

THOROUGHBRED™

D • A • I • L • Y N • E • W • S

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1996



\$2 Daily

N • E • W • S T O D A Y

INTEREST SOLD IN MARIA'S MON Dr. E.C. "Pug" Hart, racing manager for Mrs. Morton Rosenthal, announced yesterday that a 50 percent share in 1995 Champion Juvenile Colt **Maria's Mon** (Wavering Monarch) has been sold to Josephine Abercrombie of Pin Oak Stud. The only two-year-old to take two Grade I races last year, **Maria's Mon** began his racing career with a 10½-length maiden victory at Belmont July 4. His first stakes start brought home the GIII Sanford S. at Saratoga, and after a third in the GI Hopeful S., **Maria's Mon** took the GI Futurity S. and beat Unbridled's Song and Hennessy in the GI Moet Champagne S. While training for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, the gray colt suffered a non-displaced condylar fracture of his left front cannon bone during a workout Oct. 16. Following surgery, he was sent to Hart Farm near Ocala, Florida. He is scheduled to depart for Belmont Park this weekend, where trainer Richard Schosberg will prepare him for the GIII Riva Ridge S. at Belmont June 8. He will race as the property of Mrs. Rosenthal and Pin Oak Stud. Following his racing career, he will stand at Pin Oak Stud near Versailles, Kentucky.

DAY, STEVENS CHOOSE DERBY MOUNTS All five of the Kentucky Derby prospects in the D. Wayne Lukas barn--**Grindstone** (Unbridled), **Editor's Note** (Forty Niner), **Honour and Glory** (Relaunch), **Prince of Thieves** (Hansel) and **Victory Speech** (Deputy Minister)--walked the shedrow at Churchill Downs Tuesday morning. The big news was the fact that Pat Day will have the call on Peter Mitchell's **Prince of Thieves** in Keeneland's GII Lexington S. Sunday and in the May 4 Kentucky Derby. "Pat worked this horse at Saratoga last summer a couple of times and he was high on him," Lukas said. "And I am, too. You know this horse has a way of doing that to you in the morning. Maybe Pat can put it together in the afternoon." Lukas added, "When you run at Churchill, how can you top Pat Day? He's been around there more than anybody in the history books, so we're really fortunate to get him. We still have some riders to firm up on **Victory Speech** and **Honour and Glory**." It was expected that Gary Stevens would choose **Honour and Glory** as his Derby mount, but instead Stevens chose to stick with **Blue Grass** third **Editor's Note**. Arkansas Derby runner-up **Grindstone** will retain the services of Hall of Famer Jerry Bailey for the Run for the Roses.

News Continued, p. 2.

S • A • L • E • S R E S U L T S

EASY GOER COLT TOPS AT KEENELAND A bay colt by champion Easy Goer out of the stakes-placed mare Deanna's Special (Storm Bird) brought \$400,000 to top Tuesday's Keeneland April Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale. It matched the second highest price ever paid for a horse at the April sale. The colt, consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent I, was purchased by The Thoroughbred Corp. of Arcadia, California. Fusao Sekiguchi of Washington, D.C. paid a sale record for a filly, buying a daughter of Storm Cat for \$380,000. The previous record was \$305,000 paid for Hello Rachel (Mining) in 1995. There were 124 juveniles sold yesterday for a gross of \$14,305,000 and an average of \$115,363, up 11.8 percent from last year's average of \$103,174. Both the gross and average were records for the sale, which was first held in 1993.

