

# New York-Breds at the Races: June 25 to July 1

By Bill Heller

## Unbeaten Capriana Crushes Her Competition Wednesday

Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Ronald Frankel's three-year-old filly **Capriana**, who won her debut by a neck rallying from ninth, contested the early pace and then unleashed a spectacular burst of speed to up her record to two for two Wednesday afternoon at Belmont Park. Breaking from the rail under John Velazquez, the Todd Pletcher-trained filly won a mile-and-a-sixteenth \$62,000 New York-bred grass allowance by maybe a dozen lengths in a final time of 1:42.62 on a course rated "good."

Capriana, a daughter of Street Boss out of Dynamism by Dynaformer, was bred by MDS Farms LLC and sold for \$55,000 as a yearling at Saratoga in August 2013. She's already earned \$73,200 in two starts.

Bettors made her the 7-5 favorite in the field of nine. She broke first, but 47-1 **Classic Aussie** and 17-1 **Unspoken** also went for the lead from the two and three posts, respectively. Velazquez didn't push the issue, allowing them both to pass his filly narrowly while doing a superb job of protecting his position on the rail.

Unspoken took a brief lead three-wide before Classic Aussie made the lead by three-quarters of a length on the outside of Capriana through a :23.64 first quarter. Capriana moved within a neck of Classic Aussie through a :48.78 half-mile, then took a head lead through three-quarters in 1:13.32.

The rest of the field closed in coming out of the far turn, but Velazquez hadn't even asked his filly for run. When he did, she responded instantaneously, producing a "wow" performance completely on her own.

**Where's the Risk**, an 8-1 shot ridden by Irad Ortiz, Jr., edged 4-1 **Amazing Anne**, ridden by Junior Alvarado, by a head for second. **Light Years Away** finished fourth under Ruben Silvera at 82-1 odds.

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Showing no ill effects from being eased in a grass race in her previous start, Newman Racing's three-year-old filly **Tricky Zippy**, bred by Donald Newman, led early, lost the lead and then rallied under Rajiv Maragh to an impressive 3 ½-length victory in a six-furlong \$62,000 New York-bred allowance race. Sent off at 3-1 odds in the field of five, Tricky Zippy won in a final time of 1:12.46 on a drying-out track labeled "muddy."

Carlos Martin trains Tricky Zippy, a daughter of City Zip out of Honky Tonk Trick by Phone Trick. Tricky Zippy made her first three starts on dirt, finishing a distant second in her only start last year, then third and first in a seven-furlong maiden special weight by a length and a quarter as the 8-5 favorite.

Tricky Zippy was then switched to turf, and she contested the pace and tired to finish fourth at 9-2 odds. Her next race on grass was a disaster when she took a bad step, drifted out and was eased under Javier Castellano.

Maragh replaced Castellano for Tricky Zippy's return to dirt Wednesday, and she broke first from the two post, leading 5-2 **Awesome News** by a head through a :22.60 first quarter. Awesome News, ridden by Jose Ortiz, took the lead but was quickly passed by **Slam Chowder**, the 4-5 favorite under Castellano who had won both of her prior starts.

Slam Chowder took a neck lead on the outside of Awesome News, but couldn't clear her. Behind them, Maragh had Tricky Zippy rallying sharply three-wide after a half-mile in :46.47.

Awesome News re-took the lead briefly over Slam Chowder before Tricky Zippy blasted past her in mid-stretch. Tricky Zippy opened a four-length lead and won under wraps. **Literata**, who went off at 6-1 odds under Luis Saez, rallied strongly for second, 2 ¼ lengths ahead of Awesome News. There was a large gap of 11 ¼ lengths back to Slam Chowder in fourth.

Tricky Zippy is now two for four on dirt with one second and one third. She now has total earnings of more than \$90,000.

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Enjoying a perfect trip under Javier Castellano, Mark Breen's three-year-old filly **Smilingsundae** made her dirt debut a winning one Wednesday, taking a one-mile \$41,000 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer by 6 ½ lengths. The race was switched from the turf to a drying main track upgraded from muddy to good. Sent off the 7-5 favorite in the field of six, Smilingsundae won in a final time of 1:41.62.

