the SARATOGA Special

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TRAINER SUBSCRIPTIONS COMPLIMENTS OF SALLEE HORSE VANS TO THE SARATOGA SPECIAL

Rag Time

Two-year-old Union Rags shines in Special

Sean Clancy

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here&there... at Saratoga

Connie Bush

It's Good. **Five lead ponies split the uprights on the backside at Saratoga.**

WORTH REPEATING The Special's quotes from Saratoga

"We turned him out for 30 days and brought him back and he got himself fit, he just does it naturally."
Trainer Michael Matz, when asked about Union Rags' routine after being purchased in February

"Same money. Different guts."
Jock's agent Mike Gonzalez on the difference between riding on the flat and over jumps

"She's gamer than me."
Bloodstock agent Russell Jones, about buying Union Rags for $390,000 for Phyllis Wyeth

"He is drop-dead gorgeous."
Bloodstock agent Reynolds Bell, after Union Rags won the Saratoga Special

"He brought half the Reading Room with him."
Bill Farish after George Bolton won the Adirondack with My Miss Aurelia

"Between now and 9 o'clock, somebody might swallow the bar shoe."
NYRA's Ralph Theroux on the changing status of a race full of horses at Saratoga (said at 7:30 a.m.)

"I'm 45 – I broke the over/under."
Trainer Dale Romans, on celebrating his birthday Sunday

"I start talking and the reporter goes to writing . . ."
Romans, after saying the above and watching The Special's Joe Clancy grab a notebook

"You could put snaps on it and feed a horse."
Jock's agent Mike Kelly, on the size of his Miami Dolphins hat

Public Syndicate Groups - Stakes Stats for 2011

	GS Wins	GS Wnrs	Stk Wins	Stk Wnrs
Team Valor International	5	4	10	8
Starlight	3	1	4	2
Peachtree	3	1	4	2
Blinkers On	2	1	2	1
Dogwood	2	1	2	1
West Point	1	1	2	2
Thoroughbred Legends	1	1	1	1
Class Racing	–	–	7	4
Fantasy Lane	–	–	2	1
Pinnacle Racing	–	–	2	1
Centennial	–	–	1	1
Majestic Stable	–	–	1	1
Bongo	–	–	–	–
Elite Racing	–	–	–	–
Funky Monkey Stable	–	–	–	–
IEAH	–	–	–	–
Parting Glass	–	–	–	–
Pewter	–	–	–	–
Sackatoga Stable	–	–	–	–
Sovereign	–	–	–	–
Starview	–	–	–	–
Team Stallion	–	–	–	–
Team Victory	–	–	–	–
Three Chimneys	–	–	–	–
Victory Thoroughbreds	–	–	–	–

Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones, from reports from Bloodstock Journal and TDN. Stats are current through July 29, 2011 at 1 p.m. ET

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here&there...

Continued from previous page

Connie Bush

Tree Head. **A Saratoga runner would rather not get saddled, thank you very much.**

LICENSE PLATE OF THE DAY

SLEW77, Massachusetts

NAMES OF THE DAY

Settling Seas, first race. The 4-year-old filly is by Stormy Atlantic out of Settle Her.

Hey Babe, first race: Can't believe she's not trained by Rick Dutrow.

Sinatra, third race. The 2-year-old Peter Blum homebred colt is out of My Way.

Doublespeak, sixth race: The 3-year-old Rattigan and Felletter homebred is by Oratory out of Estate Sale.

WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny. High 84, low 63.
Thursday: Scattered thunderstorms. High 84, low 65.
Friday: Scattered thunderstorms. High 76, low 61.
Saturday: Partly couldy. High 81, low 61.

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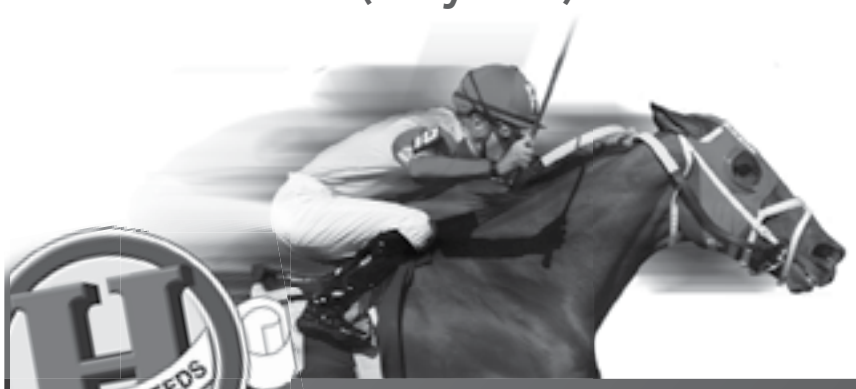

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JUST SAYIN'

"I haven't been in this room since my father let me in when I was a kid."

– Owner Phyllis Wyeth, in the Trustees' Room, after winning Monday's Saratoga Special stakes with Union Rags

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Forecasters

Trainers play weather games in advance of turf sprint stakes

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

TROY STAKES *PREVIEW*

On Tuesday morning before today's 5 1/2-furlong turf sprint, the $75,000 Troy, Pat Kelly ducked into the rain with his string and bemoaned the weather. The weather is all right, but the timing is all wrong: Kelly has entered Spa City Princess for main track only in Friday's Yaddo, but will have to scratch his Troy entry Yield Bogey if the precipitation keeps up.

"He handles the soft turf, as long as it's turf. We've run him on the dirt before, but with the other races out there, we probably wouldn't force the issue," Kelly said. "There's a race in Canada in 10 days he's also eligible for, so we might end up up there."

The Fox Ridge Farm homebred makes his third start of the season in today's Troy. Both of his 2011 stars have been graded stakes, a step above where Yield Bogey has typically competed, but the son of Langfuhr held his own, finishing second to Courageous Cat in the Poker over a mile and an even closer second to Right One in the Jaipur over 7 furlongs July 16.

"He's strictly a turf horse and I don't go to Florida, so we kind of give him the winter off," Kelly said. "We were going to try to run down at Pimlico on Preakness weekend, there was a 5-furlong, but we weren't quite ready to go. He's kind of limited, there's not that many places that run sprints on the turf. We really weren't thinking about miles or seven-eighths when we came back from vacation."

The return to 5 1/2-furlong turf sprints at Saratoga is a familiar one for Yield Bogey.

"He actually broke his maiden up here as a youngster going 5 1/2, way way way back," Kelly said. "Kind of a spectacular race, he ran over top of everybody."

The race was a maiden special weight August 27, 2008. Yield Bogey was 4. Held up under tight restraint – to the contrary of his 2011 form, Kelly insists the horse's best race is closing – Yield Bogey made up ground coming into the stretch, found himself in some traffic, negotiated what Tom Durkin called a "narrow seam" and bulled his way through to squirt into the clear.

Edgar Prado will try to navigate the 7-year-old to a similar victory in the Troy.

Tod Marks

Awakino Cat (left) tries to repeat his triumph in the 2010 Troy.

On the other side of the turn, David Fawkes sat in his golfcart, rain pelting the roof, and shrugged off concerns about an off track. Fawkes enters My Monarch's Stable's Wildcat Frankie, who's scheduled to make his first turf start in the Troy. Fawkes figures the Troy will be run on the dirt.

"I think it'll be fast, but I think he'll be fine on it," Fawkes said. "He doesn't mind it. I'd rather come off the turf than run over a yielding turf. He wants to hear his feet rattle."

Pedigree and the horse's natural speed pointed Fawkes toward trying the son of Wildcat Heir on the turf.

"We've been dying to try this horse five-eighths on the turf, just been waiting and waiting to find the spot," Fawkes said. "Unfortunately it's a stake. He doesn't have any conditions left. The three-other-than, they don't go."

The bullish bay gelding galloped past, merrily slinging slop behind him and swiveling his ears. Ears that don't match: the 4-year-old is missing the tip of one ear. Fawkes doesn't know what happened to this particular ear, but the shortcoming

See ***TROY*** page 6 ▶

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Troy –

■ Continued from page 5

doesn't give the trainer any pause.

"We get a lot of them in Illinois, they freeze from the tin roofs on the barns, they freeze off," Fawkes said of his homestate. "You see a lot of horses in Illinois with short ears. They're in these sheds in southern Illinois and their ears touch the top and it burns them off, the frostbite."

Fawkes has had the horse in his barn since summer of 2010, but he's known the horse much longer: the trainer saw Wildcat Frankie as a yearling, then ran 20 lengths adrift of him in his debut at Calder in 2009.

"I knew he could run because I ran against him," Fawkes said. "I had a horse that I thought had a legitimate shot in the race and he beat us 15 lengths, and we were third. He's a very fast little horse."

Fawkes' very fast little horse made his 2011 debut January 8 in the $60,000 Pelican, running eighth in his fourth start for Fawkes. It was another break of six months to his most recent effort, a seventh at Monmouth July 15.

The Pelican, like all of Wildcat Frankie's best efforts, have been on the front end. Cornelio Velasquez will direct Wildcat Frankie's speed today, speed that Fawkes said cost him the $70,000 Rutgers at Monmouth on Breeders' Cup day last year. Wildcat Frankie finished second after doing the half in 43 and 3/5. Hal's Hope winner Soaring Empire nabbed him on the wire.

Linda Rice enters Everything's Cricket Racing's Awakino Cat, who will go to post under Ramon Dominguez. The 6-year-old son of Stormy Atlantic won this race last year as part of a three-race streak that began with the $75,000 Seabiscuit on the slop at Suffolk and ended with the $70,000 Frank Sullivan over the weeds here. Rice, like Kelly, hopes the race will stay on the turf.

"I'm hoping it stays on the grass," Rice said. "It's a choice that I have to make. He prefers the turf but he has won on the dirt, so we would probably go on and run."

The Troy also represents the comeback race of Scott Lake's Pashito The Che, last year's much-touted speedster. Last seen trailing home a distant 12th in the Breeders' Cup Sprint, Tuna Stable's and Off The Hook Racing's 5-year-old makes his return to the turf under Javier Castellano.

Likely odds-on favorite Bridgetown goes to post for Todd Pletcher and Eugene Melnyk. The 4-year-old son of Speightstown made an unsuccessful bid in the King's Stand at Royal Ascot June 14. Trained by Ken McPeek up until this year, Bridgetown won the $75,000 Turf Dash at Tampa February 19, annexed another turf sprint at Gulfstream in March, then ran second to Regally Ready in the Grade III Turf Sprint at Churchill May 7.

Randall Granger rounds out the field with 15/1 shot Goldzar, owned by Kenny Desormeaux and ridden by Jaime Rodriguez. The 6-year-old son of Cozar last saw the winner's circle in a Presque Isle optional claimer in 2010.

The Troy is carded as the ninth race on the day.

