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NYRA ANNOUNCES 1997 STAKES

SCHEDULE A total of 141 stakes worth \$22.5 million will be offered during the Belmont Spring and Fall, Saratoga and Aqueduct Fall meets next year. The stakes schedule was approved by the New York Racing Association Board of Trustees at its regular meeting Wednesday. Together with the previously released schedule for the Aqueduct Winter and Spring meetings, the NYRA stakes program will include 183 stakes worth \$26,340,000. Twenty-five races will receive purse increases for 1997, with only one purse decreased; three stakes were eliminated and two renamed. NYRA will honor superstar **Cigar** (Palace Music) by changing the name of the GI NYRA Mile to the Cigar Mile. "We thought it was appropriate to name the race after a great champion," said NYRA Racing Secretary Mike Lakow. "It was the NYRA Mile that helped establish Cigar as a horse to reckon with, and it has always been a very competitive, quality race." Also getting a name change is the Gil Boojum H., which will now be called the Forest Hills H., and its purse will be raised \$25,000 to \$200,000. Additional purse increases include the Gil Jim Dandy, up from \$100,000 to \$250,000, and the GI Go For Wand S. up from \$175,000 to \$250,000; purses for the Flower Bowl, Forego, King's Bishop, Hempstead, Lexington, John A. Morris, Nijana, Sheepshead Bay, Tom Fool, and Vosburgh were boosted \$50,000 apiece. The purse for the Gil Suburban H. has been decreased from \$500,000 to \$350,000, and the Waya, Drumtop and Suffolk County have been dropped from the schedule. "We have taken the money saved from the Suburban and the three stakes that have been dropped for '97 and applied it towards other stakes," said Terry Meyocks, NYRA President and Chief Operating Officer. "In many cases, the raises have gone into races where we are trying to protect or improve its current grade. In other cases, we are trying to restore some traditional features." Key dates on the NYRA calendar include the GI Met Mile, May 26; GI Belmont S., June 7; GI Travers, August 23; Super Stakes Weekend, September 20 and 21; and Breeders' Cup Preview, October 18 and 19. New York Showcase Day is set for October 12.

THURSDAY'S WRAP UP Racing professionals heard first-hand reports on the impact that gaming and simulcasting have had on the industry as the 23rd annual Symposium on Racing met for a second day. While racing has traditionally opposed the growth of casinos, slot machines, and table games, speakers representing many segments of the industry expressed their views on what gaming has meant for their facilities. For tracks such as Prairie Meadows in Iowa and Dover Downs in Delaware, the introduction of slot machines on site has ushered in an entirely new era of profitability, fresh customers, and increased management challenges. "Gaming can be used as a promotional tool to get new people to the track," observed Rich Schnaars of Ellis Park. The debate reached no firm conclusions, though, as some speakers maintained that new players unfamiliar with racing would return once they saw the live product, while others were not so certain. Mike Shagan, a leading industry consultant, posed perhaps the most vexing question, when he said, "Should we be a track with casino games, or a casino with racing?" "If you know gaming is coming, and you can't stop it, should we try and change history?" insisted moderator Tom Dawson, a television producer with Winner Communications. While gaming is a relatively new challenge facing the pari-mutuel industry, a panel discussing "Simulcast Wars" took a look at how the explosion in simulcasting has reshaped the future of racing. Although total handle is up nation-wide, primarily as a result of simulcasting, on-track betting has decreased 53% since 1982. "When a track imports signals, it is just shifting handle," explained Chris Scherf, Executive VP of the Thoroughbred Racing Associations. "With too much of a shift to simulcast handle, purses will actually suffer." The dynamics of simulcasting and the financial ramifications on a track's bottom line were well illustrated by all speakers. There was much to ponder for those in racing that may feel simulcasting is a panacea to many of the industry's problems. In an upbeat announcement, officials from Lone Star Park outside of Dallas revealed that they have joined forces with The Jockey's Guild to create a National Jockey Championship event. A series of four races will be held on the evening of June 20, 1997, pitting the 12 top jockeys in the nation against one another in a competition for over \$100,000 in prize money. The 1996 Symposium on Racing continues through Friday at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson.



