

Year 14 • No. 35

Sunday, August 31, 2014

# The Saratoga Special

Saratoga's Daily Newspaper on Thoroughbred Racing

Final Edition  
of 2014



## Super Dan

Horse of the Year makes stylish return



# Keeneland September

## Yearlings • Week One

### Book 1

*Tuesday • September 9*

**215 WAR FRONT Colt**

*Out of G2 SW SANGRITA. Family of G1 SW OFFLEE WILD*

**260 WAR FRONT Colt**

*Out of GSP SO GLITZY. Family of G1 SW SILVER WAGON*

**353 FLATTER Colt**

*Out of GSW / Stakes Producer TRIP. Family of G1 SW ZENSATIONAL*

*Wednesday • September 10*

**382 WAR FRONT Colt**

*Out of GSW WEND. Family of GSW and NTR CLEARLY NOW*

*Thursday • September 11*

**680 WAR FRONT Colt**

*Out of GOLD VAULT, dam of multiple G1 SW CONTESTED*

### Book 2

**Saturday, September 13**

*Yearlings by Such Sires as: Arch • Flatter • War Front  
Trappe Shot • Pulpit • Curlin • Speightstown • Blame*

*From the Families of **G1 SWs**: Zensational, Preach, Lion Tamer,  
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# here&there... at Saratoga

## NAMES OF THE DAY

**Idiosyncratic, seventh race.** She's by Thewayyouare.

**Sacred Ground, 11th race.** In tribute to Saratoga, the most sacred of all.

**Summer Sunset, Monday's sixth.** Another sunset on Saratoga, see you next year.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**1:** Box of Blow Pops on the tailgate of a blacksmith's truck.

**5:** Ties on a shelf in Tom Law's office at The Special. Time to bring them home.

**26:** Text messages on Kelly Breen's phone in the winner's circle after the Prioress.

## WORTH REPEATING

"He's got a long neck."

**Charlie LoPresti, after Wise Dan stuck his neck out to win the Bernard Baruch by a nose**

"How do you know which race the horse is running in today?"

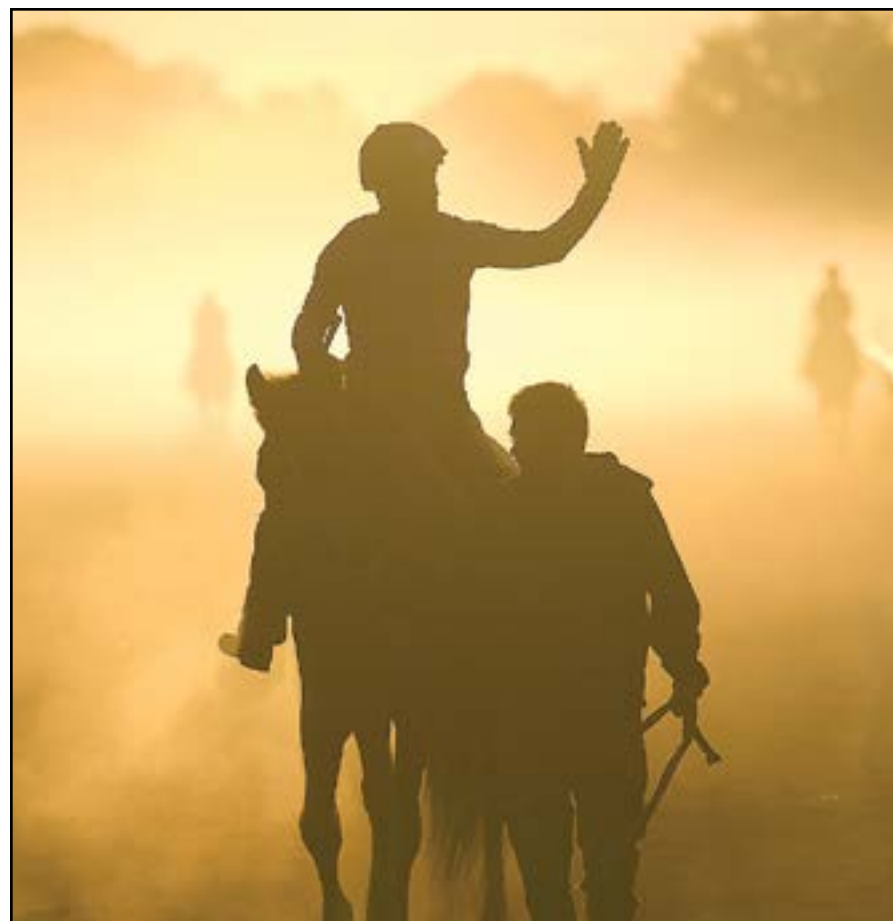
**Fan, watching horses train Saturday morning**

"Good racing. Good reading, too."

**Trainer Leo O'Brien, while reading The Special Saturday morning**

"That's a pamphlet. This is the bible."

**Reader holding The Special to his friend holding another publication**



Tod Marks

So Long Saratoga. It's time to go. Thanks for a great year.

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**Back in Kentucky in 2015.** His fifth-crop yearlings are a must-see.

# Darley



# here&there... at Saratoga

## WORTH REPEATING

“He used to predict winners, now he manages losers.”  
**Trainer about a racing manager**

“The Christmas tree is in the street.”  
**Adam Newman, about the end of Saratoga for another year**

“I came to America and nobody called to me, nobody said good morning. I wanted to go home.”  
**Jock’s agent Winston Heslop, on life in Jamaica vs. life in America**

“The noise he made scared all the hawks out of Saratoga.”  
**Harry Rice, about fellow valet Tony Millan who was stepped on while saddling a horse Friday**

“Mott, Motion, McLaughin, Maker . . . I should get T-shirts made.”  
**Jockey Rajiv Maragh, on a future M&M promotion**

“This is the VIP section. Members only.”  
**Morning Line Kitchen’s Ivan Maira, taking some orders at the side window**

“I should get two points for that one, right?”  
**Maira, admiring his wit**

“I’ve got a Ph.D., but in my case it stands for post hole digger.”  
**Trainer Eric Guillot**

“Get a good picture of Eddie Plesa because I need to get a good voodoo doll of him made.”  
**Eric Guillot after Itsmyluckyday beat Moreno in the Woodward**

“We finished early and now we just wait and fret. It’s a good fret though.”  
**Kelly Wheeler, exercise rider for Charlie LoPresti, waiting on Wise Dan**

“You’ve taken a little bit off your fastball.”  
**Former West Point Thoroughbreds’ chief operating officer to current West Point COO Tom Bellhouse**

“Have you been with The Saratoga Special for a long time? Do you know Ryan Martin?”  
**Stoneway Farm’s Terri Burch, to Special founder Joe Clancy, about 2013 staff writer and Burch’s student at the University of Louisville**


“We keep winning this.”  
**Burch, watching the Prioress replay of Stonetastic winning the Grade 2 stakes**

“That first year, I just wanted to go home. Who was I, coming out of an a-other-than and a two-other-than and running up here in a Grade 1?”  
**Trainer Charlie LoPresti about his first trip to Saratoga with Here Comes Ben for the 2010 Forego**

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

“I love Saratoga. I could stay here. I love the racing here, I love the whole environment so am I looking forward to leaving? No, I actually hate when it closes but you know it’s been a good meet for us and hopefully we can get out of here with another win.”

**Trainer Phil Serpe**



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Fall in the air. The Oklahoma mist carries with it a hint of the end of the season.

Tod Marks

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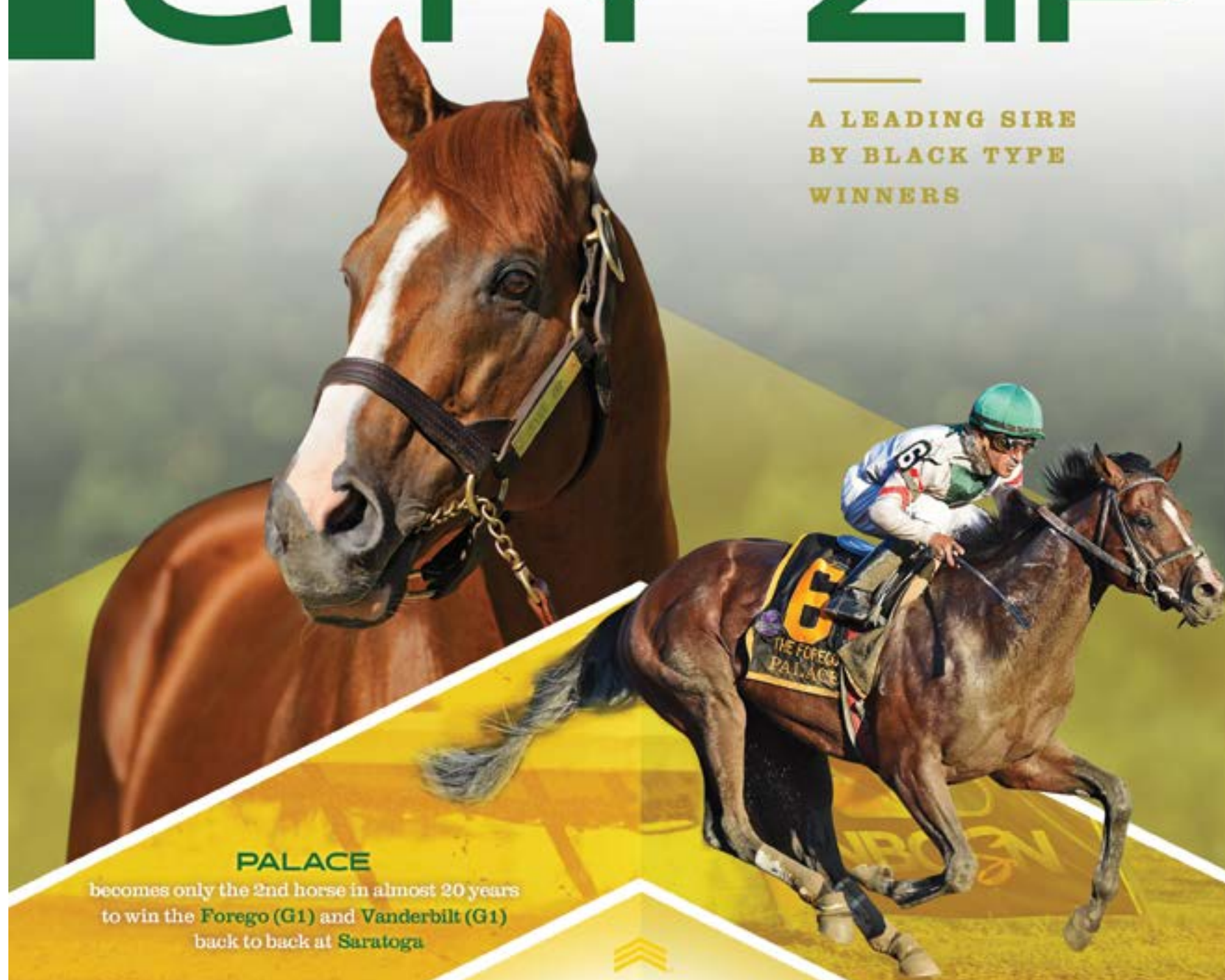




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# Photo of the day

## Gone Home by Connie Bush

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## The Chief . . . Day 35

"My father would say, 'That Allen, he think he know everything.' I would be reading all about the horses, Turf and Sport Digest and there was a book, Training for fun (and Profit – Maybe), by Keene Daingerfield, I read that back and forth. My father saw me rubbing on my horses, he said, 'At least you know how to take care of a horse.' I probably rubbed on them too much, when you only had one, he'd say leave that horse alone. My father got mad at me for not running a horse, he said, 'Why haven't you run Otter Brook?' I said to him, 'I'm trying to get him to look good.' He said, 'stop looking at him and start running him.' He wound up being a nice cheap horse. I'll tell you when he won those races in a row, I was the man then, he was a big, rangy horse, would run off, but he could run a little bit. My father was proud of me. He was as good a guy as you could ever meet."

– **Trainer Allen Jerkens**



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Tod Marks photo

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# Pressing Buttons

Itsmyluckyday pushes early, prevails late to win Grade 1 slugfest

BY TOM LAW

Eddie Plesa wasn't about to take complete credit for one equipment change making all the difference in one race.

He knew it wouldn't fly, and anybody else with a remote sense of the veteran horseman's accomplishments and talents knew it wasn't the end all be all when it came to turning the tables in Saturday's \$600,000 Woodward Stakes at Saratoga Race Course.

"Did the blinkers make a difference in the race?" Plesa said after Itsmyluckyday and his half-cup blinkers reversed the outcome from the Aug. 2 Whitney Invitational over the ever-stubborn Moreno in the Grade 1 Woodward. "It was part of the process. Was it only the blinkers? There were other factors involved.

"I'm speaking honestly here. I could easily say, 'yeah, I'm just the smartest guy today and I put those blinkers on and it worked.' That's not the case. I think they helped. I don't think they made him the winner. There were more things involved."

Certainly there were many factors, the blinkers most definitely in the mix.

