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Connie Bush

Man VS. Dog. Capone noses out Tristan Barry in the 50-yard Horse Path Dash.

here&there... at Saratoga

LICENSE PLATE OF THE DAY

JOE SPA, New York.

BY THE NUMBERS

24: Horses paddock schooling at the same time at 11:15 Wednesday morning.

- 1: Paddock schooler with a rider.
- 1: Minnesota North Stars T-shirt at the track Wednesday.
- **8:** Pairs of shoes in Peter and Caroline Pugh's tack room.
- 1: Sandwich at Spring Street Deli named after Keen Ice (at least for a few days). As chosen by trainer Dale Romans, the feast was bologna and Velveeta cheese with mayonnaise on white bread.
- **2:** Jump races run by Wednesday winner Diplomat in two days (July 29 and 30, 2013) at Galway in Ireland. He won the first, finished third in the second.

NAMES OF THE DAY

Do A Legger, second race. New York-bred is by Run Away And Hide and out of Long March.

Ian Smith, **sixth race**. Two-year-old colt is out of Cry Hallelujah. Go to YouTube and check out D. Ian Smith singing Cry Hallelujah at Pub 340. Damn good.

Day Six, seventh race. We still like this one. Bred by Bonner Young, he's by Any Given Saturday.

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Darley

here&there... at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

"We rode up with him, we don't want to go back with him."

Trainer Tom Morley, making a golf-cart driver change Wednesday

"It wasn't me."

Kevin Cox. in response to the announcement that Dulce de Leche would run in Wednesday's fifth race in foal.

"Can I throw my program into the infield?"

Ohio-based trainer Doug Cowans, whose horse Next Shares lost a tough one in Wednesday's With Anticipation Stakes

"Do you guys ever jump on the horses to get led around a little to get the good stories?" Burlington, Vt.'s Nick Hinge, on The Special's research and interviewing techniques

"You just made the Worth Repeating section in The Saratoga Special with that question." **Elizabeth Collins to Hinge**

"Every woman at the track looked like their boyfriend just broke up with them when he lost." Text from a fan to The Special's Tom Law after American Pharoah lost Saturday's Travers

"Don't say too much, you'll hurt the price."

Owner to trainer during a Fasig-Tipton Stable Tour last week



Free Range & Grass Fed. This lead pony enjoys a taste of freedom on the backside Wednesday.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Going to Dubai and coming to America to work for Kiaran McLaughlin were probably – apart from marrying Kate – the best moves I ever made." Jump jockey Bernie Dalton, who used to gallop for McLaughlin



800-523-8143

NAME OF THE DAY

Borseggiatore, seventh race.

Translated from Italian, it means a pickpocket or mugger. Four-year-old is out of Streetwiseandtough.

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here&there... at Saratoga

WORTH REPEATING

"I'm feeling this cover."

Photographer Susie Raisher, when seeing The Special cover with Keen Ice sleeping

"I watched him win at Indiana Downs and I said, 'Listen, I'm impressed.' She said, 'Do you want to ride him in the King's Bishop?' I worked him and I had a great feeling about the horse."

Jockey Edgar Prado, on how he got the ride on the Maria Borell-trained Runhappy, winner of the King's Bishop

"That was one of the best things about growing up in Brooklyn, there weren't many snakes."

Owner Lewis Schaffel, when told Bill Mott's pony was scared of snakes

"Where were you yesterday?"

Erma Scott, to The Special's Sean Clancy, after taking a day off Tuesday

"Kind of thin..."

Owner Brant Laue, while handling Wednesday's 32-page Special (and to think Laue was here from the beginning when we printed eight-page editions)

"He's looking good isn't he? He's a beast."

Dallas Stewart, walking out of the paddock early Wednesday morning with 2014 Kentucky Derby runner-up and Woodward entrant Commanding Curve



Connie Bush

Free Picnic Table. These trackgoers found a nice spot at Clare Court.



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Stable Tour: with Bruce Brown



Bruce Brown's barn on the Oklahoma Training Track is showing the signs of a waning meeting.

Occupied stalls alternate with empty stalls along the shedrow, the horses left behind slated to run over closing weekend or those left behind not too long from shipping back downstate to Belmont Park.

He's fairly loaded for the last few days of the meeting, including a busy closing day when he'll already be back home in Floral Park with his wife and three children.

"I've got a lot in closing day and I'm not going to be here," Brown said with a laugh. "I'm going home Sunday, so they'll definitely win."

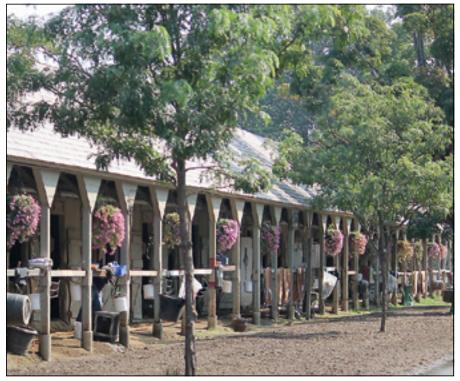
Brown admits it's been a tough Saratoga for his stable, a year removed from a career meet when he won nine races and two turf sprint stakes with Spring To The Sky.

Brown won three races heading into today, including \$50 winner Escape To The Moon Wednesday, from 46 starters.

"It's been a rough meet all around getting the horses in, and getting the right ones in," Brown said. "And if there's a good thing about all the seconds, at least we didn't lose any conditions."

Brown spent a few minutes Wednesday morning with The Special's Tom Law, walking up and down the shedrow, before heading off to school some of his closing weekend runners in the paddock before the races.

Love You Babe: "She's going to run closing day here, New York-bred 2-yearold filly by Not For Love who's been training well on the grass. She was just OK on the dirt but we breezed her on the grass and she's really breezed well there. We're



hoping she shows us a little something on the last day."

Domestic Warrior: "He's a 3-year-old (by Majestic Warrior) who has never run, but shows a lot of promise. He probably won't run until Belmont but he should be pretty well meant."

Broadway Bay: "He might run closing day also, New York-bred, one-other-than. He's always competitive, broke his maiden up here so he likes it here."

Why Not Whiskey: "He's in (today, Race 7 for \$35,000 claiming tag on the grass). He's had a bit of a layoff but he's always run well here at Saratoga."

Congress Park: "She could run closing day. She was one of my heartbreakers here, got beat a dirty nose (in Aug. 14 maiden special weight). She should have a good shot."

So Good To Go: "She's one we claimed up here. There's a few different races, I don't know that we'll get to run her here. We claimed her off Asmussen up here, older filly, for \$25,000. She won that day and got disqualified. Her last two starts she's been disqualified. She has a little trouble staying straight so hopefully we can fix that."

