

THOROUGHBRED™

D • A • I • L • Y N • E • W • S



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1995 \$2 Daily

N • E • W • S T O D A Y

SARDULA PUT DOWN Sardula (Storm Cat) was euthanized Wednesday, February 1 at the Alamo Pintado Equine Research Center near Los Olivos, California as a result of a bone disease. Winner of the 1994 Grade I Kentucky Oaks, Sardula was diagnosed with osteomyelitis in her right foreleg last October. "(Osteomyelitis) is a bacterial infection that got into her digits," said Dr. Doug Herthell of Alamo Pintado. "No matter what drugs were given, it just progressed." The Kentucky-bred bay filly won the GII Del Mar Debutante as a two-year-old, came within a head of beating Phone Chatter in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, then closed out her campaign with another Grade I tally in the Hollywood Starlet S. At three she won her first three starts, including the GII Princess S. at Hollywood Park. Her last outing was her only off-the-board finish, a fifth-place effort in the August 21 Del Mar Invitational Oaks. Sardula, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Moss, amassed six victories from 10 career starts for earnings of \$882,460.

AVERAGE UP AT OBS SELECTED TWO-YEAR-OLDS IN TRAINING SALE The Ocala Breeders' Sales Company held its Selected Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale at Calder Race Course yesterday. A total of 142 horses brought a gross of \$7,794,500 and an average of \$54,891, a record for the sale and a 24.7 percent increase from the 1994 average of \$44,003. In addition, the percentage of horses not sold dropped to 21.5 percent. While no individual record price was set, OBS noted that 14 horses sold for \$100,000 or more compared to nine last year. The highest bid of \$270,000 was for a bay filly by Storm Cat--Be Your Best (Secretariat). Consigned by Tony Bowling and Bobby Dodd, agent, the filly was purchased by Louise McLean, agent, of Middleburg, Virginia. Ms. McLean also bought a bay colt by Pentelicus--Royal Ties (Distinctive) for \$180,000 and a bay filly by Pentelicus--Secret Papers (Jet Diplomacy) for \$200,000, making her the sale's leading buyer. "It was a super sale," observed Tom Chiota, president of OBS. "We knew going in we had a good catalog and well-conformed sales horses and we were optimistic. To be up by nearly 25 percent and to have the not sold numbers at the low end makes us and our consignors feel pretty good."

News Continued, p. 2

S • T • A • K • E • S P R E V I E W

Today, Gulfstream Park:
THE SUWANNEE RIVER H.-GIII, \$75,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	Wt
1	Liberada	Ritvo	Nunez	112
2	Ma Guerre	A.P. Perkins	Sellers	112
3	Bear Truth	Braddy	Boulanger	112
4	Spectacular Image	Stirling	Velez Jr.	111
5	Sovereign Kitty	Schosberg	Santos	114
6	Caress	Jerkens	Davis	115
7	Tee Kay	Salzman	Santos	113
8	Cox Orange	Clement	Bailey	116
9	Oh Niner	Vanier	Martin	114
10	Irving's Girl	Schulhofer	Smith	112
11	Alice Springs	Sheppard	Douglas	120

Highweight **Alice Springs** (Val de l'Orne) will be returning from a three-month layoff. In her last start, the Nov. 5 Breeders' Cup Mile, she finished fifth behind European Horse of the Year Baratheia. Among her five turf victories last year were the GII All Along, the GII Matchmaker and the \$100,000 Columbiana H. at Hialeah. Heatherwood Farm's **Sovereign Kitty** (Sovereign Dancer), winner of the GII Cotillion H. at Philadelphia Park last September, will be making her turf debut. Harbor View Farm's **Caress** (Storm Cat) is a model of consistency. After taking four straight allowances at NYRA tracks last fall, she shipped to Calder to win the \$100,000 My Charmer H. in her stakes debut. After a two-month rest, she returned to be third in a Gulfstream allowance Jan. 22. Five-year-old **Cox Orange** (Tremolino), a multiple graded stakes-winner, will be shooting for her second straight victory in the Suwannee River.

