

Year 23 • No. 20

The **Saratoga**

Saturday, September 2, 2023

Special

Saratoga's Racing Newspaper since 2001

Piping Out

Final Weekend puts wraps on 2023 season

Final Edition of 2023

**Proxy, Rattle N Roll
clash in Grade 1
Jockey Club Gold Cup**

**Classy group meets
in Flower Bowl**

**Carl Spackler adds
Saranac to big meet**

Bill Mott Stable Tour





Investing in the present to raise the future.

Brown Advisory is proud to support the global equine community and its beneficiaries.



WWW.BROWNADVISORY.COM



Saratoga Sunday. The Whitney Viewing Stand stood guard over an early-morning jogger on the Oklahoma Training Track.

Jason Moran/Eclipse Sportswire

Here&There...in Saratoga

License Plates of the Day

RACING, New York. PHENWAY, New York. (At least one member of our team is pumped to head to Fenway next week)

By The Numbers

4,997: Wins for jockey Corey Lanerie heading into Saturday (he rides five at Kentucky Downs).

999: Wins for trainer Henry Johnson Jr. heading into today (he runs five over the weekend at Louisiana Downs).

7: New members recently elected to The Jockey Club – Gary Fenton, Eric Gustavson, Bret Jones, Jane Lyon, Michael Mulvihill, Dave O'Rourke and Mandy Pope.

7: Christophe Clement horses turned in on the Oklahoma turn at 9:38 Wednesday morning. Just chilling.

3, 4, 1: Golf carts, horses, car in an Oklahoma stable area traffic jam Wednesday morning.

1: Exercise rider (on a horse) with a pipe in his mouth Tuesday.

Worth Repeating

"It's snowed on us two years in a row. Kevin and I out there galloping on it. Just trying to get them out of the barn. They think we're nuts. A week later, it's sunny and 70. It's beautiful out there. Erie is like Florida in the winter."

Trainer Adam Rice about Presque Isle Downs

Names of the Day

Walley World, sixth race. One more time. The 2-year-old colt and multiple NOTD participant is still looking for his debut race. He's out of Forced Family Fun. Watch National Lampoon's Vacation.

Tom Collins, sixth race. Stuart Janney and Phipps Stable's homebred is out of Party Now.

Shamrock Shake, seventh race. The 2-year-old colt is by Lookin At Lucky and out of American Sugar.

Fredo, 10th race. The 4-year-old is out of Alienated. Watch The Godfather.

Rattle N Roll, 11th race. The Jockey Club Gold Cup favorite is out of Jazz Tune.



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.

Editors/Publishers/Owners:

Sean Clancy: (302) 545-7713. sean@thisishorseracing.com ♦ **Joe Clancy:** (302) 545-4424. joe@thisishorseracing.com

Managing Editor: Tom Law: (859) 396-9407. tom@thisishorseracing.com

Writers: Paul Halloran, Terry Hill, Mary Rufo, Alec DiConza, Nolan Clancy. **Photographers:** Tod Marks, Dave Harmon, Susie Raisher. **Designer:** Ruthie Bowen.

Distribution, etc.: Rob Whitlock, Craig Healy. **Marketing:** Samantha Loud. **Social Media:** Melissa Bauer-Herzog.

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

The Saratoga Special, thisishorseracing.com, Thoroughbred Racing Calendar, The Best of The Saratoga Special, New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred, The Horsemen's Journal and a whole lot more.

Call us about your editorial needs.

Here&There...in Saratoga

Worth Repeating

“Bread delivery.”
Rick Schosberg riding his pony while carrying a loaf of bread Monday morning

“It was nice to sit there and turn some pages.”
Kelly Dorman on reading *The Saratoga Special* during his stay in Saratoga to see Cody's Wish run in the Whitney

“You're a Clancy, too?”
Trainer Jimmy Ferraro to *The Special's* Joe Clancy minutes after Sean Clancy had visited for the Little Guy Stable Tour Tuesday morning

“Good job with your paper. I love your paper.”
Ferraro, about *The Special*

“You think of good memories and it felt like yesterday. Then you look at the calendar and count up the years.”
Ferraro, about coming to Saratoga

“Both horses were loaded with talent, but needed time to put it all together. With both horses it's paid dividends. That's the beauty of training for Godolphin. They let you do what's right for the horse.”
Trainer Mike Stidham, comparing Jockey Club Gold Cup hopeful Proxy to 2020 runner-up and eventual Dubai World Cup winner Mystic Guide

“I remember when that mustache was black.”
Saratoga Live's Tom Amoss, as veteran trainer Bob Ribaudo appeared on the video feed before Friday's seventh

“The only bad thing is I had to ask the security guard how to get here – it's been awhile.”
Ribaudo, walking into the winner's circle after Quarrel won Friday's seventh

The Chief

The Special enjoyed a long, fun, fruitful relationship with Hall of Fame trainer Allen “The Chief” Jerkens. He filled notebooks, recorders and brains with wisdom, advice, quips, opinions, history, perspective and more for 15 seasons of this newspaper even if he wasn't sure what to make of us at the beginning. For years, we ran a daily quote. We'll try to bring one back as often as we can.

“My father came from Austria, the way I understand it, his father had a big farm, my father decided he didn't want to go back home and got a job milking cows. He never told me how he wound up working for H.T. Peters, he was a pretty prominent man in show horses and hunting. He worked for him for over 20 years and then he and his friend opened a riding academy, in '37, '38, he was broke from then on. Somehow, I don't know where the hell he got them, but people would send old bowed horses and we would walk them in the bay, walk them back and forth and give them a whole year. There was a pretty famous veterinarian who would come out and fire them. We always fired horses in those days. We got them back to the races. Some of them, a couple of them, won.”

– **Trainer Allen Jerkens, 1929-2015**

Rainbow Coalition. The Travers field gets started at Saratoga last Saturday. Arcangelo claimed the pot of gold.

Tod Marks



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“One of the coolest parts was getting lost, turning down some of those side streets and seeing people outside, sitting on their porches and enjoying the day. That's how I grew up.”
Kelly Dorman on one of the many charms of Saratoga



HELPING CLIENTS CLEAR THEIR LEGAL HURDLES



ANDREW J. TURRO, ESQ.

Chair, Equine & Racing Law
516-741-6565 | aturro@msek.com



Representing owners, trainers, breeders, jockeys, drivers and horsemen associations in business transactions and matters before the New York State Gaming Commission and in the federal and state courts.

MEYER, SUOZZI, ENGLISH & KLEIN, P.C. | 990 STEWART AVENUE, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530 | WWW.MSEK.COM

WE NY

WOODSLANE FARM

Lauren and René Woolcott



Breeder of **Belmont Stakes** and **Sword Dancer**
Champions **TONALIST** and **SADLER'S JOY**

Best of luck to ALL runners at Saratoga!

SECRETARIAT SEATTLE SLEW AFFIRMED SPECTACULAR BID LOOKIN AT LUCKY AMERICAN PHAROAH ESSENTIAL QUALITY



One of just seven colts to have won Eclipse Awards at both two and three. And the only one to have also taken the Travers. **A giant of the breed.** Just imagine.

Darley

STABLE TOUR

Meet the people & horses who make Saratoga special!

The
November
Sale
NOVEMBER 7, 2023
NOMINATE NOW!



With Bill Mott

Near the end of 56-plus minutes of a Stable Tour Wednesday morning, trainer Bill Mott leaned on a fence post and stared at two trainees. One has been a part of the barn for more than two years. The other just got there. He talked to them, watched them, then pondered a question.

This is work, but what do you like about training horses?

"Hmm," said the Hall of Famer. "I just enjoy looking at one like him (the newcomer, Bendoog), and thinking what he might be. It's always exciting. You always have the future to look at. There are always possibilities. There are disappointments. If you're able to get a few victories, they kind of outweigh the losses. You're going to have some losses along the way. I enjoy the horses and the people. I've been doing it awhile now."

Yes, he has. The Hall of Famer's Equibase profile starts in 1973, but he was winning races in his native South Dakota before that and worked for Hall of Fame trainer Jack Van Berg before starting his own stable. The horses have won 5,341 races (through Thursday) and earned just shy of \$334 million. Both numbers are top seven all-time.

The youngest trainer in history to be inducted, at 45, Mott joined racing's Hall of Fame in 1998. He first brought a stable to Saratoga in 1987 and has won nine training championships since. This year, his 17 wins (through Friday) put him fourth on the leaderboard.

Mott and his dog Winston walked the two barns on the Oklahoma Training Track side with The Special's Joe Clancy Wednesday morning.

Trucker: Bruce Lunsford's 2-year-old Flatter gelding, a \$150,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling purchase, occupies the first stall in the main barn with a view of the Oklahoma, horse path, stable-area road and the daily meeting of The Railbirds at Doc Richardson Corner. The chestnut finished last of 10 in his debut here July 22. "He's got a great disposition, he likes it over here. He got beat way off the first time, bit of a surprise. He had trained much better than that. We kind of liked him. You've got to give them the benefit of the doubt if they train OK, you like them and they don't run any good. You've just kind of got to see them a second time."

Knightsbridge: Godolphin homebred 2-year-old Nyquist colt is a half-brother to Grade 1 winner Speaker's Corner. "We backed off and gave him some time, and he's back training now. You have to be a little patient with them. He should be back on a breeze schedule in, hopefully, September. We haven't been that far along yet to compare him to Speaker's Corner, but he's been OK."



Tod Marks
The Mott barn's Casa Creed won
two graded stakes this summer.

Billal: Kaleem Shah's 2-year-old Steet Sense colt finished third, behind runaway winner Fierceness from the Todd Pletcher barn, in his debut here Aug. 25. "He ran well, ran into a real fast one of Pletcher's. We were lapped up on him at the quarter pole, but couldn't stay with him. He's a muscular kind of horse, more of a sprinter/miler type body as far as his frame. I guess the Street Senses, some of them are more compact like he is and some are big, longer types."

A snort and a whinny from up the shedrow interrupted the tour, and took Mott's attention briefly: "What in the world is that?" Satisfied after listening for a bit, he returned to the next stall door.

Resilience: Pam and Marty Wygod's homebred 2-year-old Into Mischief filly made her debut going a mile Friday. She finished sixth. "She's a big, scopey horse. A little more scope than some of the Into Mischiefs I'd say. You see some that are blockier, but she's not like that at all."

Informed that a few weeks ago, a Saratoga Special reader asked the definition of scopey, Mott paused and tried to put a few more words to the horsemen's term. "A little more length maybe. I guess that's what it means to me anyway. I don't know what it means to other people. How did you answer them?"

We're not sure we did, but here goes. Mott's description fits. A scopey horse looks longer and lankier than others, without being out of proportion. Tall, rangy, athletic. Greyhounds and Pointers are scopey. Bulldogs are not. To us anyway.

Jefferson Street: Godolphin's homebred 2-year-old Street Sense colt out of Apiary, a half-sister to Met Mile and Whitney winner Frosted, makes his first start in today's seventh race going 7 furlongs. "We've liked him all along. He's a nice type. You want to see, too, Winston? OK. You better get out of there, Winston. That's his space."

More snorts and whinnies come from up the shedrow, near Trucker's stall. "I have to see what's going on up there."

Baie Longue: Named for a beach on St. Martin, Andrew Farm's American Pharoah 3-year-old gelding was supposed to run Travers Day, but was scratched after the race came off the turf. He finished fifth off a 10-month layoff here July 15. Entered at Kentucky Downs for Saturday, he hit the also-eligible list. "We wanted to get him going, but they took it off the turf."

The noise returns, louder. "I'll be right back. I just want to see if that's mine or somebody else's . . . He's messing around. It's fine. Some of these stalls have gaps in the boards and horses get messing around with each other sometimes."

Bold Journey: The Hard Spun chestnut colt has won twice this year, including an allowance at Belmont Park in June. The New York-bred was second after stumbling at the start in an open-company allowance on Travers Day. The 4-year-old appreciates the visit. "He's got his ears up like he wants to be nice, but I don't always

Continued On Page 8

CROSS THE WIRE WITH A NY-BRED

AT THE *Spa* **30%** HIGHER PURSES
FOR NY-BREDS IN
OPEN COMPANY

*“These purse increases reflect the sustained growth of the
New York-bred marketplace while also rewarding owners
already invested in the program.”*

-Frank Gabriel, NYRA Sr. VP of racing operations

MORE OPPORTUNITY...

In 2022, of the 2,589 races run in New York, no fewer than
800 were restricted to NY-BREDS, including 60 stakes races
(MORE THAN ANY OTHER STATE-BRED PROGRAM).

**PURCHASE A REGISTERED NY-BRED AT UPCOMING
YEARLING AUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER
AND GET WITH THE \$60 MILLION PROGRAM!**

OPEN-COMPANY PURSES AT SARATOGA

RACE	NY-BRED	NON-NY-BRED
MSW	\$136,500	.....\$105,000
1ST LEVEL ALW	\$149,500	.....\$115,000
2ND LEVEL ALW ...	\$156,500	.....\$120,000
3RD LEVEL ALW ...	\$162,500	.....\$125,000



NYBREDS.COM
NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDING & DEVELOPMENT FUND

Visit our website or call 518.388.0174

ADAM COGLIANESE, ANDI DANEGELIS PHOTOS ©

Stable Tour —

■ Continued from page 6

trust him. He's just a little tough in the stall and aggressive lately. He's manageable, but he's a colt."

Frank's Rockette: The first stakes winner on the tour carries a 12-for-29 record with 10 seconds, four thirds and \$1,482,733 earned for owner/breeder Frank Fletcher. Six-year-old mare won her first two this year and was third in the Grade 2 Honorable Miss here July 26. She went to Charles Town Aug. 25 and finished second in the Misty Bennett Pink Ribbon. Mott greets her with four pats on the neck, a couple of chirps and then three more pats after stepping into the stall. "You've been a pretty good girl, haven't ya? We've put her in against some very good horses, but we try to keep her where she can be competitive. We've run her in the Breeders' Cup a couple of times. We ran her against the boys once, which was a mistake. She's never liked Keeneland. Everywhere else, she's run well."

In three starts there, she finished 11th in the 2020 Breeders' Cup Sprint, fifth in the 2021 Thoroughbred Club of America and 11th in the 2022 Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint — the only worse-than-third finishes in her career.

War Like Goddess: Another 6-year-old mare, George Krikorian's daughter of English Channel has earned \$2.2 million while winning 10 of 16. She made a case for a female turf championship (which went to Regal Glory) last year, with a Grade 1 win against males, two graded wins in her division and a third behind European raiders in the Breeders' Cup Turf. She opened 2023 by winning the Bewitch, but was sixth in the New York in June and second by a neck to McKulick in the Glens Falls here Aug. 3. Mott poked fun at her origin story — \$1,200 weanling, \$1,000 RNA as a yearling, \$30,000

purchase as a 2-year-old — while opening the screen. "Here's our thousand-dollar horse . . . The last one, there might have been enough pace. He wanted her to stay a little closer so he asked her out of the gate and she was rank with him around the first turn and then she was pulling the whole race. I think she just wants to settle and make a run. I'm skipping the Flower Bowl (today). She had a fever about two weeks ago and I missed a few days with her and just decided we're going to skip this race. She's been too good to try to run her in any kind of a compromised situation. She had a little fever and her bloodwork was out of balance so we decided to just give her a week to get over whatever was going on. Whether it was a little virus or something, she seems fine now. She's back training and she'll either run in the Kentucky Turf Cup against the boys (Sept. 9) or the Joe Hirsch against the boys, too (Sept. 30)."

Just Jules: A 2-year-old Justify filly, a half-sister to Grade 3 winner Ballet Dancing owned by co-breeder Old Oak Farm is getting ready for her first start. Wednesday, the \$1.05 million yearling stood sideways across her stall, dozing with her right hind leg cocked. "The way she's standing doesn't help the way she looks, she's a nice-looking filly, but I'd like to figure out how to put about a hundred pounds on her. I don't know, I'd just love to see her looking better."

Life's Joy: Debby Oxley's 2-year-old Mitole filly looks fast standing still. She's run twice here, a fourth July 23 and a 10th Aug. 26 after leading early both times. "She's got a ton of speed. It looks like I need to find her a 5-furlong race. That's just the way she is."

Caramel Swirl: Godolphin's 5-year-old Union Rags mare finished fourth in the Grade 1 Ballerina here Aug. 26 after finishing second last year. Five-time winner (and \$642,450 earner) owns a Grade 2 win and a Grade 3 win. "She ran well, got beat a nose for third. She's been good, always right there. She's Grade 1-placed, not a Grade 1 winner. Maybe. . ."

Scotland: LNJ Foxwoods' 3-year-old homebred by Good Magic, won the Curlin Stakes here July 21 to earn a spot in the Grade 1 Travers. He and jockey Junior Alvarado led early, got pressed and faded to sixth. "He got pushed along a little bit when they got midway down the backside and he didn't really get a chance to give him a breather. He popped right out on the lead and the horse we thought would be on the lead wasn't. It left us there, and then the horse we thought would be on the lead wound up pushing us midway in the race. I don't know why they did that. It cost them and us."

Kingdom Come: Bruce Lunsford's homebred 2-year-old daughter of Justify is a half-sister to Grade 1 winner Art Collector, whose death this summer of laminitis was another blow during a tough summer. Seventh in Thursday's first race on the turf, after finishing eighth in her debut Aug. 6. "Nice filly. She may not necessarily have to have the turf. We might give her a chance on the dirt."

Sweet Dutchess: A recent addition after racing for trainer Kathleen O'Connell through her first 15 starts. Four-year-old filly finished third for Mott on the turf at Belmont Park July 9 and was eighth on the dirt here Aug. 25. Daughter of Will Take Charge was rattling her teeth on the wall for entertainment Wednesday morning. "Eating that wood isn't going to put any more weight back on you, I don't think. She probably carried more weight for the other trainer. She's got a good coat and everything, she's fine, but boy she's tough to keep weight on. We tried her on the dirt the other day, which was a mistake, but now we know."

Paradise Lane: Two-year-old daughter of Quality Road and Grade 1 winner Paradise Woods (who earned \$1.1 million for co-owners Pam and Marty Wygod) finished fourth in her debut two days after the tour. Mott walked into her stall, and kept narrating: "Her mother

Continued On Page 10

Enjoy locally owned, One With Life Organic Tequila!

Now available at Siro's.



One With Life is the official tequila of Hudson River Farms LLC.



We Move Your Future!



Sallee
Horse Vans

Toll Free 800-967-8267
in Lexington 859-255-9406



THE WORLD'S PREMIER BREEDING STOCK EVENT

GAMINE
(I/F QUALITY ROAD)

THE HIGHEST PRICE
THOROUGHBRED
SOLD IN THE
WORLD IN 2022

IN 2022, THE **ONLY**
PLACE THAT SOLD...

\$101 MILLION IN
BREEDING STOCK

30 FILLIES OR MARES FOR
\$1,000,000 OR MORE

SOLD THE **HIGHEST PRICE:**

- BROODMARE IN THE WORLD
- BROODMARE PROSPECT IN AMERICA
- RACING/BROODMARE PROSPECTS IN AMERICA

5 OF THE 6 MOST EXPENSIVE
FILLIES AND MARES IN AMERICA

All in One Night

The
November
A NIGHT OF STARS Sale

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023 | LEXINGTON, KY

Now Accepting **NOMINATIONS**



november.fasigtipton.com

Stable Tour —

■ Continued from page 8

was a good mare in California. She lost a shoe and I just want to make sure it's back on. Come on, come on, let me see . . ." It took several tries, but she picked up each front foot — shoes on.

Provocateur: A Keeneland November purchase for Joe, Anne and Mike McMahon, the Into Mischief colt won three races (two stakes) last year, and placed in the Grade 1 Woody Stephens, for trainer Todd Pletcher. He finished third in his debut for Mott, and first start since October, Aug. 11. "That was a tough allowance race, three-otherwise than that a pretty nice horse of Asmussen's (Marsalis) won. Hopefully we'll get him in stakes company later on.

Montego Bay: Unraced Speightstown 2-year-old filly joined the Saratoga string in May and was making steady progress for her debut until she missed a few weeks of training and Mott hit pause. "She was real sick earlier. When the meet started, she got sick, so we missed a lot of time with her and I don't think she's going to be able to run here. You miss three weeks with them and by the time you get them back going the meet's over. A lot of our horses are getting close to ready to run at the end of the meet."

Munny Rockette: A Fasig-Tipton Saratoga graduate as a yearling last summer, she joined owner Frank Fletcher's operation for \$1 million in March. She finished third as the favorite in her debut Aug. 20. Like plenty of the Mott 2-year-olds, the first race is a steppingstone and a learning experience. "She ran well, her race was good and she should improve. She probably wants more distance."

Just F Y I: Owner/breeder George Krikorian's Justify 2-year-old filly won her debut on Travers Day, prevailing by a head going 6 furlongs on the dirt. With a nod toward Munny Rockette next door, Mott tried to explain training 2-year-olds. "She won and she didn't, but if you'd have asked me beforehand who's better, I wouldn't have been able to tell you. It's all what situation it is, who they're in against, a lot of things. They both ran well. She won and the other one didn't. She's got feet like this (hands six inches apart) and you'd think, 'Well, maybe she's going to have to have grass' but she never worked like she did. Some of the Justifys go to the turf. He's had some success in Europe, so they tell me. I don't pay as much attention to that stuff as I probably should."