Lakeside Sunset: "Real nice New York-bred filly. She's another one, she chased Kathleen O'Connell's freak. Ladv Shipman (and finished fifth in Aug. 3 Coronation Cup Stakes). Chased her all the way around here. She'll run down at Belmont. That filly is a monster."

Every day at Saratoga, The Special (with help from sponsor Fasig-Tipton) presents an exclusive Stable Tour with a Saratoga trainer. For more, see: thisishorseracing.com/stabletours

Spring To The Sky: "The big horse. Had a rough meet up here, just starting to have some trouble getting out of the gate and it didn't help he was running against Joe Sharp's horse (Shore Runner). We caught the horse getting hot at the right time, which is exactly what we were last year. I told the owner that, too, he's doing exactly what we did. His thing is when he did so well last year when he would break he'd be 2 in front, then it was like game on, try and catch him. If he didn't break well it kind of messes up his whole mojo. That's his deal. We might actually stretch him out a little bit to where the break doesn't mean as much. In these 5 1/2 furlong races if you don't break it's over. We can get 7, flat mile down there and there isn't as much pressure on the break."

Same Kinda Crazy: "She's a 2-yearold New York-bred filly, probably won't run up here but will be ready to roll for Belmont. She's by Posse. Showed a lot of promise and I think she'll run on the dirt down there."

O K By Me: "She's in (today, Race 5) maiden New York-bred \$40,000 claiming. Hasn't run, 3-year-old filly by Repent."

Ten Penny Princess: "She's another one of my seconds, she's in (today), maiden 40 New York-breds on the grass. She ran in that kind of race last time, just got beat. A lot of my heartbreaking seconds are coming back. Hopefully if they run how they did last time it should be good."







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The Chief ... Day 31

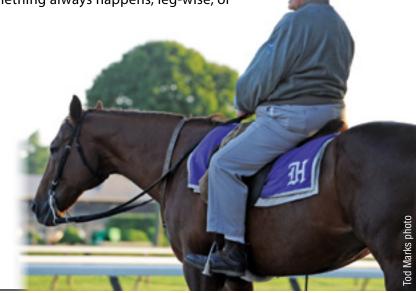
"When you're a trainer and you've been around a long time, it's the horse that does it. The fact you can keep them going a long time, that's your job. That's what you're proud of,

if you get great horses, anybody's going to win with them. If you can keep them going for a long time, that's a feather in your hat. It doesn't happen very often. If you keep going, something always happens, leg-wise, or they quit trying."

– Trainer Allen Jerkens, 1929-2015



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Where is everybody?

Tod Marks photo



The Young and the Restless

Brown aims Ava's Kitten at stakes

BY TOM LAW

Chad Brown's is feeling the pressure heading into the 36th day of racing at Saratoga Race Course and the \$100,000 P. G. Johnson Stakes.

Not because he's clinging to a threewin lead over Todd Pletcher in search of his first training title at Saratoga.

And not because he's about to run a maiden full-sister to Grade 1 winner Real Solution in a 2-year-old turf stakes for an outspoken and opinionated owner.

No, Brown is feeling the pressure from the unlikeliest of sources – his young daughter Ava.

P.G. JOHNSON PREVIEW

"She already told me, if I don't win, I'm fired," Brown said as he watched training on the Oklahoma Training Track Wednesday morning. "She's harsh isn't she?"

Ava Brown, sporting a pink T-shirt with the appropriate phrase "I'm So Big Time," reiterated what her father knows to be true as they drove back to the barn in the golf cart.

"If she doesn't win you're fired," she exclaimed, laughing the way only children can as dust kicked up from under the cart's tires.



Tod Marks

Ava's Kitten tackles today's P.G. Johnson Stakes for trainer Chad Brown.

The source of Brown's pressure is Ava's Kitten, a filly by Kitten's Joy owners and Ken and Sarah Ramsey named after Brown's daughter and a filly her trainer expected plenty from when she made her debut Aug. 9. Brown wasn't under the gun for that race, when Ava's Kitten finished third behind fellow P. G. Johnson entrants

Thrilled and Harmonize, or at least he didn't let on about what was said over the dinner table back at home.

The only pressure came from Brown himself, because he liked the filly and might have been asking her a little too early.

Continued On Page 10



Johnson —

■ Continued from page 9

"She ran well first time out but I think I had her too short on fitness," Brown said of Ava's Kitten, who didn't quicken enough in the stretch and finished 1 1/4 lengths behind those other two fillies. "Probably a couple works shy of where I should have been debuting her. I really like this filly so I got in a hurry entering her. The positive of that is the race has done her well. She got a lot out of it."

Ava's Kitten breezed two half miles on the Oklahoma dirt since her debut, similar moves of :49.96 Alabama Day and :49.98 last Friday.

Ava's Kitten is one of three maidens of the six fillies entered in the P. G. Johnson and she's got a bit of history on her side.

Brown won the last three editions of the P. G. Johnson, the last two with maidens Granny Mc's Kitten in 2013 for the Ramseys and Partisan Politics last year for Klaravich Stable and William Lawrence. His first winner of the 1 1/16-mile turf stakes, recent Grade 1 Beverly D. Stakes winner Watsdachances, made her first start in the U.S. and for Brown in the P. G. Johnson.

Like Ava's Kitten, Granny Mc's Kitten and Partisan Politics both made a start at Saratoga about a month before the P. G. Johnson.

"It's a short field, there's some nice fillies in here and I think she's one of them," Brown said. "We'll see how it shakes out, I'm not afraid to run a maiden in here."

Timber Bay Farm's homebred Seaside Schiller is one of the three winners in the field off a debut victory late in the Bel-

Continued On Page 11



Tod Marks

One-two in a maiden race Aug. 9, Thrilled (right) and Harmonize meet again in today's P.G. Johnson.



Johnson —

■ Continued from page 10

mont Park spring-summer meeting for trainer Michael Matz.

The daughter of Artie Schiller was a late entrant in the P. G. Johnson and is cross-entered in Saturday's \$300,000 Kentucky Downs Juvenile Fillies Stakes going 7 furlongs.

Joss Saville, Matz's assistant handling his Saratoga string, said Seaside Schiller was due in Saratoga from the Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland Wednesday afternoon.

"There weren't many other options we could have gone for," Saville said. "We were waiting to see what entries looked like at Kentucky Downs before we committed. It's a bit of a rush, but she shipped into Belmont and won."

Seaside Schiller will face only five opponents if she starts today.

