

**MORE SURGERY FOR SLEW** Seattle Slew has been removed from stud service indefinitely after examinations revealed further spinal cord compression which will require surgery, according to owner and syndicate manager Mickey Taylor. A physical examination was performed yesterday by Dr. Barrie Grant at Three Chimneys Farm, and the stallion was later taken to Rood & Riddle for X-rays and a myelogram. Those tests revealed compression between the fifth and sixth vertebrae, and more between the fourth and fifth.

Two years ago, Dr. Grant performed surgery to relieve compression between the sixth and seventh vertebrae, and an examination of that area yesterday showed the Bagby Basket fusion to still be what was described as "quite successful."

A statement to season and shareholders issued by Taylor and Three Chimneys stated, "Dr. Grant and his San Luis Rey Equine Hospital team performed back surgery on Seattle Slew in April of 2000. He recommends, for the long-term comfort of the horse, that an anterior inter-body fusion [the previous procedure] be performed on the horse. We contemplate surgery in the next few days, which will be performed [as before] at Rood & Riddle. Naturally, there is risk involved with surgery, but we wish to be certain we have done everything possible to make Slew comfortable. Seattle Slew is being removed from service indefinitely and his return, if ever, to service will depend upon what is in the best interests of the horse. Dr. Grant, however, advises that the minimum recovery time from surgery of this sort is six to eight weeks, so we advise you make alternative breeding plans with that in mind." *Cont. p2*



Seattle Slew Tony Leonard photo

### UNDERSTUDIES HOPE TO SHINE IN BIG 'CAP

What if you threw a million-dollar party and not a single U.S. Grade I winner showed up? Without an established star in sight, a field of 14 was entered yesterday for Saturday's GI Santa Anita H. at Santa Anita Park. If all go postward, it will be the most populated Big 'Cap since Bates Motel won the 1983 renewal. Earlier in the week, Bobby Frankel was forced to withdraw his top gun Mizzen Mast, but the trainer will still send out the morning-line favorites for the race after the Stronach Stable's entry of **Milwaukee Brew** (Wild Again) and **Euchre** (Personal Flag) was installed at 7-2. Frankel has had nine starters in the Santa Anita H., but has never won Santa Anita's signature event for older horses. The Hall of Famer's best finish was Triteamtri's second-place effort in 1989. Milwaukee Brew's only start this year was a sixth-place effort in the Feb. 10 Whirlaway H.. Euchre narrowly lost the Jan. 5 GII San Pasqual, finishing second by a head to Wooden Phone, and was runner-up again in the Feb. 3 GII San Antonio last time out. Also coming into the Santa Anita H. off a string of second-place finishes is **Giant Gentleman** (Montbrook). At 5-1 on the morning line, the four-year-old was second behind Mizzen Mast in the Dec. 26 GI Malibu and he chased that one home again in the Feb. 2 GII Strub last time out. DQ'd from an apparent victory in the GI Hollywood Gold Cup **Futural** (Future Storm) sidelined for six months after a sixth-place finish in the GI Pacific Classic. He returned to finish third in a one-mile allowance at Santa Anita Feb. 9. "He got a little tired in his last race," said jockey Chris McCarron, admitting the six-year-old was "about 75 percent" for that start. "He put in a good effort, but when he got to the eighth pole, I could feel that he wasn't going to really gain much on the leaders. He started to get a little tired. I expect a lot more of him on Saturday." Futural, 9-2 on the morning line, signaled he was ready for bigger things with a bullet work at Hollywood Sunday in 1:11.80. "I was impressed with his work," McCarron said. "He had a lot of energy, he did it very comfortably and he galloped out well. He acted like he was moving forward after his last race instead of backwards." With sunny skies and temperatures expected in the mid 70s, Saturday looks like a perfect time for one of these 14 to take center stage. *Field, p2*



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### Look at the Pedigree

by Mr. Prospector, out of Breeders' Cup Champion Dance Smartly  
full brother to champions Scatter the Gold and Dancethruthedawn

