

# New York-Breds at the Races: August 23 to 29

By Bill Heller

## Bromansø Homebred Under Scrutiny Scores a Stunning Upset

Most of Chester and Mary Broman's homebreds have been getting played heavily at the betting windows at Saratoga this summer. **Under Scrutiny** was not one of them. Sent off at 33-1 odds under Angel Arroyo on Friday, Under Scrutiny won a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$75,000 New York-bred grass allowance by a desperate head over-front running **Take It Inside**, who went off at 10-1 odds from the rail. **Devious Maddy**, the 5-1 second choice, was just a neck behind Take It Inside in third and **Lady Kreesa**, the 3-5 favorite, was rank throughout and finished fourth, three-quarters of a length behind Devious Maddy.

The unexpected victory was the Bromansø 11<sup>th</sup> of the meet. Ironically, in the race before Under Scrutiny's, Village Warrior won a mile-and-a-quarter starter allowance to give Mike Repole his meet-leading 12<sup>th</sup> winner.

Under Scrutiny is a three-year-old daughter of Freud out of Unbridled Valor by Unbridled who is trained by Rodrigo Ubillo. Under Scrutiny won her last turf start, a New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer, by nearly two lengths two starts back on July 21 at Saratoga. Then she finished a distant fifth in an off-the-turf race switched to the sloppy main track.

Arroyo, who had already won a race Friday, gave Under Scrutiny a perfect ride.

Cornelio Velasquez gunned Take It Inside to the lead, while John Velazquez tried to get a keyed-up Lady Kreesa to relax in second. She was wide on the first turn and still a handful as she sat a close second on the outside of Take It Inside.

Arroyo, meanwhile, had saved ground on the inside with Under Scrutiny, who got away fifth, and rallied inside of both Devious Maddy and 38-1 **Silver Silence** into third after a :49.64 half-mile.

Around the far turn, Lady Kreesa got almost even with Take It Inside, who had plenty left. Arroyo got Under Scrutiny off the rail to join them three-wide while Devious Maddy continued to make up ground farther outside.

In a blanket three-horse photo, Under Scrutiny won by a head in a final time of 1:44.02.

Under Scrutiny is now two-for-six on turf, with one second from five dirt starts and combined earnings of more than \$85,000.

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Rajiv Maragh rallied Parker Lightfield Farm's homebred four-year-old gelding **Joe Mooch** past front-running **N.F.'s Destiny** in deep stretch Friday to win a six-furlong \$40,000 New York-bred \$20,000 claimer by three-quarters of a length in a final time of 1:10.86. Joe Mooch was the 7-2 third choice and N.F.'s Destiny was sent off at odds of 4-1 in a field reduced to seven with the scratches of **Be Bullish** and **Cay to Pomeroy**.

Tom Albertrani trains Joe Mooch, a son of Wild Desert out of Touchy Broad by Touch Gold. Joe Mooch had been a hard-fought third, beaten just a half-length, in a seven-furlong sprint at 19-1 odds in his previous start.

Bettors made drop-down **Jeter** the 2-1 favorite under Javier Castellano and **Won Great Classic** the 5-2 second choice with Cornelio Velasquez aboard.

Jeter broke last, while Won Great Classic was never involved.

Manuel Franco shot N.F.ø Destiny to the lead immediately as 12-1 **Lucci the Lion** sat in second through a :22.81 opening quarter. Joe Mooch settled in third, while Jeter rallied into fourth after his tardy break.

Heading into the far turn, Jeter rallied on the outside into second, but he tired in the stretch. Joe Mooch went after N.F.ø Destiny and rallied past him in deep stretch.

Joe Mooch improved his dirt record to three-for-17 with two seconds, five thirds and earnings topping \$135,000. He is co-owned by Zucco, Butler and Muccio.

### NY-Breds Startup Nation and International Star Finish 1-2 the Grade II With Anticipation Stakes

With a devastating four-wide rally from last around the far turn, Klaravich Stables and William Lawrenceø New York-bred colt **Startup Nation** upped his record to two-for-two with a powerful 4 ½-length victory in the 10<sup>th</sup> running of the Grade II \$200,000 With Anticipation Stakes for two-year-olds at a mile and a sixteenth on the grass Thursday afternoon at Saratoga. Joel Rosario rode Startup Nation, who won in a final time of 1:41.63 to give trainer Chad Brown his third victory of the day in the first five races of the card. **International Star** finished second to complete a New York-bred exacta. They were the only state-breds in the field of eight.

The only anxious moment for Startup Nationø connections came after the race when International Starø rider, Rosie Napravnik, claimed foul against the winner for interference around the far turn. The stewards let the order of finish stand.

Startup Nation, a colt by Temple City out of Pennyrile by Wagon Limit, was bred by Spendthrift Farm. He was purchased for \$95,000 at the 2013 Saratoga August Sale.

Startup Nation made his debut in a New York-bred maiden special weight on August 7. Sent off at 9-1 odds, he rallied from 10 lengths back to win going away by two lengths.

Stepping up to open graded stakes company Thursday and leaving from the rail, Startup Nation went off at 2-1 odds, the second choice to Strong Coffee, who also went off at 2-1 under Irad Ortiz, Jr. while leaving from the outside post. International Star went off at odds of 5-1.

