

The *Saratoga* *Special*



Year 10 • Issue 28

Saratoga's Daily Newspaper on Thoroughbred Racing

Friday, August 27, 2010



Love Man

Sermon Of Love leads 1-2 finish for Sheppard

Tod Marks

■ Get Stormy eyes Baruch • Thursday Racing Recap • Entries/Handicapping ■

here&there... at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

The Special quotes from Saratoga

"I've been coming here since 1976 with Mike Hernandez. I was a little kid and he's still training today."

Trainer Dominic Galluscio after Stormy's Majesty won the Albany Wednesday

"That's who I love, I don't trust anybody else."

Trainer John Parisella, after someone was called a degenerate gambler

"See what I'm dealing with out here?"

Walter Blum Jr. as he passed a novice rider yelling at her horse Thursday morning

"Rudy. Rudy. Rudy."

Chant as trainer Rudy Rodriguez rode past on a horse Thursday morning

"We've got a lot of good ones and a lot of bad ones. Nothing in between."

Trainer Rick Dutrow Thursday morning

Weather

Today: Sunny. High 74.

Tonight: Clear. Low 50.

Saturday: Sun and clouds.
High in the low 80s. Low in the upper 50s.

Sunday: Sunshine. High in the mid 80s. Low in the 60s.

Take A Number

5 People looking for themselves in a 'Were you there?' poster commemorating Rachel Alexandra's 2009 Woodward victory.



Tod Marks

16-16 Exacta Box. Paddock schoolers donned the same numbers while practicing Thursday afternoon.

The **SARATOGA** Special

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

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"Sounds like Harry Bassett."

Racing fan Jim Howard, comparing Monday-Thursday winner El Real Madrid to recent 1860s Hall of Fame inductee

"That's a nice train on your newspaper."

Young Special reader, who liked the back cover advertisement featuring the Sallee horse van (that looks like a train)

Names of the Day

Holy Place, 10th race. The 3-year-old filly, owned by Starlight Partners, is by Pulpit out of Sacre Coeur (Sacred Heart in French).

Johnny Dipp, on the menu at Isabel's Bistro. Named after The Special's John

Panagot, the sandwich features thinly sliced Isabel's roasted beef with swiss and tomato pressed in the panini and served with a side of au jus.

License Plate of the Day

RACES, Virginia

Just Sayin'

"I figured it out – she used to bet \$2 to win on every horse in the race so she had to hit a longshot every now and then."

Racetrack Chaplaincy's Mike DeSano, whose mother's nickname was "Longshot Eva"

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Storm Chasers

Favorite casts a large shadow on turf stakes

BY SEAN CLANCY

Every morning, Tom Bush checks the portable rail of the inner turf. Every day, he calls the racing office to see the intent. Up until Thursday, the rail had been moved from 18 feet to 9 feet. Bush wanted and expected 9 more.

Management promises the rail will be down for today's Bernard Baruch. Bush promises to run Get Stormy, morning-line favorite in the Grade II turf stakes.

Mary Sullivan's homebred streaks into the \$200,000 stakes fresh off a win in the Grade II Fourstardave. The victory erased a poor effort at Woodbine, where Get Stormy faded to fourth in the Grade II King Edward, the only blemish in his last seven starts.

The front-running son of Stormy Atlantic attempts 9 furlongs for the first time in his career. His game is speed and he'll need to carry his weapon another sixteenth of a mile. That's why Bush wanted fresh turf on the inside hedge.



Tod Marks

Get Stormy charges into the Bernard Baruch with six wins in his last seven starts.

"I've been in discussion with them all week, this horse may not run if that rail doesn't come down. I can run him at Monmouth going a mile," Bush said. "I want the best surface, it's not so much the distance, I want the best surface, I don't want anything to happen to him. If you take the rail down, everybody's going to run on good turf. That's what they're supposed to do. Take it down for the Grade II and put it back up, that's OK with me."

Get Stormy has won three of four starts over the Saratoga turf, including two stakes. Last summer, he won an allowance on firm turf and the Lure Stakes over soft turf. The victories launched a five-race win streak which included the Grade III Bryan Station and Grade III Commonwealth Stakes in Kentucky last year and the Elkwood at Monmouth Park this year.

See **BARUCH** page 6 ►

SEVEN 2-year-old winners in 2010



- **Third Chance at Arlington Park**
for Ron Magers and James Divito
- **Sunday Splitsville at Saratoga**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher
- **Another Silver Oak, 3rd in the Sanford at Saratoga**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher.
- **Loving Dove at Monmouth Park**
for Red Oak Farm and Gregory Sacco.
- **Gambline Geraldine at Belmont Park**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher.
- **K.R.'s Jazz at Monmouth Park**
for A Woman's Thing and Mary Hartman.
- **Saratoga Louie at Monmouth Park**
for Gary Barber and Peter Miller

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Eclipse Sportswire

A winner of six races for trainer Angel Penna, Baletti (left) breaks from the rail.

Baruch —

■ Continued from page 4

"Last year when he won on soft turf, they took the rail down that day, that was virgin turf that day, that was the only race they ran on the turf that day," Bush said. "What he doesn't want is that deep grass, he doesn't pick up his big, floppy feet. A horse that's smooth and has that bounce to him, he gets discombobulated on it."

The Baruch comes 26 days after the Fourstardave. Bush gave Get Stormy his final breeze Aug. 18, a bullet 5 furlongs in 59 3/5 seconds. Flicking his white legs like a guitarist picks his strings, Get Stormy did it easily over the Oklahoma turf course.

"He seems great to me, he carries his flesh so well. I worked him over there last Wednesday, God, I mean, he was going very comfortably, with the exercise rider," Bush said. "I thought he'd go in 1:01, a minute and 3 or 4, he's just galloping. He can bounce over the ground, that horse."

The day before the Baruch, Get Stormy completed a routine gallop over the main track, just after the break. The

seven-time winner looks like Baryshnikov on the turf. On the dirt, where he's never run in the afternoon, he looks like a snowplow trying to rid itself of its load.

"Oh, he's two different horses, his legs go everywhere on the dirt," Bush said. "When he first came in, he was all legs, I thought, 'What am I going to do with him?' Once on the turf, we found out."

Seven rivals will try to find out if they can run down Get Stormy in the Baruch.

Baletti will probably have the last crack at the frontrunner. Trained by Angel Penna, Baletti likes to relax and make a run which he's done successfully on six occasions. He comes off a disastrous trip to Monmouth where he finished sixth, beaten 7 lengths by Get Serious in the Grade III Monmouth Stakes. Penna says the race was over before it started.

"I think he got a dehydration problem from the trip, he was absolutely out of his mind from the moment he stepped foot at Monmouth Park," Penna said. "He was hard to saddle, he bucked in the gate, something was bothering him,

See **BARUCH** page 7 ►

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Baruch —

■ Continued from page 6

even after the race, we had to tranquilize him to ship him back. You have to throw the race out and forget about it. He was doing great, better than now, as a matter of fact. We took a blood on him before and it was perfect, we took it afterwards and it was upside down, like the body had a shock."

