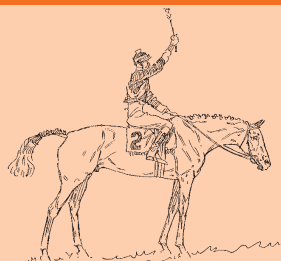


Maryland Horse

February 2010

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Frank and Ginny Wright retire from farm life

Huntingfields farm, the showplace 340-acre Thoroughbred establishment in Hampstead, Md., that Frank and Virginia (Ginny) Wright operated for more than 40 years, has been consigned to history.

The Wrights—he is 84, she is 78—sold the property and on December 1 moved to Brightwood retirement community in Lutherville.

“The decision was made on our own,” said Frank Wright. “We thought it was time, given our age.”

Breeders of numerous stakes winners, including stellar race mare and graded producer Blue Sky Princess, the Wrights have one child, daughter Liz Holman, who happens to be allergic to horses.

Carrying on Huntingfields was not an option for Holman, a former executive vice-president of Susquehanna Bank who is now retired and living in York, Pa.

Huntingfields was sold privately to Robert Tracey, who owns several farms in the area and plans to use the acreage for crops.

The Wrights' farm manager, Chuck Harris, whom Frank Wright described as “like a son” to them, will continue to live on the property with his wife, Jody, and four children,



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

and will oversee the operation for the new owner.

Meanwhile, the Wrights intend to keep up an active involvement in racing and breeding.

They currently have eight horses with Bowie-based trainer Chris Grove. The most promising member of their racing string is Morumsco, a second-generation homebred 3-year-old Not For Love colt (out of Rich Legacy, by Polish Numbers) who has won

or placed in three of his five starts.

Blue Sky Princess (by Conquistador Cielo), in foal to Bluegrass Cat, is one of four broodmares whom the Wrights have retained; all of them are boarded at Columbianna Farm in Paris, Ky., an establishment managed by former Huntingfields manager Homer Rader.

Four 2-year-olds and two yearlings are in various stages of training in South Carolina,

with the goal of joining the Wrights' racing stable.

Frank Wright will also stay involved as a current member of the boards of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and Maryland Million Ltd.

Wright retired many years ago from his career as owner of York Truck Rental Inc. and regional vice-president of Avis Truck Rental, and along with his wife devoted much of his time and attention to oversee-

ing the breeding and racing operation.

Ironically, the couple celebrated their best racing success with Valay Maid, a filly born and raised at Huntingfields but not bred by the Wrights. From the first crop of Maryland sire Carnivalay, Valay Maid was born from a mare (Nancy's Scout, by West Coast Scout) owned by their then farm manager Joe Hamilton and his wife.

Valay Maid went through the ring as a weanling at the 1987 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December Mixed sale, where the Wrights purchased her for \$5,200. Ultimately she won seven stakes, including the Grade 2 Molly Pitcher and Cotillion Handicaps; among her six stakes placings was a third-place finish in the 1990 Breeders' Cup Distaff-G1, the year in which she was voted champion Maryland-bred 3-year-old filly. Her earnings totaled \$641,442.

Homebred stakes winners included Trump Mahal (\$405,495, Maryland Million Turf, etc.), Blue Sky Princess's son Inner Harbour (\$350,936), who stood several seasons at stud in West Virginia while

still owned by the Wrights; and Valay Maid's grandson Yankee Wildcat (\$270,138), who won back-to-back runnings of the Mister Diz Stakes at ages 6 and 7.

"Horses have been, and still are, our passion," said Ginny Wright, who was raised on a working farm in Baltimore County, and once dreamed of a pristine life in suburbia. Crowned farm queen at the Maryland State Fair in 1948, she accepted the title reluctantly.

"I promised the good Lord that if I ever got off that farm, I never, ever wanted to live on another one," she recalled. Today, she looks back on Huntingfields as her great pride and joy. 🐾

Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference

The eighth annual Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference will be held March 24 and 25 at the Crowne Plaza-Baltimore in Timonium.

