

CONTENTS

Editorial	2
Shandur-style Polo	4
Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup	12
Japanese Derby	16
Belmont Stakes	18
Epsom Derby	22
From the Horse's Mouth	27
Prix de Diane horse racing	28
Kentucky Derby	32
Legendary Horse	37
Preakness Stakes	40
Through the Lens	46
Royal Ascot	68
Gubbio Endurance	60
Fashion & Fillies	72
Qatar Cup and German Derby	86
Cartier Polo World Cup	88
Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe	95
Breeders' Cup	98
Japan's Emperor's Cup	110
Melbourne Cup	112



Page 4

Page 16



Page 53



Page 73

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Published since 1995 as SHAHSAWAR, the magazine was renamed in 2005 as HORSE&HORSEMAN.

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Subscription Rates by Registered Airmail

Pakistan	Rs 3600	(6 Issues)
South Asia	\$ 100	(6 Issues)
Central Asia	\$ 105	(6 Issues)
Middle East	\$ 115	(6 Issues)
Europe	\$ 120	(6 Issues)
Australia	\$ 118	(6 Issues)
USA	\$ 120	(6 Issues)
Canada	\$ 120	(6 Issues)

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From the Editor's Desk



AIMING FOR DISEASE-FREE PAKISTAN

A few months back there was a deadly outbreak of 'katar' disease in Pakistan, which caused one of the country's leading government stud farms to lose a couple of hundred horses, including a number of presidential horses. The disease also had a bad affect on the activity of the Lahore Polo Club. Similarly, there was an outbreak of influenza in Australia but as they had the expertise to check and control it in time, the damage there was a lot less as it could have been.

While countries like Australia have the infrastructure and a panel of qualified veterinary doctors and experts to counter such a calamity, Pakistan is lagging far behind in this department. It seems, our livestock department, animal husbandry as well as the racing industry do not have a clue how to control such situations. Their attitude is not less than lethargic and in some cases it is just criminal negligence. There is no system of check and balance. The main reason for it is that we do not have the expertise to do what is needed at the right time; the standard of our veterinary doctors is not up to the mark as they do not keep themselves

abreast to the latest developments in the field of veterinary medicine.

As it is the question of the image of Pakistan in the equine world, the Horse&Horseman appeals to the country's president and prime minister to take serious note of the situation and reach the core of the matter. People holding high-rank offices who do not know their job well should be held accountable. The non-technical, inefficient team should give way to technically sound people who have the expertise to handle any untoward situation.

The Horse&Horseman demands formation of an independent board consisting of highly qualified, RV&FC senior retired officials to counter such eventualities. They should be handed over the reins and allowed to do their work in taking Pakistan towards being a disease-free country.

Horses have been part of Pakistan's rich cultural heritage and we should be taking this heritage forward by promoting it in the best possible way. The equine world is a million dollar industry and with the promotion of a disease-free Pakistan, we can generate a lot of revenue and at the same time portray a good image of the country.

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SHANDUR-STYLE POLO: **PURE AND WILD**

H&H Exclusive

It has been written time and again how exciting, thrilling and daring matches in the annual Shandur Polo Festival are. It was no different last year as the traditional rivals from Gilgit and Chitral renewed their rivalry on the highest playing field of the world, at the over 3700 metres high Shandur Pass.

The enthusiasm, vigour and excitement of the players and the people of the surrounding areas seem to get better with each

passing year as more and more polo fans come to witness the 'wild' action.

Polo Shandur-style is played in its purest form and the battle on the field is so intense that no one would take away their eyes off the action even for a second. There are almost no rules with no referee, as has been the case ever since polo was first played in the area in the 1920s. The stipulated time of the match is one hour with a 10-minute break at the halfway stage. Players are only allowed

to change horses if they get injured. Players are permitted to do whatever they can to score a goal, be it hitting your opponent with your mallet or pushing and shoving him or his horse to the ground. Some regulations were introduced some years back to cut down on fights. Now hitting an opponent in the face or hacking his horse's legs are illegal -- but only if it is done intentionally.

The Shandur Polo Festival is the most eagerly awaited event in Gilgit and Chitral. People from both





sides start making arrangements for the big day four-five days ahead of the 'battle' while visitors, including a number of foreigners, travel by helicopters, 4x4 jeeps, cars and tractors to throng the area to catch all the action and thrill. Reaching Shandur by helicopter is the easiest option while if one wants to travel by road one has to endure a lengthy drive on a bumpy road. However, those looking for some adventure will love traveling by road.

The annual event is always a festive occasions for the people of the area but 2007 was special as they were celebrating Prince Aga Khan's Golden Jubilee as spiritual leader/head of the Ismaili community. There were smiling faces all around with people beating drums, dancing and sharing their joy with others.

Announcements are made in their respective areas four-five days before the start of the festival so that the supporters can make all the arrangements for the day. The thrill and the pride they derive from seeing their teams in action motivate them to reach the venue by whatever means they can





-- tractors, jeeps, horsebacks, donkey carts and whatever one can think of. Even on the ground one can clearly see the intensity and tension on the faces of the huge crowd, which is divided into two large groups. The cheering and shouting, including taunting the players of the opposite side, is almost deafening and the atmosphere is absolutely electrifying.

Along with the supporters of both the sides, a large number of



enthusiasts visit the Shandur Polo Festival. Besides a few motels and restaurants, many people are housed in tents.

The three-day event involved matches between the 'A', 'B' and 'C' teams of Gilgit and Chitral besides some other added attractions for the visitors like tug of war on horses, tampooq bazi, donkey polo (Ghizer v Laspur and Chitral v Ghizer), buzkashi, paragliding show, camp fire, handicraft exhibition, trout fishing



at the nearby streams and lakes and a festival of folk dances, cultural shows and music of the northern areas of Pakistan. But the main focus of the entire festival like always was the encounter between the 'A' teams of Gilgit and Chitral.

When defending champions Gilgit defeated Chitral 3-2 there was a loud roar from their section of the crowd. They kissed and hugged each other in joy, followed by the traditional dances from both







the teams. Both teams were given equal time to showcase their dancing skills this time. According to Director General Scouts Brigadier Tassaduq, and old man from Hunza was especially hired to teach some dancing steps to the Gilgit team, which included some movements from Punjabi and Sindhi styles of dancing.

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Industries Jehangir Tareen was the chief guest on the occasion while Minister for Tourism G G Jamal was also present on the occasion.

Added Attractions

Besides witnessing raw polo, there are also lots of attractions for the visitors. The sites in the area are breathtaking to say the least. Hunza is covered by 11 peaks, which include Golden Peak, Lady Finger and Rakaposhi -- one of the most beautiful peaks in the world. There are some clear water lakes and





streams in the area which make for a beautiful spectacle.

The Baltit Fort in Hunza is a favourite destination for tourists. It is said that Mir of Hunza used to follow polo action from his room. A polo ball made of willow tree

and a mallet -- 100 years old -- are still placed in Baltit Fort as a showpiece.

The area is also famous for its fruits. Almost all varieties of fruits including cherries, grapes, peaches, almonds, apricots,

apples, pomegranate etc of the finest quality are found in Hunza. Another attraction to satisfy your taste buds is the tasty yak meat.

History of Shandur Polo

During the 1920s, the ruler of

*Publisher/Editor of Horse&Horseman
Mr. Adil Shah and Major General Mohsin Kamal,
General Officer Commanding - Force Command
Northern Areas discussing an article published
in the Horse&Horseman.*





Mostuj, the Hindukush highland between Chitral and Gilgit, was told by his Mir (king) to promote integration within his realm through a polo tournament between the best players.

The British resident at the time, Colonel Evelyn Hey Cobb, a keen polo player himself, came up with the idea of holding the tournament in the Shandur Pass, approximately 3,734 metres above sea level in northern Pakistan.

The first time a polo tournament took place at the Shandur Pass,

was in 1936. A British Political Agent, Major Cobb, who was fond of playing polo under a full moon, had the polo ground near Shandur, named 'Moony Polo Ground'. It was agreed that the games should be held between the best teams from Chitral and Gilgit, and played following the centuries-old rules of Ali Sher Khan, a descendant of Genghis Khan.

Polo is an equestrian sport with its origin embedded in Central Asia dating back to 6th century BC. At first it was a training game

for cavalry units for the king's guards or other elite troops. To the warlike tribesmen who played polo with as many as 100 players to a side, it was a miniature battle. It became a Persian national game in the 6th century AD. From Persia, the game spread to Arabia, then to Tibet, China and Japan. In China, in the year 910, death of a favourite relative in a game prompted Emperor Apao-Chi to order beheading of all players!

Polo was introduced in South Asia, by the Muslim conquerors in the



13th century. English word 'polo' is in fact a Balti word meaning 'ball'. In ancient times, there was no limit to the number of players and no time limit. Whichever team scored nine goals first became the winner. Today, there are six players to each side, but this is by no means a rule in local polo games. The game lasts for one hour with a 10-minute break.

Legendary Tales

There is an interesting legend attached to polo in northern Pakistan, dating perhaps from the days before history was recorded.

It appears that a king begged the gods to give him back his missing wife. The gods, in return, made it a condition that the king must sacrifice his two sons. They gave him a fast horse -- it 'brought mountains together and split the valleys' in the tale -- and sent him to a lost valley in Baltistan, some 200 miles from Shandur. There, so the story continues, he arrived with the heads of his sons, and had the task of hitting them both, at fast gallop, with his polo stick into an opening in the mountains. If he succeeded, he would regain his missing queen.



Most extraordinary is that, to this day, beyond a very small opening in a mountain in Baltistan, near Kaphulu, is a real polo field which is identical to that in the legend.

Of course, in view of these ancient tales, it is not surprising that polo, whose roots go back to 600 BC, and was brought to India and the Himalayas from Persia, is said once to have been played with the heads of sheep, goats and other animals. In Genghis Khan's day even the severed heads of conquered enemies are said to have been used.

Rules of the Game

The rules recall ancient legends -- for instance, how, after a successful goal the scorer can dictate the continuity of a game. The game would last for an hour, with a short break between two 30-minute chukkars. Each player would be allowed only one horse for the duration of the match, and stoppages would be allowed only for serious injuries to a horse or player.

He picks up the ball and carries it back at full gallop in his lap to the centre line, from where he will throw it into the air and try to hit it and score a goal at the opposite end of the field. As in contemporary polo, ends change side after a goal is scored. A total of 12 players are from both teams not afraid to use their sticks to hit not only the ball but also, and vehemently, the arms and shoulders of their opponents.

Broken arms and ribs do not stop the players, after an interval for bandaging and splints, to continue the game. The event such, offer a fascinating insight into the lifestyle of the people of this region.

Travel to Shandur Pass

The Shandur Pass lies almost



midway between Chitral and Gilgit on a jeep road, travelling on which, is adventurous, to say the least. One can get to Chitral or Gilgit by Pakistan International's daily flights from Peshawar and Islamabad. There are daily two flights from both destinations, subject to good weather. Visitors planning to go by air must expect adjustment of minimum two days in their itineraries just in case the weather does not permit flights to operate.

Access to Chitral by road is either from Peshawar or from Islamabad. Both these routes join up in lower Swat valley near Chakdara, from where you proceed via Dir over 3,118 metres high Lowari Pass and on to Chitral. It will take about 11 hours for a direct ride, otherwise, a stopover in Dir is recommended. From Dir, you shift to 4x4 jeeps for your onward journey to Chitral and on to Shandur. From Chitral side, travellers can also enjoy overnight stay at Mastuj whereas from Gilgit side, Gupis and Phandar are suitable places for an overnight halt.

While travelling by road from Islamabad, along the Karakoram Highway (the Silk Route), visitors may like to spend the night by the side of the mighty Indus, at Besham.

DOUBLE DELIGHT *for* **MOORE** *and* **KINANE**

Viva Pataca upset Group 1 winners Vengeance of Rain and Sir Ernesto to win the \$1,789,200 Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup (HK-G1) at Sha Tin racecourse by 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths in 2mins 1.90secs on turf rated as good.

The victory meant that both trainer John Moore and jockey Mick Kinane completed a sweep of the QE II Cup and the Champions Mile.

Kinane settled the five-year-old Marju gelding well behind pacesetter Sir Ernesto, who led nine rivals in the 2,000-metre race for three-year-olds and older.

Kinane moved Viva Pataca into contention from the inside and angled him wide for the stretch



Ireland's jockey Mick Kinane riding Viva Pataca leads Vengeance of Rain ridden by South African jockey Anthony Delpach and Admire Moon ridden by Japanese jockey Yutaka Take in the final stretch.

run. "When I asked him to quicken the response was immediate," Kinane said. "I even thought I might have gone a bit too soon but he's back to his best and nothing was going to beat him."

Viva Pataca made a final dash to move past Vengeance of Rain and was all clear with just 200 metres to the finish line.

"We came here a fresher horse than Vengeance of Rain but the way we've sprinted home here to beat two Group 1 horses makes him something pretty special," Moore said.

Vengeance Of Rain, who won the Nakheel Dubai Sheema Classic

Macau tycoon and owner of Viva Pataca, Stanley Ho and his wife Angela Leung raise the trophy after Viva Pataca won the Audemars Piguet QE II Cup.



Mick Kinane on Viva Pataca along with Stanley Ho and Angela Leung pose for photographs after winning the Audemars Piguet QE II Cup.



(UAE-G1) during Meanwhile, this year's Dubai World Cup meeting, held off a late bid from Dubai Duty Free (UAE-G1) victor Admire Moon to finish second.

Viva Pataca, who is out of Be My Chief mare Comic, improved to 10 wins from 19 starts. His victories include the 2006 Mercedes-Benz Hong Kong Derby and Hong Kong Champions & Chater Cup.

Moore said Viva Pataca, who formerly raced under the name Comic Strip in England for previous owner Sir Mark Prescott, would be pointed to the Tattersalls W. S. Cox Plate (Aus-G1) on October 27 at Moonee Valley Race Course in Australia.

Kinane won the \$1,022,400 Champions Mile, the third leg of the 2007 Asian Mile Challenge,



This lady clearly wants her favorite horse to win the cup.



Models pose at the parade ring ahead of the 2007 Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup.

with Able One. The five-year-old Cape Cross (Ireland) gelding was never tested as he won the race by a comfortable margin of 1 ¼ lengths.

"I couldn't believe how the other jocks let him dictate so easily from the front," said Moore, who also sent out runner-up Joyful Winner in the 1,600-metre (7.96-furlong)

race for three-year-olds and older. "Mick said he had plenty of horse under him once he asked him to kick and he got to the line strongly."



Ireland's jockey Mick Kinane riding Viva Pataca competes with South Africa's Felix Coetzee riding Sir Ernesto and South Africa's Anthony Delpech riding Vengeance of Rain to win the Audemars Piguet QE II Cup.

Vodka stuns colts to win JAPANESE DERBY

Vodka was the only female in the 18-horse field and she upstaged the boys in the style, winning the Japanese Derby by an impressive margin of three lengths at the Tokyo Racecourse. She covered the 2,400 metres in 2mins 24.5secs on turf.

Hirofumi Shii leads Vodka (centre) to victory in the 74th Japanese Derby.





Japanese jockey Hirofumi Shii on his filly Vodka celebrates his victory as they reach the finish line at the Tokyo racecourse.



The Hirofumi Shii-ridden Vodka stormed from the middle of the pack down the stretch to cap a historic run, becoming the first female horse in 64 years to win the race, the second leg of the Triple Crown series.

The three-year-old filly outclassed her opponents with a devastating homestretch run as she surged past leader Asakusa Kings for a comfortable victory.

"It was a truly outstanding performance against all those colts," Hirofumi Shii said. "We moved along effectively in the pack and I got a strong response from her going into the stretch. I whipped her outside and she was incredibly strong the rest of the way."

Vodka became only the third filly to win the Japanese Derby and the first since Kurifuji won in 1943. Shii and trainer Katsuhiko Sumii both won the Grade One race for the first time.

Vodka, sired by 2002 Japanese Derby winner Tanino Gimlet, claimed her fifth win in seven career starts, including a Group One crown at the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies in December 2006. She was second at the Oka-sho on April 8 in her previous start.

Asakusa Kings took second while Admire Aura followed in third 1 3/4 lengths further behind. Pre-race favourite Fusaichi Ho O could only manage a seventh-place finish.



Rags to Riches stumbles out of the starting gate at the start of the 139th running of the Belmont Stakes.

