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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

\$2 Daily

N • E • W • S T O D A Y

B • O • U • N • D for the B R E E D E R S ' C U P

OCTAGONAL BOUNCES BACK The 1995/96 Australian Horse Of The Year **Octagonal (NZ)** (Zabeel {NZ}), close to retirement after three failures in a row, returned to winning form at Caulfield in Melbourne Sunday in the G1 Underwood S. over a mile and an eighth on the turf. With jockey Darren Beadman back in the saddle, the four-year-old raced without blinkers this time and produced his customary strong finish to take it by a neck. The colt had to withstand a claim of foul from third-place finisher **Seascay (NZ)** (Maizcay {Aus}), but the stewards found that runner-up **Count Chivas (NZ)** (Lord Ballina {Aus}) was the guilty party and demoted him to third. Winning trainer John Hawkes said: "We were very close to retiring Octagonal. I even thought about popping him over a few jumps during the week, but I thought he was too valuable to do that. He's champion and I have been busting my gut trying to get him back. It's good for racing. I don't like to see him beaten. It is terrific to see him back." Hawkes did not lay any blame on Octagonal's rider in his three previous starts, Darren Gauci, who gave up the ride so that Beadman, who partnered the horse to four of his five Group One victories last season, could have another go. Octagonal will now continue his campaign towards Australia's premiere weight-for-age event, the W. S. Cox Plate in Melbourne on Oct. 26. On his way he will take in the G1 Caulfield S. over a mile and a quarter Oct. 12.

THE WEEK THAT WAS...

Headlining this weekend's results was the resurgence of three-year-old **Editor's Note** (Forty Niner) as a contender for the *Classic* with his strong late move to take Sunday's G1 Super Derby. The winner of this year's Belmont S. could challenge division leader **Skip Away** (Skip Trial), who is not Breeders' Cup eligible, if the Woodbine Million winner also takes on **Cigar** (Palace Music) in the G1 Jockey Club Gold Cup at Belmont Park October 5. Earning a possible berth in the *Classic* with his victory in the GIII Kentucky Cup Classic was European import **Atticus** (Nureyev), who pocketed his first dirt stakes win at Turfway Saturday. The four-year-old's connections will leave their options open, with the *Mile* as the alternate plan. Despite a disappointing fifth-place finish as favorite over a sloppy track in the Kentucky Cup Classic, Bill Mott trainee **Wekiva Springs** (Runaway Groom) will get the chance to redeem himself--next stop, *Classic*.

Team Lukas unveiled a hot Breeders' Cup hand over the weekend. Kentucky Cup Juvenile victor **Boston Harbor** (Capote), who goes next in the Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland October 11, will get the chance to duplicate his sire's victory in the *Juvenile*, while last year's Juvenile Fillies third and Eclipse Award winner **Golden Attraction** (Mr. Prospector), pointing for the Spinster S. October 6, attracted attention for the *Distaff* with a wire-to-wire score in the Turfway Breeders' Cup.

The wide-open *Sprint* gained two prospects Saturday. Canadian hopeful **Langfuhr** (Danzig) picked up his second graded stakes score in the G1 Vosburgh, but will have to prove he can get it done going a furlong shorter at Woodbine. Three-year-old **Appealing Skier** (Baldski), considered a Triple Crown threat after his victory in the GII Hutcheson S. way back in February, returned to what he does best in the Kentucky Cup Sprint and set a Turfway track record of six furlongs in 1:08 1/5.

Fillies to watch for the *Juvenile Fillies* are **Love That Jazz** (Dixieland Band), winner of the Kentucky Cup Juvenile Fillies, and Canadian **Diablo's Story** (Diablo), who earned a game head victory in the GIC Natalma S. over the grass at Woodbine Saturday.

THIS WEEKEND'S EVENTS...