Smilingsundae is a daughter of Sightseeing out of Thisgirlissmiling by Petionville who was bred by Big Z Thoroughbreds LLC and sold for \$30,000 as a yearling at Keeneland in September 2013. Trained by Mike Maker, Smilingsundae's first three starts were on grass. She finished fifth and fourth in two starts in maiden special weights last year, then fourth in her three-year-old debut in a maiden \$40,000 claimer on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Castellano, who has ridden Smilingsundae in all her races, got his filly away in a beautiful position, third behind two dueling leaders: 7-1 **Never Say No Girl** and the 2-1 second choice, **Mohawk Lily**.

Never Say No Girl and Mohawk Lily battled through a :23.93 first quarter and a half-mile in :48.56.

When Mohawk Lily put away Never Say No Girl, Smilingsundae went right by and quickly opened up on the field after hitting three-quarters in 1:15.09. She drifted out a bit in the stretch but Castellano straightened her out and she won easily.

Mohawk Lily was second, nearly 13 lengths clear of 9-2 **Millpoint Creek**. First-time starter **Awesome Winter** finished an extremely distant fourth at 6-1 odds.

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Making her first start since mid-December, MFRG Racing Stable's four-year-old homebred filly **Roman Reign** rolled to a four-length victory Wednesday under Luis Saez, winning a \$32,000

New York-bred maiden \$25,000 claimer as the 6-5 favorite in the field of eight. She covered the six-furlong distance in 1:14.58 on a track labeled õgood.ö

**Hint of Sarcasm**, a first-time starter sent off at 5-2 odds under Jose Lezcano, broke immediately in front and held well to finish second, a length and a half ahead of 18-1 **Mini Muffin**. Another firster, 7-2 **Mystic Moll**, was another length back in fourth.

Saez got Roman Reign away third as Hint of Sarcasm sprung to the lead while pressed by 7-1 **Gregg's Beauty** through an opening quarter in :23.32 and a half-mile in :47.84. Roman Reign was four lengths off the lead but quickly gained ground when asked by Saez. Roman Reign flew past Hint of Sarcasm to win by herself.

Peter Pugh trained Roman Reign last year for her first five starts. The daughter of Roman Ruler out of Dixie Doree by Dixie Brass was then trained by Lisa Lewis for two starts before getting a long vacation. Pugh brought her back off five published works at Saratoga.

Roman Reign now has a win, a second and a pair of thirds from six dirt starts, for earnings of more than \$40,000.

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William Punk, Jr. and Philip DiLeoø four-year-old New York-bred filly **Selenite's** late lunge to finish second under John Velazquez looked even better when the one-length winner, Evidently, was disqualified and placed fifth in a mile-and-a-quarter \$80,000 allowance/optional \$62,500 grass claimer Wednesday. That moved Selenite, sent off at 8-1 odds as the only state-bred in the field of six, up to first.

David Donk trains Selenite, a gray daughter of Cosmonaut out of Offhand Remark by Western Expression who was bred by Flying Zee Stables and sold for just \$20,000 as a two-year-old in 2013.

Selenite was making her third start of the year and taking a major drop after finishing third and ninth in two Grade 2 stakes.

Selenite broke a bit awkwardly and raced in fifth as 24-1 Agawa set the glacial early fractions a quarter-mile in :25.26, a half-mile in :52.18 and three-quarters in 1:18.11 on the course rated õgood.ö Agawa still held the lead after racing a mile in 1:41.96. Velazquez took Selenite to the far outside for a clean run and she rallied smartly.

Evidently, who was ridden by Joel Rosario and went off at 6-1 odds, found room between horses when Agawa tired, but then bumped soundly with Regardez (GB), the even-money favorite ridden by Irad Ortiz, Jr. on the rail, in mid-stretch. Evidently prevailed at the finish line and Velazquez kept busy to rally Selenite past Fresh Feline for second. That made all the different in the world when the stewards took down the winner.