She's one of a dozen entered in the Kentucky Downs race, which doesn't feature any maidens and attracted last-out Saratoga starters in Bolton Landing winner Simple Surprise and Grade 3 Schuylerville Stakes fourth Moment Is Right.

Seaside Schiller could be the speed of the P. G. Johnson under Luis Saez along with Harmonize, who showed speed and got nipped at the finish by Thrilled in their 1 1/16-mile grass maiden race Aug. 9.

"She shows a lot of speed and that's why we're a little concerned she might not get the two turns," Saville said. "However, she's always, from Day 1 when she came in, showed that she had a good head on her, a good and classy sort of horse that does everything well."

Finn's Girl is the 5-2 morning-line favorite for the P. G. Johnson and she's also based at Fair Hill.

Trained by Graham Motion, the daughter of Bernardini out of multiple Grade 2 winner Oonagh Maccool cost \$600,000 at last year's Keeneland September yearling sale.

She won her debut easily Aug. 4 going 7 ½ furlongs at Delaware Park under Trevor McCarthy, who rides the filly back today for Motion and Chiefswood Stable.

Fooled By Magic, off the board in her only two starts and 15 ½ lengths behind Seaside Schiller in her most recent effort, completes the field.



CADATOOA	NTDIEC				Voluntario			
SARATOGA E	NIKIES			9 9			B. Lynch	
Thomas days Occata makes a O					lan Smith			
Thursday, September 3.	• • IID • • • / IIIDDI	- \			Spicy Blonde			
1ST (1:00PM). \$65,000, ALW, 4 YO'S		E)		12 W110	Wild Impulse	I. KICE	L. KICE	5-1
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		P. Fout			Day Six			
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2ND (1:33PM). \$75,000, ALW, 3 YO'S	S & UP. 1 1/8M				Finn's Quest			
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, I		9			Police Camp			
1 1			5-2	8 8			T. Morley	
		J. Hertler		9 9			B. Brown	
3 3Futurazo					Stage Door Sam			
		H. Bond			Inventor's Gate			
		C. Brown		12 12			N. Zito	
		P. Farro		13 AE	Elroi	C. DeCarlo	P. Pugh	15-1
7 7H Man				14 AE			G. Sciacca	
					Inca Saint			
3RD (2:06PM). \$28,000, CLM \$14,00	10, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M	, 6 1/2F						
Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic	4, Daily Double			8TH (4:52PM	I). \$93,000, AOC \$80,00	0, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F		
1 1She's Marvy		G. Gullo	5-1		ta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Dai			
2 2Cryptic Comet	L. Saez	J. Terranova, II	12-1	1 2	Noble Cornerstone	J. Rosario	T. Morley	4-1
	M. Franco	J. Toscano, Jr	15-1		Stephanoatsee			
		M. Nevin			John's Island			
		G. Contessa		3 3	Pulling G's	J. Alvarado	J. Shirreffs	5-1
		D. Jacobson		4 4	Clearly Now	J. Ortiz	B. Lynch	6-5
7 7Evangeline's Hope	J. Baez	J. Buckley	8-1	5 5	Ostrolenka	J. Velazquez	T. Pletcher	10-1
				6 7	Stormin Monarcho	I. Ortiz, Jr	D. Jacobson	12-1
4TH (2:39PM). \$100,000, STK - THE		F , 1 1/16M (TURF)		7 8	Green Gratto	F. Jara	G. Grant	8-1
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, I								
11Harmonize					I). \$78,000, AOC \$40,00		, 5 1/2F (TURF)	
		H. Motion			ta, Superfecta, Daily Dou			
		M. Matz			Summerdale			
4 4Thrilled					All Mine Tonight			
		C. Brown			Bella Kateri			
6 6Fooled by Magic	I. KICE	K. KICE	30-1		Champagne Ruby			
ETIL (2.42DM) #4E 000 MCI #40 00	0 2 VO'C 0 HD F 0 M	C 4 /OF			Scat Away			
5TH (3:12PM). \$45,000, MCL \$40,00		, O 1/2F		6 6			R. Lugovich	
Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 1 1Splash of Sass		P. Davie	0 1		Hot Squeeze			
2 2Lady Chocolotta				9 9	Non Finisce Mai		T. Pletcher	
		B. Brown			Harlan's Honor			
•	-	M. Friedman		10	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	J. Gastellallo	1. FIGLUIIGI	Z-1
		B. Brown		10TH (6:00PI	M). \$45,000, MCL \$40,0	በበበ 3 VN'S & IIP F & I	M 11/16M (INNER TIII	RF)
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		L. Gyarmati			Weather Girl	.l Castellano	S Asmussen	2-1
		E. Kenneally			Wild Inthe Streets			
		J. Terranova, II		3 3			J. Sharp	
		D. Jacobson			Saratoga Smoke			
	, -				Oakley Way			
6TH (3:45PM). \$83,000, MSW, 2 YO,	5 1/2F (TURF)			6 6			J. Lawrence, II	
Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Dail					Flying K C			
		L. Gyarmati	12-1		Little Mary Ellen			
2 2Light the Night					La Dama de Hierro			
		L. Lewis			Ten Penny Princess			
		G. Delgado			Maggies Dance			
5 5Rappel	M. Franco	R. Ribaudo	7-2		Saratoga by Design			8-1
		S. Asmussen			Q T Bird			30-1
77Eyeing Victory	K. Carmouche	H. Motion	10-1	Copyright 20	15 EQUIBASE Company	LLC. All Rights Reserve	d.	

