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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004

MIDWAY ROAD CONFIRMED FOR FOSTER

Trainer Neil Howard yesterday confirmed that William S. Farish's **Midway Road** (Jade Hunter) will remain at his Churchill Downs base for a rematch with **Southern Image** (Halo's Image) in Saturday's \$750,000-added GI Stephen Foster H. The two four-year-olds last hooked up in the GI Pimlico Special H. May 14, with Southern Image prevailing by a hard-fought 1 1/4-length margin over Midway Road. "We didn't want to be in a mad rush to run against Southern Image again," Howard explained. "But in light of the way the horse has been training, maintaining his weight and the way's he's been doing, we thought maybe if there was



Midway Road Bill Straus

ever a chance to be successful against him, it would be here. He's doing so well now and with the addition of the home-court advantage, which you can make as much or as little of that as you want, we felt that this might be the time to go ahead and take the chance." He added. "The conditioner was also considering Belmont Park's GII Brooklyn H. the same afternoon. The Preakness runner-up in 2003, Midway Road won the GIII Ben Ali S. at Keeneland by 11 1/4 lengths in course-record time Apr. 22 prior to his Pimlico effort. Regular rider Robby Albarado has the call as he tries to exact revenge on **Perfect Drift** (Dynaformer), who defeated former stablemate and Horse of the Year Mineshaft in last year's Foster. Southern Image, the 122-pound highweight, and **Peace Rules** (Jules), set to carry just one pound less than the favorite, were both scheduled to arrive yesterday at Churchill.

CHURCHILL DOWNS' "SUPER SATURDAY"

\$750,000a GI Stephen Foster H., 3yo/up, 1 1/8m
\$400,000a GII Fleur de Lis H., 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8m
\$200,000a GIII Northern Dancer S., 3yo, 1 1/16m
\$200,000a GIII Jefferson Cup S., 3yo, 1 1/8m (turf)
\$200,000a GIII Regret S., 3yo, f, 1 1/8m (turf)
\$100,000a Opening Verse H., 3yo/up, 1 1/16m (turf)

**WEEKEND PEDIGREE
PERSPECTIVES**
by Alan Porter

Saturday, Belmont Park

BELMONT S.-GI, \$1,000,000, BEL, 6-5, 3yo, 1 1/2m, 2:27 2/5, ft.

1--**BIRDSTONE**, 126, c, 3, by [Grindstone](#)

1st Dam: **Dear Birdie**, by **Storm Bird**

2nd Dam: **Hush Dear**, by **Silent Screen**

3rd Dam: **You All**, by **Nashua**

O/B-Marylou Whitney Stables (KY); T-Nicholas P Zito; J-E Prado; \$600,000. Lifetime Record: 7-4-0-0, \$975,600. * 1/2 to Bird Town (Cape Town), Ch. 3yo Filly & MGISW, \$871,251; and Mountain Bird (Mt. Livermore), \$147,838.

We covered the pedigree of Birdstone following his victory in last year's GI Champagne S., but given his upset victory in the GI Belmont S., it's worth reviewing his background again.

Birdstone had already had a crack at Classic glory this year, and when he lined up for the GI Kentucky Derby, he was bidding to complete a triple for his sire line, as both his sire, [Grindstone](#), and his grandsire, [Unbridled](#), had won the race. Birdstone could only finish a distant eighth at Churchill Downs, but having missed his chance at his own historic triple there, he instead entered the history books by ending Smarty Jones's Triple Crown attempt in the Belmont.

It's probably a reflection on the changing face of the breed, that both Smarty Jones and Birdstone, second and first in the mile-and-a-half Belmont, are descendents of Mr. Prospector through sons who were both most outstanding at a mile. Smarty Jones is by [Elusive Quality](#), a son of [Gone West](#), and Grindstone is a grandson of Fappiano. Grindstone was, with Unbridled's Song, one of two members of the first crop of Unbridled to contest the 1996 GI Kentucky Derby. Unbridled's Song started as favorite and led into the stretch, but as he gave way, it was less-heralded Grindstone who got up on the line to defeat Cavonnier by a nose. Porter cont. p2.

FOREST MUSIC, coming off of a win in the **Grade 3 Miss Preakness Stakes**, wins the **Crank It Up Stakes** at Monmouth, continuing her undefeated streak in 2004.

UNBRIDLED'S SONG

Congratulations to owner **Michael Gill**, breeder **Twin Hopes Farm, Inc.** & trainer **Mark Shuman**.



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Pedigree Perspectives cont.

Grindstone never ran again after the Derby, and at stud, he and Unbridled's Song have enjoyed widely differing fates, as indicated by their respective stud fees for the 2004 breeding season, with Unbridled's Song being advertised at \$125,000 against the fee of \$5,000



Grindstone

quoted for Grindstone. While nowhere near as fashionable as Unbridled's Song, Grindstone has had his moments, and looked good value for \$5,000, even before Birdstone's classic victory. He got the GIII Nashua S. winner, Ommadon, and one other stakes winner in his first crop. There were no black-type

winner in his second crop, but his third crop yielded Japanese stakes winner Ecolu Place, U.S. graded scorer Smooth Maneuvers and listed winner Heirloom Diamond. Birdstone is from his fourth crop.

Birdstone is not the first classic winner produced by his dam, Dear Birdie, as she is also dam of Bird Town, champion three-year-old filly of 2003 and heroine of the GI Kentucky Oaks and GI Acorn S. Remarkably, both Birdstone, and Bird Town (from the first crop of [Cape Town](#)) are the first Grade I winners for their respective sires. For a mare who has achieved this very unusual feat, Dear Birdie had actually been rather slow to make her mark. She had produced six previous foals, all winners, but none earners of black-type until Mountain Bird, her foal of 1998 by Mt. Livermore, put in an appearance. Mountain Bird never won a black-type event, but she did take second in the 2001 GII Stonerside Beaumont S. Following the birth of Mountain Bird, Dear Birdie produced a dead foal in 1999, and then in consecutive years bore Bird Town and Birdstone.

