

Year 11 • No. 29

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Saturday, August 27, 2011





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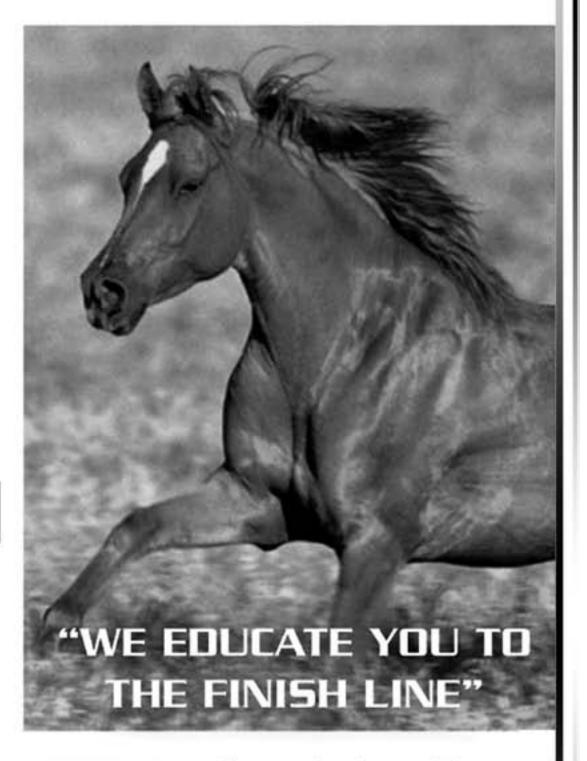
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL 3

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here&there... at Saratoga



Connie Bush

Be Right Back. You would think the guy who left his cooler out front during Thursday's rain would have at least taken the umbrella.

WORTH REPEATING The Special's quotes from Saratoga

"I've been watching Hoosiers every night this week."

Trainer Jeremiah Englehart, on playing the role of underdog with Tamarind Hall in the Grade I Ballerina

"I want to show people she's not a one hit wonder – that she's not a Right Said Fred with I'm Too Sexy."

Englehart, comparing Tamarind Hall to pop music

"If she wins the Ballerina, I'm thinking of running her in the Hambletonian. She can jog a mile in 4 minutes, 20 seconds. She moves right along."

Englished watching Tomoring Hall fire through a jog Thursday.

Englehart, watching Tamarind Hall fire through a jog Thursday

"We'll see if we can get something done on Saturday and get out of here before the hurricane hits."

Trainer Donnie Von Hemel about his weekend plans

"The key to winning those kind of races is having fast horses and staying out of the way."

Von Hemel, about winning stakes

"I want to see one person from The Saratoga Special pick me."

Trainer Chad Brown, about running Bowman's Causeway

,

"You should come get a picture of the horse, he did all the work."

Trainer David Jacobson, about Turf Writers winner Mabou

"David Jacobson paid for my Barry Manilow tickets."

Jock's agent Kevin Cox on Thursday's \$35.20 steeplechase winner Mabou "He taught him to jump in three weeks?"

Trainer Jimmy Baker, when hearing David Jacobson had claimed a horse and won the Turf Writers three weeks later

"What the hell? Part of the game, part of life."

Hall of Fame trainer Allen Jerkens, while thinking about Mabou getting claimed three weeks before the Turf Writers

"A real Grade I, the Turf Writers, on a pick-up ride. Can you believe it?"

Jockey Robbie Walsh after upsetting the Turf Writers with Mabou

"Lenclud, Solis . . . and Young."

Kip Elser watching a set of turf workers ridden by flat jockeys Freddie Lenclud, Alex Solis and jump jockey Paddy Young (guess who finished third)

"They must be stuffing them under the doors before the hurricane."

Trainer Mike Trombetta while searching for The Special Friday morning

"Don't ever school one in the paddock for the jump race, they take five minutes, you're in there forever."

Assistant trainer Jordan Blair

"Look at that mini racecourse."

Lucca Cristiano, 6, when seeing a set of jumpers jog on the jogging ring at the Annex

"Right after the Travers."

West Point Thoroughbreds' Jeff Lifson predicting– positively – Hurricane Irene's arrival

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here there... Continued from previous page



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LICENSE PLATES OF THE DAY

TACK, Massachusetts. Saddles or sailing?

SARATOGA, New York. The mini-plate on the back of Phil Serpe's golf cart

T-SHIRT SLOGAN OF THE DAY

I Tame Lions, on the backside

NAMES OF THE DAY

Never On Time, second race. The 2-year-old is out of Past Due.

Trophy Wife, fifth race. She must be pretty.

Rattlesnake Bridge, Travers. Just sounds ominous and strong.

WEATHER

Travers Day: Mostly cloudy. High, 82. Low, 68. Sunday: Hurricane Irene. Heavy rain, wind. High, 68. Low, 55

Monday: Mostly sunny. High, 74. Low, 52. Tuesday: Partly cloudy. High, 78. Low, 54.



JUST SAYIN'

"You don't need me to talk about him, you've read all the papers."

> - Trainer Todd Pletcher, about Uncle Mo's return in the King's Bishop

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5 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011

The Big One

Ten contest Saratoga's most important race

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS & SEAN CLANCY

"If you've got a horse ready to run in August, you want to be in the Travers. It's the most prestigious race of the summer."

And in those two sentences, Dale Romans summed up today's Travers, the feature race of the day, of the season.

The trainer entered Preakness winner Shackleford, fresh off finishing second in the Haskell and training with purpose all meet at Saratoga. The flashy chestnut is one of only a handful of contestants who have tried the 1 1/4 miles.

"He's going to relish it," Romans said. "I think that's his best distance. One of the best races he ever ran was the Kentucky Derby at 1 1/4 miles, the most grueling race we have in this country and he finished a good fourth. I not only think he'll like it, I think he'll improve with the 1 1/4 miles."



Tod Marks

Preakness winner Shackleford has held court at Saratoga all meet.

Shackleford has drawn the outside post position, which Romans thinks will pan out well for his colt.

"I like the post going 1 1/4 miles, if someone wants to make an unrealistic pace, we'll set off him and clock them just like we did in the Preakness and the Haskell," Romans said.

The son of Forestry has strung together perhaps the toughest and most consistent campaign of any 3-year-old this year. Shackleford broke his maiden second out at Churchill in November of his 2-year-old year.

See TRAVERS page 10 ▶

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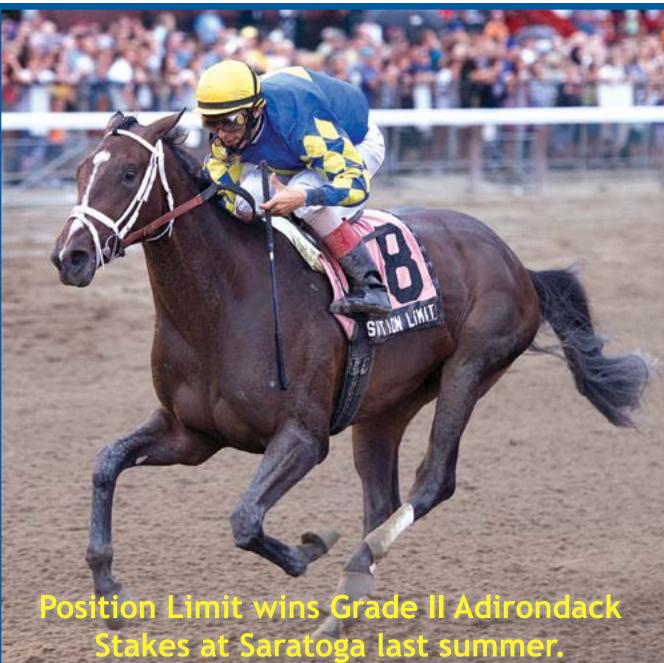
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Racing Stable Record

Nac	IIIg	Ola	DIE 1	VECO	IU				
Year	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Stakes Wins	Stakes Places	Purse Earnings	Win %	% in the Money
2011	45	16	5	2	4	2	\$729,637	35.56 %	51.11 %
2010	72	13	6	12	6	4	\$1,127,321	18.06 %	43.06 %
2009	66	14	5	8	4	8	\$1,098,854	21.21 %	40.91 %
2008	66	11	12	8	3	3	\$970,677	16.67 %	46.97 %
2007	62	13	13	7	4	13	\$1,778,494	20.97 %	53.23 %
2006	53	14	12	6	2	6	\$1,255,959	26.42 %	60.38 %
2005	40	10	5	7	5	7	\$1,600,815	25.00 %	55.00 %
2004	58	15	7	9	7	10	\$3,135,138	25.86 %	53.45 %
2003	79	20	17	11	5	6	\$2,674,742	25.32 %	60.76 %
2002	48	7	12	6	3	4	\$1,832,540	14.58 %	52.08 %
2001	31	5	9	2	4	1	\$438,401	16.13 %	51.61 %
Totals	620	138	103	78	47	64	\$16,642,578	22.26 %	51.45 %

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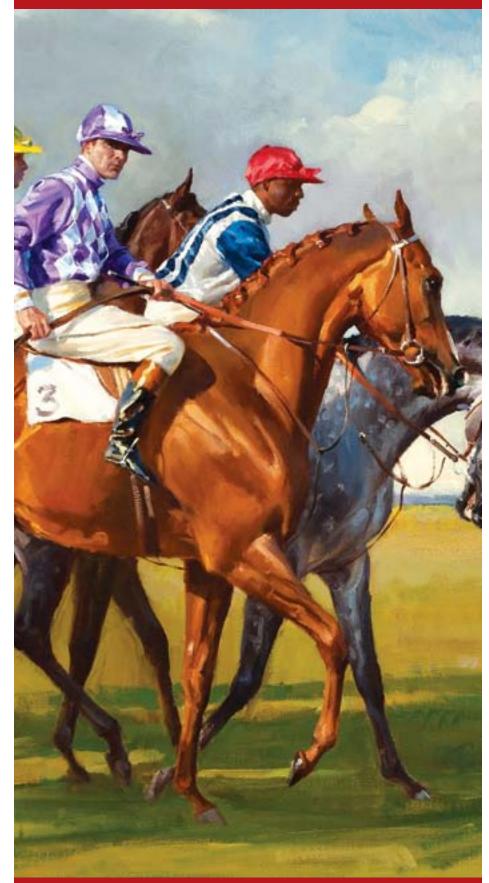
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Travers —

■ Continued from page 6

Opening 2011 with an allowance score at Gulfstream, the half-brother to Alabama winner Lady Joanne ran off the board in the Fountain Of Youth next

Uncowed, Shackleford was a close and determined second off the lead to Dialed In in the Florida Derby. He set the pace in the Kentucky Derby and held on to be fourth. In the Preakness, he pinned his ears and wheeled across the line a half-length in front of Derby winner Animal Kingdom. Undone by the 1 1/2 miles of the Belmont, Mike Lauffer and Bill Cubbedge's colt returned unfazed to run a neck second to Coil in the Haskell. Amazingly, Shackleford has gone off the favorite once in his career, in the Haskell.

"They're few and far between, I don't think you can say why one horse can take all this that we've thrown at him and improve. He's one of the few I've had," Romans said. "He keeps stepping up, taking on all challengers and he's run well in every race except for one, the Fountain of Youth, and we ran him back in the Florida Derby because he was training so well and came out of the race so well, so we took a shot. We don't like to make a habit of running 60-1 shots in Grade I stakes, but it put him on track for the rest of the year."

Like most good horses, Shackleford identified himself to Romans pretty quickly.

"I thought we had a lot to work with," Romans said. "His reputation got to me before I saw him because he was in Kentucky and Tammy (Fox) was getting on him and she had called me and told me what a nice horse we had, but when I got down there to see him, you could tell there was something special about him. He had potential any-

"He's a smart horse. Every good horse I've ever had is a smart horse," Romans continued. "He knows he's special, I think. He has a little arrogance about him. Everyone comes to visit him and bring him peppermints, everyone stands around and watches him. I think he knows it, I think he's getting a little spoiled, but he deserves it.'

Shackleford doesn't make a liar out of Romans. The big red horse has an

inertia about him. He pins his ears and drills his entire mass on the finish line, every time. It's a raw, gutsy thing, and it works.

Then, he also stands out on a slack rein in front of a busy grandstand, surveying his domain and conserving en-

"He came off the van like he owned this place and he's trained like it every day," Romans said. "Everything's done, now we just have to be fast enough."

At the end of the day, it's a privilege, to be at the helm of a horse like Shackleford. A privilege for Romans, a privilege for Jesus Castanon, who will take the reins this afternoon. Shackleford gave Romans his first classic win and the trainer is quietly aware of what that means.

'Wayne Lukas told me a long time ago that you have to earn the right to train these kind of horses," Romans said while surveying turf workouts Friday morning.

On a cool Thursday morning before the Travers, Kiaran McLaughlin tracked Rattlesnake Bridge in his golf cart. The gray colt jogged the wrong way around the outside rail and met McLaughlin in the paddock for a schooling session.

'He gets a little hot and bothered on the day and that's why we're trying to school him a little bit," McLaughlin said. "He's tough. My best example of him is, first day he came to the barn, you walk up to the stall and his head's hanging over and you push him back, he doesn't go back. He pushes back. That's his personality. He's just tough."

Mill House's 3-year-old son of Tapit took a turn of the empty paddock without turning a hair. A \$450,000 2-yearold bred by Fasig-Tipton's Bill Graves and Dennis Lynch, Rattlesnake Bridge enters the Travers off a dramatic score in the Long Branch July 9. The racy, slate-colored colt has put on weight since that start, matured out of some of his paddock antics (not that McLaughlin is taking anything for granted) and looks like a tough contender at 8-1.

"I feel like he's a teenage kid that's still improving all the time," McLaughlin said. "I think he's going to love the 1 1/4 miles. That's why we've been pointing to this spot. He came from way back, five wide in the Long Branch and Steve Young and I talked to Johnny, we'd like him to be well back because

See **TRAVERS** page 12 ▶



Stay Thirsty lives up to his name after the Jim Dandy.

Tod Marks

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Travers —

■ Continued from page 10

there's plenty of pace."

Rattlesnake Bridge partners with John Velazquez for the first time since his winning debut in February. Jose Lezcano took the reins for starts in the Timely Writer (second to Uncle Mo), the Grade II Jerome (fourth to Adios Charlie) and a first-level allowance in the slop at Belmont (second). Eddie Castro rode the gray to his nose victory in the 1 1/16-mile Long Branch, in which Rattlesnake Bridge bobbled at the break, travelled wide and made a dramatic closing move from off the pace to nail All Of The Above.

"It was tough taking Eddie off but when you have Johnny available, you don't want to leave him in the room," McLaughlin said. "Johnny rode him first time out, but we couldn't get him again. The next start was Uncle Mo, we couldn't get him again."

Rattlesnake Bridge will break from the 2-hole today.

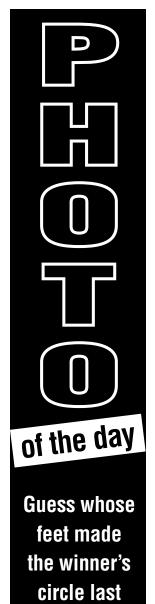
Todd Pletcher enters 5-2 favorite Stay Thirsty on the back of his 4-length performance in the Jim Dandy July 30. Mike Repole's son of Bernardini was second in the Hopeful last year and won the Gotham, but got a little lost between Aqueduct and Belmont. He ran 7th in the Florida Derby and 12th in the Kentucky Derby but returned to run second to today's rival Ruler On Ice in the Belmont.

"Doing great, training well, we're See *TRAVERS* page 14▶



Tod Marks

Travers runner J W Blue checks out the traffic on Union Avenue from his round pen.





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Tod Marks

Malibu Glow comes off a win here July 30.

Travers —

■ Continued from page 12

just looking for a repeat performance of the Jim Dandy," Pletcher said. "He's telling me that he's ready to do it again, all his preparation between races has been good, he's maintained his weight, his work here the other day was just what we wanted, we're going into it without any excuses."

The \$500,000 yearling will go to post 9 under Javier Castellano who guided Stay Thirsty to a fifth in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, a second in the Belmont and a win in the Jim Dandy.

