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*'Twas then he felt alone
And wished that he'd gone straight
And watched out, for a simple twist of fate*

-Bob Dylan

Blood on the Tracks (1975)

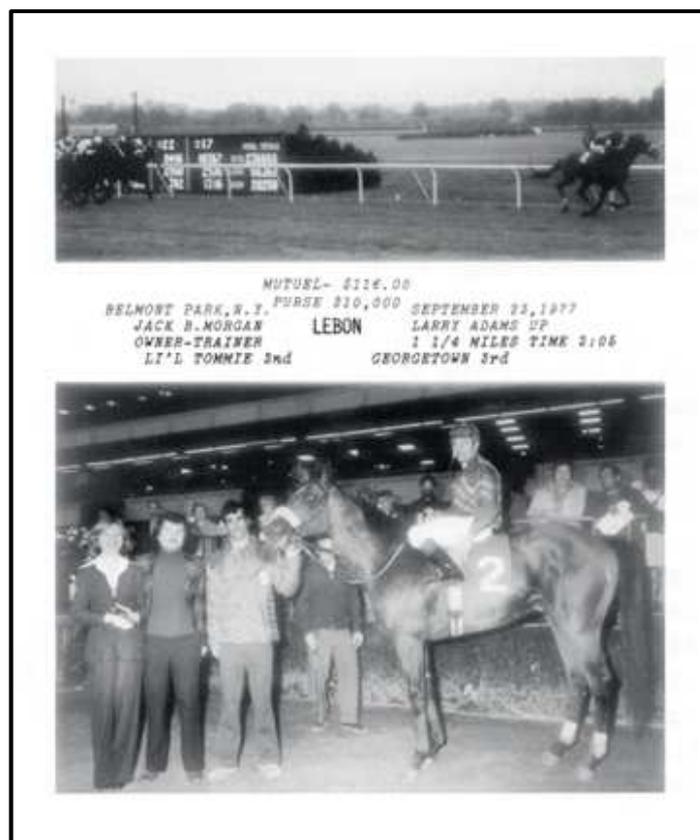
THE STRANGE CASE OF RINGER MORTIS

As a modifier, bizarre is normal when placed in the context of American thoroughbred race tracks. The polyglot of creation that populates those repositories of legend and less makes that word almost redundant to any tale quartered there.

Entering a North American racing venue is remindful of passing through the fantastical gates of Willy Wonka. Both reveal a collection of humanity combining Leonardo da Vinci's sketchbook with Federico Fellini's films. But every now and again in the *Mondo Bizarro* of turfdom, events transpire that stun both the observers and the denizens of those precincts.

Such was the case when, on a wet Friday September 23, 1977 at New York's Belmont Park, the longest shot on the board at the end of that day's card won going away returning a payoff of \$116.00 for a \$2 win bet. The paid attendance was 12,000 that day but only a small fraction of that number stuck around in hopes of getting even on the \$16,000 route claimer over a boggy turf course.

The official result as reported by the Daily Racing Form chronicled the winner as Lebon, Jack B. Morgan as owner-trainer, Larry Adams up. And so the win picture indicated. Only the jockey's identity was truthful.



The notorious win photo

Hidden ownership is no rarity in horse racing else felons and other ineligible would be denied the proprietorship opportunity. Straw trainers are less common though not unknown. Evasion of the rules of racing is a cardinal precept of a certain subset of the game's participants. Outright equine imposters, however, arouse the most somnambulant members of racing stewardship to enforcement action.

Belmont's massive expanse provides plenty of cover for furtive maneuvers. Moments after the Lebon win was declared official, an apparent gentleman barely into mid-life strode to an obscure corner in the bowels of the Belmont Park cavern and approached a window marked INFORMATION.

In those days of narrow bandwidth, mutuel clerks manned windows labeled either SELLER or CASHIER. Their posts were also segmented by ticket value, typically \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$50. All wagers were made in multiples of those amounts with a corresponding number of tickets (e.g. a \$300 wager required six \$50 tickets).

The Information Window dispensed a concise menu of services none of which included information. Track insiders of VIP and wise guy rank used that location to cash checks and winning tickets whose sum lay beyond the capacity of even the \$50 cashier.