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2011 Saratoga Statistics

Through Tuesday, Aug. 16

LEADING JOCKEYS

#	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Win %
1	John R. Velazquez	153	36	26	16	$1,852,546	24%
2	Javier Castellano	157	29	27	16	$2,192,388	18%
3	Ramon A. Dominguez	151	25	28	20	$1,326,832	17%
4	Rajiv Maragh	116	16	8	18	$1,228,272	14%
5	Julien R. Leparoux	99	15	9	15	$858,846	15%
6	Cornelio H. Velasquez	94	12	13	10	$821,414	13%
7	Jose Lezcano	90	8	8	12	$610,651	9%
7	Eddie Castro	87	8	9	12	$591,720	9%
7	Kent J. Desormeaux	29	8	3	2	$218,060	28%
10	David Cohen	63	7	7	7	$269,588	11%
10	Corey S. Nakatani	38	7	3	3	$222,680	18%
12	Alex O. Solis	75	6	7	8	$599,740	8%
12	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	74	6	4	9	$227,660	8%
14	Robby Albarado	49	4	10	5	$262,080	8%
14	Jeffrey Sanchez	27	4	2	4	$116,300	15%
16	Alan Garcia	52	3	5	6	$320,920	6%
16	Shaun Bridgmohan	41	3	7	9	$292,460	7%
16	Ryan Curatolo	45	3	9	4	$199,304	7%

LEADING TRAINERS

#	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Win %
1	Todd A. Pletcher	83	23	8	13	$1,471,100	28%
2	Chad C. Brown	44	14	10	2	$850,200	32%
3	Steven M. Asmussen	29	8	4	7	$449,840	28%
3	Rudy R. Rodriguez	30	8	4	4	$243,880	27%
5	William I. Mott	47	7	8	6	$492,120	15%
6	H. Graham Motion	20	5	3	0	$314,540	25%
6	Thomas Albertrani	29	5	3	3	$234,860	17%
6	Michael E. Hushion	17	5	0	3	$159,667	29%
9	Michael R. Matz	13	4	1	0	$398,700	31%
9	Kiaran P. McLaughlin	26	4	5	1	$348,960	15%
9	Claude R. McGaughey III	20	4	3	0	$212,040	20%
9	Anthony W. Dutrow	9	4	2	2	$148,600	44%

LEADING OWNERS

#	Name	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings	Win %
1	Repole Stable	24	8	2	4	$620,280	33%
2	Ramsey, Ken and Sarah	15	4	0	2	$212,100	27%
2	Darley Stable	20	4	2	1	$174,220	20%
2	Klaravich Stables & Lawrence, Wm	20	4	2	2	$151,280	20%
2	Anstu Stables, Inc.	8	4	1	0	$145,340	50%
6	Flying Zee Stable	33	3	6	5	$162,920	9%
	Gary and Mary West Stables, Inc.	11	3	2	0	$112,320	27%
6	West Point Thoroughbreds	14	3	1	3	$86,900	21%

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Why Go Anywhere Else?

Still Rolling

Saratoga market continues climb with strong New York-bred show

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

FASIG-TIPTON SALES

If the Select Sale was a success, the New York-Bred Preferred Sale was a tour de force for Fasig-Tipton. With double-digit percentage changes in all the right directions, a buzzy sales grounds and a sales topper going to a new Preferred Sale face, there wasn't much for Fasig-Tipton president Boyd Browning to say.

"Average was up, median was up, RNA rate was down. It was the trifecta," Browning said. "You try to get two of them up and one of them down and that's what we accomplished."

For posterity's sake: Gross was up by 83 percent to $6,725,500. The median of $35,000 was up 16.7 percent and the average of $54,238 was up 38.7 percent.

The RNA rate dipped slightly from 33.8 percent to 32.2 percent – reflecting a buy-back rate of 35.9 percent Saturday and a much lower rate of 28.6 percent Sunday.

"I thought tonight, not last night, was the best New York-bred sale that I've ever been to," pinhooker David McKathan said after Sunday's final hip sold. "I've never seen it sell horses like this. It was a good sale last night, but it was incredibly strong tonight."

Consignor John McMahon of McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds agreed with McKathan's assessment.

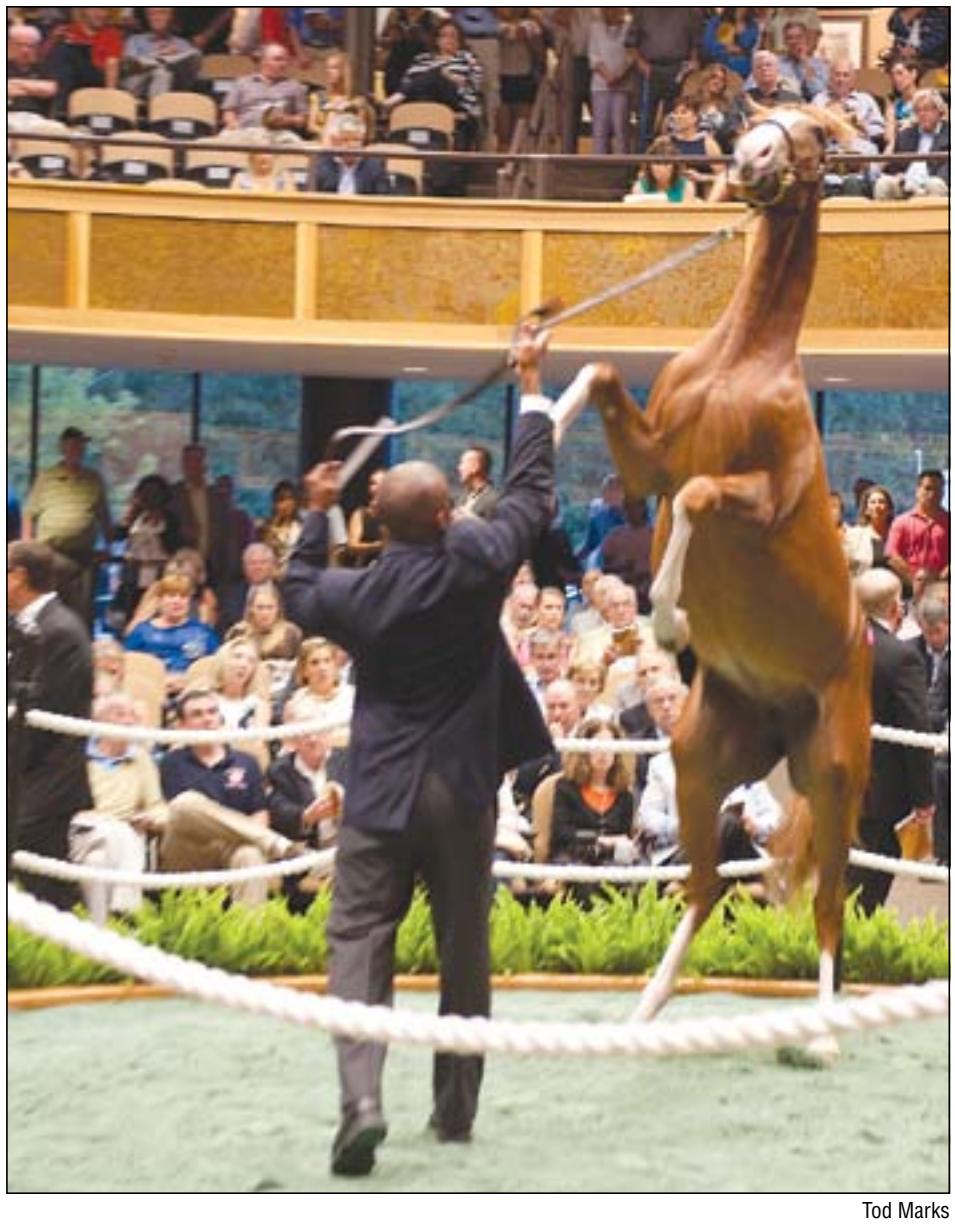
"Sunday night was the stronger of the two. I think that probably most people would agree with that. I know we had better horses on Sunday, but I don't think the overall quality was that much different," McMahon said. "I noticed that the sale finished exceptionally strong, so maybe there was a little buyer's remorse as they got into the last minute and that pushed the prices up."

Standing just inside the pavilion Sunday evening, buyer Jim Crupi suggested that a more realistic tact taken on reserve prices might contribute to a lower RNA rate.

"People face reality," Crupi said.

"We weren't extremely bullish on our reserves, but we weren't real

See ***SALES*** page 11 ▶



Tod Marks

Sales returns had almost everyone jumping for joy at Fasig-Tipton this summer.

Sales –

■ Continued from page 10

wimpy on it either," McMahon said.

The consignment had a significantly stronger sale on Saturday than Sunday.

"This is a good yearling sale and most people know that those horses command a value," McMahon continued. "Most consignors would agree that's not the kind of sale where you are particularly light on your reserve, you try to get what the horse is worth."

Browning dismissed any difference between the two evenings.

"Every sale has its own unique ebbs and flows but I thought overall it was two outstanding nights of horse sales," Browning said.

No matter what the cause behind the disparity between Saturday and Sunday night, the overall market realities were extremely healthy.

Despite rainfall that forced bidders to huddle under awnings behind the pavilion, the excitement surrounding the incoming VLT-boosted purses did exactly what it was expected to do: give a new value to New York-bred stock.

"I think these horses have a value, I think the program will make these horses worth more money," McKathan said.

Crupi, who purchased on his own behalf as a pinhooker and at the behest of Brooklyn Boyz Stables, Mike Repole and other end-user clients, agreed with McKathan that the promise of VLT purses increased the value of the stock.

"It had an impact on my pinhooking," Crupi said. "I didn't buy as many pinhook horses this year because I thought the better ones were pricier, which I thought they would be. Because we have to resell, we're kind of cautious with what we pay."

Although Crupi's numbers intended for pinhook were down, the Ocala-based horseman nevertheless purchased 10 lots overall.

"The people I bought for here are people that are going to race in New York, and they wanted New York-breds because of the additional money," Crupi said.

New York-Bred Sales Statistics

Year	Sold	Total	Avg	Not Sold	Median
2011	124	$6,725,500	$54,238	59	$35,000
2010	94	$3,676,000	$39,106	48	$30,000

Crupi's sentiments reflected the overall opinion on the sales grounds from consignors and buyers alike.

"What I think you're seeing is an expansion of interest in people racing in New York and particularly in the New York-bred program, which obviously benefited the sale," Browning said.

Browning also highlighted the presence of high-end players who have not heretofore been a presence at the Preferred sale as one of the most encouraging positives of the sale.

"Charlotte Weber was very active in bidding on horses this year and it's the first time she's been in attendance at this sale. Everett Dobson bought the sales topper," Browning said. "We certainly saw some new faces in terms of pinhookers from Florida. But we also saw a lot of support from our traditional upper-end and all levels of buyers from the New York-bred sale as well."

McMahon also indicated that new faces helped make the sale the success it was. The local consignor sold a Utopia colt to Weber's Live Oak Plantation for $30,000 on Sunday night.

"I don't know if 'easy' is a good word for anything in the horse business because nothing's easy but it seems the buyers were more receptive towards bidding, the general atmosphere was more positive and we had more individual buyers here that weren't here the previous year," McMahon said. "All those things helped make it a shade easier."

The top lot came on Saturday night, a Dixie Union colt out of Dash For Money offered by Winter Quarter Farm. Everett Dobson's Cheyenne Stables took home the bay yearling.

John Fort purchased Sunday's top lot, the second highest price of the sale at $185,000. Darby Dan consigned the Indygo Shiner colt out of Free As Tristan.

Overall, 22 horse reached six figures.

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WEDNESDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Wednesday, August 17.

