

# THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS™

Thursday, March 9, 2000

☆ INTERNATIONAL ☆

### IT'S MARCH MADNESS, DERBY STYLE

The signature race of the Gulfstream meeting, Saturday's GI Florida Derby, has drawn a field of 10 Triple Crown hopefuls, headed by 8-5 morning line favorite, High Yield (Storm Cat). The front-running winner in his last start of the Feb. 19 GI Fountain of Youth S. has drawn the rail and will once again have the services of Pat Day, who feels the Pennsylvania-bred colt will handle the added sixteenth of a mile. "I would say that a mile and an eighth is well within his scope. Hopefully by the first Saturday in May a mile and a quarter will be too," he said. Trainer D. Wayne Lukas will be looking for his third Florida Derby victory in the last six years, having saddled Thunder Gulch in 1995 and Cape Town in 1998. Jockey Roger Velez will be aloft 6-1 co-third choice Hal's Hope (Jolie's Halo), who pulled a 40-1 shocker in the GIII Holy Bull S. Jan. 15 and proved that victory to be no fluke when he stalked High Yield throughout the Fountain of Youth, yielding late to that rival while clearly second best. "Hal's Hope is just learning," Velez commented. "He beginning to mature. He was a little green when I first got on him, but he's getting better. 'Poppa' (trainer Harold) Rose has so much confidence in him that I do too." He will break from the four hole. Trainer Elliott Walden sends out the 4-1 second choice Elite Mercedes (Mercedes Won). The winner of the Rhythm S. at the Breeders' Cup meet last November, the gray was third in the Fountain of Youth. "His race in the Fountain of Youth, I was pleased with it. The track was biased on the inside and he was on the outside," said Walden. Jerry Bailey has a return call and the tandem breaks from post position five. GIII Laurel Futurity hero Scottish Halo (Jolie's Halo), fifth in an unusual turf route prep Feb. 27, is at 6-1 with Hal's Hope and will break from post two. "(Jockey) Jorge Chavez said he was happy with his last race. He said that he list all chance turning for home and that when we moved him back to the dirt, he would be even better," commented trainer Paul Rizzo. In other Derby developments, trainer Ken McPeek will run Hawthorne Juvenile winner Deputy Warlock (Silver Deputy) instead of contesting the GII Spiral S. at Turfway Mar. 25. Paraneck Stables' Hades (Saint Ballado) worked five furlongs at Hialeah Tuesday in :59 1/5 and will be ridden in the race by Richard Migliore. Unshaded (Unbridled) worked yesterday in :49 2/5, but trainer Carl Nafzger was dissatisfied with the work and the horse was not entered.

Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time 5:42 p.m. EST FLORIDA DERBY-GI, \$750,000, 3yo, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER			
1	High Yield	Storm Cat	Lukas			
2	Scottish Halo	Jolie's Halo	Rizzo			
3	Postponed	Summer Squall	Schulhofer			
4	Hal's Hope	Jolie's Halo	Rose			
5	Elite Mercedes	Mercedes Won	Walden			
6	Bare Outline	Broad Brush	Zito			
7	Hades	Saint Ballado	Albertrani			
8	Settlement	Kris S.	Hennig			
9	Deputy Warlock	Silver Deputy	McPeek			
10	Tahkodha Hills	Prospector's Halo	Ziadie			
All ruppers carry 122 pounds						

All runners carry 122 pounds.

### ☆ PREVIEW ☆

Friday, Gulfstream Park
GULFSTREAM PARK BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT
CHAMPIONSHIP-GII, \$200,000, 3vo/up, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Salty Sea	Siberian Express	Coa	112
2	Honorifico (Arg)	Southern Halo	Santos	113
3	Kelly Kip	Kipper Kelly	Samyn	120
4	Powerful Goer	Easy Goer	Prado	114
5	Mountain Top	Trapp Mountain	Bailey	115
6	Young at Heart	Ferdinand	Sellers	113
7	Richter Scale	Habitony	Migliore	118
8	Sir Bear	Sir Leon	Velazquez	116
9	Forty One Carats	Tactical Advantage	Chavez	116
10	Mac's Rule	Ruhlmann	Smith	112
11	Deep Gold	Olympio	Day	113

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12 Yearlings avg. \$127,732 in '99 incl \$330,000, \$235,000, \$225,000, \$200,000

# **Jade Hunter**

Mr. Prospector -Jadana, by Pharly

\$12,500 LF



### THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

### **☆ AMERICAN EDITION ☆**

Thursday, March 9, 2000

### SOUTHERN HALO COLT SWIFTEST AT

BARRETTS Sultry Summer, a colt by Southern Halo--Fiery Summer (Diplomat Way) recorded the fastest onefurlong drill of the under tack preview of the Barretts March Selected Two-Year-Olds Sale held Tuesday in Pomona, California. The chestnut, selling as hip number 94, went the distance in :10.13. He is from the consignment of Donna Wormser, Inc., agent. A colt by Fly so Free--Heartlight (Majestic Light) had the fastest twofurlong work of :21.83. Selling as hip number 199, he is part of the Barretts Selected California-bred Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale and is from the consignment of Sequel Bloodstock, agent. A third of the horses in the catalog were unable to work Tuesday and the preview, twice cancelled by rain, will be continued when the weather in Southern California improves. A second preview is scheduled for Sunday. The auction will be held Tuesday, March 14, with bidding beginning at 2 p.m.

