

GODOLPHIN FLEXES MUSCLES IN THE DESERT

Godolphin strengthened its hand for the Mar. 23 Dubai World Cup card when both **Street Cry (Ire)** (Machiavellian) and **Essence of Dubai** (Pulpit) captured their respective 2002 debuts last night at Nad al Sheba. Four-year-old Street Cry will now point for the G1 Dubai World Cup after dominating his rivals in the G2 Maktoum Challenge - Round III. A solid juvenile in the U.S., he had been Godolphin's leading contender for the Kentucky Derby last year, winning the UAE Guineas and finishing second in the G3 UAE Derby. A injury kept him out of the Run for the Roses, and he didn't resurface until Oct. 31, when he was the runner-up in the GIII Discovery H. at Aqueduct. Trying 10 furlongs for the first time, the dark bay colt put a head in front with a quarter mile to go and widened his advantage down the stretch. Street Cry stopped the clock in 2:01.25, a tick better than stablemate **Sakhee** (Bahri) did in his return to action last Sunday. "We are absolutely delighted with that," said Godolphin's racing manager Simon Crisford. "He will improve a little bit more for that and is a top-class prospect for the Dubai World Cup. Both he and Sakhee will be a potent force for us." One race earlier on the card, **Essence of Dubai** outbattled stablemate **Firebreak (GB)** (Charnwood Forest {Ire}) to take the G3 UAE 2000 Guineas. The pair settled in midfield in the early stages and made their challenges at the same time. They raced in tandem down the stretch, with Essence of Dubai getting to the wire a nose in front of the G2 Mill Reef S. winner. A \$2.3-million yearling purchase, Essence of Dubai captured his debut at Hollywood last July before running third to Officer in the GIII Best Pal S. The dark bay son of champion Epitome stretched to a mile in his next start, winning the GII Norfolk S., but didn't fare as well in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, finishing last of 12.



Street Cry at 2

☆ RESULTS ☆

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai

MAKTOUM CHALLENGE ROUND III-G2, Dhs350,000, 3yo/up, 2000m, 2:01.25, ft.

1--#**@STREET CRY (IRE)**, 128, c, 4, by Machiavellian

1st Dam: Helen Street (GB) (G1SW-Ire, GSW-Fr & G1SP-GB, \$186,685), by Troy (GB)

2nd Dam: Waterway (Fr), by Riverman

3rd Dam: Boulevard (Ire), by Pall Mall (GB)

O-Godolphin; B-Sh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum; T-S bin Suroor; J-L Dettori; Dhs210,000. Lifetime Record: GISP-US, 9-3-5-1, \$884,125.

2--**State Shinto**, 128, h, 6, Pleasant Colony--Sha Tha, by Mr. Prospector. O-Sh Rashid bin Mohammed al Maktoum; B-Darley Stud Mgmt Inc; Dhs70,000.

3--**Royal Tryst**, 128, h, 5, Kingmambo--In on the Secret, by Secretariat. (\$400,000 yrl '98 KEESEP). O-Sh Hamdan bin Mohammed al Maktoum; B-Earl H Shultz; Dhs35,000.

Margins: 8HF, HF, 4HF.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai

UAE 2000 GUINEAS-G3, \$250,000, 3yo, 1600m, 1:36.60, ft.

1--**ESSENCE OF DUBAI**, 125, c, 3, by **Pulpit**

1st Dam: Epitome (Ch. 2yo Filly, GISW, \$631,775), by Summing

2nd Dam: Honest and True, by Mr. Leader

3rd Dam: Tell Meno Lies, by The Axe II

(\$2,300,000 yrl '00 KEESEP). O-Godolphin; B-Jonabell Farm Inc Et Al; T-S bin Suroor; J-F Dettori; \$150,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-US, 5-3-0-1, \$343,200. *1/2 to Faltaat (Mr. Prospector), Hwt. Older Horse-UAE at 5-7f, MSW-UAE; and Danjur (Dayjur), SW-US.

2--**Firebreak (GB)**, 125, c, 3, Charnwood Forest (Ire)--Breakaway (GB), by Song (GB). (27,000gns yrl '00 TATOCT; 525,000gns 2yo '01 TATAUT). O-Godolphin; B-R P Williams; \$50,000.

3--**State City**, 125, c, 3, Carson City--Wajna, by Nureyev. O-S M R M; B-Darley Stud Mgmt LLC; \$25,000.

Margins: NO, 2 1/4, 1 3/4.

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☆ GULFSTREAM ☆

On the Work Tab:

The winner of the 2000 GI Florida Derby, **Hal's Hope** (Jolie's Halo) worked five furlongs in 1:00 4/5 at Calder Race Course in preparation for the GIII Creme Fraiche H. at Gulfstream Mar. 10. "I got just about what I was looking for with this morning's work, so [the Creme Fraiche] is what we're pointing for," said the five-year-old's trainer Hal Rose. Also making a morning appearance was **Sir Bear** (Sir Leon), winner of the GIII Skip Away H. earlier this year. The nine-year-old breezed a half-mile in :49 4/5 at Calder Race Course while tuning up for the GI Gulfstream Park H. Mar. 30. "Yes sir, he's still on schedule," trainer Ralph Zaidie said following the gelding's morning move. Sir Bear is attempting a repeat win in this year's running of the 1 1/4-mile event.

Yesterday's Results:

9th-GPX, \$38,000, Alw, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT, 1:53 2/5, fm.

