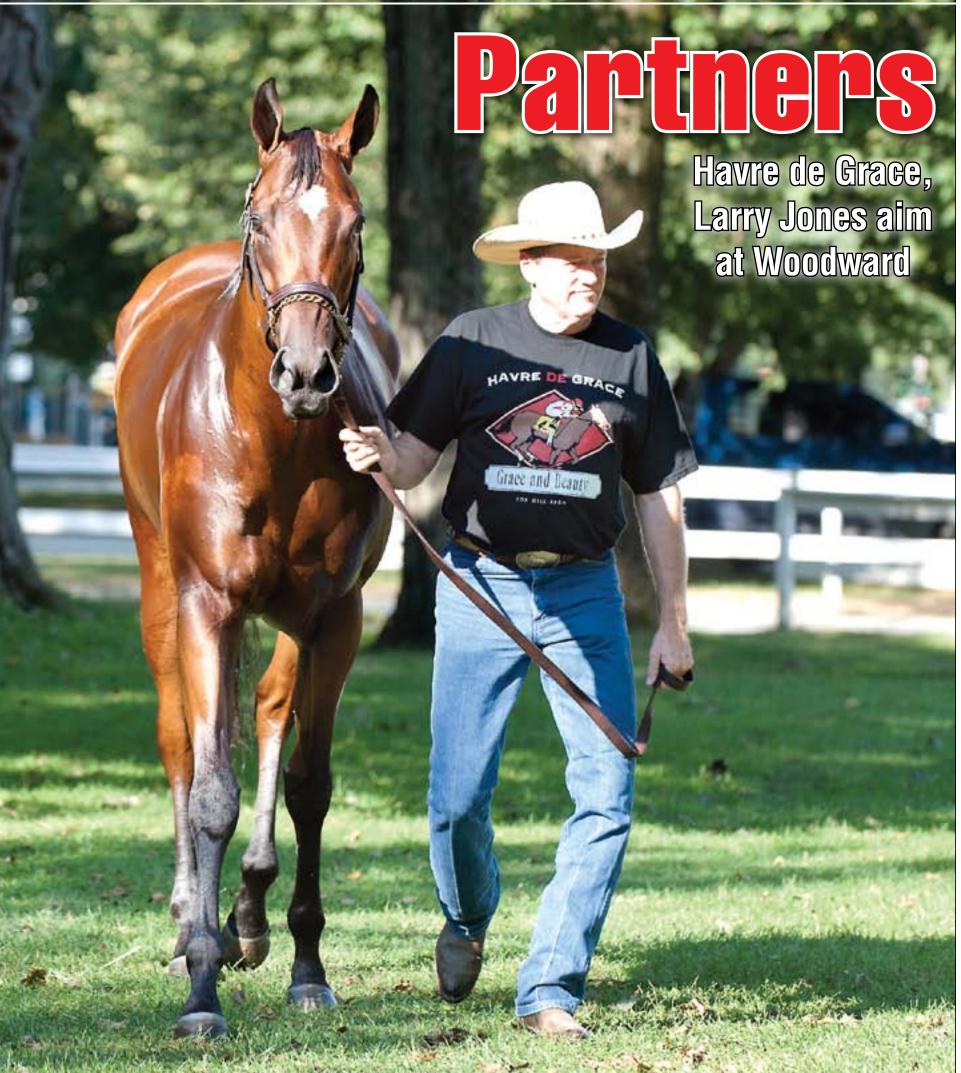
# THE ARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING SAULEF JULE SARATOGA'S DAILY NEWSPAPER ON THOROUGHBRED RACING Saturday, September 3, 2011



Tod Marks

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**Domestic Dispute** 

Horatius
In Case
Itaka
Ivory Frontier (Ire)
Java Royal
Jazz Club
Ken Doll
La Reine's Terms
Larrupin'
Lion Hearted
Lord Concorde

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Makin Money
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Medallist M Eighty Mogador Mojave Moon Mr. Shoplifter Mr. Zill Bear No Armistice Not For Love Oh Say One Golf Sierra Ops Smile Oratory Our Emblem Outflanker Parker's Storm Cat Partner's Hero Perfecting **Polish Miner Polish Numbers** Polish Payola **Precious Marque Press Card Private Key** 

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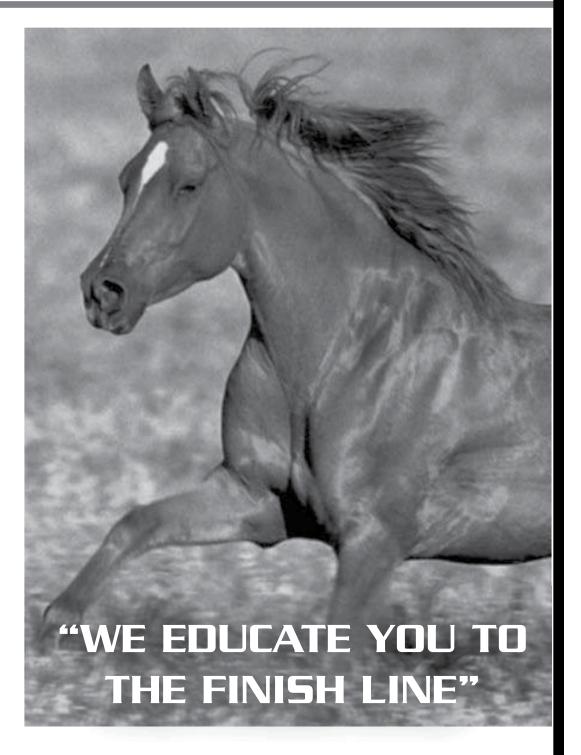
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2011 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL 3

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## here&there... at Saratoga



Dave Harmon

Air Art. Steeplechase winner Here Comes Art launches himself at a fence Thursday.

#### WORTH REPEATING The Special's quotes from Saratoga

"I'm bullish on cash."

J.J. Pletcher, about an impending horse sale

"Royal Anthem."

Bill Mott, when asked when he last galloped a horse

"That's too much pressure."

Clocker Brian Walls, handing his stopwatch to Christophe Clement, who asked him to time Gio Ponti and Winchester Friday morning

"The Chief wants them to bring back the Wilson Mile Chute."

Jimmy Jerkens, about prospective changes to Saratoga

"Just like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar when I used to play against him in high school."

Oklahoma crossroads security guard Jim Hayes, after

sky-hooking a banana peel into the back of a moving muck truck Friday

"She's got a lot of class, the way she handles herself."

John Kimmel, scoping out Havre de Grace

"These darn cell phones are so bad about dropping calls, he's gotten to where he does it in real life."

Larry Jones after Doc Danner drove off without hearing or answering Jones' last question

"When I don't make them look small, you know they're big."

Jones to an onlooker surprised by Havre de Grace's size

"We never saw the best of Hard Spun. He was going to be a better 4-yearold. Plus, we never saw him on the grass. We trained him on the turf before we ever put him on the dirt and I said, 'he's better on the turf.' If you don't believe me, you breed a turf mare to that sucker and see what you get. Danzig has been known to breed a turf horse or two."

Jones about the 2007 King's Bishop winner, who retired after his 3-year-old season

"I'm the owner from hell, he sees me at breakfast and at dinner."

Bonner Young, about sharing a Saratoga house with trainer Barclay Tagg

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## here there... Continued from previous page



Tod Marks

Dawn Rider. An exercise rider makes a sunrise silhouette at Saratoga Friday.

#### NAMES OF THE DAY

**Super Saturday, second race.** Good name for a day that includes the Woodward, Forego and Personal Ensign.

**Lillehammer, third race.** The site of the 1984 Winter Olympics, the logo that year included northern lights and the five Olympic rings. This filly, owned by Peter Pugh and Kate Dalton, is by North Light.

**Belushi, fourth race.** Perhaps, the name of the meet. Glencrest and Dapple Stud's 3-year-old is by Distorted Humor.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

- 1: Locked convertible in the parking lot next to The Special (why bother?).
- 1: Deadheat by clockers Brian Walls and Dave Grening, who both timed a half-mile breeze in 48.82 Friday morning.
- 1: National Steeplechase Association free coffee sign to vanish stolen or swept away by Hurricane Irane? this week
- 2: Lampshades on the hood of a car on the backside Friday morning.
- **2:** CDs Heartland by Wanda Armer and Doug Ford left on The Special's porch this week. Track 2 is called Saratoga Special. Even though it's not about us, thanks.
- **5:** Horses left in the stakes barn Friday morning.

#### **WEATHER**

**Today**: Isolated thunderstorms. High, 86. Low, 68. **Sunday**: Scattered thunderstorms. High, 86. Low, 69. **Monday**: Scattered thunderstorms. High, 74. Low, 59.



Tuesday: Who cares?

#### JUST SAYIN'

"Sometimes with 2-year-olds, when you go to breeze them five-eighths, it's a whole different ballgame. I remember Todd (Pletcher) saying that, it's when you separate the men from the boys and this horse has handled five-eighths like an older horse."

- Trainer Graham Motion about With Anticipation winner State Of Play

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2011 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL

# Girl Talk

## Havre de Grace challenges males in rich Grade I

#### **BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS**

Larry Jones kicked an orange bucket into place and swung a leg over Havre de Grace's back, leather fringe flying off his stovepipe chaps. It speaks to Havre de Grace's size and strength that Jones doesn't dwarf her; if anything, he looks well-mounted. A spit-and-polished bay, the daughter of Saint Liam lines up against males in today's Grade I Woodward at 1 1/8 miles.

Jones is almost derisive of all the hubbub surrounding his distaffer's match-up with the boys.

"Her numbers tell us she's running as fast as they are and if you look at her, she's as big as some of them," Jones said. "I don't put as much into it as everybody, I think everybody tries to make this game way too complicated. I ain't never in my life seen a girl that wasn't willing to try to show a man up at whatever he did. Whether he was the best at it or not, there's always some girl that thinks she's better at it, so we give her that opportunity."

Fox Hill Farm's 4-year-old started her career with Tony Dutrow, winning once as a 2-year-old and twice as a 3-year-old, including a victory in the Grade II Cotillion over Blind Luck. Rick Porter moved Havre



Tod Marks

Second in the Alabama last year. Havre de Grace tackles the Woodward today.

de Grace to Jones for her 4-year-old year and the \$380,000 Keeneland purchase has won three of four, including the Grade I Apple Blossom. She was most recently a desperate nostril second to Blind Luck in the They always tell me a good horse will train itself, and Grade II Delaware Handicap July 16.

"She probably had one extra work than what she

normally gets in between races since it's been such a long time," Jones said. "She stays pretty fit, she gallops along pretty quick. We just let her train herself.

See **WOODWARD** page 9

# GOLDMARK GRADUATE FIRE ON ICE WINS HIS DEBUT ON TRAVERS DAY. CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN KIMMEL AND ELI GINDI. GOLDMARK

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#### **Woodward** —

#### **■** Continued from page 8

we consider her a good horse, so we told her to go for it."

Jones had an inkling that good things were coming from the stylish bay.

"I'd seen her run last year and I'd run against her," Jones said. "We had a Grade I horse that ran against her twice, we beat her once and she beat us once, so we knew she was a good horse. And the beauty part that I liked about it, just me being from the outside looking in, was that she was getting better at the end of her 3-year-old year. And knowing Saint Liam, he got better when he got older, so they give you a lot of hope that this would be a big year for her."

Jones stood on the end of a loose shank Friday morning while a steady stream of onlookers poured past. Richard DePass and Bill Mott showed up to take a look; John Kimmel drove by in his golf cart and stopped just to talk about how good-looking she is. Jones acquiesced to reporters, a fleet of photographers, grooms on bicycles. Havre de Grace paused to pose at every turn.

'She doesn't have a weak link,' Jones said. "She hasn't missed a bite of food here, she just comes in, makes herself at home. Usually you have something that every horse just won't do like you would like him to, but this one, she doesn't. She does it all the right way."

Jones sends the 8-5 favorite to post 6 under Ramon Dominguez.

Todd Pletcher sends a pair to upend the favorite. Twin Creek Stable's Mission Impazible finished sixth in the Whitney, one of just three times he's finished off the board in his 12-race career. Pletcher blames the racetrack for that

"It was a real peculiar racetrack that day, the final time was like 1:52, for those type of horses, I don't think it was the slowest horses that ever ran in the Whitney but it might have been one of the slowest tracks," Pletcher said. "For some reason, he didn't really take to it and he was in between horses the whole way, he just never got into a real comfortable rhythm."

John Velazquez rides Mission Impazible for the first time since finishing second on him in an allowance race back in January 2010.

"I think he and Rule will be very close to the pace, one of them might even be on the lead depending on how they break," Pletcher said. "Hopefully one can stalk the other without getting in each other's way too much.'

Pletcher entered WinStar Farm's Rule, fresh off a tough win in the Birdstone overnight stakes here Aug. 4. The five-time winner missed nearly a year between finishing third in the Florida Derby and second in the Hal's Hope this winter. The Birdstone provided his first victory this year. Javier Castellano rides.