2000 MATCH SERIES SET The Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championship series for 2000 has been announced. The series includes six races in five divisions at seven racetracks on the east coast. The participating tracks are, Pimlico, Delaware Park, Monmouth Park, Laurel, the Meadowlands, Charles Town and Colonial Downs. Race divisions are: three-year-old dirt sprint, three-year-old dirt route, three-year-olds and up dirt sprint, three and up fillies and mares turf route and three-year-olds and up fillies and mares dirt sprint. Bonus money totaling \$510,000 will be distributed to the owners and trainers of the top three point earners in each of the divisions. The overall MATCH series champion will earn \$150,000. New this year, the series will offer bonus points to horses who start in four or more races, regardless of finish. The series begins in late April and concludes Oct. 7

### STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, THURSDAY, MARCH 9:

03-19 \$100/100,000a Oaklawn Breeders' Cup H.-III, OP, 3yo/up, f/m, 8.5f, (0) 03-19 \$150,000a Pelleteri Breeders' Cup H., FG, 4yo/up, 6f, (50)



**TDN TODAY** 

American ..... 3 pages

#### FLORIDA ☆ ☆

Yesterday's Results:

IRISH SONNET H., \$54,600, GPX, 3-8, 4vo/up, f/m, 5f, :57 3/5, ft.

- 1--#LILY'S AFFAIR, 113, f, 4, Colonial Affair--Consider the Lily, by Fappiano. (\$60,000 yrl '97 KEESEP). O-Double A Partnership; B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd (KY); T-Michael E Gorham; J-J F Chavez; \$32,760. Lifetime Record: 12-6-2-0, \$145,487.
- 2--Noble Robyn, 117, m. 5, Skip Trial--Robyn in the Sky, by Naked Sky. O-Gershaw Charlotte. \$10,920.
- 3--Escaping, 116, f, 4, In the Slammer--Chancy Prospect, by Northern Prospect. O-Miller L S. \$6,006. Margins: 2HF, NK, HF. Odds: 2.90, 2.60, 2.30.

Lily's Affair was first or second in all seven of her starts in maiden and allowance company--the only off the board finishes of her career coming in her four tries in stakes company. Most recently the filly was seventh in the Feb. 2 GIII Shirley Jones H. Third choice in the field of seven, Lily's Affair dropped back to last in the early-going, swung to the outside for the drive and overtook the pacesetters in deep stretch before drawing clear to the wire.

8th-GPX, \$42,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:44 2/5, ft. 1--LITTLE LEE, 122, c, 4, Montbrook--Exploriano, by Fappiano. O-Castro John; B-Bryan J Howlett & Henry A Roberts (FL); T-Steve W Standridge. Lifetime Record: 10-5-1-1, \$91,370. \*1/2 to Excise (Ogygian), SP, \$210,118.

- 2--The Groom Is Red, 117, c, 4, Runaway Groom--Sheena's Gold, by Fast Gold.
- 3--Throwthebookatem, 117, c, 4, Notebook--Deputy's Mistress, by Deputy Minister.

Margins: 5 3/4, 1, 4HF. Odds: 2.30, 5.10, 5.40.

The consistent Little Lee ended 1999 with a win at Calder in December and returned as a four-year-old to place third at Gulfstream Jan. 9 before earning a fivelength win last time out on Feb. 5. Favored in the field of nine, the chestnut sprinted out to set the pace, took a five-length lead into the stretch and came home under a hand ride. The Groom is Red, winless since taking the 1998 GI Champagne S., returned from an eight-month layoff to run a dull ninth over the Gulfstream turf Feb. 5. The bay colt was off slowly, moved three wide at the quarter pole and closed to finish second best.

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# COMIC STRIP Red Ransom - Now That's Funny

Multiple graded winner on dirt & turf. Earnings of \$965,474.

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Florida report cont.

4th-GPX, \$35,000, Msw, 4yo, 6f, 1:11 2/5, ft. +JUST A MINER (c, 4, Mr. Prospector--Seattle Drama, by Seattle Slew), a \$335,000 KEEJUL yearling, made his belated debut off a series of strong works over the Gulfstream track. The tepid 2-1 favorite set a pressured pace, inched clear with a furlong to run and was 1 1/4 lengths better than fellow first-timer Lush (Mt. Livermore) at the wire. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$21,000.

