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FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1995

\$2 Daily

N • E • W • S T O D A Y

K • E • N • T • U • C • K • Y D E R B Y

FLORIDA HBPA THREATENS BOYCOTT The Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association put Hialeah on notice Thursday, May 4 that if purses don't increase to the level of the contract signed March 16, the horsemen would "pull the plug" on Hialeah racing. FHBPA President Kent Sterling said, "We notified Hialeah they are nearly \$4,000 a day under the average purse levels set in our contract. We were promised \$103,000 a day, and for the first 42 days Hialeah has been averaging \$99,000 a day. The horsemen notified Hialeah that we expect purses to increase Friday, or we'll pull the plug on them. We figure Hialeah will have to average \$123,500 a day for the last 17 days of their meeting to meet the contract." Hialeah's overnight for Friday (May 5) calls for nine races and a total of \$84,000 in purse money. Sterling said he would call a meeting of the executive board of the FHBPA Monday, May 8 to take a vote on a course of action. Hialeah was closed Thursday and track executives could not be reached for comment.

SKI CAPTAIN FOCUS OF LAWSUIT U.S. District Judge Henry Wilhoit has called an emergency hearing in Federal Court in Lexington Friday to determine whether **Ski Captain** (Storm Bird) should be forced to stay in the U.S. and be turned over to Brownell Combs, former president of Spendthrift Farm, according to a story in yesterday's *Louisville Courier-Journal*. Combs has filed suit against the estate of the late Zenya Yoshida in an attempt to recover legal fees he spent defending himself from a suit Yoshida brought against him in the mid-80s, according to the *Journal*. **Ski Captain** is owned by Teruya Yoshida, Zenya's son. Zenya Yoshida, along other with other investors in Spendthrift Farm who lost their money when the publicly held farm's stock crashed in 1985 and was put up for bankruptcy in 1988, lost a suit against Combs in the appeals court. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case. While a jury trial date has been set for Sept. 26, Combs' lawyer told the *Journal* that it is nearly impossible to recover assets in Japan and that Yoshida had no name property in the U.S. The Yoshidas' lawyer told the *Journal* that the colt was bred by Yoshida's sons with no involvement from their father and is therefore not an asset of their father.

News Continued, p. 2

Saturday, Churchill Downs:

121st KENTUCKY DERBY-GI, \$500,000a, 3yo, 10f

PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	Odds
1	Dazzling Falls	Turco	Gomez	20-1
2f	Knockadon	Reinstedler	McCarron	12-1
3b	Pyramid Peak	Ward	McCauley	20-1
4	Wild Syn	Arnemann	Romero	15-1
5b	Jambalaya Jazz	Ward	Perret	20-1
6	Suave Prospect	Zito	Krone	12-1
7	Eltish	Cecil	D'houssaye	12-1
8f	Lake George	Orman	Sellers	12-1
9f	In Character (GB)	Jackson	Antley	12-1
10	Jumron (GB)	Lewis	Almeida	10-1
11	Talkin Man	Attfield	Smith	7-2
12	Afternoon Deelites	Mandella	D'meaux	9-2
13a	Serena's Song	Lukas	Nakatani	5-2
14	Tejano Run	McPeek	Bailey	10-1
15a	Timber Country	Lukas	Day	5-2
16	Thunder Gulch	Lukas	Stevens	12-1
17f	Ski Captain	Mori	Take	12-1
18f	Mecke	Tortora	Davis	12-1
19f	Citadeed	Chapple-Hyam	Maple	12-1

a: John Oxley-owned entry

b: W.T. Young/Gainesway Farm/Robert & Beverly Lewis-owned entry

f:Mutuel Field

All runners carry 126 pounds except filly **Serena's Song** (Rahy), who will tote 121.

English longshot **Citadeed** (Shadeed) blew out about 2½ furlongs from the Churchill Downs gate yesterday. Clockers timed the move at three furlongs in :36 3/5.

Another member of the mutual field, **In Character (GB)** (Never So Bold {Ire}), breezed three furlongs in :37 4/5 Thursday, galloping out a half-mile in :51 1/5.

Ski Captain (Storm Bird) cleared quarantine about 9:30 a.m. Thursday and immediately went to the Churchill Downs track for some exercise. Regular rider Yutake Take observed while an exercise rider took the horse around the oval. "My biggest concern was the long trip," Take said through a translator. "But so far he doesn't seem to be affected." Take has been studying videotapes of earlier Derbies to try and get a feel for the race. "I don't feel any pressure--it's the horse that runs," he said. "I am really excited about racing in the Derby because I've heard so much about it. It's like a dream. Most of the jockeys in Japan are excited that I'm riding in it because it is such a famous race."



