

# The *Saratoga* Special

Saratoga Paper on Thoroughbred Racing



## A Hero Horse

American Pharoah graces Saratoga for Travers

Tod Marks



# Orb

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- LADY LIBERTY,  
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Dave Harmon

**Full House.** Triple Crown winner and heavy Travers favorite American Pharoah gallops for a crowded Saratoga Friday morning.

## here&there... at Saratoga

### BY THE NUMBERS

**15,000:** A rough estimate of the attendance at American Pharoah's morning gallop at Saratoga Friday. Amazing.

**2:** Fans from Texas, who hitched a ride in The Special's golf cart to the main gate after watching the Triple Crown winner gallop. They've got family in the area, but still.

**1:** Special staffer who went to the Chris Brown concert at SPAC Friday night.

**3:** Special staffers who had never heard of Chris Brown.

**1:** American Pharoah sandwich on the menu at Spring Street Deli. It's a chicken cutlet on a hard roll with bacon, cheddar, lettuce, tomato and sriracha ranch.

### NAMES OF THE DAY

**Frosted, 11th race.** The Travers starter is out of Fast Cookie.

**Condominium, second race.** The 2-year-old colt is out of Garden District.

**Attraction, second race.** The 2-year-old colt is by Blame out of Sweet Temptress.

**Hundred Years, second race.** It's subtle, but we like it. The 2-year-old colt is by Misremembered out of Sentebale, which means "forget me not" in the Sesotho language of the African country Lesotho. The Sentebale charity formed by England's Prince Harry aims to help needy and vulnerable children in the country.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2015

THE SARATOGA SPECIAL

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<b>SPEIGHTSTOWN</b>	<b>\$80K</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>DISTORTED HUMOR</b>	<b>\$100K</b>	<b>5</b>
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<b>ELUSIVE QUALITY</b>	<b>\$40K</b>	<b>4</b>
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<b>GHOSTZAPPER</b>	<b>\$60K</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SCAT DADDY</b>	<b>\$35K</b>	<b>3</b>



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# here&there... at Saratoga

## WORTH REPEATING

“I don’t know how you guys do it. I read it and think, ‘how do they have time to do all this?’ There are a lot of little things that make Saratoga awesome and it’s one of them.”

**Assistant trainer Norm Casse about The Special**

“That was like a fighter’s punch.”

**Trainer John Shirreffs, while showing a video of Slim Shadey kicking a cameraman (Google it) before a European race**

“I’m glad I went with the pony.”

**Jockey John Velazquez, after galloping Travers hopeful Smart Transition**

“The pad was so forward, the whip went between the horse’s shoulder and the pad, when I went to pull it up, the pad sucked it out of my hand. It’s only happened once.”

**Velazquez, when asked how he lost his whip aboard The Big Beast in the Vanderbilt**

“Calamity Jane and Smokey The Bear.”

**Mike Balfe, when asked for the names of the protagonists in a funny story**

“He is a little reluctant to get up at that time in the morning.”

**Trainer Graham Motion, about his son Chappy’s potential as paper boy**

“I know it’s a little unusual for me to have a sprinter, but . . .”

**Motion, about Forego runner Bourbon Courage**



**Big and Tall Sale.** Jerry Bailey (left) and Tom Durkin try on each other’s red jacket at the ceremony honoring Marylou Whitney and Dinny Phipps Friday. Tod Marks

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“I can give you 500,000 reasons why we’re taking a shot.”

**Trainer Brian Lynch, on why Loose On The Town is in today’s King’s Bishop (worth a half-million dollars)**



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## NAME OF THE DAY

**Fashionable Freddy, second race.**

We’re not sure who Freddy is, but if he’s fashionable maybe he wears High Button Shoes (the dam of the 2-year-old colt).

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# here&there... at Saratoga

## WORTH REPEATING

"Not me, I don't want a job."

**Larry Abner, on helping with distribution**

"The last time I worked a horse for Graham Motion, I went in a minute. He said 'No more, you can't work a horse for me anymore.' "

**Jockey Kendrick Carmouche, hopping off a Motion horse (that went much better) Friday**

"I have a trainer's license."

**Mike Lauer, when introduced as a trainer Friday**

"I wish we *weren't* taking on a Triple Crown winner, but it's going to be a great day of racing."

**Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin, on the mystique of facing American Pharoah in the Travers with Frosted**

"I guess they were scared of him."

**Trainer Rick Violette, on owner (and NYRA board member) Len Riggio being stopped at the stable gate Thursday**

"I'm having lobster for breakfast, things are great."

**Trainer Tom Morley, at the Lobster Hut early Friday**

"Like coming home."

**Trainer Ben Colebrook, after bedding down Limousine Liberal in former boss Christophe Clement's barn**



Mood Lighting. The place will look a bit different this afternoon.

Tod Marks



Portfolio Management

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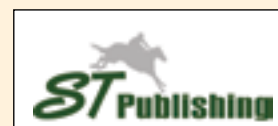
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# Stable Tour:

with *Jeremiah Englehart*



Jeremiah Englehart sat in his patio set outside his shedrow while his team wrapped up post-training chores Friday morning before the Saratoga Showcase card and marveled at his good fortune at the current meeting.

"I was stabled here two years and never won a race and then last year we won five, which I thought was a great meet," Englehart said. "I wasn't looking forward to my Saratoga last year, but we managed five wins. This year I thought we had some horses that fit, had conditions and were doing well."

"To be at seven right now, I texted Kieran McLaughlin that 'I'm pinching myself,' after he texted to congratulate me about a win."

Another text to The Special's Tom Law Friday afternoon, after The Tea Cups took down the Yaddo to give the Englehart barn its eighth win of the meet from 32 starters, summed it up some more.

"What a ride," he wrote.

The Yaddo was the 14th win overall for a member of the Englehart family, with father Chris winning five and younger brother Jeffrey winning one.

Englehart, who lives with his wife and five children in Farmington, keeps a string of 22 at Saratoga, eight at Belmont Park and 60 at Finger Lakes. His uncle and assistant Steve Englehart helps with the Finger Lakes string and Erika Wager keeps things rolling at Saratoga and Belmont.

"We have a good group of people here, at Finger Lakes and at Belmont," Englehart said. "It makes all the difference in the world when you can rely on them for good information."

**Anna Rae:** "She broke her maiden here in a maiden \$65,000, probably point to the Spinaway next. She does everything so pro-



fessional, the ability is there and a lot of times at this stage of the game if they're developed mentally and can handle racing and it doesn't bother them they have an advantage over the other ones. She's like that."

**May Flowers:** "She was a filly Peter Bradley bought for Orlando DiRienzo. I had someone get on her last year up here and they swore she was turf. I said, 'Congrats filly? No way, she's going to be dirt.' I ended up running her on the grass at Gulfstream and it's been night and day different. She had a couple bad starts here in Saratoga but she didn't let it bother her. She came flying in both races. She's got a pretty bright future."

**My Boy Dillon:** "He's a 2-year-old colt by Afleet Alex owned by Joe Bucci. He's a homebred, New York-bred and is a little ways away. Maybe a month. Seems like he's going to be a pretty nice colt. He's got that Afleet Alex look to him."

**Cadeyrn:** "Malibu Moon 2-year-old colt I bought in Timonoum for Tom O'Grady (\$160,000). What I saw from him at the sale he's probably at the head of the class right now as far as pedigree and training wise. He's

still very boyish. Hasn't grown. I'm looking for that light bulb to go off mentally and he starts handling things better. He's got a lot of talent, could be a super, super horse. He's going to work his first half (today)."

**Summer Breezing:** "We claimed him at Belmont and he won a New York-bred two-other-than optional 40 here (July 26). Just off the track record, ran a really nice race and then was third in the Troy (Aug. 22). He seems like he should have a nice fall. Then maybe give him some time off and bring back for a campaign next year. He wasn't good enough to beat Shore Runner, and if it looks like he'll go back to Belmont we'll try and come up with a plan to avoid him. Seems like he's going to be a nice horse."

**Honorable Daniel:** "He's a 4-year-old maiden by Elusive Quality, never run, for Joe Bucci. There was a lot of hype about him as a 3-year-old. I didn't have him at the time and he was injured, now he's coming off injury. It looks like he might make a start here on the grass. Nice colt. I had him at Finger Lakes, we just brought him up here a few weeks ago to put the finishing touches on him. Might need a race because he hasn't run."

Every day at Saratoga, The Special (with help from sponsor Fasig-Tipton) presents an exclusive Stable Tour with a Saratoga trainer. For more, see: [thisishorseracing.com/stabletours](http://thisishorseracing.com/stabletours)

**Saint Joseph:** "He's for Joe Bucci and Joe Riccelli. Chad (Brown) had him last year, laid him up with an injury and brought him back, we got him started back at Finger Lakes, tried to utilize the pool there. He just had his first breeze last week. Seems like a horse that will have a nice late fall, winter campaign that I'm excited to get going."


**Luckybuck Syndrome:** "He's a 2-year-old colt by Lookin At Lucky for Terra Di Sienna Stables. At first I was going to lean toward trying him on grass but I think I'll try him on the dirt. There's a race on the 4th that we'll point to. He's been working right along with some of the other 2-year-olds I've been high on."

**The Undersheriff:** "He's a Freud colt who got up here a little under two weeks ago. He was training great going into the race (Aug. 19, finished seventh) and don't have an excuse. Todd (Pletcher) had a horse in there that ran lights out (Inside Straight). We'll run him long on the turf at Belmont. He's got all the right ingredients to be a good horse. He's named after one of my clients, who is the undersheriff of Erie County so I came up with the name."

**Ragazza Di Papa:** "He's a Scat Daddy 2-year-old filly. Seems like all turf and is starting to put things together and come along nice."


**Animal Appeal:** She was a horse we claimed last wintertime for the turf. We had to scratch her first time up here, she must have rolled in her stall and banged her knee. She's working really well. There's a race for her September 2. I'm looking forward to running her up here. Very fast, grass filly."



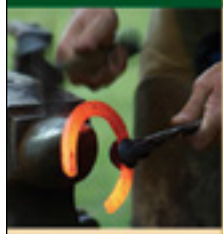


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## The Chief . . . Day 28

"We used to buy a lot of horses off Max Hirsch, we did good with them, we did bad with them. I loved Prove Out, even though I knew he wasn't sound, he had an ankle. He could run, I knew he could run, I watched him when he was young. He had gone to Santa Anita and he looked like he was going to be one of the good horses out there, but he didn't add up for some reason. He would lug in doing everything. He would lug in walking, I've never seen a horse do that. Prove Out really ran a hell of a race to beat Riva Ridge in the Jockey Club Gold Cup. They went right from the start, went the first mile in 37 and they've got another mile to go, head and head, you'd think that would kill anybody. I was watching the race, and I saw Maple start washing clothes on Riva Ridge and Jorgie looked over and went 'whooooaaa,' he saved him for another quarter, went in 27, so when Loud came flying up, he tapped him left-handed and went again, he was able to keep going, he shaded :25 the last quarter, going 2 miles."

**- Trainer Allen Jerkens,  
1929-2015**



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# Next Step

## American Pharoah rolls into Spa to face strong group in Grade 1

BY TOM LAW

Bob Baffert likens the task that awaits Triple Crown winner American Pharoah today at historic Saratoga Race Course to being like a “mini Kentucky Derby.”

The 146th running of the Travers Stakes is the latest stop on what now feels like a victory tour for the colt, who marched into history this spring with victories in the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes. He's the first winner of the Triple Crown in 37 years and will try to become just the second horse to add the Travers to his resume forever immortalized by the rare sweep.

Perhaps Baffert is correct in com-

### TRAVERS PREVIEW

paring the Travers to the Derby. The race does carry the occasionally used “Midsummer Derby” nickname and it's at the same demanding 1 ¼-mile distance as the Louisville classic. Differences between what goes down the last Saturday in August in New York and the first Saturday in May in Kentucky are fairly striking – a smaller field (10 versus 18), smaller purse (\$1.6 million versus \$2 million) and a significantly smaller crowd (a pre-paid and capped 50,000 versus 170,000).

The Derby certainly presents siz-



Tod Marks

American Pharoah brings the Triple Crown to Saratoga for the Travers.

able hurdles, and since Baffert gears his year around the event he inevitably felt a release when American Pharoah dug deep to wear down Firing Line and Dortmund in the stretch. The Triple Crown was a bonus and considering how easily American Pharoah won the last two legs it's understand-

able why the pressure subsided.

The Travers will feature its own set of challenges, principally in a form of a less chaff-filled field like the Derby and one that includes three serious challengers going in the right direc-

**Continued On Page 12**

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TDN 8/26

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**Monday • 9/14**

- 54 c. SPEIGHTSTOWN** – Alashir's World  
*Half-brother to SW, G1-pl. ANTARES WORLD (\$438,328)*
- 62 f. DISTORTED HUMOR** – All Star Heart  
*First foal of GSW that won/placed in six stakes*
- 69 c. GHOSTZAPPER** – Always Here Too  
*First foal of young Graded SP winner of over \$125,000*

**Tuesday • 9/15**

- 377 c. DISTORTED HUMOR** – Lady Lochinvar  
*Half to two GSWs and G1-placed winner; family of AL MAMOON (G1), LA GUERIERE (G1), etc.*
- 408 f. TAPIT** – Lochinvar's Gold  
*Half to winner over \$100,000; loaded blacktype family of champion ALLEZ FRANCE*

**Wednesday • 9/16**

- 649 f. MALIBU MOON** – Spring Party  
*Second foal of SW and half-sister to EMCEE (G1), SURFER (G2), and to dam of CONSTITUTION (2015 G1 SW), etc.*

**Friday • 9/18**

- 765 f. INCLUDE** – Always Sure  
*Full sister to GSP winner; family of HOME AT LAST, etc.*
- 775 c. THE FACTOR** – Aspen Light  
*Third foal, half to 3YO winner this year, out of half to GREAT HUNTER (G1)*
- 824 c. MALIBU MOON** – Come Home Lady  
*Out of winning half to multiple GSW and millionaire MASTER COMMAND, etc.*
- 828 f. GHOSTZAPPER** – Coral Sun  
*Out of young A.P. Indy half-sister to SOUTHERN IMAGE (G1), BLACK BAR SPIN (G3), etc.*
- 989 c. ARCH** – Miss Inclined  
*First foal of SP half-sister to GSW RUSH BAY and to dam of ITSAKNOCKOUT (Fountain of Youth-G2)*
- 1041 c. MALIBU MOON** – Red Hot Buddha  
*Out of SW; family of 4x GSW ALLAMERICAN BERTIE*
- 1044 c. HARLAN'S HOLIDAY** – Revel in the Win  
*Full brother to POKER PLAYER (G3); 2nd dam is ICY WARNING*
- 1050 c. GHOSTZAPPER** – Royal Bean  
*Out of GSP half-sister to LENATAREESE; family of GOLD CREST*
- 1054 f. CITY ZIP** – Rumors Are Flying  
*Half-sister to three stakes horses; family of CHRIS EVERT*
- 1098 f. TAPIT** – Sumptuous  
*Out of SP half-sister to STRIKE IT RICH (G3)*
- 1127 f. DISTORTED HUMOR** – Trusty Temper  
*Out of SW half-sister to two graded stakes horses*



# Travers —

■ Continued from page 10

tion at a time in American Pharoah's campaign that travel demands might be catching up and taking a toll.

The challenge of the Travers will be anything but mini for American Pharoah, who delighted thousands of fans who turned out Friday morning for his second public appearance on the Saratoga main track with many of the cast he'll face in the \$1.6 million stakes today.

"It's a tough field; Saratoga's done a great job," Baffert said Friday after watching American Pharoah gallop 1 ½ miles under regular exercise rider Jorge Alvarez. "It's like a mini Kentucky Derby. They have all the best 3-year-olds in that race. That's what you want to see this time of year. That's what the Travers is all about."

The first horse Baffert identified as a serious challenger to American Pharoah was Texas Red. The winner of last year's Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Santa Anita Park in the absence of the injured American Pharoah, Texas Red won the Grade 2 Jim Dandy over the same track he'll race on today.

Frosted finished second in the Jim Dandy, and he's back for another crack at American Pharoah after chasing him home in the Belmont Stakes and running fourth in the Kentucky Derby.

The third serious challenger is Smart Transition,



Tod Marks

**Frosted gallops at Saratoga this week.**

an improving son of Smart Strike who won the Curlin Stakes the day before the Jim Dandy for respected horseman John Shirreffs.

Six others are entered and if American Pharoah starts, the winner will receive \$850,000. If he doesn't, the purse reverts to its original \$1.25 million.

Baffert reiterated Friday morning that American Pharoah was 100 percent, saying "we wouldn't be here if he wasn't."

American Pharoah trained at Del Mar before and after his easy win in the Grade 1 Haskell Invitational four weeks ago like he's 100 percent. Baffert gave him two stiff 6-furlong works and a slightly easier half-mile before the Haskell; and a tightening :47.60 half Aug. 16 and a sharp 7-furlong drill in 1:23.20 Sunday before making the final decision to come to Saratoga.

"In order to run here he had to show us that he was still on his game," Baffert said. "The energy level needed to be there."

American Pharoah has run six times this year, all victories in two-turn races including three at classic distances, and Baffert estimates he's logged upwards of 18,000 miles in the air. He'll log another 1 ¼ miles on the ground today, under Victor Espinoza as the 1-5 favorite.

"He's had tough races," Baffert said, before delving into the colt's cross-country flights. "Arkansas twice, Kentucky, Maryland, back to Kentucky, New York, back to Kentucky, back to California, Jersey, back to California, (and back to New York). You just don't see horses do that. You have to be really special."

"For him to do that, a lot of it is because he's a very kind, gentle horse. He's got a great mind. He knows when to turn it on and turn it off. There's

**Continued On Page 14**

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**SHINE AGAIN** won back to back runnings of the Ballerina (2001-'02). And three Maryland-breds have captured the King's

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**KING'S NEST** won it in 1988, **HOUSTON** won it in 1989, and

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# Travers —

■ Continued from page 12

no wasted energy. He loves to run. He just loves to get out there. You could tell. He was happy (Friday), he wanted, couldn't wait to take off. He was a little strong. Once those ears of his, when he throws them forward and is very curious, he gets that rhythm, that rhythm, once he gets in a race, his stride, that's when he has an advantage over those horses."

American Pharoah and Alvarez went to the track just after 8:45, walking from Barn 25 on the Saratoga backstretch down the short road and horse path to the 5-furlong gap. Fans, horsemen and media lined the road and path, jammed a couple rows deep.

Cars were lined up well before 6 a.m. to get into the Union Avenue gates to attend the much advertised morning training session and by the time American Pharoah hit the race-track the boxes were full, the apron was packed and nearly half the grandstand seats were occupied.

