prior to Sunday's score.

Lost in the excitement was Levine, who won after 40 failed attempts this meet. The trainer walked into the winner's circle as several people congratulated him, and slowly made his way into the photo looking like he just dodged a bullet.

"We had a couple of rough photo finishes. Sometimes you never think it's going to come, so I'm just happy to get the win," Levine said. "It gets worse as you get later in the meet, you start second guessing yourself. It's like a baseball player who can't get a hit; you start pressing."

• John Fort smiled coyly as he left the winner's circle following the seventh.

"Well, I think I agree with the stewards."

Chief Tomoka (Castellano), owned by Fort's Peachtree Stable, outlasted St. Augustine (Jose Lezcano) in midstretch and then survived an objection to win the maiden claimer by 1 1/4 lengths with Itch (Kent Desormeaux) in third. The George Weaver trainee stalked the early pace and drew clear in mid-

stretch before bracing for the challenge from favored St. Augustine. And for good reason, as St. Augustine soundly bumped Chief Tomoka in the stretch, causing both runners to go off-stride briefly. Chief Tomoka withstood the contact and held sway in the 9-furlong race that was taken off the turf.

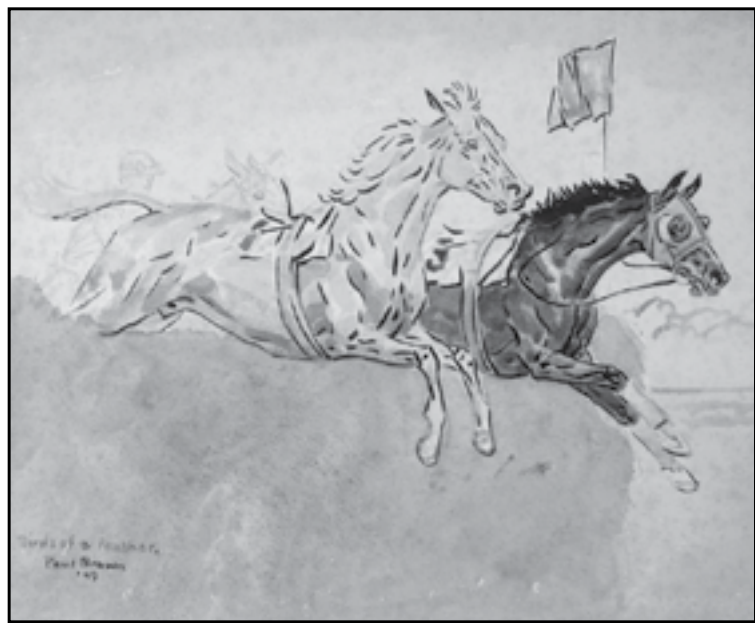
"That was a tough stretch run but I think it was the right decision. We had made the lead and looked like we were going to win before the bumping started," Fort said. "It's nice to get a win after a bit of a slow start. We've got a few horses left that will hopefully run well and we've also got a few live runners at Del Mar coming up so the summer isn't quite over just yet."

• Ken McPeck wasn't too enthused when he found out the eighth, a freshman dash for fillies, was being taken off the grass. He had been eagerly awaiting Afleet Maggi's first start on turf and had finally found the spot. The disappointment didn't last long once the gates were sprung in the 5 1/2-furlong affair as Michael and Patricia Freeny's Afleet Maggi dominated five rivals en route to a gate-to-wire 4 1/4-length win over Thatsallshewrote (Velazquez) and Far Isle (Dominguez).

Afleet Maggi, a daughter of freshman sire and dual classic winner Afleet Alex, entered winless in three starts but had the misfortune of catching three of the better juvenile fillies in Kentucky this spring. In her debut June 13 she finished fourth to Saratoga winners Tapitsfly, Proud Zoe and Hot Dixie Chick, with the latter running off with the Grade III Schuylerville here on Opening Day.

"She certainly hasn't ducked anyone this year and has come up against some really fast fillies. She's been solid from the beginning and has always shown talent and speed so I expect her to continue to approve," McPeck said. "I didn't want the race to come off the turf. We worked her over the turf and she absolutely freaked over it; she just loved it. We had been trying to get her on turf because that's where I ultimately think she'll be best, but we were happy to finally see her break through."

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Paul Brown — "Birds of a Feather"

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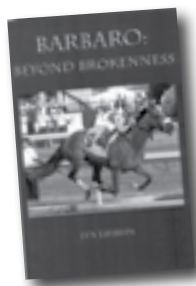
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SUNDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Sunday, August 30.

1ST. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. NY BREDS. ALW. PURSE \$58,000.

3	Afrikaner	Castellano J J	11.00	4.40	3.40
2	Al's Deputy	Garcia Alan		2.90	2.30
4	Temore	Studart M			5.00

Finish Time: 1:10.61

Trainer: Chad Brown. Owner: Richlyn Farm and Tefft Thoroughbreds.

Ch. g. 4. Johannesburg-Out Of The Buggy, Miswaki.

Bred by Peter Georgiades (NY).

\$2 Exacta (3-2) Paid \$24.00; \$2 Trifecta (3-2-4) Paid \$134.50

2ND. 6 FURLONGS. 2YO. NY BREDS. MSW. PURSE \$44,000.

8	Magic Tiger	Bridgmohan S X	5.10	2.90	2.30
7	Backcountry Boy	Velasquez C		4.40	3.00
1	Spirit of Rose	Garcia Alan			2.80

Finish Time: 1:11.39

Trainer: Steve Asmussen. Owner: James Donnan.

Ch. c. 2. Hold That Tiger-Abby Curestheblues, Cure The Blues.

Bred by Peter Moore and Michael Williams (NY).

\$2 Exacta (8-7) Paid \$25.60; \$2 Quinella (7-8) Paid \$14.60;

\$2 Trifecta (8-7-1) Paid \$52.00; \$2 Daily Double (3-8) Paid \$33.60

3RD. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. F&M. NY BREDS. ALW. PURSE \$48,000.