W • E • E • K • E • N • D P R E V I E W

Today, Churchill Downs:

KENTUCKY OAKS-GI, \$300,000a, f, 3yo, 9f			
PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY Odds
1	Naskra Colors	Reinstedler	Gryder 12-1
2	Forested	Callejas	Bailey 15-1
3	Gal in a Ruckus	Ward	McCauley 12-1
4	Urbane	Mayberry	Delahoussaye 2-5
5	Sneaky Quiet	Howard	Smith 8-1
6	Post It	Allen	S. Maple 6-1
7	Scratch Paper	Nunley	Fontenot 12-1
8	Cat Appeal	Lukas	Day 10-1

Trainer Brian Mayberry will try to win his second straight Kentucky Oaks with **Urbane** (Citidancer); he conditioned last year's winner Sardula. "Sardula gave me the thrill of my life last year," said Mayberry. "If I could win the Oaks two years in a row it would be an honor for me, because, as I've expressed before, the Kentucky Oaks is the most important race in this country for fillies, in my estimation."

THE LOUISVILLE BUDWEISER BREEDERS' CUP H.-GII, \$200,000a, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	Wt
1	Fit To Lead	Mandella	Desormeaux	113
2	Exotic Moves	Howard	Gryder	108
3	Blushing Maggie	Lauer	Barton	107
4	Hey Hazel	Attfield	Day	113
5	Wende	Sadler	Smith	112
6	Teewinot	Carroll	Martinez	109
7	Jade Flush	Zito	Krone	115
8	Briar Road	Kohnhorst	Melancon	110
9	Red Star	Walden	Bailey	109
10	Cut The Charm	Bracken	Sellers	116

Highweight **Cut The Charm** (Cutlass), a graded stakes-winner of \$532,505, returned from a six-month layoff to run fifth in a seven-furlong Hialeah allowance April 16. Five-year-old **Fit To Lead** (Fit To Fight), winner of the GII Princess S. at 3, shipped in from Southern California to take Turfway Park's Fairway Fun S. at this distance April 2. **Jade Flush** (Jade Hunter) is loaded with early speed; the four-year-old graded stakes winner took a Keeneland allowance wire-to-wire in her last.

News Continued.

FOOTING TOPS CHURCHILL DOWNS

HORSES-IN-TRAINING SALE Footing, a four-year-old dark bay or brown filly by Forty Niner--Footy (Top-sider), brought top price of \$290,000 at the inaugural Churchill Downs Derby Week Horses-in-Training Selected Sale, held May 3 at the Churchill Downs Sports Spectrum in Louisville, Kentucky. Consigned by W.I. Mott, agent for Cherry Valley Farm and Nicole Perry Gorman, the multiple graded stakes-placed filly, who has earned \$243,524 to date, was purchased by Exmoor Inc., agent for Carl Pollard, Gene Smith and Bruce Lunsford. Overall, 25 horses were sold for a total of \$1,463,500 and an average of \$58,540. There were 12 individuals reported as not sold.

◆ FOREIGN ◆

Yesterday's Result:

PRIX DU PONT-NEUF, \$50,580, Longchamp, France, 5-4, 3yo, 7fT, 1:25.40, gd/sf.

- 1--**POPLAR BLUFF** (Ire), 123, c, 3, **Dowsing--Plume Bleu Pale** (SP-Fr), by **El Gran Senior**. O-D. Wildenstein; B-Dayton Ltd.; T-Andre Fabre; J-O. Peslier; \$29,261.
- 2--**Bene Erit**, 123, c, 3, **Bering** (GB)--**Breath Taking** (Fr), by **Nureyev**. O-R.C. McNair; \$10,032.
- 3--**Slewvera**, 120, f, 3, **Seattle Slew--Hedgeabout**, by **Riva Ridge**. O-J. Wertheimer; \$6,270. (\$135,000 wnlg '92 KEENOV). Margins: 1/2, 1, 3/4.

American-Bred Winners in England:

Hujab, f, 3, **Woodman--Winter's Love** (MGSP), by **Danzig**. Salisbury, 5-4, **Lauderdale Fillies H.**, 1mT, 3yo/up, \$6,442 to winner. O-Sheikh Hamdan al Maktoum; B-North Central Bloodstock; T-John Dunlop. *\$130,000 wnlg '92 KEENOV.

