

Complimentary

# The *Times*

*Steeplechase  
& Eventing*

A Publication of ST Publishing, Inc.

Volume 14, No. 3  
Friday, April 20, 2007



Sloopy (John Williams)

Jam (Bruce Davidson)

## Who do ya like?

*Rolex 2007  
full of  
contenders*

Truluck (Phillip Dutton)

Le Samurai (Amy Tryon)

Upstage (Karen O'Connor)

**Inside:**

*Steeplechase News*

Atlanta: Seafaring Man takes stakes • Manor: Fappa Fire wins timber battle  
Strawberry Hill: Swimming River keeps winning • Stoneybrook: Water Hunter prevails in feature.



# Entries:

## What's Here and Where To Find It

Here's your newspaper – editor's note, it's a little late. The vagaries of publishing, travel schedules, personal lives and assorted other variables kept this one in the barn a few extra days. Steeplechase news through April 19 (how about that Seafaring Man?) appears here, along with some insights into the eventing competitors at Rolex. There's also a new look to this publication – which may continue, depending on all those variables mentioned above – but we hope you like it. See you on the course.



### PAGES 6-7

#### Rolex Preview

Get ready for a fight. In the absence of superstar Win-some Adante, the competition will be keen at Rolex. David O'Connor helps us evaluate the contenders.



### PAGES 9-10

#### Bruce Davidson

The man has done just about everything there is to do on horses – including riding in the Maryland Hunt Cup. At 57, he's a player at Rolex.



### PAGE 15,16,18

#### Atlanta Steeplechase

Veteran competitor Seafaring Man gets an elusive stakes victory for Hudson River Farm, Jonathan Sheppard and Danielle Hodsdon.



### PAGE 20-21

#### My Lady's Manor

Fappa Fire moves up the ladder to win timber stakes for Pack Up Stable, Alicia Murphy and Blake Curry.

## Pick Six

### PAGE 30

#### Pick 6

In early returns, photographers Tod Marks and Sarah Greenhalgh lead the way – where's your stable?

The *Steeplechase and Eventing*

# Times

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#### On the Cover

Just a few of the major players in the Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event.

#### Photos:

Anthony Trollope  
and Shannon Brinkman



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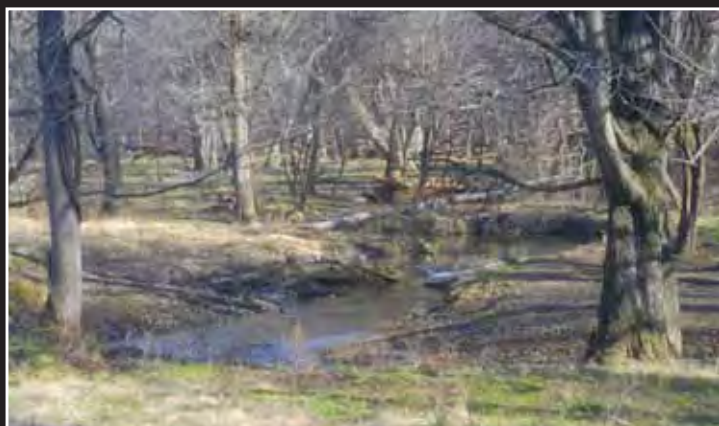
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News and Notes  
from around the circuit

# FOR STARTERS

## Worth Repeating

"When in Rome, do as the Romans."

**Trainer Mike Berryman, who sported an Atlanta Braves cap at the Atlanta Steeplechase**

"Does the horse get anything?"

**Young fan watching a winner's circle ceremony, which included trophies for the owner, trainer and jockey, at Atlanta**

"That's an old rider. They never give up."

**Owner/trainer John Griggs, after Chip Miller engineered a late-running win by Hip Hop at Atlanta**

"My wife comes racing with me for the first time since I don't know how long and they've got Tiffany prizes for the jockeys . . . don't they know I'm under enough pressure."

**Jockey Xavier Aizpuru, whose day at Atlanta included a pull-up, a fall and a fourth. Oh, and no little blue box for Leigh.**

"He's out with Eagle (Lion), telling lies."

**Eventer Bruce Davidson, on what Little Tricky is up to.**

"If the reins were a little bit longer, I'd have stayed on."

**Jockey Richard Boucher, who parted company with Riddle (but not without a fight) in the Georgia Cup at Atlanta**

"Oh, let's take pictures of the little men."

**Carolina Cup fan Lindsay Ford, aiming her camera at the jockeys weighing in after a race**

"Call me back when you're not with your wife so we can really talk about it."

**Trainer to amateur jockey, who declined an invitation to ride at My Lady's Manor**

## A Grand Jumper

Irish-bred Karasi won the world's richest steeplechase for the third straight year, taking Japan's Nakayama Grand Jump April 14 for jockey Brett Scott and trainer Eric Musgrove.

The 12-year-old gelding – once advertised for sale in the pages of *Steeplechase Times* – beat out 14 of his juniors over the 4250-meter course to prevail by three-quarters of a length over Japanese-bred Reward Present. There was little American presence in this year's renewal, as the 15-horse field hailed mainly from New Zealand, Australia and Japan, and no U.S. horse was invited. The Irish-bred winner is based Down Under.

Storm Seiko, a 6-year-old Kentucky-bred by Charismatic, finished fifth, while former Jack Fisher hand Jonathan Riddell, rode Real Tonic to a ninth-place finish.

## Reading Into Things

*The Norton Anthology of Poetry* hasn't been the most reliable of form books.

While Keats And Yeats (by John out of William Butler) finished third at Virginia Fall last year, not since Ozymandias – "king of (the sport of) kings" – took the 1986 timber title has the world of verse had success in the world of turf. Those seeking NSA winners in 2006 were better served by hunch plays on horses named for pop hits (Duke Of Earl), NHL goalies (Luongo) and Soviet generals (Zhukov).

But a page was turned at My Lady's Manor when J. Alfred Prufrock, a 7-year-old gelding named for a 90-year-old poem, won the amateur highweight timber.

Those familiar with "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" – T.S. Eliot's maiden effort – probably weren't busy buttonholing bookies. The gelding's literary namesake is a hesitating fellow, short on confidence but long on self-defeating rationalization.

But while the poem's Prufrock asked "Do I dare to eat a peach?" his equine responded when asked, and would probably love a peach, or perhaps an apple.

The poem isn't entirely devoid of racing knowledge, however, for as every steeplechase fan knows:

"In a minute there is time,  
For decisions and revisions which a minute will reverse."

– Jamie Santo



Tod Marks

**ONE, TWO, THREE.** As Riddle battled to stay on his feet at Atlanta, jockey Richard Boucher tried to stay in the stirrups. Alas, he lost the fight and hit the turf a few seconds after the third photo. Neither jockey nor horse was injured.

## Not Your Basic Training

It is generally assumed that in an NSA training flat race it's the horse who's getting ready for bigger and better things. Kiwi jockey Isaac Lupton reversed that idea, using his flat-race experience as jumping-off point for a career highlight and a whirlwind world tour.

Lupton led off the Carolina Cup card March 31 with a win aboard Dark Equation. Then, not 10 days later, he rode to victory in the Great Eastern Steeplechase – not in Eastern Carolina, but South Australia. After taking the area's most valuable jump race, Lupton – a New Zealand dairy farmer by trade – followed up in grand style, getting a mount in Japan's Nakayama Jump April 14. He finished 12th aboard No Hero.

## Take A Number

**8:** Falls and lost jockeys from 32 jump starters at Atlanta April 14.

**23,300; 22,900; 23,400:** Eerily similar annual earnings totals for Seafaring Man in 2003, 2004 and 2005. He blew those figures away with a \$45,000 payday in Atlanta's Georgia Cup.





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# Steeplechasing 101

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*Informing The  
Reader About  
Steeplechasing  
Through The  
People On The  
Inside Of The Sport*

**Q: Do jockeys look for a distance at the jumps when they ride?**

**A:** Like event riders, steeplechase jockeys look for a distance (i.e. a takeoff spot) when approaching a fence. Sometimes, the race is too crowded or the pace is too fast to actually see one however and horse and jockey rely on instinct. Then again, there are other factors, such as the size of the horse: "She's so big that I see spots that are too long," jockey Danielle Hodsdon said recently about Atlanta winner Slew's Peak. "Five strides out I started asking for this spot and then it just wasn't there. Luckily she gave it to me and stayed up. When you realize you're wrong, it's too late to take a check, but on a big horse, you tend to see a bigger spot."



# Watch Watchers

## Fierce competition expected for 2007 Rolex Kentucky crown

BY JOANIE MORRIS

Three of the last five years Win-some Adante has gone to the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event and walked home the winner with Kim Severson. This year he heads to Badminton for his first crack at England's spring CCI\*\*\*\* and leaves the Lexington, Ky., event completely up for grabs.

Get in line eventers, anyone can win.

Three-time Kentucky winner and 2000 Olympic gold medalist David O'Connor provided some insight for the 2007 event.

"I would think the field is wide open," said O'Connor, "more wide open than it has been in a long time. There's not one to beat. There are three or four people that could win this thing pretty easily, but you could easily get a fluke win."

Phillip Dutton represents the United States for the first time at a three-day event. Runner-up four times at Kentucky and also at Burghley, the Australian expatriate is the most experienced rider in the world without a CCI\*\*\*\* victory.

He returns to the championship with Irish-bred Connaught (third last

year) and also rides Tru Luck, a talented ex-racehorse contesting his first four star.

Both horses went well in their final preparations at the CIC\*\*\* at The Fork April 5-8, finishing seventh and eighth, respectively.

"Phillip will be in there with Tru Luck," said O'Connor. "I don't know if he's ready to win it yet but he'll be right there."

Like Dutton, Amy Tryon looks for her first major win in a career of reliable performances. Coming off her most successful season to date, where she won a bronze medal at the World Equestrian Games with Poggio and placed fifth at Blenheim CCI\*\*\* with Le Samurai, Tryon brings the latter to their first CCI\*\*\*\* together.

"Le Samurai could be in there if he's playing the game on the first day and if she can control him," said O'Connor of the independently minded 12-year-old Thoroughbred/Holsteiner cross. "He's an unusual ride, Amy gets him to a place where he can jump and she doesn't mind his unorthodox methods."

The international side of the Rolex ledger looks strong as well.

Heath Ryan and Wendy Schaffer ship in from Australia to join Ryan



Anthony Trollope

Connaught and Phillip Dutton aim for a victory at Rolex Kentucky in the rider's first event representing the American team.

Wood, who has been based with Dutton in Pennsylvania since March. Heath Ryan rides Flame, who won the CCI\*\*\*\* at Adelaide last fall and Schaffer brings Koyuna Sun Magic. Wood and Koyuna Azgard got an American run under their belts in the Open Intermediate at The Fork and have had a number of good trips around the Australian CCI events. It will be the first Kentucky start for all three Australians.

"Ryan looked impressive on the cross country," said O'Connor. "I saw him go at the Fork. All the foreigners look pretty good."

Clayton Fredericks, another Australian, is based in England and makes the trip with his silver-medal mount from the World Equestrian Games, Ben Along Time. Polly Stockton's Tangleman (second in 2003) also crosses the pond, as do Mary King and the colorful Apache Sauce and veteran rider Ian Stark and Full Circle II.

"Polly Stockton - that could be a player too," said O'Connor. "And Ben Along Time is a very impressive horse and all that good stuff."

O'Connor's wife, Karen, winner in 1991, 1997 and 1999, has two rides for the last weekend in April. Both bring solid chances, but neither could be called a "big" horse.

Theodore O'Connor goes out first and will have his work cut out for him as he is the first pony to start at Kentucky. He is on the right track after winning a CIC\*\*\* at The Fork.

O'Connor also has Upstage, a veteran four-star horse topping out at 15.1 hands.

"I think Karen will skip around on Upstage - he's back on form," said her husband. "The pony - she'll have to be careful, he can't keep up on the first day but he can really jump."

O'Connor feels there are a couple of combinations that could pop on to the radar screen and be impressive. There are four young riders contesting the four-star, and of them only Sara Mittleider and El Primero have been around the course. Tiana Coudray travels from California with King Street, local rider Hannah Sue Burnett will make her first try with Keep The Faith and Emilee Libby is fortunate enough to ride her ever-reliable Cahir in her debut.

"I think Emilee Libby is going to be competitive, funny enough, even though it's her first four-star," said O'Connor. "She could go out there and be really impressive."

Sharon White has been around the track before (in 2002 with Ready About) but she has a horse far better rounded in the three phases in Ronaldo for 2007.

"(Ronaldo) is a very impressive horse," said O'Connor. "Sharon has been lacking good horses. She's always been a classic cross-country rider. Like Bonnie Mosser (who rides Jenga in her second trip to the Bluegrass), Sharon's always a bit underrated."



Anthony Trollope

Gryffindor and Kristin Bachman hope for some magic at Rolex Kentucky.

See **ROLEX** next page ►



# Rolex —

■ Continued from previous page

Kristin Bachman has seemingly done nothing but win since her first trip to Kentucky last spring. That trip ended in an unlucky 20 cross-country penalties, but this time could be different as Gryffindor won the American Eventing Championships last fall and the Advanced at Southern Pines this spring.

"She has been very good, looks professional in everything she does," said O'Connor. "You wish the horse was three years younger – not that he's old but he just continues to improve. I don't think she'll win it but she's a definite Top 10 candidate."

Other contenders include Becky Holder and Courageous Comet, who lost the competition in the showjumping last year but have been practicing with

considerable success since. The pair also fared well at Burghley, their first trip overseas, finishing 15th.

Jan Byyny and Waterfront continue to knock on the door of something big, with three consecutive seconds at CCI three-stars.

Nobody does Kentucky like Bruce Davidson, who's won something at the event 10 times, and has been competing at the event since it began in 1978. He brings homebred mare Jam to the 2007 edition. She makes her second attempt after disappointing in the dressage and withdrawing last year. They have been practicing ever since, with a fourth at Fair Hill International CCI\*\*\* last fall and now rarely add anything to the first day's score.

Regardless of who wins, O'Connor expects tight competition.

"The top five or six could be real, real close," said O'Connor. "Being in the top 10 could be very difficult. You could be a couple points out of it and be seventh. There's not one to beat."



