

the SARATOGA *Special*



Year 12 • No. 30

SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Sunday, August 26, 2012



Tie Game

Alpha (left),
Golden Ticket all
even in Travers

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here&there... at Saratoga



Tod Marks

All in Line. Travers morning was crowded at the Union Avenue gates.

WORTH REPEATING The Special's quotes from Saratoga

"You going to eat this man's oats, you going to stand in this man's water."
Groom of yesteryear at Allen Jerkens' barn, where horses did a lot of time in water

"It's nice when The Special is thicker than the Form."
Text received Saturday morning after the 56-page Travers edition

"I know how to do it, Jack taught me."
Mike Balfe, when receiving instructions on how to restock The Special's paper rack

"Nothing but sun."
Trainer Eddie Barker's weather forecast for closing week

"Visitante Net."
Wireless signal picked up at the backstretch rec center

"Hey, Pavarotti."
Call to out to exercise rider Simon Harris Friday morning

"This paper is hard to navigate."
Jane Motion, trying to get a handle of the Travers edition

"Like I don't have anything else to do."
Norm Casse, after Jane Motion asked to take her to see the Travers morning gate opening

"Don't ever listen to that song again."
Sheila Clancy, sister to The Special, after reading Saratoga Tears about the country song, The Dollar

"Questing and It's Tricky train back there. Questing's trained great and run great from it. It's Tricky trains great, we'll see how she runs, she hasn't run from it yet."

Trainer Kieran McLaughlin, about Personal Ensign starter It's Tricky and her home base at Greentree

"Check out The Saratoga Special's Travers Day edition, always one of my favorite reads. Would kill to be there, but enjoying this with the PPs and a cup of coffee still makes a blissful morning."
Special graduate, Jim Mulvihill, via Facebook Saturday morning

"Open all gates, open ALL gates."
The radio call to unleash the table runners at 7 Travers morning

"I feel pretty important getting my paper from the editor, publisher, writer."
Edwin Merryman, the breeder, owner, trainer and groom of Test runner Jazzy Idea after getting a Special at the stakes barn Saturday morning

"You want to be like Pat Day and not hit the front too soon. You want to eat that a little later in the day."
Steve Young, on eating a "BLT hot dog" at the track on Travers Day

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Tod Marks photo

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here&there... Continued from previous page



Connie Bush

Yes Mom, I Have a Pillow. A Travers Day early bird was prepared.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Jet Away, second race. The Phipps Stable homebred 2-year-old is out of Resort.

BY THE NUMBERS

9: Straw bales in the shedrow at Graham Motion's barn Saturday morning (nine less than Friday).

2: Horses turned around – and sent back toward the barn area – on the horsepath between the Union Avenue gates as the crowd massed on Travers morning.

1: Spirited arugment over a table at the first floor Carousel at 7:05 Travers morning. Some people think you an save a table with a trash bag. Others do not.

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy. High 86, low 60.
Monday: Isolated thunderstorms. High 81, low 66.
Tuesday: Isolated thunderstorms. High 80, low 57.
Wednesday: Sunny. High 75, low 53 (just had to put that one in for the temps).



JUST SAYIN'

"We would love to have Paynter but we lost too much time to think about the Travers. Now, we'll get him back to California and if we make the Pennsylvania Derby, fine. If not, it would probably be the Goodwood, well, now it's the Awesome Again, at Santa Anita."

– Assistant Jimmy Barnes, about Haskell winner Paynter

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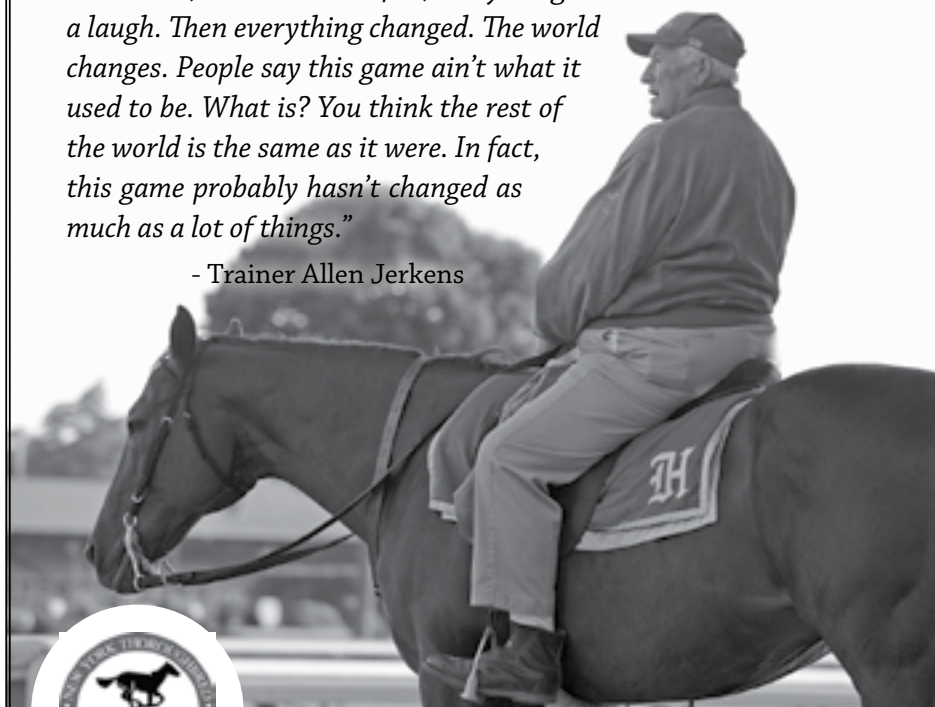
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The Chief... Day 30

"They would always be kidding with themselves, one time they were all laughing, I said 'what the hell's everybody laughing at?' They said, 'you put Lassies out there with Jimmy Harris to be the night watchmen, they're not speaking to each other. I had sent Beau Purple out to Chicago. I said, 'Why didn't they say something before?' I got out there, and they were talking to each other. We had some guys, Cold Cut. Paycheck. Hard Times, Shorty Diggs, Boon. One thing about them guys, when they'd see somebody not doing something, they would jump in and do it. Every one of those horses won. We had some characters, it was so much fun, everything was a laugh. Then everything changed. The world changes. People say this game ain't what it used to be. What is? You think the rest of the world is the same as it were. In fact, this game probably hasn't changed as much as a lot of things."

- Trainer Allen Jerkens



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Tod Marks
Alpha (second from left) and Golden Ticket (right)
storm home to a dead heat in the Travers.



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Drawing Even

Golden Ticket, Alpha share Grade 1 heroics

BY SEAN CLANCY

Walking down the stairs from the box seats, Kieran McLaughlin looked across the track to the big screen in the infield. He uttered one word that summed up the 143rd Travers Stakes.

"Tight."

The replay ran again, the crowd rising to a crescendo as McLaughlin's Alpha and Ken McPeck's Golden Ticket dropped their noses on the line.

"Too close to call," McLaughlin said.

On the landing between the flights of stairs, the two trainers met. Like lights coming on at the end of a sixth-grade dance, they stood, staring, mumbling, bumbling.

"Not bad for two Lexington boys," McPeck said.

"I'll take a dead heat," McLaughlin said.

The two trainers stared at the infield screen – RACE 12 in white bulbs, top left. PHOTO, blinking in red on the right. SPLIT TIMES, stacked on the bottom right. Nothing on the left side.



Tod Marks

It's all smiles in the winner's circle after the Travers.

McPeck repeated the number 3 in his head. McLaughlin, repeated the number 6, trying to will the outcome as anybody who's ever waited for a photo does.

"3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 3. 3."

"6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6. 6."

Family, friends and owners stacked up, a woman lost her shoe and nearly toppled down the stairs,

NBC rolled its cameras, photo-finish readers tossed out their opinions like they mattered. Still, two trainers watched, an inch away from agony, an inch away from ecstasy.

Boom – 3, 6, 11, 7 slid across the board.

McPeck thrust both fists in the air, unleashing the

See **TRAVERS** page 8 ►

The defining moment . . .

"My dad is a 5th generation trainer and my mom managed the farm. I was 14 when she started New Vocations. A trailer arrived to drop off a horse at our farm and it had several nice Thoroughbreds on board. My mom asked the shipper where the others were going. He told her they were freebie Thoroughbreds going to an auction and then probably to slaughter, my mom was horrified. That was her defining moment and thus New Vocations was born in 1992. The first year we took in 25 Thoroughbreds. Last year, we placed 429 horses, and that is just a drop in the bucket compared to how many need our service."

– Anna Ford, New Vocations



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Travers —

■ Continued from page 7

number which he had been silently reciting. McLaughlin stood silent, unflinching. Seconds ticked. Then, McLaughlin screamed, "Dead heat."

And there it was, DEAD HEAT in red bulbs next to the numbers.

McPeck and McLaughlin clutched, clawed, hugged, slapped each other and anybody as the realization that there would be no losers resonated on the trainers and the massive Travers Day crowd.

"That's wonderful," McPeck said.

"We'll take it," McLaughlin said.



Tod Marks
David Cohen sits atop Golden Ticket in the winner's circle.

