

# THOROUGHBRED™

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## N • E • W • S T O D A Y

## T • R I • P • L • E T H R E A T S

**BROCCO REMAINS ON SCHEDULE** Santa Anita Derby winner **Brocco** (Kris S.) remains on the vet's list at Santa Anita, but trainer Randy Winick is confident that his Triple Crown prospect is as fit as ever. "He's fine," said Winick of Brocco Monday. "It was a bad decision by the state vet. It's an administrative thing, and I can't do anything about it. But 90 percent of the people who have seen him disagree with the vet's decision." Dr. B. William Bell of the California Horse Racing Board placed Brocco on the vet's list after finding him to have a slight unsoundness of the right fore. Winick remarked of the colt's condition, "He tightens up after a race a lot of times, and like many horses, tends to walk a little stiff after a race. We're going ahead with our schedule of walking him one day, galloping three days, shipping to Kentucky, galloping another two days, then breezing him." When asked if Winick will breeze the colt a distance of at least five furlongs in front of Kentucky stewards in order for him to be cleared from the vet's list, the trainer responded, "If I have to, I will."

**RIVER DOWNS OPENS FRIDAY** River Downs in Cincinnati, Ohio opens its 1994 season this Fri., April 15. For the second consecutive year, the track will feature the "Twin-Seven SuperCard," which features daily simulcast racing from Thistledown positioned in between seven live races at River Downs. "We started out last season with a sizeable debit owed to the horsemen's account and in short order we were able to turn it around through the handle realized by the Twin-Seven SuperCard," said River Downs General Manager Jack Hanessian. "By season's end we had increased purses by 30 percent and the fans saw some of the best racing this state has had to offer in a long time. In anticipation of a positive season this year, we are starting off with a 10 percent hike in purses from last year." Post time will be 1 p.m. daily, and the track will be dark Thursdays.

### LAST WEEK ON THE TRIPLE CROWN TRAIL

Last year's Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner **Brocco** (Kris S.) gamed his way back to the top of the crop with a strong performance in Saturday's Santa Anita Derby. Closing from fourth, the chestnut engaged a determined **Tabasco Cat** (Storm Cat) at the quarter pole and edged away in the final yards to get the job done. Despite being placed on the vet's list for being slightly off on his right fore after the race, he is scheduled to ship to Churchill Downs within the week, trying to become the first Santa Anita/Kentucky Derby winner since **Winning Colors** ('88) and **Sunday Silence** ('89) pulled off the double back-to-back, and the first-ever Breeders' Cup Juvenile/Kentucky Derby champ. "I don't think the Kentucky Derby is going to be an easy one," said trainer Randy Winick. "It's going to be a competitive race. Brocco has never given me any indication that he wouldn't get a mile and a quarter. He hung in there (Sat.) and he wasn't getting weaker at the end. I don't think it's going to be a problem, but we'll see when we get there." Trainer D. Wayne Lukas was also pleased with the effort of **Tabasco Cat**. "We wanted to win it but, you know, the ultimate goal is still the first Saturday in May. We'll try him again. We get another chance there." Both members of the Charlie Whittingham entry, **Strodes Creek** (Halo), third, and **Numerous** (Mr. Prospector), fourth, will also head to Louisville.

It doesn't look like 1994 will be the year of the Oklahoma-bred Derby winner. **Silver Goblin's** (Silver Ghost) Derby train was derailed in the Remington Park Derby Sat. when he tired to be third going a mile and a sixteenth and was found to have bled. The grey may head to Illinois to make his debut outside his home state in the Apr. 30 Illinois Derby; he could return to the Triple Crown trail in time for the Preakness. It is undecided if wire-to-wire winner **Smilin Singin Sam** (Smile), who equalled the Remington track record for the mile and a sixteenth, will try the 10 furlongs of the Kentucky Derby. **Blumin Affair** (Dynaformer), finishing second in his second start of the year, will have one more race and then try a run for the roses. "He convinced me here that he wants the distance and can hopefully get it done," said trainer Jack Van Berg.

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## Triple Threats, Continued.