Local, national and international nutritionists will share research being conducted at universities, in industry and at government institutions. The equine session will include presentations on both days, with the schedule as follows:

Wednesday, March 24

"Equine metabolic syndrome and laminitis associated with carbohydrate nutrition," Dr. Ray Geor, Michigan State University.

"Divergent immune development in foals and implications for susceptibility to disease," Dr. David Horohov, University of Kentucky.

"Growing a structurally sound equine athlete," Dr. Randy Raub, Purina Feeds.

Thursday, March 25

"The latest information on feeding mares and foals and effects on skeletal development," Dr. Burt Staniar, Penn State University.

"Broodmare nutrition: conception, gestation and lactation," Dr. Tania Cubitt, Performance Horse Nutrition, LLC.

"Feeding and nutritional support of the sick horse," Dr. Iveta Becvarova, VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

"Feeding tips for the newborn foal: the healthy, the sick and the orphaned," Dr. Wendy Vaala, Intervet Pharmaceuticals.

"Drug-resistant parasites: a practical approach to a growing problem," Dr. Wendy Vaala, Intervet Pharmaceuticals.

"HYPP and its nutritional management," Dr. Tom Lenz.

"Herbicides in manure: how does it get there and why should I care?" Jeanine Davis, North Carolina State University.

Presentations are designed for veterinarians, trainers, breeders and owners. All attendees will receive conference proceedings, lunch and the opportunity to ask questions of all of the experts. While registration will be accepted at the door, those interested in attending are encouraged to submit their registration before March 15 to avoid late fees.

The conference is a regional event hosted by the Maryland Feed Industry Council, University of Maryland, Pennsylvania State University, University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School, University of Delaware, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Rutgers University, West Virginia University, American Feed Industry Association and United States Department of Agriculture.

For more information visit www.manc.umd.edu. 🐾

Steele elected second vice-president of Maryland Farm Bureau

Jim Steele, a current director and former president of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association, has been elected second vice-president of the Maryland Farm Bureau.

A private, non-profit membership organization, the Maryland Farm Bureau, with a membership of approxi-

mately 33,000, advocates for the state's farming community in various capacities.

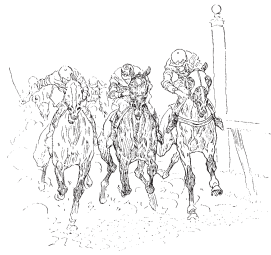
Steele, the longtime manager of the Rooney family's Shamrock Farm in Woodbine, said he will work to ensure that the horse industry continues to have a strong voice within the Farm Bureau. 🐾

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN



Get the latest, most up-to-date news about Maryland breeding and racing at marylandthoroughbred.com.

Posted on our Web site the first of the week and often updated throughout the week. Send your e-mail address to awarner@marylandthoroughbred.com and we will notify you as soon as the latest edition is posted!



MARYLAND FUND STAKES RECAPS



JIM MCCUE

Our Commander



Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes

\$50,000-guaranteed, 7½ fur., registered Maryland-bred 2-year-olds. Laurel Park, Dec. 12.

Ch.g., 2007, by Tenpins—Silver Tango, by Silver Badge. Bred and owned by Phillip L. Capuano; trained by Gary A. Capuano. Foaled at Summer Wind Farm, Libertytown, Md.

Lifetime				
starts	1st	2nd	3rd	earnings
7	3 (1)	0	2	\$69,880 (through Jan. 2)

2009: 1st \$50,000 Maryland Juvenile Championship S, 7½ fur., registered Md.-bred 2-year-olds, Laurel, Dec. 12.

Phil Capuano made one of the best race horse buys of all time when he purchased Silver Tango (a daughter of the now largely forgotten Maryland sire Silver Badge, by Poker) as a 2-year-old back in 1990.

In a private transaction with breeder Jeanne Begg, Capuano paid \$3,800 for the filly, who went on to win 17 of 47 starts, including 10 stakes, for career earnings of \$473,242.

Twenty years later, that investment is still paying dividends for the Capuano family.

Our Commander, the next-to-last foal from Silver Tango, delivered a breakout perfor-

mance in the Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes on December 12 at Laurel Park.

Sent off as third choice, at odds of 3.8-1, the homebred bobbled at the start and was reserved off the early pace set by favorite Petecarol in the seven and a half-furlong event.