O-Noreen Carpenito. B-Mr & Mrs John C Mabee (KY). T-William W Perry.

### **☆ NEW YORK** ☆

Yesterday's Results:

**6th-AQU**, **\$57,000**, **Alw**, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:42 4/5, ft.

- 1--PERLINDA (ARG), 112, m, 5, Ibero (Arg)--Perfidia (Arg), by Ahmad (Arg). O-Hallas Charles; B-Ibero Societe de Hecho & Mudali SA (Arg); T-Kristina Dupps. Lifetime Record: 13-5-2-2, \$103,776.
- 2--Moonlighting, 114, m, 5, U. S. Flag--Moonwaki, by Miswaki.
- 3--Gabarouse, 109, m, 6, Sunny's Halo--Glace Bay, by Great Gladiator.

Margins: 11, 1 1/4, 2 1/4. Odds: 4.30, 5.10, 6.20. Perlinda made it to the winner's circle for the first time in six North American starts with a four-length score in her last out Feb. 11. The bay mare stepped right out to the early lead and was never challenged, romping home by 11 lengths.

8th-AQU, \$48,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43 2/5, ft.

END OF THE ROAD (h, 5, Strawberry Road {Aus}--Bonjove, by Caracolero) was allowed to set slow fractions while coming home a four-length winner in a 1 1/2-miles allowance at Aqueduct Feb. 17. Sent off a 13-1 outsider, the grey was allowed to settle back in seventh, rallied three wide into the stretch and finished determinedly to win by 3/4 lengths over Rumble Along (Thunder Rumble). The winner is a half brother to Scratch Pad (Notebook), GSW, \$355,288. Lifetime Record: 30-8-2-3, \$192,745.

O-Olson James F. B-Pauline O' Donnell & John Belter (FL). T-Dennis J Brida.

5th-AQU, \$41,000, Msw, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11 2/5, ft. VALIDCARDEALER (h, 5, Valid Appeal--Good Gerty {SP}, by Good Behaving) went to the sidelines after making two starts in 1998 and resurfaced a year later to finish on the board in three starts last spring. Returning from a nine-month layoff, the bay ran second in a Feb. 25 maiden race over this track and distance. Favored at 4-5, he dueled for the lead before driving clear down the lane to score by 3 1/2 lengths. The winner, a half brother to Bad Gerty (Explodent, MSW, \$184,311), was a \$32,000 FTKJUL yearling and a \$47,000 OBSAPR two-year-old. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-3, \$54,990.

O-Aaron Beecher. B-Joseph Barbazon & Paul Smith (FL). T-Gary P Gullo.

## **⇔** EAST **⇔**

Yesterday's Results:

7th-LRL, \$25,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 2/5, ft. + ACTING FRISKIE (f, 3, Horatius--Sound Action, by Resound), sent off at 11-1 in her debut, circled the field turning for home and drew off down the lane en route to a 5 1/2-length tally. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$14,250.

O/B-Marilyn Ketts (Md). T-Ronald Sweeney.

#### Six Interested in Jersey Tracks:

The Newark Star-Ledger in its Wednesday issue reported that a total of six separate entities have expressed an interest in purchasing New Jersey's two Thoroughbred racing facilities, Monmouth Park and The Meadowlands, despite Governor Christine Todd Whitman's insistence that the tracks are not for sale. In addition to Magna Entertainment Corporation's Frank Stronach, who held meetings last summer with officials of the New Jersey Sports and Exhibition Authority, the paper names other potential buyers as Greenwood Racing, which owns Philadelphia Park and Freehold Raceway; Mal Burroughs, who helped to build The Meadowlands 25 years ago and driver of 1997 Hambletonian winner Malabar Man; and John Brunetti, a native of Hackensack, New Jersey and owner of Hialeah Park. The Star-Ledger said that "another prominent harness horseman and a well-known Thoroughbred horseman in the state" had also indicated their interest to the NJSEA. Jim DiEleuterio, president and CEO of the NJSEA, told the paper that once all financial information had been turned over to the potential buyers, that each would have 30-45 days to submit a proposal. If the NJSEA chose to sell, it would likely be done on a competitive bidding basis.



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### MIDWEST

### Yesterday's Results:

10th-OPX, \$24,200, Msw, 3/4yo, f, 6f, 1:10 1/5, ft. + BELIEVE (f, 3, Chimes Band--Jon's Singer {MSP}, by Caro {Ire}) trained beautifully over the local dirt for her debut, going a dazzling six furlongs Feb. 27 in 1:12 4/5 from the gate. The 2-1 favorite off her drills, the \$45,000 KEESEP yearling; and \$62,000 OBSMAR two-year-old purchase was caught in traffic early, came four wide for home, collared second choice Cherokee Paint (Cherokee Run) inside the sixteenth pole and outfinished that one to win by a neck, the pair six clear of the rest. The winner is a 1/2 to Singer Jon (Dixieland Band), SP-Jpn, \$449,069. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$14,520.