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## ROLEX SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, April 25**

1 p.m. .... Cross-country course open  
(Public may walk course; must stay off  
track of course)

3 p.m. .... First horse inspection

**Thursday, April 26**

9 a.m. .... Dressage test

**Friday, April 27**

9:30 a.m. .... Dressage test

**Saturday, April 28**

9:30 a.m. .... Cross-country test

**Sunday, April 29**

8 a.m. .... Non-denominational worship  
service

8:30 a.m. .... Third horse inspection

11 a.m. .... Jumping course open for  
competitor inspection

11:30 a.m. .... Special presentations

1:30 p.m. .... Jumping test

3 p.m. .... Awards Ceremony

**Course Walk:** SmartPak again hosts a course walk. Olympian Amy Tryon will lead attendees on a guided tour through the cross-country course and discuss her strategies for each obstacle. Attendees will be able to ask questions along the way. Rolex competitor Jan Byyny will join Tryon on the walk. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event, which begins Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at the start box of cross-country. For more information or to sign up for the event contact Rebecca Bennett via email at [RBennett@SmartPak.com](mailto:RBennett@SmartPak.com).

**TV:** NBC will air a one-hour highlight special Sunday, May 6 at 5 p.m.

**Online:** NBCsports.com will present a live Webcast of Rolex Kentucky, featuring multi-camera coverage throughout the course and commentary by Kerry Millikin, winner of Rolex Kentucky in 1987. An all-access pass is available for \$7.99. The action will be broadcast live at the times below, with video-on-demand made available within 24 hours of the end of each event. To sign up, go to <http://www.mediadzone.com/channel/nbcports>.

**Thursday, April 26:**

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 27:**

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 28:**

9-noon and 1:30-4 p.m.

**Sunday, April 29:**

1:30-3:30 p.m.



# Local Hero

## Twenty-year-old rider Burnett represents Bluegrass in Bluegrass

BY JOANIE MORRIS

Make room on the Bluegrass Bandwagon at Rolex Kentucky.

Twenty-year-old Hannah Sue Burnett and Keep The Faith join veteran Cathy Wieschhoff and Ocotillo in the CCI four-star this year, delighting a small group of local eventers and eventing fans. The newcomers make their debut at this level, and will count on the crowd for some energy.

From Finchville, about 45 minutes east of the Kentucky Horse Park, Burnett has traveled the East Coast in preparation for the competition. A student of David and Karen O'Connor and Clark Montgomery, Burnett went south for the winter to practice in Florida. She had her final run at the CIC\*\*\* at The Fork in North Carolina and then spent the last two weeks with Montgomery in Virginia.

"I have to travel to get help, either to Florida or Virginia," she said. "But Cathy Wieschhoff is here and she's great too."

Burnett has carefully worked her way to the highest level with her first Advanced horse. She and Keep The Faith moved through the ranks of Pony Club and Young Riders to earn a spot in her first four-star event.

"I feel good," said Burnett. "I'm confident, I'm really excited and I feel very prepared."

Burnett has been coming to Rolex since she can remember and anticipates seeing her name in lights.

"I've pretty much been every year since I was 5," she said. "Starting when I was about 15 I was helping a little bit in the 10-minute box, people my mom knew."

Assisting Wieschhoff and Gayle Molander gave Burnett her first taste of what was really involved in getting a horse through a major event like Kentucky, but it wasn't until Keep The Faith came along six years ago that she began to think riding here was a possibility.

"I've always wanted to come," said Burnett. "When I first got Ben I thought it would be possible."

The 16-year-old Thoroughbred has partnered Burnett through every level. Purchased out of New York, he had done a few preliminaries and some jumper shows before coming to Burnett's family farm.

"He's really talented and brave," said Burnett. "He tries really hard. He's an amazing horse. He has an amazing work ethic – he always goes to work every day. He tries as hard as he can. He does everything he can."

The pair placed 14th at the North American Young Riders' Championships last summer and then attained

Local riders Hannah Sue Burnett (No. 30) and Cathy Wieschhoff (No.23) will be in action at Rolex Kentucky. Keep an eye out for them on the courses and in the rings.

CCI three-star qualification at the Poplar Place CIC in September on their way to romping around Fair Hill International. They placed 20th there, successfully qualifying for the highest level of the sport.

Burnett arrived at the Horse Park Monday afternoon and she and her horse were thrilled to be there.

"He is definitely excited and confident, but he's calming down now," said Burnett. "He's looking for the cross-country course. I'm really looking forward to the showjumping. I just love showjumping and it will be great to get there – to complete the cross country and have a healthy horse after jumping around the course."

As final preparations for the competition take place, Burnett's sees her most anxious moment coming Saturday.

"I'll be nervous, but probably mostly at the start box, just getting out there," said Burnett. "The anticipation of the start box is a little nerve-wracking."

Burnett spent some time in college, but put her education on hold because she felt an opportunity such as Keep The Faith was once in a lifetime.

"I went to the University of Kentucky for a semester a couple of years ago and then went back to riding," said Burnett.

Burnett found her way into the sport through her mother, Sue, who has been involved in pony club and eventing for years. She has her B rating and looks forward to hearing cheers from fellow pony clubbers, friends and family in attendance this weekend.

"There's going to be a lot of people coming to watch," said Burnett. "I'm still really involved so there will be lots of pony clubbers and lots of friends and family. I'm really excited to see everyone. People are coming from Maryland and my uncle is coming from Oregon."

Burnett isn't sure what happens after Kentucky. A 4-year-old horse shares the stable with Keep The Faith, and she also wants to get some sale horses this summer. She knows "Ben" is closer to the end of his career than the beginning, and will make plans one day at a time.

"He's 16," said Burnett. "So I might do some stuff in the fall but we'll have to see how this goes. He's the only one I've ever had and I want to do what is best for him."



Anthony Trollope

Keep The Faith and Hannah Sue Burnett hope for a good showing in front of the home crowd at Rolex Kentucky.

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Anthony Trollope

Bruce Davidson and Jam make another attempt at Rolex Kentucky, one of the many equine achievements of the veteran rider.

# Still Jumping

## Bruce Davidson keeps clearing fences

BY JOANIE MORRIS

Two World Championship titles, numerous Olympic medals, enough Rolex watches for the entire family, a win at Cheltenham, and two tries at the Maryland Hunt Cup. Bruce Davidson has accomplished quite a bit. And at 57, he's not finished.

Before he was an eventing champion, Davidson made two attempts at the country's most famous timber race, riding Danny's Brother for Mrs. John Hannum and taking another spin aboard timber veteran Appolinx for owner George Ohrstrom.

Danny's Brother pulled up at the 19th fence behind timber superstars Jacko and Fort Devon in 1975. Eight years later, Davidson and Appolinx finished fifth behind Cancottage.

Davidson grew up on horses. Living in Chester County, Pa., he was surrounded by racing and point-to-pointing while riding on some of the most hallowed foxhunting ground in the country. As a student at McDonogh School in hunt-happy Maryland, Davidson always thought of the Hunt Cup.

In 1975, he finally got his chance to actually participate. The steeple-

chase trial-by-fire began with a second aboard Danny's Brother in the Murray Memorial at the Grand National meet in Butler one week before the Hunt Cup.

"I was still a kid," said Davidson. "I had very little experience. I had maybe point-to-pointed twice and then I rode (at Butler) and was second in a photo finish and that was my experience. I went to the Hunt Cup every year, watched it and it was always a dream, like riding in the Grand National in England."

Davidson said he got the ride on Danny's Brother because Joe Cassidy (the huntsman for Hannum's Cheshire Foxhounds) was not accepted by the race committee. Cassidy had ridden the horse in early season point-to-points, but Davidson got the call.

"'Riders acceptable to the committee,' it says, so at the last minute I was put on him," said Davidson. "He was a real good jumper, but how much can you do the week between? It wasn't like I had hunted the horse for the season."

Davidson's 1983 mount was a Hunt Cup wizard. Trained by Betty

See **DAVIDSON** page 10 ►

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April 28	Cross Country Schooling (Sat., 12:00 – 3:00)
April 28	Foxcatcher Endurance Ride (25 & 50 miles)
May 1	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
May 5	Unrecognized Horse Trial (Elem., Intro, BN, N)
May 8	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
May 19, 20	Recognized Horse Trial (N, T, P, I)
May 22	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
June 2, 3 & 4, 5	Lucinda Green Clinic
June 12	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
June 16, 17	Elk Creek Combined Driving Event
July 7	Unrecognized Horse Trial (Elem., Intro, BN, N)
July 10	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
July 17	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
August 11, 12	Recognized Horse Trial (N, T, P, I)
August 14	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
August 28	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)
September 15	Unrecognized Horse Trial (Elem., Intro, BN, N.)
September 18	Cross Country Schooling (3:00 – 7:00)

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## Davidson —

### ■ Continued from page 9

Bird, Appolinax finished third in 1982 and would follow Davidson's trip with a second in 1984 and another fifth in 1985.

"I knew him, he'd been around the Hunt Cup before," said Davidson. "For a person as inexperienced as I was, you couldn't have had a nicer horse."

Davidson creates personal relationships with all of his horses, so riding for other people isn't the same as riding for himself.

"Danny's Brother was a real, real quiet horse — leaving the paddock they are supposed to be dancing and jiggling and I had to slap him on the shoulder to get him to trot away. For a person as inexperienced as I was you couldn't have had a nicer horse."

Davidson is back at the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, which inconveniently falls on the same weekend as the Maryland Hunt Cup every year. Comparing the two would be impossible.

"It's just a thrill of a lifetime to be there and to be part of it," said Davidson. "Those are moments in my life that I'm real glad I got to take part in."

Now involved with steeplechasing mostly as a fan, Davidson watches from the bleachers (or on the racing channel). The last jumper he owned (Dashing Fred) was with trainer Henrietta Knight and together they won the Overbury Hunters Steeplechase for amateur jockeys at England's Cheltenham Racecourse in 1989.

"The jump racing there is different than here," said Davidson, comparing English steeplechasing to American hurdle racing. "Here it is flat

horses running over not very good fences and the jumping is second; I think if it is a jump race the jumping should be a factor."

And as Davidson knows, jumping matters at Rolex and the Maryland Hunt Cup.

Entered at Kentucky on Jam this weekend, Davidson looks forward to riding another member of the family around the nation's biggest event. A homebred 11-year-old mare, Jam did the dressage at Rolex last year, but was withdrawn before cross country with a disappointing score. She has practiced dressage with a vengeance since.

"I rode out this morning with my son (Buck) and that puts a whole new perspective on it when you have a child doing it as well as Buck is doing it for somebody in my position," Davidson said Tuesday. "Kentucky is still a very exciting place and every year you come back here and it does get you wound up and excited to see the course and so forth. Every event doesn't have that charm or hold that charisma."

Davidson has won over the years on JJ Babu, Dr. Peaches, Happy Talk and Might Tango and remembers each horse and each ride with incredible clarity.

"It's very exciting to be back here each time," said Davidson. "Wherever I'm stabled I think, 'I remember when I was stabled here with JJ' or stabled here with Happy Talk or somewhere else with Tango. So it has lots of those kinds of memories for me. I can't wait to put Jam in that group. I can pretty much tell you each stride each horse took every single year. I can remember all the different fences. All the good luck and all the bad luck that's why it is such a fun place to come back to — it really holds a charm."

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The lineup and order of go for the Rolex Kentucky CCI\*\*\*\* event April 26-29 at the Kentucky Horse Park. Numbers will stay the same throughout the competition, with the order of go the same for dressage and cross country. For showjumping, horses appear in reverse order of standing.

NO.	RIDER	HORSE	COUNTRY
1	KAREN O'CONNOR.....	THEODORE O'CONNOR.....	USA
2	PHILLIP DUTTON .....	CONNAUGHT .....	USA
3	JAN BYYNY .....	WATERFRONT .....	USA
7	MOLLY BULL .....	KILTARTAN .....	USA
9	SHARON L. WHITE.....	RONALDO.....	USA
11	KARIN DONCKERS.....	GAZELLE DE LA BRASSERIE .....	BEL
12	LYNN SYMANSKY.....	NO IT TISSANT .....	USA
14	MELISSA HUNSBERGER .....	JUST FUN STUFF.....	USA
15	WENDY SCHAEFFER.....	KOYUNA SUN MAGIC .....	AUS
16	JOHN WILLIAMS .....	SLOOPY.....	USA
17	DARREN CHIAACCHIA.....	BETTER I DO IT .....	USA
18	KRISTEN BOND .....	FLEECEWORKS BLACKOUT .....	USA
20	KRISTIN SCHMOLZE.....	CAVALDI.....	USA
21	SARA MITTLEIDER (YR) .....	EL PRIMERO .....	USA
22	JONATHAN HOLLING .....	DIRECT MERGER.....	USA
23	CATHY WIESCHHOFF .....	OCOTILLO .....	USA
24	LAUREN O'BRIEN .....	DUNRATHS ALTO .....	USA
25	TIANA COUDRAY (YR).....	KING STREET .....	USA
26	BUCK DAVIDSON .....	PRIVATE TREATY.....	USA
27	MISSY RANSEHOUSEN .....	CRITICAL DECISION.....	USA
29	KRISTIN BACHMAN.....	GRYFFINDOR .....	USA
30	HANNAH SUE BURNETT (YR) .....	KEEP THE FAITH.....	USA
31	STUART BLACK.....	FLEECEWORKS STARLIGHT.....	USA
32	CLAYTON FREDERICKS .....	BEN ALONG TIME.....	AUS
33	CARL BOUCKAERT .....	RAMPANT LION .....	BEL
36	JANE SLEEPER .....	UN.....	USA
37	EMILEE LIBBY (YR).....	CAHIR.....	USA
38	ASHLEY MacVAUGH .....	ALL'S FAIR.....	USA
39	POLLY STOCKTON .....	TANGLEMAN.....	GBR
40	WILL FAUDREE .....	ANTIGUA.....	USA
41	AMY TRYON .....	LE SAMURAI .....	USA
42	MARY KING.....	APACHE SAUCE .....	GBR
43	JULIA STEINBERG .....	MR. BIG .....	USA
45	RYAN WOOD .....	KOYUNA AZGARD .....	AUS
46	BONNIE MOSSER .....	JENGA .....	USA
47	WERNER GEVEN.....	KLIMAX.....	NED
48	TARA ZIEGLER .....	BUCKINGHAM PLACE.....	USA
49	BECKY HOLDER.....	COURAGEOUS COMET .....	USA
50	IAN STARK.....	FULL CIRCLE II.....	GBR
51	IAN ROBERTS .....	NAPALM .....	CAN
52	BRUCE DAVIDSON .....	JAM.....	USA
53	HEATH RYAN .....	FLAME.....	AUS
54	HEIDI WHITE CARTY .....	NORTHERN SPY .....	USA
55	KAREN O'CONNOR.....	UPSTAGE.....	USA
56	PHILLIP DUTTON .....	TRULUCK .....	USA

(YR) Young Rider





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# Pleasure Cruise

## Seafaring Man sails to first stakes victory

BY JOE CLANCY

KINGSTON, Ga. – Simple training flat race at Aiken? Or window to the future? The latter apparently. Aiken's 1 1/4-mile prep produced its third hurdle winner (and second stakes winner) of the season when Seafaring Man left four others in his wake to win the \$75,000 Georgia Cup at the Atlanta Steeplechase.



