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THOROUGHBRED™

D • A • I • L • Y N • E • W • S



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1997

\$2 Daily

N • E • W • S TODAY

SHIRLEY HEIGHTS DEAD One of Britain's great post-war sires, 22-year-old **Shirley Heights (GB)** (Mill Reef), was put down Monday at the Royal Studs at Sandringham, Norfolk, England, where he had been standing since he retired from racing in 1978. He was suffering from an incurable kidney disease. Winner of both the Epsom Derby and the Irish Sweeps Derby in 1978, Shirley Heights became champion European Sire in 1988 and leading British-based sire in 1989. He sired the winners of 56 Group or Graded races and the winners of more than \$15 million. His principal winners included the Epsom Derby winner Slip Anchor (GB), the French Derby winner Darshaan (GB), G1 Ascot Gold Cup winner Arcadian Heights (GB) and 1988 champion European juvenile High Estate (Ire). Last autumn his seven yearlings at Tattersalls Houghton Sales averaged \$219,968, with a top price of \$838,658.

SEAGRAMS MEADOWLANDS? Discussions are underway between Seagrams and the management at the Meadowlands, which is hoping to sell the name of the racetrack to the distiller. According to Associate General Manager Chris McErlean, the name Meadowlands must remain in any new title given the facility, however, it could be called Seagrams Park at the Meadowlands, or anything else along those lines. "Like any major venue, we are looking at the options of entitled sponsorship with naming rights," McErlean said. "That could also entail signage and other opportunities, but it would only be at the racetrack and nowhere else (at the Sports Complex). Seagrams was approached and we had a meeting Monday. They're evaluating our proposal and we will have a long way to go. They have shown interest." The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, which operates the Meadowlands and Monmouth Park, sold the name of the former Brendan Byrne Arena to Continental Airlines in 1995 for a reported \$20 million over 10 years. Seagrams has been involved in sponsorship of races at several tracks across the country. This, however, could become the first time a company has bought rights to the name of a racetrack.

W • E • E • K • E • N • D Pedigree Perspectives

by Alan Porter

CAPTAIN BODGIT (c, 3, Saint Ballado--Answering Echo, by Greek Answer)

The Halo sire line has been on something of a roll recently, especially in Florida. Firstly, the Florida-based Diablo (by Halo's son Devil's Bag) spent most of 1996 at the head of the freshman sire table, and now Saint Ballado, a Florida-based brother to Devil's Bag, has been represented by first-crop G1 winner Captain Bodgit.

The extremely consistent Captain Bodgit has always been rated somewhere near the top of his division, and he earned 114 lbs. on the Experimental Free H. after winning five of six juvenile outings. The last of these was a three-quarter length victory over Concerto (Chief's Crown) in the GIII Laurel Futurity, a line of form which now looks highly significant. Prior to Saturday's upset victory over Pulpit in the G1 Florida Derby, Captain Bodgit had finished a fast-closing third to that rival in the GII Fountain of Youth.

At the time of Captain Bodgit's conception, Saint Ballado was available for \$2,500 live foal (for the 1997 season, the Ocala Stud Farm sire stands at \$3,500). Even then, this looked pretty good value for a brother to Devil's Bag, who could boast earnings of over \$300,000 and victories in the GII Arlington Classic and GIII Sheridan S. It looks as if this family could be building something of a reputation for producing sires. Devil's Bag and Saint Ballado are brothers to champion Glorious Song, who is dam of both Rahy and Rakeen, a Northern Dancer son who made a promising beginning to his stud career in South Africa before being brought to stand at Northview Stallion Station in Maryland. Imperial Falcon, a lightly raced Northern Dancer half-brother to Devil's Bag and Saint Ballado, has also sired stakes winners.

Pedigree Perspectives cont. p. 4

STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19:

3-29 \$175,000 **Explosive Bid H.-GIII, FG,**
4yo/up, 9fT (\$50)

3-29 \$60/50,000 **Queen Breeders' Cup, TP,**
4yo/up, f/m, 6f (\$50)

3-29 \$100,000 **Bourbonette, TP, 3yo, f, 8f (\$100)**

7-26 \$200,000 **Mid-South Futurity, LS, (R), 2yo, 6f**
(\$200)





◆ FOREIGN ◆

Local News, England:

