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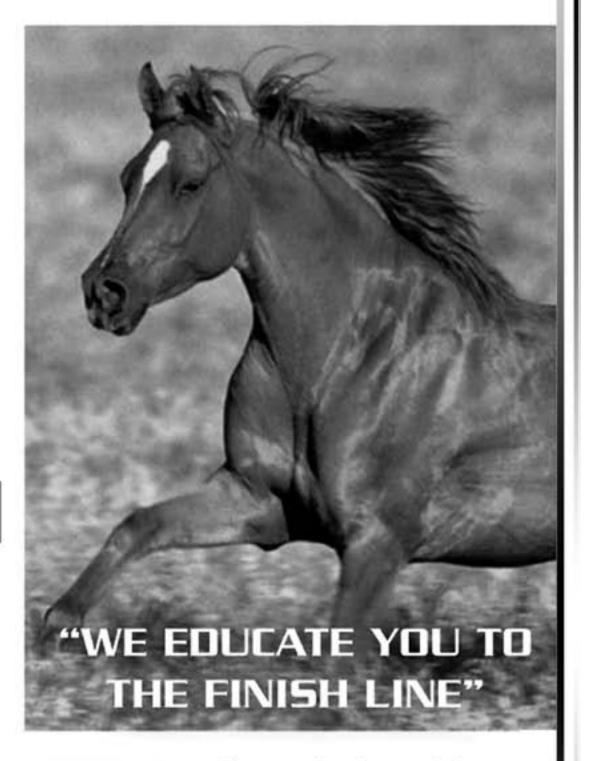
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The Staff

Editors/Publishers:

Sean Clancy, Joe Clancy.

Staff Writers:

Andrew Champagne, Mike Kane, Todd Simmons, Katie Bo Williams.

Layout/Design:

Erin McNamee, Nina Miszkiewicz.

Photographers:

Tod Marks, Dave Harmon, Connie Bush.

Handicappers:

Charles Bedard, Erin Finley, Gaile Fitzgerald, Dean Keppler, John Shapazian

Distribution:

Ryan Clancy, Jack Clancy, Nolan Clancy, Jane Motion, Emmy Cristiano.

Advertising Sales:

Contact a Clancy or call Kathy Rubin at (203) 650-6815.



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"You know, Mike Gonzalez, he says, 'Yeah, yeah, the feather in your hand. I'm on the team.' I'm like, 'No, it's a bird in your hand.' "

Trainer Bill Mott, when trying to communicate an analogy about how to ride P.G. Johnson winner Alaura Michele to Eddie Castro's agent

"She ran OK on the dirt, she clipped heels and almost went down, it was too rapid for her. She's fast but this is what she wants."

Mott, after stretching out Alaura Michele to win

"Horses run for him. And he's a strong rider."

Mott about jockey Eddie Castro

"I prefer managing and being involved, not just doing transactions, I like to go from A to hopefully Z. It's fun when it works."

Doug Cauthen, consultant to Siena Farm, owner of Alaura Michele

"Things are so bad in California, even the earthquakes are coming East."

Jock's agent Mike Kelly

"More than he probably wants."

Cauthen, when asked how many times he talks to Mott about Alaura Michele

"We don't let him watch American Idol when they send people off."

Paul Wasserman, when asked if his son Robbie would be upset if his horse lost Wednesday

"You gotta get a little pang, come on."

Jockey Arch Kingsley, to retired jockey Sean Clancy after winning the first

"I had to get a guy out of retirement to keep the streak alive, 20 years in a row I've had a jump jockey win a race here."

Valet Harry Rice, after Arch Kingsley won the first

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here&there... Continued from previous page



The Details. Unwrapping a horse's legs in the paddock takes special attention.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Skinnydipper, **fourth race**. Chester and Mary Broman homebred is by Friends Lake out of Stolen Star.

Hlao Roo, fourth race. Sisters In Racing's homebred takes the nickname of Pipkin from the classic Watership Down. She's out of Classic Example.

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy. High, 81. Low, 62.

Saturday: Scattered thunderstorms. High, 86. Low, 68.

Sunday: Scattered thunderstorms. High, 81. Low, 67.

Monday: Showers. High, 72. Low, 57.

Tuesday: Who cares?

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"I would rather people quit calling me retired and just say I ride every once in a while. I'm not a professional jockey anymore, but I can still ride a race on a good horse."

> - Trainer, and sometimes jump jockey, Arch Kingsley, who rode Here Comes Art to victory Thursday

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5 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011

Little Sister

Ruthenia follows Rutherienne to turf stakes starts for Clement

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

On Thursday morning, Christophe Clement's Ruthenia marched into the round pen, flung herself on the ground and rolled immediately, wriggling into the sand, popping up and posing, shedding energy like a downed power line. Kent Sweezey stood a safe distance away on the end of the shank and laughed:

'She's a superstar."

The full-sister to Grade I winner Rutherienne runs in today's \$75,000 Riskaverse at a mile on the inner turf. The filly might be a superstar, but she is not a picnic.

"They're very similar," assistant trainer Christophe Lorieul said. "Her sister used to want to kick you and bite you. They're very aggressive, those two fillies, in the stall. They have talent but you have to be careful around them. She wants to be mean. That's OK, as long as they can run a little bit."

Ruthenia has yet to achieve the exploits of her well-traveled sister, but Virginia Kraft Payson's homebred has shown promise from the beginning. Undefeated in two starts in her 2-year-

RISKAVERSE STAKES PREVIEW

old year, including the \$80,000 Good Mood at Belmont, Ruthenia was unlucky enough to run into Winter Memories and a wide trip in her 2011 debut in the Grade III Appalachian. She returned to be third to Bellamy Star in the Xtra Heat June 5, then finished second to My Redbyrd in the Hattie Moseley here July 30.

"We're back on the right track," Lorieul said. "Last time she ran, she ran a very, very good second. Hopefully it's a good spot tomorrow, gives her plenty of time between races. She's fresh, she's well, she's been working decent, hoping to turn the table tomorrow."

The bright bay filly with a crisp blaze differs from her sister in the amount of work she takes. The filly has only one breeze on the books since the Hattie Moseley, a 4-furlong move Aug. 20 in 51 2/5 seconds.

"She's a small, light-framed filly, we never train her really hard," Lorieul said. "Her sister, you could run her ev-

See *RISKAVERSE* page 8 ▶



Eclipse Sportswire

Ruthenia looks for her second stakes win in today's Riskaverse.

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Riskaverse —

■ Continued from page 6

ery three weeks but this one you need to give her a bit more time between races."

Ruthenia's size and attitude also require a little management in the selection of riders. Ruthenia will go to post today under regular rider Alan Garcia.

"She's not tough to gallop but she's tough to ride because she's always a little bit sideways. She's very tricky," Lorieul said. "You need somebody small on her, in the morning and in the afternoon. That's why we want to try to keep Alan because he's small on her and he fits her well. You can't have someone too big, it would not feel right. She could go under the cross bar if you don't watch her."

Ruthenia will break from the outside post and Lorieul expects her to take her usual position.

"She's usually from the back of the pack and makes one run," Lorieul said. "You can't really change her style. She's seems to be relaxed at the back and makes a nice kick at the top of the stretch."

Ruthenia goes off as third choice at 4-1 and breaks from the outside of the 10-horse field.

Bill Mott sent out 7-2 second choice Starformer for a tick around the Oklahoma Thursday morning. The trainer escorted the bay into her exercise on his pony and walked her back to the barn.

The Juddmonte homebred made four starts in France under the care of Criquette Head-Maarek. Fourth in her

debut at Maisons-Laffitte, she broke her maiden at Longchamp April 14. Third in her next two starts, she came to Mott a few weeks after losing by a length at 1 1/4 miles May 30. The 3-year-old daughter of Dynaformer has made one start in the U.S., a third in the Hattie Moseley.

Although Mott says the filly has adapted to life in Saratoga, she still needs to develop her style to suit American racing.

"The pace of our races is just a little different here, the ground's a little faster," Mott said. "Usually with a couple races, they'll get into the rhythm a little better, not that you want to run it off early, but break a little more forwardly. A lot of times they break over there and it seems like they just walk an eighth of a mile."

Mott pointed to the filly's slow break and an unexpected pace scenario as the contributing factors in Starformer's defeat in the Hattie Mosely.

"She broke a little slow last time, where you'd be hoping for a little better break from the gate and it would be nice if she had a little better position than she had," Mott said. "She broke slowly and was in behind a slow pace. She closed very well considering how slow the pace was."

Starformer breaks from post 3 under Iose Lezcano.

Mike Trombetta enters 10-1 shot Elusive Pearl. Robert Goldsmith's daughter of Medaglia d'Oro was third last out in the \$150,000 Duchess at Woodbine. A 7-length winner over the synthetic track at Presque Isle two starts ago, Elusive Pearl makes her first start on the turf today.

