

The **Saratoga** *Special*



Year 10 • Issue 30

Saratoga's Daily Newspaper on Thoroughbred Racing

Sunday, August 29, 2010

Big Train

Afleet Express (right)
edges Fly Down
in thriller



Dave Harmon

■ Rachel Alexandra, Life At Ten square off • Entries/Handicapping ■

ONLY horses by these stallions, who were conceived in Maryland and fully nominated to the Maryland Million program, are eligible to run in Maryland Million races.

Aaron's Concorde	Malibu Moon
Allen's Prospect	Marciano
Alster	McKendree
Ameri Valay	Meadow Monster
Amerrico's Bullet	M Eighty
Another Reef	Mogador
Appealing Skier	Mojave Moon
Awad	Mr. Shoplifter
Bankbook	Mr. Zill Bear
Bishop's Other Boy	No Armistice
Bowman's Band	Northern Raja
Carnivalay	Northern Wolf
Cat Country	Not For Love
Cherokee's Boy	Oh Say
Citidancer	One Golf Sierra
Compelling Sound	Opening Verse
Concern	Ops Smile
Corridor Key	Oratory
Country Only	Our Emblem
Crowd Pleaser	Outflanker
Cruisin' Dixie	Parker's Storm Cat
Cryptoleen	Partner's Hero
Crypto Star	Perfecting
Dance With Ravens	Polish Miner
Dancinwiththediabol	Polish Numbers
Deputed Testimony	Polish Payola
Deputy Storm	Precious Marque
Diamond	Press Card
Disco Rico	Private Key
Domestic Dispute	Pulverizing
Dr. Best	Purple Passion
Eastern Echo	Regal American
Eastover Court	Rinka Das
Fantasticat	Rock Slide
Firestar	Root Boy
Fleet Foot	Rouse the Louse
Gators N Bears	Rubiyat
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Goldmember	Secret Firm
Great Notion	Secret Odds
Green Alligator	Seeking Daylight
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Hawk in Flight	Smart Guy
Haymaker	Smelly
Horatius	St Averil
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In Case	Storm Broker
Itaka	Swear by Dixie
Ivory Frontier (Ire)	Tamayaz
Java Royal	Touch 'n' Fly (Ire)
Jazz Club	Trim Account
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WORTH REPEATING

The Special quotes from Saratoga

"She's carrying good weight, she's very happy, she's very sound. It's not at the end of the rope like last year, we were just holding onto the end of the rope. Last year she was on a bullet train."

Trainer Steve Asmussen about reigning Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra

"It depends on what they do, I guess. We've all seen short fields be traffic disasters before, hopefully that's not the case."

Asmussen, when asked if a short field helps Rachel Alexandra



Lydia Williams

Act II. Last year's Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra struts her stuff on the backside – no she didn't jump the rail.

Take A Number

14: Trips van driver Keith Cooper has made from Fair Hill to Saratoga so far this meet (his personal record is 17).

\$1,490: Total amount of Cooper's EZ Pass invoice last month.

8: People watching Blame walk back from a workout Friday morning at Oklahoma.

1: Dog sitting on an iPad Friday on the backstretch (probably not what Apple had in mind, but...)

1:45 a.m.: Final text sent by The Special's Sean Clancy Friday night (Saturday morning)

5:24 a.m.: First text sent by Clancy Saturday morning

License Plates of the Day

PICK 3, New York.

10 WPS, New York.

RACES, Virginia.

BLMNT73, New York.

T-Shirt Slogans of the Day

"World's Greatest Uncle," spotted on the backside.

"Food Is Art, Tequila Is Live," on Union Avenue Saturday morning.

Names of the Day

Honeywantshermoney, second race. The Chester and Mary Broman homebred is out of Moneymakinmama.

Midnight Mass, sixth race. Red Storm Stable and Carlton Hansen's gelding is out of Tuesday Prayer.

Weather

Today: Mainly sunny. High 89.

Tonight: Clear. Low 59.

Monday: Sunny. High 85. Low 62.

Tuesday: Sun. High 87. Low 63.

The **SARATOGA** Special

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

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Connie Bush

All Eye. Rachel Alexandra brings her Horse of the Year face back to Saratoga.

WORTH REPEATING

"He called me at 3:30 this morning."

Graham Motion assistant Heather Craig, about
Keith Cooper's telephone call announcing his rival.

"She said call 30 minutes before I got here."

Cooper, who always follows instructions

"I'm in the way."

Apprentice Freddie Lenclud as he crossed Union Avenue Saturday morning

"I think I'd be as prepared to ride a steeplechase race."

Paul Wasserman, one of The Special's founders, as he lined up for a triathlon Saturday

"He threw his whip in the crowd?"

British trainer George Baker, after Kent Desormeaux threw his whip to his valet

"Soul Sister. Soul Sister. Soul Sister."

Song being sung on the backstretch Saturday morning

Just Sayin'

"I'm going to leave it up to Johnny, I would rather not be in front of her, I'd rather be next to her, outside her."

Trainer Todd Pletcher on race tactics for John Velazquez and Life At Ten who take on Rachel Alexandra in today's Personal Ensign

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"The Schuylerville High football stadium bleachers."

Saratoga Sleigh innkeeper Don Nichols, on where in the world
Section X (his Travers Day tickets) is in the grandstand

"Just one? Come on, it's not easy to win races here. They only look easy."

Jockey Javier Castellano, to a fan looking for more than a single Friday afternoon

"I can still get it over the plate, I'm just not sure it will stay in the ballpark afterward."

Owner Anthony Bonomo, having a baseball catch on the backside Friday morning

"The best. It's thrilling because we're all enjoying the horse so much and that's a big, big part of it. I'm so proud to be training for her. She's really appreciative of the work we do and what more can you ask for?"

Trainer Tom Bush, on what it's like to train for owner Mary Sullivan (of Get Stormy fame)

"Bring your appetite."

Trainer Eric Guillot, about gumbo on Sunday

"Did you leave a sandwich?"

Trainer Leo O'Brien to a paper delivery boy Saturday morning

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Bullet Train

Afleet Express edges Fly Down in tight photo at end of Grade I

BY SEAN CLANCY

Jimmy Jerkens stood in the middle of the crowded winner's circle in disbelief.

"I thought we got nailed. I thought we got nailed," Jerkens said after Afleet Express had not gotten nailed by Fly Down in the final strides of the Grade I Travers Stakes.

Jerkens high-fived hotwalkers, hugged assistants, shook hands with exercise riders. Some of them even worked for him.

Racing secretary P.J. Campo broke up the moment.

"Hey, Jimmy, they're waiting for you," Campo said. "Go get your horse."

Give him a break. Son of Hall of Fame trainer Allen Jerkens, Jimmy had won the family's first Travers.

Jerkens wheeled and headed to the track to greet the 141st winner of the Travers Stakes. Afleet Express, owned

by Gainesway Stable and Martin Cherry, had ripened in a month, polishing and improving upon a third in the Jim Dandy to win his first Grade I stakes and add yet another name to the list of prominent 3-year-olds in 2010.

Afleet Express broke sharply but allowed the front phalanx to clear him into the first turn. The race divided into fours; Miner's Reserve, First Dude, A Little Warm and Friend Or Foe stacked in a line passing the stands the first time while Trappe Shot, Admiral Alex, Afleet Express and Super Saver lined up behind them. Afleet Again, Fly Down and Ice Box made up the closing crew.

After a first quarter in 23.42, Miner's Reserve led comfortably from First Dude who was tugging on jockey Ramon Dominguez. Favorite Trappe Shot sat third, well off the rail with Jim Dandy winner A Little Warm fourth and wide. Maiden winner Admiral Alex



Afleet Express (right) battles Fly Down in the final yards before the Travers finish.

came next with Friend Or Foe outside him and Afleet Express, off the rail but sealed in an envelope on the inside with Super Saver to his outside. Fly Down lagged a long way off the front eight.

Javier Castellano rode Afleet Express like a bicycle on a hilly street, pedaling and then coasting, pedaling and then coasting, but nothing like he had to in his stop-start Jim Dandy. He hustled Afleet Express to maintain his position going into the first turn and then sat chilly.

After a half in 47.25, Castellano guided the long-striding colt into fifth.

Into the turn, through three quarters in 1:11.39, Castellano cued him to improve from the inside of A Little Warm and Trappe Shot. Nearing the quarter pole, Miner's Reserve and First Dude battled on the lead, A Little Warm tried to circle into position, Trappe Shot retreated, Afleet Express continued to make positive ground and Fly Down circled into sixth.

Straightening into the stretch, Miner's Reserve hung tough, First Dude stayed on, A Little Warm failed to close, Fly

See **TRAVERS** page 8

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Moon Catcher (Gr. 1) • Weekend Magic (Gr. 1)

Thursday, 9/16 • Barn 39

978 MORE THAN READY colt

*Out of young Kris S. mare
Aristocratic Lady*

986 MALIBU MOON filly

*Out of SW MADAME X SKI,
sister to TENSKI-G1*

1012 EL CORREDOR filly

*Out of Matsue, 2nd dam
is Champion KOOYONGA*

Friday, 9/17 • Barn 39

1202 ARCH colt

*Out of stakes producer Bow River Gold,
family of LADY BLACKFOOT*

1361 DYNAFORMER filly

*Out of G1 Classic winner
SILVESTER LADY*

1501 YES IT'S TRUE filly

*Out of SW and
GSP TROPICAL PUNCH*

Monday, 9/20 • Barn 14

1958 ARCH filly

*Out of GSP stakes producer
Woodman's Dancer*

2158 MORE THAN READY colt

*Dam is SW,
GSP Lenatareese*

2253 MORE THAN READY filly

*Out of young Red Ransom
mare Red Piano*



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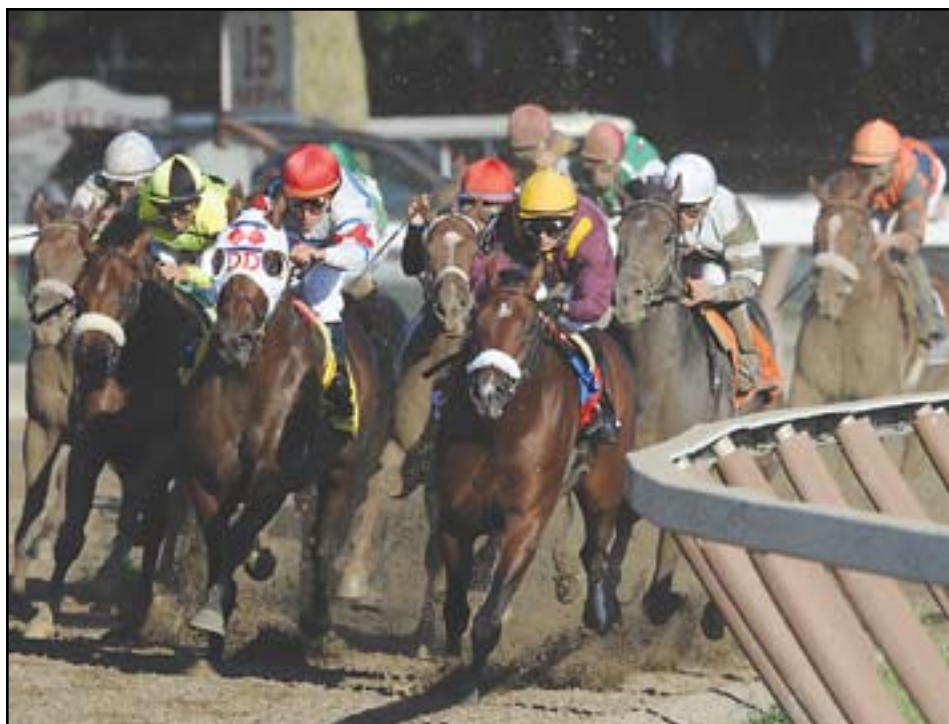
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The field swings into action at the top of the stretch with Afleet Express on the rail (white cap).

Travers —

■ Continued from page 6

Down continued to grind away at the leaders and Afleet Express took aim for a path between First Dude and Miner's Reserve.

