

**FUNNY CIDE  
to Mass 'Cap  
...p. 2**

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**TDN**  
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

**HEADLINE  
NEWS**

DELIVERED EACH NIGHT  
BY FAX AND INTERNET  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004**

**MINISTER MAKES SIX FOR STEPHEN FOSTER**

The last-minute addition of **Best Minister** (Deputy Minister) pushed Saturday's GI Stephen Foster H. field to six. Highweighted at 122 pounds is Californian import **Southern Image** (Halo's Image), who got his first feel of Churchill Downs yesterday as he jogged over a surface labeled fast. "I jogged him a little bit and took him to the paddock," said trainer Mike Machowsky. "Everything went great this morning. He's settled in nice. I plan on galloping him a little [today] and maybe schooling him



**Southern Image**  
Horsephotos

during the races." Southern Image, with wins this year in the \$1 million Sunshine Millions Classic and GI Santa Anita H., has established himself as one of the handicap division's top performers. He ran his skein to five straight in his latest, turning back **Midway Road** (Jade Hunter) to capture the May 14 GI Pimlico Special. Joining the fray yesterday was local Best Minister, who took an allowance test at Churchill May 20 by 4 3/4 lengths. "Whether he runs or not will be contingent upon how many go," explained trainer Ken McPeck. "He's a horse that's doing really well right now and we're pleased at how he's developed from three to four. If you're going to get them, I guess you're going to get 'em on your home court here. He's coming off a win over this racetrack. He's very confident and he's training very well right now."



**Best Minister**  
Horsephotos

**Saturday, Churchill Downs**

**STEPHEN FOSTER H.-GI**, \$750,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Perfect Drift	Dynaformer	Day	119
2	Peace Rules	Jules	Bailey	121
3	Southern Image	Halo's Image	Espinoza	122
4	Midway Road	Jade Hunter	Albarado	116
5	Best Minister	Deputy Minister	Blanc	112
6	Colonial Colony	Pleasant Colony	Bejarano	111

**NAAHY BELTS ONE OUT**

Kuwait Racing Syndicate's **Naahy** (Bahamian Bounty{GB}) rewarded his connections' faith and won his first group event, last night's G3 Ballycorus S. at Leopardstown, in wire-to-wire fashion. The four-year-old graduated through the handicapping ranks to finish a short-head second to Rimrod in the Listed Surrey S. at Epsom in June, but then his form tailed off. He recaptured some sparkle when winning a York handicap in October and looked to have improved when beating subsequent listed scorer Suggestive (GB) in a Goodwood conditions event last time May 18. Quickest away here, he was allowed his customary lead in front by his rivals and that proved decisive as he freewheeled to a comfortable first stakes score under Sam Hitchcott. "We always thought he was group class and, as he is a Goodwood specialist, he will head to the G1 Sussex S. next [July 28]."

**Wednesday, Leopardstown, Ireland**

**BALLYCORUS S.-G3**, €70,000, Leopardstown, 6-9, 3yo/up, 7fT, 1:25.90, gd/fm.

1--**@NAAHY (GB)**, 133, c, 4, by Bahamian Bounty (GB)

1st Dam: **Daffodil Fields (GB)**, by Try My Best

2nd Dam: **Water Frolic**, by Sir Ivor

3rd Dam: **Waterloo II**, by Bold Lad (Ire)

(36,000gns yrl '01 TATOCT). O-Kuwait Racing Syndicate; B-Red House Stud; T-Mick Channon; J-Sam Hitchcott; €45,500. Lifetime Record: 22-8-5-1, €183,249. \*1/2 to Pappa Reale (GB) (Indian Ridge {Ire}), Twice Hwt. Older Mare-Ity at 5-7f, MSW-Ity, \$274,623.

2--**Hamairi (Ire)**, 123, c, 3, Spectrum (Ire)--Handaza (Ire), by Be My Guest. O-H H The Aga Khan; B-H H Aga Khan's Stud SC; €13,300.

3--**Latino Magic (Ire)**, 133, c, 4, Lion Cavern--Tansy (GB), by Shareef Dancer. (Ir12,000gns wnlg '00 GOFNOV; Ir£16,896 yrl '01 TATIRE). O-Mrs P D Osborne; B-C E S Racing Ltd; €6,300.

Margins: HF, HF, 3. Odds: 7-4, 13-2, 4-1.

Also Ran: Rockets 'N Rollers (Ire), Summer Sunset (Ire), Avorado (Ire).

All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated



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Stud fee to be announced



☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

**CIDE STEP TO MASS 'CAP** Looking to rebound from his fifth-place finish in the May 31 GI Metropolitan H. at Belmont Park, Sackatoga Stable's **Funny Cide** (Distorted Humor) will take aim at the nine-furlong GI Massachusetts H. at Suffolk Downs. "Funny Cide will have one work prior to the race," said Jack Knowlton, managing partner of Sackatoga. "If he continues to do well, he will be at Suffolk Downs for the MassCap on June 19." Also likely for Suffolk's premier event is **Evening Attire** (Black Tie Affair {Ire}), who was runner-up in the 2002 renewal.

☆ PREVIEW ☆

**Saturday, Churchill Downs**

**FLEUR DE LIS H.-GII**, \$400,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Adoration	Honor Grades	Espinoza	122
2	Yell	A.P. Indy	Day	115
3	Roar Emotion	Roar	Bailey	115
4	Angela's Love	Not for Love	Guidry	113
5	Miss Fortunate	Deputy Minister	Melancon	112
6	Mayo on the Side	French Deputy	Albarado	116
7	Cat Fighter	Storm Cat	Velasquez	115
8	Bare Necessities	Silver Deputy	Douglas	120
9	La Reason	Labeeb (GB)	McKee	110

**Saturday, Thistledown**

**OHIO DERBY-GII**, \$350,000, 3yo, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Pollard's Vision	Carson City	Coa	121
2	Avid Skier	Appealing Skier	No Rider	112
3	Limehouse	Grand Slam	Santos	121
4	Mambo Train	Kingmambo	John	115
5	Brass Hat	Prized	Martinez	115
6	Dashboard Drummer	Alamocitos	Dominguez	115
7	Jandemar	Favorite Trick	Rosendo	112
8	Trieste's Honor	Old Trieste	R Baze	115
9	Water Cannon	Waquoit	Villa-Gomez	115