Selenite improved her grass record to four for 12 with two thirds. She also has one third from two dirt starts for combined earnings of a tad less than \$250,000.

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Wednesdayø finale was a one-mile \$41,000 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer switched from turf to dirt. Fernando Jara drove Drawing Away Stableø three-year-old filly **Backwater** to

a two-length victory. Sent off at 19-1 odds from the rail in the field of seven, Backwater won in a final time of 1:41.38.

Abigail Adsit trains Backwater, a daughter of Hold Me Back out of Aqualina by Holy Bull who was bred by WinStar Farm. She sold for \$47,000 at the Saratoga Yearling Sale in 2013 and was claimed for \$25,000 in her debut, when she finished a distant eighth on dirt. Her next two starts were on turf, and she finished seventh and eighth before returning to dirt Wednesday.

Backwater was towards the rear of the pack as 3-1 **Ragazza Piu' Bella** took over the lead from 14-1 **Saratoga by Design** after a half-mile in :48.40. **Hatta's Appeal**, the 6-5 favorite under Manuel Franco, took a run at Ragazza PiuøBella but was rebuffed as Backwater began her rally from fifth.

Backwater ran past all the fillies in front of her to win handily. **Little Mary Ellen** finished second at 3-1 odds and **Wildinthestreets** edged Ragazza PiuøBella by a nose for third.

### Third Straight Victory Makes La Verdad a Millionaire Sunday

With stunning ease, Lady Sheila Stable's magnificent mare **La Verdad** cruised to a 7 ¼-length victory under Jose Ortiz as the 1-9 favorite in the second running of the six-furlong \$100,000 Dancin Renee Stakes for New York-breds on a sloppy, sealed track at Belmont Park Sunday afternoon. In doing so, she became racing's newest millionaire. The five-year-old mare, who has now won three straight, captured last year's inaugural running of the Dancin Renee by 1 ¾ lengths at 1-5 odds.

She was much more dominant Sunday. Ortiz went to his left hand ó after the finish line ó to pet La Verdad's neck as he pulled her up from a race that looked more like a workout. The lovefest continued in the winner's circle, with a still-grinning Ortiz getting kissed twice by one of La Verdad's grateful owners.

Eklektikos Stable bred La Verdad, a daughter of Yes It's True out of Noble Fire by Hook and Ladder who is trained by Linda Rice.

Rice had been pointing La Verdad to the Grade 3 Bed øRoses on June 20<sup>th</sup>, but had to call an audible when La Verdad tore a hind shoe off in a workout. "I was trying to find an easy spot to get her to the Honorable Miss at Saratoga," Rice said. "I was just happy this race filled."

A good performance in the \$200,000 Grade 2 Honorable Miss on July 29<sup>th</sup> could send La Verdad into the \$500,000 Grade 1 Ballerina later in the Saratoga meet. Sunday, she faced New York-breds.

Though six fillies and mares walked into the starting gate to challenge La Verdad Sunday, the New York Racing Association canceled show wagering in the Dancin Renee. It wasn't difficult to understand why. La Verdad was dropping to New York-bred stakes company after winning both the Grade 2 Distaff and the Grade 3 Vagrancy Handicap in her first two starts this year.

Breaking sharply from the six post, La Verdad was initially challenged for the lead by two fillies inside her: 12-1 **Court Dancer** and 25-1 **Uncle Southern**. La Verdad soon took the front, edging to a length lead over Court Dancer through a :22.91 first-quarter.

That was the ballgame.

La Verdad stretched her lead to two lengths by running a half-mile in :45.85 and continued to draw away from the field, prompting announcer Larry Collmus to say, "She's making it look easy."

No lie. Without Ortiz asking her, she quickly opened up by five, then six lengths. She won in-hand in a final time of 1:10.27. "She broke well and she did what she needed to do," Ortiz said. "I'm very happy with her. Linda brought her in at 100 percent."

In the battle for second, 18-1 **Make the Moment** edged 13-1 **Miss Da Point** by a neck. **Here's Zealicious** was another half-length back in fourth at 40-1 odds.