"He's a nice horse, I was a little concerned about the pace in the Jim Dandy because there were only two horses with speed so that's why I kept him close to the pace, he took a breather on the backside, I said, 'Oh, good.' So good," Castellano said. "Turning for home, I tried to get the jump on them, I was surprised the way he kept running, he opened up. I rode his dad, I won the Jim Dandy and the Travers, I hope I can do it again. He's a handy, similar to Bernardini, you can put him anywhere you want."

Tony Dutrow sends over 20-1 shot J W Blue for Stuart Grant. The son of Sky Mesa has been knocking on the door of a few overnight stakes since turning in sixth-placed effort in the Arkansas Derby. The homebred finished second,

beaten a neck, to Awesome Bet in the \$100,000 Barbaro over a mile and 70 yards at Delaware Park last out.

"I'm well aware that it's a steeper hill we're trying to climb. I'm well aware of that," Dutrow said. "I do feel like our horse is doing great, I think he's mature, I think he's a different horse going into the Travers than he has been. His last race, that was the race that I always believed he was capable of and hoping we would see. Coming out of that race, I'm seeing him going forward in a lot of ways."

Like a few of the longer shots on the board, Dutrow takes a stab at arguably one of the most wide-open Travers in recent memory.

"There's so, so much to gain that I was going to take a try at the race," Dutrow said. "Has there been two Saturdays alike during the whole year?"

Cornelio Velasquez takes the reins today. J W Blue goes to post 8 without blinkers, worn for his four most recent starts.

Bob Baffert won this race in 2001 with Point Given and 10 years later, looks to recreate the experience with his son Coil. The Haskell winner has finished no worse than second in his last five starts, winning four, including the Swaps and the Affirmed at Hollywood. Mike Pegram and Karl Watson's chestnut colt breaks from post 7. Ridden by Martin Garcia, the 3-1 second

See TRAVERS page 16 ▶





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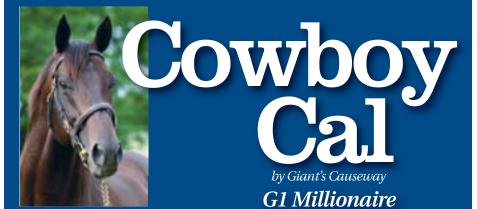
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Tod Marks

Haskell winner Coil takes a stroll at Saratoga.

Travers —

■ Continued from page 14

choice shipped from Monmouth Park to Saratoga and has rattled out three stiff breezes over the main track. Coil scratched his right eye in the Haskell and breezed with a protective cup over it.

Kelly Breen ships in Belmont winner Ruler On Ice from Monmouth. Third in the Haskell, the gelded son of Roman Ruler did not compete in the first two legs of the Triple Crown, running second in the Federico Tesio over 1 1/16 miles at Pimlico leading into the Belmont. Jose Valdivia will ride the 6-1 shot. Ruler On Ice missed the board in his first start and has finished in the top three since.

"There were a couple of times when I was disappointed in the horse, thinking he wasn't giving it his all," Breen said after the Belmont. "He always had the talent but he was always a little bit of a goofball, a free spirit, loves to jump and around do all sorts of odd antics. He's a live wire, you never know from one day to the next what he's going to do."

Bill Mott takes a shot with the lightly-raced Raison d'Etat for Juddmonte. The regally bred son of A.P Indy and Sightseek enters the race off of a second in the Curlin here July 29. A 7-length winner of a maiden special weight at Belmont June 18, Raison d'Etat will carry Eddie Castro to post 6.

Chad Brown sends Bowman's Causeway for Martin Schwartz. Second in the Prince Of Wales and fourth in the Queen's Plate, the son of Giant's Causeway goes to post under Ramon Dominguez and looks for his first win since his maiden in February.

Reade Baker takes another shot with Moonshine Mullin, who was 4 lengths adrift of Stay Thirsty in the Jim Dandy. The son of Albert The Great won the Victoria Park for Viking Farms and pairs with regular rider Emma-Jayne Wilson.

Malibu Glow enters for George Weaver and R A Hill Stable on the back of a first-level allowance score here July 30. The son of Malibu Moon partners with Rajiv Maragh.

The Travers is carded as the 12th race of the day and will go off at 5:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011

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Travers Stakes 3-1

Post Time: 5:45 p.m. Grade I • \$1 Million 3-Year-Olds • 1 1/4 Mile

1 Bowman's Causeway

Canadian-bred has only won once in his career, all the way back in February but has now put together three strong efforts, all in the Canadian Triple Crown, just missing in the Prince of Wales Stakes in his most recent start.

Trainer Chad Brown: "He's got a nice inside post where he can save ground. I have a good jockey (Ramon Dominguez). His numbers have gradually improved. He's only had three starts for me. He's got time on his side. First time he's running out of his own stall, he shipped eight hours the first three times he's run for me. He's got a good pedigree."

2 Rattlesnake Bridge

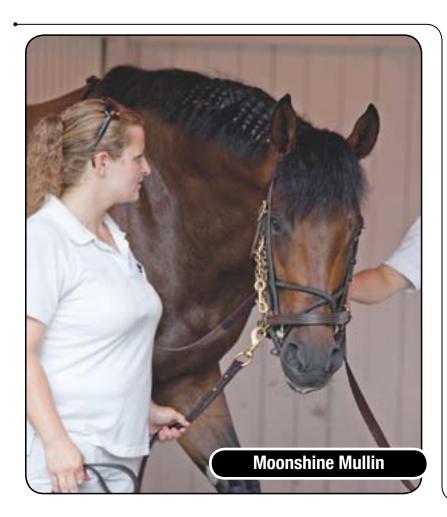
Rounding into form, fresh off a nose win in the Long Branch at Monmouth July 9. Four steady moves in the morning could have him ready for his first attempt at the distance.

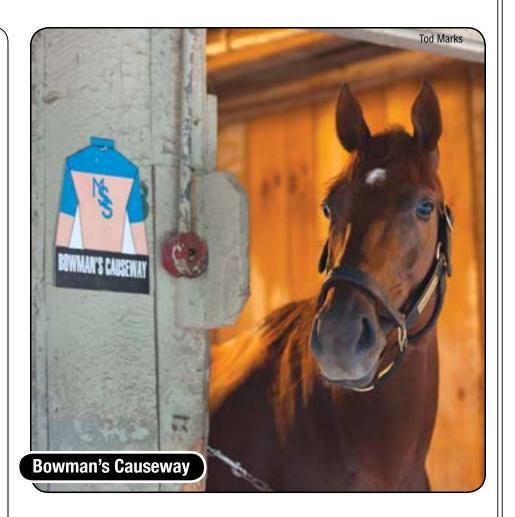
Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin: "My best example of him is, first day he came to the barn, you walk up to the stall and his head's hanging over and you push him back, he doesn't go back. He pushes back. That's his personality. He's just tough. I feel like he's a teenaged kid that's still improving all the time. The saying, the penny hasn't dropped, but it has. I think he's going to love the 1 1/4 miles. That's why we've been pointing to this spot. He came from way back five wide in the Long Branch and (racing manager) Steve Young and I talked to Johnny (Velazquez), we'd like him to be well back because there's plenty of pace."

3 Moonshine Mullin

Another one who has done most of his running in Canada, returns to Saratoga after finishing a remote second to Stay Thirsty in the Jim Dandy. Big, long-striding colt should relish the distance.

Trainer Reade Baker: "Obviously all the experts don't give us a chance in hell, but I think he's got a chance to move forward off the race simply on fitness. Having only run on the grass and the Poly, he wouldn't be as fit as he as could be running on the dirt, now he's had the dirt race, raced great, worked great the other day. I don't see why not. The distance won't bother him at all, he wasn't slowing down the other day. There were lots of guys slowing down behind him, but he wasn't. He's an old-fashioned horse, maybe he can stand that coming back in four weeks where the average modern day Thoroughbred can't."







4 Ruler On Ice

Upset Belmont winner returned to finish third behind Coil and Shackleford in the Haskell, drilled twice at Monmouth Park base since then and has proven he can handle the distance.

Trainer Kelly Breen: "It's just like going back and looking at a horse after he runs, you think he should have done this, sooner or later you get to see that the horse wasn't that good or that the horse wasn't right at the right time. That's one of the neat things of being able to develop younger horses, it's really neat to see how some of the horses grow up, how some of the horses you didn't think were that good and all of a sudden, the light bulb turns on and you say, 'I'm starting to like this horse.' He was one of those horses, that's him. It was funny, for a week after he had won (the Belmont), he was a little bit kinder, he let people come around him and he didn't bite anybody for about five days, after about six or seven days, it was like he had had enough, 'leave me alone.'"



Race Travers Stakes 3-1

Post Time: 5:45 p.m. Grade I • \$1 Million 3-Year-Olds • 1 1/4 Mile

Malibu Glow

Longshot comes out of a win against older horses in an allowance race here July 30 after failing to land a blow in the Dwyer earlier this summer.

Trainer George Weaver: "We tried a couple of stakes races with him earlier in the year and he's always acted like a horse with quality. Now that he's cleared his one-other-than and the way he did it, we were impressed with it, my goal was to find a 3-year-old stake race for him, with the Travers being one of the options, Super Derby, the Smarty Jones, there are a few options. When he won up here, one of my owners was sitting with me and he liked the horse and wanted to buy the horse privately, so the horse was bought privately within our barn. The new owner expressed an interest in running in the Travers, we sat down and talked about it and I kind of agree with him, the horse loves this track, he's been training well, so we said what the heck, let's take a shot."

Raison d'Etat

Juddmonte homebred, by champion A.P. Indy out of champion Sightseek, broke his maiden in June and finished second in the Curlin here July 29.

Trainer Bill Mott: "Tough seasoned horses in there, we're stepping up and going to give them a try. We'll find out if we belong. There's a chance that we do. He's just been a late-developing fellow. We've been on a pretty good training schedule, he's had a race over the track, things are going pretty well for him. I think we're in pretty good shape. It would be huge if he could step up.'

Jockey Eddie Castro: "There was not much pace in the other race (the Curlin). There should be pace in this one, which will help, and the extra distance will help too. He's OK, a nice horse ."

Coil

Haskell winner had his trainer on the fence about running until breezing well four days ago. Has only lost just once in his last five tries to jump into the wide-open race for the 3-year-old championship.

Trainer Bob Baffert: "The Haskell, there was a lot of people in the paddock, and Coil was fine. The other day I was schooling him during the draw, and he got a little charged up there, he got stirred up a little bit. We'll see, with the distance. It's too late, I can't get him fit now. He's as far as he's going to go."

J W Blue

Crafty trainer removes blinkers for his first foray at the distance. Two-time winner rarely runs a bad race but has always faced slightly easier competition. Squandered a lead late in the Barbaro at Delaware Park but could be rounding into his best form.

Trainer Tony Dutrow: "I do believe, I do believe our horse will run better than most of the people over there betting on the Travers think he will. All I believe is that he will run a good race, I hope that puts him somewhere around them. If I believe that, I have to take a try."

Stay Thirsty

Jim Dandy winner returns a month after his best performance when strolling to a 4-length win over Moonshine Mullin. Local training has gone without a hitch before and after his career best performance.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "Doing great, training well, we're just looking for a repeat performance of the Jim Dandy. He's telling me that he's ready to do it again, all his preparation between races has been good, he's maintained his weight, his work here the other day was just what we wanted, we're going into it without any excuses. The horse is doing really well, he likes it up here, he likes the surface, the mile and a quarter isn't a concern. We just hope we get a good trip and have some racing luck. He's pretty consistent, he just does his thing, he's pretty laid-back horse to train, just keep his program in place, not looking to be too cute. He's pretty straightforward."

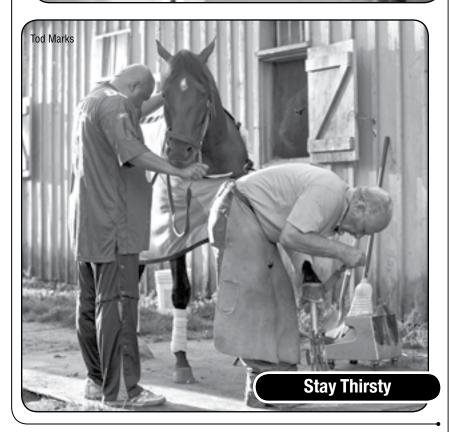
10 Shackleford

Preakness winner has danced every dance this year and seems to relish the workload, earning \$1.6 million. Shook off every challenge but one in the Haskell and is out to regain the yellow jersey from Coil and Stay Thirsty.

Trainer Dale Romans: "He's a smart horse. Every good horse I've ever had is a smart horse. He knows he's special, I think. He has a little arrogance about him. Everyone comes to visit him and bring him peppermints, everyone stands around and watches him. I think he knows it, I think he's getting a little spoiled, but he deserves it. It's been remarkable, this horse has gotten better with every race, he's gotten bigger and stronger as the year's gone on and I think he's as good today as he's ever been."









Kings]

Bishop

Post Time: 5:12 p.m. Grade I • Purse \$250,000 3-Year-Olds • 7 Furlongs

1 Flashpoint

Unbeaten in three starts at less than a mile, the son of Pomeroy checked into Saratoga from Aqueduct this week and galloped lightly Friday morning. He ran away with the Grade III Jersey Shore at Monmouth July 3, blazing 6 furlongs in 1:08 3/5.

Trainer Wesley Ward: "Fresh legs, that's the key to him. Spacing out his races and giving him time to get over them is important. He puts out such an effort that it takes awhile for him to recover from his races. We've learned that about him and he's better because of it. We'll leave the tactics to the pilot (Cornelio Velasquez), but it depends on how he breaks."

2 Caleb's Posse

Showed he wants to sprint when crushing six rivals in the Grade II Amsterdam, his first attempt at a one-turn race since November 2010.

Trainer Donnie Von Hemel: "Everything is looking good, we're ready to go. Having a race over the track and running as well as he did, I'd say my confidence level is about the same because the level of competition has stepped up. He's always been a good horse in the (feed) tub and he enjoys his job, he's professional on the racetrack. I thought we had a shot in the Amsterdam but the way he ran by them surprised me."

3 Runflatout

California shipper exits a fourth going 9 furlongs in the Grade II Swaps. Beaten a nose the last time he tried 7 furlongs before finishing second to Coil and fourth in the 9-furlong Swaps.

Trainer John Sadler: "We think he's a very good seven-eighths of a mile horse, we stretched him out and he ran really well the first one, a mile and eighth might have been a little bit further than he wants to go. We realize that this is always a really tough race but he's a pretty fast, tough horse, he ran well to Coil in California. We think he's a really nice horse and seven-eighths is a great distance for him. It's always a concern going from (synthetic to dirt) but he ran 1:07 and change (for 6 furlongs) on the dirt at Santa Anita this winter."

4 Dominus

Two-time winner ran hard to finish third in the Grade II Jim Dandy and shortens up to 7 furlongs after finishing third to two Travers starters.

Trainer Steve Asmussen: "The way the racetrack has played, the Test in 24, the slowest Whitney since 1959, the 2:03 Alabama, I'd say the racetrack is pretty taxing. It's in his best interests to not tear him up, not enough foundation to go to the Travers, he's a sharp horse, he's very handy, the weather has been nice and cool and sharpened everybody up a tad. It's an individual situation and he's a very talented horse and it's the right thing to do with him at this point. Smart Strike, Lord At War, I'm extremely curious of how he would like a wet track."

5 Poseidon's Warrior

Are those for real? Rolls to town fresh off two wild wins in Pennsylvania, makes his first start against graded stakes competition.