the Power gric		Tom	Gaile Fitzgerald	Charles Bedard	Chad Summers
1	North Star Boy Miguel Grau Perfect Union	Perfect Union Miguel Grau Street Fight	Miguel Grau North Star Boy Perfect Union	Miguel Grau Street Fight Magical Moon	North Star Boy Perfect Union Miguel Grau
2	Battle Of Evermore Hunt's Road Zabaione	Battle Of Evermore Zabaione Hunt's Road	Battle Of Evermore Zabaione Hunt's Road	Battle Of Evermore Do A Legger Futurazo	Battle Of Evermore Hunt's Road H Man
3	Stolen Victory Annie Walker Saluda	Cryptic Comet Annie Walker She's Marvy	Annie Walker Stolen Victory She's Marvy	Evangeline's Hope Cryptic Comet Saluda	Stolen Victory Annie Walker Cryptic Comet
4	Thrilled Ava's Kitten Finn's Girl	Ava's Kitten Finn's Girl Thrilled	Thrilled Harmonize Finn's Girl	Seaside Schiller Thrilled Harmonize She's All Even	Ava's Kitten Finn's Girl Seaside Schiller
5	She's Gifted Dacoma She's All Even	She's Gifted Mohawk Lily Dacoma	Dacoma Mohawk Lilly She's Gifted	Lil Renegade She's Gifted	She's All Even Lil Renegade Dacoma lan Smith
6	lan Smith Rappel Light The Night	lan Smith Whence Handsome Hank	Rappel Ian Smith Strike Midnight	Rappel Ian Smith Whence	Rappel Basic Hero
7	Moon Over Cuzco Day Six Inca Saint Clearly Now	Day Six Why Not Whiskey Moon Over Cuzco	Day Six Moon Over Cuzco Finn's Quest	Day Six Finn's Quest Moon Over Cuzco Green Gratto	Day Six Moon Over Cuzco Finn's Quest
8	Pulling G's Green Gratto Scat Away	Clearly Now Pulling G's Noble Cornerstone Harlan's Honor	Clearly Now Pulling G's John's Island Bella Kateri	Clearly Now Stormin Monarcho Royal Jest	Pulling G's Ostrolenka John's Island All Mine Tonight
9	Harlan's Honor Bella Kateri	Scat Away Alexandrie	Scat Away Harlan's Honor Weather Girl	Harlan's Honor Non Finisce Mai	Bella Kateri Harlan's Honor Weather Girl
10	Weather Girl Ten Penny Princess Flying K C	Ten Penny Princess Flying K C Weather Girl	Flying K C Ten Penny Princess	Flying K C Ten Penny Princess Little Mary Ellen	Flying K C Ten Penny Princess
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Epona Racing Stable

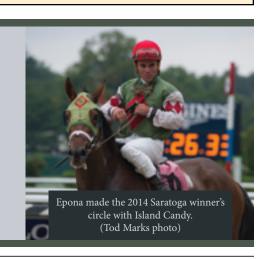
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Azar arrives in time

WITH ANTICIPATION **STAKES RECAP**

BY BRANDON VALVO

When bloodstock agent Steve Young purchased Azar out of the 2014 Keeneland September yearling sale for \$300,000 for the Alto Racing partnership, he had high hopes for the colt.

"He stands on his own merit as a very good-looking, very well-balanced Scat Daddy," Young said of the colt out of Miss Ocean City, by Mineshaft. "You go a little further, I bought his older half-sister last year and even further than that, his mother won first time out for Nick Zito here a few years ago and she was a very, very good filly."

Although Azar had all the makings of a future stakes winner, he entered Wednesday's \$200,000 With Anticipation stakes as a maiden. He lost his

Alto, Pletcher 2YO catches shipper in stretch

first two starts, a rarity for a Todd Pletcher-trained topped the rest of the field in the Grade 2 With An-2-year-old. Seventh in his career debut July 19 at Belmont Park, Azar set the pace and was caught late by stablemate and With Anticipation rival Unbridled Daddy here Aug. 16.

"I thought he ran a much improved race last time," Pletcher said. "He was on the lead most of the way, came back and worked really well. We were thinking about maybe running back in a maiden race. When this came up a short field, we decided to take a shot."

Taking a shot paid off.

Azar turned the tables on Unbridled Daddy and

ticipation. Despite being bumped at the start, Azar rated along the hedge just off Belterra Park shipper Next Shares through honest fractions of :23.19, :47.63 and 1:12.39. As Next Shares tried to get away in the stretch, Azar found more speed in the final 100 yards, angled out and was up in time to score at 11-1.

Sent off at more than double his 5-1 morning-line price, Azar won in 1:41.68. Next Shares held second while Unbridled Daddy finished third.

Continued On Page 16



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With Anticipation —

■ Continued from page 14

"This is a horse that early in the summer, we thought he was a very good horse and sometimes 2-year-olds take a couple starts to get their head where it needs to be," Young said. "None of us thought he was losing the first time he ran at Belmont. And he not only lost, he didn't hit the board. He came back here, ran very good the other day. He was running with his head cocked a little bit. But today, he did nothing wrong and he ran like we had hoped he would back in June."

Although Young and Pletcher always thought Azar's talent was there, it took time to unlock it. He lacked a win on his resume, yet Pletcher was expecting a big effort based on what the colt showed in the morning.

"It's not something we do often," Pletcher said of running a maiden in a stakes race. "But we felt like with two-race experience and he did everything except win last time, he led most of the way. Really he sold us in the last breeze. He was acting like he was doing well and improved since the last race. Short field, figured we'd take a shot. He was much better today. Johnny (Velazquez) felt like he was much more focused, much more professional following horses and he gave a big last 100 yards."

Azar's final 100 yards were big. He ran his final sixteenth in 5.97 seconds, according to Trakus, and



Azar graduates the maiden ranks as a stakes winner.

the preceding quarter was clocked in :22.86. Moving that quickly at the end of 1 1/16 miles, Azar looks to be another success story for Young and Alto Racing.

"I buy all their horses," Young said. "They are two families that own them, the Harrell family of

Houston, Texas, and the Moutray family of Alto, New Mexico. They've had a nice run. We've had horses run in the (Kentucky) Derby, we won the Florida Derby this year with Materiality, they've had Winning Cause, Peace Preserver, Sweet Whiskey. It's a situation where we've done good for each other."

Azar's victory boosted his career earnings to \$136,850 and it also brought Pletcher's meet win total to 27 through Wednesday. He's three shy of Chad Brown's 30 at the top of the standings.

Even though the race is close with five days to go, Pletcher isn't sure he has the horsepower to retain the title.

"You savor any win you can get at Saratoga and anytime you can win a graded stakes it's even better," said Pletcher, who has the last five and 11 overall Saratoga training titles. "We enjoy the competition and Chad is having a phenomenal meet. I don't know if we have enough firepower to battle him, but we'll keep firing away until the end. I keep an eye on the standings. We kind of dug ourselves a bit of a hole here, so we'd have to pull out some magic at the end to compete, but we'll see what happens."

As for Azar, the Grade 3 Pilgrim Stakes Sept. 26 at Belmont is the likely target with the Breeders' Cup Iuvenile Turf in the team's sights down the road.

"I haven't talked to Todd or the Harrells or Gil Moutray," Young said, "but I would imagine without getting ahead of ourselves he'll probably run in the Pilgrim and see where that leads us. The Breeders' Cup is everyone's ultimate goal, but you have to take it one race at a time."