Girl Power as Rags to Riches creates History

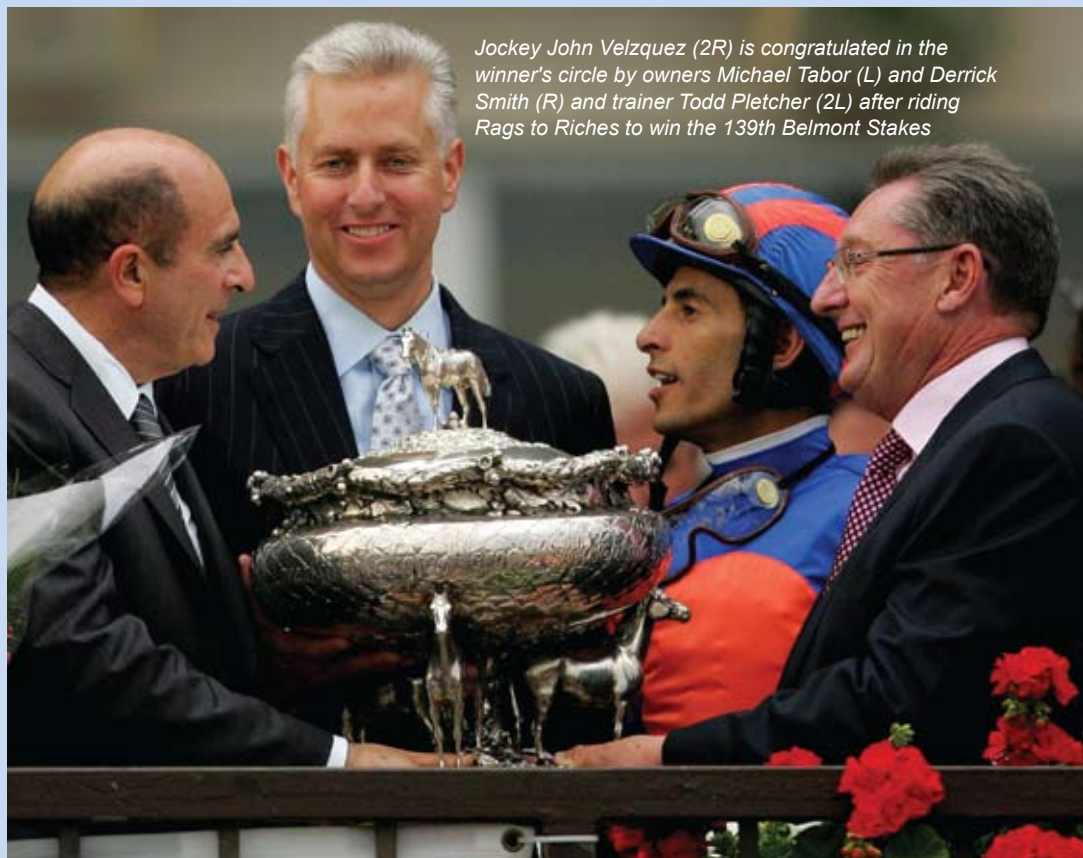
Rags to Riches savoured a special moment in Belmont Stakes history in Elmont, New York, when she became the first filly in more than a century to win the one million dollar event, the last jewel in the Triple Crown races.



Filly Ruthless was the first filly to land the Belmont crown in its inaugural running in 1867 while Tanya won the event in 1905.

The 1988 Kentucky Derby winner Winning Colors was the last filly to win a Triple Crown race. Only 22 fillies have tried the Belmont, with Rags to Riches the first since Silverbulletday finished seventh in 1999.

It was also a first in Triple Crown races for Rags to Riches trainer Todd Pletcher and jockey John Velazquez. Pletcher had nothing to show in 28 previous tries while



Jockey John Velazquez (2R) is congratulated in the winner's circle by owners Michael Tabor (L) and Derrick Smith (R) and trainer Todd Pletcher (2L) after riding Rags to Riches to win the 139th Belmont Stakes



John Velazquez pulls up Rags to Riches after crossing the finish line to win the 139th Belmont Stakes at Belmont Park in Elmont, New York.

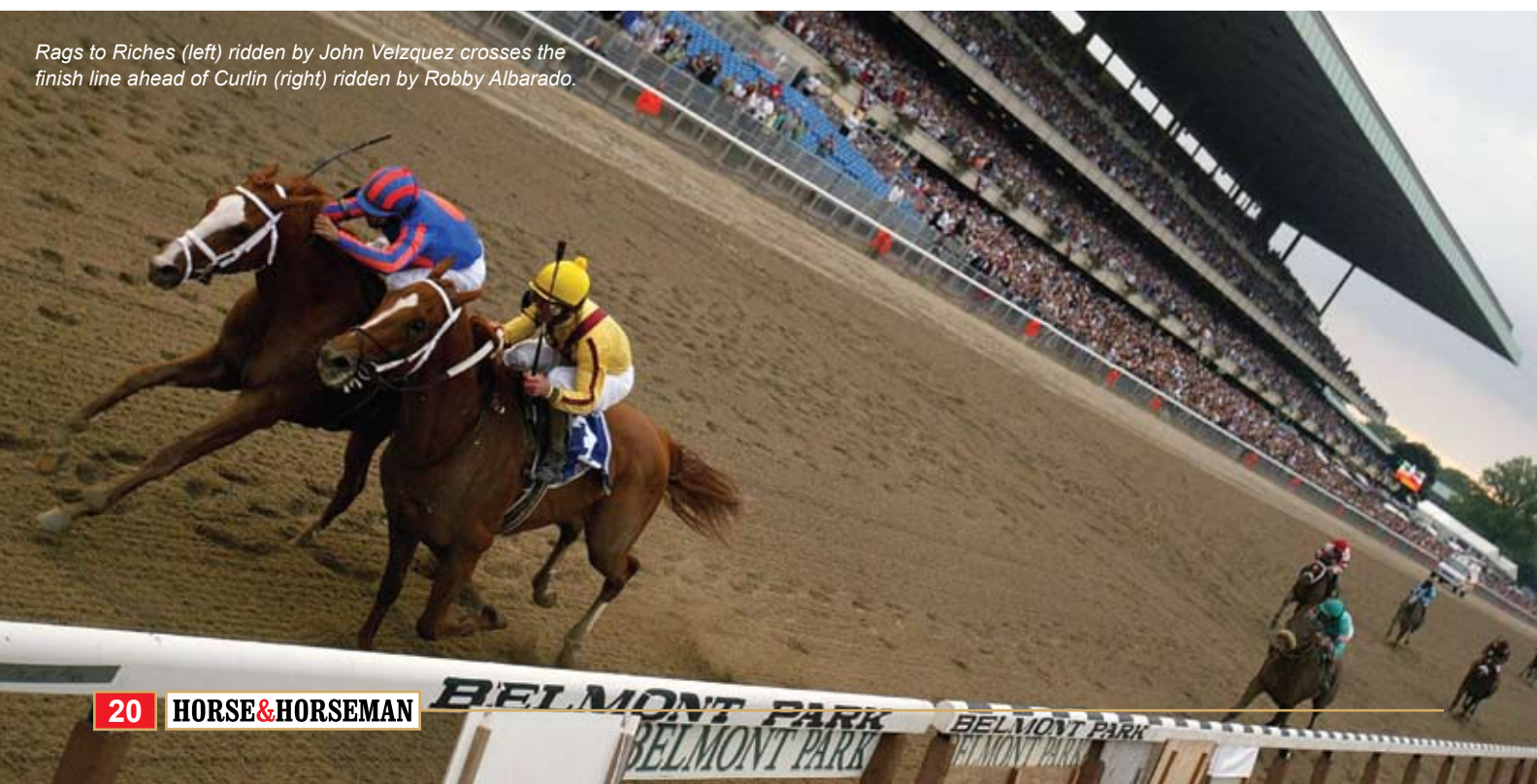
Velazquez had failed in his 20 attempts in Triple Crown races including 10 Belmont Stakes.

Rags to Riches, who won the Kentucky Oaks the day before the Kentucky Derby, went off as second choice to favourite Curlin. Rags to Riches was sired by A. P. Indy out of Better than Honor, the same dam who produced last year's Belmont winner, Jazil.

Rags to Riches -- despite a slight stumble at the start -- had to fend off a strong challenge from Preakness winner Curlin in the final stretch to win the 1 ½ mile race by a head. Rags to Riches showed she had plenty left in her when coming four-wide around the final turn with four of the seven three-year-olds entered fighting for the top honours. When it became just a duel between Rags to Riches and Curlin, the winner had just a little more on the outside to win in 2mins, 28.74secs in front of a roaring crowd.

Robby Albarado-ridden Curlin, who is trained by Steve Asmussen, finished second while

Rags to Riches (left) ridden by John Velazquez crosses the finish line ahead of Curlin (right) ridden by Robby Albarado.



the John Shirreffs-trained Tiago with Mike Smith aboard managed a third place. Hard Spun finished fourth, followed by C P West, Imawildandcrazy-guy and Slew's Tizzy. Hard Spun was second in the Derby and third in the Preakness.

Derrick Smith, who co-owns Rages to Riches Coolmore's Michael Tabor, was overjoyed with his team's performance. "Your heart is in your mouth, but we had a great jockey and a great trainer, who conditioned her well," he said. "We knew she would get the trip. We just cheered her home -- Girl power won in the end."

Pletcher was also delighted with his first victory in a Triple Crown race. "It's a special feeling no matter when you do it, but to do it with a filly when it hasn't been done in 102 years, it's a real credit to how good she is," Pletcher said. "It's still sinking in. It's kind of amazing when you look at the historical significance of it. It was impressive because of who she beat, the trip she got and nothing was handed to her. She overcame some adversity and fought off a very good horse."

Velazquez was all praise for Rags to Riches, saying: "She ran a great race on the right day."

Curlin's jockey Albarado was full of admiration for Rags to Riches. "Curlin ran his race and I was pleased with his effort. He didn't stop at any point. He felt like he wanted to come back and win the race. I can't come up with an excuse. Rags to Riches is phenomenal."

Rags to Riches edges out Curlin at the finish line to win the Belmont Stakes.



Owners Michael Tabor (L), Derrick Smith (R) and trainer Todd Pletcher (2L) pose with jockey John Velazquez (2R) in the winner's circle after the 139th Belmont Stakes.

Dettori finally gets it right in **EPSOM DERBY**

It took celebrated jockey Frankie Dettori 15 tries to finally get it right in the Epsom Derby.

The riding legend -- an 11-time winner in English racing's four other classics -- rode favourite Authorized to a five-length victory ahead of Johnny Murtagh-ridden Eagle Mountain and Aqaleem with Richard Hill in the saddle. It was also a second for trainer Peter Chapple-Hyam, who previously won the prestigious event in 1992 with Dr Devious.

After keeping the 5-4 favourite well placed throughout the 1 1/2 mile race, Dettori made his move 400 metres from home to win comfortably. The Italian kept Authorized in around ninth place for most of the \$2.47 million race and moved up to fifth when leader Kid Mambo made a break for home in the final straight. In the space of a few strides, Authorized, who was

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip watch the race.



up against eight runners for Irish trainer Aidan O'Brien including Eagle Mountain, overtook all four on the outside and then pulled away for an easy victory. Dettori has a contract with the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum-owned Godolphin stable. But as Godolphin did not have a runner entered in the Epsom Derby, the 36-year-old was allowed by his employers to ride Authorized.

"There was a bit of emotion when I crossed the line," said the Italian. "I had to pinch myself to believe it had come true. He is a tremendous horse with an amazing turn of foot."

"I have wanted it for so long and take a lot pleasure out of it," said Dettori, who had his father Gianfranco watching from the stands. "So when I hit the front my heart stopped that I was

Frankie Dettori jumps from Authorized as he celebrates his victory.



Jockeys compete for the top prize on the second day of the English Derby.



Race-goers cheer for their horse.

going to at last do it. I will always remember this day and I would like to thank my father because I owe everything to him."

Chapple-Hyam was obviously delighted. "This is better than last time," he said. "The time I won in 1992 it was like I was in a haze. This horse has never let me down, no more so than today as I thought Frankie was a bit too far back at one point for my liking. I don't do drugs but I can imagine that this is what it feels like to be high," the trainer said.

Authorized is owned by Kuwaiti businessmen Saleh Al Homaizi and Imad Al Sagar. After the race, Imad Al Sagar showered

Italian jockey Frankie Dettori crosses the finish line before a cheering crowd at Epsom Downs.



praises on Chapple-Hyam. "Peter has done a great job with the preparation and brought him here in ideal nick," he said.

British horse racing commentator John McCrirrick poses for the media on the second day of the annual English Derby.



Frankie Dettori on Authorized wins the Derby.



Queen celebrates *coronation* anniversary at **Epsom Derby**

Queen Elizabeth II celebrated the 54th anniversary of her coronation by watching the Epsom Derby. Wearing a bright blue coat and matching hat with pink trim, the British monarch, who is an avid racing fan, was escorted through the winners' enclosure into the main grandstand at the track.

The queen and her husband Prince Philip joined thousands who saw racing legend Frankie Dettori win the Derby at his 15th attempt.

Queen Elizabeth II happily celebrates her coronation anniversary at the Derby



We are Simply the Best

Adil Shah

Hi! I am a horse, but not just any horse. I am special, I am unique, I am a tent-pegging horse. The history of my bloodline goes back as far as 3,000 years. My ancestors with their unique action and fine technique impressed Alexander so much that he was forced to introduce tent-pegging to his cavalry. We have been an integral part of the history, and I say this with a lot of pride.

But the changing times have brought an unfortunate change in our fate. The commercial aspect has had a bad effect on this daring and breathtaking sport. Since there

is cash involved, money-minded people have taken hold of tent-pegging's reins. They have no passion for the sport and have no clue how to take care of me and my colleagues. They forget my contribution in their success and know only how to show off. That, my friends, is something I despise. I am gentle and at the same time a very tough and hard working animal. I know that I have to be in top form to help my mount grab the honours. I am aware of the fact that it is the partnership between the animal and his mount which brings success and I give it my best

shot every time I am competing. But what saddens me is the fact that how can people forget that without me, a rider cannot achieve success.

I am also not happy for the fact that no body has done anything to explore our bloodline or to get us registered. But some very well-placed sources have informed me about the formation of the Pakistan Tent-Pegging Federation and the Federation International of Tent-Pegging Associations. I have heard that it is made up of some very 'cool', qualified people who have started working towards the betterment of our community of tent-pegging horses. I would also like to thank Horse&Horseman for taking the initiative and I am sure with their help the future has a lot of goodies in store for us.

We haven't had the chance to showcase our skills to the world. We have been confined to Pakistan. But I am confident that FITA will launch us in a big way and we will be going places to show our mettle and talent to the world. And I am just waiting for the golden opportunity and I will grab it with both hands. The whole world will be amazed with my talent and abilities. Not many people know that we have been blessed with a God-gifted gait. Normally horses have four stages of gait -- walk, trot, canter and gallop. But we have been blessed with the fifth gait, which is between trot and canter. We have to show that to the world too.

The sport of tent-pegging belongs to this part of the world. But it has been hijacked by other countries, which organise tournaments on regular basis but not in its original form. Hopefully, FITA and Horse&Horseman will give us an opportunity to go abroad soon and we will show it to the world how it is actually done. Nobody can be better than us because we are simply the best.



HISTORIC MOMENT FOR DETTORI

Frankie Dettori, the Italian riding legend, etched his name in the history books when he became the first jockey to win the Epsom Derby, French Derby and the French Oaks in the same year when he won the latter in Chantilly with West Wind.

West Wind's trainer Alex Pantall also had a reason to smile as it was the first Group One victory of his career.

Dettori rode the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum-owned filly almost perfectly and cruised to victory,

also having the time to look behind before raising his finger in triumph.

West Wind reached the finish line ahead of Mrs Lindsay, ridden by Irishman Johnny Murtagh, while Thierry Thulliez rode Diyakalanie into third place. But

for Chantilly it was not such a good day as the training centre's horses failed to manage a place in the top four finishers.

It has been an incredible week for Dettori, who won the Epsom Derby with Authorized after 14 previous failures, the French





Italian riding legend Frankie Dettori celebrates on West Wind after winning the 157th Prix de Diane horse racing.

Head of French luxury products group Hermes Patrick Thomas (R) poses with India's Ambassador Ranjan Mathai (L) after the 158th Prix de Diane horse racing, 10 June 2007 in Chantilly, near Paris. Mrs Lindsay ridden by Irish jockey John Patrick Murtagh and Diyakalanie ridden by French jockey Thierry Thulliez.



Italian riding legend Frankie Dettori (C) holds his trophy after winning the 157th Prix de Diane horse racing.