Pistols at Dawn, g, 5, **Al Nasr** (Fr)--**Cannon Run**, by **Cannonade**. Wolverhampton, 5-4, **Berkeley H.**, 12fT, 3yo/up, \$4,110 to winner. O-G. Howard-Spink; B-North Ridge Farm; T-Brian Meehan. *\$37,000 wnlg '90 KEENOV.

American-Bred Winner in France:

Slew Sanguie, c, 3, **Seattle Slew--Sanguie** (Ire) (MGI, \$1,227,150), by **Lyphard**. Evry, 5-3, **Prix de Dieppe**, 1mT, \$13,598 to winner. O-R Smith; B-Heronwood Farm; T-Criquette Head. *Full to **Seattle Sanguie**, SW, \$332,607.



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◆ MIDWEST ◆

Yesterday's Result:

THE LA TROIENNE S., \$84,750, CDX, 5-4, 3yo, f, 7f, 1:22 3/5, ft.

1--**DIXIELAND GOLD**, 121, f, 3, Dixieland Band--Easy 'n Gold, by Slew o' Gold. (\$25,000 wlng '92 KEENOV; \$42,000 yrl '93 KEESEP; \$157,000 2yo 1994 OBSFEB). O-Arthur I. Appleton; B-Morgan's Ford Farm (VA); T-Lou M Goldfine; J-D Penna; \$55,087. Lifetime Record: 6-5-1-0, \$184,061.

2--**Daylight Ridge**, 113, f, 3, Dayjur--Twilight Ridge, by Cox's Ridge. O-Mike G. Rutherford. \$16,950.

3--**Ivorilla**, 121, f, 3, Sir Ivor--Miss Gorilla, by Halo. O-T.E. Bischoff & J. Sweitzer. \$8,475.

Margins: 5 1/2, 1/2, neck. Odds: 1.20, 2.80, 21.80.

6-5 favorite Dixieland Gold, winner of five of six career starts including the Gil Beaumont S. at Keeneland in her last outing April 8, tracked the early pacesetters down the backside, took command at the top of the stretch and drew clear to win by 5 1/2. Daylight Ridge, who suffered her first defeat when 4th in the Beaumont, ran evenly for 2nd.

Today, Churchill Downs:

CROWN ROYAL AMERICAN TURF S., \$100,000a, 3yo, 1 1/16mT

The field of 12, from the rail out, is as follows: **Hollywood Flash** (Northern Baby), Gryder; **Native Regent** (Vice Regent), Penna; **Strait Tequilanite** (Fast Gold), Gomez; **Nostra** (Greinton {GB}), Krone; **Bat Them Babyblues** (Iron Courage), Marquez Jr.; **Instant Panic** (Sovereign Dancer), Kutz; **Assurance** (Herat), Day; **You're The One** (Cure The Blues), Sellers; **Unanimous Vote (Ire)** (Roi Danzig), Stevens; **Dixie Dynasty** (Dynaformer), Smith; **Sonic Signal** (Topsider), Perret; **Admiralty** (Strawberry Road {Aus}), Bailey.

CHURCHILL DOWNS TURF SPRINT H., \$75,000a, 3yo/up, 5fT

The field of 12, from the rail out, is as follows: **Wheelin Dealin** (Lord of the Sea), Torres; **Dear By Lear** (Lear Fan), Sipus Jr.; **Eichtercua (Ire)** (Petorius), Delahoussaye; **Fire Ridge** (Mt. Livermore), Fires; **Court Lark** (Court Trial), Peck; **Long Suit** (Lord Gaylord), Martinez; **Never Wavering** (Wavering Monarch), Smith; **Prospector J** (Northern Prospect), Bailey; **Scottish Fantasy** (Exuberant), Cooksey; **Worldwide (Ire)** (Sayyaf), Perret; **Can't Be Denied** (Linkage), Gryder; **Bold N' Flashy** (Bold Ruckus), Walls.

Local News, River Downs:

Two lucky racing fans will be whisked away from the River Downs infield Saturday for the flight of their lives. A drawing will be held between the 3rd and 4th races and a winner and his guest chosen for a helicopter ride to the Kentucky Derby in Louisville later in the day. The winners will be treated to a box seat view of "The greatest two minutes in sports" and after the races at Churchill Downs, will be flown back to River Downs.

