

The *Times* Steeplechase & Eventing

Complimentary

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2003



2004



2007

McDynamo

*The Champ gets his handful
of Breeders' Cups*



2005



2006

Entries

What's Happening and Where To Find It

Here's your newspaper. Wow. McDynamo did it again – leaving a field of quality steeplechasers (and 50,000 spectators at Far Hills) in his Breeders' Cup Grand National wake. This edition covers Far Hills and its six stakes, plus steeplechase action from the International Gold Cup, Aiken, Morven Park and Genesee Valley. On the eventing side, Phillip Dutton and Boyd Martin owned Fair Hill International.



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Fantastic at Far Hills

McDynamo steals the show in the Breeders' Cup, but gets plenty of company from Gliding, Imagina, Irish Prince, C R's Deputy and Party Airs. Steeplechasing's biggest day doesn't lack for thrills.



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Big 'Event' at Gold Cup

Great Meadow founder "Nick" Arundel turns up in the winner's circle after his Seeyouattheevent captures historic timber stakes, the International Gold Cup, for trainer Jack Fisher.



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More Steeplechase News

Tom Voss and Xavier Aizpuru team up for a triple at Aiken; Miles Ahead returns to Genesee; Jimmie Echo gets back to winning at Morven Park.

'Pick Six'

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Pick Six

How is your stable doing?



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Eventing News

Phillip Dutton and Boyd Martin shine at Fair Hill International to sweep the first four places at CCI***.



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On the Cover

McDynamo's five Breeders' Cup victories showcase the champion's steeplechase prowess over the race course at Far Hills.

Photo: Tod Marks (4)
and Skip Dickstein.

Design by Kevin Titter.



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The Steeplechase and Eventing

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News and Notes from around the circuit

FOR STARTERS

Worth Repeating

"We started a winery, we had our first vintage last year. We made 2,000 cases. We're going to make 8,500 cases this year and next year we're pointing for 15,000 cases. We're crazy, we just go from one crazy thing to another."

Jess Sweely, owner of timber veteran Northern Thinking and Fair Hill third-place finisher Woodburn – and a winery

Bill Person: "Have you ever done anything just because you spouted off about it for too long?"

ST's Sean Clancy: "Yeah, I started a newspaper."

"How was that? Did you like that?"

Jockey Chip Miller, who also winked while he said it, aboard Party Airs in the winner's circle, to trainer Tom Voss after the Appleton Stakes at Far Hills

"I'm half excited, half terrified."

Event rider Boyd Martin on his possible timber debut at Pennsylvania Hunt Cup

"For somebody who's so over his career, you sure have a lot of memorabilia."

Anne Clancy to husband and retired jump jockey Sean, as she cleaned out the basement

"I think he recovered faster than I did."

Trainer Sanna Hendriks, a few days after the fact, about McDynamo's Breeders' Cup effort.

"I'm smiling all the way to Aiken."

Jockey Jody Petty, Oct. 25, on the impact of winning the Breeders' Cup with McDynamo

"We'll pull his shoes and feed him lots of carrots."

Trainer Sanna Hendriks, on the late fall plans of Irish Prince, who clinched the timber championship with a win at Far Hills

"Even my kids follow McDynamo."

NTRA communications director Eric Wing, who saw the champion's first four Breeders' Cup wins but had to travel to the West Virginia Breeders' Classics this year

"He's more New Jersey than Bruce Springsteen."

Owner Michael Moran about McDynamo, who improved to 7-for-7 over jumps in the Garden State

By the Numbers

32: Seconds ridden by trainer Kathy McKenna, on a mechanical bull at the SAVE party in Unionville, Pa. Oct. 13.

26: Seconds ridden by retired jump jockey Gus Brown.

22: Seconds ridden by amateur jump jockey Todd McKenna.

21: Seconds ridden by retired jump jockey Sean Clancy.

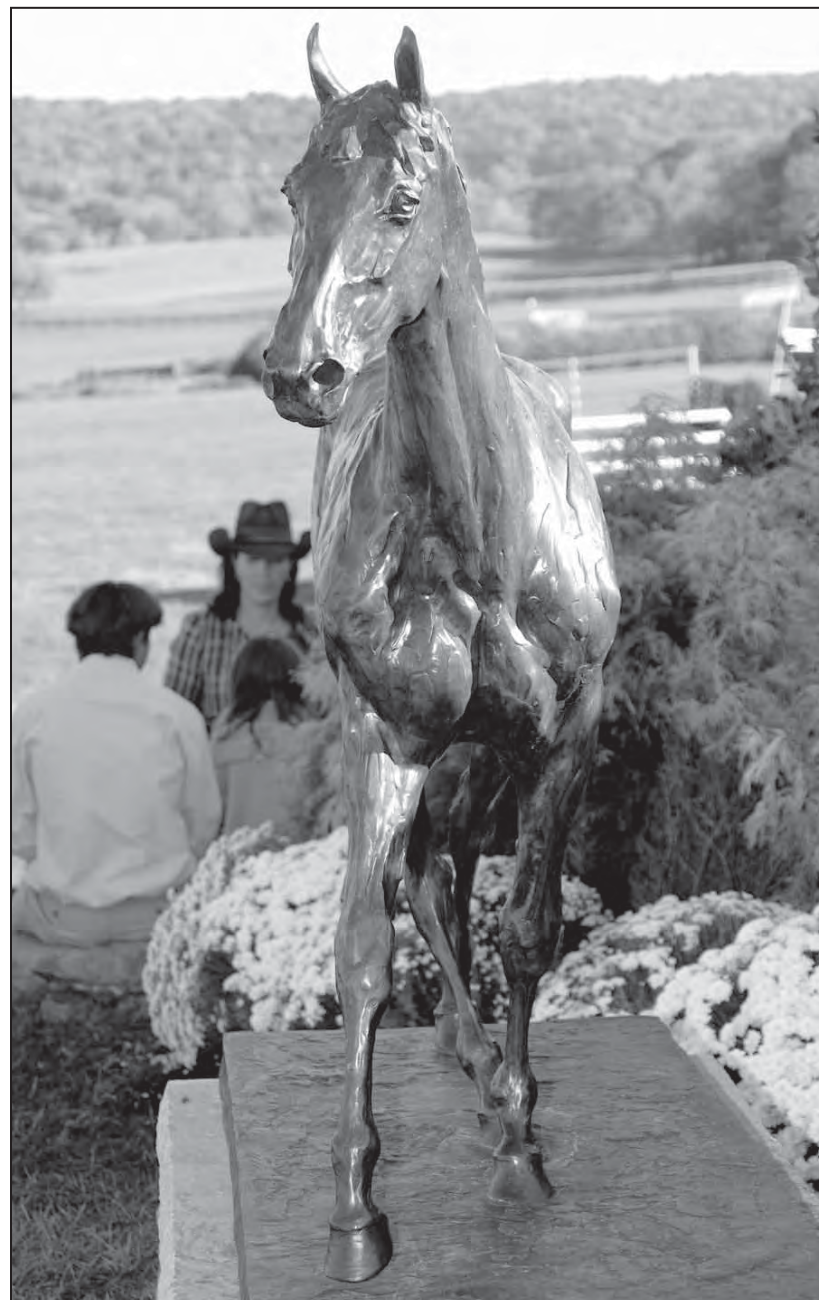
94: Fences cleared by McDynamo in his seven lifetime victories at Far Hills – 11 in a maiden hurdle in 2001, 13 in a novice hurdle stakes in 2002 and 14 each in his five Breeders' Cup scores.

Riding McDynamo, and Not

There are two sides to riding McDynamo – one easy, one not so.

This from Jody Petty, who has the privilege of being the champion's jockey: "Riding McDynamo at Far Hills is easy. I'm more excited than scared. You get a lot of pressure rides in this sport, but for some reason I just don't feel the pressure with him. The Morans are just grateful and Sanna's like 'You know what, we've done everything, let's just go see if we can keep it going.' It's not a high-pressure ride, even though it should be. It's just different with him."

And this from rival rider Chip Miller, third on Best Attack in the 2007 Breeders' Cup Grand National: "It gets old after awhile. I've been chasing that guy for seven years. He's a great horse; you can't take anything away from him. It just gets old trying to beat him. I've come close a couple of times but I wasn't going to win today whether he was in there or not. The way McDynamo runs now, being a front-runner, it impacts the way the race is run. If he wasn't in there we might have gone slower, or I don't know, we might have gone faster. He's the horse to beat and when that horse is in front of you it changes your own tactics. You have to sacrifice your own horse a little bit; it's a fine line. Sometimes you beat yourself trying to beat another horse."



Douglas Lees

SALUTING SALUTER: Great Meadow unveiled a statue of six-time Virginia Gold Cup (and two-time International Gold Cup) winner Saluter. Created by sculptor Alexa King, the bronze statue overlooks the winner's circle.

Willie Dowling and Good Night Shirt have tried McDynamo twice this year and have a win (in the Iroquois) and a fourth (at Far Hills): "He kicked at the bottom of the bend and I tried to go with him and halfway up the hill I was done. McDynamo just has so much; I tried to go with him and he just killed me. I'm on a good horse out there and for a horse to leave me like that, McDynamo has got to be special."

Petty said McDynamo recognizes Far Hills, a course on which he's won seven times in as many tries: "When he walks out of the paddock here he walks out of the paddock like he's home. He knows where he is, he knows what he's doing, he knows what's expected and he knows what he has to do. He's aware that he's here to make his mark yet again."

Brother Act

Acorn Hill Farm's homebred Northern Thinking hit the steeplechase scene as a 3-year-old in 1999. The son of Northern Baby has made 38 starts over jumps, winning the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup in 2005. It took him 9:09 to win the 4-mile classic. His little brother, Steve's Double (eight years his junior) recently won the Grade III Perryville Stakes at Keeneland, going 7 furlongs in 1:25 1/5.

Willie's People

The cheering section at Far Hills didn't get what they wanted – a victory by Good Night Shirt and favorite jockey Willie Dowling – but they had a good time. The group included Dowling's friends Mark O'Dwyer and his wife Katie Cooper plus O'Dwyer's parents and they came with signs that – though they were rated PG13 – would have fit in at a baseball or football game.

"You can't take the Irish anywhere," Dowling said with a laugh afterward. "They embarrassed me, that's for sure, but it was nice to have the support and they had fun."



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McDynamo (Jody Petty) leads Good Night Shirt early in the Breeders' Cup.

Tod Marks

Mission Accomplished

McDynamo comes through with *fifth* victory in Breeders' Cup Grand National Steeplechase

BY JOE CLANCY

FAR HILLS, N.J. – Sanna Hendriks stepped out of her car in the Willowdale Steeplechase parking lot this spring and thought back to the day before, when her stable star McDynamo struggled home fourth in the Iroquois.

"I messed up, I sold my horse short," she said. "I thought he could do it without a flat race and he couldn't. I let him down."

Such is the state of training the horse of the decade. The success comes with responsibility, and it can wear on a trainer. The pressure is self-imposed but it hangs there nonetheless.

And it gets heavy.

Five months later, McDynamo made it feel like a feather with his fifth consecutive win in the Breeders' Cup Grand National (Gr. I) at Far Hills Oct. 20, blowing away doubts and eight foes in an effort that put goosebumps on a scarecrow. Under Jody Petty, the 10-year-old took over with about a mile to run, dared the others – including Iroquois winner Good Night Shirt – to match the move and won by an easy 6 lengths in 5:30 3/5 for the 2 5/8 miles. Sweet Shani rallied for second with Best Attack third. Good Night Shirt, the year's leading earner, finished fourth after chasing the winner into the stretch.

Hendriks, tears rolling down her cheeks, barely contained the relief as her horse trotted back to the winner's circle.

"I didn't let him down. I feel good about that. I was so worried that I would let him down," she said. "I wasn't happy with him this spring, he wasn't sparky enough, just wasn't the way he can be, just mentally wasn't really there. I don't know, I don't know, I just don't know. Maybe I should have picked up that he wasn't sharp enough or happy enough. I should have picked up on the fact that he wasn't quite there and not run."

After the Iroquois, Hendriks regrouped. McDynamo doesn't run in the summer so Saratoga was out. The \$300,000 Breeders' Cup, on his favorite race course (where he is now 7-for-7), became the goal and Hendriks chose to bypass a prep in the Lonesome Glory at Belmont Park in September. She wanted a fresh McDynamo, a sparky McDynamo, for the big race in October. Fighting firm ground all summer and fall, the three-time steeplechase champion foxhunted and worked over the Tapeta surface at Fair Hill Training Center. On Oct. 1, McDynamo enjoyed a day out for a public workout/training race at Shawan Downs when the ground came up hard at Foxfield the day before. Five days before the Breeders' Cup, he worked 5 furlongs in a minute at Fair Hill – signaling he was ready. More importantly, McDynamo bounced out of that speedy move – Hendriks felt it herself Wednesday. He was bright, alert, happy, ready. Thursday, he jumped his first hurdles since the Iroquois. Friday, he went for a hack with Imagina – both were sharp.



McDynamo (right) takes command from Luongo (left) in the Breeders' Cup.

Tod Marks

Hendriks tried to forget her spring concerns and focused on McDynamo's autumn attitude, pointing toward a blazing victory at the Meadowlands to start a three-race winning streak in September 2006.

"When he ran at the Meadowlands last fall he was really sharp going into that race and that's one of the reasons why we skipped Belmont this year," she said. "He ran his sharpest, best race at the Meadowlands and I thought, 'well, if I'm going to do it this way I'm going to take my best shot.' I was going to take my chances – get him fit, get a flat run into him, see how it goes – but I was ready to pull the plug at any minute if he hadn't been happy."

Meanwhile, in his return to action, Good Night Shirt won the Lonesome Glory and stamped himself a legitimate threat for the Breeders' Cup. A neck from being perfect in three Grade I starts, the 6-year-old went over the \$200,000 mark in 2007 earnings with the Belmont win. In some ways, he looked like a young McDynamo – a little raw and unpolished, but devastating on the racetrack.

The two horses – and seven others – lined up for the Breeders' Cup. As usual, the course came up softer than most, but nothing like the mudfests of 2005 and 2006.

McDynamo let Luongo set the early pace while settling in second on the inside. Good Night Shirt found a spot in third, rating but not quite as relaxed as the winner. Behind that one came Underbidder, Best Attack, Sweet Shani and Orison. Chivite fell at the fifth fence while in mid-pack and Three Carat went down at the seventh while trailing. Petty gave McDynamo a little rein at the 10th fence and took the lead on the turn heading to the backstretch the final time. Good Night Shirt, still tugging jockey Willie Dowling, advanced to second and carried Best Attack with him over the 11th and 12th fences. At the 13th, McDynamo led Good Night Shirt by a length with Best Attack drafting into third and Sweet Shani right there in fourth.

And then McDynamo ended the race.

Through the softest part of the course, he flew around the final turn, re-built his

See **BREEDERS' CUP** page 7 ►

Breeders' Cup —

■ Continued from page 6

lead and set sail for Chapter 5 of his Breeders' Cup story. Good Night Shirt made a final run before the last fence, but faded as Sweet Shani ran past to take second by 1 1/2 lengths over Best Attack, who was a neck ahead of Good Night Shirt. As in all of his best races, McDynamo put on a jumping clinic when it mattered — flying the three fences on the backside to crank up the pressure on the others.

"I made him jump a couple short, which he doesn't mind doing but he'd rather stand off and jump everything big," said Petty of the early strategy. "Then when I made the lead, I said 'all right, now we can jump your way buddy.' He just pinged all three. Going into the turn, I felt like I gave him a breather. I just sat there on him and let him coast around the turn. When we hit the hill I squeezed him a little bit because they had to be coming. But I didn't feel them there and finally I took a look. There was no one there."

As Petty checked for competition, McDynamo twitched his ears approaching the last fence, saw a perfect takeoff spot and landed in total command yet again. He won with ease, while getting slapped on the neck by his smiling jockey.

Like Hendriks, Petty worried about his horse before the race but told him-



Hey Sanna Hendriks, how many times have you cried after a horse won?

"Not too many. I think I cried when The Bruce won the Maryland Hunt Cup (with her brother aboard) but that was different, and actually after Praise The Prince won the Turf Writers (2003) I shed a tear. But I didn't cry like that. I couldn't believe it. As soon as he got over the wire, I was just in tears. I could hardly watch the last fence."



Tod Marks

The race for second between (from left) Sweet Shani, Best Attack and Good Night Shirt was tight at the last fence.



Tod Marks

McDynamo (Jody Petty) touches down with yet another commanding lead.

self it was McDynamo.