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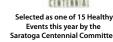


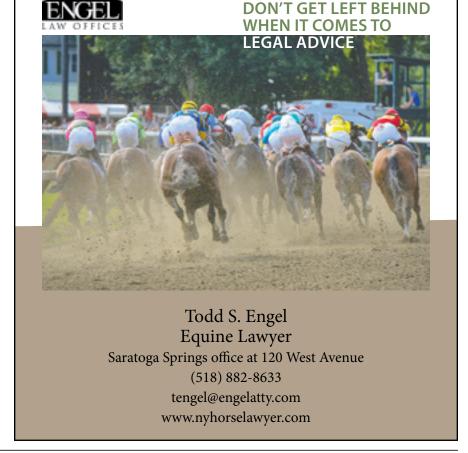














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Big prices rule start of final week

Longshot after longshot after longshot rolled home as the final week of racing got underway Wednesday at Saratoga Race Course.

The parade of big prices started in the steeplechase opener and continued through the finale, but none were bigger than Dendrite in the sixth race. The 6-year-old Rockport Harbor gelding went gate-to-wire in the 1-mile claimer on the inner turf at 45-1 odds.

Kendrick Carmouche rode Dendrite, who was stretching out after finishing 10th of 11 in a 5 ½-furlong turf sprint Aug. 5. They set a slow

WEDNESDAY RACING RECAP

pace - :24.97, :49.61 and 1:14.43 – and had plenty left in the stretch to win as the longest shot on the board. Dendrite won by three-quarters of a length over favored Baldonnel.

"Last time we had no chance," said winning trainer Carlos Martin. "I regrouped and took him back to Belmont."

Martin breezed Dendrite twice at Belmont, both times bullet 5-furlong moves, before shipping him back to Saratoga for the \$40,000 claiming race.



Dave Harmon

Longshot Dendrite heads for the finish in Wednesday's sixth race.

"He (Carmouche) let the horse relax," Martin said. "Dominick Schettino's horse (Humboldt N Frost) took back, and we put them to sleep."

Dendrite's huge upset – a \$92 win payoff for a \$2 win bet – helped spring a giant pick 5 payout of \$295,641. He was just one of several enormous

upsets on the day.

Melodic (\$40.80), Iconic Artist (\$32.60), and Escape To The Moon (\$50) had chalk players cringing in races six through eight. Before Dendrite's trip to the winner's circle in the sixth, Arietta (\$47.80) shook things

Continued On Page 20



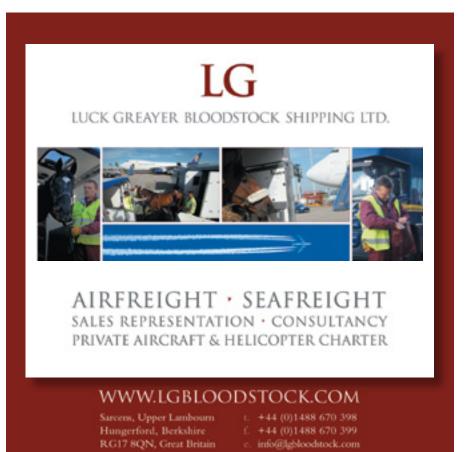




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9 AWARD-WINNING PERFORMANCES!

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■ Continued from page 18

up in the fifth, the opening leg of the pick 6.

Not surprisingly there is a two-day pick-6 carry-over of \$201,242 into today's card.

- Billy Blake

• On May 21, 2015, Albert Fried Jr.'s homebred gelding Towering Moon, a 6-year-old son of Malibu Moon out of the Giant's Causeway mare Towering Escape, was claimed for \$50,000 at Belmont Park. That was fine with the longtime New York breeder, since he had another one with the same bloodlines, Towering Moon's 5-year-old full brother Escape To The Moon.

The brothers met in a race for the first time June 25 at Belmont, with Escape To The Moon finishing fourth, besting his older brother by one position and 1 length. The duo met again in Wednesday's eighth race, with a more dramatic result.

Escape To The Moon broke well in the 7-furlong optional claimer, but the same could not be said for the slow-starting Towering Moon. Escape To The Moon took up a mid-pack position early while Towering Moon dropped out to trail behind quick early fractions. Around the far turn, both Moons started to get underway. Inside the final sixteenth, Escape To The Moon took a narrow lead and looked to hold off the late charge of Towering



Dave Harmon

Full-brothers Escape To The Moon (right) and Towering Moon head to the wire in Wednesday's ninth race.

Moon. Escape To The Moon reached the wire first, prevailing by a desperate neck.

"It's unbelievable," Fried said after the race. "Jenny (Carpenter) picked the stallion when we bred them and we get breeding awards on both of them. It's terrific."

Although Fried looked on as the horse he formerly owned nearly ran down his runner, he wasn't the slightest bit nervous.

"I thought, 'Boy, I'm going to get breeding

awards one-two,' " he said. "I'm never worried. It's never happened that I lose a race except daily."

To win at Saratoga and to have two of his New York-breds finish one-two is a massive source of pride for Fried, who races most of the horses he breeds.

"It's terrific," he said. "We have a farm in Rhinebeck an hour and-a-half away where Jenny is the manager and takes care of the farm and the hors-

Continued On Page 21

SUNRISE STALLIONS SHEETS

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■ Continued from page 20

es. We've got 20 or 30 horses there. We've had it since '86 and it's good to be there and good to be in the winner's circle in Saratoga."

- Brandon Valvo

• When owner/trainer Jimmy Day and jockey Bernie Dalton discussed running Diplomat in Wednesday's steeplechase allowance-optional, the conversation went back and forth for a bit.

"Jimmy was hedging his bets about running him in here," said Dalton after steering the 6-year-old to a 3-length win in the \$70,000 opener. "Then he was worried about getting him claimed."

As he did on the track, Dalton had all the answers.

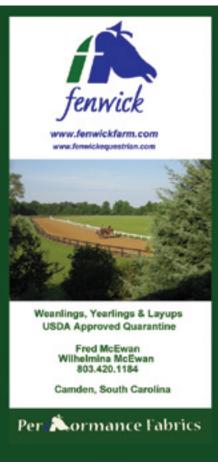
"Look, let me settle him in the back, I think he'll win," the jockey told Day. "He's got one run, you just have to come with it. And if he wins and gets claimed, you'll be laughing all the way to the bank."

Day collected \$42,000 in purse money for the win, and another \$40,000 when Newman Racing and trainer Charlton Baker dropped a slip for the Kitten's Joy gelding. The \$82,000 payday is more than the \$75,000 earned by Choral Society for winning the Grade 1 A. P. Smithwick Aug. 15. In that race, Diplomat finished sixth after making the lead late. Listening to Dalton's input, and hoping for a more settled early spot, Day took the blinkers off Diplomat and the Kentucky-bred rated in fifth behind a slow pace.

