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N • E • W • S T O D A Y

Y • E • S • T • E • R • D • A • Y • S R E S U L T S

CASINO AT MONTICELLO? The first U.S. race-track with a full-fledged casino on its grounds could soon become a reality, according to a report in Tuesday's *New York Daily News*. The Oneida Indian Nation appears set to purchase a six-acre tract of land at Monticello Raceway in Monticello, New York, 90 miles from New York City, according to the News. The tribe operates the state's lone casino--the Turning Point, near Syracuse--and is expected to unveil their plans for Monticello at a press conference today. The casino would be closer to New York City than either Foxwoods in Ledyard, Connecticut, or the Atlantic City casinos. The Oneidas have aligned themselves with the Watermark Corporation, which confirmed their purchase of the harness track from Berenson Pari-Mutuels last week. Watermark has committed to maintaining the site as a harness facility. There are a number of racetracks in the country with forms of casino gaming, including card games and video poker, but the Monticello casino would be the first full-blown racetrack/casino combination.

FASIG-TIPTON FLORIDA SALE CONCLUDES

The two-day Fasig-Tipton Selected Two-Year-Olds sale at Calder concluded on a strong note yesterday, with a total of 198 head sold for \$18,574,000, an average of \$93,808, up 31.3 percent from last year's average when 187 were sold for \$13,353,000. The sale topper came late in Tuesday's session with a bay colt by Mr. Prospector--Gils Magic, by Magesterial, a half-brother to MGISW Magical Maiden (Lord Avie) purchased by Pegasus Bloodstock USA for \$550,000. The colt is the property of Wycombe House Stud and was commissioned by John S. Woelfel, agent.

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RISEN STAR S (1st div.) \$53,137, FGX, 2-28, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45 2/5, sy.

- 1--**#KNOCKADOON**, 114, c, 3, Dixieland Band--**Double Smooth (GSP, \$157,192)**, by **Overskate**. (\$75,000 yrl '93 FTSAUG). O-Warren William K Jr; B-Hindmarsh Lynne (CAN); T-Anthony Reinstedler; J-W Martinez; \$31,882. Lifetime Record: 3-3-0-0, \$54,057.
- 2--**Key to Malagra**, 114, c, 3, Malagra--Atoptekey, by Bupers. \$10,627.
- 3--**Scott's Scoundrel**, 122, c, 3, L'Enjoleur--Powder Doll, by Powder Horn. (\$21,000 2yo 1994 FTLAPR) \$5,845.

Margins: 1HF, 2, 1. Odds: 2.40, 6.50, 9.20.

Undefeated Knockadoon joins the Triple Crown fray, graduating into stakes company in his first attempt after a maiden win at Turfway in Dec. and a non-winners of two at Fair Grounds last out. He is a 1/2 to Play The Corners (Clever Trick), SW, \$128,578. Second choice Michael's Star (Risen Star) dropped back after three furlongs to finish 8th.

RISEN STAR S. (2nd div.), \$52,987, FGX, 2-28, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45 1/5, sy.

- 1--**BEAVERS NOSE**, 117, c, 3, Demons Begone--**Clever But Costly**, by **Clever Trick**. (\$35,000 yrl '93 KEESEP). O-Phillips D O & Raymond R W; B-Conway James (KY); T-Eldridge Hebert Jr; J-K Bourque; \$31,792. Lifetime Record: 11-3-4-3, \$79,927.
 - 2--**Moonlight Dancer**, 122, c, 3, Carr de Naskra--Rather Be Dancing, by Caro (Ire). \$10,597.
 - 3--**Fuzzy Me**, 114, c, 3, Fuzziano--Maiden Name, by Rare Performer. (\$10,000 yrl '93 LTBAUG). \$5,823
- Margins: 4, 3, 2HF. Odds: 13.50, 3.20, 18.80.

Beavers Nose, whose lone stakes win had come on a muddy track, took advantage of the off going to score an off-the-pace upset win. The 1-2 favorite, Tejano Run (Tejano), 3rd in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile in his last start, also had a stakes win under his belt on an off track, but after racing in striking distance early, gave way to finish fifth under Jerry Bailey.



News Cont.

