

Race 1 News

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

Dr. Fager and the Greatest Year Ever Part 1

by Steve Haskin

It is 2018, which means it's the 50th anniversary of what many believe to be the single greatest year by a Thoroughbred in modern times--certainly the greatest year I have ever seen.

No horse has ever excelled at as many facets of the sport in one year as did the legendary Dr. Fager, who combined world-record speed from seven furlongs to 1 1/4 miles, despite carrying staggering weights all year. He won world-class stakes on dirt and grass; and won major stakes on both coasts and in the Midwest.

Despite carrying 130 pounds or more in all eight of his starts, including a burdensome 139 pounds in his career finale--and carrying an average 133 pounds--Dr. Fager still equaled one track record, broke another track record, broke a world record that has still never been topped on dirt, and missed the track record by a fifth of a second on two occasions. Along the way, he defeated two Horses of the Year and three future Hall of Famers.

At the end of the year he became the only horse in history to win four championships in a single year: Horse of the Year, Handicap Horse, Sprinter, and Grass Horse.

I will be turning the clocks back and reminiscing about Dr. Fager's incredible and historic year in a series of five columns this year: Part 1, the Spring of 1968; Part 2, the two epic battles with archrival Damascus in the Summer; Part 3, the World Record at Arlington

MR RIGHTNOW

Rode cones to far turn, tipped out, didn't advance. James choice, still a longshot.

KG EXPLOERER

Back after missing time. Drops, moves inside. Not impossible.

STYLEMASTER

Tucked into turn, stalked to lane, mild urging, up near wire. Solid improvement. Readiness the question mark.

CHIEF SARATOGA

Away to tuck, sat into to 3/4s, followed winner out, urged to save place. Back inside. Gets in a pretty good spot.

TWOMICKEYTRIP

Raced at back whole trip, little urging, fair tuner. Another readiness unknown after lengthy layoff.

VOW TO WIN

Rode cones the trip, urged in lane, no gain into fast final quarter. Quentin hops aboard. Also longshot.

MUSICIAN

Out near half, cover from fave far turn, urged, only fair. Outside with yet another 7 hole. Still can get involved.

BEST DREAM SEEKER

Tracked to far turn, followed cover into the lane, asked, no rally. Obviously hindered by negative post switch.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

1st Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Highest Win % | N/A |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | CHIEF SARATOGA |
| Fastest time last race | CHIEF SARATOGA |
| Fastest win time this year | |
| Fastest win time last year | VOW TO WIN BEST DREAM SEEKER |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | VOW TO WIN |
| Closed Strongly last race | N/A |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | N/A |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | N/A |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | CHIEF SARATOGA VOW TO WIN |

PICK 5 (16% Takeout) - 50¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

| 50 Cent Wagers | Your Cost | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 x 1 x 1 x 1 x 1 | \$0.50 | 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 | \$16.00 |
| 1 x 1 x 1 x 1 x 2 | \$1.00 | 2 x 2 x 2 x 3 x 3 | \$36.00 |
| 1 x 1 x 1 x 2 x 2 | \$2.00 | 2 x 2 x 3 x 3 x 3 | \$54.00 |
| 1 x 1 x 2 x 2 x 2 | \$4.00 | 1 x 2 x 3 x 4 x 5 | \$60.00 |
| 1 x 2 x 2 x 2 x 2 | \$8.00 | 2 x 3 x 3 x 3 x 3 | \$81.00 |
| 1 x 1 x 3 x 3 x 3 | \$13.50 | 3 x 3 x 3 x 3 x 3 | \$121.50 |
| | | 2 x 3 x 4 x 5 x 6 | \$360.00 |

Race 2 News

Park; Part 4, the United Nations Handicap; and Part 5, the grand finale in the Vosburgh Handicap.

The innocence of the early-to-mid '60s was over, and the United States was anything but united. Early 1968 saw the bloody Tet Offensive escalate the Vietnam War. In April, Martin Luther King was assassinated, and two months later Robert Kennedy also was assassinated. America was in turmoil, with rioting and protests throughout the country.

It was hard to believe that only a few years earlier, from 1960-1964, the country was going through its halcyon years, without a care in the world. It was pretty much a continuation of the '50s, without the Hula Hoops and the Davy Crockett craze. Musically, the big hits were mainly by girl groups, most of them African American, singing catchy upbeat songs written by Jewish kids from Brooklyn. Everyone wanted to be friends with Rob and Laura Petrie and visit them in New Rochelle, N.Y., as the Dick Van Dyke Show opened a new era of sitcoms.

In the isolated world of Thoroughbred racing, we had the ultimate continuity and hero worship, with Kelso voted Horse of the Year an unheard of five consecutive years from 1960 to '64 and inspiring the first ever national fan club for a horse. Then in a flash, it all changed dramatically, with the Vietnam War, the Beatles, and the drug culture. And by 1968, the country was starving for heroes.

Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris both retired that year and an aging Willie Mays was a shell of his former self. The year before, Muhammad Ali was stripped of his title and banned from boxing for refusing to be inducted into the Army. Thoroughbred racing still

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

ONE AND ONLY

Fired out from gate, battled fav to last bend, kept digging till deep in drive. Week off. Class relief. One of many.

