

**THOR'S ECHO
IN DUBAI DEBUT**
p3

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THOROUGHbred Daily News
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2007

**HEADLINE
NEWS**

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Blood-Horse

CAT SET TO STRUT HIS STUFF

When last Frankie Dettori was hoisted aloft **Discreet Cat** (Forestry), the two teamed to take the 2006 running of the G2 UAE Derby by six easy lengths over a field which included subsequent U.S. Horse of the Year Invasor (Arg). Since then, the striking bay colt has run his unbeaten streak to a half-dozen, culminating with a 3 1/4-length victory in the G1 Cigar Mile H. Nov. 25. By virtue of that victory, the son of GISW Pretty Discreet will go postward as the



Discreet Cat Andrew Watkins

134-pound highweight in tonight's G3 Burj Nahaar S. under the lights at Nad al Sheba. "I see him most days and he has been training well, and [trainer] Saeed [bin Suroor] is very happy with him," Dettori explained. "This is a big day for him, and it's the next step to the Dubai World Cup meeting. It's not going to be easy with a seven-pound penalty, which he has for winning a Group 1 race, but we've got to start somewhere." This 1600-meter event is a prep for the G2 Godolphin Mile on World Cup night Mar. 31, but it is widely expected that Discreet Cat will take on Invasor in the main event over 2000 meters.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 9:15 p.m.

LAHAN BURJ NAHAAR-G3, \$200,000, NH4yo& SH3yo/up, 1600m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Imperialista (Brz)	Voando Baixo (Brz)	Mohammed	121
2	Jaffal	Conquistador Cielo	Al Raihe	128
3	Blue on Blues (Arg)	Lode	Seemar	128
4	Egyptian	Green Desert	Bouresly	128
5	Nelore Pora (Brz)	Romarin (Brz)	Nickel Filho	132
6	Opportunist (Ire)	Machiavellian	Watson	128
7	Visionist (Ire)	Orpen	Al Muhairi	128
8	Smart and Mighty (Aus)	Baryshnikov (Aus)	Noonan	128
9	Discreet Cat	Forestry	bin Suroor	134
10	Blatant (GB)	Machiavellian	Al Raihe	128
11	Boston Lodge (GB)	Grand Lodge	Watson	128
12	Yarqus (GB)	Diktat (GB)	Brittain	128
13	Impossible Ski (Brz)	Ski Champ	Cintra Pereira	128
14	Binary File	Nureyev	Kelp	128
15	Gold for Sale (Arg)	Not for Sale (Arg)	Jory	128
16	Vortex (GB)	Danehill	Kelleway	128

LUCKY SEVEN FOR LAVA MAN

STD Stable and Jason Wood's multi-millionaire **Lava Man** (Slew City Slew) drew post position number seven and was installed the 4-5 morning-line favorite for Saturday's \$1-million G1 Santa Anita H. Already the winner of five Grade I events, the six-year-old made history last year, becoming the first horse to sweep this race, the G1 Hollywood Gold Cup and the G1 Pacific Classic in the same season. He will try to become just the third horse to take back-to-back runnings of the Big 'Cap, joining the immortal John Henry (1981 and 1982) and Milwaukee Brew (2002-2003). His jockey is not at all concerned with his impost. "I don't think 124 pounds will bother him," Corey Nakatani commented. "He's a great horse, but any time you give weight to horses like these, there's a chance of getting beat. Still, I know what kind of horse he is and I think he can handle it. He's the best horse in the race and that's how I'll ride him." He will spot the field anywhere from seven to 10 pounds. Should Lava Man perform well in and come out of the Big 'Cap in good shape, he would likely make his next appearance in the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. on the turf Mar. 31. Six of his 15 career wins have come over that surface, including last year's G1 Charles Whittingham H. and his last start in the Sunshine Millions Turf Jan. 27.



Lava Man Horsephotos

Saturday, Santa Anita Park

SANTA ANITA H.-G1, \$1,000,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/4m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Awesome Gem	Awesome Again	T Baze	116
2	El Roblar	War Chant	Migliore	114
3	Boboman	Kingmambo	Solis	115
4	Ball Four	Grand Slam	Leparoux	116
5	Spring at Last	Silver Deputy	Flores	115
6	Molengao (Brz)	Royal Academy	Espinoza	116
7	Lava Man	Slew City Slew	Nakatani	124
8	Arson Squad	Brahms	Gomez	117
9	McCann's Mojave	Memo (Chi)	Alvarado	115

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11:15a	Mahab Al Shimaal S.-G3, Nad	Click for (brisnet.com PPs)	TV HRTV
11:45a	Dubai City of Gold S.-G3, Nad	(brisnet.com PPs)	HRTV
12:15p	Burj Nahaar S.-G3, Nad	(brisnet.com PPs)	HRTV
12:50p	Jebel Hatta S.-G2, Nad	(brisnet.com PPs)	HRTV
1:20p	Maktoum Chlge (RIII)-G2, Nad	(brisnet.com PPs)	HRTV

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☆ **P R E V I E W S** ☆

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 10:20 p.m.
ELNADIM MAKTOUM CHALLENGE-ROUND III-G2,

\$300,000, NH4yo&SH3yo/up, 2000m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	Red Racketeer	Red Ransom	Al Raihe
2	Singing Poet (Ire)	Singspiel (Ire)	Charpy
3	Eu Tambem (Brz)	Wild Event	Mohammed
4	Grand Emporium (SAf)	National Assembly	Seemar
5	Aleutian (GB)	Zafonic	Watson
6	Dubai Honor (GB)	Highest Honor (Fr)	Watson
7	Choctaw Nation	Louis Quatorze	Seemar
8	Chinkara (GB)	Desert Prince (Ire)	Watson
9	Money Bags (SAf)	Rich Man's Gold	de Kock

All carry 131 pounds except Eu Tambem, 121.

TDN TODAY
Headline News 5 pages

Maktoum Challenge-Round III, cont.

While three horses have parlayed success in this event into a victory in the Dubai World Cup, the chances of that happening again are slim this time around. Sheikh Hamdan's **Eu Tambem**, who has been defeated just once in his career, makes his first appearance since winning the G1 Argentine Derby Nov. 11. **Choctaw Nation**, third in the World Cup in 2005, was a well-beaten 10th--placed ninth--in last year's renewal and makes his return to the races. **Singing Poet** has been in excellent form in the Emirates this winter. The six-year-old, having just his sixth career start, took a course-and-distance conditions event Nov. 16 followed by a victory in the Listed Jebel Ali S. Dec. 22. He was most recently a good third to World Cup hopeful Kandidate (GB) in Round II of the Challenge Feb. 8 and merits respect here.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 9:50 p.m.