A premature move to the front by Nick Petro, the rider of second choice Not Abroad, left the door open for a late challenge from Our Commander and jockey Josean Ramirez, who hooked Not Abroad in deep stretch and edged to the front to win with more authority than the margin of victory indicated.

Bill Backer homebreds Baileys Beach and First Nite, coupled as an entry for trainer Hamilton Smith, and well back early, finished third and fourth, respectively. Next, in order of finish, were Regal Warrior, Morumsco and Petecarol.

The race was completed in 1:31.78.

"The last three sixteenths I started asking him," said Ramirez. "I wasn't moving very much but then I kept riding and riding like it was go-

ing to be the last race ever and just won it. I've been working him every morning. I can see him improving a lot. He's a nice little horse."

Trained by Gary Capuano, a son of the owner, Our Commander (by Tenpins) was getting his third win in a row.

He broke his maiden in his fourth try and first appearance at Laurel, while racing for a \$40,000 tag on September 25. After that, Our Commander returned to air by six and a half lengths in allowance company at Laurel on October 24.

Silver Tango has had eight foals to race, and seven of them are winners. She is the dam of additional stakes performers Dale's Prospect (2001, Pioneering; \$344,664, Taking Risks S, etc.) and Scarlet Tango (1998, French Deputy; \$99,493, 2nd Laura Gal S).

Capuano bred Silver Tango to a different stallion each time, choosing matings that appeared to be a good fit based on pedigree. Silver Tango's first foal was an Unbridled filly named Untangled who sold for \$160,000 at the 1996 Keeneland July Yearling sale but never raced.

Her final foal, a 2-year-old colt by Love of Money named Bumpy Road, is being broken in Delaware in order to become Delaware Certified.

Silver Tango's 2009 foal was stillborn two weeks before her due date. The mare was subsequently pensioned at Jerry and Laurie Calhoun's

Summer Wind Farm in Libertytown, Md.

That's How I Roll



Maryland Filly Championship Stakes

\$50,000-guaranteed, 7½ fur., registered Maryland-bred 3-year-old fillies. Laurel Park, Jan. 1.

Dk.b./br.f., 2007, by Speightstown—Chatter Chatter, by Lost Soldier. Bred by Dark Hollow Farm, George Harris and William DeBurgh; owned by Vision Racing LLC; trained by Kiaran P. McLaughlin. Foaled at Dark Hollow Farm, Upperco, Md.

Lifetime				
starts	1st	2nd	3rd	earnings
7	2 (1)	1 (1)	1	\$76,506 (through Jan. 1)

2009: 2nd Junior Champion S. **2010:** 1st \$50,000 Maryland Filly Championship S, 7½ fur., registered Md.-bred 3-year-old fillies, Laurel, Jan. 1.

Originally scheduled for December 19 (the last day on the 2009 Maryland racing calendar), the Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes was whited out by a blizzard that dropped as much as two feet of snow on the Baltimore-Washington corridor.

The race emerged under a new name—the Maryland Filly Championship Stakes—when racing resumed at Laurel Park on January 1. And it also had new conditions, because the entries were all turning 3 as of that date.

That's How I Roll, bred in partnership by David and JoAnn Hayden's Dark Hollow Farm and sold for \$160,000 at the 2008 Keeneland September Yearling sale, blitzed her



JIM MCCUE

rivals in her first appearance in her home state.

Owned by Vision Racing LLC (a partnership operation headed by Brandon and Diannah Perry and John and Jill Stephens of Lexington, Ky.), That's How I Roll is trained in New York by Kieran McLaughlin.

Dispatched as third choice in the field of 10, That's How I Roll assumed an early lead in the Filly Championship and dominated the seven and a half-furlong contest, prevailing by three and a quarter lengths under Erick Rodriguez. Longshot Star Anna rallied for second, a neck to the good of Spoken in French.

The remaining order of finish consisted of Smart Tori, Tough Talkin Lady, Miss Speak, Popeye's Lady, Favored Lady,

5-2 favorite Molly Molly Molly and second choice Jim's Prospect.