There were 83 entries for this year's 2000 Guineas at Newmarket Saturday May 3 and 60 entries for the 1000 Guineas the following day. Heading the list for the 2000 are **Bahamian Bounty (GB)** (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}), **Bahhare** (Woodman), **Benny The Dip** (Silver Hawk), **In Command (Ire)** (Sadler's Wells), **Kahal (GB)** (Machaivellian), **Medaaly (GB)** (Highest Honor {Fr}), **Revoque (Ire)** (Fairy King), **Verglas (Ire)** (Highest Honor {Fr}), and **Zamindar** (Gone West). Two high-class fillies have also been entered for the 2000 Guineas--**Sleepytime (Ire)** (Royal Academy) and **Reams Of Verse** (Nureyev). Those same two fillies are amongst the 60 entries for the 1000 Guineas, which also includes **Bianca Nera (GB)** (Salse), **Dazzle (GB)** (Gone West), **Moonlight Paradise** (Irish River {Fr}), **Pas De Reponse** (Danzig), **Red Camellia (GB)** (Polar Falcon), **Ryafan** (Lear Fan), **Sarayir** (Mr Prospector), **Seebe** (Danzig), **Shigeru Summit (GB)** (Be My Chief) and **Yashmak** (Danzig).

Ryafan, winner of last year's G1 Prix Marcel Bousac at Longchamp, seems likely to bypass Britain's 1000 Guineas May 4 in favor of the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches (French 1000 Guineas) a week later. Trainer John Gosden said Tuesday: "I think it is highly unlikely that Ryafan will run at Newmarket. The plan has always been to send her straight to the French Guineas. She likes the course and we were obviously very pleased with the way she ran when she last went to Longchamp." Gosden is less certain about plans for his colt **Benny The Dip** (Silver Hawk), winner of last season's G2 Royal Lodge S. at Ascot, although he has still not ruled out the possibility of aiming the colt at the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket. Gosden said: "If he showed he was forward enough, he could go to Newmarket for the Guineas. The alternative would be to take in a mile and a quarter classic trial. But I would not be sure about him going on to the Epsom Derby. The trip at Epsom might be a bit much for him." Gosden's **King Sound (GB)** (Caerleon), third to Europe's top-rated juvenile **Revoque (Ire)** (Fairy King) in the G1 Grand Criterium last October, seems much more likely to appreciate Epsom's mile and a half. "He is likely to go for the Classic Trial at Sandown on April 26."

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In 1997 . . .

ASHKALANI (Ire) * BARYSHNIKOV * BROCCO (USA) *
CATRAIL (USA) * CHIEF'S CROWN (USA) * DANZERO *
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◆ EAST ◆

Yesterday's Results:

7th-HIA, \$17,000, Msw, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5, ft. **MONK'S CORNER** (c, 3, Pleasant Colony--Alysunset, by Alydar) followed a fourth in his debut last Oct. at Belmont with a pair of fifths at Gulfstream Feb. 8 and March 1. The bay colt, sent off the 6-5 favorite here, was close to the pace early, took the lead around the final turn and scored by one length over **RISK ALL TAKE ALL** (Slew o' Gold). The winner was a \$200,000 '95 **KEEJUL** yearling and a \$320,000 **BESMAR** 2 year old. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$12,820. O-Fox Fill Farm. B-Virginia Kraft Payson (Can). T-Nicholas Zito.

◆ NEW YORK ◆

Local News, Aqueduct:

Aqueduct will be closed Palm Sunday, March 23, and will run Monday, March 24 instead. A similar schedule will be in effect next week due to the Easter holiday.

Local News, Saratoga:

Changes have been made to two Saratoga stakes for the upcoming 1997 meeting. The Saratoga Cup, to be run Sunday Aug. 24, will now carry a purse of \$300,000, including \$100,000 in Breeders' Cup money. The race has been renamed the Saratoga Breeders' Cup. Originally, the purse of the race for three-year-olds and up was set at \$200,000. As a result, the Saratoga Breeders' Cup H. for fillies and mares three and up on the turf, to be run Sunday, Aug. 10, has been renamed the Ballston Spa Breeders' Cup. Other conditions for the races remain the same.

Local News, New York:

Pinebourne Farm North, near Saratoga Springs, New York, has announced the addition of the stallion **Stauder** (Halo) to its roster for the 1997 breeding season. The five-year-old, a half-brother to GSW Foligno (Foolish Pleasure), \$503,787, and a winner of two of his seven career starts, will stand for a complimentary stud fee this season as a special introductory offer.

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.



◆ CANADA ◆

Local News, Woodbine:

Woodbine's main track is expected to open Friday for training. The backstretch training track has been available to horsemen since early February. Stable superintendent Mike Wasilkowsky said, as of early Tuesday morning, there were 1,255 horses on the Woodbine backstretch. Woodbine opens its 179-day 1997 racing season March 28. For the first month, racing will be conducted on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with five-day weeks beginning on Wednesday, April 30.

◆ SO. CALIFORNIA ◆

Local News, Santa Anita:

Jay Privman, writer for the *New York Times* and *Thoroughbred Times* and a contributor to the *Thoroughbred Daily News*, and sportscaster-turned-jockey agent Brian Beach, will join primary host Kurt Hoover as the co-hosts of "Inside Santa Anita" and "Santa Anita Today," respectively. "Santa Anita Today," the live Sunday stakes program on Fox Sports Net, is now seen nationally in approximately 50 million homes.

