

**SNOWSTORM KO'S
EAST COAST RACING
p1, Around The World**

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SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 2003

QUALITY ASSEMBLY AT DEAUVILLE

On the heels of a successful Tattersalls auction, Agence Francaise will host their three-day breeding stock sale beginning today at Deauville. Included amongst the catalogue of 628 mares, foals, yearlings and fillies in or out of training are the ever-popular drafts from His Highness the Aga Khan's Studs, Haras de la Louvière, Haras d'Etreham, Haras des Capucines and Haras de Fresnay-le-Buffard. Also featuring in this year's sale is the dispersal of Ecurie Fabien Ouaki's bloodstock consigned by Haras de Bernesq.



Deauville Sales Ring
Agence Francaise photo

Consisting of 38 broodmares and 15 foals selling tomorrow and seven yearlings selling Monday, the dispersal includes this year's G3 Prix de Psyche winner **Commercante (Fr)** (Marchand de Sable) and **Cloud Hill (GB)** (Danehill), a half-sister to G1 St Leger runner-up High and Low (GB) and to Wells Fargo (GB), the dam of this year's G1 Grand Criterium and G1 Racing Post Trophy winner American Post (GB). She is in foal to Inchinor (GB). Additional covering sires represented in the catalogue include the preeminent French stallions such as Anabaa, Linamix (Fr), Highest Honor (Fr), Kendor (Fr) and Kaldounevees (Fr), and international sires such as Royal Applause (GB), Hernando (Fr), Singspiel (Ire), Daylami (Ire) and Montjeu (Ire). Selling begins at 10 a.m. each day. Results and updates can be found on www.deauville-sales.com. Hip Happenings, p2

The GIII Queens County H., scheduled to be run today at Aqueduct, has been cancelled due to an early winter storm moved through the New York area. It will be reopened to the original nominees and redrawn for next Saturday, Dec. 13.

DEAUVILLE OUTS - SATURDAY

4 17 18 32 35 58 62 72 103 104 112
116 118 153 165 174 179 192 198
206 224 238 241

www.deauville-sales.com

☆ **PREVIEW** ☆

Saturday, Calder, post time: 3:58 p.m. EST

MY CHARMER H.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Ivanavalot	West Acre	O'Connell	113
2a	Sierra Lady	Stack	Rizo	112
3	Love Sting	Lit de Justice	Hayford	114
4	Light Dancer	Colony Light	Criollo	113
5	Lost Appeal	Valid Appeal	Edwards	115
6	Ms Brookski	Montbrook	Combest	113
7	Hermans Honor	Katowice	Alonso	115
8	Carib Lady (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	Casse	115
9	New Economy	Red Ransom	Motion	115
10	Something Ventured	Cobra King	Pletcher	116
11a	Stay Forever	Stack	Ma Wolfson	116
12	Diadella	Diesis (GB)	Vella	115

Also Eligible

13	Dame Sylvieguilhem	Nureyev	Mott	112
14	Pillow Talk	Lear Fan	Tagg	112
15	Tasso Run	Cherokee Run	Gomez	112
16	Victory Snit	Victory Speech	Thompson	110
17	Shouldn't We All	Woodman	Depalo	110

Saturday, Calder, post time: 4:52 p.m. EST

TROPICAL TURF H.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Sforza (Fr)	Zieten	Picou	113
2	Millennium Dragon (GB)	Mark of Esteem (Ire)	McLaughlin	116
3	Mr. Livingston	El Prado (Ire)	Kaplan	113
4	Irish Colonial	Colonial Affair	Schulhofer	113
5	Estio (Chi)	Edgy Diplomat	Manning	113
6	Del Mar Show	Theatrical (Ire)	Mott	117
7	Last Stand	Cherokee Run	Fawkes	113
8	Political Attack	Hawk Attack	Matz	116
9	French Charmer	French Deputy	Benson	118
10	Just Listen	Local Talent	Catanese III	113
11	Statement	Seattle Slew	Kimmel	113
12	Serial Bride	Stuka	Pointer	113
13	Pah	Saithor	Ma Wolfson	112
14	Tammany Star	Tammany	Gomez	110

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Previews cont.

