

Year 17 • No. 23

Friday, August 25, 2017

The *saratoga* **Special**

Saratoga's Daily Racing Newspaper since 2001



Mr. Ambassador

Diplomat grabs Gr. 1 Turf Writers for Newmans

**DEFIANT HONOR
WINS RISKVERSE
N.Y. SHOWCASE
DAY PREVIEWS**



Consignors 2012-2014 with 100+ Yearlings Sold

(per The Blood-Horse, 2017 Summer Sales Guide)

Consignor	Sold	SW	% offered
Claiborne	103	9	8.3%
Mill Ridge Sales	141	14	8.3%
VanMeter Sales	111	11	7.0%
Gainesway	462	37	6.9%
Lane's End	733	31	3.6%

Consignor	Sold	\$100k+ Earners	% offered
Claiborne	103	25	23%
Mill Ridge Sales	141	32	19%
Dromoland Farm	124	29	18%
Gainesway	462	83	16%
Taylor Made	986	185	15%

Consignor	Offered	Sold	% sold
Claiborne	109	103	94%
Gainesway	534	462	87%
Lane's End	859	733	85%
Mill Ridge Sales	169	141	83%
Hill 'n' Dale	453	373	82%

Consignor	Sold	Avg Earnings
Dromoland Farm	124	\$109,295
Claiborne	103	\$97,610
Mill Ridge Sales	141	\$89,366
Denali Stud	365	\$80,674
Taylor Made	986	\$72,166

ClaiborneFarm.com | Bernie Sams : (859) 987-2330

here&there... at Saratoga

T-SHIRT SLOGAN OF THE DAY

Legalize Marinara.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Sunblock, first race. The 2-year-old filly, a main-track-only entrant for Dare to Dream Stable and trainer Tom Morley, is out of Back In The Shade.

Alien Invasion, fifth race. The 2-year-old colt, who races for William Butler and Mike Maker, is by Desert Party out of Starship Diva.

Flipcup, seventh race. Wachtel Stable and Team Penney Racing's veteran mare is by Milwaukee Brew out of Dream Affair. And if you've never played flipcup, ask a college student.

One Last Cast, eighth race. J.J. and Todd Pletcher's 2-year-old homebred is out of Firstontheline. They go fishing in the Seeking The Ante Stakes.

BY THE NUMBERS

0: Horses bred outside of New York on Friday's card.

114: Horses bred in New York on Friday's card.

1: Guy throwing a Frisbee for his dog (and tamping in divots) on the Oklahoma turf course Tuesday evening.

1: Dog not really catching – but retrieving – a Frisbee on the Oklahoma turf course Tuesday evening.

13: Ducks that cross the track at Laurel Park pretty much every day (12 babies, one mom).



Alabama Country. Elate's blanket of flowers from last week's Alabama win got a place of honor at the Mott barn. Tod Marks



GOLDEN DOUBLE

Gold stars Four G1 winners in 2017, more than any other American stallion.

Gold ring His 2017 yearling average of \$756,000 is also the best of all American stallions.

Medaglia d'Oro
A shining example in so many ways...

859-255-8537 www.darleyamerica.com

Darley

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I need some help in the lanes."
Owner Doc Richardson, who had horses running in Indiana and Louisiana this week



800-523-8143



Integrity. Reputation. Experience.
Charlie is a Bloodstock Agent You Can Trust.

From purchasing yearlings to broodmare management...

How can I help you?



502.648.4181

CBHorse@me.com

CHBThoroughbreds.com

here&there... at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

"The white and the red packages have been delivered."

Message broadcast over a security guard's radio Wednesday morning (we have no idea)

"Are those bananas on your tie?"

NYRA's Gabby Gaudet, asking a fashion question to The Special's Joe Clancy (they're dolphins)

"I'm going to sleep until I wake up, and then I'm going to take a nap."

Valet Harry Rice, when his wife asked him what he was doing on his day off

"It's the only way I can be the same height as him."

Owner Anthony Bonomo, pulling his elevated golf cart next to a regular cart driven by bloodstock agent Steve Young

"This has been a good meet for me, I've made the paper four times."

Garlic Rob Whitlock, scoring his Here and There mentions; and it's five now

"I think Al had a dream one night that God told him I had to be his trainer because I had a lot of kids. I told him, 'I guess you won't ever be able to fire me because who would want to go against God?' So that's basically how I landed Al Gold, he had a dream."

Jeremiah Englehart when asked how he began to train for Al Gold

"That was a lot of lost golf balls."

Retired trainer Mike Hushion, discussing a recent round with fellow former racetrackers Buzzy Tenney, Tim Molloy and Graham Wolfram

ALBERTUS MAXIMUS DAAHER | TAMARKUZ



SHADWELL FARM

Kent Barnes, Stallion Manager • Inquiries to 859-224-4585
4600 Ft. Springs Rd., Lexington, KY 40513 • Shadwellfarm.com



Editors/Publishers
Sean Clancy: (302) 545-7713. sean@thisishorseracing.com
Joe Clancy: (302) 545-4424. joe@thisishorseracing.com

Managing Editor

Tom Law: (859) 396-9407. tom@thisishorseracing.com

Writers/Handicappers: Charles Bedard, Gaile Fitzgerald, Teresa Genaro, Ben Gowans, Madison Scott, John Shapazian, Shayna Tiller, Brandon Valvo.

Design: Linzay Marks.

Photographers: Tod Marks, Dave Harmon, Connie Bush.

Distribution: Kevin Murphy, Morgan Yaeger.

The *Saratoga*
Special

259 East Avenue
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
(the old feed store)

thisishorseracing.com

Published Thursday through Sunday
during the racing season.
Plus Monday, Aug. 7 and Tuesday, Aug. 8.



The Saratoga Special, thisishorseracing.com
Thoroughbred Racing Calendar, The Best of The Saratoga Special.
Call us about your editorial needs.

Home Office: 364 Fair Hill Drive, Suite F, Elkton, MD 21921
(410) 392-5867 • Fax (410) 392-0170

CREATE A LEGACY

Buy a brick and leave a lasting legacy in the Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney Courtyard at the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame.



Be a Part of Racing History

Claim your spot among the legends of thoroughbred racing with a custom brick that will forever be a part of the Museum's Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney Courtyard. Bricks are the perfect gift for birthdays, holidays, anniversaries, or a tribute to a loved one. They are also a great way to honor your business, farm, favorite horse, trainer, or jockey. Your fully tax-deductible donation will fund the Courtyard Renovation Project. There is limited availability, so buy your brick today and reserve your space in thoroughbred racing's history!

\$100

4" x 8"

Purchase a 4" x 8" red brick engraved with your name or message to fill the Museum's courtyard. Engraving includes three lines of text with 12 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

\$250

8" x 8"

Purchase an 8" x 8" grey brick engraved with your name or message to be specially placed around the perimeter of the Museum's courtyard. Engraving includes six lines of text with 12 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

On sale through December 2017 • Courtyard Unveiling Spring 2018



To order call **(518) 584-0400** ext. 109 or email **nmrmembers@racemuseum.net**



Country Life Foal Patrol

"My dad is freaky fast Super Ninety Nine, winner of the G3 Southwest Stakes over Champion Will Take Charge. My mom is a sister to Midshipman and the dam of Frosted. That's a stellar pedigree, and I'm a MD-bred too! Look for me and my mom (in foal to hot new sire Mosler, by War Front) at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Mixed Sale in Dec."


ELLEN B. PONS

www.CountryLifeFarm.com • 410.879.1952

Wear What You Love™

THE PASSION OF HORSE RACING®

THE **TIMELESS** SENSE OF OPPORTUNITY AND POSSIBILITIES. THE **ALLURE AND PURSUIT** OF ACHIEVEMENT. THE **MEMORIES AND MOMENTS** THAT FORM A NEVER ENDING BOND AMONG THOSE WHO SHARE THE **EXPERIENCE.**



EMBRACE THE RACE®

Shop Today
Saratoga Springs
embracetherace.com

34



and its affiliate **NICOMA®**

Contact: Headley Bell c: 859.221.5108
Price Bell c: 859.321.5117

G1 WINNERS *raised and/or sold since 2000 including ...*

2001 Horse of the Year, Champion 3-Year-Old Colt and Travers Stakes winner



POINT GIVEN
Thunder Gulch – Turko's Turn

Breeder: The Thoroughbred Corp.

here&there...at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

- "The rare Delta Downs-Royal Ascot double."

Norm Casse talking about one of Tepin's many unconventional feats when Delta Downs was mentioned Thursday morning
- "When you did that story did you know he'd win by 12 lengths? Still improving, too. Scary good."

Exercise rider Rodney Paine, talking about Evan Shipman winner Diversify (If we knew we might not be producing this paper)
- "That poor horse. Do you think she's going to get dizzy?"

Paddock observer while Songbird circled around the No. 12 tree before Thursday's fifth
- "Are you licking the seat?"

Trainer Dave Cannizzo to his barn's stable pony, Amigo, at Clare Court Thursday morning
- "I could go on and on."

Ken McPeek, while going through his roster for the Fasig-Tipton Stable Tour
- "Admittedly, I put a lot of time and money into the Horse Races Now, but it's my equivalent of playing golf, I've enjoyed that project. I don't run this stable any differently."

McPeek, on managing commitments of his barn and the app he founded
- "Even last year, we were all getting Oaks fever, naturally, she was a nice filly from the get go and he was like, 'No, I think she's more of an Alabama filly.' She's just a bit late to mature, I would equally want an Alabama filly as an Oaks filly."

Riley Mott, son/assistant to Bill Mott, after Elate won the Alabama
- "We were all scratching our heads, because we knew what she was. When she ran at Churchill and finished second, it was kind of discouraging, but just let her develop."

Riley Mott on Elate's improvement from when she pulled up in the Ashland at Keeneland in April
- "Bill said all along, this was the goal. Just listen to him."

Co-owner Adele Dilschneider, after Elate won the Alabama
- "I was in South Carolina, I have terrible reception, I drove down where I knew I could get it on my phone, pulled over and oh Gosh, we were fired up. I renamed that little jut-off Elate Lane."

Claiborne's Dell Hancock, when asked about watching Elate's 12-length maiden win
- "We weren't surprised, it was maybe a resemblance of Royal Delta breaking her maiden."

Bill Mott, about Elate's maiden win
- "He's never changed from the moment I met him at Churchill Downs. He's a good horseman, a solid guy and really the best. I just remember we were all kids basically. He was back there, training a bunch, a bunch for Mr. (John) Franks I think. He's just never changed. He's always been the same steady, nice guy."

Claiborne Farm's Dell Hancock, on trainer Bill Mott

Photo of the day

**KIP ELSER'S
KIRKWOOD STABLES**
TWO-YEAR-OLDS TO GO
Building two-year-olds one individual at a time
(859) 312-3414 | kirkwoodstables.com

Proud to support Thoroughbred aftercare

**Thoroughbred
AFTERCARE ALLIANCE**
(859) 224-2756
www.thoroughbredaftercare.org



Lawn Mower

Dave Harmon

The Chief... Day 23

"My father came from Austria, the way I understand it, his father had a big farm, my father decided he didn't want to go back home and got a job milking cows. He never told me how he wound up working for H.T. Peters, he was a pretty prominent man in the show horse and hunting, he worked for him for over 20 years and then he and his friend opened a riding academy, in '37, '38, he was broke from then on. Somehow, I don't know where the hell he got them, but people would send old bowed horses and we would walk them in the bay, walk them back and forth and give them a whole year. There was a pretty famous veterinarian would come out and fire them, we always fired horses in those days, we got them back to the races, some of them, a couple of them won."

– **Trainer Allen Jerkens**
1929-2015



The New York Thoroughbred
Horsemen's Association
www.nytha.com | 516.488.2337
visit us on Facebook



Tod Marks photo

HOW DO NY-BREDS PERFORM?

Like this



DISCO PARTNER

World's fastest 6F
1:05.67

and this



MIND YOUR BISCUITS

G1SW in 2017
(\$2,207,166)

and in the ring
like this:



HIGHEST-PRICED FILLY
Session I - FT Saratoga Selected
(\$750,000)



nytbreeders.org | 518.587.0777

NYBREDS.COM

NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDING & DEVELOPMENT FUND
For more information visit our website
or call 518.388.0174

STABLE TOUR

Meet the people & horses who make Saratoga special!

The
**Turf
Showcase**
SELECTED YEARLINGS
SEPTEMBER 10 // 4 PM



Fasig-Tipton

859.255.1555 / fasigtipton.com

with *David Cannizzo*

David Cannizzo grew up in a racing family and even though he excelled at lacrosse in high school and college, he always seemed destined for a career involving horses.

The 35-year-old trainer started walking horses for his father Ron at Finger Lakes at age 7, learning the game like most racetracker kids, before and after school, on weekends and holidays, vacations and any other time he was needed. Cannizzo eventually ventured away from Finger Lakes and worked for Dale Romans, Scott Lake and Bruce Levine before going out on his own in 2007.

Cannizzo, assisted by his wife Carolyn and bedded down in Mike Hushion's old barn inside Clare Court for the first time this summer, is 4-for-33 at the meet with three seconds and two thirds heading into today's Saratoga Showcase Day card.

Asked by The Special's Tom Law to identify the best member of his Saratoga string Wednesday morning, Cannizzo played diplomat. "It's pretty hard to say who is the actual best," he said. "We've got a few nice horses, let's just go through them."

Royal Inheritance: Joseph Bulger's 3-year-old New York-bred daughter of Regal Ransom cost \$32,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-olds sale. She's won four of five, including 6-furlong allowance here Aug. 6. "We gave her the right amount of time after that sale, she had some shins and stuff, let her come around and she hasn't let us down. She's pointing to the Prioress."

Hookup: Owned by Cannizzo and Secure Investments, 3-year-old son of Union Rags is half-brother to graded stakes winners American Freedom and Gotcha Gold won first time out at Aqueduct in November then finished eighth in Grade 2 Remsen. Off until Aug. 19, he returned with third going 9 furlongs. "He came out of the Remsen and we gave him time to mature, the whole winter off. He made his first start the other day, had a brutal trip, a ton of trouble, probably was much the best. He's got a very bright future. One of the better



3-year-olds I would say in the crop. He's got to get some more maturity and he's going to be a serious animal. I wanted to give him an easy race off the eight-month layoff. He ran big. Go back and watch the replay, it was an awful trip. He's the real deal, probably the best horse in the barn."

Hardened: Cannizzo's and Secure Investment's 3-year-old Hard Spun colt broke his maiden at 5 1/2 furlongs on the turf Aug. 4 off more than nine-month layoff. "Turf horse, I got like one start into him in November, gave him the winter off. Big heavy horse, took me a long time to get him ready. He ran dynamite here. He'll either run in an a-other than at the end of the meet or a straight 3-year-old stake at Belmont (\$100,000 Allied Forces Sept. 10)."

Bellamy Way: A competitor in the state-bred stakes ranks at 2, 3, 4 and 5, Two Tone Farm's son of Bellamy Road finished seventh in Grade 3 Excelsior at Aqueduct, won an open allowance at Belmont and finished fourth in allowance won by Tom's d'Etat here July 27. "He's a fan favorite, been there, done that. He's won his share of races. We might be looking for a start toward Belmont. We ran him here in the open two other than, it was a tough spot, he didn't care for the surface, a heavy, wet, drying out track. He's a good horse with a big family."

