

Year 18 • No. 21

Sunday, August 19, 2018

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WORTH REPEATING

“Six. Hopefully more now.”

Trainer Brandon McFarlane, when asked how many horses he trains after winning the Skidmore Stakes Friday afternoon

“Is The Stretch still open?”

Dave Grening as it started pouring and thundering after Friday’s finale

“Hot off the presses.”

Amy Jackson, grabbing a Special early Saturday morning

“Mom’s hoping there’s a lot of people speaking.”

Ted Davies, 14, about his mom, Blythe Miller-Davies, speaking at the Hall of Fame today

“It’s funny to see her excitement, every day life can get so normal sometimes, she knows she’s overachieved so it’s pretty rewarding.”

Trainer Phil Bauer, about Katelin McCarthy (see yesterday’s Cup of Coffee)

“Yes I did.”

McCarthy, when asked if she always thought she would wind up at Saratoga

“Horse people can be your biggest rival on the track, but in the morning they bend over their back to help you. If you have a problem, they’ll be the first ones there.”

McCarthy, on life at the track

“I expected my Special to be delivered here at the Union Gables. Who do I see about that?”

Daily Racing Form’s Jay Hovdey (call Tom or Joe); we checked, Union Gables gets copies every day we publish



Gearing Up. A NYRA outrider and his horse get ready to head out on the range during Friday’s afternoon storm.

Connie Bush

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out of Elusive Checkers



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out of Western Tornado



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here&there...at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

"I don't want too many horses or too many people by any means."

Trainer Shug McGaughey, about the perfect number of horses and clients

"Seth is a tremendous help because he's there, he doesn't care about going to Saratoga, he likes to go out in the afternoon and ride with the guys, watch them bring them up. We were there a year ago, On Leave was in the Queen Elizabeth and he said to the guys, 'I'll see you guys this afternoon.' I was like, 'He's not coming to the races?' "

McGaughey, about Claiborne Farm's Seth Hancock

"Three or four concussions make a man easier to stay married to."

Trainer Eric Guillot

"The last time I delivered some in a foil pan to his oval office and it spilled all over his computer."

Guillot on delivering gumbo two years ago to trainer Todd Pletcher

"Just another lazy Sunday. At least it feels like Sunday."

Trainer Brian Lynch Saturday morning (we feel you)

"I've got to go paddling away now."

Trainer Jimmy Toner after watching a set train around the main track dogs Saturday

"Tepin would have been cool to test drive."

Jockey Florent Geroux

"People ask me all the time. 'How many races do you ride in a day?' I tell them four or five, sometimes more. And they say, 'Really? You ride the same horse four or five times in a day?' No, no, no, it's a different horse every race. People don't know it."

Jockey Julien Leparoux, on explaining racing to newcomers

Mating that produced 2006 Kentucky Derby G1 winner,

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Oh, you don't have to twist Harold's arm on anything."
Trainer Ken McPeck, when asked if he had to twist owner Harold Lerner's arm to run Eskimo Kisses in the Alabama



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LICENSE PLATE OF THE DAY

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BY THE NUMBERS

700: Days between races for Saturday's first-race winner Arch Of The Diver.

1: Willie Horton jersey at Jeremiah Englehart's barn Saturday morning.

1: Red ribbon from Ridge Brook Farm's Horse Show in a car parked at Joe Sharp's barn Saturday morning.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Overheated, third race. Alpha Delta Stable's 3-year-old filly is by Distorted Humor out of Hot Summer.

Newspaperofrecord, fifth race. Klaravich Stable's 2-year-old filly is out of Sunday Times.

Fast Getaway, sixth race. Chester and Mary Broman's 3-year-old gelding is by Into Mischief out of Stolen Star.

Private Beach, seventh race. Woodford Racing and Team D's 2-year-old filly is by Malibu Moon out of Let's Get Married.



Connie Bush

Pecking Winners. A backstretch pigeon tries to help out a handicapper.

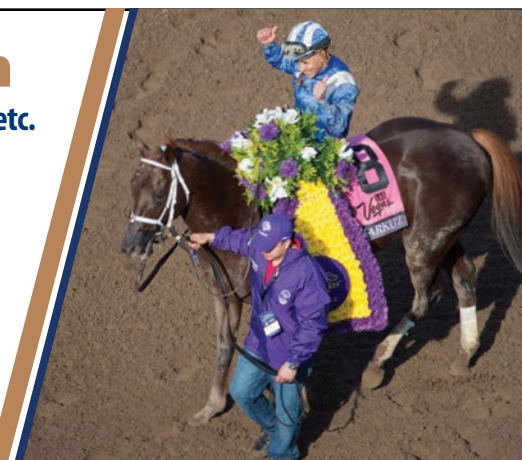


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The Top 10

The Special keeps up with a list of the meet's best – performances, achievements, feats of wonder. We'll update it daily, or try to anyway. **Bold means they're new.**

- 1** Imperial Hint. Vanderbilt July 28. Special, small sprinter won Grade 1 with speed, style, simplicity. And we wrote about him 18 months ago.
- 2** Diversify. Whitney Aug. 4. Best older horse on grounds breaks on top and rips it up – winning in hand and stretching streak to three.
- 3** Voodoo Song. Fourstardave Aug. 11. Turf star finally earned a Special cover with a Grade 1 triumph and a 5-for-5 mark at the track.
- 4** Monomoy Girl. C.C.A. Oaks July 22. Queen of the meet back in Kentucky. **Her lady in waiting Eskimo Kisses steamrolled Alabama field.**
- 5** Weekend Hideaway. John Morrissey July 26. Who you callin' old? He won the N.Y.-bred stakes for the second time – four years after the first one.
- 6** Chad Brown. Ahead 29-15 through Saturday, meet's leading trainer is running away with it. The races for place and show could be fun.
- 7** Irad Ortiz Jr. Every time somebody gets close, the meet's leading jockey pulls away. Leads by nine. Can Javier Castellano make a run?
- 8** Sistercharlie. Diana July 21. Wait, wait, wait again, then pounce. Irish-bred arrived in final half-stride to win Grade 1. Did it again in Beverly D.
- 9** John Hertler. Saratoga's class-guy trainer (Slew O' Gold anyone?) gets a win with Tradeable Aug. 16, and makes everybody smile.
- 10** **Rushing Fall. Lake Placid Aug. 18. Budding turf star gets off bench and wins Grade 2 for fun. Now 5-for-6 with a second.**

On the bubble: Cape Angel (the first horse with two wins at the meet), Farrell, Mucho, Promises Fulfilled, Catherinethegreat, quick starts by Steve Asmussen and Joe Sharp, Arch Kingsley winning two over jumps, the 145 Beyer put up by the rain, trainer Barclay Tagg's double, Jeremiah Englehart, Dave Donk and Phil Serpe climbing the leaderboard, Bowling Green dead heat, New York-breds in open stakes, Sandy's Slew (Happy Retirement), Tricky Escape shipping up – twice – from Delaware to win the Waya, Lacey Gaudet with a winner, **Endorsed and Code Of Honor.**

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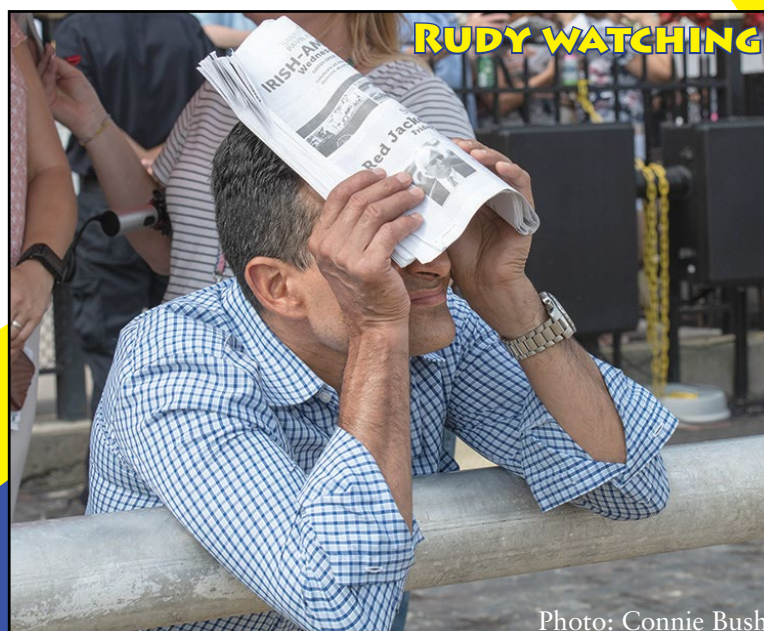


Photo: Connie Bush

PHOTO OF THE DAY

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The Chief... Day 21

"You know what I always wondered, when you train horses for so long, you'd work a horse in the morning, like five eighths in 58 and change, a good stakes horse, really rolling, that evening when you're feeding him, he'd be feeling so good, jumping and squealing, you'd say to yourself, 'what if I worked him and he was running this afternoon? How would he run?' You wouldn't think of doing in it, they'd get a net and catch you if you did it. A lot of guys would blow them out a quarter the morning of the race, I would blow mine out an eighth because they always gallop out a quarter. Up here, they'd go from the wire to the mile pole, letting them run too, then I'd say, 'stand up on them and say whoooooa.' If they weren't getting them pulled up past the seven eighths pole, we'd grab them with the pony, I was playing polo, I could grab one too, you know you've got to size it up, a lot of people can't catch a run off because they don't have their pony rolling, you've got to have that pony rolling. You have to let the horse get up to you far enough before you go for them. I caught a girl, screaming, the only reason I caught her was my pony could accelerate, when you go to grab them, your pony has to accelerate because the horse accelerates. Old Whitey, when that horse accelerated, he did too."

– Trainer Allen Jerkens, 1929-2015



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with Dallas Stewart

The shedrow of Barn 38 fell quiet after training Friday morning, aside from the rhythmic tap of rain on the roof and the whisper of straw rustling in the stalls. A groom finished wrapping Auspicious Babe's legs in the first stall, preparing the filly for the biggest start of her career in the Grade 1 Alabama as Dallas Stewart watched from the front of her stall.

"I've been coming since 1995 at least, how long is that?" Stewart said. "I've raised my kids here. Every year, haven't missed a season."

"It's been great some years, other years I haven't won a race. I love being here, I love to compete. Horses generally develop pretty good here. All my guys have been here year after year. Some years it's tough, some years it's good."

Stewart started the meet with 12 horses and sent four home to Churchill Downs which left his string at eight in his Horse Haven barn on the Oklahoma Training Track. Three more are due to fill the empty stalls next week. He's winless in nine starts with 14 days of racing left in the meet.

"We've got the four stakes, these 2-year-olds that have worked really good here and the couple coming up," said Stewart. "It's all really good races. This is the fourth quarter, we've better get to playing or we're going to be hitchhiking home."

With the rain picking up, Stewart ducked under the shedrow to discuss his Saratoga string with The Special's Shayna Tiller.

Auspicious Babe: Rock Ridge Racing's homebred daughter of Bodemeister won two of her first three starts before the Alabama, where she finished seventh. She's quiet and tied to the back of her stall as her legs are wrapped. "The owners have her mom and other broodmares so we're just trying to build families. She's done very well here, had some very good works. She's nice in the stall, but when she gets out of here she can get after it. She can get to bucking and playing."

Cathedral Reader: G M B Racing's chestnut filly is sprawled out, enjoying her late morning nap. A 3-year-old daughter of Shackleford, she won her debut in May and was third in an allowance at Churchill June 21. "She was in the Test and I scratched her. The track was muddy the day before



Trainer Dallas Stewart shows a charge some love at Saratoga.

