

New York-Breds at the Races: November 20 to 26

By Bill Heller

Velazquez Gets the Job Done Twice for Generazio and Ryerson Wednesday

There's a reason jockey John Velazquez is already in the Hall of Fame. He delivered a sensational ride on Patricia Generazio's homebred three-year-old filly **Lucky Nancy E.** at a rainy and gloomy Aqueduct Wednesday afternoon, as she came again in the stretch to beat **Pennymine** by a half-length in a one-mile \$59,000 New York-bred allowance switched from the grass to the sloppy main track. Both fillies went off at 5-2 odds in the field of eight.

Jim Ryerson trains Lucky Nancy E., a daughter of Disco Rico out of Beyond the Limit by Unbridled.

Pennymine, ridden by Irad Ortiz, Jr., got away fourth and Lucky Nancy E. was fifth early as 6-1 **Devious Maddy** and 5-1 **Alwaysinstiletto**s dueled on the front end through a quarter-mile in :24.51 and a half in :49.52.

Heading into the far turn, Pennymine rallied on the outside while Velazquez shot Lucky Nancy E. through a gigantic hole on the inside. Lucky Nancy E. took a short lead, but Pennymine drove past her and led by three-quarters of a length in mid-stretch after racing six furlongs in 1:16.13. But Lucky Nancy E. wasn't done, and gamely came back to regain the lead and win in a final time of 1:42.75. Pennymine saved second, five lengths in front of Devious Maddy in third. **Funky Munky Fever** rallied to finish fourth at 16-1 odds.

Lucky Nancy E. improved her dirt record to three-for-10 with one second and two thirds. She also has a win, a second and a third from 10 turf tries, for combined earnings of nearly \$175,000.

In the very next race, Velazquez was flawless, taking Generazio's five-year-old New York-bred mare **Cape Cod Carol**, the longest shot on the board at 9-1 odds and also trained by Ryerson, wire-to-wire, holding off another New York-bred, 3-1 **Make the Moment**, by a nose in a 6 ½-furlong \$69,000 allowance/optional \$62,500 claimer. They were the only state-breds in the field of five.

Three horses went for the lead: Cape Cod Carol, Voodoo Tales, the 6-5 favorite, and 6-1 Trail Walker. Velazquez used Cape Cod Carol hard to take a half-length lead over Voodoo Tales through a :23.11 first quarter. Cape Cod Carol stretched her lead to 2 ½ lengths over Frivolity, the 2-1 second choice who had rallied into second after a half-mile in :47.40.

Then Velazquez got away with a breather for his mare, and she still had plenty left after hitting three-quarters in 1:13.25.

By then Make the Moment had rallied into second under Taylor Rice, and she went after Cape Cod Carol. Make the Moment kept getting closer with each stride, but Cape Cod Carol gamely hung on, winning in a final time of 1:20.10. Frivolity finished third, three lengths behind Make the Moment.

Cape Cod Carol is a daughter of Rockport Harbor out of Expect Baby by Valid Expectations who was bred by Joseph and Helen Barbazon. She improved her dirt record to six-for-24 with four seconds and seven thirds. She has one third from seven turf races, for total earnings of more than \$340,000.

Racing like a seasoned pro, MeB Racing Stables and Brooklyn Boyz Stables' first-time starter **North Eight Street** led every step of the way under Jose Ortiz, romping by five lengths in a one-mile \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight for two-year-old fillies Wednesday as part of an even-money entry. Her stablemate in trainer Dominick Schettino's barn, **Jules N Rome**, who is also owned by the same connections, finished second after North Eight Street won in a final time of 1:43.36.

Majestic Jessica edged **Detail** by a head for third. Both fillies went off at 3-1 odds in the field of eight.

North Eight Street is a daughter of Big Brown out of Stick and Move by Cherokee Run who was bred by IEAH Stables and Robert Speranza. She was purchased for \$30,000 as a yearling last October.

She showed ability right from the start. Her first official workout was a three-furlong bullet on the Oklahoma Training Track at Saratoga on June 19. She then missed 2 ½ months of training but came back running, working two bullets at Belmont Park, one of them at five furlongs in 1:00 1/5 breezing on November 8.

