

THOROUGHBREDTM

DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1998  \$2 Daily

N • E • W • S TODAY

KEENELAND RELEASES RECORD STAKES

SCHEDULE Keeneland released the stakes schedule for its 1998 spring meeting yesterday. The 19-event program is worth a record \$3,090,000. The GII Lexington S. for three-year-olds, with the sponsorship of Coolmore, will now be worth \$325,000 and will be run April 19. The centerpiece of the spring meeting is the \$700,000 GII Toyota Blue Grass S. The nine-furlong race for three-year-olds will be run on April 11, three weeks before the Kentucky Derby. Other highlights on the stakes schedule are the April 4 \$500,000 GI Ashland S. for three-year-old fillies and the April 11 \$200,000 Commonwealth Breeders' Cup for three-year-olds and up. The 15-day meet runs from April 3-24.

NEW ZEALAND SALE SKYROCKETS A new record price for a Thoroughbred sold at public auction in New Zealand was set at the opening session of the New Zealand Premier Yearling Sale at Karaka in Auckland Tuesday when a full-brother to 1996 Australian Horse Of The Year **Octagonal (NZ)** and triple Group 1 winner **Mouawad (NZ)** was sold for \$932,347 (\$1.6-million New Zealand dollars). Lyndon Burns and his partners in Roselands Stud in Victoria, Australia purchased the Zabeel (NZ)--Eight Carat (GB) (Pieces Of Eight {GB}) colt, who was bred and sold by Patrick and Justine Hogan of Cambridge Stud in New Zealand. The brown colt with a large white blaze shattered the previous New Zealand record of \$699,259 (\$1.2-million New Zealand), set at Karaka in 1989 by a colt by Zabeel's deceased sire Sir Tristram, and just missed surpassing the Australasian record of \$975,419 (\$1.5 million Australian dollars) set at the 1989 Inglis's Easter Yearling Sale. Burns said after the sale: "I expected to pay more than \$1 million (New Zealand), but the \$1.6 million was my final bid. I was not prepared to go higher." He also confirmed that some European money was involved in the purchase, but would not disclose any details. Melbourne trainer Lee Freedman will have charge of the record-breaking colt. "He has terrific racing potential, but his stud value is enormous," he said. Underbidder was Sydney's champion trainer Mrs. Gai Waterhouse. In all, 63 yearlings were sold at the opening session of the sale for an aggregate of \$4,049,881. The average of \$64,284 marks an 83.8-percent increase over last year's figure of \$34,963.

S • T • A • K • E • S RESULTS

Wednesday, Gulfstream Park:

JOE NAMATH H.-GIII, \$75,000, GPX, 1-21, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:42, fm.

- 1--**PARADE QUEEN**, 118, f, 4, A.P. Indy--Spanish Parade (SW, \$131,822), by Roberto. (\$150,000 yrl '95 KEEJUL). O-Farish W S & Hudson E J; B-W S Farish & E J Hudson (KY); T-Neil J Howard; J-P Day; \$45,000. Lifetime Record: 13-6-3-1, \$383,171.
- 2--**Dispersion**, 113, m, 5, Breeders Bonus--Gatefold, by Relaunch. O-Kotzen Lonnie & Two-Bux Farm; B-Glen Hill Farm (FL); \$15,000.
- 3--**Dance Clear (Ire)**, 114, m, 5, Marju--Dance Ahead, by Shareef Dancer. O-Carl William A & Turf Stables; B-Michael Dalton (Ire); \$8,250.

Margins: 1, HF, HF. Odds: 1.70, 19.30, 8.00.

Also Ran: Fleur de Nuit, Dynasty, Gastronomical, Overcharger, Shemuzzle (Ire), Winfama, My Own Lovely Lee, Colonial Minstrel, Fullasatick.

Scratched: Bog Wild, Jeffreys Mom, Relic Rhythm, Promptly (Ire), Radiant Megan.