"I always thought she'd do better on a different surface so I was glad to get the opportunity to run her (at Presque Isle) and she ran great," Trombetta said. "The turf will be another new thing, but I think she will run well. The Canada race was good, the winner (Anne's Beauty) came back and won a graded race over the weekend which makes our filly look even better. She's been keeping decent company."

The two-time winner will go to post 7 under Ramon Dominguez.

Chad Brown enters 3-1 favorite Divalarious. The 3-year-old daughter of Distorted Humor boasts Alidiva as her first dam, making her a half-sister to Group 1 winners Taipan, Ali-Royal and Sleepytime. The Charles Wacker homebred has won twice in three starts. Third to promising Marketing Mix at Keeneland this spring, she returned to best Shug McGaughey's subsequent winner Sex Appeal by 3 lengths over 1 1/16 miles. In June, she won a first-level allowance by a half-length at Belmont. Javier Castellano takes the reins from post 4.

McGaughey sends over 5-1 shot Puzzling. The Phipps Stable's daughter of Ghostzapper has won her last two starts, a maiden at Monmouth and a first-level allowance over 1 1/8 miles here Aug. 3. Alex Solis will take the reins.

Six other fillies fill out the field of the Riskaverse, the eighth race on the day.

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Speeders

Asmussen's Wine Police, Chipshot head 3YO stakes

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

Today's \$75,000 Sightseek, at 6 furlongs on the dirt, acts as an alternate for four of the five horses entered in the cancelled Distorted Humor. After the Sunday card was called off due to Hurricane Irene, the Sightseek attracted nearly identical entries, lacking only Super Saver's half-brother Cal Nation and gaining Darley's Higher Court.

The Sightseek serves as the next steppingstone on the comeback trail of last year's highly touted 2-year-old Wine Police. Third to Boys At Tosconova in the Hopeful last year, the son of Speighstown faces on-form stablemate Chipshot and the well-regarded Higher Court.

The Steve Asmussen entries may contest the same race, but Wine Police and Chipshot have entirely disparate backgrounds. Wine Police is a veteran of only four starts; Chipshot has 13 to his name, including a score in the \$75,000 Select at Monmouth last out.

"Being in a five-horse field, it's a little bit disappointing to run them against each other, but either run both or nei-

SIGHTSEEK STAKES PREVIEW

ther, that was the situation," Asmussen said. "I think that Wine Police can be a top-class sprinter at this stage. He's got a ton of talent, he just needs opportunity and to step up. Whereas, Chipshot coming off his best race ever, he's plenty seasoned and he's just very good right now."

Asmussen considered running Wine Police in the Grade I King's Bishop last Saturday, but elected for the easier spot for Kirk and Judy Robison's 6-5 favorite

"I thought he got a little tired going 6 1/2 (in the Amsterdam), just the way the racetrack had been playing previously, how tiring it was," Asmussen said. "Just not wanting to knock him out for the rest of the year."

Asmussen pointed to the slow going on the main track to validate his decision, but remarked that the track may have changed since he made the choice.

"It had been trying up to this point," Asmussen said. "This year the Test goes

See **SIGHTSEEK** page 11 ▶



Tod Marks

Third to Caleb's Posse in the Amsterdam, Wine Police looks for his second win of the year.

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Sightseek -

■ Continued from page 10

in 1.24 and the slowest Whitney since '59 and you watch the Alabama last weekend go 2.03. Just made the decision, I didn't want to do that to Wine Police at this stage, but I don't think we're dealing with the same track as we were last week, ironically."

Wine Police will break from the inside under Julien Leparoux.

Asmussen looks forward to further improvement from Chipshot, who will break from post 2 for Vinery Stables and Charles Glasscock. The son of Peace Rules made his debut in May of last year, running second. He beat Nacho Saint when breaking his maiden next out. He has started five times this

year, winning a first-level allowance in addition to the Select and running a neck second to Vengeful Wildcat in the Chick Lang. Asmussen worries about the possibility of rain.

"Chipshot ran great in the Select Stakes at Monmouth and hasn't really run well on off-tracks in the past, so I don't know what that says for him," Asmussen said. "Chipshot stepping up and winning the Select puts the Gallant Bob on his radar."

Asmussen remarked on the 5-2 second choice's temperament.

"Chipshot's really a pretty horse that's unassuming," Asmussen said. "He's really quiet and gallops good, we work him and he's always impressive."

Chipshot will go to post under Javier Castellano.

Jimmy Baker's Philippe makes his

second start of the meet. The 3-yearold son of Mineshaft was beaten a half-length when second in an optional claimer Aug. 8. Fifth in the Chick Lang, the Courtlandt Farm homebred scored by 3 lengths in an optional claimer in March. Baker entered Philippe in the Quick Call on the turf earlier in the meet, but elected to scratch.

"We just couldn't get a good grass race to go," Baker said. "We'll eventually get him on the turf, but when I don't know. It's a big step up, there's some good horses in that race. If he hits the board, I'll be happy."

The bay colt has big shoes to fill in the Baker household: The trainer used to have a photo of Secretariat hanging in his house, until his wife removed it to put up a win photo of Philippe.

"I've had two of his half-brothers,

he's a kind horse," Baker said. "Not a very big horse, but he's well balanced."

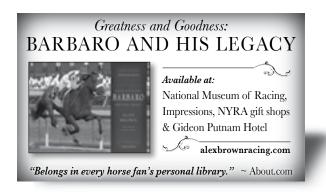
Tom Albertrani sends over Higher Court, a son of young Irish stallion Shamardal. The 3-1 shot tries the dirt for the first time after a 6-length Polytrack score at Keeneland and a 2-length turf score here Aug. 6. The Darley homebred will break from post 4 under Ramon Dominguez.

Ron Moquett enters Lee and Joyce Didier's Free Entry. The 10-1 shot goes to post under Kent Desormeaux and makes his first start for Moquett. The son of Tale Of The Cat opened his career with a fourth for Eddie Kenneally, went to Chad Brown to win twice in four starts, then came to Moquett. The Virginia-bred will enter post 2.

The Sightseek is carded as the third race today.



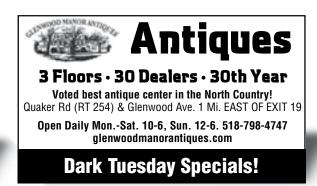
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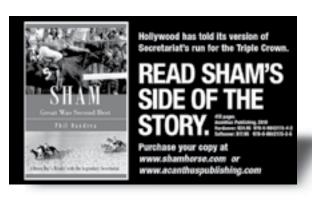


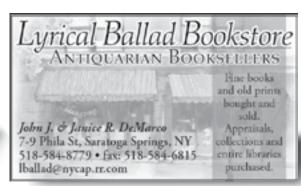
















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		·	· ·			10	MTC) Wee Freudian	•	R. Schosberg	2-1
21	ID (3:	:00PM). \$75,000, STI	K - THE GOLD AND F	ROSES, 2 YO, 6F						•	
Ex	acta,	Quinella, Trifecta, Pic	3, Pic 4, Daily Doubl	le		8TH (6:09PM). \$75,000, STK - THE RISKAVERSE, 3 YO, F , 1M (INNER					
1	1	Zow	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	2-1	TU	JRF)			-	
2	2	Dehere of the Cat	R. Dominguez	M. Trombetta	6-1	Ex	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily I	Double		
3	3	Silent Thunder	J. Chavez	G. Gullo	15-1		1	Niji's Grand Girl	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	12-1
4	4	Jaw Crusher	J. Castellano	B. Levine	7-2	2	2	My Lost Silver	P. Rodriguez	M. LeCesse	20-1
5	5	Bay Park Boy	C. Velasquez	T. Pletcher	5-2	3	3	Starformer	J. Lezcano	W. Mott	7-2
6		The Prize Fighter	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	4-1	4	4	Divalarious	J. Castellano	C. Brown	3-1
		Ü		•		5	5	Puzzling	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	5-1
3F	RD (3:30PM), \$75.000, STK - THE DISTORTED HUMOR, 3 YO, 6F					6	6	Upper East Sider	R. Maragh	P. Kelly	20-1

8 8

9 9

6-5

5-2

8-1

3-1

10-1

7-2

12-1

12-1

4T

J. Leparoux

J. Castellano

R. Dominguez

K. Desormeaux

E. Prado

Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

Wine Police

Higher Court

Ladywell Court

Landlubber

Desert Bliss

Chipshot

Philippe

Free Entry

3

				/		13	MII	D Henny's Hurrican
			MSW, 2 YO, F , 1 1/1 Pic 3, Daily Double	6M (TURF)		9T	H (6	:41PM). \$51,000, I
	4	Skinnydipper	C. Velasquez	R. Hernandez	20-1			Trifecta, Daily Doul
18	MT(D Berning Carbs	R. Maragh	T. Albertrani	20-1	1	1	Akris Queen
2	1	Stock Fund	R. Curatolo	C. Martin	9-2	2	2	Virtuously
3	2	Joy Rising	R. Dominguez	L. Rice	10-1	3	3	Zalmara
4	3	Arizona Tammy	E. Prado	E. Reed	12-1	4	4	Storm Palm (ARG
5	5	Royal Bonnie	J. Castellano	G. Weaver	6-1	5	5	An Absolute Ten
6	6	Hlao Roo	I. Ortiz, Jr.	N. Saville	20-1	6	6	Wet One (IRE)
7	7	Who's Zat Girl	J. Velazquez	L. Rice	6-1	7	7	Namaskara