Saturday:
Queen Elizabeth II S.-G1, 1mT, Ascot, England (*Mile*)
 Sunday:
Canadian International-G1, 12fT, Woodbine, (*Turf*)
Arlington-Washington Lassie-GII, 1m, Arlington &
Mazarine BC S., 8.5f, Woodbine (*Juvenile Fillies*)

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STAKES CLOSINGS

TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25:

- 10-05 \$250,000/50,000 *Goodwood*
Breeders' Cup H.-GII, SA, 9f (\$100)
- 10-05 \$125/50,000 *Oak Tree Breeders' Cup*
Mile H.-GIII, SA, 3yo/up, 8fT (\$50)
- 10-06 \$500,000 *Three Chimneys Spinster-GI, Kee,*
3yo/up, f/m, 9f (\$500)
- 10-06 \$125/50,000 *Lady's Secret Breeders' Cup H.-GII,*
SA, 3yo/up, f/m, 8.5f (\$50)
- 10-06 \$75/75,000 *Ancient Title Breeders' Cup H.-GIII,*
SA, 3yo/up, 6f (\$50)





◆ P R E V I E W ◆

Saturday, Ascot, England

QUEEN ELIZABETH II S.-G1, 3yo/up, 1mT

This year's 2000 Guineas winner **Mark Of Esteem (Ire)** (Darshaan {GB}) looks set to face no more than seven rivals at Ascot this Saturday. The colt, successful last time out in Goodwood's G2 Celebration Mile, has been "working very nicely" in his build-up according to racing manager Simon Crisford. But connections are not taking anything for granted in what they admit is set to decide the champion of Europe over eight furlongs. Nine horses stood their ground at yesterday's final acceptance stage before Friday's declaration deadline. The others were: **Ashkalani (Ire)** (Soviet Star), hero earlier this month of the G1 Prix du Moulin at Longchamp; **Bijou d'Inde (GB)** (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}); **Bosra Sham (Woodman)**, this year's 1000 Guineas heroine returning from a four-month lay-off; **Charnwood Forest (Ire)** (Warning {GB}), winner this June of the G2 Queen Anne S. at Royal Ascot; **First Island (Ire)** (Dominion {GB}), who won the G1 Sussex S. in July; **Matiya (Ire)** (Alzao), winner of the Irish 1000 Guineas in May; **Shake The Yoke (GB)** (Caerleon), successful in the G1 Coronation S. at Royal Ascot, but seeming likely to miss a return to the course in order to tackle Keeneland's Queen Elizabeth II Cup; and **Soviet Line (Ire)** (Soviet Star), winner of the G1 Locking S. at Newbury in May. Latest betting makes Mark Of Esteem the 9-4 favorite.

Sunday, Woodbine

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL S.-GI, \$1,000,000 (Canadian), 3yo/up, 12fT

Definite Article (GB) (Indian Ridge {Ire}), winner of the G2 Tattersalls Gold Cup at The Curragh in May, will jet to Toronto midweek to make a challenge for Sunday's G1 Canadian International. The Dermot Weld-trained four-year-old, fourth on his most recent outing in the G1 Mercedes-Benz Grosser Preis von Baden in Germany, demonstrated he is in top form with a gallop at home yesterday and is all set to travel. Weld said: "We worked him left-handed over a mile and I was delighted with the way he went. He flies out on Wednesday and we wouldn't mind a drop of rain for him before the weekend. Michael Kinane will ride him at Woodbine."

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Sunday, Ascot, England

FILLIES' MILE-G1, 2yo, f, 1mT

Next Sunday's G1 event at Ascot has all the hallmarks of becoming Britain's most fascinating two-year-old distaff event of 1996. The race was won last year by subsequent 1000 Guineas heroine **Bosra Sham (Woodman)** and her trainer, Henry Cecil, intends to field two runners in an effort to win it again. Cecil's pair will be **Reams Of Verse (Nureyev)**, whose career score is currently two-for-three, and **Sleepytime (Ire)** (Royal Academy), a smooth winner on her first race-course appearance at Sandown last week and already offered at odds as low as 6-1 in early betting on next season's 1000 Guineas. The Michael Stoute-trained **Gretel (GB)** (Hansel), third behind Reams Of Verse despite being bumped last time out in the G3 May Hill S. at Doncaster, is going to take on Cecil's charge again. Stoute said: "She did well to get as close as she did at Doncaster. She was just getting relaxed when she took a knock which got her pulling and then she got too far back. But she was finishing very well and she will run in the Ascot Mile." Other definite contenders for the event, which invariably has a major impact on the following year's Classics, are the unbeaten duo **One So Wonderful (GB)** (Nashwan) and **Sarayir (Mr. Prospector)**.