2004 ROYAL ASCOT SCHEDULE

Tuesday 15th June

Time	Race	Conditions
2.30	G3 Coventry S.	2yo, 6f
3.05	G2 King's Stand S.	3/up, 5f
3.45	G1 St. James's Palace S.	3yo, c, 1m
4.20	G1 Queen Anne S.	4/up, 1m
4.55	Ascot S. (hcp)	4/up, 2 1/2m
5.30	Windsor Castle S. (Listed)	2yo, 5f

Wednesday 16th June

2.30	G3 Jersey S.	3yo, 7f
3.05	G2 Windsor Forest S.*	4/up, f/m, 1m
3.45	G1 Prince of Wales's S.	4/up, 1 1/4m
4.20	Royal Hunt Cup (hcp)	3/up, 1m
4.55	G2 Queen Mary S.	2yo, f, 5f
5.30	Sandringham S. (Listed)	3yo, f, 1m

\*new for 2004

Thursday 17th June

2.30	G3 Norfolk S.	2yo, 5f
3.05	G2 Ribblesdale S.	3yo, f, 1 1/2m
3.45	G1 Gold Cup	4/up, 2 1/2m
4.20	King George V S. (hcp)	3yo, 1 1/2m
4.55	Hampton Court S. (Listed)	3yo, 1 1/4m
5.30	Britannia S. (hcp)	3yo, c/g, 1m

Friday 18th June

2.30	Albany S. (Listed)	2yo, f, 6f
3.05	G2 King Edward VII S.	3yo, c/g, 1 1/2m
3.45	G1 Coronation S.	3yo, f, 1m
4.20	Wolferton Rated S. (Listed)	4/up, 1 1/4m
4.55	G3 Queen's Vase	3yo, 2m
5.30	Buckingham Palace S. (hcp)	3/up, 7f

Saturday 19th June

2.30	Chesham S. (Listed)	2yo, 7f
3.05	G2 Hardwicke S.	4/up, 1 1/2m
3.45	G1 Golden Jubilee S.	3/up, 6f
4.25	Wokingham S. (hcp)	3/up, 6f
5.00	Duke of Edinburgh S. (hcp)	3/up, 1 1/2m
5.35	Queen Alexandra S. (cond)	4/up, 2 3/4m

[www.royalascot.co.uk](http://www.royalascot.co.uk)

RECORD-BREAKING PERFORMANCE FOR DAUGHTER OF CLASSIC WINNER

PINE BLUFF!

**BEAR FAN** crushed her eight competitors with a nine-length victory in the **Grade 2 Vagrancy Handicap** at Belmont, running the 6 1/2 fur. in a track-record time of 1:14.46.

*Her record is now: 12-8-2-1, \$588,150 and this was her fourth consecutive stakes win.*



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THURSDAY,  
JUNE 10, 2004

**TDN**  
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



**AROUND  
THE WORLD**



★ **NEW YORK** ★

**NY Turf Writers Announce Awards:**

The New York Turf Writers Association has announced the winners of its 2003 awards, with Mineshaft walking away with the Secretariat Award as New York's Horse of the Year. The awards will be presented at the 81<sup>st</sup> annual NYTWA dinner at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs on Monday, Aug. 23.

Complete listing of winners:

- **Secretariat Award:** Mineshaft (A.P. Indy)
- **Presidents' Award:** Funny Cide (Distorted Humor)
- **Alfred G. Vanderbilt Award:** columnist Joe Hirsch
- **C.V. Whitney Award (for Outstanding Achievement):** trainer Bobby Frankel & jockey Jerry Bailey
- **Red Smith "Good Guy" Award:** jockey Jose Santos
- **Fourstardave Award (for Special Achievement at Saratoga):** trainer Todd Pletcher and jockey John Velazquez
- **Big Apple Award:** New York Thoroughbred Breeders
- **Woody Stephens Award (Top Trainer):** Todd Pletcher
- **Eddie Arcaro Award (Top Jockey):** John Velazquez
- **Ogden Phipps Award (Top Breeder):** Marylou Whitney
- **Paul Mellon Award (Top Owner):** Sandford Goldfarb

Tickets for the NYTWA Awards dinner are \$100 per person. For more information, contact Fran LaBelle at (516) 488-6000, ext. 4793.

**Yesterday's Results:**

**8th-BEL, \$46,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/4mT, 2:03 1/5, fm.**

**INDY CHARMER** (f, 3, **A.P. Indy**--Dancing Mirage {SW & MGSP, \$247,645}, by Alleged) graduated by 7 1/4 lengths at Gulfstream Feb. 5, but didn't see action again until Apr. 11, finishing third over the same course. Most recently, the bay ran fifth, beaten two lengths, going nine furlongs over this course, and was the 6-1 second choice this time. She secured a garden trip in second through a dawdling opening mile in 1:40.51, assumed command in the stretch and held sway late by a head over 3-5 Arvada (GB) (Hernando {Fr}). The winner, a \$100,000 KEESEP yearling and a \$170,000 FTFEB two-year-old, is a full to True Surpass, SP-Jpn, \$807,425. Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-2, \$67,900.

O-Mrs E Paul Robsham. B-Kilroy Thoroughbred Partnership (KY). T-Stanley M Hough.

*New York Report cont. p2*

**STAKES CLOSINGS**

**TODAY, THURSDAY, JUNE 10:**

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

[www.stakesdigestweekly.com](http://www.stakesdigestweekly.com)



The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 8th Race, \$69,300 ALWNC, at Churchill Downs. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).

**Congratulations to the best customers in the world on THREE Grade 1 and 2 winners!**

**ISLAND SAND**, winner of the June 4 Acorn S. (GI)

O-James L Osborne; B-Richard D Maynard (KY); T-J Larry Jones.

Sold Keeneland September 2002 for \$82,000; Earnings now \$402,005

*Consigned by David & Ginger Mullins, Agent; Purchased by Mike Ryan, Agent*

**SPEIGHTSTOWN**, winner of the June 5 True North Breeders' Cup H. (GII)

O-Eugene & Laura Melnyk; B-Aaron & Marie Jones (KY); T-Todd Pletcher

Sold Keeneland July 1999 for \$2,000,000; Earnings now \$537,056

*Consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agent; Purchased by Eugene Melnyk*

**LOVELY RAFAELA**, winner of the June 5 Honeymoon Breeders' Cup H. (GII)

O-TNT Stud; B-Diamond A Racing Corporation (KY); T-Paulo Lobo

Sold Keeneland September 2002 for \$600,000; Earnings now \$160,815.

*Consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agent for Diamond A Racing Corporation; Purchased by Stud TNT*





**New York Report cont.**

**7th-BEL, \$46,000, Alw, NW2X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8m, 1:52 1/5, ft.**

**FLEET INDIAN (f, 3, Indian Charlie--Hustleeta, by Afleet)** was no secret in her career opener Apr. 9 at Aqueduct, winning by 8 1/2 lengths as the 2-5 chalk, and confirmed that impression with a win going a mile at Belmont May 6, also at 2-5. Bet down to 1-5 while stretching out an additional furlong, the dark bay tracked the pace, took over in the stretch and opened up to win by 6 1/4 lengths. The unbeaten filly was a \$40,000 FTNAUG yearling and a \$230,000 OBSMAR juvenile. Lifetime Record: 3-3-0-0, \$78,600. O-Stan E Fulton. B-Thomas/Lakin (NY). T-James J Toner.

**6th-BEL, \$44,000, Msw, 3yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:48, fm. SAILAWAY (c, 4, Our Emblem--Infinite {SW & GISP, \$122,979}, by Majestic Light)** had posted two excellent efforts on the turf at Gulfstream as a three-year-old, finishing a neck behind GISW Kicken Kris last March. The half to Polish Treaty (Danzig), SW, \$160,221, didn't race again until Jan. 30, finishing sixth on the Gulfstream main track, then rallied for second in a maiden on the Aqueduct turf May 2. Allowed to settle into stride near the back of the pack, the 2-1 second choice rallied four wide turning for home and punched it in late, sweeping by Catsgotninelives (Tale of the Cat) to graduate by 1 1/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 7-1-2-1, \$44,620. O/B-Ogden Mills Phipps (KY). T-Claude R McGaughey III.

★ EAST ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**8th-MTH, \$38,000, Alw, NW2L, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:45, fm.**

**DANCING COLORS (IRE) (f, 3, Spectrum {Ire}--Dance Ahead {Ire}, by Shareef Dancer)**, a half to Dance Clear (Ire) (Marju {Ire}), MGSP-US & GSP-Ire, \$237,385, began her career in Ireland for Dermot Weld, breaking her maiden at Roscommon last September and concluding her sojourn with a fourth in a Leopardstown handicap Nov. 8. The 2-1 second choice nearly missed the break and saved ground at the back of the pack in the early stages, but shifted to the outside in the stretch and wore down Nottimetoquit (Toolighttoquit) to prevail by 3/4 of a length. The winner was a €40,000 GOFORB yearling. Lifetime Record: 9-2-3-2, \$48,476. O-Vivian Sarue Ezekiel. B-Michael Dalton (IRE). T-Christophe Clement.

★ CENTRAL ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**4th-CDX, \$62,350, Alw, C, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:08 3/5, ft.**  
**1--CLOCK STOPPER, 119, c, 4, Gilded Time--Great Fun, by Farma Way.** (\$42,000 yrl '01 KEEJAN; \$110,000 yrl '01 KEESEP). O-Overbrook Farm; B-Dr Lance Bell & David Hochberg (KY); T-Dallas Stewart. Lifetime Record: SW & GSP, 11-5-3-0, \$231,961.  
**2--Wildcat Shoes, 116, c, 3, Forest Wildcat--Pink Shoes, by Phone Trick.**  
**3--Cojet, 117, g, 5, Unbridled's Song--Airhart, by Olympio.**

Margins: 5, 1, 1. Odds: 0.70, 2.70, 11.80.  
 Clock Stopper rallied for second, beaten 3/4 of a length by Breeders' Cup Sprint hero Cajun Beat, in the GIII Kentucky Cup Sprint Sept. 13 before concluding his sophomore campaign with a victory in Keeneland's Perryville S. Oct. 9. The chestnut didn't run again until May 20, finishing fourth as the favorite in a local allowance, but was odds-on to get back on track here. Clock Stopper recovered quickly from a poor start, split horses in the stretch and kicked into gear, drawing away to win by daylight under a hand ride.

**6th-CDX, \$49,025, Alw, NW2X, 3yo, 6f, 1:09 4/5, ft. WESTERN ROAR (g, 3, Roar--Western Moon, by Gone West)** broke his maiden in his turf debut, a 5 1/2-furlong sprint at Fair Grounds Mar. 14, after several promising efforts on dirt. The \$30,000 KEESEP yearling went back to the main track and captured an Oaklawn sprint Mar. 27, then ran third to Siphonizer in a local test Apr. 24. Breaking alertly from post two, the 5-2 second choice set hot fractions and kept on going in the stretch, turning back a persistent Perpetual Peace (Montbrook) to win by 1 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 8-3-2-1, \$89,460. O-Ocean Front Property, Erb Woosley & Keith Asmussen. B-Siegfried M Berger (KY). T-Steven M Asmussen.

**FOALING NEWS:**

**HER SHE KISSES, 8, Dehere--Her She Shawklit, by Air Forbes Won**  
 Foal born Apr. 30, a filly by Thunder Gulch. Will be bred back to Empire Maker. Owned by Lael Stable. Boarded at Sanborn Chase, Ky. Accomplishments: MSW & MGSP, \$270,595.

**BREEDERS' CUP STAKES CLOSINGS**

	CLOSES	TRACK	RACE	CONDITIONS	PURSE	RUNS
	6-10	BM	Bay Meadows Breeders' Cup Sprint (GIII)	3yo/up, 6f	\$125,000	6-19
	6-12	MTH	Jersey Shore Breeders' Cup S. (GIII)	3yo, 6f	\$100,000	6-26
	6-12	DEL	The Kent Breeders' Cup S. (GIII)	3yo, 1 1/8mT	\$250,000	6-26
	6-15	PRM	Iowa Distaff Breeders' Cup S.	3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m	\$125,000	7-3
	6-15	PRM	PrM Cornhusker Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3yo/up, 1 1/8m	\$300,000	7-3
	6-16	HOL	Cinema Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3yo, 1 1/8mT	\$150,000	6-26



**Central Report cont.**

**8th-APX, \$31,360, Alw, NW1X, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:35 3/5, ft.**

**FLIP (c, 4, [Langfuhr](#)--Timeless Girl, by Whitesburg),** a half to Bourbon Belle (Storm Boot), MGSW & MGISP, \$1,152,523, had been sidelined following a runner-up effort at Keeneland last April when trained by Gene Cilio. The bay romped by 6 3/4 lengths in his return to action over track and trip May 16, covering the distance in 1:36 4/5, and was 4-5 to keep the streak alive. In midpack early, the crowd's choice took charge in the final furlong on his way to a three-length triumph. He was a \$200,000 KEEJUL yearling. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$45,460.

