Belmont Park

<u>Belmont-G1</u> 11/2 MILES. (2:24) 135th Running of THE BELMONT. Grade I. Purse \$1,000,000 (Up To \$72,000 NYSBFOA). THREE YEAR OLDS. By subscription of \$600 each to accompany the nomination if made on or before January 18, 2003, or \$6,000 if made on or before March 29 2003, \$10,000 to pass the entry box and \$10,000 additional to start. At any time prior to the closing time of entries, horses may be nominated to The Belmont Stakes upon payment of a supplementary fee of \$100,000 to The New York Racing Association Inc. The Purse to be divided 60% to the winner, 20% to second, 11% to third, 6% to fourth and 3% to fifth. Colts and Geldings, 126 lbs.; Fillies, 121 lbs. Starters to be named at the closing time of entries. The Belmont field will be limited to sixteen (16) starters.

Bailey J D

L 126 b

L 123 b

L 122 b

LB 115

Homeister R B Jr L 117 b

L 116 b

L 116 b

L 116 b

L 112 b

L 120 b

L 114 b

L 120 b

L 120 b

L 118 b

L 126 b

L 126 b

L 116 b

LB 115 b

LB 120 b



Empire Maker Own: Juddmonte Farms Inc Red Green. Pink Sash, White Sleeves, Pink BAILEY J D (42 10 9 3 .24) 2003:(331 89 .27)

Supervisor

27Apr03-7Crc gd 1

120ct02-11Crc fst 11/16

21Sep02-6Crc fst 1 1 1 1 6 26 Aug02-8Crc fst 7 f

9Aug02-6Crc fst 41f

17May03-12Pim gd 1급

3May03-10CD fst 11/4

19 Apr 03 - 8 Kee fst 1 1 16

15Feb03-9GP fst .7f

18 Jan 03-7SA fst 11/16

26Dec02-3SA fst 6f 3Nov02-5SA fst 5½f

Scrimshaw

Own: Lundock Rodney G

Yellow, Two Orange Hoops, Orange Collar,

VELAZQUEZ J R (98 29 17 15 .30) 2003:(535 130 .24)

Previously trained by Tortora Emanuel

6Apr03-7Tam fm 11 116 11:23 :472 1:121 1:424

17Mar03-60TC fst 1 1 :233 :482 1:13 1:441

22Feb03-10Tam sly $1\frac{1}{16}$:233 :481 1:133 1:452 30Jan03- 9GP fm *11/8 $\textcircled{\text{1}}$:50 1:134 1:39 1:511+

18 Jan 03-10 GP fst 1 1 : 232 : 471 1:112 1:43

1Jan03-10Crc gd 11/8 1:483 1:131 1:381 1:502

260ct02-6Crc fm 11 0 :232 :483 1:124 1:431

Own:Lewis Robert B & Beverly J

:22

Green/yellow Hoops Yellow Sleeves

STEVENS G L (3 0 0 0 .00) 2003:(194 34 .18)

24May03-8Bel sly 11/8 :444 1:084 1:344 1:482 Peter Pan-G2

:242 :474 1:122 1:392

:232 :473 1:122 1:462

:24 :483 1:141 1:49

:223 :462 1:133 1:28

:47 1:113 1:362 1:553

:461 1:102 1:353 2:01

:23 :47 1:113 1:452

:23 :462 1:101 1:421

:211 :44 :553 1:081

:212 :45 :571 1:034

:441 1:091 1:223

:534

:224 :471

3May03-10CD fst 11/4 :461 1:102 1:353 2:01 Ky Derby-G1 12 Apr03-8 Aqu my 11/8 :471 1:11 1:354 1:483 Wood Mem-G1 15Mar03-8GP fst 11/8 :461 1:103 1:36 1:49 Fla Derby-G1 7Feb03-7SA fst 11/8 :461 1:102 1:353 1:481 RISham81k

TRAINER: 31-60Days(201.26 \$1.78) Dirt(179.28 \$1.94) Routes(506.26 \$1.89) GrdStk(230.29 \$2.05)

