



MONDAY REPORT

A weekly report from the National Steeplechase Association

Monday, September 2, 2019

Teodoro romps in Saratoga '19 finale

Rosbrian Farm's Teodoro jumped out to a huge lead in Saratoga Race Course's \$65,000 allowance hurdle and maintained that gaping lead to the finish line for a 33¼-length victory on Aug. 28.

Armata Stables' Zanzi Win, making his second U.S. start, rolled into second early in Saratoga's stretch and finished second, 5 1/4 lengths ahead of Eve Ledyard's Go Get the Basil. Lee Potoik's Roller Rolls On finished fourth, and Hepcat was fifth.

Saratoga's bettors correctly forecast that Teodoro would sprint away from his competitors and made him the 3-to-2 favorite. The five-year-old by prominent Irish stallion Teofilo paid \$3.50 to win after running the allowance hurdle's 2 3/8 miles in 4:29.25 on firm turf.

Both of the top finishers are trained by Ricky Hendriks. Ross Geraghty rode Teodoro, and Mark Mitchell was astride Zanzi Win.

From his first start in the U.S., Teodoro has played only one game, and that has been on the front end. He jumped out to a big lead in a Middleburg Spring maiden hurdle in April, but his erratic jumping was giving fits to Geraghty, and he was caught in the stretch by the promising Sportswear, who won by 2¼ lengths over second finisher Teodoro.

In his next outing, at the Fair Hill Races on May 25, Hendriks and Geraghty had solved most of the jumping issues, and Teodoro won by 14 lengths.

Possessing superior speed for his Saratoga start, Teodoro encountered no opposition as he



Tod Marks

Rosbrian Farm's Teodoro jumped a fence early in his allowance victory under Ross Geraghty.

hurtled to a commanding lead around the far turn the first time, although owner-trainer Jonathan Sheppard's Hepcat, ridden by Gerard Galligan, attempted to stay in touch with the leader.

Go Get the Basil, trained by Sheppard and ridden by Jack Doyle, was in third position for much of the trip, with Zanzi Win and Mitchell a short distance behind them in the field of seven.

After they jumped the last fence, located at the end of Saratoga's backstretch, Geraghty took a quick look back and, seeing no one close,

allowed Teodoro to gallop to the finish line. Still, he was drawing farther away from his opponents.

He led by 18 lengths at the last fence and by 30 at the furlong pole before increasing that margin to the finish line.

Mitchell asked Zanzi Win to make his move on the final turn, and they overtook first Go Get the Basil and then Hepcat in early stretch before drawing clear from the remainder of the field.

The allowance hurdle concluded Saratoga's steeplechase racing for the 2019 season. After New York Racing Association racing moves south to Belmont Park after Labor Day, steeplechase racing will be featured Sept. 18 and 19 with the \$75,000 William Entenmann Memorial Novice Hurdle and the \$150,000 Lonesome Glory Handicap (Gr. 1), respectively.

Fisher crosses million-dollar mark

Jack Fisher, all but assured his eighth straight National Steeplechase Association trainer championship by wins, crossed the \$1-million mark in purses for the fifth time in Colonial Downs' first race, a \$30,000 maiden hurdle, on Aug. 30.

Gill Johnston's Knockholt, favored at 9-to-5, just lasted to win by a nose over Ballybristol Farm's Silver Crescent, who went past the winner just past the finish line. Wimborne Farm's Drillicant finished third in a field of nine.

Sent to the starter as the 9-to-5 favorite, Knockholt was ridden by Willie McCarthy and paid \$5.60 to win after running the maiden hurdle's 2¼ miles in 4:08.82 on a firm Secretariat Turf Course.

Knockholt was Fisher's only starter on the Colonial card, and the \$18,000 first-place purse raised his total earnings to \$1,003,800.

The evening's \$20,000 ratings handicap for horses rated at 110 or lower went to Jonathan Sheppard, the only trainer ahead of Fisher on the all-time earnings list, when Taking The Lead Stable's Lead Investor scored a 2½-length victory under Gerard Galligan.

Leipers Fork Steeplechasers' Querry Horse came back on six days rest from a second in a Colonial ratings handicap to finish second again under Doyle. Morning Star Farm's Shoreline finished third, a length farther back, in a field of seven.

On the inside

Three stakes winners are the high-weights for Colonial Downs' Randolph D. Rose Handicap.....2

Go Jump Racing!





Looking ahead

Three stakes winners top Rouse weights

Three stakes winners—Bercasa, Sarah Joyce, and Wigwam Bay—have been assigned the 155-pound highweight for Colonial Downs’ \$50,000 Randolph D. Rouse Handicap for fillies and mares on Saturday.

Fields will be drawn tomorrow for the final program of the reborn Colonial Downs meet near Richmond, Va. Also on the program is a \$30 maiden hurdle. With the windup of the five-week Colonial meet, 10 jump races will have been run on its spacious Secretariat Turf Course.

The 2¼-mile race honors the memory of Virginia horseman Randy Rouse, who was awarded the National Steeplechase Association’s F. Ambrose Clark Award for lifetime achievement in 2016 and died the following year at the age of 100.

Bercasa is a new member of Irv Naylor’s stable and would be making her first U.S. start for trainer Kathy Neilson. A four-year-old, she earned her stakes victory in Galway’s Tote Account European Breeders Fund Hurdle, which she won by 3½ lengths under top Irish jockey Danny Mullins on July 31.

The Fields Stable’s Sarah Joyce is the most experienced competitor among 13 nominees. The seven-year-old mare won back-to-back editions of the Iroquois Steeplechase’s Margaret Currey Henley Stakes in 2017 and 2018, and she finished third this year for trainer Elizabeth Voss.

She most recently finished second in the Fair Hill Races’ Iris Coggins Memorial Stakes.

Owner-trainer Jonathan Sheppard’s Wigwam Baby won the 2018 edition of the Henley by 1¼ lengths. She most recently lost her rider when she landed awkwardly in Saratoga Race Course’s Mrs. Ogden Phipps Stakes on Aug. 7.

Get Ready Set Goes and Market Alley were assigned the second highweight at 151 pounds. Owner-trainer F. Hill Parker’s Get Ready Set Goes, the novice and female champion in 2016, would be making her first start of the year. She finished fourth in the 2018 Henley.



Tod Marks

Owner-trainer Jonathan Sheppard’s Wigwam Baby cleared the last fence in her Margaret Currey Henley Stakes victory at the Iroquois Steeplechase.

Beverly Steinman’s Market Alley won the Mrs. Ogden Phipps by ¾ lengths over Joseph Fowler’s Down Royal, a Rouse nominee assigned 147 pounds. Doug Fout trains the homebred Market Alley, and Kate Dalton trains Down Royal.

Sharing the 147-pound assignment with Down Royal is owner-trainer Bethany Baumgardner’s Mavourneen, who finished third in the Coggins, nearly 10 lengths behind Sarah Joyce.

Among the five horses at 143 pounds is Rivardee Stable’s Snowie Hill, a full sister to Get Ready Set Goes. Bred and trained by Parker, she won a Colonial Downs maiden hurdle on Aug. 17.

Also at the 143-pound plateau are Miss Steinman’s Bullet Star, who finished third in the Mrs. Phipps for Fout, and KMSN’s Inverness, who was second for trainer Keri Brion in the Aug. 17 maiden hurdle at Colonial Downs.

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