

# THOROUGHBRED™

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1997



\$2 Daily

## N • E • W • S T O D A Y

## W • R • I • T • E • R • S U P

**SANTA ANITA OPENS DEC. 26** The Los Angeles Turf Club will present its 61st season of Thoroughbred Racing at Santa Anita beginning Friday, December 26 and running through April 20, 1998. Opening day of the 85-day meeting marks the return to the racetrack of Kentucky Derby and Preakness champ **Silver Charm** (Silver Buck) who makes his first start since the Belmont S. in the \$200,000 GI Malibu S. Highlights of the stakes schedule, worth over \$11 million, include the \$1,000,000 GI Santa Anita H. March 7, the March 8 \$300,000 GI Santa Margarita H., the March 15 \$200,000 GI Santa Anita Oaks, the April 4 \$750,000 GI Santa Anita Derby and April 19 \$400,000 GI San Juan Capistrano Invitational. Santa Anita's premier event for three-year-olds, the Santa Anita Derby, will be televised live on FOX Sports during a one-hour national program on April 4. Racing at the Arcadia, California track will be conducted Wednesdays through Sundays, with special Monday racing on January 19, February 16 and April 20. There will be Tuesday racing December 30. Post time on weekdays is 1 p.m. and on weekends, holidays and Mondays will be 12:30 p.m. On opening day, February 7, March 7 and April 4 there will be a special 12 noon post and Santa Anita will offer two Twilight Fridays, April 10 and 17, when racing will commence at 3 p.m. Santa Anita Park has undergone approximately \$15 million in renovations since its last winter-spring meeting. Improvements include a new sound system, a refurbishment of its public areas, grounds, infield and paddock gardens and \$1 million in renovations to the track's concession stands.

**DOLLASE TO TRAIN SHARP CAT** Sharp Cat (Storm Cat), one of this year's leading three-year-old fillies, has been transferred from the barn of D. Wayne Lukas to the care of trainer Wally Dollase, according to the *Daily Racing Form*. Earlier this week, it was announced the filly's owner, Ahmed Salman's Thoroughbred Corp., had signed Dollase to a three-year contract as its private trainer. Sharp Cat has won 11 of 18 starts for earnings of \$1,417,250. The chestnut filly, second in this year's GI Breeders' Cup Distaff, has won five Grade I events and captured her most recent start, the December 7 GII Bayakoa H., in a walkover.

## POLITICS AS USUAL

*By Frank Carlson*

About 25 years ago a part-time politician and full time playboy from Philadelphia named Jack Kelly decide he wanted to be mayor of the City of Brotherly Love. What were Kelly's qualifications? All he had were his Olympic medal for rowing and an older sister who was the Princess of Monaco. After hinting in the press for a couple of weeks about the possibility of running, a member of the fourth estate went to Kelly's mother and asked her what she would do if her son ran. "I wouldn't vote for him!" was her reply. A resounding "No!" was the headline in the paper the next day, and Kelly's bid for high political office ended right there.

Fortunately for the three horses considered front runners for this year's Horse of the Year title, Favorite Trick, Gentlemen (Arg) and Skip Away, they have not only the credentials but also strong support, starting right at home.

Skip Away's trainer Sonny Hine, always the savvy campaigner, missed an opportunity for the title last year by passing up the Breeders' Cup. After Cigar got beat in the 1996 Classic, Bill Finley of the *New York Daily News* took an informal poll of writers who would cast votes in the year-end contest and found that, had Skip Away run and won, there would have been a 50-50 split in the voting between Cigar and Skip Away for Horse of the Year.

Will Skip Away's near miss in 1996 influence the 1997 election? Cigar's trainer Bill Mott remarked, "Possibly. It's like a judge telling a jury to disregard the witness' last remark. It's hard to forget."

A media darling, Hine started talking up his horse right after "Skippy" won the Jockey Club Gold Cup at Belmont this year. And he wasn't going to second guess himself this time around about going to the Breeders' Cup. He wrote the check, signed his name.

"I want to run against Formal Gold and Gentlemen," two of his nemeses during the year, Hine said after the Gold Cup. And when they didn't make it to the Breeders' Cup he changed the names to Touch Gold and Deputy Commander.

In any other year a seven-length romp in the Breeders' Cup Classic in record-breaking time would almost certainly guarantee the Horse of the Year title. But trainer Pat Byrne has himself a two-year-old phenom named Favorite Trick who finished his season with a win in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile a couple of races before Skip Away took to the track.

**Politics As Usual cont. p. 4**



## ◆ FOREIGN ◆

### Local News, Hong Kong:

The Hong Kong Jockey Club announced yesterday the appointment of Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges as Director of Racing (designate) to succeed incumbent Philip Johnston at the end of the current racing season in June 1998. Winfried is currently Chief Executive Officer of Direktorium fur Vollblutzucht und Rennen e.v. (DVR), the German Racing and Breeding Association.