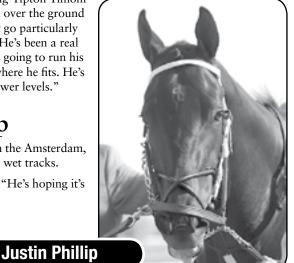
Trainer Butch Reid: "Lorna (Chavez) had all she could do to hold him (Thursday) morning. I don't think he breezed quite fast enough last week, so he was full of himself. We got him straightened out, he had a little bit of a foot issue in his first couple races of the year, a hidden abscess that came out before a couple starts ago. He always showed that ability, it was just a matter of getting him to bring it out. He trained great

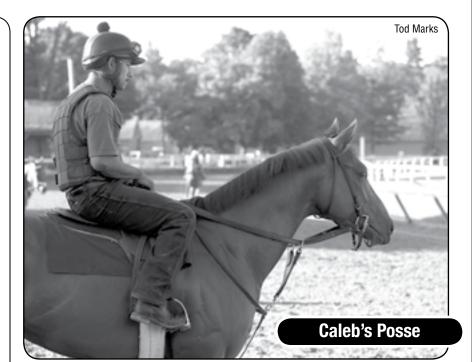
(when sold for \$90,000 at Fasig-Tipton Timonium). He looked like he floated over the ground more than anything. He didn't go particularly fast, but he just did it so easy. He's been a real athlete every since. I think he's going to run his race, we're going to find out where he fits. He's about done all he can at the lower levels."

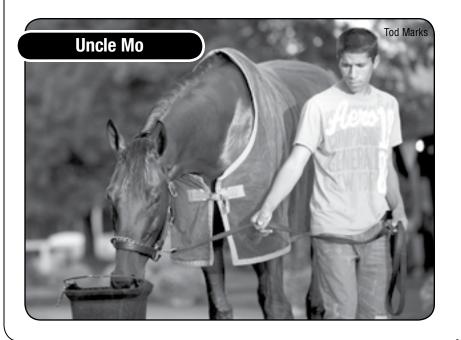
<u>6</u> Justin Phillip

Fourth behind Caleb's Posse in the Amsterdam, 0-for-2 at Saratoga, 2-for-3 on wet tracks.

Trainer Steve Asmussen: "He's hoping it's raining."







7 Uncle Mo

Last year's 2-year-old champion makes his long-anticipated return after a liver problem derailed his hopes for a dalliance on the Triple Crown scene.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "It couldn't have gone any better since he's come up here, July 11 to now, we haven't missed a beat, he's training great and I'm excited getting him going again. You're never going to make up for the fact that he wasn't ready for the Derby but it's still nice to have him back and healthy. He gained a lot of weight, richer color, better coat which he's been able to maintain through some good, solid training. I don't know what he wants to do for sure, I think he's good enough to do anything, he broke his maiden here impressively going 6 (furlongs), he stretched out to a mile, mile and a sixteenth, so I think he's one of those horses you can point to just about anything. Good horses can do it short and they can do it long. We don't know how it happened and what caused it. The concern when they diagnosed it was, is it a chronic issue or is it just a viral issue and it appears as though it was just viral and he's over it. You could tell he wasn't himself, his appetite wasn't the same, his appearance wasn't the same, he's such a classy horse, he'd still go out there and train, gallop well, breeze pretty good, but you could see some of the things weren't him. He looks great now and hasn't missed an oat."

8 Cool Blue Red Hot

Third in the Dwyer behind Dominus, comes here off a nearly two-month layoff from that effort. Two-time winner has yet to win a stakes.

Trainer Angel Penna: "It's an awful, awful tough spot. The race I really want, the one-turn mile or mile and a sixteenth, doesn't exist. I might as well stay home and run in New York. The horse is doing very, very well. It wouldn't surprise me if the horse won, because he's a good horse and he's improving. This was not my first choice, but I don't have a second choice. If we get beat, at least, I live five minutes from the track."

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Warrior Dude

Reid's charge rides streak into Grade I try

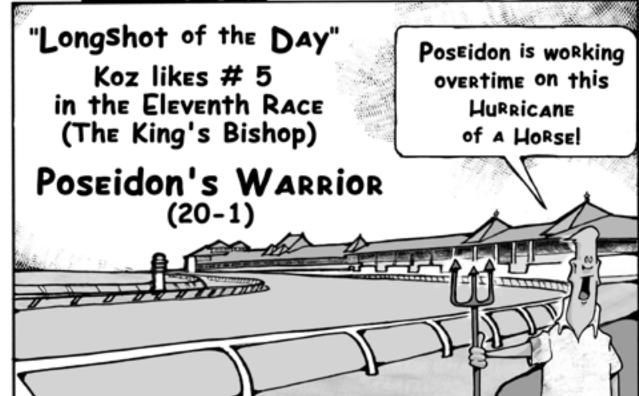
BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

"He's almost going to tip over. Look at this leg. Get over here, Hambone."

Butch Reid held Poseidon's Warrior on a loose shank while the bay colt grazed in the middle of the stakes barn. The 3-year-old son of Speightstown stood with one front leg crossed over the other, reaching back over his extended leg to crop grass. It's something Reid has seen him do over and over, but has never seen in another horse.

Poseidon's Warrior is one of eight entries in today's Grade I King's Bishop at 7 furlongs. The little colt enters the race off back-to-back scores in a second-level allowance and the \$100,000 East Hanover - which he won by a combined margin of 16 1/4 lengths.

Not a big horse, but beautifully made and oozing speed, Poseidon's Warrior shambled around picking at sprigs while Reid recalled the allowance victory June 19. The horse sprang out of the gates and never looked back, streaking under the wire 10 lengths to the good.



He ran the 6 furlongs in 1.08 flat.

"I was more concerned, I wasn't even looking at the fractions, I was just watching him through the lane," Reid said. "My brother was standing there next to me, he's also a horseman, and he's going, 'whoa, what is this?' He was just moving so effortlessly. It was brilliant."

It was that effortless movement that attracted Reid to the colt in the first place. The trainer paid \$90,000 for him at Timonium last year.

"He looked like he floated over the ground more than anything," Reid said. "He didn't go particularly

fast, but he just did it so easy. He's been a real athlete ever since.'

That athleticism has carried Poseidon's Warrior to a 4-for-9 lifetime record, winning his debut last August and finishing worse than fourth only once since. He won a restricted stakes at Monmouth by 7 lengths in September, then strung together a few losses in stakes company before blistering the field in the June 19 al-

"We got him straightened out, he had a little bit of

See **POSEIDON'S WARRIOR** page 24 ▶

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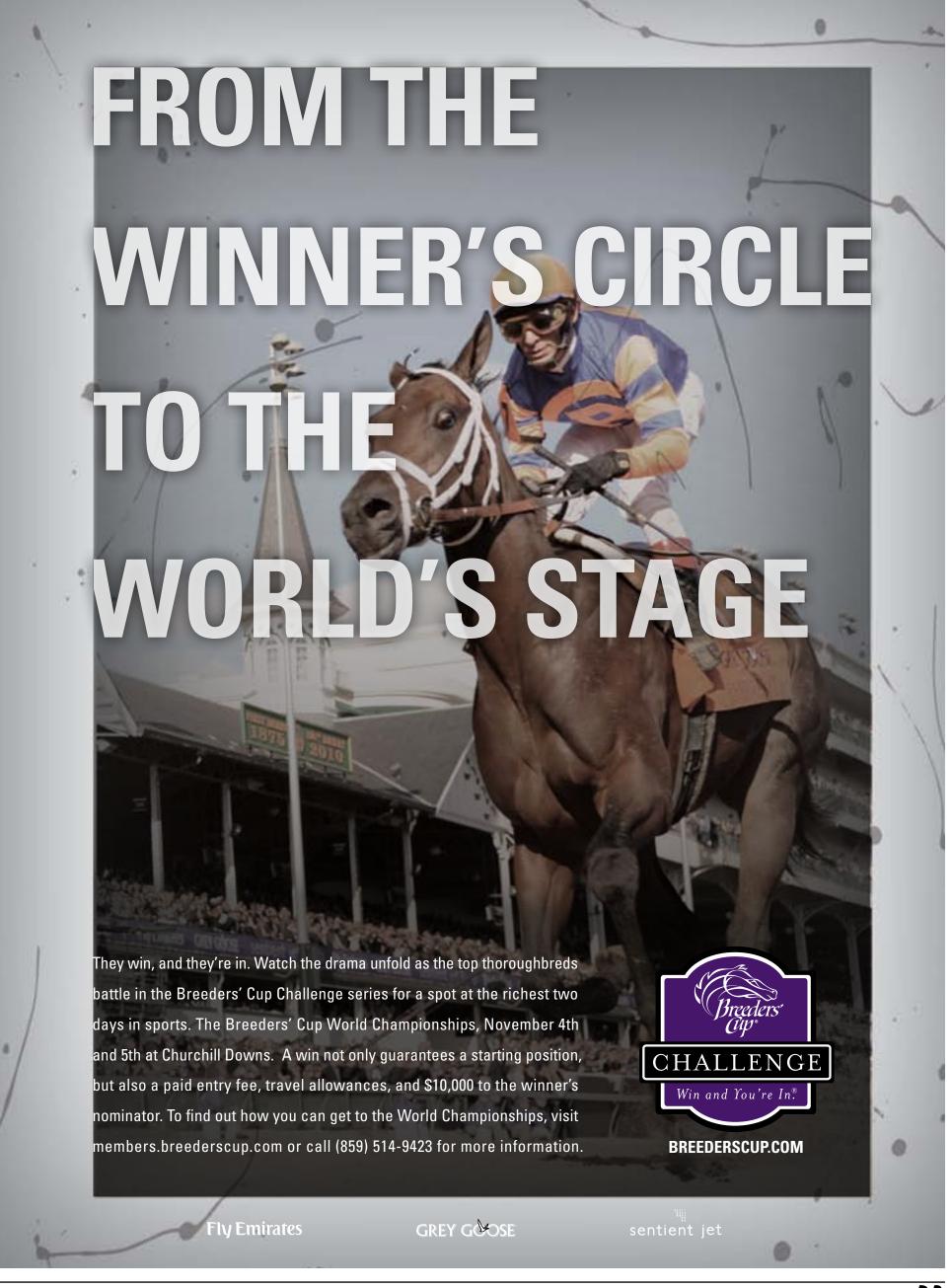






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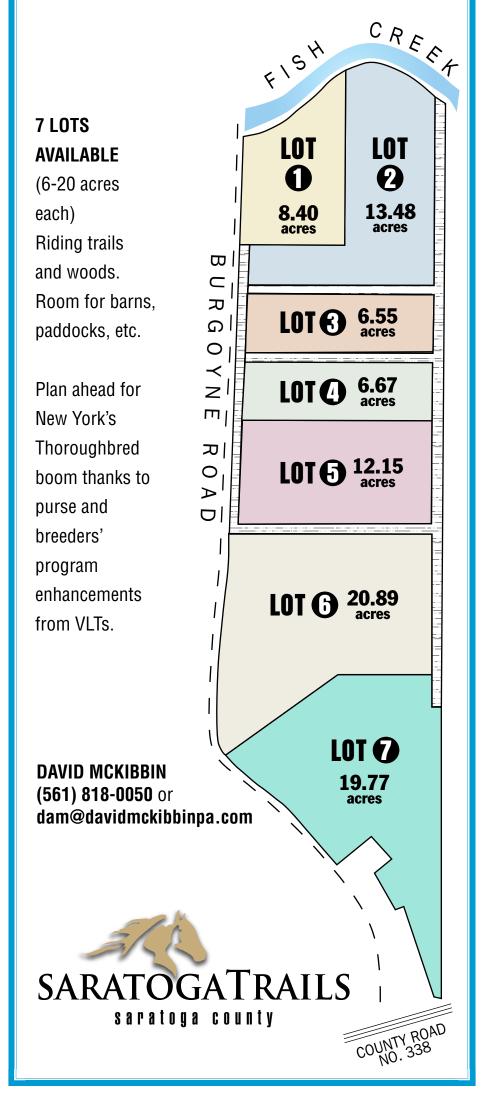




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Poseidon's Warrior —

■ Continued from page 22

a foot issue in his first couple races of like most of the speed is down inside of the year, a hidden abscess that came out before a couple starts ago," Reid said. "He always showed that ability, it was just a matter of getting him to bring it

Six furlongs in 1:08 speaks for itself, and Reid brushed aside any notion that his colt can't carry that speed over the distance of the King's Bishop.

"Penn National, the jock told me he was pulling up by the wire and the horse kind of came to him galloping out, then he re-broke and the outrider had to pull him up," Reid said. "So I don't think the seven-eighths is going to be a problem."

Poseidon's Warrior breaks from the 5-hole, a draw Reid is pleased with.

"He'll be laying close for sure, looks will take the reins today.

us," Reid said. "I really like our post position. We should be able to sit in a comfortable spot just outside the early speed. He is that kind of fast. You know he's going to go three-quarters in 8. He ran 8 flat at Philly Park and the jock never turned the stick on him. That's just plain old fast."

Reid tugged on his hungry charge, prying him away from snack time to head back under the shedrow.

"As long as you feed him, he couldn't care less," Reid said. He glanced at his wife Ginny and thought of the empty bag of Mrs. Pastures horse cookies. "She's out of cookies, he's a little pissed off about that."

Regular rider Frankie Pennington





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	GS Wins	GS Wnrs	Stk Wins	Stk Wnrs	
Team Valor International	6	4	11	8	
Peachtree	3	1	4	2	
Starlight	3	1	4	2	
Blinkers On	3	1	3	1	
Dogwood	2	1	2	1	
West Point	1	1	3	3	
Magdalena Racing	1	1	1	1	
Majestic Racing	1	1	1	1	
Thoroughbred Legends	1	1	1	1	
Class Racing	_	_	7	4	
Pinnacle Racing	_	-	3	1	
Fantasy Lane	_	_	2	1	
Centennial	_	-	1	1	
Victory Thoroughbreds	_	_	1	1	
Winners Circle Partners	-	-	1	1	
Bongo	_	-	_	_	
Elite Racing	-	-	-	_	
Funky Monkey Stable	_	_	_	_	
IEAH	-	-	-	_	
Parting Glass	_	_	_	_	
Pewter	-	-	-	_	
Sackatoga Stable	_	-	_	_	
Sovereign	_	-	-	_	
Starview	_	-	_	_	
Team Stallion	-	-	-	_	
Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones, August 20, 2011.	from reports from E	Bloodstock Journal a	nd TDN. Stats are	current through	
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 - Zow at Belmont Park for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher
 - Motion Lounge at Saratoga for Brooklyn Boyz and Dominick Schettino

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25 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011

Post Time: 4:38 p.m. Grade I • Purse \$250,000 F & M, 3 & Up • 7 Furlongs

Hour Glass

Five-year-old makes her third start of 2011 after winning three times - including the Grade II Vagrancy - in 2010.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "Tough post. She'll come from off the pace, hopefully. She's a graded stakes winner but not Grade I placed, if we got a piece of it, we'd be pretty happy. You're trying to manage some of these mares for their residual value at the end of the day.'

Tamarind Hall

Finger Lakes-based daughter of Graeme Hall upset the Grade III Bed O Roses at Belmont last month and has won four of her last five starts.

Trainer Jeremiah Englehart: "It's a Grade I and it's fairly close to home. My gut tells me, because of how she's doing, that she's going to run her race but you just don't know in this kind of race. She could run as well as she can and finish fourth, and that would be OK. That could be a really good race for her. The way it sets up is good for her. You've got a couple of speed horses, then you've got her, then you've got some closers. I'm pretty confident she's going to run her race."

Hilda's Passion

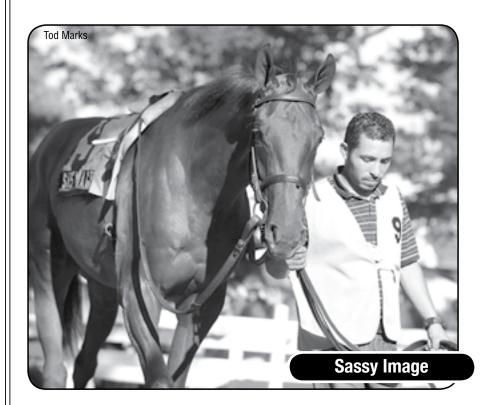
Four-year-old missed the exacta for the first time in eight tries when fading to finish sixth in the Bed O Roses at Belmont in July. Freshened, she's breezed four times in preparation for her second attempt at winning a Grade I stakes.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "Disappointed with her last race, she seemed to come out of it well and we've been pointing for this, I expect her to be back on her A game. We'll let her ramble away from there, I'd imagine she'd be on the lead or very close to it and let her do her thing. I don't know what happened, she ran terrible. Never fired at all, broke and was struggling to get to the lead. The track was peculiar that day, kind of a dead, cuppy surface for some reason and she didn't seem to handle it at all. We pulled some bloodwork, looked her over, obviously scoped her and we really never came up with a concrete excuse, it seems like she's training really well again. We didn't do much, it was a maintenance program in between two races, off a big effort, she might have just reacted to the big race before that."