HAAFHD JEBEL HATTA-G2, \$250,000,

NH4yo&SH3yo/up, 1777mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	Olympian Odyssey (GB)	Sadler's Wells	Mohammed
2	Best Name (GB)	King's Best	bin Suroor
3	Stage Gift (Ire)	Cadeaux Genereux (GB)	Mohammed
4	Formal Decree (Ger)	Diktat (GB)	Mohammed
5	Great Rhythm (SAf)	I'm Great (SAf)	Brown
6	Seihali (Ire)	Alzao	Selvaratnam
7	Lord Admiral	El Prado (Ire)	C O'Brien
8	Sanaya (Ire)	Barathea (Ire)	de Royer-Dupre
9	Irridescence (SAf)	Caesour	de Kock
10	Ace (Ire)	Danehill	Seemar
11	Touch of Land (Fr)	Lando (Ger)	Pantall
12	Shakis (Ire)	Machiavellian	Watson

Also Eligible:

Nayyir (GB)	Indian Ridge (Ire)	Butler
Holiday Camp	Chester House	Al Muhairi
Illustrious Blue (GB)	Dansili (GB)	Knight
Melanosporum	Royal Anthem	Jory

All carry 130 pounds except Irridescence, 132; and Sanaya, 126.

Jebel Hatta cont. p3

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**Dubai Super Thursday cont.
Jebel Hatta S. cont.**

Best Name makes his Godolphin debut in this lead-up to the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. Runner-up in last year's G1 Prix du Jockey Club, the bay won the G3 Prix du Prince d'Orange Sept. 16 and was last seen finishing a good fifth in the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe Oct. 1. **Formal Decree**, a solid handicap performer last term, took a Jan. 18 conditions test over track and trip and got his nose down on the wire to best **Ace** in the G3 Al Rashidiya S. Feb. 1. **Irridescence** won the Balanchine S. at last year's Carnival, but was a scratch from the Duty Free when she injured herself in the saddling enclosure. She went on to take the G1 Queen Elizabeth II Cup at Sha Tin Apr. 23, but was unplaced in the G1 Prix du Moulin Sept. 3 and G1 Prix de l'Opera Oct. 1 to conclude the season.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 8:15 p.m.

**MARJU MAHAB AL SHIMAAL-G3, \$200,000,
NH4yo&SH3yo/up, 1200m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Sendalam (Fr)	Sendawar (Ire)	Brown	130
2	Excusez Moi	Fusaichi Pegasus	Brittain	130
3	Thor's Echo	Swiss Yodeler	Seemar	136
4	Salaam Dubai (Aus)	Secret Savings	Selvaratnam	130
5	Tax Free (Ire)	Tagula (Ire)	Nicholls	130
6	Bounty Quest (GB)	Fasliyev	Watson	130
7	Agnes Jedi (Jpn)	Agnes World	Mori	130
8	Lascaux (Aus)	Lion Cavern	Choy	130
9	Terrific Challenge	Royal Academy	Watson	130
10	Big Spartan (Brz)	Spend a Buck	Nickel Filho	126
11	Beckermet (Ire)	Second Empire (Ire)	Fisher	130
12	Botanical	Seeking the Gold	Charpy	130
13	Heart Alone (Brz)	Music Prospector	Mohammed	130
14	Thajja (Ire)	Daylami (Ire)	Watson	130
15	Attilius (Brz)	Dodge	Charpy	130
16	Instant Recall (Ire)	Indian Ridge (Ire)	Al Muhairi	130

Also Eligible:

Aliysa (Brz)	Music Prospector	Cintra Pereira	121
Vampiro (Brz)	Ski Champ	Cintra Pereira	126
Conroy	Gone West	Manuel	130
Machinist (Ire)	Machiavellian	Nicholls	130

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 indicate 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.

Mahab Al Shimaal cont.

Champion sprinter **Thor's Echo** makes his first start for new owner Sheikh Rashid.



Thor's Echo Horsephotos

Second in last year's G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen, the California-bred gelding registered a 15-1 upset in the G1 Breeders' Cup Sprint Nov. 4 and locked up championship honors with his 3/4-length victory in the G1 DeFrancis Memorial Dash Nov. 25. **Thajja** has failed to hit the winner's circle in over 18 months, but came close last time out, missing by a nose to the ill-fated Tropical Star (GB) in the

G3 Al Shindagha Sprint S. Jan. 25.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 10:45 p.m.

**INTIKHAB DUBAI CITY OF GOLD-G3, \$200,000,
NH/SH 4yo/up, 2400mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Jackson (Brz)	Clackson (Brz)	Selvaratnam	123
2	Laverock (Ire)	Octagonal (NZ)	Mohammed	130
3	Lost Soldier Three (Ire)	Barathea (Ire)	Nicholls	123
4	Best Alibi (Ire)	King's Best	bin Suroor	127
5	Quijano (Ger)	Acatenango (Ger)	Schiergen	123
6	Imperial Stride (GB)	Indian Ridge (Ire)	bin Suroor	123
7	Nepotista (Brz)	Know Heights (Ire)	Cintra Pereira	123
8	Quorum (Ger)	Acatenango (Ger)	Al Muhairi	122
9	Oracle West (SAf)	Western Winter	de Kock	123
10	Mulaqat (GB)	Singspiel (Ire)	Selvaratnam	122
11	Dono da Raia (Brz)	Hibernian Rhapsody (Ire)	Mohammed	130
12	Fantastic Love	Peintre Celebre	Al Raihe	123

Quijano and **Laverock** renew acquaintances in this prep for the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic. Since finishing fifth in his career debut in March 2005, Quijano has posted nine consecutive victories. A Listed winner in his native country, the gelding took a Jan. 25 conditions event over course and distance and was up in the final jump to tag Laverock in a similar event Feb. 9. **Imperial Stride**, a dual group winner in Europe in 2005, won the Listed Foundation S. in his lone European foray in 2006. He makes his first appearance since finishing eighth in the G1 Mackinnon S. in Australia Nov. 4. Defending champion **Oracle West** stretches out to this distance off his close third in the nine-furlong G3 Al Rashidiya S.

