

PEDIGREE HANDICAPPING BY LAUREN STICH

Lauren Stich, handicapper and breeding columnist for Daily Racing Form, is the author of **“PEDIGREE HANDICAPPING”** (\$14.95). Order at www.drff.com or call 1-800-306-FORM

NOTES:

Saturday, 3.04.06: SA-3: Firster **NEKO BAY** wins at **\$44.60** and cold exacta with **FEAR NO DARKNESS** returns **\$225.00**. \$1 trifecta box with **EVALUATE** pays **\$380.90**. GP-1: **BERNARDINI** wins at **\$5.60**. GP-2: **EXCLUSIVE QUALITY** and **SONGSTER** combine for exacta box of **\$35.60**. GP-5: **WEND** wins for fun at **\$4.20**. GP-8: **HARLINGTON** showed he's among the best older runners at **\$7.40**. GP-10: Fountain of Youth Stakes. Top choice, **CORINTHIAN** (7-1) finishes first by more than one length but is dq'd for erratic stretch run. First Samurai inherits victory but Corinthian, with only three starts prior to this, showed he has the talent and is a major player on Triple Crown trail. GP-11: **COLOGNE** wins on turf (another grass runner by Horse Chestnut) as an overlay at **\$12.40**.

Sunday, 2.19.06: GP-3: Firster, **FANTASTIC SHIRL**, won her debut at **\$10.00** looking like her half-brother, Shakespeare. Mott continues to prove he is among the very best at getting runners to win on grass, and with Jerry Bailey's retirement, the recipient of Mott's prowess is Cornelio Velasquez. GP-5: Exacta box of favorite **JOYFUL RHAPSODY** and 30-1 longshot **MONDENSCHNEIN** returned **\$101.00**. TB-7: **SHUCKS**, a Gulch colt well bred for grass, wins turf debut at **\$9.20** after nine dirt starts. AQU-7: Bellini Sunrise, 7-1, was second.

Sunday, 2.12.06: GP-8: 1-2 finish – first-time starter **CHEROKEE JEWEL** wins in a romp at **\$26.60** defeating 7-5 favorite **GINGER PUNCH** for **\$79.40 exacta**. GG-5: First-time starter, **SMOKEY STOVER**, wins for fun at \$7.20 despite very slow start. SA-5: First Word was scratched in dirt allowance; pay particular notice if he goes again on turf for Frankel, his preferred surface.

Saturday, 2.11.06: SA-9: **BALANCE** wins the Las Virgenes at \$7.20 defeating fave Wild Fit. GP-4: **Noonmark-Bernie White Shoes-Praying for Cash (top selection)** exacta box returns \$11.40 and trifecta box pays \$29.90. TP-12: **Kettleoneup** was second at 8-1. SA-2: **Miss Maestro** just gets nipped on wire at 5-1 in first start on turf.

Saturday, 2.04.06: GP-1: **JACINTH**, my top choice, wins maiden debut at **\$32.80**. OP-7: **IMPECCABLE**, a first-time starter who is related to Kona Gold and Caller One, wins and pays **\$30.80**.

Thursday, March 9, 2006

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GULFSTREAM

Race 8 (Turf Only)

#7 *CHETTEN COUNTY (key)*

- #9 ST. HILDEGARD**
- #8 AMBLING**
- #14 EDEN'S CAUSEWAY (A-E list)**
- #2 JADE QUEEN**
- #4 DIVINE SHADOW**
- #11 CROESUS**

I've been waiting for CHETTEN COUNTY to return at age 3. After two rough trips at 2, she should be a powerhouse on turf now. By Giant's Causeway, she is not only out of a Lord at War (strong turf) mare, her second dam is by Little Current, another strong turf influence, and third dam is unbelievable Lady Winborne (Secretariat). Key her over the five fillies listed above as A-E filly, EDEN'S CAUSEWAY (a half-sister to champion turf horse, Paradise Creek and SW Forbidden Apple) will probably be scratched.

ST. HILDEGARD is a half-sister to Cologne, who won last Saturday for us. By turf sire Arch, she is out of a half-sister to Saarland. Second dam is Versailles Treaty. Ran second in 3-y-o debut over this course, ready to roll again.

AMBLING has a second and third in only grass starts, Chester House filly is out of turfer, Incha (Nashwan). Grass all over the place in this pedigree and she is a must-use.

JADE QUEEN makes turf debut after poor dirt race. Pletcher/JR filly is by Giant's Causeway and is out of SW Jade Flush.

DIVINE SHADOW makes debut for great turf debut trainer, Bill Mott, but her pedigree isn't as "grassy" as some others in here. By Capote out of a Seeking the Gold mare, who happens to be a half-sister to Holy Bull, she commands respect simply because of Mott.

CROESUS gets poor outside post in short run to first turn, but there may be potential here at a big price. By hidden turf sire, Touch Gold, her dam is a full sister to Met Mile winner and successful sire, Wild Rush. Makes turf debut – use in exotics for huge value.

Race 9

- #4 WOODFORD GALE**
- #1 WHITE SOCKS**

WOODFORD GALE had smashing debut victory, and when a young Distorted Humor colt runs like this, watch out. There's surely more to come. WHITE SOCKS showed real ability winning debut last year at 3 and then running second to Lost in the Fog in Bay Shore Stakes. Will have to improve a whole lot off Gulf debut on Jan. 7 when he finished dull fifth.

Race 10 (Turf Only)

- #1 PINE ISLAND**
- #2 JUDITH BASIN**
- #4 OCEAN SOUND**
- #6 BOBBIN**
- #9 DREAM CHILD**

This maiden race for 3-y-o fillies could turn out to be a *KEY* race for the remainder of the year and is filled with smashing grass pedigrees from top stables.

PINE ISLAND makes debut for Shug and is by hidden turf sire, Arch and is also the first foal out of Matlacha Pass, a winning full sister to Breeders' Cup Distaff winner, Pleasant Home and multiple SW Country Hideaway. Matlacha Pass was considered the best of all the sisters before she was retired early due to injury.

JUDITH BASIN makes debut for the master turf trainer, Mott, and has a "wow" pedigree. By the late great Danzig, she is out of an Alleged (two-time winner of the Arc) mare who happens to be a half-sister to Weekend Surprise, the dam of A.P. Indy, Summer Squall and Honor Grades.

OCEAN SOUND makes debut for Dale romans and watch out – one of two Pulpit fillies in here, she is an RF (Rasmussen Factor), inbred to the influential mare, Monarchy, a full sister to Round Table. Class galore.

BOBBIN is the other Pulpit and one of two uncoupled entries from Pletcher. While JR rides his other filly, Dream Child, this filly may have more of a future. A full sister to stakes winner, Wend, she too is an RF to Knight's Daughter, the dam of Monarchy and Round Table.

DREAM CHILD also makes debut for Pletcher and is by Giant's Causeway out of SW Tomorrow's Child, making her a three-quarter sister to Tomorrows Cat.