

OPPENHEIM
on Sophomore Sires
p. 4-5

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WEDNESDAY, MAR. 24, 2004

STARS SET TO SHINE IN DESERT

An international cast of 66 Thoroughbreds was entered yesterday for Saturday's \$15-million Dubai World Cup card at Nad al Sheba, with a pair of Southern



Pleasantly Perfect Benoit

California-based runners likely to battle for favoritism in the jewel in the crown of the world's richest race day, the \$6-million G1 Dubai World Cup. While post positions for the World Cup will be drawn Wednesday morning, 12 horses, headed by 2003 Breeders' Cup Classic winner **Pleasantly Perfect** (Pleasant Colony) and runner-up **Medaglia d'Oro** (El Prado {Ire}), were declared for the 2000-



Medaglia d'Oro Benoit

meter event. Pleasantly Perfect began the year with a dominating win in the Jan. 31 GII San Antonio H., but was knocked out of the Mar. 6 GI Santa Anita H. with a fever. Trainer Richard Mandella will be trying to break through to the World Cup winner's circle with the lightly raced six-year-old, after saddling the race's runner-up three times. The Mandella-trained Soul of the Matter was second behind Cigar in the inaugural World Cup in 1996 and was followed by 1997 runner-up Siphon (Brz) and 1999 runner-up Malek (Chi). Medaglia d'Oro, coming off a win in the Feb. 7 GI Donn H., has some strong World Cup credentials of his own in jockey Jerry Bailey. Bailey has won four of the eight World Cups, with wins aboard Cigar, Singspiel (Ire) (1997), Captain Steve (2001) and Street Cry (Ire) (2002). Godolphin, which has won five World Cups, has only one runner, **Grand Hombre** (Grand Slam), in Saturday's feature race. After opening his career with four straight victories, including a win in the GIII Pennsylvania Derby, the four-year-old gelding was sold to Godolphin and has not started since a runner-up finish in the Oct. 4 GIII Indiana Derby.

☆ **DUBAI WORLD CUP** ☆

Saturday, Nad al Sheba

DUBAI WORLD CUP-G1, \$6,000,000, 4yo/up, 2000m SC HORSE SIRE OWNER

- 1 **Admire Don (Jpn)** Timber Country R Kondo
A winner of over \$5 million, this two-time Japanese champion won the Feb. 22 G1 February S. in his latest.
- 2 **Dinyeper (GB)** Vettori (Ire) A Vildirim
Ran fourth in Round II of the Maktoum Challenge, but improved to be second in Round III over trip and track.
- 3 **Domestic Dispute** Unbridled's Song Bienstock/Winner
Rapidly improving 4yo took last year's GII Santa Catalina S. and dug deep to win the Feb. 7 GII Strub. S.
- 4 **Fleetstreet Dancer** Smart Strike T & L Leatherman
Proved an adept shipper upsetting the G1 Japan Cup Dirt; was 3rd in the Jan. 31 GII San Antonio last out.
- 5 **Grand Hombre** Grand Slam Godolphin
Purchased by Godolphin after winning 2003's GIII Penn Derby; is unraced since 2nd in Oct. 4 GIII Indiana Derby.
- 6 **King's Boy (Ger)** Platini (Ger) M Al Kabeer
7yo German champ was victorious in Saudi Arabian stake in January; faltered badly in 2003 Sheema Classic.
- 7 **Medaglia d'Oro** El Prado (Ire) E Gann
Top U.S. runner aims to exact revenge against Pleasantly Perfect, who beat him in BC Classic; won GI Donn H. easily.
- 8 **Pleasantly Perfect** Pleasant Colony Diamond A Racing
Best older male in America?; won October's BC Classic and started off 2004 with score in GII San Antonio H.
- 9 **Regent Bluff (Jpn)** Park Regent A Ohara
Japanese invader handled the mud winning Dec. 23 G2 Nagoya Grand Prix; 3rd in Feb. 4 Kawasaki Kinen.
- 10 **Silent Deal (Jpn)** Sunday Silence M Kaneko
Japanese-bred is winless in three tries since Nov. Group 3 win, but was a good 2nd behind Admire Don in February S.
- 11 **State Shinto** Pleasant Colony Sheikh Al Maktoum
Uneven 8yo local has talent, but will have to improve off fifth-place effort in Maktoum Challenge Round III.
- 12 **Victory Moon (SAf)** Al Mufti Mad Syndicate
Tough 4yo loves this surface: won UAE 2000 Guineas and Derby last year, Round II and Round III in last outings.

TDN TODAY
 Headline News 7 pages



Stakes Winner for ARTAX

Kentucky Oaks contender **FRIENDLY MICHELLE**, from the first crop of Eclipse Champion **ARTAX**, wins the **Santa Paula S.** at Santa Anita coming off of her **Grade I** performance in the Las Virgenes S.

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Saturday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai

