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# SPORTS

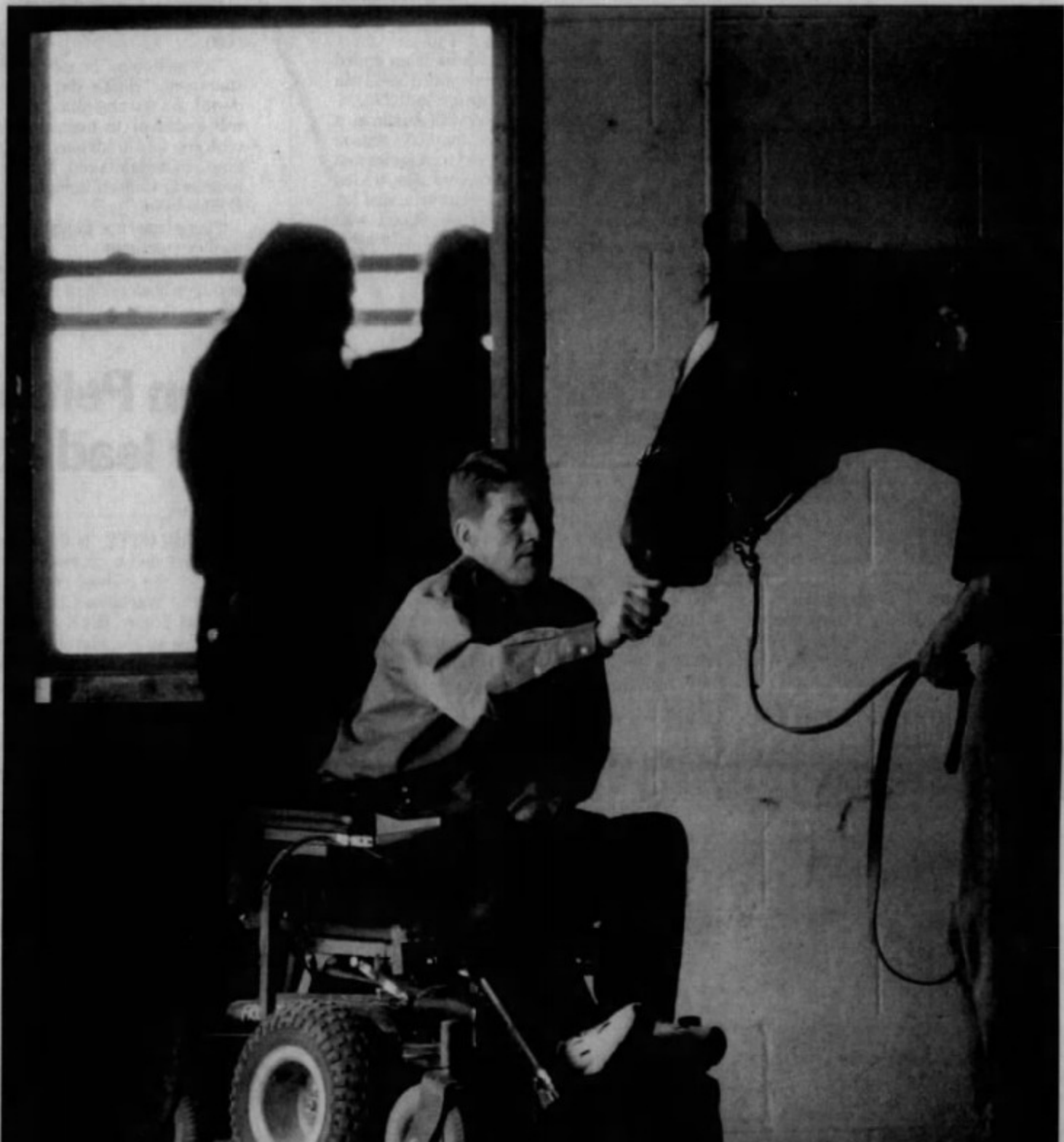
SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006 ■ THE TIMES

SECTION

**C**

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132ND KENTUCKY DERBY | POST TIME: 6:04 P.M.