B. c. 3 (Apr) Sire: Skip Trial (Bailjumper) \$8,500

DADodgeSoph84k

Sam F Davis50k

Trop Pk Dby-G3

Alw 36000N1x

Holy Bull-G3

Alw 21000 N1X

Mecke100k

Dk. b or br c. 3 (Apr)

Dam: Toussaud(El Gran Senor)

Juddmonte Farms Inc (Ky)

108 6 421 311 21

Tr: Frankel Robert(12 4 2 1 .33) 2003:(153 49 .32)

111 8 32½ 32 31½ 1hd 1½

105 11 84 85½ 31½ 3½ 21¾ Bailey J D

108 6 42½ 31½ 21 1½ 19¾ Bailey J D 98 5 66½ 75½ 52¾ 32 21 Bailey J D

Dam: Silver Doe (Silver Buck) Tr: Rice Linda(16 3 1 5 .19) 2003:(118 17 .14) 82 5 683 693 684 471 363 Santos J A OCIm 25000 (25 -22.5)N 88 2 55 411 311 211 151

76 3 10161017 1012 911 574 Homeister R B Jr RIOBS Chmpnshp100k 77 4 66 78 641 44 47 Homeister R B Jr 72 4 107 97 72 65 67 Homeister R B Jr $\mathbf{81} \ 9 \ 85\frac{1}{2} \ 85\frac{3}{4} \ 75\frac{1}{4} \ 65 \ 42$ Boulanger G 89 10 13131316 1313 77 451 Boulanger G **84** 7 118 3 116 1 93 3 94 53 Chavez J F 84 4 65 65 86 4 45 32 4 Velasquez C 82 5 754 952 932 622 Madrid S O 43 75 6 73 63 31 31 321 Boulanger G 77 4 129 1010 810 612 47 Boulanger G

Md Sp Wt 23k RFIa Stallion400k Md Sp Wt 30k 68 3 773 79 661 331 214 Cruz M R Md 32000 (32-30) 49 8 5 673 67 34 2no Homeister R B Jr L 118 b Md 20000 (20-18) 26 9 10 811 710 684 Homeister RBJr L 118 b WORKS: May 19 Bel 4f fst :481 B 10/47 May 9 Crc 4f fst :512 B 14/23 Apr 24 Crc 4f fst :504 B 7/18 Apr 18 Crc 4f fst :492 B 9/31 Mar 30 Crc 5f fst 1:031 B 5/11 TRAINER: Dirt(282 .17 \$1.95) Routes(160 .10 \$0.84) GrdStk(10 .10 \$1.03)

Dk. b or br c. 3 (Apr) KEEAPR02 \$550,000 Sire: Gulch (Mr. Prospector) \$50,000 Dam: Rogue Girl (Sham)

Tr: Lukas D Wayne(16 0 1 1 .00) 2003:(244 29 .12) 98 2 1hd 32 421 25 3101 Stevens G L Preakness-G1 92 16 52 64 84 86 1110 Velasquez C Ky Derby-G1 32 1½ 13 Prado E S 32 44 410½ Bailey J D 101 1 $21\frac{1}{2}$ 32 Lexington-G2 **75** 5 6 31 92 6 21 211 21 32 36½ Solis A

Br: Stefanski Stan & Ingrid (Ky)

Hutcheson-G2 S Catalina-G2 Alw 52000 N1X Md Sp Wt 42k TRAINER: Dirt(621 .15 \$1.31) Routes(278 .13 \$1.40) GrdStk(100 .17 \$1.87)

104 8 2 413 21 21 1hd Solis A 82 4 9 53½ 63¾ 2hd 12 Solis A

5.30 89 - 12 Scrimshaw1182 Downtime 118no Bone Dog118hd LB 118 b WORKS: Jun2 CD 5f fst 1:001 B 4/24 May 27 CD 5f fst 1:011 B 5/29 May 13 CD 4f fst :48 B 3/41 Apr 28 CD 5f fst 1:021 B 20/30 • Apr 16 CD 4f fst :463 B 1/46 Apr 11 CD 7f fst 1:271 B 1/1

