BELMONT PARK OPENS TODAY Racing returns to Belmont Park today for a 55-day spring meeting. The season includes 35 stakes, seven of which are Grade I events, worth over $6 million. The highlight of the stakes schedule is the June 6 running of the $1 million GI Belmont S., the final leg of the Triple Crown. The 130th edition of the race marks the 50th anniversary of Citation’s Triple Crown victory and the 25th anniversary of Secretariat’s triumph in the series. Other racing highlights include the New York Fillies Triple Crown races; the June 7 GI Acorn S., June 27 GI Mother Goose and July 25 GI Coaching Club American Oaks. The GI Metropolitan Mile will be run Memorial Day, May 25 and the 1998 renewal of the GI Suburban H. will be run July 4. Opening day features the return of the 1997 Champion Two-Year-Old Filly Countess Diana (Deerhound) in her ’98 bow in the GI Nassau County. Racing is conducted on a Wednesday-through-Sunday basis with first post at 1 p.m. First post on Belmont S. day is 12:30 p.m. The track is open for special holiday racing on May 25.

TWINNING COLT TOPS BARRETT'S SESSION Top price for Monday night’s opening session of the Barretts Spring Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training in Pomona, California, was paid for hip number 102, a colt by Twining--Miss Vice (Vice Regent). Consigned by Jerry Bailey Sales Agency, agent for Bailey-Ellenber Select, the chestnut brought a final bid of $150,000 from John Amerman. During the first session, 50 two-year-olds were sold for a total of $1,404,000. At last year’s corresponding session, 95 horses sold for $3,492,000. The 1998 average of $28,080 dropped 23.6 percent from the 1997 figure of $36,758. Monday’s median price was $16,500. The sale concluded Tuesday night.

STAKES CLOSINGS

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<th>TODAY, WEDNESDAY, MAY 13:</th>
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<td>5-16</td>
<td>$1,000,000 Preakness-GI, Pim, 3yo, 9.5f, ($100,000)</td>
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<td>5-23</td>
<td>$200,000 National Jockey Club H.-Gill, Spt, 4yo/up, 9f ($100)</td>
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<td>$150,000 Texas Turf Challenge, LS, 3yo, 8fT ($0)</td>
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<td>$400,000 Hollywood Turf H.-GI, Hol, 3yo/up, 10fT ($400)</td>
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<td>$75/75,000 Soviet Problem Breeders’ Cup H., GG, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f ($75)</td>
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<td>5-25</td>
<td>$150,000 Dallas Turf Cup, LS, 3yo/up, 9fT ($0)</td>
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<td>5-31</td>
<td>$100,000 Plate Trial-GIC, Wo, S&amp;R, 3yo, 9f ($100)</td>
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INDIAN CHARLIE & HALORY HUNTER OUT OF PREAKNESS Indian Charlie (In Excess {Ire}), third in the Kentucky Derby, and GI Toyota Blue Grass S. winner Halory Hunter (Jade Hunter) will both be forced to miss Saturday’s GI Preakness S. Halory Hunter, fourth in the Derby, suffered a fracture of his left fetlock and underwent surgery Tuesday at the University of Pennsylvania’s New Bolton Center. Six screws and a bone plate were inserted to repair the fracture. The colt was apparently injured when he took a misstep a stride from the finish line after a five-furlong work over a muddy Pimlico track in 1:00 2/5, trainer Nick Zito said. Veterinarian Dan Dreyfuss described the fracture as a "spiral medial condylar fracture of the left front fetlock." Dreyfuss added, "His prognosis is fairly good for life, questionable for racing." A disconsolate Zito said, "I can’t tell you he would have won, but he would have been right there. This is the greatest game played outside. I took a chance and played outside and I lost...You’ve got to play to win." Trainer Bob Baffert removed likely favorite Indian Charlie from the race because the colt has been losing weight. "He’s a good horse but he’s not tough enough," explained Baffert. Indian Charlie turned in a five-furlong work yesterday in :59 1/5 at Churchill Downs and galloped out in 1:13 3/5. Of his decision to take Indian Charlie off the rigorous Triple Crown trail, Baffert said, "You have to push these horses to get them here. I learned last year with Silver Charm, I had no horse left after the Triple Crown. My horse is fine, 100 percent, and he’s going to stay fine because I’m going to take care of him."