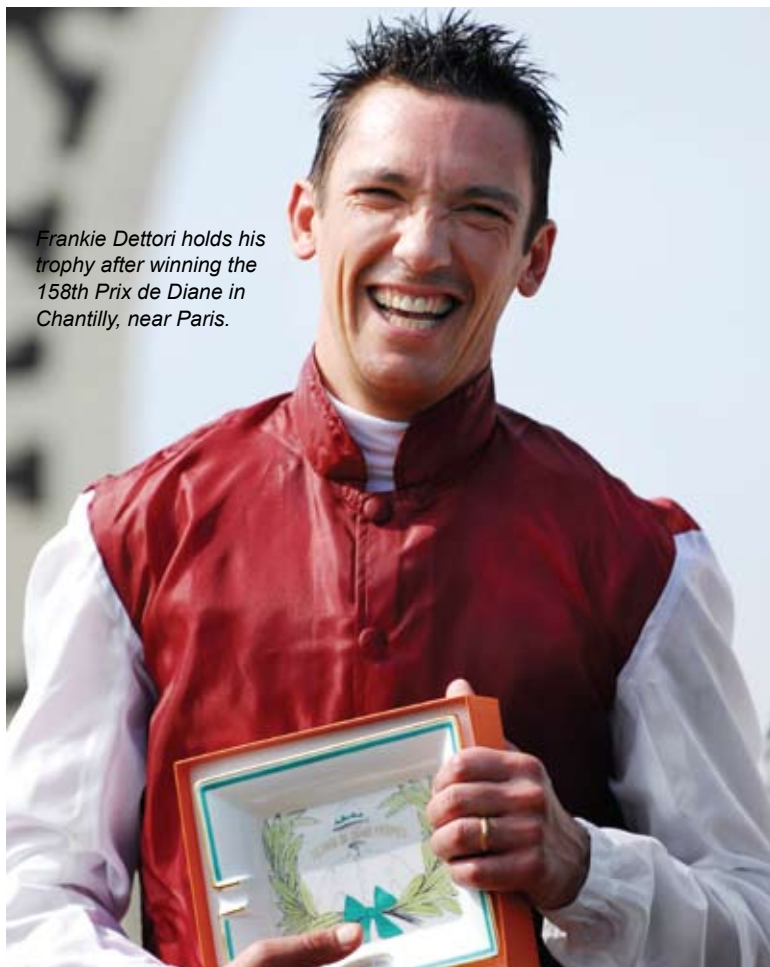


Derby with Lawman and now the French Oaks with West Wind. He was over the moon with his performances. "It is crazy!" said the Italian, who climbed onto an elephant on way to the prize distribution ceremony. "I am delighted as it is the first time I have won the Diane and also to have ridden Alex's first Group One winner. It is an historic day."

Pantall was caught up in emotions as West Wind crossed the line. "It's been a long time coming," he said. "We've been waiting for this but all week I was really confident with the only slight worry about whether she would get a clear passage and not get blocked, but Frankie is a master. This sport is so unpredictable but I never lost faith that one day I would win a



Champagne-picnic at the race course.



Frankie Dettori holds his trophy after winning the 158th Prix de Diane in Chantilly, near Paris.

Group One.”

Trainer Francois Rohaut also seemed satisfied with Mrs Lindsay’s run. “We weren’t really expecting this,” said Rohaut. “She ran a magnificent race, Johnny Murtagh rode a superb one and I can only say I am delighted with her effort. She is a very courageous filly.”

Earlier, controversial Irish rider Kieren Fallon showcased his usual steely nerves to win the Prix du Chemin de Fer du Nord on Spirito del Vento. This was his first ride back in France since serving out a six-month ban for testing positive for a banned substance.

“It is my first ride back in France since the ban ended,” said Fallon. “It is very exciting!”

Frankie Dettori leads the race on West Wind ahead of Mrs Lindsay and Diyakalanie.



Street Sense wins **KENTUCKY DERBY**

Street Sense rallied from far back to win the 133rd running of the 1 ¼ mile Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, the first leg of the US flat racing's Triple Crown.

Ridden by Calvin Borel, the dark bay Kentucky-bred Street Sense, who is trained by Carl Nafzger, surged past Hard Spun in the final straight to become the first colt to win the \$2 million Kentucky

Derby after winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. He also became the first 2-year-old champion from the previous season to win the race since Spectacular Bid in 1979.

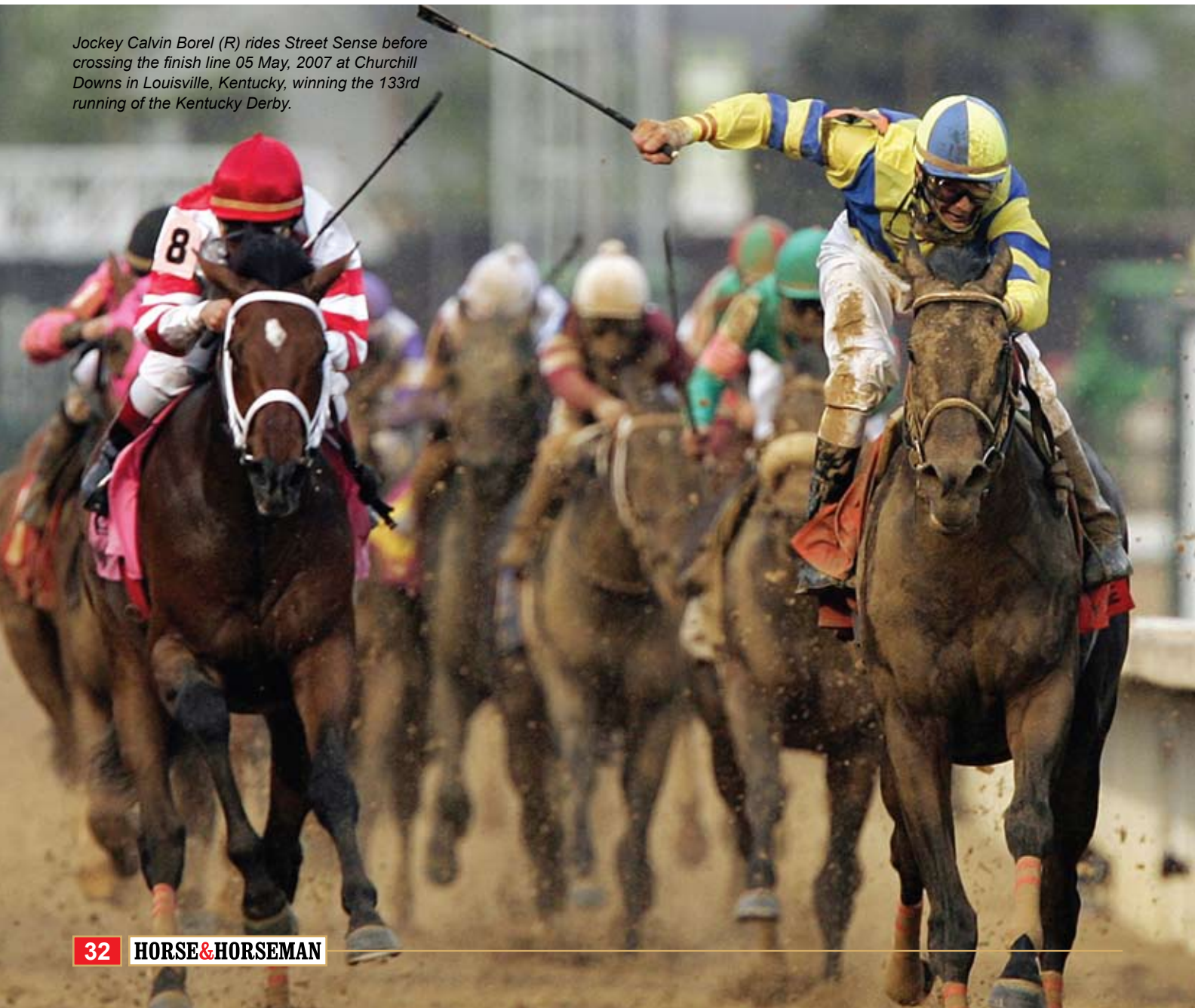
Hard Spun held on for second, followed by Curlin.

It was 65-year-old trainer Nafzger's first victory at Churchill Downs since Unbridled won the Run for the Roses in 1990.

"We have a good horse, he took us every place we've been and he took us there every day," Nafzger said of Street Sense, who is owned by James Tafel.

Borel guided Street Sense

Jockey Calvin Borel (R) rides Street Sense before crossing the finish line 05 May, 2007 at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, winning the 133rd running of the Kentucky Derby.





Trainer Carl Nafzger, jockey Calvin Borel, owner Jim Tafel and Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher hold up the winning trophy.

beautifully. At one stage the victor was in 19th position in the 20-horse race but Borel worked his plan intelligently. He made his move midway through the race and confidently overtook each of his opponents before motoring past Hard Spun to win by 2 1/4 lengths in 2mins 2.17secs.

“He is the best 3-year-old I’ve ever been on in my life,” Borel said. “He’s very push button. He will put you in a spot you want to be and then relax. I don’t know how good he is.”

Having won the Breeders’ Cup Juvenile by 10 lengths last November at Churchill Downs, Street Sense was sent off as the favourite. But Hard Spun, ridden by Mario Pino and trained by Larry Jones, set the pace for the first three-quarters. Borel, known for his ability to save ground while moving through a field, began picking off horses, moving Street Sense into perfect position around the final turn. Once Borel moved



Calvin Borel rides Street Sense to victory.



Horses take the first turn.

Street Sense owner Jim Tafel reacts in the winner circle after winning the 133rd Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs.



him off the rail, Street Sense thundered home.

"I wanted to save ground," Borel said. "It was a smooth trip. I knew I had them where I wanted. He has a tremendous turn of foot. He does whatever you want him to."

Trainer Todd Pletcher, who saddled five starters in his bid to finally break through for his first Triple Crown race victory, fell to 0-for-15 in the Kentucky Derby. Sixth place finisher Circular Quay was the best of Pletcher's entries. Any Given Saturday was eighth, Sam P. was ninth, Scat Daddy 18th while Cowtown Cat finished last.

"I am disappointed that the horses didn't run better," said Pletcher, who is a three-time Eclipse Award winner and has won more than \$121 million in his career. "It isn't the end of the world if you don't win the Kentucky Derby. I'm not going to go home tonight and cry. That's just not the way."

The crowd of 156,635 was the third-largest in the history of the event.



Horse race fans shows off their hats.



Queen Elizabeth *revels* in Kentucky Derby

Queen Elizabeth II fulfilled her life-long dream of attending America's premier horse race as she joined a star-filled crowd at the Kentucky Derby.

The queen watched the race from a balcony in a private suite along with her husband, Prince Philip.

Philip and Queen Elizabeth, wearing a lime-green coat with a matching silk dress with a small floral print and a lime-green hat with a fuchsia trim, arrived two hours before the marquee 10th race.

Before the race, the queen took a peak at the 14-karat gold Kentucky Derby trophy, remarking that former US ambassador to London William Farish, a thoroughbred breeder who accompanied the royal couple to Churchill Downs, had yet to win the Derby.

"She laughed and said, 'He hasn't had a winner yet,'" said Jay Ferguson, the trophy's keeper. Queen Elizabeth, known as a horse enthusiast, noticed the upside down horseshoe engraved on the front of the trophy. "She said, 'It keeps the luck in', and that's right," Ferguson said. "She seemed to be enjoying herself."

The stands were already filled; race fans sipped their traditional bourbon, sugar, ice and mint juleps and made their bets on early races before the British sovereign's arrival.

Sports and film stars were among the crowd of about 156,635

people, the third largest in Derby history, including basketball legend Michael Jordan, wearing a white suit, and former Playboy Playmate Jenny McCarthy, in an extravagant hat.

The queen's attendance was a proud first for the track, located outside of Louisville.

"Queen Elizabeth is certainly the most prestigious guest we've entertained in the modern-day history of the Kentucky Derby," track president Steve Sexton said.

Dressed as usual to the nines for the event, the crowd included a couple dressed as Kentucky's legendary Colonel Harlan Sanders -- of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame -- and Elizabeth herself, in a sparkling crown.



Jim Key – Be kind to animals

In the 19th century animal care was not a big topic. A dog or a horse were considered dumb and had to obey otherwise it would be beaten to teach it a lesson.

But then there came Jim Key, and the world, especially the Americans changed their views, first amazed and later through conviction. Who was Jim Key? A professor? An animal rights activist? A hero? Well, he had a bit of all. He was teaching awareness, he flattened the way for a global animal welfare movement and his name and story was in everyone's mouth. Now one could say there were quite a few of this species, but you might be astonished to hear, that Jim Key was nothing less than a horse.

Nobody who had seen him could forget his message – Be kind to animals! And he knew what he was “talking” about, because he was the living proof of how many things an animal could be taught with patience and love.

It's time to introduce another Key – “Dr.” William Key, a former slave who had even in his plantation times at Shelbyville been known to have the abilities to handle any kind of animal at greatest ease, no matter how bad tempered. Soon he was called to break horses or tame wild mules. They believed him to be a magician or voodoo man, and he might well have been as he carried talismans and chains of rabbits' feet along his life long. Though being a slave he was lucky enough to have a kind master, who tutored him and took him on his journeys.



He escaped death by hanging after being accused of acting as a Confederate spy for two times during the Civil War in America and bought himself out of prison with the winnings of poker games against the chief of prison. After the war William took over the name of his late master John Key, took on business as a vet and medicine seller and financed the education of his former owner's kids. When quieter times were to come and his medicines had earned him a small fortune, a hotel

and a restaurant were opened. In his mission to set up a horse race track he struck a deal to gain a celebrated full blood Arabian mare, called Lauretta. He wanted to breed race horses with the best pedigree, but the result was something quite different. In 1889, sired by the famous Hambletonian Tennessee Volunteer (great grand son of Hambletonian 10, the cornerstone of Standard Bred), a spindle-legged colt that wasn't even properly able to stand saw the light of day. This ugly duckling



in view, the chosen biblical name was discarded and instead the name of a local drunkard was given to the foal. Jim. After his mother, who was found psychic, died soon after Jim Key was born, he closed bonds with Dr. Key, as he was soon allowed to stay with the family inside the house. The first signs of his incredible intelligence were maybe, when he tried to copy the dog and wanted a stick being thrown to fetch it. He was soon able to nod or shake his head, open drawers and recognize different signs on them – the basic of reading.

Dr. Key couldn't see such a talent wasted and started teaching him spelling, writing, counting and many other feats. Now we read his achievements within a second in a row, but it took 7 years and an outstanding amount of patients to accomplish.

Yet another Key came to lay the brick stone of the final destiny.

The third Mrs. Lucinda D Key, herself the first black vet in the state, believed that the startling abilities of the horse should be displayed to a wider public and a message should be sent along with the amazing entertainment – Be kind to animals.

And so they set out and started their shows when Jim was 8 and Doc already 64 years old. The crippled foal had by then grown into a handsome chestnut bay with a white star and a white stocking. Their big debut happened at Nashville World's Fair in 1897 and even President Mc Kinley had a chat with the horse. Jim expressed, that he was rather Democrat and when asked if he wouldn't turn republican to please the president, he shook his head resolutely. But Mc Kinley didn't take it to heart and acknowledged the marvelous service which they provided for the welfare of animals in the awareness of humans. In his words: "Beautiful Jim Key is certainly the most astonishing and

entertaining exhibition I have ever witnessed. It is indeed a grand object lesson of what kindness and patience will accomplish."

When promoter and officer of the American Humane Association Albert Rogers saw them performing once, he was astonished by the potential on display and bought the horse for the noteworthy amount of 10.000 USD. But the Key-Team was not to part of course, and Jim would have had a "word" if his best mate had left him.

They became more and more popular throughout the country and media soon created the name Beautiful Jim Key – the educated horse. Whole schools were closed to allow the kids to witness Jim's outstanding feats, but also adults were attracted in large numbers. All in all more than 10 million people have seen him during his 9 years on stage, they danced the Jim Key Two-step, bought badges with "I have

seen Jim Key” written on them and in turn sent him gifts and letters.

But the best was to see him live of course. They gasped while watching Jim adding and subtracting till 25, spelling random words by picking letter cards from a board, sorting mail, joining discussions by nodding or shaking his head at proper times, picking a coin from a glass barrel of water without drinking it, distinguishing colors and flags, using a phone and a cash register box, giving accurate change and even writing his name with a squib.

Spelling bees were especially set up between the horse and students. Sometimes he lost, but one event was memorable. He had ousted a 6th-grade by correctly spelling “physics”.

Their message inspired the world and their undertakings became more and more distinctive in raising money for animal rights groups and they denounced the slogan “Be Kind to Animals”. 2 million children joined the Jim Key Band of Mercy and signed the Jim Key pledge, “I promise always to be kind to animals and other sentient beings.”

Famous people soon tried to get some links with animals to increase their popularity and George T. Angell, of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the American Humane Education Association, put it that way: “This wonderful horse has upset all theories that animals have only instinct, and do not think and reason.”

Jim Key was the living messenger for every humane organization as no one else was able to reach deep in the hearts and minds of every person the way he did.

“Patience, kindness, apples and sugar” was the method Doc Key

used to teach. “The whip makes horses stubborn and then they obey through fear and they can’t be trusted, kindness, kindness, and more kindness, that’s the way.”

When asked, how he could teach the horse to write his name with a squib between his lips his answer was: “Like all the other feats, I did it with sugar. I wrote the letters on the blackboard with water and then covered the lines with sugar. To lick off the sugar, the horse moved his head over the shape of the letters. After practicing several months he got the motion, and then I left off the sugar.” It took him a year.

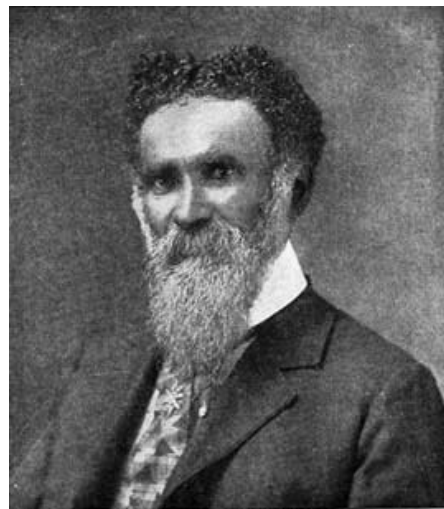
In an interview with the New York Times in 1897 he gave in: “It’s them rabbit foots, neber knew them arh to deceive me.” The journalist mentioned, that Bill Key “did not appear to have system of signals, nor to urge him with set phrases but directed him with his quaint plantation dialect, in the tones a mother would use to calm a fretful child.”