News cont.

TAGULA BACK IN ACTION **Tagula (Ire)** (Taufan), hero of last year's G1 Prix Morny at Deauville, is all set to make his first racecourse appearance in almost four months when tackling the G3 Supreme S. at Goodwood Thursday. The Ian Balding trainee finished third in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains, the French 2000 Guineas, in May. But, after managing nothing better than fifth to **Spinning World (Nureyev)** in the Irish 2000 Guineas later that month, he has been sidelined owing to a series of training difficulties. Now, however, Balding is hoping the bay can begin making up for lost time. He said: "Kevin Darley has been booked to ride him. The horse has had various problems, but he seems well again now. I think seven furlongs is probably his best distance."

ARCHER DISPERSAL RESULTS Fasig-Tipton's Joseph F. Archer Dispersal Sale, held Sunday at the Houston Polo Club in Texas, saw 35 horses sold for a total of \$386,000, an average of \$11,029. There were 13 listed as not sold. Topping the dispersal was the 14-year-old broodmare **Appealing Girl (Valid Appeal)**, who brought a bid of \$40,000 from Biggs Farm, Inc. The Maryland-bred, a multiple-stakes winner, has produced stakes winners Valibasque, Hopeful Appeal, and Fast And Nasty.

GAINESWAY

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MT. LIVERMORE FILLY WINS RACE NAMED FOR HER DAM

LINDSAY FROLIC, by Mt. Livermore, won the Cherokee Frolic Handicap.



◆ EAST ◆

Local News: Philadelphia Park

Grey Code (Lost Code), who shipped into Philly Park after being stabled at Wingait Farm with a horse who had tested positive for Equine Infectious Anemia, has herself tested negative for the disease. A decision on when the quarantine which was put into place at the track Saturday will be lifted has been postponed until this afternoon.

Local News: Rockingham Park

Jockey Tammi Campbell returned to the races yesterday after being forced to miss the past three months while battling recurrent meningitis. The 29-year-old rider has been plagued by acute episodes of the disease throughout her 10-year-career, but was heartened by the warm welcome back she received from local horsemen and fans alike. "This is home for me and the people here are my family," Campbell said.

◆ FOREIGN ◆

Weekend Results:

VATC UNDERWOOD S.-G1, \$160,115, Caulfield, Australia, 9-22, 3yo/up, 9fT, 1:50.49, gd.

1--**OCTAGONAL (NZ)**, 126, c, 4, **Zabeel (NZ)**--**Eight Carat (GB)**, by **Pieces Of Eight**. O-Woodlands Stud; B-Cambridge Stud (NZ); T-John Hawkes; J-D Beadman; \$104,075. *Ch. 2yo and Horse of the Year-Aus. **1/2 to **Diamond Lover (Aus)** (Sticks and Stones), G1SW-NZ; **Kaapstad (NZ)** (*Sir Tristram), G1SW-Aus; and **Marquise (NZ)** (Gold And Ivory), G1SW-NZ.

2--**Seascay (NZ)**, 130, h, 6, **Maizcay--Kurdasea (NZ)**, by **Beaufort Sea**. O-Dr. G W Tsoi; B-Dr. J F W Garvey (NZ); \$32,023.

*3--**Count Chivas (NZ)**, 130, g, 5, **Lord Ballina (Aus)**--**Inquisit (NZ)**, by **Imposing (Aus)**. O-R D & Mrs. I M Wood & N E Tsalikis; B-R D & Mrs. I M Wood (NZ); \$14,410.

Margins: NK, short HD, 1.

*Finished second, but DQ'ed and placed third.

Also ran: **Saleous (Aus)**, **Dupain (NZ)**, **Doriemus (NZ)**, **Toil (NZ)**, **Circles Of Gold (Aus)**, **French Resort (Aus)**, **Furama Nights (Aus)**, **Alcove (Aus)**, **Beaux Art (Aus)**, **Cheviot (Aus)**, **Station Hand (Aus)**, **Sir Boom (Aus)**, **Mr. Stanima**.