Dan Hendricks hopes Brother Derek can extend the string to four wins in a row by trainers making their Kentucky Derby debut.

# Field of Plenty

There's speed galore, but trainer Dan Hendricks is putting his faith in Brother Derek.

By **DAWN REISS**  
Times Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Trainer Dan Hendricks peers up from his wheelchair, his eyes drooping from happy exhaustion. A horse-shoe-shaped crowd has engulfed him. His blue-tinged lips are dry and cracked from talking, but he continues. Every so often his hands reach under the jeans that drape his thin frame and lift his left leg, swaying it in tree-branch-like fashion.

"I'm tired," Hendricks said. "But it's my own fault I'm worn out. I've gotten home late every night, but that's part of it. Going out and having fun."

It has been nearly two years since Hen-

dricks was paralyzed in a dirt-bike accident at Starwest Motocross Park, 70 miles southwest of Los Angeles. An eight-hour operation left Hendricks with a metal plate in his back and a cage around damaged vertebra to stabilize his spine. Routine things, getting in and out of a car, that he used to take for granted have helped put everything in perspective. This is Hendricks' first trip back to the Kentucky Derby since 1984, when he was an assistant trainer to Richard Mandella with Bedouin, who finished 15th.

Like six of his peers, Hendricks, 47, is making his Derby debut as a trainer, with Brother Derek. The past three Derbys have

Please see **DERBY 7C**

## TODAY

6:04 p.m. post time, Churchill Downs, Louisville, Ky. **TV:** Ch. 8.

**FIELD/DISTANCE:** 20 3-year-olds; 1¼ miles.

**TOTAL PURSE:** \$2,213,200.

**WINNER'S SHARE:** \$1,453,200.

**WEATHER FORECAST:** 68 degrees and partly cloudy.

**2005 WINNER:** Giacomo.

## SCHEDULE

9 a.m. — Breakfast at Churchill, ESPN2;

noon — Racing at Churchill, ESPN;

3 p.m. — Kentucky Derby Special, ESPN;

5 — Kentucky Derby, Ch. 8;

6:30 — Kentucky Derby Wrapup, ESPN.

## THE FAVORITES . . . AND THE LONG SHOT

Gamblers, nervous over Brother Derek's 18 post, changed the odds to favor unbeaten Barbaro. Deputy Glitters, under Tampa Bay Downs leading rider Jose Lezcano, is the longest shot in the 20-horse field. The full field, as well as a look at Derby history, on **6C**.



**Barbaro**

5-1



**Sweetnorthernstain**

7-1



**Sinister Minister**

7-1



**Point Determined**

8-1



**Lawyer Ron**

9-1



**Brother Derek**

9-1



**Deputy Glitters**

75-1

# Long shot rallies to win Oaks

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — **Lemons Forever**, a 47-1 shot who trailed by 14 lengths down the backside, won the \$685,900 Kentucky Oaks in the biggest upset in the race's 132-year history Friday. **Balance**, the 8-5 favorite, finished 11th.

## DERBY NOTEBOOK

Ridden by **Mark Guidry**, **Lemons Forever** won by 1½ lengths. The 3-year-old filly covered 1½ miles in 1:50.07 and paid \$96.20, \$37 and \$18 as the longest shot in the all-filly field. The previous biggest upset was **Lemco**, at 40-1, in 1903.

**Ermine** returned \$11.20 and \$7.80 at 10-1 odds. **Bushfire** was disqualified from third and placed sixth for interfering with **Red Cherries Spin** near the wire.

**Wait a While** was moved up to third and paid \$6.40. The \$2 trifecta paid \$12,186.60.

**Guidry** has a chance to pull off the first Oaks-Derby double since **Jerry Bailey** in 1993. He will ride **Sharp Humor** today.

**FLASHY FLYER:** The Stanley Cup made a surprise appearance in the media press box along with Philadelphia Flyers defenseman **Chris Therien**.

"I hope it'll bring some luck," Therien said.

