

# New York-Breds at the Races: January 23 to 27

By Bill Heller

## Two of Taylor Rice's Four Wins Monday Come Aboard New York-Breds

Taylor Rice, the 25-year-old apprentice jockey who is trainer Linda Rice's niece, won four races for the first time in her career at Aqueduct Monday afternoon. Two of the four came in New York-bred races, and one of her New York-bred winners was trained by her aunt.

"It's awesome," Taylor said. "Nothing is better. God is good."

Taylor rode briefly at Belmont Park last October before riding at Hawthorne, where she finished third in the jockey standings with 41 victories. Her four winners at Aqueduct Monday gave her 12 for the meet, good for eighth in the standings.

Taylor's first New York-bred winner was Drawing Away Stable and trainer David Jacobson's four-year-old filly **Julesco**, who won the second race, a \$34,000 New York-bred \$20,000 claimer for fillies and mares at six furlongs.

Sent off at 7-2 odds from the rail, Julesco dueled early with 39-1 **Little Miss Lupe** before taking a clear lead through a :23.20 opening quarter. She opened up a length and a quarter on Little Miss Lupe through a half in :46.65 before spurting clear by four lengths. **Guyana Princess**, the 7-5 favorite, made a bold rally on the inside, but it was too late as Julesco won by a half-length in a final time of 1:12.97. **Run a Dubb Dubb** finished third.

Julesco is a daughter of Noble Causeway out of Bid of Genius by Beau Genius, and was bred by My Meadowview LLC. She improved her dirt record to two-for-eight with two seconds and one third. Her career earnings now top \$85,000.

After winning the eighth race aboard her aunt's Abra, she rode another horse trained by her aunt, Everything's Cricket Racing's three-year-old gelding **Executive Office**, in a six-furlong \$35,000 New York-bred maiden \$35,000 claimer. He began his career with a front-running second at Belmont Park, when he was claimed by his current connections for \$50,000. Linda freshened him and he finished a front-running second again as the even-money favorite. Linda added blinkers Monday and Executive Office went off at odds of 4-1.

Executive Office and 9-2 **Forged** got away one-two from the outside posts. Executive Office eventually opened a one-length lead, then expanded the margin to four lengths through a half in :48.05. Forged tired, but **American Creed**, the 5-2 favorite who had been racing in third, began to close in.

Executive Office was game, holding off American Creed by a neck in a final time of 1:14.06. There was a gap of nearly seven lengths back to Forged in third.

Executive Office is a son of Stanislavsky out of Professional Woman by Distinctive Pro, and was bred by Merrylegs Farm North.

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In Monday's opener, a \$23,000 New York-bred maiden \$16,000 claimer at six furlongs, Christina Pringle's six-year-old gelding **Mr. Masterpiece**, the 5-2 second choice in a field of six, dominated, winning by nine lengths under Men Chen in a final time of 1:12.04. **Pegasus Tiger**, the 3-5 favorite, was second, a length ahead of **Centripital**, who finished more than 17 lengths in front of **Hunter Grey** in fourth.

Mr. Masterpiece is a son of Greeley's Galaxy out of Paradise Vice by Vice Regent who was bred by Mr. and Mrs. Rocco Buetti and is trained by Edmund Pringle. Mr. Masterpiece now has a win and a third from seven dirt starts.

### Idle Irish Whisper Scores Wire-to-Wire at Aqueduct Sunday

Howard Nolan's Blue Sky Farm and John Hicks' four-year-old homebred **Irish Whisper**, who hadn't raced since July, continued a weekend dominated by speed, scoring wire-to-wire by 3 1/2 lengths in a six-furlong \$52,000 New York-bred allowance for fillies and mares at Aqueduct Sunday in a final time of 1:11.22.

Irad Ortiz, Jr. rode Irish Whisper, who went off at 7-2 odds in the field of six. **Spinit to Winit** finished second at odds of 4-1, well clear of 18-1 **Agilion**. **Kilnockagain** was fourth as the 4-5 favorite in her first start off the claim for \$35,000 by Drawing Away Stable and trainer David Jacobson. **Dixie Sparkle** was literally left at the gate at the start and ultimately pulled up during the race.