## ◆ So. CALIFORNIA ◆

### Local News, Hollywood Park:

On the work tab Wednesday at Hollywood Park: Breeders' Cup Sprint champ **Elmhurst** (Wild Again) worked a half-mile in :49 4/5...**Le Triton** (El Gran Senor) worked a half-mile in :46 1/5...**Track Gal** (Track Barron) went five furlongs in :59.

On the work tab Wednesday at Santa Anita: **Rainbow Blues** (Ire) (Bluebird) worked six furlongs in 1:13.

On the work tab Tuesday at Santa Anita: **Anet** (Clever Trick) went six furlongs in 1:12 3/5.

On the work tab Tuesday at Hollywood Park: **Refinado Tom** (Shy Tom) went five furlongs in 1:00 1/5...**Crypto Star** (Cryptoclearance) drilled six furlongs in 1:14 3/5...**Dramatic Gold** (Slew o' Gold), winner of the 1996 GI Meadowlands Cup but unraced in 1997, worked six furlongs in 1:14.

On the work tab Monday at Hollywood Park: **Swiss Yodeler** (Eastern Echo) went five furlongs in 1:00 1/5.

### Yesterday's Results:

**3rd-HOL, \$45,000, Alw, 3yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:42 1/5, fm.**

**1--KRAVIS, 116, c, 4, Mt. Livermore--Index's (SW-Ire), by Storm Bird.** O/B-Paulson Allen E (KY); T-Patrick Gallagher. Lifetime Record: 13-4-2-2, \$135,020. \*1/2 to Zede (Strawberry Road {Aus}), SW & GSP, \$185,587; Nostra (Greinton {GB}), MGSP, \$183,601.

**2--Andtheliviniseasy, 118, c, 4, Polish Precedent--Go On With It, by Dewan.**

**3--Knifemaker, 120, h, 5, Affirmed--Fine Outing, by Full Out.**

Margins: NO, NK, HD. Odds: 1.40, 3.50, 9.10.

Kravis won an Oct. 11 Santa Anita allowance race and finished fifth last time out in the Nov. 22 Political Ambition H. at Hollywood, both on the turf. The favorite tracked the early pace on the inside prior to taking the lead in mid-stretch and holding off the late bid of Andtheliviniseasy.

**7th-HOL, \$44,720, Alw, 3yo/up, 5 1/2fT, 1:03 2/5, fm.**  
**1--HEPTATHLON, 118, f, 4, Runaway Groom--Dayzac, by Balzac.** O-Opas & Sinatra & Sommers; B-Di Mario John (KY); T-Richard P Matlow. Lifetime Record: 7-4-1-0, \$101,816.

**2--Avenue Shopper, 116, f, 4, Avenue of Flags--Exciting Gal, by Master Willie (GB).**

**3--Baize (GB), 116, f, 4, Efsio--Bayonne, by Bay Express.**

Margins: HF, 3/4, 2. Odds: 2.70, 8.40, 3.10.

Heptathlon returned from a 15-month layoff to win a Nov. 20 Hollywood allowance. The grey filly, sent off the tepid favorite here, raced last early before rocketing to the front in deep stretch to gain a narrow win.

## ◆ NEW YORK ◆

### Yesterday's Results:

**8th-AQU, \$33,000, Alw, 3yo/up, 1 1/4m, 2:06, ft.**  
**Gaelic Falcon (c, 3, Imperial Falcon--Gaelic Nymph, by Irish River {Fr}),** winless in 13 prior 1997 starts, ran fourth in a Nov. 1 Aqueduct allowance event in his previous trip to the post and scored for the first time here since taking a Dec. 17, 1996 Calder maiden event. The 3-1 second choice was reserved in the early going before launching a rally leaving the far turn and closing strongly on the inside to get up for a half-length victory. Lifetime Record: 18-2-3-1, \$68,379.

O-Eloise & Peter J Canzone. B-Edward P. Evans (VA). T-Dominic G Galluscio.

**7th-AQU, \$31,000, Alw, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 3/5, ft.**  
**INLET CREEK (f, 4, Tricky Creek--Smiling and Speedy {GB}, by Hello Gorgeous)** ran fifth last time out in a Nov. 20 Aqueduct allowance race and returned to the winner's circle for the first time since taking a Feb. 17 Aqueduct maiden event, three starts ago. Making her second start off of a nine-month layoff, the 10-1 longshot forced the early pace before surging to the front in mid-stretch and edging clear late for a two-length tally. Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-0, \$38,130.

O-Mr & Mrs William H Denny. B-Bendabout Farm (KY). T-Bruce N Levine.