A key factor in Itsmyluckyday, once considered a leading Triple Crown contender who finished second in the Preakness before a season-ending injury last summer, winning his first Grade 1 was in Plesa's and jockey Paco Lopez's strategy for the Woodward.

Moreno was unquestionably the speed of the race. Everyone knew that and in case they didn't, trainer Eric Guillot wasn't shy about reminding them in the immediate days leading up to the third to last Grade 1 of the 2014 Saratoga meeting.

Plesa knew it, too. Looking at the complexion of the Woodward when 10 entered, including five who couldn't catch the front-running Moreno in the Whitney, Plesa knew Paco Lopez needed to keep the Lawyer Ron colt a little closer than he did last time. He also knew Itsmyluckyday would need to follow a straighter course, which he didn't do in



Itsmyluckyday (center) digs in late to get past Moreno (right) in Saturday's Woodward.

Tod Marks

the Whitney when he tried Moreno first from the inside, then the outside, zigging and zagging in the stretch to no avail and falling 1 ¼ lengths short.

Lopez breezed Itsmyluckyday twice for Plesa at Monmouth Park, both times with the blinkers. They both noticed a more focused Itsmyluckyday, a graded stakes winner the last two seasons.

"I worked him twice and he worked unbelievable in the morning," Lopez said.

Guillot wanted to keep the Moreno's candle lit and breezed the Ghostzapper gelding just once between the Whitney and the Woodward. He jogged him mostly, as he frequently does, but turned him around the morning after last weekend's Travers and watched him zip a bullet 5 furlongs in :59.28 on the tight and fast main track.

The addition of the blinkers to Itsmyluckyday didn't signal that Plesa wanted to go head-to-head with the Whitney winner just that he wanted his colt to stay focused on the frontrunner and not get lost.

"He did what he needed to do in a manner that nobody would dispute was spot on and he was the best horse today," Plesa said. "They helped some. I'm not going to say it was the blinkers and I'm a genius. That's not the case.

"Paco rode an outstanding race, a perfect race. We did what we talked about, we didn't want to give Moreno a breather, we didn't want to have to depend on anyone else and the outcome was,

Moreno ran a fantastic race, he just came up a little short today against us under different circumstances. I think they're two great horses."

The bettors had a difficult time deciding between the top two from the Whitney, finally settling on Moreno at 2.65-1 to Itsmyluckyday at 2.85-1. Speed fared well on the main track all afternoon and Moreno looked to have an advantage when he got away with a relatively soft opening quarter in :24.01 with Itsmyluckyday a length back with Romanish, Long River and Prayer for Relief chasing.

The second quarter was quicker than the first, Moreno clicking off a :47.41 split and the third was nearly as fast as Junior Alvarado rationed out the front-runner's speed in 1:10.94. Itsmyluckyday and Lopez were never out of contact or more than a length behind from that point and drew alongside the leader around the far turn.

Alvarado went to work on Moreno first while Lopez still waited. Itsmyluckyday finally stuck a nose in front inside the furlong marker, edged clear just a bit and was a half-length in front at the finish. The final time was 1:48.84, a touch slower than the 1:48.04 Moreno needed to win the Whitney.

"Just like the Travers," Guillot said as he went to meet Moreno and Alvarado, referring to a tough beat by Will Take Charge in the final jump last year. "The horse ran his race. Sometimes you win, some-

See **WOODWARD** page 10 ►



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# SUPER SAVER

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Tod Marks

Itsmyluckyday (right) breaks sharply and a step ahead of Moreno (white blinkers).

## Woodward —

### ■ Continued from page 8

times you run second. He's consistent. He ran his race. He was ahead of the others by 2 or 3 don't you think? A couple? I didn't see, I was paying attention to my horse. What are you going to do, go to bed, rest, get up in the morning and start all over again."

The outcome wasn't decided completely at the finish. Stewards flashed the inquiry sign and Alvarado claimed foul. Itsmyluckyday bumped with Moreno five times from the three-sixteenths pole to the wire, although the runner-up gave a few back inside the final sixteenth.

The stewards talked with the riders on the phone, looked at the stretch run for a few minutes and left the result.

"They can do what they want, but the horse got hit pretty hard like six times," Guillot said. "Bounced – bam, bam, bam. I don't know. I've got to go back and take a look.

"He bumped him hard. I couldn't tell if it was coming in or out, except mine has a history of going straight and his has a history of coming in last time. He hit him pretty hard. Bounced him off there. What are you going to do? It's Eddie's turn."

Plesa didn't see any reason to dispute the stewards' ruling and Itsmyluckyday takes his turn toward the top of the East Coast's older male division. Not that he was ever very far from that spot.

Itsmyluckyday suffered a broken pelvis in last year's Grade 3 Pegasus about a month after he finished second to Oxbow in the Preakness and spent nearly nine months on the sidelines. He returned in early March and was no match for Palace Malice in the Grade 2 Gulfstream Park Handicap going the one-turn mile after showing speed. Itsmyluckyday won three in a row after that loss, including a 1 ½-length score in Monmouth Park's Grade 3 Salvator Mile less than a month before the Whitney.

Long before Itsmyluckyday returned to the races from his injury he told his owners, his wife Laurie and Trilogy Stable, that he expected big things from the colt who was actually the sixth choice in Orb's Kentucky Derby victory before finishing a disastrous 15th in the slop at Churchill Downs.

"I told the owners, the partners, to get tied on, this is going to be as exciting second half of the year as last year was the first half of the year," Plesa said. "So between last year's first half and this year's second half, we're going to have a great year."



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Firestar	Seeking Daylight
Fleet Foot	Smart Guy
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# Saratoga Moment

Racing star Wise Dan comes up big in return

BY SEAN CLANCY

Charlie LoPresti stood at the big screen TV in the clubhouse, surrounded by Wise Dan's team. Owners Morton and Elaine Fink waited to LoPresti's left, assistant Reeve McGaughey and exercise riders Damien Rock and Kelly Wheeler stood in front of LoPresti as Wise Dan warmed up on the main track, minutes to post for the Grade 2 Bernard Baruch, the fifth race on the afternoon but the feature of the year.

"We have to put it into perspective today," LoPresti said. "It's not about winning today. I hope he does, but he doesn't have to win today."



Tod Marks

**Horse of the Year Wise Dan fights off Optimizer (left) to win Saturday's Bernard Baruch.**

The pep talk was as much for himself as for anybody else.

McGaughey looked at the ground. Wheeler looked at the TV. Rock filled space, "Good luck guys."

Wise Dan loaded into stall 4 in the field of nine, his team stood in silence, then winced in agony as Wise Dan reared up and Velazquez scrambled to his

right, latching onto the pole of the gate.

"Oh no, no, no, no, no," LoPresti pleaded, as Velazquez leapt out of the back of the gate.

Backed out, Wise Dan stood for a moment, a few feet from his stall as Velazquez walked it off.

"Oh, man. Johnny all right?" LoPresti said. "He

See **BARUCH** page 14 ►

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# Baruch —

## ■ Continued from page 12

didn't do anything that bad. Hell, when we stood him he was good."

Reloaded, Wise Dan acted like it never happened, standing like a rock. Wise Dan broke well and meshed into a perfect spot in fourth as Five Iron set up in front. The Canadian shipper posted a quarter in :23.26 while opening up 3 lengths around the first turn as Bio Pro set up in second and Sayaad stalked outside in third. Velazquez hovered as Wise Dan accepted the position through a half in :46.32. Strong at times, Wise Dan lobbed along, willing to watch.

"I was comfortable the whole way, he was so kind today," Velazquez said. "I had it in the back of my mind, I'm going to try to just to make one run from the quarter pole home because I know he's been off for a long time. His last two or three works, it looked like he was waking up, I wanted to be a little cautious with him to not make a premature move and have him get tired."

Into the second turn, Five Iron led as Sayaad moved into second, Bio Pro slipped to third and Wise Dan began to edge closer in the clear after three quarters in 1:09.77.

"Stay there, stay there, stay there, put him in a



Tod Marks

**Trainer Charlie LoPresti blows off a little energy after stable star Wise Dan returned with a win.**

nice position at the five sixteenths pole," Velazquez said, reeling off his thoughts. "I wheeled him out and he responded right away. Quick."

Turning into the stretch, Five Iron clung from the hedge, Sayaad battled to his right and Velazquez pumped his Hall of Fame shoulders, waving his whip right-handed before finally flicking him twice underhanded and then twice overhanded – remind-

ing, not punishing – as he blew past the eighth pole. Wise Dan hit his targets, easing past Sayaad and Five Iron but it was far from over.

"I was just hoping I didn't get there too soon, which I didn't, but the last 20 yards, he was getting tired," Velazquez said. "I had those two guys, the worry was somebody else was coming, sure enough, I look out and I hit him and somebody's coming."

Velazquez saw Optimizer in the waning strides. Switching his whip to his left hand, he flicked Wise Dan twice before the wire. The 29-1 shot rallied from the outside, edging closer with every stride, the wire decided it as Wise Dan reached the line a nose faster than Optimizer.

LoPresti watched in silence, never uttering a word or making a move until the duo flashed past the wire.

"He didn't get me, did he?" LoPresti said, turning on his heel and slapping his hand down like he was throwing a hatchet into a log.

Nobody thought Optimizer got there, but it was too close to celebrate.

Walking toward the winner's circle, LoPresti hesitated as announcer Tom Durkin made the call, "Wise Dan did it."

LoPresti leapt in the air and hugged a friend.

"I'm proud of you Charlie."

See **BARUCH** page 16 ►

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Tod Marks

**Wise Dan returns after his 22nd lifetime win for owner/breeder Morton Fink.**

## Baruch —

■ Continued from page 14

"I'm proud of him, man," LoPresti said. "I'm proud of him."

LoPresti, Wheeler, Rock and McGaughey met on the track and shook their heads at the latest Wise Dan marvel. More relief than elation, the big horse was back.

Velazquez eased the 7-year-old gelding to a jog in front of his team as the crowd erupted in applause, the loudest ovation of the meet.

Fink walked toward the winner's circle and smiled because of the performance and the ovation.

"Waiting all that time and not knowing if he'll come back the same..." Fink said, shaking his head.

It was everybody's sentiment.

Returning from a nearly four-month layoff after emergency colic surgery, the reigning two-time Horse of the Year earned his 22nd career win. Carrying 127 pounds, Wise Dan won his fourth in a row, 13th of his last 14 starts, increasing his earnings to \$6,952,920. He hasn't finished

worse than second since the 2011 Shadwell Turf Mile. Wise Dan completed the 1 1/16 miles in 1:39.08, just .15 off Fourstardave's record, set in 1991 while carrying 115 pounds.

"Johnny said he was tired, carrying all that weight, one tick off the track record, that's tough," LoPresti said. "He's an unbelievable horse, for him to overcome what he's overcome..."

Velazquez added the Bernard Baruch to his Wise Dan trophy case that includes two Woodbine Miles, two Fourstardaves, a Churchill Downs Turf Classic, a Maker's Mark 46 Mile, a Firecracker, a Breeders' Cup Mile, a Ben Ali and a Clark Handicap.

"I think he's as good today as he's ever been, coming from the layoff like this, carrying 127 pounds, that's a good horse right there," Velazquez said. "To run his race, and they ran fast too. They were running the whole way around there. I'm proud that he put up a good fight. They don't come that often, good horses like this, they just don't. Everybody should appreciate this horse, what he went through, look at how he comes back, that's incredible."

See **BARUCH** page 18 ►



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# Baruch —

■ Continued from page 16

LoPresti has agonized over Wise Dan all meet. The Kentucky-based trainer thought about trying the Fourstardave Aug. 9. Wise Dan breezed a half mile in :49.12 on the Oklahoma turf July 18, it was fine.

He returned a week later to go 5 furlongs in 1:03.72 and change, that was fine too, but the trees weren't swaying behind him like they had in previous years. LoPresti regrouped, scrapped the Fourstardave, and put him through four breezes on the main track. After the latest, a half mile move in 47.92, LoPresti felt like it was time go.

"You can leave a steak on the grill too long," LoPresti said. "That's what I was worried about, he was on the engine, tight."

Still debating over the Woodbine Mile in two weeks or the Baruch, while leaning toward the latter, LoPresti called Fink.

"I told Mr. Fink, 'I'm fine with whatever you want to do even though he's got to carry the weight and it's 250.' He said, 'the money doesn't matter,' " LoPresti said. "I said, 'You study the PPs and call me and tell me what you want to do.' He called me and said, 'He'll be 2/5, run him.' I was glad he went that way."

With scheduled starts in the Shadwell Mile at Keeneland Oct. 4 and a defense of his Breeders' Cup Mile crown Nov. 1, Wise Dan passed the first test. He and LoPresti will rejoin LoPresti's wife Amy in Kentucky next week.



Tod Marks

Wise Dan backs off the early leaders just after the start of the Bernard Baruch.

