

Saturday

AQUEDUCT

CHURCHILL

FINGER LAKES

PHILADELPHIA

LAUREL

FAIR GROUNDS

HOLLYWOOD

INSIDE

Races of the day

The unbeaten Euroears and Kelly's Landing, winner of the 2007 Dubai Golden Shaheen, clash in Saturday's Bet on Sunshine at Churchill. **Page 3**

Golden Spikes heads a group of three graded stakes winners in the Radar Love at Calder. **Page 4**

Bob Black Jack, idle since fading from first to 16th in the Kentucky Derby, returns in the Vernon Underwood at Hollywood. **Page 4**

Forty Thieves and Sunday Blitz form a potent entry for trainer Steve Klesaris in the Old Hickory at Fair Grounds. **Page 4**

Sharp 3-year-old Fool Proof tests older rivals and stretches out beyond seven furlongs for the first time in the A Huevo at Charles Town. **Page 13**

Opinions

Columnist Jay Hovdey talks to Gary Tanaka, who finds himself counted among famous racing personalities who have run afoul of the law. **Page 6**

Columnist Brad Free says Navigator and Rail Trip are horses to watch for in 2009. **Page 6**

Track reports

Kip Deville must adjust to racing clockwise as he prepares for next month's Hong Kong Mile. **Page 10**

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AQUEDUCT

Ready Set aims to add to bank

By Mike Farrell

OZONE PARK, N.Y. — The Discovery Handicap on Saturday at Aqueduct is a late-season opportunity for 3-year-olds to score a graded stakes victory within their own division before turning 4, less than six weeks from now.

The Grade 3, \$100,000 Discovery, a 1 1/8-mile race, attracted a field of eight with varying levels of stakes experience.

At one end stands Ready Set, the leading earner in the field this year with \$573,140. Trained by Michael Matz for Lael Stable — the Barbaro team — Ready Set earned big chunk of that in a narrow win in the Grade

3, \$750,000 West Virginia Derby.

Ready Set just missed last time out, finishing a nose behind Atoned in the Grade 3 Pegasus Stakes at the Meadowlands.

Jose Lezcano, leading rider at Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands this year, has the mount.

At the other end of the spectrum are Premium Gold and Lieutenant Ron, a pair of talented colts seeking their first stakes win.

Premium Gold looked ready to make that leap following a strong pacesetter allowance win at Saratoga. Owner-trainer John Kimmel sent Premium Gold to the Pegasus where he flattened out to finish

ish fifth.

"He's what you'd expect from a Mineshaft, a big colt who will improve over time," Kimmel said. "I think he'll be a better 4-year-old than he was at 3, and I think he's right at the cusp of showing me that. He went a little too fast too early in the Pegasus. He didn't get a chance to let his energy out in a nice, progressive fashion."

Richard Migliore, who picks up the mount, has been working the colt in the mornings.

"Mig kind of knows him well now," Kimmel said. "I'm expecting a good performance."

Lieutenant Ron, trained by Kieran McLaughlin, is 3 for 4 in his brief career. He makes his stakes debut

from the outside post with Alan Garcia aboard.

"Post 8 is not ideal, but he has speed," McLaughlin said. "He should be able to get over to the lead from the outside."

The field also includes Big Truck, winless in five races since capturing the Tampa Bay Derby; Coach Shaw, who has two wins and a second in the last three, all in New Jersey for trainer Mark Hennig; Web Gem, second to Ready Set in the West Virginia Derby; Wishful Tomcat, winner of a pair of overnight stakes on the turf at Belmont Park; and That'srightofficer, second against older New York-breds in the Empire Classic.



Thorny problem

Thorn Song, here winning the Grade 1 Shadwell Mile at Keeneland, must avoid dueling for the lead with Canela on Saturday in the Grade 3 River City at Churchill Downs. **Article, page 3.**

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