Baffert watched American Pharoah



Tod Marks

**Texas Red flashes some dressage moves while prepping for the Travers.**

train from the winner's circle and said he was overwhelmed by the fans' turnout, which had a similar feel and rivaled Cigar's final workout at Saratoga before he tried to break Citation's modern record of 16 consec-

utive wins in the 1996 Pacific Classic.

"It was incredible," Baffert said. "I know he has a big backing, he has a lot of fans but it seems to be growing and growing and growing. Every time I see that it puts more pressure on me.

I'm like his guardian. It's great. A lot of kids, younger kids will remember this.

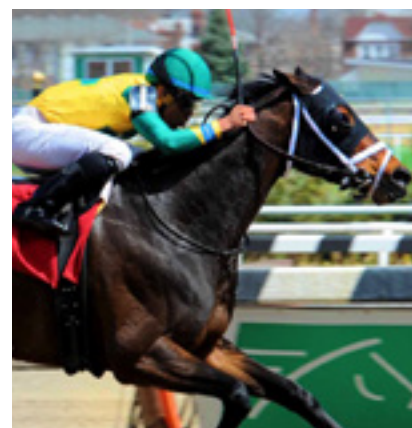
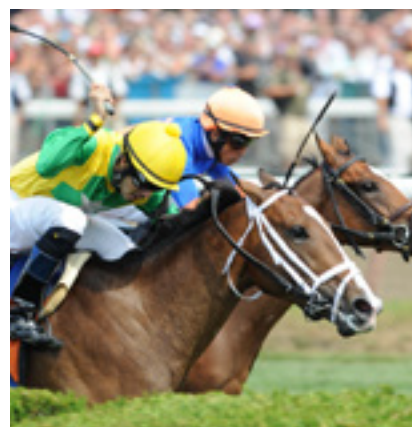
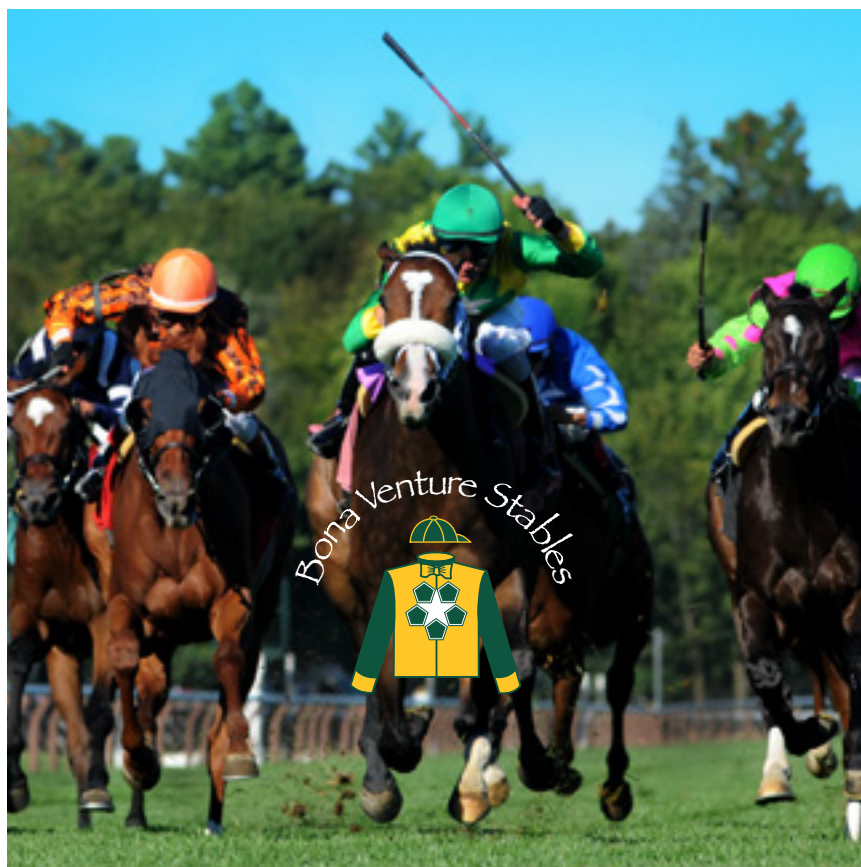
"This is what you want to see in horse racing. We needed a boost. We have some really great horses that run and put out big performances, but a lot of times people aren't there to see them. I think it's unique that everybody's here to watch this horse. They're watching him through the Derby, Preakness, Belmont, the Haskell. A lot of fans have been able to follow this horse, to latch onto him."

Most of the fans in the clubhouse and grandstand hit the exits after American Pharoah and the other Travers entrants trained. Likewise in the stable area.

Texas Red finished his gallop under Mary Donald shortly after American Pharoah walked back to the barn and scattered the masses. Texas Red, Donald and trainer Keith Desormeaux walked most the way back to the barn without interruption, a luxury rarely afforded a Breeders' Cup winner heading into a major stakes race like the Travers.

Desormeaux joked like he was be-

**Continued On Page 16**



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# Travers —

■ Continued from page 14

ing snubbed by the fans who cheered for American Pharoah as he came down the lane at the end of his gallop.

"I'm thinking that's the last time they won't give him any cheers," Desormeaux said. "I've got the Breeders' Cup winner here. Pharoah goes by, he pulls up, people go everywhere. They left the rail, went to their cars. I thought I had a good horse. It's all good."

Texas Red has been good since arriving in Saratoga last month. He's galloped well, raced well in the Jim Dandy and breezed with purpose. The son of Afleet Alex turned in an effortless 6 furlongs in 1:13.20 under Corey Lanerie last Saturday.

"Man, he looks great. Not good, great," Desormeaux said. "I couldn't ask him to be moving any better. Nice and limber. Seems confident."

Desormeaux's brother Kent, who won the Travers in 2009 on Summer Bird, will fly in from Southern California for the return call on the 8-1 third choice.

Frosted is the 6-1 second choice on the morning line, undoubtedly due to a win in the Grade 1 Wood Memorial in April at Aqueduct and a consistent run in the first and third legs of the Triple Crown.

Kiaran McLaughlin trains the gray son of Tapit for the Maktoum family's Godolphin Racing operation. McLaughlin sent Frosted to Saratoga shortly after he finished second in the Belmont Stakes with designs on the Travers, American Pharoah or no American Pharoah.

Shirreffs makes his first appearance in the Travers with the improving Smart Transition for owner Arnold Zetcher, who might want a little revenge on American Pharoah after his Firing Line finished a game second to the colt in the Kentucky Derby.

The challenge of the Travers was appealing to Shirreffs, who won the 2005 Kentucky Derby with Giacomo and trained the great Zenyatta, from the moment he won the Curlin by 4 3/4 lengths. He liked the opportunity to run Smart Transition in the Travers, with or without American Pharoah.

"If American Pharoah loses, something will happen, bad racing luck,

he gets trapped or he doesn't break well," Shirreffs said. "Realistically, it's hard to think anybody is going to beat him. But favorites don't always win, for whatever reason. Horses have to participate against a horse like American Pharoah, you want good racing."

Keen Ice comes into the Travers on an improving form cycle, having finishing seventh in the Kentucky Derby, third in the Belmont and second in the Haskell. American Pharoah's 2 1/4-length win over Keen Ice is a bit deceptive, however, after Victor Espinoza eased up on the Triple Crown winner more than a furlong from home.

Trainer Dale Romans said he'd love to spring the upset and remarked at the post-position draw that he wanted to thank NYRA President Chris Kay for "capping the crowd at 50,000 and limiting the number of people who are going to boo my horse."

Keen Ice is 12-1 on the line with Javier Castellano replacing Kent Desormeaux.

The other five entrants would be major upsets, although Upstart showed promise earlier this winter in the Triple Crown preps and was third

in the Haskell. Trainer Rick Violette is expected to decide whether to run the New York-bred Flatter colt this morning.

Mid Ocean exits a Delaware Park maiden win for George Weaver, Frammento tries to end a string of three double-digit losses in graded stakes, Tale Of Verve tries to recapture the form that saw him finish second to American Pharoah in the Preakness and King Of New York comes off a third after racing wide in the Curlin.



Tod Marks

Trainer John Shirreffs



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# Happy Homecoming

Syracuse native Borell ready for Gr. 1 stakes debut with Runhappy

BY TOM LAW

Take a peek at the past performances for any of the 13 races today at Saratoga Race Course and pick out the unbeaten for 2015.

Yes there are a few easy ones.

There's six to be exact – La Verdad and Unbridled Forever in the Grade 1 Ballerina, Watershed and Limousine Liberal in the Grade 1 King's Bishop, Messi

Continued On Page 20



Tod Marks

Trainer Maria Borell and Cordell Anderson school Runhappy in the paddock for today's King's Bishop.

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Sheryl & Barry Schwartz with jockey Jose Ortiz just after 3yo WOMEN WIN posted an 11 1/4-length MSW win.

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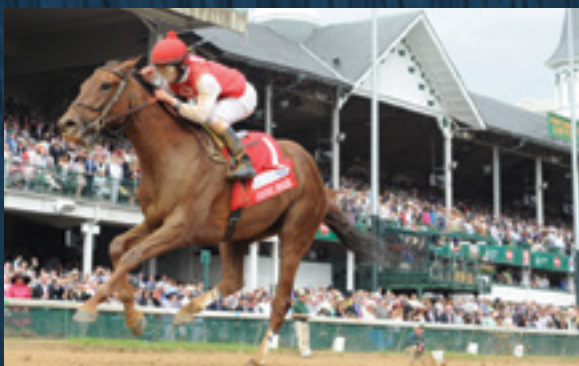
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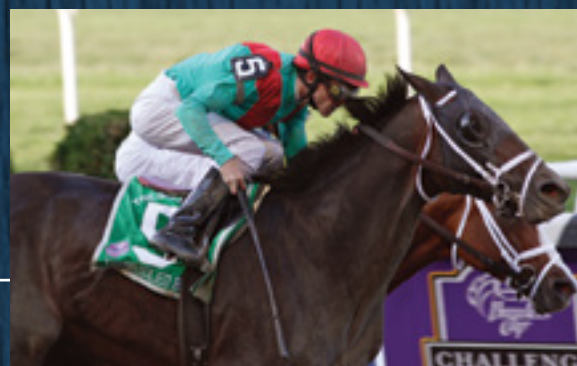
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# King's Bishop —

■ Continued from page 18

in the Grade 1 Sword Dancer and of course, Triple Crown winner American Pharoah in the Travers.

Now, find a two-legged unbeaten.

There's one, and she's a native New Yorker who makes a homecoming of sorts by way of The Thoroughbred Center, a facility owned by the Keeneland Association on the north side of Lexington that features two training tracks, more than 1,000 stalls and most of the typical things needed to get a horse ready for the races. It's also where Maria Borell keeps Runhappy, a longshot for today's \$500,000 King's Bishop Stakes on the Travers undercard.

Runhappy isn't undefeated, although he's close with three wins in four starts. Borell is unbeaten on the year, 3-for-3 in fact, and while she knows her horse is a longshot in one of the most prestigious races of the Saratoga meet she's not all that out of her element here in Saratoga. A 32-year-old native of Syracuse about 2 1/2 hours to the west, Borell started

training in 2013 and didn't find the kind of success she's achieved this year from her limited opportunities. She didn't win a race from her first 22 starters and knows her 3-for-3 mark in 2015 isn't something that will get any Hall of Fame buzz going.

"Is that hard to be undefeated though when you only run three?" Borell asked last week as she stood outside Runhappy's stall in the stakes barn, a few minutes after the Super Saver colt breezed a quick half-mile on the main track. "I'm lucky. It's hard to make it. Like (Bob) Baffert said, horses make trainers, trainers don't make horses. I've had some good horses."

Triplehott and Runhappy represent Borell's 2015 starters. Triplehott started the win streak, winning a June 27 maiden claiming race at Arlington Park. The City Zip filly was claimed out of that from Borell and owner James McIngvale for \$50,000. Runhappy, who showed up in Borell's barn in early April after two prior races with Laura Wohlers, took the lead role in the stable from there.

Runhappy, a \$200,000 yearling who dominated a maiden race in late December at Turfway then faltered af-

ter a rough trip in the Grade 3 Lecomte three weeks later at Fair Grounds, won back-to-back sprints at Indiana Downs and Ellis Park to earn the trip to Saratoga.

Borell has been to Saratoga before, as an exercise rider just out of college with dreams of being a jockey. She remembers her first Saratoga experience well.

"That first day was pretty crazy, not knowing where to go and getting on Barclay Tagg's badge list," she said. "It's a funny story because I kept bugging him. This was before Funny Cide ... and I wrote him letters saying, 'please, please, please give me a chance.' He gave me a three-day warning and basically said, 'get to Saratoga, you have three days.'"

She showed up in Saratoga, finding a room to rent after posting a note to an online message board and showed up at Tagg's barn ready to ride.

"Barclay made me cry the first day," she said, laughing about it now years later. "He put me on a pony horse that he just took off the track, like a 4-year-old. He had a western curb bit in his mouth, but my exercise saddle and stirrups stuck up and I couldn't touch the horse's mouth at

all. He was screaming at me, I was crying, he's like 'you haven't ridden a horse before, you don't know what you're doing,' that sort of thing, and I'm like, 'yeah but he's got a western curb it in his mouth, I couldn't touch him or he'd fling his head up.' Well, the next day I showed back up and he was like, 'you're OK, you showed.'"

Borell rode for a while, then landed an assistant trainer's job at Finger Lakes closer to her hometown and eventually wound up in Lexington. She owns a broodmare boarding farm there, Beacon Hill Farm, and started training mostly her own horses the first two years.

She got excited when she received a call from Wohlers, McIngvale's racing manager, about the opportunity to train some of the colorful furniture magnate's horses. The addition of four McIngvale horses boosted her stable to seven at the time.

"The biggest thing with Mac and Laura is they want to train a certain way," Borell said. "We agree on a lot of things. I don't like drugs and I don't want to run on Lasix if a horse doesn't need it. Runhappy doesn't

**Continued On Page 21**

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# King's Bishop —

■ Continued from page 20

need it and he's run Lasix-free in all of his starts. We're on the same page on a lot of things."

Edgar Prado will ride the 12-1 Runhappy in today's 7-furlong King's Bishop. He worked the colt when Borell shipped him across town in Lexington to Keeneland Aug. 11 and again Aug. 24.

Runhappy, who arrived in Saratoga last Thursday, drew the outside post in the field of 11. He'll face the likes of Holy Boss, Competitive Edge, Grand Bili, Watershed, Mr. Z and Commute, representing some of the most powerful barns in racing.

Borell isn't intimidated, or at least it wasn't evident as she soaked in the scene of the stakes barn, checked out stride analysis data from Runhappy's workout and watched Runhappy cool out.

"This is a little bit like coming home," she said. "So that's kind of huge."

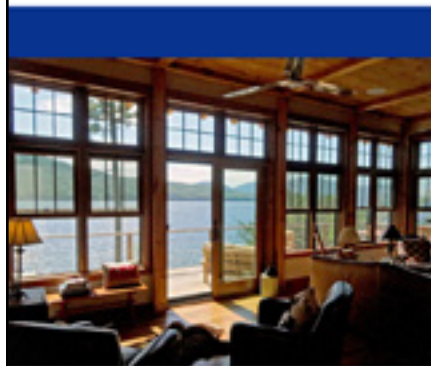
"The biggest thing is how he's doing. He's very laid back in the barn and he was fine the times we've schooled him in the paddock. It's the walk to the receiving barn that's going to be interesting. There's going to be so many people here Travers Day. But we've tried to keep him as relaxed as possible. We turned him out at McMahon Farm (Aug. 23) for about an hour and we'll do it again today. He's so good there. We'll walk him one lap around a small paddock, maybe he'll buck once and then he just grazes. He's a smart horse."

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# Family Matters

Town and Country enjoys run with purchase Stopchargingmaria

BY KAREN M. JOHNSON

PERSONAL ENSIGN PREVIEW

With her hands clasped, owner Kiki Courtelis stood in the winner's circle at Saratoga Race Course this month and watched with pride as her 83-year-old mother, Louise, led Stopchargingmaria after the filly's victory in the Grade 3 Shuvee Handicap Aug. 2.

"It was the first time my mother walked a Thoroughbred into the winner's circle, and it was absolutely priceless," Courtelis said. "It was worth every penny we paid for Stopchargingmaria to see Mom do that – to let her have that experience, and to be able to share that with her."

The Courtelises, who race as Town and Country Farms, privately bought Stopchargingmaria last fall after the filly failed to reach her reserve of \$3.15 million at Fasig-Tipton's No-

vember sale. She was consigned to the auction by Mike Repole, who raced her throughout her 2- and 3-year-old campaigns.

Stopchargingmaria will eventually join Town and Country's growing high-end broodmare band. Until then, the 4-year-old filly, who won last year's Grade 1 Alabama for Repole, has more racing to do. Today, she runs in today's Grade 1 Personal Ensign Handicap, where she will face, among others, last year's champion 3-year-old filly, Untapable in a rematch from the Shuvee.

They finished a length apart that day, and meet again at the same 9-furlong distance – this time at level weights after Untapable conceded



Tod Marks

Stopchargingmaria seeks her third consecutive win for new owner Town and Country Farms.

3 pounds to her rival in the Shuvee. Stopchargingmaria is the 2-1 favorite over 5-2 Untapable in a field of six for the day's sixth race which has a 2:35 p.m. post time.

Town and Country Farms transitioning from a renowned Arabian rac-

ing and breeding operation to Thoroughbreds about 11 years ago. Kiki's father, Alec, who died in 1995, established the Arabian Jockey Club and was its chairman. At one time, the

Continued On Page 23



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# Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 22

Courtelis family boarded 300 Arabian mares, owned by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and raised and broke horses for the Dubai ruler at their Florida farm. Additionally, the Courtelises bred and raced their own Arabians, and were recognized with the Darley Award as breeders of the year in the United States on several occasions.

When Sheikh Mohammed took a step back from his Arabian operation in the U.S., the family viewed it as an opportunity to become involved in Thoroughbreds.

“We never looked back,” Kiki said. “We love it. We like having a bigger playing field.”

While at last year’s Keeneland November sale, Town and Country was the underbidder on multiple Grade 1 winner Iotapa, bought by China Horse Club for \$2.8 million. Todd Pletcher, who trained Stopchargingmaria for Repole and also has horses for Town and Country, was sitting next to Kiki and her mother at the sale, and suggested Stopchargingmaria would be a good purchase.

“When we didn’t get Iotapa, Todd mentioned to our bloodstock agent, Shannon Potter, who is with Taylor Made Sales, ‘if you’re willing to spend that kind of money, why don’t we try to get Stopchargingmaria,’ ” Courtelis recalled. “She fit our program.”