On the track, Dear Birdie, a daughter of Storm Bird, won twice and finished second in the "white type" Senorita S. She is a half sister to Noactor, a Theatrical colt who took Aqueduct's Bowl Game S. at two and is out of Hush Dear, a long-winded turf mare, who took two runnings of the GII Long Island H., consecutive renewals of the GII Diana H. and the GII Tidal H.

By the Prince John stallion Silent Screen out of the Ashland S. winner You All (a daughter of Nashua), Hush Dear was bred on a version of the very successful Princequillo/Nasrullah cross. Go back one more generation and we come to a third straight stakes-winning mare in Honey Dear, heroine of the New York H. Dear Birdie's fifth dam, Boys I'm It, is a three-parts-sister to the breed-shaping broodmare sire Blue Larkspur.

As mentioned, Bird Town and Birdstone are both by Mr. Prospector-line stallions. They thus represent the tremendously successful cross of Mr. Prospector-line sires over Storm Bird mares, which also produced a radically different graded-stakes winner on the Belmont undercard when Speightstown (Gone West--Silken Cat by Storm Cat) took the GII True North Breeders' Cup H. in 1:08. Bird Town is a granddaughter of [Seeking the Gold](#), a horse who himself has at least five stakes winners out of mares by Storm Bird and his son [Storm Cat](#), including Champion Flanders. The Unbridled branch of the Mr. Prospector-line has a previous Grade I winner in the shape of Buddha, the GI Wood Memorial S. winner, who is by Unbridled's Song out of a Storm Cat mare.

It's no surprise that Dear Birdie has turned out to be particularly well-suited by Mr. Prospector-line stallions. In addition to being a daughter of Storm Bird, she also has a particularly good fit for Mr. Prospector in the pedigree of her granddam, You All. This is particularly clear when we compare the pedigree of Mr. Prospector's dam, Gold Digger, with You All. Gold Digger and You All are both by Nashua, and while Gold Digger is out of a mare by Count Fleet, You All is out of a mare by a son of Count Fleet. Going back one more generation, Gold Digger's granddam is by Bull Dog out of a Blue Larkspur mare, and You All's granddam is by a son of Bull Dog out of Boys I'm It, who we noted above as a three-parts-sister to Blue Larkspur, so at four generations, Gold Digger and You All are about seven-eighths relatives. Bird Town has the close relatives 4 x 3 and Birdstone 5 x 3.

TDN TODAY
Headline News 7 pages

Dynaformer

With 3-year-old filly **WINDENDYEME** at Hollywood Park last week, **DYNAFORMER** now has 82 stakes winners and progeny earnings over \$45 million.

He is a Top Five North American Leading Sire for 2001, 2002 and 2003



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FROM THE DESK OF...

Bill Oppenheim



UNBRIDLED DISAPPOINTMENT

For the sixth time in the last eight years, the Triple Crown was within the grasp of a dual Classic winner; for the sixth time, the Crown went unclaimed. Certain pedigree patterns may be emerging, a lot to do with Mr. Prospector and his most important son so far--in that he should be classified as a separate branch--Fappiano.

For the last three years, the would-be Triple Crown winner has been a Mr. Prospector-line colt: War Emblem, by Our Emblem, in 2002; Funny Cide, by Forty Niner's son, [Distorted Humor](#), in 2003; and Smarty Jones, by Gone West's son, [Elusive Quality](#), this year. For the last two years, and for three of the six failed assaults on the Triple Crown since 1997, the 'stopper' has been by a sire tracing to Fappiano: [Victory Gallop](#) (by Cryptoclearance) foiled Real Quiet (by Fappiano's son, Quiet American) in 1998; Empire Maker (by [Unbridled](#)) stopped Funny Cide last year; and, of course, Birdstone, by Unbridled's Derby-winning son [Grindstone](#), was the 36-1 shock winner this year. For the last three years, the Derby and Preakness winners have been sired by horses who didn't excel past a mile themselves; 10-furlong Classic horses feature more as the sires of Belmont winners these days. Could be a trend.

What was different this year was the massive sentiment, public and professional, behind Smarty Jones. Whatever claims are made about Triple Crown contenders, there is a feeling that a Triple Crown winner now should be deserving. War Emblem was never going to get the trip in the Belmont; Funny Cide may have been a New York-bred, but he was also a gelding. But Smarty Jones was deserving, not because he was the "people's horse," not because he was owned and bred by an ex-Ford dealer who is a small Pennsylvania breeder, not even because the owners' trainer and advisor, Bob Camac, and his wife were tragically murdered.

The momentum was behind Smarty Jones for one reason only: that devastating turn of foot he displayed in powering away in the last furlong of the Preakness. Yes, all those things are good stories, but at the end of the day, there is only one story that really matters in horse racing: how good was that horse? Smarty Jones's 118 in the Preakness is the equal fastest Beyer 'fig' recorded in a Triple Crown race since they started reporting the figures in print in 1992 (Silver Charm's 1997 Preakness was also a 118). He won by a record margin, and even if the opposition was just average, he had to be really good to draw off like that. That's why myself and others included Smarty Jones in the same sentence as Secretariat, Seattle Slew, and Affirmed: he is clearly an exceptionally good horse at up to 10 furlongs--keeping in mind that Birdstone's fig in winning the Belmont was only 101, and that Smarty Jones staggered home the last quarter in :27 seconds. All is not lost, though. In 1964, a very good colt who had won the Kentucky Derby in then-record time, and then the Preakness, could only finish third to Quadrangle in the Belmont. He still managed to make an impact on the breed, though, later on. His name was Northern Dancer.