KEENELAND APRIL—TOP FIVE COLTS:

HIP#	SIRE	DAM	PRICE
182	Easy Goer	Deanna's Special	\$400,000
Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent I. Purchased by The Thoroughbred Corp.			
192	Deputy Minister	Double Wiggle	\$375,000
Consigned by Mark Casse, agent. Purchased by Crystal River Bloodstock.			
47	Unbridled	North Easton Miss	\$315,000
(\$67,000 yrlg '95 KEESEP) Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent XII. Purchased by BBA England.			
207	Gone West	Frederika	\$300,000
(\$145,000 yrlg '95 FTSAUG) Consigned by Kirkwood Stables, agent for Lanesborough Stables. Purchased by The Thoroughbred Corp.			
62	Rubiano	Pink Willow	\$285,000
(\$52,000 wnlg '94 KEENOV) Consigned by Denali Stud (Craig Bandoroff), agent I. Purchased by F. Sekiguchi.			

Keeneland April—Top Five Fillies, p. 2.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17:

4-28 \$200,000g **San Francisco Mile, GG**,
3yo/up, 8fT (\$200)

8-24 \$500,000g **Beverly D-GI, AP**, 3yo/up,
f/m, 9.5fT (\$1000)

9-15 \$1,000,000g **Woodbine Million-GI, WO**, 3yo, 9f
(\$360)



**KEENELAND APRIL—TOP FIVE FILLIES:**

HIP#	SIRE	DAM	PRICE
130	Storm Cat	Wind Spray (GB)	\$380,000
	(\$130,000 yrlg '95 KEESEP)		
	Consigned by Sugar Grove Farm, agent. Purchased by Fusao Sekiguchi.		
158	Unbridled	Cahooters	\$350,000
	Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent for Bailey-Ellenberg Select. Purchased by Silky Green Inc.		
136	Caerleon	Zaya	\$340,000
	Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent II. Purchased by Crystal River Bloodstock.		
32	Miswaki	Mended Heart	\$300,000
	Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent for Bailey-Ellenberg Select. Purchased by B. Wayne Hughes.		
48	Forty Niner	Northern Fable	\$285,000
	Consigned by Manchester Farm (Mike G. Rutherford). Purchased by Silky Green Inc.		

News Continued.

MORE RECORDS SET AT TURFWAY Turfway Park established a new record for total betting at its 1996 Winter/Spring Meet. Total wagering at the Northern Kentucky track rose 4.3 percent to a record \$52,099,631 for the 51-day meet that closed April 4. Purses also set a new Turfway mark, soaring 25.9 percent to \$238,997 daily, and total on-track attendance moved up to 201,207, a 7.2 percent increase. "Despite one of the most severe winters in recent memory, Turfway Park weathered the many storms in fine style," said the track's President Mark Simendinger. For the Winter/Spring Meet, total betting at Turfway Park, its Kentucky intertrack wagering sites, four Kentucky off-track betting facilities and its out-of-state full-card simulcasting outlets totaled a record \$215,241,420, an increase of 14.4 percent over 1995. Out-of-state betting on Turfway's programs was \$67,747,445, an increase of 64.9 percent from last year. Because of the severe weather, Turfway staged eight fewer live racing programs than in 1995.

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SWINBURN TO MISS GUINEAS Three-time Epsom Derby winning jockey Walter Swinburn has given up his fight to ride 2000 Guineas third-favorite **Royal Applause (GB)** (Waajib {Ire}) in the Newmarket classic May 4. Michael Hills will substitute. Swinburn, seriously injured in a racecourse fall at Sha Tin in February, had been told the big-race mount would remain his if he could prove his fitness by the end of this month. But yesterday, the 34-year-old rider admitted he would not be able to meet the engagement. Swinburn said, "It just won't be possible. I don't think I'll be able to ride in races for some time yet and certainly the Guineas is out of the question." Hills, whose father Barry trains Group 1 winner Royal Applause at Lambourn, sat on the colt for the first time yesterday in a six-furlong breeze. The duo will go into the 2000 Guineas without a prep-race.