The “program” Courtelis speaks of is one based on acquiring mares who are graded stakes winners or producers of the like.

Town and Country Farms has 38 broodmares at its 250-acre Kentucky nursery, outside of Georgetown. They paid \$1.75 million at the 2013 Keeneland November sale for multiple graded winner Upperline, a daughter of Maria’s Mon. The same year, at Fasig-Tipton’s November sale, Town and Country spent \$1.5 million for graded winner Agave Kiss, a daughter of Lion Heart.

With Taylor Made Sales as its agent, Town and Country has consigned 12 yearlings to Keeneland’s September sale. Among them is a Frankel colt out of the

Irish-bred mare Tashzara, and a War Front colt produced by Upperline.

“[Town and Country] hasn’t sold that big yearling for a million yet,” Potter said. “I say yet, because, looking at things to come, and hopefully with the broodmare band Town and Country has in place, it maybe could happen this year.

“We’re just getting the racing end of it going,” Potter added. “Our goal is to have nice mares as well as nice racehorses. We are trying to balance the act of getting both up and running, and we feel like we have established our broodmare game and now we’re at least trying to dabble in the racing game.”

Including Stopchargingmaria, Town and Country Farms has 17 horses in training. Some race in partnership with Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, including homebred Matterhorn, a Tapit ridgling, who has won his last two starts.

“Primarily, we breed to sell, but we are getting much more involved in racing,” Courtelis said. “Our heart has always been in racing. Selling yearlings pays the bills and is what keeps it all going, but we are more like a boutique farm. We don’t have a lot of quantity; we are just trying to get real quality here.”

*Content provided by  
Thoroughbred Racing Commentary.  
For more, see [thoroughbredracing.com](http://thoroughbredracing.com).*



Tod Marks

Louise Courtelis leads Stopchargingmaria to the winner’s circle after the Shuvee.



CHURCHILL DOWNS

## 2015 Fall Meet Stakes Schedule

November 1 - 29

### STARS OF TOMORROW I

#### STREET SENSE OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Sun., Nov. 1	Closes Oct. 21
\$60,000	(no nomination fee)
Two Year Olds	1 Mile

#### RAGS TO RICHES OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Sun., Nov. 1	Closes Oct. 21
\$60,000	(no nomination fee)
Fillies, Two Years Old	1 Mile

#### CHILUKKI (GII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 7	Closes Oct. 21
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination fee)
Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 Mile

#### MRS. REVERE (GII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 14	Closes Oct. 28
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination fee)
Fillies, Three Years Old	1 1/16 Miles Turf

#### CARDINAL HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 21	Closes Nov. 4
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination fee)
Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 1/8 Miles Turf

#### RIVER CITY HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Thurs., Nov. 26	Closes Nov. 11
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination fee)
Three Year Olds & Up	1 1/8 Miles Turf

#### FALLS CITY HANDICAP (GII)

Runs Thurs., Nov. 26	Closes Nov. 11
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination fee)
Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 1/8 Mile

#### COMMONWEALTH TURF (GIII)

Runs Fri., Nov. 27	Closes Nov. 11
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination fee)
Three Year Olds	1 1/16 Miles Turf

#### CLARK HANDICAP (GI)

*presented by Norton Healthcare*

Runs Fri., Nov. 27	Closes Nov. 11
\$500,000	(\$300 nomination fee)
Three Year Olds & Up	1 1/8 Mile

### STARS OF TOMORROW II

#### GOLDEN ROD (GII)

*2016 Kentucky Oaks Points Race*

Runs Sat., Nov. 28	Closes Nov. 11
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination fee)
Fillies, Two Years Old	1 1/16 Miles

#### KENTUCKY JOCKEY CLUB (GII)

*2016 Kentucky Derby Points Race*

Runs Sat., Nov. 28	Closes Nov. 11
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination fee)
Two Year Olds	1 1/16 Miles

*Fall Meet Stakes Schedule is pending approval & subject to change.*

**Ben Huffman** Racing Secretary: 502.638.3820 • [ben.huffman@kyderby.com](mailto:ben.huffman@kyderby.com)

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**Fax:** 502.636.4479



# SARATOGA ENTRIES

Saturday, August 29.

**1ST (11:45AM). \$95,000, AOC \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 3/8M (INNER TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Belisarius (IRE)	J. Rosario..... W. Mott..... 2-1
2	.....MTO.....	Royal Posse	J. Castellano..... R. Rodriguez..... 9-5
3	.....3.....	Good Response	L. Saez..... K. McLaughlin..... 7-2
4	.....MTO.....	Ice Cutter	J. Rosario..... C. Clement..... 8-5
5	.....5.....	Request	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. Brown..... 5-2
6	.....6.....	Born in Brooklyn	E. Cancel..... J. Terranova, II..... 30-1
7	.....7.....	Meteoroid	K. Carmouche..... L. Young..... 12-1
8	.....8.....	Grey Wizard	J. Alvarado..... C. Brown..... 7-2

**2ND (12:18PM). \$93,000, MSW, 2 YO, 6F**

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Condominium	L. Saez..... D. Lukas..... 6-1
2	.....2.....	Hundred Years	R. Santana, Jr..... S. Asmussen..... 7-2
3	.....3.....	Fashionable Freddy	J. Ortiz..... N. Zito..... 12-1
4	.....4.....	Midnight Surfer	M. Franco..... R. Rodriguez..... 8-1
5	.....5.....	Aztec Sense	G. Stevens..... D. Stewart..... 15-1
6	.....6.....	Attraction	K. Carmouche..... A. Stall, Jr..... 8-1
7	.....7.....	Sail Ahoy	J. Rosario..... C. McGaughey III..... 10-1
8	.....8.....	Virga	I. Ortiz, Jr..... G. Weaver..... 5-1
9	.....9.....	Ready Dancer	J. Velazquez..... T. Pletcher..... 3-1

**3RD (12:51PM). \$95,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Queen of Scat	S. Bridgmohan..... D. Romans..... 8-1
1a	.....2.....	Flying Tipat	J. Leparoux..... D. Romans..... 8-1
2	.....3.....	Susie's a Cowgirl	J. Alvarado..... R. Davis..... 15-1
3	.....4.....	Tango Time (IRE)	J. Castellano..... T. Pletcher..... 5-1
4	.....5.....	Coming Attraction	J. Velazquez..... C. McGaughey III..... 4-1
5	.....6.....	Sumba Sunset	L. Saez..... M. Matz..... 7-2
6	.....7.....	Neck of the Moon	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. Brown..... 3-1
7	.....8.....	Achnaha (IRE)	M. Franco..... G. Weaver..... 6-1
8	.....9.....	Unbridled Sonya	J. Rosario..... D. Cannizzo..... 12-1

**4TH (1:25PM). \$93,000, MSW, 2 YO, 6F**

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Star Gazer	M. Franco..... R. Rodriguez..... 10-1
2	.....2.....	Conquest Nitro	S. Bridgmohan..... M. Casse..... 7-2
3	.....3.....	Doolittle Raiders	J. Rosario..... N. Zito..... 12-1
4	.....4.....	Grand Nenuco	E. Cancel..... G. Delgado..... 6-1
5	.....5.....	River Dell	L. Saez..... T. Albertrani..... 9-2
6	.....6.....	Race Ready	J. Leparoux..... R. Moquett..... 20-1
7	.....7.....	Grand Candy	R. Santana, Jr..... S. Asmussen..... 8-1
8	.....8.....	Wild Man	J. Ortiz..... S. Asmussen..... 6-1
9	.....9.....	Eternal Bird	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. Brown..... 5-1
10	.....10.....	Tale of S'avall	C. Velasquez..... B. Tagg..... 10-1

**5TH (2:00PM). \$93,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M (TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Vigilante	J. Velazquez..... W. Catalano..... 4-1
2	.....2.....	Ascend	J. Leparoux..... H. Motion..... 8-1
3	.....3.....	America's Kitten	J. Castellano..... C. Brown..... 3-1
4	.....4.....	Tap Smartly	A. Arroyo..... L. Gyarmati..... 30-1
5	.....5.....	Cavallucci (IRE)	L. Saez..... K. McLaughlin..... 15-1
6	.....6.....	Asbaad	J. Ortiz..... K. McLaughlin..... 15-1
7	.....7.....	Seeking Alpha	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. Brown..... 7-2
8	.....8.....	Dave Hoeght	S. Bridgmohan..... D. Romans..... 6-1
9	.....9.....	Good Street	J. Bravo..... D. Lukas..... 30-1
10	.....10.....	Alcazar de Maram	J. Alvarado..... W. Mott..... 12-1
11	.....11.....	Bluegrass Rye	M. Franco..... D. Donk..... 10-1
12	.....12.....	Dr. Pham	R. Hernandez..... K. Ritvo..... 30-1
13	.....MTO.....	Indian Trail	J. Velazquez..... T. Pletcher..... 6-5

**6TH (2:35PM). \$750,000, STK - THE PERSONAL ENSIGN, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/8M**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	America	J. Alvarado..... W. Mott..... 12-1
2	.....2.....	Sheer Drama	J. Bravo..... D. Fawkes..... 3-1
3	.....3.....	Tiz Windy	J. Leparoux..... C. Nafzger..... 15-1
4	.....4.....	Stopchargingmaria	J. Castellano..... T. Pletcher..... 2-1
5	.....5.....	Got Lucky	I. Ortiz, Jr..... T. Pletcher..... 4-1
6	.....6.....	Untapable	J. Velazquez..... S. Asmussen..... 5-2

**7TH (3:10PM). \$500,000, STK - THE BALLERINA, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 7F**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Sarah Sis	J. Felix..... I. Mason..... 20-1
2	.....2.....	La Verdad	J. Ortiz..... L. Rice..... 5-2
3	.....3.....	Merry Meadow	J. Rosario..... M. Hennig..... 7-2
4	.....4.....	Room for Me	C. Velasquez..... D. Jacobson..... 6-1
5	.....5.....	Kiss to Remember	I. Ortiz, Jr..... M. Wolfson..... 15-1
6	.....6.....	Dame Dorothy	J. Castellano..... T. Pletcher..... 3-1
7	.....7.....	Unbridled Forever	J. Velazquez..... D. Stewart..... 5-1
8	.....8.....	Street Story	J. Lezcano..... S. Asmussen..... 10-1

**8TH (3:47PM). \$500,000, STK - THE NYRA.COM KING'S BISHOP, 3 YO, 7F**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Commute	S. Bridgmohan..... M. Casse..... 20-1
2	.....2.....	Grand Bili	J. Castellano..... G. Delgado..... 5-1
3	.....3.....	Competitive Edge	J. Velazquez..... T. Pletcher..... 7-2
4	.....4.....	Watershed	J. Rosario..... K. McLaughlin..... 8-1
5	.....5.....	Mr. Z	J. Bravo..... D. Lukas..... 6-1
6	.....6.....	Limousine Liberal	J. Ortiz..... B. Colebrook..... 30-1
7	.....7.....	Holy Boss	R. Santana, Jr..... S. Asmussen..... 3-1
8	.....8.....	Classy Class	G. Stevens..... K. McLaughlin..... 12-1
9	.....9.....	Loose On the Town	J. Lezcano..... B. Lynch..... 20-1
10	.....10.....	March	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. Brown..... 10-1
11	.....11.....	Runhappy	E. Prado..... M. Borell..... 12-1

**9TH (4:25PM). \$700,000, STK - THE PRIORITY ONE JETS FOREGO, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double			
1	.....1.....	Race Day	J. Castellano..... T. Pletcher..... 6-1
2	.....2.....	Takajo	E. Cancel..... J. Terranova, II..... 30-1
3	.....3.....	Bourbon Courage	J. Rosario..... H. Motion..... 12-1
4	.....4.....	Wildcat Red	J. Lezcano..... J. Garoffalo..... 20-1
5	.....5.....	The Big Beast	J. Velazquez..... A. Dutrow..... 5-2
6	.....6.....	Tamarkuz	I. Ortiz, Jr..... K. McLaughlin..... 5-1
7	.....7.....	Private Zone	M. Pedroza..... J. Navarro..... 3-1
8	.....8.....	Run for Logistics	A. Arroyo..... E. Barker..... 50-1
9	.....9.....	Viva Majorca	J. Leparoux..... I. Wilkes..... 20-1
10	.....10.....	Salutos Amigos	C. Velasquez..... D. Jacobson..... 6-1
11	.....11.....	Den's Legacy	R. Santana, Jr..... R. Moquett..... 30-1
12	.....12.....	Falling Sky	J. Ortiz..... M. Wolfson..... 20-1

**10TH (5:04PM). \$1,000,000, STK - THE SWORD DANCER, 3 & UP, 1 1/2M (INNER TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4			
1	.....1.....	Imagining	I. Ortiz, Jr..... C. McGaughey III..... 8-1
2	.....2.....	Flintshire (GB)	V. Cheminaud..... A. Fabre..... 8-5
3	.....3.....	Fixador (BRZ)	J. Alvarado..... E. Caramori..... 30-1
4	.....4.....	Red Rifle	J. Ortiz..... T. Pletcher..... 4-1
5	.....5.....	Twilight Eclipse	J. Rosario..... T. Albertrani..... 7-2
6	.....6.....	Messi (GER)	J. Velazquez..... H. Motion..... 10-1
7	.....7.....	Guardini (FR)	M. Harley..... P. Harley..... 15-1
8	.....8.....	War Dancer	J. Lezcano..... W. Mott..... 6-1

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# SARATOGA ENTRIES

**11TH (5:46PM). \$1,250,000, STK - THE TRAVERS, 3 YO, 1 1/4M**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....1.....	Upstart.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Violette, Jr.....	15-1
2	.....2.....	American Pharoah.....	V. Espinoza.....	B. Baffert.....	1-5
3	.....3.....	Mid Ocean.....	M. Franco.....	G. Weaver.....	50-1
4	.....4.....	Texas Red.....	K. Desormeaux.....	J. Desormeaux.....	8-1
5	.....5.....	Frammento.....	J. Ortiz.....	N. Zito.....	30-1
6	.....6.....	Frosted.....	J. Rosario.....	K. McLaughlin.....	6-1
7	.....7.....	Keen Ice.....	J. Castellano.....	D. Romans.....	12-1
8	.....8.....	Tale of Verve.....	G. Stevens.....	D. Stewart.....	30-1
9	.....9.....	King of New York.....	J. Leparoux.....	K. McPeck.....	50-1
10	.....10.....	Smart Transition.....	J. Velazquez.....	J. Shirreffs.....	20-1

**12TH (6:20PM). \$400,000 - THE KETEL ONE BALLSTON SPA, 3&UP, F&M , 1 1/16M (TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

1	.....1.....	Tepin.....	J. Leparoux.....	M. Casse.....	5-2
2	.....2.....	Danza Cavallo (FR).....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	C. Brown.....	10-1
3	.....3.....	My Miss Sophia.....	J. Velazquez.....	W. Mott.....	6-1
4	.....4.....	Dacita (CHI).....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown.....	7-2
5	.....5.....	Solid Appeal.....	L. Saez.....	R. Baker.....	20-1
6	.....6.....	Night Song.....	C. Velasquez.....	A. Tarrant.....	30-1
7	.....7.....	Kitten's Queen.....	J. Ortiz.....	C. Brown.....	4-1
8	.....8.....	Coffee Clique.....	J. Rosario.....	B. Lynch.....	5-1
9	.....9.....	New Providence (GB).....	J. Alvarado.....	H. Palmer.....	12-1

**13TH (6:53PM). \$85,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)**

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	.....5.....	Foxhall Drive.....	J. Alvarado.....	D. Schettino.....	5-1
1a	.....AE.....	Humboldt N Frost.....	J. Alvarado.....	D. Schettino.....	5-1
2	.....9.....	Mister Dooley.....	J. Davis.....	R. Davis.....	20-1
2b	.....AE.....	Raffies Bay.....	E. Cancel.....	R. Davis.....	20-1
3	.....1.....	Ode to the Hunt.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Violette, Jr.....	3-1
4	.....2.....	Tiger D.....	K. Carmouche.....	A. Delacour.....	6-1
5	.....3.....	Ziggy the Great.....	F. Jara.....	C. Figueroa, Jr.....	30-1
6	.....4.....	Memories of Peter.....	J. Velazquez.....	J. Ryerson.....	4-1
7	.....6.....	Oklahoma Den.....	J. Lezcano.....	C. Simon.....	8-1
8	.....7.....	Snake Oil Charlie.....	A. Arroyo.....	G. Maroun.....	30-1
9	.....8.....	Harbor King.....	M. Franco.....	R. Metivier.....	50-1
10	.....10.....	All Is Number.....	L. Saez.....	R. Violette, Jr.....	12-1
11	.....11.....	Tom's Vision.....	S. Bridgmohan.....	G. Goodwin.....	30-1
12	.....12.....	Jax Heritage.....	J. Leparoux.....	M. Hennig.....	7-2
13	.....AE.....	All Over Me.....	J. Castellano.....	M. Maker.....	5-1
14	.....MTO.....	H Man.....	K. Carmouche.....	D. Cannizzo.....	7-2

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**John  
Shapazian**



**Tom  
Law**



**Gaile  
Fitzgerald**



**Charles  
Bedard**



**Chad  
Summers**

**Race #**

**1**

Good Response  
Grey Wizard  
Request

Belisarius  
Request  
Good Response

Good Response  
Belisarius  
Request

Royal Posse  
Belisarius  
Request

Request  
Belisarius  
Good Response

**2**

Attraction  
Ready Dancer  
Midnight Surfer

Virga  
Attraction  
Ready Dancer

Hundred Years  
Virga  
Attraction

Ready Dancer  
Aztec Sense  
Condominium

Sail Ahoy  
Hundred Years  
Virga

**3**

Tango Time  
Sumba Sunset  
Neck Of The Moon

Neck Of The Moon  
Tango Time  
Achnaha

Neck Of The Moon  
Romans entry  
Sumba Sunset

Sumba Sunset  
Achnaha  
Queen Of Scat

Unbridled Sonya  
Tango Time  
Sumba Sunset

**4**

Eternal Bird  
Conquest Nitro  
River Dell

Grand Candy  
Conquest Nitro  
Eternal Bid

Conquest Nitro  
Eternal Bird  
Tale of S'avall

Conquest Nitro  
Grand Nenuco  
Star Gazer

Conquest Nitro  
Eternal Bird  
Doolittle Raiders

**5**

Seeking Alpha  
Vigilante  
Ascend

America's Kitten  
Vigilante  
Alcazar De Maram

Vigilante  
America's Kitten  
Seeking Alpha

Indian Trail  
Vigilante  
Seeking Alpha

Ascend  
Vigilante  
Asbaad

**6**

Stopchargingmaria  
Sheer Drama  
Untapable

Stopchargingmaria  
Sheer Drama  
Untapable

Stopchargingmaria  
Untapable  
Sheer Drama

Untapable  
Got Lucky  
Sheer Drama

Untapable  
Stopchargingmaria  
Sheer Drama

**7**

La Verdad  
Merry Meadow  
Dame Dorothy

La Verdad  
Unbridled Forever  
Merry Meadow

Dame Dorothy  
Unbridled Forever  
La Verdad

Merry Meadow  
La Verdad  
Street Story

Dame Dorothy  
Merry Meadow  
Unbridled Forever

**8**

Holy Boss  
Competitive Edge  
Grand Bili

Competitive Edge  
Holy Boss  
Grand Bili

Holy Boss  
Watershed  
Competitive Edge

March  
Grand Bili  
Holy Boss

Watershed  
Holy Boss  
Limousine Liberal

**9**

Private Zone  
The Big Beast  
Salutos Amigos

The Big Beast  
Private Zone  
Tamarkuz

Private Zone  
Tamarkuz  
The Big Beast

The Big Beast  
Falling Sky  
Salutos Amigos

Private Zone  
The Big Beast  
Tamarkuz

**10**

Flintshire  
Red Rifle  
War Dancer

Flintshire  
Red Rifle  
Messi

Flintshire  
Red Rifle  
Messi

Flintshire  
Red Rifle  
Twilight Eclipse

Messi  
Flintshire  
Guardini

**11**

American Pharoah  
Texas Red  
Frosted

Texas Red  
Smart Transition  
American Pharoah

American Pharoah  
Frosted  
Texas Red

American Pharoah  
Texas Red  
Frosted

Texas Red  
American Pharoah  
Frosted

**12**

Dacita  
Tepin  
Kitten's Queen

Tepin  
Coffee Clique  
Kitten's Queen

Tepin  
Dacita  
Kitten's Queen

Dacita  
Tepin  
Coffee Clique

Tepin  
My Miss Sophia  
Dacita

**13**

Ode to the Hunt  
Jax Heritage  
Memories of Peter

Ode To The Hunt  
Jax Heritage  
Oklahoma Den

Foxhall Drive  
Jax Heritage  
Memories Of Peter

Oklahoma Den  
Jax Heritage  
All Over Me

Jax Heritage  
Memories Of Peter  
Oklahoma Den

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Race  
6

# The Personal Ensign

Grade 1. \$750,000. Fillies and Mares. 1 1/8 miles on the dirt.