1ST (1:00PM). $36,000, CLM $25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 5 1/2F (TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Settling Seas	M. Luzzi	R. Dutrow, Jr.	3-1
2	2	Margaret Smile	J. Lezcano	R. Barbara	6-1
3	3	Hey Babe	A. Solis	C. Baker	8-1
4	4	Malibu Artiste	D. Cohen	G. Contessa	9-2
5	5	Flying Sappho	R. Dominguez	R. Rodriguez	5-2
6	6	Catty Madeline	J. Castellano	D. Galluscio	10-1
7	7	In Her Hey Day	R. Curatolo	F. Martin, Sr.	15-1
8	8	Sounds Familiar	A. Garcia	R. Hess, Jr.	6-1
9	MTO	Does It Every Time	R. Dominguez	M. Miceli	2-1
10	MTO	Iberian Gate	E. Castro	R. DeMola	5-1

2ND (1:33PM). $29,000, CLM $25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Power King	R. Curatolo	D. Jacobson	10-1
2	2	Mad for Smarty	S. Husbands	H. Jerkens	5-1
3	3	Make Note	J. Castellano	P. Quick	6-1
4	4	Fiery Rebel	J. Espinoza	R. Metivier	8-1
5	5	Wishingonastar	R. Dominguez	D. Jacobson	5-1
6	6	High Stakes Player	R. Maragh	C. Englehart	5-1
7	7	Fudge the Books	D. Cohen	J. Englehart	4-1
8	8	After Shock	C. Velasquez	D. Lukas	7-2

3RD (2:06PM). $50,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5F
Exacta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Voodoo Daddy	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	4-1
2	2	Sinatra	J. Castellano	D. Romans	7-2
3	3	Rockin Boogie	R. Dominguez	B. Levine	2-1
4	4	Sark	C. Velasquez	D. Lukas	3-1
5	5	Dattts Happy	J. Velazquez	M. Hennig	4-1

4TH (2:39PM). $22,000, MCL $20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 7F
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Dixieland Cowgirl	E. Castro	J. Hooper	8-1
2	2	Evening Toast	K. Desormeaux	R. Hess, Jr.	4-1
3	3	Poetic Touch	M. Studart	J. Parker	30-1
4	4	Married At Sea	J. Rodriguez	D. Appel, Jr.	10-1
5	5	Honey Mou	A. Garcia	M. Hennig	6-1
6	6	Rockport Lover	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	3-1
7	7	Legions Star	A. Lezcano	D. Smith	30-1
8	8	Sortilege	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	7-5

5TH (3:13PM). $32,000, MCL $60,000-$50,000, 2 YO, 5 1/2F
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1	1	I'm Not Myself	R. Maragh	D. Ryan	6-1
2	2	Why Broadway	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Shivmangal	15-1
3	3	Reserved Quality	J. Leparoux	M. Hushion	7-2
4	4	Grand Encounter	K. Desormeaux	D. Stewart	5-2
5	5	Purest Form	R. Dominguez	D. Fawkes	3-1
6	6	Patrioticandproud	S. Bridgmohan	M. Casse	3-1

6TH (3:47PM). $41,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Marmalade Sky	A. Lezcano	L. Alvarez	30-1
2	2	Tu Si Pazzo	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Schettino	10-1
3	3	Raffie's Choice	E. Castro	J. Ryerson	5-1
4	4	Jacob's Dream	F. Lenclud	C. O'Brien	15-1
5	5	Doublespeak	R. Maragh	D. Duggan	5-2
6	6	Ginowillietwoshoes	J. Rodriguez	G. DiSanto	15-1
7	7	Chardsey	J. Lezcano	C. Clement	8-5
8	8	Komisarek	R. Curatolo	G. Sciacca	20-1
9	9	Imaspeedyguy	J. Chavez	P. Kelly	8-1
10	10	Say Lancelot	S. Husbands	D. Figueroa	30-1
11	AE	Fast Grievance	J. Espinoza	G. Contessa	3-1
12	AE	Majesty's Pilgrim	M. Luzzi	A. Tschan	6-1
13	AE	Knock Quietly	R. Maragh	S. Schwartz	6-1
14	MTO	This Hard Land	A. Lezcano	R. Ubillo	5-1
15	MTO	Piscesbymoonlight	J. Velazquez	R. Schosberg	6-5
16	MTO	Newman Rocks	A. Solis	B. Brown	8-1

7TH (4:21PM). $29,000, MCL $50,000, 2 YO, 6F
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Joy Rising	R. Dominguez	L. Rice	5-1
2	2	Ganador	R. Maragh	D. Galluscio	6-1
3	3	Goodtime Boy	R. Curatolo	C. Martin	9-2
4	4	Shane Roars	C. Velasquez	D. Galluscio	6-1
5	5	Pure Grit	J. Velazquez	S. Schwartz	4-1
6	6	Readthebyline	J. Castellano	R. Schosberg	5-2
7	7	Juniors Tribute	L. Perez	D. Conway, Jr.	12-1
8	8	Raffie's Bandit	E. Castro	J. Ryerson	15-1

8TH (4:55PM). $25,000, CLM $20,000, 3&UP, F&M , 1M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	6	Lakeside Chapel	R. Maragh	F. Alexander	6-1
1a	MTO	Keep It a Secret	C. Velasquez	F. Alexander	6-1
2	1	Annie's Melody	J. Chavez	P. Kelly	30-1
3	2	Cap the Thunder	J. Leparoux	R. Schosberg	9-2
4	3	Sweet Bibby	C. Velasquez	R. Rodriguez	12-1
5	4	Untamed Glory	A. Solis	L. Lewis	8-1
6	5	Hey Hey Mama	S. Bridgmohan	M. Casse	7-2
7	7	Molly Molly Molly	J. Castellano	G. Weaver	3-1
8	8	Lemon Drop On Top	D. Cohen	D. Jacobson	6-1
9	9	My Nan Nell (IRE)	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Jacobson	8-1
10	10	Viv's Tiara	A. Lezcano	R. Ubillo	30-1
11	AE	Split Pot	J. Lezcano	M. Hennig	10-1
12	AE	Smart Farming	J. Velazquez	L. Rice	5-2
13	MTO	Money Magnet	R. Curatolo	F. Martin, Sr.	12-1

9TH (5:30PM). $75,000, STK - THE TROY, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

1	1	Pashito the Che	J. Castellano	S. Lake	6-1
2	2	Goldzar	J. Rodriguez	R. Granger	15-1
3	3	Awakino Cat	R. Dominguez	L. Rice	3-1
4	4	Wildcat Frankie	C. Velasquez	D. Fawkes	15-1
5	5	Yield Bogey	E. Prado	P. Kelly	9-2
6	6	Bridgetown	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	1-1
7	MTO	Be Bullish	J. Castellano	G. Weaver	8-5

10TH (6:04PM). $23,000, MCL $25,000, 3 & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta

1	7	Purplegreenandgold	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Lerman	15-1
1a	AE	Foggy Max	J. Castellano	R. Lerman	15-1
2	1	Getinitalltogether	R. Dominguez	B. Callejas	6-1
3	2	Riki McD	J. Leparoux	J. Scott	5-1
4	3	Sognare	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	8-1
5	4	Mr. Starr's Report	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	5-2
6	5	Solid d'Oro	D. Cohen	E. Guillot	6-1
7	6	City Whisper	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	10-1
8	8	Fu Pegs Baby	J. Castanon	S. Everett	30-1
9	9	Proud George	E. Castro	D. Schettino	15-1
10	10	Pure Home Brew	K. Desormeaux	D. Stewart	4-1
11	AE	All Zipped Up	J. Pezua	F. Martin, Sr.	20-1
12	AE	Gasper C.	C. Lopez	B. Rossi	20-1
13	AE	Thomas Is Rockin	R. Maragh	N. Howard	7-2
14	AE	Exchangingmemories	J. Espinoza	T. Walters	6-1

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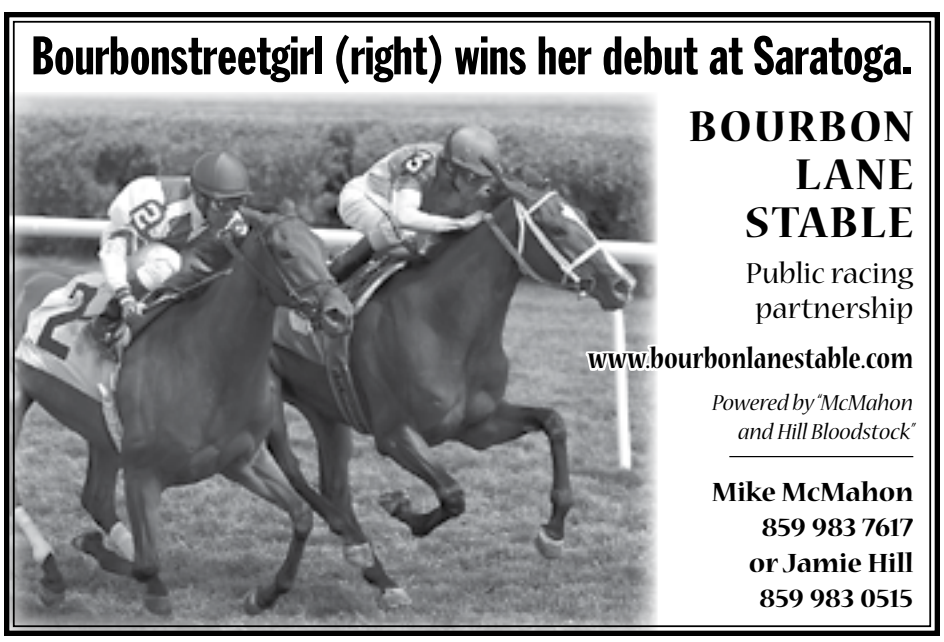


