

Year 23 • No. 8

The *Saratoga*

Friday, August 4, 2023

Special

Saratoga's Racing Newspaper since



All Class

Arrogate, Songbird,
California Chrome join
racing's Hall of Fame

Tod Marks

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Tod Marks
Sweet Music. A Hall of Famer today, Songbird dazzled Saratoga in the morning (far left), in the 2016 Coaching Club American Oaks (top) and 2016 Alabama (near left). Owned Fox Hill Farm, trained by Jerry Hollendorfer and ridden by Mike Smith, she won her first 11 starts and 13 of 15 (with two seconds) overall.

Here&There...in Saratoga

License Plate of the Day

THR-OFF, Florida. Thanks reader Erin Bond.

By The Numbers

1: Fair Hill Training Center assistant trainer who offered to change her Thursday morning set list to accommodate a reporter from The Special.

12: Horse vans lined up on East Avenue and Union Avenue at 6:52 Thursday morning.

11: Horse vans lined up on East Avenue and Union Avenue at 7:25 Thursday morning. Progress.

11: Clipboards hanging in D. Wayne Lukas' office.

1: Box of Lukas memorabilia delivered to his office from the Saratoga Walk of Fame.

12: IPAs dropped off at The Special office Thursday. (Thanks Johnsons).

1: Ladybug painted Nissan making a pickup in front of The Special office Thursday afternoon. We like your style.

Worth Repeating

"Sell 'em high."

Owner Brant Laue to Four Star Sales' Kerry Cauthen Thursday morning

"Buy 'em high."

Cauthen to Laue

Names of the Day

Laughing Boy, fifth race. The 5-year-old horse is by Distorted Humor out of Applauding.

Caroline Street, seventh race. You'll know where to find the Joseph O'Brien team if the 3-year-old filly wins the Saratoga Oaks.

Foliage, 10th race. Bred (and named) by Clayborne Farm and Adele Dilschneider, the 5-year-old Speightstown gelding is out of Greenery.

He's Got It, 10th race. The 4-year-old gelding is out of She Gets It.



The Saratoga Special

thisishorseracing.com

259 East Avenue, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. 12866.

ST Publishing. 364 Fair Hill Drive, Ste. F, Elkton, Md. 21921. (410) 392-5867.

2023 publication dates: Wednesdays and Saturdays July 13-Sept 4.
 Plus Opening Day July 13 & Sales Week Daily Aug. 4-9.

All editions in print and online. See thisishorseracing.com for more.

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Handicappers: Charles Bedard, Jessica Paquette, John Shapazian, Rob Whitlock.

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Here&There...in Saratoga

Worth Repeating

"Art is pretty good, too."

Erma Scott, Art Collector's biggest fan, after The Special's Sean Clancy described Cody's Wish as the best horse on the grounds

"Yes. No. Probably."

Maryland-based junior riders James Wyatt, Paige Wyatt and Jaidyn Shore when asked if they were going to ride a jump race at Saratoga someday

"It is a hard thing to say but he gives you the feel that he might be as good a horse as I have ridden. He is exceptional."

Jockey Ryan Moore after winning the Group 1 Sussex Stakes aboard Paddington

"It's easier to handicap our business after they cross the wire."

Hidden Brook Farm's Sergio de Sousa

"This is a game of extreme highs and extreme lows. Patience is required."

Owner Greg Tramontin

"Same feeling. Same goosebumps."

Ralph Theroux on returning to Saratoga

"VIPs coming across."

Rick the traffic cop at the Union Avenue gap

"Story time."

Kiaran McLaughlin, stepping out of former boss D. Wayne Lukas' tackroom late Thursday morning

"His name is Arcangelo."

Trainer Jena Antonucci introducing the Belmont Stakes winner to a group of kids Thursday morning

"Do you want to pet him, too?"

Antonucci to The Special's Sean Clancy

"I didn't know I was that mean."

Trainer Bill Mott after hearing a story about his reaction to a reporter (Sean Clancy) barging into his Payson Park barn in 1998; we decided on taciturn, not mean

"Perfect."

Paul Wasserman as he and his friends laid out a picnic at a table near the Big Red Spring Thursday afternoon



Hall Blazer. Nobody ran a faster Travers Stakes than Arrogate, who set a track record in 2016 for jockey Mike Smith, Juddmonte Farm and trainer Bob Baffert. The gray joins the Hall of Fame today. Tod Marks

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"As long as we can see the horses, it's a good day."
Fan walking into the track at 7:11 Thursday morning



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With D. Wayne Lukas

A Stable Tour with D. Wayne Lukas on Hall of Fame Day in Saratoga. What could be better than that?

The Hall of Fame trainer, 87, is back in Saratoga with a barn full of horses and head full of stories.

“If you look at our stable top to bottom, I really feel comfortable with our 2-year-olds,” Lukas said. “Put Secret Oath, Last Samurai and maybe Bourbon Bash and Major Blue in there, those are the ones we’re going to have to try to make a living with. I don’t think I’ve had a better set of 2-year-olds for a long time. I remember one year up here; we had both sides of the barn and there were 13 Grade 1 horses on this side of the barn. You think we weren’t in business?”

Thursday morning, The Special’s Sean Clancy stopped by Lukas’ office outside his traditional barn deep in the northeast Oklahoma corner of Fifth Avenue, Nick Zito’s barn and the hill.

“Let’s start with Secret Oath...”

Secret Oath: The 4-year-old daughter of Arrogate won the Kentucky Oaks last spring and tacked on the Grade 2 Azeri in March. Owned by Briland Farm, the chestnut filly has earned \$2.3 million in her 17-race career. “Here’s a filly who anchored the whole stable last year. She got better and better and better. The highlight of course was winning the Oaks. She’s thriving up here. She’s only going to run once here. The Personal Ensign, and I look for her to make a great showing.”

Last Samurai: Owned by Willis Horton Racing, the 5-year-old son of Malibu Moon takes on Cody’s Wish and four others in the Grade 1 Whitney Saturday. “I only came in with him late. The Whitney looked to me like it had enough prestige and money that if a horse was worthy, and I thought he was, you should take a chance in it. I have all the respect in the world for Cody’s Wish. I don’t think there’s any doubt that he’s the favorite. On the other hand, a Hall of Fame trainer once told me, ‘If there’s only one to beat, enter. If there’s two or three you can’t beat, stay in the barn.’ That was John Nerud.”

Ram: The 5-year-old son of American Pharoah has earned \$294,742 in a 29-race career. “We’ve got a horse named Ram. He started out with my lifelong partners. One of them, Bob Baker, passed away. Bill Mack has this one horse. We own a little piece of him. I’m running him where I think he’s effective. He’s a blue-collar type horse. He’s a son of a bitch to train, though, he’s no fun to be around but he does get a check every once in a while.”

Bourbon Bash: BC Stable’s 3-year-old broke his maiden here last summer and has tried eight stakes since. The bay colt finished second here July 22. “He’s a horse I mismanaged. I was so high on him when he won here, I got to pushing him along a little bit. By



Tod Marks
Trainer D. Wayne Lukas went through his set list with The Special Thursday morning.

City Of Light, I thought he would do better, and I pushed him along and he was a little immature and he didn’t handle it very well. I backed up and regrouped. When I ran him here the other day, I was really confident, and I got a questionable ride. He made a monster move and got beat. I thought he made a tremendous effort. He’ll be interesting here the next time I start him. He’s OK.”

Macho Villa: Owned by BC Stable, the son of Quality Road makes his 16th career start in today’s opener, a maiden going 6 furlongs. “He’s been a disappointment; I gave a couple of hundred thousand for him. He might be just coming around now. He’s in this week so he’ll get a chance again. But he’s had quite a few chances. I’m getting a little shaky on that one.”

Game Keeper: Owned by MB Racing Stable, the son of Honor Code fetched \$65,000 from the recent Fasig-Tipton Kentucky horses of racing age sale. “Calumet was reducing their inventory and put him in a sale. I like to gamble a little bit over there at the casino, it takes my mind off the horses. I sat down with a guy, and we became friends. He said, ‘I’d like to have a racehorse,’ so I bought him Game Keeper. He’s a perfect horse for this guy. We gave \$65,000 for him, this guy won’t care if we run him for \$6,000 or if we run him for \$600,000. He’s really a good guy and I’m his friend.”

Major Blue: Owned by Bob Ghent, Ann Ghent, Lukas and his wife Laurie, the son of Flatter sports two wins from 10 starts and is entered in today’s fifth race. “He’s a horse named after my grandson

Brady who is a major in the Air Force. He was mission coordinator for Air Force One. Now he has a squadron in St. Louis. He’s been a fun horse for us, he’s not going to break up the game but he’s OK. Five days ago, Brady just had his first son, so I’m a great grandfather. Walker Wayne Lukas. He was 3 days old when Seize The Grey won the other day, they propped him up in front of the TV. Brady said, ‘Walker Wayne’s track record: 1-0-0.’ When he gets a little older, he can say he saw his first winner when he was 3 days old.”

Western Ghent: Carrying the same ownership as Major Blue, the 3-year-old son of American Pharoah won here last summer and finished fourth here July 23. “Another one we own with a dear friend of ours in Colorado. He’s another blue-collar horse. I’m trying to find his niche. I thought he would run long and I’m beginning to think he’s a little bit better under a mile or a mile. He’s a big, grand-looking horse. I think he’ll earn his keep and be a nice horse for us. I don’t think he’s going to go much higher than that. We’re just trying to have some fun. I bought Major Blue and Western Ghent, thinking at my age, my clientele was dying off. I thought we were going to be a little light, so I bought a couple from my own account. Only to find out that the new guys I got are stronger than ever. They’re really strong.”

Daily Grind: BC Stable’s 2-year-old son of Medaglia d’Oro, who cost \$1.35 million at last year’s Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale, fin-

Continued On Page 8

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Stable Tour —

Continued from page 6

ished eighth in his debut here July 22. “John Bellinger and Brian Coelho made a commitment in the yearling market to become a solid stable and they really have a beautiful set of horses. They stepped up. Right down the line, they bought four horses north of a million. They bought the sales topper here last year. He’s a horse called Daily Grind. I like him. We’re just getting him cranked up. I think he’s a two-turn horse. He’s really a nice one.”

Just Steel: A \$500,000 yearling purchase for BC Stable, the son of Justify made his debut at Ellis Park and ran back at Saratoga July 15. “He was second here. I have him back in on Saturday but he’s on the also-eligible. He’s a two-turn horse. I told Keith (Doleshel), the racing secretary, I would do a lot better if he was writing a 7-furlong or a mile race. I think all of mine are scrambling to keep up going 5 1/2 or 6 furlongs.”

Cowboy Code: BC Stable’s gray colt finished ninth in his debut at Ellis Park and fifth here July 21. “He’s an Into Mischief that I gave a million for. I’m going to wait until they go two turns.”

Tornado Road: Another high-priced yearling for BC Stable at \$1.15 million, the 2-year-old colt has posted three breezes at Saratoga this summer. “That horse is definitely two turns. He’s a Quality Road that is starting to impress us. You can mark that one down.”

Saratoga Secret: A \$200,000 purchase at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Select Sale, the daughter of Arrogate won her debut and finished second to the Gary Contessa-trained Becky’s Joker in the Schuylerville. BC Stable’s gray filly drew post six in the Adirondack Sunday. “In the fray already. Second the other day, she wasn’t go-



Tod Marks

Whitney entrant Last Samurai gets some sun Thursday.

ing to beat Gary’s horse no matter what and she probably won’t again, but she’ll be a lot stronger this week. I didn’t think I had her tuned perfectly the last time. I like where I’ve got her this time. And yet, Gary’s horse was awful impressive in the Schuylerville. Again, if they only have one to beat, maybe you get in there.”

Alamo: Owned by Joseph Sutton, the \$65,000 graduate from the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October yearling sale is 0-for-2 so far. “Filly by Nyquist. I brought her up here thinking we would get two-turn races and it looks like we’ll have to go to the grass to do it. She’s a big gangly immature filly, she definitely needs two turns. I’ll probably try to find a grass race at the end of the meet.”

Lady Moscato: An \$800,000 yearling purchase for BC Stable, the daughter of Quality Road has posted two seconds in two starts. She drew post five in the sixth race Sunday. “My wife named her, after the wine. We’re pretty high on that one. I think she’s a real high-quality filly. I just entered her this morning for Sunday. I look for a great effort. She was second first out, and she was dead short.

I have a tendency to run them a little premature in their fitness because I feel like in a race with a small rider on a perfect track is better than four works in the morning on a rough track with a 180-pound exercise rider on them. I feel like you get more out of it. I don’t have any trouble running mine and then the second time around, I expect a lot more of them. She’ll be one of those.”

Seize The Grey: MyRacehorse purchased the 2-year-old son of Arrogate for \$300,000 at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale last summer. He rewarded that move with a win here July 29. “A thousand people were happy. The photographer hugged me. We thought he needed a race. Some of my friends asked me about him and I even touted them off him. That Arrogate was going to be a hell of a sire. We lost him, that’s too bad. This horse really woke up and his numbers came up good. I think I’ll run him in the Hopeful if he starts training well. You don’t have a lot of choices. There’s one non-winners of two in the book. You can drop in there and that’s not a bad idea, I would look at it. If you’re going to step into the deep end of the pool, the Hopeful is a good option. And it’s been good to me, they told me the other day I’ve won eight of them. I don’t mind taking a chance. I’m getting old. I’ve got take advantage of these things when they can run. Maybe there’s a nine in my future.”


Market Street: Owned by Les Wagner, the son of Street Sense won his debut and finished sixth in the Grade 3 Sanford here July 15. “He was in the first stake and ran creditably. He got banged around. He was actually short, and he made a race of it for a while. We’ll see how he handles it the next time around. I think he’s got a lot of quality about him. So far, I’ve asked him to do more than he’s ready for and I’m guilty of that all the time.”

