

the SARATOGA *Special*



Year 12 • No. 33

SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING

Friday, August 31, 2012

Clean Audit

Balance The Books (left)
captures With Anticipation



Tod Marks

FRIDAY STAKES PREVIEWS • ENTRIES & HANDICAPPING

September Yearlings

KEENELAND • Week One:

Monday • September 10

- 94 c **WAR FRONT** – 1/2-brother to **CONTESTED** (Acorn S.-G1)

Tuesday • September 11

- 150 c **AWESOME AGAIN** – out of a full sister to **PULPIT**
 267 c **MEDAGLIA D'ORO** – out of **SANGRITA** (G2), a 1/2 to **OFFLEE WILD** (G1)
 307 c **ARCH** – 1st foal out of a 1/2-sister to **STROLL** (G1)
 371 c **WAR FRONT** – 1st foal out of a daughter of **WATCH** (G3)

Wednesday • September 12

- 442 f **TIZNOW** – out of **SW UPPITY KITTY**, a 1/2-sister to a SW
 485 f **DISTORTED HUMOR** – full sister to **SP SHRILL**, out of **YELL** (G2)
 540 f **FIRST SAMURAI** – full sister to **NORTHERN PASSION** (G3)
 619 c **PULPIT** – out of a SW 1/2 to **MANANAN MCLIR** (G2) and **GP SANDRA'S ROSE**
 692 c **ARCH** – out of Broodmare of the Year **DESTROY**, full or half to 3 SWs, 2 stakes horses
 703 f **DYNAFORMER** – 1/2-sister to multiple **GSW DEMARCATION** (\$687,929)

Thursday • September 13

- 922 c **ARCH** – full brother to multiple **GSW LATTICE** and 1/2 to **SW CROSS**

From the farm
that raised
2012 G1 SWs



Acorn S.-G1 winner
CONTESTED



Man o' War S.-G1 winner
POINT OF ENTRY



Maker's 46 Mile-G1 winner
DATA LINK



Donn H.-G1 winner
HYMN BOOK



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here&there... at Saratoga



Dave Harmon

Southbound Traffic. The geese are headed out of town.

WORTH REPEATING The Special's quotes from Saratoga

"This time, he's at my house. Someday, I'll go to his house."

Trainer Merrill Scherer, about a friend who needed a place to stay after losing his electricity during the storms in Louisiana

"Right now, 90 sounds good."

Trainer Roy Lerman, who was feeling the chill Thursday morning

"That's the way it's supposed to work anyway."

Artist Shawn Faust, about selling all his inventory so he doesn't have to ship it home

"I guess I'm one though."

Jonathan Sheppard, after saying there aren't many old-school owners/breeders left in the game

"I never signed a golf ball before."

Trainer Phil Serpe, as he signed a golf ball after winning the David Stakes Wednesday

"He liked him before he ran the first time, we loved him the last time and we thought he would run well but he was amazing today."

Owner Mike Hoffman, after Weekend Hideaway won the David

"We have one running tomorrow, named by my 16-year-old daughter, Live Life Fast."

Hoffman, about a Thursday runner

"They treat this horse like he's their son."

Owner Jim Covello, about trainer John Terranova and assistant Reynaldo Abreu after Swift Warrior won the Win

"Carl would step up and buy some expensive horses but he also just wanted to buy some horses to run. We tried to buy some mares with some pedigrees, but we didn't have these grand illusions, we would pick out 12 mares and spend some money on them, but the rest of them, they got bred to his stallions, he wanted action, he wanted horses in every day, it wasn't like 'Oh, yeah, we were pointing for this race,' we weren't, we were just trying to win some races.

Trainer Phil Serpe, on late owner Carl Lizza

"Mike Kisber is from Tennessee, he's been in the game a bit, this is his first stakes win, he couldn't make it up here today, he's got a real day-time job, but that's OK, he'll make the next one."

Co-owner Pete Bradley, after Watsdachances won the P. G. Johnson

"The father of this horse, Diamond Green, Frankel trained him, I was around him a little, he never fulfilled all his potential. He was a nice horse, he was actually cut out to be a real nice horse, I can't remember the circumstances on why he didn't get there, but he was a nice horse."

Trainer Chad Brown, about Watsdachances

BY THE NUMBERS

838: Days between races for You The Man, who won Thursday's first off a layoff dating back to May 15, 2010; please don't check our math.

17-2 1/2: Height of Change Of Command in hands and inches (we checked this spring), who ran in Thursday's seventh. They say Mucho Macho Man is taller, but we haven't checked.

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Tod Marks photo

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here&there...

Continued from
previous page



Tod Marks

Old Mare, New Trick. Maya Charli shakes hands with trainer Jack Fisher.

BY THE NUMBERS continued

14: Songs on the SPAC Jazzfest CD a fan left us. Will be great for the ride home.

2: Papers to go.

2:30: Post time this afternoon. Don't forget.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Mildly Offensive, third race. WinStar Farm's 4-year-old filly is by Sharp Humor out of It's Personal.

Smittenwithkitten, fourth race. The kittens can be a little overwhelming, but this one works. Ken and Sarah Ramsey's 2-year-old filly is by Kitten's Joy out of Blush.

Assateauge, eighth race. The 3-year-old filly, bred and owned by Alexander, Groves and Matz, is by Stormy Atlantic out of Amelia. Assateauge (Virginia) and Amelia (Florida) are islands on the Atlantic.

Tardy, ninth race. The 3-year-old filly is out of No Deadline (a longtime Special favorite).

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy. High 90 (we don't believe it), low 62.

Saturday: Mostly sunny. High 80, low 55.

Sunday: Partly cloudy. High 80, low 60.

Monday: Partly sunny. High 79, low 65.

Tuesday: You're on your own.



JUST SAYIN'

*"We've got Alvin over here,
and Rocky over there."*

— Trainer Merrill Scherer, about the
chipmunk and squirrel mascots at the barn

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PHOTO

of the day

Celtic, the
Wonder
Dog

Photo by Tod Marks



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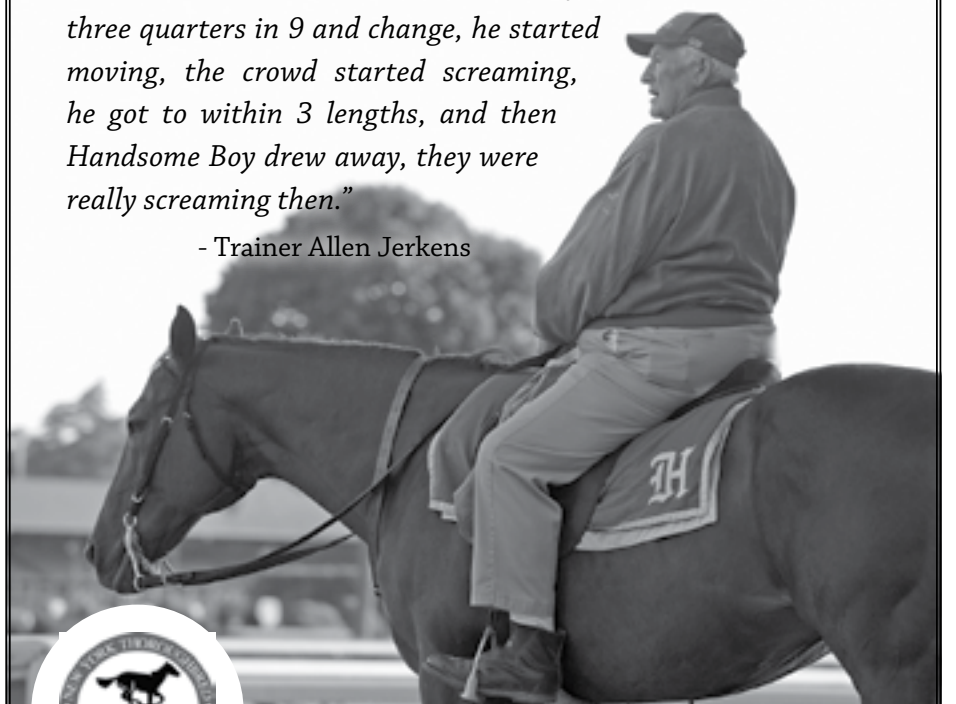
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The Chief... Day 33

"When Handsome Boy beat Buckpasser, he got 20 pounds, but he only ran the week before, he won the big race at Monmouth, they sent word that it was Buckpasser and only two or three other ones, in the Brooklyn. I had a feeling Buckpasser had had enough for a while, he didn't run his race that day, even though he was giving us the 20 pounds, he started to move around the far turn, we were 6 in front when he made the turn, he went the first three quarters in 9 and change, he started moving, the crowd started screaming, he got to within 3 lengths, and then Handsome Boy drew away, they were really screaming then."

- Trainer Allen Jerkens



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Assateague looks for another victory bath after today's Riskaverse Stakes.

Tod Marks

Second Chance

Matz, filly Assateague making up for lost time in stakes attempt

BY JOE CLANCY

Assateague. Winner of two. Somali Lemonade. Graded stakes winner.