NTA OUTLINES STRATEGY The National Thoroughbred Association's (NTA) efforts to put racing on a par with other major sports came a step closer to fruition Thursday with the release of their preliminary business plan. The NTA is a product of Fred Pope's crusade to force racing to create a national structure and central organizing body. Pope, a Lexington, Kentucky, advertising executive, insists that only through these efforts can racing regain a significant market share in the sports and entertainment industries. Many leading owners and breeders have been recruited to the NTA cause, and the group has retained Tim Smith and Hamilton Jordan of International Sports and Entertainment Strategies to develop the business plan. Under the proposed NTA plan, participating racetracks would increase their simulcasting fees by 3% for weekend and holiday racing only. The resulting annual revenue of approximately \$70 million would be channeled through NTA "league" headquarters, much like professional basketball, football, NASCAR, and the PGA Tour. "In order to compete effectively, racing needs to centralize its media rights," insisted Smith. "This includes television and simulcasting." The NTA would pool and market racing's television rights, create an integrated national marketing and advertising campaign, standardize the look and presentation of racing through common graphics and licensing of merchandise, and provide other centralized services for the racing industry. "Our mission is to improve live racing," said Jordan. "The NTA will create new customers and grow the pie for the entire racing industry." Comments, suggestions, and recommendations from all segments of the racing industry are being encouraged by NTA leaders prior to the release of their final business plan in the spring of 1997. The National Thoroughbred Association plans to formally launch their organization in 1998.

COBRA KING TO GAINESWAY Cobra King (Farma Way), a two-time graded stakes winner at two and first in the Gill Holy Bull S. at Gulfstream earlier this year, has been retired and will stand the 1997 breeding season at Gainesway Farm in Lexington. The three-year-old, a son of the 1995 Leading Freshman Sire, took five of his eight career starts and earned \$256,825. "Cobra King is an eyeful," said Michael Herson, Gainesway's director of sales. "It is rare you see a colt this big and strong who had so much speed as a two-year-old. His victory over Hennessy in the Hollywood Prevue was awesome." The colt is scheduled to be syndicated, with both Gary Biszantz, who raced him, and Gainesway maintaining significant interest. Cobra King will stand for a fee of \$5,000, live foal.

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TURF PUBLICISTS ELECT FIRST FEMALE

PRESIDENT Julie Sarno of Del Mar Thoroughbred Club was elected the first female president of the Turf Publicists of America (TPA) Tuesday, announced outgoing president Jim Peden. The TPA election resulted in a tie for president between Sarno and Dan Metzger of Breeders' Cup Limited. As a result, the TPA changed its bylaws, appointing Sarno president and naming Metzger president-elect. He will assume the duties of president next year. "We are delighted by the bylaws change," Peden said. "In future years, this will add continuity toward furthering our initiatives and programs." Lynne Snierson was elected vice president of the East, Damon Thayer of the Midwest, Mike Mooney of the West and Tony Terry Vice President at Large. Conrad W Sobkowiak was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

◆ PREVIEW ◆

Saturday, Hollywood Park:

HOLLYWOOD STARLET S.-GI, \$150,000, 2yo, f, 8.5f

The field of eight juvenile fillies, in order of the draw, will be: **Wealthy** (Regal Classic), **City Band** (Carson City), **Sharp Cat** (Storm Cat), **High Heeled Hope** (Salt Lake), **Dove Shell** (Pleasant Tap), **Queen Of Money** (Corporate Report), **Critical Factor** (Star de Naskra) and **Cerita** (Magisterial). All carry 120 pounds.

Sunday, Hollywood Park:

HOLLYWOOD FUTURITY-GI, \$250,000a, 2yo, 1 1/16m

Robynhood (Robyn Dancer) worked three furlongs over a sloppy main track Thursday in :39 1/5. **Steel Ruhl** (Ruhlmann), second in the Gill Generous, breezed four furlongs in :50 3/5, also on Thursday.

◆ EAST ◆

Wednesday's Late Result:

6th-WOX, \$23,100, Alw, 12-11, 2yo, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5, ft.

