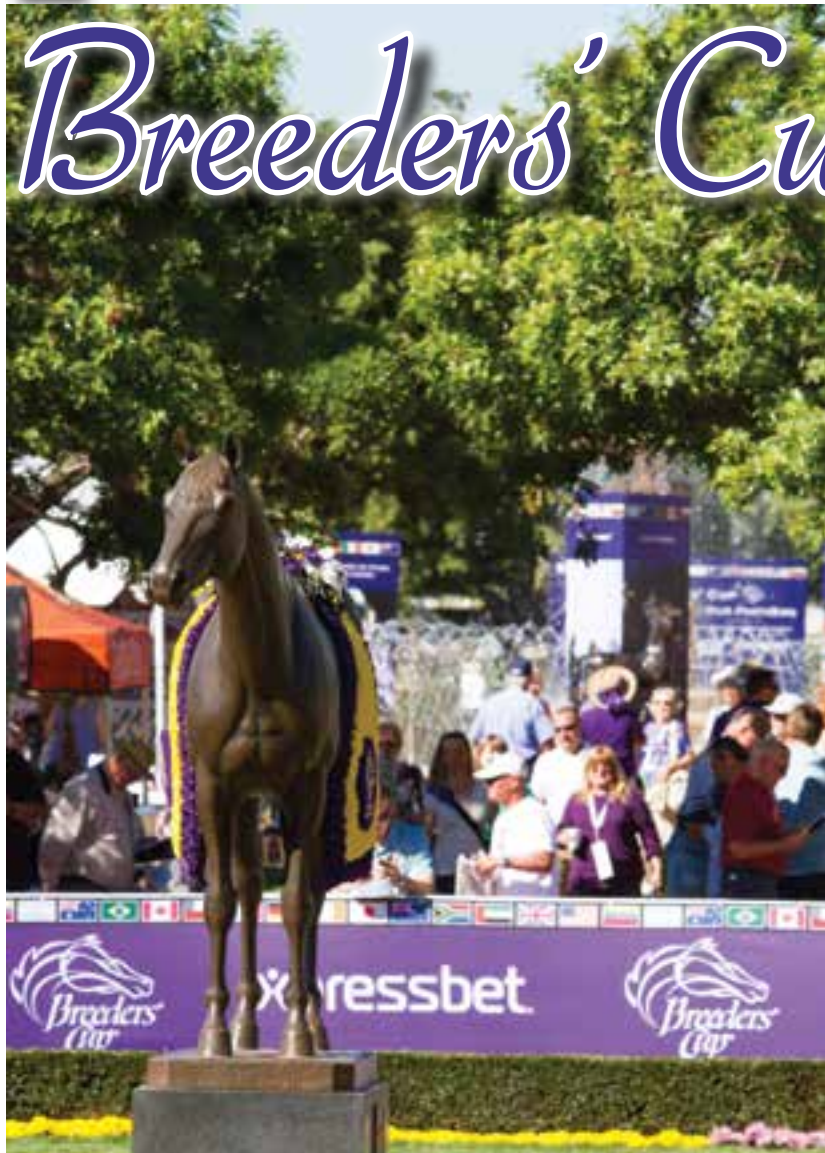


THE
BREEDERS'
CUP

STORY & PHOTOS BY: STEVE HEUERTZ



Breeders' Cup 2013



For the second consecutive year, the Breeders' Cup returned to Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California. Here is a look back at the the wonderful two day event that is Thoroughbred Racing's World Championships.

Friday, November 1, 2013

Marathon (Gr. 2) - 1 3/4 Miles on Dirt - \$500,000

Winner: London Bridge

Jockey: Mike Smith

Trainer: Jo Huges

Owner: Waratah Thoroughbreds



Friday kicked off with the longest of all Breeders' Cup races, the Marathon. While Commander set the pace in the grueling race, London Bridge raced comfortably in mid pack and to the outside of his fellow contenders. Blueskiesrainbows took over the lead the second time down the backstretch and maintained in that position until London Bridge circled the field on the far outside and closed the last sixteenth of a mile with a ferocious kick. London Bridge won the Marathon by 1 length over Blueskiesandrainbows while extending jockey Mike Smith's record to an 18th Breeders' Cup victory.