Andi'amu made the early running,

followed by Gimme Five, Overwhelming, All Together, Diplomat and Mandola in a train for seven fences. On the final run up the backside, Andi'amu still led, but had plenty of company as the pace quickened. Diplomat moved out from behind horses at the eighth fence. Mandola followed. On the final turn, Diplomat advanced toward the front while three wide. Outside of him and working harder, Mandola ranged up. Andi'amu still led off the turn and took the group to the last fence as Dip-

Continued On Page 22





Tod Marks

Diplomat (left) challenges Andi'amu at the last fence of Wednesday's first.





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■ Continued from page 21

lomat closed in. They left the ground in tandem, but Diplomat touched down with more run and drew off to his fifth win over jumps at 9-1. Andi'amu hung for second by a neck over All Together. A stride behind the leaders, Mandola fell at the last fence. He was vanned off with an injury, and being treated at trainer Jonathan Sheppard's barn Wednesday evening.

Diplomat raced for his breeders Ken and Sarah Ramsey in Ireland – winning twice and knocking heads with the likes of Declaration Of War on the flat – with trainer Dermot Weld. Sold to Ronan Lambe but still with Weld, the horse went hurdling and won twice more before Day spent about \$18,000 to buy him at the Tattersalls Horses in Training Sale last year.

He won his first start in the U.S. in March, taking the restricted Carolina Cup novice stakes, then finished fifth in open company in May and sixth in the Smithwick.

"Taking the blinkers off helped him, but I just had no cover in the Smithwick and it made the difference," Dalton said. "You watch the Smithwick and if you don't know the result you think the horse in front coming to the last wins. You don't think he gets beat but that's all he's got. He's kind of got one run if you can use it right. He's a nice little horse, a fun little horse."

Newman Racing campaigns New York-bred stakes winner Tricky Zippy among others, and hopes to get into jump racing with Diplomat.

Joe Clancy

Continued On Page 23



Tod Marks

Iconic Artist charges home in front of the field in Wednesday's eighth.





Saratoga Leaders						
Trainers	1st	Jockeys	1st			
Chad Brown	30	Irad Ortiz Jr	54			
Todd Pletcher	27	Javier Castellano	45			
Christophe Clement	14	John Velazquez	41			
Rudy Rodriguez		Luis Saez				
Bill Mott		Jose Ortiz				
Kiaran McLaughlin	11	Joel Rosario	21			
George Weaver		Junior Alvarado				
Jeremiah Englehart		Jose Lezcano				
David Jacobson		Kendrick Carmouche				
Shug McGaughey		Eric Cancel				
Linda Rice						
		Through Wednesday				

■ Continued from page 22

 Mike Luzzi walked into the paddock for the eighth race to a round of applause before getting a leg up on Artie Crasher.

The 45-year-old jockey was about to ride for the first time since breaking his leg and pelvis in a paddock accident in November at Aqueduct.

He went through a long and sometimes painful rehabilitation process, and even after finishing sixth aboard Artie Crasher was in good spirits.

"It felt like I never missed a day,"

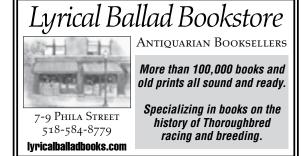
Luzzi said of his first mount in ten months. "Once you get on the horse, it's like same old hat."

Presented with the George Woolf Award from his peers earlier this year and the Eclipse Award as North America's outstanding apprentice jockey in 1989, Luzzi will be back in action again today aboard O K By Me for trainer Bruce Brown in the fifth

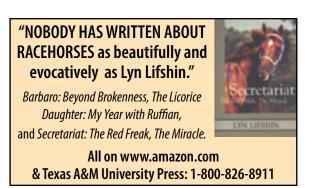
"She's another horse I've been working," he said before trying to outline his plans for the rest of the summer and fall. "I don't even have an agent yet, so I'll crank it back up at Belmont."

- Billy Blake

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SARATOGA RESULTS

Wednesday September 2.

FIRST \$70,000, AOC \$40,000, 4 YO'S & UP, 2 3/8M

B. Dalton \$5.00 Diplomat \$21.20 Andi'amu (FR) P. Young \$5.30 \$3.60 All Together R. Geraghty \$4.90

B Gelding 2009, by Kitten's Joy - Waki Affair by Miswaki

Owner: Dav. James. M., Trainer: James Dav.

Breeder: Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey (KY). Late Scratches: Plated. Claimed: Diplomat claimed by Newman Racing for \$40,000 Time: 4:42.96

Exacta (2-1), \$107.00; Superfecta (2-1-5-3), \$1,323.00; Trifecta (2-1-5), \$447.50

SECOND \$28,000, CLAIMING \$14,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

Mach Seven F. Jara \$17.80 \$7.00 \$4.50 Chase Lane J. Velazquez \$4.10 \$4.00 Battlefront I. Ortiz, Jr. \$3.60 Ch Gelding 2010, by Big Brown - Little Miss Zip by City Zip

Owner: Johnson, Wilfred. Trainer: Joseph Parker.

Breeder: Runnymede Farm Inc. & Catesby W. Clay (KY).

Late Scratches: Alysaro, Aleander

Claimed: Battlefront claimed by Thistle Spring Stables for \$14,000 Time: 1:17.33

Daily Double (2-5), \$197.50; Exacta (5-2), \$71.50; Quinella (2-5), \$20.40; Superfecta (5-2-6-1), \$204.00; Trifecta (5-2-6), \$196.00

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

2 Azar J. Velazquez \$24.40 \$9.40 \$5.20 4 **Next Shares** J. Rosario \$13.20 \$6.90 **Unbridled Daddy** I. Ortiz, Jr. 6 \$2.80

Dk B/ Br Colt 2013, by Scat Daddy - Miss Ocean City by Mineshaft Owner: Alto Racing, LLC. Trainer: Todd Pletcher.

Breeder: Mike Connelly (KY). Time: 1:41.68

Daily Double (5-2), \$200.00; Exacta (2-4), \$186.00; Superfecta (2-4-6-5), \$1,521.00; Trifecta (2-4-6), \$596.00; Pic 3 (2-5-2), \$1,984.00

FOURTH \$83,000, MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

2 Nickname J. Castellano \$3.90 \$2.90 3 Sky My Sky S. Bridgmohan \$3.30 J La Tache K. Carmouche \$2.10

Dk B/ Br Filly 2013, by Scat Daddy - Nina Fever by Borrego Owner: LNJ Foxwoods. Trainer: Steven Asmussen.