2003

2002 2 2 0 0

L 126

Life 6 3 2 1 \$1,285,800 111 D.Fst \$835,800 108 4 2 2 0 \$1,236,200 111 Wet(370) 1 1 0 0 2003 \$450,000 111 L 126 2002 2 1 0 1 \$49,600 92 Turf(320) 0 0 0 \$0 1 1 0 0 \$27,600 84 Dst(405) 0 0 0 0 \$0

*2.50 92-06 Funny Cide 12613 Empire Maker 126hd Peace Rules 126hd 5w bid.2ndbest 16 *.55 93 – 12 Empire Maker 123½ Funny Cide 1237½ Kissin Saint 1231 3 wide, drift in late 8 2.10 97-10 Empire Maker1229 Trust N Luck122½ Indy Dancer1222½ Drew off, driving 7 92 – 11 MnAmongMen1201 EmpireMker1152 Spensive12051 Split foes, inside bid 7

*1.40 78 - 12 Toccet1222 Bham1163 Empire Maker 1163 Bobbled checked break 8 *45 82 - 15 Empire Maker 1203 Blue Skies Ahed 1201 Host 1206 4 wide move, hand ride 13

Life 15 2 2 2 \$118,664 89 D.Fst 6 0 2 0 \$44,940 89 8 1 0 1 \$63,624 89 Wet(335) 3 1 0 \$42,000 88 L 126 2002 \$55,040 84 Turf(225) 6 1 0 7 1 2 1 \$31,724 84 Bel 1 0 0 1 \$22,000 82 Dst(210) 0 0 0 0 \$0 L 115 b 24.00 81 – 12 Go Rockin' Robin 1176 Alysweep 123 Supervisor 1152

Going well late 6 *1.10 84 – 26 Supervisor 1175½ Scrubs 1175½ Aerial Command 11710 4.00 77 – 13 Hear No Evil1181½ Amon116½ Regal Bear 1163¾ 97 – 05 ThNm's Bond 1223 Coch JmL 1223¾ Jst Sy Th Word 122½ Inside, going away 6 Passed tiring rivals 11 Failed to sustain bid 8 84-09 WhiteBuck116nk FreedomLne1163 CochJimiLee1181 Passed tiring rivals 10 *2.80 83 – 15 Purely Classic 122hd Our Finale 1181 Aventur Pice 122 2 4 wide, belated rally 9 25.70 88 – 10 Offlee Wild116hd Powerful Touch1163 Bham1182} Swun 5.90 75 – 23 NothingToLos11513 MillnniumStorm119hd SuphBlitz1153 Swung out, belatedly 13

Best stride late 12 *2.30 74 - 24 Nothing ToLose 1173 True Enough 12012 Supervisor 1206 Steadied far turn 12 21.10 83 - 16 Millennium Storm117hd Our Finale114no Kick In114 Steadied twice bkstr 12 *1.50 80 – 17 Supervisor12014 Me My Mine120nk Tune12014 73.50 72 – 17 TrustNLuck12014 ThM's Bond12014 PtrioticFIm12014 4 wide rally, up late 12 4 wide, passed tired 14 11.70 66-19 MgnticStorm11814 Suprvisor1184 JustSyThWord11854 Angled out, rallied 7 7.30 74-14 D'sRoylFlush118no Supervisor118nk AlbrtAndBby11814 6.30 82 - 12 Felo 1182 Dramatic Youth 1183 Agent Bradley J 11813

7 3 0 2 \$408,879 104

D.Fst 6 3 0 1 \$308,879 104 5 1 0 2 \$352,479 101 Wet(325) 1 0 0

\$100,000 98

Swung 3wd,rallied 12

W 142.50

\$0

Bel 0 0 0 0 \$0 - Dst(335) 0 0 0 0 \$0 4.90e 84-12 Funny Cide1269 Midway Road 126 Scrimshaw 126no Came in, brushed 1/16 10 16.50 84-06 FunnyCide12613 EmpireMaker126hd PeceRules126hd Drift in bmp start,5w 16 80-22 Scrimshw1163 EyOfThTigr116nk DomsticDisput116nk Bobble,bmp,4w,drvg 7 2.00 84-08 Lion Tamer 1186 Strength Within 1163 Crafty Guy 12233 Slow start, 3 wide 6 86-15 DomstcDsput1133 OrBobby V.11331 Scrmshw1154 Broke in,3wd,best rest 8 4.40 97-07 Scrimshaw120hd Zyed1184½ EyeOfTheTiger1203 3wd move,wore down foe 8