### Look at How the Yearlings Sold

up to \$325,000

### Look for his first 2yos to race this year

**DANCE  
BRIGHTLY**



## ☆ GULFSTREAM ☆

**NO PIMLICO SPECIAL FOR 2002** The Maryland Jockey Club stakes schedule for 2002 does not include the Pimlico Special. The omission of the Grade I event from the calendar is one of the compromises the MJC has agreed to as part of a four-year deal signed with the Maryland Horsemen's Association. The deal resolves long-standing issues concerning live racing dates and the state's stakes program. "It was never our intention to drop the Pimlico Special, but it was of paramount importance to the horsemen that we do so because of the loss of the subsidy," Lou Raffetto, chief operating officer of the MJC, said. "However, we have a signed agreement that guarantees its renewal in 2003, regardless of the dollars available for the purses." The Maryland state legislature, for the past two years, has declined to approve a purse supplement for Thoroughbred racing because of disputes within the industry. That infighting appears to have been resolved with the current agreement. As for the decision to temporarily eliminate the Pimlico Special from the schedule, Alan Foreman, legal counsel to the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, told the *Daily Racing Form*, "The alternative would have been to cut nine more stakes or racing days. We did not think that was in the best interests of racing. And the Special was an obvious target because, outside of the Preakness, no other race puts up that much money at one shot."

### Mongoose Works at Payson Park:

**Mongoose** (Broad Brush), winner of the GI Donn H. in his last start, worked five furlongs at Payson Park on Monday in 1:01, according to trainer Jim Bond. Stablemate **Ubiquity** (Colonial Affair) went the same distance in 1:03 on Tuesday. "Both horses are doing very well after working earlier this week," Bond said. "I'll probably point toward the [Mar. 30 GI] Gulfstream Park H. for them, but take a look at the [Apr. 6 GI] Oaklawn H. as well."

### Yesterday's Results:

**9th-GPX, \$38,000, Alw, 4yo/up, a1mT, 1:39 2/5, fm. FLAMIN' JOLIE (h, 5, Fire Maker--Pleasant Jolie {MSW & MGSP, \$251,952}, by Pleasant Colony), never worse than third on the turf, strung together three consecutive wins in Chicago last fall, culminating with a 5 3/4-length score at Hawthorne Nov. 23. Given some time to acclimate to South Florida, the Appleton homebred led late in his 11-furlong comeback Jan. 23 but was caught on the line by Lodge Hill and settled for second. Favored at 2-1 this time, the dark bay was unhurried in the early going, charged five wide into the stretch, took over a furlong from home and held off Blending Swords (Sword Dance {Ire}) to win by a nose. The winner is out of a half sister to MGISW Jolie's Halo. Lifetime Record: 9-4-3-1, \$95,120.**  
O/B-Arthur I Appleton (FL). T-Mickey A Goldfine.

**6th-GPX, \$38,000, Alw, 4yo/up, a1mT, 1:40 1/5, fm. MEGANTIC (c, 4, Theatrical {Ire}--Jade Flush {GSW & GISP, \$481,518}, by Jade Hunter) broke his maiden over this turf course about a year ago and added allowance wins going 11 furlongs over the Saratoga lawn Aug. 16 and at 10 panels over the Belmont grass course Sept. 8. Tested for class in his last trip to the pose, the dark bay disputed the pace, but faded to fourth in the GIII Lawrence Realization H. in Elmont Oct. 13. Settled in midpack behind tepid early fractions, he moved up four wide outside second choice Whitton Court (Ire) (Cardoun {Fr}) into the lane and kicked in late to defeat that rival by three parts of a length as the 11-10 favorite. Lifetime Record: 8-4-2-1, \$130,640.**  
O-Brushwood Stable. B-Allen E Paulson (KY). T-William I Mott.

**STAKES CLOSINGS**

**TODAY, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28:**

03-10 \$750,000 *Louisiana Derby-II, FG, 3yo, 8.5f (2500)*

04-06 \$750,000 *Santa Anita Derby-I, SA, 3yo, 9f (2500)*

**TOMORROW, FRIDAY, MARCH 1:**

05-27 \$500,000 *Shoemaker Breeders' Cup Mile-I, Hol, 3yo/up, 8fT (500)*

05-27 \$500,000 *Gamely Breeders' Cup H.-I, Hol, 3yo/up, f/m, 9fT (500)*

07-14 \$750,000 *Hollywood Gold Cup-I, Hol, 3yo/up, 10f (1000)*


07-14 \$500,000 *Swaps-II, Hol, 3yo, 9f (500)*



Click here to watch the [Gulfstream replays](#)



## BREEDERS' CUP STAKES CLOSINGS

	CLOSES	TRACK	RACE	CONDITIONS	PURSE	RUNS
	2-28	GP	Gulfstream Park BC Sprint Championship (GII)	3yo/up, 7f	\$200,000	3-9
	3-7	GG	Golden Gate Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3yo/up, 1 1/8mT	\$200,000	3-16
	3-7	OP	Oaklawn Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m	\$200,000	3-16
	3-7	FG	Pelleteri Breeders' Cup H.	3yo/up, 6f	\$150,000	3-17

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### INITIAL FOOT-AND-MOUTH TESTS NEGATIVE

Fears that foot-and-mouth disease had been found in a farm in Yorkshire on Tuesday have been eased by negative initial blood tests. Although the final results will not be known for three days, samples taken from two sheep on a North Yorkshire farm in Thirsk showed no sign of the disease yesterday. Having severely affected the farming industry and racing industry last year, Britain has been disease clear for six weeks.