Fox Rules: Ivery Sisters Racing's 8-year-old Roman Ruler gelding goes in today's \$150,000 West Point. A frontrunner in many of his starts, including a win three back at Belmont May 17, he's expected to rate today. "We claimed him for 40. I'd been waiting to

try and buy him for two years for a rabbit for a horse like Bellamy Way. Couldn't get a deal done, Michelle Nevin took over the training for Mike Ferraro and put him in for 40. I was like, 'you're coming home with me.' He's done everything right since we've had him."

Black Tide: Also owned by Ivery Sisters, 5-year-old Hold Me Back gelding opened 11-length lead in July 30 allowance and hung on to win. He's expected to do the same in today's West Point. "There's no one that will be near him. He'll be 10, 15 in front. Very interesting horse. I'd watched him run for a few years, he'd hang going short, hang going short, get in trouble. I said, 'man, he's all turf horse, we're going to claim him.' Claimed him from Michelle Nevin, thought he's a funny horse and planned to just give him one race on the dirt going long. Run him, David Jacobson claimed him. I claimed him for the turf, I know Dave, I know the horse doesn't really care for the dirt and figured we'd get him back for cheaper. We did, so we made \$10,000 there on the re-purchase. Then I decided to sit on him. It was toward the middle to end of winter, so there wasn't any point to send him to the farm so we kept him in training. I decided I'd stretch this horse out and let him do what he wants to do, blinkers and to the lead. We never looked back."

Battle Midway: Claimed from Nick Zito for \$16,000 last summer at Saratoga, 5-year-old by Quality Road has won four of 15 for new connections including the More To Tell Stakes on Aqueduct's Claiming Championship Series in April. "He's turned out to be an amazing claim and has made about \$200,000 for us.

Every day at Saratoga, The Special presents an exclusive Stable Tour with a Saratoga trainer.

See thisishorseracing.com for the full season.

Done nothing wrong and he's up there as one of the best claims I've made. He's still knocking. He was second to Rachel Alexandra's brother (Fayeq), who's in the Travers. He just keeps coming. I'm going to main track only him later in the meet, and if not there's something at Parx at the end of September."

Momameamaria: Five-year-old mare owned by Two Tone Farm finished second in the 2016 Shine Again and fourth this year. "Very nice filly. Pleasure to be around, going to be a great broodmare. I'm trying to get that one stakes win somewhere for her pedigree. Gives us everything. Sort of a funny horse, she's got her quirks about her, real nervous. We train her a little different than the other horses and it's always worked out. We keep her here in Clare Court, long walks before she goes to the track, long walks home, just let her do her own thing, keep her happy and quiet. She's nervous so we're just trying to keep the stress level down."

Rachel's Temper: Newtown Anner Stud's 6-year-old daughter of Flatter won last year's Summer Colony and finished fourth in same race here Aug. 20. She's won six times and earned \$387,755. "She ran through her conditions, I lost her, we bought her back. Came back off a long layoff the other day, needed the race, hung in the Summer Colony. On the mend back and going the right direction."

Rectify: Claimed for Mike Repole for \$40,000 here July 30. Finished last in Thursday's eighth race, an \$85,000 New York-bred allowance that attracted a strong field. "Solid New York-bred that I claimed off Charlie Baker the other day. (Thursday's race was a) solid, solid field that's like a stakes race. It's like a Grade 3 how tough it came up. He's a good competitor. I've worked for Mike for years, from Scott Lake to Bruce Levine to on my own. Great guy, great operation, wants to do good and wants you to excel."

Chanel's Legacy: Multiple stakes winner in Midwest and Southwest was recently transferred to Cannizzo by Poindexter Thoroughbreds. Sixth in Grade 1 Test Aug. 5, 3-year-old Iowa-bred daughter of Dominus has five wins in 13 starts. "She's a solid filly that beat up

Stable Tour —

■ Continued from page 8

on a lot of horses out west in Oklahoma and Arkansas.”

Ego: Allen Poindexter spent \$20,000 last year for 2-year-old son of Quality Road. He’s breezed three times at Saratoga, including 3 furlongs in :38.09 from the gate Aug. 14. “He’s a very big 2-year-old. Probably more like a 3-year-old but should probably make his first start the second or third week of Belmont. We’ll get a race into him, see where we are.”

Classic Pursuit: Poindexter homebred 2-year-old by Street Sense shows four breezes at Saratoga, including a gate work Aug. 14 and a 5-furlong move in 1:02.67 on the main track Tuesday. “He’s a half to Joe Sharp’s good horse Cool Arrow that won the Springboard Mile and a couple other stakes. He could run here the last week of the meet.”

Dannie’s Deceiver: Z R J Stable’s 5-year-old by Quality Road finished fourth in Grade 1 Forego and sixth in Grade 1 Vosburgh last year. Three-time winner and \$274,074 earner suffered suspensory injury and was vanned off in allowance race last November at Aqueduct. He’s not with the string but never far from Cannizzo’s thoughts. “He means everything to me. It ruined me the day he got hurt, it hurt me real bad. We’ve done everything with him, stem cell, PRP, he spent some time at Mike Schrader’s farm. If he makes it back fine, if not, we’ll figure something out. He’ll be with me until the time comes. He’s one of the five horses that you truly can’t let go and be without.”

Little Bear Cat: Multiple stakes-placed 4-year-old Bluegrass Cat filly is on the sidelines after going 1-3-2 in seven starts this spring, including a second in the Xtra Heat Stakes. Carolyn: “That’s my baby.” David: “We bought her as a yearling for \$8,000. She’s the first yearling that we bought together. She won a two-other-than for \$40,000 and she deserved a break. I squeezed her a lot, she doesn’t have the most talent, but she gives you everything she’s got. She went through all her New York-bred conditions. She’s my daughter’s horse.”

Amigo: The barn’s ice-tea drinking 12-year-old pony lounged in his round pen just outside the shedrow Wednesday but was back in action with Carolyn aboard Thursday morning near Clare Court. David: “We purchased him this winter, after our old pony retired, from a client of mine out of Ocala, Secure Investments. He’s the mascot, gets everybody there and to. He’s the lifeguard of the pool. He’s like a big dog.” Carolyn: “He’s got some life. He’s a little spoiled. ... He almost bucked me off on the turf course a week ago, caused a massive scene. Then he had a week off because I was so sore I couldn’t get on him. Today’s the first day I’ve been back on him.”

Winning when it matters.

Fair Hill Equine Therapy Center horses include **43 Individual Grade 1 winners.**

Just some of the races they’ve won...



FAIR HILL EQUINE THERAPY CENTER

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy | AquaPacer | Cold Saltwater Spa | Dry Salt Room | Vibration Therapy | Training Center

721 Training Center Drive, Elkton, Maryland 21921
Phone: 610-496-5080 www.fairhilletc.com

PHOTO © KATHEE RENGERT

Hometown Horse Pride

Stepwise Farm owners rooting for homebred Twisted Tom

BY SHAYNA TILLER

Tucked down a winding private driveway along Fitch Road, just a few miles from Saratoga Race Course, is Dr. Bill Wilmot's and Dr. Joan Taylor's Stepwise Farm. The gorgeous property spans for over 100 acres with a cream colored barn sitting at the top of the hill at the end of the driveway.

A lone chestnut mare occupies a stall in the barn, giving a whinny as the barn door slides open.

"Used to have a busy equine practice, from '81 to '90 was the step-

wise process of having a couple kids, having a vet practice and developing the farm, 1990s was when the first horses arrived," Wilmot said this week. "Now we're on the other end of the spectrum. We're looking to slow down and we've been gradually downsizing. At the height of our operation we had about a dozen mares, now we're down to three."

Standing in the stall in the barn at

Continued On Page 12

ALBANY STAKES PREVIEW



Tod Marks

Twisted Tom comes into the Albany off a New York Derby win.



"Thank you Sallusto & Albina for buying us an incredible horse. I am still in shock that we won Million 35 today."

- Beach Patrol co-owner James Covello

SALLUSTO & ALBINA

Premier Bloodstock Agents

Our clients are *Living The Dream in August:*

Private Purchase

BEACH PATROL wins 35th Arlington Million becoming racing's newest millionaire

Private Purchase

STALLWALKIN' DUDE three-peats in \$100,000 Tale of the Cat S. at Saratoga

Bred & Raised for Newton Anner Stud

\$750,000 filly session topper at F-T Saratoga

Plus: Saratoga Allowance winner Royal Inheritance (2YO Purchase) and GSP Trooper John (Yearling Purchase)

Start living your dream today

Call Nick Sallusto or Hanzly Albina/888-525-7223

www.SallustoAlbina.com



V. E. DAY

Winner of the 2014 Travers Stakes (G1)

Defeating Grade 1 WINNERS

BAYERN, TONALIST, WICKED STRONG, etc.

Millionaire winner by CHAMPION

ENGLISH CHANNEL (by **SMART STRIKE**)

"V. E. DAY was absolutely sound and had a mind to match.
He will always be one of my favorites."

-Trainer, Jimmy Jerkens

First foals arrive 2018

Available for inspection, call (540) 226-1405 or (518) 461-8424
Property of Mrs. Magalen Ohrstrom Bryant



Inquiries to: Dr. Jerry Bilinski (518) 461-8424 or Johnathan Miller (540) 226-1405
Waldorf Farm, P.O. Box 959, North Chatham, NY 12132

Fax: (518) 766-4601. Farm: (518) 766-9400. E-mail: drbilinski@aol.com Web Site: www.waldorffarm.com
photos by Adam Coglianese & Barbara Livingston

Waldorf
FARM

Albany —

■ Continued from page 10

the top of the hill is Tiffany Twisted, mother of Twisted Tom and the favorite for today's \$250,000 Albany Stakes for New York-bred 3-year-olds.

"At the moment she's by herself because the other mares haven't come back from Kentucky," said Wilmot, a longtime advocate for the state's breeding program and former member of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders board of directors. "She's very happy, she's kind of a loner really. Her mother was the same way. She's living the life right now."

Stepwise bred and raced Tiffany Twisted after purchasing her dam, the Seattle Slew mare Miss Turlington, at the 1994 Keeneland November breeding stock sale for \$100,000. She has produced 16 foals since then, including the daughter of Thunder Gulch.

"Tiffany was named after that Eagles song Hotel California, 'her mind is Tiffany-twisted, she's got the Mercedes Benz,' " Wilmot said. "We ended up naming her well, not totally



Shayna Tiller

Twisted Tom's dam Tiffany Twisted rests in her shed at Stepwise Farm Thursday evening.

knowing that. The way that we came up with the name is that Thunder Gulch made us think of a storm or a tornado, perhaps a twister.

"Her dam is Miss Turlington, she of course was named after the famous model. We thought a high-end lady like that would wear a bunch of goods from Tiffany's and it all just

came together. Tiffany the mare has a very high opinion of herself. She's aloof and wants what she wants and Tiffany is the perfect name for her."

Wilmot and Taylor, a current member of the NYTB board, campaigned the mare through a short career before retiring her to the broodmare ranks at Stepwise.

"If you look at her produce record we've mostly bred to Storm Cat-line stallions," said Wilmot. "Tiffany won going a mile and three-eighths and a mile and a quarter, and we've always looked to put speed in the pedigree."

Tiffany Twisted is the dam of six starters – all winners – from six sires. Wilmot sent her to Creative Cause in her last mating, producing a big chestnut foal on April Fool's Day in 2014.


"We'd followed Creative Cause as a racehorse and then he retired to Airdrie so we went to see him," said Wilmot. "We really liked him; big, rangy handsome horse. His mother was real hickory, tough stakes winner."

"The irony is we perhaps overshot the mark. Twisted Tom is a big horse. People say, 'Oh he's too big, he'll take a long time to come around.' That's not true. Everyone wants instant gratification."

Twisted Tom was consigned twice as a yearling – in the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga New York-bred and Kentucky October yearling sales – bringing final bids of \$22,000 and failing to sell each time. Wilmot sent the colt to Niall Brennan with the intention

Continued On Page 14


Finding the perfect match is PRICELESS...



SUCCESS BEYOND THE TRACK

Rehab. Retrain. Rehome. Serving over 450 horses a year.

To donate a horse or make a contribution, visit www.NEWVOCATIONS.org or contact anna@horseadoption.com or call (937) 642-3171.



25th Anniversary

Ride the Wave

With an Elm Tree Yearling



Elm Tree Grad BEACH PATROL
Winner 2017 Arlington Million-G1
Dual G1 Winner over \$1.4M



Mr. and Mrs. Jody Huckabay
566 Hume-Bedford Road, Paris, KY 40361
(859) 987-4856 • Fax (859) 987-0374
E-mail: info@elmtreefarmky.com

Keeneland September

Book 2 Yearlings

Tuesday, 9/12 - Barn 35

180 f. SCAT DADDY - Elusive One

Filly from last crop of SCAT DADDY; 3rd foal out of SP Elusive Quality mare

Hip 426 f. MALIBU MOON - Let's Get Married

2YO 1/2 brother 2nd in debut to undefeated G2 Best Pal S. winner Run Away; 2nd foal out of SP More Than Ready mare

443 c. BERNARDINI - Lochinvar's Gold

UPDATE: 1/2 brother to 2YO "TDN Rising Star" Medaglia Gold and to MEI LING (\$522,383)

503 c. VERRAZANO - Miss Inclined

UPDATE: 1/2 brother to 2YO runner-up in Gulfstream MSW debut; out of SP 1/2 sister to RUSH BAY (\$742,847) and to the dam of GSW ITSAKNOCKOUT

Wednesday, 9/13 - Barn 35

514 f. SCAT DADDY - Misty Lady (ARG)

Out of 100% producer and one of ONLY two SCAT DADDY yearlings in sale out of a G1 SW

564 c. WILL TAKE CHARGE - Oblige

UPDATE: 1/2 brother HUNTER O'RILEY wins G2 Bowling Green S. at Saratoga 7/29, earnings now \$361,460; out of a young Bernardini mare

650 c. PIONEER OF THE NILE - Ragtime Hope

1/2 brother to 2-time Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 winner SECRET CIRCLE (\$3,670,790)

755 f. SUPER SAVER - Sky America

1st foal out of 2YO SP Sky America who is a sister to SW/G1P THIRD DAWN

Thursday, 9/14 - Barn 35

893 c. SPEIGHTSTOWN - Ullapool

2nd foal out of MSW ULLAPOOL (\$361,911, 7 wins in 14 starts)

901 c. CANDY RIDE (ARG) - Union Waters

1/2 brother to 2YO Smash Williams, 2nd in Belmont MSW debut

922 f. LEMON DROP KID - War Relic

1st foal out of 1/2 sister to GSW RUSH BAY (\$742,847) and to the dam of GSW ITSAKNOCKOUT

989 c. SPEIGHTSTOWN - Alternate

1/2 brother to multiple GSW/Millionaire ALTERNATION; immediate family of Champion PEAKS AND VALLEYS

991 c. MORE THAN READY - Always Here Too

2nd foal from Eight Belles S.-G3 placed Always Here Too, 1/2 sister to the dam of a new 2017 BT winner, family of G1 SW HOME AT LAST

www.elmtreefarmky.com

Success is no Accident...

GUN RUNNER

NYQUIST

ORB

PALACE MALICE

CUPID

TWISTED TOM

ON LEAVE

CARRUMBA

KATHRYN THE WISE

KOBE'S BACK

HUNTER O'RILEY

CARINA MIA



Niall Brennan Stables

Ocala, FL (352) 732-7459

niallbrennan.com

Albany —

■ Continued from page 12

of racing him but opted for the OBS April 2-year-old in training sale after impressing in training.