DUBAI DUTY FREE-G1, \$2,000,000, 4yo/up, 1777mT

- | SC | PP | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER |
|---|----|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 10 | Checkit (Ire) | Mukaddamah | T Corby |
| <i>A G2 winner in Germany, the 4yo has been third in his last 2 starts at Nad al Sheba.</i> | | | | |
| 2 | 1 | Evolving Tactics (Ire) | Machiavellian | Smurfit & Keough |
| <i>Won GI American Derby; captured his local bow Feb. 28.</i> | | | | |
| 3 | 9 | Martillo (Ger) | Anabaa | Gestut Hony-Hof |
| <i>MGSW in Germany; 4yo has not run since finishing 7th in the G1 Prix Jacques le Marois in August.</i> | | | | |
| 4 | 6 | Nayyir (GB) | Indian Ridge (Ire) | Sh Abdulla bin Isa Al-Khalifa |
| <i>MGSW in England will make 1st start since finishing a close 2nd in the G2 Challenge S. in October.</i> | | | | |
| 5 | 4 | Paolini (Ger) | Lando (Ger) | Frau Ostermann-Richter |
| <i>A hardy international competitor, the 7yo has not won since taking a G1 in Italy in 2001.</i> | | | | |
| 6 | 3 | Refuse to Bend (Ire) | Sadler's Wells | Godolphin |
| <i>Hero of G1 2000 Guineas in colors of breeder Moyglare Stud, 4yo has not raced since 11th in the GI BC Mile.</i> | | | | |
| 7 | 7 | Right Approach (GB) | Machiavellian | Kantor, Slack, Westwood, Chandler |
| <i>Second in the G1 Queen Anne S., the 5yo defeated Surveyor in a Listed race here Feb. 21.</i> | | | | |
| 8 | 8 | Sarafan | Lear Fan | Tanaka |
| <i>7yo gelding, a MG1SW in the U.S., returned from a lengthy break to run 4th in a Santa Anita Grade II Mar. 6.</i> | | | | |
| 9 | 5 | Surveyor (SAf) | Western Winter | Dimakogiannis |
| <i>MG1SW in South Africa defeated Vespone in the G3 Jebel Hatta Mar. 6.</i> | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | Bright Sky (Ire) | Wolfhound | Ecurie Wildenstein |
| <i>A MG1SW in France, the tiny chestnut opened 2004 with a SHD-second in the G3 Prix Exbury Mar. 6.</i> | | | | |
| 11 | 2 | Crimson Palace (SAf) | Elliodor (Fr) | Godolphin |
| <i>Ipi Tombe revisited? South African star was bought by Godolphin following impressive win in Dubai Jan. 29.</i> | | | | |
- All carry 126 pounds except Bright Sky and Crimson Palace, 121.

Trainer Neil Drysdale's **Sarafan** worked 1,000 meters on the turf Monday in 1:00.41. "I couldn't ask for anything better," Drysdale said after the work. "I think it was spot on." Exercise rider Graham Thompson added, "He felt awesome, just absolutely awesome."

Saturday, Nad al Sheba

DUBAI SHEEMA CLASSIC-G1, \$2,000,000, 4yo/up, 2400mT

- | PP | SC | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER |
|---|----|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 5 | Compton Bolter (Ire) | Red Sunset (Ire) | Erik Penser |
| <i>Four-time British Listed winner in '03, the 7yo gelding has been off the board in three UAE starts this year.</i> | | | | |
| 2 | 3 | Delsarte | Theatrical (Ire) | Godolphin |
| <i>Listed winner and twice G2 placed in Britain, 4yo makes his Dubai debut in 1st start since a 4th at York in August.</i> | | | | |
| 3 | 12 | Fair Mix (Ire) | Linamix (Fr) | Ecurie Weekend |
| <i>Seven-for-16 lifetime, last year's G1 Prix Ganay hero comes off a victory in the Mar. 6 G3 Dubai City of Gold S.</i> | | | | |
| 4 | 13 | Gorylla (Brz) | New Colony | Stud Colorado dos Pampas |
| <i>Twice a G1 winner in Brazil, the 6yo makes 1st UAE start after win in Dec. 13 G1 Carlos Pellegrini in Argentina.</i> | | | | |
| 5 | 8 | Grand Ekinoks (Tur) | Barnato | Volkan R Ekinci |
| <i>Turkish Derby & 2000 Guineas hero, 5th in '03 Sheema Classic, was off the board in two October starts at home.</i> | | | | |
| 6 | 10 | Hard Buck (Brz) | Spend a Buck | Team Victory |
| <i>A G1 winner in native country, 5yo is 4-for-5 in U.S. after victory in Feb. 22 GI Gulfstream Park BC H.</i> | | | | |
| 7 | 4 | Lunar Sovereign | Cobra King | Godolphin |
| <i>GI Man o'War S. victor was out of money in 2 NA starts to end '03, but ran 3rd in Dubai City of Gold last out.</i> | | | | |
| 8 | 11 | Martaline (GB) | Linamix (Fr) | Prince Khalid Abdullah |
| <i>Winner of two group races in France in '03, 5yo has been off since running 4th in a G3 at Ascot in September.</i> | | | | |
| 9 | 6 | Polish Summer (GB) | Polish Precedent | Prince Khalid Abdullah |
| <i>Fourth in Sheema Classic and 2nd in G1 HK Vase in '03, 7yo won 1st Euro group race of '04, Mar. 6 G3 Prix Exbury.</i> | | | | |
| 10 | 1 | Rawyaan (GB) | Machiavellian | Sheikh Hamdan |
| <i>A Listed winner in Britain in '02, 5yo captured the Aljabr S. in his UAE debut, but was 6th in the Dubai City of Gold.</i> | | | | |
| 11 | 2 | Razkalla | Caerleon | Sheikh Rashid |
| <i>Out of UAE champ, was 5-for-8 in GB with 2 Listed wins & won UAE debut before running 4th in Dubai City of Gold.</i> | | | | |
| 12 | 7 | Scott's View (GB) | Selkirk | Great Escape Partnership |
| <i>Listed winner of 9 races in GB, 5yo gelding is 2-for-4 in UAE, but beat only one horse in Dubai City of Gold.</i> | | | | |
| 13 | 9 | Warrsan (Ire) | Caerleon | Saeed Mananah |
| <i>The 2003 G1 Coronation Cup and G2 Jockey Club S. victor, 6yo was last seen running 3rd in Dec. 14 HK Vase.</i> | | | | |