O-James B Tafel. B-Peter W Salmen III, Peter W Salmen Jr & Susan S Bunning (KY). T-Greg Geier.

**6th-APX, \$26,000, Msw, 3&4yo, a1 1/16mT, 1:45 3/5, fm.**

**IOSILVER (c, 3, [Silver Ghost](#)--Get the Glory, by Pleasant Colony),** a \$9,000 KEESEP yearling, had shown little in two starts on dirt, including a 35-length loss in a one-mile Arlington maiden May 28, and was let go at 15-1 for his first turf try. After a stalking trip in second, the grey moved to the fore approaching the quarter pole and was ridden out to a two-length tally over Krissbequick (Dumaani). Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$17,160.

O-Darrell & Sadie Brommer. B-Country Life Farm & Get the Glory LLC (MD). T-Chris M Block.

**9th-APX, \$27,144, Msw, 3&4yo, a1 1/16T, 1:46 2/5, fm.**

**BOOM A CAT A BOOM (c, 3, [Tale of the Cat](#)--Lovely Sebeecha {SP}, by Tsunami Slew),** fifth in his lone start as a two-year-old at Arlington last September, began 2004 with a late-closing fourth in a six-panel Oaklawn maiden Apr. 3. He never threatened the winner when second at a mile over Arlington's main track May 16, but went off the 2-1 chalk to take his grass debut. The dark bay broke from post 11 and was persuaded by jockey Carlos Marquez, Jr. to settle in mid-pack. The pair were still a half-dozen lengths off Incredible (Miner's Mark), who had closed to take the lead, with a furlong to run, but with a nice turn of foot Boom a Cat a Boom tracked down that foe and got up in the final strides to win by three-parts of a length. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$23,530.

O-Jim Blackburn. B-They Go Stable Away (KY). T-Jerry D Calvin.



**FRESHMAN FOCUS**

**First-crop progeny to watch: Thursday, June 10**

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

**BERNSTEIN** (Storm Cat), Buck Pond, \$8K, 35/1/0  
2-BM, Msw, 5f, Prescriptionneeded, \$20K KEE SEP yrl



**SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**

**First-time starters/stakes runners: Thursday, June 10**

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

**CRYPTO STAR** (Cryptoclearance), Murmur, \$4K, 75/10/1  
5-CT, Msw, 7f, +Q Clearance, 10-1

**FREE HOUSE** (Smokester), Vessels, \$15K, 92/10/1  
2-BM, Msw, 5f, +Free American, \$29K WAS SEP yrl

**MAZEL TRICK** (Phone Trick), Airdrie, \$13K, 150/28/1  
2-BM, Msw, 5f, +Mazelman, \$200K OBS FEB 2yo

**MILITARY** (Danzig), Glencrest, \$5K, 62/15/2  
7-WO, Msw, 6f, +Arezzo

★ **AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS** ★

**IN BRITAIN:**

**Kschessinka**, f, 3, [Nureyev](#). See "Britain."

**IN ITALY:**

**Xavier Gold**, c, 2, [Captain Bodgit](#). See "European Breeders' Edition."

**FOALING NEWS:**

**CARNATION (FR)**, 21, Carwhite (Ire)--Emilia (Ire), by Ribero  
Foal born Apr. 30, a colt by Buddha.

Will be bred back to Maria's Mon.

Owned by Oak Cliff Breeder.

Boarded at Stone Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: SW & GSP-Fr. Dam of Slew's Cor-sage (Secret Slew), MSW.

**I AIN'T BLUFFING**, 10, Pine Bluff--Cup of Honey, by Raise a Cup

Foal born May 1, a filly by Awesome Again.

Will be bred back to Elusive Quality.

Owned by Mace and Samantha Siegal.

Boarded at Mill Ridge, Ky.

Accomplishments: MGISW of \$580,329.

**LINAMIX**

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★ BRITAIN ★

**SULAMANI HEADS GODOLPHIN ASCOT TEAM**

Trainer Saeed bin Suroor, speaking at a press conference yesterday, outlined the team of horses Godolphin will send to Royal Ascot this year. Chief among the 16 entries is **Sulamani (Ire)** (Hernando {Fr}), who will fly the flag in Wednesday's G1 Prince of Wales's S. "We gave Sulamani an easy time after he ran in the Breeders' Cup at the end of last year and decided to give him a European campaign in 2004," bin Suroor said. "He looks much better and stronger this year and it was a pity he had to miss his planned first outing [the G1 Tattersalls Gold Cup] in Ireland because of a sore leg. Sulamani has a very good turn of foot and will be suited by a strong pace at Ascot. I think he will run well. His targets afterwards will be the G1 King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond S. [July 24] and the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe [Oct. 3]." Godolphin are also set to send Friday's G1 Coronation Cup runner-up **Doyen (Ire)** (Sadler's Wells) to the June 19 G2 Hardwicke S. "I think that Doyen has our best chance of success," bin Suroor said. "He came back very well from his race at Epsom and is in good form. He was 85 percent ready at Epsom, where he was unlucky, and will have improved for the race." Among the others ready to carry the blue silks will be G2 Henry II S. scorer **Papineau (GB)** (Singspiel {Ire}), pointing for Thursday's G1 Ascot Gold Cup.

Upcoming British Group 1 Races		
Date	Race	Course
June 15	St. James's Palace S.	Royal Ascot
	Queen Anne S.	Royal Ascot
June 16	Prince of Wales's S.	Royal Ascot
June 17	Ascot Gold Cup	Royal Ascot
June 18	Coronation S.	Royal Ascot
June 19	Golden Jubilee S.	Royal Ascot

**EPSOM DERBY REPLAY ON BHB WEBSITE**

The video replay of the G1 Epsom Derby, along with all the Group 1 races run in Britain this season, can be viewed at [www.britishhorseracing.com/breeding](http://www.britishhorseracing.com/breeding). "The three Group 1 races at Epsom Downs last week were a terrific advert for British racing, and I am delighted that we are able to showcase them to an international audience through our new website," said BHB Bloodstock Marketing Executive Caley Wilson.