Final time was 1:32.37 over a muddy (sealed) surface.

The Haydens and partners George Harris and Will DeBurgh purchased That's How I Roll's dam, Chatter Chatter (by Lost Soldier), for \$320,000 at the 2005 Keeneland November sale. The mare was carrying her first foal, a Speightstown filly named Chattertown, at the time.

The partners quickly realized a return on the mare's offspring at auction. Chattertown sold for \$105,000 at the 2007 Keeneland September Yearling sale, and was resold for \$250,000 at the 2008 Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March sale of 2-year-olds in training. She is stakes-placed,

having finished second in last year's Dearly Precious Stakes, with career earnings of \$79,882.

Chatter Chatter's second foal—That's How I Roll—was originally purchased by a Vision partnership; she went through the ring at the 2009 Fasig-Tipton Florida February 2-year-olds in training sale on a bid of \$235,000, where she was transferred from one phase of the Vision enterprise to another.

Chatter Chatter delivered one more foal at the Haydens' Dark Hollow Farm in Upperco, Md.—a now 2-year-old Bluegrass Cat filly—before being sold for \$160,000, in foal to Malibu Moon, at the 2008 Keeneland November sale.

The Bluegrass Cat filly, as yet unnamed, is in train-

ing with Jerry Hollendorfer in California, and is owned in partnership by Hollendorfer, the Haydens, Harris and DeBurgh.

That's How I Roll won her second start, in maiden special weight company at Belmont Park on July 1. McLaughlin wheeled her back in the Schuylerville Stakes-G3 at Saratoga on July 29, and she failed to measure up in the race won by Hot Dixie Chick. But in her next outing, on August 29, she finished second (to Kid Kate) in Monmouth Park's Junior Champion Stakes.

In seven career starts, she has earned \$76,506.



MARYLAND FUND REPORT

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks from November 30 to December 18, 2009.

Squan Song Handicap

December 5. Purse \$50,000-guaranteed. For 3-year-olds and up, fillies and mares, registered Maryland-breds, non-winners of a sweepstakes. 7 fur. 11 competed. (Closed with 20 nominations.) Winner: STERLING VOW, by Broken Vow. Breeder bonus: At Last Farm LLC (\$3,750). Stallion bonus: None. Second: FASCINATIN' RHYTHM, by More Than Ready. Breeder bonus: Buckingham Farm (\$1,250). Stallion bonus: None. Third: HEAVEN'S VOICE, by Lion Hearted. Breeder bonus: Yigal Rappaport (\$687.50). Stallion bonus: Lion Hearted Syndicate (\$343.75). Fourth: LUCKY YOU, by Best of Luck. Breeder bonus: Estate of Mrs. Richard C. duPont and John Franks (\$375). Stallion bonus: None.

Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes

December 12. Purse \$50,000-guaranteed. For 2-year-olds, registered

Maryland-breds. 7½ fur. 7 competed. (Closed with 15 nominations.) Winner: OUR COMMANDER, by Tenpins. Breeder bonus: Phil Capuano (\$3,750). Stallion bonus: None. Second: NOT ABROAD, by Not For Love. Breeder bonus: Bowman and Higgins Stable, Tom Sutton and Huckleberry Farm (\$1,250). Stallion bonus: Not For Love Syndicate (\$625). Third: BAILEYS BEACH, by Out of Place. Breeder bonus: William M. Backer (\$687.50). Stallion bonus: None. Fourth: FIRST NITE, by Black Tie Affair (Ire). Breeder bonus: William M. Backer (\$375). Stallion bonus: None.

Breeder bonuses

At Last Farm LLC—STERLING VOW: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$3,750.
William M. Backer—BAILEYS BEACH: Dec. 12, 8th race, \$687.50. FAVORED LADY: Dec. 5, 2nd race, \$1,710. FIRST NITE: Dec. 12, 8th race, \$375. (\$2,772.50)
Charles N. Bassford—TOMMIE'S STAR: Dec. 4, 1st race, \$712.50.
Bender and Bender LLC—LONDON LANE: Dec. 16, 2nd race, \$1,140.