Owned by Hudson River Farm and trained by Jonathan Sheppard, the veteran joined Orison and Pukka as race graduates to win their next starts. The 8-year-old used the March 24 Aiken effort to shed some rust from a 16-month layoff, and outran Bow Strada in the stretch to win by 3 1/2 lengths at Atlanta. The Looper finished third.

"He deserved one," said jockey Danielle Hodsdon. "He's been a hard-knocking horse for a long time and he knew he won today. It really picked his head up. He gets pretty grumpy and internalizes things and he's not very nice when he's grumpy. He's been really sharp lately, and came out of that flat race at Aiken well."

Seafaring Man started quickly as a new steeplechaser in 2003, winning the maiden at Nashville in his second start. He never quite lived up to that achievement, however, and went to Block House to find his next wins (allowance victories in 2004 and 2005). He lost ugly in his final two starts of 2005, pulling up at Far Hills and finishing a distant sixth at Morven Park. Last year was worse, as he bowed a tendon in his first breeze.

Seafaring Man returned from his forced vacation not just healed, but rejuvenated.

"He had a little school (the day before the Georgia Cup) and he was bouncing and throwing him-



Tod Marks

Seafaring Man (left, Danielle Hodsdon) jumps past Bow Strada at the last in the Georgia Cup.

self around like a young horse," said Hodsdon.

Sheppard figures the injury was brewing in 2005, and helped cause the poor efforts.

"I think something was bothering him all along," the trainer said. "A good long rest did him some good."

At Atlanta, Mark The Shark (Xavier Aizpuru) set the early pace and was in front when favorite Riddle lost jockey Richard Boucher with a jumping mistake midway through. Mark The Shark still led on the backstretch, but began to wilt as the others bunched up for the final push. Bow Strada (Chip Miller) cruised toward the front, The Looper (Cyril Murphy) crept into contention and Seafaring Man churned along. As the field turned for home – still two fences and a decent hill away – Bow Strada grabbed the lead with Seafaring Man lapped alongside and The Looper in a box and clipping beacons on the inside.

"Chip was my main concern because I could tell he was traveling pretty well," said Hodsdon. "Chip times everything perfectly, as he showed in the first race, and when we turned for home I couldn't really tell how much he had. He was still sitting pretty still so I tried to just feed off him for as long as I could and then see what happened – see if I could

time everything perfectly this time."

Hodsdon and Seafaring Man got the timing right, and inched away after the last fence as the winner scored for the fourth time over jumps and boosted his career earnings to \$114,600.

- The perfect Chip Miller timing Hodsdon referred to came in the first, a wild allowance hurdle that started out with a solid field of eight and ended with just four finishers as half the starters fell or lost their jockeys.

Stakes winner Meadow (Hodsdon) rolled to the front on the turn, flying past early leader Hip Hop (Miller) at the ninth of 11 fences. The New Zealand import made a similar move in his only prior American start, at Little Everglades in 2006, and stormed off to an easy win.

The table looked set for another romp at Atlanta. Until the final 100 yards or so when Hip Hop charged past to win by 1 1/2 lengths over Meadow with Character Witness (Michael Traurig) third.

"I wasn't asking him, I was thinking, 'Let's get second and not be heroes,'" said Miller of Hip Hop. "He jumped the second-last and he looked

See ATLANTA page 16 ►

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# Atlanta —

■ Continued from page 15

up like he wanted to keep digging. We came to the last and we were still traveling. Then Dani gave a peek, but it wasn't a confident peek it was an 'oh crap, the ship is sinking' peek, you know?"

Meadow's sails ran out of wind late, and Hip Hop scored for the third time for Kentucky owner/trainer John Griggs. Miller and the 6-year-old won their third straight race together – the jockey was aboard for his maiden win at the Colonial Cup in November 2005, an allowance score at Little Everglades in March 2006 and now another allowance (a non-winners of \$15,000 twice with a \$25,000 purse) victory.

"He's a funny horse, because at Camden and Florida he just ran off with me," said Miller. "Today he was keen, but in a different way, not fresh and springy, just 'let's go.' When Meadow went by me, Dani was swinging on him but here you've got to run up that hill."

- After Corruption stormed off with the \$25,000 Sport of Kings open claiming hurdle, someone commented about how much the horse must like Atlanta's course. Well, sort of. He probably likes other courses too, but he hasn't had many chances to try them.

Repeating his victory of a year

earlier, Sue and George Sensor's 9-year-old overwhelmed six others in his first start since May. Corruption raced just twice in 2006, winning at Atlanta and Radnor, but still took home the NSA claiming championship. Trained by Ricky Hendriks, the son of Silver Deputy could be on his way to another crown with Atlanta's easy win.

Corruption (Rob Massey) took the lead about halfway through and jumped like he hadn't missed a day, drawing off to score by 4 1/4 over Barrington (Cyril Murphy) with Gather No Moss (Traurig) third. Massey came to Atlanta from Lexington, Ky., for the one ride and made it pay.

"He's a superstar, an absolute superstar," said Massey. "No rust, not really. I wanted to cover him up a little bit just because he hadn't run for a long time. It worked for about five fences – he pinged (the fifth fence) between two horses and took 2 lengths out of them. I couldn't fight him. He got in front, dropped his head and got a lovely breather all the way around the turn. He jumped the last as if he was jumping the first. He's a dream ride."

- With an injury to jockey Jody Petty in the first, Boucher got the last-minute call on Angel Del Viento in the second, a \$25,000 Sport of Kings maiden hurdle – and earned his riding fee.

In his first American jump start,

See ATLANTA page 18 ►



Tod Marks

Corruption (Rob Massey) glides over a fence, and through the rain, on the way to an easy claiming hurdle score.



Tod Marks

Angel Del Viento (left, Richard Boucher) pulls away from Baby League in the maiden.



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# Atlanta —

■ Continued from page 16

the 5-year-old Argentine import zipped and zagged to a 2 1/2-length win over Baby League (Hodsdon), with Westcliffe (Will Haynes) third. Trained by Arch Kingsley for High Hope Stable, the winner led throughout but felt pressure from the horses behind him.

"Arch said he didn't steer that well," said Boucher. "He's an Argentine horse so you neck rein him, use your leg, things like that. I kept him right in the middle (of his fences). He wanted to look to his inside and I worked to keep him from doing that, but actually he was looking at the horses behind him. He was more worried about them than he was the fence, but he did it nicely. It worked out fine."

Boucher provided would-be relief jockeys a little advice on riding unfamiliar horses.

"Sit tight and be real balanced going to those first couple fences," he said. "Hopefully, I've been doing this long enough that I'm able to adapt pretty quickly to situations that arise."

• Timber Bay Farm's Slew's Peak picked up the pieces of a wild filly/mare allowance in the third, giving Sheppard and Hodsdon the first leg of their double (triple counting a training flat win with Big Monty). The 5-year-old mare thrived on the wide-open course, taking over from pacesetter Northern Gale (Russell Haynes) on the backside and drawing off to win by a length over Class Vigor (Boucher), with Northern Gale third.

Slew's Peak dodged one scary moment at the last fence, but otherwise had little trouble.

"Camden is not her cup of tea and neither was Callaway," said Hodsdon of Slew's Peak's final two starts of 2006. "She likes a big open course like this and she went beautifully. Unfortunately, she's so big that I see (takeoff) spots that are too long. I was 5 in front coming to the last and I almost knocked the poor thing down. Luckily she gave it to me and stayed up somehow."

Slew's Peak won for the second time in five career jump starts.



Tod Marks

Well behind approaching the last, Hip Hop (center, Chip Miller) revs up a late run to catch Meadow in the allowance hurdle.

## 1st. \$25,000. Allowance hurdle. 2 miles. (NW \$15,000 twice).

1. HIP HOP		156	C. Miller
2. MEADOW (NZ)	L	156	Hodsdon
3. CHARACTER WITNESS		145	Taurig
4. SAY WHAT YOU SEE (IRE)	L	156	Walsh
F. SUMMERSVILLE	L	147	R. Haynes
F. REFLECTOR	L	134	W. Haynes
F. ORSAY	L	156	C. Murphy
LR. PUKKA (NZ)	L	152	Petty

Mgn: 1 1/2. Time: 3:49 2/5. O/T: John Griggs.

B. g. 6 Count the Time-Prominent Dancer, Moscow Ballet.

Bred by Castle Rock Stud & James Hampton (KY).

## 2nd. \$25,000. SOK maiden hurdle. 2 miles.

1. ANGEL DEL VIENTO (ARG)	L	154	Boucher
2. BABY LEAGUE	L	154	Hodsdon
3. WESTCLIFFE	L	144	W. Haynes
4. PAPER MAN	L	154	Walsh
F. PLANETS ALIGNED		154	C. Murphy
PU. SHINY EMBLEM	L	154	Aizpuru

Mgn: 2 1/2. Time: 3:54 4/5.

O: High Hope Stable. T: Arch Kingsley Jr.

Ch. h. 5 Bon Point (GB)-Gran Discordia (ARG), Cipayo (ARG).

Bred by Felice Floravanti & Carlos Daniel (ARG).

## 3rd. \$20,000. F&M allowance (NW2) hurdle. 2 miles.

1. SLEW'S PEAK	L	155	Hodsdon
2. CLASS VIGOR	L	155	Boucher
3. NORTHERN GALE	L	145	R. Haynes
4. SMART BABY	L	155	Walsh
F. IMAGINA (CHI)	L	155	Aizpuru
LR. WON WILD BIRD	L	140	W. Haynes

Mgn: 1. Time: 3:54 1/5. O: Timber Bay Farm. T: Jonathan Sheppard.

Dk. B./Br. m. 5 Peaks and Valleys-Slew's Honour, Seattle Slew.

Bred by Timber Bay Farm (KY).

## Atlanta Results

Kingston, Ga. Saturday, April 14. Turf: firm.

## 4th. \$75,000. Hurdle stakes. 2 miles. The Georgia Cup (Gr. II).

1. SEAFARING MAN	L	142	Hodsdon
2. BOW STRADA (GB)	L	152	C. Miller
3. THE LOOPER	L	142	C. Murphy
4. MARK THE SHARK	L	142	Aizpuru
LR. RIDDLE	L	142	Boucher

Mgn: 3 1/2. Time: 3:45 4/5.

O: Hudson River Farm. T: Jonathan Sheppard.

Dk. B./Br. g. 8 Sea Hero-Jolly Ginny, Broad Brush.

Bred by Nydrie Stud (VA).

## 5th. \$25,000. SOK claiming hurdle. 2 miles.

\$15,000 min. clm. price.

1. CORRUPTION	L	150	Massey
2. BARRINGTON	L	150	C. Murphy
3. GATHER NO MOSS	L	146	Taurig
4. DEB'S DELIGHT	L	152	Hodsdon
5. YOKAZONA	L	138	W. Haynes
6. MOTEL AFFAIR	L	154	C. Miller
7. REGAL AGAIN	L	149	McMillan

Mgn: 4 1/4. Time: 3:49 4/5. O: Sue Sensor. T: Ricky Hendriks.

Dk. B./Br. g. 9. Silver Deputy-Malicious, Risen Star.

Bred by Hersey Farm (KY).

## 6th. Training flat. 1 1/8 miles.

1. BIG MONTY	L	155	Hodsdon
2. CLASS TALE		140	Boucher

Mgn: 4. Time: 2:10 4/5. O/T: Jonathan Sheppard.

B. g. 5, Crowd Pleaser-Nature Walk, Green Forest.

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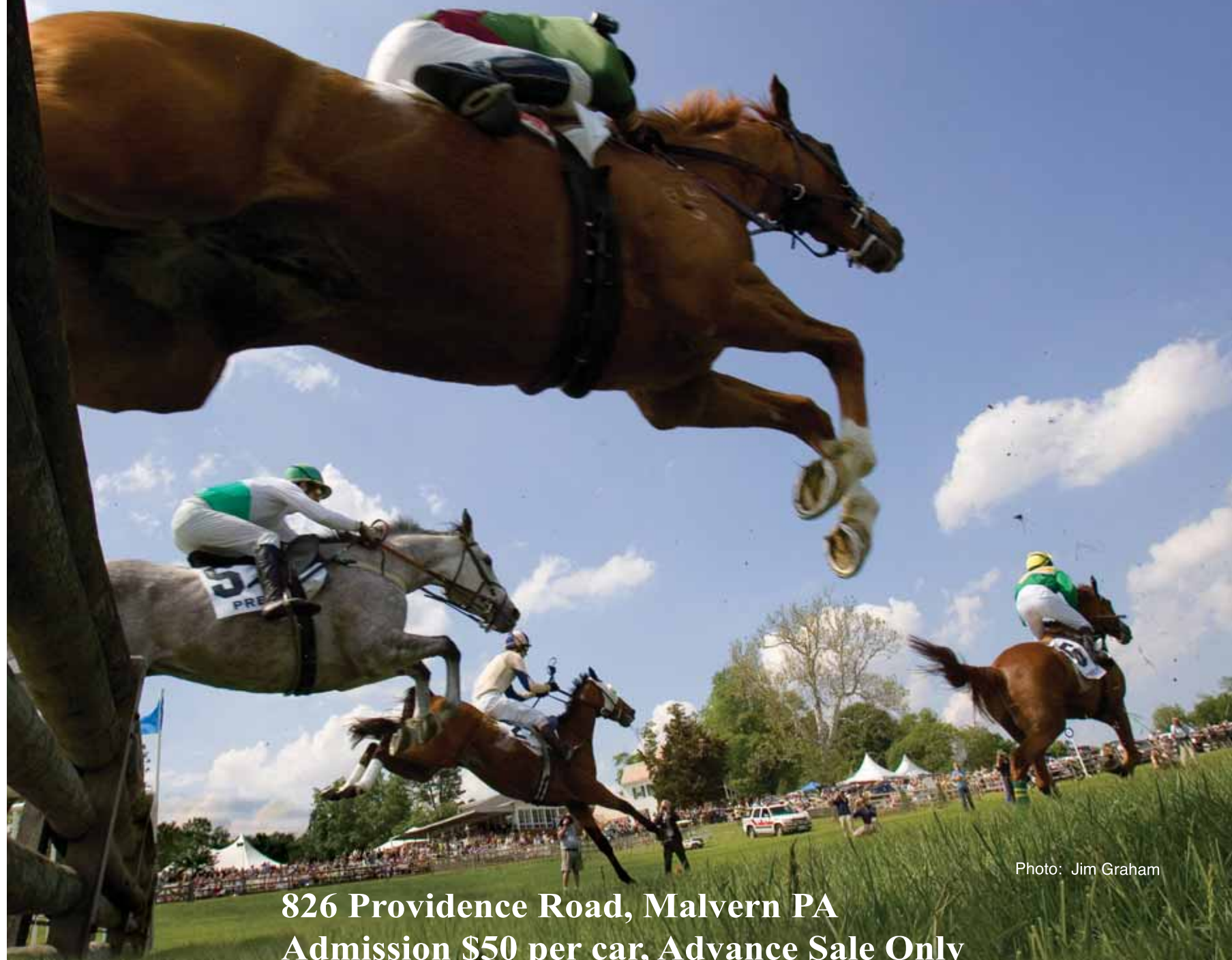


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# You're Fired

## Fappa Fire KOs big timber guns for Murphy, Curry

BY KATE SHARON

MONKTON, Md. – Take that, big names.

