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NARITA BRIAN IS JAPANESE HORSE OF

THE YEAR The Japanese Racing Association yesterday announced its 1994 JRA Awards, voted on by 172 turf writers in Japan. Narita Brian (Jpn) (Brian's Time), last year's Champion Two-Year-Old in Japan, took honors as Horse of the Year and Best Three-Year-Old Colt. Best Two-Year-Old Colt went to Fuji Kiseki (Jpn) (Sunday Silence), while Yamanin Paradise (Danzig) was named Best Two-Year-Old Filly. The remainder of the awards were as follows: Hishi Amazon (Theatrical {IRE}), Best Three-Year-Old Filly; Biwa Hayahide (Jpn) (Sharrood), Best Older Male; North Flight (Jpn) (Tony Bin {IRE}), Best Older Filly or Mare; Nehai Caesar (Jpn) (Sakura Toko {JPN}), Best Horse by a Japanese-Bred Stallion; Sakura Bakushin O (Jpn) (Sakura Yutaka O {JPN}), Best Sprinter; Fujino Makken O (Jpn) (Bravest Roman), Best Dirt Horse; Broad Mind (Jpn) (No Lute (FR)), Best Steeplechaser.

SWING RATED TOPS Celtic Swing (Damister), runaway winner of last season's Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster, has officially been confirmed as Europe's top two-year-old of 1994, according to the latest International Classifications. Published in London at noon yesterday, the classifications place Celtic Swing on a figure of 130, six pounds in front of his nearest contemporary. Only Arazi (Blushing Groom {FR}), given the same rating following his 1991 Breeders' Cup Juvenile win, has been rated as highly. Dual Classic winner Balanchine (Storm Bird) was rated top European three-year-old for 1994 after wins in the Epsom Oaks and Irish Derby.

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THE JOE NAMATH H.-GIII, \$60,000, GPX, 1-18, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:44 3/5, ft.

- 1--#@REGAL JOY, 113, f, 4, Regal and Royal--Nanna's Joy's, by Tentam. O-Margulies Stable Inc; B-Dr. Dan W. Frazier (FL); T-Larry Bates; J-D Penna; \$36,000. Lifetime Record: 34-11-6-2, \$136,835.
- 2--Sambacarioca, 119, m, 6, Irish Tower--Doonazon, by Doonesbury. (\$17,000 wlng '89 KEENOV; \$17,000 yrl '90 KEESEP). O-Team Valor; B-Ritter Park Stable (KY); \$12,000.
- 3--Sovereign Kitty, 119, f, 4, Sovereign Dancer--I'm No Pussycat, by Valdez. (\$110,000 yrl '92 KEESEP). O-Heatherwood Farm; B-Arthur I. Appleton (FL); \$6,600.

Margins: 1 1/2, 1/2, 6 1/4. Odds:6.80, 3.70, 1.90. Also Ran: Link River, Clean Wager, Mia Bird Too. Scratched: Dayflower, Oh Niner, Promiseville.

Regal Joy, winner of her last 2 starts, including a \$45,000 claimer at Gulfstream in her last, stepped up in class here. Sitting just off the flank of early pace-setter and 6-5 favorite LINK RIVER (Gone West) down the backside, she took command on the turn for home and held off a late challenge from Sambacarioca for her first stakes win and 3rd straight victory.

WEEKEND PREVIEW:

Sunday, Gulfstream Park: OLYMPIC H., \$100,000, 3yo/up, 7f

Patton (Lord At War {ARG}) breezed a half-mile in :47 4/5 yesterday and is ready for Sunday's challenge, according to trainer Sonny Hine. Patton is coming off an impressive 1995 debut in which he completed a six-furlong allowance in 1:08 3/5 at Gulfstream Jan. 5. "I am just trying to maintain him," said Hine. "He just ran two weeks ago. It is hard for a horse to give his maximum effort time after time. All the handicappers are talking about him bouncing. Every horse is different. Patton is certainly going to have to be at his best to beat this bunch Sunday." Jose Santos will be aboard. Holy Bull (Great Above) ate up last night, alleviating any fears trainer Jimmy Croll might have had after the four-year-old failed to do so Monday night following his:59 2/5 work. "He licked his tub clean," said Croll. "I get more confident every day." Virginia Rapids (Riverman), who had been considered a possible starter, will skip the race, according to trainer Allen Jerkens.



News Continued.