Until right at the end of 2002, when Elusive City was disqualified from his Richmond S. win, Elusive Quality was the leading freshman sire of what has turned out to be a very powerful group of young sires. Distorted Humor was ultimately awarded the title, and Elusive Quality dropped to third, behind also Awesome Again (sire of Toccet). The last time we ran the Top 30 of this group of North American sires with first foals being four-year-olds of 2004 ('Third-crop' sires, meaning their third crop of two-year-olds is ready to race, i.e. they've had two crops of three-year-olds now), [Grand Slam](#) had worked his way to the top, followed by Distorted Humor, [Tale of the Cat](#), and Elusive Quality. (cont. p4)

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Oppenheim cont. from p3

Considering Smarty Jones has earned \$6,704,500 since then (it would have been another \$5.4 million had he stayed the Belmont trip), you won't be surprised to see that Elusive Quality is now back on top, maybe for good. Maybe not. Here's who we've got: group leader Elusive Quality had a dual Classic winner in his second crop. Current group number three Distorted Humor had a dual Classic winner in his first crop.

Current number four Tale of the Cat was North America's leading sire of two-year-olds in 2003. And number two Grand Slam is so good he leads this group in number of graded SW (six), total number of stakes horses (34), and total number of races won (226) in spite of not having sired a Classic winner--though he did have last year's Breeders' Cup Sprint winner, Cajun Beat.

Oppenheim cont. p5

LEADING NORTH AMERICAN THIRD-CROP SIRES BY CUMULATIVE EARNINGS

SIRE	YOB	SIRE'S SIRE	3YO+	RNRS	WNRS	WINS	EARNINGS (\$)	GSW	SW	SP	LOC
Elusive Quality	1993	Gone West	167	125	80	171	13103253	5	15	4	KY
Grand Slam	1995	Gone West	254	172	110	226	10415684	6	13	21	KY
Distorted Humor	1993	Forty Niner	131	108	75	166	8078278	4	12	4	KY
Tale of the Cat	1994	Storm Cat	242	166	110	188	7446473	4	12	14	KY
Deputy Commander	1994	Deputy Minister	190	129	62	115	5176043	1	3	9	KY
Awesome Again	1994	Deputy Minister	149	93	55	121	5154661	5	6	6	KY
Wild Rush	1994	Wild Again	178	112	68	148	4876955	5	10	2	JPN
Souvenir Copy	1995	Mr. Prospector	209	139	90	166	4053102	0	4	5	KY
Touch Gold	1994	Deputy Minister	171	118	55	91	3992406	4	5	2	KY
Indian Charlie	1995	In Excess (Ire)	159	103	59	131	3935980	1	5	9	KY
Stormy Atlantic	1994	Storm Cat	145	100	59	136	3778205	4	6	4	KY
Formal Gold	1993	Black Tie Affair (Ire)	134	94	69	143	3308456	0	2	10	KY
Skip Away	1993	Skip Trial	197	122	70	121	3241584	1	4	16	KY
Double Honor	1995	Gone West	143	103	80	194	2985855	0	4	5	FL
Cape Town	1995	Seeking the Gold	137	80	50	81	2973677	1	6	3	KY
Coronado's Quest	1995	Forty Niner	131	84	43	73	2898956	4	6	3	JPN
Swiss Yodeler	1994	Eastern Echo	117	90	56	118	2865586	0	5	7	CA
Partner's Hero	1994	Danzig	119	83	53	111	2788371	2	4	2	MD
Dance Brightly	1995	Mr. Prospector	180	116	66	121	2784677	0	0	8	KY
Benchmark	1991	Alydar	107	64	43	93	2701548	2	5	4	CA
Concerto 1994	Chief's Crown	88	62	46	117	2396685	0	5	5	FL	
Lucky Lionel	1993	Mt. Livermore	110	74	52	103	2361564	0	2	6	OK
Kiridashi	1992	Bold Ruckus	111	63	36	62	2312854	0	2	4	ON
Northern Afleet	1993	Afleet	86	55	46	101	2274279	0	3	6	FL
Favorite Trick	1995	Phone Trick	146	84	49	98	2269644	0	3	3	KY
Tomorrows Cat	1995	Storm Cat	163	105	45	72	2217730	0	4	5	NY
Banker's Gold	1994	Forty Niner	127	88	51	101	2197609	0	2	2	NY
Will's Way	1993	Easy Goer	104	70	42	108	2139746	1	2	4	KY
Arch	1995	Kris S.	101	71	44	79	2135770	1	2	7	KY
Swain (Ire)	1992	Nashwan	122	67	35	49	2055225	3	3	2	KY



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Gilded Time



No fewer than nine of these sires have sired four or more GSWs in their first two crops, which I would say is a pretty impressive achievement. What a tribute to Mill Ridge's [Gone West](#) that he is the sire of the top two sires in this important sire group: Elusive Quality leads in progeny earnings and total stakes winners (15); Grand Slam leads, as noted, in number of graded stakes winners and number of stakes horses. The others from this sire group with four or more GSWs include the Deputy Minister sons Awesome Again and Touch Gold (Deputy Commander is fifth on the money list, though Ten Most Wanted is his only GSW so far); new Japanese sires Wild Rush and Coronado's Quest; and Stormy Atlantic, whose performances suggest he is no one-horse wonder, but is consistently siring class.