Lightning bolts flashed in the distance. No kidding. Magic City Thoroughbreds' Golden Ticket received the blanket of red carnations first, Cohen throwing the flowers in the air as the dark bay colt walked into the winner's circle. Neal McLaughlin stood in the center of the dirt, watching Alpha and Ramon Dominguez, "That was huge. That was huge," McLaughlin repeated as the blanket of carnations was draped over Alpha's neck. Dominguez looked at the sky, acknowledging a higher being that certainly seemed viable.

On paper, the Travers lacked star power. On the track, it had the galaxy.

From the rail, longshot Speightscity broke cleanly and outran Stealcas into the first turn as Cohen eased longshot Golden Ticket back between the leaders. Dominguez guided Alpha, the favorite, into a comfortable spot in third, outside and stalking the leaders. Through a quarter mile in 23.51 seconds, Speightscity led with Stealcas on his flank, Alpha sat outside in third, Golden Ticket relaxed in fourth. Neck n' Neck lost ground around the first turn but found a spot in fifth. Nonios, Five Sixteen, Street Life and Atigun made up the next phalanx. Liaison and Fast Falcon lagged well off the lead.

After a half in 48.06 and three quarters in 1:12.62, Stealcas engaged Speightscity, Alpha swung into gear on the outside, Golden Ticket waited on the rail and Neck 'n Neck, Nonios and Atigun made big moves on the outside. Passing the quarter pole, Alpha took over four wide as Cohen made the move of the race, sliding Golden Ticket through on the rail, like a credit card down a lock, cutting the corner and instantly gaining an advantage on Alpha. The longshot rolled past the eighth pole with a length lead over the Jim Dandy winner. The rest were floundering except for Fast Falcon who blew past the tiring pretenders, but had a lot to do to catch the leaders.

Dominguez rapped Alpha right handed as Cohen implored Golden Ticket with right-handed smacks. At the sixteenth pole, Golden Ticket still maintained his advantage as Alpha appeared to stall. Fast Falcon



Tod Marks

Ramon Dominguez and Alpha pose for the camera.

loomed from the outside, finally getting past Atigun and getting into the peripheral vision of Alpha who surged in the final strides. The 33-1 longshot on the rail, attempting to win his second career race and the 2-1 favorite going for the Jim Dandy/Travers double on the outside.

Cohen buried his head in Golden Ticket's mane, pushing like he was trying to drown an enemy. Dominguez stayed high above Alpha's mane, pumping like he was trying to walk on water. The two jockeys certain of the effort, uncertain of the outcome.

"I had my head buried, trying to push the horse's head to the ground if I had to. On the gallop out,

See **TRAVERS** page 10 ►

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Golden Ticket (right) leads Alpha in the stretch of the Travers.

Tod Marks

Travers —

■ Continued from page 8

there's Ramon right next to me, Alpha, I knew he wasn't far away," Cohen said. "Ramon asked me, 'Do you think you got it?' When you get a question like that from a guy that knows the wire so well, you think to yourself, 'Hold on a second, maybe it's a little closer than I thought.' When they announced it as a dead heat, me and Ramon just took it in stride. I accept a dead heat in a 10 claimer, let alone, a million-dollar race, the Travers."

Dominguez wouldn't have changed a thing either.

"I thought I got up, I really did," Dominguez said. "I'm three wide the whole time, if I had to do it all over again, I'd do it the same way, but he cut the corner nicely and opened up on me. By the eighth pole, I said, 'Man, I don't know if I'm going to be able to get him.' I kept after him and he kept coming. I didn't know Fast Falcon was coming. At the wire, I heard Alvarado scream. I said, 'thank you,' I think that helped that last little bit."

Golden Ticket took six tries to break his maiden, finally graduating in an off-the-turf maiden at Gulfstream in February. He returned to finish second in the Tampa Bay Derby, fifth in the Lexington in April at Keeneland and second in a first-level allowance at Churchill Downs in early May. McPeck looked for a first-level allowance, then tried an overnight stakes Friday. Neither filled

so he took his third option and entered him in the Travers.

"His only bad races are when I ran him short, turf and Poly. If you look at his dirt form, he's never done anything wrong. I'm thrilled," McPeck said. "David gave him a fantastic ride, we had been working on it all week, talking about what he needed to do and he nailed it."

While McPeck searched for an allowance spot for Golden Ticket, McLaughlin had two races on his mind. After a disappointing run in the Derby and a missed assignment in the Belmont when coming up with a fever, Alpha shipped to Saratoga with the Jim Dandy and Travers on his docket. The Jim Dandy was checked off with a front-running tally over a sloppy surface, there wasn't an anxious moment. The Travers, well, the Travers came down to the last inch, the last head bob.

"At first, I thought it was 3, and it was OK, then I saw the dead heat, so it's great. Just great," McLaughlin said. "I liked our trip, but when that other horse squirted away from us at the three-sixteenths pole, I was concerned, I didn't think we were going to get there. The Travers is up there with the best of them and to win it like that, in a dead heat . . ."

McLaughlin's voiced tailed off. In the distance, Cohen rode out for the last on a pick-up ride. McPeck walked back to the jocks' room for a press conference and Dominguez pulled off Godolphin's silks and took a gulp from a bottle of water.

Four men, two horses, one result.

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Charlotte Weber

I had a love for horses and had an opportunity early on in life, and I thought the racing game was glamorous and I was young and easier to influence in that day. So I thought, 'Let's take a stab at this,' and I got the bug.



I thought he was professional before this race, but this certainly puts the right markings on his calendar. He's going to go home to Live Oak and rest for a little bit. I can't see any reason not to race him next year. Having fun is what this game is all about.

— 2011 Cigar Mile



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Claim to Fame

Willy Beamin adds Gr. 1 to growing list of feats

BY JOE CLANCY

Claiming 101, now in session. Your professor, owner Jim Riccio from New Jersey. He's been going to the races forever, handicapping, studying, watching, listening. He's owned horses good and not so, in partnerships and alone, for years.

And then he spent \$25,000 on New York-bred maiden winner Willy Beamin.

"You spend \$25,000, you're hoping he can win the allowance race," Riccio said. "Be real. That's all you're looking for. We were just looking for a horse. For \$25,000, he's a horse."

Make that THE Horse.

Five months after that claim, and just three days after winning the Albany here for New York-breds, Willy Beamin upset the Foxwoods King's Bishop. The \$500,000 Grade 1, known for producing stallions, went to a gelding. Owned by Riccio, trained by Rick Dutrow and ridden by Alan Garcia, the son of Suave ran away from the stars to win by a half-length over Fort Loudon in 1:22.02 for 7 furlongs with Unbri-

See **KING'S BISHOP** page 14 ►



Jockey Alan Garcia rides Willy Beamin to victory in the King's Bishop.

Tod Marks

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Willy Beamin poses for the camera in the winner's circle.

Tod Marks

King's Bishop —

■ Continued from page 13

dled's Note a nose back in third. The winner improved to 7-for-11 lifetime and nearly doubled his career earnings with the \$300,000 first-place check.

The moment was not lost on the owner.

"Back in the day you had to go to the track every day so I used to go every day," he said while walking to the trustees room. "I'd take Saratoga off, take a break, go down to Wildwood Crest, take the family. I'd watch the Saratoga races when they were on, but I never thought of this. Winning a Grade 1 in Saratoga? It's unbelievable."

The story would be, if it weren't true.

Bred by Patricia Staskowski Purdy of Ivy League Farm in Ithaca, Willy Beamin sold at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky sale as a yearling in October 2010 for \$16,000. He made his debut in October 2011 at Belmont, and lost by 15 lengths in state-bred company. Two starts later, at Aqueduct in November, he graduated the maiden ranks by a head. He lost a state-bred stakes by a dozen lengths to close 2011, then opened 2012 with a 16-length loss in New York-bred allowance company. Then came the drop to a \$25,000 open claimer March 23. It was his last start for MeB Racing Stable and trainer Dominick Schettino.

The bay gelding won at less than 2-1, got claimed and added five more

wins — rising up the improbability ladder through state-bred allowance in May, state-bred optional claimer June 20, the state-bred Mike Lee Stakes four days later, the Albany here Wednesday and now the King's Bishop.

Entries closed for the Grade 1 on the same day as the Albany. Willy Beamin drew the rail in a field of 10, won the Albany with ease and went back to Dutrow's barn on the Oklahoma side in the care of assistant and brother Chip. Saturday, the horse went back to the starting gate at better than 11-1 against a tough group. Currency Swap was unbeaten over the track. Trinniberg started in the Kentucky Derby, won a Grade 2 and was 3-for-4 at the distance. The field included the first six finishers from the Grade 2 Amsterdam here July 29.

Nobody bothered to tell Willy Beamin.

He allowed the others to tackle the pace chores. Trinniberg led by a length after a quarter-mile in 22.28 seconds and a half in 45.13. Doctor Chit and Currency Swap stalked the leader, followed by Fort Loudon and Unbridled's Note. Garcia let Willy Beamin find his stride early, pushed him to keep a spot inside Laurie's Rocket, came around a tiring Gun Boat, then slid four wide at the top of the stretch to launch a bid. In front of him, Doctor Chit, Trinniberg, Currency Swap, Fort Loudon and Unbridled's Note slugged it out to the eighth pole. One by one, they yielded, and the New York-bred swept past late

See **KING'S BISHOP** page 15 ►



New for Saratoga



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King's Bishop —

Continued from page 14

with ground devouring strides.