O-Jo & Bush Williams. B-Fares Farm Inc (Ky). T-Cole Norman.

### **Derby Runners Celebrate Mardi Gras With Works:**

Two of the top contenders for Sunday's GII Louisiana Derby were on the Fair Grounds main track Tuesday morning for their final race preparations. Captain Steve (Fly So Free), the GI Hollywood Futurity winner, went five furlongs in :59 4/5 and galloped out six furlongs in 1:13 3/5. Exchange Rate (Danzig), who won the Risen Star S. in his local debut Feb. 20, drilled five panels in 1:00 1/5. The D. Wayne Lukas trainee will have Corey Nakatani aboard for the Derby.

# **☆ SO. CALIFORNIA ☆**

### Yesterday's Results:

5th-SAX, \$60,705, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$62,500), 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:16 1/5, sy.

BEAUMES DE VENISE (g, 4, Salt Lake--Bank Examiner, by Buckfinder) followed 10 1/4-length debut win last summer at Prairie Meadows with a July 4 allowance victory at the same track before switching to trainer Craig Dollase's barn. He returned to run fifth at Bay Meadows Feb. 9 in his last start. Sent off at 5-1, the gelding gained a short lead at the top of the stretch and finished strongly to win by 3 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-0, \$56,100.

O-Dollase & Potiker Racing & Rogitz. B-Yorkrun Farm Inc. & Albatroz Bloodstock (Ky). T-Craig Dollase.

### Dixie Dot Com Reaggravates Injury:

Dixie Dot Com (Dixie Brass), who defeated Budrovale in the GII San Pasqual H. earlier this season, has suffered a recurrence of his left front cannon bone injury and will miss most of the season, according to trainer Bill Morey, Jr. The injury was discovered after a Monday x-ray following the five-year-old's last of eight finish in last Saturday's Santa Anita H. The timing of the injury leaves the door open to a late season return to the races. "It's too late for him to go to stud this season," Morey told the Daily Racing Form. "We still might be in the picture late in the year."

#### On the Southern California Worktab:

Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner Anees (Unbridled) took another step towards his return when he breezed one mile Tuesday in 1:41 3/5 over the Santa Anita main track labeled as "good." The Alex Hassinger trained soph remains on track for his seasonal debut in the GII San Felipe S. Mar. 19. Gl Las Virgenes runner up Spain (Thunder Gulch), also owned by Prince Ahmed Salman's The Thoroughbred Corporation, worked five furlongs Tuesday morning in 1:00 3/5 at Santa Anita in advance of her rematch with Surfside in Sunday's GI Santa Anita Oaks.



HAIL A CAB, 17, Hail the Pirates--Fifth Avenue Lady (Rising Market)

Foal born 2-13-00, a filly by Virginia Rapids.

Will be bred back to Sahm.

Owned by/boarded at Jonabell Farm, KY.

Accomplishments: GISW, \$483,691. Dam of Islam (Carson City), GSP-Per.

MAMLAKAH (IRE), 8, Unfuwain--Narjis (Blushing Groom

Foal born 2-13-00, a filly by Silver Hawk.

Will be bred back to Gulch.

Owned/boarded at Shadwell Stud LLC, KY.

Accomplishments: GSW-GB.

INCREDIBLE BLUES, 8, Cure the Blues--She's Incredible (\*Le Fabuleux)

Foal born 2-14-00, a filly by Seattle Slew.

Will be bred back to Seattle Slew.

Owned by Albert Finney & Karen & Mickey Taylor.

Boarded at Eaton Farms Mgmt LLC, KY.

Accomplishments: SW & MGSP, \$196,237.

# **HIGHEST Beyer of 1998 at 1 Mile**

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### BREEDERS' EDITION

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

2nd-SAX, \$57,000, (S), 3yo, 1m, 1:38 4/5, wf. JAKLIN'S LAST KIN (c, 3, Jaklin Klugman--Akinemod {MGSW, \$231,625}, by Time to Explode) Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$66,240. O-Rancho de Jaklin. B-Jack Klugman (CA). T-Richard Mandella.

7th-SAX, \$53,000, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 4/5, sy.

HER REALITY (f, 4, Cutlass Reality--Her Elegant Ways {SP}, by \*Habitony) Lifetime Record: 20-4-3-3, \$124,850. O-Nick Swartz & Toby Turrell. B-Ronald E Gomez (Ca). T-Dagoberto Perez.