Nullify: A \$325,000 purchase at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale last summer, the son of American Pharoah breezed five times at Churchill Downs and twice here. “He’s a really nice horse. I really think he’s OK. I’m going to run him here. He’s good short, long, he’s got a lot of quality about him.”


FASIG-TIPTON congratulates THE CONNECTIONS OF SARATOGA SALE GRADUATE

Songbird

ON HER INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING AND HALL OF FAME



RICK PORTER OF FOX HILL FARM



Fasig-Tipton. 125 Years

SONGBIRD was purchased at the 2014 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale by Rick Porter’s Fox Hill Farm, on the recommendation of agent Tom McGreevy. She was consigned to the sale by Hill ‘n’ Dale Sales Agency, agent for her breeder, John Antonelli.

SONGBIRD raced from ages two to four, winning 13 of 15 career starts on her way to earnings of \$4,692,000. Remarkably brilliant, she won 12 graded stakes, nine of which were Grade 1, including the 2015 Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies. She was named Eclipse Champion Two-Year-Old Filly in 2015 and Champion Three-Year-Old Filly in 2016.

At the conclusion of her racing career, **SONGBIRD** was consigned to the 2017 Fasig-Tipton November Sale by Taylor Made Sales Agency, agent for Fox Hill Farm. Purchased for **\$9,500,000** by Mandy Pope’s Whisper Hill Farm, she is the second highest-price broodmare prospect ever sold in North America.

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The Hall Call

Jockey Nakatani joins all-time greats as part of 2023 Hall of Fame inductees

BY PAUL HALLORAN

It's a safe bet that Aug. 4, 2023 will be a better day for Corey Nakatani than Aug. 4, 2018.

That is, if you consider getting inducted into the National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame better than suffering a career-ending injury that could have resulted in paralysis.

Nakatani heads a list of eight inductees who will be enshrined inside Fasig-Tipton's Humphrey S. Finney Pavilion today at 10:30 a.m. Also going into the Hall of Fame are contemporary horses Arrogate, California Chrome and Songbird, jockey Fernando Toro via the Historic Review Committee; and Pillars of the Turf selections John W. Hanes II, Leonard W. Jerome and Stella F. Thayer. The event is free and open to the public.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

After being a finalist and not selected the last three years and four of the last five, Nakatani joins racing immortals this year, becoming the 109th jockey inducted.

"When you're first starting to ride, it's not a goal you think about obtaining," Nakatani said this week, by phone while fishing in British Columbia. "It's not that simple. You always just be the best you can be when you're competing. I was fortunate enough to ride a lot of good horses for a lot of good horsemen."

The record shows that anyone who ever gave Nakatani a leg up was lucky to have him: 3,909 wins and more than \$234 million in earnings; 341 graded stakes wins,



Tod Marks

Continued On Page 12

Corey Nakatani joins racing's Hall of Fame today.



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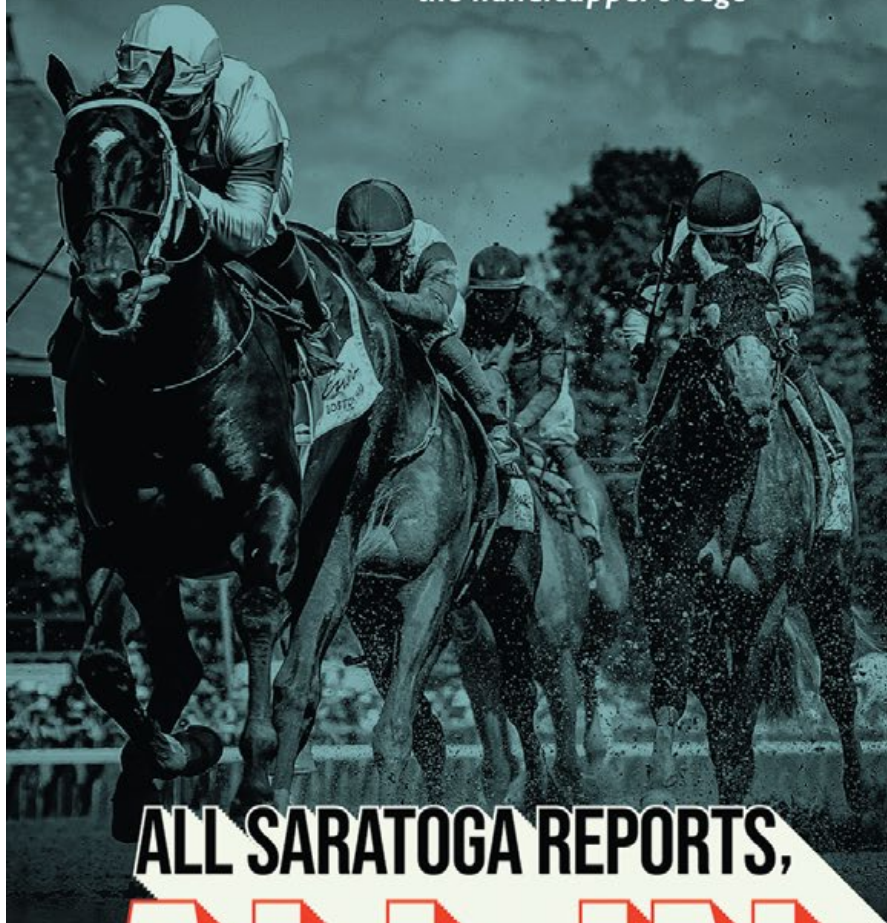
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Hall of Fame —

■ Continued from page 10

119 Grade 1s; 10 Breeders' Cup victories and 22 other top-three finishes; and 26 graded stakes wins before his 21st birthday. All 13 jockeys ranked ahead of Nakatani in career earnings are in the Hall of Fame.

"I always believed my record stood for what it is," he said. "I figured my record is good enough to get in."

This year, the Hall of Fame voters agreed.

Nakatani was driving on the Route 15 freeway from his home in Los Angeles to work a horse at Del Mar on the morning of Aug. 4, 2018, when a tire came off a diesel truck and he hit it.

"I totaled a Jaguar," he said. Nakatani's son, Matt, picked him up and got him to Del Mar for the work.

It would not be his only accident that day.

That afternoon, he won the sixth race aboard Little Juanito, closing from fourth to win the \$62,000 optional claimer by a length. In the last race of the day, Nakatani was aboard Irish Spring in a maiden claimer. He was in contention in the stretch when he clipped heels, was thrown to the turf and run over by another horse.

Nakatani said he fractured five vertebrae, requiring surgery to fuse them and regain movement on his left side. As serious as the injuries were, Nakatani did not officially announce his retirement for more than a year.

"You always feel like you want to go back out and do it," he said. "It's hard to put it behind you."

Nakatani's Hall of Fame career included riding the likes of \$4.2 million earner Lava Man, his first Breeders' Cup winner, sprinter Lit de Justice, Hall of Famer Serena's Song, champion 2-year-old filly My Miss Aurelia, champion sprinter Thor's Echo, turf star Sandpit ... and the list goes on. He rode his first Breed-

ers' Cup in 1990 at Belmont Park, finishing second in the Mile aboard Itsallgreektome.

Nakatani said he was intent on a career in horse racing from an early age. He rode his first race at the Stockton County Fair June 17, 1988 and his first winner — Blue King — at Agua Caliente in Mexico Oct. 2, 1988. He came home to ride in Southern California in 1989 and never left, though he routinely ventured out of town to ride big races. On one trip to New York, he rode six winners at Belmont Park Oct. 8, 2011, one of only three jockeys ever to do that along with Hall of Famers Jorge Velasquez and Ramon Dominguez.

"Once I started getting into horses, I loved it and that's what I was going to do," said Nakatani, a champion wrestler in high school. "I never thought about not doing it."

• • •

Juddmonte paid \$560,000 for Arrogate at the 2014 Keeneland September yearling sale. The colt was sent to Bob Baffert in California as a 2-year-old in May 2015, but developed a bad shin splint and Baffert sent him back to Juddmonte in Kentucky to rehab for about three months. By the time he raced for the first time in April 2016, the word was out.

"Exercise riders were getting off and saying, 'This horse feels really nice,'" said Garrett O'Rourke, general manager of Juddmonte. "Sometimes it's a blessing when you have to

Continued On Page 14



Tod Marks

Songbird won the Alabama at Saratoga in 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS

2023 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Stella Thayer



The lawyers and staff of Macfarlane Ferguson and McMullen, in Tampa and Clearwater, heartily congratulate shareholder Stella Thayer upon her induction to the Racing Hall of Fame as a Pillar of the Turf.

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Hall of Fame —

■ Continued from page 12

take a little more time with them.”

Arrogate, a son of Unbridled's Song and the Distorted Humor mare Bubbler, lost as an odds-on favorite in his debut, but broke his maiden second time out and put up a 103 Beyer Speed Figure in an allowance race, stamping himself as a midseason contender in the 3-year-old division and prompting Baffert to make travel plans.



Tod Marks

Arrogate set a record in the 2016 Travers Stakes.

“Bob was already pointing to the Travers,” O'Rourke said, “but he had to pass all the tests to get there. We went into the Travers feeling like it was a big ask for such an inexperienced horse, but Bob had a lot of confidence and he proved to be right.”

In the fifth start of his life, Arrogate drew the rail for the Travers, making it critical for jockey Mike Smith to get him away cleanly and quickly so “he could use that big, long stride,” O'Rourke said.

Mission accomplished. Arrogate broke first and led every step in a commanding performance, a 13 1/2-length win in a track record time of 1:59.36 for 10 furlongs.

“A perfect scenario played out in the Travers,” O'Rourke said. “He was loose on the lead the way it was scripted for him to win. It was obviously spectacular.”

Arrogate went on to win an epic stretch duel with California Chrome in the Breeders' Cup Classic and began his 4-year-old campaign by dispatching 11 foes in the Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Park. Next was a trip overseas, and as ideal as his Travers trip worked out, the Dubai World Cup was diametrically opposed.

There was a miscommunication in the gate between Smith and the assistant starter and Arrogate broke last and was squeezed, a major problem for anyone and a disaster for a speed horse. Baffert, O'Rourke and everyone else on team Arrogate were in shock.

“One of (late Juddmonte owner) Prince Khalid's grandsons turned to me and said, ‘This is really bad,



Tod Marks

California Chrome was Horse of the Year twice.

isn't it? I said it's as bad as it gets,” O'Rourke said.

At that point, winning seemed out of the question, but Arrogate had other ideas, improving to 12th of 14 entering the backstretch and unleashing a powerful move on the far turn, at first between horses and then on the outside. Arrogate took aim at Gun Runner and Neolithic and somehow took the lead with 200 meters to run, winning by 2 1/4 lengths.

The Dubai triumph turned out to be Arrogate's final win as he closed his career with three losses, all at Del Mar. He retired to stallion duty and sired three crops before dying suddenly in June 2020.

Continued On Page 16

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63 | *Filly* | **MCKINZIE** – Harlan's Honor

84 | *Colt* | **GIRVIN** – K J Warrior

133 | *Filly* | **WAR OF WILL** – Queen of Roses

182 | *Filly* | **JUSTIFY** – Super Saks

208 | *Colt* | **INTO MISCHIEF** – Viginia Key

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2023 September Meet Stakes Schedule

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Runs Saturday, September 16
Closes August 30
\$400,000
Includes \$100,000 from KTDF
Fillies & Mares, Three-Year-Olds & Up
1 1/16 Miles

POCAHONTAS (GIII)

"Breeders' Cup Dirt Dozen"
Runs Saturday, September 16
Closes August 30
\$300,000
Includes \$75,000 from KTDF
Fillies, Two-Year-Olds
1 Mile

LOUISVILLE THOROUGHBRED SOCIETY

Runs Saturday, September 16
Closes August 30
\$300,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds & Up
6 Furlongs

OPEN MIND (Listed)

Runs Saturday, September 16
Closes August 30
\$300,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Fillies & Mares, Three-Year-Olds & Up
6 Furlongs

SENECA OVERNIGHT STAKES

Runs Saturday, September 23
Closes September 6
\$175,000
Includes \$65,000 from KTDF
Fillies, Three-Year-Olds
1 1/16 Miles

BOURBON TRAIL

Runs Saturday, September 23
Closes September 6
\$300,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds
1 3/16 Miles

HARRODS CREEK

Runs Saturday, September 23
Closes September 6
\$300,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds
7 Furlongs

DOGWOOD (GIII)

Runs Saturday, September 23
Closes September 6
\$300,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Fillies, Three-Year-Olds
7 Furlongs

ACK ACK (GIII)

"Win and You're In Dirt Mile Division"
Runs Saturday, September 30
Closes September 13
\$400,000
Includes \$100,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds & Up
1 Mile

LUKAS CLASSIC (GII)

Runs Saturday, September 30
Closes September 13
\$500,000
Includes \$100,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds & Up
1 1/8 Mile

JEFFERSON CUP

Runs Saturday, September 30
Closes September 13
\$200,000
Includes \$50,000 from KTDF
Three-Year-Olds
1 Mile (Turf)



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SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE KHRC

Hall of Fame —

■ Continued from page 14

The post-mortem determined that Arrogate had a core lesion in his spinal cord, which caused paralysis and ultimately his death, according to O'Rourke.

"It dumbfounded us," he said. "How it happened would be speculation. He was one of the most hyperactive horses you could be around. You wonder if he did a weird gyration and twisted his neck and that caused it. For a core lesion to occur is very, very unusual."