After some theories of hypnosis or hoax turned up, a Harvard University study was published, that had deeply studied the topic and came to the result that it was simply good education.

The Omaha World Herald stated: “Suppose our boys and girls were all trained as Jim Key has been trained; suppose they were given education as fitted their needs and capacity.”

But the team did not only serve animals welfare, but also anti-racist movements by practical example.

First the vet himself was the one Afro-American who was most popular amongst both white and black population. He held shows in areas where he as an



Afro-American was considered even lower as the horse, but his catching way, his calm and educated appearance and his message made him change people’s minds. He was the first Afro-American to obtain the MSPCA’s Humanitarian Gold Medal. He held performances for black audience with reduced fees and at the World’s Fair in Charleston he managed to open the doors to Afro-Americans people for a full day – and even added thereby to the financial profit of the festival.

They toured to all major cities and were invited to the most prestigious exhibitions and were presented keys to cities and gifted with many a special thing from politicians, headmasters, actors and others.

After nine years on stage the team retired in 1906 and led a peaceful live at their home in Shelbyville. Jim was by then worth a million – an incredible amount concerning that William Key once thought he could sell the unsightly foal for maximum 5 USD.

Doc died at the Age of 76 and Jim followed his teacher three years later, passing away peacefully.

Though the farm house is now unoccupied and almost overgrown with bushes, the monument for their memory is still visible.

Curlin edges Street Sense in Preakness Stakes

Curlin put an end to Triple Crown ambitions of Street Sense when he edged the Kentucky Derby winner by just putting his head in front to win the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore.

The race was run at a very brisk pace and Curlin's victory time of 1min 53.46secs almost eclipsed the Preakness Stakes record of 1min 53.40secs. That record is shared by Louis Quatorze (1996) and Tank's Prospect (1985).

Before his victory in the Preakness, the Robby Albarado-

ridden Curlin had made just three starts including the Kentucky Derby a couple of weeks before when he managed a third-place finish. But Steve Asmussen still had faith in the three-year-old son of Smart Strike and Curlin paid back his trainer in emphatic style.



Curlin (left) with Robby Albarado aboard passes Street Sense ridden by Calvin Borel to win the 132nd running of the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore.



Robby Albarado guides Curlin into the lead on the fourth turn.

Street Sense looked impressive as he made one of his now famous rallies, overtaking his opponents with poise before finally taking the lead in the final stretch. Calvin Borel seemed set to add the second jewel in the Triple Crown to his tally by confidently guiding Street Sense towards the finish line before Albarado made his move. Street Sense had no answer to the late charge by Curlin.

Curlin, who had won his first three races by a combined 28 ½ lengths, and was well back in the field of nine. Hard Spun took the lead as Street Sense started to control the race from the outside. The Derby winner moved into the lead and seemed all set to keep hopes of a Triple Crown alive. But Curlin came flying along the far outside, and took dead aim at the Derby winner. He caught Street Sense on the final jump and barely beat him.

This was Albarado's maiden victory in the Preakness Stakes and said he was really delighted with Street Sense's effort. "I

Jockey Robby Albarado on Curlin waves to the crowd after winning the 132nd Preakness Stakes.





Curlin's trainer Steve Asmussen and jockey Robby Albarado pose for photographers at the prize distribution ceremony.

thought I had a different horse the first quarter of mile. He started a two-year-old and finished a five-year-old," he said.

Curlin, who did not race as a two-year-old, was purchased after his first race -- a 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -length romp at Gulfstream Park in February. The price was a reported US\$3.5 million by a group that includes Kendall-Jackson Wine owner Jess Jackson, Padua Stables, George Bolton and Midnight Cry Stables.

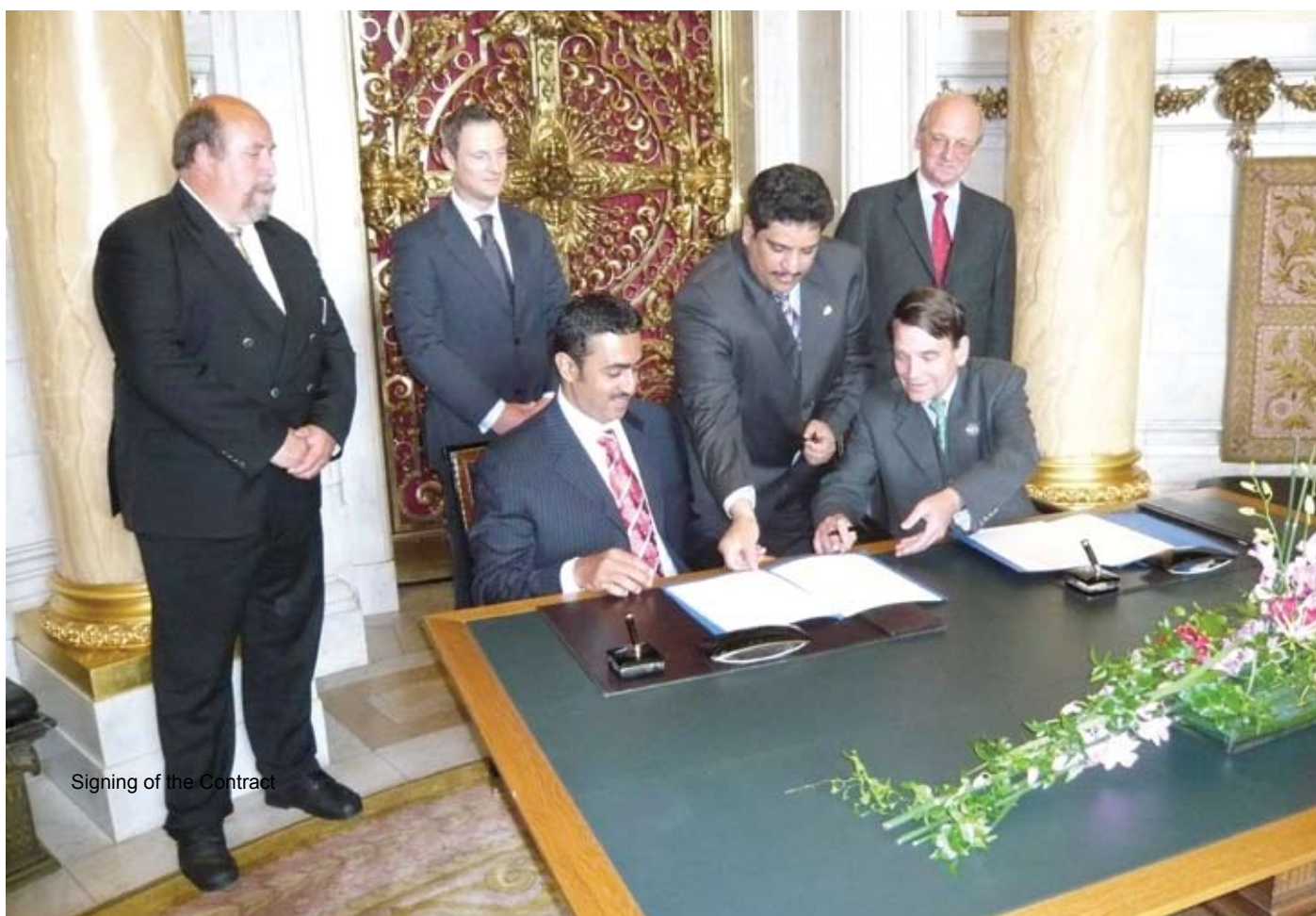
Curlin's Preakness victory was worth \$650,000, which propelled his career earnings to \$1,652,800.

Borel said after the race: "I thought I was home free. He came and got me. No excuses."



Curlin and Street Sense fight for the top honours.

THE FAMOUS HAMBURG DERBY MEETING WILL HAVE SPECIAL RACE FOR ARABIAN HORSES



Signing of the Contract

14th May was the day when Sheikh Mohammed bin Faleh al Thani, Vice President of the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club, signed a treaty for the sponsorship of the first ever Arabian horse race during a Derby meeting in Hamburg-Horn.

Sheikh Mohammed himself is a well-known endurance rider, Qatar winning the bronze medal at the

Asian Games in Doha December last year.

He was received in the town hall of Hamburg by a representative of the senate, Staatsrat Andreas Ernst, by the President of the Hamburger Renn-Club, also present Mr. Hubert Lorenz, manager of the German Racing Association for Arabian Horses, and the Vice President of the

same Organisation, Mr. Walter Fath.

President of the Association is Dr. Hussain Al Redha.

The races will be from 23rd June till 1st July, called the BMW Derby-Meeting, while 1. July is the main day with the Derby itself and the Arabian Horse Race.

Finsceal Beo wins ONE THOUSAND GUINEAS

Finsceal Beo scored a convincing win in the Stan James One Thousand Guineas (Eng G1) at Newmarket in England.

The Jim Bolger-trained filly had a perfect race as Kevin Manning guided her to a comfortable victory over 20 rivals in the one-mile classic.

Finsceal Beo finished 2 ½ lengths clear of Arch Swing, another Irish-trained runner, while Simply Perfect, winner of last season's Fillies' Mile (Eng G1), took the third place.

"I've put so much work into this filly and into all the horses in the yard," Bolger said. "This one is down to my staff and the owner, Michael Ryan. The traumatic week is history at this stage."

A jubilant Manning said: "She was carrying me; she's done that very easily."

Finsceal Beo's owner Ryan had brought 36 members of his family and friends from Ireland to witness the victory. He said: "This is absolutely fantastic. My first classic."

Finsceal Beo raced five times

last season, winning three races, including the Prix Marcel Boussac (Fr G1) at Longchamp and Rockfel Stakes (Eng G2) at Newmarket.

She was bred in Ireland by Liam Casman's Rathbarry Stud and is a Mr. Greeley filly from the mare Musical Treat, by Royal Academy. Royal Academy is the sire of Val Royal (Fr), the sire of Two Thousand Guineas winner Cockney Rebel.

Meanwhile, Cockney Rebel with Olivier Peslier aboard sprang a major upset in the first British classic of the season as he defeated 23 rivals to win the Stan James Two Thousand Guineas (Eng G1) at Newmarket.

The winner is trained in Newmarket by Geoff Huffer.

Peslier brought Cockney Rebel from the rear with a thunderous burst out of the near side group of runners to reel in Eoghan O'Neill-trained leader Vital Equine to

win by 1 ½ lengths. Group 1 winner Dutch Art, trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam, finished third.

"I'm very happy to win my first Guineas, the horse was very good as he didn't have a good run through the race," Peslier said. "He kept relaxed and kept going."

Cockney Rebel, bred by Oak Lodge Bloodstock, is out of winner Factice, by 1980 Two Thousand Guineas victor Known Fact. Cockney Rebel's owner Phil Cunningham named the winner after the 1970s rock band who hit the number one spot on the British charts in 1975 with "Make Me Smile (Come Up And See Me)."

The five-day Royal Ascot meeting is the highlight of the royal calendar and social season, offering a rich mix of racing, extravagant headgear, champagne and strawberries with cream.



FINSCEAL BEO COMPLETES ENGLISH-IRISH GUINEAS DOUBLE

Finsceal Beo became only the second filly to complete the English-Irish Guineas double with a narrow victory over Dimenticata in the Irish One Thousand Guineas (Ire-G1) at the Curragh.

Attraction was previously the only filly to achieve the feat, winning the English-Irish Guineas double in 2004. No filly has earned victories in each of the three classics in England, France, and Ireland.

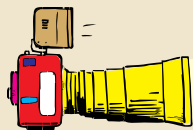
Kevin Manning settled the Mr. Greeley filly in sixth at the Curragh and made his move more than one furlong from the finish. The Jim Bolger-trained Finsceal Beo went clear but was challenged by a strong rallying Dimenticata. However, Finsceal Beo held on and won by a neck in 1min 39.30secs of turf rated good. The Aidan O'Brien-trained Peeping Fawn was third a further two lengths back while Alexander Tango was fourth.

Talking to reporters after the race, Bolger urged the European Pattern Committee to have a rethink on the timing of the three classics. "It was a great performance," Bolger said. "The fact she has had three very busy weeks has nothing to do with the way she has run, she is just much better on top of the ground."

"I am sure somebody else will probably win all three Guineas, but the message is there for the capability of the European planners to have two weeks between each of the three races, and make it a fillies' Triple Crown."

Trained by Kevin Prendergast, Dimenticata finished so fast that she was in front after passing the line. "They didn't go fast enough and she would have run even better with a quicker pace," Prendergast said.

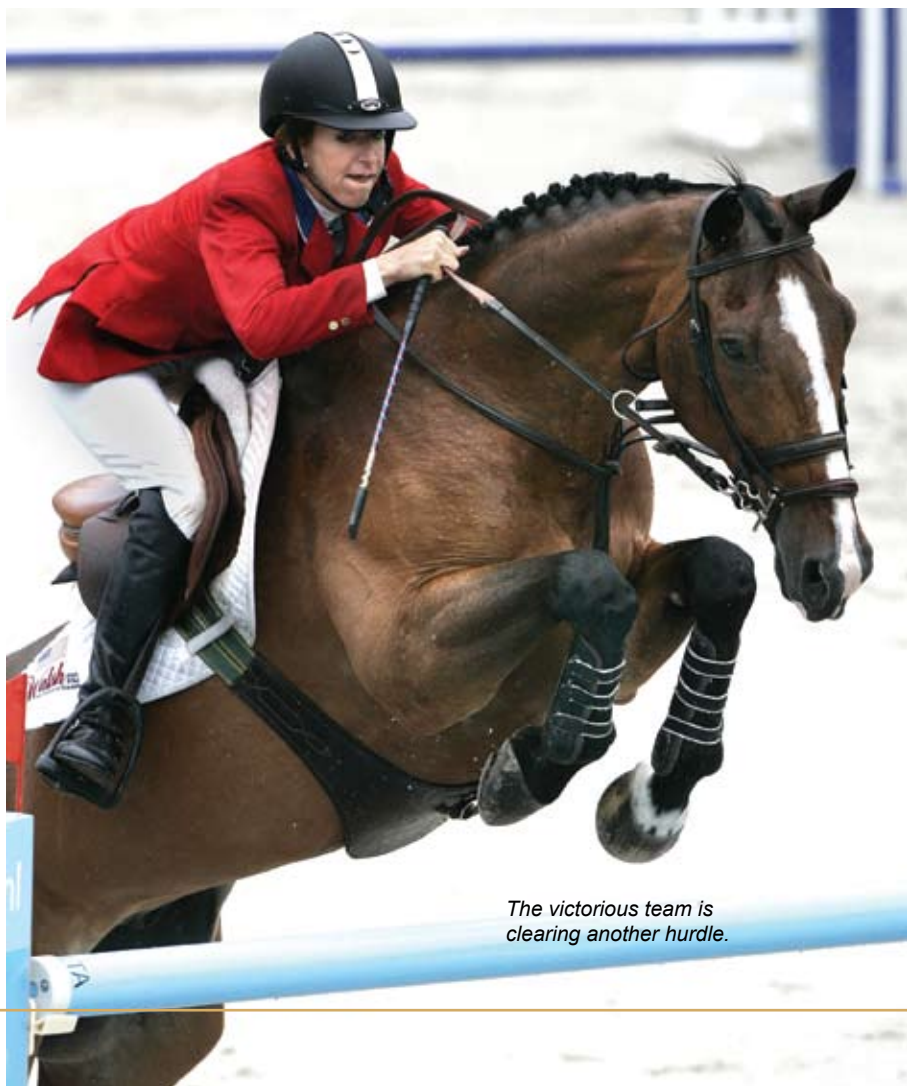
Arch Swing, runner up in the One Thousand Guineas at Newmarket, faded badly and finished last of 11 runners.