2	Hot and Bothered	Maragh R	4.00	2.70	2.30
5	Anjorie	Prado E S		3.60	3.20
7	Mercy's Delight	Medina J			4.80

Finish Time: 1:10.66

Trainer: Tony Dutrow. Owner: Michael Dubb and Bethlehem Stable.

B. f. 3. A.P Jet-Hot Sounds, Citidancer.

Bred by Emma Jane Lackey (NY).

\$2 Exacta (2-5) Paid \$14.20; \$2 Trifecta (2-5-7) Paid \$107.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (3-8-2) 3 Correct Paid \$81.50;

\$2 Daily Double (8-2) Paid \$11.40

4TH. 1-MILE. TURF. 3&UP. NY BREDS. AOC. \$61,000.

5	Piazza Di Spagna	Maragh R	22.40	11.00	6.50
6	Missinglisalewis	Castellano J J		6.50	4.10
2	Karakorum Legend	Garcia Alan			4.30

Finish Time: 1:38.41

Trainer: Gary Sciacca. Owner: One Pond Stable.

B. c. 4. Lycius-Enter, Pleasant Tap.

Bred by Anthony Piazza (NY).

\$2 Exacta (5-6) Paid \$149.00; \$2 Quinella (5-6) Paid \$67.00;

\$2 Trifecta (5-6-2) Paid \$891.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (8-2-5) 3 Correct Paid \$250.00;

\$2 Daily Double (2-5) Paid \$55.00; \$2 Superfecta (5-6-2-1) Paid 17,271.00

5TH. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. ST. ALW. PURSE \$51,000.

4	Soda Pop Kid	Velasquez J R	6.80	3.50	2.80
7	Immortal Eyes	Velasquez C		6.80	4.90
2	Half a Note	Garcia Alan			3.40

Finish Time: 1:10.32

Trainer: Bruce Levine. Owner: Roddy Valente, Charles Casale, Tom Lemme.

B. g. 4. Lemon Drop Kid-Miss Valiant, Valiant Nature.

Bred by Charger 6 Ventures (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (4-7) Paid \$47.40; \$2 Trifecta (4-7-2) Paid \$185.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (2-5-4) 3 Correct Paid \$230.00;

\$2 Pick 4 (4/8-1/2-5-4) 4 Correct Paid \$728.00;

\$2 Daily Double (5-4) Paid \$112.00; \$2 Superfecta (4-7-2-1) Paid \$404.00

6TH. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. CLM. PURSE \$29,000.

8	Frame of Reference	Velasquez J R	5.60	3.40	2.60
5	Perfect Vow	Maragh R		5.40	3.60
1	Dr. Nick	Dominguez R			2.90

Finish Time: 1:10.13

Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Owner: Michael Tabor and Derrick Smith.

Ch. c. 3. El Corredor-Polish Silk, Polish Pro.

Bred by David Campbell, Kingswood Farm and Jim Edgar (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (8-5) Paid \$30.80; \$2 Trifecta (8-5-1) Paid \$74.50;

\$2 Pick 3 (5-4-8) 3 Correct Paid \$374.50;

\$2 Daily Double (4-8) Paid \$17.60; \$2 Superfecta (8-5-1-6) Paid \$198.40

7TH. 1 1/8 MILES. 3&UP. MCL. PURSE \$25,000.

2B	Chief Tomoka	Castellano J J	10.80	5.30	4.00
1A	St. Augustine	Lezcano J		3.80	3.00
8	Itch	Desormeaux K			4.10

Finish Time: 1:52.58

Trainer: George Weaver. Owner: Peachtree Stable.

Ch. c. 3. Malibu Moon-Cant Stop The Fire, Cozzene.

Bred by T/C Stable (Pa).

\$2 Exacta (2-1) Paid \$35.20; \$2 Trifecta (2-1-8) Paid \$219.50;

\$2 Daily Double (8-2) Paid \$28.20; \$2 Pick 3 (4-8-2) 3 Correct Paid \$83.00

8TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. 2YO. FILLIES. MSW. PURSE \$55,000.

4	Afleet Maggi	Albarado R J	4.40	2.70	2.10
1X	Thatsallshewrote	Velasquez J R		3.10	2.50
7	Far Isle	Dominguez R A			2.80

Finish Time: 1:04.86

Trainer: Ken McPeck. Owner: Patricia and Michael Freeny.

B. f. 2. Afleet Alex-Mindset, Coronado's Quest.

Bred by Peter Blum (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (4-1) Paid \$10.20; \$2 Trifecta (4-1-7) Paid \$26.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (8-2-4) 3 Correct Paid \$81.00; \$2 Daily Double (2-4) Paid \$32.20

9TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. CLM. PURSE \$34,000.

5	Optimer (ARG)	Albarado R J	10.00	4.80	3.30
2	Ballast (IRE)	Velasquez C		3.70	3.10
8	Gaelic Storm	Castanon J L			3.70

Finish Time: 1:45.18

Trainer: Rick Dutrow. Owner: IEAH Stable.

Dk. B. or Br. h. 7. Incurable Optimist-Periana (Arg), Aetolian.

Bred by Melincue (Arg).

\$2 Exacta (5-2) Paid \$34.00; \$2 Trifecta (5-2-8) Paid \$160.50;

\$2 Pick 3 (2-4-5) 3 Correct Paid \$144.00; \$2 Daily Double (4-5) Paid \$22.80

10TH. 1 1/4 MILES. THE PERSONAL ENSIGN. 3&UP. F&M. PURSE \$400,000.

6	Icon Project	Leparoux J R	5.60	3.30	3.10
7	Swift Temper	Garcia Alan		4.80	4.20
3	Morena (PER)	Lezcano J			10.00

Finish Time: 2:02.37

Trainer: Marty Wolfson. Owner: Andrew Rosen.

B. f. 4. Empire Maker-La Gueriere, Lord At War (Arg).

Bred by Ronald Carter Family Trust (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (6-7) Paid \$25.40; \$2 Trifecta (6-7-3) Paid \$242.00;

\$2 Superfecta (6-7-3-4) Paid \$809.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (4-5-6) 3 Correct Paid \$66.50; \$2 Daily Double (5-6) Paid \$29.60;

\$2 Grand Slam (1/2/8-1/2/4/7/8-2/5/7/8/10/12/) Paid \$18.00

11TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. 2YO. NY BREDS. MSW. PURSE \$58,080.