FF BIGSHOW

Away well, tracked to lane, urged along cones, almost. Sharp, steps up. Adds Nick.

DONTOUBTTHELAKERS

1st over past half, advanced to get alongside winner, held tough to wire. Steve stays. Obvious threat as well.

JAZZMANIAN DEVIL

Away under urging, pocket behind winner into turn, tipped out into lane, urged, caught for 2nd. Mooney's choice. Class drop. One more in the mix.

HIHOS LITTLE REV

Moved out into far turn, loose cover to lane, urged, fair. Right trip puts him nearby as well.

JULERICA

Sped from gate, blazed the clip to lane, urged, tough to wire. Steps back up. What's the plan from outside?



CAL EXPO HARNESS

2nd Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | JULERICA |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | HI HO'S LITTLE REV |
| Fastest time last race | JAZZMANIAN DEVIL |
| Fastest win time this year | JULERICA |
| Fastest win time last year | DONTOUBTTHELAKERS JAZZMANIAN DEVIL JULERICA |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | FF BIGSHOW DONTOUBTTHELAKERS JAZZMANIAN DEVIL HI HO'S LITTLE REV |
| Closed Strongly last race | FF BIGSHOW |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | ONE AND ONLY JULERICA |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | N/A |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | ONE AND ONLY |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | JULERICA |

February 2018

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
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| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |

March 2018

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Race 3 News

was one of the most popular sports in the country, and with the reign of Kelso over, we saw new equine heroes like Buckpasser, Damascus, and Dr. Fager grace the sport from 1965-1968.

When 1967 ended, there was no doubt who was the best horse in the country. In the Woodward Stakes, dubbed "The Race of the Century," the explosive, tough as nails Damascus stamped himself as the undisputed Horse of the Year with a resounding 10-length victory over reigning Horse of the Year Buckpasser and the brilliant Dr. Fager. The latter was victimized by a pair of "rabbits," entered by the trainers of Buckpasser and Damascus.

With instructions to kill off the impetuous, hot-blooded Dr. Fager, jockeys Bobby Ussery and Ron Turcotte broke from the gate hootin' and hollerin' and whipping their horses to make sure they stirred up Dr. Fager and got his competitive juices overflowing.

But taking nothing away from Damascus, who had a spectacular year in 1967, winning 12 of his 16 starts, there was no denying he was King of the Turf and one of the most exciting horses ever seen, with his spectacular acceleration and cat-like quickness. No matter what anyone may think about the rabbits, Damascus did beat two of the sport's all-time greats by 10 lengths in the year's championship race.

But 1967 was history, and it was time for trainer John Nerud to plot the course Dr. Fager would take to dethrone Damascus. Nerud knew Dr. Fager wasn't quite ready to tackle Damascus and Buckpasser at a mile-and-a-quarter as a 3-year-old. He had a great deal of maturing to do, and Nerud was confident that the boy Doctor was now all man, and that dur-

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

SMASH

Moved on 4th over far turn, followed 4wide into lane, closed okay. Class hike, post relief, adds chip for this.

BOOZER BRUISER

Settled in early, bided time to midlast turn, sped out on rim, opened up, urged to hold. Solid bow. Now the open class.

BLUE NOTE

Parked turn, braked to half, gassed 3rd panel, sped home under urging, tough. Nick's choice. Sharp, tackles top level.

DELIGHTFULLY WILD

Sat 3hole trip to lane, never fully clear, had pace. Adds James. Obvious threat for all.

SHARK FESTIVAL

Hopped out 2nd over into last bend, angled into str, driven, almost. Should be closing fastest, that's her game.

SPARKIN YOUR FIRE

Reserved to half, tipped out on rim, advanced to lane, failed to show any late interest. Outside again but can't rule her out.

MELODIES THAT ROCK

Parked eighth plus, braked to last bend, sped home, swallowed up near wire. Far outside post. Hopes for live cover?



CAL EXPO HARNESS

3rd Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|---|--|
| Highest Win % | BOOZER BRUISER |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | MELODIES THAT ROCK |
| Fastest time last race | BOOZER BRUISER |
| Fastest win time this year | MELODIES THAT ROCK |
| Fastest win time last year | SMASH |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | SMASH SHARK FESTIVAL |
| Closed Strongly last race | SHARK FESTIVAL |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | DELIGHTFULLY WILD (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | BLUE NOTE |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | DELIGHTFULLY WILD SPARKIN YOUR FIRE |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | SMASH BOOZER BRUISER DELIGHTFULLY WILD SHARK FESTIVAL |

CAL EXPO PICK 3 RULES

1. Any scratch in the first leg of a Pick Three is now a refund.
2. A wager with a scratch in the second leg creates a consolation pool.
3. A wager with a scratch in the third leg creates another consolation pool.
4. A wager with scratches in the second and third leg creates another consolation pool.
5. A consolation pool is the sum of all wagers that include the scratch(es) for that leg or legs. The winning combination for the consolation pool is a wager with the winner or winners of the non-scratch leg(s).