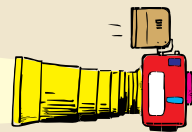
Through the Lens



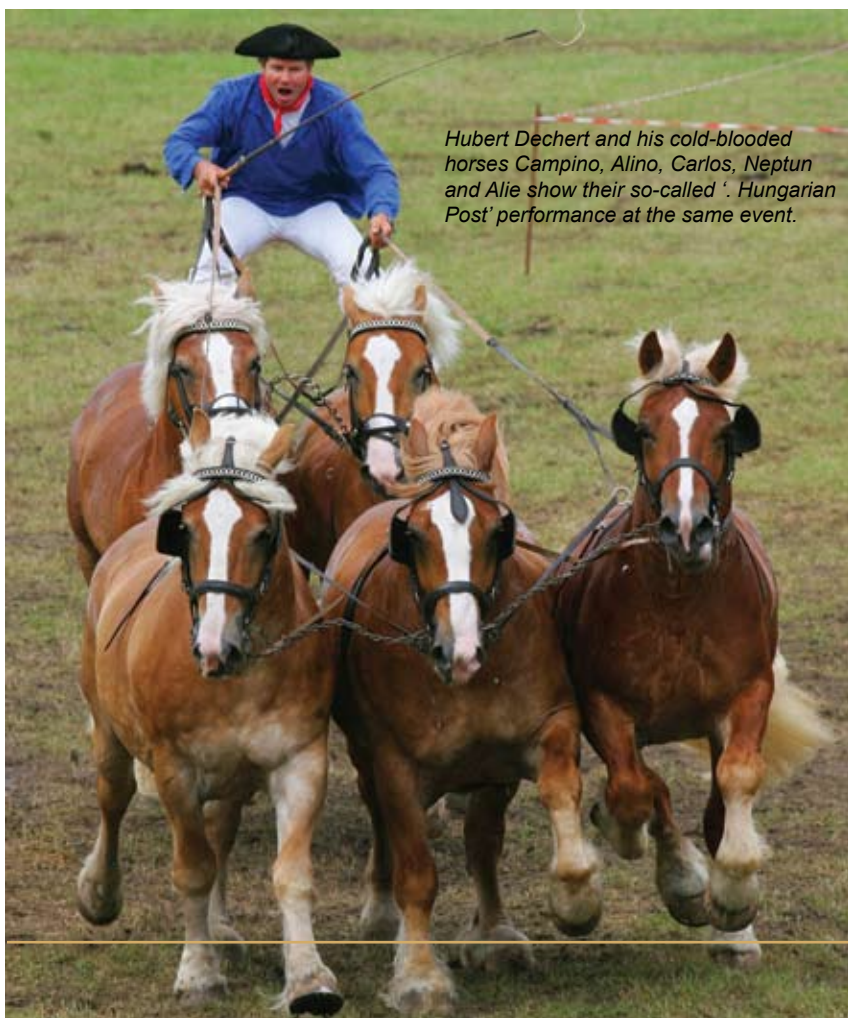
Winner Laura Kraut from the US with her horse Anthem vies during the Longines Grand Prix of Rotterdam at the CHIO in the Netherlands.



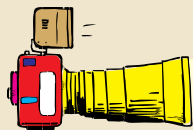
The victorious team is clearing another hurdle.



A rider and his four-in-hand show their skills during the cold-blooded horse show 'Titans of the Turf' in Brueck, eastern Germany. Competitions in different disciplines as riding without saddle or chariot races were presented to the public.



Hubert Dechert and his cold-blooded horses Campino, Alino, Carlos, Neptun and Alie show their so-called 'Hungarian Post' performance at the same event.



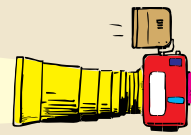
Through the Lens



Shadow Gate with jockey Katsuharu Tanaka is closely followed by Fuyuki Igarashi on Cosmo Bulk (right) coming in second with France's Doctor Dino with jockey John Murtagh (centre) coming in third in the Singapore Airlines International Cup 2007.



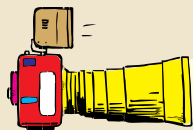
Japanese horse Shadow Gate with jockey Katsuharu Tanaka aboard crosses the finish line ahead of Japan's Cosmo Bulk ridden by Fuyuki Igarashi to win the Singapore Airlines International Cup 2007 in Singapore.



Katsuharu enjoys his victory.



Japanese jockey Katsuharu Tanaka celebrates aboard Shadow Gate after winning the Singapore Airlines International Cup 2007.



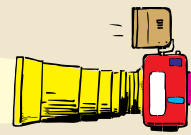
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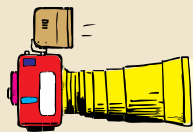
Japanese jockey Katsuharu Tanaka, Shadow Gate owner Tomokazu Iizuka (centre) and trainer Yukihiro Kato (left) pose with their trophies after the prize distribution ceremony of the Singapore Airlines International Cup 2007.



Robe Decollete (#2) ridden by Yuichi Fukunaga edges out Bella Rheia with Shinichiro Akiyama aboard to win the 68th Japanese Oaks at Tokyo Racecourse. Robe Decollete came in a nose ahead of Bella Rheia in the 2,400m race on turf.



Swedish horse Camilla Highness and Peter Ingves win the harness racing Grand Circuit 2007 event in Kouvola.



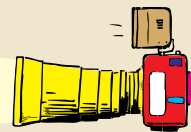
Through the Lens



Federation of Equestrian International (FEI) President Princess Haya of Jordan talks with Hong Kong's Chief Secretary for Administration Henry Tang Ying-yen as they watch the dressage stage of equestrian Olympics trial event in Hong Kong.



Anna Junkmann of Germany rides Cancun during the dressage stage of the Olympics equestrian trial event in Hong Kong. Junkmann scored 51.20 points.



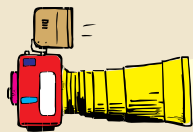
Jan Van Beek of The Netherlands takes a jump on Troy during the show jumping stage of the Olympics equestrian trial event in Hong Kong



Frank Ostholt of Germany rides After the Battle during the cross country stage of the Olympics equestrian trial event in Hong Kong. Ostholt beat the time limit with 53.40 points.



Dirk Schrade of Germany rides Grand Amour during the cross country stage of the Olympics equestrian trial event in Hong Kong. Schrade scored 53.42 points.



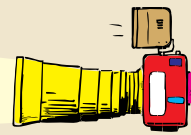
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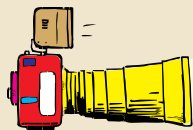
Germany's Christian Ahlmann on Coester jumps a fence during the FEI European Jumping Championship at the MVV Riding Stadium in Mannheim, Germany.



France's Kevin Staut jumps a fence with his horse Kraque Boom - Bois Margot during the FEI European Jumping Championship at the MVV Riding Stadium in Mannheim, Germany.



Switzerland's Christina Liebherr jumps a fence with her horse L.B. No Mercy during the FEI European Jumping Championship at the MVV Riding Stadium in Mannheim, Germany.



Through the Lens

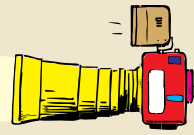
Sweden's Helena Lundback rides Madick to place fourth in the FEI World Cup during the Helsinki Horse Show.



Germany's Hermann Engemann was second with his horse Aboyeur W in the FEI World Cup during the Helsinki Horse Show.



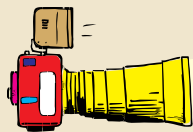
Hank van de Pol falls from Dan 7-T as the horse refused to run over the obstacle during the Helsinki Horse Show.



Pius Schwizer of Switzerland rides Nobelss M during the Helsinki Grand Prix. Schwizer and Nobelss M won the event.



Danish Thomas Velin clears an obstacle on his horse Grim St. Clair during the Helsinki Grand Prix. Grim St. Clair and Velin placed second.



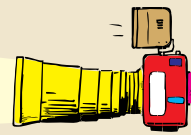
Through the Lens



Jockeys ride during a race along the beach at the southern Spanish town of Sanlúcar de Barrameda. The beach race is a local tradition that has been taking place in Sanlúcar de Barrameda for 160 years.



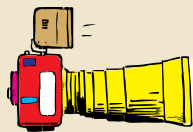
Jockeys ride during a race along the beach at the southern Spanish town of Sanlúcar de Barrameda. The beach race is a local tradition that has been taking place in Sanlúcar de Barrameda for 160 years.



Jockey Ramsey Zimmerman, riding Cloudy's Knight (at right), wins the Pattison Canadian International ahead of Ryan Moore on Ask at the Woodbine Racetrack in Toronto.



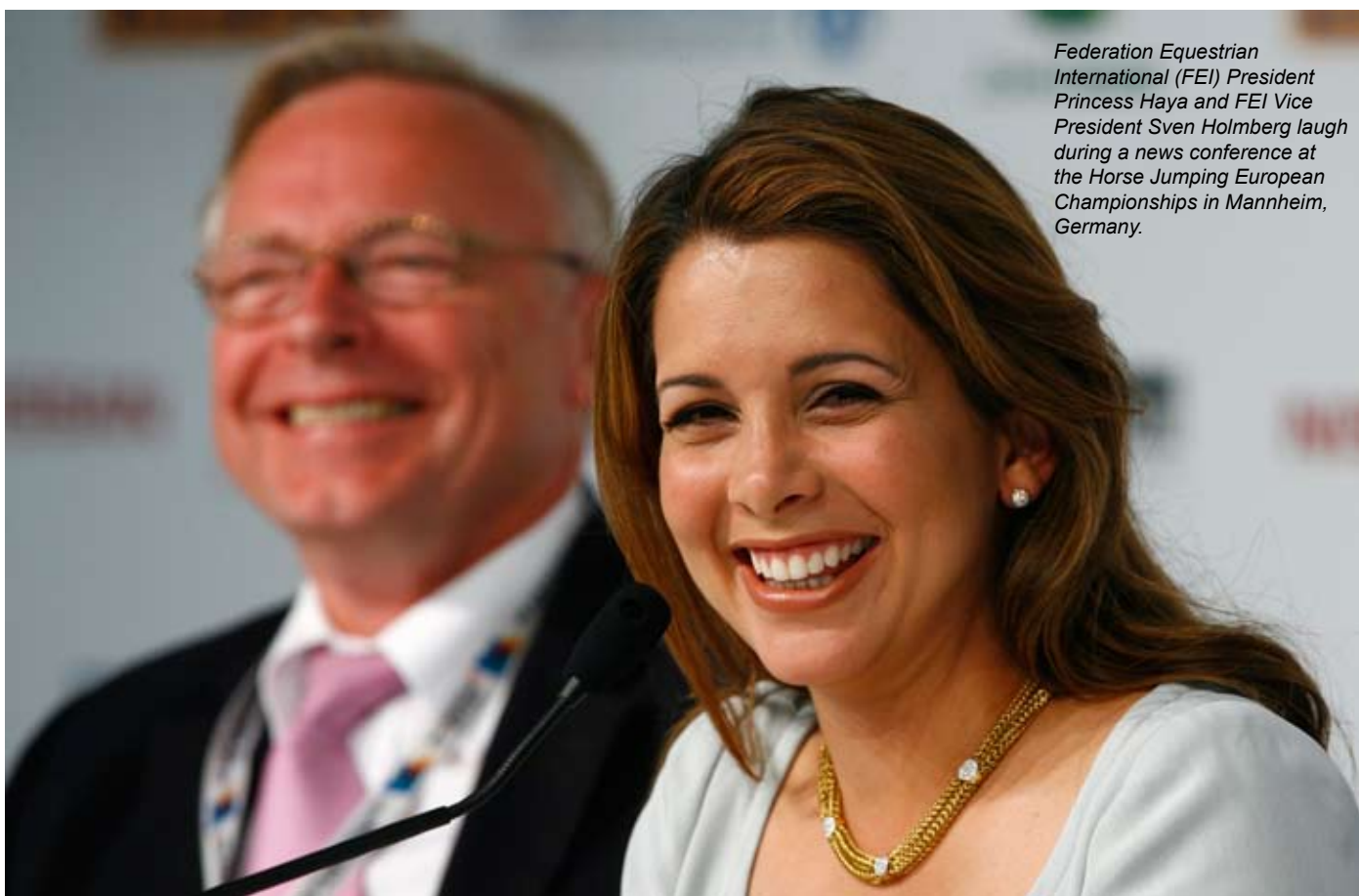
Jockey John Murtagh on Mrs. Lindsay wins the E. P. Taylor Stakes at the Woodbine Racetrack in Toronto.



Through the Lens



Jonatan Bartoletti (at left) of the Unicorn parish on Brento on his way to victory in the Palio Horse Race in Siena's main square in Italy. Every July 2 and August 16, almost without fail since the mid-1600s, 10 riders have hurtled bareback around Siena's shell-shaped central square in a desperate bid to win the Palio.



Federation Equestrian International (FEI) President Princess Haya and FEI Vice President Sven Holmberg laugh during a news conference at the Horse Jumping European Championships in Mannheim, Germany.

Literato on top in Champion Stakes

LONDON: French raider Literato, ridden by Christophe Lemaire for trainer Jean Claude Rouget, squeezed home by a short head to win the Group One Champion Stakes at Newmarket in London.

Lemaire, successful in the race 12 months ago on Pride, told Channel 4 Racing after his victory: "He travelled very well all the way and I know that he is a fighter."

Backed from 11-2 to 7-2, Literato, second in the French Derby in June, took up the running with 100 metres to go and held on in a battle with Irish-trained Eagle Mountain. Doctor Dino, another French raider, was third of the 12 runners but Notnowcato ended a disappointing sixth.

Earlier, New Approach, trained in Ireland by Jim Bolger, was installed 3-1 favourite for the 2008 English 2,000 Guineas after a half length victory in the Dewhurst Stakes, a top race for juveniles. New Approach is unbeaten in his five races to date.

Sixteen wins 117th Velka Pardubicka

The 117th Velka Pardubicka, described as the toughest steeplechase in Europe, was won in Pardubice (Czech Republic) by second favourite Sixteen, ridden by Dusan Andres.

Sixteen overtook last year's winner and 3-1 favourite Decent Fellow in the closing stages to take the 75,000 euros first prize. Third of the 14 horses competing in the 6900m race was Eliska Premyslovna.

Britain's Princess Anne, a renowned horsewoman in her own right and former Olympic equestrian competitor, was also present to watch the horsemen in action.

The Queen's daughter, in the Czech Republic for a three-day working visit, is the first royal to attend the race since the collapse of communism in 1989.

The Pardubicka attracts around 30,000 visitors every year including a large British and Irish following.

The popular event was launched by local aristocrats in 1874 wanting to create their own version of the English Grand National. It suffered following the communist takeover in 1948, when thoroughbred horses were sent to plough fields, but continued to be run thanks in part to its popular support.

Racing legend John Henry dies

Two-time American Horse of the Year John Henry has died in Lexington, Kentucky, at the age of 32. The gelding, who had kidney trouble and was treated several times for dehydration over the summer, was put down at the Kentucky Horse Park, his home since 1985.

Transferred to trainer Ron McAnally after previously being in the care of Victor Nickerson, the son of Old Bob Bowers won 16 Group 1 races.

Robert Donato, Phil Marino, and Hal Snowden Jr also trained John Henry, who was voted Racehorse of the Decade for the 1980s. He retired after an eight-year racing career in 1984 with 39 wins in 83 starts with earnings of \$6.59 million.

A 1990 inductee into the United States' National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame at Saratoga Springs, John Henry was also a seven-time Eclipse Award winner and was named Horse of the Year in 1981 and 1984.

Royal Ascot

YEATS MAKES IT TWO-IN-TWO AT GOLD CUPZ

Yeats made it two-in-two when he fended off a late challenge from Geordieland to win the Gold Cup at the Royal Ascot for the second time in two years.

The Aidan O'Brien-trained six-year-old, ridden by Mike Kinane, charged ahead with 500 metres to go and beat Geordieland with

Jamie Spencer on board by 1 ½ lengths in the four-kilometre 14-horse race for stayers.

Spencer mounted the challenge late in the race and was looking good to overtake Yeats. But with just 60 metres to go, Yeats had the stamina to hold off Geordieland. French trained Le Miracle was third, another 3 1/2 lengths back. There is speculation that Yeats



Prince Charles and Duchess of Cornwall Camilla are looking forward to see thrilling races.

may make another attempt for the 3.2-kilometre Melbourne Cup in November. But he faded badly in that race last year and trainer O'Brien would not confirm whether he would make the long trip to Australia. "All those races are open to him, but it will be discussed with the owners," O'Brien said. "We would love to come back and win (the Gold Cup) for a third time. Hopefully, we will be here."

Kinane said that the Melbourne Cup handi-cappers might be tough on Yeats. "The thing with the Melbourne Cup is he will have a big problem with weight," Kinane said. "They will put as much as they can on him. Going all that way you would want a bit up your sleeve. I think he can come back (to Royal Ascot) and win again. He enjoys his racing and is sound so why not? He is certainly the one they have to beat."

Runners in the Royal Hunt Cup make their way up the straight mile at Ascot Racecourse, England on the second day of the Royal Ascot horse race meeting.



EXCELLENT ART WINS ST. JAMES'S PALACE STAKES

Aidan O'Brien enjoyed a perfect start to the Royal Ascot when his trained horses finished 1-2-3 in the St. James's Palace Stakes on the opening day of the races in Ascot, England.

Excellent Art with jockey Jamie Spencer aboard beat Duke Of Marmalade by a neck in the 1.61-kilometre race. Astronomer Royal finished third.

Spencer was really delighted with his horse's effort. "This race is the one that counts for 3-year-old milers. He's a smashing horse to deal with and I'm delighted to have had the chance to ride him."

Queen Elizabeth II, who has attended every Ascot meeting since 1945, was again in

attendance. She wore a bright fuschia dress and jacket and matching hat with a blue ribbon. There was more reason to celebrate for O'Brien, who also had a winner in the six-furlong Coventry Stakes. Henry the Navigator won the race, beating favourite Swiss Franc by three-quarters of a length while Luck

Money finished third.