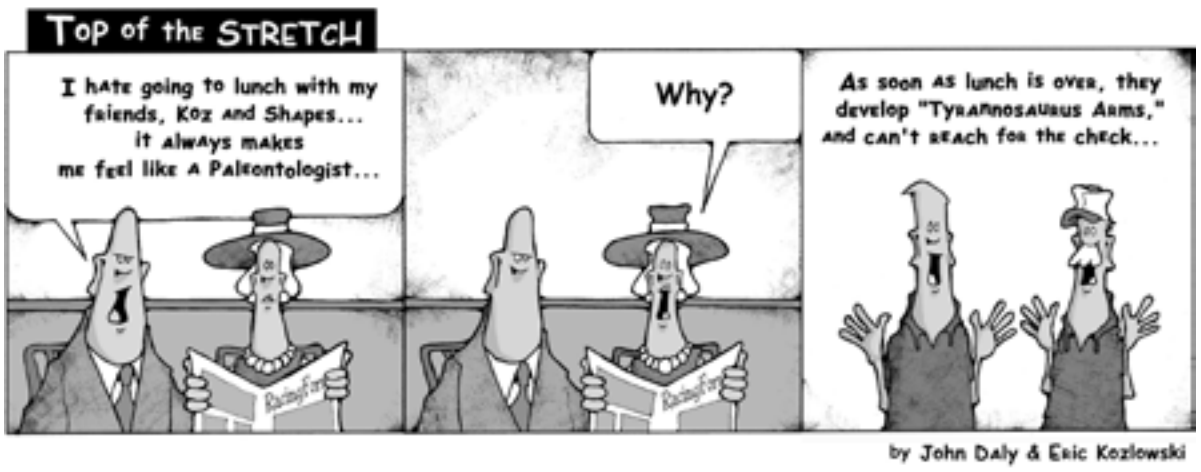
the Power grid

Race #	John Shapazian	Gaile Fitzgerald	Dean Keppler	Erin Finley	Charles Bedard
1	Does It Every Time Settling Seas Flying Sappho	Does It Every Time Flying Sappho Sounds Familiar	Does It Every Time Settling Seas Margaret Smile	Does It Every Time Settling Seas Catty Madeline	Flying Sappho Catty Madeline Sounds Familiar
2	Fudge the Books Wishingonastar After Shock	Fudge The Books Wishingonastar Make Note	Fudge The Books Mad for Smarty Wishingonastar	Fudge The Books After Shock Wishingonastar	Mad For Smarty High Stakes Player Wishingonastar
3	Rockin Boogie Datts Happy Voodoo Daddy	Rockin Boogie Sinatra Dattts Happy	Sinatra Voodoo Daddy Rockin Boogie	Rockin Boogie Voodoo Daddy Sinatra	Rockin Boogie Sark Voodoo Daddy
4	Sortilege Rockport Lover Married At Sea	Sortilege Dixieland Cowgirl Rockport Lover	Honey Mou Sortilege Rockport Lover	Rockport Lover Sortilege Honey Mou	Married At Sea Poetic Touch Sortilege
5	Grand Encounter Reserved Quality Patroiticandproud	Reserved Quality Patrioticandproud Purest Form	Grand Encounter Purest Form Reserved Quality	Patrioticandproud Purest Form Reserved Quality	Grand Encounter Reserved Quality Purest Form
6	Piscesbymoonlight Chardsey Doublespeak	Piscesbymoonlight Chardsey Doublespeak	Piscesbymoonlight Newman Rocks Chardsey	Piscesbymoonlight Chardsey Doublespeak	Chardsey Raffie's Choice Doublespeak
7	Goodtime Boy Readthebyline Juniors Tribute	Readthebyline Joy Rising Goodtime Boy	Readthebyline Goodtime Boy Juniors Tribute	Shane Roars Readthebyline Goodtime Boy	Readthebyline Juniors Tribute Goodtime Boy
8	Keep It a Secret Molly Molly Molly Sweet Bibby	Molly Molly Molly Sweet Bibby Hey Hey Mama	Sweet Bibby Hey Hey Mama Cap the Thunder	Alexander Entry Hey Hey Mama Lemon Drop On Top	Molly Molly Molly My Man Nell Lakeside Chapel
9	Be Bullish Bridgetown Yield Bogey	Bridgetown Be Bullish Awakino Cat	Be Bullish Bridgetown Yield Bogey	Be Bullish Bridgetown Awakino Cat	Be Bullish Bridgetown Pashito The Che
10	Mr. Starr's Report Pure Home Brew Getinitalltogether	Mr. Starr's Report Getinitalltogether Pure Home Brew	Mr. Starr's Report Riki McD Sognare	Mr. Starr's Report Pure Home Brew Solid d'Oro	Riki Mcd Pure Home Brew Fu Pegs Baby
Records	**61/173**	**50/173**	**43/173**	**45/173**	**38/173**

Handicapper Scorecard

It was a dark day for the Special Monday afternoon. At the start of Week Four, John Shapazian continues to roll along at the top of the standings – extending his lead to 11 over Gaile Fitzgerald. Shapazian had five wins Sunday afternoon including a cold pick 3 for $107.50 in race 3 through 5. There is a pick 6 carryover of $38,865 this afternoon.

In the Equidaily mid-season handicapper statistics, Shapazian is near the top – despite missing Monday cards. Through Saturday, he had 56 winners on top from 163 races, good for fifth overall among Saratoga handicappers and just seven behind the overall leader, Daily Racing Form's Dave Litfin (63 wins from 198 races). Shapazian's percentage of .343 easily tops the list. Fitzgerald also makes the top 20.



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Soldiering On

Undefeated Union Rags powers through mud for Matz, Wyeth

BY SEAN CLANCY

Michael Matz stood at the top of the stairs and pointed to the only moving element after The Saratoga Special. There in the distance, through the rain, through the gray, through the slop, was a solitary figure – shadow roll, white feet, yellow silks – skipping through it all.

Union Rags still hadn't had enough.

In the most dominant performance of the 2-year-old stakes so far, the Matz-trained Union Rags crushed five rivals in the Grade II race, drawing off to a laughable 7 1/4-length victory Monday. Union Rags galloped out like a kid running through the rain, which in a way he was, keeping his undefeated record intact while delivering first losses to Stat, Indian Evening, Banner Bill and Trinniberg.

"I've never had a 2-year-old work like this," Matz said, part awed, part relieved. "If he can't win races like this you're doing something wrong."

Owned by Phyllis Wyeth's Chadds Ford Stable, Union Rags hustled from the rail to battle with Stat, Indian Evening and Trinniberg through a quarter mile in 21.78 and a half in 45.55. Javier Castellano kept niggling to keep his position on the rail until Union Rags and Stat separated from the field and then the jockey sat still. Banner Bill loomed for a moment on the turn but Union Rags and Stat continued to march forward. Straightening in the stretch, Union Rags punched to his right lead and scampered away before drifting out as he passed the eighth pole. Didn't matter, Castellano straightened him out and he finally leveled off and drew off at the wire, finishing 6 1/2 furlongs over the sloppy, sealed track in 1:18.33. The long and tall son of Dixie Union galloped out with ease.

Matz thought about scratching Union Rags because of the track conditions but reconsidered it after thinking about a conversation with assistant Peter Brette about another big, beautiful, fast colt.

"I was thinking about it today, 'Maybe we ought to scratch him,' then I got to thinking, I was going to scratch Barbaro in the Holy Bull and Peter said to me, 'What if the Derby comes up like this?' He had a good point there, I thought it over and obviously we ran in the Holy Bull," Matz said. "He's such a big horse, we were thinking Dixieland Bands (sire Dixie Union is by Dixieland Band) should run on the slop. Now, we know he can run on this. I didn't expect him to break like this. He looked like a different horse in the paddock. He doesn't look like a 2-year-old."

Dave Harmon

Union Rags scampers through the rain to win The Saratoga Special.

Bred by Wyeth, Union Rags always acted and looked like a man among boys. On her Pennsylvania farm, he was the quietest and easiest yearling. She looked out the window one day and he was being ridden from the paddock, bareback, with a halter and a shank.

"This horse was so quiet as a yearling, the guy who works for me was riding him, by himself. Then he was long-lining him in my courtyard, by himself," Wyeth said. "That's the kind of farm I run. My accountant said you're spending too much money so I sold this horse."

Wyeth consigned the son of Dixie Union to Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling sale last summer where he was purchased by IEAH Stables for $145,000. Six months later, Wyeth bought him back for $390,000 from Eddie Woods' consignment at the Fasig-Tipton Florida

See ***SARATOGA*** page 16 ▶

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Saratoga —

■ Continued from page 14

2-year-old sale. Not the smartest math of all time, but if you had seen him at the Palm Meadows sale, it would have made sense. The striking bay, with legs like Baryshnikov, breezed fast and looked like a 3-year-old. He gave Wyeth the last laugh, winning The Saratoga Special and a $200,000 bonus from Fasig-Tipton for becoming the first Saratoga graduate to win a 2-year-old stakes at Saratoga. Factor in another $90,000 from the Saratoga Special and Union Rags has already made up the difference between the Saratoga sale and the Florida sale for Wyeth.

"I was just looking through the catalogue and saw him in there, I called Russell (Jones) and said what's going on?" Wyeth said. "We never thought he would go that high, I told Russell, 'I don't care how high you go, I just want the horse back.' And here we are."

Matz received Union Rags after the sale, turned him out for 30 days and then simply allowed the big colt to get to the races on his terms. He made his debut at Delaware Park July 12, rallying from seventh to win easily.

"He's not the kind of horse you want to run five eighths of a mile and think you're going to go get anything," Matz said. "He was working and we just said, 'he's ready to run five eighths, let's get him some experience.' He's been just like this all along. This horse did it the right way, today he did something else different, with his temperament, you can do anything you want and distance is absolutely not a problem with this guy."

Matz sent Union Rags back to Fair Hill the day after the Saratoga Special and planned to look at the Champagne or other stakes in the fall. The Breeders' Cup Juvenile is certainly a possibility, although, Matz won't put anything in stone. He is not known for striking with 2-year-olds and he swears he hasn't changed anything, even after winning with three 2-year-olds at the meet.

Union Rags won the Saratoga Special because he's talented, not because he was forced through a closing window of opportunity.

"We're not going to force anything. If they want to try for the Breeders' Cup, that would be a great situation because you could just go with him, if they don't want to try something like that, we might just rest him," Matz said. "They are going to tell you what they want to do and you have to do what suits that horse, the minute you start pushing one way or the other, it never works. If it goes the right way, you're supposed to go. If you're not supposed to go, you're not going to do it."

Matz has learned this easier-said-than-done approach by seeing things go right for some and go wrong for others.

"Everything I tried the one year with Chelokee, it just didn't work. And Barbaro, everything went right," Matz said. "This was a situation that his race suited this horse and we'll see about another five or six weeks and we'll see about the Breeders' Cup, we'll see what he wants to do. I think they tell you what to do. You start trying for something, it's not going to work. They tell you."

Dave Harmon
Javier Castellano urges Union Rags to an authoritative victory over Stat.

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NEWS UPDATE:
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MONDAY RACING RECAP

Monday was a monsoonal day, reminiscent of the subcontinent of India in May, but the races went on as scheduled – well, sort of. There was no turf racing, there was no rested Special reporter to cover things and even the cameras nearly got rained out. But, here's the day – some of it – photos. Congratulations to all for sticking it out. Photos by Dave Harmon

Contested unexpectedly on the dirt at 1 1/16 miles, Kent Desormeaux and Miss Vindictive prevailed after an epic battle with My Honey Laurie and Javier Castellano. John Hertler and Crossed Sabres Farm celebrated in the winner's circle.

Castellano may have come up second-best in the fourth but he made an emphatic turnaround in the 6 1/2 furlong dirt claimer next out, urging K. K. Sangara and Chris Englehart's Spina to an almost 8-length victory.

. . . And again in the sixth, 5 1/2-furlong off-the-turf, Castellano and Englehart took a narrow victory on Fuhrlang. The gelding tracked just off the pace set by Jose Lezcano and Controversial before nailing his rival on the wire for My Purple Haze Stables.

MONDAY RACING RECAP

TOP: Through the gloaming in the last, Slamming and Corey Nakatani took the lead from the get-go and never gave it up, pulling away by 8 lengths for owner-trainer Steve Asmussen and Carrol Castille.

LEFT: Alan Garcia continued his winning ways in the seventh for Kiaran McLaughlin. Originally carded for a mile on the inner turf, the race went off over 7 furlongs on the main track. Darley's In Step, a half-sister to Vindication, breezed to a half-length victory over Indian Tale and Ryan Curatolo.

The Passion Play of the Day . . .

To My Miss Aurelia
and Millionreasonswhy
for putting on a show
in the Adirondack.

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MONDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Monday August 15.