Owned by Castletop Stable, Baletti won the Grade III Fort Marcy earlier this spring at Belmont Park, rallying from sixth to win as the favorite. The 6-year-old gelded son of Gulch breaks from the rail under Cornelio Velasquez. Penna has had 10 weeks to freshen Baletti but understands the task at hand.

"It took him a little bit to put himself together, he's fine now, I would have liked to blow him out Monday but I couldn't because of the weather," Penna said. "He's fit, he's doing fine, he runs well fresh. Get Stormy is so light in the weights too, he's hard to catch, he's at the top of his game, he's going to be hard to catch. We can't change anything, if he gets there, he gets there, if he doesn't, he doesn't. Don't fix what isn't broken. You can not ask for a more honest son of a gun."

Whatsthescript returns for trainer Gary Contessa. Fourth in the Fourstardave, the 6-year-old has a third and a fourth since returning from stud duty for owner Tom Stull. Rajiv Maragh picks up the mount.

Sudden War rattled off three consecutive wins to start his career last spring but has gone winless since. Ken McPeck

freshened the 5-year-old Argentine-bred after finishing ninth in the Grade II Elkhorn. Kent Desormeaux rides.

Patrick Biancone tries to snap a six-race losing streak with Nownownow. Edgar Prado rides the fourth-place finisher of the Oceanport.

R A Hill Stable's Rogue Victory won a tough three-other-than allowance earlier in the meet for trainer George Weaver. John Velazquez rides the 5-year-old son of Victory Gallop.

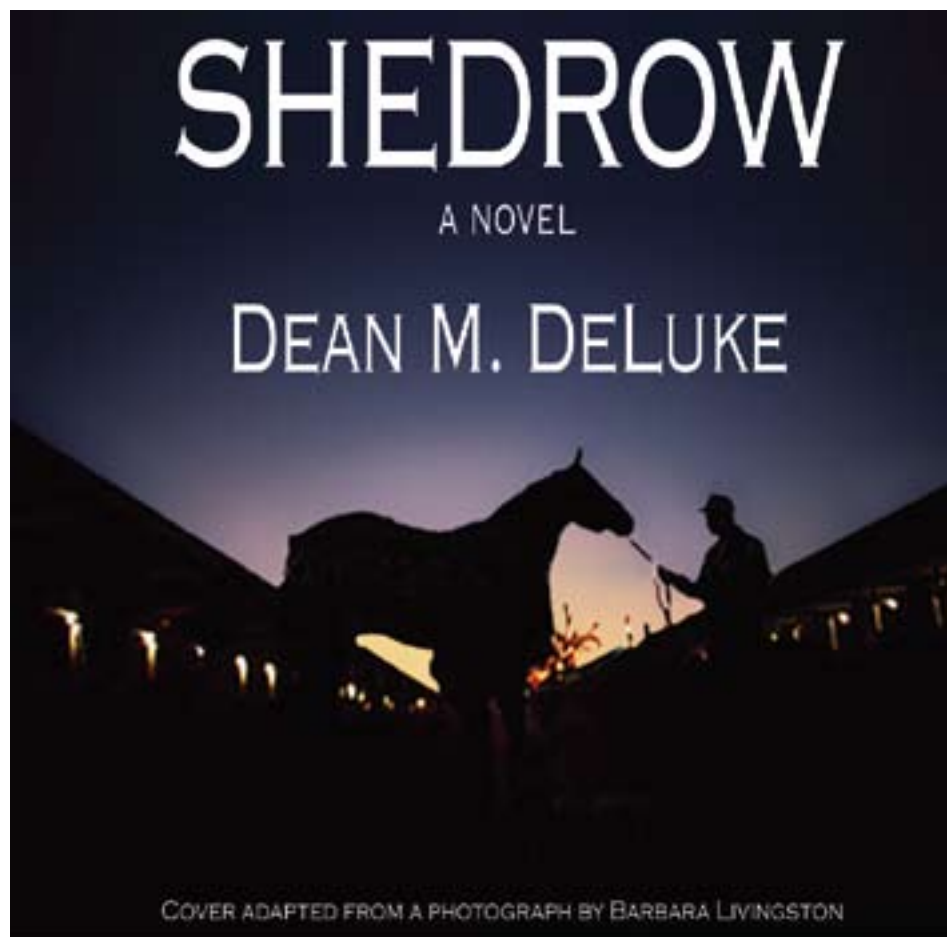
"He's been one of our favorite horses, he likes the course, the only time he hasn't hit the board at Saratoga is when he clipped heels and fell (in the John's Call Stakes last year)," Weaver said. "We have a lot of respect for Get Stormy but we felt like giving him a shot, he's real classy, he always tries. There's a good shot we'll do well in here."

Informed of Bush's concern over the turf, Weaver didn't hesitate.

"Tell him we'll buy his plane ticket to Monmouth," Weaver said. "We'll come up with a jet for him. Whatever you need, put it on our expense account."

Rick Dutrow entered National Kid, winner of a recent allowance race at Monmouth. The Brazilian-bred sports three wins from four starts, spread from September 2008 to July 2010. Julien Leparoux rides for the first time.

Radical Sabbatical breaks from the outside post for trainer Barclay Tagg and jockey Ramon Dominguez. The consistent gelding has won two of his last three races but finished fifth behind Get Stormy in the Fourstardave.



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Double Grin. Sermon Of Love and Brian Crowley flash smiles after winning Thursday's New York Turf Writers. See page 12.