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Saturday, Nad al Sheba

DUBAI GOLDEN SHAHEEN-G1, \$2,000,000, 3yo/up, 1200m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER
1	12	Alke	Grand Slam	English/Braun
<i>Perfect in four starts for Todd Pletcher, the 4yo defeated Cajun Beat in the GIII Deputy Minister H. Feb. 7.</i>				
2	3	Cajun Beat	Grand Slam	Padua/J & J Iracane
<i>The BC Sprint hero looks to become the fourth American horse to win this in the past five years.</i>				
3	6	Conceal (GB)	Cadeaux Genereux (GB)	Boursely Racing
<i>Making his 11th start since the beginning of the year, the bay was fourth in the Mar. 19 Jebel Ali Sprint.</i>				
4	9	Conroy	Gone West	M Al Jamali
<i>Tenth in this a year ago, he returned to action to win the G3 Mahab al Shimaal for a third straight year Mar. 6.</i>				
5	2	Dantana (Aus)	Danzero (Aus)	Yuen, Egan, et al
<i>A Group 3 winner in his native country, the Macau representative was 4th in the Mahab al Shimaal.</i>				
6	8	Feet So Fast (GB)	Pivotal (GB)	Sheikh Rashid
<i>The winner of the 2003 Al Shindagha Sprint, the 5yo scored a 2 1/4-length victory over the turf Mar. 11.</i>				
7	11	Meiner Select (Jpn)	Forty Niner	T'bred Club Ruffian
<i>The lone Japanese chance sports excellent dirt form, including a win in the G3 Garnet S. at Nakayama Jan. 11.</i>				
8	1	Multidandy (Aus)	Danehill	Lyraa N Y Mui
<i>The Hong Kong speedball has the inside rail and took his lone start on the dirt by nearly 10 lengths.</i>				
9	10	Our New Recruit	Alphabet Soup	CRK Stables
<i>Off the board in just two of 15 starts, the California-based runner was third in the Feb. 1 GII Palos Verdes H.</i>				
10	7	State City	Carson City	Godolphin
<i>The defending champion is unraced since finishing 5th in the GIII Sport Page H. at Belmont Oct. 25.</i>				
11	5	Tour of the Cat	Tour d'Or	Double G Stb.
<i>Winner of the 2003 GII Richter Scale BC, the Florida-bred was 10th in the Feb. 14 Tampa Bay BC S.</i>				
12	4	Tsigane (Fr)	Anabaa	Prestonwood
<i>Multiple stakes placed in France, the 5yo comes off a win in the Daytona H. at Santa Anita Feb. 15.</i>				

All carry 125 pounds.

Tour of the Cat worked 1000 meters under the lights Monday night in :59.40.

Saturday, Nad al Sheba

GODOLPHIN MILE-G2, \$1,000,000, 4yo/up, 1600m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY
1	7	Cherry Pickings	Miner's Mark	Durcan
2	2	Conflict (Fr)	Warning (GB)	Doyle
3	9	D'Anjou (GB)	Marju (Ire)	Kinane
4	1	During	Cherokee Run	Bailey
5	5	Estimraar	Holy Bull	Hind
6	3	Excessivepleasure	In Excess (Ire)	Court
7	8	Firebreak (GB)	Charnwood Forest (Ire)	Dettori
8	6	Inamorato	Tale of the Cat	McEvoy
9	4	Tropical Star (Ire)	Machiavellian	Mullen

All carry 126 pounds.

Saturday, Nad al Sheba

UAE DERBY-G2, \$2,000,000, 3yo, 1800m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	9	Little Jim (Arg)	Roar	Durcan	130
2	3	Lundy's Liability (Brz)	Candy Stripes	Marwing	130
3	7	Petit Paris (Chi)	Hussonet	Bailey	130
4	5	Festive Style (SAf)	Fort Wood	Moore	126
5	2	Ascertain (Ire)	Intikhab	Ahern	121
6	1	Great Exhibition	Gone West	Dettori	121
7	4	Jack Sullivan	Belong to Me	Kinane	121
8	6	Menhoubah	Dixieland Band	Solis	117
9	8	Tamarillo (GB)	Daylami (Ire)	Hind	117

Trainer Neil Drysdale's **From the Sky (Arg)** (Salt Lake), was unexpectedly left out of the field for the UAE Derby after working over the turf Monday night.

Cajun Beat On the Work Tab

Breeders' Cup Sprint hero **Cajun Beat** (Grand Slam), likely favorite in the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen, worked 600 meters under the floodlights at Nad al Sheba Monday evening, stopping the clock in a leisurely :38.25. "I didn't want him to do too much," explained trainer Steve Margolis. "I just wanted him to stretch his legs." Margolis added that the four-year-old colt has acclimated well. "He's just a smart, intelligent horse who never gets flustered," the trainer said. Margolis is taking extra confidence from his choice of riders. "When you have Jerry Bailey on your side, it's a good feeling," he said.

Weekend Review

Red Ransom • New 2YO GSW
CHARGE FORWARD wins Slipper Trial-G2 in Australia

Hussonet • Now 10 Stakes Horses in 2004
2YO L'ETE beaten only a length in G3 Stakes in Chile

Gilded Time • Repeat West Coast SW
CHRISTMAS TIME 3rd stakes performance this year

Runaway Groom • Four Winners Sunday
Including one by 10 lengths



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FROM THE DESK OF...

Bill Oppenheim


SITTING OUT APRIL

We are told it was Needles, 48 years ago in 1956, who was the last Kentucky Derby winner not to run in April. Now Read The Footnotes joins Friends Lake in sitting out the April preps, meaning the winners of Florida's Grade I and II three-year-old races will not reappear before Churchill Downs. The times, they definitely are a'changing when you see that sort of thing happening. They're sacrificing seasoning for freshness. Friends Lake ran only a Beyer 92 in winning the GI Florida Derby, so he's got to improve by leaps and bounds, but at least, being by [A.P. Indy](#), he is bred to get the Derby trip. Read The Footnotes would cakewalk the Derby if he ran back to his 113 in the GII Fountain of Youth, but he has to overcome a bad last and he's by Smoke Glacken, hardly a lock to sire a good horse who will get 10 furlongs. After another weekend of uninformative trials, this week's 'golden boy' is the unbeaten Rebel S. winner Smarty Jones, by [Elusive Quality](#) out of a mare by Smile. He did run a 106 over 8 1/2 furlongs in the Rebel, but that is already probably further than he's bred to go. He might win the GII Arkansas Derby over nine furlongs, but, with that pedigree, he'd have to be a complete freak to get 10 furlongs. But, it could be a 'freaky' year, it really could.

Whether your friends Across the Pond will be able to watch these events unfolding is a little murky at the moment. The dedicated Sky satellite channel Attheraces may bite the dust next week, on March 31, after a complicated 60-day shutdown scenario was triggered by, of all things, the Tote's profit dropping below some specified percentage. How that ever got worked out in the first place is pretty hard to imagine. This is basically going to be like TVG going off the air. Typically for this industry, nobody seems to have been able to figure this out in 60 days, so the mug punters and industry professionals--us again--are the ones who

will suffer. It's back to the betting shops, for those within 40 miles of a betting shop, until some new bright sparks dream up a new angle. Talk about a rudderless ship. It's pathetic.