7th-AQU, \$43,000, (S), 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft. CEDAR KNOLLS (f, 3, Broad Brush--Codetogo, by Lost Code) Lifetime Record: 5-2-3-0, \$75,800. O-Aliyuee Ben J Stables. B-Leonard Pivnick (NY). T-James T Ryerson.

8th-OPX, \$35,200, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:37 3/5, ft. MIDGE TOO (f, 4, Regal Conquest--Midge One, by Judge Lex) Lifetime Record: SW, 23-7-7-2, \$200,013. O-Cart Jerry & Burns Lynette. B-Kay Burns Lynette (LA). T-Jerry D Cart.

9th-OPX, \$27,200, Opt. Clm. (\$75,000), 3yo, 6f, 1:10, ft

IN SYNC (c, 3, Gilded Time--Redzig, by Danzig) Lifetime Record: SP, 14-4-0-3, \$74,993. O-Charles O Viar. B-Stonerside Stable Ltd (Ky). T-Jesse Wiggington.

#### MAIDEN WINNERS:

- + Believe, f, 3, Chimes Band--Jon's Singer (MSP), by Caro (Ire). OPX, 3-8, 6f, 1:10 1/5. B-Fares Farm Inc (Ky). \*\$45,000 yrl '98 KEESEP; \$62,000 2yo 1999 OBSMAR. \*\*1/2 to Singer Jon (Dixieland Band), SP-Jpn, \$449,069.
- + Acting Friskie, f, 3, Horatius--Sound Action, by Resound. LRL, 3-8, 6f, 1:11 2/5. B-Mrs Marilyn S Ketts (Md).
- Ocala Shocker, f, 3, Jolie's Halo--Rullah Runner (GSW, \$105,491), by Be a Rullah. GPX, 3-8, (C), 1 1/16m, 1:49 4/5. B-Four Horsemen's Ranch (FI).
- Martial Mikey, f, 3, Martial Law--Diamond Jude, by Mari's Book. SAX, 3-8, (S), (C), 6 1/2f, 1:19 3/5. B-Mark Spilka & Arnold Diamond (Ca).

- Fortunate Winds, c, 3, Twining--Orange Ice, by Ginistrelli. AQU, 3-8, (C), 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-Hurstland Farm, Inc (Ky). \*1/2 to Harry's Halo (Sunny's Halo), SW, \$150,165.
- Delta Quick, f, 3, Virginia Rapids--Delta Lady (SW & GISP), by Fighting Fit. GPX, 3-8, (C), 7f, 1:26 1/5. B-J Mack Robinson (Ky). \*\$42,000 wlng '97 KEENOV.
- Brekke's Honor, c, 4, Honor Grades--Brekke, by Al Hattab. AQU, 3-8, (C), 6f, 1:11 1/5. B-Bonnie Heath Farm (FI). \*\$165,000 yrl '97 OBSAUG; \$385,000 2yo 1998 FTFFEB; \$23,000 HRA 1999 KEENOV. \*\*1/2 to Regal Brek (Regal and Royal), MSW, \$265,496; Da Bull (Country Pine), MGSP, \$333,784.
- The Iker, c, 4, Man From Eldorado--Just Dare Me, by Fifth Marine. SAX, 3-8, (C), 6 1/2f, 1:19 4/5. B-John Spohler (Ca). \*\$4,000 yrl '97 BESOCT.
- Just a Miner, c, 4, Mr. Prospector--Seattle Drama, by Seattle Slew. GPX, 3-8, 6f, 1:11 2/5. B-Mr & Mrs John C Mabee (Ky). \*\$335,000 yrl '97 KEEJUL.
- Validcardealer, h, 5, Valid Appeal--Good Gerty, by Good Behaving. AQU, 3-8, 6f, 1:11 2/5. B-Joseph Barbazon & Paul Smith (FI). \*\$32,000 yrl '96 FTKJUL; \$47,000 2yo 1997 OBSAPR. \*\*1/2 to Bad Gerty (Explodent), MSW, \$184,311.

### **CURRENT RACE MEETINGS**

I					
I	Track	Started	Closes		
I	Aqueduct	Jan. 1	May 7		
I	Bay Meadows	Jan. 20	Mar. 26		
I	Beulah Park	Feb. 4	May 6		
I	Charles Town	Jan. 1	Dec. 31		
I	Fair Grounds	Nov. 25	Mar. 27		
I	Gulfstream Park	Jan. 3	Mar. 16		
I	Laurel Park	Oct. 13	Mar. 26		
I	Mountaineer Park	Jan. 1	Dec. 31		
I	Oaklawn Park	Feb. 4	Apr. 15		
I	Penn National	Jan. 1	Dec. 31		
I	Philadelphia Park	Jan. 1	Dec. 31		
I	Portland Meadows	Oct. 1	Apr. 23		
I	Remington Park	Feb. 4	Mar. 19		
I	Sam Houston	Oct. 28	Apr. 9		
I	Santa Anita	Dec. 26	Apr. 24		
I	Suffolk Downs	Jan. 1	June 10		
I	Tampa Bay Downs	Dec. 18	May 7		
I	Turf Paradise	Oct. 2	May 7		
I	Turfway	Jan. 1	Apr. 6		