Therien is one of 17 people who make up the West Point Thoroughbreds, a diverse group from 13 states, including **Stephen Lowenstein**, part owner of the NBA's Boston Celtics, and **Tommy Thompson**, former Health and Human Services Secretary and governor of Wisconsin.

Company president **Terry Finley**, a West Point graduate and former Army captain,



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**Lemons Forever**, ridden by **Mark Guidry** and a 47-1 shot, trailed by 14 lengths before winning the Kentucky Oaks.

started West Point Thoroughbreds more than 15 years ago with the dream of running in the Kentucky Derby. Therien, who has owned several horses, said **Flashy Bull** is by far the best.

"During a playoff game, there is a lot of pressure on yourself," said Therien, who attended the Derby for the first time last year when a lockout wiped out the season. The Flyers were eliminated Tuesday. "But having a horse is a whole different thing. You just sit

back and watch. There's not a whole lot you can do."

**NOT SINCE NEEDLES:** If **Barbaro** wins, it will be the first time since **Needles** in 1956 that a horse has won after a five-week layoff. **Barbaro** won the 1½-mile Florida Derby on April 1 at Gulfstream.

**FOUR IN A ROW?** First-time Derby trainers have won 29 times, including the past three: **John Shirreffs (Giacomo)**, **John Servis (Smarty Jones)** and **Barclay Tagg (Funny Cide)**. Seven trainers will make their first start: **Dan Hendricks (Brother Derek)**, **Michael Matz (Barbaro)**, **Michael Trombetta (Sweetnorthernstain)**, **Dale Romans (Sharp Humor)**, **Daniel Peitz (Steppenwolver)**, **Thomas Albertrani (Deputy Glitters)** and **Mark Casse (Seaside Retreat)**.

**LATE SHIPPER:** Tagg and colt **Showing Up** were the last to arrive Thursday afternoon: "If I could come in a helicopter in the infield the morning of the race, it would be perfect."

**FIRST TIMERS:** There are four first-time jockeys: **Shaun Bridgmohan (Private Vow)**, **Jose Lezcano (Deputy Glitters)**, **Patrick Husbands (Seaside Retreat)** and **Fernando Jara (Jazil)**. Thirty-nine have won on their first mount, most recently **Stewart Elliott** on **Smarty Jones**.

**1-2 PUNCH:** The last time a trainer's horses finished first and second was **Ben Jones' Citation** and **Coaltown** in 1948. Four trainers have that chance today: **Steve Asmussen (Private Vow-Storm Treasure)**, **Bob Baffert (Bob and John-Sinister Minister-Point Determined)**, **Kieran McLaughlin (Jazil-Flashy Bull)** and **Todd Pletcher (Bluegrass Cat-Keyed Entry)**.

— DAWN REISS, Times staff writer and TIMES WIRES

## HOW TO BET

You don't need to be at Churchill Downs to put money on the race. Tampa Bay Downs in Oldsmar, Derby Lane in St. Petersburg and Tampa Greyhound Track will open at 10:30 a.m. today to take Derby bets. But before you go to the window, make sure you know what you're doing.

**THE BASICS:** Post time for the Derby is 6:04 p.m. Don't be in line at 6:03 and risk being shut out. Winning tickets usually are valid for several months.

**THE LINGO:** Identify your horse by its saddlecloth number. Because there have been no scratches, saddlecloth numbers match the post numbers. Mutuel tellers place bets by horse numbers, not names. If you want to bet \$10 on Lawyer Ron to win, say "In the Derby, give me \$10 to win on 17."

**THE BETS:** The minimum bet is \$2 with the most simple wagers being win, place and show. If you have a horse you really like, bet it to win. If you're not totally confident of a win but believe it will be in the hunt, bet it to place (finish first or second) or show (finish first, second or third).



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**Derby** from 1C

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Brother Derek, with assistant trainer Francesco Alvarado, is 5-0 in races around two turns.

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been won by first-time trainers: Barclay Tagg (Funny Cide), John Servis (Smarty Jones) and last year John Shirreffs with Giacomo.