"Is he fit enough? Is the ground going to be too hard?" the jockey said. "He's 10 years old, is he going to be the same horse? I definitely think of all that, but I worked him last time, I know how well he worked and I just tried to think 'maybe he is back to himself.' I tend to be a positive person anyway, but with this horse it's easy."

As for McDynamo's impact on the outside world, Petty sounds like his other fans.

"He gives you chills watching him and he really gives me chills riding him," he said. "He's a horse of a lifetime. For him to keep coming back and keep coming back makes him that much more special."

One of just three horses eligible for the full Breeders' Cup purse in the field of nine, McDynamo earned \$180,000 with the win and moved to the edge of a fourth Eclipse Award, though work remains to be done. Name recognition will get him votes, but he and Good Night Shirt have split two meetings with the potential rubber match coming in the Colonial Cup. Hendriks will give McDynamo a week before he gallops again, then plot a course for Camden — and the stress of trying not to fail her horse.

• Additional reporting by Sean Clancy.

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40 Minutes in the Sun

McDynamo's timeline at Far Hills for the Breeders' Cup Grand National included:



2:45 p.m.

Getting tacked up in the barn.

2:49 p.m.

First call from the stable manager.

2:52 p.m.

Fifty-one steps from the barn, he is the first horse in the holding area to meet the horse identifier and assemble for the walk to the course.

2:56 p.m.

He exits the holding area, second in line behind Three Carat and just ahead of a stirred up Best Attack in a field of nine.

2:58 p.m.

He steps on to the race course, ears at attention focusing on the atmosphere in front of him.

2:59 p.m.

He enters the paddock.

3:10 p.m.

United with jockey Jody Petty, he gallops toward the start.

3:15 p.m.

The race begins with a drop of Barry Watson's flag.

3:22 p.m.

He walks back toward the stewards' tower, a winner yet again.

3:25 p.m.

The purple Breeders' Cup championship blanket goes over his back.

MCDYNAMO

Retirement call weighs on connections

Michael Moran bounded down the hill toward the winner's circle after his wonder horse McDynamo won a fifth consecutive Breeders' Cup and said "Maybe we should retire this horse right now; that's as good as it gets."

Talking to no one in particular, Moran spoke for many. McDynamo cemented his place in steeplechase lore with the Oct. 20 victory, his 15th in 24 starts over fences. The 10-year-old Dynaformer gelding leads the sport in career earnings, owns three seasonal championships and possesses one of the greatest streaks this side of UCLA basketball.

There really is no encore, though McDynamo will get a chance at one in the Colonial Cup Nov. 18. A victory there and he becomes just the third steeplechaser to win four championships. The schedule doesn't go beyond November so the horse won't run again in 2007.

But is this the end of a career? "I would think," said trainer Sanna Hendriks, somewhat hesitantly. "What's the point? He's 10 and he's won five Breeders' Cups. You hate to say it, but what if something happened? You want to make the right decision at the right time. You don't want to say 'I wish we retired him a race sooner.'"

After McDynamo lost the Iroquois this spring, Hendriks nearly said that. Instead, she blamed herself for not getting him to that race at his peak and planned for an autumn campaign. Train him, foxhunt him, freshen him, work on his mental side as much as his physical and aim for another Breeders' Cup.

"I was thinking after he ran in the Iroquois that maybe I shouldn't have kept him in training," Hendriks said. "Maybe we should have retired him last year. He won the Breeders' Cup and the Colonial Cup in 2006 and looked so good. But you just never know. Now, keeping him going was the right choice."

And that's what it comes down to, a choice. Do Hendriks and Moran choose to race their horse beyond age 10? Or do they choose to say enough and send McDynamo off to a well-deserved life of foxhunting and leading post parades at special events? Tough call, especially with a horse as good as this.

McDynamo made his first start on the flat in 2000 and switched to jumps in 2001. He's outlasted five of his jockeys (Mark Johnston, Robbie Davis, Pat Day, Craig Thornton and Gus Brown) and appears to be built like a rock. Durable, powerful, strong describe the big bay quite ably but careful management has much to do with his longevity.

"Obviously it's him, but I've got to give the Morans a lot of credit," said Hendriks. "Somebody else might have pressured me to run him at Saratoga after he ran badly at the Iroquois. They've never done that."

Now, McDynamo belongs to the people

At some point, great horses cross over. They no longer belong just to their owners and trainers but become everybody's horses as the signature performances pile up and become a storied career. It happened to Lonesome Glory, Flatterer, Zaccio, Saluter – all the greats of the past.

And it's happened to McDynamo. When he crossed the Far Hills finish line with a fifth Breeders' Cup Grand National win, the moment bounced up

the hill to the collective masses. Hairs on the backs of necks stood on end. Chills ran up and down arms. Tears rolled down cheeks.

"I'm separated by several degrees, but I didn't feel like I was separated by anything at that moment," said Beverly Torsilieri, wife of Far Hills co-chairman Guy. "When you see that happen, we're all part of the same thing."

Greatness. Watching McDynamo win can be compared to going to church. You leave feeling better about the world, yourself, people – and it really doesn't matter how religious you are.

Even the losers, who moments earlier were trying to defeat him on the race course, can enjoy McDynamo. Trainer Sanna Hendriks accepted praise from other horsemen all afternoon.

"The people we are competing against have an appreciation for it," she said. "Mary McGlothlin (assistant trainer to Jack Fisher) comes up and congratulates me and in my opinion she had the favorite coming into it. That's pretty neat."



Tod Marks

McDynamo heads to the start of the Breeders' Cup at Far Hills.

McDynamo owes nothing, long ago making up for his purchase price and expenses with earnings and memorable moments to last a lifetime. But he obviously enjoys what he does and can still race with the best. If he could speak, the people in his life would surely ask him what to do next.

And what might he say?

"Right now, he'd say 'I'm ready to go, I'm king of the hill again,' " said Hendriks a few days after the race. "We got on him (Wednesday) for the first time and he was moving great and feeling sharp. I'm sure he's feeling pretty proud of himself."

And not quite ready to retire – just yet.

– Joe Glancy

McDynamo by the Numbers

1: Horse older than 9 to run at Far Hills. Ten-year-old McDynamo was also the best.

2: Horses to win steeplechase championships beyond age 9. Ancestor (10) in 1959 and Lonesome Glory (11) in 1999. McDynamo (10) tries to become the third.

5: Breeders' Cup blankets won by McDynamo. One is with assistant trainer Brianne Slater, two are with owners Michael and Anne Moran, and two are with trainer Sanna Hendriks – one at her home and the 2007 model riding around in her car. "I'm going to keep this one pretty close to me," she said.



Trainer Sanna Hendriks

Veteran trainer Tom Voss doesn't waste words, but saved a few for McDynamo. "Hey, well done," he told Hendriks afterward. "He's something to watch jump. He just picks up and keeps on going, never even moves over a fence. Until you see it happen, you wouldn't believe it could be done. He's amazing, that horse."



Gliding (left, Matt McCarron) passes Planets Aligned (right) and Sovereign Duty at the last fence in the Foxbrook.

Tod Marks

High Flyer

Gliding bounces back from fall to win Gr. I novice

BY BRIAN NADEAU

FAR HILLS, N.J. – “It was as bad a fall as I’ve ever seen,” Doug Fout said.

Those who saw the Grade II Somerset Medical Center at the Meadowlands Sept. 21 know Fout wasn’t delivering “trainer-speak.” There was no hiding the truth. Brigadoon Stable’s Gliding fell at the last in the Somerset, violently hitting the ground and seemingly spilling all plans for Far Hills and the Grade I, \$100,000 Foxbrook for novices on the ground next to jockey Willie Dowling.

So the fact that Gliding met the starter at Far Hills Oct. 20 was good filler. To see him streak up the hill the final time under Matt McCarron and go on to score by an easy 2 1/4 lengths win was a true headline.

“He’s a lucky horse but we didn’t get squat out of that race. We were still thinking Far Hills, but the Somerset was a disaster. We just had to come back and train him that much harder,” Fout said. “Luckily he got his confidence back and you would have never known he had a fall that bad. He came back and never put a foot down wrong.”

The Foxbrook included.

McCarron settled Gliding at the back of the six-horse field and was pleased to feel his 7-year-old New Zealand-bred fall into an easy rhythm, with no hesitation as they jumped during in the 2 1/2-mile, 13-fence test, run over a course labeled soft.

“Coming off the fall at the Meadowlands was a big concern. That can have serious consequences. Horses can be tentative and it causes them to jump carefully,” McCarron said. “He can be a bit unsettled if he’s in the mix. It was a six-horse field and hopefully I could be out the back but not be displaced from the field. Being a New Zealand-bred, we were excited to get him on soft ground. I was very pleased early on; he just floated over it.”

Heavy favorite Divine Fortune, who had won the Somerset by an easy 2 3/4 lengths, was once again the measuring stick in the Foxbrook. This summer he pummeled a Saratoga allowance field by 8 1/4 lengths and the 4-year-old son of Royal Anthem entered the Foxbrook with three wins and two seconds in five starts over jumps in 2007. While McDynamo would represent the past and present later in the Grand National, Divine Fortune offered a glimpse at the future.

With the scratch of King Hoss, the Foxbrook lacked a

FAR HILLS RACES Saturday, October 20

true front-runner but it was still somewhat surprising to see Divine Fortune (Danielle Hodsdon) take up the early running, while Planets Aligned (Chip Miller) provided them a constant shadow. McCarron and Gliding bided their time while never more than 6 lengths behind at any call.

“I had to watch Divine Fortune, being that he was the horse to beat, and I was tickled to see him in front, as it’s not his style,” McCarron said. “I wasn’t sure he could get the trip that way while being pushed on the lead.”

Divine Fortune endured a wide trip and never seemed comfortable while being pressured on the lead. Planets Aligned took charge and went on after the seventh. He held a clear lead as they passed the line with a lap remaining and let things out a notch rounding the turn into the backside.

“When Planets Aligned kicked on that really surprised me, as that’s not Chip’s style; he doesn’t do that,” McCarron said. “So for him to be in front I figured he had a lot of horse.”

So did McCarron.

Things bunched down the backside the final time and Gliding drew within 3 lengths of Planets Aligned. As the field jumped the third and final backstretch fence, Planets Aligned found himself surrounded by challengers. Sovereign Duty (Dowling) made the first move, collaring the leader down the hill into the final turn. McCarron, drafting behind the leaders while drawing closer, waited for a hole that threatened to stay closed. The jockey tapped the brakes while Gliding steadied inside, clipping the beacon as he negotiated the uphill run to the last. McCarron righted his charge, floored the gas, and took flight around the leaders as they came out of the bend. Tipping out to daylight, he launched over the last and streaked past Sovereign Duty and Planets Aligned to drive clear. Sovereign Duty held second, a half-length over Planets Aligned.

“Turning for home I wanted to follow Chip because Sovereign Duty has a tendency to go wide,” McCarron said. “I was inside and was nearly pushed off; I think most horses would have been off course, but my horse responded really well.”

For Gliding, that’s becoming common practice.

Far Hills Races

Far Hills, N.J. Saturday, Oct. 20. Turf: Soft.

1st. \$50,000. SOQ F&M hurdle stakes. 2 1/8 miles. The Peapack (Grade III)

1. IMAGINA (CHI)	L 140	Petty
2. SLEW’S PEAK	L 140	Hodsdon
3. LAIR	L 136	Dowling
4. GUELPH	L 144	C. Murphy
5. JELLYBERRY	L 136	McCarron
6. FOOTLIGHTS	L 152	Aizpuru
PJ. SONTARA	L 140	Young
PJ. MIDSIDE MAGGIE	L 137	Slater

Mgn: 1 3/4. Time: 4:15 2/5.

O: Augustin Stable. T: Sanna Hendriks.

B. m. 5 Great Regent-Lujuriosa, Lord Florey.

Bred by Haras Santa Marta (CHI).

2nd. \$100,000. SOK Novice hurdle stakes. 2 1/2 miles. The Foxbrook (Grade I). NW prior to 6/1/06.

1. GLIDING (NZ)	L 156	McCarron
2. SOVEREIGN DUTY	L 153	Dowling
3. PLANETS ALIGNED	L 153	C. Miller
4. DIVINE FORTUNE	L 148	Hodsdon
5. RAINIERO (CHI)	L 150	Petty
6. SPARKLED	L 150	Slater

Mgn: 2 1/4. Time: 5:13 2/5.

O: Brigadoon Stable. T: Doug Fout.

B. g. 7 Lord Ballina (AUS)-Purring (AUS), Gold Carat.

Bred by J.N. Wallace (NZ).

3rd. \$50,000. Hurdle handicap. 2 1/8 miles. The Appleton Stakes (Grade III)

1. PARTY AIRS	L 152	C. Miller
2. PREEMPTIVE STRIKE	L 154	Young
3. SWIMMING RIVER	L 142	McCarron
4. JAZZITUPGEORGE	L 138	Aizpuru
5. MON VILLEZ (FR)	L 150	Petty
6. FOUR SCHOOLS (IRE)	140	Foley

Mgn: 3 1/4. Time: 4:15 2/5.

O: Ken and Sarah Ramsey. T: Tom Voss.

B. g. 8 Geri-Elegant Champagne, Alleged.

Bred by Eve Ledyard (PA).

4th. \$300,000. Hurdle stakes. 2 5/8 miles. The Breeders’ Cup Grand National (Grade I)

1. MCDYNAMO	L 156	Petty
2. SWEET SHANI (NZ)	L 150	Aizpuru
3. BEST ATTACK	L 156	C. Miller
4. GOOD NIGHT SHIRT	L 156	Dowling
5. UNDERBIDDER	L 156	Slater
6. ORISON	L 156	McCarron
F. CHIVITE (IRE)	L 156	Young
F. THREE CARAT	L 156	Hodsdon
PJ. LUONGO	L 156	Gillam

Mgn: 6. Time: 5:30 3/5.

O: Michael Moran. T: Sanna Hendriks.

B. g. 10 Dynaformer-Rondonia, Monteverdi (IRE).

Bred by Richard Fox, Nathan Fox, Richard Kaster (KY).

5th. \$50,000. 3YO hurdle stakes. 2 1/8 miles. The Gladstone

1. C R’S DEPUTY	L 150	C. Miller
2. NAT GREW	L 150	Dowling
3. BE CERTAIN	L 150	Aizpuru
4. COUPE DE VILLE	L 150	McCarron
5. ORDERED TO LISTEN	L 150	Petty

Mgn: 3/4. Time: 4:33 3/5.

O: Barracuda Stable. T: Ricky Hendriks.

B. g. 3 Deputy Commander-Splendid Victory, Atticus.

Bred by Tracy Farmer (KY).

6th. \$50,000. Timber stakes. 3 1/4 miles. The New Jersey Hunt Cup

1. IRISH PRINCE (NZ)	L 165	Petty
2. HOT SPRINGS	L 165	Dowling
3. ERIN GO BRAGH (NZ)	L 165	McCarron
PJ. BUBBLE ECONOMY	L 165	Gillam
PJ. MR BOMBASTIC (GER)	L 165	C. Miller

Mgn: 4. Time: 7:39 2/5.

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).

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Imagine That

Augustin mare thrives in soft turf to start big day for Petty, Hendriks

BY JOE CLANCY

FAR HILLS, N.J. – No matter what happens the rest of the way, the 2007 award for most varied terrain covered in victory goes to Imagina. She won on sandy turf at the Carolina Cup in March, dry, hard turf at Fair Hill in May and in the soft turf at Far Hills in October.

"I almost scratched her this morning because she likes hard ground or she's supposed to," said trainer Sanna Hendriks of the Augustin Stable mare. "I walked the course and said 'this is a waste of a race, we're not going to beat Footlights.' Then I saw her jog up for the vet and she was running all over the guy and everything so I said, 'Well, I'm here what the hell.'"

Indeed. Imagina (Jody Petty) rated well off the pace early, advanced to fourth with a circuit remaining and moved past Guelph and Lair on the final turn before drawing off to score by 1 3/4 lengths in the \$50,000 Peapack Stakes for fillies/mares. The winner covered the 2 1/8 miles in 4:15 2/5. Slew's Peak (Danielle Hodsdon) finished second with Lair (Willie Dowling) third.



Tod Marks

Jody Petty (aboard Imagina) celebrates 100 career wins.



Tod Marks

Party Airs (left, Chip Miller) surges away from Preemptive Strike at the last fence.

FAR HILLS RACES

Saturday, October 20

Hendriks wasn't impressed with her decision to run early in the race.

"When she got to the turn before the backside I said 'now this is when Jody should just go ahead and pull up' and the next thing you know she's third and then she's in front," said the trainer.