Breaking from the outside post, North Eight Street was immediately in front. Ortiz got her over to the rail and she maintained a two-to-three-length lead on Majestic Jessica in second through splits of :24.26 and :49.35. She stretched her lead to four lengths after three-quarters in 1:15.61 and won easily.

Bella Forever made her work for it, but Love the USA Stable's three-year-old New York-bred filly **Miss Macarena** won a six-furlong \$23,000 maiden \$20,000 claimer Wednesday by a neck under Larry Mejias as the 4-5 favorite in a final time of 1:15.63. Bella Forever, ridden by Ruben Silvera, was sent off at 5-1 odds in the field of eight. Another New York-bred, **Hangingwithsonny**, who was adding blinkers and went off at 8-1 odds, finished a distant third.

Rene Araya trains Miss Macarena, a daughter of Stonesider out of Grandma Lu by Salt Lake who was bred by Patricia Calandro and Susan Georgas. She had finished sixth and fourth in a pair of New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimers at 45-1 and 40-1 odds, respectively, in her first two career starts.

She was far back early, made a wide swoop on the far turn and eventually wore down Bella Forever.

Ms. Sylvia A. Takes Unorthodox Path to Winner's Circle

Robert and Catherine Gennett's three-year-old filly **Ms. Sylvia A.** raced erratically but got the job done Sunday afternoon at Aqueduct, winning a 6 ½-furlong \$57,000 allowance for New York-breds by three-quarters of a length under Larry Mejias. Sent off the 8-5 second choice in the field of six, Ms. Sylvia A. had to survive an inquiry and objection after she won in a final time of 1:19.95.

Sheriffa finished second at 5-1 odds, a little more than a length ahead of **Court Dancer**, the 3-2 favorite. **All Luv Me** was a distant fourth at odds of 30-1.

Breaking from the rail, Ms. Sylvia A. got away third but got shuffled back to fifth behind a wall of four horses around the far turn. Front-running 8-1 **Brad's Ruby** was joined by 7-2 **My Girl Madison** two-wide, Sheriffa three-wide and Court Dancer four-wide.

Behind them, Mejias yanked Ms. Sylvia A. five-wide to gain room. But as soon as she began to rally, she angled to the far outside, leaving her three lengths behind in mid-stretch. Mejias hit his filly right-handed and she moved back inside into third on the outside of both Sheriffa, who had emerged with the lead on the inside, and Court Dancer. In tight quarters just before the wire, Joel Rosario took up Court Dancer. There was an objection and an inquiry, but the stewards let the original finish stand.

Michelle Nevin trains Ms. Sylvia A., a daughter of First Defence out of Distinctual by Distinctive Pro who was bred by Tom and Helen Andreadakis. She improved her record to three-for-six with one second and earnings topping \$100,000.

The stewards were busy late Sunday afternoon. The next race was the finale, a one-mile \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight on the grass for two-year-olds on a yielding course. MeB Racing Stables and Brooklyn Boyz Stables' gelding **Humboldt N Frost**, who was shedding blinkers under Luis Saez and went off at 6-1 odds in the field of 10, won wire-to-wire by one length in a final time of 1:42.83, but also had to survive an inquiry and an objection.

Once again, the stewards took no action.

Jax Heritage, a first-time starter on the rail at 11-1 odds, finished second. His jockey, Manuel Franco, claimed foul against the winner for interference in mid-stretch when Humboldt N Frost appeared to come over a bit on him, but the original result stood. **Sequana** was one length behind Jax Heritage in third at 8-1 odds, and 6-1 firster **Cliffs of Dover** was another 2 ¼ lengths back in fourth.

Dominick Schettino trains Humboldt N Frost, who was making his turf debut after finishing ninth, second and eighth, respectively, in his first three starts on dirt. The son of Big Brown out of Diamond Dina by Adcat was bred by Paul Pompa, Jr.

Saez did a great job rating Humboldt N Frost, backing off a :24.80 first quarter with a :52.11 half-mile and three-quarters in 1:17.62.

Earlier Sunday, Mike Rutherford's **Sonora** didn't let her extreme outside post prevent her from scoring a 4 ½-length victory as the 3-5 favorite under Javier Castellano in a \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight for two-year-old fillies. Sonora covered the six-furlong distance in 1:12.75. **Non Finisce Mai**, one of eight first-time starters in the field of 11, who went off at 13-1 odds, finished second, a half-length ahead of 42-1 firster **Marc the Sky**. **Moondance Joy** finished fourth.