Tod Marks

and it was fast for the Test. After I'd already entered her, I just thought 7 furlongs may be a little more than she's ready for. So we'll fast-forward to the (Grade 2) Prioress. She's a quality filly, she's nice and we really like her. She worked really well over here at the Oklahoma. She's not tough at all, she's beautiful."

Givemeaminit: Valene Farms' 3-year-old son of Star Guitar ran in three Grade 1s last year before winning a maiden at Fair Grounds in January. He's remained in tough company, running in five graded stakes this year and finished eighth in the Grade 3 Indiana Derby July 14. "He ran here last year in the Hopeful. He's running in the Allen Jerkens. He worked really well this morning at Churchill. He'll be here on the 22nd along with Seeking The Soul. They've been working together every week breezing and they've been working really good. You could ride him down Union Avenue, he's never an issue."

Seeking The Soul: Chuck Fipke's homebred won last year's Grade 1 Clark Handicap at Churchill Downs. From the direct female family of Personal Ensign, the 5-year-old son of Perfect Soul has earned \$1,421,162 in 19 starts. Freshened after a fifth in the Grade 1 Pegasus World Cup in late January, Seeking The Soul returned to finish a close second in the Michael G. Schaefer Memorial Stakes at Indiana Grand July 14. "He's a really well bred horse. He ran second at Indiana and ran well. He ran in the Pegasus and got banged up a little bit, no surgery or anything but we took our time with him and here we are. He'll be entered in the Woodward. I've had him since he was 2. He's still a real tough horse. Oh, he'll hurt you. He's not real easy to deal with. Even walking out here he strikes at people. He's really kind of a mean horse."

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Classy John: Valene Farm's unraced 2-year-old son of Songandprayer breezed 5 furlongs from the gate in :58.60 at Churchill Downs Training Center Friday morning. "He's been training down there and worked extremely fast today. We'll bring him up and maybe run him Travers Day. There are three maiden races. He looks like we could bring him up and be competitive."

Champagne Tale: The chestnut filly poked her head over the stall guard and sniffed Stewart. Fipke's unraced 2-year-old breezed 5 furlongs in :59.39 with Frolic More on the Oklahoma Wednesday. "She's going to probably run the last week. She's doing really well. She had a really good work over on the Oklahoma – a super work. We've just got a little more to do with her. She's got a little bit to go mentally," Stewart reaches to stroke her nose, and she leaps back. "I'm sorry, girl. Her dad is Tale Of Ekati, who I love. She just needs a lot of love. She's going to be a really good racehorse, she's just got a little way to go."

Frolic More: The bay colt pawed at the ground and nibbled his stall guard as Stewart approached. "He's a 2-year-old colt by More Than Ready. We hope to run him the last week here. He had a very good breeze. He worked with Champagne Tale and outworked her a little bit. We bought him at the 2-year-old in training sale. I liked his work and I love More Than Ready. We've had good luck with More Than Ready with Tom's Ready. We got him pretty cheap, he only cost \$25,000. Finally a bargain!"

Wild Road: On Our Own Stable's 3-year-old son of Quality Road finished fourth in a maiden special weight Aug. 2. The dark bay colt bobbed his head, throwing around his voluminous forelock as Stewart approached. "I am that handsome!" He's a tough guy. He's a New York-bred maiden that was fourth. He's going to run back on the 1st. He just got beat for second, I thought he was second but it was close. He ran good, it was his best race yet."

Tale Of Verve: Fipke's 6-year-old son of Tale Of Ekati is a Saratoga veteran – he finished eighth in the Travers in 2015, won an allowance and finished seventh in the Woodward in 2016 and has been off since January 2017. He's been back on the work tab since May and breezed a half in :49.60 at Churchill Tuesday. "He had a rest for a year and a half. Chuck gave him a long rest. He's really training great. I'm going to run him at Churchill in September. He's doing great. He's beautiful. He seems to be coming back, he's outworking everything."



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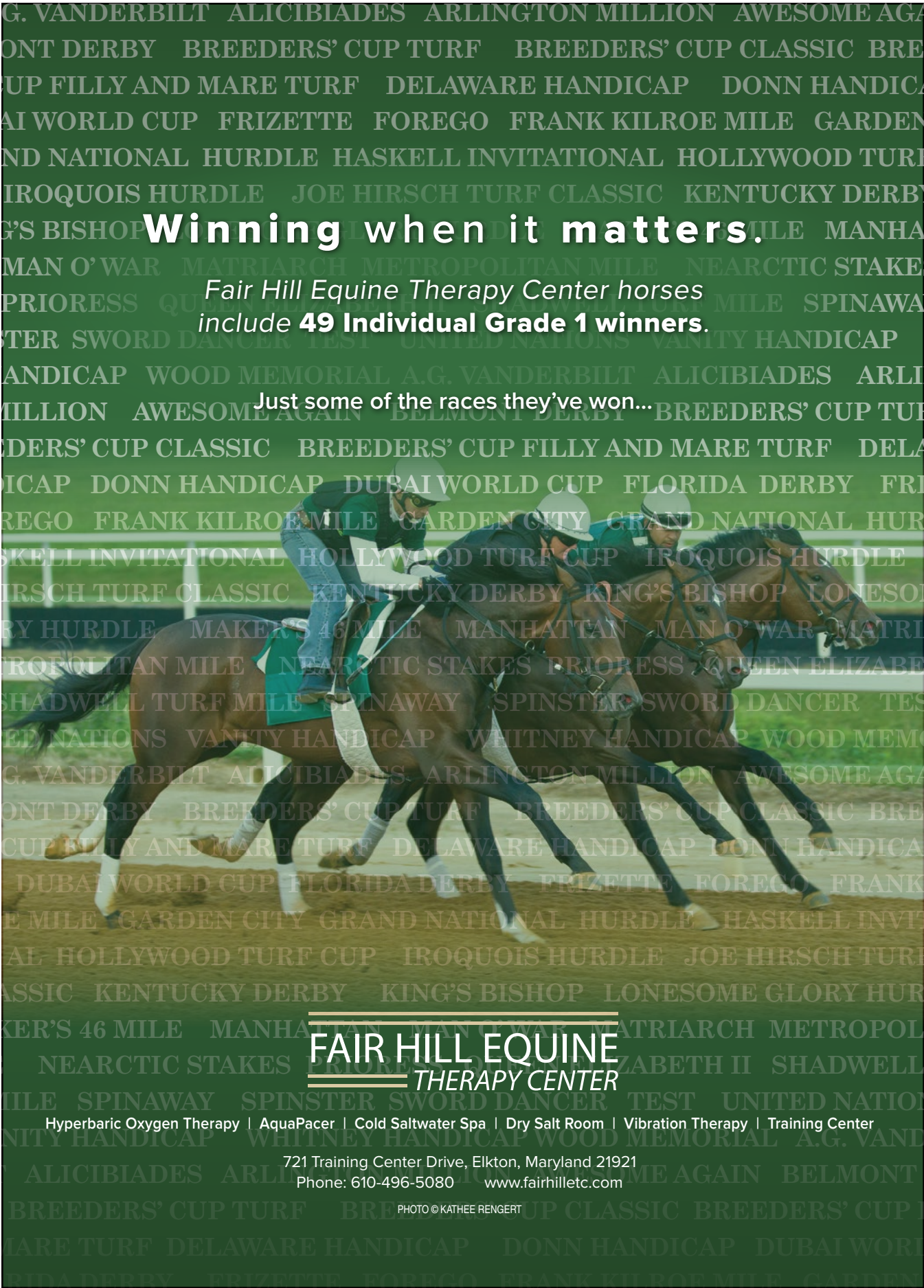
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Smooched

Eskimo Kisses rallies from behind in Gr. 1

BY SEAN CLANCY

Ken McPeck went fishing at the Fasig-Tipton yearling sales. McPeck saw Jimmy Riccio, agent for Jose Ortiz and asked him what he was riding in the Grade 1 Alabama.

"I was fishing to see if he was riding anything tough," McPeck said.

Riccio shook his head, "I don't ride it."

McPeck didn't miss a beat, "You do now."

The final piece of a six-month plan for Eskimo Kisses was in place as McPeck switched from Kentucky-based Corey Lanerie to New York-based Ortiz.

Saturday, 12 days after that conversation at the sales, Ortiz followed McPeck's instructions like they were on a headset from Belichick to Brady,

Continued On Page 12



Tod Marks

Eskimo Kisses hits the wire all alone in Saturday's Grade 1 Alabama.



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Alabama —

■ Continued from page 10

allowing the chestnut filly to lag in last, 15 lengths behind second choice Talk Veuve To Me before unleashing a powerful move that decimated seven rivals. Owned by Gainesway Stable, Harold Lerner, Andrew Rosen, Nehoc Stable and Magdalena Racing, Eskimo Kisses won by 6 1/2 lengths over She's A Julie and favorite Midnight Bisou.

Walking in the middle of a jubilant group of friends and owners on their way to the winner's circle, McPeck pumped his fist and smiled.

"That was awesome," McPeck said. "We've been planning on that for months."

Since Feb. 22, to be exact.

Eskimo Kisses broke her maiden in her fourth start, taking a maiden at Oaklawn Park by a neck Feb. 1. She came right back to win an allowance race at Oaklawn Feb. 22. She won by 11 1/2 lengths and had McPeck thinking Alabama. She finished second in the Fair Grounds Oaks, then chased divisional leader Monomoy Girl in the Ashland and Kentucky Oaks, finishing second and fourth. All the time, McPeck looked down the road at the Alabama and its testing 1 1/4 miles. He freshened Eskimo Kisses at his farm in Lexington after the Oaks, just to soothe some aches and pains and put some weight back on the daughter of To Honor And Serve. Eskimo Kisses returned to the races with a fourth in the Coaching Club American Oaks here July 22. That was the perfect setup.

"We've been thinking about this for a long time, she got a month off on my farm and then we eased her into things with the idea of getting a race into her in the Coaching Club that sets her up for the Alabama. She needed the race, we knew that, we actually used it as a training race," McPeck said. "It couldn't have gone smoother, other than she got quite tired in the Coaching Club but, look, I would rather her progress off that and that's exactly what she did."

Ortiz, who rode Eskimo Kisses for the first time in a routine gallop Thursday, made sure of that. Sometimes, the definitive move is not a move at all. Ortiz leaned over Eskimo Kisses' withers like it was that Thurs-



Tod Marks

Eskimo Kisses and Jose Ortiz.

day gallop, allowing the race to play out in front of him.

Talk Veuve To Me cleared from the outside but had to run to get there, wrestling a length lead over She's A Julie and Figarella's Queen through a taxing first quarter-mile in :22.52 and a half in :46.79. Mike Smith settled Midnight Bisou in fifth while Ortiz continued to chill on a chilled Eskimo Kisses.

"They got away from me, it was some pace in there, I wasn't sure it was :22, :46, I thought it was :23, :47," Ortiz said. "That's what Kenny told me to do, sit back and let her take you to the half-mile pole."

Passing the half-mile pole, Talk Veuve To Me led She's A Julie and Coach Rocks as Figarella's Queen and Piedi Bianchi faded. Midnight Bisou positioned for a wide move just ahead of longshot Auspicious Babe. Eskimo Kisses began to cut into the once double-digit margin as Ortiz gauged her engine, showing her his whip for a split second.

"Just flick it out, she responded well, I was like, 'Oh, not yet.' I'm holding her together, just putting her on the bit," Ortiz said. "I knew she was going to win. I could see Mike calling on Midnight Bisou, I knew it was falling apart in front of me. That's a good feeling."

With McPeck's instructions ring-

Continued On Page 14

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Alabama —

■ Continued from page 12

ing in his ear, Ortiz continued to save ground, going outside four laggards but always aiming inside.