Stakes Previews cont. p4



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Saturday, Santa Anita

FRANK E. KILROE MILE H.-GI, \$300,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Grafton	Rahy	M Baze	111
2	Silent Name (Jpn)	Sunday Silence	Nakatani	115
3	Milk It Mick (GB)	Millkom (GB)	Smith	116
4	Porto Santo (Fr)	Kingsalsa	Blanc	115
5	Terroplane (Fr)	Verglas (Ire)	Valdivia Jr	114
6	Charmo (Fr)	Charnwood Forest (Ire)	Gomez	118
7	Fast Parade	Delineator	Espinoza	116
8	Three Valleys	Diesis (GB)	Flores	116
9	After Market	Storm Cat	Solis	114
10	Kip Deville	Kipling	Migliore	115
11	Boule d'Or (Ire)	Croco Rouge (Ire)	Sorenson	113
12	Bayeux	Red Ransom	Leparoux	114

Saturday, Santa Anita

ROBERT B. LEWIS S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Tiago	Pleasant Tap	Espinoza	115
2	Scat Thief	Cat Thief	M Baze	115
3	Hurry Up Austin	Lake Austin	Court	115
4	French Transition	Giant's Causeway	Leparoux	115
5	Saint Paul	Sweetsouthernsaint	Solis	115
6	Tap It Light	General Meeting	Cohen	117
7	Sam P.	Cat Thief	Gomez	117
8	Great Hunter	Aptitude	Nakatani	117
9	Boutrous	Tiznow	Flores	117

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☆ RESULTS ☆

Wednesday, Kawasaki, Japan

EMPRESS HAI-G2-NAR-Listed, ¥68,000,000, Kawasaki, 2-28, 4yo/up, f/m, 2100m, 2:16.40, gd.

1--**TOSEN JO O (JPN), 121, m, 6, by Timber Country**

1st Dam: **Annus Mirabilis (Jpn), by Real Shadai**

2nd Dam: **Scarlet Blue (Jpn), by Northern Taste**

3rd Dam: **Scarlet Ink, by Crimson Satan**

O-Takaya Shimakawa; B-Hisai Farm (JPN);

T-Masayuki Kawashima; J-H Uchida; ¥40,000,000.

Lifetime Record: 21-6-4-0, \$1,447,107.

2--**Fusaichi Pandora (Jpn), 123, f, 4, Sunday Silence--**

Lotta Lace, by Nureyev. (¥87,000,000 fl '03

JPNJUL). O-Fusao Sekiguchi; B-Northern Farm (JPN).

3--**Sound the Beach (Jpn), 121, m, 6, Afleet--Nagisa**

(Jpn), by Markofdistinction (GB). O-Tadashi Iida;

B-Chiyoda Farm (JPN).

Margins: 1HF, 5, NK. Odds: 4.90, 2.10, 4.60.



FOALING NEWS

MEHTHAAF, 16, Nureyev--Elle Seule, by Exclusive Native

Foal born Feb. 23, a filly by Dynaformer.

Will be bred back to Rahy.

Owned by and boarded at Shadwell Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: Hwt. 3yo-Ire at 7-9f, G1SW-Ire,

MGSW-Eng, MG1SP-Fr & Eng, \$381,798. Dam of Najah (Ire) (Nashwan), Hwt. 3yo-Ity at 9.5-11f, GSW-Ity & SP-Ire.

BUZZ SONG, 5, Unbridled's Song--Buzzovertomyhouse, by Drone

Foal born Feb. 4, a colt by Speightstown.

Will be bred back to Malibu Moon.

Owned by Sybon Racing Stable.

Boarded at Taylor Made, Ky.

Accomplishments: SW.

Million Dollar Conformation from an Exceptional Family

"By Unbridled's Song, also responsible for first crop sire sensation Songandaprayer, VALUE PLUS is a half-brother to graded stakes winning two-year-old Roll Hennessy Roll, and to multiple stakes winner Majorbigtimesheet. His dam is six-time stakes winner Roll Over Baby."

— Alan Porter on \$1.1 MILLION KEEJAN YEARLING VALUE PLUS

PLUS . . .

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☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

PANEL CREATED TO EVALUATE GROUPS SEEKING NEW YORK FRANCHISE



By Tom Precious, courtesy Blood-Horse.com

A New York state government panel is being created to evaluate groups interested in taking over the franchise to operate Aqueduct, Belmont, and Saratoga racetracks, a process that suddenly makes wide open the race to replace the New York Racing Association. The panel, created by the state's new governor, Democrat Eliot Spitzer, will not limit the public sessions to just those three groups that formally bid on the franchise now held by NYRA. While Spitzer has said he does not believe the entire process needs to be re-bid, opening the public process to others could, in the end, have the effect of re-starting the franchise renewal process. The Legislature, which would have to approve any franchise deal, will participate in the public process.

"New York's thoroughbred racing industry commands an international reputation, creates tens of thousands of jobs and provides a vital economic boost to the state," Spitzer said in a written statement. "For the first time in nearly 50 years, there is an opportunity to reexamine this important state resource, and to consider restructuring and reinvigorating Thoroughbred racing and breeding." The announcement by Spitzer came as a federal bankruptcy judge Feb. 28 approved a deal in which the state would provide NYRA with up to \$32 million to help keep the racing group solvent through the end of the year. NYRA had been seeking \$50 million in private loans. Since it filed for bankruptcy protection last year, the state has agreed to \$40 million in assistance for the ailing NYRA.

A screening panel recently released its final report on the selection process, in which it recommended Excelsior Racing Associates be the franchise holder when the NYRA franchise expires Dec. 31. Empire, whose partners include New York Yankees executive Steve Swindal and casino developer Richard Fields, beat out Empire Racing Associates, a group composed of horsemen, Magna Entertainment, Churchill Downs, Woodbine, and Delaware North. NYRA came trailed far behind Excelsior and Empire in the non-binding bidding process. The new panel is chaired by Richard Rifkin, Spitzer's special counsel whose menu of policy areas include racing and wagering issues.

For the entire story, click [here](#).