Sonora is a daughter of Discreetly Mine out of Road to Mandalay by Sea of Secrets who was bred by Seth Gregory and is trained by Eddie Kenneally. She sold for \$77,000 as a yearling last year. Sonora was making her second start Sunday following an extremely game second by a head on a sloppy track in her debut under Junior Alvarado, who is out of action with an injury.

Castellano hustled Sonora away from the gate and she took a stalking position on the outside of 31-1 firster **She's All Even** from the rail. After a :22.60 opening quarter, Sonora moved up on the outside, took over readily when asked and drew away.

In a frantic three-horse blanket finish, apprentice rider Israel Rodriguez got Christopher Nupp's five-year-old New York-bred gelding **Awesome Heart**, a 16-1 longshot, up in the final stride to beat 5-1 Indian Nobility by a nose in a 6 ½-furlong \$23,000 conditional \$12,500 claimer. **Horatio**, the even money New York-bred favorite in the field of six, was just a neck back in third after Awesome Heart won in a final time of 1:19.48.

Rene Araya trains Awesome Heart, a son of Mutakddim out of Awesome Powers by Awesome Again who was bred by IWIN Farm, Wachtel Stables and Preferred Pals Breeding Co. Awesome Heart was making his fourth start for his connections after they claimed him for \$12,500 when he was sixth at Belmont Park on September 28. He had finished fifth, fourth and sixth before Sunday.

New York-bred 5-1 **Shot to Win** made the early lead on the outside of 29-1 state-bred **Forged**. A very rank 2-1 Classic Salsa joined them. Horatio was wide, but close to the action. Indian Nobility was fifth and Awesome Heart was last after a quarter in :23.73.

Shot to Win clung to a short lead over Classic Salsa through a :46.83 half-mile. By then, Indian Nobility had rallied to third and Horatio was a rallying, still-wide fourth.

Both Indian Nobility and Horatio overtook Shot to Win and Classic Salsa after six furlongs in 1:12.55. They proceeded to battle nose-to-nose all the way to the wire as Awesome Heart suddenly appeared on the outside of both of them. Indian Nobility finally got a short lead on Horatio's outside, but couldn't withstand the winner in a tight photo.

Awesome Heart is now three-for-18 on dirt with one second and a pair of thirds. Awesome Heart, who didn't hit the board in six grass starts, has career earnings topping \$100,000.

Dutchess Views Farm's homebred three-year-old filly **Marriedtomichael** ran down front-running **Doesnotgrowontrees**, then held off **Peach Lake** to win a six-furlong \$31,000 New York-bred maiden \$25,000 claimer by 2 ¼ lengths under C.C. Lopez in a final time of 1:14.28.

Both Marriedtomichael and Peach Lake were sent off at 6-1 odds. Doesnotgrowontrees went off at 16-1 odds in the field of 11.

Bruce Brown trains Marriedtomichael, a daughter of Patriot Act out of Significant Other by Not For Love. She was making her fifth dirt start and sixth overall off a much-improved third on a sloppy track.

Lopez let Marriedtomichael settle in third early behind Doesnotgrowontrees and 5-1 **Super City**, who was adding blinkers. After an opening quarter in :22.77 and a half-mile in :47.48, Marriedtomichael went after the front-runner and took over. Peach Lake rallied well for second and 24-1 **Built in a Day** got up for third, 6 ³/₄ lengths behind the winner. **Quit Smokin**, the 8-5 favorite, was a distant fourth.

Five-Year-Olds Vickiø Dancer and Readthebyline Win Saturday Stakes

Michael Dubb, Bethlehem Stables and Gary Aisquithø five-year-old mare **Vicki's Dancer** and Vincent Scuderiø five-year-old gelding **Readthebyline** won separate seven-furlong \$125,000 New York Stallion Stakes Saturday at Aqueduct.

Trainer Rudy Rodriguez added blinkers to Vickiø Dancer, a daughter of Disco Rico out of Love That Glitter by Glitterman who was bred by Robert Jarras. She went off the 3-1 second choice under Irad Ortiz, Jr. in the field of nine.