Pack Up Stable's Fappa Fire beat a proven field of timber horses to win the 97th running of the My Lady's Manor timber stakes.

Running against the likes of 2004 timber champion Bubble Economy



and 2006 New Jersey Hunt Cup winner Mr Bombastic, one-time winner Fappa Fire (Blake Curry) relied on patience to win the Maryland timber-season opener for trainer Alicia Murphy.

Royal's Quest held the lead for the first 2 miles, while Fappa Fire settled in the back of nine-horse field. Bubble Economy (Diana Gillam) and Mr Bombastic (Jack Fisher) went to the front a half-mile out, but Fappa Fire joined them one fence from home. The trio duelled over the last and down the

### MY LADY'S MANOR

Saturday, April 14

stretch, with Fappa Fire gutting out a hard-fought half-length win at the wire. The Fisher-trained entrymates Bubble Economy and Mr Bombastic settled for second and third in the \$30,000 timber stakes. Fisher's claim of foul against the winner, alleging interference in the stretch, was disallowed.

The win elated the owners, a syndicate that includes Curry's mother, Kate, and father, Skip. The trainer was also happy, but a little surprised too.

"You always hope you're going to win a race, but did I really think he was going to win today? No," Murphy said. "Coming to the last, if you had to put a hundred dollars on who was going to be first, second and third, I don't know how I would have picked it. But he's so game. He's all go – all heart."

Curry wasn't so worried.

"I sent him up to the last fence and we went for a big one and he gave it to me," said the jockey. "I knew it was going to be close, but then he spit out an extra bit of energy right at the last quarter-of-a-furlong and we won."

Part of Fappa Fire's success was



Doug Lees

Fappa Fire (left, Blake Curry) stalks Bubble Economy and Rosbrian early at My Lady's Manor, the first stop on the Maryland timber circuit's NSA schedule.

his new-found ability to settle. The 10-year-old started out as a runaway, and still has a propensity to be strong. "But now he's pretty much like, 'OK, this is where you want me to be,'" Murphy said.

Fappa Fire won once in four NSA starts last year, finally learning to relax (while still mainly in front) in his final run – a win at the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup.

"For us, it's a huge objective to get him to settle," Curry said. "But I have always known the horse well enough to know that he handles the geography here better than I think anything else. The others had him in the jumping a little bit, but I just knew I could handle these hills – [they] take less out of him than it does other horses."

Curry found Fappa Fire a little over a year ago while galloping at Pimlico. He assembled what became Pack Up Stable and purchased the horse.

"He ran like a grass horse," said Curry, whose day job is with an insurance agency, "and he was built like he should be able to jump well. So, we took a chance."

The chance paid off, at first. In his debut race last spring, Fappa Fire won at the Howard County-Iron Bridge Point-to-Point. From there, things went downhill.

"We had stuff happen," Murphy said. "He had a disqualification for going off course at the [Virginia] Gold Cup. He had a cough that kept him from a race. After the Gold Cup, he had an abscess that kept him out for a long time – that did the season for him. But we certainly always believed in him. And then in the fall, he didn't have a good run up at Geneseo, but he came back and ran great at the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup and won [a \$10,000 allowance timber]."

His next race is still undecided, Murphy said.

One timber powerhouse noticeably missing from the race was Irv Naylor's Askim. Last year's timber champion

was entered, but was scratched due to a suspensory injury suffered in the preseason, Naylor said. The owner expects the 11-year-old to return to the races next spring.

• Anna Stable's Mr Liberator went wire-to-wire to capture the \$15,000 John Rush Street Memorial for timber maidens. Trainer/jockey Billy Meister sent the son of Awad to the lead from the start and never looked back.

Erin Go Bragh (Gregg Ryan) finished second with Trusted Comrad (Todd McKenna) third.

The plan wasn't to go to the front, but . . .

"He was a little bit fresher and stronger than I thought he was going to be at the bottom," said Meister. "I saw all these maidens in here and after he was being so strong, I thought it was in my best interest. He was jumping and running well and I thought I would just stay there and stay out of trouble. And it worked."

Mr Liberator had no previous racing career before becoming a timber horse. He wasn't broken until age 5, and ran his first races at the spring point-to-points last year. Now 7, he finished fourth in his 2007 debut at Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point April 1.

Owners George and Alex Hundt have seen a big difference in their horse, whom they've owned for about a year.

"He has really developed wonderfully in the last year and muscled up," George Hundt said. "He's got Northern Baby [in his pedigree], so he has some speed and he's bred to jump."

Even if racing isn't his only career. Mr Liberator also hunts with Green Spring Valley.

"He's got a wonderful temperament," he said. "Billy couldn't stop him after the race ended here, but he hunts wonderfully. He's a sweet horse and a quick learner."

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# Manor —

■ Continued from page 20

• Conrad Somers' J. Alfred Prufrock emerged from a crowded pack to win his first sanctioned race, the \$5,000 John Shapiro Memorial highweight amateur timber. Somers – the owner, trainer and rider – either set or stalked the pace the entire way before out running down timber veteran Dr. Ramsey (Gillam) and Hotspur (Ryan) for the victory.

Somers purchased the 7-year-old from previous his owner/trainer/rider Chris Lyons in January 2006. Personality, not racing ability, sealed the deal.

"He's the nicest horse in the world," Somers said. "That's what really sold me. I didn't really think about racing him, but his personality was so great. He has a sense of humor and he's great to be around."

J. Alfred Prufrock started in three point-to-points last year, and has thrived in 2007 with wins at Cheshire and Brandywine Hills before the Manor.

"That horse is just fantastic. He's got so much heart – it's unbelievable," Somers said. "I raced him three times last year and he did really well, but this year he's really come into his own. I still can't believe he won today. It's incredible."



Doug Lees

Mr Liberator (left, Billy Meister) leads the way in the maiden timber.

## My Lady's Manor Results

Monkton, Md. Saturday, April 14. Turf: Firm.

1st. \$30,000. Timber stakes. 3 miles.

The My Lady's Manor.

- |                       |       |            |
|-----------------------|-------|------------|
| 1. FAPPA FIRE         | L 165 | Curry      |
| 2. BUBBLE ECONOMY     | L 165 | Gillam     |
| 3. MR BOMBASTIC (GER) | L 165 | Fisher     |
| 4. ROYAL'S QUEST      | L 165 | Meister    |
| 5. MAKE IT EASY (IRE) | 165   | G. Winants |
| 6. IRON COUNTY XMAS   | L 165 | Ryan       |
| F. TIMMY R            | L 165 | Nagle      |
| LR. ROSBRIAN (IRE)    | L 165 | Slater     |
| LR. KING LEAR         | L 165 | Santoro    |

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 6:26 4/5.

O: Pack Up Stable. T: Alicia Murphy.

B. g. 10 Personal Flag-Fappaburst, Fappiano. Bred by Howard Kaskel (NY).

2nd. \$15,000. Maiden timber. 3 miles.

Amateur jockeys.

- |                         |       |            |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|
| 1. MR LIBERATOR         | L 165 | Meister    |
| 2. ERIN GO BRAGH (NZ)   | L 165 | Ryan       |
| 3. TRUSTED COMRAD (IRE) | L 168 | McKenna    |
| 4. PRIVATE ATTACK       | L 160 | Santoro    |
| 5. GENGHIS              | L 160 | Fogarty    |
| 6. HANKO (GER)          | 165   | G. Winants |
| 7. BESEENNOTHEARD       | L 160 | Slater     |
| 8. MCNAMARA'S BAND      | L 155 | Bonsal     |
| LR. IRISH LADDIE        | L 160 | Nagle      |
| PU. ALISON'S TRICK      | L 165 | Fisher     |

Mgn: 8. Time: 6:24 3/5.

O: Anna Stable. T: Billy Meister.

Ch. g. 7 Awad-Little Snow Bird, Northern Baby. Bred by Sidney Watters Jr. (MD).

3rd. \$5,000. Allowance timber. 3 miles.

Highweight amateur jockeys.

- |                         |       |             |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------|
| 1. J. ALFRED PRUFROCK   | L 174 | Somers      |
| 2. HOT SPRINGS          | L 160 | Fogarty     |
| 3. DR. RAMSEY           | L 175 | Gillam      |
| 4. BLACKCHESTERS (GB)   | L 185 | Griswold    |
| 5. CHINESE WHISPER      | L 194 | Whitner     |
| 6. RIGHT ABOUT NOW (NZ) | L 165 | Dryden      |
| PU. THARI               | L 175 | Strawbridge |
| *DQ. HOTSPUR            | L 180 | Ryan        |

Mgn: 1 1/2. Time: 6:28 3/5.

O/T: Conrad Somers.

Ch. g. 7 Acceptable-Fashion Ridge, Cox's Ridge. Bred by Metiva Farms (KY).

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# Rapid River

Rowland newcomer continues to climb the steeplechase ladder

BY BRIAN NADEAU

Trainer Paul Rowland is learning on the job with Swimming River and the hard work is beginning to pay off. Making all the pace under Paddy Young, Long Lane Farm's Swimming River repulsed a bid from Toughkenamon and scored a 3-length victory in the \$30,000 hurdle feature at Strawberry Hill.



"This horse is tough to judge," Rowland said. "We are finding out about him every day and it looks like he could be a competitive horse for us down the road. He is improving a lot."

The win was a breakthrough of sorts for Swimming River, a 5-year-old son of The Wicked North. Jumping for only the sixth time and racing above his conditions in the race for non-winners of two other than, he gave Rowland confidence to try bigger spots in the future.

## STRAWBERRY HILL RACES

Saturday, April 14

"I think we will try some novice stakes with him," Rowland said. "This horse really loves to jump, it's something he likes. Sometimes the horses just don't run well over the flats and when they get to the jumps they become happier. I think that's the case with this guy. If he continues to improve, he can be a contender in the novice races later in the year."

Lone Arrow (Jeff Murphy) outfinished Toughkenamon (Carl Rafter) for second after the latter took a bold run at Swimming River before being repelled in mid-stretch.

Bred in New Jersey by owners John and Monica Ryan's Long Lane Farm, Swimming River converted to steeplechasing with two starts last fall and started 2007 with a maiden win at Little Everglades. He finished fourth in allowance company at Aiken, and stepped up another level at Strawberry Hill.



Betsy Parker

Swimming River (right, Paddy Young) controls the pace early, on his way to victory in the feature. Colonial Downs hosted the Strawberry Hill meet, as it has since the 2000 running.

• Clorevia Farm's Udeman easily won the second, a \$10,000 conditioned claiming hurdle, by 11 widening lengths for trainer Bruce Miller and jockey Matt McCarron. Returning from nearly a year on the bench, Udeman showed he was back in form.

"It's been a long road trying to get him back," Miller said. "He has just had a lot of little problems here and there that caused us to stop on him. But he seems to be a better and stronger horse than he was. Obviously the ground didn't hurt on Saturday, as he

likes it soft. He came out of it fine and he looks like he might be able to become the horse he was a few years ago. These weren't the toughest horses, but he looks to be doing fine, and that's the most important thing."

Slattery (Young) finished second with This Is Houston (Rafter) third.

• Owner/trainer Karen Gray's Dyn In Texas broke through in the third, taking a \$15,000 maiden hurdle under Rylee Zimmerman. The 5-

See **STRAWBERRY** page 23 ►

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Betsy Parker

Dyn In Texas (Rylee Zimmerman) floats home with an easy score in the maiden hurdle.

## Strawberry —

■ Continued from page 22

year-old Dynaformer gelding is a favorite in Gray's barn.

"The horse came out of the race fabulous," she said a few days later. "I really like him a lot. This is a horse that can run all day. The longer the better for him. I haven't looked at the condition book yet, but I'll sit down and try to find another spot where we can get him to go long. This guy can go 3 miles."

Second at Aiken and sixth (beaten just 3 1/2 lengths) at Stoneybrook, Dyn In Texas

came from off the pace and took over at the top of the stretch. Focus On A Star (Young) finished second with Ice Is Nice (Willie Dowling) third.

• Gil Johnston's Wild Journey (Rafter) wired a small field in the opener, a \$10,000 maiden claiming hurdle, for trainer Kathy McKenna.

The 5-year-old fought with Justabud (Jeff Murphy) throughout the race and won by a head as the top two drew away from the other three runners. Coco's Clown (Zimmerman) finished third, 42 lengths behind the top pair.

## Strawberry Hill Results

Colonial Downs, New Kent, Va.  
Saturday, April 14, Turf: Firm

1st. \$10,000. Mdn. cl. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles.  
\$10,000-\$5,000 clm. price.

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. WILD JOURNEY  | L 156 Rafter    |
| 2. JUSTABUD      | L 151 J. Murphy |
| 3. COCO'S CLOWN  | L 151 Zimmerman |
| 4. MISS BATTISTI | L 148 McCarron  |
| *PU. OUTER REEF  | L 156 Young     |

Mgn: Head. Time: 4:26 2/5.

O: Gillian Johnston. T: Kathy McKenna.  
Ch. g. 5 Wild Rush-Sentimental Journey,  
D'Accord. Bred by Georgann Picow (FL).

2nd. \$15,000. Con. cl. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles.  
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- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. UDEMAN              | L 139 McCarron |
| 2. SLATTERY            | L 150 Young    |
| 3. THIS IS HOUSTON     | L 150 Rafter   |
| 4. BEYOND REPAIR (IRE) | L 149 McVicar  |

Mgn: 11. Time: 4:18 2/5.

O: Clovevia Farm. T: Bruce Miller.  
B. g. 8 Green Dancer-Mistical Mirage, Miswaki.  
Bred by Bruce Smart (KY).