Clockwise from top left: Seabiscuit awaits the start of the 30th Breeders' Cup; The San Gabriel Mountains serve as Santa Anita's picturesque backdrop; Kicking off the World Championships; London Bridge wins the first of the 14 Breeders' Cup races when he closes late on the far outside passes the grueling Marathon test with Mike Smith aboard



Juvenile Turf (Gr. 1) - 1 Mile on Turf - \$1,000,000
Winner: Outstrip (GB)
Jockey: Mike Smith
Trainer: Charles Appleby
Owner: Godolphin Racing

Outstrip broke slowly and settled at the back of the pack at the onset of the 1 mile turf race. Meanwhile, Bobby's Kitten set the fastest first quarter in the race's history subsequently setting up a potential late closing run for the juveniles lagging behind. Giovanni Boldini made a bold move around the turn and began grinding for the lead while challenging the tiring pacesetter. Outstrip followed down the center of the track and closed with a late charge similar to that of London Bridge one race earlier. While Giovanni Boldini eventually ran down Bobby's Kitten, Outstrip outclassed them both and got up by 1/2 length at the wire. The victory made it two wins in two races for jockey Mike Smith and extended his record to now 19 Breeders' Cup wins overall.

Dirt Mile (Gr. 1) - 1 Mile on Dirt - \$1,000,000
Winner: Goldencents
Jockey: Rafael Bejarano
Trainer: Doug O'Neill
Owner: W.C. Racing, Dave Kenney and RAP Racing

From the moment the gates opened there was no denying that the Dirt Mile belonged to Goldencents. The speedy 3-year-old broke immediately for lead and set blazing fractions around the Santa Anita dirt oval. Despite setting the fastest half mile in the races history, Goldencents continued to roll and began opening up at the top of the stretch. While Golden Ticket attempted to run down his younger counterpart, Goldencents remained much the best and romped to a 2 3/4 length win in one of the most visually impressive performances of the Breeders' Cup weekend.



Juvenile Fillies Turf (Gr. 1) - 1 Mile on Turf - \$1,000,000
Winner: Chriselliam (IRE)
Jockey: Richard Hughes
Trainer: Charles Hill
Owner: Willie Carson, Chris Wright & Emily Asprey

The Juvenile Fillies Turf followed suit of the preceding two races with Nesso breaking quickly and setting fast fractions around the turf course. Chriselliam held back and bided her time before eventually inching toward the lead. By the time they entered the stretch, Chriselliam had moved close to the front and made an easy move around the outside before taking over mid-stretch and powering to an impressive 2 1/2 length win.



Left to right: Outstrip gets up late to take the Juvenile Turf and makes it two-for-two for jockey Mike Smith to start the Breeders' Cup card; Speedy 3-year-old, Goldencents, wires the field and romps to victory in the Dirt Mile with Rafael Bejarano up; Chriselliam gives international horses their third victory in the first four Breeders' Cup races, when she takes the Juvenile Fillies Turf in with jockey Richard Hughes in record time for the race



Distaff (Gr. 1) - 1 1/8 Miles on Dirt - \$2,000,000

Winner: Beholder

Jockey: Gary Stevens

Trainer: Richard Mandella

Owner: Spendthrift Farm

The highlight of Breeders' Cup Friday was undoubtedly the Distaff and the rematch between two-time defending champion, Royal Delta, and the fantastic 3-year-old filly, Princess of Sylmar. Last out, these two