Uncle Southern, a 6-1 shot ridden by Luis Saez, broke in front and Ortiz settled Vickiø Dancer in second, a length off the front-runner, through a quarter in :23.24 and a half-mile in :46.37. Vickiø Dancer went after Uncle Southern around the far turn and took over after three-quarters in 1:11.33.

Vickiø Dancer won by a little more than a length in a final time of 1:25.12. **Saythreehailmary's** was second at 11-1 odds, a half-length ahead of Uncle Southern. **Storied Lady**, who was adding blinkers and went off at 7-2 odds, was fourth, a head behind Uncle Southern.

Vickiø Dancer improved her dirt record five-for-20 with three seconds and six thirds. She also has a win, two seconds and two thirds in six grass races, for total earnings of nearly \$440,000.

Readthebyline, who was claimed by Scuderi and trainer Michelle Nevin for \$40,000 when he finished eighth on grass, returned to dirt in style Saturday. Jose Ortiz gunned him to the lead and he won easily by 2 ³/₄ lengths at 5-1 odds in the field of nine, completing the seven furlongs in 1:23.85.

Readthebyline set fast splits of :22.84, :45.70 and 1:10.66, and still had plenty left to win. **West Hills Giant**, the 4-5 favorite under Ortizø brother Irad, Jr., was last most of the way. He split horses late to get up for second, a neck in front of 20-1 **Geaux Mets. John's Island** rallied to finish fourth at 9-1 odds.

Readthebyline is a son of Readthefootnotes out of Seattle Byline by Slew City Slew who was bred by Gavin Murphy and Catherine Donovan. He improved his dirt record to seven-for-33 with five seconds, seven thirds and earnings of more than \$410,000.

Apprentice Angel Cruz patiently awaited room on Fox Ridge Farm's six-year-old home-bred gelding **Idle American**, found room late and rallied him to a three-quarter-length victory over favored **Asset Inflation**, who was disqualified and placed fourth Saturday in a one-mile \$67,000 grass allowance over a yielding turf course. The only two other New York-breds in the field of nine, **Orino** and **Adirondack Dancer**, finished third and fourth and were moved up to second and third, respectively. The four New York-breds produced a \$1,128 superfecta return for anyone inclined to solo New Yorkers in that challenging wager. A \$2 box of those four cost \$48.

Idle American was sent off at odds of 6-1, Asset Inflation went off at 3-2, Orino was 7-1 and Adirondack Dancer was 7-2.

Luiz Saez sent 17-1 American Quest to the front and he led by three lengths over Asset Inflation in second through a :24.56 first quarter. Adirondack Dancer and 25-1 Spartatis alternated in third and fourth, and Idle American was fifth.

American Quest still led Asset Inflation by two lengths after a half-mile in :50.35. Heading into the far turn, Asset Inflation made his move to bid for the lead while Adirondack Dancer rallied on the inside. Idle American had moved into third, but had to wait for a clear path.

As Adirondack Dancer continued to gain on the inside, Castellano hit Asset Inflation right-handed and he came over on Adirondack Dancer, who had to be taken up by Cornelio Velasquez. Behind them, Idle American had found room and he rushed up on their outside. Idle American wore down Asset Inflation to win in a final time of 1:41.82. Asset Inflation finished second, a length ahead of Orino, who finished a neck ahead of Adirondack Dancer. The inquiry revealed interference, and Asset Inflation was placed fourth behind the horse he had fouled, Adirondack Dancer.

Idle American is a son of Quiet American out of Bien Sucre by Ends Well who is now four-for-12 on grass with two seconds and one third. He also has three seconds and fourth thirds from 15 dirt starts for combined earnings of more than \$255,000.

Leonard Green's two-year-old filly **Classic Aussie** didn't seem to mind that her \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight was switched from grass to the main fast track Saturday. Taking the lead at the start under apprentice Angel Cruz, she rolled to a three-length victory as the 2-1 co-second choice in the field of nine, covering the mile in 1:41.95.

Good Shot, the 3-2 favorite, finished second, 2 ¼ lengths clear of 2-1 **Aussie Prayer** in third. **Twin Lights** finished fourth at 15-1 odds.

Joe Orseno trains Classic Aussie, a daughter of Red Giant out of Libor Rate by Exchange Rate who was bred by DJ Stable.

Classic Aussie finished third in her first dirt start two races back.

