

The **Saratoga** *Special*



Year 10 • Issue 31 Saratoga's Daily Newspaper on Thoroughbred Racing Wednesday, September 1, 2010



Persistently
pulls shocker in
Personal Ensign

Upset-ly

Tod Marks

Weekend Update • Wednesday Preview • Entries/Handicapping

here&there... at Saratoga



Tod Marks

Gumbo Man. Chip Guillot stirs the gumbo in preparation for Sunday's barn feast. From The Special to the Guillot barn: Thank you.

Name of the Day

Deceive, third race. The 3-year-old filly, from the Phipps Stable, is out of Illicit.

Precious Metal, seventh race. The 2-year-old colt, owned by Vinery Stable, is by Silver Train out of Sugar Is Gold.

By The Numbers

1: Artist hosing off her shoes – and her feet – in the paddock on Travers Day.

1: Guy asleep in a hammock at the stakes barn early Sunday morning.

1: Woman in a black cocktail dress and high heels walking down Union Avenue at 6:50 Sunday morning.

\$443,274: Pick Six carryover for today. Get your money together, let's get rich.

Weather

Today: Sunny and hot. High 94.

Tonight: Mostly clear. Low 66.

Thursday: Mostly sunny. High in the 90s, low in the 60s.

Friday: Isolated thunderstorms. High in the low 80s, low in the low 60s.

The **SARATOGA** Special

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

WORTH REPEATING The Special quotes from Saratoga

"Monkey see, monkey do? Is that how you play the game?"
Groom leading a misbehaving horse, who reacted to another misbehaving horse while crossing Nelson Avenue Sunday morning

"When he jogged across the pitcher's mound, it looked like he was climbing a mountain."
Assistant clerk of scales/softball coach Eddie Brown, about a small softball player

"Middleburg is not usually referred to as the 'hood, is it?"
Trainer Roy Lerman, after asking Virginia resident Gordie Keys how everything was "in the 'hood."

"It didn't go the way I wanted it to, she breezed too fast the other day, but she didn't breeze too fast because look at how she ran. We think we know what we're doing, but we're only guessing as good as we can."

Trainer Dutrow, about the preparation of Rightly So

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WORTH REPEATING

"Fastest 40 days on the planet."

Crush and Cask's Jeff Novo, on the speed of the Saratoga meet

"How long is that tape, man?"

Jockey John Velazquez, to The Special's Sean Clancy who was interviewing jockey Javier Castellano after the Travers (Castellano was late for dinner with Velazquez)

"Didn't expect it and didn't know it was going to happen."

Trainer Shug McGaughey, two days after Persistently upset the Personal Ensign



Tod Marks

Wrong Canoe. This infield goose was not happy with the Travers Canoe paint job (2009 winner Summer Bird) Sunday morning; the new version (Afleet Express) was in the water Monday. We will assume the goose was happier.

Just Sayin'

"The way he trained after the Jim Dandy gave me confidence; so beautiful, so relaxed, so lovely. His neck, his stride, I said, 'that's a nice horse.' "

Javier Castellano, about watching Afleet Express before the Travers"

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"Usually you can't find the slip so I decided to email it."

Nancy the Paper Lady, while emailing a delivery invoice (thanks for all your hard work)

"Sitting in the yard – in Wisconsin – and feeling very close to Saratoga. Thanks."

Reader Greg Kuehl, from Wisconsin, after reading the Travers edition of The Special

"Passing the wire, it was the immediate question. We see each other and both of us said it, 'could go your way or my way.' "

Jockey Javier Castellano, about jockey Jose Lezcano who lost the photo in the Travers

"You have to appreciate everything in your life."

Castellano, after the Travers

"It's like a three-ring circus in your mouth."

Trainer Eric Guillot about the Guillot Gumbo

14 two-year-old winners in 2010



• **Uncle Mo on Travers Day at Saratoga**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher

• **Third Chance at Arlington Park**
for Ron Magers and James Divito

• **Sunday Splitsville at Saratoga**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher

• **Another Silver Oak, 3rd in the Sanford at Saratoga**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher.

• **Loving Dove at Monmouth Park**
for Red Oak Farm and Gregory Sacco.

• **Gamblin Geraldine at Belmont Park**
for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher.

• **K.R.'s Jazz at Monmouth Park**
for A Woman's Thing and Mary Hartman.

• **Saratoga Louie at Monmouth Park**
for Gary Barber and Peter Miller

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Role Reversal

Persistently rallies late to nip Rachel Alexandra

BY SEAN CLANCY

Rachel Alexandra jogged past the winner's circle. Persistently jogged to the winner's circle. The Sunday crowd, expecting greatness and getting weakness, clapped long and steady for their defeated champion.

One era closed – as Rachel Alexandra was unable to recapture her Woodward heroics from last year. Another era continued as the Phipps Stable's Persistently upset the Grade I stakes named after their most famous runner.

The \$300,000 stakes wasn't meant to go like this.

Hailed as Rachel's return to Saratoga, the race pitted Rachel Alexandra, 13-for-18 in her career, with Life At Ten, riding a six-race win streak. Rachel Alexandra went off the 1-4 favorite. Life At Ten was sent off the second choice at (9-5). The other three were going for third money and a Grade I line on their pedigree pages.

Or not.



Tod Marks

Persistently catches Rachel Alexandra just before the finish of Sunday's Grade I Personal Ensign.

Shug McGaughey waffled between the Grade II Molly Pitcher at Monmouth or the Grade I Personal Ensign for Persistently. Fresh off a 9-furlong allowance win over the track, Persistently convinced McGaughey to stay here and take on the champion.

Moments after pulling off the upset of the meet, the trainer walked down the back steps of the clubhouse box seats, as shocked as anybody else.

"She's a true mile-and-a-quarter horse," Mc-

Gaughey said. "After she won here, I was waiting to see what Rachel Alexandra was going to do, I had it in my sights along with the Molly Pitcher. (Dinny Phipps) made the decision, he said he would rather run here. She is a true mile-and-a-quarter horse."

Rachel Alexandra proved she wasn't a true mile-and-a-quarter horse – or at least when attacked by Life At Ten. On fumes, she made it about eight strides

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 6 ►



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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 4

short of the distance.

After a clean start, Calvin Borel draped low over Rachel Alexandra for a few strides, cuing her to take the lead, before rising in his irons and letting her gallop under a loose rein. John Velazquez allowed Life At Ten's natural speed to engage Rachel Alexandra from the outside, the duo opened 5 lengths after a furlong and 10 after a quarter. Borel guided Rachel Alexandra well off the rail, floating Life At Ten into the the 4 path around the first turn. Miss Singhsix led the second battalion ahead of Persistently and Classofsixtythree.

Rachel Alexandra, with Life At Ten at her saddle towel, drilled the first quarter in 23.66 seconds and a half in 47.73. Last year's Horse of the Year, attempting the distance for the first time led Life At Ten, winner of the Grade II Delaware Handicap at the distance, through three-quarters in 1:12.02. In the other race, Persistently shadowed third-choice Miss Singhsix, getting closer to the leading pair but still in another time zone. Midway on the turn, Velazquez began to pump on Life At Ten but received little reaction and Rachel Alexandra began to creep away.

That battle was over.

With Alan Garcia asking, Persistently began to inch away from Miss Singhsix and draw closer to the leading pair. At the quarter pole, Borel sunk lower and began to ride Rachel Alexandra as Life At Ten folded and Persistently rallied from the outside. Borel hit Rachel



Tod Marks

Life At Ten (left) challenges Rachel Alexandra early in the Personal Ensign.

Alexandra left-handed and then quickly switched to his right, she gave him a push, reaching the eighth pole with a couple of lengths in hand over Persistently who was hanging tough, but not gaining. At the sixteenth pole, Rachel Alexandra reached the end of her tether as Persistently stayed true to the task, finally getting to Rachel Alexandra about eight strides before the wire. She won by a length over Rachel Alexandra, with 10 1/4 lengths to Life At Ten after 10 furlongs in 2:04.49. Miss Singhsix flattened out to be fourth while Classof-

sixtythree never menaced in fifth.

Persistently finished with her ears up, Rachel Alexandra finished with hers pinned.

"I was very happy, very comfortable. The filly was close enough to the pace and took me there," Garcia said. "At the three-eighths pole, I saw Johnny already riding his filly and Calvin was sitting so I said, 'I'm going to finish second,' then at the quarter pole, you could see Calvin was pushing and his filly wasn't going anywhere, so I said, 'I have a big shot today.' My filly was al-

ways, always, always, coming hard and trying hard. She did it."

After the race, the crowd saluted Rachel Alexandra with an ovation, fitting a champion. A vanquished champion.

The 4-year-old daughter of Medaglia d'Oro won everything last year, going 8-for-8 and capping it off with a dramatic victory against older horses in the Woodward. This year, she's struggled (relatively) losing three of her five starts. Circumstances decided the Personal Ensign; two speed horses softened

