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THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
THURSDAY, DEC. 23, 2004

HEADLINE NEWS

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Blood-Horse

'GROCER' GETTING READY

GII Remsen S. runner-up **Galloping Grocer** (A. P. Jet) has been given some time off from serious training, but is set to embark down the GI Kentucky Derby trail on a schedule comprised of a trio of prep races, according to trainer Dominick Schettino. The Bronx-born conditioner, 38, said that the New York-bred Galloping Grocer would tentatively target the Feb. 12 Whirlaway S. at Aqueduct, Mar. 5 GII Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream and GI Wood Memorial S. at the Big A in preparation for the Derby, held May 7 at Churchill Downs. "If he comes out of the



**Galloping Grocer
at the start of the Remsen**
Steve Sherack photo

Whirlaway all right, we'll go to Florida and then come back for the Wood," Schettino said. "That'll give him enough time between races to recover. But everything changes. There is a lot of money out there, and there are tracks where, if you put the horse on a plane, you're there in two, three hours." After beating up on state-breds in his first three starts--including a 7 1/2-length romp in the Sleepy Hollow S.--Galloping Grocer gave Rockport Harbor all he could handle in the Remsen, falling just a neck short on the line. Though the gelding came out of the race in good order, Schettino opted to give him a breather. "We decided to give him a month off after the race," he said, "but we didn't turn him out. I figured he'd be a little tired after running so hard, but he's been doing everything right. He's putting some weight on. It seems like he's filling out behind." Schettino added that Galloping Grocer would most likely remain at his base at Belmont Park through the winter. "I'm not worried so much with the cold," he said. "So long as we don't get a lot of snow, I'll keep him in New York." Schettino admitted that he'd given consideration to running in the \$1-million Delta Jackpot Dec. 4 rather than the Remsen, but decided to stay home. "We were doing a lot of gate work at the time," he said. "I'd rather skip that and give him some more time to mature, get him a little more confident with the gate, so hopefully he'll be better at breaking in the bigger races down the line."

CHURCHILL, MAGNA GOING GLOBAL

Churchill Downs Inc. and Magna Entertainment Corp. have entered into an international simulcast distribution agreement that will deliver their respective racing product to the European market, according to a press release. Racing from 18 of the companies' tracks will be combined and presented for export through Magna's Austrian subsidiary, MEC Sport und Entertainment



Churchill Downs photo

GmbH, to outlets in Great Britain, Ireland, Austria and Germany. "By combining our racing content into one offering, we believe we have created a North American simulcast product with a level of quality and scale never before presented to European race fans," said Thomas H. Meeker, president and chief executive officer of CDI, whose tracks include Arlington Park, Churchill Downs, Fair Grounds and Hollywood Park. Among the tracks under the Magna banner are Gulfstream Park, Lone Star Park, Pimlico Race Course and Santa Anita Park. Jim McAlpine, president and chief executive officer of MEC, added, "We have repeatedly expressed our desire to work with others in our industry to grow U.S. horse racing's share of the international sports and gaming markets. This partnership is a major step toward achieving such a goal. While we don't anticipate a material financial impact in the immediate future, we do expect European race fans to welcome a product that will feature such world-class events as the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, Arlington Million, Florida Derby, Hollywood Gold Cup, Louisiana Derby and Santa Anita Derby."

UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Track</u>
Dec. 26	GI Malibu S.	Santa Anita
Dec. 27	GI La Brea S.	Santa Anita
Dec. 31	GIII Chaposa Springs H.	Calder
	GIII Monrovia H.	Santa Anita
Jan. 1	GII San Gabriel H.	Santa Anita
	GIII Tropical Park Derby	Calder
Jan. 2	GIII El Conejo H.	Santa Anita

MARQUETRY

2005 Fee - \$7,500 LF



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NEW STAKES WINNER FOR MARQUETRY

PAVO, a \$210,000 Fasig-Tipton February Two-Year-Old in 2004, wins the City Zip Stakes at Aqueduct on 12/18 becoming the Newest Stakes Winner for Marquetry.



☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

MILLIONS EARLY ENTRIES INCREASE This year's Sunshine Millions series, set for Saturday, Jan. 29 at Gulfstream Park in Florida and Santa Anita Park in California, has attracted 340 early-bird entries, a 12-percent increase from a year ago. The \$1-million Classic, to be contested this year at Gulfstream, could mark the return to stakes competition for **Second of June** (Louis Quatorze), who turned in a dazzling runner-up effort to Read the Footnotes in last year's GII Fountain of Youth S. Also possible for the nine-furlong event are Grade I-winning sprinter **Midas Eyes** (Touch Gold) and GSWs **Supah Blitz** (Mecke), **Zakocity** (Precocity) and **The Judge Sez Who** (Judge T C), third to Southern Image in last year's Classic at Santa Anita. Other potential runners on the program include GI Breeders' Cup Sprint third-place finisher **My Cousin Matt** (Matty G), GI King's Bishop S. runner-up **Weigelia** (Safely's Mark), GI Champagne S. hero **Proud Accolade** (Yes It's True), **Mooji Moo** (Jebbar), defending champion in the Filly & Mare Sprint, MGSW **Bear Fan** (Pine Bluff), GSW **Moscow Burning** (Moscow Ballet), last year's Turf victor **Proud Man** (Manlove), GI C.L. Hirsch winner **Star Over the Bay** (Cozzene) and **Yearly Report** (General Meeting), a three-time Grade II winner in 2004.

SUNSHINE MILLIONS RACES*
Saturday, January 29, 2005

At Santa Anita:
 \$500,000 Turf 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT
 \$500,000 Distaff 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m
 \$300,000 Sprint 4yo/up, 6f
 \$300,000 Oaks 3yo, f, 6f

At Gulfstream Park:
 \$1,000,000 Classic 4yo/up, 1 1/8m
 \$500,000 F/M Turf 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT
 \$300,000 F/M Sprint 4yo/up, f/m, 6f
 \$300,000 Dash 3yo, 6f

**All races restricted to horses bred in FL or CA.*

☆ RESULTS ☆

Wednesday, Kawasaki, Japan
ZENNIHON NISAI YUSHUN-G1-NAR (Listed), ¥35,000,000 to winner, Kawasaki, 12-22, 2yo, 1600m, 1:40.6, gd.
 1--**PRIDE KIM (JPN)**, 119, c, 2, by Afleet
 1st Dam: **Stephana (Jpn)**, by Real Shadai
 2nd Dam: **Dyna Comaneci (Jpn)**, by Northern Taste
 3rd Dam: **Shadai Reason (Jpn)**, by Marino (Fr)
 O-Tomiro Fukami; B-Yanagawa Farm; T-Kaneo Ikezoe; J-K Ikezoe. Lifetime Record: 6-4-0-0, ¥72,000,000.
 2--**Sea Chariot**, 119, c, 2, Seeking the Gold--Neptune's Bride, by Bering (GB). O-Darley Japan Racing; B-Darley.
 3--**Siberian Hobby**, 119, c, 2, Dixie Union--Haughty, by Halo. (\$135,000 yrl '03 KEESEP; \$250,000 2yo '04 KEEAPR). O-Yoshio Fujita; B-Langsem Farm Inc.
 Margins: 4, NO, 5. Odds: 3.40, 1.30, 1.50.

LEADING NORTH AMERICAN SIRE OF 2004
UNRESTRICTED FIRST-TIME STAKES WINNERS
(through Dec. 20)

Stallion	Loc	SWs
A.P. Indy (Seattle Slew)	Ky	16
Storm Cat (Storm Bird)	Ky	14
Kingmambo (Mr. Prospector)	Ky	10
Carson City (Mr. Prospector)	Ky	9
Grand Slam (Gone West)	Ky	9
Kris S. (Roberto)	dead	9
Unbridled's Song (Unbridled)	Ky	9
Theatrical (Nureyev)	Ky	8
Forestry (Storm Cat)	Ky	7
Seeking the Gold (Mr. Prospector)	Ky	7
Distorted Humor (Forty Niner)	Ky	6
El Prado (Sadler's Wells)	Ky	6
Not for Love (Mr. Prospector)	Md	6
Smart Strike (Mr. Prospector)	Ky	6

(Based on winners of unrestricted stakes with purses of \$35,000 or more in North America and winners of European stakes that qualify for "black-type" by North American catalogue standards and graded SWs in Japan.) Compiled by [Werk Thoroughbred Consultants](#), specialists in assisting breeders in their stallion selection and buyers in their auction purchases. For more information call (510) 490-1111.