Not much separates the two Michael Matz turf fillies other than circumstance. They trained together as 2-year-olds last year and were on nearly the same this time last year. Somali Lemonade won twice at 2 and started at the Breeders' Cup. Assateague won a maiden, then hit the sidelines with a knee injury. Fast forward a year, and the understudy could be poised to join her old workmate in the stakes ranks. Fresh off an allowance win here July 28, Assateague makes her second start of 2012 in today's Riskaverse. The \$100,000 turf stakes for 3-year-old fillies drew a field of 10 headed by multiple stakes winner Dayatthespa. Beyond the 7-5 favorite, the race is as competitive as a

RISKAVERSE STAKES PREVIEW

cheerleading tryout. They run a mile on the inner turf as the eighth of nine races at 6:22 p.m.

Owned by Jerry Frankel, Ronald Frankel, Steve Laymon and Bradley Thoroughbreds, Dayatthespa has won three stakes this year for trainer Chad Brown. She broke her maiden here last summer and comes off a slight freshening since April. Javier Castellano rides from post five.

Assateague never got a chance to flash her promise last year, despite training with an eventual Grade 3 stakes winner.

"I was working (Assateague) all along with Somali Lemonade last year," said Matz. "They were pretty good workmates. It's funny how things work

See **RISKAVERSE** page 8 ►

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Dayatthespa tries to win her fourth consecutive race for trainer Chad Brown.

Tod Marks

Riskaverse —

■ Continued from page 6

out. One went one way, the other went the other way.” Assateague finished a green fifth in her career debut here going 5 1/2 furlongs, then lost by a nose in a Belmont maiden going a mile. She graduated at odds-on in a turf maiden at Keeneland in late October, two weeks after Somali Lemonade won a Grade 3, then shipped to California for the Miesque Stakes. She never ran.

“She had a spur in a knee we didn’t know about,” said Matz. “Before the race out there she jarred it enough that it was about to come off and she was sore. She was the favorite for that race, but never got to run.”

Surgery stopped her 2011 campaign and the daughter of Stormy Atlantic re-joined the Matz string at Keeneland in April. Owned by Helen Alexander, Helen Groves and Matz’s wife D.D., the dark bay or brown filly came back to the races with a vengeance – winning a first-level allowance in wire-to-wire fashion here July 28.

“She grew up an awful lot,” Matz said. “She got quite big. She’s doing everything right. We’re taking a big jump going against stakes company, but I think she’s that caliber of filly. We think she’s a really good filly. There are a couple of big 3-year-old races coming up on the turf. If she can run like we think, she can get to one of those.”

Shaun Bridgmohan takes the return call on the homebred from post eight at 5-1.

Dual Saratoga stakes winner Alaura Michele won the Nani Rose Stakes, her 2012 debut, going a mile here July 29 for Siena Farm and trainer Bill Mott. The daughter of Arch won the P. G. Johnson here last summer so has an affinity for the course and could stalk the pace of Dayatthespa and/or Assateague. Eddie Castro rides from the inside post at 6-1.

See **RISKAVERSE** page 10 ►



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I had plenty of horse and she showed
me a big kick
- Rafael Bejarano after winning the
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CATALOG NOW ONLINE

Riskaverse —

■ Continued from page 8

Trainer Jimmy Jerkens tries turf with recent winner Resonating, a daughter of Smart Strike and the Deputy Minister mare Winter House. The John Spohler/Marty Wygod homebred is 2-for-3 in her career including a 6-furlong allowance win here Aug. 5. Alan Garcia rides from post seven.

Alto Racing's Peace Preserver (John Velazquez, 8-1) seeks her fourth career win for trainer Todd Pletcher. The daughter of War Front ran twice at Monmouth this summer, the last a second in the Desert Vixen Stakes July 28. Jonathan Sheppard entered Angel Terrace (Joel Rosario, 15-1) off a fourth in the Nani Rose. Augustin Stable's daughter of Ghostzapper won at Presque Isle in July. Sweet And Lovely (Edgar Prado, 12-1) finished second in the Nani Rose for Elizabeth Valando and trainer Ian Wilkes. She's 6-for-7 in the trifecta this year.

Dame Marie (Jose Lezcano, 20-1) was fifth in the Nani Rose for trainer Eddie Kenneally. Run a Risk (Julien Leparoux, 12-1) exits a runner-up effort in the Indiana Distaff for trainer Rusty Arnold. Trainer Jimmy Baker entered Heart Of Destiny (Rosie Napravnik, 15-1) off a third here in allowance company. The daughter of Lion Heart adds blinkers.

Also-eligibles Zultanite, Thunderous Lady and Ainsley complete the lineup along with main-track-only entrant And Why Not.



Alaura Michele aims for her second stakes win of the meet for trainer Bill Mott.

Tod Marks

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FRIDAY'S ENTRIES

1ST (2:30PM). \$80,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 5 1/2F
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1 3	My Kinda Party	R. Dominguez	A. Dutrow	8-5
1a 5	My Happy Face	R. Dominguez	R. Rodriguez	8-5
2 1	Yankeeindixieland	J. Lezcano	D. Romans	8-1
3 2	Lemon Song	W. Garcia	L. O'Brien	15-1
4 4	Wild One	J. Rosario	B. Baffert	5-2
5 6	Dixie Smile	R. Maragh	B. Tagg	5-1
6 7	Blazing Whip	J. Castellano	M. Matz	6-1
7 8	Mrs. Bean	R. Napravnik	C. Clement	8-1

2ND (3:03PM). \$70,000, SOC \$50,000, 3 & UP, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1 5	Hobbs	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	3-1
1a AE	Never On Time	R. Maragh	T. Pletcher	3-1
2 1	Volcano Run	J. Velazquez	A. Dutrow	5-1
3 2	Thessalonian	E. Castro	G. Weaver	20-1
4 3	Dear John	J. Rosario	G. Sacco	12-1
5 4	Scorcher	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Guerrero	8-1
6 6	Balance the Budget	W. Garcia	N. Chatterpaul	20-1
7 7	Thomas Hill	A. Lezcano	K. Grusmark	12-1
8 8	Cantonic	R. Napravnik	M. Maker	7-2
9 9	Situational Ethics	J. Leparoux	M. Hennig	6-1
10 10	Purest Form	R. Dominguez	D. Fawkes	5-1
11 MTO	Drink With Pride		R. Araya	3-1
12 MTO	Grandpa Len	J. Lezcano	D. Donk	2-1

3RD (3:36PM). \$100,000, STK - THE BIG BAMBU, 3 & UP, F & M , 6 1/2F
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1 1	Moonlit Malibu	R. Maragh	M. Trombetta	20-1
2 2	Dancinginherdreams	J. Alvarado	W. Mott	6-1
3 3	Tiz the Argument	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	3-1
4 4	Mildly Offensive	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	5-2
5 5	Strike the Moon	R. Napravnik	M. Trombetta	4-1
6 6	Kid Kate	J. Lezcano	C. Brown	3-1
7 7	Tamarind Hall	J. Rosario	D. Fawkes	10-1

4TH (4:09PM). \$85,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 1 1/16M (TURF)
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1 8	Smittenwithkitten	R. Dominguez	M. Maker	5-2
1a AE	Win for Kitten	J. Rosario	C. Clement	5-2
2 1	Giant's Jewel	R. Napravnik	T. Bush	10-1
3 2	Sustained	J. Alvarado	D. Romans	3-1
4 3	Ear D' Rhythm	C. Velasquez	R. Nicks	15-1
5 4	Hitechnoweenie	D. Cohen	K. McPeck	15-1
6 5	Scealeile	M. Luzzi	J. Baker	15-1
7 6	Double Tapped	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	6-1
8 7	Sensationalize	J. Lezcano	W. Mott	5-1
9 9	Manuka Honey	W. Garcia	J. Terranova, II	10-1
10 10	Neith	R. Maragh	D. Lukas	20-1
11 AE	Oscar Party	J. Velazquez	W. Catalano	3-1
12 AE	Daar Zayed	J. Rosario	E. Harty	4-1

5TH (4:42PM). \$52,000, CLM \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1 1	King Ting (IRE)	J. Castellano	M. Maker	3-1
2 2	Surprise Strike	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Englehart	8-1
3 3	Commitment Letter	J. Espinoza	D. Shivismangal	10-1
4 4	Siete Machos	J. Rosario	B. Levine	15-1
5 5	Red Leader	E. Castro	R. Rodriguez	12-1
6 6	Powhatan County	C. Velasquez	C. Englehart	15-1
7 7	Wayward Sailor	J. Ortiz	F. Raia II	20-1
8 8	Irish Lion	R. Maragh	W. Badgett, Jr.	10-1
9 9	Yankee Fourtune	J. Lezcano	R. Rodriguez	2-1
10 10	Liston	R. Dominguez	S. Asmussen	5-1
11 AE	Writingonthewall	J. Alvarado	R. Stoklosa	6-1
12 AE-MTO	Isthmus		B. Levine	3-1
13 AE-MTO	Omniscient		S. Asmussen	4-1
14 AE-MTO	Settle for Medal	M. Luzzi	R. Schosberg	6-1
15 AE-MTO	Coosada	J. Lezcano	J. Servis	5-2
16 AE-MTO	Sinorice		N. Zito	5-1