DERBY CHAMP WORKS Real Quiet (Quiet American) worked five furlongs at Churchill yesterday in :59 4/5 under exercise rider Dana Barnes. The colt galloped out six furlongs in 1:13 1/5. "Real Quiet, he just looked really awesome today," trainer Bob Baffert said after the move. "That’s the way he worked before the Derby. He came out of it great." Also working yesterday, Gil Lexington S. winner Classic Cat (Mountain Cat) went five furlongs in 1:01 3/5 over Pimlico’s sloppy track. "He did it easy," said trainer David Cross after the move. "His ears were pricked the whole way. He seemed to enjoy it." Derby runner-up, originally not running Saturday, Victory Gallop (Crytoclearance) worked four furlongs yesterday in :49 2/5 at Churchill. "With the two horses coming out and the addition of some more speed, plus the fact that the horse is doing so well, we decided to go," said trainer Elliot Walden.
Triple Threats cont.

**A PIECE OF THE QUEST** A quarter interest in likely Preakness favorite Coronado’s Quest (Forty Niner) has been sold to Bob and Janice McNair. The colt will run in the name of the McNair’s Stonerside Stable and Stuart Janney III in Saturday’s race. The purchase price has not been disclosed. “We bought part of him, number one, because he is a very exciting horse, which is an understatement,” Bob McNair said. “He has tremendous ability, a wonderful pedigree and is with a great trainer. Of course, the opportunity to be a partner with Stuart Janney is also very exciting.”

**PREAKNESS ADDITIONS** Several horses have been added to the Preakness field. They are: the D. Wayne Lukas trained Baquero (Forty Niner), second in an April 29 allowance over a muddy Churchill track last time, Silver’s Prospect (Silver Ending), coming off a fifth-place finish in Pimlico’s May 2 Woodlawn S., and Thomas Jo (Strong Performance), winner of the Federico Tesio S.

“It’s very likely that we’ll run in the Preakness,” Thomas Jo’s principal owner Earle Mack said. “Obviously the defections have made everyone rethink their strategies. He’s already won over the track and that should put him a step up on the rest of the field.” Five-time Preakness winner Pat Day has the mount on Baquero. Still on the fence are Chilito (Strawberry Road {Aus}) and Spartan Cat (Mountain Cat).

GROSVENOR CASINOS DANTE S.-G2 preview cont.

Border Arrow (GB), winner of the Fielden S. at Newmarket April 16, closed strongly to be third in the G1 Sagitta 2000 Guineas May 2. Dr Fong, three-for-three with two listed wins, including his last start in the Newmarket S. May 1, is reported to be training brilliantly at home. Saratoga Springs makes his first start since winnin the G1 Racing Post Trophy last October.

Today, Belmont Park:

**NASSAU COUNTY S.-GIII, $75,000, 3yo, f, 7f, post time 4:35 p.m. EDT**

The field, in order of the draw, is as follows, Jersey Girl (Belong to Me), Smith, 121; Kanwiaga (Wild Again), Chavez, 114; Foil (Darn that Alarm), Davis, 114; Sweet E.L.A. (Peterski), Diaz, 112; Babai Danzig (Cure the Blues), Velazquez, 116; Forty Love (Forty Niner), Molina, 112; Countess Diana (Deerhound), Sellers, 118; Lawrenceville (Personal Flag), Bailey, 118.