"Now he can stay here until Tuesday, catch his breath, go home, chill out. I might take him home to the farm for a week, walk him around the paddock, eat grass, let Amy ride him around," LoPresti said. "I really wanted it for him. My biggest fear was that he wouldn't run. You never know, the surgeons told us he would be all right, but who knows what that does to a horse inside. What a ride he's put us on. What a ride."

Back at the barn, as the field for the Prioress

ran past, Wise Dan stared out his back window. McGaughey knelt in the straw and packed Wise Dan's feet with Magic Cushion, then wound Vetrap around each hoof.

Done up in four bandages, poulticed in front, ointment applied to a minor cut on his right pastern, Wise Dan fidgeted with his final hoof, pulling it out of McGaughey's hands over and over.

"He makes all the rules," McGaughey said. Breaks them too.



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### CHILUKKI (GII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 1	Closes Oct. 15
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination Fee)
Fillies & Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 Mile

### RIVER CITY HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 8	Closes Oct. 22
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination Fee)
Three Year Olds & Up	1 1/8 Miles Turf

### MRS. REVERE (GII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 15	Closes Oct. 29
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination Fee)
Fillies, Three Years Old	1 1/16 Miles Turf

### COMMONWEALTH TURF (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 15	Closes Oct. 29
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination Fee)
Three Year Olds	1 1/16 Miles Turf

### CARDINAL HANDICAP (GIII)

Runs Sat., Nov. 22	Closes Nov. 5
\$100,000	(\$100 nomination Fee)
Fillies and Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 1/8 Miles Turf

### FALLS CITY HANDICAP (GII)

Runs Thurs., Nov. 27	Closes Nov. 12
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination Fee)
Fillies and Mares, Three Years Old & Up	1 1/8 Miles

### CLARK HANDICAP (GI)

Runs Fri., Nov. 28	Closes Nov. 12
\$500,000	(\$300 nomination Fee)
Three Year Olds & Up	1 1/8 Miles

### KENTUCKY JOCKEY CLUB (GII) 2015 KY Derby Point Race

Runs Sat., Nov. 29	Closes Nov. 12
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination Fee)
Two Year Olds	1 1/16 Miles

### GOLDEN ROD (GII) 2015 KY Oaks Point Race

Runs Sat., Nov. 29	Closes Nov. 12
\$200,000	(\$200 nomination Fee)
Fillies, Two Years Old	1 1/16 Miles

Ben Huffman, Racing Secretary: 502-638-3820  
Dan Bork, Stakes Coordinator: 502-638-3806  
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Tod Marks

Palace leads the field late in the Forego, his second Grade 1 of the meet.

# Royal Sprinter

## NY-bred Palace demolishes field for second Grade 1 win of meet

BY RYAN JONES

FOREGO STAKES RECAP

The day doesn't end when you win a Grade 1. Linda Rice walked side-by-side with Luis Saez and Cornelio Velasquez after Saturday's final race at Saratoga Race Course, quizzing them, a dedicated trainer searching for answers.

With losing Woodward Stakes tickets littering the ground, shadows stretched to the max by a fading sun, Rice gathered information on her two horses in the day's 12th, less than two hours after winning her second Grade 1 stakes of the meet with Palace in the Forego.

On the first August Saturday of the meet, Rice and 5-year-old New York-bred son of City Zip highlighted the Whitney Invitational undercard, winning the Grade 1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt in Palace's best performance to date. He topped that performance Saturday.

Palace stalked, sliced, then rolled away to a 3 1/2-length victory over nine

opponents in the Forego. One would think that coming off a Grade 1 score earlier in the meet, Palace would have a decided advantage in the public eye, but there must have been more than a few naysayers in the stands.

"When I walked in the paddock and looked at the board and he was 6-1, I thought 'Jeez, how could I be so wrong? What does everyone else know that I don't know?' " Rice said with a laugh.

"I thought, 'he isn't going off at 6-1, he's got to be second choice in this race to Clearly Now. But maybe it's possible that the fact that I was 50/50 to run or 60/40 to run, maybe that made people think, 'Linda's questioning whether or not she should run this horse 7 furlongs.' I basically made it public knowledge that I think the best distance is a little shorter. Maybe that's why they had him at such a

See **FOREGO** page 21 ►



# Forego —

## ■ Continued from page 20

long price, but I thought it was absurd.”

Rice nailed it. Palace wound up the 4-1 second choice to the Brian Lynch-trained Clearly Now, the clear favorite at 4/5.

The Forego set up as a rematch between two of North America's top older sprinters, Palace and Clearly Now, who had met on one previous occasion in the July 5 Belmont Sprint Championship. Clearly Now took no prisoners that day, setting a track record for 7 furlongs at Belmont, while Palace finished a well-beaten second.

Palace returned to the races first, striking gold in the Vanderbilt, practically begging Clearly Now for a rematch. Rice knew what she had in Palace, and pegged Clearly Now as beatable. A student of the game, Rice did her research.

“I felt that Clearly Now's best distance is absolutely 7 furlongs, but he also shows a lot of inconsistency in his form,” Rice said. “I had read that he was training beautifully, but he's a horse that finds trouble. He ran the race of a lifetime at Belmont, set a track record, just an enormous effort and I thought there's a good chance that he wasn't going to reproduce it today. He's just not supposed to. It was the race of a lifetime. So I thought considering the fact that he's a little inconsistent and he finds trouble, that was an advantage for us.”

The hypothesis panned out. Longshots Zee

Bros and Weekend Hideaway stormed to the lead out of the gate in the 7-furlong Forego and Palace and Velasquez set up shop just off the pace.

“This horse, he enjoys sitting behind a fast pace and stalking,” Rice said. “He likes to be covered up, he enjoys that trip. But when you're running 7 furlongs, Cornelio and I talked about it that we might not get the same set up.”

Indeed.

Zee Bros was intent on pushing the pace, covering a quarter in :22.48 and backing it up with a half in :45.23.

“We didn't want to strangle him back behind horses to cover him up,” Rice said of the decision to let Palace stalk in range of the hot pace. “Going 7/8ths we were going to have to let him free wheel it on the front end or close to it. There were only really two speed horses on paper and I told Cornelio, ‘Listen, you may find yourself on the lead or sitting second or third, behind those two.’ ”

Again, Rice nailed it.

Still third into the top of the stretch, Velasquez seized an opportunity to duck inside, practically scraping the paint off the inside rail. With a clear path to the finish, and a gentle reminder that they were fighting for a Grade 1, Palace unleashed a torrid sprint home. The race was over before the field hit the sixteenth pole.

“I wanted to stay in position behind the speed but I had a lot of horse,” Velasquez said as he made his way out of the winner's circle. “I went away for the last three-sixteenths, up and inside.

See **FOREGO** page 24 ►



Tod Marks

Palace laughs it up after winning the Forego.



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# Fast Filly

Stonetastic blazes to Gr. 2 sprint score for Stoneway, Breen

BY JOE CLANCY

Trainers get paid to make horses fast. Unless the horse is Stonetastic and the trainer is Kelly Breen.

"She's fast, she's always been fast," he said after the 3-year-old filly took down Saturday's Grade 2 Prioress at Saratoga Race Course. "She works extremely fast. It's a matter of trying to slow her down. She's too fast for her own good. But it's nice to have those problems. We have plenty we are trying to speed up."

The gray daughter of Mizzen Mast broke a half-step behind 2-1 favorite Miss Behaviour, but quickly responded to jockey Paco Lopez and claimed the top spot from post two. From there, it was a formality. Miss Behaviour backed off to stalk. Stoneway Farm's Stonetastic went the first quarter-mile



Tod Marks

**Stonetastic skips home with a lopsided win in Saturday's Prioress Stakes.**

in :22.27, on a loose rein and a length in front of Miss Behaviour and Southern Honey. Stonetastic made it 2 lengths on the turn and got the half-mile in :44.75.

Coming out of the turn, Lopez took one peek over his right shoulder and liked what he saw so much he looked again a few strides later. Then he checked the left side, glanced twice more under his

right elbow after 5 furlongs in :56.60, shook the reins a few times and let his filly draw off by 8 1/2 lengths in 1:08.88. Miss Behaviour stayed for second, a neck ahead of Southern Honey as the race's other seven starters finished 2 1/2 lengths apart.

Breen felt like the others might be getting to his filly coming to the stretch, but exhaled once he saw

See **PRIORESS** page 23 ►

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# Prioress —

■ Continued from page 22

his jockey look for competition.

"I thought they were coming for him and I kind of said 'Come on, Paco, they're gaining on you,' but that angle makes you think they're closer than they are," the trainer said. "She was pretty well-reserved. He had plenty of horse, way more than it looked like at first."

The Prioress drew a field of eight coming from a variety of directions. Maryland-based Miss Behaviour exited the Grade 1 Test, where she nearly pulled a 15-1 upset, falling a length short of Sweet Reason in the 7-furlong race Aug. 2. Sweet Whiskey (fifth), Tea Time (seventh) and Grade 3 winner Southern Honey (ninth) also shortened up a furlong from the Test. Larry Jones shipped Thirteen Arrows up from Delaware Park off an allowance win. Who's In Town finished second in Monmouth Park's Miss Woodford going 6 furlongs July 20 while Princess Violet cut back from the 1 1/16-mile Mother Goose at Belmont in June.

Sent off as the nearly 6-1 third choice, Stonetastic had them all struggling early.

Purchased for \$77,000 by Stoneway at Keeneland September 2012, the Kentucky-bred grew up on the Louisville farm and then went to Barry Eisaman in Florida. She was one of the bunch at a gallop, a standout in her breezes.

"Her first breeze that we saw, she was just galloping very nice and when she kicked into a breeze, she glided," said Stoneway's Terri Burch. "We knew we had a special filly then. That's a very nice feeling."

The 2-year-old season also included a second to Untapable in the Grade 2 Pocahontas at Churchill Downs, a fourth behind Stopchargingmaria in the Grade 3 Tempted at Aqueduct and a third in the Grade 2 Golden Rod at Churchill Downs in late November. Stonetastic kept the campaign going with a third on the turf in Gulfstream Park's Ginger Brew Jan. 5, then spent a cold winter at Stoneway — a 270-acre farm near Louisville.

The time off helped her grow up, Burch said. "We had a terrible winter, it was so cold. Then when we started her back, she went through a giant growth spurt so we had to slow down a little bit."

Stonetastic was at Skylight Training Center in mid-June, before join-



Tod Marks

Stonetastic exits the winner's circle.

ing Breen's string at Monmouth Park. She returned off a six-month layoff to blast an optional claimer by 6 3/4 lengths in 1:09.76 for 6 furlongs.

Then came the Prioress, and the first trip to Saratoga for Burch and Jim Stone since Proper Gamble finished fourth in the 2002 Test.

"We might come a little more often after a race like that," said Stone, who bought Stoneway in 1998. The operation includes roughly 70 horses, including 16 broodmares and activating as a buyer and seller at the sales. Stone is the owner and president of a trucking company, Mercer Transportation, based in Louisville.

For Breen, the win was his third at the meet from just six starters, and came a week after his father John "Jackie" Breen died at 84. Kelly Breen credited his father with getting him into racing.

"We would go to Monmouth Park together," he said. "We found a program of his underneath his bed — 1981. I was 12 years old and it was on his birthday. Where did we go on my dad's birthday? Monmouth Park. That tells you something. And the program was in pristine shape."

Jackie Breen, a member of the Steamfitters Union, would be a fan of Stonetastic.

"She's a character in the barn, she pins her ears back when the wrong person comes around, and puts them up when the right person comes around," said Kelly. "She's in the stall next to the feed room. She gets a carrot, every time."

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Continued from page 21

My horse is a good horse, now in good condition. I think he’s the best sprinting horse now.”

Palace has now won 11 of 21 starts for \$1,309,550.

Rice, who trained City Zip, noted the similarities between father and son.

“He shows up every time,” Rice said of Palace. “That’s one thing about him. He shows up just like his father. City Zip won every 2-year-old stakes race at Saratoga. He dead-heated in the Hopeful at 7 furlongs. Seven furlongs was not beyond his realm of possibility as a 2-year-old but the biggest strength of City Zip was that every time you ran him he showed up. I see a lot of that in Palace. It’s just an enormous quality.”

Rice and owner Antonio Miuccio hope the Palace’s run continues through the fall and at the Breeders’ Cup Sprint at Santa Anita Park.

Rice originally targeted the Grade 1 Vosburgh Invitational going 6 furlongs Sept. 27 at Belmont Park for Palace’s next start after the Vanderbilt. She changed plans based on how well Palace was training at Saratoga.

“I had really planned on running him in the Vosburgh,” she said. “Running today, I had to just let it unfold. Grade 1s don’t come around everyday. It’s a big purse. I don’t think you should sit on your laurels and wait for a better day. When the horse has been training as well as he has, we’re here, it’s in our backyard, it’s a Grade 1, it’s \$500,000. It would be foolish to sit on him and wait for something to go wrong. That was my perspective on it.