Today, Aqueduct:
THE ASSAULT H.-GIII, \$75,000a, 3yo/up, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	Wt
1a	Electrojet	Moschera	Velazquez	112
2a	More To Tell	Moschera	Alvarado	114
3	Aztec Empire	Jerkens	Perez	111
4b	Federal Funds	Garren	Santagata	110
5	Five Star General	Klesaris	Nelson	110
6	Major Pots	Terracciano	Luzzi	113
7	Serious Spender	Schettino	Chavez	115
8	Danzig's Dance	Parisella	Migliore	115
9b	Jacksonport	Garren	Pezua	112

Assault H. Continued, p. 2

**Assault H., Continued.**

Co-highweights **Serious Spender** (Seattle Slew) and **Danzig's Dance** (Hold Your Peace) will be meeting for the first time in the Assault. Both sport similar running styles, with their best races coming from on or near the lead. "Being just seven hundredths off the track record as he was last time out is almost the same as equalling it," said a confident John Parisella, trainer of Danzig's Dance. The six-year-old gelding took the Gill Aqueduct H. wire-to-wire Jan. 16 in a time of 1:41 flat. "With the way my horse is acting, he's touting me that he will back his last race up." Dominick Schettino-trainee Serious Spender also won his last start, the Dec. 26 Gill Gallant Fox H., in frontrunning fashion. The Assault will mark his '95 debut.

News Continued.

CHARLES TOWN POSTPONES RESUMPTION OF SIMULCASTING Charles Town Races officials postponed their scheduled Feb. 10 resumption of simulcast racing Monday due to a delay in receiving necessary approval from the West Virginia Racing Commission or Charles Town Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. Under federal law, a Thoroughbred track must have the approval of the horsemen's group representing the majority of the owners and trainers racing there in order to conduct interstate simulcasting, but the presence of two competing groups--the newly formed Charles Town Horsemen's Association and the Charles Town HBPA--has created a question of which group has the authority to grant the necessary approval. "Because of the logistics involved, we needed to have the necessary approval today in order to resume simulcast racing this weekend," said track President D. Keith Wagner Monday. "The Charles Town Horsemen's Association has given their approval to proceed with simulcasts from four Thoroughbred tracks and a greyhound track and has also agreed to allow the HBPA to sign off as well until the West Virginia Racing Commission recognizes one of the two horsemen groups as the official representative of licensed horsemen. Mr. Funkhouser (HBPA President Randy Funkhouser) hasn't yet given his group's approval and the Commission hasn't declared a single representative and unfortunately, that leaves us no choice but to postpone our simulcasting until we receive final approval." According to Wagner, the postponement will most likely delay the track's resumption of live racing targeted for March 3. The Commission reopened its licensing office at the track Friday to allow area horsemen to obtain their 1995 owner and trainer licenses and had licensed 111 horsemen through Saturday.

**M • I • D • W • E • S • T
R E P O R T****Local News, Fair Grounds:**

Monday's Fair Grounds betting handle, \$2,200,581, marked the 20th time this season that the \$2-million plateau has been reached. This is an all-time single season record for the New Orleans track. Through the initial 53 days of the 1994-95 Fair Grounds meet, daily wagering has averaged \$1,857,398, up 15.2 percent from the corresponding period of last year. Fair Grounds' 88-day season concludes March 27.

**N • E • W • Y • O • R • K
R E P O R T****Today, Aqueduct:**

ZIGGY'S BOY H., \$46,000, 3yo/up, 6f

The field of six sprinters, from the rail out, is as follows: **Boom Towner** (Obligato), Lovato Jr.; **Farmonthefreeway** (Talc), Chavez; **Key Contender** (Fit to Fight), Perez; **Prank Call** (Phone Trick), Velazquez; **Mr. Shawklit** (Afleet), Luzzi; **Unreal Mot** (Unreal Zeal), Leon. Boom Towner and Unreal Mot will be coupled in the wagering as a Barry K. Schwartz-owned and Michael Hushion-trained entry.

**S O U T H E R N
C • A • L • I • F • O • R • N • I • A
R E P O R T****Today, Santa Anita:**

SANTA CATALINA S., \$75,000a, 3yo (which have never won a race worth \$30,000 to the winner), 1 1/16m

The short field of five, in post position order, is as follows: **Awesome Thought** (Flying Paster), McCarron; **In Character** (GB) (Never So Bold), Delahoussaye; **Larry The Legend** (Local Talent), Desormeaux; **Beating The Ruhls** (Ruhlmann), Florez; **Z Lobo** (Key to the Mint), Antley.

**B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S
E D I T I O N****ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

9th-PHA, \$18,150, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:43 4/5, ft. **ARCENTALES** (c, 3, Dynaformer--Clausula, by Silver Badge) Lifetime Record: 11-2-2-2, \$37,149. O/T-Charles Cuprill. B-Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Cuprill (PA). *1/2 to Tabs (MSW, \$98,251, by Guilford Road).