<p>Why T  D  N</p>	<p><i>"No matter where I am, my day starts with tea or coffee and the TDN. If I have to do without either, the morning just doesn't start right. At home or abroad, the TDN keeps me in the loop and I hate to miss a single issue."</i> -Nick DeMerio</p>
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STREET SENSE LIKELY FOR TAMPA BAY DERBY

Eclipse Award-winning two-year-old **Street Sense** (Street Cry {Ire}), unraced since his impressive victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Nov. 4, is increasingly likely to reappear in the GIII Tampa Bay Derby Mar. 17. The news comes on the heels of a strong five-furlong move turned in by the champ Tuesday, when he covered the distance in 1:00.21, with a final quarter mile in :22.62.

"He's been building up to this all winter, and this is why we brought [jockey] Calvin [Borel] down here this morning," trainer Carl Nafzger told *Daily Racing Form*. "I wanted him to finish up strong and that's exactly what he did. This work really moved us up a long way." He continued, "At the moment the timing is good for the Tampa Bay Derby. That gives us almost four weeks to adjust if necessary. Right now I'm not as interested in where he finishes in his first start back as how he finishes. Although when we get to the Blue Grass [GI, Keeneland, Apr. 14], he's got to be there even if he doesn't win."

Outstanding Performances at 2, 3 and 4

- ★ Broke maiden in Saratoga debut by 8 3/4 lengths, setting fractions of :21 3/5, :45 and 1:10 1/5.
- ★ 2nd G1 Futurity to Cuvee
- ★ 2nd G1 Florida Derby
- ★ Won \$100,000 Artax Handicap at Gulfstream, defeating G1 winner Gygistar
- ★ Set New Track Record at Gulfstream

EQUALS...

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THURSDAY,
MARCH 1, 2007

TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



AROUND
THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

★ GULFSTREAM ★

ANEURYSM CLAIMS STORM CAT COLT An aneurysm was found to be the cause of death for a Storm Cat--Gone to the Moon (Gone West) colt who collapsed and died after completing a one-furlong breeze during last Sunday's under-tack show for the Fasig-Tipton Calder Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training, according to a press release. A post mortem conducted at the University of Florida in Gainesville revealed the aneurysm, which led to a rupture in the mesenteric artery that supplies blood to the intestinal tract. The dark bay had been purchased for \$900,000 as a yearling at Fasig-Tipton's Saratoga Sale by Randy Hartley and Dean De Renzo. "This was one of the hardest days of my life," said De Renzo. "The colt had all the right moves, and we had no indication anything was wrong. While his loss is a big one, Randy and I are very thankful no one else was hurt, especially his rider." The colt hailed from the family of champions Dayjur, Gold Beauty and Sky Beauty.

Better Talk Now Back to Work:

Brushwood Stable's **Better Talk Now** (Talkin Man), runner-up in last year's GI Breeders' Cup Turf, returned to the worktab yesterday morning, going an easy three furlongs over the Palm Meadows turf course in :39.



Better Talk Now (middle)
Horsephotos

"We only rode him for a week after the Breeders' Cup," trainer Graham Motion explained. "Then we got him back to Fair Hill and he got the rest of November and all of December off. He started back training at Fair Hill before shipping down here and [yesterday's] breeze was just to stretch his legs." The conditioner's tentative plans call for a return to the races

in either the GI Woodford Reserve Turf Classic S. May 5 or the GII Dixie S. at Pimlico May 19. The gelding, winner of the 2005 Breeders' Cup Turf, took last year's Dixie. Better Talk Now's long-term objective is a fourth start in the Breeders' Cup Turf, to be held just a van ride from Fair Hill at Monmouth Park.

Yesterday's Results:

8th-GPX, \$41,500, Alw, NW2X, 4/up, 1m, 1:35 3/5, ft. POLITICAL FORCE (c, 4, Unbridled's Song--Glitter Woman {GISW, \$1,256,805}, by Glitterman), second in the 2005 GIII Nashua S., returned from a five-month layoff to win a Gulfstream allowance at this trip Feb. 7. Always within striking distance, the 7-2 shot took charge along the rail in upper stretch and pulled clear to score by 2 3/4 lengths. Greeley's Legacy (Mr. Greeley) was second. The well-bred Barbican (A.P. Indy) chased the pacesetters before tiring to fifth. Lifetime Record: GSP, 11-3-4-1, \$135,385.

O/B-Joseph Allen (KY). T-H Allen Jerkens.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, THURSDAY, MARCH 1:

03-11 \$300,000 **Santa Anita Oaks-I, SA, 3yo, f, 8.5f (300)**



TOMORROW, FRIDAY, MARCH 2:

03-09 \$150,000 **Razorback Breeders' Cup H.-III, OP, 4yo/up, 8.5f (0)**

03-10 \$175,000 **Azeri Breeders' Cup-III-OP, 4yo/up, f/m, 8.5f (0)**

05-28 \$300,000a **Shoemaker Breeders' Cup Mile-I, Hol, 3yo/up, 8fT (200)**

05-28 \$300,000a **Gamely Breeders' Cup-I, Hol, 3yo/up, f/m, 9fT (200)**

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Building Thoroughbred Foundations



6th-GPX, \$40,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:16 4/5, ft.

SILVERINYOURPOCKET (f, 3, [Silver Deputy](#)--Puff O Luck {SP}, by Run of Luck) drove to a half-length victory in her debut over this track and trip Feb. 4. Sent off at 9-2, the bay filly forged between foes turning for home, took charge into the lane and romped home 6 1/4 lengths in front. Magical Ride (Storm Cat), unraced since finishing fifth in the Sept. 23 GI Matron S., chased the pacesetter early but couldn't match strides with the winner in the stretch and finished second. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made](#). Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$46,800. O/B-Mr & Mrs R David Randal (KY). T-Helen Pitts.

5th-GPX, \$38,000, Msw, 4yo, 1 1/8mT, 1:48, fm. **RISING MOON** (c, 4, [Runaway Groom](#)--Beat {MGSP, \$115,186}, by Nijinsky II), fourth in his November 2005 debut at Calder, had not been seen since running fifth in his second outing at this course in January 2006. The 8-1 shot, never far back, was forced to wait for running room in upper stretch, but rallied late to just get his head in front of Dynaski (Dynaformer) on the line. Rising Moon was a \$130,000 KEESEP yearling. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$23,900. O-Four Roses Thoroughbreds. B-Helen C Alexander & Helen K Groves, Rev. Trust (KY). T-Roberto Calvo.