◆ NEW YORK ◆

Yesterday's Results:

6th-BEL, \$32,000, Alw, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 2/5, ft. **CULVER CITY** (f, 3, Afleet--Fifteen Fantasies {SW, \$285,376}, by Sinister Purpose), off since finishing 3rd in the Gill Davona Dale S. at Gulfstream Feb. 12, stepped down in class and came from off-the-pace for a 1 1/2-length score as the overwhelming 1-5 favorite. **BOOK OF FORTUNE** (Notebook) closed late for 2nd. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$59,960.

O-Rising View Stable. B-Live Oak Stud (FL). T-H. Allen Jerkens.

2nd-BEL, \$30,000, Msw, 2yo, f, 5f, :59, ft.

+ **FIVE CORNERS** (f, 2, Miswaki--Private Treasure {GSW, \$603,189}, by Explodent), a shipper from Garden State with just one moderate gate work showing, did not slip into town unnoticed, going off the 6-5 chalk in her career debut and rallying for a two-length victory under jockey Julie Krone. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$18,000.

O-G. Watts Humphrey Jr. B-G Watts Humphrey Jr. & J.H. Pierce (Ky). T-Joseph H. Pierce Jr.

3rd-BEL, \$30,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6.5f, 1:18, ft.

+ **PENNANT CHAMPION** (f, 3, Mr. Prospector--Personal Ensign {Ch. Older Mare, MGISW, \$1,679,880}, by Private Account), a full to Miner's Mark, GISW, \$967,170, was bet down to 2-1 for her career opener. Last for a half after breaking slowly, the regally bred filly came flying at the finish to break her maiden by a length as the crowd's choice. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$18,000.

O/B-Ogden Phipps (KY). T-Claude McGaughey III.

New York Report Continued, p. 4

OGYGIAN

1995 Two-Year-Olds average \$160,333.



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Local News, Belmont Park:

Attendance was up about 10% while total handle also rose opening day of the 1995 Belmont Park spring-summer meeting. Attendance rose from 8,316 to 9,182 while total handle was up from \$6,389,835 to \$6,831,728. On-track handle slipped from \$2,318,109 to \$1,984,669. "While on-track handle was down a little, I would attribute a portion of that to the rain which forced us to move the grass races to the main track," said Steven Crist, NYRA's Director of Communications and Development. "The total handle was up, and we're glad that fans in Las Vegas and Atlantic City are now able to wager on our races."

Sky Beauty (Blushing Groom {Fr}), winner of Wednesday's Gill Vagrancy H., is doing just fine, according to trainer Allen Jerkens. "She came out of the race okay, she ate up and is sound," Jerkens said yesterday. "She did it so nice, she handled the track good. I was just happy to see her run as well as she did; she was real impressive."

Christophe Clement-trainee **Blu Tusmani** (Afleet), winner of the Gill Withers, came out of his race in good form. "So far so good," said Clement Thurs. "He ate up last night and this morning we walked him for 14 minutes and then grazed him for about 20 minutes." The next stop for the three-year-old will most likely be the May 28 Peter Pan S.

B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S E D I T I O N

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-HOL, \$48,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 3/16mT, 1:54, fm. DON'T READ MY LIPS (f, 4, Turkoman--Our Dear Sue, by Roberto) Lifetime Record: 11-3-2-1, \$82,039. O-Dunmore, Howard & Shuman. B-Galbreath/Phillips Racing Partnership (KY). T-Casey Maslonka. *Paid \$108 to win.

6th-CDX, \$37,100, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 2/5, ft. PHONE BIRD (f, 3, Phone Trick--Bruces Blue Lou, by Storm Bird) Lifetime Record: GSP, 11-2-1-1, \$73,838. O-Novogratz Alyce & Joseph. B-Robert A. Gentry (KY). T-Glenn S Wismer.

5th-BEL, \$34,000, NY-Breds, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43 2/5, ft. NO SECRETS (c, 3, Miswaki--Dame Fortune, by Fairway Fortune) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$37,200. O/B-Joseph E. Gehl (NY). T-Robert P. Klesaris.

7th-BEL, \$34,000, NY-Breds, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18 2/5, ft. TARA'S TEMPEST (f, 4, Talc--Lotus Delight {SW, \$243,052}, by Mongo) Lifetime Record: 21-4-3-3, \$95,120. O-Bernard Connaughton. B-Glenn E. Lane (NY). T-Leo O'Brien.

7th-GGX, \$33,000, 3yo, 1 1/16mT, 1:43, fm. HIGH WALKER (c, 3, Skywalker--Heather's Halo, by Halo) Lifetime Record: 7-3-2-1, \$55,690. O-John Franks. B-Thomas P. Tatham (CA). T-Jerry Hollendorfer. *Full to Teasing Charm (GSP, \$142,051).

