

THOROUGHBREDTM

DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998



\$2 Daily

N • E • W • S T O D A Y

FAVORITE TRICK NAMED HORSE OF THE YEAR

Undefeated Two-Year-old Champion **Favorite Trick** (Phone Trick) was named 1997's Horse of the Year during ESPN's *SportsCenter* prior to yesterday's 27th Annual Eclipse Award Dinner at the Westin Mission Hills Resort in Rancho Mirage, California. Favorite Trick edged out Champion Older Horse **Skip Away** (Skip Trial) to become only the second two-year-old to earn the gold Eclipse Award since its inception in 1971. He joins Secretariat, who earned the title as a two-year-old in 1972. Trained during his perfect season by Patrick Byrne, Favorite Trick dominated his division, finishing 1997 with a perfect eight-for-eight record. The dark bay colt made a smashing graded stakes debut, taking the June 28 GIII Bashford Manor S. by 4½ lengths. He added daylight wins in the GII Saratoga Special, GI Hopeful S. and GII Lane's End Breeders' Futurity before confirming his prowess with a 5½-length romp in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile. During his sparkling season he earned \$1,231,998. When Byrne became a private trainer for Frank Stronach, Favorite Trick moved to the barn of Bill Mott and the well-decorated colt could make his first start as a three-year-old in the March 14 GIII Swale S. "I can't express how I feel," said the colt's jubilant owner Joe LaCombe. "It's just a wonderful, wonderful feeling, totally unexpected and just great. Favorite Trick is a marvelous athlete and I'm so happy to see him rewarded with this." In the Horse of the Year voting, Favorite Trick defeated Skip Away 2-1 by capturing the votes of the National Turf Writers Association and *Daily Racing Form*, while Skip Away earned the Thoroughbred Racing Association's vote. Neither horse earned the majority of any voting bloc. Favorite Trick won 40 of the 112 DRF votes and 67 of the 150 NTWA votes, while Skip Away was named on 16 of 34 TRA ballots. Seven other horses garnered votes, led by **Gentlemen** (Arg) (Robin des Bois) and **Silver Charm** (Silver Buck).

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11:

2-21 \$200,000 **Fountain of Youth-GII, GP**,
3yo, 8½f (\$250)

2-22 \$125,000 **Las Flores H.-GIII, SA**,
4yo/up, f/m, 6f (\$100)

2-22 \$100,000 **Davona Dale-GIII, GP**, 3yo, f, 1m 70yd
(\$100)



INJURED SHARP CAT OUT UNTIL SUMMER

Sharp Cat (Storm Cat) will be forced to miss Saturday's GI Santa Maria H. and may be out of action until the summer after reinjuring an ankle, according to a report in the *Daily Racing Form*. The four-year-old multiple graded stakes winner suffered a cut to the back of the ankle of her right foreleg during a walk-over win in the GII Bayakoa H. last December and reopened the cut during a six-furlong workout Monday. "She worked great and galloped out great, but we noticed it when we got back to the barn," trainer Wally Dollase told the *Form*. "The track was a little soft and I guess she overflexed." The Santa Maria would have been Sharp Cat's first start for Dollase.

FASIG-TIPTON KENTUCKY SALE TODAY

The Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale, originally scheduled for Sunday, February 8 but delayed by last week's blizzard, is set for today in Lexington, Kentucky. A total of 391 horses have been catalogued for the one-day sale, including 273 broodmares or broodmare prospects, 84 yearlings and 31 horses of racing age. Broodmares will sell in foal to Afternoon Deelites, Belong to Me, Boone's Mill, Cryptoclearance, Dehere, Glitterman, Hennessy, Lit de Justice, Phone Trick, Red Ransom, Salt Lake, and You and I. Among the yearling sires are Alydeed, Diablo, Fly So Free, Mountain Cat, Mt. Livermore, Rubiano, Silver Deputy and Storm Boot. The auction begins at 10 a.m. and is followed immediately by the Stallion Access Sale.

CAPTAIN KEN WATT DIES Captain Ken Watt, a valued member of Tattersalls for over 50 years, has died. He was 83. Watt joined the Newmarket firm of auctioneers in 1942 and became a partner in 1947. A senior partner in 1951, he served as chairman of the board until 1982. Upon his retirement from the Tattersalls Board in 1996, Watt became president of the company, a new role designed to acknowledge his enormous contribution to Tattersalls during his 54-year tenure. "Ken's passing is a tremendous personal loss to all his immediate family and friends," said Tattersalls Chairman Edmond Mahony. "He has been a guiding light at Tattersalls for 54 years. He was responsible for building the company from a shell after World War II to the world-famous company it is today. All at Tattersalls and in the European breeding industry owe him an enormous debt of gratitude." Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

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(News cont.)

