

# 11 Saratoga

**1 1/4 MILES.** (2:00) 134th Running of the TRAVERS. Grade I. Purse \$1,000,000. (Up to \$72,000 NYSBFOA). THREE YEAR OLDS. By subscription of \$1,000 each, which should accompany the nomination; \$5,000 to pass the entry box, \$5,000 to start. Weights at 126 lbs. Closed Saturday, August 9th, 2003 with 18 Nominations.



## A CLOSER LOOK

### 11th Saratoga

#### Congrats

Shug came out Monday and said he was skipping this race with this guy - 'I just think he lacks a little seasoning...I think he's too nice a horse to be thrown to the wolves too quick...We'll take our time, put him in an allowance race and run him in that...' but lo and behold he's entered; of course, Shug has heard the rumors, too, about Empire Maker and entered to be safe - heck, what if 'Maker and 'Cide don't go? Shug has said this guy will not run if 'Maker runs; loved his Jim Dandy, though - it was a nice forward move and obviously this guy has talent and is headed the right way...and if it turns 'Maker doesn't go then heck, this guy could be well situated to spring a surprise; food for thought.

#### Strong Hope

You gotta love his progression; after losing his debut he's rattled off 5 straight, and has done so nicely despite stepping up in class AND in distance; sure, it looked as though 'Maker was getting to him late in the Jim Dandy, but we all thought this guy didn't want to go beyond 7fs, then that he didn't want more than a mile, than that he didn't want more than 1 1/16 miles, and now that 9fs is his limit; well, eventually we're going to be right, but this is an enormously talented horse with speed who keeps on keepin' on; maybe that ascension keeps going here...but you're havin' a harder time believing it for this case, aren't you? due ample respect.

#### Peace Rules

Coupled with Empire Maker and with Bailey named on both only one will go; Frankel has said this guy is entered as a precaution just in case 'Maker doesn't go; and this guy is a star in his own right - he's no doubt one of the 3 or 4 best 3yos in the country; G1 Haskell win was a smasher - took control early and just kept going; likely stalks Strong Hope here but he's shown he can do that, too, and strong works since the Haskell say he's retained his edge; huge threat if he's the one Frankel ends up saddling.

#### Ten Most Wanted

The Swaps was a goofy race; he was well back off a dawdling pace, which was bad enough, but a big sweeping move appeared to send him on his way to a romping win; then, trouble hit according to trainer Dollase - 'He lost his composure in the Swaps, but Pat Day gave me a simple explanation...Pat said, He threw his ears up and started loafing when he got the lead...When the horses came back to him, he started up again, but was a head too late...' because of those antics now the blinks go on and by all reports he's responded big time in the a.m.; remember, it was the poor Derby which was the fluke, not that huge Belmont run, and a repeat of that, tacked on to more maturity and maybe more focus with the blinks make him scary, scary, scary.

#### Coupled - Peace Rules and Empire Maker

### 2 Congrats

Own: Claiborne Farm & Dilschneider Adele  
White Confederate Gray, Royal Blue Cross  
LUZZI M J (92 8 9 11 .09) 2003: (806 114 .14)

3Aug03-9Sar fst 1 1/8	.47	1:10 3/4	1:35	1:48	Jim Dandy-G2
10Jly03-8Bel fst 1 1/8	.23	.46	1:10 3/4	1:42 3/4	Alw 48000N3L
7Jun03-4Bel gd 1	.22	.45	1:09 1/2	1:35 3/4	Alw 48000N2X
3May03-4Acu fst 7f	.23	.46	1:10 1/4	1:22 3/4	Alw 43000N1X
7Sep02-4Bel fst 7f	.22	.45	1:10 1/2	1:23	Alw 47000N1X
27Jly02-3Sar fst 6 1/2	.21	.45	1:11 1/4	1:17 3/4	Mid Sp Wt 45k

WORKS: Aug16 Sar tr.t 5f fst 1:02 3/4 B 8/10 Jly28 Sar tr.t 4f fst :48 B 2/15 Jly19 Bel 4f my :49 2/15 Jly3 Bel 5f fst 1:00 2/15 Jun29 Bel 5f fst 1:02 4/8 B 8/13 Jun24 Bel 4f fst :49 B 8/153