“JUST ABOUT EVERY WEEK
IT SEEMS THERE IS A NEW
STAKES WINNER BY
SMART STRIKE”

— Owner•Breeder, December 2004

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LANE'S END

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 23, 2004

TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



AROUND
THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

★ NEW YORK ★

★ EAST ★

Yesterday's Results:

DEAUVILLE S., \$40,000, CRC, 12-22, 3yo/up, f/m, 7 1/2fT, 1:28 4/5, fm.

1--**FORMAL MISS, 122, f, 4, Formal Dinner--Dance On the Green, by Green Dancer.** (\$15,000 wlng '00 OBSOCT). O-Elite Racing, N Fornaro Et Al; B-Right Start Farm (FL); T-Paul M Maxwell; J-J F Chavez; \$26,000. Lifetime Record: MSW & GSP, 29-8-6-6, \$366,040. *1/2 to Gold Pirate (Goldwater), SW, \$101,783; Green Riches (Rizzi), SP, \$160,670.

2--**Our Exploit**, 116, f, 3, Exploit--Reach the Top, by Cozzene. \$7,000.

3--**Far Afield**, 114, f, 3, Distant View--Shoshaloza, by Diesis (GB). \$3,850.

Margins: HF, 1, NO. Odds: 1.60, 3.40, 1.90.

Formal Miss captured a pair of back-to-back stakes over the Calder turf last fall before checking in a dull eighth in the Dec. 4 Gill My Charmer H. last time out. Favored in this field of six, the bay filly trailed the field in the early going, rallied four wide turning for home and finished determinedly to get up late for the half-length tally.

9th-CRC, \$21,000, Alw, NW1X, 3/up, 9fT, 1:48 1/5, fm.

THE PENNY DROPS (g, 3, Honour and Glory--Coquine, by Gone West), on the board in 12 of 15 previous starts, had not started since running second in an Oct. 22 Meadowlands allowance. The 7-5 favorite was allowed to settle off the pace, angled to the outside in upper stretch and sailed clear to a 3 1/2-length victory. The winner was a \$40,000 KEESEP yearling. Lifetime Record: 16-5-3-5, \$148,785.

O-Peachtree Stable. B-Clovelly Farms (KY). T-T Pletcher.

Stanislavsky Going to Highcliff:

Multiple graded placed **Stanislavsky** (Dehere--Spinet, by Nureyev) has been retired from racing and will enter stud at Highcliff Farm in Delanson, NY. He will stand for a fee of \$1,500 live foal as the property of Merrylegs Farm. Bred in Kentucky by Roselands, the bay was a \$227,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling acquisition. Racing in the colors of the late Seymour Cohn, he broke his maiden by eight lengths in his second start at three and went on to run third in both the Gill Bay Shore S. and the Gill Withers S. before being sidelined. He returned to make one start at four, but sustained a knee injury and was retired. "He was so special for my dad that we just wanted to keep him," explained Cohn's daughter, Paula Ann Cohn of Merrylegs Farm. "He was absolutely beautiful to look at...and had the look of a classic horse. I think if people see him, I think they will want to breed to him. So he's being offered at a competitive fee to entice breeders." Stanislavsky hails from the family of Irish Classic winner Prince of Birds. He heads to the breeding shed with a record of 6-1-2-2. For more information, go to www.highcliff.com.



REMINDER:

Due to the Christmas holiday, the TDN office will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 and Saturday, Dec. 25. **There will be NO newsletter for Sat., Dec. 25 or Sun., Dec. 26.** All news and results from Dec. 24 and 25 will appear in the Monday, Dec. 27 issue.

Have a wonderful holiday!