Bohemia Stable—MARVIN GILES: Dec. 5, 6th race, \$2,137.50.
Bonita Farm—PLEASE MR PRESIDENT: Dec. 17, 5th race, \$855.
Bonita Farm and Karen Dempsey—SWEAR ALLEGIANCE: Dec. 2, 9th race, \$712.50.
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—COUNT ON LOU: Dec. 16, 4th race, \$1,140.
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—DUDE AGAIN: Dec. 17, 3rd race, \$997.50.
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rebecca Davis and The Thoroughbred Corp.—TRUE TO A POINT: Dec. 17, 2nd race, \$855.
Bowman and Higgins Stable, Thomas Sutton and Huckleberry Farm—NOT ABROAD: Dec. 12, 8th race, \$1,250.
Buckingham Farm—FASCINATIN' RHYTHM: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$1,250.
Phil Capuano—OUR COMMANDER: Dec. 12, 8th race, \$3,750.
Corbett Farm—LOVE IN PARIS: Dec. 9, 3rd race, \$712.50.
Cordelia Stables—SEEKING A RAINBOW: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$570.
Country Life Farm/Merryland Missy LLC—ESSENCEOF-THEMOON: Dec. 9, 8th race, \$2,137.50.
David DiPietro and Herbert A. May III—HEAVENSTUNGATROD: Dec. 2, 4th race, \$1,710; Dec. 17, 8th race, \$2,137.50. (\$3,847.50)
Estate of Mrs Richard C. duPont and John Franks—LUCKY YOU: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$375.
Wilbur and Joan Everett—SILENT SHOT: Dec. 10, 2nd race, \$997.50.
Redmond C.S. Finney and Francis X. Paggi—BOLD CROSSING: Dec. 18, 9th race, \$570.
Mrs. Janon Fisher III—VOEUX: Dec. 11, 3rd race, \$855.
Hickory Plains LLC and Franklin G. Smith Sr.—TRUE ZIP: Dec. 3, 1st race, \$1,995.
J.M. Hosford, D. Taylor, C. Kelly, and T. O'Brien—EYES OF EIRE: Dec. 16, 7th race, \$855.
Huckleberry Farm LLC—APRON DANCER: Dec. 2, 2nd race, \$712.50.
Robert L. Ingham and Richard Davis—OUR DIAMOND MINE: Dec. 4, 3rd race, \$570.
K.T. Leatherbury Assoc. Inc.—AH DAY: Dec. 18, 8th race, \$2,850.
Robert T. Manfuso—PRINCESS TAO: Dec. 11, 4th race, \$570.
Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—NORTHPOINT COSTAS: Dec. 9, 5th race, \$712.50.
Adrian L. Merton—MINER MISTAKE: Dec. 12, 6th race, \$1,282.50.
Wayne and Juanita Morris—PETER'S CREEK: Dec. 2, 8th race, \$1,710.
Mr. and Mrs. E. Allen Murray Jr.—STAR MOM: Dec. 16, 5th race, \$712.50.
Plane Tree Farm—LET ME BE FRANK: Dec. 9, 1st race, \$712.50.
Jack M. Queen—SECRET INFATUATION: Dec. 9, 6th race, \$1,995.
Yigal Rappaport—HEAVEN'S VOICE: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$687.50.
A. Brice Ridgely—RON'S PARTNER: Dec. 11, 5th race, \$712.50.
Barbara Ryan—RHEMA: Dec. 4, 9th race, \$712.50.
Seaside Stable—SHARP LIONESS: Dec. 12, 5th race, \$997.50.
Arnold Smolen—DZ'S BUDDY: Dec. 11, 1st race, \$641.25.
Tanterra Stables—OUTQUEST: Dec. 3, 7th race, \$1,425.
Thoramar Farm LLC—WARRIOR FATHER: Dec. 4, 5th race, \$570.
Costas N. Triantafilos—RAINBOW INTHESTORM: Dec. 12, 7th race, \$712.50.
Willow Oaks Stables LLC—ALICE IS A TEN: Dec. 17, 6th race, \$1,995.
Wirth Brothers—ON BOARD CHARADE: Dec. 9, 2nd race, \$1,425.
Owner bonuses
William M. Backer—FAVORED LADY: Dec. 5, 2nd race, \$1,368.
Sondra D. Bender—LONDON LANE: Dec. 16, 2nd race, \$912.
Lindy Clark—MINER MISTAKE: Dec. 12, 6th race, \$1,026.
Cordelia Stables—SEEKING A RAINBOW: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$456.
Mrs. Janon Fisher III—VOEUX: Dec. 11, 3rd race, \$684.
Happy Hour Stable—SECRET INFATUATION: Dec. 9, 6th race, \$1,596.
Frank Henson—ESSENCEOF-THEMOON: Dec. 9, 8th race, \$1,710.
High Five Stable—TRUE ZIP: Dec. 3, 1st race, \$1,596.
The Jim Stable—AH DAY: Dec. 18, 8th race, \$2,280.
Landslide Farm—BOLD CROSSING: Dec. 18, 9th race, \$456.
Morris Stable LLC—PETER'S CREEK: Dec. 2, 8th race, \$1,368.
Pieces of Eight Stable and Bonita Farm—PLEASE MR PRESIDENT: Dec. 17, 5th race, \$684.
Michele C. Sanger—MARVIN GILES: Dec. 5, 6th race, \$1,710.
Arnold K. Smolen and Adam M. Smolen—DZ'S BUDDY: Dec. 11, 1st race, \$513.