Imagina started 2007 as a maiden, but has now earned \$62,700. She prepped for Far Hills with a fifth against males at Philadelphia Park 12 days earlier. In the Peapack, she squared off against Grade I winner Footlights plus the race's previous two winners Guelph (2005) and Suntara (2006) among a field of eight.

"She came out of the race at Philadelphia Park really sharp and she's never been sharp in her whole life," said Hendriks. "There were some really tough fillies in there."

The victory was career score No. 100 for Petty, who rode his first NSA race in 1993.

"It's really huge for me because I remember when I was still a bug rider and someone won their 100th race," said Petty. "I was like 'Oh yeah, like I'll ever be there.' It seems like forever, but it's just a huge accomplishment for me."

Despite appearances, Party Airs returns a winner

After watching Party Airs take the \$50,000 Appleton Stakes, a frustrated gambler created some oddball strategy: "Just bet on the rattiest horse in the race."

Party Airs' trainer Tom Voss agreed, then took exception: "Yeah, you're right. Hey wait, who said that?"

Nobody meant any harm, but Party Airs has looked better – in the paddock anyway.



Tod Marks

Imagina (left, Jody Petty) collars Lair at the last fence in the Peapack, the first of six stakes on the card at Far Hills.

"He eats everything, just won't put any weight on, like the year we first got him," said Voss. "Maybe he runs better that way I don't know. He looks like a little rat now, that's exactly what he looks like. He doesn't eat a lot, but he's healthy. His blood is good. I guess he doesn't need any extra weight on him with all his problems."

Party Airs struggles with bleeding, broke his hip in 2005 and missed loads of time with a bowed tendon. Still, when things go right – soft ground helps immensely – he's plenty capable with three wins in his last eight starts dating back to July 2005.

He looked beautiful crossing the finish line at Far Hills. Owned by Ken and Sarah Ramsey, the 8-year-old won the race for the second consecutive year after rating behind the quick pace of Four Schools and Preemptive Strike. Fourth on the final turn, Party Airs (Chip Miller) switched to the outside and went after Preemptive Strike, Jazzitupgeorge and Swimming River before drawing off in the stretch to score by 3 1/4 lengths in 4:15 2/5 (identical to Imagina's time) for 2 1/8 miles. Preemptive Strike (Paddy Young) stayed for second with Swimming River (Matt McCarron) third.

Miller appreciated some pre-race advice from Voss assistant and regular jockey Cyril Murphy, who said Party Airs (often a front-runner) would settle if the pace was quick enough early.

"They did go quick enough and he settled for me," said Miller. "He jumped really, really good; and that's really key on a day like today when the ground is tiring and really soft. You just want to be very exact around your fences to minimize your energy."

Party Airs ran just once in 2006 (a win in the Appleton), and opened 2007 by pulling up after four fences at Keeneland. Next he finished fifth in the Marcellus Frost at Nashville and a well-beaten fourth in the Flatterer (for Pennsylvania-breds) at Philadelphia Park in July. Idle since, he came to Far Hills fresh – if a little rough looking –

and put together a superb race.

Bred in Pennsylvania by Eve Leedyard, Party Airs sold to the Ramseys for \$8,500 as a yearling, but went to trainer Dermot Weld in Ireland. He won once on the flat, then captured three hurdle races including a classy stakes at Leopardstown on Boxing Day 2002. His 2003 campaign consisted of eight starts, five in Ireland and three in the United States after joining the Voss barn. The son of Geri beat future Grade I winner Cherokee in the hills at Saratoga and Pimlico, then finished third behind Hirapour and Preemptive Strike at Callaway Gardens. Since then, the races have been further apart and the success a little more rare.

"If nothing's wrong with him he'll try and there are a lot of things wrong with him," said Voss. "He just runs through it all, I don't know how. He beat some good horses when he first came over here (2003) and he could be a pretty nice horse if he didn't have all that wrong with him."

C R's Deputy proves to be a good buy

Trainer Ricky Hendriks called jockey Chip Miller about riding C R's Deputy at Far Hills and asked the usual questions.

"Do you want to get on him? Do you want to school him?"

Miller: "No, that's OK. I'm good."

And that was that. Miller took the call, got a leg up for the first time in the Far Hills paddock and won the \$50,000 Gladstone aboard the 3-year-old owned by Barracuda Stable. C R's Deputy stayed wide throughout, to compensate for a tendency to lug in, but withstood several challenges – first from Coupe De Ville and then from Nat Grew to win by three-quarters of a length. A maiden winner at Virginia Fall, the son of Deputy Commander sewed up the NSA 3-year-old championship with the \$30,000 winner's share.

See **FAR HILLS** page 11 ►

Far Hills —

■ Continued from page 10

He also paid for himself. Hendriks spent \$20,000 to buy the (then) colt at Fasig-Tipton's horses of racing age sale in June. Bred by Tracy Farmer, C R's Deputy came with a race record that included two wins and a fourth in Belmont's Pilgrim Stakes as a 2-year-old. Reputation also came with the package "They barely got him in the sales ring he was so crazy," said Hendriks. "We gelded him right away and that made a big difference."

In his first start for Hendriks, C R's Deputy won on the flat for a \$25,000 claiming price in September. He then handled hard ground and three rivals in a maiden at Virginia Fall before heading to Far Hills. The win was Hendriks' fourth in the Gladstone after Gliding (an American-bred, not this year's Fox-brook winner) in 1995, Tres Touche in 2000 and Geaux Beau in 2001.

The win moved Miller to seventh — and past his sister Blythe, on the all-time win list with 203.

Irish Prince runs timber streak to four

Sanna Hendriks' big day continued in the finale as Augustin Stable's Irish Prince (Petty) clinched the NSA timber championship with an easy score in the \$50,000 New Jersey Hunt Cup. The New Zealand import improved to 4-for-4 since switching to timber this spring.

Petty allowed Irish Prince to take the lead with a slow pace and he maintained it while dispatching challenges from the other four runners in the 3 1/4-mile test. Erin Go Bragh made the stoutest run, getting close just before the second-to-last but faltered in the run-in as Irish Prince skipped away to win by 2 3/4 lengths in 7:39 2/5 over Hot Springs (Dowling) with Erin Go Bragh (McCaron) third.

"I didn't want to (make all the running) but no one else was going and he seemed pretty relaxed there," said Petty. "He can be a strong horse and the further we went he was kind of getting a little stronger; which I didn't



Tod Marks

C R's Deputy (right, Chip Miller) pulls away from Nat Grew after the last fence in the Peapack.

mind, actually. He just kept on going; he's a monster. I got to the bottom of the hill after I jumped the second-last and I gave him a squeeze and I couldn't believe how much he gave me. He just shot right up the hill."

Irish Prince has managed to convert solid hurdle form, and stylish jumping, to timber. He accelerates out of an easy gallop when called upon and can take his course with him as he's won at Camden, Nashville, Shawan and now Far Hills.

"He's a serious jumper, with great stamina and he can quicken enough off of it," said Hendriks, who first thought about timber after the horse injured a tendon in spring 2005. "He was always a really good hurdle jumper but not too good — just careful enough and a really good folder. To look at him you wouldn't think timber horse. He's little, but he's a little springy guy."

Irish Prince became the first timber horse to win \$100,000 in a single season, pulling down \$102,000 to pass Saluter's mark of \$96,189 set in 1995.

• Additional reporting by Sean Clancy and Brian Nadeau.



Tod Marks

Irish Prince (Jody Petty) displays textbook form over a timber fence in the New Jersey Hunt Cup.

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Douglas Lees

Seeyouattheevent (right, Robbie Walsh) leads Woodmont in the Gold Cup.

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'Seeyouat' the Finish

Walsh, Fisher take timber feature

BY JAMIE SANTO

THE PLAINS, Va. — Allimac dashed to the lead and dared the field to follow. They did, but at a semi-respectful distance, unsure whether he'd run off or run out at Great Meadow.

Allimac (James Fahey) looked to take the \$50,000 International Gold Cup on the front end; the five other runners looked to take their chances. Sure, Allimac had romped off with the Mason Houghland at the drop of the flag. But that was in May 2006, and he hadn't been seen at the races since.

So Fields Of Omagh (Carl Rafter), Shady Valley (Russell Haynes), Seeyouattheevent (Robbie Walsh), Woodmont (Jeff Murphy) and Navesink View (Will Haynes) queued up and trailed behind. Navesink View spilled over the sixth fence as the field first passed the stewards' stand, and the order was unchanged as they went past the second time.

Down the back the final time, the pace chores caught up with Allimac, and the field entered the stretch with 6 lengths between first and last. That's when Seeyouattheevent, who had built a slight lead on the turn, put the rest away.

The Jack Fisher trainee came rolling through the lane to take the timber stakes by 8 lengths over Woodmont, with Shady Valley less than a length back in third. The winner covered the 3 1/2 miles in 7:01 4/5. Allimac faded to fourth.

"The way the race set up, I was hoping to wait," said Walsh. "I didn't have much chance (to get involved early),



Douglas Lees

Orpington (Robbie Walsh) floats to the finish with a win in the maiden claimer.

INTERNATIONAL GOLD CUP

Saturday, October 20

but he was laid back, as quiet as you need. Following behind, you're better off there."

Willie Dowling had ridden Seeyouattheevent in his last eight races, including his big score at the Radnor Hunt Cup in May, and the Gold Cup was Walsh's first ride aboard the 6-year-old.

"Willie's the one that made up the horse," said Walsh, who got the ride because Dowling was in Far Hills. "Willie said he's never been first at the last, but he pinged the second-last."

Owner and Great Meadow course founder Nick Arundel summoned Jackie Gleason as he addressed the crowd after the race. "How sweet it is!", he exclaimed.

"It's nice to win for Mr. Arundel," Fisher said later. "It's his course, he wanted to run the horse there. It's good for Robbie to go down there and get a couple of wins for me."

- Walsh and Fisher first teamed to take the fourth, a \$20,000 maiden claiming hurdle with Gil Johnston's Orpington.

What kind of instructions did the jockey receive from the trainer?

"He left me a message — 'I suppose you better call back and I'll tell you what to do tomorrow.'"

Walsh did just fine by taking a patient line.

Dromineer (Rylee Zimmerman) and Pet Broker (Roderick Mackenzie) acted like bank robbers in cahoots, running one-two in the early going and building a bulge on the field. Walsh retained the best spot he could, near the back but not completely out of touch.

"I just had him wherever he was comfortable," the jockey said. "Early on they were both pretty quick and I couldn't be any closer . . . at the second go, I'm like 'I'm a long way out of it, and I don't know if I can get in there,' but he jumped much better than he did at Philadelphia."

He was eighth 12 days earlier at Philly Park, where he finished 13 1/4 lengths behind the winner in a straight maiden. The drop in class helped at Great Meadow, as Orpington took the 2 1/2-mile affair by 11 lengths over Dr. Kinsolving (Murphy) with Endless Mountain (Gregg Ryan) third.

"I got him a little closer a little more and it helped him, the last time I maybe left him too far out," Walsh said. "He jumped superbly, a couple of mistakes, but didn't lose time. On the back side I was like 'I think I got him.' He all of a sudden came up in the bridle while they

See **GOLD CUP** page 13 ►

Gold Cup —

■ Continued from page 12

were slowing down. He ran through the gap like he was shot through a cannon. Everyone was slowing up and it gave him a bit of heart. He jumped the last two well, popped the second last and pinged the last and landed running.”

• The Steeplethon provided its usual assortment of twists and turns . . . at least the course did. The race itself contained all the dramatic tension of the Dewey Decimal System. Irv Naylor’s Bon Fleur went to the lead, and established a comfortable margin that increased by, well, leaps and bounds.

Ridden by Murphy and trained by Joe Davies, the 7-year-old rolled home to notch a handy score in the cross-country race. With a field scratched down to three, Bon Fleur took charge early, Western Fling (Rafter) settled into second and Berani (W. Haynes) set up shop in third. The trio maintained that order — each separated by open lengths — throughout the 3-mile affair. Bon Fleur crossed the wire 62 lengths in front; Davies’ only horse in training collected his second win on the year.

“He jumps brilliantly,” Murphy said. “He’s a classy old horse, Joe does a super job with him . . . Working on one horse, he’s babied, you know. This fellow, he’s got it all down. He’s so athletic, so quick. You can’t ask for any more than that. He stays, and he’s got gears.”

Winner of the U.S. Championship Novice in 2005 (by 8 1/2 lengths over

Good Night Shirt), Bon Fleur has plenty of talent. Unfortunately, he’s also endowed with a bad set of hooves and an attitude worthy of Eeyore, problems that keep Davies and his wife, Blythe Miller, quite busy.

“My wife, mostly, spent hours and hours just trying to get his feet right and get him happy,” Davies said. “He’s been unhappy — he’s had three happy days in the last 75, and today was one of them. We finally got him just right today; he’s pretty unbeatable when he’s happy. He lost a shoe halfway around, and he’s just got the worst feet you’ve ever seen . . . If you thought he ran well today you should see him out there with four shoes.”

Bon Fleur’s other win in 2007 came in the Alfred Hunt at Middleburg, also an old-fashioned steeplechase featuring mixed jumps, and his trainer has been thinking of taking his show on the road to England’s Cheltenham for a run over the cross-country course.

“Well, the Cheltenham plan seems to be more my plan than Mr. Naylor’s,” Davies said. “This is a once-in-a-lifetime horse, to be a course specialist like that and go over and do it would be a thrill of a lifetime. To go to Cheltenham, to go to England with a horse that can win is to me the ultimate. Unfortunately I’ve been unsuccessful at convincing Mr. Naylor at the moment . . .”

Murphy liked Bon Fleur’s chances. “I was over at Cheltenham in March,” he said. “He would have finished in the first four if you handicapped it right . . . It’d be brilliant. A great experience for me, to be selfish about it, it’d be great.”

See **GOLD CUP** page 15 ►



Douglas Lees

Bon Fleur (Jeff Murphy) flies a fence in his Steeplethon victory at Great Meadow.

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When The Saints (Chris Read) shows the way in his maiden hurdle win at Great Meadow.

Douglas Lees

Gold Cup —

■ Continued from page 13

• Fly Past is like family to Kathy McKenna, so the trainer was understandably proud when the 4-year-old took the second race, a \$30,000 optional claimer.

“What a nice win for him. I used to gallop his mother, Lofty Endeavor, when I worked for Mr. Sheppard,” McKenna said. “That’s why I bought him. I saw him run at Delaware Park and he won a race at Delaware on the flat, and I called Mr. Sheppard and said, ‘Can I please buy Fly Past?’ I assumed he would say no. Then he called back like two days later and said, ‘OK, we’ll sell him.’ He didn’t pass the vet, I bought him anyway. Mainly I bought him because I galloped his mother and I loved his mom. Then I galloped his father (Crowd Pleaser), and Mr. Sheppard takes such good care of his horses.”

The youngest entrant in the seven-horse field, Fly Past (Carl Rafter) rated off the pace and ran past Gather No Moss (Zimmerman) in the stretch to score by a half-length with Thrumcap (Walsh) third.

McKenna was happy for her owners as well.

“I love training for Move Up Stables,” she said. “No matter what happens they’re still game, they love the sport.”

• When The Saints (Chris Read) took the opener, a \$25,000 Sport of Kings maiden hurdle, kicking off a triple for Kinross Farm and trainer Neil Morris.

Making his jump debut, When The Saints patiently tracked Classy Brute (W. Haynes) and Postnuptial (Rafter) through the early going in the 2 1/2-mile race. Postnuptial pulled up before the last, When The Saints fought off Classy Brute through the stretch to score by three-quarters of a length. Ghost Bar (Billy Santoro) finished a distant third.

“We bought him in January from the (Fitz) Dixon dispersal sale at Kentucky,” said Morris. “So that was his first start over hurdles and he did that really kind of nicely.”

A 5-year-old son of Saint Ballado, out of the Seattle Slew mare Outlasting, When The Saints sold for \$60,000 at Keeneland. It was his first official outing since a 10th-place effort at Delaware Park in September 2006.

• Morris and Kinross enjoyed success on the flat as well, sweeping the two non-jump races on the card.

Capital Peak (Lucy Horner) won the fifth, the final leg of



Fly Past (right, Carl Rafter) fights past Gather No Moss in the stretch at Great Meadow.

Douglas Lees

the \$20,000 Fegenrti international amateur rider series; and Run The Light (Read) took the \$20,000 Old Dominion Turf Championship for Virginia-bred or sired horses. Morris was pleased with the success, but didn’t let flat victories distract him from his raison d’être at Kinross.

“They’re jumpers. Capital Peak, the last time I’ve run him over jumps was a hurdle race at Callaway Gardens and I’m going to go back down there this fall,” Morris said. “He’s going, but he’s nice enough on the flat. And he’s just getting preps. It’s not like this is his destination. But he’s good enough, he’s good enough.”