Euro Classics: It's Still Cape Cross

Just a few weeks ago, we declared Cape Cross the biggest winner on a weekend which saw Classics run in Kentucky and Newmarket, even though he had no Classic winners. Consider that rectified. But before discussing that, what a great tribute to Ballymacoll Stud, and the late Lord Weinstock, his son Simon, who tragically died so young before him, and their long-time stud manager, Peter Reynolds, that the two co-favorites for the Epsom Derby were both bred by Ballymacoll. It was also great for the underrated Dante S. (how can that not be a Group 1?) that the 1-2-3 in the Dante came back to run 1-2-3 in the Derby.

More Oppenheim p6

LEADING EUROPEAN SECOND CROP SIRES

(In Order of Prize Money by Northern Hemisphere-breds Worldwide 2003 -2004)

Rnk	Sire (YOB)	Grandsire	Rnrs	Wnrs	Wins	Total (£)	SW	SP
1	CAPE CROSS (1994)	Green Desert	89	42	76	1,387,112	8	5
2	FASLIYEV (1997)	Nureyev	99	47	78	1,281,719	7	5
3	ORPEN (1996)	Lure	98	49	78	958,488	2	6
4	DR FONG (1995)	Kris S.	74	30	43	599,929	4	4
5	DAGGERS DRAWN (1995)	Diesis	66	33	56	585,416	0	2
6	DAYLAMI (1994)	Doyoun	48	16	27	502,474	3	2
7	GOLD AWAY (1995)	Goldneyev	39	12	30	502,142	2	1
8	INTIKHAB (1994)	Red Ransom	56	25	39	455,333	1	3
9	VERGLAS (1994)	Highest Honor	29	14	24	388,221	2	3
10	DESERT SUN (1988)	Green Desert	51	20	33	382,908	1	1
11	SECOND EMPIRE (1995)	Fairy King	57	22	35	315,721	1	1
12	SHINKO FOREST (1993)	Green Desert	42	15	28	284,487	1	0
13	PRINCELY HEIR (1995)	Fairy King	14	5	9	250,139	1	1
14	LORD OF MEN (1993)	Groom Dancer	39	13	28	246,160	0	0
15	TIGER HILL (1995)	Danehill	32	14	24	238,637	4	3
16	*SOVIET STAR (1984)	Nureyev	54	19	25	237,031	0	4
17	DANZERO (1991)	Danehill	52	15	22	230,224	0	0
18	INDIAN ROCKET (1994)	Indian Ridge	39	18	37	213,076	1	0
19	DOCKSIDER (1995)	Diesis	57	20	26	196,134	1	0
20	DUSHYANTOR (1993)	Sadler's Wells	14	5	7	173,854	0	1

This table includes stallions with first Northern Hemisphere crop in 2001

* First Irish crop in 2001

Statistics by Hyperion Promotions Ltd. Results received to June 6th

LEADING THE WAY...

2004 LEADING 2YO SIRES IN EUROPE.

SIRE	WNRS	WINS	TOTAL £
1 STRAVINSKY	2	5	70,130
2 DANEHILL	3	5	69,636
3 FASLIYEV	6	6	67,525
4 Pivotal	6	8	65,014
5 ORPEN	3	4	56,385

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I remember that I was at Longchamp, on another mission entirely, on that day in 1992 when North Light's dam, Sought Out, ran for the first time in the Prix du Cadran. Trained by the wily Hammond, I thought she was the bet of the day. She led every step of the way, over 2 1/2 miles on heavy ground. So staying wasn't an issue for North Light last weekend. The Epsom Derby looked a decent race, probably better than the French version. Trainer Pascal Bary has been having a slow year, as has his underrated stable jockey Thierry Thulliez, so the trainer's fifth French Derby win, and owner Jean-Louis Bouchard's fourth, compliments of Blue Canari (by top German sire Acatenango), came as kind of a surprise to everybody. One of the top two favorites, Millemix, had died suddenly, and the other, Voix du Nord, was injured on the eve of the race. So nobody was claiming it was a vintage renewal, but the winners were very happy to collect in any case.

The two most impressive performances of the weekend belonged to Epsom Oaks winner Ouija Board, and Bago (by Nashwan), last year's top-rated two-year-old in Europe, who had to miss the Classics but returned with an impressive three-length score in the G1 Prix Jean Prat over nine furlongs. For her part, Ouija Board gave Cape Cross his first Classic winner for real--and how. She murdered her field, reporting home by seven lengths with jockey Fallon almost shaking his head in disbelief, she won so easily. This win finally propels Cape Cross past Fasliyev as Europe's leading second-crop sire (oldest are three-year-olds of 2004) by cumulative progeny earnings. Cape Cross now has eight stakes winners (five this year, plus another four stakes-placed), passing Fasliyev, with seven (just one so far this year).

Orpen, sire of the French 1000 Guineas winner Torrestrella, is now comfortably third in cumulative progeny earnings, while Dr. Fong, sire of G1 Prix Saint-Alary winner Ask For the Moon, is edging out Daggars Drawn for fourth spot. Daylami has just slipped into sixth, just ahead of Gold Away.