At the eighth pole, Afleet Express and Fly Down turned it into a two-horse match, dispatching Miner's Reserve, First Dude and A Little Warm in a matter of strides. Out of 11 starters, there were two who could get the distance; Castellano guided Afleet Express back to the rail, smacking him right handed before switching to his left hand. Jose Lezcano had Fly Down running, still on his left lead, but Afleet Express matched his kick, the duo shadowed strides at the sixteenth pole. Castellano waved his whip and knuckled his right hand into Afleet Express' mane, finding an inch to win the Travers in an epic photo. There was no room for a fist pump or a whip wave; two jockeys wishing and hoping after 2:03.28 of drama.

"We looked at each other, it was the million-dollar question," Castellano said. "You win or not? I knew it could go his way or my way. I was so ner-

vous. At that moment, your mind spins around, words can't describe it, your mind is going so fast, like a computer, you don't know what to think or how to react. You don't want to celebrate, Jose was the same way."

Jerkens felt the same way; unsure if he had won or not.

"I thought we got nailed and then I saw the replay and I thought maybe we got it," Jerkens said. "I've had a lot of confidence in the horse, I've seen the way he trains, he's such a bear."

A big, powerful, throwback colt, he became a man between his Jim Dandy loss and his Travers win. In the Jim Dandy, he ran in snatches; stalking in a nice spot, then fumbling it away on the final turn, then running on at the end. It was an enigmatic performance by a talented colt, he was beaten 2 1/2 lengths by A Little Warm and Miner's Reserve. Castellano didn't like it but didn't hate it; he hoped it would move him forward.

"The Jim Dandy was his second race going two turns, and he ran very spotty, at the half mile I had to start riding, at the three eighths pole he started running, by the quarter pole he stopped, by the eighth pole he took off again, he gave me four or five runs," Castellano

See **TRAVERS** page 10



Dave Harmon

Afleet Express (right) and Fly Down stretch for the finish line.

FEATURED PROPERTIES

Greenwich - \$549,000



Unique historical 4-acre property across from the new park and Stark's Knob! Features include a 2-story home and two 2-story cottages with incredible views and 590+ feet of Hudson River frontage! Permits available for addtl. cottages; many possibilities exist here: a family retreat, home occupation, bed & breakfast...what do you need?? 15 minutes to Saratoga Springs and I-87, walking distance to ADK School. Extensive history and fact sheet available...must see! - **Darlene Chorman**

Greenfield - \$848,000



This fabulous home will include 4 BRs, 4.5 BAs, a 1st floor master suite with dressing room & a great room with cathedral ceiling and fireplace open to a deck and screened porch, all overlooking a private 16-acre retreat! Includes granite, hardwoods, crown molding and wainscoting and 3-zone efficient heat, (certified green build is available). 10 minutes to downtown-Saratoga Schools. Other plans and lots are available or design your own dream to capture your lifestyle! - **Darlene Chorman**

Schuylerville - \$1,100,000



Gentlemen's Horse Farm just minutes from downtown Saratoga and the Race Track. Exclusive executive type estate with a separate guest home right next to a beautiful inground pool. The house has Brazilian cherry floors, granite counters, and a huge dining room for entertaining that opens to an oversized porch with mahogany floors. There is also a 2-5 stall barn with 2 large paddocks and a property managers apartment. - **Barb & Mark Cassier**

Lake George - \$1,195,000



Wonderful year round home on one of the most beautiful spots on Lake George on a small secluded calm bay. The 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home boasts a master suite and lower level guest suite, both with separate entrances. Includes an upgraded custom kitchen, stainless appliances, wood floors, wired generator, deck and dock and sitting areas throughout with lake views. A sleeping porch is perfect for company and family! - **Barb & Mark Cassier**

Saratoga Lake - \$875,000



Built by award-winning Bonacio Construction, this unique 3BR, 2BA home offers wonderful living and entertaining spaces; one garage has been turned into a family/game room and there is a sauna in the other garage bay. Two-story windows in the master suite and living areas provide views of the entire lake and magnificent sunsets! This property comes with 166 ft. of lake frontage and a dock. - **Barb & Mark Cassier**

Saratoga Springs - \$2,000,000



Situated on 15 acres, this 3BR 3.5BA estate boasts a green house, guest house, inground swimming pool, inground sprinkler, patio, deck, fenced yard and 2-car attached garage. Scattered throughout this peaceful park-like setting are beautifully maintained perennial gardens. The interior of this lovely home includes crown molding, a wine cellar, wood floors, whirlpool & sauna, cathedral ceiling, french & atrium doors and so much more. - **Mara King & Carole Tarantino**

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Travers —

■ Continued from page 8

said. "He prepared himself mentally for this. It worked out great, because today he was right there, behind the speed, on the rail, taking a lot of dirt, very focused, he knew what he was doing, mentally he grew up in that race. Today he was on the muscle, he was right there when I needed him."

Jerkens watched his horse after the Jim Dandy and felt good about his Travers preparation. He breezed 5 furlongs in 1:01 over the training track August 21 and returned a week later to go 6 furlongs in 1:13 over the main track. Jerkens liked what he saw.

"I thought he was doing good, we were quietly very confident in him, but you don't want to psyche yourself up," Jerkens said. "He had that good, hard race in the Jim Dandy, he's eaten good since, I thought the workouts were just like we wanted, we didn't overdo it but kept him fit."

Taking a full turn of the paddock, the Travers field glistened and glowed like a Grade I field of horses should. No horse looked better, fitter or stronger than Afleet Express.

"He looked great didn't he? Jerkens said. "I even had to admit it and I never do that. He's got something regal about him."

Jerkens has been impressed with Afleet Express from the first time he worked him in company as a 2-year-old. He won his career debut in December, when breaking slowly and drawing off to an electric victory.

Sent to Florida, Afleet Express struggled, finishing second and fifth in two allowance tries. Returned to New York, he's won three of four starts since coming north. He crushed allowance foes going 7 furlongs at Belmont, then rallied to win the Grade III Pegasus at Monmouth in his first start around two turns. He was simply a race short of his best in the Jim Dandy while spotting experience and speed to A Little Warm and Miner's Reserve.

Asked if he was disappointed in the Jim Dandy, Jerkens straddled the fence.

"Yes and no. To see him do that at the end was a big thing, if he had just been third beaten five lengths or six lengths, that would have been disappointing," Jerkens said. "The way he scooted a little bit at the end and galloped out real strong, how could you not think you had a chance here. I like the way he was running today, happy, in a nice, comfortable rhythm."

Almost too comfortable. Afleet Express gave Castellano choices for the first time. Instead of stoking him up like he had to do in the Jim Dandy, Castellano could sit and wait until he wanted to move. Turning for home, Castellano needed to pick his way through the weakening trio of Trappe Shot, First Dude and Miner's Reserve.

"He responded so well, I had to be very, very careful at the quarter pole because the horses started backing up, I had to squeeze the button at the right time because I saw the hole," Castellano said. "I asked him and he made the hole, at the sixteenth pole, I said, 'I'm going to win the race,' then I see that other horse, I didn't know where he came from, I switched my stick to my



Dave Harmon

Javier Castellano exults after winning the Travers with Afleet Express.

left hand and he gave me everything, everything he had."

Castellano could feel Afleet Express respond to the final challenge of Fly Down.

"He grinds it out, when you ride him, he'll give it back to you," Castellano said. "I rode him really hard at the quarter pole and he responded, when he saw the other horse, it motivated my horse, that was a huge help."

At the end of the day, Jerkens walked

out of the Trustees Room as Castellano walked in; the Travers winning training and the Travers winning jockey shook hands and thanked each other.

Jerkens, ever simplifying the complex game, summed up the difference between being third in the Jim Dandy and winning the Travers.

"He ran when you asked him," Jerkens said.

"Yeah, he sure did, Jimmy," Castellano said. "He sure did."

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Father's Day



by Joe Clancy

Allen Jerkens picked up on two rings.

"How about that?" he said, as a proud father. "The epitome. A Travers. Jimmy won a Travers. There's nothing better than a Travers. I know I'm more shook up than he is, but I know it means a lot to him."

Jimmy Jerkens won Saturday's Grade I Travers with Afleet Express, a big, freight train of a horse who would have looked good in his father's barn 40 years ago. Allen Jerkens, at home in Saratoga, watched on television, leaned through the photo like everyone at the track and then grinned. He probably cried, but you would too.

Allen Jerkens made the Hall of Fame in 1975. His son Jimmy worked in his barn for 20-plus years and – at his father's urging – became a trainer too in 1997. When you're still active at 81, and your son chooses to follow you in your profession, something like a Travers victory hits home. Allen Jerkens has never won a Travers, but knows what it's like to get a horse ready for the mile-and-a-quarter Saratoga classic.

"Devil His Due finished second (1992), that's as close as I got," said Jerkens, whose career includes five Travers starts. "It's got to feel great, he won it with his first try. Think about it."

Allen Jerkens trains out of his traditional main-track barn in the back – up against the fence at Greentree. Jimmy Jerkens' shedrow is about as far away as you can get – across Union Avenue on the Oklahoma side.

They don't compare notes regularly. They don't talk about individual horses often. But they think alike. Nobody questions himself or mulls decisions the way Allen Jerkens does. Except maybe Jimmy.

Friday, Jimmy Jerkens sat in his car next to his barn and wondered what Afleet Express did in the Jim Dandy. The horse lost his way on the turn, dropped back, then came charging through the stretch to finish third. Was it lack of experience, dirt in his face, two turns for only the second time, an unseen issue? He sounded a lot like his father.

They talked about Afleet Express awhile ago.

"It's a good thing when a horse works hard and comes back and he's not blowing, isn't it?" Jimmy told his father.

"I had one horse like that, Beau Purple, he could work a mile and not even blow afterward," said Allen Jerkens of his 1962 Brooklyn, Man o' War and Suburban winner. "We didn't talk that much about the horse, but he knew that I knew he was getting him ready and thinking about it a lot."

And that's what horse trainers do – think about things.

"Trainers worry about everything, but not worrying about the things that don't make a difference is the most important thing," Jerkens said. "Figuring out what not to worry about is the hard part and you only learn that through experience."

Last year, Jimmy Jerkens won the Florida Derby with Quality Road and appeared headed to the Kentucky Derby before getting sidelined. Owner Ned Evans transferred the horse to trainer Todd Pletcher. Since the move, Quality Road has won two Grade I stakes, a Grade II and a Grade III while planting himself in the upper tier of older horses this year.



Tod Marks

Afleet Express gave trainer Jimmy Jerkens a Travers win.

Allen Jerkens called it part of the job.

"You lose a horse like Quality Road and you don't know what's going to happen," he said. "You have to overcome things like that; they can disturb you, it's tough to sleep, you have to be civil to people maybe when you might not want to be civil to. You have to keep going to the barn."

Mostly, you have to keep going – get back to your horses, get back to thinking about them and like them.

"It's not like some other jobs where you're planning where you're going to go on vacation or something," the Chief said. "It's your life. You've got to be sensitive to it, you've got to be observant – of everything – you've got to think about it. You've got to care. Jimmy's a good trainer, he likes it. It's his whole life."

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Speed on View



Tod Marks

Discreetly Mine became a Grade I winner Saturday in the King's Bishop.

Discreetly Mine overpowers Grade I field with pace play

BY JOE CLANCY

You're a trainer. Your horse is even money in the King's Bishop at Saratoga. You watch him warm up, you zero in on the television monitor when he goes in the gate. You pick up your binoculars. You clench your jaw, just a little, when the gate opens.

As the first quarter-mile flashes past in 21.90 seconds, you watch the monitor. You go back to your binoculars as a rival breathes down on your horse. You keep watching, without flinching – somehow – as he rockets through a half-mile in 44.11 seconds. You're still with him at the eighth pole, binoculars up and quietly, conservatively willing him on as if too much emotion might further drain an already tired horse.

And then you stand up and yell for all your worth.

Todd Pletcher watched the first 1:09.44 seconds of Discreetly Mine's powerful Grade I score in complete control, then turned into a fan – shouting and pushing and yelling for his horse and jockey John Velazquez over the final, exhausting furlong. Owned by Mrs. E. Paul Robsham, Discreetly Mine added the King's Bishop to a Saratoga that began with a score in the Grade II

Amsterdam Aug. 2.