Arrogate sired 2022 Kentucky Oaks winner Secret Oath and this year's Belmont Stakes winner Arcangelo. Among third-crop sires of 2023, he ranks third by earnings with more than \$5.2 million through Tuesday.

"He deserves it for his accomplishments," O'Rourke said of the Hall of Fame selection. "It's nice that it's occurring at Saratoga where he had his coming out party."

• • •

California Chrome captured the first two legs of the 2014 Triple Crown, as well as five other Grade 1s in a career that saw him win 16 times and earn more than \$14.7 million. By Lucky Pulpit out of Love The Chase, California Chrome was trained by Art Sherman for breeders/owners Perry Martin and Steve Coburn and later a partnership that involved Taylor Made Farm.

A beloved horse who inspired a rabid following known as "Chromies," the horse finished first or second in 11 consecutive races over three campaigns. You could argue that his best performance was the Breeders' Cup Classic loss to Arrogate, and the career-high 119 Beyer lends credence to that.

The California-bred was brilliant at 3, earning divisional honors and the Horse of the Year crown with wins in the San Felipe, Santa Anita Derby, Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Hollywood Derby on turf. He was third in the Breeders' Cup Classic, beaten a nose and a neck by Bayern and Toast Of New York. California Chrome ran just twice as a 4-year-old (including a second in the Dubai World Cup), but found success again as a 5-year-old in 2016. He won

the San Pasqual at Santa Anita in January, won twice in Dubai (getting the World Cup this time), the San Diego Handicap, the Pacific Classic and the Awesome Again to set up the show-down with Arrogate at the Breeders' Cup. His Hall of Fame classmate won that, but California Chrome added another stakes win at Los Alamitos in December and was crowned Horse of the Year and champion older male.

California Chrome stood for three seasons at Taylor Made, and two Southern Hemisphere seasons in Chile, before being sold to Japanese interests in November 2019. He stands at Arrow Stud in Hokkaido.

Songbird only lost twice in a 15-race career and ran second both times, including a one-for-the-ages battle with Beholder, a 2022 Hall of Fame inductee, in the 2016 Breeders' Cup Distaff. By Medaglia d'Oro out of Ivanavinalot, Songbird was owned by the late Rick Porter's Fox Hill Farms and trained by Hall of Famer Jerry Hollendorfer.

Songbird won her first 11 races, including the 2015 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies and the 2016 Coaching Club American Oaks and Alabama at Saratoga. She earned \$4,692,000.

Toro, a native of Chile, won 3,555 races, including 80 graded stakes, with more than \$56 million in earnings in his North American riding career from 1966-90. Among his signature wins were the 1984 Breeders' Cup Mile aboard Royal Heroine, the Del Mar Derby, Del Mar Oaks, Arlington Million, Apple Blossom and the Manhattan.

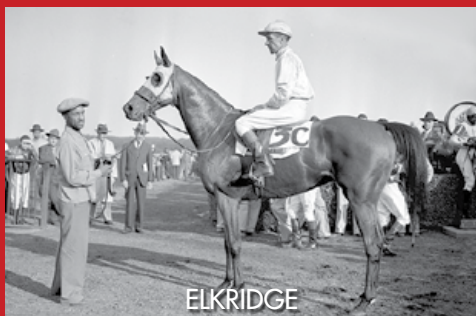
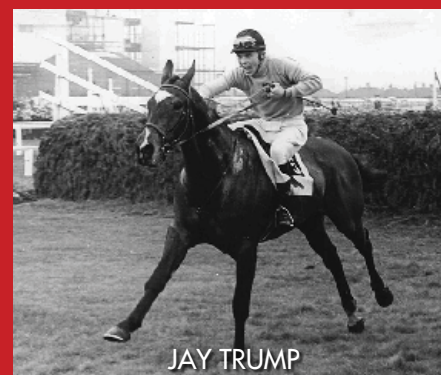
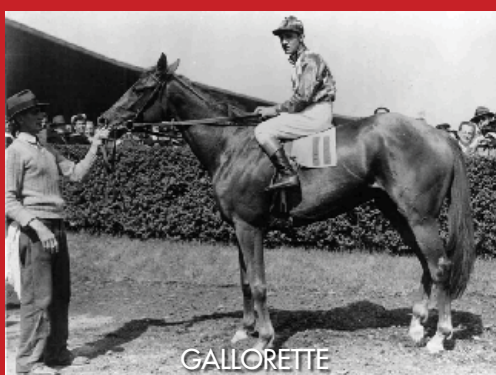
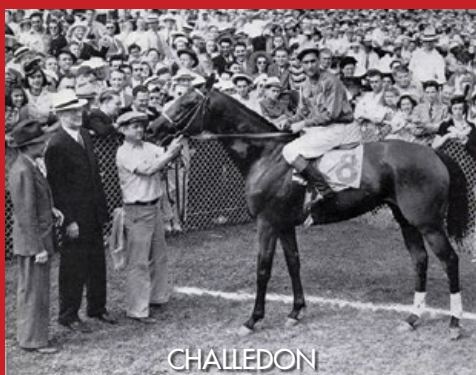
Hanes bred 19 stakes winners and played a key role in the revitalization of New York racing in the 1950s, serving on a committee that secured \$109 million to renovate Aqueduct, Belmont Park and Saratoga. He also helped obtain legislation that led to the management corporation that eventually became NYRA.

Jerome was a driving force behind the creation of racetracks Jerome Park, Sheepshead Bay Race Track and Morris Park. He also served as the first vice president of Saratoga Race Course when it opened in 1864.

Thayer has owned Tampa Bay Downs since 1986 and serves as president. She was elected the ninth president of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 2005, the first woman to hold the position.

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For When?

The time arrives for retired Toro

BY JAY PRIVMAN

Fernando Toro will be one of the inductees into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame this morning, culminating a journey that took him from his native Santiago, Chile, to a celebrated riding career in North America, and, finally, to the Hall of Fame.

He surely belongs, his statistics ranking with many enshrined already, all earned while competing against the deepest jockey colony in the nation in the 1970s and 1980s in Southern California.

He retired more than three decades ago, and had lost hope this moment would arrive. That's why there was such an outpouring of emotion when he found out he was finally going in, 33 years after he last sat on a horse, at age 82.

Perhaps you've seen the video.

If not, go to my Twitter (X?) feed, @jayprivman, where I have it pinned. Once learning he was in, Toro raised his hands to the heavens, broke down crying and hugged the only two people in his house at the time, me and Jay Hovdey.

What you don't know is the backstory of how that happened, and that's something Joe Clancy and Tom Law at The Saratoga Special thought worth sharing.

Both Hovdey – now writing primarily for BloodHorse and Thor-

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

oughbred Racing Commentary – and I were first-hand witness to Toro's achievements against the likes of Eddie Delahoussaye, Sandy Hawley, Chris McCarron, Laffit Pincay Jr., Bill Shoemaker, Gary Stevens and the other Hall of Fame greats who rode in California during that era. Toro never made it to the Hall of Fame while eligible for the contemporary ballot and had in recent years defaulted to the Historic Review Committee, the equivalent of an old-timers' committee.

Hovdey is on the Historic Review Committee. I submitted to that committee a written testimonial for Toro, trying to place his accomplishments in proper perspective.

For instance:

- He won 3,555 races in North America – nine more than Don Pierce, 56 fewer than Bobby Ussery, both Hall of Famers – and that doesn't include his wins in Chile, where he was twice champion jockey in the 1960s before emigrating.

- At the time of his retirement, Toro was tied for eighth in all-time stakes wins at Santa Anita with 55, equal to Eddie Arcaro, more than Hawley, Darrel McHargue, Ralph Neves, Manny Ycaza and Milo Valenzuela, all Hall of Famers.

- Toro won 620 races at Santa



Eclipse Sportswire

Fernando Toro won 3,555 races

Anita, more than McHargue and Valenzuela.

- At Hollywood Park (RIP), Toro was eighth all-time in wins (823) and stakes wins (83).

- At Del Mar, Toro won 38 stakes, sixth all-time when he retired, trailing only Shoemaker, Pincay, McCarron, Pierce and Delahoussaye, with more than McHargue, John Longden, Neves and Hawley, all Hall of Famers.

- And a list of his major stakes wins would supplant all the space allotted here, but included pretty much every significant race in Southern California – with multiple wins in races the Strub, Santa Margarita, Del Mar Oaks, Del Mar Derby and Vanity (now the Beholder Mile) – as well as the inaugural Breeders' Cup Mile, the

Arlington Million, Apple Blossom, Manhattan, Louisville Breeders' Cup (now the La Troienne), Pan American and Widener, among many, many races of significance of that era.

Clearly, he's a Hall of Famer.

Yet time marched on, and Toro kept getting passed over.

So, when he finally was voted in this year by the Historic Review Committee, the Hall of Fame's director of communications, Brien Bouyea, thought it appropriate for Toro to be informed by people he knew in advance of the official announcement April 25. Hovdey and I were honored to get that assignment.

Hovdey hatched a clever plan. He told Toro he needed to have him sign

Continued On Page 19

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Toro —

■ Continued from page 18

some photos, and could he and I come to his home in Carlsbad – 15 minutes from Del Mar – for a visit, too.

Hovdey had superimposed on the photos that Toro was part of the Hall of Fame class of 2023. The photos were in an envelope. Hovdey took the photos out of the envelope, placed them on the counter for Toro to sign. As Toro put on his reading glasses, I decided to record the moment, thinking this was the equivalent of how the Pro Football Hall of Fame informs its inductees, with a knock on the door from a Hall of Fame representative, and a videographer recording the reaction.

Hovdey made sure to have Toro read what the photo said before signing it.

“Fernando Toro, Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame,” he said aloud. Then Toro read the 2023, and though he didn’t say the year aloud, it dawned on him what was happening.

“For when? For when? For when?” he said, before being overcome with emotion. Toro covered his eyes, raised his hands toward the heavens, gave Hovdey a hug – “You’re in buddy,” Hovdey said – then me.

I can’t imagine being part of anything more rewarding.

What happened after that was just as rewarding. Over the next hour, we sat with Toro as he explained why this meant so much, not just for him, but his wife of 61 years, Lola, who happened to be out shopping in La Jolla while we were there. He couldn’t wait to tell her.

Toro told us how he was the middle child of three kids whose father left the family when he was 5. Toro dropped out of school in fifth grade because he needed to work so his family could have money. He got a job at the track in Santiago as a groom, and

eventually became a jockey. En route to the track, he would walk past a house his mother cleaned. When Toro became a jockey, he promised his mother he would one day buy that house for her. She called him “dreamer.” At age 18, he made good on that promise.

Toro emigrated to America, raising four children here, in the belief the United States offered opportunities he couldn’t find at home.

“We came for the future,” he said.

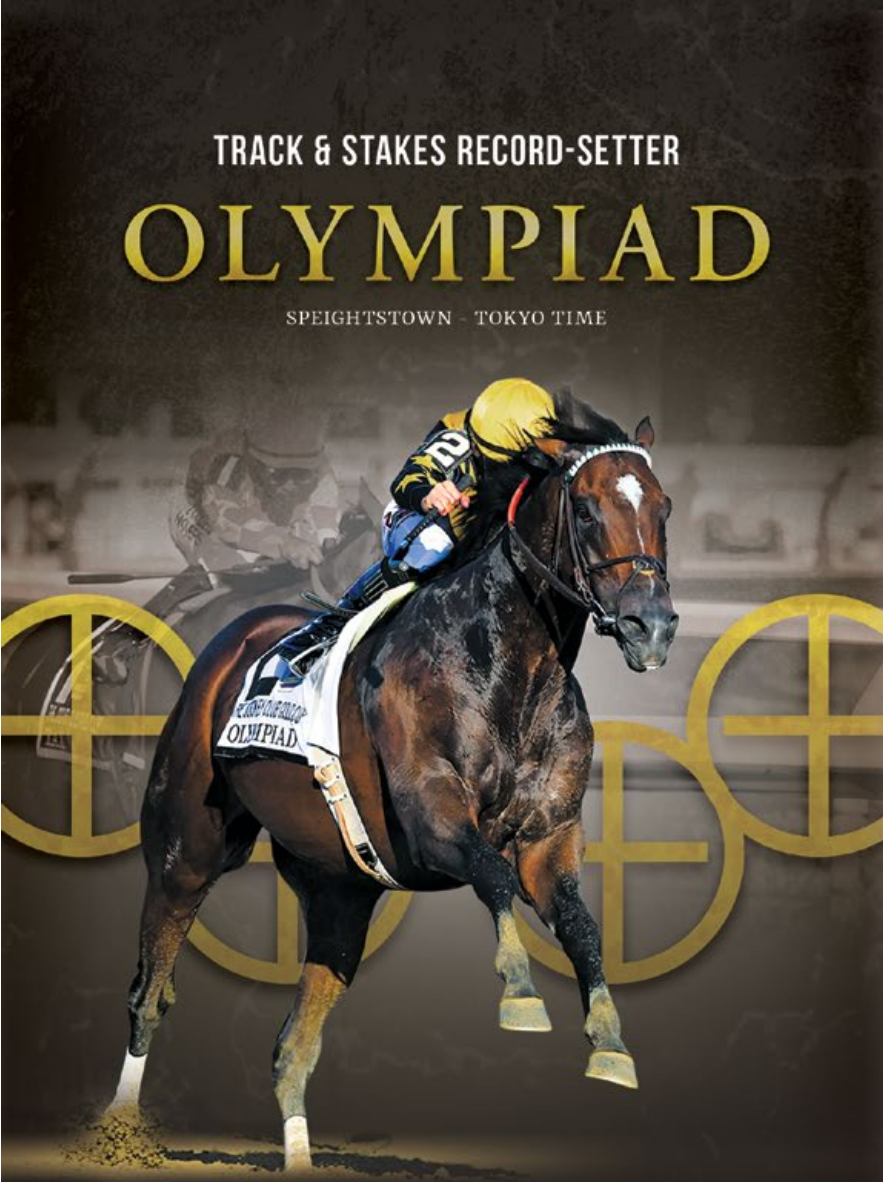
Toro repeatedly said how much this country has meant to him, how proud he was to have become a U.S. citizen, and to have represented the U.S. at an international jockey competition in South Africa.

