

Tuesday

FINGER LAKES
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INSIDE

Stakes results

On a gloomy and muddy day, there's nothing like a Dry Martini, and the 5-year-old gelding poured it on through the stretch to draw away from five rivals in Saturday's Grade 3, \$110,500 Stuyvesant Handicap at Aqueduct. **Page 3**

Jeux De Danse, a 5-year-old daughter of Grand Slam, rolled to a two-length win over Cozzi Capital in Saturday's \$50,000 Copano Stakes at Calder for trainer Marty Wolfson. **Page 3**

Favored Selva extended her unbeaten record to three races with a handy victory under Emma Wilson in the \$152,900 Glorious Song Stakes at Woodbine on Saturday. **Page 3**

Indescribable launched an improbable rally down the center of the yielding turf course to take Saturday's Grade 3 Cardinal Handicap at Churchill Downs on Saturday. **Page 5**

Fresh off a victory in Friday's opening-day feature at Fair Grounds, trainer Bill Mott and jockey Patrick Valenzuela struck again Saturday with Desert Wheat, winning the Mr. Sulu by 1 3/4 lengths. **Page 5**

News & notes

It took until the last half-hour of the session, but the Keeneland November breeding stock sale

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MOUNTAINEER

Lake claims an overachiever

By Marcus Hersh

When trainer Scott Lake, acting on behalf of owners Ben Mondello and Adam Russo, claimed M J's Enchanteur for \$40,000 last winter at Gulfstream Park, Lake hoped to employ tactics he has used over and over while winning thousands of races.

"When we first claimed him we thought he might just run through his allowance conditions," Lake said.

M J's Enchanteur accomplished that – and much more. He comes into the \$75,000 Sophomore Sprint

Championship on Tuesday night at Mountaineer Park with five wins – two in stakes – and earnings of almost \$225,000 in 2008.

"He just started getting better and better," Lake said. "His personality totally changed. He's turned into a good horse."

M J's Enchanteur should be really tough to beat in the Sophomore Sprint, a six-furlong stakes for 3-year-olds that drew six other entries. One of them, Fire Chief, just raced Friday at Fair Grounds, finishing unplaced in an allowance race, and either will start under highly

unusual conditions, or will not make the gate.

M J's Enchanteur last raced Sept. 27, finishing a close fourth in the \$250,000 Gallant Bob at Philly Park, a race that featured strong competition and a hot pace. Two starts ago, M J's Enchanteur finished second behind the top-class sprinter Fatal Bullet over the all-weather surface at Presque Isle Downs, a race that has given his connections cause to consider as a long-range goal the Grade 1 Malibu Stakes over Pro-Ride at Santa Anita, Lake said. As for the break between starts, M J's

Enchanteur shows a zippy half-mile Delaware Park work for this, and should be able to handle this level of competition even with something less than a peak effort.

"He'd run awful hard," Lake said of the freshening.

If there's going to be an upset, the talented, lightly raced Danny might be the right one. Danny has won all three of his starts at Mountaineer, running through two allowance conditions after clearing the maiden ranks in his second career start. Free Brave and So So also exit local wins over allowance horses.



Up in the final jump

Indescribable (left) nails Long Approach on the wire in Saturday's Cardinal Handicap at Churchill Downs. Article, page 5.

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