Parade Queen captured a Nov. 2 allowance contest and the Nov. 22 GIII Mrs. Revere S., both over the Churchill turf, in her two previous outings. Looking for her third consecutive victory, the favorite was unhurried early, moved up between horses on the far turn, angled out six-wide for the drive, and rolled by Dispersion inside the final furlong. "She did everything right," winning jockey Pat Day said. "I tell you what, going into the (stretch) turn, the field was bunching up, and I didn't think there'd be any space in there. I was going to go around them, but they started to fan out. When we got to them, a seam materialized and she was courageous enough to take advantage of it. Once we worked our way in there, she kicked in and got on by them horses and kinda loped on down to the wire." Trainer Neil Howard is high on his charge. "She's a nice filly," Howard said. "Always consistent. I think she's matured a little bit. She's gotten better with age. (GIII) The Very One H. (Feb. 8 at Gulfstream) is one that we'd think about next."

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22:
1-31 \$200,000 **Palos Verdes H.-GII, SA**,
4yo/up, 6f (\$200)





(News cont.)

OBS WINTER SALE ENDS The Ocala Breeders' Sales Company concluded its annual Winter Mixed Sale Wednesday in Florida. At the final session of the three-day sale, 179 horses sold for \$882,900. During the two open sessions, 354 horses sold for an aggregate of \$1,830,600. That's up 5.8 percent from last year's total of \$1,730,400 grossed from the sale of 357 horses. The average price of \$5,171 rose 6.7 percent from the 1997 figure of \$4,847. For the three session, 601 horses sold for \$5,018,300—up 17.9 percent from last year's sale where 545 horses brought \$4,254,800. The final day's session topper was hip number 728, **Our Buck Too** (Silver Buck). The seven-year-old mare, in foal to Island Whirl, was consigned by Beth Bayer, agent for Highpointe Farm, and was purchased for \$19,000 by Centaur Farms, Inc. "Overall, I thought it was a good sale and a good way to start off a new year," said OBS Director of Sales Tom Ventura. "From here, it's on to our Calder Sale (Feb. 3), the source of Eclipse Award winners Favorite Trick and Skip Away, to start the two-year-old season."

INTERNATIONAL RACES RELEASED BY JRA

The Japan Racing Association has released a list of 11 international races for 1998. Last year, only nine races were open to foreign-trained horses. Added to the mix for the current season are the October 31 G2-Jpn Swan S., a seven-furlong turf event for three-year-olds and up, and the November 22 G1-Jpn Mile Championship, over the turf for three-year-olds and up. Both races will be run at Kyoto Racecourse during the fall meeting. The other international races are the May 16 G2-Jpn Keio Hai Spring Cup, June 14 G1-Jpn Yasuda Kinen, June 21 G2-Jpn Naruo Kinen, July 12 G1-Jpn Takarazuka, G2-Jpn Sankei-Sho All Comers, Oct. 11 G2-Jpn Mainichi Okan, Nov. 28 G3-Jpn Fuji S., Nov. 29 G1-Jpn Japan Cup and the Dec. 20 G1-Jpn Sprinters S.

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◆ SO. CALIFORNIA ◆

Local News, California:

Flying Victor (Flying Paster—Elegant Victress, Sir Ivor) will stand the 1998 breeding season at Flag Is Up Farms in Solvang, California. The 13-year-old stallion, winner of the 1987 GIII California Juvenile S. and second in the 1988 GII San Rafael S., has sired stakes winners Flying in the Lane, Flying Record and Magical Flyer. He is a full brother to Vying Victor, a leading freshman sire last year. Flying Victor will stand the 1998 season for a fee of \$2,000, if booked before March 31 and a fee of \$2,500, if booked after April 1.

◆ FLORIDA ◆

Yesterday's Results:

8th-GPX, \$28,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5, ft.