8	Valuable Lady	Luzzi M J	35.40	11.60	5.60
2B	Stellaluce	Dominguez R A		4.00	3.50
9	Rosalie's Dance	Maragh R			5.30

Finish Time: 1:05.34

Trainer: Gary Contessa. Owner: Winning Move Stable, Sanford Robbins and Dale Cohen.

Gr./Ro. f. 2. Value Plus-Lady Corona, D'Hallewant.

Bred by Sequel Thoroughbreds (NY).

\$2 Exacta (8-2) Paid \$147.00; \$2 Trifecta (8-2-9) Paid \$960.00;

\$2 Superfecta (8-2-9-12) Paid \$4,706.00; \$2 Daily Double (6-8) Paid

\$155.00; \$2 Pick 3 (5-6-8) 3 Correct Paid \$851.00;

\$2 Pick 4 (2/4/8-5-6-8) 4 Correct Paid \$2,021.00;

\$2 Pick 6 (8-2-2/4/8-5-6-8) 5 Correct Paid \$181.00;

\$2 Pick 6 (8-2-2/4/8-5-6-8) 6 Correct Paid \$35,637.00;

\$2 Consolation Pick 3 (5-6-5) Paid \$30.80;

\$2 Consolation Double (6-5) Paid \$5.30

Saratoga Attendance: 18,014. Mutuel Pool: \$2,961,569.

Track: muddy (races 1-7), good (race 8-11). Turf: soft.

Sunday's Claims

RACE 6: Frame Of Reference by Linda Rice for Chit Chat Stable, Perfect Vow by Chip Dutrow for Michael Dubb, May Day Now by Gary Contessa for Mark Valentine; RACE 9: Ballast (IRE) by Gary Contessa for Winning Move Stable.



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1 Afrikaner



2 Magic Tiger



3 Hot And Bothered



4 Piazza Di Spagna



5 Soda Pop Kid



6 Frame of Reference



7 Chief Tomoka



8 Afleet Maggi



9 Optimizer



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Dean's List

Albertrani filly charges home to win co-feature

BY BRIAN NADEAU & COLIN BEAURY

Wise handicappers threw out Dean Henry's start prior to Monday's Saratoga Dew Stakes, even if it jumped off the past-performance page.

Seventh, more than 16 lengths behind the winner, is difficult to ignore but her effort in the \$82,950 race went a long way to make up for the Aug. 12 disappointment.

A Larry Goichman homebred trained by Tom Albertrani, Dean Henry (Rajiv Maragh) came off an honest pace to score by a head over Yet Again (Orlando Bocachica) and My Dinah (Jose Espinoza) in the 9-furlong race for New-York bred fillies/mares.

Dean Henry went off as the second longest shot on the board (8-1) in the field of seven. She had never competed against stakes company, and her latest performance did little to entice the betting public.

MONDAY'S RACING RECAP

"The last race we got used up too fast, we didn't get the horse a chance to relax. She was fighting on the backstretch," Goichman said. "Today we just wanted to get her to relax, break easy, settle, find a place to make a big move and she was really a fearless horse when she got to the top of the stretch. There were horses on her right and left and she just went in between them. When you're 17-2, you cover a little bit more ground."

The imposing dark bay daughter of Empire Maker flopped in her debut, a ninth in April 2008 at Aqueduct. She lost by 29 lengths in the 7-furlong affair and went to the sidelines for six months. Dean Henry returned last October but was pulled up in a turf try at Belmont.

Goichman moved Dean Henry from Rick Violette's barn to the care of Albertrani after those two disappointments and the filly returned to the dirt at Aqueduct for her next three races. She improved in each and finally broke her maiden Feb. 26 at Aqueduct. Dean Henry scored an allowance win July 12 at Belmont in her next start and began



Dave Harmon

Dean Henry (center) splits horses before going on to win the Saratoga Dew on Monday.

to show promise.

"She had and still has a lot of bone. She doesn't have as much body as she will develop over time, and maybe it's the nature of her pedigree," Goichman said. "She's coming into herself now. If you would have seen her as a 2-year-old, she looked like sticks – big, tall sticks. She was very tall and gangly, but it's nice to have a big horse that can run quick and be coordinated. A lot of times, when horses get to be over 17 hands they're not very coordinated. She proved that she can run well."

Dean Henry, a half-sister to the accomplished Read The Footnotes (also bred by Goichman), gave Albertrani his first win of the meet. Though he waited

for a stakes race on the second to last Monday to break through, the trainer wasn't around to celebrate.

"He had to go to New York and couldn't be here; but now I don't have to buy him a duck dinner," Goichman joked.

- Platinum's afternoon accomplishments are slowly beginning to surpass her pre-race antics. The high-strung 3-year-old filly has been a handful for trainer Jimmy Jerkens in the mornings and was the same for Ramon Dominguez leading to the start of the \$71,250 Mollie Wilmot Stakes, but once the gates

See **MONDAY** page 25 ►

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Monday —

■ Continued from page 24

opened she was all business.

Peter Blum's homebred easily defeated Stone Legacy (Cornelio Velasquez) and Striking Tomisue (Julien Leparoux) in the 9-furlong filly/mare stakes, drawing off by 3 3/4 lengths in the restricted stakes.

Platinum has proven to be a work in progress for Jerkens since coming to his barn earlier this summer. The daughter of Mineshaft ran second in her debut at Churchill Downs May 29 for Jose Fernandez. Blum sent her to Jerkens shortly after and she broke her maiden going 6 furlongs July 17. Platinum stretched out in her second start here Aug. 12 and she wired a seven-horse field going 9 furlongs. The progression continued Monday, though Jerkens admits he doesn't have the filly completely figured out.