Race 4 News

ing the course of the year, the man would turn into a beast.

The Dr. Fager who emerged from his winter quarters at Hialeah Park in the spring of 1968 was a different creature from the one racing fans had seen the previous two years, even though he still was talented enough to win 11 of his 14 starts in '66 and '67, including one defeat via disqualification in the Jersey Derby, despite finishing first by 6 1/2 lengths in one of the most controversial disqualifications in memory. As a 3-year-old, Dr. Fager shattered the track record for 1 1/4 miles at Rockingham Park in the New Hampshire Sweepstakes, the richest race in the country, and also ran the fastest mile by a 3-year-old in the history of New York racing, winning the Withers Stakes by six lengths in 1:33 4/5, crushing a lightning-fast colt named Tumiga, running him into the ground, something Tumiga usually did to other horses. The Doc also defeated Damascus by a hard-fought half-length in the Gotham Stakes in his 3-year-old debut.

Those accomplishments, and his many others over the prior two years, were mere footnotes to the story that would be told in 1968. From the classy and incredibly fast 3-year-old we saw in 1967 came a horse who looked like no one, ran like no one, and who displayed a combination of speed, power, tenacity, versatility, and weight-carrying ability never before seen.

Dr. Fager laughed in the faces of racing secretaries, who could find no weight burdensome enough to stop him. They piled tons of weight, as much as 139 pounds, on his back, but all that broke were stopwatches and telitimers.

It had been a quiet winter for Dr. Fager.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

BETTORS PROMISE

Sent under urging to top, yielded to winner, chased balance, urged, almost. Class hike, post relief. Adds chip.

CANTHOLDMEBACKMACK

Rode cones to far turn, tipped out in rim, failed to sustain the bid. Favorable draw. Adds Ryan for this.

JUMP THE SHARK

Quarter moved to top, attacked last turn, sped home to survive 3horse battle. Nick's choice. Steps up. Confidence builder?

RAGINS FLIGHT

Settled early, easy run to lane, inherited 2hole, tapped late to save runnerup. Should be tighter. Can't rule out.

ALMOST CUT MY HAIR

Stuck last to far turn, followed cover mid bend, not a good flow, still closed okay. Mooney returns. Occasionally fires out. Use.

GORGEOUS FOR REAL

Left with many, battled thru wicked clip, called it off last bend. What's the plan when the gate springs?

IM AN ATHLETE [post 10]

Sent under the whip, middle half breather, powered home under urging. Now the far outside. Sharp, still figures plenty tough.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

4th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | GORGEOUS FOR REAL |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | I'M AN ATHLETE |
| Fastest time last race | I'M AN ATHLETE |
| Fastest win time this year | JUMP THE SHARK |
| Fastest win time last year | I'M AN ATHLETE |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | BETTORS PROMISE RAGIN'S FLIGHT ALMOST CUT MY HAIR |
| Closed Strongly last race | N/A |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | BETTORS PROMISE GORGEOUS FOR REAL |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | JUMP THE SHARK (W) GORGEOUS FOR REAL (B) I'M AN ATHLETE (W) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | ALMOST CUT MY HAIR |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | I'M AN ATHLETE |

PYLON RULE

(For Horses Racing Without Interference)

1. Going inside two (2) pylons and lapped-on at the finish: The offending horse will be disqualified and placed behind any lapped-on horses at the wire.
2. Going inside three (3) or more consecutive pylons: The offending horse will be disqualified and placed last.
3. If an unfair advantage is gained by going inside, over, or in-between one or more pylons in order to pass another competitor: The offending horse will be disqualified.

The steward's discretion applies to all placement.

Race 5 News

He was given three weeks of walking the shed before being put back in light training. In the beginning he would walk a day, then gallop a day until Nerud felt it was time to pick up the tempo. A problem with his right knee, then an ankle, put him behind schedule. On Nerud's mind was another showdown with Damascus. All he wanted was an opportunity to match both colts against each other without the use of a rabbit.

Unlike Dr. Fager, Damascus thrived on racing and didn't need much time to get over his grueling 3-year-old campaign. He was sent to Santa Anita that winter, where he captured the seven-furlong Malibu Stakes in a sizzling 1:21 1/5 and 1 1/8-mile San Fernando Stakes. When the 1 1/4-mile Charles Strub Stakes was postponed a week due to a horsemen's boycott and regular rider Bill Shoemaker suffered a broken leg, Damascus went into the race with substitute rider Ron Turcotte, and instead of racing on a fast track, as he would have the week before, he was forced to race in an absolute quagmire and got stuck down on the rail, the worse place to be. As a result, Damascus was upset, losing by a head to Most Host, a horse he had handled easily in the San Fernando. Trainer Frank Whiteley sent Damascus back to his home base at Delaware Park for a well-deserved freshening.

Dr. Fager, meanwhile, was still three months from a race, so any thoughts of a rematch were way in the back of people's minds, knowing it would not come until the summer.