Turning for home, Talk Veuve To Me clung to her lead, She's A Julie clung next to her, Midnight Bisou swung three wide but hadn't put anything to bed. Ortiz aimed Eskimo Kisses for a hole between Talk Veuve To Me and She's A Julie. Once there, it was over fast as Eskimo Kisses powered home in a romp, finishing in 2:03.22.

For McPeck, it all came back to the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October yearling sale when he put Hip 501 on his short list and waited for the big, beautiful chestnut filly by a stallion who wasn't popular.

McPeck liked To Honor And Serve, a two-time Grade 1 winner who was soon sent to Korea for stud duty. The trainer also liked the filly, a granddaughter of Kentucky Derby winner and champion Winning Colors.

As he waited, Hip 501 was announced as a late scratch. McPeck ran back to Gainesway's consignment to see general manager Neil Howard.

"I said, 'Hey, what about the big chestnut filly?' They said, 'Well, we decided to scratch her because all the vets turned her down, because she's got lipping in her knees.' If they press them too hard, they'll spur off. Pinhookers aren't going to touch her, big shots aren't going to buy her because she's by To Honor And Serve,"

McPeck said. "I said if someone takes their time with her, runs her long all her life, don't ever sprint her, don't ever let her go faster than :12 and change, teach her to finish, she'll be fine."

They made a deal, divvying her between Gainesway, McPeck and Lerner, who was interested from the start. This spring, they added Andrew Rosen and Nehoc Stable.

Lerner and his wife, Helen, had never won a Grade 1 stakes. But they have hit the big one, winning the Mega Millions jackpot in 2005. It was worth \$156 million. Yes, \$156 million.

"I'm the luckiest guy in the world," Harold Lerner said. "I mean the luckiest guy in the world."

Born in Brooklyn and hooked on the game by trips to Roosevelt Raceway with his uncle and his dad when he was 16, Lerner began to buy horses after hitting the lottery. The retired self-employed kitchenware salesman plays it his way, on a budget, watching the market, breeding a few, buying a few.

"To win a Grade 1 is a big thrill, to win a race like this is an even bigger thrill because of the history of this race. Today was her day, the racing Gods were looking down on us," Lerner said. "This is not something I would ever or could ever take for granted, this is a highlight. I've been an owner for about 12 1/2 years, you cherish this moment because of how special it really is, to be able to ascend to this level, it's more than a dream come true."



The Eskimo Kisses team and friends accept the Alabama trophy.

Tod Marks

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Big Comeback

Rushing Fall returns from 15-week layoff to win Gr. 2



Tod Marks

Rushing Fall pulls away in the stretch of Saturday's Lake Placid.

LAKE PLACID STAKES RECAP

BY TOM LAW

Bob Edwards took a break from his charity bartender duties at the Sipping For Seniors fundraiser for the Saratoga Senior Center Monday night at Bailey's Café in downtown Saratoga Springs to bend the ear of Alysse Jacobs.

The affable Edwards, who runs e Five Racing Thoroughbreds with his wife Kristine, had one question for the most omnipresent person in the winner's circle at Saratoga Race Course.

"Why don't you ever give me a trophy here?" Edwards asked, five days before his Rushing Fall made her return to the races in the \$300,000 Lake Placid Stakes.

Jacobs, assistant to Carmen Barrera in NYRA's horsemen's relations department and as quick-witted a character as there is at any track in America, knew just the response.

"You just had to ask," she recalled as the appropriate answer, after escorting Edwards to the Saratoga Room to celebrate Rushing Fall's powerful victory in the Grade 2 accompanying feature on the Alabama Day card. Edwards joined his wife and trainer Chad Brown, along with a small entourage, for a champagne toast and a quick view of the Lake Placid replay.

Continued On Page 17

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Lake Placid —

■ Continued from page 16

The replay showed what the paid crowd of 38,676 – plus many more watching via simulcast or television – saw about 15 minutes prior when Rushing Fall made a good group of 3-year-old turf fillies look fairly ordinary in the Grade 2 stakes. Ridden by Javier Castellano, Rushing Fall won the 9-furlong Lake Placid over the drying out and yielding ground by 2 3/4 lengths over Capla Tempress with Grade 3 Lake George winner Daddy Is A Legend third in the field of seven.

Rushing Fall improved to 5-for-6 with the victory and cracked into seven figures, now at \$1,008,000 thanks to the first-place prize of \$165,000. Bigger still is Rushing Fall's bounce-back from her only defeat in the Grade 3 Edgewood on Kentucky Oaks Day and from minor illnesses that cost her the chance to run in two important stakes in her division.

Rushing Fall missed the chance to compete at Royal Ascot in the Group 1 Coronation Stakes in June and then the Grade 1 Belmont Oaks Invitational in July, both times after Brown wasn't satisfied with her energy level. An elevated temperature then cost her a spot in the Lake George on Saratoga's Opening Day card.

"It's hard to sit them out, but when they're not 100 percent that's what you have to do, be a good manager of these horses," Brown said. "You have

to know when to hold your hand, so to speak, and when to play it."

Edwards, who made his fortune in the pharmaceutical industry, also stayed patient. He also held out hope for that trophy presentation and even more elusive Saratoga win.

"I make drugs for a living, our cycle is five to seven years, so I get it," said Edwards. "I'm going from yearling to a broodmare and it takes time. Patience is something I earned. I didn't learn it I earned it."

Rushing Fall earned Edwards the trophy and his first Saratoga victory under a savvy ride from Castellano, aboard for each of the filly's five prior starts.

The Lake Placid appeared to have a lack of speed the moment the overnight came out, with a majority of the field midpack runners or closers. Go Noni Go's better performances came when she raced on or near the lead and she and Luis Saez committed to the front from the start.

Rushing Fall broke sharp, Castellano took a hold and settled the filly just behind the longshot leader past the finish and around the first turn. Unlike the Edgewood when she didn't settle and pulled Castellano to the front – very uncharacteristic of a filly who closed from ninth, 12th and ninth in the early stages of her three 2-year-old victories – Rushing Fall relaxed behind the leader's slow splits of :25.29 and :50.20.

They stayed that way at the end of the backstretch and around the far

Continued On Page 18



Tod Marks

Owner Bob Edwards (third from right) accepts the trophies.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018

THE SARATOGA SPECIAL



CHURCHILL DOWNS

2018 Fall Meet Stakes Schedule

October 28 - November 25

STARS OF TOMORROW I

SPENDTHRIFT JUVENILE STALLION STAKES

Runs Sun., Oct. 28 \$300,000 Two Year Olds	Closes Oct. 13 (no nomination fee) 7 Furlongs
--	---

RAGS TO RICHES OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Sun., Oct. 28 \$95,000 Fillies Two Year Olds	Closes Oct. 20 (no nomination fee) 1 Mile
---	---

THE BET ON SUNSHINE OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Thurs., Nov. 1 \$95,000 Three Years Old & Up	Closes Oct. 20 (no nomination fee) 7 Furlongs
---	---

STREET SENSE

Runs Fri., Nov. 2 \$100,000 Two Year Olds	Closes Oct. 20 (\$100 nomination fee) 1 Mile
---	--

THE MARATHON STAKES (GII)

Runs Fri., Nov. 2 \$200,000 Three Years Old & Up	Closes Oct. 20 (\$200 nomination fee) 1-3/4 Miles
--	---

THE CHEROKEE RUN STAKES

Runs Sat., Nov. 3 \$200,000 Three Year Olds	Closes Oct. 20 (\$200 nomination fee) 7 Furlongs
---	--

CHILUKKI (GII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 3 \$200,000 Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	Closes Oct. 20 (\$200 nomination fee) 1 Mile
---	--

DREAM SUPREME OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Sun., Nov. 4 \$95,000 Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	Closes Oct. 27 (no nomination fee) 6 Furlongs
--	---

COMMONWEALTH TURF (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 10 \$100,000 Three Year Olds	Closes Oct. 27 (\$100 nomination fee) 1-1/16 Miles Turf
--	---

RIVER CITY HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 17 \$100,000 Three Year Olds & Up	Closes Nov. 3 (\$100 nomination fee) 1-1/8 Miles Turf
---	---

CARDINAL HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Thurs., Nov. 22 \$100,000 Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	Closes Nov. 10 (\$100 nomination fee) 1-1/8 Miles Turf
---	--

FALLS CITY HANDICAP (GII)

Runs Thurs., Nov. 22 \$200,000 Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	Closes Nov. 10 (\$200 nomination fee) 1-1/8 Miles
---	---

MRS. REVERE (GII)

Runs Fri., Nov. 23 \$200,000 Fillies, Three Years Old	Closes Nov. 10 (\$200 nomination fee) 1-1/16 Miles Turf
---	---

CLARK HANDICAP (GI)

presented by Norton Healthcare

Runs Fri., Nov. 23 \$500,000 Three Years Old & Up	Closes Nov. 10 (\$300 nomination fee) 1-1/8 Miles
---	---

STARS OF TOMORROW II

GOLDEN ROD (GII)

2019 Kentucky Oaks Points Race

Runs Sat., Nov. 24 \$200,000 Fillies, Two Years Old	Closes Nov. 10 (\$200 nomination fee) 1-1/16 Miles
---	--

KENTUCKY JOCKEY CLUB (GII)

2019 Kentucky Derby Points Race

Runs Sat., Nov. 24 \$200,000 Two Year Olds	Closes Nov. 10 (\$200 nomination fee) 1-1/16 Miles
--	--



Tod Marks

Rushing Fall gets a smooch from Javier Castellano near the finish line.

Lake Placid —

■ Continued from page 17

turn before Castellano gave Rushing Fall a nudge. She rolled past Go Nono Go outside the quarter pole and opened up in an instant. Castellano shook her up, showed the whip several times and they cruised to the finish in 1:51.86.

“I like the way she ran on the yielding turf,” Castellano said. “We took advantage of it. All the credit goes to Chad Brown.”

Brown gave the praise to his rider, who caught some heat after the Edgewood.

“I turned the page from that,” Brown said. “These decisions are difficult. The filly didn’t really cooperate for him at Churchill, I can’t put all the blame on Javier. She was pulling a bit. I thought there was an opportunity to cover her up early where she would not have been pulling, that was my disappointment in it, but that’s the way it unfolds.

“Javier gets along with her really well, he’s won lots of races on her, like the Breeders’ Cup (Juvenile Fil-

lies Turf). When the gates open things happen and the horses don’t always cooperate either. It’s tricky off a layoff to ride this filly in a paceless race today going a mile and an eighth, which is her limit. That takes a lot of concentration and skill. Javier showed his today. And the filly showed hers.”

Rushing Fall is Brown’s first winner of the Lake Placid, run as the Nijana Stakes from 1984 to 1997.

Brown, the meet’s leading trainer in 2016 and clear leader through the first 26 days of the 2018 stand with 29 wins, now owns wins in all but one of Saratoga’s six graded turf stakes for females. The closing weekend Grade 2 Glens Fall is the lone omission, to go with wins in the Diana (four), Ballston Spa (three), Lake George (two) and Waya (two).

Rushing Fall could head next to another race Brown has won, the Grade 1 Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup at Keeneland, in eight weeks. Not quite the 15-week break between the Edgewood and the Lake Placid, but plenty of space.

“She ran so well fresh today I may not run her again,” Brown said. “The way she ran, she might not need to run.”

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Head Turners

Juveniles Code Of Honor, Endorsed impress in maiden wins

BY BRANDON VALVO

Code Of Honor bounced into the paddock on his toes before Saturday's sixth race at Saratoga Race Course. The freshman's chestnut coat gleamed in the sun like the fresh copper paneling lining the clubhouse roof and his long mane leapt from his neck with each step. Ears forward, eyes wide and head up, he looked far from a first-time starter.