The 3-year-old son of Mineshaft blazed through the early fractions, put away Bulldogger after a half-mile and won by 1 1/4 lengths over late-running Bank Merger with Latigo Shore third. The winner covered 7 furlongs in 1:23.16.

"For seven-eighths, those are wicked fractions," Pletcher said after pumping his fist four times at the finish and high-fiving assistant Tristan Barry. "The way the track was playing, we were kind of committed to go if he broke in front. Luckily he had just enough. It's tough to watch the last part when you know they've gone that fast."

Pletcher and Velazquez discussed their plans beforehand and figured Discreetly Mine might be in front. He found a rapid front-runner to sit behind in the 6 1/2-furlong Amsterdam before blazing off to win by nearly 9 lengths. Saturday, he looked like the stalkee at 7 furlongs on a quick racetrack.

"He wants to do everything as fast as he can," said Velazquez. "I'd like to get him back a little bit, he's better stalking a horse. That way he's not going as fast

See **KING'S BISHOP** page 13

King's Bishop —

■ Continued from page 12

as he can the whole way. I think he'd rather stalk, but he's fast, oh he's fast, I don't even have to do anything — long hold and let him do it."

The homebred broke running from the center of a seven-horse field, Velazquez sat still. To his outside, Martin Garcia and Bulldogger drafted into position — not head-and-head, but at Velazquez's boot and making Discreetly Mine work. California shipper Hurricane Ike sat third. D' Funnybone, who beat Discreetly Mine in the Woody Stephens in June, was fourth. Bank Merger and longshots In Jack's Memory and Latigo Shore dropped toward the back.

"I had the other horse right next to me — puff, puff — breathing hard next to me and I was worried about that," said Velazquez. "It was making my horse go fast. All I could do was just sit there, riding but not doing much and trying to save something for the end."

Sent off at even money, Discreetly Mine disposed of Bulldogger after the rapid half-mile, then braced for the attack from D' Funnybone, Bank Merger, someone with upset intentions and a full tank of air. Bank Merger got closest, but ultimately flattened out after briefly looking poised for the upset.

"We were flying, rolling, I tell you we were going fast, but he held on," Velazquez said. "I was proud of him, he ran his race again. He was very good."

The winner got tired late — who wouldn't? — but called on the two-turn ability he showed this winter while win-



Tod Marks

Discreetly Mine hits the wire in front of Bank Merger in the King's Bishop.

ning the Grade II Risen Star and finishing fourth in the Louisiana Derby. Those races earned a Kentucky Derby start, where Discreetly Mine finished 13th in a rough trip.

"He showed he could do that, showed that talent, but he's very fast," said Velazquez. "Every time I ride him I try to get him behind somebody, to stalk somebody because that's better for him. Today, I just

had to hold on and let him go."

Discreetly Mine improved to 5-for-13 in his career and extended his wining streak to three while pushing his career earnings to \$799,350.

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All Right

Dutrow's filly zooms to Grade I sprint score

BY KAREN M. JOHNSON

Three days before the Grade I Ballerina Tony Dutrow explained why Rightly So's half-mile work in 46 seconds over the Oklahoma training track the day before didn't alarm him.

"Rightly So has run on her mind at all times – in the mornings, in the afternoon – on a daily basis," the trainer said. "I wish she wouldn't have gone that fast. But it wasn't a surprise, because that is her. And actually, if she hadn't gone fast, I would have been, 'What's up with that?'"

Rightly So still had run on her mind Saturday when she went immediately to the lead under Cornelio Velasquez, rattled off zippy fractions – 22.26, 44.80, and 1:09.29 – and scampered home a 4-length winner. The final time for 7 furlongs was 1:22.58, faster than what Discreetly Mine ran one race later in the King's Bishop, although he established a faster pace en route to a final time of 1:23.16.

Sent off as the fourth choice in a field of eight fillies and mares, Rightly So returned \$11.40.



Tod Marks

See **BALLERINA** page 15

Rightly So charges to the finish line with a Grade I victory in the Ballerina.



Magna Graduate was my first purchase, venturing from the Show Jumping World into Horse Racing. Purchased privately by Elizabeth H. Alexander, shortly after breaking his maiden he went on to earn over \$2.5 million. After making 35 starts, running on 16 different tracks on two continents, he retired sound. He currently stands at Darby Dan Farm.

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Kim Valerio and Magna Graduate.

Ballerina —

■ Continued from page 14

The \$250,000 Ballerina was New York-bred Rightly So's second consecutive graded win. In July at Belmont Park, the 4-year-old daughter of Read The Footnotes was the head winner of the Grade III Bed o' Roses for owner Ahmed Zayat.

Dutrow said he was looking forward to making the congratulatory phone call to Zayat who was not in attendance Saturday.

"That was just a fantastic performance today," Dutrow said. "She was strong all the way. She's capable of running fast all the way. She outdid herself today. So impressed. So proud. She has been an overachiever."

Velasquez said he was still feeling confident as he swung his mount into the stretch, even after a second quarter in 22.54.

"She finished good too. I had a lot of horse at the quarter pole and she finished well. She ran a big one," Velasquez said.

Runner-up Warbling (Javier Castellano) did her best to pressure Rightly So right from the start, but her rival possessed more speed. Jessica Is Back finished third.

After breaking her maiden by 10 1/4 lengths in state-bred company on a dreary day at Aqueduct Jan. 25, 2009, Rightly So shined in restricted company and rattled off four more victories, including two New York-bred stakes.

This spring, Dutrow believed she earned the right to step it up in the

Grade II Vagrancy at Belmont Park in May. Rightly So rose to the challenge and finished a good second to Hour Glass, who beat her less than a length. Her next start came in the Bed o' Roses, which she won by a head over Qualia, the second choice behind Informed Decision in the Ballerina.

Neither Qualia nor 2-1 favorite Informed Decision had any luck in the Ballerina. On the way to the paddock, Qualia lost a shoe and had to be reshod. During the race, her saddle slipped, and she was eased by Rajiv Maragh entering the stretch.

Informed Decision, who dazzled last year with six wins from seven starts including the Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint finished sixth after winning back-to-back stakes on synthetic tracks this summer.

Trainer Jonathan Sheppard said the mare seems to have difficulty handling turns on conventional dirt.

"She has not run well on the turn, on the dirt, for some reason, even though she normally finishes well," he said.

With her victory, Rightly So earned a spot in the Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint at Churchill Downs Nov. 5. Dutrow said that would be a logical spot for the filly and he would be delighted if Zayat concurred.

"I have to talk to Mr. Z, but I'm assuming [the Breeders' Cup] would be something Mr. Z would want to do," Dutrow said. "If she likes Churchill, the way she likes Saratoga that would be a fantastic opportunity."

Additional reporting by Ben Meyers.



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Dynaslew and Eibar Coa stroll the winner's circle after the Ballston Spa.

Tod Marks

In Form

Fourth in Gr. I Diana, Dynaslew catches Silver Reunion in stretch

BY PHIL JANACK

Already the star of his modest stable, Dynaslew turned the volume way up on what had already been a quietly successful meet for trainer Seth Benzel.

Given a textbook ride from Eibar Coa, the 4-year-old Dynaformer filly rated off pacesetter Silver Reunion before reeling her in and pulling clear for a half-length victory in the Grade II \$200,000 Ballston Spa Handicap Saturday.

It was the second graded stakes win of his training career for Benzel, 35, a former assistant to Todd Pletcher and Bill Mott who went out on his own in 2008. The first also came courtesy of Dynaslew, in the May 1 Beaugay at Belmont Park.

"This is the best win I've had in my career," Benzel said. "She was my first Grade III, and now she's my first Grade II. There's a Grade I out there for her,

too. We'll try to get it done."

Born in Clifton Springs, N.Y., near Canandaigua, home of Finger Lakes Race Track and Casino, Benzel grew up around racing. In his third summer as a trainer at Saratoga, he has six wins, three seconds and two thirds for purses of \$265,364 with only 21 starters through 32 days.

"This is the topper," he said. "This mare was our best horse coming in, and we wanted to do some special things with her, and we were lucky enough to do exactly that. It's unreal. This place . . . I mean, this place has been a special place to me since I was a kid. It really is quite emotional for me to be able to do something like this here, in my own backyard, which I consider home now. You just couldn't ask for anything more."

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See **BALLSTON SPA** page 17



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Ballston Spa —

■ Continued from page 16

naslew entered the Ballston Spa after setting the pace and finishing fourth, beaten a neck, in the Grade I Diana at Saratoga July 31. Finishing ahead of her that day were Proviso, Shared Account and Forever Together.

Sent off at 18-1 in the Diana and let go at 7-1 in the Ballston Spa, Dynaslew is demanding respect in the filly/mare turf division.

"I think so. I would hope so," Benzel said. "I think it's been slow in coming for her, why I don't know. At the same time, you've got to earn it in this game, and I think she did today. For her to do it here in the Ballston Spa, after running so well in the Diana, it's just a credit to her and a credit to my team. They did a great job, everybody that works for me."

A front-running winner of her first two starts this year, who also led from the gate into deep stretch in the Diana, Dynaslew went for the Ballston Spa lead with Silver Reunion before jockey Eibar Coa opted to pull back and settle in behind.

Silver Reunion (Rajiv Maragh) rolled through splits of 23.44, 47.54 and 1:11.15 after breaking through the starting gate prior to the race. The 4-year-old Harlan's Holiday filly entered the stretch with the lead, before Dynaslew came calling.

"I didn't know what Rajiv was going to do with his horse," Coa said. "My main plan was just to go forward and see if he was going to go to the lead, and then I was going to decide going into the first turn. When I saw him going to the lead, I decided to get back. She relaxed for me pretty good. In the stretch, she just kept digging and digging and digging. She never stopped running. I knew I had [Silver Reunion], but I was just afraid if somebody else was going to come and get me, but I'm glad nobody did. She ran her race today."

Dynaslew covered 1 1/16 miles in 1:40.58 on an inner turf course listed as firm, just .66 off the track record of 1:39.92 set by Leroidesanimaux in 2005.

It was only the ninth win of the meet in 68 mounts for Coa, New York's leading jockey in 2006 (303 wins) and 2007 (262 wins), who also won with Monastir in Saturday's fourth race.

"It definitely always helps out," Coa said. "It's been a little bit of a slow meet, but I've been happier. I've got my family with me, and that's a plus. I'm not really worried about what's going on every



Dynaslew (center) edges Silver Reunion (right) and Miss Keller in the Ballston Spa.

Tod Marks

day. I just try to see the big picture."

Benzel praised Coa's handling of the temperamental Dynaslew. Horse and rider are 2-for-3 together, including the Beaugay win and the Diana.

"Eibar has ridden this filly to a T," Benzel said. "It couldn't have gone more according to plan. I really thought that she was going to put herself in that spot, and she did. He called on her when he needed to. He made an early move to where he could reel in the leader and kind of put the other horses behind him and keep them there."

Bred in Florida by Live Oak Stud, Dynaslew now has five wins and four seconds for purses of \$365,852 in 13 lifetime starts. It was her second victory at Saratoga, including a 1-mile allowance win last year.

Silver Reunion held on for second, with De La Rose Stakes winner Miss Keller third. Phola, the 2-1 favorite, finished eighth of 10, beaten 5 lengths



Tod Marks

Dynaslew greets a happy crew after the Grade II turf victory.

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Grand Rapport shows the way into the stretch of the Victory Ride.

Dave Harmon

Grand Rapport sprints home in Grade III for Legends, Baffert

BY MIKE KANE

Bob Baffert confidently touted Rapport in the \$100,000 Victory Ride and she delivered with an impressive display of speed and more speed Saturday.

One of the early purchases of the Thoroughbred Legends Racing Stable when it was formed in 2008, the daughter of Songandaprayer, led every step and won the Grade III 6-furlong race for 3-year-old fillies by 3 1/2 lengths in 1:09.66.

"She's so fast. She's ridiculously fast," Baffert said. "We bought her up here at the Fasig-Tipton sale. She's just extremely fast."

With Martin Garcia trying to rate her a bit, not an easy task, Rapport rolled through an opening quarter in 22.05 seconds, got the half-mile in 44.54 and kept going. Garcia asked for more and she widened her advantage over Beyondallboundaries at the top of the stretch through 5 furlongs in 56.55. My Jen came late in the stretch to get second, but was never a threat to Rapport, who won for the third time in four starts this year.