CONCERN WORKS, NEW ORLEANS BOUND

Concern (Broad Brush) worked one mile in company between races yesterday at the Fair Grounds in 1:40 2/5 and will make his next start in the March 12 Grade III \$200,000 New Orleans H. at Fair Grounds, according to trainer Dick Small. The move was the fastest mile work of the meet, despite a sloppy track caused by heavy morning rains. Jerry Bailey, in town to ride Tejano Run in the the Risen Star S., was aboard for the work.

 DIAZO TO VINERY Two-time Grade I winner

Diazo (Jade Hunter) is scheduled to arrive at the Vinery in Midway, Kentucky, today to begin stud duty for the 1995 breeding season. Vinery and John R. Gaines Thoroughbreds have purchased a 75 percent interest in the horse with Allen Paulson's Brookside Farm retaining 25 percent. Diazo, one of eight first-crop stakes winners by Jade Hunter, won six of 13 lifetime starts, including the 1994 GI Strub Stakes, the '93 GI Pegasus H. and the GI Malibu S. for total career earnings of \$581,399.

WINLESS STREAK ON LINE Gussie Mae, winless in 77 straight starts, will attempt to snap what is believed to be the longest winless streak in thoroughbred racing's modern times tonight at Garden State Park. The six-year-old gelding will compete in the card's third race, a \$7,500 maiden claimer. "I take a lot of kidding about him, but he's special to me," said his trainer, Robert Marchiano, who acquired the gelding after his 75th loss last year at the Meadowlands. Gussie Mae was third last out, tying his career-best effort.

**F • L • O • R • I • D • A
REPORT****Today's Preview: Gulfstream Park**
\$50,000 Heather H., 3yo/up, f/m, 6f

Three pounds separate the highweight from the low in a tightly contested sprint, with **Investalot** (Vice Regent), 114, looking for her fifth straight win and her third straight at Gulfstream after taking the Island Charm H. Feb. 11 in her last out. Among the 10 standing in her way: second choice and co-highweight **Miss Gibson County** (Winrightt), 115, nipped at the wire by Investalot in the Island Charm; GIISW **Hunzinga** (Bet Big), returning from a year layoff with few works under her belt, gets in with 113.

**SOUTHERN
C • A • L • I • F • O • R • N • I • A
REPORT**

Local News: A funeral mass will be held today for Betty Calder, who worked at Hollywood Park for 27 years before retiring as press box secretary in 1992. The mass will take place at 10 a.m. at The Visitation Church, 6561 West 88th St., in Los Angeles. Burial will follow at the Inglewood Park Cemetery, 720 East Florence Avenue in Inglewood. Calder passed away Sunday in Rancho Mirage, California.

**B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S
EDITION****Yesterday's Stakes Results:**

MARDI GRAS H. \$37,825, FGX, 2-28, 4yo/up, a1 40y, off the turf, 1:40 4/5, sy.

1--**FLY CRY, 122, c, 4, On to Glory--Good Routes, by Pass Catcher.** O-Al Prats & Bryan Wagner; B-Karl & Bina Koontz (FL); T-Thomas Amoss; J-R Ardoin; \$22,695. Lifetime Record: 21-11-4-1, \$317,290.

2--**Brass Jacks, 115, c, 4, W. D. Jacks--Bryce Trail,** by Darby Creek Road. \$7,565.

3--**Eight Forte, 111, h, 6, Perrault (GB)--Naughty Tammy,** by *Malicious. \$4,161.

Margins: 10HF, 3HF, 1. Odds: 0.30, 5.40, 11.30.

Yesterday's Allowance Results:

8th-PHA, \$17,181, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11 2/5, sy.

HOT LITTLE DISH (m, 5, Turkey Shoot--Lady On Ice (SW, \$172,538), by It's Freezing). Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-1, \$24,320. O-Ronald Glorioso & Mark Rosen. B-Mr. & Mrs. Prescott McCardell (KY). T-R. Glorioso.

7th-PHA, \$16,073, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45 1/5, sy.
SANSUE'S CASTLE (h, 5, Castle Guard--Gilted Flower, by Winged T.). Lifetime Record: 14-2-1-1, \$15,658. O-James B Chesbro. B-Susan & Sandy Bernknopf (NJ). T-Jacqueline Griffin.