# BREEDERS' CUP NATIONAL STAKES CLOSINGS





# THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS **★** EUROPEAN EDITION ★

Thursday, March 9, 2000

### OAKS ENTRIES ANNOUNCED

Ninety-six entries for the 2000 Vodafone Oaks, run at Epsom on Friday June 9, were announced yesterday. Among the 96 entrants for the £300,000 contest is current ante-post favourite Teggiano (Ire) (Mujtahid {USA}). The premier fillies' classic has an international feel with 11 Irish-trained entries and eight Frenchtrained entries, as well as 15 from the Maktoum family's Godolphin stable. Godolphin has won the Vodafone Oaks twice before--in 1994 with Balanchine and the following year with Moonshell--and rely on a largely lightly-raced entry this year. Of those with experience, G1 Meon Valley Stud Fillies' Mile victress Teggiano, previously trained by Clive Brittain, stands out. Other Godolphin entrants with high-class juvenile form include Dignify (Ire) (Rainbow Quest {USA}), winner of G3 Prix d'Aumale at Chantilly in September, and Earlene (Ire) (In the Wings {GB}) (formerly with John Oxx), who was beaten a head in the G3 C.L. Weld Park S. at the Curragh. Six of the Irish fillies hail from Aidan O'Brien's powerful Ballydoyle stable, including unbeaten Listed winner Chiang Mai (Ire) (Sadler's Wells {USA}), while G1 Prix Marcel Boussac heroine Lady Of Chad (Ire) (Last Tycoon {Ire}) tops the French cast. Another French entrant is the Teruya Yoshida-owned Dancing Sunday (Jpn) (Sunday Silence {USA}), trained by Andre Fabre. No current trainer has a better record in the Vodafone Oaks than six-time winner Henry Cecil. Most recently victorious last season with the outstanding Ramruma, he has six entries this year, half of which have yet to run, but Radley S. winner Corinium (Ire) (Turtle Island {Ire}) is among those who have raced. Her Majesty the Queen, who won the 1977 Oaks with Dunfermline, looks to have a live classic contender this year in Interlude (GB) (Sadler's Wells {USA}), a Sir Michael Stoutetrained filly who won a Doncaster maiden in October. "We are delighted with the 96 entries for the Vodafone Oaks and it will be fascinating to see over the next few months who the leading candidates prove to be," said Andrew Cooper, Epsom's Clerk of the Course and Group Racing Manager at United Racecourses. "Vodafone Oaks Day is one of the best afternoon's racing of the year with the Group 1 Vodafone Coronation Cup also taking place. Let us hope we can see two horses as good as last year's winners, the outstanding Ramruma and Daylami, take these prestigious prizes in 2000." The forfeit stage will be May 25, while a £15,000 supplementary entry stage will close June 2.

# FRANCE

### Romanet Keen on Dirt Racing:

Louis Romanet, general manager of France Galop, has continued in his guest to oversee a brighter future for French racing. He was at pains to praise the new American dirt-style course at Cagnes-sur-Mer, and intimated that there is a big future for dirt racing in France. The racecourse at Pau has staged one dirt race at each of their six meetings this season and Cagnes has also held dirt racing on a regular basis since the turn of the year. Romanet is keen for France to build up its program of all-weather racing and would like a full winter program implemented from the end of the year 2001 turf season. "Building the new dirt course at Cagnes-sur-Mer proved a real success, with professionals and racing fans alike," he said. "It is a real revolution and the French culture towards racing on the dirt is changing. Cagnes is a very competitive course and we ought to use it extensively in the future. Training expenses are up and owners can't afford to have horses resting in their boxes for three months during winter. We will probably have such a meeting at Cagnes-sur-Mer starting when racing ends in Paris in early December until the end of February, when racing resumes in the capital. We will most probably start a full winter programme in December 2001." There may also be plans to eventually install a dirt track at one of the major Paris tracks, with Longchamp in line to be considered. Romanet also revealed that Longchamp will need to undergo an overhaul and stated, "One of our main concerns is the renovation required at Longchamp racecourse. It is set to cost about FF250 million, but at this time nothing has been decided. We have been thinking about having night racing there. There are many problems to be solved and no calendar for the works has been established as yet, but we are studying all options."