"His last race was pretty gutsy, he was in a dog fight the whole way and gutted it out," Pletcher said. "A good win over the track at the distance, he's training like he's in the best form he's been in, I think he's on an upward trend based on his last race and based on how he's trained."

A year ago, Convocation came to the See **WOODWARD** page 10 ▶



Tod Marks

Giant Oak looks to improve on his second in the Whitney here Aug. 6.

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9 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2011 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL

#### **Woodward** —

#### **■** Continued from page 9

Woodward off an optional-claiming win over the track and finished fourth behind Quality Road. Centennial Farm's 5-year-old returns to the Grade I off another optional claimer – a 3 1/4-length win over Ron The Greek and Woodward rival Ice Box July 29 – and swings for his first stakes victory at 20-1.

Trainer Jimmy Jerkens hopes the son of Pulpit takes a step forward, but realizes the competition is stiff.

"It's a step up," he said. "I don't usually look at numbers too much but his are a little bit behind in here. Most of the horses in the field do it routinely, they're very consistent, but he can step up. He's training great, he's always run great up here, that was a good race he won. If he runs his best and a couple of them don't he's got a shot. He's not eligible for much else, this race has a big purse, it's a good place to go."

Convocation carries a lifetime mark of four wins and six seconds (including runner-up efforts in the Grade II Suburban and Dwyer) from 17 starts. He breaks from post 5 under Rajiv Maragh.

Jerkens likes his horse, but respects the credentials of the field – especially history-seeking filly Havre de Grace.

"She's for real, she always shows up," he said. "You always wonder if they're good enough to handle colts, but I'd have to say she's awful good. She might be as good as Rachel Alexandra. Sure looks that way. That best race she has, the one she seems to run all the time, will put her right there, plus



Tod Marks

Second in the Whitney, Flat Out (Alex Solis) aims for his second graded stakes score of 2011.

she's going to be in a position of getting weight from horses for the first time."

Ice Box finished 4 1/4 lengths behind Convocation in that allowance race and tries again for Robert LaPenta and Nick Zito. The 4-year-old son of Pulpit won the Florida Derby last March, finished second in the Kentucky Derby last May and has failed to hit the board again, finishing eighth in the Belmont, sixth in the Haskell, eighth in the Travers and fifth in the Monmouth Cup. Off for nearly nine months, Ice Box returned to lead early and fade in the allowance

race

"Ice Box is one of our favorites, I think he's going to come with a good run, that was a good tightener the last time, we wanted to run in the Woodward and he wasn't going to get that chance if we didn't get that tough race into him," Zito said. "He certainly won't be on the lead this time, he's had a good month, he's still Ice Box, he's still got the credentials, so we'll see what happens, he should run big."

Flat Out returns to Saratoga for Preston Stable and trainer Scooter Dickey. The 5-year-old son of Flatter finished second in the Whitney, 6 lengths off of Tizway. Sent back to Monmouth, Flat Out drilled 5 furlongs in 57 August 18. Alex Solis returns on the Suburban winner who seeks his fifth career victory.

Phil Gleaves ships Florida-based Saratoga regular Mambo Meister for another crack at a Spa stakes. Quantum Racing Team's 11-race winner has banged out more than \$650,000. The 6-year-old gelding crushed six foes in the Mecke and three rivals in the Primal in his two most recent starts at Calder. Mambo Meister finished second in the 2009 Fourstardave on the turf here and sixth in least year's Vanderbilt. Fernando Jara rides.

Chris Block left Giant Oak at Saratoga all summer, prepping for another crack at Grade I foes. The 5-year-old rallied late to collect third in the Whitney and will come running again while going the same 9 furlongs. Shaun Bridgmohan rides for owner/breeder Virginia Tarra Trust.

Additional reporting by Joe and Sean Clancy.

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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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# Double Dip

Sidney's Candy goes to dirt, 7 furlongs for Grade I try

#### **BY SEAN CLANCY**

Todd Pletcher wrote it twice on page 29 of book 3. Two words, 12 letters, a space and an apostrophe. Pletcher scrawled the name Sidney's Candy for the ninth race in the condition book. And the 10th race in the condition book.

Eventually, Pletcher and WinStar Farm's Elliott Walden decided to go for the ninth, the 7-furlong Grade I Forego Stakes instead of the 10th, the 9-furlong, Grade I Woodward. Somewhere in the decision process, he opted against the Woodbine Mile and any other turf start for the dynamic 4-year-old who won the Fourstardave here July 31.

"It almost makes it tougher to feel like you're making the right decision when you have so many options, generally when you have a 4-year-old at this stage of his career, you know exactly what he wants to do,' Pletcher said. "In his case, it's like, 'Should we run in



Sidney's Candy attempts to win his second graded stakes of the meet in today's Forego.

the Forego, should we run in the Woodward, should we run in the Woodbine Mile?'

Sidney's Candy is a Grade I winner over synthetic, a multiple Grade II winner on the turf and a Grade III winner on the dirt. That's an interesting stallion advertisement. Add the Forego - the Grade I, 7-furlong Forego at Saratoga – that's a no-need-to advertise.

"We're looking at it from the owner's standpoint, trying to put him in the best position to increase his stallion value, this race had potentially the most upside," Pletcher said. "A lot of options. If he wins this,

See *FOREGO* page 16 ▶

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1	1	Unbridled Essence	J. Lezcano	G. Sacco	10-
2	2	Hit It Rich	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	8-
3	3	Ultimate Class	J. Castellano	G. Weaver	10-
4	4	Bet On the Blue	S. Madrid	H. Jerkens	20-
5	5	Sea Road	C. Velasquez	S. Hough	15-
6	6	Thundering Emilia	R. Dominguez	M. Matz	15-
7	7	Deluxe	E. Castro	W. Mott	2-
8	8	Sugar Again	R. Maragh	J. Sheppard	4-
9	9	Evading Tempete (GB)	J. Velazquez	C. Brown	5-
10	10	It's Tea Time	A. Garcia	G. Arnold, II	8-

#### 2ND (1:30PM). \$51,000, MSW, 2 YO, 1 1/16M (TURF)

Exa	acta, (	Quinella, Trifecta, Pic	3, Pic 4, Daily Doubl	е	
1	ΑE	Apse	C. Velasquez	M. Hennig	5-
1a	MTO	Yonder 'tis	A. Solis	M. Hennig	5-
2	1	Gloryland	C. Velasquez	F. Alexander	15-
3	2	Super Saturday	J. Castellano	M. Trombetta	5-
4	3	O'Prado Again	M. Mena	D. Romans	6-
5	4	Kitten's Kid	J. Castanon	M. Scherer	20-
6	5	Da Vinci	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	7-
7	6	Punctual Jeff	R. Dominguez	C. Brown	4-
8	7	Scandalicious	R. Curatolo	C. Martin	12-
9	8	Ur	R. Maragh	M. Shuman	8-
10	9	Winston C	E. Prado	W. Mott	8-
11	10	Todd Cole	C. Nakatani	N. Zito	20-
12	11	Corinthian's Jewel	E. Castro	G. Weaver	12-
13	12	St Moose	J. Rodriguez	R. Granger	20-
14	ΑE	Ventura Bar	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	10-
15	ΑE	Silver Max	R. Albarado	D. Romans	10-
20	n (a.c	000M) 642 000 ALW	2 VO'C 0 HD F 0 M	4 4 /4 GM / ININED 3	TUD

#### 3RD (2:00PM). \$43,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

EXS	icta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D	ouble		
1	1	Nurse Dolce	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	5-
2		Soinlovewithuam I	D. Cohen	L. Rice	15-
3	3	Oatka Idas Rose	C. Velasquez	R. Rodriguez	8-
4	4	Skips Prospect	J. Castellano	L. Rice	10-
5	5	Lillehammer	A. Solis	P. Pugh	12-
6	6	Holmedancer	J. Velazquez	G. Sacco	10-
7	7	Lady's Lunar Luck	E. Castro	D. Conway, Jr.	9-
8	8	Cap the Thunder	R. Dominguez	R. Schosberg	10-
9	9	Viv's Tiara	A. Lezcano	R. Ubillo	50-
10	10	Love Stanza Chance	E. Prado	T. Albertrani	12-
11	11	Flying Sappho	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Rodriguez	8-
12	12	Lemon Tiger	R. Maragh	D. Schettino	3-
13	MTO	Judicial Leader		G. Sciacca	5-

#### 4TH (2:31PM). \$51,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (TURF)

Exa	acta, (	Quinella, Trifecta, Pic	3, Daily Double		
1	1	Majestic Man	S. Bridgmohan	J. Ward, Jr.	10-
2	2	Za Approval	J. Lezcano	C. Clement	5-
3	3	King Haigler	M. Cruz	W. Phipps	15-
4	4	Belushi	D. Cohen	B. Levine	12-
5	5	Love of Flying	E. Castro	J. Sheppard	12-
6	6	Grigio	E. Prado	J. Baker	9-
7	7	Magnificent Moon	J. Castellano	R. DeMola	4-
8	8	Bluegrass Summer	F. Lenclud	J. Sheppard	15-
9	9	Star of Escondida	R. Dominguez	D. Romans	12-
10	10	Stolen Glance	R. Maragh	A. Penna, Jr.	6-
11	11	Imaging	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	6-
12	12	McCarroll	C. Nakatani	E. Guillot	20-
13	ΑE	Kanagaro	J. Castellano	T. Albertrani	9-
14	ΑE	Unbridled Ocean	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	7-
15	ΑE	Wanganui	J. Espinoza	T. Voss	20-
16	ΑE	Deposit Slip	R. Maragh	P. Fout	3-

#### 5TH (3:03PM). \$41,000, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1M (INNER TURF)

Exa	acta, i	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily D	)ouble		
1	1	Stray Bullet	R. Maragh	W. Badgett, Jr.	6-
2	2	Earnings Release	J. Lezcano	T. Proctor	3-
3	3	Belongs to Dixie	D. Cohen	T. Iannotti, IV	15-
4	4	Going Green	R. Dominguez	S. Margolis	4-
5	5	Aquifolia	A. Solis	C. McGaughey III	5-
6	6	Feels Good	S. Bridgmohan	S. Margolis	12-
7	7	Dancing Tiz	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	7-
8	8	La Busta	R. Curatolo	J. Campo, Jr.	30-
9	9	Ready for Autumn	J. Castellano	B. Brown	12-
10	10	Sundae's a Meese	I. Ortiz, Jr.	E. Barker	15-
11	ΑE	Monticello Doll	J. Rodriguez	K. Feron	30-
12	ΑE	Sunny Smiles	R. Dominguez	D. Donk	6-
13	ΑE	S S Traverse	M. Cruz	D. Farrell	20-
14	ΑE	Meghan's Fury	J. Rodriguez	W. Allyn	20-
15	ΑE	Tulane Up	I. Ortiz, Jr.	J. Terranova, II	4-
16	ΑE	Downstream Bull	F. Lenclud	P. Gulyas	30-

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#### 6TH (3:35PM). \$23,000, MCL \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M (TURF) Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

R. Curatolo

P. Serpe

1a	MTO	Cold Precision	R. Curatolo	P. Kelly	20-1
2	1	Research Report	R. Maragh	R. Violette, Jr.	9-2
3	2	Ginowillietwoshoes	J. Rodriguez	G. DiSanto	20-1
4	3	Herecomeseveryman	A. Solis	L. Rice	7-2
5	4	Foggy Max	E. Castro	R. Lerman	10-1
6	5	More Than Lucky	R. Dominguez	R. Dutrow, Jr.	5-1
7	6	Manresa Road (IRE)	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	3-1
8	7	Captain Buzzbee	E. Prado	C. Domino	15-1
9	8	Willy Pay	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	10-1
10	9	Find the Stash	J. Castanon	J. Campo, Jr.	50-1
11	10	Rush to Riches	I. Ortiz, Jr.	B. Brown	20-1
12	12	Solid d'Oro	C. Nakatani	E. Guillot	10-1
13	ΑE	Dahess	J. Castellano	C. Brown	4-1
14	ΑE	Allen's Star	M. Cruz	K. McPeek	8-1
15	MTO	My Piano Man	C. Velasquez	B. Brown	5-2

#### 7TH (4:07PM). \$50,000, MSW, 2 YO, 7F

1 11 Sognare

Exa	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 6,	Daily Double		
1	3	Alpha	A. Garcia	K. McLaughlin	6-1
1a	9	Nandino	E. Castro	T. Albertrani	6-1
2	1	Timely Tally	R. Albarado	I. Wilkes	15-1
3	2	Invocation	D. Cohen	J. Kimmel	7-2
4	4	Julius Caesar	R. Maragh	A. Stall, Jr.	6-1
5	5	Go West	J. Velazquez	C. Brown	8-1
6	6	Hierro	R. Dominguez	S. Asmussen	4-1
7	7	Little Wyatt	J. Lezcano	R. Barbara	15-1
8	8	A Cat That Flies	C. Nakatani	N. Zito	20-1
9	10	Africanist	J. Castellano	E. Kenneally	5-2