## ★ BRITAIN ★

### TRAINERS RECEIVE 'ALL CLEAR' FROM JC

Following random drug-testing at five national hunt yards carried out on Tuesday, trainers received the 'all-clear' yesterday. Blood tests taken from more than 350 horses in the stables of Martin Pipe, Paul Nicholls, Venetia Williams, Len Lungo and Alan Jones all returned negative for the prohibitive substance erythropoietin (EPO). Pipe, commenting yesterday on the Jockey Club investigation, condemned the unannounced checks: "I am totally unsurprised that everything is in perfect order. I don't think it's done racing any good at all, personally, as it comes across to the public as if something has been going on--you don't have a dawn raid for nothing. They disrupted the yard and weren't particularly helpful." John Maxse, spokesman for the Jockey Club, said: "It is wrong to say that the Jockey Club was heavy-handed yesterday, and I would also emphasise that we received excellent cooperation from all the trainers and all the staff involved. Unannounced testing is a procedure which is already common-place in all the other main European countries and it is a procedure that we will be adopting for all future testing in training in this country. We will continue to sample and look for the presence of EPO. I accept that today's papers were alarmist, but in 24 hours we have been able to publish that 408 samples--eight percent of the horses in national hunt training--have tested clear for EPO and that's an extremely good thing to be able to say when the shadow of that drug hangs over so many other sports."

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### SAKHEE IS TIMEFORM CHAMPION

**Sakhee (USA)** (Bahri {USA}) emerges as Timeform's top-rated horse of 2001 on 136 pounds. Godolphin's five-year-old, who won the G1 Juddmonte International S. at York in August, G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp before finishing second in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Belmont Park, eclipsed stable companion **Fantastic Light (USA)** (Rahy {USA}) by two pounds. Timeform's *Racehorses of 2001*, published on Saturday, describes his Arc performance as "a magnificent display by a well above-average Arc winner," adding that, "it will take another exceptional horse to beat him over a mile and a quarter or a mile and a half, whatever the surface."



### Yesterday's Results:

**1.40 Lingfield, betdirect.co.uk Maiden S. (Class D) (Div. 1), £3,940, 3yo/up, 1m (AWT), 1:41.74, std. MAID FOR FREEDOM (USA) (f, 4, Tremolino {USA}--Spectacular Native {USA}), by Spectacular Bid {USA}), sent off at odds of 3-1, raced in third on the rail early as Light of Aragon (GB) (Aragon {GB}) set the pace. Patiently ridden, the gap arrived at the top of the straight and the \$20,000 KEENOV weanling purchase quickened through to lead with 200 yards remaining. Pushed out from there, the full to Trample (USA), MSW & MGSP-US, \$174,470, went clear before being eased to a two-length success from Digdaga (USA) (Machia-vellian {USA}). Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, £2,758. O-Chris Brasher; B-Dan Turner; T-Gerard Butler; J-Steve Drowne.**

**2.10 Lingfield, betdirect.co.uk Maiden S. (Class D) (Div. 2), £3,940, 3yo/up, 1m (AWT), 1:39.43, std. ROYAL PRODIGY (USA) (c, 3, Royal Academy {USA}--Prospector's Queen {USA}), by Mr. Prospector {USA}), sent off the heavily-backed 2-7 favourite, was drawn wide and grabbed the lead as he moved over to the rail. With his rivals in trouble past the halfway marker, the half to Southern Rhythm (USA) (Dixieland Band {USA}), GSW-US, \$224,155, was sent into a clear lead before being eased to a facile four-length success. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, £3,893. O-Crazy Radio Ltd; B-Bertram N Linder; T-Jeremy Nosedá; J-Daryll Holland.**

**HERNANDO**

£7,500 (1st Oct. Conditions)

**SELKIRK**

£30,000 (1st Oct. Conditions)

**ZILZAL**

£5,000 (1st Oct. Conditions)

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