TRAINER: 1stBlink(24 .29 \$1.60) Dirt(372 .19 \$1.30) Routes(318 .19 \$1.43) GrdStk(69 .13 \$1.08)

B. c. 3 (Mar)  
Sire: A.P. Indy (Seattle Slew) \$300,000  
Dam: Praise (Mr. Prospector)  
Br: Claiborne Farm & Adele Dilschneider (KY)  
Tr: McLaughy Claude III(22 3 5 5 .14) 2003:(172 32 .19)

Blinkers ON	Life	6	3	0	2	\$144,650	105	D.Fst	5	3	0	2	\$141,770	105
	2003	4	2	0	1	\$112,480	105	Wet(435)	1	0	0	0	\$2,880	86
L 126	2002	2	1	0	1	\$32,170	86	Turf(305)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
	Sar	2	1	0	1	\$82,000	105	Dst(385)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-

### 3 Strong Hope

Own: Melnyk Eugene & Laura  
Blue Midnight Blue, Gold Emblem, Gold Sleeves  
VELAZQUEZ JR (153 45 16 23 .29) 2003:(863 216 .25)

3Aug03-9Sar fst 1 1/8	.47	1:10 3/4	1:35	1:48	Jim Dandy-G2
6Jly03-10Bel fst 1 1/8	.23	.45	1:10 3/4	1:41 3/4	Dwyer-G2
7Jun03-4Bel gd 1	.22	.45	1:09 1/2	1:35 3/4	Alw 48000N2X
14May03-9Bel fst 1	.23	.46	1:11 1/4	1:36 3/4	Alw 46000N1X
12Apr03-4Acu sly 7f	.22	.45	1:09 1/2	1:22 3/4	Mid Sp Wt 41k
8Mar03-8GP fst 6f	.22	.44	.56	1:08 3/4	Mid Sp Wt 34k

WORKS: Aug16 Sar 5f fst 1:01 2/4 B 24/47 Jly27 Sar 5f fst 1:00 2/4 B 7/52 Jly21 Bel 5f fst 1:03 2/4 B 13/17 Jun30 Bel 5f fst 1:02 B 18/34 Jun24 Bel 5f fst :58 2/8 B 8/3 May31 Bel 6f fst 1:13 B 2/5

TRAINER: Dirt(847 .24 \$1.69) Routes(731 .20 \$1.53) GrdStk(168 .20 \$2.15)

B. c. 3 (Feb) FTSAUG01 \$1,700,000  
Sire: Grand Slam (Gone West) \$25,000  
Dam: Shining Through (Deputy Minister)  
Br: Trackside Farm GA Seelbinder & Liberation Farm (Ky)  
Tr: Pletcher Todd A(88 30 7 14 .34) 2003:(529 135 .26)

Blinkers ON	Life	6	5	0	0	\$472,360	110	D.Fst	4	3	0	0	\$418,960	110
	2003	6	5	0	0	\$472,360	110	Wet(350)	2	2	0	0	\$53,400	100
L 126	2002	0	M	0	0	\$0	-	Turf(410*)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
	Sar	1	1	0	0	\$300,000	110	Dst(359)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-

### 1 Peace Rules

Own: Gann Edmund A  
Red Red, Blue Circle, White Eg, White  
BAILEY JD (113 32 24 16 .28) 2003:(554 147 .27)

3Aug03-11Mth fst 1 1/8	.47	1:10 1/4	1:36	1:49 1/4	HaskellInvH-G1
17May03-12Pim gd 1 1/8	.47	1:11 3/4	1:36 1/2	1:55 3/4	Preakness-G1
3May03-10CD fst 1 1/4	.46	1:10 1/2	1:35 3/4	2:01	Ky Derby-G1
12Apr03-9Kee fst 1 1/8	.47	1:11 1/4	1:37 1/4	1:51 3/4	Blue Grass-G1
9Mar03-9FG fst 1 1/8	.23	.46	1:10 3/4	1:42 3/4	La Derby-G2
28Dec02-3SA fm 1	.23	.46	1:10 1/2	1:35 1/2	Hill Rise76k
30Nov02-6Hol fm 1	.23	.46	1:10 1/4	1:35 1/2	Generous-G3
24Oct02-7SA fm 1	.23	.46	1:11 1/4	1:34 3/4	Pinjara52k