Sophomore Sires: Work in Progress...

I'm not sure I can remember a time when the two top freshman sires in Europe had higher progeny earnings than their American counterparts, but that was the case with [Fasliyev](#) and Cape Cross at the end of 2003. Even now, when there have been 11 weeks of racing for three-year-olds in the U.S., while the British turf season only gets underway tomorrow, I think Fasliyev's and Cape Cross's progeny earnings are still ahead of the Americans. Either those two are very good, or this year's North American sophomore sires have a little bit to find on last year's vintage crop of sophomores, headed by [Grand Slam](#), [Distorted Humor](#), Elusive Quality, and [Tale of the Cat](#).

Of course, only last week I was raving about how we can't really assess sires until their first four-year-olds have finished racing, so this year's sophomores do have about 93 weeks to go on that score. Also true is that a Classic contender from a sire's first crop automatically propels them into the limelight, perhaps more than might be merited in a broader context. Not much action on that front, either, among these sires, although Preachinathebar's win in the GII San Felipe propelled his sire, [Silver Charm](#), into second among his group in 2004 earnings, and to sixth in cumulative earnings (including last year), up from ninth spot at the end of 2003. Aside from being the first stakes winner produced by any of his first five dams (I believe) and from a sire line variously defined as dead or nonexistent, Silver Charm had it all. He won nine Grade I or II races, and placed in another eight, in 24 career starts, in which he earned over \$6.9 million. He's a very good-looking horse to boot, the Judges say, and throws good-looking, plus he does have trainer Bob Baffert very much in his corner, which isn't hurting. Silver Charm looked last year like a horse going in the right direction, and so far, he is. **Cont. p. 5**

MATTY G

Capote – Star Gem, by Pia Star • \$7,500 LF, 9/1

SINISTER G – Winner \$500,000 Lane's End-G2
and 3rd place runner **LITTLE MATTH MAN**

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(Bill Oppenheim cont. from p. 4)

I think I'm right in saying Preachinatthebar is the only top-20 Derby contender from this sire group's first crops. This is a bit worrying when you think that a Beyer 100 (which I think equals around a Timeform 112) in a two-turn stakes is probably enough to qualify for the top 20 among U.S. three-year-olds this year. But even Preachinatthebar hasn't been enough for Silver Charm to peg back Airdrie's Mazel Trick as the leading sophomore sire in 2004 progeny earnings to date. A son of Phone Trick out of the Mexican-bred American Grade III winner Mazatlan, Mazel Trick ran five times in America for Bobby Frankel after coming from France. He won his last four, including the GIII Laz Barrera S. at 1 1/16 miles at Hollywood Park in his final start at three, running a Beyer 112 (= Timeform 124). He ran twice at four, winning the seven-furlong GII Triple Bend at Hollywood Park in under 1:20, then breaking 1:41 in the GIII San Diego H. at Del Mar. In both races he ran a Beyer 118 (= Timeform 130). So he's got credentials, and at last count had sired 13 winners already this year, leading sophomore sires in 2004 progeny earnings, and advancing from 10th to fifth in the cumulative table.

Mazel Trick and Silver Charm have been the two big improvers among 2004 North American sophomore sires so far this year. The top four on the 2003 North American Freshman Sire List are still the top four in cumulative progeny earnings. Top 2003 freshman sire [Stravinsky](#) got off to a slow start this year, and was initially headed by 2003 runner-up [Victory Gallop](#), but Stravinsky has now come back with seven winners this year to Victory Gallop's four, so Stravinsky has gone back into a \$27,000 lead at this point. Forestry (eight winners this year) has edged into third, \$12,000 ahead of Doneraile Court (10 winners, including two stakes winners, this year), but it is the latter who has been the real surprise package among this group so far.

A \$1-million Keeneland July yearling back when there were such things, in 1997, and trained by Nick Zito for Messrs. Magnier and Tabor, Doneraile Court ran a Beyer 97 (very respectable) in winning the GIII Nashua as a two-year-old, but never ran higher than a Beyer 101 (= Timeform 113) in a stakes race as a three-year-old--though he did run a 107 in winning a seven-furlong allowance race at Belmont Park. He went to stud for \$7,500 at Doug Arnold's Buck Pond Farm, and the rest is history. He now stands at Hill 'n' Dale for \$15,000, and is really making a name for himself.

The top six sophomore sires--last year's top four of Stravinsky, Victory Gallop, Doneraile Court, and Forestry, plus this year's top two, Mazel Trick and Silver Charm--each now has cumulative progeny earnings of \$975,000 or more. It's about another \$90,000 back to Old Trieste in cumulative seventh, followed, in a cluster of four sires now between \$750,000-\$800,000, by Family Calling, Stormin' Fever, Exploit, and Malibu Moon. It is perhaps notable that three of this group's top 11 include one son of Seattle Slew (Doneraile Court) and two sons of A.P. Indy (Old Trieste and Malibu Moon). Further down the list, 1999 champion sprinter Artax has notched up his first stakes winner and the South African wonder [Horse Chestnut](#) had the graded stakes-winning filly Lucifer's Stone at Gulfstream Park.

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ASHFORD STUD



WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES

by Alan Porter

Saturday, Turfway Park

LANE'S END S.-GII, \$500,000, TPX, 3-20, 3yo,

1 1/8m, 1:50 3/5, ft.

1--**@#SINISTER G, 121, c, 3, by Matty G**

1st Dam: Sinister Punch, by Two Punch

2nd Dam: Sinister Victory, by Vice Regent

3rd Dam: Sinister Gold, by Sinister Purpose

(\$67,000 2yo 2003 OBSAPR). O-John T Toscano III,

Kim Corrado & Yamile Carlat; B-Devonia Stud, Inc

(FL); T-John T Toscano Jr; J-P R Toscano;

\$300,000. Lifetime Record: 8-3-2-1, \$380,416.

Click for the brisnet.com pedigree.