2002 Sarava

\$56,400 104 Turf(290) 0 0 0 0

Continued on Following Page

"John Piesen is an absolute expert. He knows the ins and outs of racing better than anyone I ever met." Trainer PHIL JOHNSON, who won the Breeders Cup Classic with 43-1 longshot Volpone: "He is aware of everything happening around the racetrack" Steve Asmussen, National Champion Trainer 2002: "He is very accurate in assessing how a race will be run - a solid handicapper.

Trainer KEN MCPEEK, who won the '02 Belmont with 70-1 longshot Sarava:

José Santos — rider of '03 Derby winner Funny Cide: "John has it all covered. He knows the hors he knows the trainers, he knows the game."

John Pricci, Exec Ed. Thoroughbred World, host of Capital OTB's Who Do you Like? on cable TV:

"John knows all the angles, and you can italicize all."

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Trifecta 2000 Commendable W 39.60 Aptitude 2nd 3.80 Unshaded 3rd 4.40 213.00 Exacta Trifecta 1,310.00

1999 Lemon Drop Kid W 61.50 1998 Victory Gallop W 11.00

A CLOSER LOOK

Belmont Stakes

Empire Maker

What a difference 5 weeks makes!; after the Wood Memorial, many fans were anointing this regally-bred colt as the next Triple Crown winner; now he is relegated to the role of a possible spoiler as Funny Cide guns for the glory; while brilliantly dominant in the Florida Derby and Wood Memorial, he had problems with his lead changes; under the Twin Spires, however he was a total professional; after an abbreviated final week of preparation due to a bruised foot, he raced in a bit tight going past the wire the 1st time, then made a nice wide move to reach the leaders on the far turn; he changed leads on cue, and rallied evenly for the place; Frankel and Bailey have been exuding confidence, claiming that they wouldn't want to trade places with anyone going into the Belmont; although idle since the Derby, it is very possible that Empire Maker is now a healthier and more mentally mature racehorse; owns very competitive Beyers, and has a win over Funny Cide on his resume; expect Bailey to sit just off Scrimshaw and Funny Cide, and he will probably make his move when he sees Funny Cide gear up on the turn; a very dangerous competitor that must be given a great deal of respect.

Supervisor

The longshot in the Belmont field finished ahead of Funny Cide in the Holy Bull at Gulfstream earlier in the year, but hasn't moved forward off of that performance; has yet to reach 90 on the Beyer scale, and all of the horses he'll be facing today have eclipsed 100; has not cracked the exacta in his 8 previous stakes outings, and will be getting a stern class test against these top notch sophomores: late-running style would be aided by solid fractions, but he will need a complete pace collapse to pull off the shocker; respect these connections, but this colt looks like he is in way too steep; others entice more.

Scrimshaw

Consecutive double-digit defeats by Funny Cide have taken some of the luster off the Lexington winner; ran a similar race as Ten Most Wanted in the Derby as he broke from an outside post, was bumped at the start, and raced wide without threatening; can't complain about his Preakness trip; pressed Peace Rules for the 1st quarter of a mile while racing on the deeper inside paths, eased off the lead to stalk in between horses, and finished evenly despite drifting in during the stretch; it is always unwise to dismiss a Lukas runner in a Triple Crown race; remember how the Hall of Fame trainer transformed Commendable from a Kentucky Derby also-ran to a Belmont winner; might have the best early speed of this group, and it would not be a surprise to see Stevens have this guy on the front end; may get very brave if allowed to slow down the tempo, but he must improve to turn the tab Funny Cide and Empire Maker; leaning elsewhere.