While Shug McGaughey isn't known for saddling debut winners, he felt Code Of Honor came into Saturday in great shape. The Hall of Fame trainer also figured the son of Noble Mission out of the Dixie Union mare Reunited might want more ground than the 6 furlongs he'd cover in the \$85,000 maiden special weight.

SATURDAY 2-YEAR-OLDS

"He's trained good. He's trained fast. He's got a pretty good head on his shoulders," McGaughey said. "I don't really know what to expect of a Noble Mission, maybe if he had a little more constitution to him it would help, but I think he's growing a little bit and I think he's got a pretty good future."

Code Of Honor broke sharp under John Velazquez and sprinted to the lead with Most Mischief right alongside. Code Of Honor asserted himself entering the turn, taking a length advantage in a :23.07 quarter-mile. He raced comfortably around the bend

Continued On Page 21



Tod Marks

Code Of Honor wins Saturday's sixth race.



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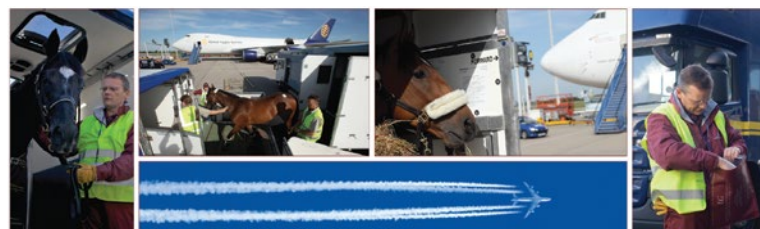
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2-year-olds —

■ Continued from page 20

past a :47.01 half and came under a ride at the head of the lane when 3-5 favorite Wild Medagliad'oro swept up four wide.

Velazquez went to a right-handed stick and gave Code Of Honor one smack, twirled the whip into a stronger grip and gave him two more. Code Of Honor took off, streaking away to win by 1 1/2 lengths in 1:11.42 to become McGaughey's first debut winner on the Saratoga main track since eventual champion Honor Code in 2013.

"I knew he trained fast and I thought he would break fast. He broke good and Johnny put him there. He was comfortable and he had horse," McGaughey said. "I saw the favorite running on the outside, but I also saw Johnny still had a lot of horse. I thought when he turned him loose, he was going to show something. I was very pleased with the way he did it."

Code Of Honor failed to meet his reserve at the 2017 Keeneland September yearling sale when bidding reached \$70,000. Bill Farish of Lane's End kept the horse and gave him to McGaughey to train.

"He's easy. He's a little bit of a high-energy horse, but he's easy to train," McGaughey said. "Nothing's got in his way. He's always been real sound, so I'm pleased with what I saw today."

Endorsed captured the other division of the 2-year-old maiden special originally scheduled for the main track. The son of Medaglia d'Oro rode the rail 3 lengths behind 7-5 favorite Ahead Of Plan past a :23.02 quarter and advanced within 2 lengths after a :46.77 half.

Endorsed followed Ahead Of Plan into the stretch, but was boxed in with Principled to his outside. As that rival sputtered, rider Joe Bravo went to a left-handed drive on Endorsed, shifting him out to take on the leader at the furlong marker. Ahead Of Plan tired nearing the finish and Endorsed got up to win by a neck in 1:11.22 for Kieran McLaughlin and Godolphin Stable.

"He's always shown a lot of promise in the morning. He's a lovely mover, but they're babies and you just don't know what to expect in the



Tod Marks

Endorsed and Joe Bravo return after a win.

afternoon," Godolphin USA President Jimmy Bell said. "The good ones seem to rise to the occasion. We really liked him all along but we know better than to get too high."

Endorsed is a homebred out of the Tapit mare Dance Card, who won four races in seven starts. Her triumphs included the Grade 1 Gazelle at Aqueduct and the Belle Cherie Stakes at Belmont, both in 2012. She retired with \$502,200 after finishing third in the Grade 2 Gallant Bloom Handicap and Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint.

"I'm really happy for Sheikh Mohammed," Bell said. "Medaglia (d'Oro) on top and Dance Card on the bottom. He's a homebred, that's really what excites him the most. To have one jump up and be able to do that at 6 furlongs is very encouraging."

Standard Deviation delivered as the 2-5 favorite in the second. The main track only entrant drew in after the race came off the turf and won by 2 3/4 lengths, completing 7 furlongs in 1:25.67. Klaravich Stable paid \$450,000 for the Curlin colt at the 2017 Keeneland September yearling sale. Standard Deviation gave trainer Chad Brown his fifth 2-year-old winner at the meet.

— Additional reporting
by Ben Gowans



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Alive and thriving

Weather clears as fans pack track

Rain. It's a word used way too frequently during the 2018 Saratoga Race Course meeting.

The weather forced scores of races off the turf and kept hundreds if not thousands of fans home under cover as 9.55 inches of rain fell since Opening Day.

Friday morning's weather forecast predicted gloomy and stormy conditions for Alabama Day. Fans were pleasantly surprised with blue skies overhead and a gentle breeze rolling through, creating a picturesque day in upstate New York on one of the track's signature days.

Saratoga welcomed paid attendance of 38,676 to enjoy the Alabama card and their presence was felt.

The picnic area filled with tailgate and birthday parties and simple celebrations of a beautiful day. With all backyard tables occupied, some resorted to building their own picnics, sitting criss-cross on blankets laid over the grass.

The undercard grass races were moved to the main track due to heavy rains overnight, but the Grade 2 Lake Placid remained on the yielding turf. The crowd roared for Eskimo Kisses' come-from-behind Alabama victory and was equally enthused with other races throughout the day.

Fans flooded the grandstand apron for each race, cramming toward the rail to get a better look at the action throughout the day.

— Shayna Tiller

SATURDAY RACING RECAP

- Trainer Graham Motion celebrated his first win of the meet with a full winner's circle and a sigh of relief after Arch Of The Diver returned from a nearly two-year layoff to win the opener.

West Point Thoroughbreds' and John Haines' 4-year-old Arch gelding won the off-the-turf maiden claimer going 9 furlongs under Manny Franco. Franco hopped off Arch Of The Diver and went straight to Motion in the winner's circle.

"He dragged me all the way," Franco said.

Arch Of The Diver was off since a turf maiden in September 2016 at Belmont Park due to various issues, Motion said.

"It was a bit of a worry coming off that kind of layoff, on a surface we weren't necessarily looking to run on," Motion said. "I had a feeling he could handle it, he was pretty fit today. I'm just tickled for these guys, a lot of these guys have been with this horse for a long time, so it's a lot of fun for them to get that win in Saratoga. It's been a tough meet for us with turf horses up here. Ironically we end up winning with a horse that comes off the grass."

Arch Of The Diver cost \$300,000 at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Florida 2-year-old sale. He won for the first time in three starts.



Tod Marks

Arch Of The Diver pulls away in the first race.

"We thought he was a beautiful horse and he probably would have been the pick of the paddock," West Point Thoroughbreds' Terry Finley said. "When you're at the 2-year-old sales and you can see them work like we did with him and they have a decent pedigree you have to pay, and that's what we did. The 2-year-old sales are very hot, but for a long time they've had good horses come out of them, so I think we will continue to ply our trade at the 2-year-old-sale."

"A lot of people talk about it any race, any time, anywhere feels great, but to come up here to Saratoga, to win a race, to win it like that, and to have almost all the partners here is a cool thing. I'm so appreciative of all the partners that give us the ability to do what we do for a living."

— David Woods

- Gary Contessa thought about his friend, longtime Thoroughbred owner and racehorse aftercare advocate David Cassidy after winning the fifth race, run about an hour after a race in the late pop star's honor.

"I'm a horse trainer who wants to be a rock star and he was a rock star who wanted to be a trainer — that's what I always said about David," said Contessa, who trained for Cassidy for 23 years. Cassidy passed away at age 67 in November 2017.

Cassidy's band performed at the Putnam Place Aug. 14 in a benefit concert for the Thoroughbred Retirement Fund and called up Contessa to play the bass.

"David used to call me up out of the audience to plays songs with him

Continued On Page 23

"This thing could cure a broken heart."

— New Castle Farm's James "J.J." Crupi

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Saturday —

■ Continued from page 22

at his concerts,” said Contessa. “That was always a thing that he and I did. I was a bass player all my life as a kid but then I became a horse trainer and I kind of put it by the wayside.”

The third was run in honor of Cassidy and ended with a memorial ceremony in the winner’s circle. About an hour later, Contessa and the connections of Elizabeth Nicole posed in the same spot after the fifth.

Contessa claimed the 3-year-old daughter of Exchange Rate for \$25,000 Aug. 8. Won over by the filly’s debut, Contessa decided to make the claim and run her back for \$40,000.

“She was coming off a layoff. She had a lot of class. She won her first start very impressively as a baby and then she had some time off and they (owner Danny Ward and trainer Ron Moquett) came here and took a shot with her,” said Contessa. “She ran third (Aug. 8) but she was very bad in the paddock so I thought if we worked on that and got her a little bit better mentally we would have a really good shot because she was sound and happy.

“She was training great; this race was there and I thought it was a great

opportunity for her. She’s really an A personality. From the day we got her, she’s really been on go. She certainly showed no fatigue so that’s the kind of horse you can run back on short rest.”

Elizabeth Nicole, the second longest choice at 20-1, broke to the lead under Dylan Davis and led the field from gate to wire.

“I really didn’t think that she would be on the lead in here,” said Contessa. “But I’m just a dumb horse trainer. I said to Dylan, ‘I think she was too close to the pace last time, but when the gate opens, do whatever you want,’ and when the gate opened, she broke so well I’m glad Dylan didn’t take it away from her.”

— Sarah Newman

• Mark Hennig’s Twitter feed is famous for his updates on race statuses and it’s been especially helpful during this rainy Saratoga season.

At 4:57 Saturday morning, Hennig tweeted that the first, second, seventh and 10th races were coming off the turf. Hennig entered William Parsons Jr.’s and David Howe’s Cartwheel in the seventh, benefitting from the race being moved and winning the allowance by 13 3/4 lengths.

“I’m a little quicker on the draw than other people so they pay attention to it,” Hennig said of his tweets. “That was a good race. She breezed

really well here last year as a 2-year-old and I knew she liked the surface. When it came off the turf today, I was kind of excited about the prospects with the way the race was setting up. It scratched down pretty nice, a nice spot for her.”

Cartwheel ran on the turf for the first time in an Opening Day allowance, finishing sixth after a troubled trip. Hennig aimed for redemption on the grass, but will settle with her dominant romp back on the dirt.

“Jose (Lezcano) and I talked about the fact that there wasn’t a lot of speed in the race,” said Hennig. “They didn’t go that fast and he was able to dictate the pace. Sometimes in these off the turf races that’s the way it goes, the horse that shows that speed and affinity for the racetrack helps.”

The daughter of Flatter is out of the Elusive Quality mare Kaleidoscope, who Hennig also trained for Parsons and Howe.

“I trained her mother,” said Hennig. “(Kaleidoscope) had some issues, she was a bad-footed horse actually. She had ability and this filly is one of her first foals. We’re looking forward to more.”

— Shayna Tiller

Saratoga Leaders

TRAINERS	1ST
Chad Brown	29
Todd Pletcher	15
Steve Asmussen	11
Bill Mott	10
Jeremiah Englehart	8
Rudy Rodriguez	8
Jason Servis	8
Shug McGaughey	7
Kiaran McLaughlin	7
Joe Sharp	6


JOCKEYS	1ST
Irad Ortiz Jr.	37
Javier Castellano	28
Manny Franco	23
Jose Ortiz	23
Luis Saez	23
Joel Rosario	17
John Velazquez	17
Junior Alvarado	14
Ricardo Santana Jr.	14

Through Saturday



Tod Marks

Elizabeth Nicole wins the fifth for trainer Gary Contessa.