Garcia said the plan was to give the filly some room to show her stuff, but not allow her to run away early, like she did at Calder when she opened a 7-length advantage but weakened to finish fourth in the Grade III Azalea in her previous start July 10.

VICTORY RIDE STAKES RECAP

"The point was to relax," he said. "She was the only speed in that race, it looked like, and then she just went."

Like in gone, taking with her the Thoroughbred Legends to the winner's enclosure at Saratoga.

Thoroughbred Legends purchased horses to send to Baffert, D. Wayne Lukas and Nick Zito, all now members of the Hall of Fame. Lukas had Rapport last year. She was ineffective in her three starts during the summer, was taken out of training and turned out.

Transferred to Baffert in California this year, she easily won two starts on the synthetic surface at Hollywood Park then faded to fourth in her lone try on dirt in the Grade III Azalea at Calder.

"You know what? For a good horse it doesn't matter where she runs because she will show it," Garcia said. "She won two times on the poly and then look at right now. That was the second time that she ran on the dirt and she won. I think for her it doesn't matter where she is running."

Despite her trouble at Calder, Baffert was sure that she could handle the change in surfaces.

"She ran so well at Hollywood Park and Hollywood is probably the closest to dirt that we have," Baffert said. "In the Calder race she went way too fast."

It was ridiculous, something like 21 flat on a heavy track. She trained well here, came here and worked really well."

Baffert lingered in the winner's circle, chatting, posing for photos and signing autographs.

"It was nice to get a stakes win," he said. "Any time you come and win on a big day like this you feel like you win a Grade I. It's a win on Travers Day."

Rapport was the 2-1 second choice and paid \$6.90. Thoroughbred Legends' Thomas Gaines said the partners were expecting a big performance.

"She's a filly that we thought would move up in the dirt," he said. "She had a tough race the last time at Calder, but we were optimistic because she was devastatingly brilliant in her two starts in California for Bob. We knew that she had this in her."

Thoroughbred Legends purchased the filly for \$475,000 in the 2008 Fasig-Tipton sale at Saratoga. Gaines said the Thoroughbred Legends has 34 horses.

"We're buying some more," he said. "We have a great group of 3-year-olds right now that we are primarily focused on. We had a nice winner here last Saturday, a Tiznow colt (Morning Line) that won by 11 for Nick. We have another one in the King's Bishop today (Latigo Shore, third). A lot of these 3-year-olds are now starting to get on track. Sometimes, that's just the way things shake out. You'd love to have them all ready to go by Derby time, but we want to do it right by the horses."

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3 Forum



4 Monastir



5 Uncle Mo



6 Headingtothecity



7 War Hoot



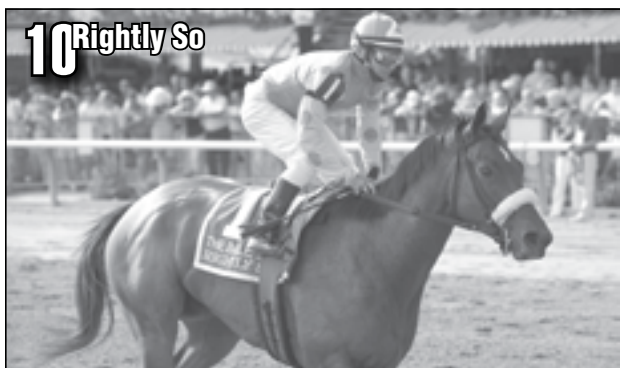
8 Dynaslew



9 Rapport



10 Rightly So



11 Discreetly Mine



13 Pretty Cozzy



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SATURDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Saturday, August 28, 2010

1ST 7 FURLONGS 3 & UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$62,000

6	Litigation Risk	Maragh R	22.40	12.20	9.10
5	Ya Gotta Have Soul	Castellano J J		13.80	7.40
2	Launch N Relaunch	Dominguez R A			7.80

Time 1:22.11

Trainer: Violette Rick - Owner: Klaravich Stables, Inc. and Lawrence, W.H.

Ch. c. 3 by Closing Argument - Silver Bliss by Silver Deputy

Breeder: Donna Wormser

\$2 Exacta (6-5) Paid \$354.50

\$2 Superfecta (6-5-2-10) Paid \$23,587.00

\$2 Trifecta (6-5-2) Paid \$3,120.00

2ND 6 FURLONGS 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$60,000

9	Alexandra Rylee	Velasquez C	7.90	4.00	4.30
5	Promise Me a Cat	Castellano J J		4.60	3.40
7	Missyoulikecrazy	Leparoux J R			5.60

Time 1:11.05

Trainer: Reid Robert E Jr - Owner: Cash is King LLC

B. f. 2 by Afleet Alex - Sira by Capote - Breeder: Roll Z Dice Stable 1

\$2 Daily Double (6-9) Paid \$101.00 Daily Double Pool \$281,129

\$2 Exacta (9-5) Paid \$35.60 \$2 Quinella (5-9) Paid \$26.00

\$2 Superfecta (9-5-7-4) Paid \$2,381.00

\$2 Trifecta (9-5-7) Paid \$292.50

3RD 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$61,000

7	Forum	Castellano J J	10.80	4.80	3.40
10	Volcker	Velazquez J R		5.10	3.60
9	Big Bentley	Coa E M			5.00

Time 1:41.61

Trainer: Weaver George - Owner: Dogwood Stable

B. c. 2 by Roman Ruler - Winner's High by High Yield

Breeder: Liberation Farm & Oratis Thoroughbreds

\$2 Pick 3 (6-9-7) 3 Correct Paid \$559.00 Pick 3 Pool \$120,927

\$2 Daily Double (9-7) Paid \$48.20 Daily Double Pool \$92,649

\$2 Exacta (7-10) Paid \$40.60

\$2 Superfecta (7-10-9-8) Paid \$2,042.00

\$2 Trifecta (7-10-9) Paid \$165.00

4TH 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3 & UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$53,000

5	Monastir	Coa E M	26.40	12.60	5.50
7	Mr. Hooker	Lenclud F		41.60	10.80
2	DH-The Noz	Castellano J J			2.40
3	DH-Barrel of Love	Samyn J L			3.70

Time 1:41.81

Trainer: Hennig Mark - Owner: Brodsky Alan

Ch. c. 4 by Malibu Moon - Blazing Cat by Tabasco Cat. Breeder: Gale Brophy

\$2 Pick 3 (9-7-5) 3 Correct Paid \$754.00 Pick 3 Pool \$74,351

\$2 Daily Double (7-5) Paid \$136.00 Daily Double Pool \$107,872

\$2 Exacta (5-7) Paid \$1,450.00 \$2 Quinella (5-7) Paid \$901.00

\$2 Superfecta (5-7-2-3) Paid \$19,792.00

\$2 Superfecta (5-7-3-2) Paid \$22,619.00

\$2 Trifecta (5-7-2) Paid \$2,510.00

\$2 Trifecta (5-7-3) Paid \$3,314.00

5TH 6 FURLONGS 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$60,000

3	Uncle Mo	Velazquez J R	3.80	3.20	2.70
6	Admiral Perry	Cohen D		26.80	10.00
8	Sinorice	Lezcano J			9.10

Time 1:09.21

Trainer: Pletcher Todd A - Owner: Repole Stable

B. c. 2 by Indian Charlie - Playa Maya by Arch. Breeder: Michael Cavey DVM

\$2 Pick 3 (7-5-3) 3 Correct Paid \$398.50 Pick 3 Pool \$137,653

\$2 Pick 4 (9-7-5-3) 4 Correct Paid \$1,433.00 Pick 4 Pool \$239,890

\$2 Daily Double (5-3) Paid \$60.50 Daily Double Pool \$112,021

\$2 Exacta (3-6) Paid \$151.50

\$2 Superfecta (3-6-8-4) Paid \$15,193.00

\$2 Trifecta (3-6-8) Paid \$1,292.00

6TH 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3 & UP MDN SPL WGT PURSE: \$51,000

9	Headingtothecity	Dominguez R A	22.40	11.00	5.50
6	Jacob's Dream	Lenclud F		6.70	3.20
8	Chingachgook	Leparoux J R			2.30

Time 1:43.93

Trainer: Schettino Dominick A - Owner: MeB Racing Stables, LLC

B. g. 3 by Prime Timber - Pride Diablo by Diablo

Breeder: Sez Who Thoroughbreds

\$2 Pick 3 (5-3-9) 3 Correct Paid \$929.00 Pick 3 Pool \$114,776

\$2 Daily Double (3-9) Paid \$45.40 Daily Double Pool \$103,580

\$2 Exacta (9-6) Paid \$137.50

\$2 Superfecta (9-6-8-5) Paid \$1,948.00

\$2 Trifecta (9-6-8) Paid \$319.50

7TH 1 3/16 M (TURF) 3 & UP ALW OPT CLM (\$50,000) PURSE: \$55,000

8	War Hoot	Lezcano J	9.70	5.00	3.60
10	Midnight Mischief	Desormeaux K J		5.90	4.90
2	Insider Tip	Garcia Alan			7.50

Time 1:55.32

Trainer: Brown Chad C - Owner: Gary and Mary West Stables, Inc.

B. c. 4 by War Chant - Owsley by Harlan. Breeder: Arthur Hancock

\$2 Pick 3 (3-9-8) 3 Correct Paid \$203.00 Pick 3 Pool \$123,202

\$2 Daily Double (9-8) Paid \$122.50 Daily Double Pool \$100,024

\$2 Exacta (8-10) Paid \$58.00

\$2 Superfecta (8-10-2-7) Paid \$4,251.00

\$2 Trifecta (8-10-2) Paid \$683.00

8TH BALLSTON SPA H. (G2) 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3&UP F&M PURSE: \$200,000

7	Dynaslew	Coa E M	17.60	8.90	6.60
4	Silver Reunion	Maragh R		16.80	9.50
1	Miss Keller (IRE)	Castellano J J			4.00

Time 1:40.58

Trainer: Benzel Seth - Owner: Live Oak Plantation

Dk. b or br. f. 4 by Dynaformer - Slews Final Answer by Seattle Slew

Breeder: Live Oak Stud

\$2 Pick 3 (9-8-7) 3 Correct Paid \$1,081.00 Pick 3 Pool \$132,861

\$2 Pick 4 (3-9-1/6/8/13-7) 4 Correct Paid \$2,031.00 Pick 4 Pool \$201,124

\$2 Daily Double (8-7) Paid \$110.00 Daily Double Pool \$121,340

\$2 Exacta (7-4) Paid \$323.00

\$2 Superfecta (7-4-1-2) Paid \$17,462.00

\$2 Trifecta (7-4-1) Paid \$1,732.00

9TH VICTORY RIDE S. (G3) 6 FURLONGS 3 YO FILLIES PURSE: \$100,000

3	Rapport	Garcia M	6.90	4.90	3.40
2	My Jen	Leparoux J R		15.40	6.90
7	Beyondallboundaries	Borel C H			3.00

Time 1:09.66

Trainer: Baffert Bob - Owner: Thoroughbred Legends Racing Stable

Dk. b or br. f. 3 by Songandaprayer - Irene's Talkin by At the Threshold

Breeder: Glencrest Farm LLC

\$2 Pick 3 (8-7-3) 3 Correct Paid \$354.50 Pick 3 Pool \$181,345

\$2 Daily Double (7-3) Paid \$94.50 Daily Double Pool \$131,583

\$2 Exacta (3-2) Paid \$118.00

\$2 Superfecta (3-2-7-9) Paid \$1,252.00

\$2 Trifecta (3-2-7) Paid \$349.50

10TH BALLERINA S. (G1) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP F&M PURSE: \$250,000

1	Rightly So	Velasquez C	11.40	5.40	4.10
2	Warbling	Castellano J J		6.80	4.60
3	Jessica Is Back	Trujillo E			4.40

Time 1:22.58

Trainer: Dutrow Anthony W - Owner: Zayat Stables, LLC

Dk. b or br. f. 4 by Read the Footnotes - Fit Right In by Out of Place

Breeder: Sequel 2003

\$2 Pick 3 (7-3-1) 3 Correct Paid \$564.00 Pick 3 Pool \$191,225

\$2 Daily Double (3-1) Paid \$52.00 Daily Double Pool \$126,412

\$2 Exacta (1-2) Paid \$63.00

\$2 Superfecta (1-2-3-7) Paid \$1,720.00

\$2 Trifecta (1-2-3) Paid \$237.50

\$2 Grand Slam (1/2/6/8/10/13-1/4/7-2/3/7-1) Paid \$158.00

11TH KING'S BISHOP S. (G1) 7 FURLONGS 3 YO STAKES PURSE: \$250,000

4	Discreetly Mine	Velazquez J R	4.10	2.90	2.30
6	Bank Merger	Garcia Alan		6.40	4.50
1	Latigo Shore	Dominguez R A			5.90

Time 1:23.16

Trainer: Pletcher Todd A - Owner: E. Paul Robsham Stables LLC

B. c. 3 by Mineshaft - Pretty Discreet by Private Account

Breeder: Paul Robsham

\$2 Pick 3 (3-1-4) 3 Correct Paid \$125.00 Pick 3 Pool \$140,547

\$2 Daily Double (1-4) Paid \$28.40 Daily Double Pool \$152,362

\$2 Exacta (4-6) Paid \$29.80

\$2 Superfecta (4-6-1-2) Paid \$1,127.00

\$2 Trifecta (4-6-1) Paid \$276.00

12TH TRAVERS S. (G1) 1 1/4 MILES 3 YO STAKES PURSE: \$1,000,000

7	Afleet Express	Castellano J J	16.00	7.80	4.90
8	Fly Down	Lezcano J		6.90	5.20
4	First Dude	Dominguez R A			4.60

Time 2:03.28

Trainer: Jerkens James A - Owner: Gainesway Farm and Cherry, Martin L.