"He breezed in 10 and 3. They want 10 and 1. He's big, he's not one of those little rabbits that just hops out of there," said Wilmot. "A few people liked him and he made a few short lists.

"People would come by in the morning to see him and he's a big, good feeling colt. He would come out in the morning that week after he breezed and he was really feeling good and would stand up on his hind legs. That removed him from the short lists. We didn't want three RNAs on him because people would think he had tuberculosis or something."

He was scratched from the sale, but sold privately to George Weaver's owner Tom Brockley.

Twisted Tom was gelded before his debut at Saratoga last summer, finishing fourth in an off-the-turf race for state-breds at 7 furlongs. He broke his maiden in his next start going 1 mile on the grass at Belmont Park in September.

"In New York, these horses break their maiden and all the agents come banging the door down," said Wilmot.

Agent Steve Young did just that, organizing a deal between Brockley, Cobra Farm and R R Partners that sent the gelding to Chad Brown's barn before his next start.

Twisted Tom debuted for his new connections in late November at Aqueduct and finished sixth in a state-bred allowance on the grass. He bounced back, winning three straight in an allowance on Aqueduct's inner dirt in January followed by the Private Terms and Frederico Tesio at Laurel Park in the spring.

Head of Plains Partners joined the ownership just before the gelding's sixth in the Grade 1 Belmont Stakes.

"Our fingers were crossed for the Fitch Road Triple Crown," said Wilmot, whose farm neighbors Mc-

Mahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, birthplace of Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Funny Cide.

Twisted Tom didn't secure another classic win for the Fitch Road folks, clipping heels early and finishing sixth, 27 3/4 lengths behind Tapwrit. He rebounded with a victory in the New York Derby at Finger Lakes July 22 and is 8/5 on the morning line for the 1 1/8 mile Albany.

"We're very happy. It's a feeling of one of your kids doing well," said Wilmot. "We're a small breeder so to have a horse like this makes you feel like maybe we know what we're doing after all.

"A big, outgoing horse with a good, positive attitude. Kind of always asked, 'what's up now? What are we going to do next?' You can see that in his racing and in his works. He's a good workhorse. But there's some other nice horses in there certainly. This is a big test for him."

Twisted Tom faces six others in the Albany – Dynamax Prime, D'yer Mak'er, Can You Diggit, Broken Engagement, Pat On The Back and Min-sky Moment.

Sunset Ridge tops Fleet Indian

The first of six stakes on the Saratoga Showcase card is the \$200,000 Fleet Indian for 3-year-old fillies going 9 furlongs on the main track. A field of five entered and Chad Brown sends out the favorite in 1-5 choice Sunset Ridge.

Bred and owned by Alpha Delta Stables, the daughter of Algorithms comes off a 16 3/4-length victory going 7 furlongs Aug. 9.

Rudy Rodriguez trainee Bonita Bianca may not be the morning line favorite at 4-1, but she definitely tops the standings at his barn.

"She's been special to us," said Rodriguez. "We won the New York Oaks at Finger Lakes the other day. She's been good to us. She's very easy, very sweet. Doesn't do anything wrong, and just a good filly to be around."

Completing the field are Five Each Way, Danielle's Pride and Somekinda-sexy.

thisishorseracing.com

The yearling sales are here. . .

Time to buy a Maryland-bred

Lydia A. Williams photo

30% owner bonuses

For first, second and third place for registered Maryland-breds running in Maryland in ALL overnight races.

Find your Maryland-bred at Keeneland September with these consignors:

Allied Bloodstock

3483 Stay Thirsty—What Will Be Colt

Bedouin Bloodstock

2267 City Zip—Striking Bella Colt

Betz Thoroughbreds, Inc.

748 Union Rags—Sincerely Colt
870 Uncle Mo—Thunderous Lady Filly
988 City Zip—Allwewantforxmas Colt
1729 Quality Road—Magger Bags Filly

Bluewater Sales LLC

1428 Shanghai Bobby—Scorching Colt

Brookdale Sales

1005 Flatter—Argentesque Colt
2816 Tapizar—Deborah's Moment Filly
3342 Trappe Shot—Oneminutetomidnight Filly
3454 Afleet Alex—Topazio Filly

Buckland Sales

2390 City Zip—Chase the Storm Colt

Candyland

1044 Malibu Moon—Best Present Ever Colt

Dark Hollow Farm

698 Bodemeister—Safe Journey Colt
1196 More Than Ready—Dream Colt
1199 Scat Daddy—Dream Out Loud Filly

Eaton Sales

1511 Super Saver—Wood Not Colt
2127 Street Boss—Listen Boy Colt

Hidden Brook

449 Scat Daddy—Love's Blush Colt

Hunter Valley Farm

376 Uncle Mo—Kanani Colt
541 Tiznow—Mystic Love Colt

Lane's End

2081 Twirling Candy—Hula Skirt Filly

Nursery Place

591 Fusaichi Pegasus—Parlez Colt

Scott Mallory

1409 Cairo Prince—Rey Lake Filly

Small Batch Sales

1972 Malibu Moon—Captive Melody Colt

Taylor Made Sales Agency

4027 Great Notion—Super Tough Colt

Timber Town

3140 Stay Thirsty—Ain't She Awesome Filly
3161 Blame—Berry Blessed Colt
3174 Sky Mesa—Broad Quality Colt
1147 Blame—Credit Quality Colt

Warrendale Sales

2587 Alternation—Over the Moon Colt

Woods Edge Farm

2106 Paynter—Kosmo's Buddy Colt

Maryland-breds run with the best. Look for them in the winner's circle at race tracks all over the world. Watch for them at the sales.

Better stallions. Better mares. Maryland-breds.



Maryland
We grow horses

www.MarylandThoroughbred.com

Family Time

Flipcup bids for turf-stakes upset for Penney family, Wachtel, Mott

BY SHAYNA TILLER

YADDO STAKES PREVIEW

MaryAnn Penney and her daughter Townsend darted down Bill Mott's shedrow toward a bay face bobbing up and down over the stall gate.

"Hey baby, you ready to play?" Penney said. "You have a little itch? You want me to scratch that, honey?"

A homebred for MaryAnn and Shirl Penney's Team Penney Racing, Flipcup is much more than just a racehorse running in today's \$150,000 Yaddo Stakes for New York-bred fillies and mares on the turf.

The Penneys live just outside the Saratoga Race Course grounds on Fifth Avenue, and visit their 6-year-old mare as much as possible.

"Do you remember life before Flipcup?" Penney asked her daughter, who responded with a headshake. "She's always been sweet. After a stakes race our kids can go right in there and play with her and she's so gentle with them. She begs for food. She knows when she's coming because she starts bobbing her head and getting excited."

The bay mare nibbled on strands of Townsend's blonde hair as her mom obliged with a snack.

"We spend a lot of time with her," said Penney. "She grew up around my girls, we come over after school.



Shayna Tiller

MaryAnn (left) and Townsend Penney check in on Flipcup Thursday.

When we're in the paddock she looks at us and we talk to her like, 'It's game day, honey.' "

Team Penney purchased Flipcup's dam Dream Affair in foal to Milwaukee Brew from the 2007 OBS winter

mixed sale. Happy with the result of her first colt, they bred her back to produce Flipcup in 2011.

"What we started off doing was

Continued On Page 18



THE ART OF RACING IS

**WEST VIRGINIA
BREEDERS CLASSICS®**

XXXI

Sat., Oct. 14, 2017 | Post Time 7:00 PM

Featuring the
West Virginia Breeders Classic and the Breeders Classics Races



WEST VIRGINIA
BREEDERS CLASSICS

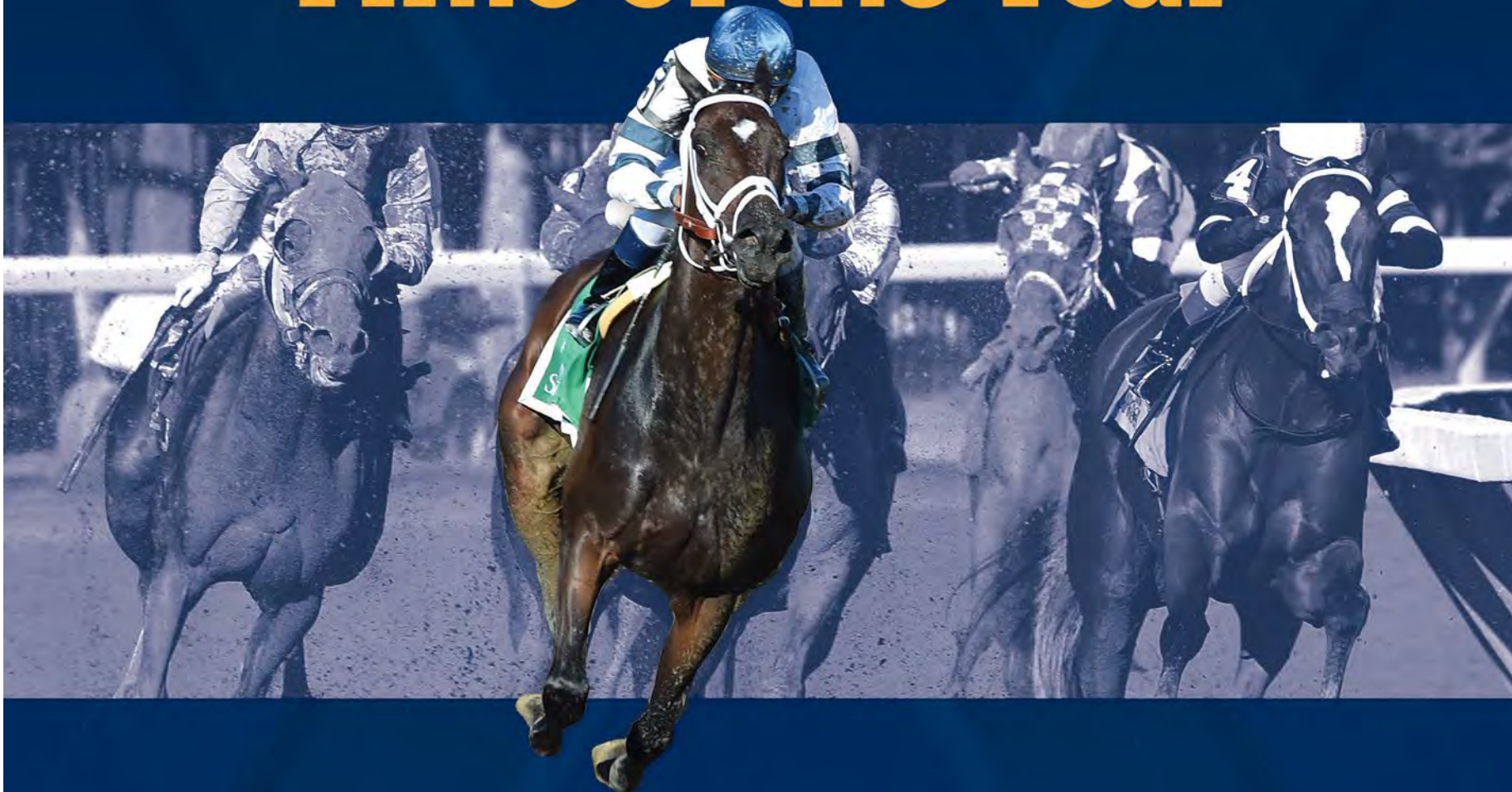
HOLLYWOOD
Casino
AT CHARLES TOWN RACES

West Virginia Breeders Classics, Ltd.
wvbcmbn@frontier.com • www.wvbc.com
P.O. Box 1251 • Charles Town, WV 25414 • 304-725-0709
CAROL HOLDEN - PRES. • THERESA BITNER - EXEC. SEC.
SAM HUFF - CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

RUSSEL ROAD
3 Time Winner of the
West Virginia Breeders Classic
XXIII • XXV • XXVIII



It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year



Bet every race from Saratoga and over 300 tracks worldwide.
New customers earn a \$100 Sign Up Bonus.

Promo Code THIS100

xpressbet > **866.88XPRESS**
your way to play (866.889.7737)

*Open to new Xpressbet customers only. To qualify for \$100 Bonus you must wager \$100 within 30 days of sign up. Must be 18 or older (21 in AL, AZ, IA, KS, NH, ND, WA) to open an account with Xpressbet, LLC and reside in a state where such activity is legal. Void where prohibited. National Gambling Support Line 800.522.4700.

Yaddo —

■ Continued from page 16

our breeding operation offset our losses on the track, but we got lucky with Flip because she didn't bring in what we wanted so we decided to keep her," said Penney. "We were preparing for the 2-year-old sale and our developer down in Ocala, Kenny Lejeune says, 'this filly can run.' We decided to keep her.

"The hard part is finding a good name. Beer Pong was taken. We liked Hops, but they said no to Hops. So it was our third choice. I'm from West Virginia, I'm a Mountaineer fan so I've played many flip cup games at a tailgating parties. It's been a very well received name."

The filly began her career with Brian Lynch, winning her first two races at Woodbine. She was sent to George Weaver late in her 2-year-old season, just before winning the East View Stakes at Aqueduct.

"She's an interesting mix because she's New York-bred but she's by a Canadian sire," said Penney. "We selected that sire because we knew that would open up opportunities for her. It's been great that we've been able to qualify for restricted races there and restricted races here."

Adam Wachtel's Wachtel Stable joined the ownership shortly into her 3-year-old year and handed training over to Mott. Her multiple graded stakes-winning career spans 30 starts, with seven



Tod Marks

Fourstar Crook is heavily favored in the Yaddo.

wins, six seconds and seven thirds over three surfaces and \$623,482 in earnings.

"She's won open races but the opportunities that we've gotten because of the Ontario sire and New York-bred races has been great," said Penney. "We've been trying to get this turf win because she's won graded stakes on synthetic, she's won stakes on dirt and we'd love to get a stakes win on the turf so her babies will be so versatile and sell well."

Flipcup comes into the 1 1/16-mile Yaddo off a close second in the Victoriana Stakes over Woodbine's turf course July 30.

"A plastic bag flew onto the turf, she had to jump over it, switch leads, switch leads back right on the turn and it cost her the race," said Penney. "So we're hoping a plastic bag falls in front of someone else tomorrow."

"For years she was always on the board and last year we pulled her off the surface that she loves which is the synthetic. They used to call her the Poly-monster. We've pulled her off in order to get this turf win but she likes the turf here. She's gotten a yielding turf every time, the plastic bag was thrown in front of her, and I think she'll give the people looking for longshots a lot of money in their pocket."

Regardless of the outcome, Team Penney plans to have Flipcup around for a very long time.

"We're not selling her, she's a member of our family," said Penney. "That's the big problem when you have a horse that's so sweet that you visit every day, you become really attached to them. It becomes not so much of a business adventure, it becomes your family. We can't sell her, we have to breed her and she'll be with us for a very long time."

Flipcup is 10-1 on the early line for the Yaddo with John Velazquez named to ride.

Chad Brown sends out the 7-5 favorite Fourstar Crook, winner of the Grade 3 Dr. James Penny Me-

Continued On Page 19

FREE SARATOGA HANDICAPPER'S SHEET

SELECTIONS, ANALYSIS, & WAGERING STRATEGY

FREE EVERY DAY OF THE SARATOGA MEETING

brisnet.com
the handicapper's edge

■ Continued from page 18

morial at Parx Racing July 4. She won last year's Yaddo, is in the midst of an eight-race win streak and hasn't lost in New York-bred company since late July 2015 at Saratoga.