FIRST $50,000, STARTER HANDICAP, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

1	Caixa Eletronica	J. Velazquez	$4.00	$2.60	$2.10
2	Spirit of Cochise	R. Dominguez		$3.20	$2.20
5	Speight of Hand	D. Cohen			$2.40

Ch Horse 2005, by Arromanches - Edyta by Skip Away
Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.
Breeder: Richard Rowan (KY).
Late Scratches: Wise Stop, Three Day Rush, He's So Chic, Have You Ever
Time: 1:10.74
Exacta (1-2), $11.40; Trifecta (1-2-5), $22.40

SECOND $25,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING $35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

5	Big City Deputy	R. Dominguez	$4.80	$2.90	$2.30
3	Special Action	J. Castellano		$2.90	$2.20
7	Sound of Drums	E. Castro			$3.00

B Gelding 2007, by Silver Deputy - Big City Dream by Horatius
Owner: Candy Stables, Ferguson, Jim. Trainer: Michael Trombetta.
Breeder: John T. Crane Jr. & Margaret M. Crane (MD).
Late Scratches: Jamms Secret, Grimmer
Time: 1:18.91
Daily Double (1-5), $10.60; Exacta (5-3), $11.00; Quinella (3-5), $6.50

THIRD $36,000, CLAIMING $25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

6	Game Token	A. Lezcano	$11.80	$3.70
2B	W. W.'s Lady's Man	R. Dominguez		$3.00
12	My Golden Opinion	C. Velasquez		

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2007, by Gold Token - Road to Mandalay by Sea of Secrets
Owner: Lalman, Dennis, S.. Trainer: Dennis Lalman.
Breeder: Seth Gregory (NY).
Late Scratches: Lawdy Me, Can't Refuse, Ricoriatoa, Jess Not Jesse, Dr. W, I Ain't No Saint, Golden Weekend, Strike the Tiger, Fisherman's Wharf, Ruhtro
Claimed: My Golden Opinion claimed by Lewis, Mark J. for $25,000, Won Great Classic claimed by Drawing Away Stable for $25,000
Time: 1:04.70
Daily Double (5-6), $42.40; Exacta (6-2), $25.20; Consolation Double (5-7), $4.70; Pic 3 (1-5-6), $79.50; (1-5-7), $9.20

FOURTH $40,000, CLAIMING $25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

1	Miss Vindictive	K. Desormeaux	$6.10	$3.80	$2.80
14	My Honey Laurie	J. Castellano		$6.50	$3.70
8	Ready to Party	R. Dominguez			$2.80

B Filly 2007, by Stephen Got Even - Miss Popularity by Storm Bird
Owner: Crossed Sabres Farm. Trainer: John Hertler.
Breeder: Larry Stewart (KY).
Late Scratches: It's Not for Love, Proud Lisa, Tall Timbercowgirl, Unique Citizen, Makeminechocolate
Time: 1:55.38
Daily Double (6-1), $46.00; Exacta (1-14), $55.50; Quinella (1-14), $31.60; Superfecta (1-14-8-3), $360.00; Trifecta (1-14-8), $167.00; Pic 3 (5-6-1), $147.50; (5-7-1), $19.40

FIFTH $30,000, CLAIMING $14,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

3	Spina	J. Castellano	$5.20	$2.80	$2.80
6	Devilish Silver	C. Velasquez		$5.90	$4.40
8	Judicial Leader	R. Maragh			$5.70

B Mare 2006, by During - Tap for Gold by Pleasant Tap
Owner: Sangara, K., K.. Trainer: Chris Englehart.
Breeder: Susan King (KY).
Late Scratches: Enniskillen
Claimed: Dubai's Connection claimed by WAJA Racing Stable for $14,000
Time: 1:18.56
Daily Double (1-3), $13.40; Exacta (3-6), $21.60; Superfecta (3-6-8-9), $891.00; Trifecta (3-6-8), $184.50; Pic 3 (6-1-3), $138.00; Pic 4 (1/5/6-6-1/4/6/7/11/12-1/3), $457.50

SIXTH $25,040, CLAIMING $20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

10	Fuhrlang	J. Castellano	$28.40	$11.20	$4.10
8	Controversial	J. Lezcano		$11.00	$4.70
5	Roderick	J. Velazquez			$2.40

Ch Gelding 2008, by Langfuhr - Dance Diane by Affirmed
Owner: My Purple Haze Stables. Trainer: Chris Englehart.
Breeder: Purple Haze Stables, LLC (NY).
Late Scratches: Strictly Society, Check the Cites, Local Legacy, D' Bulldog, Payout, He's a Scrooge, Old Kit Bag, Zaahy, Jack's Work, Assorted Colors
Claimed: Roderick claimed by Trombetta, Michael J. for $20,000, Bail Out the Cat claimed by Robison, J. Kirk for $20,000
Time: 1:06.57
Daily Double (3-10), $99.00; Exacta (10-8), $263.00; Superfecta (10-8-5-1), $2,369.00; Trifecta (10-8-5), $877.00; Consolation Double (3-4), $5.10; Pic 3 (1-3-10), $366.00; (1-3-4), $15.80

SEVENTH $66,600, ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

1	In Step	A. Garcia	$9.00	$5.70	$3.50
5	Indian Tale	R. Curatolo		$4.60	$3.00
11	Shared Heart	J. Velazquez			$2.80

Dk B/ Br Filly 2008, by Unbridled's Song - Strawberry Reason by Strawberry Road (AUS)
Owner: Darley Stable. Trainer: Kiaran McLaughlin.
Breeder: Payson Stud Inc (KY).
Late Scratches: Font, Warm Hugs, Sex Appeal, Dominant Currency, Northern Coast
Time: 1:26.24
Daily Double (10-1), $189.50; Exacta (1-5), $36.20; Superfecta (1-5-11-9), $358.40; Trifecta (1-5-11), $118.00; Pic 3 (3-10-1), $567.00; (3-4-1), $32.40

EIGHTH $150,000, STAKES - THREE CHIMNEYS SARATOGA SPECIAL S., 2 YO, 6 1/2F

1	Union Rags	J. Castellano	$8.50	$4.00	$2.90
2	Stat	J. Velazquez		$3.30	$2.50
4	Indian Evening	R. Maragh			$2.70

B Colt 2009, by Dixie Union - Tempo by Gone West
Owner: Chadds Ford Stable. Trainer: Michael Matz.
Breeder: Phyllis M. Wyeth (KY).
Time: 1:18.33
Daily Double (1-1), $50.50; Exacta (1-2), $24.20; Trifecta (1-2-4), $62.00; Pic 3 (10-1-1), $1,763.00; Place Pix Nine (3/6/8-5/8/10-1/5/11-1), $27.80

NINTH $31,400, MAIDEN CLAIMING $25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

4	Slamming	C. Nakatani	$9.30	$4.60	$3.90
6	Pelago	J. Leparoux		$4.30	$3.40
2	Sound of Joy	J. Castanon			$8.10

B Filly 2008, by Grand Slam - Lunargal by Yes It's True
Owner: Asmussen, Steven, M., Carrol J. Castille.
Trainer: Steven Asmussen. Breeder: Heiligbrodt Racing Stable (KY).
Late Scratches: Eric'sformalreturn, Grand Illumination, Evening Toast, Singmeasong, Poetic Touch, Fee On Legs
Time: 1:06.33
Daily Double (1-4), $45.80; Exacta (4-6), $38.00; Superfecta (4-6-2-10), $2,255.00; Trifecta (4-6-2), $239.50; Consolation Double (1-7), $7.70; Pic 3 (1-1-4), $328.00; (1-1-7), $59.00; Pic 4 (10-1-1-4), $14,975.00; Pic 6 (1/4/6/7/11/12-1/3-10-1-1-4), $2,591.00

Attendance: 9,166
On Track Handle: 1,378,448
Intra-State Handle: 1,314,812
Inter-State Handle: 3,812,399

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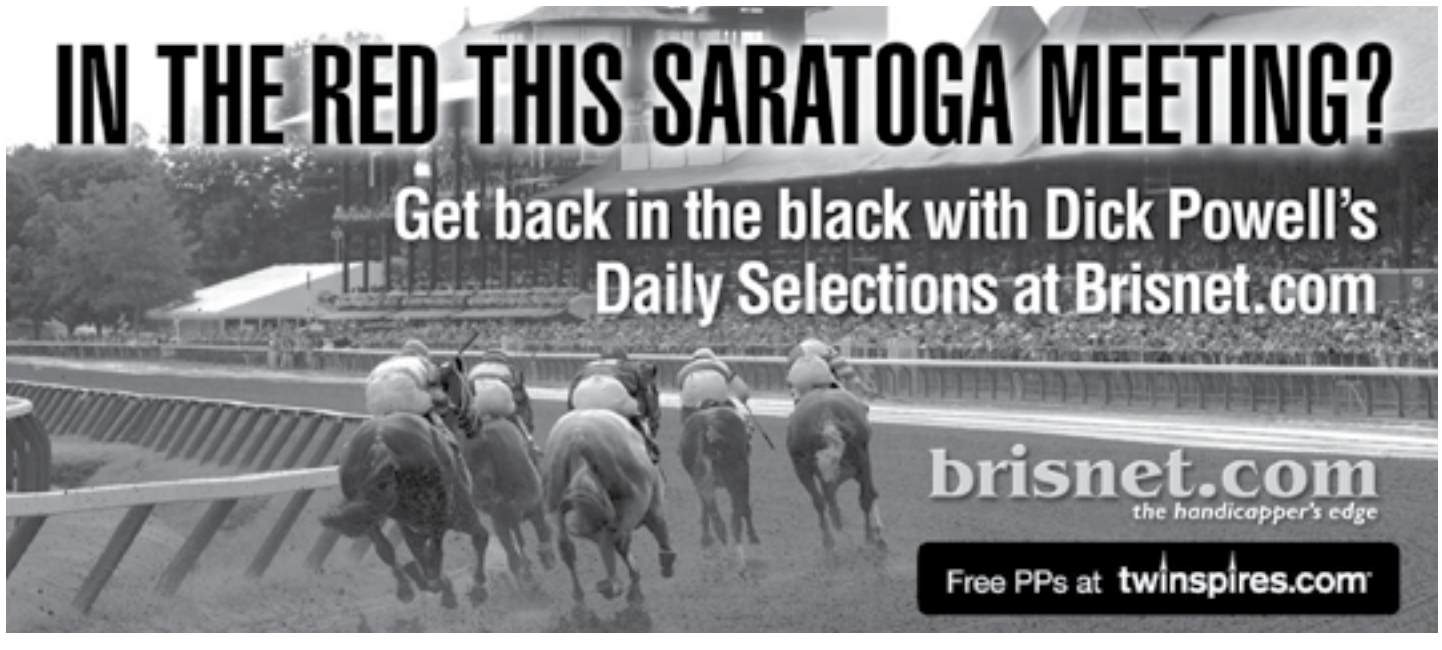

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  for B. Jock Racing and James Divito
- **My Due Process at Saratoga**
  for Priscilla Vaccarezza and Dale Romans
- **Banner Bill won 3 races in a row**
  (including 2 stakes at Woodbine)
  for Ron Magers, Rob Marcocchio and Ralph Biamonte
- **Zow at Belmont Park**
  for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher
- **Giant Surprise at Saratoga**
  for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher

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Really Good

My Miss Aurelia proves too tough to pass in stretch of Grade II stakes

BY SEAN CLANCY

ADIRONDACK STAKES *RECAP*

John Velazquez stepped off the scales after the Adirondack and shook his head in disbelief. No words needed.

Julien Leparoux stepped off the scales and simply smirked, again no words needed.

Two fillies, two jockeys battled hard in Sunday's 2-year-old stakes with My Miss Aurelia and Leparoux finally shaking off Millionreasonswhy and Velazquez by a hard-earned neck to win the $150,000 Grade II stakes. Bellacourt came next, nearly 15 lengths behind the front pair. Sent off the 1-2 favorite, My Miss Aurelia finished 6 1/2 furlongs in 1:17.01.

Trained by Steve Asmussen for Stonestreet Stable and George Bolton, the daughter of Smart Strike broke her maiden July 22, opening day of the meet. That day, she sat just off the pace before dispatching Delightful Magic and Stopshoppingmaria.

The latter came back to break her maiden by nearly 10 lengths, two races before the Adirondack. Three weeks after breaking her maiden, My Miss Aurelia became a graded stakes winner and showed she can win a scrap.