6TH (5:15PM). \$60,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5 1/2F (TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1 1	Huge Asset	R. Maragh	D. Galluscio	5-1
2 2	Goodtolook	D. Cohen	G. Contessa	2-1
3 3	Zeddemore	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Lerman	10-1
4 4	Noosh's Tale	J. Espinoza	P. Kelly	6-1
5 5	Pie's First Lady	R. Dominguez	L. Rice	3-1
6 6	One Smokin Cat	W. Garcia	G. Gullo	10-1
7 7	Winning Gold	A. Lezcano	R. Persaud	20-1
8 8	Uncle Southern	C. Velasquez	L. Rice	8-1
9 AE	Our Pedroia	D. Cohen	P. Barrow	15-1
10 AE	Everydoghashisday	R. Maragh	G. Contessa	9-5

7TH (5:48PM). \$85,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M
Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1 1	Artist Colony	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Englehart	12-1
2 2	Conspiracy	R. Dominguez	C. Brown	8-1
3 3	Cape Glory	J. Castellano	I. Wilkes	7-2
4 4	Invocation	J. Rosario	J. Kimmel	6-1
5 5	Joking	R. Maragh	T. Albertrani	3-1
6 6	Tiz Yankee	W. Garcia	N. Zito	4-1
7 7	Dattts Happy	A. Solis	M. Hennig	15-1
8 8	Flashy Sunrise	J. Velazquez	D. Stewart	5-1
9 9	Burned Bridges	A. Lezcano	R. Persaud	30-1

8TH (6:22PM). \$100,000, STK - RISKVERSE, 3 YO, F , 1M (INNER TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double

1 8	Assateague	S. Bridgmohan	M. Matz	5-1
1a MTO	And Why Not	J. Rosario	M. Matz	5-1
2 1	Alaura Michele	E. Castro	W. Mott	6-1
3 2	Sweet and Lovely	E. Prado	I. Wilkes	12-1
4 3	Peace Preserver	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	8-1
5 4	Dayatthespa	J. Castellano	C. Brown	7-5
6 5	Dame Marie	J. Lezcano	E. Kenneally	20-1
7 6	Resonating	A. Garcia	J. Jerkens	8-1
8 7	Run a Risk	J. Leparoux	G. Arnold, II	12-1
9 9	Heart of Destiny	R. Napravnik	J. Baker	15-1
10 10	Angel Terrace	J. Rosario	J. Sheppard	15-1
11 AE	Zultanite	R. Dominguez	D. Donk	10-1
12 AE	Thunderous Lady	J. Velazquez	M. Trombetta	15-1
13 AE	Ainsley	C. Velasquez	A. Ronen	15-1

9TH (6:56PM). \$41,000, CLM \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)
Exacta, Trifecta

1 1	Beer Is Good	J. Velazquez	R. Schosberg	12-1
2 2	Shotinthefog	J. Alvarado	G. Weaver	10-1
3 3	Basalt	J. Castellano	M. Maker	8-1
4 4	Taproot	J. Leparoux	E. Kenneally	10-1
5 5	Partly Mocha	E. Castro	G. Weaver	5-2
6 6	My Man Dan	I. Ortiz, Jr.	G. Contessa	30-1
7 7	Little Dale	R. Dominguez	D. Romans	15-1
8 8	Black Rhino	R. Napravnik	W. Heffner	15-1
9 9	Bravo Habibi	J. Rosario	S. Asmussen	5-1
10 10	Into the Fray	C. Velasquez	R. Rodriguez	6-1
11 11	Synthesizer	W. Garcia	H. Bond	6-1
12 12	Tardy	A. Solis	L. Lewis	15-1
13 AE	Caddo Lake	R. Dominguez	D. Fawkes	10-1
14 MTO	Why Broadway	J. Ortiz	D. Shivismangal	8-1

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12

THE SARATOGA SPECIAL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2012

the Power grid



**John
Shapazian**



**Gaile
Fitzgerald**



**Erin
Finley**



**Dean
Keppler**



**Charles
Bedard**

Race #	John Shapazian	Gaile Fitzgerald	Erin Finley	Dean Keppler	Charles Bedard
1	My Happy Face Wild One Dixie Smile	My Happy Face Wild One My Kinda Party	Dubb Entry Wild One Lemon Song	Dubb Entry Blazing Whip Wild One	Dubb entry Mrs. Bean Wild One
2	Cantonic Hobbs Scorcher	Hobbs Balance The Budget Volcano Run	Cantonic Repole Entry Volcano Run	Pletcher Entry Scorcher Cantonic	Situational Ethics Purest Form Cantonic
3	Mildly Offensive Tiz The Argument Kid Kate	Kid Kate Tiz The Argument Mildly Offensive	Kid Kate Mildly Offensive Strike The Moon	Kid Kate Dancinginherdreams Tiz The Argument	Tamarind Hall Strike The Moon Mildly Offensive
4	Smittenwithkitten Sustained Manuka Honey	Sustained Smittenwithkitten Daar Zayed	Ramsey Entry Oscar Party Sustained	Ramsey Entry Sustained Manuka Honey	Sensationalize Ramsey entry Oscar Party
5	Yankee Fourtune King Ting Liston	Isthmus King Ting Liston	Liston Yankee Fourtune King Ting	Liston King Ting Yankee Fourtune	Yankee Fourtune Liston Red Leader
6	Goodtolook Pie's First Lady One Smokin Cat	Everydoghashisday One Smokin Cat Pie's First Lady	Goodtolook Huge Asset Pie's First Lady	Goodtolook Huge Asset Uncle Southern	Everydoghashisday Goodtolook Huge Asset
7	Joking Cape Glory Conspiracy	Joking Tiz Yankee Artist Colony	Joking Cape Glory Flashy Sunrise	Joking Tiz Yankee Cape Glory	Joking Tiz Yankee Flashy Sunrise
8	Dayatthespa Peace Preserver Alaura Michele	Dayatthespa Alaura Michele Peace Preserver	Heart Of Destiny Dayatthespa Matz Entry	Angel Terrace Dayatthespa Peace Preserver	Dame Marie Dayatthespa Sweet And Lovely
9	Partly Mocha Basalt Taproot	Partly Mocha Shotinthefog Basalt	Basalt Bravo Habibi Into The Fray	Bravo Habibi Shotinthefog Basalt	Partly Mocha Basalt Synthesizer

2012 Records

104/324

113/324

87/324

77/324

71/324

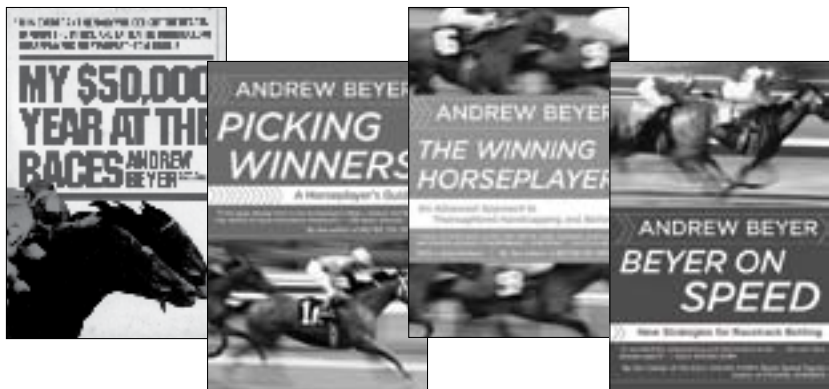


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Win Column

Balance The Books breaks maiden in Gr. 2 stakes

BY SEAN CLANCY

Wednesday, Chad Brown unveiled a promising 2-year-old filly, one who immediately jumped to the top of the list for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf.

Thursday, the trainer did the same thing with a 2-year-old colt for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, winning the With Anticipation with Balance The Books.

Owned by Klaravich Stable and William Lawrence, Balance The Books rallied from last to run down front-runner Joha inside the sixteenth pole to win by a head. Julien Leparoux guided the son of Lemon Drop Kid, achieving his first win and first stakes win.

It barely happened.

Balance The Books drew in from the also-eligible list at 8 in the morning and drew past Joha in the waning strides of the \$200,000 stakes.

Balance The Books broke well from the outside post before Leparoux eased the bay colt to last going into the first turn. Joha took the nine-horse field through a quarter-mile in 23.60 seconds as Charming Kitten found a spot in second, Bernie The Jet sat third,

See *WITH ANTICIPATION* page 16 ►



Balance The Books charges to the finish line.

Tod Marks

Rhinebeck Equine, L.L.P.