Miss Andretti won the King's Stand Stakes over five furlongs, breaking the track record by more than two seconds. Dandy Man was second 1 3/4 lengths behind Miss Andretti and was followed by Magnus and last year's winner Takeover Target.



Miss Andretti ridden by Craig Newitt on way to victory in the King's Stand Stakes.

Ramonti ridden by Franki Dettori wins the Queen Anne Stakes.



RAMONTI UPSETS GEORGE WASHINGTON IN QUEEN ANNE STAKES

Godolphin Racing, owned by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, registered its first win in a Group One race in England since 2005 when Ramonti shocked George Washington to claim top honours in the Queen Anne Stakes on the opening day of the Royal Ascot meet.

Queen Anne Stakes has been one of the most successful events for the Dubai-based Godolphin Racing as Ramonti was its seventh winner of the event over the past 12 years.

Ramonti was handled perfectly by top jockey Frankie Dettori, who guided his mount to victory by a short head over Jeremy while Turtle Bowl was third.

Dettori was all praise for Ramonti, saying: "He really dug deep and got his head down for me on the line. They all went by me, but I knew they could come back.

Sheikh Mohammed was obviously very happy too. "Some years you have good horses and some years you don't," he said. "We liked Ramonti when we saw a video of his races. We thought we would enjoy racing him."

George Washington had been the 5-4 favorite on his return from having failed at the Coolmore Stud farm due to fertility problems. Bred in the United States by Gretchen and Roy Jackson, owners of 2006 Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro, George Washington had a stellar season to be the top 3-year-old in 2006. He finished fourth, but trainer Aidan O'Brien was upbeat.

"We were delighted with his run," O'Brien said. "After going to stud and covering 60 mares you would be a bit fresh, wouldn't you? It was a good run back and he showed his early pace. He looked out of it for a while, but came home well."



MANDURO WINS PRINCE OF WALES STAKES

Manduro won the Prince of Wales Stakes at Royal Ascot, holding off Dylan Thomas by 1 1/4 lengths on the run to the line after having overtaken Sir Percy.

Manduro, the 15-8 favourite trained by Andre Fabre with Stephane Pasquier aboard, swept past long time-leader Sir Percy with 300 metres left as last year's English Derby winner began to tire. Although Christophe Soumillon kept pace on Dylan Thomas, Manduro held on to win for the third straight time this season while Pasquier captured his first Royal Ascot victory.

Fabre said of his 5-year-old colt: "He's a top-class miler and pace is not a problem for him. I'm convinced he'll get a mile and a half (2.4 kilometres). He's entered

in King George and the Arc in the obvious target."

The field of six horses started slowly in the 350,000- pound race with Sir Percy, which usually prefers to swoop, setting a modest pace. The Derby winner finished last.

Red Rocks, winner of last season's Breeders Cup Turf, never got close to the lead -- even with inform jockey Frankie Dettori in the saddle -- and finished fourth behind Notnowcato.

In the Royal Hunt Cup, jockey Jimmy Fortune collected his third victory of the day and fourth in two days when he guided 9-1 shot Royal Oath home by four lengths in a field of 26. He had earlier triumphed on Tariq in the Jersey Stakes and Nannina in the Windsor Forest Stakes.

Meanwhile, English 2,000 Guineas winner Cockney Rebel was found to have fractured his offside pelvis when finishing a disappointing fifth in the St. James's Palace Stakes.



Winner of the Prince of Wales's Stakes Manduro with French jockey Stephane Pasquier and owner Baron G. von Ullmann.

Cockney Rebel hung badly to the left in the closing stages as he finished behind the winner Excellent Art and was initially thought to have pulled a muscle.

"We got him to the surgery this morning and gave him a scan which showed the fracture," trainer Geoff Huffer said. "It's not life-threatening but that's racing, I'm afraid. It's too early to say, but he could be out for a month or two."

CORONATION STAKES CROWN GOES TO INDIAN INK

Indian Ink made a late dash and cruised to a six-length victory in

the 250,000-pound Coronation Stakes on the fourth day of the Royal Ascot in Ascot, England.

Jockey Richard Hughes made his move in the final 100 metres to give his rivals no chance in the two-kilometre race. German Guineas winner Mi Emma, ridden by Eduardo Pedroza, was second and French-trained Darjina followed in third place.

Indian Ink was back in sixth place when the leading contenders moved past long-time leader Cherry Hinton and made the dash to the line. But Hughes' mount was by far the quickest in the soft conditions -- which was due to

some heavy rain the day before -- and was able to burst away from her rivals to win impressively for trainer Richard Hannon.

"It was purely down the ground," Hughes said. "She has an explosive turn of foot. I have to be careful when to kick on. It was just a matter of not going too soon."

Finsceal Beo, winner of the English and Irish 1,000 Guineas, needed faster conditions and finished fourth from last without making an impact on the race.

Boscobel led from the start and pulled away from his eight rivals to win the 200,000 pounds King Edward VII Stakes. With Joe Fanning aboard, the 7-1 shot beat 5-2 favourite Lucarno by 1 1/2 lengths.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II DAZZLES

Queen Elizabeth II, who has not missed a single Royal Ascot since 1945, dazzled the Royal Ascot races with a fuchsia dress on the opening day of the five-day meet.

The monarch arrived at the racecourse in a horse-drawn carriage to applause from thousands of racing fans, which included men dressed in top hats and tails and women in beautifully designed dresses and some innovative and wonderful hats.

The queen wore a bright dress and jacket by Karl Ludvig and matching Philip Somerville hat. The royal party -- which included queen's husband Prince Philip,



Indian Ink with Richard Hughes aboard goes on to win the Coronation Cup.

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip arrive on the first day of the Royal Ascot at Ascot.



sons Prince Andrew and Prince Charles and Charles' wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall -- made its traditional procession around the racetrack before entering the Royal Enclosure.

The five-day Royal Ascot meeting is the highlight of the royal calendar and social season, offering a rich mix of racing, extravagant headgear, champagne and strawberries with cream.

Britain's Duchess of Cornwall holds on to her hat as she arrives at Ascot Racecourse, England for the second day of the Royal Ascot horse race meeting



FEI NAKHEEL *Nations Cup 2007*

Well over hundred horses met at the wonderful medieval town of Gubbio for the Gubbio Endurance on May 26. Riders from Spain, France, Germany, Jordan, Netherlands, and even Russia participated.

The ride was in 3 different grades, orange numbers took part in an 80 km ride, blue ones in ride over 120 kms, and the top ride was 160 kms. Of course, horse and rider must be qualified to go on rides of longer distances, and the rides were divided in loops, everyone ending at the vet-gate, where the vets checked the horses and if the pulse rate was not down to 64 beats/min the horse was not allowed to go on, thus losing valuable time.

Almost 40 horses in the long distance of 160 kms, 60 horses in the one of 120 kms and around 40 went over 80 kms.

Most of the horses were Arabians or at least partbreds, known for their enormous stamina, not fast like the English Thoroughbred but unbeatable over long distances. And yet it takes a lot of exercise to get them to the very top class. Not every promising endurance horse "lasts"; they might develop problems with hooves, tendons,



*One more round, 12.7 kms, to win the longest distance (160 km),
Gaetano Ambrosio on Hassan The King*



Silvia Scapin on Daplan, on their last round, 10 more kms to go for the 160 kms.

digestion etc.

A top endurance horse must be able

- a. to drink when offered at any time
- b. to eat when offered
- c. to urinate even under show stress

It is a long way to reach the top. The Gubbio Endurance was again organized by Dr. Fausto Fiorucci, a local dentist, and a top class and very successful endurance rider, supported by his charming wife Laura.

Fausto was riding himself in the shorter distance of 120 kms, since his horse was not yet ready for 160. And he even won this ride, leading from the start and with an average speed of 17.1 km/h, which is very fast, consid-



Participants on their way



The winner, Dr. Fausto Fiorucci, comes home after 120 km appr. 9 hours, going a media of 17.1 km/h in a very mountainous area.

ering the terrain, with hills and valleys, climbing and sometimes impossible to gallop because of the stoney ground.

What a difference to the rides in the Gulf states, where it is more a race, since it is flat desert land. There the average speed is often

24 km/h.

The 160 km ride was won by a senior rider from Naples/Italy, Gaetano Ambrosio. Several times in the years before he was close to winning, then his horse was taken out because of lameness or metabolism or else. This time

he made it, and he was so happy, so was his fabulous horse Hassan The King.

Even arriving first does not mean that you won the race; the vets check the horse and it must be "fit to continue", otherwise it is eliminated.

A tiring race



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THE QATAR CUP AND THE 138TH GERMAN DERBY 2007 IN HAMBURG



Finish of the Qatar Cup

The Derby Racing week had two new races in the calendar. On Sunday, the 24th July, there was a race sponsored by Hydra Properties from Dubai/UAE and on the Derby Day - the first time ever - the Kingdom of Qatar sponsored the Qatar Cup, open only for Arabian horses.

H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Faleh Al Thani was there himself to see a horse of his family win the cup. 12 horses were trying to win the trophy, but Al Dahma, a 5 year old mare, owned by H.E. Sheikh Abdullah Al Thani, won by 2 lengths, running a fast race and leaving the rest of the competitors far behind. All of them close together. The visitors were happy and delighted to see these beautiful elegant horses run in Hamburg, the speaker was worried about the weather conditions. "I hope that the horses,



Winner Adlerflug ridden by jockey Fredrik Johansson, owned by Baron von Ullmann, Stud Schlenderhan.



Al Dhama on her way to victory

used to the desert climate, will not suffer too much in our cool and wet place.” Obviously he did not know that the horses from the Gulf travel far for races all over the world. But, yes, he was right, the weather conditions were horrible; some Derby horses did not start, because the owners were afraid. The ground was very deep because of endless rains in the days before, So bad that a whole race day was cancelled because of the “floods”. In 138 years this has never happened!

The combination of Arabs and English Thoroughbreds racing, was wonderful, and hopefully this will be repeated next year, at the 139th German Derby!



Horse&Horseman Heidi Bernsdorff with H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani



A happy Derby winner Fredrik Johansson on “Adlerflug” escorted home

THE CARTIER POLO WORLD CUP ON SNOW 2007

Ten thousand spectators came on 28th January 2007 to witness the final of the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow on the frozen lake in St. Moritz, Switzerland, under fairytale-like clear blue sky.

Four teams (Brioni, Cartier, Julius Baer and Maybach) competed against each other in difficult, unwonted conditions on 6,000ft

(1,800m) of altitude, demanding the last from horses and players. Practise sessions had been cut due to the lack of snow, but luckily in the last days the feared disaster of cancelling the tournament could be avoided, heavy snowfall and low temperatures came like a blessing.

Most of the 16 professional players

are currently ranking amongst the world top 100, including No 2 Eduardo Novillo Astrada (hcp 9) from Argentina in the Brioni Team.

The expectations of a high quality match were perfectly met in the final. It was a fierce battle between the pretty equal teams from Brioni (total handicap 21) and Cartier





(total handicap 22). They showed excellent team play and pressed on at high speed. The ponies were flying over the snow, mounted by extremely concentrated players who gave their best.

Cartier's Pelon Sterling (Uruguay, Hcp 7) scored 2 fast goals in the first chukka and completed his hat-trick after world No 2 Eduardo Novillo Astrada (Argentina, hcp 9), could score the first goal for Brioni and in the third chukka Guy Schwarzenbach (Swiss/Australia, hcp 1) narrowed the gap to 2:3.

Cartier's performance was dominant on the field up to that point. The spectators

enthusiastically cheered for their favourites and it was not until the very last, that Novillo Astrada scored the third goal for Brioni under the appreciating cheers of fans.

Extra time was given and this time the two 9 goal players from Argentina showed their high skills and forced their way far into Cartier territory to get the golden goal and secure the first victory at the Cartier Trophy by scoring the 5th goal finally leading with one point ahead of Cartier Team.

But the Brioni Team swept even more awards. Their performance throughout the whole competition

was outstanding and they won the Best Player award with Novillo Astrada, his pony Tia became the Best Playing Pony and as Best Amateur in the Cup Charlie Hanbury (UK, handicap 2) was chosen.

The second match, the Mercedes AMG Cup for the 3rd and 4th place, was won by Team Julius Baer against Maybach 5:4 after overtime. Though the latter team finished last in the cup, one of their players Nicolas Espain (Argentina, hcp 6) could convince the jury with his outstanding performance throughout the Cup though competing on snow for the first time and was awarded Most



Valuable Player, meaning he played way beyond his handicap. The exclusive guests enjoyed a stay at the relocated VIP area on land with spectacular view and trouble less catering service in surpassing ambience. In the magnificent snow covered area around the lake they fancied champagne and various tit-bits while following the exciting tournament. Horse carriages and vehicles from the main sponsors were used for transport and added their charm to the event.

Urs E. Schwarzenbach, President of the St. Moritz Polo Club said, "Polo and St. Moritz go together perfectly: they are bound by the elegance and sporting spirit that make life up here at 1,800 metres so exhilarating and convivial. Back in 1985, when polo on snow had its world premiere here in St. Moritz, no one could have





imagined that it would develop into a high-goal tournament attracting international stars.”

Extra Rules on Snow

Special rules were needed for polo on snow and they are laid down in the following terms:

The official international polo field measures 182m x 274m, but as polo on snow is much more tiring and difficult, the field on the frozen lake, which is covered with a layer of pressed snow measures around 100x200m, the goal posts are 7.3m apart, adjustable up to 14.6m.

In the Cartier World Cup teams with handicaps between 18 and 22 goals are allowed, the St. Moritz formula is:

- 1 goal difference: no goal is given
- 2 goals difference: 1/2 goal
- 3 goals difference: 1 goal
- 4 goals difference: 1 1/2 goals



In the qualification rounds, each team will have met all other competitors. The victorious team of the previous year has the right to play the opening game of each day. For the results, no draw is allowed. Extra time will be played after the 4th chukka (7.5min) if needed and if there is still a draw after the 5th chukka each player has to do a penalty until the golden goal is scored. An award is given for each victory in the qualification rounds.



Participating teams:

Team Cartier (hcp 22)

- 1 Adriano Agosti (CH), hcp 0
- 2 David Sterling jr. (UY), 7
- 3 Jose Donoso (CL), 7
- 4 Juan Jose Brane, (AR), 8

Team Maybach (hcp 20)

- 1 Philipp Maeder (CH), hcp 0
- 2 Agustín Garcia Grossi (AR), 6
- 3 Nicolas Espain (AR), 6
- 4 Pablo Jauretche (AR) 8

Team Brioni (hcp 21)

- 1 Charlie Hanbury (UK), hcp 2
- 2 Eduardo Novillo Astrada (AR), 9
- 3 Milo Fernandez Araujo (AR), 9

- 4 Guy Schwarzenbach (CH/AU), 1

Team Bank Julius Bar (hcp 22)

- 1 Tony K. Pidgley (UK), hcp 1
- 2 Jack Baillieu (AU), 7
- 3 Marcos Di Paola (AR), 8
- 4 Andrew Hine (UK), 6



ST. MORITZ - THE CRADLE OF POLO IN CENTRAL EUROPE

St. Moritz in Switzerland is not only a skiing area of world fame but has a long history of polo, one of the earliest in Europe. More than a century ago, in 1899, the first polo field was introduced at St. Moritz-Bad by British cavalry officers, who had been stationed there and been playing the game as part of their military training and leisure activity.

This initial enthusiasm ebbed away as the officers got order to leave for the Boer War in South Africa. It was still a quite British game as they had brought it from East India/Manipore, where they had first encountered and fallen in love with it around 1850. However, the historical traces lead back to Persia as far as 600BC. The first English Polo Club was founded in 1873 in Hurlingham Polo Club, where the first written rules were established. Later when the game was introduced in



America it was there, where the handicap rules were invented.

In St. Moritz it took a while after the British left, but in 1959 the St. Moritz Polo Club was founded under Chairman Dr. P. R. Berry. Starting in the following year, a tournament was held annually in summer. Teams from Argentina, Italy, the USA and England joined and drew 3,000-4,000 spectators each year. The only Swiss player at that time was Christian Mathis.

A year before Polo started, the first show jumping competition on snow was held and thereafter carried out annually and even before that in 1907 the nowadays so famous White Turf races started in St. Moritz.

In the early days the harness races were held over 5,000 metres on little Norwegian sleds, but nowadays original sukies are brought and wheels are exchanged with runners.





In 1965, the former polo pitch hosted an altitude training centre for athletes competing in the 1968 summer Olympics in Mexico City, the polo game was abandoned for this period.

From 1978 the first all Swiss St. Moritz polo team under captain Gaudenzi moved out to show the world that Switzerland can not

only host superb tournaments, but also produce successful players itself.

Ex-polo player Christian Mathis took over the chairmanship of the polo club after the initial founder passed away in 1983 and established the Swiss Polo Association (SPA).

On 26-27 January 1985, the St. Moritz Polo Club organised and

hosted the world premiere of the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow on the frozen lake of St. Moritz. The idea from Gaudenzi was previously considered a crazy whim but the unique white arena on the lake passed its initiation as a polo field with flying colours.