Elite Power: Champion male sprinter of 2022 had his eight-race winning streak snapped in last week's Grade 1 Forego. Gunita set the pace, took advantage of three quarter-mile splits of :23 and change, and fought off a challenge along the rail to avenge a loss in the Grade 1 Vanderbilt four weeks earlier. The defeat ended a string of excellence that started with a maiden win at Churchill Downs last June and rolled through two allowance races, the Vosburgh, Breeders' Cup Sprint,

Riyadh Dirt Sprint in Saudi Arabia, True North and Vanderbilt. Like he was answering a stage call, the chestnut 5-year-old son of Curlin stuck his head over the screen to say hello. His ears went up, he bumped a Jolly Ball hanging to his left and looked for attention. "Don't trust him too much. He's tough. You go into catch him . . . the grooms bribe him with carrots but if you go in there without them, he can be pretty tough on you. The winner came back quick too out of the same race, but . . . coming back quick . . . slow pace . . . we gave the winner six pounds. You can make some excuses or reasons (for the defeat). I think the pace probably worked against him. He was right behind the winner. The winner's got natural zip. The inside opened up and he got through, but you'd have rather had them going in :45 than :46. Two good horses. I don't know, he might just go straightaway into the Breeders' Cup. We'll see. He's been a little bit of a challenge. Early on, we had to take our time with him. His 3-year-old year we never got much done with him. We got him started a couple times, but that was it. The rest of it's been a lot of fun."

A La Carte: Speedway Stable's 5-year-old Uncle Mo gelding sports a 1-for-6 record, all this year, and finished fourth and fifth in two Saratoga allowance races. "Mayyybee he hasn't reached his full potential. Off his first couple races (a second and a win at Gulfstream this winter) I thought he would wind up a little bit better but he's kind of leveled off. We'll see."

Hunt Ball: Godolphin's 2-year-old colt, a half-brother to millionaire Cody's Wish, snoozed while standing along the side wall. Mott opened the screen and had a look at the son of Into Mischief, second in his debut here Aug. 19. "He's actually starting to put some weight on now. He was awfully light before, but he's filling out now. You want to be a racehorse? Huh? Big boots to fill. The way he ran, I think he's going to be OK. He broke, he was last, he made his way up through horses. He got there and then he couldn't catch the leader. That was a good race."

Channel Maker: He could almost conduct the Stable Tour at this point. Nine-year-old gelding took part in his sixth Saratoga this summer and won the Bowling Green on the front end to snap a seven-race losing streak July 30 and was last of six in the Grade 1 Sword Dancer on Travers Day. The 10-time winner has earned \$3.9 million in 55 starts. He greeted the morning interruption with gusto, as Mott tried to open the screen to show off the veteran's condition. "Back, back up, get back, I want to look at ya, I want this guy to see ya. Pretty good for a 9-year-old gelding, right? It's hard to get that much color on a 9-year-old gelding, you know what I mean? He looks great. I think they kind of tag-teamed him the other day. The winner (Bolshoi Ballet) and the horse that pressed him (Stone Age) are the same ownership. They might have used that horse to force the pace a little bit, just watching it. It was going to be harder for him after he won the Bowling Green anyway. Everybody was like, 'OK, now we

Continued On Page 12



THE WORLD'S BEST ARE HEADING WEST



NOV 3 & 4

SANTA ANITA

A Breed Apart

After a Saratoga summer, the world's best are moving west. This November, join us at Santa Anita Park for the 40th running of the Breeders' Cup World Championships, where the majestic San Gabriels become the backdrop for world-class racing that is a breed apart from anything you've ever seen. Indulge your appetite with trackside dining, and breathe in the excitement with seats that will put you right in the middle of all the action.

Tickets won't last long, so secure yours today.

BREEDERSCUP.COM/TICKETS

YEARLING BUYER NOTICE

Yearling buyers can contribute to the NTRA's ¼% Check-off Program when purchasing from our sale company partners below. Your voluntary contribution equals \$2.50 for every \$1,000 of a yearling's sale price and helps fund the NTRA's federal legislative effort.

Participating sale companies are Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, OBS, WTBOA and CTBA.

HELP US HELP HORSE RACING IN DC.



Visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org for more information or contact Joe Bacigalupo at joe@ntra.com.

Stable Tour —

■ Continued from page 10

can't let him get away.' They had kind of forgotten about him."

Channel Maker has run in seven Breeders' Cups. Does an eighth fit in his schedule? "I don't think anybody wants to do that. I wouldn't mind running him again if it wasn't so competitive. The thing is, it's hard to find lesser spots at that distance. There's a limited number of those around."

Channel Maker made his case as his trainer tried to close the screen. "Ah, ah, ah, don't. You're nasty. That's why you're a gelding. Don't be like that. We'll see ya later."

Bendoog: In first stall in Mott's second barn across the yard and past the trainer's office building stood a new arrival. A robust bay 4-year-old by Gun Runner out of stakes winner Nellie Cashman watches staffers prep a neighbor for a race. "This is Bendoog — B-e-n-d-double o-g. He just came in from the farm today. He was in Dubai and ran in a bunch of those big races over there. He got turned out for 60 days and was started back at GMP Farm (in Schuylerville). They had him jogging and cantering over there and we just brought him back in. He's got a pretty good eye on him, a decent look about him. He ran in some of those trial races for the Dubai World Cup. I guess he ran in the World Cup. They sent me some videos of his races and I'm not sure which races they actually were."

Owned by Mohammed Khaleel Ahmed, Bendoog ran 10 times at Meydan Racecourse in 2022 and 2023, winning twice and placing in a Group 2 and a Group 1. Sixth in the World Cup in March, he was sent to Mott with an American campaign in mind. Be patient. "Hopefully he'll be ready to run in these races coming up in the winter. Now it's September. . . do we get a race into him in November or December? Is he a horse for the Pegasus?"

Cody's Wish: Godolphin's 5-year-old finished third in his first three starts in 2021, then won nine of 10 (with a second) over the next two years with Grade 1 scores in the Forego, Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile, Churchill Downs and Met Mile. He finished third in the Grade 1 Whitney here Aug. 5, his first start beyond a mile since a second in the Challenger going 1 1/16 miles at Tampa Bay Downs in March 2022. In the 1 1/8-mile Whitney, he skidded out of the gate, made a run to reach contention at the top of the stretch but settled for third behind White Abarrio and Zandon. Bendoog's neighbor didn't need much introduction, but Mott tried. "You know this one? Here, put your hand in here and see what happens." Nobody bit on that suggestion, not even Cody's Wish. "We tried something different (in the Whitney). We tried the mile-and-an-eighth. There were some suspicions that it wasn't his best distance and it turned out that way. I guess I could have waited for the Forego, but I had the other horse for that. It was just kind of thinking that if he was able to win the Met Mile and the Whitney, that would be pretty special. What else could you expect? He'll go to the Vosburgh (at Aqueduct Sept. 30)."

Waskesiu: Chiefswood Stable's 2-year-old daughter of American Pharoah was an hour or so from making her second start in Wednesday's second race. Fourth in her debut July 30, she finished second to heavy favorite Emery going 6 furlongs. "We were pretty high on this filly going into her last race. I said that if anybody beats her, they'll be a Grade 1 horse. Well, there must have been three Grade 1 horses in there. That's how smart I am. You never know, the first time they run. I'm sure it's a loaded field again, but she's pretty nice."

Sugar Hi: CJ Thoroughbreds' 2-year-old Twirling Candy filly won her debut by 6 lengths on Opening Day and has been prepping for Sunday's Grade 1 Spinaway ever since. Did Mott think she had that potential from her first days with him. "Umm . . . she's been in that stall ever since she's been here."



Tod Marks

A winner on Opening Day, Sugar Hi represents the Mott barn in Sunday's Grade 1 Spinaway.

Casa Creed: LRE Racing and JEH Racing Stable's 7-year-old won the Grade 3 Kelso here July 15 and was even better in the Grade 1 Fourstardave Aug. 12. They were victories four and five at Saratoga for the son of Jimmy Creed. The success began with a win on the dirt here as a 2-year-old in 2018. He added the Hall of Fame Stakes in 2019, the Fourstardave last year and then the 2023 double. He's run in the last four editions of the Fourstardave — two thirds and two wins. "He's had some career. He was just another horse when he was here as a 2-year-old year. We found out the surface and the distance and let him put it all together. He's been an incredibly nice, fun horse to have around because he's pretty easy to do anything with. He doesn't like Keeneland (where he's 0-for-4, all in Grade 1 company). They weren't easy races, but we'll need to find somewhere else to go before the Breeders' Cup."

Vittorio: Kaleem Shah's 5-year-old son of Ghostzapper started his career in California, and won twice, before joining the Mott barn this winter. He's been second three times, once by a nose, since. "He's had some seconds and thirds in the two-other-than. Those can come up tough."

Mellifluous: The unraced Coal Front 2-year-old colt came in from the farm with Bendoog a day earlier and no matter how you say it he'll get a chance. "His name is Mellif . . . Mellifil . . . M-e-l-l-i-f . . . Mellif-louis . . . Mellif-il-us. He's a 2-year-old, we'll get him going some more and see."

Genetics: Glassman Racing's 2-year-old filly is aptly named as the daughter of leading sire Tapit and multiple stakes winner Points Of Grace, whose five other foals to race are all winners. This one finished third in her debut Aug. 13 and was entered in Sunday's sixth race. "She ran OK the first time, was a little green, made the lead turning for home and kind of got thrown all over the place, which cost her."

Baby Yoda: The 5-year-old gelding has won seven of 18, earned \$548,390 and placed in two graded stakes. Not bad for a horse who won his debut for a \$10,000 claiming tag. Purchased after his first two starts, he races for Pantofell Stable, Wachtel Stable, Gary Barber and Jerold Zaro. The Florida-bred won twice here in 2021 and again last summer while also placing in the Grade 1 Malibu and Grade 2 Vosburgh and Kelso. Third here July 16, he finished last of 10 in the Russell Road Stakes at 5-furlong track Charles Town in West Virginia Aug. 25. "That was poor judgment. I sent him to Charles Town and he didn't do any good. I don't think the two turns, or

Continued On Page 13

Stable Tour —

■ Continued from page 12

whatever, suited him there. He's had a great career, he's been a lot of fun."

Feathering: John O'Meara's 3-year-old Empire Maker filly finished sixth in her debut going 7 furlongs here July 20. Mott thought about the turf for her next start, but changed course after a workout Aug. 20. "She's made one start and was on the lead turning for home. It was seven-eighths, she probably doesn't want to go that far. I wasn't crazy about her when I worked her on the turf. She didn't look like she was enjoying it that much. We'll wait and run her back on the dirt."

Matagora Bay: Mike Rutherford's Bernardini filly lives in half of the free-standing shed between the main barn and the office next to stable pony Buggy. It's airy, bright — like living outside (almost). "She actually doesn't like some of these other stalls. She gets a little anxious and she gets pretty busy in here early in the morning if she doesn't get out right away. She gets restless, but she's better out here. She's got the best stall in the whole place now. I entered her as a main-track-only for (today). We'll get her a race and see what she's got."

Bugsy: A stout chestnut with plenty of white markings, he could pass as an extra in a Tom Mix movie. He flinched awake from a standing nap when Mott called his name and walked over to say hello. "Bugsy, you've put on about a hundred pounds since I bought you. I bought him when I was in Del Mar. I saw him and asked the girl who was riding him if he was for sale. I kind of liked him, he kind of caught my eye. He rode the van all the way from California to Florida, shipped good in a box stall. I don't know how many hours it is (37, without traffic, according to Google Maps). That's the only time I've ever vanned a horse that far. When I offered to buy him, I didn't see that spot on his side. I wasn't so sure I could ride one like that, but I'd already stuck my foot in my mouth so here he is."

And that's the end. There are more horses on the harness side, and still more at Belmont Park and Churchill Downs. Mott needed to get to the races to saddle Waskesiu. The trainer would sneak home for a bit before heading back to the track for Magic Cross' start — and win — in the P.G. Johnson Stakes.

For a moment, Mott turned into a dog trainer.

"Well Winston, we might have to go to the races," he called. "You want to wait in the car while we run one in the first? You sure cover all the bases, you've been running around here. I guess the good thing is you haven't run away."

Winston wouldn't dream of it, and neither would the horses.



Fair Hill Equine Therapy Center Graduates include **89** individual **G1** winners of **134 G1** races.

Some of the races they've won...

A.G. VANDERBILT (2)
ALCIBIADES
ARLINGTON MILLION
AWESOME AGAIN
BELMONT DERBY
BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC
BREEDERS' CUP TURF (2)
BREEDERS' CUP FILLY
& MARE TURF
DELAWARE HANDICAP
DONN HANDICAP (2)

DUBAI WORLD CUP
FLORIDA DERBY
FRANK KILROE MILE
FRIZETTE
GARDEN CITY
GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE
HASKELL INVITATIONAL
HOLLYWOOD TURF CUP
IROQUOIS HURDLE (2)
JOE HIRSCH TURF CLASSIC (2)

KENTUCKY DERBY (2)
KING'S BISHOP
LONESOME GLORY HURDLE
MAKER'S 46 MILE (3)
MANHATTAN (2)
MAN O' WAR (4)
MATRIARCH (2)
METROPOLITAN MILE
NEARCTIC STAKES
PRIORESS

QUEEN ELIZABETH II
SHADWELL TURF MILE
SPINAWAY (2)
SPINSTER
SWORD DANCER (4)
TEST
UNITED NATIONS (2)
VANITY HANDICAP
WHITNEY HANDICAP (2)
WOOD MEMORIAL



721 Training Center Drive
Elkton, Maryland 21921
Phone: 610-496-5080
www.fairhilletc.com

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY | AQUAPACER | COLD SALTWATER SPA | DRY SALT ROOM | VIBRATION THERAPY | TRAINING CENTER

Showdown at Big Sky

Proxy, Rattle N Roll clash in Gr. 1 with Breeders' Cup spot on line

BY JOE CLANCY

Proxy did everything he was supposed to do as a 2-year-old, winning two of his first three late in 2020 and turning the page to some of the early Kentucky Derby preps in Louisiana the next year.

Then, things went a little sideways. Four starts (all losses) into his 3-year-old campaign, owner/breeder Godolphin and trainer Mike Stidham hit pause and took the bay Tapit colt out of training. He went to the farm in Kentucky, sat out a couple months, didn't race for more than 10 months

JOCKEY CLUB GOLD CUP PREVIEW

and returned as a 4-year-old at the Fair Grounds in February 2022. He rewarded the decision by winning the Grade 1 Clark Stakes at Churchill Downs in November, surpassing \$2 million in earnings and elbowing his way into the conversation at the top of the older horse division this year.

Twice a graded winner this year, he's the 2-1 second choice for today's Grade 1 Jockey Club Gold Cup, the 11th of 12 races with a post time of



Susie Raisher
Proxy looks for his second Grade 1 win in the Jockey Club Gold Cup.

6:18 p.m., at Saratoga Race Course. The 5-year-old breaks from the rail for Joel Rosario in a field of eight that includes multiple Grade 3 winner and 9-5 favorite Rattle N Roll.

Stidham called Proxy a great example of being patient with a horse.

"He showed he could run with the

very best as a 3-year-old, against Mandaloun and Midnight Bourbon and some of those other horses," the trainer said. "We just felt like he wasn't mentally and physically ready – he's a big colt that wasn't really ready for

Continued On Page 16



PADDOCK SUITE

Only \$45 Per Person
Sunday, Sept. 3

- Includes access to shared climate-controlled suite, admission and race day program

NEW FOR 2023

INTRO TO HANDICAPPING SEMINARS EVERY SUNDAY

NYRA.com | 844-NYRA-TIX

THE REAL DEAL.

Top Freshman Sires The Last 5 Years
At Fasig-Tipton's Premier Yearling Sale

	Sold	Average
Authentic	11	\$510,909
City of Light	7	\$427,857
Bolt d'Oro	10	\$407,000
Frosted	7	\$371,429
Good Magic	7	\$362,857
Gun Runner	7	\$331,429
Nyquist	8	\$320,625

**5 or more sold*

Authentic

LOOK FOR FIRST YEARLINGS AT KEENELAND.

 SPENDTHRIFT

Gold Cup —

■ Continued from page 14

that, to take on Triple Crown stuff. Like always, Godolphin allows you to do what's right for the horse. They allowed me to back off, let him grow up and he's come back a better horse."

Proxy put up a symmetrical 2-2-2 record in six starts last year. The wins came in his first start, an optional claimer at Fair Grounds in January, and his last, the Clark in late November. In between, he placed in four stakes (twice to last year's Jockey Club winner Olympiad). This year began with a wide-trip fifth behind Art Collector in the Grade 1 Pegasus at Gulfstream Park in January. Long a believer in Proxy's distance capabilities, Stidham sent his charge to the 1 1/4-mile Santa Anita Handicap in March. The horse did everything but win while rallying from well back to finish a neck behind Stilleto Boy.

"I've always thought and believed that the more distance the better," Stidham said. "The mile-and-a-quarter helps him tremendously. The Santa Anita Handicap, even after a bad trip, he looked like he had no chance to get there and he almost got there. A couple of times he just absolutely looked like he had zero chance and that last eighth of a mile he just flies home."



Matt Wooley/Eclipse Sportswire

Favored in the Jockey Club Gold Cup, Rattle N Roll eyes his fourth win this year.

Off the California try and shortening up slightly to 1 1/8 miles, Proxy won the Grade 2 Oaklawn Handicap in April. The good races stopped at two when Proxy finished eighth behind West Will Power and Rattle N Roll in the Grade 1 Stephen Foster at Ellis Park July 1. Proxy put the defeat behind him three weeks later while odds-on in the Grade 3 Monmouth Cup at Monmouth Park. The front-running tactics surprised Stidham.

"That was a shocker," he said. "Going into that race, it looked like it was our race to win or lose and the only thing I told Rosario was, and I don't tell him a whole lot, 'We cannot take a chance of getting shuffled back in a field where there isn't any real speed.'"

Stidham suggested breaking forward and getting an early position. It was a little earlier than the trainer wanted.

"I just dropped my head," Stidham said. "I was having a hard time watching. He had been close to the lead before, but he'd never gone wire-to-wire. They came to him, and he brushed off one and then another horse came to him at the three-sixteenths pole and hooks him, and he went on and pulled away. That was a new dimension."

The sixth win in 18 lifetime starts sends Proxy to the Jockey Club Gold Cup. Stidham could have lived without the inside post draw, and would prefer not to be on the lead early, but knows the extended trip should help his horse work out a trip.

"The one hole in the Foster at Ellis on a speed-favoring racetrack was the death of him but Joel's ridden him so many times now he knows what he's got to do," Stidham said. "I'm hoping he can break, get a little position, get him off the fence. They're going a mile-and-a-quarter so that should enable him to run his race. The talent is there. It's just him

Continued On Page 18



**AWARD WINNING
CRAFT BEER
DETROIT STYLE
PIZZA
COFFEE + BREAKFAST**

COME ENJOY

WALTANDWHITMANBREWING.COM | 20 LAKE AVE, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

DELIVERING
**SIRE
POWER**



2022 HAMILTON, LLC

Includes
FOUR 2YO COLTS

Trained by
TODD PLETCHER



Waitlist

By **NOT THIS TIME**

Sire of Two Champions
and 5 G1 SWs in 1st Three Crops

Out of Grandessa, by SCAT DADDY



Illuminare

By **CITY OF LIGHT**

Sire of SIX SWs in His 1st Crop

Top 10 Freshman & Second Crop Sire

Out of multiple SW I STILL MISS YOU



Goodstone

By **GOOD MAGIC**

Leading 2nd Crop Sire, Sire of SIX GSWs,
including Kentucky Derby-G1 winner MAGE

Out of Joyeria, by MEDAGLIA D'ORO



Crossfield

By **MITOLE**

Eclipse Award Champion Sprinter,
Third Leading 1st Crop Sire

Out of Waltzing, by CANDY RIDE



CENTENNIAL FARMS

888-606-7223 CENTENNIALFARMS.COM

TRACK & STAKES RECORD-SETTER OLYMPIAD

SPEIGHTSTOWN - TOKYO TIME



Winner of the
Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1)
with over **\$3 million** in earnings.

FIRST IN-FOAL MARES
SELLING THIS FALL



RYAN NORTON
(859) 771-2150

LAKOTA GIBSON
(859) 797-7102

Gold Cup —

■ Continued from page 16

getting the right trip and things working out.”

Part of the Breeders’ Cup Challenge Series, the Jockey Club Gold Cup comes with an automatic entry into the Classic at Santa Anita, but that’s been the goal all year for Stidham.

“When we made the trip to the Santa Anita Handicap, the main reason for that was we were hoping we’d be around for the Breeders’ Cup,” Stidham said. “Knowing the Breeders’ Cup was at Santa Anita this year, it was a good chance to give him a race at a mile-and-quarter over the track where we hoped we would be at the end of the year.”

Proxy meets a somewhat familiar foe in 9-5 morning-line favorite Rattle N Roll, winner of three in a row before he finished second in the Stephen Foster. Rattle N Roll finished 6 lengths ahead of Proxy in the Foster, and hasn’t made another start since by design.