GOFFS SALES RESULTS Goffs Bloodstock concluded its two-day February Mixed Sale yesterday in Ireland. The eight-year-old mare **Mamoura (Ire)** (Lomond), hip number 128, topped the sale when she fetched \$98,827 during Monday's first session. Mamoura was one of 115 horses sold Monday, bringing a gross of \$1,293,057 and an average of \$11,243. Tuesday's session topper was hip number 294. The four-year-old mare **Dundel (Ire)** (Machiavellian) brought a final bid of \$64,452. At the second session of the sale, 141 horses sold for a total of \$1,308,339 and an average of \$9,278. The two-day total gross of \$2,627,865 rose 50 percent from last year's corresponding figure of \$1,749,766. The cumulative average of \$9,843 rose 29 percent from the 1997 figure of \$7,608 and the median price rose 20 percent, from \$3,581 to \$4,297.

CANADIAN FREE HANDICAP RELEASED

Weights for the 1997 Canadian Free Handicap were released yesterday. Any horse that was Canadian stakes placed or who ran in a Canadian Grade I race in 1997 was given consideration by the selection committee of Assiniboia Downs' Ray Miller, Hastings Park's Greg MacDonald, Marquis Downs' Rick Fior, Northland Park's Alan Bott, Stampede Park's Barry McGrath and the Ontario Jockey Club's Chris Evans. The top-weighted two-year-old filly was **Primaly** (Alydeed) at 126 pounds. **Dawson's Legacy** (Roanoke) was the top-weighted two-year-old colt at 127. **Cotton Carnival** (Dixieland Band), at 122, was the highweight three-year-old filly at nine furlongs. **Awesome Again** (Deputy Minister) took the male equivalent at 126 and **Everlasting** (General Assembly) was the top-weighted older filly or mare at 121. Top position for older horses at nine furlongs was garnered by **Stephanotis** (Regal Classic) at 123. Top weighted in a six-furlong race for fillies and mares was **Ashboro** (Regal Classic) at 123 and for older horses **Langfuhr** (Danzig) at 130. Turf honors, in a hypothetical 10-furlong race, for fillies and mares went to **Kool Kat Katie (Ire)** (Fairy King) at 127 and for older horses **Chief Bearhart** (Chief's Crown) at 133.

CANTERBURY & WILL ROGERS JOIN TRA The Thoroughbred Racing Associations Board of Directors approved the applications of Canterbury Park and Will Rogers Downs as the organization's newest members. Canterbury Park rejoins the TRA after a two-year absence, while Will Rogers Downs has been reopened by its new owners, Cottonwood Racing, and will conduct its inaugural race meet this March in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

◆ FLORIDA ◆

Local News, Gulfstream Park:

Trainer Shug McGaughey's troubles with precocious three-year-old **Coronado's Quest** (Forty Niner) continued yesterday morning at Gulfstream. The colt, working towards the Feb. 21 GII Fountain of Youth, propped near the eighth pole for nearly 10 minutes, fighting both the exercise rider and a lead pony. Finally, after being spun around a couple of times, he started jogging. Coronado's Quest went five furlongs in 1:01 3/5 and finished out in 1:14 4/5 for three quarters. McGaughey plans to school him in the paddock either Wednesday or Thursday.

Sweetsouthern saint (Saint Ballado) worked six furlongs in 1:12 3/5 for trainer Leo Azpurua, Jr., in preparation for the Fountain of Youth.

Tale of the Cat (Storm Cat) was taken to Palm Beach Equine Clinic in West Palm, Florida Monday to have nuclear scintigraphy performed on his left front leg. Trainer John Forbes said, "We're not sure what's wrong, but we wanted to perform the tests to see where we stand." The four-year-old colt, winner of last year's GII King's Bishop, cooled out lame after a Feb. 2 work at Gulfstream.