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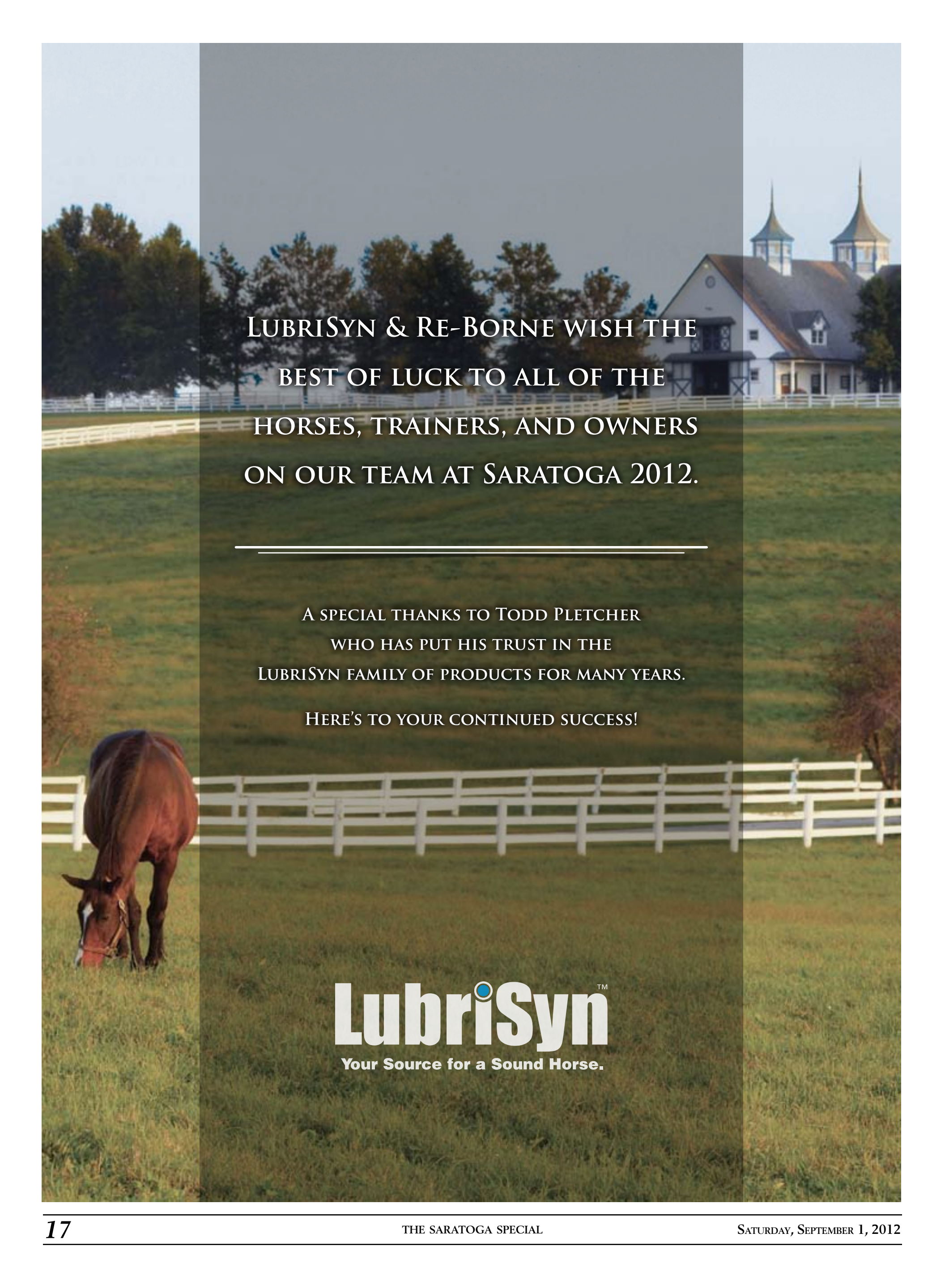


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With Anticipation —

■ Continued from page 14

Notacatbutallama barged his way to a spot in fourth. Joha continued to pull the float through a half in 47.71 and Balance The Budget continued to wait in last.

Midway on the turn, Leparoux guided Balance The Budget to the outside, cornering into the stretch widest of all and bouncing off Hightail as Joha set for home with a 3-length lead past the eighth pole. Past the sixteenth pole, Joha still held an advantage on Balance The Budget who had swept past everybody. Switching back to his left lead late, Balance The Budget finally reached Joha a stride before the wire, finishing the 1 1/16 miles in 1:42.30.

Brown and owners Seth Klarman and Lawrence thought long and hard about running a maiden in a Grade 2 stakes.

"Right after his maiden race, we were so high on him, we were like, 'We're running him in the With Anticipation.' Then as it got closer, I said, 'Let's pause for a minute, if I run him in a maiden and he wins I can run him in the Pilgrim off some nice form, he's the now horse. If I run him in this race and he fails, then I'm back-pedaling, I can't run him in two stakes as a maiden, I look like an idiot,' " Brown said. "Then this week, we said, we'll enter and see where we draw, then we didn't even get in, we figured maiden race, then we

talked about it last night, I looked at the (Ragozin Numbers), this horse had the fastest number going long, how can we not run?"

Brown found out at 8 o'clock Thursday morning that The B's And E's scratched. Balance The Budget moved one stall closer to the rail when Sonofasamurai scratched during the day and moved another stall closer when Private Tutor scratched at the gate.

Breaking from the 10 hole, with a come-from-behind horse, Brown was finally confident.

"I was confident he was ready for a big run because he was so perched, but when he got slammed on the turn, I worried," Brown said. "This horse has always been at the top of the list. With 2-year-olds, you'll have some late bloomers that surprise you, but when you have one who's consistently at the top of the list every week when you rank your horses, they never move, they're pretty consistent, that's big."

Brown breezed the \$160,000 Keeneland 2-year-old purchase on the grass July 9 before sending him for four amost identical 49 and change drills over the training track.

"I saw what I needed to see when he worked on the grass," Brown said. "He handles the dirt OK, but he's better on the grass. His Polytrack breeze was extremely impressive at Keeneland. We'll look at either the Pilgrim at Belmont or the Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland, then the Breeders' Cup."

Just like on Wednesday.

NYRA to raise money for storm recovery

Just over a year to the day after Tropical Storms Irene and Lee caused widespread destruction and major flooding in upstate New York, NYRA will host an on-track collection drive to assist in the ongoing recovery efforts of local communities impacted by the storms.

Patrons will be invited to make monetary donations to benefit the Prattsville Relief Fund; Schoharie Area Long Term (SALT) Recovery; Schenectady County Rebuilding Families; and Middleburgh Village Relief Fund. Donations will be collected at the Clubhouse, Union Avenue and Reserved Seats entrances and will be split evenly among the four community relief organizations.

Additionally, NYRA will make a \$5,000 donation to assist with rebuilding efforts during a ceremony in the winner's circle following the day's fourth race, which will be named Remembering Irene & Lee – The Recovery Continues.

Saratoga restaurants, donors feed backstretch workers

For the fifth year, more than 1,000 backstretch workers were treated to special meals each Sunday of the meet in Saratoga. Marylou Whitney and John Hendrickson have been the driving force behind these events. With the help of the Backstretch Employee Service Team and many local donors, the dinners have been a great success.

Local restaurants and florists will participate in the third annual "Saratoga Gives Back" evening Sunday at 6 p.m. The event will take place in the tent adjacent to the rec hall on Union Avenue.

These Sunday dinners make a tremendous difference in the lives of each backstretch worker.

Restaurants and florists to donate (as of Aug. 27): Mexican Connection, The Wishing Well, Augie's, Circus Café, Sperry's, Mango 29 Deli, Panza's, Holiday Inn, Maestro's at the Van Dam, The Reading Room, The Turf Club, DZ Restaurants (Chianti II Ristorante, Pasta Pane, Forno Bistro, Boca Bistro), Olde Bryan Inn, Longfellows, Hidden Gardens, Dehn's Flowers, Schrade's Posie Peddler, Hannaford.

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Greek Sun	Same Day Delivery
Green Alligator	Scipion
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Horatius	Smart Alec
In Case	Smart Guy
Itaka	Smelly
Ivory Frontier (Ire)	St Averil
Java Royal	Sticks and Bricks
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\$100K Maryland Million Lassie Fillies, 2-year-olds, 6 fur.

\$100K Maryland Million Nursery Two-year-olds, 6 fur.

\$100K Maryland Million Oaks Fillies, 3-year-olds, 1 mi.

\$100K Maryland Million Sprint A handicap for 3-year-olds & up, 6 fur.

\$100K Maryland Million Turf Three-year-olds & up, 1½ mi., turf

\$100K Maryland Million Turf Sprint A handicap for 3-year-olds & up, 5½ fur., turf

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Miami in Saratoga

Gleaves wins turf stakes with homebred

BY SEAN CLANCY

Phil Gleaves wanted to make sure jockey Rajiv Maragh had confidence in Miami Cat.

The trainer ordered a video session with Maragh in the clubhouse Thursday morning to watch the replay of a starter optional claimer in which Miami Cat finished fourth, Aug. 19. Gleaves and Maragh watched, Maragh was convinced.