“I thought he had run pretty hard all spring and that it probably would be wise to wait, skip the Whitney,” said Kenny McPeck, who trains the 4-year-old Connect colt for Lucky Seven Stable. “He’s done really well up here. He was a little jammed up coming out of the Ellis race. He was a little stiff for a week or so after he ran. But he’s better now. He’s great now. Doing super.”

Like Stidham, McPeck hopes for the Breeders’ Cup entry that comes with a win, but left open the possibility of a start in the Grade 2 Lukas Classic Sept. 30 at Churchill Downs as a possible additional prep.

Rattle N Roll won a trio of Grade 3s – the Ben Ali at Keeneland and Pimlico Special going 1 3/16 miles and the Blame going 1 1/8 miles at Churchill. The 10 furlongs of the Jockey Club Gold Cup figure to suit Rattle N Roll, who breaks from post four under regular pilot Brian Hernandez Jr.

“The more ground the better,” McPeck said. “Proxy looks tough but I beat him last time. ... With that distance, it’s a jockey’s race. A horse can get off on an easy lead and sometimes can be hard to catch. That’s out of our control. Thankfully Brian knows him really well.”

Tyson, one of two Canadian shippers for trainer Josie Carroll, is the 5-1 third choice on the line for Manny Franco. The 4-year-old son of Tapit won back-to-back starts – the Grade 3 Dominion Day and Grade 2 Seagram Cup – on Woodbine’s synthetic surface and makes his dirt debut.

Carroll also sends out Duke Of Love, winner of the Grade 3 West Virginia Governor’s Stakes on West Virginia Derby Day at Mountaineer Park last time out. The 4-year-old Ontario-bred son of Cupid is unbeaten in two dirt starts, with a win in the Canadian classic Prince of Wales Stakes last season at Fort Erie. He’s 15-1 on the morning line from post seven under Luis Contreras.

Bright Future is also 6-1 on the line for Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable and trainer Todd Pletcher. Eighth in the Grade 2 Brooklyn Stakes two starts back, the 4-year-old son of Curlin won a 9-furlong allowance-optional at Saratoga July 21 to earn his spot in the Gold Cup field. Javier Castellano rides from post eight.

Clapton, a recent private purchase for Sheikh Rashid Bin Humaid Alnuami’s RRR Racing, makes his first start for trainer Chad Summers.

Runner-up to Charge It in the Grade 2 Suburban at the Gold Cup’s 10-furlong trip July 8 at Belmont, the 4-year-old son of Bretheren finished third behind Rattle N Roll and Speed Bias in the Pimlico Special two starts back after winning the Grade 3 Ghostzapper at Gulfstream park April 1. Irad Ortiz Jr., on his way to another Saratoga riding title, rides from post five at 8-1.

“It’s exciting, I’m very thankful for the opportunity,” said Summers. “We love the diversity and the fact that he’s run 22 times in 25 months. He can sprint, he can go a mile, he can go a distance of ground and he’s run at multiple tracks. Those are the things you like. He’s got a running style where he’s just going to grind it out. Especially now as a 4-year-old, he keeps coming and keeps coming. That’s going to help him.”

Longshots Unbridled Bomber, third in the Suburban for trainer Jim Ryerson; and Warrior Johny, a runaway winner at Saratoga last summer for Phil Bauer, complete the field.

Additional reporting and writing by Tom Law.



CHAMPIONS ARE MADE AT THE BREEDERS' CUP



NOV 3 & 4

SANTA ANITA

BREEDERS' CUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

14 Grade I Championship Races • \$31 Million in Purses and Awards

It's time to take your place among the world's greats. Pre-entry for the 2023 Breeders' Cup World Championships opens online October 1 and closes at Noon (PDT), on Monday, October 23. All Breeders' Cup World Championships races are non-invitational and are open to all thoroughbreds competing around the globe.

Purses and awards total \$31 million and each race pays through the 10th finish position! Each Breeders' Cup World Championships starter receives a travel award up to \$10,000 for domestic horses and \$40,000 for international horses shipping into California.

Participants experience exclusive world-class hospitality on racing's biggest stage, including the best seats, hotel accommodations, executive car service, and invitations to private events.

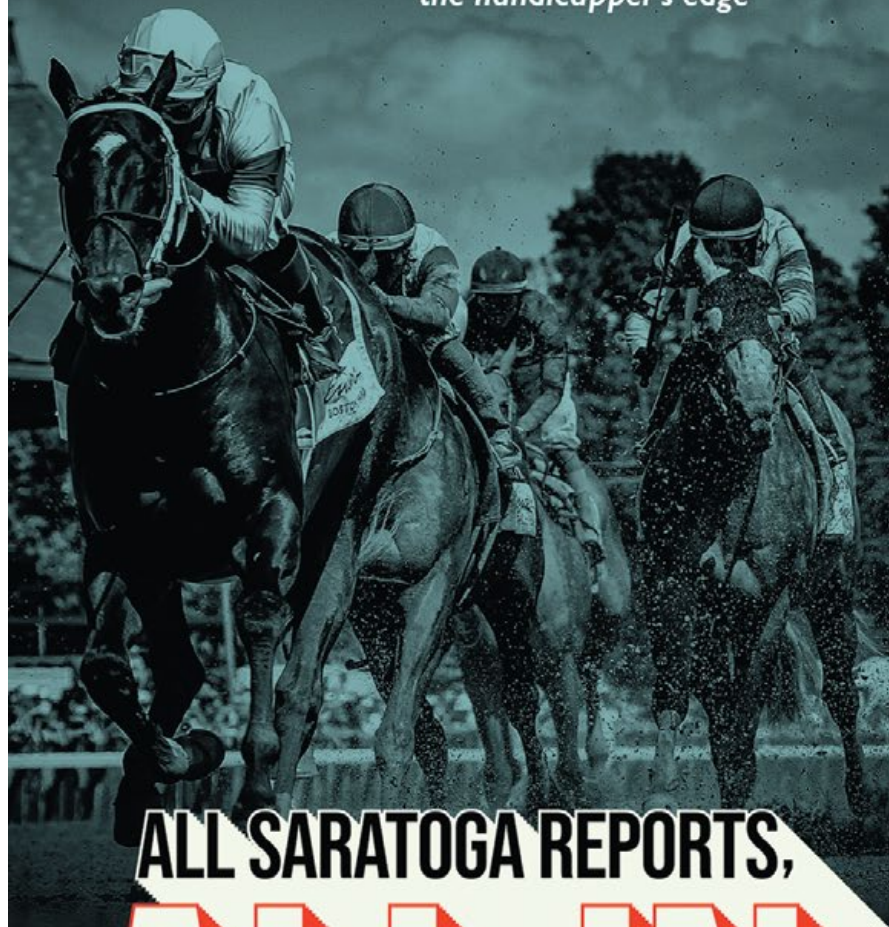
For your copy of the Horsemen's Information Guide, visit members.breederscup.com or contact the Breeders' Cup Racing Department.

SCAN FOR
HORSEMEN'S
GUIDE



[MEMBERS.BREEDERSCUP.COM](https://members.breederscup.com) • [RACING@BREEDERSCUP.COM](mailto:racing@breederscup.com) • 859.514.9422

brisnet.com
the handicapper's edge



ALL SARATOGA REPORTS,
**ALL IN
ONE PLACE**

BRISNET.COM/SARATOGA



Tod Marks

Amazing Grace is one of two runners in the Flower Bowl for trainer Christophe Clement.

Halfway There

Clement sends out two of four runners in Grade 2 turf stakes

BY ALEC DICONZA

FLOWER BOWL PREVIEW

Christophe Clement won last Friday's Smart And Fancy with Roses for Debra, went 3-for-3 with his stakes runners on Sunday's New York Showcase Day and sent out Loon Cry to a dominant victory in Thursday allowance at Saratoga Race Course.

In short, the barn is rolling.

"They've been running very well," Clement said of his stable he oversees with his son and assistant trainer Miguel. "We're very lucky. Well done the team, well done Miguel. Life is good."

Clement hopes to keep the good feelings in today's Saturday's Grade 2 Flower Bowl Stakes, which offers an automatic berth in the Nov. 4 Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf at Santa Anita Park.

Amazing Grace, likely the more popular Clement runner at the windows, breaks from the outside post in the field of four. Moyglare Stud's

German-bred mare has run four times in the United States for Clement, after shipping overseas from Waldemar Hickst's care in Europe for the remainder of her career.

The 5-year-old daughter of Protectionist won her stateside debut in the Grade 3 Orchid at Gulfstream Park, and has since run fourth in the Grade 2 Sheepshead Bay and Grade 2 Belmont Gold Cup against males, both at Belmont Park, and most recently third in the Glens Falls Stakes at Saratoga. The most recent start came behind McKulick, the 4-5 morning-line favorite for today's 1 3/8-mile inner turf stakes. Clement believes that effort came after bad racing luck.

"She was an unlucky third," he said. "The race was a little bit against her last time. She ran a good race."

Continued On Page 22



Claiborne Quality

133

GRADED STAKES WINNERS

42

GRADE 1 WINNERS

... raised on the fertile land
of **Claiborne Farm** – *in just the past 20 years alone.*

All yearlings in our **Keeneland September Sale**
consignment were raised on these same grounds.

Claiborne

VISIT OUR CONSIGNMENT AT
CLAIBORNEFARM.COM/SALES

Flower Bowl —

■ Continued from page 20

We're not foolish. McKulick is a very, very good filly. I get it. It's fun, it's a Grade 2. The Flower Bowl is a major race. I want to be there. So, it's fun to be there, we'll try our best."

As for any possible change in tactics with just a quartet of runners, Clement said he'd leave it up to jockey Joel Rosario.

"I just train them and we'll let the jock figure it out," he said.

Clement's other entry, Parnac, breaks from the rail under Dylan Davis. The 4-year-old French-bred filly by Zarak was scheduled to run in an Aug. 11 allowance race, but after stewards were concerned about horses who started in the Robert G. Dick Memorial at Delaware Park (Parnac finished third).

"It's OK, it's life, and you just have to adapt," Clement said.

Now 24 days after the scratch, Clement thinks the filly owned by West Point Thoroughbreds and Dream With Me Stable is ready to tackle the much harder task.

"She's doing well," he said. "She's trained well. It's a tough spot, it's a Grade 2, but she's doing well and I'm excited to see her run."



Tod Marks
McKulick looks to duplicate her win in the Glens Falls Aug. 3.

Clement trains half the field, but the filly to beat is McKulick, who will try to become the third horse after Casa Creed and Echo Zulu to win two graded stakes at the meet. Trained by Chad Brown, who has won the Flower Bowl seven times, the daughter of Frankel exited her Glens Falls victory in good order.

"She's done well since her last race, which was a nice win for her run-

ning down a very good filly," Brown said. "I liked her works since. She looks good."

Ridden by Irad Ortiz Jr, McKulick pulled off a mild upset in the Glens Falls when beating the two-time defending champion War Like Goddess. With nobody in the Flower Bowl field quite as daunting as that rival, Brown is a little more confident his filly will once again find success while still being wary of what can go wrong in a short field.

"Anytime you have to run against War Like

Goddess, it's never something you're looking forward to," Brown said. "We were lucky enough to beat her last time, but not having her in there, I'm not upset about that. We still have to beat the other horses in the race, and there's some nice horses in here. Sometimes your trip can get a little messy in a short field, so we'll have to see what happens."

Should all go well for McKulick, Klaravich Stable's filly could be seen in the Filly and Mare Turf.

"A mile and a quarter will suit her just fine, so it's definitely on the table," Brown said.

Rounding out the field is Tamarama, who makes her U.S. debut for new trainer Jack Sistrerson. The English-bred daughter of Muhaarar was last seen at Royal Ascot finishing 15th in a 1-mile handicap for trainer Ralph Beckett.

Sistrerson said Tamarama, owned by Andrew Rosen and Linda Shanahan, will be ready under Javier Castellano.

"She came in great shape," Sistrerson said. "Ralph does such a good job there. We just kind of stayed out of her way. She came in great condition, fitness, everything was great. We just moved her forward each week and she really bought into the American style of training, which is completely different to Europe."

"I'd be shocked if she's not on the lead. There's no speed in the race and she has speed, so I assume she'll be on the lead. If someone wants to be on the lead in front of her, they're going too fast. So, we'll be on the lead and see how she goes from there."

EXCEPTIONAL STALLIONS, EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE

IRISH HILL &
DUTCHESS VIEWS
STALLIONS

Breeding inquiries and contracts:
Anya Sheckley or Moe Scavullo - 518-398-5666
Rick Burke or Bill Leak - 518-584-1515

MIND CONTROL

Stay Thirsty - Feel That Fire
An Irish Hill & Dutchess Views/
Rockridge Stud Venture

WAR DANCER

War Front - Deed I Do

BIG BROWN

Boundary - Mien

KING FOR A DAY

Uncle Mo - Ubetwereven

WARRIOR'S CHARGE

Munnings - Battling Brook

LOOKIN AT LEE

Lookin At Lucky - Langara Lass

WAITING

American Pharoah - Wait No More

STANDING AT:
221 Burke Road, Stillwater, NY.

NYBREDS.COM

NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDING & DEVELOPMENT FUND

info@IHDVStallions.com
www.IHDVStallions.com

SIX Graded Stakes in these last three days of Saratoga 2023

All of them won by future Eclipse Champions and Hall of Famers—the best of the best, including these Maryland-breds—



CIGAR

Grade 1 Jockey Club Gold Cup, 1995
Horse of the Year 1995, 1996



SAFELY KEPT

Grade 2 Prioress, 1989
Champion Sprinter 1989



SMOKE GLACKEN

Grade 1 Hopeful S, 1996
Champion Sprinter, 1997

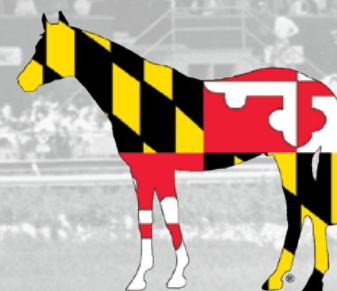


SMART ANGLE

Grade 1 Spinaway, 1979
Champion 2YO Filly 1979

**Maryland-breds run
with the best.**

Look for them in the
winner's circle at race tracks
all over the world.
Watch for them at the sales.



Maryland Horse[®]
MarylandThoroughbred.com

Outside, Inside

Morley hopes Unified Alliance overcomes post draw in sprint

BY TOM LAW

Tom Morley prayed for rain last time. This time he doesn't figure to get it, amazing considering the soggy summer of Saratoga 2023.

So, he's looking elsewhere heading into today's Grade 2 Prioress Stakes with Unified Alliance.

"I don't know, to be honest. It's a tough race," Morley said outside his barn Friday morning, waiting for turf works on the Oklahoma Training Track. "I would have much preferred an outside post position. Obviously, there are five fillies in there and they're all very tactically fast. It's going to be a bit of a scramble to see who has position on the turn."

Reagan Jack Racing's Unified Alliance won the off-the-turf Coronation

PRIORESS STAKES PREVIEW

Cup Stakes July 14. The 3-year-old daughter of Unified made her first start for Morley in that 5 1/2-furlong event, breaking from post three of the four who remained following a bevy of scratches.

Unified Alliance and Javier Castellano, who rode the filly in her last two starts including a runner-up in the Jersey Girl for trainer John Servis, drew post two for the \$250,000 Prioress. Unsung Melody, third in the Wilton Stakes, breaks from post three with Delaware Park shipper Alva Starr in four and 6-5 morning-line favorite Dazzling Blue in five. Jersey Pearl, fifth in the Grade 1 Test Stakes Aug.

Dave Harmon
Unified Alliance exits a win
in the Coronation Cup July 14.



5, breaks from the rail.

"Alva Starr ... I would imagine she would be pretty hard sent from the four hole," Morley said. "We will definitely go forward with a view that we might get a nice stalking trip. She's not a need-the-lead type. In the Coronation Cup I felt like we had a post position advantage where, if we could get to the first turn we could squeeze

the others up a bit. We're in that position this time.

"I'm not going to tell Mr. Castellano what he's doing. He's riding pretty well this year so I'll leave it up to him."

Unified Alliance, a \$60,000 purchase out of the 2022 Fasig-Tipton

Continued On Page 26

SAVE THE DATE



JIM MCKAY

**Maryland
Million
Day 2023**

OCTOBER 14 • LAUREL PARK

CELEBRATE MARYLAND'S DAY AT THE RACES

- ◆ ON TRACK ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
- ◆ FREE GENERAL ADMISSION
- ◆ DINING RESERVATION TICKETS AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT LAURELPARK.COM



PUT A STAR IN YOUR STABLE

In the last 22 years,
WinStar has offered at public
auction the winners of

258 stakes races,
121 Graded stakes races,
and **31** Grade 1 races.

LOOK FOR THE STAR
at **KEENELAND SEPTEMBER**
September 11-23, 2023

WINSTAR

THIS IS THE LIFE.



Experience the lifestyle of
Thoroughbred racehorse ownership
with the **GOLD STANDARD IN
RACING PARTNERSHIPS®**
for over 32 years.

*Join us for another successful
Saratoga race meet.*

*Message & data rates may apply.

Text HORSE to 66866 to learn about ownership.

(518) 583-6638 | westpointtb.com



WEST POINT
THOROUGHBREDS

Priores —

■ Continued from page 24

Midlantic May sale, won two of her first five starts for Servis. Both wins came at Parx Racing, and she also finished fourth in the off-the-turf Memories Of Silver Stakes going 1 mile April 29 at Aqueduct before her second to L Street Lady in the Jersey Girl the day after the Belmont Stakes.

Morley took over Unified Alliance's training shortly after the Jersey Girl and continues to be impressed.

"She's a nice filly," he said of the 10-1 morning-line outsider. "Everyone said to me about the Prioress, 'Do you think you're in over your head here?' Honestly I'm a great believer that when 3-year-old fillies start to improve they can really, really improve and that's exactly what she's done. She's a big filly, she's done very, very well since we've had her. Physically she's a big, strong filly and she might just be getting better."

Juddmonte's Dazzling Blue shipped to Saratoga from Kentucky with other members of trainer Brad Cox's string shortly after finishing second behind the ill-fated Maple Leaf Mel in the Grade 3 Victory Ride July 8 at Belmont.

The daughter of Into Mischief won her three prior starts before the Victory Ride, including the Letellier Memorial Stakes late last December at Fair Grounds. Joel Rosario takes the call for the first time on Dazzling Blue, a \$500,000 purchase at the 2021 Keeneland September sale.

Unsung looks to continue a strong meet for owner Bill Simon's WSS

Racing and trainer John Ortiz. The daughter of Maclean's Music finished third, beaten 11 ½ lengths by eventual Alabama winner Randomized, in the 1-mile Wilton Stakes and shortens up to 6 furlongs for the Prioress. She's 2-for-4 with a second at the distance and Ortiz likes how she's coming into her second Saratoga start.

"She's been doing really well. We've been training her in interval training, like we did with (Adirondack Stakes winner) Brightwork," said Ortiz, who is 2-for-5 with a second and a third at the meet. "She's been on Clare Court going nice and easy, we took her to the main track and let her have some strong gallops. We gave her one week going into this, and we realized that she likes to go into races very fresh and so we're hoping that she's as fresh as can be and she takes them wire to wire."

Alva Starr, winner of the July 8 Dashing Beauty Stakes at Delaware Park, also runs her best races on the front end. The daughter of Lord Nelson comes into the Prioress with two wins and two seconds in her four starts for trainer Brett Brinkman and owner Dale Ladner. Jose Lezcano takes the call on the 2-1 second choice.

Jersey Pearl returns to Saratoga for trainer Darrin Miller and owners Tom and Bonnie Hamilton's Silverton Hill. She won back-to-back starts before the Test, allowance-optionals at Churchill Downs and Ellis Park, before her somewhat troubled run in the 7-furlong Test. Irad Ortiz Jr. takes the call on the 3-1 third choice.

The Prioress goes as the second of four stakes on the card and the fifth race at 2:52 p.m.



Eclipse Sportswire

Jersey Pearl ships in from Kentucky for trainer Darrin Miller.

OAKLAWN

December 8, 2023 - May 4, 2024

Book Your Hotel Stay Now at Oaklawn.com



Record Stakes | 47 Stakes worth \$16,200,000

Richest winter racing in North America

Average daily purses over \$900,000
for 66 days - Record Purses

All allowance races over \$140,000

\$115,000 Maiden Special Weights

Stall Applications Due October 5

Condition Book 1 and Stall Applications now
available at Oaklawn.com

Call 501-363-4300 or email racing@oaklawn.com

Title Defense

Thin White Duke, 2022 winner, makes 4th start of meet for Donk

BY TOM LAW

Dave Donk knows the score.

He runs Thin White Duke in today's \$150,000 Harvey Pack, a race he won last year when run as the Lucky Coin Stakes, and acknowledges the 5 1/2-furlong turf stakes isn't totally about the 5-year-old New York-bred gelding.

"If he gets back to one of his best races he's pretty tough," Donk said of Thin White Duke, who makes his fourth start of the meet. "But the race goes through Clement. That horse, maybe Christophe is putting us all off how he's not ready, but if he's running him, he's ready. He's not going to run him if he's not happy with him."

That horse is Big Invasion, runner-up in the Grade 1 Jaipur, Royal Ascot performer in June and multi-

HARVEY PACK STAKES PREVIEW

ple stakes-winning turf sprinter. The 4-year-old Declaration Of War colt hasn't been out since finishing 13th in the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes June 24 at Royal Ascot, and comes off a pair of works on the Oklahoma Training Track dirt course Aug. 14 and 23.