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 8 ►

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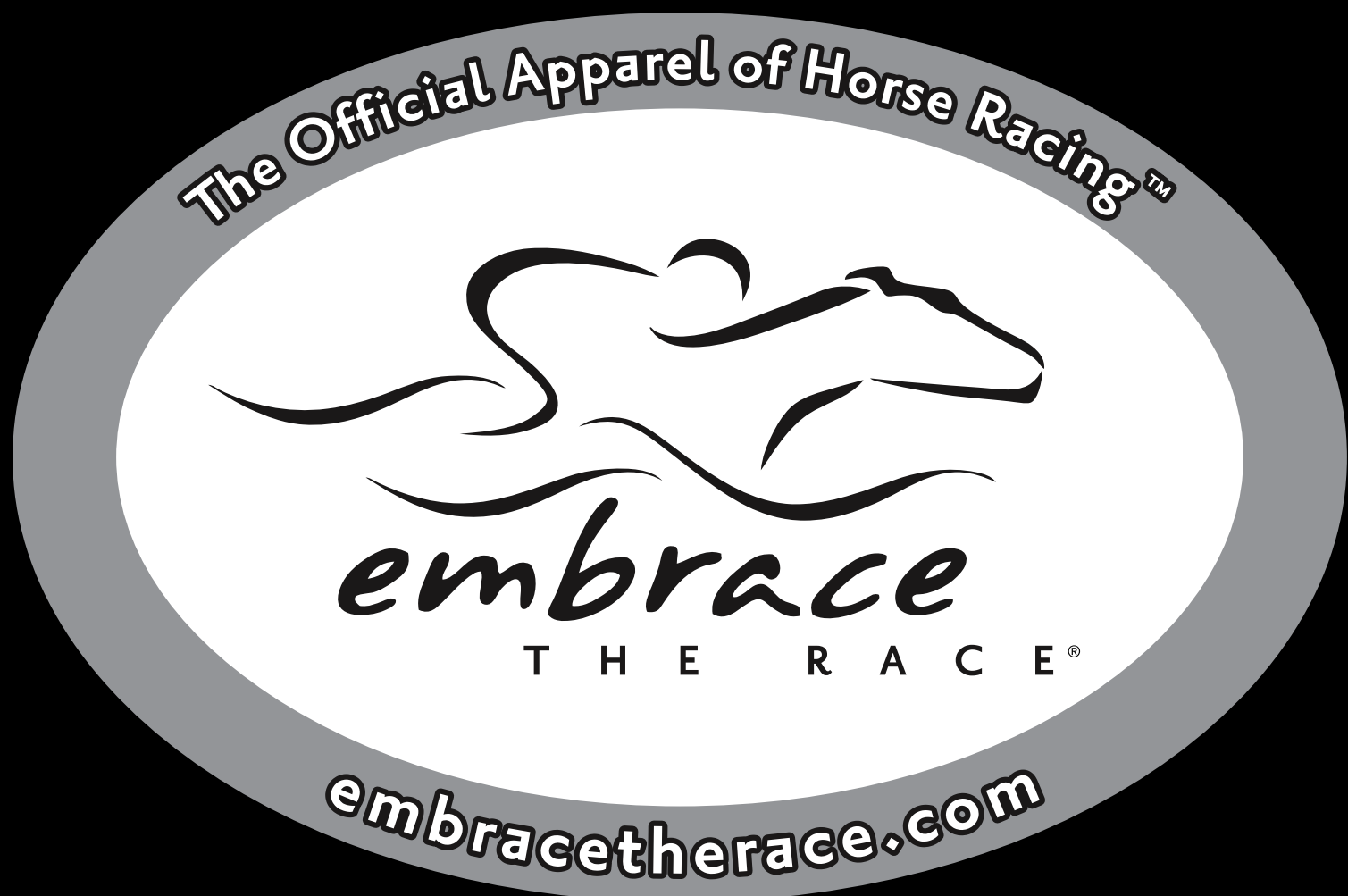
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Personal Ensign —

■ Continued from page 6

each other up for the only closer who closed.

Exactly as McGaughey had hoped. Not expected, hoped.

"I was hoping. I was hoping. I thought the mile-and-a-quarter would suit us, I thought she was a little vulnerable going a mile-and-a-quarter, especially with the other horse of Todd's, I thought they might hook up and that's what happened," McGaughey said. "We just kept coming, when she slipped away at the eighth pole, I thought, 'Well, we won't catch her.' (Persistently) just grinded it out and the other filly was getting done, we were able to run by her at the right time."

By Smoke Glacken out of champion Heavenly Prize's daughter Just Reward, Persistently broke her maiden at Saratoga in 2008, then finished second in the Grade II Matron and the Grade I Frizette. Her 3-year-old year was a disaster, running just twice, including a second to Life At Ten in an Aqueduct allowance in November. This year, she won an allowance race at Gulfstream before losing four straight (to the likes of Qualia, McVictory and Zaphyra) before breaking through the second-level allowance condition July 30.

That victory prompted McGaughey to think about the Personal Ensign, but not without talking to Phipps about the move.

"I had this and the Molly Pitcher in my mind after the race but I didn't want to commit myself anywhere," McGaughey

said. "I asked Mr. Phipps, 'What do you want to do? You want to run here but you're going to have to run against Rachel Alexandra or we can go down there and run a mile and a sixteenth on a little more of a speed-favoring track.' He said, 'If it comes up a short field, I'd rather run here.' That's what I wanted to do without committing myself, down deep that's what I think I wanted to do. I was relieved when he said let's do that, then it worked out."

McGaughey has trained for the Phipps family since 1985, he's had a lot of conversations about a lot of horses. It's rare that he feels like there could be some resistance from the owner.

"Most of the time, he asks where we're going to go with so and so and I say we're going to run there. I always run it by him, usually it's pretty cut and dry," McGaughey said. "This one was a little different, I knew we were going to be 20-1 running against a really, really good horse. I didn't want to throw that out there and have him say, 'What are you nuts?' I was glad we were on the same plate."

McGaughey entered Persistently thinking she would relish the trip and if things fell apart in front of her, she had a plausible chance of upsetting Rachel Alexandra and Life At Ten. That's all. He went over there as a fan of Rachel Alexandra first and a horse trainer second.

"Usually when you run in a race like that, you go over there and you're nervous. I was looking forward to seeing (Rachel Alexandra), all I wanted to do in the paddock was stay out of her way," McGaughey said. "When we walked



Tod Marks

Persistently wore the pink flowers with pride after the Personal Ensign.

underneath the grandstand and were standing there at the TV, I told (wife) Alison, 'Let's walk up there and see Rachel Alexandra run.' When you're the underdog, you like to win and I've been on other side of the table, it's an empty feeling, but that's why you do it."

After the race, McGaughey greeted Phipps, who has been hospitalized with circulatory problems, at the foot of the

winner's circle. The owner and the trainer (and their families) celebrated an upset win by a homebred who turned back time on a wild Sunday in Saratoga.

"Obviously it's a thrill," McGaughey said. "It's fun to win the Personal Ensign, it's fun to win a big race, it meant so much to Mr. Phipps after all he's gone through, that meant more to me than anything."



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Turf Test

Juvenile fillies tackle grass, distance in Wed. feature



Tod Marks

Arch Support returns to the scene of her maiden win July 30.

BY JOE CLANCY

Two-year-old fillies go long on the turf in today's feature, the \$70,000 P.G. Johnson. They need breeding, talent, speed, racing luck.

And discipline.

The most important thing might be that last one. Just three of the eight prospective runners have raced two turns on the turf and most exit sprint tries. They'll need to get both turns, ration their speed and try to come running in the stretch of the 1 1/16-mile test on the inner turf.

Oh, and deal with the usual Saratoga business like a long walk through the crowd and excited paddock atmosphere.

Trainer Gary Contessa likes the chances of his filly Arch Support – on the racetrack and everywhere else too. Owned by Lee Pokoik, the daughter of Arch comes off two turf tries – a narrow loss to today's rival Lauren Byrd going 6 furlongs at Belmont Park July 9 and a half-length win going 1 1/16 miles here July 30.

"I think she's a nice filly and she's trained very forwardly," said Contessa. "But she's also a very good-minded filly. That's very important, in running, in handling the paddock, handling the walk over, handling all the people at Saratoga, the excitement that horses don't normally have to deal with."

Arch Support, purchased at Keeneland and September for \$75,000, dealt with all of that here in her maiden win – then went out and set a relaxed, slow pace (24.63 and 50.27 seconds) before turning back a phalanx in the stretch to win by a half-length with the other margins a nose, a neck and a head.

The Kentucky-bred does not have to be in front, her trainer said.

"Most 2-year-olds are speed crazy, that's something that trainers do to them because most of the races are sprint-type races," Contessa said. "When you have a horse who will listen when you say 'OK, OK, I don't want you to go' and take a light hold of her and she responds well to the rider, that's a huge advantage. She's that kind of horse."

See **PREVIEW** page 11



Cape Crusader, Academy Award



Sunday Social, by It's Freezing



Arkus, by Lil E. Tee



Moonshine, by Key To The Mint

Thoroughbreds have always been my life. Now almost extinct in the show horse world, I must give a big thank you for they have helped me get where I am today.

They had heart, scope and talent and were all champions, virtually everywhere!

Here are a few of the many.



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Tod Marks

Off a win for Bill Mott last time, Avanta makes her first start for trainer Todd Pletcher.

Preview —

■ Continued from page 10

Whatever he says to do, she'll be more than willing."

Cornelio Velasquez takes the riding assignment at 6-1.

With the scratch of Dos Lunas (she finished second in a stakes at Monmouth Park Sunday), Lauren Byrd is the likely favorite for trainer Todd Pletcher. Another daughter of Arch, she defeated Arch Support by a nose in the July 9 race at Belmont. Going 6 furlongs, she rallied late to get the win. Jockey David Cohen returns on the Jay Bligh homebred, 7-2 on the morning line. She is a half-sister to multiple turf winners Hudson Steele and Dorian Will. Pletcher also brings Repole Stable's Avanta into the stakes. The trainer claimed the daughter of Dixie Union out of a \$75,000 maiden-claiming win here Aug. 6. John Velazquez takes the riding assignment at 8-1.

Trainer Graham Motion brings Presque Isle winner Pleine Form, a daughter of Grand Slam owned and bred by NP Bloodstock USA. Ramon Dominguez jumps from Arch Support to this filly, who won her career debut going 5 furlongs on the Pennsylvania track's synthetic surface July 29.

Ken McPeck also brings a recent Saratoga arrival. Five D Thoroughbreds' and Wind River Stable's Kathmanblu broke her maiden going a mile on the turf course at Ellis Park July 17. The daughter of Bluegrass Cat battled close to the pace throughout and scored by a half-length. She adds Lasix today and gets jockey Kent Desormeaux at 10-1.

Trainer Bill Cesare entered Maria's Luck, who won here going 5 1/2 furlongs in the slop Aug. 16. The daughter of Halo's Image makes her turf debut and gets Edgar Prado at 20-1.

Maidens Fancy Point and Believe In A.P. complete the field, but could be more than just spectators. The latter finished a

fast-closing third behind Arch Support July 30 – rallying wide off the turn and running fastest of all at the finish. The daughter of A.P. Indy and the Pleasant Tap mare I Believe In You gets a return call from Julien Leparoux at 8-1 for Jay Em Ess Stable and Rick Dutrow.

Fancy Point finished fourth in her debut here Aug. 1, running 6 furlongs on the dirt. She moves to turf for Kinsman Stable and trainer Will Phipps and boasts a bullet half-mile turf workout in 48 1/5 seconds Aug. 13. Javier Castellano takes the riding assignment at 12-1. Her dam won three times on the turf and produced three turf winners.

Phipps, who picked up a few Kinsman horses from the Steinbrenner family this year, likes what his filly has shown thus far.

"She's about as nice a filly as I've known. I'm really, really lucky to have one like this in the barn," he said. "(Running in a stakes) is a big question mark and Jessica Steinbrenner is game enough to let us try it out. We'll see what happens."

Steinbrenner, whose father George passed away this year, makes the racing decisions for Kinsman and the former Bill Mott assistant about taking some horses. They met at a Yankees' spring training game in Tampa.

"And a hot dog turned into a horse," Phipps joked. "I had no idea they'd been watching or paying any attention. They remembered me from working with their horses with Bill. It's a great opportunity."

Like Contessa, Phipps credits his filly's sensibility as much as her ability.

"I never thought I'd be running 2-year-olds in stakes, but these longer races tend to go in respectable fractions – a half in 49 or 50 and then maybe they'll finish up quickly," he said. "It won't be like these sprints where horses go way too fast and then you don't hear from them. I look at this filly's pedigree, her dosage numbers and I just look at her – she's a two-turn horse. There's no sense running a horse like her in those other races."