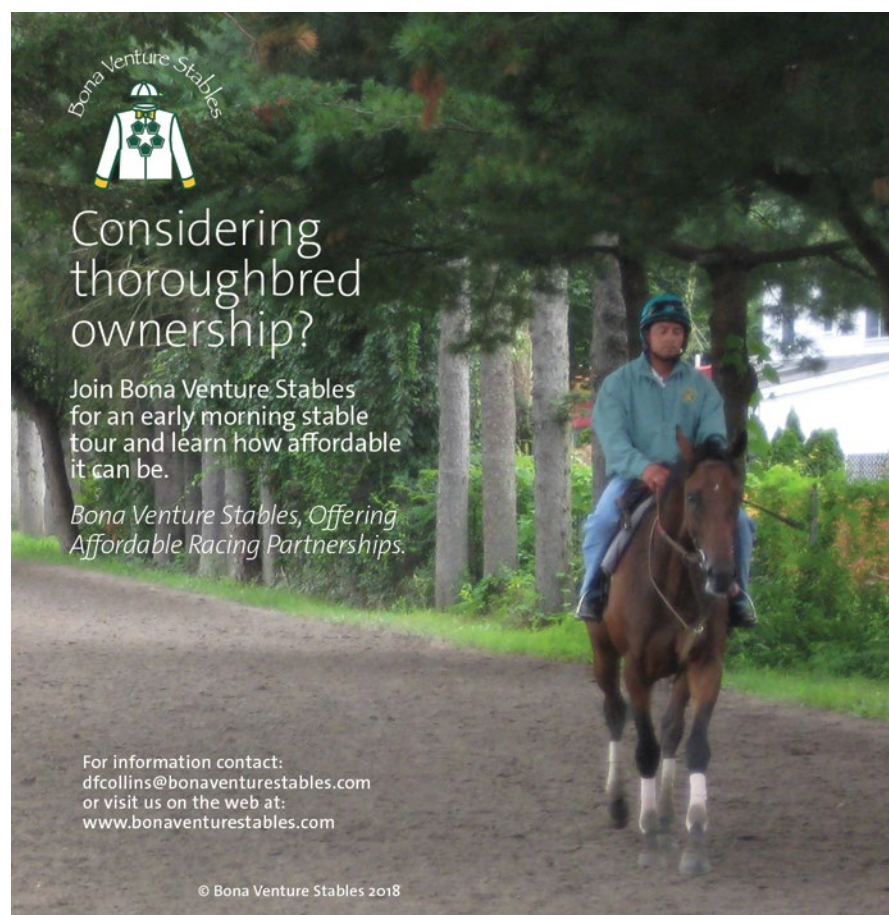
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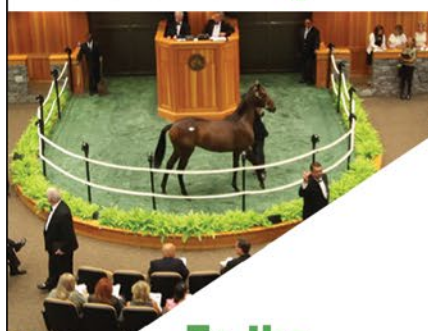
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13 Ding Dong Ditch	J. Velazquez		\$3.60	\$2.60
7 Valycove	J. Leparoux			\$5.30

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Owner: West Point Thoroughbreds and Haines, John.

Trainer: H. Motion. Breeder: Hinkle Farms (KY).

Late Scratches: A I Initiative, Solar Warming, Telecommunication, Shiloh Lane, Bay Hill, Azzedine (FR), Florentine Kitten, Letterman, End of an Era, Shiny Copper Penny Time: 1:51.41

Exacta (10-13), \$27.00; Superfecta (10-13-7-12), \$50.65; Trifecta (10-13-7), \$87.25

SECOND \$85,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 7F

13 Standard Deviation	J. Castellano	\$2.90	\$2.50	\$2.10
3 Vineyard Sound	K. Carmouche		\$7.40	\$3.90
4 Malthael	D. Cohen			\$2.90

B Colt 2016, by Curlin - False Impression by A.P. Indy

Owner: Klaravich Stables, Inc.. Trainer: Chad Brown.

Breeder: KatieRich Farms (KY).

Late Scratches: Speedy Solution, Ian Glass, Rock On Kitten, Noble Nebraska, Perceived, Medina Ridge, Gunslinger (IRE), Southern Bridge Time: 1:25.67

Daily Double (10-13), \$13.20; Exacta (13-3), \$11.40; Quinella (3-13), \$8.70; Superfecta (13-3-4-11), \$10.57; Trifecta (13-3-4), \$15.25

THIRD \$70,000, CLAIMING \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

4 J S Bach	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$7.90	\$4.10	\$3.20
5 Helooksthepart	L. Saez		\$9.40	\$4.90
2 Sir Ballantine	D. Davis			\$4.80

B Gelding 2012, by Tale of the Cat - Ten Carat Lady by Pulpit

Owner: Dubb, Michael. Trainer: Jason Servis.

Breeder: Donald R. Dizney (FL).

Claimed: Forge claimed by Nice Guys Stables for \$50,000, Daddy D T claimed by Winning Move Stable for \$50,000 Time: 1:24

Daily Double (13-4), \$6.90; Exacta (4-5), \$47.00; Superfecta (4-5-2-1), \$73.05; Trifecta (4-5-2), \$110.62; Pic 3 (10-13-4), \$58.75

FOURTH \$85,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

4 Endorsed	J. Bravo	\$18.60	\$7.10	\$5.30
7 Ahead of Plan	J. Castellano		\$3.50	\$2.90
2 Principled	J. Velazquez			\$3.80

B Colt 2016, by Medaglia d'Oro - Dance Card by Tapit

Owner: Godolphin Racing, LLC. Trainer: Kiaran McLaughlin.

Breeder: Godolphin (KY). Time: 1:11.22

Daily Double (4-4), \$43.75; Exacta (4-7), \$32.00; Quinella (4-7), \$12.80; Superfecta (4-7-2-6), \$75.15; Trifecta (4-7-2), \$62.25; Pic 3 (13-4-4), \$59.25

FIFTH \$64,000, CLAIMING \$40,000, 3 YO, 6F

1 Elizabeth Nicole	D. Davis	\$42.60	\$16.20	\$6.40
5 Shape Shifter	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$5.50	\$3.30
7 Gypsy Janie	J. Ortiz			\$2.90

Gr/ro Filly 2015, by Exchange Rate - Holy Kuga by Orientate

Owner: DCK Racing. Trainer: Gary Contessa.

Breeder: Franklin Stables LLC (KY). Late Scratches: Shanghai Glory Claimed: Shape Shifter claimed by Phoenix Stable, Inc. for \$40,000, Richie'sliwildcat claimed by Contessa, Jennifer for \$40,000

Time: 1:13.46

Daily Double (4-1), \$306.50; Exacta (1-5), \$119.00; Superfecta (1-5-7-6), \$218.50; Trifecta (1-5-7), \$218.75; Pic 3 (4-4-1), \$1,514.00; Pic 4 (1/2/5/6/7/9/10/13-4-4-1), \$978.75; Pic 5 (10-1/2/5/6/7/9/10/13-4-4-1), \$9,033.50

SIXTH \$85,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

2 Code of Honor	J. Velazquez	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$3.50
5 Wild Medagliad'oro	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$2.60	\$2.10
8 U R Not So Bad	J. Ortiz			\$3.90

Ch Colt 2016, by Noble Mission (GB) - Reunited by Dixie Union

Owner: Farish, W.S.. Trainer: Claude McGaughy III.

Breeder: W. S. Farish (KY). Late Scratches: Fed Fever

Time: 1:11.42

Daily Double (1-2), \$345.00; Exacta (2-5), \$19.00; Superfecta (2-5-8-10), \$60.75; Trifecta (2-5-8), \$35.62; Pic 3 (4-1-2), \$1,998.50

SEVENTH \$77,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

10 Cartwheel	J. Lezcano	\$9.40	\$3.70	\$2.70
8 Lovely La La	J. Ortiz		\$2.70	\$2.40
13 Beach Princess	D. Davis			\$3.20

B Filly 2015, by Flatter - Kaleidoscope by Elusive Quality

Owner: Parsons, Jr., William and Howe, David S..

Trainer: Mark Hennig. Breeder: William Parsons Jr. & David Howe (NY).

Late Scratches: Pauseforthecause, Under Suspicion, Seeking the Blue, Zenbennie, Way Smart, Cha Cha Heels, Havana Affair, Tiz a Kitten Time: 1:25.30

Daily Double (2-10), \$51.00; Exacta (10-8), \$10.70; Superfecta (10-8-13-3), \$4.80; Trifecta (10-8-13), \$16.00; Pic 3 (1-2-10), \$1,375.00

EIGHTH \$300,000, STAKES - LAKE PLACID S., 3 YO, 1 1/8M

6 Rushing Fall	J. Castellano	\$4.70	\$3.40	\$2.70
3 Capla Temptress (IRE)	J. Leparoux		\$8.20	\$4.70
2 Daddy Is a Legend	M. Franco			\$3.40

B Filly 2015, by More Than Ready - Autumnal by Forestry

Owner: e Five Racing Thoroughbreds. Trainer: Chad Brown.

Breeder: Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding (KY). Time: 1:51.86

Daily Double (10-6), \$11.10; Exacta (6-3), \$21.80; Superfecta (6-3-2-7), \$64.10; Trifecta (6-3-2), \$45.12; Pic 3 (2-10-6), \$172.25

NINTH \$600,000, STAKES - ALABAMA S., 3 YO, 1 1/4M

2 Eskimo Kisses	J. Ortiz	\$20.00	\$8.30	\$4.10
4 She's a Julie	R. Santana, Jr.		\$7.40	\$4.10
3 Midnight Bisou	M. Smith			\$2.40

Ch Filly 2015, by To Honor and Serve - Silver Colors by Mr. Greeley

Owner: Gainesway Stable (Antony Beck), Harold Lerner LLC, Rosen, Andrew, Nehoc Stables and Magdalena Racing (Sherri McPeck).

Trainer: Kenneth McPeck. Breeder: Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY). Time: 2:03.22

Daily Double (6-2), \$33.75; Exacta (2-4), \$54.00; Superfecta (2-4-3-8), \$25.05; Trifecta (2-4-3), \$61.75; Pic 3 (10-6-2), \$147.00; Grand Slam (2/5/8-8/10/13-2/3/6-2), \$20.30

TENTH \$50,000, CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

13 Driven by Thunder	J. Velazquez	\$6.90	\$3.70	\$2.70
10 California Swing	L. Saez		\$4.10	\$2.70
16 Brimstone	I. Ortiz, Jr.			\$2.80

B Gelding 2014, by Overdriven - My Friend Melini by Trippi

Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.

Breeder: Marion G. Montanari (FL).