Bronx City Girl

Claimed for \$50,000 in May 2010, daughter of Yankee Gentleman has hit the board in six stakes since, but has yet to win for trainer Marty Wolfson. Exits a tough loss in the Regret at Monmouth.

Jockey Julien Leparoux: "The two times I rode her, I left her alone for the first part and after that she made a nice move. She doesn't have this very big kick, she just keeps on going, so hopefully she has a good chance. It depends what (trainer Marty Wolfson) is going to tell me, and how much speed is in the race, maybe she will be closer, maybe she will be further back. This is the first time I've seen her since Florida. She's pretty easy to ride, so it will be no problem."







Devil By Design

Two-time winner over the track, 5-year-old mare started once this year, taking a Grade III over Arlington's Polytrack. Finished fourth, beaten two necks for second in this race last year. Nice breeze four days ago.

Trainer Bill Mott: "She will benefit from a real hot pace which we could get. She's doing well, she's had one race this year and plenty of time in between. She got a little piece last year; if we don't win, I'd love to see her on the board in a Grade I. It's so important for the fillies to get black type."

Tar Heel Mom

No horse has trained better during the meet than the 11-time winner, who took the Honorable Miss by nearly 6 lengths earlier in the meet. Has won three times at the distance but has also lost five times at the distance.

Trainer Stan Hough: "She's something, every time. She's a beautiful filly, great to be around, kind. She's great to train. Six furlongs is her distance, you can see how she gallops out. I'm not sure about stretching her out to 7 furlongs but she likes this place and it might be a good place to try it."

Sassy Image

Seven-time winner goes for her fourth consecutive graded stakes victory. Shipped to Calder to win the Princess Rooney, bounced out of it with two sprightly breezes over the main track.

Trainer Dale Romans: "We kind of laid out three or four races with this being the goal. She had run three hard races in a row. She's a big strong filly but just a little break hopefully will do her good, have her coming into this race perfect. She touts herself, lets you know when she's ready to run. Her work the other day (5 furlongs in 58 3/5 seconds) told me she was ready to roll. How fast she went around there and she did it well in hand, and the way she galloped out and when she got back to the barn, it was like she'd never done anything. She was a good 2-year-old and she got a little messed up in her 3-year-old year with a couple of nagging problems, but this year when she came back she had to have a minor throat surgery and that's when she turned around completely. Made all the difference in the world."



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Saturday, October 1

For Fillies and Mares Three Year Olds and Upward One Mile and Seventy Yards (All Weather)
Closing Wednesday, September 21, 2011

The Presque Isle Debutante

\$150,000

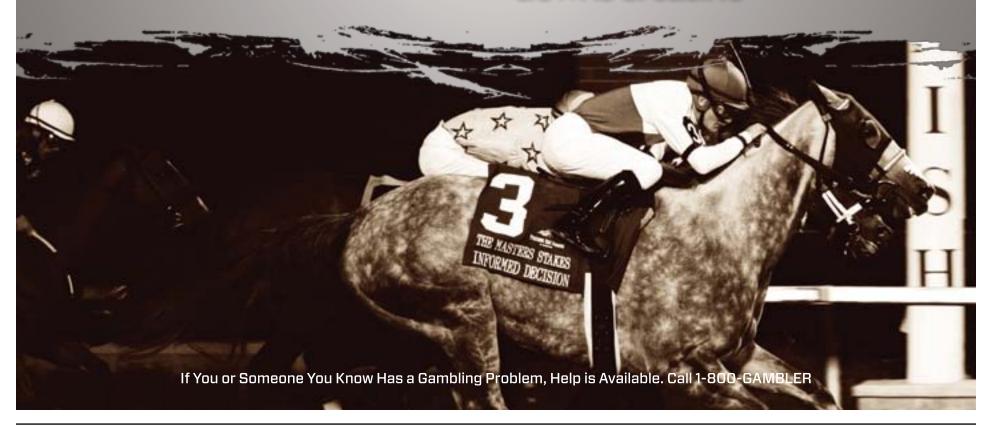
Saturday, October 1

For Fillies Two Year Olds Six Furlongs (All Weather) Closing Wednesday, September 21, 2011

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Return Shot

Tamarind Hall, Englehart eye another graded stakes

BY JOE CLANCY

After a tough winter at Penn National, Tamarind Hall took her place in trainer Jeremiah Englehart's barn at Finger Lakes. And became the running joke.

"She doesn't look like your other horses," Englehart's railbird friends would say as the 4-year-old filly went to the track. "She's skinny. She's not carrying any weight. Doesn't she eat? Don't you feed her?"

Things got so bad Englehart shipped her to Aqueduct and ran her for a \$15,000 claiming tag – "just to get a win." She obliged, didn't get claimed, put Penn in her rearview mirror, started eating, defeated Finger Lakes sprint ace Lisa's Booby Trap in June. And silenced the peanut gallery for good with a Grade III stakes score in Belmont's Bed O Roses July 3. Eklektikos Stable's daughter of Graeme Hall goes after Grade I glory as part of a standout field in today's Ballerina.

"When I got her back to Finger

BALLERINA STAKES

Lakes this spring she really blossomed," said Englehart, son of Finger Lakes legend Chris Englehart. "She didn't have a great winter, she wasn't eating great, she wasn't happy at Penn. I don't think she liked the surface, it was all her mental state. She had a horrible winter. I had a horrible winter."

The Florida-bred looked happy Thursday, jogging to the gate for a stand-in and galloping 1 1/4 miles for exercise rider Elizabeth Dobles. Fit, robust, ready, she is the 6-1 fourth choice behind divisional standouts Hilda's Passion, Sassy Image and Tar Heel Mom today. Englehart brought her to Saratoga early in hopes of settling some recent pre-race nerves – hers and his.

"She's very ladylike, professional, but she gets a little fired up in the paddock sometimes," said Englehart. "I school her before races and saddle her on the walk and she's been fine. I normally

See **BALLERINA** page 30 ▶



Maggie Kimmitt

Tamarind Hall walks with Elizabeth Dobles at Saratoga this week.



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Aaron's Concorde Allen's Prospect Alster **Ameri Valay** Amerrico's Bullet **Appealing Skier Awad** Bishop's Other Boy Bowman's Band Carnivalay **Cat Country** Cherokee's Boy Citidancer Concern Country Only **Crowd Pleaser** Cruisin' Dixie Crypto Star **Dance With Ravens Deputed Testamony Deputy Storm**

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Dr. Best
Eastern Echo
Fantasticat
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Go for Gin
Goldmember
Great Notion
Greek Sun

Diamond

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Greek Sun
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Gyrfalcon (GB)
Hawk in Flight
Horatius
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Itaka
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Medallist M Eighty Mogador Mojave Moon Mr. Shoplifter Mr. Zill Bear No Armistice Not For Love Oh Say One Golf Sierra Ops Smile Oratory Our Emblem Outflanker Parker's Storm Cat Partner's Hero Perfecting **Polish Miner Polish Numbers** Polish Payola **Precious Marque**

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Ballerina —

■ Continued from page 28

would ship the same day to run here and I was real nervous about changing things this time, but I think it's the right move. She's been here since Monday."

An assistant for his father, Mike Hushion and Ken McPeek over the years, Englehart also spent a summer working on the starting gate in Saratoga. He first took out a license in 2003, but really struck out on his own in 2007 – when his starts jumped to 236 from 58 the year before. He won his first stakes that year and is batting 20 percent with 40 winners this year. The Bed O Roses was his first graded stakes victory.

He trains 40 horses at Finger Lakes, but just one as good as Tamarind Hall – a private purchase out of Woodbine late last year for owner Mark Vondrasek.

"Being a little bit of an underdog takes a lot of the pressure away, but I get real nervous before races," he said. "Last year you wouldn't have said I'd be bringing a horse in for the Ballerina, I'm 1-9 to sweat more than Todd Pletcher. I ran a horse here the other day and I looked like I just got done running 6 miles and I don't run."

Englehart should relax and let his filly do the sweating.

Tamarind Hall has won four of her last five and defeated Ballerina favorite Hilda's Passion (from Pletcher's barn) in the Bed O Roses. The trainer liked the filly's upside when he made the purchase and had a soft spot for liver chestnut Graeme Hall fillies after training \$300,000 earner Graeme Six.



Maggie Kimmitt

Trainer Chris Englehart sponges Ballerina contender Tamarind Hall.

"I mainly bought her for the dirt," he said. "She's won six of her 10 starts on dirt and when I first got her, the riders who got on her said she was really nice. She was outworking some of my dad's better horses."

She won her first try for Englehart last November, then weathered the storm with three defeats at Penn before

the Aqueduct start. Risked for \$15,000, she went off the 4-5 favorite and won easily. She answered that with an optional-claiming score at Penn, suffered a narrow loss to the Chris Engleharttrained E Z Passer at Finger Lakes, then dominated a 6-furlong allowance at Finger Lakes. That race, and the various speed figures hollered to him after-

ward, convinced Englehart to head for Belmont Park and the Bed O Roses. He saw Hilda's Passion in the assembly barn, nearly went back home, gulped and saddled his filly anyway – and got an unlikely win at 16-1.

"I didn't sweat running her for 15 a whole lot when I did it, but if I had a crystal ball and could see the future it would have been a lot different," he said. "I'd be talking to myself now if I lost her and she went on to do what she's done."

Englehart taps David Cohen for the Ballerina assignment and hopes to see Tamarind Hall sit between the speed-sters and the closers in the 7-furlong race.

"I think you'll see Hilda's Passion and Tar Heel Mom 1-2 going down the backside and I'm going to try to lay right behind them and pick my time to try to get them," the trainer said. "I know there are some awfully nice fillies in there, I know it's a Grade I and I know it's Saratoga."

And Tamarind Hall knows it's a long way from Penn National.

Read The Special

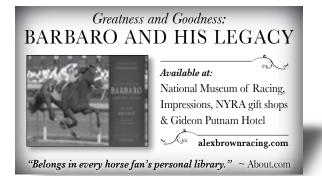
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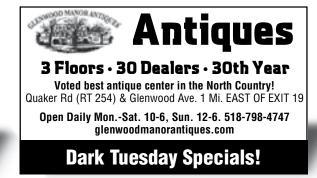
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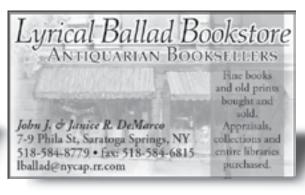






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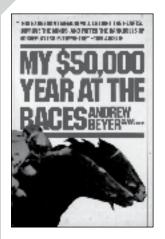
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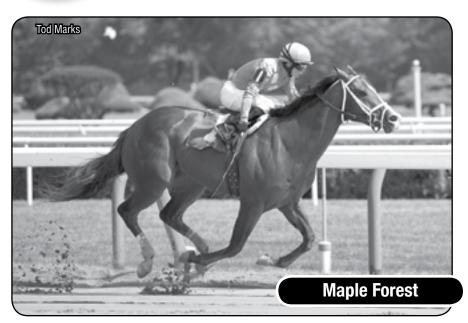
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31 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011



Victory Ride

Post Time: 4:03 p.m. Grade III • Purse \$100,000 3YO Fillies • 6 Furlongs



1 Maple Forest

Blue Heaven Farm homebred attempts to win her first graded stakes, fresh off winning the Dearly Precious at Monmouth Park July 10.

Trainer Todd Pletcher: "Tough post. She broke her maiden here, doesn't mind it wet if that were to happen, she's coming off a good win and trying to get graded black type is the strategy. Once we got that stake win, we can step out and be a little more aggressive. Obviously from the 1 hole, you've got to come out running."

2 Jealous Girl

Broke maiden for a \$25,000 tag in her second career start and has run the table since, winning four in a row. Makes her graded stakes debut.

Trainer Tony Dutrow: "When she won in May that was her race to go to the Prioress and she came out of that race with a left shin, that ruined the Prioress. I had to back off and go again, had to come up with the plans for the next deal and that's the Victory Ride. The best laid plans didn't work out and now she's finally getting to race against some nice fillies. She has not raced against a filly worth 5 cents and I'm aware of that. We believe in her, we'll see if we are right, she does face obstacles she's never faced before, she's going to face a quality horse and she may not get the lead. She's got some question marks on her but what can I tell you, we believe in her."

3 A Z Warrior

California invader won the Frizette in the fall before finishing last in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies and third in the Santa Anita Oaks in March.

Trainer Bob Baffert: "I tried to get her ready for the Test, but I ran out of time, so I brought her here. But I didn't think it would come up that damn tough. I wanted to be on the outside with her. She's speed, the one time she got behind horses, she didn't like that at all. She's going to run a big race, I just hope she gets away clean and doesn't get a whole lot of dirt in her face."

4 Oflee Wicked

Ventured east from New Mexico for the Mine That Bird team, handled allowance foes at Monmouth but has yet to win a stakes.

Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin: "We pointed for the Miss Woodford at Monmouth and it didn't go. There weren't too many spots available so we'll take a shot. She was game in the one race she ran for us, ran a great race. We hooked a tough group, but Jose Valdivia is here anyway and can ride her back. She's a three other-than and that's a tough condition so we thought we'd try this."

5 Funny Sunny

Forced to try the turf to get a prep for this, two-time winner came running to miss by a nose in the Lucy Scribner 16 days ago.

Trainer Bob Hess: "We love Funny Sunny, she's got the best attitude in the world. In fact, that night we gave her her feed at 6:15 and by 7:15, she was done with what she normally gets and we added another scoop and she was done by 10 o'clock, so it doesn't seem like it took anything out of her. Mentally and physically, everything is A-plus. No excuses. We're ready to rumble."

6 Hot Summer

Virginia-bred is a three-time winner, including the Comely at Aqueduct in April. Returns for her first run since finishing third in the 9-furlong Black Eyed Susan.

Trainer David Fawkes: "Shortening her up is basically because I gave her some time and freshened her. She was too rank at Pimlico and this was the next logical spot timewise, I would love if it was seven-eighths but it is what it is, she's done everything right on her comeback, like she never missed any time at all."

7 Precious Soul

Irving Cowan homebred upset a first-level allowance here Aug. 1, when drawing off to win by 6 lengths at today's distance. Makes her fifth career start.

Trainer Allen Jerkens: "What you see is what you get, I guess. She breezed good. It's awful tough, I didn't think it would be quite that tough, but who knows, every once in a while you think it's tough and you wind up being lucky. You can't tell if you don't run. She blew out strong on Tuesday."

8 Valiant Passion

Allowance winner earlier in the meet is likely to scratch.

9 Roman Treasure

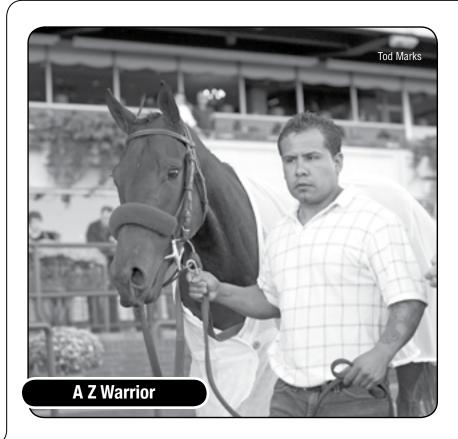
Three-time winner picked up a valuable line of black type when holding on for third in the Grade I Test earlier in the meet. She won't face Turbulent Descent today.

Trainer Mike Hushion: "It's a hell of a race for a \$100,000 (purse), not as much of a cutback talent-wise from the Test as I thought it was going to be. She's doing well, everything's a go. We've got an interesting post position, especially with the amount of speed in there. She's very tough, she's real speed. They could go 44 flat, they could go 43 and 4."