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Keppler**

Race #

1

Ramsgate
Brilliant Son
Great Crusade

Brilliant Son
King Andrew
Ramsgate

Ramsgate
King Andrew
Motown Shuffle

Ramsgate
Surfing Ian
Great Crusade

Great Crusade
Spanky Fischbein
Ramsgate

2

Pletcher Entry
Mama Get Even
Major Molly

Blessed Moon
Ready and Good
Mama Get Even

Pletcher Entry
Mama Get Even
Major Molly

Salsa Ballet
Glackety
Better Safe

Mama Get Even
Better Safe
Flying Train

3

Flourish
Deceive
Dandyna

Mitigate
Dandyna
Flourish

Up In Lights
Flourish
Deceive

Flourish
Deceive
Mitigate

Flourish
Mitigate
Deceive

4

Regal Ransom
Cool Coal Man
Timber Reserve

Regal Ransom
Timber Reserve
Giant Moon

Regal Ransom
Giant Moon
Cool Coal Man

Timber Reserve
Regal Ransom
Cool Coal Man

Discreet Treasure
Cool Coal Man
Timber Reserve

5

Peat Bay
Stroke
Naughty You

Peat Bay
Arrr Pirates Booty
Driven by Fear

Brown Entry
Peat Bay
Naughty You

Peat Bay
Arrr Pirates Booty
Naughty You

Peat Bay
Naughty You
Captain Redwood

6

Talk to Nick
Run to Grand Ave.
Devilish Due

Talk to Nick
Dance Floor Maniac
Run to Grand Ave.

Devilish Due
Run To Grand Ave.
Dance Floor Maniac

Talk To Nick
Devilish Due
Dance Floor Maniac

Devilish Due
Run to Grand Ave.
Dance Floor Maniac

7

Obviously Tuesday
Precious Metal
Power Dreams

Rocky Fortune
Precious Metal
Power Dreams

Power Dreams
Obviously Tuesday
Precious Metal

Precious Medal
Obviously Tuesday
Power Dreams

Precious Metal
Really Belong
Obviously Tuesday

8

Dos Lunas
Lauren Byrd
Avanta

Pleine Forme
Avanta
Believe in A.P

Dos Lunas
Believe In A.P.
Fancy Point

Laren Byrd
Fancy Point
Dos Lunas

Pleine Forme
Lauren Byrd
Dos Lunas

9

Winthrop House
Sly
Sumfun

Sly
Crowned General
Matt's a Giant

Sly
Winthrop House
Crowned General

Sumfun
Matt's A Giant
Sly

Crowned General
Rocketing Returns
Sumfun

10

Stream of Gold
Eldoktori
Cinder Cove

Stream of Gold
Sharps Island
Eldoktori

Eldoktori
Stream Of Gold
The Roundhouse

Stream Of Gold
Beneath The Crown
Sharps Island

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WEDNESDAY'S SARATOGA ENTRIES

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

1ST (1:00) 6 FURLONGS 3&UP CLAIMING (\$12,500) PURSE: \$26,000

1	4	Spanky Fischbein	.....Bridgmohan J V...	Baker Charlton.....	5-1
1A	5	Surfing Ian	.....Khan A	Baker Charlton.....	5-1
2	1	Great Crusade	.....Maragh R	Lukas D Wayne	10-1
3	2	Ramsgate	.....Lezcano J	Brown Chad C	3-1
4	3	Felinefelon	.....Espinoza J L	Schettino Dominick	12-1
5	6	King Andrew	.....Bermudez J E	Gullo Gary P	7-2
6	7	Subtitles	.....Gomez G K	Ryerson James T	8-1
7	8	Motown Shuffle	.....Castellano J J	Rodriguez Rudy R	6-1
8	9	Brilliant Son	.....Cohen D	Jacobson David	4-1

A-Coupled: Spanky Fischbein and Surfing Ian
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (1-3), Daily Double

2ND (1:33) 6 FURLONGS FILLIES 2YO MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$35,000) PURSE: \$25,000

1	4	Flying Train	.....Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	5-2
1A	5	Ready and Good	.....Castellano J J	Pletcher Todd A	5-2
2	1	Now Now Girl	.....Hill C	Parisella John	12-1
3	2	Blessed Moon	.....Lenclud F	Stall Albert M Jr	8-1
4	3	Mama Get Even	.....Maragh R	Galluscio Dominic	4-1
5	6	Major Molly	.....Dominguez R A	Rice Linda	7-2
6	7	Glackety	.....Coa E M	Weaver George	8-1
7	8	Salsa Bullet	.....Gomez G K	Benzel Seth	10-1
8	9	Better Safe	.....Garcia Alan	Lerman Roy S	5-1

A-Coupled: Flying Train and Ready and Good
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (2-4), Pick 4 Races (2-5)
Daily Double

3RD (2:06) 1 3/16 MILES (TURF) F&M 3&UP MAIDEN PURSE: \$51,000

1	1	Up in Lights	.....Borel C H	Wilkes Ian R	7-2
2	2	Flourish	.....Desormeaux K J	Mott William I	2-1
3	3	Mitigate	.....Dominguez R A	Motion H Graham	6-1
4	4	Dandyna	.....Leparoux J R	Howard Neil J	6-1
5	5	Fantasma	.....Maragh R	Clement Christophe	8-1
6	6	Sing My Song	.....Cohen D	Klesaris Steve	12-1
7	7	Deceive	.....Velazquez J R	McGaughey III C	4-1
8	MTO	Super Espresso	.....Cohen D	Pletcher Todd A	9-5
9	MTO	Eve of Destruction	.....Cohen D	Schettino Dominick A	8-1

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

4TH (2:39) 1 1/8 MILES 3&UP ALLOW/OPT CLM (\$100,000) PURSE: \$62,000

1	1	Atoned	.....Gomez G K	Howard Neil J	12-1
2	2	Bad Action	.....Cohen D	Pletcher Todd A	15-1
3	3	Giant Moon	.....Prado E S	Schosberg Richard	10-1
4	4	Discreet Treasure	.....Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	5-1
5	5	Cool Coal Man	.....Leparoux J R	Zito Nicholas P	5-2
6	6	Regal Ransom	.....Garcia Alan	bin Suroor Saeed	2-1
7	7	Timber Reserve	.....Castellano J J	Kimmel John C	4-1

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

5TH (3:13) 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3&UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$23,000

1	1	Arrr Pirates Booty	.....Castellano J J	Brown Bruce R	3-1
1A	9	Driven by Fear	.....Cohen D	Brown Bruce R	3-1
2	2	Ghosts and Legends	.....Gomez G K	Dutrow, Jr. R E	12-1
3	3	Naughty You	.....Lezcano J	Serpe Philip M	7-2
4	4	Stroke	.....Dominguez R A	Rice Linda	6-1
5	5	Peat Bay	.....Velazquez J R	Benzel Seth	2-1
6	6	Unique Tune	.....Coa E M	Ritvo Timothy	10-1
7	7	Captain Redwood	.....Espinoza J L	Schettino Dominick A	20-1
8	8	Moonshine Mountain	.....Richards G G	Simeone Paul J	30-1
9	10	Speciale Giorno	.....Bridgmohan S X	Sciacca Gary	15-1

A-Coupled: Arrr Pirates Booty and Driven by Fear
Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3 Races (5-7), Pick 6 Races (5-10), Daily Double

6TH (3:47) 6 FURLONGS 3&UP CLAIMING (\$12,500) PURSE: \$21,000

1	1	Talk to Nick	.....Maragh R	Rodriguez Rudy R	4-1
2	2	Devilish Due	.....Coa E M	Brown Bruce R	7-2
3	3	Run to Grand Ave	.....Cohen D	Levine Bruce N	3-1
4	4	Mel's Gold	.....Lenclud F	Hertler John O	15-1
5	5	Fairway Tom	.....Prado E S	Rodriguez Rudy R	5-1
6	6	Dance Floor Maniac	.....Dominguez R A	Contessa Gary C	4-1
7	7	End of the Gulch	.....Rohena J M	Ronen Assaf	10-1

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

7TH (4:21) 1 1/16 MILES (TURF) NY BRED 2YO MAIDEN PURSE: \$41,000

1	1	Obviously Tuesday	.....Dominguez R A	Rice Linda	3-1
2	2	Cryin' Ryan	.....Maragh R	Duggan David P	10-1
3	3	Knock Quietly	.....Desormeaux K J	Schwartz Scott M	10-1
4	4	Trinity Warrior	.....Espinoza J L	Ubillo Rodrigo A	15-1
5	5	Power Dreams	.....Cohen D	Badgett William Jr	6-1
6	6	Precious Metal	.....Castellano J J	Brown Chad C	7-2
7	7	Rocky Fortune	.....Lenclud F	Pugh Peter D	15-1
8	8	Igoturback	.....Coa E M	Galluscio Dominic	10-1
9	9	Newman Rocks	.....Prado E S	Hough Stanley M	10-1
10	10	Really Belong	.....Lezcano J	Matz Michael R	6-1
11	AE	Bigger Is Better	.....Velazquez J R	Ubillo Rodrigo A	8-1
12	AE	Cousin Frankie	.....Velasquez C	Phipps William	12-1
13	AE	Rudy Rudy Rudy	.....Velasquez C	Rodriguez Rudy R	10-1
14	MTO	Mr Ames	.....Velazquez J R	Schosberg Richard	6-1
15	MTO	Crea's Law	.....Lezcano J	Pletcher Todd A	5-2
16	MTO	Local Legacy	.....Lezcano J	Rice Linda	4-1

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

8TH (4:55) P. G. JOHNSON S. 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) FILLIES 2YO PURSE: \$70,000

1	3	Avanta	.....Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	8-1
1A	MTO	Sky Hosoya	.....	Pletcher Todd A	8-1
2	1	Pleine Forme	.....Dominguez R A	Motion H Graham	5-1
3	2	Dos Lunas	.....Maragh R	Glennay John	3-1
4	4	Fancy Point	.....Castellano J J	Phipps William	12-1
5	5	Maria's Luck	.....Prado E S	Cesare William	20-1
6	6	Lauren Byrd	.....Cohen D	Pletcher Todd A	7-2
7	7	Kathmanblu	.....Desormeaux K J	McPeck Kenneth	10-1
8	8	Arch Support	.....Velasquez C	Contessa Gary C	6-1
9	9	Believe in A. P.	.....Leparoux J R	Dutrow, Jr. R E	8-1
10	MTO	Let's Get Fiscal	.....Garcia Alan	Violette, Jr. R A	5-2

A-Coupled: Avanta and Sky Hosoya

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

9TH (5:30) 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3&UP CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$36,000