Since then the Cartier Polo World Cup has been the world's most prestigious winter polo tournament. But that shouldn't be the final improvement in St. Moritz. In hard, year-long work the polo club gained building rights and another polo ground named 'San Gian Equestrian Sports Field' was laid out for summer events.

In 1992, this decision was awarded by the FIP (Federación Internacional de Polo) that decided to hold the 1993 European Championships and the 1995 World Cup right there.

In August 1992, with Reto G. Gaudenzi chairing the organising committee, the BSI Swiss Open was the first summer tournament to be held.

Now St. Moritz stood for the only place worldwide where polo could be played throughout the year on grass in summer and on snow in winter. All efforts were not in vein, the Swiss national team won the bronze medal at the 1993 European Championships on home land.

Concerning the Cartier Polo World Cup every year some new amenities were introduced to provide highest standard and make the event a great experience for both spectators and competitors, shuttle services and special childcare are only a few of them.

FALLON GUIDES

DYLAN THOMAS TO VICTORY



Co-owner of Dylan Thomas Susan John Magnier receives her prize from French Prime Minister Francois Fillon.

Kieren Fallon showed the world why he is considered as one of the best jockeys around when he guided Dylan Thomas to victory in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp in Paris.

Fallon, who is facing a trial in England on race-fixing charges, produced a perfect race to give trainer Aidan O'Brien his first win in Europe's top middle distance race.

Youmzain was second while Sagara finished third.



Kieren Fallon guides Dylan Thomas to victory.



Dylan Thomas with jockey Kieren Fallon aboard crosses the finish line to win the 86th prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

However, the celebrations had to be put on hold as a stewards inquiry, which was called after Dylan Thomas had drifted over to the inside rail in the final 200m, cutting across rivals Zambezi Sun and Soldier Of Fortune.

But after a 20-minute wait it was announced that the result stood, which sparked scenes of celebrations in the winners circle. "That was the longest 20 minutes of my life," said a jubilant Fallon. Fallon was under a lot of pressure because of the trial but he did not let that affect his concentration as he guided Dylan Thomas perfectly for his sixth Group One success. "This is one of the best days of my life, Dylan Thomas is probably one of the best horses I've ridden," said the jockey who was repeating his 2005 Arc success on Hurricane Run.

O'Brien paid tribute to Fallon. "Kieren is a master of his craft

and gave Dylan Thomas a master ride. This is a marvellous race, we have always wanted to have the winner and great credit must go to everybody at home. There are so many people involved that have made this happen."

The big disappointment of the race was Authorized, who was the odds on favourite after his victory in the Epsom Derby.

Peter Chapple-Hyam's three-year-old was always towards the rear and never in a position to deliver a blow with jockey figured.

Authorized's part-owner Saleh Al Homeizi said: "I'm just very disappointed. I can't say too much now, but from what I have seen he was a long way back for too long.

"Frankie (Dettori) said he didn't handle the track but we will just

have to see how the horse comes back."

Dettori said: "The horse was beaten before the start. He wasn't the horse today and I don't know if it was the track or what."

Youmzain flew home in the final 100m to be beaten by a mere head, with his trainer, former England international footballer Mick Channon, saying: "We knew he was in good heart and realistically we knew there was one or two that could beat us. Dylan Thomas was one of those. "I'm thrilled he has run his race and he is a very good horse."

Jonathan Pease, trainer of third-placed Sagara, said: "I'm very pleased -- he is the first three-year-old at home and either he's very good or the others are very over-rated. He just got stopped a bit near the post but there are no real excuses."



FALLON ACQUITTED OF RACE-FIXING CHARGES

Celebrated Irish jockey Kieren Fallon was acquitted of race-fixing charges after his trial collapsed in at London's Central Criminal Court heard by Judge John Forbes.

Fallon was relieved at the decision but was also angry that it took the court two months to decide that there was no case to answer. He was barred from racing in Britain for 17 months after being arrested.

The jockey and his six co-defendants -- including jockeys Fergal Lynch and Darren Williams -- were accused of conspiracy to defraud online betting customers by trying to cheat in 27 races to make horses lose.

Fallon said after the ruling: "I am of course relieved and delighted, but also outraged. There was never any evidence against me." In a statement later he said: "I am devastated at having lost over a year's racing at the top level, at possibly the most important time in my career, and I have missed out on considerable income."

Fallon's lawyer John Kelsey-Fry had asked for the case to be thrown out because prosecutors had failed to "come close" to making a credible case against his client. "There is simply no case to answer. None of the strands of evidence individually or collectively amount to a case to answer," he told the judge.

"The evidence presented by the prosecution when properly analysed has demonstrated that Kieren Fallon was not a party to a conspiracy to defraud."

Judge Forbes formally directed the jury to find the defendants not guilty.

The British Horseracing Authority governing body confirmed that restrictions on Fallon and two others jockeys who were also on trial expired at the conclusion of the proceedings.

"Kieren Fallon, who is licensed by the Irish Turf Club, is therefore able to ride in Great Britain, and Fergal Lynch and Darren Williams are able to re-apply for their jockey licences," they added.

The trial began on October 8, the day after Fallon won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

In his ruling, the judge notably highlighted the weak evidence of the only expert witness called by prosecutors -- Australian racing steward Ray Murrin, who admitted he was not an expert on British horseracing.

"It is abundantly clear that his evidence fell far, far short of establishing a prima facie breach of UK racing rules," the judge said in his ruling.

CURLIN ADDS ANOTHER FEATHER TO HIS CAP

Curlin added another feather to his cap when he won the \$5 million Breeders' Cup Classic at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, New Jersey.

The US Horse of the Year and winner Preakness Stakes earlier in the year, ridden by Robby Albarado and trained by Steve Asmussen, looked a winner all the way as he sped past Hard Spun and Lawyer Ron, who finished seventh, around the final turn to claim an impressive 4 ½ lengths victory in North America's richest race.

Hard Spun was second while Awesome Gem came in third in the race in which George

Washington, with jockey Mick Kinane on board, broke down with a broken right front ankle. The four-year-old George Washington, trained by Aidan O'Brien, was later examined by veterinary staff on the track and had to be euthanised. Equine joint specialist Wayne McIlwraith said the open fracture resulted in loss of blood supply to the limb making treatment untenable. "The injury was bad and Aidan O'Brien made the request for euthanasia," McIlwraith said. "He was with the

horse."

"It's incredible," said Curlin's trainer Asmussen. "It's all about Curlin. He's the one who did it." Albarado was also over the moon with his horse's performance, saying: "It was truly awesome."

The race was billed as a clash between Curlin and Kentucky Derby winner Street Sense. But the latter could not keep up with Curlin and finished fourth. It was later announced that it was Street Sense's last race and was being sent out to stud.

"We just got outrun today," said Street Sense jockey Calvin Borel. "At the quarter-pole, I thought I would go with him, but he just kicked away. I couldn't have had a better trip. He tried hard with me. Curlin is the genuine article and I just couldn't go with him."



Curlin with jockey Robby Albarado aboard wins the Breeders' Cup Classic at Monmouth Park.



Jockey Kent Desormeaux on Corinthian celebrates after winning the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile.

Corinthian Powers to Dirt Mile Victory

Corinthian rode a powerful race to take the inaugural Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile by an impressive 6 ½ lengths victory over Gottcha Gold and favourite Discreet Cat. Ridden by Kent Desormeaux, Corinthian surged past Gottcha Gold at the top of the straight and pulled away the rest of the way.

Gottcha Gold held on for second. Discreet Cat failed to impress and finished third.

This was Desormeaux's third career Breeders' Cup victory on the Jimmy Jerkens-trained colt.

Entering the race, which was in fact a mile and 70 yards because of the configuration of the track, the focus was on Discreet Cat.

The four-year-old had won his first six starts but been soundly beaten in two starts this year.

Breaking from the rail with Garrett Gomez aboard, Discreet Cat, who is trained by Saeed bin Suroor for Godolphin, was never a factor and barely held off Wanderin Boy for third.



Jockey Rafael Bejarano guides Ginger Punch (at right) to the winning post in the Distaff.

Ginger Punch edges out Hystericalady in Distaff

Ginger Punch edged out Hystericalady in the stretch to win the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Distaff at Monmouth Park.

Both fillies sat just off the early pace set by Bear Now, the real

race beginning as they were coming out of the turn and heading for home. Hystericalady, on the outside of her rivals all the way, and jockey Eddie Castro were in the two path and Ginger Punch and rider Rafael Bejarano were tight on the rail. The two bumped in the lane and Ginger Punch came close to hitting the rail.

Ginger Punch got the advantage in deep stretch to win by a long neck. Octave, who was charging late, finished another neck back in third. The track had been sealed and sloppy all day.

"I was a little worried about our post and being inside," Bejarano said. "I just tried to keep the dirt out of her face. In the stretch, we got squeezed by (Hystericalady), but I always knew (Ginger Punch) would come back."

The 4-year-old Ginger Punch redeemed herself from a third-place finish in the Beldame (Gr. I) last time out to get the win for Frank Stronach's Adena Springs and trainer Bobby Frankel.

"This filly has come a long way," said Chad Brown, Frankel's assistant. "Bobby never lost confidence in her. I'm so happy for the filly. We've had her since she was 2."



Horses vie for top honours in the Distaff.



Maryfield with jockey Elvis Trujillo on top cruises to victory in the Filly & Mare Sprint.

Maryfield storms to F & M Sprint triumph

Maryfield, trained by Doug O'Neill and ridden by Elvis Trujillo, stormed through the stretch to win the \$1.125 million Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint.

One of three new races in the \$23 million Breeders' Cup programme this year, the six furlong race was run on a muddy Monmouth Park track. Maryfield darted through the rain drops on the outside, chasing down pacesetter Dream Rush. It was Maryfield's fourth win in five career starts.

Dream Rush set a sizzling pace, leading until the mid-stretch before Maryfield thundered past

on the outside. On the inside, Miraculous Miss, with Jeremy Rose aboard for trainer Steve Klesaris, came through for second. Miss Macy Suem trained

by Kelly Von Hemel and ridden by Eusebio Razo was third.

Baroness Thatcher was fourth as Dream Rush faded to fifth.



Jockey Elvis Trujillo celebrates as Maryfield wins the Filly & Mare Sprint.



Alan Garcia-ridden Lahudood wins the Filly and Mare Turf.

Lahudood wins Breeders' Cup F & M Turf

Lahudood captured an upset victory in the \$2.13 million Filly and Mare Turf to give jockey Alan Garcia his first Breeders' Cup victory at Monmouth Park.

The Sheikh Hamdan al Maktoum-owned Lahudood, trained by Kieran McLaughlin, handled the soft grass course with its relatively tight turns as Henry Cecil's Passage of Time settled for third and Johnny Murtagh pulled up the Jeremy Nosedo-trained Simply Perfect.

Garcia positioned the British invader perfectly throughout the 1 3/8-mile race, and when the field turned for home she put away Argentina en route to her third victory in five 2007 starts.

"I had a great trip," Garcia said. "We were in good position the first time past the stands, and

then, when Simply Perfect went wide on the turn, that just opened everything up and I was in great position. I had a lot of horse in the lane and she got there."

McLaughlin was full of praise for Garcia and said he wasn't surprised the filly handled the soft ground. "She handled it well in France," he said. "Sheikh Hamdan felt she handled firm a little better, but she handles soft well too."

Passage of Time, under Ramon Dominguez, started her move on the back stretch but couldn't head Lahudood and was overtaken for second by Honey Ryder, trained by Todd Pletcher and ridden by John Velasquez.

"She just didn't seem to quicken up," Cecil said. "She was labouring a bit, but she was going well. She just didn't handle it (the soft ground) as well as she should have."



The pack comes down the straightaway in Filly and Mare Turf.

War Pass romps in Breeders' Cup Juvenile

War Pass was never challenged in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile as he romped to victory at Monmouth Park.

Trained by Nick Zito, the two-year-old remained unbeaten as this was his fourth straight victory. This was Zito's first victory in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile in 10 starts.

Jockey Cornelio Velasquez guided the son of Cherokee Run smartly to a five-length lead at the top of the stretch en route to an impressive victory.

"Wow," Zito said. "He's an incredible horse -- he's got all these afterburners. That was unbelievable today. He just doesn't want to get beat. He's four-for-four -- he's an incredible two-year-old."

Pyron and Kodiak Kowboy, both whom are trained by Steve Asmussen, finished second and third respectively.



Jockey Cornelio Velasquez rides War Pass after winning the Juvenile.



Cornelio Velasquez leads War Pass to victory in the Juvenile.



Indian Blessing with jockey Garrett Gomez aboard (second from right) leaves the gate on his way to winning the Juvenile Fillies.

Indian Blessing cruises to Juvenile Fillies win

Indian Blessing cruised to victory in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Trained by Bob Baffert and ridden by Garrett Gomez, Indian Blessing was unfazed by the sloppy track as she dominated the field of two-year-olds over 1 1/16 miles.

Indian Blessing turned back a challenge at the half-mile mark by A to the Croft, and led comfortably at the turn for home.

It was Baffert's third career Breeders' Cup victory and he was obviously very pleased with his horse's efforts. "She's just a real good filly. When she turned for

home she was way out there by herself."

Proud Spell, saddled by Larry Jones and ridden by Gabriel Saez, was second while Backseat Rhythm, trained by Patrick Reynolds and with Javier Castellano aboard, was third.



Garrett Gomez-ridden Indian Blessing leads the pack in the Juvenile Fillies.



Horses in action in the Juvenile Turf.

Nownownow edges Achill Island in Juvenile Turf

Nownownow upset Achill Island to win the inaugural Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf for two-year-olds.

The \$1 million race run over a mile was one of three new events on the Breeders' Cup slate, swelling it from eight to 11 races.

Julien Leparoux brought Nownownow from well off the pace to win for the second time in six starts in 2007. Achill Island, ridden by Johnny Murtagh and trained by Aidan O'Brien, made a

late run to come in front. But at quarter-pole, Leparoux made his move and roared to victory in the final stretch.

"I moved at the quarter pole, and I knew I was going to get it in the stretch," Leparoux said. "The turf is not too deep, it's just wet."

O'Brien said he couldn't have asked for more from Achill Island. "He ran a stormer. We're delighted. He came to win his race and just got nabbed on the line," O'Brien said. "That's his race. He likes to come from behind. He doesn't like

the ground that way (soft), so he ran a huge race. He'll be a lovely horse next year."

Nownownow was saddled by Francois Parisel, who took over as trainer of record for suspended Patrick Biancone. "The weather was an obvious worry, but we knew he had the breeding on both sides to handle the soft going," Parisel said. "I'm very happy. Mr. Biancone deserves a lot of the credit. This was a team effort."



Nownownow (second from left) ridden by Julien Leparoux wins the Juvenile Turf.

Kip Deville upsets Excellent Art in Mile

Kip Deville came from off the pace on a soft course to pip favourite Excellent Art in the Breeders' Cup Mile at the Monmouth Park.

Trained by Richard Dutrow and ridden by Cornelio Velasquez, Kip Deville, whose owners paid \$300,000 to enter him in the field, overtook early leader Cosmonaut, who finished third behind Excellent Art.

"The owners made that decision based on how good the horse had run and how he was coming

into this race," Dutrow said of the move to supplement Kip Deville into the race.