◆ So. CALIFORNIA ◆

Local News, Solvang, California:

The Santa Ynez Valley Thoroughbred Association honored its 1997 champions at their 16th annual awards banquet January 31. The group's Horse of the Year was **Deputy Commander** (Deputy Minister), winner of the GI Travers and GI Super Derby. Stallion of the Year honors went to **Pirate's Bounty** (Hoist the Flag) and Broodmare of the Year was **Not So Careless** (Desert Wine).

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DOES "BREED SHAPER" SUNDAY SILENCE HAVE A SON AT STUD OUTSIDE JAPAN?

FUJIKISEKI (Jpn)
(Sunday Silence - Millracer)

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B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-PHA, \$21,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:16 4/5, ft.
BAY OF IRELAND (m, 5, Irish Sur--Bay Horn, by Malaga Bay) Lifetime Record: 27-8-2-4, \$75,874. O-Northcote Stable. B-Dan Hasbany (FL). T-David Dotolo.

8th-PHA, \$18,990, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:44 1/5, ft.
LEAVE IT TO BEEZER (h, 5, Henbane--Blue Shocker, by Copelan) Lifetime Record: 26-7-3-2, \$74,460. O-Alexander Joanne D. B-C. Harold Kitchen (FL). T-Peter B Alexander.

7th-PHA, \$18,700, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.
CATHERINE JOAN (f, 4, Homebuilder--Cupcake Girl, by Settlement Day) Lifetime Record: 20-5-1-5, \$39,644. O-Two C Stables. B-John Franks (FL). T-Anthony Correnti.



FOALING NEWS

CHELSEY FLOWER, 7, His Majesty--Chelsey Dancer (Affirmed)

Foal born 1-17-98, a colt by Storm Cat
Will be bred back to A.P. Indy
Owned by Jaime S. Carrion, Trustee
Boarded at Crestfield Farm, LLC in Lexington, KY
Accomplishments: Grade I winner of \$568,305

SECRET ADVICE, 11, Secreto--Jellapore (Raja Baba)

Foal born 1-20-98, a colt by Rahy
Will be bred back to Private Terms
Owned by Jaime S. Carrion, Trustee
Boarded at Crestfield Farm, LLC in Lexington, KY
Accomplishments: SW of \$144,508

SILKEN CAT, 5, Storm Cat--Silken Doll (Chieftain)

Foal born 2-1-98, a colt by Gone West
Will be bred back to Danjur
Owned by Mr. & Mrs. Aaron U. Jones
Boarded at Taylor Made Farm in Nicholasville, KY
Accomplishments: Ch. 2yo Filly in Canada, SW, \$102,120

FIESTA GAL, 14, Alleged--Proud Pattie (Noble Commander)
Foal born 2-7-98, a colt by Dayjur

Owned by Bridlewood Farm
Boarded at Taylor Made Farm in Nicholasville, KY
Accomplishments: MGI winner of \$447,113

IM A STAR PROSPECT, 13, Mr. Prospector--Liza Star (Bold Hitter)

Foal born 2-9-98, a filly by Candy Stripes
Will be bred back to Storm Bird
Owned by Robert Wehle
Boarded at Taylor Made Farm in Nicholasville, KY
Accomplishments: Dam of Patsyprospect (MSW, \$407,176, by Personal Flag)

ECLIPSE AWARD WINNERS: HORSE OF THE YEAR

- 1971 Ack Ack (age 5)
- 1972 Secretariat (2)
- 1973 Secretariat (3)
- 1974 Forego (4)
- 1975 Forego (5)
- 1976 Forego (6)
- 1977 Seattle Slew (3)
- 1978 Affirmed (3)
- 1979 Affirmed (4)
- 1980 Spectacular Bid (4)
- 1981 John Henry (6)
- 1982 Conquistador Cielo (3)
- 1983 All Along (4)
- 1984 John Henry (9)
- 1985 Spend a Buck (3)
- 1986 Lady's Secret (4)
- 1987 Ferdinand (4)
- 1988 Alysheba (4)
- 1989 Sunday Silence (3)
- 1990 Criminal Type (5)
- 1991 Black Tie Affair (5)
- 1992 A.P. Indy (3)
- 1993 Kotashaan (5)
- 1994 Holy Bull (3)
- 1995 Cigar (5)
- 1996 Cigar (6)
- 1997 Favorite Trick (2)

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DARE AND GO

Family of sires **FAPPIANO, OGYGIAN** and **QUIET AMERICAN**. \$8,500 LF





WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES

by Alan Porter

GENERAL NEDIYM (AUS) (c, 3, Nediym {Ire}--Military Belle {Aus}, by Without Fear {Fr})

The G1 VRC Lightning S. in Australia Sunday was won in brilliant style by the three-year-old General Nediym. This was the 10th victory in 12 starts for General Nediym, whose record also shows him successful in five of six starts at two.