“Ideally the Vosburgh into the Breeder’s Cup Sprint was our best-case scenario. Today’s race was yes or no. I played it out all week, watched him train, breezed him twice into the race. Frankly the deciding factor was probably when I trained him this morning, he was bucking and playing coming off the racetrack. That was the moment right there, I said ‘we’re running,’”

Miuccio was glad Rice made that decision and soaked up his second trip to the Saratoga winner’s circle this summer.

“It’s beautiful, Saratoga, what do I got to say,” said Miuccio, an infectious smile spread from ear to ear. “I feel 100 percent. I’m an old man. I feel young.”

SATURDAY’S SARATOGA RESULTS

Saturday August 30.

<b>FIRST \$83,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 1 1/16M</b>				
3 Firespike	J. Castellano	\$5.30	\$3.40	\$2.30
1 Congrats to Ken	J. Rocco, Jr.	\$10.20	\$5.80	
8 Tapkee	J. Velazquez		\$3.90	
B Colt 2012, by Flower Alley - Fairy Valley by Dixieland Band Owner: Skychai Racing LLC and Warner, Charles Kevin. Trainer: Michael Maker. Breeder: Carlos Rafael, Michael Bossio &Cherie Abner (FL). Late Scratches: Lucky Leroy Brown, King of New York, Royal Squeeze Time: 1:43.88 Exacta (3-1), \$49.40; Superfecta (3-1-8-10), \$1,188.00; Trifecta (3-1-8), \$183.50				
<b>SECOND \$83,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 7F</b>				
4 Two Weeks Off	J. Velazquez	\$5.90	\$3.50	\$2.50
3 Easy Comparison	J. Ortiz	\$13.00	\$7.10	
1 Da Jenius	R. Napravnik		\$3.80	
Dk B/ Br Colt 2012, by Harlan’s Holiday - Havenlass by Elusive Quality Owner: Starlight Racing. Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Breeder: Haymarket Farm LLC (KY). Time: 1:23.50 Daily Double (3-4), \$15.00; Exacta (4-3), \$92.50; Quinella (3-4), \$60.50; Superfecta (4-3-1-5), \$4,016.00; Trifecta (4-3-1), \$346.00				
<b>THIRD \$93,000, AOC \$80,000, 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 1M</b>				
3 Set the Sail	S. Bridgmohan	\$18.80	\$8.90	\$4.60
9 Sinatra	M. Franco	\$8.30	\$4.20	
5 (dq)Mshawish	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$2.60	
Gr/ro Gelding 2009, by Mizzen Mast - Tartufi by Mr. Greeley Owner: Alexander, Elisabeth, H.. Trainer: Charles LoPresti. Breeder: Elisabeth Alexander (KY). Late Scratches: River Rocks, Honorable Dillon, Salutos Amigos, Readthebyline, Victor Laszlo, St Moose Time: 1:34.69 Daily Double (4-3), \$63.00; Exacta (3-9), \$122.50; Superfecta (3-9-5-6), \$1,471.00; Trifecta (3-9-5), \$525.00; Pic 3 (3-4-3), \$216.50				
<b>FOURTH \$83,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 7F</b>				
5 El Kabeir	I. Ortiz, Jr.	\$7.50	\$3.70	\$2.70
7 Royal Son	J. Velazquez		\$2.70	\$2.10
4 King Rontos	J. Castellano		\$3.60	
Gr/ro Colt 2012, by Scat Daddy - Great Venue by Unbridled’s Song Owner: Zayat Stables, LLC. Trainer: John Terranova, II. Breeder: Rustlewood Farm, Inc. (FL). Time: 1:22.16 Daily Double (3-5), \$75.50; Exacta (5-7), \$17.60; Quinella (5-7), \$7.40; Superfecta (5-7-4-1), \$824.00; Trifecta (5-7-4), \$81.00; Pic 3 (4-3-5), \$278.00				
<b>FIFTH \$250,000, STAKES - BERNARD BARUCH H., 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 1 1/16M</b>				
4 Wise Dan	J. Velazquez	\$3.60	\$3.10	\$2.20
2 Optimizer	A. Garcia	\$14.60	\$8.20	
8 Five Iron	J. Rosario		\$4.70	
Ch Gelding 2007, by Wiseman’s Ferry - Lisa Danielle by Wolf Power (SAF) Owner: Fink, Morton. Trainer: Charles LoPresti. Breeder: Mort Fink (KY). Late Scratches: Red Rifle, Lea Time: 1:39.08 Daily Double (5-4), \$14.00; Exacta (4-2), \$69.50; Trifecta (4-2-8), \$419.00; Pic 3 (3-5-4), \$160.50; Pic 4 (4-3-5-4/5/7), \$654.00; Pic 5 (3/11/12/13-4-3-5-4/5/7), \$1,592.00				

<b>SIXTH \$58,000, STARTERS ALLOWANCE \$25,000, 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 7F</b>				
10 Prosecution	S. Bridgmohan	\$6.80	\$4.20	\$3.40
1A M J Plus	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$7.80	\$5.10
7 Doc Almon	J. Castellano			\$6.00
Dk B/ Br Gelding 2009, by A.P. Indy - Awesome Humor by Distorted Humor Owner: Flurry Racing Stables LLC and Weast, Starsky. Trainer: Brad Cox. Breeder: WinStar Farm, LLC (KY). Late Scratches: Tony B, Joan’s Choice, Pretension Time: 1:23.07 Daily Double (4-10), \$14.60; Exacta (10-1), \$46.20; Superfecta (10-1-7-5), \$3,797.00; Trifecta (10-1-7), \$295.50; Pic 3 (5-4-10), \$57.00				
<b>SEVENTH \$83,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 1M</b>				
3 Hope Cross (IRE)	J. Castellano	\$5.60	\$3.30	\$2.70
4 Colorful	J. Rosario		\$4.70	\$4.00
6 Giant’s Jewel	J. Rocco, Jr.			\$7.60
B Filly 2011, by Cape Cross (IRE) - Great Hope (IRE) by Halling Owner: Bryant, Magalen, O.. Trainer: Chad Brown. Breeder: P. A. Byrne (IRE). Late Scratches: Engaginglee, Truly Mizzed, Coronette, See Ya Signe Time: 1:36.19 Daily Double (10-3), \$19.40; Exacta (3-4), \$26.20; Superfecta (3-4-6-5), \$1,231.00; Trifecta (3-4-6), \$251.50; Pic 3 (4-10-3), \$44.80				
<b>EIGHTH \$300,000, STAKES - PRIORESS S., 3 YO, 6F</b>				
2 Stonetastic	P. Lopez	\$13.00	\$5.90	\$4.40
6 Miss Behaviour	J. Castellano		\$3.70	\$2.60
3 Southern Honey	J. Leparoux			\$5.10
Gr/ro Filly 2011, by Mizzen Mast - Special Me by Unbridled’s Song Owner: Stoneway Farm. Trainer: Kelly Breen. Breeder: Machmer Hall, Carrie Brogden & Craig Brogden (KY). Time: 1:08.88 Daily Double (3-2), \$53.50; Exacta (2-6), \$63.00; Superfecta (2-6-3-7), \$2,572.00; Trifecta (2-6-3), \$490.00; Pic 3 (10-3-2), \$214.50				
<b>NINTH \$85,000, ALLOWANCE, 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 5 1/2F</b>				
2 Zamquick	R. Napravnik	\$53.00	\$18.00	\$8.70
8 Ballerina Belle	J. Ortiz		\$4.00	\$2.80
7 Scatcapade	R. Maragh			\$5.20
Ch Mare 2009, by Pomeroy - Zamsweet by Zamindar Owner: Whisper Hill Farm. Trainer: Eddie Kenneally. Breeder: Arlene M. Powell (FL). Late Scratches: Paddle Board, Gratitude, What the Frost Time: 1:01.83 Daily Double (2-2), \$358.00; Exacta (2-8), \$222.00; Superfecta (2-8-7-6), \$10,285.00; Trifecta (2-8-7), \$1,148.00; Pic 3 (3-2-2), \$1,848.00				
<b>TENTH \$500,000, STAKES - FOREGO S., 3 YO’S &amp; UP, 7F</b>				
6 Palace	C. Velasquez	\$10.60	\$4.50	\$4.00
2 Big Business	J. Alvarado		\$15.20	\$9.00
3 Vyjack	I. Ortiz, Jr.			\$6.40
B Horse 2009, by City Zip - Receivership by End Sweep Owner: Miuccio, Antonino. Trainer: Linda Rice. Breeder: The Peter J. Callahan Revocable TrustDated 2/28/02 (NY). Late Scratches: Falling Sky Time: 1:21.95 Daily Double (2-6), \$303.00; Exacta (6-2), \$120.50; Superfecta (6-2-3-1), \$6,962.00; Trifecta (6-2-3), \$901.00; Pic 3 (2-2-6), \$2,389.00				

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# SATURDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS PHOTOS

BY TOD MARKS AND DAVE HARMON



## ELEVENTH \$600,000, STAKES - WOODWARD S., 3 & UP, 1 1/8M

2	Itsmyluckyday	P. Lopez	\$7.70	\$3.70	\$3.00
4	Moreno	J. Alvarado		\$4.20	\$3.00
5	Prayer for Relief	J. Velazquez			\$6.00

Dk B/ Br Colt 2010, by Lawyer Ron - Viva La Slew by Doneraile Court  
 Owner: Trilogy Stable and Plesa, Laurie. Trainer: Edward Plesa, Jr..  
 Breeder: Liberation Farm & Brandywine Farm (KY).  
 Late Scratches: Micromanage  
 Time: 1:48.84  
 Daily Double (6-2), \$43.20; Exacta (2-4), \$22.80; Trifecta (2-4-5), \$184.50; Pic 3 (2-6-2), \$1,001.00; Place Pix Nine (2/3/6-2/3/7/8/12/14-2/3/6-2), \$59.50

## TWELFTH \$85,000, ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 3/16M

6	Protection	J. Ortiz	\$51.50	\$18.60	\$12.60
8	Iron Power	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$5.40	\$3.90
1	Jonrah	M. Franco			\$6.70

Dk B/ Br Gelding 2010, by Exchange Rate - Canopy by Pulpit  
 Owner: Lake Lonely Racing. Trainer: Jonathan Sheppard.  
 Breeder: Pin Oak Stud, LLC (KY).  
 Late Scratches: Street Gent, Matuszak, Classic Sense, Grand Strand, Sir Leslie  
 Time: 1:54.16  
 Daily Double (2-6), \$223.00; Exacta (6-8), \$266.00; Superfecta (6-8-1-11), \$11,422.00; Trifecta (6-8-1), \$1,987.00; Pic 3 (6-2-6), \$1,392.00; Pic 4 (2-6-2-6), \$28,203.00; Pic 6 (3-2-2-6-2-6), \$10,117.00

Attendance: 29,244. On Track Handle: 5,827,854  
 Inter-State Handle: 20,477,484  
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# Buzz Horse

## Scat Daddy colt El Kabeir delivers on lofty expectations

El Kabeir lived up to and maybe even exceeded expectations after he scored his first win in the fourth race Saturday at Saratoga Race Course.

The 2-year-old son of Scat Daddy, the co-topper at last year's OBS August yearling sale on a bid of \$250,000 from Zayat Stables, bounced back from a rough start 16 days ago and won the 7-furlong maiden race by 10 3/4 lengths. El Kabier enjoyed a cleaner trip this time and won in 1:22.16.

"He had trouble at the break and I knew he wasn't a 5-furlong horse," winning trainer John Terranova said. "He wanted more ground in front of him."

El Kabier wanted more ground and there was plenty behind him as he turned away and left Royal Son well back in second.

"I know he was a good horse," Terranova said.



Tod Marks

**El Kabeir eases to the finish line with a victory for Zayat Stables and trainer John Terranova.**

"He's always trained like a real good horse since the beginning. Since he came in I've had high hopes for him."

Terranova said the Grade 1 Champagne Oct. 4 at Belmont Park could be next for El Kabeir.

— Kristin Brennan

• Javier Castellano knifed Firespike through a narrow hole in deep stretch to win the opener, a 1 1/16-mile maiden special weight on the grass.

"I'm really proud of my horse and the way he did it today," Castellano said of the 2-year-old son

See **SATURDAY** page 27 ►



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# Saturday —

## ■ Continued from page 26

of Flower Alley. “It was kind of tight in the top of the stretch and my horse, I like the way he did it [running] in between horses. He gave me a hard time a little bit. The inside horse and the outside horse squeezed a little bit, but then, with a tiny hole, he went through. My horse did a great job.”

Firespike, owned by Skychai Racing and Charles Kevin Warner, was making his third start after finishing second at Ellis Park and third at Saratoga earlier in the meet.

— **Katie Brush**

- Charlie LoPresti’s big day got off to a good start thanks to a disqualification of the winner of the third race.

The photo finish showed Mshawish the winner by a nose over the LoPresti-trained Set the Sail, but a claim of foul by the jockey of the third-place finisher and a stewards inquiry of the race changed the outcome. Manuel Franco, aboard Sinatra, alleged interference from Mshawish and Irad Ortiz Jr. and the claim held up. Stewards disqualified Mshawish to third and moved Set the Sail up.