#### 8TH (4:39PM). \$300,000, STK - THE PERSONAL ENSIGN INVITATIONAL, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/4M

Ex	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily	/ Double		
1	1	Acronym	J. Lezcano	W. Mott	6-1
2	2	Ask the Moon	J. Castellano	M. Wolfson	2-1
3	3	Pachattack	R. Maragh	G. Butler	9-2
4	4	Protesting	J. Velazquez	C. McGaughey III	6-1
5	5	Super Espresso	R. Dominguez	T. Pletcher	3-1
6	6	Tiz Miz Sue	J. Rocco, Jr.	S. Hobby	9-2

#### QTH (5.12PM) \$250 000 STK - THE FOREGO 3 VO'S & IIP 7F

<b>9</b> I	ט) וו	. IZF WI <i>J</i> .	IK - IIIL I UNLUU,	, <b>3 10 3 &amp; 0</b> F, <i>1</i> 1	
Ex	acta,	Trifecta, Pic 3, Pic 4,	Daily Double		
1	1	Jackson Bend	C. Nakatani	N. Zito	5-2
2	2	Sidney's Candy	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	4-1
3	3	Golddigger's Boy	S. Elliott	R. Preciado	15-1
4	4	Jersey Town	C. Velasquez	B. Tagg	6-1
5	5	Hamazing Destiny	R. Albarado	D. Lukas	5-1
6	6	Escrow Kid	O. Castillo	C. Doran	15-1
7	7	Aikenite	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	5-1
8	8	Regal Ransom	R. Dominguez	S. bin Suroor	6-1
9	9	Rule by Night	D. Cohen	S. Asmussen	15-1

#### 10TH (5:45PM). \$750,000, STK - THE WOODWARD, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M Exacta, Trifecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

	aota,	initiouta, i to o, baily	Double		
1	1	Ice Box	J. Lezcano	N. Zito	12-1
2	2	Mission Impazible	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	10-1
3	3	Giant Oak	S. Bridgmohan	C. Block	8-1
4	4	Rule	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	5-1
5	5	Convocation	R. Maragh	J. Jerkens	20-1
6	6	Havre de Grace	R. Dominguez	J. Jones	8-5
7	7	Flat Out	A. Solis	C. Dickey	5-2
8	8	Mambo Meister	F. Jara	P. Gleaves	10-1

#### 11TH (6:18PM) \$22 000 CLM \$15 000 3 VO'S & UP 7E

111H (0.10FM). \$22,000, CLM \$15,000, 5 TO 5 & OF, 7F					
Exa	icta,	Trifecta, Daily Double			
1	7	Ninety Five South	J. Castellano	T. Pletcher	3-1
1a	8	Never Right Joey	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	3-1
2	1	Unbridled Danger	J. Chavez	R. Young	30-1
3	2	Brolio	R. Dominguez	H. Bond	15-1
4	3	Dance Floor Maniac	S. Husbands	A. Ronen	10-1
5	4	Keechi Bullet	A. Solis	J. Imperio	6-1
6	5	Gold Raptor	D. Cohen	L. Rice	10-1
7	6	One Cool Dude (ARG)	C. Nakatani	M. Hushion	5-1
8	9	Economic Swoon	I. Ortiz, Jr.	R. Violette, Jr.	5-1
9	10	Seeking Anita	J. Sanchez	G. Sciacca	20-1
10	11	Prowler	J. Espinoza	B. Callejas	30-1
11	12	Fiery Rebel	M. Cruz	R. Metivier	12-1
12	13	Dubai Rainbow	R. Maragh	R. Nicks	6-1

12	13	Dubai Rainbow	R. Maragh	R. Nicks	6-1
		:40PM). \$40,000, M	SW, 2 YO, 6 1/2F		
EX	acta,	Trifecta			
1	1	Thewizardofnassau	J. Castellano	J. Jerkens	8-1
2	2	Wild Exploit	A. Solis	M. Hennig	20-1
3	3	Down Broadway	R. Maragh	W. Badgett, Jr.	12-1
4	4	Tax Return	S. Husbands	C. Baker	20-1
5	5	Think I'm Hooked	C. Nakatani	G. Contessa	5-1
6	6	Cybertron	R. Curatolo	P. Serpe	8-1
7	7	Coalition	I. Ortiz, Jr.	C. McGaughey III	12-1
8		Parachute Coney	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	3-1
9	9	Live for Today	E. Castro	D. Schettino	12-1
10	10	Saratoga Snacks	R. Dominguez	G. Sciacca	7-2
11	11	Potus	A. Garcia	B. Levine	12-1
12	12	There Goes Vinny	D. Cohen	E. Barker	20-1

the <b>Powe</b> i	1000	Calle		Erin	Charles
Race #	Shapazian I	Gaile Fitzgerald	Dean Keppler	Finley	Bedard
1	Deluxe	Deluxe	Sugar Again	Deluxe	It's Tea Time
	Sugar Again	Sugar Again	Deluxe	It's Tea Time	Evading Tempete
	Evading Tempete	Evading Tempete	Ultimate Class	Evading Tempete	Ultimate Class
2	Da Vinci	Da Vinci	Super Saturday	Ur	Ur
	Punctual Jeff	Hennig Entry	Da Vinci	Super Saturday	Apse
	Super Saturday	Punctual Jeff	Kitten's Kid	O'Prado Again	Super Saturday
3	Lemon Tiger	Lemon Tiger	Lady's Lunar Luck	Oatka Idas Rose	Nurse Dolce
	Flying Sappho	Cap The Thunder	Nurse Dolce	Lemon Tiger	Lemon Tiger
	Oatka Idas Rose	Nurse Dolce	Lemon Tiger	Love Stanza Chance	Skips Prospect
4	Unbridled Ocean	Unbridled Ocean	Za Approval	Unbridled Ocean	Imaging
	Magnificent Moon	Magnificent Moon	Magnificent Moon	Imaging	Grigio
	Stolen Glance	Stolen Glance	Bluegrass Summer	Kanagaro	Stolen Glance
5	Earnings Release	Going Green	Aquifolia	Going Green	Belongs To Dixie
	Dancing Tiz	Earnings Release	Earnings Release	Dancing Tiz	Ready For Autumn
	Going Green	Dancing Tiz	Dancing Tiz	Earnings Release	Stray Bullet
6	My Piano Man	Herecomeseveryman	Manresa Road	Manresa Road	Manresa Road
	Manresa Road	Manresa Road	Solid d'Oro	Herecomeseveryman	More Than Lucky
	More Than Lucky	My Piano Man	Research Report	Dahess	Research Report
7	Darley Entry Africanist Invocation	Invocation Africanist Go West	Africanist Darley Entry Invocation	Julius Caesar Africanist Invocation	Invocation Alpha Little Wyatt
8	Ask the Moon Super Espresso Pachattack	Pachattack Ask The Moon Protesting	Tiz Miz Sue Ask The Moon Acronym	Acronym Tiz Miz Sue Super Espresso	Tiz Miz Sue Pachattack Super Espresso
9	Sidney's Candy	Sidney's Candy	Sidney's Candy	Jersey Town	Jackson Bend
	Jackson Bend	Jackson Bend	Aikenite	Sidney's Candy	Hamazing Destiny
	Regal Ransom	Hamazing Destiny	Jackson Bend	Regal Ransom	Golddigger's Boy
10	Flat Out	Havre de Grace	Flat Out	Giant Oak	Havre de Grace
	Havre de Grace	Flat Out	Mission Impazible	Havre de Grace	Mambo Meister
	Mambo Meister	Mambo Meister	Giant Oak	Mambo Meister	Flat Out
11	Pletcher Entry	Pletcher Entry	Pletcher Entry	Pletcher Entry	Economic Swoon
	One Cool Dude	Keechi Bullet	One Cool Dude	One Cool Dude	Dubai Rainbow
	Keechi Bullet	One Cool Dude	Brolio	Economic Swoon	Keechi Bullet
12	Parachute Coney	Saratoga Snacks	Think I'm Hooked	Parachute Coney	Down Broadway
	Think I'm Hooked	Thewizardofnassau	Parachute Coney	Saratoga Snacks	Wild Exploit
	Saratoga Snacks	Down Broadway	Thewizardofnassau	Down Broadway	Parachute Coney
Records	97/298	87/298	77/298	81/298	68/298

#### **HANDICAPPER SCORECARD**

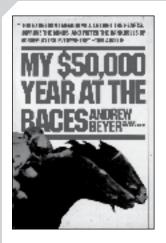
There were many prices to be had on Friday's twilight card and The Special handicapping staff grabbed its share. Charles Bedard had five winners on the afternoon, which included River Fancy \$14.20 and the \$68 daily double ending in race 6. Erin Finley

and John Shapazian had four winners apiece. Finley tabbed Isn'tlovejustgrand (\$13.40) in race 7 and Elusive Pearl (\$19.80) in race 8. The pair combined for a juicy \$199.50 cold daily double. Finley also had the exacta in race 7, which returned a lofty \$68.50. Short Shrift (\$9.60) in the finale was selected by all five handicappers. There is a pick six carryover of \$64,406 for the meet's final Saturday.

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#### Forego —

#### **■** Continued from page 12

it opens up some other opportunities and maybe clarifies which direction to go for the Breeders' Cup, whether it's the Mile, the Turf Mile, the Sprint."

WinStar purchased Sidney's Candy this summer and moved him to Pletcher for an East Coast campaign. The son of Candy Ride made his debut for Pletcher in the Grade II Fourstardave earlier in the meet. Seven horses lined up and one controlled the race from the beginning. He waltzed on the lead and won easily. Paint by numbers.

"This is a tougher assignment, seveneighths, there's other speed in there, it will be an interesting challenge," Pletcher said. "I wish he would have drawn an outside post, where he could stalk the speed instead of having horses outside him turning up the pressure."

Sidney's Candy drew the 2 hole, outside James Marvin winner Jackson Bend and inside Golddigger's Boy, Jersey Town, Hamazing Destiny, Escrow Kid, Aikenite, Regal Ransom and Rule By Night.

Sidney's Candy possesses as much or more speed than any of those rivals but will have to use it early from the inside

"As they say, you can't coach speed," Pletcher said. "You just try to take advantage of it."

Pletcher knows his other entry, Aikenite, won't be fighting Sidney's Candy for the lead. Dogwood Stable's 4-yearold rallied from well off the pace to win two Grade II stakes this spring before failing in the Met Mile and again in the James Marvin. Pletcher took the fall for his defeat in the Marvin.

"The one thing Johnny (Velazquez) and I talked about after his last race was that we had him a little closer to the pace than he really wants to be, just chasing a little bit," Pletcher said. "You just have to let him settle and make one run and you can't get too caught up in it, that day, the track was playing real speed favoring and we felt like we needed to be close and we took the horse out training good, he's had a good month since the last race. He hasn't done anything wrong and he's coming with all his bullets, coming with all the things you're supposed to be thinking about," Zito said. "It would have been better if he drew a little better but he won on the inside the last time. It's a little different dimension, you don't know how Sidney's Candy is going to run."

Zito still wishes he could have the Preakness back, when Jackson Bend hesitated on the turn before flying late

#### Hey Todd Pletcher, did you do anything differently with Sidney's Candy?

"We didn't do a whole lot different with him, we might have done something different in his last breeze if we were trying the mile and an eighth in the Woodward."

of his game. Just sit and make one run."

Nick Zito and Corey Nakatani will be playing those same tactics with Marvin winner Jackson Bend. Owned by Robert LaPenta and Fred Brei, the 4-year-old son of Hear No Evil nearly won the Preakness in 2010, finishing third, amid a 12-race losing streak that was still going when he transferred back to Zito in time for Saratoga.

Jackson Bend rallied from off the pace to upset the Marvin, vanquishing Forego starters Hamazing Destiny, Escrow Kid and Aikenite.

"I hope he runs back to the same race, that's what I'm telling everybody. He's to miss by less than a length to future champion Lookin At Lucky and future Grade I winner First Dude.

"A lot of people think he could have won the Preakness, I think so. Super Saver was dead at the half-mile pole, Mike (Smith) should have busted through, he should have busted through, then he had to wait. After that, things went downhill, this is a great rebound."

Jackson Bend failed to hit the board in his subsequent three starts as a 3-year-old, then transferred to Stanley Gold where he managed a second and a third while based in Florida this winter. Jackson Bend came back to Zito and they set their sights on Saratoga.

'We felt great for the horse, to come off the bench and win," Zito said. "The main thing is he's doing great but it's a tough spot, we'll see what happens."

The two favorites break from the inside two post positions. Outside them, comes a box of chocolates.

Golddigger's Boy rides a five-race win streak for William Hartwell and trainer Ramon Preciado. The 4-year-old son of Jump Start makes his first start outside the Keystone State. The homebred has earned over \$400,000 while taking advantage of his Pennsylvaniabred restrictions, winning seven races including three stakes. Stewart Elliott will accompany him from Parx Racing.

Jersey Town breaks outside the Philly invader for Charles Fipke and trainer Barclay Tagg. The 5-year-old son of Speightstown won the Cigar Mile in November before returning in the Teddy Drone at Monmouth in his most recent start, finishing second. Cornelio Velasquez rides.