The Doc finally started gearing up for his long-awaited 4-year-old debut in the seven-furlong Roseben Handicap, run on Derby Day. With Dr. Fager's jockey Braulio Baeza committed to ride Iron Ruler at Churchill Downs, Nerud

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

IF YOU SAY SO
Sped from gate, yielded 3/8s, tipped out late far turn, urged, away. Better post, tougher foes. Thought.

LUCKY JEWEL
Rode cones to lane, heavy traffic, had some pace. Favorably drawn again. Small shot.

SWEET ONE
Left fast, yielded to winner, tracked balance, stalled out final sixteenth. Post relief. Adds to speed equation?

PLACE AT THE BEACH
Led early, yielded, 3hole to lane, cleared, urged, fair. Chip hops aboard. Usable.

RUSH AND A BRUSH
Left, backed up in traffic, cleared into str, had late interest. One more in the mix.

GETTER QUEEN FLUSH
Inherited 3hole past half, traffic into str, cleared deep in drive, had some go. Tries Mooney tonight.

FIRE DANCE
2nd over behind quarter mover, swung 3wide into lane, closed well to eke out 2nd check. Outside again. Needs racing luck.

BETTOR LADY
Out before quarter to easy lead, braked while untested, sped home under some urging. Adds Steve. Obvious threat again.

KISS ON THE LIPS
3rd over from quarter, 3wide into lane, driven to narrow gap. Gerry's choice but another killer post.

LA DIVA DE ROSA
Sat in, shuffled to last, cleared in lane, no rally. Drops back down but also got brutal draw.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

5th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | GETTER QUEEN FLUSH BETTOR LADY |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | GETTER QUEEN FLUSH |
| Fastest time last race | IF YOU SAY SO |
| Fastest win time this year | IF YOU SAY SO GETTER QUEEN FLUSH |
| Fastest win time last year | KISS ON THE LIPS |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | LA DIVA DE ROSA |
| Closed Strongly last race | IF YOU SAY SO |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | BETTOR LADY (W) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | IF YOU SAY SO SWEET ONE |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | LUCKY JEWEL GETTER QUEEN FLUSH FIRE DANCE |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | IF YOU SAY SO GETTER QUEEN FLUSH |

CHRB Rule No. 1699

(b) A horse shall not interfere with or cause any other horse to lose stride, ground or position in a part of the race where the horse loses the opportunity to place where it might be reasonably expected to finish.

(c) A horse which interferes with another and thereby causes any other horse to lose stride, ground or position, when such other horse is not at fault and when such interference occurs in a part of the race where the horse interfered with loses the opportunity to place where it might, in the opinion of the Stewards, be reasonably expected to finish, may be disqualified and placed behind the horse so interfered with.

Race 6 News

gave the mount to "Gentleman" John Rotz, one of the most dependable riders on the circuit.

As the race neared, Nerud wanted to provide the fans with a sneak preview of the new and improved Dr. Fager, while giving Rotz a chance to get acquainted with the horse. He scheduled a five-furlong workout between races with Rotz aboard. Whatever Rotz was expecting, he was in for a rude awakening. This was Dr. Fager's time of the day, and afternoons with fans packing the grandstand meant putting on a show.

With Dr. Fager now bigger, stronger, and wilder, Nerud decided to have him look the part, so he let his mane and forelock grow over the winter. "It was a great show," Nerud said. "The way his mane waved in the wind, it made him look like a wild horse."

So, with the Doc's long mane blowing in Rotz's face, the rider just sat on him and never moved his hands. He couldn't believe it when he was told the colt had worked in a mind-blowing :56 4/5. The only word that came to mind as he dismounted was "phenomenal."

The wild horse went on to make a mockery of the Roseben, although Nerud didn't want anything so spectacular that it would start turning the heads of NYRA racing secretary and handicapper Tommy Trotter and other racing secretaries.

He was already starting the year off with 130 pounds with an entire year of handicap races ahead of him. The Doc was sent off at 1-5 against his old rival from the Withers, Tumiga, who was back for another try after winning the Cherry Hill Handicap at Garden State in a dazzling 1:08 4/5, equaling the track record.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

LISTENTOHERHEART

Rode cones in return, useful prep. She might be tighter now.

MY HEARTS CONQUEST

Sent from gate, yielded, tripped to lane, split rivals late, easily. Willie's choice. One of many.

CENALTA DIAMOND

Left well, back out past half, uncovered balance, faded from the skirmish. Easier spot. Adds Gerry. Major player.

ALWAYSALITTLEMORE

1st out near half, covered up, wide around stalled flow, closed strongly. Minor post relief and Steve hops aboard.

NAT A KATT

Sent to top, braked to far turn, stepped on the gass, urged to prevail. Mooney gets the drive. What's the plan?

CENALTA CALL GIRL

Followed fave out near quarter to get easy lead, strong to the lane, almost, solid try. Couple weeks off. How ready is she tonight?