For the second straight Saturday, the weekend's major Derby trial was taken by a longshot from the Seattle Slew line. Last weekend it was [A.P. Indy's](#) son Friends Lake coming from off the pace to take the GI Florida Derby, and this weekend Sinister G--a grandson of [Capote](#)--led throughout to take the GI Lane's End S.

While A.P. Indy, who retired as Horse of the Year, has always been expected to succeed as a sire, [Matty G](#) has had to work a little harder to achieve recognition. He did show exceptional ability at two when he ended his season with a seven-length win over a field which included Hennessy in the GI Hollywood Futurity. A variety of problems--including a back injury received when he collided with another horse in the GI Santa Anita Derby, and a stall injury--prevented him from ever replicating that performance, but he did also add a victory in the GIII Ascot H. on turf at three.

Matty G now stands at Darby Dan Farm in Lexington, Kentucky, and he's expected to cover over 100 mares this year at a fee of \$7,500. However, he started his career at Devonia Stud in Ocala, Florida, and his first three crop of three-year-olds, none conceived at a fee of more than \$6,000, were sired in that state. Given the numbers and quality of the mares he's received to date, Matty G's figures are quite remarkable. From his first three crops, the youngest of which are currently three, he's had 77 registered foals, 67 starters, 48 winners (72 percent winners to runners), five stakes winners, three of

them graded stakes winners, and eight stakes horses. In addition to Sinister G, his current three-year-olds include Little Matth Man, who defeated Sinister G in the Whirlaway S. earlier this year and was a furiously closing third in the Lane's End. Stakes winners from previous crops include Mayakovsky, who broke a 55-year-old Saratoga track record and finished second to Came Home in the GI Hopeful S. at two, and won the GIII Gotham S. at three; and the GIII General George H. and NTRA Great State Challenge Sprint winner My Cousin Matt.

We mentioned that Matty G's initial opportunities were limited, and that's illustrated when we look Sinister Punch and Lady's Legacy, the respective dams of Sinister G and Little Matth Man. Sinister Punch was acquired by Devonia Stud in lieu of a board bill, while Lady's Legacy was purchased on their behalf for just \$11,000 at the 1999 Keeneland January Sales. That's not to say that the decision to breed these mares to Matty G was taken without thought. In fact, Lady's Legacy was purchased specifically to visit Matty G--in part because she gave inbreeding to his maternal grand-sire Pia Star--while there was as a strong rationale for deciding that Sinister Punch had a pedigree which suited Matty G.

In the case of Sinister G, the pedigree pattern had a considerable degree of inertia to overcome. Sinister Punch never ran and at the time she was half-sister to two very minor winners (since then, her Sir Cat half-sister Cativa has developed into a good New York allowance runner). Sinister Punch's dam Sinister Victory won twice and was half-sister to the minor stakes placed horse Sinful Hush, but one doesn't come to a stakes winner until we reach Sinister G's third dam Sinister Gold, who recorded her only victory in nine starts when capturing the Nandi S. as a two-year-old. Sinister Gold is the only black-type winner in the first four generations of the family, but Sinister G's sixth dam Jolie Mome is a sister to Hedevar, a one-time world-record holder for the mile who was used twice as a rabbit for Damascus in his contests with Dr. Fager.

As mentioned previously, despite the paucity of talent in the female line, there were reasons for thinking that Sinister Punch might be a good match for Matty G. To start with, she was by Two Punch, a very well-bred son of Mr. Prospector. The Raise a Native line and particularly the Mr. Prospector branch were always at the top of the shopping list for Matty G, and all three of his graded stakes winners are out of Raise a Native-line mares, two from the Mr. Prospector line. *Cont. p. 7*



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(Pedigree Perspectives cont. from p. 6)

Of course it's no secret that Seattle Slew-line stallions in general have crossed extremely well with Mr. Prospector. Seattle Slew actually stems from the same female line as Mr. Prospector; his granddam has Mr. Prospector's fifth dam Friseur 5x4, once through Black Wave, a three-parts relative to Mr. Prospector's third dam Miss Dogwood. Capote has a third strain of the family through his maternal grandsire Bald Eagle, who is out of a mare by Tiger, another close relative to Miss Dogwood.

Perhaps this extra strain has given Capote a particularly strong affinity for Mr. Prospector-line mares, as he is the sire of at least 15 stakes winners out of Mr. Prospector-line mares, including Grade I winners Agincourt and Capote Belle, and other graded scorers She's Tops, True Flare, Madison's Charm, Acceptable, Zosima and Capital Secret. There is an additional reason to expect Matty G to work particularly well with Mr. Prospector. Matty G's granddam Soonerland is by Fleet Nasrullah, a close relative to the dam of Mr. Prospector and a horse who has often successfully combined with that great stallion.

In the case of Sinister G, we can note that his broodmare sire Two Punch is out of champion Heavenly Cause, a mare from a family which has also worked well with Seattle Slew. Another plus point is that Sinister G's granddam Sinister Victory is a daughter of Vice Regent, the broodmare sire of Capote's champion two-year-old Boston Harbor. Sinister Punch also offers one more reinforcement of the Fleet Nasrullah strain in Matty G. Fleet Nasrullah is by Nasrullah out of Happy Go Fleet, a mare bred on a Count Fleet/Bull Dog cross. Sinister Punch's fourth dam Martome is by a son of Nasrullah out of a mare by Count of Honor, a three-parts genetic relative to the dams of both Fleet Nasrullah and Gold Digger (dam of Mr. Prospector). So Sinister G also has a treble of the Nasrullah/Count Fleet/Bull Dog combination.

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FOALING NEWS

RHYTHM OF LIFE, 10, Deputy Minister--Nalee's Rhythm, by Nalees Man
Foal born Feb. 29, a filly by Monarchos.
Will be bred back to Vindication.
Owned by William Entenmann.
Boarded at Watercress Farm, Ky.
Accomplishments: Dam of Sarava (Wild Again), GISW, \$698,145.

DREAMY MAIDEN, 8, Meadowlake--Sparrow Lake (Apalachee)
Foal born Feb. 24, a filly by Chester House.
Will be bred back to Johannesburg.
Mare owned by ClassicStar.
Foal owned by Davis Breeders.
Boarded at ClassicStar, Ky.
Accomplishments: MSW of \$154,296.