Kutuzov, a 40-1 longshot under Shaun Bridgmohan, set the pace. Both International Star and Startup Nation were far back.

As horses were heading for the final turn, International Star made a huge four-wide rush. Behind International Star, Startup Nation was flying five-wide from last.

Around the far turn, International Star cleared all the horses in front of him to take the lead. It didn't last long. Startup Nation blew by him in early stretch, then widened away from the field in an outstanding performance. International Star saved second, well clear of 10-1 Nutty Fuddy in third. Strong Coffee was fourth.

Startup Nation has already earned \$163,800 in two starts.

Tom Brown said after the race. "For this horse to run back in three weeks and run the way he did, in 1:41 and change, he's a real runner."

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Benefitting from a daring, brilliant ride by Chris DeCarlo, Lewis Rappaport and Sugar Maple Farm's homebred four-year-old gelding **The Brothers Rap** won a mile-and-an-eighth \$78,000 New York-bred allowance/optional \$40,000 claimer by three lengths. Sent off the 9-2 fourth choice in the field of just five Thursday, The Brothers Rap won in a final time of 1:50.66.

**Writingonthewall**, the 2-1 second choice ridden by Jose Ortiz, got up for second, a half-length ahead of front-running **Onecats Chance**, the 3-2 favorite who re-rallied under Javier Castellano to finish third.

Charlie Baker trains The Brothers Rap, a son of Dehere out of Miss Blarney Stone by Dynaformer who had finished third in his two previous starts.

Onecats Chance, who was stepping up in company off a 6 1/2-lengths romp at 6-5 odds, took control of the race immediately from the rail, forcing 7-2 **Saturday Appeal** and 7-1 **Ultimate Empire**, who added blinkers, to settle in behind him.

Castellano backed off a :24.21 first quarter into a :49.07 half. But The Brothers Rap, who was last on the backstretch, zipped between Writingonthewall and Ultimate Empire then split Onecats Chance and Saturday Appeal to take over the lead through three-quarters of a mile in 1:13.86.

The Brothers Rap opened a clear lead around the far turn as Castellano made a run on the inside with Onecats Chance. But the Brothers Rap had plenty left and won handily.

The Brothers Rap improved his dirt record to three-for-14 with one second and five thirds with more than \$150,000 in earnings.

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Michael Dubb, Nantucket Thoroughbred Partners and Bethlehem Stable's **Offering Plan**, the lesser-regarded of trainer Chad Brown's pair of first-time-starting two-year-old colts, ran down **Kerjillion**, his uncoupled stablemate, to win a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$88,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the grass Thursday by two lengths under Jose Lezcano in a final time of 1:43.27. Offering Plan was sent off at odds of 4-1 and Kerjillion, with Javier Castellano aboard, went off at 2-1 in the field of seven.

Offering Plan is a son of Spring At Last out of Rosalie Road by Street Cry who was bred by C.W. Swann and Cygnet Farm. He sold for \$32,000 as a yearling, then for \$135,000 last April in the Ocala Breeders Two-Year-Olds-in-Training Sale.

**Cosmo Storm**, the 7-2 third choice, and 5-1 firster **Foxhall Drive** both went for the early lead, and they battled head-to-head through a :47.18 half-mile. **Come Around** advanced from fourth to third, then went after the two dueling pacesetters three-wide around the far turn. Both Offering Plan and Kerjillion then began their rallies.

Castellano sent Kerjillion through a huge hole on the inside and took the lead in mid-stretch. Then Lezcano produced Offering Plan, who rolled by Kerjillion near the sixteenth pole to win comfortably. Kerjillion saved second, four lengths clear of Foxhall Drive in third. Come Around finished fourth.

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In a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$73,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the turf for two-year-old fillies, Winter Park Partners' **Amazing Anne** took the lead in deep stretch under Junior Alvarado to win by a length and a half over **Battle Axe** in a final time of 1:45.25. Amazing Anne was the 2-1 favorite and Battle Axe the 5-2 second choice in a field reduced to eight when **Momma Giovanna** reared up in the starting gate and was a late scratch.

Tom Morley trains Amazing Anne, a daughter of Freud out of Plinking by Talkin Man who was bred by Anthony Grey.

Amazing Anne was set to debut on grass on July 28, but when rain caused the race to be switched to the main track, Amazing Anne stayed in and finished a troubled third by 10 ¼ lengths in a field of six.

On Thursday, she broke well from the seven post then settled in fifth as 5-2 **Smilingsundae** set the pace, pursued by 6-1 **Moondance Joy**, Battle Axe and 11-1 **Summersault**.

On the backstretch, Luis Saez moved up Battle Axe on the outside of Moondance Joy and Alvarado moved Amazing Anne up to join them three-wide, all chasing Smilingsundae.

Around the turn, Battle Axe and Amazing Anne moved up two and three-wide on the frontrunner, who tried to hold on.

Inside the sixteenth pole, Amazing Anne took over. Battle Axe edged late-closing, 22-1 **Jadam** for second.

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In Thursday's finale, a six-furlong \$45,000 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer, Irad Ortiz, Jr. skillfully guided Michael Dubb and Bethlehem Stables' three-year-old colt **Okey Dokey Smokey** to a head victory over **King Gettigan** in a final time of 1:12.22. **Mineral Water** finished a clear third. Both Okey Dokey and King Gettigan went off at 5-2 odds, while Mineral Water was sent off at 6-1 in the field of just six.