CAL EXPO HARNESS

6th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | CENALTA DIAMOND |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | CENALTA CALL GIRL |
| Fastest time last race | ALWAYSALITTLEMORE |
| Fastest win time this year | CENALTA DIAMOND |
| Fastest win time last year | CENALTA DIAMOND |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | LISTENTOHERHEART NAT-A-KATT |
| Closed Strongly last race | MY HEARTS CONQUEST ALWAYSALITTLEMORE |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | CENALTA DIAMOND (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | ALWAYSALITTLEMORE |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | CENALTA DIAMOND |

THE 50¢ CAL EXPO PICK 6

Winning tickets with six correct selections will share in 75% of the daily net pool, and 100% of the carryover. Ticket holders with five correct selections share in 25% of the daily net pool.

If there are no tickets with six winners, all ticket holders with the greatest number of winners share in 25% of the daily net pool, with the remainder of the net pool carried over to the next racing day.

There is a mandatory payout of the entire net pool on the last night of the race meet. (.50 cent minimum)

Race 7 News

Tumiga, in receipt of nine pounds, attempted to outrun Dr. Fager right from the gate and try to discourage him, but like the Withers, he couldn't get him to break a sweat. After a half in :45 flat, Dr. Fager bid farewell to Tumiga, with Rotz pulling back on the throttle, way up in the saddle, and with the Doc's mouth open. He knew he couldn't let the horse win by too much with the heavy-handed Mr. Trotter watching. It was all he could do to get him to win by only three lengths. Dr. Fager crossed the wire with his ears straight up, stopping the teletimer in 1:21 2/5, just one-fifth off the track record set six years earlier by Rose Net under a feathery 114 pounds.

The Dr. Fager everyone witnessed in 1968 looked and ran more like a wild mustang dashing across the Plains and then turned loose on a racetrack. Even walking, with his head high and that long mane standing on end, he appeared much taller than horses who were actually the same size.

Nerud's spring target was the Metropolitan Handicap on Memorial Day. But he wanted to get another race in between, so he decided to do the unthinkable and ship Dr. Fager to Hollywood Park to run in the 1 1/16-mile Californian Stakes two weeks after the Roseben and 12 days before the Met Mile. He had originally considered the seven-furlong Carter Handicap, but shortly after the Roseben he received a phone call from Hollywood Park racing secretary Jack Meyers, informing him that under the allowance conditions of the Californian, Dr. Fager would only have to carry 124 pounds.

Nerud decided to go and put Dr. Fager on a plane for his first cross-country trip. When he arrived, however, he discovered that there had been a miscalculation, and that Dr. Fager actually

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

HOT TIP

At the back early, failed to get involved. Rene's choice. Inside post switch noted.

CENALTA DRAGSTER

Far back, failed to get involved. Skipped a week. Better post. Adds Mooney.

GOT TONE

Sat in the trip, chased to lane, urged, fair. Undercard maybe.

PAY DIRT

Away to tuck, rode cones to lane, some traffic, had late interest. Post relief. Dangerous. Facing some tough droppers.

PRIDE OF THE SIERRAS

First over from half, long uncovered grind, still had good late interest. Also moves inside. Steve's choice. One more must use.

LOOKSLIKEWEMADEIT

Out mid turn to get top, sped up far turn, urged to hold. What's her plan tonight?

I WILL SCORE

Led into turn, yielded to winner, chased rest of way, driven. Tougher post. Tactical issues.

KISSED THE BOYS

Sped from gate, brake middle half, held well to the wire. Drops. But how ready can she be?

HERECOMESTHETHUNDR

Away to pocket drop behind winner, stalked rest of way, driven, 2nd best. Adds Willie. Drops, but #9. Still must use.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

7th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Highest Win % | PAY DIRT |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | PAY DIRT |
| Fastest time last race | HERECOMESTHETHUNDR |
| Fastest win time this year | LOOKSLIKEWEMADEIT |
| Fastest win time last year | HERECOMESTHETHUNDR |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | HERECOMESTHETHUNDR |
| Closed Strongly last race | PAY DIRT PRIDE OF THE SIERRAS |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | I WILL SCORE |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | PAY DIRT (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | CENALTA DRAGSTER |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | PRIDE OF THE SIERRAS |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | PAY DIRT |

STARTER'S RULES

1728. Starter's Control. The starter shall have control over the horses from the formation of the parade until he gives the word 'go.' The starter shall report to the stewards any misconduct or violation on the part of the driver and may order any unmanageable or disabled horse declared (scratched) from the race with the concurrence of the stewards.

1729. Starting the race. The starter shall bring the horses to the starting gate as near one-quarter of a mile from the starting point as the track may permit, and shall endeavor to get all horses away in position and on gait. If a horse refuses to come to the gate, is unmanageable or liable to cause an accident or injury to any other horse or driver, it may be declared and all monies wagered on that horse shall be refunded.

1730. Recalls. The starter may sound a recall for only the following reasons: 1-A horse scored ahead of the gate; 2-There is interference prior to the word 'go' being given; 3-A horse has broken equipment; 4-A horse falls prior to the word 'go' being given. There shall be no recall after the word 'go' is given and any horse, regardless of his position or an accident, shall be deemed a starter from the time he entered into the starter's control unless dismissed.