**Yesterday's Results:**

**Newbury, 6.35, Mdn**, £10,000, 3yo, 6f 8ydsT, 1:13.56, gd/fm.

**KSCHESSINKA (f, 3, Nureyev--Gran Dama, by Rahy)**, down the field on her sole start in a Newmarket maiden in October, stalked the early pace traveling well before quickening to grab the lead with 300 yards remaining. Despite the attentions of Farewell Gift (GB) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}) in the closing stages, the 11-4 second choice needed only to be kept up to her work to comfortably beat that rival by 1 1/4 lengths. The winner was a \$210,000 KEESEP yearling purchase. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, £6,500. O-Lael Stable; B-John T L Jones Jr & Ashford Stud; T-William Haggas.

**Newbury, 7.05, Mdn**, £7,325, 2yo, 6f 8ydsT, 1:14.33, gd/fm.

+ **WHAZZAT (GB) (f, 2, Daylami {Ire}--Wosaita {GB}, by Generous {Ire})**, sent off at odds of 7-1, dwelt and raced in rear early before recovering to gain on the leaders passing halfway. A 30,000gns TATOCT yearling, she grabbed the lead 300 yards remaining before holding the late challenge of Maids Causeway (Ire) (Giant's Causeway) by a neck. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £4,761. O-W J Gredley; B-Eurostrait Ltd; T-Barry Hills.

*British Report cont. p5*

All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated

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**Hamilton, 7.20, Mdn, £8,510, 2yo, 6f 5ydsT, 1:11.75, gd/fm.**

**+ABRAXAS ANTELOPE (IRE) (c, 2, Imperial Ballet {Ire}--Lypharden {Ire}, by Lyphard), an €15,500 GOFNOV weanling and €10,000 TATIRE yearling purchase, broke sharply and soon had command against the stands' rail. The 4-1 chance remained straight and true as his rivals wandered around the track in behind and gifted him a six-length success. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £5,531.**

O-Andrea & Graham Wylie; B-Gerry Flannery; T-J Howard Johnson.

**Thursday, Newbury, post time: 3:45 p.m.**

**LORD WEINSTOCK MEMORIAL S.-Listed, £30,000, 3yo, f, 10f 6ydsT**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	2	Halicardia (GB)	Halling	Harris
2	4	Classical Dancer (GB)	Dr Fong	Candy
3	7	Incheni (Ire)	Nashwan	Wragg
4	6	Proud Tradition	Seeking the Gold	Gosden
5	3	Shuheb (GB)	Nashwan	C Brittain
6	1	Si Si Amiga (Ire)	Desert Style (Ire)	B Hills
7	5	Well Known (GB)	Sadler's Wells	Charlton

All carry 121 pounds except Halicardia, 124.

## ★ IRELAND ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**ROCHESTOWN S.-Listed, €50,000, Leopardstown, 6-9, 2yo, 6fT, 1:14.10, gd/fm.**

**1--#MAN O WORLD (IRE), 126, c, 2, by [Spinning World](#)**

**1st Dam: Rihan, by Dayjur**

**2nd Dam: Sweet Roberto, by Roberto**

**3rd Dam: Candy Bowl, by Majestic Light**

(€130,000 yrl '03 GOFORB). O-L W Heiligbrodt; B-Forenaghts Stud; T-Dermot Weld; J-Pat Smullen; €32,550. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, €50,735.

**2--Joyce (Ire), 126, c, 2, Danehill Dancer (Ire)--Miss Kinabalu (GB), by Shirley Heights (GB). (€105,000 wnlg '02 GOFNOV; €260,000 yrl '03 GOFORB). €9,550.**

**3--Clash of the Ash, 126, c, 2, King of Kings (Ire)--Ceirseach (Ire), by Don't Forget Me (Ire). (€52,000 yrl '03 GOFORB). €4,550.**

Margins: HD, 2, 9. Odds: 7-4, 13-8, 2-1.

Also Ran: Tough Enough (Ire).

After two placings in similar events at Cork Apr. 10 and The Curragh Apr. 25, Man o World got off the mark at the third time of asking in a Naas maiden last time May 5. Settled in second by Pat Smullen throughout the early stages of this contest, he stalked the pacesetter Joyce until tackling that rival approaching the eighth pole. Gaining an edge there, he was forced to battle to contain the game rally of that rival in the closing stages, but had enough in reserve to cling to his advantage. "He is a tough horse and has improved with every run," commented winning conditioner Dermot Weld. "He is owned by two Kentucky-based owners, so he may run in the States later on."

**SILVER S.-Listed, €50,000, Leopardstown, 6-9, 3yo/up, 1 1/4mT, 2:03, gd/fm.**

**1--#MEDICINAL (IRE), 120, c, 3, by Linamix (Fr)**

**1st Dam: Pharmacist (Ire) (SW-Ire), by Machiavellian**

**2nd Dam: Pharaoh's Delight (Ire), by Fairy King**

**3rd Dam: Ridge The Times, by Riva Ridge**

O/B-Ballylinch Stud; T-Dermot Weld; J-Pat Smullen; €32,550. Lifetime Record: GSP-Ire, 4-2-1-1, €56,760.

**2--Grand Passion (Ire), 133, g, 4, Grand Lodge--Lovers' Parlour (GB), by Beldale Flutter. €9,550.**

**3--Cobra (Ire), 120, c, 3, Sadler's Wells--Puck's Castle (GB), by Shirley Heights (GB). (€825,000 yrl '02 GOFORB). €4,550.**

Margins: HF, 2, 3HF. Odds: 4-1, 6-1, 6-1.

Also Ran: Cache Creek (Ire), Napper Tandy (Ire), Lord Admiral, Liss Ard (Ire), Akarem (GB), Maralan (Ire), Ebaziyan (Ire). Scratched: Tycoon (GB).