Clement said this week that he was "running him back a little bit quick, but I don't like my choices."

He also said last year's Grade 3 Quick Call winner, the 7-5 favorite on the morning line against five others entered for the grass, would be ready.

"He's fit enough," Clement said. "We've had a discussion with my son

Continued On Page 30



Chelsea Durand/NYRA Photo

Thin White Duke returns for his ninth start on Saratoga turf Saturday.

SERVING RETIRED RACEHORSES For Over 30 Years



Serving over 500 horses a year, New Vocations is the oldest and largest racehorse adoption program in the country.

- ✓ Top-notch rehabilitation & retraining care
- ✓ Thorough screening of adopters
- ✓ Follow-up after adoption
- ✓ TAA accredited



SCAN ME

Learn more at:
newvocations.org

EquiSport Photos

GUN RUNNER



BREED
TRUE

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

9/01/2023	LOCKED	\$136,500	Saratoga MSW - TDN Rising Star	
8/31/2023	LIFE TALK	\$136,500	Saratoga MSW	
8/26/2023	ECHO ZULU	\$500,000	Ballerina Handicap	G1
8/26/2023	GUNITE	\$500,000	Forego Stakes	G1
8/26/2023	Disarm	\$1,250,000	Travers Stakes	G1
8/25/2023	SOCIETY	\$250,000	Misty Bennett Pink Ribbon S.	
8/25/2023	VAHVA	\$750,000	Charles Town Oaks	G3
8/22/2023	IL MIRACOLO	\$300,000	Smarty Jones Stakes	G3
8/19/2023	RISK IT	\$136,500	Saratoga MSW	
8/13/2023	WONDER RIDE	\$136,500	Saratoga MSW	
8/06/2023	RED ROUTE ONE	\$500,000	West Virginia Derby	G3
7/30/2023	CHATALAS		Del Mar MSW	
7/29/2023	BEGUINE	\$100,000	Alma North Stakes	
7/26/2023	ECHO ZULU	\$200,000	Honorable Miss Stakes	G2
7/23/2023	WICKED HALO	\$125,000	Twin Bridges Stakes	
7/22/2023	SHOTGUN HOTTIE	\$500,000	Molly Pitcher Stakes	G3

On the weekend of August 26th, two of Gun Runner's progeny captured Grade 1 events at Saratoga. Champion Echo Zulu won the Grade 1 Ballerina, posting her second 112 Beyer, the co-highest of the year, and Gunite defeated Breeders' Cup Champion Elite Power in the Forego (G1). Echo Zulu was a Multiple Grade 1 winner and Champion 2YO with current earnings over \$2 million dollars. Likewise, Gunite was a Grade 1 Winner at 2 who has emerged from the Forego (G1) as an Eclipse Award Candidate. He too has earnings over \$2 million dollars.

From July 22nd to present,
Gun Runner's progeny have taken home
the winner's share of over
\$4,000,000 in purse money.

Better to chase one
in the sales ring
than on the racetrack.

Get yourself a
Gun Runner at Keeneland.

Champion
Echo Zulu

MG1SW
Gunite

THREE CHIMNEYS

Inquiries to Rebecca Nicholson or Tom Hamm
859.873.7053 • www.threechimneys.com

2023 September Meet Stakes Schedule

SEPTEMBER 14 – OCTOBER 1

IROQUOIS (GIII)

"Breeders' Cup Dirt Dozen"

Runs Saturday, September 16
Closes August 30
\$300,000
Includes \$75,000 from KTDF
Two-Year-Olds
1 Mile

LOCUST GROVE (GIII)

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)



Powered by Kentucky Thoroughbred Development Fund

Ben Huffman, Vice President of Racing, Racing Secretary:

502.638.3820 • ben.huffman@kyderby.com

Dan Bork, Stakes Coordinator: 502.638.3806 • dan.bork@kyderby.com

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE KHRC

Pack —

Continued from page 28

(and assistant Miguel) every day. I think it's OK. He's good enough to overcome what we're doing."

Donk hopes maybe Big Invasion isn't quite back to the same level that saw him win six of eight last year, and that Thin White Duke can run back to his nose victory over Dancing Buck in last year's Lucky Coin.

The Dominus gelding won three of 11 last season for owners Phil Gleaves, Steve Crist, Ken deRegt and Bryan Hilliard, and he's been in the top three on Saratoga's grass six times in eight starts.

"He runs well here. He's typical of a lot of horses that do well here," Donk said. "He seems to handle this grass course, which a lot of horses don't, especially at the 5 1/2. He's doing well, bounces out of these races and he's been fortunate to get on the grass. ... Now with the drying weather, it's been a touch on the wet side the last couple of times. It will be nice this time. Listen, he always shows up."

Thin White Duke finished fifth, third and fourth in his three Saratoga runs this season, the middle effort in the Grade 3 Troy Stakes on soft ground on Whitney Day. He closed from deep in the field in each start and lost those three by a combined 5 3/4 lengths.

Jose Lezcano takes the call on the earner of \$600,105, the 5-1 fourth choice on the line behind Big Invasion, Our Shot and Dancing Buck.

"It's a six-horse field, he's supposed to be there," Donk said. "He doesn't have to win it, but hopefully he makes his run."

Big Invasion also likes Saratoga. He's 2-for-2 on the turf here, with a win in last year's Mahony about a month after the Quick Call. Big Invasion finished the season with a third in the Grade 2 Franklin-Simpson Stakes in early September at Kentucky Downs.

Clement rested the colt for several months and he returned with a victory in the Silks Run Stakes in mid-

March at Gulfstream Park. After a seventh in the Grade 2 Twin Spires Turf Sprint on Kentucky Derby Day and a close second to Caravel in the Jaipur, Big Invasion headed to Royal Ascot.

"It was very tough on him," Clement said of the British journey. "We ran him in the Jaipur. Ascot was very aggressive, running right back. We gave him plenty of time, he looks good, he's training well. As I said, small question mark on the fitness, but he's a sprinter at the end of the day and he should be able to overcome that."

Our Shot, the 2-1 second choice under Javier Castellano for trainer John Terranova, comes off a win at the Harvey Pack trip July 26. The 4-year-old son of Kantharos has won three of five this season, including back-to-back starts at Tampa Bay Downs and Keeneland in March and April.

New York-bred Grade 3 winner Dancing Buck makes his first start since finishing sixth as the favorite in the Aqueduct Turf Sprint Championship in late November for Michelle Nevin. The 5-year-old War Dancer gelding won the Grade 3 Belmont Turf Sprint before that effort after a nose defeat to Thin White Duke in the Lucky Coin. Manny Franco rides the 7-2 third choice from post two.

Mister Mmmmm, sixth in the Troy and claimed two starts back by trainer Jason Barkley; and Chess Master, claimed last time out for \$32,000 by Jorge Abreu, complete the body of the field. Willy Boi, Sheriff Bianco and Jake Rocks are entered for the main track.



Susie Raisher/NYRA Photo

Big Invasion is favored in the Harvey Pack.

HONG KONG RACING RETURNS LARGEST GLOBAL COMMINGLED POOLS



SEP 10 • SHA TIN
FIRST POST AT 12:25AM EDT

Season 2023/24: September 10 - July 14

SEPTEMBER RACING CALENDAR

(estimated first race post times in EDT)

Sep 10	Sun	12:25am	Sha Tin
Sep 13	Wed	7:15am	Happy Valley
Sep 17	Sun	1:00am	Sha Tin

Sep 20	Wed	7:15am	Happy Valley
Sep 24	Sun	1:00am	Sha Tin
Sep 27	Wed	6:45am	Happy Valley

For detailed post times and other racing information, please visit www.hkjc.com



The Hong Kong Jockey Club
RIDING HIGH TOGETHER

SARATOGA ENTRIES

Saturday, September 2.

1ST (12:40PM). \$136,500, MSW, 2 YO, F , 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5				
1	.....1	Lyrical Pardon	T. McCarthy	..... T. Amoss 15-1
2	.....2	Tammy Lynn	D. Davis	..... A. Stall, Jr. 9-2
3	.....3	Baraye	J. Rosario	..... W. Ward 7-2
4	.....4	Echo Baybe (IRE)	J. Lezcano	..... J. Englehart 6-1
5	.....5	Luz Divina	J. Alvarado	..... T. Hamm 10-1
6	.....6	Seven Natty Patty	R. Silvera	..... R. Rodriguez 10-1
7	.....7	Z Train (IRE)	M. Franco	..... A. Dutrow 5-1
8	.....8	Sugar N Spice	J. Torres	..... F. Abreu 20-1
9	.....9	Life's an Audible	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... T. Pletcher 5-1
10	.....10	Housefly (IRE)	K. Carmouche	..... M. Maker 10-1
11	.....AE	Reagan's Flame	R. Santana, Jr.	..... C. DeVaux 6-1
12	.....AE	La Salvadorena	K. Davis	..... R. Handal 12-1
13	.....AE	Agra	J. Lezcano	..... W. Mott 8-1
14	.....AE-MTO	Matagora Bay	Rider TBA	..... W. Mott 8-1
15	.....AE-MTO	To Be Loved by You	Rider TBA	..... R. Rodriguez 12-1
16	.....AE-MTO	Value Area	Rider TBA	..... T. Pletcher 8-5

2ND (1:13PM). \$156,000, AOC \$62,500, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....1	Tonal Impact	M. Franco	..... L. Rice 2-1
2	.....2	Uncle Moonlight	K. Carmouche	..... M. Nevin 5-1
3	.....3	Mystic Night	R. Santana, Jr.	..... R. Diodoro 6-1
4	.....4	Ram	J. Rosario	..... D. Lukas 12-1
5	.....5	Accretive	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... C. Brown 9-5
6	.....6	Guntown	J. Lezcano	..... L. Rice 4-1

3RD (1:48PM). \$500,000, STK - THE FLOWER BOWL, 4 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 3/8M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1	Parnac (FR)	D. Davis	..... C. Clement 6-1
2	.....2	McKulick (GB)	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... C. Brown 4-5
3	.....3	Tamarama (GB)	J. Castellano	..... J. Sisterson 6-1
4	.....4	Amazing Grace (GER)	J. Rosario	..... C. Clement 7-5

4TH (2:21PM). \$149,500, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 6 1/2F

Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1	Lafitte's Fleet	R. Silvera	..... R. Rodriguez 5-1
1a	.....7	Daufuskie Island	R. Santana, Jr.	..... R. Rodriguez 5-1
2	.....2	Cape Trafalgar	D. Davis	..... S. Joseph, Jr. 4-1
3	.....3	Awesome Native	J. Rosario	..... J. Abreu 9-2
4	.....4	Chileno	M. Franco	..... L. Rice 6-1
5	.....5	Frat Pack	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... C. Brown 7-2
6	.....6	Bourbon Bash	J. Torres	..... D. Lukas 15-1
7	.....8	Ludwig	J. Alvarado	..... P. Bauer 8-1
8	.....9	Ocean's Reserve	J. Castellano	..... L. Gyarmati 6-1
9	.....10	Baytown Bear	G. McEntee	..... P. McEntee 20-1

5TH (2:52PM). \$250,000, STK - THE PRIORESS, 3 YO, F , 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....1	Jersey Pearl	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... D. Miller 3-1
2	.....2	Unified Alliance	J. Castellano	..... T. Morley 10-1
3	.....3	Unsung Melody	M. Franco	..... J. Ortiz 6-1
4	.....4	Alva Starr	J. Lezcano	..... B. Brinkman 2-1
5	.....5	Dazzling Blue	J. Rosario	..... B. Cox 6-5

6TH (3:26PM). \$136,500, MSW, 2 YO, 1 1/16M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double, Pic 4				
1	.....1	Walley World	M. Franco	..... C. Brown 4-1
2	.....2	Buffoon (FR)	D. Davis	..... M. Maker 12-1
3	.....3	Tom Collins	J. Rosario	..... C. McGaughey III 5-1
4	.....4	Get Ready to Rock	T. McCarthy	..... J. Kimmel 20-1
5	.....5	Zverev	R. Santana, Jr.	..... C. DeVaux 6-1
6	.....6	Dangerous Driver	J. Torres	..... J. Jimenez 30-1
7	.....7	Ocala Rocket	J. Alvarado	..... W. Mott 5-1
8	.....8	Vin Santo	K. Davis	..... B. Brown 15-1

9	.....9	Stolen Magic	J. Lezcano	..... L. Rice 10-1
10	.....10	Agate Road	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... T. Pletcher 5-2
11	.....AE	Live to Ride (GB)	B. Hernandez, Jr.	..... K. McPeek 10-1
12	.....AE	Unique Insight	J. Castellano	..... C. Brown 7-2
13	.....AE	Fortune Seller	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... K. Rice 3-1
14	.....AE	Uncle Bo	K. Carmouche	..... D. Gargan 6-1
15	.....AE	Noble Wave	J. Lezcano	..... G. Weaver 12-1
16	.....AE	Tropandhagen	T. Conner	..... D. Synnefias 30-1

7TH (4:00PM). \$136,500, MSW, 2 YO, 7F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double, Pic 6				
1	.....1	Ask Isaac	J. Lezcano	..... W. Mott 8-1
2	.....2	Shamrock Shake	D. Davis	..... T. Morley 15-1
3	.....3	General Partner	M. Franco	..... C. Brown 4-1
4	.....4	Rivetage	B. Hernandez, Jr.	..... K. McPeek 12-1
5	.....5	Justifiably So	R. Santana, Jr.	..... N. Zito 20-1
6	.....6	Just Be Happy	K. Carmouche	..... K. McPeek 20-1
7	.....7	Enlighten	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... T. Pletcher 3-1
8	.....8	Typhoon Fury	J. Castellano	..... G. Weaver 12-1
9	.....9	Dive Bomber	J. Rosario	..... B. Cox 7-2
10	.....10	Jefferson Street	J. Alvarado	..... W. Mott 9-2
11	.....AE	Pentathlon	J. Rosario	..... C. McGaughey III 8-1
12	.....AE	Deposition	D. Haddock	..... U. St. Lewis 30-1

8TH (4:34PM). \$150,000, STK - THE HARVEY PACK (LISTED), 4 YO'S & UP, 5 1/2F (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 5, Daily Double				
1	.....1	Mister Mmmmm	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... J. Barkley 12-1
2	.....2	Dancing Buck	M. Franco	..... M. Nevin 7-2
3	.....3	Thin White Duke	J. Lezcano	..... D. Donk 5-1
4	.....4	Big Invasion	J. Rosario	..... C. Clement 7-5
5	.....5	Our Shot	J. Castellano	..... J. Terranova, II 2-1
6	.....6	Chess Master	I. Castillo	..... J. Abreu 15-1
7	.....AE-MTO	Willy Boi	Rider TBA	..... M. Giddings 5-1
8	.....AE-MTO	Sheriff Bianco	J. Lezcano	..... L. Rice 9-5
9	.....AE-MTO	Jake Rocks	M. Franco	..... D. Schettino 12-1

9TH (5:08PM). \$95,000, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 6F

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Pic 4, Daily Double				
1	.....3	Robyn and Eli	K. Davis	..... F. Abreu 20-1
1a	.....4	Meraviglioso	J. Torres	..... F. Abreu 20-1
2	.....1	Forces Sweetheart	T. McCarthy	..... S. Joseph, Jr. 12-1
3	.....2	Missing Fortune	K. Coa	..... D. Saul 8-1
4	.....5	Easy Play	R. Santana, Jr.	..... R. D'Alessandro 15-1
5	.....6	Sandy's Garden	J. Lezcano	..... J. Tebbutt 6-1
6	.....7	Athena Beach	T. Conner	..... D. Synnefias 6-1
7	.....8	Fancypants Juliana	J. Davis	..... D. Donk 20-1
8	.....9	Fancy Feline	J. Rosario	..... H. Bond 8-1
9	.....10	Tosconova Beauty	N. Alvarado	..... L. Dixon 15-1
10	.....11	Richies Princess	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... L. Rivelli 5-2
11	.....12	Majestic Return	K. Carmouche	..... M. Giangiulio 10-1
12	.....13	Big Bean Christine	D. Davis	..... R. Handal 10-1

10TH (5:44PM). \$149,500, ALW, 3 YO'S & UP, 1M (INNER TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pic 3, Daily Double				
1	.....8	Danzigwiththestars	M. Franco	..... D. Schettino 6-1
1a	.....AE-MTO	Brew Pub	Rider TBA	..... R. Rodriguez 6-1
2	.....1	Fredo	J. Alvarado	..... A. Sano 12-1
3	.....2	Heathguard	T. McCarthy	..... R. Lerman 20-1
4	.....3	Ruse	K. Carmouche	..... T. Hills 8-1
5	.....4	Bad to the Bones	J. Rosario	..... W. Mott 12-1
6	.....5	I'm Very Busy	I. Ortiz, Jr.	..... C. Brown 7-2
7	.....6	Royal Spirit	J. Lezcano	..... L. Rice 6-1
8	.....7	Internal Capital	J. Castellano	..... C. Brown 9-2
9	.....9	Tallahatchiebridge	D. Davis	..... S. Joseph, Jr. 8-1
10	.....10	So High (GB)	R. Maragh	..... N. Chatterpaul 10-1
11	.....11	Starrystarryknight	J. Torres	..... M. Hemingway 30-1
12	.....12	Landbiscuit	K. Davis	..... B. Brown 20-1
13	.....AE	Drakon	K. Carmouche	..... R. Diodoro 10-1
14	.....AE	Al's Rocket	R. Santana, Jr.	..... T. Pletcher 8-1
15	.....AE-MTO	Sageel	R. Santana, Jr.	..... R. Diodoro 2-1

SARATOGA ENTRIES

11TH (6:18PM). \$1,000,000, STK - THE JOCKEY CLUB GOLD CUP, 3 YO'S & UP, 1 1/4M

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Daily Double

1	.....1	.....Proxy	.....J. Rosario	.....M. Stidham	.....2-1
2	.....2	.....Unbridled Bomber	.....D. Davis	.....J. Ryerson	.....15-1
3	.....3	.....Warrior Johnny	.....J. Alvarado	.....P. Bauer	.....20-1
4	.....4	.....Rattle N Roll	.....B. Hernandez, Jr.	.....K. McPeck	.....9-5
5	.....5	.....Clapton	.....I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....C. Summers	.....8-1
6	.....6	.....Tyson	.....M. Franco	.....J. Carroll	.....5-1
7	.....7	.....Duke of Love	.....L. Contreras	.....J. Carroll	.....15-1
8	.....8	.....Bright Future	.....J. Castellano	.....T. Pletcher	.....6-1

12TH (6:52PM). \$50,000, MCL \$40,000, 3 YO'S & UP, F & M , 1 1/16M (TURF)

Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta

1	.....1	.....Sperss	.....J. Torres	.....H. Bond	.....12-1
2	.....2	.....Pinstripepizzo	.....R. Santana, Jr.	.....H. De Paz	.....8-1
3	.....3	.....Dream Road	.....R. Silvera	.....E. Persaud	.....6-1
4	.....4	.....Camcha	.....I. Ortiz, Jr.	.....C. Clement	.....2-1
5	.....5	.....Jannie Mae	.....K. Carmouche	.....M. Nevin	.....10-1
6	.....6	.....Lem Me Drink	.....D. Davis	.....B. Levine	.....5-1
7	.....7	.....Stone of Destiny	.....T. McCarthy	.....D. Donk	.....8-1
8	.....8	.....Duneen Bay	.....S. Uske	.....R. Lerman	.....30-1
9	.....9	.....Jayla	.....J. Castellano	.....J. Antonucci	.....12-1
10	.....10	.....Miss Barb	.....K. Davis	.....M. Nevin	.....20-1
11	.....11	.....Knockzcatoffzfence	.....M. Franco	.....M. Kantarmaci	.....20-1
12	.....12	.....Outta the Cloud	.....J. Flores	.....J. Tebbutt	.....30-1
13	.....AE	.....Mary Katherine	.....K. Davis	.....R. Handal	.....15-1
14	.....AE	.....So Are You	.....S. Uske	.....P. Meadow	.....30-1
15	.....AE	.....Arisaema	.....J. Rosario	.....J. Abreu	.....5-2
16	.....AE-MTO	.....Embraceable Gal	.....Rider TBA	.....M. Hennig	.....5-1

Copyright 2023 EQUIBASE Company LLC. All Rights Reserved.



RED FOX FINE ART

SPORTING PAINTINGS & SCULPTURE
MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

- Contact -
www.RedFoxFineArt.com
540-687-5780

- Gallery -
1 North Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia 20117

Above: Lee Townsend (American, 1895-1965)
Going to the Post at Saratoga (detail)

IGNITE YOUR INNER CHILD
WITH BONA VENTURE STABLES.



Affordable Ownership
Personal Connections
Embrace the Magic of Racing



dfcollins@bonaventurestables.com
www.bonaventurestables.com





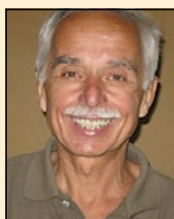
Expert handicapping presented by... *Toga Party Racing Stable*

Low risk, high excitement, no monthly maintenance fees. NYRA circuit.