Dk. b or br. c. 3 by Afleet Alex - Expanse by Distant View

Breeder: McMillin Brothers and James Devaney

\$2 Pick 3 (1-4-7) 3 Correct Paid \$197.50 Pick 3 Pool \$362,241

\$2 Pick 4 (3-1-4-7) 4 Correct Paid \$845.00 Pick 4 Pool \$1,484,659

\$2 Daily Double (4-7) Paid \$39.40 Daily Double Pool \$391,243

\$2 Exacta (7-8) Paid \$114.50

\$2 Superfecta (7-8-4-10) Paid \$14,844.00

\$2 Trifecta (7-8-4) Paid \$970.00

13TH 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3 & UP CLM (\$25,000) PURSE: \$37,000

5	Pretty Cozzy	Maragh R	8.90	4.80	3.70
4	Pea Stone	Chavez J F		9.00	5.80
2	Ben's Boots	Castellano J J			4.40

Time 1:02.55

Trainer: Contessa Gary C - Owner: Moss Maggi

Gr/ro. f. 4 by Broken Vow - Lujien Lujien by Cozzene.

Breeder: Paul P. Smith.

\$2 Pick 3 (4-7-5) 3 Correct Paid \$155.50 Pick 3 Pool \$274,872

\$2 Pick 6 (7-3-1-4-7-5) 5 Correct Paid \$345.50 Pick 6 Pool

\$2 Pick 6 (7-3-1-4-7-5) 6 Correct Paid \$25,884.00 Pick 6 Pool

\$289,380

\$2 Exacta (5-4) Paid \$74.50

\$2 Superfecta (5-4-2-1) Paid \$1,010.00

\$2 Trifecta (5-4-2) Paid \$308.00

Saratoga Attendance: 45764 Mutuel Pool: \$8,218,975

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In Saratoga all summer

Mo-Mentum

Two-year-old dazzles in debut for Repole, Pletcher, Velazquez

BY BEN MEYERS

Don't forget the name Uncle Mo.

On a day when history was made long after he was back in his barn, the 2-year-old son of Indian Charlie crushed a field of 10 in the six furlong fifth for maidens by 14 1/4 lengths on Travers Saturday.

"This was his first out and, believe it or not, we didn't overdo his preparation," trainer Todd Pletcher said. "A lot of that was on his natural ability."

Uncle Mo got the lead early and after running through fractions of 22.20 and 45.67 seconds he came into the stretch with a 6-length lead. He thundered away once he was on the straightaway to finish in 1:09.21. Admiral Perry was second and Sinorice was third.

Stablemate Stay Thirsty, who is pointed toward the Hopeful on Closing Day, may have had the title of top 2-year-old under Pletcher's command taken away with the emphatic win.

"Not any like this," Pletcher said

when asked about the other youngsters in his barn. "(Uncle Mo) has trained like our best 2-year-old all summer. What was so encouraging was the way he'd been working. Everything he had been working with had been running very well. So, I told (owner) Mike (Repole) early on that he had two really special colts. And we are pretty fortunate."

The fortune is quite a change from the 2009 Saratoga season for Repole Stable. After going 0-36 last time around, Repole sits atop the Saratoga owner's leaderboard with 12 wins from 36 starts this season. Granted, the owner went on to be the top owner at all of NYRA's tracks for 2009, but not getting a Spa win is something that haunted Repole.

"What a difference a year makes," Repole said. "I am the leading owner by six wins now and I didn't sleep for 11 months. I just didn't sleep for 11 months. I hadn't ate and slept this whole meet. I want to make sure that,



Tod Marks

Two-year-old Uncle Mo heads to the start before his lopsided win.

being the leading owner in New York, and not winning a race at Saratoga I have to redeem myself."

The owner from Queens, who now resides on Long Island, could hear a few Kentucky Derby bells ringing for the colt.

"I have been dreaming about the Derby Trail since I was 13 years old, 30 years ago," he said. "Between him and Stay Thirsty we have some nice two-year olds it is a lot of fun, just a lot of fun."

The road to the three-year old season could still be punctuated with some big two-year old scores.

"The way this colt ran today, I think the Champagne would make sense for him," Pletcher said. "We'll see how it goes with Stay Thirsty. It is a problem we will have to figure out later on."

Who exactly is Uncle Mo, though?

"The funny part is I name a lot of horses after family members," Repole, who has 85 total horses in training, said. "Uncle Mo is really for sports momentum. So finally, Repole Stables has some sports momentum on its side."

The stable doesn't just have some, it has a lot, going into 2011.

- Effort will make up for a lot of things in life.

Monastir showed why in the fourth race.

The well-traveled Malibu Moon four-year old, making his 20th career start, swung to the outside with Eibar Coa and didn't let being the tenth of

twelve runners early and only seventh at the top of the stretch intimidate him as he won the mile-and-one-sixteenth allowance on the inner turf for New York Breds by 1 3/4 lengths in 1:41.81.

"He runs hard every time," trainer Mark Hennig said. "He just goes out and tries hard every time."

The effort hadn't really been rewarded throughout Monastir's career until Saturday. He had one other win, a maiden score at Aqueduct Nov. 21, 2009, but it didn't stop him from catching lightning in a bottle on the Spa's biggest day. Following the early fractions of 22.85 and 46.78 set by The Plot Thickens and The Noz, Monastir had plenty of pace, and tired horses, to run into.

"All he needs is a pace and he doesn't get it very often," Hennig said about the winner who paid \$26.40. "And it isn't often enough because he always comes running. He just needs a proper set-up like a lot of late closers on the turf and today he got it."

Even though the big races of the day were still hours away, the stakes may have helped influence how things set up in the fourth.

"You figure everyone's adrenaline is a little high today," Hennig said about the looming races. "So maybe that led to a little bit livelier pace to run at. These jocks may be hustling a little more early and during the race. It was good for him. It was good for the horse."

Longshot Mr. Hooker got the ben-

See **SATURDAY** page 24

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Tod Marks

Monastir visits the winner's circle for trainer Mark Hennig.

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 and Susan Cronin





Forum scores in the third for trainer George Weaver.

Saturday —

■ Continued from page 22

efit of a photo to pay his backers \$41.60, while favorite The Noz and Barrel Of Love tied for third. The exacta paid \$1,450, and even though the pool was split, the trifectas paid \$2,510 and \$3,314. The numbers that took the breath away from the crowd were the superfectas which paid \$19,792 and \$22,619, respectively.

• Jose Lezcano had to wait his turn with War Hoot in the seventh race. His patience paid off. The jockey was able to skim the

hedge in the heart of the stretch and get the win in the mile-and-three-sixteenth optional claiming test by 1 1/4 lengths in 1:55.32.

"I stayed behind and I didn't have anywhere to go," Lezcano said. "I just kept waiting, but when I had to go he went with me and got there."

War Hoot has always been around the money throughout his career. The 4-year-old War Chant colt improved to 3-for-8 with two seconds and a third. Lezcano has been aboard for all but one of those runs, including a second under the same conditions on July 25, and trainer Chad Brown wanted the rider to keep the mount.

"He got in a little trouble last time," Brown said about the pair staying to-

gether. "Jose is a good rider and taking him off wasn't going to make things any better and he got it right today."

The jockey appreciated the vote of confidence.

"When he gets the horse ready and has me stay on, it is a great feeling," Lezcano said.

• As Forum came off of the turn in the third race at a mile and a sixteenth for maidens on the Mellon Turf, trainer George Weaver was hoping for a clean shot at the wire.

The Roman Ruler 2-year-old had just missed getting his first win when he was nosed out by Silver Medallion on a similar level at the same distance and surface Aug. 4. There was some jostling back and forth as the two runners headed to the wire that day.

This time the lane was clear and Javier Castellano drove Forum to the half-length win in 1:41.61. Volcker was second and Big Bentley was third.

"We got beat a dirty nose last time," Weaver said. "There was some contact deep in the lane and I'm just glad we got the nose back today. To win on Travers Day is nice."

"We had a clean trip," Weaver continued. "And the racing is always so tough up here. You don't know if you can catch what is in front of you or hold off what is behind you. We were in a good spot to get it done."

The race was the third of Forum's career with the last two being much more to his liking than his first try, a 4 1/2-furlong sprint on the Churchill Downs dirt, where he finished fourth of six.

"He showed some talent early on, but he was very green when we ran him

in April at Churchill so we just threw the race out," Weaver said. "We worked him several times on both surfaces and it came down to that he was just happier and more comfortable on the grass."

• Afleet Alex did see other success on Saturday.

His 2-year-old daughter Alexandra Rylee out-sprinted the field out of the gate and settled nicely as she beat other maidens in the six furlong second race by 1 1/4 lengths. It was the first win in four tries at the meet for trainer Butch Reid.

Some of the other biggest pay outs came when Litigation Risk (\$22.40), with Rajiv Maragh, won the first race, a seven furlong allowance, in front of Ya Gotta Have Soul (\$13.80), and Launch N Relaunch (\$7.80). The exacta tipped the scale at \$354.50, while the trifecta returned \$3,120.