Medicinal took a Gowran Park maiden on his sole start at two before returning to finish third behind stable companion Grey Swallow (Ire) in the Listed 2000 Guineas Trial S. at this track Apr. 18. He was beaten just 2 1/2 lengths by Yeats (Ire) when third in the G2 Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial S. last time May 9 and maintained his level of consistency here with a deserved first stakes score. Held up in mid-division throughout the early stages, he made smooth progress through the pack on the approach to the straight before quickening to wear down Grand Passion in the final 50 yards.

**Leopardstown, 6.00, Mdn, €19,280, 2yo, 7fT, 1:28.60, gd/fm.**

**+CHELSEA ROSE (IRE) (f, 2, Desert King {Ire}--Cinnamon Rose, by Trempolino) was settled in fifth throughout the early stages before being delivered wide in the straight for her challenge. Passing the long-time leader Silk and Scarlet (GB) (Sadler's Wells) with 200 yards remaining, the 38,000gns TATOCT yearling purchase was pushed out to assert and record a comfortable two-length score. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €13,020. O-Mrs A J Donnelly; B-Airlie Stud; T-Con Collins.**

**Leopardstown, 9.00, Mdn, €15,424, 3yo, 1 1/2mT, 2:32.40, gd/fm.**

**+TWO MILES WEST (IRE) (c, 3, [Sadler's Wells](#)--User Friendly {GB} {Hwt. 3yo-GB & Fr at 14f+, MG1SW-GB, G1SW-Fr & Ire, \$1,761,393}, by Slip Anchor {GB}) broke well and established an early lead under Jamie Spencer. Asked to quicken as the pack tightened on the turn into the straight, the 10-3 second choice responded to the whip in the drive to the line to score by 2 1/2 lengths from Comfort Zone (Ire) (Daylami {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €11,056.**

O-Michael Tabor; B-Tower Bloodstock; T-Aidan O'Brien. O-Mrs A J Donnelly; B-Airlie Stud; T-Con Collins.



## ★ FRANCE ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**PRIX DES LILAS-Listed, €45,000, Fontainebleau, 6-9, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:38.40, sf.**

1--#**CATTIVA GENEROSA (GB), 123, f, 3, by Cadeaux Genereux (GB)**

**1st Dam: Signorina Cattiva (MGSW-GB, G1SP-Ity, \$215,935), by El Gran Senor**

**2nd Dam: Assez Cuite, by Graustark**

**3rd Dam: Clinkers II, by Relic**

O/B-Haras de Saint Pair du Mont; T-Richard Gibson; J-Thierry Jarnet; €22,500. Lifetime Record: 5 starts, 2 wins, 2 places, €38,500.

2--**Tolzey, 123, f, 3, Rahy--Legal Opinion (Ire), by Polish Precedent. €9,000.**

3--**Russian Muse (Fr), 123, f, 3, Machiavellian--Sinueuse (Fr), by Fabulous Dancer. €6,750.**

Margins: 3, 2, 2HF. Odds: 2.40, 10.00, 4.80.

Also ran: Divine Story (Fr), Passion des Aigles (Ire), Fin (GB), Roseanna (Fr), Sweet Salsa (Fr).

Scratched: Mama Daktari (Fr).

Cattiva Generosa opened her account in a conditions event at Deauville in October before returning to finish fifth in a similar event at Chantilly Apr. 26. She was far from disgraced when eighth behind Torrestrella (Ire) in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches at Longchamp last time May 16 and bounced back here under an enterprising ride from Thierry Jarnet. Sent to the front in the early stages, she gradually drew clear of her rivals in the stretch, putting the finishing touches to the demolition job with two cracks with the whip inside the final eighth.

**Fontainebleau, 2.05, €18,000, Unraced 2yo, c/g, 5fT, 58.00, sf.**

+ **SUNNY SKY (FR) (c, 2, Septieme Ciel--Silicon Run {Fr}, by Commanche Run {GB})** broke well and enjoyed a narrow early advantage from Montolivo (Ire) (Enrique {GB}). Headed by that rival inside the final quarter, the 10-3 chance showed determination to edge ahead again in the final strides and account for that rival by a short head. Lifetime Record: 1 start, 1 win, €9,000.

O-Woodside Farms LLC; B-F Benillouche; T-Maurice Zilber.

**Fontainebleau, 2.35, €18,000, Unraced 2yo, f, 5fT, 59.50, sf.**

+ **BEAUTIFIX (GER) (f, 2, Bering {GB}--Beautimix {Fr}, by Linamix {Fr})**, off at 5-1 in her career debut, broke well and had a slight advantage by halfway. Pushed out to hold the challenge of River Bride (Kingmambo) in the closing stages, the Wertheimer homebred had a comfortable 3/4-length margin to spare over that rival at the line. Lifetime Record: 1 start, 1 win, €9,000.

O/B-Wertheimer et Frere; T-Carlos Laffon-Parias.

**Thursday, Longchamp, post time: 2:20 p.m.**

**PRIX LA FLECHE-Listed, €45,000, 2yo, 5fT**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	7	Salut Thomas (Fr)	Adnaan (Ire)	Rob Collet	126
2	2	Legal Affair (Fr)	Charge d'Affaires (GB)	Delzangles	126
3	1	Semarang (GB)	Hernando (Fr)	Pease	126
4	3	D'Artagnan (Bel)	Urbino (GB)	Stoquart	126
5	5	Antioche (Fr)	Gold Away (Ire)	Laffon-Parias	126
6	2	Thunder Under (Fr)	Xaar (GB)	Gibson	122
7	6	Lady Weasley (Fr)	Zieten	Dissaux	122
8	8	Glazed Frost (Fr)	Verglas (Ire)	Bary	122

**Thursday, Longchamp, post time: 2:50 p.m.**

**PRIX DE SURESNES-Listed, €45,000, 3yo, c/g,**

**1 1/4mT**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	4	Ecole d'Art	Theatrical (Ire)	Fabre
2	1	Geordieland (Fr)	Johann Quatz (Fr)	Gibson
3	3	Singapore Com (Fr)	Tremolino	de Nicolay
4	2	Ronnie Gaucho	Lear Fan	Rouget

All carry 123 pounds.

**Thursday, Longchamp, post time: 3:55 p.m.**

**PRIX DE LA SEINE-Listed, €45,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/4mT**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	3	Chandi Dasa (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	Lellouche
2	4	Martha Stewart (Ire)	Daggers Drawn	A & G Botti
3	1	Popee (Fr)	Take Risks (Fr)	Rouget
4	2	Cloon	Lure	Clement
5	5	Siberian Highness (Fr)	Highest Honor (Fr)	Toux
6	6	Polyfirst (Fr)	Poliglote (GB)	Head-Maarek

All carry 123 pounds.

