

BIG BEN PUMPS HIS OWN TIME IN FRONT EASILY DEFEATS DON DOMO AND ESCALANTE

Equine Giant Rounds to Form and Handily Sprints Over Futurity Course in Near to Record Time

By Jay Davidson

Big Ben came back to earth again yesterday and ran to his old time form, easily defeating the gray ghost, Don Domo, and Escalante in the Futurity course dash in the best time of the meeting and with an amount of confidence as of the track record held by Gold Rose.

Ben was a surprise to all save that loyal contingent of pickers which has never allowed the great big horse to go to the post without sending in at least a small amount of confidence money.

Ben has been troubled with a bowed tendon for some time and Trainer J. J. McCafferty has worked wonders with the strapping son of Ben Strome through a course of treatment extending over many months.

When right, Ben can romp over anything at Ascot at any distance less than one mile, but Trainer McCafferty did not believe the equine giant was good enough yet to beat such speedy ones as Don Domo and Escalante and did not play the gelding for a cent.

Capitana was scratched out of the race, leaving Big Ben, Don Domo and Escalante. Domo was made favorite at even odds, Escalante was second choice at 2 and Ben was the outsider at 3.

Starter Dwyer sent the small field away to an exact start and the trio of speed marvels raced almost five and one-half furlongs without allowing either so much advantage as one tiny whisker.

At the final sixteenth pole Big Ben drew slowly away from the others and breezed under the wire of his own accord in 1:09 1/4. Domo checked it when Ben started to sprint in the drive home and Escalante was second by a margin.

Jockey W. Fischer again rode one of his good races, rating the big gelding with the precision and ability of a Garrison or a Fuller and when it came to the pinch, Fischer put up a beautiful riding exhibition, freeing Big Ben of all restraint and urging him only by clever hand riding.

One Winning Favorite Confessor was the only winning favorite of the day, Miller sending the Holland colt first past the judges' eye through the superior ability of both horse and rider.

Eleven alleged thoroughbreds faced the barrier in this, the first race of the day. Confessor was held at even money, the odds of the books and justified the odds by his race.

Confessor was the sole possessor of anything resembling class in this race and experienced no difficulty in ploughing through the field when Miller called on him to run for the money.

Mrs. James Blute's Tramator, held at 12 and 15, ran into the place and Del Coronado, priced at 20, easily topped the show end of the purse.

The three-quarters was reeled off in 1:14, rather slow time, but Confessor was not extended to his best and can do much better.

Happy Chappy, played heavily on suspicion, was flatfooted and asleep when the barrier went up and could not raise a gallop in the spurt after the fleeing field.

sum was withdrawn by the contingent which always backs Big Ben when he starts. The show money offered on the chances of Cello was snatched up with a desperate eagerness and the "limb" price was rubbed from 2 1/2 to 3 as a result.

McGrathiana Prince and Sals were also heavily played and the lines behind the book after Prince was reassembled registration day at a land opening.

Nearly all of the sure-thing players had Peeping Tom and the victory of the Blute colt was so satisfactory that a hearty hand was given him as he galloped back to the judges' stand after the race.

Propose Match Race Manager J. W. Brooks of the Jockey club yesterday announced that the Jockey club would hang up a \$2500 purse for a special match race between Bearcatcher, Cruzados and Handzarra at six furlongs.

F. B. Van Meter is agreeable to the proposition and the offer has been sent to Garnet Ferguson, owner of Bearcatcher, and "Lucky" Baldwin, owner of Cruzados.

The proposition is accepted the race will be arranged for the holidays and will attract attention from all portions of the United States.

Handzarra is considered the best of the Ascot sprinting division and will not lack for support if the race is arranged. There are many of the horsemen who are wintering at Ascot who believe that the Handzarra filly is the crooked champion at this distance.

Cruzados holds the Ascot track record for six furlongs, having run the distance with 107 pounds up in 1:12 1/4. A few days ago the Baldwin sprinter reeled off five furlongs in :59 1/4, showing that the Baldwin horse is fit and ready.

Bearcatcher has rounded to his best form and is considered one of the best on the coast over a route. He recently picked up weight and negotiated a mile in 1:38 1/4 over the Emeryville track.

If the race is arranged it will be the greatest event in turf circles this season and will be witnessed by thousands. With all the performers in the best of condition, as they now are, and the liberal offer of the Jockey club as a further inducement, it is deemed probable that all the owners will accept.

Baby Race is Feature Two-year-olds will hold the limelight this afternoon and interest will be centered on the meeting of the nine baby racers entered to contest for a purse at seven furlongs, the event being third on the card.