"I wanted Rajiv to know what kind of horse he was sitting on, so he and I came over this morning to that machine and watched the video several times," Gleaves said, Thursday afternoon. "He finished second on Our Entourage, he said something like he knew he had a good trip in the race but that we were much the best."

Eleven days after suffering a trip which included the terms, "in a bit tight, snug hold, appeared unsettled, wedged, firmer hold, caught in traffic, taken outward," Miami Cat stepped up to stakes level, rallying from sixth to run down Film Shot by a neck in the Equalize Stakes.



Tod Marks

Miami Cat kicks away from the field in the stretch of Thursday's Equalize Stakes.

Owned by Gleaves, Bruce Hollander and Seahorse Stable, Miami Cat improve his record to 3-for-6, winning for the first time on the turf.

Breaking from the outside post, Miami Cat hopped slightly at the start before settling into an outside spot in sixth going into the first turn as favorite Finale ricocheted wide and last. Capetown Devil and Yari took the field through the first quarter in 23.82 seconds as Film Shot settled on the rail and Miami Cat's entry-mate Csaba found a spot on the outside in fourth. Miami Cat cruised into a nice spot in fifth after a half in 47.69.

Out of the turn, Csaba engaged Capetown Devil and Yari while Film Shot cut the corner and Miami Cat somehow found the rail. Past the eighth pole, Film Shot battled past the leaders and Miami Cat split horses, four wide, reeling in Film Shot in the final strides to win by a neck after a mile in 1:35.15.

es, four wide, reeling in Film Shot in the final strides to win by a neck after a mile in 1:35.15.

Always partial for a Saratoga trip from his Calder base, Gleaves bedded down Csaba and Miami Cat in the stakes barn earlier in the meet. He aimed Csaba to the Hall of Fame Stakes; he was beaten a nose in the slop after the race was moved off the turf. Gleaves dropped Miami Cat in for \$65,000 in the starter optional claimer, where he was beaten 1 1/4 lengths for everything. The stablemates joined up for the Equalize, an open stakes for 3-year-olds. Csaba faltered while Miami Cat flourished, giving Gleaves his first win in Saratoga since . . .

"You know what, I'm not quite sure, it's been quite

See **EQUALIZE** page 19 ►

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Equalize —

■ Continued from page 18

a while, I've had some good victories, most notably the Travers, but I haven't been back for a while because I haven't been coming here," said Gleaves, who won Saratoga's biggest race with Wise Times in 1986. "Right before the race, I was sitting with my wife, and I was looking at the expanse of the track, when you're away from it for a while, you really grasp how beautiful this place is, when you come every year and you're here all the time, you kind of lose it a little bit. It hit me when I was looking out, right before they went in the gate, I said, 'Wow, this is as good as it gets.'"

Gleaves bought Miami Cat's dam, Aberdeen Alley, from the Russell Reinman Stable. The daughter of Distorted Humor was in foal to Reinman's stallion Powerful Goer. The mating produced Miami Cat, who's always been on Gleaves' A list.

"He's beautiful, we have his mother, his sisters, it's a great feeling, we've loved this horse from day one, we knew he liked the grass, it was unfortunate he had a rough trip in his last start. It was a solid race," Gleaves said. "It's tremendous, it's a very humbling feeling because I know how hard it is, everything's got to go so right to come all the way from Miami, everything's got to be spot on. Everything's got to go perfect and it did. It didn't in the Hall of Fame, we got beat this far, that was frustrating quite frankly, but this makes up for it, somewhat."



Miami Cat and Rajiv Maragh return to the winner's circle.

Tod Marks

Hey, Phil Gleaves, what's your first Saratoga memory?

"I was working for Lucien Laurin, when I first came to this country. I lived in one of the backstretch dorms behind the barns by the three-eighths pole, lived there right next door to Eddie Sweat. Little did I know about Eddie's history with Secretariat. I was galloping a nice filly named Pearl Necklace for Lucien. It was 1977, we'd sit outside and barbecue at night, I'd just come from England and I thought it was the greatest thing in the world."

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Breeder: William Fossett (PA).
Late Scratches: Grantor, The Jigsaw Man (IRE), Sunshine Numbers, Bodie Island
Time: 3:53.80
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2	Cat Feathers	B. Dalton		\$4.70	\$2.90
1	Well Fashioned	J. Murphy			\$3.20

Ch Mare 2007, by Royal Academy - Effervescent by Citidancer
Owner: Sheppard, Jonathan, E.. Trainer: Jonathan Sheppard.
Breeder: Jonathan Sheppard (PA).
Late Scratches: Euro Power
Time: 3:53.74
Daily Double (9-4), \$265.00; Exacta (4-2), \$56.50; Quinella (2-4), \$21.00;
Superfecta (4-2-1-7), \$531.00; Trifecta (4-2-1), \$175.50

THIRD \$80,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

3	Archwarrior	J. Velazquez	\$2.50	\$2.40	\$2.10
5	Malachite	J. Lezcano		\$8.20	\$4.00
1	Unlikely Scenario	R. Maragh			\$2.40

Dk B/ Br Colt 2010, by Arch - Winner's Edge by Seeking the Gold
Owner: Alto Racing, LLC. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.
Breeder: Highfield Farm (KY).
Late Scratches: Buddy's Smart, Tizracer
Time: 1:10.07
Daily Double (4-3), \$18.20; Exacta (3-5), \$14.00; Trifecta (3-5-1), \$34.80;
Pic 3 (9-4-3), \$454.00

FOURTH \$80,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

2	Royal Rhiannon	J. Rosario	\$5.90	\$3.30	\$2.70
5	Glorious View	J. Alvarado		\$3.00	\$2.30
1	Free as a Bird	E. Prado			\$3.90

B Filly 2009, by Broken Vow - Caressing by Honour and Glory
Owner: Newtown Anner Stud. Trainer: John Terranova, II.
Breeder: Hermitage Farm LLC (KY).
Time: 1:23.43
Daily Double (3-2), \$8.90; Exacta (2-5), \$19.00; Quinella (2-5), \$10.80;
Superfecta (2-5-1-4), \$253.50; Trifecta (2-5-1), \$61.00; Pic 3 (4-3-2), \$91.50

FIFTH \$82,000, AOC \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

3	Sounds of the City	J. Lezcano	\$5.90	\$3.70	\$3.10
2	Vindicated Ghost	J. Alvarado		\$13.00	\$9.00
8	Strategic Missile	W. Garcia			\$7.90

Dk B/ Br Filly 2008, by Street Cry (IRE) - Welcome Home by Dixieland Band
Owner: Santulli, Richard. Trainer: Alan Goldberg.
Breeder: Colts Neck Stables (KY).
Late Scratches: Buleria, Sly Warrior, Funky Munky Mama, Victoria Lynn, Cat Ferrad
Time: 1:02.78
Daily Double (2-3), \$20.20; Exacta (3-2), \$60.50; Superfecta (3-2-8-9), \$2,882.00; Trifecta (3-2-8), \$468.50; Pic 3 (3-2-3), \$34.00

SIXTH \$50,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$65,000, 2 YO, 6F

9	Chifa	J. Rosario	\$6.90	\$3.60	\$3.20
5	Make Me a Prophet	J. Lezcano		\$5.70	\$4.70
1	Iratinelexburance	J. Castellano			\$5.90

Ch Filly 2010, by Orientate - Mindset by Coronado's Quest
Owner: Three Diamonds Farm. Trainer: Michael Trombetta.
Breeder: Maurice Scavullo Jr. (PA).
Late Scratches: Nodebtdanny, Patty Anne Sissy
Claimed: Agualinda claimed by Drawing Away Stable for \$65,000
Time: 1:12.36
Daily Double (3-9), \$24.00; Exacta (9-5), \$36.80; Superfecta (9-5-1-8), \$1,995.00; Trifecta (9-5-1), \$202.00; Pic 3 (2-3-9), \$89.00; Pic 4 (3-2-3/4/6/11/12-9), \$144.00

SEVENTH \$87,000, AOC \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

6	Lea	J. Rosario	\$6.00	\$4.20	\$3.20
3	Presumptive	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$23.60	\$12.20
7	Best Actor	J. Castellano			\$6.20

Ch Colt 2009, by First Samurai - Greenery by Galileo (IRE)
Owner: Dilschneider, Adele and Claiborne Farm. Trainer: Albert Stall, Jr.
Breeder: Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider (KY).
Late Scratches: Tritap, Grandpa Len, Settle for Medal, Flamin' Hot, Most Happy Fella
Time: 1:47.27
Daily Double (9-6), \$25.40; Exacta (6-3), \$135.00; Superfecta (6-3-7-5), \$7,808.00; Trifecta (6-3-7), \$948.00; Pic 3 (3-9-6), \$92.00

EIGHTH \$60,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 5 1/2F

3	Discreet Marq	E. Castro	\$10.80	\$4.30	\$3.40
7	Live Life Fast	J. Velazquez		\$3.40	\$2.50
1	Ascended Fever	R. Maragh			\$2.70