◆ MIDWEST ◆

Local News, Virginia:

Sam Huff, president of Middleburg Broadcasting Network, and Arthur Arundel, race chairman of the Virginia Gold Cup, announced yesterday their talent line-up for the 71st running of the Virginia Gold Cup at Great Meadow in The Plains, Virginia Saturday, May 4. The \$35,000 Virginia Gold Steeplechase Cup is for ages five and up at about 32 furlongs. "Sportscaster of the Year" Frank Herzog will anchor the one-hour national television special to air on Home Team Sports, Friday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. Co-Chairman and Director of Racing for the Virginia Gold Cup, Donald Yovanovich, will lend his insight as color analyst on the telecast, presented by BMW and Land Rover. Michele Rouse will interview the winning jockeys on horseback, and Eve Lloyd Thompson will conduct VIP interviews.

◆ EAST ◆

Yesterday's Results:

8th-DEL, -\$24,000, Alw, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 1/5, my.
STAR TRACE (c, 4, Star de Naska--Turn to T.J. {MSW, \$137,133}, by Turn to Reason), winner of the Sir Barton S. at Pimlico in '95, had not started since finishing third in the Deputed Testimony S. at Pimlico last June 10. Returning from a 10-month layoff here as the 1-2 favorite, the gray colt came from off-the-pace to defeat graded stakes-placed **ADD THE GOLD** (Forty Niner) by a nose. Lifetime Record: SW, 6-4-1-1, \$74,730.

O/B-Larry Johnson (MD). T-H. Graham Motion.

In The Races That Count

Golden Slipper Stakes-1994, 1995 The Derby-1990, 1995
 Australian Guineas-1995, 1996 The Oaks-1992, 1993, 1995, 1996

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East Report Continued.

6th-DEL, \$20,500, Alw, 3yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:05 4/5, my. HOUSTON MISS (f, 3, Houston--Stanwich Miss {MSP}, by *Advocator*), who broke her maiden by six lengths at first asking at Laurel March 23, fared just as well against winners here. Sent off the heavy 3-5 chalk, she alternated on the lead with CHART TOPPER (Groovy) until the top of the lane, where she drew clear to defeat that rival by four lengths. The winner is 1/2 to Buck Some Belle (GSP, \$167,424, by *Spend a Buck*). Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$21,705.

O-Samuel H. Rogers Jr. B-W.G. Lyster III (KY). T-Mary E. Eppler.

6th-PIM, \$19,250, Msw, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:46, gd. OOMPAHPAH (c, 3, Hansel--Dontstop Themusic {MGI, \$963,469}, by *Stop the Music*), third in a sprint at Laurel in his last outing March 30, stretched out in distance here as the 6-5 bettors' choice. The bay colt was lightly bumped leaving the starting gate, tracked the pacesetter closely until the far turn, then took the lead and pulled away under confident handling to win by seven. Lifetime Record: 6-1-0-3, \$18,212.

O-Lazy Lane Farms Inc. B-Lazy Lane Stables Inc. (VA). T-H. Graham Motion.

Local News, Hialeah:

Mecke (Maudlin), winner of the GIII Widener H. March 23, and *Broadway Flyer* (Theatrical {Ire}), second in the GII Pan American H. March 9, will share topweight of 118 pounds for Saturday's GIII \$200,000 Hialeah Turf Cup H. at 1 3/16-miles on the grass.

Trainer Harry Laflamme reports that the next start for GIII Flamingo S. runner-up *Bold Lachee* (Apalachee) will likely be in the GII \$500,000 Illinois Derby at Sportsman's Park May 11.

Local News, Monmouth Park:

Monmouth Park's first condition book, covering racing from Opening Day, May 25, through June 12, is now available from the racing office and at tracks around the country. The opening Memorial Day weekend features the \$40,000 *Spend a Buck S.*, the \$35,000 *John J. Reilly H.* for Jersey-breds and the GIII *Red Bank H.* "We expect to be averaging over \$225,000 a day in overnight and stakes purses," said Michael P. Dempsey, director of racing and racing secretary. The meet runs through Sept. 2.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a + will denote winners who are first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races and an (R) will be used for other restricted races.