1	1	Kingsdale Ocean (IRE)	.....Castellano J J	Toscano John T	15-1
2	2	Matt's a Giant	.....Maragh R	Farro Patricia	6-1
3	3	Sly	.....Dominguez R A	Dutrow Anthony W	4-1
4	4	Crowned General	.....Mena M	Romans Dale	6-1
5	5	Regal Prince	.....Luzzi M J	Violette, Jr. R A	20-1
6	6	Sumfun	.....Cohen D	DiPrima Gregory	6-1
7	7	Straight Romance	.....Gomez G K	Ferraro James W	15-1
8	8	Falcon Trace	.....Velazquez J R	Pascucci Ambrose	12-1
9	9	Rocketing Returns	.....Velasquez C	Rodriguez Rudy R	5-1
10	10	Winthrop House	.....Garcia Alan	Rice Linda	7-2

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Daily Double

10TH (6:04) 1 1/16 MILES (INNER TURF) 3&UP CLAIMING (\$20,000) PURSE: \$36,000

1	1	Stream of Gold (IRE)	.....Leparoux J R	Maker Michael J	3-1
2	2	Sharps Island	.....Hill C	Voss Thomas H	8-1
3	3	Cinder Cone	.....Coa E M	Englehart Chris	6-1
4	4	Eldoktori	.....Prado E S	Reid Robert E Jr	5-1
5	5	Beneath the Crown	.....Maragh R	Hills Timothy A	8-1
6	6	Slamm'n Lou	.....Lenclud F	Badgett William Jr	20-1
7	7	French Transition	.....Bridgmohan J V	Martin Frank	12-1
8	8	Hurricane Heat	.....Bridgmohan S X	Sciacca Gary	20-1
9	9	The Roundhouse	.....Velazquez J R	Pletcher Todd A	4-1
10	10	Slick WheelieCastellano J J	Brown Bruce R	10-1
11	MTO	TommasiCohen D	Jacobson David	5-1

Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10)

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Tod Marks

Todd Pletcher keeps a close eye on his Saratoga string, to the tune of 30 wins thus far.

BY PHIL JANACK

There are very few absolutes in horse racing, but for most of the past decade, one truth has been undeniable: summer and Saratoga Race Course belong to trainer Todd Pletcher.

Sure, other trainers have come away with the meet's coveted training title since Pletcher's first in 1998. Bill Mott won three in a row from 1999-2001, and ended Pletcher's streak at five championships in 2007.

Kiaran McLaughlin edged Pletcher in 2008, and Linda Rice needed all of Saratoga's 36 days to snatch the title from Pletcher last year and become the first woman ever to be crowned king, er queen, of the most prestigious race meet in the country.

Entering the final week of the expanded 40-day meet, Pletcher is on his way to a seventh Saratoga crown. He has 30 wins, 13 ahead of Rice and 15 more than Mechanicville native Chad Brown.

"All through the meet, people were asking me, 'Can you win the training title? Can you beat Todd?' " Brown said. "They keep saying, 'He's got so many horses,' and, yeah, he does have a lot of horses, and he's difficult to beat. But in fairness, here's a guy that's winning with a little more than one out of every four horses he runs at Saratoga. So, even though he's got a lot of horses, it's really a testament to how good a job he does. When you have that many horses, and you're winning one out of every four

starts, you're doing a helluva job. It's not like he's flooding the entry box and winning at 10 percent. The guy's hitting at a high rate, and it's because he's a great trainer. The quality of his horses is very good, but he's earned it. When you're running up here, and you're winning one out of every four races you're in, with that many horses, that is pretty damn good."

Pletcher, 43, has won several stakes at the meet, including the Grade I Ruffian and King's Bishop and Grade II Adirondack, Amsterdam and National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, and endured tough losses in the Grade I Travers, Whitney, Alabama and Diana.

"It would be very hard to complain about anything that's happened at this meet," he said. "For the most part, even the ones that didn't win performed well. The 2-year-olds have been outstanding, and that bodes well for the future. We're blessed with a lot of good horses and a deep, diversified stable. That's what you're hoping for. You'd always

like to do better and win that one that got away. At the same time, you can't be greedy."

Pletcher has long maintained his success at Saratoga is predicated on the performance of his 2-year-olds, and this summer they have been nothing short of spectacular. He had started 34 juveniles through 30 days and came up with 15 wins (44 percent). Pletcher also had six seconds and a third, putting him at 65 percent in the money.

Position Limit won the Adirondack for fillies. Colts Uncle Mo and Curlinello were impressive maiden winners, as was Stay Thirsty, who is being pointed to the Grade I Hopeful Sept. 6. Never Right Joey won the High Rock Springs Aug. 26.

"I felt like this summer, things were encouraging. It looked like we had a nice group," he said. "We train a lot of our horses in company, especially the 2-year-olds. When you're working them together, they might both look really

See **NOTEBOOK** page 15

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Graded stakes winner Regal Ransom is part of a star-studded allowance field in today's fourth race.

Tod Marks

Notebook —

■ Continued from page 14

good, and you lead them over there against everybody else and they get dusted. In this case, everything we've been running has been running well, so it's encouraging when their workmates run. You kind of have a

barometer on where they fit in the grand scheme of things. We've been blessed this year to have a lot of good babies. We haven't done anything different in preparation, and haven't done anything necessarily different in attending the sales. We're doing the same thing we always do; just this year we've got a strong group."

Pletcher needs five more wins to tie his record of 35 set in 2003 and matched in 2004, when the meet was

36 days. He still has Quality Road to run back in the Grade I Woodward Saturday, as well as Sensational Slam in the Grade III With Anticipation Friday and Stay Thirsty in the Hopeful.

"I think [Saratoga] is the one place that you really kind of want to win the training title, and maybe you emphasize this meet more than any other meet," Pletcher said. "It's always worked well, timing-wise, for us, because it's kind of when your maiden 2-year-olds are starting to get ready. It is something we take pride in, and enjoy."

• Nailed at the wire by Blame in the Grade I Whitney Aug. 7, Quality Road will be a heavy favorite to win for the fourth time this year in the 1 1/8-mile Woodward.

Also expected to run are Arcodoro, trained by Eric Guillot, and Convocation, from the barn of Travers-winning trainer Jimmy Jerkens; both are coming off strong allowance wins at the meet. Add to them Mine That Bird, the 2009 Kentucky Derby winner who was a no-factor fifth in the Whitney, and multiple Grade III winner Mythical Power, from Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert.

"It looks like a competitive race," Pletcher said. "I think Eric Guillot's horse looks like he should be the pacesetter. We're happy to have somebody to, hopefully, follow. I think that's his best running style, when there's an honest pace and he's able to track someone and keep his interest."

Quality Road had his final breeze for the Woodward Sunday, going 5 furlongs in 1:00.05, the fastest of 15 horses at the distance on the main track, galloping out 6 furlongs in 1:13. Regular exercise rider Patti Krotenko gave way to jockey John Velazquez for the work.

"I wanted to Johnny to get a feel for him. We were working him by himself, and we wanted him to do enough without overdoing it," Pletcher said. "He worked well. It was a typical easy breeze for him. He seems like he's in good form. I think he's every bit as good as he's been all year."

See **NOTEBOOK** page 16

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Tod Marks

Travers Day maiden winner Uncle Mo is part of a strong group of Todd Pletcher's freshmen winners

Notebook —

■ Continued from page 15

Al Stall Jr., who trains Whitney winner Blame, will be watching the Woodward with interest.

"I know what's going to happen," Stall said. "Quality Road's going to win by a mile and run maybe 46 and change, 47, and he'll be back in the game. That's what I think, anyway. I'm rooting for him."

• Blame, who made the Whitney his fifth consecutive victory since last fall, left Saratoga early Monday morning and was back in Stall's barn at Keeneland a few hours later following a direct flight from Albany to Lexington.

"I put him on the truck at 6:15 a.m. and my assistant called me at 9:20 and said he was there," Stall said. "Not bad, three hours stall-to-stall. We waited to ship him because of the weather and we wanted to get a straight shot back to Kentucky. Knock on wood, the way things have been going for that horse, everything worked out for him. He had a great trip, and bounced right off the van."

Before leaving Saratoga, Stall was able to get in a pair of works for Blame, who is being pointed to the Grade I Jockey Club Gold Cup at Belmont Park Oct. 2.

"Just easy works," Stall said. "I knew we were going to do his stronger works at Keeneland on the Polytrack, just like we did before we came up here. We caught good racetracks and he did what we wanted him to do, and he looked good the next morning, most importantly. We'll just train him along and, hopefully, things go well the month of September and the transportation back to Belmont works out properly and things keep on going. Cross your fingers."

• Hall of Fame trainer Nick Zito was looking for a nice spot to bring Cool Coal Man back to Saratoga. What he got was today's fourth race.

The \$62,000 allowance/optional claimer drew an accomplished field of seven older horses that have combined to win 42 of 135 career starts and earn nearly \$5 million in purses.

Favored on the morning line at 2-1 is Regal Ransom, winner of the Group 2 UAE Derby and Grade II Super Derby last year who has been off since finishing fourth in the Grade II Suburban July 3, his only start of 2010.

Cool Coal Man checks in as the 5-2 second choice for Zito and owner Bob LaPenta. The 5-year-old son of Mine-shaft has won two of five starts this year, including the \$91,000 Skip Away at Monmouth Park in June over Sir Whimsey and Gone Astray, who both came back to win next time out.

Last summer, Cool Coal Man romped to lopsided victory in Saratoga's \$71,000 Albert The Great Stakes at today's 1 1/8-mile distance.

"He ran well here, and that was the idea," Zito said. "It's a tough race. I didn't think it would be that tough, but that's Saratoga."

Also entered are graded stakes winners Atoned, Bad Action and Giant Moon, the hard-hitting New York-bred who won his Saratoga debut July 26, taking the Evan Shipman, also at 9 furlongs.

They'll be joined by Discreet Treasure, a half-brother to Grade I King's Bishop winner Discreetly Mine, and Timber Reserve, a 2008 Saratoga allowance winner at the distance who was third behind Blame in the Grade III William D Schaefer on the Preakness undercard May 15, beaten 2 lengths.