GOLDEN CORONA (f, 4, **Gulch**--**My Marchesa** {SW, \$132,996}, by **Stately Don**) reeled off three straight allowance wins last summer at Woodbine before finishing a distant third in an optional claiming event over the same turf course Nov. 1. Following a dull seventh last time in a Gulfstream allowance Jan. 26, the half to Daiwa Carson (Carson City), GSW-Jpn, \$495,701, was let go at 6-1 odds here. Far back early, the chestnut rallied four wide on the far turn, took over at the eighth pole and was all out to hold off second choice **Sluice** (Seeking the Gold) by a length. Lifetime Record: 12-4-1-1, \$150,997.

O/B-Stronach Stables (KY). T-Joseph Orseno.

7th-GPX, \$34,000, Alw, 4yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:42 4/5, ft. WENDOVER (c, 4, **Unbridled--Majestic Legend** {SW, \$200,853}, by **His Majesty**), a half to Binalegend (Binalong), MSW, \$288,245, stretched to a route after a couple of solid efforts going seven furlongs. He was second Jan. 5 in his first race back from a two-month break, then overcame a rough trip Feb. 4 to finish third. Breaking from post 10 here, the 7-1 shot was placed well back early, found daylight between horses on the far turn, then responded to heavy urging in deep stretch to tenaciously fend off **Parrot Bay** (A.P. Indy) and score by 3/4 length. Lifetime Record: 14-2-3-2, \$84,979. O/B-James B Tafel (KY). T-Carl A Nafzger.

8th-GPX, \$32,000, Msw, 4yo, f, 7f, 1:24, ft. ZURITA (f, 4, **Storm Bird--Air Port Won** {GSP, \$150,130}, by **Shawklit Won**), a \$97,000 KEENOV weanling, took some money in her debut Feb. 11, finishing second after an inside trip at odds of 5-1. The bettors again took notice after a nice four-furlong work in :47 2/5 a week before this one and sent the chestnut postward as the 9-5 favorite. Laying a length off the leader through sensible fractions of :22 3/5, :45 4/5 and 1:11 1/5, the persistent filly caught **Ravish Me** (Wild Again) at the sixteenth pole and went on to win by 1 1/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$25,280. O-L Hechavarria. B-C Blackey & M Anchel (KY). T-B Tagg.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, 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)**

TOMORROW, SATURDAY, MARCH 2:

03-17 \$200,000 **Gotham-III, Aqu, 3yo, 8f (200)**



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BARRIER SPIRIT

G1 Blue Diamond Stakes winner **Bel Esprit (Aus)** (Royal Academy {USA}), now 3-1 early favorite for the G1 Golden Slipper Mar. 23 at Rosehill, is set to barrier trial at Bendigo next Thursday as required by Victorian stewards. Bel Esprit is unbeaten in five starts, but his reluctance to enter the barriers before last Saturday's Blue Diamond gave stewards no option but to order a trial to test his barrier manners. Connections must pay a A\$110,000 late-entry fee by Mar. 18 if the two-year-old is to take his place in the Slipper field, and trainer John Symons said the Slipper would be his next outing. "The trial will top him off," said Symons. "The horse is fit now; being a two-year-old, he doesn't need a lot."

SUDURKA TO WAIKATO

Fresh from a victory in last Saturday's G1 Oakleigh Plate at Caulfield, **Sudurka (Aus)** (Perugino {USA}--My Sparkling Star {Aus}, by Copper Kingdom {USA}) will enter stud at New Zealand's Waikato Stud. A fee has not yet been announced. Sudurka had previously captured the G1 Salinger S.; he was the first horse since 1970 to complete the Salinger-Oakleigh double. His dam, the Group-placed My Sparkling Star, is a full sister to G1SW My Brilliant Star (Aus). "I would have to rate him up with the very best horses I have trained," said his conditioner Brian Mayfield-Smith. "His ability and attitude must make him a real chance at stud."

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★ FRANCE ★

FLAT GETS UNDERWAY

Maisons-Laffitte stages the first card of the flat 2002 season in Paris today. Centre stage will be defending champion jockey Dominique Boeuf, who has a total of six rides in the seven-race card. Christophe Soumillon, recently returned from Macau where he rode 29 winners over the winter, has five mounts. Highlight of the card is the Prix Volandry, an allowance event over a mile. This sees the return of **Greengroom (Fr)** (Green Tune {USA}), winner of last year's Listed Prix Djebel at Longchamp in April.

Yesterday's Results:

2.00 Marseille-Borely, Prix de Nice (Cond), €20,000, 3yo, 1 1/4mT, 2:04.03, gd.

MANGROVE (FR) (c, 3, **Bering {GB}**--**Langoustiere {Fr}**, by **In the Wings {GB}**) broke smartly from the gate and soon went to the front at a good pace in advance of **Ayalle (Ire)** (Alzao {USA}). The 12-5 second choice was pushed along soon after turning for home, was two lengths clear at the eighth pole and cruised to the wire thereafter to maintain that advantage over 9-10 favourite **Ayalle**. Lifetime Record: 6 starts, 3 wins, 2 places, €29,519.

O/B-Jean-Claude Seroul; T-Julie Laurent-Joye; J-Gregoire Elorriaga-Santos.

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Upcoming Group Races

Date	Race	Course
Mar. 9	G3 Prix Exbury	Saint-Cloud
Mar. 30	G3 Prix Edmond Blanc	Saint-Cloud
Mar. 31	G2 Prix d'Harcourt	Longchamp

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