Life 8 5 2 0 \$1,889,385 114 D.Fst Ch. g. 3 (Apr) SARAUG01 \$22,000 **Funny Cide** 6 4 1 0 \$1,089,385 108 Sire: Distorted Humor (Forty Niner) \$20,000 2003 5 2 2 0 \$1,753,200 114 Wet(322) 2 1 1 0 \$800,000 114 Dam: Belle's Good Cide(Slewacide) Yellow Maroon/silver Diamonds, Silver L 126 2002 3 3 0 0 \$136,185 103 Turf(263) 0 0 0 0 Rr. Win Star Farm LLC (NY) \$0 -SANTOS J A (84 17 11 14 20) 2003:(583 93 .16) Tr: Tagg Barclay(4 1 2 0 .25) 2003:(59 9 .15) Bel 3 3 0 0 \$136,185 103 Dst(259) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -*1.90 95 – 12 FunnyCide12693 MidwayRod1263 Scrimshw126no Bmpd brk,ratd 3w,clear 10 .17May03-12Pim gd 13 :47 1:113 1:362 1:553 Preakness-G1 114 9 32 21 2½ 15 19¾ Santos J A L 126 108 5 42 32 21 1hd 113 Santos J A 3May03-10CD fst 11/4 :461 1:102 1:353 2:01 Ky Derby-G1 L 126 12.80 94-06 FunnyCide12613 EmpireMaker126hd PeaceRules126hd Bmp start, stiff drive 16 12 Apr03-8 Aqu my 11/8 :471 1:11 1:354 1:483 110 4 21½ 21½ 21 2hd 2½ Santos J A Wood Mem-G1 L 123 5.20 92 – 12 Empire Maker 123½ Funny Cide 1237½ Kissin Saint 1231 Bumped after start 8 9Mar03-9FG fst 116 :232 :463 1:103 1:423 La Derby-G2 99 2 11 11½ 1½ 43½ 33¼ Santos J A 6.10 94-17 Peace Rules1222 Kafwain1221 Funny Cide122 Kafwain1221 K Came again rail 10 Awarded second purse money 18 Jan 03-10 GP fst 1 1 :232 :471 1:112 1:43 Holy Bull-G3 87 13 724 412 44 44 562 Santos J A 5.30 87-10 Offlee Wild116hd Powerful Touch1163 Bham11823 Hit gate, wide, tired 13 89 2 3½ 31 1hd 1½ 1nk Santos J A 103 5 4 1hd 1½ 18 19 Santos J A 96 12 6 3½ 11½ 110 114¾ Santos J A *.20 86-16 FunnyCid122nk SpitThDv/1153 GoRockn'Robn115812 Bumped start, driving 6 190ct02-5Bel fst 1 :232 :462 1:114 1:363 SSleepyHollow100k L 122 29Sep02-8Bel fst 7f :223 :454 1:102 1:224 SB F Bongard83k 2.95 89 - 18 FunnyCid1179 SpitThDvil1172 InfinitJustic122nk L 117 When asked, ridden out 10 SMd Sp Wt 43k 8Sep02-6Bel fst 6f :223 :462 :584 1:111 *2.25 82 – 18 Funny Cide 11914 High Pricd 11913 Polish Posh 11942 When asked, ridden out 12 L 119 WORKS: ● Jun3 Bel 5f fst: 574 B 1/47 ● May28 Bel 5f my: 592 B 1/12 ● May13 Bel 4f fst: 471 B 1/49 ● Apr29 Bel 5f fst: 582 B 1/24 Apr22 Bel 4f sly: 48 B (d) 1/1 ● Apr7 PmM 4f fst: 48 B 1/16 TRAINER: Dirt(154 .18 \$1.66) Routes(163 .11 \$1.10) GrdStk(16 .13 \$2.09)