★ NEW YORK ★

NYRA Responds to Spitzer Decision:

New York Racing Association President and Chief Operating Officer Charles Heyward issued the following response to the news that New York Governor Eliot Spitzer had decided to convene a panel to publicly evaluate proposals for the new franchise:

"It is encouraging that Governor Spitzer recognizes the international reputation of New York's thoroughbred racing industry and its economic impact to the state. NYRA is eager to participate in a process where integrity is a prerequisite and advancing the future benefits to New York racing and the state's interests are aligned. NYRA is currently the industry leader in integrity and believes strongly that the pure not-for-profit model is best positioned to meet the primary standard for selection."


Court Approves Debtor in Possession Financing:

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York yesterday approved a proposal submitted jointly by the New York Racing Association and the State of New York which provides for the State to grant NYRA "Debtor in Possession" financing for calendar year 2007. The amount could reach as high as \$32 million. The approval by the court will bring the State's total post-petition funding commitment to \$40 million.

Yesterday's Results:

8th-AQU, \$47,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$50,000), NW2X, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09 2/5, ft.

RIVER CITY REBEL (g, 4, [Sahm](#)--Dancing Marrea, by Lord At War {Arg}), a winner of back-to-back big A efforts over the inner track and the turf, last spring, had not been out since finishing third in a Belmont sprint Oct. 5. The bay gelding, sent off at 5-1, rallied along the rail in the stretch and drew off to a six-length victory over favored Bold Mon (Maria's Mon). The victory gave trainer Michael Hushion his 1,000th career win. Lifetime Record: SP, 10-4-1-2, \$124,162. O-Leonard Friedman, Wachtel Stable and Brous Stable. B-James A Hill (KY). T-Michael E Hushion.



TODAY'S
INSIGHTS

THREE CHIMNEYS

The Idea is Excellence.

1:45p TVG 4th-TAM, MSW, \$18K, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT
ORATE (A.P. Indy) was fifth over the main track in her debut at Gulfstream Jan. 28. Out of Grade I winner Preach, the Claiborne homebred is a full sister to Pulpit.

1:58p HRTV 3rd-GPX, MSW, \$44K, 4yo, f, 1 1/8mT
ARTISTIC ESCAPE (Kris S.) looks to improve over a solid fourth in her debut racing 1 1/16 miles over this course Jan. 18 for trainer Bill Mott and jockey Cornelio Velasquez. Running second in that race and returning here is **Greenery (Galileo {Ire})**, a half sister to group winners Lady in Waiting (GB) and Savannah Bay (GB). Also in the field is \$1.5-million KEESEP yearling **Sense of Class (Fusaichi Pegasus)**, who returned from a 2 1/2-month freshening to run eighth in that Jan. 18 maiden.

brisnet.com pps

War Chant



Black Type Everywhere

Haka Girl, on Saturday, was the FIFTH stakes performer in 20 days for War Chant.

(859) 873-7053 ■ www.threechimneys.com

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 indicate first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races, a (C) will be used for maiden-claiming races.



★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Yesterday's Results:

1st-SAX, \$62,894, Alw, NW2X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/4mT, 2:02 4/5, fm.

NAUGHTY RAFAELA (BRZ) (m, 5, [Royal Academy](#)--[Risamixa {Fr}](#), by [Linamix {Fr}](#)), looking for her first North American win in her fourth U.S. outing, was coming off a third-place effort in the Feb. 1 La Zanzara H. The even-money choice raced in third while tucked in behind the early pacesetters. She spurted clear through an opening on the rail in the stretch and outbattled Dancing General (General Meeting) for a 3/4-length victory. The winner is a half sister to Lagardere (Brz) (Miswaki, SP-Brz). Lifetime Record: G1SW-Brz & SP-US, 10-3-2-2, \$86,224.
O/B-Stud TNT (Brz). T-Robert J Frankel.

6th-SAX, \$55,480, Msw, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:16, ft.
ONE DIXIE (c, 4, [Dixie Union](#)--[Numero Uno {MSW & MGSP, \\$244,794}](#), by [Afleet](#)), a \$250,000 FTKJUL yearling purchase, debuted in a valuable maiden stakes race on California Gold Rush Day last Apr. 30 and was off slowly before finishing fast to be second. Off since then, the bay colt showed a series of strong works and was sent off the 3-2 chalk at second asking. Rated just off the pace by jockey Richard Migliore here, the Cal-bred split horses approaching the quarter pole, drew alongside Master Cat (Storm Boot) at the furlong grounds and pulled clear for a 2 1/2-length victory. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$47,880.
O-Stan E Fulton. B-Shields Thoroughbreds Inc (CA). T-Rafael Becerra.

TODAY'S VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS



FORESTRY

2007 STUD FEE: \$125,000

ON FIRE AT THE FASIG-TIPTON CALDER UNDER-TACK PREVIEW

[Hip #57](#), a filly by Forestry, had the bullet workout breezing 1/8 mile in :10 flat.

[Hip #301](#), a filly by Forestry, had the bullet workout breezing 1/4 mile in :21 1/5.

2765 Union Mill Road • Nicholasville, KY 40356 • (859) 885-3345

6th-GPX (Alw \$40K) Silverinyourpocket (Silver Deputy) romps home an easy winner.
6th-SAX (Msw \$) One Dixie (Dixie Union) returns a winner from a 10-month layoff.

All horses in the TDN are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated

NTRA REPORT FROM
Capitol Hill

Horse Racing PACs

Political Action Committees or PACs provide the majority of funds for political candidates seeking (re)election. Of the \$1.37 million raised in 2006 by federal PACs associated with gaming, 34 percent was raised by companies with substantial interests in pari-mutuel racing. The National Thoroughbred Racing Association's Horse PAC led all gaming PACs in 2006 in receipts (\$369,323) and disbursements (\$360,000). For more information visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org.



For more information contact Peggy Hendershot, Vice President, Legislative and Corporate Planning (800) 792-6872, ext. 648 or visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org

★ INDUSTRY INFO ★

Grayson-Jockey Club To Distribute Over \$1m:

For the first time, the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation will surpass the \$1-million mark for research grants in 2007. The Board of Directors for the foundation recently approved 13 new projects, including three devoted to the study of laminitis, and reaffirmed its support for eight others already underway. Total allocation for research is \$1,105,045. "We have had as a goal the ability to fund a million dollars of research in a single year," said Ed Bowen, president of the foundation. "With the help of generous donors, we have not only reached, but exceeded that level for 2007."

