

THOROUGHBRED™

D • A • I • L • Y N • E • W • S



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1994 \$2 Daily

N • E • W • S
T O D A Y

W • E • E • K • E • N • D
P R E V I E W

BRENNAN BIDS TO TAKE OVER MONMOUTH, MEADOWLANDS

Robert Brennan, the Chairman of International Thoroughbred Breeders' Inc., has made a \$1 billion offer to take over the Meadowlands Sports Complex (including Giants Stadium and the Meadowlands Arena) and Monmouth Park, he announced yesterday. An alternative offer was made to purchase the two tracks only. Brennan's offer is contingent upon the passage of a constitutional amendment in New Jersey allowing casino gambling at the Meadowlands. Currently, casinos are allowed in N.J. in Atlantic City only.

Brennan also announced that he has acquired options to purchase Atlantic City Race Course and Freehold Raceway, a Central New Jersey harness track. Already the owner of Garden State Park, Brennan would own all five of New Jersey's pari-mutuel race-tracks if his plan comes to fruition. If his proposal is adopted, he also intends to close the stable areas at Garden State and the Meadowlands, using the same land for casinos and, perhaps, a theme park. He would winterize the facilities at Atlantic City and Monmouth for year-round training.

John Samerjean, a spokesman for the N.J. Sports and Exposition Authority, which operates both Monmouth and the Meadowlands, confirmed that Brennan's offer has been received and will be reviewed.

Brennan said that he believes casino wagering is imminent in Pennsylvania and N.Y. and that his plan is designed to keep gambling dollars in N.J.

"It's no longer a question of whether or not New York and Pennsylvania will compete for New Jersey's racing, breeding and casino business," Brennan said. "The only question is whether New Jersey's citizens cross the rivers and contribute to New York and Pennsylvania, or whether New Jersey will once again act quickly to save these vital interests and bring more revenue and more visitors to our state."

PURSE INCREASE AT HIALEAH Hialeah Park announced yesterday that overnight purses will be increased five percent beginning Tues., March 29. This is the second five percent increase since the meet began March 17.

News Continued, p. 2

Saturday, Oaklawn

RAZORBACK H.-GI, \$150,000, 4&up, 8.5f

Two standout Maryland invaders, **Greatsilverfleet** (On to Glory) and **Valley Crossing** (Private Account), are scheduled to face off. Greatsilverfleet, trained by Dale Capuano, has won both of his starts at Oaklawn this year. The most recent was a hard-fought score in the Essex H., running his career mark to eight wins from 18 starts. Valley Crossing will be making his career debut at Oaklawn. An earner of over \$1.4 million to date, the six-year-old took the 1993 GI Iselin H. at Monmouth Park over such top class competitors as **Bertrando** (Skywalker) and **Devil His Due** (Devil's Bag).

Sunday, Santa Anita

SAN LUIS REY S.-GI, \$250,000a, 4&up, 12f(T)

A short field of five is expected to go to post. They are **Bien Bien** (Manila), McCarron; **Fanmore** (Lear Fan), Desormeaux; **Grand Flotilla** (Caro {IRE}), Delahoussaye; **Navire** (FR) (Shernazar {IRE}), Stevens; **Quick Ransom** (GB) (Hostage), Pincay Jr. Listed as possible for the race are **Capracotta** (IRE) (Shernazar {IRE}), no rider; and **Alex The Great** (GB) (Bairn), Chris Antley. Quick Ransom, an earner of \$380,827 in England, will be making his first start outside of Great Britain. The six-year-old gelding, trained by Mark Johnston, galloped Tues. and is scheduled for a light work over the turf Fri. Bien Bien, second in last year's San Luis Rey to Horse of the Year **Kotashaan** (FR) (Darshaan {GB}), will try to expand his race record of seven victories and \$1,862,375 in money won. A major storm is forecast to hit Southern Calif. Wed. evening, and the length of the disturbance and the amount of rain it brings could impact the race.

INSIDE

WEEKEND PREVIEW p1
NEWS CONTINUED p2
RACING REPORTS p2,4
THE GOTHAM p3



News Continued.