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.

VATC VICHEALTH CUP-G1, \$160,115, Caulfield, Australia, 9-22, 3yo/up, 7fT, 1:24.25, gd.

1--**ENCOSTA DE LAGO (AUS)**, 130, c, 3, **Fairy King--Shoal Creek (Aus)**, by **Star Way (GB)**. O-M C Throsby & John Magnier & D L Freedman & E Irwin & K D Barry & D S Grimley; B-Emirates Park (Aus); T-Lee Freedman; J-S R King; \$104,075.

2--**Scenic Royale (Aus)**, 115, g, 4, **Scenic (Ire)**--**Royal Russet (Aus)**, by **Roan Rocket (Ire)**. O-R F Clarkson & K L O'Neil & M O'Toole & W Zielke & G Amato & S Anthony; B-J M Vine (Aus); \$32,023.

3--**Lochrae (Aus)**, 112, c, 4, **Scenic (Ire)**--**Spring Serenade (Aus)**, by **Without Fear (Fr)**. O-R G & Mrs. D E Cook; B-D A Hayes (Aus); \$14,410.

Margins: NK, 1, short HD.

Local News: Ascot, England

Branston Abby (Ire) (Risk Me {Fr}), needing just one more win to set a new modern day record of 23 successes by a European-based equine female, will be trying for her place in history in Saturday's G2 **Diadem S.** at Ascot. The seven-year-old mare was forced to miss the G1 **Haydock Park Sprint** earlier this month after she was found to have a severe nasal discharge. But connections have been pleased with progress since that setback and are eager to get her back on the track this weekend. Deidre Johnston, wife of **Branston Abby's** Yorkshire-based trainer Mark, said: "We treated her at the time with antibiotics. But she has been off those for two weeks now and the plan is to run on Saturday. It looks a tough race, but she's fine and I just hope she can finally get that elusive victory."

Local News: Longchamp, France

Ten-time British champion jockey Pat Eddery is set to partner **Shaamit (Ire)** (Mtoto {GB}), this year's **Epsom Derby** winner, when the William Haggas-trained colt runs in the **Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe** at Longchamp on October 6. Michael Hills was aboard the colt when he landed the **Epsom classic** but, as was the case in the **King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond S.** on July 27, he will be riding **Pentire (GB)** (Be My Guest) for Geoff Wragg in Paris. So Eddery, who rode **Shaamit** into third at Ascot, will once again take over. There has been some speculation about Eddery partnering **Dushyantor** (Sadler's Wells) in the **Arc**, just as he did when finishing second in both the **Derby** and the **St. Leger** at Doncaster earlier this month. But Terry Ellis, who is both Eddery's agent and brother-in-law, said: "Dushyantor will not be going to Paris. If he runs again this year, it will be in the **Breeders' Cup**."

Foreign Report cont. p4



CLOSING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

THREE CHIMNEYS SPINSTER STAKES (GR. I)

\$500,000a, 3yo and up, fillies and mares, 9f
to be run October 6 – Nomination Fee: \$500

**Local News: Japan**

Sunday's race meeting at Nakayama Racecourse in Japan was suspended when a typhoon hit the area. The meet was rescheduled for yesterday afternoon.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS IN ENGLAND:

Stygian, f, 2, **Irish River (Fr)**--Sin Lucha, by Northfields.

Leicester, 9-23, River Nursery, 6fT, 2yo, \$5,588 to the winner. O-K Abdullah; B-Juddmonte Farms; T-Barry Hills.

Imroz, f, 2, **Nureyev**--All At Sea (G1SW-Fr, GSW & MG1SP-Eng, \$551,765), by Riverman. Leicester, 9-23, Kegworth Conditions S., 7f 9ydsT, 2yo, \$9,209 to the winner. O-K Abdullah; B-Juddmonte Farms; T-Henry Cecil.

Society Magic, b, c, **Imp Society**--Lady Kirtling, by Kirtling (Ire). Musselburgh, 9-23, Honest Toun Maiden H., 3yo/up, 7f 15ydsT, \$4,664 to the winner. O-Miss A V Hill; B-Brereton C Jones; T-I A Balding.