It's a 20-horse field as strong as any. Some say one of the best, an all-star cast filled with speed. Brother Derek has won four races since December, going 6-for-8 in the past two years. Barbaro, trained by Michael Matz, and Tagg's Showing Up are undefeated. Lawyer Ron has won seven of his 14 races, including the Arkansas Derby on April 15, and Sharp Humor has won the last four of his seven races. The field also includes a pair of April 8 winners — Bob and John by 1½ lengths in the Wood Memorial and Sweetnorthernstaint by 9¼ lengths in the Illinois Derby — and Sinister Minister, who won the April 15 Blue Grass Stakes by 12¼ lengths.

"It's the toughest Derby I've ever seen," said Tagg, 68. "I've been watching the Derby since 1953 on TV, and I've never seen a Derby like this."

Sinister Minister, Keyed Entry and Sharp Humor are the likely pacesetters. Both Hendricks and Matz say they plan to stay close, but not in front, to capitalize on their experienced jockeys who can guide their mounts through traffic with tactical speed.

"People ask me if Brother Derek can stalk," said Alex Solis, the most experienced of the jockeys who is competing in his 15th Derby. "I think he can. He has such a high cruising speed that I think he can race behind other horses. But you're not sure until the race starts."

Solis, whose best finish came in 2000, when Aptitude finished second to Fusaichi Pegasus, knows the importance of combining quick thinking with experience.

"Strategy, it's going to be interesting, that's for sure," said Solis, who has a pair of 5-inch titanium rods and eight screws in his back from a riding accident 16 days after Hendricks was injured on July 7, 2004. "Hopefully we'll get a good break and then we'll see what we can do."

But like last year, the possibility remains that a closer such as Cause to Believe, Jazil, Storm Treasure or Steppenwolfer could contend if speed burns up the frontrunners. Giacomo, 50-1, broke from the 10th post last year and moved from sixth down the stretch to victory.

"You could see a scenario where every-

body takes a hold and gets a real traffic jam going," said Shirreffs, A.P. Warrior's trainer. "But I don't think that'll be the case. I think there are several horses in here that are going to break. But anything is possible."

Having that possibility is what keeps any Derby contender's spirit alive, especially Hendricks. The father of three returned to Del Mar less than two months after his accident and watched 2-year-old filly Littlebitofzip end his barn's 0-for-18 slump. Hendricks wondered then if he would be able to come back and manage his stables at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, Calif.

"It took six months until we started winning small races," said Hendricks, who helped design a saddle from which he occasionally observes his assistants, "and I realized it's just a matter of learning how to do it all over again."

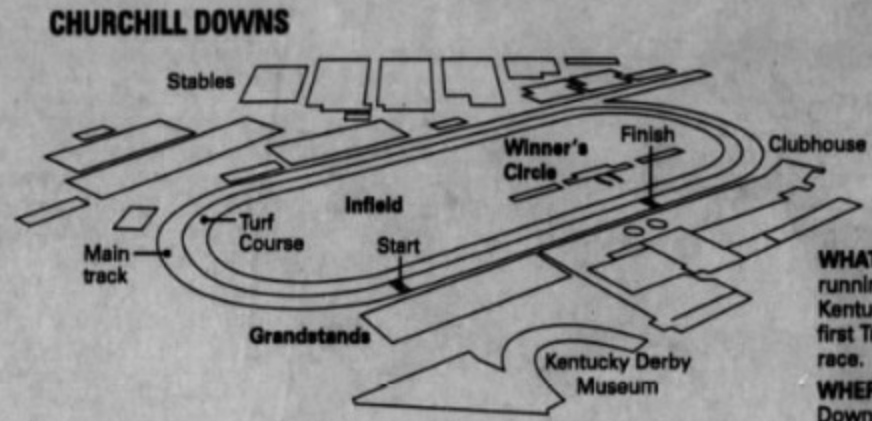
Despite his path of determination, Hendricks still battles bouts of depression.

"I'm not totally out of it," Hendricks said. "I'm not going to lie to you. It's still there, but Saturday could be a turning point."