**Freddie Freud** and Okey Dokey Smokey both went after the early lead, but Ortiz took a hold of Okey Dokey Smokey and positioned him in second as Freddie Freud raced to the quarter in :22.96.

Heading into the far turn, Okey Dokey Smokey moved up on the outside to challenge for the lead as King Gettigan rallied into third under Joel Rosario.

Okey Dokey Smokey took the lead with King Gettigan pressing him the whole way, then gamely held him off to break his maiden in just his second career start. He had finished third in his debut.

Okey Dokey Smokey is a son of Smoke Glacken out of Queen of Valentine by Storm Creek who was bred by Eaton & Thorne Inc. and is trained by Rudy Rodriguez.

### Ziptronic Dusts Open Allowance Company for His Third Straight Win

With stunning ease, Repole Stable's eight-year-old gelding **Ziptronic**, the only New York-bred in the field of nine, romped to his third consecutive victory Wednesday at Saratoga, taking an \$85,000 grass allowance wire-to-wire. He covered the 5 ½ furlongs in 1:01.89 under Javier Castellano, winning by 3 ½ lengths as the 6-5 favorite.

Ziptronic was absolutely sensational. He broke immediately on the lead from the outside post, set fast fractions of :22.36 and :44.62, then drew clear in the stretch, winning handily with Castellano just showing him the whip late.

Ziptronic provided Castellano with his fourth win of the afternoon as he padded his lead over Irad Ortiz, Jr. to eight with just five days left in the Saratoga meet. Castellano, the nation's leading jockey in earnings, won his first Saratoga title last year on the way to his first Eclipse Award.

Repole Stable claimed Ziptronic for \$40,000 when he won a New York-bred allowance/optional claimer by three-quarters of a length on June 26 to begin his win streak at Belmont. He made it two straight with a win at Saratoga on August 10, his first victory at Saratoga in 11 starts, though he did have a pair of seconds and a trio of thirds.

Now he's won two straight at the Spa. He improved his grass record to eight-for-32 with four seconds and five thirds. He also is two-for-15 on dirt with one second and four thirds, good for combined earnings of more than \$410,000.

It's hard to believe he's ever been sharper than he is now at the age of eight.

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Showing incredible determination, Mrs. Fitriani Hay's four-year-old gelding **Beyond Empire** squeezed through an equine sandwich in the stretch to win a mile-and-an-eighth \$75,000 New York-bred allowance race Wednesday at Saratoga. With Irad Ortiz, Jr.'s guidance, Beyond Empire defeated **Gridley Here** by a short neck in a final time of 1:51.23 as the 4-5 favorite in the field of six. Front-running **Roaring Conquest**, who caused the congestion by bearing out in mid-stretch, tired to finish a distant third.

A steward's inquiry after the race let the original order of finish stand as the two horses Roaring Conquest bothered both finished ahead of him anyway.

Kiaran McLaughlin trains Beyond Empire, a son of Empire Maker out of Intend to Win by Housebuster who was bred by Mrs. Gerald A. Nielsen.

Beyond Empire had finished second three times and fourth twice in his last five starts and went off the odds-on favorite. Gridley Here, ridden by Junior Alvarado, was the 7-2 second choice and Roaring Conquest the third at 4-1 odds.

Roaring Conquest, who was seeking his third consecutive victory, tried taking the field wire-to-wire. Breaking from the rail, Beyond Empire alternated in second and third through splits of :24.39, :49.05 and 1:13.43.

Around the far turn, Ortiz took Beyond Empire off the rail to Roaring Conquest outside as Gridley Here moved up further outside to join them.

Near mid-stretch, Roaring Conquest began bearing out and Beyond Empire was sandwiched between him and Gridley Here. Resolutely, Beyond Empire fought his way through to take a narrow lead over Gridley Here. Beyond Empire refused to let Gridley Here past to hold on to a game victory.

Beyond Empire improved his dirt record to two-for-nine with three seconds and one third and earnings of more than \$125,000. He was off the board in his only turf try.

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Jim and Susan Hill's first-time starter **Majestic Bloom** worked out a sweet trip under John Velazquez to win her debut impressively, capturing a 5 ½-furlong \$73,000 New York-bred maiden special weight for two-year-old fillies on grass by 2 ½ lengths in a final time of 1:03.46 at 7-1 odds. Another firster, 19-1 **Forma's Joy**, finished second and **Perfect Freud**, who was making her turf debut, finished third at 4-1 odds.

**Midnight Champagne**, sent off at 27-1 odds in her debut, 4-1 **First Charmer** and 23-1 **Divine Guidance** went head-to-head-to-head three across the track for the early lead through a hot opening quarter of :21.55. Velazquez had Majestic Bloom, who had broken from the rail, perfectly placed in fourth.

The three-way pace battled continued through a torrid half-mile in :44.85 before all three horses tired.

Majestic Bloom swept by the trio, opened a four-length lead and coasted home.

George Weaver trains Majestic Bloom, a daughter of Majestic Warrior out of Desert Bloom by Hennessy who was bred by T/C Stable LLC.