7th-CDX, \$28,600, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:09 4/5, ft. HOBGOBLIN (c, 3, Exuberant--Halloween, by Wardlaw) Lifetime Record: 12-2-3-2, \$81,858. O-Dogwood Stable. B-Frank Yates & William Lussky (FL). T-Peter M. Vestal. *GSP. **Full to Halloween Joy (SP, \$129,596).

8th-SPT, \$25,300, Illinois-Breds, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:39, ft. BEN BEHAVIN' (h, 5, Royal Roberto--Wilson's Whim, by *Forli) Lifetime Record: 24-4-3-3, \$74,135. O-Crown's Way Farm & Regal Five. B-Crown's Way & A. Mazzocchi (IL). T-Gene A Cilio. *1/2 to Willard (Nasty and Bold), SW, \$189,419.

8th-WOX, \$22,200, 3yo/up, 7f, 1:24 3/5, ft. SMILE N'LEAVE (c, 4, Smile--Leave Me Alone {MGSP, \$179,810}, by Northern Dancer) Lifetime Record: 25-3-7-3, \$76,185. O-Richard A Sriver. B-Huntington Stud Farm (Ont-C). T-Rita A Schnitzler. *1/2 to Reach The Gold (Slew o'Gold), SW, \$168,953.

9th-SPT, \$21,000, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:38 4/5, ft. CARTERS BRIDGE (h, 7, Shadeed--Cement Creek (Ire), by General Assembly) Lifetime Record: 64-8-9-8, \$118,571. O-Diamond in the Rough Racing Stable. B-Crescent Farm (KY). T-Gene A. Cilio.

6th-PIM, \$19,600, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft. STONEWALL SUE (f, 4, Clever Champ--Wishful Moment, by Timeless Moment) Lifetime Record: 20-4-4-4, \$66,768. O/B-Robert S. Siegel (MD). T-John F. Dinatale. *Full to Clever Moment (SP, \$142,693).

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Ropersandwranglers, f, 2, Endow--Silent Suprise, by Silent Screen. GGX, 5-4, 4 1/2f, :51 2/5. B-Bill G. Michael (Ca). *\$2,000 wlng '93 CALSEP.

+ **Five Corners, f, 2, Miswaki--Private Treasure (GSW, \$603,189), by Explodent.** BEL, 5-4, 5f, :59. B-G. Watts Humphrey Jr. & J.H. Pierce (Ky).

+ **Bridge of Royalty, c, 2, Slew's Royalty--Gracebridge, by Miswaki.** HOL, 5-4, 4 1/2f, :50 2/5. B-Latorre, Maycock, Rubenstein & Grania Mexico (Ca).

Bold Oka, c, 3, Bold Ruckus--Indishe, by Gummo. WOX, 5-4, 7f, 1:24 4/5. B-Gustav Schickedanz (Can).

Vee B, c, 3, Bolger--Windy Vee, by Windy Sands. SAX, 5-4, 7f, 1:23 3/5. B-Howard E. Smith (Ca).

Tis the Season, c, 3, Bucksplasher--White Christmas, by Sette Bello. SPT, 5-4, 1m, 1:42. B-Irish Acres Farm (Il). *Full to Jinglebells Jingle (SP, \$106,005).

Angie's Buddy, f, 3, Buddy--Sour Angie, by Bold Agent. GSX, 5-4, 6f, 1:13. B-Geret Farm (Ny).

+ **Here's Jack, g, 3, Debonair Roger--Thatsus, by Caucasus.** HOL, 5-4, 6f, 1:11 2/5. B-Ms. Judith Mischka Becker (Ky).



+ **Pennant Champion**, f, 3, **Mr. Prospector**--Personal Ensign (Ch. Older Mare, MGISW, \$1,679,880), by Private Account. BEL, 5-4, 6 1/2f, 1:18. B-Ogden Phipps (Ky). *Full to Miner's Mark, GISW, \$967,170.

Arabian Treasure, c, 3, **Pirate's Treasure**--Prospectors Secret, by Mr. Prospector. SAX, 5-4, 6f, 1:11 1/5. B-Mr. & Mrs. Martin J Wygod (Ca).