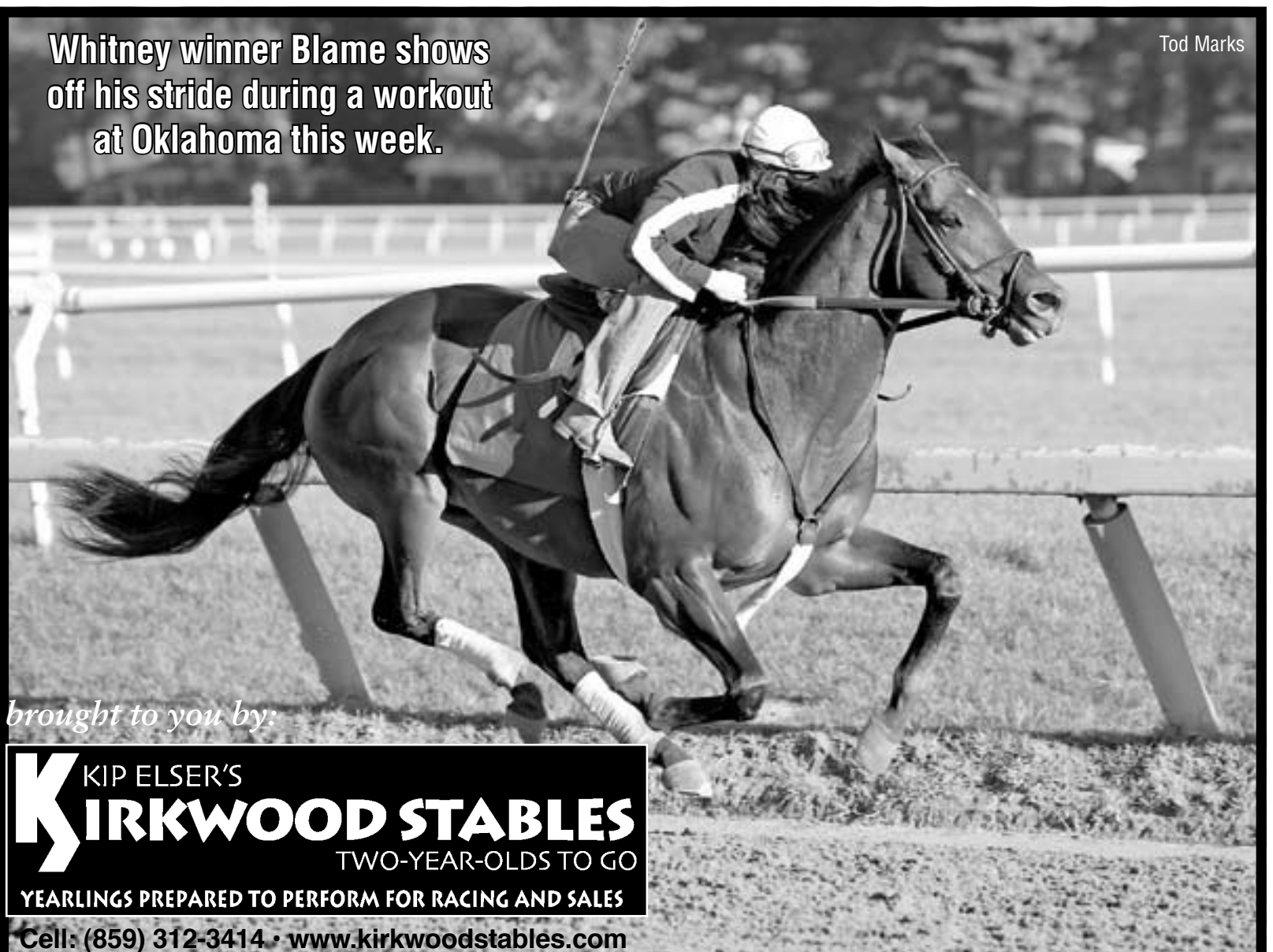


Alexandra Rylee

Tod Marks

**P
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of the day

Whitney winner Blame shows off his stride during a workout at Oklahoma this week.



Tod Marks

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Second Coming

Rachel Alexandra returns to Saratoga, faces hot Life at Ten

BY SEAN CLANCY

Todd Pletcher scanned the form of the Personal Ensign Saturday morning.

"Two to five. Five to two. Makes sense," Pletcher said of the morning line odds in the Grade I \$300,000 stakes.

Pletcher's Life At Ten has won six in a row, including the Grade I Ogden Phipps. She's second choice at 5-2.

Rachel Alexandra is in the house.

Last year's Horse of the Year returns to Saratoga in the Grade I Personal Ensign, a year after capping her 3-year-old season in the Woodward – her defining moment. She's 2-5.

Owned by Stonestreet Stable and Howard McCormick, Rachel Alexandra will try to build on a two-race win streak and put herself back at the top of the older female division when she takes on Life At Ten and three others in her first attempt at 1 1/4 miles.

The favorite's trainer Steve Asmussen and Pletcher are competitors. Respectful competitors.

"She's won her last six races, which is extremely hard to do," Asmussen said of Life At Ten. "She's a very good horse."

"To me, her last couple of races have been outstanding and I don't think she's gotten the credit for them, as good as they were," Pletcher said of Rachel Alexandra. "It's a very, very tall order to try and beat her."



Tod Marks

Life At Ten gallops brings a six-race winning streak into today's Grade I.



Tod Marks

Rachel Alexandra looks to dazzle the Saratoga crowd once again.

After winning all eight starts last year, including the Kentucky Oaks, Preakness, Haskell and Woodward, Rachel Alexandra had a tough act to follow in 2010. She lost her first two starts, a tough three quarter length loss to Zardana in the New Orleans Ladies and then an even tougher loss to Unrivaled Belle, when failing by a head in the La Troienne at Churchill Downs. Asmussen and owner Jess Jackson regrouped with two penalty kicks, winning the Fleur de Lis by 10 and the Lady's Secret at Monmouth by a facile 3 lengths.

"I'm excited, she's fun to run," Asmussen said. "It just comes down to her 'want to,' at this stage of her life she knows what it's all about, no secrets. She usually wants to."

Rachel Alexandra beat the crowds to Saratoga, settling in to the first stall next to the tack room on the Oklahoma backstretch well before Opening Day. She breezed 6 furlongs in 1:12 2/5 July 12 and has been ticking all the boxes since. The jaunt to Monmouth for the Lady's Secret was nothing more than a weekend trip to the shore and now she's back for her first foray in a Grade I stakes since her epic fending-off of Macho Again in the Woodward.

"It's gone really smoothly, she had her one little trip to Jersey and came out of it in good shape, we've been very fortunate weather-wise with the cool mornings and how everything's gone. Earlier in the week, the rain was a little bit of a concern, but I thought we got the work in we needed and came out of it in good shape," Asmussen said Friday morning. "We love the work she's put in here. I'm excited for her opportunity to run at Saratoga again. Yes, she trains better here than other places, but you notice that with a lot of horses. With these 50, 60 degree days, of course she's livened up and trained nice, her races in the afternoon have been pretty solid."

Rachel Alexandra set a wild standard last year when running the table at 8-for-8 and more than \$2.7 million.

Her career record stands at 13-for-18, she's only been worse than second once in her life. This year's schedule has lacked the marquee lights of last year's, but it's hard to replicate her to-do list from last year.

Asmussen took over from trainer Hal Wiggins after Rachel Alexandra decimated the Kentucky Oaks, winning by 20 lengths. She was in his barn four days later and in the Preakness Stakes 10 days after that. She won the second leg of the Triple Crown and then rattled off the impossible summer; winning the Mother Goose, Haskell and Woodward from June 27 to September 5.

"The amount of pressure on her when she walked in the barn last year was impossible to duplicate. Off of the Oaks, 10 days before the Preakness, the get-to-know-you stage was pretty quick, it hasn't been duplicated so the same level hasn't been reached," Asmussen said. "The Woodward was the toughest. A lot of it was the circumstances of the race, how it unfolded, and what she had done during the year up to that point, how many times can you go to the well so to speak," Asmussen said. "She's been very consistent, she's very physical, very business-like, has a plan and executes it really well. It's not surprising her, she knows what she's doing and I feel good about it."

Pletcher feels equally as good about Life At Ten.

After toiling in the allowance ranks, Candy DeBartolo's Life At Ten has emerged to be a contender at the top of the division. The daughter of Malibu Moon spent the winter in New York but the cold weather served as a wake-up call as she rattled off six consecutive wins at four racetracks with five jockeys. John Velazquez has been aboard for the last two victories and will be astride today.

Pletcher blamed himself for her slow development.

"Poor management, too many times on the Polytrack, then I got her up here last year and I wanted to run her long and the race didn't fill, ended up running her short twice," Pletcher said. "She found her niche in long races on the dirt, even though she broke her maiden at Hollywood on a synthetic, she's a true dirt horse. We bought her after she was second in her first start in California and we left her out there, she ran on the synthetic a time or two and then she was second at Keeneland, injuries here or there kept her off a consistent schedule and this is the first time we've had a good, steady series of races."

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 27 ►

Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 26

Clockwork. It all started in November when she won a 6-furlong allowance race in the slop at Aqueduct, finally snapping her a-other-than condition. Pletcher stretched her out for the Snit, a \$67,000 stakes at Aqueduct, she stalked and pounced. Two months later, she crushed four rivals in the Rare Treat going 9 furlongs. Shipped to Hawthorne, she took the Grade III Sixty Sails for win number four. She checked off her first Grade I score when taking the Ogden Phipps. Six weeks ago, she shipped to Delaware and dominated the Grade II Delaware Handicap. That made six.

"She trained so well, I was more surprised that she wasn't doing it sooner than I am now, she had a work up here last summer that was as good as any horse will work, in a minute flat and galloped out a mile in 1:39, I couldn't imagine her getting beat in a one-other-than, but we did it twice, just to make sure," Pletcher said. "If you look at some of her races, she went very fast, she went fast in the Ogden Phipps and slow in the Delaware Handicap. She hasn't had many dogfights, but she had to dig down to catch Jessica Is Back in the Sixty Sails."

Immediately after the Delaware Handicap, Pletcher circled the Personal Ensign as Life At Ten's next target. She'll put her seven-race win streak on the line against last year's Horse of the Year. A horse trainer first, Pletcher still has some fan in him.



Tod Marks

Persistently takes on superstars in the Personal Ensign.

"I appreciate these type of races, even if I didn't have one in there, I would be over there and watch with great interest, it's exciting to be involved in it and it's exciting to watch," Pletcher said. "These are the kind of events as a horse fan, you like to see. From a greedy standpoint, you'd rather not have to run against her, but this is a spot we picked out a long time ago, it makes perfect sense coming out of the Delaware Handicap to stay at a mile and a quarter. We could have found an easier spot but these are the ones you want to win."

Marty Wolfson decided to keep his boat in the water, sending Miss Singhix to the Personal Ensign. The 5-year-old daughter of Singspiel, owned by Team Valor International, has tried Life At Ten in two of her last three starts. She finished third in the Sixty Sails and second in the Delaware Handicap. Wolfson's Jessica Is Back was second in the Sixty Sails and third to Rachel Alexandra in Fleur De Lis.

"It's a great race. I've run against Rachel Alexandra and Life At Ten with different horses this year and I'm more scared of Life At Ten. She's so much better now than she was. She's been the distance, she's won six in a row, she's pretty tough," Wolfson said. "The pace scenario should be good for my mare. She's been the distance, it's what she wants and it's what I wanted for her. Life At Ten went a mile-and-a-quarter at Delaware, but nobody went with her. Rachel Alexandra has never been the mile-and-a-quarter. Maybe that will work out for my horse."

Completing the field are Phipps Stable's Persistently and Lee Pokoik's Classofsixtythree.

Persistently accounted for a 9-furlong allowance win earlier in the meet when rallying from last to win the four-horse race. Second in the Grade I Frizette last fall, she's won three races from 13 starts. Alan Garcia rides for trainer Shug McGaughey.

Classofsixtythree will try to collect another line of Grade I black type as she did in the Ruffian earlier in the meet. Trained by Gary Contessa, the daughter of Include owns five wins and breaks from the outside under Javier Castellano.

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Race #

1

Devils Humor
Cinco de Mayo Mio
Zermatt

Devil's Humor
Lily Meadow
Zernatt

Devils Humor
Cinco de Mayo Mio
Zermatt

Cinco De Mayo Mio
Devils Humor
Lily Meadow

Devils Humor
Zermatt
Cinco de Mayo Mio
Honeywantshermoney

2

Millie Money
Ladi Vi
Social Statement

Millie Money
Social Statement
Ausable Chasm

Millie Money
Honeywantshermoney
Ausable Chasm

Millie Money
Social Statement
Ausable Chasm

Ladi Vi
Social Statement

3

What's the Record
Eminent Tale
Flying Zee Entry

Bound by Humor
Luxury Appeal
Dream Drop Kid

Bound By Humor
Eminant Tale
What's The Record

Bound By Humor
Eminent Tale
Dream Drop Kid

Eminent Tale
What's the Record
Shadow Trick

4

Blushing Dixie
Aphrodite's Tears
Much Fanfare

Blushing Dixie
Jazzy Moves
Aphrodite's Tears

Blushing Dixie
Jazzy Moves
Aphrodite's Tears

Blushing Dixie
Jazzy Moves
Much Fanfare

Blushing Dixie
Proven Right
Jazzy Moves

5

De Price
Bank Heist
Bakhoor

De Price
Bakhoor
Bank Heist

Bakhoor
Bank Heist
De Price

Bank Heist
De Price
Bakhoor

Bank Heist
Bakhoor
Coach Billy G.