Spring Meadow Farm—RON'S PARTNER: Dec. 11, 5th race, \$570.

Tanterra Stables—OUTQUEST: Dec. 3, 7th race, \$1,140.

Three Diamonds Farm—ALICE IS A TEN: Dec. 17, 6th race, \$1,596.

Phillip J. Torsney—WARRIOR FATHER: Dec. 4, 5th race, \$456.

Warwick Stable—HEAVENSTMURGATROID: Dec. 2, 4th race, \$1,368; Dec. 17, 8th race, \$1,710. (\$3,078)

Wirth Brothers—ON BOARD CHARADE: Dec. 9, 2nd race, \$1,140.

Stallion bonuses

AWAD (Let Me Be Frank: Dec. 9, 1st race, \$356.25): Awad Syndicate.

BOWMAN'S BAND (Dz's Buddy: Dec. 11, 1st race, \$320.63. Northpoint Castros: Dec. 9, 5th race, \$356.25): Maryland Stallion Station and Martin Schwartz—\$676.88.

CITIDANCER (Apron Dancer: Dec. 2, 2nd race, \$356.25): Country Life Farm.

CRYPTO STAR (Eyes of Eire: Dec. 16, 7th race, \$427.50. Star Mom: Dec. 16, 5th race, \$356.25): Crypto Star Syndicate—\$783.75.

DIAMOND (Our Diamond Mine: Dec. 4, 3rd race, \$285): Diamond Syndicate.

FANTASTICAT (Heavenstmurgatroid: Dec. 2, 4th race, \$855; Dec. 17, 8th race, \$1,068.75): Fantastical Syndicate—\$1,923.75.

LION HEARTED (Favored Lady: Dec. 5, 2nd race, \$855. Heaven's Voice: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$343.75. Marvin Giles: Dec. 5, 6th race, \$1,068.75. Sharp Lioness: Dec. 12, 5th race, \$498.75. Voeux: Dec. 11, 3rd race, \$427.50): Lion Hearted Syndicate—\$3,193.75.

LOUIS QUATORZE (Peter's Creek: Dec. 2, 8th race, \$855): Louis Quatorze Syndicate.

NOT FOR LOVE (Love in Paris: Dec. 9, 3rd race, \$356.25. Not Abroad: Dec. 12, 8th race, \$625. Secret Infatuation: Dec. 9, 6th race, \$997.50): Not For Love Syndicate—\$1,978.75.

ORATORY (On Board Charade: Dec. 9, 2nd race, \$712.50): Country Life Farm and Darley.

SPECIAL \$5,000 BONUS PAYMENTS

MSW PAYMENTS (November 30 - December 18, 2009):

Happy Hour Stable; High Five Stable; Three Diamonds Farm.

A-Other-Than PAYMENTS (November 30 - December 18, 2009):

Michele C. Sanger; Warwick Stable.