Breeder: Michael Hui (KY). Late Scratches: More That Lily. Time: 1:10.76

Daily Double (2-2), \$61.00; Exacta (2-3), \$16.60; Quinella (2-3), \$14.60; Superfecta (2-3-7-1), \$93.40; Trifecta (2-3-7), \$34.20; Pic 3 (5-2-2), \$625.00

FIFTH \$45,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN CLM \$40,000, 3 & UP, 5 1/2F

\$47.80 \$18.40 \$13.20 Arietta E. Cancel \$7.90 Wantagh Queen 5 I. Ortiz, Jr. \$11.60 J. Ortiz \$7.10 3 Glare Ice

Dk B/ Br Filly 2012, by Raffie's Majesty - Musical by El Gran Senor Owner: Bond Racing Stable. Trainer: H. Bond. Breeder: Song Hill Thoroughbreds LLC (NY). Late Scratches: Naughty Grace

Claimed: Street Lass claimed by Wentworth, John for \$40,000 Time: 1:02.95

Daily Double (2-4), \$132.00; Exacta (4-5), \$381.50; Superfecta (4-5-3-1), \$9,782.00; Trifecta (4-5-3), \$2,314.00; Pic 3 (2-2-4), \$1,417.00

> On Track Handle: 2,329,375 Inter-State Handle: 9,001,300

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SIXTH \$47,000, CLAIMING \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

K. Carmouche \$92.00 \$36.40 \$15.00 9 Dendrite 6 Baldonnel J. Castellano \$4.20 \$3.20 Transcend M. Franco 1 \$4.30

B Gelding 2009, by Rockport Harbor - Tustin by Conquistador Cielo

Owner: Sperando Racing Stable. Trainer: Carlos Martin. Breeder: Richard Forbush (KY). Late Scratches: Blue Shark

Claimed: Baldonnel claimed by On the Rise Racing Stables for \$40,000. Island Therapy claimed by Dubb, Michael for \$40,000

Time: 1:38.55

Daily Double (4-9), \$1,966.00; Exacta (9-6), \$601.00; Superfecta (9-6-1-4), \$24,345.00; Trifecta (9-6-1), \$3,430.00; Pic 3 (2-4-9), \$7,644.00; Pic 4 (2-2/4-4-9), \$51,838.00; Pic 5 (5-2-2/4-4-9), \$295,641.00

SEVENTH \$73,000, NY-BRED MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT, 2 YO, 6F

2	Melodic	K. Carmouche \$40.80	\$11.20	\$5.00
1	Louisville First	M. Franco	\$4.80	\$2.90
4	Acapella	I. Ortiz, Jr.		\$2.90

Ch Filly 2013, Tale of the Cat - Christina's Melody by Unbridled's Song Owner: Treadway Racing Stable. Trainer: Leah Gyarmati. Breeder: Mia Gallo, Dave Stack, Mary Kopley, SamPalazzole, Bernie R (NY).

Late Scratches: Ask the Lonely, Frostie Anne, Surprise Cameo, Rock Garden, Time: 1:12.03

Daily Double (9-2), \$2,154.00; Exacta (2-1), \$191.50; Superfecta (2-1-4-3), \$1,708.00; Trifecta (2-1-4), \$580.00; Pic 3 (4-9-2), \$42,074.00

EIGHTH \$51,000, CLAIMING \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/16M

2 Iconic Artist C. Velasquez \$32.60 \$19.40 \$7.50 1A Boss Man J. Lezcano \$8.30 \$5.40 7 Market Outlook K. Carmouche \$3.70 Dk B/ Br Gelding 2011, by Arch - Seeking Silence by Seeking the Gold

Owner: Stautberg, Caroline, C.. Trainer: Elizabeth Voss. Breeder: Pin Oak Stud, LLC (KY).

Late Scratches: Dontbetwithbruno, Riviere Du Loup

Claimed: Market Outlook claimed by Stephens, Brad for \$50,000, Artie Crasher claimed by Kazdan, Alex for \$50,000. Pep the Champ claimed by Ramsey, Kenneth L. and Sarah K. for \$50,000. Time: 1:41.95 Daily Double (2-2), \$645.00; Exacta (2-1), \$237.00; Superfecta (2-1-7-4), \$5,705.00; Trifecta (2-1-7), \$963.00; Pic 3 (9-2-2), \$126,592.00

NINTH \$78,000. NY-BRED AOC \$40,000. 3 YO'S & UP. 7F

4 Escape to the Moon M. Franco \$50.00 \$17.80 \$10.20 Towering Moon I. Ortiz, Jr. \$8.00 \$4.30 Bond Vigilante J. Ortiz \$3.80

Ch Gelding 2010, Malibu Moon - Towering Escape, Giant's Causeway Owner: Fried, Jr., Albert. Trainer: Bruce Brown.

Breeder: Albert Fried Jr. (NY). Late Scratches: So Noted

Claimed: Bond Vigilante claimed by JJ Schwartz Racing LLC for \$40,000, Comandante claimed by Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc. for \$40.000. Time: 1:23.11

Daily Double (2-4), \$869.00; Exacta (4-1), \$247.00; Superfecta (4-1-9-5), \$9,225.00; Trifecta (4-1-9), \$1,337.00; Pic 3 (2-2-4), \$29,144.00; Place Pix Nine (1,2,6,9/1,2,4,7,11,12,13/1,2,7), \$215.50

TENTH \$47,000, CLAIMING \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

2 Winter's Gift E. Cancel \$17.60 \$9.20 \$5.70 4 Dynamic Decision J. Leparoux \$3.90 10 Chunnel J. Lezcano \$4.50

B Gelding 2011, by Ghostzapper - Tease by Crowd Pleaser Owner: Norman Stables, LLC. Trainer: Wesley Ward.

Breeder: EQB Inc. (PA). Late Scratches: Special Agent

Claimed: Dynamic Decision claimed by Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc. for \$40.000. Time: 1:36.67

Daily Double (4-2), \$475.00; Exacta (2-4), \$103.00; Superfecta (2-4-10-5), \$3,894.00; Trifecta (2-4-10), \$632.00; Pic 3 (2-4-2), \$14,500.00; Pic 4 (2-2-4-2), \$160,755.00; Pic 6 (4-9-2-2-4-2), \$25,480.00









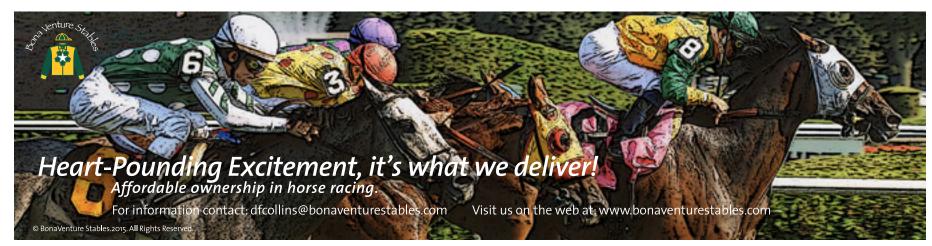












cupofcoffee

BY SEAN CLANCY

Time to define. How will Saratoga 2015 be defined?