Saturday, Hollywood Park, post time: 4:05 p.m. PST

NATIVE DIVER H.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Legendary Weave	Basket Weave	Carava	114
2	Olmodavor	A.P. Indy	Mandella	117
3	Gift of the Eagle	Islefaxyou	Shirreffs	115
4	Chinkapin	Personal Flag	Mitchell	118
5	Total Impact (Chi)	Stuka	de Seroux	118
6	Tenaja Trail	Irish River (Fr)	Puype	112
7	Buckland Manor	Bien Bien	Gonzalez	112
8	Nose The Trade (GB)	Cyrano de Bergerac (Ire)	Frankel	115

Sunday, Hollywood Park

BAYAKOA H.-GII, \$150,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Summer Wind Dancer	Siberian Summer	Fogelsonger	112
2	Angel Gift	Allen's Prospect	Valdivia, Jr.	114
3	Southern Oasis	Southern Halo	T Baze	114
4	Star Parade (Arg)	Parade Marshal	V Espinoza	114
5	Keys to the Heart	Wild Again	Krone	113
6	Sparkling Ava	Royal Academy	Pedroza	111
7	Adoration	Honor Grades	Valenzuela	121
8	Bare Necessities	Silver Deputy	Douglas	119

☆ **HIP HAPPENINGS** ☆
DEAUVILLE DAY 1

42 French Actress, 3, Theatrical (Ire)--Mercantile (Fr), by Kenmare (Fr)

Consigned by Haras d'Etreham

This full-sister to G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud winner and sire Marchand de Sable emanates from a smart family boasting black-type success throughout the past three generations.

145 Welsh Motto, 3, Mtoto (GB)--Tegwen, by Nijinsky II
Consigned by Darley

This dual-winning half-sister to the G1 Fillies' Mile winner Teggiano (Ire) is from the family of Jeanne Jones, Silvano (Ger) and Sabiango (Ger).

155 Validity (Fr), 3, Celtic Swing (GB)--Vadsa, by Halo
Consigned by Haras d'Ouillely

An eye-catching offering from the Lagardere dynasty, she is a half-sister to the dams of dual Group 1 winner Vahorimix (Fr) and G1 Breeders' Cup Mile winner Val Royal (Fr).

250 Rose d'Or (GB), 4, Polish Precedent--Gold Rose (Fr), by Noblequest (Fr)

Consigned by Haras de Fresnay-le-Bufferd

This half-sister to G1 Grand Criterium winner and sire Goldmark is in foal to Observatory. Her dam is also a half-sister to G1 Prix de la Foret winner Gabina and G1 Prix Lupin winner Galetto (Fr).

Today's Graded Stakes
brought to you by



3:58p **My Charmer H.-G3**, Calder
4:52p **Tropical Turf H.-G3**, Calder
7:05p **Native Diver H.-G3**, Hollywood

All Eastern Daylight Time.

CHRIS'S BAD BOY (MARQUETRY) BREAKS WOODBINE RECORD

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

NYRA REACHES INDICTMENT DEAL The New York Racing Association and the Justice Department have reached a deal in which NYRA will be indicted on charges of conspiracy, tax evasion and fraud, but will be allowed to continue to operate Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga, *Newsday* and *The New York Times* have reported. According to the reports, an arrangement called deferred prosecution has been agreed upon by NYRA and the Justice Department. Such accommodation have been used in the past by the federal justice system when an offender agrees to clean up its operation and not commit further violations. NYRA will not have to stand trial, but both papers report that there will still be a hefty fine to be paid, believed to be \$1 million or more, and some of the organization's managers may be charged. It is also expected that several members of the Board of Trustees will be asked to resign, joining former NYRA President Terry Meyocks, who already has stepped down. Though it is apparent NYRA will not escape the scandal unscathed, the deal allows it to accomplish its primary goal--maintaining its franchise to run the three leading racetracks in New York State. Governor George Pataki was among the prominent politicians campaigning for the survival of the racing association. NYRA's problems began when 19 mutuel clerks were convicted of tax evasion and money laundering. State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and the State Comptroller's office have contended that NYRA did little to stop the illegal activities of the mutuel clerks and concluded that the racing association needed to undergo serious reform. The indictment will charge that NYRA knowingly ignored the clerks' activities in order to facilitate a union contract and to allow clerks to have a greater income than what they would normally receive in salary.