"I was so comfortable turning for home when I asked my horse to get running, he took off and got in the bridle," Garcia said. "I said, 'I'm going to be in the money.' Then, I was like, 'Wow, I can win this race,' and I put my head down and kept riding to the wire. It was a totally different race (than the Albany), but this horse can run anything, he came from behind this time, last time he had an easy lead and was galloping."

The inside post actually worked perfectly on the turn back to 7 furlongs from 9. Willy Beamin led throughout in the two-turn Albany, never made the front until the final stages in the one-turn King's Bishop.

"We probably didn't want the one hole but after I watched it we probably did want the one hole," said Riccio, whose son Jim Jr. is Garcia's agent. "He stayed away from the speed, saved the ground and came with a run. My son really liked this race. He was the one talking about the cut back."

In the trustees room, Riccio talked to Dutrow on the phone — answering with an exclamatory "Wow," and took calls from friends at the OTB in Bayonne and a string of well-wishers. His shirt was sweat-soaked, the right arm of his suit jacket smeared in mud. Between phone calls, text messages, the looping replay on the screen on the wall, he tried to make dinner plans and kept shaking his head, laughing at the feat.

"I had a good feeling, I really did, I just thought he'd show up," Riccio said. "When you claim a horse with Rick, it's not like you're expecting this but it's not a pipe dream either. You take some and they work out, you take some and they don't. Then, you take one and it really works out."



The winning connections celebrate the grade 1 victory.

Tod Marks

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No Contest

Baffert filly streaks home to take Grade 1

BY SEAN CLANCY

Jimmy Barnes stood at the quarter-pole gap on the main track, waiting for New York-bred Brigand to finish his last major exercise before he made his Saratoga debut in Saturday's first. Barnes' boss, Bob Baffert bedded down six horses in John Terranova's barn at Saratoga this summer. Four were due to run on Travers Day. Brigand was a lock in the first, Contested looked strong in the Test, Gun Boat had a chance in the King's Bishop and Liaison was one of a handful of horses who were live in the Travers.

Two out of four will do.

Brigand won the first and, most importantly, Contested won the Test.

Owned by Baffert's wife, Jill, Contested showed no ramifications from her last-place finish in the Grade 1 Mother Goose in June. That loss snapped a four race winning streak which included romps in the Eight Belles at Churchill Downs and the Grade 1 Acorn at Belmont Park. Stretched to 1 1/16 miles in the Mother Goose, Contested led ear-

TEST STAKES RECAP

ly before fading badly to last. Barnes blamed the track, listed as good but more like grandmom's stew.

"She was exhausted, that's not her. In hindsight we should have scratched," Barnes said. "I didn't handle it too well. She was fine with it."

Baffert sent the daughter of Ghost-zapper back to his Del Mar base, primed her with five solid breezes and came back to avenge her last New York flop.

Contested buckled for a couple of strides out of the gate, spotting a quick gap to Ullapool and Gypsy Robin, crossing the chute in fifth as the leaders ripped through the first quarter-mile in 21.49 seconds. Bejarano asked Contested to keep her position, clearing Well Kept and Beautiful But Blue to her inside. Once past those two, Contested took a deep breath, nearly 6 lengths off Ullapool and 3 lengths behind Gypsy Robin through a half in 44.09. Out of

See **TEST** page 17 ►



Tod Marks

Contested coasts to the finish under California based Rafael Bejarano.

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■ Continued from page 16

the turn, Ullapool succumbed to Gypsy Robin as Contested swept three wide, ready to pounce. Like a tom cat, she roared past Gypsy Robin and kept to the task to win by 2 lengths over Gypsy Robin who held off Beautiful But Blue by a half-length. Contested finished 7 furlongs in 1:22.47.

In her four previous victories, Contested has done it both ways, stalking for two wins and streaking for two wins. Barnes expected what she gave.

"She doesn't need to be sent, she can break and sit just off the leaders, you have to leave it up to Rafael, play the break, if you happen to catch a flyer, so be it, if you don't, just be patient and give her a chance to win," Barnes said Friday morning. "The outside post helps, if you're down on the inside, you have to play your hand, being on the outside, I like that a lot."

Bejarano loved it. Aboard for the first time, he didn't gun nor did he defend, allowing Contested to pick her way through the 7-furlong stakes like a proper even-money shot, keeping her in the clear throughout.

"After the break, I saw those two horses, they ran away from the gate, I tried to save my position, just stay right behind them and hoped she would come running," Bejarano said. "The way it turned out, it benefitted me when she broke like that, it was good for me when those two horses ran away like that, I was in a perfect position, save a little bit and I assume



Contested (left) makes her move turning for home.

Tod Marks

she would show me a big kick when they turned for home. I knew they were the only two horses that could probably put any pressure on me, I try not to send right away, try to do whatever

she was comfortable."

As for Barnes, he's due to leave Sunday night with Contested and Liaison. He won't be gone long.

"We'll come back with The Factor

for the Forego, I'll go home Sunday night and come back Thursday. I'll just do my laundry, get a fresh load of clothes, and put it back in the suitcase. I'm used to it, so it's not a big deal."



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Zagora soaks in the glory after breaking track record.

Tod Marks

French Toast

Zagora sets course record in Grade 2 score

BY JOE CLANCY

French bloodstock agent Michel Zerolo was on the phone, but he might have heard Martin Schwartz in Paris anyway.

"One-thirty-nine. Flat! Can you believe it?" Schwartz bellowed while bounding from the boxes to the winner's circle after the Ballston Spa Stakes Saturday. "A new track record, Michel. She blew them away. She's going on."

Schwartz owns Zagora, bought her from Zerolo, and the 5-year-old mare did in fact set a track record in the 1 1/16-mile Ballston Spa – blasting past Summer Soiree in the stretch to win by 1 1/2 lengths over Hungry Island in 1:39.07. Summer Soiree held third in the \$250,000 Grade 2.

Zagora won for the fourth time in six starts this year and once again made a believer out of Brown.

"She had put in two breezes that I would term excellent and I'm a stickler for giving out grades on my horses that work," said the trainer. "Her last two

BALLSTON SPA STAKES RECAP

since the Diana I graded excellent. I expected her to run really well. Can you ever predict a horse is going to break a track record? No, never, but she was spectacular."

The French-bred daughter of Green Tune came into the race off a third behind Winter Memories and Dream Peace in the Diana here July 28. Trying to repeat her score in the Grade 1, Zagora didn't show quite as much late punch as she normally does in the defeat thanks in part to a 10-week layoff with a splint, some soft (ish) turf and salty competition.

Everything went better Saturday.

Zagora settled off the pace of Summer Soiree, who blazed through early fractions of 23.70 seconds for a quarter-mile, 46.35 for the half and 1:09.44 for 6 furlongs. She led by 3 lengths early, followed by Tapitsfly, Thundering

See **BALLSTON SPA** page 20 ►

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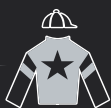
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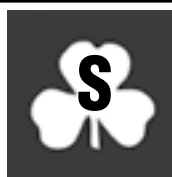


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Ballston Spa —

■ Continued from page 18

Emilia and Zagora to the inside. Ramon Dominguez didn't ask for anything until late on the final turn and she responded. Off the corner, Zagora leveled off and went after the leader — taking over in mid-stretch, stopping the clock at 1:33.13 for the mile (which would have been a record), and turning aside Hungry Island's late rally.

"The race set up good, it always helps when Winter Memories is not in the race, but she did everything great, when I went for her, she finished up really nice for me," said Dominguez. "I was confident, you never know how they're really going to respond the last part but if I had to guess just judging by how well she was taking me, I was very happy how she was handling the opening the two fillies had on me, on firm ground, they were close to each other, I figured they had to be going quick."

The final time broke the mark of 1:39.92, set by Leroidesanimaux (whom Brown worked with while in Bobby Frankel's barn) in 2005.

Zagora opened 2012 with back-to-back wins at Tampa Bay Downs and was fifth in the Grade 1 Jenny Wiley at Keeneland. She came back to win the Gallorette at Pimlico on Preakness Day

and briefly went to the sidelines.

"She had a splint and lost some time," said Schwartz. "She only had four breezes and she was a little flat in the Diana. I'm very proud of her and happy for her because I had to listen last time that she'd lost a step. She hasn't lost a step."

Brown lauded the mare's power in the stretch, and was happy to see it return.

"In hindsight it's easy to see now and for what it's worth the two fillies that finished ahead of her in the Diana are pretty damn good," said the trainer. "But she's like a keg of dynamite. When she's right, she packs a powerful punch."

Dominguez rode Zagora twice in 2011, both narrow defeats, and was aboard for the Diana. The jockey appreciated getting into the win column.

"She always ran well for me but not good enough to win, so it feels good," Dominguez said. "After I rode her in Tampa (a neck defeat in March 2011), I wished I waited a little bit longer, she might have made the lead briefly and it seemed like she wandered around a little bit. She really has matured, I saw her win at Pimlico and her win at Tampa with Javier (this year). I knew she didn't stop. I wasn't really concerned about that any more. That day, I looked back and said, 'I wish I waited.' The other times, not."

Hey Chad Brown, what's Zagora's best distance?

"People ask me about the Breeders' Cup (filly and mare turf). I don't think so. The mile-and-a-quarter paces her out too much and she can't use that burst. A mile and a sixteenth, a mile and an eighth is her."