La Verdad's numbers are astounding: she is now 10 for 13 at six furlongs, six for eight on wet tracks and six for seven at Belmont Park. For her career, she is 13 for 19 with a pair of seconds and earnings topping \$1,050,000.

At the age of five, is it possible La Verdad is still getting better? She is three for three since Rice gave her a near-five-month layoff after being in training for a year and a half. "She's certainly come back well," Rice said. "She's more relaxed."

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Windhorse Thoroughbreds' New York-bred colt **Chasing Bubbles** gamely came again on the inside of New York-bred **Copernicus** to capture a six-furlong \$53,000 open \$32,000 claimer for three-year-olds by three-quarters of a length under Joel Rosario, who notched his second consecutive victory. Chasing Bubbles was the 2-1 favorite and Copernicus was the 7-2 third choice in the field of seven.

Kenny McPeck trains Chasing Bubbles, a son of Posse out of Scottish Bubbly by Cherokee Run who was co-bred by Mort Mallory. Chasing Bubbles won a \$40,000 claimer by a neck at 9-1 odds in his previous start.

Breaking from the outside post Sunday, Chasing Bubbles moved up on the outside of Bobby C, the 5-2 second choice on the lead. Copernicus wasn't far behind in third after a :23.30 first quarter. Bobby C still led Chasing Bubbles narrowly after a half-mile in :47.54.

Chasing Bubbles put away Bobby C as Copernicus rallied on the outside under Fernando Jara.

Copernicus stuck a head in front of Chasing Bubbles in mid-stretch, but Chasing Bubbles responded and regained the lead, winning in a final time of 1:12.78. Copernicus finished second, a length and three-quarters ahead of 6-1 Media's Delite in third. New York-bred **Scattered Dreams** was another three-quarters of a length back in fourth at 9-1 odds.

Chasing Bubbles improved his dirt record to four for 10 with one second and more than \$190,000 in earnings.

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Owner/trainer David Cannizzo's three-year-old gelding **El Viejo Verde** cleared the early lead and never looked back, taking Sunday's finale, a six-furlong \$41,000 New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer switched from the grass to the sloppy main track, by one length under Kendrick

Carmouche. Sent off the 4-5 favorite in the field of six, El Viejo Verde won in a final time of 1:13.39.

El Viejo Verde is a son of Montbrook out of Sweet Allie Marie by Unusual Heat who was bred by Peter Levine. He switched back to dirt off a pair of front-running seconds on grass.

Breaking from the outside post, El Viejo Verde took a three-quarter-length lead over **Loose Money**, who went off at 6-1 odds from the rail under Jose Ortiz, through a :23.11 first quarter. He stretched his lead to three lengths through a :47.00 half-mile and then held on for the win despite drifting out a bit.

**My Tommy Boy**, a first-time starter who went off at 5-1 odds under Angel Arroyo, closed strongly on the rail to finish second. There was a huge gap back to **Loose Money** in third. **Michael James** was fourth at 11-1 odds.

El Viejo Verde is now one for 11 on dirt with three seconds and two thirds. He also has those two seconds in two turf tries for combined earnings of more than \$60,000.

### Wonder Gal Runs a Strong Second in the Mother Goose Stakes

On a rare Saturday afternoon at Belmont Park without a single New York-bred reaching the winner's circle, Treadway Racing Stable's three-year-old New York-bred filly **Wonder Gal** ran a strong second in the 59<sup>th</sup> running of the mile-and-a-sixteenth \$300,000 Grade 1 Mother Goose Stakes. Sent off a slight favorite at 7-2 odds from the outside post in the field of 10, Wonder Gal gamely edged 10-1 Chide by a nose for second, 3 ¼ lengths behind the impressive 5-1 winner Include Betty, who made a sensational rally from far back under Drayden Van Dyke for trainer Tom Proctor. It was the second victory of the day for Van Dyke and Proctor, who won a \$35,000 grass claimer with Be Nice Or Leave two races earlier by a neck over New York-bred **Life's a Stage**.