P. Serpe

M. Maker

M. Hennig

K. DePasquale

S. Asmussen

S. Asmussen

T. Albertrani

R. Moquett

J. Baker

5TH (4:33PM). \$51,000, MSW, 2 YO, 1 1/8M

10 10 Proud and Charming J. Lezcano

Ex	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6,	Daily Double		
1	1	Maori	J. Castanon	M. Nihei	15-1
2	2	Why Broadway	J. Sanchez	D. Shivmangal	20-1
3	3	Raconteur	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	5-2
4	4	Our Midnight Run	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	7-2
5	5	Politicallycorrect	R. Dominguez	W. Ward	6-1
6	6	Speightscity	J. Castellano	G. Contessa	4-1
7	7	A Single Man	I. Ortiz, Jr.	N. Zito	5-1
8	8	Doctorious	R. Albarado	D. Lukas	6-1

A. Solis

J. Leparoux

6TH (5:05PM). \$34,000, CLM \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 1 1/16M (INNÈR TURF)

•		,			
Exa	icta, ⁻	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D	ouble		
1	1	My Luckey Penney	I. Ortiz, Jr.	P. Ortiz	15-1
2	2	River Fancy	J. Leparoux	R. Dutrow, Jr.	6-1
3	3	Floating Alone	A. Garcia	R. Hess, Jr.	5-1
4	4	Ms Stilleto	R. Dominguez	D. Schettino	3-1
5	5	Higher Incentive	D. Cohen	D. Jacobson	8-1
6	6	Australis Princess	J. Castellano	B. Brown	5-2
7	7	Just Maid	S. Bridgmohan	S. Margolis	20-1
8	8	Queen of Protocol	J. Velazquez	D. Donk	12-1
9	9	Ba Ba's Bunch	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	8-1
10	MTO	Repreive	R. Maragh	B. Levine	8-5
11	MTO	Quixsand	R. Curatolo	M. Hushion	6-1

R. Dominguez

S. Bridgmohan

R. Dominguez

J. Leparoux

A. Garcia

E. Castro

M. Trombetta

15-1

6-1

4-1

8-1

15-1

M. Matz

M. Casse

C. Martin

K. McPeek

C. Clement

J. Terranova, II

Elusive Pearl

Shatoosh

11 AE Blushandbashful

10 10 Ruthenia

12 AE Decennial

Indian Pond

		41PM). \$51,000, MS		F & M , 1 1/8M (TUF	RF)
Exa	acta,	Trifecta, Daily Double)		
1	1	Akris Queen	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Terranova, II	10-
2	2	Virtuously	J. Castellano	D. Romans	5-2
3	3	Zalmara	A. Lezcano	R. Ubillo	12-
4	4	Storm Palm (ARG)	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	8-
5	5	An Absolute Ten ´	E. Prado	W. Mott	6-
6	6	Wet One (IRE)	R. Maragh	P. Pugh	8-
7	7	Namaskara	R. Dominguez	H. Motion	5-
8	8	Quantock	A. Solis	J. Sheppard	12-
9	9	Roses for the Star	J. Espinoza	P. Kelly	20-
10	10	Bernardette	J. Velazguez	T. Albertrani	12-
11	11	Now Smile	C. Velasquez	R. Lerman	8-

10TH (7:14PM). \$30,000, CLM \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta						
	1	1	Joan's Choice	A. Garcia	R. Violette, Jr.	10-1
	2	2	Storm Island	J. Velazquez	L. Rice	6-1
	3	3	Monzante	J. Leparoux	S. Asmussen	9-2
	4	4	Red Leader	C. Velasquez	R. Rodriguez	8-1
	5	5	The Program	R. Albarado	R. Werner	4-1
	6	6	Golden Causeway	R. Dominguez	H. Motion	6-1
	7	7	Pavoratti's Soul	J. Chavez	P. Kelly	30-1
	8	8	Prince Dubai	E. Castro	L. Gyarmati	20-1
	9	9	I Ain't No Saint	R. Maragh	J. Imperio	10-1
	10	10	Short Shrift	J. Lezcano	J. Fisher	3-1
	11	ΑE	Midnite Silver	D. Cohen	D. Jacobson	5-2
	12	ΑE	Slamm'n Lou	D. Cohen	W. Badgett, Jr.	12-1
	13	ΑE	Monastir	J. Castellano	M. Hennig	5-1
	14	ΑE	Fairway Drive	A. Lezcano	F. Martin, Sr.	15-1
	15	MTO	Never Right Joey	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	2-1

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Andrew J. Mollica, Esq.

Attorney and Counselor at Law

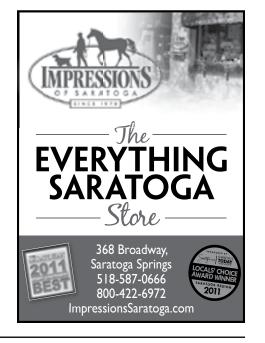
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the Powe l gric		Gaile	Dean	Erin	Charles
Race #	Shapazian	Fitzgerald	Keppler	Finley	Bedard
1	Sunrise Smarty	Sunrise Smarty	Sunrise Smarty	Sunrise Smarty	Sunrise Smarty
	Temecula Creek	Starforaday	Starforaday	Temecula Creek	Brother Bird
	Saint Daimon	Temecula Creek	Temecula Creek	Brother Bird	Saint Daimon
2	Bay Park Boy	The Prize Fighter	Bay Park Boy	Bay Park Boy	Zow
	Zow	Dehere Of The Cat	Zow	The Prize Fighter	Dehere Of The Cat
	Dehere Of The Cat	Zow	Dehere Of The Cat	Jaw Crusher	Jaw Crusher
3	Wine Police	Wine Police	Chipshot	Higher Court	Chipshot
	Chipshot	Chipshot	Wine Police	Wine Police	Higher Court
	Higher Court	Higher Court	Free Entry	Chipshot	Wine Police
4	Landlubber Royal Bonnie Who's Zat Girl Raconteur	Hlao Roo Landlubber Stock Fund Raconteur	Ladywell Court Stock Fund Landlubber Raconteur	Desert Bliss Landlubber Stock Fund Raconteur	Landlubber Arizona Tammy Proud And Charming
5	Politicallycorrect Speightscity	Speightscity A Single Man	Our Midnight Run Speightscity	Politicallycorrect Speightscity	Speightscity Our Midnight Run Politicallycorrect
6	Repreive	Ms Stilleto	Australis Princess	Repreive	River Fancy
	Ms Stilleto	Floating Alone	River Fancy	Australis Princess	Australis Princess
	Australis Princess	River Fancy	Ms Stilleto	Ms Stilleto	Ms Stilleto
7	Wee Freudian	Wee Freudian	Petey Cramer	Isn'tlovejustgrand	Rudy Rudy Rudy
	All Class	Rudy Rudy Rudy	Hysterical Cat	Petey Cramer	Check The Cites
	Hysterical Cat	Barrel Of Love	Barrel Of Love	Rudy Rudy Rudy	Barrel Of Love
8	Divalarious	Divalarious	Starformer	Elusive Pearl	Divalarious
	Starformer	Starformer	Divalarious	Indian Pond	Ruthenia
	Puzzling	Elusive Pearl	Elusive Pearl	Ruthenia	Shatoosh
9	Virtuously	Virtuously	Namaskara	Virtuously	Wet One
	Namaskara	Storm Palm	Virtuously	Storm Palm	Storm Palm
	Bernardette	Namaskara	Now Smile	Quantock	Virtuously
10	Never Right Joey	Short Shrift	The Program	Short Shrift	Short Shrift
	Short Shrift	Red Leader	Short Shrift	Golden Causeway	Prince Dubai
	Monzante	Golden Causeway	Monzante	Midnite Silver	Red Leader
Records	93/288	84/288	74/288	77/288	63/288

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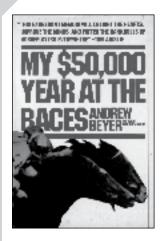
Gaile Fitzgerald closed the gap to within nine of defending champ John Shapazian with a five-win afternoon Thursday. Dean Keppler had four wins, while Shapazian, Charles Bedard and Erin Finley had three each. Some other highlights of the afternoon included Keppler's \$111 trifecta box in race three, and Sweet Cat (\$6) in race 11 that was a clean-sweep selection by everyone. There is no pick six carryover today.

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HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

Half-dozen eye NY-bred 2Y0 stakes

BY JOE CLANCY

Bruce Levine went to Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's 2-year-old sale in Maryland this spring with eyes on a runner and locked on to a New York-bred son of Political Force. Now named Jaw Crusher, the bay colt went for \$63,000 and makes his stakes debut in today's Gold And Roses Stakes for New York-breds.