### Igman Impressive:

Igman (USA) (Mt. Livermore {USA}) was an impressive winner of the Tuesday's Prix Magister, a sevenfurlong conditions event for three-year-olds at Maisons-Laffitte. The bay colt was laid low with a virus last year, as were many of Andre Fabre's horses, which explains why he didn't reappear after his debut run when fourth at Chantilly last May. He is Fabre's sole representative for the G1 2000 Guineas at Newmarket May 6, and will now point to the listed Prix Djebel at Maisons-Laffitte Apr. 14.

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### KEEN WINNER

home first in Sunday's HK\$8,000,000 Hong Kong Derby, is by

SELKIRK £30,000 Oct. 1



### French Report cont.

### Eleven Left in Exbury:

After yesterday's first forfeit stage, eleven horses remain in the G3 Prix Exbury, Europe's first group race of the year, to be run at Saint-Cloud this Saturday. The 1 1/4-mile race for older horses will see the reappearance of the Gary Tanaka-owned and Andreas Schutztrained Caitano (GB) (Niniski {USA}), who will use the race as a stepping stone to his Dubai trip later in the month. The Andre Fabre pair of Amilynx (Fr) (Linamix (Fr)) and First Magnitude (Ire) (Arazi (USA)) are also intended runners. Amilynx garnered the G1 Prix Royal Oak and the G2 Prix Hubert de Chaudenay, while First Magnitude finished third to Montjeu (Ire) (Sadler's Wells {USA}) in the G2 Prix Niel. Other runners still left in the race include Russian Hope (Ire) (Rock Hopper {GB}), recent winner of the listed Grand Prix du Conseil General des Alpes-Maritimes, the Peter Harris-trained Amalia (Ire) (Danehill {USA}) and Criquette Head's Mayaro (Fr) (Saumarez {GB}), a triple listed winner last season.

### **★** BRITAIN ★

### Sherwood, Webber Face Inquiry:

The Pru's Profiles saga continues at Portman Square tomorrow with trainers Oliver Sherwood and Paul Webber set to face a Jockey Club Disciplinary Committee. The horse in question was found in November by the High Court to have been purchased by owner Gary Heywood for a sum outweighing its worth, and that Webber, then of the Curragh Bloodstock Agency, and Sherwood had colluded in their bidding. Now the Jockey Club have to decide if Rule 220 (iii) of the Rules of Racing has been breached. This rule deals with actions prejudicial to the good reputation of horseracing.

#### **Doncaster Catalogues 120 for March Sale:**

Doncaster Bloodstock Sales Ltd. has catalogued 120 lots for the Doncaster Lincoln Handicap Sales on Mar. 27. Both flat and national hunt runners in and out of training will be offered, including Mountain Path and Druid's Brook, both holding entries in this year's Martell Grand National. Over two dozen juveniles, unable to be accomodated into the Breeze-Up sales, are also in the catalogue.

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## \* IRELAND \*

### New Juvenile Opportunities in Ireland:

Irish racing will take on a slightly different look this season with the inception of median auction races for two-year-olds. The races are for maidens and horses sold at public auction. The Curragh (April 9), Down Royal (April 26), Navan (April 29), Leopardstown (June 28), and Ballinrobe (July 25) will all hold one of the five new races each. Perhaps these new outlets will provide a respite from Aidan O'Brien's domination of Irish juvenile racing and will be welcomed by the smaller stables in particular. Willie Mullins, chairman of the Irish Racehorse Trainers' Association, stated, "These races will increase the opportunities for smaller trainers who have to compete with the big yards in ordinary maiden races. I'm sure they will be well supported and I think we will need more of them."

# **★ AUSTRALASIA ★**

### **WINNERS BY SHUTTLE STALLIONS:**

McAleese (Aus), f, 3, Puissance (GB)--Silver Edition (Aus), by Red Anchor (NZ). Ipswich (Queensland), 3-8, Homestyle Bakeries Maiden, 3yo/up, 6f 165ydsT, A\$4,750 to winner. B-Mr N Alati; T-Peter Moody.

Zinedan (Aus), g, 3, Roi Danzig (USA)--Crown of Conceit (Aus), by Mighty Kingdom (Aus). Bendigo (Victoria), 3-8, De Araugo & Lea Electrical Contractors H., 3yo/up, 6 1/2fT, A\$6,500 to winner. B-Mr C Saltmarsh, P Lombardo, P Lazic & G Wallace; T-Terry O'Sullivan.

### **★ MAIDEN WINNERS ★**

Air Mail (GB), g, 3, Night Shift (USA)--Wizardry (Ire), by Shirley Heights (GB). Lingfield, England, 3-8, Bet Direct Today's Best Bets Maiden Stakes (Mdn.), 3yo/up, 7f (AWT), £2,808 to winner. B-G Coull.

### FOALING NEWS:

**DESERT EASE (IRE)**, 6, Green Desert (USA)--Easy to Copy (USA) (Affirmed {USA})

Foal born 2-9-00, a colt by Cadeaux Genereux (GB). Will be bred back to Nashwan (USA).