“I thought she ran really well,” Wonder Gal's trainer, Leah Gyarmati said. “She really showed a lot of guts running it out for second. For a minute there in the stretch, it looked like we may be nowhere.”

Rajiv Maragh rode Wonder Gal, a daughter of Tiz Wonderful out of Passe by Dixie Union who was bred by Apache Farm and was purchased for \$210,000 as a two-year-old at Ocala in March, 2014.

Wonder Gal showed she was special from day one. Making her debut in the \$122,000 Lynbrook Stakes for two-year-old New York-bred fillies last year, Wonder Gal won by 14 ½ lengths at Belmont Park as the 4-5 favorite under Taylor Rice. Rice rode Wonder Gal back in the Grade 2 Adirondack Stakes at Saratoga, where she lacked room late, finishing third by four lengths at 2-1 odds.

Cornelio Velasquez was Wonder Gal's rider in her next start, when she finished second by 2 ¼ lengths in the Grade I Frizette at Belmont. Mike Smith was Wonder Gal's jockey when she concluded her two-year-old campaign by finishing third by a length at 15-1 odds in the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies to Two-Year-Old Filly Champion Take Charge Brandi.

Irad Ortiz, Jr. was Wonder Gal's pilot in her three-year-old debut when she ran fourth in the Grade 2 Gazelle at Aqueduct. Back at Belmont for the Grade 1 Acorn, she finished third by a length with Gary Stevens aboard at 16-1 odds.

On Saturday, Maragh got Wonder Gal away sharply, but let her settle in fifth early as the only other New York-bred in the race, 57-1 **Hot City Girl**, led by a length under Jose Ortiz despite setting a hot pace: a quarter in :22.60 and a half-mile in :45.30. Hot City Girl was still in front after three-quarters in 1:10.93.

Hot City Girl continued on with good energy while Wonder Gal, who had been shuffled back to sixth, advanced into fourth. Both horses were passed by Include Betty, who rocketed by everybody and took a five-length lead. Wonder Gal found another gear and rallied to finish second. Hot City Girl held well enough to finish fifth.

### Millionaire Lubash Is Brilliant in His 14<sup>th</sup> Career Victory Friday

When you card an unrestricted allowance race, you never know who is going to show up or not. Five of the horses entered in a seven-furlong \$75,000 New York-bred grass allowance Friday at Belmont scratched rather than take on Aliyu Ben J Stables' homebred millionaire **Lubash**. That did nothing to diminish how impressive the eight-year-old gelding performed against just two rivals, winning his second straight race by 3 ½ lengths in a sizzling final time of 1:20.32 as the 1-5 favorite under Junior Alvarado.

**Captain Gaughen**, who was ridden by Kendrick Carmouche and went off at 8-1 odds, was a front-running second, a little more than a length ahead of 9-5 **Notacatbutallama**, ridden by John Velazquez.

Trainer Christophe Clement has done an exceptional job handling Lubash, a son of Freud out of Nasty Cure by Cure the Blues who won the \$125,000 Kingston by a length at 4-1 odds in his previous start.

Given that Lubash had beaten Notacatbutallama six times and Captain Gaughen twice, Friday's race didn't figure to have much drama. But it did until Alvarado found enough room between horses in the stretch.

Captain Gaughen led Notacatbutallama by a length with Lubash another length and a half back in third in a sizzling pace: a quarter-mile in :22.58 and a half-mile in :44.88. When Notacatbutallama moved closer to Captain Gaughen on his outside, Lubash, who had drawn in much closer behind the pair, had no room to run. Alvarado, obviously sitting on a ton of horse, didn't panic and soon found room between horses as Notacatbutallama began to tire.

Lubash split Captain Gaughen and Notacatbutallama decisively in mid-stretch and accelerated past them in breathtaking fashion even though Alvarado wasn't really asking him. Lubash opened a gaping lead immediately and cruised to another victory.

Lubash is now 13 for 39 on turf with nine seconds and five thirds. He also has a win from three dirt starts and now boasts more than \$1,140,000 in earnings.