“I don’t know really what happened, I guess it bothered Bill Mott’s horse pretty bad,” LoPresti said. “I thought our horse ran a pretty great race. He was second, beaten just like that on the wire. I’m not glad that that happened but he ran a winning race. He doesn’t know that he’d been beat.”

The victory was LoPresti’s first of the meet and he quickly added a second when Wise Dan scored a dramatic win in the Grade 2 Bernard Baruch two races later.

Set the Sail, a 5-year-old gelding by Mizzen Mast, won for the first time in four starts this season.

“I was really proud of him ... he ran a super good race,” LoPresti said. “They just caught us at the wire but because we were second they put us up for the win. It didn’t affect us at all, we just got lucky.”

— **Katie Brush**

- The ninth race bore a welcome result for Eddie Kenneally as he picked up his first win of the meet with the successful trip of Zamquick. The daughter of Pomeroy won the 5 ½-furlong allowance in a thrilling blanket finish with four others.

See **SATURDAY** page 28 ►



Tod Marks

Eventual winner Set The Sail (right) battles with Mshawish in the third.



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# Saturday —

## ■ Continued from page 27

Ballerina Belle, Scatcapade, Runway Ready and Orient Harbor narrowly missed out, while Kenneally's 25-1 shot got the trainer off the duck. Rosie Napravnik had the mount and got the mare a nose out in front.

"She opened up a little daylight at the sixteenth pole," Kenneally said. "She had the measure of them coming down to the wire. We just held on, thankfully. Delighted to get the win. We've had a lot of close seconds at the meet, horses are running well, and we finally knocked one out today. So we're delighted, absolutely."

— Dan McDonough

• As usual the crowd dispersed by the time the finale rolled around Saturday. Lights were being turned on around the paddock and the cool night's air had moved in as the last 11 horses walked out onto the track.

Battling it out to the last seconds of the Woodward Stakes card were Protection and Iron Power. Protection, a 4-year-old son of Exchange Rate, chased down the pace-setting Iron Power and won in the final jump for owners Dr. Jim and Susan Hill and trainer Jonathan Sheppard.

"This was an honor to win this race today," Susan Hill said.

The Hills race Protection in the name of their



Tod Marks

**Zamquick (right) hangs on to win Saturday's eighth over Ballerina Belle.**

Lake Lonely Racing, named for their residence on Lake Lonely not far from the racetrack. The couple purchased Protection for \$25,000 at the 2011 Keeneland September yearling sale.

"He was a great looking horse," Jim Hill said.

"When we got him he was really ornery, he would bite you, kick you, run away, do everything. Jonathan has done a good job with him got him tamed and rideable."

— Kristin Brennan



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# Next Step

## Connections of Waya winner Cat's Claw hope to add Grade 3

BY KRISTIN BRENNAN

Older, wiser and better in every way. So many people are in a rush their whole lives, find a career, get married, buy a house and so on. Speeding through the process does not work for everyone.

It's the same with horses, start young, get them in races where they can perform well and learn. It works for some, while others need more time. Time helps one to get smarter and stronger, physically and mentally.

Cat's Claw, a 4-year-old Dynaformer filly, could not have been put into better hands by her connections than the ones of Hall of Famer Jonathan Sheppard.

Time has been a key for the filly

and getting her to where she is today, a main contender for the \$150,000 Glens Falls Stakes with three consecutive wins.

Cat's Claw was winless in three starts as a 3-year-old, finishing fourth at Delaware Park, third at Keeneland and second at Aqueduct, all on the grass.

Sheppard put her on the shelf for five months, bringing her back in April and she finished fifth in a 1 1/16-mile maiden race on Keeneland's Polytrack.

She hasn't lost since.

Cat's Claw broke her maiden going 1 1/4 miles May 16 at Belmont

### GLENS FALLS PREVIEW



Tod Marks

**Cat's Claw seeks another Saratoga stakes win after taking the Waya Aug. 3.**

Park and returned about a month later to win an allowance race going 1 1/2 miles. Sheppard set his sights on Saratoga for Helen Alexander's and Jon and Sarah Kelly's homebred filly.

The competition is always tough at

Saratoga but Cat's Claw showed no signs she was intimidated when she won the Aug. 3 Fasig-Tipton Waya Stakes going 1 1/2 miles. She raced to-

See **GLENS FALLS** page 31 ►

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**Race 12:** "And nowww....the end is near..." Boy, I used to go into deeeeeep states of depression at the end of the meet, but since I bought a second place up here, I can soak in the beauty of the town year round, and my heart doesn't hurt as much. I thank all my loyal readers for their support, and for just saying hi at the track. Glad we all got to share in that huge winner last week, as well as that steeplechase bridgejumper earlier in the meet. Hope to see you all next year, and remember, if you dug what you read here, you can continue to bet and read us [saratogabets.com](http://saratogabets.com) beginning with the Keeneland meet. Thanks again. **SUNDAY Race 12:** #2 CHASING BUBBLES, #3 GYPSUM JOHNNY, #8 SAINT JOSEPH. **MONDAY Race 7:** #8 ASK CHUCK, #6 PROMISE AND HOPE, #3ARTEMUSMAILCARRIER.





## Glens Falls —

### ■ Continued from page 30

ward the back of the field in the early stages before Cornelio Velasquez asked for run on the far turn. Cat's Claw had plenty to give and won by 1 ¼ lengths over Viva Rafaela, who returns in today's Grade 3 Glens Falls.

Velasquez gets the return call on Cat's Claw.

"He's done a good job on her," Sheppard said. "I think he's got confidence in her. They get along well together."

Cat's Claw will cut back from 12 to 11 furlongs for the Glens Falls, a fact not lost on Sheppard.

"Well, she's dropping back a tiny bit in distance so it will be interesting to see if she's effective at the slightly shorter distance," he said. "It's still a long race and she's stepping up a little bit in class. She's done everything we've asked of her so far. She had a nice work coming into the race. We're happy with the way she's doing so we'll see."

Cat's Claw is one of the first flat

horses Sheppard has trained for Alexander.

"I've had a horse or two, mostly jumpers back in the old days," said Sheppard, who met the Kellys through Alexander when she asked him to take Cat's Claw and another horse. "It's very nice of them to give an old timer like myself a shot with a nice young horse."

Cat's Claw will have to contend with Viva Rafaela and two other major players trained by Christophe Clement.

Clement sends out 5-2 morning-line favorite Aigue Marine, winner of the Grade 3 Robert G. Dick Memorial July 5 at Delaware Park, and Irish Mission, second in the Grade 3 Matchmaker July 27 at Monmouth Park. Clement also entered Lady Cobia as main track only and she'd be the 8-5 favorite if the race is moved to the main track.

Chad Brown, still alive in the chase for the leading trainer honors at the meet, sends out Matchmaker third-place finisher Watsdachances. Others in the field are Emotional Kitten, Baffle Me, Pleasant Cat and Caroline Thomas.

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# Cat Man

## Winter Dawn can cap tumultuous month for trainer Catalano

BY DAN MCDONOUGH

Wayne Catalano stood outside his barn Saturday morning, thankful to be in Saratoga and humbled by the outpouring of support following the bout of pneumonia that had him hospitalized last month.

Catalano didn't want to dwell on his recent ordeal, except to thank all of his well-wishers. Other than that, he's well on his way to a full recovery, and ready to take a shot with Winter Dawn in today's \$350,000 Spinaway Stakes for 2-year-old fillies.

"All the people who sent prayers and reached out to me, it's incredible the feeling that you get from all these people that had prayers and reached out and sent cards and flowers," Catalano said. "It's really a great feeling

### SPINAWAY STAKES PREVIEW

to know you had all those people pulling for you and praying for you, asking about you. It's unbelievable ... it feels great to be back in action."

Winter Dawn puts the trainer firmly back in action in the 7-furlong Grade 1 Spinaway. The Sky Mesa filly won her only start, a 6-furlong maiden race Aug. 3 at Saratoga.

"We were in pretty good condition before we got sick," Catalano said. "The first race that she ran was a very nice race. The race sets up pretty good for her. It doesn't look like it's a really tough, tough race, but we'll find out."

The trainer wanted to talk racing, not health, though he did identify the person most instrumental in his re-



Tod Marks

Winter Dawn represents the Wayne Catalano barn in the Spinaway.

covery.

"My wife's been there every day, seven days a week, helping along with me and getting me a speedy recovery," Catalano said. "We'll just go back to normal. Of course, you want to win all of the races you can win."

The trainer will get a chance to win

one in the Spinaway, where Winter Dawn meets eight other fillies.

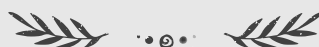
Butch Reid enters Darling Sky, who like Winter Dawn is by Sky Mesa. Reid's been busy behind the wheel this month. Based at Parx Racing – as ev-

See **SPINAWAY** page 33 ►



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# Spinaway —

■ Continued from page 32

identified by the green Philadelphia Eagles cap on his head Friday morning – Reid has four stalls in Graham Motion's barn in Saratoga, and watched wife Ginny hose down the filly.

"Take that blanket off her," Reid said in a playfully demanding tone.

"Yes, sir," answered Ginny in mock deference before she went back to work on Darling Sky, one of five fillies coming into the race off a debut victory, in her case a successful effort Aug. 9 at Parx.

"We're going to find out if she's a Grade 1 talent," said Reid, who gives the mount to Cornelio Velasquez. "She's done everything absolutely perfectly so far and even exceeded our expectations in her debut. We got her in here like 10 days ago. We got her a nice breeze at the racetrack, schooled her in the paddock, schooled her in the gate and she's handled it all very well. She's kind of a high-strung filly so we wanted to give her a chance to get a look around, so we got all that accomplished and we're looking forward to running her."

Over at the Oklahoma Training Track Friday morning was Rudy Rodriguez, who asked if his entry, Condo Comman-

do, could be moved out of the one post position if he agreed to an interview.

Unfortunately The Special doesn't have that kind of influence, but that filly is another who comes into the Spinaway off an impressive victory.

Condo Commando won her debut by 12 lengths in a maiden-claiming race for a \$75,000 tag. Joe Bravo rode the Tiz Wonderful filly that day and gets the return call on the 4-1 third choice.

"This is a pretty legit spot to run her," Rodriguez said. "If she breaks good I think we'll be able to control the speed. We're just going to let the jockey deal. Last time she broke pretty good from the outside. She was in a very good position right from the get-go. If they leave them alone they can take the lead."

Todd Pletcher sends out the first and second choices. Angela Renee is the 2-1 morning-line favorite off a strong second behind the highly regarded and absent Cavorting in the Grade 2 Adirondack three weeks ago. Curalina finished second in her debut behind another highly regarded and absent filly, High Dollar Woman, July 27 at Saratoga. She is 7-2 on the early line.

Others in the field are By the Moon, a winner Opening Day for Michelle Nevin and longshots Lady Zuzu, Ryabinka and Bonnie K.



Angela Renee is favored for trainer Todd Pletcher.

Tod Marks



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Sunday, August 31.

1ST (1:00PM). \$58,000, STR \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5				
1	.....1.....	Lady Candidate .....	R. Napravnik.....	M. Maker..... 6-1
2	.....2.....	Cotton Pickin.....	J. Ortiz.....	K. Grusmark..... 15-1
3	.....MTO.....	Amulay.....	J. Velazquez.....	B. Levine..... 2-1
4	.....4.....	Chelsea Road .....	C. Velasquez.....	L. Rice..... 8-1
5	.....5.....	One Penny Piece (GB).....	M. Franco.....	P. Serpe..... 5-1
6	.....6.....	Revealing Moment.....	W. Garcia.....	C. Martin..... 12-1
7	.....7.....	Arsenal.....	L. Saez.....	R. Lerman..... 10-1
8	.....8.....	Tizallheart.....	T. Rice.....	R. Metivier..... 10-1
9	.....9.....	High Jinks (BRZ).....	J. Castellano.....	M. Maker..... 7-2
10	.....MTO.....	Bridgetta.....	D. Jacobson.....	7-2
11	.....11.....	Flamingo Lane.....	J. Alvarado.....	A. Adsit..... 5-2
12	.....MTO.....	Lotsa Noodles.....	R. Rodriguez.....	5-2

2ND (1:31PM). \$40,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 7F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	E Z Passer.....	R. Napravnik.....	D. Cannizzo..... 7-2
2	.....2.....	Ginny's Grey.....	J. Castellano.....	B. Brown..... 9-2
3	.....3.....	Blue Forty.....	J. Ortiz.....	P. Reynolds..... 12-1
4	.....4.....	Go Olivia Go.....	R. Maragh.....	B. Levine..... 3-1
5	.....5.....	Coast of Sangria.....	L. Mejias.....	L. Rivelli..... 5-2
6	.....6.....	Dash to the Flash.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	M. Maker..... 6-1
7	.....7.....	Rock Show.....	M. Chaves.....	J. Parker..... 30-1
8	.....8.....	Casual Elegance.....	W. Garcia.....	G. Goodwin..... 20-1