AUTOTOTE SELECTED FOR NATIONAL

PICK-7 TRA Commissioner Brian McGrath announced yesterday that the hub of the National Pick-7 will be serviced by Autotote Systems, Inc. "With the selection of the tote company for the hub operation, the next step will be to choose the location of that hub," said McGrath. "At which time a proposed wagering rule for the Pick-7 will be finalized and submitted for approval to the Association of Racing Commissioners International." McGrath sees these steps occurring on a schedule leading to a May launch date of the new wager. The National Pick-7 wager will be a weekly national bet, based on a pick-seven format with a base wager of 50 cents.

OBS TWO-YEAR-OLD SALE STRONG

The Ocala Breeders' Sales Company conducted the first of two sessions of its annual March Selected Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale yesterday at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Complex in Ocala, Florida. The OBS reported a four percent increase in the median from last year's opening session, as well as a six percent decrease in the average. The 1993 first session average was \$32,638, as compared with Tues.'s figure of \$30,660. Also of note was an increase in the overall sale of horses, from 130 sold in the 1993 opening session for a gross of \$4,243,900 to 180 sold yesterday for a total of \$5,549,500. The session topper was **Ft. Stockton**, a bay colt by Cure the Blues--Tai the Devil, by Tai. Consigned by Dr. E.C. and Susan Hart's Hart Farm, the Texas-bred was purchased by New Farm for \$100,000.

FAIR GROUNDS SALES AVERAGE UP

The Fair Grounds Sales Company's Two-Year-Olds In Training Sale, held at the Fair Grounds in New Orleans Mon., March 21, saw increases in both gross and average from last year. In 1993, 43 hips were sold for a gross of \$376,200 and average of \$8,749. In 1994, the same number of hips were sold for a gross of \$420,000 and an average of \$9,786. This average represents an 11.9 percent increase from last year. The sales topper was **I'm Lucky**, a dark bay or brown colt by Crafty Prospector out of the stakes-winning What Luck mare Lucky Brook. The colt, who was sold for \$42,000 to Paul Magee, is a half-brother to Spot Prize, who was G3 stakes-placed at two last year in England.

ENGLISH FLAT RACING SEASON SET TO

START The English flat racing season, which consists of events on the turf, is on target to begin its 1994 season this Thurs., March 24, at Doncaster. The Doncaster Mile, with listed status, will be the feature event of the three-day meeting.

CHARLES TOWN TO CONTINUE FOUR-DAY SCHEDULE

The Charles Town Races has abandoned plans to add a fifth live program to its weekly schedule, track general manager Donald E. Hudson has announced. Charles Town's 1994 racing dates had called for the addition of Thurs. night racing beginning April 14, but track officials claim the current horse population is insufficient to fill an additional card each week. "We're having difficulty filling four cards and the opening of Delaware Park in April and Timonium in August will put additional strains on our horse population," said Hudson. "Adding another program would only exacerbate the problem."



N • E • W • Y • O • R • K R E P O R T

Yesterday's Results:

4th-Aqu, \$26,000 Alw., 3yo, f, 6f, 1:12, ft.
PERSNICKITY (f, 3, Vanlandingham--Tongue Tied Muse {SP-Fr.}, by Stage Door Johnny) went wire-to-wire for a 7-length triumph under John Velasquez to remain undefeated in 2 career starts. 8-5 favorite COTUIT BAY (Waquoit) was never in contention and finished last. Stats for the winner go to 2-2-0-0 and \$29,400. O/B-Robert S. Evans (Fla.). T-Angel Cordero Jr.

6th-Aqu, \$30,000 Alw., 4&up, f&m, 7f, 1:25 3/5, ft.
INCINERATE (f, 4, Groovy-Horsafire {SW, \$63,345}, by Hold Your Peace) came from mid-pack to take the lead by a head at the wire from early pacesetter and race favorite CALA STAR (Star Gallant). A half-sister to Pagofire (MSW, \$91,200, to 3), Incinerate has now won 3 of her last 4 races, boosting record to 32-6-4-6 and \$141,870. O-Hobeau Farm. B-Elcee-H Stable (Fla.). T-A. Jerkens.

7th-Aqu, Mdn., State-bred, 7f, 1:28, ft.
GUS' POP (c, 3, Well Selected--La Famiglia, by Pretense), defeated a combined 31 1/2 lengths in his first 2 starts while rating off the pace, scored a wire-to-wire victory in his first attempt on the lead to nose out 4-5 favorite SONG OF DAVID (Basket Weave), who finished 2nd. The winner's record now stands at 3-1-0-0, with earnings of \$25,300. O/B/T-J. Lostritto (NY).