★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Our Table Mountain, f, 4, [Fusaichi Pegasus](#)--Hidden Light (MGISW, \$414,900), by Majestic Light. Durbanville, 2-27, Graduation Plate, 1400mT. O-Mr G J & R D Beck; B-Haras du Mezeray; T-Joey Ramsden. *1/2 to Artie Schiller (El Prado {Ire}), GISW, \$2,088,853; and Speed to Burn (Red Ransom), GSP. **\$250,000 yrl '04 KESEEP.
Parviflora, f, 4, [Horse Chestnut \(SAf\)](#)--Marfisa, by Chief's Crown. Vaal, 2-28, Hcp., 1600m. O/B-Mrs B D Oppenheimer; T-Mike de Kock.



MIDDLE EAST



EUROPE



Thursday, Nad al Sheba, Dubai, post time: 7:45 p.m.
BAHRI AL BASTAKIYA (Cond)., \$150,000, NH/SH3yo, 1800m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	4	Alcomo (Brz)	Rainbow Corner (GB)	Nickel Filho	132
2	5	Asiatic Boy (Arg)	Not for Sale (Arg)	de Kock	132
3	2	Zorin (Brz)	Norba (Brz)	Cintra Pereira	132
4	1	Te Voglio Bene (Brz)	Invitato Mio (Brz)	Wolfson	130
5	6	Day Pass	Five Star Day	bin Suroor	123
6	3	Rallying Cry	War Chant	Mohammed	121
7	7	Victory Tetsuni	Gone West	Mori	121

Unbeaten **Day Pass** will make his seasonal debut in the Godolphin blue. Purchased for \$725,000 as a juvenile at Keeneland April, the grey overcame trouble to land his career opener Oct. 7 at Belmont, then showed a clean pair of heels to his rivals in the one-mile GIII Nashua S. at Aqueduct Nov. 3. He will stretch out in distance here while facing the likes of **Asiatic Boy**, hero of the G3 UAE 2000 Guineas Feb. 9. "I like Day Pass a lot," said trainer Saeed bin Suroor. "He shows plenty of class in his work and is in good shape. It will be interesting to see if he stays the distance. He looks like he will and I hope he proves good enough to go on and run in some big races." Shipping in from Japan is **Victory Tetsuni**, twice a winner last year and third in his lone 2007 outing Jan. 28 at Kyoto.



Day Pass Adam Coglianesse

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★ ON THE WORKTAB ★

AQUEDUCT

Liquor Cabinet (Ire) (Hennessy), 6f, 1:11.83, 1/1

BELMONT

Finlandia (Royal Anthem), 3f(tr), :36.02, 1/16

GULFSTREAM

Ecclesiastic (Pulpit), 3f, :34.80, 1/10

Stormy Kiss (Arg) (Bernstein), 4f, :48.60, 11/28

HOLLYWOOD PARK

Battle Won (Honour and Glory), 5f, 1:00.80, 15/39

Declan's Moon (Malibu Moon), 3f, :34.60, 2/25

Flip Flop (Fr) (Zieten), 3f, :37.40, 18/25

Mananan McLir (Royal Academy), 5f, 1:00.40, 10/39

Price Tag (GB) (Dansili {GB}), 5f, :59.80, 5/39

Sacred Light (Holy Bull), 6f, 1:13.00, 5/24

KEENELAND

Royal Assault (Kris S.), 4f, :51.00, 12/12

PALM MEADOWS

Better Talk Now (Talkin Man), 3fT, :39.00, 3/4

★ BRITAIN ★

LADBROKES EXTEND LEGER SPONSORSHIP

Ladbrokes yesterday announced that they will continue as the sponsors of Doncaster's G1 St Leger until 2011. Having put their name to the oldest Classic in 2005, the leading betting and gaming firm confirmed their commitment to the feature of the Arena Leisure track's calendar, which will boast a record purse of £500,000 this year. "We are looking forward to returning to the new look Doncaster later this year and to working with Arena Leisure to ensure that the Ladbrokes St Leger continues to go from strength to strength over the coming years," Ladbroke's Director of Public Relations Mike Dillon commented.

★ EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN HONG KONG:

Easy (Ire), g, 4, **City On a Hill**--Christan (Ire), by Al Hareb. Happy Valley, 2-28, Hcp, 1200mT. B-Christan Syndicate. *Formerly Dusty City (Ire). **13,500gns wnlg '03 TATDEC; 4,500gns yrl '04 DONOCT.



AUSTRALASIA



GROUP WINNER BY EUROPEAN SIRE:

@Hofmeister (NZ), g, 6, **Daggers Drawn**--Dancing Doll (NZ), by Dance Floor. Launceston (Tasmania), 2-28, Launceston Cup-G3, 3yo/up, 1 1/2mT, A\$195,000 to winner. B-Messrs G R Cunningham & D P Haywood; T-Robert Smerdon. *Formerly Dancing Daggers. **G1SP-NZ.

FOALING NEWS:

MAJESTIC DY, 15, Dynaformer--Delicacy, by Pleasant Colony

Foal born Feb. 4, a filly by Stormy Atlantic.

Will be bred back to Aptitude.

Owned by Kathryn West and Mr & Mrs Mackensie Miller. Boarded at Waterford/Millford Farms, Ky.

Accomplishments: MSW & GSP, \$285,731. Dam of Delicate Dynamite (Old Trieste), MSW, \$218,450.

WHAT A KNIGHT, 16, Tough Knight--Run Tara Run, by Run for Nurse

Foal born Feb. 4, a colt by Songandaprayer.

Will be bred back to Songandaprayer.

Owned by Gulf Coast Farms & Pollack Farms.

Boarded at Taylor Made, Ky.

Accomplishments: SW. Dam of What a Song (Songandaprayer), MGSW, \$179,700.