5 Dynever	Dk. b or br c. 3 (Mar)		Life 4 3 1 0 \$454,020 101 D.Fst 4 3 1 0 \$454,020 101	
Own: Peter F Karches & Catherine Wills	Sire: Dynaformer (Roberto) \$50,000 Dam: Flamboyance(Zilzal)		2003 4 3 1 0 \$454,020 101 Wet(315*) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -	
Green Forest Green, White Dots, White Sleeves,	Br: Catherine Wills (Ky)		L 126 2002 0 M 0 0 \$0 - Turf(370) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -	
PRADO E S (94 17 16 11 .18) 2003:(628 106 .17)	Tr: Clement Christophe(17 5 4 3 .29) 2003:(140 31 .22)		Bel 0 0 0 0 \$0 - Dst(345) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -	
10May03-8LS fst 11/8 :472 1:113 1:373 1:502 LoneStarDby-	G3 98 4 84½ 64¼ 63¾ 52½ 11½ Prado E S	L 122	*.30 97 – 16 Dynever1221 Most Feared 1221 Commander's Affir 1221 Blocked 1/4 to 1/8 12	
5Apr03-11GP fst 1 :224 :462 1:113 1:43 Aventura 250k	101 3 77 77 77 3 2hd 13 Prado ES	L 122	*.90 94 - 10 <i>Dynever</i> 1223 Supah Blitz 1226 Massive 1221 5 wide, gamely 9	
8Mar03-4GP fst 170 :233 :473 1:11 1:401 Md Sp Wt 34k	94 6 21½ 21 1hd 11½ 18¼ Prado ES	L 122	*.70 100 - 04 Dynever1228 Stone Canyon1221 Tempered Steel1222 Rail trip, drew off 9	
8Feb03– 1GP fst 7f :224 :453 1:102 1:224 Md Sp Wt 34k	87 9 7 85½ 97¾ 46½ 21¾ Prado ES	122	22.20 92 – 08 Nacheezmo1221 Dynever1223 Stone Canyon1222 Awkward start, 4 wide 9	
WORKS: May31 Bel 4f fst :482 B 7/56 ● May25 Bel ⊕ 4f yl :482 B (d) 1/6 May2 Bel 4f fst :50 B 23/34 Apr21 Pay 4f fst :52 B 5/5 ● Mar29 Pay 4f fst :493 B 1/31 Mar21 Pay 4f fst :511 B 10/15				
TRAINER: Dirt(130 .20 \$1.30) Routes(415 .22 \$1.66) GrdStk(85 .16 \$1.29)				

4 2 4 0 0454,000 404

O Own: Reddam & Jarvis & Chisholm & Smole	Dk. b or br c. 3 (Feb) FTFFEB02 \$145,000 Sire: Deputy Commander (Deputy Minister) \$25,000 Dam: Wanted Again(Criminal Type) Br: Jim H Plemmons (Ky) Tr: Dollase Wallace (—) 2003:(47 13 .28)	Life 6 2 1 1 \$373,460 110 2003 5 2 0 1 \$364,860 110 L 126 2002 1 M 1 0 \$8,600 85 Bel 0 0 0 0 \$0 - Dst(260*) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -
3May03-40CD fst 11/4 :461 1:102 1:353 2:01 Ky Derby-G1	97 15 1210108 94 107 97 Day P L 126	6.60 86-06 FunnyCide12613 EmpireMker126hd PeceRules126hd Offslow,bmp,ck,no bid 16
5Apr03-8Haw fst 11/8 :463 1:113 1:382 1:512 IllinoisDby-G2	110 2 76½ 64½ 53½ 21½ 14 Day P L114	*2.30 99 – 19 TnMostWntd1144 FundOfFunds1148 Fouf's Wrrior1183 Lacked room 1/4 10
8Mar03-8GG fst 116 :223 :452 1:092 1:421 EICamnoRIDby	G3 92 2 2½ 31½ 43 42½ 31½ Day P LB 115	3.30 90 – 12 OcenTrrc1151½ MinistrsWildCt117no TnMostWntd1151 2w trip, no impact 10
7Feb03-7SA fst 11/8 :461 1:102 1:353 1:481 RSham81k	86 2 2½ 2½ 2hd 43½ 48½ Desormeaux KJ LB 116 b	7.40 84-11 MnAmongMen1201 EmpireMker1152 Spnsiv12051 Bmpd start, weakened 7
5Jan03–7SA fst 1 :222 :461 1:111 1:38 Md Sp Wt 50k	79 4 54 44 21 12 18 Desormeaux KJ LB 120 b	*.70 81 – 15 TenMostWnted1208 SntFeSlew1202 Chstr's Choic1202 3wd bid, led, clear 10
29Nov02-7Hol fst 1 : 23 : 471 1:113 1:441 Md Sp Wt 43k	85 1 66½ 52½ 32 21½ 21 Desormeaux KJ LB 120 b	14.40 81 – 24 Coax Kid1201 Ten Most Wanted1205 Brancusi120hd Chased,bid,2nd best 7
WORKS: Jun2 Hol 5f fst :593 H 3/19 May 27 Hol 7f fst 1:25 H 1/1 M	lay21 Hol 6f fst 1:132 H 3/9 May15 Ĥol 4f fst :483 H 21/36 Apr28 CD 5f fs	it :59 ² B <i>3/30</i> Apr23 CD 7f fst 1:25 ³ B <i>1/1</i>
TRAINER: 31-60Days(49 .20 \$1.18) Dirt(59 .31 \$2.57) Routes(122	.28 \$2.27) GrdStk(30 .27 \$1.70)	