Saratoga Leaders through Tuesday

Jockeys	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings
John R. Velazquez	210	48	28	21	\$2,837,311
Javier Castellano	223	47	35	28	\$2,744,602
Ramon A. Dominguez	210	38	35	33	\$1,642,888
Julien R. Leparoux	163	25	19	20	\$1,261,095
Alan Garcia	121	20	14	9	\$1,083,833
Garrett K. Gomez	109	17	18	12	\$1,553,024
Rajiv Maragh	184	15	16	29	\$868,133
Kent J. Desormeaux	95	15	15	14	\$829,209
Cornelio H. Velasquez	127	14	20	18	\$826,457
Edgar S. Prado	115	14	15	11	\$770,542
Eibar Coa	71	9	10	5	\$502,319
David Cohen	112	7	12	17	\$421,492
Frederic Lenclud	105	7	8	12	\$329,414
Shaun Bridgmohan	45	7	5	7	\$430,292
Jose Lezcano	130	6	22	28	\$839,340
Channing Hill	90	6	5	5	\$213,901
Miguel Mena	77	5	5	5	\$374,844
Calvin H. Borel	56	4	6	3	\$469,393
Jorge F. Chavez	59	4	5	4	\$183,548
Robby Albarado	53	4	4	9	\$278,477

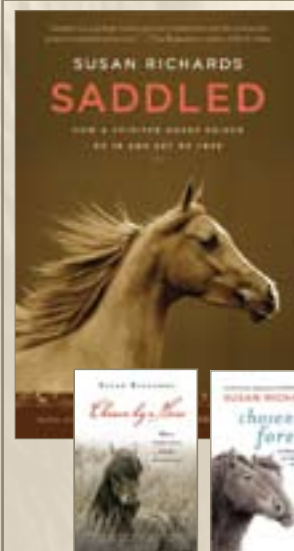
Trainers	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earnings
Todd A. Pletcher	102	30	19	10	\$1,991,710
Linda Rice	68	18	9	11	\$587,446
Chad C. Brown	44	15	7	3	\$487,391
Kenneth G. McPeck	55	10	7	8	\$420,479
Richard E. Dutrow, Jr.	46	9	10	7	\$468,879
George Weaver	53	9	10	5	\$403,888
William I. Mott	70	9	8	14	\$823,110
Richard A. Violette, Jr.	36	7	5	7	\$313,673
Bruce N. Levine	36	7	4	7	\$208,695
Michael J. Maker	36	7	4	3	\$292,759
Kiaran P. McLaughlin	45	6	11	5	\$418,284
Rudy R. Rodriguez	36	6	10	5	\$225,851
Seth Benzel	23	6	3	2	\$265,700
Dominic G. Galluscio	27	6	0	7	\$203,450
Steven M. Asmussen	34	5	6	2	\$520,169
Dale L. Romans	30	5	4	4	\$283,113
Anthony W. Dutrow	18	5	3	3	\$709,055
Claude R. McGaughey III	28	5	3	2	\$383,829
George R. Arnold, II	18	5	1	1	\$219,965
Barclay Tagg	43	4	8	7	\$275,470

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One Quick Tune

Fiddlers Patriot blazes
to course record for Weaver



Dave Harmon

Fiddlers Patriot floats to the finish with a course record in Monday's eighth.

BY MIKE KANE

It would be an understatement to say that Fiddlers Patriot found the Mellon Turf Course to his liking in the eighth race Monday afternoon. Actually, it was more a love affair as the 4-year-old Proud Citizen gelding set a course record for 5 1/2 furlongs in the first grass race of his career.

Under a hand ride from Javier Castellano, Fiddlers Patriot won by 5 lengths in 1:00.59, eclipsing the mark of 1:00.66 set by Lady Rizzi in 2008. For the time being, Fiddlers Patriot is in the Saratoga record book.

Trainer George Weaver said that the connections of the Fiddlers Green Stable runner figured he would take to the new surface in his first start since January 10 at Aqueduct.

"He's got turf in his pedigree and his little full brother, Fiddler Chaparito, really responded well on the grass when we put him on it," Weaver said. "He was not quite tight enough and I thought 5 1/2 on the turf and I said, 'If he likes it that's probably our best bet to win a race.' We had a hunch that he

would like it. He likes it sloppy; both he and his brother like to hear their feet rattle. They like it fast. That was a big race. When they run like that it makes you think you've got more in front of you, not just this condition."

Fiddlers Patriot was scheduled to make his debut on grass last September, but the race was rained off the turf and he finished second. He won twice on wet tracks in the fall and winter and Weaver never tried grass again until Monday.

"It was that time of the year, last year in the fall, when you get yielding and off turf," Weaver said. "We didn't revisit the grass, but this year it's been in the back of my mind and we tried it. And we're happy we tried it."

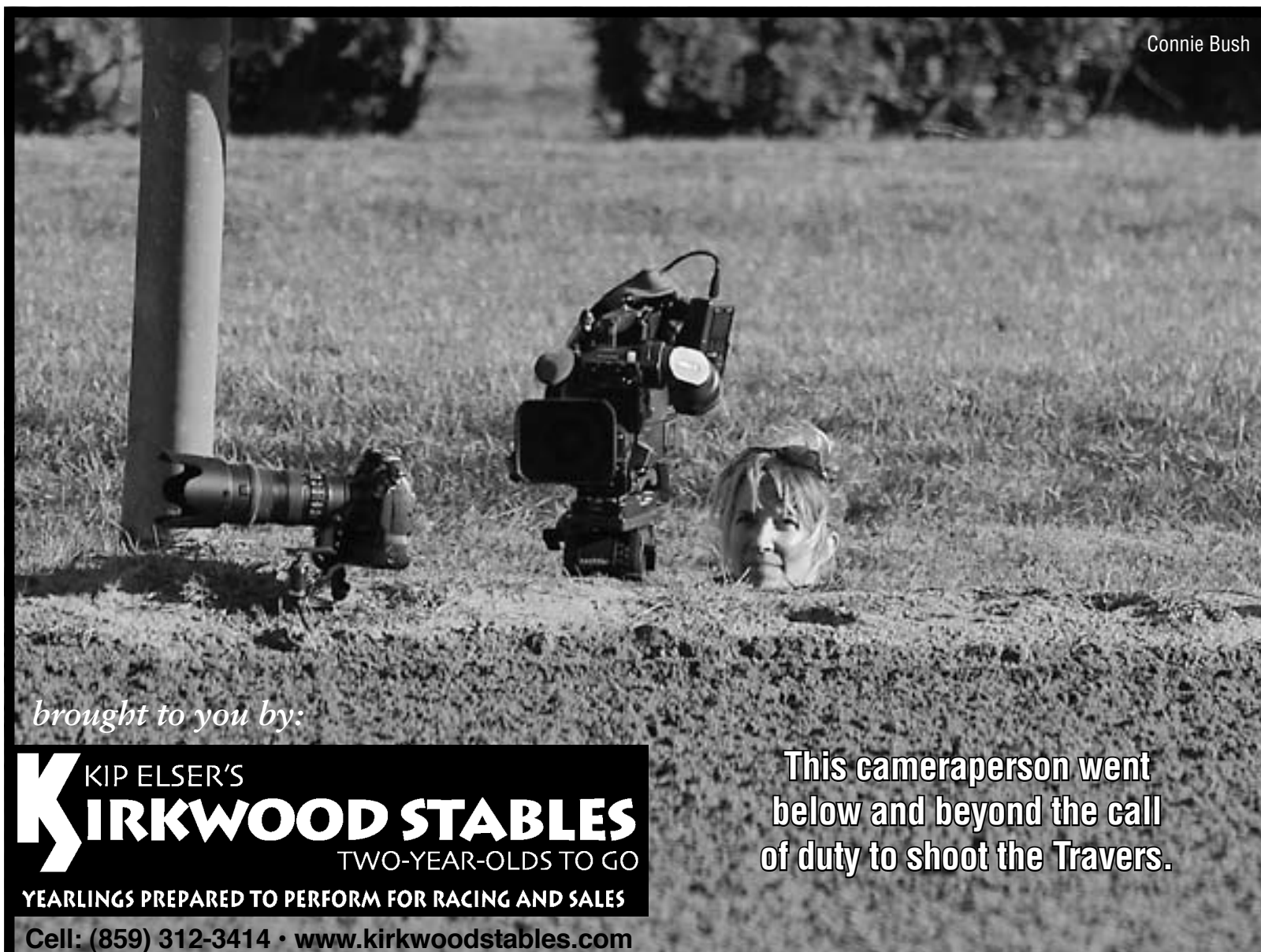
Fiddler's Patriot won for the third time in six starts and paid \$14.20 as the third choice in the field of 10 New York-breds in the allowance-optional claimer. It was Weaver's seventh win of the meet.

• Though the sixth race was named in honor of Saratoga County Day, it was an international event with a French-bred

See **MONDAY** page 19

PHOTO

of the day



Connie Bush

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Dave Harmon

Bred by Bobby Frankel, Hasten To Be King gets home first in Monday's second.

Monday —

■ Continued from page 18

rider, Julien Leparoux, piloting an Australian-bred, Senor Dehere, trained by British-bred Graham Motion to victory in the maiden special weight turf sprint.

The 4-year-old gelding won his debut, which was the first North American start for Shane Finemore, who operates Finemore Thoroughbreds. Finemore has been in the United States for seven years and lives in Millbrook, N.Y.

"We bred him at home," Finemore said. "We raced the mare and raced his brother. We hadn't got any

horses in the U.S., we thought he would suit racing here and brought him over."

Senor Dehere, a son of Dehere out of the New Zealand-bred mare Senorita Lucy, was imported a year ago.

"The horse nearly died when he came over," Finemore said. "He had a bit of a twisted bowel and we had to race him up to Cornell (University's veterinary hospital). They got him going and he's won."

Finemore said Motion was recommended to him by a couple of friends, so he sent the horse to Motion at Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland. The owner and trainer met for the first time Monday.

"He's a nice horse," Motion said. "I think the fam-

ily has been pretty useful in Australia and this horse was bleeding a little over there. That's why he never started over there, but he hasn't been a problem since he came here. He's obviously quite talented."

• Hasten To Be King, a colt bred by Bobby Frankel, the Hall of Fame trainer who died late last year, won the second race. Hasten To Be King, claimed out of the race for \$16,000, raced for the Robert Frankel Trust and was trained by Richard Dutrow.

Through the years, Frankel and Dutrow were friendly competitors. Dutrow has a couple more horses for the trust.

"These are the ones that he had left behind," Dutrow said. "He left me the ones that he owned. The other owners, they sent their horses to other trainers. I'm the only guy who got the ones that Bobby was involved with."

Dutrow shrugged at a question about the Leroide-sanimaux colt being in a maiden claimer in his first start.

"That's where he belonged," Dutrow said. "That's what Bobby always did. He put them where they should be. He won at the wire, so he was placed right. Bobby told me to place them right."

Dutrow said he wishes Frankel was still on the scene, but doesn't have any sentimental connection to the Frankel Trust horses.

"This horse had issues," he said. "We had to do a couple of operations on him. We had to wait and straighten him out as we went along. Same with the other ones that he left. He didn't leave me with runners."

Dutrow smiled as he delivered the line.

"I guess that would be Bobby," he said.

• Salty Little Sis took the third, a 6-furlong maiden special weight for New York-breds, four days after owner Michael Yurch lost her older half-brother Tall Poppi via the claim box.

See **MONDAY** page 20



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Monday —

■ Continued from page 19

Tall Poppi has a 3-3-3 record from 17 starts, was second in three in New York-bred stakes and earned Yurch about \$200,000. Salty Little Sis followed suit, leading gate-to-wire to win her debut by 8 lengths.