Play Po, f, 3, **Play On**--Ahpoh Hel, by Mr. Leader. PIM, 5-4, 1 1/8m, 1:53 1/5. B-Charles Nuckols, Jr & Sons (Ky). *\$15,000 yrl '93 KEESEP. **1/2 to Daimon (Strike Gold), MSW, \$222,912; and Penny's Reshoot (Turkey Shoot), GSW, \$249,491.

Regal Clancy, c, 3, **Regal Classic**--I Present, by Quad rangle. WOX, 5-3, 6f, 1:12 1/5. B-John Calhoun (Can). *1/2 to Bold Presence (Bold L.B.), MSP, \$179,231; and Gold Present (Golden Derby), 14 wins, \$220,669.

Bonafide Belle, f, 3, **Whitesburg**--Back to Tara, by Irish Castle. GGX, 5-4, 6f, 1:11 2/5. B-Rancho Jonata (Ca). *\$1,600 yrl '93 CALSEP.

Haulaway My Rosy, f, 4, **Admiral's Flag**--Miss Mirem, by Determine. GSX, 5-3, 1 1/16fT, 1:48 3/5. B-Gordon S. Hodgson (Wv).

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.

W • R • I • T • E • R • S U P

MORE THAN MINT JULEPS

By: **Bill Leggett**

The following dozen horses have something in common aside from the fact that they became major racing names: Dancing Spree, Dispute, Fowda, Go for Wand, Lite Light, Lure, One Dreamer, Opening Verse, Paradise Creek, Pleasant Tap, Roamin Rachel and Sardula.

They all finished first or second in stakes at Churchill Downs during the first weekend in May but did not run in the Kentucky Derby. Less than a decade ago a horse that won at Churchill on such a weekend received barely a shrug of the shoulders in major racing circles.

Granted, the Kentucky Oaks is just as old (121 years) as the Derby, but until quite recently it was smothered by the Derby. No longer.

Thomas H. Meeker took over Churchill in September of 1984 and, as an old saying goes, while everyone was standing around predicting rain, he went about building an ark...and Derby weekends have blossomed to a point where seven-and-a-half hours of live television will emanate from Louisville this weekend--if you are willing to count ESPN-2 as live anything.

Not counting the Derby, nine other stakes will be run Friday and Saturday, six of them graded and all bearing added money. If the condition book holds up for both days, fans will be looking at \$2.5 million in purses. On top of the stakes, Racing Secretary Jerry Botts has also

carded six allowance races ranging from \$35,100 to \$53,900.

It wasn't all that long ago that both Friday and Saturday afternoons at Churchill were torturous, with short fields of lesser horses. The cards were a discredit to any state, particularly Kentucky. No more.

Excluding the Derby and Oaks, there were 659 nominations to the other eight stakes, an average of 82 per event. What Churchill has put together are races with variety and imagination that are exciting for the many new fans who go there and also for owners and trainers. And if you can win a race at Churchill you get a nation-high 65 percent of the purse.

The first stake on Friday, for example, is the new Churchill Downs Turf Sprint S. for three-year-olds and up at five furlongs on the grass. Fifty-six were signed up for it and a full field of 12 entered. The \$100,000 Crown Royal American Turf is for three-year-olds at a mile and a sixteenth. Again, 12 passed the entry box. Senor Tomas won the race three years ago and went on to take the Super Derby later in the year for owned Thomas Carey and trainer Pete Vestal.

The \$200,000-added Louisville Budweiser Breeders' Cup, another Friday stake, was taken last year by One Dreamer, who returned in the fall to take the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Distaff over Heavenly Prize in a stunning 47-1 upset--except for those who bet "the horse for the course."

This year's Kentucky Oaks has been upped to \$300,000; it has been won the last three years by Sardula, Dispute and Luv Me Luv Me Not representing the west, east and midwest. Urbane will be favored in this year's Oaks over Cat Appeal, Sneaky Quiet and Post It, among others.

Go for Gin, who seems to have gone out for tonic since last year's Derby, will try to win for the first time in a year in Saturday's \$100,000 Churchill Downs H. over seven furlongs. The \$200,000 Early Times Turf Classic, won in the last two years by Paradise Creek and Lure, has been moved to Saturday and will precede the Derby on ABC-TV. Horses from all parts of the country have been sent to this race; the field might have been as large as that of the Derby, but the course can only handle 12 runners.

The '85 Derby was Meeker's first and the revenue stream has grown from \$26.5 million then to \$58.8 million a year ago. With 19 entered, '95 could break all records, with tracks lining up to take all the Churchill stakes both Friday and Saturday. It is indeed bonanza time at Churchill Downs--and rightly so.

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