Gr/ro Filly 2010, by Discreet Cat - To Marquet by Marquetry
Owner: Generazio, Patricia, A.. Trainer: James Ryerson.
Breeder: Patricia Generazio (NY).
Late Scratches: Winmor Gold, Riptherubberoff, Pie's First Lady, Sweet Sway, Joanne's Halo, Uncle Southern, Hot Rendezvous
Time: 1:02.91
Daily Double (6-3), \$45.00; Exacta (3-7), \$38.00; Superfecta (3-7-1-6), \$433.00; Trifecta (3-7-1), \$126.50; Pic 3 (9-6-3), \$219.50

NINTH \$100,000, STAKES - EQUALIZE S., 3 YO, 1M

1A	Miami Cat	R. Maragh	\$9.10	\$4.70	\$3.20
6	Film Shot	E. Prado		\$8.80	\$5.60
3	Yari	J. Lezcano			\$4.60

Ch Gelding 2009, by Powerful Goer - Aberdeen Alley by Distorted Humor
Owner: Gleaves, Philip A., Hollander, Bruce and Seahorse Stable.
Trainer: Philip Gleaves. Breeder: Phil Gleaves (KY).
Late Scratches: Lockout, Inflation Target, Spring to the Sky
Time: 1:35.15
Daily Double (3-1), \$71.50; Exacta (1-6), \$90.00; Trifecta (1-6-3), \$385.50; Pic 3 (6-3-1), \$296.50

TENTH \$200,000, STAKES - WITH ANTICIPATION S., 2 YO, 1 1/16M

3	Balance the Books	J. Leparoux	\$10.80	\$6.00	\$3.40
7	Joha	R. Dominguez		\$5.30	\$3.00
6	Charming Kitten	J. Castellano			\$2.90

B Colt 2010, by Lemon Drop Kid - Kreisleriana by Seeking the Gold
Owner: Klaravich Stables, Inc. and Lawrence, William H..
Trainer: Chad Brown.
Breeder: Scott C. Heider & Knowles Bloodstock, Inc. (KY).
Late Scratches: Sweet Shirley Mae, Read the Proposal, Lawn Man, The B's and E's, Sonofasamurai, Special Skills, Private Tutor
Time: 1:42.30
Daily Double (1-3), \$48.80; Exacta (3-7), \$53.50; Trifecta (3-7-6), \$162.50; Consolation Double (1-12), \$8.60; Pic 3 (3-1-3), \$648.00; (3-1-12), \$71.50; Place Pix Nine (3/6/7-1/3/7-1/3/6-3), \$117.00

ELEVENTH \$38,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

12	She Gets It	C. Montalvo	\$21.60	\$10.00	\$7.90
4	Belongs to Dixie	J. Lezcano		\$7.90	\$6.10
2	What'smineismine	R. Napravnik			\$6.40

B Filly 2009, by Closing Argument - Tuesday Edition by Gold Alert
Owner: Hidden Lake Farm. Trainer: Gary Contessa.
Breeder: Thomas-Narlinger, A R Properties, Atlantis Mares, Hidden La (NY).
Late Scratches: Classic Point, Irish Wedding, A New York Phillie, Vicola
Time: 1:37.39
Daily Double (3-12), \$186.50; Exacta (12-4), \$179.50; Superfecta (12-4-2-1), \$5,544.00; Trifecta (12-4-2), \$1,218.00; Pic 3 (1-3-12), \$1,048.00; (1-12-12), \$117.00; Pic 4 (3-1-3-12), \$7,311.00; Pic 6 (9-6-3-1-3-12), \$538.00; Pic 6 (9-6-3-1-3-12), \$49,288.00

Attendance: 11,750
On Track Handle: 2,240,699
Intra-State Handle: 1,839,580
Inter-State Handle: 7,363,701

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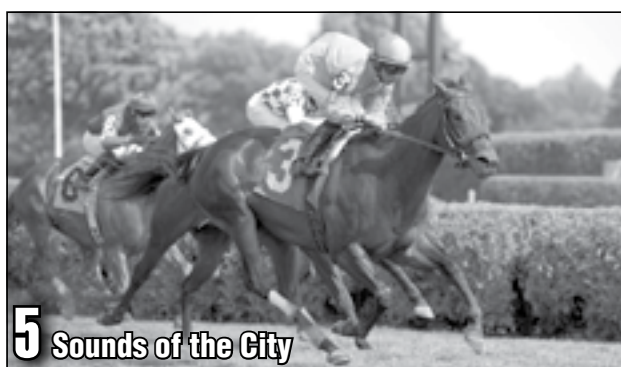
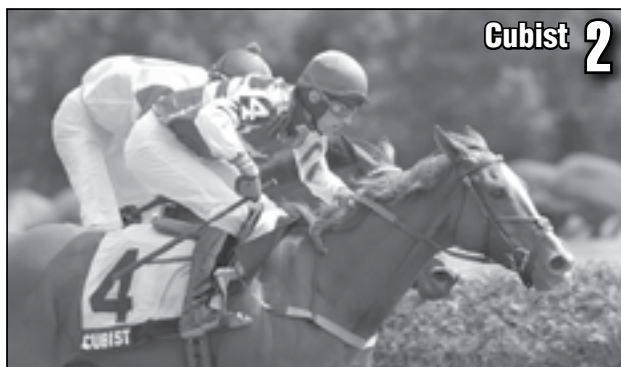
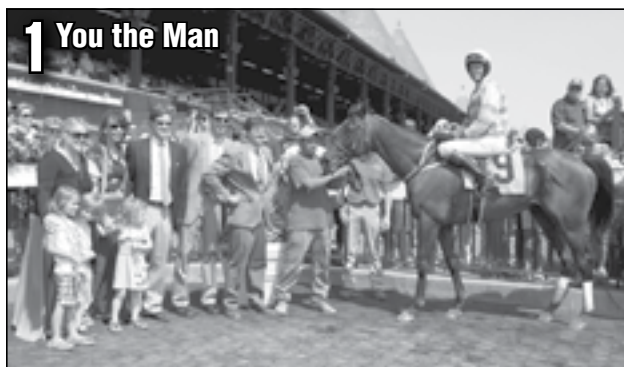


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Jump Into The Action!

Tod Marks photo

Coming Through

Talked-about juvenile Archwarrior graduates in debut for Pletcher

BY TOM SANTOMARCO

Archwarrior wasn't quite the runaway winner in Thursday's third that some predicted, but as far as Todd Pletcher was concerned, a win was a win. The heavily favored colt left a big impression on his trainer with his maiden win in his first start.

"We'd been hoping he'd run as well as he'd been training and I thought he did very well," Pletcher said. "He was very professional."

The 2-year-old came out of the gate third and was second through a 45.09-second half. Alto Racing's son of Arch took over in the stretch and was on his way from there, running 6 furlongs in 1:10.07 to win by 3 1/4 lengths over 20-1 Malachite.

Pletcher said he had no nerves about Archwarrior living up to expectations and half-seriously joked that some may

THURSDAY RACING RECAP

have been clocking the horse's morning workouts and getting the word out on the Internet to feed the pre-race hype.

"We've run a lot of first-time starters over the years, but I've never had so many questions beforehand," he said. "We'll see how he comes out of this, but you know all the obvious possibilities."

- The sixth was a little too close for comfort for Kirk Wycoff of Three Diamonds Farm. After four seconds at the meet, including a couple in photo finishes, Wycoff was rewarded with a win when Chifa hung on to win the \$65,000 maiden claimer for 2-year-old fillies.

The daughter of Orientate started from the outside post in a field of eight and led the whole way, though that wasn't how trainer Mike Trombetta



Tod Marks

Archwarrior jogs back to the winner's circle after his career debut Thursday.

drew it up.

"We didn't think she'd be on the lead like that," he said, "but she came out of the gate running and (Joel Rosario) just went with it."

So how was Wycoff feeling with his filly on the lead?

"We were scared to death," he said,

"but it's not like Joel could take her to the back."

Chifa started to give back a 2 1/2-length lead as they neared the finish, with Make Me A Prophet making a strong move on the outside. The Penn-

See **THURSDAY RECAP** page 24 ►

The defining moment . . .

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

— Anna Ford, New Vocations



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Thursday Recap —

■ Continued from page 22

sylvania-bred hung on to win by a nose, graduating at Saratoga after finishing fifth at Parx last time.

Wyckoff could finally breathe a sigh of relief when the board showed that his Pennsylvania-bred won the 6-furlong race by a neck

“She’s one of our favorites and she’s going to get better as she gets bigger,” he said. “She loves what she does and obviously gave everything she had out there today.”

• Three-year-old Lea has been impressive in three career starts for owners Adele Dilschneider and Clai-borne Farm. With a win and a second to his credit, the homebred posted his second win of the meet in the seventh, a turf optional claimer going 9 furlongs against older horses.

The colt charged out of the gate and at the quarter mark sat in second, where he waited his turn behind Change Of Command.

Lea went ahead by a half-length at the stretch and built his lead to win the 1 1/8-mile turf race by 1 3/4 lengths over longshot Presumptive in 1:47.27. Trainer Al Stall said he was impressed with the son of First Samurai’s finish.