Naughty Pistol, f, 4, **Big Pistol**--Naughty Nile (MSP), by Upper Nile. Leicester, 9-23, Charnwood Claiming S., 6fT, 3/4yo, \$5,189 to the winner. O-Colin G R Booth; B-Brereton C Jones; T-P D Evans. *1/2 to Lower Egypt (Silver Hawk), SW & GSP-Eng, \$118,875. **\$31,000 yrl '93 KEESEP.

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

STAKES RESULTS:

C.B. AFFLERBAUGH S., \$72,000, FPX, 9-22, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43 3/5, ft.

1--**ROO TALE**, 116, h, 7, **Roo Art**--Regency Tale, by Vice Regent. (\$27,000 yrl '90 FTMSEP). O-Mcatee Melodie & Ronald; B-Greensleeves, Limited (MD); T-David Bernstein; J-D R Flores; \$41,250. Lifetime Record: 51-22-15-3, \$475,771.

2--**Spectal**, 115, h, 6, **Spectacular Bid**--Royal Procession, by Lyphard. \$12,750.

3--**Longliner**, 116, c, 4, **Flying Paster**--Silk Chiffon, by Raja Baba. (\$160,000 2yo 1994 BESMAR). \$9,000. Margins: 3/4, 3/4, 3/4. Odds: 0.90, 4.20, 3.40.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

10th-PHA, \$20,325, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:25 4/5, gd.

ROLL ON RANKIN (f, 3, **Tiffany Ice**--**Warjima**, by **Wajima**) Lifetime Record: 13-2-4-2, \$34,534. O-Carole Lyster. B-J. C. Bud Rankin (PA). T-Peter Zanette.

10th-DET, \$19,200, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:40 1/5, sy.

COURTLY KATHY (m, 5, **Lost Code**--**Courtly Native {SW}**, by **Our Native**) Lifetime Record: SW, 47-11-6-5, \$142,953. O-Patrick A Uelmen. B-Rasmussen Wes Mr. & Mrs. (MN). T-Thomas Beaudoin.

8th-APX, \$18,500, 3yo/up, f/m, a9fT, 1:50 3/5, fm.

KIDNAPPER (f, 3, **Red Ransom**--**Spring's Promise**, by **His Majesty**) Lifetime Record: 10-2-2-0, \$34,040. O-Henry J Krauth. B-Galbreath/Phillips Racing Partnership (KY). T-Paul Lewellyn.

4th-APX, \$18,500, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, a1mT, 1:37 1/5, fm.

NAVAJO MOVE (f, 4, **Navajo**--**Explodent Move**, by **Explodent**) Lifetime Record: 26-2-5-3, \$48,325. O-Shirley Webb. B-L. M. Webb (IL). T-Paul Darjean.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Bewitching Eyes, f, 2, **Big Mukora**--Northern Eyes, by Valet de Pied (Fr). RKM, 9-23, 6f, 1:15 1/5. B-Patricia S. & Chris Purdy (Ny).

Wigwam, f, 2, **Iron Courage**--Bungalow (MGSW, \$850,141), by Lord Avie. APX, (S), 9-23, 1m, 1:40. B-Vanier Harvey L Mr & Mrs (Il).

Guthrie, f, 2, **Lord Avie**--Gain the Bucks, by Buckaroo. FPX, 9-23, 6f, 1:12 2/5. B-Vinery (Ky). *\$30,000 yrl '95 KEESEP.

+ **Northern Temp**, f, 3, **Northern Baby**--Temphillary (MSW, \$111,831), by Temperence Hill. APX, 9-23, a1mT, 1:37 3/5. B-Hancock Arthur (Ky).

Charming Lady, f, 3, **Pleasant Colony**--Lets Do Lunch (MSW, \$237,200), by Royal Roberto. APX, (S), 9-23, 6f, 1:13. B-Hill 'n Dale Farm (Il). *1/2 to Doc's Delimma (Known Fact), MSW, \$198,050.