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William Schettine and William Haines' homebred first-time starter **Ms Eileen** sprung to the lead from the outside post in the field of eight to make the lead immediately, then withstood constant pressure from **Miss Potenza** to win a 5 ½-furlong \$50,000 New York-bred maiden \$50,000 claimer for two-year-old fillies by a neck under Dylan Davis in a final time of 1:06.61. Ms Eileen went off at 7-1 odds and Miss Potenza was sent off at 3-1.

Lisa Lewis trains Ms Eileen, a daughter of Chapel Royal out of Smart Sis by Beau Genius.

Breaking sharply from the outside, Ms Eileen quickly opened a length-and-a-half lead before Miss Potenza rushed up to engage her through a :23.42 opening quarter. They continued to tussle on the front end through a :46.99 half-mile. Ms Eileen maintained that narrow margin all the way to the wire to win her debut. Miss Potenza settled for second and 34-1 first-time starter **Shangala** finished third.

### Station Chief Gets Up in the Final Strides to Win NY-Bred Allowance

Julien Leparoux got Magis Thoroughbreds, D. Pianto, L. Finnegan, A. Riccio and R. Friedman's three-year-old colt **Station Chief** up in the final desperate strides to edge **Cuantos** in a \$90,000 New York-bred allowance Monday at Saratoga, covering the six furlongs in 1:10.48. Station Chief went off at odds of 12-1 and Cuantos, ridden by Rajiv Maragh, was the 3-1 third choice in the field of seven.

Gary Contessa trains Station Chief, a son of Disco Rico out of Nautical Agent by Victory Gallop who was bred by City Street Associates.

Bettors sent off both **Swell**, ridden by Chris DeCarlo, and **Giantinthemoonlite**, with Javier Castellano up, at odds of 8-5, and they hooked up immediately out of the starting gate.

Swell, who was fractious in the starting gate and had to be reloaded, disputed the lead on the inside of Giantinthemoonlite through an opening quarter in :22.90, with Cuantos a close third on their outside. The pace duel continued around the far turn with Giantinthemoonlite and Swell still head-to-head while Cuantos moved up three-wide to join them. Behind that trio, Station Chief moved into fourth then went after the three horses in front of him.

At the sixteenth pole, Swell, Giantinthemoonlite, Cuantos and Station Chief were four across the track before Cuantos and Station Chief inched away. Cuantos took a brief, narrow lead, but Station Chief kept coming and nailed him at the wire. Cuantos was second, a length and a half in front of Swell in third. Giantinthemoonlite finished fourth.

Station Chief improved his dirt record to two-for-six with two seconds and one third, and increased his earnings to more than \$115,000.

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Keith Early and Marvin Little's five-year-old homebred mare **Jennys Creek** had finished in the money in 10 of her first 17 grass starts. She had five seconds and five thirds, but no wins. Until Monday.

Perfectly ridden by Javier Castellano, Jennys Creek took over the lead in mid-stretch, opened up by four lengths and coasted home a 2 ½-length winner in an \$88,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the grass, covering the mile and a sixteenth in 1:43.95. She wasn't a longshot, going off at odds of 7-2 in the field of 10.

Castellano set up Jennys Creek in third as 11-1 **Traipse in Utopia** and 12-1 **Resolutely** disputed the lead through a quick half-mile in :47.93. Jenny's Creek rolled right by them in the stretch and won handily. **Dixie Gem**, who added blinkers, rallied to finish second at 29-1 odds. Resolutely

finished third at 12-1 odds and 9-1 **Rose Quartz** was fourth. **Maura's Pass**, the 8-5 favorite under Irad Ortiz, Jr., broke last and never was involved.

Carlos Martin trains Jennys Creek, a daughter of Greeley's Galaxy out of True Grit by Woodman, who boosted her career earnings to more than \$150,000.

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In Monday's finale, a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$45,000 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer on the grass, Charles Marquis and John Behrendt's three-year-old filly **Kelly's Prize**, the 5-2 favorite in the field of 11, got up late under Irad Ortiz, Jr. to edge the 3-1 second choice, **Lutheran Miss**, ridden by his brother Jose, by a half-length in a final time of 1:44.58.

David Donk trains Kelly's Prize, a son of Pure Prize out of Miz Lynne Kelly by Langfuhr who was bred by Allen Hallett and Briggs/Cromartie.

**Kevin's Steel**, a 7-1 shot ridden by apprentice Taylor Rice, tried taking the field gate-to-wire but couldn't withstand the late charges of Kelly's Prize and Lutheran Miss. Kevin's Steel did hold on for third.

Kelly's Prize now has a win and a second from seven grass starts. She also has two thirds from three starts on dirt, good for combined earnings topping \$60,000.

### Dayatthespa Defeats Discreet Marq in Marquee Showdown in the Yaddo Stakes

There was intrigue surrounding the 35<sup>th</sup> running of the mile-and-a-sixteenth \$150,000 Yaddo Stakes for New York-bred fillies and mares on Sunday's inaugural Saratoga Showcase Day, with all 11 races exclusively for New York-breds. Was Chad Brown, the trainer of Jerry and Ronald Frankel, Steve Laymon and Bradly Thoroughbred's Grade I stakes winner **Dayatthespa**, going to race the five-year-old mare in Saturday's Grade II Ballston Spa Stakes in open company or in Sunday's Yaddo? He nominated Dayatthespa for both, but scratched her out of the Ballston Spa on Saturday.