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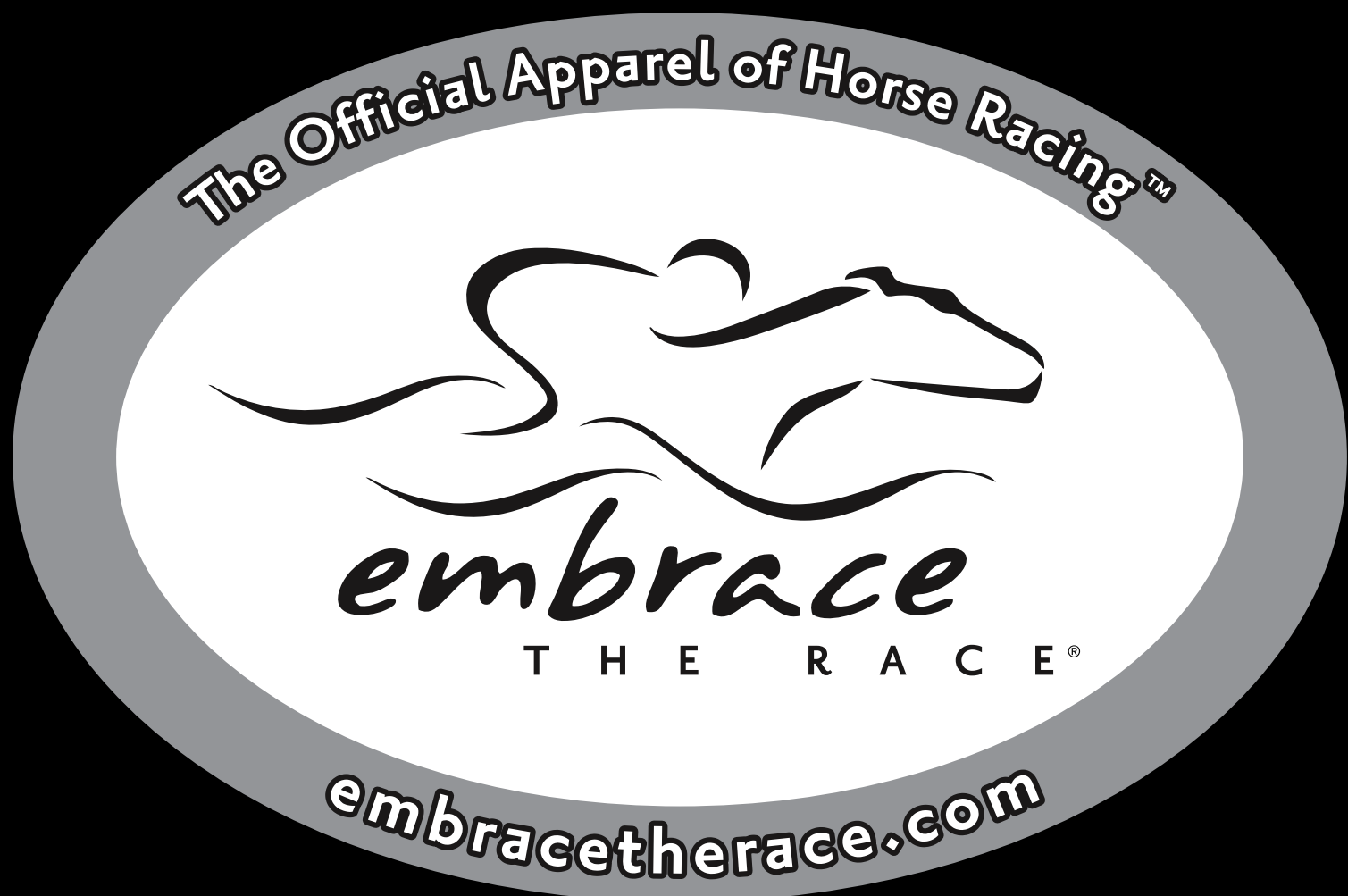
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**John
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**Gaile
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**Brian
Nadeau**



**Dean
Keppler**

Race #

1

Driven by Success
Groomedforvictory
Uncle T Seven

Driven by Success
Uncle T Seven
Groomedforvictory

Driven By Success
Uncle T Seven
Groomedforvictory

Driven By Success
Uncle T Seven
Mineswept

Driven By Success
Uncle T Seven
Law Enforcement

2

Roderick
One Turn Eddie
Steal the Shot

Roderick
Early Argument
Julie's Ina Frenzy

Roderick
One Turn Eddie
Early Argument

One Turn Eddie
Roderick
Reading Group

Roderick
Reading Group
One Turn Eddie

3

Megaholtz
Pawleys Porch
Deadly Catch

Deadly Catch
Holiday Ballad
Pawley's Porch

Systemic Risk
Megaholtz
Deadly Catch

Pawleys Porch
Deadly Catch
Grand Strategy

Megaholtz
Grand Strategy
Holiday Ballad

4

Trickmeister
Our Dark Knight
Modern Cowboy

Trickmeister
Our Dark Knight
Modern Cowboy

Our Dark Knight
Trickmeister
Modern Cowboy

Westshore
Trickmeister
Modern Cowboy

Modern Cowboy
Trickmeister
Our Dark Knight

5

Excited
Tiz My Time
Hot Fever

Erma Lee
Tiz My Time
Queen Mars

Erma Lee
Hot Fever
Excited

Deja Blu
Erma Lee
Excited

Excited
Tiz My Time
Erma Lee

6

Billy Bear
Stealth Missile
Rises the Phoenix

Billy Bear
Tall Poppi
Hayleys Hero

Tall Poppi
Stealth Missile
Billy Bear

Mr. Madison
Billy Bear
Tall Poppi

Billy Bear
Tall Poppi
Not For Money

7

Upgrade
Quick Delivery
Risue

Upgrade
Peahi
Risue

Upgrade
Quick Delivery
Harmonizer

Harmonizer
Upgrade
Peahi

Upgrade
Risue
Targhee Pass

8

Scorper
Hear the Footsteps
Jockey Ridge

Counterspy
Spanish Fortune
Jockey Ridge

Counterspy
Scorper
Follia

Overlap
Counterspy
Jockey Ridge

Spanish Fortune
Counterspy
Jockey Ridge

9

Get Stormy
Rogue Victory
Whatsthescript

Get Stormy
Whatsthescript
Baletti

Get Stormy
Baletti
Rogue Victory

Whatsthescript
Get Stormy
Baletti

Sudden War
Get Stormy
Whatsthescript

10

Holy Place
Brampton
Marabelle

Holy Place
Brampton
Cougar At Heart

Holy Place
Brampton
Goldberg Entry

Murky
Elleway
Brampton

Bronzed
Cougar At Heart
Brampton

Records

88/254

64/254

75/254

53/254

56/254

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FRIDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Friday, August 27. Post Time 1 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) VIC ZIEGEL MEMORIAL S. 7 FURLONGS NY BRED 3&UP PURSE: \$70,000

1	1	Groomedforvictory	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	4-1
2	2	Uncle T Seven	.....	Maragh R	.....	Kimmel John C	.....	5-1
3	3	Make Note	.....	Prado E S	.....	Weaver George	.....	6-1
4	4	Law Enforcement	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Hennig Mark	.....	12-1
5	5	Mineswept	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	Serpe Philip M	.....	12-1
6	6	Driven by Success	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	1-1
7	7	Estimator	.....	Castillo E	.....	Tebbutt John	.....	20-1
8	8	Naughty New Yorker	.....	Velasquez C	.....	Kelly Patrick J	.....	15-1

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

2ND (1:33) 7 FURLONGS NY BRED 3&UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$42,000

1	1	Reading Group	.....	Velasquez C	.....	Hernandez Ramon	.....	4-1
2	2	Julie's Ina Frenzy	.....	Luzzi M J	.....	O'Brien Leo	.....	10-1
3	3	One Turn Eddie	.....	Prado E S	.....	Rodriguez Rudy R	.....	3-1
4	4	Steal the Shot	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Schosberg Richard	.....	8-1
5	5	Early Argument	.....	Castillo E	.....	Tebbutt John	.....	15-1
6	6	Fortunate Run	.....	Maragh R	.....	Chatterpaul N	.....	8-1
7	7	Roderick	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Levine Bruce N	.....	5-2
8	8	Smooth Transition	.....	Chavez J F	.....	Martin Carlos F	.....	15-1
9	9	Crescent's Mon	.....	Cohen D	.....	Brown Bruce R	.....	12-1