Breaking from the seven post Saturday, Classic Aussie quickly took a length-and-a-half lead on Good Shot through a :23.10 opening quarter. They remained 1-2 the rest of the way as Classic Aussie hit the half-mile in :46.93 and three-quarters in 1:13.73.

Classic Aussie now has a win and a third in two dirt starts, and one third from a pair of grass tries for total earnings of more than \$45,000.

In his debut in a New York-bred maiden \$40,000 claimer on grass, Robert Kaufman's four-year-old gelding **Forty Nine Karats** finished a distant 11th at 37-1 odds with Samuel Camacho, Jr. aboard. Trainer Richard Stoklosa changed everything for Forty Nine Karats's second start Saturday, switching him to dirt, dropping into a state-bred maiden \$20,000 claimer, changing jockeys to Fernando Jara and adding Lasix.

Forty Nine Karats responded with a wire-to-wire 3 ¼-length victory at 13-1 odds on the rail. Once Jara hustled him to the front, Forty Nine Karats was in control. **Bad to the Roan**, the even-money favorite under Javier Castellano in the field of eight, and 40-1 first-time starter **Officer Mahaffy** chased Forty Nine Karats through a quarter in :23.17 and a half-mile in :47.86, with Forty Nine Karats still in charge by two lengths.

Into the stretch, Forty Nine Karats kept humming on the front end as 5-2 **Awesome Lute** rallied from fourth into second. Forty Nine Karats had plenty left and was never seriously threatened, winning in a final time of 1:13.33. Awesome Lute was a clear second, nearly seven lengths ahead of 63-1 **Chief Assessment**. That produced a \$3,732 triple. Officer Mahaffy finished fourth, creating a \$13,921 superfecta.

Forty Nine Karats is a son of Hook and Ladder out of Royal Bauble by Jules who was bred by Sequel Stallions New York and J.I. Racing.

Touching My Toes Scores Wire-to-Wire Friday

Breaking from the nine post in the field of 10, Carl Gessler's homebred three-year-old filly **Touching My Toes** seized the lead under Manuel Franco at the start and powered to a near-nine-length romp in a one-mile \$57,000 New York-bred allowance switched from the turf to the fast main track Friday at Aqueduct. Sent off at 4-1 odds in the field of 10, Touching My Toes won in a final time of 1:41.21.

Rock N Cozy, a striking near-white mare who went off the tepid 3-1 favorite under Cornelio Velasquez, edged 7-2 **G Note** by a head for second. **Graceful Gal**, who went off at 5-1 odds in her dirt debut, was another three lengths back in fourth.

Linda Rice trains Touching My Toes, a daughter of Wild Desert out of Frances G by Officer. In her prior race, her first start since late July, Touching My Toes finished second by a neck at 5-2 odds on November 8.

On Friday, she and the only horse on her outside, 6-1 **Nonnie Connie**, both broke sharply. Touching My Toes led by a neck early before Nonnie Connie tucked in second behind her through a :24.17 first quarter. Touching My Toes stretched her lead to a length and a half through a :48.74 half-mile, and maintained that advantage through three quarters in 1:14.94.

Then she was gone. She opened a huge lead in the stretch and won by herself. She is now two-for-nine on dirt with two seconds and one third. She was fifth in a lone turf try.

In a stretch duel Friday, Sunrise Stable's three-year-old colt **Chase the Giant** 6 who had giant odds of 65-1 6 ran away from the 9-5 co-favorite, **Keen's Cupla**, to win a one-mile \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight switched from the grass to the dirt by 4 1/4 lengths under Angel Arroyo in a final time of 1:42.06. In doing so, Chase the Giant gave 25-year-old trainer Raymond Handal his first career victory. Handal had worked for Jonathan Sheppard, Michael Matz, Christophe Clement and Tony Dutrow before going out on his own in September.

Keen's Cupla was second, three lengths clear of 12-1 **Port Au Prince** in third. **Forever Utopia** finished fourth at 5-1 odds.

The action was non-stop in this race. River Knight, a 42-1 longshot, took an early lead before 9-5 **Manofire** took over after an opening quarter-mile in :23.39. Then 4-1 **Blue Shark**, Keen's Cupla and 6-1 **Talladega** all moved up on the outside to challenge for the lead after a half-mile in :48.06.