1A Moon Buzz

Undefeated in just two starts, Sy Bon Racing's homebred gets the acid test from the outside post.

Trainer Steve Margolis: "The race is loaded with speed, our best shot is to sit back and make a run. There are seven horses with speed. She's a nice filly, done everything right, she's never faced this calibre of horses. It's a killer race."





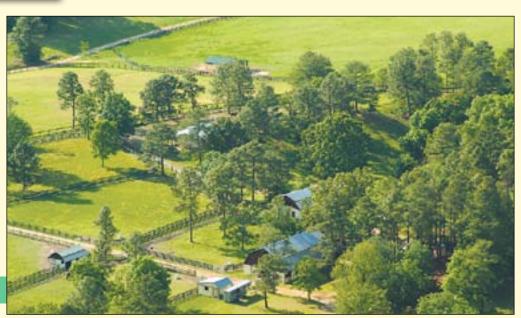


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SATURDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

2	• <i>)</i> ^	IURDAY	SARATU	A ENTRI	_5
18	T (11	y, August 27. : 35AM). \$62,000, AI			
		Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily [
1	1	Mineswept	C. Velasquez	R. Rodriguez	3-1
	11	Shrewd One	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	3-1
2	2	Enclosure	C. Nakatani	R. Moquett	20-1
3	3	Global Power	J. Castellano	C. Brown	7-2
4	4	Wanstead	R. Dominguez	S. Benzel	12-1
5	5	Six Flings	J. Espinoza	B. Callejas	8-1
6	6	Rein King	E. Castro	J. Terranova, II	15-1
7	7	Nacho Saint	J. Valdivia, Jr.	K. Breen	10-1
8	8	Sam Sparkle	D. Cohen	G. Contessa	10-1
9	9	Pretty Boy Freud	I. Ortiz, Jr.	L. O'Brien	30-1
10	10	Keep Me Informed	K. Desormeaux	W. Mott	5-1
11	12	August Osage	J. Lezcano	M. Hennig	20-1
12	13	Truelee Scrappin	J. Leparoux	M. Maker	8-1
2N	D (12	2:05PM). \$60,000, M	SW, 2 YO, 6F		
		Quinella, Trifecta, Pic		е	
1	4	Our Entourage	J. Velazguez	T. Pletcher	8-5
1a	5	Never On Time	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	8-5
2	1	Awaited	K. Desormeaux	J. Chapman	10-1
3	2	Fire On Ice	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	6-1
4	3	Dustin' the Rest	J. Espinoza	E. Smith	30-1
5	6	Penn's Grant	C. Velasquez	B. Tagg	10-1
6	7	Gold Megillah	J. Rose	H. Motion	8-1
7	8	Covert Ops	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	4-1
8	9	Casual Trick	C. Nakatani	N. Zito	7-2
3R	D (12	2:37PM). \$61,000, M	SW. 2 YO. 1 1/16M	(TURF)	
		Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D		` '	

3R	3RD (12:37PM). \$61,000, MSW, 2 YO, 1 1/16M (TURF)								
Exa	ictà, ⁻	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D	ouble	·					
1	1	Affirmed Warrior	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	15-				
2	2	Politicallycorrect	R. Dominguez	W. Ward	10-				
3	3	Master Achievement	C. Velasquez	D. Fawkes	12-				
4	4	Shkspeare Shaliyah	R. Maragh	D. Shivmangal	20-				
5	5	State Flag	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	12-				
6	6	Coach Royal	E. Castro	W. Mott	4-				
7	7	School Spirit	J. Castellano	C. Brown	7-				
8	8	Chalybeate Springs	R. Albarado	D. Lukas	15-				
9	9	Seve	K. Desormeaux	D. Romans	8-				
10	10	Anonymous Donor	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	6-				
11	11	Tiger Walk	M. Garcia	I. Correas, IV	15-				
12	12	Daddy Nose Best	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	5-				
13	ΑE	Speightscity	J. Castellano	G. Contessa	12-				
14	ΑE	Ventura Bar	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	10-				

4TH (1:10PM). \$37,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF) Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double 1 AF Tiger Willie Í. Ortiz. Jr. D. Shivmangal

	/ \L	rigor vviillo	1. 01112, 01.	D. Omvinangai	20 1
1a	MTO	Merlin Bay		D. Shivmangal	20-1
2	1	French Transition	A. Lezcano	F. Martin, Sr.	30-1
3	2	Hanson Heights	A. Solis	S. Benzel	8-1
4	3	Good Prospect	J. Castellano	C. Brown	3-1
5	4	R J Hope	R. Dominguez	J. Iselin	20-1
6	5	Montesquieu	J. Leparoux	C. Clement	4-1
7	6	Fine Flyer	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Rodriguez	12-1
8	7	Desert Wheat	J. Lezcano	W. Mott	6-1
9	8	Indy Scent	E. Castro	L. Gyarmati	12-1
10	9	Self Made Man	C. Velasquez	B. Brown	20-1
11	10	Piazza Di Spagna	R. Maragh	G. Sciacca	20-1
12	11	Giarixa	K. Desormeaux	R. Hess, Jr.	15-1
13	12	Monzante	R. Albarado	D. Romans	7-2
14	ΑE	Slamm'n Lou	D. Cohen	W. Badgett, Jr.	12-1
15	MTO	Majestic Hope		G. Contessa	7-2
CT	11 /4 . /	##DR#\ &&A AAA R#	\W 0 VO F CF		

5TH (1:44PM). \$60,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 6F							
Exa	ıcta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4,	Daily Double				
1	1	Bonnie Parker	M. Garcia	E. Guillot	15-		
2	2	Try to Catch Her	J. Castanon	D. Von Hemel	12-		
3	3	Yellow Boat	R. Dominguez	S. Benzel	12-		
4	4	Stellabymoonlight	K. Desormeaux	D. Romans	5-		
5	5	Wee Party	J. Velazquez	W. Mott	9-		
6	6	Trophy Wife	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	10-		
7	7	Miss Netta	R. Maragh	K. McLaughlin	6-		
8	8	Black and White	C. Nakatani	G. Contessa	10-		
9	9	Manda Bay	C. Velasquez	B. Tagg	10-		
10	10	Mi Vida	D. Cohen	E. Guillot	7-		

6TH (2:18PM). \$52,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 5 1/2F (TURF)

	٠,	- , , - , ,	, ,	, - , , - ,	,
X	icta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D)ouble		
1	1	Juliann's Approval	E. Prado	R. Persaud	20-
2	2	Sextant	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	7-
3	3	Sarah's Pleasure	R. Dominguez	T. Pletcher	9-
1	4	Frazzie	J. Leparoux	J. Baker	8-
5	5	Strategic Missile	J. Castellano	K. Feron	10-
3	6	Lights Out Lisa	R. Maragh	B. Callejas	6-
7	7	Akira	J. Lezcano	F. Abbott	6-
3	8	Persky's Heart	R. Curatolo	J. Ortiz	30-
)	9	Catchapenny K.	I. Ortiz, Jr.	E. Barker	15-
10	10	McKenzie River	J. Rodriguez	J. Hertler	30-
11	11	Gambling Geraldine	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	6-
12	12	Eden Is Burning	E. Castro	T. Bush	8-
13	ΑE	Carmella Cee	R. Curatolo	D. Galluscio	15-
14	ΑE	Flying Sappho	R. Dominguez	R. Rodriguez	3-
15	MTO	Moshe Diane		D. Donk	5-

7TH (2:53PM). \$53,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF) Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

LXC	ıcıa,	itticula, riu o, Dally D	UUDIG		
1	1	Seattle Mission	C. Velasquez	B. Tagg	9-2
2	2	Wishingonadream	J. Rodriguez	G. DiSanto	30-1
3	3	Artie Luvsto Party	D. Cohen	T. Bush	20-1
4	4	Majestic Raffy	A. Lezcano	J. Aquilino	15-1
5	5	Mr. Hooker	R. Curatolo	G. Sciacca	30-1
6	6	Fizzano	R. Dominguez	H. Bond	7-2
7	7	Gamblin Fever	E. Prado	P. Ortiz	6-1
8	8	Atitlan	J. Castellano	C. Brown	5-1
9	9	Rocky World	J. Espinoza	R. Metivier	15-1
10	10	Deciphering Dreams	J. Velazquez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	4-1
11	11	Hangover Kid	J. Lezcano	J. Servis	12-1
12	12	Living Right	I. Ortiz, Jr.	M. Hennig	12-1
13	ΑE	Tapitdar	E. Prado	R. Metivier	15-1
14	ΑE	Fugedaboudit Sandy	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Shivmangal	30-1
15	MTO	Southbeachsandy		A. Dutrow	5-2
16	MTO	Wee Freudian		R. Schosberg	3-1
8TI	H (3:2	98PM) \$200.000 BAI	LISTON SPA 3&UP.	F&M . 1 1/16M (T	URF)

Ex	acta, i	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, [Daily Double	•	•
1	1	Miss Keller (IRE)	J. Castellano	R. Attfield	10-1
2	2	Romacaca	E. Baird	N. Canani	7-2
3	3	Daveron (GER)	E. Castro	H. Motion	3-1
4	4	Desert Sage (GB)	J. Lezcano	C. Brown	5-1
5	5	Mekong Melody (IRE)	J. Velazquez	R. Attfield	8-1
6	6	Trix in the City	S. Bridgmohan	R. Violette, Jr.	12-1
7	7	Aviate (GB)	J. Leparoux	W. Mott	4-1
8	8	Strike the Bell	R. Dominguez	D. Donk	15-1
9	9	Tapitsfly	R. Albarado	D. Romans	10-1

9TH (4:03PM). \$100,000, STK - THE VICTORY RIDE, 3 YO, F, 6F

Ex	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4	, Daily Double		
1	1	Maple Forest	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	8-
1a	10	Moon Buzz	S. Bridgmohan	S. Margolis	8-
2	2	Jealous Girl	J. Rose	A. Dutrow	3-
3	3	A Z Warrior	M. Garcia	B. Baffert	6-
4	4	Oflee Wicked	J. Valdivia, Jr.	K. McLaughlin	20-
5	5	Funny Sunny	K. Desormeaux	R. Hess, Jr.	6-
6	6	Hot Summer	C. Velasquez	D. Fawkes	8-
7	7	Precious Soul	E. Prado	H. Jerkens	12-
8	8	Valiant Passion	J. Leparoux	H. Motion	7-
9	9	Roman Treasure	R. Dominguez	M. Hushion	5-
			•		

10TH (4:38PM). \$250,000, STK - THE BALLERINA, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 7F

:X	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily	Double		
	1	Hour Glass	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	12-1
2	2	Tamarind Hall	D. Cohen	J. Englehart	6-1
3	3	Hilda's Passion	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	2-1
1	4	Bronx City Girl	J. Leparoux	M. Wolfson	15-1
5	5	Devil by Design	C. Nakatani	W. Mott	8-1
3	6	Tar Heel Mom	A. Solis	S. Hough	7-2
7	7	Sassy Image	R. Albarado	D. Romans	5-2
		-			

11TH (5:12PM). \$250,000, STK - THE FOXWOODS KING'S BISHOP, 3 YO, 7F Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Flashpoint	C. Velasquez	w. ward	5-2
2	2	Caleb's Posse	R. Maragh	D. Von Hemel	9-2
3	3	Runflatout	R. Albarado	J. Sadler	8-1
4	4	Dominus	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	6-
5	5	Poseidon's Warrior	F. Pennington	R. Reid, Jr.	20-
6	6	Justin Phillip	R. Dominguez	S. Asmussen	15-1
7	7	Uncle Mo	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	9-5
8	8	Cool Blue Red Hot	M. Cruz	A. Penna, Jr.	12-1

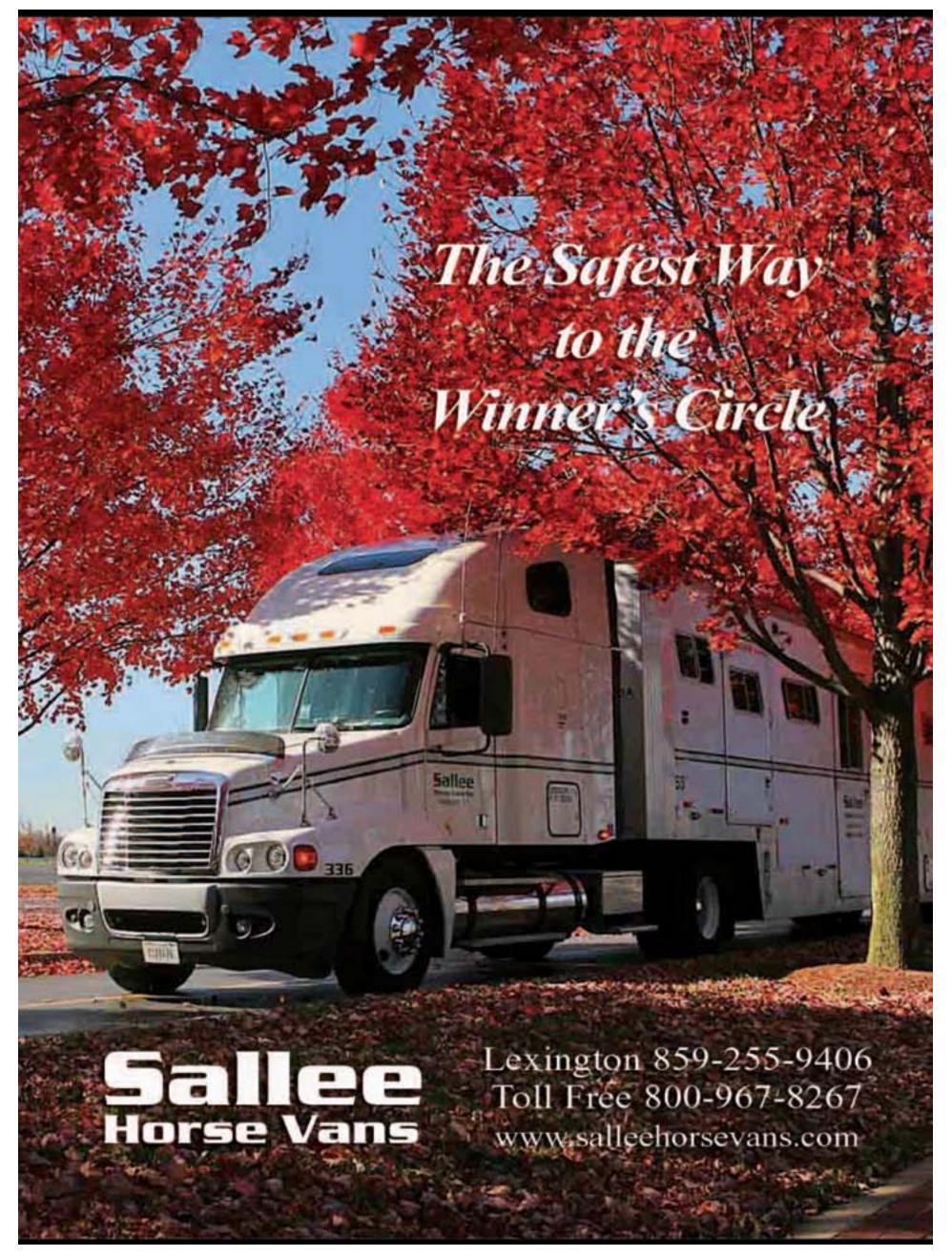
12TH (5:45PM). \$1,000,000, STK - THE TRAVERS, 3 YO, 1 1/4M

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double							
1	1	Bowman's Causeway	y R. Dominguez	C. Brown	12-1		
2	2	Rattlesnake Bridge	J. Velazquez	K. McLaughlin	8-1		
3	3	Moonshine Mullin	E. Wilson	R. Baker	20-1		
4	4	Ruler On Ice	J. Valdivia, Jr.	K. Breen	6-1		
5	5	Malibu Glow	R. Maragh	G. Weaver	20-1		
6	6	Raison d'Etat	E. Castro	W. Mott	10-1		
7	7	Coil	M. Garcia	B. Baffert	3-1		
8	8	J W Blue	C. Velasquez	A. Dutrow	20-1		
9	9	Stay Thirsty	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	5-2		
10	10	Shackleford	J. Castanon	D. Romans	9-2		