OUTFLANKER (Outquest: Dec. 3, 7th race, \$712.50): Outflanker Syndicate.

PARTNER'S HERO (Ron's Partner: Dec. 11, 5th race, \$356.25): Partner's Hero Syndicate.

POLISH MINER (Bold Crossing: Dec. 18, 9th race, \$285. Miner Mistake: Dec. 12, 6th race, \$641.25. Pleze Mr President: Dec. 17, 5th race, \$427.50): Polish Miner Syndicate—\$1,353.75.

REGAL AMERICAN (Tommie's Star: Dec. 4, 1st race, \$356.25): Marilyn S. Ketts.

SEEKING DAYLIGHT (Seeking a Rainbow: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$285): Seeking Daylight Syndicate.

SWEAR BY DIXIE (Swear Allegiance: Dec. 2, 9th race, \$356.25): Swear by Dixie Partnership.

TWO PUNCH (Rhema: Dec. 4, 9th race, \$356.25): Two Punch Syndicate.

YARROW BRAE (Warrior Father: Dec. 4, 5th race, \$285): Yarrow Brae Syndicate.



MARYLAND-BRED STAKES WINNERS

Digger takes bite of Big Apple

Reple Stable's Digger led nearly every step and held off favored Pashito the Che in the closing strides to score by a nose in the \$65,000 Gravesend Handicap on December 26 at Aqueduct.

Ridden by Anna Napravnik, the son of Yonaguska went to the front right after the break, setting fractions of :23.84 and :47.02 with Pashito the Che in close pursuit. Opening up by daylight as the field

of seven headed for home, Digger began drifting out in deep stretch but had enough left to turn back the 3-5 favorite's late flurry, completing the six furlongs in 1:11.66 over an inner track rated fast.

"He's always in front, so the last part of the race is always a question mark," said trainer Bruce Brown. "He makes you sweat, no doubt about it. But he loves the inner track, even more so today with the moisture in it. I liked his chances."

Sent off at 3.10-1 as part of an entry with The Roundhouse, Digger returned \$8.20 for a \$2 win bet as he earned \$41,730. The victory was his fourth in nine starts as a 5-year-old in 2009, and extended his lifetime record to 12-7-3 from 31 starts. His earnings now total \$413,278.

"He's a pretty game horse," said Napravnik. "He's a good old warrior."

The victory was the first stakes win in New York for the Maryland-bred, who as a 3-year-old won the Deputed Testamony and Northern Dancer Stakes and Jennings Handicap at Laurel Park. Brown, who took over Digger's training in October, said he had no immediate plans for the gelding but said he intended on keeping him in New York for the winter.

Pashito the Che, whose three-race win streak came to a halt in the race, was a length

ahead of Starforaday, who in turn was followed by Laysh Laysh Laysh, The Roundhouse, Gold Trippi and Joey P.

Digger was bred by Skeedattle Associates, a partnership of Marylanders Willie White, Lou Rehak and Bob Orndoff, who campaigned 2000 Maryland-bred Horse of the Year Gin Talking. He is the first foal from his dam, Da Choice (by Dehere), whom Skeedattle purchased for \$70,000 at the 2001 Keeneland September Yearling sale. A half-sister to graded winner Millie's Quest, Da Choice was unraced.

Digger was claimed from Skeedattle while making his second career start, for a \$25,000 maiden claiming tag, in November of his 2-year-old season at Laurel. Since July 2008, Digger has been claimed twice, most recently by his current owner for \$50,000 on June 17, 2009, at Belmont Park.



The Maryland Horse Industry Foundation was chartered in 1988 by the Maryland

Horse Breeders Association to serve various educational and charitable needs of the Maryland horse industry.

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THE Maryland Horse Industry FOUNDATION

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Contact Nicole Hart-Richardson at the Maryland Horse Breeders Association to find out how the Foundation can work for you. Phone 410.252.2100, fax 410.560.0503, e-mail nhart@marylandthoroughbred.com or check us out on the Web at marylandthoroughbred.com/breeders/foundation.