The age and physicality of the Information Window supplicant could have been that of a country club tennis pro which he was not. His Brooks Brothers haberdashery suggested Wall Street or Madison Avenue. He was connected to neither.

The tickets (\$1300 to win and \$600 to show) that he presented to the tender of the Information Window demanded a sum beyond even the ample reserves present. Word was sent upstairs to tap the track safe for the payable. A messenger soon arrived with \$80,440 cash.

Whatever anonymity heretofore enjoyed by the fortunate punter was extinguished with the arrival of the messenger:

"Hi Doc, nice hit," the messenger said without exclamation as he delivered a literal bagful of hundred dollar bills.

That lack of excitement was protocol for employees working, in track argot, "behind the line." Courteous acknowledgement of a player's good fortune was well within the mutuel clerks' canon. High fives and chest bumps, had they been invented, or their 70's equivalent would have been well outside the line.

The messenger, Phil Maxwell, was also an exercise rider, who befriended "Doc" when the latter was also galloping horses while a veterinary student at Cornell University some twenty years earlier.

The hungry vet to be from Brooklyn got on horses for top trainers including the legendary Sunny Jim Fitzsimmons. This youthful networking served the student well

when he embarked on his veterinary practice at New York tracks as Mark Gerard, D.V.M. His rise to the rank of go to practitioner for the most sought after barns was swift. The iconic names of Kelso and Secretariat graced his roster of equine patients.

Vets are prohibited from doubling as owners, trainers, or jockeys. Medical practice puts them in positions of confidentiality that would present clear interest conflicts were they competitors as well. While there are no bans on wagering for vets, sighting of them on the front side of tracks is uncommon. Appearances matter.

By now, dear reader, you may have made a connection between the unwitting Lebon imposter and the Doc's "nice hit" of over eighty large. But in the absence of rank serendipity, those events would have comprised a case never opened.

Gerard and his wife Alice, a well-schooled horsewoman, were early adopters of the importation of proven South American thoroughbred runners to the U.S. This they undertook at the request of clients in search of ready to run prospects. In principle, that enterprise crossed no ethical boundaries.

One of the Gerard's clients was Joseph Taub, a co-founder of Automated Data Processing and owner of the N.B.A.'s New Jersey Nets. Mrs. G journeyed to Uruguay on Taub's behalf and returned with two seasoned geldings of strikingly similar appearance but dramatically contrasting past performances.

Cinzano was the Champion Three-Year-Old in Uruguay with a troubled second being the lone blemish in his eight starts. Lebon, after a few wins early in his career had become progressively uncompetitive and the show ring was now his best hope. Alice Gerard had implied to the seller that Lebon was being purchased for her riding pleasure. The prices paid for the pair did nothing to disabuse an observer of that as she acquired Cinzano for \$81,000 and Lebon for \$1600.

The Gerards sold Cinzano to Taub for \$150,000, an amount for which the horse was immediately insured by Lloyd's of London. Lebon remained a Gerard property.

In those days identification upon importation was a casual affair with only passing attention to distinguishing marks contained on the foal papers. In many cases, mere checking of the name on the halter sufficed.

After clearing quarantine, both horses were taken by van to the Gerard's farm on Long Island. The following evening, Gerard was attending a dinner party when he received a phone call informing him of a life threatening mishap at his farm. Cinzano, he was told, had suffered severe head injuries and a leg fracture.

Upon inspection Gerard concluded that the only humane course was to euthanize the mortally injured Cinzano, which he promptly did and so informed the insurer of his actions. That entity's consulting veterinarian, coincidentally a friend of Gerard's, corroborated Gerard's professional judgment in the matter.

Before an independent necropsy could be performed, the remains of the horse were removed to a local landfill. The evidence soon disappeared under a mountain of refuse. Lloyd's would eventually pay owner Taub in full on the insurance policy.

Had the claimants been characters lacking the bona fides of racing's upper caste, the investigation would have probed far deeper. But what adjuster would have the temerity to question the integrity of Secretariat's vet? None was the answer.