The field also includes Bar Of Gold, Feeling Bossy, First Charmer, Jet Majesty, Ack Naughty, Barrel Of Dreams, Freddie Anne and main track only entrant Literata.

Speed in West Point

A field of 10 is entered for the accompanying West Point Stakes going the same distance on the inner turf and the race is expected to feature a quick early pace.

Several of the race's contenders have shown early or tactical speed – 2014 and '16 West Point winner King Kreesa, multiple stakes winner Macagone, recent Belmont allowance winner Changewilldoyagood and Fox Rules. And then comes Black Tide.

Trained by David Cannizzo for owner Ivery Sisters Racing – the same connections of Fox Rules – Black Tide opened up an 11-length lead early in a July 30 open-company allowance and hung on to win by 1 1/4 lengths. Cannizzo makes no bones about how the West Point will shape up.

"You can't slow him down, you've got to let him do his thing," he said of the 5-year-old Hold Me Back gelding. "There's no one that will be near him. He'll be 10, 15 in front."

Cannizzo expects Black Tide on the lead and Fox Rules, who shows plenty of 1s on his past performance lines, to rate.

Too quick of an early pace might set it up for 2-1 favorite Offering Plan, who exits a fifth against open company in the Forbidden Apple at Belmont July 15 for Chad Brown. He defeated King Kreesa by a length two starts back in the Kingston in his first start in more than eight months.

Get Jets, second in the Forbidden Apple and 2-for-4 on the grass for trainer Tony Dutrow and his Team D partnership, is the 3-1 second choice. Kharafa, third in the 2013 West Point and second last year, All Is Number and main track only entrant Royal Pose complete the field.

– Tom Law



Own A Racehorse. Change Your Life.

100% of the fun - fraction of the cost.

Ask us how **you** can run at Saratoga!

westpointtb.com • info@westpointtb.com • 518.583.6638





Tod Marks 2

Aveenu Malcainu (left) and I Still Miss You represent the Jeremiah Englehart barn in today's New York-bred stakes for 2-year-olds.

All Dressed Up

BY BEN GOWANS

While Todd Pletcher and Chad Brown duel for the training title at Saratoga Race Course, Jeremiah Englehart and his father Chris are in a battle of their own at Finger Lakes in the meet that runs through the end of November.

Jeremiah Englehart spends much of his time at his Finger Lakes base, where he's won 66 races to his father's 61 through Thursday, but his focus is sure to be on Saratoga today with two promising juveniles entered in stakes on the Saratoga Showcase card for New York-breds. The first comes in the fifth when Gold Square's impressive maiden winner Aveenu Malcainu starts in the \$200,000 Funny Cide Stakes going 6 1/2 furlongs.

"I thought this might be a little bit of a softer spot (than the Hopeful), but in looking at the PPs there's a couple horses in there, including the horse that ran second to us first time," Englehart said of Smokin Platinum, who will try to turn the tables on Aveenu Malcainu. "It's not going to be an easy spot, we're definitely going to have to run back to our last race, and probably a little bit better."

FUNNY CIDE & SEEKING THE ANTE PREVIEWS

While some of his rivals may struggle with the added distance, Englehart feels the stretch-out will only help the grand looking son of Into Mischief who broke his maiden at 5 1/2 furlongs.

"The extra furlong is definitely going to help this horse; he'll want to go two turns, that classic distance," Englehart said. "He's a big horse and once he gets going he really moves. He was training well but he still acted like a horse that he didn't really know what he was doing yet. I thought if anything was going to hurt him it would be 5 1/2."

Englehart and Travis Durr selected six 2-year-olds from sales this year for Al Gold's Gold Square, including Aveenu Malcainu for \$150,000. He was the only horse the team bought out of the OBS April 2-year-olds in training sale.

"Al likes to buy the 2-year-olds," Englehart said. "I gave him a short list of Travis and I, horses that we really liked. He had horses that he liked. From there, we kind of narrowed it down, we missed out

Englehart sends out pair of talented 2-year-olds in stakes

on some we really liked but we got a good group of horses.

"Travis made the comment that (Aveenu Malcainu) looked just liked Goldcents and he broke Goldcents (at Webb Carroll Training Center in Saint Matthews, S.C.), so that weighed a lot going into the decision to buy the horse. Not everyone liked his gallop out, to me he just looked like a real green horse that wasn't ready yet. The lightbulb, it's still pretty dim, but he's getting ready to shine I think."

Todd Pletcher's What A Catch is the 8/5 favorite for the Funny Cide after a win in the July 15 Rockville Centre Stakes at Belmont Park, where he defeated foes he will face again today in Morning Breez and stablemate Analyze The Odds. Others in the Funny Cide field are Mr. Pete, who broke his maiden the same day as the Rockville Centre for Jim Ryerson, and Inalienable Rights, who broke his maiden the next day for Mark Hennig. Alien Invasion broke his maiden in an off-the-turf race July 24 and joins Aveenu Malcainu as the only members

Continued On Page 21

Englehart —

■ Continued from page 20

of the field with a win locally.

Englehart, who also sends out first-time starter Sandlot Star in the fourth race for maiden New York-bred 2-year-olds, is represented in the day's other juvenile stakes with I Still Miss You in the \$200,000 Seeking The Ante for fillies. I Still Miss You is the 8/5 favorite for the 6 1/2-furlong stakes.

After an impressive score against open company in the Astoria Stakes during Belmont Stakes week, the daughter of Majestic Warrior was second to Pure Silver in New York-bred company last time in the Lynbrook Stakes. At the time the loss was a disappointment, but Pure Silver came back with a 9 1/2-length score in the Grade 2 Adirondack Aug. 12.

"Running against Pure Silver, maybe Javier (Castellano) and I both thought that we had the better horse," Englehart said. "But looking at what Pure Silver has done in that race and since then, you got to really tip your cap to her, I think we've run against a really nice filly. Although it was a little disappointing not winning last time, I learned a lot from that race."

I Still Miss You showed her precocity and speed winning a maiden in her first start May 11 at Belmont.

"She's not a real big filly, she's got a real strong motor, a real powerful hind-end," Englehart said of the filly owned by Gold Star Racing Stable, Matthew Hand and Brian McKenzie. "She's a real smart horse, she has matured faster than a lot of horses I've seen as 2-year-olds. That's her biggest attribute. She can handle anything that goes on during a race whether it's going to the lead or sitting off it."

Englehart claimed the dam of I Still Miss You for \$8,000 and subsequently won eight races for Gold Star Racing Stable with Lion's Terms. The Lion Heart mare's first foal is I Still Miss You.

"It's actually a pretty cool story, she was named after one of the owner's best friends who committed suicide the night I claimed Lion's Terms," Englehart said. "So, that's been kind of a neat little story, a lot of emotion there."

Others entered in the Seeking The Ante are Saratoga maiden winners Trouble For Skylar and Pauseforthe-cause and California shippers Cause We Are Loyal and Newport Breeze. One Last Cast, Beaux Arts, Miss Mystique and Tudox Lifting Off complete the field.



Heart-Pounding Excitement, it's what we deliver!

Don't just watch, be part of the action!

Affordable ownership in horse racing.

For information contact:
dfcollins@bonaventurestables.com

Visit us on the web at:
www.bonaventurestables.com

© Bona Venture Stables 2017. All Rights Reserved.

GUEST HANDICAPPER UPDATE

Today's guest handicapper is Jane Hill, an avid fan for 16 years, handicapping and photographing the horses, and visiting tracks around the country. She lives in Malden, Mass., and works in IT security at Harvard University. Thursday, Richard Hutchinson picked two winners. See page 23.

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

Loyalty. Service. Consistency.

"I realized when Tracy first walked into my Belmont office 12 years ago that she had a great idea. Every detail I threw out, she had covered and has continued to develop and create an amazing program."

— Linda Rice

TLore is a Thoroughbred Racehorse Management Service. For more information contact Tracy Attfield
(954) 647-3220 | TLore.net



The New Virginia Residency Program

Board & Train Your Horses in Virginia!

Send your horse to Virginia for 6 months prior to December 31st of its 2-year-old year and be eligible for a

25% owner's bonus for wins in the Mid-Atlantic region (NY, NJ, PA, DE, WV, MD).

Your horse will also be eligible to participate in Virginia restricted races.

Find Out More: VAbred.org

Friday, August 25. New York-bred Saratoga Showcase Day

1ST (1:00PM). \$73,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Purely Lucky	J. Castellano
2	.....2.....	Codrington	M. Franco
3	.....3.....	Jody's Song	R. Santana, Jr
4	.....4.....	Big Expense	K. Carmouche
5	.....5.....	Silverado Mist	J. Lezcano
6	.....MTO.....	Sunblock	K. Carmouche
7	.....7.....	Northernstreetgal	L. Saez
8	.....8.....	Misty Forest	R. Maragh
9	.....MTO.....	Berning Rose	Rider TBA
10	.....10.....	Reyana Reya Delite	J. Robles

2ND (1:35PM). \$78,000, AOC \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	So Noted	J. Rosario
2	.....2.....	Build to Suit	I. Ortiz, Jr.
3	.....3.....	Eye Luv Lulu	J. Ortiz
4	.....4.....	Nobody Move	J. Castellano
5	.....5.....	Runaway Lute	L. Saez
6	.....6.....	Beyond the Green	K. Carmouche
7	.....7.....	Samadi Sky	J. Velazquez
8	.....8.....	Toohottoevenspeak	J. Lezcano
9	.....9.....	Chilly Bon Bon	R. Santana, Jr

3RD (2:10PM). \$200,000, STK - THE FLEET INDIAN, 3 YO, F , 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Five Each Way	M. Franco
2	.....2.....	Sunset Ridge	J. Ortiz
3	.....3.....	Danielle's Pride	J. Alvarado
4	.....4.....	Somekindasexy	R. Maragh
5	.....5.....	Bonita Bianca	I. Ortiz, Jr.

4TH (2:45PM). \$73,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....6.....	Throw the Deuce	J. Rosario
1a	.....AE.....	Engineers Report	I. Ortiz, Jr.
1x	.....MTO.....	Five Star Bunt	Rider TBA
2	.....1.....	Iron Johnny	T. Gaffalione
3	.....2.....	Barbarossa	J. Castellano
4	.....3.....	Chasindamoney	J. Ortiz
5	.....4.....	Sandlot Star	L. Saez
6	.....5.....	Battle Station	K. Carmouche
7	.....7.....	Badaboom	I. Ortiz, Jr.
8	.....8.....	Mr. Hot Rocks	P. Lopez
9	.....9.....	Potomac Two Step	A. Arroyo
10	.....10.....	Just Bustin	E. Cancel
11	.....AE.....	Scoopsie Patato	D. Davis
12	.....AE.....	Bit the Bullet	R. Rohena, Jr.
13	.....AE.....	Disco Outlaw	L. Reyes
14	.....MTO.....	Violent Delights	L. Reyes

5TH (3:20PM). \$200,000, STK - THE FUNNY CIDE, 2 YO, 6 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Mr. Pete	J. Ortiz
2	.....2.....	Analyze the Odds	M. Franco
3	.....3.....	Aveenu Malcainu	L. Saez
4	.....4.....	Smokin Platinum	J. Rosario
5	.....5.....	Alien Invasion	T. Gaffalione
6	.....6.....	Morning Breez	I. Ortiz, Jr.
7	.....7.....	Inalienable Rights	J. Alvarado
8	.....8.....	What a Catch	J. Velazquez

6TH (4:05PM). \$45,000, MCL \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Corey Q	I. Ortiz, Jr.
2	.....2.....	Jacqueline D	L. Reyes
3	.....3.....	Tiffany's Vision	R. Montanez
4	.....4.....	Wish Upon	A. Arroyo
5	.....5.....	New Canaan	J. Ortiz
6	.....6.....	Grandpa's Arianna	J. Velazquez
7	.....7.....	Havana Affair	T. Gaffalione
8	.....8.....	Kats Girl Cala	E. Cancel
9	.....9.....	Hope's Roar	L. Saez
10	.....10.....	Terralsole	R. Santana, Jr
11	.....11.....	Freckle de Freck	R. Maragh
12	.....12.....	Hardly Mate	J. Rosario
13	.....AE.....	Kat O Mine	J. Lezcano
14	.....AE.....	Halcyon	F. Geroux
15	.....AE.....	Reconsider It	J. Alvarado
16	.....AE.....	Catch Your Dreams	C. DeCarlo

7TH (4:40PM). \$150,000, STK - THE YADDO, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double			
1	.....MTO.....	Literata	I. Ortiz, Jr.
2	.....2.....	Bar of Gold	I. Ortiz, Jr.
3	.....3.....	Flipcup	J. Velazquez
4	.....4.....	Feeling Bossy	L. Saez
5	.....5.....	First Charmer	J. Leparoux
6	.....6.....	Jet Majesty	J. Lezcano
7	.....7.....	Ack Naughty	J. Rosario
8	.....8.....	Fourstar Crook	J. Castellano
9	.....9.....	Barrel of Dreams	J. Ortiz
10	.....10.....	Freudie Anne	F. Lynch

8TH (5:15PM). \$200,000, STK - THE SEEKING THE ANTE, 2 YO, F , 6 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	One Last Cast	J. Velazquez
2	.....2.....	Beaux Arts	M. Franco
3	.....3.....	Pauseforthecause	I. Ortiz, Jr.
4	.....4.....	Miss Mystique	R. Maragh
5	.....5.....	Cause We Are Loyal	M. Gutierrez
6	.....6.....	Tudox Lifting Off	R. Santana, Jr
7	.....7.....	Newport Breeze	J. Ortiz
8	.....8.....	I Still Miss You	J. Castellano
9	.....9.....	Trouble for Skylar	K. Carmouche

9TH (5:49PM). \$150,000, STK - THE WEST POINT, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

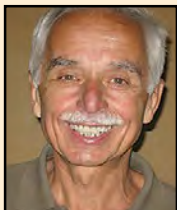
Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....MTO.....	Royal Posse	I. Ortiz, Jr.
2	.....2.....	King Kreesa	J. Ortiz
3	.....3.....	Get Jets	J. Velazquez
4	.....4.....	Macagone	J. Rosario
5	.....5.....	Kharafa	J. Bravo
6	.....6.....	All Is Number	F. Geroux
7	.....7.....	Changewilldoyagood	D. Davis
8	.....8.....	Black Tide	J. Lezcano
9	.....9.....	Offering Plan	J. Castellano
10	.....10.....	Fox Rules	K. Carmouche

10TH (6:23PM). \$250,000, STK - THE ALBANY, 3 YO, 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Dynamax Prime	R. Maragh
2	.....2.....	D'yer Mak'er	T. Gaffalione
3	.....3.....	Can You Diggit	J. Ortiz
4	.....4.....	Twisted Tom	J. Castellano
5	.....5.....	Broken Engagement	P. Lopez
6	.....6.....	Pat On the Back	D. Davis
7	.....7.....	Minsky Moment	I. Ortiz, Jr.