Ortiz hustled Irish Whisper to the front and, without serious pressure through a quarter in :22.96 and a half in :46.47, she improved her dirt record to two-for-three. Trainer Jeremiah Englehart has been high on this filly from the get-go, and was not surprised when she aired at first asking last May. He smartly gave her a rest after she was slammed by rivals in her first try on turf last July, when she finished 12<sup>th</sup>. With Sunday's impressive win, her connections must be dreaming of stakes races, as her dam Tishmeister was also a talented miss. The NY-bred daughter of City Zip won the NY Stallion Stakes Statue of Liberty Stakes on her way to racking up \$186,222 in earnings.

Hicks and Nolan will also collect a \$4,680 breeder award from the NY Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund. First-period (January & February) awards will be paid in early March.

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Adding Lasix after pushing the pace and tiring to finish sixth in his debut, Fox Ridge Farm's homebred three-year-old colt **Testosterstone** rolled to a four-length victory Sunday under C.C. Lopez in a six-furlong \$50,000 New York-bred maiden special weight in a final time of 1:11.56.

Pat Kelly trains the colt by Birdstone out of A.P. Test by A.P. Indy, who went off at 5-1 odds breaking from the rail in a field of 10 that included five first-time starters.

**Super Nicky**, one of the firsters sent off at 4-1 odds from the 10 post, broke first under apprentice Manny Esquivel, but was immediately confronted and passed by Testosterstone.

Testosterstone led Super Nicky by a half-length after a first quarter in :23.06, with 5-2 **Hampden Fiveone** and 3-1 **Freddie G** alternating in third and fourth.

Testosterone increased his lead to a length and a half through a :47.07 half-mile and continued to draw away, coasting home clearly the best. Hampden Fiveone finished second and Super Nicky was third. **John's Island**, a firster sent off at 17-1 odds, finished fourth.

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Team Power Play Racing's four-year-old New York-bred gelding **Ask About Me** opened a two-length lead at the sixteenth pole then held off Moonlite Encounter to win a 5 ½-furlong \$20,000 maiden \$12,500 claimer by three-quarters of a length in a final time of 1:06.74. Both horses went off at 9-5 odds, with Ask About Me a narrow favorite.

Rosario Montanez got Ask About Me to the lead with steady pressure from 50-1 bomb Quiet Value through a quarter in :22.45 and a half in :47.13.

When Quiet Value wilted, Moonlite Encounter moved into second then went after Ask About Me. Ask About Me held on to break his maiden in his fifth dirt start. Sam Gordon bred the son of Disco Rico out of Cheektowaga by Langfuhr, and he is trained by Gary Gullo.

### Itsagoodtendollars Whistles Wire-to-Wire in Saturday's Opener

Apprentice jockey Manny Esquivel did a superb job rating Aaron Racing Stable's eight-year-old New York-bred gelding **Itsagoodtendollars** on the lead, and he won a mile-and-an-eighth \$50,000 starter allowance by 4 ½ lengths at 4-1 odds over Frazil, the 2-1 second choice, in Saturday's opener at Aqueduct. Longshot Lure of the South was another neck back in third, and the other state-bred in the field of seven, **Pure Attitude**, finished fourth as the 8-5 favorite.

Itsagoodtendollars was a sharply improved front-running second by 1 ¾ lengths in his previous race, a \$30,000 claimer. He broke smartly from the two post Saturday to immediately take the lead. Cornelio Velasquez settled Frazil in second with longshot Wayward Sailor in third, as Itsagoodtendollars set an even pace: a quarter in :23.92, a half in :48.46 and three-quarters in 1:12.11.

Frazil took over second around the far turn as Pure Attitude began advancing on the inside and Lure of the South moved up on the outside.

Itsagoodtendollars was ready for both of them, and he maintained a comfortable lead through the mile in 1:37.63. He crossed the wire in 1:50.75.

A son of Tale of the Cat out of Goomada Byda Sea by Sea Hero, bred by Navesink Thoroughbreds and trained by Jeremiah Englehart, Itsagoodtendollars improved his outstanding record on the inner dirt track to six victories, four seconds and one third in 14 races. Overall, he now boasts 10 wins, 10 seconds and 10 thirds in 42 starts, with earnings of nearly \$450,000.