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TUESDAY • 9/11

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Out of 1/2 to GSWs HURRICANE BERTIE and ALLAMERICAN BERTIE
- 285 c **ARCH** — Seeking Silence
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Out of 1/2 to GSW RUSH BAY and 2012 SP Miss Inclined

WEDNESDAY • 9/12

- 697 f **HARLAN'S HOLIDAY** — Dina Gold
1/2 to G1P Emerald Gold and SP Blading Gold Ring
- 739 f **MALIBU MOON** — Erhu
Out of GSP 1/2 to GSP; family of UNFURL THE FLAG (G1)

THURSDAY • 9/13

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Full or 1/2 to 2012 SP Tensas Cold Front and SW TENSAS CAT
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- 955 c **CURLIN** — Lucky Soph
1/2 to SW/GSP young sire LUCKY PULPIT and SP Drewman
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Book One Yearlings

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Fun Summer

Weaver barn gets back on board with maiden score

BY TOM SANTOMARCO

Things hadn't been going so well for George Weaver after eight early wins at the meet. Some horses the trainer thought would bring home victories instead left him scratching his head in wonder.

How quickly things can change.

A relieved Weaver marched out of the clubhouse and pumped his fist as he made it to the winner's circle after his filly Summer Of Fun eked out a win in the sixth.

The 2 year-old's first career win might have come sooner, but her first start was moved off the turf here on Aug. 5 and Weaver thought she fell victim to circumstance in that one.

"We struggled a bit with the decision to run her or scratch her last time because she's not as good on the dirt," Weaver said. "Ultimately we figured she'd get some fitness out of it and hoped she'd come out of it well and she did."

Owned by Bona Venture Stable, the 11-1 shot ran



Tod Marks

Summer Of Fun and Eddie Castro cruise to the finish in Saturday's sixth.

strongly throughout the 1 1/16-mile turf race, sitting third after a 48.81-second opening half-mile and taking the lead with some cushion as they hit the stretch.

The Kentucky-bred gave some of that lead back to Wave Theory, but held on to win it by a neck in 1:42.86.

"She did get a little leg-weary late and there was cause for concern in the last 50 yards," Weaver said, "but she ran the race I expected her to run today and should have some things to say about the rest of the 2-year-old filly turf season."

See **SATURDAY RECAP** page 24 ►

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Tod Marks
Cornelio Velasquez
aboard longshot
winner Alarmed
Ndangerous.



Saturday Recap —

■ Continued from page 23

As for snapping his personal slide, Weaver smiled and said, "It feels good and I've only got one running, so I won't get beat today."

- After eight career starts without a win dating to last September, Alarmed Ndangerous can now walk confidently back to the barn as the winner of two straight at the Spa.

In fact, he can boast all he wants after winning the seventh, a New York-bred allowance, at 25-1. Not a shabby showing this month for a 3-year-old trainer Linda Rice says still has progress to make.

"He's been a lot of fun to be with," Rice said. "He's got a very kind and gentle mind and he's learning to run and be a real competitor."

Owned by Rideau Racers, the gelding benefited from starting on the inside and stalked the pace for almost the whole 1 1/16 miles on the inner turf.

When they neared the finish, the top four pulled a reversal, with the winner moving to the front and edging out favored Gossip Column by a neck.

"Cornelio (Velasquez) rode him beautifully just like last time and the horse has a really nice finishing kick," Rice said.

- Optimizer's win in the eighth was so satisfying to D. Wayne Lukas that the trainer was willing to share it with

anyone who'd come along for the ride. The Hall of Famer grabbed a pair of youngsters out of the crowd to greet the colt in the winner's circle after his first win since breaking his maiden here last summer.

It wasn't so much the win that surprised Lukas as it was the way the 3 year-old won it: wire-to-wire.

"It wasn't the kind of race I expected from him," he said, "but a lot of times we over-coach. I was real pleased that Joel (Rosario) just let him run."

The son of English Channel was impressive after breaking sharply out of the gate. Leading the whole way, he increased his advantage as they turned for home and won the 1 3/16-mile turf race by 2 1/4 lengths.

"He's been on the wrong surface all spring," Lukas conceded. "He's a grass horse and he's got a great future."

Owned and bred by Bluegrass Hall, Optimizer ran in all three Triple Crown races this spring, plus four other dirt stakes to start the year.

- The last race of the day had little chance of matching the race that preceded it, but winning trainer Charlie Lopresti was ecstatic nonetheless, especially after his first attempt to run Kris Royal here.

"I messed up and had the wrong shoes on him, so they scratched him," Lopresti said, "but I don't think he'd have beat the winner that day anyway."

Lopresti said the 4-year-old had been training well since then and that he was

See **SATURDAY RECAP** page 25 ►

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Saturday Recap —

Continued from page 24

optimistic heading into the 1 1/16-mile turf race for maidens. Owner Donna Arnold's gelding proved Lopresti right. Though he and Julien Leparoux sat toward the back of the field most of the way, Kris Royal came on strong when called on, moving from sixth to the lead as they neared the finish. He got home ahead of Rollingwiththetide by a length. "He really kicked at the end," Lopresti said. "When he got to rolling, he got to rolling pretty good."

Rigby picked up his second straight win for owner Mark Lewis and trainer Steve Asmussen in the fifth, a 7-furlong allowance on the main track. As he watched the replay in the clubhouse, the trainer said he was more impressed with the 5-year-old this time out because of the field he beat. "He overcame more today," Asmussen said. "He just ran really well." Rigby began to make a move as pacesetter Ascauga started to fade, moving from fifth to first in the 13-horse field at the stretch. He won it in by 2 1/2 lengths over Reload in 1:22.04 to get Ramon Dominguez his second straight win. "You know real well the second time," Asmussen said as he re-watched the last 50 yards. "It's funny, when you watch a race live and you're in front you always feel like you're getting caught, but he had it and I'd say he's never been better."



Optimizer bags his first victory since his maiden win in yesterday's eighth race.

Tod Marks

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WROTE (IRE)	Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf-Gr.1
ST NICHOLAS ABBEY (IRE)	Breeders' Cup Turf-Gr.1
TOGETHER (IRE)	Queen Elizabeth II Challenge-Gr.1
SARAH LYNX (IRE)	Canadian International Stakes-Gr.1
MISS KELLER (IRE)	E.P. Taylor Stakes-Gr.1
WIGMORE HALL (IRE)	Northern Dancer Breeders' Cup Turf Stakes-Gr.1
CAPE BLANCO (IRE)	Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational Stakes-Gr.1
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	Stakes Wins	Stakes Winners	Graded Stakes Wins	Individual Gr. Winners
Team Valor International	9	6	4	3
Eclipse TB Partners	5	4	2	1
Pinnacle Racing	4	2	3	2
Peachtree	3	3	2	2
Starlight	3	3	2	2
Dream Team Stable	2	2	1	1
Donegal Racing	1	1	1	1
Class Racing	1	1	1	1
Let's Go Stable	1	1	1	1
Thoroughbred Legends	1	1	1	1
West Point	1	1	1	1
Three Chimneys	1	1	0	0
Dogwood	1	1	0	0
IEAH	1	1	0	0
Live Your Dreams	1	1	0	0
Majestic Racing	1	1	0	0
Summit Racing	1	1	0	0
Blinkers On	1	1	0	0
Bongo	0	0	0	0
Centennial	0	0	0	0
Fantasy Lane Stable	0	0	0	0
Funky Monkey Stable	0	0	0	0
Magdalena Racing	0	0	0	0
Parting Glass Racing	0	0	0	0
Sackatoga Stable	0	0	0	0
Sovereign	0	0	0	0
Starview	0	0	0	0
Thoroughbred Futures	0	0	0	0

Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones, from reports from Bloodstock Journal and TDN. Stats are current through August 7, 2012.



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SATURDAY'S SARATOGA WINNERS • PHOTOS BY TOD MARKS



1 Brigand



2 Honorable Dillon



3 Slamarama



4 Cinematize



5 Rigby



6 Summer of Fun



7 Alarmed Ndangerous



8 Optimizer



Contested 10



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Pair of Queens

Royal Delta meets It's Tricky in Grade 1 showdown

All meet, she's stopped traffic – heading from Barn 78 (not 80) to the Oklahoma track, strolling on the walking ring, crossing Union Avenue for a visit to the main track, staring down visitors while getting a bath, paddock schooling in the afternoon, leaning on the reins attached to the old-school snake bit – and today she shows why.

Champion Royal Delta runs in the Grade 1 Personal Ensign, looking to continue to cement her glowing reputation, and build on a career that already includes victories in the Black Eyed Susan, Alabama, Breeders' Cup Ladies Classic, Fleur de Lis and Delaware Handicap. Besilu Stable's 4-5 shot breaks from post four in a field of six that also includes Grade 1 winner It's Tricky.

Trainer Bill Mott has trained plenty of good horses, and realizes Royal Delta is reaching rare air.

"It makes it exciting, and it's nice to have a horse that they're following," he said early in the meet. "The excitement builds for one like this. You start to feel like 'Oh boy, I've got a responsibility.' She deserves it though."



Tod Marks

Royal Delta sports her Delaware Handicap prize on the backside Saturday.