What makes General Nediym so interesting is that although he is a dazzling sprinter, a conventional reading of his pedigree suggests that his optimum distance should be more than double the five furlongs of the VRC Lightning S.

His sire, Nediym, is a son of Irish Derby winner Shareef Dancer, and Nediym's first four dams are by Right Royal, Charlottesville, Tulyar and Dante--the first two being winners of the French Derby and the second two winners of the English Derby. Nediym won the Rolling Green H. at eight and a half furlongs and a listed race in France at 10 furlongs, but also demonstrated plenty of stamina when he finished second in the mile and a half Sword Dancer H.

General Nediym's dam didn't run, but she is by Without Fear, who stayed a mile in France, and she is out of a mare by the French long-distance horse In the Purple. This is the immediate family of Horlicks, a New Zealand-bred mare who won the Japan Cup over a mile and a half. General Nediym's fourth dam, Froth, captured the two mile Auckland Cup. A simple way to sum the theoretical stamina capacity of the pedigree is to point out that his dosage, as calculated by CompuSire, is a stay-for-ever 0.89.

So, why is General Nediym being pointed for a sweep of Australia's premier sprints and not the two mile Melbourne Cup? Well, it is only speculation, but there are some notable patterns in the pedigree. First of all, General Nediym, is inbred 3x4 to Right Royal, the broodmare sire of Nediym. We have mentioned before that we like inbreeding to the broodmare sire of a sire (or a maternal grandsire), and for what it is worth, General Nediym, who has this pattern, is the only stakes performer to appear from Nediym's first 30 runners.

At this point we strike an intriguing historical note. Right Royal is a son of Owen Tudor, who captured a war-time Derby and Ascot Gold Cup (both run at Newmarket). Oddly, despite his ability to stay the two and a quarter miles of England's premier stamina contest, Owen Tudor, when mated with two granddaughters of the mare Lady Josephine, sired Abernant and Tudor Minstrel, two of the fastest horses ever seen in Europe. Strangely enough, General Nediym's pedigree abounds in descendants of Lady Josephine. His grandsire, Shareef Dancer, has a double of Mahmoud (grandson of Lady Josephine's brilliantly speedy daughter, Mumtaz Mahal), and also carries Royal Charger, whose granddam, Mumtaz Begum, is a three-parts-sister to Mahmoud. General Nediym's sire, Nediym, actually traces back to Mumtaz Begum, as his fourth dam is the very fast filly Diableretta, a granddaughter of Mumtaz Begum and a very close relative to Royal Charger. A look at General Nediym's dam reveals that she has Nasrullah, who is a son of Mumtaz Begum and a very close relative to both Royal Charger and Diableretta. She also has a cross of Riot, who is another granddaughter of Lady Josephine and is from the same male line as Royal Charger, Diableretta and Nasrullah.

Owen Tudor also relates to one of the very few speed influences close up in this pedigree. Owen Tudor was a son of Hyperion out of a mare by Pharos. Nediym is a great-grandson of sprint champion Nearctic, who was by a son of Pharos out of a mare by Hyperion.

There is one final set of relatives worth noting. We have frequently mentioned how well Tom Fool does when combining with his genetic relatives Spring Run and Flaming Page. Nediym brings in Tom Fool, and while General Nediym doesn't have Spring Run and Flaming Page, he does have another three-quarters relative to Tom Fool, the mare Vienna. Tom Fool was by the speed horse Menow, and Menow's three-parts sister, Athenia, also appears in this pedigree (in fact General Nediym's grandsire, Shareef Dancer, is out of a mare with Menow/Athenia 3x3).

Does General Nediym flout convention because of his close inbreeding to Right Royal, because of the Owen Tudor links with Lady Josephine and Nearctic, or because of his accumulation of genetic relatives? Is the answer a combination of these things, or is he just one of those "fool-us-all Thoroughbreds" whose pedigree serves to remind us just how unpredictable this business can be?