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C.C. Lopez put F and F Stable's four-year-old filly **Concealed** on the lead, and she became yet another wire-to-wire winner Saturday, taking a one-mile \$57,000 New York-bred allowance by a neck over **Gendarmour** in a final time of 1:39.27. **Penthouse Party** rallied for third. Concealed was sent off at odds of 9-2, Gendarmour was 11-1 and Penthouse Party was 6-1 in the field of eight. **Uman Candy**, the 4-5 favorite, was never a factor.

Concealed is a daughter of Officer out of Royal Thief by Cat Thief, was bred by Ed Lipton and is trained by Luis Miranda. She had finished in the money in four straight races before tiring badly on a sloppy track when a distant sixth at 3-1 odds in her previous race.

**A Prettydixie**, a 9-1 shot, tracked Concealed in second through a quarter in :24.18, a half in :47.65 and three-quarters in 1:12.62.

When A Prettydixie tired, Gendarmour moved into second. She didn't seem to be gaining on Concealed until the final 100 yards, when she surged. Concealed held on by a neck.

Concealed improved her dirt record to two-for-15 with four seconds and three thirds. She also has a win and a third in five grass starts. Her earnings now top \$150,000.

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Making a spectacular debut Saturday, R and H Stable and trainer George Weaver's **Saturday Bliss** crushed nine rivals, capturing a six-furlong \$50,000 New York-bred maiden special weight for three-year-old fillies virtually wire-to-wire by 11  $\frac{3}{4}$  lengths at 8-1 odds under Chris DeCarlo.

The two fillies immediately outside Saturday Bliss, 9-5 **Keep Right** and 13-1 **Heavenly Girl**, broke a couple steps faster from the gate, but Saturday Bliss quickly took the lead, speeding to the quarter in :22.51. She hit the half with a three-length lead in :46.21 and then kept drawing away, getting the six furlongs in 1:11.34. Keep Right nipped 25-1 first-time starter **Prairie Storm** by a head for second.

Saturday Bliss is a daughter of Any Given Saturday out of Miz Audacious by Miswaki, and was bred by Dr. Tom Keenan and Dr. H.G. White, Jr. She was purchased for \$20,000 at the Saratoga August 2012 Yearling Sale.

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Breaking from the 10 post in his career debut on New Year's Day, Robert Valeri's homebred four-year-old gelding **Perfect Disco** shied at the start, got away last in the field of 11 and rallied slightly to finish eighth at 9-2 odds. Moving all the way inside to the rail for his second start Saturday, Perfect Disco broke alertly, put away longshot **You Jane**, the only filly in the field of seven, through a grueling :21.97 first quarter and still had more than enough left to win the 5  $\frac{1}{2}$ -furlong \$50,000 New York-bred maiden special weight by 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  lengths in a final time of 1:06.24. Rosario Montanez rode the son of Disco Rico out of Platinum Perfect by Jules, who is trained by Dominic Galluscio and went off at odds of 7-2.

**Sir Maurice** edged **Giulio Cesari** and **Brass Pear**, the 9-5 favorite, for second.

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A heads-up ride by David Cohen helped Island Wind Racing's six-year-old gelding **Precious Metal** win Saturday's finale, a one-mile \$35,000 New York-bred \$20,000 claimer, by 3  $\frac{1}{2}$

lengths at 2-1 odds. **Five Freedoms**, a 30-1 longshot, got up for second, with 10-1 **Indy Tune** and 2-1 **Tycoon Cat** third and fourth, respectively, after Precious Metal won in a final time of 1:37.74.

Precious Metal had the rail, and the track had favored speed all day long. Cohen used Precious Metal to protect his inside position as both **Pin Number** and Tycoon Cat tried making it to the lead from the two outside post positions in the field of seven.

Pin Number led briefly on Precious Metal's outside, and Tycoon Cat managed to poke a head in front three-wide for a couple of seconds, but Precious Metal put both away decisively after three-quarters in 1:12.07 to improve his dirt record to three-for-17 with three seconds. He also has four wins, two seconds and one third in 15 turf starts for career earnings of more than \$270,000.

Precious Metal is a son of Silver Train out of Sugar Is Gold by Slew o'Gold who was bred by Dr. Lance Bell and is trained by Chris Englehart.