SAARLAND - A Rare Vintage
R O O K I E S

"The Unbridled branch of the Fappiano clan looks to make a growing contribution to the breed... Keep an eye out too for Saarland, the extremely well-bred Unbridled horse..." -Bill Oppenheim

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ALDEBARAN PERFECT SOUL SAARLAND SUAVE BEHRENS HAP REPRICED

Second-crop starters to Watch: Thursday, March 1

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2002 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW
 Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

ABAJO (Robyn Dancer), Le Mesa, \$1K, 59/7/0
 4-FG, Alw, 5 1/2f, Joangel, 3-1
 4-FG, Alw, 5 1/2f, Miss Abajo, 3-1

BRING THE HEAT (In Excess {Ire}), Abbott Ranch, 16/2/0
 1-SA, Str, 6f, Sunday Kinda Love

ERLTON (Buckaroo), Red River, \$2K, 50/9/0
 3-DED, Msw, 5f, Freda's Girl, 20-1

FRENCH ENVOY (Deputy Minister), Stonehedge South, \$3K, 65/11/1
 4-TAM, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Jnj's French Rose, \$2K OBS AUG yrl, 20-1

GRAEME HALL (Dehere), Winding Oaks, \$8K, 115/21/2
 7-FG, Msw, 1m, Locust Hall, \$13K OBS AUG yrl, 6-1
 7-FG, Msw, 1m, Southam Hall, \$9K KEE SEP yrl, 15-1
 3-FG, Alw, 1m, Hallway, \$110K KEE SEP yrl, 2-1

ILE ST. LOUIS (CHI) (Hussonet), Old Glory Stables, \$1K, 22/3/0
 5-OP, Alw, 1m, Ile St Jaycee

JOHANNESBURG (Hennessy), Ashford, \$25K, 273/32/8
 2-DUB, Msw, 1mT, Shavoulin, \$30K KEE APR 2yo, 8-1

MALABAR GOLD (Unbridled), Highclere, \$8K, 130/5/1
 9-HAW, Msw, 6f, Midas Point, \$50K OBS MAR 2yo, 3-1

POLISH MINER (Danzig), Northview, \$4K, 70/5/0
 6-LRL, Msw, 5 1/2f, Po Sue, 8-1

RED BULLET (Unbridled), Adena Springs South, \$30K, 102/9/1
 7-FG, Msw, 1m, Tenkiller Lake, \$225K FTF FEB 2yo, 7-2

STORM DAY (Storm Cat), Clear Creek Stud, \$3K, 126/9/1
 7-DED, Msw, 7f, Tensas Cool Day, \$8K TEX MAR 2yo, 6-1
 3-FG, Alw, 1m, Bitsy's Storm, 5-1
 3-FG, Alw, 1m, Day in Rio, 5-1

TOP VENTURE (Storm Cat), 35/3/0
 7-DED, Msw, 7f, Mylibuddy, 12-1

TRIBAL RULE (Storm Cat), River Edge, \$5K, 109/12/1
 1-SA, Str, 6f, Tribal Princess

UNBRIDLED TIME (Unbridled's Song), Signature Stallions, \$5K, 107/9/1
 4-TAM, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Lady's Town, \$5K OBS JUN 2yo, 10-1

BREEDERS' EDITION
AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:
7th-AQU, \$43,000, NW1X, (S), 4yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:05, ft.
BAZOOKA BOB (g, 4, Lion Hearted--Sweep the Salt, by Salt Lake) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-0, \$43,431.
 O-Diamond M Stable. B-Morris Bailey (NY). T-Jeff Odintz. *\$72,000 yrl '04 FTNAUG.

8th-LRL, \$32,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8m, 1:53 4/5, ft.
KATHY'S ESCOLHA (f, 4, Golden Missile--Truly Busted, by Housebuster) Lifetime Record: 30-7-5-4, \$95,310.
 O-Circle Z Stables. B-Harrison Stables, Inc (KY). T-Mark Shuman. *\$6,000 yrl '04 KEESEP.

8th-MNR, \$27,800, 2-27, NW2L, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:42 4/5, my.
BEECH CORNER (m, 5, Stephen Got Even--With Some Luck, by Lear Fan) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$37,834.
 O-R Townsend Sparks. B-Sparks Townsend (KY). T-Howard Rice.

11th-SUN, \$27,300, 2-27, NW2L, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:17, ft.
CONCEPTUAL (g, 5, Cozzene--Creeksider, by Topsider) Lifetime Record: 17-2-5-1, \$58,363. O-Donnell Echols. B-Mrs J G Jones Sr (KY). T-Jimmie D Claridge. *\$180,000 yrl '03 KEESEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
My Own Story, f, 4, Lasting Approval--My Tale Is Told, by Eskimo. GPX, 2-28, (C), 1 1/16mT, 1:42 4/5. B-Lynn & Kathy Jones (KY). \$10,500 yrl '04 KEESEP.
Brecon Beacon, g, 4, Mecke--Call Me Dancer, by Gate Dancer. MNR, 2-27, 1m, 1:42 3/5. B-David L Poll (Fl).
Blue Gator, g, 4, Ore Grade--Blues Majesty, by Magesterial. SUN, 2-27, 6f, 1:11 3/5. B-Ore Grade Inc (Wa).
Smelling Salts, g, 4, Two Punch--Won Scent (GSP, \$303,110), by Air Forbes Won. SAX, 2-28, (C), 6f, 1:10 3/5. B-Flatbird Stable (NY). *1/2 to Mr. Determined (Raja's Revenge), MSP, \$305,192.

TDN TODAY
 Around the World 7 pages

TDN CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

Stakes - purses of \$45,000/up
Allowance Races - purses of \$20,000/up
Optional Claiming Races - purses of \$20,000/up and a minimum claiming price of \$25,000
Maiden Special Weight Races - purses of \$18,000/up
Maiden Claiming Races - purses of \$18,000/up and a minimum claiming price of \$40,000

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 6th Race, \$50,000 Allowance, at Fair Grounds. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).



BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

FRANCE, Toulouse, 2.35, 2-28, €22,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/4mT, 2:14.44, hy.

DOUBNOV (FR) (c, 4, Linamix {Fr}--Karmitycia {Fr}, by Last Tycoon {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 4 wins, 2 places, €47,550. O-D Y Treves; B-D Vallery-Masson & SNC Lagardere Elevage; T-Jean-Claude Rouget. *€25,000 wnlg '03 DEADEC; €80,000 yrl '04 DEAAUG.

HANDICAP RESULTS:

BRITAIN, Southwell, 4.00, 2-28, £7,500, 3yo, 7f (AWT), 1:30.62, st.