Owned and boarded at Moyglare Stud Farm in Ireland. Accomplishments: SW-Ire.

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# WRITERS UP

# THE FUTURE OF ALL-WEATHER RACING By Tom Frary & Sean Cronin

All-weather racing began in 1989 as a concept to replace any lost opportunities for national hunt horses. It has developed into an arena for flat horses, but without any major attempt to raise a fairly moderate standard.

Yes, that 'blanket period' from early January to mid-March which is the focus on the all-weather sport has provided some quality racing, seen in the flagship Winter Derby, which now enjoys Listed status, and the former Listed Wulfrun S., due to be restaged this year after a one-year sabbatical. However, change may be in the making, driven by increased betting opportunities, the challenge from dirt racing in Europe and Dubai and the new set of applications from hopefuls looking to establish a top dirt track in the London perimeter.

With new betting opportunities--over the telephone, internet, and via television--about to become the norm, coupled with the attraction of floodlit evening all-weather racing, the time has come for the British Horse-racing Board to look seriously at the future.

Yet there are concerns regarding the renovation of all-weather racing. These are the threat to the existing turf flat racing status quo, and the possibility of a diminished jumping season. But looming competition in Dubai, where a significant number of British horses are being lured to race, and the oncoming reality of sustained quality dirt racing in Scandinavia, France and Germany may prove an irresistible impetus for change.

Reacting to this, the British Horseracing Board's Paul Greeves, the man responsible for the day-to-day running of British racing, speaks of all-weather racing as it stands and its future. "The demand for all-weather racing as a regular product has increased substantially, particularly regarding the running of late-maturing two-and three-year-olds," Greeves said. "It has done everything we wanted it to do, as an insurance against loss of fixtures, as a provider of more opportunity for connections throughout the year, and as a producer of healthy betting turnover."

But he added, "As a matter of policy we will not allow the expansion of all-weather racing between April and September, and the reasons are that we don't want permanent dirt racing to undermine the strength of turf racing with its variety of tracks, each with their own individuality. We don't want to undermine the nature of racing in this country and lose the essential characteristic of our racing, losing runners off the turf and making turf racing less competitive.

"We want to sustain jump racing, and avoid the situation where all-weather racing jeopardises the flat and dilutes the jump meetings. With an average attendance of 1,200 people on weekdays, it doesn't attract as many spectators as jump racing. We also don't want to exhaust the number of horses running."

Recent trends indicate that the proportion of turnover of betting on all-weather racing is on the increase. With the number of fixtures steadily growing from 66 in 1990 to 136 in 1999, turnover percentages have also grown as a result. Levy Board figures reveal that when an all-weather fixture was staged the same day as one jump meeting for the period from November through March, the percentage of betting turnover for the all-weather meeting rose from 43 percent in 1990-91 to 47 percent in 1993-94. It has continued to rise steadily to more than 50 percent for 1998-99.

With further perceived new opportunities in the betting sphere, the future offers a bright outlook.

Greeves indicated, "The future is interesting, with betting via the internet and television, and the ability to bet at different times of the day. If deregulation of betting to pubs and clubs happens, there is a further opportunity. All-weather racing, particularly under floodlights [so-called 'experimental meetings'] may well offer an exciting product for a new opportunity. In this betting environment, with the possibility of a new course in the London perimeter, we could have a whole new audience."

Reacting to the dirt opportunities at Mijas in Spain, at Cagnes-sur-Mer and Pau in France, at Neuss and Dortmund in Germany and at Jagersro and Malmo in Sweden, Greeves added, "We're going to have to look seriously to make sure we don't lose horses to opportunities abroad. We are at a moment in time where the future for the next 10 years is going to have to be decided. The pace of change and degree of change has to be right so that we don't miss the opportunity."

That change may well be provided by the host of prospectors looking to the BHB for the green light for their courses waiting to be accepted (two out of a possible eight will be announced in the near future) so as to forge ahead as a flagship floodlit track offering quality all-weather racing throughout the autumn and winter.

The future, Greeves agrees, may lie with these applications. "The new racecourse decision will be a defining moment," he said. "We have to react to changes around Europe and Dubai, where there is a firming up of quality. If the new racecourse proposal goes ahead, this will produce better quality racing, and the existing policy may have to come under closer scrutiny."

Another, more distant, possibility lies with the attraction of a series of races linking the main all-weather events together, providing a continuum throughout the winter.

"The series concept is a good one because it gives a focus, but it needs television coverage," Greeves said. "At the moment, the racing is not generally top-class, so it's attractiveness may be limited. The series concept would increase the quality and give more focus to help sell to potential sponsors and thus increase television coverage."

The message is clearly a positive one for the future of all-weather racing: advancing forward in tandem with the stable traditions of British turf racing.