Chase the Giant split Manofire and Keen's Cupla, then dove to the inside just as Keen's Cupla put away Blue Shark and Talladega on the outside. Chase the Giant and Keen's Cupla were dead even after three-quarters in 1:14.96.

Chase the Giant was the stronger of the two and won going away, paying \$133.50 to win.

Chase the Giant hadn't raced since finishing sixth at 7-1 odds in mid-March for trainer Tom Albertrani. Chase the Giant had finished fifth at 14-1 odds and sixth at 8-1 odds in his prior two starts.

Chase the Giant is a son of Frost Giant out of Take Me In by Take Me Out who was bred by Andrew Cohen.

Dennis Drazin, James Aaron and Jerold Zaro Stable's homebred first-time starter **Possilicious** disputed the early pace three-wide, opened a daylight lead in mid-stretch and cruised home a 3 1/2-length winner Friday under C.C. Lopez at 10-1 odds in a six-furlong \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special weight for two-year-olds. Another first-timer, 7-1 **Global Positioning**, finished second, seven lengths clear of yet another firster, 30-1 **Final Chapter**, in third. **David Rocks**, the 2-1 favorite in the field of nine on the rail, was another neck back in fourth.

Kelly Breen trains Possilicious, a gelding by Posse out of Deliciously by Distinctive Pro. He tipped off his speed the first two times he had official works, each a three-furlong bullet at Monmouth Park.

David Rocks, 10-1 first-time starter **Helicity** and Possilicious raced three across the track on the front end through a quarter in :22.79 and a half-mile in :47.61.

Possilicious put away the other two front-runners and opened a four-length lead. He won by himself in a final time of 1:13.90.

Despite drifting wide through the stretch under left-handed whipping by jockey Gabriel Saez, Rising Sun Racing Stable's colt **Masons Dream** wore down front-running **Andrew's Got Zip** for a length-and-a-half victory Friday in a six-furlong \$55,000 New York-bred maiden special

weight for two-year-olds in a final time of 1:14.22. Masons Dream was the even-money favorite and Andrew's Got Zip the 2-1 second choice in the field of eight under Cornelio Velasquez.

Gregory Sacco trains Masons Dream, a son of Super Saver out of African Violet by Lemon Drop Kid who was bred by WinStar Farm and purchased for \$37,500 earlier this year at Ocala.

Masons Dream made his debut in open company at Delaware Park, finishing second by a nose at 10-1 odds. He went off the 7-5 favorite in his second start against state-breds, finishing second by a length and a half, 10 ¾ lengths in front of the third-place finisher.

On Friday, Saez settled Masons Dream in third as Andrew's Got Zip took the lead and 8-1 **Fear** raced in second. They remained 1-2-3 in that order through a quarter in :24.13. Around the far turn, Fear moved up two-wide and Masons Dream three-wide. At the head of the stretch, after a half-mile in :48.84, Andrew's Got Zip stretched his lead to two lengths over Masons Dream, who emerged a clear second.

Then Masons Dream surged again, closed the gap, and took over the lead in deep stretch. Andrew's Got Zip held on well for second, three lengths clear of 6-1 **Summer Hawk**. First-time starter **Scorpion's Touch** was fourth at 38-1 odds.

Masons Dream now has a win and two seconds in three starts, with an even \$50,000 in earnings.

Gamely overcoming an extremely wide trip Friday, Michael Imperio and Elizabeth Loftus' three-year-old New York-bred gelding **Mental Iceberg** won a wild one-mile \$38,000 conditional \$35,000 claimer switched from turf to dirt by a long neck. Ridden by Manuel Franco, Mental Iceberg won in a final time of 1:42.00 as the 5-2 favorite in the field of nine.

New York-bred **Birchwood Road**, who was sent off at 14-1 odds, finished second, a half-length in front of 5-1 New York-bred **Three for Me**. Another state-bred, **Face the Race**, was just another neck back at 7-2 odds.

Gregory DiPrima trains Mental Iceberg, a son of Freud out of Halle's Aptitude by Aptitude who was bred by Hidden Lake Farm.

Lunar Tales, sent off at 7-2 odds under Jose Ortiz, set the pace while pressed by 11-1 New York-bred **Bajan Summer** through a half-mile in :47.78. Heading into the far turn, Face the Race moved up three-wide, forcing Mental Iceberg four-wide.