That she does. Royal Delta ranks near the top of the barn area when it comes to followings thanks to seven career wins and more than \$2.2 million earned from a dozen starts. She's won in New York, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware. The excitement ramped up here last summer when she won the Alabama, knocking off It's Tricky.

Royal Delta won her career debut and only start as juvenile in a 12-length laugh-off going a mile at Belmont in October 2010. Her 2011 campaign started in March at Tampa and built into a championship campaign with an allowance win at Keeneland, then

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 30 ►

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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 28

the Black Eyed Susan. Third to It's Tricky in the 9-furlong Coaching Club American Oaks here last summer, she avenged that defeat going an extra furlong in the Alabama — powering away late by 5 1/2 lengths. Older filly Havre de Grace took care of the upstart in the Beldame last fall, but Royal Delta rebounded with another huge effort to win the Breeders' Cup Ladies Classic.

Those achievements all came for her breeder Palides Investments, whose owner Prince Saud bin Khaled passed away in February 2011. Sold to Besilu at Keeneland for \$8.5 million, Royal Delta went back to Mott with eyes on a 2012 campaign. The Dubai World Cup was the goal and she started with a rough-trip second in the Sabin at Gulfstream Park in late February. Ninth in Dubai a month later, she returned with a vengeance — winning the Grade 2 Fleur de Lis with ease at Churchill Downs June 16. Next came a trip to Delaware Park, where Royal Delta worked hard to win the Grade 2 Delaware Handicap by a neck over today's rival Tiz Miz Sue. Heavily favored that day, she had to work with a wide trip on the far turn and a gutsy effort in the stretch.

"A lot of her wins she's won fairly easily and we weren't quite sure how she'd handle it if someone looked her in the eye," said Mott. "She handled it really well because they looked her in the eye. She withstood the challenge. She made a premature move, but Mike (Smith) had to go when he did. Jeremy



Tod Marks

It's Tricky aims for her fourth consecutive win in the Personal Ensign.

Rose took him to the seven path on the turn."

Since then, she's trained like Kara Goucher — putting in the miles at Oklahoma, entertaining the breakfast crowd on the main track at least once and working 5 furlongs twice and a half-mile once. The latter drew a bullet after 48 2/5 seconds over the Oklahoma track. She carries top weight of 124

pounds, one more than It's Tricky and up to 10 more than the others.

— Joe Clancy

• Saturday morning at Greentree, eight horsemen bantered about the decision to bypass Friday's Ballerina and aim for Sunday's Personal Ensign with Godolphin's It's Tricky. Shorten her up and take on Turbulent Descent going 7

furlongs or stretch her out and take on Royal Delta going 9 furlongs.

The decision had already been made, but it was still fun to ponder.

In mid-conversation, It's Tricky broke into a canter, ears flicking, looking to the right, the daughter of Mineshaft sauntered into her tranquil exercise, leaving assistant Trish McLaughlin on the pony. Birds chirped, geese grazed, the only thing missing was James Herriot. A lap later, the eight-time winner had stretched into her efficient stride, sealing her final preparation before today's Grade 1 stakes.

"It was a jump ball," said trainer Kiaran McLaughlin about choosing the Personal Ensign. "A tough decision, a really tough decision."

Favorite Turbulent Descent won the Ballerina but didn't overwhelm anyone while doing it. Seen and noted.

"After watching the race, I think Turbulent Descent waits when she gets to the lead, she might pull herself up," McLaughlin said. "You don't know how we would have done, but we would have been right there, it looked like. But, that's behind us, we'll go forward."

Whether she's in the right race or not can still be debated, her readiness cannot. Coming off a three-month layoff and riding a three-stakes win streak, It's Tricky tries to avenge two defeats to Royal Delta last year. The eventual 3-year-old filly champion stamped her arrival, handing It's Tricky a 5 1/2-length defeat in the Alabama. Two races later, Royal Delta handled It's Tricky again, this time taking her down

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 33 ►

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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 30

by 2 1/2 lengths in the Breeders' Cup Ladies Classic.

The 3-year-old fillies handily defeated their elders and promised big things this year, though they've gone separate routes.

While Royal Delta was globetrotting to Dubai, It's Tricky was devouring the New York-based fillies and mares, taking the Top Flight, Distaff Handicap and Ogden Phipps. The latter occurred at the end of May. McLaughlin had a choice to go to the Delaware Handicap but opted to avoid shipping It's Tricky from her Saratoga base. Eddie Castro will try to navigate a spot from the rail, somehow avoiding a speed duel with front-runners Brushed By A Star and Love And Pride, drawn directly outside her, while finding a position in front of Royal Delta, breaking from post 4 under Mike Smith.

"The post position isn't great, having speed right outside us, I hope Eddie can work out a good trip," McLaughlin said. "We hope we can get a jump on Royal Delta. We have a lot of respect for her, but hopefully we're better than her on the day. She's doing great, we missed a race because there wasn't a race in between, except the Delaware Handicap which was tough to do with her, we just decided not to do that and come here, she's doing fabulous."

— Sean Clancy

Fans darted through Saratoga's front side Saturday morning. Some ran, some jogged, some had one shoe, some had no shoes, some stood confused and others sat and recorded the spectacle on their phones. As the commotion roared for Travers Day, stall 1 of Eoin Harty's barn on the backside was empty. The occupant, Tiz Miz Sue, was in a trailer stall instead with her trainer Steve Hobby behind the wheel for the four-hour hike from Monmouth Park, N.J.

Her last start in the Delaware Handicap against Royal Delta left viewers hanging to the edge of their seats, one eye open, one eye squinted. Tiz Miz Sue rumbled down the lane like a freight train to try and catch the heavy favorite. Jockey Joe Rocco Jr. tried, Tiz Miz Sue tried, but Royal Delta was the relentless victor by a neck.

"She had a great trip, she was in a great spot the whole way," said Hobby. "Joe rode a perfect race. The other filly just wouldn't let us by. You know she got to her but Royal Delta just dug right back in at the end."

The 5-year-old daughter of Tiznow has only won two races in the past two years, but shows game efforts against the division's elite. Owned and bred by CresRan LLC, Tiz Miz Sue has never crossed the finish line worse than third for Rocco.

"I think she's as good as she's ever been right now," said Hobby, who twice shipped into Saratoga and won the Grade 1 Sword Dancer with Telling. "The biggest thing was getting her to relax earlier in the races, it's always been a problem with her. She's sometimes a little rank early. If she relaxes early, she always has a lot better finish. The other day she settled right in and relaxed, had a nice finish. Joe knows her well, he's very confident in her."

Hobby hopes his mare can grab a good position early and relax throughout.

"There's three in there with pretty good speed, hopefully they go and we can tuck in early, get behind horses early because she'll relax better that way," said Hobby. "I imagine that Royal Delta will probably be ahead of us, we'll probably sit next or next to last and hopefully it just goes a lot like the last one when Royal Delta goes ahead of us and we try to wrestle her at the end."

Tiz Miz Sue enters the race as third choice at 6-1 and breaks from the outside.

— Gabby Gaudet

Todd Pletcher takes the blinkers off Love And Pride, who finished fourth in the Delaware Handicap after winning the Grade 3 Obeah over Tiz Miz Sue at Delaware. Owned by Green Hills Farm, the daughter of A.P. Indy is 12-1 for John Velazquez. R Gypsy Gold also runs for Pletcher, off a second to today's rival Brushed By A Star in the Grade 2 Molly Pitcher at Monmouth Park. Javier Castellano rides for E. Paul Robsham Stable. Brushed By A Star seeks her fourth consecutive win for trainer Grant Forster. The 4-year-old daughter of Eddington won an allowance at Churchill in May, a stakes at Prairie Meadows in June and the Molly Pitcher in July. Corey Nakatani rides.



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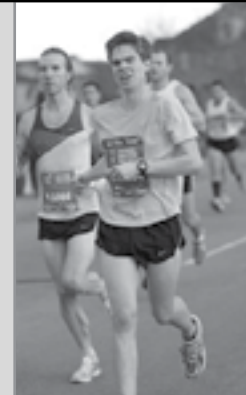
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2	2	Speedy's Gal	E. Castro	D. Donk	5-1
3	3	She Drives Me Wild	J. Espinoza	W. Turner, Jr.	30-1
4	4	Who Is Lady	C. Velasquez	M. Miceli	6-1
5	5	The Silver Machine	I. Ortiz, Jr.	G. Sciacca	20-1
6	6	Classical Fashion	D. Cohen	G. Contessa	10-1
7	7	Cindy's Joy	R. Maragh	J. Carroll	8-1
8	8	Kittylicious	S. Bridgmohan	G. Sciacca	30-1
9	9	Proudroad to Glory	J. Lezcano	M. Matz	3-1
10	10	Missysmoonlitmagic	E. Prado	D. Galluscio	12-1
11	11	Dancin Perfect	A. Solis	B. Brown	15-1
12	12	Stray Bullet	R. Dominguez	D. Jacobson	6-1
13	AE	Another Please	J. Leparoux	J. Kimmel	5-1
14	AE	Princess Maura	E. Prado	R. Schosberg	6-1
15	MTO	Jardenia	J. Castellano	M. Maker	4-1
16	MTO	Sarah's Kitten	R. Napravnik	P. Walder	7-2