FOALING NEWS:

ABOVE SUSPICION, 12, Great Above--C.B.'s Apple (Verbatim)

Foal born 3-4-97, a filly by Honor Grades. Will be bred back to Pentelicus.

Owned by W.A. Croll, Jr.

Boarded at Bonnie Heath Farm in Ocala, Fl.

Accomplishments: Dam of Clean Wager (Bet Big), MSW, \$137,166.

MISUKAW, 24, Northern Dancer--Dihela (Hitting Away)

Foal born 3-5-97, a colt by Pembroke.

Owned by Warner L Jones Farm Inc.

Boarded at Hermitage Farm in Goshen, Ky.

Accomplishments: SP; Dam of Share The Fantasy (Exclusive Native), GISW, \$115,369; Tokatee (Seattle Slew), GSW, \$383,044; Northern Majesty (His Majesty), MSW & MGSP, \$223,659.

KLASSY BRIEFCASE, 12, Medieval Man--Leather Gallery (The Pruner)

Foal born 3-6-97, a colt by Tabasco Cat.

Will be bred back to Miesque's Son.

Owned by Harry Minassian.

Boarded at Taylor Made Farm in Nicholasville, Ky.

Accomplishments: Multiple Stakes Winner of \$362,959.

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

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-SPT, \$27,280, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.

ANCHOR CRANKER (c, 4, Northern Flagship--Fight Song {SP}, by Singh) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-0, \$39,010.

O-Disko Carolyn & Harry & Sigrist C. B-F. Ann Davis & Jylynn Oepke (IL). T-Moises R Yanez.

8th-SPT, \$23,000, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41 3/5, ft.

SHORT PANTS (f, 4, Naevus--Reasonable Girl, by Hail to Reason) Lifetime Record: 14-2-2-2, \$41,454. O-Cappas & Crown's Way & Marovich. B-Crown's Way & Regal

Five (IL). T-Gene A Cilio. *Full to Kuma, SW, \$307,424.

7th-SPT, \$22,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:13, ft.

NIGHT TIME GOLD (c, 4, Fountain of Gold--Shady Night, by Insubordination) Lifetime Record: 6-2-2-1, \$34,230.

O/B-William M. Logue (IL). T-Christine K Janks.

9th-HIA, \$21,100, 4yo/up, a1 1/16mT, 1:41 2/5, fm.

EXALTADO (g, 5, White Mischief--Lady Lyd., by Lydian (Fr)) Lifetime Record: MSP, 15-3-4-1, \$67,765.

O-Agusti Wilfredo Jr & Saiden Amin. B-Amin Saiden & Wilfredo Agusti Jr. (FL). T-Leo Azpurua Jr.

8th-PHA, \$19,500, 4yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:45, ft.

DANZIG FOR KISSES (m, 5, Corridor Key--Pay in Kisses, by Explodent) Lifetime Record: SP, 33-5-5-5, \$77,277.

O-Aleph Stable. B-Patricia Brunstetter (PA). T-R Vega.

9th-PHA, \$16,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45 2/5, ft.

MEADOW GYPSY (c, 4, Meadowlake--United Scholar, by *Scholar Gypsy) Lifetime Record: 17-5-3-3,

\$86,555. O-Plumstead Stables. B-Fred Seitz & R. Eric Waldman (KY). T-Robert J Seeger. *1/2 to Chieftan's Command (Turn and Count), MGSW, \$363,219; The Berkeley Man (Air Forbes Won), GSP, \$175,575.

10th-PHA, \$15,825, 4yo/up, a1m70yd, 1:43 2/5, ft.

BUBKUS (g, 7, Jolie Jo--Native Irish Lass, by Native Charger) Lifetime Record: 46-4-7-6, \$72,898. O-Miller

Gary & the Atlantic Eight. B-Bright View Farm (NJ). T-M Ciresa. *1/2 to Prime Time Guy (T.V. Commercial), MSP, \$138,343; Rock 'n Roll (Slady Castle), SW, \$161,084.

7th-PHA, \$15,000, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:12, ft.

LADY IZ WAITIN (f, 3, Play Fellow--Capulet, by Gallant Romeo) Lifetime Record: 10-2-0-2, \$22,620.

O-Gendrachi Doris & Ronald. B-J Nuckols, C. Nuckols, Et Al. (KY). T-Anthony T Quartarolo.

Maiden winners p. 4

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WEEKEND PEDIGREE PERSPECTIVES

by Alan Porter

Pedigree Perspectives cont. from p. 1

Captain Bodgit is bred on what is becoming a most familiar cross, that of Halo and his sons onto Northern Dancer-line mares. So far, this combination has produced at least 22 major stakes winners, seven by Saint Ballado's brother, Devil's Bag, and eight by Sunday Silence. Of course, this doesn't take into account other variations on the theme, such as Machiavelian and his half-brother Exit To Nowhere, who are out of a daughter of Halo, and have crossed extremely well with mares carrying Northern Dancer.