COLONEL BRADLEY (c, 4, Rubiano--Secret Imperatrice {SW}, by Secretariat) finished third in a Jan. 10 Gulfstream allowance event in his previous start and picked up his first victory here since taking a Feb. 1 maiden race over the same South Florida oval, seven starts back. The even-money favorite tracked the pace before advancing around the far turn to take the lead at the top of the lane and drew away in the stretch for a 3/4-length tally. Lifetime Record: 15-2-2-1, \$58,859. O-Dogwood Stable. B-Harold Harrison (KY). T-Todd A Pletcher.

◆ MIDWEST ◆

Local News, Lexington, Kentucky:

Henry A. Zeitlin has been named executive vice president, sales and marketing of Equibase Company, the database of North American Thoroughbred racing records. Making the announcement, Equibase chairman Alan Marzelli said that the appointment would further the company's pursuit of its goals to develop educational products and broaden its customer base.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a **@** will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a **+** will denote winners who are 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.

MINER'S MARK

Four of his first yearlings to sell brought
\$175,000, \$170,000, \$150,000 & \$130,000
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B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S E D I T I O N

MAIDEN WINNER:

Sombra En El Cielo, f, 3, Marquetry--Green Shade, by Mehmet. GPX, 1-21, (C), 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-Charles V Muth & David Caldwell (Ky). *\$24,000 wlng '95 KEENOV; \$40,000 yrl '96 FTKJUL.

1997 THOROUGHBRED RACING LEADERS

(through January 18, 1997)

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<u>Jockeys</u>	<u>Mounts/Wins</u>	<u>Purses</u>
Jerry Bailey	90/22	\$750,811
Kent Desormeaux	72/15	\$611,089
Gary Stevens	59/10	\$563,781
Corey Nakatani	56/11	\$535,671
Jorge Chavez	83/24	\$520,414
Russell Baze	75/19	\$459,535
Alex Solis	70/8	\$450,838
Aaron Gryder	84/12	\$431,853
Mike Smith	82/15	\$403,809
Eibar Coa	95/14	\$373,165

<u>Trainers</u>	<u>Starts/Wins</u>	<u>Purses</u>
Jerry Hollendorfer	45/17	\$556,318
Bob Baffert	29/9	\$436,493
D. Wayne Lukas	37/6	\$304,514
Ron McAnally	27/3	\$304,114
Richard Mandella	21/3	\$206,032
William Mott	23/5	\$185,110
Joseph Orseno	19/7	\$171,138
Robert Frankel	16/3	\$167,820
Gary Sciacca	34/7	\$164,330
Randy Bradshaw	18/3	\$159,152

<u>Horses</u>	<u>Starts/Wins</u>	<u>Purses</u>
Silver Charm	1/1	\$125,520
Clover Hunter	1/1	\$120,000
Hal's Pal (GB)	1/1	\$120,000
Oly Ogy	2/1	\$113,970
Golden Arches (Fr)	1/1	\$96,870
Fleet Lady	1/1	\$96,840
Fearless Pirate	2/1	\$79,060
Funallover	1/1	\$68,280
Rio Oro	1/1	\$66,180
Madame Pandit	1/1	\$65,700

WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES

by Alan Porter

PEDIGREE SHORTS

The disqualification of I Ain't Bluffing allowed **Fleet Lady** (f, 4, **Avenue of Flags**—**Dear Mimi**, by **Roberto**) to capture Sunday's GII El Encino S. Fleet Lady is yet another stakes winner for the distinctly upwardly mobile Avenue of Flags. A son of Seattle Slew out of the very speedy Beautiful Glass, Avenue of Flags ran only three times, winning twice and finishing second in the Hollywood Juvenile Championship. He has made the most of his opportunities and has now sired nine stakes winners and four graded stakes winners. Fleet Lady's pedigree is rather unusual in that she is inbred to Amerigo, a horse who is not often seen duplicated in pedigrees. The position of Amerigo in the pedigree of Avenue of Flags might be important though, as he is the broodmare sire of the broodmare sire (and therefore on what is otherwise known as the "zig-zag"). It might be worth noting that Amerigo is closely related to Nearctic, the sire of Northern Dancer, and that Avenue of Flags has worked well with mares carrying Nearctic and Northern Dancer. In fact, Northern Dancer appears in another new Avenue of Flags stakes winner, **Avenue Shopper** (m, 5, **Avenue of Flags**—**Exciting Gal**, by **Master Willie**), who took the Linda Card H. at Santa Anita on Friday. There is another extremely interesting twist to this pedigree as Avenue Shopper's fourth dam, Amaleasian, is a half-sister to Boldnesian, the great-grand sire of Avenue of Flags.