### THIS WEEK'S TRIPLE CROWN PREPS

**GII \$500,000 Blue Grass S., 4/16, 9f, Keeneland**  
Three of the last four Kentucky Derby winners--Unbridled ('90), Strike the Gold ('91) and Sea Hero ('93)--had their final preps in the Blue Grass. A field of six or seven is shaping up for this year's edition, headed by Florida Derby winner **Holy Bull** (Great Above). The grey worked seven-eighths in 1:28 Sunday, and may blow out three furlongs Friday. California shipper **Valiant Nature** (His Majesty), is also scheduled for a pipe-opener later in the week. "We'll blow him out through the stretch, maybe on Friday," said his trainer, Ron McAnally, who plans to fly to Kentucky Wed. "He's plenty fit now." Rounding out the expected field are the Louisiana Derby winner and runner-up, **Kandaly** (Alydar) and **Game Coin** (Chief's Crown); Team Lukas runner **Chimes Band** (Dixieland Band), third in the Jim Beam; **Bonus Money** (Chief's Crown); and possibly **Southern Rhythm** (Dixieland Band).

**GI \$500,000 Wood Memorial S., 4/16, 9f, Aqueduct**  
Impressive Gotham winner **Irgun** (Sunny's Halo) will try for his second straight and a ticket to Kentucky in New York's final Derby prep. He may face fellow Californian **Wild Invader** (Seattle Slew), who scratched from Sat.'s Santa Anita Derby, but trainer Bobby Frankel has not yet made travel arrangements for the colt. The Juddmonte Farm's colorbearer began his career in England, but returned to the States to break his maiden just two weeks ago. The second and third finishers from the Gotham, **Bit of Puddin** (Obligato) and **Jesse F** (Conquistador Cielo), are also pointing for this race. Said trainer Howie Teshler of New York-bred Bit of Puddin, "I've been thinking he was the most dynamic small three-year-old around, but now I hear that some other small three-year-olds have been winning some stakes. I'd been shooting for the title of best three-year-old, pound-for-pound." Trainer Nick Zito will send out the entry of **Go for Gin** (Cormorant) and **Crary** (Mt. Livermore) for the race; GSW Go for Gin was fourth in the Florida Derby in his most recent start, while Crary finished eighth in that race. Others listed as possible for the Wood are Miner's Mark's full brother **Our Emblem** (Mr. Prospector), Flamingo winner **Meadow Flight** (Meadowlake), Tampa Bay Derby runner-up **Able Buck** (Silver Buck), Lord Avie victor **Bay Street Star** (Silver Buck), Fred Capossela S. runner-up **Shiprock** (Ga Hai) and Allen Jerkens trainees **Presently** (Affirmed) and **Gold Tower** (Seeking the Gold).

**GIII \$200,000 California Derby, 4/16, 9f, Golden Gate**  
Eight three-year-olds will face the starter in Northern California this weekend for this mile-and-an-eighth test. Bradbury S. winner **Dramatic Gold** (Slew o'Gold) will try to bounce back from a ninth-place finish in the Florida Derby. "It was just one of those trips where

everything that could go wrong did go wrong," said Graham Hofmans, son and assistant to trainer David Hofmans. "The weather killed him--when we got there it was 90 degrees with 90 percent humidity. And he breezed too fast before the race. Then he didn't have anyone with him in the gate and he kind of stumbled out of there. He made a little run from the five-eighths to the three-eighths and that was it." Also set for the race is **Bai Brun** (White Mischief), who comes into the Cal Derby off a three-length score in the Gold Rush S., as well as the beaten favorite and runner-up in that race, **Double Jab** (Rajab); **Gracious Ghost** (Relaunch), three times stakes-placed this year; **Silver Music** (Silver Ghost), who took the Baldwin S. over the Santa Anita hillside turf course March 30; Turf Paradise Derby winner **Screaming Don** (Lyphard's Ridge); **Sharp Try** (Sharp Victor); and **Marconi** (Sadler's Wells), an Irish-bred colt who broke his maiden March 5 and was a late nominee to the Triple Crown. Both Marconi and Bai Brun tuned up for the race Sunday; Marconi going seven furlongs in 1:24 3/5 at Santa Anita while Bai Brun drilled five furlongs in :58 2/5 at Golden Gate.