◆ FOREIGN ◆

Yesterday's Results:

SHADWELL STUD NELL GWYN S.-G3, \$47,322, Newmarket, England, 4-16, 3yo, f, 7fT, 1:25:31, gd/fm.

1--@THRILLING DAY (GB), 121, f, 3, *Groom Dancer--Pushoff*, by *Sauce Boat*. O/B-Bloomsbury Stud; T-Neil A. Graham; J-D. Harrison; \$29,190.

2--Bint Salsabil, 124, f, 3, *Nashwan--Salsabil* (GB), by *Sadler's Wells*. O-Sheikh Hamdan al Maktoum; \$10,791.

3--Honest Guest (Ire), 121, f, 3, *Be My Guest--Good Policy* (Ire), by *Thatching* (Ire). O-I. Lochhead; \$5,170.

Margins: short head; 2 1/2; head.

Also Ran: *My Melody Parkes* (GB) (\$2,103); *Maid For The Hills* (GB); *Darling Flame*; *Mezzogiorno* (GB); *Wild Rumour* (IRE); *Cyrillic* (GB); *Marl* (GB); *Coachella* (GB).

Thrilling Day, one of three runners in the Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn S. not entered in the 1000 Guineas, burst the Classic bubbles of her better-fancied rivals with a last-stride short-head victory. Bint Salsabil, carrying three pounds more than the rest of her rivals, set out to make all the running under veteran jockey Willie Carson. But, given a fine ride by relative newcomer David Harrison, Thrilling Day fought her way through the pack to score at 20-1. Trainer Neil Graham, who had pointed Thrilling Day specifically for the Nell Gwyn, could not reveal any future plans for his filly. "This is mission accomplished," he said. "She had done plenty of work and we thought if we came here fit, she might just be able to beat them. We didn't ever think she would stay a mile--that's why she wasn't put in the Guineas--but we have to revise our ideas now and discuss something like the Coronation S. at Ascot.

PRIX DE LA PEPINIERE, \$47,164, Longchamp, France, 4-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 10fT, 2:08:70, gd/fm.

1--#KRAJINA (FR), 123, f, 4, *Holst--Turkeina* (Fr), by *Kautokeino* (Fr). O-Mrs D G Jacob; B-S.C.E.A. De Maulepaire; T-Pascal Bary; J-K. Vaillant; \$27,285.

2--Restiv Star (Fr), 123, f, 4, *Soviet Star--Restiver* (Fr), by *River River* (Fr). O-J.L. Lagardere; \$9,355.

3--Dance-Treat, 123, f, 4, *Nureyev--Office Wife*, by *Secretariat*. O-P. Pritchard; \$5,847.

Margins: 1/2; 2; 2.

FOALING NEWS:

SALSABIL (IRE), 9, *Sadler's Wells--Flame of Tara* (Ire) (Artaius)

Foal born 4-1-96, a filly by *Riverman*.

Will be bred back to *Mr. Prospector*.

Boarded at *Shadwell Farm* in Lexington, Ky.

Accomplishments: Hwt at 3-Ire 11-14 Fur, MGSW-Eng, Ire & Fr, \$1,252,916.

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ABERNANT S., \$28,500, Newmarket, England, 4-16, 3yo/up, 6fT, 1:11:49, gd/fm.

1--**PASSION FOR LIFE (GB)**, 117, g, 3, **Charmer (Ire)--Party Game (Ire)**, by **Red Alert (Ire)**. O-D. Waters; B-G.R. Smith (Thriplow) Ltd; T-Geoff Lewis; J-Pat Eddery; \$17,582.

2--**Iktamal**, 128, c, 4, Danzig Connection--Crystal Cup, by Nijinsky II. O-Sheikh Maktoum al Maktoum; \$6,510.

3--**Struggler (GB)**, 134, c, 4, Night Shift--Dreamawhile (GB), by Known Fact. O-Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber & Mrs. John Magnier; \$3,127.