"I liked the way he looked, I liked his video, he was one of the ones I liked," said the trainer. "I thought I was going to get him a lot cheaper – a LOT cheaper – than I did, but I got him. He's a racy horse, he had a good work down there, people wanted him. If I didn't have a guy on the phone, I never would have gotten him."

Owned by Roddy Valente, Tom Lemme and James Lawler, Jaw Crusher made his debut here Aug. 13 and was second to The Prize Fighter in an allname exacta. Both horses return today and Levine hopes for a step forward from his horse.

"The other horse had a race the last time and I should move up the second time," he said. "This is a good spot to bring a horse, maybe get a stakes win."

Javier Castellano takes the return call on the Windhorse Thoroughbreds product at 7-2 from post 4.

Flying Zee Stable's 4-1 shot The

GOLD & ROSES STAKES PREVIEW

Prize Fighter breaks from the outside for Ryan Curatolo. The son of Pure Prize finished second in his debut at 5 furlongs July 1, then knocked off Jaw Crusher at 5 1/2 furlongs. He gets another half-furlong today for trainer Phil Serpe

Repole Stable's Zow defeated The Prize Fighter back in July and returns here as the 2-1 favorite for Todd Pletcher. The son of Bluegrass Cat went 5 furlongs in 57 4/5 seconds while winning by 2 lengths. He's worked steadily at Saratoga since and gets the inside post for jockey John Velazquez.

Pletcher also has the race's second choice in Anstu Stable's 5-2 chance Bay Park Boy, a winner here in the mud Aug. 8. The son of Johannesburg is also entered in the \$126,000 Aspirant Stakes at Finger Lakes Monday so could bypass this for the richer spot.

Trainer Mike Trombetta won a maiden race here July 24 with Dehere Of The Cat, listed at 6-1 on the morning line for Ramon Dominguez. The son of Discreet Cat cost \$80,000 at Keeneland September last year and rewarded the purchase with a debut score going 5 1/2 furlongs.

Based at Fair Hill in Maryland,



Tod Marks

The Prize Fighter (right) and Jaw Crusher return in today's Gold And Roses Stakes.

Trombetta left Dehere Of The Cat in Saratoga after the win and likes the steady progress the colt has shown – with three works at Oklahoma and continued development.

"He's really taking the training well," Trombetta said. "At the end of the day, he's going to be a two-turn horse, so hopefully they don't run him off his feet early and he can make a run at them late."

Dehere Of The Cat is one of four winners from 14 starts at the meet for

Trombetta, who took nine stalls on the Oklahoma side after winning one of 13 last year.

"We're happy," he said. "We've been rotating horses in and out as we've had runners. It would be nice to get one more and say we had five, but we'll take it. It's definitely one of the hardest places to win races."

Silent Thunder, a \$50,000 maidenclaiming winner here Aug. 6, completes the field for the second race on a day with three stakes.

18 two-year-old winners in 2011





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 - Twelve Hundred at Prairie Meadows for B. Jock Racing and James Divito
 - My Due Process at Saratoga for Priscilla Vaccarezza and Dale Romans
 - Banner Bill won 3 races in a row (including 2 stakes at Woodbine) for Ron Magers, Rob Marcocchio and Ralph Biamonte
 - Zow at Belmont Park for Mike Repole and Todd Pletcher
 - Motion Lounge at Saratoga for Brooklyn Boyz and Dominick Schettino

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Game On

State Of Play adds stakes to scorebook for Motion stable

BY SEAN CLANCY

Jonathan Sheppard posed in the winner's circle. His former assistant Graham Motion did not.

It would have made a nice reunion.

Sheppard presented the trophy for the With Anticipation to everybody but his former pupil who sent out Team Valor's State Of Play to win Thursday's Grade II turf stakes for 2-year-olds.

"I wish Graham was here," Sheppard said after the race.

"That's a shame, that would have been fun," Motion said from his home in Fair Hill, Md. "What were the chances he'd be there to present the trophy?"

State Of Play didn't care one way or the other, improving his record to 2-for-2 with a professional frontrunning score in Thursday's feature. Ridden by Ramon Dominguez, State Of Play broke his maiden here July 27 and came back to win his first stakes in style.

State Of Play cleared Dullahan going into the first turn and opened a comfortable lead, going the first quarter in 24.24. Heading down the backstretch, Sportswriter stalked to the outside, Dullahan settled in third and Optimizer found a clear run from the out-



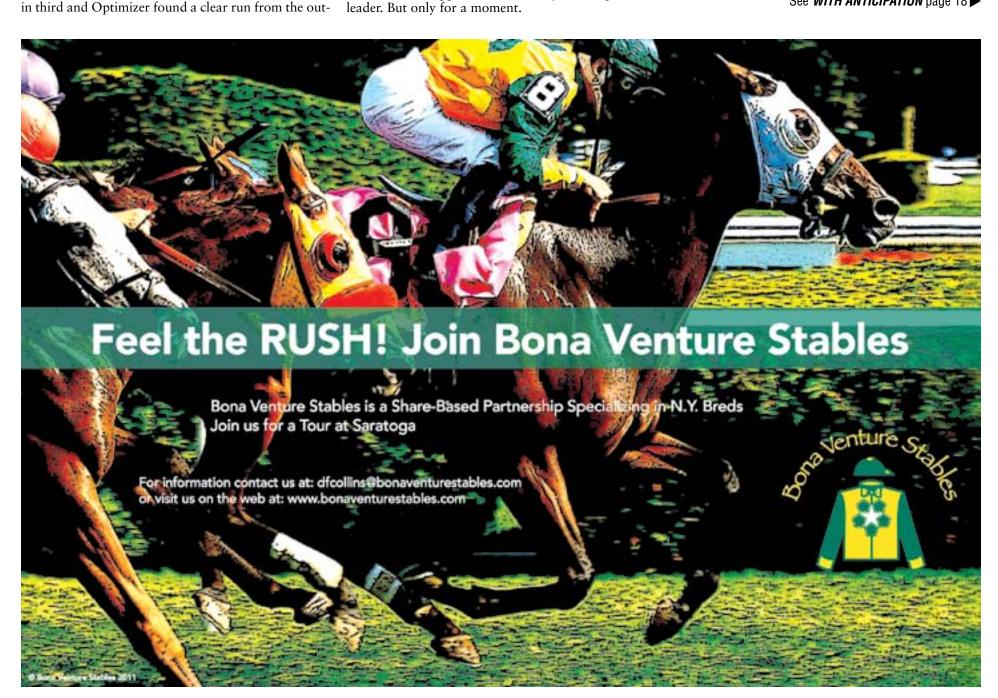
Tod Marks

Matias Ramirez escorts State Of Play out of the winner's circle. side in fourth.

State Of Play doled out a half in 49.78 while his eight rivals ganged up behind him. Dominguez allowed another notch to slide through his hands on the turn and State Of Play turned for home in control. Optimizer ranged to his outside at the eighth pole and for a moment appeared to be ready to vanquish the

"I think he got his head in front and that's when I got a little concerned, it was a question of whether I had horse to keep up with him," Dominguez said. "You don't know because it's just his second time and having him on his outside. I hit him a couple of times on the left, I knew then he wasn't going to let the other

See WITH ANTICIPATION page 18 ▶







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With Anticipation —

■ Continued from page 16

horse go by."

State Of Play responded with another push, swapping back to his left lead and winning by a half-length over Optimizer. Dullahan finished third. State Of Play finished 1 1/16 miles in 1:43.97.

Dominguez met State Of Play July 27 when Motion shipped the son of War Chant to Saratoga for his debut. The dark bay colt stalked and flew home, scoring by 2 1/2 lengths in the 5 1/2 furlong turf sprint.

Graham and I talked right after the race but we knew it was just a matter of getting him to relax, that was our main concern today," Dominguez said. "He settled so great the last time, he broke way in front and being the first time, he was a little rank, I said to myself, 'I've got to make sure he relaxes for a minute,' and as soon as I took a long hold, he came back to me beautiful. I don't think he has to do it one way, he's versatile."

Motion has been impressed with State Of Play from the beginning and was not surprised by his performance.

"No. I'm really not, to be honest. He's run the way he's worked, you don't always expect them to do that because they can make such fools of you," Motion said. "He's a very cool horse, he's got the right attitude about it, that was the thing Ramon was so impressed with, was how he handled everything. First time going two turns off a sprint race, he thought he might be more keyed up."

A half-brother to Straight Gin, a

Kentucky Derby starter and a winner over timber, State Of Play relaxed on the lead in the With Anticipation, offering a jink every time a gap appeared in the hedge. That's relaxed.

"He was looking around some, where the hedge opens down the backside, every time he went past, he was spooking a little but he handled himself well, especially for just the second time," Dominguez said. "I knew on paper there was no speed, I didn't have to be in front but he couldn't have relaxed any better, ears forward the whole way. I was smiling, felt pretty confident that he would have a kick and I knew the fractions were slow enough that he should be able to kick."