Under Horner – the English-born rider having been deputized by the American contingent and racing in Uncle Sam’s silks – Capital Peak picked up his second flat win in as many weeks, taking the 1 3/4-mile affair by 5 1/2 lengths over Toughkenamon.

Morris, Kinross and Read closed out the card with Run The Light, who took the 1 1/4-mile flat race for Virginia-breds. The \$20,000 event was sponsored by Ned Evans’ Spring Hill Farm, where the 6-year-old son of Tabasco Cat was bred.

“We bought him off of Spring Hill this summer,” said Morris. “He’d been injured a year ago and we bought him out of a field. We prepared him, got him ready. He’s going to run over jumps.”

And Morris’ take on the winner being bred by the sponsor? “Mr. Evans said, ‘I’m a full-service guy.’”

International Gold Cup

The Plains, Va. Saturday, Oct. 20. Turf: Firm.
1st. \$25,000. SOK maiden hurdle. 2 1/2 miles.

1. WHEN THE SAINTS	L 157	Read
2. CLASSY BRUTE	L 136	W. Haynes
3. GHOST BAR	L 143	Santoro
PJ. POSTNUPTIAL	L 154	Rafter

Mgn: 3/4. Time: 4:51 2/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

B. g. 5 Saint Ballado-Outlasting, Seattle Slew.

Bred by Jon Kelly (KY).

2nd. \$30,000. Optional clm. hurdle. 2 1/2 miles.
NW 2 or for clm. price \$30,000

1. FLY PAST	L 144	Rafter
2. GATHER NO MOSS	L 139	Zimmerman
3. THRUMCAP	L 142	Walsh
4. BEYOND REPAIR (IRE)	L 139	McVicar
5. WESTBOUND ROAD	L 140	J. Murphy
6. REFLECTOR	L 134	W. Haynes
LR. BOW STRADA (GB)	L 143	Mackenzie

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 5:08 2/5.

O: Move Up Stable. T: Kathy McKenna.

Dk. B./Br. g. 4 Crowd Pleaser-Lofty Endeavor, Great Above. Bred by Jonathan Sheppard (PA).

3rd. \$25,000. Open timber. 3 miles.

Steeplechase course

1. BON FLEUR	L 155	J. Murphy
2. WESTERN FLING	L 160	Rafter
3. BERANI	150	W. Haynes

Mgn: 62. Time: 5:46 4/5.

O: Irv Naylor. T: Joe Davies.

B. g. 7 Bon Point (GB)-Forgetmenot, Bering (GB). Bred by Marablu Farm (FL).

4th. \$20,000. Maiden clm. hurdle. 2 1/2 miles.
\$30,000-\$25,000 clm. price

1. ORPINGTON	L 148	Walsh
2. DR. KINSOLVING	L 143	J. Murphy
3. ENDLESS MOUNTAIN	L 151	Ryan
4. BENEFICIAL MAN (IRE)	L 148	Rafter
5. DROMINEER	L 143	Zimmerman
F. PET BROKER	L 137	Mackenzie
F. CUSE	L 143	McVicar
PJ. SCOTT’S GOLD	L 143	R. Haynes

Mgn: 11. Time: 4:56 3/5.

O: Gil Johnston. T: Jack Fisher.

B. g. 6 Cozzene-Tina Fleet, Afleet.

Bred by Lambholm (FL).

5th. \$20,000. Open flat. 1 3/4 miles.

Int’l amateur jockeys. Fegenrti World Cup

1. CAPITAL PEAK	L 145	Horner
2. TOUGHKENAMON	L 146	Dobson
3. LUVYODAD	L 145	de Paola
4. HEIR APPARENT (SAF)	L 145	King
5. LEAVES OF AUTUMN	L 142	Langvad
6. BAD BIRDIE	L 145	de la Horie
7. SIR BERNARDO	L 145	Rodenbusch
8. SUMMERSGILL	130	Unrath
9. ST. EMILION	L 150	Cooney
10. GLIDE KING	L 150	Grilli
11. SOCIETY MILLINER (IRE)	135	Platt

Mgn: 5 1/2. Time: 3:32 4/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

B. g. 8 With Approval-Central City, Midyan.

Bred by George Strawbridge (PA).

6th. \$50,000. Timber stakes. 3 1/2 miles.

The International Gold Cup

1. SEEYOUATTHEEVENT	L 160	Walsh
2. WOODMONT	L 155	J. Murphy
3. SHADY VALLEY	L 160	R. Haynes
4. ALLIMAC (IRE)	L 165	Fahey
5. FIELDS OF OMAGH	L 160	Rafter
F. NAVESINK VIEW	L 155	W. Haynes

Mgn: 8 1/2. Time: 7:01 4/5.

O: Arthur Arundel. T: Jack Fisher.

B. h. 6 Event of the Year-Return Flight (GB), Generous (IRE). Bred by David Wade (MD).

7th. \$20,000. Va.-bred/sired flat. 1 1/4 miles.

Old Dominion Turf Championship

1. RUN THE LIGHT	L 165	Read
2. ROSEMONT RUNNER	L 150	Grilli
3. HEY DOCTOR	L 150	J. Murphy
4. MECKLENBURG	L 140	W. Haynes
5. FOUGHT	L 157	McVicar
6. MACHIPONGO	L 155	Cooney
7. MAURITANIA	L 155	Ryan
8. FLYBYBOY	150	Horner
9. XTRA SMART	L 157	Rafter
OC. PLEASURE PRO	L 152	Hastie
OC. TU BAKU	L 150	Walsh

Mgn: 2. Time: 2:21 2/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

Ch. g. 6 Tabasco Cat-Green Light, Sheikh Albadou. Bred by Edward P. Evans (VA).

3's Company

Aizpuru, Voss partner for triple play

BY BEN BAUGH

AIKEN, S.C. — They say good things happen in threes, and the tandem of trainer Tom Voss and jockey Xavier Aizpuru teamed to win three races including the featured allowance hurdle Oct. 27 at the Aiken Fall Steeplechase at Ford Conger Field.

Aizpuru has been enjoying a career year in 2007, and increased his lead in the NSA jockey standings to four on Paddy Young and five on Matt McCarron with the triple.

The English native rode Dapple Stable's Gryffindor to a win in the Southern Bank & Trust Holiday Cup, a first-level allowance at 2 1/4 miles. The New York-bred bay gelding had to hold off the hard-charging Sheriff Dillon by three-quarters of a length.

"I've been lucky enough this year to have been riding for a strong stable; Jack Fisher has supported me all year long," said Aizpuru. "I rode a winner for Jonathan Sheppard, and I've ridden some strong horses for Tom Voss this fall."

An objection was lodged by Sheriff Dillon's jockey Carl Rafter, who claimed contact was made with the winner while going over the 12th hurdle, but the

AIKEN FALL RACES

Saturday, October 27

claim of foul was disallowed. A maiden winner at Camden last fall, Gryffindor improved to 2-for-6 over hurdles after covering the distance in 4:21 4/5. Sermon Of Love (Danielle Hodsdon) took third.

- The first race, a \$15,000 maiden hurdle, served as a harbinger for Voss and Aizpuru as Henry Rathbun's Back To Even broke his maiden in convincing fashion.

"I think he ran well, he was a little green," said Voss. "He ran on the flat a couple of times. This is the first time I've run him since April. As soon as he got the lead, he put on the brakes, and he ran in idle. He got to the front a little sooner than I wanted him to."

The 4-year-old gelded son of Our Emblem overcame the challenge of Cuse (Liam McVicar) and Northern Gale (Russell Haynes) and triumphed by 2 lengths in 4:25 2/5.

"I didn't think he had the race won," said Aizpuru. "He went to the front easily, and I didn't want to disappoint him. He dug in deep when it counted."



George Buggs

Gryffindor (Xavier Aizpuru) flies a fence on the way to an easy win in the Aiken feature.

- The second, a \$10,000 maiden claiming hurdle, turned into a coronation for Hudson River Farm's King Maximus, who vanquished Cumulus Nimbus (Aizpuru) by 7 lengths for trainer Jonathan Sheppard.

Jockey James Slater used a strong move before the stretch from the 6-year-old gelded son of King Of Kings to rise above the clouds and seal the victory in 4:26. Gossipmonger (Rylee Zimmerman) finished third.

"I didn't think I had the race won

when he went over the last jump," said Slater. "I had to look around to see how far clear I was and if the other horses were done and dusted. He's quirky, he could have done anything during that short period of time, and I had to keep his mind in the middle. I kept him going straightforward. Jonathan Sheppard and his crew did a great job of training him at the farm, and kept him in great shape to run as well as he did."

King Maximus broke his maiden in his

See **AIKEN** page 17 ►

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Aiken —

■ Continued from page 16

third jump start; the Kentucky-bred earned one win in seven flat races, that coming four years ago at Lingfield in England.

• Armata Stable's Barrington kept the Voss/Aizpuru express rolling with a score in the third, a \$15,000 open claiming hurdle. The 8-year-old son of Honor Grades drew off late to win by 10 1/4 lengths over Heros Among Us (Rafter) and Pleasant Pick (Gregg Ryan).

"Barrington was sort of fresh, he's a good jumper and was much the best," said Voss. "There weren't really any races for him this summer. There might be a race for him in Camden."

Back To Even, Barrington and Gryffindor completed a satisfying triple for Voss and Aizpuru.

"The horses did their best today, they jumped well, and were well-spotted," said Voss, whose stable improved to 6-for-16 since Saratoga ended.

• Aizpuru added a flourish to his banner day with a training flat score aboard Cherry Knoll Farm's Witsand Bay in the finale. Janet Elliot trained the winner.

"I've had a fantastic day, it came down to the horses I rode, I knew I had some live chances riding for Tom Voss, Neil Morris and Janet Elliot," said Aizpuru. "I had four winners and a second. The horses I rode all jumped well. You need for things to go right on the day, and it turned out far better than I could have imagined."



George Buggs

Back To Even (Xavier Aizpuru) heads for a win in the opener, a \$15,000 maiden hurdle.

Aiken Fall Races

Aiken, S.C. Saturday, Oct. 27. Turf: Good.

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

1. BACK TO EVEN	L 148	Aizpuru
2. CUSE	L 149	McVicar
3. NORTHERN GALE	L 143	R. Haynes
4. RESTON	L 148	Rafter
5. MR. J. T. L.	L 154	Slater
6. MAESTRO MAGIC	L 154	Traurig
PU. POP THE PIRATE	L 148	McCarron
PU. FLYROCK	L 154	McCormack
PU. ALSO KNOWN AS WINK	143	Zimmerman

Mgn: 2. Time: 4:25 2/5.

O: Henry Rathbun. T: Tom Voss.

Dk. B./Br. g. 4 Our Emblem-Mescalina, Smarten.

Bred by Bowman, Sutton, Higgins (MD).

2nd. \$10,000. Mdn. clm. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles.

Clim. pr. \$10,000-\$5,000

1. KING MAXIMUS	L 152	Slater
2. CUMULUS NIMBUS	L 142	Aizpuru
3. GOSSIPMONGER	L 143	Zimmerman
4. STELLAR LEAGUE	L 150	Rafter
5. MISS BATTISTI	L 146	McCarron
6. CHEQUE MARQUE	L 148	Traurig
PU. TAKEH	L 151	McVicar
PU. WESTCLIFFE	L 138	W. Haynes

Mgn: 7. Time: 4:26.

O: Hudson River Farm. T: Jonathan Sheppard.

B. g. 6 King of Kings (IRE)-Excedent, Exceller.

Bred by Ward Stiff & George Strawbridge (KY).

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

Clim. pr. \$20,000-\$15,000

1. BARRINGTON	L 140	Aizpuru
2. HEROS AMONG US	L 141	Rafter
3. PLEASANT PICK	L 152	Ryan
4. BARZULU (NZ)	L 146	McCarron
5. WESTBOUND ROAD	L 136	McVicar
6. YOKAZONA	L 147	R. Haynes
F. KIRIMBAI	L 140	Petty
LR. FABI'S LEGACY	L 136	Zimmerman

Mgn: 10 1/4. Time: 4:30 3/5.

O: Armata Stable. T: Tom Voss.

B. g. 8 Honor Grades-Mosquera, Faraway Son.

Bred by Morgan's Ford Farm (VA).

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

NW 1X or NW 2

1. GRYFFINDOR	L 148	Aizpuru
2. SHERIFF DILLON	L 152	Rafter
3. SERMON OF LOVE	L 142	Hodsdon
4. HUMDINGER	L 146	McCarron
PU. BUNT	L 150	McCormack

Mgn: 3/4. Time: 4:21 4/5.

O: Dapple Stable. T: Tom Voss.

Dk. B./Br. g. 7 Peaks and Valleys-A Sunny Society, Son Ange. Bred by Richard Sinkler (NY).

5th. Training flat. 7 furlongs.

1. WITSAND BAY	L 155	Aizpuru
2. ORCHID PRINCESS	L 152	Zimmerman
3. CAROCITA	L 152	Hodsdon
4. HOWTOO	L 155	W. Haynes
5. DYN IN TEXAS	L 155	McVicar
6. BELKNAP COUNTY	L 155	Ryan
7. FIGHT SONG	155	R. Haynes

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 1:31:3/5.

O: Cherry Knoll Farm. T: Janet Elliot.

Gr. g. 4 Capetown-Demure Di, Greinton.

Bred by Joe Koepfer (KY).

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E.O.E.

Wake Up Call

Former 3YO champ Jimmie Echo discovers winner's circle again

BY JAMIE SANTO

MORVEN PARK RACES

Saturday, October 13

LEESBURG, Va. – Jimmie Echo was in danger of becoming trivia, a name pointed at in the program accompanied by the half-articulated question “Wasn’t he . . . ?”

The 3-year-old champion in 2006? Yes. But less than 12 months after winning the \$50,000 Gladstone Hurdle – his lone jump score – the 4-year-old found himself entered for a \$7,500 claiming tag at Morven Park Oct. 13.

His troubles stemmed partly from his pre-race antics. Late to the paddock and difficult before the start of the second, a \$10,000 conditioned claimer, Jimmie Echo might have made racegoers think he wasn’t excited to be there. No, he just wanted to get things going.

Once the race began, he demonstrated his talent and desire, seizing the lead and jumping with gusto under Paddy Young for a flag-to-wire score. Kirimbai (Jody Petty) took second, 1 1/4 lengths behind the winner, with Tenacious Rhythm (Matt McCarron) third.

Jimmie Echo is different away from the track. “He’s fine at home,” said trainer Ricky Hendriks. “Like a normal horse.”

Owned by Debra Kachel, the son of Eastern Echo evidently prefers the quiet life.

“We put cotton in his ears but still the noise does bother him,” Hendriks said. “He’s a little nutty in the paddock, and Paddy did a nice job.”

Aboard for the third time, the jockey was prepared for, and discussed the situation with starter Barry Watson beforehand.

“We talked about it, because he’s been a bit funny,” Young said. “(The plan was to) just sort of go off on my own and meet him when he’s ready to drop the flag. Basically that’s what we did and it worked great. He jumped well, galloped well. Nice win for his confidence as well.”

Since he hadn’t scored in nine starts (four over jumps, five on the flat) this year, that’s an important consideration.

“That guy needed a confidence boost just to get over (to the start),” the jockey said. “He’s like a lunatic. As long as you get him going in the race, he’s really good. Great ride, great jumper.”



Douglas Lees

Jimmie Echo (right, Paddy Young) shows the way during his win at Morven.

But even during his dry spell, Jimmie Echo entertained.

“It’s been a long time in between drinks but he’s been really fun for the owners,” Hendriks said. “We took him to Florida, Stoneybrook . . . we’ve had a lot of fun with him.”

• Matt McCarron wanted to sit back. Letter Perfect had other ideas. The 4-year-old got his way and hustled the jockey to the lead. Since he carried him to victory as well, the horse could perhaps be forgiven.

“I didn’t want to be in front,” McCarron said. “I rode him once at a point-to-point (Thornton Hill) and I was told he was really keen. It was a small field (that day), so I was able to take him out the back. He wasn’t settled, but because I was able to start out the back, he allowed me to at least hold him up.”

Making his first sanctioned start in the third, a \$15,000 maiden hurdle, Letter Perfect wasn’t as forgiving this time around.

“Being a 12-horse field, I couldn’t be out the back, I needed to be somewhere in the middle,” McCarron said. “He just fought and threw his head all the way up to the first fence and after he landed over the first fence he just took off with me. That was not the kind of (trip) I was planning on.”