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Perfectly prepared for his first start in more than eight months by trainer Tom Morley, My Meadowview Farms' four-year-old New York-bred gelding **Noble Cornerstone** rallied late under Joel Rosario and ran down an extremely game front-runner, Blame Jim, to win an \$80,000 allowance/optional \$62,000 claimer Friday. He covered the six-furlong distance in 1:09.93. Both horses went off at 5-2 odds in the field of nine.

Noble Cornerstone is a son of Noble Causeway out of Besige by Polish Numbers who was making his first start since finishing a rallying fifth in the \$150,000 Hudson Handicap for state-breds on October 18. His five published works for his return included two outstanding four-furlong bullet works at Belmont in :47, the best of 72 horses on June 5th, and :46 4/5, the best of 92 on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Blame Jim, who added blinkers and broke from the two post under John Velazquez, went for the early lead and had plenty of company. Manhattan Johnnie, a 21-1 longshot, 9-1 Glacken Too and 6-1 Easy to Say all went for the front, and Blame Jim led by just a head through a :21.93 first quarter. Noble Cornerstone had broken well, but was taken back to seventh by Rosario.

The front-end battle continued around the far turn and into the head of the stretch as Blame Jim put away all his early challengers by running a testing half-mile in :44.68. By then, Noble Cornerstone was flying at him. Blame Jim gamely dug in, but couldn't hold off Noble Cornerstone. Blame Jim settled for second, 2 ½ lengths clear of 11-1 New York-bred **Crafty Dreamer** in third. Another 11-1 shot, Monster Mash, finished fourth.

Noble Cornerstone is now five for 11 with two seconds and nearly \$300,000 in earnings.

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In a dramatic six-furlong \$60,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the inner turf course Friday, Alfred DiRico's three-year-old gelding **Payment Terms** survived getting slammed into soundly at the start, then an objection and inquiry after he won by 3 ¾ lengths under Luis Saez in a fast final time of 1:08.69. Payment Terms went off at 4-1 odds in the field of 11 after finishing third in his debut at odds of 8-1.

Breaking out of the eight post, Payment Terms was smacked hard by the horse immediately inside of him, 99-1 shot **Spotless**, who was ridden by Eduardo Ulloa and veered out sharply at the start. That started a chain reaction of the horses outside Payment Terms. Ulloa lost his irons and tumbled off of Spotless, but appeared to escape without serious injury.

Payment Terms, though, got away last after the incident.

On the front end, 28-1 **Longisland Express** and 20-1 **Elusive New Yorker** disputed the lead, with Longisland Express taking a two-length lead through a :22.14 first quarter. Then Elusive New Yorker took the point, leading Longisland Express by a length and a half through a :45.19 half-mile. Ironically, the two horses finished in a dead heat for seventh.

**True Rate**, who went off at 6-1 odds under Kendrick Carmouche, was perfectly placed in third behind the dueling leaders. True Rate had beaten Payment Terms by three-quarters of a length when he finished second in his last start at 26-1 odds.

True Rate took the lead in mid-stretch as Payment Terms quickly roared into contention. In mid-stretch, he appeared to come over badly on **Manofire**, the 8-5 favorite under Joel Rosario.

Regardless, Payment Terms shot past True Rate to win easily. True Rate saved second, 1 ¾ lengths clear of Manofire, who edged 23-1 **Tino** by a head for third.

The inquiry light came on immediately on the tote board as the stewards looked at both the start of the race and the incident in mid-stretch. Rosario claimed foul on Saez, but the stewards let the original order of finish stand.

Payment Terms now has a win and a third in his first two starts, with \$42,000 in earnings. Gary Gullo trains the son of Freud out of Overextended (FR) by Entrepreneur who was bred by Andy Beadnell and sold for \$105,000 last year.

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Jockey Taylor Rice made an aggressive early move with Hobby Horse Stable's three-year-old New York-bred filly **Lightning Lilly** and she responded in a big way, opening a seven-length lead on the way to a three-length victory in a 6 ½-furlong \$34,000 conditional \$25,000 claimer Friday. Sent off at 9-1 odds as one of six state-breds in the field of seven, she won in a final time of 1:18.41.