SNOW STORM FORCES CANCELLATIONS Due to the heavy snowstorm in the northeast area, Aqueduct, Charles Town, Laurel Park, Penn National and Philadelphia Park were forced to cancel live racing yesterday. After running one race Friday, the Big A canceled the rest of its card and also called off Saturday's races. "Unfortunately, the weather hit us hard, earlier than we were advised today," New York Racing Association Senior Vice President Bill Nader said. "With the storm expected to continue in the area, we wanted to let our fans know now that we will not be open tomorrow." The GIII Queens County H., scheduled for Saturday, will be redrawn and run next Saturday, Dec. 13. Racing at the Big A will resume Sunday. Laurel has also cancelled Saturday's card.

★ **INDUSTRY INFO** ★

Notes from the NTRA Board Meeting:

At their fourth-quarter Board meeting Thursday in New York, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association received notification that New York Racing Association Chairman and CEO Barry K. Schwartz would serve as the NYRA representative on the NTRA Board, replacing former NYRA senior official Terry Meyocks. The Board also reviewed and approved 2003 financial projections for NTRA operations, and approved a preliminary 2004 NTRA operating budget of \$66,283,000. The NTRA will be endorsing the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (HR 857), and have approved a plan for expanded television coverage and enhanced purses for a series of summer and fall races.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6:

12-20 \$100,000a Ladies' H.-III, Aqu, 3yo/up, f/m, 10f (100)

www.stakesdigestweekly.com



MAJOR SUCCESS annihilated a top field of maidens at Hollywood, Nov. 24, in his second start. He pulled away to glide home by two in the 1 1/16-mile event and the Bobby Frankel trainee is already being touted as a Triple Crown prospect.

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★ EAST ★

Yesterday's Results:

4th-CRC, \$19,500, Msw, 3&4yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 1:41 3/5, gd.
PEACE PLEDGE (f, 3, **Our Emblem--Fighting Words**, by **Lord At War {Arg}**) ran ninth, beaten 29 1/4 lengths, in her latest attempt at Keeneland Oct. 12 and was sent off at 5-1 while making her turf debut here. The bay filly raced in sixth early, took the lead in the stretch and drew clear to a two-length decision over Power of the Pad (Siphon {Brz}). Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$15,650. O-Louis Lee Haggin III. B-Alma H Haggin & Louis Lee Haggin III (KY). T-Philip J Oliver.

★ CENTRAL ★

Yesterday's Results:

7th-FGX, \$30,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo/up, a1 1/8mT, 1:55, fm.
AMERICAN SON (c, 3, **Royal Academy--Secret Rendezvous {SW, \$213,638}**, by **Bates Motel**), a \$90,000 KEESEP yearling, broke his maiden over the Arlington turf July 30, then ran fifth over that course last out Aug. 28. Backed at 3-1 after the three-month break, he stalked the early pacesetter, shook clear in the stretch and held on by a neck over Shire (Swain {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$42,160. O-Cobra Farm LLC, Gary E Biszantz. B-Peter Van Andel (KY). T-Michael Stidham.