Over 2 1/4 miles, Letter Perfect – owned by EMO Stable and trained by Doug Fout – began to sort things out, eventually cruising home by 5 comfortable lengths. Five Pines (Petty) finished second, 2 lengths clear of Most Bossett (Chip Miller).

“Once he got in front, he actually kind of came back a bit,” McCarron said. “He was still keen, because every now and then he had a horse hard up his rear end, but once he was far enough in front, then he kind of settled, but he still paid attention to his fences, which was very important.”

The farther he went, the better he went. McCarron hopes the same holds true for the son of A.P. Indy as his career progresses, even if the race wasn’t exactly the lesson the jockey hoped to provide.

“I really was hoping to be able to teach him how to settle and relax a little

bit,” he said. “Today he was able to wire a field of maidens, but next time he’s going to run into better horses and one of these days he’s going to come up against horses that can go that lick the whole way and push him and he’s just going to come up empty. Hopefully he’ll grow up a bit over the wintertime, maybe learn to relax a little bit. The horse has a lot of potential.”

And a lot of breeding. Letter Perfect’s sire A.P. Indy stands for \$300,000. Letter Perfect’s dam Myhrr is a daughter Mr. Prospector and double Breeders’ Cup Mile winner Miesque and therefore a full-sister to leading sire Kingmambo.

• Willie Dowling took the call on Hot Springs mostly as a favor. With trainer Desmond Fogarty – who rode the horse in his maiden win at Winterthur in May – at Genesee with a pair of runners, Hot Springs needed a jockey in the sixth at Morven.

“I thought I was stupid picking up this spare timber ride because Far Hills is next week,” said Dowling, the regular rider for Good Night Shirt. “But Des is a good friend of mine and I watched the horse running and he’s a pretty good jumper.”

Taking on a field of six in the \$15,000 allowance, Hot Springs rated in third for much of the early going, stalking Major Frank (Miller) and Ravens Rock (Young). When Major Frank retreated then retired, Hot Springs bubbled up and took to the front.

Ravens Rock had a few goes at the new leader, but Dowling and his mount fended him off.

“I knew Paddy would take me on for a long way just to test me,” Dowling said, “and I went with him and he just drilled every fence.”

Hot Springs erupted down the stretch, letting off a late burst and running away for a 9-length score.

“I wasn’t expecting that. They said he was just one-paced, so just have him up at the front because he doesn’t have a kick,” Dowling said. “I don’t know if it was because he just ran into some tired horses today that he just had that kick at the end.”

See **MORVEN PARK** page 13 ►



Douglas Lees

Change Course (left, Paddy Young) battles for the lead in his maiden claiming win.

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Morven Park —

■ Continued from page 12

Distaffer Won Wild Bird (Will Haynes) came on for second, with Hanko (Petty) a length back in third.

Owned by Irv Naylor, Hot Springs broke his timber maiden at Winterthur in May, also by open lengths, and now owns a two-race win streak.

"He jumped like a foxhunter out there," Dowling said, "he looked really good."

The 6-year-old son of Wekiva Springs gave Dowling his second timber win of the season to go along with Seeyouat-theevent's stakes score at Radnor in May. The timber game is new to foreign jockeys, but the wooden fences are growing on the Irishman.

"When I first came over to America I was like, 'I don't know if I can look at these timber races,' which I'm sure every English and Irish rider says," Dowling said. "But the boys told me if you get a good one, there's no better feeling than riding a nice timber horse."

• Dale Thiel's Change Course kicked off the early double for Hendriks and Young, winning the opener, a \$10,000 maiden claimer, by half-length over Sussex County (Dowling), with Stellar League (Rylee Zimmerman) third.

An earner of more than \$150,000 on the flat, Change Course has adjusted



Douglas Lees

Hot Springs (right, Willie Dowling) clears a timber fence with plenty of daylight in his allowance score at Morven.

slowly to hurdles.

"He's never been that confident with his jumping," Young said. "I rode him at that Open House at Saratoga and he just made a real bad mistake and that knocked him back a little bit. Today he jumped a bit sketchy early on and then warmed up to it."

A comfortable third for most of the proceedings, Change Course made his move in the stretch.

"He jumped the last really well and won easy," the jockey said. "I didn't even have to hit him. So that was great, and good for his confidence."

Making his fourth-career steeplechase start, the son of Coronado's Quest got his first taste of victory.

"He got a late start in his career," said Hendriks. "He's 7, and this is his first year jumping. I bought him from a friend of mine, Graham Motion. He really liked the horse. It's been fun actually. I'll call him right away. He's interested to know how he runs all the time, so he'll be excited he won."

• Veteran amateur jockey Gregg Ryan picked up his 145th career win in the finale, a \$5,000 amateur highweight timber, rolling to a confident victory aboard Hotspur.

Trained for Ryan by Julie Gomena, the 10-year-old son of Pine Bluff handled the 3 miles like the seasoned veteran he is.

After a slow start, he took over from early leader and eventual runner-up Music To My Ears (Lucy Horner) and wasn't threatened again, prevailing by 4 1/2 lengths. Patriot's Path (Russell Haynes) was well clear in third.

Morven Park Steeplechase

Leesburg, Va. Saturday, Oct. 13. Turf: Firm.

1st. \$10,000. Mdn. clm. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles. \$10,000-\$7,500 clm. price.

1. CHANGE COURSE	L 156	Young
2. SUSSEX COUNTY	L 156	Dowling
3. STELLAR LEAGUE	L 141	Zimmerman
4. COZY LANE	L 145	J. Murphy
5. CUMULUS NIMBUS	L 150	McCarron
6. HIGHLAND STORM	L 150	Petty
7. JACKSONIAN	L 148	Rafter
PU. PIZARRO	L 156	McCormack

Mgn: 1/2. Time: 4:20.

O: Dale Thiel. T: Ricky Hendriks.

B. g. 7 Coronado's Quest-Changing Tunes, Ni-jinsky II. Bred by Pin Oak Stud (KY).

2nd. \$10,000. Con. clm. hurdle. 2 1/4 miles. NW 2. \$10,000-\$7,500 clm. price.

1. JIMMIE ECHO	L 142	Young
2. KIRIMBAI	L 152	Petty
3. TENACIOUS RHYTHM	L 156	McCarron
4. ACROSS THE SKY	L 147	Mackenzie
5. OLD FELLOW (ARG)	L 156	Ryan
6. HEROS AMONG US	L 156	Rafter
7. DYN IN TEXAS	L 147	Zimmerman
8. SUMMERSVILLE	L 147	R. Haynes

Mgn: 1 1/4. Time: 4:12.

O: Debra Kachel. T: Ricky Hendriks.

Ch. g. 4 Eastern Echo-Fracious, Compliance. Bred by Malcolm Commer (PA).

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

1. LETTER PERFECT	L 148	McCarron
2. FIVE PINES	L 148	Petty
3. MOST BOSSEST	L 152	C. Miller
4. ZOZIMUS	L 148	Young
5. G'DAY G'DAY	L 148	Dowling
6. AREA LIMITS	L 154	Rafter
7. EVE COUNTY	L 137	Mackenzie
8. SPY IN THE SKY	L 137	McVicar
F. GHOST BAR	L 143	Santoro
LR. MASTER BEN	L 144	Doran
PU. LOVE PALACE (IRE)	L 149	Zimmerman
PU. NORTHERN GALE	L 143	R. Haynes

Mgn: 5. Time: 4:13 1/5.

O: EMO Stable. T: Doug Fout.

Ch. c. 4 A.P. Indy-Myhrr, Mr. Prospector. Bred by Jayeff B Stables (KY).

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

1. RUNNING TIDE	L 153	Santoro
2. HUMDINGER	L 155	J. Murphy

3. POSTNUPTIAL	L 155	Rafter
4. SUNTARA	L 152	Young
5. SANTA CATALINA	L 152	McCarron
6. SOVEREIGN DUTY	L 155	Hodsdon
7. TWO T'S	L 155	Mackenzie
8. TAX RULING	L 155	Elmore
9. BARON VON RUCKUS	L 163	Swope
10. FIGHT SONG	L 155	R. Haynes
DQ. POP THE PIRATE	L 155	Dowling

Mgn: 3/4. Time: 2:12 4/5.

O: J. Dorsey Brown III. T: Billy Meister.

B. g. 8 Running Softly-Current Abbey, Little Current. Bred by Jonabell Farm (KY).

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

1. CAPITAL PEAK	L 155	Rafter
2. BON FLEUR	L 155	J. Murphy
3. A REAL REDNECK	L 155	Mackenzie
4. BARZULU (NZ)	L 155	Dowling
5. COUPE DE VILLE	L 150	McCarron
6. KAPAK (GB)	L 155	W. Haynes
7. WOODMONT	L 155	Zimmerman
8. THREE CARAT	L 155	Hodsdon
9. LUONGO	L 155	McVicar
10. JUST A PRINCE (NZ)	L 155	McCormack
11. ST. EMILION	L 155	Cooney

Mgn: 1 1/4. Time: 2:11 4/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

B. g. 8 With Approval-Central City (GB), Midyan. Bred by George Strawbridge (PA).

6th. \$15,000. Allow. (NW2) timber. 3 1/4 miles.

1. HOT SPRINGS	L 165	Dowling
2. WON WILD BIRD	L 139	W. Haynes
3. HANKO (GER)	L 160	Petty
4. RAVENS ROCK	L 165	Young
PU. PROFOWENS (IRE)	L 155	J. Murphy
PU. MAJOR FRANK	L 160	C. Miller

Mgn: 3/4. Time: 6:47 2/5.

O: Irv Naylor. T: Desmond Fogarty.

Gr. g. 6 Wekiva Springs-Hard Evidence, Alleged. Bred by Dolphus Morrison (KY).

7th. \$5,000. Amateur hwt. timber. 3 miles. NW \$9,000 once in 2006-07

1. HOTSPUR	L 180	Ryan
2. MUSIC TO MY EARS	L 170	Horner
3. PATRIOT'S PATH	L 170	R. Haynes
4. BAD DOG PRESS	L 174	Winants
PU. PROFESSOR MAXWELL	L 171	Hundt

Mgn: 4 1/2. Time: 6:29 4/5.

O: Gregg Ryan. T: Julie Gomena.

Ch. g. 10 Pine Bluff-Black Foot Beauty, Devil's Bag. Bred by Graham Beck (KY).

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Back Again

Timber ace Miles Ahead returns from layoff with a signature score

BY BRIAN NADEAU

The large timber fences weren't the only obstacles Kinross Farm's Miles Ahead gracefully soared over in the \$25,000 Genesee Valley Hunt Cup timber stakes Oct. 13 at Geneseo, N.Y. The Neil Morris-trainee jumped over Father Time as well and put to rest any doubts that age might be catching up with him.

Miles Ahead, a 10-year-old son of Unaccounted For, remained undefeated in eight lifetime starts over timber when he toyed with Stars Out Tonight, the winner's first start since his 22-length win in the Virginia Gold Cup in May 2006.

The Hunt Cup was hyped as a match-up between Miles Ahead and Northern Thinking, the latter having taken the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup in 2005 and running second in last year's edition for Jack Fisher.

Northern Thinking, off since winning a laugh at Willowdale in May, made the early running and led over the first seven fences under Robbie Walsh. The 11-year-old erred at the eighth and fell — ending the much-anticipated duel. With his biggest rival out, Miles Ahead (Chris Read) was left in an enviable position.

GENESEE VALLEY HUNT RACES

Saturday, October 13

Earmark (James Slater) took command after Northern Thinking's mishap and led to the finish line with a circuit to go. His reign was short-lived, however, after he refused and lost Slater at the fence near the wire. Read, who has ridden Miles Ahead in seven of his eight timber wins, took the baton from there and Miles Ahead assumed a tenuous lead over Stars Out Tonight (James Fahey). With Blasphemous, who fell, and Wee Highland Star, who lost Niall Seville at the ninth, joining Northern Thinking on the list of fallers, the race was left to Miles Ahead and Stars Out Tonight, who moved in tandem as they galloped at a deliberate pace.

The pair remained inseparable as they rattled off each fence until the last, when Miles Ahead decided there was only room for one. Showing off his perfect form, he soared over the final fence and won in hand, as much the best. The final margin was 3 1/2 lengths, though Read could have easily named the score.



Bill Roberts

Miles Ahead (Chris Read) soars a timber fence in his stakes victory at Genesee Valley.

"He felt great; same ol' boy like he used to be. He settled great for me out there. When we lost Northern Thinking it changed things a bit. He's such a great horse over timber because the pace of the race allows him to relax. I'll tell you one thing, if I was another horse I wouldn't want to jump next to him. He just flies over the jumps out there. He just jumps the rest of them into the ground," Read said. "It's nice to get him back. We missed our prep at

Middleburg, like we always do, so you always wonder 'How fit are we?' You don't want to overdo it (in his first start back), so it was nice that I was able to slow it to a crawl out there. I never let him out of the bridle. Stars Out Tonight made himself known three fences from home but Miles Ahead just showed his class and won easy."

For Morris it was another scintillating performance from a horse he

See **GENESEE** page 15 ►

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Genesee —

■ Continued from page 14

has deemed “once in a lifetime.” Now 8-for-8 over timber, Miles Ahead is just that. And a look in the rearview mirror sees his peers getting smaller and smaller in the distance.

“I thought he was very good. The fences were a bit bigger than I anticipated so it made everyone have to jump out there; and he won pretty easy. He was flawless; very professional,” Morris said. “He was very accurate in his jumping and I thought he would be pretty hard to beat. He just went out there and did his job. We wanted to run him there because of the ground and when I saw the ground I told Chris before the race ‘We’re on today.’ It’s nice to be in that situation.”

Having missed his prep at Middleburg for the International Gold Cup, Genesee was a one-and-done for Miles Ahead. He’ll have the remainder of the season off and look toward the spring and a chance to add to his already gaudy resume. Morris’ patient approach has paid off so far, and he isn’t about to change now.

“I’d like to get a prep into him at Middleburg in the spring and then aim him at the Virginia Gold Cup. Obvious-

ly the plans can always be altered, but that’s where we want to go. He’ll have the rest of the year off; he’ll just go home and be a foxhunter. He loves it; he’s very good at it too,” Morris said. “He’s such a great horse; an elite horse – I just try to stay out of his way. I’m lucky to be associated with him. His performance justified in having him around and justified looking to the Gold Cup next year. It’s a real privilege to be around him.”

• The Morris-Kinross-Read trifecta scored in the other NSA sanctioned event at Genesee when Noblest made his timber debut a winning one in the 3-mile \$10,000 maiden.

Morris went into the race excited to see Noblest, an 8-year-old son of Deputy Minister, test the fences for the first time and he was hardly disappointed after the outcome.

Noblest went to the front immediately and maintained a clear lead over Irish Laddie (Fahey) as the field of five travelled at a slow pace. Irish Laddie made a move approaching the last fence but Read had plenty in reserve to win by an easy 4 3/4 lengths. Beseennotheard (James Stierhoff) was 11 lengths back in third.

“He was a superstar on Saturday. He was just a maiden and had never been over timber before, but he was very well prepared. The jumps were bigger than I thought they would be, but he stayed within the gameplan,” Morris said. “I didn’t really expect him to make the running; it wasn’t the plan, but he put on a clinic the whole way around. They ganged up on him but Chris let him out a notch and he really flew to the last and then within three strides he was 6 lengths ahead in the background.”

Earlier this year, Noblest won a 3-mile amateur allowance hurdle on the Iroquois undercard, and it’s that versatility that has Morris mulling over his next start for Noblest.

“This horse gives us a lot of options as we can run him over hurdles again as well. There is a 3-mile race (over hurdles) at Callaway Gardens, there is an allowance timber race at the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup, and there is also the Noel Laing Stakes (over brush),” Morris said. “He has earned the right to be nominated to those races and I don’t think he would be disgraced in any of those races. Next spring I’ll bring him back as a timber horse.”

Genesee Valley Hunt Races

Genesee, N.Y. Saturday, Oct. 13. Turf: Firm.

2nd. \$10,000. Maiden timber. 3 miles.

1. NOBLEST	L 165	Read
2. IRISH LADDIE	L 160	Fahey
3. BESEENNOTHEARD	L 155	Stierhoff
4. WESTERN FLING	L 165	Walsh
PU. WHY NOT BABY	L 165	Slater

Mgn: 4 3/4. Time: 7:16 3/5.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

Dk.B./Br. g. 8 Deputy Minister-Plenty of Grace, Roberto. Bred by Phillips Racing (KY).

5th. \$25,000. Timber stakes. 3 1/2 miles. The Genesee Valley Hunt Cup

1. MILES AHEAD	L 160	Read
2. STARS OUT TONIGHT	L 152	Fahey
F. BLASPHEMOUS	150	Gillam
F. NORTHERN THINKING	L 165	Walsh
LR. EARMARK	L 160	Slater
LR. WEE HIGHLAND STAR	144	Saville

Mgn: 3 1/2. Time: 8:01.