Wayne Lukas snuck in a start in the Vanderbilt for Hamazing Destiny after the 5-year-old son of Salt Lake finished second in the Marvin. Owned by Westrock Stable and Barry Butzow, the four-time winner finished second in the Breeders' Cup Sprint last fall. Robby Albarado rides.

Godolphin's Regal Ransom tries to snap a five-race losing streak for Saeed bin Suroor and jockey Ramon Dominguez. The 5-year-old son of Distorted Humor hasn't run since finishing 11th in the Stephen Foster in June.

Longshots Escrow Kid and Rule By Night complete the field.





The sparkling Jim Dandy/Travers double for owner Mike Repole and trainer Todd Pletcher with STAY THIRSTY...

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The thrill of a G2 Three Chimneys Saratoga Special victory for Chadds Ford Stable's UNION RAGS...

Stakes wins for ICABAD CRANE (Earle Mack), IBBOYEE (Anstu Stables) & ZOW (Repole Stable)...

And memorable maiden wins for And Why Not (Helen Groves), Bellacourt (G & S Autry), Currency Swap (Klaravich/W. Lawrence), Dayatthespa (Laymon/Bradley/Kruid/Eaton), Fire On Ice (J. Kimmel and E. Gindi), Fox Rules (Langpap Stables), Hunt Crossing (Del Ennis), J.C.'s Pride (Joseph Bucci), Miss Netta (Cheyenne Stables), & Speightscity (Owned by McConnell Racing Stable, Team Stallion Racing Corp.)

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# Just Jersey

#### Tagg's Grade I winner draws attention

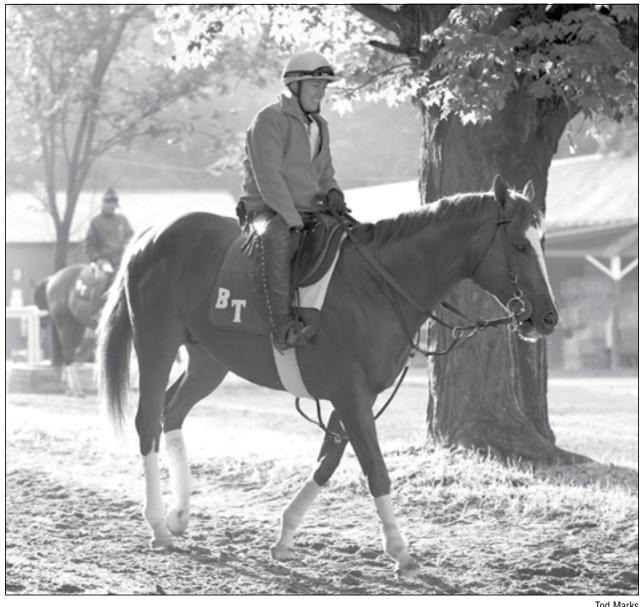
#### BY JOE CLANCY

Hang out at the 6-furlong gap on the main track long enough or pull up a chair at Barclay Tagg's barn and he'll be along. The chestnut linebacker of a horse with the broad chest, big butt, long blaze down the center of his face and four white feet.

That's Jersey Town. Jersey to those who know him. He's a Grade I winner, a contender in today's Forego.

Charles Fipke's homebred could also double as a lead pony. Assistant trainer Robin Smullen hacks him to the track on a loose rein, stands at the rail to observe other horses training, tells stories to children from the 5-year-old's back. Sometimes she doesn't even hold the reins. A few weeks ago, he stood between two ponies while Smullen watched stablemates train - the only things missing were a Western saddle and a shoulder brand.

See **JERSEY** page 19▶



Tod Marks

Jersey Town and Robin Smullen prepare for some morning work.

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#### Jersey -

#### **■** Continued from page 18

"I've adjusted bridles on fillies, clocked horses working, I do whatever I want on him when he's standing in," Smullen said. "He's better than the lead pony some days and he's always been that way. He's got so much personality, just a neat horse."

Of course, when Smullen says it's time to go – with a smack on his rump and a kick in the belly – Jersey Town changes. He gallops in a restrictive elevator bit (second ring from the bottom) for stopping power and gives the impression that he could drag a sled around Saratoga if he really wanted to.

"He's a different horse when he trains – it's like having a tiger on a string," said Smullen. "He's tough to gallop, tough walking off the track. Look out when he gets his game face on."

Friday morning, he stood in the starting gate, hobby-horsed a lap of the main track and needed an escort from Tagg to get back to the barn. An afternoon paddock schooling session was the final tightener for today's Grade I try at 7 furlongs.

"Sometimes we paddock him early and you might as well leave him in the barn, he just walks over there and walks back," said Tagg. "Paddocking him in the afternoon during a race is almost like blowing him out though."

Jersey Town has finished worse than third just once in 13 career starts. He blossomed last fall, running third in the Grade II Kelso, second in the Grade III Bold Ruler and winning the Grade I Cigar Mile at almost 35-1. Tagg is working on a similar plan this fall, only with the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile as the target. Step one came July 31 in Monmouth's Teddy Drone going 6 furlongs. Jersey Town chased Force Freeze home in a rapid 1:07 3/5. Step two comes today, then the Kelso (Oct. 1), then the Breeders' Cup.

"I don't have any great aspirations for him to be a short horse," said Tagg. "He's probably a 7-furlong horse but he can beat better horses at a mile than he can at 7 furlongs because he can grind it out. He ran pretty well at Monmouth. I was just trying to give him a work out of the gate with some other horses, something that assimilated a race. I was really happy with that race."

Jersey Town boasts \$413,000 in career earnings, but could have been purchased several times. Fipke bought the horse's dam, Grade I winner Jersey Girl, at Keeneland in 2005. She was carrying Jersey Town, but the new owner wanted a broodmare, not a Speightstown colt. Jersey Town did not meet his reserve at Keeneland as a yearling in 2007, nor as a 2-year-old in 2008.

Fipke sent his charge to Tagg, with fairly basic instructions – run him where he belongs, don't worry about getting him claimed. The trainer obliged and Jersey Town made his debut for \$25,000 at Gulfstream Park in March 2009. He won, stayed in the barn, added a starter allowance one start later and hasn't come close to being for sale since. He placed in two stakes to finish the year – the Restoration on the turf at Monmouth and the 9-furlong British Columbia Derby at Hastings Park in Canada.

Fipke is from western Canada and has taken his horse west twice – to Hastings and for back-to-back tries at Emerald Downs in Washington last summer. Racing for trainer Tim McCanna, Jersey Town won a 6 1/2-furlong optional claimer in late July and finished second in the Grade III Longacres Mile.

He returned to Tagg after a stressful van ride that stopped at Keeneland late last summer, recovered from the trip and unleashed the best races of his career to close 2010, then took a lengthy break before getting back to work at Monmouth in July.

"He's the neatest little horse, I wish he was sounder but I love him," Tagg said, rattling off issues with a hind leg, a suspensory, an ankle. "You'd like to have 10 more like him. That's what you're in the business for, to have things like him show up now and then. I try and treat them all like champions, like they're all the best horses in the world. Hopefully one floats to the top a little sooner that way." Jersey Town bobbed up last fall and has stayed there, in part because of pure physical ability but also because of a mental outlook that his trainer can't quite explain.

"Some horses win two races and can't seem to go any further," Tagg said. "They either don't have any more talent than that or they aren't making the most of the talent they have. He's making the most of everything he has. He loves to run, loves competition. He's got the courage to do it. Just plain courage, I guess. I don't know. You can't touch it."

You might be able to see it though. Jersey Town makes you look at him. It's part-swagger, part-flash, part-athleticism.

"He's a chunk of solid muscle, just a powerhouse," said Tagg appreciatively. "We had him in the paddock (Thursday) and he was just glowing, best coat of any horse I saw in the paddock. Good horses do good. He eats the same food and gets the same attention all the rest of mine get."

But he's the only Jersey Town.



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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2011 THE SARATOGA SPECIAL 19

# Road Warrior

# English-based Pachattack gets dirt test in Grade I

#### **BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS**

"Wherever she goes, I go."

Andrew Morris, travelling head lad for British-based Gerard Butler, took Pachattack for a stroll around the backside of Oklahoma before her gallop Friday morning. Like any good European filly, the daughter of Pulpit ambled down the horse path, through the barns and around the perimeter road on a loose rein. The racy chestnut filly with a fat question mark of white on her forehead makes her first start on dirt in today's Grade I Personal Ensign over 1 1/4 miles.

"She's trained on it, breezed on it, seems to move well on it, but you don't know until race day," Morris said. "We had a good horse, Jack Sullivan, that won a lot of races for us in Dubai on the dirt, so we sort of have an idea about action-wise, how they move on it, and I think she'll go on it. The quicker you go, the better she feels because her action goes lower."

Morris took the 5-year-old onto the main track and Pachattack pulled him around, rolling into the bridle with her ears glued forward. Morris had to pass a slower horse on the backside and Pachattack switched

on, leaving the track vibrating with good-feeling energy.

"She doesn't take a lot, just cantering, not much galloping because she's very clean-winded. She likes to run fresh," Morris said. "She's had a breeze over 3 furlongs on the dirt, but just to set her up for the race. I think she's actually in better form than she was before she went into the Beverly D – she's just in herself. She seems very, very bright."

Morris is used to travelling with horses, but he admits Pachattack makes his job easier. The reason, according to Morris, is simple: Pachattack always cleans her tub.

"She eats. She loves it. Even when she's travelling, on the planes or the big lorries, she always eats," Morris said. "I've travelled with some really good horses, that drink loads of water, they eat. Then I've travelled with some that stand there, petrified of the plane, they lose 70 kilos, they don't drink, they don't eat. It's the worst thing in the world, because you can't make them drink, you can't make them eat. You can't MAKE them do anything."

Pachattack comes into the Personal Ensign on the back of an eighth to Stacelita in the Beverly D Aug. 13. Morris lays the blame solely on the yielding turf course.

"I was happy with her going into the Beverly D, but once the rain came, I was like, ugh," Morris said. "It didn't just rain – it rained so hard for an hour, an hour and a half. The drains were flooded, it was torrential. I wouldn't have minded a shower."

Michael Deegan's filly began her career in England, winning a Goodwood maiden at 7 furlongs, but has come into her own in the last year. She strung together two listed wins at Newcastle and Newbury last summer, beating German Group 1 winner Lady Jane Digby in the process. She ran sixth to Eclair de Lune in the Beverly D last year before annexing the \$175,000 Maple Leaf by 5 lengths two starts later.

"She broke the course record," Morris said. "Chantal Sutherland rode her, 'God, Chantal, slow down!' and she just won easily, Chantal gave her a great ride



Connie Bush

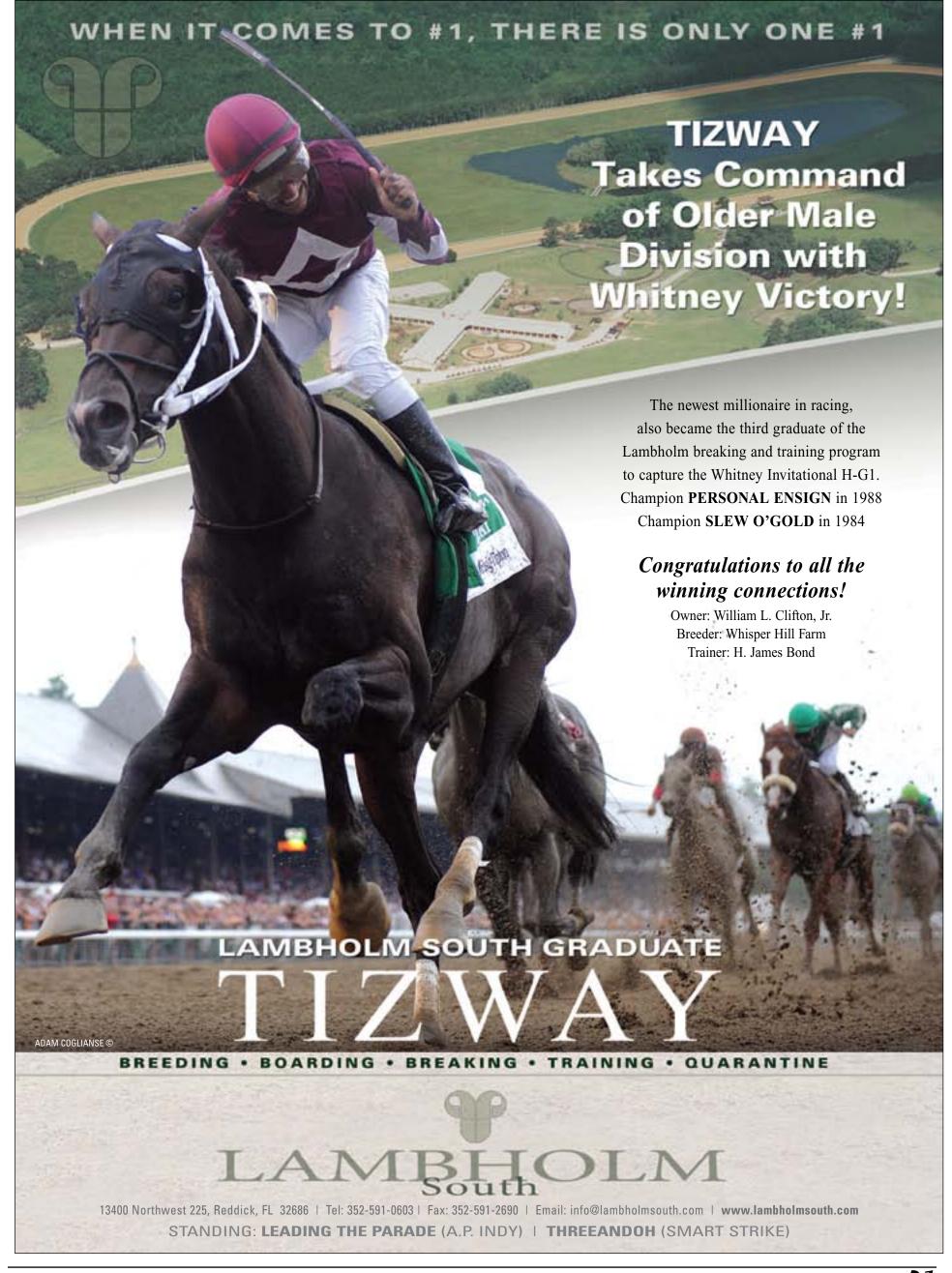
Pachattack makes her third consecutive American start for English trainer Gerald Butler.

from the front."