## ★ EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS ★

**IN HONG KONG:**

**Tiger Ridge (Ire), c, 3, Indian Ridge (Ire)--Lishaway (Fr),** by Polish Precedent. Sha Tin, 6-6, Griffins, 1200mT. B-Irish National Stud. \*1/2 to Foss Way (Ire) (Desert Prince {Ire}), GSW-Eng. \*\*€30,000 yrl '02 GOFORB.

**Companion (Ire), g, 6, Danehill--Sedra (Ire) (GSP-Eng, Fr & Ity), by Nebbiolo (GB).** Happy Valley, 6-9, Hcp., 1000mT. B-Mohammed al-Qatami. \*Ir170,000gns yrl '99 GOFORB; HK\$3,000,000 2yo '00 HKIS. \*\*1/2 to Samraan (Green Dancer), Hwt. Older Horse-Ity at 14f+, SW-Ity, G1SP-Eng, \$212,790.

**Golconda (Ire), g, 6, Ezzoud (Ire)--Gerante, by Private Account.** Happy Valley, 6-9, Hcp., 1650mT. B-I W Allan. \*SW-HK. \*\*1/2 to Chez Cherie (GB) (Wolfhound), GSP-Eng, SP-US.

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# BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**9th-CDX, \$49,100, NW1X, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:44 3/5, ft.**

**PLAID (f, 3, Deputy Commander--Sapphire Beads {MSW, \$241,340}, by Unreal Zeal)** Lifetime Record: 12-2-4-1, \$72,095. O-Mount Joy Stables, Brian Burns, Denny Crum, Daryl Elser & Dallas Stewart. B-McKee Stables Inc (KY). T-Dallas Stewart. \*\$55,000 yrl '02 FTKJUL. \*\*1/2 to Ashmore (Saint Ballado), GSP, \$182,750.

**3rd-BMX, \$38,359, NW1X, 3yo, 6f, 1:10 1/5, ft. JET WEST (c, 3, Western Fame--Jetinwith Kennedy {MSW, \$103,328}, by Kennedy Road)** Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$56,388. O-Wilbur, Caples, Stephens, Edwards & Sherman. B-Applebite Farms (CA). T-Art Sherman. \*\$11,000 yrl '02 CALAUG; \$50,000 2yo '03 BESMAY. \*\*1/2 to Jetin Excess (In Excess {Ire}), MSW & GISP, \$281,950; and Jetinto Houston (Houston), SW & GSP, \$215,781.

**7th-DEL, \$37,300, NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft. ELECTRICAL CARLITA (f, 4, Jules--Tobin's Fortune, by Fortunate Prospect)** Lifetime Record: 26-6-9-2, \$185,765. O-Gumpster Stable LLC. B-Jorge Tabraue (FL). T-Scott A Lake.

**3rd-MNR, \$31,700, 6-8, NW4L, 3yo/up, 7fT, 1:21 4/5, fm. SOLDIER SONG (h, 5, Lost Soldier--Clamorous, by Spend a Buck)** Lifetime Record: 21-3-1-0, \$82,344. O/T-Dale Baird. B-Flying Columns Stable (FL).

**5th-APX, \$30,000, NW2X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:37, ft. GUMBO LOVE (f, 4, Jambalaya Jazz--Quick Love, by To the Quick)** Lifetime Record: SW, 9-3-2-1, \$111,510. O-J C Racing Stables. B-Jay Collier (IL). T-Clayton Pierce.

**9th-PRM, \$27,050, 6-8, NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:40 3/5, ft. ONE FINE SHWEETIE (m, 5, Shuailaan--One Fine Lady {MSW & GSP, \$225,376}, by Tri Jet)** Lifetime Record: MSW, 20-5-3-8, \$197,812. O-Gary Lucas & Linda Woods. B-Gary E Lucas (IA). T-Don Von Hemel.

**8th-PRM, \$25,074, 6-8, NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:41 1/5, ft. SLEW CHECK (g, 5, Chequer--Fast Slewzy {MSW, \$161,118}, by Slewdonza)** Lifetime Record: 20-3-2-0, \$44,379. O-Maggi Moss. B-Harold B Heslinga (IA). T-Dick R Clark.

**8th-SUF, \$22,000, NW2\$6MX, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 3/5, ft. STORM'N J R (h, 6, Mystery Storm--Fair de Naskra, by Star de Naskra)** Lifetime Record: 33-13-4-6, \$245,466. O-Seaspray Stable. B-Nathan Fox & Michael Lischin (KY). T-Alfred J Pimental. \*\$38,000 wlng '98 KEENOV; \$57,000 yrl '99 KEESEP. \*\*1/2 to Glitman (Glitterman), MGSP, \$153,755.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

- Mingo Mohawk, c, 2, Mercedes Won--Princess Celebrity, by King Celebrity.** PRM, 6-8, (S), 5f, :59 2/5. B-Dick Clark & Carroll Rumbaugh (Ia).
- I Can Yodele, f, 2, Swiss Yodeler--Dancingattheapollo, by Apollo.** HOL, 6-9, (S), 5f, :59. B-Peter S Busch (Ca). \*\$20,000 yrl '03 BESJAN.
- Alpine Sport, c, 2, Swiss Yodeler--Queen of Synastry, by Synastry.** HOL, 6-9, (C), 5f, :58 3/5. B-Heinz Steinmann (Ca).
- + Ardent Sister, f, 3, Personal Flag--Mithrandir (SW, \$109,412), by D'Accord.** BEL, 6-9, (S), 6f, 1:12. B-John Hettinger (NY). \*\$27,000 yrl '02 FTNAUG.
- Scooter Rains, c, 3, Prospect Bay--Box of Rain, by Badger Land.** PRM, 6-8, (S), 1m, 1:38 3/5. B-J D Comstock (Ia).
- Buteo, g, 3, Rubiyat--Jolly Robin, by State Dinner.** BEL, 6-9, (C), 6f, 1:11. B-Mrs Calvin E Rofe (Md).
- Dinner Date, f, 3, Take Me Out--Lady Eton (SW), by Artichoke.** BEL, 6-9, (S), 6f, 1:11 1/5. B-Milfer Farm Inc (NY). \*\$18,500 wlng '01 KEENOV; \$55,000 yrl '02 KEESEP.
- Doubly Irish, f, 4, Cooleen Jack (Ire)--Susie's Doctor (SP), by Dr. Valeri.** PRM, 6-8, 1m, 1:39 2/5. B-James Nelson (Ia).
- Call An Interview, c, 4, Private Interview--Call From Jessie, by Phone Trick.** MTH, 6-9, (S), 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-Ocean View Stables (NJ).
- Hare's Love, h, 6, Tex R. Rabbit--See No Love, by Bold Arian.** MTH, 6-9, (S), (C), 6f, 1:13 2/5. B-James K Doyle (NJ).

# BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

- Xavier Gold, c, 2, Captain Bodgit--Casseattack, by Native Tactics.** Naples, Italy, 6-9, Cond, 2yo, 7fT. B-Hopewell Investments LLC. \*\$11,000 yrl '03 KEESEP.
- Lyca Ballerina (GB), f, 3, Marju (Ire)--Lovely Lyca (GB), by Night Shift.** Beverley, Britain, 6-9, Mdn, 3yo/up, 7f 100ydsT. B-Stowell Hill Ltd & Mrs C van Straubensee. \*42,000gns yrl '02 TATOCT.



## WRITERS UP

### SMARTY, BELMONT & BLAME *by Lucas Marquardt*

At the conclusion of Saturday's Belmont S., fans of racing, both old and new, were treated to an exhibition of class and sportsmanship that should be required viewing for every young athlete.

First, we watched as a rugged little chestnut from Philadelphia, the unlikely, unbeaten hero who had captivated the sports world in just five weeks' time, do his best to lengthen his stride as the wire fast approached. At the same time, another gritty performer, maligned through the spring as an underachiever, battled on until he had drawn to even terms, and then past, his tiring foe.

In the end, it was Birdstone over Smarty Jones by a length--and a damn fine race it was.

But the real show was just beginning. In front of a sullen, cold Belmont crowd--a record 120,000 fans who had come to witness history--Marylou Whitney stepped into the winner's circle to accept the Belmont trophy. Graciously, almost apologetically, she expressed her empathy to the fans, explaining that she, too, was a Smarty fan and would love to have seen him win.

"We were rooting for Smarty," she said. "We love Smarty. I think Smarty Jones has done more for the racing community and people who love horses. It gives everyone a chance to think 'This could happen to me.'"

Now here was a lady from one of racing's premier families, winning New York's premier race, and instead of relishing the moment gleefully, her first impulse is to console a clearly disappointed crowd? How often do you see that in the NBA?

Then there was Smarty's camp. Trainer John Servis, a trooper if ever there was through five weeks of being the center of a media whirlwind, was moments removed from missing the Triple Crown--and its \$5-million bonus--by a length, when he was front and center at the post-race press conference. Lesser men, including this writer, would have been under a table somewhere, in the fetal position, gently swaying back and forth. Servis, on the other hand, took the loss on the chin, put the race firmly into its proper context of what was an amazing run, and heaped praise on the winner and his trainer, Nick Zito. No tears, no finger pointing, no woe-is-me.

I went to bed that night feeling pretty good about our sport. Millions had tuned in to see little Smarty go, and despite Smarty losing, they witnessed a pretty good horse race.

More importantly, prospective fans who knew nothing of horse racing except the Breeders' Cup Pick 6 scandal, the NYRA mess and some bizarre story about a severed leg, saw what horse racing is really all about. They were exposed to the true essence of the sport, the thing that makes us such rabid fans: its purity, its stoicism, its class, its heart.

Horse racing lost nothing when Smarty finished second. It gained legions of fans who now understand what the fuss is all about.

It didn't take long, however, for babbling pundits to start assigning blame. Jockey Stewart Elliott has taken most of the heat, with indictments of a poor ride aboard Smarty. Folks that five weeks prior had jumped on Elliott's bandwagon because of his flawless ride in the Kentucky Derby were now deeming the journeyman unfit for racing's biggest stage.

Well, let's break it down: prior to the race, trainer Todd Pletcher said Purge, the race's only clear speed, would not be on the lead. This left Elliott in a sticky situation. If he sends Smarty from post nine and others go, the colt could be hung wide into the turn. If Elliott doesn't send him, a rival might take the lead himself and steal away through slow fractions. Elliott opted for the former, and it didn't look like a bad choice as Smarty joined Purge and Rock Hard Ten on the outside.

Now, let's interject a thought: A jockey can control only himself and, ostensibly, his mount. So when Jerry Bailey moved to Smarty's flank and made a Smarty sandwich between Rock Hard Ten and Eddington, the race had taken a turn in which Elliott had no control. The result was that the three horses, each feeling pressured, went faster than ideal up the backstretch. This is, mind you, no knock on Bailey. Eddington got his clock cleaned in the Preakness and Bailey owed it to the owners to try different tactics that might get the horse to the winner's circle. It turned out to be the wrong move, but you can't blame him for riding to win.

The decision Elliott then made on the far turn has drawn the most flak: that he moved too soon.

Another interjection, though. These were the odds at post time: Smarty Jones, 2-5; Rock Hard Ten, 6-1; Purge, 9-1; Eddington, 14-1; Master David, 24-1; Royal Assault, 26-1; Birdstone, 36-1, etc.

At the three-eighths pole, Elliott and Smarty had put away the second choice, turned back the third choice and vanquished the fourth choice. Fifth choice Master David was nowhere to be seen and sixth choice Royal Assault was somewhere in the parking lot, gearing up for his late bid.

That Elliott allowed Smarty to open up is more than reasonable. They hit the quarter pole almost four lengths on top and from there, Elliott needed his charge to come home, as it turns out, in :26 4/5. A reasonable request of a would-be Triple Crown winner.

It was at this point that Smarty's pedigree, not to mention a grueling spring of non-stop racing, likely caught up with him. The little guy just got tired.

When it comes down to it, Smarty might not belong in the same category as Affirmed, Seattle Slew or Secretariat. But that doesn't mean that he isn't a great horse, nor does it mean we should devalue what he and his connections have done for the sport.

Let's stop pointing fingers at what went wrong in the Belmont. Let's show potential fans what Thoroughbred racing is all about. Go Smarty.