Race 8 News

had to carry 130 pounds and give away substantial weight to the entire field that included the brilliant speedster Kissin' George, coming off three sensational sprint victories; the hard-knocking and classy Rising Market; and the future Hall of Fame filly Gamely, who was getting 14 pounds from the Doc. Nerud just shrugged it off: "If he's got thirty, he's got thirty. He'll win anyway."

This wasn't New York. This was California, and in California, no one outran Kissin' George, who was had won the six-furlong Premiere Handicap in 1:08 3/5 and a division of the seven-furlong Los Angeles Handicap in 1:21 1/5, both at the current meet. As a pure sprinter, he posed little threat to Dr. Fager in terms of winning the race, but he certainly could do damage if the Doc, breaking from the disadvantageous 11-post, hooked up with him early. With 14 entered, it was obvious that trainers were expecting a suicidal speed duel between Dr. Fager and Kissin' George and were determined to take advantage of it.

Rising Market had finished second to Kissin' George in the Premiere Handicap and then won the other division of the Los Angeles Handicap in 1:20 3/5, three-fifths faster than Kissin' George. Earlier in the year, he was second to Damascus in the Malibu and was able to stretch out his speed, winning the 1 1/8-mile San Antonio Stakes. Gamely was the Queen of California, who made a number of successful raids back East, and was coming off a decisive victory in the seven-furlong Wilshire Handicap in 1:21 flat. The following year she would finish second to Nodouble in the Santa Anita Handicap.

So this was not going to be any walk in the park for Dr. Fager. They were

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

DOUBLE MYSTERY
1st out well before half, long grind on rim, still held fair considering. Extra week off. Usable from pole.

CHILMA
Settled in for easy run to lane, cleared, urged to save place. Sits in for another soft trip.

SHEZ A SWIFT
Sent under urging, pocket behind winner into turn, stalked, cleared, driven, 3rd best. Adds James, his choice.

NIGHTTRAINTOVEGAS
Stuck last to midfar turn, tipped out 4th over, angled, rallied fair into fastest quarter of the mile. Better post. Another must.

CORDEES FANTASY
Out near half, quick cover, led up to lane, flattened out. Could be a nice price stab here.

BE MY LUCKY LADY
Away to tuck, back on rim half, advanced into strong winner, faded out late stages. Excuses last pair.

WINDSUN T BIRD
Cover from half, not a good flow, followed 3wide, driven, just fair. Nick's choice. Class relief noted.

DUET
Followed retaker to get top, blazed pace to lane, faded once passed. Ryan returns. Plan from outside?

CENALTA ARTISTRY
1st over into far turn, didn't advance much, driven, no rally. Week off. Also drops. Adds Willie.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

8th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | CHILMA |
| Fastest time last race | CENALTA ARTISTRY |
| Fastest win time this year | |
| Fastest win time last year | CENALTA ARTISTRY |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | WINDSUN T BIRD |
| Closed Strongly last race | CHILMA |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | SHEZ A SWIFT (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | NIGHTTRAINTOVEGAS WINDSUN T BIRD CENALTA ARTISTRY |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | CENALTA ARTISTRY |

Pick Four (16%) - \$30,000 Guaranteed Pool

To win the **Pick Four**, you must select the winners of the four (4) races designated as the pick four races. Otherwise, pursuant to (CHRB 1976.9): **If no ticket correctly selects all four winners**, 10% of the net pool will be paid to the winner(s) correctly selecting the most winners, **90% of the net pool will CARRYOVER to the next Pick Four Pool.**

Race 9 News

throwing their full arsenal at him, including the fastest sprinter west of the Rockies.

In the saddling stall, Dr. Fager was restless, tossing his head around and working up a mouthful of saliva. The longer he waited the more agitated he became. He began pawing at the ground, first with the right foot, then the left. His groom, Joe "Packrat" Findley, held him on one side, while Nerud kept pushing against him from the other side, all the while talking to him.

When the gates opened, Dr. Fager broke cleanly, but took about 50 yards to get in gear. Kissin' George, meanwhile, broke like a bullet and sprinted to the front. Dr. Fager was running freely, about four off the rail and several lengths off the pace, going into the clubhouse turn. There was to be no suicidal speed duel, at least not yet.

As they turned into the backstretch, Dr. Fager, under restraint from Baeza, was still back in fourth, but now running like a wild horse. With his head up and mouth open, he was literally leaping in the air, flip-flopping his leads. A weary-armed Baeza could not hold him any longer. When a gaping hole opened along the rail, Dr. Fager dragged Baeza in there. He then set his sights on Kissin' George and took off after him. When the Doc got competitive and those eyes opened wide and his blood got to boiling, all he wanted in front of him was the wind.