10 individual first crop juvenile winners including
California Choice won 5 1/2f. Msw by six lengths for trainer Jeff Bonde
"It was considered the most impressive debut of the year for a northern California 2-year-old." DRF 12/14/04
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★ CENTRAL ★

Stakes Winner Dancing Missile to Louisiana:

Stakes winner **Dancing Missile** (Canaveral--Baroque Dancer, by Seattle Dancer) has been retired and will take up stud duties at Moon Lake Equine Center in Elm Grove, Louisiana. The six-year-old's fee has been set at \$1,500 (\$1,000 Quarter Horse), stands and nurses. "We are very excited to have Dancing Missile here in Louisiana," said Justin Blondin, breeding manager of Moon Lake. "He showed such blazing speed on the track. He also represents a unique sire line for Louisiana, being the only Relaunch-line stallion in the state. The amount of speed he possesses makes him attractive to both Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse breeders in the area. He led at the quarter pole in 17 of his 23 starts." Wearing the colors of Joe Haller's Haller Stables Ltd., Dancing Missile broke his maiden at Churchill as a two-year-old and added a victory in the Holiday Cheer S. as a sophomore. For more information, contact Justin Blondin at (866) 467-7370.

★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Blinkers for Minister Eric:

Minister Eric (Old Trieste) will go postward with blinkers in Sunday's GI Malibu S., according to trainer Richard Mandella. Sidelined following a troubled trip in the



Minister Eric Horsephotos

GI Kentucky Derby, the chestnut returned to run third in a 6 1/2-furlong optional claimer at Hollywood Nov. 17. He breezed a half yesterday in :47.40 in preparation for the Malibu. "It was a little eye-opener," Mandella said of the colt's work. "He ran well enough [Nov. 17]. We're putting blinkers on him for the Malibu. I

think that might perk him up, and he should like the distance of seven furlongs. He was beaten a half-length at that distance in the Del Mar Futurity [in 2003]." The Diamond A colorbearer will be joined in the starting gate by stablemate **Rock Hard Ten** (Kris S.) as well as East Coast shipper **Mass Media** (Touch Gold), among others.

Santa Anita Positioning Sham for Upgrade:

Santa Anita officials increased the purse of the Feb. 5 Sham S. to \$100,000 in hopes that the contest for three-year-olds will be a graded event in the future. "We tweaked our 3-year-old stakes schedule," Santa Anita Director of Racing Mike Harlow said. "We hope the Sham will become graded when it becomes eligible next year. We also changed the schedule slightly because the mile and an eighth distance of the Sham has been pretty popular with horsemen [Empire Maker, second as the 2-5 favorite in 2003, went on to win the Belmont Stakes]. It's been one of our better 3-year-old preps even though it wasn't graded. Down the road, we'll move the Sham closer to the Santa Anita Derby since both races are a mile and an eighth. We couldn't do that this year because graded stakes earnings determine whether a horse gets into the Kentucky Derby or not, and we didn't want to place an ungraded stakes prep close to the Kentucky Derby. Hopefully, if we have another good running of the Sham this meet, it will become graded next time and we'll move it into a more favorable spot." **Master David** (Grand Slam) won the Sham in 2004, while **Empire Maker** (Unbridled) and **Ten Most Wanted** (Deputy Commander) were upset by **Man Among Men** (Gentlemen {Arg}) in 2003.

Go West, Guidry:

Jockey Mark Guidry will be riding regularly at Santa Anita beginning on Sunday's opening day. The 45-year-old reinsman had previously been based in the Midwest. "An opportunity came up and this seemed like a good time to come to California," said the Louisiana native. According to his agent Paul Truitt, Guidry will "ride for everyone, but Jeff Mullins will be one of his main clients." Guidry has piloted the winners of 4,585 races to date.

Thoroughbred Daily News is:

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TDN TODAY

Around the World 6 pages



Congratulations to the best customers in the world!

DREADNAUGHT – winner of the W.L. McKnight H. (GII) Dec. 18
 O-Trillium Stable; B-David S. Pennington (KY); T-Thomas H Voss
 Sold Keeneland November 2000 for \$15,500; Earnings now \$305,523
 Consigned by Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services Inc., Agent; Purchased by Trillium Stable



**EUROPEAN SIRES OF 2004
FIRST-TIME STAKES WINNERS
(through Dec. 20)**

★ EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN HONG KONG:

Spectacular Hit (Ire), g, 4, **Marju (Ire)**--Debbie's Next, by Arctic Tern. Happy Valley, 12-22, Hcp., 2200mT. B-DelIn Ltd. *Ir£110,000 yrl '01 GOFORB; HK\$1,200,000 2yo '02 HKIS. **1/2 to Caffe Latte (Ire) (Seattle Dancer), GISW-US, SW-Fr, \$676,872; and Autonomy (Ire) (Doyoun {Ire}), SW-US, SP-Ire, \$178,292.

SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT

First-time starters/stakes runners: Thursday, Dec. 23

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

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

CHARISMATIC (Summer Squall), Japan, 156/45/2

3-FG, Msw, 1 1/16m, +Siberian Amur, 12-1

FRESHMAN FOCUS

First-crop progeny to watch: Thursday, Dec. 23

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

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

BEST OF LUCK (Broad Brush), Dell Ridge, \$5K, 54/3/0

3-FG, Msw, 1 1/16m, Lucky One, \$77K FTK OCT yrl, 12-1

CHIEF SEATTLE (Seattle Slew), Spendthrift, \$10K, 64/9/0

3-FG, Msw, 1 1/16m, Intriguing Lady, \$67K FTK JUL yrl, 5-2

MAGIC CAT (Storm Cat), Valor, \$3K, 45/11/1

3-FG, Msw, 1 1/16m, One Allie Cat, 4-1

SIRE	Loc	SWs
Danehill (Danzig)	dead	21
<u>Sadler's Wells</u> (Northern Dancer)	Ire	20
Monsun (Konigssthal)	Ger	10
Pivotal (Polar Falcon)	Eng	10
Big Shuffle (Super Concorde)	Ger	8
Linamix (Mendez)	Fr	8
Cape Cross (Green Desert)	Ire	7
Tiger Hill (Danehill)	Ger	7
Green Desert (Danzig)	Eng	6
Marju (Last Tycoon)	Ire	6
Rainbow Quest (Blushing Groom)	Eng	6
Acatenango (Surumu)	Ger	5
Dr Fong (Kris S.)	Eng	5
Grand Lodge (Chief's Crown)	dead	5
Intikhab (Red Ransom)	Ire	5
Lando (Acatenango)	Ger	5
Machiavellian (Mr. Prospector)	dead	5
Royal Applause (Waajib)	Eng	5
<u>Selkirk</u> (Sharpen Up)	Eng	5
Singspiel (In the Wings)	Eng	5
Zafonic (Gone West)	dead	5

(Based on winners of unrestricted stakes with purses of \$35,000 or more in North America and winners of European stakes that qualify for "black-type" by North American catalogue standards and graded SWs in Japan.) Compiled by Werk Thoroughbred Consultants, specialists in assisting breeders in their stallion selection and buyers in their auction purchases. For more information call (510) 490-1111.

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 Around the World 6 pages

HERNANDO – 17 stakes performers in 2004, incl:
 SULAMANI – Juddmonte International, Gr.1 – 10f and Canadian International, Gr.1 – 12f
 SAMANDO – Prix de Royallieu, Gr.2 – 12f
 ARVADA – La Prevoyante Handicap, Gr.2 – 12f

HERNANDO – six 2-y-o winners in 2004 (31 in total), incl:
 SONGERIE – Prix des Reservoirs, Gr.3 – 8f
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BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-CTX, \$34,800, 12-21, NW3L, (S), 3yo/up, 4 1/2f, :52, ft.

THREE ACES (g, 3, **Feel the Power--Prized By You**, by **Match the Hatch**) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-0, \$39,810. O-Hampshire Racing Partnership. B-O'Sullivan Farms (WV). T-George G Yetsook.

11th-CRC, \$29,000, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000-\$35,000), NW3X, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:46 3/5, ft.

DEPUTY LAD (g, 4, **Mecke--Epistolary**, by **Deputy Minister**) Lifetime Record: 18-4-3-2, \$110,417. O-Cindy & Ron Stengel. B-Ocala Stud Farm (FL). T-Ralph Ziadie. *\$150,000 2yo 2002 OBSMAR. **1/2 to Texturizer (On to Glory), SW & GSP; Valid Chance (Valid Appeal), SP, \$165,601.

10th-SUN, \$28,600, 12-21, NW23MX, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:14 2/5, ft.