# THE RUN FOR THE ROSES

The 132nd Kentucky Derby, called the Run for the Roses by a New York columnist in 1925, will continue to showcase a rich and varied tradition that has fascinated many since 1875.

TIMES GRAPHIC BY DANA OPPENHEIM



**WHAT:** The 132th running of the Kentucky Derby, the first Triple Crown race.

**WHERE:** Churchill Downs, Louisville, Ky.

**DATE:** Today

**POST TIME:** 6:04 p.m.

**TV:** Ch. 8

## THE SITE

Built 1874-75 on 80 acres (it now occupies 147 acres) 3 miles south of downtown Louisville. First referred to in 1883 as Churchill Downs after Churchill, former land owners, and Downs, an English-term for grass used for grazing and later racing, the name became official in 1928.



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## INFIELD

These 40 acres hold up to 80,000 fans. Site of Kentucky's first recorded flight, potato crops during shortage and a World War II soldier camp.

## MILLIONAIRE ROW

Celebrities, including three British royals and eight U.S. presidents (Ford went the most), attend "to see and be seen".

George Steinbrenner and Concerto in 1997.

## THE GARLAND OF ROSES



Getty Images - ROBERT SULLIVAN

## THE TROPHY

Given sporadically until 1924 when a design was commissioned. Topped by a 18-karat gold horse and rider, the mostly-handcrafted trophy is 22 inches tall and weighs 56 ounces without the base. The only major change was in 1999 when officials rotated the horseshoes' ends upward (racing superstition says a turned-down horseshoe means bad luck). Possibly only solid gold trophy annually awarded in a major American sport.



## *My Old Kentucky Home* by Stephen Foster

*The sun shines bright in the old Kentucky home,  
Tis summer, the people are gay;  
The corn-top's ripe and the meadow's in the bloom  
While the birds make music all the day.*

*The young folks roll on the little cabin floor  
All merry, all happy and bright;  
By 'n' by hard times comes a-knocking at the door  
Then my old Kentucky home, Good-night!*

*Weep no more my lady. Oh weep no more today;  
We will sing one song for my Old Kentucky Home  
For my Old Kentucky Home, far away.*

The Kentucky state song probably was first played when Kentucky-owned and bred Behave Yourself won the 1921 Derby. Since at least 1930, the song has been performed by the University of Louisville Marching Band almost every year when the first hoof steps on the track for the post-race parade.



## WINNER'S CIRCLE

Where Derby winners have been honored since 1938 with the garland of roses and trophy. Site of some weddings and scattering of horsemen's ashes.

Jockey Willie Shoemaker, aboard Swaps, in the 1955 winner circle.



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## TWIN SPIRES

A landmark that symbolizes Churchill Downs worldwide, the twin spires were designed in 1895 by 24-year-old draftsman Joseph Dominic Baldez to give the new grandstands a striking appearance. These hexagonal spires personify the late 19th century architecture that valued symmetry and balance more than function.

Horses work out in 1999 at the first turn as the sun rises over the famous Twin Spires.



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## THE HATS



Getty Images - JEFF HAYNES

Models show Derby hats earlier this week.

It is believed that Col. Clark, founder of the Louisville Jockey Club, wanted to model the Kentucky Derby after his experience at the 1875 Epsom Derby, an annual English horse race and social event. Returning to Louisville, Clark invited the town's women to the race in their finest dress, which included the hats that became a Derby staple.

Getty Images - ROBERT SULLIVAN  
Jockey Mike Smith with the blanket of roses after winning the 2005 Derby with Giacomo.

Roses were so popular when given to women attending a fashionable Derby party that Downs president Col. M. Lewis Clark made it the race's official flower. The Derby winner receives a garland of 554 red roses sewn onto green satin sash that has the Kentucky state seal on one end and the twin spires and number of the running on the other. The centerpiece is a "crown," a single upward rose to symbolize the heart needed to win, surrounded by a rose to represent every starter. The winner also receives 60 long stemmed roses in 10 yards of ribbon. This tradition was strengthened when a columnist called the Derby "Run for the Roses" in 1925.