Beholder

battled through the stretch in the Beldame Stakes at Belmont Park before the younger "Princess" overtook and upset her legendary adversary. With the showdown set, the field broke from the gate and Royal Delta moved for the lead before settling in second and giving way to Authenticity. Princess of Sylmar sat back and off the pace in fifth and in front of only Street Girl. Meanwhile, fellow 3-year-old, Beholder (second to Princess of Sylmar in the Kentucky Oaks earlier in the year), rated in third and just to the outside of Royal Delta. However, down the backstretch Royal Delta appeared to tire and Beholder made for second behind Authenticity. Royal Delta fell further back and into fourth but remained one spot ahead of Princess of Sylmar. As the field hit the top of the stretch, Beholder and jockey Gary Stevens cruised to the lead and never looked back. The overlooked Beholder dominated the field in winning by a stellar 4 1/4 lengths while giving her a second Breeders' Cup win after she took the Juvenile Fillies one year earlier. The victory also continued the remarkable comeback of Gary Stevens while adding to his illustrious riding career. Royal Delta finished a disappointing fourth and Princess of Sylmar and even more disappointing sixth.

Top left to right: Two-time defending champ and multiple Eclipse Award winner, Royal Delta storms to the front in the Distaff with her regular partner; jockey Mike Smith; Beholder dominates the Distaff and wins her second Breeders' Cup race (2012 Juvenile Fillies) with the recently un-retired Gary Stevens; Dominant 3-year-old filly, Princess of Sylmar, sees her four race winning streak ended when she finishes a surprising last in the Distaff; Gary Stevens celebrates a long awaited return to a Breeders' Cup winner's circle aboard Beholder



Saturday, November 2, 2013

Juvenile Fillies - (Gr. 1) - 1 1/16 Miles on Dirt - \$2,000,000

Winner: Ria Antonia

Jockey: Javier Castellano

Trainer: Jeff Bonde

Owner: M. Dedomenico, A. Aldrich, L. Hernandez, S. Downey & P. Leberz

Breeders' Cup Saturday got off to an exciting start in the Juvenile Fillies. She's a Tiger made a sharp move breaking from the outside and taking the lead while racing wide around the clubhouse turn. Long shot Ria Antonia sat comfortably in the middle of the pack and moved into fourth as the field began their turn for home. At the top of the stretch, She's a Tiger maintained her lead while Ria Antonia moved into second and the two engaged in a duel for the wire. Although She's a Tiger crossed the wire first, an inquiry yielded that the winner had drifted out and impeded the path of Ria Antonia. She's a Tiger was disqualified and placed second and Ria Antonia was awarded the biggest victory of her young racing career.



Top left to right: Ria Antonia focuses before her Breeders' Cup bid in the Juvenile Fillies; For the second year in a row, Santa Anita played host to the Breeders' Cup; Every horse joins in the fun at the Breeders' Cup; Ria Antonia with Javier Castellano crosses the wire second but is awarded victory in the Juvenile Fillies after it is determined that she was interfered with in the stretch by She's a Tiger; The connections of Ria Antonia are ecstatic when it is announced that She's a Tiger would be disqualified and placed second behind their horse; A little Breeders' Cup fashion...horse style



Filly & Mare Turf - (Gr. 1) - 1 1/4 Miles on Turf - \$2,000,000

Winner: Dank (GB)
Jockey: Ryan Moore
Trainer: Sir Michael Stoute
Owner: James Wigan

The start of the Filly & Mare Turf saw Emollient, Dank and Marketing Mix each join the party and work for the lead. Emollient eventually took over herself while Dank sat a close length behind and just to her outside. However, around the turn Dank made a swift move to the outside of Emollient and passed the leader in a few quick strides. The classy European invader seemingly played with her would be challengers but would let none pass as she cruised to a 1/2 length victory.

Filly & Mare Sprint (Gr. 1) - 7 Furlongs on Dirt - \$1,000,000

Winner: Groupie Doll
Jockey: Rajiv Maragh
Trainer: William Bradley
Owner: Fred F. Bradley, William B. Bradley, Carl Hurst & Brent Burns

Sweet Lulu broke from the far outside and took the immediate lead in the Filly & Mare Sprint. Defending champion, Groupie Doll, had broke just from Sweet Lulu's inside but gave way to the leader and sat mid-pack. As they raced down the backstretch, Groupie Doll began flashing her brilliant speed while setting sight on the pacesetter. Sweet Lulu gave way to Teddy's Promise around the turn and Groupie Doll continued her run from the outside. By the time the field hit the stretch the champ had taken the lead. Groupie Doll fired down the center of the track and fought off late charges by Judy the Beauty and Dance Card. The victory gave Groupie Doll and jockey Rajiv Maragh back-to-back victories in the race and maintained their overall dominance in the Filly & Mare Sprint division.