The surviving Uruguayan, Lebon, was soon put in training under the apparent care of Jack Morgan, a former veterinary assistant to Gerard. Morgan, who was living at the margin with a small band of low end claimers, was now the trainer of record for Lebon.

In fact, Morgan functioned as little more than a groom in Lebon's life. Mark and Alice Gerard were routinely the earliest arrivals on the Belmont backside overseeing Lebon's pre-dawn daily gallops. By any objective measure, they were the decision makers.

And in spite of documentation satisfactory to N.Y.R.A. that transferred ownership to Morgan, the Gerards also remained Lebon's true owners. Or was their trainee Cinzano?

In the earliest days of horse racing in this country, the ringer was a not infrequent corrupter. As the sport evolved and racing venues sought respect, there was usually at least one official who could identify horses on the grounds at site. Not until the end of World War II did the lip tattoo, bearing a unique numerical and alphabetical sequence, replace the eyeball identity protocol. From that time forward, ringer scandals were almost always the province of bottom rung outliers.

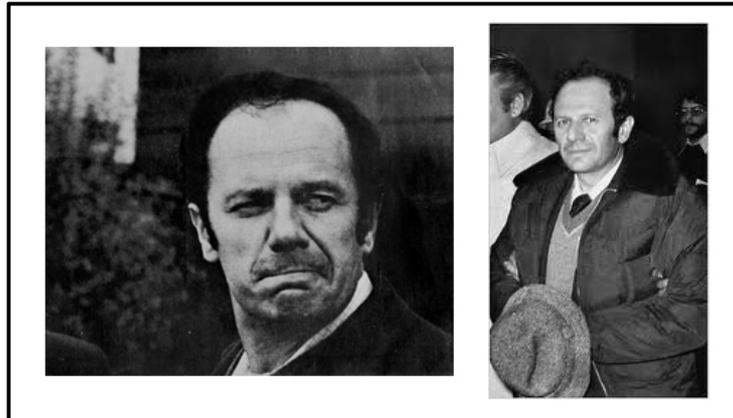
By 1977 whatever disadvantages, real or imagined, that confronted New York horseplayers living in the crosshairs of life's unfairness, ringer suspicion would not have made their list of grievances.

The serendipitous occurrence in this case centers on a pair of Uruguayan horsemen who were among the stragglers that witnessed Lebon's stunning reversal of form that day at Belmont. They recounted their experience to the editor of the Uruguayan racing publication, *El Pais*, who immediately requested the win photo for publication.

The editor likely let out a *caramba* upon receiving the photo as he immediately recognized the winner as Cinzano not Lebon and so informed the N.Y.R.A. authorities.

Lebon and Cinzano had similar but not identical facial white markings. Cinzano, however, had a unique scar on his left shoulder that was immediately noticed by the journalist.

There then ensued an investigation that put Morgan, the horse, and Gerard in the sin bin pending further review. That further review eventually exonerated Morgan, barred the horse from American tracks, and indicted the Doc.



Mark Gerard, D.V.M. outside of the courtroom at his trial

Gerard's indictment included multiple felonies that threatened serious time. The D.A. justifiably entered the courtroom as a 3/5 favorite to gain a conviction. Even the presence of F. Lee Bailey for the defense did little to sway sentiment during early testimony.

That is until, in one of those Perry Mason moments, Bailey called Alice Gerard to the stand. The Gerards had been separated for some time and she had been under the care of a psychiatrist. She presented as the frailest of feminine figures while claiming total responsibility for the identity switch plot.

Her motive, she explained, was to cast disgrace on the racing game for which she secretly harbored hatred. She then cited her vegetarian scruples as evidence that the tragic death of Lebon, a.k.a. Cinzano, was in fact an accident and not a conspiratorial event. The horse had panicked at the sight of a rabbit being chased by cats, she testified, thereby triggering his own demise.

The stunned prosecutor offered only feeble cross examination leaving the reasonable doubt door open for Bailey. The confused jurors found the Doc guilty only of the misdemeanor offense of "fraudulent entries and practices in contests of speed."

The judge gave Mark Gerard a twelve month term of incarceration, reduced on appeal, and a \$1000 fine. Racetrackers joked that "The Doc got a year and the horse got life."