REGAL PARADE (GB) (g, 3, Pivotal {GB}--Model Queen, by Kingmambo) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, £7,928. O-Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; B-Highclere Stud & Harry Berbert; T-Mark Johnston. *430,000gns yrl '05 TATOCT.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Chasse Spleen (GB), c, 3, **Alhaarth (Ire)**--Datura (GB), by Darshaan (GB). Toulouse, France, 2-28, Mdn, 3yo, 1 5/16mT. B-The Duke of Devonshire. *40,000gns yrl '05 TATOCT.

+ **Annemasse (GB)**, g, 3, **Anabaa**--Statua (Ire) (GSP-GB, \$109,326), by Statoblest (Ire). Southwell, Britain, 2-28, Mdn, 3yo, 6f (AWT). B-Newsells Park Stud Limited. *19,000gns yrl '05 DONSEP.

FOALING NEWS:

KEY TO MY HEART, 17, Mr. Prospector--Barbs Dancer, by Northern Dancer

Foal born Feb. 5, a filly by A.P. Indy.

Will be bred back to Vindication.

Owned by and boarded at Darby Dan Stables, Ky.

Accomplishments: Dam of Love N' Kiss S. (Kris S.), GSW, \$383,150.

MYTHICAL DANCER, 19, Sovereign Dancer--Mythographer, by Secretariat

Foal born Feb. 6, a colt by Medaglia d'Oro.

Will be bred back to Leroidesanimaux (Brz).

Owned by Falter, Martin, Gillespie & Ubelhor.

Boarded at Red Fox Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: Dam of Lark Creek (Meadowlake), MSP, \$150,045; Metatonia (Pleasant Tap), GSP, \$228,189; Waltz (Pleasant Tap), GSP and Midnight Cry (Smart Strike), GSW & GISP, \$213,152.

All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America,
unless otherwise indicated



WRITERS UP

KING FOR A DAY by Christina Bossinakis

John Kimmel had never raced a horse outside of North America, but when a chance to compete in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia came calling, the New York-based trainer made the most of the opportunity. Kimmel saddled Premium Tap to take the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Cup at King Abdul Aziz Racecourse in Riyadh Feb. 16. Previously owned by George Kline, Peter Alevizos and David Whelihan, the bay was purchased privately by Saudi Arabian King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and his sons with the race in mind.



Premium Tap winning the Woodward S.
Horsephotos

"The King's Cup was a very important race for the Royal family," explained Kimmel, who continued to train the colt following the sale. "Even though the purse money wasn't very big [\$53,330], the prestige of winning the race was paramount on their agenda."

In a deal brokered by Tony Cobitz, Kimmel worked out a purchase agreement on behalf of Kline, Alevizos and Whelihan. With the ink barely dry following the transaction, he started to map out a plan for the King's Cup.

"The only quirk in the whole program was that here is a horse that had never ran further than a mile and a quarter in his life and now he had to run a mile and a half off a three-month layoff," explained Kimmel. "That was a major task--to get him prepared. That as well as shipping him half way around the world."

The King's Cup, which had been contested at 3,400 meters (approx. 2 1/8 miles) the year before, was reduced to 1 1/2 miles for the 2007 edition.

"I tried to get them to make it a mile and an eighth," joked Kimmel. "They didn't go for that."

Following a five-eighths breeze in :59 4/5 at Gulfstream Feb. 9, Premium Tap, who was armed with a personal team of veterinarians, was flown from his South Florida base to New York Saturday Feb. 10, but



King Abdul Aziz Racecourse

was delayed a day after his original flight was cancelled due to mechanical problems. Soon back on course, the five-year-old, accompanied by Kimmel's top assistant Loretta Lusteg, arrived in Riyadh on Tuesday. With only days until the race, Kimmel ordered normal gallops Wednesday and Thursday for the son of Pleasant Tap, and had the handsome horse back out for a light jog the morning of the race. **Cont. p7**



King for a Day (cont. from p6)

After a long trip via New York and Dubai, Kimmel arrived in Riyadh just hours before post time and was pleased with what he saw.

"When I got to the barn, the horse was in great shape," said Kimmel. "I was told that he arrived in really good shape. I knew he was going to give a good account of himself."

Premium Tap did not disappoint. With a big crowd in attendance, including the King himself, the Kentucky-bred, who was ridden by jockey Kent Desormeaux, drove to a 2 3/4-length victory over Obay (GB).

"I might have been the most popular guy in Saudi Arabia that day," laughed Kimmel. "Everyone was so nice, cordial and appreciative after the race. They were very gracious hosts."

Plenty of Talent on Tap...

With no apparent preconceptions in regard to the style of racing in Saudi Arabia prior to his trip abroad, Kimmel was left with a good impression of his experience in Saudi Arabia.

"They are pretty much on the same level as we are," Kimmel explained. "The paddock situation is similar to the racetracks in the States and the surface is just marvelous--very safe. To tell you the truth, I really didn't see much variation."

When asked about any lasting memories from his pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia?

"Fatigue," answered Kimmel with a laugh. "It was a whirlwind experience. I was constantly on the go. I don't think I ate dinner or slept for any period longer than a couple of hours. But it really was a great experience."

Premium Tap, who was purchased by Kimmel for \$60,000 from the 2004 OBS March two-year-olds in training sale, finally came into his own with a half-length score over Second of June in the GI Woodward S. last September. Following a fifth in the GII Kentucky Cup Classic and a third in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs, he was at his best with a sparkling 7 1/4-length win in the GI Clark H. Nov. 24. A winner of six of 17 starts, Premium Tap has amassed over \$1.3-million in career earnings.



After a win in the Woodward S. Horsephotos

With the King's Cup tucked safely in the Royal satchel, the next stop will be the G1 Dubai World Cup at Nad al Sheba Mar. 31. Premium Tap is currently under the care of Lusteg in Dubai. He will be joined by Kimmel and Desormeaux the week of Mar. 17 and is scheduled to have one more major work before the jewel of the Dubai International Racing Carnival.

Following the World Cup, Premium Tap will have to spend 60 days in quarantine in Dubai before returning to the United States the first week of June. While plans for the rest of the summer are still up in the air, the ultimate goal culminating the current season is not.

"We want the Breeders' Cup Classic," said Kimmel. "We will base everything else around that."

Looking even further down the road, Kimmel added, "We're going to try and do it again next year. The King's Cup is a very important race for the Royal family. It will definitely be the highlight of Premium Tap's 2008 campaign."

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