He quickly pounced on Kissin' George, who tried to dig in and put up a fight, but after six furlongs in 1:08 3/5, Kissin' George, like every horse who eyeballed Dr. Fager, threw in the towel and went into retreat. Dr. Fager now found himself with a four-length lead in mid-stretch. Baeza gave the Doc a little right-handed love tap with the whip,

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

LILBITOFMAMA
2nd over well before half, angled wide around stalled cover, driven, fair. Rail, small slice maybe.
GET DECKED
1st out well before half, advanced into fast 3rd panel, faded from the skirmish. Finally inside. Stab?
MUCHO MACHO MAN
Left on delay, parked balance, battled to str, finally faded out. Been giving signals. Can play.
LILMESSINAROUND
3rd over past half, followed rival wide into lane, some drive, just fair. Likely longshot.
SPIKELIKE
Moved out 3rd over half, good lead up trip, failed to rally. Missed a couple starts. Let's watch.
HF CARD
Parked long eighth plus, repelled quarter moving fave, battled to lane, game to end. Steve's choice. Another use.
JOHNNY BE ON TIME
Parked eighth plus to drop behind top pair, followed rest of the mile, some urging, safely 3rd. adds Rene tonight.
ITSGOODTOBEKING
Looped leaving, tucked, chased, tired. Chip returns. Tough post assignment.
HES A NAVAJO
2nd over past half, tried 3wide bid, broke, had pace. Midpriced stab from tough post.
FORGIVEUSOURZINS
Well back early, cover past half, not a good flow, had some good late interest. Killer post but not totally impossible.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

9th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|--|
| Highest Win % | HF CARD |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | HF CARD |
| Fastest time last race | HF CARD |
| Fastest win time this year | ITSGOODTOBEKING |
| Fastest win time last year | MUCHO MACHO MAN |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | LILBITOFMAMA JOHNNY BE ON TIME |
| Closed Strongly last race | N/A |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | N/A |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | MUCHO MACHO MAN (B) JOHNNY BE ON TIME (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | GET DECKED FORGIVEUSOURZINS |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | LILBITOFMAMA FORGIVEUSOURZINS |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | HF CARD |

HI-FIVE - .20¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

| 10 Cent Wagers | Your Cost | | |
|--|-----------|---|----------|
| 1 with 23 with 23 with 45 with 45 | \$.80 | 1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 234567..... | \$16.20 |
| 1 with 23 with 234 with 2345 with 6 | \$3.20 | 1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 234567810..... | \$28.80 |
| 1 with 234 with 234 with 234 with 567..... | \$3.60 | 1 with 234 with 2345 with 23456 with 2345678910..... | \$32.40 |
| 1 with 2345 with 2345 with 2345 with 6..... | \$4.80 | 12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 12345 with 123456..... | \$48.00 |
| 12 with 123 with 1234 with 12345 with 123456 | \$6.40 | 123 with 1234 with 12345 with 123456 with 1234567..... | \$48.60 |
| 1 with 234 with 234 with 234 with 5678910 | \$7.20 | 1 with 2345 with 23456 with 234567 with 2345678..... | \$51.20 |
| 1 with 23 with 234 with 2345 with 2345678910..... | \$9.60 | 1234 with 12345 with 123456 with 1234567 with 12345678..... | \$204.80 |
| | | 123456 with 123456 with 123456 with 123456 with 12345678..... | \$288.00 |

Race 10 News

and his tail shot straight up, as if telling Baeza to put the whip away; he was in complete control and had the race sewn up and did not need or want any encouragement. As competitive as Dr. Fager was on the track, he was very timid in the barn and did not like it if anyone yelled at him. He once took in a litter of kittens in his stall and watched over them.

After expressing his feelings to Baeza, Dr. Fager jumped back onto his left lead, causing him to duck in. Baeza got the message and wisely put the whip away and just hand-rode the Doc the rest of the way, winning by three lengths in a swift 1:40 4/5. No horse had ever won the Californian carrying that much weight.

It was after the Californian that Nerud decided to equip Dr. Fager with a Figure-8 bridle to give Baeza better control over him. He put the colt back on the plane and headed home to prepare for the Met Mile, only 12 days away. This was to be a rematch with the plucky In Reality, who had played bridesmaid to Dr. Fager and Damascus all year in 1967, but was on a roll, setting a track record in a prep for the prestigious John B. Campbell Handicap, then winning the Campbell over the previous year's Kentucky Derby runner-up Barbs Delight before dropping back into a sprint and knocking off Tumiga in the seven-furlong Carter Handicap in 1:21 4/5. Dr. Fager knew In Reality, not only in competition, but from way back, having grown up with him on Tartan Farm. When the Tartan babies went out to the track, going through the field in double file, it was Dr. Fager and In Reality who were the front pair leading the group.

Whether it was the trip to California or not, on the eve of the Met Mile, Dr. Fager came down with a severe case

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

HOT ON THE PACE

Quarter moved to easy lead, no resistance when winner attacked far turn, driven to save place check. Trips from rail shares?

LUCKY IVAN

Left 3wide to early lead, yielded to quarter mover, chased to lane, driven, no rally. Back inside. Adds Mooney tonight.

COWBOYS DIRTYBOOTS

Quarter moved, sped up far turn, caught late, 3 vying for place. Always dangerous. Can't rule him out.

GOOD CITATIONS

First over into far turn, cover late in bend, urged to save 2nd. Okay form. Another gimmick must.