As far as we know, horses are unaware of the pari-mutuel aspect of horse racing. So when Cinzano got his i.d. back, he was oblivious of any trade down upon leaving the track for betless steeplechasing. For him, a race was a race.

Randolph Rouse, his new owner-trainer-rider, was a Virginia Brahmin and Master of the Fairfax Hunt. He was married for a time to Audrey Meadows who so memorably portrayed the fictional Alice Kramden in the *Honeymooners*.



Audrey & Randolph Rouse

The Honeymooners

Rouse stood atop the point-to-point competitors in Virginia. His partnering with Cinzano resulted in a perfect ten for ten run for horse and rider over hurdles during a two year span. Rouse would later call him "The best horse I ever had. All you had to do was steer."

Cinzano lived in retirement at Rouse's farm in Aldie, Virginia where he died, age twenty-six, in 1999.



Rouse and Cinzano (1982)

Mark and Alice Gerard eventually reconciled and lived together thereafter. Despite mounting suspicion about the possible switching of some other Gerard imports, no further actions transpired. The Doc's vet license was reinstated but his racetrack practice was finished.

The Gerards relocated to the South Florida city of Wellington. Mark established a successful practice in the vibrant polo community there. His services were still in high demand when he suffered a fatal stroke at age seventy-six on June 21, 2011.

The final irony in the saga was a ringer heretofore unmentioned. In 1955, the captain of Cornell's Polo Team was Mike Geronimus. Upon graduating from the School of Veterinary Medicine, Mike switched the nameplate on his own halter and became Mark Gerard, D.V.M.

Why abandon a surname that is a bequest of the medieval German Saint Geronimus, the noseless patron saint of allergy sufferers? Poor Geronimus, a severe allergy sufferer himself, lost his sniffer to a severe case of sunburn. He lived a hermit but had miraculous healing powers used to help others. No answer survives to explain the late veterinarian's moniker change.



Mike Geronimus (second from right) Captain of Cornell's 1955 Polo Team

Likewise unexplained is how an adopter of the veterinarian equivalent of the Hippocratic Oath and a vegetarian spouse could conspire to murder a healthy five year old horse. Of course, maybe it was an accident that made the identity swap even easier. Any equicide committed was not essential to the sting. Therein will forever lie the mystery of The Strange Case of Ringer Mortis and a simple twist of fate.

For his part, the Doc did leave some clear final instructions. He directed that his own ashes be scattered "where happy horses graze."

As the strong man exults in his physical ability, delighting in such exercises as call his muscles into action, so glories the analyst in that moral activity which disentangles. He derives pleasure from even the most trivial occupations bringing his talent into play. He is fond of enigmas, of conundrums, hieroglyphics; exhibiting in his solutions of each a degree of acumen which appears to the ordinary apprehension praeternatural. His results, brought about by the very soul and essence of method, have, in truth, the whole air of intuition.

- *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*
- Edgar Allen Poe (1840)

THIS YEAR'S RACE:

Ratiocination was the word chosen by Poe to describe the remarkable deductive powers possessed by his fictional detective, C. Auguste Dupin. In *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, Dupin routinely astonishes the narrator with his analyses in what is regarded as the first detective story. For our purposes, ratiocination is at one with handicapping. As we begin our annual quest for success on May's first Saturday, we hope that Dupin's spirit will guide us.

In what most smarts see as a "wide open betting affair" (a term favored by a former New Orleans sports talk show host now doing a life stretch for uxoricide), we will narrow our choices by eliminating competitors in the Louisiana and Arkansas Derbies as well as the Blue Grass Stakes. Based on our recent record, you might be wise to box a trifecta with the winners of those three races.