**FOREIGN**

**Yesterday’s Results:**

**TATTERSALLS MUSIDORA S-G3, $73,559, York, England, 5-12, 3yo, f, 10f 85ydsT, 216.22, gd.**


Taking her unbeaten record to three-for-three, Godolphin’s Bahr (GB), unraced since winning the Grosvenor Casinos Washington Singer S. last August, became one of the favorites for the G1 Vodafone Oaks at Epsom June 5 with a clever victory over the odds-on favorite Midnight Line. With most bookmakers still expecting Godolphin’s Cape Verdi (Ire) to be supplemented for the June 6 Vodafone Derby, Bahr is now the 9-4 favorite for the Oaks, with Midnight Line at 3-1. Midnight Line went straight to the front from the gate, setting a moderate pace and tried to quicken clear in the stretch, but Bahr was always close and at the quarter-mile mark threw down her challenge and gradually asserted her superiority without rider Frankie Dettori asking. Dettori said, “Bahr will be fitter for the [Oaks] and a stronger pace at Epsom would suit her. If Godolphin decides to run her and Cape Verdi in the Oaks, I will have a difficult decision to make.”
PRIX CLEOPATRE-G3, $60,465, Saint-Cloud, France, 5-12, 3yo, f, 1 5/16mT, 2:12.20, gd.
1--D@DIAMONIXA (Fr), 121, f, 3, Linamix (Fr)--Diamonaka (Fr) [MGSF-Fr], by Akarad (Fr), O-Jean-Luc Lagardère; B-SNC Lagardère Elevation; T-Andre Fabre; J-O Peslier; $36,544.
2--Another Dancer (Fr), 121, f, 3, Groom Dancer--Green Light (Fr), by Green Dancer. O-J Byng; $13,289.
3--Minority (GB), 121, f, 3, Generous (Ire)--Minskip, by The Minstrel. O-Khaled Abdullah; $6,644.

Margins: 2, HF, 2.

Diamonix was quick Group races this season when Diamonixa (Fr) crushed a drawing right away from her opponents to win effort­lessly. The winner did, however, drift alarmingly to her right, hitting the wire under the near-side rails.

PRIX DE BAGATELLE, $43,189, Saint-Cloud, France, 5-12, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:42.40, gd.
1--QUEEN CATHERINE (GB), 126, f, 3, Machiavellian--Russian Royal (MGSP-Eng), by Nurayev. O/B-Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum; T-Andre Fabre; J-O Peslier; $23,255.
2--Folklore (GB), 126, f, 3, Fairy King--Falsoola (GB), by Kris (GB). $7,973.
3--Carla (Fr), 126, f, 3, Cardoun (Fr)--El Quahirah (Fr), by Cadoudal (Fr). $5,980.

Margins: 2, HF, 2.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS IN ENGLAND:
Dina Line, f, 4, Diesis (GB)--Lajna (GB), by Be My Guest. Southwell, 5-11, Cowens 25th Anniversary Fillies' H., 3yo//up, f/m, 1m (all-weather), $5,308 to winner. O-Lordship Stud; B-Newgate Stud Farm Inc; T-Michael Bell. *1/2 to Gold Land (Gone West), GSW, $551,093. **$170,000,000 yrl '95 KESEE.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS IN FRANCE:
Maitrise, f, 3, Oggian--Marriage, by Affirmed. Longchamp, 5-10, Prix de la Muette, 3yo, f, 1mT, $12,458 to winner. O/B-Mme A Head; T-Carlos Laffon-Parias.
Fifty Four, h, 6, Lyphard--Partygoer, by Secretariat. Longchamp, 5-10, Prix de Ville-d'Avray, 5yo/up, 1 1/4mT, $8,305 to winner. O-K H Eng; B-Wertheimer & Frere; T-J de Roualle. *1/2 to Dare and Go (Alydar), MGISW-N.A. & SW-Fr. $1,609,147.

Local News, New Zealand:
Much-travelled seven-year-old Group 1 stakes winner Viali (Ire) (Niniski) has been retired to stand at Gary Chittick's Waikato Stud at Matamata in New Zealand for the forthcoming Southern Hemisphere season. Winner of eight of his 24 lifetime starts, Viali was a Group 2 winner in Germany before being purchased by Indonesian owners to race in New Zealand, where he was the highweight older horse in New Zealand from five to seven furlongs in 1997. Viali won his first Group One race when capturing the Japan Racing Association Classic over a mile and a quarter at Ellerslie in Auckland this January. Chittick is reported to have bought a 50 percent stake in the horse.

Local News, England:
As expected, owner-breeder Peter Savill has been unanimously elected the new Chairman of the British Horseracing Board and will take up his appointment June 7. The post has been vacant since the resignation in January of Lord Wakeham, who was unable to agree with the Financial Plan presented to the government which had been produced by a BHB committee headed by Savill. "I am delighted to have been chosen and I am very grateful for all the support which so many people have placed in me," said Savill. "It is a great responsibility and I am determined to do all I can to fight for racing and to promote its interests. Racing came together to produce the Financial Plan and we must now work as one to take it forward."

Yesterday's Results:
1--HIA, $15,000, Msw, 2yo, 5f, 1:01 2/5, ft.
DO IT MY WAY (c, 2, Sunny's Halo--Inn Bi a Nose, by Magesterial), a $17,000 KESEE yearling, recovered from a bobble at the start of his April 20 three-furlong debut to finish a game runner-up. The 3-5 favorite set the pace before briefly losing control turning for home but fought back to regain the lead and draw away late for a 2 1/4-length triumph. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $11,520.