In mid-stretch, there were five horses stacked across the track. The one moving fastest was Mental Iceberg, who gamely got the job done.

Mental Iceberg is now one-for-five on dirt with a pair of seconds. He also has one win from five turf tries for combined earnings of more than \$100,000.

Trainer/owner Roy Sedlacek's four-year-old New York-bred gelding **Brass Pear** took the early lead under Taylor Rice and never had an anxious moment Friday, winning a six-furlong \$31,000 conditional \$25,000 claimer by 5 ½ lengths as the 6-5 favorite in the field of seven. Financial

Mogul, the 2-1 second choice on the rail, finished second. New York-breds **Acigarisjustacigar**, a 15-1 shot, and 4-1 **Sunlover** finished third and fourth, respectively, after Brass Pear won in a final time of 1:13.66.

Leaving from the four post, Brass Pear took the lead as 11-1 state-bred **Sun Storm** dropped in second. It was a one-horse show the rest of the way, with Brass Pear clicking off a quarter in :23.30 and a half-mile in :47.49. At one point he led by eight lengths before easing up in deep stretch.

Brass Pear is a son of E Dubai out of Perfect Pear by Pine Bluff who was bred by Dr. Russell S. Cohen. Brass Pear, who is zero-for-five on turf, is now two-for-20 on dirt with two seconds and four thirds. He has total earnings topping \$95,000.

In Friday's finale, a seven-furlong \$22,000 conditional \$12,500 claimer, George and Stephanie Autry's three-year-old New York-bred filly **Literata**, the 9-5 favorite under John Velazquez, wore down front-running 4-1 state-bred **Charming Eyes** to win by three-quarters of a length in a final time of 1:28.57. Another New York-bred, 5-2 **Absolute Beauty**, finished third in the field of nine, five lengths behind Charming Eyes.

Michael Dilger trains Literata, a daughter of Read the Footnotes out of Personal Wealth by Personal Flag who was bred by Meadow View Thoroughbreds. Literata now has won two straight. She broke her maiden on a sloppy track by 3 ¼ lengths in her prior start.

Literata raced in mid-pack as Charming Eyes dueled with 75-1 New York-bred **Notably Awesome** through a :48.69 half-mile. When Charming Eyes put away Notably Awesome, Literata moved into second, then went after the leader after six furlongs in 1:14.94. Charming Eyes dug in, but couldn't hold Literata off.

Literata is now two-for-three on dirt.

Girlaboutown Wins Her Third Race in Five Starts Thursday

Chester and Mary Broman's homebred three-year-old filly **Girlaboutown** justified her 3-5 odds under Jose Ortiz with an authoritative four-length victory in a one-mile \$59,000 New York-bred allowance/optional \$40,000 claimer Thursday at Aqueduct. Scoring in a final time of 1:38.33, she won her third race in just five lifetime starts for trainer Mike Hushion.

The daughter of A.P. Indy out of Carmandia by Wild Rush followed a hard-fought second in her debut with two straight victories before finishing a tiring fourth in her last start.

Bettors thought she stood out in the field of seven Thursday and made her odds-on. **Canal Six**, who won her previous start by three lengths at even money under Jose Ortiz, was the 5-2 second choice under Ortiz's brother Irad, Jr.

Bridgetta, who was shedding blinkers off a third at even money when she was claimed for \$20,000, set the pace at 12-1 odds under apprentice rider Angel Cruz. **Pearls for Girls** raced in second at 15-1 odds and Girlaboutown was third through a quarter in :22.93 and a half-mile in :46.56.

Heading into the far turn, Girlaboutown moved up on the outside of Bridgetta while Canal Six rushed up three-wide from fourth.

Coming out of the turn, the three fillies were stacked across the track before Girlaboutown found another gear and took over, hitting three-quarters in 1:12.12 with an expanding lead. She continued to increase her advantage before Ortiz geared down on her just before the wire. Canal Six finished second, a half-length ahead of Bridgetta. **Official**, who broke slowly, rallied for fourth at 4-1 odds.

Girlaboutown now has three wins and a second in five starts, for earnings of just under \$150,000.