ONE FAST FLIGHT (c, 2, Air Forbes Won--Lippet, by Prince John), third in the Display S. (GIIC) at Woodbine in his last outing Nov. 24, stepped down in company here and was sent off the 4-5 choice. The 1/2-brother to Val d'Arno (G1-NZ, MGSP-Aus, by *Vaguely Noble) forced the pace early, took command on the backstretch and led the rest of the way for a 1 3/4-length victory. Lifetime Record: SP, 5-2-0-2, \$39,969.

O-Ralph R. Anderson. B-Noel Rebick (CAN). T-Janet Bedford.



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◆ NEW YORK ◆

Yesterday's Results:

8th-AQU, \$35,000, Alw, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:45 1/5, ft.

POCKET BRUSH (f, 3, Broad Brush--Dearest Indu {SW}, by Full Pocket) won her debut at Belmont in June, but was unable to make a return trip to the winner's circle in four subsequent outings, including a dull seventh in her most recent start Nov. 27. The 5-2 second choice split horses to take control at midstretch and drew off to win by two lengths. The winner is a half sister to Proudest Romeo (Proud Truth, GSP, \$205,445). Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-2, \$47,819.

O-Jayaraman Devi & Kalarikkal K. B-Dr. K. K. Jayaraman & Dr. Vilasini Jayaraman (KY). T-L Jolley.

◆ SO. CALIFORNIA ◆

Yesterday's Results:

8th-HOL, \$37,050, Alw, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f (off turf), 1:03 3/5, my.

MEADOW MISCHIEF (g, 5, Meadowlake--Bold 'n Determined {MGISW, \$949,599}, by Bold and Brave) followed a second in an Oct. 11 Santa Anita allowance with a fourth in an \$80,000 claiming race in his turf debut last out Nov. 15. Sent off the 4-5 favorite after the race was taken off the turf, the gelding dueled for the early lead, took a narrow advantage at midstretch and scored by two lengths. Lifetime Record: 10-3-2-1, \$89,646.

O-Emerald Meadows Ranch. B-Corbin J. Robertson, (KY). T-Wallace Dollase.

6th-HOL, \$33,000, Msw, 2yo, 1 1/16m, 1:44, my. **PACIFICBOUNTY** (c, 2, Pirate's Bounty--Fast Katie, by Fast) improved to third in his first try at this distance, last time out Nov. 17. The colt, sent off the 3-1 second choice, took the lead with an inside move at the top of the stretch and drove clear to win by four lengths over even-money choice EFFECT (Halo). Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$23,975.

O-Bear & Grey & Sinkoff. B-Ocean Air Stables (CA). T-Walter Greenman.

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-HAW, \$35,952, 3yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:43 2/5, sy.

JULIE MIS (f, 4, Miswaki--Smiling Neatly {SW, \$181,217}, by Neater) Lifetime Record: MSP, 16-5-6-0, \$118,947. O/B-Richard Otto (IL). T-David L Maclean. *1/2 to Smile N' Dance (Gate Dancer), SW, \$141,766.

9th-AQU, \$33,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.

EMBRACE ME DARLIN (c, 3, Embrace the Wind--Donna's Darlin, by Nehoc's Bullet) Lifetime Record: 15-2-1-4, \$58,360. O-Calagni & Mustone & Pascuma. B-Ronald & Debra Breed, et al. (NY). T-Warren J Pascuma. *1/2 to Darlin Momma (Night Invader), MSW, \$236,266.

7th-AQU, \$33,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11, ft.

DOUBLE POSITIVE (c, 3, Double Negative--Wonderous Steffie {MSP}, by Steve's Friend) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$49,739. O-Double R Stable & Iselin & Kaufman. B-James H. Iselin (NY). T-Richard Stoklosa. *1/2 to Crafty Tenderoni (Crafty Prospector), SW, \$228,377.

9th-TPX, \$30,300, 12-11, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft.

KLAIR ALLEY (f, 3, Well Decorated--Claire Stevens, by Lt. Stevens) Lifetime Record: 9-4-2-1, \$86,670. O/B-Mereworth Farm (KY). T-Michael A Tammaro.