Late Scratches: Aire Bueno (CHI), Sycamore Lane, Italian Charm, Dancetrack, Expected Ruler, Poshsky, Nileator, Neoclassic, Reflected Star Claimed: Driven by Thunder claimed by Scuderi, Vincent S. for \$25,000, California Swing claimed by Grady, Brad for \$25,000, Brimstone claimed by Calm And Cool Stable for \$25,000

Time: 1:23.97

Daily Double (2-13), \$41.25; Exacta (13-10), \$11.60; Superfecta (13-10-16-6), \$8.05; Trifecta (13-10-16), \$15.00; Pic 3 (6-2-13), \$113.00; Pic 4 (10/6/2/1,2,3,4,9,11-15), \$333.00; Pic 5 (2/10/6/2/1,2,3,4,9,11-15), \$3,760.75; Pic 6 (1/2/10/6/2/1,2,3,4,9,11-15), \$1,254.00; Pic 6 (1/2/10/6/2/1,2,3,4,9,11-15), \$123,803.00

On Track Handle: 5,588,176. Inter-State Handle: 16,640,962
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Shayna Tiller

Trainer Chris Davis and Moonlit Garden tackle the Summer Colony today.

Spa Return

Moonlit Garden brings 3rd-year trainer back for stakes attempt

BY SHAYNA TILLER

Moonlit Garden stood proud over her stall guard in the middle of Barn 16 at Saratoga Race Course Saturday afternoon. Ears up, she beamed toward Chris Davis as he walked down the shedrow.

The trainer gave the filly a pat on the neck and she nuzzled his shoulder, as he continued to make sure all the pieces are in place for her start in today's \$100,000 Summer Colony Stakes.

Davis is no stranger to the backside of a racetrack. The 29-year-old trainer grew up 13 miles from Arlington Park and began by working for his mother Liane Davis.

"My mom's trained horses for over 35 years and my dad gallops and has worked in the starting gate in Chicago for over 30 years," said Davis. "I started from the bottom working for my mom. I groomed, hotwalked and started being an exercise rider at 16. I became an assistant and worked all over."

Davis worked for Phil D'Amato, traveling to tracks all over the country before running the string at Churchill Downs.

"I went back to Kentucky because Phil wanted to try moving a string to Churchill and I went out there and wound up getting three or four from

SUMMER COLONY PREVIEW

Town and Country," said Davis. "I was there doing everything and they'd come out to the barn and I had a really good rapport with Shannon Potter."

Town and Country's chief executive officer, Potter recognized Davis' passion and offered him two horses and a chance.

"They asked me if I wanted to go out on my own and they offered me this start," Davis said. "They gave me my first two horses and I won my first race for them in my fifth start, a maiden special weight in New Orleans in 2016. It's been great. I can't thank them enough."

"They trusted somebody young to go on their own and do a good job and without them I wouldn't be here. Everybody wants to go to the big-name trainers and it's hard to make a name for yourself unless somebody gives you a shot."

Davis took out his license in 2016 and won one of seven starts. He won four of 73 in 2017 and is already well ahead of that pace, with 14 wins from 76 starts and \$425,825 in purses for 2018 through Saturday.

He makes his second Saratoga appearance with Moonlit Garden after

Continued On Page 28

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Summer Colony —

■ Continued from page 26

sending Student Body out to a fifth in last year's Grade 2 Prioress.

After not reaching her reserve at the Keeneland September yearling sale in 2015, Town and Country sent Moonlit Garden to Todd Pletcher. She hit the board twice in three starts for Pletcher then moved to Davis' barn for her 3-year-old campaign.

Moonlit Garden finally made it to the winner's circle in her 12th start, winning the 1-mile and 70-yard maiden by 9 1/2 lengths at Fair Grounds March 17.

"Moonlit is as classy as they come," said Davis. "She got a late start maturity wise. She's a big, strong horse and we just needed her mind to catch up with her body."

"It seems like the more time we've had with her, the better she's gotten. It took her a while to break her maiden but when she finally broke her maiden the light bulb went off."

She won an allowance at Keeneland in April then finished seventh in the Grade 3 Arlington Matron May 19.

"The race was pretty salty, it didn't really go as planned," said Davis. "She'd been breezing really well on the Poly. She does everything pretty easy so we were under the impression that she really liked it."

"The ground broke out from under her and she didn't break overly well. (The jockey) sent her to try to make the lead like she did at Keeneland and they went really, really fast and she just threw her head up and said, 'I'm done.'"

Moonlit Garden rebounded, running well but falling short to Divine

Miss Grey in the Lady's Secret at Monmouth Park June 30.

"She ran a huge race, she shouldn't have lost," said Davis. "I've got to tip my hat to Divine Miss Grey, she's all heart. We got in front of her and that filly battled back, but she's a Grade 3 winner and we haven't even won a stake yet. My filly ran way too hard to lose. I couldn't have been prouder of her."

Davis hopes to earn himself and Moonlit Garden their first stakes win against four other older females in the 1 1/8-mile Summer Colony. She's the 9-5 second choice on the morning line and Jose Ortiz gets the call.

"She's doing great, we're looking for a big effort," said Davis. "She's great in the morning, but she'll be pretty strong tomorrow. She's a big Malibu Moon filly and in the afternoon she gets a little keyed up."

"Being in a small field, I'll try to keep her away from other horses and hopefully it'll be a bit quieter being early. If she's keyed up in the paddock I won't think twice about it because that's just her. I almost couldn't get the saddle on her at Monmouth she was so strong, dragging my grooms around. She's just a big, strong horse."

Kallenberg Farms' Forever Liesl will try to redeem herself against Moonlit Garden after finishing fourth behind her in the Lady's Secret. The Michelle Nevin trainee won an allowance at Laurel Park Aug. 2. Manny Franco will ride the 6-1 shot.

"She's been doing pretty good, she ran pretty big her last start," said Nevin. "This race was coming up with a pretty small field and I felt like now would be a good time to try her. You never know with a small field the way the pace is going to be. She's been pretty straightforward. She's a hard-knocking girl."

Rusty Arnold sends out the 7-5 favorite Awestruck for owner G. Watts Humphrey Jr. Fourth in the Grade 2 Fleur de Lis in mid-June, she finished second in the Mari Hulman George at Indiana Grand July 14. Irad Ortiz Jr. has the mount.

Jeremiah Kane's A Place To Shine, runner-up in the Serena's Song at Monmouth May 12 for Ben Perkins Jr.; and Alpha Delta Stables' Nomore-richblondes, off since running in the Group 2 UAE Derby and making her first start for Arnaud Delacour, complete the field.



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1ST (1:00PM). \$50,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double				
1	.....6.....	Glory to Kitten.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	J. Abreu.....9-5
1a	.....7.....	Queen of Castle.....	M. Franco.....	M. Nevin.....9-5
2	.....1.....	Lucky Long.....	J. Castellano.....	T. Morley.....4-1
3	.....2.....	Free N Clear.....	D. Davis.....	P. Quick.....12-1
4	.....3.....	Silver Magnolia.....	R. Maragh.....	G. Gullo.....15-1
5	.....4.....	Miss Aja Brown.....	D. Cohen.....	R. Rodriguez.....5-1
6	.....5.....	Sugar Mags.....	K. Carmouche.....	R. Barbara.....15-1
7	.....8.....	Miss Nancy.....	J. Leparoux.....	B. Lynch.....6-1
8	.....9.....	Saida.....	J. Lezcano.....	D. Gargan.....7-2

2nd (1:33PM). \$85,000, MSW, 3 yo's & up, 6F

EXACTA, QUINELLA, TRIFECTA, SUPERFECTA, PIC 3, PIC 4, DAILY DOUBLE

1	.....1.....	Asdaaf.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	K. McLaughlin.....2-1
2	.....2.....	Duncastle.....	P. Fragoso.....	J. Mc Allen.....15-1
3	.....3.....	Candirita.....	J. Lezcano.....	B. Lynch.....8-1
4	.....4.....	Leinster.....	L. Saez.....	D. Lukas.....5-2
5	.....5.....	Raphael.....	D. Cohen.....	N. Zito.....15-1
6	.....6.....	Knight Disruptor.....	J. Leparoux.....	B. Lynch.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Timber Ghost.....	J. Alvarado.....	J. Jerkens.....6-1
8	.....8.....	Pennyforyrthoughts.....	J. Ortiz.....	M. Trombetta.....5-1

3RD (2:07PM). \$85,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Spirit Queen (IRE).....	F. Geroux.....	W. Ward.....6-1
2	.....2.....	Cover Model.....	L. Saez.....	C. McGaughey III.....9-2
3	.....3.....	Say It Softly.....	D. Cohen.....	D. Lukas.....15-1
4	.....4.....	Overheated.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	L. Rice.....12-1
5	.....5.....	That's Speightful.....	J. Alvarado.....	W. Mott.....10-1
6	.....6.....	Her Latest Film.....	J. Velazquez.....	M. Hennig.....5-1
7	.....7.....	Stylishly.....	J. Lezcano.....	C. DeVaux.....10-1
8	.....8.....	Alternative Energy.....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown.....3-1
9	.....9.....	Rarities.....	J. Ortiz.....	H. Motion.....6-1
10	.....10.....	Tap Tap Taparoo.....	M. Franco.....	J. Toner.....10-1
11	.....AE.....	Special Thing.....	L. Saez.....	T. Albertrani.....12-1

4TH (2:41PM). \$100,000, STK - THE SUMMER COLONY, 4 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/8M

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Awestruck.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	G. Arnold, II.....7-5
2	.....2.....	A Place to Shine.....	C. DeCarlo.....	B. Perkins, Jr.....5-1
3	.....3.....	Forever Liesl.....	M. Franco.....	M. Nevin.....6-1
4	.....4.....	Moonlit Garden.....	J. Ortiz.....	C. Davis.....9-5
5	.....5.....	Nomorerichblondes.....	R. Santana, Jr.....	A. Delacour.....4-1

5TH (3:15PM). \$85,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double				
1	.....5.....	Sister Kitten.....	J. Ortiz.....	C. Brown.....6-1
1a	.....AE.....	Speedy Solution.....	J. Garcia.....	W. Ward.....6-1
2	.....1.....	Heroic Activist.....	R. Santana, Jr.....	J. Abreu.....10-1
3	.....2.....	Shannon's Girl.....	L. Saez.....	R. Rodriguez.....7-2
4	.....3.....	Alasaayil.....	J. Lezcano.....	K. McLaughlin.....8-1
5	.....4.....	Newspaperofrecord (IRE).....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	C. Brown.....5-2
6	.....6.....	Excuse My Charisma.....	K. Carmouche.....	T. Morley.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Traipsing.....	D. Cohen.....	C. Clement.....12-1
8	.....8.....	Pagalo in Avanti.....	E. Cancel.....	A. Quartarolo.....15-1
9	.....9.....	Tip At Tapit.....	J. Velazquez.....	J. Toner.....6-1
10	.....10.....	Downstream.....	M. Franco.....	M. Nevin.....20-1
11	.....AE.....	Jolie Bay.....	F. Geroux.....	M. Casse.....15-1
12	.....AE.....	Aunt Hattie (IRE).....	J. Alvarado.....	W. Mott.....10-1
13	.....AE.....	Madding Crowd.....	J. Alvarado.....	W. Mott.....10-1

6TH (3:49PM). \$77,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Belleville Spring.....	L. Saez.....	D. Cannizzo.....15-1
2	.....2.....	Fast Getaway.....	J. Lezcano.....	L. Rice.....9-2
3	.....3.....	Vitsal.....	J. Ortiz.....	B. Colebrook.....2-1
4	.....4.....	Sparky.....	M. Franco.....	J. Toner.....8-1
5	.....5.....	Outrageous Bet.....	J. Alvarado.....	G. Contessa.....12-1
6	.....6.....	Source Control.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Rodriguez.....8-1
7	.....7.....	We Should Talk.....	R. Santana, Jr.....	H. DePaz.....8-1
8	.....8.....	Royal Heist.....	K. Carmouche.....	E. Jones.....15-1
9	.....9.....	Not So Quiet Man.....	J. Castellano.....	D. Ryan.....6-1
10	.....10.....	News Anchor.....	J. Velazquez.....	C. McGaughey III.....10-1
11	.....AE.....	Scatsuku.....	J. Alvarado.....	L. Rice.....12-1
12	.....MTO.....	Presence of Mind.....	Rider TBA.....	G. Weaver.....8-1
13	.....MTO.....	H Man.....	Rider TBA.....	R. Rodriguez.....8-5