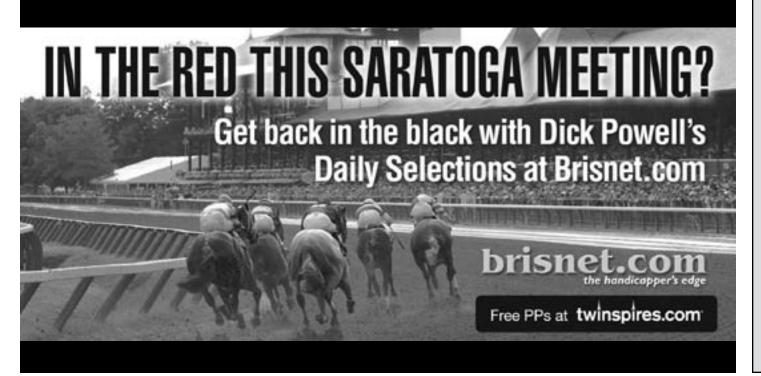
13TH (6:18PM). \$51,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

13111 (0.101 M). \$31,000, M3W, 3 10 3 & 01, 1 1/10M (INNEIL 10111)							
Exa	acta,	Trifecta					
1	1	Windafull	R. Maragh	D. Duggan	4-1		
2	2	What's the Record	J. Castanon	I. Correas, IV	10-1		
3	3	Zen Power	R. Curatolo	E. Barker	12-1		
4	4	Majesty's Pilgrim	A. Solis	A. Tschan	15-1		
5	5	Knock Quietly	R. Dominguez	S. Schwartz	8-1		
6	6	Nykid Time to Jazz	F. Lenclud	D. Shivmangal	30-1		
7	7	Greeley's Law	J. Rodriguez	G. DiSanto	20-1		
8	8	Cincinnati Kid	E. Prado	E. Miller	3-1		
9	9	Fast Grievance	J. Espinoza	G. Contessa	8-1		
10	10	Mightylover	J. Velazquez	D. Schettino	7-2		
11	11	Polaris Dream	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Barbara	12-1		
12	12	Carmel Bay	J. Chavez	C. Martin	30-1		
	ΑE	Purple Pico	J. Rodriguez	L. O'Brien	20-1		
14	ΑE	Jacob's Dream	F. Lenclud	C. O'Brien	15-1		
15	ΑE	Imaspeedyguy	J. Chavez	P. Kelly	4-1		
16	MTO	Piscesbymoonlight		R. Schosberg	2-1		

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the Powe l gric					
Race #	John Shapazian	Gaile Fitzgerald	Dean Keppler	Erin Finley	Charles Bedard
1	Flying Zee Entry Global Power Rein King	Global Power Flying Zee Entry Keep Me Informed	Global Power Flying Zee Entry Rein King	Flying Zee Entry Nacho Saint Global Power	Global Power Six Flings Rein King
2	Repole Entry Casual Trick Gold Megillah	Repole Entry Covert Ops Casual Trick	Casual Trick Pletcher Entry Fire On Ice	Repole Entry Gold Megillah Casual Trick	Covert Ops Pletcher entry Gold Megillah
3	Coach Royal School Spirit Politicallycorrect Good Prospect	Coach Royal Daddy Nose Best School Spirit Majestic Hope	Politicallycorrect Coach Royal Anonymous Donor Fine Flyer	Coach Royal State Flag Anonymous Donor Good Prospect	Coach Royal Seve Daddy Nose Best Hanson Heights
4	Desert Wheat Montesquieu Stellabymoonlight	Good Prospect Monzante Stellabymoonlight	Hanson Heights Good Prospect Trophy Wife	Monzante Fine Flyer Stellabymoonlight	Desert Wheat Monzante Stellabymoonlight
5	Mi Vida Miss Netta Flying Sappho	Mi Vida Wee Party Akira	Manda Bay Miss Netta Akira	Wee Party Mi Vida Akira	Miss Netta Black And White Sextant
6	Sarah's Pleasure Sextant Seattle Mission	Catchapenny K. Sarah's Pleasure Atitlan	Sextant Catchapenny K. Fizzano	Sextant Sarah's Pleasure Hangover Kid	Catchapenny K. Strategic Missile Seattle Mission
7	Fizzano Atitlan Romacaca	Fizzano Hangover Kid Romacaca	Seattle Mission Atitlan Daveron	Seattle Mission Fizzano Romacaca	Gamblin Fever Wishingonadream Daveron
8	Daveron Miss Keller Jealous Girl	Daveron Desert Sage Funny Sunny	Romacaca Tapitsfly Jealous Girl	Mekong Melody Aviate Funny Sunny	Aviate Desert Sage Jealous Girl
9	Valiant Passion A Z Warrior Hilda's Passion	Jealous Girl Roman Treasure Sassy Image	A Z Warrior Hot Summer Hilda's Passion	Roman Treasure Valiant Passion Sassy Image	Pletcher/Margolis entry Roman Treasure Hilda's Passion
10	Tar Heel Mom Sassy Image Uncle Mo	Tar Heel Mom Hilda's Passion Uncle Mo	Sassy Image Devil by Design Caleb's Posse	Hilda's Passion Tar Heel Mom Runflatout	Sassy Image Tar Heel Mom Flashpoint
11	Flashpoint Dominus Stay Thirsty	Caleb's Posse Flashpoint Stay Thirsty	Flashpoint Uncle Mo Shackleford	Caleb's Posse Uncle Mo Raison d'Etat	Poseidon's Warrior Caleb's Posse Coil
12	Shackleford Coil Piscesbymoonlight	Coil Shackleford Piscesbymoonlight	Ruler On Ice Stay Thirsty Cincinnati Kid	Shackleford Rattlesnake Bridge Cincinnati Kid	Rattlesnake Bridge Shackleford Knock Quietly
13	Mighty Lover Windafull	Mighty Lover Cincinnati Kid	Mightylover Knock Quietly	Mighty Lover Windafull	Windafull Zen Power
Records	85/253	74/253	60/253	69/253	53/253



Handicapper Scorecard

John Shapazian had a huge seven-victory afternoon Friday, which included nailing the cold early pick 4 (\$85.50).

The rest of the Special staff also had a parade of winners as Erin Finley selected five winners and Charles Bedard and Dean Keppler each had four wins.

Bedard selected Turallure (\$20) in the Grade 2 Bernard Baruch as the price selection of the afternoon, and deuces were wild as the number two won the first five legs of the pick six.

The two was scratched from the final leg of the sequence, eliminating the possibility of a clean sweep. There is no carryover in today's blockbuster 13-race card.



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Race 8

Ballstom Spa

Post Time: 3:28 p.m.
Grade II • Purse \$200,000
F & M 3 & Up
1 1/16 Miles Turf

1 Miss Keller

Roger Attfield's 5-year-old mare is a likely scratch.

2 Romacaca

Twelve-time winner ships up from Monmouth Park, where she won Grade III Matchmaker July 31 to run her winning streak to five.

Trainer Nick Canani: "She's fantastic and has really held her form this year – her whole career really. Horses blossom at different ages, some are good as 2-year-old and some don't find their best until their older. She's getting better with age, like wine. She shipped up here great and we're looking forward to having a big day."

3 Daveron

Mild favorite at 3-1 has won two in a row and half of her eight American starts, including three of her last four for trainer Graham Motion.

Jockey Eddie Castro: "I have to get her to relax, that is important for her. She can be funny about her head so you can't fight her, can't take too much hold of her mouth. She's very classy."

4 Desert Sage

Julien Richmond-Watson British homebred won her first two American starts before losing her next two, including a 3-length loss to Daveron in a \$200,000 stakes at Parx Racing.

Trainer Chad Brown: "She had a rough trip in her last, we pulled her out of cover and she was rank, we tried to get that out of her head and she's training well. I put her in situations breezing where she wouldn't be rank and she settled down nicely. She's very European, in the way she looks and the way she trains. She's been breezing every week with (Grade I winner) Stacelita."

5 Mekong Melody

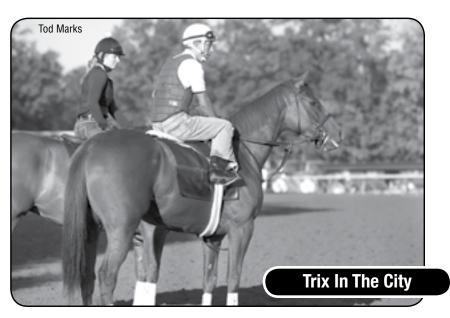
Three-time winner last year ships from Canada to try and avenge her 10th in last year's edition of this stakes.

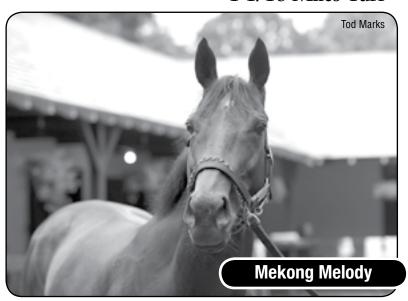
Jockey John Velazquez: "I hope she likes the track better this year. Last year, she ran horribly. She's pretty strange, she's hard to read. If she goes and runs her race, she can win it. She's not quirky to ride or anything like that, she's actually pretty easy. She just runs whenever she wants to I guess, I don't know. She's pretty pleasant, she doesn't do anything wrong. The weird thing is, she beat me (at Woodbine) last year (in the Dance Smartly). She won by a nose, I rode Ave. Now she needs to pay me back."

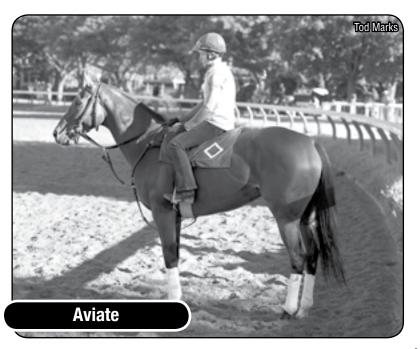
6 Trix In The City

Already a stakes winner at the meet, five-time winner returns in three weeks after wiring the restricted De La Rose Stakes here.

Trainer Rick Viollete: "It's back a little quick, but sometimes you strike while the iron's hot. She loves this course, she's doing well, I haven't had to train her real hard, which is a good thing. She's probably as fit as she's ever been. I'm pretty excited about it, she's just doing terrific. She's going to be in front for as far as they take her and anybody wants to hook her, it's a little bit at their own peril. We know where we want to be, it's up to them to decide how close to us they want to be."







7 Aviate

Juddmonte homebred won a Grade II at Churchill Downs in May, finished sixth and fifth in her next two starts, missing by 2 1/4 lengths to Zagora in the Grade I Diana here

Trainer Bill Mott: "The Diana was good, she had a wide trip, the ground was a little soft, I don't know what it's going to be like (today), it should be firm, if it was normal ground but it might be ripped up already. I was disappointed in her race, if she had the golden trip, she would have been right there."

8 Strike The Bell

Sixth in this race last year, but was beaten just 3 lengths while making up ground. Exits a third behind Ahvee's Destiny sprinting here Aug. 1.

Trainer David Donk: "She's a mile specialist, the one-turn mile at Belmont suits her, that's her best game. Here at 5 1/2 (furlongs), she runs great but it's a little short. They need to back up into her. She's got a big turn of foot, a big three-sixteenths of a mile run, if you're really patient with her the first part of the race. I kind of need the race to hold together like it is with Trix In The City, Romacaca and Tapitsfly, just that insurance for an honest pace. I want to see them rattle out there, a couple of them ding-donging it out there. Go ahead and set (the pace) at 46. That helps me."

9 Tapitsfly

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner, amazingly, has only won once since then, but has hit the board in her two most recent stakes starts, including a tough-trip second in the De La Rose.

Trainer Dale Romans: "She was kind of a victim of pace the other day. A little more ground, a little more pace where she has something to run at, she should be better. We keep waiting for her to have her breakthrough race and fulfill what we thought she was going to be as a 2-year-old. She's training super and it's in her somewhere, just have to get it out of her. Finding it, her going on and having confidence in herself. She missed her 3-year-old year also, she's played a little catch-up this year."



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Split Screen

Turallure runs down game Get Stormy in turf stakes

BY SEAN CLANCY

Tom Bush and Charlie Lopresti stood in the pulpit of the clubhouse big screen TV for Friday's feature. The trainers were separated by a half-dozen viewers – and a chasm of emotion.

After the first quarter-mile of the Bernard Baruch, Bush threw his hands in disgust as favorite Get Stormy rocked through a quarter-mile in a posted 22 and change.

"That can't be right," Bush said to bloodstock agent Pete Bradley.

Lopresti stood still, too early to smile, but liked what he was seeing.

"There's no way they can keep this up," Lopresti said to consignor Tom VanMeter.

The TV flashed the half-mile split in 46 and change, Bush shook his head, spun on his heel and slapped his program off his leg.

"Forget it."

It turns out the fractions were incorrect, just as



Dave Harmon

Turallure catches Get Stormy in the stretch.

Bush expected, and Get Stormy nearly pulled off the wire job in Grade II Bernard Baruch. Well, he pulled off the job on nine rivals, but not 10. Lopresti's Tural-lure rallied widest and latest to win the \$200,000 turf stakes by 2 1/4 lengths over Get Stormy. Baryshnikov finished third after 9 furlongs in 1:48.75 over the good turf.

Get Stormy wound up going a quarter in 23.95, a half in 48.45 and three-quarters in 1:12.45. Game as ever, the Grade I winning favorite powered off the

turn, re-opened a clear lead, pinned his ears but finally succumbed to the closing kick of Turallure.

Lopresti, VanMeter, exercise rider Julia Helbling and her friends Vickie Barreira and Ruth Schmidt erupted at the eighth pole, then Lopresti had a moment of doubt.

"That's him, isn't it?" he said in shock, knowing full-well the gray colt carrying Julien Leparoux in

See **BARUCH** page 42 ▶

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Julien Leparoux thanks Turallure for the ride.

Baruch —

■ Continued from page 41

the red silks of Donna Arnold was indeed Turallure. The 4-year-old son of Wando won his fifth race, third stakes and gave Lopresti his first score at the meet.

On the way to the winner's circle, Lopresti threw his arms in the air and looked skyward.

"If I went home without winning one of these races I was going to be sick," Lopresti said. "He's a good horse, this horse. He's a good horse."

Ramon Dominguez guided Get Stormy from the outside post to the inside rail within the first furlong as Leparoux checked Turallure from a tight spot between horses, drifting to ninth. Around the first turn, Get Stormy opened a 2-length lead over Blues Street, Boots Ahead, Moryba, Baryshnikov, Interaction and Hymn Book who raced in a cluster. Turallure rated in ninth, all alone and on the rail. Going for his second consecutive Bernard Baruch, Get Stormy led easily as the field hit the turn. His closest rivals began to paddle in earnest but gained nothing as Get Stormy cut the turn and opened up yet again. Turallure sliced through horses on the turn and rolled into the stretch five wide with one horse in his sights.

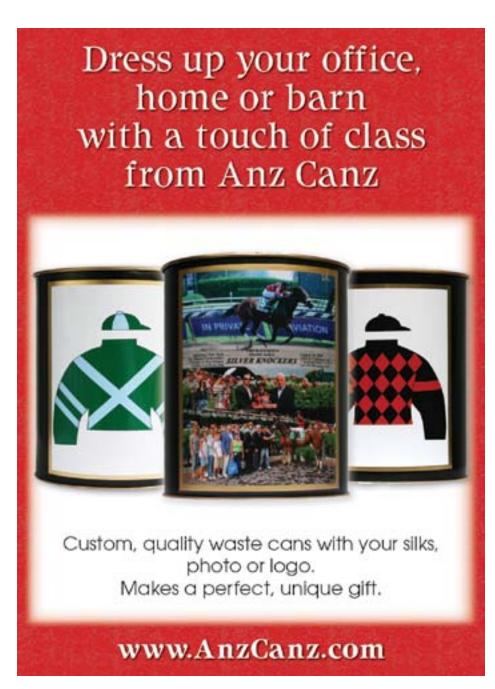
Get Stormy dug in but couldn't withstand the long, loping strides of Turallure who swept past him inside the eighth pole and won going away.