Pedigree Shorts cont. p. 5

TRACK ABBREVIATIONS:

AQU	Aqueduct	BEU	Beulah Park
CTX	Charles Town	FGX	Fair Grounds
GGX	Golden Gate	GPX	Gulfstream Park
GSX	Garden State	HOU	Sam Houston
LRL	Laurel Park	PEN	Penn National
PHA	Philadelphia Park	SAX	Santa Anita
SUF	Suffolk Downs	TAM	Tampa Bay
TPX	Turfway Park	TUP	Turf Paradise

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WRITERS UP

"POLITICS" IS STILL PLAYING GAME

By Bill Finley

He's gotten a little ornery, a little stubborn, and he likes his space, but he's entitled. Last until 16, start 201 times, finish third behind Spend a Buck, run every year for 15 straight years and they'll cut you some slack.

Playing Politics doesn't run very fast, at least not anymore. But he has taken his place among the more exceptional horses in the game thanks to one admirable trait: his remarkable durability. Two weeks ago, he proved that he's still got a little giddyap in his step, winning a \$4,000 claiming race at Suffolk Downs at the age of 16.

"He's just eager to run," owner-trainer Richard Fruzzetti said.

Even after all these years.

Once upon a time, Playing Politics looked like he might amount to something, something other than a rugged old, cheap horse. He made his first start on July 4, 1984, finishing fourth in a maiden race at Calder. Two starts later, and after he broke his maiden, he finished third in an allowance race behind Spend a Buck, who went on to win the 1985 Kentucky Derby. Next time out, he was fourth in a small stakes race behind Smile, the 1986 Breeders' Cup Sprint winner.

But he soon was descending the class ladder until he wound up running in \$14,000 claimers at Belmont and Aqueduct in 1986. Four years later, he had found his way to New England, rock bottom-level claimers and Fruzzetti's barn, where he has been ever since. His is not a story of stardom, but of a horse who just doesn't want to quit.

"Sure, he's tailing off a little bit and he not 100 percent of what he used to be," said regular jockey Mike Lapensee, 50, who has been aboard Playing Politics 60 times. "But I don't want to knock him. He might not be the same horse, but he tries hard."

Fruzzetti, 60, wasn't expecting much when he bought Playing Politics sight unseen for \$4,000 during the summer of 1990. The son of In Reality was already eight, racing at the \$4,000 claiming level and was suffering from some ankle problems. Fruzzetti was told that the horse might prosper under his care, because he trains at a farm where Playing Politics, a claustrophobic, was sure to enjoy the atmosphere and the wide-open spaces.

Plus Fruzzetti employs some unusual training methods, which in this case seem to have worked. He doesn't use an exercise rider for morning training, instead letting the horses run around his three-eighths of a mile track on their own. If they don't want to run, Fruzzetti will chase them in a four-wheel drive all-terrain vehicle.

"Maybe it's the way we take care of him," said Fruzzetti, who also has trained a 14-year-old winner. "He would never have lasted like this on the racetrack. He had about had it back when we got him. His ankles were hot, he was skinny and they were running him every seven days."

Or maybe it's the oranges, the treats Fruzzetti spoils him with every day.

Or maybe it's Lapensee. The veteran rider missed two years after having a heart attack, and Fruzzetti said the old horse just didn't want to run for anyone else but Lapensee, who was reunited with Playing Politics last April.

"Once my jockey got back on him, he started doing well again," Fruzzetti said. "He holds him together. He just gets along well with him."