Geico Turf Sprint (Gr. 1) - 6 1/2 Furlongs on Turf - \$1,000,000

Winner: Mizdirection
Jockey: Mike Smith
Trainer: Mike Puype
Owner: Jungle Racing

One race after Groupie Doll's repeat performance, fellow Breeders' Cup champion, Mizdirection, looked for a similar outcome as she took on the boys in the Geico Turf Sprint. Breaking from far outside, Mizdirection made a quick move to establish position in third as the field raced downhill in the always exciting Turf Sprint. Mizdirection drifted slightly back but was clear and to the outside of the leaders. With tremendous turn of foot, the game filly ran down the field in the stretch and matched Groupie Doll with her own back-to-back Breeders' Cup win. Aboard Mizdirection, Mike Smith gained his 20th Breeders' Cup win and continued to add to his growing record.



Top left to right: European invader, Dank, picks up her second victory in the US this year with a powerful performance in the Filly & Mare Turf with Ryan Moore up; Groupie Doll and Rajiv Maragh fight off late runs by Judy the Beauty and Dance Card to make it back-to-back victories in the Filly & Mare Sprint; Mizdirection follows up Groupie Doll's repeat performance with her own when she beats the boys and wins her second consecutive Geico Turf Sprint with Mike Smith; Mike Smith returns to the winner's circle with Mizdirection as the jockey celebrates his 20th lifetime Breeders' Cup win (most all time)



Juvenile (Gr. 1) - 1 1/16 Miles on Dirt - \$2,000,000

Winner: New Year's Day
Jockey: Martin Garcia
Trainer: Bob Baffert
Owner: Gary and Mary West



As is the case every year, the Juvenile field broke from the gate and looked to take that first important step toward their 3-year-old season and a potential bid at the Kentucky Derby and Triple Crown. Conquest Titan made the lead as Strong Mandate sat in second with favorite, Havana, racing in fourth. Conquest Titan set a fast pace before giving way to Strong Mandate. Havana moved to the outside and contested Strong Mandate for the lead as they made the turn for home. Havana overtook Strong Mandate as they entered the stretch, but New Year's Day moved from off the pace and ducked inside and toward the rail. Havana fought valiantly, but New Year's Day found an extra gear and ran down the favorite for a 1 1/4 length victory while taking one step closer to the first Saturday in May.

Havana, racing in fourth. Conquest Titan set a fast pace before giving way to Strong Mandate. Havana moved to the outside and contested Strong Mandate for the lead as they made the turn for home. Havana overtook Strong Mandate as they entered the stretch, but New Year's Day moved from off the pace and ducked inside and toward the rail. Havana fought valiantly, but New Year's Day found an extra gear and ran down the favorite for a 1 1/4 length victory while taking one step closer to the first Saturday in May.

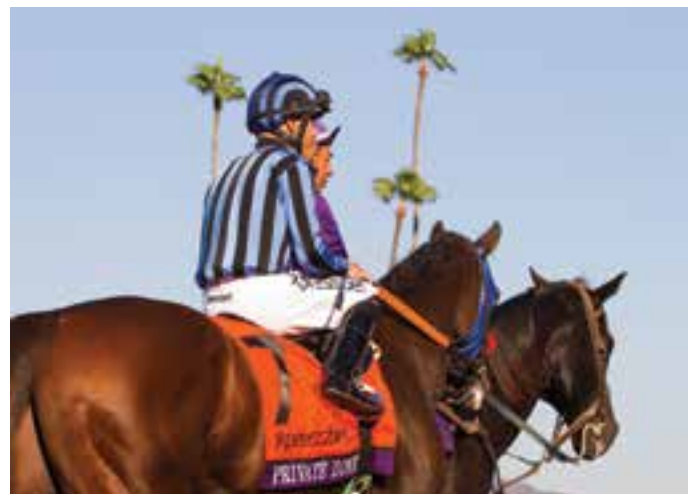
Turf (Gr. 1) - 1 1/2 Miles on Turf - \$3,000,000