Copyright 2017 EQUIBASE Company LLC. All Rights Reserved.

the Power grid



**John
Shapazian**



**Gaile
Fitzgerald**



**Tom
Law**



**Charles
Bedard**



**Jane
Hill**

Race #					
1	Codrington Silverado Mist Jody's Song	Codrington Purely Lucky Silverado Mist	Codrington Purely Lucky Silverado Mist	Codrington Purely Lucky Northernstreetgal	Codrington Purely Lucky Silverado Mist
2	Build To Suit Eye Luv Lulu Runaway Lute	Build To Suit Eye Luv Lulu Nobody Move	Build To Suit Nobody Move Runaway Lute	Runaway Lute Build To Suit Nobody Move	Build to Suit Beyond The Green Eye Luv Lulu
3	Sunset Ridge Bonita Bianca Five Each Way	Sunset Ridge Bonita Bianca Five Each Way	Sunset Ridge Bonita Bianca Five Each Way	Sunset Ridge Five Each Way Bonita Bianca	Sunset Ridge Danielle's Pride Bonita Bianca
4	Barbarossa Battle Station Sandlot Star	Sandlot Star Chasindamoney Badaboom	Barbarossa Sandlot Star Battle Station	Barbarossa Chasindamoney Dubb entry	Chasindamoney Battle Station Sandlot Star
5	What A Catch Morning Breez Aveenu Malcainu	Aveenu Malcainu What A Catch Inalienable Rights	What A Catch Aveenu Malcainu Morning Breez	What A Catch Morning Breez Aveenu Malcainu	Aveenu Malcainu What A Catch Smokin Platinum
6	New Canaan Wish Upon Corey Q	New Canaan Kat O Mine Corey Q	New Canaan Grandpa's Arianna Wish Upon	New Canaan Hope's Roar Kat O Mine	New Canaan Kat O Mine Grandpa's Arianna
7	Fourstar Crook Ack Naughty Bar Of Gold	Fourstar Crook Literata Feeling Bossy	Fourstar Crook Bar Of Gold Flipcup	Fourstar Crook Bar Of Gold Ack Naughty	Fourstar Crook Feeling Bossy Ack Naughty
8	I Still Miss You Trouble For Skylar Cause We Are Loyal	I Still Miss You Miss Mystique Trouble For Skylar	I Still Miss You Newport Breeze Trouble For Skylar	I Still Miss You Trouble For Skylar Pauseforthecause	Pauseforthecause Trouble For Skylar I Still Miss You
9	Offering Plan Get Jets Kharafa	Get Jets Offering Plan All Is Number	Get Jets Kharafa Offering Plan	Royal Posse Offering Plan Get Jets	Macagone Offering Plan Get Jets
10	Twisted Tom Minsky Moment Broken Engagement	Twisted Tom Broken Engagement Pat On The Back	Twisted Tom Broken Engagement Minsky Moment	Twisted Tom Broken Engagement Minsky Moment	Dynamax Prime Minsky Moment Twisted Tom
11	Grand Valour Dab Silky Way	Mr Cat Atwitzend Dab	Mr. Cat Silky Way Dab	Quai Voltaire Dab Danny's Rush	Silky Way Dab Mr. Cat
2017 Records	92/298	75/298	70/298	89/298	38/226*

Our fifth handicapper will be a special guest each day. See page 21 for update.



SARATOGA ENTRIES

11TH (6:57PM). \$45,000, MCL \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	.....1.....	Mr. Cat	.....J. Ortiz	.....L. Rice	.....7-2
2	.....2.....	Shades of Brown	.....K. Carmouche	.....G. Contessa	.....12-1
3	.....3.....	Tiz Wicked	.....D. Davis	.....R. Schosberg	.....15-1
4	.....4.....	Atwitzend	.....P. Lopez	.....H. Bond	.....6-1
5	.....5.....	Enchanted Forest	.....E. Cancel	.....K. Barraclough	.....30-1

6	.....6.....	Dab	.....R. Santana, Jr.	.....S. Asmussen	.....3-1
7	.....7.....	Girolira	.....L. Reyes	.....J. Abreu	.....20-1
8	.....8.....	Leatherhead Lurie	.....R. Montanez	.....A. Avila	.....50-1
9	.....9.....	Frost Proof	.....R. Maragh	.....P. Reynolds	.....20-1
10	.....10.....	Silky Way	.....J. Lezcano	.....W. Mott	.....4-1
11	.....11.....	For Pops	.....T. Gaffalione	.....D. Cannizzo	.....8-1
12	.....12.....	Louisiana Lady	.....F. Geroux	.....L. O'Brien	.....12-1
13	.....AE.....	Danny's Rush	.....J. Alvarado	.....W. Mott	.....6-1
14	.....AE.....	Grand Valour	.....J. Castellano	.....L. Rice	.....4-1
15	.....MTO.....	Playwright	.....I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....L. Gaudet	.....7-2
16	.....MTO.....	Quai Voltaire	.....Rider TBA	.....G. Sciacca	.....3-1

Successful Mission

Diplomat, Newmans win Gr. 1 jump stakes

BY JOE CLANCY

Rich Newman watched Thursday's Grade 1 New York Turf Writers Cup steeplechase unfold, and saw Diplomat – the horse he co-owns with his brother Adam – drafting into position on the final turn.

"He's got a lot of business to do," Rich said to himself, his family, the world.

Diplomat, a \$40,000 claim by the Newmans at Saratoga Race Course in 2015, closed the deal from there – rallying outside favorite Modem in the final quarter-mile and winning by 3 lengths to give the Newman family the biggest win in more than 40 years in racing. Trained by Kate Dalton and ridden by her husband Bernie, the winner collected his sixth victory over jumps and pushed his career hurdle earnings to \$276,172. Modem stayed for second, ahead of All The Way Jose in third after 2 3/8 miles in 4:29.90.



Owner Adam Newman and trainer Kate Dalton share a moment after the win. Tod Marks



Diplomat charges down the stretch in Thursday's Grade 1 New York Turf Writers Cup steeplechase. Tod Marks

Donald Newman started it all in 1976 when he and partner Buddy Mayo launched May-Don Stable with trainer Alan Marcus. Newman worked in the garment district in Manhattan, made enough money to need a tax shelter and got into racing. Despite building the stable to 30 horses and giving some of the bigger-name claiming outfits a run for the New York owners' title by races-won, May-Don was not a ringing success.

"They bought what may have been the slowest horse in all of America," said Adam Newman, who dug up the name Millicent Turle which (unsurprisingly) does not show up in Equibase. No matter, the Newmans called her Millicent Turtle and she was not successful. She was Donald Newman's first horse, however, and she led to stakes winners Tricky Zippy and Absatootly, some broodmares, three-time Saratoga winner Barrel Of Dreams and now Diplomat.

"My dad always enjoyed racing, but he was a city guy," said Adam Newman. "He was enough of a fan to go along with the partnership idea and they had some horses. From that, he never lost his passion. The partners got out, he stuck with it, made some adjustments through the years, started breeding a few and found horsemen to work with. He never bailed on it."

He also passed that interest on to his family, which is carrying on Newman Racing (with flat horses including two wins at this meet). The steeplechase idea, called Flying Elvis Stable and consisting of Adam and Rich, came to be in 2015 with the claim of Diplomat.

plechase idea, called Flying Elvis Stable and consisting of Adam and Rich, came to be in 2015 with the claim of Diplomat.

"My dad's been gone a couple years now, and we lost my older brother Matthew at Christmas time," said Adam. "Newman Racing is the whole family, but Rich and I do the jumpers. We've always had an interest in it, since seeing it up here a long time ago."

The brothers can pinpoint the moment – and even the horse – when jump racing became something they followed.

"Coconut Creek," said Rich Newman, of an Irish-bred hurdler who won at Saratoga in 1980 for trainer Barbara McWade. "He was getting saddled under one of the trees out back and he was just gorgeous. We went to the window and cashed a pretty big ticket on him."

And they've been fans ever since, watching the races in New York, attending a few steeplechase meets around the country and – two years ago – claiming Diplomat from steeplechase trainer Jimmy Day. The son of Kitten's Joy won that day and went back to Charlton Baker's barn at Saratoga.

"We were thinking useful horse, have some fun, see what might happen," said Adam. "He looked like he was worth the money. We presented it to the rest of the family and said, 'This is fun, but finan-

Continued On Page 26

CATCH EVEN MORE RACING COVERAGE AT

THIS IS **HORSE** RACING

www.thisishorseracing.com



*Museum Tours
led by legendary
racecaller
Tom Durkin*

Available from July 21st through September 4th
from 11 a.m. to noon daily, except on Tuesdays

Tours will begin in the Museum Lobby.

\$20 per person (Museum member price)

\$25 per person (general admission)

For reservations, please call (518) 584-0400 ext. 109
(Tour space is limited to 15 people per tour.)

THIS IS YOUR CALL TO POST
In Aiken South Carolina



\$535,000

Raceland

Former Claiborne barn with easy access to the Aiken Training Track, clay roads and Hitchcock Woods. 20 stalls, 4 apartments, paddocks & equiciser. Come winter in Aiken! Available as rental.

Killara

Gated Aiken Horse District Property with remodeled 4 bedroom home with pool, 3 car garage, 10 stall barn with apartment & 5.35 acres. Hack to Hitchcock Woods with over 2300 acres of trails.



\$1,490,000

Audubon

Legendary private training facility at the Aiken Training Track. 43 stalls, covered 6 horse EquiGym, bunkhouse, 4 BR brick home & 8.24 acres. Adjacent to the Aiken Horse Park show grounds.



\$1,900,000

To see these and other properties in Aiken, visit...

www.AikenHorseRealty.com

803/215.0153 cell

suzy.haslup@gmail.com



SUZY HASLUP

REALTOR®

Leading The Field



Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 24

cially it makes no sense.’ They really weren’t interested, so the jumpers are just the two of us.”

Thursday, the idea looked as sensible as car insurance. Diplomat won a Grade 1 at Saratoga (worth \$90,000 to the winner) and the brothers, their mother Sarah and others were sipping champagne in the Saratoga Room.

“Horse-racing wise, there’s never been anything better,” Adam said. “We may never, ever get another moment like this again, but it’s worth it. I’ve never been in this room before.”

Two starts after that 2015 claim, Diplomat won a stakes in Virginia but lost his next six starts through May 2017. He prepped for Saratoga with a flat start at Parx Racing July 8. Dalton put blinkers on the 8-year-old, just to help sharpen him a little. He finished second at 42-1 and was subsequently elevated to first due to a medication positive. Again in blinkers, Diplomat finished third in the 2 1/16-mile A.P. Smithwick here July 27. He threatened exiting the turn but flattened out



Tod Marks

Eventual winner Diplomat (second from left) follows Alcazar de Maram (5) and others over a fence early.

late and finished almost 17 lengths behind winner Swansea Mile. The Camden, S.C.-based Daltons went back to their new summer base at New Jersey’s Westhampton Training Center

and thought about the blinkers in advance of the Turf Writers.

“We were hemming and hawing – blinkers on, blinkers off, blinkers on, blinkers off – and finally Bernie and I decided on Monday that we should definitely take them off,” said Kate. “It sort of seemed like there was going to be a lot of pace in the race to run at and we were thinking we wanted to sit him in a little bit more this time and try to come with a run.”

“Bernie said he was hard on the bridle the whole way (in the Smithwick). It seemed like we’d shaken him up and we could go back to how we used to ride him and see what happened.”

Without blinkers Thursday, Diplomat dropped off the early pace of Alcazar de Maram, and found a cozy spot ninth of 10. He was eighth leaving the final fence, but scything through traffic while following Modern around the final turn. Diplomat, carrying 18 pounds less than the favorite, won the scrap at the top of the stretch and pulled away to win for the ninth time (flat and jump) in a career that began with Dermot Weld in Ireland in 2011.

“I was going down the backside and I said, ‘Look we’re going further, all these horses are going to back up, just angle out going to the last, don’t get stopped,’” said Bernie Dalton, a longtime exercise rider for Kieran

McLaughlin in New York and Dubai years ago. “Every time I would show him light, he would come on the bridle, I’d be in behind and I’m like, ‘Do I have anything left?’ He would come back on the bridle and I would say ‘OK, you got them, just relax and save the gas for the end.’”

Back in the clubhouse, Kate Dalton watched it all unfold and thought about her hard-trying horse.

“It’s so emotional, the work you put into it,” she said. “I don’t know what it feels like to win other Grade 1s but to win one here is just amazing. I’m not an emotional person so for me to say it’s emotional, it’s emotional. It’s all for the horses, they know when they do well and he’s been doing well lately. He always tries, no matter what and things just haven’t worked out for him until now. He got a nice weight, the right setup, the right ground . . . he’s a genuine little horse. He tries no matter where we take him. He’s a real gem of a horse and deserved something like this.”

NOTES: Irish raider Colla Pier was scratched by the veterinarian the morning of the race . . . Bernie Dalton also won the Turf Writers in 2013 aboard Italian Wedding . . . As a 3-year-old in 2012, Diplomat finished third to Declaration Of War at The Curragh.

Join us for the 8th Annual

5K RUN FOR the horses

Saturday, September 2, 2017
Saratoga Spa State Park Orenda Pavilion

8AM Kids Fun Run

\$25 Pre-Register

8:30AM 5K Race Start

\$30 Day Of

\$5 Kids Run Entry

Meet Former Racehorses, Vendors and More!

For more information and to register please visit us at:
RunForTheHorses5k.com

Benefits Saratoga area rescued and retired racehorse programs.



Delaware Bred or Certified Restricted Stakes
Better Than Ever!
Free nominations • Closing September 16
Contact Delaware Park Stake Coordinator
Lenny Rera at 302-994-2521 ext. 7225

Running Saturday, September 30

The \$75,000 Small Wonder

For Fillies Two Year Olds • Five and One Half Furlongs

The \$75,000 First State Dash

For Two Year Olds • Five and One Half Furlongs

The \$100,000 Tax Free Shopping Distaff

For Fillies and Mares Three Year Olds and Upward • Six Furlongs

The \$100,000 The New Castle

For Three Year Olds and Upward • Six Furlongs

To find out if your horse is Delaware Certified or for more information about the Delaware Certified Program (DCTP) visit www.dtha.com and click on the DCTP link. In addition, you may to download an application or find a list of participating Delaware farms.

DELAWARE CERTIFIED THOROUGHBRED PROGRAM

777 Delaware Park Blvd, Wilmington DE 19804

302-994-2389 • 302-994-3392 fax • dctp@dtha.com • www.dtha.com

BRENTWOOD

HOTEL & BAR

DRINK SPECIALS AT HAPPY HOUR
MON-FRI 6PM

BOOK A ROOM
WITH CODE
'SARATOGASPECIAL'
FOR 10% OFF

TRACKSIDE AT
15 GRIDLEY STREET
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK

518 450 7861
BRENTWOOD-HOTEL.COM

The Melanie Foundation presents
THE SARATOGA PALIO



Melanie Merola O'Donnell Memorial Race
Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

www.themelaniefoundation.com

Fresh Air

Throat surgery pays off for Defiant Honor

BY BRANDON VALVO

When last seen on the racetrack, Defiant Honor ran sixth behind Proctor's Ledge in the Grade 3 Lake George Stakes on Opening Day. She raced close to the pace that day and threatened to pass horses along the rail in the stretch. With a furlong to run, she was just a half-length off the lead, but Defiant Honor was one paced in the final sixteenth and was beaten 5 1/4 lengths.

Trainer Jimmy Toner discovered after the race that Defiant Honor suffered from a displaced epiglottis, a muscle in the throat. He sent Defiant Honor to have a procedure to correct the issue. She handled the surgery well and stayed on track for Thursday's Riskaverse Stakes.

"They call it a myectomy. They cut the muscles in the throat because she entrapped," Toner said. "The epiglottis and the soft palate, they get stuck and it shuts off their wind."

"It's not really a serious surgery to say that they miss any time. It's just an incision in the throat, that's all it is. It heals up in a week or 10 days and you don't miss any training. It's a very simple procedure."