State Of Play came to hand easily for Motion, going through his paces at Fair Hill Training Center with professionalism. Unveiled on the fourth day of the meet, State Of Play won easily and Motion circled the With Anticipation.

"He's just been one of those 2-yearolds who came in without missing a beat," Motion said. "He handled his first race well, I got him back to Fair Hill pretty quickly, knowing we were pointing for this race, I thought it made more sense for him to do his work at Fair Hill and have him more settled about everything rather than being keyed up at the racetrack."

State Of Play breezed 5 furlongs three times since his maiden win, giving Motion confidence with every exercise.

"I felt very good about running him," Motion said. "Look, I certainly didn't expect him to win but I had a pretty strong feeling he was going to be fairly competitive off of the way he had done things from his first race.'

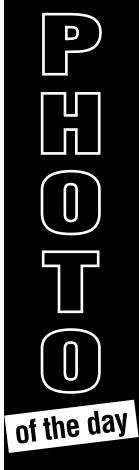


Tod Marks

State Of Play repels Optimizer late in the With Anticipation.

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Gr/ro Gelding 2002, by Royal Anthem - Heirloom Wish by Lyphard's Wish (FR) Owner: Carrington Racing Stables. Trainer: Archibald Kingsley, Jr..

Breeder: William R. Ammann (NY). Late Scratches: Cornhusker (GB)

Exacta (9-6), \$358.00; Trifecta (9-6-4), \$2,894.00

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Self Control R. Dominguez \$7.40 \$4.60 \$2.70 \$11.00 Piquant A. Solis \$7.70 Troilus S. Bridgmohan \$3.00

B Colt 2008, by Lemon Drop Kid - Lyrics 'n Laughter by Stop the Music Owner: Gary L. and Mary E. West. Trainer: Chad Brown. Breeder: Gary & Mary West Stables, Inc. (KY).

Late Scratches: Nicky Boy Time: 1:24.13

Daily Double (9-1), \$54.50; Exacta (1-6), \$96.00; Quinella (1-6), \$57.50; Superfecta (1-6-5-3), \$1,665.00; Trifecta (1-6-5), \$421.00; Consolation Double (9-8), \$10.80

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Harbor Mist J. Lezcano \$7.80 \$3.50 \$2.10 \$10.20 Why Take a Chance \$3.30 M. Cruz Victory Island J. Velazquez \$2.10 Dk B/ Br Filly 2009, by Rockport Harbor - Jaramar Miss by Risen Star Owner: Flying Zee Stables. Trainer: Philip Serpe. Breeder: Saratoga Select Broodmares LLC (NY). Daily Double (1-1), \$37.80; Exacta (1-4), \$67.00; Trifecta (1-4-3),

FOURTH \$56,000, ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

\$111.00; Pic 3 (9-1-1), \$287.00; (9-8-1), \$57.00

C. Nakatani \$16.80 \$7.80 Arch Support Humadea (GB) J. Velazquez \$4.00 \$3.30 Up in Lights R. Albarado \$6.70 Dk B/ Br Filly 2008, by Arch - Two Ninety Jones by Sir Harry Lewis Owner: Pokoik, Lee. Trainer: Gary Contessa. Breeder: Matecumbe Stable (KY). Late Scratches: Royal Lahaina, R Gypsy Gold, Rose's Turn, Tiz the Argument, Authenticity Time: 1:49.04 Daily Double (1-7), \$255.00; Exacta (7-4), \$261.00; Quinella (4-7), \$60.00; Superfecta (7-4-8-5), \$5,616.00; Trifecta (7-4-8), \$1,593.00; Pic 3 (1-1-7), \$1,464.00

FIFTH \$28,040, CLAIMING \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F 4 Monteagle F. Lenclud \$44.00 \$1 \$12.80 \$7.40 \$2.50 Jack's Work J. Castellano \$3.30 Skinny Peter C. Nakatani \$3.70 Ch Gelding 2008, by Mr. Greeley - Ramayna (IRE) by Entrepreneur (GB) Owner: Johnston, Jr., Mrs. S., K.. Trainer: Jack Fisher.

Breeder: Michael Daly (KY). Late Scratches: City Strut, D' Bulldog, Strictly Society, Captain My Captain, Check the Cites, Token Sacrifice, He's a Scrooge

Time: 1:02.73

Daily Double (7-4), \$1,308.00; Exacta (4-8), \$117.00; Superfecta (4-8-3-7), \$4,081.00; Trifecta (4-8-3), \$651.00; Pic 3 (1-7-4), \$3,625.00; Pic 4 (1/8-1-7-4), \$21,786.00

SIXTH \$34,000, MAIDEN CLAIMING \$50,000, 2 YO, 6F

8 Heather's Feather J. Velazquez \$9.30 \$5.00 \$3.30 \$2.50 Purses Galore J. Castellano Star Vesta C. Velasquez \$3.60

B Filly 2009, by Dixie Union - Santa Rosa Island by Valiant Nature Owner: Anstu Stables. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.

Breeder: Lakeside Farm, LLC (KY). Late Scratches: Weekend Wish

Time: 1:13.16 Daily Double (4-8), \$234.50; Exacta (8-9), \$31.00; Trifecta (8-9-2),

\$92.00; Pic 3 (7-4-8), \$7,490.00

SEVENTH \$59,000, AOC \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

5 Bergerac E. Prado \$30.40 \$10.80 Unaccountable J. Castellano \$3.00 \$4.20 Grand Cash J. Sanchez \$4.10 B Gelding 2007, by Rahy - Freedom of Speech by Danzig

Owner: Adam, Donald, A.. Trainer: James Baker. Breeder: Courtlandt Farm (KY). Late Scratches: Hillswick, Sun Dance Moon, Law Enforcement

Daily Double (8-5), \$160.00; Exacta (5-2), \$98.50; Superfecta (5-2-3-1), \$2,470.00; Trifecta (5-2-3), \$602.00; Pic 3 (4-8-5), \$5,252.00

EIGHTH \$75,000, STAKES - ISLAND WHIRL S., 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Dark Thunder J. Velazquez Bank Merger J. Leparoux **Avenging Spirit** J. Lezcano B Gelding 2007, by Trippi - My Secret Brook by Montbrook Owner: Bernardini, Joseph. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.

Breeder: Montgomery Farm & Craig L. Wheeler (FL). Late Scratches: Litigation Risk, Rule by Night

Daily Double (5-6), \$56.50; Exacta (6-4), \$6.90; Pic 3 (8-5-6), \$205.00

NINTH \$151,000, STAKES - WITH ANTICIPATION S., 2 YO, 1 1/16M

State of Play R. Dominguez \$3.40 \$8.00 \$4.70 Optimizer R. Albarado \$4.00 4 Dullahan J. Leparoux \$3.70 Dk B/ Br Colt 2009, by War Front - Valeta by Procida

Owner: Team Valor International. Trainer: H. Motion. B reeder: Stone Farm & Dell Hancock (KY).

Late Scratches: Clip the Coupons Time: 1:43.97

Daily Double (6-6), \$14.40; Exacta (6-9), \$43.20; Superfecta (6-9-4-2), \$1,682.00; Trifecta (6-9-4), \$183.50; Pic 3 (5-6-6), \$176.00

TENTH \$34,000, CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

11 Get A Grip (IRE) E. Prado \$9.30 \$5.20 \$3.80 2 Impetuous Spirit (GB) D. Cohen \$8.90 \$11.20 Out of the Ghetto S. Bridgmohan \$14.40 B Gelding 2007, by Royal Applause (GB) - Landela (GB) by Alhaarth (IRE) Owner: Team Valor International. Trainer: H. Motion. Breeder: Eimear Mulhern J. Flynn & Abbeville Stud (IRE). Late Scratches: Grounded Love, Avenging, D'oro Dancer Claimed: Get A Grip (IRE) claimed by Ramsey, Kenneth L. and Sarah K. for \$25,000 Time: 1:49.62 Daily Double (6-11), \$39.00; Exacta (11-2), \$123.50; Superfecta (11-2-

9-1), \$42,811.00; Trifecta (11-2-9), \$2,284.00; Pic 3 (6-6-11), \$65.00; Place Pix Nine (2/3/5-4/6-4/6/9-11), \$30.20

ELEVENTH \$57,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 5 1/2F

11 Sweet Cat J. Velazquez \$4.20 \$3.70 \$2.90 8 Inny Minnie S. Bridgmohan 2 Run a Risk F. Lenclud \$7.20

Dk B/ Br Filly 2009, by Kitten's Joy - Claire's Smile by Carson City Owner: Pletcher, Todd, A.. Trainer: Todd Pletcher. Breeder: Runnymede Farm Inc. & Catesby W. Clay (KY).