Winner: Magician (IRE)
Jockey: Ryan Moore
Trainer: Aidan O'Brien
Owner: Michael B. Tabor, Derrick Smith & Susan Magnier



Top left to right: New Year's Day and Martin Garcia close from the rail and take the Juvenile; New Year's Day returns to his barn as fans in the paddock grab a quick look and the possible early Kentucky Derby favorite; Purple remains the color of the Breeders' Cup and hats remain a staple of horse racing fashion; Horse-man-ship; Magician astonishes the crowd with a fierce stretch run to win the Turf with Ryan Moore up; Happy to be Turf Champions

Teaks North made the lead in the strenuous 1 1/2 mile Turf with defending champ, Little Mike, rating in second position. The 95-1 long shot set reasonable fractions at the start of the race, however the pace began to quicken as the field moved through 1/2 and 1 mile. Little Mike took over the lead as they rounded the turn for home while favorite, The Fugue, moved up and into third. The Fugue continued his move into the stretch and took the lead while late charging, Magician, barreled down the center of the track and hit the wire 1/2 length in front of the favorite. The victory gave jockey Ryan Moore his second Breeders' Cup victory of the day (the first occurring aboard Dank).



Xpressbet Sprint (Gr. 1) - 6 Furlongs on Dirt - \$1,500,000
Winner: Secret Circle
Jockey: Martin Garcia
Trainer: Bob Baffert
Owner: Karl Watson, Michael E. Pegram & Paul Weitman



Sum of the Parts broke swiftly and made for a blazing lead with Private Zone and Fast Bullet right behind. Gentlemen's Bet moved through on the rail and took the lead as the field rounded the turn. Further back, favorite, Secret Circle, moved five-wide around the turn and bid for the lead. Gentlemen's Bet continued to fight on the rail but Secret Circle uncoiled down the center of the track and stormed into the lead. Laugh Track closed fast on the outside yet Secret Circle would not be caught as he crossed the wire in front by a neck. The victory was the second of the day for both jockey Martin Garcia and trainer Bob Baffert (the first occurring with New Year's Day for both) and was the second Breeders' Cup win for Secret Circle as he previously won the Juvenile Sprint in 2011. The victory was even more impressive considering Secret Circle was making only his second start after an 18-month layoff.

Top left to right: Taking a ride, Breeders' Cup style; Honoring America at the World Championships; Santa Anita was packed with racing fans all weekend long; Private Zone walks in the post parade prior to the Xpressbet Spring; Smiles can be seen everywhere at the Breeders' Cup; Secret Circle sparkles in only his second start in 18 months as he and Martin Garcia win the Xpressbet Sprint; Trainer Bob Baffert hoists the Breeders' Cup trophy won by Secret Circle



Mile (Gr. 1) - 1 Mile on Turf - \$2,000,000
Winner: Wise Dan
Jockey: Jose Lezcano
Trainer: Charles LoPresti
Owner: Morton Fink

Wise Dan

Although it precedes the Breeders' Cup Classic by one race, the Mile proved to be a classic in it's own right. Featuring the reigning Horse of the Year, the Breeders' Cup Mile offered the final chance for Wise Dan to bid for a repeat of racing's most prestigious end-of-the-year award. Entering the gate, Wise Dan seemingly found himself in uncharted territory as he was coming off his first loss of the year after finishing second to Silver Max in the Shadwell Turf Mile at Keeneland. Nonetheless, the gutsy gelding aimed to prove his newfound doubters wrong and try for his second consecutive victory in the Mile. Without reg-



ular rider John Velazquez aboard (Velazquez had been injured in a fall earlier in the day), Wise Dan instead carried the weight of his backup rider, Jose Lezcano. The pair stumbled briefly out of the gate and found themselves far back as Silver Max made the early lead. Obviously took the lead the first time under the wire and Wise Dan settled back in eighth, only in front of two others and six lengths off the lead.