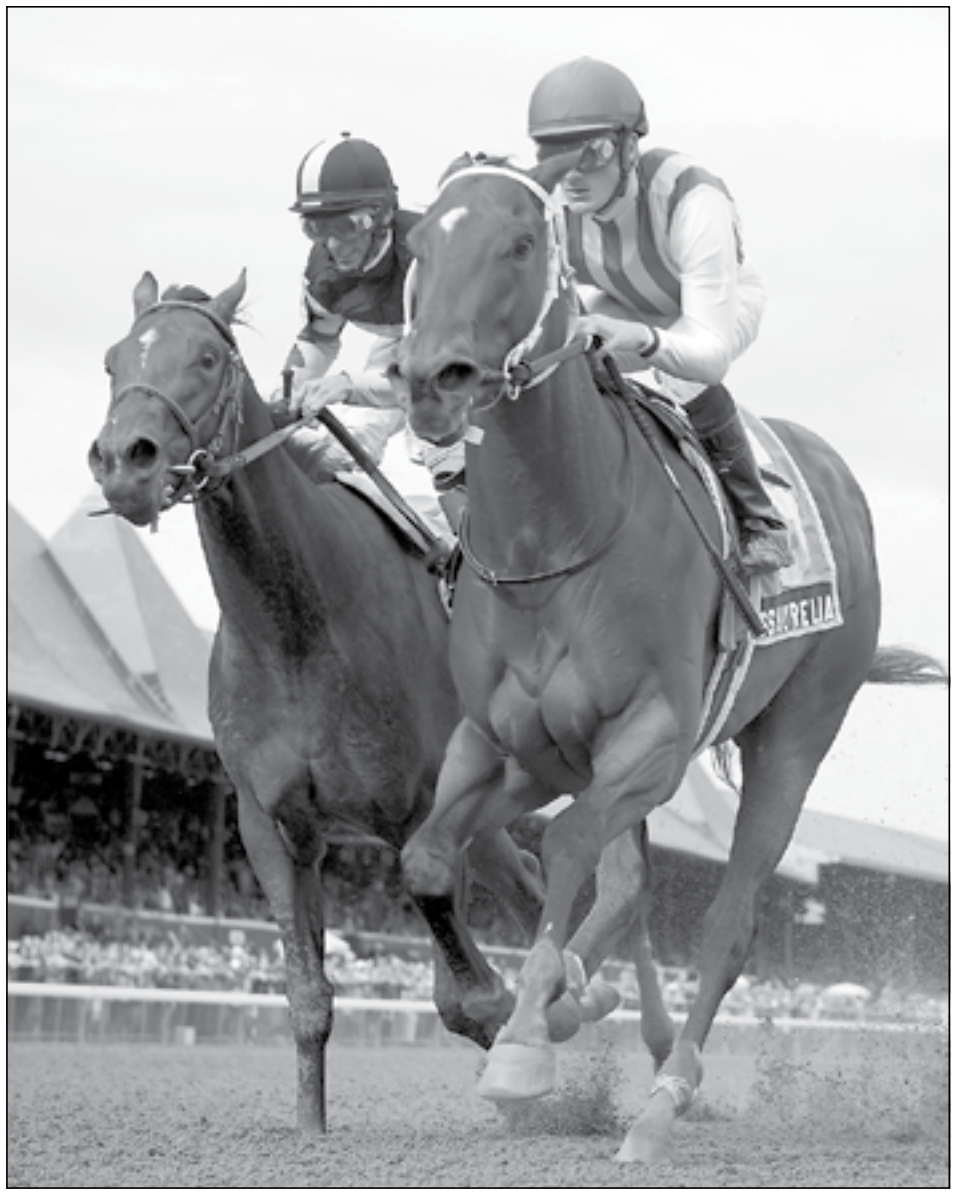
"She always kept at least a head in front," Leparoux said. "She's got a big heart. That showed today."

My Miss Aurelia broke like she came out of a champagne bottle, opening a clear lead for the opening strides before being hooked by Bellacourt from the inside while Velazquez parked Millionreasonswhy to the outside flank of My Miss Aurelia.

Bellacourt and My Miss Aurelia sparred through the first quarter in 22.20 seconds before Bellacourt retreated midway on the turn and Millionreasonswhy pounced from the outside.

After a half-mile in 45.32, the favorite and second choice hooked up nearing the quarter pole as Leparoux threw his first cross at My Miss Aurelia and Velazquez sat motionless outside. The duo turned into the stretch locked in tandem. Leparoux waited, Velazquez waited. At the three-sixteenths pole, like the flag was dropped, Leparoux hit

See ***ADIRONDACK*** page 23 ▶



Tod Marks

My Miss Aurelia (right) battles with Millionreasonswhy in the final yards of Sunday's Adirondack.

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Adirondack –

■ Continued from page 22

My Miss Aurelia left-handed and Velazquez hit Millionreasonswhy right-handed. Both fillies accelerated and stayed on even terms. At the eighth pole, they were even. At the sixteenth pole, they were even. About 10 strides before the wire, My Miss Aurelia finally began to edge her nose in front. She won by a neck.

Leparoux expected the Velazquez attack.

"I was not surprised," Leparoux said. "Before the race, I thought that's what he would do, on paper it looked like she came from off of it more but there was not much speed so I thought he would stay closer, I was not surprised when he came to me at that point. She fight a lot, mine, when I ask her she fought with her, stay with him and beat him."

Millionreasonswhy broke her maiden at Colonial Downs before upsetting the Grade II Matron at Belmont July 3. The daughter of Grand Slam towered above My Miss Aurelia in the paddock and looked like a hawk over a mouse in the race.

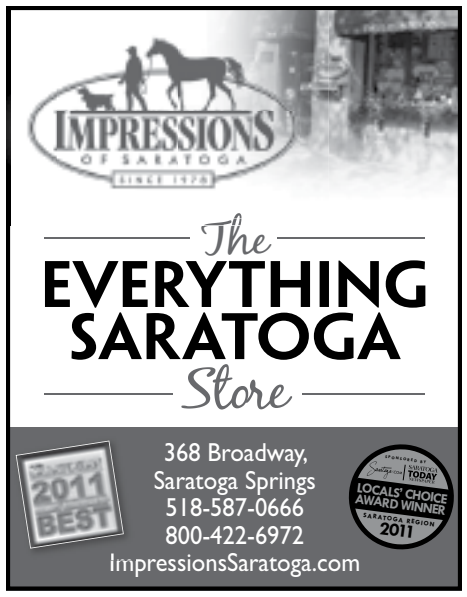
"I just wished I could have sat behind a little more but she took me there easy and she fought at the end so it was good from her," Leparoux said. "They liked her from before the race, she won nice and I'm glad she won."

Leparoux and Asmussen have hooked up to win 29 percent of their races together in Saratoga in 2010-11.

"They're good horses, good horseman," Leparoux said. "We've had some luck so far."

Stonestreet purchased My Miss Aurelia's dam, My Miss Storm Cat, for $925,000 at Keeneland November, 2007. My Miss Aurelia is the second stakes performer from the dam.

Named after Bolton's mother, My Miss Aurelia provoked a crowded winner's circle celebration. The co-owner brought most of the staff from the Reading Room, where he's been staying during the meet.



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Ave Maria

Filly shines in 2nd start for Pletcher, Repole

BY ANDREW CHAMPAGNE

Tod Marks

Stopshoppingmaria makes light work of a maiden race at Saratoga Sunday.

Reverse Head: Sunday Racing Recap

Stopshoppingmaria was so impressive in winning Sunday's seventh race, trainer Todd Pletcher wondered aloud whether she'd run in the wrong race that day.

"We actually contemplated going in the stakes today," Pletcher said, referencing the Grade II Adirondack. "We felt like we'd take the conservative route, and I don't know, maybe we made a mistake, but hopefully it'll pay off down the road."

Making her second career start, the Repole Stable 2-year-old shot to the front and only improved her position. The daughter of More Than Ready widened in the stretch under a hand-ride from jockey John Velazquez, running the 6-furlong distance in 1:09.87.

At first asking here July 22, Stopshoppingmaria stumbled badly at the start July 22, doing extremely well to regroup and run third behind eventual Adirondack winner My Miss Aurelia. There was no such trouble Sunday, when the filly won by nearly 10 lengths.

"She ran a courageous race that day," Pletcher said. "There were a couple nice fillies in there. We thought a lot of the filly beforehand, and we're just happy it worked out today."

Book Review ran second at first asking for Chad Brown, with Delightful Magic third.

• First-time starter Welcome Dance shocked the field at 27-1 in Sunday's second, leading the group of 2-year-old maidens every step of the 1 1/16 miles to graduate by three-quarters of a length.

A daughter of Henny Hughes, Welcome Dance and jockey Julien Leparoux got away to reasonable early fractions, clocking in at 49.95 for the opening half-mile and running 6 furlongs in 1:15.50. The Michael Matz trainee had plenty left for the stretch run, holding off Bargain Blitz in a final time of 1:44.60.

"We're really excited," said owner and breeder Ramona Bass. "We have the dam, so it's really fun to see a homebred win a maiden race at Saratoga."

The dam, Choreograph, is by Dynaformer. Bass was hopeful that the resulting foal would have a mix of speed from the top and stamina from the bottom.

"She's changed a lot," Bass said. "The dam was a

See ***SUNDAY*** page 26 ▶

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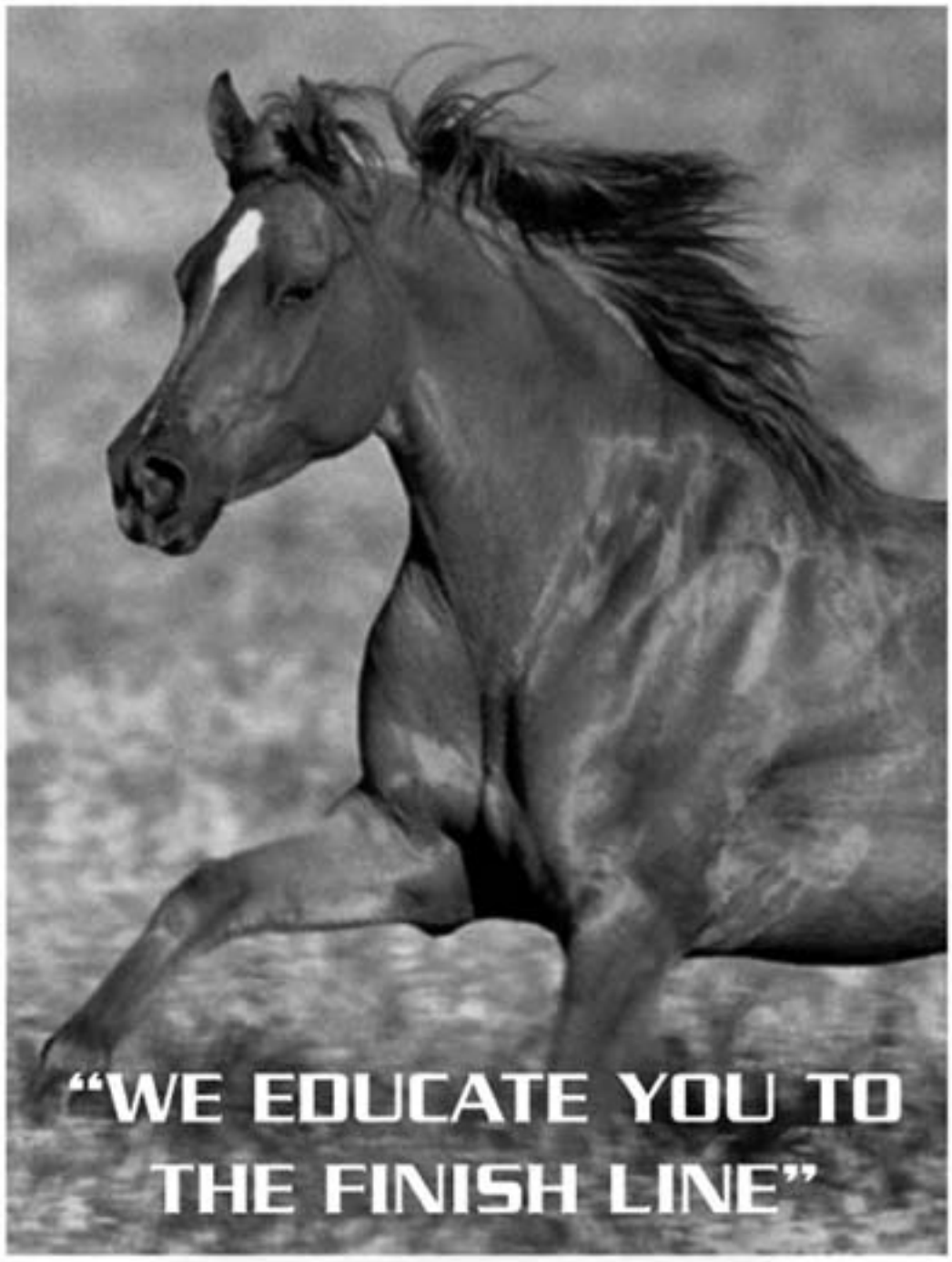

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Tod Marks

Wildcat's Smile reaches the finish line well clear in Sunday's third.

