SPRING ISSUE 2002

HOW CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR VIEW SLOTS

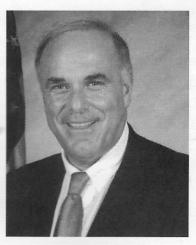
by Larry McMullen

With so much at stake for the horse racing industry, it's time to examine where the three candidates for governor in the May 21 primary stand on the future of slot machines at the racetracks in Pennsylvania.

In some measure, Democrats Ed Rendell and state Auditor General Robert P. Casey as well as Attorney General Mike Fisher, who's unopposed on the Republican side in seeking the top job, have offered support for slots at the tracks.

But having noted that, the strength of the candidates' commitment to slots varies greatly.

Former Philadelphia Mayor Rendell, for instance, has been a staunch supporter since the day he announced his candidacy last



ED RENDELL

November, citing revenue from slots (he estimates it would be up to \$400 million a year) as a major component in his plan to substantially replace property taxes in funding public school education.

It is a theme he has repeated in almost every campaign stop and in a face-to-face debate with Casey in Philadelphia in February. On the same subject of funding education, Casey said only that he would do everything possible to make the state pay more of a share for local education without offering specifics on the source of the money.

Casey has been so lukewarm on slots at the racetracks, political observers point to it as a possible area of disagreement between him and his running mate, lieutenant governor candidate State Sen. Jack Wagner, who has sponsored a bill to legalize slots at racetracks.

A difficulty in naming a running mate is that the offices of lieutenant governor and governor are decided in separate primaries. In other words, one of the candidates could win while the other loses. Rendell has not named a running mate.

The one concession Casey has made to the issue of slots is that he

has said he would OK it only if it helped fund prescription benefits of seniors and if he were convinced it would not harm families.

Republican Fisher, who will meet the winner of the Rendell-Casey primary in the general election for governor in November, has rarely mentioned slots at the racetracks in campaign appearances, but he did criticize Rendell's plan to fund education with gambling revenues in a speech before the Pennsylvania Press Club in late March.

Fisher campaign manager Kent Gates said in an interview that his candidate is opposed to using gambling revenues as a source of ready cash for any purpose. He said Fisher would back slots' legislation only if he were convinced it was needed to save the 35,000 jobs in the state's horse racing industry and to allow the racetracks to compete economically with nearby states that already have slot machines.

"That would be the beginning and end of his consideration of any expansion of gambling," Gates said.

Gates also said Fisher would prefer that potential revenues from slot machines be used to bolster continued on page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

PTHA board members have participated in a number of meetings over the last several months in an attempt to boost the drive for slot machines at the state's racetracks.

Mike Ballezzi, Sal DeBunda, Mark McDermott and yours truly had a productive session Feb. 28 with State Sen. Robert J. Thompson of Chester County on the importance of slots legislation.

We then met in Harrisburg March 5 with Rep. John E. Barley of Lancaster County, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, to stress not only what slots mean to our industry, but the critical nature of money earmarked in the budget for our business.

Mike and I followed that up on March 22 with a meeting with Ed Rendell, a Democratic candidate for governor, in the office of our lobbyist, Steve Wojdak, in Philadelphia.

Rendell responded to questions from me by saying he believes his strong support of slots legislation will be a positive for him the the upcoming elections.

* * *

Department of Agriculture Secretary Samuel Hayes acknowledged a lack of funding for horse racing when he testified on March 6 before the Appropriations Committee regarding his department's budget for the next fiscal year.

He noted that the state earmarked \$10 million and \$5 million for our business over the last two years but that the latter amount has

been placed on budgetary reserve because of the current financial situation and it was unlikely that it would be released. This will result in a reduction in purse money.

When Hayes was asked by Sen. Roger Madigan (R.-Bradford) if he had any doubts or reservations about his department's ability to handle regulation of slot machines at the racetracks if legislation were passed to that effect, he said his people were "ready to go."

All I can say to that is, "What are we waiting for?"

* * *

Jeff and Lisa Brown's Miss Sullivan will be a mare to look for when she returns to racing this spring.

Trainer Dee Curry, interviewed by Kerri Walsh on our television show, "Let's Go Racing" recounted some of the problems Miss Sullivan has faced in her racing career, including being laid up for seven months as a two year old and being shelved later for 14 months. In spite of all of this, the mare has lifetime earnings of \$130,000, including a triumph in a Delaware stake race.