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

3RD (2:06) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP MDN CLM (\$60,000 - \$50,000) PURSE: \$32,000

1	1	Honour the Deputy	.....	Ramos H G	.....	Assimakopoulos C	.....	12-1
2	2	Systemic Risk	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Violette, Jr. R A	.....	6-1
3	3	Grand Strategy	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	McLaughlin Kieran	.....	5-1
4	4	Holiday Ballad	.....	Borel C H	.....	Romans Dale	.....	6-1
5	5	Megaholtz	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	3-1
6	6	Pawleys Porch	.....	Cohen D	.....	Nicks Ralph E	.....	5-2
7	7	Deadly Catch	.....	Mena M	.....	Guillot Eric	.....	6-1
8	8	Ginowillietwoshoes	.....	Wilsey J A	.....	Allyn William F	.....	30-1

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

4TH (2:39) PLEASANT COLONY S. 1 1/8 MILES 3YO PURSE: \$75,000

1	1	Trickmeister	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E	.....	7-5
2	2	Our Dark Knight	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Zito Nicholas P	.....	8-5
3	3	Modern Cowboy	.....	Borel C H	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	5-1
4	4	Regal Warrior	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Trombetta Michael J	.....	10-1
5	5	Westshore	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Baker James E	.....	5-1

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

5TH (3:13) 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) FILLIES 2YO MAIDEN PURSE: \$51,000

1	1	Excited	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	5-1
2	2	System Ready	.....	Cohen D	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	10-1
3	3	Queen Mars	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Maker Michael J	.....	15-1
4	4	Parting Words	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	12-1
5	5	Hot Fever	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Dutrow Anthony W	.....	12-1
6	6	Tiz My Time	.....	Desormeaux K J	.....	McPeck Kenneth G	.....	9-5
7	7	Mirimichi Babe	.....	Maragh R	.....	Weaver George	.....	12-1
8	8	Holidaysatthefarm	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Proctor Thomas F	.....	8-1
9	9	Erma Lee	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Mott William I	.....	5-1
10	10	Bizzy Caroline	.....	Prado E S	.....	McPeck Kenneth	.....	15-1
11	11	MTO Deja Blu	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Mott William I	.....	3-1

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

6TH (3:47) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP CLAIMING (\$16,000) PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Big Motor	.....	Lezcano A	.....	Mena, II Pastor	.....	50-1
2	2	Tall Poppi	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	9-2
3	3	Saratoga Seven	.....	Lenclud F	.....	Lukas D Wayne	.....	20-1
4	4	Not for Money	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E	.....	6-1
5	5	Stealth Missile	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Levine Bruce N	.....	5-1
6	6	Haileys Hero	.....	Castillo E	.....	Tebbutt John	.....	20-1
7	7	Rises the Phoenix	.....	Alvarado N R	.....	Conway Daniel H Jr	.....	8-1
8	8	Billy Bear	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Dutrow Sydney	.....	7-2
9	9	Great Emperor	.....	Luzzi M J	.....	Imperio Joseph	.....	30-1
10	10	Juke Joint	.....	Hill C	.....	Galluscio Dominic G	.....	15-1
11	11	Mr. Madison	.....	Prado E S	.....	Walder Peter R	.....	8-1
12	12	The Zipster	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	Violette, Jr. R A	.....	8-1

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

7TH (4:21) 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3&UP STARTER ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$49,000

1	1	Too Big to Fail	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	Violette, Jr. R A	.....	15-1
2	2	Ground Frost	.....	Prado E S	.....	Voss Thomas H	.....	8-1
3	3	Freshman Dorm	.....	Velasquez C	.....	McLaughlin Kieran	.....	8-1
4	4	Quick Delivery	.....	Borel C H	.....	Stall Albert M Jr	.....	5-1
5	5	Risque	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Maker Michael J	.....	6-1
6	6	Versailles Road	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Wilkes Ian R	.....	12-1
7	7	Upgrade	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Brown Chad C	.....	3-1
8	8	Peahi	.....	Maragh R	.....	Nicks Ralph E	.....	8-1
9	9	Targhee Pass	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Jerkens H Allen	.....	8-1
10	10	Double Eagle (ARG)	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Matz Michael R	.....	8-1
11	AE	Berry Berry Bueno	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Andrade Pablo	.....	10-1
12	MTO	Tar Beach	.....	Maragh R	.....	Brown Bruce R	.....	5-1
13	MTO	Harmonizer	.....	Gomez G K	.....	Maker Michael J	.....	7-2
14	MTO	Worthy Wager	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Jerkens H Allen	.....	6-1

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

8TH (4:55) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3&UP CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$27,000

1	1	Counterspy	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Ward Wesley A	.....	3-1
2	2	Jockey Ridge	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	7-2
3	3	Follia	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Proctor Thomas F	.....	8-1
4	4	Spanish Fortune	.....	Velasquez C	.....	Clement Christophe	.....	6-1
5	5	Overlap	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	6-1
6	6	Quiescent Hit	.....	Cohen D	.....	Levine Bruce N	.....	15-1
7	7	Conflicted	.....	Maragh R	.....	Contessa Gary C	.....	10-1
8	8	Cash Is Cohen	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	DiPrima Gregory	.....	15-1
9	9	Tudor King	.....	Hill C	.....	Hushion Michael E	.....	8-1
10	10	Gentlemansapproval	.....	Lenclud F	.....	Hackworth Robert S	.....	12-1
11	AE	Hear the Footsteps	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	Rice Linda	.....	5-1
12	AE	Scorper	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Rodriguez Rudy R	.....	4-1
13	AE	Sound Chaser	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Callejas Bernardo	.....	15-1
14	AE	Luigi P	.....	Borel C H	.....	Bizelia Anthony J	.....	30-1
15	MTO	Trust of Honor	.....	Lenclud F	.....	Benzel Seth	.....	7-2
16	MTO	Mind Boggling	.....	Lenclud F	.....	Ferraro James W	.....	10-1

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

9TH (5:30) BERNARD BARUCH H. (G2) 1 1/8 MILES (INNER TURF) 3&UP PURSE: \$200,000

1	1	Baletti	.....	Velasquez C	.....	Penna Angel Jr	.....	5-1
2	2	Whatsthescript (IRE)	.....	Maragh R	.....	Contessa Gary C	.....	4-1
3	3	Sudden War (ARG)	.....	Desormeaux K J	.....	McPeck Kenneth G	.....	8-1
4	4	Nownownow	.....	Prado E S	.....	Biancone Patrick L	.....	12-1
5	5	Get Stormy	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Bush Thomas M	.....	9-5
6	6	Rogue Victory	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Weaver George	.....	12-1
7	7	National Kid (BRZ)	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E	.....	6-1
8	8	Radical Sabbatical	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Tagg Barclay	.....	8-1

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

10TH (6:04) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) F&M 3&UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$50,000