He’s a proud man. Proud of what he accomplished on the track, proud of raising four outstanding children who have gone on to successful careers. Though he didn’t say it outright, it was apparent Toro felt somewhat forgotten, that his career was being overlooked as those witness to it became fewer and fewer. He’d come from so little in Chile, been able to provide for his family both there and here, but thought the chance of getting into the Hall of Fame had long passed. That’s where that raw emotion came from.

Toro won’t be at Saratoga for the ceremony at Fasig-Tipton. Traveling is too difficult for him these days. But he’ll be acknowledged there – along with California-based horses Arrogate, California Chrome and Songbird, and jockey Corey Nakatani – and later this month the Hall of Fame will present Toro with his plaque at Del Mar.

For when?
Forever.

Jay Privman retired from Daily Racing Form in September 2022 after nearly 24 years as that publication’s national correspondent, and after a four-decade career as a racing journalist. He was presented with a Special Eclipse Award this year.




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Flying Visit

French-based trainer returns with longshot in Grade 2 stakes

BY SEAN CLANCY

Tim Donworth brought his best horse to Saratoga. The 29-year-old Irish-born, French-based trainer will leave his best horse in Saratoga.

“The horse owes me nothing. My first ever stakes winner,” Donworth said while standing outside Ocean Vision’s stall at Saratoga Thursday morning. “It sucks but I understand how the game works.”

Ocean Vision joined Donworth’s stable last summer, winning at Deauville in his first start and finishing third in the Group 2 Criterium de Maisons-Lafitte. In February, he returned with a third in the Grade 2 Al Rayyan Mile in Doha, Qatar before tacking on an allowance race and a stakes in France. After finishing fifth

HALL OF FAME STAKES PREVIEW

in the Group 3 Prix Paul de Moussac June 11, his owners surprised Donworth with a decision to put him in the Goffs London Sale eight days later. Knowing the horse was leaving, Donworth called his friend Ramiro Restrepo (of Mage fame) and told him about the horse. Restrepo jumped.

“The owners kind of dropped a bomb on me and said they wanted to sell him at the Ascot Sale. I knew the horse was going up for sale and I wanted to put it to someone who would at least give me one more run with the horse, so I rang Ramiro and straightaway he was like ‘Let’s go for it,’ ” Donworth said. “As soon as he bought him, we decided Hall of



Ocean Vision and trainer Tim Donworth tackle Saratoga today.

Fame. Ramiro was sound. He was like, ‘Bring him over, run him in your name and after that he’s going to stay here with Gustavo.’ ”

Win, lose or draw, Ocean Vision will join Gustavo Delgado (of Mage fame) and Donworth will catch a night flight back to his 45-strong string at Chantilly.

Ocean Vision clashes with nine rivals in today’s Grade 2 National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame Stakes. The four-time winner breaks from post four for British champion Oisin Murphy, aboard for the first time. For Donworth, it’s way more sweet than bitter.

Continued On Page 21

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Hall Stakes —

■ Continued from page 20

“Second year training, to be here, running with Todd Pletcher, Chad Brown and all those guys. Hopefully I’m going to beat them. It’s cool. I’m excited. But we always want more. There’s never enough. If he wins, you want a Group 1 horse,” Donworth said. “He’s really good. We won two in a row and then the last day, he actually ran pretty well. He dead-heated for fifth with Belbek, who was a Group 1 winner last year. And he didn’t have the best prep into that race. I feel like this race he’s had a better prep. I hope the rain doesn’t come tonight; he wants fast ground. If the ground is fast, I think he’s going to outrun his odds.”

Donworth grew up on his parent’s stud farm, Roundhill Stud in County Limerick, Ireland. After a successful stint as an amateur jump rider, Donworth, who graduated with a business degree from Maynooth University, worked for British flat trainer William Haggas. From there, he joined the Godolphin Flying Start program, graduating in 2018. He had planned to come back here to work as an assistant for Christophe Clement but wound up working for Clement’s brother Nicolas in France. It was meant to be short term before joining the American-based brother in the spring.

**Hey Tim Donworth,
could Saratoga be part
of your training plans?**

“Why not? If I had the horses. I love traveling. And I love America. I’d come back tomorrow. Give me the horse, we’ll bring it.”

“I had no interest in going to France, absolutely none, couldn’t speak a word of French. Finally, I said I’d give it go,” Donworth said. “It was meant to be a three-, four-week gig, then it turned into two months, then it turned into three months and finally he convinced me in doing a year. And I’ve never left.”

Donworth assisted Clement and Jean Claude Rouget for three years before going out on his own with four horses and 17 rented stalls in the fall of 2021.

“Always wanted to train,” Donworth said. “Started with four horses and it’s taken off from there. My first six runners, I think five of them won and it was all just before the yearling sale. We went from five to 30 and this year we went from 30 to 45.”

Donworth rented Francois Boutin’s former yard in October. The 46-stall facility in Chantilly was a game changer.

“We haven’t looked back since,” Donworth said.

As for returning and winning a

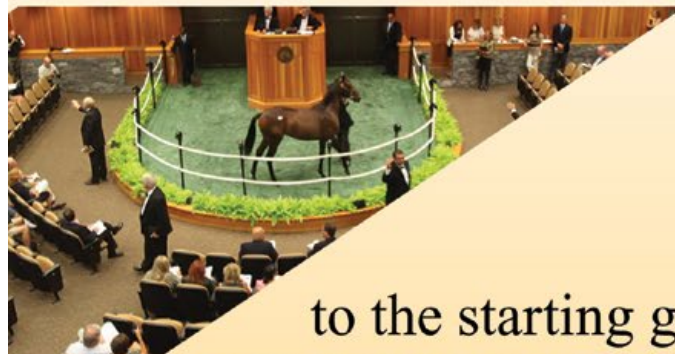
Continued On Page 22



Tod Marks

Mischievous Angel exits a turf maiden win in his debut.

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Hall Stakes —

■ Continued from page 21

Grade 2 stakes at Saratoga, wow, that's looking forward.

"The first morning I was here it was like goosebumps. Goosebumps," Donworth said. "I really, really enjoyed my time here. I loved America. I always wanted to be in America so it's cool to come back. This is the dream. You never know. I'm crossing my fingers for a fairytale."

The Hall of Fame attracted a deep field of 10.

More Than Looks breaks from the rail for Victory Racing Partners, trainer Cherie DeVaux and jockey John Velazquez. The son of More Than Ready has won three of five and takes the next step up the ladder after winning the Grade 3 Manila at Belmont Park July 7. More Than Looks is 4-1.

Harrell Ventures' and Starlight Racing's Bat Flip also exits a stakes win, taking the Central Park at Aqueduct back in November. The son of Good Magic has posted seven breezes on the dirt at Saratoga in preparation for his 3-year-old debut. Jose Ortiz rides the 8-1 chance for Todd Pletcher.

Irish-bred Appraise won his debut here last summer before trying stakes at Saratoga and Woodbine last year. The son of Kodiak returned with a win against allowance foes at Belmont June 9. Flavien Prat rides for Klaravich Stable and trainer Chad Brown. Appraise is 10-1.



Tod Marks

Carl Spackler (on the lookout for gophers) tackles the Hall of Fame Stakes for trainer Chad Brown.

Mischievous Angel makes his second start in a stakes for Peter Brant and Parkland Thoroughbreds. Trained by Chad Brown, the son of Into Mischief won a 6-furlong maiden on the turf at Belmont Park June 6. Irad Ortiz Jr., aboard that day, sticks with the 10-1 chance.

General Jim at 6-1 returns to the turf for the first time in four starts for Courtlandt Farm and train-

er Shug McGaughey. Winner of the Grade 3 Swale and Grade 2 Pat Day Mile, the son of Into Mischief finished sixth in the Woody Stephens at Belmont June 10.

Last year, General Jim won twice on the turf and finished third behind Bat Flip in the Central Park. Luis Saez rides for the eighth time.

Favored on the morning line at 7-2, Nagiroc tries to make up 1 3/4 lengths on More Than Looks from the Manila. Trained by Graham Motion, the son of Lea attracts Manny Franco while seeking his third stakes win for Little Red Feather, Madaket Stable and William Strauss.

Mysterious Night returns to North America for the first time since winning the Grade 1 Summer Stakes at Woodbine in September. Godolphin's homebred son of Dark Angel failed in two Group 3 tries in England this spring. Javier Castellano takes the call on the 10-1 who adds blinkers for his ninth career start.

Behind Enemy Lines at 12-1 makes his fourth start since joining Jack Siston's stable this spring. The son of Sioux Nation won once in Ireland before taking the Cutler Bay at Gulfstream Park in April, finishing sixth in the American turf and second in the Penn Mile. Joel Rosario rides for Rockingham Ranch, Talla Racing and David Bernsen.

Carl Spackler breaks from the outside for e Five Racing, Brown and jockey Tyler Gaffalione. The Irish-bred son of Lope De Vega is 1-for-3 and returns from a brief freshening after finishing eighth in the American Turf in May.

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High Praise

Papilio, Casse meet deep field in turf test

BY TOM LAW

Mark Casse stands by the statement. He made it about a week ago, maybe more.

“I feel very fortunate, I think I have one of the best filly turf 3-year-olds in Papilio, one of the best 3-year-old turf colts (in Webslinger) and one of the best older turf fillies in North America in Fev Rover.”

Fev Rover, third in the Grade 1 Diana the first Saturday of the Saratoga meet, gets the chance to prove it down the road. Webslinger takes his chance Saturday in the Grade 1 Saratoga Derby. And Papilio leads off today, taking on a deep field of other 3-year-old fillies in the Grade 3, \$400,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Oaks Invitational.

The Irish-bred, coming off a close and troubled third in the Grade 1 Belmont Oaks Invitational July 8 at Belmont Park, is the 5-1 third choice for



Coady Photo

Papilio (left) won Keeneland's Appalachian in April.

today's 1 3/16-mile co-feature on the grass behind French import Elusive Princess and Grade 3 Honymoon winner Seleniaia.

Casse also sends out Solo Album, winner of the Grade 3 Selene Stakes last time out on synthetic at Woodbine.

“This is interesting because this is a tougher race than the Grade 1,” Casse said of the Belmont Oaks, won by Aspen Grove, before offering his take of what could be an upgrade from the American

Continued On Page 24

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Saratoga Oaks —

■ Continued from page 23

Graded Stakes Committee. “That’ll be changing. ... And I still think we can win it. I have a lot of faith in Papilio. She’s starting to get me excited.”

Owned by D. J. Stable, Medallion Racing, Barry Fowler and Parkland Thoroughbreds, Papilio gives plenty of reason for that confidence. Imported to the U.S. after starting her career in her native country for the same owners, Papilio made an immediate impression on the 3-year-old filly turf division this winter and spring. She finished second in the Grade 3 Herecomesthebride at Gulfstream Park before winning the Grade 2 Appalachian Stakes at Keeneland.

Papilio has run in three graded stakes since — finishing fourth in the Grade 2 Edgewood on Kentucky Oaks Day, second in the Grade 3 Regret and third in the Belmont Oaks. She’s endured trouble in some of those starts, especially last time out.

Casse said Javier Castellano, who rides Papilio back today, lost his irons briefly after the break in the 10-furlong Belmont Oaks, recovered and made a late run into a slow pace to still finish just a length behind the winner.



Selenia stocks up on grass Thursday before her try in today’s Saratoga Oaks.

Tod Marks

“When you run in Grade 1s and the pace is slow and you can run by fillies on the turn like they’re sitting still, you’re pretty good,” Casse said. “You’re not running by bad horses; you’re running by good horses. I thought her race was really good. She always makes that late run. Both of them do, her and Webslinger.”

Webslinger will probably have to contend with Aspen Grove, who drew post 10 of 11 and will most likely run in the \$600,000 Saratoga Derby against males according to her connections.

Solo Album makes her first start on grass since finishing sixth in a Gulfstream maiden race Jan. 22. She needed two more tries to break her maiden, with that victory coming going 1 1/16 miles on Woodbine’s Tapeta surface May 12. The daughter of Curlin added the Grade 3 Selenia Stakes at the same distance July 1, dominating the field and finishing 6 1/4 lengths clear of runner-up and fellow Saratoga Oaks entrant Honor D Lady.

“I don’t know where that came from, that was a great performance,” Casse said. “She ran like a 9 on the Ragozin Sheets. She was really wide.”

Casse shipped Solo Album to Saratoga from his string at Woodbine with an eye on the Grade 1 Alabama Stakes going 10 furlongs Aug. 19. He breezed the filly twice on the dirt to see how she fared, then rerouted to the Saratoga Oaks.

“When I worked her on the dirt she just struggled with it,” he said. “She’s only run once on the grass. Her race is Tapeta, that’s what she likes. But I

Continued On Page 25

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Saratoga Oaks —

■ Continued from page 24

like the distance. I think the farther for her the better. She's here and we're going to give it a try. There wasn't really anything for her in Canada right at this time, or on Tapeta."

Owned by Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Gary Barber and Steven Rocco, Solo Album drew post one. Jose Ortiz rides for the first time.

Elusive Princess, fifth in the Group 1 Prix de Diane (French Oaks) last time out, leads the European contingent that also includes the Joseph O'Brien-trained duo of Caroline Street and American Sonja.