Playing Politics still has a way to go before he makes the codger Hall of Fame. The sport of racing doesn't keep records on anything, but the oldest horse to run that anyone can seem to remember is Golden Arrow. He won at 17 and made a start at 18 at the Great Barrington Fair in 1979. Lexington Park, the winner of the 1973 Oceanport Handicap at Monmouth, made it until he was 16, but was 0-for-8 that year. A cheap black horse named Behavin Jerry won a race as a 17-year-old in 1981.

Cont. p. 5

CLOVER HUNTER wins \$200,000 Golden Gate Derby by 6 1/2

Jade Hunter (Mr. Prospector-Jadana)



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"Politics" cont. from p. 4

Still going (relatively) strong, Playing Politics probably could make it to 17 or beyond. Fruzzetti said that the horse is as healthy as he's ever been. He's not sure, though, that he'll persist with him. He worries that it wouldn't look good to push the horse through another year at his age.

He already has heard from a horse retirement foundation in Texas that's interested in taking the horse, but Playing Politics hates the heat, so Fruzzetti doesn't think that's the right place for him. He's hoping the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, based in New York, will give Playing Politics a good home after it's all over. Certainly, he's earned one.

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Editor's Note: After reading the January 15 story on Playing Politics in the *New York Daily News*, the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding homes for racehorses without other alternatives once their careers have come to an end, contacted Richard and Maryanne Fruzzetti to tell them they would be happy to give their horse a home once his racetrack career was over. The couple quickly accepted the offer, but have no immediate plans to retire the 16-year-old, who is still racing successfully. "I'm pleased that they're the kind of owners who watch out for their horses and care about what happens to them afterward," said Monique Kohler, founder and president of the TRF.

MOVING ???

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Pedigree shorts cont. from p. 3

Saturday's GIII Aqueduct H. resulted in a first stakes win for **Star of Valor (h, 5, Phone Trick-Matriarch, by Wavering Monarch)**. The pedigree of Star of Valor features Mr. Busher and his three-parts sister Busanda 4x5 with their genetic relative Better Self also in the fifth generation. Mr. Busher, one of the few males found in pedigrees bred on the War Admiral/La Troienne cross, is sire of the second dam of Phone Trick, and at least eight of Phone Trick's offspring have La Troienne duplications, all through genetic relatives to Mr. Busher.

Inbreeding to Somethingroyal (dam of Secretariat and Sir Gaylord) has proved to be a successful technique. Another example of this surfaced in the shape of **Lord Cromby (Ire) (c, 4, Risen Star-Havinia, by Habitat)**, who broke his stakes maiden in the Tiller S. at Santa Anita Saturday. We are more accustomed to seeing Somethingroyal inbreeding where Secretariat is in the distaff side of the stallion, but in addition to Risen Star, Secretariat sons Pancho Villa, National Zenith and General Assembly (two) have all sired mares with Somethingroyal inbreeding, as has a male-line grandson, Presidium.



FOALING NEWS

WOODYOUBELIEVEIT, 5, Woodman-Tricky Finger (Clever Trick)
Foal born 1-1-98, a filly by Hennessy.
Will be bred back to Spinning World.
Owned by Michael Hirsch.
Boarded at Pegasus Stud in Lexington, KY.
Accomplishments: Stakes Winner; first foal.

PLENTY OF GRACE, 11, Roberto-Wings Of Grace (Key to the Mint)
Foal born 1-12-98, a filly by Storm Cat.
Will be bred back to Deputy Minister.
Owned by Phillips Racing Partnership.
Boarded at Darby Dan Farm in Lexington, KY.
Accomplishments: Grade I Stakes Winner, \$744,499.



BREEDERS' CUP NATIONAL STAKES RACE CLOSINGS

CLOSES	TRACK	RACE	CONDITIONS	PURSE	RUNS
1-23	TuP	Turf Paradise Breeders' Cup H.	3yo/up, 1 1/16mT	\$150,000	2-7
1-28	FG	Fair Grounds Breeders' Cup S.	3yo/up, 1 1/8mT	\$125,000	2-7

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