Sunday –

■ Continued from page 24

distance grass horse and the sire was speedy. We were hoping to combine and see what happened, and hopefully we're on the right track."

• Wildcat's Smile made it two homebreds in a row, capturing Sunday's third in runaway fashion. The 2-year-old daughter of Forest Wildcat rated in fourth early before accelerating past the frontrunners on the far turn and kicking home to win by nearly 8 lengths over seven other state-bred maidens.

"We've always liked this filly," said owner/breeder Francis Paolangeli. "I couldn't be happier."

Wildcat's Smile debuted at Saratoga on July 22, running third in similar company after a three-wide journey. Sunday, the Dominic Galluscio trainee used the experience to her advantage, running 6 furlongs in 1:12.39 under Javier Castellano.

"The jockey learned more about her," Paolangeli said. "He understood what she wanted to do, and he rode her absolutely perfectly today. He was very patient, and when he asked her, she got room and went."

First-time starter Berning Carbs was a distant second in the strung-out field, nearly 3 lengths ahead of Proud And Charming.

• Two months after coming north from Florida, Truelee Scrappin earned his first win in the northeast in Sunday's fourth, a 7-furlong starter allowance. It's the third victory in 11 lifetime starts for the son of Halo's Image, who was bought privately after a 3-length win in June.

"They bought him out of Calder," said assistant trainer Jordan Blair, representing trainer Michael Maker. "They've kind of been pointing to a race like this all along, a starter handicap here at Saratoga."

Breaking fifth, jockey Julien Leparoux bided time behind the leaders before angling out at the top of the stretch. The 3-year-old rallied powerfully past the early pacesetters, scoring by a length in 1:23.91. The win comes after the Buck Butler-owned colt ran third behind next-out winner Dawly in a $50,000 claimer at Belmont Park exactly one month before Sunday's outing. He overcame a bad start to do so, but had no such obstacles at the Spa.

"Julien said coming out of the gate, he didn't really want to run into the dirt too much," Blair said. "At about the eighth pole, once he kicked clear, he had a huge turn of foot and got the job done."

Grand Strategy held second after a steward's inquiry determined he did not interfere with third-place finisher Won Fast Bullet.

• The horse-for-the-course concept paid off again in Sunday's eighth, when Australis Princess wired the field for her third career win at Saratoga. The filly by Werblin sustained swift early fractions in the 1-mile affair, cutting the corner turning for home and hanging on by a half-length.

"She just really loves it up here," said trainer Bruce Brown. "Down at Belmont, she's run good, but up here, around two turns, she just really thrives. We ran her back a little quick, but she really ran great today."

Owned by Clyde Jasinski, Epona Racing Stable, and NRB Racing Stable, Australis Princess has only been beaten once in four lifetime starts at the Spa, by stakes-caliber horses such as Frivolous Buck and Gitchee Goomie last September. On Sunday, she shot to the lead out of the gate in the level one allowance, setting a swift pace with a 46.79-second opening half-mile, but ultimately had enough left to emerge victorious in 1:36.19.

"Some horses just love it up here," Brown said. "I know she really likes the two turns with her speed, where she can kind of kick away. The way she went today, I thought she had no shot after that half, but she just dug in. She's very game."

Lemon Tiger rallied from seventh to be second, with Lady's Lunar Luck completing the trifecta in third.

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SUNDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Sunday August 14.

FIRST $55,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

3	Dreamingly	K. Desormeaux	$10.40	$4.40	$3.50
1	Brilliant Future	R. Dominguez		$2.90	$2.30
10	Lily the Pink	J. Leparoux			$3.40

Ch Filly 2007, by Giant's Causeway - Yard Art by Lasting Approval
Owner: Pope, Amanda. Trainer: Robert Hess, Jr..
Breeder: Glencrest Farm & Dan Tayloe (KY).
Late Scratches: Avolo, Natalie Victoria
Time: 1:36.50
Exacta (3-1), $31.60; Superfecta (3-1-10-7), $439.00; Trifecta (3-1-10), $97.00

SECOND $55,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 1 1/16M

7	Welcome Dance	J. Leparoux	$57.50	$22.60	$9.30
8	Bargain Blitz	E. Prado		$5.40	$4.00
5	Wait Til Dawn	J. Velazquez			$2.90

Ch Filly 2009, by Henny Hughes - Choreograph by Dynaformer
Owner: Bass, Ramona. Trainer: Michael Matz.
Breeder: Ramona S. Bass (KY).
Late Scratches: Refining, Bluegrass Sapphire
Time: 1:44.60
Daily Double (3-7), $346.00; Exacta (7-8), $339.00; Quinella (7-8), $223.00; Superfecta (7-8-5-2), $14,945.00; Trifecta (7-8-5), $1,725.00

THIRD $43,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

2	Wildcat's Smile	J. Castellano	$6.10	$3.50	$2.70
1A	Berning Carbs	R. Maragh		$4.90	$3.20
5	Proud and Charming	J. Leparoux			$3.40

Dk B/ Br Filly 2009, by Forest Wildcat - Serenity's Smile by Dixie Brass
Owner: Paolangeli, Francis, J.. Trainer: Dominic Galluscio.
Breeder: Francis Paolangeli (NY).
Late Scratches: Sleeping Star
Time: 1:12.39
Daily Double (7-2), $390.00; Exacta (2-1), $25.00; Trifecta (2-1-5), $77.00; Pic 3 (3-7-2), $1,531.00

FOURTH $50,000, STARTERS ALLOWANCE $50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

5	Truelee Scrappin	J. Leparoux	$7.00	$4.00	$2.90
3	Grand Strategy	J. Velazquez		$4.20	$2.80
6	Won Fast Bullet	R. Dominguez			$3.00

Dk B/ Br Colt 2008, by Halo's Image - True Points by Gate Dancer
Owner: Butler, Buck. Trainer: Michael Maker.
Breeder: Lena McRae & Robert McElroy (FL).
Time: 1:23.91
Daily Double (2-5), $23.00; Exacta (5-3), $27.20; Quinella (3-5), $15.60; Superfecta (5-3-6-1), $397.00; Trifecta (5-3-6), $92.50; Pic 3 (7-2-5), $893.00

FIFTH $45,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

9	Rudy Rudy Rudy	J. Sanchez	$7.90	$3.90	$2.50
3	Carson Bandit	E. Castro		$4.50	$2.90
6	Strolldownbroadway	R. Dominguez			$2.40

B Gelding 2008, by Sharp Humor - Definition by Relaunch
Owner: Imperio, Michael, Bill Elias Stables, LLC.
Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. Breeder: Vasileios Christos Iliopoulos (NY).
Late Scratches: Rocky Fortune, Nykid Time to Jazz, Chapel Chief, Alarmist, Centripital
Time: 1:03.07
Daily Double (5-9), $36.00; Exacta (9-3), $35.20; Superfecta (9-3-6-8), $673.00; Trifecta (9-3-6), $56.00; Pic 3 (2-5-9), $107.50; Pic 4 (7-2-5-9), $4,740.00

SIXTH $30,000, CLAIMING $35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

2	David the Great	F. Lenclud	$24.00	$9.80	$4.30
3	War Colony	J. Castellano		$6.20	$3.30
6	Awesome Arceno	R. Dominguez			$3.00

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2008, by Wiseman's Ferry - Tropical Way by Way West (FR)
Owner: Slates, David. Trainer: Michelle Nihei.
Breeder: Dr. Luis E. Bonnet (KY).
Late Scratches: Cooper River, Molly's Ship, Papa's Nice Cat
Claimed: Awesome Arceno claimed by Singer, James W. for $35,000, Pistols At Dawn claimed by Bruce Golden Racing for $35,000
Time: 1:11.59
Daily Double (9-2), $141.00; Exacta (2-3), $133.50; Trifecta (2-3-6), $392.50; Pic 3 (5-9-2), $477.00

SEVENTH $54,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

1	Stopshoppingmaria	J. Velazquez	$5.30	$3.40	$2.30
7	Book Review	J. Castellano		$5.00	$3.20
4	Delightful Magic	S. Bridgmohan			$2.30

Dk B/ Br Filly 2009, by More Than Ready - Skybox by Spend a Buck
Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.
Breeder: Mueller Farms, Inc. (KY).
Time: 1:09.87
Daily Double (2-1), $96.50; Exacta (1-7), $25.20; Superfecta (1-7-4-2), $470.00; Trifecta (1-7-4), $41.60; Pic 3 (9-2-1), $469.00

EIGHTH $47,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

7	Australis Princess	J. Castellano	$9.20	$4.40	$3.50
3	Lemon Tiger	R. Maragh		$3.70	$2.90
10	Lady's Lunar Luck	E. Castro			$8.00

B Filly 2007, by Werblin - Polish Words by Quiet American
Owner: Jasinski, Clyde, X., Epona Racing Stable, NRB Racing Stable.
Trainer: Bruce Brown.
Breeder: Sez Who Thoroughbreds & Aron Yagoda (NY).
Late Scratches: Necessary Luxury, There Goes Molly, Shakeira, Cap the Thunder, Moshe Diane, Judicial Leader
Time: 1:36.19
Daily Double (1-7), $33.80; Exacta (7-3), $30.20; Superfecta (7-3-10-1), $1,758.00; Trifecta (7-3-10), $468.50; Pic 3 (2-1-7), $465.50

NINTH $150,000, STAKES - ADIRONDACK S., 2 YO, 6 1/2F

5	My Miss Aurelia	J. Leparoux	$3.00	$2.10	$2.10
4	Millionreasonswhy	J. Velazquez		$2.50	$2.10
2	Bellacourt	E. Castro			$2.40

B Filly 2009, by Smart Strike - My Miss Storm Cat by Sea of Secrets
Owner: Bolton, George, Stonestreet Stables. Trainer: Steven Asmussen.
Breeder: Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY).
Late Scratches: Funny Proposition
Time: 1:17.01
Daily Double (7-5), $15.20; Exacta (5-4), $6.60; Trifecta (5-4-2), $12.80; Pic 3 (1-7-5), $46.20; Place Pix Nine (2/3/6-1/4/7-3/7/10-5), $16.40