Curry said that following the spring meet, Miss Sullivan will go to the breeding shed. The mare has a big heart and so do her owners and trainer. We wish them the best.

* * *

Congratulations to Dick Jerardi on receiving the award for Pennsylvania Sports Writer of the Year.



LARRY RIVIELLO President

* * *

Some other notable interviews conducted by Kerri Walsh lately included one with Andy Carter, trainer of the remarkable 11-year-old gelding Dildei, who has scored 23 victories in 113 starts, and another with PTHA Vice President Sal DeBunda, who made a great and informative case for slots at Pennsylvania racetracks.

* * *

Scott Lake brought more prestige to Philadelphia Park horsemen at the Eclipse Awards by being one of three finalists in the outstanding trainer category that also included Bob Baffert and Robert Frankel. Frankel won the award.

Congratulations to Richard Englander on winning the Eclipse award as outstanding owner.

* * *

Parade Of Music, a three-yearold colt owned by Leonard C. Green and trained by local conditioner John Servis, finished third in the Grade III Gotham Stakes at Aqueduct.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Many a false step is made by standing still.

CANDIDATES

continued from pg. 1

funds for programs for seniors currently supplied by the state lottery, which he said could lose up to \$193



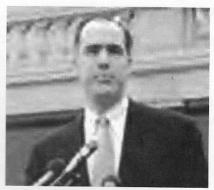
MIKE FISHER

million each year because of competition with slots for the gambling dollar.

* * *

In Pennsylvania, a voter can cast a ballot only in the primary of the political party in which he's registered. For example, if horsemen had decided it was in their best interest to promote a Democratic candidate and they normally voted as Republicans, they could have their registration changed by the April 21 deadline and after having voted in their own interests, switched back to their usual regis-

tration following the primary. In November, of course, they would be able to vote for the best candidate still standing.



ROBERT P. CASEY

Form below may be duplicated, filled out and mailed to the election board in your county. For more detailed information, go to the internet site at: www.dos.state.pa.us/bcel/election/contact.html



Pennsylvania Voter Registration Application Form

ITEMS IN GREY FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THESE AREAS

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PTHA PROFILE

AN AMERICAN TALE

by Larry McMullen

Guadalupe Preciado, like many immigrants who came to the United States before him, is a walking, talking, living advertisement for the American Way of Life.

In the 28 years since he arrived here as a young man from his native Mexico, he has touched just about every rung on the economic ladder, starting at the bottom and working his way up, in the horse racing business.

"If you're going to be poor," he says now, "America is the best place to be that way in the whole world."

He means opportunity is greater here than it is anywhere else on earth.

"You can be anything to want to be," he said.

What he wanted to be was a success in his sport. He obviously has accomplished what he set out to do and in gratitude and respect — "This is my life here," he said — he studied hard and became a citizen of the U.S.

It didn't hurt his progress in his chosen profession that along the way, he learned the game under some of the greatest trainers, working for people like Bowes Bond and Stanley Hough. By 1989, he got his trainer's license.

The first years on his own, of course, were fairly tough but it was easier because he was working with the love of his life, Wendy Mutnick. In the beginning, she was listed as the trainer and he was the assistant. They had one horse.

When their first child, Robert, was born, Guadalupe took over as trainer and she took over as mother. She didn't didn't give up her active participation in horse racing, however, Three more children later — Amanda, 10, Sara, 7, and Joe, 3 — she still manages their public stable, which numbers 44 horses currently stabled at Philadelphia Park.

One of his owners, Jack Mondel, has been with him since 1986.

"We're like family," said Preciado.

Along the way, Preciado acquired a reputation for developing two year olds. In 2000, he led the nation with 12 wins with two year olds and finished fourth at 34 percent for highest winning percentage with the youngsters.

Late last year, he decided it was time to start giving back, especially with the idea that he could help other trainers from Spanish backgrounds, and he ran



GUADALUPE PRECIADO

for and was elected to the PTHA Board of Directors.

In the short time he has been a director, Preciado said he has been impressed with the knowledge and experience of his fellow board members.

"They know how to get things done," he said. "They're smart and they're powerful."

He mentions slot machines at the racetracks, of course, as one of the Board's prime goals.