Given the winter off, Pachattack returned to England this spring for a pair of graded stakes, finishing no better than third. May 28, she forged to a 6-length victory in the Grade III Arlington Matron over 1 1/8 miles

See **PERSONAL ENSIGN** page 22





#### Personal Ensign —

#### **■** Continued from page 20

on the Polytrack before the Beverly D.

Pachattack will go into post 3 at 9-2 under Rajiv Maragh. Morris expects the Kentucky-bred to be forwardly placed.

"She doesn't like being out the back, she hates it," Morris said. "We'll be handy from somewhere. It's a small field, if something wants to go off, we'll let them and we'll just get a lead."

This time last year, Shug McGaughey was getting ready to send out Persistently to pull an upset over the great Rachel Alexandra in the Personal Ensign. The daughter of Smoke Glacken scored by 2 lengths in a 1 1/8-mile optional claimer July 30, then returned to defeat the defending Horse of the Year by a length in a relentless stretch run.

This year, McGaughey sends over Protesting on the back of a 5-length score in that same \$50,000 optional claimer. The trainer insists that's where the comparison ends.

"Persistently had a lot more experience," McGaughey said. "She'd run in the Breeders' Cup when she was 2, she was second in the Matron and the Frizette. Her 3-year-old year wasn't that great, but she'd had a lot more experience. Protesting, when she was a 2-year-old trained like a really good filly and I was kind of disappointed that we didn't get more done with her as a 2-year-old. Last year she hurt herself and we had to stop her, so I'm hoping, now it's all coming together."

Today's Personal Ensign bears little resemblance to last year's small but se-

lect field, which included not only Rachel Alexandra but Life At Ten. No superstar stands out from the bunch, and that parity prompted McGaughey to give his allowance winner a shot.

"I guess I did have it in the back of my mind, I knew Persistently had won the same race last year that she won this year, but I thought that it was kind of an evenly matched bunch," McGaughey said. "I think she's probably one that will get the distance on the dirt. Some of the others might not, so I thought it was worth taking a chance."

"I just want to think that she was going forward off her race," McGaughey continued. "She was coming off a layoff, she bounced out of it good, she had a good work here last weekend. If one of those other two fillies would have come, I probably wouldn't run, but I thought, 'I mean, two races back Ask The Moon was a claimer.'

The regally bred daughter of A.P. Indy out of a daughter of My Flag looks to fulfill promise that McGaughey saw in her as a 2-year-old. Second in the Demoiselle in November 2009, the 4-year-old has made two stakes starts since, including a fifth in the Hattie Moseley here last year and a fourth to Evening Jewel in last year's Ashland.

"She just wasn't running up to the potential that I thought she was," Mc-Gaughey said. "I took her to Keeneland and we ran her around two turns and she broke her maiden. I ran in the Demoiselle, I was disappointed she got beat in there. Then we brought her back as a 3-year-old, the Ashland wasn't bad, then she won on the turf. At Keeneland I just didn't think she was giving it her all."

Protesting gave it her all July 27 in her allowance score, but it wasn't in the fashion McGaughey expected. The Phipps color-bearer usually sits well off the pace and makes one solid run, but on that afternoon she broke a half-length behind in second under John Velazquez before gliding past into the lead and disappearing into the sunset.

"There wasn't much speed in the race and she broke on the lead, she'd never been there before and he left her there," McGaughey said. "I thought she was a pretty easy winner. As the race unfolded I wasn't surprised, but if you had asked me that morning, do I think she's going to be in front the whole way, I would probably have said no."

McGaughey will play on that versatility with Protesting today, allowing the pace of the race to dictate where his charge settles during the opening stages.

"It depends on what happens," Mc-Gaughey said. "Obviously, I think that Ask The Moon will go to the lead again and if nobody tries to go with her, I think we won't try to go with her, but if we get away good, we'll be sitting right in behind her."

Velazquez will take the reins again today. The 6-1 shot breaks from the 4 hole in the six-horse field.

Todd Pletcher enters 3-1 shot Super Espresso for Bobby Flay. The daughter of Medaglia d'Oro has 5 lengths to make up on Ruffian winner and today's rival Ask The Moon. Ramon Dominguez will take the reins of the Du Pont Distaff winner.

When Hurricane Irene postponed the first version of the Personal Ensign, Pletcher decided to go ahead and work Super Espresso Tuesday morning, going a half-mile in 48 4/5.

"It was one of those things that I had to think about so I decided to go ahead and breeze her. I was on the fence, we were in the same position with Quiet Giant who runs in the Molly Pitcher, we decided not to work her, just two different types of fillies who carry a little different condition," Pletcher said. "I just felt like she's a big scopy, filly and she would take the work fine and we're going a mile and a quarter. It probably doesn't matter to be honest, we could have walked her up to it and it might not matter. We felt like it was the right thing to do and she actually worked well, it was one of her better works. I hope that it's a good sign."

Marty Wolfson ships in Ask The Moon, who has spent the unplanned extra week in Gary Contessa's stable. Farnsworth Stables' 2-1 favorite made her graded stakes debut when winning by almost 6 lengths in the Ruffian. She starts from post 2 for Javier Castellano.

Bill Mott and Juddmonte Farm send over Acronym, looking to break her graded stakes maiden. The 5-year-old daughter of Empire Maker ran second in an overnight stake here Aug. 5 on the back of a fourth to Aruna in the Grade III All Along at Colonial Downs. Jose Lezcano takes the ride of the 6-1 shot.

Steve Hobby enters Tiz Miz Sue for CresRan Stable. The daughter of Tiznow finished third in the Ruffian, but was disqualified and placed fourth, after playing bumper cars at the eighth pole. The 4-year-old, who was second in the Grade III Obeah to Havre De Grace June 11, goes to post under Joe Rocco Jr.



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# Grass Girl

#### Trombetta's Elusive Pearl tries turf, collects Saratoga stakes triumph

#### **BY SEAN CLANCY**

Mike Trombetta strolled to the clocker's stand at the Oklahoma training track during the waning minutes of turf breezes Aug. 24.

"This is your thing, tell me if this filly likes this stuff," Trombetta said to a turf

Well off the dogs, Elusive Pearl strolled through an easy 5 furlongs in 1:01 2/5 under Trombetta's Saratoga assistant Benny Heeney.

She looked like she liked it. Heeney thought she liked it. Trombetta figured she liked it.

Turns out, she loves it.

Robert Goldsmith's 3-year-old daughter of Medaglia d'Oro made her turf debut in Friday's Riskaverse, stalking the pace of Finger Lakes shipper My Lost Silver before jetting to a snug 1 3/4-length win over late-running Ruthenia and second choice Divalarious. Favorite Starformer checked around the final turn and wound up fourth. John Velazquez guided the winner, who finished the mile in 1:36.55.

As Elusive Pearl galloped to the start, Trombetta still wasn't sure she liked the

"I hope we hit the board," he said. "Really, I hope we hit the board."

Elusive Pearl broke sharply from the 6 stall, Velazquez tempered her speed enough to adopt a stalking spot just off My Lost Silver. The 58-1 shot led through a quarter mile in 24.64 and a half in 49.13. Elusive Pearl pulled Velazquez all the way down the backstretch, rolling to My Lost Silver's quarter as Divalarious sat in third. Velazquez knew he wasn't finessing her, taking a look back to see if someone was running up on her heels.

"She was going so strong I thought somebody was right next to me, making her run, nobody was there," Velazquez said. "I was hoping she would come off the bridle and relax. She came to the half mile pole and relaxed a little, can you believe that? The half mile pole. Nobody was coming so I sat and waited

#### **RISKAVERSE STAKES** *RECAP*

and then let her go."

Turning for home, Elusive Pearl dispatched the longshot with ease and set sail for the wire. Velazquez knew he had separation and waited as long as he could, finally changing his cross nearing the eighth pole as Starformer was still trying to find a gap and Ruthenia was circling around the whole field. Elusive Pearl was long gone by then, streaking to a clear victory.

"It was perfect. I talked to Michael before the race and told him I'd sit just off that horse from Finger Lakes. He said, 'Do what you want.' That's what I wanted to hear," Velazquez said. "The only thing I was worried about was choking her down, because I had her tight the whole way around. At the three eighths pole, I gave her her head and she had smooth sailing from there. Got to the quarter pole all by herself, she leveled off really nice."

Trombetta wasn't quite as relaxed as Velazquez while watching the race from the big screen in the clubhouse.

"Come on girl. Come on girl. Come on girl," he screamed as she neared the eighth pole. "They're coming. They're coming. They're coming."

They weren't coming.

Trombetta hugged his wife Marie,

"We won a stake, babe."

"That was cool. That was cool," Trombetta said. "Robert Goldsmith, that's Oliver Goldsmith's son, he's only got a few mares left but they have a knack of breeding good horses - for-

C. Oliver Goldsmith was one of Maryland's iconic horse owners/breeders/characters, breeding and racing the likes of Turn Cap, who won 20 races. Goldsmith died in 1997 and his son Robert has continued the tradition. He owned and raced Brazen Bride, the dam of Elusive Pearl.

Trombetta unveiled Elusive Pearl to win over a sloppy track at Laurel in December, before she failed twice on the





Elusive Pearl beats Ruthenia late in the Riskaverse Stakes Friday.

dirt, finishing sixth in an allowance race in January and sixth again in an allowance race in May. Trombetta sent her to Presque Isle Downs for an experiment on synthetic and she lit up with a 7 1/4-length win. Trombetta shipped her to Woodbine for her stakes debut where she finished third in the Duchess

"Looking back on it, she bounced a little when I took her to Canada," Trombetta said.

Returned to Fair Hill Training Center, Elusive Pearl worked 3 furlongs on the Tapeta August 13, shipped to Saratoga for a spin over the Oklahoma.

Trombetta named Ramon Dominguez on Elusive Pearl but lost him when his first call, Decennial drew in from the also-eligible list. Trombetta tabbed Velazquez, met him in the paddock and agreed with everything he said.

"Some replacement. Johnny said he'd be sitting just off the 2 and he nailed it right on the head," Trombetta said. "I've heard it 10 times this meet, if you're not 1, 2, 3 turning for home, you can't win. It's just been that kind

The Maryland-based conditioner picked up his fifth win of the meet while rotating horses in and out from his Fair Hill base and his 10 stalls on the Oklahoma side.

"I was hoping to get to five but I knew it wasn't going to be easy," Trombetta said. "To be honest it's not like it's a ginormous money-maker because the expenses get up so high, but it's the exposure, this is where it's at, I want to carefully do more. I've had 10 up here, I'd be happy to go to 12, 14. You want to rotate the horses, you don't want to bring one horse up here and run three times. Home is Maryland, but you could win seven races at Laurel and not get a line in a newspaper, that's sad. This is different.'

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# Memory Lane

# Gregory watches stakes with race's namesake on mind

#### **BY KATIE BO WILLIAMS**

Seth Gregory stood in front of the big screen in the clubhouse Friday and watched the \$75,000 Gold And Roses. He didn't have a horse in, no real reason to root anybody on, but he did have a reason to watch: Gregory bred and campaigned the race's namesake.

Gold And Roses won eight stakes from 2005 to 2008, bankrolling more than \$850,000. Out of 45 starts, he ran in the money with amazing consistency: 10 wins, 12 seconds and 6 thirds.

Not bad for a free horse.