AP photo

The revised trophy in 1999.

## THE DERBY RING

Starting this year, the winning owner, trainer and jockey will receive a \$2,000, 10-karat gold ring in the winner's circle along with the trophy and garland of roses as the newest Derby tradition.

### Design of ring

Top can be removed to wear as a pendant necklace

### Diamonds

1/3 carat total weight set in white horseshoe



Derby Black trophy onyx replica stone

Winning horse's name above the famous twin spires



Individual's last name, Derby rose and title

## MINT JULEP

The official beverage of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby for almost a century. More than 80,000 mint juleps are consumed annually during the Kentucky Derby, using 8,000 liters of Mint Julep Ready-to-Serve Cocktail, 2,200 pounds of freshly harvested mint and 80 tons of ice.

### COSTLY MINT JULEP:

This year, the Woodford Reserve distillery will sell 50 \$1,000 mint juleps made with mint from Morocco, ice from the Arctic Circle and sugar from the South Pacific served in a gold-plated cup with a silver straw to benefit retired race horses.

### RECIPE:

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups water
- crushed ice
- whiskey
- 6-8 springs of mint
- silver julep cups

Boil sugar and water together for 5 minutes to make mint syrup. After it cools, pour in a covered container with mint and refrigerate overnight. Fill julep cup with crushed ice, 1 tbsp. mint syrup and 2 ounces whisky. Stir rapidly with spoon to frost outside of cup and garnish with mint spring.



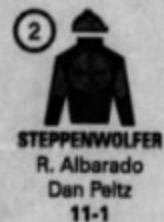
## THE SILKS

Worn by jockeys when King Charles II began horse races in the early 18th century to distinguish the jockeys. At right, today's field listed by post number with jockey, trainer and odds.

Note: Bets are placed by saddlecloth number which may change if a horse scratches.



**1**  
**JAZIL**  
F. Jara  
Kieran McLaughlin  
20-1



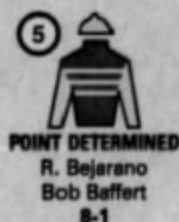
**2**  
**STEPPENWOLFER**  
R. Albarado  
Dan Peltz  
11-1



**3**  
**KEYED ENTRY**  
P. Valenzuela  
Todd Pletcher  
42-1



**4**  
**SINISTER MINISTER**  
V. Espinoza  
Bob Baffert  
7-1



**5**  
**POINT DETERMINED**  
R. Bejarano  
Bob Baffert  
8-1



**6**  
**SHOWING UP**  
C. Velasquez  
Barclay Tagg  
36-1



**7**  
**BOB AND JOHN**  
G. Gomez  
Bob Baffert  
12-1



**8**  
**BARBARO**  
E. Prado  
Michael Matz  
5-1



**9**  
**SHARP HUMOR**  
M. Guildry  
Dale Romans  
25-1



**10**  
**A.P. WARRIOR**  
C. Nekatani  
John Shirreffs  
15-1



**11**  
**SWEETNORTHERNSAINT**  
K. Desormeaux  
Mike Trombetta  
7-1



**12**  
**PRIVATE VOW**  
S. Bridgmohan  
Steve Asmussen  
40-1



**13**  
**BLUEGRASS CAT**  
R. Dominguez  
Todd Pletcher  
23-1



**14**  
**DEPUTY GLITTERS**  
J. Lezcano  
Tom Albertrani  
75-1



**15**  
**SEASIDE RETREAT**  
P. Husbands  
Mark Casse  
48-1



**16**  
**CAUSE TO BELIEVE**  
R. Baze  
Jerry Hallendorfer  
28-1



**17**  
**LAWYER BOB**  
J. McKee  
Bob Holthus  
9-1



**18**  
**BROTHER DEREK**  
A. Solis  
Dan Hendricks  
5-1



**19**  
**STORM TREASURE**  
D. Flores  
Steve Asmussen  
52-1



**20**  
**FLASHY BULL**  
M. Smith  
Kieran McLaughlin  
40-1