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★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Yesterday's Results:

4th-HOL, \$38,160, Msw, 3/up, 5 1/2fT, 1:02 4/5, fm.
HIGH ALERT (c, 4, **Smart Strike--Apalachee Princess**, by **Apalachee**), off the board in two main-track tries, had been on the board in four of his first five turf starts. The bay most recently came back after a three-month freshening to be second going 6 1/2 furlongs on the Santa Anita lawn Nov. 7. The 2-1 chalk to make his winner's circle debut here, he tracked the leaders while racing along the rail, closed from the inside in the stretch and edged away late to take it by 1 1/2 lengths over Timely Jeff (Avenue of Flags). The winner is a 1/2 to Paley Prince (Tilt Up), GSP-Ire, MSP-GB, SP-US, \$102,532; and Unrivaled (Green Dancer), SP, \$156,220. Lifetime Record: 8-1-1-3, \$49,740. O-P Elia. B-Christopher & Patricia Elia (KY). T-D Hofmans.

 **SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**

First-time starters/stakes runners: Saturday, Dec. 6

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 1999 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)
ANZIYAN (Danzig), Creston, \$5K, 36/14/0
 8-CT, Stk, 7f, Star of Anziyan, \$8K BAR MAY 2yo, 15-1
BORN WILD (Wild Again), Hideaway, \$3K, 45/9/0
 7-SUN, Msw, 5 1/2f, +Born Dusty, 8-1
CAPE TOWN (Seeking the Gold), Overbrook, \$10K, 127/38/5
 6-CRC, Msw, 6f, +Zambizi Adventure, \$97K OBS MAR 2yo
DILIGENCE (Miswaki), Walmac, \$4K, 89/30/0
 3-GG, Stk, 6f, Onebadshark, \$32K OBS APR 2yo
FORMAL GOLD (Black Tie Affair {Ire}), Gainesway, \$15K, 130/48/2
 8-HOU, Stk, 7f, Real Bear, \$75K OBS FEB 2yo, 4-1
 8-CRC, Msw, 6f, +Caballero Negro, \$25K OBS MAR 2yo
GENTLEMEN (ARG) (Robin des Bois), Walmac, \$30K, 126/24/1
 4-HAW, Msw, 6f, +Old Economy, \$5K KEE SEP yrl, 12-1
IN EXCESSIVE BULL (In Excess {Ire}), LL, \$2K, 53/16/2
 10-SUN, Stk, 1m, Net Threat, 12-1
INDIAN CHARLIE (In Excess {Ire}), Airdire, \$10K, 149/48/2
 8-HOU, Stk, 7f, Crow Jane, \$45K KEE SEP yrl, 3-1
JAMBALAYA JAZZ (Dixieland Band), Nuckols, \$7K, 37/8/1
 1-CT, Msw, 4 1/2f, +We Did It My Way, \$3K I '03 KEE JAN, 10-1
NORTHERN AFLEET (Afleet), DBL Diamond, \$5K, 81/35/2
 8-AQU, Stk, 1 3/16m, Unforgettable Max, \$210K OBS FEB 2yo
PARTNER'S HERO (Danzig), Northview, \$8K, 112/36/3
 7-LRL, Stk, 7f, Wonderous Woman, \$7K EAS OCT yrl, 10-1
 8-CT, Stk, 7f, Heart of a Hero, \$20K EAS OCT yrl, 2-1
SKIP AWAY (Skip Trial), Hopewell, \$50K, 180/46/5
 9-FG, Stk, 1 1/16m, G. W.'s Skippie, \$100K KEE SEP yrl, 12-1
TALE OF THE CAT (Storm Cat), Ashford, \$25K, 236/78/10
 10-TP, Stk, 1 1/16m, My Trusty Cat, \$130K KEE SEP yrl

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FRESHMAN FOCUS



First-crop progeny to watch: Saturday, December 6

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2000 Fee, #2yos/Winners/SW
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