Gregg Matties trains Lightning Lilly, a daughter of Roaring Fever out of Lillyatthehelm by Helmsman who was bred by Pegasus Farms. She was making just her second start off a near-five-month layoff. She was a front-running, badly tiring sixth at 26-1 odds in her return in a one-mile New York-bred allowance on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Lightning Lilly broke third behind the two favorites, 2-1 Samus and New York-bred **Underthemoonlight**, the 4-5 chalk on the rail ridden by apprentice Eric Cancel.

Samus, ridden by Jose Ortiz, took a narrow lead on Underthemoonlight before Lightning Lilly made a quick rush on the outside. She was a neck behind Samus when they hit the quarter in :22.99 and then four lengths in front, reaching the half-mile in :46.04.

Lightning Lilly poured it on, stretching her lead to seven lengths as Samus tried to keep up and Underthemoonlight, who had been shuffled back to fourth early, rallied three-wide.

Lightning Lilly hit six furlongs in 1:11.38 and had plenty left to win comfortably. Underthemoonlight finished second, a half-length in front of 7-1 state-bred **Bi Light of Day**. Samus finished fourth.

Lightning Lilly is now two for six with one third and more than \$50,000 in earnings.

### Carameway Blows Them Away at Even Money Thursday

Shaking loose on the lead under Rajiv Maragh, Richard Greeley's homebred five-year-old mare **Carameway** cruised to a 3 ¼-length victory as the even-money favorite in a star-studded one-mile \$75,000 unrestricted New York-bred allowance Thursday afternoon at Belmont Park.

All six fillies and mares came into the race with more than \$150,000 in career earnings, and five of them topped \$200,000.

Bettors settled on Carameway, who lunged at the start in her previous race when she tired to finish eighth at 9-2 odds in the \$200,000 Critical Eye Stakes. She had two sharp works since and controlled the race from the outset.

Springing to the lead from the four post, Carameway led 9-2 **Star Grazing** on her outside by a half-length through a :23.54 first quarter. **Storied Lady**, who went off at 5-1 odds from the rail under Jose Ortiz, was a close third.

Carameway stretched her lead to two lengths after a half-mile in :46.93, while Storied Lady advanced into second.

After three-quarters in 1:11.08, Carameway turned it on, quickly opening a five-length lead in mid-stretch. She won while in hand in a final time of 1:36.55. **Unbelievable**, who was sent off at 6-1 odds under Angel Cruz, rallied smartly to finish second, four lengths clear of 4-1 **Flipcup**, who was making her first start since December 31st. Storied Lady finished fourth.

Carameway is a daughter of Lawyer Ron out of Adorable You by Grand Slam who is trained by Mitch Friedman. She is now seven for 29 on dirt with six seconds, four thirds and more than \$430,000 in earnings.

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GoldMark Farm's three-year-old colt **Tizquick** ran down front-running **Escape to the Moon**, then held off fast-finishing **Beyond Empire** to take a one-mile \$65,000 New York-bred allowance/optional \$40,000 claimer by a half-length Thursday. Sent off at 9-2 odds under Joel Rosario, Tizquick won in a final time of 1:36.79.

John Kimmel trains Tizquick, a son of Tiz Wonderful out of All for Fashion by Mutakddim who was bred by Spendthrift Farm and sold for \$50,000 as a yearling at Saratoga in 2013.

Tizquick raced in fifth as 7-1 Escape to the Moon on the rail led 9-5 **Goodtolook** by a neck through a :23.08 first quarter. Escape to the Moon clung to a slim lead through a half-mile in :46.53.

Around the far turn, 15-1 **Native Hero** rallied three-wide into third and Tizquick gained ground four-wide.

After three quarters in 1:11.29, Tizquick struck the lead and opened a two-length advantage. Then 5-1 Beyond Empire stormed down the center of the course under Irad Ortiz, Jr. Tizquick gamely held him off to win. Native Hero finished third, two lengths behind Beyond Empire. Escape to the Moon finished fourth.