"I think the race set up better for her today," Brown said Sunday. "I'm sure the ground was firmer today, although it was listed as good. With all the warm weather, I'm sure it had less give in it today."

Conventional wisdom said the Yaddo would be an easier spot than a Grade II stakes, but that might not have been the case. Only six fillies and mares contested the Ballston Spa, and the odds-on favorite Filimbi finished last. In a tight finish, Abaco won the race.

But the Yaddo featured **Discreet Marq**, Patricia Generazio's homebred Grade I stakes winner who beat Abaco by a length when she finished third in the Grade I Diana Stakes.

Only four other fillies and mares entered the Yaddo, and the betting public correctly made it a two-horse race between Dayatthespa and Discreet Marq, sending both of them off at 6-5 odds, with Discreet Marq the slightest of favorites. **Effie Trinket** would go off the 5-1 third choice on the rail.

Dayatthespa was making just her second start of the year following a front-running second by a length and three-quarters to Filimbi in a \$100,000 ungraded stakes at one mile. That was the first time Dayatthespa lost a race at Saratoga. She had won a race there as a two-, three- and four-year-old. Her career record heading into the Yaddo was eight wins and four seconds in 15 starts, all on turf. Discreet Marq, who had one unsuccessful dirt start, had six wins, four seconds and three thirds from her 15 turf races before the Yaddo.

Dayatthespa would depart from the four post with Saratoga's leading jockey, Javier Castellano. Discreet Marq was right next to her in the five post with Irad Ortiz, Jr., Saratoga's second leading jockey.

Dayatthespa, who can race on the lead or from mid-pack, shot to the lead immediately as Discreet Marq took a stalking position on her outside. They would remain 1-2 the entire race.

Dayatthespa hit the quarter in :24.80, the half-mile in :50.0 and three-quarters in a dawdling 1:15.62 with Discreet Marq shadowing her in second every step.

Around the far turn and into the top of the stretch, Discreet Marq kept the pressure on, but Dayatthespa was up to the challenge and began to draw clear. Dayatthespa hit the wire 2 ½ lengths clear of Discreet Marq, who saved second by a length and a half over Effie Trinket.

“It was a great race,” Castellano said. “I wanted to see how far she could go, you know? I had to be careful for the last sixteenth. It was a little bit of a question mark, but she did it so easy. I give her all the credit.”

Brown shared his praise: “Javier rode a beautiful race. The second quarter-mile concerned me the most because it looked like Discreet Marq drew alongside and Javier, for a moment there, might have his hands full. But our filly was dead game today and proved best. For a horse to win four straight years up here at Saratoga, it's so hard. For a horse to be consistent enough to win four straight years is remarkable.”

Dayatthespa's Saratoga streak points out how incredibly another Saratoga lover performed. Richard Bomze's Fourstardave won a race at Saratoga eight consecutive years. Dayatthespa is highly unlikely to be given an opportunity to match that. Brown knows one thing: “We're going to hate to see her go some day when she leaves us.”

Dayatthespa, a daughter of City Zip out of MøLady Doc by Doc's Leader, was bred by Castellare DiCracchiolo Stable, Cracchiolo and Goldsher. She has now earned just under \$950,000 in her outstanding career.

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Chester and Mary Broman's homebred New York-bred, three-year-old filly **Star Grazing**, hadn't had any of the success of another Broman three-year-old, homebred New York-bred filly **Artemis Agrotera**, who won the Grade I Frizette as a two-year-old last year and on Saturday captured the Grade I Ballerina against older fillies and mares by daylight.

In fact, Artemis Agrotera and Star Grazing made their two-year-old debuts in the same race at Saratoga last August 16. Artemis Agrotera won by 11 ¾ lengths over Star Grazing, who finished a distant second.

While Artemis Agrotera went on to glory, Star Grazing struggled a bit last year. She finished fourth in another maiden race on turf at Belmont Park. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens returned Star Grazing to dirt and added blinkers while asking her to take a huge step up in her third career start, the \$150,000 Joseph A. Gimma Stakes at Belmont on October 19. Star Grazing finished fourth in the field of six.

Jerkens gave Star Grazing a nice rest before her three-year-old debut in a maiden special weight at Belmont Park on July 4, which she won by a length and a quarter. On August 7, she made her next start in an allowance race at Saratoga and won by three-quarters of a length at 1-2 odds.

Jerkens, whom you might have heard finished 1-2 in Saturday's \$1.25 million Travers Stakes, decided to take a shot in Sunday's first running of the mile-and-an-eighth \$200,000 Fleet Indian Stakes for three-year-old New York-bred fillies.

Rajiv Maragh had ridden Star Grazing in her last three starts, but he opted to ride **Flipcup**, who would go off as the 9-5 favorite in the field of seven contesting the Fleet Indian. Star Grazing went off the 4-1 second choice with Angel Arroyo aboard.

**Alwaysinstiletto**s, a 14-1 shot on the rail, dictated the early pace, prompted by 6-1 **Lucky Nancy E.** Flipcup was well placed on the rail in third with 18-1 **Canal Six** alongside in fourth. Star Grazing was sixth as Alwaysinstiletto set a soft pace: a quarter in :24.50, a half-mile in :50.00 and three-quarters in 1:15.62.