Late Scratches: Aubby K, Dynamic Star, Siberian Wildcat, Thisizsparta

Daily Double (11-11), \$31.60; Exacta (11-8), \$34.00; Superfecta (11-8-2-1), \$3,110.00; Trifecta (11-8-2), \$314.00; Pic 3 (6-11-11), \$128.00; Pic 4 (6-6-11-11), \$330.48; Pic 6 (8-5-6-6-11-11), \$158.00; Pic 6 (8-5-6-6-11-11), \$14,051.00

> Attendance: 12,062 On Track Handle: 2,232,208 Intra-State Handle: 2,080,491 Inter-State Handle: 7,757,970

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Crazy Smart

Serpe brings Harbor Mist back on short rest to win Clare

BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS

Phil Serpe felt the need to reassure owner Viane Lizza that he hadn't lost his mind, running Harbor Mist for the third time in 30 days. The 2-year-old daughter of Rockport Harbor was second at 5 1/2 furlongs here Aug. 4, won by 4 lengths in the slop at 7 furlongs Aug. 21 and returned Thursday to contest the \$75,000 Anne Clare Stakes at 6 furlongs.

'She's pretty amazing because she won easy last time and we were going to just say, we'll wait and run her back at Belmont," Serpe said. "Then the stake was coming up light, there was rain in the forecast and I said, 'we'll put her in and if it's sloppy, we'll run her, if not, we'll scratch her.' And then, training the last three or four days on the main track, she practi-



Dave Harmon

Harbor Mist charges to the finish in Thursday's Anne Clare Stakes.

cally was breezing herself and I said to Mrs. Lizza yesterday, 'I know you're going to think I'm crazy, but I think we should run this filly tomorrow.'

Lizza said OK and so did Harbor Mist: the Flying Zee color-bearer wired the six-horse New York-bred field. Serpe still felt like he should make some kind of explanation.

"The lady that bred her walks in the paddock and

I said, 'Listen. I promise I'm giving her six weeks off after this race,' "Serpe said.

Harbor Mist and Jose Lezcano managed their affairs exactly as they wanted from the beginning. Breaking from post 4, Harbor Mist went straight to the lead, cruising along a length in front of Hook It

See THURSDAY page 24 ▶



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Thursday —

■ Continued from page 22

Up and putting in fractions of 22.84 seconds for the quarter and 46.28 for the half. Bellacourt quickly overtook Hook It Up, but Harbor Mist increased her lead to 2 lengths, then 3 1/2 coming out of the turn. Why Take A Chance made a closing move but could narrow the margin to only 2 3/4 lengths at the wire. The final time was 1.11.51.

Serpe didn't know how he expected the race to set up. Harbor Mist broke tardily and was 13 lengths off the pace at one stage in her debut. In her Aug. 21 start in the mud, she sat a half-length in second before taking her commanding lead.

"Her first race, she didn't break real well and in her last race, she broke well and she basically wired the field," Serpe said. "But I wasn't sure on a fast track vs. a sloppy track if she'd do the same thing, so I just told Lezcano, see what happens."

• Arch Support has been a bad-luck filly for Gary Contessa. The 3-year-old daughter of Arch has encountered almost every conceivable niggling problem, offering the trainer endless frustration as he tried to get his talented charge to perform at stakes level.

"She's a filly that I've had nothing but trouble with," Contessa said. "Every time I run her, or get her ready to run, she either ties up, or she gets a foot abscess, or she gets a cold, or she's snotting or coughing. It's been one major problem after another with her, and



Tod Marks

Front-running winner Here Comes Art sails a fence in Thursday's steeplechase.

I've never had uninterrupted training with her."

Contessa stood in the winner's circle after Arch Support's first win since her maiden last year. He uses this Saratoga meet as a perfect example of what he

has to deal with. Arch Support ran for the first time in two months on July 23, finishing 2 1/4 lengths back in fourth.

"The first time I ran her at the meet, she was coming off snotting and coughing and she was a little bit short,

but she didn't run a bad race," Contessa said. "This time I had a little better time, even though we had to endure a foot abscess. We were able to train

See THURSDAY page 26 ▶





Thursday —

■ Continued from page 24

her more than in previous times and she ran."

Arch Support ran well enough to nab Thursday's fourth race, a 1 1/8-mile inner turf allowance. Lee Pokoik's filly got a perfect trip, settling in second under Corey Nakatani. She sat a length off of Star Torina and Edgar Prado, who set comfortable fractions through the opening stages, then swooped past that rival in the stretch.

"She wants to be not made to do anything," Contessa said. "She doesn't want to be told what to do and I finally got a jock that just sits there. If she wants to go, let her go. If she wants to fall back to last, let her fall back to last. Just don't move. If you watch Nakatani, those were my instructions to him and he's not moving, he's just sitting there."

Arch Support likes things the way she likes them in the morning as well.

"She's a little peculiar to train. You have to do it her way," Contessa said. "She goes on that gap at the quarter pole every day and she walks until she wants to start jogging. Some days she walks all the way over to the mile pole before she starts training, but it's okay with us. She does whatever she wants."

The win was a long time coming for the Contessa team. The trainer has always had great faith Arch Support, running her in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Fillies last year on the back of a second to Winter Memories in the Miss Grillo. Walking in for the photo,

Nakantani and Contessa slapped each other on the back like their ball team had just made a first down. Arch Support's groom stood in front of the dark bay filly and waggled one almost-black ear.

"She's a good filly but she's been a hard luck filly for us," Contessa said. "I'm really thrilled."

Contessa looks forward to moving Arch Support back up to stakes company this fall.

"She's a wonderful-looking filly and a great broodmare prospect, great family, so I'd like to get more stakes into her for sure," Contessa said. "We might as well take advantage of those 3-year-old stakes while we can."

Arch Support paid \$54.50 to win.

• It's all in the family.

Thursday's seventh race boded well for Jimmy Baker's chances in today's \$75,000 Sightseek. Baker enters Philippe in the Sightseek. Philippe's half-brother Bergerac took control of the turf mile optional claimer on Thursday.

The Courtlandt Farm homebred sat wide under Edgar Prado for most of the race, 2 1/2 lengths in second as J.B.'s Thunder and Shaun Bridgmohan set the pace. Prado asked him to press on coming out of the turn and Bergerac launched into battle with the leader, overtaking him at the eighth pole and holding on as the cavalry charge closed late.

The win was only the second start in the last 12 around two turns for the son of Rahy.

"Going 5, 5 1/2, he'd always break a

tad slow, get back a little bit and come running," Baker said. "We thought that's his forte, but then the more times we tried, the more we got frustrated that he wasn't winning enough. So we thought we'd try the two turns and see how he does and what better place than Saratoga where speed holds on the turf course."

Bergerac has been knocking n the door all summer, running second in July at Churchill and third by at a mile here Aug. 13.

"A lot of in-the-moneys, but not a lot of wins," Baker said. "Even today he broke just a tad slow, which enabled him to sit second instead of having to go to the lead, which really worked out good."

• It was another Todd Pletcher-John Velazquez score in the \$75,000 Island Whirl when heavy favorite Dark Thunder bowled down the stretch in the 7-furlong contest. For Pletcher, it was one more stakes win in a long line of stakes races; for Velazquez, it was the race in which he reached his mentor Angel Cordero Jr.'s mark of 649 wins at Saratoga.

And then, three races later, topped it. Velazquez went into Thursday's card just two wins shy of his current agent, after a rare card on Wednesday with no wins.

After winning the sixth race Thursday with Heather's Feather for Pletcher, Velazquez went into the outside post on Dark Thunder in the Island Whirl. Breaking smoothly as part of a fourhorse field, the pair travelled 3 lengths in third behind a pace of 22.61 seconds

for the quarter and 45.00 for the half. As Avenging Spirit burned himself out on the front end, Dark Thunder gradually eased into second, then scooted 1 1/2 lengths clear in the stretch. While a wearying Bank Merger and Avenging Spirit duked it out for second, Dark Thunder continued to draw away, hitting the wire better than 5 lengths clear.

"We knew that the horse on the inside was going to have some speed and another one showed up, so I sat right up with them and gave him a chance and when I asked him he was there for me," Velazquez said.

Joseph Bernardini's 4-year-old was 3-for-3 this year with Pletcher, all in allowance and optional claiming company. Guadalupe Preciado trained the gelded son of Trippi for the first three starts of his life, including a win and a second.

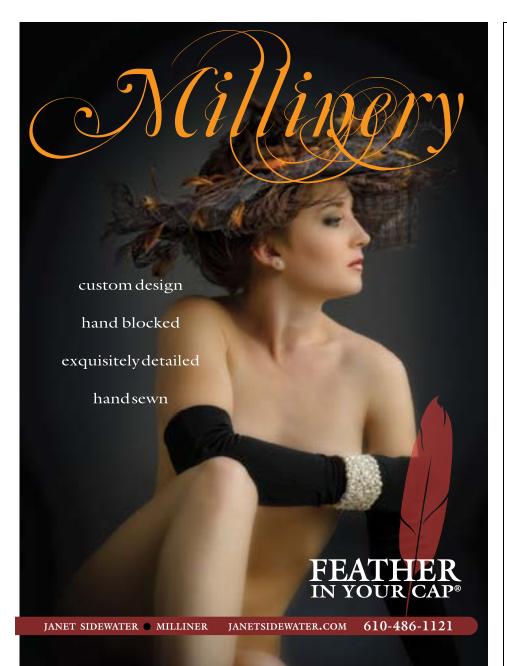
For two races, Velazquez and Cordero held second-place on the all-time Saratoga victory list with 649. Velazquez took Cordero one better in the 11th, a 5 1/2-furlong turf maiden special weight, booting home Sweet Cat for 650.

