N • E • W • S

CIGAR REPEATS For the second year in a row, owner Allen Paulson accepted Horse of the Year honors for his superstar Cigar (Palace Music). The much-expected announcement was made last night at the 26th annual Eclipse Awards dinner in Bal Harbour, Florida, Named after an aviation check point in the Gulf of Mexico, Cigar became the first horse to repeat as Horse of the Year since Affirmed in 1978-79. The feat was also accomplished by Secretariat (1972-73) and Forego, who won three consecutive crowns in 1974, '75 and '76. John Henry was named Horse of the Year twice, but not consecutively (1981 and 1984). Cigar was the overwhelming choice of the three voting entities, the Thoroughbred Racing Associations, the National Turf Writers Association and the Daily Racing Form, easily overcoming his only challenger in the voting, three-year-old champion Skip Away (Skip Trial). Riding the great bay's coattails to their own Eclipse repeats were Paulson for outstanding owner, trainer Bill Mott and jockey Jerry Bailey. Paulson was also presented the 1996 Eclipse of Merit for his dedication and contributions to racing. Cigar opened 1996 with a solid two-length win in Gulfstream's GI Donn H. and then traveled half way around the world for arguably his finest performance, holding off countrymate Soul of the Matter for a determined half-length victory in the inaugural Dubai World Cup. The 6-year-old returned to the United States to tally consecutive win numbers 15 and 16 in the Massachusetts H. and in the Citation Challenge where he tied the modern-day North American record for straight wins. The streak ended four weeks later in the GI Pacific Classic, but fans stayed loval to the gallant champ, turning out in droves for his farewell appearances at Madison Square Garden in New York and at Churchill Downs. Cigar earned \$4,910,000 during the year, breaking his own single season earnings record and retired to Ashford Stud in Kentucky with record lifetime earnings of \$9,999,815. In retaining his title, Cigar received 267 votes to Skip Away's 25.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5:

2-15 \$75/75,000 Gulfstream Park Breeders' Cup H.-Gll, GP, 11fT (\$100)

2-16 \$150,000 **Santa Maria H.-GI, SA**, 4yo/up, f/m, 8.5f (\$50)

2-17 \$200,000 **San Luis Obispo-GII, SA**, 4yo/up, 12fT (\$100)

BOSTON HARBOR TOPS EXPERIMENTAL FREE HANDICAP Edinso Award winner Roston Harbor (Ca-

HANDICAP Eclipse Award winner Boston Harbor (Capote) is the highweight at 126 pounds in the colt division of the 1996 Experimental Free Handicap, Eclipse Champion Juvenile Filly Storm Song (Summer Squall) headed the filly division at 124 pounds, one pound above the standard highweight for fillies. Storm Song's assignment marks just the second time that a filly has received more than 123 pounds since the Jockey Club began compiling separate lists for fillies and colts in 1985. Storm Song's impost is equal to that of Flanders in 1994 and is exceeded only by the 126 pounds assigned to First Flight in 1946. The Experimental Free Handicap, published by The Jockey Club annually since 1933, is compiled for a hypothetical race of 1 1/16 miles on the dirt. This year's weighting committee was comprised of racing secretaries Howard Battle of Keeneland and Saratoga, Michael Lakow of the New York Racing Association and Thomas Robbins of Santa Anita and Del Mar. Eligible for weighting were all 2-year-olds of 1996 who finished in the first four in graded stakes or other unrestricted races with an added value of \$50,000 or higher, run in the continental United States or Breeders' Cup runners, Acceptable (Capote) and Ordway (Salt Lake), second and third in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, were both weighted three pounds below Boston Harbor. Sharp Cat (Storm Cat), winner of the GI Matron S., was the second high-weighted filly at 121 pounds. Among sires of Experimental horses, Capote leads the colt list with four and on the fillies' sires list, the leader is Carson City, also with four. Combining the two lists, Capote and Storm Cat are the leading sires with five representatives each. Of the 166 juveniles weighted, 90 were bred in Kentucky, including both topweights, while 28 were bred in Florida and 13 in California.

AMBIVALENT INJURED IN STRUB Ambivalent (Rhodes), third in Sunday's GI Strub S., suffered a suspensory injury to his left front leg during the race and will be sidelined indefinitely, according to a report in the *Daily Racing Form*. Trainer Mike Orman told the *Form* that the plan is to turn the 4-year-old out for at least two months. Ambivalent, winner of last year's GIII La Jolla H. at Del Mar, has earned five wins and \$369,917 in his 20-race career.