Margins: 1 1/4; 2; head.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS IN ENGLAND:

Elsaleet, c, 3, **Storm Cat--Blushing Redhead (GSP-Fr)**, by Blushing Groom (Fr). Newmarket, 4-16, Stetchworth Maiden, 6fT, 3yo, \$6,671 to winner. O-Sheikh Ahmed al Maktoum; B-David's Farm; T-John Gosden.

*\$120,000 wnlg '93 KEENOV.

Toy Princess, f, 4, **Arctic Tern--Princess Toy (Ire)**, by Prince Tenderfoot. Folkestone, 4-16, Gravesend H., 15f92ydsT, 4yo/up, \$5,082 to winner. O/T-Clive Brittain; B-Northmore Stud. *1/2 to Lord of Tusmore (GB) (G3-Eng, \$134,602, by Al Nasr {Fr}).

Friendly Brave, g, 6, **Well Decorated--Companionship (MGSP, \$123,882)**, by Princely Native. Folkestone, 4-16, Gillingham Limited S., 5fT, 4yo/up, \$3,590 to winner. O-Grid Thoroughbred Racing Partnership; B-Foxfield; T-Miss Gay Kelleway. *\$57,000 yrlg '91 KEESSEP.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNER IN FRANCE:

Whenby, f, 3, **Bering (GB)--Nether Poppleton**, by Deputy Minister. Longchamp, 4-16, Prix du Bois Rouaud, 1mT, 3yo, f, \$17,540 to winner. O/T-Criquette Head; B-Derry Meeting Farm, et al. *Third win in a row.

Local News, England:

Sacho (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), long-time second favorite for the Epsom Derby, was eased out to 20-1 for Britain's most famous classic after being beaten by half a length in his second career start, and his first of 1996, at Newmarket Tuesday. Champion jockey Frankie Dettori tried to make all the running in the ten-furlong Museum Maiden S. But, despite putting up a bold show, his Sheikh Mohammed-owned mount was caught in the last few strides by the debutante **Dovaly** (Lycius) and defeated by half a length. Anthony Stroud, the Sheikh's racing manager, said, "We are obviously a bit disappointed. But Sacho got a little upset in the stalls and Frankie thought he would be better with some juice in the ground (the going was good to firm)."

FOALING NEWS:

TORTELLINI ROMA, 11, Darby Creek Road--Miss Eighty Eighty (Dr. Fager)

Foal born 3-30-96, a colt by Delineator.

Will be bred back to Known Fact.

Owned by Duane and Susan Hopp.

Boarded at Katalpa in Paris, Ky.

Accomplishments: MSW of \$128,428; Champion Washington-Bred Two-Year-Old Filly.

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

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-PHA, \$20,320, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10 3/5, sy.

TOURING PRO (g, 4, **Roo Art--Dormez**, by **Parfaitement**)

Lifetime Record: 15-6-2-3, \$70,291. O/T-Donald S. Reeder. B-Robert W. Camac (PA).

8th-PIM, \$19,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13, ft.

CRESCENT PARK (f, 4, **Strike Gold--Darkest Secret**, by **Play On**) Lifetime Record: MSP, 16-5-3-2, \$74,325.

O-Thomas H. Baylis. B-William G. Munn (KY). T-H. Graham Motion.

8th-PHA, \$18,000, 3yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:42, sy.

TOLL PAID (g, 6, **Alydar--Toll Booth {Broodmare of the Year}**, by **Buckpasser**) Lifetime Record: 24-6-2-2, \$91,248. O-Bumble Bee Racing Stable. B-Lazy Lane Stables, Inc. (VA). T-Belinda L. Manchio. *1/2 to **Plugged Nickle** (Ch. Sprinter, MGI, \$647,206, by Key to the Mint), **Idle Gossip** (SW, \$101,721, by Lyphard), **Toll Key** (SW, \$290,218, by Nodouble), **Key to the Bridge** (GIII, \$289,747, by Key to the Mint), **Toll Fee** (SW, \$333,917, by Topsider) and **Christiecat** (GI, \$799,745, by Majestic Light).