Join now and race this meet. Call 518-390-5486



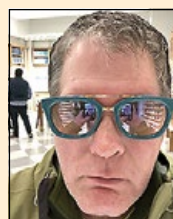
The **POWER** Grid



John Shapazian



Tom Law



Rob Whitlock



Charles Bedard



Jessica Paquette

Race	John Shapazian	Tom Law	Rob Whitlock	Charles Bedard	Jessica Paquette
1	Baraye Value Area Tammy Lynn	Echo Baybe Baraye Tammy Lynn	Tammy Lynn Baraye Life's An Audible	Baraye Life's An Audible Tammy Lynn	Life's An Audible Housefly Tammy Lynn
2	Accretive Uncle Moonlight Guntown	Accretive Guntown Uncle Moonlight	Tonal Impact Accretive Mystic Night	Guntown Tonal Impact Accretive	Accretive Guntown Tonal Impact
3	McKulick Amazing Grace Parnac	McKulick Amazing Grace Parnac	McKulick Parnac Amazing Grace	Parnac McKulick Amazing Grace	McKulick Parnac Amazing Grace
4	Cape Trafalgar Rodriguez entry Frat Pack	Cape Trafalgar Frat Pack Chileno	Frat Pack Cape Trafalgar Awesome Native	Rodriguez entry Awesome Native Cape Trafalgar	Chileno Frat Pack Daufuskie Island
5	Dazzling Blue Alva Starr Jersey Pearl	Dazzling Blue Unsung Melody Alva Starr	Dazzling Blue Alva Starr Jersey Pearl	Alva Starr Jersey Pearl Dazzling Blue	Unified Alliance Dazzling Blue Unsung Melody
6	Fortune Seller Agate Road Wally World	Ocala Rocket Walley World Tom Collins	Agate Road Walley World Zverev	Agate Road Fortune Seller Unique Insight	Ocala Rocket Tom Collins Agate Road
7	Justifiably So Dive Bomber General Partner	Enlighten Jefferson Street Dive Bomber	Enlighten General Partner Dive Bomber	Dive Bomber Typhoon Fury General Partner	Dive Bomber Jefferson Street General Partner
8	Sheriff Bianco Big Invasion Our Shot	Big Invasion Thin White Duke Our Shot	Big Invasion Our Shot Dancing Buck	Our Shot Big Invasion Jake Rocks	Thin White Duke Big Invasion Chess Master
9	Richies Princess Sandy's Garden Athena Beach	Richies Princess Majestic Return Athena Beach	Richies Princess Fancy Feline Sandy's Garden	Sandy's Garden Richies Princess Missing Fortune	Richies Princess Fancypants Juliana Athena Beach
10	Imperio entry I'm Very Busy Ruse	I'm Very Busy Danzigwiththestars Internal Capital	Saqeel Royal Spirit I'm Very Busy	I'm Very Busy Internal Capital Tallahatchiebridge	Ruse Fredo Internal Capital
11	Proxy Rattle N Roll Tyson	Rattle N Roll Proxy Warrior Johnny	Proxy Rattle N Roll Tyson	Rattle N Roll Proxy Tyson	Proxy Rattle N Roll Duke Of Love
12	Camcha Pinstripepizzo Lem Me Drink	Camcha Stone Of Destiny Pinstripepizzo	Camcha Dream Road Lem Me Drink	Lem Me Drink Camcha Pinstripepizzo	Camcha Dream Road Jayla
2023 Records	119/378	108/378	92/378	112/378	70/378



DELAWARE CERTIFIED THOROUGHBRED PROGRAM

It PAY\$ to Race Delaware Certified!

SHOWCASE RACES

Restricted Delaware Bred or Certified

PURSES \$100,000 EACH

Eligibility Requests Close September 13, 2023

Contact Delaware Park racing office at 302-994-2521 ext 1212



Owners Day Showcase Races,
The DTHA Governors Day Handicap
and **The George Rosenberger Memorial**
to be run Saturday, September 9, 2023.

Eligibility requests close August 26, 2023.
A \$50,000 purse bonus will be added to each
race for Delaware Certified eligible horses that
run and finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd. Purse total
will be \$150,000 for DCTP horses.

SCHEDULE FOR 2023

The Small Wonder

Wednesday September 27, 2023

Fillies Two Year Olds • Six Furlongs

The First State Dash

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Two Year Olds • Six Furlongs

The Tax Free Shopping Distaff

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Fillies & Mares Three Year Olds & Upward • Six Furlongs

The New Castle

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Three Year Olds & Upward • Six Furlongs



*To find out if your horse is DCTP eligible,
go to dtha.com and click on the DCTP link.*



DELAWARE CERTIFIED THOROUGHBRED PROGRAM

777 Delaware Park Blvd. Wilmington, DE 19804

302-994-2398 tel • 302-994-3392 fax

email: dctp@dtha.com • website: www.dtha.com

Tee It Up

Carl Spackler adds second turf graded stakes victory of season

BY ALEC DICONZA

Bob Edwards of the Five Racing Thoroughbreds may have watched the movie *Caddyshack* countless times, but you'd be hard-pressed to blame him after his 3-year-old colt Carl Spackler (named for Bill Murray's groundskeeping character) dominated Friday's Grade 3 Saranac Stakes at Saratoga Race Course.

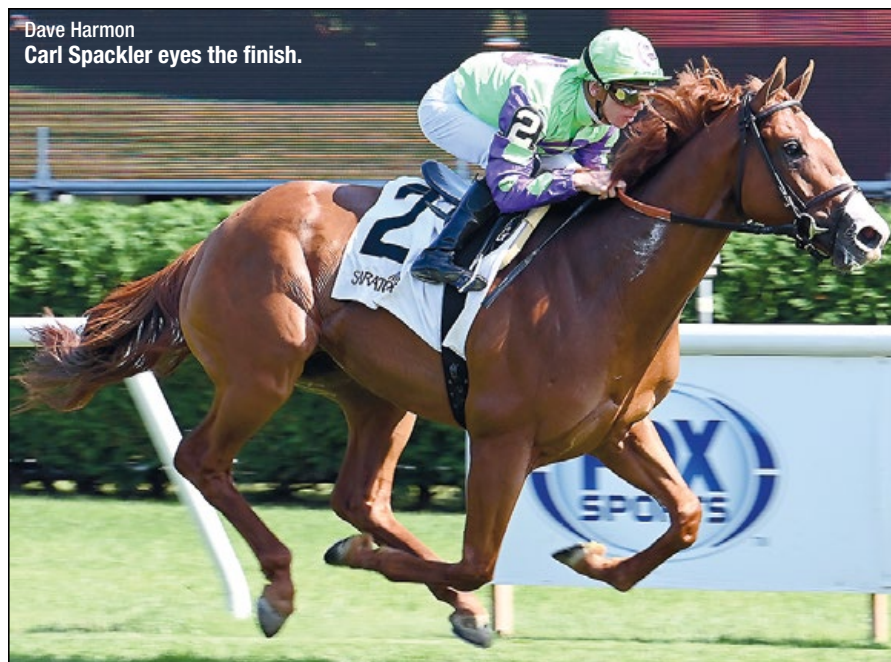
Asked about the number of times he's seen the movie, Edwards said, "Probably too many. My wife actually watched it after the last win, just to keep pace with us."

Breaking from post two, Carl Spackler sat right off the pacesetter Taking Candy, applying mild pressure through fractions of :23.58 for

SARANAC STAKES RECAP

the quarter and :48.56 for the half. Under Tyler Gaffalione, Carl Spackler started to ramp up his momentum on the turn, switched leads early in the stretch, and took off. He hit the wire 3 1/2 lengths in front, an even bigger margin than his Grade 2 Hall of Fame score Aug. 11. The final time for the 1 1/16 miles on the inner turf was 1:42.23 over the course labeled good.

"Once we had a target, I felt pretty good," winning trainer Chad Brown said. "I thought we would be on the lead actually, but Tyler knows this horse so well and, with all his horses, he comes well prepared. These short fields with a short price can be tricky



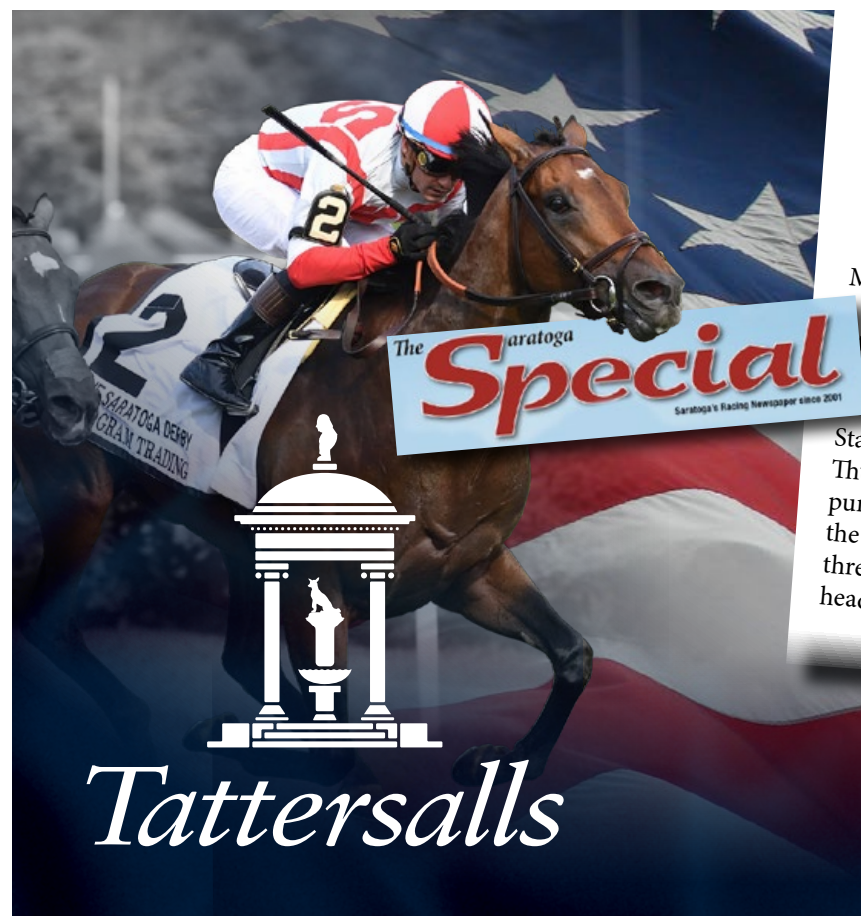
sometimes, and I just said, 'Look, ride it loose and if you go to the lead, which I expect, fine. If someone really wants to go, it's even better.'"

Gaffalione talked about the change in tactics after closing in the Hall of Fame.

"That day I wanted to be a little more forwardly placed, but we had a

little hiccup out of the gate," he said. "What I loved is that he relaxed back there and showed a real nice turn of foot that day, and that gave me confidence moving forward that I can place him wherever I need to. He's very talented."

Continued On Page 37



Smart Business

Program Trading edges Webslinger

BY TOM LAW

Mike Ryan will scour the globe on the hunt for a good horse. He's enjoyed success all over, especially at recent renewals of the Tattersalls October yearling sale, buying for Seth Klarman's Klaravich Stable. He purchased **TECHNICAL ANALYSIS** out of Book 1 at Tattersalls October Stakes at Saratoga. He purchased **MCKULICK** at the same sale in 2020 for \$245,369 and Thursday the daughter of Frankel won the Grade 2 Glens Falls Stakes at Saratoga. He purchased **PROGRAM TRADING** at the same sale in 2021 for \$356,551 and Saturday the son of Lope de Vega won the Grade 1 Saratoga Derby Invitational at Saratoga. "All three of them; unbelievable," Ryan said after Program Trading held off Webslinger by a head to win the \$600,000 Saratoga Derby

TATTERSALLS OCTOBER YEARLING SALE

Book 1 October 3 - 5 Book 2 October 9 - 11

Lincoln Collins Cell: +1 859 339 3301 l.collins@tattersalls.com
Joe Miller Cell: +1 502 773 1989 joe@kernthoroughbreds.com

Saranac —

■ Continued from page 36

Carl Spackler broke his maiden in his second start at Gulfstream Park in February, making amends on a debut loss by a head to eventual Grade 1 winner Far Bridge. The Irish-bred out of the Grade 2-winning More Than Ready mare Zindaya finished eighth in the Grade 2 American Turf on Kentucky Derby Day at Churchill Downs, before coming back big at Saratoga.

"It's very rewarding," Brown said. "I trained this horse's mother for the Edwards family. It's one of our first big winners together. To see her handsome colt that she threw out here winning two stakes at the same meet at Saratoga, it's hard to do."

Up next for Carl Spackler could be a crack at Grade 1 company and older horses in the Oct. 7 Coolmore Turf Mile at Keeneland.

"I decided to run back on short rest, just thinking I gave him quite a break since Churchill when he didn't run that well," Brown said. "He was just doing so well out of the Hall of Fame win and I'm looking at what we want to do with him in early October at Keeneland. I just thought it was too big of a gap because we're going to possibly go after the Coolmore Mile, which will be a tall order.

"I love a little cutback into a mile in a bigger field with some pace. He'll get a little bit of a weight break being a 3-year-old."

Now with two graded stakes wins at the meet, Carl Spackler is becoming one of the best 3-year-old turf horses in the country.

"To get one graded win in Saratoga is tough and everybody dreams to have that happen," Edwards said. "To be in a spot where I had two in three weeks is exceptional."

Carl Spackler is one of several horses Edwards has named with the intention of making fans curious. He hopes the names will pique interest and attract people to the game.

"We're all here because we love the sport, we want more people to love the sport," he said. "So, you have a little fun with this and we bring people in. You saw how big our winner's circle was. We're bringing people in, friends and family. People are getting the name. They're looking it up to see what it is. It's exciting."

KEENELAND September Yearlings

BOOK ONE

Monday 9/11 • Barn 6

37 c. AUTHENTIC – Beyond Blame
Out of a GSW and dam of G1 SP Loggins.
Family of STREET BOSS, JACK CHRISTOPHER

Tuesday 9/12 • Barn 6

222 f. GUN RUNNER – Mama Yay
Half-sister to SW, GSP EMPIRE HOUSE out
of a full sister to G1 SW DIALED IN

BOOK TWO

Wednesday 9/13 • Barn 34

638 c. NOT THIS TIME – New Angel (GB)
Out of a daughter of GSW ANGLE TERRACE.
Family of Champion ORDER OF ST. GEORGE

712 c. MACLEAN'S MUSIC – Si Si Tequila
2nd foal out of a Stakes-placed half-sister
to G2 SW/G1 SP RUN AWAY

756 f. MUNNINGS – Tropical Wave
1st foal out of a mare from family of G1 SW
GENERAL QUARTERS and G2 SW A SHIN TOP

BOOK THREE

Saturday 9/16 • Barn 11

1176 c. MUNNINGS – Bella Aurelia

1242 c. VOLATILE – Exclude (GB)

1244 f. MCKINZIE – Fancy and Flashy

1307 f. NYQUIST – Kauai Katie

1421 f. GOOD MAGIC – Ragtime Hope

1433 c. GHOSTZAPPER – Roberta Turner

1445 f. MUNNINGS – Saratoga Belle

1456 c. COLLECTED – She Is Bedazzling

1487 f. PRACTICAL JOKE – Star Super

1488 f. CARAVAGGIO – Stayclassysandiego

1500 f. LIAM'S MAP – Sumptuous

Solid From The Ground Up



Mr. and Mrs. Jody Huckabay

Phone: (859) 987-4856

Fax (859) 987-0374 info@elmtreefarmky.com

No Debate

Quarrel scores popular win for Ribaud, Keller in allowance

BY ALEC DICONZA

Marc Keller's homebred Quarrel provided trainer Bob Ribaud with his first win of the Saratoga Race Course meet in Friday's seventh, a 1 1/16-mile allowance on the inner turf.

Ridden by Javier Castellano, the 3-year-old daughter of Speighstown returned to her more favorable surface and won by a length over Swoop To Finish.

"It's been a rough meet for a lot of people, not only myself," Ribaud said. "A lot of scratches, enter and then scratch, enter and then scratch. This race wasn't on the radar. She was going into straight 3-year-old filly races the whole meet. Unfortunately, they kept coming off. We were ready

FRIDAY RACING RECAP

to go home and she was kicking the walls down.

"This race certainly suited her. We entered, we hoped for the weather, we got it, and Javier did a great job putting her on the lead and getting her to settle a little bit. It worked out great."

Quarrel made her most recent start in a 1-mile off-the-turf allowance-optional during opening week, finishing third, but Ribaud was pleased to get the filly back on grass.

"She hadn't run on the dirt since she was a 2-year-old and it wasn't a bad race, but once they get on the turf and get used to it, sometimes they just don't come back to the dirt," he said.



Dave Harmon
Quarrel heads for home in Friday's seventh race.

"She was third, but not a very good third. The next couple of times we were in and the race came off, I just felt it wasn't really the thing to do."

Quarrel took the lead from the start Friday and set relaxed fractions of :24.43 and :49.46 for the first half-mile. Odds-on favorite Expand The

Map looked threatening at the top of the stretch before Quarrel kicked into gear to win in 1:43.29. Swoop To Finish finished 3 1/2 lengths in front of the favorite.

"He used her a little bit to make

Continued On Page 39

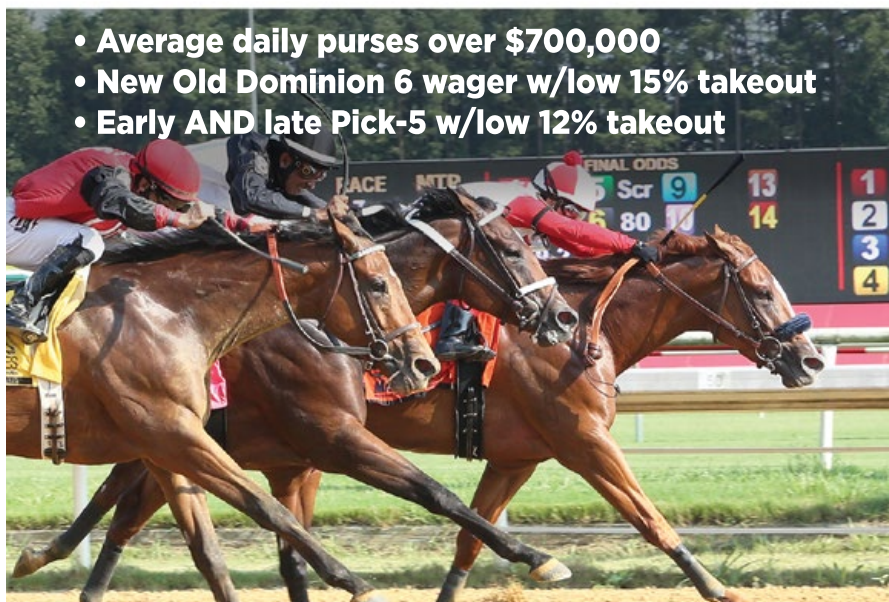


COLONIAL DOWNS SUMMER RACING!

JULY 13 - SEPTEMBER 9

NEW RACE SCHEDULE - THURS, FRI & SAT AT 1:30 PM

- Average daily purses over \$700,000
- New Old Dominion 6 wager w/low 15% takeout
- Early AND late Pick-5 w/low 12% takeout



VIRGINIAHORSERACING.COM | VABRED.ORG



Currently forming racing and breeding partnerships for
2023 sales season

Keeneland September purchase

GALA BRAND

undefeated in two starts at Saratoga,
including the With Anticipation S. (G3)
over the boys.



Arnmöre
THOROUGHBREDS

MEGAN JONES, Managing Partner
(843) 229-6222

Friday —

■ Continued from page 38

the lead, and then he wrapped up on her,” Ribaud said. “Nobody challenged us down the backside, so you know she was going to have a little something left for the finish. Blinkers had a lot to do with it also, made her a little more aggressive, and she responded well.”

- Locked delivered a powerful performance in his second start for trainer Todd Pletcher, winning a 1-mile maiden special weight for 2-year-olds on the main track in the fifth.

The son of Gun Runner improved at the break, starting quickly enough to settle just off the lead held by longshot Arteta. Locked toyed with the competition late and won by 7 1/4 lengths over Drum Roll Please, who was 13 lengths ahead of Sturdy. Locked won in 1:36 for jockey Jose Ortiz.

“He showed good tactical speed, put Jose right into the race,” Pletcher said. “Jose said he was traveling very comfortably all the way down the backside and when he squeezed him, he jumped underneath him and finished up impressively. Second horse looked like he was way clear of the third horse, and the final time I thought was exceptional.”

Locked finished third behind two

highly regarded runners in Just Steel and Be You in his debut. Those two are entered in Monday’s Grade 1 Hopeful Stakes. Pletcher said Locked got an educational first start, which set him up well for the win.

“We were very pleased with his debut,” he said. “He didn’t get away real sharp that day, took a lot of dirt, he did like a lot of first-timers will do, he climbed from the kickback, but when he leveled off, he really came with a strong late run. Exceptional gallop out. Came back with two dynamite breezes afterward. We’ve been pointing for this race since we knew it was here, and we were expecting good things from him.”

Owned by Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Walmac Farm, Locked will most likely make his next appearance in one of the major Grade 1 events for 2-year-olds with an eye on the Breeders’ Cup Juvenile.