"I don't know why she gets so worked up prior to her races. She's never had a hard race from the jockey, no hard drives or anything like that," Jerkens said. "She can be a problem in the morning too. She's in the bridle and pulls hard. We've done a lot of schooling with her at the gate and the like but maybe she just needs some more experience. She's still a lightly raced horse."

And a talented one. Platinum came to Jerkens with high expectations and she has done little to disappoint. Though she was able to walk on an easy lead Monday, Jerkens was impressed, and will look for a bigger assignment for Platinum's next start.

"When (Peter) gave her to me he wanted to see if she could run long and he wanted to find out pretty quickly because most of the bigger purses are going long. We stretched her from 6 furlongs to 9 and that's not an easy thing, especially facing winners for the first time," Jerkens said. "She's progressed through the ranks pretty nicely and we were lucky enough to get some black type with her today. We know the competition hasn't been too stiff, but she's done it the right way. We might step her up next time and look at the (Grade II, \$750,000) Cotillion at Philadelphia Park."

- New York-breds that run third, beaten less than a length in their first career starts against open company aren't supposed to take 10 starts to break their maidens. Won Token didn't get the memo.

Sackatoga Stable's daughter of Gold Token finally broke through after disappointing in her last eight starts when she took the second, a 6-furlong maiden for state-bred fillies/mares. Won Token (Javier Castellano), trained by Barclay Tagg, stalked in fifth for the first half-mile before making her move on the far turn. She closed resolutely in midstretch to get up late over Easy Erin (Mike Luzzi) and pacesetter For Love Alone (Jose Lezcano) for a half-length score.

"She showed talent in her first race against open company at Gulfstream Park and we've been frustrated in trying to get her to run back to that race and figure her out," said Sackatoga's Jack Knowlton. "I think finally we got her in the right race, the right place and the right time and she responded. We tried her on the turf in her last few starts and she didn't respond, so getting back to the dirt helped. There's certainly no

place like Saratoga if you're going to pick up your first win."

- Take a close look at the standings and you'll notice a few trainers who have quietly enjoyed great success this summer. You'd be hard pressed to look past the numbers of Mike Hushion. He added to a stellar meet Monday when Mr. Vegas took the fifth, a 5 1/2-furlong maiden on the turf for state-bred juveniles. Owned by Andrews T and S Racing, Mr. Vegas (Edgar Prado) broke eighth in his career debut, but found a hot early pace to run into late for the 1 1/4-length score over Thundering Roar (Castellano) and Shrimp Dancer (John Velazquez). A son of Freud, Mr. Vegas won in his career debut, but that may not have happened if Prado didn't pick



Dave Harmon

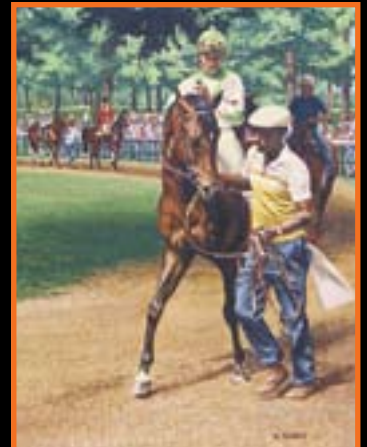
See **SARATOGA** page 29 ►

Platinum aims for the finish with an easy victory in Monday's Mollie Wilmot Stakes.

TERRY LINDSEY EQUIDAE GALLERY

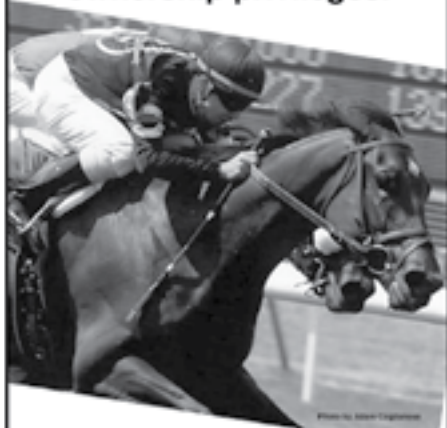
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MONDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Monday, August 31.

1ST. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. ST. HDC. PURSE \$45,000.

4	Cavallo Pazzo	Castanon J L	3.70	2.60	2.30
3	More Than a Reason	Maragh R		10.40	5.20
2	James Wilfred	Dominguez R A			3.20

Finish Time: 1:09.90

Trainer: Tony Dutrow. Owner: Michael Dubb.

Ch. g. 6. Mt. Livermore-Firm Stance, Affirmed.

Bred by Gainesway Thoroughbreds (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (4-3) Paid \$42.40; \$2 Trifecta (4-3-2) Paid \$172.00;

\$2 Superfecta (4-3-2-5) Paid \$843.00

2ND. 6 FURLONGS. 3&UP. F&M. NY BREDS. MSW. PURSE \$44,000.

3	Won Token	Castellano J J	12.20	5.90	2.80
8	Easy Erin	Luzzi M J		7.00	3.20
6	For Love Alone	Lezcano J			2.20

Finish Time: 1:11.47

Trainer: Barclay Tagg. Owner: Sackatoga Stable.

B. f. 3. Gold Token-Won Perfect Rose, Air Forbes Won.

Bred by Seth Gregory (NY).

\$2 Exacta (3-8) Paid \$84.00; \$2 Quinella (3-8) Paid \$50.00;

\$2 Trifecta (3-8-6) Paid \$256.50; \$2 Daily Double (4-3) Paid \$30.00;

\$2 Superfecta (3-8-6-2) Paid \$1,179.00

3RD. 7 FURLONGS. 3&UP. F&M. ALW. PURSE \$50,000.

6	Film Charm	Leparoux J R	4.70	2.70	2.20
5	Patience Drive	Maragh R		4.30	2.60
3	Distinctively	Dominguez R A			2.20

Finish Time: 1:23.02

Trainer: Bill Mott. Owner: Don Adam.

Dk. B. or Br. f. 3. Langfuhr-Madison's Charm, Capote.