Local News, Delaware Park:
Due to continuing rain in the area, Delaware Park canceled live racing after the fourth race yesterday.
The Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee has added Clenbuterol to the list of drugs that will be sent to official drug testing laboratories this year as administration and blind samples to make certain the service labs can detect the bronchodilator in urine samples. Clenbuterol was added to the list at the suggestion of equine chemist Tom Lomangino. "Clenbuterol is a drug of timely importance," explained Lomangino. "And the objective of our efforts is to get this information to the service laboratories in order to eliminate any improper use of Clenbuterol at racetracks."

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-SPT, $35,840, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.

7th-SPT, $29,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 1/5, ft.

10th-HIA, $21,400, 3yo, 7f, 1:25 2/5, ft.

13th-TDN, $21,000, 5-11, 3/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.
SWEET ON FLAPPER (m, 6, Mighty Adversary--Countess Comedy, by Sheeky Greene) Lifetime Record: 36-8-10-7, $109,202. O-Ellielu Farms. B-George A. Smith & Dr. W.E. Johnston (OH). T-Louis Mazzarini.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Do It My Way, c, 2, Sunny's Halo--Inn Bi a Nose, by Magesterial. HIA, 5-12, 5f, 1:01 2/5. B-Bruce Maggard (Ky). *$17,000 yr/l '97 KEESEP.

So Ritzy, f, 3, Darn That Alarm--So Divine, by Staff Writer. HIA, 5-12, 7f, 1:25 3/5. B-Miller Leverett S Mr & Mrs (Fl). *½ to So Charming (Stiff Sentence), SW, $124,068; So Dashing (Royal and Regal), MSW, $289,023; Race Artist (Mr. Prospector), GSW, $167,895.

Nighttime Gambler, c, 3, El Mayaguezcano--Linnea B., by Lot o' Gold. SPT, 5-12, (S), 6f, 1:12 3/5. B-Dorris Tom (II).

Safin, c, 3, Stack--Finca, by Forever Sparkle. HIA, 5-12, a5 1/2T, 1:06 3/5. B-Santa Cruz Ranch (Fl).

Data, f, 3, Star of the Crop--Premium Price, by Roberto. SPT, 5-12, (S), (C), 6f, 1:13 1/5. B-Glen Hill Farm (Fl).

Splendid Lyric, f, 4, Java Gold--Dorothy Kirsten, by Caro (Ire). PRM, 5-12, 6f, 1:11 4/5. B-Parrish Hill Farm, Arthur A Seeligson Jr, Et Al (Ky).

Perog, g, 4, Leo Castelli--Meringue (MSW, $234,728), by Silent Screen. DEL, 5-12, (C), 6f, 1:14 1/5. B-William S. Farish & Sharp Bayard (Ky). *½ to Pie in Your Eye (Spend a Buck), GSW, $270,850; Sweet Wager (Bet Twice), MSP, $153,665.

** $80,000 yr/l '95 FTSAUG.

Track Lass, f, 4, Track Barron--Magnifikstat (SP), by Doctor Stat. PRM, 5-11, (S), (C), 5 1/2f, 1:08 3/5. B-Mark Kilpatrick & H P Kilpatrick (la).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Thoroughbred Daily News:

I strongly disagree with the comments of Wayne Lukas and Bob Baffert regarding Coronado's Quest (TDN, May 12). As a Maryland breeder, I think it is great that Coronado's Quest will run in the Preakness. He is a very good horse and he adds spice and tradition to the race. Stuart Janney III is a Maryland breeder whose family owned the beloved Ruffian. Shug McGaughey is an excellent trainer and I am sure whatever he chooses to do in the post parade will be in the best interests of all participants.

Amanda Tuttle,
Rock Hall Stud, Maryland
YARROW BRAE (c, 3, Deputy Minister--Bally Five by Miswaki)

Having grabbed his first Sires Championship in 1997, at the age of eighteen, Deputy Minister seems very reluctant to relinquish his crown. He has already been represented by the 1998 Grade I winners Keeper Hill and Well Chosen and on Saturday Yarrow Brae became his seventh stakes winner of the year by taking the GII Illinois Derby.