Tiz Windy



## 1. America

Owned and bred by Bobby Flay, the daughter of A. P. Indy rides a three-race losing streak into this, but did finish third in the Grade 1 Delaware Handicap in her most recent start. She won three straight races including the Affectionately, at Aqueduct this winter, but has yet to oust Untapable, Sheer Drama, Tiz Windy and Stopchargingmaria in several previous clashes.

**Trainer Bill Mott:** “We’re just hoping to get Grade 1 placed, if the other two show up and she runs the best race of her life she might be third. I wish I had a better option, but those Grade 1 placings look pretty good on a catalogue page. It’s not a big field and you can pick up a piece, it’s worth it. She’s a stakes winner, then you put the Mother Goose, the Delaware Handicap on her page...if you can add the Personal Ensign to it, commercially, it looks great.”

## 2. Sheer Drama

Trainer David Fawkes returns to Saratoga with the five-time winner who took the Delaware Handicap in her most recent start. Jockey Joe Bravo met her in January and the duo have earned two wins and four seconds in six tries for owner/breeder Harold Queen. The Florida-bred daughter of Burning Roma posted a win and a second in her only two tries at Saratoga.

**Trainer David Fawkes:** “She’s training good, acting good, eating good, no complaints. Before the race at Delaware, we were thinking about this. We are trying to win a ‘win and you’re in’ race, we thought she ran good enough at Delaware to come here. She’s definitely gotten better, she’s filling out, she was always a light filly and she’s been easier to deal with as she’s matured. It’s a long enough stretch, I think she can win.”

## 3. Tiz Windy

Daughter of Tiznow stayed in Ian Wilkes’ barn after finishing third behind Stopchargingmaria and Untapable in Grade 3 Shuvee Aug. 2. Wilkes, a longtime assistant to Nafzger, worked the filly three times since and looks to end six-race losing skid for homebred filly for Jim Tafel Racing. She’s been close in her last four, including 1 1/2-length loss in the Grade 1 La Troienne on the Kentucky Oaks undercard.

**Assistant trainer Ian Wilkes:** “She’s very good, done well since her last race. On her game. She comes out of a credible race and I think there will be a little more speed in this race. We would love it if the race was still a mile and a quarter. It’s not easy, Grade 1, it’s a tough little race.”

**Continued On Page 30**

America



Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy, Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks.



# *Cheers!*

## *To a great Saratoga meet*



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Race  
6

# The Personal Ensign

Grade 1. \$750,000. Fillies and Mares. 1 1/8 miles on the dirt.



Stopchargingmaria



Untapable

■ Continued from page 28

## 4. Stopchargingmaria

Eight-time winner roars into another Grade 1 opportunity, fresh off a win against today's rivals Untapable and Tiz Windy in the Shuvee earlier in the meet. The rematch offers little variance as the fillies and mares go 9 furlongs again. Owned by Town and Country Farm, the daughter of Tale Of The Cat returns in a month, trying to turn the same trick she mastered last year, winning the Coaching Club American Oaks and Alabama in a month. Last time, she broke outside Untapable, this time, she's two stalls away on the inside.

**Trainer Todd Pletcher:** "Hopefully, it's better for her because she's older, stronger and carrying a little more condition, still, it's a concern to run back in four weeks. She won the Alabama last year and I thought she actually ran better in the Coaching Club than the Alabama. She's training well, but this is just another Grade 1 at Saratoga. You've got Untapable, Sheer Drama, Tiz Windy is OK, our other filly Got Lucky's coming in off a couple of big wins, what you would expect in a Grade 1 at Saratoga. The only thing that's changed is we're inside and Untapable is outside, I'd like to change that. It will be interesting, because you've got Sheer Drama who has some speed, you've got Untapable who has some speed and you've got Stopchargingmaria who has some speed. It's going to be like last time, we didn't set out to stalk Untapable, we thought we would be the speed, Javier called an audible and sat off her, it will be his call."

## 5. Got Lucky

Stablemate of likely favorite Stopchargingmaria, she follows the same form pattern as she also rides a two-race win streak into her fourth attempt at winning a Grade 1 stakes. Based at Monmouth Park, the daughter of A.P. Indy won the Lady's Secret and Molly Pitcher at the Jersey shore for owners/breeders Hill 'N' Dale and Philip Steinberg.

**Trainer Todd Pletcher:** "Career form. Getting better with age, bigger, stronger version of what she was last year. Obviously, this is a big challenge. She should be sitting in the next tier behind the speed and in front of the closers."

## 6. Untapable

Last year's champion tries to snap a two-race losing streak. Owned and bred by Winchell Thoroughbreds, the daughter of Tapit won six of seven starts last year, including the Breeders' Cup Distaff over older fillies and mares. Trainer Steve Asmussen freshened her up after the Breeders' Cup and unveiled her for the Azeri in March where she finished second. She returned to win the Apple Blossom, finish second in the Ogden Phipps and second to Stopchargingmaria in the Shuvee earlier in the meet. John Velazquez placed her on the lead in the Shuvee and will weigh his options as the field goes into the first turn this time.

**Jockey John Velazquez:** "Steve said she would be a little sharper the last time and she might get a little tired, but said, 'don't worry, we are pointing for the big one.' He said he was trying to get her back to where she was last year, he said she had been a little quiet so he didn't do as much with her. She was sharp, that's for sure. Hopefully, Steve has her where he wants her now. She was pretty aggressive last time and hopefully this time she'll let me take a little bit more hold of her."



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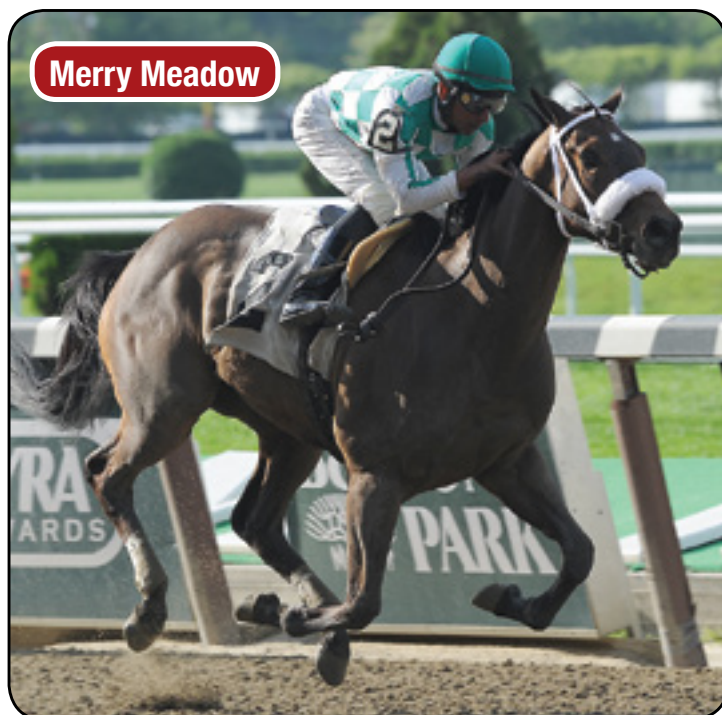
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# Race 7

# The Ballerina

Grade 1. \$500,000. Fillies and mares. 3-year-olds & up. 7 furlongs.



Merry Meadow

## 1. Sarah Sis

Lone 3-year-old in the field heads back into deep water after back-to-back wins at Prairie Meadows in Panthers Stakes and Grade 3 Iowa Oaks. Pulled up and vanned off in the Kentucky Oaks, daughter of Sharp Humor won the Grade 3 Honeybee earlier this season.

**Trainer Ingrid Mason:** “It’s a super tough race. Our original plan was to make it to the Test, but the day before shipping her she choked. She’s going to have to step it up at least 10 lengths to be able to do something in there. She’s a 3-year-old so if she can’t do it this year maybe she can do it next year. I think 7 furlongs is ideal for her. We’ll give it a shot and see what happens.”

## 2. La Verdad

Lady Sheila Stable’s multiple graded stakes-winning mare put to rest any notion that she didn’t care for Saratoga with a powerful 4-length victory in the Grade 2 Honorable Miss Handicap last time out. Daughter of Yes It’s True goes for the Grade 1 and tries to win at 7 furlongs for the first time three tries. Fifth in this race last year, she’s undefeated in four starts since returning from a freshening from late November to early April.

**Trainer Linda Rice:** “She is such a great competitor. She has such a terrific mind. Most fillies can’t run for a year and three months straight and just keep winning month after month. She walks into the paddock and never turns a hair. She had done so well (last year) that I guess I didn’t anticipate her being better after vacation but she certainly appears to be. Her game is usually that she just inherits the lead. She’s fast. I mean, it’s not ideal, but I’m going to leave it up to Jose (Ortiz). She sat off of it a little bit before and she seems to be more ratable this year than she has been in the past. So, we’ll see how it unfolds.”

## 3. Merry Meadow

A winner of four of her last five – all stakes – the daughter of Henny Hughes makes her first start since annexing the Grade 2 Princess Rooney at Gulfstream Park July 5. She accomplished that feat off of a three-month break. Owned by Bill Parsons and David Howe, the bay mare has won nine races from 28 starts. A win would push her over the \$1 million mark in career earnings, and most importantly, add a line of Grade 1 black type to a page filled with Grade 2 and Grade 3 lines. Joel Rosario takes the call after Javier Castellano opted for Dame Dorothy.

**Trainer Mark Hennig:** “We thought about the Masters at Presque Isle, with her if you space her races out, she usually does better. This is the best timing, if we’re going to run once and go to the Breeders’ Cup. I like to run her when I feel like she’s doing well. She has trained well, that’s dictated when we run her over the last year. We could have waited for Belmont, but she’s doing well, she seems to like this track.”

## 4. Room For Me

The 5-year-old mare comes off a win in Monmouth Park’s Regret Stakes, her eighth win in 17 career starts and fifth victory in seven tries this year. The daughter of Harlington started her season in California, where she was claimed for \$12,500 at Santa Anita in February. She won by 10 lengths that day and 13 1/2 in her first East Coast start at Aqueduct in March. The Kentucky-bred finished second to today’s favorite La Verdad in the Grade 3 Vagrancy May 16 and was fourth behind today’s rivals Dame Dorothy and Street Story in the Grade 3 Bed O Roses June 20.

**Owner/trainer David Jacobson:** “She got in a little trouble the day she ran against La Verdad. With a little luck and a cleaner trip she could have won that race and if she

Continued On Page 34



La Verdad



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# Race 7

# The Ballerina

Grade 1. \$500,000. Fillies and mares. 3-year-olds & up. 7 furlongs.



Unbridled Forever



Street Story

## Continued from page 32

did you'd say she's right there. I like her. She's as good as any of these horses. La Verdad is obviously the horse. She's got speed, she's got everything, but they're going to have to be at the top of their game to beat my horse."

## 5. Kiss To Remember

The 4-year-old Big Brown filly ships up from Gulfstream Park with eyes on a graded stakes win for Miller Racing Stable. The Maryland-bred won the Monroe Handicap going a mile at Gulfstream July 25 and finished first or second in eight of her nine starts last year. Traveling doesn't bother her as she made starts at six tracks in 2014. Trainer Marty Wolfson tabs Saratoga's leading jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. for the mount.

**Jock's agent Steve Rushing:** "Edgard Zayas' agent called me to see if we were open in the race. She looks like she's improving, third start for (Wolfson). He doesn't usually ship unless he thinks they can win."

## 6. Dame Dorothy

Unbeaten in four tries at the distance and 7-for-9 in her career, the daughter of Bernardini tries to win her second Grade 1 stakes, after taking the Humana Distaff at Churchill Downs in May. A stalker through her first eight starts, she led the Grade 3 Bed O Roses at Belmont in June, posting tepid fractions, to handled Street Story. Bobby Flay's Pennsylvania-bred filly has carried Javier Castellano to five wins from six tries.

**Trainer Todd Pletcher:** "She seems to have found her forte at seven eighths, we'll try to keep her unbeaten record unblemished. Again, tough race, we'll see. She's a real seven eighths horse, she doesn't have six furlong speed but she'll put herself in a good spot."

## 7. Unbridled Forever

Charles Fipke homebred daughter of Unbridled's Song returned from lengthy layoff to win Shine Again Stakes in her 2015 debut last time out going today's distance. Fifth in last year's Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Distaff, Unbridled Forever is already Grade 1-placed twice.

**Trainer Dallas Stewart:** "She came back with a big win off of a nine month layoff. You know, hopefully she's maybe a little better than she was last year but she's definitely talented. We're excited about running her. She's class. She's performed in a lot of different venues and tracks. She's been tough. She's raced against some great horses, so she'll be up for the challenge. She'll be ready."

## 8. Street Story

Well, hello friends. Street Story tries to avenge losses to Ballerina starters Dame Dorothy and La Verdad in her two most recent starts. Trained by Steve Asmussen for Whispering Oaks Farm, the daughter of Street Cry chased La Verdad in the Honorable Miss and Dame Dorothy in the Bed O Roses.

**Jockey Jose Lezcano:** "She got beat by very good fillies in her last two starts, she always comes running. The outside post helps, all the speed is inside so I can sit and watch everybody else, without asking her. Nobody put any pressure on Dame Dorothy, she was walking, she went a half in 47, so I had to try to put a lot of pressure on her early, she ran a good race. This time is different, there's more speed."

Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy, Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks and NYRA.



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# Race 8

# The King's Bishop

Grade 1. \$500,000. 3-year-olds. 7 furlongs.

## Competitive Edge



## 1. Commute

Son of Hold Me Back enters with a 2-for-6 record, including a 5-length romp over allowance foes at Churchill Downs in June for owners Gabe Grossberg and Sagamore Farm. Trained by Mark Casse, Commute has posted four works at Saratoga, including a bullet drill Aug. 15.

**Assistant trainer Norm Casse:** "He's a big longshot, but I really think he's a talented horse, I just hope we have him ready. He can run with this type if he's ready. Hopefully, he and some of the other horses in this weekend will turn the tables a little bit for us. Regardless, I'm happy to be here, we've got American Pharoah and everything else."

## 2. Grand Bili

Florida-based son of City Zip won the Grade 3 Carry Back and was second in Big Cypress at Gulfstream Park after disastrous performance in Chick Lang Stakes on the Preakness undercard. Trained by former leading Venezuelan trainer Gustavo Delgado, who has won two races so far at the meeting, Grand Bili broke slow in the Chick Lang and was never in contention as he finished worse than second for the first time in five career starts.

**Jockey Javier Castellano:** "He's a sprinter. I rode him at Pimlico, he broke so bad out of the gate and he got a lot of dirt in his face. He's the kind of horse that needs to have a clean break. If we break good, in clear position, not too much dirt in the face, he'll give it to you. He was very impressive the first time I rode him. I wish we had a better post. It's a good post if you break out of there. If he doesn't, then you have to figure out how we can get a clear trip."

## 3. Competitive Edge

Remember his debut here last year? The son of Super Saver won by 10 and had everybody screaming. He returned to win the Hopeful and two more stakes before hitting a wall in the Woody Stephens in June. Freshened, he jumped into the deep end, trying two turns and American Pharoah in the Haskell, where he faded to finish fourth.

**Jockey John Velazquez:** "He's a horse who needs to be close to the lead or on the lead. Obviously, he had to go really fast against American Pharoah at Monmouth. He's training well. If he runs the race he ran in Kentucky, he'll be really, really tough. The one-turn is definitely better for him. Definitely."

## 4. Watershed

Horses don't always vault from a maiden win to a Grade 1, but that's what the Darley/Godolphin runner does. The son of Bernardini rolled in a 6-furlong maiden race here Aug. 7 and steps up about three levels to tackle the iconic 7-furlong Travers Day fixture.

**Trainer Kieran McLaughlin:** "Not the normal thing to do for Team McLaughlin, but the risk/reward was way off the charts. If we finish sixth or something, then we come back in an a-other-than in October instead of the middle of September. Not a big deal. If he should win a Grade 1, with his pedigree, we have everything to gain and I don't see much to lose. We just broke our maiden a little late, that's all. He was here last year and he coughed every day. We couldn't train. After all the nebulizing and antibiotics, we had to call and tell them, 'We're sorry, we can't train the horse.' We sent him home and they did a great job. Johnny Burke and everyone (in the Darley rehab barn) at Keeneland, Rood and Riddle, everyone. He stopped coughing and he's a runner."