Up front, Obviously continued his move in first as he set blazing fractions and the fastest opening 1/2 mile in Mile history. Wise Dan hung to the outside of the field as they circled for home and Obviously gave way to Za Approval. Now into the stretch and still racing in sixth position, Wise Dan dug deep into his champion heart and exploded with a run befitting of a Horse of the Year. Wise Dan hit the wire 3/4 of a length in front and instantly sealed the result as one of the greatest in Breeders' Cup history.

Top left to right: Wise Dan validates his bid to repeat as Horse of the Year with his second consecutive spectacular victory in the Mile with Jose Lezcano aboard; Wise Dan and Jose Lezcano remind the Santa Anita crowd of the brilliance readily on display at the Breeders' Cup; Everyone aims to get their hands on one of these; The Breeders' Cup statue on display at "The Great Race Place"



Classic (Gr. 1) - 1 1/4 Miles on Dirt - \$5,000,000

Winner: Mucho Macho Man

Jockey: Gary Stevens

Trainer: Katherine Ritvo

Owner: Reeves Thoroughbred Racing



As the crown jewel of the Breeders' Cup, the Classic seems to repeatedly live up to its moniker and deliver a "classic" finish. One year earlier, and beneath the same mountainous backdrop, Fort Larned and Mucho Macho Man duelled through the stretch in one of the most thrilling finishes the sport has ever offered. That day, the front-running Fort Larned validated his year-long campaign by holding off the fierce run of Mucho Macho Man. One year later, Fort Larned aimed to defend his title while Mucho Macho Man took another shot at the race he just narrowly missed.

Despite their fantastic finish from the previous year, Fort Larned and Mucho Macho Man were by no means the only stars of the show. Also entering the Classic were the dominant favorite and Horse of the Year contender, Game On Dude, the fan favorite and wonderful comeback-kid, Paynter, the up and coming 3-year-olds, Will Take Charge and Palace Malice and the forever game, Flat Out, among many others. Still, as the loaded field set to contest one another in America's richest race, each individual's previous accomplishments no longer mattered and, instead, legacies would become defined by performance when it mattered most.

Top left to right: Finishing second to Fort Larned last year after a dramatic stretch duel, Mucho Macho Man makes the walk to be saddled and a second crack at the Classic; Entertaining the fans in-between races; Defending Classic champ, Fort Larned, is primed for a repeat performance with Brian Hernandez Jr.; The sun begins to set on the beautiful Santa Anita setting prior to the start of the Classic; Favorite Game On Dude and Mike Smith break for the lead with Fort Larned to their inside and 3-year-old, Moreno, on the rail; For the second year in a row, Mucho Macho Man (inside) finds himself in a desperate stretch duel as 3-year-old, Will Take Charge (outside), barrels down the stretch. However, this year, Mucho Macho Man finds a reverse in fortune as he holds off the late charging colt and wins the Classic with Gary Stevens; The valiant Will Take Charge almost ran down the older Mucho Macho Man and proved he is a superstar as well



Mucho Macho Man



As the California sun began to set and the shadows of palm trees grew longer, this final field loaded into the starting gate and broke away to the roar of the Santa Anita crowd. Game On Dude fired sharply onto his home track and aimed to redeem his disappointing performance from one year ago. Moreno flashed early speed alongside Game On Dude while the dueling 1-2 finishers of the previous year entered the fray at the front of the pack. Passing under the wire for the first time it was a three-way contest between Game On Dude, Fort Larned and Moreno. Mucho Macho Man gave way slightly and settled into fifth behind Declaration of War. The cat and mouse game continued at the front of the pack with the three leaders exchanging head bobs in front until Fort Larned asserted himself as the pacesetter midway down the backstretch.