"My goodness, I'm so happy today," Yurch said. "I'm very fortunate to have some great people in my life who have helped me out."

With Tall Poppi's success, Yurch kept his eye on the horse's dam, Jupiter Hollow, who resides at Empire Stud and her next foal, a Chief Seattle filly.

"She didn't sell at the Fasig-Tipton sale two years ago. Nobody wanted her," Yurch said. "I knew that they didn't want to take her home. I bid on her but I didn't get her, and I knew she didn't sell. We went over to the Mexican Connection and I handed the cell phone to my son, who was 12 at the time, and I said, 'Jack, buy that horse.' I'd be ashamed to tell you what we didn't pay for that horse."

The filly joined the Yurch stable and earned her name because the dam is by Salt Lake and, she was Tall Poppi's little sister. Her debut for trainer Barclay Tagg was delayed by injury until Monday, deep into her 3-year-old year.

"She had a hairline fracture of the tibia and we couldn't figure out what was wrong with her rear end," Yurch said. "She almost came to the races as a 2-year-old in November, early December. But I had



Dave Harmon

Senore Dehere cruises to a win in Monday's sixth race.

to take her for a nuclear imaging scan. We found out what was wrong, it was an old injury and she needed a little time off."

Salty Little Sis was the favorite and she ran like it, winning as she pleased for Ramon Dominguez.

"She ran very professionally today and I'm very proud of her," Yurch said.

Yurch's company, the retail wine firm Sherry-Lehman, is very involved with fund-raising activities in racing and the Saratoga area.

"It's a great game that anyone can play if you work hard and you're nice to people," he said. "You're in

the dream business in this game, but it's hard work like everything else."

• Alex Campbell's homebred Yan Yan rallied in the stretch to win the fifth under jockey Freddie Lenclud, who was riding his final program with the five-pound apprentice allowance. He officially became a journeyman on Tuesday.

"I came here trying to win five and this is the seventh, so I'm pretty happy with that," Lenclud said. "It's the last day of my bug today. I'm going to try to win one more or maybe more here."

That was Lenclud's only victory of the day. He completed his apprentice period with a record of 117 victories and earnings of more than \$2.9 million from 1,018 mounts.

• Trainer Kieran McLaughlin and his team celebrated in the winner's circle after National Pride won the ninth, a 9-furlong \$55,000 allowance-optional claimer. The five-time winner owned by South Elkhorn Stable was making his first start since a second in the Stymie March 7. National Pride won by 6 1/2 lengths in 1:50.39.

"It's not easy coming off a layoff going a mile and an eighth," McLaughlin said. "If we were at Belmont we probably would have gone a mile, one turn. But we have to go either 7 (furlongs) or a mile and an eighth here. We thought this would be the better of the two spots. He ran great. We're happy with him. It was a good win."

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MONDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Monday, August 30, 2010

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

3	Delta Thunder	Maragh R	11.60	6.10	3.40
7	Belongs to Sheila	Lenclud F		8.30	4.30
1	Rotten to the Core	Velasquez C			2.90

Time 1:25.54

Trainer: Alexander Frank A - Owner: Cay, III John E.

B. c. 4 by Yes, It's True - Delta Sensation by Thunder Gulch

Breeder: EICO Stable

\$2 Exacta (3-7) Paid \$96.00 \$2 Trifecta (3-7-1) Paid \$333.50

2ND 6 FURLONGS 3 & UP MAIDEN CLM (\$16,000) PURSE: \$16,660

5	Hasten to Be King	Gomez G K	7.50	4.30	2.70
6	Grand Terror	Castellano J J		3.20	2.10
4	Scotchirish	Garcia Alan			2.30

Time 1:11.89

Trainer: Dutrow Richard E Jr - Owner: Robert Frankel Trust

B. c. 3 by Leroidesanimaux (BRZ) - Hastenby (IRE) by Tenby (GB)

Breeder: Robert Frankel

\$2 Exacta (5-6) Paid \$16.80 \$2 Quinella (5-6) Paid \$9.40

\$2 Daily Double (3-5) Paid \$58.00 Daily Double Pool \$142,048

3RD 6 FURLONGS 3 & UP MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$40,000

6	Salty Little Sis	Dominguez R A	4.40	2.70	2.30
7	She's Got Rules	Luzzi M J		3.70	2.90
2	Soldierette	Lenclud F			3.90

Time 1:12.67

Trainer: Tagg Barclay - Owner: Yurch Michael

B. f. 3 by Chief Seattle - Jupiter Hollow by Salt Lake

Breeder: Phil Trowbridge

\$2 Exacta (6-7) Paid \$13.00 \$2 Trifecta (6-7-2) Paid \$46.40

\$2 Pick 3 (3-5-6) 3 Correct Paid \$182.50 Pick 3 Pool \$63,148

\$2 Daily Double (5-6) Paid \$14.20 Daily Double Pool \$49,095

\$2 Superfecta (6-7-2-5) Paid \$323.40

4TH 7 FURLONGS 3&UP STARTER ALLOW (\$50,000 -) PURSE: \$48,000

6	Harmonizer	Gomez G K	9.60	3.80	2.80
1	DH-D'bigcat	Velasquez C		4.20	4.90
3	DH-In Just We Trust	Dominguez R A		2.60	2.80

Time 1:23.38

Trainer: Maker Michael J - Owner: Butler William J.

B. g. 4 by Volponi - Rich Hill by Colonial Affair

Breeder: Hopewell Investments LLC

\$2 Exacta (6-1) Paid \$33.80 \$2 Exacta (6-3) Paid \$17.60

\$2 Quinella (1-6) Paid \$15.80 \$2 Quinella (3-6) Paid \$10.20

\$2 Trifecta (6-1-3) Paid \$95.00 \$2 Trifecta (6-3-1) Paid \$85.00

\$2 Pick 3 (5-6-6) 3 Correct Paid \$89.50 Pick 3 Pool \$43,526

\$2 Daily Double (6-6) Paid \$21.20 Daily Double Pool \$53,866

\$2 Superfecta (6-1-3-4) Paid \$245.40

\$2 Superfecta (6-3-1-4) Paid \$213.00

5TH 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3 & UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$23,000

4	Yan Yan	Lenclud F	10.60	5.30	4.00
8	Truth Will Tell	Castellano J J		4.80	3.50
6	Crimson Tempest	Bridgmohan J V			6.90

Time 1:36.37

Trainer: Arnold George R II - Owner: Campbell, Jr. Alex G.

Dk. b. or br. f. 3 by Grand Slam - Twenty One A.C. by Deputy Minister

Breeder: Alex G Campbell Jr. Thoroughbreds LLC

\$2 Exacta (4-8) Paid \$51.00 \$2 Trifecta (4-8-6) Paid \$312.50

\$2 Pick 3 (6-6-4) 3 Correct Paid \$110.00 Pick 3 Pool \$69,572

\$2 Pick 4 (5-1/6/8-6-4) 4 Correct Paid \$791.00 Pick 4 Pool \$158,964

\$2 Daily Double (6-4) Paid \$62.00 Daily Double Pool \$58,098

\$2 Superfecta (4-8-6-5) Paid \$1,591.00

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

5	Senor Dehere (AUS)	Leparoux J R	34.60	12.60	5.10
7	Sunrise Smarty	Dominguez R A		6.10	3.60
2	Avenging Spirit	Velasquez J R			2.40

Time 1:01.15

Trainer: Motion H Graham - Owner: Finemore Thoroughbreds

Ch. g. 4 by Dehere - Senorita Lucy (NZ) by Senor Pete

Breeder: RS Finemore NSW

\$2 Exacta (5-7) Paid \$223.50 \$2 Trifecta (5-7-2) Paid \$606.00

\$2 Pick 3 (6-4-5) 3 Correct Paid \$1,505.00 Pick 3 Pool \$68,767

\$2 Daily Double (4-5) Paid \$254.00 Daily Double Pool \$59,332

\$2 Superfecta (5-7-2-3) Paid \$3,932.00

7TH 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3 & UP MAIDEN CLAIMING (\$25,000) PURSE: \$23,000

6	Keith's Kitten	Leparoux J R	7.70	3.20	2.60
3	Chantilly G.	Dominguez R A		2.60	2.30
4	Lignum Vitae	Gonzalez A C			7.60

Time 1:36.38

Trainer: Maker Michael J - Owner: Ramsey, Kenneth L. and Sarah K.

Ch. f. 3 by Kitten's Joy - Silent Emotion by Ghazi

Breeder: Kenneth and Sarah Ramsey

\$2 Exacta (6-3) Paid \$18.00 \$2 Trifecta (6-3-4) Paid \$256.00

\$2 Daily Double (5-6) Paid \$151.00 Daily Double Pool \$68,819

\$2 Pick 3 (4-5-6) 3 Correct Paid \$777.00 Pick 3 Pool \$56,193

\$2 Superfecta (6-3-4-7) Paid \$1,601.00

8TH 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3 & UP ALLOW OC (\$50,000) PURSE: \$44,000

11	Fiddlers Patriot	Castellano J J	14.20	7.70	5.20
6	Goodandacceptable	Coa E M		8.40	5.30
2	Strong Impact	Velasquez J R			3.00

Time 1:00.59

Trainer: Weaver George - Owner: Fiddlers Green Stable

Ch. g. 4 by Proud Citizen - Thorette by Affirmed

Breeder: Fiddlers Green Stable LP

\$2 Exacta (11-6) Paid \$186.50 \$2 Trifecta (11-6-2) Paid \$764.00

\$2 Pick 3 (5-6-11) 3 Correct Paid \$1,930.00 Pick 3 Pool \$80,517

\$2 Daily Double (6-11) Paid \$83.00 Daily Double Pool \$68,819

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

3	National Pride	Garcia Alan	7.70	3.90	2.50
6	Glenwood Canyon	Gomez G K		3.00	2.50
2	Ruffino	Luzzi M J			3.30

Time 1:50.39

Trainer: McLaughlin Kiaran P - Owner: South Elkhorn Stable

Ch. g. 5 by Macho Uno - Corporate Vision by Corporate Report

Breeder: Liberation Farm & Brandywine Farm LLC

\$2 Exacta (3-6) Paid \$18.40 \$2 Trifecta (3-6-2) Paid \$72.50

\$2 Grand Slam (1/2/5/7-1/3/4/6/8-2/5/6/11/12-) Paid \$25.20

\$2 Pick 3 (6-11-3) 3 Correct Paid \$264.00 Pick 3 Pool \$56,193

\$2 Daily Double (11-3) Paid \$71.00 Daily Double Pool \$67,520

10TH 5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF) 3 & UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$42,000

11	We Need V L T's	Dominguez R A	15.20	7.70	5.40
2	Torrone	Garcia Alan		9.10	8.30
1	Sextant	Velasquez C			7.20

Time 1:01.41

Trainer: Rice Linda - Owner: Rice Linda

Ch. f. 3 by Freud - Saratoga Social by Saratoga Six

Breeder: Sequel Thoroughbreds & JMJ Racing Stables & Dennis Repp

\$2 Exacta (11-2) Paid \$149.50 \$2 Trifecta (11-2-1) Paid \$572.00

\$2 Superfecta (11-2-1-6) Paid \$3,403.00

\$2 Daily Double (3-11) Paid \$74.50 Daily Double Pool \$202,000

\$2 Pick 3 (11-3-11) 3 Correct Paid \$533.00 Pick 3 Pool \$137,181

\$2 Pick 4 (6-11-3-11) 4 Correct Paid \$1,454.00 Pick 4 Pool \$327,107

\$2 Pick 6 (4-5-6-11-3-11) 5 Correct Paid \$3,261.00 Pick 6 Pool

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Horatius	St Averil
Hurricane State	Sticks and Bricks
In Case	Storm Broker
Itaka	Swear by Dixie
Ivory Frontier (Ire)	Tamayaz
Java Royal	Touch 'n' Fly (Ire)
Jazz Club	Trim Account
Ken Doll	Two Punch
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Dave Harmon

Cause Of Freedom (right) edges Leipzig at the wire in Sunday's ninth.