2ND (1:32PM). \$80,000, MSW, 2 YO, F, 6F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Sign	R. Napravnik	A. Stall, Jr.	8-1
2	2	Apologize	S. Bridgmohan	M. Matz	4-1
3	3	Honor Bright	R. Dominguez	T. Pletcher	4-1
4	4	Marcellina d'Oro	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	3-1
5	5	Jet Away	J. Velazquez	C. McGaughey III	10-1
6	6	Seven Dreams	I. Ortiz, Jr.	E. Arroyo	30-1
7	7	Lenderoflastresort	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	5-2
8	8	Graceful Rage	D. Cohen	R. Moquett	12-1

3RD (2:04PM). \$60,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Talmadge Hill	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	6-1
2	2	Thescreenisred	J. Castellano	C. Brown	5-2
3	3	White Sangria	J. Leparoux	T. Bush	5-1
4	4	Pegasus Diamond	I. Ortiz, Jr.	L. O'Brien	10-1
5	5	Artie R R	A. Garcia	P. Kelly	30-1
6	6	Princess Jenny	R. Dominguez	H. Bond	4-1
7	7	Sharpendwitty	S. Husbands	D. Figueroa	30-1
8	8	Given Fire	R. Maragh	S. Benzel	12-1
9	9	Desert Bliss	J. Alvarado	J. Englehart	12-1
10	10	Sweet Penny	W. Garcia	G. DiSanto	15-1
11	11	Silent No More	D. Davis	P. Simeone	30-1
12	12	Carey Princess	M. Studart	N. Chatterpaul	10-1
13	AE	A. P. Hutchy	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	2-1
14	AE	Drinksonthehouse	J. Lezcano	M. Trombetta	3-1

4TH (2:36PM). \$100,000, STK - THE CLEVER ELECTRICIAN, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Sailmate	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	5-2
2	2	Law Enforcement	J. Velazquez	M. Hennig	15-1
3	3	Socialsaul	J. Castellano	G. Contessa	10-1
4	4	Mine Over Matter	J. Lezcano	M. Hushion	4-1
5	5	Be Bullish	R. Dominguez	B. Brown	5-1
6	6	Fiddlers Afleet	A. Garcia	D. Jacobson	3-1
7	7	Johannesburg Smile	C. Velasquez	D. Galluscio	4-1

5TH (3:08PM). \$65,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Status of Forces	O. Hernandez	S. Torelli	20-1
2	2	Mr Cowboy	R. Dominguez	H. Bond	5-2
3	3	Hope Still Springs	E. Castro	B. Brown	10-1
4	4	Tricked Out Tux	C. Montalvo	R. Lugovich	30-1
5	5	Breathaway	J. Lezcano	G. Sacco	3-1
6	6	Search Engine	J. Velazquez	M. Nihei	12-1
7	7	Call Up the Chief	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Toscano, Jr.	12-1
8	8	Current Aquasition	R. Maragh	J. Kimmel	15-1
9	9	Lawyer Jim	A. Solis	L. Lewis	12-1
10	10	Big Guy	J. Castellano	B. Levine	6-1
11	11	Lord of Love	W. Garcia	J. Hertler	5-1
12	MTO	Bake Shop	R. Napravnik	T. Bush	4-1
13	MTO	Papa Tom	W. Garcia	R. Ubillo	5-1

6TH (3:41PM). \$60,000, MSW, 2 YO, F, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1	1	Red Hook	J. Velazquez	D. Schettino	4-1
2	2	Patrona Elizabeth	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	3-1
3	3	Heidi's Holiday	J. Alvarado	E. Harty	6-1
4	4	Bebes Passion	J. Espinoza	E. Arroyo	30-1
5	5	Daisysgonnamakeit	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	6-1
6	6	Stellerite	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Donk	12-1
7	7	With Honorandgrace	R. Dominguez	H. Motion	7-2
8	8	Stone Broke	J. Castellano	B. Levine	4-1
9	AE	Mononoke	M. Luzzi	C. Martin	6-1
10	AE	Polan	W. Garcia	J. Coronel	7-2
11	AE	Uncaged Heart	S. Bridgmohan	R. Nicks	12-1
12	AE	Spinit to Winit	R. Napravnik	J. Kimmel	4-1
13	AE	Carla Sweetrevenge	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Englehart	5-1
14	AE	True Fortune	J. Alvarado	G. Weaver	6-1

7TH (4:14PM). \$36,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Paci Di Notte	J. Ortiz	G. Sciacca	10-1
2	2	War Hitch	J. Castellano	B. Levine	4-1
3	3	Davins Ticket	E. Castro	M. LeCesse	20-1
4	4	Troubleinrivercity	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Parisella	15-1
5	5	Alternative	A. Garcia	W. Badgett, Jr.	15-1
6	6	Terminus	J. Alvarado	G. Gullo	15-1
7	7	Nick Rules	W. Garcia	B. Parboo	8-1
8	8	Restructuring Plan	R. Maragh	T. Pompay	5-1
9	9	Mr E Philip	J. Lezcano	E. Kenneally	9-2
10	10	Half Lucky	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	7-2
11	11	El Cuadro	S. Husbands	D. Farrell	20-1
12	12	Tiny Predicament	D. Cohen	S. Klesaris	12-1
13	AE	Plotter	J. Alvarado	D. Schettino	15-1
14	AE	Turn Up the Music	R. Dominguez	H. Bond	6-1
15	AE	Dutyhonorcountry	C. Velasquez	C. Englehart	15-1
16	MTO	Rex's Last Tour	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Englehart	4-1

8TH (4:48PM). \$38,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Monastir	C. Velasquez	R. Stoklosa	6-1
2	2	Screenplay	W. Garcia	J. Terranova, II	5-1
3	3	Pleasant Run	D. Cohen	K. McPeck	4-1
4	4	Sr. Henry	J. Lezcano	R. Rodriguez	5-1
5	5	Tiger Willie	J. Espinoza	D. Shivmangal	30-1
6	6	Big Sky Posse	J. Ortiz	G. DiPrima	20-1
7	7	Ronin Dax	J. Castellano	M. Maker	6-1
8	8	Fastest Magician	J. Alvarado	A. Quartarolo	15-1
9	9	Powhatan County	R. Dominguez	C. Englehart	10-1
10	10	Recharged	M. Studart	N. Chatterpaul	20-1
11	11	Tawaared	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Barbara	9-2
12	12	Bold Vindication	E. Prado	G. Sciacca	30-1
13	AE	Foolish Tiger	E. Castro	T. Bush	20-1
14	AE	Alcomatch	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Toscano, Jr.	15-1
15	MTO	Seniors Pride	C. Velasquez	T. Pletcher	1-1
16	MTO	Settle for Medal	M. Luzzi	R. Schosberg	4-1

9TH (5:22PM). \$90,000, AOC \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 3/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Barocci (JPN)	J. Leparoux	C. Clement	9-5
2	2	Share Out	R. Maragh	T. Wyatt	20-1
3	3	Followmyfootsteps	R. Dominguez	T. Voss	5-1
4	4	Bombaguaia	E. Prado	J. Kimmel	6-1
5	5	Westside Corral	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Toscano, Jr.	20-1
6	6	Mahubo (SAF)	R. Napravnik	K. McLaughlin	2-1
7	7	Eversoul	J. Caraballo	M. Aro	12-1
8	8	Canaveral (GB)	J. Velazquez	J. Elliot	12-1
9	MTO	Most Happy Fella	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	2-1
10	MTO	Ea		D. Jacobson	5-2

10TH (5:56PM). \$600,000, STK - THE PERSONAL ENSIGN INVITATION-AL, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

1	1	It's Tricky	E. Castro	K. McLaughlin	2-1
2	2	Brushed by a Star	C. Nakatani	G. Forster	15-1
3	3	Love and Pride	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	12-1
4	4	Royal Delta	M. Smith	W. Mott	4-5
5	5	R Gypsy Gold	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	15-1
6	6	Tiz Miz Sue	J. Rocco, Jr.	S. Hobby	6-1

11TH (6:30PM). \$60,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta

1	1	Spondulix	I. Ortiz, Jr.	G. Sciacca	12-1
2	2	Shy Humor	J. Lezcano	M. Hennig	3-1
3	3	Sir Hollister	J. Laredo	F. Raia II	30-1
4	4	Trainingforsuccess	J. Espinoza	M. Friedman	12-1
5	5	Saguaro Blossom	A. Lezcano	J. Aquilino	20-1
6	6	Cameron Canyon	C. Velasquez	D. Galluscio	15-1
7	7	Chase On Home	W. Garcia	M. Shevy	30-1
8	8	Patti's Zip	M. Luzzi	G. DiSanto	20-1
9	9	Downgoesfrazier	J. Velazquez	C. Domino	8-1
10	10	Fair Trade	J. Alvarado	S. Benzel	5-2
11	11	Big Bro	R. Maragh	B. Brown	8-1
12	12	Owen Rico	J. Leparoux	T. Bush	6-1
13	AE	Verde Mont	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	2-1
14	AE	Dreamsgonewild	E. Castro	B. Alexander	4-1
15	AE	Sunshawn	E. Castro	G. Weaver	6-1
16	MTO	U Whippersnapper		W. Badgett, Jr.	8-1