From the Burgeoning 'What Were You Thinking?' File

I leave the country for two weeks, and what happens? When I left, we were down to zero TV racing channels. Now we'll have two next week when the new version of At The Races starts showing British as well as American racing. There were two satellite channels (so if you're in a city, with cable, it was one or none) showing racing, yet neither of them could manage to show the Belmont. Wait for this: the *Racing Post* put in its box that the Belmont was to be shown on the new racing channel (Sky 425). So we dutifully turn this on, except that at about 9 p.m. they started showing 'Live ... Greyhound Racing from America,' and they just kept on showing it all the way past the time the Belmont was run. Nobody on 425 in the afternoon coverage referred to them showing or not showing the Belmont. They did do a preview of the race for about 15 minutes on satellite channel 415, but about the time the horses loaded, the screen went into a pattern and stayed like that until well after the race; some message like 'technical fault' appeared on the screen, like in 1960. What a joke. Furthermore, the BBC, which was televising the Oaks and Derby from Epsom on Friday and Saturday, never referred to the Belmont, as far as I heard. This was the biggest story in American racing in years, and yet nobody could manage to find a way to show it or even talk about it in Britain. What a missed opportunity. Are we all on the same side, or not?

ISLAND SAND WINS GI ACORN STAKES!

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Jan. 25:
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in the **G2** Fantasy S.

April 30:
ISLAND SAND is second
in the **G1** Kentucky Oaks.



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Oppenheim cont.

And that's not all. The first race of the two-day Epsom meet, televised by the BBC on Friday, was the G2 Temple S., run over five furlongs. The stalls handlers had announced they were taking industrial action and not working that race, so it was begun with what is called a 'flip' start, like they use in jump racing. The second favorite whipped around as the tapes went up, and never ran a yard; some bookmakers even treated him as a non-runner, which is almost unprecedented in bookmaking annals. Another joke. Now, would you like me to tell you why the stalls handlers are taking industrial action? If I have the story straight, it basically boils down to permanent jobs being lost because the racecourses are too cheap to buy their own sets of starting stalls each. That's right; at the moment, as I understand it, sets of stalls get shipped around from track to track--an absurd situation! The stalls handlers in this country already have to deal with horses who are very unschooled compared to American horses. I don't care how much it costs, it's ludicrous that every racetrack isn't required to maintain their own sets of starting stalls.

But Praise for Pennsylvania

The social event of my year was undoubtedly the wedding of my Kentucky landlord, Larry Ensor (3), to the lovely Laura Wintersteen, over Memorial Day weekend, in far southeastern Pennsylvania--Smarty Jones country, we were told. Being from west of the Mississippi, I had never been to this particular part of the East before, nor to Delaware, which is right close by. Well, it was brilliant. The hospitality was world-class, it is absolutely beautiful horse country, and my wife, the lovely Lou, and I just had a great time. Thanks to all, and particularly to Larry's stepmom, Beverly Ensor, widow of Larry's dad, long-time Fasig-Tipton supremo Larry Ensor, Jr. It was a great event, and what an interesting area: lots of Revolutionary War stuff, a very active community of conservationists; and the Brandywine River museum, which houses a big and very impressive collection of paintings by three generations of the storied Wyeth family.

☆ PREVIEW ☆

Wednesday, Leopardstown, Ireland, post time: 7:00 p.m.
BALLYCORUS S.-G3, €70,000, 3yo/up, 7fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	5	Avorado (Ire)	Royal Academy	Bolger	136
2	1	Latino Magic (Ire)	Lion Cavern	R Osborne	133
3	3	Naahy (GB)	Bahamian Bounty (GB)	Channon	133
4	4	Rockets 'N Rollers (Ire)	Victory Note	Hannon	133
5	2	Hamairi (Ire)	Spectrum (Ire)	Oxx	123
6	6	Summer Sunset (Ire)	Grand Lodge	Weld	120

☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

EXCEED AND EXCEL DOUBTFUL FOR ASCOT

Exceed and Excel (Aus) (Danehill), the top Australian sprinter purchased in March by Sheikh Mohammed, is a doubtful starter during the Royal Ascot meeting. Following a lackluster piece of work on Saturday, bloodwork was drawn on the four-year-old colt, who was being trained for the G1 Golden Jubilee S. June 19. "It revealed a slight abnormality," Darley Australia Racing Manager Henry Plumtre told *Racing Post*. "He is receiving treatment, but obviously he is under a cloud for next week." The bay is unraced since winning the G1 Newmarket H. at Flemington Mar. 6.

Today's Graded Stakes
brought to you by



2:00p **Ballycorus S.-G3**, Leopardstown
All Eastern Daylight Time.

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WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 9, 2004

TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



**AROUND
THE WORLD**

 **NORTH AMERICA** 

BELMONT NO. 1 TV SHOW OF THE WEEK NBC Sports' coverage of last Saturday's Belmont S. was the highest-rated television broadcast of the week as an estimated 33 million viewers tuned in to see if Smarty Jones would succeed in his bid to lock up racing's Triple Crown. The entire broadcast received a rating of 11.3 making it the second most watched sporting event of 2004, behind only the Super Bowl and ahead of events such as the NCAA Tournament finale in April, the Masters golf tournament, in which Phil Mickelson won his first major, and this past Sunday night's broadcast of game one of the NBA finals between the Pistons and the Lakers. Saturday's race provided the best overall ratings since Pleasant Colony's failed Triple Crown bid in 1981. Overall, NBC's coverage of the Triple Crown earned a national rating of 8.3/20, up by 22 percent versus 2003 and the highest ratings for the series since 1989.