RUSSIAN ELITE (c, 3, **Apollo--Russian Rampage**, by **In Excess {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: SW, 11-5-4-1, \$81,762. O/B-Vessels Stallion Farm LLC, Robert H Kieckhefer & John K Goodman (AZ). T-Patricia K Shirley.

6th-HAW, \$28,000, NW1X, (S), 3/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12, ft. **MY MUG SHOT** (m, 5, **In the Slammer--Sea Epitome**, by **Picturesque**) Lifetime Record: 19-2-3-4, \$55,930. O-Mary J Tulloch. B-Leroy Bormet (IL). T-Kris Turner.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Don't Knock Tap, f, 3, **Pleasant Tap**--Absail, by Mt. Livermore. CTX, 12-21, 7f, 1:30 1/5. B-Hinkle Farms (Ky). *\$5,500 yrl '02 KEESEP.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 8th Race, \$32,500 Alw, at Fair Grounds. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](http://www.brisnet.com).

BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

ITALY, Naples, 4.20, 12-21, €11,475, 2yo, 7 1/2fT, time: n/a, hy.

NIEVO (IRE) (c, 2, **Polar Falcon--Nota Azzurra {GB} {SP-Ity}**, by **Primo Dominie {GB}**) Lifetime Record: 9 starts, 2 wins, 4 places, €28,169. O/B-B Trabassi; T-C Colella.

ITALY, Pisa, 2.20, 12-21, €11,475, 3yo/up, 7 1/2fT, time: n/a, sf.

GOLDEN DANETIME (IRE) (c, 4, **Danetime {Ire}--Banco Solo {GB}**, by **Distant Relative {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: SW-Ity, 29 starts, 10 wins, 10 places, €169,494. O-Scuderia Michela; B-Tally-Ho Stud; T-Riccardo Santini. *4,500gns yrl '01 TATOCT.

ITALY, Naples, 4.50, 12-21, €9,180, 3yo/up, 11f 55ydsT, time: n/a, hy.

VOL DE NUIT (GB) (c, 3, **Linamix {Fr}--Bedside Story {GB} {Hwt 3yo Filly-Ity at 9.5-11f, MSW & GSP-Ity, \$156,614}**, by **Mtoto {GB}**) Lifetime Record: GSP-Ity, 7 starts, 4 wins, 3 places, €79,815. O-Allevamento La Nuova Sbarra; B-Grundy Bloodstock SRL; T-Lorenzo Brogi. *\$90,000 yrl '02 ITYSEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Glinting Desert (Ire), f, 2, **Desert Prince (Ire)**--Dazzling Park (Ire) (GSW & MGISP-Ire), by Warning (GB). Lingfield, Britain, 12-22, Mdn, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT). B-Lodge Park Stud.

+ **Langres (Pol)**, c, 2, **Jape--Lubeka (Pol)**, by Milione (Fr). Pisa, Italy, 12-21, Cond, 2yo, 1 1/4mT. B-n/a.

Resplendent Prince (GB), c, 2, **Primo Dominie (GB)**--Last Result (GB), by Northern Park. Lingfield, Britain, 12-22, Mdn, 2yo, 7f (AWT). B-K Rausing. *18,000gns wnlg '02 TATDEC; 17,000gns yrl '03 TATOCT.

Silver Bark (GB), f, 2, **Royal Applause (GB)**--Argent du Bois, by Silver Hawk. Lingfield, Britain, 12-22, Mdn, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT). B-Car Colston Hall Stud. *Full to Ticker Tape (GB), GISW, \$1,179,075. **56,000gns yrl '03 TATOCT.

THEY COULDN'T CATCH THESE THIEVES!

Five NEW 1st-Crop Winners

Hollywood 12/17 MSW 2yo CAT ROBBER by **CAT THIEF**

Aqueduct 12/15 MSW 2yo STORM THIEF by **CAT THIEF**

Hanshin-Japan 12/18 MSW 2yo HOOVER DAM by **CAT THIEF**

Fair Grounds 12/16 MSW 2yo STEAL THE SHOW by **CAT THIEF**

Turfway 12/10 MSW 2yo CATCH ME by **CAT THIEF**

CAT THIEF

Storm Cat – Train Robbery, by Alydar
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WRITERS UP

BUILDING A BETTER MOUSETRAP

By Bill Finley

From a distance, Paul Bergen watched as the Thoroughbred race horse didn't seem to be getting any faster and certainly wasn't getting any more durable. Intuitively, he wondered if that had something to do with traditional training methods that seem no different today than they were 50 years ago. Is there a better way?