6

Wildlee Special
Trippo
Ticondero

King Rock
Ticondero
Wildlee Special

Ticondero
Trippo
King Rock

Trippo
Zapster
Midnight Mass

Ticondero
King Rock
Wildlee Special

7

Recharged
Scorper
Doast

Scorper
Recharged
Federal Hill

Recharged
Scorper
Henceforth

Old Kit Bag
Recharged
Scorper

Henceforth
Doast
Scorper

8

Oatkadestynschild
Notell
Considerate

Oatkadestynschild
Considerate
Notell

Notell
Considerate
Moneigh

Irish Lady
Considerate
Notell

Moneigh
Oatkadestynschild
Irish Lady

9

Missinglisalewis
Raven Hawk
Bigshot

Leipzig
Mr Hot Stuff
Cause of Freedom

Raven Hawk
Missinglisalewis
Bigshot

Leipzig
Missinglisalewis
Mr. Hott Stuff

Leipzig
Bigshot
Ziegfeld

10

Rachel Alexandra
Life At Ten
Miss Singhsix

Rachel Alexandra
Miss Singsix
Life At Ten

Rachel Alexandra
Life At Ten
Miss Singhsix

Life At Ten
Rachel Alexandra
Miss Singhsix

Rachel Alexandra
Life At Ten
Miss Singhsix

11

Papaw Bodie
Implied Odds
Empire State

Implied Odds
The Cuff Shooter
Empire State

Papaw Bodie
Implied Odds
Empire State

Dark Cove
Papaw Bodie
Empire State

Implied Odds
Empire State
Dark Cove

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SUNDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Sunday, August 29. Post Time 1 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) 7 FURLONGS F&M 3&UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$52,000

1	1	Glowing Report	Castellano J J	Lukas D Wayne	15-1
2	2	Beautician	Leparoux J R	McPeek Kenneth G	3-1
3	3	Devils Humor	Bridgmohan S X	Asmussen Steven	5-2
4	4	Victoria Lynn	Lezcano J	Friedman Mitchell	15-1
5	5	Zermatt	Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	7-2
6	6	Cinco de Mayo Mio	Dominguez R A	Albertrani Thomas	7-2
7	7	Lily Meadow	Lenclud F	Dollase Wallace	8-1

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

2ND (1:32) 5 1/2 FURLONGS NY BRED FILLIES 2YO MDN PURSE: \$40,000

1	1	Affable Athena	Castellano J J	Kelly Patrick J	6-1
2	2	Millie Money	Dominguez R A	Rice Linda	8-5
3	3	Ausable Chasm	Mena M	Sciacca Gary	6-1
4	4	Lady Vi	Lezcano J	Serpe Philip M	4-1
5	5	Honeywantshermoney	Studart M	Ubillo Rodrigo A	5-1
6	6	Dixieland Cowgirl	Sone Y	Kettell James G	12-1
7	7	Social Statement	Maragh R	Albertrani Thomas	8-1

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

3RD (2:04) 5 1/2 FURLONGS NY BRED 2YO MAIDEN PURSE: \$40,000

1	1	Shadow Trick	Cohen D	Martin Carlos F	3-1
1A	3	Take a Walk	Mena M	Serpe Philip M	3-1
1X	8	Luxury Appeal	Castellano J J	Jerkens James A	3-1
2	2	Bound by Humor	Dominguez R A	Ubillo Rodrigo A	5-2
3	4	Dream Drop Kid	Prado E S	Galluscio Dominic G	7-2
4	5	Magic Jazz	Espinoza J L	Campo John P Jr	8-1
5	6	Eminent Tale	Velazquez J R	Dutrow, Jr. R E	5-1
6	7	What's the Record	Karamanos H A	Correas Ignacio IV	4-1

A-Coupled: Shadow Trick and Take a Walk and Luxury Appeal
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (3-5), Daily Double

4TH (2:36) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) F&M 3&UP CLAIMING (\$35,000) PURSE: \$30,000

1	1	Blushing Dixie	Castellano J J	Weaver George	8-5
2	2	Miss Tequila	Chavez J F	Martin Carlos F	15-1
3	3	Aphrodite's Tears	Borel C H	Baker James E	7-2
4	4	Simple Western	Maragh R	Quick Patrick J	15-1
5	5	Much Fanfare	Prado E S	Galluscio Dominic G	12-1
6	6	Proven Right	Velazquez J R	Iwinski Allen	8-1
7	7	Jazzy Moves	Dominguez R A	Barbara Robert	5-1
8	8	Deputy's Citizen	Cohen D	Badgett William Jr	10-1
9	9	Back in Fashion	Mena M	Dollase Wallace	12-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (4-6), Daily Double

5TH (3:08) 6 1/2 FURLONGS 3&UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$50,000

1	4	Coach Billy G	Borel C H	Baker James E	8-1
1A	6	Saudi Prince	Prado E S	Howard Neil J	8-1
2	1	De Price	Mena M	Romans Dale	2-1
3	2	Savannah Bay	Lenclud F	Zito Nicholas P	15-1
4	3	Dominant Jeannes	Castellano J J	Albertrani Thomas	8-1
5	5	Bakhoor	Dominguez R A	Harty Eoin	9-2
6	7	Launceston	Leparoux J R	Kenneally Eddie	5-1
7	8	Bank Heist	Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	5-2

A-Coupled: Coach Billy G. and Saudi Prince
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (5-7), Daily Double

6TH (3:41) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3&UP CLAIMING (\$50,000 - \$40,000) PURSE: \$46,000

1	4	Quiet All American	Mena M	Romans Dale	12-1
1A	AE	Tapit's Brew	Maragh R	Albertrani Thomas	12-1
2	5	Zapster	Bridgmohan S X	Figueroa David J	6-1
2B	MTO	Splendid Behavior	Maragh R	Baker Charlton	6-1
3	1	King Rock	Velazquez J R	Gyarmati Leah	6-1
4	2	Wildlee Special	Dominguez R A	Dutrow, Jr. R E	12-1
5	3	Devonshire	Velasquez C	Grusmark Karl M	15-1
6	6	Quay Lime Guy	Garcia Alan	McLaughlin Kiaran	12-1
7	7	Midnight Mass	Hill C	Terranova, II John	12-1
8	8	Trippo	Leparoux J R	Howard Neil J	3-1
9	9	Ticondero	Prado E S	Rodriguez Rudy R	4-1
10	10	Wow Wow Wow	Castellano J J	Lukas D Wayne	5-1

A-Coupled: Quiet All American and Tapit's Brew
B-Coupled: Zapster and Splendid Behavior
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (6-8), Pick 6 Races (6-11), Daily Double

7TH (4:14) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3&UP CLM (\$25,000) PURSE: \$37,000

1	1	Federal Hill	Boyce F	McMahon Hugh I	12-1
2	2	Doast	Garcia Alan	Rice Linda	6-1
3	3	Old Kit Bag	Studart M	Ubillo Rodrigo A	20-1
4	4	Luigi P	Espinoza J L	Bizelia Anthony J	30-1
5	5	Recharged	Castellano J J	Rice Linda	5-2
6	6	Rizty Aly	Chavez J F	Disanto Glenn B	30-1
7	7	Sound Chaser	Velazquez J R	Callejas Bernardo	10-1
8	8	Supreme Serene	Velasquez C	Serpe Philip M	15-1
9	9	It's the Big Cat	Desormeaux K J	Gyarmati Leah	20-1
10	10	Scorper	Dominguez R A	Rodriguez Rudy R	3-1
11	11	Henceforth	Leparoux J R	Stewart Dallas	4-1
12	MTO	Mind Boggling	Leparoux J R	Ferraro James W	8-1

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

8TH (4:48) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) NY BRED F&M 3&UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$41,000

1	1	Irish Lady	Leparoux J R	Bond H James	8-1
2	2	Notell	Castellano J J	Tagg Barclay	6-1
3	3	Fighten Away	Lezcano A	Ubillo Rodrigo A	20-1
4	4	Moneigh	Desormeaux K J	Ice Tim A	3-1
5	5	Alex's Buck	Hill C	Weaver George	12-1
6	6	Oatkadestynschild	Dominguez R A	Rodriguez Rudy R	4-1
7	7	Ready for Autumn	Lezcano J	Brown Bruce R	12-1
8	8	Considerate	Samyn J L	Hertler John O	7-2
9	9	She's for Real	Lenclud F	Disanto Glenn B	12-1
10	10	Bella Bonfire	Espinoza J L	Feron Kathleen M	15-1
11	AE	Hear Her Roar	Cohen D	Martin Carlos F	15-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (8-10), Pick 4 Races (8-11) Daily Double

9TH (5:22) 1 1/8 MILES (TURF) 3&UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$63,000

1	1	Bigshot	Desormeaux K J	McPeek Kenneth G	7-2
2	2	Raven Hawk	Bridgmohan S X	Asmussen Steven	8-1
3	3	Mr. Hot Stuff	Lezcano J	Fisher Jack	4-1
4	4	Piazza Di Spagna	Maragh R	Sciacca Gary	12-1
5	5	Missinglisalewis	Prado E S	Domino Carl J	5-2
6	6	Ziegfeld	Dominguez R A	Howard Neil J	8-1
7	7	Cause of Freedom	Castellano J J	McGaughey III C	8-1
8	8	Leipzig	Leparoux J R	Sheppard Jonathan	6-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (9-11), Daily Double

10TH (5:56) PERSONAL ENSIGN S. (G1) 1 1/4 MILES F&M 3&UP PURSE: \$300,000

1	1	Miss Singhsix (IRE)	Valdivia J Jr	Wolfson Martin D	10-1
2	2	Rachel Alexandra	Borel C H	Asmussen Steven	2-5
3	3	Persistently	Garcia Alan	McGaughey III C	20-1
4	4	Life At Ten	Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	5-2
5	5	Classofsixtythree	Castellano J J	Contessa Gary C	20-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double .2nd half of the Travers/Personal Ensign Double

11TH (6:30) 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) 3&UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Dark Cove	Leparoux J R	McPeek Kenneth	12-1
1A	MTO	Dare to Live	Leparoux J R	McPeek Kenneth	12-1
2	2	Evenforever	Maragh R	Ritvo Timothy	10-1
3	3	Man On the Right	Bridgmohan S X	Sciacca Gary	20-1
4	4	Baiser Francais	Lenclud F	Serpe Philip M	20-1
5	5	Papaw Bodie	Castellano J J	Brown Chad C	3-1
6	6	Empire State	Prado E S	Levine Bruce N	4-1
7	7	The Cuff Shooter	Lezcano J	Serpe Philip M	10-1
8	8	Tactical Salute	Chavez J F	Kelly Patrick J	30-1
9	9	Silver Birch	Garcia Alan	Violette, Jr. R A	15-1
10	10	Implied Odds	Dominguez R A	Martin Carlos F	7-2
11	11	Fu Pegs Baby	Solis A	Kimmel John C	8-1
12	12	Candy Heart	Espinoza J L	Stoklosa Richard	30-1
13	AE	Ghosts and Legends	Lenclud F	Dutrow, Jr. R E	20-1
14	AE	Moonshine Mountain	Richards G G	Simeone Paul J	30-1
15	MTO	Driven by Fear	Dominguez R A	Brown Bruce R	7-2

A-Coupled: Dark Cove and Dare to Live
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10)

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MONDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Monday, August 30. Post Time 1 p.m. Entries with program number, post position, jockey, trainer, and morning-line odds.