“He found another gear and that’s what you look for,” he said. “He’s still learning and I think he might keep improving on the grass.”

The win was jockey Joel Rosario’s third of the day and Stall’s seventh of the meet. The trainer has a chance to go out in style with Cease running in Saturday’s Woodward Stakes.

“He is running well,” Stall said, “and we’ll certainly take that one as an exclamation point if we can.”

• Royal Rhiannon’s win in the fourth, a 7-furlong maiden, was a few months in the making. The 3-year-old filly placed third in her first start at Belmont in May and had since been on the sidelines with a muscle pull.

Trainer John Terranova said that although the injury was minor, the 3-year-old needed time to get back in form.

“If she misses just a little bit of training it takes a little bit to get back in top condition because she’s such a big, heavy filly,” he said.

It may have taken a while, but Terranova said the daughter of Broken Vow and Caressing has been training well and was ready for the race, which turned out to be a two-horse battle, with Royal Rhiannon and Glorious View grouped the whole way. Newtown Anner Stud Farm’s filly dropped to second by just a head in the stretch, but turned it on from there, pulling away to win by 1 3/4 lengths.

“She just outclassed them,” Terranova said. “We’ve got some hopes for her, so hopefully she goes on and stays healthy and we see a lot out of her down the road.”

• Discreet Marq wasn’t a factor in her first start, which came on a sloppy track here Aug. 10, but that didn’t matter to Jim Ryerson.

The trainer said the move off the turf that day took away the filly’s chance to really show what she can do. The 2-year-old bounced back in strong fashion in the eighth, a 5 1/2-furlong race for New York-bred maidens.

See **THURSDAY RECAP** page 26 ►



Tod Marks

Chifa (right) kicks away to win Thursday’s second race for trainer Mike Trombetta.

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Thursday Recap —

■ Continued from page 24

Owned and bred by Patricia Generazio, Discreet Marq breezed to her first win, taking the lead shortly after the start and never looking back — winning by 4 ½ lengths over favored Live Life Fast.

“Being on the grass looks like it moved her up a whole lot, but she can probably run on either,” Ryerson said. “Last time was a real bad racetrack. It did her a lot of good just to race and she showed it today.”

• Carlos Montalvo had to wait until the end of the day for his only mount, but once he got out there the jockey made his time on the track count. Mon-

talvo rode 9-1 shot She Gets It to a win in the 11th, a \$25,000 maiden claimer.

The 3-year-old started from the outside in the 12-horse field and was second at the halfway point. She took over in the stretch as pacesetter Carpi Clements faded and crossed the wire in the mile turf race in 1:37.39.

“We couldn’t have asked for a better trip,” Montalvo said. “The filly really trusts me.”

That Hidden Lake Farm’s 3-year-old had never been in the top three in three previous career starts, all this summer, was no matter to the jockey.

“Last time out (here Aug. 19) she came up short, but she was ready for this,” Montalvo said.

The winner is conditioned by Gary Contessa, who won his ninth of the meet.

• Sounds Of The City picked up her second career win for owner Richard Santulli and trainer Alan Goldberg in the fifth. Starting from near the outside in the eight-horse field, the 3-year-old took her time after breaking out last.

Slow and steady won this race, as the filly progressed to sixth in a crowded field at the stretch. She made her move as they headed for home, passing Vindicated Ghost to win the 5 ½-furlong turf optional claimer by a length.

• Jump-jockey trash talk.

As Brian Crowley and Cubist swept past Bernie Dalton and Cat Feathers in the final yards of Thursday’s second, Dalton hollered, “You bastard.” Crowley didn’t miss a beat, and yelled back “Payback’s a bitch.”

Three weeks after finishing 1-2 in the Mrs. Ogden Phipps stakes for fillies and mares, the jockeys were on the board again — in reverse. On Aug. 9, Dalton and Cat Feathers caught Crowley and Sweet Shani. This time, it was

See **THURSDAY RECAP** page 27 ►

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Saratoga Leaders Through Thursday

Jockeys	1st
Ramon Dominguez	57
Javier Castellano	42
Jose Lezcano	32
John Velazquez	27
Joel Rosario	27
Julien Leparoux	22
Junior Alvarado	21
Rosie Napravnik	18
Rajiv Maragh	16
Irad Ortiz Jr.	15
Cornelio Velasquez	13
Eddie Castro	12

Trainers	1st
Todd Pletcher	31
Chad Brown	25
Steve Asmussen	11
George Weaver	10
Bruce Levine	9
Tony Dutrow	9
Gary Contessa	9
Rudy Rodriguez	8
Christophe Clement	8
Bill Mott	8

Thursday Recap —

■ Continued from page 26

Dalton's turn as Cubist made up chunks of ground over the final quarter-mile to win the \$75,000 Kay Jeffords Memorial by a neck. Phipps winner and favorite Cat Feathers settled for second this time, with Well Fashioned third in a repeat of her finish three weeks earlier.

Owned, trained and bred by Jonathan Sheppard, the winner came in with one jump win (by disqualification) in five jump starts. The half-sister to 2011 Saratoga jump winner Italian Wedding last ran over jumps in May, and sharpened for Saratoga with two \$20,000 claiming starts at Delaware Park. Sheppard passed the Phipps, where he ran Sweet Shani, and aimed for the last jump race of the meet.

"I did have this in mind all along," said Sheppard. "It was always in my mind to have her on tap, she ran very well in the first prep (second), the second one she ran poorly (sixth). We've had a few issues and I thought one of them was acting up again, but she's actually been training quite well, fresh. Brian gave her a beautiful ride. I had a little chat with him before this race, this is not some big, old tough gelding, I said don't look up to see where you are until you turn for home, so he crept up into the race very gradual."

The 5-year-old mare came into the race with a little more than \$39,000 in career earnings, lowest in the field besides English import Cordillera. None of that mattered in the stretch, however, as Crowley rallied her from sixth in the



Cubist (4) fights past Cat Feathers in Thursday's second race for trainer Jonathan Sheppard.

Tod Marks

seven-horse field to claim the \$45,000 winner's check.

"I was riding her as tender as I could, and kept trying to let her fill her lungs, give her a chance, give her a second," said the jockey. "I knew that she'd fill her lungs and run for me if I got her into a spot to do it. She's got a choppy little stride, she's not the most natural, but she has a big heart. She's just game. She jumped fantastic and when we turned in she gave me everything she had."

- Joe Clancy

• The jump opener went to the lay-off horse of the meet as You The Man made his first start since May 2010 a winning one for Riders Up Farm and trainer Todd Wyatt. A winner at the meet in 2009, the 7-year-old Lear Fan gelding rated off the pace for Paddy Young, crept into contention while saving ground and kicked away late.

He caught pacesetter Brave Prospect in the stretch and outkicked Rainiero, who settled for third, late to win the optional claimer by 2 3/4 lengths. Racing

for a \$30,000 tag, the winner improved to 3-for-9 over jumps while paying \$31. Young engineered a dream trip from the Pennsylvania-bred.

"To be honest, there was no riding on him, just a matter of not getting there too soon, just taking our time, it couldn't have worked out any better," said Young, a three-time champion who missed most of 2012 with a broken arm. "I took a hold of him to the last, but I didn't want to get caught for toe. He winged the last and it was all over."

Wyatt dealt with two main issues with his horse — an infected hock that derailed a fall campaign in 2010 and stomach issues that have plagued him ever since.

"Since January 2011, he started having these intermittent bouts with colic," said Wyatt. "His stomach is really challenged and we've taken him to a lot of people. We're always tinkering with his feed and he gets Gastrogard (ulcer medicine). We look after his stomach. He trains beautifully but every once in a while . . . it's like he's got indigestion. Last year he was getting close to breezing, but we couldn't get him over the hump. We just threw our hands up and turned him out for a while and brought him back this year."

Because You The Man got tired of the special feed, Wyatt just went back to regular grain while thinking about Thursday.

"I wanted to run him up here. I wanted to keep him happy and if he made it, he made it," said the trainer. "I worry about him, but he's a racehorse, he's just a racehorse. He wants to try for you."

- Joe Clancy

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by Joe Clancy

While walking through the stable area, Donna Green stopped and thought about it, then painted the picture.

"Most trainers dream about winning the Kentucky Derby, I always dreamed about winning a race at Saratoga. It's amazing. You just stand here and you want to pinch yourself. Did it really happen? I was starting to give up, you know it's never going to happen as the years go by. It's a great feeling."

She picked up her first Saratoga victory as a trainer Aug. 11, when P J's Magical Wink ran away with a maiden claimer for owner Daniel Hurtak. The 3-year-old pressed the pace and kicked clear late – scoring at almost 10-1 to fulfill Green's dream.

She saddled her first starter in 1988 and has had a small stable for years, but didn't get many chances at Saratoga. This summer, the opportunity to take a few horses north came along and Green jumped at it. She brought four and set up on a corner – complete with sitting area – in the same barn as Linda Rice.