1	6	Channel	.....	Garcia Alan	.....	Harty Eoin	.....	5-1
1A	MTO	Murky	.....	Maragh R	.....	Albertrani Thomas	.....	5-1
2	9	Bronzed	.....	Maragh R	.....	Goldberg Alan E	.....	6-1
2B	AE	Pin Turn (GB)	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Goldberg Alan E	.....	6-1
3	1	Jazz Life (BRZ)	.....	Desormeaux K J	.....	McPeck Kenneth	.....	12-1
4	2	Brampton	.....	Velasquez C	.....	Jerkens H Allen	.....	3-1
5	3	Holy Place	.....	Castellano J J	.....	Pletcher Todd A	.....	4-1
6	4	Elleway	.....	Mena M	.....	Guillot Eric	.....	10-1
7	5	Lady Chesterfield	.....	Cohen D	.....	Clement Christophe	.....	12-1
8	7	Cougar At Heart	.....	Leparoux J R	.....	Sheppard Jonathan	.....	10-1
9	8	Marabelle	.....	Velazquez J R	.....	Trombetta Michael	.....	8-1
10	10	Samra Alajwad	.....	Dominguez R A	.....	Weaver George	.....	15-1
11	AE	Fandangle	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Matz Michael R	.....	7-2
12	AE	Inspired	.....	Desormeaux K J	.....	Mott William I	.....	4-1
13	MTO	Quippery	.....	Lezcano J	.....	Ribaldo Robert J	.....	12-1

A-Coupled: Channel and Murky

B-Coupled: Bronzed and Pin Turn (GB)

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10)

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Tending His Flock

Sheppard wins Gr. I with Sermon Of Love

BY SEAN CLANCY

And that makes 13.

Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard choreographed his 13th win in the New York Turf Writers Cup when he sent out Bill Pape's Sermon Of Love to win the Grade I Saratoga steeplechase. Sheppard trained runner-up Arcadius as well.

Sheppard isn't perfect; his other entry, A.P. Smithwick winner Divine Fortune, finished fourth.

Coupled with Divine Fortune, the winner paid \$4.30 as the favorite.

"You could probably run the race in three weeks and our three horses might finish in a different order," Sheppard said as he walked out of the winner's circle.

If you're counting at home, Sheppard and Pape have won all four jump races this season. Next week will be five.

Brian Crowley broke Sermon Of Love sharply from the starter's flag and led for the first few strides before finding a perfect window in fourth, just off longshot



Dave Harmon

Sermon Of Love (right) holds off stablemate Arcadius in the final yards of Thursday's New York Turf Writers Cup.

Swagger Stick who led the compact field through tepid opening furlongs. Smithwick winner Divine Fortune, who raced close to the pace in his victory, lagged in last after one flight.

Passing the wire for the first time, Swagger Stick led Birthday Beau with Slip Away tucked inside third. Sermon Of Love led the second tier, on his own in fourth. Second-choice Arcadius erred at the third hurdle, losing valuable position and found himself in the back of the eight-horse field.

Turning down the backside for the final time, Hods-

don moved Divine Fortune five wide but the Smithwick winner made a mistake at the first fence down the backside, costing time and position at a moment when both were paramount. Crowley bided his time on the inside, still patient aboard Sermon Of Love. Leaving the backside, Crowley positioned himself outside Slip Away as the field turned for home. Sermon Of Love swung out for the last and met it on a perfect stride, touching down with only Swagger Stick to catch. Five

See **TURF WRITERS** page 14 ►

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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 12

horses jumped the last within a length. Sermon Of Love inhaled Swagger Stick and held off Arcadius to win by a length. The game Swagger Stick lasted for third. The first five finished within 2 1/2 lengths of each other. Sermon Of Love completed 2 3/8 miles in 4:36.83.

Crowley, who had won one race from just nine rides all year, earned his third triumph at the meet with another definitive display.

"I was delighted the whole way, he traveled well, jumped great the whole way, had a clear view of the fences and the obstacles," Crowley said. "I was delighted turning into the straight, if nothing came from behind I had the race at my mercy. It's mind blowing, to ride three winners and a second from four rides. I rode a nice few winners at home in Ireland and England but this is all smiles. There are so many people to thank."

The victory completed a reclamation project for Sermon Of Love that started with an upset win in the Jonathan Kiser opening week. Equipped with blinkers, united with Crowley for the first time and sent off at 11-1 in the restricted stakes, Sermon Of Love overtook Virginia Minstrel to win his third race over hurdles, breaking a five-race losing streak in the process.

"I've never thought of him as really a top horse, more a mid-division horse, he is quite fast, he does work as

See **TURF WRITERS** page 15 ►

Sermon Of Love flies a fence in his Turf Writers win for trainer Jonathan Sheppard.



Tod Marks

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Turf Writers —

■ Continued from page 14

well as any of our other jumpers, possibly even better,” Sheppard said. “He’s not particularly big, he’s a little washy, and not a hundred percent genuine, the blinkers helped and the rider is on fire. The blinkers were (Hodsdon’s) idea, she schooled him in them over the baby hurdles in Camden (S.C.) and thought they moved him up a little.”

After the Kiser, Sheppard sent the son of Pulpit to the farm. Smithwick runners Divine Fortune and Arcadius followed after their race a week later. With four weeks between the Kiser and Turf Writers, Sheppard let down Sermon Of Love who stayed home when Divine Fortune returned to the Spa a week before the Turf Writers. While his stablemate and rival put in his final preps over the Oklahoma track, Sermon Of Love went the traditional route.

Sheppard ordered a 2-mile tune-up in the “100-acre field” at the farm near West Grove, Pa. Exercise rider Frank Steall led the way on Arcadius, Crowley followed on Sermon Of Love.

“Arcadius led and Sermon Of Love came to him and finished at his shoulder. That’s what I asked them to do and according to (assistant) Jim Bergen, that’s exactly what they did, not incredibly fast. Arcadius isn’t quite as speedy in work as Sermon, we always make the one coming from behind do a little more,” Sheppard said. “We time them the last five-eighths, well, I don’t know how far it is, we time them from a pole up on the hill to a tree when they come back up the hill, a good work is somewhere in a minute, they go about 2 miles (total), we start off at a hand canter, after about the first three-quarters we pick it up to a two-minute lick and then they rock on the last five-eighths.”

The work seemed to suit as the duo finished one-two for the meet’s most prestigious jump prize. Shep-

pard was pleased with that work but dismayed with the one he engineered at Saratoga when Divine Fortune crawled through a half-mile breeze on the dirt Monday. Unable to work on the turf because of rain, Sheppard audibled and tried to prime Divine Fortune for his best, but was convinced the work left him too dull to excel in the race.

“I wish we didn’t have such a slow work on Monday with Divine Fortune, because he was just a little flat early, he needs to be in the clear and closer, he was too far back and tucked on the inside, he ran a pretty darn game race considering all that,” Sheppard said. “Arcadius ran a good race considering I almost didn’t enter him, he was dead lame when he came in from schooling on Friday. It’s stressful, you have to take a shot, we aren’t going to pass up a chance with one of the favorites for the Turf Writers, if it’s a minor possibility. Now, you know why I don’t have any hair left.”