1ST (1:00) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP CLAIMING (\$12,500) | PURSE: \$18,000

1	6	Rotten to the Core.....Velasquez C.....	Serpe Philip M.....	7-2
1A	8	Smooth Transition.....Chavez J F.....	Martin Carlos F.....	7-2
2	1	Forty Third Recon.....Lezcano A.....	Johnson Tamzen.....	30-1
3	2	Delta Thunder.....Maragh R.....	Alexander Frank.....	6-1
4	3	Adam Boy.....Hill C.....	Ferraro James W.....	15-1
5	4	Custers Last Stand.....Leparoux J R.....	Maker Michael J.....	5-1
6	5	We Get It.....Prado E S.....	Rodriguez Rudy R.....	4-1
7	7	Belongs to Sheila.....Lenclud F.....	Hernandez Ramon.....	6-1
8	9	Insightful.....Luzzi M J.....	Contessa Gary C.....	3-1

A-Coupled: Rotten to the Core and Smooth Transition
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (1-3), Daily Double

2ND (1:33) 6 FURLONGS 3&UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$16,000)

PURSE: \$17,000

1	1	Corrao.....Hill C.....	Terranova, II John.....	5-1
2	2	Dare to Live.....Leparoux J R.....	McPeck Kenneth.....	5-1
3	3	Gerard Loves Beer.....Dominguez R A.....	Brown Bruce.....	3-1
4	4	Scotchirish.....Garcia Alan.....	Lerman Roy S.....	4-1
5	5	Hasten to Be King.....Gomez G K.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E.....	6-1
6	6	Grand Terror.....Castellano J J.....	Weaver George.....	7-2
7	7	Make It Special.....Lenclud F.....	Zito Nicholas P.....	12-1
8	8	Dade City.....Espinoza J L.....	Barbara Robert.....	20-1

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

3RD (2:06) 6 FURLONGS F&M 3&UP MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT

PURSE: \$40,000

1	1	Turn That Paige.....Castellano J J.....	Ice Tim A.....	3-1
2	2	Soldierette.....Lenclud F.....	Hertler John O.....	12-1
3	3	Jilli's Joy.....Lezcano A.....	Simeone Paul J.....	20-1
4	4	Bandit Lady.....Gomez G K.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E.....	6-1
5	5	Being Queen.....Bridgmohan J V.....	Shevy Michael J.....	30-1
6	6	Salty Little Sis.....Dominguez R A.....	Tagg Barclay.....	4-1
7	7	She's Got Rules.....Luzzi M J.....	Jerkens Steven.....	4-1
8	8	Sultrysilver.....Cohen D.....	Levine Bruce.....	5-2
9	9	Bird in Hand.....Chavez J F.....	LeBlanc Kirsten.....	30-1

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

4TH (2:39) 7 FURLONGS 3&UP STARTER ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$48,000

1	1	D'bigcat.....Velasquez C.....	Rodriguez Rudy R.....	7-2
2	2	Worthy Wager.....Lenclud F.....	Jerkens H Allen.....	15-1
3	3	In Just We Trust.....Dominguez R A.....	Englehart Chris.....	9-2
4	4	Fastus Cactus.....Prado E S.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E.....	3-1
5	5	Spring Elusion.....Hill C.....	Rice Linda.....	5-1
6	6	Harmonizer.....Gomez G K.....	Maker Michael J.....	4-1
7	7	Splendid Behavior.....Maragh R.....	Baker Charlton.....	12-1
8	8	Good Karma.....Velasquez J R.....	Martin Carlos F.....	8-1

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 Races (4-6), Daily Double

5TH (3:13) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) F&M 3&UP MAIDEN CLM (\$25,000)

PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Miss Vindictive.....Samyn J L.....	Hertler John O.....	10-1
2	2	Why Then.....Lezcano A.....	Shevy Michael J.....	30-1
3	3	S S Traverse.....Desormeaux K J.....	Farrell Desmond.....	15-1
4	4	Yan Yan.....Lenclud F.....	Arnold George R.....	10-1
5	5	Gone Home.....Hill C.....	Terranova, II John.....	15-1
6	6	Crimson Tempest.....Bridgmohan J V.....	Hernandez, S R.....	15-1
7	7	National Gallery.....Garcia Alan.....	Lerman Roy S.....	10-1
8	8	Truth Will Tell.....Castellano J J.....	Parisella John.....	8-1
9	9	Cranberry Queen.....Coa E M.....	Contessa Gary C.....	5-1
10	10	Deanaallen'skitten.....Leparoux J R.....	Brown Chad C.....	1-1

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

6TH (3:47) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3&UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$50,000

1	1	El Primero.....Coa E M.....	Contessa Gary C.....	8-1
2	2	Avenging Spirit.....Velasquez J R.....	Barbara Robert.....	3-1
3	3	Saudi Prince.....Prado E S.....	Howard Neil J.....	10-1
4	4	Inspired.....Desormeaux K J.....	Mott William I.....	7-2
5	5	Senor Dehere (AUS).....Leparoux J R.....	Motion H Graham.....	10-1
6	6	Total Package.....Castellano J J.....	Brown Chad C.....	5-1
7	7	Sunrise Smarty.....Dominguez R A.....	Hushion Michael.....	4-1
8	8	Ready's Vision.....Maragh R.....	Motion H Graham.....	10-1

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

7TH (4:21) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) F&M 3&UP MAIDEN CLM (\$25,000)

PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Shaker Lakes.....Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary C.....	8-1
2	2	Clap Hands.....Velasquez J R.....	O'Brien Leo.....	5-1
3	3	Chantilly G.....Dominguez R A.....	Rice Linda.....	5-2
4	4	Lignum Vitae.....Gonzalez A C.....	Kimmel John C.....	20-1
5	5	Atavistique.....Lenclud F.....	Ribauda Robert.....	10-1
6	6	Keith's Kitten.....Leparoux J R.....	Maker Michael J.....	3-1
7	7	Giuseppina.....Bridgmohan J V.....	Streicher Kenneth.....	12-1
8	8	Tulane Up.....Hill C.....	Terranova, II John.....	10-1
9	9	Terevaka.....Mena M.....	Baker James E.....	10-1
10	10	J J Coolay.....Chavez J F.....	Schettino Dominick.....	20-1

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

8TH (4:55) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3&UP ALLOW OC (\$50,000)

PURSE: \$44,000

1	1	Karakorum Elektra.....Dominguez R A.....	Rice Linda.....	3-1
1A	8	Chernobyl's Hero.....Desormeaux K J.....	Odintz Jeff.....	3-1
2	2	Strong Impact.....Velasquez J R.....	Schosberg Richd.....	4-1
3	3	Citifest.....Velasquez C.....	Hertler John O.....	10-1
4	4	Mighty Tuff.....Prado E S.....	DiPrima Gregory.....	15-1
5	5	Tell Me First.....Alvarado N R.....	Conway Daniel Jr.....	30-1
6	6	Goodandacceptable.....Coa E M.....	Maydan Glenn.....	15-1
7	7	Extra Zip.....Hill C.....	Toscano John Jr.....	20-1
8	9	Mor Chances.....Maragh R.....	Contessa Gary C.....	7-2
9	10	Vital Argument.....Leparoux J R.....	Lecesse Michael.....	12-1
10	11	Mustang Island.....Cohen D.....	Clement Christophe.....	6-1
11	12	Fiddlers Patriot.....Castellano J J.....	Weaver George.....	12-1
12	MTO	Good Card.....Lenclud F.....	Kelly Patrick J.....	5-1

A-Coupled: Karakorum Elektra and Chernobyl's Hero
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (8-10), Daily Double

9TH (5:30) 1 1/8 MILES 3&UP ALLOW OC (\$50,000) PURSE: \$55,000

1	3	Endymion.....Dominguez R A.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E.....	7-2
1A	4	Masala.....Dominguez R A.....	Dutrow, Jr. R E.....	7-2
2	1	Ruffino.....Luzzi M J.....	Bond H James.....	5-1
3	2	National Pride.....Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran.....	3-1
4	5	Malibu Moonshine.....Hill C.....	Toscano John Jr.....	20-1
5	6	Flying Private.....McNeil E.....	Lukas D Wayne.....	7-2
6	7	Glenwood Canyon.....Gomez G K.....	Stall Albert M Jr.....	5-2

A-Coupled: Endymion and Masala

Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

10TH (6:04) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) F&M 3&UP ALLOW PURSE: \$42,000

1	1	Sextant.....Velasquez C.....	Rice Linda.....	6-1
2	2	Torrone.....Garcia Alan.....	McLaughlin Kiaran.....	6-1
3	3	Bobby Boo.....Castellano J J.....	Benzel Seth.....	7-2
4	4	Magdalena Girl.....Leparoux J R.....	McPeck Kenneth.....	15-1
5	5	Aprilmayjune.....Velasquez J R.....	Benzel Seth.....	9-2
6	6	Loyal Shadow.....Gomez G K.....	Sciaccia Gary.....	10-1
7	7	Miss Dolan's Rose.....Lenclud F.....	Disanto Glenn B.....	30-1
8	8	Rosie's Run.....Coa E M.....	DeMasi Kathleen.....	12-1
9	9	Mystic City.....Maragh R.....	Ferraro Anthony.....	10-1
10	10	Green Arrows.....Prado E S.....	Corrao James.....	15-1
11	11	We Need V L T's.....Dominguez R A.....	Rice Linda.....	5-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10) Wagers



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by Sean Clancy

Travers Day has come and gone. Afleet Express emerged as the best new recruit to the 3-year-old class. Owned by Gainesway Farm and Martin Cherry, the Afleet Alex colt put it together when he needed it most.

Afleet Express' connections climbed the mountain. Jimmy Jerkens, who lost Quality Road last year, won the big one. Jockey Javier Castellano continued a break-out summer. Gainesway Farm, in the business of selling horses, kept one for a change and was rewarded.

Others slid down the mountain. I felt bad for Leon Blusiewicz when Admiral Alex trailed, at least he had a dream, even if it was a crazy one. I felt bad for Super Saver, a Derby winner beating just one. I felt bad for Nick Zito, an inch away from salvaging a tough meet.

The Travers, like always, produced storylines of effort, frustration, risk, commitment, dedication, luck and decisions. For a writer, the \$1 million stakes produced quotes. So many quotes, those moments in time when a horseman says something that makes my digital voice recorder rattle in my grip.

"That guy over there is a sacrificial lamb. That's what happens to you when you try to tell them what to do. He proved that you're better off doing whatever they want."

A trainer, who was forced to run a horse in a spot picked by an owner, pointing to Jimmy Jerkens, who lost Quality Road and others last year

"Bob McMillin, who's now passed on, bred his mare Expanse who he had in partnership with James Devaney. It was a big move, Bob was not entirely comfortable with the \$40,000 stud fee but it came to fruition and this is the colt. We sold the colt for him at Keeneland January as a short yearling and he was bought to pinhook by my good friend Brian Graves at \$245,000. He came back in September and was an RNA as a yearling. He put him in training with Niall Brennan, he always told us he could run, he went to the 2-year-old sale in Keeneland and it didn't happen. And, here we are. What a great job by Jimmy Jerkens and what a terrific ride. All credit to the horse, he really matured and grew up today. It's a huge win for the farm, for the syndicate and I'm sure Mr. Graham Beck is looking down right now, smiling at this outcome."

Gainesway Farm's Michael Hernon

"Who was tougher than his sire? He was like one of the old-timers, he came running down the stretch in the Belmont; I hadn't seen a horse do that since I've been alive, in the Belmont, it's usually who out-staggers the others. That's what Damascus and those horses would do when I was watching them on TV as a kid."

Jerkens, about Afleet Express' sire Afleet Alex

"It took awhile to slow him down, the kid who gets on him does a great job, he's been with me a long time, he's gotten on all my better horses. You need the good exercise riders to win races like this."

Jerkens about exercise rider Kelvin Pahal

"He would say, 'What the hell are you asking me for, I never win?'"

Jerkens, about asking his father Allen for advice

"In any race, you're always looking for something different. I did everything, I used all my jockey ability. I cut the corner, I saved all the ground and gave him the opportunity. At the sixteenth pole, I switch my stick to my left hand. In the last couple of yards, I think 'if you hit him or don't hit him, it's not going to make a difference.' You have to push in the same balance, the same rhythm, hopefully you get it. Go with the flow, you know?"

Javier Castellano

about winning the photo finish in the Travers

"This game is very tough, sometimes you're at the top, sometimes you're at the bottom. I learned from my dad, he was a jockey, I see my dad have a lot of success but I see my dad make a lot of sacrifices to win a race. You have to appreciate everything you have and be thankful."

Castellano, after winning his second Travers

"That was a good nostril. Unearthly feeling. We had the most wonderful trainer, the most wonderful jockey and a really great stallion on the farm. It's huge, absolutely huge. Last year he had the Hopeful winner at Saratoga and now he has the Travers winner at Saratoga. My father would be really, really happy. It's a pity he didn't hang around a little longer."

Gainesway Farm's Antony Beck, after winning the Travers. His father, Graham Beck, died in July

"He was perfect in the paddock. Everything's got to go perfect to win one of these. It has to go perfect."

Jerkens, on his way back to the barn

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