BY BEN MEYERS

For some reason, there was only one reporter in the winner's circle to talk to Shug McGaughey after he won Sunday's ninth race at Saratoga with a late-running longshot.

Nobody knew the scene would be repeated, but with a few more people trying to talk to the trainer, in about 45 minutes.

Instead, McGaughey was enjoying the fact that Stuart Janney's and Phipps Stable's Cause Of Freedom had rallied from fifth of six early to nip Leipzig by a nose in a 1 1/8-mile allowance race on the Mellon turf. Favorite Missinglisalewis finished third.

placed I was hoping that he might be able to get a little bit closer."

Cause Of Freedom, a 4-year-old Alphabet Soup gelding, completed the race in 1:48.03 and sat back at the top of the stretch before Javier Castellano snaked him through to the wire first.

"Some days you can, the rain changed things a little bit," said McGaughey about the horse's ability to close in the stretch. "Earlier in the meet it was really speed favoring. He is a nice little horse and he tries every time you take him over."

As for taking on Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra with Persistently one race later, he offered two words: "We'll see."

Upset Cause

Narrow turf victory forecasts Grade I score for McGaughey

"He ran a good race," McGaughey said. "The other day when we ran him here (an allowance Aug. 7 where he finished seventh) he didn't break as well. He got a little further out. He made a good run and the way he was

• The first one is always the hardest one.

It is a cliché that every horseman knows, and most have lived at least once in their careers, but Gary Sciacca was the one that drew the short straw this time around.

With five seconds in 28 starts at Saratoga coming into the second, a 5 1/2-furlong sprint for New York-bred maiden fillies, Sciacca was hoping to finally get his breakthrough with Ausable Chasm.

"It is tougher up here," he said. "Things aren't going quite right. We have five seconds at the meet and it felt like we just couldn't win one. Coming into the last week where I thought we could win five or six we got nothing. You kind of second guess, you know?"

The betting public held a similar sentiment sending the 2-year-old daughter of Hook And Ladder off at better than 10-1.

Owned by DeeTee Stable, Ausable Chasm punished the public and rewarded her conditioner, leading every step for jockey Miguel Mena and denying 5-2 shot Lady Vi and favorite Millie Money, to break her maiden by 3 lengths, while zig-zagging down the stretch, in 1:05.99.

See **SUNDAY** page 27

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Sunday —

■ Continued from page 26

"She looked like she was trying to get out a little bit. She is still a little green," Sciacca said. "I loved her the first time we ran her and she only ran so-so, I was a little disappointed. We went back and schooled her a little bit in the gate and worked with her. That was the way I expected her to run the first time."

• Everyone is a sucker for a come-back story and Beautician is starting to write one.

After placing second in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies last year, she hasn't been as successful in her 3-year-old season.

Until Sunday's first, an allowance test at 7 furlongs, she was winless. She was second in her first try in the Grade III Honeybee, then had to deal with health problems after an eighth in the Ashland and a fourth in the Kentucky Oaks.

"She has always been pretty good, but we have kind of tinkered around on if she wanted to go shorter or longer," trainer Ken McPeck said. "She kind of struggled with a couple of things this winter. The first race she needed. The second race she had some lung infection issues."

She has started to turn it around. A second in an option claimer July 1 at Churchill Downs was a good sign and then she came back with a late run to finish third in an allowance here Aug. 1. Sunday, Beautician (Julien Leparoux) swung wide into the stretch and had open ground in front of her on the way to the win in 1:23.35.

"She is just a class act. She is not a big filly she is kind of feminine which is what she is supposed to be, but she is

classy," McPeck said. "I love the owner, Peter Callahan, he is one of my favorite clients."

• Speed kept holding on the dirt early. Eminent Tale, a Read The Footnotes 2-year old, showed that as he blazed through seven rivals to a win in the 5 1/2-furlong third for New York-bred maidens.

"Sure is," trainer Rick Dutrow simply affirmed when asked about the speed of the track. "Johnny (Velazquez) felt that and he just sent him."

After Velazquez had to adjust an iron due to a brush at the start, Eminent Tale, making his first career start, went to the front and didn't let up — throwing out

See **SUNDAY** page 30



Ausable Chasm hits the wire first in Sunday's second.

Tod Marks

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SUNDAY'S SARATOGA WINNERS • PHOTOS BY DAVE HARMON

1 Beautician



2 Ausable Chasm



3 Eminent Tale



4 Blushing Dixie



5 Bank Heist



6 Wow Wow Wow



7 Doast



8 Moneigh



9 Cause of Freedom



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SUNDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Sunday, August 29, 2010

1ST 7 FURLONGS 3 & UP ALLOWANCE PURSE: \$52,000

2	Beautician	Leparoux J R	7.00	3.10	2.30
6	Cinco de Mayo Mio	Dominguez R A		3.20	2.70
7	Lily Meadow	Lenclud F			4.10

Time 1:23.35

Trainer: McPeck Kenneth G - Owner: Callahan Peter J.

Gr./ro. f. 3 by Dehere - Caroni by Rubiano. Breeder: David & Diane Shashura

\$2 Exacta (2-6) Paid \$22.80 \$2 Trifecta (2-6-7) Paid \$100.00

\$2 Superfecta (2-6-7-5) Paid \$370.40

2ND 5 1/2 FURLONGS 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$40,000

3	Ausable Chasm	Mena M	22.20	9.00	3.60
4	Lady Vi	Lezcano J		4.80	2.50
2	Millie Money	Dominguez R A			2.10

Time 1:05.99

Trainer: Sciacca Gary - Owner: DeeTee Stables

Dk. b. or br. f. 2 by Hook and Ladder - Ausable by Comet Shine

Breeder: Cyntia Howe

\$2 Exacta (3-4) Paid \$86.50 \$2 Quinella (3-4) Paid \$45.00

\$2 Trifecta (3-4-2) Paid \$117.50

\$2 Daily Double (2-3) Paid \$80.50 Daily Double Pool \$220,109

\$2 Superfecta (3-4-2-7) Paid \$820.00

3RD 5 1/2 FURLONGS 2 YO MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$40,000

5	Eminent Tale	Velazquez J R	12.60	5.20	4.00
1X	Luxury Appeal	Castellano J J		4.80	3.10
3	Dream Drop Kid	Prado E S			2.70

Time 1:04.82

Trainer: Dutrow Richard E Jr - Owner: Winter Park Partners, Sequel Rac-

ing, Narlinger, Dennis

B. c. 2 by Read The Footnotes - Six Tales by Tale of the Cat

Breeder: Thomas Narlinger LLC & Tony Grey

\$2 Exacta (5-1) Paid \$48.60 \$2 Trifecta (5-1-3) Paid \$130.00

\$2 Pick 3 (2-3-5) 3 Correct Paid \$611.00 Pick 3 Pool \$102,499

\$2 Daily Double (3-5) Paid \$160.50 Daily Double Pool \$58,216

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

1	Blushing Dixie	Castellano J J	3.10	2.50	2.20
3	Aphrodite's Tears	Borel C H		4.30	3.10
8	Deputy's Citizen	Cohen D			4.10

Time 1:36.24

Trainer: Weaver George - Owner: R. A. Hill Stable

B. f. 4 by Dixie Union - Broad Queen by Broad Brush

Breeder: Carliwood Farms LLC

\$2 Exacta (1-3) Paid \$12.60 \$2 Quinella (1-3) Paid \$7.80

\$2 Trifecta (1-3-8) Paid \$42.80

\$2 Pick 3 (3-5-1) 3 Correct Paid \$415.00 Pick 3 Pool \$53,867

\$2 Daily Double (5-1) Paid \$29.00 Daily Double Pool \$80,385

\$2 Superfecta (1-3-8-5) Paid \$265.40

5TH 6 1/2 FURLONGS 3 & UP MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT PURSE: \$50,000

7	Bank Heist	Velazquez J R	4.90	3.50	2.40
4	Dominant Jeannes	Castellano J J		10.00	4.70
2	De Price	Mena M			2.80

Time 1:16.68

Trainer: Pletcher Todd A - Owner: Bolton, George and Gulf Coast Racing

Dk. b. or br. c. 3 by Maria's Mon - Candytuft by Dehere

Breeder: Tom Evans, Macon Wilmil Equines & Marjac Farms

\$2 Exacta (7-4) Paid \$59.00 \$2 Trifecta (7-4-2) Paid \$157.00

\$2 Pick 3 (5-1-7) 3 Correct Paid \$61.00 Pick 3 Pool \$113,049

\$2 Pick 4 (3-5-1-7) 4 Correct Paid \$927.00 Pick 4 Pool \$232,698

\$2 Daily Double (1-7) Paid \$8.30 Daily Double Pool \$80,582

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

10	Wow Wow Wow	Castellano J J	13.60	7.20	5.40
2	Zapster	Bridgmohan S X		13.40	8.20
3	King Rock	Velazquez J R			8.10

Time 1:34.69

Trainer: Lukas D Wayne - Owner: Marylou Whitney Stables

B. c. 3 by Broken Vow - Caged Glory by Honour and Glory

Breeder: Marylou Whitney Stables

\$2 Exacta (10-2) Paid \$157.50

\$2 Trifecta (10-2-3) Paid \$1,242.00

\$2 Pick 3 (1-7-10) 3 Correct Paid \$78.50 Pick 3 Pool \$106,062

\$2 Daily Double (7-10) Paid \$59.00 Daily Double Pool \$83,471

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

2	Doast	Garcia Alan	14.60	6.60	4.40
10	Scorper	Dominguez R A		4.00	2.60
5	Recharged	Castellano J J			2.80

Time 1:02.01

Trainer: Rice Linda - Owner: Arindel Farm

B. g. 4 by Wheelaway - Buddy's Bird by Buddy

Breeder: Joseph & Jennifer Daniels

\$2 Exacta (2-10) Paid \$64.50 \$2 Trifecta (2-10-5) Paid \$165.00

\$2 Daily Double (10-2) Paid \$183.50 Daily Double Pool \$84,158

\$2 Pick 3 (7-10-2) 3 Correct Paid \$410.50 Pick 3 Pool \$100,869

\$2 Conso Pick 3 (7-10-4) \$43.00 \$2 Conso Pick 3 (7-10-8) \$43.00

\$2 Superfecta (2-10-5-1) Paid \$1,305.00

\$2 Conso Double (10-4) \$16.80 \$2 Conso Double (10-8) \$16.80

8TH 1 MILE (INNER TURF) 3 & UP MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT