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**Charles
Bedard**

Race #

1

Speedy's Gal
Proudroad to Glory
Night Brigade

Proudroad To Glory
Another Please
Stray Bullet

Night Brigade
Proudroad To Glory
Another Please

Who Is Lady
Speedy's Gal
Night Brigade

Night Brigade
Proudroad To Glory
Speedy's Gal

2

Marcellina d'Oro
Lenderoflastresort
Honor Bright

Lenderoflastresort
Apologize
Honor Bright

Jet Away
Marcellina d'Oro
Apologize

Lenderoflastresort
Apologize
Marcellina d' Oro

Marcellina d'Oro
Honor Bright
Lenderoflastresort

3

Thescreenisred
Princess Jenny
White Sangria

A.P. Hutchy
Thescreenisred
Princess Jenny

A.P. Hutchy
Thescreenisred
White Sangria

White Sangria
Talmadge Hill
Thescreenisred

A.P. Hutchy
Desert Bliss
Princess Jenny

4

Fiddlers Afleet
Mine Over Matter
Johannesburg Smile

Sailmate
Johannesburg Smile
Mine Over Matter

Sailmate
Fiddlers Afleet
Mine Over Matter

Fiddlers Afleet
Sailmate
Mine Over Matter

Mine Over Matter
Be Bullish
Johannesburg Smile

5

Mr Cowboy
Breathaway
Hope Still Springs

Mr Cowboy
Breathaway
Big Guy

Mr Cowboy
Search Engine
Breathaway

Big Guy
Mr Cowboy
Lord Of Love

Mr Cowboy
Call Up The Chief
Lord Of Love

6

Patrona Elizabeth
Stone Broke
Red Hook

Red Hook
With Honorandgrace
Heidi's Holiday

With Honorandgrace
Patrona Elizabeth
Heidi's Holiday

Stone Broke
Patrona Elizabeth
Red Hook

Patrona Elizabeth
Stone Broke
Heidi's Holiday

7

Restructuring Plan
War Hitch
Mr E Phillip

War Hitch
Restructuring Plan
Mr E Phillip

Half Lucky
Mr E Philip
War Hitch

Half Lucky
War Hitch
Paci Di Notte

Half Lucky
Mr E Phillip
Alternative

8

Pleasant Run
Sr. Henry
Screenplay

Pleasant Run
Tawaared
Sr. Henry

Screenplay
Sr. Henry
Powhatan County

Tawaared
Pleasant Run
Ronin Dax

Seniors Pride
Tawaared
Sr. Henry

9

Barocci
Mahubo
Bombagua

Barocci
Mahubo
Canaveral

Mahubo
Bombagua
Barocci

Barocci
Mahubo
Followmyfootsteps

Mahubo
Followmyfootsteps
Westside Corral

10

It's Tricky
Royal Delta
Tiz Miz Sue

Royal Delta
It's Tricky
R Gypsy Gold

It's Tricky
Royal Delta
Tiz Miz Sue

It's Tricky
Royal Delta
Tiz Miz Sue

Tiz Miz Sue
It's Tricky
Royal Delta

11

Verde Mont
Fair Trade
Shy Humor

Verde Mont
Fair Trade
Shy Humor

Verde Mont
Shy Humor
Patti's Zip

Owen Rico
Downgoesfrazier
Shy Humor

Fair Trade
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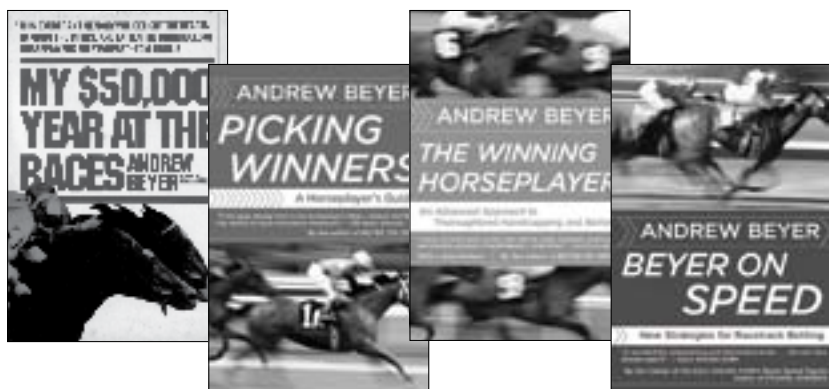
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MONDAY'S ENTRIES

Monday, August 27.

1ST (1:00PM). \$60,000, MSW, 2 YO, F, 5 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Uncaged Heart	S. Bridgmohan	R. Nicks	12-1
2	2	Spin it to Winit	J. Rosario	J. Kimmel	3-1
3	3	Bit Bustin	C. Montalvo	G. Contessa	8-1
4	4	Roses for Romney	J. Alvarado	T. Albertrani	10-1
5	5	True Fortune	J. Castellano	G. Weaver	7-2
6	6	Carla Sweetrevenge	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Englehart	6-1
7	7	Polan	W. Garcia	J. Coronel	7-2
8	8	Mononoke	M. Luzzi	C. Martin	6-1

2ND (1:33PM). \$95,000, AOC \$75,000, 3&UP, F&M, 1 1/16M (INN TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Counterparty	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	8-5
2	2	Federation (GB)	J. Leparoux	C. Clement	7-5
3	3	Prize Catch	E. Castro	A. Penna, Jr.	4-1
4	4	Sure Route (GB)	A. Garcia	R. Ribaud	15-1
5	5	The Underling	R. Maragh	D. Duggan	12-1
6	6	Arch Support	I. Ortiz, Jr.	G. Contessa	15-1
7	7	MTO Acting Happy	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	9-5

3RD (2:06PM). \$100,000, STK - THE ARISTIE, 2 YO, F, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Golden Fire	D. Cora	C. Crane	12-1
2	2	Westerday	C. Velasquez	D. Galluscio	15-1
3	3	My Smartness	R. Napravnik	R. Faucheux	10-1
4	4	Zekes Surprise	J. Castellano	D. Galluscio	5-2
5	5	Effie Trinket	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	2-1
6	6	Agilion	J. Rosario	J. Kimmel	8-5

4TH (2:39PM). \$40,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 6F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Perfect Embrace	J. Rosario	G. Gullo	7-2
2	2	Henny's Hurricane	A. Garcia	K. McPeck	4-1
3	3	Victoria Lynn	J. Castellano	R. Rodriguez	5-2
4	4	Santorini Moon	M. Studart	N. Terracciano	15-1
5	5	Magnificent Mia	R. Maragh	C. Englehart	5-1
6	6	Wildcat Aly	R. Dominguez	A. Dutrow	3-1

5TH (3:13PM). \$42,000, MCL \$35,000, 2 YO, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1	1	War Reigns	J. Castellano	C. Brown	7-2
2	2	Gladhander	R. Maragh	T. Albertrani	8-1
3	3	Denn Piper	I. Ortiz, Jr.	E. Arroyo	20-1
4	4	O' Frederica	R. Dominguez	A. Dutrow	3-1
5	5	Let's Have Us One	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	5-2
6	6	Utopian Wish	W. Garcia	D. Green	15-1
7	7	Candy Raider	J. Ortiz	J. Toscano, Jr.	12-1
8	8	One More Cat	J. Lezcano	M. Trombetta	5-1
9	AE	Go Get the Basil	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	8-1
10	AE	Yankee Mickey	J. Lezcano	R. Rodriguez	6-1
11	AE	Fierce Face	C. Velasquez	M. Vitali	10-1

6TH (3:47PM). \$40,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 & UP, 1 1/8M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Imperial Robyn	W. Garcia	D. Green	8-1
2	2	Myhorseofcourse	D. Cohen	R. Hess, Jr.	10-1
3	3	Slinger	J. Alvarado	R. Stoklosa	15-1
4	4	Parachute Coney	M. Luzzi	D. Galluscio	7-2
5	5	English Major	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	6-5
6	6	Giant Indian	J. Ortiz	F. Raia II	20-1
7	7	Vee One Rotate	A. Garcia	K. McPeck	5-1
8	8	See Me Proud	I. Ortiz, Jr.	P. Quick	8-1
9	9	MTO Springcourt		D. Jacobson	2-1

7TH (4:21PM). \$80,000, MSW, 2 YO, F, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	1	Forever Road	R. Napravnik	C. Domino	10-1
2	2	Neon Moon	J. Leparoux	G. Arnold, II	4-1
3	3	Judy G	J. Alvarado	B. Tagg	8-1
4	4	Joanne's Halo	C. Montalvo	C. Englehart	15-1
5	5	Speaking Role (GB)	R. Dominguez	H. Motion	5-2
6	6	Sensational Appeal	J. Rosario	M. Matz	8-1
7	7	Brief Reign	J. Velazquez	M. Nihei	3-1
8	8	Kalani	J. Castellano	C. Martin	6-1
9	AE	Indian Splendor	R. Napravnik	A. Dutrow	5-2
10	AE	Jane of All Trades	R. Dominguez	K. McLaughlin	2-1
11	AE	Ol Donyo	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Terranova, II	5-1
12	AE	Tie Dye	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	12-1