Bred by Courtlandt Farm (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (6-5) Paid \$19.80; \$2 Trifecta (6-5-3) Paid \$30.80; \$2 Pick 3

(4-3-6) 3 Correct Paid \$56.50; \$2 Daily Double (3-6) Paid \$32.60

4TH. 1 1/8 MILES. THE MOLLIE WILMOT. 3&UP. F&M. PURSE \$71,250.

3	Platinum	Dominguez R A	3.10	2.50	2.10
6	Stone Legacy	Velasquez C		3.80	2.70
2	Striking Tomisue	Leparoux J R			3.40

Finish Time: 1:50.90

Trainer: Jimmy Jerkens. Owner: Peter Blum Racing.

B. f. 3. Mineshaft-Nataliano, Fappiano.

Bred by Peter Blum (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (3-6) Paid \$11.60; \$2 Quinella (3-6) Paid \$8.80;

\$2 Trifecta (3-6-2) Paid \$44.60; \$2 Pick 3 (3-6-3) 3 Correct Paid \$53.00;

\$2 Daily Double (6-3) Paid \$9.30

5TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. TURF. 2YO. NY BREDS. PURSE \$44,000.

1	Mr. Vegas	Prado E S	19.20	8.00	4.50
4	Thundering Roar	Castellano J J		9.40	5.20
8	Shrimp Dancer	Velazquez J R			4.90

Finish Time: 1:04.32

Trainer: Mike Hushion. Owner: Andrews T and S Racing.

Ch. g. 2. Freud-Lhotse, The Minstrel.

Bred by Berkshire Stud (NY).

\$2 Exacta (1-4) Paid \$178.00; \$2 Trifecta (1-4-8) Paid \$1,065.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (6-3-1) 3 Correct Paid \$72.00; \$2 Pick 4 (3-6-3/5-1) 4 Correct

Paid \$453.50; \$2 Daily Double (3-1) Paid \$31.60

6TH. 1-MILE. TURF. 3&UP. ST. ALW. PURSE \$52,000.

1	Sigmondo	Velasquez C	6.60	3.30	2.50
7	Moon Ala Mode	Dominguez R A		3.70	2.60
2	Baton Rouge	Prado E S			4.70

Finish Time: 1:37.96

Trainer: Linda Rice. Owner: Sigmund Margulies.

B. g. 5. Crafty Prospector-Saintly Song, Dixieland Band.

Bred by Payson Stud (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (1-7) Paid \$24.00; \$2 Trifecta (1-7-2) Paid \$96.50; \$2 Pick 3

(3-1-1) 3 Correct Paid \$98.00; \$2 Daily Double (1-1) Paid \$66.00

7TH. 5 1/2 FURLONGS. 2YO. MCL. PURSE \$42,000.

1	Great Attack	Chavez J F	12.60	7.70	4.40
2	Petecarol	Albarado R J		5.30	3.60
10	Hudson Landing	Maragh R			5.70

Finish Time: 1:04.56

Trainer: Wesley Ward. Owner: Houyhnhnm Stable.

B. c. 2. Greatness-Cat Attack, Storm Cat.

Bred by Edward Seltzer and Murray Durst (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (1-2) Paid \$44.80; \$2 Trifecta (1-2-10) Paid \$369.00;

\$2 Daily Double (1-1) Paid \$37.20;

\$2 Pick 3 (1-1-1) 3 Correct Paid \$257.00;

\$2 Superfecta (1-2-10-14) Paid \$1,334.00

8TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. CLM. PURSE \$32,000.

12	Urban Flight	Garcia Alan	17.00	7.40	6.10
1	Big Al	Castanon J L		5.60	4.10
2	Unaccountable	Lezcano J			4.00

Finish Time: 1:43.66

Trainer: Rick Violette. Owner: Peter Kizenko.

Dk. B. or Br. g. 4. Castle Gandolfo-Yahk Forty, Lear Fan.

Bred by Malachite Management (NY).

\$2 Exacta (12-1) Paid \$86.50; \$2 Trifecta (12-1-2) Paid \$516.00;

\$2 Pick 3 (1-1-12) 3 Correct Paid \$475.50;

\$2 Daily Double (1-12) Paid \$168.00;

\$2 Superfecta (12-1-2-6) Paid \$11,869.00

9TH. 1 1/8 MILES. THE SARATOGA DEW. 3&UP. F&M. NY BREDS. PURSE \$82,950.

2	Dean Henry	Maragh R	19.00	10.00	5.70
1	Yet Again	Bocachica O		7.90	4.70
6	My Dinah	Espinoza J L			3.50

Finish time: 1:51.43

Trainer: Tom Albertrani. Owner: Lawrence Goichman.

Dk. B. or Br. f. 4. Empire Maker-Baydon Belle, Al Nasr (Fr).

Bred by Larry Goichman (NY).

\$2 Exacta (2-1) Paid \$154.50; \$2 Trifecta (2-1-6) Paid \$784.00;

\$2 Grand Slam (1/2/5/7/10-1/2/10-1/2/12-2) Paid \$89.50;

\$2 Pick 3 (1-12-2) 3 Correct Paid \$4,226.00;

\$2 Daily Double (12-2) Paid \$237.00;

\$2 Superfecta (2-1-6-8) Paid \$2,665.00

10TH. 1 1/16 MILES. TURF. 3&UP. CLM. PURSE \$25,000.

2B	Jamaludin	Leparoux J R	7.60	4.30	3.20
6	Ruff and Ready	Velazquez J R		4.10	3.40
3	Dancing Tin Man	Maragh R			4.20

Finish Time: 1:43.30

Trainer: Mike Maker. Owner: Ken and Sarah Ramsey.

B. g. 5. Chester House-Las Pampas, Hennessy.

Bred by International Equitie Holding (Ky).

\$2 Exacta (2-6) Paid \$34.40; \$2 Trifecta (2-6-3) Paid \$139.00;

\$2 Superfecta (2-6-3-1) Paid \$565.00; \$2 Daily Double (2-2) Paid \$117.50;

\$2 Pick 3 (12-2-2) 3 Correct Paid \$1,496.00;

\$2 Pick 4 (1-12-2-2/8/11) 4 Correct Paid \$10,410.00;

\$2 Pick 6 (1-1/5/10-1-12-2-2/8/11) 5 Correct Paid \$5,027.00;

Carryover Pool \$45,250

Track: fast. Turf: good.