- ACCELERATOR** (A.P. Indy), Dead, 77/8/0
1-MNR, Msw, 1m, Luckynquick, \$6K KEE SEP yrl
- 5-FG, Msw, 1mT, Pollys Accelerator, \$16K KEE SEP yrl, 10-1
- COMIC STRIP** (Red Ransom), Special T, \$8K, 38/1/0
8-CT, Stk, 7f, Cash Button, \$10K FTK OCT yrl, 10-1
- DIAMOND** (Mr. Prospector), Northview, \$5K, 58/4/1
8-CT, Stk, 7f, Red Velvet Cake, 10-1
- DONERAILE COURT** (Seattle Slew), Buck Pond, \$8K, 75/17/2
9-PHA, Alw, 6 1/2f, Courtcase, \$10K FTK OCT yrl, 6-1
- EVENT OF THE YEAR** (Seattle Slew), Golden Eagle, \$10K, 72/3/0
7-SUN, Msw, 5 1/2f, +Expert Design, 9-2
- 8-CT, Stk, 7f, Seeyouattheevent, \$10K EAS OCT yrl, 2-1
- FORESTRY** (Storm Cat), Taylor Made, \$50K, 75/10/2
8-CT, Stk, 7f, Acclimate, \$110K FTF FEB 2yo, 7-2
- 8-CT, Stk, 7f, Ottawa Chief, \$50K FTF FEB 2yo, 7-2
- FREE HOUSE** (Smokester), Vessels, \$15K, 59/6/1
7-SUN, Msw, 5 1/2f, Free Rules, \$28K RUI AUG yrl, 6-1
- KEOS** (Riverman), Fresnay, \$4K, 28/2/0
2-FG, Msw, 1mT, Brant Point, 8-1
- MENIFEE** (Harlan), Stone, \$15K, 37/7/0
2-FG, Msw, 1mT, A Lulu Ofa Meniffee, \$170K KEE SEP yrl, 7-2
- MINISTER'S MARK** (Deputy Minister), Walmac, \$2K, 11/2/0
6-CRC, Msw, 6f, Dirtymoposse
- REAL QUIET** (Quiet American), Taylor Made, \$10K, 72/8/0
9-PHA, Alw, 6 1/2f, Real Town Guy, \$5K EAS MAY 2yo, 15-1
- SEA OF SECRETS** (Storm Cat), Walmac, \$5K, 55/11/1
7-SUN, Msw, 5 1/2f, Sea Sense, \$11K KEE SEP yrl, 10-1
- VICTORY GALLOP** (Cryptoclearance), Winstar, \$15K, 87/11/2
6-CRC, Msw, 6f, +Honest Victor, \$65K OBS APR 2yo

★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN DUBAI:

Mesozoic, g, 7, **Barathea (Ire)**--Wezzo (SP-Fr), by Bering (GB). Sharjah, 12-5, Hcp., 1200m, 1:11.35. B-C J Cummings & John Ryan. *\$270,000 yrl '97 KEESEP.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a ▲ will denote a first-time Grade/Group 1 winner, a + will first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races, a (C) will be used for maiden-claiming races and an (R) will be used for other restricted races. Purses for Canadian races are in Canadian dollars.

EDDERY CONSIDERING TRAINING CAREER

The 11-time champion jockey Pat Eddery, who is retiring from a 37-year riding career, could take out a trainer's license next year. He would train in addition to his role as manager of Pat Eddery Racing, an owners' syndicate. "The buzz is still there and now I want to be a trainer," Eddery told *Daily Star*. "I love working with horses and the whole feeling of being with them close up is something that is difficult to explain. I will be doing everything I can to make sure the syndication business works, but I want to take out a trainer's license, and I can see doing that in a year's time. I have worked with some of the best trainers in the business and you can't help but pick things up." Eddery's syndicate acquired numerous yearlings at 2003 auctions, including a €50,000 Night Shift filly at Goffs and a €55,000 Bluebird filly at Deauville.

TANAKA BUYS FRÜHLINGSSTURM Gary Tanaka has purchased the German-trained three-year-old colt **Frühlingssturm (GB)** (Unfuwain) for an undisclosed sum. The colt, raced by breeder Harry Baggen and conditioned by Peter Rau, is the winner of four races from eight career starts including a runaway victory in the Dutch Derby, which he followed up with a decisive two-length win in the G2 Ernst & Young Euro Cup at Frankfurt Sept. 21. From the family of MGSW Running Stag, Frühlingssturm is expected to continue his career in the United States. Tanaka has already tasted success with several German purchases, including MGSW **Caitano (GB)** (Niniski) and the graded-stakes winning fillies **Moonlady (Ger)** (Platini {Ger}) and **Win For Us (Ger)** (Surumu {Ger}).