8th-PHA, \$15,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m, 1:49 4/5, ft.
ONE MORE TURN (g, 5, Kris S.--Queen of Rex, by Tampa Trouble) Lifetime Record: 35-6-9-5, \$39,193.
 O-Lin Pres Stables. B-Horsemen's Ranch Four (FL).
 T-Martin E. Ciresa.

MAIDEN WINNER:

My Jolly Jenessa, f, 3, Fountain of Gold--Jolly Chapter, by Jolly Johu. PHA, 2-7, 6f, 1:11. B-Terri E. Holloway & Lee Williams (Fl).

**W • R • I • T • E • R • S
 U P**

GO EAST, YOUNG MAN

By: **Bill Finley**

Gary Stevens stepped out of customs at the airport, taking his first steps in the new country and was immediately overwhelmed, captivated by a new culture, a new challenge and a country where racing is center stage and its players are stars. Seven days into his great experiment as a jockey in Hong Kong, he has not lost that feeling. "My head is swimming," he said. It wasn't a complaint, just an observation on his first week of what he has already discovered will be a great adventure.

He is a happening. The second he walked out of customs, a crew of some 50 reporters and photographers was there to chronicle his first words and actions. On his first day as the official stable jockey at Sha Tin Race Course for trainer Steve Leung, it was more of the same.

"When I got off the plane Thursday I didn't feel like a jockey; I felt the way a big star in the NBA must feel," he said. "Horse racing gets as big a following here as basketball does in the U.S. Every day at the track is like Breeders' Cup Day. There are three racing shows on TV every night and I don't know how many papers devoted strictly to racing. It's great to see horse racing have the type of following we all wish it had in the U.S."

Stevens wasted little time living up to the hype. He rode in six of the nine races on the Sunday afternoon card at Sha Tin, which was attended, he said, by about 70,000 people, and finished with two wins, a second and two thirds.

"There's that old saying, 'It's not what you did yesterday, but what you did today'" he said. "So I thought it was very important to get off to a quick start. But I didn't want to put a lot of pressure on myself. I wanted to be relaxed. Fortunately, I was riding some good horses and I made some good decisions on the track. I'm thrilled. It made the front page of all the papers here."

Stevens will ride again tonight at Happy Valley, but may be hard-pressed to duplicate his huge opening day. Leung has 42 horses, a medium-sized stable in

Hong Kong, and was only eleventh in the most recently available trainers standings. He is also riding against first class competition. Many top European riders like Pat Eddery, Walter Swinburn, Mick Kinane and Gerard Mosse compete in Hong Kong while flat racing is dormant in their countries.

"There are several world-class jockeys competing there," he said. "The racing is very clean as far as the riding goes. Everybody knows where everyone else is on the track. It's a pleasure to ride with these guys."

Stevens, 31, expects that things will calm down in time. In fact, the twice-a-week racing schedule is one of the primary reasons he accepted Leung's offer. It will give him a chance to take a deep breath from time to time, something he felt he could never do riding full-time in the U.S., where he had to ride at least five days week and work most mornings on the backstretch of whichever track was open.

"At least for the time being, I couldn't be enjoying this more," he said. "I went 12 years without any kind of break, unless I happened to be injured. The schedule you have to keep wears on you and that was one of my main incentives for leaving. For the next 4 1/2 months I can get a nice break, ride two days a week and see something new. I really want to enjoy myself over here. When I get the chance, I'm going to do some traveling; I'll be going to Singapore, Thailand and China."

Stevens will not divulge the details of the monetary portion of his contract, but has made public its many perks--a house, a car, a maid, free travel for friends and family who want to pay him a visit. Whatever he is getting paid it has to be a lot. Stevens walked away from one of the most successful riding career in this country. His mounts in 1994 earned \$12.6 million, third in the country behind Mike Smith and Pat Day. The racing season ends in Hong Kong June 11, at which time he will return to the Southern California racing circuit.

The racing season begins again in September in Hong Kong and Stevens has an option to renew his contract for another year. He does not know what he will do. The decision can wait. For now, he's just going to enjoy the ride.

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News. This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, MediaVista.

Information as to the races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published in Daily Racing Form and utilized herewith with the permission of the copyright owner, Daily Racing Form.