Yarrow Brae's dam is by the Mr. Prospector stallion Miswaki, and, as far as we can tell, this makes Yarrow Brae the first graded stakes scorer to be sired by Deputy Minister or one of his sons out of a Mr. Prospector-line mare. Other areas of the pedigree have more in common with Deputy Minister’s major stakes winners. Miswaki is out of a mare by Buckpasser, a stallion who appears as broodmare sire of the brother and sister Touch Gold and Daijin. Yarrow Brae’s third dam is by Lyphard, and inbreeding to Northern Dancer through Deputy Minister’s sire, Vice Regent, and Lyphard is also found in Deputy Minister’s dual 1998 Grade I winner, Keeper Hill.

What we find really fascinating, though, is the pedigree of Yarrow Brae’s second dam, Charlotte Amalie. A daughter of Gay Mecene (by Vaguely Noble) she is inbred 4 x 3 to the stallion Aureole. Via Vaguely Noble, Aureole appears in two other stakes winners by Deputy Minister (Minister Wife and Visible Gold) and two stakes winners by Deputy Minister’s son Salt Lake (Ordway and Salty Perfume).

The odd thing about Aureole is that his pedigree reminds us of that of another English-bred sire, Tudor Minstrel. Despite a fairly modest representation in the North American broodmare population, Tudor Minstrel appears in Deputy Minister’s Grade I winners Victory Speech, Awesome Again, Keeper Hill, Deputy Commander and Clear Mandate, and his Grade II-winning millionaire Flag Down, a success rate which seems out of all proportion to opportunity.

The most obvious link between Tudor Minstrel and Aureole is that they are bred on a Hyperion/Swynford cross, which gives them a double of the mare Canterbury Pilgrim (dam of both Swynford and of Hyperion’s broodmare sire, Chaucer). Aureole’s son, Vaguely Noble actually has two crosses of Hyperion and Swynford.

Why should concentrations of Canterbury Pilgrim work well with Deputy Minister? Well, as we have mentioned before, Deputy Minister has unusual concentrations of relatives from the family of the great tap-root mare, Queen Mary. Canterbury Pilgrim, who is concentrated in both Tudor Minstrel and Aureole, is by Tristan, a horse from the Queen Mary family closely related to the sources of the Queen Mary concentrations in Deputy Minister.

Is it fanciful to suggest that a stallion could be picking up on concentrations of a strain so deep in his pedigree? With regard to this, it is worth considering that geneticists studying the inheritance of human diseases think nothing of tracing them back 20 or more generations. If diseases can be expressed because of the combination of distant ancestors, why shouldn’t genes for racing ability be transmitted in a similar way? All that’s needed now is for pedigree researchers to predict such patterns before they occur!

PEDIGREE SHORTS

While he might not have quite reached the heights achieved by his brother Sadler’s Wells, Fairy King has overcome very modest beginnings to prove himself an outstanding sire in his own right. Another chapter was added to the Fairy King success story Sunday when the G1 Dubai Poule D’Essai des Poulains (the French 2,000 Guineas) was taken by Victory Note (c, 3, Fairy King--Three Piece {ire}, by Jaazeiro). Victory Note is inbred 4x4 to Forli, sire of the granddam of Fairy King, and of the dam of Victory Note’s broodmare sire, Jazaiero. The pedigree also has a second significant combination, that of Fairy King’s broodmare sire, Bold Reason, and My Babu. Bold Reason is by a son of Turn-to (close genetic relative to the dam of My Babu) out of a mare by a son of Djebel (sire of Turn-to). This might be worth noting when one considers that My Babu appears in seven of the total of just over 40 stakes winners sired by Fairy King.

Copying a proven pattern paid dividends for Sunday’s GII Beaugay H. winner National Treasure (m, 5, Recusant--Ivory Treasure, by Sir Ivor). National Treasure’s sire Recusant is a son of His Majesty, and his dam is a granddaughter of Champion Two-Year-Old Filly Mira Femme. Bred to His Majesty, Mira Femme produced the graded stakes winner Batonnier while another granddaughter of Mira Femme, Premium Win, is dam of His Majesty’s talented sons Tight Spot and Valiant Nature. The key may be the similarity in backgrounds between His Majesty’s dam, Flower Bowl and Mira Femme herself. Each of Flower Bowl’s four great-grandmares reappears in the pedigree of Mira Femme.

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