Sheppard doesn’t have any room on his mantel either. Next year will be 14.



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THURSDAY'S SARATOGA WINNERS • PHOTOS BY DAVE HARMON

1 Sermon of Love



2 El Real Madrid



3 Never Right Joey



4 Thunder Jewel



5 Mardi Belle



6 Playa Bonita



7 Royal Rhetoric



8 Princess Maura



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THURSDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Thursday, August 26, 2010

1ST NY TURF WRITERS CUP STEEPLECHASE (G1) 2 3/8 MILES 4 & UP PURSE: \$97,000

1	Sermon of Love	Crowley B	4.30	2.60	2.10
7	Arcadius	Nagle D		4.20	3.00
4	Swagger Stick	Dowling W			4.50

Time 4:36.83

Trainer: Sheppard Jonathan E - Owner: Pape William L.

B. g. 7 by Pulpit - Plenty of Sugar by Ascot Knight. Breeder: F. E. Dixon Jr.

\$2 Exacta (1-7) Paid \$14.40

\$2 Trifecta (1-7-4) Paid \$100.00

2ND 1 1/8 MILES 3 & UP CLAIMING (\$35,000 - \$25,000) PURSE: \$41,000

4	El Real Madrid	Gomez G K	6.40	3.20	2.60
5	Chris Got Even	Velazquez J R		2.90	2.40
1	Stargleam	Dominguez R A			2.80

Time 1:50.52

Trainer: Dutrow Richard E Jr - Owner: Celis Rafael

Ch. h. 5 by Boundary - Miss Mercedes by Mercedes Won

Breeder: John Follmer

\$2 Exacta (4-5) Paid \$20.60

\$2 Quinella (4-5) Paid \$9.60

\$2 Trifecta (4-5-1) Paid \$35.40

\$2 Daily Double (1-4) Paid \$17.40 Daily Double Pool \$130,104

3RD HIGH ROCK SPRINGS STAKES 6 FURLONGS 2 YO PURSE: \$63,000

2	Never Right Joey	Velazquez J R	2.50
5	Freuds Ana Streak	Leparoux J R	
3	Private Rules	Maragh R	

Time 1:11.53

Trainer: Pletcher Todd A - Owner: Repole Stable

Ch. c. 2 by Tapit - Backwoods Teacher by Woodman

Breeder: JMJ Racing Stable Stable LLC

\$2 Pick 3 (1-4-2) 3 Correct Paid \$21.80 Pick 3 Pool \$61,281

\$2 Daily Double (4-2) Paid \$9.70 Daily Double Pool \$54,869

4TH 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$41,000

3	Thunder Jewel	Dominguez R A	9.90	5.30	3.60
4	Chalk Player	Prado E S		8.00	4.70
1	Soinlovewithuam I	Garcia Alan			4.10

Time 1:46.66

Trainer: Donk David - Owner: Rising Star Stables

Ch. f. 2 by Thunder Gulch - Dizzy by Spinning World

Breeder: New Dawn Thoroughbreds & Aron Yagoda

\$2 Exacta (3-4) Paid \$52.00

\$2 Quinella (3-4) Paid \$28.00

\$2 Trifecta (3-4-1) Paid \$181.50

\$2 Pick 3 (4-2-3) 3 Correct Paid \$49.80 Pick 3 Pool \$50,275

\$2 Daily Double (2-3) Paid \$12.60 Daily Double Pool \$80,130

\$2 Consolation Pick 3 (4-2-7) Paid \$9.50

\$2 Superfecta (3-4-1-9) Paid \$690.00

\$2 Consolation Double (2-7) Paid \$2.20

5TH 6 FURLONGS 3 & UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$20,000) PURSE: \$20,000

7	Mardi Belle	Prado E S	6.00	3.40	2.70
4	Lady Alma	Espinoza J L		4.50	3.00
2	Eliza Grace	Studart M			5.10

Time 1:13.12

Trainer: Schosberg Rick - Owner: Edition Farm

B. f. 3 by Read the Footnotes - Mia Zia Dea by Green Dancer

Breeder: Edition Farm

\$2 Exacta (7-4) Paid \$24.40

\$2 Trifecta (7-4-2) Paid \$131.00

\$2 Pick 3 (2-3-7) 3 Correct Paid \$27.40 Pick 3 Pool \$76,849

\$2 Pick 4 (4-1/2/4-3-5/7) 4 Correct Paid \$112.50 Pick 4 Pool \$168,943

\$2 Daily Double (3-7) Paid \$34.60 Daily Double Pool \$56,819

\$2 Consolation Pick 3 (2-7-7) Paid \$6.30

\$2 Superfecta (7-4-2-3) Paid \$447.40

6TH 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3 & UP CLM (\$25,000) PURSE: \$29,000

9	Playa Bonita	Leparoux J R	6.90	4.20	2.90
3	Souper Butterfly	Castellano J J		8.00	5.30
6	Kaleigh Rose	Maragh R			3.80

Time 1:44.69

Trainer: Dutrow Richard E Jr - Owner: Lenner, Tom

Dk. b. or br. f. 4 by Royal Academy - Wave On by Caveat

Breeder: Lani Bloodstock & In Hopes Partnership

\$2 Exacta (9-3) Paid \$51.00

\$2 Trifecta (9-3-6) Paid \$167.50

\$2 Pick 3 (3-7-9) 3 Correct Paid \$134.50 Pick 3 Pool \$71,762

\$2 Daily Double (7-9) Paid \$22.60 Daily Double Pool \$64,592

\$2 Superfecta (9-3-6-1) Paid \$1,930.00

7TH RACE 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3 & UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$40,000

10	Royal Rhetoric	Hill C	19.20	8.50	6.00
3	Mississippi Too	Castellano J J		4.80	3.70
7	Awakened Beauty	Velasquez C			9.30

Finish Time: 1:04.05

Trainer: Aquilino Joseph - Owner: Maspeth Stable

Ch. f. 3 by Oratory - Royal Irish Lace by Go and Go (IRE)

Breeder: Laura and John McDermott

\$2 Exacta (10-3) Paid \$117.50

\$2 Trifecta (10-3-7) Paid \$1,685.00

\$2 Daily Double (9-10) Paid \$87.00 Daily Double Pool \$84,021

\$2 Pick 3 (7-9-10) 3 Correct Paid \$281.50 Pick 3 Pool \$70,130

\$2 Superfecta (10-3-7-8) Paid \$5,463.00

8TH 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3 & UP STARTER ALLOWANCE (\$50,000 -) PURSE: \$49,000