TELL IT TO THE TDN...

Want to send a "Letter to the Editor" of the *Thoroughbred Daily News*? Our address is 27 Monmouth St., Red Bank, NJ, 07701; or send a fax to: (732) 747-8955; or an e-mail to: mediavista@aol.com.

TDN TODAY
Around the World 6 pages

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★ FRANCE ★

Saturday, Toulouse, post time: 2:00 p.m.
CRITERIUM DU LANGUEDOC PRIX PAUL GUICHOU-
Listed, €38,000, 2yo, 1mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	1	Double Sens (Fr)	Double Bed (Fr)	Gentile	128
2	11	Reefscape (GB)	Linamix (Fr)	Fabre	123
3	2	Deynizi (Ire)	Kris (GB)	de Royer-Dupre	123
4	5	Sir Mutilla (Fr)	Jeune Homme	Avial-Lopez	123
5	6	Banjo's Spirit (Ire)	Fumo di Londra (Ire)	Bindella	123
6	7	Blackdown (Fr)	Verglas (Ire)	Pelletan	123
7	3	Ancerwert (Fr)	Take Risks (Fr)	Gentile	123
8	10	Quatzhill (Fr)	Sabrehill	Martin-Sanchez	123
9	9	Tundururu (Ire)	Croco Rouge (Ire)	Martin-Sanchez	123
10	8	Mama Daktari (Fr)	Gold Away (Ire)	Guedj	120
11	4	Love and Bubbles	Loup Sauvage	Rob Collet	120
12	12	Dolma (Fr)	Marchand de Sable	Clement	120

7th-CTX, \$26,800, 12-4, NW3L, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:32 1/5, ft.

LOOK TO HEAVEN (f, 3, Storm Boot--Just a Wish {SW, \$202,002}, by Horatius) Lifetime Record: 19-3-7-3, \$88,700. O/B-Everest Stables (KY). T-E J Coletti Jr.

8th-CTX, \$26,800, 12-4, NW1X, 3yo/up, 7f, 1:30 4/5, ft.

NINE NOTES (c, 4, [Editor's Note](#)--Fun Til Dawn, by *Grey Dawn II) Lifetime Record: 23-5-3-4, \$68,867. O-Alm Stables. B-John C Harroff DVM (KY). T-Flint W Stites. *\$52,000 wlng '99 KEENOV; \$100,000 yrl '00 FTKJUL. **1/2 to Daunting Era (Exclusive Era), SW.

8th-TPX, \$25,400, 12-4, NW2L, 3/up, 1m, 1:39 3/5, ft.

CATS BEAUTY (c, 3, Mountain Cat--Genuine Beauty, by Flying Paster) Lifetime Record: 6-2-2-0, \$38,726. O-Joseph M Cornacchia. B-Joe Cornacchia, Et Al (KY). T-John A Bell IV. *\$25,000 2yo '02 FTMMAY. **1/2 to Stop for Schnapps (Go for Gin), GSP, \$177,400.

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-HOL, \$40,000, 12-4, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:43 2/5, ft.

THE CANDI QUEEN (f, 4, Candi's Gold--Shanes Queen, by Shanekite) Lifetime Record: 24-5-6-3, \$149,040. O-James W & Marcia S Equils. B-J W Nicholson (CA). T-Steve Knapp. *Won by 17 lengths.

9th-FGX, \$30,000, NW1X, 3yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:53 4/5, fm.

OYSTER COVE (c, 4, [Dynaformer](#)--Pearl Essence, by Conquistador Cielo) Lifetime Record: 13-2-2-2, \$59,710. O-Moabo Stables Llc, B & T Witt, G Davis & H Cushing. B-Runnymede Farm Inc & Catesby W Clay (KY). T-Doug Matthews. *\$170,000 wlng '99 KEENOV.