In full recognition that the decision wields a hefty axe, the visual impression left by those races is much less than the Florida and Santa Anita Derbies as well as the Wood Memorial. Let's take a look at the field of twenty three-year-olds:

1. **BLACK ONYX** - The Spiral Stakes winner is getting little respect largely because the runner-up in that race, **UNCAPTURED**, finished tenth in the Blue Grass. That race is also on a synthetic surface and B.O.'s pedigree, while not wanting for the distance, has a somewhat greensward hue. Before you dismiss him, I have two words for you: **ANIMAL KINGDOM**. This karat may not need a stick on Saturday.
2. **OXBOW** - The Western Classic, *The Oxbow Incident*, begins with a pair of scruffy horsemen galloping into town. There is nothing scruffy about D. Wayne Lukas and Gary Stevens but these two horsemen have galloped out of Louisville with seven Derby wins between them. In 1995, they put **THUNDER GULCH** across at a monster price so attention must be paid. **OXY** is bred for this being by **AWESOME AGAIN** and from a full sister to champion **TIZNOW**. He is said to be a difficult ride which would explain Stevens being his seventh jock in nine starts. The owner sold his discount smokes biz for a tidy billion and now ranks fourth among U.S. land owners. **OXY** has teased with some flashy efforts but his last race produced a dull fifth in the Arkansas Derby. May be a reach but you would not be called an **OXY** moron if you took a flyer here.

3. REVOLUTIONARY - The T - Pletch musical jockey game left this mount open and Calvin Borel is now in the irons which will certainly lower the post time odds. La. Derby winner just always shows up and pedigree says Derby distance should work. Narrow wins over lesser foes may not have the wow factor but more importantly this guy may have the now factor. Will be coming late; only question is how many REVOLUTIONS per minute he can generate.
4. GOLDEN SOUL - Late Baffert defections opened the door for this guy who came from last to fourth in the La. Derby in a five wide trip. We bet him there and he definitely improved over previous. Sire is Irish stayer, PERFECT SOUL, and there is plenty of stamina on Mom's side as well. GOLDY will pass a lot of the crowd late and odds will be huge. Inclusion in your exotics could be SOUL food for thought.
5. NORMANDY INVASION - That closing effort in the Wood, where he appeared to be getting to "ZANO, will almost certainly make him the whisper horse. Both running style and dam's pedigree are Derby supportive though we are not yet sold on sire, TAPIT, at the distance. Looking for Swami Angles, some might say this race is on a D - Day of sorts. But gambling is illegal in UTAH and the race track has closed in OMAHA. So hard to know whether this OPERATION can LORD it OVER the field.
6. MYLUTE - Son of two-time sprint champion, MIDNIGHT LUTE, is also a grandson of Derby-Preakness champ of '98 (picked here), REAL QUIET. This LUTE improved from stopping at a mile and a sixteenth in the Risen Star to closing at a mile and an eighth in the La. Derby where he just missed catching REVOLUTIONARY. That latter effort is a tribute to trainer Amoss. We admit to a soft spot for our locals but rider switch to Rosie will lower odds. Gets stamina from R.Q. but female family more speed type. This pedigree is not likely to take the loot. Hard to string along with this LUTE.
7. GIANT FINISH- Took the twentieth spot at the last minute and bumped FEAR THE KITTEN from the field. New York bred was well-beaten third to B.O. in the Spiral Stakes. Appears to be in way over his head here.
8. GOLDENCENTS - Showed considerable maturation in the S.A. Derby after speed duel that produced self-inflicted foot shot in the San Felipe. Trainer O'Neill looking for a repeat rose grab (first since Lucien Laurin in '72-'73 with RIVA RIDGE and SECRETARIAT) and colt is no throw out. Earned a big Beyer Fig in the S.A. Derby and has the talent to be right there turning for home. Louisville N.C.A.A. Champion hoops Coach Pitino has a piece of this one but a mile and a quarter for Goldy looks like a half - court shot - unlikely but not impossible.