Saratoga Attendance: 10,066. Mutuel Pool: \$1,798,315.

Monday's Claims

RACE 10: Ruff And Ready by David Jacobson for Western Resources Racing, Skagerrak by Steve Klesaris.

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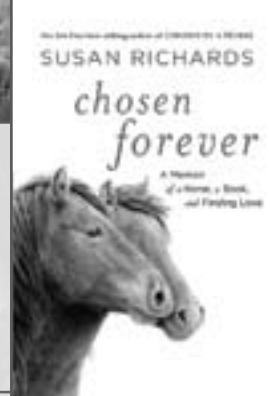


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JOCKEY.....	STARTS.....	1ST.....	2ND.....	3RD.....	EARNINGS
Ramon Dominguez.....	204.....	37.....	33.....	35.....	\$2,242,198
Alan Garcia.....	159.....	31.....	17.....	22.....	\$1,858,769
Rajiv Maragh.....	213.....	27.....	19.....	28.....	\$1,688,916
Julien Leparoux.....	177.....	26.....	27.....	18.....	\$2,125,834
John Velazquez.....	184.....	22.....	27.....	22.....	\$1,719,953
Javier Castellano.....	156.....	22.....	23.....	16.....	\$1,591,784
Edgar Prado.....	135.....	20.....	12.....	18.....	\$1,507,505
Kent Desormeaux.....	122.....	19.....	19.....	15.....	\$1,636,907
Robby Albarado.....	108.....	14.....	17.....	13.....	\$913,715
Jose Lezcano.....	160.....	12.....	23.....	31.....	\$1,002,860
Cornelio Velasquez.....	123.....	9.....	19.....	19.....	\$642,573
Michael Luzzi.....	100.....	8.....	10.....	6.....	\$373,528
Jorge Chavez.....	64.....	7.....	4.....	10.....	\$291,918
Eibar Coa.....	84.....	6.....	9.....	5.....	\$308,784
Jesus Castanon.....	66.....	6.....	6.....	4.....	\$254,194
Jamie Theriot.....	54.....	5.....	4.....	4.....	\$250,547
Sebastian Morales.....	50.....	4.....	4.....	5.....	\$180,372
Shaun Bridgmohan.....	40.....	4.....	3.....	2.....	\$191,586
Jose Espinoza.....	59.....	3.....	3.....	8.....	\$176,833
Richard Migliore.....	22.....	3.....	1.....	1.....	\$260,489

TRAINER.....	STARTS.....	1ST.....	2ND.....	3RD.....	EARNINGS
Todd Pletcher.....	100.....	15.....	20.....	15.....	\$1,125,398
Linda Rice.....	45.....	15.....	2.....	6.....	\$578,180
Bill Mott.....	69.....	11.....	10.....	11.....	\$805,723
George Weaver.....	42.....	10.....	6.....	2.....	\$339,987
Barclay Tagg.....	37.....	10.....	3.....	6.....	\$521,936
Gary Contessa.....	90.....	9.....	8.....	14.....	\$432,772
Michael Maker.....	49.....	9.....	7.....	3.....	\$351,607
Tony Dutrow.....	27.....	9.....	6.....	7.....	\$358,157
Steve Asmussen.....	48.....	9.....	5.....	5.....	\$780,529
Kiaran McLaughlin.....	50.....	8.....	5.....	8.....	\$668,175
Mike Hushion.....	22.....	8.....	3.....	1.....	\$309,043
Saeed bin Suroor.....	13.....	7.....	3.....	0.....	\$814,514
Nick Zito.....	49.....	6.....	5.....	7.....	\$357,964
D. Wayne Lukas.....	55.....	6.....	2.....	4.....	\$321,899
Christophe Clement.....	34.....	5.....	7.....	6.....	\$439,979
Chad Brown.....	34.....	5.....	4.....	6.....	\$255,718
Stanley Hough.....	30.....	5.....	3.....	4.....	\$251,547
Richard Dutrow Jr.....	22.....	5.....	3.....	1.....	\$262,929
Tom Bush.....	26.....	5.....	2.....	6.....	\$296,693
Jimmy Jerkens.....	17.....	5.....	2.....	2.....	\$245,999

Saratoga Leaderboard

Through Sept. 1



Tod Marks

Leading jockey Ramon Dominguez has dialed up 37 victories at the meet.

OWNER.....	STARTS ..	1ST ...	2ND ...	3RD.....	WIN%.....	1-2-3%	PURSES
KEN AND SARAH RAMSEY.....	49.....	11.....	7.....	3.....	22.45.....	42.86.....	\$343,797
MICHAEL DUBB.....	18.....	8.....	2.....	4.....	44.44.....	77.78.....	\$233,471
GODOLPHIN STABLE.....	13.....	7.....	3.....	0.....	53.85.....	76.92.....	\$814,514
DARLEY STABLE.....	25.....	5.....	4.....	4.....	20.00.....	52.00.....	\$400,809
BARRY SCHWARTZ.....	9.....	5.....	1.....	0.....	55.56.....	66.67.....	\$137,499
DOGWOOD STABLE.....	26.....	4.....	3.....	3.....	15.38.....	38.46.....	\$154,526
WINNING MOVE STABLE.....	32.....	4.....	3.....	3.....	12.50.....	31.25.....	\$199,131
IEAH STABLES.....	8.....	4.....	0.....	1.....	50.00.....	62.50.....	\$120,089
MERRILL SCHERER.....	13.....	3.....	2.....	1.....	23.08.....	46.15.....	\$103,876
E. PAUL ROBSHAM STABLES.....	17.....	3.....	2.....	1.....	17.65.....	35.29.....	\$139,671



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Monday —

■ Continued from page 29

up on a clue in his workouts.

"He's always worked pretty well — just pretty well. Then Edgar came and worked him and told me he moves like a turf horse," Hushion said. "I called the owner, and I hadn't seen the dam's side, and he told me the horse was very turfy on the dam's side, so that made it simple. I don't think he could have run like this on the dirt."