## 5. Mr. Z

Shortens up to 7 furlongs after a win in the Ohio Derby and second in Grade 2 Indiana Derby, both at 1 1/16 miles. Showed up in big spots earlier this season, finishing third in Grade 1 Arkansas Derby, 13th in Kentucky Derby and fifth in the Preakness, all won by American Pharoah. Second in two maiden races at Saratoga last summer for D. Wayne Lukas, a five-time winner of the King's Bishop.

**Trainer D. Wayne Lukas:** "I thought he might be a very effective miler. There are no 1-mile races so I'm going to seven-eighths and test the water a little bit. The race being 7 furlongs is going to test him pretty good, but I want to find out a little something about him. He has an affinity for the racetrack, but it's a very tough race though."

## 6. Limousine Liberal

Undeclared and inexperienced, the Kentucky shipper comes to town fresh off a track-record setting win against allowance foes at Ellis Park. Owned and bred by Mike and Katherine Ball, the son of Successful Appeal has only made two starts in his career, winning a maiden at Churchill before the Ellis Park romp. Jose Ortiz picks up the mount.

**Trainer Ben Colebrook:** "We're taking a shot and we know that. There are a lot worse places than Saratoga on Travers Day. He's a fast horse, he's trained well, we're hoping for the best. He broke the track record at Ellis last time, they broke two track records that day. He had some hind end issues last year, so we put him away. He came to hand pretty quick this year. There aren't a lot of options for 3-year-old sprinters. It's awesome to be back in Saratoga, running in my first Grade 1."



## Race 8

# The King's Bishop

Grade 1. \$500,000. 3-year-olds. 7 furlongs.

Holy Boss



## 7. Holy Boss

Comes into today's assignment on a four-race win streak, including an impressive victory in the Grade 2 Amsterdam four weeks ago with regular rider Ricardo Santana Jr. aboard. Trained by Steve Asmussen, the son of Street Boss picked up where multiple stakes-winning stablemate Cinco Charlie left off earlier this spring before going to the sidelines.

**Trainer Steve Asmussen:** "Cinco Charlie is taking a little bit of a break, so we'll let this horse have a couple of them and he'll come back soon. He looks exactly like his sire, bought him at the Keeneland September sale, nice Adena Springs-bred horse."

## 8. Classy Class

Owned by Cheyenne Stables, the son of Discreetly Mine has won every start he's made outside of stakes company but lost attempts at the Remsen, Withers, Gotham, Blue Grass and Woody Stephens. The bay colt, an OBS March graduate, comes off an optional-claiming win at Belmont Park July 9. Hall of Famer Gary Stevens takes the mount.

**Trainer Kieran McLaughlin:** "He's a nice horse. We like to think he's a one-run sprinter, but every time we enter him he shows speed and it hasn't worked out. He will be behind (today) and he might get that fast pace. He might be able to be in behind some horses, sit back there, take a little dirt and not be all that far away. He's a nice horse, beautiful horse, and we hope he gets lucky and sits the right trip and isn't pulling too much early."

## 9. Loose On The Town

Jim and Susan Hill's colt makes his first stakes start after winning a maiden race at Belmont Park June 27 and finishing second in an allowance here Aug. 1. The \$200,000 Keeneland September purchase broke slowly in his last race, then rallied wide off the turn to lose by three-quarters of a length.

**Trainer Brian Lynch:** "We feel like he probably should be 2-for-2. It was a bit of an awkward race the other day, but whenever you see one back up, let the field go by and then catch them back up, they've got some talent. There are limited opportunities for a 3-year-old to run for \$500,000 so we are gamblers, we feel like he's doing well and confident he's going to run well. It's a step up in class a little bit, but . . . he's a beautiful, big, strong horse and we feel like there's a lot of upside to him."

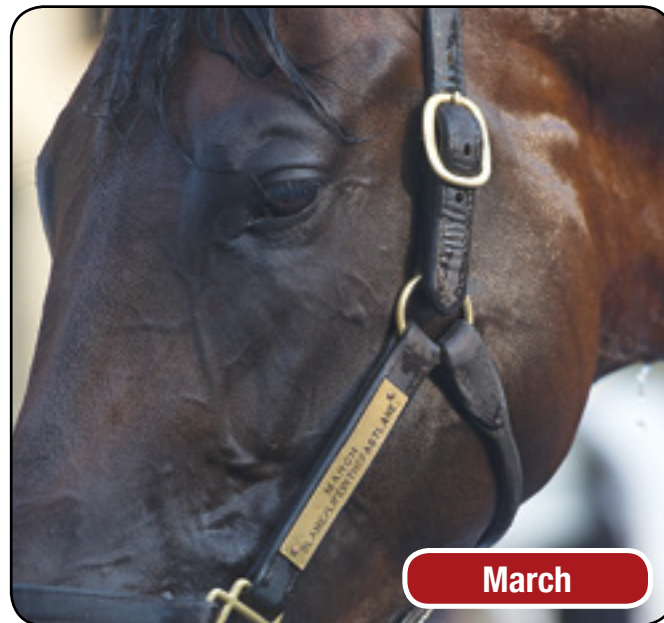
## 10. March

Winner of the Grade 2 Woody Stephens on the Belmont Stakes undercard, March threw in a clunker when sixth behind Holy Boss and others in the Grade 2 Amsterdam here Aug. 1. Owned by Robert LaPenta, son of Blame won the Grade 3 Bay Shore earlier this spring and is 2-for-2 at the 7-furlong distance.

**Trainer Chad Brown:**

"He ran a big race in the Woody Stephens. Maybe he just bounced. Maybe he doesn't like Saratoga's surface, which I'm fearful of, but he has come back and breezed very well twice over this track since the Amsterdam. I'm just going to cross my fingers and hope that he runs back to his better races. I don't know why he didn't fire last time out but he's training well since. So, we're going to try him again over this track and hope for a different result."

March



## 11. Runhappy

Relative unknown of the field off back-to-back victories in dirt sprints in the Midwest for trainer Maria Borell. Son of Super Saver is owned by James McIngvale, better known as "Mattress Mac" and was briefly considered a classics hopeful before finishing ninth in Grade 3 Lecomte in mid-January at Fair Grounds. Broke his maiden on one of final days of 2014, breaking slow, rushing up, pulling away to an easy lead and running very erratic down the lane to win by 8 ¼ lengths. Cue the replay.

**Trainer Maria Borell:** "He wants to be on the lead. There's no talking him out of that. You can get him to relax once he gets there, but he wants to be on the lead. He's a funny horse. Things have to be his idea. He always wants to walk on the track and stop and look. Whether he's here or home, he wants to stand for 10 minutes and go off when he's ready to go off. That's the way he's always been no matter where we are. That's why we brought him up so early, school him, let him look at everything."

Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy, Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks.



# Race 9

# The Forego

Grade 1. \$700,000. 3-year-olds & up. 7 furlongs.

## 1. Race Day

Finished a dull sixth in the Salvator Mile at Monmouth Park in July (as the favorite) after early season wins in the Razorback and Oaklawn handicaps. Shortens up to 7 furlongs for owner Matt Schera.

**Trainer Todd Pletcher:** “He ran horrible at Monmouth and I don’t know why and I don’t like the 1 hole, but he’s training well. The only thing I can think of is he worked too fast before the race. We tried to reel him in a little bit this last time, not overdo it. The last time he didn’t get away well and didn’t put him in the race at all. Obviously, this is a different kind of race with a lot more pace, we just need to get his mind in the game more than anything else.”

## 2. Takajo

Son of Congrats continued to show improvement last time with an upset win in an allowance-optional going 7 furlongs. Suffered an eye injury in a win last summer and Saratoga and now wears a protective goggle to protect his blind right eye.

**Trainer John Terranova:** “Maybe we’re taking a shot. There’s a lot of speed and he’s a late-running sprinter, so we’ll see. He likes Saratoga, he’s won two over the track each year. He won up here last year, that’s when he came up with the eye issue. He’s been improving, steadily improving. The older he gets the better he is, but it’s a huge jump up obviously. Some of these horses are super strong.”

## 3. Bourbon Courage

Owned by Bourbon Lane Stable, the 6-year-old millionaire switched barns this spring and got back to work with a second in Delaware Park’s Hockessin Stakes. He grabbed a quarter when well beaten in the Grade 3 Commonwealth at Keeneland in April and missed three months. The son of Lion Heart finished fourth in the Breeders’ Cup Sprint last year and has also placed in three Grade 1 stakes over his career, which includes a Grade 2 win in the 2012 Super Derby.

**Trainer Graham Motion:** “We kind of had this race in mind or we kind of had the Breeders’ Cup in mind. He ran so well in it last year, we thought about a good way to get him back to the Breeders’ Cup. The Delaware race scratched down to four horses. It was a little bit of an awkward race for him and he ran really well. Another few strides, I think he gets up. Even though he was beaten, it was probably a perfect race to bring him back in. It was close, it was straightforward and it set him up for a race like this. It should set up for him a little bit, a bigger field should ensure an honest pace. He had a good work last week (5 furlongs in 1:01 Aug. 23). I couldn’t be happier with how he’s coming up to the race.”

## 4. Wildcat Red

Fifth behind The Big Beast in the King’s Bishop here last year, 4-year-old speeds in off a win in Monmouth Park’s Teddy Drone Aug. 2, his third start of 2015 for owners Salvatore and Josie Delfino.

**Trainer Jose Garoffalo:** “We shipped from Monmouth, a couple of weeks after the last race, I think it’s perfect timing. He breezed really good, we’re happy with the way he’s training, it’s going to be a tough race, but I like the distance and I like how he’s training, so let’s go. Mentally, he’s a better horse, he’s easier to deal with him now, as to when he was a 2-year-old, he was tough and crazy. He’s a better horse, he’s developed into a sprinter. Last year, he was skinnier, lighter, so he could run longer. Now, he’s a different horse. He’s grown up a lot. This is the right distance for him, I used the Teddy Drone as a prep for this, we won the race so we kept with the plan. I was expecting a shorter field, it’s a tough race, we have to try, we have to try. I’m optimistic, we just need a good break and the rider will do the rest of the job.”



## 5. The Big Beast

Well-named son of Yes It’s True announced himself to the racing world last summer at Saratoga, winning an allowance and the Grade 1 King’s Bishop, the latter at today’s distance. Alex and JoAnn Lieblong’s colt was second last time to Rock Fall in the Grade 1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt, losing by a nose after John Velazquez lost the whip in the stretch and went to his goggles as a substitute motivator.

**Trainer Tony Dutrow:** “The Big Beast is doing super and he’s making us all around him feel great. He’s had two workouts since the Vanderbilt and this week has just been pretty ordinary. We don’t feel like he’s needed much. So it’s just been kind of a light week for him since his last workout for the race.”

## 6. Tamarkuz

Shadwell Farm’s Kentucky-bred spent most of his career overseas with starts in England and Dubai, where he won the Group 2 Godolphin Mile March 28 as part of a four-race winning streak. He finished fourth behind Honor Code, Tonalist and Private Zone in the Met Mile at Belmont Park June 6 and seeks his eighth lifetime win.

**Trainer Kieran McLaughlin:** “He came over and ran great in the Met Mile. Irad (Ortiz) had worked him, but I think he learned a little bit about him riding him in a race. He might have moved a little bit early and wide worrying about Private Zone. The Shadwell team said don’t rush him back, give him a little time and we’ve done that. We put this on the schedule and he’s been training well. He’s a fun horse, classy horse and it’s nice to bring one over from Dubai. We’ll hope we can get lucky.”

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# Race 9

# The Forego

Grade 1. \$700,000. 3-year-olds & up. 7 furlongs.

■ Continued from page 38

## 7. Private Zone

The mark of consistency since he returned to the U.S. in 2012 after starting his career in Panama, Private Zone seeks his fourth career Grade 1 victory and tries for a personal trifecta of winning one of racing's biggest events at each of the three NYRA tracks. He won the 2013 and 2014 Vosburgh Stakes at Belmont Park and the 2014 Cigar Mile Handicap at Aqueduct for owner Good Friends Stable. This year, Private Zone has won two of four and was a strong third behind Honor Code and Tonalist in the Grade 1 Metropolitan Handicap.

**Trainer Jorge Navarro:** "The way the horse is training up to the race, he's getting better and better. In every race we run him, the horse gets better and he seems to love New York. Well, well, well. He's a racehorse. He's a racehorse. I bet you anybody could have done the job. He's just a nice horse, nice to have him around."

## 8. Run For Logistics

Hardway Stables' Bernstein gelding makes return to the main track after four straight turf sprint races. Second in his last three, including the first Saturday of the Saratoga meet, he makes debut for trainer Eddie Barker.

**Trainer Eddie Barker:** "I got this horse about three and a half weeks ago (from Leo O'Brien). The owners wanted to make a change I guess. He's got some speed and we're going to see what we can do. He has breezed awfully good up here for me. I look forward to running him."

## 9. Viva Majorca

Winner of the Kelly's Landing at Churchill Downs two starts back and fifth, beaten 3 3/4 lengths in the Grade 1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt Aug. 1, Viva Majorca was a close fourth in the Curlin and sixth in the Travers last summer. Ian Wilkes switched Marylou Whitney homebred son of Tiago back to sprint distances at the start of the year and he's won two of five in 2015. He's 2-for-2 at the distance.

**Trainer Ian Wilkes:** "A little more ground, 7 (furlongs) helps. He actually broke good, I don't know why that says that. He broke good and let them run away from him, without rushing him and then he came running down the lane and got beat 3 3/4 lengths, which wasn't a bad race. He was running, finishing off strong. There's some real speed now. Private Zone, he only knows one way: 44. And then you've got a couple others that will go with him. The Big Beast won't be far off the lead. When he won the King's Bishop here he laid off the pace. I can't see Private Zone getting away to an easy lead."

## 10. Salutos Amigos

When he won the Tale Of The Cat Stakes Sunday, one of the first things trainer David Jacobson said was how he didn't want to find out who was faster – Stallwalkin' Dude or Salutos Amigos. The former won Sunday. The latter steps into the Grade 1 Forego. The 5-year-old, owned by Jacobson and Southern Equine Stables, won six of 14 starts last year and earned \$599,000. His 2015 campaign included two Grade 3 wins at Aqueduct and a trip to Dubai for the Group 1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. He finished fifth there, and went right back to winning with a stakes score at Monmouth Park in June. Fourth in The Grade 1 Vanderbilt here Aug. 1, the son of Salute The Sarge eyes his first Saratoga win.

**Trainer David Jacobson:** "He's coming into this race as good as he's come into any race in his career. I'm very, very happy. He has a lot of little issues all the time and there are none for this race – so far. We've still got two days to go, but we're excited to have him in the position we're in. The race looks like it's going to set up for him. He'll do whatever you want. He breaks, if they go he can fall in and if they miss the break, he can stay close. That helps in races like this."

## Private Zone



## 11. Den's Legacy

Completely dismissed at 21-1 in his Saratoga debut Aug. 3, Den's Legacy came from off the pace and got up late to win optional claimer going 7 furlongs. Owned by Westrock Stables and previously trained in Southern California by Bob Baffert, 5-year-old son of Medaglia d'Oro has found a home sprinting after two even efforts going two turns this spring for trainer Ron Moquett. He returned to Moquett's base at Churchill Downs after his Saratoga upset and is back for his first Grade 1 try today.

**Trainer Ron Moquett:** "He seems like he's becoming more confident. We have all the stuff he likes as far as the salt-water spa, vibrating plate and all the things that keep a fast horse sound (at Churchill Downs). We decided it would be better for us to let him train at his house then come back. We're not going to show a lot of speed. We need a lot of things to work out for us, but that's what racing is."

## 12. Falling Sky

Falling Sky makes it to the Forego a year removed from originally targeting the race after finishing third in the Grade 1 Vanderbilt at Saratoga. The 5-year-old son of Lion Heart suffered an injury in a training accident while training for the Forego and went to the sidelines for nearly a year. Sent by owners Newtown Anner Stud and Joseph Bulger to Marty Wolfson in South Florida, he returned in the Grade 2 Smile Sprint. The spot wasn't the first choice of his connections and he finished eighth, but bounced out of that with a win in a small stakes at Gulfstream Aug. 1. He won the Grade 3 Gulfstream Park Sprint in his third start off a layoff back in 2014 and races today on a similar pattern.

**Newtown Anner's Nick Sallusto:** "We really didn't want to come back in Smile Sprint, he was training great and we were looking for an easier spot. There was nothing available without a big ship and we were just hoping for a good effort out of the Smile. He didn't have one of his better days, broke through the gate, hit his head substantially. Edgar (Prado) said he was kind of out of it mentally. We were pretty confident he would rebound based on how he trained into it but you never know. He came out very, very good, probably better than he went in. I think he's finally reached a full level of racing fitness out of that race. He has shown some signs of brilliance in the past, he just needs to get back to that level. This is a tall order and a big stage to do it on but if he is sitting on a big race why blow it running for \$75,000 somewhere?"



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# The Sword Dancer

Grade 1. \$1 million. 3-year-olds & up. 1 1/2 miles on the turf.



Flintshire

## 1. Imagining.

Runner-up in this race last year, 7-year-old veteran will be reunited with meet-leading jockey Irad Ortiz, who won the Pan American on the Phipps homebred in March. In his most recent start, he finished third behind Red Rifle and War Dancer in the Bowling Green.

**Trainer Shug McGaughey:** “I thought his Bowling Green was fine. He didn’t finish up quite as well as I thought he was, Johnny said the same thing. Hopefully, a little change will make a difference, maybe he’ll be farther back than the last time. If he runs his race back from last year, it’ll be over at the head of the stretch because there aren’t any Main Sequences in here, but I don’t know if he has that race left in him. I haven’t seen a change in him, other than his race record isn’t as good.”

## 2. Flintshire

The class of the race. Juddmonte homebred has banked \$5.3 million in his stellar career while winning four races. The 5-year-old won the Group 1 Longines Hong Kong Vase, finished second in last year’s Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe and second in the Breeders’ Cup Turf. He makes his first start since finishing second to the great Treve in June. Trained by Andre Fabre, the British-bred, French-based son of Dansili has trained forwardly since arriving from France.

**Juddmonte racing manager Teddy Grimthorpe:** “There were several good reasons to come here, he was due to run in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth at Ascot but the ground came up very soft that day, so we had to look for alternatives. We liked the idea of the Sword Dancer, it’s a serious race on its own, he likes fast ground, he’s good traveler, he’s been around the world, from

that point of view it looks like a good opportunity. He’s won a Grade 1 in Hong Kong, he’s been second to Treve twice, early on this year he was in Dubai, he ran a blinder in the Dubai Sheema Classic, he’s been remarkable, an incredibly consistent, honest and genuine horse. He’s traveled well and he seems to have settled in by all reports. Everyone seems happy with him.”