3RD (2:03PM). \$93,000, AOC \$80,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Salutos Amigos.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	D. Jacobson..... 5-2
2	.....2.....	Honorable Dillon.....	J. Lezcano.....	J. Englehart..... 12-1
3	.....3.....	River Rocks.....	R. Maragh.....	J. Terranova, II..... 4-5
4	.....4.....	Luzianna Man.....	D. Davis.....	C. LoPresti..... 15-1
5	.....5.....	Candyman E.....	C. Velasquez.....	D. Jacobson..... 6-1
6	.....6.....	Raging Daoust.....	M. Franco.....	C. Carlesimo, Jr..... 20-1

4TH (2:35PM). \$47,000, CLM \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Goodnewsisnoneews.....	R. Napravnik.....	S. Asmussen..... 12-1
2	.....2.....	Branded Hand.....	J. Lezcano.....	W. Mott..... 6-1
3	.....3.....	The Spotted Wonder.....	J. Rocco, Jr.....	L. O'Brien..... 20-1
4	.....4.....	Winnitude.....	C. Velasquez.....	G. Sciacca..... 20-1
5	.....5.....	Defining Product.....	R. Maragh.....	W. Heffner..... 8-1
6	.....6.....	Uncle Mitcho.....	A. Arroyo.....	J. Antonucci..... 8-1
7	.....7.....	March Reward.....	L. Saez.....	D. Romans..... 5-1
8	.....8.....	Belly of the Whale.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	W. Ward..... 2-1
9	.....9.....	Yellow Mountain (IRE) ...	M. Franco.....	J. Sheppard..... 12-1
10	.....10.....	Vona.....	J. Ortiz.....	L. Rice..... 15-1
11	.....11.....	Q Two.....	J. Alvarado.....	J. Terranova, II..... 15-1
12	.....12.....	Rontos New York.....	W. Garcia.....	R. Rodriguez..... 20-1
13	.....AE.....	Distorted Dream.....	A. Worrie.....	C. Englehart..... 20-1
14	.....AE.....	Honor the Kitten.....	J. Rocco, Jr.....	J. Klesaris..... 4-1
15	.....AE.....	Smokey Brown.....	J. Castellano.....	J. Toscano, Jr..... 6-1
16	.....MTO.....	Southern Blessing.....		E. Kenneally..... 3-1

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5TH (3:07PM). \$90,000, AOC \$62,500, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Upgrade.....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown..... 4-1
2	.....2.....	Tiger Bourbon.....	R. Napravnik.....	E. Kenneally..... 20-1
3	.....3.....	Cajun Breeze.....	A. Arroyo.....	R. Ubillo..... 20-1
4	.....4.....	Summer Breezing.....	J. Lezcano.....	C. Clement..... 5-2
5	.....5.....	Night Officer.....	M. Franco.....	B. Brown..... 20-1
6	.....6.....	Hear the Footsteps.....	J. Ortiz.....	L. Rice..... 5-1
7	.....7.....	Dreamsgonewild.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	B. Alexander..... 12-1
8	.....8.....	Power World.....	J. Velazquez.....	D. Carroll..... 12-1
9	.....9.....	Mr. Vegas.....	L. Saez.....	R. Violette, Jr..... 12-1
10	.....10.....	Razorbill.....	J. Alvarado.....	J. Shirreffs..... 20-1
11	.....11.....	Escapist.....	T. Rice.....	P. Pugh..... 8-1
12	.....12.....	Bye Bye Bernie.....	R. Maragh.....	K. Breen..... 12-1
13	.....AE.....	Heart Doctor.....	J. Lezcano.....	M. Dini..... 12-1
14	.....MTO.....	Sam Sparkle.....	R. Napravnik.....	D. Cannizzo..... 2-1
15	.....MTO.....	Cherokee Artist.....		D. Jacobson..... 3-1
16	.....MTO.....	Bug Juice.....	J. Castellano.....	S. Klesaris..... 5-2

6TH (3:39PM). \$150,000, STK - THE GLENS FALLS, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 3/8M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....MTO.....	Lady Cohiba.....		C. Clement..... 8-5
2	.....2.....	Viva Rafaela (BRZ).....	J. Castellano.....	T. Pletcher..... 5-1
3	.....3.....	Aigue Marine (GB).....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	C. Clement..... 5-2
4	.....4.....	Emotional Kitten.....	J. Ortiz.....	W. Ward..... 10-1
5	.....5.....	Baffle Me.....	R. Maragh.....	M. Hennig..... 20-1
6	.....6.....	Irish Mission.....	J. Velazquez.....	C. Clement..... 6-1
7	.....7.....	Cat's Claw.....	C. Velasquez.....	J. Sheppard..... 3-1
8	.....8.....	Watsdachances (IRE).....	J. Lezcano.....	C. Brown..... 6-1
9	.....9.....	Pleasant Cat.....	A. Garcia.....	T. Bush..... 30-1
10	.....10.....	Caroline Thomas.....	J. Rocco, Jr.....	B. Tagg..... 12-1

7TH (4:11PM). \$83,000, MSW, 2 YO, F , 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Lady Serena.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	C. Brown..... 4-1
2	.....2.....	Diannestillworks.....	J. Velazquez.....	R. Rodriguez..... 12-1
3	.....3.....	Etiquette.....	R. Maragh.....	J. Jerkens..... 10-1
4	.....4.....	Kibble.....	D. Davis.....	J. Jerkens..... 20-1
5	.....5.....	Fair Point.....	J. Ortiz.....	C. McGaughey III..... 12-1
6	.....6.....	Unbridled Sonya.....	S. Bridgmohan.....	D. Cannizzo..... 20-1
7	.....7.....	Theophilia.....	J. Alvarado.....	W. Mott..... 15-1
8	.....8.....	Feathered.....	J. Castellano.....	T. Pletcher..... 6-5
9	.....9.....	Tumminia.....	L. Saez.....	P. Reynolds..... 20-1
10	.....10.....	Red Hot Heels.....	M. Franco.....	G. Weaver..... 6-1

8TH (4:43PM). \$83,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Coordinate.....	J. Alvarado.....	T. Albertrani..... 20-1
2	.....2.....	Taghleeb.....	A. Garcia.....	K. McLaughlin..... 10-1
3	.....3.....	Alexahente.....	R. Napravnik.....	E. Kenneally..... 6-1
4	.....4.....	Idiosyncratic.....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown..... 6-1
5	.....5.....	Sycamore Lane.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	W. Mott..... 4-1
6	.....6.....	Buddy's Tiz.....	R. Maragh.....	B. Levine..... 12-1
7	.....7.....	Sartorius.....	M. Franco.....	J. Sheppard..... 20-1
8	.....8.....	Deposit Slip.....	D. Davis.....	P. Fout..... 20-1
9	.....9.....	Coach Inge.....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher..... 10-1
10	.....10.....	Whitman's Poetry.....	L. Saez.....	G. Iadisernia..... 20-1
11	.....11.....	T Sizzle.....	C. Velasquez.....	M. Trombetta..... 5-1
12	.....12.....	Uptown Joe.....	J. Lezcano.....	J. Englehart..... 7-2
13	.....MTO.....	Point Hope.....	C. Velasquez.....	L. Rice..... 7-2
14	.....MTO.....	Appealing Alex.....		N. Zito..... 4-1
15	.....MTO.....	Rare Eagle.....	R. Maragh.....	T. Albertrani..... 2-1
16	.....MTO.....	Smoke Police.....	J. Castellano.....	C. Brown..... 3-1



# SUNDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

## 9TH (5:15PM). \$85,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	2	Dyker Beach	J. Castellano	D. Jacobson	5-1
1a	3	Mr. O'Leary	I. Ortiz, Jr.	D. Jacobson	5-1
2	1	American Progress	J. Rocco, Jr.	L. O'Brien	15-1
3	4	Chapman	C. Velasquez	C. Englehart	12-1
4	5	John's Island	A. Arroyo	J. Jerkens	3-1
5	6	Vicksburg Bluffs	C. DeCarlo	N. Zito	20-1
6	7	Mar de Mares	J. Lezcano	J. Servis	6-1
7	8	Run for Logistics	M. Chaves	G. Contessa	10-1
8	9	Gombey Dancer	R. Maragh	G. Weaver	4-1
9	10	Gentrify	J. Ortiz	R. Lerman	20-1
10	11	Big Guy Ian	S. Bridgmohan	M. Dilger	7-2

## 10TH (5:47PM). \$350,000, STK - THE SPINAWAY, 2 YO, F, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	1	Condo Commando	J. Bravo	R. Rodriguez	4-1
2	2	Angela Renee	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	2-1
3	3	Lady Zuzu	L. Saez	D. Lukas	15-1
4	4	By the Moon	J. Ortiz	M. Nevin	6-1
5	5	Darling Sky	C. Velasquez	R. Reid, Jr.	8-1
6	6	Winter Dawn	S. Bridgmohan	W. Catalano	8-1
7	7	Curalina	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	7-2
8	8	Ryabinka	J. Rocco, Jr.	G. Dorochenko	30-1
9	9	Bonnie K	J. Lezcano	J. Lawrence, II	20-1

## 11TH (6:36PM). \$50,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

1	1	Lay It Down	M. Franco	A. Adsit	10-1
2	2	Rap d'Oro	L. Mejias	A. Adsit	30-1
3	3	Best Play	E. Prado	L. Miranda	30-1
4	4	Odeon	D. Davis	J. Shirreffs	20-1
5	5	Unbridled Logic	R. Maragh	B. Levine	6-1
6	6	Madris	L. Saez	C. Englehart	15-1
7	7	Believe in Kitten	R. Napravnik	M. Maker	6-1
8	8	Hard Enough	C. Velasquez	D. Jacobson	3-1
9	9	Dreaming of Danny	S. Bridgmohan	R. Donato	12-1
10	10	Barnards Galaxy	J. Ortiz	T. Morley	20-1
11	11	Cheyenne Nation	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Rodriguez	7-2
12	12	Majestic Jess (IRE)	A. Arroyo	R. Rodriguez	5-1
13	AE	Blue Danube Waltz	R. Chirinos	M. Conkey	50-1
14	AE	Pleiadian	M. Luzzi	J. Kettell	50-1
15	MTO	Sacred Ground	R. Maragh	R. D'Alessandro	7-2
16	MTO	Little Jimmy	A. Worrie	S. Iorio, Jr.	5-1

## 12TH (7:08PM). \$73,000, MSW, 2 YO, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	1	False Positive	J. Ortiz	G. Contessa	10-1
2	2	Chasing Bubbles	J. Alvarado	K. McPeck	15-1
3	3	Gypsum Johnny	A. Lezcano	D. Cannizzo	15-1
4	4	B. B.'s Remington	M. Chaves	G. Contessa	15-1
5	5	Persuasive Devil	J. Bravo	J. Orseno	2-1
6	6	No Herring	R. Maragh	M. Hennig	10-1
7	7	Wincoma	M. Franco	G. Sciacca	12-1
8	8	Saint Joseph	I. Ortiz, Jr.	C. Brown	4-1
9	9	Black Tide	C. Velasquez	R. D'Alessandro	20-1
10	10	Ostrolenka	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	7-2
11	AE	Saratoga Heater	R. Napravnik	A. Stall, Jr.	5-1
12	AE	Pierce's Prize	C. DeCarlo	J. Ryerson	8-1
13	AE	Tiz Time to Shine	J. Castellano	C. Brown	5-2
14	AE	Scattered Dreams	M. Luzzi	W. Bailes	15-1
15	AE	Breakin the Fever	O. Gomez	D. Breed	6-1
16	AE	Holy Week	M. Davila, Jr.	D. Breed	30-1

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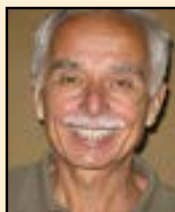
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**Gaile  
Fitzgerald**