Of course, as has been well-documented, Halo and Northern Dancer are linked by a common granddam, Almahmoud, but Captain Bodgit has some other commonalities with notable runners bred on the Halo/Northern Dancer cross. Five of the Devil's Bag stakes winners bred this way--including graded scorers Region, De la Devil and Jacodra's Devil--are out of Nijinsky II line mares, as are three of the Sunday Silences. Captain Bodgit's broodmare sire, Greek Answer, is by Northern Answer (by Northern Dancer) out of a mare by Victoria Park. Nijinsky II carries Omaha, a brother to Flares, the grandsire of Victoria Park. In addition, both Greek Answer and Nijinsky II have variations of the Bull Dog/Blue Larkspur cross (Devil's Bag and Saint Ballado have a cross of Bull Dog's brother, Sir Gallahad III with Blue Larkspur, and another of Blue Larkspur with Teddy, the sire of Bull Dog and Sir Gallahad III).

Devil's Bag has also sired multiple graded stakes winner Holy Mountain out of a mare by Viceregal (whose dam is a half-sister to Victoria Park, the broodmare sire of Greek Answer) and Devil's Bag has worked with Northern Taste, who is also out of a Victoria Park mare.

These trends aside, it is also worth noting that Captain Bodgit has notable concentrations of three of the most important mares of the 20th century--Selene, Plucky Liege and Mumtaz Mahal. Selene appears through her sons Hyperion, Pharamond II and Sickle; Plucky Liege through her sons Admiral Drake, Bull Dog and Sir Gallahad III; and Mumtaz Mahal through her grandson Mahmoud (5 x 5 x 5 in Captain Bodgit's pedigree), Mahmoud's three-parts-brother Mirza, and his three-parts-sister Mumtaz Begum.

THIS MONTH IN RACING HISTORY...

March 14, 1941...Merrick died at age 38, establishing the longevity record for a Thoroughbred.

Courtesy of Thoroughbred Racing Communications, Inc.

PEDIGREE SHORTS...

Last week we were considering the recent success of runners with close inbreeding to In Reality. Now, in the shape of the GIII Baldwin S. winner **Latin Dancer (c, 3, Citidancer--Latin Puzzle, by Shelter Half)**, we have a stakes scorer with close inbreeding to Tentam, another son of In Reality's sire, Intentionally. Citidancer, the sire of Latin Dancer, is inbred 2 x 4 to Northern Dancer, but is out of the outstanding broodmare Willamae, she a daughter of Tentam. Latin Dancer's broodmare sire, Shelter Half, is a son of Tentam, so Latin Dancer has Tentam 3 x 3 in his pedigree.

The highly successful Mr. Prospector/Seattle Slew combination has a very talented representative in Japan in the shape of **Seeking the Pearl (f, 3, Seeking the Gold--Page Proof, by Seattle Slew)**. Seeking the Pearl's win the G2 Flower Cup last weekend was her third graded stakes victory, and she will now be among the favorites for the G1 NKH Mile in mid-May. Seeking the Gold has already sired Mutakddim out of a Seattle Slew mare and Sneaky Quiet out of a mare by Seattle Slew's son, Slew o'Gold, and it is not surprising that the cross is working well. The Mr. Prospector/Seattle Slew relationship apart, Seattle Slew is out of a mare inbred to the sisters Striking and Busher, and Seeking the Gold is out of a mare by Buckpasser, whose dam, Busanda, is a three-parts-sister to Striking and Busher. Incidentally, last year's NKH Mile was won by U.S.-sired Tiki Fortune, by Seattle Slew's half-brother Seattle Dancer, out of a mare by Miswaki, who, like Seeking the Gold, is bred on the Mr. Prospector/Buckpasser cross.

MAIDEN WINNERS:

Monk's Corner, c, 3, Pleasant Colony--Alysunset, by Alydar. HIA, 3-18, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5. B-Payson Virginia Kraft (Can). *\$200,000 yrl '95 KEEJUL; \$320,000 2yo 1996 BESMAR.

Garotinha, f, 4, Naevus--Creta (Brz) (GISW-Brz), by Millenium. HIA, 3-18, a1 1/8mT, 1:49 1/5. B-Haras Santa Maria de Araras (Fl). * 1/2 to Treccia (Brz) (Present the Colors), GISW-Brz; Un Milione (Brz) (Present the Colors), MGSW-Brz.

Houghton Sales
Sept 30 - Oct 2

October Sales
October 13 - 17

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Bill Oppenheim, Thoroughbred Times, October 12, 1996

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