Green grew up in Florida and while at the University of Miami in the 1970s she met some other students who were working at nearby Heardsdale Training Center. Headed by trainer Tommy Heard, whose career spanned eight decades, the facility was the Palm Meadows of its day. Green quit two other jobs to start galloping horses at Heardsdale, where she rode for powerhouse owner Harry Mangurian. Tommy Root trained the horses, and their names spark real memories.

"I rode the best, the best, horses," she said. "Valid Appeal, Iron Constitution, I could go on. Should I go on? How about Desert Vixen? I don't want to brag. I was so blessed."

She had me at Desert Vixen. She won eight in a row as a 3-year-old in 1973. The streak included the Post-Deb, Monmouth Oaks, Delaware Oaks, Test, Alabama, Gazelle and Beldame. The next year, she won the Beldame again and the Matchmaker, then finished second in the Spinster and the Washington D.C. International (her only start on turf). Twice a champion, she made the Hall of Fame in 1979.

And Green rode her.

Green first saw Saratoga with the Mangurian/Root stars and always remembered. She'd run horses before 2012, shipping in with Siphon City for the Whitney in 2006, but never had stalls until this year.

"P.J. (Campo) was kind enough to give me some stalls," she said of the NYRA racing secretary. "I'm kind of a girl that likes to make things happen. Sometimes you need the backing to get here. This year it was suggested and I really fought to make it happen."

Green brought two 2-year-olds for Tommy Roberts, plus Imperial Robyn and P J's Magical Wink (who runs in Saturday's sixth). At the meet, she's 1-for-7 with a second. The victory shocked many, not Green. Her horse showed enough ability, but battled shin issues as a 2-year-old late last year. This year, he finished second for an \$8,000 claiming price at Tampa in February, before going to the sidelines to get over the shins.

"I was probably the only person in the world that thought he could do it, but it's not easy to be confident," she said. "You have all these negatives around you and you're like 'But wait a minute, he's not that bad.' I always knew the horse could fly, naturally. There's a difference, horses can fly, but they're using themselves. He

can fly, naturally. It's kind of a good feeling. What I always thought of him, what I thought he could do, came true. I'm really proud of him."

Green didn't say it, but she was proud of herself too. As anyone would be when 25 percent of the stable wins at Saratoga. Imagine relocating to the best race meet on the continent and taking on the likes of Todd Pletcher, Rick Dutrow, George Weaver, Steve Klesaris, David Jacobson and Mike Maker. It was a maiden claimer, but Green's horse won by 8 lengths and those other names were behind her.

"Training horses is probably the most rewarding job there is," she said. "How can I say this without being emotional? It's just amazing what the animals are capable of doing and how intelligent they are. The rewards, to see horses that never had a shot come back and do well is just amazing."

Years ago, Green used to take horses to Tampa Bay Downs for Marty Wolfson, Ralph Ziadie, Buckram Oak Farm. The bigger names gave her a chance to learn.

"That's how I got started," she said. "They would send me the worst, let me tell you, but it was great. You come to realize you were lucky because that's how you learn. Horses like that teach you. You learn a lot from a horse like that."

"Trust. It's called trust. He needs your trust. A couple of years ago I had a 40-horse barn. When you have a large amount of horses, you really have to work on it. I would come in the barn, somehow they knew I was the leader, I was the one they could depend on."

Though every trainer looks for more – and better – horses, Green will take her small stable.

"Every horse is an individual and when I can't grasp the individuality of a horse it frustrates me," she said. "It's weird. That's how you have to approach it. He's depending on you to find it."

Public Syndicate Groups - Stakes Stats for 2012

	Stakes Wins	Stakes Winners	Graded Stakes Wins	Individual Gr. Winners
Team Valor International	10	7	5	4
Eclipse TB Partners	5	4	2	1
Pinnacle Racing	4	2	3	2
Peachtree	3	3	2	2
Starlight	3	3	2	2
Dream Team Stable	2	2	1	1
Donegal Racing	1	1	1	1
Class Racing	1	1	1	1
Let's Go Stable	1	1	1	1
Thoroughbred Legends	1	1	1	1
West Point	1	1	1	1
Three Chimneys	1	1	0	0
Dogwood	1	1	0	0
IEAH	1	1	0	0
Live Your Dreams	1	1	0	0
Majestic Racing	1	1	0	0
Summit Racing	1	1	0	0
Blinkers On	1	1	0	0
Bongo	0	0	0	0
Centennial	0	0	0	0
Fantasy Lane Stable	0	0	0	0
Funky Monkey Stable	0	0	0	0
Magdalena Racing	0	0	0	0
Parting Glass Racing	0	0	0	0
Sackatoga Stable	0	0	0	0
Sovereign	0	0	0	0
Starview	0	0	0	0
Thoroughbred Futures	0	0	0	0

Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones, from reports from Bloodstock Journal and TDN. Stats are current through August 28, 2012.

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Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational Stakes-Gr.1

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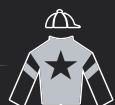
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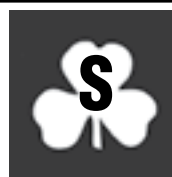


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by Sean Clancy

Todd Wyatt catapulted down the clubhouse stairs after Thursday's first race, hugging friends like he just got home from the war. He came from the clouds, where he watched the race was anybody's guess. Another trainer, watching a race in isolated agony.

Tears were welling.

"He's some horse. He's some horse. He's some horse." Some month.

Wyatt packed the horses, his wife and the kids and returned to Saratoga this summer. After years of toil for Jonathan Sheppard and Tom Voss, spanning decades, from Yaw to John's Call, Wyatt stayed on the farm for the past couple of summers, shipping a few but basically watching Saratoga from afar . . . talk about isolated agony. This year, he returned, asking his owners to pony up for four stalls across Henning Road. He called me three days in a row about renting stalls, struggling with the signature on the check. Finally, I said, "Just do it. You need to get up there. Your horses belong. Your owners want them there. Get in the game."

I think he was coming anyway, but Wyatt's the kind of trainer who worries about the expense of a tube of Gastrogard while the horse's owner charts a jet for the afternoon to see the horse canter. Down six strokes or up six strokes, he's laying up, which will usually win you the tournament, but doesn't always get the girl.

Wyatt and his wife Blair (he did get the girl) went

for the pin, hammering his stakes in the ground, working every day and hoping for the best.

He got it.

He ran Brother Sy in an early jump race, he finished fourth, ran well, beaten by better horses. He brought Witor; he got loose, scraped himself up, missed all his races and finally had his first breeze Wednesday. He brought Share Out, entered him a two-other-than turf race, he finished third at a big price, not beaten far.

Somewhere along the line, Wyatt asked me what a certain jockey was doing at Saratoga. One of those guys who was barely riding, scraping along, down and out.

"What's he doing at Saratoga?" he asked.

"He's not doing any good, but maybe he picks up a stakes horse going out of town, or he meets a good client . . . what the hell, it's Saratoga, where else would you want to be?" I said.

"Yeah, kind of like me. I guess he might ask the same thing, 'What the hell's Todd Wyatt doing at Saratoga?'"

Not anymore. Wyatt made his third and final start at the meet in Thursday's first race, sending out You The Man for an optional claimer over jumps. The 7-year-old son of Lear Fan hadn't run since May 2010. Derailed by stomach issues, the two-time winner nearly made it back to the races a couple of times, but couldn't keep it together. Wyatt coddled, worried, tinkered and finally got him back to Saratoga, three years since he upset the Jonathan Kiser.

The trainer engineered three breezes over the Oklahoma turf, riding the dark bay gelding himself from Henning Road to Shug's gap, before handing him to three-time champion Paddy Young who teamed up with Blair aboard Share Out.

Three times, Wyatt would call me at the clocker's stand to let me know they were working. I have a lot of jobs, but this one I have covered, each time, I had already alerted Bryan Walls in the stand.

"I've got a couple of jumpers, working five-eighths."

"The three-minute lickers?"

"Yeah, the three-minute lickers."

The first time Share Out dragged You The Man like he was streamer off the end of a Thanksgiving Day float. The next time, Wyatt changed it up and put You The Man in front, that worked better. The last time, he worked alone, one final prep before making his first start in two-plus years.

If you had read the trainer stats at the bottom of You The Man's chart, it said Wyatt was 36 percent off +180 day layoffs. Do they have a stat for +838?

Owned by Marylander Bill Fossett's Riders Up Farm, You The Man cruised through 2 1/16 miles in the optional claimer, arriving on time to score easily over Brave Prospect and Rainiero. Wyatt hugged his friends, asked my brother Joe and me to get in the picture and celebrated a win that made the summer.

"That was fun having you over there every time he was breezing, then talking about each one," Wyatt said, at the end of the day Thursday.

I walked out of a cocktail party at the Reading Room and thought about all the horses I watched breeze over the past six weeks, how many I discounted, how many were discounted by the clockers, the watchers, the experts. You The Man was in there, discounted because of his three-minute-lick pace by most, but there was a do-it-yourself trainer who put his soul into those breezes, proving that risk and reward are allies in this business.

Yeah, some horse. Some meet.

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