FULL MOON RISING

Off gate pair, at back to half, edged out into far turn, never really covered, urged, photo'd for 2nd, much best of the rest. Yet another player.

WHO DAT LOVE

Sent from gate, yielded, popped out late last bend, sped by leader, urged. Tougher post. But still can be used.

A BAY BAY

Sped to top, released to q-mover, chased balance, urged, even. Outside once again. Another tough spot.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

10th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|--|
| Highest Win % | COWBOYS DIRTYBOOTS GOOD CITATIONS WHO DAT LOVE |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | GOOD CITATIONS |
| Fastest time last race | WHO DAT LOVE |
| Fastest win time this year | WHO DAT LOVE |
| Fastest win time last year | LUCKY IVAN A BAY BAY |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | GOOD CITATIONS FULL MOON RISING WHO DAT LOVE |
| Closed Strongly last race | WHO DAT LOVE |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | HOT ON THE PACE |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | COWBOYS DIRTYBOOTS (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | N/A |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | LUCKY IVAN |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | WHO DAT LOVE |

C.H.R.B. BREAKING RULES

1722. Breaking. Should any horse break from its gait in either trotting or pacing, the driver shall:

(a) Where clearance exists, take such horse to the outside.

(b) Attempt to pull the horse to its gait.

(c) Lose ground.

1723. Lapped-on Break. The driver of a horse which has broken from its gait who has complied with the breaking rule shall not be set back unless a contending horse on his gait is lapped on the hind quarter of the breaking horse at the finish.

Race 11 News

of colic. This had always been a concern for Nerud, as Dr. Fager's dam Aspidistra was always susceptible to it and eventually would lose several of her foals to colic.

Dr. Fager had returned from a gallop that morning and appeared to be in distress. Nerud summoned veterinarian Dr. William Reed, who gave the colt a normal dose of relaxant and tranquilizer, but it didn't help. Dr. Fager was in agony.

"He was literally banging his head against the wall," Nerud said. "I thought we had lost him." Dr. Fager tried to get down, but several men held him up, knowing if he did go down there was a good chance he would never get up.

Dr. Reed wound up giving him three times the normal dose of relaxant. He was such a strong, rugged horse, normal doses had little effect on him. Finally, he began to settle down and in a short while he was calm. He came out of it fine, but, of course, the ordeal would keep him out of the Met Mile, which was won by In Reality, and knocked him out for a couple of weeks.

Who knows what spectacular feats he would have accomplished going a flat mile over a brand spanking new Belmont Park surface that had opened just 10 days earlier after a six-year rebuilding project? The Met Mile opportunity was lost, but on the horizon was his long-awaited rematch with Damascus that would result in a pair of epic battles between two titans of the Turf.

No one could have known it as the Suburban and Brooklyn Handicaps approached, but racing fans would never witness two battles such as these again and never will.

Individual Recap Last Race Footnotes

AWESUM WORLD

Far back from poor post, failed to get into it. Post relief offers a glimmer of hope.

LITTLE EMMA

Saved ground to lane, heavy traffic, cleared inside, solid rally. She also moves inside. Shares?

SOUL DIVA

Sent from gate, regained past quarter, yielded before half, chased to lane, cleared, urged. Tony returns. Fires out?

MOON IS ON FIRE

Out past half, steadied into far turn, tough to gauge, didn't look loaded. Another question mark.

COASTAL TREASURE

Away to tuck, brushed out near half, sped up far turn, urged in lane, held. Week off. Better post. And drops pricewise.

HAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

Left 3wide to tuck, back out past half, didn't gain on the rim, faded. Post relief. Adds chip. The plan?

MAJESTIC LASS

Rode cones whole trip, faded out final turn. Let's watch one.

LOVERS HOLIDAY

Out near half, excess cover into far turn, followed 3wide, solid close. Outside again. Gerry's choice.

NUTMEGS DESIRE

Parked long eighth plus, yielded to pair of retakers, back out late far turn, sped away, urged. #9 again. Still usable.



CAL EXPO HARNESS

11th Race Computer Analysis

| | |
|--|---|
| Highest Win % | COASTAL TREASURE |
| Highest Average Earnings Per Start | COASTAL TREASURE |
| Fastest time last race | NUTMEGS DESIRE |
| Fastest win time this year | NUTMEGS DESIRE |
| Fastest win time last year | COASTAL TREASURE |
| Fastest last '1/4' last race | LOVERS HOLIDAY |
| Closed Strongly last race | LITTLE EMMA LOVERS HOLIDAY |
| Big improvement last race | N/A |
| Consistent early speed | SOUL DIVA |
| Favorite last race (B) Beaten (W) Winning | COASTAL TREASURE (W) LOVERS HOLIDAY (B) |
| Favorable post position change from last race | AWESUM WORLD |
| Blocked or in trouble last race | AWESUM WORLD MOON IS ON FIRE LOVERS HOLIDAY |
| Computer Choices Multiple picks rated equal | COASTAL TREASURE LOVERS HOLIDAY |

HI-FIVE - .20¢ WAGER COMBINATIONS

| 10 Cent Wagers | Your Cost | | |
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