“Either the Champagne or the Breeders’ Futurity,” Pletcher said. “We’ll talk to the connections and come up a final decision as we get closer.”

- Off for 22 1/2 months since a maiden win in October 2021, Forced Ranking returned with a victory for owner Klaravich Stable and trainer Chad Brown in the eighth, a \$25,000 claiming event going 7 furlongs.

Continued On Page 40


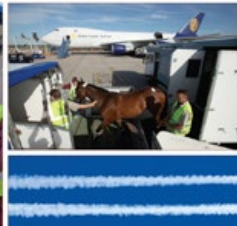




Dave Harmon

Locked stretches for the finish line while winning easily Friday.

LG

LUCK GREAYER BLOODSTOCK SHIPPING LTD.

AIRFREIGHT • SEAFREIGHT

SALES REPRESENTATION • CONSULTANCY

PRIVATE AIRCRAFT & HELICOPTER CHARTER

WWW.LGBLOODSTOCK.COM

Sarcens, Upper Lambourn
Hungerford, Berkshire
RG17 8QN, Great Britain

t. +44 (0)1488 670 398
f. +44 (0)1488 670 399
e. info@lgbloodstock.com



PRESENTED BY
BrownADVISORY



SPORT & ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION OF MARYLAND

The Place To Be In October!

The Triathlon of Equestrian Sport
Festival | Live Entertainment

MARYLAND5STAR.US

OCTOBER
19-22



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN THE SACKATOGA STABLE FAMILY!

Home to Kentucky Derby & Preakness winner **Funny Cide** and Belmont Stakes & Travers Stakes winner **Tiz the Law**, Sackatoga Stable offers opportunities for ownership in more than just name. Our partners have access to all the perks of full ownership along with personalized attention.

We currently have limited shares remaining in our yearling filly by Central Banker (Stakes winning son of Speightstown) out of Youmakemeblush (by Violence, sire of 2022 Champion 2-year-old Forte) purchased at the 2023 NY-Bred Sales in Saratoga. This filly is eligible for the lucrative New York Stallion Stakes Series, exclusively for New York-Sired horses, with combined purse totals of over one million dollars. Contact us now for more information on our latest offering. **Own a 2.5% share of our Central Banker filly for \$5,000.**



**SACKATOGA
STABLE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

EMAIL: JACK@SACKATOGA.COM

OR CALL: 518.483.4900

ACTION! THRILLS! SUSPENSE!

WEST VIRGINIA BREEDERS CLASSICS® XXXVII

Featuring the
Sam Huff West Virginia
Breeders Classic and the
Breeders Classics Races

Sat., October 14, 2023
Post Time 7:00 pm

**HOLLYWOOD
Casino**
AT CHARLES TOWN RACES

West Virginia Breeders Classics, Ltd.
P.O. Box 1251 | Charles Town, WV 25414 | www.wvbc.com | 304-725-0709
Carol Holden, President | Theresa Bitner, Exec. Secretary

Friday —

■ Continued from page 39

The 4-year-old gelding by Mastery turned for home with the lead and extended it to 2 lengths at the wire under Manny Franco.

“His only career win was at 7 furlongs, so the distance appealed to me for this race,” Brown said. “We took a big drop in class, he hasn’t run in two years, so at this stage of his career with us and our stable, this made a lot of sense. He won nicely. I want to give my Monmouth division a ton of credit for getting this horse ready off a layoff to run very quick, seven-eighths in (1:23.65). They’ve done a terrific job down there.”

With three days left in the meet, Brown owns a two-win lead over Linda Rice in the trainer standings. Brown said defending the title isn’t what’s important, rather getting through the rest of the meet with good performances from his horses.

“We’re just trying to get through each card the best we can, race to race,” he said. “I feel like we’ve entered the horses well with the races that have gone. We have some clear weather right now, which is really starting to help us. The weather has hampered us a bit. We’ve had a great

meet nevertheless. I’m very appreciative for all the big wins, appreciative for all the stake wins. Hopefully we can finish this meet off much the way that it’s went for us, which has been successful.”

One highlight of closing weekend could come from debut winner Ways And Means in Sunday’s Grade 1 Spinaway. Brown said the 2-year-old filly is coming into the race in great shape.

“Ways And Means really came out of her dazzling debut in good order,” he said. “Has had a couple workouts since that I’ve been very pleased with. We decided to go ahead and enter her in the Spinaway. We drew a nice post and we’re excited to see her run.”

• Vacation Dance gave Castellano’s his second win of the day in the ninth, a 5 1/2-furlong allowance on the Mellon Turf Course. Owned by Sleeping Giant Stables, America’s Pastime Stables and KimDon Racing, the New York-bred colt by The Lieutenant cut back in distance from 1 1/16 miles in his last start and swept to a 2 3/4-length victory at 7-1. Trainer John Kimmel thought the cutback would suit Vacation Dance, along with a drop from stakes company.

“He’s coming out of route races,” he said. “He was a sprinter back as a 2-year-old. Today, I figured maybe coming off those route races he wouldn’t be as sharp. I think that was a benefit today because they went extremely fast. I know the time doesn’t look all that fast, but the turf course still got a little cut in it, and I think it’s probably one of the faster 5 1/2 turf races we’ve seen today and certainly in the last few days. Once Javier found a nice seam for him, he got him out. Coming off those route races he had plenty of fitness and basically showed them the last eighth of a mile.”

Kimmel is confident he’s found that short distances are ideal for Vacation Dance.

“The horse is 17 hands, and you would think for all intents and purposes he could route, but the proof is in the doing, and he just never really finished like he needed to,” Kimmel said. “They had the nice stallion series for those horses. He’s a stallion-eligible horse. We went back to really what he’s best at and that’s sprinting on the turf.”

Saratoga Leaders

JOCKEYS.....	1ST
Irad Ortiz Jr.....	55
Jose Ortiz.....	36
Tyler Gaffalione.....	34
Manny Franco.....	32
Luis Saez.....	30
Flavien Prat.....	27
Joel Rosario.....	23
Dylan Davis.....	18
Jose Lezcano.....	18
Javier Castellano.....	17

TRAINERS.....	1ST
Chad Brown.....	32
Linda Rice.....	30
Todd Pletcher.....	25
Bill Mott.....	17
Christophe Clement.....	16
Brad Cox.....	13
Mike Maker.....	12
Steve Asmussen.....	11
Rudy Rodriguez.....	10
George Weaver.....	10

Through Friday



Dave Harmon

Gala Brand streaks to a stakes win Thursday.

Flashy Filly

Well-marked Gala Brand beats the boys in With Anticipation

BY TERRY HILL

THURSDAY RACING RECAP

Arnmored Thoroughbreds' and Even Keel Thoroughbreds' 2-year-old Gala Brand drew a certain amount of attention in the paddock prior to Thursday's 19th running of the Grade 3 With Anticipation Stakes at Saratoga Race Course.

First because she was the only filly in the field of seven, and second because of her unique markings.

Gala Brand is a chestnut daughter of Violence with a large splotch of white on her underside and her four white stockings come up high enough to make her look like she's wearing go-go boots.

"At the sale, she might have looked just a little 'off' to other buyers," said Arnmored Thoroughbreds' Megan

Jones, "so I think the color helped us buy her. Because when we looked at her there I couldn't find any holes in her otherwise."

There was certainly nothing wrong with the way she looked crossing the finish line a half-length winner over favored Carson's Run. Ridden by Jose Ortiz, Gala Brand came from last on the second turn and into the stretch. She battled the runner-up down the lane, earning the win in the final yards.

Jones, Arnmored's chief executive officer, works as the point person for the partnership and takes a hands-on

Continued On Page 42

Join The Readers Club
thisishorseracing.com/readersclub

EQUINE  DISCOUNTS



JOHN DEERE

Call 866-678-4289
EquineDiscounts.com



DONATE TODAY!

For 40 years, the TRF has been "saving horses, changing lives". We could not do this without the help of our donors and supporters. Help us celebrate and support the herd today.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

THOROUGHbred RETIREMENT FOUNDATION www.trfinc.org

SCAN TO GIVE



Thursday —

■ Continued from page 41

approach. From making the buying call at last year's Keeneland September sale, to working with trainer Bill Mott plotting Gala Brand's career, to keeping day-to-day eyes on her, Jones is there.

"The more work you give her, the better she is," Jones said of the filly. "She came out of her Ocala training to Bill and the more he gave her to do, the more she gave back.

"She's kind of rangy and she gallops out and does everything like a big-striding filly that wants to go long. I was a little concerned when her first start four weeks ago was only 5 1/2 furlongs. But she got it."

Gala Brand also had to come from behind in that maiden effort. After 3 furlongs she trailed by 14 lengths, but swung four wide and passed them all, winning by 2 1/2. On the strength of that, Mott entered her in Wednesday's more logical P.G. Johnson Stakes at the same distance as the With Anticipation, also on the grass, but for fillies.

"I owe a lot to Megan because she made sure the filly was entered in both races," Mott said. "Then



Dave Harmon

Gold Lightning pulls away to win Thursday's opener for trainer Brad Cox.

the Wednesday race comes off the turf and so we're up against the colts in the With Anticipation."

Mott wound up winning both the 2-year-old stakes as another of his filly charges, Magic Cross, won the P.G. Johnson on the dirt.

Jones has enjoyed success at Saratoga in the past and makes no secret of her fondness for the meet.

"It's one of my favorite times of the year," she said last year after winning the Galway Stakes here

with the filly Poppy Flower, "because you get to share the experience with everyone. It's really important to us who reside here for the summer."

Gala Brand's next move is as yet undecided.

"We'll just enjoy this one for now and then get together and see where we go, but she showed me something today," Jones said. "They went slow up front and still she ran them down. Plus, she was challenged for the first time and she galloped out nicely. I was proud of her."

Mott was also pleased with the filly's effort given the circumstances.

"For some reason, good turf horses can close off a slow pace," he said. "Don't ask me why."

• Gold Lightning provided a birthday surprise for Audrey Schwartz, the wife of the Bolt d'Oro filly's owner Martin Schwartz, with a 14-1 victory in Thursday's opener.

"Special day today," Schwartz said. "My wife's birthday, and we've got the horse in the stakes race I bred, Gala Brand. I bred her."

Gala Brand made the birthday even better, top-

Continued On Page 43

The EVERYTHING SARATOGA Stores

"Love it!" -Kim P.
 "Products are lovely" -Roberta R.
 "Awesome stores, friendly staff" - Bob P.
 "Horse racing fans, this is the shop for you!" -Rick E.
 ★★★★★

"My go to gift spot" -Donna R.
 "A touch above others" -Craig H.
 "Great Place for unique gifts" -Sheila W.
 "You can't say you've been to Saratoga without stopping in" -Awbinee
 ★★★★★

IMPRESSIONS OF SARATOGA
 SINCE 1978
 368 BROADWAY DOWNTOWN SARATOGA SPRINGS
 IMPRESSIONSSARATOGA.COM
 518-587-0666

THE DARK HORSE MERCANTILE
 445 BROADWAY DOWNTOWN SARATOGA SPRINGS
 DARKHORSESARATOGA.COM
 518-587-0689

We. Produce. Racehorses.

Like **2023 Belmont & Travers Stakes** winner
ARCANGELO

CRANE THOROUGHBREDS

Breaking in and pinhooking
 Pinhooking partnerships now forming

CLOVIS AND JOANNA CRANE
 Lebanon, PA (717) 215-7195
 cranethoroughbreds.com

Thursday —

■ Continued from page 42

ping the boys a few hours later.

Trained by Brad Cox and ridden by Manny Franco, Gold Lightning sat toward the rear of the field for the majority of the 1 1/16-mile maiden special weight on the inner turf. She outkicked her rivals, swept to the lead in the stretch and won by 2 ¼ lengths over Positive Carry.

Schwartz had reason to believe his filly would be a good one despite her odds.

“I was told by Barry Eisaman, who broke the horse down in Ocala, that he liked her quite a bit,” he said. “I was just hopeful, hoping we would hit the board.”

• Trainer Robert Falcone Jr. got his first win of the meet in the fifth with Disappearance, who took the 7-furlong \$20,000 maiden claiming event on the main track.

“Feels great,” Falcone said.

Disappearance made a move around the far turn under Kendrick Carmouche to put himself into contention at the top of the stretch. The 3-year-old Good Magic gelding gobbled up ground well out in the stretch on the way to a 3-length victory.

“Everything worked out well,” Falcone said. “They were moving up front. Kendrick did a perfect job. He followed Chad Brown’s horse (Scraming Uncle) sort of, and he just ended up kicking in.”

Disappearance came into Thursday with three fourths to start his career. Though those results came on fast and sloppy tracks and Falcone was pleased to see the sun shining for his gelding’s fourth career outing.

“It probably helped him out a little bit,” Falcone said. “I thought he’d like the slop a little bit better, but fast track probably helped him out.”

Dropping from maiden special weight company into maiden claiming competition helped as well.

“We tried a few different things – stretch him out, try the blinkers – but it all didn’t work,” he said. “He just found the right level.”

Disappearance was claimed by owner/trainer Oscar Barrera III.

• Trainer Derek Ryan had only run one horse at the meet before Thurs-



Dave Harmon

More Mango arrives in time to win Thursday's last race at 44-1 for Jimmy Ferraro.

day, finishing seventh with Bunty Windermere in the 11th race July 29, and won Thursday’s eighth with Cicciobello.

“We usually try to get one late, sneak it in and get one at the end of the meet,” Ryan said after the 4-year-old Bellamy Road gelding won the 1-mile New York-bred allowance on the main track. Owned by Massimino Rapuano, Cicciobello got involved in a mini speed duel early with Pineapple Man. That didn’t worry Ryan, who was confident his horse would be able to handle the pressure.

“He’s such a big striding horse, he’s like 17 and 2,” he said. “It’s going to take a good horse to lay up on him. I wasn’t really too worried.”

Cicciobello eventually gained a clear lead and opened the gap to 2 lengths at the wire.

Cicciobello improved to 2-for-3 under Javier Castellano.

“He won pretty easy with Javier and came back and ran a big race with Javier,” Ryan said. “I was just glad to get Javier back on him. He suits the horse. I’ve been very successful with Javier over the years and I like the way he rides my horses.”

• More Mango lit up the board in the finale, winning the \$35,000 claiming event going 1 1/16 miles on the turf at 44-1 under Jaime Torres. The 6-year-old More Than Ready mare also gave trainer Jimmy Ferraro his first win of the Saratoga meet. Though the price on More Mango was massive, Ferraro’s confidence in his mare to outrun her odds may have been even bigger.

“Yes,” he emphatically said after being asked if he thought More Mango could win. “She was always capable.”

The upset aside, Ferraro was pleased for his first victory of the meet.

“It’s a big relief,” Ferraro said. “Everybody loves to win at Saratoga. ... The trip was ideal. Keep close, not too far out and let her roll.”

More Mango, owned by Ferraro, Kenneth Barbati, Thomas Cespuglio and Edward Messina, had run once at this meet. She finished ninth in a similar race Aug. 2, beaten 15 lengths. Ferraro hoped for a form reversal on a drying turf course.

“I don’t think she liked the way the turf was last time,” he said.

You're Covered Coast to Coast



Reylu Gutierrez
(Saratoga, Ellis Park, Finger Lakes)

David Cabrera
(Louisiana Downs, Remington Park)

Rene Diaz
(Del Mar)

Adam Beschizza
(Colonial Downs, Ellis Park)

Manny Esquivel
(Horseshoe Indianapolis, Hawthorne)

Freddy Manrique
(Louisiana Downs, Remington Park)

Leandro Goncalves
(Colonial Downs, Remington Park)

Julien Leparoux
(Kentucky Downs)

JOSE SANTOS (305) 979-7779 @JOSESANTOS_33 ON TWITTER

SECURITY SOLUTIONS SERVICE

SECURING THE FINEST

equine assets and farms around the world for over 30 years.



MUIRFIELD INSURANCE

Michael Levy - President

Bryce Burton - Vice President

Del Pearson & Julie Moses
- Equine & Farm Insurance Producers

(859) 253-1114

www.MuirfieldInsurance.com

Step Up

Magic Cross scores for Mott in off-the-turf P.G. Johnson

BY ALEC DICONZA

The 19th edition of the P. G. Johnson Stakes may go down as one of the oddest yet.

Not only was the race taken off the turf, but it also lost its heavy favorite just as the field was going to enter the gate on the Wilson Chute.

Miz Sense, a 4 1/4-length winner on debut for Todd Pletcher at Saratoga Race Course, reared up, dropped jockey Jose Ortiz and ran a portion of the clubhouse turn before being caught by an outrider. Stewards made the decision to remove her from the field.

Amidst all the pre-race chaos emerged James Karp's Magic Cross, who took advantage of being the only filly in the field with dirt experience to get the stakes victory for trainer Bill Mott.

Mott surely was happy with the win, he showed sympathy for the connections of Miz Sense.

"I'm sure they're not happy about that call," he said after the race.

Breaking from the inside post in a field cut down to four, Magic Cross won the battle for the early lead and set moderate fractions of :24.16 and :47.39. Though it looked like a three-horse duel could be in store on the far turn, the 2-year-old daughter of Good

WEDNESDAY RACING RECAP

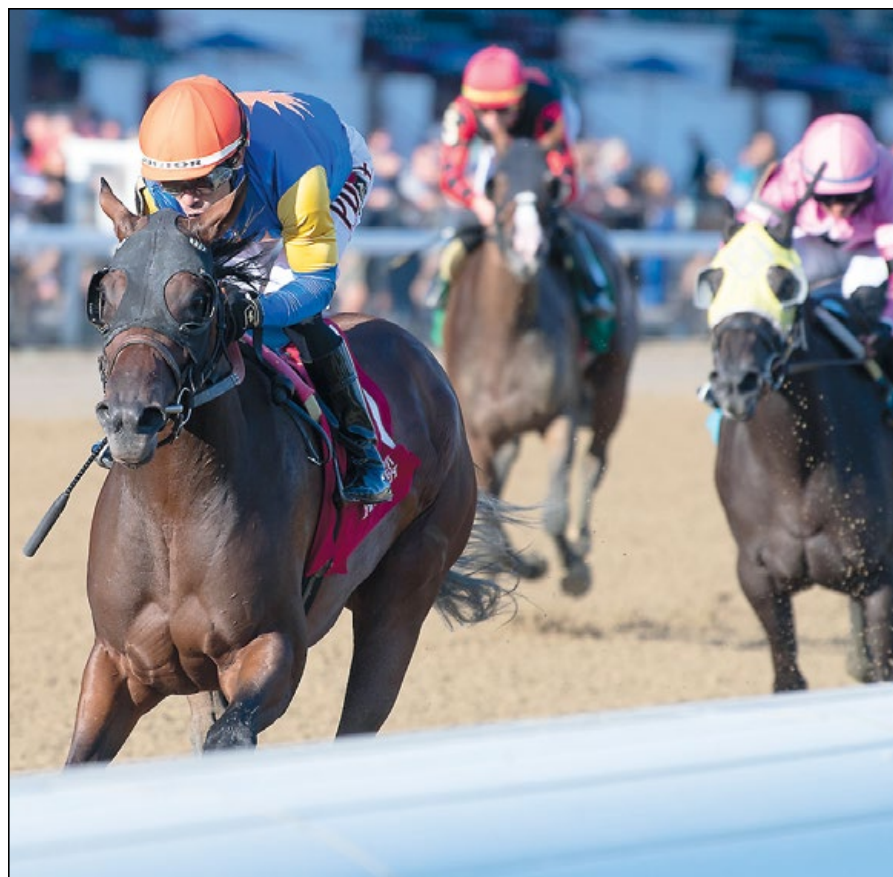
Magic put that possibility to bed at the three-sixteenths pole when she opened up on under Junior Alvarado. She completed the 1-mile stakes 4 1/2 lengths ahead of runner-up Take-metothebeach in 1:40.15 on the fast track.

"It was a good trip," Mott said. "She had a horse dogging her a little bit down the backside, but she was able to put that one away. I would still probably give this one an opportunity on the grass at some point."

After seeing races run throughout the day that played kindly toward speed horses, Alvarado made the decision to go to the lead though these tactics hadn't been employed in the first two starts of her career.

Alvarado, announced as the 2023 Mike Venezia Memorial Award winner Wednesday, made all the right moves in earning his second stakes victory of the meet.

"I was playing the track a bit," he said. "The track has been carrying speed, so I was breaking and I knew she had speed and she's been on the muscle lately. I just broke out of there well and hustled her out of there. After that, I just tried to get her to relax so she can finish and she really



Tod Marks

Magic Cross makes it look easy while leading the P.G. Johnson late.

showed up today."

A combination of factors – specifically the move from turf to dirt and the easier competition from her start in the Grade 3 Adirondack against Brightwork – made Magic Cross the eventual 3-5 favorite. However, Mott was confident in her ability to run well even if the race had gone as scheduled.

"We were going to run this filly one way or another," he said. "The other filly, Gala Brand, we are waiting for the race tomorrow. We scratched one and ran one and it turned out right.

"The filly we ran against in the race last time is a very top filly. You get lucky sometimes. These races scratch down, they come off the grass, and you're just better than the rest of them."

Magic Cross improved to 2-for-3, with victories in her debut at Belmont and the P.G. Johnson. Even with the success on dirt, Mott said he'd consider the Miss Grillo at Aqueduct or Jessamine at Keeneland.