3rd. \$15,000. Maiden hurdle. 2 1/4 miles.

- |                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. DYN IN TEXAS          | L 149 Zimmerman |
| 2. FOCUS ON A STAR       | L 154 Young     |
| 3. ICE IS NICE           | L 154 Dowling   |
| 4. DEJAVUALLOVERAGAIN    | L 155 McCormack |
| 5. ANOTHER LOOK          | L 138 McVicar   |
| 6. LIGHT SPEED           | L 137 Mackenzie |
| PU. SANTA CATALINA (CHI) | L 146 McCarron  |
| PU. SYDNEY'S MAGIC (NZ)  | L 149 J. Murphy |
| PU. HEROS AMONG US       | L 154 Rafter    |

Mgn: 4 1/2. Time: 4:22 4/5.

O/T: Karen Gray.  
B. g. 5 Dynaformer-Corpus Christi, Alydar.  
Bred by Everest Stables (KY).

4th. \$30,000. Allowance (NW2X) hurdle. 2 1/4 miles.

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. SWIMMING RIVER | L 144 Young     |
| 2. LONE ARROW     | L 143 J. Murphy |
| 3. TOUGHKENAMON   | L 148 Rafter    |
| 4. LATINO (PER)   | L 148 Dowling   |
| 5. CHURCH GHOST   | L 148 McCarron  |

Mgn: 3. Time: 4:22 2/5.

O: Long Lane Farm. T: Paul Rowland.  
Dk. B./Br. g. 5 The Wicked North-My Last Gin,  
American Standard.  
Bred by Long Lane Farm (NJ).

5th. Training flat. 1 1/4 miles.

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. FANTORINI | L 155 Dowling  |
| 2. FLYROCK   | L 155 Young    |
| 3. FERSHAW   | L 155 McCarron |
| 4. NOBLEST   | L 155 Read     |

Mgn: 3 1/2. Time: 2:11 3/5.

O: Sonny Via. T: Jack Fisher.  
B. g. 5 Theatrical (IRE)-Beyrouth, Alleged.  
Bred by George Strawbridge (PA).

6th. Training flat. 1 1/4 miles.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. EXTRA CHECK       | L 155 Read      |
| 2. PREEMPTIVE STRIKE | L 155 Young     |
| 3. FISCAL STORM      | L 155 Dowling   |
| 4. G'DAY G'DAY       | L 155 J. Murphy |
| 5. MAURITANIA        | L 155 McCormack |
| 6. DRAINMAN          | L 155 Rafter    |

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 2:11 3/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.  
Dk. B./Br. g. 8 Chequer-Miss Tenenholtz,  
Storm Bird. Bred by Bob Ackerman (KY).

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# Aquaman

## Veteran Water Hunter flips field in hurdle feature

BY JOANIE MORRIS

Water Hunter and trainer Toby Edwards live in Camden, S.C., but Stoneybrook is pretty much home turf – especially now.

Edwards has been the meet's co-race director since 2006, working to improve the race course and the meet's



position on the NSA circuit. Water Hunter made his second visit to Raeford, N.C., and won the meet's \$25,000 allowance feature

for Edwards and owner Dale Thiel.

Confident before the race, Edwards also paid partial credit to a bit of raceday luck.

"He ran really well," said Edwards. "On paper I thought he had a good chance, then Jonathan Sheppard scratched his horse (Bonfo) on the day and Doug Fout's horse's (Diego Cao) saddle slipped up his neck at the

### STONEYBROOK STEEPLECHASE

Saturday, April 7

fourth fence, so he was another tough one to fall by the wayside."

Fresh off an impressive third in the training flat race at Camden, Water Hunter settled readily under Michael Traurig and stalked the rapid pace of Jimmie Echo (Rob Massey) and Across The Sky (Robbie Walsh).

"There was a good bit of speed," said Edwards. "He tracked the leaders all the way down on the inside. He ran away from them down to the last, he popped it and won without Michael even picking his stick up. He ran a bang-up race and in my mind he won very convincingly, very impressively."

Dig This Hoss (Adam Helders) was second, beaten 7 lengths and Jimmie Echo ended up third.

A four-time winner on American soil, Water Hunter finished second in

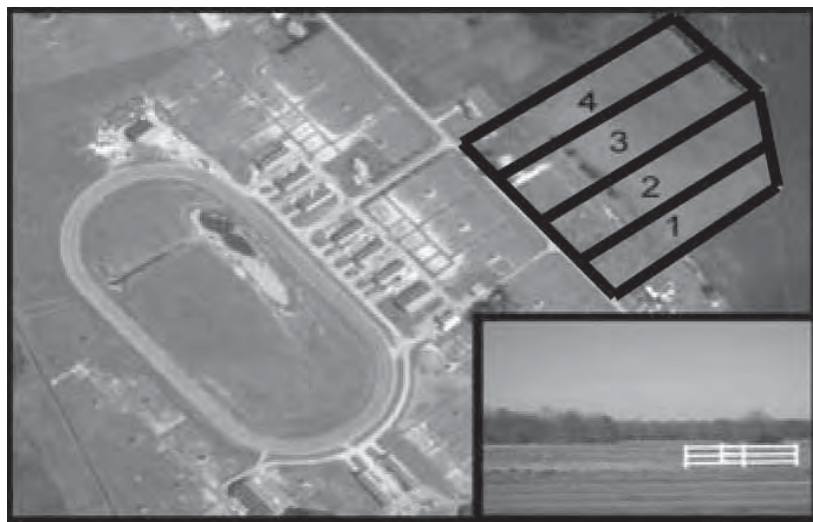
See **STONEYBROOK** next page ►



Tod Marks

Water Hunter goes to the post at the Carolina Cup. A week later, he won the allowance hurdle feature at Stoneybrook.

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# Stoneybrook —

■ Continued from previous page

the conditioned claimer at Stoneybrook in 2005 but graduated to the feature two years later. The veteran keeps Edwards amused on a daily basis.

"He's straightforward," said the trainer, who bought Water Hunter at England's Tattersalls horses-in-training sale, "but he's very spooky and fresh in a fun way. He's always on his toes — looking for things to jump at."

• When Ricky Hendriks calls Rob Massey, the jockey listens. Massey knows he's in with a shot. Hendriks phoned about This Is Houston in Stoneybrook's maiden claiming hurdle and Massey took the call. Dropped in for a \$5,000 tag, the 5-year-old romped home to a 22-length win over Bon Caddo (Danielle Hodsdon) and Reigning Count (Traurig).

"Everything just went right for him," said Massey. "He'd done well in his prep (fifth at Little Everglades) and the ground was fast; he got an easy lead and just quickened away."

Also owned by Thiel, This Is Houston battled for the lead with Trumanson (Ian Baker), got the better of him by the first mile and cruised home — widening his advantage at every call.

• The other maiden claimer went to Gil Johnson's Russia under a determined ride from Carl Rafter. Like This Is Houston, Russia was in for the bottom \$5,000 figure, far from his original purchase price in 2001.

A 7-year-old son of Kingmambo, Russia sold for \$3 million at the Fasig-Tipton's 2001 Saratoga yearling sale and ended up at Coolmore in Ireland training with Aidan O'Brien. The seven-figure purchase won one race in Ireland, but didn't progress



Tod Marks

Russia warms up at Aiken in his first start of 2007. The former high-priced yearling won a maiden claiming hurdle at Stoneybrook for trainer Kathy McKenna.

further in four starts.

"He hit his ceiling with Coolmore and they decided to get rid of him for a fraction of what he was purchased for," said trainer Kathy McKenna. "He found his way over here to the States and then he continued to get slower. He's a really kind, very big, beautiful animal. Either he doesn't want to go fast or physically can't, but he made it from Coolmore to the foxhunting field in Chester County."

Russia was actually bred in Pennsylvania by McKenna's step-father George Strawbridge and is

a half-brother to steeplechase stakes-winner Invest West.

Russia returned from the bench at Aiken in March after not being seen since Morven Park in November 2005. A fourth at Aiken set him up nicely for Stoneybrook.

"He foxhunted all winter long," said McKenna. "He had a good bit of time off, virtually two years. He is just about the kindest, nicest guy to ride. Carl wanted him to win and he got it done. I give the credit to Carl and to Mrs. Johnston for being patient."

## Stoneybrook Results

Raeford, N.C. Saturday, April 7. Turf: Firm.

### 1st. \$15,000. Maiden hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

1. SOCCA BEAT (CHI)	L 154 McCarron
2. BOLD TURN	L 154 Petty
3. PLUM BRUSH	L 144 Rafter
4. LOVE PALACE (IRE)	L 154 Walsh
5. VALLEY'S PRIDE	L 144 Dalton
6. DYN IN TEXAS	149 Zimmerman
7. CHIME CHOIR	154 Traurig
LR. DIRGE	L 154 Hodsdon
PU. SILENT VOW	L 144 Young

Mgn: Neck. Time: 3:54 4/5.

O: EMO Stable. T: Doug Fout.

Gr./Ro. g. 6 Big Blue-Manay (CHI), Mocito Guapo (ARG). Bred by Haras Santa Mariana (CHI).

### 2nd. \$10,000. Mdn. cl. hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

\$10,000-\$5,000 clm. price

1. RUSSIA	L 148 Rafter
*2. OUTER REEF	L 156 McCarron
3. MALLORY'S SURPRISE	L 138 Helder
4. GOSSIPMONGER	L 152 Petty
5. SILVER LYRICS	L 147 R. Haynes
6. ASA UN FUEGOS	L 152 Dalton
PU. COCO'S CLOWN	L 151 Zimmerman

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 3:58.

O: Gillian Johnston. T: Kathy McKenna.

B. h. 7 Kingmambo-Seattle Way, Seattle Slew. Bred by George Strawbridge (PA).

\*Cl. by Debbie Kachel, Ricky Hendriks trainer.

### 3rd. \$10,000. Mdn. cl. hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

\$10,000-\$5,000 clm. price

1. THIS IS HOUSTON	L 148 Massey
2. BON CADDON	L 156 Hodsdon
3. REIGNING COUNT	156 Traurig
4. JACKSONIAN	L 148 Rafter

### 5. SPORT COAT

6. NINETY DAY NOTE	L 148 McCarron
7. TRUMANSON	L 148 Baker
PU. YELLOW TAVERN	L 146 Walsh

Mgn: 22 3/4. Time: 3:52.

O: Dale Thiel. T: Ricky Hendriks.

B. g. 5 El Prado (IRE)-Seemlikearocket, Beau Genius. Bred by Audley Farm (VA).

### 4th. \$25,000. Allow. hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

NW1X or NW2

1. WATER HUNTER (GB)	L 144 Traurig
2. DIG THIS HOSS	L 134 Helder
3. JIMMIE ECHO	L 142 Massey
4. ACROSS THE SKY	L 144 Walsh
PU. DIEGO CAO (NZ)	L 156 McCarron
R. FABI'S LEGACY	L 144 Dalton

Mgn: 7. Time: 3:48 1/5.

O: Dale Thiel. T: Toby Edwards.

Ch. g. 10 Mukaddamah-Oasis (GB), Valiyar. Bred by Fieldspring (GB).

### 5th. Training flat. 1 1/2 miles.

1. PREEMPTIVE STRIKE	L 155 Petty
2. RACEY DREAMER	L 155 McCarron
3. WITSAND BAY	L 155 Walsh
4. BABY BERT	L 155 Hanson
5. SEA CHATTER	150 Dalton
6. KILL DEVIL RUM	L 155 Price
7. JAMAICA JOE	L 155 Chalfin
LR. MISS STACK	156 Washer

Mgn: 1. Time: 2:33.

O: Polaris Stables. T: Sanna Hendriks.

Ch. g. 9 Roanoke-Mirkwood, Far North. Bred by Klobia Carroll (MD).

## PERFORMANCE of the Month



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### Paul Rowland

Trainer Paul Rowland continued his quick start to the spring with a second 2007 win by Swimming River. The 2006 hurdle convert captured a \$30,000 allowance hurdle at Strawberry Hill, moving up one step in his conditions in the process.

Rowland trains near Unionville, Pa. in the stable once used by Hall of Fame trainer Burley Cocks.



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# Back and Forth



Tod Marks  
Everyone looks like a winner as the field speeds toward the last fence. From left, the group included Gliding, Rare Bush, Orison, Quem Se Atrave, Sovereign Duty and Extra Check.

## Orison gets nod in novice tussle

BY JOE CLANCY

### CAROLINA CUP

Saturday, March 31

CAMDEN, S.C. – This time, Orison. Next time, Rare Bush. The time after that, Gliding. The time after that, Sovereign Duty. The time after that . . .

Well, you get the point. The 2007 Carolina First Carolina Cup was that kind of race. Trip mattered. Jockey counted. Luck and guts prevailed.

EMO Stable's Orison (Matt McCarron) capitalized on a position off the quick early pace of Quem Se Atrave, saved ground on the final turn and squeezed through the inside late to defeat Rare Bush by a neck in the \$75,000 novice hurdle stakes. Gliding and Sovereign Duty finished in a dead heat for third, beaten 1 1/4 lengths for it all in a 2 1/8-mile shootout to start the Steeplechase Triple Crown.

Five horses reached the last fence in contention. Rare Bush (Xavier Aizpuru) led after roaring around the final turn. To his outside, Gliding (Chip

Miller) threatened. Back inside, Sovereign Duty (Danielle Hodsdon) begged for racing room. Quem Se Atrave (Paddy Young) finally started to wilt. Like Tom Brady, Orison stayed in the pocket and threw a touchdown pass. Emerging from behind Rare Bush and Quem Se Atrave, the winner soared over the last and pushed toward the finish. Rare Bush weakened slightly, Gliding hung a bit, Sovereign Duty lost just enough momentum and Orison got up in the final yards. The 5-year-old chestnut ran the distance in 4:03 4/5 and won for the third time in eight jump starts.

McCarron credited fortune as much as anything for the win.

"I was very worried, and when we were going around the turn I was thinking I was going to have to ask Chip to let me out," said the jockey.



Tod Marks  
At the last, Rare Bush holds a slim lead on Gliding and eventual winner Orison (right).

"But Gliding was going as well as I was. I couldn't ask. It ended up being a matter of whether I was going to get lucky and get through."

For whatever reason, space opened at the last when Quem Se Atrave fell and Rare Bush fanned another stride

or two to the outside.

"It opened up enough of a hole that my horse got a great look at the last fence," said McCarron. "He met it just right, and grit and determination got him home. I didn't think this

See **CAROLINA CUP** next page ►

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# Carolina Cup —

■ Continued from previous page

course would suit him because he's just not fast enough and doesn't have a great turn of foot. His jumping is really good though and that helped him today."