"It would help everybody," he said. "The state, horsemen, everybody."

Preciado was the eighth of ten children in his family. All but two were males and all the males wound up making their living in horse acing, including his brother Ray, who is his assistant trainer, and brother Ramon, who is also a public trainer a Philadelphia Park.

Guadalupe's is another clas sic American Tale and like mos such stories, it was always des tined to have a happy ending.

GAMY BRIDES, DIRTY BABIES AND BELLS RUNG BY THE DEAD

Whether you are a butcher, baker, candlestick maker or thoroughbred horse person, thank God life is not what it used to be.

Here are some facts gleaned from the internet about everyday life in the 16th century that should make you appreciate your time and place in history. (You can probably put more trust in these tales than you do in newspaper stories which are supported only by "reliable sources"):

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good the following month. However, they were starting to get a little gamy so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor.

Baths were taken in a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, next came all the sons, then the women and children and last of all, the babies. By then the water was so dirty, you could actually lose someone in it, hence the saying: Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.

Houses had thatched roofs (thick straw) piled high, with no wood beneath. It was the best place for animals to get warm, so all the dogs, cats and other small animals, including mice and bugs, lived in the straw on the roof. When it rained, it became slippery and sometimes the animals would fall out of the roof; hence, the saying: It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up a bed. A bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection; thus canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was almost always dirt; only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying: Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door some would fall outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entryway, which came to be known as the threshold.



In those days, cooking was done mostly in a big kettle that permanently hung in the fireplace in the kitchen. Every day the fire was lit and things were added to the pot. People ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been there quite a while, hence the rhyme: Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

Sometimes people obtained pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could bring

home the bacon.

They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with a high acid content caused some of the lead to leak onto the food causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top or the upper crust.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey. The combination would sometimes knock the drinker out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take the person for dead and prepare him for burial. He was laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days, and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait to see if he would wake up, hence the custom of holding a wake.

In old England, a lack of places to bury people led to a practice of digging up coffins and taking the bones to a bone house so the grave could be reused. When reopening these coffins, one out of 25 were found to have scratch marks on the inside, causing the realization that people were being buried alive. After that, a string would be tied on the wrist of the corpse. threaded through the coffin and the ground to a bell above. Someone would have to sit in the graveyard all night (thus, the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell. In other words, the person in the coffin could be saved by the bell or considered a dead ringer.

And that's the real truth . . . according to reliable sources.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It was a Saturday race day here at Philadelphia Park. A group of boys from Bethanna Home had arrived to visit the track. Bethanna's equestrian specialist, Jennifer Magli, was excited to introduce a second group to the racetrack. When she brought the first small group, Arnaldo Unsihuay had graciously spent time with them answering their eager questions. But on this this morning, I had failed to line up another jockey to speak to them. The boys arrived for breakfast and we walked over to the kitchen and there was Tony Black. Would he help this sweating chaplain? Did he ever!

Tony sat down and carefully presented how a jockey works, answered their many questions, and even suggested that he might have a good chance to win the third race. We all thanked Tony for his time and were off to the barns.

The kids loved meeting the beautiful creatures. Soon, it was time for the races. Just before race three, the

boys had their pictures taken with Tony Black and fellow jockey Tony Pena. Then Black promptly went out nd won the third race. Wow! Our visiting youngsters were besides themselves shouting, "To-nee, To-nee, Tonee!"

A jockey had provided special thrills for boys who seldom experience the attention and care he showed them that day. Incidentally, Tony supplied racing goggles to the previous group and valet Ron Optiz quickly provided some for this group. In fact, the jockeys and valets help far more than they realize. They not only carry out their work, they take an interest in those to whom I introduce them. In fact, it's a delight for me to have visitors meet those of you who labor here at the track. You touch lives in ways you perhaps forget. But they don't.

There's a truth here. God can use us for good in the "little" times, the "chance" meetings, the "sidebars" of life. It's in those moments that we can etch a special, positive

memory into the lives of those we meet. Paul, the apostle, urged the believers in Galatia, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people ... " If we fol-



CHAPLAIN JACK CORDELL

low his advice, it will become second nature for us to help people in chance moments. We touch more lives than we imagine. Let's make the opportunity to do good, starting today.