6th-HAW, \$28,000, NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 1/5, my.

ROCKHURST (c, 4, Pembroke--Gulf Shores, by *Hawaii) Lifetime Record: 28-3-5-6, \$94,370. O-Ru-Man Stable. B-Apple Hill Farms, Dan Martin & Regi Martin (IL). T-Mike Dini.

7th-CRC, \$24,000, NW1X, 3yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:40 2/5, gd.

PYRITE SEARCH (c, 3, Regal Search--Royal Fab, by *Le Fabuleux) Lifetime Record: 12-3-1-2, \$60,570. O-Hidden Point Farm Inc. B-Dr D W Frazier (FL). T-William W Perry. *\$9,000 yrl '01 OBSAUG.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

You're a Monkey, f, 2, Known Fact--Delta Swamp, by Meadowlake. HAW, 12-5, (S), 6f, 1:14 2/5. B-Crown's Way Farm (IL). *1/2 to Mon Baiser (Slew City Slew), SP, \$328,778.

Lost Bride, f, 2, [Pioneering](#)--Danzig's Bride (SP, \$160,412), by Danzig. HOL, 12-5, (C), 1 1/16m, 1:45 2/5. B-John B Crook (KY). *\$35,000 yrl '02 BESOCT. **3/4 to Ideal State (Crafty Prospector), SP, \$155,947; 1/2 to Babai Danzig (Cure The Blues), SW & GSP, \$169,689.

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WRITERS UP

ZITO ONCE AGAIN A MAJOR DERBY PLAYER

By Bill Finley
Special to ESPN.com

Nick Zito never tried to sugarcoat his two-year absence from the Kentucky Derby. Zito needs the Kentucky Derby like most of us need air. So, of course, it's going to sting when you live and breathe for one race and can't even get a horse to the starting gate. A third straight year without a Derby starter would possibly be the end of him.

It's a good thing he's unbelievably loaded.

Zito had a memorable holiday weekend at Churchill Downs. It began with a win in the \$500,000 Clark H. with Quest, who was placed first with the disqualification of Evening Attire. But, for Zito, the real highlight came some 24 hours later. That's when The Cliff's Edge captured Churchill's \$200,000 Kentucky Jockey Club S. by three-quarters of a length, solidifying his position as one of the leading contenders for next year's Derby. It was likely the last major two-year-old stakes race Zito will participate in this year. But his work has already been done. He will enter the Kentucky Derby prep season early next year with at least three talented and accomplished colts, all of whom have the ability to be major factors and have been well managed by a trainer who has pushed all the right buttons so far. No one will enter 2004 with a better hand of three-year-olds than Zito.

"Without a doubt, we have legitimate contenders," he said. "So often with the Derby, things don't work out the way you planned. Usually you're just hoping for the best. You need to have quality horses to get you there. This year, I think we have them. It's a good position to be in."

Though he won the Kentucky Oaks and Acorn with Bird Town, Zito was not having a stellar year entering the fall. His strength is usually his three-year-old colts, yet the only stakes race he had won in that division was the Grade III Leonard Richards in June at Delaware Park. The winner was Awesome Time, who did nothing before or has done nothing since. Perhaps more than any other trainer, Zito is defined by how he fares in the major three-year-old races. Any absence or lack of production threatens to push him out of the spotlight, not exactly a good thing for his business.

Zito cont. p6

ZITO'S 2YO ARSENAL

Horse	Major Accomplishment
Birdstone	1st GI Champagne S. <u>Grindstone</u> --Dear Birdie, by Storm Bird O/B-Marylou Whitney Stable
El Prado Rob	3rd GI Futurity S. El Prado (Ire)--Jurisprudence, by Seeking the Gold O-R V Lapenta; B-Mill Ridge, Chandler, McGaughey & Jamm
Eurosilver	1st GII Lane's End Breeders' Futurity Unbridled's Song--Russian Tango, by Nijinsky II O/B-Buckram Oak Farm
The Cliff's Edge	1st GII Ky Jockey Club, GII Iroquois <u>Gulch</u> --Zigember, by Danzig O-Robert V Lapenta; B-Stonerside Stable

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Bids are submitted. Must comprise at least 75% of the ask listing (85% for seasons.)
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Zito cont.