W • R • I • T • E • R • S U P

GOTHAM THE KEY TO NORTHEAST'S THREE YEAR OLDS

by: John Lee

At Santa Anita, you look out across the track and see the San Gabriel Mountains, created by powerful shifts in the earth's tectonic plates. At Aqueduct, you look out across the parking lot and see the South Ozone Park Range, created by powerful earthmoving equipment dumping snow cleared from the parking lot.

But as Aqueduct's mini-Matterhorns are eroding drip by drip, all young horseplayers turn to thoughts of Triple Crown contenders. The list of probables for this Saturday's Gotham provides a decent guide to the three year olds who have had the misfortune of wintering in the Northeast with its record snow, off-tracks, interrupted training schedules and canceled racing days (including the record 15 lost in New York this year).

John Veitch, who trains Gotham hopeful Jesse F (Conquistador Cielo) (fourth in the Count Fleet, third in the Whirlaway) admits this winter has been no wonderland. "It has been exceptionally challenging this winter to train a horse like this that needs hard training--the weather has caused so many interruptions," Veitch said.

Count Fleet winner and Whirlaway runner-up Sonny's Bruno (Queen City Lad) shipped to Remington Park for an unsuccessful bid at the Great West Derby, but his trainer, Howie Teshler, still has a Gotham prospect in the form of Bit of Puddin (Obligato). The gelding ended his '93 campaign with a win in the restricted Bertram Bongard at the expense of eventual Whirlaway winner Can't Slow Down (Dominated). Bit of Puddin went west for the El Camino Real Derby, where he ran fifth.

"He came back from Bay Meadows and got sick," Teshler said. "I haven't been able to do that much with him, but he might be tight enough for the mile."

Whirlaway winner Can't Slow Down will skip the Gotham. His trainer, Rick Schosberg, said, "He just ran third in the O.B.S. Championship Stakes at Ocala. It looked like a good spot for the money. I think shipping from cold to hot took it out of him, so he'll probably stay down there on the farm for a couple of weeks."

Fourth in the Fred "Cappy" Caposella, Prank Call (Phone Trick) won his next two, including a truncated Bay Shore. The Gotham is next. Bay Shore runner-up Mr. Shawklit (Afleet) is also Gotham-bound according to trainer Frank LaBocetta, as is Popol's Gold (Strike Gold), winner of the Nashua last fall and third in the Bay Shore. "He benefitted from the Bay Shore, came out of it good and seems to be headed in the right direction," said his trainer, Billy Turner.

The Suffolk Downs representative in the Gotham will be the Gary Larson-trained and owned Next Wave (Cherokee Fellow), a winner of three of five starts. Winter washouts put the Gotham on his dance card. "We've been up and down the East Coast trying to get a race for him and every time we'd get in, the race would be canceled. Now I just want to get him into a stake to see what kind of horse he is," Larson said. "I'm not concerned about the mile distance, but I'd rather it be around two turns."

Maryland usually produces some dangerous three year olds. One of them might be trainer Earl Begley's Mr. Meadow (Meadowlake), who followed up his third-place finish in the Caposella with a sharp allowance score at the unusual distance of seven-and-a-half furlongs back home at Laurel. Ben Perkins trains a son of Meadowlake named Meadow Monster, but he's been racing in Florida where he ran a good third in the Swale. Trainer Richard Small may have a few good sons of Broad Brush in his barn including Barge In, Concern and Looming, the winner of the Herat Stakes at Laurel who came back with an allowance win at Laurel yesterday. Three-year-old Run Alden (John Alden), trained by Jerry Robb, led every step of the way in Saturday's seven-furlong Stryker Stakes at Laurel.

Thrill of Victory (Two Punch) won going a mile this winter at Garden State. Trainer Willard Thompson said, "We were going to run him in the Cherry Hill Mile but that got canceled because of snow. I'm going to take a look at the Gotham and see how tough it comes up."

Anyone looking for a Cinderella horse might watch to keep track of Philadelphia Park-based gelding Catchtheconnection (Danzig Connection), who was snatched out of a maiden claiming race at the Meadowlands last year for \$10,500. The Prince McKenzie trainee, who won two his last two starts by a combined margin of 16 lengths, may try to get lucky in the Gotham.