* * *

Since the last newsletter, we have had memorial services for two co-workers on the backstretch, Jim Mohrle labored for 34 years at various tracks. Jim passed away Feb. 7 at Frankford-Torresdale Hospital. Several came to pay their last respects, including his two brothers and sister-in-law.

Then our friend Pete McDermott died on March 5. Many attended his memorial service. A most poignant moment occurred when Pete's sister, Diane, stood to thank all who had come to the service and for the kind things they had shared in the service to honor their memory of Pete.

In each case, Ron's Backstretch Cafe provided food for a reception following the service, and the PTHA bought flowers for each occasion.

Jim and Pete, we miss you. May we never forget you. May God grant comfort to your loved ones.

continued on next page



SESSION WITH JOCKEYS - Tony Black (seated) and Tony Pena (squatting.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

continued from previous page

On Saturday, March 16, nearly 50 children gathered at the Rec Hall for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. They did crafts, watched a video, met the Easter Bunny, got their faces painted, filled their baskets with eggs, ate hot dogs

with all the trimmings and had a fabulous day.

Our Special Events Coordinator, Molly Shallcross, brought a dozen helpers from First Baptist, Levittown. The Small Mall of Bloomsburg, PA, sent beanie babies for each child. Cunard Baptist Church of Cunard, WV, sent two dozen Easter baskets for special prizes. Ron Finley and the Backstretch Cafe provided the meal. You made lot of kids very happy. We thank you! We also thank Larry Riviello, Mike Ballezzi and the PTHA Board for their financial support, which made the event possible.

+ + +





Bankbook

Mr. Prospector - Silent Account by Private Account \$1500 LF / \$1000 LF PA-bred



Fleg
Foligno - C.C. Polly
by Zografos

\$1000 / \$500 LF PA-bred



Flying Pidgeon
Upper Case - Miss Minnesota
by Minnesota Mac
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by In Reality
\$1000 LF



T.V. Alliance

T.V. Commercial - La Belle Alliance by Stauchness \$1000 LF



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Special Consideration Program



Deposit The Gold Bankbook - Gold on the Rocks

by Sunny Clime \$750 LF

Ideal Sport/Hunter sire



Fleg
Foligno - C.C. Polly by Zografos \$1000 / \$500 LF PA-bred

Free with 50/50 breeder bonus split



Flying Pidgeon Upper Case - Miss Minnesota

by Minnesota Mac \$3000 / \$2500 LF PA-bred

Special Consideration Program



Foligno

Foolish Pleasure - Zerelda by In Reality \$1000 LF

\$800 PA Bred



T.V. Alliance

T.V. Commercial - La Belle Alliance by Stauchness \$1000 / \$500 LF PA-bred

Free with 50/50 breeder bonus split



A LOOK AT CONTENDERS FOR 2002 TRIPLE CROWN

With the running of the Kentucky Derby and the start of the quest for the Triple Crown looming, the time is right to look back at past winners of all three legs of the most prestigious races for three year olds and to offer thumbnail sketches of the top contenders this year:

TRIPLE CROWN WINNERS

Year 1919 1930 1935 1937 1941 1943 1946 1948 1973 1977	Winner Sir Barton Gallant Fox Omaha War Admiral Whirlaway Count Fleet Assault Citation Secretariat Seattle Slew Affirmed	Owner Commander J. K. L. Ross Belair Stud Belair Stud Glen Riddle Farms Calumet Farm Mrs. John D. Hertz King Ranch Calumet Farm Meadow Stable Karen L. Taylor Harbor View Farm	Trainer H. G. Bedwell James Fitzsimmons James Fitzsimmons George Conway Ben A. Jones Don Cameron Max Hirsch Ben A. Jones Lucien Laurin William H. Turner Jr. Lazaro Barrera	Jockey Johnny Loftus Earl Sande Willie Saunders Charles Kurtsinger Eddie Arcaro John Longden Warren Mehrtens Eddie Arcaro Ron Turcotte Jean Cruguet Steve Cauthen
17/0	1 111111100		OTHER PERSONS	

THUMBNAILS OF 2002 TOP CANDIDATES

(Keep in mind that this edition of the newsletter went to print prior to the running of such important prep races for the Kentucky Derby as the Santa Anita Derby, the Illinois Derby, the Blue Grass Stakes and the Wood Memorial).