## F • O • R • E • I • G • N R E P O R T

### Stakes Results:

**THE OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS)-G1-Jpn**, Hanshin Race Course, Japan, 4-10, \$1,981,058, 3yo, f, 8f(T), 1:36 2/5.

1--**OGURI ROMAN (JPN)**, f, 3, **Bravest Roman--White Narubi (JPN)**, by \***Silver Shark**. O-K. Oguri. B-I. Bokujo (Jpn.). T-T. Setoguchi.

2--**Twinkle Bride**, f, 3, Lyphard--Devil's Bride, by Caro (IRE).

3--**Robe Montante**, f, 3, Real Shadai--Kuri Nine, by Remand.

Margins: nose, 1 1/4, 1/2.

The winner is 1/2-sister to Oguri Cap (JPN), Horse of the Year in Japan, as well as champion 3-year-old and older horse in Japan, by the sire Dancing Cap.

**PRIX MATCHEM**, Evry, France, 4-11, \$35,813, 3yo, c and g, 9fT, 2:01 4/5, hy.

1--**DARE AND GO**, c, 3, **Alydar (Dead)--Partygoer**, by **Secretariat**. O-Jacques Wertheimer; B-Wertheimer & Frere (KY.); T-Criquette Head; \$20,465.

2--**Martian**, c, 3, Simply Great (Tara Stud-Ire) --Mazawa, by Kashmir II. O-Daniel Wildenstein; \$8,186.

3--**Press Baron**, c, 3, Private Account (Claiborne Farm-KY) --Zaifafon (G3-Eng.), by The Minstrel. O-Khalid Abdullah; \$4,093.

Margins: 3, 1, 1 1/2.

Also ran (in order of finish): Solal Solal (FR) (Kaldoun), Shining Hero (Hero's Honor).



# W • R • I • T • E • R • S U P

## INQUIRING MINDS

by: Larry Bortstein

A few days after his Tight Spot was disqualified from victory in the 1990 Del Mar Derby, Ron McAnally, the colt's trainer, offered a somewhat puckish suggestion stewards could follow on tough judgement calls.

Noting that the Del Mar panel of three stewards had pondered their decision for nearly 15 minutes, McAnally said, "When it's a close call, maybe they should give the stewards over night to look at the film and bring in a decision the next day."

Unworkable, you say? Unthinkable? How could you leave hordes of ticket-holding fans in abeyance, not only waiting for the official call on one race, but also holding up payoffs on exactas, late doubles, Pick Sixes?

Not that it did horseplayers any good, but McAnally eventually, longer than overnight, did see Tight Spot reinstated as winner of that Del Mar Derby, with Itsallgreetome, whom the stewards had elevated to first, put back in second place by the California Horse Racing Board-- and again several months later by an appeals court.

The subject of appeals of judgement calls by stewards is in the racing news again this month as the connections of The Wicked North and Stuka await a ruling by the California Horse Racing Board on April 28.

The Wicked North, the 19-10 favorite in the \$1 million Santa Anita Handicap on March 5, was disqualified and placed fourth for interfering with Myrakalu in deep stretch, with Stuka, who had crossed the wire second, placed first.

Phil Hersh, a retired plumbing contractor who owns The Wicked North, immediately lodged an appeal to the racing board and a hearing was conducted by board-appointed referee Steve Schwartz, who also presided over the Tight Spot case nearly four years earlier.

In all cases of this type nationwide, the referee makes a recommendation on the disposition of the case, which is not binding on the board, but generally upheld. Schwartz, for example, recommended that Tight Spot be put back up in that Del Mar Derby.

Regardless of how the Santa Anita Handicap decision comes out, the Association of Racing Commissioners International is working on a rule that would make all stewards' decisions on the outcome of races the final word on the subject.

At next month's ARCI convention in Las Vegas,

racing officials from throughout the country will be asked to approve a model rule which would ban appeals on judgement calls by stewards.