Able to breathe freely, Defiant Honor raced to her full potential in Thursday's \$100,000 Riskaverse Stakes. After stalking the pace, she won the 1-mile race by a half-length over Fizzy Friday.



Tod Marks

Jimmy Toner.



Tod Marks

Defiant Honor hits the finish line first in the Riskaverse.

Breaking from post 11, Jose Lezcano guided Defiant Honor to the front of the pack and crossed over to the hedge, but rival Cherry Lodge sprinted past her heading to the first turn. Cherry Lodge raced past the quarter-mile in :23.67 while Defiant Honor stalked 5 lengths behind.

Lezcano rode Defiant Honor two starts back when she won a Belmont allowance by a length. He used his experience from that race to place Defiant Honor in a comfortable position in the Riskaverse.

"The thing with her is she likes to be right there," Lezcano said. "She doesn't like to be too far back or she gets a little tense. We were in a great spot."

John Velazquez reined in Cherry Lodge up the backstretch and slowed the half to :49.15. As the pace slowed, her rivals closed in. Lezcano and De-

fiant Honor were just 2 lengths behind at the half.

Racing around the final turn, Lezcano gave Defiant Honor a tap on her right shoulder and she drew on even terms with Cherry Lodge past 6 furlongs in 1:13.49. He gave her another smack on the shoulder turning for home, this one more aggressive, and shook up the reins. Defiant Honor sped away to lead by 1 1/2 with a furlong to run.

"I felt the whole way I had a lot of horse," Lezcano said. "At the half-mile I asked a little bit to see what I've got and she's gone really easy. At the quarter-pole, not even really asking, she was ready to go and doing it really easily."

Despite wandering out in the final sixteenth

Continued On Page 29

Horses
LOVE our
TURF

SPRINGDALE
TRAINING CENTER
in beautiful Camden, S.C.

Stalls available. (803) 432-6513. carolina-cup.org



Excellent turf gallops, two dirt tracks, miles of trails, starting gate, private barns with turnout paddocks etc. Winter home to Hall of Famers, champions, Grade 1 winners, high-class 2-year-olds and other Thoroughbred stars since 1930.

"Springdale has been very good to me. It's a great place for young horses, proven flat horses and steeplechasers."

- Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard, whose stable stars Forever Together, Informed Decision, With Anticipation and others trained at Springdale

Riskaverse —

■ Continued from page 28

under right-handed urging, Defiant Honor held off the charge of Fizzy Friday to win the Riskaverse in 1:35.67. Bernadiva beat Chubby Star in a photo for third.

The Riskaverse is Defiant Honor's first stakes victory. The 3-year-old daughter of Speightstown won for the first time in her second start at Belmont last October, finished second in the Grade 3 Jimmy Durante at Del Mar last November (which featured the added obstacle of debris on the racetrack), and won her seasonal debut at Belmont June 21 before her two Saratoga runs. Defiant Honor is 3-for-6 with earnings of \$172,015.

"I've had high hopes for the filly," Toner said. "Last year I sent her to Del Mar and it was a freaky thing that happened out there. There were foam pads all over the racetrack. It was crazy. She came out of that good

and she came back good this year. I ran her here in the Lake George and she displaced that day, so we did the surgery on her. I do think she's a quality filly and things went well for her today."

John Phillips bred Defiant Honor with Hank and Lynn Snowden and races her with his Phillips Racing Partnership and Pam Gartin. Although Phillips couldn't attend the Riskaverse because he was home in Kentucky getting his kids off to college, his sister Dianne and her husband Roger Albrecht were happy to represent the family in the winner's circle.

"We just can't get here enough," Roger Albrecht said. "It's 600 miles. We're on our way to Canada for a fishing trip and we said, 'it's on our way, we can do that.' It's always more fun when you win. I don't know if I can explain it any better than that. You have to be humble about that."

*Additional reporting
by Shayna Tiller.*



Tod Marks

Defiant Honor exits the winner's circle.

thisishorseracing.com

SECURITY | SOLUTIONS | SERVICE



MUIRFIELD
INSURANCE

Securing the *Finest*
Equine Assets
& Farms around
the World for 25 Years.

859-253-1114 | muirfieldinsurance.com

Michael T. Levy
President

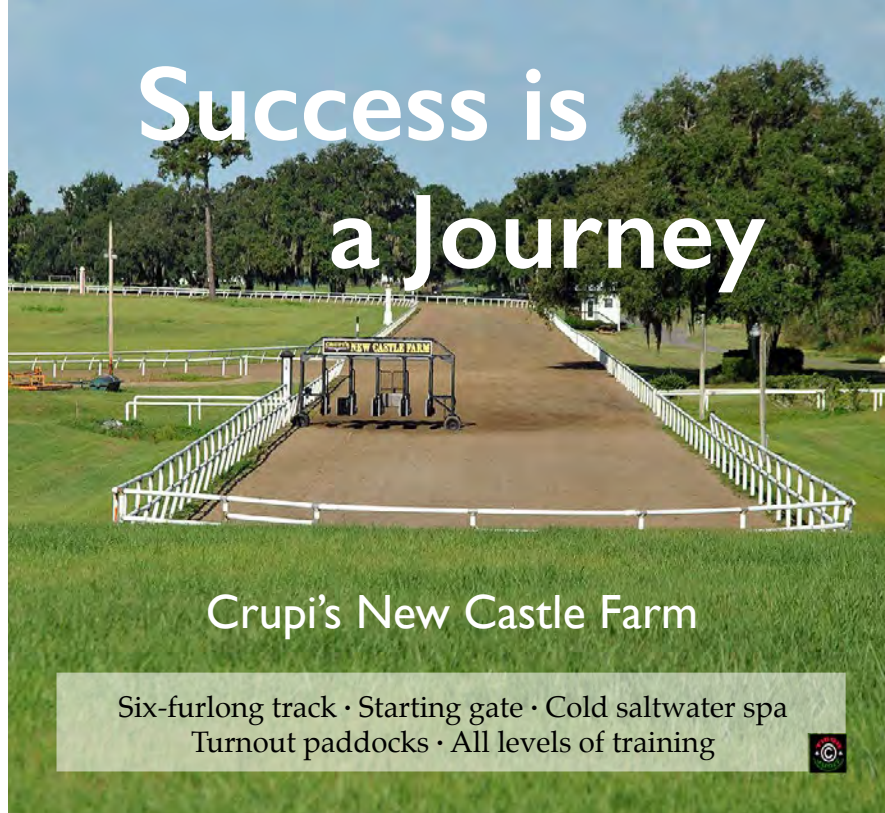
Earleen Ladnier
Vice President

Bryce Burton
Property and
Liability Specialist

Kim Jackson
Customer Relations



Success is
a Journey



Crupi's New Castle Farm

Six-furlong track • Starting gate • Cold saltwater spa
Turnout paddocks • All levels of training



James Crupi • info@newcastlefarm.com
(352) 427-1600 • (352) 840-5400 • (866) 313-5400

A Fighter

T Loves A Fight scores Saratoga win for Hoffman, Nevin

Naming horses after family members can be a risky proposition. Luckily for Stewart Hoffman, he chose the right horse in T Loves A Fight.

The 3-year-old Girolamo gelding conquered his elder rivals in Thursday's eighth race at Saratoga Race Course, a stakes-quality New York-bred allowance at 6 1/2 furlongs on the main track.

"That's the person he's named after," Hoffman said as he pointed to Teresa Symansky. "We named a horse Our Cousin Dick and then we wanted to name a horse after our cousin Dick's wife Teresa, it turns out to be a colt. We say, 'we want to name him after you but it's a male.'"

"She said, 'well when I was younger, all my friends called me T, I'm Irish, I love to fight. T Loves A Fight.'"

T Loves A Fight's win was the second for the team of Nevin and Hoffman Thoroughbreds. Mike Hushion, who retired after the Belmont meet ended, trained T Loves A Fight and others for the owner.

"I loved Mike Hushion," Hoffman said. "We used to go with Rick Dutrow years ago and she learned a lot from Rick, I think she's excellent."



Tod Marks

Dot Matrix scores in Thursday's third.



Tod Marks

T Loves A Fight leads Weekend Hideaway (right) and Celtic Chaos home in the eighth.

The Hoffman Thoroughbreds homebred made his first start for Nevin in last month's John Morrissey, where he finished fourth over a muddy track.

"He's a lovely horse," Nevin said. "When I picked him up he was in great shape and he's just been so easy to be around. He's so straightforward. He trained great up to the previous race, he trained great up to this race. Maybe it was the track last time that did cause him not to fire, but it worked out today."

With John Velazquez aboard for the first time, T Loves A Fight ranged up menacingly on the turn, took the lead just past the eighth pole and powered home impressively, crossing the wire 1 3/4 lengths in front of Weekend Hideaway and stopping the clock in 1:15.41.

"I didn't know that he'd able to make up that much ground, but he made up that much ground," Hoffman said. "He had the ideal pace to run into, it was like a perfect storm."

— Ben Gowans and Shayna Tiller

• Dot Matrix hadn't won since a Belmont allowance last October heading into the third race. After that win, the son of Freud finished up the track in an allowance at Aqueduct in November and trainer Abigail Adsit decided to give him a break. He came back June 11 at Belmont, but Adsit sensed Dot Ma-

trix still wasn't himself. He finished seventh in his return and fifth next time out on Independence Day.

"He came back off the farm, he was working lovely, but he just didn't have the pep that he previously had as trained him for the two years prior," Adsit said. "We backed up after those two starts and reevaluated."

After shipping to Saratoga, Dot Matrix showed his trainer he was ready. A gentleman in the stall, Dot Matrix knows when it's time to work and gets fired up around the racetrack.

"I got him up here and saw the fire was back in him," Adsit said. "He was coming off the track on two legs, and I was like, 'ok, good, he's back.'"

After a fifth in an off-the-turf race July 27, Dot Matrix returned in a \$35,000 claiming race on the Mellon course Thursday. He led the field at every call in the 1 1/8-mile race and gave Adsit her first win of the meet.

"It's wonderful. I'm honored," Adsit said. "It's always such a blessing to be able to say you won at Saratoga. For me, it's my hometown. It's pretty special."

"Racing has been in my blood. I've been born and raised in it. I've been brought up here watching the races and knowing I wanted to train. It's just a

Continued On Page 31

Thursday —

■ Continued from page 30

reminder of why we get up seven days a week at 4 a.m. 365 days a year and do what we do. It's special. The horses, they make it."

Training Dot Matrix is special for Adsit. While her stable in mainly comprised of horses she has claimed, Adsit received Dot Matrix as a yearling and has worked with him since. He is 3-for-14 for Adsit and has earned \$149,469 for owner Marshall

Gramm's Ten Strike Racing.

"He has a bunch of great people together in his group," Adsit said. "I've trained for him for about three years and I've had a chance to train his homebreds and New York breds. I've had him since he came from the farm as a baby.

"It's definitely such a special bond. He's such a cool horse. He's easy to like. I've built a lot of my stable on claiming, so to be able to have him as a baby and work his way up and be together as long as we have, it's definitely something special."

— Brandon Valvo

Saratoga Leaders

TRAINERS	1ST
Todd Pletcher	30
Chad Brown	26
Kieran McLaughlin	11
Linda Rice	11
Bill Mott	9
Rudy Rodriguez	8
Jason Servis	8
George Weaver	8

JOCKEYS	1ST
Jose Ortiz	47
Irad Ortiz Jr.	41
John Velazquez	31
Javier Castellano	24
Manny Franco	19
Luis Saez	18
Jose Lezcano	15
Joel Rosario	15

Through Thursday

• Jewel Can Disco pulled his handlers around the paddock before the fourth race. Neck bowed, he dragged them along the horse path as they leaned their bodies back into him in an effort to keep him from running off. Eventually, they walked him a lap around a pony horse and Jewel Can Disco stopped and stood facing the paddock stalls. Dave Valeri, who bred and owns Jewel Can Disco with his brother Robert, looked on.

"I didn't want him to get too excited. He'd wash out. That's no good," Valeri said. "When he worked out on the track after that, it went away, so he was back to himself. But he's been kicking the barns down waiting to run. That's been the problem because what happens is they hurt themselves. In this case, now I'm in good shape."

Jewel Can Disco broke on the lead in the 7-furlong allowance and came to the top of the stretch in front. Com-

ing off the turn, Jewel Can Disco bore out and drifted five paths off the rail. Heavy Meddle slipped through on the inside and took the lead.

"He plays a little bit," Valeri said. "He didn't see that horse inside of him right away. He never put the stick on him. I wasn't worried. I knew what I had."

Straightened out by Joel Rosario, Jewel Can Disco re-rallied and won by three quarters of a length in 1:22.72. Thursday's win is the second for the son of Disco Rico, who broke his maiden last time out in a state-bred maiden special at Belmont July 1. He wired the field that day and won by 8 3/4 for trainer Gary Gullo.

"He had a little infection. We gave him the time off, brought him back," Valeri said. "That's why you need the time. Time is very important. He threw a 91 Beyer. If you run him back too quick, he's going to bounce. In this case, he did good. I was waiting for this race to come."

Jewel Can Disco is the fifth and second to last foal out of the mare Laura's Jewel, who Valeri bred before she lost a battle with colic. Valeri hopes to continue the line with a daughter of Laura's Jewel, Laura Can Disco.

"The mother, Laura's Jewel, was named after my daughter," he said. "Laura Can Disco is a full sister to Jewel Can Disco. Jewel, that's my granddaughter. It's all family. That's where it all came from."

— Brandon Valvo



Tod Marks

Jewel Can Disco wins the fourth.

NYTHA GENERAL MEETING AUG. 29

NYTHA's General Nominating Meeting will be held Tuesday, Aug. 29, in the tent behind the Recreation Hall on Union Ave.. The purpose of the meeting is to receive nominations and nominating petitions from the floor, and for the NYTHA Nominating Committee to announce its nominations. The Nominating Committee includes trainer Abigail Adsit and NYTHA Executive Director Andy Belfiore, and is chaired by trainer Mark Hennig. There are two options for eligible members who would like to have their name added to the ballot as a candidate for the NYTHA Board or President.

1) Nominations can be made from the floor during the General Nomination Meeting, if the member consents in writing to the nomination. The nomination has to have two (2) seconds and must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least thirty (30) members of the Association.

OR 2) For a period of 15 days after the General Nomination Meeting, additional candidates may be nominated by petition signed by at least fifty (50) members in good standing, provided the petition is filed with the NYTHA Nominating Committee during the 15-day period following the General Nominating Meeting and is accompanied by the candidate's affidavit and policy statement, if any.

The 2017 NYTHA Election is set for this fall. Ballots will go out in October, and the new Board will take office in December. NYTHA Elections are held every three years. All qualified NYTHA members may participate in electing the Board of Directors. For more information, go to: nytha.com/members/voting.aspx.



LUCK GREAYER BLOODSTOCK SHIPPING LTD.






AIRFREIGHT • SEAFREIGHT

SALES REPRESENTATION • CONSULTANCY

PRIVATE AIRCRAFT & HELICOPTER CHARTER

WWW.LGBLOODSTOCK.COM

Sarcens, Upper Lambourn
Hungerford, Berkshire
RG17 8QN, Great Britain

t. +44 (0)1488 670 398
f. +44 (0)1488 670 399
e. info@lgbloodstock.com



Saratoga's **ORIGINAL**
Racing Partnership
offers you the exciting
opportunity to become
PART owner of a racehorse
while enjoying **FULL**
ownership privileges.