Gregory was working as an assistant to Mark Hennig when Gold And Rose's dam, Won Perfect Rose, was running around Aqueduct in the 1990s. A two-time winner in allowance company, the daughter of Air Forbes Won injured a hock and went home with Gregory for nothing. It was the first broodmare he had ever owned, and she almost didn't make it to the shed.

"She was injured and in pretty dire straits, wasn't supposed to survive," Gregory said. "She had injured a hock and foundered on the off side. We took her home to the farm and she survived. Because I was at the racetrack, it was my mom, my dad and my brother."

Then came the mating to Gold Token. "A friend of mine had groomed Gold Token when he was with Neil Howard," Gregory said. "I always liked the horse. Mike Hushion trained him and I asked Mike about purchasing a season and he actually gave me one."

From thence came Gold And Roses. Gregory knew early on that the New York-bred had some potential, mostly due to a threatening phone call from Art Fisher and a ringing accolade from Shaun Bridgmohan.

"Art Fisher in Ocala, he had him all winter and he liked him," Gregory said. "Before he shipped him up, he called and said, 'If you mess this up, I'm going to fly up there and put a beat down on you.' He trained well as a 2-year-old, had little baby issues that we stopped on. Came back in the fall, he was (sixth), made a

#### FRIDAY RACING RECAP

little move. Shaun Bridgmohan was riding him, he got off and said, 'He's way better than this.'

A couple of close efforts followed, trainer Tom Bush added blinkers, they learned the horse didn't like to get hit, and finally, in January of his 3-year-old year, Gold And Roses broke his maiden by 7 lengths. Two starts later, he won his first stakes, and the rest is history.

Gregory didn't even know NYRA had named a stakes in the horse's honor.

"Will Phipps told me they did it, he saw it in the condition book, I hadn't looked, I didn't notice," Gregory said. "It's pretty cool. It's kind of an honor."

The 6-furlong contest, carded as the second race of the day, was another Pletcher-Repole-Velazquez tour de force, when 2-year-old Zow wired the field to by three-quarters of a length. Zow came into the race off a maiden score at Belmont and looked the part, especially when stablemate Bay Park Boy was scratched. Bred by Vivien Malloy's Edition Farm, the winner sold at Fasig-Tipton here last year for \$80,000.

• The favorite won the \$75,000 Distorted Humor, a 6-furlong sprint for 3-year-olds. Wine Police, last seen running 4 lengths adrift of Caleb's Posse when third in the Amsterdam, returned to lodge his second win of the year. The chestnut son of Speightstown was a highly promising 2-year-old last year, winning his debut here by 7 3/4 lengths and running third behind Boys At Tosconova and Stay Thirsty in the Hopeful. Sidelined until June of this year, Wine Police used this score as a possible springboard into fall stakes.

Kirk and Judy Robison's colt broke on top under Julien Leparoux, but was quickly engulfed by Higher Court and Philippe. Leparoux allowed the remaining two horses to pass and settled quietly on the rail, biding his time. Higher Court quickly dominated the pace,

See *FRIDAY* page 28 ▶



Dave Harmon

Zow reaches the finish line with a win in Friday's Gold And Roses Stakes.



#### **Saratoga Leaders -** *Through Friday*

Jockeys	1st
John Velazquez	51
Javier Castellano	48
Ramon Dominguez	42
Julien Leparoux	27
Rajiv Maragh	19
Eddie Castro	17
Jose Lezcano	17
Cornelio Velasquez	16
Kent Desormeaux	13
David Cohen	12
Corey Nakatani	12
Irad Ortiz Jr	11
Edgar Prado	10

Trainers	1st
Todd Pletcher	.37
Chad Brown	.21
Steve Asmussen	.14
Rudy Rodriguez	.13
Bill Mott	.12
Mike Hushion	9
Kiaran McLaughlin	9
Graham Motion	8
Rick Dutrow	6
Shug McGaughey	6
Phil Serpe	
George Weaver	

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#### FRIDAY'S SARATOGA RESULTS

Friday September 02.

#### FIRST \$56,000, AOC \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

7 Sunrise Smarty R. Dominguez \$3.70 \$2.60 \$2.20 5 Starforaday R. Maragh \$3.90 \$2.80 5 Temecula Creek C. Velasquez \$3.30

B Colt 2007, by Smarty Jones - Sunrise Slew by Seattle Slew Owner: West Point Thoroughbreds, Brooks, Donald, Cammarano, Nick. Trainer: Michael Hushion. Breeder: Dennis A. Drazin (KY). Time: 1:10.11

Exacta (7-5), \$13.60; Superfecta (7-5-3-4), \$127.00; Trifecta (7-5-3), \$36.20

#### SECOND \$75,000, NY-BRED STAKES - GOLD AND ROSES S., 2 YO, 6F

1 Zow J. Velazquez \$4.10 \$3.40 \$2.50 3 Silent Thunder J. Chavez \$7.40 \$3.00 6 The Prize Fighter R. Curatolo \$2.80

B Colt 2009, by Bluegrass Cat - Then She Laughs by Distorted Humor Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.

Breeder: Vivien G. Malloy, Edition Farm & Racehorse Mgmt, LLC (NY). Late Scratches: Bay Park Boy

Daily Double (7-1), \$7.90; Exacta (1-3), \$40.20; Quinella (1-3), \$28.40; Trifecta (1-3-6), \$118.00

#### THIRD \$75,000, STAKES - DISTORTED HUMOR S., 3 YO, 6F

1 Wine Police J. Leparoux \$3.60 \$2.70 \$2.10
5 Free Entry K. Desormeaux \$6.40 \$3.20
4 Higher Court R. Dominguez \$2.40

Ch Colt 2008, by Speightstown - Deputy Cures Blues by War Deputy Owner: Robison, J., Kirk, Robison, Judy. Trainer: Steven Asmussen. Breeder: John Mulholland & Martha Jane Mulholland (KY). Time: 1:11.45

Daily Double (1-1), \$7.70; Exacta (1-5), \$28.60; Trifecta (1-5-4), \$90.00; Pic 3 (7-1-1), \$11.40

#### FOURTH \$47,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 1 1/16M

5 Royal Bonnie J. Castellano \$15.20 \$8.20 \$5.30 10 Proud and Charming J. Lezcano \$9.80 \$6.10 2 Stock Fund R. Curatolo \$4.00

B Filly 2009, by Yankee Gentleman - Royal Muskoka by Theatrical (IRE) Owner: Bona Venture Stables. Trainer: George Weaver.

Breeder: Sheik Yobuti Racing Stable (NY). Late Scratches: Berning Carbs

Time: 1:43.58

Daily Double (1-5), \$41.80; Exacta (5-10), \$177.50; Quinella (5-10), \$96.00; Superfecta (5-10-2-6), \$56,332.00; Trifecta (5-10-2), \$1,040.00; Pic 3 (1-1-5), \$89.50

#### FIFTH \$52,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 1 1/8M

6 Speightscity J. Castellano \$8.20 \$3.40 \$2.80 3 Raconteur J. Velazquez \$2.90 \$2.60 5 Politicallycorrect R. Dominguez \$3.00 Ch Ridgling 2009, by Speightstown - My American Girl by Quiet American Owner: McConnell Racing Stable, Team Stallion Racing Corp. Trainer: Gary Contessa. Breeder: WinStar Farm LLC, Polo Green Stable, Piacentino Farms, LP & (KY).

Late Scratches: Doctorious, Our Midnight Run

Time: 1:53.08

Daily Double (5-6), \$64.50; Exacta (6-3), \$23.00; Trifecta (6-3-5), \$52.00; Pic 3 (1-5-6), \$166.50; Pic 4 (1/5-1-5-6), \$317.50

Attendance: 15,904 On Track Handle: 2,872,978 Intra-State Handle: 2,240,899 Inter-State Handle: 8,007,765

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#### SIXTH \$37,000, CLAIMING \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M

2 River Fancy J. Leparoux \$14.20 \$5.70 \$4.40 4 Ms Stilleto R. Dominguez \$3.30 \$2.60 9 Ba Ba's Bunch R. Curatolo \$5.40

Ch Mare 2006, by Congaree - Go Baby Go (IRE) by Lion Cavern Owner: J.W. Singer LLC, F and F Stable. Trainer: Richard Dutrow, Jr..

Breeder: Morgan's Ford Farm (VA). Late Scratches: Quixsand, Just Maid, Repreive

Claimed: River Fancy claimed by Winning Move Stable for \$20,000 Time: 1:42.67

Daily Double (6-2), \$69.00; Exacta (2-4), \$41.60; Superfecta (2-4-9-3), \$1,689.00; Trifecta (2-4-9), \$294.50; Pic 3 (5-6-2), \$457.50

#### SEVENTH \$46,000, NY-BRED ALLOWANCE, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F

6 Isn'tlovejustgrand J. Lezcano \$13.40 \$6.30 \$3.80 9 Petey Cramer C. Velasquez \$4.80 \$3.50 7 Barrel of Love J. Samyn \$3.30

B Colt 2008, by Grand Reward - Story of Love by Not For Love Owner: Calcanes, James, Collins, Daniel. Trainer: Joseph Aquilino. Breeder: Quiet Woman Farm, Brigitta Stephanis & Michael Spielman (NY).

Late Scratches: Wee Freudian Time: 1:02.29

Daily Double (2-6), \$103.00; Exacta (6-9), \$68.50; Superfecta (6-9-7-4), \$2,080.00; Trifecta (6-9-7), \$316.50; Pic 3 (6-2-6), \$322.00

#### EIGHTH \$77,500, STAKES - RISKAVERSE S., 3 YO, 1M

7 Elusive Pearl J. Velazquez \$19.80 \$10.20 \$7.10 Ruthenia A. Garcia \$6.10 \$3.80 4 Divalarious J. Castellano \$3.50

Dk B/ Br Filly 2008, by Medaglia d'Oro - Brazen Bride by Miswaki

Owner: Goldsmith, Robert. Trainer: Michael Trombetta.

Breeder: Woodlawn Breeding Inc. (KY). Late Scratches: Upper East Sider, Shatoosh, Blushandbashful, Henny's

Time: 1:36.55

Daily Double (6-7), \$199.50; Exacta (7-10), \$132.50; Superfecta (7-10-4-3), \$1,396.00; Trifecta (7-10-4), \$558.00; Pic 3 (2-6-7), \$1,060.00

#### NINTH \$57,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/8M

3 Zalmara A. Lezcano \$35.20 \$15.40 \$8.70 8 Quantock A. Solis \$22.00 \$13.40 6 Wet One (IRE) R. Maragh \$5.50 Gr/ro Filly 2008, by Exchange Rate - Royal Halo by Jolie's Halo

Owner: Seidman Stables LLC. Trainer: Rodrigo Ubillo. Breeder: Horses of Course Inc. (FL).

Time: 1:49.17

Daily Double (7-3), \$496.00; Exacta (3-8), \$802.00; Superfecta (3-8-6-5), \$42,318.00; Trifecta (3-8-6), \$6,224.00; Pic 3 (6-7-3), \$1,439.00; Place Pix Nine (2/4/9-6/7/9-4/7/10-3), \$113.00

#### TENTH \$35,000, CLAIMING \$25,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

10 Short Shrift J. Lezcano \$9.60 \$5.50 \$3.40 4 Red Leader C. Velasquez \$6.60 \$4.10 11 Midnite Silver D. Cohen \$3.60

Ch Gelding 2006, by Hennessy - Bank On Her by Rahy Owner: Moran, Michael, J.. Trainer: Jack Fisher.

Breeder: W Lazy T Limited (KY).

Late Scratches: Never Right Joey, Monastir, Fairway Drive, Slamm'n Lou, The Program

Time: 1:37.79

Daily Double (3-10), \$158.50; Exacta (10-4), \$56.50; Superfecta (10-4-11-6), \$1,291.00; Trifecta (10-4-11), \$240.00; Pic 3 (7-3-10), \$2,616.00; Pic 4 (6-7-3-10), \$17,591.00; Pic 6 (6-2-6-7-3-10), \$4,293.00

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#### Friday —

#### **■** Continued from page 25

leading the field through a quarter in 22.95 seconds and still led after the half in 45.82. Leparoux began to wind up Wine Police. With no room on the rail, he swung the colt to the outside and sent him after the leaders.

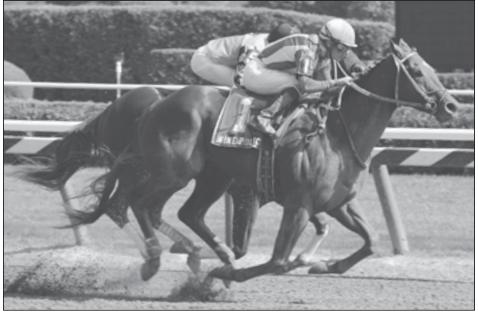
Higher Court faded, Free Entry took command, Philippe held but couldn't quicken, and Wine Police rolled inexorably past, ridden hands and heels from the sixteenth pole. The margin was a half-length. The \$190,000 Keeneland purchase covered the 6 furlongs in 1.11.45.