Bernie Hettel, who is both a state steward and executive director of the Kentucky Racing Commission, said his state has had such a rule on the books for years.

"People can appeal fines and suspensions, but never calls by stewards," Hettel said.

"Why have stewards, who supposedly get appointed to their jobs because of their experience in watching thousands and thousands of races, if you won't abide by their decision? In no other sport can a judgement call be overturned. Why should racing allow it?"

In neighboring Ohio, the case of Wall Street Dancer and Bobby M. in the 1990 Cradle Stakes at River Downs still is raising hackles.

Wall Street Dancer-- later to become a solid turf stakes winner of nearly \$800,000-- won the 1 1/16-mile race for two-year-olds, but drifted out slightly in the stretch. The three stewards let the result stand, but Elmer Miller, the owner of Bobby M.-- who now races in cheap claiming races, by the way-- went to court, insisting his horse was bothered.

It remains in court to this day. A judge in the Court of Common Pleas in Cincinnati turned the case over to a referee, believing, with justification, that he-- the judge-- had no background which would qualify him to adjudicate a racing matter.

Meanwhile, no decision has ever been made which would end the Cradle Stakes case. The owners of both Wall Street Dancer and Bobby M. each have been paid \$40,000-- second money in the race-- but \$80,000, which would complete the winner's purse of \$120,000, has been kept by River Downs in an interest-bearing escrow account awaiting the final ruling, if it ever comes.

Sometimes an appeal can be a good thing.

Only the good sportsmanship of the late John Galbreath prevented a great miscarriage of justice in the 1985 Flamingo Stakes.

Three stewards-- including one who had never worked in the stand before-- voted to take down Chief's Crown and place Proud Truth-- Galbreath's horse-- first. The substitute steward had been summoned to fill in for highly respected Walter Blum, who was attending his mother's funeral.

"The rule in Florida is to not allow appeals, but the mistake that day was so blatant that Galbreath was asked if he would allow Chief's Crown's people to appeal, and he said he would allow it," Blum recalled.

"In a case like that, I can see where an appeal would be necessary, but otherwise you don't want any people who don't watch races day in and day out making decisions," Blum added.



## E • A • S • T • E • R • N R E P O R T

### Yesterday's Result:

**8th-WO, \$22,900 Alw., 4&up, 5.5f, 1:03 1/5 (ETR), ft.**

**PREMIER EXPLOSION (g, 4, Premiership--Exploding High, by Explodent)**, stepping up from a close 2nd in high claiming ranks, sat behind early pacesetter and race favorite VICTORIOUSLY BOLD (Cool Victor) until the stretch, when he pulled away to win by 4 3/4 and equal the track record. Victoriously Bold, a SW of \$359,041, finished 2nd. The winner of last year's Gill Swale S. at Gulfstream, Premier Explosion raises record to 18-6-3-2 and \$144,958.

O/B-John Franks (Ont-C). T-David Bell.



## M • I • D • W • E • S • T R E P O R T

### Yesterday's Result:

**8th-Spt., \$23,430 Alw., 3&up, f&m, state-bred, 8f, 1:39 3/5, ft.**

**CALL CLETA (f, 3, Phone Trick--Deep Feeling, by Bold Monarch)**, the only 3-year-old facing 6 older rivals, posted her 2nd straight wire-to-wire alw. victory by 2 lengths as the 2-5 bettors' choice. Twice SP as a juvenile, the chestnut's stats increase to 9-3-2-1 and \$58,833.

O/B-Dash C. Goff (Ill.). T-Bert Sonnier.

## B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S E D I T I O N

### Allowance Results:

**9th-Spt., \$22,440, 4-11, 3&up, f&m, state-bred, 6f, 1:12, ft.**

**FRIDAY CASE (f, 4, Case the Joint--Reasons to Quit, by Noble Norman)**. Record: 13-3-1-2, \$28,384. O-N. Smith & C. Richardson. B-C. Kirsteatter (Ill.). T-N. Smith. \*Paid \$82.