Around the far turn and into the stretch, Flipcup was presented a gift. Alwaysinstiletto began to bear out as she tired and Flipcup had an opening wide enough for a tank on the inside. Maragh sent her through, and she struck the lead in mid-stretch. Arroyo, however, had Star Grazing rallying boldly and she kept coming. Flipcup tried to hold on, but couldn't. Star Grazing won by three-quarters of a length in a final time of 1:53.40. Canal Six finished third, four lengths behind Flipcup, and 5-1 **Storied Lady** was fourth.

Star Grazing is a daughter of Sky Mesa out of Unbridled Star by Unbridled. She now has three victories and a second in six career starts with earnings of more than a quarter million dollars.

“She had a nice prep a couple weeks ago, and having a race over this track means a lot,” Jerkens said.

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Apparently, the connections of Patricia Schuler's three-year-old gelding **So Lonesome** never got the memo that **Captain Serious** was the lone early speed in the 37<sup>th</sup> running of the mile-and-an-eighth \$250,000 Albany Stakes for three-year-old New York-breds, the feature race of Sunday's Showcase Day.

So Lonesome, who is trained by Tom Bush, began his career with three dirt starts last year, winning his debut at Saratoga by a length and three-quarters at 2-1 odds, then finishing second at odds of 6-5 in an allowance race, and third in the \$150,000 B.F. Bongard Stakes at 5-1 odds.

He hadn't raced on dirt since.

He concluded his successful two-year-old campaign by winning his turf debut in the \$100,000 Virgo Libra Stakes by a head at odds of 6-1.

As a three-year-old, he ran ninth in the Grade III Palm Beach Stakes. That's when Bush decided to add blinkers. Regardless, in an obviously tough assignment, he finished seventh of 14 in the Grade I Blue Grass Stakes on the synthetic track at Keeneland after breaking slowly.

So Lonesome returned to grass, winning a state-bred allowance/optional claimer then finishing third in the \$100,000 Manila Stakes and sixth in the Grade II Hall of Fame Stakes at Saratoga in his last start before the Albany.

With Jose Lezcano aboard for the second straight time, So Lonesome went off at 9-1 odds, breaking directly outside of the 9-5 favorite, Captain Serious, with Ortiz aboard in post seven.

Captain Serious broke on the lead, but the lead didn't last long as Lezcano absolutely gunned So Lonesome to the front, which he obtained quickly through a :23.04 opening quarter. Jose Ortiz settled Captain Serious in second, a length behind the front-runner while well clear of the others.

"Last time, I took too much of a hold on him," Lezcano said. "He doesn't want to run that way. He wants to run free. I let him run today, and he never stopped."

Lezcano let So Lonesome roll to a three-length lead on Captain Serious after a half-mile in :47.13. Heading to the three-quarters, So Lonesome extended his margin to four lengths, but after So Lonesome completed three-quarters in 1:11.61, Captain Serious closed in.

Around the far turn and into the top of the stretch, Captain Serious got within three-quarters of a length of So Lonesome. Lezcano then let So Lonesome loose and he quickly opened his margin again, coasting home a four-length winner in a final time of 1:50.17. **Effinex**, sent off at 5-1 odds, edged 23-1 **Eye Luv Lulu** by a head for second, and Captain Serious finished fourth.

So Lonesome is a son of Awesome Again out of Dash for Money by General Meeting who was bred by Waterville Lake Stables. He is now two-for-four on dirt with one second and one third, and two-for-five on grass with a third. He has earned more than \$330,000 in 10 lifetime starts.

"The turf, I think, helped get the horse built up a bit," Bush said. "He was always a lightly built colt and he just needed a lot of time. He moves much better now on the dirt than he did when he was a young horse. I think he's turned the corner."

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Bettors may have believed that Chester and Mary Broman's homebred three-year-old filly **Girlaboutown** would face little adversity while stepping up to a bottom-level allowance following her 10 ¼-length, gate-to-wire victory in her last start at Saratoga. They made her the 2-5 favorite in the field of eight in a seven-furlong \$90,000 New York-bred allowance in Sunday's opener.

Instead, she stumbled so badly coming out of the starting gate that her head nearly touched the ground. Her jockey, Jose Ortiz, did a masterful job of keeping her together after the incident. Then all she had to do was rally from dead last in just her third lifetime start.

After a four-horse scramble on the front end, 9-1 **Very Accomplished** took the lead through a :23.43 opening quarter and led through a half-mile in :47.48. At that point, Girlaboutown had advanced into sixth.

Around the far turn, 6-1 **Blithely** swept up five-wide to confront Very Accomplished. Girlaboutown followed Blithely's rally six-wide to move into third.

Very Accomplished dug in under Shaun Bridgmohan as Blithely gained ground two-wide and Girlaboutown advanced three-wide. Girlaboutown kept coming and edged clear late to win by a length in a final time of 1:25.90. Behind her, Blithely nosed Very Accomplished for second. **Saythreehailmary's** was fourth at 6-1 odds.

Girlaboutown is a daughter of A.P. Indy out of Carmandia by Wild Rush who is trained Mike Hushion. A day earlier, another homebred filly owned by the Bromans and trained by Hushion, three-year-old Artemis Agrotera, won the Grade 1 Ballerina by 6 ½ lengths.