"I would pursue a turf start with

Continued On Page 45

Andrew J. Mollica Attorney at Law

A small firm dedicated to big things

Equine Law • Real Estate
HISA Defense • Civil and Criminal Litigation
Wage and Hour Defense

1205 Franklin Ave., Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 528-1311 cell • (516) 280-3182 office • jdmol@aol.com





INFRONT
Racing Stables

Home of the NO-EXPENSE Claim
Thoroughbred Racing Partnerships

(800) 989-IFRS(4377)
infrontracingstables.com

Race Horse Ownership offers so much more than just the Excitement!

Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 44

her,” Mott said. “She’s deserving and I’m not sure what surface she’d be better on. I need to try the turf to see if she moves forward on that.”

- Little Prankster became the 14th horse to win two races at the meet, taking the fourth for owner Rigney Racing and trainer Phil Bauer.

“It’s very special in a place like this,” Bauer said.

In her maiden breaking score in July, Little Prankster crushed a field of nine in an off the turf contest going 5 1/2 furlongs. Wednesday’s race was a much tougher task, facing allowance horses going a furlong longer. The job didn’t phase the 3-year-old daughter of Practical Joke, who won on the lead under Tyler Gaffalione.

“We were able to kind of take advantage of weather in breaking her maiden,” Bauer said. “Caught a diluted field, easier group, but there were some horses in here that have ability. We take what we’re dealt, and she’s got the ability to handle it.”

Little Prankster prevailed by a head over Mongolian Partner, winning in a quick 1:15.91. After a successful summer, the filly will go back down to Bauer’s base in Kentucky.

“She’ll go back to Churchill,” he said. “We’ll let the dust settle and see, but she’ll run in Kentucky somewhere.”

- Gilmore enjoyed a drop in class from graded stakes company when winning the fifth, a 1-mile allowance race for 3-year-olds that was taken off the turf.

After competitive but not triumphant finishes in the Grade 3 Bay Shore, Grade 2 Pat Day Mile and Grade 1 Woody Stephens, Gilmore was placed in a spot where trainer Brendan Walsh was confident he’d find success. Entered for the main track, the Twirling Candy colt co-owned by Starlight Racing won for the second time in nine starts.

“It’s Brendan’s choice, and he wanted the horse to be in a position where he’d be competitive and go off at 3-5,” Starlight’s Jack Wolf said. “He obviously was the class of the race and showed his guts by winning at the end there, so good for Brendan Walsh.”

Gilmore raced third early before making a three-wide bid on the far turn to strike the lead under Irad Ortiz Jr. He fended off a determined Antares through the stretch and won by a neck.

“I was getting a little nervous,”

Continued On Page 46



Tod Marks

Little Prankster picks up her second win of the meet.

Wake up to this timeless Adirondack view!



*3 Lots You Must See to Believe
Sitting over the Narrows of Lake George
Want a better look? Call Walt Chandler!
518-577-8416*

Opportune Time LLC *f.s.b.o.* *Genesis 1:31*

National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame



Open Year-Round

Visit us at The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame
where Thoroughbred Racing History comes to life!

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Daily

Visit racingmuseum.org for more details

191 Union Ave. Saratoga Springs, NY

Phone: (518) 584-0400

Yellow House Parking

Closest to track. Easy in, easy out.



20 Frank Sullivan Place

Next to Siro's across from the paddock.

**Daily, weekly and
season passes available.**

(Enter on Wright Street, left on Frank Sullivan).

Wednesday —

■ Continued from page 45

Wolf said. "I don't normally bet on 3-5 horses, but I had him hooked up in a lot of other things. Great ride, and I think that the best horse won."

• Brad Cox may have been in Kentucky Wednesday, but that didn't stop his runners from going 2-for-2 on the card. Cox's son and assistant Blake Cox picked up the saddling duties, sending out Emery to a victory in the second and Olga Isabel in the eighth.

Emery made a winning debut in the first race run Wednesday for owner Stonestreet Stables and jockey Tyler Gaffalione, besting a field of maiden 2-year-old fillies by 5 3/4 lengths in the 6-furlong dirt sprint. Sitting just off the pace early, the daughter of More Than Ready fought off the leading Waskesiu in the stretch and ran away to victory in 1:09.80. Blake Cox said he liked the way the filly was coming into her first start.

"She broke well back home," he said. "She wasn't super sharp out of there, but Tyler got her out of there and got her in a good spot, sat right off of it, got her in the game, and sat the trip and finished home nice."

Three hours and 23 minutes later, Cox was back in the winner's circle with Olga Isabel, who was simply



Tod Marks

Emery cruises in Wednesday's first race.

too quick for her rivals in a 1-mile allowance-optional on dirt for fillies and mares. Getting to the lead right away, the 4-year-old filly by Tiznow extended her heading past the quarter pole and held off Tough Street to win by three-quarters of a length.

Olga Isabel going to the lead was by design.

"We did, even before the speed favoring racetrack," Cox said of the tactics. "Don't take away what's easy, so the plan was to go from when we took entries."

Owned by Top Racing, Olga Isabel has now won three of her last four starts, with two runs as a 4-year-old.

The Cox stable once again teamed up for the victory with Tyler Gaffalione, who won three races Wednesday. Gaffalione was aboard New York Thunder when he suffered a fatal breakdown in Saturday's Grade 1 H. Allen Jerkens Memorial. Gaffalione came out of the race relatively unscathed and was able to get back in the saddle Wednesday.

"Luckily I didn't have any injuries," he said. "A little sore Sunday, but warmed up out of it. Feeling good today, happy to be here and just feel blessed."

• Wednesday's first race, a \$70,000 steeplechase allowance and the final jump race scheduled for the season, was canceled because of wet conditions.

LB

LEGION BLOODSTOCK

Let us put you in
the winner's circle

22 Individual 2YO Winners in '22

Kristian Villante ■ 267.342.1900 ■ kristian@legionbloodstock.com

Award-winning sourdough pizza and full menu of fun healthy meals.

Fun || Farm || Food

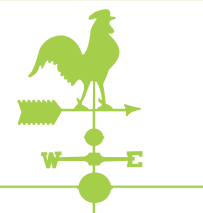
Local beer & wine

Breakfast, lunch, & dinner seven days

Healthy grab-and-go options

www.pizzadelivery.farm

64 Excelsior Avenue • Saratoga Springs • Plenty of parking



9 Miles
East

"DEADLINE DINNER"



Saratoga Bulletin Board

INTEGRITY MATTERS

If you know of wrongdoing with regard to racing and/or wagering, contact us.

TRPB Integrity Hotline
410 398 3647
integrity@trpb.com

All communication confidential
Tambien disponible en espanol

RADWAN BROWN & COMPANY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

"Troy Mulligan saves me hours of work and days of worry.
Now, I can watch the horses again."
— Sean Clancy, Riverdee Stable

Troy H. Mulligan, CPA, Lexington, KY
tmulligan@radwanbrown.com • (859) 233-4146

Open year-round
Walk to track and town

Call direct for best rates
94 George Street

The Springwater Bed & Breakfast

(518) 583-3661
thespringwaterbandb.com

TD

TRAVIS DURR TRAINING CENTER

Graduates

14 2YO WINNERS

11 1ST TIME OUT

BLACK-TYPE WINNER

*A job well done,
a name you can rely on*

ST. MATTHEWS, SC
OFFICE: 803.655.5738
EMAIL: OFFICE@DURRTRAINING.COM

ZADORSKY
2YO MSW winner at
Saratoga 8.13.2023

DATAMAN
Bald Eagle Derby
winner at Laurel
8.13.2023

Big Saturday

Three stakes highlight stellar card

BY SEAN CLANCY

Three stakes. One hour, seven minutes. \$4 million.

Kentucky Downs kicks into high gear with an 11-race gem, highlighted by the Gun Runner, the Big Ass Fans Music City and the Mint Millions Stakes Saturday. The trio of stakes starts at 5:21 p.m. eastern time.

Led by two-time stakes winner Wadsworth, the Gun Runner attracted 10 3-year-olds for its \$1 million purse.

Owned and bred by Godolphin, Wadsworth earned 5-2 favoritism after winning back-to-back stakes at Ellis Park this summer. Trained by Brad Cox, the son of Quality Road has become potent since switching from the dirt to the synthetic at Turfway park this winter. The bay gelding won twice there and then improved again when switching to the turf. He finished second in the Caesars Handicap at Horseshoe Indianapolis and added the American Derby and the Kentucky Downs Preview Dueling Grounds Derby at Ellis. Florent Geroux takes the return call.

Trainer Shug McGaughey had a choice with second choice Talk Of The Nation. Stay home and face Carl Spackler for \$175,000 in the Saranac or go on the road to take on Wadsworth at Kentucky Downs. The Hall of Famer opted for the latter. Runner-up in the Grade 3 Manila at Belmont Park in July, the son of Quality Road has posted five breezes on the turf at Saratoga. Jose Ortiz rides for Joseph Allen and CHC Inc.

"It was either the Saranac or the Gun Runner. We chose the purse, so we elected to ship him down there. I think it turned out to be a good spot," McGaughey said Friday afternoon. "I just thought as hard a race as the Manila was, we would be better off giving him some time in between. This kind of hit him in the head. The Saranac would have to, but we went for

the big money. It's worth giving him a chance."

Like most trainers, McGaughey wades into the unknown at the undulating Kentucky Downs course.

"Some of them move way up on it," McGaughey said. "And some of them go the wrong way but it's worth a chance."

The Gun Runner also enticed 2-for-3 Georgie W, stakes-placed Highway Robber, stakes winner Gaslight Dancer, maiden winner Smokey Mandate, stakes-placed California shipper Escape Artist, two-time dirt winner Communication Memo, Grade 3 winner Tall Boy and dual Grade 2 winner Major Dude.

A race later, the Big Ass Fans Music Stakes lured 12 entries, plus four on the also-eligible list for its \$1 million purse.

Kelsey Danner unleashes two fillies for the 6 ½ furlong stakes. The Kentucky-based trainer will have to keep her eyes wide as Danse Macabre drew the inside post and Mohawk Trail drew the outside post.

Owned by NBS Stable and Elements Racing, Danse Macabre rides a two-win streak into the Grade 3 stakes. The daughter of Army Mule hasn't been off the board in seven career tries. She took the Grade 3 Herecomesthebride Stakes at Gulfstream Park in March and the Mamzelle at Churchill Downs in May.

"She was laid up because of a setback, she got turned out for 30 days, but this was pretty much the plan all along. John (Ballantyne of NBS) really likes Kentucky Downs, we pretty much aim everything he has to Kentucky Downs if possible. She won there last year, so it makes sense," Danner said Friday afternoon. "She runs well off a layoff so I'm not too concerned. You always think, 'if I had one more breeze,' but she's a nice filly and she's ready to go."

Adam Beschizza takes the return



Tod Marks

Annapolis looks to clean up in the Mint Millions at Kentucky Downs Saturday.

call on the Kentucky-bred who owns wins from 5 ½ furlongs to a mile on the turf.

"She loves those middle-ground distances, it's what she really wants," Danner said. "The one hole, she should sit in a good position and hope something opens up and she kicks in."

Mohawk Trail will ship with Danse Macabre Saturday morning but will be a long way from her at the start. NBS Stable's daughter of Pioneerof The Nile drew the outside post for her 10th career start. She, too, rides a two-race win streak, capturing the Alywow and the Grade 3 Ontario Cotillion at Woodbine in her two most recent starts. The dark bay filly owns wins from 6 ½ furlongs to 1 1/16 miles on the turf.

Julien Leparoux takes the ride for the first time.

"She continues to get better with each race. Wanted to cut her back this winter, but I didn't want to cut her back to five eighths, so Woodbine fit her well," Danner said. "She has the same running style; she can lay off

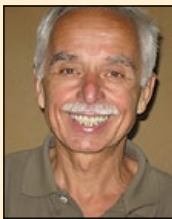
it and do whatever the jockey wants. He'll have to work out his trip from the 12 hole, but she usually breaks quick so she should get a good position."

L J's Emma earned 7-2 favoritism. Boxman Stable's daughter of into Mischief finished off the board in her first two starts before switching to the turf. She's won three of four on the grass, including the Galway Stakes at Saratoga in most recent start. Trained by Eddie Kenneally, she breaks from post 10 for Corey Lanerie. Named on five horses Saturday, the veteran jockey is three wins shy of 5,000 for his career.

"She was a much-improved horse on grass. She didn't do as well as we had hoped she would on the dirt. She found a new lease on life when she got on the grass," Kenneally said. "Kentucky Downs just kind of evolved. It's the biggest purse they have for 3-year-old fillies sprinting on the grass in the country. We thought if we ran well at

Continued On Page 50

The
POWER
Grid



John Shapazian



Tom Law



Rob Whitlock



Charles Bedard



Jessica Paquette

Race	John Shapazian	Tom Law	Rob Whitlock	Charles Bedard	Jessica Paquette
1	Pharoah's Wine For Loving Aaralyn Heckled	Enigmatic Aaralyn Pharoah's Wine Doral	Kenwick Janka Fun Loving Ethereic	Pharoah's Wine Watchtower Enigmatic Doral	Kenwick Janka Fun Loving Ethereic
2	Lady Emily Kathryn Doral	Heckled Ethereic	Heckled Doral	Heckled Lady Emily Kathryn	Heckled Doral
3	Arrest Me Red Heaven Street Mischievous Rogue	Mischievous Rogue Arrest Me Red County Final	Arrest Me Red Heaven Street Mischievous Rogue	Chasing Time Arrest Me Red Mischievous Rogue	Arrest Me Red Chasing Time Mischievous Rogue
4	Accomplished Girl Current Climate Off Ramp	Current Climate Accomplished Girl Free And Humble	Accomplished Girl Current Climate Off Ramp	American Starlet Accomplished Girl Free And Humble	American Starlet Zoom Erin Free And Humble
5	Augustine Red Thunder Ball Do Your Job	Bourbon Boss Do Your Job Augustine Red	Committee Of One Do Your Job Twirling Point	Committee Of One Do Your Job Twirling Point	Twirling Point Glenbrook Gerry Can Group
6	Felix Just Say When Mr. Peeks	Good Heart Dunedin Bourbon Day	Good Heart Felix Mr. Peeks	Good Heart Felix Mr. Peeks	Dunedin Good Heart Just Say When
7	Cigarette Boat Beer Run Elegant Trip	Beer Run Cigarette Boat Elegant Trip	Elegant Trip Straight And Level Beer Run	Elegant Trip Straight And Level Beer Run	Straight And Level Elegant Trip Beer Run
8	Highway Robber Talk Of The Nation Wadsworth	Wadsworth Talk Of The Nation Major Dude	Wadsworth Highway Robber Talk Of The Nation	Tall Boy Talk Of The Nation Major Dude	Wadsworth Highway Robber Talk Of The Nation
9	Secret Money Danse Macabre Mammas Girl	L J's Emma Secret Money Mohawk Trail	Determined Jester Danse Macabre Mohawk Trail	Accede Danse Macabre Queen Picasso	Determined Jester Danse Macabre Mohawk Trail
10	Annapolis Smokin' T Churchtown	Annapolis Ancient Rome Smokin' T	Churchtown Ancient Rome Smokin' T	Annapolis Atone Churchtown	Churchtown Ancient Rome Smokin' T
11	Sickle Dance Riviere Cowichan	Cowichan Riviere Calm Cool	Cowichan Sickle Dance Tapitara	Cowichan Sickle Dance Candy Bar	Cowichan Sickle Dance Tapitara



Live Racing

August 31, September 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 13. Post Time 12:25 p.m. central. (11:30 a.m. central on September 9)
themintkentuckydowns.com/live-racing

Worth Repeating

"We love our country music down here in Texas. So, that would be great to have."

Perry Bass, co-owner of Annapolis, favorite for the Grade 2 Mint Millions about the trophy, a guitar signed by music legend Tanya Tucker

"That's amazing. I was looking at National Treasure, the Preakness was \$1.5 million. This is 2. So, this is exciting. We're looking forward to coming down."

Ted Nixon, owner of Hozier, about the \$2 million on offer in the Grade 3 Mint Millions

"It was a nice way to start off."

Trainer Kelsey Danner after winning the finale on opening day with Copper Missile

"It's a great place. I finished second in the first race, a winner now for Brian Lynch. I'm just grateful. It was my first time here. I jogged around the course twice. I just wanted to make sure where the poles are, how the turns are. It's a long stretch. I don't want to move early."

Jockey Christian Torres after winning his first race on his first trip to Kentucky Downs

"She hasn't disappointed us so far. She has had a relatively light year. She is still very fresh and eager and willing, so we will have just as much confidence in her Sunday that we have had in her all summer."

Trainer Eddie Kenneally about Safeen, favorite for Sunday's \$1 million Dueling Grounds Oaks

"A mile there is a little farther than a mile anywhere else."

Trainer Shug McGaughey about Kentucky Downs

"I'm going Sunday. First trip. I've never been there."

McGaughey about his first trip to Kentucky Downs

Names of the Day

Fun Loving, first race. The G. Watts Humphrey homebred is out of Frivolous.

Saturday —

■ Continued from page 48

Saratoga, then we belonged at a race at Kentucky Downs."

Four-time winner Jill Jitterbug, Grade 3 winner Queen Picasso, stakes winner Mallemoo, British invader Mammias Girl, Maryland shipper Determined Jester, Lake George-third Secret Money, Grade 3 winner American Apple, turf debutante Accede and Grade 2-placed Bling complete the field.

The Mint Millions concludes the stakes hat trick.

The \$2 million stakes attracted 12 turf stalwarts who have combined to

win 66 races and \$7,344,407.

Annapolis stands above his 11 rivals. Owned and bred by Bass Stable, the 4-year-old son of War Front won the Grade 2 Pilgrim as a 2-year-old, the Manila, Grade 3 Saranac and Grade 1 Coolmore Turf Mile as a 3-year-old. This year, he won the Opening Verse before losing two tough ones to Casa Creed at Saratoga. Trainer Todd Pletcher took his time before writing Annapolis in the condition book for the 1-mile stakes at Kentucky Downs.

"He is a big, strong horse, and he kind of took us there," Pletcher said. "He touted us coming out of the Fourstardave."

Tyler Gaffalione deputizes for regular rider Irad Ortiz Jr., in Saratoga



Coady Photo

Copper Missile streaks to a win in the last race on Opening Day.

Straight And Level, seventh race. Lothenbach Stable's 3-year-old is out of Fly Swift.

Wadsworth, eighth race. Godolphin's 3-year-old is out of Dickinson. If he wins the Gun Runner, write the letter.

Bling, ninth race. The 3-year-old filly is out of Blonde Bomber.

Blind Spot, ninth race. The 3-year-old filly is by Cross Traffic out of Your Flame In Me.

Get Her Number, 10th race. The 5-year-old is by Dialed In out of Fancier.

Annapolis, 10th race. It's been tabbed before, but Bass Racing nailed this one. The 4-year-old homebred is by War Front.

By the Numbers

43: Calls in 33 races for Tyler Gaffalione over the next three cards at Kentucky Downs.

82,111: Average winnings per start for jockey Jamie Spencer in 112 North American mounts since 2000

0: Wins from six rides for Spencer at Kentucky Downs in 2019. The Irish and British champion jockey is named on seven horses Saturday and Sunday.

10,530: Bankroll of Phil Lam, winner of the first Kentucky Downs King of The Turf Handicapping Challenge

Kentucky Downs Stable Tour

Jonathan Thomas

Etheric: Augustin Stable homebred hit the board in all four starts (Laurel, Aqueduct, Turfway, Delaware) for Michael Dickinson before hitting the shelf. She returns in the second race Saturday for her first start since June 2022. "She's a well related filly, she's a full sister to Theodora B., who was a graded stakes winner. She had some ailments, was off for a long time, I think she wants to run further but it's a good place to get started."

Twirling Point: Another George Strawbridge Jr. homebred, the son of Twirling Candy makes his debut in the fifth race, a 7-furlong maiden, Saturday. "He's an interesting horse, he seems to have a little bit more lick than a few of the 2-year-olds so starting him out at 7 seemed like a good option. Although he's out of a Kitten's Joy mare, he has a little bit of a dirt look to him. I don't know, he's a little atypical, he's a little more typey. We'll see, the horse has trained pretty well. He seems a little quicker. With Strawbridge, I want to get a lot of these horses started at 2 before we give them a break for the winter. This seems like an awesome place; they have a lot of different options at difference distances. I don't know if I've got any of these 2-year-olds primed but they're in a position to get better for an effort."

Ben Colebrook

Moonlight Gambler: The first horse in the first race Saturday, the daughter of Malibu Moon makes her second start after finishing

at Annapolis for owner Michael Pietrangelo and Miacomet Farm and trainer Roger Attfield. The son of Air Force Blue just missed by a head to the favorite in the Opening Verse at Churchill Downs in May. The Canadian-based gelding finished fourth in the Grade 2 Connaught Cup in his most recent start. Julien Leparoux takes the call on the 4-1 second choice from post eight.

Grade 2 California shipper Cabo Spirit, Grade 1 winner Atone, Grade 2 winner Stitched, two-time stakes winner Hozier, Group 3 winner Ancient Rome, Grade 3 winner Gray's Fable, California raider Get Her Number, Irish-bred Dhabab and 12-time winner Max K. O. complete the field.

with 10 rides, on Annapolis. The 8-5 favorite breaks from post 10.