Like in the stakes, Velazquez had a pretty good shot in the nightcap, going to post on the 2-1 favorite. Sweet Cat, owned and trained by Pletcher, scurried along a half-length off the pace before forcing her way clear in the late stretch to win by 2 lengths.

The milestone caught a humble Velazquez by surprise.

"It wasn't even in the radar for me," Velazquez said. "To tell you the truth, I

See *THURSDAY* page 27 ▶



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MONDAY TO FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT

Thursday —

■ Continued from page 26

didn't know the count until last week when they were telling me. To be mentioned in the same name as Angel Cordero and Jerry Bailey is special."

Hall of Famer Bailey leads with 693 wins.

• The tack bag sat in the barn, with the lawn chairs, an inch of dirt and straw on top of it. Arch Kingsley went out, dusted it off and threw it over his shoulder just like he did so many times, so many years ago.

Then Kingsley and its contents went out and won the first race Thursday.

The former champion steeplechase jockey hadn't played dress-up for two years, when he came out of retirement to ride a horse for a friend and win at Saratoga. This summer, he came to Saratoga with two horses, training them, no intention of riding.

When Kingsley made his entry for Thursday, he was stuck without a jockey.

His wife, Wendy, heard him on the phone, stammering to the NSA's Bill Gallo.

"Why don't you ride him?"

Kingsley did. Here Comes Art did the rest.

Owned by Carrington Racing Stable, the 9-year-old did what he did in his first two attempts this summer, rolling to a comfortable lead, jumped long and fast throughout and ground his way to his second career jump win to go along with five wins on the flat. Maiden Perfect Edge, at 41-1, rallied to be second over Be Certain.

Here Comes Art was 100 percent. Kingsley, not so much. "Probably 80. I'd say 80. The truth is if that horse needed help, I would not have been there for him, I'm just holding on and steering him, he's a push-button horse," Kingsley said. "You know 19 out of 20 of them, you don't make any difference, he's one of those 19. I went out there without a worry in the world, I thought he'd be a little more settled than that, he took a dive at the second fence, I slipped my reins then I'm getting run off with about eight inches more rein in my hand."

Didn't matter.

Kingsley claimed the son of Royal Anthem from King Leatherbury back in 2007. He didn't return to the races until 2009, making the last weekend of the meet at Saratoga for trainer Will Phipps and just missed by a nose. That fall, he broke his maiden over hurdles at Camden and returned the next spring to finish second twice. Then back to the shelf, returning this summer at Saratoga. Kingsley employed Bernie Dalton on Here Comes Art for the first two forays and when Dalton chose Lonesome Nun Thursday, Kingsley had to go to the barn, to the lawn chairs.

"It was either don't run or ride him. I got my license this morning. I pulled my tack out of the barn Sunday evening, my tack bag had an inch of straw and dirt on it," Kingsley said. "When I'm on the phone with Gallo, I'm like 'Who's available?' Looking for any out. Wendy's like, 'Why don't you ride him?' She said, 'You know your way around there as well as anybody, go for it.' That gives you confidence."

Kingsley earned a championship in 1997, rode champions, won big races but retired in 2003 after several concussions. He turned to training from his Camden, S.C. base and has found success on the flat and in steeplechasing while working closely with Phipps. Since retiring, he has come back and ridden a few key races, picking his spots.

"I just don't want to come up here and embarrass myself, I established myself that I might be a better memory than I really was in real life. It's scary that way," Kingsley said. "The older I get, the more I realize this is where I belong, I hung it up sooner than I wanted to, but it's a brotherhood, when you fade out of it, you miss it, the fraternity. I don't want to sound like I'm living back in the glory days, but it's a little bit of live for today and the fact that I can still do it is a gift in itself, why would I not want to, if I still can? Why squander it when you still have a little bit left. It will be a long time before it happens again, if ever."

Two summers ago, this paper called it a comeback. Kingsley corrected us. This time, it wouldn't dare.

"I would rather people quit calling me retired and just say I ride every once in a while," Kingsley said. "I'm not a professional jockey any more, but I can still ride a race on a good horse."

And win a race at Saratoga.

Saratoga Leaders

Through Thursday

Jockeys	1st
John Velazquez	
Javier Castellano	46
Ramon Dominguez	41
Julien Leparoux	25
Rajiv Maragh	19
Eddie Castro	17
Cornelio Velasquez	
Jose Lezcano	15
Kent Desormeaux	13
David Cohen	12
Corey Nakatani	12
Irad Ortiz Jr	11
Edgar Prado	10
Alex Solis	
Trainers	1st
Todd Pletcher	36
Chad Brown	21
Steve Asmussen	13
Rudy Rodriguez	13
Bill Mott	
Kiaran McLaughlin	9
Mike Hushion	
Graham Motion	
Shug McGaughey	
Phil Serpe	
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	Stakes Winners	Stakes Wins	Individual Gr. Winners	Graded Stakes Wins
Team Valor International	8	12	4	7
Starlight	2	5	1	4
Peachtree	2	4	1	3
Blinkers On	1	3	1	3
West Point	3	4	1	2
Dogwood	1	2	1	2
Pinnacle Racing	2	4	1	1
Magdalena Racing	1	1	1	1
Majestic Racing	1	1	1	1
Thoroughbred Legends	1	1	1	1
Class Racing	4	7	_	-
Fantasy Lane	1	2	_	_
Centennial	1	1	-	_
Victory Thoroughbreds	1	1	_	_
Winners Circle Partners	1	1	-	-
Bongo	_	_	_	_
Elite Racing	-	-	-	-
Funky Monkey Stable	_	_		_
IEAH	-	-	-	-
Parting Glass	_	_	_	_
Pewter	-	-	-	-
Sackatoga Stable	_	_	_	_
Sovereign	-	-	-	-
Starview	_	_	_	_
Team Stallion	-	-	-	-
Team Victory	_	_	_	_
Three Chimneys	-	-	_	_
Woodford Racing	_	_	_	_
Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones	, from reports fro	om Bloodstock J	Journal and TDN. Stat	s are current through

Source: IVI statistician Kathleen Jones, from reports from Bloodstock Journal and TDN. Stats are current throug August 28, 2011.



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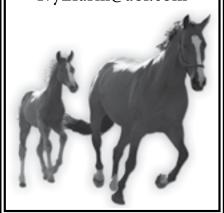
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Storming Home

BY TODD SIMMONS

The Special's Todd Simmons visited Aqueduct early Saturday morning, hours before Hurricane Irene blew through.

At 4:30, there are slips of sky in between the clouds that are thickening above. The drive out to the track is fast and lonely, passing the areas that are Zone A, and evacuated. You expect to see a process of evacuation at the track. You expect to see bales of hay and straw being dragged out, sandbags, something that would show a track at work digging in, fortifying.

"Where are we supposed to go?" asks trainer Rick Dutrow. The storm is tracking north along the entire East Coast. There are no safe havens.

At the main building at Aqueduct, the doors are closed to the public as an evacuation center since the storm is tracking this way.

Over at the construction site, there are men walking in orange and green vests, up and down the apron, checking on equipment, day-glo ants from here on the backstretch. A rider moves down from the gates singing 'Sweet Home Alabama', and he stops the 5-year-old horse there at the end of the chute, and as one they look down the backstretch and then into the turn. "Whenever you're ready old man, but sometime before tomorrow," the rider says, and the horse just stands there watching another horse coming past, working fast, then steps forward

Conversation is not about the storm, except when a trainer calls out to a passing rider, "Check in the morning to see if

GUEST COLUMN

the track will be open before you come in." Beyond that, it's a normal day.

Jets still wing in across the track on their way to JFK, but even they will stop around noon, as the airport shuts down. For now, right now, it's a day like any other. Horses move across the track working out, and a row of pigeons lines the roof edge of Barn 10 like a jury of old men, nodding to one another, whispering back and forth above the horses who are being rinsed. Whatever fears there are, whatever concerns are playing in the backs of the minds of anyone here, they are pushed aside in the morning's work.

On the way back it's still early quiet on the Belt Parkway, and the clouds are pushing in, hanging around the 15th story of the abandoned Coney Island buildings, the parachute drop's top obscured, the water beyond, unseen. Out there is the storm.

On Monday, it's reported that there were only trees and limbs down at the three NYRA tracks, no structural damage, and workouts have resumed. Commuters talk about the lost weekend, the difficulties of returning to work after a system-wide closure by the MTA. There is an edge of bitterness to their voices, almost of disappointment as they go back to their jobs. Out at the tracks, there is only blessing. The concerns are much the same as on Saturday morning, a horse not training well, another with shin problems, this one needing some time off . . . but the track is open, the skies are clear, and they have been blessed. Deeply and truly blessed.