BEST PAL DRILLS FOR SAN PASQUAL Golden Eagle Farm's Best Pal (*Habitony) worked toward his goal of winning Sunday's \$200,000-added San Pasqual H. at Santa Anita and adding to his bankroll of \$5,129,645 when he went a half-mile yesterday in :48 2/5 handily over Santa Anita's "good" main track. "He just went an easy half," trainer Dick Mandella said. "We got him in :50. He wanted to do more. He could do that (:50) going backwards if he wanted. so he's ready to run and we're just trying to keep him happy." With more rain forecast for Saturday. Mandella indicated he might re-evaluate Best Pal's participation in the Grade II event if the track were not to his liking. "If there's real mud, I'd probably consider scratching him," said Mandella. Trainer Paco Gonzalez sent San Pasqual hopeful Del Mar Dennis (Dixieland Band) through a half-mile in :47 1/5 yesterday, a move Gonzalez termed "excellent." Winner of the Ack Ack H. at Santa Anita already this year, Del Mar Dennis has never raced on an off-track and Gonzalez said he was unsure whether he would run the five-year-old in slop or mud Sunday.

AVERAGE UP AT OBS The Ocala Breeders' Sales 1995 Winter Mixed Sale concluded yesterday with a three-day gross of \$3,472,200 and average of \$7,295, up 7.6 percent from the 1994 average of \$6,779. There were 476 horses sold, compared with 526 last year. The highest price during Wednesday's third and final session was brought by a yearling colt by Jolie's Halo--Spangle's Star (Star Spangled). Consigned by Summerfield, agent for Wizard Stables, the dark bay or brown colt was purchased for \$17,000 by Arthur I. Appleton. The third session saw 164 horses sold for a total of \$691,800 and an average of \$4,218, down 18.3 percent from last year's third session average of \$5,165.

KISSIN KRIS TO DONN Kissin Kris (Kris S.), scratched from Saturday's GIII Broward H. at Gulfstream when the track came up sloppy, will now point for the Donn H. Feb. 11, according to trainer David Bell. "He will appreciate the extra time between races, but I doubt if he will appreciate Holy Bull," said Bell. Five-year-old Kissin Kris, a Grade I winner of \$1,471,836, finished third in the GII W.L. McKnight H. at Calder in his last start December 10.

JAMES PLETT DEAD AT 82 Longtime trainer James Plett died Monday of circulatory and respiratory complications in Aventura Hospital in Aventura, Florida. He was 82 years old. He is survived by his wife, Jo, and a son and daughter. Plett, who primarily raced on the Massachusetts circuit, began his career in the mid-1940's. His trainees included: 1969 Michigan Mile winner Calandrito; Four Fingers, the winner of the 1967 Mayflower S. at Suffolk; and the durable Hat Box, who made starts in 11 different seasons, including a track-record setting performance

at Narrangansett, retiring at the age of 13. A onetime steward at Calder and former vice president of the Florida HBPA, Plett retired from training in the 1970's and had served as racing manager for Earle Mack since that time.



Yesterday's Results:

8th-GPX, \$25,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:23, ft. APRIL CHRISTMAS (g, 4, Wild Again--Garfield Holme, by Deputy Minister), sent off the 6-5 choice despite being beaten 26 1/2-lengths over a sloppy Gulfstream surface 11 days ago, stalked pacesetter ISLAND DASH (Island Whirl) until the top of the stretch, where he took over for a 2 3/4-length score. TURKOMATIC (Turkoman) closed with a rush for 2nd, while Island Dash had to settle for 3rd. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-1, \$33,250. O/B-Due Process Stable, Inc. (KY). T-Reynaldo H. Nobles.

10th-GPX, **\$24,000**, **Msw**, 4yo, f, 1 1/8m, 1:54 1/5,

CAREFREE KATE (f, 4, Lyphard--Careless Kitten, by Caro {Ire}) came into this race off a 3-month break; in her last start, a turf allowance at Aqueduct in October, she finished 10th, beaten 30 1/2 lengths. Back in the maiden ranks here, she closed from mid-pack under Jerry Bailey to win by 5 lengths at 9-2 odds. She is 1/2 to Lorenzoni (GSP, \$109,035, by Clever Trick) and Adversarial (SW, \$157,517, by Fit to Fight). Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-0, \$21,000. O-Gainesway Stable. B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Limited (KY). T-Christophe Clement.



Local News, Texas:

The Texas Thoroughbred Association held its annual awards banquet at the Capitol Marriott Jan. 14. Harold V. Goodman was named TTBA Breeder of the Year after Thoroughbreds he bred won \$832,810 at the track. Goodman, who passed away Jan. 12, had a superb year highlighted by his three-year-old filly **Two Altazano** (Manzotti), winner of the GIII Fair Grounds Oaks, the GII Fantasy S., the Sam Houston Oaks, the GI Coaching Club American Oaks, the GII Monmouth Oaks and the Marie P. DeBartolo Oaks. Two Altazano is the all-time richest Texas-Bred female with career earnings of \$664,485.