Odamay, f, 3, **Sportin' Life**--Await (SP), by Anticipating. PHA, 9-23, a1m 70yds (off turf), 1:46. B-Brede Ann M (Pa).

Cough'n Susan, f, 3, **Sportin' Life**--Don's Donna, by Naskra. SUF, 9-23, 1m (off turf), 1:43 2/5. B-Frank & Mary Lapos (Pa). *\$5,000 yrl '94 FTMSEP; \$14,500 2yo 1995 FTMAY.

Maureen's Dancer, f, 4, **Marshua's Dancer**--Ghost Rider, by Gray Phantom. SUF, 9-23, 6f, 1:13 1/5. B-Horn Richard (Ky). *\$5,000 yrl '93 KEESEP; \$20,000 2yo 1994 OBSMAR.

+ **Tothelimit**, f, 4, **Noon Prospect**--Conquering Blossom, by Distinctive. TDN, (S), 9-23, 6f, 1:12 2/5. B-Claridon Farm West Inc (Oh).

WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES by Alan Porter

PEDIGREE SHORTS:

DIABLO'S STORY (f, 2, **Diablo**--**Appealing Story**, by **Valid Appeal**) Diablo continues to maintain a scorching pace at the head of the Freshman Sire's table, his latest stakes winner being the GIC Natalma S. victress, Diablo's Story. Diablo and Valid Appeal both stand at Harry T. Mangurian Jr.'s Mockingbird Farm in Florida, so it is no surprise to see them together in a pedigree. There are, however, grounds for them working well together. Diablo is out of a mare by Cornish Prince (dam by Eight Thirty). Valid Appeal is a son of In Reality (inbred 3x3 to War Relic). Both Eight Thirty and War Relic have Man o' War and Friar Rock close up in their pedigrees, the interest here being that Friar Rock's parents, Rock Sand and Fairy Gold, were also two of the grandparents of Man o' War. We shouldn't leave Diablo's Story without mentioning that Valid Appeal is turning into a very smart broodmare sire, and the weekend also saw him appear as sire of the dam of the GII Kentucky Cup Sprint winner Appealing Skier.



DESERT KING (c, 2, Danehill--Sabaah, by Nureyev) With reference to Danzig, Nearctic, Petition and Alibhai, all are present in the pedigree of Danehill, whose son Desert King raced into classic contention with a narrow victory in G1 The Aga Khan Studs National S. in Ireland on Saturday. In addition to what is supplied via Danehill, Desert King is 3x3 to Northern Dancer (bringing in another cross of Nearctic), and also 4x4x4 to Natalma. It should also not be overlooked that Desert King is by a son of Danzig out of a daughter of the mare Dish Dash, and this pair are the parents of Champion miler Maroof.

EVER LASTING (f, 3, General Assembly--Durability, by Affirmed), who followed up a recent Canadian graded stakes win with a victory in the Washington Oaks, has a clever pedigree which features the three-parts sister and brother Exclusive Dancer and Exclusive Native 2x3. A very similar pattern can be observed in the pedigree of the current foal of none other than Genuine Risk, whose Chief Honcho youngster has Exclusive Dancer and Exclusive Native 2x3.

LINDSAY FROLIC (f, 4, Mt. Livermore--Cherokee Frolic, by Cherokee Fellow) In the race named for her dam, Lindsay Frolic zipped five furlongs to victory in a sparkling :56 1/5. The speedy miss is just one more good winner with the three-quarters relatives Spring Run (dam of Mt. Livermore's grandsire, Red God) and Tom Fool in opposite halves of the pedigree. We would love to know what the stakes winners to opportunity figure is for horses with any two of Spring Run, Tom Fool and Flaming Page in the pedigree. Our betting is that it would be much higher than achieved by chance.

INDIAN ROCKET (c, 2, Indian Ridge--Selvi, by Mummy's Pet) We were taken to task in the English breeding press last year for suggesting that "rags to riches" sire Indian Ridge was working because he had within the first five generations, four crosses of Fair Trail on the related Solario and Hurry On. Saturday, Indian Ridge's two-year-old Indian Rocket won the G2 Bonus Print Mill Reef S. in track record time. Interestingly, the pedigree features linebreeding to the notable mare, Farthings Damages, whose pedigree line reads--Fair Trial--Futility, by Solario. Actually, Indian Rocket has a very clever pedigree as he is also linebred to Grey Sovereign and carries Malindi, a sister to Grey Sovereign's sire, Nasrullah.

