



Team Valor International

MONDAY MORNING MEMO



HOWE GREAT managers breathed a sigh of relief when winning Kentucky Derby trainer Shug McGaughey revealed that Point of Entry, who was scratched because of soft turf from a duel with Horse of the Year Wise Dan at Churchill Downs on Derby day, would skip the Preakness day renewal of the \$300k Dixie Stakes in favor of the Manhattan Handicap at Belmont Park. Howie could go favored at Pimlico.

INFINITE MAGIC turned in another very nice drill over the weekend for Saturday's Grade 2 Peter Pan Stakes at Belmont Park. He was officially timed going 4 furlongs in :48.55 (10/48), but interim trainer Bobby Ribaud sent him 5 furlongs in 1:01. No goose bumps, but a typical sober move by the colt.

AK BROODMARES syndicated by Team Valor for next year's North American season increased from the 3 in the AK North-South Broodmare LLC to 5 with the addition of 2 more mares offered over the weekend to AK partners in the AK Brazilian Mares LLC. The final group of mares being bought for AK are comprised of the Kentucky-bred dam of Keeneland and Santa Anita Grade 2 winner Great Hot and the dam of a two-time Grade 1 winner in Brazil. Both mares are 10 and will be in Kentucky this year.

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created a commemorative envelope for Animal Kingdom thanks to some promotional assistance from AK partner Norton Herrick. Partners can order them from Amy Collingsworth (amy@teamvalor.com) for a discounted rate of \$6, a \$4 savings from the retail price at the post office. No wonder they are going broke! Barry Irwin and Norton Herrick were on site for the unveiling of the attractive envelope that is part of the USPS's historic series that also features Barbaro.



LEGENDA AUREA beat only 2 home as a longshot yesterday in the hottest Group 3 prep for the Classic German One Thousand Guineas, but was beaten less than 4 length after getting the lead in the home stretch. Peter Schiergen thinks his son Dennis moved too soon on the recent maiden winner.

TRIPLE THREAT remains the 7.5 to 1 third choice for the June 2 French Derby, even though his unbeaten stablemate and paternal half-brother Ocovango remained the co-favorite after winning the Group 3 Prix Greffulhe to very mixed reviews. The Monsun colt won by a half-length in a performance that appears to have disappointed his handlers, if not those writing the hype about him. Triple Threat runs next week in the Group 3 Prix de Guiche. Barry Irwin is thinking of making the trip to Chantilly.



CERRO will point for a \$100,000 dirt race going a mile and an eighth on June 1 at Pimlico. Photo this a. m. at F. H.

SHE'S A PIPPA and **HIGHLY DECORATED** are both ready for their respective debuts this season at 2 in South Africa, says Jono Snaith. "She's a Pippa has improved by leaps and bounds," he said. "She is small but fast and tough. We didn't like her at first, but now she has captured our imaginations. Highly Decorated has been impressive from day one and we expect her to be a black-type filly."

FIRST CORNERSTONE will face the 4 to 1 favorite for the English Derby on Sunday in Dublin at Leopardstown in the Group 2 Derrinstown Stud Trial in Ballydoyle's Battle of Marengo, who won his debut last month in the Ballysax Stakes. Second choice in the "Darby" is Dawn Approach, who Saturday demolished his field over a mile in the Classic Two Thousand Guineas at Newmarket.

COLONEL HARLAN returns Friday at Churchill Downs, going from Keeneland's Polytrack to the main dirt track in Louisville. The homebred Visionaire will benefit from his outing, in which he flashed high speed for about a quarter, then tamely folded up his tend, as a result of a missed pre-race workout. Interim trainer Kellyn Gorder expects considerable improvement with the benefit of a race for the colt. The colt more than likely will be sent to Team Valor International's Rick Mettee at Fair Hill afterwards.

BARRY IRWIN apparently proved to be a hit when he spoke in front of 185 lawyers last week at Keeneland. "It was great because none of these people had heard any of my jokes before, unlike Kathleen and Team Valor's staff!"

AGRA will most likely return for her next start Saturday in South Africa, where she has been training just "okay."

GAYNOR RUPERT was a guest of Barry Irwin his box at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Derby day after they were rained out of their own box for several hours. "We had a nice visit," Irwin said. "Such a great lady!"



THE BROTHERS WAR will be entered this week for the Group 3 Jersey Stakes to be renewed over 7 furlongs on the second day (Wednesday) of the Royal Ascot meeting on June 19 in England. The colt will run in the colors of Team Valor International and in the names of TVI and breeder Joe Allen.

FLEAFLIT DRYER was fully syndicated after a drawing was held last week at Team Valor's offices in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. Four names were drawn on also-eligible list in case any of the newcomers get cold feet! The Harlan's Holiday colt will be sent for breaking in August and start training afterwards.