**John  
Shapazian**



**Tom  
Law**



**Charles  
Bedard**



**Chad  
Summers**

Race #

**1**

Lotsa Noodles  
Flamingo Lane  
Chelsea Road

Lotsa Noodles  
Flamingo Lane  
High Jinks

Flamingo Lane  
One Penny Piece  
Lady Candidate

Flamingo Lane  
One Penny Piece  
Arsenal

Bridgetta  
Flamingo Lane  
Cotton Pickin

**2**

Go Olivia Go  
E Z Passer  
Ginny's Grey

Coast of Sangria  
Go Olivia Go  
Ginny's Grey

Go Olivia Go  
E Z Passer  
Coast of Sangria

Coast Of Sangria  
E Z Passer  
Go Olivia Go

Ginny's Grey  
E Z Passer  
Coast of Sangria

**3**

Salutos Amigos  
River Rocks  
Candyman E

River Rocks  
Salutos Amigos  
Candyman E

River Rocks  
Luzianna Man  
Salutos Amigos

Candyman E  
River Rocks  
Salutes Amigos

River Rocks  
Luzianna Man  
Honorable Dillon

**4**

Belly of the Whale  
Branded Hand  
Q Two

Southern Blessing  
Belly of the Whale  
March Reward

Belly of the Whale  
Yellow Mountain  
Uncle Mitcho

Belly Of The Whale  
March Reward  
Branded Hand

Branded Hand  
Goodnewsisonews  
Uncle Mitcho

**5**

Sam Sparkle  
Summer Breezing  
Upgrade

Sam Sparkle  
Summer Breezing  
Upgrade

Bug Juice  
Summer Breezing  
Upgrade

Upgrade  
Hear The Footsteps  
Escapist

Sam Sparkle  
Summer Breezing  
Escapist

**6**

Lady Cohiba  
Aigue Marine  
Cat's Claw

Lady Cohiba  
Aigue Marine  
Viva Rafaela

Cat's Claw  
Watsdachances  
Aigue Marine

Irish Mission  
Watsdachances  
Baffle Me

Aigue Marine  
Watsdachances  
Emotional Kitten

**7**

Lady Serena  
Feathered  
Etiquette

Feathered  
Lady Serena  
Red Hot Heels

Feathered  
Lady Serena  
Fair Point

Feathered  
Lady Serena  
Tumminia

Unbridled Sonya  
Feathered  
Etiquette

**8**

Alexahente  
Sycamore Lane  
T Sizzle

Rare Eagle  
Sycamore Lane  
Uptown Joe

Sycamore Lane  
Uptown Joe  
T Sizzle

Uptown Joe  
Alexahente  
Buddy's Tiz

Rare Eagle  
Uptown Joe  
Sycamore Lane

**9**

Jacobson entry  
John's Island  
Mar de Mares

Big Guy Ian  
Mar de Mares  
Jacobson Entry

John's Island  
Big Guy Ian  
Mar de Mares

John's Island  
Chapman  
Jacobsen entry

Chapman  
Vicksburg Bluffs  
John's Island

**10**

Curalina  
Angela Renee  
Condo Commando

Angela Renee  
Curalina  
Condo Commando

Angela Renee  
Condo Commando  
Winter Dawn

Angela Renee  
Condo Commando  
Darling Sky

Angela Renee  
Winter Dawn  
By the Moon

**11**

Unbridled Logic  
Majestic Jess  
Cheyenne Nation

Sacred Ground  
Cheyenne Nation  
Hard Enough

Cheyenne Nation  
Believe in Kitten  
Madris

Cheyenne Nation  
Lay It Down  
Hard Enough

Madris  
Believe in Kitten  
Cheyenne Nation

**12**

Persuasive Devil  
Saint Joseph  
Ostrolenka

Tiz Time to Shine  
Persuasive Devil  
Ostrolenka

Persuasive Devil  
No Herring  
Saint Joseph

Persuasive Devil  
Saint Joseph  
False Positive

Pierce's Prize  
Gypsum Johnny  
Wincoma

2014 Records

**94/391**

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George Weaver.....	11
Bruce Levine .....	10
Graham Motion.....	10
Rudy Rodriguez .....	10
Tom Albertrani .....	9
Bruce Brown .....	9
Gary Contessa.....	9
Jimmy Jerkens.....	9
Kiaran McLaughlin .....	9
Shug McGaughey.....	8
Linda Rice .....	8
Christophe Clement.....	7
Tony Dutrow.....	7
Mike Hushion .....	7
David Jacobson.....	7
Rick Violette.....	7

### JOCKEYS ..... 1ST

Javier Castellano .....	56
Irad Ortiz Jr.....	51
John Velazquez .....	34
Joel Rosario .....	33
Jose Ortiz.....	30
Rajiv Maragh.....	20
Junior Alvarado.....	17
Cornelio Velasquez.....	17
Jose Lezcano .....	16
Luis Saez.....	16
Rosie Napravnik.....	14
Manuel Franco .....	13
Angel Arroyo .....	6
Shaun Bridgmohan .....	6

### Owners ..... 1st

Repole Stable.....	12
Chester & Mary Broman .....	11
Ken & Sarah Ramsey .....	10
Klaravich Stable .....	8
& Bill Lawrence .....	
Darley Stable.....	7
Ralph Evans .....	5
Jim & Susan Hill .....	5
Dubb, Bethlehem Stable.....	5
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# MONDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

Monday, September 1.

## 1ST (1:00PM). \$90,000, AOC \$62,500, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/8M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double				
1	.....6.....	Bold Kitten .....	J. Castellano .....	M. Maker.....6-1
1a	.....8.....	Kitten's Queen .....	J. Castellano .....	M. Maker.....6-1
2	.....1.....	Cushion (GB) .....	J. Rosario .....	C. Clement.....5-2
3	.....2.....	Keening .....	R. Napravnik.....	C. LoPresti.....5-1
4	.....3.....	Bella Serenade .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	W. Catalano.....15-1
5	.....MTO.....	Majestic Marquet .....	C. Velasquez.....	R. Rodriguez.....7-2
6	.....5.....	Clearbrook .....	J. Lezcano .....	W. Mott.....2-1
7	.....MTO.....	Oasis At Midnight.....	J. Bravo .....	J. Orseno.....4-1
8	.....9.....	Lady of Gold.....	R. Maragh.....	H. Motion.....6-1
9	.....10.....	Three Hearts .....	J. Velazquez.....	R. Mettee.....8-1

## 2ND (1:32PM). \$73,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 6F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Brad's Ruby.....	J. Ortiz.....	J. Englehart.....7-2
2	.....2.....	Joshans Giant .....	C. Velasquez.....	L. Rice.....3-1
3	.....3.....	Saharan Serenade .....	A. Worrie .....	J. Toscano, Jr.....12-1
4	.....4.....	Sweet Sweet Afleet.....	D. Lopez .....	M. Ferraro.....20-1
5	.....5.....	Moonlight Fantasy.....	M. Luzzi .....	M. Hushion.....4-1
6	.....6.....	Town Kitty .....	M. Franco .....	J. Ryerson.....20-1
7	.....7.....	Honeychild .....	E. Prado.....	K. McPeek.....12-1
8	.....8.....	Marriedtomichael.....	J. Castellano.....	B. Brown.....5-1
9	.....9.....	La Reverie .....	J. Rosario .....	K. McPeek.....12-1
10	.....10.....	Jilly Mac.....	J. Lezcano .....	J. Ryerson.....8-1

## 3RD (2:04PM). \$73,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Third Frontier .....	J. Leparoux.....	K. McPeek.....15-1
2	.....2.....	Spotless .....	A. Arroyo .....	G. DiPrima.....20-1
3	.....3.....	Memories of Peter .....	J. Lezcano .....	J. Ryerson.....8-1
4	.....4.....	Elusive New Yorker .....	S. Bridgmohan .....	D. Cannizzo.....4-1
5	.....5.....	Mark My Style.....	L. Saez .....	G. Contessa.....8-1
6	.....6.....	Cantgetwisetome .....	J. Ortiz .....	C. Martin.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Got Winged .....	R. Napravnik.....	M. Dini.....10-1
8	.....8.....	Buddy the Elf .....	R. Maragh.....	B. Levine.....7-2
9	.....9.....	Fleeting .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	L. Gyarmati.....3-1
10	.....10.....	Cats Landing .....	J. Rosario .....	G. Sciacca.....15-1
11	.....AE.....	Banana Thief .....	S. Bridgmohan .....	S. Asmussen.....5-2
12	.....AE.....	Korus Warrior .....	E. Prado.....	E. Reed.....10-1
13	.....MTO.....	Eddie Boots .....	J. Castellano.....	G. Gullo.....5-1
14	.....MTO.....	Pierce's Prize.....	C. DeCarlo .....	J. Ryerson.....2-1

## 4TH (2:36PM). \$350,000, STK - THE HOPEFUL, 2 YO, 7F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....2.....	Maratik.....	S. Bridgmohan .....	G. Dorochenko.....20-1
1a	.....6.....	Dekabrist.....	E. Prado.....	G. Dorochenko.....20-1
2	.....1.....	Sharm .....	R. Maragh.....	D. Lukas.....15-1
3	.....3.....	Requite .....	J. Rocco, Jr.....	G. Weaver.....4-1
4	.....4.....	Signature Cat .....	J. Ortiz .....	E. Guillot.....8-1
5	.....5.....	I Spent It.....	J. Castellano.....	A. Dutrow.....2-1
6	.....7.....	Competitive Edge .....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher.....6-5

## 5TH (3:09PM). \$73,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Shimba.....	J. Rosario .....	C. Clement.....1-1
1a	.....2.....	Readyheartandsoul .....	J. Castellano.....	T. Albertrani.....1-1
2	.....3.....	Disco Joey .....	M. Luzzi .....	B. Brown.....20-1
3	.....4.....	Freudex .....	C. Velasquez.....	C. Englehart.....8-1
4	.....5.....	Hidden Warrior .....	J. Ortiz .....	L. Rice.....10-1
5	.....6.....	Keen's Cupla .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	G. Contessa.....6-1
6	.....7.....	Shinnecock Bay.....	J. Lezcano .....	T. Albertrani.....15-1
7	.....8.....	Stenson.....	L. Saez .....	D. Divitto.....15-1
8	.....9.....	Super Nicky.....	R. Napravnik.....	J. Englehart.....20-1
9	.....10.....	Curious Cal .....	M. Franco .....	C. Baker.....5-1
10	.....11.....	Imposing Figure.....	A. Arroyo .....	H. McMahon.....20-1

## 6TH (3:42PM). \$62,000, CLM \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	State Flag .....	L. Saez .....	C. Englehart.....15-1
2	.....2.....	Where's Danny (IRE).....	A. Worrie .....	G. DiSanto.....30-1
3	.....3.....	One King's Man .....	M. Franco .....	B. Brown.....30-1
4	.....4.....	Live in Joy.....	J. Castellano .....	M. Maker.....5-2
5	.....5.....	Wagon .....	S. Bridgmohan .....	B. Cox.....30-1
6	.....6.....	Treasury Devil .....	A. Arroyo .....	R. Rodriguez.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Depeche Chat.....	J. Leparoux.....	G. Arnold, II.....8-1
8	.....8.....	Majestic Raffy .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	C. Englehart.....12-1
9	.....9.....	Which Market.....	J. Ortiz .....	M. Hushion.....5-1
10	.....10.....	Dan and Sheila .....	J. Velazquez.....	D. Donk.....20-1
11	.....11.....	Abilio .....	C. Velasquez.....	D. Jacobson.....12-1
12	.....12.....	Monument Hill .....	R. Maragh.....	G. Weaver.....3-1
13	.....MTO.....	Summer Sunset.....	J. Ortiz .....	B. Levine.....5-2
14	.....MTO.....	Herbal Prospector .....	R. Maragh.....	C. Englehart.....2-1
15	.....MTO.....	Finding Candy .....	J. Castellano .....	B. Brown.....6-1
16	.....MTO.....	Conspiracy .....		G. Contessa.....5-1

## 7TH (4:15PM). \$83,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5 1/2F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Carpe Diem .....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher.....8-5
2	.....2.....	Old Mexico .....	J. Leparoux.....	S. Asmussen.....6-1
3	.....3.....	Artemusmailcarrier .....	R. Napravnik.....	M. Maker.....8-1
4	.....4.....	Ready for Rye .....	J. Castellano.....	T. Albertrani.....10-1
5	.....5.....	River of Dreams .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	L. Gyarmati.....12-1
6	.....6.....	Promise and Hope .....	R. Albarado.....	D. Cannizzo.....20-1
7	.....7.....	Whateveryouwant .....	M. Franco .....	B. Brown.....20-1
8	.....8.....	Ask Chuck .....	D. Davis .....	C. LoPresti.....15-1
9	.....9.....	Because I'm Happy .....	R. Maragh.....	M. Mareina.....8-1
10	.....10.....	Louisiana Brown .....	L. Saez .....	M. Scherer.....4-1
11	.....AE.....	Radamel .....	A. Arroyo .....	M. Morales.....30-1
12	.....AE.....	Banksy .....	L. Mejias.....	W. Ward.....8-1

## 8TH (4:48PM). \$85,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Wizardly .....	J. Leparoux.....	S. Asmussen.....8-1
2	.....2.....	Matuszak .....	J. Lezcano .....	W. Mott.....15-1
3	.....3.....	Lieutenant Seany O .....	R. Maragh.....	M. Friedman.....15-1
4	.....4.....	Mister Dooley.....	D. Davis .....	R. Davis.....50-1
5	.....5.....	Classic Sense .....	J. Ortiz .....	C. Brown.....10-1
6	.....6.....	Harpoon .....	J. Castellano.....	T. Pletcher.....4-1
7	.....7.....	Grand Strand .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	R. Rodriguez.....15-1
8	.....8.....	C J's Awesome.....	E. Prado.....	K. McPeek.....6-1
9	.....9.....	Box Office .....	J. Rosario .....	J. Servis.....5-1
10	.....10.....	Successful Runner.....	M. Franco .....	G. Iadisernia.....7-2
11	.....11.....	None Like Nolan.....	J. Velazquez.....	T. Pletcher.....12-1
12	.....12.....	Sir Leslie .....	A. Lezcano .....	P. Serpe.....20-1