Mr. Vegas, out of The Minstrel mare Lhotse, gave Hushion his eighth winner from 22 starts at Saratoga. The trainer has been consistent all summer, finishing in the money in more than 50 percent of his races.

"You come up here worried to death if you're going to win a race," Hushion said "You roll the dice and sometimes you roll craps, and sometimes you roll sevens."

It's been mostly sevens for Hushion this summer.

- Owner Sigmund Margulies has made the most of limited opportunities this summer in Saratoga. Margulies' 10-horse stable scored its second win of the meet when Sigmondo took the sixth, a starter allowance at a mile on the inner turf.

Trained by Linda Rice, Sigmondo (Velasquez) stalked in sixth while entry-mate Precision Farming and Berning Blaze dueled on the lead through an energetic half-mile in 48.52 seconds over a course labeled good. The winner tipped five-wide at the quarter-pole and began a strong rally that caught Moon Ala Mode (Dominguez) and Baton Rouge (Prado) late for a 1-length win.

After 19 runs on the main track to begin his career Sigmondo switched to the turf at Belmont Park July 23 and ran a big second to just miss by a half-length. He bettered that spot by one Monday to join Margulies' Good Prospect as a Saratoga winner.

"Getting him on the grass has really helped to elevate him. It's great to win one another at Saratoga, especially for someone like me, who only has 10 horses in training," Margulies said. "Linda has done a good job with him and he's really come into his own since we got him on turf earlier in the summer."

- Great Attack, a 2-year-old son of Greatness making his first start, lived up to the name in his debut, a 5 1/2-length romp in a maiden claimer. Trained by Wesley Ward for Houyhnhnm Stable, Great Attack (Jorge Chavez) broke from the rail, coasted through an opening quarter-mile in 22.11 seconds and ran off to wire the seventh, a 5 1/2-furlong dash that was rained off the turf. Petecarol (Robby Albarado) beat out Hudson Landing (Maragh) for second.

Great Attack, out of the Storm Cat mare Cat Attack, was purchased for \$37,000 in April at the Ocala Breeders' Sale and came to Ward. Attitude included.

"He's a nice horse. When he first came to me he had a few issues here and there. He had some personality issues, but we worked through it," Ward said. "We got the kinks worked out, and he broke on top today. Even though it was his first start, you always enter feeling like you're going to win. When it comes true, it makes everything worthwhile."

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Girl Power at Saratoga

The banners on Broadway say "Run like a girl," and now I know what they mean. Until Monday morning I had never seen Rachel Alexandra run other than on television.

I woke up early – tough to do on an off-day at The Special – roused my sisters-in-law Annie and Stella and went to the Oklahoma track. We drove in from East Avenue, found a spot to park along the stretch and walked to the rail. The crisp air and cool breeze felt like October. The pinking sky over the barns on the turn suggested sunrise. The crowd along the rail – despite the hour, the temperature, the other things to do – spurred thoughts of greatness. Did Secretariat draw morning-workout crowds? Did Forego? Personal Ensign? Genuine Risk? Azeri?

With the Internet, it's a little bit easier to keep up with the schedule of your favorite Thoroughbred nowadays and Rachel Alexandra's fans have been attending her workouts all meet. They ooh, they aah, they snap photos (though it's a little tough given the lack of light), they commune. They refer to her by her first name, like she's a friend. Funny how that happens to certain horses along the way.

THE OUTSIDE RAIL



By Joe
Clancy

Me? I'm a full-name guy. I love horses, but I work hard not to get too attached. She's Rachel Alexandra, not Rachel, no matter what she does.

You can't give them all nicknames, so don't start, although watching that workout Monday might change my mind.

In her final serious prep before taking on older males in Saturday's Woodward, Rachel Alexandra walked on the track with the pony, strolled halfway down the stretch to please the masses, turned to go the right way, broke into a gallop and worked a half-mile that looked as crisp and clean as the weather. She picked up speed down the back, hugged the turn like Danica Patrick and zipped through the stretch – where somehow the track had cleared for her.



Tod Marks

Rachel Alexandra stretches her legs through a workout Monday morning.

"She makes a different noise than the other horses," Annie observed.

We were all thinking it. Other horses galloping or working past that morning sounded different. Not bad, just different. Feet, breaths, effort. You could hear those from other horses. Hers barely made a sound – like a stealth horse. Woosh, she's here and then, woosh, she's gone.

You would need a veterinarian and a sound engineer to explain why, but some of the credit must go to the filly's range of motion. She takes fewer strides than other horses, reaching out with her front legs and snapping her hooves out for another few inches – next time you're in the Belmont Park paddock, look at the statue of Secretariat. That's what he did – at the moment of push-off with his hind legs, he extended his front legs beyond that of other horses, and reached – creating more power, covering more ground economizing effort.

That does not mean Rachel Alexandra is Secretariat – it just means she pos-

sesses a similar ground-eating stride and a similar charisma with witnesses.

Jockey Calvin Borel, a fan on this day like the others, backed up from the rail and offered an explanation.

"She doesn't touch the ground, she stays in the air longer than other horses," he said by way of explanation. "She's so smooth, she floats over the ground – that's what's different about her."

Pulled up by exercise rider Dominic Terry on the backstretch, Rachel Alexandra rejoined the pony and assistant Scott Blasi and walked back to trainer Steve Asmussen's barn. She came home the long way through the trees on the Fifth Avenue side – I couldn't help but think of the view the railbirds had over by the road next to Bill Mott's barn. The other admirers met her at the barn, watched her cool out under a blue sheet, watched her suck down a bucket of water and then watched her get a bath. Never has a dirty horse getting clean drawn so much attention.

The workout was nothing special on the stopwatch – officially a half-mile in 49.09 seconds with a 5-furlong gallop-out in 1:02.23 – but attitude might prove to be more important than time.

"She looks so happy to run," Borel said. "I like to watch her breeze; it's a good feeling. There's not much I can do from here, but it's nice to see her do it like that. I can tell she's ready. It's time. Those five weeks (between races) are bottled up now."