8th-MED, \$30,000, 12-11, 3yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:41 4/5, sy.

BIG LOUIE (g, 3, Proof--Happy Hanne, by Circle Home) Lifetime Record: 8-4-0-1, \$73,190. O-Edward M Kensicki. B-Louis Jolin (NJ). T-Deborah S Bodner. *1/2 to Hay Hanne (SW, \$168,810, by Hay Halo).

7th-GGX, \$25,000, 2yo, 1 1/16m, 1:43 2/5, my.

DANCER'S KOLO (c, 2, Diamond Sword--Baruna, by *Grey Dawn II) Lifetime Record: MSP, 10-2-1-4, \$58,484. O-Anthony Tomlenovich. B-Lee R. Oakford, (CAN). T-John Terry Marshall.

9th-FGX, \$25,000, 3yo/up, a1 1/16mT, 1:45 2/5, fm. **WININANINSTANT** (c, 4, Instant Dancer--Peggy's Lib, by Canadian Gil) Lifetime Record: 21-6-5-2, \$103,485. O-Green Gold Stable & Kennely & Stidham. B-Fred Martin (WA). T-Michael Stidham.

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8th-TPX, \$24,790, 12-11, 3/up, f/m, 1m, 1:39 1/5, ft. **STORM BOUND** (f, 3, Storm Brewing--Bound Forever, by Timeless Moment) Lifetime Record: 8-3-1-0, \$35,610. O-William Stricker. B-West Wind Farms (KY). T-Frank Castelluccio.

7th-HAW, \$24,012, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 4/5, sy. **SILKEN SCREAMER** (f, 3, Awamasa--Bosses Way, by Boss Hoss) Lifetime Record: 11-5-1-1, \$67,155. O-Silken Stable. B-Kenneth Fishbein (AR). T-C Bettis.

3rd-HAW, \$23,000, (S), 3/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:45, sy. **SLIGHT AT NIGHT** (f, 3, Executive Order--Work At Dawn, by Hard Work) Lifetime Record: 17-4-3-3, \$68,855. O-Y Stable Inc. B-South River Ranch, Inc. (IL). T-Michael W Nance. *Full to Slight in the Rear, MSW, \$148,602.

5th-CRC, \$22,500, 2yo, f, a1 1/16T, 1:47 4/5, fm. **REGAL APPROVAL** (f, 2, With Approval--Regal Princess {MSW, \$245,677}, by Royal and Regal) Lifetime Record: 9-2-2-1, \$35,960. O/B-F W Hooper (FL). T-William Cesare. *Full to With a Princess, MSP, \$117,474.

8th-WOX, \$21,000, 12-11, 3/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:19 1/5, ft. **GREY RHAPSODY** (f, 3, Matter of Honor--Grey Rap, by Take the Rap) Lifetime Record: 12-4-2-2, \$40,661. O/T-Cindi Parkhill. B-John H. Syrett (CAN).

7th-FGX, \$21,000, 2yo, c/g, a1mT, 1:41 3/5, fm. **OBEX** (c, 2, Belek--Battle Sign, by Full Out) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-0, \$21,820. O-Joseph T Segura. B-Segura Farm (LA). T-Patrick Mouton.

7th-MED, \$20,000, 12-11, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10 4/5, sy. **FAMILY TRIES** (g, 6, Family Doctor--Tri Pleasure, by Tri Jet) Lifetime Record: 49-6-4-7, \$70,899. O-DJ Stable. B-Farnsworth Farms (FL). T-Joseph Orseno. *1/2 to Maudlin's Sunny (MSP, \$182,160, by Maudlin).

9th-CRC, \$18,700, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:50 3/5, ft. **AUNT PIA** (f, 3, Sejm--Atlanta Call, by Flip Sal) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$27,015. O-Maryda Stable. B-Jon A. Marshall (FL). T-Kate A Francy.