Masterson, Silver Sue, Chantilly, Vino and five other speedy ones will face the barrier in this event and the Jasper handicapping puzzle is so neatly arranged that every horse in the race will have a chance for the long end of the prize.

Silver Sue will undoubtedly be made favorite because of her handy win in the Santa Catalina selling stakes. Sue is the best performer and cannot be denied in any company at Ascot.

Sue has barely enough weight up to steady her in the hasty scramble for honors in this company and the ninety-seven pounds will be a greater advantage than otherwise.

The Williams filly may do, but she will have to beat Chantilly and Vino, not to mention Masterson, all of which is a large size undertaking.

Chantilly is in with ten pounds off his last race, when he breezed five furlongs in 1:04 1/4. Willie Dugan will pilot him and give Silver Sue and Schade all they can stand to ship.

ASCOT INGLETSIDE

ASCOT PARK, Dec. 12. Presiding Judge W. A. Hamilton. Starter Richard Dwyer. Weather clear, track fast.

727 FIRST RACE—One and a half miles, three-year-olds and upward, selling.

728 SECOND RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds.

729 THIRD RACE—One mile, three-year-olds and upward, selling.

730 FOURTH RACE—Futurity course, two-year-olds and upward.

731 FIFTH RACE—Brooks course, three-year-olds and upward, selling.

732 SIXTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

733 SEVENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

734 EIGHTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

735 NINTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

736 TENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

737 ELEVENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

738 TWELFTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

739 THIRTEENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

740 FOURTEENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

741 FIFTEENTH RACE—Six furlongs, two-year-olds and upward, selling.

157 FIRST RACE—Five and a half furlongs, selling, for two-year-olds. Purse \$400.

158 SECOND RACE—Six furlongs, selling, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$400.

159 THIRD RACE—Five and a half furlongs, purse, for three-year-olds and upward. Purse \$400.

160 FOURTH RACE—Ben Strom handicap, six furlongs. Purse \$900.

161 FIFTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, selling, for three-year-olds and upward. Purse \$400.

162 SIXTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

163 SEVENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

164 EIGHTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

165 NINTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

166 TENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

167 ELEVENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

168 TWELFTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

169 THIRTEENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

170 FOURTEENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

171 FIFTEENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

172 SIXTEENTH RACE—Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500.

Advertisement for Gas, featuring '85 Cents' and 'LOS ANGELES GAS AND ELECTRIC CO.' with details on pressure and service.

Advertisement for Pianos for Christmas, listing various models and prices from \$315 to \$470.

Advertisement for Metropolitan Music Co., located at 324 W. Fifth Street, offering a variety of musical instruments.

Advertisement for Spalding's sports equipment, including football, baseball, and tennis gear, with the slogan 'The Boy Must Have Spalding's'.

Advertisement for Tufts-Lyon Arms Co., featuring a 'RECOMMEND RUGBY FOOTBALL' and 'WILL BUILD AUTO TRUCK' sections.

THIRD RACE—Purse, two-year-olds, seven furlongs. Masterson, Silver Sue, Chantilly, Vino, and five other speedy ones will face the barrier in this event.

Fourth race, Ben Strom handicap, six furlongs. Purse \$900. Tocolaw, Nealon, Souffriere, Frank, and Kenilworth are the main contenders.

Fifth race, Mile and a sixteenth, selling, for three-year-olds and upward. Purse \$400. Fastoso, Red Dare, Hi Caul Cap, Bonar, and Red Reynard are the main contenders.

Sixth race, Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500. Rightful, Nigrette, and McGowan are the main contenders.

Seventh race, Mile and a sixteenth, purse, for four-year-olds and upward. Purse \$500. Masterson, Silver Sue, Chantilly, Vino, and five other speedy ones will face the barrier in this event.

Hand at the finish for the game exhibition. Another \$500 free handicap for 2-year-olds and upwards will be offered for the quarter.

Frank Regan sent a couple across yesterday. McGrathiana Prince won in fast time while Golden Green galloped home ahead of Old Mike and Position.

Announcement of weights for the California club handicap to be run Saturday is due today. This is the fourth classic of the meeting and is being held in honor of the late Mr. J. L. Holland.

Receivers will welcome the news that little Danny Moriarty is to ride again at Ascot. He will make his reappearance this afternoon.

W. Buchanan put up as fine an exhibition of riding on Ignacio as has been seen at Ascot this season. He brought the good thing from last at the stretch turn to a head victory at the wire.