CENTENNIAL FARM PURCHASES INTEREST IN

THE SILVER MOVE Centennial Farms Management Company has purchased a 50 percent interest in The Silver Move (Silver Buck) from owner Earl Silver for an undisclosed amount. Trained by Linda Rice, The Silver Move won three of five starts at two for earnings of \$169,434, including the GII Remson S. Centennial Farm has also campaigned Champion sprinter Rubiano and Belmont S. winner Colonial Affair.

News cont. p.2



MATCH SERIES UNVEILED The Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships, involving four stats and combining rich stakes races and bonuses for participating owners and trainers was unveiled yesterday in Bal Harbour, Florida. The MATCH series will be comprised of 35 races in five divisions with purses totaling \$3.5 million. Points will be earned by participating horses and their owners and trainers will vie for a bonus pool worth \$500,000. The series will be contested at thoroughbred tracks in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Divisions for the series are for dirt sprint and route races for 3-yearolds and for 3-year-olds and up as well as a division for fillies and mares in turf routes. There will be seven races for each category. The series begins with the \$150,000 Federico Tesio S. at Pimlico April 19 and will conclude on October 4 with championship finales in each division at Laurel Park, the Meadowlands, Penn National and Delaware Park.

LONE STAR PARK JOINS TRA The Thoroughbred Racing Associations announced Tuesday that Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie, the country's newest racetrack, has joined the national racetrack association. Lone Star Park, currently under construction, will open for its inaugural 73-day meeting April 17, 1997. The \$96 million facility is in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area. "The TRA's strength on a national level is dependent on its members," said TRA Executive Vice President Chris Scherf. "Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie is the brightest new jewel in the racing industry and we are very happy it has become our newest member."

SHOEMAKER GETS COURT DATE Nearly six years after suffering injuries in a single-car accident that left him a quadriplegic, Bill Shoemaker will soon have his day in court, according to the *Associated Press*. Shoemaker, the winningest jockey in Thoroughbred racing history, is suing the State of California, a hospital and eight doctors for more than \$50 million. The former jockey, who turned to training in February 1990, will argue that his Ford Bronco swerved off a state road that lacked a necessary guardrail on April 8, 1991 and that his current physical condition is the result of treatment he received at Glendora Community Hospital in the hours after the accident. Shoemaker, 65, played golf with his friends the day of the accident. His blood alcohol reading was .13. The state's legal limit for driving is .08.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a + will denote winners who are first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races and an (R) will be used for other restricted races.

◆ PREVIEW ◆

Today, Gulfstream Park:

SUWANNEE RIVER H.-GIII, \$75,000, 3yo/up, f/m,

1 1	/om i			
PP	HORSE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT.
1	Golden Pond (Ire)	Wolfson	Bailey	115
2	Chris' Diamond	Connors	Davis	111
3	Bold Ruritana	Minshall	Landry	116
4	Escabiosa (Arg)	Zito	Karamanos	113
5	Elusive	Turner	Boulanger	113
6	Rumpipumpy (GB)	Clement	Santos	114
7	Captive Number	Sciacca	Smith	114
8	Barn Swallow	Vanier	Fires	112
9	Turkappeal	Pletcher	Day	117
10	Valor Lady	Hennig	Velazquez	114
11	Dance Clear (Ire)	Kessinger	Sellers	112
12	Double Wow	Cochran	Krone	112

Sires of runners: Golden Pond (Don't Forget Me {Ire}), Chris' Diamond (Gate Dancer), Bold Ruritana (Bold Ruckus), Escabiosa (Payant), Elusive (Elmaamul), Rumpipumpy (Shirley Heights {GB}), Captive Number (Polish Numbers), Barn Swallow (Iron Courage).

◆ FOREIGN



AMERICAN-BRED WINNER IN ENGLAND:

Regal Splendour, g, 4, Vice Regent--Seattle Princess, by Seattle Slew. Lingfield, England, 4-2, Peach Amateur Riders' H. (Div II), 4yo/up, 8f (all weather), \$4,111 to winner O-Miss Sarah Jones; B-Pedigree Farms Ltd; T-R J O'Sullivan. *\$140,000 yrl '94 FTSAUG.

◆ EAST



Local News, Woodbine:

Horsemen at Woodbine know that spring is just a matter of weeks away when the training track opens at the Toronto track. The one-mile dirt oval will officially open at 7 am Wednesday morning. Woodbine's 1997 Thoroughbred season opens on Friday, March 28.

FOALING NEWS:

SPANISH GHOST, 15, *Forli--White Knuckles (Cloudy Dawn)

Foal born 1-22-97, a filly by Hazaam.

Will be bred back to Wharf.

Owned by Silverleaf Farms, Inc.