10th-CRC, \$18,000, 3yo/up, a1 1/16mT, 1:43 4/5, fm. **UNCLE ALBIE** (c, 3, Opening Verse--Allegedly, by Sir Ivor) Lifetime Record: 13-3-2-2, \$73,065. O-Klaravich Stables. B-Milton P. Higgins III & Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman (Md). T-Gary Sciacca. *1/2 to Per Quod (Lyllos {Fr}), MGSW-Ity, GSW-Eng, MG1SP-Ger, MGSP-Fr, \$343,223-Eng, Fr & U.S.; and Suspect Terrain (Corridor Key), GSW, \$266,863.

8th-CRC, \$17,500, 2yo, f, a1 1/16T, 1:46 1/5, fm. **RED RIDGE RUNNER** (f, 2, Nova Scotia--Lloyd Biron, by Halo) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, \$26,425. O-Hidden Point Farm & Kamins Kathy. B-V. J. Ziolkowski (KY). T-J Bert Sonnier. *Full to Sovacianto, MSW, \$180,474.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Scarlet Ribbons, f, 2, Buddy--Barely On Time, by Northjet (Ire). HAW, 12-12, (S), 6f, 1:14 3/5. B-R S Kaster, N A Kaster, Et Al (IL). *1/2 to Meadowtime (Meadowlake), GSP, \$112,211.

Yamatake, f, 2, Cozzene--Southern Morning (SW), by Morning Bob. HAW, 12-12, a1m70yd, 1:44 4/5. B-Yamamota William (Ky).

Fountain Square, f, 2, Danzig Connection--Whitesburg Express (MSP, \$180,306), by Whitesburg. TPX, 12-11, 1 1/16m, 1:46 4/5. B-Gary Billy Joe (Ky).

One Eighty Twice, c, 2, Hilal (Ire)--Ubetchum Red Ryder (SW), by Red Ryder. 1/16m, 1:45 1/5. B-Leonard Robert (Fl).

Shrowds of Glory, c, 2, Jade Hunter--Breech (SW), by Relaunch. FGX, 12-12, 1m, 1:40. B-Mack W L (Ky). + **Joe K's Texas**, f, 2, Mr. J. C.'s Mons--Pink Jade's Love, by Partez. FGX, 12-12, (S), 6f, 1:13. B-Lester Joe K Dr (La).

Pacificbounty, c, 2, Pirate's Bounty--Fast Katie, by Fast. HOL, 12-12, 1 1/16m, 1:44. B-Ocean Air Stables (Ca).

Soundslikethunder, c, 2, Thunder Puddles--Nimble Star, by Noble Nashua. AQU, 12-12, (S), 1 1/16m, 1:47. B-Flying Zee Stables (Ny).

Noir Velours, f, 2, Tunerup--Island Logic, by *Hawaii. WOX, 12-11, 6 1/2f, 1:19 2/5. B-Norman Casse (Fl). *1/2 to Ocean Breeze (MSW, \$127,568, by Blade).

Take Aim, c, 2, Wesham--Shoot It Out (SP), by Wolfgang. MED, 12-11, 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-James W. Casey (Va). *Full to Gotcha Cornered (SW, \$139,964).

Claim Ticket, f, 3, Claim--La Zenda, by Zen. TPX, 12-12, 6 1/2f, 1:19. B-Littrell Rick (Ky).

Prize Baby, f, 3, Prized--Mirth (SP), by Northern Baby. HOL, (S), 12-12, 1 1/16m, 1:45. B-Three D Stables (Ca). *\$35,000 yrl '94 KESEP; \$37,000 2yo 1995 BESMAR; \$20,000 2yo 1996 BESNOV.

+ **O'Reilly's Chorus**, f, 3, Solo Chorus--Mrs. O'Reilly, by What Luck. AQU, 12-12, 6f, 1:11 4/5. B-L Picarello & M J Picarello (Ny). *Won by 8.

Divestita, f, 3, The Miller (Fr)--Divest, by Beau's Eagle. HOL, 12-12, 6 1/2f, 1:19 2/5. B-Dwyer Austin (Ca).

Grand Approval, f, 3, With Approval--Grand Creation (SW, \$226,439), by Sauce Boat. AQU, 12-12, 1 1/16m, 1:46 2/5. B-Live Oak Stud (Can).

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