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K.O. PUNCH

- ◆ Won **GIII** Hollywood Juvenile Championship by 2 lengths in 1:09 4/5
 - ◆ Won Haggin S. at Hollywood Park by **12** lengths as the 1-2 favorite
 - ◆ Placed behind Champion **Favorite Trick** in **GII** Hopeful & **GII** Saratoga Special
- One of the FASTEST 2-year-olds of 1997 ◆ 1998 Stud Fee: \$5,000 live foal*



PEDIGREE SHORTS

The dominant Japan-based sire Sunday Silence enjoyed yet another good weekend with graded stakes victories by **Big Sunday (Jpn) (Sunday Silence--Kitano Ogojo {Jpn}, by Tosho Boy {Jpn})** and **Special Week (Jpn) (c, 3, Sunday Silence--Campaign Girl {Jpn}, by Maruzensky)**. Special Week is the ninth of the first 20 graded stakes winners sired by Sunday Silence to be out of a Northern Dancer-line mare, and the fourth from the Nijinsky II branch. Surprisingly enough, the combination of just two sons of Halo--Sunday Silence and Devil's Bag--with Nijinsky II line mares accounts for 10 of the 29 stakes winners bred on the Halo/Northern Dancer cross. The reverse of the combination hasn't been as potent as of yet, with only four of 19 Northern Dancer/Halo stakes winners being from Nijinsky II's male line. Of course, with Devil's Bag picking up momentum as a broodmare sire and daughters of Sunday Silence retiring to stud in Japan, this strike rate could be due for some revision.

The victory of **Shemozzle (Ire) (Shirley Heights {GB}--Reactress, by Sharpen Up {GB})** in the Feb. 8 The Very One Handicap (GIII) at Gulfstream Park made her the second filly bred on the Shirley Heights/Sharpen Up cross to win a U.S. graded stakes, following Rumpipumpy in 1997. Shirley Heights and Sharpen Up appear to have relatively little in common from a pedigree point of view. They do, however, both carry the English Derby winner Felstead. This may be significant, as Felstead is one of the few sources of a son strain of Spearmint, who as the sire of the granddam of Nearco and the dams of Bull Dog, Sir Gallahad III, Admiral Drake and Bois Roussel, is generally found in pedigrees through daughters. This may seem fanciful, but it is worth noting that Dashing Blade, one of only two Group 1 winners sired by Shirley Heights' son, Elegant Air, is also out of a Sharpen Up mare. In addition, we also find that when sons of Danzig, another horse who carries Felstead, have been crossed with Sharpen Up line mares, it has resulted in five group winners, including Group 1 winners Danehill Dancer, Kissing

Cousin and Hayil (the only Group/Grade 1 winner by Dayjur). Star Kingdom is another Felstead carrier. Geography has tended to keep the Star Kingdom and Shirley Heights strains apart, but the only Group 1 winner (and one of only two group/graded winners) sired by Star Kingdom's Irish-based grandson, Fools Holme, was out of a Shirley Heights mare!

Tap Dancing (c, 3, Pleasant Tap--Dancing Reef, by Danzig) became a stakes winner in his career debut by taking the Bucharest S. at Sam Houston Saturday. He has the three-quarters related Prince John and Milan Mill 4x4 and Never Bend 4x4. The Never Bend is also significant as his second dam is by Bimelech, and Pleasant Tap's fourth dam, Black Helen, is a sister to Bimelech.

We frequently come across pedigrees where upgrading for performance has been achieved by duplicating the mare Victoriana (dam of Victoria Park and granddam of Vice Regent and Viceregal), more often than not in company with Nearctic. There is another variation on the theme to be found in the pedigree of Saturday's Correction H. winner **Lynclar (m, 6, Bold Executive--Indian Holiday, by Raja Baba)**. Lynclar's sire Bold Executive is out of Arctic Vixen, who in turn is by Victoria Park out of a Nearctic mare. Lynclar's second dam is by Vice Regent, who is by a son of Nearctic out of a half-sister to Victoria Park, thus giving opposite sex doubles of Nearctic and Victoriana. Lynclar is the highest earner sired by Bold Executive, and his third highest earner, Timely Ruckus, also has a second dam by Vice Regent.

REMINDER!

The Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale and Stallion Access Sale of Seasons and Shares have been rescheduled to **Wednesday, February 11 at 10 a.m.** in Lexington, Kentucky. For more information, please call Fasig-Tipton at (606) 255-1555.

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.

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