LANGFUHR (c, 4, Danzig--Sweet Briar, by Briartic) Now undefeated in six starts over seven furlongs, Langfuhr stamped himself as a genuine contender for this year's sprint championship with a decisive victory in Saturday's G1 Vosburgh S. Since Langfuhr is by Danzig out of a Canadian Grade I winning juvenile, it is not surprising that he is speedy, but his pedigree pattern causes a student of breeding hours of lost sleep.

In fact, the problem is not so much a pedigree pattern as a lack of one, an obvious one at least. Langfuhr is inbred 3x3 to Nearctic (a Champion sprinter in Canada), who appears in the male line of both sire and dam. That, however, is the only duplication in the first five generations of the pedigree and going back to the sixth adds just an extra cross of Nearctic's sire Nearco.

Usually when we find a good horse with close inbreeding, especially through son strains, there is a balancing influence somewhere in the pedigree. The pedigree of Langfuhr lacks a conspicuously obvious candidate, but a little digging allows us to put a speculative name in the frame. Danzig's second dam, Petitioner, is a daughter of Petition. Petition is rarely seen in U.S. pedigrees, but he was an outstanding English two-year-old and miler who would have been a champion had he not had the misfortune to appear in the same crop as the even more brilliant Tudor Minstrel.

The question is, what balancing function does Petition play in the pedigree of Langfuhr? Well, an admittedly somewhat speculative suggestion, is that Petition is sufficiently closely related to Nearctic (also a European-bred, though foaled in Canada) to act as a "genetic equivalent." The concept being that the daughter strain of Petition would provide some genetic balance to go with the two son strains of Nearctic. When we compare the pedigrees of Nearctic and Petition, we find that Nearctic is by a son of Pharos out of a mare by a son of Gainsborough, and Petition is by Fairway (brother of Pharos) out of a mare by a son of Gainsborough. On top of that, Nearctic and Petition both have Tracery and Desmond close up in the pedigrees of their dams, giving the pair a very similar genetic background.

Without attempting to attach too much significance to the fact, we can note that in addition to being the sire of the second dam of Danzig, Petition appears on the distaff side of such Northern Dancer line stakes winners as Baratheia, Prince of Dance and Runyon (all by Sadler's Wells), Del Deya, Casey, Kostroma and Perfect Circle (all by Caerleon), Petoski (by another son of Nijinsky, Niniski), Unfuwain, White Muzzle and Kahir Almaydan. For a variation on the theme, French Derby winner Celtic Arms is a male line descendent of Petition, and is out of a mare by a son of Northern Dancer. These examples do indicate that it is at least worth considering the potential contribution to a pedigree of the less familiar ancestors, which can easily be overlooked.

In closing, it is worth noting one other ancestor who may have contributed to the above background. This is Alibhai, who appears in the pedigree of Langfuhr's dam, through his classic winning son, Determine. Alibhai is by Hyperion (by Gainsborough) and his dam is by Tracery. Nearctic's dam, Lady Angela is by Hyperion and her dam is by a son of Tracery. Art Paper, dam of Petition is by Gainsborough out of a Tracery mare.

TRACK ABBREVIATIONS:

APX	Arlington	BEL	Belmont Park
BMX	Bay Meadows	CRC	Calder
CTX	Charles Town	DEL	Delaware Park
DET	Ladbrooke DRC	EMD	Emerald Downs
FLX	Finger Lakes	FPX	Fairplex Park
HOO	Hoosier Park	HST	Hastings Park
LAD	Louisiana Downs	MED	The Meadowlands
PEN	Penn National	PHA	Philadelphia Park
PIM	Pimlico	RET	Retama Park
RKM	Rockingham Park	RPX	Remington Park
TDN	Thistledown	TPX	Turfway Park
WDS	Woodlands	WOX	Woodbine