Maryland's top 20 earners in 2009

(through December 31)

1. Richard's Kid . . . \$732,840	11. Heros Reward . . . \$158,530
2. Not for Silver . . . 263,020	12. Digger 145,030
3. Homeboykris . . . 260,550	13. Our Partner 137,220
4. Encaustic 255,335	14. Roaring Lion 131,170
5. Blind Date 207,000	15. Apple Special 127,600
6. Sumacha'hot 197,660	16. Target Sighted 127,430
7. All Giving 194,900	17. Toboggan Slide 121,000
8. Amazed by Grace . 188,650	18. Five Diamonds 119,660
9. Great Love 169,575	19. Ask the Moon 115,700
10. Ah Day 166,920	20. Court Band 111,730

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Maryland's leading sires

Supplied by Bloodstock Research Information Services (BRIS), these statistics were compiled on December 31. Lifetime earnings for stallions with at least one starter in 2009. † denotes freshman sire.

Earnings in 2009

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Not For Love	214	1,439	125	213	\$6,117,580
Lion Hearted	179	1,166	91	155	3,523,060
Louis Quatorze	157	1,052	75	142	2,583,650
Outflanker	121	945	71	134	2,547,070
Two Punch	100	600	50	82	1,565,230
Go for Gin	63	444	31	63	1,384,360
Mojave Moon	77	618	38	74	1,360,100
Rock Slide	60	335	27	44	1,233,210
Domestic Dispute	75	407	36	54	1,163,420
Allen's Prospect	52	377	26	47	938,650
Crowd Pleaser	37	222	17	30	669,864
Seeking Daylight	37	174	16	27	627,895
Great Notion	28	156	16	25	616,651
Citidancer	25	155	14	22	447,008
Eastern Echo	32	190	10	18	418,681

2-year-old earnings in 2009

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Not For Love	23	96	11	16	\$644,699
†Oratory	23	92	16	16	380,891
Lion Hearted	23	79	9	12	357,164
†Dance With Ravens	34	126	8	10	347,998
Louis Quatorze	21	72	9	12	295,943
Domestic Dispute	29	94	7	9	219,997
Rock Slide	13	43	3	5	207,952
†Fantasticat	9	26	4	8	119,811
†Gators N Bears	16	50	5	7	117,260
Two Punch	10	37	3	3	79,942

Earnings lifetime

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Allen's Prospect	927	23,058	768	3,341	\$53,967,400
Not For Love	566	10,977	445	1,714	48,259,500
Two Punch	799	15,414	622	2,338	47,180,100
Polish Numbers	439	9,084	362	1,342	32,730,400
Carnivalay	494	13,277	405	1,815	30,340,600
Smarten	507	12,411	388	1,693	27,127,700
Horatius	590	15,141	470	1,925	26,594,500
Waquoit	459	10,887	351	1,471	25,870,500
Citidancer	296	6,914	254	1,196	25,019,500
Louis Quatorze	458	7,732	323	1,043	23,000,100
Eastern Echo	413	8,364	289	1,096	22,217,100
Norquestor	293	8,731	252	1,242	20,943,900
Deputed Testamony	352	10,183	267	1,402	18,484,000
Outflanker	292	5,626	223	846	17,799,200
Oh Say	418	10,061	353	1,472	17,589,700

2-year-old earnings lifetime

	Strs	Starts	Wnrs	Wins	Earnings
Allen's Prospect	458	1,558	175	240	\$5,629,410
Two Punch	391	1,265	155	192	5,021,340
Not For Love	257	828	100	135	4,841,800
Smarten	278	1,195	112	157	3,769,760
Polish Numbers	229	700	84	122	3,672,570
Citidancer	153	575	82	124	3,220,990
Eastern Echo	220	812	73	100	3,032,700
Louis Quatorze	235	732	72	92	2,838,510
Carnivalay	249	1,010	88	122	2,480,130
Outflanker	167	691	71	97	2,424,780
Lion Hearted	148	486	59	84	2,248,590
Waquoit	197	680	56	81	1,920,960
Horatius	267	991	99	134	1,642,260
Oh Say	152	574	65	90	1,457,000
Norquestor	136	508	47	64	1,316,410