### Prohibition Dazzles in His New York Return

Two Hands LLC's **Prohibition**, a sharp shipper from Philadelphia, returned to New York in style, blowing away six rivals in a one-mile \$57,000 New York-bred allowance by a dozen lengths in a final time of 1:37.19 as the 4-5 favorite in a field of seven Thursday at Aqueduct.

Stewart Elliott came north to maintain the mount on Prohibition, who is three-for-three since he was claimed for \$7,500 by trainer Cathal Lynch. Lynch removed blinkers and Prohibition won a \$16,000 claimer and a starter allowance at Parx before returning to New York, where he raced last spring and summer.

Leaving from the rail, Prohibition broke sharply to make the lead under steady pressure from **Petrocelli**, the 3-1 second choice, through a quarter in :24.01 and a half in :47.21.

Then Prohibition said, "Goodbye," and opened up on the field. He hit three-quarters in 1:12.03 two lengths in front and quickly increased his lead to double digits while never being asked by Elliott. **Joe Mooch** got up for second. **Rocket Hero** finished third and Petrocelli was fourth.

Prohibition is a four-year-old gelding by Lawyer Ron out of Tuesday Prayer by Holy Bull, and was bred by Red Storm Stable and That's Amore Stable. He improved his dirt record to three-for-six with one third. He also has a win and two seconds from six turf starts, and he increased his career earnings Thursday to more than \$110,000.

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Drawing Away Stable and trainer David Jacobson liked **Henry's Gal** before she made her career debut Dec. 12, putting in the claiming slip before she won a New York-bred maiden \$35,000 claimer by 2 ¼ lengths as the 2-1 favorite.

The change in stables had no impact. On Thursday she whistled, outstripping 9-1 **Summerdale** for the early lead on the way to a seven-length romp in a six-furlong \$52,000 New York-bred allowance/optional \$75,000 claimer for three-year-old fillies in a final time of 1:12.46 as the 7-5

favorite in the field of five. **Daddy's Lil Saint** was second, a half-length in front of **Molly the Freud** in third.

David Cohen rode the winner, who set splits of :22.89 and :46.76.

Alfred DiRico bred Henry's Gal, a daughter of Disco Rico out of Diva's Quest by Norquestor who has already earned \$55,200 in two starts.

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R and K Racing's six-year-old gelding **Say Mr. Sandman** brought a zero-for-11 record over the last two years and a zero-for-six record on the inner dirt track into a six-furlong \$34,000 conditional New York-bred \$20,000 claimer Thursday. He had, however, led late before weakening to finish second in his previous two starts.

Bettors sent him off the near-favorite at 2-1 odds and he got up in the final strides under apprentice jockey Emmanuel Esquivel to nail **William Thomas**, the 5-2 third choice in the field of eight, by a neck in a final time of 1:11.71. Three lengths behind them, **Southbeachsandy** edged the slight 2-1 favorite, **Dr Disco**.

William Thomas was game in defeat after setting a wicked pace on the front end: a quarter in :22.81 and a half in :45.75. He turned back a bold challenge from Dr Disco to open a clear lead late before Say Mr. Sandman arrived on the scene.

Bred by Amy and Jody Boll, Say Mr. Sandman is a son of Say Florida Sandy out of Watrals Twelvebelow by Dixie Brass and is trained by Chris Englehart. He improved his record to six-for-22 with four seconds, two thirds and earnings now topping \$125,000.

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Taking advantage of a gaping hole on the inside, Manuel Franco shot John Dillon's four-year-old New York-bred gelding **Can't Catch Me Now** to the lead, and the 9-1 shot held off the 4-5 favorite Chief Scout, to win a six-furlong \$24,000 conditional \$16,00 claimer Thursday by a nose in a final time of 1:12.80.

One of five state-breds in a field of six, Can't Catch Me Now was making his first start since being returned to trainer Oscar Barrera III's stable after finishing eighth, fifth and seventh, respectively, in his previous three races.

NY-bred **Pegasus Red** set the pace with Chief Scout stalking in second and NY-bred **Stonehedge** in third. When Chief Scout and Stonehedge made their bids for the lead around the far turn, Can't Catch Me Now, who had been fourth, took advantage of a huge hole on the rail.

Can't Catch Me Now opened a clear lead, but Chief Scout and Stonehedge weren't done. Can't Catch Me Now held off Chief Scout by a nose with Stonehedge a length back in third.