## 3. Fixador

Connections of Brazilian-bred son of Crafty C.T. said before the Lure Stakes on the Whitney undercard that the 1-mile turf test was a prep for this spot. Second two back in the Grade 3 W. L. McKnight Handicap going 1 1/2 miles at Gulfstream Park, he won at the Sword Dancer distance in a Group 1 stakes in his native Brazil.

**Trainer Eduardo Caramori:** “His breeding and running style fit a mile and a half. He won in Brazil at the distance. We had some setbacks before the first race last year (at Gulfstream Park West). He was behind on the training schedule. We hope he can run like he did in Florida off the pace. The big question is who will be in front.”

## 4. Red Rifle

Red Rifle dominated the Grade 2 Bowling Green going 1 3/8 miles, defeating fellow Sword Dancer entrants Imagining and War Dancer for his second graded stakes victory of the season. Owned by Twin Creeks Racing Stables and trained by Todd Pletcher, 5-year-old son of Giant’s Causeway was gelded in May 2014 and has finished first or second in eight of 11 starts since. He owns wins on turf, dirt and synthetic.

**Twin Creeks Racing’s Randy Gullatt:** “He loves that course and why not take advantage of running out of your stall on a track he loves for \$1 million? If he runs that race back I think they’re going to have to beat him, not him having to beat them. That was a strong race. He got a 107 Beyer and no one else has run that kind of number yet. Hopefully he can redo that.”



Twilight Eclipse





# The Sword Dancer

Grade 1. \$1 million. 3-year-olds & up. 1 1/2 miles on the turf.

## 5. Twilight Eclipse

World-record setter knocked on the door of Grade 1s for a while before breaking through with victory in Man O' War May 9 at Belmont Park. Eight of his last 11 starts have come in Grade 1 events and he was third in this race last year, second in the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic and third in the Breeders' Cup Turf to end a hugely productive campaign. Off to similar start in 2015 and comes off nearly two-month freshening after a third in the Grade 1 United Nations behind Big Blue Kitten and Slumber.

**Trainer Tom Albertrani:** "That was the whole purpose of giving him a little time off between now and then, so we could plan ahead for the Breeders' Cup. Just space out his races a little bit and give him a summer break. We'll run here and if things goes well we can come back in the (Joe Hirsch) Turf Classic and hopefully the Breeders' Cup Turf. If we had to pick where we would take our break it would have been right like this, skip the Bowling Green. He's so consistent. He shows up every race. Even in his last race, we were a bit unlucky and he didn't have a great trip. He was trapped inside for quite some time, finally got out and made a nice run only to get beat a length and a half."

## 6. Messi

German import is unbeaten in two U.S. starts, second- and third-level allowance/optional claimers going long on the turf. Gets big test today, but 5-year-old has earned it with the back-to-back wins at Belmont July 2 and Saratoga Aug. 6 and some early season works with champion Main Sequence.

**Trainer Graham Motion:** "I was a little surprised how sharp he was in his last race, he was a bit on the muscle. I've kept him up here thinking maybe he'll be a little more settled if he gets used to it. Some people were saying 'Graham hasn't worked Messi since his last race' but I don't normally work a horse that's running back in three weeks. He's done great. He's had three good weeks up here. It's going to be a huge step up for him, but I thought the time was right. With those kind of horses, once you get through those allowance races you're a little limited trying to find races going a mile-and-a-quarter or a mile-and-a-half. He doesn't really have an allowance race he can run in. He's here, it just seems like a great time to do it."

## 7. Guardini

French-born, German-raced 4-year-old makes his American debut and debut for trainer Paul Harley. Ridden by Harley's nephew, Martin, Guardini tries to snap a two-race losing streak in Group 2 stakes in Germany. A son of Dalakhani, he'll race with Lasix for the first time and also be equipped with blinkers for the first time. Australian Racing Stable purchased him after he won the Group 2 Gerling-Prais at Cologne in May.

**Trainer Paul Harley:** "He's traveled well, had a good journey, settled well. Happy. He came to me after two disappointing runs, there were a few little issues we dealt with and we're quietly happy that we can bring him back to his best. We need to bring him back to his best, the Fabre horse, if he shows his best form, he'll be very hard to beat, but we respect them all. Lasix, I like to be on a level playing field, why not? The head gear, I just always thought he could be a little more focused. We're happy, everything has gone smooth, now it's a bit of lady luck."

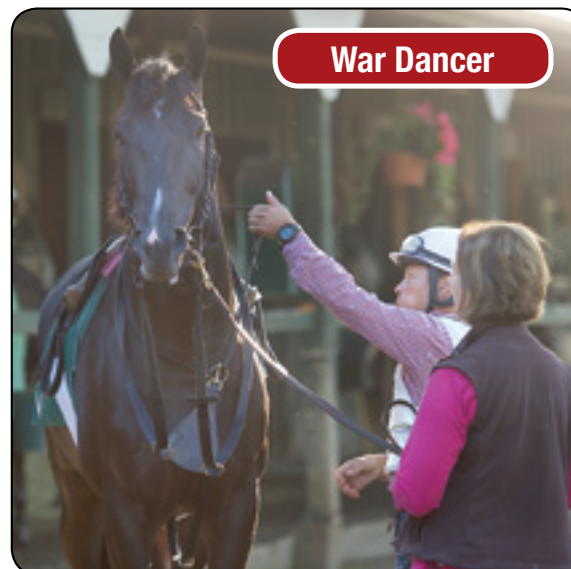
Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy,  
Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks, Joe and Sean Clancy.



## 8. War Dancer

Five-year-old makes his fifth start for Bill Mott. Yet to win for his trainer, he's hit the board three times, including two graded stakes, this year. Son of War Front finished second to Red Rifle in the Bowling Green and second to Twilight Eclipse in the Man O War in May.

**Trainer Bill Mott:** "He's been running well, he shows up, he's a tough horse. There's a new shooter, the Juddmonte horse, who's legit, he looks like he stands over the group, class-wise. Our fellow is doing very well."







# The Travers

Grade 1. \$1.6 million. 3-year-olds. 1 1/4 miles.



Upstart

## 1. Upstart

The New York-bred returned three months after finishing an unexplainable 18th and last in the Kentucky Derby to finish third behind American Pharoah in the Haskell. The son of Flatter was a leading contender on the early Triple Crown trail with a win in the Holy Bull, a win (disqualified to second) in the Fountain of Youth and a second in the Florida Derby. Trainer Rick Violette was mulling the Travers against a start in the Pennsylvania Derby in September at Parx, but decided Friday to run at Saratoga – where Upstart is unbeaten in two starts. Owned by Ralph Evans and WinStar Farm, the \$130,000 Fasig-Tipton yearling purchase worked 5 furlongs in :59 here Aug. 22.

**Trainer Rick Violette:** “He’s doing really well and you’re supposed to run your horses when they’re doing really well. You also win a lot more races when you’re 4-1 or less as opposed to 15-1 against American Pharoah. That’s the paradox. I like the (inside) post, thrilled with it. That’s in the plus column. He’s trained like a good horse, he likes the racetrack, there are a lot of plusses. There’s one big minus and if he didn’t get on the plane it would have made it easy. We’re here, he’s a happy horse, he’s really good right now and we’ll take a shot.”

## 2. American Pharoah

Racing’s 12th Triple Crown winner continues to rack up the travel miles as he returns to the East Coast for the fourth time after previous trips to Pimlico Race Course in Maryland for the Preakness, Belmont Park in New York for the Belmont Stakes and Monmouth Park in New Jersey for the Haskell Invitational. The once-beaten colt got his first feel of the Saratoga main track Thursday morning and packed the house Friday morning. Trained by Bob Baffert, Zayat’s homebred is 1-5 on the morning line.

**Assistant trainer Jimmy Barnes:** “He settled in very easily. I’m amazed at this poor horse, we’re hardly ever at home. We were at Del Mar for the Futurity and we were at Santa Anita and otherwise we’ve been on the road. I’m not sure he just doesn’t know anything else. He probably just thinks that’s the way it goes. ... If I do see something out of the norm I would call Bob immediately, say we need to change things up, go a little lighter, but he’s never shown any signs of (wearing down).”

## 3. Mid Ocean

Wow, you don’t see this very often, a Delaware Park maiden winner makes his next start in the Travers. Son of Mineshaft needed six tries to graduate, circling past six rivals to win by 6 1/2 lengths. But that was against maidens and he makes his stakes debut here. Owned by Bermuda Limestone Thoroughbreds, Mid Ocean breezed 5 furlongs in :59 4/5 seconds in preparation for his acid test.

**Trainer George Weaver:** “We’re trying to get a piece of the pie. This horse has always been a lazy horse, doesn’t put a lot into what he’s doing. We always thought it would take a few starts to figure things out. His last couple of races have been a big step forward. There’s some nice horses in here, we know we have to move up a lot. The horse worked great last time. We wanted to take a shot and the purse structure makes it worthwhile. The mile and a quarter won’t be an issue.”

Continued On Page 46



Mid Ocean



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# Race 11

# The Travers

Grade 1. \$1.6 million. 3-year-olds. 1 1/4 miles.

## Texas Red



■ Continued from page 44

## 4. Texas Red

The Jim Dandy winner rolls into this after a solid month of local training. Big, long-striding son of Afleet Alex owns three wins, three seconds and a third in eight career starts. His biggest day came at last year's Breeders' Cup, when he upset the Juvenile. Owned by Erich Brehm, Wayne Detmar, Lee Michaels and trainer Keith Desormeaux, the third choice on the morning line makes his third start off the bench.

**Jockey Kent Desormeaux:** "What makes him special is he can run the same speed as the miler can, after he goes a mile. He still has the same turn of foot after a mile, that's a big, big class difference. He's an amazing, amazing horse. In all aspects, character, ability, class. He went to the post (for the Jim Dandy) like a man, like he knew, like he knew this was chicken dinner."

## 5. Frammento

Nick Zito tries to add another Travers to his Hall of Fame career with son of Midshipman, who trailed throughout and was fourth of four in the Grade 2 Jim Dandy. Tried American Pharoah twice and lost by double digits this spring, finishing 11th in the Kentucky Derby and fifth in the Belmont Stakes. Gets eighth rider from 11 career starts after switch to Jose Ortiz.

**Trainer Nick Zito:** "I think the track will be a little tighter, which he might like. He's had a couple good weeks. With a horse like him they come with these big races. He did it in the Fountain of Youth. (Ortiz) is a good, young rider with a lot of enthusiasm. I like the way he rides. I think he will do a good job."

## 6. Frosted

Fourth in the Kentucky Derby, second in the Belmont Stakes, he's seen American Pharoah's tail twice and the Godolphin runner takes another swing while coming off a second to Texas Red in the Jim Dandy Aug. 1. The son of Tapit has worked twice since, including a solid breeze for 5 furlongs Aug. 20.

**Trainer Kieran McLaughlin:** "He couldn't be better, he's probably never been better but it might not be enough. He's really doing well. He is better than he was going into the Jim Dandy, he's better that he was in May. I don't know exactly why, it doesn't matter, he just is doing better. He's doing great. He's ready to go, we just need to have some racing luck and for the other horse (American Pharoah) not to have his A game. It's probably the perfect distance for us. I'm a race-pace guy, and there's not a lot of pace which doesn't help. The Travers is way up on our list of races we want to point for and win and we've been pointing to this for a long time. We're here, so let's run. We love our horse, but we're in tough."

## 7. Keen Ice

Donegal Racing's Curlin colt has faced American Pharoah in his last three starts, each progressively better with a seventh in the Kentucky Derby, third in the Belmont Stakes and runner-up in the Haskell Invitational. Despite a 1-for-10 lifetime record and winless mark in six tries this year, trainer Dale Romans is optimistic.

**Trainer Dale Romans:** "Pharoah will go to the lead and obviously Upstart and Texas Red will be right there stalking off of him. We'll see how it pans out. I don't think we'll be out the back door because I don't see the pace being that quick. Hopefully they get frustrated chasing him and we start picking them up at the three-eighths pole. We're running head and head with Pharoah at the eighth pole and it's a crowd-thrilling race to the wire and we win by a nose and everybody boos."

## Frammento





Race  
11

# The Travers

Grade 1. \$1.6 million. 3-year-olds. 1 1/4 miles.



King Of New York

## 8. Tale Of Verve

The runner-up to American Pharoah in the Preakness tries to bounce back from back-to-back disappointing efforts in Belmont Stakes and West Virginia Derby. Charles Fipke's homebred son of Tale Of Ekati breezed twice over the main track in preparation for this and reunites with Hall of Fame jockey Gary Stevens, who rode him in the Belmont.

**Trainer Dallas Stewart:** "He's coming into the race great. He's very healthy, trained well here, sharp works. Let's be right up (front), American Pharoah is the best horse in the race. So, if he goes out there and runs his race, I mean, I don't know that you can outrun him. But it's a horse race. Glad to be in it. It's the Travers. Glad to be here at Saratoga to be able to compete against American Pharoah, we'll see what happens. Gary Stevens rode him before, it didn't turn out real well. That was nothing laid on Gary. Gary shows up, he's ready to roll, he's a warrior. He's won a lot of big races and we're happy to have him."

## 9. King Of New York

Two-time winner finished 7 1/4 lengths behind Smart Transition in the Curlin and faces his most daunting task here. Winner of a maiden over a sloppy track at Oaklawn and an allowance on the turf at Churchill Downs, Harold Lerner's son of Street Boss will try to become trainer Ken McPeck's second shocker in the Travers, after Golden Ticket's dead heat win in 2012.

**Trainer Ken McPeck:** "This horse is doing really good. Weirder things have happened and it's happened to me. We don't have any notion we can beat the

big horse on his best day but weird things can happen. We feel like we can pick up a check, they pay all the way down to eighth."

## 10. Smart Transition

Developing colt looked strong in the Curlin, a restricted 3-year-old stakes run here July 31. That day, the son of Smart Strike rated, then punched to win by 4 3/4-lengths. Owned and bred by Arnold Zetcher, the bay colt will stretch another furlong in the Travers. Hall of Famer John Velazquez picked up the ride after Junior Alvarado committed to Jim Dandy-third Japan, who was injured last week.

**Trainer John Shirreffs:** "Obviously, when you look at American Pharoah's past performances, it looks like he's going to dictate the pace of the race, just hope he can close. I think the distance helps, we were really happy the way he closed and a little bit surprised that he could open up like that. Running in the Travers is the opportunity of his lifetime, the 3-year-old year is so important for these horses and you have to take your opportunities. If American Pharoah loses, something will happen, bad racing luck, he gets trapped or he doesn't break well. Realistically, it's hard to think anybody is going to beat him. But favorites don't always win, for whatever reason. Horses have to participate against a horse like American Pharoah, you want good racing."

Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy, Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks.



Smart Transition



# Race 12

# The Ballston Spa

Grade 2. \$400,000. Fillies and Mares. 3-year-olds & up. 1 1/16 miles on the turf.



Tepin

## 1. Tepin

Nabbed on the line in the Diana, the 4-year-old filly returns for her 10th stakes start in a career that's yielded five wins from 12 starts, including three in a row to begin this season. Trained by Mark Casse, the daughter of Bernstein won the Grade 1 Just A Game at Belmont Park in June and showed she is still on top of her game with a stellar effort, while chasing the speed, in the 9-furlong Diana.

**Assistant trainer Norm Casse:** "Getting nailed in the Diana was heart-wrenching. Since then, I feel like she's doing better than ever. I looked at the race, it's certainly not easy, but she's training as good as she normally does so we expect her to run the same race as she normally does and that would put her right there."

## 2. Danza Cavallo

Rank in the early stages, French-bred filly finished 10th of 11 last time in Grade 3 Waya going 12 furlongs. Shortens up today for trainer Chad Brown and seeks first win since allowance score in mid-April at Keeneland.

**Trainer Chad Brown:** "With such a slow pace on firm turf the other day, fighting the rider, it just didn't work out. I'm just drawing a line through that race. Getting her back in distance, back to a mile and a sixteenth, she won a nice allowance race at Keeneland at that distance. Getting more pace in the race, getting her back off the pace a little bit, hopefully that will solve the problem of her fighting with the rider. I like the setup for this filly and I expect her to turn it around."

## 3. My Miss Sophia

Owned by Alpha Delta Stable, the daughter of Unbridled's Song won her turf debut at Belmont Park in June before fading in the Grade 1 Diana earlier in the meet. She usually sits close and could appreciate shortening up to 1 1/16-miles here. John Velazquez lands here as Joel Rosario rides Coffee Clique.

**Trainer Bill Mott:** "She needs to move forward a little bit, she's run really well both times we've run her on the turf, you couldn't write her off at this point, she's doing well. The distance could help her, after watching the last race. We sort of underestimated the Kitten horse, she kept running."

## 4. Dacita

Chilean-bred daughter of Scat Daddy makes U.S. debut after starting career in her native country. She won three races recognized in Chile as Group 1, the most recent in her last start in early December. Shows steady string of works locally for trainer Chad Brown.

**Trainer Chad Brown:** "She's a nice filly, a very good looking filly training very steady. She's another one that I expect her to be a good filly over here. I'm not exactly sure what to expect Saturday. But she's in good health and I feel like she has enough pieces of work under her belt to get her started over here. She doesn't have a lot of speed in the mornings. I'd expect her to maybe be mid-pack, at best. I'll be as curious as anyone to see what she does."

## 5. Solid Appeal

Solid Appeal's trip in last year's Grade 1 Diana Stakes couldn't have been much worse, especially the early portion when she was pushed into the hedge. The daughter of Successful Appeal still ran credibly, finishing fifth and only 2 lengths behind Somali Lemonade, Stephanie's Kitten and Discreet Marq. Three disappointments followed, one last year and two this year, before a wake-up call when she went to the lead and nearly lasted in the Grade 1 Dance Smartly at her home base of Woodbine.

**Trainer Reade Baker:** "She's doing super. Couldn't be any better. She ran a strong race and I expect her to run a strong one again. We're in the shark tank



My Miss Sophia



# Race 12

# The Ballston Spa

Grade 2. \$400,000. Fillies and Mares. 3-year-olds & up. 1 1/16 miles on the turf.

here but I think she'll run well. She ran well here last year, she unfortunately had no room and got pushed into the hedge around the first turn, didn't miss by that far, it was a pretty good race."

## 6. Night Song

Amy Tarrant ran into some tough luck heading into last year's Ballston Spa with her Midnight Lute mare Night Song. She ran an improved race in the turf stakes, finishing fifth after battling for the lead most the way. Night Song comes into this year's Ballston Spa off a wide trip around both turns of a 1-mile optional claimer Aug. 7, when she finished fifth and lost by a half-length.

**Trainer Amy Tarrant:** "She's in the race because she is a very, very nice mare. She has been training really well right now and I think she needs a shot at this. I have to say this, people can look up the PPs and watch the replays if they want, she's had some bad rides. She really deserves to run in this race because she's going to be 6 in January and I would like to get her graded stakes placed if I can. She'll do well. She always tries. She wants to run, so we're putting her in there."