9. OVERANALYZE - The Arkansas Derby may have been slow but the rest of the field was a lot slower than this guy. Another from the T - Pletcher bench that will follow his two - prep model before the Derby. Although dad DIXIE UNION also sired last year's Belmont winner, UNION RAGS, pedigree in total does not overwhelm for the distance. Owner is the founder of Vitamin Water, the sale of which to Coca Cola amply financed his purchases of accomplished runners, UNCLE MO and STAY THIRSTY. A few shots of that elixir might help OVERANALYZE to overenergize.
10. PALACE MALICE - After a couple of troubled trips in New Orleans, finally got a clean one in the Blue Grass but could not hold off JAVA'S WAR. The scurrying for Derby points will result in that race being his third in five weeks. That coupled with Pletcher's blinker experiment makes the outlook MAL for PAL.
11. LINES OF BATTLE - Probably the most live of UAE Derby winners to take a shot in Louisville. Trained by the Wizard of Ballydoyle, Aidan O'Brien, his pedigree is All - American and fits the Derby profile. In fact his female family is also that of '01 winner MONARCHOS. Has yet to compete on a dirt surface but sure looked good on the Dubai poly. In baseball box scores L.O.B. stands for Left on Base. Don't expect that fate for this L.O.B. when the Derby LINES are drawn.
12. ITSMYLUCKYDAY - Son of Derby alum, LAWYER RON, got the fig guys salivating after his triple digit Holy Bull effort. Went off favored in the Florida Derby but failed to hold off ORB's late rally. Pedigree is a stretch for the distance but the colt should improve off of last. Another who figures to be prominent at the head of the stretch but to last to the winning post will need a very LUCKYDAY.
13. FALLING SKY - Sold for only \$16K as a weanling. Maiden win was at Calder and moved to higher profile connections after impressive allowance score at Gulfstream. Interesting that sire, LION HEART was second in '04 Derby and broodmare sire, SEA HERO (picked here) won the '93 Derby. Both stallions were subsequently exported to Turkey. F.S. delivered a pair of turkeys in the Tampa and Arkansas Derbies showing early speed but exhibiting no interest in the latter stages. If this guy gets the roses you will truly witness a FALLING SKY.
14. VERRAZANO - A son of our 2000 pick, MORE THAN READY, who held the lead deep into the stretch and finished a close fourth. MTR's offspring are best around a mile. Matches with mares owning stamina pedigrees have produced longer capacity and that is certainly the case here for the undefeated winner of the Tampa Derby and the Wood. 'ZANO bears the Apollo Curse (unraced at 2) but keeps regular rider, Johnny V., who was also ORB's recent partner. Probably Pletcher's best shot of five entries. Did not make his first start 'til New Year's Day but has been flawless in four outs. The New York Bridge is named for the Italian Explorer, first name Giovanni. This VERRAZANO will be exploring new territory

in the final furlong Saturday. The unknown is whether the Derby distance proves to be a bridge too far; but no Apollo - gies please.

15. CHARMING KITTEN - Probably the longest shot of the T-Pletcher Five and will be making his dirt debut in the Derby. Closed well in the Blue Grass at a big price to finish a close up third to JAWA and PALMAL. Unless the first time is the CHARM, a duplicate effort is unlikely by this cat.
16. ORB - Unfortunately for us, this guy has lots of friends and what's not to like? Well the lack of a triple digit Beyer Speed Figure is about it. Tough call for Johnny V. to get off of this steamrolling Florida Derby champ for 'ZANO but the Pletcher barn is every jockey agent's prime call. No reflection on Hall of Fame trainer McGaughey whose nine Breeders' Cup wins are second only to D. Wayne. Breeding is a custom fit for the Derby distance. ORB is by MALIBU MOON, one of A.P. INDY's best sons. Mom is LADY LIBERTY by UNBRIDLED, our sainted '90 pick. No surprises that L.L.'s family includes RUFFIAN as co - owner Stuart Janney III's parents were the owner - breeders of that wondrous filly. SJIII's first cousin "Dinny" Phipps is his co - owner. Both are great grandsons of Andrew Carnegie's business partner, Henry Phipps. Lots of pedigree in that circle as well.
17. WILL TAKE CHARGE - D. Wayne's second teamer upset mate OXBOW and nine others in the last Arkansas Derby prep in mid-March but has not run since. WILL is a half - brother to last year's Florida Derby winner, TAKE CHARGE INDY. Sire, UNBRIDLED'S SONG, has sired brilliant but fragile runners which might explain the long layoff here. There is definitely a WILL here to win but there may not be a way.
18. FRAC DADDY - McPeek's second stringer offers little beyond a surprise second in a painfully slow Arkansas Derby although he did have a pair of nice efforts as a two-year- old over the Churchill surface. Pedigree is favorable to the Derby distance but looks to lack the gas for this one.
19. JAVA'S WAR - His walking starts suggest a shot of JAVA might keep him closer early, but he still managed to roll over the entire Blue Grass field in his last prep. Though no threat to 'ZANO at Tampa, he closed well to be second best. Should love the distance but surface preference leans to poly and grass. Same could be said for his French jockey, Julien Leparoux, who sometimes elicits cries of Mon Dieu! for his erratic rides. But Francophobes take note: so did Jean Cruguet, who was aboard SEATTLE SLEW during his Triple Crown sweep. If you are at a Derby party pulling for J.W., abandon the American finger snap coupled with the Get him up! chant. Go all in French with an Allons Julien! delivered with palms facing skyward.
20. VYJACK - This is where our game now is. The trainer is a former assistant to the disgraced and now barred Dick Dutrow (trainer of BIG BROWN) and has had his own chemical violation difficulties in NY. So in order to get licensed in Kentucky, he has agreed to 24 hour video surveillance of his horse. Used to be that was to