Owned by LNJ Foxwoods and trained by Jean-Phillipe Dubois, the daughter of Martinborough finished second two starts back in the Group 1 Prix Saint-Alary and second three back in the Group 3 Prix Cleopatre. Flavian Prat rides Elusive Princess, who is 7-2 from post three.

Irish Group 3 winner Caroline Street, a daughter of No Nay Never who sold for \$200,000 as a yearling at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale, finished 10th in the French Oaks. Tyler Gaffalione rides from post three at 10-1. American Sonja, 12-1 on the line with Joel Rosario, won a small stakes at Longchamp two starts back and comes off a third in the Group 3 Darley Irish EBF Brownstown Stakes at Fairyhouse.

Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners also co-owns Selenia, the 4-1 second choice with leading rider Irad Ortiz Jr. named to ride for the first time. Trained by Jonathan Thomas, the Irish-bred daughter of Sea The Moon is 3-for-4 in her career with the lone defeat her debut last summer at Saratoga.

Rigney Racing's Xigera, a debut maiden winner during trainer Phil Bauer's dream summer at Saratoga last year, comes off back-to-back victories including the Tepin Stakes at Ellis Park. She's 6-1 on the line with Julien Leparoux named to ride. Courtlandt Farm's Allamericanbeauty, fifth in the Grade 2 Wonder Again at Belmont; Final Furlong Farm's and Madaket Stable's Honor D Lady, winner of the Honey Ryder Stakes on turf in May at Gulfstream; and Highlander Training Center's Strikingly Spun, eighth in the Belmont Oaks, complete the field.



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SARATOGA ENTRIES

Friday, August 4.

1ST (1:10PM). \$136,500, MSW, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double

1	.....2	.....Opportunity Set.....	F. Prat	.....	C. Brown	.....	6-5
1a	.....4	.....Index Fund.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	C. Brown	.....	6-5
2	.....1	.....Macho Villa.....	L. Saez	.....	D. Lukas	.....	10-1
3	.....3	.....Ludwig.....	J. Alvarado	.....	P. Bauer	.....	4-1
4	.....5	.....Wicked Again.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	S. Asmussen	.....	7-5
5	.....6	.....Party With Smarty.....	O. Hernandez Moreno	.....	J. Gutierrez-Herrera	.....	20-1
6	.....7	.....Metallurgic.....	R. Santana, Jr.	.....	M. Maker	.....	15-1

2ND (1:44PM). \$83,000, MSW, 2 YO, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Happy Baytown.....	T. Heard	.....	P. McEntee	.....	10-1
1a	.....AE	.....Joe's Dream.....	G. McEntee	.....	P. McEntee	.....	10-1
2	.....7	.....Better Luck.....	L. Saez	.....	J. Sharp	.....	5-1
2b	.....AE-MTO	.....Yaqui Valley.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	M. Maker	.....	5-1
3	.....2	.....Glacial Power.....	T. McCarthy	.....	J. Camejo	.....	4-1
4	.....3	.....Stuck On You.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	W. Ward	.....	8-1
5	.....4	.....Piccata Prince.....	J. Ortiz	.....	L. Rice	.....	10-1
6	.....5	.....Mucho de La Mancha.....	K. Davis	.....	G. Contessa	.....	20-1
7	.....6	.....Cptbobsbtwenty-nine.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	T. Pletcher	.....	3-1
8	.....8	.....Uncle Eddie.....	J. Castellano	.....	G. Contessa	.....	8-1
9	.....9	.....Honest Al.....	M. Franco	.....	H. Motion	.....	6-1
10	.....10	.....Real Sensation.....	J. Lezcano	.....	G. Sacco	.....	12-1
11	.....AE-MTO	.....Rudy Rudy Rudy.....	L. Saez	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	7-2
12	.....AE-MTO	.....Crown That Saint.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	O. Noda	.....	5-2

3RD (2:20PM). \$28,000, CLM \$10,000, 4 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Risk Profile.....	J. Lezcano	.....	L. Rice	.....	4-1
2	.....2	.....Money Mike.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	C. Summers	.....	4-1
3	.....3	.....Zertz.....	D. Davis	.....	R. Atras	.....	5-1
4	.....4	.....Bourbon's Hope.....	J. Ortiz	.....	L. Rice	.....	7-2
5	.....5	.....Printrack.....	J. Torres	.....	P. Quick	.....	10-1
6	.....6	.....Charlie Five O.....	J. Alvarado	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	8-1
7	.....7	.....Turnsandconditions.....	M. Franco	.....	R. Falcone, Jr.	.....	6-1
8	.....8	.....Striking Speed.....	J. Rosario	.....	C. Baker	.....	6-1

4TH (2:52PM). \$50,000, MCL \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Kara Para.....	J. Lezcano	.....	J. Ryerson	.....	6-1
2	.....2	.....Outta the Cloud.....	J. Davis	.....	J. Tebbutt	.....	30-1
3	.....3	.....Lem Me Drink.....	D. Davis	.....	B. Levine	.....	4-1
4	.....4	.....So Are You.....	S. Uske	.....	P. Meadow	.....	50-1
5	.....5	.....Jessica's Ride.....	K. Davis	.....	M. Hennig	.....	6-1
6	.....6	.....Sperss.....	L. Saez	.....	H. Bond	.....	5-1
7	.....7	.....Pinstripepizzo.....	R. Santana, Jr.	.....	H. De Paz	.....	6-1
8	.....8	.....Jayla.....	J. Castellano	.....	J. Antonucci	.....	5-1
9	.....9	.....Striking Melody.....	J. Torres	.....	A. Chichakly	.....	30-1
10	.....10	.....Berning Honor.....	F. Prat	.....	D. Schettino	.....	7-2
11	.....AE	.....Jannie Mae.....	K. Carmouche	.....	M. Nevin	.....	6-1
12	.....AE	.....Follow the Fed.....	J. Torres	.....	R. Rodriguez	.....	15-1
13	.....AE	.....Stone of Destiny.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	D. Donk	.....	9-2
14	.....AE	.....Bella Sonadora.....	J. Martinez	.....	C. Figueroa, Jr.	.....	50-1
15	.....AE	.....Lakeside Getaway.....	T. McCarthy	.....	M. Trombetta	.....	8-1
16	.....AE-MTO	.....Embraceable Gal.....	Rider TBA	.....	M. Hennig	.....	8-1

5TH (3:26PM). \$57,000, CLM \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Perfect Day.....	K. Carmouche	.....	J. Servis	.....	12-1
2	.....2	.....Major Blue.....	J. Rosario	.....	D. Lukas	.....	12-1
3	.....3	.....Baltasar.....	M. Franco	.....	H. De Paz	.....	5-1
4	.....4	.....Carmichael.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	R. Diodoro	.....	9-2
5	.....5	.....Sky and Sand.....	L. Saez	.....	J. Sisterson	.....	8-1
6	.....6	.....Laughing Boy.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	D. Jacobson	.....	6-1
7	.....7	.....Patient Capital.....	J. Castellano	.....	M. Maker	.....	9-5
8	.....8	.....Joking Way.....	J. Ortiz	.....	L. Rice	.....	5-1

6TH (4:00PM). \$40,000, MCL \$20,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 6, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Eridromos.....	N. Alvarado	.....	L. Lugovich	.....	20-1
2	.....2	.....Fast Boat to Skye.....	J. Torres	.....	D. Donk	.....	4-1
3	.....3	.....Assertive Attitude.....	J. Lezcano	.....	P. Serpe	.....	9-2
4	.....4	.....Happy Bob.....	J. Ortiz	.....	L. Rice	.....	1-1
5	.....5	.....Fire Baron.....	F. Prat	.....	J. Paragallo	.....	8-1
6	.....6	.....Run Diem Z.....	D. Davis	.....	R. Handal	.....	10-1
7	.....7	.....Hineni.....	A. Castillo	.....	N. Zito	.....	20-1
8	.....8	.....Creation of Adam.....	M. Franco	.....	P. Antonacci	.....	8-1

7TH (4:34PM). \$400,000, STK - THE FASIG-TIPTON SARATOGA OAKS INV., 3 YO, F, 1 3/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Solo Album.....	J. Ortiz	.....	M. Casse	.....	8-1
2	.....2	.....Caroline Street.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	J. O'Brien	.....	10-1
3	.....3	.....Elusive Princess (FR).....	F. Prat	.....	J. Dubois	.....	7-2
4	.....4	.....Xigera.....	J. Leparoux	.....	P. Bauer	.....	6-1
5	.....5	.....Allamericanbeauty.....	J. Velazquez	.....	C. McGaughey III	.....	20-1
6	.....6	.....Honor D Lady.....	M. Franco	.....	S. Joseph, Jr	.....	20-1
7	.....7	.....Papilio (IRE).....	J. Castellano	.....	M. Casse	.....	5-1
8	.....8	.....American Sonja (GB).....	J. Rosario	.....	J. O'Brien	.....	12-1
9	.....9	.....Selenia (IRE).....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	J. Thomas	.....	4-1
10	.....10	.....Aspen Grove (IRE).....	O. Murphy	.....	J. Stack	.....	8-1
11	.....11	.....Strikingly Spun.....	L. Saez	.....	J. Sharp	.....	15-1

8TH (5:08PM). \$500,000, STK - NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING HALL OF FAME, 3YO, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....More Than Looks.....	J. Velazquez	.....	C. DeVaux	.....	4-1
2	.....2	.....Bat Flip.....	J. Ortiz	.....	T. Pletcher	.....	8-1
3	.....3	.....Appraise (IRE).....	F. Prat	.....	C. Brown	.....	10-1
4	.....4	.....Ocean Vision (IRE).....	O. Murphy	.....	T. Donworth	.....	15-1
5	.....5	.....Mischievous Angel.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	C. Brown	.....	10-1
6	.....6	.....General Jim.....	L. Saez	.....	C. McGaughey III	.....	6-1
7	.....7	.....Nagirroc.....	M. Franco	.....	H. Motion	.....	7-2
8	.....8	.....Mysterious Night (IRE).....	J. Castellano	.....	C. Appleby	.....	10-1
9	.....9	.....Behind Enemy Lines (GB).....	J. Rosario	.....	J. Sisterson	.....	12-1
10	.....10	.....Carl Spackler (IRE).....	T. Gaffalione	.....	C. Brown	.....	9-2

9TH (5:44PM). \$95,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Disruption.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	C. Brown	.....	5-1
2	.....2	.....Lavon.....	J. Davis	.....	M. Coffey	.....	20-1
3	.....3	.....Big Bean Christine.....	D. Davis	.....	R. Handal	.....	3-1
4	.....4	.....Tosconova Beauty.....	N. Alvarado	.....	L. Dixon	.....	8-1
5	.....5	.....Missing Fortune.....	K. Coa	.....	D. Saul	.....	6-1
6	.....6	.....Chasing Daylight.....	F. Prat	.....	J. Abreu	.....	8-1
7	.....7	.....Timely Conquest.....	J. Velazquez	.....	M. Hennig	.....	4-1
8	.....8	.....Big Hazel.....	L. Saez	.....	D. Donk	.....	5-1
9	.....9	.....Ranting.....	R. Santana, Jr.	.....	H. De Paz	.....	12-1

10TH (6:18PM). \$50,000, CLM \$35,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Detroit City.....	L. Saez	.....	J. Sisterson	.....	3-1
2	.....2	.....Science (IRE).....	T. McCarthy	.....	M. Gorham	.....	10-1
3	.....3	.....Hereby.....	K. Davis	.....	B. Brown	.....	30-1
4	.....4	.....Foliage.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	J. Sharp	.....	6-1
5	.....5	.....Truebelieve.....	D. Davis	.....	O. Barrera, III	.....	8-1
6	.....6	.....Deep Cover.....	J. Castellano	.....	T. Morley	.....	4-1
7	.....7	.....Amani's Eagle.....	R. Santana, Jr.	.....	J. Barkley	.....	10-1
8	.....8	.....He's Got It.....	F. Prat	.....	J. Abreu	.....	20-1
9	.....9	.....Athenry.....	K. Carmouche	.....	M. Nevin	.....	6-1
10	.....10	.....The Cobbler.....	J. Torres	.....	N. Henry	.....	30-1
11	.....11	.....Ignited.....	J. Velazquez	.....	M. Trombetta	.....	6-1
12	.....AE-MTO	.....One Giant Leap.....	T. Gaffalione	.....	W. Ward	.....	9-5
13	.....AE-MTO	.....Gabe.....	Rider TBA	.....	A. Arriaga	.....	8-1
14	.....AE-MTO	.....Courthouse Cove.....	I. Ortiz, Jr	.....	S. Meyers	.....	9-2

SARATOGA ENTRIES

11TH (6:52PM). \$70,000, STR \$50,000, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 3/8M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	.....1	.....Yono	.....R. Santana, Jr.	.....J. Hiles	.....30-1
2	.....2	.....Lord Flintshire	.....J. Castellano	.....K. Brion	.....6-1
3	.....3	.....Suerte	.....M. Franco	.....M. Maker	.....10-1
4	.....4	.....Forwardly	.....T. Gaffalione	.....C. Brown	.....5-1
5	.....5	.....Skylander	.....J. Rosario	.....A. Trites	.....15-1
6	.....6	.....Shinsun	.....K. Carmouche	.....B. Tagg	.....9-2
7	.....7	.....Miracle Mike	.....J. Ortiz	.....T. Pletcher	.....10-1
8	.....8	.....Maythisbetheone	.....D. Davis	.....M. Hennig	.....20-1
9	.....9	.....Unleash the Power	.....L. Saez	.....A. Stall, Jr.	.....3-1
10	.....10	.....Jarreau	.....I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....M. Maker	.....4-1
11	.....AE	.....Skate to Heaven	.....F. Prat	.....W. Walden	.....15-1
12	.....AE	.....Tulchan	.....F. Prat	.....A. Delacour	.....5-1
13AE-MTOSouth StreetJ. LezcanoL. Rice9-5
14AE-MTOChilenoJ. OrtizL. Rice5-2