## 7. Kitten's Queen

Kitten's Joy mare gets the chance to shine after being entered as pacemaker for a stablemate in Grade 2 New York and Grade 1 Diana. Won on the Saratoga turf course last summer and brings consistent record to third straight graded stakes appearance for trainer Chad Brown and owner-breeders Ken and Sarah Ramsey.

**Trainer Chad Brown:** "She was put in as the pacemaker twice for Stephanie's Kitten, her last two starts, and actually beat Stephanie's Kitten in both starts. She deserves an opportunity to win a big race on her own and here's her shot. She's put in there to try and win, in her own right."

## 8. Coffee Clique

Amerman Racing's mare passed the \$1 million mark in career earnings in her Grade 3 score in the Dr. James Penny Memorial at Parx July 4. Unbeaten in 2014, she's got a win, a second and a third in four starts this year. The daughter



Coffee Clique



Kitten's Queen

of Medaglia d'Oro chased today's rival Tepin home twice this spring and tries again today.

**Trainer Brian Lynch:** "I'm hoping she's going to bring her A game. Obviously Mark Casse's filly (Tepin) is in great form, but Coffee has been training really well. Mark's filly has had three very tough races and Solid Appeal (owned by Lynch client Jim Hill, who nodded in approval) will be tough. Coffee's only got a few more starts before she goes to the breeding shed. She's been a wonderful mare. She goes into it in very good order. Apart from Mark's filly who right now looks like the horse to beat, it's a pretty even group. Three tough races on her, can she produce it again? I feel like we're in it with a chance."

## 9. New Providence

Lone European in the race makes her U.S. debut with the addition of Lasix for trainer Hugo Palmer. English-bred daughter of Bahamian Bounty is no stranger to top-tier stakes competition, with a pair of Group 3 victories and a run in the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup this spring at Royal Ascot. Junior Alvarado picks up the mount on the filly, who was ridden to her maiden victory by Neil Garbutt, who made the trip from England to ride the filly in the mornings.

**Exercise rider Noel Garbutt:** "We've been here about 10 days and it's the best feel she's ever given me. Here or at home. If she runs well she's going to stay here and be trained here. I think they're working that out right now."

Interviews by Tom Law, Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy, Brandon Valvo, Billy Blake. Photos by Tod Marks.



# Quick Spin

The Tea Cups leaves rivals behind in Yaddo; Lubash wins West Pt.

Jeremiah Englehart was confident enough in the abilities of The Tea Cups heading into Friday's \$150,000 Yaddo Stakes on the second annual Saratoga Showcase card to take a chance against the accomplished Discreet Marq.

"She's been a filly that's been training well," Englehart said of The Tea Cups outside his barn on Friday morning. "Discreet Marq is obviously the horse to beat in the race but we're close to our best race. She's a horse I look forward to the rest of the year, see what we do with her after the Yaddo."

The Tea Cups was dismissed at odds of 12-1 and

**Continued On Page 52**



Tod Marks

The Tea Cups surges clear late to win Friday's Yaddo as part of New York-bred Showcase Day.

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# Showcase —

■ Continued from page 50

broke near the back of the pack. She was last of 10 through an opening quarter-mile of :23.63 and half of :47.73 set by Lady Kreesa. Meanwhile, millionaire Discreet Marq was close to the hot pace, stalking just 2 lengths away.

Turning for home, rider Luis Saez angled The Tea Cups wide as Discreet Marq made the lead and Lady Kreesa folded. Although everyone seemed to be waiting for Discreet Marq to draw away, it never happened as the field swallowed her up and The Tea Cups found another gear, flying down the far outside of the course to secure a 1-length victory.

Old Harbor finished second while Selenite was third. The 1 1/16 miles were clocked in 1:42.92.

The Yaddo victory was the first stakes win of the former claimer's career and the first Saratoga stakes win for her trainer, who's had his eye on the Yaddo for some time.

"First stake win. First stake I've ever ran here," Englehart said after the race. "I've always admired the race and I had a couple fillies for it a while back and it would have been nice to win it. Luis gave her a super ride. They were going quick up front. I was a little worried that she was back so far, but they were going quick and he just gave her a really good ride."

Englehart is in the midst of a career meet at Saratoga. The 38-year-old has won eight races through Friday and has hit the board in another seven. Englehart is currently eighth in the Saratoga trainer standings.

Saez, who notched his third straight victory of the afternoon aboard The Tea Cups, shared the trainer's sentiments.

"We had a lot of pace so when she was behind I knew we had a big shot because that's the way she likes to run," Saez said. "When I came to the three-sixteenths pole I had a lot of horse. She ran big."

The Tea Cups, a 5-year-old mare by Hard Spun out of the A.P. Indy mare Lunar Colony, entered the Yaddo off a 2-length defeat in a 1 3/16-mile allowance July 24 at Saratoga. Englehart was unfazed by the loss and thought it may have helped her coming into the Yaddo.

"I thought she ran a really nice race in her first start here in Saratoga," he said. "Just a little too far for her. I actually thought going the added distance and — my main goal was this race — cutting back into this race, would have been ideal and I think it helped her for sure."

The Yaddo win was a big one for owner Kendel Standlee as well. He bought The Tea Cups out of a claimer for \$16,000 in February 2014 with the intentions of bringing her back to New York.

"We went to Tampa," Standlee said. "I had been thinking about claiming some. I loved her pedigree and I had a couple drinks that day and I said, 'I want that horse.' Two months later she came up for



Tod Marks

## Good Luck Gus locks on to the finish line in Friday's Albany.

the same price, so I claimed her."

Although Standlee never expected to win a stakes at Saratoga, he was confident that she would develop into a good racehorse.

"I felt pretty comfortable that we could improve her," Standlee said. "She should be running in New York instead of Florida. The lady that claimed her, Joan (Scott), recommended Jeremiah. She didn't really run here, so she recommended him."

The Yaddo victory is the fifth win of The Tea Cups' career and boosts her lifetime earnings to \$231,713.

— **Brandon Valvo**

- And that makes three. Good Luck Gus finished off the Big Apple Triple with a win in the \$250,000 Albany Stakes.

Owned by Michael Dubb, Bethlehem Stable and The Elkstone Group, Good Luck Gus saved all the ground under Luis Saez in the 1 1/8-mile Albany before splitting horses in the final furlong to prevail by a half-length over One Sided.

Winner of the Damon Runyon and New York Breeders' Futurity, Good Luck Gus added the Albany to his list of stakes victories.

"He's been the real deal since we got him," said Dubb. "I thought he looked great in the paddock, and he ran to his looks."

The \$97,000 purchase at the 2013 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga New York-bred yearling sale stepped on a rock last winter at Aqueduct, and trainer Rudy Rodriguez gave him some time off after the Damon Runyon score Dec. 14.

Good Luck Gus returned to action in May at

Belmont, where he finished second to Ostrolenka in the Mike Lee.

He went to Finger Lakes for the second leg of the Big Apple Triple, running fourth in the New York Derby July 3.

"He had some traffic problems and he was wide the whole way," Dubb said about the New York Derby. "We figured we would just wait for this one."

Good Luck Gus improved to 4-for-10 in his career, including two wins in three starts at Saratoga.

"You need a good horse in the barn to make you wake up every morning," Rodriguez said.

The Albany was the third straight win on the card for Saez, while Rodriguez and Dubb also teamed up to win the 11th race with Hushhushmush.

— **Billy Blake**

- Different year. Same result.

Lubash reeled in rivals King Kreesa and Notacatbutallama in the stretch to win the \$150,000 West Point Stakes. The Aliyu Ben J Stables' homebred also won the 2012 running of the West Point at Saratoga.

He never let the competition get too far away, sitting just a couple of lengths off the pace down the backstretch of the 1 1/16-mile inner turf race.

Jockey Junior Alvarado shook the reins at him turning for home, and the 8-year-old son of Freud took command in the final sixteenth and drew off by a length.

Lubash wrote the latest chapter in the rivalry of these veteran New York-breds.

**Continued On Page 54**

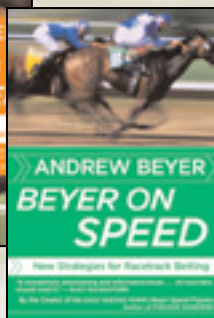
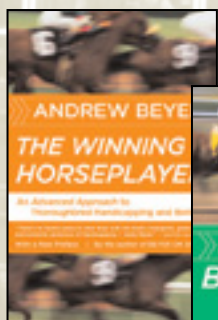


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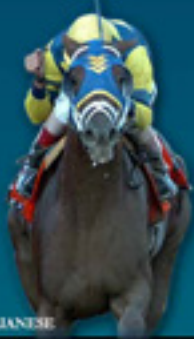


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PHOTO BY PATRICIA McQUEEN

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# Showcase —

## ■ Continued from page 52

He finished second to King Kreesa in last year's West Point, but mowed down his familiar foe Friday.

"He loves having his picture taken," owner and breeder Leonard Pivnick said on his way to the Saratoga Room. "I'm happy because I bred him, what else can I say?"

Lubash extended his win streak to three after taking the 1-mile Kingston and a seven-furlong allowance at Belmont this spring.

Trainer Christophe Clement added a second stakes win in as many days after Stormy Regatta got the bob in the Riskaverse Thursday.

"Junior rides him with an amazing amount of confidence," Clement said. "This is fun because I'm not going to be around that many horses who win stakes when they are 8-years-old. Great owners, fast horses and good staff. When the three combine, life is good."

— **Billy Blake**

- Four years ago the Mike Repole-owned, Todd Pletcher-trained 2-year-old Giant Surprise broke his maiden by 4 1/4 lengths on Jim Dandy Stakes Day at Saratoga.

Repole was unable to celebrate the victory at the time as the colt sustained a condylar fracture in his left front leg midrace.

"Giant Surprise, it was the day of the Jim Dandy in 2011 and we got a promising 2-year-old," Repole remembered Friday. "We win a race, we run down here just like we did now and he doesn't make it back."

Giant Surprise, by Giant's Causeway out of the A.P. Indy mare Twisted Sis, was retired to Vinery New York at Sugar Maple Farm and is now producing stakes-winning New York-breds like Sudden Surprise, winner of the \$200,000 Funny Cide for Repole and Pletcher.

"Todd liked him, he's super talented, incredible pedigree, great conformation," Repole said of Giant Surprise. "So I wanted to help the New York-bred program. For him to win with a New York-bred on New York-bred day, yeah, he's pretty special."

Repole also owns Sudden Surprise's dam Ready and Good, who finished second in 2010 at Saratoga in a maiden claimer in her only career start.

Sudden Surprise entered the Funny Cide off an impressive 2 3/4-length maiden win against New York-breds over a sloppy track July 30. The colt boosted his earnings to \$163,800 after defeating Manipulated by 2 lengths as the race's 4-5 favorite.

"We felt like he'd been training well," Pletcher said. "Very professional in his debut. He came back and ran another big race today. I'm very proud of him. Kicked away against what appears to be a really nice horse, so, good effort."

Sudden Surprise's victory was also the first lifetime victory for 10-week-old Gioia Mia Repole,



Tod Marks

**Lubash wins his second West Point for owner/breeder Leonard Pivnick.**

Mike and Maria's new daughter.

"It's the first time she came to Saratoga. First race," Repole said. "I'm 45. It took me 40 years to get into the winner's circle, it took her ten weeks, so she's doing a little bit better than me."

Pletcher said the \$250,000 Sleepy Hollow on the Empire Showcase card Oct. 24 at Belmont Park could be in the future for Sudden Surprise.

— **Brandon Valvo**

- She's All Ready was just that in the 6 1/2-furlong Seeking The Ante Stakes for 2-year-old fillies. The Jim Ryerson-trained Girolamo filly went straight to the lead and never looked back, wiring the field to win by 3 lengths as the 1-5 favorite. In doing so, She's All Ready gave Nirvana Stables' Michael Salerno the biggest victory of his career, and validated the opinion of a family member who has passed away.

"Who gave us advice?" said Salerno. "Her (Michael's cousin Elizabeth Walsh's) husband, Peter Walsh. He picked this filly out in September and unfortunately he's not with us anymore. This is more than a win, it's an accomplishment."

Although the Seeking The Ante victory allowed Salerno to connect with a lost loved one, it almost didn't work out that way.

She's All Ready was entered in the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-year-olds in training sale and went through the ring. The hammer fell at \$45,000, but it was Nirvana Stables listed on the sale's results as the buyer.

"We were going to sell her, and I went back down in May to Timonium and bought her back,"

Salerno said. "We had a couple of horses in the sale. Pete really thought this horse had ability and was precocious and Barry Eisaman — who is a man against boys when it comes to being a horsemen — he said to us because he's the one that trained her, 'the filly can run, Mike. The filly can run.' We took his lead and there was no question we were buying her back."

She's All Ready's Seeking The Ante win is her second straight victory. She won a state-bred maiden special weight by 8 1/4 lengths in her debut Aug. 7.

She's All Ready's stakes triumph is the culmination of years of hard work from Walsh and Salerno. Walsh introduced Salerno to horse ownership more than a decade ago and he has been hooked ever since.

"He was my best friend," Salerno said. "I was fortunate enough to have him in my family. Many years ago, somebody tried to sell me a syndicate and somebody in my family, my mother I think, said talk to Pete. He said, 'what are you, crazy? ... You and I will partner up.' And we've been buying horses for the last 15 years and doing well, but nothing like today."

Despite She's All Ready's impressive efforts, her team is not disappointed that they opted for a New York-bred stakes instead of testing the waters in open company.

"Not at all," Salerno said when asked if he was sorry they didn't wait for the Grade 1 Spinaway September 5. "Fact of the matter is, just let her keep running and she'll dictate where we go."

— **Brandon Valvo**



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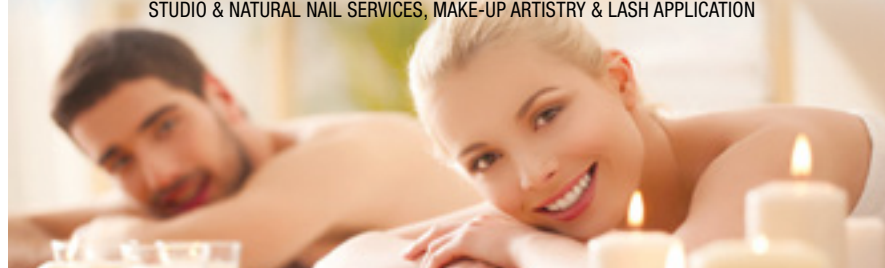
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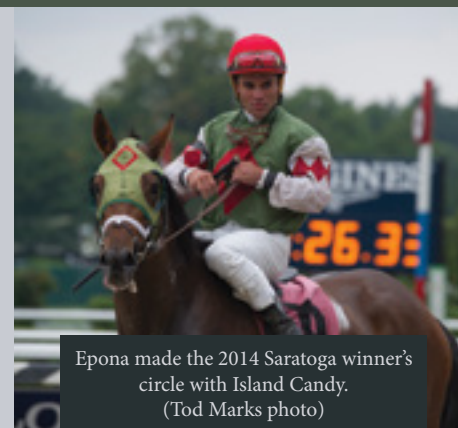
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# Showcase —

## ■ Continued from page 54

- Three men and a filly.

John Seyford, Vincent Formato and Jeff Pearl had every reason to celebrate when Jc's Shooting Star upset the field in the \$200,000 Fleet Indian.

Dismissed at 19-1 in the five-horse field, the 3-year-old daughter of Miracle Man needed every stride in the stretch to surge past Conquest Superstep in the 1 1/8-mile dirt route.

"We bought the mare American Passage specifically to breed to Miracle Man and this was the outcome," Pearl said.

Jc's Shooting Star entered the Fleet Indian as the lone maiden in the field.

After two tries on turf this meet, trainer David Donk put her back on the dirt.

"There's a pace scenario that might help her," Donk said before the race. "She's a neat filly. I like her, just feel like I'm throwing her to the wolves a little bit."

The pace played out exactly like Donk called it.

Congaroo took the field through



Tod Marks

**Jc's Shooting Star (left) drives past Conquest Superstep to win the Fleet Indian.**

an opening quarter mile in :23.56. Freudie Anne rushed up to take command down the backstretch, going a half in :47.31, setting it up beautifully for Jc's Shooting Star.

Seyford, Formato and Pearl run

Miracle Man Racing Partners and Shooting Star Stable.

The trio has been in the business since 2008, and they grew up together in Queens on Crocheron Ave.

Pearl admitted it was his idea to

run their filly in the Fleet Indian.

"I figured we had to nominate and when I saw nine nominations, I said 'we have to enter,' " Pearl said.

— **Billy Blake**

## Saratoga Leaders

Jockey .....	1st
Irad Ortiz Jr. ....	50
Javier Castellano .....	38
John Velazquez .....	37
Luis Saez .....	27
Jose Ortiz .....	26
Joel Rosario .....	20
Junior Alvarado .....	18
Jose Lezcano .....	14

Trainer .....	1st
Chad Brown .....	25
Todd Pletcher .....	23
Christophe Clement .....	14
Rudy Rodriguez .....	12
Kiaran McLaughlin .....	11
Bill Mott .....	11
David Jacobson .....	9
Jeremiah Englehart .....	8
Shug McGaughey .....	6
Mike Maker .....	6
George Weaver .....	6
Linda Rice .....	6
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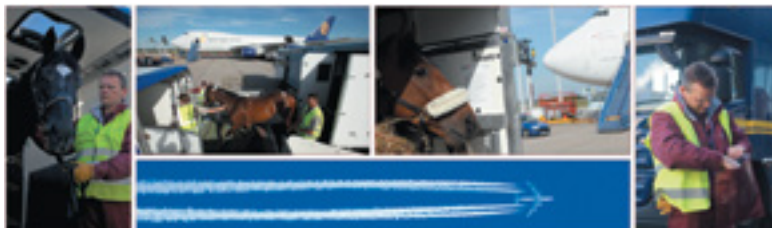
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# SARATOGA RESULTS

Friday August 28.