"He's a very good horse, anybody who's ever breezed him will tell you, when they ask him to run, he'll just drop you out of the saddle," Lopresti said. "That's how he does his best running. He can be close, he beat Brass Hat off a maiden win in a stake and was on the lead the whole way, but I like grass horses to run like that. Get Stormy ran huge, he hadn't run in what, 12 weeks.

Ten weeks and five days but who's counting. Get Stormy won the Grade I Maker's Mark Mile at Keeneland and Turf Classic at Churchill Downs this spring

See **BARUCH** page 43 ▶

Tod Marks



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MONDAY TO FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT

Baruch -

■ Continued from page 42

before finishing third in the Monmouth Stakes in June. Set to run in the Fourstardave July 31, the 5-year-old came up with some filling in a tendon and Bush had to back off and skip the Grade II stakes. Once Get Stormy missed the Fourstardave, the race became a procession for Sidney's Candy who walked the dog – and the cat – on the lead while Turallure failed to get untracked, winding up fifth, beaten 3 lengths. Lopresti took all the blame.

"It was my fault, I should have never told Alex (Solis) not to go with that horse. He probably would have been beat if he went with him but if he sat at his hip, he could have been second or third," Lopresti said. "I wanted this today for the owner and for him. She bred him, raised him, she really deserved this. And the horse deserved it, he was frustrated after the Fourstardave, he was mad."

Lopresti regrouped and aimed at the Baruch, giving the long-striding gray two breezes over the Oklahoma turf. He went a sharp 5 furlongs in 1:00 4/5 on August 12 and returned to go an easy half in 50 1/5 a week before the Baruch.

"The last week I've been really confident, after he worked over there," Lopresti said. "The pony guy told me when he came back that Julien just loved the horse. He's been a dream all meet, just the way he was getting over the ground and doing everything. I hate to be cocky but I would have been disappointed if he didn't hit the board to-

day."

Turallure did more than hit the board, scorching a tough turf stakes and stamping himself as a legitimate threat to the top turf horses in the country.

"I raised him, broke him, he was riding around our indoor arena this winter with Here Comes Ben, Wise Dan and Successful Dan," Lopresti said. "That's what he'll do again this winter. I'm lucky to have owners who are patient enough to let me do that with them, most owners would want to go to Florida."

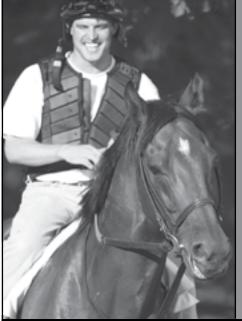
Lopresti made one start at Saratoga last summer, winning the Grade I Forego with Here Comes Ben. This year, the Kentucky-based trainer made a big move, asking for five stalls from P.J. Campo. Up to Friday, things had not gone well. He opted to run Here Comes Ben in the James Marvin overnight stakes opening weekend, he finished fourth but didn't come out of it well, squandering another crack at the Forego. Before the Baruch, Lopresti hadn't hit the board at the meet. Little things seemed to be big things when you're a long way from home.

"I was so disappointed in Here Comes Ben, not that he got beat, but that he got hurt, I take that as a personal insult, maybe I missed something," Lopresti said. "I know it's part of the deal, but I do miss home. I've been telling these girls that I can't wait to get out of here, especially after I thought I was not going to win a race. You get thinking, 'maybe I was just lucky last year, why'd I come up here, I should have went to Ellis Park.' Then at the three-eighths pole, I knew we were a winner, I just knew it, like, 'holy smokes.' "

Horse to sell?

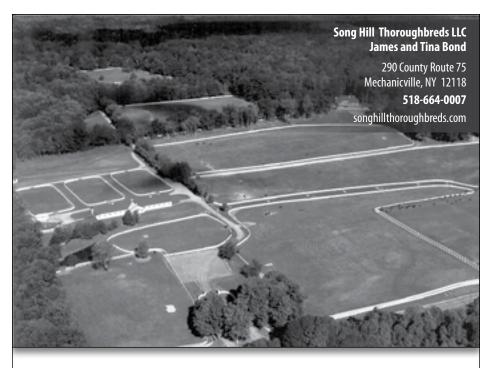
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FRIDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Friday August 26.

FIRST \$53,000, STARTER HANDICAP \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

Spring Party E. Prado \$10.40 \$5.30 \$4.60 Calmafterthestorm A. Garcia \$7.20 \$9.10 My Sunshine Gal R. Maragh \$4.90

B Mare 2006, by Smart Strike - Surf Club by Ocean Crest Owner: Jamgotchian, Jerry. Trainer: Eric Reed. Breeder: International Equities Holding, Inc. (KY).

Late Scratches: Celebrity Sighting

Exacta (1-8), \$102.00; Superfecta (1-8-6-4), \$854.00; Trifecta (1-8-6),

SECOND \$44,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Page by Page J. Lezcano \$2.80 \$2.30 Turf and Roses A. Lezcano \$10.80 \$5.80 Evan's Rocket J. Leparoux \$4.60

B Filly 2008, by Read the Footnotes - Trixie Chick by Favorite Trick Owner: Brodsky, Alan. Trainer: Mark Hennig. Breeder: Stonegate Stables LLC (NY).

Time: 1:23.87

Daily Double (1-7), \$20.20; Exacta (7-5), \$43.80; Quinella (5-7), \$32.80; Superfecta (7-5-4-6), \$1,071.00; Trifecta (7-5-4), \$247.00

THIRD \$46,000, STARTER HANDICAP \$16,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

Caixa Eletronica J. Velazquez \$2.70 Lucas Brady M. Cruz \$9.50 \$5.60 Seniors Pride J. Castellano \$4.70

Ch Horse 2005, by Arromanches - Edyta by Skip Away

Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Breeder: Richard Rowan (KY)

Daily Double (7-6), \$9.10; Exacta (6-1), \$39.60; Trifecta (6-1-4), \$229.00; Pic 3 (1-7-6), \$41.20

FOURTH \$75,000, NY-BRED STAKES - EASY N DIRTY S., 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Driven by Success C. Velasquez \$3.80 \$3.40 1A Be Bullish J. Castellano 4 Smokin Hero A. Garcia

Ch Gelding 2005, by Precise End - Afleet Closer by Afleet

Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Breeder: New Dawn Stud,

Late Scratches: Shrewd One, Law Enforcement Time: 1:22.24

Daily Double (6-1), \$10.40; Exacta (1-4), \$15.60; Quinella (1-4), \$11.60; Pic 3 (7-6-1), \$16.80

FIFTH \$53,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

2 Ballyclough M. Cruz \$4.70 \$3.50 Santo Gato R. Maragh \$3.40 M. Garcia Shoutout \$6.20

Ch Colt 2008, by Speightstown - Decadent Designer by Well Decorated Owner: Peter Callahan. Trainer: Kenneth McPeek. Breeder: John Toscano, Steven Lau & PatCrapanzano (KY).

Daily Double (1-2), \$18.00; Exacta (2-5), \$28.80; Superfecta (2-5-7-1), \$1,611.00; Trifecta (2-5-7), \$235.50; Pic 3 (6-1-2), \$40.80; Pic 4 (7-6-1/2/6-2), \$85.50

Attendance: 21,846 On Track Handle: 3,723,328 Intra-State Handle: 1,895,857 Inter-State Handle: 7,395,945

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SIXTH \$25,000, CLAIMING \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

2 Hurling K. Desormeaux \$5.50 \$2.80 Adam Rides Again 6 J. Lezcano Medieval Sword J. Castellano

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2008, by Prime Meridian - Swirling by Conte Di Savoya Owner: Wright, William, W.. Trainer: William Cesare. Breeder: Old Mill

Late Scratches: Smart Farming, Pervis, Saratoga Squier, Cosmic King, Avenging, Logical Order

Claimed: Adam Rides Again claimed by Moss, Maggi for \$20,000

Daily Double (2-2), \$48.00; Exacta (2-6), \$11.20; Pic 3 (1-2-2), \$62.00

SEVENTH \$54,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

2 Too Clever by Half J. Castellano \$3.20 Silver Meeting J. Leparoux \$4.20 \$3.00 Scootles C. Velasquez Dk B/ Br Filly 2008, by With Distinction - Clever Moranda by Clever Trick

Owner: Klaravich Stables, Lawrence, William, H.. Trainer: Chad Brown. Breeder: Francisco Gardea (FL).

Time: 1:04.04

Daily Double (2-2), \$22.00; Exacta (2-4), \$19.20; Superfecta (2-4-9-3), \$615.00; Trifecta (2-4-9), \$64.00; Pic 3 (2-2-2), \$99.50

EIGHTH \$59,000, AOC \$75,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

2 To Honor and Serve J. Velazquez \$2.30 \$2.50 Slevin R. Dominguez Gautier M. Cruz \$2.80

B Colt 2008, by Bernardini - Pilfer by Deputy Minister

Owner: Live Oak Plantation. Trainer: William Mott. Breeder: Twin Creeks Farm, Larry Byer & RanchoSan Miguel (KY).

Claimed: Slevin claimed by Contessa, Jennifer for \$75,000

Time: 1:48.31

Daily Double (2-2), \$10.80; Exacta (2-4), \$15.20; Superfecta (2-4-7-5), \$90.40; Trifecta (2-4-7), \$35.80; Pic 3 (2-2-2), \$41.80

NINTH \$202,000, STAKES - BERNARD BARUCH H., 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M 2 Turallure J. Leparoux

\$20.00 \$8.20 \$5.70 \$4.10 11 Get Stormy R. Dominguez \$2.80 5 Baryshnikov C. Lanerie \$5.00 Gr/ro Colt 2007, by Wando - Personal Allure by Wekiva Springs

Owner: Donna Arnold. Trainer: Charles Lopresti. Breeder: 4-D Stables (KY).

Daily Double (2-2), \$53.50; Exacta (2-11), \$95.00; Superfecta (2-11-5-6), \$7,196.00; Trifecta (2-11-5), \$553.00; Pic 3 (2-2-2), \$151.50; Place Pix Nine (2/6-2/4/9-2/4/7-2), \$44.00

TENTH \$35,000, CLAIMING \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

6 Vee R. Dominguez \$3.00 11 Sweet Bibby \$8.30 J. Leparoux \$11.80 8 J C's Queen J. Velazquez \$6.40

Ch Filly 2007, by Leroidesanimaux (BRZ) - Vallera (GER) by Monsun

Owner: Amerman Racing, LLC. Trainer: Chad Brown. Breeder: Mrs. Jerry Amerman (KY).

Late Scratches: Demure Halo, Hey Hey Mama

Claimed: Vee claimed by O'Brien, Keith for \$35,000, Saucy Jade claimed by Chalk Racing for \$35,000

Time: 1:37.01

Daily Double (2-6), \$88.00; Exacta (6-11), \$117.50; Superfecta (6-11-8-10), \$2,456.00; Trifecta (6-11-8), \$870.00; Pic 3 (2-2-6), \$224.00; Pic 4 (2-2-2-6), \$610.00; Pic 6 (2-2-2-2-6), \$78.00; Pic 6 (2-2-2-2-6),

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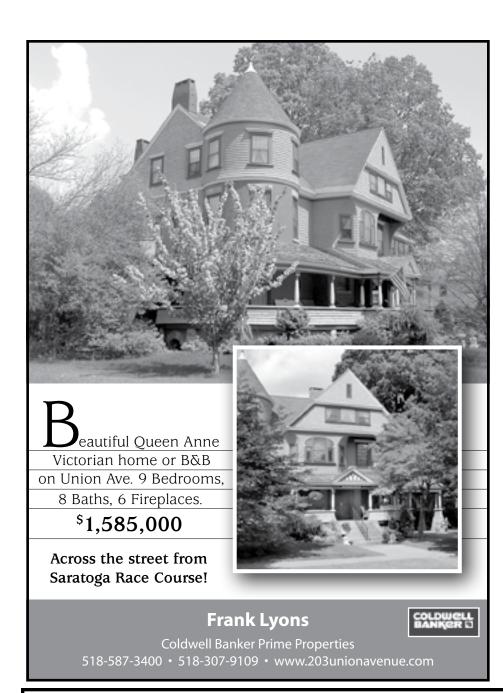
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Double Play

Repole takes third, sweeps top two spots in fourth

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

If there is a bad day to be Mike Repole, it certainly wasn't Friday.

The Vitamin Water magnate won the third with heavy favorite Caixa Eletronica, and then produced the exacta with a coupled entry in the \$75,000 Easy N Dirty Stakes at 7 furlongs in the fourth. Driven By Success, trained by Todd Pletcher, battled gamely to hand George Weaver's Be Bullish his second tight beat in two starts.

"It actually played out exactly the way I wanted it," Repole said. "I knew Smokin Hero would go out with Driven By Success and I wanted Driven to be outside. I thought Be Bullish would sit third in the catbird seat. Driven hasn't run in six months, but he likes this track, he broke his maiden here by 4 lengths, he loves 7 furlongs, he won this same race last year, but it was called something different. He's just a gutsy, fun horse."

Driven By Success broke on top, as Repole had hoped, loping through a

FRIDAY RACING RECAP

quarter in 23.55 with Smokin Hero a length off his inside flank. Chris Englehart's charge put next to no pressure on Driven By Success, and the pair led through a half in 46.81. Cornelio Velasquez asked the son of Precise End to quicken coming past the quarter pole and by the eighth pole, he was a healthy length clear of the rest. Be Bullish chased his stablemate gamely under Javier Castellano, but couldn't quite overcome

"I knew Be Bullish would be closing, I think he's more 6, 6 1/2 furlongs, I think 7 is too much," Repole said. "It was such a slow pace here, I think it benefitted Driven By Success."

The 6-year-old New York-bred came into the race off a six-month break, last running in the Grade II General George Handicap at Laurel. Fifth that day, Driven By Success has run consis-

See FRIDAY page 48 ▶



Tod Marks

Driven By Success (right) edges Be Bullish in Friday's fourth race.



Friday —

■ Continued from page 47

tently in stakes company since last summer, including a fifth in the Vosburgh to Girolamo and a New York-bred stakes win at Aqueduct in November.

Repole reflected on the juggling act that comes with running horses with two trainers in the same race.

"It's kind of weird when you have an entry with two different trainers, so I decided to talk to both jockeys and leave the trainers out of it," Repole said. "I was looking at Ibboyee the whole time making sure I didn't lose to Todd again. But even when I beat Todd, he wins with me anyway, so I can't beat him. But I was rooting for Be Bullish over Driven By Success, just so I could walk down here without Todd for a change."

• Kenny McPeek unveiled a promising-looking grass sprinter for Peter Callahan in the fifth, a 5 1/2-furlong maiden special weight. When he stepped on to the Mellon Turf Course Friday, Ballyclough was a veteran of three dirt starts, none of them soft spots. The 3-year-old made his debut in November, running three-quarters of a length second to Travers hopeful Shackleford. Next, he caught Travelin Man at Gulfstream, and finished third. Third again at Churchill July 4, Ballyclough made one 5-furlong move over the turf July 25 in 59 seconds and went to post the favorite.

"We've been waiting and waiting and waiting to get him in on the grass, and we entered him opening week and



Ballyclough reaches the finish line first in Friday's fifth race.

Tod Marks

the race didn't go, and we entered him again, the race didn't go," McPeek said. "We started to run him on the dirt, and I told Peter Callahan, no, we need to wait, he's going to run really well on the grass."

Ballyclough sat a length off the pace through the opening fractions and made his move at the quarter pole under Manoel Cruz. Santo Gato closed to make a bid for supremacy, but the \$210,000 Keeneland purchase refused to let him past, hitting the wire a half-length ahead. It was 4 lengths back to the rest of the pack.

"I bought him because I had Bridgetown early in his career and this horse as a yearling reminded me of Bridgetown," McPeek said. "He's the same package, similar type, fast, chestnut, quick. Maybe he's a little bit bigger than Bridgetown."