★ **EAST** ★

Yesterday's Results:

4th-DEL, \$34,500, Msw, 3&4yo, 1 1/16mT, 1:45 2/5, fm.
+ **PARTITION** (c, 3, **Danzig**--Miss Bold Appeal, by Valid Appeal), a three-parts brother to the classy Jersey Girl (Belong to Me), MGISW, \$571,137, concluded his pre-debut preps with a six-furlong move in 1:14 on the grass at Colts Neck Stable May 21 and entered the gate here as a 9-1 outsider. The Jayeff "B" homebred rated kindly in second as a rival sped out to an open-lengths lead, ranged up to take control approaching the quarter pole and kicked clear soon after. Favored Attawayo (Alydeed) came calling late with an outside bid, but a determined Partition held on for the half-length tally. Partition is also a half to St Petersburg (Aus) (Nureyev), GSW-Aus. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,800. O/B-Jayeff "B" Stables (KY). T-Alan E Goldberg.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9:

06-19 \$175,000a **Chicago Breeders' Cup H.-III, AP, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f (125)**
06-19 \$100,000 **Affirmed H.-III, Hol, 3yo, 8.5f (100)**
06-27 \$200,000a **Highlander H.-III, Wo, 3yo/up, 6f (200)**

TOMORROW, THURSDAY, JUNE 10:

06-19 \$150,000 **Bay Meadows Breeders' Cup Sprint-III, BM, 3yo/up, 6f (150)**

www.stakesdigestweekly.com



Monday Night's Results:

7th-MNR, \$21,700, Msw, 3yo, 5 1/2f, 1:07 3/5, ft.
+ **CLOSING STITCH** (c, 3, **K.O. Punch**--Fine Stitches, by Tiffany Ice), debuting as the 2-1 favorite, was forced to steady at the break as fellow firster Outflanker's Token (Outflanker) came in, but the chestnut settled nicely to regroup in mid-pack. Making a belated move a furlong out, he ran on well, but couldn't quite get to Outflanker's Token, who crossed the line clear by 1 1/4 lengths. A jockey's objection was lodged against the winner and stewards, citing interference at the start, reversed the order of finish. The victory celebration was tempered as Closing Stitch was vanned off the track, though the nature of the injury was not revealed. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$12,586.

O-Barry A Spoonamore. B-Dr Gregory A Sexton & Dr Barry A Spoonamore (KY). T-Howard Rice.

★ **CENTRAL** ★

Hard Buck to Return in Opening Verse:

Hard Buck (Brz) (Spend a Buck), most recently runner-up in the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic at Nad al Sheba Mar. 27, is slated to make his return to the races as the 123-pound highweight in the inaugural running of the Opening Verse H. at Churchill Downs Saturday. The winner of the GIII River City H. over the Churchill turf last November, the five-year-old won the GI Gulfstream Park Breeders' Cup H. Feb. 22 prior to his overseas journey. Trainer Ken McPeck originally planned to bring the bay back in the GIII Stars and Stripes Breeders' Cup H. July 4, but decided to enter in the Opening Verse after Hard Buck breezed a half mile in :49 3/5 in company with stablemate **Prince Arch** (Arch), who goes in the GIII Jefferson Cup S. on the same program. Hard Buck's competition figures to include last year's Jefferson Cup winner **Senor Swinger** (El Prado {Ire}) as well as **Mystery Giver** (Dynaformer), third in the GI Woodford Reserve Turf Classic on Derby Day.

Thoroughbred Daily News is:

Barry Weisbord	President/Co-Publisher
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Central Report cont.

Twin Spires to Adorn NASCAR Vehicle:

The Twin Spires of Churchill Downs and an image of running Thoroughbreds will be carried aboard a car to be driven by Stuart Kirby in the Meijer 300 Saturday, June 19, at the Kentucky Speedway in Sparta, about 50 miles northeast of Louisville. The Twin Spires as well as the track name will appear on the hood, trunk and each side of the number 65 Chevrolet Monte Carlo. The horses will appear on the hood of the car and a horse and jockey will appear on the sides of the car. The rear of the vehicle will feature the "Go Baby Go" slogan of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association.

 **SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**

First-time starters/stakes runners: Wednesday, June 9

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2000 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

INCURABLE OPTIMIST (Cure the Blues), Highcliff, \$3K, 23/4/0
9-AP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, +Optimistic Ruler, 5-1
STRAVINSKY (Nureyev), Ashford, \$18K, 182/42/4
6-BEL, Msw, 1 1/8m, +Woodford Lad, \$97K FTS AUG yrl

 **FRESHMAN FOCUS**

First-crop progeny to watch: Wednesday, June 9

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2001 Fee, #2yos/Winners/SW
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

COSSACK FIGHTER (GB) (Siberian Express), Raleigh, \$770, 7/0/0
4-WO, Msw, 7fT, Noble Fighter

☆ **THAT'S A WRAP** ☆

PIMLICO RACE COURSE - Baltimore, MD
Closed: Sunday, June 6
No. of Days: 48
Daily Avg. On-Track Handle: \$508,500 (+0.7%)
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Leading Trainer: Dale Capuano (25 wins)
Leading Jockey: Steve Hamilton (49 wins)
Website: www.marylandracing.com



★ **FRANCE** ★

HATHRAH OUT OF FRENCH OAKS

Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum's **Hathrah (Ire)** (Linamix {Fr}) was scratched from Sunday's G1 Prix de Diane Hermes (French Oaks) at Chantilly after trainer John Dunlop described himself as "not 100 percent happy with her." Off the track since finishing third behind Attraction (GB) in the G1 1000 Guineas at Newmarket May 2, the filly will be rested due to the general health of the Arundel string. "We still have a bit of coughing lurking about and some of the horses have dirty throats," he told *PA Sport* yesterday.

PESLIER GETS WILDENSTEIN RETAINER

Olivier Peslier has been named as the successor to Dominique Boeuf as the first jockey to the Wildenstein Family after the latter was sacked due to his ride on Vallee Enchantee (Ire) in Friday's G1 Coronation Cup. Thierry Thulliez is expected to take the rides on the Wildenstein horses when Peslier is unavailable due to his retainer with Wertheimer et Frere, while Boeuf will continue to ride the other horses in the Elie Lellouche string. "I am delighted to be back riding for the Wildensteins and look forward to riding many winners for them," Peslier commented on his website, www.opeslier.com. "I am very proud that Alec has chosen me."