## FIRST \$200,000, NY-BRED STAKES - FUNNY CIDE S., 2 YO, 6 1/2F

3	Sudden Surprise	J. Velazquez	\$3.80	\$2.10	\$2.10
4	Manipulated	L. Saez		\$2.10	\$2.10
2	Dr. Shane	M. Franco			\$2.60

B Colt 2013, by Giant Surprise - Ready and Good by More Than Ready  
Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.  
Breeder: Repole Stables LLC (NY). Time: 1:16.42  
Exacta (3-4), \$5.80; Superfecta (3-4-2-5), \$48.20; Trifecta (3-4-2), \$12.20

## SECOND \$83,000, NY-BRED MDN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2YO, 1 1/16M

2	Forever in Love	J. Ortiz	\$5.20	\$3.10	\$2.30
3	Sax Change	R. Hernandez		\$3.50	\$2.50
6	Ro Bear	J. Alvarado			\$2.70

Dk B/ Br Colt 2013, by Scat Daddy - Forever Smart by Smart Strike  
Owner: Lady Sheila Stable. Trainer: Linda Rice.  
Breeder: Joanne T. Nielsen (NY). Late Scratches: Big East  
Time: 1:44.72  
Daily Double (3-2), \$9.50; Exacta (2-3), \$17.60; Quinella (2-3), \$10.80;  
Superfecta (2-3-6-1), \$143.00; Trifecta (2-3-6), \$42.80

## THIRD \$200,000, NY-BRED STAKES - FLEET INDIAN, 3 YO, 1 1/8M

4	Jc's Shooting Star	M. Franco	\$38.00	\$8.00	\$2.70
3	Conquest Superstep	S. Bridgmohan		\$3.30	\$2.10
1	Temper Mint Patty	J. Velazquez			\$2.10

B Filly 2012, by Miracle Man - American Passage by Quiet American  
Owner: Shooting Star Stable. Trainer: David Donk.  
Breeder: Miracle Man Racing Partners LLC (NY). Time: 1:51.39  
Daily Double (2-4), \$158.00; Exacta (4-3), \$101.00; Superfecta (4-3-1-5), \$246.00; Trifecta (4-3-1), \$153.00; Pic 3 (3-2-4), \$412.50

## FOURTH \$83,000, NY-BRED MDN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3&UP, 6 1/2F

4	True Bet	J. Velazquez	\$7.80	\$4.10	\$3.20
5	Interior Secretary	M. Franco		\$6.20	\$4.80
6	Scorecard Harry	J. Alvarado			\$3.70

B Gelding 2012, by Yes It's True - Gamblers Passion by Prospectors Gamble  
Owner: Autry, George and Stephanie. Trainer: Michael Dilger.  
Breeder: Robert S. Evans (NY). Time: 1:17.04  
Daily Double (4-4), \$192.00; Exacta (4-5), \$66.50; Quinella (4-5), \$32.40; Superfecta (4-5-6-1), \$1,952.00; Trifecta (4-5-6), \$289.50; Pic 3 (2-4-4), \$825.00

## FIFTH \$200,000, NY-BRED - SEEKING THE ANTE S., 2YO, 6 1/2F

4	She's All Ready	K. Carmouche	\$2.60	\$2.20	\$2.10
2	Super Surprise	J. Velazquez		\$4.10	\$3.00
1	Lemon Liqueur	J. Ortiz			\$3.10

Ch Filly 2013, by Girolamo - Prominent by El Prado (IRE)  
Owner: Nirvana Stables. Trainer: James Ryerson.  
Breeder: Kings and Queens Farm (NY). Time: 1:16.71  
Daily Double (4-4), \$13.40; Exacta (4-2), \$11.40; Superfecta (4-2-1-3), \$290.00; Trifecta (4-2-1), \$28.20; Pic 3 (4-4-4), \$458.50; Pic 4 (2/4-4-4-4), \$1,489.00; Pic 5 (3-2/4-4-4-4), \$3,170.00

## SIXTH \$83,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2YO, 1 1/16M

1	Table for Six	J. Leparoux	\$15.00	\$5.40	\$4.20
6	Miss Kew	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$3.50	\$2.60
2	Lady Lucky	K. Carmouche			\$4.70

Gr/ro Filly 2013, by Mizzen Mast - Heavenly Empress by Pure Prize  
Owner: Birriel, Jr., Jose, A.. Trainer: Eddie Kenneally.  
Breeder: Dr. Jose Birriel (NY). Late Scratches: First Showing, Glistening. Time: 1:45.02  
Daily Double (4-1), \$24.00; Exacta (1-6), \$53.50; Superfecta (1-6-2-5), \$875.00; Trifecta (1-6-2), \$296.00; Pic 3 (4-4-1), \$123.50

## SEVENTH \$150,000, NY-BRED - WEST POINT S., 3 & UP, 1 1/16M

6	Lubash	J. Alvarado	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$2.10
3	King Kreesa	J. Ortiz		\$2.40	\$2.10
1	Notacatbutallama	J. Velazquez			\$2.60

B Horse 2007, by Freud - Nasty Cure by Cure the Blues  
Owner: Aliyu Ben J Stables. Trainer: Christophe Clement.  
Breeder: Aliyuee Ben J Stable Inc. (NY).  
Late Scratches: With Exultation, Front, Kharafa, Empire Dreams, Saratoga Snacks. Time: 1:43.04  
Daily Double (1-6), \$37.60; Exacta (6-3), \$9.10; Superfecta (6-3-1-2), \$34.40; Trifecta (6-3-1), \$20.60; Pic 3 (4-1-6), \$61.00

## EIGHTH \$83,000, NY-BRED MDN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 5 1/2F

11	Heated Verdict	L. Saez	\$6.10	\$3.70	\$2.70
8	Slapstick	J. Lezcano		\$12.20	\$6.30
10	Go Go Lucky	I. Ortiz, Jr.			\$3.00

B Colt 2013, by Court Vision - Dry Heat by Dixie Union  
Owner: West Point Thoroughbreds. Trainer: George Weaver.  
Breeder: Spendthrift Farm, LLC (NY). Late Scratches: Rooftop View, Yummy Bear, Gaming. Time: 1:03.40  
Daily Double (6-11), \$13.20; Exacta (11-8), \$89.50; Superfecta (11-8-10-6), \$2,249.00; Trifecta (11-8-10), \$375.50; Pic 3 (1-6-11), \$173.00

## NINTH \$150,000, NY-BRED STAKES - YADDO S., 3 & UP, 1 1/16M

2	The Tea Cups	L. Saez	\$21.40	\$9.00	\$10.00
5	Old Harbor	E. Trujillo		\$10.20	\$11.80
4	Selenite	I. Ortiz, Jr.			\$8.20

B Mare 2010, by Hard Spun - Lunar Colony by A.P. Indy  
Owner: Standlee, Kendel, D.. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart.  
Breeder: William Parsons Jr. & David S. Howe (NY).  
Late Scratches: Jet Majesty  
Time: 1:42.92  
Daily Double (11-2), \$106.00; Exacta (2-5), \$175.00; Superfecta (2-5-4-7), \$5,074.00; Trifecta (2-5-4), \$789.00; Pic 3 (6-11-2), \$312.00

## TENTH \$250,000, NY-BRED STAKES - ALBANY S., 3 YO, 1 1/8M

1	Good Luck Gus	L. Saez	\$9.10	\$4.20	\$3.00
2	One Sided	J. Castellano		\$3.50	\$2.60
4	Bellamy Way	J. Rosario			\$3.60

B Colt 2012, by Lookin At Lucky - Tacticmove by Deputy Minister  
Owner: Dubb, Michael, Bethlehem Stables LLC and The Elkstone Group LLC. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. Breeder: Fred W. Hertrich III (NY).  
Late Scratches: Battle of Evermore  
Time: 1:50.81  
Daily Double (2-1), \$83.00; Exacta (1-2), \$30.00; Superfecta (1-2-4-7), \$280.50; Trifecta (1-2-4), \$104.50; Pic 3 (11-2-1), \$555.00; Place Pix Nine (1/3/6-8/10/11-2/4/5-1), \$119.50

## ELEVENTH \$50,000, NY-BRED MDN CLM \$40,000, 3 & UP, 1 1/16M

3	Hushhushmushmush	J. Castellano	\$10.20	\$5.00	\$3.60
4	Whippo	J. Lezcano		\$11.20	\$10.00
2	Moon Track	J. Ortiz			\$8.40

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2011, by Fusaichi Pegasus - Won Perfect Rose by Air Forbes Won  
Owner: Dubb, Michael, Bethlehem Stables LLC and Sahn, Robert I.. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. Breeder: Seth Gregory (NY).  
Late Scratches: River of Magic, Soul Approval, Plundering  
Time: 1:42.54  
Daily Double (1-3), \$49.40; Exacta (3-4), \$121.50; Superfecta (3-4-2-11), \$7,615.00; Trifecta (3-4-2), \$904.00; Pic 3 (2-1-3), \$390.00; Pic 4 (4,11,12,13/2/1/3), \$2,561.00; Pic 6 (1/6/4,11,12,13/2/1/3), \$659.00; Pic 6 (1/6/4,11,12,13/2/1/3), \$101,563.00

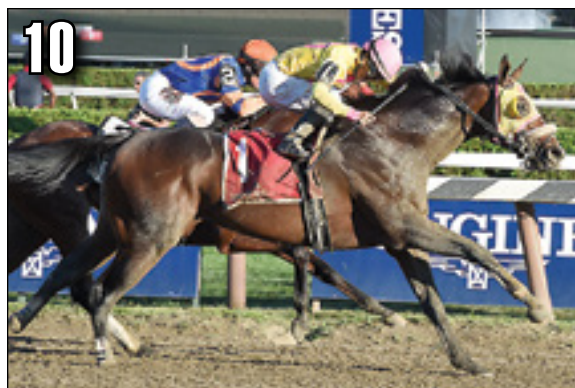
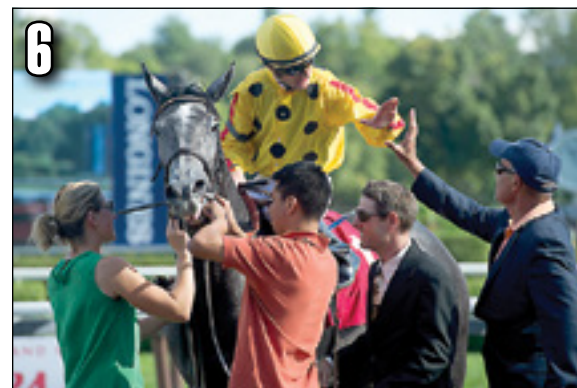
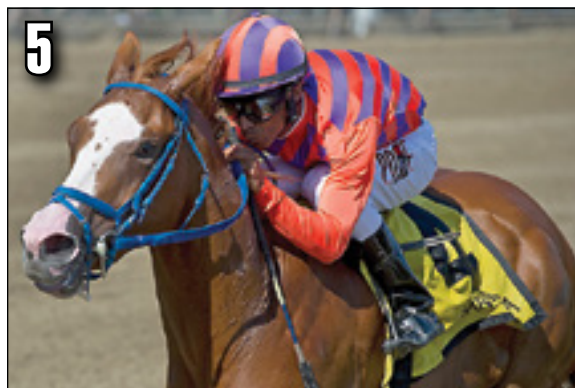
On Track Handle: 4,709,081  
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# SARATOGA RESULTS PHOTOS

BY DAVE HARMON & TOD MARKS



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A writer asked me last week about American Pharoah coming to Saratoga, back when his appearance hinged on a breeze.

“Do you want him to come here?”

And, in one word, well two words, I had crossed over to the dark side.

“Not really,” I answered.

I caught myself, but it was too late, I had gone from being a fan of the sport to a worker in the sport. It’s something I never wanted to become. I rode jump races for the thrill, for the rush. It wasn’t a job, it was a life. We started this newspaper because we love the game, we’re intrigued by horsemen, we’re humbled by the horse, we’re challenged by the process of writing and racing. Fifteen years later, I found myself more daunted by the hassles and hoops that come with a Triple Crown winner coming to Saratoga than enraptured by the drama and joy that come with a Triple Crown winner coming to Saratoga.

It did not sit well. I’ve thought about it for a week, turning it over in my mind, wrestling with why there was dread where there was once glee.

And, yes, there are mitigating factors.

Sleep deprivation will do that to you, most mornings I wake up and my toothbrush is still wet and the dryer’s still running.

The sheer enormity of The Special these days will do that to you – we will write and design more pages this year than in any other season. It’s 8:44 Friday night as I type, we have miles to go before we rest.

The added security and protocol will do that to you, just knowing that access will be limited, passes will be checked and the track will no longer feel like our backyard. And, yes, I understand why all this is needed and there is no blame cast.

The seven-stakes extravaganza will do that to you, trying to accurately and appropriately cover the Personal Ensign, Ballerina, King’s Bishop, Forego, Sword Dancer, Travers and Ballston Spa...im-



possible. At least the way we like to cover them. I look back at past editions of these classics, walking up the track with The Chief after Shine Again won the Ballerina, sipping champagne with Graham Motion – before he was Graham Motion – after Better Talk Now won the Sword Dancer, walking back to the barn with Wally Dollase after Ten Most Wanted won the Travers. That’s not happening this year. We’ll give them a stroke, a gloss, and have to move on to the next one. And, yes, I understand the bottom line of an in-demand simulcast signal but it’s painful to dip and not wade. As a fan, yeah, to sit in the boxes and watch the super seven come at you every 35 minutes, that sounds like fun. As a writer, a worker, it’s like walking into a sauna and knowing you’re not coming out.

# Balance

The length of the meet will do that to you. And, again, I understand the need, but Saratoga used to feel like a camp out, now it feels like a sit in as we race six days a week, 10, 11 races a day, for 40 days.

Racing was designed as an outlet, an escape, a lark. Instead of going to the beach, you went to the track. Instead of buying a boat, you bought a horse. Instead of saving your two bucks, you played the double. It wasn’t a job, it was a jaunt.

I know I’m not alone. I see bitterness creep into trainer’s attitudes, as they rack up bills and losses. I sense negativity where I used to see positiveness from owners, who got in the game for the ride and now feel like they’ve been ridden. Writers, whew, most are dead or took a buyout long ago. The few who remain carry the workload of the ones who are gone. Working in a shoe store sounds enticing.

And, that’s where I’m stuck – balancing enjoyment and employment in this sport.

Then American Pharoah went for a gallop Friday morning. The grandstand swelled, the apron packed, an ovation erupted as he came into view. Cell phones were held high, they looked like lighters at my first Crosby Stills & Nash concert back in the ’80s. My aunt, Nancy Miller, drove from Pennsylvania to see him, she’s not even staying for the race. Trainers stopped fretting and walked to the rail, for a glimpse. Owners came out, interested in someone else’s horse, a first. Grooms wiped poultice onto their pants and walked away from their stalls, for a view. Security guards turned to watch. Traffic stopped on Union Avenue. The Big Red Spring stopped flowing, well, it could have for all we know.

For a moment, I was a fan again, like that day in June at Belmont Park when he flicked past, the noise cascaded down from the rafters and the place rocked in universal celebration. We were all one.

Maybe it will happen again today and if it does, I will have changed my answer from not really to hell yes.



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A photograph of two jockeys racing horses. The jockey on the left is wearing a blue helmet and a light blue jacket, riding a brown horse. The jockey on the right is wearing a white helmet with a black stripe and a red and white jacket, riding a dark brown horse. Both horses are in motion, and the background is a plain, light-colored surface.

**V. E. DAY**  
**WICKED STRONG**  
*2014 Travers S. (G1)*

# ***GRADED STAKES GLORY STARTS HERE***

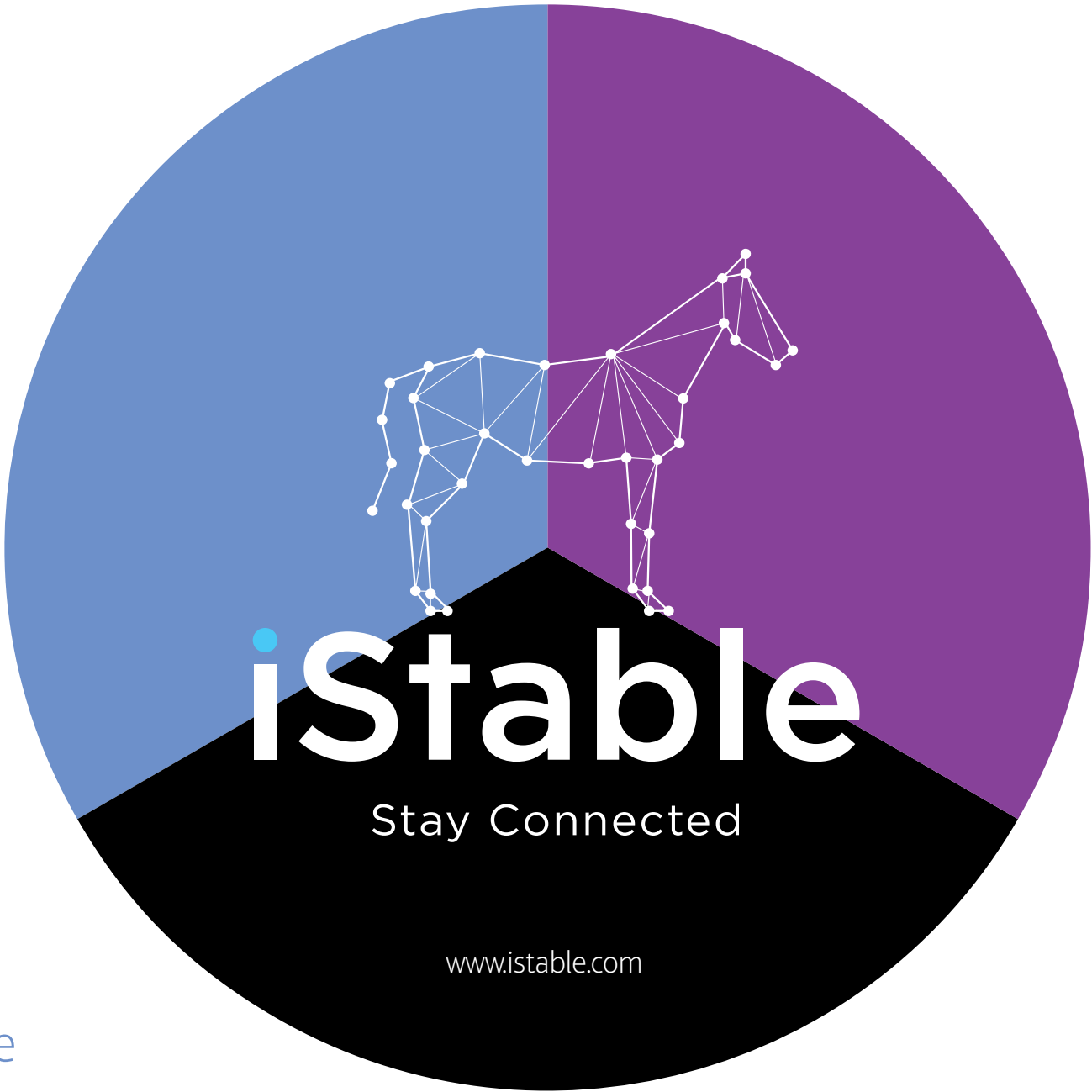
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