10th-HIA, \$17,000, 4yo/up, f/m, a1 1/16mT, 1:41 1/5, fm.

REIGN DANCE (f, 4, **Sovereign Dancer--Tea and Roses {SP}**, by **Fleet Nasrullah**) Lifetime Record: SP, 21-4-2-3, \$77,796. O-Break Away Racing Stable. B-Echo Valley Horse Farm & Sweetenham Stud (KY). T-Randal Mills.

9th-PHA, \$16,792, 3yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:42 2/5, sy.

FANTASY VASLAV (BRZ) (h, 5, **Hostage--Gleaming Water**, by ***Pago Pago**) Lifetime Record: 14-4-3-0, \$35,180. O-Albatroz Bloodstock. B-Stud Elle Et Moi (BRZ). T-Michael W. Dickinson. *1/2 to **Middlefork Rapids** (GIII, \$256,185, by Wild Again).

9th-TUP, \$15,200, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:34 1/5, ft.

SNOW BLINK (h, 5, **Snow Chief--Psychic Power {SW}**, by **Triple Bend**) Lifetime Record: SW, 35-11-5-5, \$97,131. O-Jolanta Lipowicz. B-Harris Farms, Inc. (CA). T-Zenon Lipowicz.

9th-HIA, \$15,000, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:12, ft.

UPITY LADY (f, 3, **Broad Brush--Natural Forest**, by **Green Forest**) Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-0, \$20,935. O/B-J. Mack Robinson (KY). T-Frank Gomez.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Frosted Flake, f, 3, **Frosty the Snowman--Ti Amo**, by

Slew o' Gold. DEL, 4-16, 1m, 1:41 1/5. B-Arthur

I. Appleton (FI). *\$14,000 yrl '94 OBSAUG; \$16,000

2yo 1995 OBSMAR.

Oompahpah, c, 3, **Hansel--Dontstop Themusic** (MGI, \$963,469), by **Stop the Music**. PIM, 4-16, 1 1/16m, 1:46. B-Lazy Lane Stables, Inc (Va).



Highgate Love, f, 4, **Alytanic--Tough Love**, by Give Me Strength. HIA, 4-16, a1 1/8mT, 1:49. B-R B Collins Farm (Fl).

WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES by: Alan Porter, Highflyer International

SKIP AWAY (c, 3, Skip Trial--Ingot's Way, by Diplomat Way)

While Unbridled's Song's Wood Memorial triumph ensured he will start as the favorite in the Kentucky Derby, Skip Away placed himself near or at the top of the list of potential challengers by demolishing a seemingly highly competitive Blue Grass field.

Skip Away is a son of Skip Trial, who is by the Damascus stallion Bailjumper. Thus, if Skip Away lines up at Churchill Downs, he will be attempting to reverse a 30-year-old trend. Damascus himself could only finish third as the 8-5 favorite for the 1967 Derby--although much the best horse in the race--and a descendent of Damascus has yet to capture the Run for the Roses.

Ironically, Skip Away descends from a Damascus horse who was some way removed from being one of his sire's best sons. Bailjumper, a brother to the brilliant sprint filly Honorable Miss, won five of 13 races, including the Saranac S. and Dwyer H. At stud, Bailjumper sired 17 stakes-winners, of which Skip Away's sire, Skip Trial, was the most distinguished.

Skip Trial comes from the same family as Nijinsky II (which might suggest an interesting Florida cross between Skip Trial and Baldski mares) and has two other notable features to his pedigree. One is the very unusual fact that both his sire and broodmare sire (Promised Land) trace in male line to the stallion Sun Teddy, and the other is that he is completely free of either Nasrullah or his three-parts-brother Royal Charger, a comparatively rare situation these days.