Wednesday, Fontainebleau, post time: 3:05 p.m.

PRIX DES LILAS-Listed, €45,000, 3yo, f, 1mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	3	Roseanna (Fr)	Anabaa	Head-Maarek
2	1	Tolzey	Rahy	Pantall
3	4	Passion des Aigles (Ire)	Vettori (Ire)	Barande-Barbe
4	6	Fin (GB)	Groom Dancer	Pease
5	7	Sweet Salsa (Fr)	Highest Honor (Fr)	de Nicolay
6	9	Mama Daktari (Fr)	Gold Away (Ire)	Guedj
7	5	Cattiva Generosa (GB)	Cadeaux Genereux (GB)	R Gibson
8	8	Divine Story (Fr)	Vettori (Ire)	F Head
9	2	Russian Muse (Fr)	Machiavellian	Fabre

All carry 123 pounds except Roseanna, 128.

European Report cont. p3



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★ BRITAIN ★

SURGERY FOR HAVEN

Last year's Irish 2000 Guineas winner **Indian Haven (GB)** (Indian Ridge {Ire}) has undergone surgery in Newmarket. After a string of disappointing performances, culminating in a sixth placing in the G3 Prix du Palais-Royal at Longchamp last time May 27, the four-year-old was examined by vets at Greenwood Ellis and was found to have a non-displaced fragment of the near-fore fetlock. "I think this has probably been the underlying problem since the beginning of the year, and possibly before, and has definitely affected his performances this season," conditioner Paul d'Arcy told *PA Sport* yesterday. "His owners have not yet decided whether to retire him now or continue his racing career. We will monitor his recovery and take things one step at a time."

Yesterday's Results:

Salisbury, 3.45, Cond, £17,170, 3yo, 9f 198ydsT, 2:06.08, gd/fm.

MANGO MISCHIEF (IRE) (f, 3, **Desert King {Ire}**—**EuroLink Mischief {GB}**, by **Be My Chief**), successful on her debut at this track last September, then 10th behind Spotlight (GB), St Francis Wood and subsequent G1 Vodafone Oaks winner Oujia Board (GB) in the Listed Montrose Fillies' S. at Newmarket Nov. 1, was reserved off the pace in rear for the first half of this one. The half to EuroLink Raindance (Ire) (Alzao), GSW-US, MSP-GB, \$203,498, sent off the 9-1 chance, angled off the rail to challenge at the quarter-mile marker and was pushed out forcefully inside the final furlong to deny the game pacesetter Camrose (GB) (Zafonic) by a neck. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, £16,072. O-Antoniades Family; B-A G Antoniades; T-John Dunlop.

★ IRELAND ★

Wednesday, Leopardstown, post time: 6:30 p.m.

ROCHESTOWN S.-Listed, €50,000, 2yo, 6fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	1	Clash Of The Ash	King Of Kings (Ire)	Bolger
2	4	Joyce (Ire)	Danehill Dancer (Ire)	A O'Brien
3	2	Man O World (Ire)	Spinning World	Weld
4	3	Tough Enough (Ire)	Raise A Grand (Ire)	J Murphy

All carry 126 pounds.



AUSTRALASIA



OAKS WINNER VOUVRAY EYES AMERICA

Vouvray (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}), winner of Saturday's G1 Queensland Oaks, could be in line for a trip to America to contest the July 3 GI American Oaks at Hollywood Park in Inglewood, California. "We have been asked by a Hollywood Park representative if we would be interested in her going over for their race and we are looking into the logistics of taking her over there," said co-owner Brent Taylor. "She's a great-natured filly and nothing worries her, so I can't imagine the traveling being a problem." According to Taylor, if the filly doesn't ship to the United States, she will be aimed toward the G1 Caulfield Cup in Melbourne in the spring.

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-DEL, \$41,900, NW4X, 3yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:52 2/5, gd.

KING RICHARD (h, 6, Kingmambo--Stormy Regina, by Storm Cat) Lifetime Record: 31-5-10-7, \$199,584. O-Richard F Blue Sr. B-Bennett Enterprise (KY). T-Ann W Merryman. *\$55,000 2yo 2000 FTMMAY.

6th-DEL, \$41,300, NW4X, 3yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:42 1/5, ft.

CONSERVATION (c, 4, Tamayaz--Donnan's Holly, by Dixieland Band) Lifetime Record: SW, 19-5-5-1, \$197,179. O-Bohemia Stable. B-Mrs Richard C Dupont (MD). T-Barclay Tagg.

3rd-MNR, \$31,700, 6-7, NW4L, 3yo/up, f/m, 7fT, 1:22 3/5, fm.

BOWKEEN (m, 6, Rakeen--Rebow, by Relaunch) Lifetime Record: 25-5-1-2, \$104,964. O-Emile Hawkins. B-Mrs Richard C Dupont (MD). T-John W Baird.

2nd-PRM, \$26,093, 6-7, NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:43, ft.

BUTTER CRUNCH (f, 3, Blumin Affair--Butterbrickle {SP}, by Miracle Heights) Lifetime Record: 7-3-0-3, \$55,440. O/B-Shady Bend Thoroughbreds (IA). T-Fred J Falldorf.

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8th-CRC, \$26,000, NW1X, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m (off turf), 1:47 4/5, ft.

POTION (f, 3, Dr. Caton--Magic Step, by Magic Prospect) Lifetime Record: 12-2-1-1, \$46,085. O/B-Jacks or Better Farm Inc (FL). T-James Hatchett.