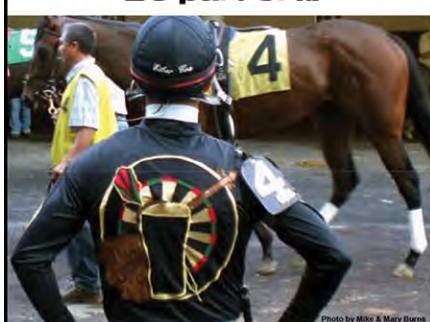
YOU enjoy the thrills
of racing.

WE take care of
everything else!

(518) 587-5550
PartingGlassRacing.com
73 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs

SARATOGA!

Don't just watch it...
Be part of it.



SARATOGA RESULTS

Thursday August 24.

1ST \$150,000, NY TURF WRITERS CUP H., 4&UP, 2 3/8M HURDLE

6	Diplomat	B. Dalton	\$37.40	\$12.40	\$6.80
2	Modem (GB)	J. Doyle		\$4.10	\$3.00
1	All the Way Jose	D. Nagle			\$3.20

B Gelding 2009, by Kitten's Joy - Waki Affair by Miswaki

Owner: Flying Elvis Stable. Trainer: Kate Dalton.

Breeder: Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey (KY).

Late Scratches: Colla Pier (IRE), Portrade (IRE)

Time: 4:29.90

Exacta (6-2), \$100.50; Superfecta (6-2-1-12), \$5,301.00; Trifecta (6-2-1), \$333.00

SECOND \$50,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$50,000, 2 YO, 6F

7	Strategic Dreams	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$11.60	\$5.60	\$3.90
3	Tied Up	R. Santana, Jr.		\$3.90	\$3.30
4	Card Club	L. Saez			\$7.40

Dk B/ Br Filly 2015, by Archarcharch - D'fashion by D'wildcat

Owner: Pick Six Racing (David Wilkenfeld), Behar, Ian and Cotrone, Theresa. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. Breeder: Karen J. Silva (FL).

Late Scratches: Yes I Dance

Claimed: La Contessa claimed by Rice, Linda for \$50,000

Time: 1:11.01

Daily Double (6-7), \$180.00; Exacta (7-3), \$48.80; Quinella (3-7), \$23.20; Superfecta (7-3-4-6), \$6,069.00; Trifecta (7-3-4), \$743.00

THIRD \$45,000, CLAIMING \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

4	Dot Matrix	E. Cancel	\$57.50	\$20.60	\$11.60
8	Strike Midnight	R. Maragh		\$4.60	\$3.40
10	Caribbean	L. Saez			\$3.50

B Gelding 2013, by Freud - Aunt Dot Dot by Gulch

Owner: Ten Strike Racing. Trainer: Abigail Adsit.

Breeder: Truxton Stables (NY).

Late Scratches: Combat Controller

Claimed: Strike Midnight claimed by WellSpring Stables for \$35,000

Time: 1:46.50

Daily Double (7-4), \$384.00; Exacta (4-8), \$268.00; Superfecta (4-8-10-3), \$7,415.00; Trifecta (4-8-10), \$1,315.00; Pic 3 (6-7-4), \$4,142.00

FOURTH \$75,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

7	Jewel Can Disco	J. Rosario	\$9.70	\$5.30	\$4.10
1	Heavy Meddle	J. Lezcano		\$4.00	\$2.80
5	Bourbon Empire	J. Alvarado			\$3.30

B Colt 2014, by Disco Rico - Laura's Jewel by Jules

Owner: Valeri, C., Robert. Trainer: Gary Gullo.

Breeder: C. Robert Valeri (NY).

Time: 1:22.72

Daily Double (4-7), \$302.00; Exacta (7-1), \$44.60; Quinella (1-7), \$18.20; Superfecta (7-1-5-4), \$1,085.00; Trifecta (7-1-5), \$281.00; Pic 3 (7-4-7), \$2,379.00

FIFTH \$50,000, CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M

8	Zeven	D. Davis	\$17.00	\$9.10	\$6.10
7	Miss Aja Brown	J. Ortiz		\$4.90	\$3.60
1	Indygita	P. Lopez			\$4.80

B Mare 2012, by Lookin At Lucky - Boot Scoot N Run by Storm Boot

Owner: Flying P Stable. Trainer: Bruce Levine. Breeder: Kimberly Crabtree & Lookin At LuckySyndicate (KY).

Late Scratches: Just Got Out, Merilore

Claimed: Industrial Policy claimed by Concorde Racing for \$25,000

Time: 1:41.72

Daily Double (7-8), \$102.00; Exacta (8-7), \$87.50; Superfecta (8-7-1-2), \$3,980.00; Trifecta (8-7-1), \$555.00; Pic 3 (4-7-8), \$1,879.00

SIXTH \$39,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 & UP, 7F

6	Iwishirish	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$5.10	\$2.80	\$2.30
10	Desert Affair	J. Ortiz		\$3.70	\$2.70
7	Indian Gem	M. Franco			\$3.10

Dk B/ Br Filly 2014, by Dublin - Homemaker by Afternoon Deelites

Owner: Brewster, Clark, O.. Trainer: Steven Asmussen.

Breeder: Spendthrift Farm LLC (NY). Time: 1:25.10

Daily Double (8-6), \$47.40; Exacta (6-10), \$13.00; Superfecta (6-10-7-5), \$160.00; Trifecta (6-10-7), \$42.00; Pic 3 (7-8-6), \$440.50; Pic 4 (4-7-8-6), \$12,660.00; Pic 5 (7-4-7-8-6), \$104,246.00

SEVENTH \$75,000, NY-BRED AOC \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 3/16M

10	Bareeqa	J. Castellano	\$11.60	\$5.60	\$4.70
6	Pinchbeck	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$4.50	\$3.50
1	Kitty Maddnes	K. Carmouche			\$12.40

B Filly 2013, by Girolamo - Arabic Dancer by Woodman

Owner: Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc.. Trainer: Danny Gargan.

Breeder: Sequel Thoroughbreds LLC, Lakland Farm & Hidden Lake Farm, (NY). Late Scratches: Mo Promise, Forever for Always, Young Anna Lee. Claimed: Khaleesi Kat claimed by Rice, Linda for \$25,000

Time: 1:56.07

Daily Double (6-10), \$30.40; Exacta (10-6), \$46.00; Superfecta (10-6-1-8), \$3,483.00; Trifecta (10-6-1), \$974.00; Pic 3 (8-6-10), \$248.50

EIGHTH \$85,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

5	T Loves a Fight	J. Velazquez	\$16.20	\$6.90	\$3.40
3	Weekend Hideaway	L. Saez		\$3.70	\$2.40
8	Celtic Chaos	E. Cancel			\$2.70

B Gelding 2014, by Girolamo - Worth Fighting For by Broken Vow

Owner: Hoffman Thoroughbreds. Trainer: Michelle Nevin.

Breeder: Hoffman Thoroughbreds LLC (NY). Time: 1:15.41

Late Scratches: Riff Raff, Ostrolenka, Gypsum Johnny

Daily Double (10-5), \$121.00; Exacta (5-3), \$49.20; Superfecta (5-3-8-6), \$527.00; Trifecta (5-3-8), \$125.50; Pic 3 (6-10-5), \$307.00

NINTH \$100,000, STAKES - RISK AVERSE S., 3 YO, 1M

11	Defiant Honor	J. Lezcano	\$13.00	\$7.00	\$6.00
7	Fizzy Friday (GB)	R. Santana, Jr.		\$12.40	\$8.50
6	Bernadiva	M. Franco			\$15.20

B Filly 2014, by Speightstown - Honor Bestowed by Honor Grades

Owner: Phillips Racing Partnership and Gartin, Pam.

Trainer: James Toner. Breeder: John W. Phillips, Hank Snowden & Lynn Snowden (KY).

Late Scratches: Rubilinda, Tanya's Gem, Scheme. Time: 1:35.67

Daily Double (5-11), \$120.00; Exacta (11-7), \$154.00; Superfecta (11-7-6-10), \$14,090.00; Trifecta (11-7-6), \$2,811.00; Pic 3 (10-5-11), \$597.00; Grand Slam (6,7,10/1,6,9,10,12,13/3,4,5,7,), \$38.00

TENTH \$73,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WT, 2 YO, 1 1/16M

5	Phone Funky Munky	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$5.80	\$3.10	\$2.50
6	News Anchor	M. Franco		\$5.00	\$3.40
8	Fun Prospect	R. Maragh			\$3.00

B Gelding 2015, by Data Link - Caller Trust by Trust N Luck

Owner: Funky Munky Stable LLC. Trainer: David Donk.

Breeder: Barak Farm (NY). Late Scratches: Nate Can't Wait, Bit the Bullet, New York Hero, Honor Up. Time: 1:41.82

Daily Double (11-5), \$34.60; Exacta (5-6), \$28.00; Superfecta (5-6-8-7), \$1,241.00; Trifecta (5-6-8), \$107.50; Consolation Double (11-9), \$12.20; Pic 3 (5-11-5), \$327.00; (5-11-9), \$101.00; Pic 4 (10-5-11-5/9), \$1,805.00; Pic 5 (6-10-5-11-5/9), \$5,561.00; Pic 6 (8-6-10-5-11-5/9), \$275.50; Pic 6 (8-6-10-5-11-5/9), \$17,780.00

Attendance: 23,960. On Track Handle: 3,450,989

Inter-State Handle: 10,323,508

Copyright 2017 EQUIBASE Company LLC. All Rights Reserved.



Allan
Lavin
Bloodstock

ALLAN G. LAVIN, JR.

allanlavinbloodstock.com
alavinbloodstock@gmail.com
(502) 773-0043

HELPING CLIENTS CLEAR THEIR LEGAL HURDLES

ANDREW J. TURRO, ESQ.
Chair, Equine & Racing Law
516-741-6565 | aturo@msek.com

Representing owners, trainers, breeders, jockeys, drivers and horsemen associations in business transactions and matters before the New York State Gaming Commission and in the federal and state courts.

Attorney Advertising.

MEYER, SUOZZI, ENGLISH & KLEIN, P.C. | 990 STEWART AVENUE, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530 | WWW.MSEK.COM

SARATOGA MEMORIES

PRESENTED BY KEENELAND

Saratoga Memories, presented by Keeneland, is an ongoing series that looks back at some of the top moments from Keeneland Sales graduates among Saratoga's best racing.

Every horse starts somewhere, even Saratoga superstars. Keeneland Sales helps The Special look back at some memorable graded stakes winners – and Keeneland graduates – at the Spa. We'll look back, re-connect and dig up some memories. Enjoy.

Drefong

King's Bishop 2016

BY JOE CLANCY

Trust your instincts, that's what people in racing say – about betting, buying, training, pretty much anything. If you've got experience, you know what you like and if it doesn't work out you learn something along the way.

Peter O'Callaghan, of Kentucky's Woods Edge Farm, trusted his instincts and first impression of a Gio Ponti weanling at Keeneland November in 2013. The next September, Donato Lanni and Bob Baffert did the same. And everybody won.

The weanling, from the first crop of a turf champion, became Drefong – millionaire, winner of the 2016 King's Bishop at Saratoga and 2016 champion male sprinter for Baffert and owner Baoma Corp. Drefong cost O'Callaghan \$200,000 as a weanling and elevated to \$450,000 as a Keeneland September yearling. Now, the bay colt is nearly priceless as he returns to Saratoga to compete in Saturday's Grade 1 Forego Stakes.

O'Callaghan couldn't have predicted all that has occurred, but knew what he was buying.

"He was a gorgeous foal, outstanding model with great conformation and strength and movement," he said. "He was exactly what you're looking for as an individual when you're trying to buy young horses. And it was the very same when he was a yearling."

O'Callaghan didn't go to Keeneland November to buy a Gio Ponti, just like Lanni and Baffert didn't go to Keeneland September to buy one. All three were convinced by the individual horse, however. Bred by Fred Allor, Michael Barnett and Anthony Warrender, the colt was part of Barnett's Blackburn Farm consignment, as was his dam Eltimaas.

Unraced, the daughter of Ghostzapper was a half-sister to champion Action This Day. She'd



Tod Marks
Drefong blazes home in last year's King's Bishop.

been sold to Allor for \$90,000 in 2011 and her only registered foal had yet to race.

The weanling carried more than pedigree, however.

"It was like looking at a Ghostzapper foal really – a hard brown, deep, muscular, strong horse," said O'Callaghan. "I had nothing against Gio Ponti. He was a tremendous racehorse, but he was a turf horse. The horse was so reminiscent of looking at Ghostzapper himself and it gave you an added push to buy him."

O'Callaghan bid on Eltimaas, who sold one hip earlier for \$77,000, but was saving up for the weanling. He took the colt home, and watched him continue to blossom. By September, he was a striking yearling. Baffert came to the Woods Edge consignment with a list from Lanni. Hip 611 was

on there with 10 or so others. O'Callaghan said the Hall of Fame trainer came back two or three more times to see the Gio Ponti colt. The others were further down the list.

"He was the kind of horse Donato and Bob love," said O'Callaghan. "Give Donato the credit, he's got such a good instinct for horses that work for them. They're looking at horses, they're not worried about the pedigree or the mare or the sire."

Drefong finished fifth in his debut at Santa Anita in October, then won by 9 1/2 lengths the next time at Del Mar to start a five-race winning streak. As a 3-year-old, Drefong got started in late May and won two allowance races at Santa

Continued On Page 35

Drefong —

■ Continued from page 34

Anita. Sent to Saratoga for the King's Bishop, he blasted 11 others while racing up front throughout.

The Breeders' Cup Sprint was much the same as he defeated Masochistic, Mind Your Biscuits and A. P. Indian to claim the Eclipse Award as champion male sprinter.

"I'm happy he worked out," said O'Callaghan. "It's good for us. When you sell one for a lot of money like that you can only hope that the horse works out for any prospective buyer. It's great for the breeder too, they got a great price for him as a foal. It worked out for everybody."

Drefong still hasn't really gotten his 2017 started yet as he ducked in and lost jockey Mike Smith while passing the gap in the Bing Crosby at Del Mar July 29. The bay colt returns to Saratoga Race Course, where he and jockey Mike Smith will take on Mind Your Biscuits and others in the Grade 1 Forego Saturday.

ENGEL LAW OFFICES

For 40 years,
Engel Law Offices
has represented horsemen
with their legal issues,
and continues to do so.