But Zito obviously never lost his touch. Starting in early October, he began to roar back with his two-year-old arsenal. On the same day, he won the Champagne at Belmont with Birdstone, a half-brother to Bird Town, and the Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland with Eurosilver.

Just as he was putting both away to gear up for next year, The Cliff's Edge emerged. He won the Nov. 2 Iroquois at Churchill and then the Kentucky Jockey Club. His win softened the blow of Zito's only visible failure this year with a two-year-old. Exactly 83 minutes before the Kentucky Jockey Club, the Zito-trained El Prado Rob was a disappointing sixth in the Remsen as the 3-1 second choice.

He declines to compare the three other than to say each one is different physically. He knows he doesn't have to; they'll sort themselves out on the racetrack next year. Any one of the three could emerge as the top threat in the stable. They have comparable Beyer figures and none has the sort of pedigree to suggest they are early developers who won't get any better or be able to handle the Derby distance of 1 1/4 miles.

Zito just has to keep his fingers crossed and hope that nothing goes wrong.

"The main things are the luck factor and paying attention," he said. "I told my help, with these horses, I want them watched every single minute of the day because anything can happen. A lot of this is fate."

He knows that better than most. The early nineties were a golden time for Zito. He got the late-developing Strike the Gold to peak on the perfect day to win the 1991 Derby. Three years later, he caught every conceivable break when Go for Gin caught the type of sloppy track he loves and then skipped around the track and under the wire uncontested on the lead after the speedster Holy Bull didn't get out of the gate alertly.

In the ensuing years, he at least got to the race, making an appearance every year from 1994-99.

Since 1999, he has been to the Derby just once, with A P Valentine in 2001. It's been a combination of things bad luck, bad timing, inferior horses. To his credit, he didn't run any hopeless longshots just to say he had a horse in the race.

"As long as I'm above ground and still around, I have to [compete in the Derby]," he said. "That's how I made my reputation. It gets a little discouraging when you're not in it."

Zito and his forces will soon head to Florida, where he will begin to plot his strategy for an assault on the Derby. He might have to figure a way to keep his horses apart, but that's a nice problem to have. There's not a lot bothering him right now. He's a major player for the Derby, and nothing could make him happier.

For more horseracing stories by Bill Finley and others, click on or visit www.espn.go.com/horse/index.html.

Additional Maiden Winners cont.

Silver Minister, c, 2, **Silver Deputy**--Mint Leaf, by Capote. TPX, 12-4, 6f, 1:11. B-Twin Hopes Farm (Ky).

*\$24,000 yrl '02 KEEJAN; \$20,000 yrl '02 KEESEP.

Wantedto beagray, c, 2, **With Approval**--Plus Beau, by Beau Genius. HAW, 12-5, (S), 6f, 1:13 4/5. B-Judy Dorris (Il). *\$42,000 yrl '02 FTKOCT.

Legal Logic, c, 3, **Bertrando**--Fleeting Image (MSW, \$347,142), by Pirate's Bounty. HOL, 12-4, (S), 8.5fT, 1:43 4/5. B-Mr & Mrs Martin J Wygod (Ca).

Bebe Garcon, c, 3, **Excavate**--Tarpin Ridge, by Golden Act. FGX, 12-5, (S), 6f, 1:11. B-J Tim White III (La).

Afforce of Course, f, 3, **Sparkling Blade**--Afforce, by Chieftain. SUN, 12-5, (S), 6f, 1:11 4/5. B-R Canning (NM). *1/2 to C. D. Haj (Calumar), SW, \$139,080.

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