HIDDEN CAT, 7, Storm Cat--Alywow (Alysheba)
Foal born Feb. 24, a colt by Kingmambo.
Will be bred back to Vindication.
Owned by Mike Polaski.
Boarded at Denali Stud, Ky.
Accomplishments: SW of \$102,515.

MAX DONNELL, 19, Critique--A Round Table (Under The Table)
Foal born Feb. 24, a filly by Point Given.
Will be bred back to High Yield.
Owned by Don & Mary Zuckerman.
Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.
Accomplishments: SP; dam of Supah Jess (On to Glory), MSW & GSP, \$238,750; and Sister Swank (Skip Away), GSP.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners.



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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

ROWDY ANGEL DIES Rowdy Angel (Halo--Ramhyde, by Rambunctious), the dam of Classic winner Pine Bluff (Danzig) and granddam of Kentucky Derby winner Fusaichi Pegasus (Mr. Prospector), died Monday at Dr. and Mrs. A Gary Lavin's Longfield Farm in Goshen, Kentucky. Owned by John Ed Anthony and Mary Lynn Dudley's Loblolly Stable, the 25-year-old mare had been pensioned since 1995. After an undistinguished racing career, Rowdy Angel began her broodmare career in 1983 at Longfield. Her first foal was Demons Begone (Elocutionist), who was runner-up in the GI Champagne S. and GI Futurity S. in 1986. After winning the GI Arkansas Derby as a three-year-old, the colt was sent off the 2-1 favorite in the Kentucky Derby, but was pulled up in the race after suffering from pulmonary hemorrhaging. In 1989, Rowdy Angel produced Pine Bluff, who went on to win the 1992 GI Preakness and GI Arkansas Derby and was third in the GI Belmont S. Rowdy Angel is also the dam of Angel Fever (Danzig), who sired 2000 Kentucky Derby winner Fusaichi Pegasus. The mare was buried at Longfield Farm.

★ **EAST** ★

Yesterday's Results:

8th-PHA, \$20,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:06 1/5, ft.

VIVITZ (f, 3, Viva Deputy--Alfitz {SP, \$116,445}, by Mount Hagen {Fr}) graduated by 5 1/2 lengths at Sunland Mar. 7 and was given a 7-2 chance to take her local debut here. The chestnut filly sat just off the leaders and rallied in the stretch to outfinish 26-1 Nick-name (Dance Brightly) by a half length. The winner is a half to Fitzroyal (Desert Royalty), MSW, \$198,749. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$21,681. O-Michael A Ward II. B-Robert & Patricia Norman (TX). T-Randy Allen.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 8th Race, \$47,000 Alw/Opt Clm, at Aqueduct. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).


★ **INDUSTRY INFO** ★

Seabiscuit Star Claimed by Rescue Groups:

Rich in Dallas, one of 10 horses that played Seabiscuit in last year's movie, was claimed by a group of racehorse rescue and adoption groups from last Saturday's second race at Los Alamitos. The Exceller Fund, an internet-based group dedicated to saving racehorses from slaughter, orchestrated the \$2,500 claim of Rich in Dallas and will help support him post-racing, along with ReRun, Inc. An anonymous donor put up the claim money and a well-known company is contributing transport to Kentucky. Rich in Dallas will be shipped to Kentucky to Old Friends at Afton Farm, to help kick off this new program with an appearance at their open house on Apr. 17. Then the horse will ship to his permanent retirement at ReRun Maryland near Cecilton. "Because funding is so tight for most Thoroughbred adoption and retirement groups, we all need to work together," said Bonnie Mizrahi, president of the Exceller Fund. "In this way, we can maximize the funding instead of competing for it." Shon Wylie, president of ReRun, Inc., added, "We have worked closely with the Exceller Fun in the past to help numerous ex-racehorses that were in bad situations. We look forward to working just as closely with Michael Blowen on the Old Friends project, which is a great concept and dovetails nicely with ReRun's mission."

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EUROPE



SPECIAL HARMONY TO U.S.? **Special Harmony (Aus)** (Spinning World), winner of the Oct. 15 G1 Vinery Stud 1000 Guineas and the Nov. 6 G1 Crown Oaks during the Australian spring season, may be headed to the U.S. According to Racing Victoria Ltd., the chestnut filly could ship to Hollywood Park for the July 3 G1 American Oaks. A September foal, she will be a four-year-old on Northern Hemisphere time, but Southern Hemisphere three-year-olds are eligible for the 10-furlong turf test. "[The race] is not too far away, being on the American [West] Coast, and it would allow time to bring Special Harmony back for her spring campaign," said Mark Player, Racing Victoria's director of equine business development. "Connections of the filly are giving great consideration to running in the race." Special Harmony is trained by Lee Freedman.

WAKEFIELD STUD TO DISPERSE AT MAGIC MILLIONS

Wakefield Stud, one of the leading nurseries in Australia, will disperse a total of 51 horses at the Magic Millions National Sale in June on the Gold Coast. The offering will be comprised of 31 broodmares, 17 weanlings and three untried fillies selling as racing prospects. The mares in the dispersal carry foals by sires such as Dehere, Danehill Dancer (Aus), Galileo (Ire), Giant's Causeway, Red Ransom, Spinning World and Tale of the Cat. There are also weanlings by Grand Lodge, Fuji Kiseki (Jpn), Red Ransom, Spectrum (Ire) and Xaar (GB). The National Sale, which will also include a reduction of the stock from Eureka Thoroughbreds, runs June 13-18.



FRESHMAN FOCUS

First-crop progeny to watch: Wednesday, Mar. 24

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2001 Fee, #2yos/Winners/SW

Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

SUCCESSFUL APPEAL (Valid Appeal), Walmac, \$5K, 44/0/0 1-SA, Msw, 2f, +Double D Appeal, \$120K OBS FEB 2yo

★ FRANCE ★

DEAUVILLE GRADS IMPRESS AT COMPIEGNE

L'Agence Francaise was well represented Monday with a pair of Deauville sales graduates heading the action. **Obsidianne (Fr)** (Machiavellian), a €56,000 DEAOCT yearling, collected the win in a one-mile €28,000 conditions event for owner Leonidas Marinopoulos and trainer Carlos Laffon-Parias, while the €100,000 DEAAUG yearling purchase **Ballast (Ire)** (Desert Prince {Ire}) blasted to a 10-length score in a similar event later in the day for Khalid Abdullah and conditioner Maurice Zilber.



SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT

First-time starters/stakes runners: Wednesday, Mar. 24

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2000 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW

Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

CATEGORY FIVE (Storm Cat), Lakeview, \$3K, 49/5/1 8-DED, Msw, 5f, +Robbies Hero, 10-1

EXPLOIT (Storm Cat), Taylor Made, \$25K, 159/23/1

3-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Exploding Star, \$450K FTS AUG yrl, 6-1

FAMILY CALLING (Mr. Prospector), Hidden Point, \$5K, 137/25/0 8-GP, Alw, 5 1/2f, Family Favorite, 6-1

GOOD AND TOUGH (Carson City), Lakland, \$6K, 82/14/0

5-AQU, Alw, 1m, Tough as Neatie, \$125K OBS MAR 2yo **RENERIA** (Incinerator), High Horse, \$1000, 27/2/0

1-SA, Msw, 2f, +Rents Due

RUBIYAT (Rubiano), Summerwind, \$2K, 20/3/0

5-AQU, Alw, 1m, One Tough Dude, \$50K OBS APR 2yo

STRAVINSKY (Nureyev), Ashford, \$18K, 182/32/2

3-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Ruslanova, \$52K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1 **VICTORY**

GALLOP (Cryptoclearance), Winstar, \$15K, 144/17/2 5-AQU, Alw, 1m, Separato, \$40K KEE NOV wnl

6-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Shining Victory, \$100K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1

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BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-PHA, \$20,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11, ft.
MAMA'S JOY (c, 4, Joy's Report--Female Reasoning, by Inverness Drive) Lifetime Record: 17-4-3-1, \$44,680. O-Kathy Ward & David Price et al. B-Kathy M Ward (AR). T-Randy Allen.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Marvy's Gal, f, 4, Beyond the Mint--Marvy, by Groovy. PHA, 3-23, 6f, 1:12 2/5. B-Paul E Labe Sr (Pa).
Girl Fever, c, 4, Gold Fever--Masquerade Lady, by Dixieland Band. HAW, 3-22, (S), 6f, 1:11 3/5. B-Maxim M Jakovac (Ill).

BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

FRANCE, Toulouse, 4.30, Cond, 3-22, €21,000, 3yo, 1 3/8mT, 2:22.21, sf.
YOUNG TIGER (FR) (c, 3, Tiger Hill {Ire}--Youngolina {Ire}, by Trempolino) Lifetime Record: n/a. O-J Gispert; B-Alain de Rose; T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Presto Shinko (Ire), c, 3, Shinko Forest (Ire)--Swift Chorus (GB), by Music Boy (GB). Lingfield, Britain, 3-23, Mdn, 3yo, 6f (AWT). B-Mrs S O'Riordan. *65,000gns wnl '01 TATDEC; 50,000gns yrl '02 TATOCT.
Lasco el Viento (Ity), c, 3, Trywhite (Ire)--Blue Delighted (Ire), by Bluebird. Varese, Italy, 3-22, Mdn, 3yo, 7 1/2ft. B-Azienda Agricola Allevamento del Lasco.

A + will first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races



WRITERS UP

WELD ARMY STEPS OUT *by Dave Keena*

Dermot Weld held his annual press day on Monday morning and the globetrotting conditioner breezed through his plans for his large string at Rosewell House. Leading the assortment of big-race prospects for 2004 on the Old Vic gallop was last season's top-rated domestic juvenile **Grey Swallow (Ire)** (Daylami {Ire}). After Pat Smullen breezed up the power-packed grey, thoughts were turned to Newmarket, where Weld came and conquered with Refuse to Bend (Ire) 12 months ago. That 2000 Guineas hope is one of many names who could make this season as memorable as the last, with the trainer's team set to straddle many continents once again. He gave the lowdown on the main contenders:

THREE-YEAR-OLDS

Grey Swallow (Ire) (Daylami {Ire}--Style of Life, by The Minstrel)
 "He has developed and lengthened into a lovely horse. He has not been asked to do anything serious yet as I was just waiting for the weather to pick up a bit. The plan is the G1 2000 Guineas [at Newmarket May 1], and whether he has a prep race at Leopardstown or not remains to be seen. Ideally I'd love to run him back in the Listed Irish 2000 Guineas Trial at Leopardstown [Apr. 18], but the only concern I have is that last year it came three weeks before Newmarket and this year it's just two weeks before. It's a shade closer than I'd like and he'll either run there or go straight to Newmarket. The little bits he's done here we've been happy with. He has developed and matured both physically and mentally and he can do no more than that. He is a similar horse to Refuse to Bend and like him, he is a very straightforward horse to train. They are both clean-limbed and clear-winded horses. Trip wise it's a mile--he has a lot of pace and got seven well at Galway, but whether he goes further remains to be seen. There would have to be a doubt about him getting a mile and a half, but he may get 1 1/4 miles."



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Other Stakes Horses: Gulfstream • Monmouth • Bay Meadows, etc.

Skip Away





(Writer's Up cont. from p. 3)

Simple Exchange (Ire) (Danehill--Summer Trysting, by Alleged)

"He is a very interesting three-year-old and he belongs to Moyglare. He was an immature horse last year, but he still managed to win twice from four starts. The last time he won a stakes race at Cork, [Listed El Gran Senor S.] he won very easily that day. He was a May foal and I think he has physically developed a lot from two to three. I may start him off in the G3 Tetrarch S. [at The Curragh May 3]. He ran well [when fifth] in the G1 National S. and I think he has progressed considerably this year. Plenty will be heard about him and he is the obvious one for the American Derby."

Relaxed Gesture (Ire) ([Indian Ridge {Ire}](#)--Token Gesture {Ire}, by Alzao)

"He ran a good race in the G2 Beresford S. [when second to Azamour]. He will probably reappear in the G3 Ballysax S. [at Leopardstown Apr. 18]. He wants good ground and that would be a race to run him in and a mile and a quarter looks his trip. He is a possible for the GI Belmont S."