Tizquick is now three for 10 with one second, two thirds and more than \$150,000 in earnings.

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Alan Brodsky's colt **Lucky Lurie**, who was 12-1 on the morning line but went off at 6-5 odds under Rajiv Maragh, wore down a dead-game **Love That Jazz**, who was sent off at 5-1 odds under Joel Rosario, by a neck in a \$60,000 New York-bred two-year-old maiden special weight Thursday. He covered the five-furlong distance in :58.51. All eight juveniles in the race were first-time starters.

Mark Hennig trains Lucky Lurie, a son of Girolamo out of Holy Freud by Freud who was bred by Greg Anthony. Lucky Lurie made his debut off 10 published works in Florida and New York. On June 7<sup>th</sup> at Belmont, he worked four furlongs in :48 1/5, fifth fastest of 57 horses working that morning at that distance.

Love That Jazz broke from the rail while Lucky Lurie had the six post. They hooked up early, with Love That Jazz just a head in front through a :22.62 first quarter. Love That Jazz dug in to maintain his narrow lead through a half-mile in :46.12. Lucky Lurie kept on grinding and wore down the front-runner.

**Stormin Stephen**, the 5-2 second choice under Irad Ortiz, Jr., finished third, a little more than a length behind Love That Jazz. There was a huge gap to 18-1 **Extinct Charm** in fourth.

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In Thursday's opener, a six-furlong \$32,000 New York-bred maiden \$25,000 claimer, Asuncion Rivera's three-year-old filly **Sweetneida** rallied to a 2 3/4-length victory under Angel Cruz. Sent off at 2-1 odds in the field of five, Sweetneida won in a final time of 1:13.10, then survived an objection to win her first start in a maiden claimer, which was also her first start since March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Eduardo Jones trains the daughter of Yes It's True out of Sweet Slam by Grand Slam who was bred by Sugar Maple Farm, Robert Baker and Grand Slam Farms.

Cruz settled Sweetneida in third early as 2-1 **Filly Idol** took a one-length lead on 6-1 **Queen Katherina**, who was adding blinkers and was ridden by Ruben Silvera. After a quarter in :23.82, Queen Katherina took the lead as Sweetneida rallied strongly three-wide into contention.

Sweetneida rolled to the front after a :47.97 half-mile and won handily. Filly Idol finished second, 2 1/2 lengths ahead of Queen Katherina in third. **Justenuffdior**, the slight 9-5 favorite under Fernando Jara, was fourth.

Silvera claimed foul on Cruz for alleged interference in mid-stretch, but the stewards let the finish stand.

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With astonishing acceleration under Jose Lezcano, Wachtel Stable and George Kerr's four-year-old gelding **Runaway Posse** rallied from dead last to first Thursday, taking a \$62,000 New York-bred grass allowance by four lengths as the 4-5 favorite in the field of 12. He completed the seven-furlong distance in a final time of 1:21.68.

Runaway Posse had followed a maiden romp with three straight seconds before getting a change in trainers from Tim Woolley to Bill Mott, and in riders from Angel Arroyo to Lezcano.

Runaway Posse got away absolutely last from the two post as 10-1 **Humboldt N Frost** took a two-length lead on 13-1 **Pegasus Red**, who broke from the extreme outside post under Jose Ortiz, after a quarter-mile in :22.81.

Then Runaway Posse began passing horses as if they were rooted in cement. He was up to sixth after a half-mile in :46.08, then was taken extremely wide by Lezcano around the far turn to continue his rally. By the time the horses reached the top of the stretch, Runaway Posse had made the lead. He opened a five-length advantage and coasted home.

**Mark My Style**, who was sent off at odds of 10-1 under Cornelio Velasquez, edged Pegasus Red by a head for second. **All Is Number** rallied for fourth at 13-1 odds.

Runaway Posse is a son of Posse out of Runaway Zia by Runaway Groom who was bred by Edition Farm. On grass, Runaway Posse is two for six with three seconds. He also has a third and a fourth from two dirt starts to begin his career, for total earnings of just under \$130,000.