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## PLEASANT TAP

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**New York Report cont.**

**4th-AQU, \$31,000, Msw, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5, ft.**

**MISS KATIE C. (f, 3, Deputy Minister--Winnebago Seven {MSW}, by Alleged)** finished third in a Dec. 5 Aqueduct maiden event in her previous start, but the \$175,000 '95 KEEJUL yearling and \$150,000 1996 FTFFEB two-year-old purchase scored here by four lengths. The 5-2 second choice sprinted out to the early lead and kicked clear in the drive for an easy win. She is a full sister to Keratoid, SW & GSP, \$180,330 and a 1/2 to Warm Wayne (Affirmed), GSW, \$165,509. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-2, \$25,999. O/B-Due Process Stables, Inc. (KY). T-Willard C Freeman.

◆ **E A S T** ◆

**Yesterday's Results:**

**7th-LRL, \$22,000, Alw, 3yo, 7f, 1:24 2/5, ft. CROSSPATCH (c, 3, Waquoit--Hatched {MSP}, by Hatchet Man)** captured a Nov. 27 Laurel maiden race in his belated career debut last time out. Jumping up to the allowance ranks, the even-money favorite broke in the air, pressed the pace, and grabbed the lead in the stretch for a 1 1/2-length score. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$23,940. O/B-Frank A. Bonsal, Jr. (MD). T-Berkley W Kern, Jr.

◆ **M I D W E S T** ◆

**Yesterday's Results:**

**5th-HAW, \$17,500, Msw, 2yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:20 1/5, ft. DANCING COUNTUS (f, 2, Strike the Gold--Countus In {GISW, \$569,483}, by Dancing Count)** checked in third in a Dec. 3 Hawthorne maiden race at first asking but prevailed here to become the 14th winner for freshman sire Strike the Gold (Alydar). Sent off at odds of 9-1, the \$23,000 1996 KEESEP yearling purchase was unhurried early but rallied along the rail in the stretch to win going away by 1 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$12,425. O-T Engel & D French & D Muckler. B-Charles G Middleton III & Vinery (KY). T-Timothy J Muckler.

◆ **W E S T** ◆

**Local News, Golden Gate:**

Golden Gate Fields is conducting a Holiday Food Drive through Sunday. All contributions will benefit the homeless and hungry served by Food on Foot. Fans are encouraged to bring food donations to the Customer Service Booth and will receive two general admission passes to Golden Gate Fields with each day's donation of two or more boxes of individually wrapped food products.

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

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**7th-GGX, \$37,280, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:42 2/5, wf.**

**HELLO HELLER (c, 4, Ruhlmann--Hello Flo {MSP}, by Fleet Allied)** Lifetime Record: SW, 17-5-0-1, \$112,870. O-Mr & Mrs Barton D Heller. B-Barton D Heller (CA). T-William J Morey, Jr. \*1/2 to Half Mamoon (Al Mamoon), SW, \$195,000.

**5th-GGX, \$33,280, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:43, wf.**

**BIJAN SILK (c, 3, Kris S.--Via, by Cloudy Dawn)** Lifetime Record: 18-3-2-5, \$77,292. O-The Thoroughbred Corporation. B-Just The Beginning Farm (KY). T-Jeff Bonde. \*1/2 to Great Pass (Great Prospector), MSW, \$238,460.

**5th-AQU, \$31,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 2/5, ft.**

**BROKERS (c, 3, Distinctive Pro--Grand Marais, by Mr. Justice)** Lifetime Record: 10-2-3-1, \$61,070. O-Limmer R & Pizzo J Jr & Werbowski I. B-Kinsman Farm (NY). T-Dominic G Galluscio. \*1/2 to Grand Appeal (Valid Appeal), MSW, \$300,432.

**6th-LRL, \$30,000, Opt. Clm. (\$35,000), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft.**

**TWICE AS SPECIAL (g, 5, Taylor's Special--Doubles, by Nodouble)** Lifetime Record: 35-9-7-5, \$156,378. O-Flag Stable, Inc. B-Mr & Mrs Timothy J Gardner. T-Charles H Hadry. \*1/2 to Seward Junction (Pocket Coin), MSW, \$197,337.

Allowance results cont. p. 4

Another winner from the first crop by Lil E. Tee!  
KIRBY HALL wins first time out on turf at 1 1/16 miles.

**LIL E. TEE**

Winner of the 118th Kentucky Derby  
1998 Stud Fee: \$7,500 Live Foal



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**Politics as Usual cont. from p. 1**

Favorite Trick set a Breeders' Cup record and won by the largest margin ever for a juvenile. It made people sit up and take notice.