protect horses from outsiders not insiders. None of this should reflect on this gelding's toughness whose perfect run ended with an impressive third in the Wood to 'ZANO and N.I. Owner Wilkenfield scored selling prom dresses on the internet (promgirl.com). Wilky named VYJACK after parents, Vivienne and Jack, and named his stable after his favorite bet, Pick Six. Lung infection after the Wood is apparently no longer an issue but Derby will be first road start away from JACK's Aqueduct home. JACK will definitely be nimble but the quick is an unknown.

OUR PICK

The more we agonize over the probable and the possible, the more the possibilities seem infinite but the more the probabilities have reduced to one. That probability is that, barring the usual tampering by the Roman Goddess Fortuna, this is a two horse race. VERRAZANO and ORB are the two that stand above the field. We love them both but sadly so do a lot of other folks. Still an exacta box with these two will be a good proposition in a twenty horse field.

Although we routinely include an exacta in our picks, we have only made a "best bet" exacta box call twice: 1997 - SILVER CHARM/CAPTAIN BODGIT (\$31.00) and 2007 - STREET SENSE/HARD SPUN (\$101.80). Let's hope the French maxim *jamais deux sans trois* (never two without three) holds true.

Both colts boast four race win streaks that, given our contrarian handicapping methods, would normally be off putting. But neither has maxed out in his efforts thus far. Each has presented in glowing manner since training at Churchill.

We expect that GOLDENCENTS AND ITSMYLUCKYDAY are both likely to strike the front a quarter mile from home. A stalking VERRAZANO will attack coming out of the far turn and open a lead over the field. ORB should be making good ground from mid - pack at this point. Hopefully ORB then separates himself from his fellow closers (NORMANDY INVASION, JAVA'S WAR, REVOLUTIONARY) and takes aim on the leader. In the late stages, we think ORB will have too much left for a game VERRAZANO.

THE CONNECTIONS - Training privately for the Phipps Family since '86, "Shug" McGaughey's resume is missing only one entry- a Kentucky Derby win. He came close with EASY GOER in '89. Neither he nor his owners bring a horse here that does not belong. Rider Joel Rosario is no trade down from Johnny V and was aboard for ORB's first five races. Jo - Ro was leading rider at the recent Keeneland meet and is just as hot so far at Churchill. Connections grade out at A+

RACE RECORD - Classic prep schedule with minor placings in three starts at two before a maiden win at Aqueduct in November. Next was a win at Gulfstream in a January optional claimer before a major upset of early Derby fave, VIOLENCE, in the Fountain of Youth. That win and running down ITSMYLUCKYDAY in the Florida Derby closed the deal for us.

THE BET

We will bet ORB to win only and box a serious exacta with VERRAZANO. We will throw in a smaller exacta box that includes our longshot pick, BLACK ONYX. We will make a win - place - show bet on B.O. as we expect him to be at the 30/1 level. Big question for him is the surface as his best races have been turf and poly. But, he has shown an ability to stay and that counts for a lot with us. If 30/1 does not satisfy your longshot requirements, consider a flyer on GOLDEN SOUL who will probably be even higher and figures to pass a bunch of them late.

-JTR