Previously trained by Contessa Gary C

25Sep02-6Bel fm 1	.22	.46	1:10 3/4	1:34 1/4	Mid Sp Wt 46k
24Aug02-4Sar sly 6 1/2	.22	.45	1:11 1/4	1:18 1/2	Mid Sp Wt 45k
31Jly02-6Sar fst 5f	.22	.45	.58	1:11 1/4	Mid Sp Wt 45k

WORKS: Aug16 Sar 4f fst :47 1/8 B 4/42 Jly26 Sar 5f fst 1:00 B 7/75 Jly16 Bel 6f fst 1:12 B 1/2 Jly10 Bel 4f fst :48 B 1/36 Jly3 Bel 4f fst :45 3/8 B 1/23 Jun25 Bel 4f fst :45 2/8 B 1/73

TRAINER: Dirt(219 .32 \$2.03) Routes(597 .27 \$1.93) GrdStk(270 .30 \$2.06)

Ch. c. 3 (Apr) OBSMAR02 \$35,000  
Sire: Jules (Foxy Niner) \$6,000  
Dam: Hold to Fashion (Hold Your Peace)  
Br: Newchance Farm (Fla)  
Tr: Frankel Robert(20 6 5 4 .30) 2003:(257 84 .33)

Blinkers ON	Life	11	6	1	2	\$1,859,990	111	D.Fst	5	3	0	2	\$1,604,950	111
	2003	5	3	0	1	\$1,650,000	111	Wet(360*)	2	0	0	0	\$51,350	98
L 126	2002	6	3	1	1	\$209,990	102	Turf(235*)	4	3	1	0	\$203,690	102
	Sar	2	0	0	1	\$6,300	81	Dst(274)	2	0	0	1	\$135,000	106

### 4 Ten Most Wanted

Own: J Paul Reddam Michael Jarvis James C  
White Purple Hoop Purple Sleeves  
DAY P (81 12 12 13 .15) 2003:(687 132 .19)

13Jly03-6Hol fst 1 1/8	.48	1:11 3/4	1:36 1/2	1:49 1/4	Swaps-G2
7Jun03-11Bel sly 1 1/2	.48	1:13 1/2	2:02 3/4	2:28 1/4	Belmont-G1
3May03-10CD fst 1 1/4	.46	1:10 1/2	1:35 3/4	2:01	Ky Derby-G1
5Apr03-8Haw fst 1 1/8	.46	1:11 3/4	1:38 1/2	1:51 1/2	IllinoisDby-G2
8Mar03-8GC fst 1 1/8	.22	.45	1:09 1/2	1:42 1/4	ElCaminoRIDbyG3
7Feb03-7SA fst 1 1/8	.46	1:10 1/2	1:35 3/4	1:48 1/4	Sham81k
5Jan03-7SA fst 1	.22	.46	1:11 1/4	1:38	Mid Sp Wt 50k
29Nov02-7Hol fst 1 1/8	.23	.47	1:11 3/4	1:44 1/4	Mid Sp Wt 43k

WORKS: Aug16 SA 6f fst 1:13 H 2/8 Aug9 SA 6f fst 1:12 3/8 H 1/5 Aug3 SA 5f fst :59 2/8 H 1/13 Jly27 SA 4f fst :47 4/8 H 1/24 Jly9 Hol 4f fst :48 3/8 H 3/17 Jly3 Hol 6f fst 1:14 H 1/10

TRAINER: BlinkOn(13 .08 \$0.52) 31-60Days(60 .20 \$1.14) Dirt(72 .26 \$2.14) Routes(139 .26 \$2.07) GrdStk(38 .24 \$1.42)

Blinkers ON	Life	8	2	3	1	\$653,460	110	D.Fst	7	2	2	1	\$453,460	110
	2003	7	2	2	1	\$644,860	110	Wet(180*)	1	0	1	0	\$200,000	109
L 126	2002	1	M	1	0	\$8,600	85	Turf(260*)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
	Sar	0	0	0	0	\$0	-	Dst(260*)	1	0	0	0	\$0	98

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John Piesen, New York's most honored selector, former handicapper NY Post ('81-'91), and only man to pick winners 207 days in a row as documented in the racing press.