A lot of ways, for a lot of people – some good, some bad, some career-changing, some life-altering. We don't look at stats about handle, attendance, fan enhancement or economic impact. We look at the human and equine impact.

Here are a few...

For Joe Parker, it was the year he won two races (at least), that's two more than a Hall of Fame trainer, a Travers-winning trainer and a Breeders' Cup Classic-winning trainer combined.

For Lisa Lewis, it was the year she went back on can crack the top 10 at Saratoga. her own and did it her way, going 3-for-5 (before today) from her Belmont Park base.

For Todd Pletcher, it was more of the same.

For Chad Brown, it was the year – perhaps – he proof that there is no place like Saratoga. toppled Pletcher.

For Lauren Robson, it was the year of affirma- cia Generazio, it was battle. tion as she won her first race here as an owner.

For James Bond, it was a year he rocked the tote you are), it was a summer to forget. board three times.

For the fan, it was a long summer.

been' early, and 'what was' later, as he won 12 races himself amongst the sport's best – ever. and counting.

For Flintshire, it was the year he wowed America.

For Gary Barber, it was the year he won a jump race.

For stewards, it was the year of the hot seat, as they overturned the Sanford and the CCA Oaks.

For Billy Blake, Brandon Valvo and Annise Montplaisir, it was the summer they learned they wanted to stay in the game.

For Chris Antley's legacy, it was rest.

For restaurants, it was the year 15 Church became the most talked about spot in town.

For King Leatherbury, it was the year he was recognized for plying his trade, day in, day out.

The Year



For Sunday cards, it was the year of the standalone features Alydar, Tale Of The Cat and Smart

For Tony Dutrow, it was the year the light turned heir apparent. green for good.

For Eric Cancel, it was proof that apprentices beats.

reer as a foundation mare.

For Fasig-Tipton, it was another summer of

For owners Michael Dubb, Klaravich and Patri-

For some accomplished trainers (you know who

For steeplechasing, it was heartbreaking.

For Javier Castellano, it was the year he polished For Rudy Rodriguez, it was 'what might have his craft, winning his fifth Travers and solidifying

> en, it was arrival time, the year they asked 'What year of bringing it every day. took you so long?' rather than 'What are you doing here?'

For Irad Ortiz Jr., it was the breakthrough.

For Mark and Norm Casse, it was frustrating – and educational.

For Corey Lanerie, it was the year he fled.

accomplished jockeys, it was deep water.

For Tepin, it was two strides too long.

For Jeremiah Englehart, it was stellar, maybe next for his shedrow in the hollow of Horse Haven.

For Untapable, it was a hangover from her stellar racing.

3-year-old campaign.

For Doug Cowans, it was the year he almost pulled off the River Downs-Saratoga shocker in the With Anticipation and the year he had to leave his horse in Saratoga.

For Barclay Tagg, it was the year he reminded the world that he can still train, if given the horse, he was hitting 36 percent into today.

For Lane's End, it was the year A. P. Indy had an

For American Pharoah, it was the toughest of

For the outriders, it was another year of unsung For Rachel Alexandra, it was the start of her ca-heroism, especially, the running grab of Bourbon Courage.

> For Joel Rosario, it was slow, then strong, then painful.

> For American Pharoah's fans, it was a reminder that the sport takes as much as it gives.

For Keen Ice, it was the perfect storm.

For Nolan Clancy, it was his last summer before high school.

For Brad Cox, it was another step up the New York ladder.

For The Special's photographers Tod Marks, For Kendrick Carmouche and agent Kidd Breed- Dave Harmon and Connie Bush, it was another

> For Adam Rice, it was the year bettors wrote his name in the beware column.

> For crowd control, it was the year they sold out the Travers and the year we wondered why.

For Travers Day, it was the year of seven stakes.

For Jimmy Jerkens, Leah Gyarmati, Mike Hush-For Alex Cintron, Rafael Hernandez and other ion and all the other disciples of Allen Jerkens, it was the first summer that you couldn't call up The Chief for a word of advice or a vote of confidence.

For The Special, it was the most pages we ever year will be the year they dump a truck a load of dirt wrote, certainly less drama than last year and another season of covering the best six-plus weeks of





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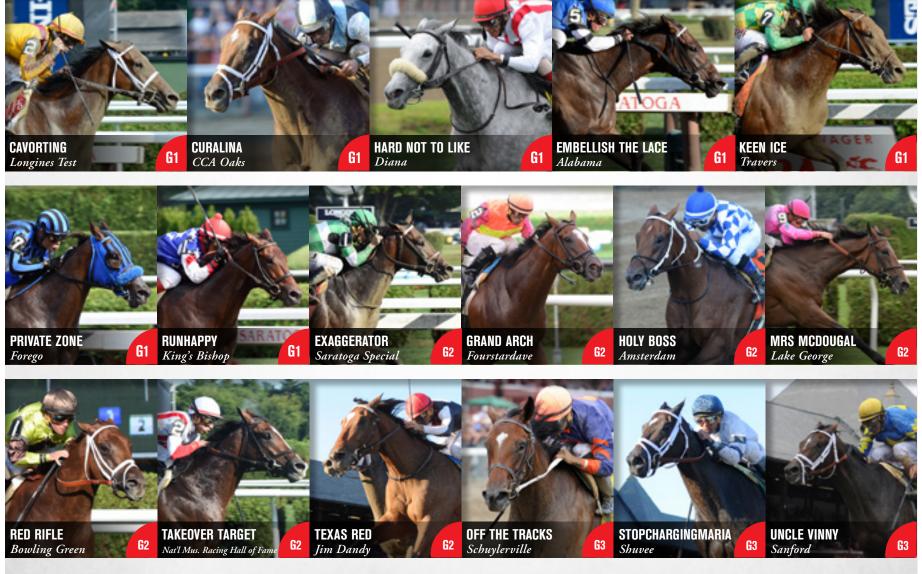


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*Congratulations to Azar for winning Wednesday's Anticipation S. (G2)!



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