Sam Rothstein Just Had Another Winning Weekend! *



Funny Cide

Secretariat; Count Fleet; Seattle Slew; Citation; Affirmed; Funny Cide is only 12 furlongs away from joining these and 6 other legends of the turf as Triple Crown Champions; standing in his way this afternoon will not only be his 5 rivals on the track, but the shadows of Spectacular Bid, Pleasant Colony, Alysheba, Sunday Silence, Silver Charm, Real Quiet, Charismatic, and War Emblem; those 8 paraded into New York on the cusp of immortality only to be stymied by 'The Test Of The Champion'; Funny Cide has already overcome many obstacles on his historic quest; he became the 1st NYbred, and 1st gelding since 1929 to wear the Roses, and he captured the Preakness after breaking from a very difficult outside post position; Funny Cide's greatest asset is his excellent tactical speed; in the Derby, he deftly avoided the crush of horses careening into the 1st turn, and settled snugly in the perfect tracking position; at Pimlico, he com-fortably perched outside the pacesetters before unleashing a devas-tating burst that left his rivals in the wake of his brilliance; neighsayers will note that Funny Cide has the annoying habit of changing back to his wrong lead in the stretch, and that his pedigree is ill-suited to the demanding Belmont distance; form cycle theorists will wonder if he is primed for a 'bounce' after 3 taxing races coupled with a pair of blister ing recent workouts; there's no denving his Bever superiority, or his affinity for this racing strip, however, and he projects for a great tracking trip just off probable pacesetter Scrimshaw; Funny Cide should get the jump on his competition, and figures to be prominently-placed when they turn for home; has a huge chance to snatch the Crown.

This lightly-raced colt may have the most visually impressive stretch kick of any 3yo; burst onto the scene with his Aventura tally; rallied wide in tandem with Supah Blitz that day, lost the lead in upper stretch, but roared home the final 1/8th of a mile to win as much the best; don't take much stock in his light Lone Star Derby Beyer as he only ran an 1/8th of a mile in that event; saved ground going into the 1st turn, and raced in and among horses on the backstretch before being hopelessly blocked at the 1/4 pole; undaunted, he exploded through a narrow seam to win going away; Prado ruined War Emblem's dreams of Triple Crown glory last year when he upset the apple cart aboard longshot Sarava: had some foot problems in the days leading up to the Belmont; trained in a bar shoe and one must wonder if his late charge will be affected by the injury, has plenty of upside potential, and acts like a runner that will relish this distance; should get enough pace to setup his rally; a very interesting contender, but demand mutuel value before taking the plunge at the win-

Ten Most Wanted

He was the 'Wise Guy's' darling in the Derby, but never threatened in a disappointing effort; was bumped hard at the start, and then was sandwiched a few strides out of the gate; raced 4 wide most of the way, and finished evenly without gaining on the top 3; reportedly had some back problems after the Derby, but shows solid workouts, and a repeat of that 110 Beyer earned against weaker in the Illinois Derby would put him in the hunt; looked good at Hawthorne as he ran up onto heels on the far turn, but was n't fazed in the least, and went on to post a decisive score; think his stout pedigree will allow him to handle the distance, and he does n't have to be too far off the lead (close to the pace in both the Sham and the El Camino Real Derby), capable of a decent stalking trip while in the clear about 6-8 lengths off the leaders before commencing his rally on the final turn: not out of this as a value play.

-Dan IIIman