2011 LAUREL PARK FALL STAKES SCHEDULE

The race was McPeek's second score of the meet.

"Somebody drew me a map to the winner's circle," McPeek said on his way out of the enclosure.

• "When there's class, there's class. It's hard to tell you, how do you define that?"

Charlotte Weber stood outside of the winner's circle after her To Honor And Serve blew away a tough field in the eighth, a 1 1/8-mile optional claimer. Sixth to Caleb's Posse in the 6 1/2-furlong Amsterdam, To Honor And Serve channeled the horse that won the Remsen so convincingly over this distance last year.

If shortening up the son of Bernardini seemed a strange move Aug. 1, it made complete sense Aug. 26.

"We were bringing him back," Weber said. "He's going to go on and move into distance, definitely. We're going to bring him back and campaign him in the fall. It's up in the air right now, we'll figure out where it goes, but somewhere significant I think."

Weber purchased the 3-year-old as a yearling for \$575,000 at Keeneland.

"When I buy all my yearlings I think they're champions. You hope," Weber said. "He's very well-balanced, he has pedigree, so hopefully he gets it all together and we'll have him in the breeding shed somewhere."

Trained by Bill Mott, To Honor And Serve opened his ledger with a second here at 7 furlongs last year, breaking his maiden by 8 lengths next out in an off-

See **FRIDAY** page 50



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EASTERN FALL YEARLINGS - OCT. 4&5

For 2010-11 our consignees number over 18 stakes horses that have accounted for over 33 stakes wins or placings.

RULE G3 winner of \$942,700. In 2011, Birdstone S, 3rd G3-Salvator Mile (A Reightler-planned mating sold in utero)

G2 winner of YTOND'ORC

In 2011, 2nd G1 Ogden Phipps H, G3 Allaire DuPont Distaff S, 3rd **G1 Ruffian Invitational**

AND 2011 dual stakes winner AARON'S WAY, twice stakes-placed BESSIE M and stakes-placed horses Cactus Charlie and Grandiloquent.

FILLIES

ALBERT THE GREAT—Final Look PA-bred **BUSTIN STONES**—Doyourthing NY-bred FAIRBANKS—Accadia Rocket PA-bred **GARNERED**—Roseboom WV-bred **GRAND SLAM**—Gal's Victory VA-bred **LATENT HEAT**—Final Humor MD-bred **LATENT HEAT**—Vee Vee Star MD-bred **LION HEARTED**—Terminkator PA-bred LOVE OF MONEY—Rekindled Romance PA-bred LOVE OF MONEY—Southern Schemer PA-bred **NOT FOR LOVE**—Maryland Mist MD-bred PARTNER'S HERO—Hill Keys PA-bred PARTNER'S HERO—Not What I Do PA-bred **PURE PRIZE**—Another Jewel PA-bred **PURGE**—Patagonia Tango NY-bred **READY'S IMAGE**—Evangel VA-bred READY'S IMAGE—Magical Chase WV-bred **RUSH BAY**—Trespassing PA-bred SALUTE THE SARGE—Falcon's Eye MD-bred SENOR SWINGER—Turkish Taffy PA-ored

SHARP HUMOR—Promiscuity VA-bred STREET HERO—Miss Santa Anita MD-bred WEIGELIA—Malibu Mystique MD-bred **WEIGELIA**—Polar Miss PA-bred WHYWHYWHY—Vera Claudine WV-bred

COLTS & GELDINGS

ALBERT THE GREAT—Twin Tower (Per) PA-bred **BROTHER DEREK**—Wacissa PA-bred **COUNTRY ONLY**—Ticklemyfancy WV-bred **CURLIN**—No Small Wonder KY-bred FAIRBANKS—Mary Anne's Love MD-bred FAMILY CALLING—Cherry Cordial WV-bred FAMILY CALLING—Oskaloosa WV-bred HORSE GREELEY—Silver N Satin MD-bred INDYGO SHINER—Artistry KY-bred **LION HEARTED**—T. J.'s Turn VA-bred OUTFLANKER—Distant Star MD-bred **OUTFLANKER**—Sally Q MD-bred PROSPECT BAY—Fibs Galore WV-bred WEIGELIA—Merry Widow PA-bred

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Friday —

■ Continued from page 48

the-turf event at Belmont over 1 1/16 miles. Then came the Nashua and the Remsen and the hype machine started. The colt dabbled on the Kentucky Derby trail, running third in the Fountain Of Youth and third in the Florida Derby, then disappeared until the Amsterdam.

The odds-on favorite broke under John Velazquez, sitting 2 lengths off Regal Warrior. The handsome bay colt rolled past like an avalanche in the turn and continued to draw away with every stride. By the wire, he was 8 lengths free, but it could have been 80. Welcome back, kid, as they say.

Weber has been enamored of the horse from the start.

"He's all class. He's been a class horse, even when he was a baby at home," Weber said. "We took him home when he had a little injury and he was just classy all day long, in the stall, anywhere you wanted to go."

• Bill Cesare stood behind the winner's circle and watched the replay of the sixth race, a \$20,000 claimer over an off-the-turf 1 1/8 miles.

"He's game," the trainer said, over and over. "He's game. The six-horse dug in. The six-horse was on the front end, and still dug in."

The six-horse was Adam Rides Again under Jose Lezcano, Cesare's game gelding was Hurling under Kent Desormeaux. Hurling sat chilly in the back of the pack of four through the opening stages, wiggled his way to third on the backstretch and bowled past Adam Rides Again out of the turn. Adam Rides Again wasn't done, pinning his ears and trying to gun past Hurling. Lezcano lost his stick, whipped his goggles off his helmet and started flailing at his desperate mount, but to no avail. It was a gritty fight to the line, and Hurling emerged a length victorious.

"He's a game horse," Cesare said. "He's a Georgia-bred. Billy Wright, the guy who owns him, lives in Georgia, Horatio Luro's grandson, they have a farm there. That's where he was bred and born. They raced the father."

It was Hurling's sire, Prime Meridian, that prompted Cesare to try the horse on the grass for the first time here July 23. The 3-year-old had made two starts on the dirt, a third and a fourth. He finished sixth to today's rival Binks Forest on the second day of the meet, then broke his maiden by a length in an off-the-track maiden here Aug. 7.

"He ran a good race the first time," Cesare said. "He got beat 4 lengths and he was stuck on the rail with nowhere to go. I still want to run on the grass, I think he'll like the grass going long."

When it comes to Hurling, it all boils down to old-fashioned toughness for Cesare.

"He's game," Cesare said again. "He's a common sucker, but he's game. He's been gelded, I'd like to geld him again, but I can't. He means well when you get to loving on him but other than that you have to watch him. He's real temperamental going back and forth to the track. He's got to go with a pony or he won't go."



Tod Marks

To Honor And Serve and trainer Bill Mott head to the winner's circle.







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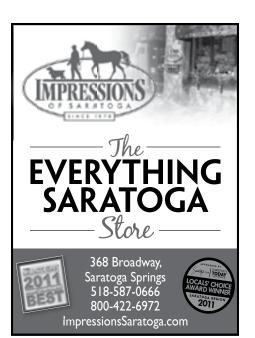
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Morning and Afternoon

BY TODD SIMMONS

At 4:30 in the morning, the moon is an un-clipped thumbnail. The temperature is in the 70s and so is the music on the drive over. There are 11 days of racing left at Saratoga. The nominations for the remaining stakes are out, the races drawn for Saturday, and Belmont's first condition book is on its way. There is more activity at the barns, more lights, more faces looking out stalls, and the increase has disturbed the starlings, who rise from the tree branches, but still the exodus from Saratoga is in the offing, and it is better that way. At the track kitchen, the televisions are showing maps of hurricane Irene's path, the projections that take her across Long Island. Roosters are crowing in the thick predawn air, an afternoon of promised thunderstorms ahead, then cooler weather behind, followed by the deluge.

Out at Kathy Ritvo's barn, two men are raking the dirt down the row of stalls, their faces, and the faces of the horses that look out of the stalls, unfamiliar. Bruce Brown's horses, says a man who leaves his car there at the crossbarred entry to the barn. Horses are out getting their legs washed of clay and poultice, cropping grass near the kitchen. This morning, a new goat crosses the road by the Morning Line, looking like it swallowed a golf cart tire.

GUEST COLUMN

The coolers inside the Morning Line are still empty, but outside, guards stand in the crossings, ready for the morning workouts to begin, and the horse ambulance rattles down the speed bumped road and out to the track. Kensei. Last year's Dwyer winner, two days ago on this track . . .

This year's Dwyer winner, Dominus, goes in to the King's Bishop against a heavy field.

It is good to remember that Dwyer day in July, a day when there were only 11 racing days left in the Belmont spring season.

An hour before the first post at Belmont Park, 45 fans quietly rose along the apron for the playing of the National Anthem as the wind blew the flag neither up the stretch, nor down, but straight across the infield toward them where they stood. The picnic area was louder, busier. A woman sang "I'm Special!", trying to get the attention of a handful of fans who sat on benches near the stage, marking the scratches in their programs.

The barns were quiet in the afternoon but for the constant circle of fields. As the field for the eighth race left the assembly barn, it passed the returning field for the seventh, and the field for the ninth entered the emptied stalls, led by Cool Blue Red Hot, his head turned into the chest of his groom, a smudge of white on his forehead, then Adios Charlie, who was led through the barn, then outside and sprayed off. Tech Fall came down the road, his mane combed across his forehead like a kid in a school photo, then the tall, golden Harlan's Hello. Malibu Glow's groom paused as a plane came in low and loudly, then entered the barn followed by Dominus, his knit mane the trademark of an Asmussen horse, lightly blanketed in the warmth.

But for Tech Fall, the horses in the paddock were wound up. Adios Charlie kicked the stall wall twice, Harlan's Hello didn't want the tongue tie, Malibu Glow didn't want his blinkers. Cool Blue Red Hot was saddled off to the side and behind, and Dominus was in the furthest stall. In and out he went, saddled in stages. He was joined by an outrider early, and they moved as a pair around the cinder circle, then out they went to the track.

In they went to the gates, and out came Adios Charlie on the lead, a lead that Dominus quickly took and held through the back, around the turn and across the finish. Steve Asmussen was smiles and praise.

"He had a little issue with a foot and missed some time," Asmussen said. "We were looking for him to step in and step up and he did. With the 3-yearold races that are left, we think we are in good shape."

At the mention of an open year, he started to laugh, and spread his arms: "An open year? It not just that, its more than that . . . it's wide open," he said, now openly laughing. "Trust me. I've been there since the beginning of the year."

It was a convincing win, and like that, another horse joined the choir.

Minutes later. Kensei, winner of the 2009 Dwyer won the Salvatore Mile at Monmouth Park for the team.

Over at Aqueduct, the stalls of Flashpoint and Judy The Beauty are empty and clear. Few horses circle the track, few hoofprints range across its surface. Still empty stalls and security lights. A light brown kitten watches two horses go by on the track, then goes back to attacking dead leaves and balls of sand that crumble satisfyingly in its paws. Down below a hen, ushering along six chicks, passes and the melancholy ends, the remembering ends, and forward looking begins. A goat, kitten and half dozen chicks reminds us that it is a cycle, long stretches of this or that maybe, but it all comes around. Soon the barns will be full, and the track thick with traffic. And this summer will be a memory, a sweet memory.



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cupof**coffee**



by Sean Clancy

It was more or less a dare. Said late at night, probably over a beer or two, and then somehow, taken seriously the next morning.

Why don't we get a fresh, original, exclusive quote about every horse in every stakes on Travers Day? Understaffed and overwhelmed, we set off to do the impossible. ESPN's prodigal son Quint Kessenich was to blame - or credited - for the approach. Tape recorders, the first year and have done it the same way ever since.

This year, Katie Bo Williams, Brother Joe and I, armed with the same tools as so many years ago, set off Wednesday to get quotes - our quotes - on every starter, in every stakes.

Two days, 44 quotes.

Nailed Pletcher in the golf cart, second set, shooting fish in a barrel. Hit record, ask a question, let the pro talk, seven minutes later, he says, "I must leave you now." Check off Maple Forest, Hour Glass, Hilda's Passion, Stay Thirsty and Uncle Mo – 5 down, 39 to go.

I ask Matt Muzikar if Roger Attfield's in town, the agent tells me I've got a better shot of seeing the bogeyman. Katie Bo finds Attfield's assistant and we scratch off Miss Keller, who's scratching and table Mekong Melody. We still need Attfield – 6 down, 38 to go.

Stan Hough ducks behind a tree. Bill Mott rides off on his pony. John Sadler's staying in California. And we know Marty Wolfson's not coming to town.

44 Flat

Texts are flying. "Need Mott." "Anybody seen Nick Precious Soul blew out well – 20 down, 24 to go. Canani?" "Got Kiaran."

Katie Bo stumbles upon Rattlesnake Bridge schooling in the paddock, she reports on the Travers hopeful but forgets the Victory Ride longshot. Joe gets Kiaran for Oflee Wicked - 8 down, 36 to go.

The cell phone is the bane of the on-site writer, distracting the trainer and stalling the interview. The golfcart hold is the other, when a person grabs the windshield bar of the cart and won't let go, you can't get away, stuck, counting the minutes and hoping the trainer doesn't play golf.

Joe finds Dave Donk. How'd he get all the easy ones? Check off Strike The Bell – 9 down, 35 to go.

Katie Bo comes through again, hitting Dale Romans Racing Forms, pens and notebooks, we got all of them for Shackleford, Tapitsfly and Sassy Image. He's a mark, rarely straying from his golfcart on the far turn. It's all coming together – 12 down, 32 to go.

I wind up in a long, entertaining and completely unproductive conversation with Ron Anderson and Steve Asmussen, almost hate to ruin it by pulling out a tape recorder. Finally get Dominus and Justin Phillip - 14 down, 30 to go.

I catch Angel Penna late Thursday morning, in the rain, meet Cool Blue Red Hot. Wish I could stay longer – 15 down, 29 to go.

Katie Bo winds up in a golfcart with Baffert – rookie mistake – she hears more about meeting Stephen Stills than about Coil or A Z Warrior. She gets just enough to check them off. Just - 18 down, 27 to go.

Valiant Passion is scratching. Trix In The City is rocking - 19 down, 25 to go.

I catch the Chief, stalk him in his cart until he slows down and asks what's going on. Talk about wishing to stay longer, we talk jump racing, riding and training.

Chad Brown is easy, always at the gap of the Oklahoma, always ready to talk. Desert Sage is doing well and Bowman's Causeway has a shot, at least that's what Brown says. Joe ticks off Mike Hushion and Roman Treasure, Eddie Castro and Daveron and his new favorite trainer Jeremiah Englehart. I catch Steve Margolis Friday morning - 26 down, 18 to go.

On the turn of the Oklahoma, I find Donnie Von Hemel who's back in town. Then spot Bill Mott on foot which is better than a pony. He gives me as much time as he has, actually apologizes for not having more time. Check off Raison d'Etat, Aviate and Devil By Design – 30 down, 14 to go.

Katie Bo cruises through her hit list, George Weaver, Butch Reid, Reade Baker. All express confidence, right now, it's 44 winners, not 44 runners – 33 down, 11 to

Joe finally finds Wesley Ward and learns that Flashpoint got here earlier in the week. Late Friday morning, I catch Tony Dutrow – I know he doesn't golf – and get Jealous Girl and J W Blue. Meet the latter, who's as pretty as any horse in the Travers – 36 down, 8 to go.

I warm up some Hough quotes from the Honorable Miss and re-bake some Kelly Breen quotes from the Belmont. Lame – 38 down, 6 to go.

Oh boy. The easy ones are over. Still need Canani, Attfield or John Velazquez, Bob Hess, Dave Fawkes, Wolfson or Julien Leparoux, Sadler or Robby Albara-

Sadler picks up in California, Fawkes calls me back, Hess answers, "Hey, Sean," Katie Bo finds Leparoux and Velazquez at the races and somehow Joe gets Nick Canani on the second ring to finish it off.

44 down, 0 to go.

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