Island Whirl Racing's New York-bred filly **Omagoddonna** stalked front-running Jumelaka, went after her in mid-stretch and wore her down in deep stretch, taking a six-furlong \$50,000 starter allowance for two-year-old fillies by a half-length in a final time of 1:12.76. In doing so as the 3-2 favorite in the field of seven, she improved her dirt record to two-for-two and gave apprentice rider Angel Cruz his second consecutive victory in Thursday's fifth race. It was also her first start for her new connections.

Omagoddonna, a daughter of Wild Desert out of Frances G by Officer who was bred by Gessler Racing, made her debut for trainer Kenny McPeek on grass at Saratoga in mid-August, and it wasn't a pleasant experience. She bled during the race, was eased and had to be vanned off the track.

McPeek freshened his filly, switched her to dirt, added Lasix and dropped her to a maiden \$40,000 claimer, and she won by 4 ½ lengths when Island Whirl Racing claimed her and gave her to trainer Chris Englehart.

Not favored for most of the wagering Thursday, she took a ton of late money to go off as the choice with 9-5 Irish Jasper the second choice in the field of seven.

But it was 9-2 Jumelaka, ridden by Luis Saez, who took immediate control of the race, opening a two-length lead in just a few seconds. Omagoddonna dropped into second and remained two lengths off the front-runner through an opening quarter of :22.89 and a half-mile in :46.95.

Jumelaka remained strong on the lead until mid-stretch, when Cruz rallied Omagoddonna. Closing resolutely on the outside, she passed Jumelaka in deep stretch to win. Jumelaka saved second, a length and a quarter ahead of Irish Jasper, who closed powerfully.

Omagoddonna is now two-for-three in her brief career, with earnings of more than \$55,000.

Well-rated on the front end by apprentice rider Angel Cruz, Drawing Away Stables and trainer David Jacobson's speedy five-year-old gelding **N.F.'s Destiny** delivered a two-length victory in a \$40,000 New York-bred \$20,000 claimer at 4-5 odds. N.F.'s Destiny, who added one aluminum pad Thursday, won in a final time of 1:11.52. **Seek to Destroy** finished second at 11-1 odds, three lengths clear of 7-2 **Taxpayer** in third. **Won Great Classic** was fourth, a neck behind Taxpayer, at 15-1 odds.

Jacobson and Drawing Away Stable claimed N.F.ø Destiny for \$20,000 on August 25th at Saratoga, when he finished a game front-running second. In his first start for his new connections, N.F.ø Destiny was second as the 5-2 favorite.

Breaking from the outside post in the field of seven Thursday, N.F.ø Destiny quickly made the top as Seek to Destroy settled in second under Joel Rosario. They remained 1-2 the entire way, with N.F.ø Destiny maintaining a lead of a length and a half to two lengths through a quarter in :23.21 and a half-mile in :46.57. N.F.ø Destiny maintained his two-length advantage in the final quarter-mile.

N.F.ø Destiny is a son of Cuvee out of Noble Fire by Hook and Ladder who was bred by Eklektikos Stable. He is now six-for-18 with seven seconds, one third and earnings of more than \$250,000.

Absolutely resolute on the front end, Sam Klozowø five-year-old gelding **Spa City Treasure** captured Thursdayø finale, a one-mile \$41,000 New York-bred maiden claimer switched from turf to dirt, by three-quarters of a length under Jose Ortiz in a final time of 1:41.81.

Hushhushmushmush, who was making his dirt debut, finished second, a neck ahead of late-charging **Fictional Character**. **Party On** was fourth, another three-quarters of a length behind.

Spa City Treasure went off at 5-1 odds in the field of 10. Hushhushmushmush was the 2-1 favorite. Fictional Character was sent off at odds of 3-1 and Party On was 4-1.

Rick Violette trains Spa City Treasure, a son of Shakespeare out of Sailingonshannon by Irish River who was bred by Oak Cliff Breeders and MDS Farms.

After finishing second in his open-company debut, a maiden \$20,000 claimer on dirt at Gulfstream Park, Spa City Treasure raced five times on grass before returning to dirt Thursday. He took a length-and-a-half lead through a :47.40 half-mile, hit three-quarters in 1:13.96 and refused to cave in under heavy pressure from Hushhushmushmush. Spa City Treasure now has a win and a second in two dirt starts, two seconds from five grass tries, and earnings of more than \$40,000.