- 1. Came Home (Paco Gonzalez, trainer; Chris McCarron, jockey): Given a clean bill of health after becoming cast in his stall a few weeks ago, the San Rafael and San Vicente winner has been prepping nicely.
- 2. Harlan's Holiday (Ken McPeek, trainer; Edgar Prado, jockey): Dominated in winning Florida Derby, his first win over Booklet in three tries.
- Johannesburg (Aidan O'Brien, trainer; Mick Kinane, jockey): Taking unique route to Derby by running in mile race on dirt in Lingfield, England (April 6) as only 3-year-old prep. Training in Ireland, but went for a mile canter at Lingfield on March 20 ... Won all seven of his races in 2001, including Breeders' Cup Juvenile (Oct. 27).
- 4. Mayakovsky (Patrick Biancone, trainer, Edgar Prado, jockey): Returned to Santa Anita after winning Gotham Stakes (March 17) in 3-year-old debut.
- 5. Repent (Ken McPeek, trainer; Jerry Bailey, jockey): Won Louisiana Derby (March 10) by barely holding off Easyfromthegitgo.

- 6. Saarland (Shug McGaughey, trainer; John Velazquez, jockey): After solid second in Gotham (March 17) in 3-yearold debut, there's little doubt about his ability to handle Derby dis-
- Essence of Dubai (Eoin Harty, trainer; Frankie Dettori, jockey): Went from last-to-first in winning 1 1/4-mile UAE Derby against 13 challengers ... Showed he can go the distance and will ship to Churchill Downs this month. Next start, Kentucky Derby (May 4).
- Medaglio d'Oro (Bobby Frankel, trainer; Laffit Pincay, jockey): Won 1 1/16-mile San Felipe Stakes (March 17) at Santa Anita.
- 9. Easyfromthegitgo (Steve Asmussen, trainer; Donnie Meche, jockey): Asmussen's best Derby prospect after his strong second — by a nose to Repent — in Louisiana Derby (March 10).
- 10. Blue Burner (Bill Mott, trainer; Jerry Bailey, jockey): Second behind Harlan's Holiday in Florida Derby (March 17). Could be Derby sleeper. Owned by George Steinbrenner's Kinsman Farm.

PRECIADO'S MOTHER DIES

Baldomera Preciado, Philadelphia Park trainer Guadalupe Preciado's mother, passed away recently. She was 82.

She and her husband Jesus, who died in 1979, raised a family of 10 children on a dairy farm in the small town of Tlacuhapa, Mexico. It was only in the last year that she moved to the United States and was living with a daughter in Bensalem at the time of her death.

Eight of the 10 Preciado children were boys and all of the males wound up in horse racing.

Guadalupe Preciado accompanied his mother's body back to their native land so she could be buried with her husband.

'RED' STROTER DIES

Ronald "Red" Stroter, who years ago was an assistant to then leading Philadelphia Park trainer Dennis "Goose" Heimer, passed away recently after a long illness.

Stroter had worked mostly at New York's Aqueduct and Belmont Park in the last number of years.



PTHA TROPHY WINNERS FEBRUARY - MARCH



2002

FREER	SCOTT LAKE
HE'S BACK	GUADALUPE PRECIADO
SUAVE NOBLEMAN	PHIL ARISTONE
OUTLAW GULCH	DEREK RYAN
SUPER SIZE	ROBERT SEEGER
MONTANA COTTONWOOD	TONY CORRENTI
OUTA ME BLOOMIN WAY	DANIEL FOSTER
	HE'S BACK SUAVE NOBLEMAN OUTLAW GULCH SUPER SIZE MONTANA COTTONWOOD

WHOOPS!

Rep. John Taylor (R-177th Dist.) was identified in the last issue of the newsletter as being a partner in the law firm of Rudolph, Dorian, Goldstein, Rochestie and Taylor P.C. Actually, he is now associated with the law firm of Pelino & Lentz.

WATCH ~ LETS GO RACING



- FRIDAY MORNINGS FROM 10:30-11:00 AM ON CN8 (replays at midnight)
- HOSTED BY THE VOICE OF PHILADELPHIA PARK ~ KEITH JONES
- MEET LOCAL RACING PERSONALITIES AND EQUINE STARS
- · WEEKLY NATIONAL REVIEW
- DISCUSS TOPICS OF LOCAL INTERESTS



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