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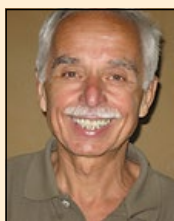
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John Shapazian



Tom Law



Rob Whitlock



Charles Bedard



Jessica Paquette

Race	John Shapazian	Tom Law	Rob Whitlock	Charles Bedard	Jessica Paquette
1	Klaravich entry Wicked Again Ludwig	Index Fund Wicked Again Ludwig	Wicked Again Index Fund Ludwig	Wicked Again Klaravich entry Ludwig	Wicked Again Index Fund Metallurgic
2	Crown That Saint Three Diamonds entry Cptbobsbtwentynine	Crown That Saint Rudy Rudy Rudy Honest AI	Rudy Rudy Rudy Cptbobsbtwentynine Three Diamonds Entry	Crown That Saint Cptbobsbtwentynine Better Luck	Honest AI Stuck on You Cptbobsbtwentynine
3	Turnsandconditions Risk Profile Bourbon's Hope	Bourbon's Hope Risk Profile Zertz	Zertz Bourbon's Hope Printrack	Bourbon's Hope Turnsandconditions Charlie Five O	Bourbon's Hope Zertz Risk Profile
4	Berning Honor Lem Me Drink Kara Para	Sperss Jayla Jessica's Ride	Follow The Fed Berning Honor Jayla	Stone Of Destiny Berning Honor Lem Me Drink	Jayla Jessica's Ride Lem Me Drink
5	Patient Capital Joking Way Baltasar	Patient Capital Carmichael Joking Way	Patient Capital Joking Way Baltasar	Patient Capital Carmichael Baltasar	Joking Way Carmichael Perfect Day
6	Happy Bob Assertive Attitude Fast Boat To Skye	Happy Bob Assertive Attitude Fast Boat To Style	Happy Bob Assertive Attitude Fast Boat To Skye	Happy Bob Fast Boat To Skye Creation Of Adam	Assertive Attitude Happy Bob Fast Boat To Skye
7	Elusive Princess American Sonja Selenai	Papilio Selenai Elusive Princess	Elusive Princess Allamericanbeauty American Sonja	Elusive Princess American Sonja Papilio	Selenai Elusive Princess Allamericanbeauty
8	More Than Looks Ocean Vision Nagirroc	Appraise More Than Looks General Jim	Mysterious Night More Than Looks Mischievous Angel	Mysterious Night Nagirroc Ocean Vision	Nagirroc More Than Looks Mysterious Night
9	Missing Fortune Timely Conquest Big Hazel	Big Bean Christine Big Hazel Timely Conquest	Missing Fortune Chasing Daylight Big Bean Christine	Timely Conquest Big Bean Christine Missing Fortune	Timely Conquest Big Hazel Big Bean Christine
10	One Giant Leap Detroit City Deep Cover	One Giant Leap Ignited Deep Cover	One Giant Leap Ignited Amani's Eagle	One Giant Leap Detroit City Foliage	Ignited Deep Cover Science
11	South Street Jarreau Unleash The Power	South Street Shinsun Yono	Skate To Heaven South Street Miracle Mike	Chileno Unleash The Power Shinsun	Lord Flintshire Suerte Miracle Mike
2023 Records	53/164	43/164	46/164	57/164	29/164



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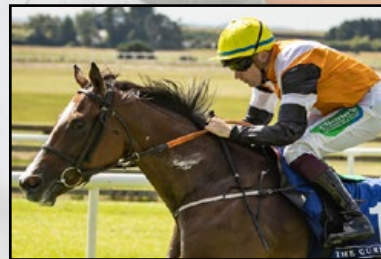
VICTORIA ROAD (IRE)
G1 BC Juvenile Turf winner



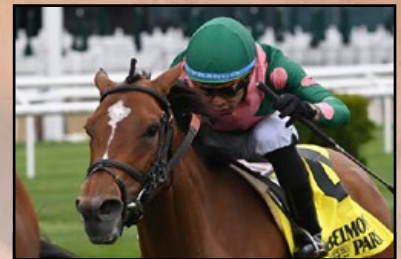
RHEA MOON (IRE)
G1 American Oaks winner



GOLD PHOENIX (IRE)
G1 Frank E Kilroe Mile Stakes winner



ASPEN GROVE (IRE)
G2 Belmont Oaks winner



HIGHER TRUTH (IRE)
G2 Sheepshead Bay Stakes winner

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Namesake

McKulick upsets War Like Goddess in Gr. 2 turf marathon

BY PAUL HALLORAN

Ron McKulick sent Chad Brown a text wishing him good luck on the day of the 2021 Preakness Stakes and was surprised to get a return message almost right away. Brown wrote that he had a 2-year-old filly coming to his barn the following Monday and he planned to name it for McKulick's late wife, Mary, Brown's first employee and longtime book-keeper who died in October 2020.

"I had a momentary meltdown," McKulick said Friday, standing in the Saratoga Race Course winner's circle after McKulick the filly gave Brown his first win in the Grade 2 Glens Falls Stakes. "I

Continued On Page 31



Dave Harmon

McKulick (left) edges past War Like Goddess in Thursday's Glens Falls Stakes.

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<< EVALUATOR (NY)

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Glens Falls —

■ Continued from page 30

had wondered if that might ever happen. She loved horses so much. For Chad to do this was just a dream come true especially considering the circumstances.”

McKulick had seen the horse named for his late wife run several times, but Friday was the first time the English-bred daughter of Frankel won with him in attendance. She had to earn it, catching odds-on favorite and horse-for-course War Like Goddess just before the wire.

“Irad (Ortiz Jr.) rode a masterful race,” Brown said. “When War Like Goddess had position ahead of us and was a little rank, he carefully stayed behind her. When she came off the rail down the backside before the final turn, Irad cleverly got off the rail and followed her. All those moves, particularly that one down the backside, really made the difference.”

It was the second Saratoga win for McKulick, who broke her maiden Aug. 8, 2021 in her first start.

“Mary was my office manager, my right hand and my partner,” Brown said after that race and reinforced Thursday. “Without her, there is no possible way I could have built this company the way we did and been as successful. I needed a veteran, someone with a lot of experience. Sadly, she passed



Tod Marks

Ron McKulick (fourth from right) helps accept the trophy after the horse named for his late wife won the Glens Falls.

away shortly after she retired. I really wanted to name a good horse for her.”

Ron McKulick said his wife, along with her business partner, Peggy DeLuca, began working for Bill Mott more than 30 years ago and then she worked for Todd Pletcher before teaming up with Brown.

“It always amazes me that Mary had three long-term clients, Bill Mott, Todd Pletcher and Chad Brown, and when you look at the trainer standings they are always three of the top five trainers,” McK-

ulick said. “Mary did that on her own. That says something about her and her love for the game.”

McKulick, whom Mike Ryan bought for Seth Klarman of Klaravich Stables for \$245,369 at the 2020 Tatersalls October yearling sale, had lost three straight heading into the Glens Falls. She broke in the middle of the pack and was last after a mile of the 12-furlong race. As Brown pointed out, she

Continued On Page 32

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Glens Falls —

■ Continued from page 31

followed War Like Goddess when she made her move and was able to run down the Bill Mott trainee in the final strides to win by a neck.

“Chad told me just to cover her up and to just bide my time until she was ready and that’s what I did,” Ortiz said. “I followed instructions and she got the job done. At the shorter distances, the horses kick away from her and it’s hard for her to catch up with them. She doesn’t have that turn of foot, but she always comes running late. For these kind of longer races, her style is great. It fit her perfect.”

Longshot Elegant Taste set the pace with Vergara second and an extremely rank War Like Goddess third in fractions timed at :24.81 and :50.01.

John Velazquez and Vergara took the lead heading into the far turn and maintained it through the top of the stretch, but the closers were poised to strike.

War Like Goddess, who was looking for her third straight Glens Falls win, took over just inside the eighth pole and looked like a winner, but McKulick had other ideas.

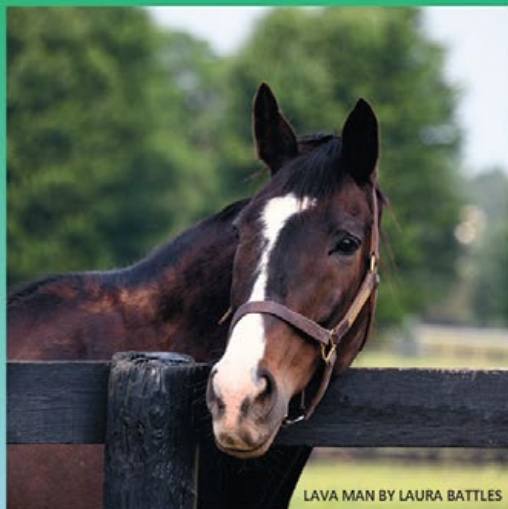
Amazing Grace finished third. Graham Motion’s Sopran Basilea fell about a sixteenth of a mile after the finish. The 5-year-old Night Of Thunder mare suffered a catastrophic injury to her right front leg and was humanely euthanized on track, according to the New York Racing Association.

Ron McKulick has been in town since Tuesday and had the chance to visit McKulick in the morning. He was asked what it means to watch this horse, named for his wife, win at a racetrack where everyone wants to win so desperately.

“The world,” he said. “The trip’s all good now. I’m absolutely thrilled. This horse – and Mary – have a vibrant fan club in Kentucky and the New Albany, Indiana, area and they are jumping up and down right now.”

Along with someone looking down from the best seats in the house.

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Triple Play

Topped by double with 2-year-olds, Mott barn wins three

BY ALEC DICONZA

The first weekend in August could be big for trainer Bill Mott, whose four-time Grade 1 winner Cody's Wish is favored in Saturday's Grade 1 Whitney Stakes.

Mott didn't have to wait long, though, for his first wins of the week. He sent out three on Thursday's card at Saratoga Race Course and headed out of the winner's circle after the opener to catch the replay of Get Spooled wiring a field of New York-bred maiden 2-year-olds going 1 1/16 miles on the inner turf. Mott saw the son of Hard Spun break well for Jose Lezcano, set easy fractions and kick

Continued On Page 34



Tod Marks

Get Spooled captures Thursday's first to start a three-win day for trainer Bill Mott.

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Thursday —

■ Continued from page 33

clear in the lane before holding off Dancing Mischief. Carem Stable's Get Spooled won by three-quarters of a length in 1:44.85.

"I'm pleased with the way he ran," Mott said. "We wanted to get him to the races and get him started and kind of see what we had because the only way you ever know is to do it in the afternoon. You can practice all you want in the mornings, and you can have an idea or have a feeling, but once you load them up with 10 other horses, it makes a big difference."

Mott and Lezcano teamed to win with another 2-year-old first-timer Thursday. In stark contrast to Get Spooled's victory, Arnmore Stable's Gala Brand came from the back of the field and uncorked a massive rally to win the sixth going 5 1/2 furlongs on the turf. The win in the maiden race restricted to 2-year-old fillies that sold or RNA'd for \$50,000 or less in their most recent sale was Lezcano's third on the day, having won with Let's Go Big Blue in the fifth.



Dave Harmon

Let's Go Big Blue heads for home in Thursday's fifth.

"I knew the pace was already fast, but I think she was feeling very good," Lezcano said. "Without asking, she made a run. With first timers, you've got to let them get in rhythm. When they got speed, you put them in their position that you think you can win in. If they don't, you let them fall

back and make the one run and see what happens."

With the two debut victories, combined with the performance by Sugar Hi on Opening Day day, Mott is enjoying the success of his first-time starters.

"I'm learning how to train," Mott

joked. "It's only taken me 50 years."

Like most 2-year-old winners at Saratoga, a stakes at the end of the meet could be next for Mott's pair of debut victors.

"I guess we'll mull this over and see," Mott said. "You don't have too many races for winners, so once you break your maiden in this day in age, you're almost forced to go into a stake. They don't have (non-winners of one), non-winners of two, so if we do run him back here, chances are it'll have to be in a stake."

- Pro football Hall of Fame coach Bill Parcells soaked in his second win of the meet in the fifth when Let's Go Big Blue scored in the 1-mile turf allowance for New York-breds. Setting moderate fractions with Gem Mint Ten, the pair opened up on the field turning for home before Let's Go Big Blue edged clear of his rival, winning by a length.

"Very happy that we were able to get one last Sunday, a week ago, and this one, so that's a couple winners," Parcells said. "Feeling good."

Trained by George Weaver and

Continued On Page 35

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Thursday —

■ Continued from page 34

ridden by Jose Lezcano, who got his second of three wins on the day, the 3-year-old Cairo Prince gelding placed in two stakes last year and came into Thursday with a third in a New York-bred allowance to start the 2023 season. Thursday's victory was his first since his debut last August at Saratoga.

"I felt pretty good," Parcels said. "There were no excuses. He had a perfect trip, stayed inside. It was just a question of if we had enough horse, and turns out, we did."

Parcells, who races in the name of his August Dawn Farm, hopes to see Let's Go Big Blue back in the entries soon.

"I don't know what's coming up for him," Parcels said. "George and I will have to talk. It won't be too long, I don't think."

Thursday's win could start a good weekend for Parcels, with his 3-year-old New York-bred filly Maple Leaf Mel looking to extend her perfect career to six victories in Saturday's Grade 1 Test Stakes.

"I'm looking forward to it," Parcels said. "It's been fun."

- "First run, first win!"