TENTH $45,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

5	Juliann's Approval	I. Ortiz, Jr.	$48.60	$15.00	$6.70
9	Drinksonthehouse	E. Castro		$4.10	$3.00
3	City Scamper	C. Nakatani			$4.10

B Filly 2008, by Comeonmom - My Approval by With Approval
Owner: Persaud, Randi. Trainer: Randi Persaud.
Breeder: Anthony Calabrese (NY).
Late Scratches: City Vice, City Look, Salt Water Lullaby, Sweet Penny
Time: 1:03.75
Daily Double (5-5), $97.50; Exacta (5-9), $219.50; Superfecta (5-9-3-8), $7,259.00; Trifecta (5-9-3), $1,219.00; Pic 3 (7-5-5), $496.00; Pic 4 (1-7-3/5-5), $1,467.00; Pic 6 (9-2-1-7-3/5-5), $379.00; Pic 6 (9-2-1-7-3/5-5), $140,143.00

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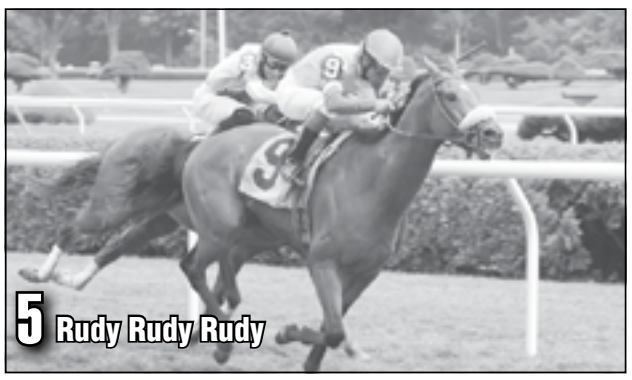
SUNDAY'S SARATOGA WINNERS • PHOTOS BY DAVE HARMON

1 Dreamingly (right)

2 Welcome Dance

3 Wildcat's Smile

4 Truelee Scrappin


5 Rudy Rudy Rudy

6 David The Great

7 Stopshoppingmaria

8 Australis Princess

10 Juliann's Approval

PHOTO of the day

Stop blinking, stop blinking, stop blinking. Anxious moments for Cornelio Velasquez, Bert Firestone and Matt Firestone after a claim of foul in the Sword Dancer.

Photo by Tod Marks

cupofcoffee

Art Show

by Sean Clancy

Art Roy met me at the Morning Line Kitchen. I was late, 5:45. He had been there since 5:30.

I apologized. He said no problem.

We hopped in the golfcart, amid 800 copies of issue 14, the one with Winchester on the cover. We began our paper route. I had no choice, time to make the doughnuts. Roy had a choice, he paid to be there. Through a Parting Glass Racing auction, Roy purchased the opportunity to spend a morning with Sean Clancy. Not sure what he paid, but I know it was too much.

We delivered 100 copies to the Morning Line rack, ordered a cup of tea and a cup of decaf and started our paper route.

Roy learned the rules quickly. Make sure the papers don't blow away and enjoy the ride. We picked up Jane Motion at MLK2HGM (text-speak for between Morning Line Kitchen and Graham Motion's barn on the turn) and away we went.

First to the kitchen in the back, 50 papers gone.

"Hey, there's Get Stormy."

The graded stakes winner, nicknamed Clyde, sauntered down Tom Bush's shedrow. Anybody can see him the afternoon, fast. In the morning, he could pass for a pony.

Then past Jimmy Toner's barn.

"Hey, there's Giant Oak."

Third in the Whitney, the graded stakes winner stuck his nose deep into his haynet.

Around the turn, we hand papers to Terry Oliver, Steve Margolis, David Fawkes, Jose Cuevas, Jimmy Baker, the clocker on the turn, the Pinkerton at the gate. Roy's got the hang of it, fold and deliver, fold and deliver.

Across Union Avenue, over to the Oklahoma side, we drop 10 off at the rec center, another 50 go at the kitchen by Scott Schwartz's barn. We slap Gary Sciacca on the shoulder with one, he jolts, we laugh, fold and deliver, fold and deliver.

Over to Leo O'Brien's barn for old-time sake, to Colum O'Brien's because it's on the way, to the clocker's stand for our first dose of reality. We hover there, watching a few horses breeze over the Oklahoma, morning has finally risen.

Cruise down the outside rail to Chad Brown, Bruce Levine, Bruce Brown and Bow White behind the tree.

Through the center to the Terranova turnaround (I still like to think of it as Frankel alley). Sovereign Stable's Rich Cristiano jumps out of his chair for The Special, Roy greets him like an old friend and we happen to catch Sovereign's Rein King, who Roy owns a piece of, walk out of his stall. We lean on the rail and watch him jog twice around the Oklahoma. Roy can't believe his timing.

We can't stay long and backtrack past Asmussen's barn and around the lower bend, dropping off two papers for Cuco at Jimmy Jerkens' barn – my old friend yells at the top of his lungs, all I understand is "Clancy" – as we hand off two copies to the Brooklyn Boyz on the corner.

We slow down to simply gape at Mott's string walking around a tree before jogging along the macadam road for the trainer. They all look sound.

We stop on the Oklahoma turn, say good morning to Debbie Easter, Davant Latham, Christophe Clement and stop at Michael Matz's feet. Want timing? I recognize the long-legged, white-faced budding phenom.

"That's your 2-year-old."

Matz smiles.

Union Rags stops in front of us, we stand agog over his stature and demeanor. Matz begins to regale us about the the son of Dixie Union, set to run in The Saratoga Special the next morning.

We watch Union Rags gallop once around in perfect rhythm and style.

I hope Roy bet.

We can't stay long, across Fifth Avenue to the Annex where we deliver to Sheppard, Voss, Maker, Benzel and Fout, stealing a half a dozen mints from Voss (I have a horse with him, figure it's part of the deal), then we duck over to Shadwell, private sanctuary.

"Wow, what is this?" Roy asks as we run past the private property sign and hand off two Specials to an expectant groom.

Back across Union Avenue where we stop for the longest chat of the morning. Shug McGaughey, Matt Muzikar, Javier Castellano, Stuart Janney, Chris McCarron, Rogers Beasley, Bill Parcells, and Indian Charlie. Only in Saratoga.

Roy talks football with Parcells and meets Massachusetts wunderkind Chris McCarron. We linger as long as we dare.

Back around the edge of the Oklahoma and across

See *COFFEE* page 31 ▶

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"This is the only time these colors have been on a flat horse."

Coffee –

■ Continued from page 30

Union Avenue again where Roy meets Graham Motion.

"I own a piece of Gold Megillah," Roy says to Motion.

"Do you want to see him?" Motion returns.

Roy is gone, paper route abridged.

He comes back, gushing about seeing his horse at Saratoga.

About then, a gray filly comes walking toward us. White saddle towel, orange polos, jockey aboard. In unison, we utter, "Winter Memories."

Roy gushes again.

Motion deducts that she must be working on the Oklahoma turf, a special service for stakes horses, before the expected rain. We pile back in the golfcart and make our third trip across Union Avenue.

We watch in awed silence as she breezes a half mile in isolated perfection.

It's 8:30 in the morning. The day has barely started. Roy is a racing fan forever.

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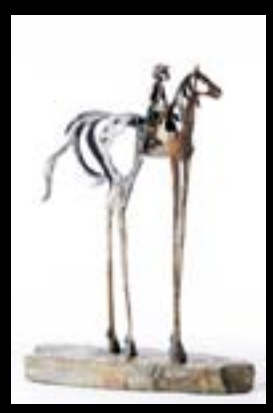

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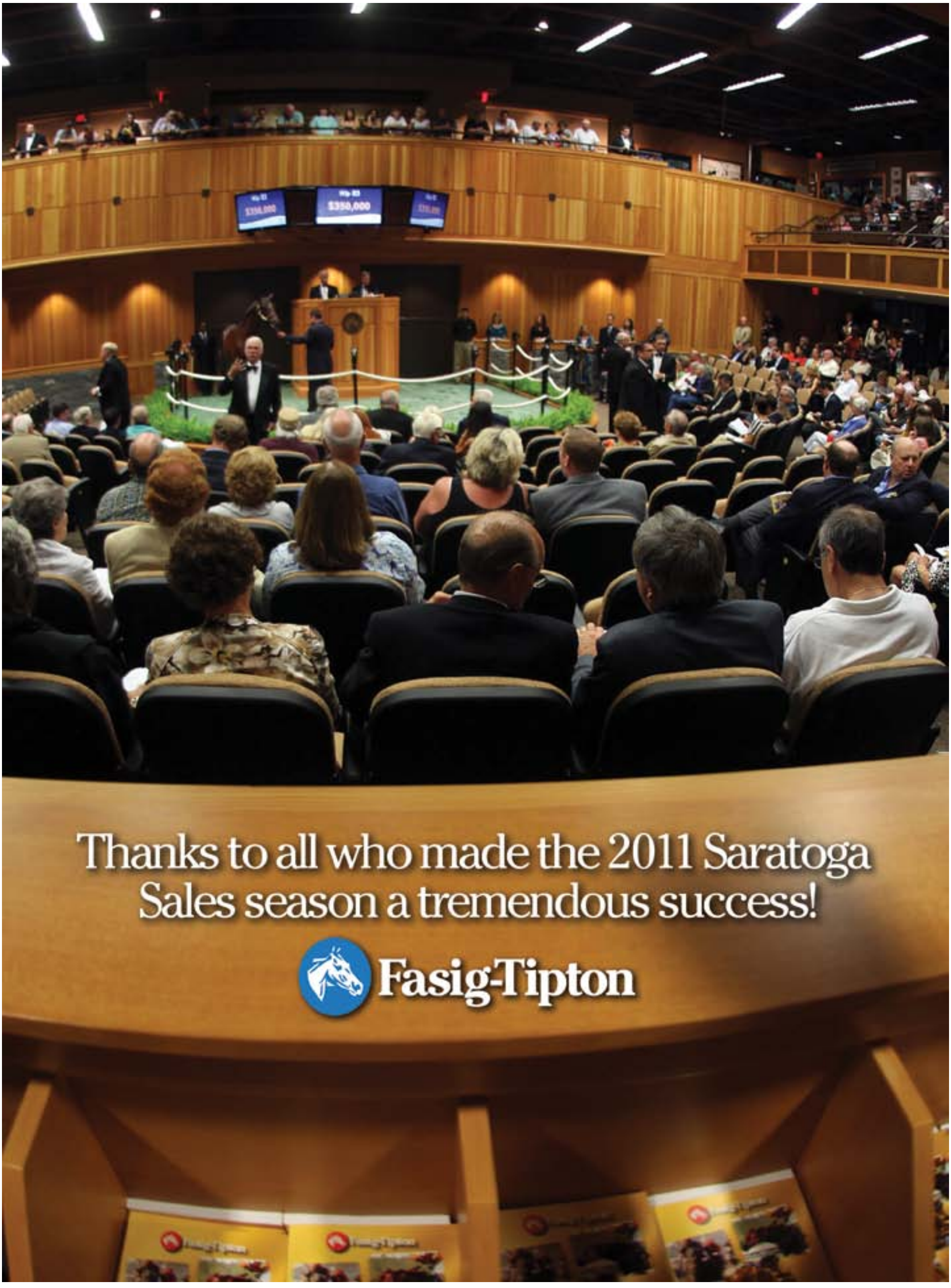
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