McGaughey aimed Smokin' T for the Mint Millions after the son of War Front earned a neck win in the restricted Lure Stakes at Saratoga Aug. 5. Owned by DATTT Stable and ridden by John Velazquez, the 4-year-old breaks is 9-2 from post 5.

"I felt like the Bernard Baruch would come up a little bit tough for him. We looked at this race and thought he fit in there. We'll see what happens," McGaughey said. "He usually runs pretty good over anything, he's one that can handle the situation. He's handled everything else, he's handled Gulfstream, he's handled Churchill, he's handled Saratoga."

Churchtown takes another crack

fifth at Ellis Park Aug. 13. “She’s one I think will definitely like Kentucky Downs. She’s real light on her feet, she’s not a typical Malibu Moon. The dam won the Robert G. Dick, so she’s got stamina. She ran a sneaky good race the first time, she was way out the back and came flying late. I’m pretty confident that she’ll run well, that race will get lost in the shuffle, she made up a lot of ground.”

Rusty Arnold

Wake Surf: Damian Lynch’s 4-year-old gelding shortens in search of his second win. The son of Classic Empire drew post five in the sixth race Saturday. “He’s been sort of confusing, or disappointing. We thought he was a better horse than he’s turned out. We just decided before we throw in the towel, big good-looking horse that trains better than he runs, we’re going to sprint him on the turf. We’ve never tried that, Kentucky Downs is a funny place, some love to do that, seven eighths is more like a mile or seven and a half and we’re hoping he takes to it. Looks like a wide-open race.”

Elegant Trip: Originally entered Thursday, the Calumet Farm homebred makes his turf debut in the seventh Saturday. “He didn’t get in Thursday so I put him back in a sprint just to make sure I got him in. He’s a horse I really like. Had him in, off the turf, went ahead and ran him, ran a decent race, not great but decent, ended up third. The race did him good. I expect him to run very well.”

Mike Stidham

Heckled: Godolphin’s 3-year-old filly is in Saturday’s second, a 1-mile maiden worth \$150,000. She’s been second in three straight, the last two by a neck. “She’s been knocking on the door, and I think she’s going to be very, very live. She was unlucky to lose both of her last two races, but maybe our bad luck is our good luck. We’ve waited around for a \$150,000 maiden, even if we weren’t trying to. It’s a little different (at Kentucky Downs). I’ve had horses go there and just not run a lick on it. Not a lot, but one or two. She’s handled everything else (six starts at five racetracks). We sent Pixelate over there and he won the Mint Millions two years ago. She’s a half to Pixelate. Hopefully that means she’s going to love it.”

George Weaver

Riviere: Owned by Black Type Thoroughbreds, the 3-year-old daughter of Bolt D’Oro finished fourth at Belmont and sixth at Saratoga. Jose Ortiz takes the call in the 11th race Saturday. “Another horse who has suffered from off the turf. We ran her once off the turf and it was horrible. We have been looking for a turf spot since.”

Kelsey Danner

Janka: Owned by NBS Stable, the 2-year-old filly finished fifth in her debut in an off-the-turf maiden at Colonial. The daughter of Hard Spun drew post five in the opener Saturday. “I’m interested in seeing her on the grass. We didn’t really get to learn a lot about her from the last race. With the 2-year-olds if you can get one start into them before you run at Kentucky Downs it’s helpful. I didn’t think some of these were completely tight to win first time out at Colonial, but it sets them up well for Kentucky Downs.”

Glenbrook Jerry: Another NBS runner, the son of Dialed In finished second, beaten 12 lengths in his debut at Colonial. “I like Glenbrook Jerry a lot. He looks turfy, I decided to run him on the dirt because he had been breezing well on the dirt and he ran a nice second to my other colt. He’ll like the turf. He’ll like the distance.”

Dunedin: NBS Stable’s 3-year-old colt won at 22-1 at Kentucky Downs last year and returns in the sixth race Saturday. “The only race he’s won was at Kentucky Downs so hopefully a year later he can do it again. He seems like a middle-ground horse. Two turns is too far, hopefully back to the spot where he won nicely last year it will happen again.”



Tod Marks

Battle Of Normandy ships to Kentucky for Sunday’s Dueling Grounds Derby.

Sickle Dance: NBS could have a big day. The daughter of Bee Jersey finished third in her debut at Colonial. She drew the outside post in Saturday’s finale. “Nice filly. I think a lot about her. She galloped out really strong after her last race going 5 ½. I think she’s in a very good spot.”

Shug McGaughey

Ogema Bay: Hinkle Farm’s homebred finished sixth in her debut at Gulfstream Park in April. She’s 12-1 in Saturday’s second race. “She just needed some maturity, so we gave her that all summer at Fair Hill. I brought her up to Saratoga with this race in mind. I thought it fit her pretty well, to run at Saratoga against those nuts, I was looking for a better spot.”

Frontline Warrior: Owned by Woodford Racing and Julianna Hawn-Holt and W. S. Farish, the 2-year-old son of War Front finished third in his debut at Saratoga and is 5-1 in the first race Sunday. “I ran him here, he finished third and acted like he didn’t want to run that far. I put him in there a little bit shorter, maybe he’s just a miler. So, we’ll see. I think he’s a pretty decent horse.”

Cloudy: Owned by Winngate Stable, the 4-year-old son of Noble Mission makes his 2023 debut in the third race Sunday. “Cloudy ran a bang-up race over the track last year. He hurt himself, I was going to run him in a stake on Christmas Eve, he had some ankles he was fighting so I decided to get that taken care of. We got him started back at Niall Brennan’s and he wasn’t going exactly right so we had to back off him again. I knew where this race was on the calendar. He had run an awfully good race there last fall and that’s why I decided to give him another chance. It’s a lot of money.”

Sherlock’s Jewel: Wharton Connell Racing’s son of Lea drew post seven in the fourth Sunday. “He’s another one who ran a bang-up race down there last year. We had to stop him, we brought him back, he won at Keeneland, we took a shot in the Jersey Derby, that was terrible. His race the other day wasn’t that bad, it was kind of a jumbled-up race, he was up close and this and that. He came out of it good, we got a good race into him, he ran awfully good there last year so I thought it would be worth taking a chance there.”

The Jackal: Owned by Woodford Racing and Don Alberto Stable, the son of Medaglia d’Oro finished sixth and third at Laurel this summer. The bay colt breaks from post one in the seventh Sunday. “His first race was pretty good. I thought he ran a good race the last time and he looks like a horse who wants to run a mile and a half. Here the race was, let’s give him a chance and see what he wants to do.”

Fort Washington: Owned by Joseph Allen and Magic Cap Stable, the 4-year-old won a stakes last year and is Grade 3 placed this year. He’s 4-1 with Jose Ortiz in the ninth race Sunday. “I ran him down there in the Gun Runner last year and he didn’t break. I think (Joel) Rosario was a little too patient, he came running. He had no chance from the start. I think if he gets away from there halfway decent, which he doesn’t break well, hopefully he can get in the race and Jose can give him a chance to finish. Finding a nice allowance race for him is a good thing.”

Allamericanbeauty: Courtland Farm’s daughter of Into Mischief exits a seventh in the Saratoga Oaks over soft turf. She’s 10-1 in the Sunday’s Dueling Grounds Oaks. “I’m just hoping I catch a good firm turf course down there. She didn’t handle the course very well at all last time. The time before that, she didn’t run bad, but she ran green. We put the blinkers on her, she was down on the inside and Johnny (Velazquez) said she just didn’t handle the going. She’s a big, galloping filly, I’m taking a chance we catch firm turf down there. She’s been training awfully good, she had a good work on the dirt before she left Saratoga. We’ll see what happens.”

Battle Of Normandy: Part of a late stakes double attempt, the son of City Of Light finished fourth in the Saratoga Derby over yielding turf Aug. 5. Owned by West Point Thoroughbreds and Woodford Racing, the bay colt entices Tyler Gaffalione in Sunday’s National Thoroughbred League Dueling Grounds Derby. “Again, he hasn’t caught the track I want him to catch. He ran a really good race to be fourth. He’s an a other than, he hadn’t run since the Preakness. Tyler said he got shoved out to the part of the track that was a little softer and he wasn’t handling it. It was between the Virginia Derby and down there. I could get the jock, he fits him really well and he was anxious to ride him, and I like that, too.”

Mind Games

"It's simple, a trainer's job is helping make a horse into the finest athlete he can possibly be. That's why we became trainers. But suddenly you have to deal with so much more."

Trainer Tom Morley was pacing the shedrow with a phone to his ear dealing with a piece of the "so much more."

A minor crisis had popped up just as he was about to talk to me about the skills a trainer needs to succeed. Waiting, I stood by his stable door and occupied myself watching a pair of bees buzz around a morsel of something on the desk. I had just mentally dubbed the place the Hamlet Office (because of the "two bees") when Morley ended his call. Crisis solved or averted or just dodged; Morley smiled and turned his full attention to me.

"Let's talk at my open-air office, instead of the beehive," he said as we took two chairs at an outdoor table.

And he was off

"You get into the business to be a horseman but then," he gestured, vaguely suggesting whatever problem he had just dealt with. "You wind up needing to be a negotiator, an organizer, a delegator, a marketer, a CEO. You've got to have people skills, selling skills, business skills, financial skills, you got to have social media skills for heaven's sake."

"I call it a rainbow job. You need to have all the colors in your palette to make the picture come out right. And hopefully that picture is success on the track."

This year, while listening to other trainers talk about successes and disappointments with their horses, I keep hearing words like: "You know I never quite figured him out" or "I found a way to make him happy and like his job again" or "she just doesn't like working alone. She wants company."

These are the kinds of phrases we use in talking about people. People who think and feel and have likes and dislikes. And while we all tend to anthro-

pomorphize when we talk about pets and other animals, is it real? Do horses really have these human traits? Can horses think?

"Absolutely," said Morley.

So, in addition to all those other skills you have to be a horse psychologist?

"Absolutely, again. Being a good trainer is not so much a question of understanding horses, it's understanding each horse. Because every single one of them is an individual. Every one of them has his own personality, his own likes and dislikes. Every one of them has his own mind. And as a trainer, it's my job to listen and understand that horse."

It was at this point in our conversation that I gave up my dream of being a trainer. Because my personal system of psychological analysis is to ask the subject to tell me what their favorite joke is. You can tell a lot about someone by knowing their favorite joke.

There used to be a TV sitcom called "Mr. Ed" that featured a talking horse. I never found him funny. Later I discovered that the horse didn't actually talk – that it was just an actor's dubbed voice over Mr. Ed.

Point being, I've never heard a horse tell a joke.

If a horse can't tell you a joke, if you can't put a horse on a couch and ask him how it makes him feel that his father deserted his mother after a one-night stand at a Kentucky stud farm, then how do horses talk to trainers?

"They talk to you all the time. But you've got to pay attention," Morley said. "They talk when they go to the track – if they get nervous about training, if they start sweating or if they don't want to go to the track at all, they're talking to you. You've got to be listening."

"They talk to you when they're eating, or when they start eating less. Or they stop eating."

"They talk to you when we monitor their sleep pattern."

"You listen and you get to know the individual. You get to know what he enjoys or doesn't enjoy. And if something's bothering him you try to figure out what to change to make him happy again."

Pointing to a stall, Morley said, "See that one, a 2-year-old. He has his own routine that he really enjoys. He likes training enormously. Then he comes back and takes his nap very seriously. Then he has his breakfast, eats well, and he's up for most of the rest of the day. It's his routine, he's happy with it and I'm not going to touch it."

"On the other hand, I've got a filly called Social Whirl. Bit of a headcase. [Ironically her sire is the New York stallion Freud.] She's at Belmont right now. Why? Because last year we brought her up here and it was a disaster. She hated it, wouldn't do a thing. This year, we left her happy at Belmont. When we run her up here now, she vans up the day before the race, and we ship her back to Belmont the morning after. We monitor each horse every day and treat each one as an individual."

This is an incredible skill or talent. To be able to figure out all that about a horse without hearing the horse's favorite joke. For example, look what you can figure out about me from my favorite joke. (You knew I'd get to this at some point, didn't you?):

The Yankees lose the first game of the baseball season. The next day you walk into the office and say, "Did you hear they won't be serving beer at Yankee Stadium this year?"

"What! Why?"

"They lost the opener."

Some people think this is a dumb joke. And yes, I've heard groans sometimes when I deliver the punch line. But look what you've learned about me: I obviously like word-plays. And, by extension, playing with words, which is what writing is.

Playing with words for The Special this season has been a privilege and an honor. And I don't use words like that loosely.

Quality. Value. Integrity.

A full-service bloodstock agency that stands on these words, and our results speak to it.

Contact Phil Hager at
859.509.9122

www.taprootbloodstock.com
phil@taprootbloodstock.com

Neighborhood KITCHEN

MARKET • CATERING • TAKEOUT • DELIVERY

(518) 885-3100 ■ nkmilton.com

The Special counts on Neighborhood Kitchen.

You should too.

Sandwiches to full trays for the family

312 Rowland Street, Ballston Spa
(6 miles from the track)

Also Check out



(waterfront dining in Schuylerville)

"DEADLINE DINNER"



A Saratoga Tradition!

Steeplechasing has been a part of the Saratoga race meet since 1863!



The National Steeplechase Association thanks NYRA and the New York Horsemen for preserving the history and tradition of jump racing at Saratoga and Belmont, hosts of three Grade I hurdle stakes.

*At Aqueduct September 14
(Grade 1 Lonesome Glory Stakes).*

nationalsteeplechase.com

The End

In a rocking chair. On a porch. In pajamas. With a blanket. Sipping a cup of tea. Saratoga has come to a close. Covid called the last shot on my summer.

A landscaping truck idles in the street. A woman in a spotless BMW SUV waits behind the truck and trailer, across from an abandoned (?) house, caution tape hanging limply across a deck which has lost its steps, broken panes of glass, rotten posts lean like drunks in the night. The woman's son opens the wooden gate from the neighboring house, walks down the short driveway and thanks his friend's mother. He throws his soccer gear in the trunk. The woman who lives on the street asks the landscaper to move forward, he obliges, but has yet to cut the motor, noise pollution. In a hurry, her two children climb in the back of their Mini Clubman and she whisks them off to soccer or something.

Friday morning in Saratoga.

I wonder what they think of horse racing. I wonder if they think of horse racing. It's all I think about. The good, the bad, the ugly. The present, the past, the future. It's never been more on my mind at the close of a tumultuous Saratoga. A meet which has long stood as the one time to be a racing fan, the one time to block away all the problems, the one time to bask in what is good and enjoy the sport for all its worth. Deal with the problems, the issues, the frailties another day, this is Saratoga. The final respite, the last port of call, the remaining bobbing buoy in the savage storm. This year, we tried, by God, we tried. But we failed.

Sure, there were some moments of majesty.

Channel Maker dialing the clock back one more time to win the Bowling Green, that big, beautiful head and long, languid stride defying age yet again. Casa Creed, the opposite model, head lowering, stride lowering to win a Grade 1 stakes at 7 years of age. Yeah, those were sweet.

Dylan Davis winning 18 races (and counting), Katie Davis winning six races (and counting) and



By Sean Clancy

Jackie Davis winning 17 at Finger Lakes while trying to win her first here (three to go), part of a family that has seen the worst of horse racing and has done its part to be the best of horse racing.

Elite Power nailing Gunite on the line in the Vanderbilt, Bill Mott turning and saying, "That was ----- amazing, huh?" Like a child who had seen Superman. Gunite returning the favor in the Forego, breaking serve, clawing one back in a tough 1-3 match. Those two were good for the soul.

Arcangelo proving yet again that a good eye at the sale is better than a big budget at the sale and that, yes, little trainers can win big races if given a chance. Javier Castellano returning to his prolific best, winning his seventh Travers. We've seen them all.

A trainer's race to the end. Scorchers by Echo Zulu. Three wins by Ichiban. Megan Jones winning two with splish-splashed Gala Brand. Canterbury-based Esteban Martinez winning a Grade 1, in the most painful way. The return to form of Bolshoi Ballet. A graded stakes win for Mertkan Kantarmaci. Strong stances from Phil Bauer, Mike Trombetta, Norm Casse, Mark Hennig and George Weaver.

And for me, yes, Awakened made my meet. Evidently, I go 25 years between Grade 1 stakes wins at Saratoga. Look out, 2048.

And, sadly, there were moments of despair. You know the ones. They are singed on our soul.

The fatalities of Maple Leaf Mel and New York Thunder took all the wind from this beautiful sail. Undeclared burners, putting away all comers, the last few strides in a victory ride and breaking in half in front of our eyes. We'll never be the same. The sport will never be the same.

A friend of mine called last night and said he's finished, selling his two mares, giving away his homebred yearling if he can find a taker. He's been on every board ever created, fought the good fight. I could barely muster a rally call, recognizing the mountains he's already climbed and the ones still to come. I bet he hangs in there, I hope he hangs in there.

I've heard the same thoughts, read the same thoughts from various other members of racing over the years.

Nobody wants to leave. Nobody wants to abandon the sport.

As Fernando Abreu said while being interviewed for the Little Guy Stable Tour, "What else am I going to do? It's all I know. I've been on the racetrack since I was 16. I can't go be a plumber. I can't do anything else."

And he doesn't want to do anything else. He just wants this to be better. Paperwork from HISA is not helping. Investigative brawn from HISA would help. Here's hoping.

That's for another column, another day.

As for us, we're not going anywhere. We owe it to the horses. We figure the horse is better with us in the game. It's that simple. That's how we justify it. That's how we continue.

So, yeah, we'll stay in for the good of the game, for the good of the horse and because it's what we do. We'll come back next year for those three reasons.

See you next year. Hang tough.

#ECLIPSEFILLIES

There's a reason our racing partners
BELIEVE BIG!



NEST adds a win
in the G2 Shuvee S.
to her Saratoga
accolades.



ANISETTE (GB) wins
G2 San Clemente S.
and G1 Del Mar Oaks
back to back.

LADIES FIRST

eclipsepartners.com



2023 Fall Meet Stakes

OCTOBER 6-28

FRI
Oct 6

\$600,000 Darley Alcibiades (G1) ●
2YO Fillies, 1 1/16 miles | \$100,000 KTDF Contribution

\$350,000 Jessamine (G2) ●●
Presented by Keeneland November
2YO Fillies, 1 1/16 miles (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$350,000 Stoll Keenon Ogden Phoenix (G2) ●
3YOs & Up, 6 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SAT
Oct 7

\$1 Million Coolmore Turf Mile (G1) ●●
3YOs & Up, 1 mile (turf)

\$600,000 Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1) ●
2YOs, 1 1/16 miles | \$100,000 KTDF Contribution

\$750,000 First Lady (G1) ●
Presented by UK HealthCare
3YOs & Up, F&M, 1 mile (turf) | \$100,000 KTDF Contribution

\$350,000 Thoroughbred Club of America (G2) ●
3YOs & Up, F&M, 6 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$350,000 Woodford (G2) ●
Presented by FanDuel
3YOs & Up, 5 1/2 furlongs (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SUN
Oct 8

\$600,000 Juddmonte Spinster (G1) ●
3YOs & Up, F&M, 1 1/8 miles | \$100,000 KTDF Contribution

\$350,000 Castle & Key Bourbon (G2) ●●
2YOs, 1 1/16 miles (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$250,000 Indian Summer (L) ●
Presented by Keeneland Select
2YOs, 5 1/2 furlongs (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

FRI
Oct 13

\$300,000 Sycamore (G3) ●
3YOs & Up, 1 1/2 miles (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SAT
Oct 14

\$600,000 Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup (G1) ●
Presented by Dixiana
3YO Fillies, 1 1/8 miles (turf) | \$100,000 KTDF Contribution

SUN
Oct 15

\$350,000 Franklin (G2) ●
3YOs & Up, F&M, 5 1/2 furlongs (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SAT
Oct 21

\$350,000 Lexus Raven Run (G2)
3YO Fillies, 7 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$250,000 Perryville (L)
3YOs, 7 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SUN
Oct 22

\$300,000 Rood & Riddle Dowager (G3) ●
3YOs & Up, F&M, 1 1/2 miles (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

FRI
Oct 27

\$300,000 Valley View (G3) ●
3YO Fillies, 1 mile (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$200,000 Myrtlewood
2YO Fillies, 6 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

SAT
Oct 28

\$350,000 Hagyard Fayette (G2)
3YOs & Up, 1 1/8 miles | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$300,000 Bryan Station (G3) ●
3YOs, 1 mile (turf) | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

\$200,000 Bowman Mill
2YOs, 6 furlongs | \$50,000 KTDF Contribution

T Turf Races

Breeders' Cup Challenge Races

*Kentucky Thoroughbred Development Fund. All KTDF purse allotments are subject to approval of the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission.



KEENELAND



QUALITY ROAD

Elusive Quality - Kobla, by Strawberry Road (AUS)

QUALITY YEAR AFTER YEAR

15 Grade 1 Winners

35 Graded Winners

74 Stakes Winners

Sire of 2023 CLASSIC WINNER NATIONAL TREASURE



**25 BOOK 1 Yearlings at
Keeneland September**

*Sire of EIGHT seven-figure
yearlings in 2022.*



LANE'S END

lanesend.com | 859.873.7300