O: Kinross Farm. T: Neil Morris.

B. g. 10 Unaccounted For-Joy Valentine, Shadeed. Bred by Derry Meeting Farm & Ashwell Stables (PA).



Bill Roberts

Noblest (right, Chris Read) shows the way in the maiden timber.

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.



WHY SUPPORT THE NSF?

Formed in 1995, the National Steeplechase Foundation (N.S.F.) has raised and distributed over \$1.6 million on programs that promote safety, education, fairness and the spirit of amateurism throughout American steeplechasing. These funds made a significant impact on the sport, and also provided an indirect but invaluable bulwark for an industry that is a tremendous provider for charities in general.

Last year NSA meets contributed approximately \$5 million to charities: a remarkable total for a sport of this size, considering that American steeplechasing has only about 750 participants. These contributions to worthy causes are something supporters of the sport should be very proud of. At the same time, supporters should be determined to help the foundation and the race meets maintain and expand.

Almost all of these charitable contributions are raised by the race meets – but if there wasn’t a sport that is *extremely family-friendly and accessible*, that brings in *high-end commercial sponsors* because of the type of spectators it attracts, that presents an *exciting yet relaxing way to spend a weekend afternoon* with little of the hassles involved in attending most big-time sporting events, then there would be no money donated to charity by these race meets. **In short, steeplechasing fuels these contributions.**

This is why support of the National Steeplechase Foundation is so critical. Among the programs we provide to the sport:

- ◆ Safe Courses-Sound Horses. The course inspection and assessment program has helped improve racecourse conditions and make racing much safer.
- ◆ Drug Testing at all NSA race meets.
- ◆ Promoting amateur racing. We have supplemented purses for amateur races, not only giving young riders an opportunity to grow in the sport, but providing a continuing involvement for non-professionals who may become horse owners and leaders of the sport in the future.
- ◆ Helping pay airtime and production costs for steeplechasing on ESPN. This is great exposure for the sport in general, and by appearing on some of the top flat-racing shows, we keep ourselves very much in the consciousness of the flat community.

In short, the Foundation does many things that help keep the sport we love healthy and vital, thus also providing invaluable support to its non-profit beneficiaries.

As the fall season begins, you will receive many requests from charities, all of them worthy of consideration. We hope our work of the last 12 years will inspire you to contribute to the National Steeplechase Foundation, thus continuing to make that work possible and helping our sport thrive.

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NSA Standings

CURRENT THROUGH NOV. 2

Jockeys (Races Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Xavier Aizpuru.....	63	19	10	5	\$593,742	.30
Paddy Young.....	86	15	14	13	313,586	.17
Matt McCarron.....	82	14	14	11	448,501	.17
Jody Petty.....	57	13	7	9	518,694	.23
Carl Rafter.....	69	12	6	12	196,190	.17
Danielle Hodsdon.....	59	11	14	9	512,910	.19
Chip Miller.....	56	11	11	7	419,825	.19
James Slater.....	67	7	10	6	161,540	.10
Chris Read.....	12	6	1	0	107,550	.50
Gregg Ryan.....	26	5	3	4	47,250	.19

Trainers (Races Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Jack Fisher.....	92	20	18	11	\$775,275	.22
Jonathan Sheppard.....	105	18	19	15	792,594	.17
Sanna Hendriks.....	60	18	9	7	592,052	.30
Doug Fout.....	81	14	14	10	469,726	.17
Tom Voss.....	73	12	8	14	357,953	.16
Kathy McKenna.....	58	11	6	10	166,090	.19
Ricky Hendriks.....	39	7	4	4	103,890	.18
Neil Morris.....	32	6	7	1	136,700	.19
Paul Rowland.....	41	5	3	3	88,200	.12
Arch Kingsley.....	27	4	4	4	98,406	.15

Owners (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Bill Pape.....	22	6	6	2	\$337,015	.27
Augustin Stable.....	37	14	3	4	265,500	.38
Sonny Via.....	15	2	5	2	265,013	.13
Arcadia Stable.....	18	6	3	1	257,780	.33
Michael Moran.....	7	1	1	1	193,900	.14
Brigadoon Stable.....	25	5	3	5	180,315	.20
Calvin Houghland.....	40	1	6	5	152,348	.03
Irvi Naylor.....	44	5	8	4	149,300	.11
Kinross Farm.....	32	6	7	1	136,700	.19
Hudson River Farm.....	13	4	1	4	124,875	.31

Horses (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Good Night Shirt.....	4	2	1	0	\$224,163	.50
McDynamo.....	2	1	0	0	187,500	.50
Mixed Up.....	5	2	0	0	159,215	.40
Footlights.....	4	2	0	1	143,780	.50
Divine Fortune.....	6	3	2	0	122,540	.50
Gliding.....	6	2	0	1	122,415	.33
Orison.....	6	1	2	0	103,401	.17
Irish Prince.....	4	4	0	0	102,000	1.00
Planets Aligned.....	7	2	1	1	82,600	.29
Rum Squall.....	6	3	1	0	81,600	.50

Timber Horses (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Irish Prince.....	4	4	0	0	\$102,000	1.00
Salmo.....	2	1	1	0	63,600	.50
Seeyouattheevent.....	5	2	0	2	63,500	.40
The Bruce.....	2	1	0	0	46,750	.50
Bubble Economy.....	5	1	2	0	32,400	.20

Novice Hurdle Horses (Money Won)

Horses which started 2007 as maidens over hurdles

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Divine Fortune.....	6	3	2	0	\$122,540	.50
Planets Aligned.....	7	2	1	1	82,600	.29
Rum Squall.....	6	3	1	0	81,600	.50
Imagina.....	6	3	0	0	62,700	.50
Swimming River.....	9	2	0	1	40,000	.22

Fillies/Mares (Money Won)

	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Money	Win%
Footlights.....	4	2	0	1	\$143,780	.50
Imagina.....	6	3	0	0	62,700	.50
Sweet Shani.....	6	0	1	1	61,774	.00
Orchid Princess.....	3	1	0	0	37,720	.33
Slew's Peak.....	4	1	2	0	35,740	.25

What's in a name?

Sheppard picks a 'Champion' at yearling show

When Grand Champion scored a popular head victory Oct. 13 in the Maryland Million Sprint it wasn't just owners John and Susan Moore or trainer Jimmy Jerkens enjoying the moment; trainer Jonathan Sheppard pinched himself as well. After all, he was the source of the horse's name, having crowned him "Grand Champion" at the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's yearling show in 2004.

The show takes place annually toward the end of June and is open to all yearlings eligible for Maryland-bred registration. Each year a well-known, well-respected trainer is invited to do the judging. The task is simple – select the best-looking yearling. As a Hall of Famer, Sheppard was a natural choice, though the nuances of the selection were a bit foreign to him.

"I really had no clue about the judging, but the people were helpful. You don't get any information on the breeding or who is (showing) the horse. I had no idea. I remember it being a long process and a very hot day. I think it lasted six hours," Sheppard said. "You didn't have a chance to spend a lot of time with them like you would if you were a buyer. I was looking at conformation and overall appearance, their size, balance, and temperament. I was kind of making it up, really. And this horse fit the things I was looking for. I picked him and kind of forgot about him."

Sheppard ultimately settled on the then-unnamed son of Two Punch, who went on to sell for \$115,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July Selected Yearling Sale. The Moores purchased the horse, named him Grand Champion, and turned him over to Jerkens to train. It was out-of-sight, out-of-mind for Sheppard – until fate intervened this winter.



Jonathan Sheppard

"I was at Gulfstream Park and I was walking by the quarter-pole gap where my barn is, and I saw Jimmy – who is a good friend of mine – coming by. He looked like he had just run a horse so I asked him how it went," Sheppard said. "Jimmy said 'I just ran your old horse.' I asked him 'What do you mean, my old horse?' He said 'The one you picked out at the sale. He was the Grand Champion, and that's what we named him. We really like him.' So, from that time on I watched for him in the entries and he came back to win his next start at Gulfstream. I went to the track photographer and bought a win photo."

Grand Champion returned to his roots in the Maryland Million, making his first start in his home state and making Sheppard proud as he fought through traffic to score by a head.

"It's a little flattering that I did pick out a good-looking horse. I take some pride in it for sure," Sheppard said. "Jeremy Rose rode against him in the race at Laurel and finished second so I asked him about the race. He told me he thought he was going to win and Grand Champion was able to get through on the inside late. 'He sure is a good-looking animal,' Jeremy told me."

Tell him something he doesn't know.

— Brian Nadeau

Steeplechase museum honors Brown, hosts members

The National Steeplechase Museum hosts a members party as part of Colonial Cup Weekend Saturday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. in Camden, S.C.

Join horsemen and members to celebrate the presentation of the F. Ambrose Clark Award to Austin Brown. Chairman of the museum, member of the NSA Board of Directors and a longtime officer of the Carolina Cup Racing Association board, Brown will receive the award from the NSA for his service to steeplechasing. In addition to his work and various positions, Brown is a former amateur jockey who won the Iroquois Steeplechase (among others).

Brown will be the 24th recipient of the Clark Award, named for the legendary owner/trainer and presented periodically to a person who promotes, improves and encourages the growth and welfare of American steeplechasing.

The museum party will also include an exhibition and sale of racing images by artists Betsy Havens and Jim Calk titled "Equine poetry in Oil" and well as cocktails and light hors d'oeuvre. The presentation ceremony will be at 7:30 p.m. There is no admission charge, but please RSVP to the museum at (803) 432-6513.

Nominations sought for Woodville Award 2007

Trainer Janet Elliot is seeking nominations for the 2007 Woodville Award, given annually to a behind-the-scenes stable employee in steeplechasing. Named for Elliot's Pennsylvania farm, the award includes cash prizes and was started to recognize people who work with steeplechase horses.

Past honorees include John Hughes, James Kibler, Mary McGlothlin, James Piper, Brianne Slater, Jim Bergen, Margarito Ayala, Fenneka Bentley, Keith Cooper, "Speedy" Kaniel, Bob Pierce, Bobby Simmons, "Bubba" Salmond, Juliet Lombardi and Bob Bailey. Nominations can be sent to Elliot via e-mail at woodville01@hotmail.com or faxed to (717) 529-4003.

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Northern Gale.....	\$9,700
.....	\$624,516

MVP Stable	Ernie Moulos
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Irish Prince.....	\$102,000
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Pukka.....	\$15,000
.....	\$596,327

Pony Up Stable	Ashley Monroe
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Irish Prince.....	\$102,000
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Class Deputy.....	\$10,950
.....	\$536,463

Lacrosse Rules	Jack Clancy
Good Night Shirt.....	\$224,163
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Best Attack.....	\$77,900
Ghost Valley.....	\$22,000
Gold Mitten.....	\$5,400
Ten Cents A Shine.....	\$0
.....	\$516,963

Twelfth Night Farm	Nicholas Schweizer
Good Night Shirt.....	\$224,163
Footlights.....	\$143,780
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Seeyouattheevent.....	\$63,500
Mark The Shark.....	\$9,250
Fiscal Storm.....	\$0
.....	\$510,605

Singapore Lions	Bill Hutchinson
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
Pukka.....	\$15,000
.....	\$509,327

The Dukester	Charles Reid
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Gliding.....	\$122,415
Orison.....	\$103,401
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Prep School.....	\$16,500
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
.....	\$507,516

Ms Demeanor	Linda Cowasjee
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Irish Prince.....	\$102,000
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Swimming River.....	\$40,000
Riddle.....	\$31,956
.....	\$494,068

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The Season for McDynamo – and Holly

Gen. George McClellan served a term as governor of New Jersey. With a barn that contained three winners at the recent New Jersey meet, the man from McClellanville – Winfield Sapp – might just be eligible for the that post, despite living in South Carolina.

Sapp's Holly Stable holds McDynamo, Irish Prince and Imagina – each a winner at Far Hills. Orison contributed an additional \$9,000 toward room and board, and maiden mare Northern Gale even put \$1,500 in the kitty. Only Mixed Up (who'd already earned close to \$160,000) failed to bring home fresh bacon.

Sapp moved up from second, overcoming a \$95,089 deficit, with a haul that totalled \$250,500. The Pride of the Palmetto (and Garden) State is also the unofficial HQ of "Girl Power," being the only stable in the top 25 to house more than one distaffer. Sapp now leads Ernie Moulos' MVP Stable (up from third) by \$28,189.

It's not like last month's leader Nick Schweizer fell apart, though: his Twelfth Night Farm earned \$41,500 since the latest installment. And Schweizer's certainly earned some sort of degree-of-difficulty bonus – his is the only stable in the top 35 without McDynamo.

Another contestant deserving of a yet-to-be named award is The Dukester – a.k.a. Charles Reid – who jumped 24 spots in just under three weeks. With a stable that's somehow missing the Duke Of Earl, Reid collected \$290,000, getting Far Hills checks from McDynamo, Gliding, Imagina and Orison, and a contribution from upstate New York courtesy of the still-perfect Miles Ahead.

For leading at the end of October, Sapp receives a \$50 gift certificate. Wallflower Farm took a hit this time, as did any barn without McDynamo. Earning only \$5,000 this period, the fictitious farm would be in 25th – right behind McHistory.

The top 36 stables (through Nov. 2) are listed here. See www.st-publishing.com for full standings.

– Jamie Santo

Try Again	Jim McVey
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Diego Cao.....	\$25,500
Sharp Face.....	\$23,100
.....	\$485,015

Jabberwocky Stables	Sarah Greenhalgh
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Mr Bombastic.....	\$29,450
Diego Cao.....	\$25,500
.....	\$478,463

Mr. McGuggles Inc.	Suzanna Lampton
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Orison.....	\$103,401
Ghost Valley.....	\$22,000
Guelph.....	\$2,500
Haggard.....	\$2,500
.....	\$477,116

Boots & Bows	Delaney Shields
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Preemptive Strike.....	\$49,202
Slew's Peak.....	\$35,740
Diego Cao.....	\$25,500
Rosbrian.....	\$0
.....	\$457,157

All4Fun&Fun4All	Lulu Verney
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Swimming River.....	\$40,000
Orchid Princess.....	\$37,720
Big Is Best.....	\$15,450
Class Vantage.....	\$15,000
.....	\$454,885

Hunter's Rest	Betsy Parker
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Praise The Prince.....	\$9,000
Fershaw.....	\$8,700
.....	\$441,213

SeaBass Stable	Leslie Young
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
Flyrock.....	\$0
.....	\$438,513

Flying High Farm	Kathryn Rasch
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Orchid Princess.....	\$37,720
Chivite.....	\$26,974
Erin Go Bragh.....	\$18,700
Alumni Hall.....	\$0
.....	\$430,109

Living On A Prayer	Lisa McLane
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Mr Bombastic.....	\$29,450
Chivite.....	\$26,974
Pukka.....	\$15,000
.....	\$425,025

Too Far Out Farm	Tiffany Webb
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
Pukka.....	\$15,000
.....	\$410,601

WILCO	Tina Smith
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Diego Cao.....	\$25,500
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
Gold Mitten.....	\$5,400
.....	\$406,713

Cheltenham Invasion	Richard Hutchinson
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Diego Cao.....	\$25,500
Askim.....	\$0
.....	\$406,101

Third Brother Stable	Nolan Clancy
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Gliding.....	\$122,415
Swimming River.....	\$40,000
Bubble Economy.....	\$32,400
Prep School.....	\$16,500
Gold Mitten.....	\$5,400
.....	\$404,215

Northbrook Stable	Peggy Falini
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Footlights.....	\$143,780
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Chivite.....	\$26,974
Miles Ahead.....	\$15,000
Flyrock.....	\$0
.....	\$400,254

PonyGirl Stables	Elizabeth Watrous
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Class Deputy.....	\$10,950
Bug River.....	\$10,500
Guelph.....	\$2,500
.....	\$397,665

McHistory	Owen Demare
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison.....	\$103,401
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Pukka.....	\$15,000
Askim.....	\$0
.....	\$395,601

Hodges' Arcade	Angela M. Benjamin
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Seeyouattheevent.....	\$63,500
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Preemptive Strike.....	\$49,202
Riddle.....	\$31,956
Dynamont	\$0
.....	\$394,858
Carglen Stable	Joe Clancy Sr.
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison	\$103,401
Swimming River	\$40,000
Rare Bush	\$27,000
Ghost Valley	\$22,000
Lair.....	\$14,000
.....	\$393,901
Lucy's Lunging Leapers.....	Lucy Seginak
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Mixed Up.....	\$159,215
Feeling So Pretty	\$15,365
Angel Del Viento.....	\$15,000
Miles Ahead	\$15,000
Quem Se Atreve	\$0
.....	\$392,080
Fancy Footwork Stable	Jared Marks
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Irish Prince	\$102,000
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Diego Cao	\$25,500
Meadow	\$4,500
Evidential	\$2,000
.....	\$391,412

Gush Katif Farm	Howard Newstadt
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
The Bruce.....	\$46,750
Slew's Peak.....	\$35,740
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Pukka.....	\$15,000
.....	\$381,902
Thunder Road Farm	Diana Rowland
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Swimming River	\$40,000
Orchid Princess.....	\$37,720
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Miles Ahead	\$15,000
.....	\$377,132
Overcoming All Hurdles.....	Debbie Pederson
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Footlights.....	\$143,780
Erin Go Bragh.....	\$18,700
Miles Ahead	\$15,000
Tenacious Rhythm	\$11,050
Bonfo	\$0
.....	\$376,030
Stampede Farm	Jean Donnan
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison	\$103,401
River Bed	\$63,040
Across The Sky	\$9,750
Won Wild Bird.....	\$7,800
Askim.....	\$0
.....	\$371,491



Tod Marks

Gliding (left) picked up his second stakes win of 2007 to help his Pick Six "owners."