Tom Gallo celebrated the outcome of the seventh, where Dream Maker Racing's first entrant at the Saratoga meet, I'mhavingamoment, won by 4 1/4 lengths. Stalking the pace under Junior Alvarado, the 3-year-old Uncle Mo filly won her second straight.

Gallo, head of Dream Maker Racing, and co-owner Bruce Lunsford are excited about the future of their filly.

"It's a late-maturing family," Gal-

lo said. "We've tried her on the turf. She's just sort of getting her legs under her. When you break your maiden first time out, sometimes it's good, sometimes it's bad. Doesn't really give you an indication. But the last race, Junior said he knew when he broke, he was on the winner. Obviously now, the light has gone on and she duplicated that performance here. It's very exciting."

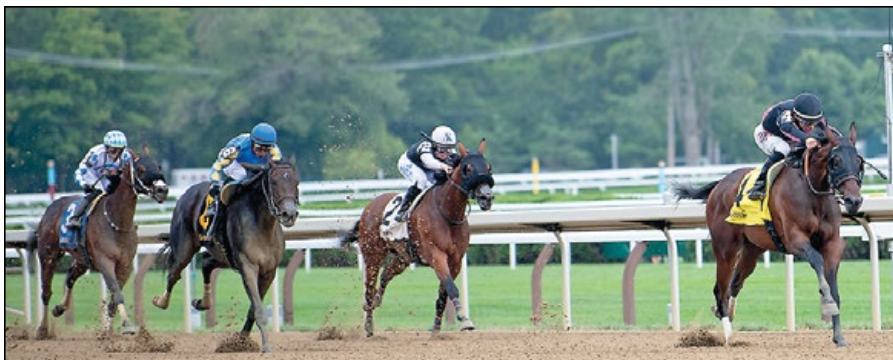
I'mhavingamoment gave trainer Bill Mott his third victory of the day, capitalizing on two other wins on the card with 2-year-olds. By listening to Lunsford and Gallo, it's clear that there is no shortage of appreciation for the recently turned 70-year-old condition.

"We go way back," Lunsford said. "He trained Vision And Verse for me many, many years ago. We've had a friendship ever since. I've always thought, and still think, that he's the best trainer in America. He takes care of them. Art Collector is a 6-year-old, for crying out loud. There aren't many guys that get a horse out and let him run 6 years at that value."

Gallo agreed.

"He's a good trainer for people that breed horses," he said. "He's had everything out of this mare. He's done really well with them, beyond what we thought. It's not a numbers thing with him, he gets to know the family, and he does well. Not only that, he listens. If I know the horses because we raised them, or we sold them, if I have a suggestion, he listens to you. He's looking for anything, any edge, to get to where we are today."

Mott's triple gave him nine for the meet, good for fourth in the Saratoga trainer's standings behind Chad Brown (15), Linda Rice (15) and Todd Pletcher (12).



Tod Marks

I'mhavingamoment pulls away to win Thursday's seventh race.



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Above: Henry Shrady (American, 1871-1922)

Horse and Jockey, 1904 (detail)

Spa Fan

Technical Analysis adds De La Rose win to Saratoga record

BY TERRY HILL

For the third time in four years, trainer Chad Brown stood in the winner's enclosure with the winner of the De La Rose Stakes. His latest victory came with his 5-year-old mare Technical Analysis.

Owned by Klaravich Stable, Technical Analysis handled the field of seven to win by 3½ lengths. With Jose Ortiz riding, she took the lead from the start and controlled the pace into the stretch. When Regal Realm challenged on the outside at the far turn and even seemed on the verge of catching her, no one seemed nervous. Not Ortiz, not Brown and certainly not the filly who just let out another notch

Continued On Page 37



Tod Marks

Technical Analysis runs away from the field in Wednesday's De La Rose win.

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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 36

and pulled away.

Strategically, Brown and Ortiz wanted to be on the lead early for two reasons. First because Technical Analysis is more comfortable there. And second because, as Ortiz later said, “I knew Evvie Jets had to be somewhere behind me and she doesn’t like that.”

The last time these two met at Belmont Park July 2, Evvie Jets had taken the lead over Technical Analysis early and managed to hold it throughout the race. Brown offered a bit of an explanation for the different outcomes.

“The trip didn’t really work out for us at Belmont,” he said. “It was where we were positioned, and as Jose just said to me, she may be better around two turns. At Belmont, going a mile is basically a one-turn race. So I think Jose might be right about that.”

Brown also touched on another major difference in the two races: The De La Rose was at Saratoga.

“Every year she just thrives up here and loves it. She’s a bit of a nervous horse, and this environment can really bring out the best in horses that are

like that. It’s big country up here and there are a lot of trees and cool air in the evenings. It’s calming.”

Technical Analysis’ record at the Spa would seem to support Brown’s conjecture. The mare has been in five Saratoga races over three years and has now won four. This includes two Grade 2 stakes and a Grade 3. The fifth race was a good second in the Grade 1 Diana Stakes last year.

It’s also worth pointing out that all of this Saratoga success has been with Jose Ortiz in the saddle. He knows this horse and as he said after Wednesday’s win, when Evvie Jets didn’t push early he knew his mare had plenty left. When Regal Realm came to him, he only had to touch her with the whip once and she responded strongly.

Regal Realm was caught near the wire by White Frost and finished third. Two other Brown horses, Haughty and Eminent Victor finished fourth and fifth respectively with Evvie Jets fading to sixth after making a challenge at the top of the stretch.

The public was clearly well aware of Technical Analysis’ Saratoga resume and made her the 4-5 favorite

Continued On Page 38

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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 37

to pay \$3.80 for a \$2 win bet.

Will Technical Analysis get another shot at Saratoga this year? The logical race would be the \$300,000 Grade 2 Mohegan Sun Ballston Spa Aug. 24. At a 1 1/16 miles on grass at Saratoga, it would seem right in the middle of the mare's sweet spot. The only question would be if three weeks is a little too close after today's race. But as Brown said, "You know it might be back a little quick, but seeing how much she loves Saratoga, if she's going to go back on short rest somewhere, it would be here."

- The 2-year-old filly Brocknardini was coasting in sixth coming into the final turn of the inner turf course when the meet and the country's leading jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. asked her for a bit more.

In the next hundred yards, the filly burst forward, going from sixth to first and was moving down the stretch alone in full command of the race.

At the wire the margin was 4¾

lengths with Coach Sessa making a nice run to get second, but not gaining any ground on the winner.

The easy victory in the 1 1/16-mile maiden special weight race for New York-breds, Wednesday's fifth, was a bit of a surprise to the betting public who sent Brocknardini off as the fourth choice at 6-1, but also for owners Thomas and Daryn Brockley.

"It was her first race," Thomas Brockley said, "so you never know. But wow! Did you see that move?"

Brockley has been running horses for more than 20 years but thinks of himself as a small-time owner. Most of his starts have been at Finger Lakes. "But every once in a while we sneak in here and win one. We have some options now with this filly, so we'll see."

The only person that seemed happier with the win than Brockley, was Brocknardini's exercise rider, Kimmie Brooking. "I love that filly," she said in the winner's enclosure. "She's very smart, but she's like the smartest kid in the class that gets bored easily so she's always causing a bit of mischief."



Tod Marks

Brocknardini charges down the stretch in Wednesday's fifth.

Continued On Page 39

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Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 38

The mischief in Brocknardini's case includes twice trying to dump Brooking on the ground, once successfully, in the morning during gate training.

Brooking said that during the race she watched the break carefully and breathed a sigh of relief when she got off successfully.

As far as those options Brockley talked about, by the following day, the filly's trainer George Weaver seemed to have narrowed it down to one — the P.G. Johnson Stakes Aug. 30. The race would be a big step for Brocknardini. The P.G. Johnson isn't restricted to New York-breds like her win Wednesday, but the distance and the surface would be the same.

• And that makes two. Steeplechase trainer Cyril Murphy improved his Saratoga 2023 record to 2-for-2 with another stakes win. Two weeks after upsetting the Grade 1 A. P. Smithwick with Irv Naylor's Belfast Banter, Murphy returned with McTigue to upset the Jonathan Kiser Novice Stakes Wednesday.

The Irish-bred found a comfortable spot outside in third, well off a pace duel between Realist and Carmelised, picked off those two with ease and held off Awakened for a comfortable score in the 2 1/16-mile stakes.

McTigue drew off to win by 3 3/4 lengths over Awakened who had 10 3/4 over Merry Maker. Gerard Galligan picked up the spare ride after Barry John Foley was injured in a schooling accident earlier in the week.

"I was very confident if he reproduced the form he had shown in France last summer, which appeared to be his best running," Murphy said from the stakes barn after the race. "He was training with Belfast Banter, he did what he did and we thought he would do what he did. Losing Barry John was a hiccup. Gerry's ridden in the past, when he has his game face on, he's as good as any."

McTigue scored twice over hurdles last summer, taking a 3-year-old hurdle at Sedgfield in September and adding another one at Auteuil in France three weeks later.

Four consecutive losses ensued and McTigue was sold to Naylor's deep



Tod Marks

McTigue leads Awakened over a jump with a lap to go in Wednesday's hurdle stakes.

Maryland barn. The son of Fracas won his American debut through disqualification, after runaway winner Hoffman, cut a flag at the Virginia Gold Cup in May. Murphy liked what he saw that day.

"I thought he ran well for himself that day and knew there was plenty to work on going forward," Murphy said. "He's tightened up a lot since then and he's sharpened up with the jumping. He's a nice horse. How nice, time will tell. He was going to be good enough coming up here today,

if he jumped and got a trip. That's the only thing I said to Gerry, from that outside post, get him forward over the first two and save ground where you can, he will travel for you but don't ride him as a speed horse, ride him like a horse who has a little bit of stamina."

— Sean Clancy

Saratoga Leaders

JOCKEYS..... 1ST	
Irado Ortiz Jr.....	28
Luis Saez.....	19
Jose Ortiz.....	16
Tyler Gaffalione.....	11
Joel Rosario.....	11
Javier Castellano.....	10
Flavien Prat.....	10
Dylan Davis.....	9
Jose Lezcano.....	9
Kendrick Carmouche.....	6

TRAINERS..... 1ST	
Chad Brown.....	15
Linda Rice.....	15
Todd Pletcher.....	12
Bill Mott.....	9
Rudy Rodriguez.....	7
Christophe Clement.....	5
Brad Cox.....	4
Wesley Ward.....	4

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High Honors

Fundraisers, tributes keep the Saratoga winner's circle busy

BY PATRICK MOQUIN JR.

For several special groups of racegoers at Saratoga Race Course last Saturday, rousing renditions of the Jim Dandy and Alfred G. Vanderbilt were merely part of the excitement during an eventful day at the Spa. Through NYRA's race sponsorship program, seven races on Saturday's 12-race card were named in honor of a member or group within the racing community.

The third race, a \$35,000 claiming event, was sponsored by the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund. It was part of a busy weekend for the organization, which was celebrating PDJF Day/Jockeys Across America.

According to PDJF President Nancy LaSala, PDJF Day occurs in late July annually to coincide with the anniversary of the 1990 passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"At all the racetracks that are running today across the country, all the jockeys are wearing armbands in salute of our permanently disabled members," LaSala said. "Today is a great day for fan engagement."

In addition to honoring jockeys in the winner's circle, the PDJF also held its annual jockey karaoke night Sunday at the Vapor Night Club. The event featured guest judges Mike Repole, Sol Kumin, Lee Einsidler and Jena Antonucci and allowed racing



Tod Marks

Carson Kressley (center) was part of the trophy presentation after Saturday's fourth race, in honor of the Miss Scarlett Boutique.

fans to see a more performative side of their favorite jockeys. Jose Ortiz took home the top prize for his cover of Morgan Wallen's hit song, "Last Night." All proceeds went to the PDJF's various fundraising efforts.

The fourth race, a \$40,000 maiden claiming contest, was named in honor of the Miss Scarlett Boutique, a women's clothing store which opened in Saratoga Springs in 2009. The boutique has maintained a relationship with racing for more than a decade and sells clothing and accessories in a pop-up location on the second floor of the Saratoga clubhouse.

Jennifer Marcellus, owner of the Miss Scarlett Boutique, identified the connections between racing and fashion succinctly.

"Everyone has to look great to go to the races," Marcellus said.

The Miss Scarlett Boutique hosted its annual Racing and Rosé Fashion Show Saturday morn-

ing at the National Museum and Racing Hall of Fame. The fashion show featured guest judge Carson Kressley, a notable television personality and designer.

Heavy rains later on the card didn't stop the action for long but did send many running for cover. The ninth race's sponsors behind Kalivoda's Last Ride, a bachelor party for groom-to-be Adam Kalivoda, did not appear in the exposed winner's circle, but embraced the weather as an opportunity to explore new spaces at the Spa.

"Groom is a big horse race fan, so we saw it as something special to create a memory," said Kyle Freedman, Kalivoda's best man. "[The rain] gave us some time to walk around and check out other areas of the track. Unfortunately, didn't win our bets on our own race though."

Kalivoda and his fiancée, Grace Poling, are

Continued On Page 42

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Races —

■ Continued from page 40

scheduled to tie the knot Aug. 26 near their childhood homes in Ohio.

Four sponsored races were named to commemorate members of the racing community who passed away. The first of these was the John G. Cansdale Memorial.

Cansdale, who passed away in 2018 at the age of 54, is remembered by his friends each year with a race at Saratoga.

“John loved Saratoga, he loved cigars, he loved this town so much,” said Gene Kershner, Buffalo-based turf writer and friend of Cansdale. “We present the winning connections with a trophy with his name on it and a box of cigars, which were John’s favorite.”