5	Princess Maura	Velasquez C	7.10	4.10	3.30
6	Zapparition	Mena M		5.00	3.70
2	Hooked On Hope	Cohen D			3.70

Time 1:37.59

Trainer: Schosberg Rick - Owner: Clear Stars Stable

B. f. 4 by Cape Canaveral - Princess Caveat by Caveat

Breeder: David Cassidy

\$2 Exacta (5-6) Paid \$41.20

\$2 Trifecta (5-6-2) Paid \$257.50

\$2 Grand Slam (2,4,7-3,6,9-3,7,10-5) Paid \$87.50

\$2 Pick 3 (9-10-5) 3 Correct Paid \$421.00 Pick 3 Pool \$55,641

\$2 Daily Double (10-5) Paid \$98.00 Daily Double Pool \$67,841

\$2 Superfecta (5-6-2-7) Paid \$671.00

9TH 1 3/16 MILES (TURF) 3 & UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$51,000

4	Boisterous	Velazquez J R	24.00	9.80	7.00
10	Jadal	Gomez G K		8.30	7.50
7	Ryvrit	Chavez J F			11.20

Finish Time: 1:57.12

Trainer: McGaughey Shug - Owner: Phipps Stable

Dk. b. or br. c. 3 by Distorted Humor - Emanating by Cox's Ridge

Breeder: Cynthia Phipps

\$2 Exacta (4-10) Paid \$229.50

\$2 Trifecta (4-10-7) Paid \$3,861.00

\$2 Superfecta (4-10-7-8) Paid \$29,503.00

\$2 Daily Double (5-4) Paid \$121.50 Daily Double Pool \$249,902

\$2 Pick 3 (10-5-4) 3 Correct Paid \$1,062.00 Pick 3 Pool \$142,534

\$2 Pick 4 (9-10-5-4) 4 Correct Paid \$4,286.00 Pick 4 Pool \$305,786

\$2 Pick 6 (3-7-9-10-5-4) 5 Correct Paid \$497.00 Pick 6 Pool

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Right On

Heavy favorite Never Right Joey gets job done in 2-year-old stakes

BY MIKE KANE

Never Right Joey may never get an easier and tougher spot than the one he dealt with Thursday while winning the \$70,000 High Rock Springs.

Two scratches reduced the field to three runners for the overnight stakes for New York-bred 2-year-olds going 6 furlongs. Winning trainer Todd Pletcher scratched his other colt, WinStar Farms' Hysterical Cat, to run in the Aspirant Stakes at Finger Lakes. Dogwood Stable's Firepole was also scratched.

Proving again that small fields can find trouble, the three colts colided leaving the gate. Heavy favorite Never Right Joey caused the bumping when he broke out and made contact with Pri-

vate Rules, who touched Freuds Ana Streak.

Never Right Joey, a Tapit colt owned by Repole Stable, moved to a 1-length lead in the first quarter-mile, but Freuds Ana Streak closed the gap and essentially turned the last half-mile into a match race. The two raced together until deep stretch when Never Right Joey pulled away to win by three-quarters of a length in 1:11.53.

"We felt like we were the main speed and from the rail were going to let him run away from there and see what happened," Pletcher said. "It turned out to be a good horse race. Those two locked up on each other and both of them ran well."

Never Right Joey opened his career with a win here July 24, handling 5 1/2 furlongs and a muddy track with ease.



Tod Marks

Never Right Joey (right) battles Freuds Ana Streak in the stretch of the High Rock Springs Stakes.

• Track announcer Tom Durkin was in fine form calling the second, a 9-furlong \$25,000 claimer won by El Real Madrid. Durkin made it clear early on that El Real Madrid was making his third start in eight days and winning for the second time in the week.

Monday, the 5-year-old skipped over a sealed track to win a \$20,000 claimer for jockey Ramon Dominguez. Thursday, on a fast track with Garrett Gomez in the saddle, was much the same.

Trainer Rick Dutrow wheeled his horse back on two days rest and he withstood the challenge of Chris Got Even to win by 3 3/4 lengths with Stargleam (ridden by Dominguez) third. The son of Boundary began his Saratoga flurry

of activity with a second – beaten just a neck – in a mile and a sixteenth turf race Aug. 18. Like many of the winners Monday, El Real Madrid ran away from the competition, prevailing by 8 3/4 lengths.

Dutrow did not make it to the winner's circle, but Eduardo and Olga Celis, who owned the horse with their son Rafael, posed for photos with El Real Madrid, who, they learned later, had been claimed by Bill Cesare.

"I think this is an historic record," Eduardo Celis said "We come all the way from Venezuela. This is the first time we have visited the winner's circle and we have done it twice."

See **THURSDAY** page 19 ►

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MONDAY TO FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT



Tod Marks

El Real Madrid makes it 2-for-2 this week for trainer Rick Dutrow in the second.



Tod Marks

Mardi Belle leads the way home in the fifth, one of two wins on the day for trainer Rick Schosberg.

Thursday —

■ Continued from page 18

Celis figured that a horse winning twice in four days had to be a record for Saratoga. He was assured things like that happened all the time at the Spa when horses ran far more often than they typically do these days.

The Celises are Thoroughbred breeders in Valencia, Venezuela. They said they have 35 broodmares on their farm

and are active in racing in their country. El Real Madrid was named for the famous soccer team in Spain's La Liga. They have a half-brother to El Real Madrid and said they hope to buy another sibling.

Dutrow had entered El Real Madrid in Thursday's race before the race was run on Monday and planned to try the double.

"He told us that if he won the other race he was going to run a big race today," Eduardo Celis said. "He was right."

El real Madrid won for the sixth time in 19 career starts.

- Trainer Rick Schosberg entered the day with one victory during the meet, but jumped up in the standings with a pair of remarkably similar wins Thursday.

He took the fifth with the Edition Farm homebred Mardi Belle and captured the eighth with Princess Maura, owned by Clear Stars Stable.

After the second victory, Schosberg wrestled with a line about a bad day at

Saratoga being better than a good day anywhere else. Realizing that it didn't sound right he laughed and said, "winning two is good. Winning two at Saratoga is a very good day." No argument with that.

In the fifth, Mardi Belle rebounded from a couple of unimpressive outings to take a 6-furlong maiden claimer for New York bred by 4 1/4 lengths. With short-priced favorite My Two Cents scratched, the Read The Footnotes filly

See **THURSDAY** page 20 ►

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Thursday —

■ Continued from page 19

set the pace and drew away at the end under Edgar Prado.

Harry Malloy, who operates Edition Farm with his wife Vivien has been in poor health and was not able to attend the race. Schosberg said Vivien Malloy had planned to skip the race, too, until her husband insisted.

"She said, 'I'm going to stay here with you,' " Schosberg said. "He said, 'Go to Saratoga, I've got a good feeling about this filly.' I spoke to him on the phone and he felt great."

Schosberg was back in the winner's circle after Princess Maura wired the field in a 1-mile starter allowance on the inner turf course. Under Cornelio Velasquez, she went right to the lead, withstood some challengers in the second turn and outfinished Zapparition to win by a neck.

"This filly, what can I say? She just gutted it out," Schosberg said. "Last time I think Cornelio learned a little something about her going a mile. He

waited just a little longer before he asked her. That was the difference.