Continued on Following Page

1a Empire Maker

Ow: Juddmonte Farms Inc
Green, Pink Sash, White Sleeves, Pink



Dk. b or br c. 3 (Apr)
Sire: Unbridled (Fappiano)
Dam: Toussaud (El Gran Senor)
Br: Juddmonte Farms Inc (Ky)
Tr: Frankel Robert(20 6 5 4 .30) 2003:(257 84 .33)

BAILEY J D (113 32 24 16 28) 2003:(554 147 27)

Table with race results for Empire Maker, including dates, times, and names of horses and drivers.

WORKS: Aug16 Sar 6f fst 1:12 3/16 Jly26 Sar 6f fst 1:12 B 1/11 Jly16 Bel 6f fst 1:14 2/2 Jly9 Bel 4f fst :51 B 29/36
TRAINER: Dirt(129 .32 \$2.03) Routes(597 27 \$1.93) GrdStk(270 .30 \$2.06)

Table with columns Life, 8, 4, 3, 1, \$1,985,800, 111

Table with columns D.Fst, 6, 2, 3, 1, \$935,800, 110

L 126

Table with columns Life, 4, 3, 0, 0, \$298,480, 101

Table with columns D.Fst, 3, 2, 0, 0, \$271,225, 101

L 126

Table with columns Life, 4, 3, 0, 0, \$298,480, 101

Table with columns D.Fst, 3, 2, 0, 0, \$271,225, 101

5 Wild And Wicked

Ow: Mr. & Mrs. Robert David Randal
Brown, Light Blue Diamond Frame And 'r'



Dk. b or br c. 3 (Jan)
Sire: Wild Again (Iccapade) \$50,000
Dam: Wicked Witchcraft (Good Behavior)
Br: Mr & Mrs Robert David Randal (Ky)
Tr: McPeck Kenneth G(11 3 1 0 .27) 2003:(245 35 .14)

SELLERS S J (51 6 2 5 .12) 2003:(728 123 .17)

Table with race results for Wild And Wicked, including dates, times, and names of horses and drivers.

WORKS: Aug20 Sar 3f fst :35 2/15 Aug14 Sar 4f sly :48 1/11 Jly29 Sar 4f fst :48 B 1/19 Jly23 Sar 5f sly :59 2/11 H(d) 1/10
TRAINER: 1stLasix(91 .13 \$1.24) Dirt(559 .17 \$1.69) Routes(375 .19 \$2.00) GrdStk(67 .22 \$3.18)

Table with columns Life, 10, 5, 2, 2, \$2,099,385, 114

Table with columns D.Fst, 7, 4, 1, 1, \$1,189,385, 109

L 126

Table with columns Life, 7, 2, 2, 2, \$1,963,200, 114

Table with columns D.Fst, 3, 1, 1, 1, \$910,000, 114

6 Funny Cide

Ow: Sackatoga Stable
Maroon/silver Diamonds, Silver



Ch. g. 3 (Apr) SARAUG01 \$22,000
Sire: Distorted Humor (Forty Niner) \$20,000
Dam: Belle's Good Cide (Slewacide)
Br: Win Star Farm LLC (NY)
Tr: Tagg Barclay(19 2 5 1 .11) 2003:(108 11 .10)

SANTOS J A (94 11 16 16 .12) 2003:(850 130 .15)

Table with race results for Funny Cide, including dates, times, and names of horses and drivers.