Both Hine, the elder statesman, and Byrne, the brash upstart, have been gentlemen about which one deserves Horse of the Year honors. Neither has put the knock on the other's horse, but neither will back down from their conviction that their horse deserves the title.

Says Hine, "How could you vote against my horse? He won it on his own merits. My horse answered the final bell. He won over \$4 million this year, he deserves to be Horse of the Year. I don't want to say anything bad about Pat's horse, but my horse would crush his in a mile-and-a-quarter race."

Meanwhile on the left coast, Gentlemen's owner R. D. Hubbard is convinced he has the top horse of 1997. Hubbard says, "We beat Skip Away when we ran against him. There's no question in my mind who the best horse is."

Byrne counters, saying, "Even when Secretariat won Horse of the Year as a two-year-old, he didn't win all his races that year. My horse is undefeated and he's run against everyone that he could face."

It didn't take the English-born horseman long to learn the ropes in American politics. Byrne pointed to Favorite Trick as he crossed the finish line in the Juvenile and said, to a national T.V. audience, "There's the Horse of the Year."

He later observed, "You don't like to think of it as a political campaign, but that sure is what it seems like."

**Allowance results cont.**

8th-LRL, \$27,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10, ft.  
**DARLENE'S FRIEND** (f, 3, Hay Halo--Mandy's Friend, by Full Intent) Lifetime Record: 13-4-3-0, \$71,141.  
O/B-William P. Hill (MD). T-Robert L Beall.

8th-HAW, \$24,840, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft.  
**ARMY BRAT** (f, 4, Thirty Six Red--Lt. Michelle, by Our Michael) Lifetime Record: 37-7-9-6, \$114,704.  
O-Margherio D & J & N & R. B-J. W. Backer & Robert Keller (KY). T-Roger Brueggemann.

4th-LRL, \$24,000, 2yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45 2/5, ft.  
**MISTER BUSINESS** (c, 2, Runaway Groom--Cloudy Colors, by Personal Flag) Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-0, \$32,660. O-Mark E Salomone. B-Kerry Ellis-Swan & Cygnet Farm (KY). T-Richard K Trimmer.

**MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Bloody Nose Ridge**, c, 2, **Compliance**--Roscommon Lassie, by Cormorant. AQU, 12-17, (S), 6f, 1:14. B-Bomze Richard (NY).

+ **Wingate**, f, 2, **Gettysburg Address**--Cup Custard, by Secretariat. LRL, 12-17, (C), 6f, 1:13 1/5. B-Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc. (Va).

**Kyle's Magic**, f, 2, **Kyle's Our Man**--Bay Magic, by Ack Ack. AQU, 12-17, (C), 1 1/16m, 1:49 4/5. B-Stoops W R (Ky). \*\$13,000 2yo 1997 FTMMAY.

**Surveyor**, c, 2, **Man From Eldorado**--Frisivolous Pirate, by Pirate's Bounty. HOL, 12-17, (C), (S), 7 1/2f, 1:30 4/5. B-Wygod Martin J Mr & Mrs (Ca). \*1st winner for freshman sire (by Mr. Prospector).

**Dancing Countus**, f, 2, **Strike the Gold**--Countus In (GISW, \$569,483), by Dancing Count. HAW, 12-17, 6 1/2f, 1:20 1/5. B-Charles G Middleton III & Vinery (Ky). \*\$23,000 yrl '96 KEESEP. \*\*14th winner for freshman sire (by Alydar).

**My Boy Brandon**, g, 2, **Tsunami Slew**--Predicted Winner, by Tri Jet. HOL, 12-17, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:05. B-Kossack David (Fl).

**Miss Katie C.**, f, 3, **Deputy Minister**--Winnebago Seven (MSW), by Alleged. AQU, 12-17, 1 1/16m, 1:46 1/5. B-Due Process Stables, Inc. (Ky). \*Full to Keratoid, SW & GSP, \$180,330; 1/2 to Warm Wayne (Affirmed), GSW, \$165,509. \*\*\$175,000 yrl '95 KEEJUL; \$150,000 2yo 1996 FTFFEB.

**1997 LEADING SIRE OF 2YO WINNERS IN N.A. (through 12/15/97)**

SIRE	STATE	Foals	2yo wnrs
Pentelicus	Fl	55	23
Carson City	Ky	71	21
Copelan	dead	61	21
Irish Open	Tx	67	21
Red Ransom	Ky	122	19
Robyn Dancer	Fl	45	19
Salt Lake	Ky	68	19
Diablo	Fl	54	18
Phone Trick	Ky	77	18
Caller I.D.	Ky	64	17
Lost Code	Ky	83	17
Dixie Brass	Ky	59	16
Runaway Groom	Ky	95	16
Silver Deputy	Ky	59	16
Wayne's Crane	Tx	58	16

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