## 9TH (5:21PM). \$300,000, STK - THE SARANAC, 3 YO, 1 1/8M (TURF)


Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double				
1	.....1.....	Ring Weekend .....	J. Velazquez.....	H. Motion.....8-5
2	.....MTO.....	Life in Shambles .....	J. Rosario .....	C. Clement.....5-2
3	.....3.....	Predicting .....	D. Davis .....	J. Antonucci.....30-1
4	.....4.....	Cabo Cat .....	R. Maragh.....	M. Hennig.....4-1
5	.....5.....	Storm .....	J. Castellano.....	T. Pletcher.....5-1
6	.....6.....	Beyond Smart .....	R. Napravnik.....	J. Sheppard.....15-1
7	.....7.....	Smooth Daddy .....	J. Ortiz .....	T. Albertrani.....12-1
8	.....8.....	Bashart .....	L. Saez .....	M. Matz.....10-1
9	.....MTO.....	Lunar Rover .....	S. Bridgmohan .....	H. Bond.....2-1
10	.....10.....	Wallyanna .....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	M. Pino.....7-2

## 10TH (5:54PM). \$32,000, CLM \$16,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta				
1	.....1.....	Capital City.....	E. Prado.....	D. Green.....12-1
2	.....2.....	Socialsaul.....	A. Lezcano .....	D. Cannizzo.....15-1
3	.....3.....	Reggie D .....	A. Arroyo .....	R. D'Alessandro.....20-1
4	.....4.....	My Tee Time.....	I. Ortiz, Jr.....	M. Maker.....6-1
5	.....5.....	Starship Captain.....	J. Castellano.....	B. Levine.....5-1
6	.....6.....	I Want You to Know .....	J. Ortiz .....	G. Contessa.....8-1
7	.....7.....	Twocubanbrothersu .....	L. Mejias.....	M. Conkey.....10-1
8	.....8.....	Moe Man .....	C. Velasquez.....	R. Rodriguez.....7-2
9	.....9.....	Seeker .....	M. Franco .....	B. Brown.....15-1
10	.....10.....	Shankopotamus .....	J. Lezcano .....	J. Englehart.....5-2

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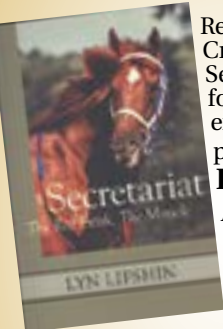


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BY KATIE BRUSH

I was raised on Saratoga summers. From cheering on horses on top of my father's shoulders to chasing jockey's down the lane asking for autographs, my childhood was built here. It seems fitting that these grounds have become a steppingstone leading me into adulthood. I'm a 23-year old SUNY Brockport alumnus and now alumnus of The Saratoga Special as well.

The leaves are changing in upstate New York as The Special prepares for its last paper of 2014.

My summer internship ends with this edition but something new is beginning for each of us as we say goodbye to the Spring Street office.

Some will go job hunting and some will enjoy their time away from helping put out a publication. What I enjoy most is that while we all move on to our new schedules, jobs or locations, Saratoga is always home. It's waiting here year after year for the return of the season and familiar faces that complete the heart of it all.

My past years at the Spa were spent in the picnic area with coolers, sandwiches, friends and family. We would bet on wild guesses after reading the program that felt like a different language then run through the grandstand to catch a spot on the rail. Throw in a few years of horseback riding and one horse encyclopedia that I own and you have all that

# Special Experience

I knew about the sport before this season's start.

When I admitted this to Joe, Sean and Tom I could see the sweat forming on their foreheads as they realized how hard they would have to work.

This meet began and ended with two questions, "Where are you from?" and "Where will you go?"

The latter is still a question, I don't entirely know the answer to but I do know I will certainly miss these specifics and more.

Inspired by Sean's To-do List from Friday's edition, here is my To-miss List:

Saratoga and the summertime.

Early mornings on the backside.

Sam Clancy's key lime pie.

Tom and Liz's cat guarding their chicken coop.

Racing terms throwing me for a loop.

Okay maybe not that last one.

The winner's circle on Traver's Day, squeezing in.

The first time Ken Ramsey gave me a pin.

Watching horses in the paddock.

Someone's excitement coming off the duck.

Pedro in the press box, making a mean lemonade-iced tea.

Being one of two Katies and when Joe's dog visits, one of three.

Sean Clancy's speeches on life and grammar.

The security guard serving lasagna at 8 a.m.

The Clancys, the Law, the other interns, I couldn't write about racing without any of them.

From here the goal is obvious, find a job and with this experience I'm feeling very confident.

The Special has me prepared for long hours, long walks and big steps out of my comfort zone, writing, writing and more writing. I'm hoping for Manhattan. That, or a vacation. Maybe I will move back home to Long Island or maybe I will stay in Saratoga Springs.

I will publish my first book this fall and send out resume after resume to publishing houses in the city.

I will watch racing for fun.

I will ride a horse and enjoy the contrast of views.

The mountains are tinting and the greatest consistency as usual is change.

I'm thankful for the experience working at The Saratoga Special and look forward to what it has prepared me for as my future is on its way.

*Katie Brush, 23, grew up on Long Island, graduated from SUNY Brockport in 2013, and is pursuing a writing career.*



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BY KRISTIN BRENNAN

It was fulfilling graduating college and having a plan for the summer.

The plan was to go back to Ocala, work in the office for dad, catch up with family and friends at home and then head to Saratoga in July to work for The Saratoga Special.

There was no specific job description. I knew about The Special, having read it at the snack bar at Fasig-Tipton in the mornings when I worked the sales. I talked with my parents to see if they had an idea about what I would be doing. They had no idea. I remember them saying to do my best even if I was a coffee girl.

I think a part of my dad was more excited for the internship than I was. What was exciting was the chance to learn more about a horse than anatomy and handling. I was going to learn about pedigrees, names, how to read the form and much more. He would no longer have to listen to me in the paddock debating my pick by saying, "Dad look at that one, he would look great in the show ring. Do you know who owns him? Maybe we can get him when he retires."

I remember the first meeting we had with Tom Law, aka the Law Man. I walked out feeling sick to my stomach. Pretty much all the interns had past writing experience and if they didn't, they at least majored in communications. I called my stepmother Stephanie and told her "ehh, maybe this wasn't a good idea, I may get fired pretty soon."

The first morning Tom took Jackie Dugas and I around the track, introducing us to some people along the way and showing us the ropes.

"Ok this isn't too bad," I thought.

Then came the first day of the races, or shall I say the day we were thrown into the free fall.

Dan McDonough and Ryan Jones, Mr. President, probably thought Katie Brush and I were from some other planet with the questions we asked. They were patient, showed us what goes on, then after a few races Opening Day I remember the words, "you got this one right?"

# Summer Growth

"Uhh, yeah sure, I can do this one," I replied.

If I would describe myself at that moment it would have been a puppy with its tail straight between its legs.

Looking back on my first interview in the winner's circle I am surprised the trainer even heard me. I had to clear my throat of fear before talking. After the questions Dan and Ryan suggested were answered I just stared at them like a lost child and said thank you, almost making it sound more like a question than a statement.

From that moment time flew by.

I got my rejections, slight brush-offs and occasional rude comments. I messed up on my stories, a lot.

Hearing Tom say "Brennan" from his office always made my stomach drop. What did I mess up now? I got frustrated in my inability to write and I know I disappointed Tom, Sean and Joe with my writing, but aside from it all I learned.

I learned to listen to criticism, take it in and fix it, or at least try. I learned to have tougher skin, it's not the toughest now, but practically new compared to what I came in with. I learned how to write ... better than I did before.

Like Sean told us in our pre-meet speech, it does not matter if we are going to go off and be journalists or not, everyone needs to know how to write.

I am not leaving Saratoga with a specific career plan but I am leaving with a few more chapters of my life filled out.

Thank goodness I am still young, although some mornings waking up on a few hours of sleep I felt like I added 20 years to my life.

I also think I spotted a grey hair or two, probably from staring at a sentence on the computer screen for 40 minutes, or maybe not being able to find that one trainer to talk about that one horse that happens to be the center of a story.

My dad will be proud since I will no longer tell

him what horse would make a good show jumper, at least not all the time.

To Tom, Sean and Joe, thank you.

Thank you for pushing us to not just be a reporter of the obvious but to look for the small things that make a story.

Thank you for the patience you had with us even when you probably felt like shaking us until we were breathing proper grammar.

Thank you Sean, I will no longer use the word "where's" when asking the location of a person or object.

Thank you all for being amazing teachers.

We will carry your lessons with us no matter where we go.

*Kristin Brennan, 22, grew up in Ocala and graduated from Berry College in Rome, Ga., in 2014. She's on her way to Lexington for the September sales and is ready for a career in racing or sports marketing.*



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# Last Walk

“Should we walk back?”

And so this column begins the way yesterday's ended. Charlie LoPresti asking if I wanted to walk back to the barn to see Wise Dan.

The two-time Horse of the Year returned from colic surgery and nearly four months on the bench to do what he does best – win. Reeve McGaughey, Kelly Wheeler, Damien Rock and LoPresti's team had walked Wise Dan back to the test barn while LoPresti waited to saddle Shift Colors two races later. The filly finished seventh, LoPresti talked to jockey Jose Lezcano, declined a champagne toast and then asked the question.

“Should we walk back?”

LoPresti and I began to weave our way through the food trucks, past strollers, in between bettors and onto the dusty horse path between Union Avenue and the main track.

“Guess I can take this thing off,” LoPresti said, loosening the knot from his red tie and rolling it into a ball like it was a dirty tongue tie.

With the Prioress, the Forego and the Woodward still to go, I knew my tie needed to stay on, as much as I wanted to take it off.

In five years, LoPresti has gone from a stranger shipping one horse to Saratoga to a friend with a barn full of horses at Saratoga. The first year, we introduced ourselves to LoPresti as he sat on a tack trunk at the end of Tom Albertrani's barn, he was talking to his mother, put his phone down and talked to us about Here Comes Ben.

The next day, he won the Grade 1 Forego. The next year, Turallure won the Fourstardave. The next year, Wise Dan won the Fourstardave. A year later, Wise Dan did it again. This year, he skipped the Fourstardave and won the Bernard Baruch. I've watched Wise Dan's three wins with LoPresti, in front of the big screen, then we've walked back to the test barn.



Five years, five graded stakes wins. LoPresti has gone from an unknown to a mainstay. From a guy we covered because we had never heard of him to a guy who we cover because we know we need to hear from him.

“Five years, a graded stake every year. I can't believe it,” LoPresti said. “I was thinking last night, ‘Man, Charlie, your luck might be running out.’ You come here to run in good races, you come here to run with the best. You know that coming up here, but this meet has been the toughest.”

LoPresti entered Saturday's card at 0-for-13. He finished it 2-for-16 after Set The Sail was put up in the third and Wise Dan won the Baruch. The meet was made.

In this game, each win is as much about relief as it is elation. As elated as LoPresti was about getting Wise Dan back to the races – back to the winner's circle – he couldn't help but think about May 16 when the earth stopped spinning.

“To see this horse like that, in distress...” LoPresti said of the day Wise Dan went to the clinic. “When they took that horse away from Reeve, put

him in the stall and knocked him down for the surgery, Reeve had tears running down his face. Amy started crying, I started crying. He said, ‘I'm OK, I just can't stand to see him this weak.’ It was bad, really bad. We try to tell Reeve, it could all end tomorrow, it puts perspective to it.”

Wise Dan added his own perspective, rebounding in days, back in training in weeks and winning again in months.

As I write for a living, I get further removed from the horses. I haven't ridden a horse this meet. I've pet a few, not enough. I walked into a few stalls, not many. Tonight, I walked into Wise Dan's stall, leaned on his wall and watched as the big, long train decompressed from winning the Bernard Baruch.

At 5:24, two hours and three minutes after winning, a full feed tub was placed in the corner of Wise Dan's stall. The champ thrust his head into the tub, turning his right hip across the front of his stall door. It was his goodbye.

LoPresti and Wheeler offered me rides back to the paddock, I declined, knowing and needing a final walk before the final deadline.

Turf fillies sprinted past on the Mellon Turf, their hoof beats peppering into the distance, the crowd roared, waves up and then down as the horses passed each section of the grandstand. It had to be a photo.

The horses for the Forego rounded their way out of the holding barn and onto the horse path. I walked with Capo Bastone, then slipped to Big Business, then Vyjack, Zee Bros, Sensational Slam, Palace, favorite Clearly Now, Weekend Hideaway and all the way back to Confrontation. Effortlessly, they strode ahead. A man walking a horse always walks faster than a man thinking about a horse.

We reached the paddock. The end of the walk. The end of the meet.



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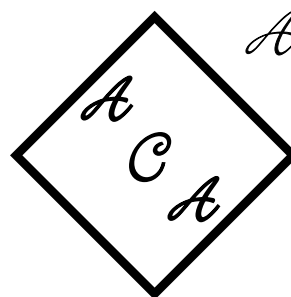


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