Fout credited a change in Orison, who hit the board in all seven hurdle starts of 2006 including a maiden win at Great Meadow and an allowance score at Radnor.

"I told you a couple of times last year he was better horse than he showed," said the trainer. "Over the last three or four months, he's grown up and matured and he wants to try — he likes what he's doing now. If he hadn't tried today he wasn't going to win that race."

The son of Pulpit was destined for big things on the flat. His sire stands for \$80,000. His dam, the Dixieland Band daughter Sazarac Jazz, earned nearly \$300,000 on the flat. Jayeff B tried to sell Orison as a yearling at Saratoga in 2003, but bought him back for \$240,000. Winless in four flat starts with New Jersey-based trainer Alan Goldberg, Orison was sold to Fout before the 2006 jump season.

"He was very mean when we got him; he would get you in the stall, bend you over and cow kick you and bite you all at the same time," said Fout. "If you tried to make him do something, he would do the opposite



Tod Marks

Imagina (Jody Petty) takes control of the filly/mare allowance at the Carolina Cup, one of two wins on the day for the trio of Petty, trainer Sanna Hendriks and owner Augustin Stable.

just to show you that he could."

The race showcased the depth of the 2007 novice division as a field of six produced a wild finish. More competition awaits in the series' second stage, the \$75,000 Temple Gwathmey April 21 at Middleburg, Va.

"They were so fast, so brilliant that it came down to whoever was going to make a mistake was going to lose

the race," said Fout. "And I'm still not sure anyone made a real big mistake." Wait until next time.

• Pennsylvania-based trainer Sanna Hendriks sent two Augustin Stable horses to Camden and they erased the cold, gray winter by shining in the Carolina sun.

Timber horse Irish Prince (Jody

Petty) skipped over the Springdale lumber to win the \$20,000 allowance by 2 1/4 lengths over Sharp Face (Young) and Seeyouattheevent (Willie Dowling). Twice a winner over hurdles, Irish Prince prepped at Virginia's Piedmont Point-to-Point a week earlier and had little trouble with the jumping in his NSA timber debut.

See **CAROLINA CUP** page 29 ►

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# Carolina Cup —

■ Continued from page 27

“Around this course, old hurdle ability really helps,” said Petty. “He jumped up over them, but jumping at speed is what you need on this course. He gets in the air and lands quick.”

In the finale, 5-year-old Chilean import Imagina gave Petty, Augustin and Hendriks their second win on the day in a \$20,000 filly/mare maiden hurdle. Runner-up twice in 2006, Imagina found tough-luck ways to lose last year but put all that behind her with a professional victory over Northern Gale (Russell Haynes) and Won Wild Bird (Will Haynes).

Northern Gale raced to a huge early lead and was still in front leaving the backside the final time. Imagina kept charging, and flew past to win by 10.

“Even jumping the last down the backside, I wasn’t totally convinced I was going to catch (Northern Gale),” said Petty. “I don’t think that horse ever really did slow down.”

Imagina impressed Hendriks and Petty from Day One.

“When we got her, we really liked her and we haven’t changed our opinion,” said Petty. “I think everything just needed to come together. I’ve ridden her a couple of times and today



Tod Marks

Big Is Best (right, Paddy Young) passes Hidden Key at the last fence of the starter allowance over the brush course.

was the first time I figured her out. She wants a horse to run at and she had that today.”

• The “Never Give Up” posters at the mall usually involve a kitten doing chin-ups or a frog stuck in the bill of a heron. The 2007 version might include Pukka, a 10-year-old maiden who finally crossed the finish line first

for Eldon Farm and trainer Doug Fout.

The nearly black gelding spent his first seven years in New Zealand, and compiled a record of two seconds and a third (losing to Top Of The Bill, Hip Hop and Bonfo) in three widely spaced American starts. At Camden, he looked poised to finish second again before catching Class Deputy in the final steps. The latter (Richard Boucher) blazed off the backside and gained a clear lead on the final turn. Class Deputy flew the last, aimed for the finish line and came up about five strides short. Pukka (McCarron) moved away from Haggard (Carl Rafter) in a skirmish for second and won by a half-length.

“That was a shocker,” said McCarron. “Richard went by me like I was standing still. I was riding to get back past Haggard for second and had no intention of getting to Richard and

then all of a sudden he just shortened stride and backed up.”

McCarron paid partial credit to the long Camden stretch, and the short inside rail just before the finish.

“You forget that when you get to that rail, you’ve still got 20 yards,” said the jockey. “My horse kept trying right up through there.”

• Bounding down the Springdale Race Course grandstand steps, Ann Jackson breathlessly claimed she’d “jumped every fence” with Big Is Best in the \$20,000 starter allowance hurdle. Her husband, Cary, preceded her down the steps by 20 lengths or so – he must have been really jumping.

Big Is Best (Young) gave the Jacksons plenty to be excited about with an all-effort victory in the race, restricted to horses which started for a claiming price in 2006-07 and run over the natural brush fences. The 8-year-old New Zealand import chased Hidden Key (McCarron) throughout, tested him on the final turn and then challenged again at the last fence before powering off to win by 2 1/2 for trainer Paul Rowland. Hidden Key stayed for second with Pleasant Pick (Petty) third.

“He’s improved a lot to me,” said Rowland, who may rethink the timber plans he had for the horse. “He put a lot of condition on over the winter, compared to last year, and I thought he’d be a better horse this year.”

• Dark Equation wired a big field in the opener, a training flat race, for Fout and owner Peggy Steinman. Jockey Isaac Lupton picked up his first American win over late-running stakes horse Mixed Up and subsequent Stoneybrook winner Water Hunter. Steinman was joined in the winner’s circle by retired flat jockey Eddie Maple, who was seen in her pink-and-green silks many times during his career.

## Carolina Cup Results

### 1st. Training flat. 1 1/2 miles.

1. DARK EQUATION	L 155	Lupton
2. MIXED UP	L 155	Hodsdon
3. WATER HUNTER (GB)	L 155	Taurig
4. RED LETTER DAY	L 155	Aizpuru
5. BABY BERT	L 155	Hanson
6. KILL DEVIL RUM	L 155	Price
7. SANTA CATALINA (CHI)	L 150	McCarron
8. CRIPPLE CREEK	L 155	Rafter
9. LIGHT SPEED	L 155	Walsh
10. REEL LEGEND	L 155	C.Miller
11. CLASSY BRUTE	L 155	W.Haynes
12. SHINES BY THE SEA	L 155	George

Mgn: 2 1/4. Time: 2:19 4/5.

O: Beverly Steinman. T: Doug Fout.

B. g. 6 Polish Numbers-Night Risk, Wild Again. Bred by Derry Meeting Farm & London Thoroughbred Services (PA).

### 2nd. \$25,000. SOK mdn. hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

1. PUKKA (NZ)	L 154	McCarron
2. CLASS DEPUTY	L 144	Boucher
3. HAGGARD	L 144	Rafter
4. BK’S DOUBLE JADE	L 149	Zimmerman
5. SHINING JACK (GB)	L 154	Lupton
LR. FIRE ISLAND JET	L 144	Walsh
PU. RUM SQUALL	L 144	Dowling
PU. HONOLUA STORM	L 154	Aizpuru
PU. BIBLOS (ARG)	L 154	Petty

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 4:10.

O: Eldon Farm Racing Stable. T: Doug Fout.

Dk. B./Br. g. 10 Bin Ajwaad-Keisan (NZ), Three Legs (GB). Bred by Mrs. J.P. Scott (NZ).

### 3rd. \$20,000. Allow. (NW 2) timber. 3 miles.

1. IRISH PRINCE (NZ)	L 160	Petty
2. SHARP FACE	L 160	Young
3. SEEYOUATTHEEVENT	L 160	Dowling
4. PATRIOT’S PATH	L 150	W.Haynes
5. SHADY VALLEY	L 160	R.Haynes
6. MAKE IT EASY (IRE)	L 169	W.Winants
F. WOODMONT	L 165	Taurig

Mgn: 2 1/4. Time: 6:14.

O: Augustin Stable. T: Sanna Hendriks.

B. g. 8 Prince of Praise-Jane Irish (NZ), Take Your Partner (AUS). Bred by B.G. Keil (NZ).

## Carolina Cup Races

Camden, S.C.  
Saturday, March 31  
Turf: Firm

### 4th. \$19,360 Starter allow. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles. Any clm. price 2006-07.

1. BIG IS BEST (NZ)	L 142	Young
2. HIDDEN KEY	L 142	McCarron
3. PLEASANT PICK	L 142	Petty
PU. RAISE A STORM (IRE)	L 146	Rafter
PU. NAVESINK VIEW	L 132	W. Haynes

Mgn: 2 1/2. Time: 4:28 3/5.

O: Cary Jackson. T: Paul Rowland.

Ch. g. 8 Val d’Arno-Beyond The Realm (NZ), Imperial Seal (GB).

Bred by N.W. Horne & K.A. Hoskyn (NZ).

### 5th. \$75,000. Nov. hurdle stakes. 2 1/8 miles. The Carolina Cup (Grade II).

1. ORISON	L 151	McCarron
2. RARE BUSH	L 151	Aizpuru
3. GLIDING (NZ)	L 151	C. Miller
3. SOVEREIGN DUTY	L 151	Hodsdon
5. EXTRA CHECK	L 148	Rafter
F. QUEM SE ATREVE (BRZ)	L 151	Young

Dead heat for third.

Mgn: Neck. Time: 4:03 4/5.

O: EMO Stables. T: Doug Fout.

Ch. g. 5 Pulpit-Jazarac Jazz, Dixieland Band.

Bred by Jayeff B Stables (KY).

### 6th. \$20,000. F&M mdn. hurdle. 2 1/8 miles.

1. IMAGINA (CHI)	L 153	Petty
2. NORTHERN GALE	L 148	R. Haynes
3. WON WILD BIRD	L 143	W. Haynes
4. EVIDENTIAL	L 153	Hodsdon
5. SEA CHATTER	L 153	Dalton
6. TOPAZ CAT	L 148	Zimmerman
R. LA RESISTANCE	L 153	C. Miller

Mgn: 10. Time: 4:13 2/5.

O: Augustin Stable. T: Sanna Hendriks.

B. m. 5 Great Regent-Lujuriosa (CHI), Lord Florey. Bred by Haras Santa Marta (CHI).



Tod Marks

Pukka (Matt McCarron) bides his time early in a maiden hurdle win.



# STEEPLECHASE 'Pick Six'

THE HOFFBERGER INSURANCE GROUP FANTASY STABLE GAME

## Pick Six goes to the cameras

Photographers, photographers, photographers – what's up with the photographers? Lens crafters Tod Marks and Sarah Greenhalgh jumped out of the box early and took the top two spots of the Hoffberger Insurance Pick Six fantasy stable game – through racing of April 19.

Tod Marks leads the way as the first stable to break into the six-figure category. Marks' Flight Of Fancy Stable of Orison, Swimming River, Paradise's Boss and Mr Bombastic accounted for \$100,250 while Lair and Sur La Tete have yet to start. Right behind Marks comes another camera person, Sarah Libbey Greenhalgh, whose Jabberwocky Stable reached \$93,000 on the strength of Orison, Paradise's Boss, Imagina, Diego Cao and Mr Bombastic. McDynamo has yet to run.

Marks and Greenhalgh see plenty of races, and they must be paying attention through the lens. Fellow photogs Betsy Parker and Doug Lees also hit the top 10.

The Genesee Valley Racers of Gail McGuire complete the top three with a solid \$88,250 from Swimming River, Paradise's Boss, Riddle and Imagina with two horses yet to make an appearance.

The top 28 stables (through April 19) appear below. See [www.st-publishing.com](http://www.st-publishing.com) for complete standings.

The prize for the most creative stable name goes to Bob Rush for Three Ponies Shy of a Picnic.



Tod Marks

Tod and Sarah? You've got to be kidding!

<b>Flight of Fancy Stable</b> .....	<b>Tod Marks</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Swimming River .....	\$28,250
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
Lair .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$100,250

<b>Jabberwocky Stables</b> ...	<b>Sarah Greenhalgh</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$93,000

<b>Genesee Valley Racers</b> .....	<b>Gail McGuire</b>
Swimming River .....	\$28,250
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Riddle .....	\$24,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
Wee Highland Star .....	\$0
	\$88,250

<b>Carglen Stable</b> .....	<b>Joe Clancy Sr.</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Swimming River .....	\$28,250
Rare Bush .....	\$13,500
Ghost Valley .....	\$0
Lair .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$86,750

<b>Living On A Prayer</b> .....	<b>Lisa McLane</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Chivite .....	\$7,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$82,000

<b>SeaBass Stable</b> .....	<b>Leslie Young</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Flyrock .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
	\$81,000

<b>Hunter's Rest</b> .....	<b>Betsy Parker</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Fershaw .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Praise The Prince .....	\$0
	\$81,000

<b>Steeplestakes.com</b> .....	<b>Van Cushny</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
The Looper .....	\$7,500
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
The Bruce .....	\$0
	\$79,500

<b>Who D'ya Like Ranch</b> ..	<b>William Skidmore</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Riddle .....	\$24,000
Slew's Peak .....	\$12,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Chivite .....	\$7,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
	\$79,000

<b>WILCO</b> .....	<b>Tina Smith</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Gold Mitten .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
	\$78,000

<b>Bossy Boots</b> .....	<b>Faith Hutchinson</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Askim .....	\$0
Gold Mitten .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$78,000

<b>Browntrout Stable</b> .....	<b>Douglas Lees</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Riddle .....	\$24,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Gold Mitten .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$78,000

<b>Irish Imports</b> .....	<b>Ann Morss</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Riddle .....	\$24,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Askim .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$75,000

<b>Holly</b> .....	<b>Winfield Sapp</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Irish Prince .....	\$12,000
Northern Gale .....	\$5,600
McDynamo .....	\$0
Mixed Up .....	\$0
	\$74,600

<b>McHistory</b> .....	<b>Owen Demare</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Askim .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$72,000

<b>Too Far Out Farm</b> .....	<b>Tiffany Webb</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$72,000

<b>Stampede Farm</b> .....	<b>Jean Donnan</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
River Bed .....	\$16,000
Across The Sky .....	\$7,250
Won Wild Bird .....	\$2,000
Askim .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$70,250

<b>Cheltenham Invasion</b> ..	<b>Richard Hutchinson</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Askim .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$66,000

<b>The Dukester</b> .....	<b>Charles Reid</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Gliding .....	\$5,625
Prep School .....	\$750
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
	\$63,375

<b>MVP Stable</b> .....	<b>Ernie Moulos</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Irish Prince .....	\$12,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
Mixed Up .....	\$0
	\$63,000

<b>Millstone Farm</b> .....	<b>James Watrous</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Askim .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Orchid Princess .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$60,000

<b>Exeter Township</b> .....	<b>Sarah Hutchinson</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Pukka .....	\$15,000
Gold Mitten .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$60,000

<b>Beulah Hill</b> .....	<b>Doris Green</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Riddle .....	\$24,000
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Countess Avie .....	\$1,800
Ghost Valley .....	\$0
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$58,800

<b>Dadofthree Stable</b> .....	<b>Joe Clancy</b>
Orison .....	\$45,000
Imagina .....	\$12,000
Best Attack .....	\$0
Coal Dust .....	\$0
Planets Aligned .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$57,000

<b>On The Payroll Stables</b> ..	<b>Kathleen Strakes</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Slew's Peak .....	\$12,000
Socca Beat .....	\$9,000
Chivite .....	\$7,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
Mauritania .....	\$0
	\$55,000

<b>Thunder Road Farm</b> .....	<b>Diana Rowland</b>
Swimming River .....	\$28,250
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
Miles Ahead .....	\$0
Orchid Princess .....	\$0
Sur La Tete .....	\$0
	\$52,250

<b>Lotta Errata</b> .....	<b>Jamie Santo</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Rare Bush .....	\$13,500
Diego Cao .....	\$9,000
Mr Bombastic .....	\$3,000
Won Wild Bird .....	\$2,000
McDynamo .....	\$0
	\$51,500

<b>Alms For The Poor</b> .....	<b>Peter Hitchen</b>
Paradise's Boss .....	\$24,000
Rare Bush .....	\$13,500
Class Deputy .....	\$7,200
Bubble Economy .....	\$5,400
Evidential .....	\$1,000
Preemptive Strike .....	\$0
	\$51,100





Tod Marks

Seafaring Man took an early spot at the top of the standings with a win at Atlanta.