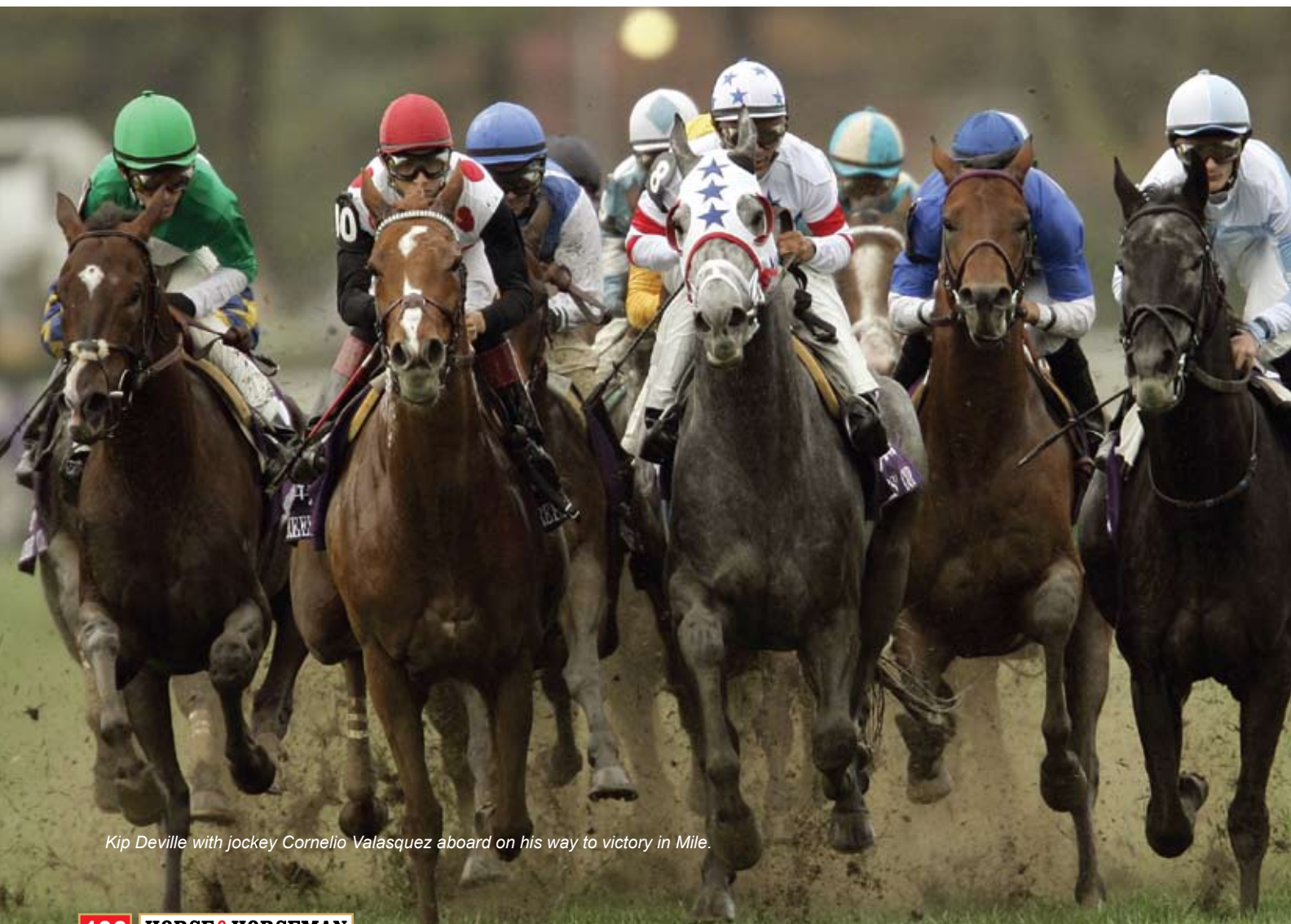
"The key was for him liking the track. It looks like he did. Cornelio Velasquez gave him an unbelievable ride."

Velasquez picked up his second Breeders' Cup win of the day after romping home with War Pass in the Juvenile.

"He broke very fast but I didn't want to go to the lead, so I covered him up," Velasquez said. "At the quarter-pole, I had a lot of horse, and when I was able to get

clear, he took off. He absolutely loved the soft going."

Excellent Art, who went off as the favourite despite drawing the 13th post, could not overcome his unfavorable starting position. "He handled the course OK," said Johnny Murtagh, who was riding Excellent Art for the first time in place of Jamie Spencer. "I followed Johnny Velasquez (Nobiz Like Shobiz) and I liked where I was. When we made the straight he lugged in a little bit on me but I got him straightened away and he went on with his running. It was a good effort."



Kip Deville with jockey Cornelio Velasquez aboard on his way to victory in Mile.



Garrett Gomez celebrates as he leads Midnight Lute to the finish line in first position in the Sprint.

Midnight Lute powers to victory in Sprint

Favourite Midnight Lute unleashed a powerful last-to-first move in the home stretch at sloppy Monmouth Park, storming to a 4 3/4-length victory over the front-running Idiot Proof in the \$1,832,000 Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Midnight Lute's effort was the second Breeders' Cup win on the day for trainer Bob Baffert and jockey Garrett Gomez. They teamed to win the first Breeders' Cup race of the day, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies with Indian Blessing. It was the fourth stakes triumph of the day for Gomez.

"What a horse!" Baffert exclaimed. "He's just getting better and better. When he didn't break, I said, 'Oh my God.' It was an incredible run he made.

"He's the best one I've ever led over here to the Breeders' Cup. I always thought he was in the 'top 10' of all my horses. Now he's in the 'top five.'"

Midnight Lute, a 4-year-old son of Real Quiet-Candytuft, by Dehere, is owned by Michael Pegram and Watson & Weitman Performance. Pegram was the owner of Real Quiet, the winner of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness in 1998.

The objection sign was posted immediately after the race as Ryan Fogelsonger, the rider of third-place finisher Talent Search, claimed foul against runner-up Idiot Proof, who did bear in late down the lane. The objection was not allowed.

"I told (the stewards) that the second-place horse (Idiot Proof) came over on me down the stretch a little too early and it really made me have to take hold of my horse and pull him outside," Fogelsonger said. "The difference between second and third is a lot more money for the owners."

As the field turned for home, Idiot Proof wrested the lead from Talent Search and began to draw clear. Midnight Lute came storming

down the centre of the track to blow the field away. Idiot Proof finished 1 3/4 lengths ahead of Talent Search, who had 2 1/2 lengths on fourth-place finisher Benny the Bull.

"He really didn't break all that bad," Gomez said. "The horse Fogelsonger was on (Talent Search) made us take back. I felt really comfortable at the half. I felt that we had a good shot. I made the decision to come around horses and Commentator took us out a little farther than I would have liked, but once I got him clear, he came on."

The five-furlong split was 56:2 and the final time for the three-quarters of a mile was 1:09.18.

Bred in Kentucky by Tom Evans, Macon Wilmil Equines and Marjac Farms, Midnight Lute has now won five of 10 career starts.

Kelly's Landing finished fifth, followed by Bordonaro, Commentator, Greg's Gold, Smokey Stover, and Forefathers.

English Channel wins Breeders' Cup Turf

English Channel continued to excel in 2007 when he won the \$3 million Breeders' Cup Turf at the Monmouth Park. This was English Channel's fourth victory in six starts in the year.

The five-year-old blew past Fri Guy around the final turn and pulled away for the win.

Dylan Thomas, who was trying to become the first horse to follow up a Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe victory with a win in the 1 1/2-mile Breeders' Cup Turf, failed to

impress.

The Aidan O'Brien-trained champion, ridden by Johnny Murtagh, failed to fire and finished a poor fifth. "I was in trouble as soon as I turned down the back stretch, he wasn't handling the soft turf very well," Murtagh said. "He was tired. The last furlong he was out on his feet. He was spinning his wheels out there. He even hated the warm-up, and this is a horse who loves his racing and everything about it. We had no chance."

Shamdinan, trained by Angel Penna and ridden by Julien

Leparoux, was second. The Brian Meehan-trained Red Rocks was third under Frankie Dettori.

English Channel finished fifth in the Breeders' Cup Turf in 2005 and had to settle for third in 2006.

The victory also gave America's top trainer Todd Pletcher his first Breeders' Cup winner since he saddled Speightstown in the 2004 Sprint.

"He delivered big-time today," Pletcher said. "That was a big performance. He dominated some really good horses."



English Channel with jockey John Velazquez on top wins the Turf.



Track workers run to help George Washington near the finish line after the horse broke his leg during the Classic.

Jockey Gomez bags Bill Shoemaker Award

Garrett Gomez, who won two races at the Breeders' Cup on the second day of the event at Monmouth Park, claimed the Bill Shoemaker Award.

The award, established in 2003, is presented annually to the outstanding Breeders' Cup jockey

and is voted on by the international media covering the event. Gomez also earned the award in 2005.

Garrett rode Indian Blessing to victory in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies and Midnight Lute to victory in the Breeders' Cup Sprint. He also finished third aboard Octave in the Breeders' Cup Distaff.

The two victories increased Gomez's Breeders' Cup total to four. His mounts have earned \$7,047,750, 13th-best of all time. Previous Shoemaker Award winners are Alex Solis in 2003 at Santa Anita Park, John Velazquez in 2004 at Lone Star Park, and Frankie Dettori in 2006 at Churchill Downs.



Track workers shield George Washington from fans as he is put down near the finish line.

MEISHO SAMSON PROVES **TOO GOOD IN EMPEROR'S CUP**

Meisho Samson dominated a star-studded field to win the 136th running of the Japan's Emperor's Cup at the Tokyo Racecourse.

The Opera House colt took the lead at the top of the stretch and was never challenged by anyone in the field including six Group 1 winners, four-time Group 1 winner Daiwa Major and Melbourne Cup champion Pop Rock. Meisho Samson, ridden by celebrated Japanese jockey Yutaka Take, won by a comfortable margin of 2 ½ lengths.

This was Samson's fourth victory at the top level and also became only the fourth horse in the Emperor's Cup history to win both the marathon-length spring version and the shorter fall version in the same year.

Cosmo Bulk set the early pace while Meisho Samson broke from the inside and settled in the backstretch.

With about 350 metres to go, Eishin Deputy with Yuichi Shibayama aboard suddenly veered out with Agnes Ark, Shadow Gate, Admire Moon and Daiwa Major being obstructed. Meisho Samson, however, stayed out of trouble and romped clear to register an impressive win.

Agnes Ark came in second followed by Company, Pop Rock and Cosmo Bulk respectively. Eishin Deputy finished in eighth place but was sent back to 14th following an inquiry.

Take paid rich tributes to Meisho Samson. "He's Japan's No 1 horse. He has superb overall ability. Everything is great about him," he said. "Coming around the final bend, I could feel the power in him. It was a great feeling."

Meisho Samson clocked 1 minute, 58.4 seconds over 2,000 metres of slightly yielding turf. Samson is owned by Yoshio Matsumoto and was bred in Hokkaido's Urakawa. The 4-year-old has won nine times in 19 starts and has earned more than 890 million yen.

Meanwhile, favourite Daiwa Scarlet upstaged Japan Derby winner Vodka to win the Shukasho, the final leg of Japan's Triple Crown for fillies.

Daiwa Scarlet, winner of the Okasho (Japanese 1,000 Guineas), burst clear coming off the final bend to win in one minute, 59.1 seconds in Kyoto.

Long-shot Rain Dance was the runner-up with Vodka finishing the 2,000-metre race for three-year-old fillies in third. Japanese Oaks winner Robe Decollete finished a disappointing 10th place in the 18-runner field.



Meisho Samson, ridden by Yutaka Take, wins the 136th Emperor's Cup.

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EFFICIENT UPSTAGES INTERNATIONALS

Efficient made his owners \$2.7 million richer and the local fans proud when the four-year-old won the \$4.7 million Melbourne Cup, upstaging international competitors in front of 102,411 roaring spectators at Flemington.

The locally-trained Efficient had to fight all the way with English runner Purple Moon and ended up as the winner by just half a length in a thrilling finish. Irish-trained Mahler was third a further

two-and-a-half lengths behind. Efficient, a 4-year-old gelding, won for the sixth time in 13 starts.

Purple Moon earned \$253,000

while Mahler picked up \$345,000.

Efficient became the first horse since the legendary Phar Lap 77 years ago to follow success in the Victoria Derby with victory a year later in the Melbourne Cup.

Jockey Michael Rodd was ecstatic after his victory. "I've won the Melbourne Cup -- I can't believe it!" he said. "I knew at the top of the straight he was going to repeat his Derby win of last year. I gave him a squeeze coming around the turn and two pushes



Efficient (at centre), ridden by jockey Michael Rodd, wins the Melbourne Cup.

Efficient's owner Nick Williams (at right) and trainer Graeme Rogerson celebrate with their trophies.



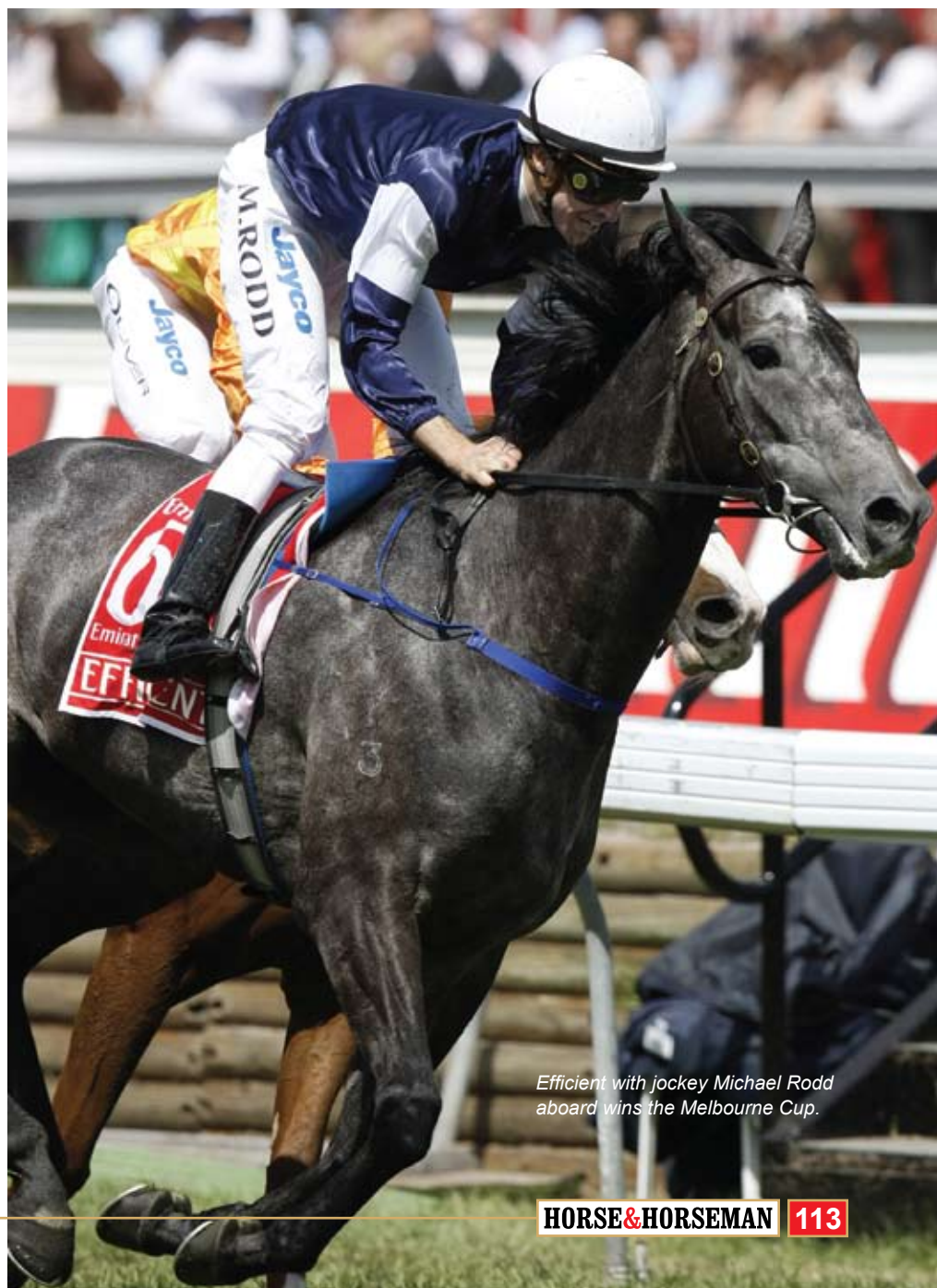
but I didn't want to go too early."

Efficient, trained by Graeme Rogerson, was the third Melbourne Cup triumph for Australian businessman Lloyd Williams, whose other horse in the field Zipping finished fourth. Williams had previously won the Cup with Just A Dash in 1981 and What A Nuisance in 1985. There was to be Williams's third entry, Gallic, in the Melbourne Cup but the gelding had to be withdrawn on the race morning after he injured his front leg.

Williams, as usual, stayed at his penthouse home and his son accepted the trophy.

"This is Dad's baby," said Williams' son Nick. "He picked the horse out of a catalogue, he has overseen every piece of work and planned its programme. This is Dad's triumph."

Williams later said: "It's a great thrill -- it's a dream. I have horses that have run first and fourth which is very satisfying because I buy staying horses to try and win



Efficient with jockey Michael Rodd aboard wins the Melbourne Cup.



Efficient, right, crossing the finish line to win the Melbourne Cup in Melbourne Australia



Bay Story, left, and Bling Bling collapse down the straight during race three of Melbourne Cup

the Melbourne Cup."

"Zipping's was a terrific run but Efficient was favourite for the Melbourne Cup when the market was first put out," he said. "He drifted out because he put in a couple of bad runs, but there you are, we had some confidence in him."

In an earlier race, Bay Story had to be euthanised when the 6-year-old broke a hind leg 150 metres from the finish while in second place in the Long Black Handicap.

English trainer Brian Ellison had hoped to win a place in the Melbourne Cup with Bay Story but ended up just outside the 24-horse limit.

Bay Story's jockey Mark Zahra was taken to hospital with a leg injury, forfeiting his Melbourne Cup ride on Scenic Shot, which finished 16th.



Milliner Richard Nylon (L) and fashion designer Alexi Freeman (R) chat as they watch the Fashion in the Field parade



Jockey Michael Rodd celebrates as he brings Efficient back to scale after winning the Melbourne Cup.

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Stamm 30 is very easy to use in conjunction with any type of feeding program or management application:

- It can be fed with oats or other unfortified grain to provide "balanced" nutrients for horses of all classes and ages.
- It can be mixed with sweet feed or pelleted rations when additional nutrient fortification is needed.
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Performance Horses	1 - 2		

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Calcium (maximum).....	4.3%
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