Moreno began to fade on the inside and Mucho Macho Man moved for the lead and contested Fort Larned and Game On Dude as the fabulous field rounded the far turn. Palace Malice attempted his run at the leaders but couldn't catch them. Mucho Macho Man rolled to the front and found himself this year leading the calvary charge as they entered the stretch while Game On Dude and Fort Larned fought to his inside. Declaration of War began to rally on the outside and Game On Dude faded and gave way to Fort Larned in second. Mucho Macho Man continued to go to work and fought on with memories of running down the same stretch just one year earlier. In a reversal of fortune from that classic stretch duel, Mucho Macho Man turned back Fort Larned and opened his lead. However, closing on the far outside and breezing down the center of the track, Will Take Charge turned on his tenacious late kick and aimed to spoil Mucho Macho Man's bid at redemption. Gaining with every stride, Will Take Charge continued to grind toward the lead but Mucho Macho Man refused to be denied again. He hit the wire a nose in front. Mucho Macho Man was the Breeders' Cup Classic champion.

Top: Hall of Famer, Gary Stevens validates his return to riding with his first ever Classic win;
Bottom: A classic race for a classic horse



The feel good story of perseverance and redemption extended beyond the valiant horse. Aboard, jockey Gary Stevens won his first Breeders' Cup Classic and cemented his comeback season as nothing short of remarkable. For trainer Kathy Ritvo, the victory became the highlight of her career and proved even more special when considering the reality that she is a heart transplant survivor. As a result, the heart-pounding finish likely provided some of the greatest beats her heart ever felt.

With Mucho Macho Man's nose victory over Will Take Charge, the 2013 Breeders' Cup had come to a close. As is the case every year, the World Championships left an indelible mark on the sport and helped stoke the fire of debate that would lead up to end-of-the-year honors. However, the calendar would eventually change and the racing world would begin its recalibration to set aim on the 2014 Breeders' Cup, which, for the third year in a row will return to Santa Anita Park on October 31st and November 1st, 2014.

Top left to right: Gary Stevens gives a thumbs up as he celebrates with Mucho Macho Man and trainer, Kathy Ritvo; After winning America's richest race, Mucho Macho Man begins looking forward toward next year and a chance to repeat; Making the walk back to the barn as Breeders' Cup Classic Champion; The connections of Mucho Macho Man celebrate his triumphant victory in the Classic, one year after his game second place finish to Fort Larned; Indeed they do

Steve Heurtz Bio

It started with a horse named Cowboy. Disregarded and discounted, this nine-year-old Red Dun Quarter Horse left his life as a ranch horse in South Dakota and ventured a new path into the life of Steve Heurtz in 2004.

Shortly thereafter, a bond was formed that fully catapulted Steve into the world of the horse where he became fascinated with the wonderful capabilities of this majestic animal.

Of particular interest were the speed, endurance and competitive spirit demonstrated by the equine heroes within the sport of Thoroughbred Racing. Although initially satisfied with observing from afar, Steve became increasingly captivated by the sport and turned toward capturing the splendor of racing via his other passion, photography. The result was a recipe where he could combine his great love for horses, racing and photography into one harmonious blend that was greater than the sum of its parts.

Since then, racing has taken Steve across the country to such wonderful places as Saratoga Race Course, Churchill Downs, Santa Anita Park, Pimlico Race Course, Belmont Park, Keeneland and Hooiser Park. During these travels, Steve has been fortunate to witness and photograph equally wonderful races such as the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes (racing's famed Triple Crown) as well as the Travers Stakes, Santa Anita Derby, Indiana Derby, Stephen Foster Handicap and Breeders' Cup, among others. However, residing in the Chicago suburb of St. Charles, IL, Steve regularly frequents Arlington Park and Hawthorne Race Course where he has enjoyed capturing magnificent races like the Arlington Million and Hawthorne Gold Cup.

Today, Steve's passion for horses, racing and photography is like a fire that continues to be stoked. While either behind the lens capturing the thrill of a Grade 1 race or in the saddle loping around a field with Cowboy, Steve has learned to operate under the simple truth that the more he is able to involve the horse in his life, the happier his days become.



Steve Heurtz; Steve's horse and loyal friend, Cowboy, a 18-year-old, Red Dun Quarter Horse