8TH (4:55PM). \$60,000, MSW, 2 YO, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Can't Catch Me Now	R. Dominguez	G. Gullo	5-1
2	2	James Jingle	E. Prado	P. Kelly	15-1
3	3	Saturday Appeal	D. Cohen	K. McPeck	8-1
4	4	Alcolite	R. Maragh	J. Antonucci	12-1
5	5	Leap	J. Velazquez	J. Kimmel	5-1
6	6	Comandante	R. Napravnik	C. Martin	5-2
7	7	Shot Rock	J. Rosario	B. Levine	3-1
8	8	Western Grit	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	6-1
9	AE	Hooked Forever	E. Castro	J. Ryerson	15-1

9TH (5:30PM). \$100,000, STK - SARATOGA DEW, 3 & UP, F&M, 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

1	1	Opus A	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	2-1
2	2	Alykela	W. Garcia	G. DiSanto	20-1
3	3	Ginger Snapit	E. Castro	G. Weaver	12-1
4	4	Great Gracie Dane	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	7-2
5	5	Go Unbridled	J. Alvarado	H. Jerkens	5-1
6	6	Fiftyfour Forever	J. Castellano	A. Quartarolo	8-1
7	7	Harbor Mist	E. Prado	P. Serpe	5-2

10TH (6:04PM). \$80,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta

1	1	Chief Gaga	W. Garcia	T. Johnson	12-1
2	2	Rockefeller (BRZ)	D. Cohen	K. McPeck	15-1
3	3	Gallant Breeze	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	8-1
4	4	Stellabymoonlight	J. Rosario	D. Romans	7-2
5	5	Filberto	R. Dominguez	W. Badgett, Jr.	12-1
6	6	Join Forces	R. Maragh	A. Penna, Jr.	8-1
7	7	Tricky Slam	J. Espinoza	J. Aquilino	12-1
8	8	Miss Suwanee	E. Prado	K. Ritvo	4-1
9	9	Loud Pipes	J. Castellano	M. Maker	3-1
10	10	Belvoir	J. Leparoux	H. Motion	8-1

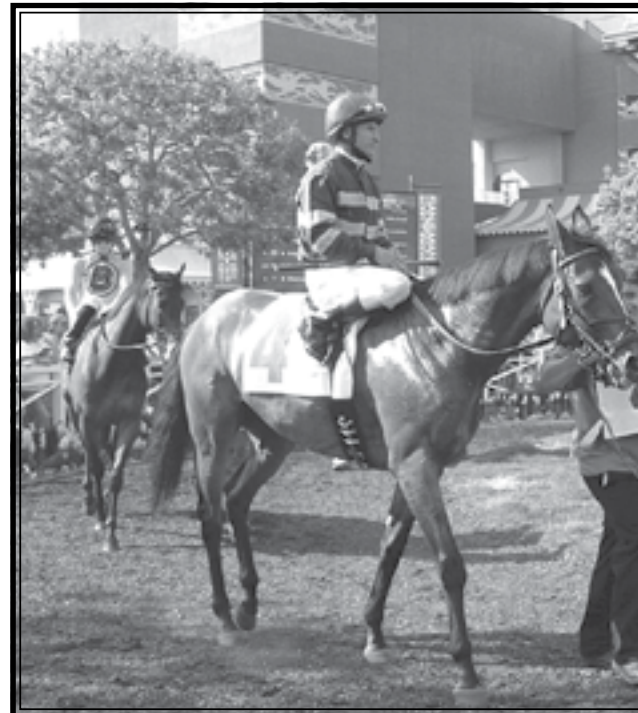
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Tod Marks

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John Velazquez and Todd Pletcher continued their successful spree, teaming up to win the Ballerina Friday with recent purchase Turbulent Descent. The Special caught up with the Hall of Fame jockey about the Grade 1 score.

The Special: *What was your plan?*

Velazquez: "We were looking to win that was the main thing, I think she waits a little when she gets there. I wanted to get the lead past the quarter pole, even to the three sixteenths pole, I was on the lead at the quarter pole, not the way I wanted it, but she ran great anyway."

The Special: *What did you learn when you breezed her?*

Velazquez: "Two horses were breezing from the gate, they came inside me and, boy, was she running off. There was nothing I could do, I had two horses inside and my company on my outside. It was supposed to be an easy half and we went way too fast the first quarter, then I let her gallop down the lane, I did it the opposite way, fast the first part and easy the second part. Then I breezed her on the training track. The last time she breezed, Todd didn't tell me she was breezing."

The Special: *What did you learn from the race?*

Velazquez: "I've been working her in the mornings so I know her a little bit, she doesn't break very good and then she wants to be a little aggressive in the middle of the pack. Just try to get her nice and relaxed without taking too much hold of her, let her do her own thing, got to the three eighths pole and we bumped with Ramon a couple of times, she got into the bridle a little too soon. It was probably my fault, I know she gets aggressive, I probably should have kept her away from him, she would have been a little more relaxed."

The Special: *How important is it to have Todd Pletcher's confidence?*

Velazquez: "I've been blessed for the people I work with, for him to give me the opportunity, to trust me, I knew I was going to ride her before I had even ridden at the meet yet. I came back and started working a couple of horses for Todd, she was probably the third or fourth horse I worked. To have that trust, I'm very thankful that he trusts me that much. He has to trust me."

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Son Day



by Sean Clancy

Miles is coming to town. He'll be on the golf cart, hopefully, late morning.

Can't wait until he meets all my friends . . .

Miles, meet Mr. Motion, Memo, Heather and the rest of the golf-cart storage center. They do a nice job with the carts, they also won the Derby.

That's Mr. Baker, you like his truck?

There's Wise Dan grazing under the trees. Yes, like your friend Dan.

This is the Morning Line Kitchen, son. This is where it all starts – trainers, owners, jockeys, agents, fans, gawkers and free-loaders cavort here each morning. If you ever need anything, ask the girls behind the counter. I'd trust them with your life.

Miles, this is Dennis. He runs the kitchen. He's Greek, like Momma.

Say hello to Mark Hennig. Yes, those are flames on his golf cart, and, no, we can't paint our cart. I know, it's cool.

Miles, meet the Chief. H. Allen Jerkens, the greatest trainer of our lifetime, spanning six decades, he's done it all. I wish I could send you over there to walk hot, meet Train Robber, Pay Check and Jimmy Rhodes, play touch football and ask him about Onion, Prove Out and Admiral Vee. Don't call him the Giant Killer, just call him Chief.

This is Clare Court, son. It's exactly 4/10ths of a mile around, five laps is 2 miles, it used to be a private

training center, see the carriage barn over there.

Miles, meet Mr. Hushion. Don't let him fool you, he's a nice guy, I swear.

Son, this is Fourstardave's gravestone. He was a legend, won a race here for eight straight years. He was the only horse I've ever seen who ran sideways when he was digging and trying at the end of a front-running masterpiece. Sure, you can touch it, don't scare the horse galloping.

Son, this is Mr. Violette. Don't ask him about Lasix. Miles, honey, it's just a tractor. No, you can't drive it. Come on, Miles, let's go see the horses. I know, it's a nice tractor, just like Charles' tractor. Miles, can we go for a walk? Yes, it's a John Deere, you're right. Come on, Miles, it's just a tractor.

Check out the pony. They call that a paint pony. Mr. Casse, this is Miles. Oh, boy he would like to sit in the saddle. No, you can't carry a whip. Grab the horn of the saddle, yes, I know goats have horns too. You like him?

There's Royal Delta, she runs today. Yes, she's big. Very big.

Miles, meet Doc Richardson, Brant and the Motors. They stand here every morning. Good guys.

Hey, Shug, meet Miles Clancy. Sure, you can pet Point Of Entry.

Let's walk over to the rail and see if we see Asateague train, she paid for your first year of college.

OK, let's go over to the Annex. This is where Mikey Smithwick was stabled, Mickey Walsh was over here under the trees, Burley Cocks had these stalls right here, everybody had pillows out front of the stalls. Pillows. Well, not like the ones on your bed, but straw pillows.

Yes, son, that man said a bad word. They all do. It's the racetrack and they can't help themselves.

Miles, this is Doc Cheney. You two will get along well. I can understand him most of the time, OK, some of the time.

Here's Rusty Arnold, Ralph Nicks, Phil Hauswald and Manu Davy. Yes, Manu. Like in your book? Well, kind of, I guess. I like his name too.

That's the hill. Lots of trucks and trailers, yes. They'll all be leaving soon.

Right or wrong, Mr. Zito. Right or wrong?

There's Clocker Bryan. He'll time you from the golf cart to the fruit truck . . . go.

Rocks. Yes, those are rocks. We don't need to put the rocks in the cart, really, Miles, let's leave the rocks where they are. One rock, that's all. OK, two rocks, no more . . .

There's The Paper Lady, Cuco, Tuba, Yo Yo, Shoe-shine Chico, Headband Lisa, Johnny V and Cat Feathers . . . yes, just like your book, Cat in the Hat Comes Back.

You like the music? That's DJ Eddie Barker.

Miles, meet Mr. Rushing and Mr. Dominguez, no, no, we do not need to hear The Dollar.

This is Leah, the Squirrel Lady. She has three squirrels. Um, no, I don't think we need a squirrel, son.

That's a water truck. You want to run behind it? Um, maybe tomorrow.

More tractors, they're harrowing the track for the afternoon races. Harrowing. Well, it's like a big rake, cleaning the track because the track is closed. The horses are all back in their stalls, resting.

Let's go to breakfast.

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