

FIRST RACE
Saratoga
AUGUST 26, 2010

2³/₈ MILES. (Hurdles) (4.12) 69TH RUNNING OF THE NEW YORK TURF WRITERS CUP STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP. Grade I. Purse \$100,000 TO BE RUN OVER NATIONAL FENCES A STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP FOR FOUR YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. Trophies will be presented to the winning owner, trainer and jockey. Closed Saturday, August 14, 2010 with 14 nominations. (Clear. 7.) (Rail at 9 feet).

Value of Race: \$97,000 Winner \$60,000; second \$18,000; third \$10,000; fourth \$5,000; fifth \$4,000. Mutuel Pool \$168,308.00 Exacta Pool \$137,383.00 Trifecta Pool \$101,269.00

Last Raced	Horse	M/Eqt.	A.	Wt	PP	1/2	1	1 1/2	2	Str	Fin	Jockey	Odds \$1	
29Jly10 1Sar1	Sermon of Love	L	b	7	148	3	4 ^{hd}	41	41	31	2 1/2	11	Crowley B	a- 1.15
5Aug10 1Sar2	Arcadius	L		6	148	7	61	5 ^{hd}	7 ^{hd}	51	4 1/2	2 1/2	Nagle D	3.70
8May10 2PW2	Swagger Stick	L		9	146	2	1 1/2	11	11	12	1 1/2	3 1/2	Dowling W	21.00
5Aug10 1Sar1	Divine Fortune	L		7	154	5	71	8	5 1/2	42	5	4 1/4	Hodsdon D	a- 1.15
5Aug10 1Sar3	Slip Away	L		7	156	4	32	32	2 ^{hd}	21 1/2	3 ^{hd}	5	Young P J	3.75
29Jly10 1Sar2	Virginia Minstrel	L		6	142	8	8	71	6 1/2	62 1/2	—	—	Rafter C	5.00
29Jly10 1Sar7	Birthday Beau	L		5	138	6	2 ^{hd}	21	32 1/2	71	—	—	Geraghty R	36.00
28Nov09 4PMB1	Seer	L		6	146	1	5 1/2	6 1/2	8	8	—	—	Aizpuru X	12.10

a-Coupled: Sermon of Love and Divine Fortune.

OFF AT 1:01 Start Good. Won driving. Course good.

TIME 4:36⁴ (4:36.83)

\$2 Mutuel Prices:	1 - SERMON OF LOVE (a-entry).....	4.30	2.60	2.10
	7 - ARCADIUS.....		4.20	3.00
	4 - SWAGGER STICK.....			4.50

\$2 EXACTA 1-7 PAID \$14.40 \$2 TRIFECTA 1-7-4 PAID \$100.00

B. g, (Apr), by Pulpit - Plenty of Sugar, by Ascot Knight. Trainer Sheppard Jonathan E. Bred by F E Dixon Jr (Ky).

SERMON OF LOVE sat patiently perched off the front runners along the outside, was asked to pick up the pace in preparation for the stretch drive, advanced towards the final jump, building up momentum, accelerated suddenly once over, then edged clear late under strong handling. ARCADIUS well placed along the outside throughout, rallied in earnest approaching the final jump, went over it well, closed with good energy to loom a serious factor, but was outkicked by the top one and had to settle for place honors. SWAGGER STICK quickly established command, showed the way towards the inside, brushed the top of the hurdle after jumping poorly at the fifth, recovered in short order to resume his pace-setting duties, left the final jump with a clear advantage, but was not able to match strides with the top pair during the late stages. DIVINE FORTUNE saved ground during the early stages, bobbed over the eighth and lacked the necessary stretch response after being called upon. SLIP AWAY tracked the leader in hand, was forced to be steadied after the leader jumped poorly at the fifth jump, came up empty when called upon in the stretch. VIRGINIA MINSTREL three wide around every turn, did not attempt the tenth jump, and was subsequently vanned off. BIRTHDAY BEAU underwent a wide pursuit, gave way and left the course at the tenth. SEER never in contention, left the course at the tenth.

Owners- 1, Pape William L; 2, Hudson River Farms; 3, Johnston Mrs S K Jr; 4, Pape William L; 5, Ramsey Kenneth L and Sarah K; 6, Oakwood Stable (Nicole H Perry); 7, Sanger Michele C; 8, Williams Sheila J Brewster Andre W

Trainers- 1, Sheppard Jonathan E; 2, Sheppard Jonathan E; 3, Fisher Jack; 4, Sheppard Jonathan E; 5, Voss Thomas H; 6, Gomena Julie; 7, Sanger Michele C; 8, Fisher Jack

Scratched- Dark Equation (05Aug10 1Sar5)