Boarded at Silverleaf Farms, Summerfield, Fl.

Accomplishments: Dam of Smiles With A Fist (Buckley Boy), MSW, \$250,361.

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WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES by Alan Porter

Victory Speech (c, 4, Deputy Minister--Ida's Image, by Alydar) The enigmatic Victory Speech returned to his best form at an opportune moment. Under joint-top weight, the New York-bred took the \$500,000 added GI Strub S. by a length and a half Sunday, gaining millionaire status in the process.

Victory Speech is the first major winner by Deputy Minister or his sire Vice Regent out of an Alydar mare, although the pair have combined successfully with other strains of Raise a Native, notably Alydar's near relative, Mr. Prospector. Victory Speech has Raise a Native's sire Native Dancer 5x4 in his pedigree, and also Native Dancer's sire Polynesian 6x5x5, a daughter strain coming in through Deputy Minister's third dam, Grass Shack. Deputy Minister also brings in the strain of Mahmoud, where Victory Speech's dam is inbred 4x3 to Nasrullah, who is out of Mahmoud's three-parts sister, Mumtaz Begum.

Victory Speech's pedigree also contains two other factors common to several other talented Deputy Minister runners. Deputy Minister's dam, Mint Copy, is by Bunty's Flight out of a mare by Jabneh, names which are not frequently met in modern pedigrees. These horses and their immediate background mean that much of Deputy Minister's pedigree is an outcross for the most commonly found commercial strains. What is interesting, however, is how often two sires in the pedigree of Deputy Minister's granddam, Shakney, appear again in the distaff pedigrees of his best runners. These two horses, Bimelech and Pilate, are both duplicated in the pedigree of Victory Speech, and Bimelech is also doubled in Champions Dehere and Open Mind, as well as Grade II winner Minister Wife. Pilate appears twice in millionaire Mr. Purple, French Deputy and Eloquent Minister, while Tejabo, Run Softly and Star Minister carry duplications of both.

We believe there is a logical reason for the recurrence of these names in a significant proportion of Deputy Minister's best winners. Deputy Minister has three crosses of a mare called Panoply (one in his direct family line, and two through Panoply's son, Ladder, sire of Bunty Lawless, who is 5x3 in Deputy Minister's pedigree). Panoply traces to a renowned tap-root mare Queen Mary. Born in 1843, Queen Mary is one of the great broodmares in the history of the breed, her offspring, including a female Epsom Derby winner, Blink Bonny, and Bonnie Scotland, grandsire of the outstanding North American sire Ben Brush.

Panoply has five crosses of Queen Mary and her granddam, Court Dress has Queen Mary 4x5x5x6. Oddly enough, not only does Deputy Minister have three crosses of Panoply with her unique concentrations of Queen Mary, but his sire Vice Regent, also goes back to Queen Mary in tail-female line and Vice Regent's fifth dam, Belmon is pretty closely related to Panoply.

We then look at Bimelech and Pilate, who we have said make an unusual number of appearances in the pedigrees of Deputy Minister's best offspring. We find that Bimelech's sire Black Toney, is out of a mare inbred 4x3 to Queen Mary. As for Pilate, he traces to a mare by Blinkhoolie, a son of Queen Mary, who is also three-quarters related to Breadalbane (a grandson of Queen Mary who appears 4x4 in the pedigree of Panoply's dam).

Bimelech and Pilate come into the second and third generations of the pedigree of Shakney (grandam of Deputy Minister). Another horse in Shakney's third generation, Beau Pere, has a sire and dam inbred to horses tracing to Queen Mary. Linebreeding to Beau Pere appears in the pedigrees of several good Deputy Ministers including Champion Go for Wand and Grade I winners Mr. Purple and Clear Mandate.

Some may feel that explanations which require us to delve so deeply into the recesses of the pedigree are highly fanciful. It is however, worth noting that something very similar has been independently noted by the respected researcher and biomechanics expert, Dr. Paul Mostert. In a copy of his *Equix* newsletter (March/April 1996), he observed how inbreeding to Queen Mary played a considerable part in the structural development of the North American Thoroughbred and pointed out her importance in the pedigrees of such as Ben Brush, Black Toney, Bimelech, Black Helen, Balladier, Black Servant, Blue Larkspur, Raise a Native, Relic and Dr. Fager.

Of course Queen Mary appears somewhere in the pedigree of almost every Thoroughbred, but it is the frequency and concentration of her influence which makes her particularly important to Deputy Minister. This is because close inbreeding to an outstanding ancestor can bring about gene-groupings (includes genes for factors which contribute to superior racing ability) which are able to remain intact for generations. When, by chance or design, those gene-groupings are inherited from both parents, the chance of a good runner appearing is significantly increased.