Licensing

Partnership Formation

Gaming Comm. Hearings

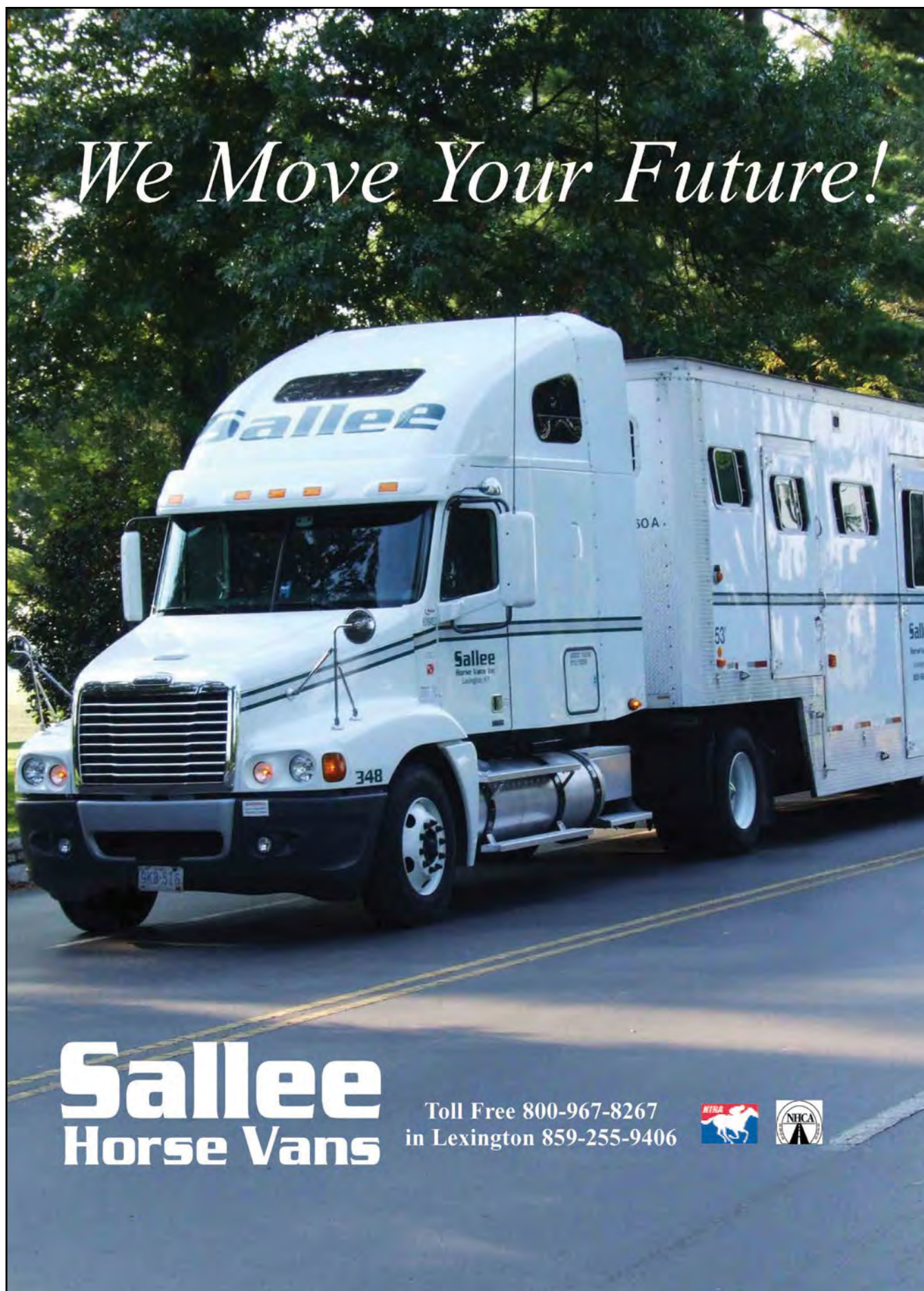
Other Legal Matters

"Lengths ahead of the field"

518-430-0005

855-677-5155



www.engelatty.com



We Move Your Future!

**Sallee
Horse Vans**

Toll Free 800-967-8267
in Lexington 859-255-9406



SARATOGA MEMORIES

PRESENTED BY KEENELAND

Saratoga Memories, presented by Keeneland, is an ongoing series that looks back at some of the top moments from Keeneland Sales graduates among Saratoga's best racing.

Every horse starts somewhere, even Saratoga superstars. Keeneland Sales helps The Special look back at some memorable graded stakes winners – and Keeneland graduates – at the Spa. We'll look back, re-connect and dig up some memories. Enjoy.

Lady Tak

Test 2003, Ballerina 2004

BY JOE CLANCY

Bill Heiligbrodt will never forget seeing Lady Tak work at Keeneland's April 2-year-old sale in 2002. The chestnut filly, a daughter of Mutakddim and the Lucky North mare Star Of My Eye sped through a furlong breeze but galloped out 3 furlongs so fast that the owner had to check his watch.

"I was timing the horses and she went in :32 flat or something and I went and checked with Steve Asmussen about what he got and he said he got her faster than I did," Heiligbrodt said. "She wasn't a significantly popularly bred horse, but she was fast. She made you look at her."

It was :32 2/5, but nobody really cared then. Or now. The little chestnut filly was faster than her catalog page.

Heiligbrodt spent \$75,000, sent her to Asmussen and watched a blazing career get started.

Bred in Florida by John Franks, Lady Tak won her first start by 11 3/4 lengths at Churchill Downs and then made it five in a row with another win as a juvenile and three more at the Fair Grounds as a 3-year-old.

The last of those was a runaway score in the Grade 2 Fair Grounds Oaks going 1 1/16 miles. She finished second in the Grade 1 Ashland at Keeneland, and was sixth in the Kentucky Oaks.

Brought to Saratoga that summer, where she stamped herself a powerhouse sprinter, she nearly made history when she won the Grade 1 Test over Kentucky Oaks winner Bird Town in 1:20.83 for 7 furlongs. The time put a scare into Darby Creek Road's track record of 1:20.40 set in 1978.

As good as that was, her performance at Saratoga the next year in the Grade 1 Ballerina may have been better. Coming off a third in Calder's Princess Rooney, Lady Tak and Jerry Bailey made



Tod Marks
Lady Tak won two Grade 1 stakes at Saratoga.

all the running against six rivals and set fractions of :22.35, :44.49 and 1:07.90 (faster than the 6-furlong track record of 1:08) before winning a three-way photo with My Trusty Cat and Harmony Lodge in 1:21.09.

Bailey came back and tried to explain what it was like to ride a four-legged missile.

"She's extremely fast," the jockey told The Special in 2004. "You can't slow her down. I would have had to double her over and water-ski around the turn to get her to slow down. She does run the turn well, so I let her go a little bit. I would have hated to absolutely throw the anchor out."

Heiligbrodt still smiles over that race.

"I looked up at the time and it said 1:07 and something," he said. "I remember thinking how crazy it was. She has to be one of the fastest horses I've ever known."

Indeed, Lady Tak was that for a lot of people. Asmussen called her special from the beginning.

"She demands to know she's special," the trainer said about her in 2004. "She's always been brilliant. We were very nervous about running her (the first time) because of how fast she was. Her first couple of races went perfect for her and she responded from them."

Lady Tak added the Grade 2 Gallant Bloom at

Continued On Page 37

Lady Tak —

■ Continued from page 36

Belmont Park in October and closed her 4-year-old season by finishing third in the Grade 2 Distaff at Churchill Downs.

Brought back for another season, she raced just once as a 5-year-old — finishing third as the favorite in an allowance at Churchill. While prepping for a Ballerina title defense in 2005, she was retired to a career as a broodmare at Hill 'n' Dale Farm.

She won 10 of 19 starts, earned \$1,160,782 and might have been a legend had the Breeders' Cup started a filly/mare sprint division sooner. Her five foals of racing age have yet to live up to her, but that's going to be difficult no matter what happens.

"Out of the thousands of horses I've owned, she might be my favorite," said Heiligbrodt. "She was an overachiever, who tried as hard as she could every time we ran her. She doesn't know how she was bred or how small she was. She just had a lot of unreal talent."

Andrew J. Mollica, Esq.

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Dedicated to protecting the rights of Horsemen.



General and Equine Practice of Law

20 Middleton Road, Garden City, NY 11530

516 528-1311 cell • 516 352-6853 office

jdml@aol.com

Licensed New York and New Jersey

All Aspects of Immigration

SARATOGA'S BEST BETS

Impressions of Saratoga
SINCE 1978

The
EVERYTHING SARATOGA
Store

Visit our stores at SPAC, Saratoga Polo, and Saratoga Race Course Boutiques at the Grandstand.

368 Broadway, Downtown Saratoga Springs
Shop Online at ImpressionsSaratoga.com
518-587-0666 800-422-6972

2014 BEST
FAB FIVE
AUGUST 2014

Still serving the best breakfast since 1989!

Come check out our new & larger dining room.

8am-2pm daily
256 Milton Ave. Ballston Spa.
(518) 885-2848

RADWAN BROWN & COMPANY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

"Troy Mulligan saves me hours of work and days of worry. Now, I can watch the horses again."
— Sean Clancy, Riverdee Stable

TROY H. MULLIGAN, CPA
LEXINGTON, KY
tmulligan@radwanbrown.com • (859) 233-4146

Lyrical Ballad Bookstore

ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLERS

More than 100,000 books and old prints all sound and ready.

Specializing in books on the history of Thoroughbred racing and breeding.

7-9 PHILA STREET
518-584-8779
lyricalballadbooks.com

RACING CITY REALTY INC.

TOM FEDERLIN
PRESIDENT/BROKER

OFFICE (518) 682-2097

Your best bet for real estate sales & rentals!

www.racingcityrealty.com

OWN THE EXPERIENCE
TOV STABLES

Contact Russ Sapienza for information about **TASTE OF VICTORY** partnerships
russ@tovstables.com

BODY BY ANNA
ANNA'S MASSAGE & AESTHETICS

Anna Hollander
The Saratoga Day Spa

376 Broadway in Saratoga Springs
518-488-7950. bodybyanna.com

Rumara
fine art oil paintings

Track Themes & Classical Portraiture

rumara.com
rumara@mac.com
518-424-4198

HRRN
Horse Racing Radio Network

PROUDLY PRESENTS EXCLUSIVE RADIO COVERAGE

SATURDAYS AT SARATOGA

GO TO HORSERACINGRADIO.NET FOR A COMPLETE BROADCAST SCHEDULE

YOUR business here! Just \$800 for the ENTIRE SARATOGA SEASON! Email joe@thisishorseracing.com for info

53 & Counting

I love the emails. The tips, the touts, the rants, the “I’ve got an idea for you...” notes that come across my screen. Once in a while they are mean-spirited, but most are good-natured, a suggestion, a thought, a story, a shared laugh, a shared anecdote. I received one from Kate and Jeff Harris about a decade ago, hell, maybe longer, about a woman who had been coming to Saratoga since the 60s. I jumped on it and met her. It filled a page.

I got another email last week, this one, from Jim Schaeffer, a retired Ph.D who works mutuel window 1526. It was about a woman who had been coming to Saratoga since the 60s, he included a scanned copy of her hand-written letter about her upcoming trip to Saratoga.

I met Bea Strauss for the second time last weekend.

“How did you know I was here?” Strauss asked, while sitting in her “Cadillac” walker given to her by Schaeffer and friends. “I met you years and years ago, I have the article you wrote about me. Kate Harris isn’t here, Jeff died a few years ago...but I’m here.”

Yes, Bea Strauss was at Saratoga for her 53rd season at Saratoga. Her trip was short, just four days, as she’s taking a cruise with two cousins through the inside passage of Alaska September 3.

“I’ve been wanting to do it since Alaska became a state,” Strauss said. “I’m going to be 92 years old in November, I figured I’d better do it.”

Strauss has been doing Saratoga since her mother suggested she make the trip.

“My mother had just gotten married to my stepfather and he said, ‘Come on, we’re going to Saratoga.’ She said, ‘What do I want with a racetrack?’ She went for the weekend,” Strauss said. “She came home and said, ‘You’ve got to try this.’ I said, ‘What do I want with a racetrack?’ She said, ‘Oh, you’ve got to try it, it’s fun.’ That was it, I was hooked, it’s been 53 consecutive years.”



Everybody has their reasons for their summer jaunts to Saratoga – work, play, family, tradition, gambling, horses...Strauss can’t really explain hers. It started as a weekend thing, then a month-long vacation from her nursing job, grew into an escape from her stressful days at the foster and childcare agency at the New York Archdiocese. She worked as an usher for a few summers, but mostly just enjoyed the ambiance, the soul of Saratoga.

“This was my salvation,” Strauss said. “I like the people I’ve spoken to, the beauty of the track, the fact that it’s totally different from anything else I’ve done, mostly just the people, not just the ardent bettors but the decent people who you can talk to, who are happy to share their experience with you, you’re watching the most beautiful animals, beautiful scen-

ery, nice people, it’s a special place to be.”

Saratoga has provided a salvation to all of us. Strauss isn’t necessarily a racing fan, she’s a Saratoga fan. She went to Belmont Park once, called it, “nice” but never went back. At Saratoga, she’s a regular, making friends with Jim and Ron at the betting windows, who know her bet like they know their telephone number.

“My second year here, 1966, I bought a ticket for the second race, on the floor was a ticket for race two, \$10 bet on the seven to win and a \$10 exacta seven and eight. I stood there like this (she holds up her arm and waves it), waiting for someone to come say they dropped it, no one came,” Strauss said. “I took it back to the seat. My stepfather was very conservative, he would have bet Angel Cordero to show, he said, ‘Throw it away,’ I said, ‘Let’s wait.’ The seven came in first, the eight finished second, I collected \$523. In 1966, \$523 was a lot of money. So every second race if there’s a seven and eight, I bet it. And a few other races if there is a seven and eight. I don’t care if they have five legs or six heads, I still bet seven and eight.”

If she forgets, Jim and Ron make the bets for her. On a quiet Sunday – the calm before the Travers storm, Strauss sat and watched the races, greeting old friends and welcoming new friends, unclipping a knitted bookmark worm and handing it to a friend for his son and trying to explain the Saratoga mystique, as if it needed to be explained.

“It’s been a rich experience. The whole thing has been a rich experience,” Strauss said. “The fact that you and Kate and Jeff had a conversation about me and you wrote about me, where else does that happen? I have the article at home, my family said, ‘How do they know about you? There’s 40,000 people and they write about you. Why do they write about you?’ I said, ‘just because, just because, it’s Saratoga.’ ”

Yes, Bea, just because, just because, it’s Saratoga.



B BrownADVISORY
Thoughtful Investing.

BROWN ADVISORY IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
RACING AT SARATOGA

(410) 537-5400 • www.brownadvisory.com

KEENELAND JUVENILE GRADS SHINE AT SARATOGA



DREAM IT IS

SCHUYLERVILLE S. (G3)



COPPER BULLET

SARATOGA SPECIAL S. (G2)



MARCH X PRESS

BOLTON LANDING S.

2017 KEENELAND SEPTEMBER YEARLING SALE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

KEENELAND®

VIEW THE ONLINE CATALOG AT SEPTEMBER.KEENELAND.COM

NY-BREDS START WITH AN ADVANTAGE



**Not one, not two,
but THREE
“MILLION”
days**

SARATOGA®
NEW YORK
SHOWCASE

Friday, August 25

\$1,150,000 IN STAKES MONEY

Saratoga Showcase Day is the second of three events on NYRA's calendar this year offering more than \$1.5 million in purse money on the 11-race card for NY-breds.

Albany	3YO	\$250,000	1 1/8 Miles
Fleet Indian	F3YO	\$200,000	1 1/8 Miles
West Point	3&UP	\$150,000	1 1/16 (Turf)
Yaddo	F&M3&UP	\$150,000	1 1/16 (Turf)
Funny Cide	2YO	\$200,000	6 1/2 Furlongs
Seeking the Ante	F2YO	\$200,000	6 1/2 Furlongs

Big Apple
NEW YORK
SHOWCASE

**SIX STAKES RACES & MORE THAN
\$1 MILLION IN PURSE MONEY**

EMPIRE
NEW YORK
SHOWCASE

**EIGHT STAKES RACES &
\$1,750,000 IN STAKES MONEY**

ADAM COGLIANESE PHOTO ©

**And there
are**

MILLIONS

**more reasons
why it**

PAYS

**to Get with
the Program!**



nytbreeders.org | 518.587.0777

**There's never been a better time
to breed, own and race NY-breds!**

NYBREDS.COM

NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDING & DEVELOPMENT FUND



For more information visit our website or call 518.388.0174