WORKS: Aug19 Sar 4f fst :47 4/18 Jly27 Sar 6f fst 1:12 2/4 Jly21 Bel 6f fst 1:12 4/1 Jly15 Bel 5f fst :58 3/120
TRAINER: Dirt(178 .17 \$1.59) Routes(197 .10 \$1.00) GrdStk(25 .12 \$2.08)

Table with columns Life, 5, 3, 1, 1, \$633,076, 108

Table with columns D.Fst, 4, 2, 1, 1, \$606,076, 108

L 126

Table with columns Life, 2, 0, 1, 1, \$216,500, 108

Table with columns D.Fst, 1, 1, 0, 0, \$27,000, 92

7 Sky Mesa

Ow: Oxley John C
Light Blue And Gold Blocks, Gold Sleeves



B. c. 3 (Jan) KEESEP01 \$750,000
Sire: Pulpit (A.P. Indy) \$60,000
Dam: Caress(Storm Cat)
Br: Harbor View Farm (Ky)
Tr: Ward John T Jr(4 1 0 1 .25) 2003:(52 9 .17)

PRADO E S (154 26 26 21 .17) 2003:(1013 183 .18)

Table with race results for Sky Mesa, including dates, times, and names of horses and drivers.

WORKS: Aug15 Sar 5f fst 1:01 1/36 Jly26 Sar 5f fst :59 4/5 Jly14 Bel 5f fst :59 4/130 Jun30 Bel 5f fst 1:02 1/21 Jun24 Bel 5f fst :59 H 8/83 Jun16 Bel 6f fst 1:14 1/410
TRAINER: Dirt(126 .21 \$1.48) Routes(71 .21 \$2.19) GrdStk(43 .19 \$2.39)

Table with columns Life, 3, 3, 0, 0, \$416,576, 103

Table with columns D.Fst, 0, 0, 0, 0, \$0, -

Empire Maker

Coupled with Peace Rules and with Bailey named on both only one will go; Frankel confirmed Wed. that this guy has caught and had a 'tiny bit' of mucus in his lungs following a strong work Sat.; then on Thursday came word he's doubtful, that he didn't clean up his feed tub; Frankel - 'It doesn't look like he will run...'; can't blame Frankel for taking the cautious approach, and the good news is if he shows up it means he's feeling well and in Frankel's eyes ready to go - but it would still mean he's running right after some kind of setback and you saw what happened in the Derby when things didn't go 100% beforehand; tricky read.

Wild and Wicked

Seemingly got exposed in the Haskell; went into it a hot horse unbeaten and virtually untested, but he never really got close to Peace Rules, and in fact never got close to runner-up Sky Mesa; trainer McPeck still believes and says the horse deserves another shot at the biggies - 'I don't believe he ran his best race (in the Haskell)...Maybe it was the heat. Maybe it was the shipping. But like I said, we want to give him a chance...'; at least those who still believe will get a nice number and visually his Ohio Derby win was about as nice as anything we've seen from any other 3yo; but are these guys simply too much for him at this stage of the game? iffy.

Funny Cide

There have been rumors about Empire Maker but there's been even more rumblings about this guy not making it; after his Haskell dud he spiked a fever, and even after a good work Tuesday trainer Tagg said this guy is still unlikely to run, that he entered in case 'Maker came out and the race fell apart; but from the sounds of it things don't sound like all systems go here according to Tagg - 'I'm not real keen on running this horse in a hard race in the hot weather at this time of year...He's had a very, very tough campaign...'; that doesn't sound like the same guy who was tubthumping for 'Cide before the Preakness; so which guy do we get? tough call, very much like Empire Maker.

Sky Mesa

Unbeaten 2yo, with all the promise in the world, but he missed last year's BC and was eventually off 9 months due to ankle and foot ailments; return run in the Dwyer was OK, but his Haskell was terrific and now he appears to be coming into his own and ready for such an assignment; you know the talent is there and he's already shown he loves this place; was cutting into 'Rules's lead nicely in the Haskell, though he never really threatened him; beat Funny Cide by a mile and there's as much reason to believe this guy can move forward as there is with anyone else in the race; attractive.

-Michael Hammersly

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