Millstone Farm	James Watrous
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Orison	\$103,401
Orchid Princess.....	\$37,720
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Pukka.....	\$15,000
Askim.....	\$0
.....	\$370,621
Western Run Racing.....	Regina Welsh
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Best Attack.....	\$77,900
Swimming River	\$40,000
Bubble Economy	\$32,400
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Guelph	\$2,500
.....	\$367,300

Irish Imports	Ann Morss
McDynamo.....	\$187,500
Paradise's Boss.....	\$69,912
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Riddle.....	\$31,956
Pukka.....	\$15,000
Askim.....	\$0
.....	\$367,068
Dadofthree Stable	Joe Clancy
Orison	\$103,401
Planets Aligned	\$80,500
Best Attack.....	\$77,900
Imagina.....	\$62,700
Sur La Tete.....	\$27,000
Coal Dust	\$9,000
.....	\$360,501

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Grand Slam

Dutton, Martin team up to sweep first four places at CCI three-star

BY SEAN CLANCY

FAIR HILL, Md. – Phillip Dutton walked the show-jumping course at Fair Hill International Sunday morning as competitor and coach. He led the standings on The Foreman. His closest rival was his student Boyd Martin and Ying Yang Yo. To double the pressure, Dutton sat third with Woodburn and Martin hovered in fourth with Neville Bardos. Ten points separated the True Prospect Farm quartet.

The order held.

Dutton negotiated a productive round from The Foreman, dropping one rail to add the only points to the horse's dressage score of 42.4 in the CCI three-star competition Oct. 18-21 at Fair Hill, Md. Martin knocked down one rail with Ying Yang Yo while Woodburn and Neville Bardos jumped cleanly.

In baseball, they call it hitting for the cycle. First, second, third and fourth ribbons went home with Dutton and Martin to West Grove, Pa. Not that they celebrated.

"People say, 'I'll bet you guys celebrated Sunday night.' Actually, you're too tired to celebrate," Dutton said.

FAIR HILL INTERNATIONAL

October 18-21

"It's a good feeling. Going into the competition, if we all got in the top 10 that was going to be a great achievement so to end up first, second, third and fourth was great."

Owned by Annie Jones, The Foreman salvaged a disappointing year. A splint on his right front leg sidelined the 2005 Horse of the Year for most of this year. He missed Rolex, missed Burghley and just came around for Fair Hill. With the Olympics looming in 2008, The Foreman had one shot. He nailed it with a stellar dressage test, his typical flawless cross-country round and precise show jumping. Dutton was relieved.

"It's been a very frustrating year, actually couple of years," Dutton said. "The splint happened in February, he did it in the field in Aiken. I treated it like it was a little splint and I actually ran him that weekend, then he went quite lame. I'd give him two weeks off and bring him back, he'd feel all right,

See FAIR HILL page 28 ►



Shannon Brinkman

The Foreman (Phillip Dutton) powers through the water at Fair Hill.

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Phillip Dutton & Boyd Martin

The Pennsylvania-based event riders/trainers teamed up to sweep the first four places at the Fair Hill International Oct. 18-21.

Dutton placed first and third with The Foreman and Woodburn, respectively.

Martin, a Dutton student/assistant, took the second and fourth spots with Ying Yang Yo and Neville Bardos.



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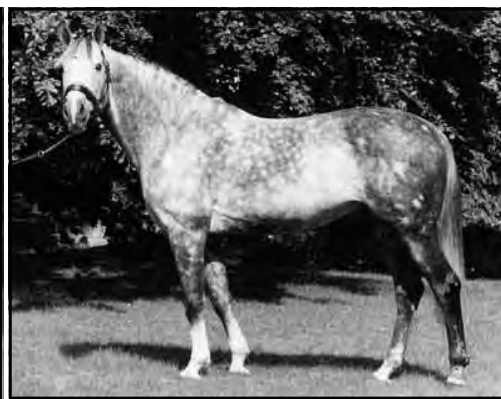
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Fair Hill —

■ Continued from page 26

then it would come back. It's been an ongoing problem, obviously it was a lot worse than I first thought. In hindsight, I should have given him a lot of time off in the beginning. He's qualified for the Olympics now, we'll see what we have to do to get there."

That's Dutton the competitor talking. As for Dutton the coach, he was ecstatic about Martin's success.

Martin and his wife, Silva, moved from Australia in January to ride with Dutton. Off the Australian racetracks, Ying Yang Yo and Neville Bardos came with them. Ying Yang Yo prepped for Fair Hill with a spin around Plantation Field – Preliminary. Neville Bardos, 8, was making his second start at the three-star level.

Dutton knows all about making big moves.

"It's one thing for people in this country to move but for you and your wife to pick up and leave another country and come and settle here . . . it's not as if they were nobodies in Australia," Dutton said. "They were pretty established riders, it's a huge commitment. This year things haven't gone just perfectly for them but I think Boyd is on the map now."

Dutton led the victory gallop at the Fair Hill International CCI*** three times before, but on Sunday he led the charge for the first time as a citizen of the United States. Australia might have lost Dutton to America, but he's in the midst of paying back his country with

his tutelage of Martin (who still represents Australia).

Dutton and The Foreman completed the competition with a score of 46.4, bringing home the Fair Hill bronze, Gladstone and Guy V. Henry Memorial trophies for the victory. Martin, 28, was awarded the Linda Moore Trophy for the highest-placed foreign rider with Ying Yang Yo's total of 50.5 points.

In just his fourth event with Dutton, Jess Sweely's Woodburn (50.9) finished third while Martin rounded out the top four with his second ride, Windurra Partnership's Neville Bardos (52.4). Leading lady rider Karen O'Connor (USA) finished fifth with Jacqueline Mars' Hugh Knows (56.9).

Dutton and The Foreman took the lead on a rainy dressage day, scoring an impressive 42.5 penalty points. Martin and Ying Yang Yo were less than four points behind at 46.1. New Zealand rider Donna Smith and Rocket sat third, with Becky Holder (USA) and Courageous Comet ending the day fourth.

"He did a really good test," Dutton said. "On Wednesday, I didn't think that was going to happen because he was pretty wound up, pretty excited to be at a big venue again. I had a bit of time, being one of the last to go, so we worked him in pretty well."

The Foreman raced at Charles Town for several seasons and can recall those days without provocation. The Foreman was the horse trotting to the dressage arena like he was late for the bus.

"He's a nervous Thoroughbred horse, he probably wouldn't have had the greatest upbringing, he raced at Charles

See **FAIR HILL** page 29 ►



Shannon Brinkman

Ying Yang Yo (Boyd Martin) clears a fence during Saturday's cross-country round.

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Fair Hill —
■ Continued from page 28

Town for a long time,” Dutton said. “Certain things set him off, which I’ve figured out now so I can work around them. Any roped-in area, I’ve never worked out why, but if it’s a laneway or a roped-in area, he’ll just go sideways. To get to the dressage arena, I did basically a rising trot, nice and forward, fast, because I knew as soon as he got in the enclosed area he was going to panic. If I had walked him there, it would have been all over.”

Dutton learned the hard way. “When we went to France to do a three-star, he had warmed up so well, then they marshal you down and you walk down, he completely lost the plot and ruined the whole test,” Dutton said. “You’ve just got to think ahead and know how he’s going to react and what’s going to set him off. Basically he’s a good-hearted horse, he wants to do well, but he’ll get wound up.”

Drought conditions throughout the country had plagued Maryland as well, and the crew at Fair Hill worked tirelessly to improve the cross-country course, but the rain overnight Friday assisted their endeavors, producing a good galloping track. However, Derek DiGrazia’s large and technical course took its toll, producing nine eliminations and nine on-course retirements.

“Horses know their jobs, you can walk the course 50 times but you never quite know how it’s going to ride,” Dutton said. “I would not have picked the corner complex toward the end of the course to cause so much trouble. The horses have a different perspective than what we can see. The sun played a part of it. Riding three horses is a real advantage to see how it’s riding, then you can adjust accordingly.”

The mix of big galloping fences with tough combinations proved a challenge. While numerous questions caught a number of horses and riders off guard, Fences 5AB (the Elk Chapel Crossing and Fox Den) and fences 6AB (The Farm Yard) presented particular troubles, as some riders seemed to struggle with the change of pace and accuracy required to navigate these questions. The Wayne’s Wall combination at 12ABC also proved to be difficult. Toward the end of the course, the corners at 18AB were the site of two falls – Becky Holder and Courageous Comet parted



Anthony Trollope

Woodburn (Phillip Dutton) gets up and over a fence in the show-jumping portion of the Fair Hill International.

ways here, as did Melissa Hunsberger and Just Fun Stuff. Holder was found to have cracked ribs, while Just Fun Stuff was transported to the University of Pennsylvania’s New Bolton Center for evaluation and later released. Courageous Comet and Hunsberger were uninjured.

Meanwhile, the leaders waited. “There was a big delay so we had to warm up and then cool down and warm up again. He was a little bit slow to get going which is unusual for him, I was down a little on all my minute markers but we picked it up at the end to get the time,” Dutton said. “He’s an incredible little cross-country horse, he knows his job. Like any horse, you’ve got to get it out of him. Once you get on a 10-minute cross country course, that’s his forte, he can gallop all day and jump. Technique-wise, he’s not great but he’s very careful show jumping, he does not want to hit a rail.”

Held during Sunday’s final horse inspection, The Foreman was ruled sound to continue on to show jumping. Fifth-place horse Mandiba, one of O’Connor’s four rides on the weekend, reportedly kicked himself just before jogging in front of the veterinarian and ground jury, who determined the horse unfit to continue.

The show-jumping course also forced horses and riders to prove their mettle, with only 10 going double clean. Dutton

and Martin each had one rail with their top mounts, but finished clear and within the time with their third- and fourth-place horses. The course, designed by Sally Ike and set in the William du Pont, Jr. Arena, was wrought with questions testing the accuracy, balance and patience of the competitors.

“We spent a lot of time walking the show jumping, because it was going to be influential. It walked very hard, it actually surprised me how well it rode,” Dutton said. “I think the cups might have been a bit deeper than we expected because the rails didn’t fall out quite as easily, which was good. It walked very tough, I was thinking, ‘This is as tough as you’ll see.’”

Dutton and Martin walked the course together – then rode alone.

“I’ve done this with people I teach. I don’t want them to go bad. If they jump clean, then it’s my job to do it as well. I wanted Boyd to jump well – I wanted to beat him don’t get me wrong – but it’s not about the other guy going bad, it’s about me riding well and my horses going well,” Dutton said. “I’m fortunate to teach a lot of these guys that are at the same level as me. I put more pressure on myself rather than worrying about what they’re going to go. At the end of the day, if he can jump well and jump clean, which he did, that just adds a little bit to me making sure I do it as well.”

No problem. Martin went cleanly on Neville Bardos. Dutton mirrored the round on Woodburn. Martin dropped one rail on Ying Yang Yo, Dutton dropped one rail, at the fifth fence, on The Foreman.

“I wanted to beat Phillip and Phillip wanted to beat me, but at the same time he walked the show-jumping course with me, basically warmed me up for the show jumping even though I was one to go before him,” Martin said. “It’s a very strange mentality, a very positive mentality where the guy you’re trying to beat is actually trying to help you do the best you can. I take my hat off to Phillip to go out of his way when his results are on the line to help me out, to walk the course with me, giving me all the information to be successful. You couldn’t imagine Tiger Woods telling Ernie Els, ‘This is how to putt this one here on number 18.’”

For Dutton and Martin, the putts fell at Fair Hill International 2007.

Additional reporting by Katy Carter.



Shannon Brinkman

Hugh Knows (Karen O’Connor) jumps out of the water on the way to placing fifth.

The Top 20

Final results (with point totals at the end of each phase) from the Fair Hill International CCI*** Oct. 18-21 at Fair Hill, Md.

Horse	Rider	Dressage	XC	Final
1. The Foreman	Phillip Dutton (USA)	42.4	42.4	46.4
2. Ying Yang Yo	Boyd Martin (AUS)	46.1	46.5	50.5
3. Woodburn	Phillip Dutton (USA)	50.9	50.9	50.9
4. Neville Bardos	Boyd Martin (AUS)	52.4	52.4	52.4
5. Hugh Knows	Karen O’Connor (USA)	55.7	56.9	56.9
6. Colombo	Selena O’Hanlon (CAN)	59.8	59.8	62.8
7. Frodo Baggins	Laine Ashker (USA)	55.9	63.5	63.5
8. Hollywood	Kelly Sult (USA)	62.4	66.0	66.0
9. Dobbin	Corinne Ashton (USA)	49.8	69.8	69.8
10. Livewire	Samantha Taylor (CAN)	70.9	72.9	72.9
11. Arctic Dancer	Ralph Holstein (USA)	61.3	67.3	75.3
12. Roundabout	Penny Rowland (CAN)	62.0	68.8	76.8
13. Che Mr. Wiseguy	Ronald Zabala-Goetschel (ECU)	57.8	82.2	86.2
14. Match Play II	Phillip Dutton (USA)	57.4	87.8	87.8
15. Acapulco Jazz	Bonner Carpenter (USA)	64.6	84.6	88.6
16. The King’s Spirit	Sharon White (USA)	59.1	89.1	89.1
17. Kings Whisper	Blair King (USA)	73.7	74.1	90.1
18. Klimax	Werner Geven (NED)	73.0	74.2	90.2
19. Arthur	Allison Springer (USA)	52.4	85.6	90.6
20. High Patriot	Mara Dean (USA)	48.3	87.9	91.9



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U.S. Eventing Leaderboards



SmartPak Horse of the Year

Name	Points
1. Theodore O'Connor	204.0
2. McKinlaigh	187.0
3. Tru Luck	182.0
4. Winsome Adante	170.0
5. Loose 'n Cool	143.0
6. Hugh Knows	141.0
7. Dobbin	134.0
8. Jam	127.0
9. Tsunami III	126.0
10. Up Spirit	125.0

Mare of the Year

Horse/rider	Points
1. Jam / Bruce Davidson Sr. (PA)	127.0
2. Tsunami III / Plain Dealing Farm	126.0
3. Ballinakill Glory / Andrea Pfeiffer (CA)	115.0
4. The Good Witch / Daisy Tognazzini (CA)	82.0
5. Estrella / Andrea Baxter (CA)	80.0
6. Center Field / Sarah Cousins (PA)	72.0
6t. Expedition / Melissa Hunsberger (VA)	72.0
8. The King's Spirit / Peter Barry (Que.)	64.0
9. Ruba Z / Wendy Southam (Ont.)	63.0
10. Rumor Hazit / Julie Boyer (CA)	54.0
10t. Isabella II / Susie Beale (PA)	54.0

Rider of the Year

Name	Points
1. Phillip Dutton (PA)	874.0
2. Karen O'Connor (VA)	573.0
3. Kimberly Severson (VA)	462.0
4. Sarah Cousins (PA)	407.0
5. Darren Chiacchia (NY)	314.0
6. Buck Davidson (FL)	276.0
7. Boyd Martin PA (PA)	251.0
8. Bruce Davidson (PA)	218.0
9. Bonnie Mosser (PA)	209.0
10. Allison Springer (VA)	203.5

Lady Rider

Name	Points
1. Karen O'Connor (VA)	573.0
2. Kimberly Severson (VA)	462.0
3. Sarah Cousins (PA)	407.0
4. Boyd Martin PA (PA)	251.0
5. Bonnie Mosser (PA)	209.0
6. Allison Springer (VA)	203.5
7. Gina Miles (CA)	187.0
8. Hawley Bennett (CA)	186.0
9. Jan Bynny (VA)	179.0
10. Laine Ashker (VA)	166.0

Adult Amateur Rider

Name	Points
1. Corinne Ashton (MA)	134.0
2. Wendy Southam (Ontario)	63.0
3. Charlotte Merle-Smith (VA)	61.0
4. Wendy Bebie (VA)	59.0
5. Julie Boyer (CA)	54.0
6. Lisa Barry (VA)	46.0
7. Kristi Walker (WA)	43.0
7t. Elizabeth Ricklefs (PA)	43.0
9. Fanny Lee (MA)	41.0
10. Dana Widstrand (IL)	40.0

New honors handed out at Mid-South event

New USEF National Eventing Championships got underway in Lexington, Ky. Oct. 17-21 and five CCI* titles were handed out at the Mid-South Three-Day Event at the Kentucky Horse Park. Karen Shull put on a flawless performance and had the lowest overall score in any division to claim the Junior and Overall championships.