Steve Asmussen was pleased with the result, but was a little miffed by the route

"I think we made it a lot more difficult than the race needed to be, but that's just how it happens," he said. "They only went 22 and 4 for the quarter in a race that appeared to have more speed, he got shuffled back from the one draw, and he was good enough to overcome it and Julien didn't panic but obviously from that kind of draw you'd hope it would sort out a little smoother."

Asmussen continues to point Wine Police toward the Gallant Bob, but admits he is a little concerned about the timing of the race. The Distorted Humor was originally carded for last Sunday's cancelled card.

"I hope (the extra week) doesn't hurt us," Asmussen said. "He's got a lot of talent, so I think that will over come a lot of things."



Dave Harmon

Wine Police surges late to win the Distorted Humor Stakes.

• They are called racehorses for a reason. If they're right, you run them.

Or so says Joseph Aquilino, who saddled Isn'tlovejustgrand for his fifth start – and second win – at Saratoga 2011 in the seventh race. All five starts have come at 5 1/2 furlongs on the turf.

The streak opened with a ninth July 24. Next, a nose win July 29. Aug. 13, the 3-year-old son of Grand Reward was fourth by 4 lengths. Last out, Aug. 24, Isn'tlovejustgrand ran third.

"Five starts this year and he's got two wins, a third and a fourth," Aquilino said. "He comes out of the race doing so good and we think, well, let's put him back in again. Matter of fact, after his second start, five days later, I sent him home to Aqueduct. I said, 'yeah, he's run

twice.' Then down there he was kicking the wall down, I said 'send him back up.'"

Owners James Calcanes and Daniel Collins took Aquilino's old-school approach in stride.

"They said run them, he just wants to run," Aquilino said.

Isn'tlovejustgrand broke from the 6-hole in the fist-level New York-bred allowance. Settling fifth, a length off the first group of four and relaxed under Jose Lezcano, Isn'tlovejustgrand ranged up on the outside and made up ground down the stretch. Petey Cramer led with only a few precious strides to go, but the dark colt stretched his neck out and drew even just when it counted. It was too close to separate at first

blush, but when the photo came down, Isn'tlovejustgrand had made it by a whisker.

"That's his style lately," Aquilino said. "There was enough speed in the race to set it up for him. I thought he might be just a little too far back, but he got up."

The \$15,000 2-year-old purchase, broken in Virginia by Woodberry Payne, paid \$13.40 to win.

• Other winners on the day included another score on the flat for Jack Fisher with Michael Moran's Short Shrift under Jose Lezcano in the nightcap. It was Lezcano's second win on the day and the horse's second at the meet. Maryland-based Fisher, better known as a steeple-chase trainer, won twice over jumps and three times on the flat at the meet.

Jockeys Javier Castellano, John Velazquez and Julien Leparoux also scored doubles on Friday. Trainer George Weaver won the fourth, a state-bred turf maiden for 2-year-old fillies, with Bona Venture Stables' Royal Bonnie. Twoyear-old colt Speightscity annexed the fifth, a 1 1/8-mile maiden special weight for Gary Contessa and owners McConnell Racing and Team Stallion Racing. Trainer Rodrigo Ubillo pulled a \$35.20 upset in the ninth, when Seidman Stable's Zalmara scored in a turf maiden for fillies and mares at 1 1/8 miles. Abel Lezcano rode the winner. West Point Thoroughbreds took the opener with Sunrise Smarty, a heavy favorite for the combination of Mike Hushion and Ramon Dominguez. The jockey and trainer collected their 18th win together at Saratoga over the past two seasons.

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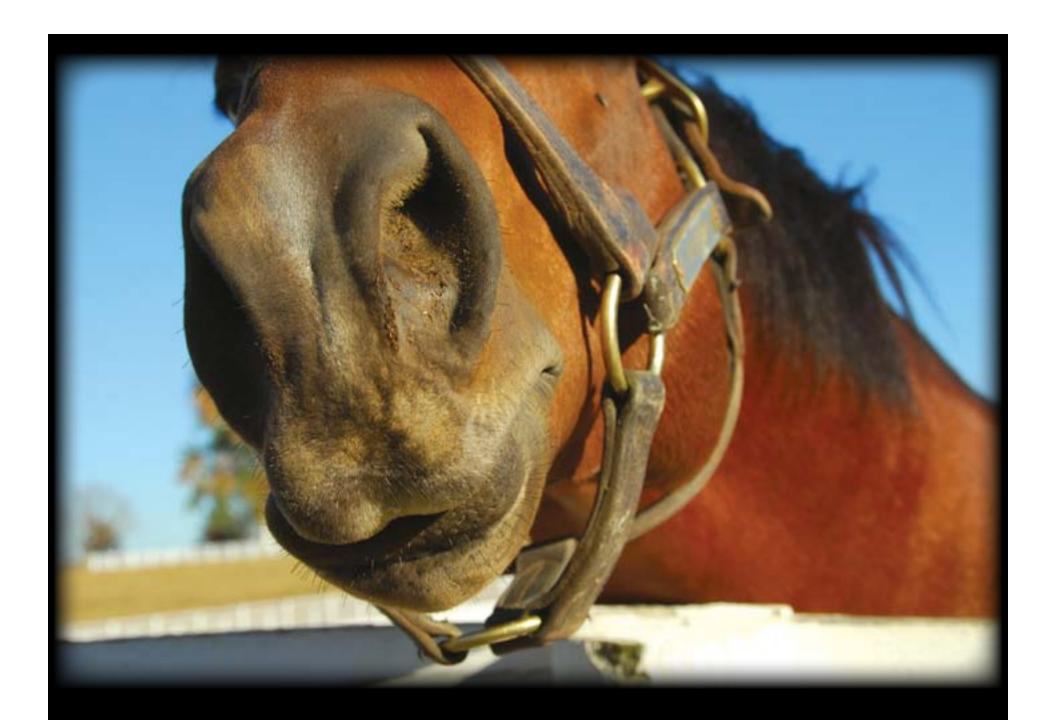


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# View Points

# Museum's backstretch photo exhibit offers rare glimpse

#### BY MELAINA PHIPPS

A View from the Backstretch, a photography exhibit on display at the National Museum of Racing until Dec. 31, offers an inside track on what goes on behind the scenes. According to Beth Sheffer, curator of collections, the museum has wanted to stage an exhibit of this kind for some time. The initial idea was to focus on photos of the backstretch and its workers and with the participation of Dona Ann Mc-Adams it developed into a collection of photos of the backstretch and by backstretch employees. With funding from the Workforce Development Institute and the Charles Lawrence Keith and Clara Miller Foundation, what has resulted is an exhibit which attracted the largest-ever opening reception at the museum, and scheduled exhibits in Vermont and upstate New York next

McAdams, a professional photographer whose art spans decades and captures people, events and moments all over the world was a driving force

behind the show. Her interest in horses prompted her to become a hotwalker several years ago; it was an opportunity to explore the racing world. It also provided the chance to explore a whole new venue in her photography. She is an exuberant woman whose eagerness to share her love of photography with others has prompted community-based documentary projects where she encourages the participation of amateur photographers, teaching and guiding along the way.

A View from the Backstretch, as the latest of these projects, brought together a wide variety of photographers: backstretch workers employed in every type of job from trainer to cook to exercise rider to ambulance driver. Most had already picked up a camera at one time or another, for some photography was already something of a hobby. But for all the photographers the project offered a chance to share the personal views of their work, their lives, their relationships with racing, and with the

See **VIEW** page 32 ▶



The backstretch, as seen by Frankie Fodera.



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Public Syndicate Groups - Stakes Stats for 2011								
	Individual Gr. Winners	Graded Stakes Wins	Stakes Winners	Stakes Wins				
Team Valor International	5	8	9	13				
Starlight	1	4	2	5				
Peachtree	1	3	2	4				
Blinkers On	1	3	1	3				
West Point	1	2	3	4				
Dogwood	1	2	1	2				
Pinnacle Racing	1	1	2	4				
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		<del>_</del>	_	_				
Pewter	_	_	-	-				
Sackatoga Stable	_	_	_	_				
Sovereign	-	_	_	-				
Starview	_	_	_	_				
Team Stallion	_	_	_	_				
Team Victory		<del>-</del>	_	_				
Three Chimneys	_	-	-	_				
Woodford Racing	_	_	_	_				
Source: TVI statistician Kathleen Jones, from reports from Bloodstock Journal and TDN. Stats are current through September 2, 2011.								
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A split second, a new photo captured by Louie Garcia.

#### View —

#### **■** Continued from page 31

magnificent horse over which all this fuss is about.

The project was shot using film cameras - first disposable, then simple point-and-shoot models. When the weekly workshops began in spring 2010, McAdams advised the photographers to "break all the rules you think you know about what makes a good photograph; photograph anything that is interesting to you." Essential to the project, the workshops and McAdams' guidance were paramount to their experience. They discussed techniques and composition, conducted peer reviews of the week's work. There were many conversations about light and how their particular venue - and the dawn-to-dusk days that are typical of backstretch life - make for unlimited potential in creating interesting shots. An added benefit of those long days and the availability of the full spectrum of natural light is that it helps to delineate the rhythm, the cadence, of the workday, the race day, the dark day.

Photographers Louie Garcia has been on the racetrack since he was a young man, working with horses, riding, and as of a little over a year ago, documenting the action on film. Like a large number of those attracted to working at the racetrack, it's always been about the horses.

"I just love being with the horses and getting to know them, working

See *VIEW* page 34 ▶

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#### View -

#### **■** Continued from page 32

with them," said Garcia. His decadeslong familiarity with the track has also helped win him the nickname McAdams sometimes uses for him– Louie Light.

"He knows exactly when the light is good in every area of the backstretch," boasted McAdams. She's right. Garcia doesn't hesitate to answer the lighting "pop quiz" she gives him. He came to photography for the project, but it didn't take long to catch the bug.

"Every Tuesday [when the workshops were held] was like Christmas,

waiting to see what we all came up with," he said. His excitement is clear as he discusses the work and the photographs. He hasn't put down the camera either. Asked if he would participate in another such project the answer was a vehement, "Yes!" One of his latest photos accompanies this article; a taste of what might come later perhaps.

From his perch in the equine ambulance on the Oklahoma training track in the mornings, and on the main track during the races, Frankie Fodera sees a lot. And he snaps a lot of photos. Always has. Fodera never missed an opportunity during his road trip from Florida to Maine to capture an image – even while in motion. So when

asked to participate in the View from the Backstretch project it was his idea that he shoot his pictures from the cab of the ambulance. McAdams loved the idea and aside from providing his literal view, day by day, it made for some very interesting shots – employing reflections in the rearview mirror or framing the shot in the windshield.

"I just wanted to take the photos and give them to Dona, but she encouraged me and got me more involved," he said

Fodera thoroughly enjoys taking pictures and documenting his life – personal and professional. His job as the equine ambulance driver makes him privy to heartbreaking moments.

During one of these moments someone observed to him that he was quiet, never said anything.

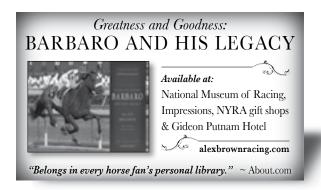
"What's to say?" responded Fodera, "I know what my job is and I do it." But that's not to say that he's unaffected by the sight of an injured horse. "I never hear them making noise or whinnying too much when they're down. They're solemn, like great warriors."

No matter what job they hold on the backside, each photographer has a history on the track, a story, a connection to the horses.

McAdams summed it up best when she said "It's a love story about people who love horses . . . and labor, it's a labor of love."



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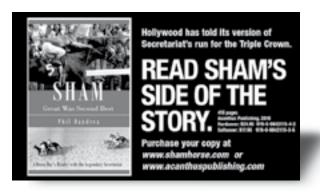


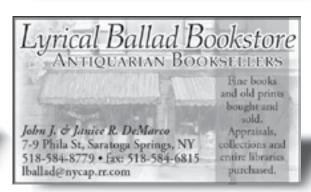














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# Seat Saver



by Joe Clancy

They come in red, black, blue, two-tone mixtures. Some have initials stitched into them. Others might have fleecy seat covers. They're often glossy and shine like prom shoes.

But one, and only one, has won the Kentucky Derby four times.

The saddles used by Saratoga's jockeys have gone the way of most modern things. They're sleeker, cleaner, faster than those of the past. But one oldie is still hanging around the jocks' room. It shares a rack with several modern versions, but only comes out on special occasions.

It's sort of dirty brown/black, it weighs 9 pounds (with room for lead inserts to make it heavier). It cost \$200 almost 40 years ago when custom built for a Hall of Famer. It's seen Churchill Downs, Dubai, Japan, Pimlico, Laurel, Arlington Park, Saratoga, Santa Anita, Gulfstream Park, Belmont Park and any other major stop in Thoroughbred racing.

"It's a privilege to take care of it, to be responsible for it," said valet Tony Milan, the man in charge of the treasured leather. "That saddle will be in the Hall of Fame someday. Hopefully it's still got some life left in it though."

The saddle belongs to leading jockey John Velazquez, who inherited it from agent/mentor/coach Angel Cordero Jr. Cordero had the saddle made in the 1970s. It's a rarity in today's age – a full-tree, hard-back saddle.