PURSE: \$41,000

4	Moneigh	Desormeaux K J	10.40	5.00	3.80
8	Considerate	Samyn J L		4.50	3.10
6	Oatkadestynschild	Dominguez R A			3.90

Time 1:37.49

Trainer: Ice Tim A - Owner: Allshouse Racing Stable, M&J Thoroughbreds

Ch. f. 3 by Maria's Mon - Annatoga by Concorde's Tune

Breeder: Steel Your Face Stables LLC & Jerry Artz

\$2 Exacta (4-8) Paid \$39.00 \$2 Trifecta (4-8-6) Paid \$136.50

\$2 Pick 3 (10-2-4) 3 Correct Paid \$773.00 Pick 3 Pool \$108,980

\$2 Daily Double (2-4) Paid \$111.50 Daily Double Pool \$84,157

\$2 Consolation Pick 3 (10-4-4) Paid \$77.50

\$2 Consolation Pick 3 (10-8-4) Paid \$77.50

\$2 Superfecta (4-8-6-7) Paid \$1,527.00

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

7	Cause of Freedom	Castellano J J	26.00	10.20	3.90
8	Leipzig	Leparoux J R		6.20	3.70
5	Missinglisalewis	Prado E S			2.20

Time 1:48.03

Trainer: McGaughey Shug - Owner: Janney III, Stuart and Phipps Stable

Ch. g. 4 by Alphabet Soup - Lady Liberty by Unbridled

Breeder: Stuart Janney III LLC & Phipps Stable

\$2 Exacta (7-8) Paid \$111.50 \$2 Trifecta (7-8-5) Paid \$353.00

\$2 Pick 3 (2-4-7) 3 Correct Paid \$1,408.00 Pick 3 Pool \$100,868

\$2 Daily Double (4-7) Paid \$204.00 Daily Double Pool \$74,495

10TH PERSONAL ENSIGN S. (G1) 1 1/4 MILES 3 & UP PURSE: \$294,000

3	Persistently	Garcia Alan	45.00	8.10	3.60
2	Rachel Alexandra	Borel C H		2.30	2.10
4	Life At Ten	Velazquez J R			2.10

Time 2:04.49

Trainer: McGaughey Shug - Owner: Phipps Stable

Ch. f. 4 by Smoke Glacken - Just Reward by Deputy Minister

Breeder: Phipps Stable

\$2 Exacta (3-2) Paid \$94.00 \$2 Trifecta (3-2-4) Paid \$228.00

\$2 Pick 3 (4-7-3) 3 Correct Paid \$3,859.00 Pick 3 Pool \$85,739

\$2 Daily Double (7-3) Paid \$351.00 Daily Double Pool \$115,874

\$2 Daily Double (TRAVERS/P. ENSIGN DOUBLE: 7-3) Paid \$455.00

Daily Double Pool \$115,568

\$2 Grand Slam (2,5,10-4,6,8-5,8,7-3) Paid \$188.50

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

1	Dark Cove	Leparoux J R	20.80	9.40	5.50
5	Papaw Bodie	Castellano J J		4.30	3.10
10	Implied Odds	Dominguez R A			3.10

Time 1:41.71

Trainer: McPeck Kenneth G - Owner: Magdalena Racing

B. c. 3 by Medalgia d'Oro - Crystal Cove by Kris S.

Breeder: Stonewell Farms Stallions

\$2 Exacta (1-5) Paid \$95.50 \$2 Trifecta (1-5-10) Paid \$295.50

\$2 Superfecta (1-5-10-7) Paid \$2,602.00

\$2 Daily Double (3-1) Paid \$677.00 Daily Double Pool \$248,966

\$2 Pick 3 (7-3-1) 3 Correct Paid \$5,161.00 Pick 3 Pool \$181,172

\$2 Pick 4 (4-7-3-1) 4 Correct Paid \$78,771.00 Pick 4 Pool \$479,069

\$2 Pick 6 (10-2-4-7-3-1) 5 Correct Paid \$47,062.00 Pick 6 Pool

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Tod Marks

Beautician pulls away from the crowd in Sunday's first.

Sunday —

■ Continued from page 27

fractions of 22.13 and 45.82 on his way to the win in 1:04.82 overall for Winter Park Partners, Sequel Racing and Dennis Narlinger.

"He ran big today," Dutrow said. "If he stays together he will be able to do it again."

• Even though Wow Wow Wow garnered a lot of cheers from the crowd just from his name, and his win in the 1-mile sixth race for claimers on the inner turf, his owner really got the crowd going when she made her way to the winner's circle.

The matriarch of Saratoga, Marylou Whitney, was the proud owner that smiled for just as many photos from fans as the media after she watched her 3-year-old Broken Vow colt win by 3 1/2 lengths in 1:34.69 for Castellano. D. Wayne Lukas trained the winner, a homebred out of the Honour And Glory mare Caged Glory.

"We felt like we won a stakes race," Whitney's husband John Hendrickson said with Marylou on his arm. "We are lucky if we get one and we have had three (this season) so we are very very lucky."

Whitney, a Saratoga icon and philanthropist, chimed in, "It is not as good as winning the Travers, but to win a race at Saratoga is just so great."

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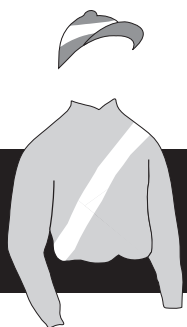
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by Sean Clancy

"Dude, it's not real money."

And that's the newest perspective on the New York Post's annual Saratoga Showdown. Given \$2,000 of mythical money (a maximum of \$50/day), four handicappers pit their expertise and prowess against each other to see who can win the most (or lose the least) during the 40-day meet. Why they picked me, I still don't know, but here we are for another year. I had a big lead, squandered it, and now battle it out below the Mendoza Line.

It's a humbling experience.

So far, I've relied on my own handicapping (inconsistent, at best), tips from the Eddie Kenneally yard (terrible), intuition (Always First at \$44), notes from turf works (great with Bridgetown, awful with Bonavento), moles from random stables (disappointing), and a clocker who thinks it's funny (I feel abandoned).

As I searched for answers on today's card, my friend Jonathan Thomas, assistant to Todd Pletcher at Belmont Park, reminded me that it's mythical money.

"Dude, it's not real money."

Good thing, I couldn't handle the stress if it was real money.

Here's how it goes for today's card.

First race. Ugh, \$12,500 claimers, not my specialty. Ramsgate and King Andrew look tough, Ramsgate

still has Robert Frankel on his form. My man Charlton Baker has an entry; hard not to like Surfing Ian with Fingers Lakes jockey Aadil Khan; they have won their last three together. I'm thinking \$10 to win and \$10 to place on the Baker entry but change my mind.

Second race. Two-year-old fillies, maiden claimers, going short on the dirt. Pletcher has a pair of Repole runners; you know they'll take money and are probably the winners; Castellano rides one, Velazquez rides the other. Linda Rice booked Ramon Dominguez for her first-time starter Major Molly, but I like her better on grass. George Weaver goes blinkers on but has Castellano off Glackety. Garrett Gomez takes a rare call in a maiden claimer for Seth Benzel. I'm thinking \$20 to win on Pletcher's entry, take the short price and like it, but then change my mind.

Third race. I'm always a sucker for a Juddmonte homebred and ogle over Flourish, who cost me (mythical) money already this meet. Owner Lev Miller told me to beware of Mitigate when she runs back for Graham Motion (evidently Miller reads the Post), well, here she is again. I narrow it down to \$30 to win on Flourish and a \$20 exacta box with Mitigate, but remember I'm on a budget, make it \$10 win and a \$5 exacta box.

Fourth race. Another Grade III allowance at Saratoga. Atoned, Bad Action, Giant Moon, Discreet Treasure, Cool Coal Man, Regal Ransom and Timber Reserve make for captivating action but confusing gambling. Discreet Treasure is FTP, first-time Pletcher while Giant Moon already has a win over the track and distance. Still confused. Skip the race.

Fifth race. Got a tip on Arrr Pirates Booty but he took my (mythical) money when third earlier in the

meet. Ghosts And Legends should stretch out, shouldn't he? Linda Rice goes to the turf with Stroke, who is by one of my favorite turf sires, Stormy Atlantic. Peat Bay has a shot too. Bet a \$10 exacta part wheel of Stroke with Peat Bay and Arrr Pirates Booty, nah, skip that, not sure what it costs.

Sixth race. For 3-year-olds and upward which have never won three races or 3-year-olds going 6 furlongs on the dirt. Claiming \$12,500. I don't bet Aqueduct.

Seventh race. I quickly narrow it to three horses. Obviously Tuesday for Linda Rice, simply because it's Linda Rice and Ramon Dominguez on the grass and I might have seen him work. Power Dreams for Billy Badgett, because he's by a turf sire, had a bullet turf work and made up 11 lengths in his last start. Precious Metal, because he's trained by third-leading trainer Chad Brown (he loves when you call him that). Bet \$10 to win on Power Dreams and a \$2 exacta box.

Eighth race. The P.G. Johnson. I get ink fingers studying this one. I like every horse in the race. Got a tip about Will Phipps' maiden Fancy Point. I love Graham Motion going from Presque Isle Tapeta to Saratoga turf. Pletcher's Lauren Byrd worked like a good horse, if that's who I saw work. Hmmm. I only have \$8 left? Bet it all on Lauren Byrd and hope trifecta of Pleine Forme, Fancy Point and Lauren Byrd doesn't hit, because we're out of money.

Ninth race. Turf sprint. Bet \$20 to win on Rice, whoever she's running. Insufficient funds?

Tenth race. For horses who haven't won a race on the turf since April, 2010 for a \$20,000 claiming price. Is this really Saratoga? Chris Englehart ships Cinder Cone for a return to turf, I'd bet \$50 to win . . . if I had the (mythical) money.

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