The absence of Nasrullah and Royal Charger is given added relevance by the fact that Skip Trial carries both My Babu and Mahmoud. Damascus was out of a My Babu mare, and in fact bore a considerable physical resemblance to that horse. The importance of My Babu, and hence to a degree of Damascus, in modern pedigrees is that his dam, Perfume II, is very closely related to Nasrullah, to Royal Charger, and to Royal Charger's son Turn-to. The key is that while Nasrullah and Royal Charger are by a son of Pharos and a daughter of Mumtaz Mahal, Perfume II is by a son of Mumtaz Mahal out of a mare by Pharos. The duplication of close relatives carrying opposite sex strains of important ancestors can be an important technique for upgrading pedigrees, and combining My Babu with Nasrullah and Royal Charger is one example of the technique.

Now, Skip Trial is out of a mare by Promised Land, who in turn is out of a mare by Mahmoud. A course-record breaking winner of the English Derby, Mahmoud is not only closely related to Perfume II, but is also three-parts brother to Mumtaz Begum, the dam of

Nasrullah and granddam of Royal Charger.

From this it seems fair to infer that Skip Trial should benefit from mares carrying Nasrullah and/or Royal Charger. Skip Away's dam, Ingot Way, is a stakes-winning daughter of Diplomat Way (also broodmare sire of Skip Trial's stakes-winning and graded stakes-placed Mystic Union, and sire of the second dam of his 1995 stakes-winning two-year-old Mad 'Bout You), and is inbred to Nasrullah 3x4. And to top that off, Ingot Way also has a cross of Mahmoud, to whom Skip Away is 5x5. So, should Skip Away succeed at Churchill Downs, we will have a gray Derby winner who is linebred to a gray Derby winner.

PEDIGREE SHORTS...

One of the factors we stress when planning matings or discussing pedigrees is "balance." As a broad general principle it appears that duplicating notable ancestors through sons *and* daughters is more effective than duplicating through sons or daughters alone, and that too much inbreeding to sons of a sire is actually potentially deleterious. Another principle is that where close inbreeding exists in a sire or dam, planning a mating which picks up on ancestors in the background of the close inbreeding is often successful.

A textbook example is **Jamies First Punch (g, 3, Fit to Fight--Stedes Wonder {Native Royalty})**, who took his record to four-for-five with a win in Saturday's GIII Bay Shore S. Jamies First Punch is 4x4x5 to Nasrullah, the closest duplications being through a son and a daughter. What's more, the son is in the male line of the sire, and the daughter strain appears via the dam of the broodmare sire, a pattern which seems very potent. Jamies First Punch is by Fit to Fight, who is inbred to Roman 3x3. Roman is a son of Sir Gallahad III, and Jamies First Punch's dam, Stedes Wonder, supplies a daughter of Sir Gallahad III. Stedes Wonder is herself 2x4 to Raise a Native, and Fit to Fight returns the compliment via a cross of Case Ace (broodmare sire of Raise a Native) in the center of his pedigree.

Up and coming West Coast filly **Pike Place Dancer (f, 3, Seattle Dancer--Vana Turns {Wavering Monarch})** defeated the colts in Saturday's GIII California Derby to take her record to five wins in six starts. Pike Place Dancer is one of three recent stakes winners for Seattle Slew's half-brother, Seattle Dancer, and all three are notable for duplications of relatives descending from La Troienne. Seattle Dancer's dam is inbred to the sisters Striking and Busher (both granddaughters of La Troienne), and Pike Place Dancer takes the La Troienne factor to new heights with her dam, the stakes-winning Vana Turns, adding two crosses of Bimelech (son of La Troienne), one of Busanda (three-quarters relative to Striking and Busher) and another of Big Hurry, a daughter of La Troienne, who is the fourth dam of Vana Turns.

Highflyer International, racing and breeding consultants, specialize in pedigree research and individualized matings. Their Highflyer Journal is published monthly. For information, please call 516-626-0795.