Cordero got it for major races when horses carried 126 pounds and above. With a heavy saddle, he could avoid using a lead pad, stay comfortable in the tack.

Thursday, he called it lucky and it's difficult to argue. In its early days, Cordero and the saddle won the 1974 Kentucky Derby aboard Cannonade. Two years later, they did it again on Bold Forbes. Spend A Buck wore it – and the blanket of roses – in 1985. Cordero won more than 7,000 races. This saddle came out for 100 of them, maybe, but it was there for the biggies and has been aboard such standouts as Seattle Slew, Gulch, Gate Dancer, Slew O' Gold and others. Surely, it was aboard What A Summer for her victory – under 134 pounds – in the 1978 Fall Highweight Handicap.

"I won four Breeders' Cup races with it, three Derbies, the Belmont, the Preakness twice," he said. "It was built up for weight, so when you ride races like the Derby and some of the others at 126 pounds or more you can just use the saddle. A saddle sits better when you don't have to use a lead pad, that's why I got it made. Johnny uses it for the same reason."

The saddle's tree or inner support system is made of wood and fiberglass, but is also leaded to make it heavier. It's far bulkier than the everyday saddles jockeys use, but that's part of what makes it special.

Cordero used it during most of his Hall of Fame career, and when he retired in 1992, passed it on to Velazquez. With its new owner, the saddle has traveled the world – winning the Dubai World Cup with Roses In May, the Travers with Flower Alley and this spring the Kentucky Derby with Animal Kingdom. This summer at Saratoga, the saddle has been aboard Caixa Eletronica for two starter-handicap wins (at 127 and 131 pounds), Bridgetown (123) for a stakes score and

See *OUTSIDE* page 37 ▶



Dave Harmon

Valet Tony Milan holds John Velazquez's historic saddle.

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MONDAY TO FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT



Outside -

#### **■** Continued from page 36

Rattlesnake Bridge (126) for a runner-up effort in the Travers.

Milan sometimes feels like an old baseball coach – with a mitt from long ago.

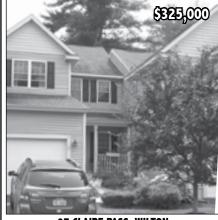
"A lot of these kids coming around now don't know what a hard-back is," Milan said. "The tree is hand-carved. The guy who made that saddle took a lot of pride in it, not that the saddles that The saddle has been won four runnings of the Kentucky Derby.

get made now aren't good – they're just different. When I came around, it was all saddles like this, leather boots, breaking out leather dye on the rub marks, polish, it's how you spent a good part of your day – taking care of the leather stuff. Now you just wipe it down and move on."

The saddle is basically all original, save for the billets (which have been changed several times) where the girth attaches, and shows its age. There's a notch or two on the right flap. The seat's a little worn, so is the very front. The stitching looks a little frayed. But the historic grain in the leather shows it's reverently cared for and appreciated like a member of the family.

"It's so old you don't even know what color it is anymore," said Cordero (to be fair, it's clearly a weathered mix of brown and dark brown). "We all get old, even the saddles. I like that it's still going though. I like to see it come to the paddock. Makes me feel younger."





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# **cup**of**coffee**



#### by Sean Clancy

Sean. Is there video you'd like us to pull as a talk point? Maybe a favorite race or defining performance of the meet, etc. Thx! 9:40a. Looking fwd to it. SB

That text came via Steve Byk who booked me on his TV show Saturday morning.

How much time do you have?

Day 1: Boat won the first, keeping the It's A Gherkin line viable for Nyala Farm, a traditional, loyal owner who deserves it. Valiant Passion delivered our first winning ticket.

Day 2: Dynafortwo proved, yet again, that there's nothing like a Dynaformer gelding on turf. Jimmy Sims, Gathering Cloud and Colionalism delivered a jumper-prospect triple. It's Tricky was all that.

Day 3: Overdriven overdrove.

Day 4: Beautyinthepulpit became the first One Winner to win, thanks Bruce Brown. Icabad Crane nailed Stormy's Majesty, it was

Day 5: Bobby Barbara's J C's Pride showed that other trainers can win 2-year-old races too. State Of Play tipped his hand. Colum O'Brien got one home. Winter Memories gave us Summer Memories. Lovely Lil knows no quit.

Day 6: All Together continued to prove the Jack Fisher Rule, coming back to form just when you thought he was off form, only 6, he might be – or become – the last Danzig to ever win a race.

Day 7: Reach A Decision was indeed that steel gray horse in the draw reins, training like a soldier every morning, scoring at 12-1. Convocation won a tough optional claimer, beating a Pennsylvania Derby winner, a Florida Derby winner and two Lecomte winners.

Day 8: The prettiest horse on the grounds, Radical Sabbatical returned with a win. Zagora handed Aruna a tough loss. Stay Thirsty elbowed his way to the top.

Spa TV

shocked with Bellacourt. Sidney's Candy went slower in the afternoon than he did in the morning. Writingonthewall won again.

Day 10: The Chief did it again. Donnie Von Hemel took a deep breath for making a big move.

Day 11: Ibboyee proved why he's Pletcher's favorite horse. Argentine Talisman and Sour combined for a \$325 exacta which nobody seemed to have, even though everybody liked them.

Day 12: Sheppard won a 2 1/16-mile stakes with a horse who'd been off for 11 months, then came back to win the double, a \$35.40 gift. Dayatthespa rewarded all the hunch players. Humadea had us in the cashing lane.

Day 13: Sanagas wowed us, Bearpath floored us.

Day 14: Turbulent Descent aired. Tizway lasted that next furlong, providing Jim Bond with a popular win and Spendthrift with

Day 15: The Special's most loyal reader (besides Mom), Mitch Friedman won with Beautifulnightmare. Tar Heel Mom and Sean Avery proved that coming back for more is worth it. Sheryl Schwartz lost her shoes. Were those Billy Wright's silks in the winner's circle?

Day 16: Seal Cove had us looking to see where Strong Hope stands now. Litigation Risk earned one.

Day 17: Emerald Beech continued Sheppard's rush.

Day 18: Hessonite beat the boys, furthering Dave Donk's faith in Ramon Dominguez and John Velazquez (they finished 1-2).

Day 19: Simon Husbands and Kevin Cox won the opener. Big Blue Kitten won again and we sold a back cover while interviewing Ken Ramsey. We picked out Ginger J in the paddock and picked up \$16.40 for the trouble.

Day 20: Winchester deserved one and got one, winning the Sword Dancer. Frank Martin, yeah that Frank Martin, snuck a \$124 horse past everybody in the last.

Day 21. Ramona Bass won one with a homebred. My Miss Aurelia and Millionreasonswhy clashed in the Adirondack.

Day 22. Caixa Eletronica carried 127 pounds to win the first. Dennis Lalman had a thrill and a check with Game Token. John Hertler came through. Chris Englehart won two in a row. Union

Day 9: Hyper and Versailles Road rumbled. Chuck Lawrence Rags reminded me of the big bay with the blaze at Fasig-Tipton Florida, Hip 63 is now a stakes winner.

Day 23. Flying Zee won again with Goodtime Boy. Bridgetown scorched. Purplegreenandgold's bump cost us a big score in the

Day 24: Are they giving money away? Sheppard hits for the \$81.50 double. Channing Hill moonlights. Bruce and Jennie Brown share a moment as Compliance Officer makes their meet.

Day 25. John Velazquez wins the first four. Funky Munky wins another. Gitchee Goomie makes the heart stop. Neil Howard gets off

the duck, slipping a Dynaformer past the claimers and the bettors.

Day 26: Mike Hushion continues to prove his shrewdness, winning an open maiden with New York-bred B Shanny. Royal Delta rewards anybody paying attention in the morning.

Day 27: Hungry Island stands up for the 3-year-old turf filly division. Cease proves that looks count. Motion Lounge wins one for Brooklyn Boyz.

Day 28: Neil Howard calls his owner and does the play-by-play Wilkinson's turf debut. Chief wins again.

Day 29: Dan Conway, the ex-trash man and a good trainer, cleans up at Saratoga. Hannibal Lecter dominates debut. Bigger Is Bettor rewards Rodrigo.

Day 30: David Jacobson pulls out the claim of the year, winning the Turf Writers, now we've seen it all. Alydarla wins for Jimbo Chapman. Jimmy Baker wins.

Day 31: Caixa Eletronica wins with 131 pounds. To Honor And Serve gets back on track. Turallure makes Charlie Lopresti's meet.

Day 32: Travers Day. Leo O'Brien can still light it up. Fire On Ice. Daveron. Hot Summer. Hilda's Passion. Caleb's Posse. Uncle Mo. Stay Thirsty. What a day.

Day 33: Mineralogist introduces me to David Cohen.

Day 34. The Great Hammock wins at age 7. Alaura Michele rewards anybody who's paying attention in the morning (II).

Day 35: Arch Kingsley makes me feel young and old all at the

Day 36: Mike Trombetta wins a stakes. Short Shrift wins again, furthering the flat career of Jack "Don't call me Dr." Fisher.

So, Steve, crank up the video, we'll be here awhile.

## CONGRATULATIONS

to all the winners and thanks to all the supporters - especially NYRA for another splendid summer at Saratoga.



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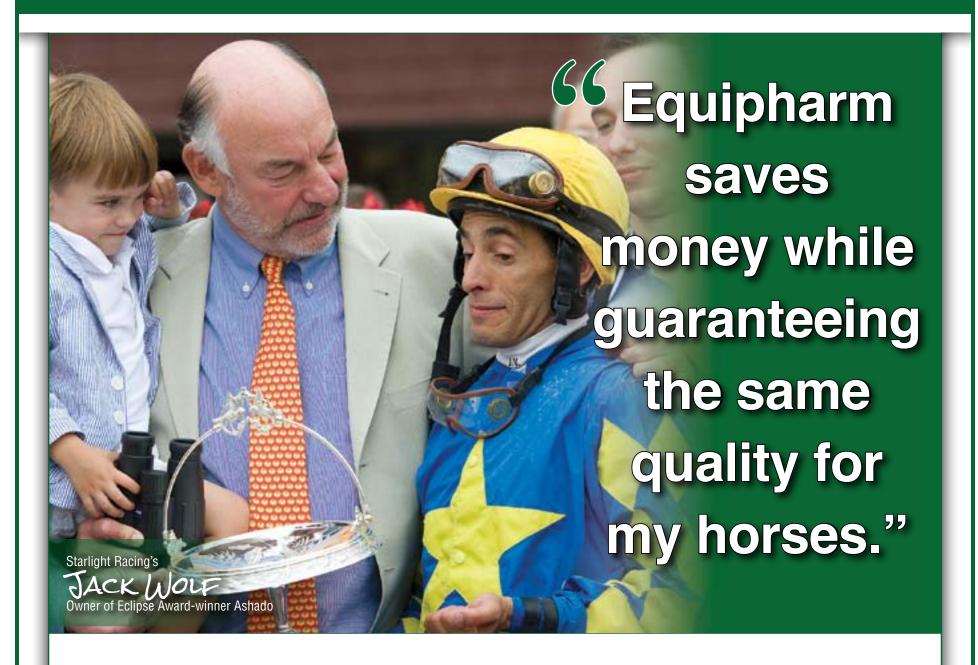






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Harlan's Holiday Ashado Purge Octave Take The Points Monba Position Limit Hilda's Passion Ailalea Keyed Entry Caminadora

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CCA Oaks Florida Derby **Blue Grass** Donn Handicap Spinaway Breeders' Cup Distaff Kentucky Oaks Secretariat Jamaica **Mother Goose** Ogden Phipps Go For Wand Beldame Fair Grounds Oaks Cotillion Cigar Mile Peter Pan Jim Dandy Demoiselle Adirondack Schuylerville Pennsylvania Derby Vagrancy Inside Information Tempted Raven Run

Racing Stable Record

Tracing Stable Record									
Year	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Stakes Wins	Stakes Places	Purse Earnings	Win %	% in the Money
2011	47	17	5	2	5	2	\$881,437	36.17 %	51.06 %
2010	72	13	6	12	6	4	\$1,127,321	18.06 %	43.06 %
2009	66	14	5	8	4	8	\$1,098,854	21.21 %	40.91 %
2008	66	11	12	8	3	3	\$970,677	16.67 %	46.97 %
2007	62	13	13	7	4	13	\$1,778,494	20.97 %	53.23 %
2006	53	14	12	6	2	6	\$1,255,959	26.42 %	60.38 %
2005	40	10	5	7	5	7	\$1,600,815	25.00 %	55.00 %
2004	58	15	7	9	7	10	\$3,135,138	25.86 %	53.45 %
2003	79	20	17	11	5	6	\$2,674,742	25.32 %	60.76 %
2002	48	7	12	6	3	4	\$1,832,540	14.58 %	52.08 %
2001	31	5	9	2	4	1	\$438,401	16.13 %	51.61 %
Totals	622	139	103	78	48	64	\$16,794,378	22.35 %	51.45 %

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