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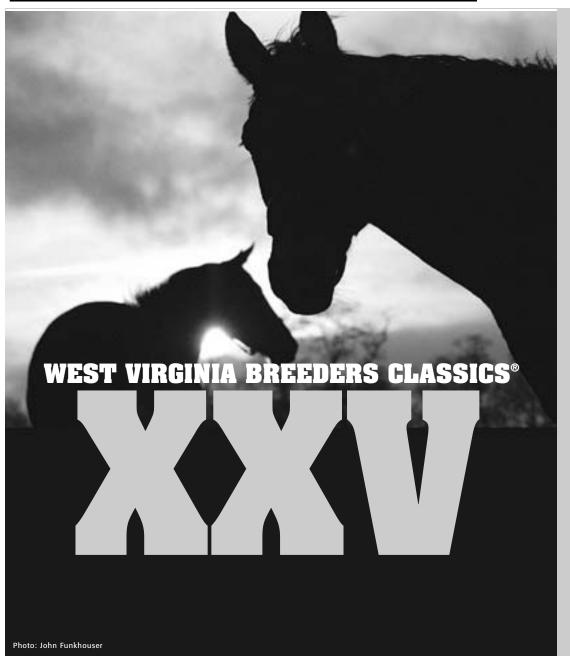
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cupofcoffee Just Vissing



by Sean Clancy

It's September.

I'll miss the first cup of tea at the Morning Line Kitchen. Papers in the rack, clean slate and to-do list, the morning coming to life. And the last cup of tea at the office. Papers at the printer, the pile of today's memories on the floor and another one in the books, the night fading.

I'll miss the conversations. The coups. And the land-

I'll miss the sessions with the Chief. The ones where he's free and wandering through the forest of his life. Talking about horses - Beau Purple, Onion, Admiral Vee, Round Table, Kelly Kip, Assault. The horsemen - Ben Jones, Fitzsimmons, Max Hirsch, Preston Burch, Bill Hartack. The help, Jimmy Rhodes, Duck Butter, Mike Hushion and Train Robber.

I'll miss the bowl of cereal after the morning at the track, the famished feeling of my gut, caffeine-induced,

I'll miss the jockey statue inside the Hall of Fame, always there, always looking at me as I make a right, headlights flashing across the window, cutting the dark of another early morning.

I'll miss the kids.

I'll miss the girls at the Morning Line Kitchen. Graham Motion's help. And the pinkerton with the voice heard in Albany. I'll miss Tyler (finally got his name)



at Sheppard's barn and I'll miss the Jordans at Mike Maker's barn and Kevin at Shadwell.

I'll miss the people walking up to the porch looking for an old edition or a Tuesday edition.

I'll miss the discoveries. Driving aimlessly through the backstretch and seeing Havre De Grace posing, listening to the racecall of the last. Seeing Alaura Michele breeze on the grass. Listening to David Cohen talk about life after riding races. Seeing Matt Muzikar balance trays of sandwiches and then dispersing them like sand in a storm.

I'll miss the sunrises. And the rain.

I'll miss the Saratoga Special salad served at the Cupcake Lab. The Greek salad from Spring Street and Legends and the chicken sandwich from the Turf Club.

I'll miss Joe's angst over another headline running a letter too far. I'll miss Erin McNamee's inner-laughter at the madness of The Special. I'll miss Katie Bo Williams' assertiveness and silliness. I'll miss Tod Marks' thoroughness. I'll miss Dave Harmon's attitude. I'll miss Emmy Cristiano's nametag and even Jane Mo-

tion's text every morning, "Where are you?" I'll miss Nina Miszkiewicz's finished page. I'll miss Todd Simmons coming through in the clutch. I'll miss Connie Bush's disk of laughter. I'll miss all the paperboys, I already miss them, back at school, locked in a dungeon. I'll miss the handicappers even if they can't spell 27 horses' names right.

I'll miss the readers. I'll miss the naysayers. I'll miss the fans. I'll miss the knockers. I'll miss the loyalists.

I'll miss seeing the empty paper racks at the end of

I'll miss the valets. The grooms. The hotwalkers. The clockers. The touts. And the streetsweepers.

I'll miss turning the corner at Bill Mott's barn and seeing who's on the rail. I'll miss Lisa Lewis. The Fifth Avenue pinkertons and Mad Max at Shug's gate. I'll miss Mark Hennig's text, both critical and supportive. I'll miss the turn of darkness, first thing in the morning, Jimmy Baker, Dave Fawkes, Scott Everett, Dave Donk, Carlos Martin and Jose Cuevas.

I'll miss turf works.

I'll miss Janine in the trustees' room. Thanks for the champagne.

I'll miss the racing office and its swinging door. I'll miss Janet Reed and her diligence. I'll miss the red and white awnings. The 17-minute bell. The harrows. And the nightcap. I'll miss the feeling of Opening Day, when it's all laid out in front of you. I'll miss the drunks falling out the Parting Glass when we're heading home, another paper complete.

I'll miss the ink on my hands, the ache in my knuckles and the feeling of being involved with something that only comes around once a year.

I'll miss the meet, the paper, the friends, the horses.

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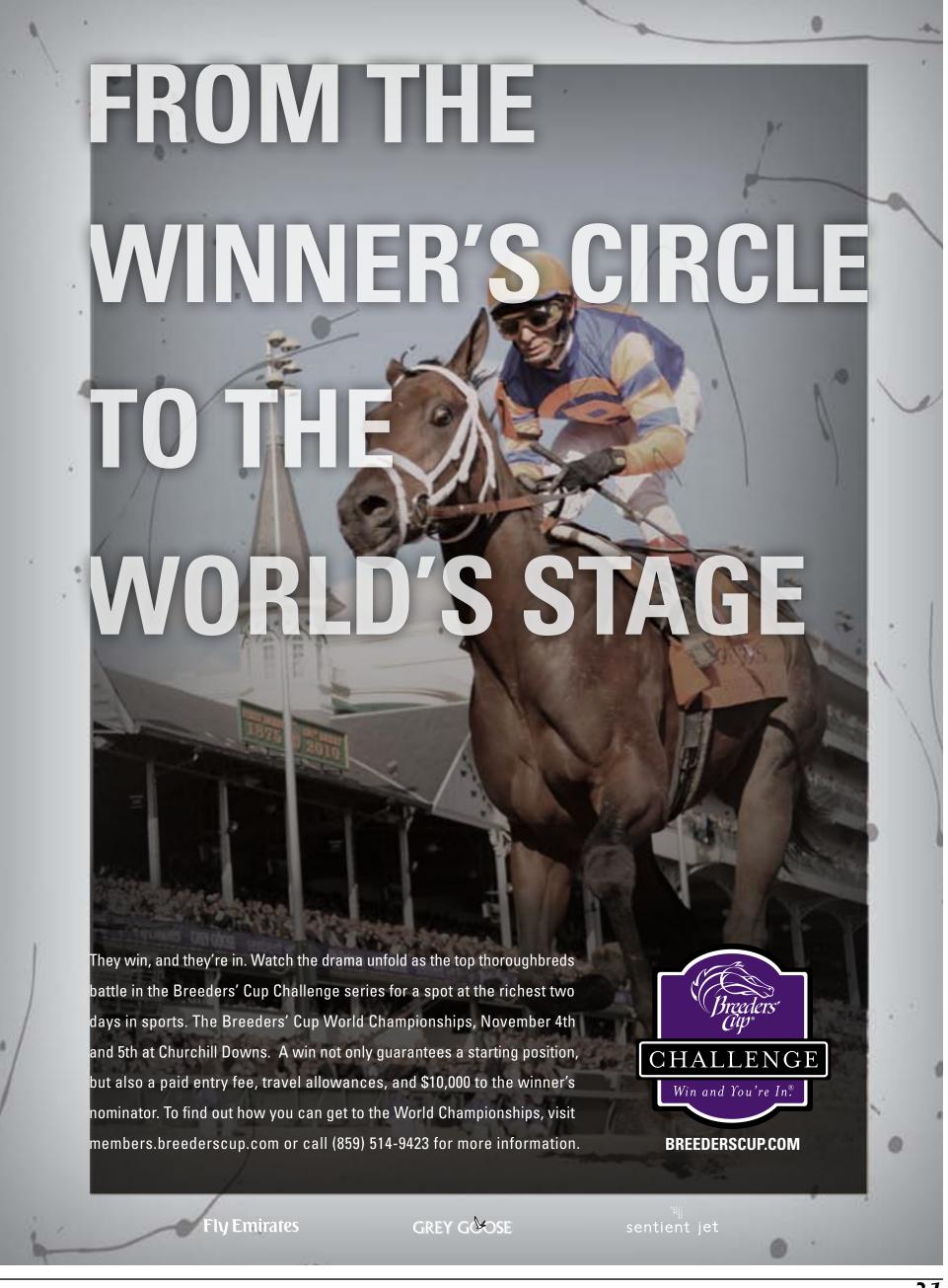
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