FOALING NEWS

BROUGHT TO MIND, 8, Ruthie's Native--Eliza Blue (Iccapade)

Foal born 2-22-95, a colt by Dixieland Band.

Will be bred back to Dixieland Band.

Owned by Tadahiro Hotehama.

Boarded at Taylor Made Farm in Nicholasville, Ky.

Accomplishments: MGI winner of \$894,437.



W • R • I • T • E • R • S U P

by Bill Finley

A DROP IN HORSE QUALITY

When Affirmed stuck his chestnut nose in front of Alydar at the wire of the 1978 Belmont Stakes to sweep the Triple Crown, fans of the sport had grown used to such heroic feats. In an era when the game manufactured one superstar after another, Affirmed became the third Triple Crown winner in six years.

No one knew who would be next or when it would happen again, but a long drought seemed out of the question. The assembly line of thoroughbred talent was producing too many top-quality horses.

Seventeen years later, Affirmed is a 20-year-old stallion, dozens of supposed superstars have failed or broken down, and the sport still is desperately seeking another Triple Crown winner. The search is sure to continue, perhaps for decades, maybe longer, maybe forever. With so much evidence that the modern racehorse is too brittle for the rigors of top-class racing, the question must be asked: will the Triple Crown, the most demanding task in racing, ever be won again?

As things stand now, it's hard to imagine there is actually a horse out there who can go through a series of Kentucky Derby preps, peak in the 1 1/4-mile Derby in a race that is beyond the distance capabilities of most modern horses, come back two weeks later and win the Preakness and still be good and tough enough to last through the 1 1/2-mile Belmont and come out on top. It's supposed to be difficult; it may have become impossible.

Somehow, some way, whether it's drugs, inbreeding or year-round racing, the modern racehorse is a mess, unable to stand up to steady training or the rigors of racing. It seems to be worse with good horses; the typical \$10,000 claimer, on average, may not run fast enough to hurt itself. Holy Bull (Great Above), who was scheduled to arrive (last Thursday) morning at Jonabell Farm, where he will, ironically, join Affirmed on the farm's stallion roster, is just the latest casualty on a long list of fallen or injured heroes.

"Thirty or 40 years ago, it wasn't like this at all--horses stood up a lot better," said trainer Shug McGaughey. "I think it might be year-round racing, where trainers will have a horse geared up for big races this time of year and still try to keep them going by the Breeders' Cup."

The solution, some believe, is to make the Triple Crown easier to win. Wayne Lukas, who trains top Kentucky Derby threats Timber Country (Woodman) and Thunder Gulch (Gulch), says horses are no longer bred for the grueling distances they must face

in the Triple Crown. Lukas wants to shorten the Derby to a mile and an eighth (of course, then we'd have to call it the most exciting minute and 45 seconds in sports), keep the Preakness at a mile and 3-16ths, and shorten the Belmont to a mile and a quarter. Another school of thought is to lengthen the amount of time between the races, particularly the current two-week gap between the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness.

Traditionalists cringe at such a thought. "The concept of the races works fine," said Ron Turcotte, the jockey of 1973 Triple Crown winner Secretariat. "If the right horse comes along, someone will win it. It's not meant to be easy."

But it may be that you can have only one or the other: tradition or another Triple Crown winner.

Bill Finley is the horse racing columnist for the New York Daily News.

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News Cont.

AHC CONVENTION SET FOR JUNE The 26th annual American Horse Council Convention will be held June 4-7 at the Worthington Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas. The 1995 convention program will include sessions on federal legislative and regulatory issues, association management, horse management and farm business management. A forum for horse show managers, a seminar on horse racing and a trails workshop are also planned. The cost of the convention is \$200 for members and \$250 for non-members who register before May 15. Further information may be obtained from the AHC at 202-296-4031.

DERBY SEMINAR DEADLINE TODAY Applications are due today for students with an interest in sports journalism to participate in this year's Kentucky Derby Collegiate Sports Journalism Seminar. The tuition-free seminar, held April 28-30 at Churchill Downs, will feature speakers Nick Charles and Fred Hickman, co-anchors of CNN's Sports Tonight. The seminar allows participants to shadow the media as they cover the Kentucky Derby. Information may be obtained from Patrick Troutman at 1-800-28-DERBY.

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