Riding Just My Style, the 18-year-old from Bryan, Texas won the dressage on a score of 43.6 and was perfect the rest of the way. In the national CCI* championship, Marty Whitehouse finished second aboard Final Score at 46.5, with Jamie Furtado and Come Out And Play third at 55.6. Furtado was the national Amateur champion over Liz Lund and Lady Hanna B and Katherine Lasher and Silver Surfer.

In the Junior championship, Shull was much the best, clearly winning by almost 10 points with the 10-year-old gelding. Kate Owens and Much Ado II were second with Ashley DaFermo and Puff Dragon third. The top three junior riders all finished on their dressage scores.

In the 19-21 year-old championship, Whitehouse prevailed over Lund and Katherine Brown aboard Mojito. Whitehouse, 19, who lives in Lexington, rode her own Final Score to top honors in the new championship. Final Score, a 12-year-old Thoroughbred gelding was eighth at the Mid-South CCI* in 2005.

Shull took home more accolades in the inaugural USEF Eastern JR/YR One Star Team Championship. Along with teammates Owens and Abbie Golden, who rode Phantom Pursuit, the Area V Team made their trip from Texas worthwhile, finishing on a score of 183.3.

Edited USEF Press Release

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

Q: What's the difference between riding over chase fences in England and riding over timber in America?



A: (from jockey Carl Rafter): A handicap chaser at home, you can send him into a fence and they can pop, pop and in a stride be clever. You can ride the fences at home more positively than you can the timber fences here. I came off once over timber because it popped me out of the saddle, we went in tight and popped up instead of European horses which back off, back off. Here, they get right down to the bottom, it was at a point-to-point. I nearly pulled Rob Massey off his horse next to me, I went off between horses and was holding onto his rein, he was screaming. Away I went. If you're spot on, I find it's great, they respect them and they snap up, as long as you're not too enthusiastic. The majority of horses ran over hurdles and know what they're doing."

***Nutramax Laboratories, Inc. would like to
congratulate Phillip Dutton and The Foreman
on their win at Fair Hill International CCI******



Photograph by Anthony Trollope



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EVENTING RIDER PROFILES

By Katy Carter

Amateur: Lillian Heard

Lillian Heard is not only an accomplished rider, she is accomplished schedule juggler.

A senior at the University of Virginia, she has maintained full-time student status for the past three years, attending classes Monday through Wednesday, before packing her things and commuting three hours north to ride and train with Jan Bynny at Surefire Farm in Purcellville, Va., Thursday through Sunday.

Heard grew up in Potomac, Md., and was introduced to eventing through the Seneca Valley Pony Club (where she was a "B" graduate). She owns

Michael McNally

Lillian Heard and Frederick's Finest in action.

three horses; two compete at intermediate, and one at novice. In addition to riding and training with Bynny on the weekends during the school year, she has been part of Surefire Farm's working-student program each summer she has spent in Northern Virginia. One summer, she and a friend ran a day-camp program where she taught riding lessons and stable management to local pony clubbers.

Intermediate horses Anything But Ordinary and Frederick's Finest are American Thoroughbreds while novice Sure Option, is a 5-year-old Irish Thoroughbred imported from England in March.

Heard placed well with Anything But Ordinary, a 12-year-old mare, at intermediate and with Frederick's Finest, a 9-year-old gelding, at preliminary throughout the winter season events in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. They continued their successes through the spring and summer, moving Frederick's Finest to intermediate. Heard garnered ribbons at events in Areas I and II, including Fair Hill, Rubicon Farm, Stuart and the Maryland Horse

Trials to name a few. Shared Option won a division of novice at Waredaca and finished second at Maryland.

"My goal is to move Anything But Ordinary up to Advanced next year and aim for a CCI three-star if she's going well," Heard said, "and I hope to take Frederick's Finest to Jersey Fresh in 2008."

Heard, of course, intends on accomplishing said goals all while progressing through training and preliminary with Sure Option.

"I've had to learn to manage my time effectively, between school and riding," she said.

Although currently competing as an amateur, Heard intends on turning to riding professionally after she graduates next spring, following in the steps of her trainer and mentor, Bynny.

"Jan is the best!" Heard said. "She's so involved and dedicated to each of her students. I don't think there is anyone who is more helpful to young riders than Jan. She has been the biggest influence on my riding career."



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Trainer: "Hello."

Employee: "Boss, the filly, she is out."

Trainer: "Close the gate before she really gets out."

Employee: "No boss, she's out – of her stall, the barn, the stable area. We don't know where she is."

Former jump jockey turned flat trainer Roger Horgan doesn't have to imagine any of that, because it really happened. Driving south from Saratoga Oct. 15, he received a call about Judiciary, his 2-year-old Johannesburg filly. It seems she slipped under her webbing in a stall in Horgan's barn at the Oklahoma Annex and escaped.

The Outside Rail

Joe Clancy

She ran around loose for five minutes or so within the Annex confines, then jumped out over a board fence in the back and on to Caroline Street, negotiated

the block or so to get Lake Avenue, made a left and jogged to downtown Saratoga Springs – past homes, the East Side Recreation Center, an elementary school. She crossed fairly major intersections at East Avenue, Nelson Avenue and Circular Street, then made another left and wound up in the commercial area near Sperry's Restaurant, the Parting Glass Irish bar and D'Andrea's Pizza.

Spotted by several Saratoga citizens, including three fifth-graders taking down the American flag in front of St. Clement's Elementary, Judiciary was eventually caught in the Parting Glass parking lot – next to Nemec's Feed Store – by Saratoga Springs public works commissioner Tom McTygue, animal control officer Denny Butler, a cook from D'Andrea's and grooms from the barns of Horgan and Jimmy Jerkens. Apparently none the worse for wear, Judiciary recovered nicely from her tour.

"By the time I got there, she was munching hay in her stall, sound, all four shoes on, fine," said Horgan, who had been on his way to saddle a horse at the Meadowlands. "It could have been very, very nasty but all she has is a small mark on her knee where she went over the fence. We have no idea what triggered it."

Horgan and his horse wound up in *The Saratogian* newspaper under the headline "Racehorse's romp takes her downtown," and his phone has rung with plenty of calls about the incident since.

"I'm glad everything is fine now – that was not an easy drive to make, let me tell you," he said. "I about had a heart attack."

Horgan and his stable will soon ship to Florida for the winter. There are no plans to show Judiciary the sights.

• If you were at Far Hills, you saw the superb video coverage of the races shown on Jumbotron screens on the grounds and flat-screen televisions in the stewards' tower and tents. In addition, the race was shown on the TVG racing channel and on espn.com's. As with the majority of NSA meets, video coverage was handled by Hunt Cup Productions – only with a little extra sauce. For Far Hills, HCP brings additional staff, utilizes more (and better) cameras and rents an on-site production truck. The result is a better production and well worth it. Finally – the sport's energy on camera.

Now, how do we move more meets toward that standard? As your mother said, improve your appearance and improve yourself. I know, I know, it costs money – but everything does.



Star of the Show McDynamo returns after his fifth consecutive Breeders' Cup steeplechase triumph.

Tod Marks

Talking McDynamo

Hendriks, Moran reminisce about horse, racing

Editor's Note: This conversation between McDynamo's co-owner Anne Moran and trainer Sanna Hendriks points to the women's feeling about their horse and their position in American steeplechasing. Kim Young talked to them in February 2007, but dusting it off now seems fitting.

On a sunny, but still ice-covered, February 2007 afternoon at Anne and Michael Moran's Applestone Farm in Unionville, Pa., Anne Moran and Sanna Hendriks talked about women in horse sports, winning Maryland Hunt Cups and their successes with three-time champion McDynamo.

Fresh from Beverly Hills, where the Morans accepted their third Eclipse Award as owners of McDynamo (trainer Sanna joined them), their casual talk was punctuated by lots of laughter and reminiscences.

For just a while, before Sanna had to head back down the road to her training barn and Anne had to rush off to pick up one of her daughters, it was just two busy mothers, drinking tea at a large farm table in the sunroom. Two of our most successful amateur jockeys – friends, business partners and neighbors – and now, thanks to one of the greatest horses the sport has known – members of a very exclusive mutual admiration society.

The conversation started when Sanna was asked what it meant to see McDynamo rewarded again (the three-time Eclipse Award-winning and then four-time winning Breeders' Cup steeplechaser is owned by Anne's husband Michael Moran).

Sanna: "The Eclipse Award? What does it mean? Well it is just so rewarding because I love training. I'm very competitive, I love to win. Let's start with that. And I've been lucky. I've been fairly successful and that has allowed me to . . . well, I'm lucky enough to train for people I enjoy spending time with. I started working for Jonathan Shepard when I was 14. I loved the job. I loved the animals. I was always picking his brain as much as I could – trying to learn as much from him as I could. I had foxhunted my whole life and obviously learned from my father (former amateur jockey Paddy Neilson). And my stepfather (George Strawbridge) owned horses his whole life. It's always been right there for me to grab hold of if I wanted to, but it was never pushed on me. It was the challenge of working with Jonathan. I enjoyed being a jockey, but an accident in 1995 (a fall from Castleworth at St. James) put me on track as a full-time trainer. I still ride, but I got all of the riding out of my system and prefer the training now. When I ride a good horse – and I've got a few good ones that I foxhunt – I'm like, 'Ooh, if I was 10 years younger I would really be excited about riding this guy.' But then I watch a race and think, 'Do I wish I was going down to the start?' Noooo!"

Anne: "Women just succeed in horse sports. In England, in Ireland, there are a lot of women who do really well."

See **CONVERSATION** page 35 ►

Conversation —

■ Continued from page 34

Sanna: "It's the one sport that is not all brute strength — I mean, we can't compete with men in most sports, but in this sport it really is finesse and brains."

Anne: "Sanna and I rode in the Maryland Hunt Cup together. The first year I rode in it she won (on Ivory Poacher). She had a short, but very successful career. I started riding at home in Ireland. Then I was in Canada when I came here to visit Betty Bird (who trained Maryland Hunt Cup winner and timber great Fort Devon among others). She was my mentor. It was challenging but I just wanted to get on good horses. I rode quite a bit. A little bit before Michael and I got married (they met while Michael was working for Hall of Fame trainer Burley Cocks) and then whatever jumpers we had, I rode. And then the most success I had was after I had children. That was with Buck Jakes. I remember watching Charlie Fenwick ride Buck Jakes at Willowdale and thinking, 'Boy, that's the only horse I would ever get on again with three kids.' Then Charlie retired and he called me that summer in June or July, but I didn't call back for a couple of weeks."

Sanna: "Oh, so you didn't know what he wanted?"

Anne: "No, I didn't call him back for a couple of weeks. Then he finally called me again and said, 'I can't believe you didn't call me back.' I said, 'Why, I thought you were actually looking for money Charlie.' And he said, 'Really? I just wanted to know if you were still riding or if you're too old to ride.' So I got on him (Buck Jakes) that fall. That was 1994."

Sanna: "So you were 36 and then you rode Buck Jakes five times in the Hunt Cup?"

Anne: "Let's see . . . '95, '96, '97, '98, and '99 was the last year I rode him."

Sanna: "Wow, so you were 40? 41?"

Anne: "40."

Sanna: "Damn, you're a brave man! That's impressive. I ran out of nerve a long time ago."

Anne: "Oh, I've totally run out of nerve now!"



Tod Marks

Michael and Anne Moran embrace Sanna Hendriks after the 2007 Breeders 'Cup victory.

• • •

Anne: "You know, the most rewarding thing about a lifestyle surrounded by horses is winning. But it takes a lifetime to get there."

Sanna: "Yeah, people don't realize just how much time it takes to get to a race. (She points to a photograph on Anne's wall) When you look at that photo of Anne up there — winning the Maryland Hunt Cup (on Buck Jakes) — That didn't happen overnight."

Anne: "It seems sudden, but it's almost like delayed gratification. Like with McDynamo. It's unusual, it's unbelievable and (McDynamo's success) is a credit to Sanna and her team. It's probably 90 percent their effort and 10 percent of, 'It was just meant to be.'"

Sanna: "Oh no. We can take maybe 20 percent of the credit . . ."

Anne: "Nope. Sanna is the one responsible for the great success of this horse. (Turning to Sanna) You try to catch them before they're hurt."

Sanna: "McDynamo is unusual in that, touch wood, he's stayed sound."

Anne: "But you've caught him twice. You haven't over-raced him. To have a McDynamo or any other successful horse, you have to have all the right circumstances. You have to have the right horse, the right owner, the right trainer, and the right jockeys. And Sanna always got the best jockeys — as soon as McDynamo looked like he was going to do something. It's still hard to believe that McDynamo is as good as he is, isn't it Sanna?"

the other horses fly by and he just doesn't care. He just stands calmly. They put a fox to ground — and this happened recently — and he puts his head down because the hounds are all, like, surrounding this hole and there's lots of commotion and he's really checking them out. He really pays very close attention."

Anne: "He's very smart."

Sanna: "I've never had a horse that I enjoyed this much over time. I've had horses that have been flashes of brilliance, I've had horses that have won Grade I races — Pompeyo, Lord Zada was a very good horse — but when you have a horse that . . ."

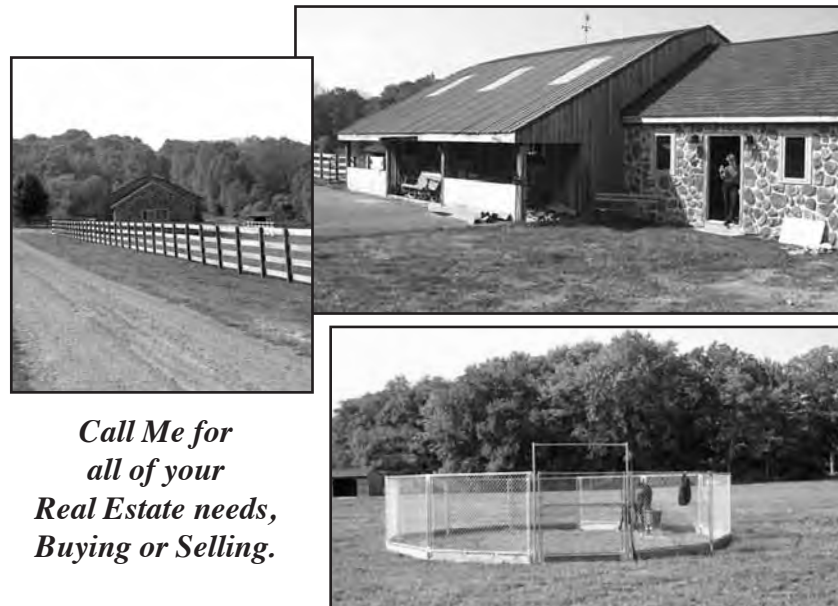
Anne: "It's the longevity. That's how I feel about Buck Jakes, he ran in the Maryland Hunt Cup six years in a row . . . I didn't ride him very well in all of them, but how do you get there six years in a row? It's just like what you've done with McDynamo. It's just the longevity."

Sanna: "That's what makes it extraordinary. McDynamo is just such an intelligent horse, very interested, very alert."

Anne: "The longevity is what makes him extraordinary. Why do some horses put their foot down funny — and there are holes all over here — and come up with a bow and some of them don't?"

Sanna: "McDynamo is extraordinary because he can handle the rigors of steeplechasing. There aren't too many horses that can do that. He is able to run . . . and then when they can stand the test of time and keep going out there and beating the best. . ."

Congratulations to Fenella O'Flynn and Bridget McFadden on the purchase of "GRATTAN FARM" — their new rehab/layup facility!



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