Wathab (Ire) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}--Bally Souza {Ire}, by Alzao)

"An interesting horse and may run in the Listed Loughbrown S. [at The Curragh Apr. 4] as he's quite forward. I am pleased with him and he had a busy season last year, and provided he has trained on, I'd expect him to do well. Seven furlongs to a mile is his trip."

Medicinal (Ire) (Linamix {Fr}--Pharmacist {Ire}, by Machiavellian)

"He won his only start last year [in a Gowran Park maiden] and he is very well made. I think he is going to make a very nice three-year-old. He'll start off in one of the Classic trials. He has a fair bit of pace, so he'll probably start off over a mile."

Misty Heights (GB) ([Fasliyev](#)--Mountains of Mist {Ire}, by Shirley Heights {GB})

"She won her maiden very easily at Tipperary and was fourth in the G1 Moyglare S. and second in the G3 C L Weld Park S. I think she has done very well and she'll start off in one of the Classic trials. She will be a nice contender this year and won't be far off the very top. She is a Dimitrova-type filly and if she's not good enough to win at Classic level over here, she is a filly that I could see performing well for me in the States. A very sound filly with a lovely temperament."

Genuine Charm (Ire) ([Sadler's Wells](#)--Market Slide, by Gulch)

"She is a full sister to Refuse to Bend. A different sort to him; I see her more as a mile-and-a-quarter, maybe even a mile-and-a-half filly. She is also a half sister to Media Puzzle and this filly is probably more like him in that she is a big staying type. She will start off in a couple of weeks and I might start her off over seven furlongs, but when she is stepped up to a mile and a quarter I think we'll see a very nice filly."

OLDER HORSES

Vinnie Roe (Ire) (g, 6, Definite Article {Ire}--Kayu {Ire}, by Tap On Wood {Ire})

"He is in great order and I expect him to have a big year. He'll try and win a fourth G1 Irish St Leger and I think we'll have another crack at the G1 Ascot Gold Cup. We only tried it once before, when he was a four-year-old, and he was only beaten a head. He is six now and I think we'll have a serious cut at it this year. He is such a genuine and tough horse. We'll probably start him off in the Listed Saval Beg S. [at Leopardstown May 26] or the G2 Yorkshire Cup [at York May 13]. He is a very relaxed individual and had a nice relaxed autumn."

Cont. p. 5

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TDN TODAY

Around the World 5 pages



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(Writer's Up cont. from p. 4)

Media Puzzle (g, 7, Theatrical {Ire}--Market Slide, by Gulch)

"He had leg trouble last year, but the Melbourne Cup is his target again. He didn't make it back last year and we treated his legs and he should be ready to roll in May or June. I am very happy with him, but I just erred on the side of caution last year. I am looking at the G3 Curragh Cup [June 26] for him and then to take him back to Melbourne again. He just thrived in Australia and he loved the fast ground and warm weather. His legs have been scanned and they are perfect, but I am just going to give him that bit of time to be sure."

Evolving Tactics (Ire) (c, 4, Machiavellian--Token Gesture {Ire}, by Alzao)

"He has done very well for us and he won well over in Dubai. Ted Durcan gave him a smashing ride that day and Ted rode him for me last week and he was very pleased with him. Pat Smullen travels over to ride him in the G1 Dubai Duty Free on Saturday--a race that is worth two million dollars. He'll face Refuse to Bend, so it will be interesting to see how he gets on."

In Times Eye (GB) (g, 5, Singspiel {Ire}--Irish Edition, by Alleged)

"He ran a fine race behind High Chaparral here at the Curragh [in the G2 Royal Whip S.] and he also won well at Ascot [the Listed Wolfertan S.]. He started favourite for Caulfield Cup, but the ground was very firm that day and he came back very sore and jarred. I am very happy with him. He will reappear in early June."

Maharib (Ire) (c, 4, Alhaarth {Ire}--Diali, by Dayjur)

"He is a group winner. He won the G3 Curragh Cup last year. On his last run last year he ran a cracker and finished fourth in the G1 St Leger. He hit the front about a furlong and a half out and I see him continuing to win group races throughout the year. There is the Listed Vintage Crop S. [at Navan May 2] and that's where he'll start off."

Weld also highlighted some dark horses, such as **Cairdeas (Ire)** (Darshaan {GB}), a half-sister to Desert King (Ire); **Pulitzer (Ire)** (Grand Lodge), who has "strengthened well"; **Soaringwith eagles (Woodman)**; and **Monaser (Ire)** (**Sadler's Wells**), who he described as "a nice horse who was very immature last year, but is ready to roll."

Of his juvenile team, he added, "We have about 60 two-year-olds and they were all pretty forward until we got that cold snap a couple of weeks ago, and a number of them have little head colds on them at the moment. **Dateline (Ire)** (Namid {GB}) is an example. He was due to run last Sunday. I think he is a sharp colt. I don't have many that forward, but there is a half-sister to Grey Swallow called **Moonlight Dance (Ire)** (Sinndar {Ire}). She is a nice filly and though she is by Sinndar, she is sharp and forward and is owned by Dr. Michael Smurfit. She may start off sometime in May and she goes well."



FOALING NEWS

ETHELDREDA, 19, Diesis (GB)--Royal Bund (Royal Coinage)

Foal born Feb. 24, a filly by Dixie Union.

Will be bred back to Forest Wildcat.

Owned by/boarded at Mill Ridge Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: Dam of Flemensfirth (Alleged), G1SW-Fr & Ity, SP-Eng, \$366,919; and Daggett Peak (It's Freezing), MGSP, \$500,677.

MISS TURLINGTON, 14, Seattle Slew--Class Play (Stage Door Johnny)

Foal born Feb. 24, a colt by Elusive Quality.

Will be bred back to Aldebaran.

Owned by Stepwise Farm.

Boarded at Denali Stud, Ky.

Accomplishments: Dam of Incurable Optimist (Cure the Blues), MGSW, \$271,309; Feisty Step (Coronado's Quest), GSP.

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