Cansdale, the executive director of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board from 2005 to 2008, was both a diehard fan and loyal contributor to the sport during his life.

“He’s really missed, and this is a great opportunity for all his friends



Dave Harmon

The Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund was a big part of Saturday’s racing.

and his family to come together and remember him, share stories,” said Suzanne Gill, another friend of Cansdale’s. “For me, it’s a very heartfelt event.”

The sixth race was named in honor of wife and husband Erna and Joel Reingold, who passed away in 2003 and 2016, respectively. Rachel Reingold, their daughter, has sponsored a race through NYRA for seven years to memorialize her parents.

“I grew up going to the racetrack,” Reingold said. “My dad loved it. He grew up going to the racetrack. When

I first started going to the track, I just wanted to be around my dad, and then I fell in love with it.”

Joel, who passed away at the age of 75, was a writer who most notably worked as a correspondent for Time Magazine. He later spent a considerable amount of time studying and writing about Irish jump racing. He passed away in Saratoga Springs. Erna, the founder of a wholesale seafood company in Greenwich, Connecticut, passed away at the age of 62.

The seventh race was billed as the Second Annual Salvatore Men of Distinction Race, sponsored by Stephanie Salvatore. She started the tradition last year in honor of her father-in-law, Joseph Pompeo Salvatore, a Queens native who passed away in 2021, and as a surprise for Keith Salvatore, her husband who was celebrating his 50th birthday. Joseph, a World War II veteran, used the term “men of distinction” to refer to men of high character who he respected. His loved ones simply called him “Pop.”

Stephanie remembers that in her father-in-law’s final years, the family took him to a new property they purchased at Saratoga, which he came to

love. A longtime handicapper at Belmont Park and Aqueduct, he spent several meaningful years visiting Saratoga with his family.

“We were able to bring my father-in-law to the track the last five or six years of his life and take him to breakfast in the morning,” Salvatore said via text. “It really brought him a lot of joy. It was really great that it all came full circle and he was able to spend his last couple summers up here at our house, overlooking Fish Creek and going to the track.”

Salvatore is buried at Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery in Schuylerville. Last year, the race the family sponsored was won by Mister Chairman, a fitting homage to Keith, celebrating his 50th birthday after 20 years in finance. This year, Stephanie remembered her father’s advice to always bet on grey horses. Seize the Grey, trained by D. Wayne Lukas, broke his maiden in this year’s event at 16-1.

“It was a very cool moment,” Salvatore said. “Pop picked the winner yet again.”

The 11th race on the Saratoga card was sponsored by the family and friends of Robert Schmitt, a retired firefighter who passed away in 2020 at the age of 54. Schmitt worked for the Melville Fire Department on Long Island for 32 years and was a first responder during the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001. He also worked as an electrician by trade.

“One of the main attractions was coming to Saratoga every summer,” a close friend of Schmitt’s said about their old trips upstate. “This is just a great way to memorialize him and share in the stories that we shared, all those great experiences over the years.”

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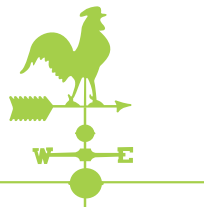
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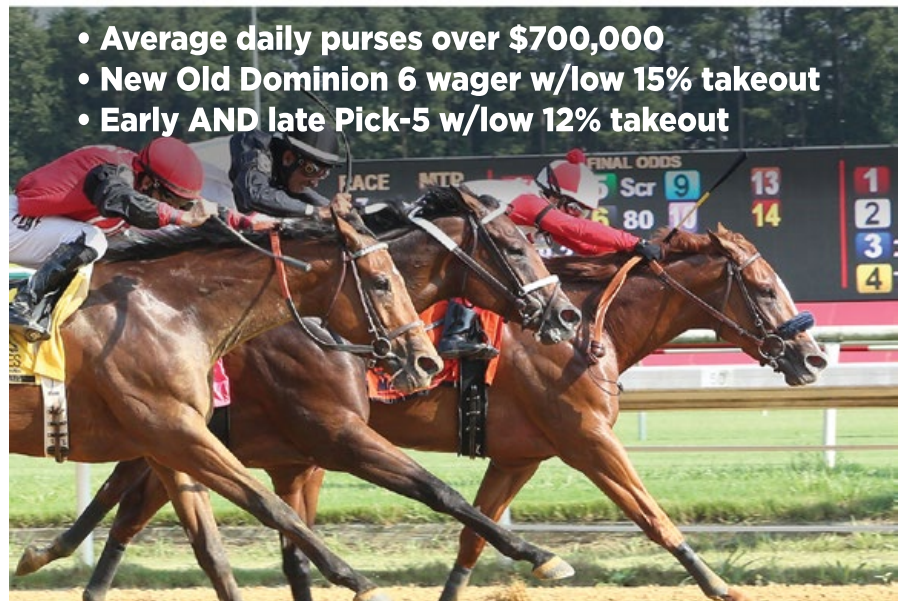
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Lucky Chrome

The walk from the Pimlico Race Course stakes barn to the paddock for the Preakness Stakes can be many things. Long, hot, loud, chaotic, dirty and sometimes funny come to mind first, but there's always more to it.

The scene includes horses, grooms, trainers and other connections of course, lead ponies, television cameras, security guards, the buzzing of an airplane pulling a banner for a strip club or a Baltimore plumber. A siren will wail, at least once. The hustlers pushing shopping carts on the road are gone, but you can smell the barbecue Park Heights neighbors spent all day cooking. By Preakness Saturday, the horses have walked the path at least a few times to train but the trek is counter-intuitive to anyone doing it the first time. You walk away from the track at first, then make a right turn and curve toward the top of the stretch.

The last 50 yards or so are uphill, and when you get close the track people line both sides of the path. It's loud, busy, tense and was especially so when Pimlico utilized its full grandstand and attendance topped 120,000.

In 2014, I made that walk with Kentucky Derby winner California Chrome and Art Sherman and stumbled into a career highlight.

As usual, the Preakness favorite left the barn amid a flurry of attention. Covering the race for Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred magazine, I watched, walked, scribbled notes, watched some more, juggled a digital voice recorder, pen, notepad (it was nine years ago so I didn't need reading glasses yet). Sherman did a walk-and-talk television interview early, but his horse – as horses do – dragged Sherman's son and assistant Alan and the rest of the staff on ahead. The cameras followed the horse, the commentators moved on to other trainers.

Art couldn't keep up, didn't really try and we made the walk together. Just us. We'd met early in

THE OUTSIDE RAIL

By Joe Clancy

the week – thanks to a “He's OK for an East Coast guy” introduction from Sherman's fellow Californian Jay Hovdey – but I didn't go to the Derby and it was the first time I'd covered Sherman.

The trainer was pretty quiet, but we made small talk about his time in Maryland as a jockey (after a win at Bowie, he once accepted a trophy from then Vice President Richard Nixon) and talked about the crowd, the noise, his horse. We hit that uphill section, with all the people, all the buzz, the shouts of encouragement, whatever band had taken over for Grammy winner Lorde on the infield stage. Ahead of us, the horse of Sherman's lifetime jiggled to the track like a gladiator entering an ancient ring.

I asked a simple question.

“In all your years with racehorses, could you have imagined this moment?”

The 77-year-old – a former exercise rider for the great Swaps, a jockey for 20 years, a trainer for 35 more – answered like only he could.

“I never thought of this,” he said. “I was just training my horses and hoping I'd get lucky someday.”

Nobody was luckier on that day than I was.

I remember writing down that sentence – in shaky scribble – but also hoping the recorder picked it up through the din. I also remember thinking that Cal-



Tod Marks

California Chrome's trainer Art Sherman.

ifornia Chrome had to win the Preakness because that quote was worthless if he didn't. Well, that and I had nothing else from any of the other nine horses in the race.

The California-bred came through, stalking the pace early, and advancing from third to take the lead after three-quarters of a mile. Off the turn, Social Inclusion went with him for a bit, but California Chrome poured on speed the way a barista at Saratoga Coffee Traders hits you with hazelnut syrup. He led by 3 lengths in mid-stretch and won by 1 1/2 as Victor Espinoza waved his whip.

Somehow I watched the Preakness from a narrow walkway next to the winner's circle along with Alan Sherman, California Chrome's groom Raul Rodriguez and Pimlico security guard Damon Lann – on loan from the Baltimore City Detention Center and assigned to the Derby winner for the week. They spilled out of a small gate as their horse crossed the finish line, a scrum of hugs, tears, smiles, halter and shank on the track.

Continued On Page 45

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The Outside Rail —

■ Continued from page 44

The Preakness finish always brings noise, but I'll put 2014 up there with any of them. The crowd was larger than it is now, sure, but this shiny chestnut horse from California, his trainer and their story meant something to people.

"They feel like it's their horse," Sherman said of racing fans, who sent California Chrome and his people cards, letters, even a lucky dollar after the Derby win. The fans were hoping for a Triple Crown winner, back when the drought was 35 years old and the feat seemed impossible. In the end, they didn't get it, but California Chrome was voted Horse of the Year in 2014 and again in 2016. He won a \$10 million race in Dubai, twice won six consecutive races and piled up \$14.7 million in earnings. Today, he joins racing's Hall of Fame.

Sherman retired in 2021 and, at 86, will be at the ceremony. I'm sure he still feels lucky.

So do I.

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The Hall of Famers we have known.

Wise Dan. The chestnut overachiever made the trees sway breezing down the backside of the Oklahoma turf. I've never seen a horse go faster. Walking back to the test barn with Charlie LoPresti after the 2014 Bernard Baruch, both of us ducking out of the champagne toast to be with a horse who was all the buzz we needed. Years later, I climbed over the fence to see the \$7.5 million earner at the LoPrestis' farm in Kentucky, he picked up his head and ambled over, like an old friend with a story to share.

Royal Delta. There were days when you stopped what you were doing and watched her walk, gallop, breeze, graze during three glorious summers here in 2011-13. Rodin couldn't have done it better.

Rachel Alexandra. Someone asked about our most memorable races at Saratoga. The 2009 Woodward was the loudest, I'll say that for certain.

Zenyatta. The 2010 Breeders' Cup Classic could have been louder.

Tuscalee. A household name in our household. The workingman's hurdler won 37 races the hard way, a record that will never be broken.

Joe Aitcheson Jr. He rode Tuscalee. Won 440 races over jumps, a record that will never be broken. He rented a room from my family at Delaware Park in the '70s. Like having Hank Aaron living above your kitchen. Aitcheson could not have been kinder to a couple of racetrack rats, peppering him with questions about Top Bid, Happy Intellectual and, yeah, Tuscalee.

Sky Beauty. Riding around the golf cart with Allen Jerkens was an honor. "He's got that machine again," he would say to Fernando and Leah and then we would take a tour. The Chief would drive and talk and I would listen and record. He was still in awe of Sky Beauty decades after she retired. "I only trained one champion. Thank God for Sky Beauty..." And then he would launch into the day



By Sean Clancy

she racked up the field in the Spinaway, the weeks leading up to the Alabama when she wasn't eating and she won anyway, the way Mike Smith could change his style for the moment, for the horse. Yeah, thank God for Sky Beauty.

Good Night Shirt. I bought him. I sold him. My best and worst moves all wrapped into one.

Point Given. The most imposing horse we've ever covered. It was the first summer of The Special. I interviewed Gary Stevens at a picnic table in the backyard of the jocks' room the day before the Travers. The Hall of Famer sat and talked about the big horse, just kept answering questions until I ran out of ones to ask. I walked out of the jocks' room that day, thinking, maybe, somehow, someway, The Special might make it. The next day Point Given dominated the Travers and never ran again. What was and what could have been.

Lonesome Glory. The best I ever rode...against.

Personal Ensign. I watched the 1988 Whitney on the turn. She had Gulch covered. Randy Romero coddling and cuddling. Oh, Randy, we miss you too.

Lady's Secret. I got to know the 25-time winner a little better during the Stable Tour with D. Wayne Lukas Thursday morning. I'll tell you more in a day or two.

Zaccio. We ran a horse who couldn't get beat in a maiden race Fair Hill. Dad called and asked how

Odd Man ran. We said he finished second. "Second? Second? Who the hell beat him?" We said, "Some horse named Ziccioo or something for Mr. Cocks." Trained by Hall of Famer, Burley Cocks, Zaccio went on to be three-time champion. Odd Man went on to be a claimer, a Hall of Fame claimer in our hearts, but he was no Zaccio.

Spectacular Bid. We saw him win an allowance race at Delaware Park in 1979. It was like Mick Jagger playing Caffe Lena.

Forego. We went to the turn to watch him run in the 1977 Whitney. Dad had hyped him up for weeks, years. He went by us covered in mud and a mile back, I remember thinking, 'This is a super horse if he can win from there.' He didn't, he got beat 18 lengths and elicited a "disliked going" on his chart. Have you ever seen that? He won his next two, including the Woodward and retired. I only saw him once, mud-splattered and beaten, but feeling Dad's urgency to get to the turn to see Forego, that put him in another league. Forever.

Kelso. Around our dinner table, the five-time champion was the best there's ever been. Trained by my godfather, Carl Hanford, Kelso stood above all others. I was born three years after he was inducted into the Hall of Fame but childhood stories make it seem like I was there with Uncle Carl (who joined his big horse many years later) for those five Jockey Club Gold Cups, those five championships.

Flatterer. The four-time steeplechase champion beat dad's horses every time they met. Except once. Dad and jockey Gregg Morris put stone-cold closer Gogong, in receipt of 28 pounds, on the lead in the Middleburg hurdle stakes in 1987. It was an unfair fight. I didn't notice or care. Dad did. "I hate doing that to that old horse," Dad said as we walked solemnly back to the barn. I learned more about my dad than about racing that day.

Hall of Famers. May there be many more.

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