Girlaboutown has two wins and a second in three starts, for earnings of more than \$105,000.

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Rallying down the center of the turf course under Rosie Napravnik, Clark Brewster's three-year-old filly **Verismilitude** edged **Southern Sunshine** on her inside by a half-length in an \$88,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the grass Sunday, covering the 5 ½ furlongs in 1:03.48. Verismilitude was the 8-5 favorite and Southern Sunshine the second choice in the field of nine at odds of 5-2. There was a large gap to 5-1 **Gu Gu Beans**, who won a four-horse photo for third.

Steve Asmussen trains Verismilitude, a daughter of Henny Hughes out of Open Wind by Trempolino who was bred by Jerry Bilinski and Harry Patten. Verismilitude was making her grass debut off an extremely distant second to none other than Girlaboutown in her career debut on dirt.

**Super City**, a 32-1 first-time starter under Angel Arroyo, set a fast pace with a clear lead through a quarter in :22.09 and a half-mile in :45.34, but then Southern Sunshine made up ground quickly under Joel Rosario. Napravnik had rallied Verismilitude on the outside from sixth and she also made up ground in a hurry.

At the sixteenth pole, it was a two-horse race with Verismilitude proving a bit the best.

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In Sunday's sixth race, a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$88,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the grass, Dylan Davis rallied Gold Bear Farm's three-year-old colt **Slew's Brew** to a neck victory on the inside of front-running **Forever Utopia** in a final time of 1:43.64. Slew's Brew was sent off at odds of 7-2 and Forever Utopia went off at 6-1 in the field of nine.

Jacqueline Falk trains Slewø Brew, a son of Suave out of Seattle Ash by Seattle Sleet who was bred by Charles Festa, Jr. Slewø Brew had finished second by a neck at 8-1 odds at Saratoga in his previous start.

Slewø Brew raced in mid-pack as Forever Utopia clicked off a quarter in :23.82, a half-mile in :49.06 and three-quarters in 1:13.18.

Forever Utopia shook off a bold challenge by 6-1 **Vischer Ferry**, but couldn't withstand Slewø Brew late. **Talladega**, the slight 3-1 favorite under Irad Ortiz, Jr., finished third. Slewø Brew now has a win and three seconds in four grass starts, with one third. He also has one third from seven dirt starts and total earnings of more than \$110,000.

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Sundayø ninth race was a 5 ½-furlong \$90,000 New York-bred grass allowance, and Robert Hahnø three-year-old filly **Summerdale**, sent off at 29-1 odds under Manuel Franco, outkicked **All Mine Tonight**, the 5-2 favorite under Javier Castellano in the field of 12, to win by three-quarters of a length in a final time of 1:03.47.

Jeremiah Englehart trains Summerdale, a daughter of More Than Ready out of Patagonia Tango by Storm Boat.

An even larger longshot, 65-1 **Lakeview Lady**, set the pace with both Summerdale and All Mine Tonight far back. Lakeview Lady hit the quarter in :21.94 and the half-mile in :45.59 before tiring.

Franco found room inside horses for Summerdale while All Mine Tonight rallied on the outside.

Summerdale proved best, improving his grass record to two-for-five. He also has a third from two dirt starts with combined earnings topping \$105,000.

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MeB Racing Stables and Brooklyn Boyz Stableø three-year-old gelding **Born in Brooklyn** rallied from dead last under Manuel Franco to win a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$52,500 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer on the grass by a length and a half Sunday at 10-1 odds. **Cody's Note** finished second at 3-1 odds, 9-2 **Lotza Heat** was third and 5-1 **Dreamboat** finished fourth in the field of 12.

Dominick Schettino trains Born in Brooklyn, a son of Indygo Shiner out of Sheboygan by Quiet American who was bred by Berkshire Stud. Born in Brooklyn hadn't hit the board in six previous starts, three on dirt and three on grass.

## Bromansø Homebred New York-Bred Artemis Agrotera Dominates Grade I Ballerina

In a powerful performance under Rajiv Maragh, Chester and Mary Bromanø homebred New York-bred three-year-old filly **Artemis Agrotera** blew away older fillies and mares to take the

36<sup>th</sup> running of the seven-furlong \$500,000 Grade I Ballerina Stakes by a staggering 6 ½ lengths in a final time of 1:21.89 at odds of 4-1 Saturday at Saratoga.

My Miss Aurelia, the slight 3-1 favorite, finished a distant second, a length and a quarter ahead of another New York-bred, **Willet**, who went off the 7-2 second choice in the field of eight. Better Lucky was fourth, a half-length behind Willet while a neck in front of the third of four New York-breds in this elite stakes, front-running **La Verdad**, in fifth.

Artemis Agrotera's victory trumpeted a brilliant job of training by Mike Hushion, who got her back at peak level following disappointing performances in her final start as a two-year-old and in her three-year-old debut.

Artemis Agrotera began her career exactly one year and one week earlier at Saratoga, when she stamped herself as special by winning her debut by 11 ¾ lengths at 2-5 odds. In her second lifetime start, Artemis Agrotera won the Grade I Frizette Stakes by a length and a quarter. Off that effort, she went off at 7-2 odds in the Grade I Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies at Santa Anita. After sitting second most of the way, she tired to finish fifth, losing by 11 ¼ lengths.