B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S

EDITION



E • A • S • T • E • R • N

REPORT

Local News:

Former Pimlico Race Course co-owner Ben Cohen passed away Mon. at the age of 94. A respected businessman, the popular Cohen was also a prominent Thoroughbred owner and breeder.

Horsemen are reminded that stall applications for this summer's Monmouth Park meeting will close Thurs., March 31. The meet opens Sun., May 29 and runs through Sept. 4.

Allowance Results:

8th-Lrl, \$30,000, 3yo, 8.5f, 1:45 1/5, ft.
LOOMING (c, 3, **Broad Brush--Native Derby {MSW, \$175,987}, by Master Derby**), rallied through the stretch for a 3/4-length win as the 3-5 favorite. A Triple Crown nominee, he is expected to head next to the \$50,000, 8.5f Private Terms S. April 2 at Pimlico where he will meet Run Alden (John Alden), wnr of Sat.'s 7f Stryker S. at Laurel. A MSW, Looming improves record to 9-6-0-1 and \$91,235. O/B-R. Meyerhoff (Md.). T-R. Small.

6th-Lrl, \$20,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 9f, 1:52, ft.
IRISH GAL (**Irish Tower--Tarpis, by John Gaylord**), a 5-length winner in her last, also at this distance over the Lrl. track, came back with just 9 days rest for a 2-length win as the 9-5 favorite. Her record improves to 20-5-4-2, \$54,929. O-P. Lampera. B-S.M. Hough (Fla.). T-R. Schnitzler.

9th-Hia, \$17,000, 4&up, a9f(T), 1:48 3/5, fm.
CHIGIO (h, 6, **Dactylographer--Angie's Miss, by Norumbega**) broke 7th in the field of 10 and steadily improved his position until he was in front by a nose at the wire. The 6-1 third choice improves record to 59-4-5-5 and earnings to \$62,308. Even-money favorite **COMPETITION** (Exclusive Era) finished in a dead-head for 3rd. O-Marblecreek Stable. B-Halbreich S (Fla.). T-P. Fede.

8th-Hia, \$16,500, 3yo, 7f, 1:24 1/5, ft.
GALLANT WARFARE (g, 3, **War--Gallant Libby {3XSW, \$148,106}, by Gallant Knave**), back on the main track after a disastrous 11th-place finish on the turf last out, rallied from 7th to win by a nose. 2-1 favorite **MR. MUSIC MAN** (Stop the Music) finished 5th. Stats for the winner climb to 12-2-1-1 and \$30,975. O-Roron Stable. B-Arthur Appleton (Fla.). T-J. Mazza.

10th-Hia, \$15,000, 3yo, 7f, 1:24 2/5, ft.
JAVA ROYAL (c, 3, **Java Gold--Wakonda {2xSW, \$415,400}, by Fappiano**) stepped up from claiming company and came from off the pace to win by 2 3/4 under Earlie Fires. 6-5 bettor's choice **QUICK TO FINISH** (Forty Niner), who was coming off an 8-month layoff, finished 6th. The winner's record moves to 12-2-0-1 and \$22,645. O-John R. Murrell. B-John A. Nerud Irrevocable Trust (Ky.). T-J. Bracken.

American-Bred Winners in England:

Second Colours, g, 4, Timeless Moment--Ruffled Silk, by Our Hero. Wolverhampton, 3-19, Maidment Claiming S., 8f100y, 3&up, 2,243 pounds to winner. O-Peter Savill. B-Dinnaken Farm. T-M. Reveley.

Maiden Winners:

Goldinthemtharhills, c, 3, Crafty Prospector--Champagne Gale, by Assert (IRE). Hia, 3-22, 9f, 1:53 4/5, ft. B-Giles Brophy (Ky.).
North Hall Betty, f, 3, Iron--Bellegorian, by Gregorian. Pha, 3-22, 6f, 1:13 3/5, my.
Button Man, g, 3, Prosper Fager--Pam's Button, by Forever Casting. Aqu, 3-22, 6f, 1:13 2/5, ft. B-Meadowbrook Farms Inc. (Fla.).

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News. This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, MediaVista.

Information as to the races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published in Daily Racing Form and utilized herewith with the permission of the copyright owner, Daily Racing Form.