# NSA Standings

THROUGH APRIL 19

## Jockeys (Races Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Matt McCarron.....	18	5	4	0	\$105,110	.28
Paddy Young.....	11	3	5	0	59,100	.27
Jody Petty.....	15	3	2	4	64,800	.20
Carl Rafter.....	14	3	0	6	41,500	.21
Danielle Hodsdon.....	13	2	3	2	79,175	.15
Xavier Aizpuru.....	11	2	1	0	57,950	.18
Michael Traurig.....	8	2	0	3	27,450	.25
Rob Massey.....	5	2	0	1	24,100	.40
Richard Boucher.....	8	1	4	0	32,000	.13
Rylee Zimmerman.....	13	1	1	1	16,300	.08

## Trainers (Races Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Doug Fout.....	19	4	3	1	\$103,335	.21
Paul Rowland.....	12	4	0	0	50,350	.33
Kathy McKenna.....	12	3	0	4	37,950	.25
Jonathan Sheppard.....	17	2	3	3	80,925	.12
Jack Fisher.....	16	2	3	2	73,750	.13
Arch Kingsley.....	13	2	2	3	50,100	.15
Sanna Hendriks.....	6	2	1	1	29,200	.33
Ricky Hendriks.....	9	2	0	2	25,600	.22
Bruce Miller.....	3	1	2	0	29,700	.33
Bruce Haynes.....	19	1	1	3	25,650	.05

## Owners (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
EMO Stable.....	4	2	0	0	\$54,900	.50
Hudson River Farm.....	2	1	0	1	50,625	.50
High Hope Stable.....	9	2	1	2	46,000	.22
Ann Stern.....	3	2	0	0	40,500	.67
Calvin Houghland.....	7	0	3	1	29,450	.00
Long Lane Farm.....	3	2	0	0	28,250	.67
Augustin Stable.....	5	2	0	1	26,500	.40
Brigadoon Stable.....	7	1	2	1	24,825	.14
Dale Thiel.....	4	2	0	1	23,100	.50
Pack Up Stable.....	1	1	0	0	18,000	1.00

## Horses (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Orison.....	1	1	0	0	\$45,000	1.00
Seafaring Man.....	1	1	0	0	45,000	1.00
Swimming River.....	3	2	0	0	28,250	.67
Riddle.....	2	1	0	0	24,000	.50
Paradise's Boss.....	1	1	0	0	24,000	1.00
Fappa Fire.....	1	1	0	0	18,000	1.00
Latino (PER).....	2	1	0	0	16,500	.50
River Bed.....	2	1	0	1	16,000	.50
Angel Del Viento (ARG).....	1	1	0	0	15,000	1.00
Hip Hop.....	1	1	0	0	15,000	1.00

## NSA SPRING RACE SCHEDULE

Friday, April 20.....	Keeneland
P.O. Box 1690, Lexington, KY 40588 • (859) 254-3412 <a href="http://www.keeneland.com">www.keeneland.com</a>	
Saturday, April 21.....	Block House Races
P.O. Box 1095, Tryon, NC 28782 • (800) 438-3681 <a href="http://www.trhcevents.com">www.trhcevents.com</a>	
Saturday, April 21.....	Grand National Races
2315 Geist Rd., Glyndon, MD 21071 • (410) 771-1756 <a href="http://www.marylandsteeplechasing.org">www.marylandsteeplechasing.org</a>	
Saturday, April 21.....	Middleburg Spring Races
Box 1173, Middleburg, VA 20118 • (540) 687-6545 <a href="http://www.middleburgspringraces.com">www.middleburgspringraces.com</a>	
Saturday, April 28.....	Foxfield Races
P.O. Box 5187, Charlottesville, VA 22905 • (434) 293-9501 <a href="http://www.foxfieldraces.com">www.foxfieldraces.com</a>	
Saturday, April 28.....	Maryland Hunt Cup
P.O. Box 224, Glyndon, MD 21071 • (410) 825-3722 <a href="http://www.marylandhuntcup.com">www.marylandhuntcup.com</a>	
Saturday, April 28.....	Queen's Cup Steeplechase
P.O. Box 70, Mineral Springs, NC 28108 • (704) 843-7070 <a href="http://www.queenscup.org">www.queenscup.org</a>	
Saturday, May 5.....	Virginia Gold Cup Races
P.O. Box 840, Warrenton, VA 20188 • (540) 347-2612 <a href="http://www.vagoldcup.com">www.vagoldcup.com</a>	
Sunday, May 6.....	Winterthur Steeplechase
Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE 19735 • (800) 448-3883 <a href="http://www.winterthur.org">www.winterthur.org</a>	
Saturday, May 12.....	Iroquois Steeplechase
360 Vaughn Road, Nashville, TN 37221 • (615) 742-8691 <a href="http://www.iroquoissteeplechase.org">www.iroquoissteeplechase.org</a>	
Sunday, May 13.....	Willowdale Steeplechase
101 East Street Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348 • (610) 444-1582 <a href="http://www.willowdale.org">www.willowdale.org</a>	
Saturday, May 19.....	Radnor Hunt Races
P.O. Box 141, Chadds Ford, PA 19317 • (610) 388-8324 <a href="http://www.radnorhuntraces.org">www.radnorhuntraces.org</a>	
Sunday, May 20.....	High Hope Races
4089 Ironworks Pike, Lexington, KY 40511 • (859) 967-9444 <a href="http://www.highhopesteeplechase.com">www.highhopesteeplechase.com</a>	
Saturday, May 26.....	Fair Hill Races
P.O. Box 2334, Elkton, MD 21922 • (410) 620-3709 <a href="http://www.fairhillraces.org">www.fairhillraces.org</a>	

See [www.nationalsteeplechase.com](http://www.nationalsteeplechase.com) for updates and summer schedule.  
For point-to-point schedules: see [www.vasteeplechase.com](http://www.vasteeplechase.com),  
[www.marylandsteeplechasing.com](http://www.marylandsteeplechasing.com) and [www.dvapt.com](http://www.dvapt.com)

## WEDNESDAY IS RACE NIGHT

AT



POST TIME IS 5 O'CLOCK WITH REPLAYS THROUGH THE EVENING

MAY 2 FOXFIELD SPRING MARYLAND CUP QUEEN'S CUP MARYLAND JUNIOR HUNT CUP	MAY 9 VIRGINIA GOLD CUP WINTERTHUR MAY 16 IROQUOIS WILLOWDALE	MAY 23 RADNOR HIGH HOPE MAY 30 FAIR HILL
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# News from the NSF

The National Steeplechase Foundation is dedicated to the preservation and advancement of American steeplechasing through programs that promote safety, education, fairness, and the spirit of amateurism.



## SUPPORT YOUR NSF

NSA Safety Advisor Barry Watson checks out an English chase fence at Cheltenham.



## Learning from the Masters

In December 2006, the National Steeplechase Foundation sent National Steeplechase Association Safety Advisor and Starter, Barry Watson, to England for a six-day trip (organized by Steeplechase Times) designed to glean information on anything from safety standards, to jump design to course maintenance from the British way of jump racing and bring it home to use in the United States.

The group visited Taunton and Cheltenham Racecourses, and spent time at the yard of top British trainer Paul Nicholls. Watson walked both courses with the respective officials, starters and Jockey Club representatives and spent time at the start during each racing day. In short, the trip proved valuable in many areas – course safety, course maintenance, starting procedures and – perhaps most importantly – the establishment of contacts with various English racing officials.

A summary of Watson's report to the foundation follows, and will appear in the next few Foundation advertising placements.

...

At Taunton, a full day of racing took place on a day that offered every weather condition. Along with the 50 mph wind gusts, there was thunder, lightning, hail, driving rain and brilliant sunshine. Racing was concluded as scheduled, without serious injury to horse or rider, on a day that could have easily gotten out of hand.

Taunton track facts: A right-handed oval course, one mile and three furlongs in extent, with seven fences per circuit, and a run-in of 200 yards. The fences on the hurdle and chase courses are stiff but fair. The course has long sweeping bends that suit the galloping types, much of the stretch being downhill. The standard of racing has improved dramatically in recent years.

The fences are placed to best suit the interest of the horses; as opposed to a cookie-cutter standard. Interestingly, there is not a fence to jump on the front, once you jump the last fence, until you start heading down the back, a distance of approximately three furlongs. And yet there are three fences to jump in rather quick succession after leaving the final turn.

The course was drained in the early 1970s to alleviate problems, leaving the course a bit on the firm side. "Verta-Draining" is performed to loosen the ground and allow moisture to disperse more evenly. The density of the soil is quite different than that in the States. The ground has more substance and can take on an extraordinary amount of moisture, and yet the horses don't slog through the ground. There was not nearly the damage as expected upon inspection after each day's racing in the soft to heavy going. These courses need the abundant moisture to keep them pliable.

Along with the difficult weather conditions, there were other complications to deal with, as is usually the case in any day's racing. The starting mechanism failed prior to the running of the second race, and was thus started by the drop of the flag. The start of the sixth race had to be adjusted and shortened 100 yards. Had this not been corrected, the race would have been deemed void. A race is also void if started prior to the official time of post. The wagering public has a great deal of influence in the way steeplechasing is conducted abroad. As a result, constant scrutiny and vigilance has produced a very high standard of ethics and professionalism.

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Tod Marks

Pukka and Jody Petty on their way out of the Atlanta paddock.

## Petty recovering from facial surgery

Steeplechase jockey Jody Petty underwent plastic surgery April 18 to repair a broken bone above his left eye and will be out of action until at least May 5 at the Virginia Gold Cup. Petty sustained the injury at the Atlanta Steeplechase April 14 when he parted company with Pukka in the allowance hurdle.

Also cut across his eyebrow in the fall, Petty was transported by ambulance from the race course to the local hospital in Rome, Ga., and also spent time at a hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn., before returning home to Pennsylvania for the surgery by Dr. Peter Coggins. The surgeon repaired the injury with wire mesh, which will hold the bones in place until they heal. Petty was pleased with Coggins' response to the possible return date.

"I told him I wanted to ride at the Gold Cup and he was pretty optimistic," Petty said. "I need to go for another checkup from him before I can ride again, hopefully it will all work out."

Petty recalls little about the fall, which occurred at the second fence.

"I remember coming to the fence and he started to pick up from this really long spot," said the jockey. "I don't know if he put back down or not."

• Jockey Darren Nagle injured his back in a fall at My Lady's Manor April 14, but expects to be back riding races shortly. Nagle came off Irish Laddie in the maiden timber at the Manor, and also fell earlier in the day with Timmy R. The official diagnosis was a compression fracture of the L-5 vertebrae, with an estimated recovery time of six weeks.

"I don't think it will be that long," said Nagle, who works for trainer Tom Voss. "I will be back riding out soon and then we'll see how it feels. It's feeling much better now."

### OBITUARY: VIRGINIA BEACH, 59

Virginia Anne Beach, 59, died April 14, at her home in Marshall, Va. Born Oct. 2, 1947 she was a lifelong resident of Fauquier County. She was predeceased by her parents, Thomas M. Beach and Sarah Robinson Beach.

Virginia was an accomplished horse person and an avid supporter of steeplechasing. For many years while a teenager, she dominated the ladies timber races at the Virginia point-to-points while riding primarily horses owned and trained by her father. In 1963, she was named the leading lady rider. She was currently continuing her many years of support to the point-to-point race meets as race day secretary.

Virginia was employed as a bookkeeper for Locust Hill Farm.

She is survived by her sister, Barbara Broadway, her brother Thomas M. Beach Jr., two nephews, Bryant Beach and Wes Broadway, aunt Ellen Cockerille as well as a great nephew and numerous cousins.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Virginia Tech Foundation, Marion du Pont Scott Equine Medical Center Horse Ambulance, P.O. Box 1938, Leesburg, Va. 20177 and to the Piedmont Foxhounds Inc., P.O. Box 13, Upperville, Va. 20185 to establish a longterm sponsorship of the ladies timber race in honor of her and her father.