"She's just been fantastic. Great owners. David Cassidy who bred this filly, has been following her and was down here celebrating. It's great to win two. Great day in Saratoga."

• In the fourth, Thunder Jewel closed with authority to win a 1 1/16-mile New York-bred maiden on the turf by 1 1/2 lengths under Domiguez. Trainer David Donk started her in a turf sprint July 30 as something of a prep for the route race.

"I wanted to run her long the first time but I knew that it might be awhile before it goes, which wasn't until today," Donk said. "I told the owner we'll run in the 5 1/2. It was a good race for her. I thought that she was a little closer to the pace at 5 1/2 that day. She didn't really punch. The family says she wants to run long. Today was the obvious one."

Rising Star Stables purchased the daughter of Thunder Gulch at the Ocala Breeders' Sale in June.

"We haven't owned her very long," Donk said. "We paid \$19,000 for her.

"She's just been fantastic. Great owners. David Cassidy who bred this filly, has been following her and was down here celebrating. It's great to win two. Great day in Saratoga."

— Trainer Rick Schosberg

She's paid for."

Thunder Jewel earned \$24,600 for her victory.

Donk said he doesn't have any plans for the filly's next start.

"She's a pretty useful New York-bred," he said. "I'm not quite sure where I can go from here. I don't if they ran that big a number. Like Ramon said, the pace was slow, but she still kicked on. I like the way she did it. I don't know what more we can accomplish this year, but she's OK. We'll have fun with her."

• Boisterous cruised to his maiden turf victory in the ninth. The Phipps Stable's Distorted Humor colt was making his sixth start, the third on the grass, and made a powerful run through the stretch under John Velazquez.

"I've always thought this horse had a little potential," trainer Shug Mc-

Gaughey said. His first race on the turf was a good one. He got into some trouble. Then the other day, I thought he got a little too far out of it on the turf to be able to finish and to have a chance. I told Johnny today, 'try to get him where he's not too far back where he's got a chance if he punches in.' He rode a good race on him, got him in position turning for home and he was able to outfinish the horse on the lead."

The winner caught Jadal in the final yards to win by 1 1/2 lengths. Early leader Ryvit finished third.

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Respect It



by Sean Clancy

Carlos Martin, in a tan suit, read Sunday's over-night in the racing office. His assistant, Dave, asked him why he was dressed up.

I nearly spat on the floor.

Respect.

Respect for Saratoga.

Rachel Alexandra, Blame, Quality Road, Majesticperfection, A Little Warm, Proviso, Forever Together, Kantharos, Telling, Discreetly Mine, Malibu Prayer, Get Stormy and all the others making moments. Respect for the big horse.

Hammock, El Real Madrid, Slip Away, Dr. D. F. C., Doctor Peaches, Cherokee Speed, Pretty Boy Freud, Cedros, Interpatation, Missinglisalewis, Avenging and to all the others plying their trades, providing the fun. Respect for the little horse.

"The filly was awesome, bro." "We will never know for sure, that's what this game is all about." "The small things in life will do me." "I think we had a mutual respect for each other. I think he'd be OK with it." Respect for the spoken word.

The leg kick of Tahitian Warrior in the paddock and the engine kick in the stretch. The height of Pocket Cowboys, every day, the New York-bred appears on the backside, big, tall, lanky and stoic. Tony Milan petting a nervous Nacho Corona on the head before the last race, and the horse acting like he understood. Respect for the little moments.

The last race on a quiet day, just another turf claimer. Glenn DiSanto and his owners cheer and celebrate the replay, watching their horse win over and over. DiSanto's relief when they post his number. Respect for winning.

With a tape recorder in his face, Steve Asmussen asking, "click me," to tell me something off the record. Jonathan Sheppard telling the truth and then asking not to be quoted about it. Rick Dutrow saying it straight, "The owner picked the spot." Respect for the truth.

Chad Brown's constant fascination with the process, "I want to know when you sleep." Kip Elser's light every morning; if it's off, I know I'm early . . . If it's on, I know I'm late. Todd Pletcher clocking a gallop; not a work, a gallop. Respect for the clock.

Watching Lara and Dave Duggan, kids and mother screaming for their 2-year-old to win its debut on the grass. Poor horse carried us all and got beat at the wire. Respect for the chance.

Tony Dutrow walking from the track apron, through the paddock, across Union Avenue, up the old pony track and back to his barn. Still not finished, two race-trackers trying to make sense of the racetrack while A Little Warm gets a bath. Respect for the quest.

Watching the Adirondack with my friend Chuck Lawrence. His filly finished third and vindicated his decision to bring her here and my decision to write a column about her before the race. Old friends, new challenges. We've come a long way since that two-bedroom apartment on White Street, dirt on the floor as thick as the Oklahoma. Respect for the climb.

Jimmy Toner's straw pillows; old-fashioned. They used to be a tradition, every stall had them. Now, so few follow our ancestors' leads. So sad to see tradi-

tions flame out. The box seats have slipped so far too. I never thought I'd be a traditionalist, but golf shirts in the boxes at Saratoga? The sagging roof on the outrider's barn, some day it will go too. Stopping and picking up a slate shingle for old-time's sake. Respect for history.

Bill Mott's pony, standing in the middle of the yard, awaiting his job, like an old workhorse, plow hitched and fields to be tilled. Mott watching his horses jog for soundness on the hard road outside his barn; afraid to look, but more afraid not to look. Respect for the obligation.

The sorrow eyes of Doug Fout after spending days and nights with exercise rider and – more importantly – friend Ben Garner who had a reality-check of a fall this week. The fight of Verena Stock, who fell while schooling a horse in South Carolina. The horse has come to Saratoga and run two jackpot seconds while Stock tries to recover normalcy in a hospital in Georgia. Respect for life.

The constant wonderment of why riders take their feet out of the stirrups and unfasten their helmets. Such a silly way to threaten what you love. Respect for the unanswerable.

Blue walking back to the stakes barn with Admiral Alex. The winner of one race, the runner of one race looks like a Travers winner. The oldtimer couldn't have his horse any better. Respect for the coup.

The days spent in the golf cart with Jack, Jane, Ryan, Nolan, Chappy and Miles. Respect for the youth.

Another year winding to a close. All the hopes and dreams about to be tucked back into brush boxes and suitcases, awaiting another year to come out and play. Respect for the greatest race meet in the world.

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Jockeys

John Velazquez	41
Javier Castellano	40
Ramon Dominguez	34
Julien Leparoux	21
Alan Garcia	17
Kent Desormeaux	14
Garrett Gomez	14
Edgar Prado	14
Rajiv Maragh	11
Cornelio Velasquez	10
Shaun Bridgmohan	7
Eibar Coa	7

Trainers

Todd Pletcher	25
Linda Rice	16
Chad Brown	14
Bill Mott	9
Ken McPeck	8
Rick Dutrow	6
Dominic Galluscio	6
Bruce Levine	6
Rudy Rodriguez	6
Rick Violette	6
George Weaver	6
Steve Asmussen	5
Seth Benzel	5
Michael Maker	5

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