Hushion brought his filly back in a tough spot for her three-year-old debut in the Grade I Acorn Stakes at Belmont Park. She never fired, finishing eighth.

Then Hushion made a key decision: drop her into softer company. In a New York-bred allowance at Saratoga on July 23, she dominated, winning by 10 ¼ lengths at 1-5 odds. That set her up for the Ballerina.

“This filly has always acted like a special filly every day I’ve had her,” Hushion said. “So I was more confused by the couple of times she didn’t run well, and I’m never surprised when she shows up big.”

She was better than big in the Ballerina. With La Verdad almost certain to go for the lead, Hushion discussed strategy with Maragh, who was riding Artemis Agrotera for the first time. “I left it to Rajiv,” Hushion said. “We talked about it this morning, and he was going to take the path of least resistance.”

That meant not trying to match La Verdad’s enormous early speed. Breaking from the six post under Jose Ortiz, who had ridden Artemis Agrotera in her previous two races, La Verdad surged past Artemis Agrotera to take a one-length lead through a surprisingly moderate quarter of :23.14. Artemis Agrotera then stalked La Verdad through a half-mile in :45.78.

Maragh then sent up Artemis Agrotera up on La Verdad’s outside to contest the lead, and she did so earnestly as My Miss Aurelia rallied into third. When Maragh asked Artemis Agrotera for her best, she zipped away from La Verdad, then had plenty left to hold off My Miss Aurelia. Maragh actually eased up on Artemis Agrotera late. “I was gearing down inside the sixteenth pole because she had the race wrapped up and was powering away,” he said. “I don’t think I squeezed the lemon dry. I think she has more to give.”

In improving her record to four-for-six, Artemis Agrotera, a daughter of Roman Ruler out of Indy Glory by A.P. Indy, increased her career earnings to more than \$750,000.

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Right after winning the Grade I Kingø Bishop Stakes and the Grade I Travers, Javier Castellano scored his third winner Saturday, taking Bloodlines Racing Partnershipsø four-year-old filly **Invading Humor**, the only New York-bred in the field of 10, to a game half-length, wire-to-wire win in a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$100,000 grass allowance at 5-1 odds in a final time of 1:44.20.

Sky Painter, the 5-2 second choice, stalked Invading Humor from second the entire race, but couldnø get past her, finishing second, a head in front of 16-1 More Than Less.

Bruce Levine trains Invading Humor, a daughter of Invasor (ARG) out of Very Funny by Distorted Humor who was bred by Dr. James Mcglinn. Invading Humor is now four-for-eight on grass with one second and one third. She also has a win from three dirt starts, good for combined earnings now topping \$225,000 in just 11 starts.

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With a perfectly timed move in Saturdayø finale, Javier Castellano scored his fourth win in five races, rallying Great Hill Stablesø three-year-old colt **Morning Calm** to a half-length victory in a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$90,000 New York-bred grass allowance as the slight 3-1 favorite in the field of 11. **Macagone** was second at 4-1 odds, 5-1 **Bluegrass Flash** ran third and 10-1 **Toy Cannon** finished fourth after Morning Calm won in a final time of 1:43.20.

Always close to front-running Macagone, Morning Calm rallied from fourth into second in mid-stretch, then went after the pacesetter to win.

Michelle Nihei trains Morning Calm, a three-year-old colt by Broken Vow out of Krakowviak by Tale of the Cat who was bred by Gallagherø Stud. He improved his record to two-for-six, all on grass, with one second and earnings of more than \$80,000.

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Jose Lezcano fanned Funky Munky Stableø four-year-old gelding **Ocala Jim** eight-wide at the top of the stretch Saturday and he blew past all the horses in front of him to win a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$90,000 New York-bred grass allowance by three lengths in a final time of 1:43.86. Ocala Jim, trained by David Donk, went off the 7-2 second favorite in the field of 10.

**Blue Pigeon**, the 5-2 favorite under Irad Ortiz, Jr. from the outside post, edged 10-1 **Iced Over** by a head for second. **Balderdash** was fourth, just three-quarters of a length behind Iced Over, at 37-1 odds.

Ocala Jim is son of E Dubai out of Merion Miss by Halo who was bred by Berkshire Stud. Donk took over as Ocala Jimø trainer after a poor performance in a \$12,500 claimer on dirt in January at Aqueduct. Donk gave the gelding a 5 ½-month rest and switched him back to grass. He won his return in an open \$40,000 claimer at Belmont Park, then finished a strong-closing second in a state-bred allowance at Saratoga.

Breaking from the three post Saturday, he got away seventh as 6-1 **Poliziotto** and 10-1 **Saltine Warrior** disputed the early lead through a :23.58 first quarter and a half-mile in :48.51. Behind them, 46-1 **Sunnysider**, 14-1 **Charity Reins** and 4-1 **Hidden Vow** pursued them three across the track. Lezcano got Ocala Jim off the rail behind them and began searching for a path for a clear run.

At the top of the stretch, Lezcano found room and angled Ocala Jim to the far outside as the early pacesetters began to tire. Ocala Jim motored past all of them to win impressively. He improved his grass record to three-for-six with one second. He also has one second from five dirt starts, for combined earnings of nearly \$150,000.