7TH (4:25PM). \$85,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	It Justhitthe Wire.....	J. Alvarado.....	K. McLaughlin.....5-1
2	.....2.....	Mo Wheels Up.....	L. Saez.....	J. Sharp.....3-1
3	.....3.....	Private Beach.....	F. Geroux.....	A. Dutrow.....8-1
4	.....4.....	Shanghai Bonnie.....	K. Carmouche.....	J. Lawrence, II.....12-1
5	.....5.....	Two Dozen Roses.....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher.....10-1
6	.....6.....	Filly Joel.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Rodriguez.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Gracetown.....	M. Franco.....	M. Nevin.....12-1
8	.....8.....	Flatter My Heart.....	R. Santana, Jr.....	S. Asmussen.....7-2
9	.....9.....	China Cat.....	J. Ortiz.....	J. Englehart.....9-2

8TH (5:02PM). \$95,000, AOC \$80,000, 4 YO'S & UP, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Favorable Outcome.....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown.....3-1
2	.....2.....	Life in Shambles.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	J. Servis.....5-1
3	.....3.....	Behavioral Bias.....	J. Alvarado.....	A. Stall, Jr.....7-2
4	.....4.....	Wonderful Light.....	M. Franco.....	M. Nevin.....5-2
5	.....5.....	Eight Town.....	J. Velazquez.....	B. Lynch.....12-1
6	.....6.....	Petrov.....	J. Ortiz.....	R. Moquett.....10-1
7	.....7.....	Breaking Lucky.....	L. Saez.....	G. Weaver.....9-2

9TH (5:40PM). \$87,000, AOC \$80,000, 3 YO, 1 3/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Cullum Road.....	L. Saez.....	M. Maker.....12-1
2	.....2.....	Vegas Kitten.....	J. Velazquez.....	C. Brown.....9-2
3	.....MTO.....	Tres Equis.....	J. Lezcano.....	R. Brisset.....6-1
4	.....4.....	Indigo Yankee.....	J. Leparoux.....	I. Wilkes.....20-1
5	.....5.....	Nakamura.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	H. Motion.....6-1
6	.....MTO.....	Hoard.....	K. Carmouche.....	R. Ribauda.....12-1
7	.....7.....	War Chest.....	M. Franco.....	C. McGaughey III.....8-1
8	.....8.....	Max Velocity (IRE).....	J. Castellano.....	R. Falcone, Jr.....8-1
9	.....9.....	Admission Office.....	J. Ortiz.....	C. Brown.....7-5
10	.....10.....	Strike.....	R. Maragh.....	H. Motion.....4-1
11	.....MTO.....	Own Agenda.....	Rider TBA.....	W. Mott.....5-1
12	.....MTO.....	Wooderson.....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher.....9-5

10TH (6:18PM). \$44,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta				
1	.....1.....	La Cat Warrior.....	D. Cohen.....	G. Gullo.....9-2
2	.....2.....	Comeoncomeoncat.....	J. Alvarado.....	B. Brown.....5-1
3	.....3.....	Generalist.....	K. Carmouche.....	E. Guillot.....6-1
4	.....4.....	Vicar's Legend.....	R. Santana, Jr.....	O. Barrera, III.....20-1
5	.....5.....	Elenzee.....	J. Ortiz.....	M. Casse.....4-1
6	.....6.....	Southeast.....	D. Davis.....	G. Contessa.....20-1
7	.....7.....	Rogue Patriot.....	R. Maragh.....	E. Jones.....20-1
8	.....8.....	Fortythreeoeight N.....	M. Franco.....	C. Englehart.....7-2
9	.....9.....	Blinded Vision.....	J. Lezcano.....	J. Toscano, Jr.....12-1
1010.....	Mad Munnys.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Rodriguez.....10-1
1111.....	Over Rider.....	M. Luzzi.....	C. Martin.....15-1

























WINNER'S CIRCLE BEER

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Power
grid

Race #	<div>  John Shapazian </div>	<div>  Charles Bedard </div>	<div>  Tom Law </div>	<div>  Donald Phillips </div>	<div>  John Fahey </div>
1	Glory To Kitten Saida Miss Nancy	Glory To Kitten Miss Aja Brown Lucky Long	Saida Lucky Long Dubb entry	Glory To Kitten Miss Nancy Saida	Saida Glory To Kitten Miss Nancy
2	Asdaaf Timber Ghost Knight Disruptor	Asdaaf Leinster Pennyforyrthoughts	Asdaaf Leinster Timber Ghost	Leinster Timber Ghost Pennyforyrthoughts	Timber Ghost Candirita Duncastle
3	Alternative Energy Cover Model That's Speightful	Alternative Energy Her Latest Film Cover Model	Alternative Energy Cover Model Rarities	Her Latest Film Alternative Energy That's Speightful	Spirit Queen Say It Softly Tap Tap Taparoo
4	Awestruck Moonlit Garden A Place To Shine	Forever Liesl Awestruck Moonlit Garden	Awestruck Moonlit Garden Forever Liesl	Moonlit Garden Nomorerichblondes Awestruck	Awestruck Moonlit Garden Nomorerichblondes
5	Newspaperofrecord Ramsey entry Shannon's Girl	Shannon's Girl Newspaperofrecord Ramsey entry	Shannon's Girl Madding Crowd Alasaayil	Shannon's Girl Newspaperofrecord Tip At Tapit	Sister Kitten Newspaperofrecord Traipsing
6	H Man Vitsal Fast Getaway	H Man Royal Heist Vitsal	H Man Vitsal We Should Talk	Fast Getaway Not So Quiet Man News Anchor	Fast Getaway We Should Talk Vitsal
7	Mo Wheels Up Private Beach Flatter My Heart	Two Dozen Roses Mo Wheels Up China Cat	Flatter My Heart Mo Wheels Up China Cat	Mo Wheels Up Gracetown Private Beach	Flatter My Heart Mo Wheels Up It Justhitthe Wire
8	Favorable Outcome Wonderful Light Eight Town	Favorable Outcome Wonderful Light Behavioral Bias	Behavioral Bias Breaking Lucky Petrov	Wonderful Light Behavioral Bias Life In Shambles	Behavioral Bias Favorable Outcome Wonderful Light
9	Wooderson Admission Office Vegas Kitten	Wooderson Admission Office Indigo Yankee	Wooderson Admission Office Own Agenda	Admission Office Nakamura Vegas Kitten	Admission Office War Chest Vegas Kitten
10	Fortythreoeight N Comeoncomeoncat Mad Munnys	Fortythreoeight N Comeoncomeoncat Generalist	Fortythreoeight N Comeoncomeoncat Generalist	Fortythreoeight N Mad Munnys Vicar's Legend	Elenzee Fortythreoeight N La Cat Warrior
2018 Records	79/257	59/257	60/257	47/257	38/199*

Our fifth handicapper will be a special guest each day.

Guest Handicapper

Today's guest handicapper is John Fahey, a Louisville native and former trainer who won with his first Saratoga starter July 25, 2008 when Fort Apache Star won a starter allowance going 6 1/2 furlongs on the main track. Fahey worked for Hall of Famers D. Wayne Lukas and Steve Asmussen and Overbrook Farm and Taylor Made Farm in Kentucky during college. Saturday's guest handicapper Trodder Furlong picked two winners.

* The guest win total does not include Monday or Wednesday, when only The Special's regular handicappers picks appear at thisishorseracing.com.

Top Guest Handicapper of 2018: Jesse Ullery with four wins.

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RIDERS UP

Conversations with some of America's top jockeys, presented by The Jockey's Guild

Julien Leparoux almost became an accountant. OK, he wasn't even close to becoming an accountant. But he did have a three-week internship before he told his father about wanting to be a jockey.

Florent Geroux almost became a chef. OK, he came nowhere near ordering a personalized toque blanche. But he did give culinary school a passing thought before opting for jockey school.

The Frenchmen, regulars at Saratoga Race Course every summer, bypassed traditional careers to become jockeys and are two of North America's best. Leparoux, 35, won an Eclipse Award as the nation's outstanding apprentice in 2006 and followed that with a second Eclipse three years later. In a career that began here in 2005, he's won more than 2,500 races and ridden the likes of Tepin, Classic Empire, Forever Together and Informed Decision. Geroux, 32, was a top apprentice in France before coming to the U.S. in 2007 and has won more than 1,300 North American races and ridden Horse of the Year Gun Runner, Monomoy Girl, I'm A Chat-terbox, Catch A Glimpse, The Pizza Man and others.

They're about 100 rides behind Saratoga's busiest jockeys in terms of mounts this season, but are far busier at Keeneland and Churchill Downs and appreciate the chance to ride in Saratoga. Geroux won the Coaching Club American Oaks on star 3-year-old filly Monomoy Girl July 22, and Leparoux captured the Bowling Green on turf standout Glorious Empire July 28.

Leparoux and his wife Shea, daughter of trainer Mike Mitchell, have two sons (Mitchell and Vinn). Geroux and his wife Kasey, whose father Louis Spindler was a Chicago-based jockey, have two daughters (Olivia and Celine).

The men became American citizens this year, and took a short break to talk about racing and life with The Special's Joe Clancy outside the jocks' room – while trying to translate Angel Cordero Jr.'s merging of French/Spanish.



Florent Geroux.

Tod Marks

Did you know each other in France?

Leparoux: We met once maybe before I came here. I came first, and we met one time. He was maybe 15 years old. Chantilly is really like Lexington. Everybody in racing is connected. Everybody kind of knows each other.

Geroux: We met in France, but we became friends here. We didn't know each other that well. We have a lot of friends in common and he used to live very close to me.

How did you become a jockey?

Leparoux: It was always my dream to be a jockey since I was a little boy. My father (Robert) was an assistant trainer. But he wanted me to finish school first so I didn't do the jockey school. When I was done with high school, I told my dad I wanted to be a jockey so I started working in the mornings and things. I came to America in 2003 for Patrick Biancone, then three years later I started riding here in Saratoga. My first ride was here – August 6, 2005. Ball Four. I was fifth I think. *Editor's Note: Leparoux and Ball Four were indeed fifth. Twelve days later, the jockey scored his first win aboard 40-1 shot Easter Guardian for owner/trainer John Candlin.*

Geroux: My dad (Dominique) was a jockey and a trainer later. I went to the jockey school when I was 13 years old and was there for three years. The apprentice there is about wins and

it took me about a year and a half. Before 18, I was already a journeyman. I rode regularly in France and I decided to come here in 2007, end of 2006. I was not really trying to make a career, just a new experience. I wanted to see something different and learn new things. That's where I met Julien again, at Hollywood Park. We were both working for Patrick. I was just riding in the morning and after a few months I liked it. Patrick suggested I come here. I was pretty light and he told me my riding style would fit so I decided to take a chance and do it. I was doing pretty good in France. I was not top five but I was definitely top 10. I came here because of the opportunity to ride better horses.

What jockeys did you admire growing up?

Geroux: We didn't have internet access like you have now so we didn't see the American jockeys or all the best jockeys in the world. The closest to us was Frankie Dettori. When he came to France, he was a big star. He would come, win a couple Grade 1 races and leave. I always respected Olivier Peslier and Christophe Soumillon. I was riding with them and they are my friends now, so they're not really mentors or heroes but someone you respect, whose career you respect. I used to have posters of them in my room at the jockey school. I hope they have one of me in their houses now.