The cork comes off Saturday.

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The Year that Still Is

Six more racing days. Four more issues. Then shut the lid, Saratoga 2009 will be over.

Under the lid, this is what I'll remember:

Travers Morning in the rain. It felt like my own private training center; just me, the horses and the trainers.

Rajiv Maragh petting a first-time starter filly for Jim Bond, after a race. She looked lost and frazzled, he rubbed her ears and steered her back to her groom. He could have snatched her around but didn't.

Rescue Squad walking to my golf cart and putting his head into my chest, he would have climbed in and sat next to me if Jen Patterson hadn't pulled on the reins.

Jonathan Sheppard agonizing over the decision to run Forever Together in the Diana Handicap. Rain lashed down, Sheppard turned inside out. He chose right, the champion conquered.

Mig winning the Test.

The year they wrote races for \$20,000 beaten claimers on the turf.

Clocker Brian Walls – holding three stop watches, a pen, a spiral notebook – clocking a horse on the grass and never missing a beat while reviewing the Springsteen concert from the night before for a couple of friends.

The six-horse photo and the crowd's reaction, they cheered and moaned over the replay, over each head bob; up you lose, down you win, up you lose, down you win. That's why racing is a live sport and not meant to be watched at a teletheater or on a computer screen.

Danielle Hodsdon winning a flat race and a jump race at the meet.

The Special's paper boys (and girl).

The jump race when Dynaski allowed a phalanx of horses to get to him coming to the last, only to pick up and seal the deal in a matter of strides after the hurdle, and jockey Peter Buchanan's enthusiasm when thinking about the horse going to England to go novice chasing.

The year the Turf Writers lost its luster.

Henry Spiller of Godolphin, smoking a cigarette outside the barn the day before the Travers and explaining, "Stress." They won two stakes and lost another through disqualification the next day. I can only imagine Spiller's smoke as the stewards watched the head-on of the King's Bishop.

Mine That Bird appearing every morning in the middle of the dirt track, his yellow saddle towel announcing that the Derby winner was in town.

Chip Woolley's reaction to my nephews; they became fast friends.

The backstretch rallying to the cause when they heard The Paper Lady was getting roughed up by her distributor early in the meet.

Angel Penna trying to learn how to drive a golf cart; call him Lead Foot.

The year of the duck for some of the trainers I respect the most (still six more cards to go, I'm rooting for you).

CUP OF COFFEE

By
Sean Clancy



Parity reigned in the trainer's race; Linda Rice and Todd Pletcher are tied with 15 wins apiece at the top. I remember when a trainer won 35 races at the meet. I like it better this way.

The bay filly of Christophe Clement's in the outside stall, she wants to be someone's pony.

Dalyn Jones, 13, asking Sheikh Mohammed to sign The Special with Jones and his filly on the cover.

Julie Kagno, who worked for Sheppard during the summer, shipping Summer Bird, before the Travers, to the holding barn in her trailer.

Rutherie hitting the board two more times in her illustrious career.

Listening to a jockey tell me all about a horse and a race and realizing about halfway through that the jockey had no idea of what horse or race he was talking about.

The tray of fried chicken delivered to the jocks' room every evening.

George Weaver's triple.

Beale Payne winning a race at Saratoga.

Salve Germania doing everything wrong before the Ballston Spa, and everything right during it.

Ramon Dominguez going about his business.

Hot Dixie Chick, Backtalk, Worst-casescenario and D' Funnybone.

Fasig-Tipton flexed its muscles on both sides of Union Avenue.

Canadians went 1-2 in the Alabama.

Justenuffhumor ran his winning streak to six by bookending the meet with Grade II turf scores.

Tom Gallo won the Yaddo, and came to our house afterward.

Fabulous Strike struck paydirt in the Vanderbilt.

Steve Asmussen made the paper as a jockey – OK, an exercise rider who rode a few races.

Graham Motion won the Whitney, and celebrated by coming to our office.

Naughty New Yorker became a millionaire.

Ken Ramsey seemed to win the last every day.

Charlotte Clement wrote a column for The Special.

Billy Badgett won a bunch.

Belmont winner Summer Bird proved his mettle in the Travers.

Bobby Frankel was missed.

No blackouts – well, not yet.

Rachel Alexandra training every morning and . . . the Woodward memory will have to wait until Saturday night.

Miles Clancy, age 9 months, came to Saratoga.



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Goldmember	Seeking Daylight
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Hurricane State	St Averil
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Itaka	Storm Broker
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Jane's Dilemma	Swear by Dixie
Jazz Club	Tamayaz
Ken Doll	Thirty Eight Paces
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THURSDAY, September 17**

\$200K Maryland Million Classic Three-year-olds & up, 1½ mi.

\$125K Maryland Million Distaff A handicap for fillies & mares, 3-year-olds & up, 7 fur.

\$125K Maryland Million Ladies Fillies & mares, 3-year-olds & up, 1½ mi., turf

\$125K Maryland Million Sprint A handicap for 3-year-olds & up, 6 fur.

\$125K Maryland Million Turf Three-year-olds & up, 1½ mi., turf

\$100K Maryland Million Lassie Fillies, 2-year-olds, 6 fur.

\$100K Maryland Million Nursery Two-year-olds, 6 fur.

\$100K Maryland Million Oaks Fillies, 3-year-olds, 1 mi.

\$100K Maryland Million Turf Sprint A handicap for 3-year-olds & up, 5½ fur., turf

\$50K Maryland Million Starter Handicap Three-year-olds & up who have started for a claiming price of \$15,000 or less since October 4, 2008, 1½ mi. This is a Sweepstakes.

\$50K Maryland Million Distaff Starter Handicap Fillies and mares, 3-year-olds & up, who have started for a claiming price of \$15,000 or less since October 4, 2008. 1 mi. This is a Sweepstakes.

\$30K Maryland Million Sprint Starter Handicap Three-year-olds & up who have started for a claiming price of \$7,500 or less since October 4, 2008. 6 fur. This is a Sweepstakes.

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