SOUTHERN C.A.L.I.F.O.R.N.I.A REPORT

Yesterday's Results:

3rd-SAX, \$53,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:15 4/5, ft. 1--LIT DE JUSTICE, 118, h, 5, El Gran Senor--Kanmary (Fr) (G3-Fr), by Kenmare (Fr). O-Evergreen Farm; B-Swettenham Stud & Mrs Julian G Rogers (KY); T-Jenine Sahadi. Lifetime Record: 19-4-5-2, \$186,659.

2--Virtuous Regent, 117, g, 4, Vice Regent--B'S Overdraft, by Damascus.

3--Marmoe, 116, g, 5, Pirate's Bounty--Crystal Tree, by Windy Sands.

Margins: 2 1/2, 2 3/4, 2. Odds: 1.40, 2.90, 5.00. Lit De Justice, a GSP runner in France, had not raced since winning a 1 mile turf allowance at Hollywood Dec. 3. Trailing the field through the first 1/2-mile here, he quickly closed ground on the turn, swept to the front at the top of the stretch then won going away. Marmoe, claimed for \$62,500 in his last, set the early fractions before tiring to finish 3rd. The winner is a full brother to Colonel Collins (SW-Eng, GSP-Ire, \$294,727).

8th-SAX, \$42,000, Alw, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:15 4/5, ft. 1--WOODEN TICKET, 121, h, 5, Alydar--One of a Klein (GI, \$267,865), by Danzig. O/B-Mr. & Mrs. Martin J. Wygod (KY); T-Dan L. Hendricks. Lifetime Record: 8-2-3-1, \$66,650.

2--Bold Capital, 117, g, 4, Bold Ruckus--Star Account, by Private Account.

3--Winged Foot, 117, c, 4, Pass the Tab--Miss Lauette, by George Lewis.
Margins: 1, 3/4, 3 1/2. Odds: 3.60, 1.30, 3.90.
Wooden Ticket, off since a 3rd-place allowance finish at Santa Anita in Feb. 1994, pressed the pace until the top of the lane, where he put a head in front under Gary Stevens and held off a late challenge from 6-5 favorite Bold Capital to win by a length. Bold Capital, 3rd in his last 4 outings,

Local News, Santa Anita:

moved up to 2nd this time.

Golden Eagle Farm's grass specialist **River Flyer** (Riverman), winner of last year's GI Hollywood Derby, worked five furlongs over Santa Anita's "good" main track Wed. in 1:00 3/5. River Flyer is scheduled to run next in Saturday's \$150,000-added San Marcos H. at 1 1/4 miles on the turf.

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

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MAIDEN WINNERS:

- I Still Believe, g, 3, Believe It--Bold Brat (GSW, \$206,160), by Boldnesian. GPX, 1-18, 7f, 1:25 3/5. B-Ed & Pat Pavlish (Ky). *1/2 to Yucca (Vigors), SW, \$324,330; 1/2 to Dancing Lindsay (Liloy), SW, \$112,825.
- + Country Sultan, c, 3, Country Pine--Sultan's Daughter, by Damascus. SUF, 1-18, 6f, 1:14 2/5. B-Hidden Point Farm, Inc (FI). *\$13,500 yrl '93 OBSAUG, \$24,000 2yo 1994 OBSAPR.
- Enjoy the View, f, 3, L'Enjoleur--Bright View (GB) (MGSP-Eng), by Hot Spark (IRE). SAX, 1-18, 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-Joseph Massa (Ca). *\$10,500 yrl '93 BESNOV. **1/2 to Furtaw's Friend (GIII, \$177,672, by Water Bank).
- Galileo, c, 3, Maudlin--Danielle's Swing, by Runaway Groom. GPX, 1-18, 7f, 1:24 4/5. B-Farnsworth Farm (FI). *\$28,000 2yo 1994 OBSMAR.
- Let's Eat Lunch, f, 3, Nostalgia's Star--Let's Drink Dinner, by Never Tabled. SAX, 1-18, 6f, 1:11. B-Berkey, Risoldi, & Robbins (Ca). *\$6,000 yrl '93 BESNOV.
- Short Order Chef, c, 3, Order--Banquet Dancer, by Banquet Table. SAX, 1-18, 1m, 1:39 1/5. B-Robert Moreno (Ca).
- Carefree Kate, f, 4, Lyphard--Careless Kitten, by Caro (Ire). GPX, 1-18, 1 1/8m, 1:54 1/5. B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Limited (Ky). *1/2 to Lorenzoni (GSP, \$109,035, by Clever Trick) and Adversarial (SW, \$157,517, by Fit to Fight).

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