**7th-WO, \$18,000, 4-11, 4&up, f&m, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.**

**MS PARAGON (f, 4, Tank's Prospect--Jabot {Gill, \$135,419}, by Bold Ruler)**. Record: 18-2-3-3, \$38,605. O-Oak Run Stable. B-Beclawat Stable (Ont-C). T-A. Trudell. \*1/2 to Encolure (MSW, \$593,244, by Riva Ridge).

**9th-Suf., \$17,000, 4-11, 4&up, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.**  
**BETCHUM (g, 4, Chisos--Ubetchum Red Ryder, by Red Ryder)**. Record: 31-5-8-4, \$70,395. O-Bellavia, Marsh & Erio. B-R. Leonard (Wa.). T-J. Rigattieri. \*SP at 3.

### Maiden Winners:

Spanish Sky, g, 3, Conquistador Cielo--Flip the Bird, by Storm Bird. WO, 4-11, 5.5f, 1:04 2/5. B-J. Michaelson (Ky.).

Search For Summer, g, 3, Geiger Counter--Summer Halo, by Halo. WO, 4-10, 5f, :58 4/5. B-Panacea Stable (Ont-C).

You The Man, g, 3, Kris S.--Tropicop, by Policeman. Aqu, 4-10, 6f, 1:11 3/5. B-C. Beler (Fla.).

Brother Jerry, c, 3, Major Moran--Ceecees Bid, by Baldski. Hia, 4-10, 9F, 1:51 1/5. B-Bee Bee Stables Inc. (Fla.).

Sierra Siren, c, 3, Naevus--Dead Letter, by Kirtling. Kee, 4-10, 6.5f, 1:20. B-B.C. Jones (Ky.). \*1/2 to Northern Tract (Far North), SW, \$115,600.

Nijinsky's Advance, g, 3, Nijinsky's Secret--Rapid Advance, by Grenfall. GG, 4-10, 8f, 1:37 3/5. B-R. Braugh (Ky.). \*Won wire-to-wire by 6.

Dedicated To Earl, f, 3, Pirate's Bounty--Cause She's A Lady, by Caucasus. SA, 4-10, 6f, 1:10 1/5. B-Green Thumb Farm (Cal.). \*\$17,000 BES Nov. yearling. \*\*Paid \$86.20.

First Bloom, f, 3, Premiership--Orchid Blossom, by Winning Hit. WO, 4-11, 5.5f, 1:04 2/5. B-J. Downing (Fla.). \*\$10,000 OBS Oct. weanling.

Roving Duchess, f, 3, Roving Minstrel--Ben's Duchess, by Gallant Romeo. Spt, 4-11, 6f, 1:14. B-Armstrong & Yanez (Ill.). \*Won by 7.

Fu Man Slew, g, 3, Slew's Royalty--Miss Shuga, by To The Quick. SA, 4-10, 6f, 1:09 3/5. B-Schwartz Stable (Cal.).

Osterville, g, 3, Waquoit--More Flags, by Mr. Prospector. Pha, 4-10, 8f 70yds, 1:49 2/5. B-R.C. Dupont (Md.).

Sir Robert Jr, c, 4, Chifli--Kims Kitten, by Amber Eagle. Pha, 4-11, 8.5f, 1:48 3/5. B-Mr. & Mrs. R. Rutherford (Pa.).

Maftool, c, 4, Shadeed--Hiaam (GSW-Eng.), by Alydar. OP, 4-10, 8.5f. B-Gainsborough Farm Inc (Ky.).

Bold Zak, c, 4, Vilzak--Bold Pause, by Bold Forbes. RP, 4-10, 8.5fT, 1:44. B-H. Rosenblum (Fla.). \*Won by 8.

Preening, m, 5, Turkey Shoot--Prim de la Prim (SP, \$67,085), by Best Of It. Suf, 4-11, 6f, 1:14 3/5. B-Mr. & Mrs. P. McCardell (Ky.). \*\$4,000 Kee. Jan. 1994 Horses of Racing Age Sale.

**A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners and a + will denote winners who are first-time starters.**