Leading 2nd-Crop Sires by Progeny Earnings (1995-96):

- 1. Black Tie Affair \$3,176,484
- 2. Unbridled 3,006,591
- 3. Summer Squall2,602,048

Black Tie Affair - No. 1 and Still \$15,000 LF



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♦ MIDWEST ◆

Local News, Louisiana:

The *Daily Racing Form* reported that GII Arkansas Derby winner **Zarb's Magic** (Zarbyev) has been retired from racing after suffering recurring lung infections. The four-year-old gelding defeated Kentucky Derby winner Grindstone in his Arkansas Derby win. Trainer Bret Thomas told the *Form*, "He had a lot of potential, but you can't run if you can't breathe." Zarb's Magic retires with six wins in 20 starts and earnings of \$567,436.

B · R · E · E · D · E · R · S EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-PHA, \$21,100, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft. SOPHISTIQUE PINE (m, 7, Country Pine--Sophistique, by Iron Ruler) Lifetime Record: 68-15-11-11, \$182,867. O-John Kapinos. B-Steve Dwoskin & Fred Labenski (FL). T-Faustino F. Ramos.

10th-PHA, \$16,500, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:47 1/5, ft. MOUNTAIN RYDER (c, 4, Trapp Mountain--Gallant Ryder {MSW, \$237,507}, by Red Ryder) Lifetime Record: 27-4-2-8, \$42,210. O-Paul D. Zelanko. B-Gail D. Hughes (KY). T-Carol Oxman.

SIRE RANKINGS IN JAPAN (Through 1/28/97)

SIRE SUNDAY SILENCE (by Halo)	RNRS 56	WNRS 8	EARNINGS 2,818,000
NORTHERN TASTE (by Northern Dancer)	47	9	\$ 1,182,000
BRIAN'S TIME (by Roberto)	34	4	\$ 1,177,000
TÁMAMO CROSS (JPN)	25	9	\$ 1,049,000
(by C.B. Cross) TONY BIN (IRE)	44	5	\$ 975,000
(by Kampala {GB}) JADE ROBBERY	41	9	\$ 970,970
(by Mr. Prospector) ALLEZ MILORD	21	4	\$ 849,000
(by Tom Rolfe) NIHON PILLOW WINNER (JPN)	23	7	\$ 828,000
(by Steel Heart) AMBER SHADAI (JPN) (by Northern Taste)	32	2	\$ 824,970

FOALING NEWS:

DINNER SURPRISE, 16, Lyphard--Extra Place (Round Table)

Foal born 1-23-97, a colt by Hazaam.

Will be bred back to Hazaam.

Owned by Silverleaf Farms, Inc.

Boarded at Silverleaf Farms, Summerfield, Fl.

Accomplishments: Dam of Freewheel (Arctic Tern), GSW, \$195,741.

PARTY CITED, 8, Alleged--Dream Play (Blushing Groom {Fr})

Foal born 1-23-97, a colt by Thunder Gulch.

Will be bred back to Cigar.

Owned by Rancho San Peasea.

Boarded at Valkyre Stud, Georgetown, Ky.

Accomplishments: GSW & MGISP-U.S., G1SP-Eng, \$377,943.

SIX MONTHS LONG, 21, Northern Dancer--Prime Time (Eight Thirty)

Foal born 1-26-97, a filly by Seeking the Gold.

Owned by Dean Greenwood, LLC.

Boarded at Payson Stud in Lexington, Ky.

Accomplishments: Dam of Mexican Summer (GSP-Ity, by Valdez), Half a Year (G2-Eng, GSP-U.S., \$149,202, by Riverman), Comical Cat (GSP, \$121,400, by Exceller), Half Term (GSP-Eng, SP-UAE, by Mr. Prospector) and Winning Pact (GII, \$257,197, by Alydar).

HEAVEN'S NOOK, 13, Great Above--Nook (Buckfinder) Foal born 1-27-97, a filly by Hazaam.

Will be bred back to Wharf.

Owned by Silverleaf Farms, Inc.

Boarded at Silverleaf Farms, Summerfield, Fl.

Accomplishments: SW & GSP-Ire.

PUZLA (IRE), 9, Persian Bold (Ire)--Madame du Barry (Fr) (Wollow {Ire})

Foal born 1-27-97, a filly by Cozzene.

Will be bred back to Silver Deputy.

Owned by Stonewall Farm.

Boarded at Stonewall Farm, Granite Springs, NY.

Accomplishments: SP-U.S. & Ire, \$104,487.

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