In his primary field, swimming, that question is constantly being asked. The result is that the swimmer of today is demonstrably faster than the swimmer of 50 years ago. Bergen has had something to do with that. He's coached Olympians, including Inge de Bruijn, a gold medalist at the 2004 games in Athens, and a number of world-record holders. Bergen was front and center as swimmers kept getting faster as training techniques kept getting better.

Some say that can't happen in horse racing, but Bergen wants to give it a try. Eager to work on new approaches to training, Bergen, who has worked for Roger Attfield and trained on his own, briefly, in the nineties, has switched his focus from teaching swimmers to teaching race horses. Currently based in Oregon, he's looking for clients and a place to build a training center where horses can have a lot more time and room on working toward getting into the best shape possible.

"I don't think horses do enough to get into peak condition," he said. "In my experience, and I realize people who have been in the business longer speak with more strength, I find that their bodies can get into shape really fast. They almost outrun their

legs. With this whole slam bang approach to training, where they walk to the track, maybe jog a half-mile, gallop a mile and a half and then go back to the stall after more walking, I think they are being challenged as far as the cardiovascular goes, but I don't think their legs are. My feeling is that their bodies get in shape so much faster than their legs. These guys can run so darn fast, but their wheels just can't handle it."

Bergen tried training before and didn't meet with much success. With a small stable, he started a few horses in 1990, 1992, 1995 and 1996 and did not win a race under his own name. An unknown in the racing business, he had a hard time finding an owner to give him an opportunity and he couldn't devote enough time to the horses when he constantly had to worry about training swimmers. But he says he's become burnt out by swimming and feels he can now go out on top after de Bruijn picked up four medals in Athens.

"There's nothing in swimming that is new territory for me and swimming is a younger person's game," he said. "I'm 63. I've noticed that race horse trainers seem to get better with age. If I were to stick with swimming I'd probably retire when I was 65. I'd like to think that I can be effective in racing for a few more years beyond that."

Bergen isn't necessarily trying to reinvent the wheel. What he wants to do is set up a routine whereby his horses spend more time out of the stall and get more exercise than horses stabled at a track. His horses will swim in the afternoons, and not just for rehabilitation purposes. He believes it is an excellent way to build up a horse's fitness. He plans to gallop horses behind a truck and with no weight on their backs.

Cont. p. 6

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HUSSONET SIRES TRIPLE CROWN WINNER



Hussonet

TROTAMONDO completed the Chile Triple Crown by winning the St. Leger GI at Hipodromo Chile on Saturday 18th of December. The last horse to win the Chile Triple Crown was Lido Palace who went on to be a triple Grade I winner in North America.



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(Bill Finley cont. from p. 5)

"The problem with ponying a horse is that the ponies go so slow you can't challenge the horses," he said. "This way, you can get them up to a good galloping speed without any weight on their backs."

He also wants his horses to spend three or four hours out of their stalls during the day.

"I like to put them in a small paddock where they can't hurt themselves," he said. "They'd be breathing fresh air and looking around at the scenery. I think turning them out in afternoon allows them to be horses. Intellectually, they are less bored and pick up fewer bad stall habits."

Does it work?

"There are two things that I've observed," he said. "I think we'll get fewer breakdowns because of the cross training and keeping weight off their backs. I believe we'll get fewer leg problems than they get at the track. The idea is to raise their class. I hope to take, for example, a \$12,000 horses and make him win at two or three class levels higher."

Bergen believes his best success will come with distance horses.

"I think at six furlongs we won't be able to do much with them," he said. "When you start talking about a mile or anything longer than that, that's where we can maybe get a little more fit animal to run equal to a horse with a little more natural ability. I think there are a lot of horses out there that have phenomenal ability and haven't been given a chance because they've been pigeon-holed at a certain level due to traditional means."

He has yet to prove that he can be anywhere near as successful in racing as he was in swimming, but he figures there might just be a way to come up with a better mousetrap in racing and he wants to be the one to build it. He just wants some horses who can run a little bit and a chance to prove himself right.

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