9th-PHA, \$25,473, NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18 1/5, ft.

GOLDEN HALO (m, 6, Press Card--Halo of Gold, by Gold Alert) Lifetime Record: 58-8-6-9, \$135,935. O-Labelt Inc. B-Salvatore Giuffrida (PA). T-Anthony Correnti. *\$2,700 yrl '99 FTMOCT.

8th-PRM, \$24,610, 6-7, NW2X, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:08 2/5, ft.

HONOR ME (h, 6, Honor Grades--Bo K., by Raise a Native) Lifetime Record: SW & GSP, 32-14-6-3, \$314,608. O-Hwy 1 Racing Stable LLC. B-Whisper Hill Farm (FL). T-Stanley W Roberts. *\$350,000 yrl '99 FTKJUL; \$150,000 2yo 2000 FTMMAY.

7th-PHA, \$20,000, NW1X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18 1/5, ft.

MISS DUMAINE (f, 4, Prospect Bay--Austin's Blaze {MSW, \$235,435}, by Hula Blaze) Lifetime Record: 18-4-5-3, \$65,094. O/B-Hargus Sexton (KY). T-Kathleen A Demasi. *\$20,000 2yo 2002 FTMJUL.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Cheer Girl, f, 2, Blumin Affair--Sober Appeal (SW), by Valid Appeal. PRM, 6-7, (S), 5f, :59 1/5. B-Cynthia Marie Johnson (Ia). *Won by seven lengths.

Star of Sahm, f, 3, Sahm--Smile With a Smile, by Smile. PHA, 6-8, 6 1/2f, 1:18 3/5. B-Mr & Mrs Jose Samaniego (Pa).

Just Jill, f, 3, Semoran--Little Kennisis, by Cornish Prince. EVD, 6-7, (S), 5f, 1:00 1/5. B-Robert Emmett & Sandra Dill Seeger (La). *\$9,000 yrl '02 OBSAUG; \$20,000 2yo '03 OBSAPR. **1/2 to Hawk Lake Fire (Tiffany Ice), SW, \$221,571.

Storm Diamond, f, 3, Storm of Angels--Nurse's Orders, by Doctor's Orders. MNR, 6-7, 5 1/2f, 1:06 3/5. B-Lesley Hurd (NY). *\$18,000 yrl '02 FTMSEP; \$15,500 2yo '03 OBSAPR.

**BREEDERS' EDITION
EUROPE**

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

BRITAIN, Chester, 7.20, Cond, £8,340, 3yo, 10f 75ydsT, 2:15.94, gd/fm.

DAYTIME GIRL (IRE) (f, 3, Daylami {Ire}--Snoozeand-youlose {Ire}, by Scenic {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-1, £5,920. O-Bonnycastle, Concord Racing, Morton; B-Bernard Cooke; T-Barry Hills. *60,000gns '01 wnlg TATDEC; 75,000gns yrl '02 TATHOU.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Dorn Dancer (Ire), f, 2, Danehill Dancer (Ire)--Appledorn (Ire), by Doulab. Chester, Britain, 6-8, Mdn, 2yo, 5f 16ydsT. B-Timothy Coughlan. *Ir£12,000 yrl '03 TATIRE.

Evanescence (GB), f, 2, Lujain--Search Party (GB), by Rainbow Quest. Salisbury, Britain, 6-8, Mdn, 2yo, 6fT. B-G Hedley & Mike Channon Bloodstock Ltd. *Fourth winner for freshman sire (by Seeking the Gold). **Ir£10,000 yrl '03 TATIRE.

Lincolneurocruiser (GB), c, 2, Spectrum (Ire)--Rush Hour (Ire), by Night Shift. Redcar, Britain, 6-8, Mdn, 2yo, 6fT. B-David Brown, Slatch Farm Stud & G B Turnbull Ltd. *4,500gns yrl '03 DONSEP.

Miss Megs (Ire), f, 3, Croco Rouge (Ire)--Atlantic Record (GB), by Slip Anchor (GB). Tralee, Ireland, 6-8, Mdn, 3yo, 1 3/8mT. B-Tally-Ho Stud. *Ir£20,000 yrl '02 GOFORB; 23,000gns 2yo '03 TATAPR.

+ **Camberwell (GB), g, 3, Royal Applause (GB)--Into Orbit (GB), by Safawan (Ire).** Salisbury, Britain, 6-8, Mdn, 3yo, 6f 212ydsT. B-Fourways Bloodstock. *Ir£30,000 yrl '02 GOFORB.



FOALING NEWS

SIYADAH, 10, Mr. Prospector--Roseate Tern (GB), by Blakeney (GB)

Foal born Apr. 28, a filly by Diesis (GB).

Will be bred back to Dynaformer.

Owned by and boarded at Shadwell Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: SW-Eng.

TURKAPPEAL, 11, Turkoman--Chief Appeal, by Valid Appeal

Foal born Apr. 28, a filly by Cherokee Run.

Will be bred back to Awesome Again.

Owned by Farfellow Farms.

Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: MSW & MGSP, \$280,388. Dam of Pink Champagne (Awesome Again), GSW, \$138,000.

SNOW HOUSE (IRE), 15, Vacarme--Snowy (Fr), by Wollow (Ire)

Foal born Apr. 29, a colt by Trempolino.

Will be bred back to Hawk Wing.

Owned by 6C Stallions Ltd.

Boarded at Loughbrown Stud, Ireland.

Accomplishments: MSW-Fr. Dam of Snow Polina (Trempolino), SW & GSP-Fr, GISW-US, \$905,201.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the **6th Race, \$51,700 Allowance, at Churchill.**
For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).