Doug Lees

Virginia Beach





# Virginia Steeplechase Association

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- Miles Ahead (Kinross Farm)

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Terrie Hanback



TERRIE HANBACK

Photos by  
Betsy Parker  
and Tod Marks



MILES AHEAD

### Remaining 2007 VSA Schedule

April 28 .....	Foxfield Races
(434) 293-9501	Foxfield Race Course, Charlottesville
May 5 .....	Virginia Gold Cup
(540) 347-2612	Great Meadow, The Plains
May 6 .....	Bull Run Point-to-Point
(703) 866-0509	Culpeper, Virginia
May 12 .....	Bedford County Point-to-Point
(540) 297-3419	Forest, Virginia
September 15 .....	Thornton Hill Hounds Point-to-Point
(540) 987-8346	Thornton Hill Farm, Sperryville
September 30 .....	Foxfield Races
(434) 293-9501	Foxfield Race Course, Charlottesville
October 6-7 .....	Virginia Fall Races
(540) 687-5662	Glenwood Park, Middleburg
October 13 .....	Morven Park Races
(703) 777-2414	Morven Park, Leesburg
October 20 .....	International Gold Cup
(540) 347-2612	Great Meadow, The Plains
October 28 .....	Steeplechase at Oak Ridge
(540) 364-1962	Oak Ridge, Covington
November 3 .....	Montpelier Races
(540) 672-0027	Montpelier Race Course, Montpelier Station

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Winsome Adante and Kim Severson celebrate their win at The Fork.

Shannon Brinkman

# Back on Track

## Severson, Winsome Adante take Fork in road to Badminton

BY AMBER HEINTZBERGER

Kim Severson and Winsome Adante finished on their dressage score to win the CIC-W\*\*\* at The Fork in Norwood, N.C. The competition started with a tie between Severson and Florida rider Jonathan Holling on Lion King II after dressage, but time penalties gave Severson the lead and she held on to it tightly.



Olympic silver medalists and three-time Rolex Kentucky winners, Severson and Winsome Adante had a slightly rocky start to the spring season but should have all the confidence they need when they head to England for the Badminton CCI\*\*\*\*. They won the World Cup division against a field of 36 horses, claiming \$8,500 in prize money, as well as winning the fourth event in the Adequan USEA Gold Cup Series.

"I'm starting to get excited (about Badminton)," said Severson. "We

didn't do so well with going over the week before last time so we're going over early. He looks good. He's not quite exactly where I want him right now, but that's OK, I have time to get him just right. He's better than he was at Poplar – he'll be good. There's some stuff in the dressage that I need to work on. Things I need to ride better. Our communication needs to be a bit better."

Owned by Linda Wachtmeister, Winsome Adante bordered on unrideable in the Poplar Place cross country and Severson made an equipment change to regain the 13-year-old's attention.

"I rode him in the running martingale and the rubber gag," said Severson. "I think I need a little bit more, he was a little hard on the left side. He's a heck of a lot better but he could be better still. In the showjumping he was pretty perfect. Hopefully we can maintain that. It was a big course but

See *THE FORK* next page ►

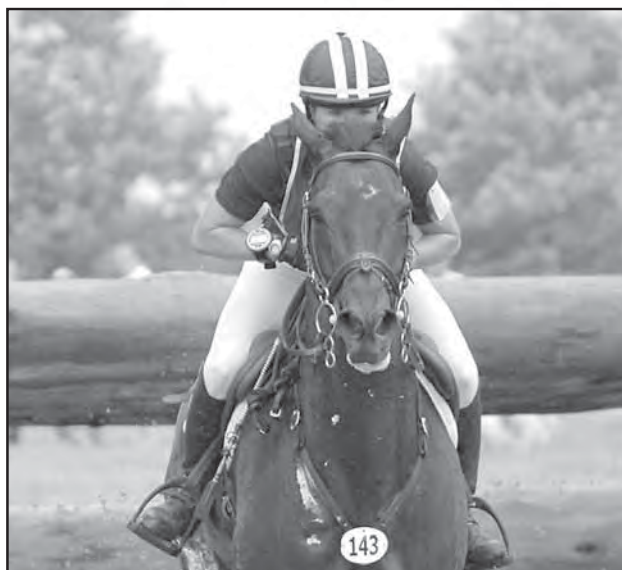


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Photos by Shannon Brinkman



# The Fork —

■ Continued from previous page

it rode beautifully.”

Will Faudree and his 17-year-old Antigua, 10th following the dressage, moved up to finish second. Antigua and Faudree head to the Rolex Kentucky CCI\*\*\*\* next.

“He’s in good form and I hope we can repeat our performance there,” he said. “I’d love it if we made it to the Olympics next year, but this horse doesn’t owe me anything. It is an honor to ride him.”

Faudree also placed fourth in Open Intermediate on Mr. McWhinney, who is in his first year of competition at that level. Jan Byyny and Waterfront placed third, followed by Kristin Bachman on Gryffindor and Amy Tryon on Le Samurai and Holling on Lion King II.

• In the CIC\*\*\* Bonnie Mosser and Merloch took the early lead but time faults on cross-country took their toll. Severson moved to the front of the pack on Anne Wachtmeister’s Tipperary Liadhnan going into the final phase, but the giant gray gelding barely touched the last rail and knocked it out of the cups.

“He was pretty amazing,” said Severson. “He was a touch stronger than he’s been which is OK; it means he’s more confident. He’s very nippy for a big horse which is the only reason I can ride him.”



Shannon Brinkman

Theodore O’Connor and his rider Karen O’Connor sail a fence in the cross-country round at The Fork.

Tipperary Liadhnan’s bad luck made way for a horse of a different size as Theodore O’Connor won the event. The 14.2-hand pony picked up his first career win and left rider Karen O’Connor (also the horse’s co-owner with P. Wynn Norman) ecstatic.

“This gives me a lot of confidence

before I take him to Kentucky,” she said. “There were plenty of exercises on the course but he did them easily.”

Karen O’Connor plans to ride the pony in the Rolex four-star.

A syndicate was formed over the winter for Theodore O’Connor. Shares in “The Teddy Group” are still available at \$10,000 per share plus a \$6,000 per year maintenance fee.

O’Connor also placed ninth in the CIC-W\*\*\* on Dick and Vita Thompson’s Upstage, whom she will also compete in Kentucky.

Severson placed second, followed by Canadian Penny Rowland on Windswept.

• Penny Rowland closed her already impressive spring with yet another victory. Roundabout won the Advanced at The Fork, and with Windswept she placed third in the CIC\*\*\*. Roundabout is 3-for-3 in 2007 and Windswept has two victories and a pair of thirds. Both horses are owned by Don Good. Things look

promising for Rowland, who aims for the Pan-Am Games in Brazil this summer.

“I’m so happy,” she said. “Cross-country was great and they had their fair share of problems out there, but it ran smoothly.”

There were several falls on cross-country, though most of the riders got back on their horses.

Lindsay Pearce’s Dutch Twist, an 11-year-old, suffered a fatal fall while negotiating Jump 3, “the stone fenced table,” a portable fence. The fence stayed stationary during the incident, and there were no other incidents there during the competition. The horse was attended to immediately by veterinarians and transported by an on-site, state-of-the-art horse ambulance.

Competitors had many compliments for owner Jim Cogdell, who’s invested a great deal into his farm and the competitions. Cogdell worked to establish better turf on the cross-country track, and competitors said the improvement was vast.



Shannon Brinkman

Waterfront and Jan Byyny fly a fence at The Fork.

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# Galway Bay

## King Street helps Courday step into Kentucky with victory

BY JOANIE MORRIS

GALWAY DOWNS

March 30 - April 1

Since 18-year-old Tiana Courday took King Street to Galway Downs as a stepping stone to Rolex Kentucky – her first four-star – winning wasn't really on her mind. Funny how sometimes things don't go to plan.

Coudray and her Irish-bred bay took the CIC\*\*\*-W held in Temecula, Calif., and can take a little extra confidence to Lexington.

Tied for fourth after the dressage with Jolie Sexson on Killian O'Connor and behind leader Gina Miles and the Badminton-bound McKinlaigh (who withdrew after the first phase) Coudray smiled at the effort put forth by

the 10-year-old gelding, even though the dressage test at Galway wasn't her priority.

"It was a test that we hadn't practiced much," said Coudray. "We've been busy with the four-star test. This event was more just a bump in the road on the way to Kentucky but I was quite pleased with him."

King Street cruised around the cross-country course within the optimum time in a round that inspired plenty of confidence in the young rider.

"He was pretty stellar," she said. "He'd been around parts of the course before but he had no issues, it was an encouraging round – I feel ready to go East."

Sexson also jumped clean and under time so the pair remained tied – but moved to the top of the leaderboard. Sexson was six seconds closer to the optimum, which meant that if she and Coudray ended on the same score, Sexson would win. Coudray went first into the showjumping arena, where no one had jumped a clean round in the division.

"I knew I needed a clean round," she said. "To have a shot at winning I had to put the pressure Jolie. He really felt fantastic."



Tass Jones

King Street and Tiana Courday jump perfectly, on the way to a win at Galway Downs in California and a trip to Rolex Kentucky.

King Street obliged and left all the poles up, which meant that Sexson's round would determine the winner. Sexson added 13 in the ring to leave Coudray the clear winner over Kelly Prather and Ballinakill Glory. Jennifer Wooten and The Good Witch took third, with Sexson winding up fifth.

King Street flew to Lexington April 18, and Coudray has finally allowed herself to get excited.

"I was being too superstitious before," said Coudray. "I'm not quite finished feeling like that . . . but I'm not really nervous because there are no expectations. I'm certainly not expected to do super well. I just want to get around and get some miles – that's the main goal."

The pair finished 28th at Fair Hill International CCI\*\*\* last fall and was fourth in the Advanced at Ram Tap in February. The Young Rider of the Year in 2005, Coudray and King Street have a firm partnership that will face its toughest test at Rolex Kentucky.

"He's an incredibly down-to-business type of horse," said Coudray. "He's not incredibly social, he doesn't like to be disturbed when he's sleeping. We call him Seabiscuit because he likes to sleep so much. He'll go and

do dressage and then come back and sleep. He loves having a job, his whole world shuts down when he's not doing anything."

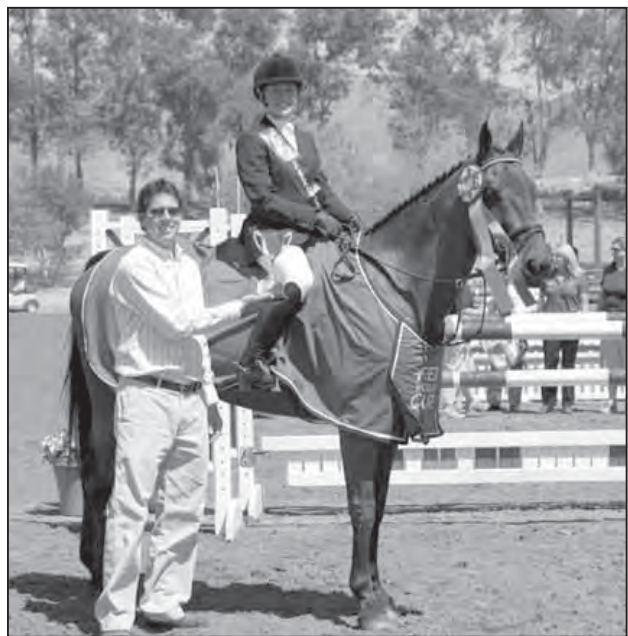
Coudray is based in Carmel Valley, Calif., at Derek and Bea di Grazia's Stillwater Farm. And although she's a high-school senior, Coudray doesn't often see the inside of a classroom, getting her education online so she can focus on her riding.

he's also bringing along a young horse, Ringwood Magister, by the same sire as King Street.

• Debbie Rosen and The Alchymest turned in an immaculate score sheet in the CIC\*\* to take first by less than a point over Hawley Bennett and Splendorofthesun.

Bennett led after the first two phases but used a rail she didn't have in hand in the showjumping and settled for the runner-up spot. Andrea Baxter and Estrella were third.

Based in Callabassas, Calif., Rosen has forged a quick partnership with the 7-year-old Canadian Sport Horse. Started by Buck Davidson and further produced by Doug Payne, The Alchymest has been in her barn for less than a year. Rosen aims for the Twin Rivers CCI in May.



Tass Jones

King Street and Tiana Courday receive their awards after the Galway Downs victory.

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# The Reality of Moving On

BY JOANIE MORRIS

Ideas can become reality. This publication – both halves of it – is living proof. Editors/publishers Joe and Sean hatched the idea to cover steeplechasing 13 years ago and have done a bang-up job year in and year out. Sean and I came up with the idea to cover eventing in 2003 and we have done it – sometimes it writes itself and sometimes it's like pulling teeth with tweezers.

*Steeplechase/Eventing Times* has survived Saratoga, lame horses, sick horses, weddings, the Breeders' Cup, the farrier, modem failure, power failure, car failure, brain failure, a dissolved logic board, Boy Scouts, Little League, sick dogs, late nights, early mornings, two jobs, moving (I've done it five times since receiving my first check from ST Publishing) and just about any other variable you can imagine.

And now the eventing side of this newspaper is about to outlive my tenure. Many people know how it started, at a sushi restaurant, right after I finished college while working for Phillip Dutton. The Clancys and I (and the rest of a small staff of employees, freelancers and volunteers) gutted it out for two years while I had multiple jobs until I went to work for ST full time.

A lifetime of experiences crammed into one year changed my life permanently; it also made me realize that my time in Fair Hill was a step on the stairs of my life. When I got an offer to take a job in Lexington, Ky., part of me wanted to sit down



ST's Joanie Morris, here riding to a story with Laird George (left) and Chip Miller (right) moves on to new challenges.

and stay in Fair Hill forever. The other part knew it was time for a change.

There's still a good chance I could fall backward down those stairs pretty easily – Sean told me the other night around a bonfire in a field that I would be back. The level of authority with which he made the declaration made me laugh, but it's always nice to know that the opportunity to work together with Creativity (Sean) and Reason (Joe) is a possibility.

I have learned an inordinate amount about writing, people, horses, raising kids, making relationships work, bookkeeping software, spreadsheets, steeplechasing, flat racing and myself in four years.

I made friends, made mistakes, made assumptions and made a mess – but I also made some of the best choices of my life during that time and had guidance of the Clancy brothers along the way for many of them.

I recently accepted a job with the United States Equestrian Federation working in the communications department in marketing and media relations. The new post starts May 1, right after we finish five papers at Keeneland, in addition to the paper you're reading, which somehow gets printed despite considerable consternation at times. We also have to get through Rolex, and I have to move April 30. That's Monday. Work starts Tuesday. If only April had 31 days.

I'd be lying if I said I wasn't sad, same as if I said I wasn't totally excited. How it will all work out is very much up in the air, but with what I've learned over the past few years I have growing confidence that even if an idea lands in a million pieces all around me, a little bit of ingenuity, creativity and reason can go along way toward putting it back together.

*Eventing editor and a staff writer for ST Publishing, Joanie Morris heads to a new job with the United States Equestrian Federation next month. You may still see her byline from time to time, especially in the next edition covering the Rolex Kentucky three-day event, but we wish her the best in her new endeavors and thank her for her work.*

*And we will really miss Sailor.*

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