Leparoux: It's the same for me. Olivier Peslier is older than we are. He was always somebody I looked up to and Christophe Soumillon is just a little bit older than me. Because I didn't go to the jockey school it was a little bit different for me. I saw him being an apprentice over there and he was doing very good. Soumillon for me was somebody I followed.

How did you find out about American racing?

Leparoux: You could not watch the races from all over the world like you can now. The first memory I have was the Breeders' Cup and I don't even remember what year it was. We had to go to the racetrack in Paris to watch it, because it wasn't on television. We couldn't watch it at home. The first Kentucky Derby for me was 2001 or 2002 maybe. That's the first one I actually saw. It's different. For Europeans, American racing is pretty new.

What would you do if you weren't a jockey?

Leparoux: I studied to be an accountant, so maybe I would have been one by now. I did three weeks of an internship and

Continued On Page 33

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Jockeys —

■ Continued from page 32

I was so bored. I found out it was not for me. Staying on a desk every day was not something I was looking forward to.

Geroux: Not accounting. Right before I went to jockey school, I didn't know if I wanted to be a jockey or not. There was jockey school or culinary school. In France, you have to start very young to be effective or get a start. I gave it a thought. I didn't think it was something I had a passion for, but it was something I could do. I was thinking about it but I was probably 12 years old. My cooking at 12 was not that good.

Leparoux: His cooking now is not that good so it's better that he is a jockey.

You're both involved in The Jockeys' Guild. Why is that so important?

Leparoux: I've been on the board for the last two years. Even before that, I always felt it was very important for us but now I see what they are doing and I'm very happy to be part of it. Trying to make things better for every jockey is the goal, that is the reason we do it. It's for everybody in the U.S., not just jockeys at major tracks like we are.

Geroux: I am not on the board, but I go to the meetings and keep in touch with what's going on. Johnny Velazquez always tells us what is going on whenever he comes to where we are riding or when we are in New York. He knows the guys who are responding to what he is saying and from there we just try to spread the word to every racetrack we go to.

Who are your favorite horses to ride?

Geroux: Gun Runner was pretty good to ride. Some of them over the years were very nice, but they were not fun rides. He was easy to ride. Pushbutton. Honestly, I've ridden many horses and I just felt connected with him. I had full control whenever I needed it. I knew he was going to be in the spot I wanted him to be in without being rank or too on the bridle. He carried his head a little bit lower, and usually I have long reins all the time — that's just how I ride — I think I fit his style and he fit my style too. That's very rare.

Leparoux: Tepin was very special. She was very, very good to be around. My baby could have been in the stall with her and fed her and pet her. In the race she was very good too. She gave us so many good memories. Definitely Tepin, but also I will say Ball Four. He was my first ride. I was galloping him for the two years before I rode him in the race. He taught me a lot. I got to ride him in my first race. He was a special horse for me and now he is at Old Friends at Kentucky Downs. It's cool. We're going to go see him in September.

Do you have favorite places to ride?

Leparoux: Keeneland and Saratoga, just because of the fans. Here and at Keeneland, everybody loves horse racing. Every day is packed. It could be a Wednesday or a big Saturday, it's always fun to come racing. Keeneland you go any day of the week and it's a special thing. There are other racetracks that are beautiful. Santa Anita, Del Mar. But the atmosphere makes Saratoga and Keeneland special.

Geroux: Keeneland and Saratoga. Same reason. The atmosphere. The fans coming. Here at Saratoga, the history of all

those races are there. When you win an American race on the dirt it feels like part of history. It's pretty cool. You look at the past winners and it's a hundred and something years and your name is on there. It's pretty neat.

What do you do to stay in shape?

Leparoux: We may be the two luckiest jockeys in the world. We can eat anything we want.

Anything?

Leparoux: Anything. We stay at a weight that's good. You don't want to get too light and you don't want to get too heavy either.

Geroux: I think we have light bones. Not to brag, but some people are thicker. We are pretty slim. Now we're starting to get into our 30s so it might change. We don't go crazy and eat six times a day. We can eat regular meals, just watch our weight a little bit. We ride a lot of horses, in the morning and in the afternoon. That will keep you fit and light.

Any advice for future jockeys?

Geroux: You need to be passionate about it. That cannot be taught. You have it in your heart or you don't. You have to work hard. Don't count the hours and don't get upset when you're working extra hours. When I was a kid in jockey school, and when I was off school I wanted to impress my boss so much I would come in and work extra hours. Sunday was quiet and things are more relaxed. I liked coming in then to learn more. Work hard, be passionate, be respectful.

Leparoux: In any job, if you have a goal and want to do something you have to work hard. At the beginning, it's just something you have to love. Any sport, anything in life really. If you want to do it, and have fun with it, that makes you go to work and do the extra hours. If you love it, it's not really a job. That's how we felt. When you want to do something you have to go for it.

What race would you ride over?

Geroux: The (2016) Kentucky Derby on Gun Runner. I finished third. I don't know if I could have changed anything, but I would like to try something different just to see how it would work out. Coming into the Derby, I thought he had a legit chance of winning it. He was ready to perform, but I don't think the horse was to his fullest ability yet and he ran so well. He became much better, and he still finished third. It was my first Derby and everyone told me about the craziness, the bumping, the traffic and all that stuff and I saw two horses in the race. I didn't hear anything. There was a horse in front and horse on the side. I changed one pair of goggles. The next one I think I changed three pair of goggles before the first turn. That was a nightmare. One race I blew last year for sure was the United Nations at Monmouth Park with Beach Patrol. In my mind, I had the rail and I was on a mission of going to the lead. I looked at all the other horses in the race and I thought nobody was going to be able to go faster than :48 for a half-mile. I just sent him and they sent a horse from California (Itsinthepost). He had never been ridden that way before. He put pressure on me the whole way

and we went in :46. When I came back I felt pretty lonely. I just apologized. That's all you can do. If it worked it would have been a great move. I feel bad. I love the horse, I feel like a let him down. I made a big mistake. That one will always kind of haunt me.

Leparoux: I guess maybe the (2017) Preakness, Classic Empire. We got beat a head. He was not a very easy horse to ride, but he was so talented. He was mentally maybe just too smart, but he was tough to ride in the morning and in the afternoon. I think he could have been any kind, you know? It's part of the game. They only run the race once and the horses are all very different. Like Florent said about Gun Runner, Classic Empire was going to get so much better too. Tepin and Gun Runner were easy to ride, both had tactical speed where they broke and put you in the race. Those are the kind of horses you love to ride. Classic Empire was not like that, but I think he could have been something really, really good.

How does Saratoga fit in your schedule?

Leparoux: We ride in Kentucky the rest of the year and we come here to stay on some of the horses for the trainers we ride for there and maybe to pick up some other horses. You can get on good horses here, maybe some better horses than you would get on if you stayed in Kentucky or went somewhere else. I got on Forever Together here (in 2008). I hadn't ridden her before and she won the Diana and she won the Breeders' Cup and was a champion.

Geroux: It doesn't look so good sometimes when we don't have many rides in a day but at home we are the ones riding 10 or 11 every day, and some of the jockeys from New York and other places only have four or five. You have to go where the good racing is, where the good horses are.



Tod Marks

Julien Leparoux.

Jockey School

Teddy Davies wants to be a jockey. The 14-year-old Marylander toured the backside Saturday morning, laying the groundwork for two summers from now when he rides here – at the least as an exercise rider, at the most as a jockey.

I'll take his book.

If he were in the sale across the street, he would tick all the boxes. He's determined, he's dedicated, he can ride and he has the pedigree. His mother, Blythe Miller Davies, won 204 races (ninth all time) and every big race there was to win over jumps. His father, Joe Davies, won the Maryland Hunt Cup three times.

Teddy has already won pony races (flat and jump), fox hunted every weekend from September to April for most of his life, traveled to Deauville for a pony race and Newmarket for jockey school.

Davies' grandmother, Nancy, asked if I could show him around, explain what was happening as horses came and went Saturday morning. I offered some advice, but not nearly as much as I have.

Here goes.

Look people in the eye. Put your phone in your pocket. Shake hands firmly.

Treat every race like it's the only race of the day. Jockeys get multiple chances to win a race every day, sometimes a trainer or an owner has just one chance that day, that week, that meet, that career. Slow down and talk to them after the race like you're invested as well. "Not his day," doesn't work.

Keep your chinstrap fastened and your feet in the stirrups. Pet the horse.

Be nice to everybody. You'll see the same people on the way up as you see on the way down. Adages are adages for a reason. They are true. I once asked a jockey who won two legs of the Triple Crown if we could chat for a feature on his two wins. It was a quiet day at Delaware Park and he was off for the next two races. He grumbled, put out, and said he would come out in a few minutes. He never came



Tod Marks

out. He hit hard times, doesn't ride in Triple Crown races any more and is on another comeback. I'm not anxious to help him.

When the horse comes out of the bridle and you lose your rhythm, take Pat Day's advice he gave when I felt like I was rowing a boat on land and asked the Hall of Famer to fix it. "Wait for another day, son."

And then there's Richard Migliore's advice, the best I've ever heard and used. "You know when you're pressing, when you're trying too hard? You've got to stop, take a moment and next time you go out there, just give the horse a race, ride him like you're giving him a race. At the quarter pole, or wherever it is for you guys (remember, I was a jump jockey), you'll find yourself exactly where you want to be." I won a race on To Ridley, my first at Saratoga, using Mig's advice.

Study jockeys, they'll make the same moves in a race over and over.

Be wary of car dealers, insurance salesmen, jewelry stores and slick-dressed men who want to invest your money. Respect alcohol. Avoid drugs and the people who do them.

Just because you won a race, don't buy the house a round, don't pick up the tab for dinner. None of my friends with real jobs have ever called me Friday and said, "Hey, I just got paid, I want to buy you dinner."

Fold your wrists, it'll automatically push your elbows in, your shoulders down, your back low. The closer you are to the horse, the more effective you will be.

The longer you ride, the longer you ride.

Watch replays.

Thank the sponsors of the race, don't just wait for the photo and scamper as soon as the camera stops clicking.

Don't judge yourself as a person by how well you're doing as a jockey. They're very different.

Go to school. I know, I know, school is hard for you. It's hard for everybody. If your mom and I can get through school, anybody can get through school. While you're going to school, you'll think school is hurting your riding, adding to the pressure of riding. Actually, it's the opposite. Graduate from college and it'll take the pressure off riding. A degree will allow you to ride longer, knowing you have that as a backup plan.

Watch your weight. You're light now, but that will change. Don't flip, don't take diuretics and be careful of the hot box. Once you rely on those three, it's a broken-elevator fall to the bottom.

You will get hurt. When you do get hurt, take your time coming back. You'll want to rush, but it'll take longer if you rush than if you take the right amount of time, getting fully healthy and prepared.

Work on your core. Nothing will help you ride races or gallop horses as much as core strength.

Be a good race rider, but not a dirty race rider.

Say as little as possible to the stewards when there's a claim of foul against you.

Respect yourself. Respect the horse. Respect the game.

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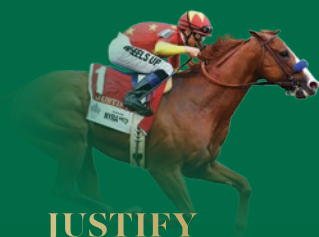
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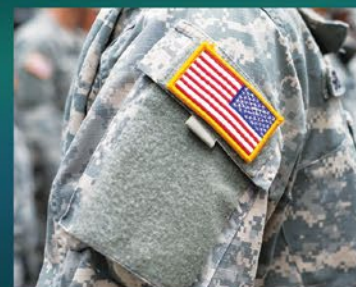
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