



News You Can Use

By M. Scott McMannis

Nicole's Dream & Company Are Hong Kong Bound

Make plans now to stay up late on the night of December 10. Popular local grass mare Nicole's Dream will be racing at Sha Tin Racecourse...in Hong Kong...on December 11...for three-quarters of a million dollars, the winner's share of the \$1.2 million (USD) purse.

Trainer Larry Rivelli visited the Handicapping & Business Center to tell of his trainee, Nicole's Dream, being invited to compete in the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Sprint. "We were recently informed that she will be on the list when invitations are formally announced on November 23," Rivelli explained. "This is an unmatched honor for Nicole's Dream, and for us."

The Sprint is one of four Group 1 events that make up the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong (CPHK) International Races, the largest international sporting event staged in Hong Kong, with HK\$56 million in purses. The other three races are the CPHK Cup, the CPHK Vase, and the CPHK Mile. The grassy Sprint is contested on the straightaway at 1000 meters, almost exactly five furlongs by US measure, the ideal distance for Nicole's Dream.



香港賽馬會

The Hong Kong Jockey Club

explained. "Unfortunately, the race came off the grass, but she still benefited from the effort."

Nicole's Dream, accompanied by Rivelli assistant Jose Cardelas, will fly to Hong Kong on November 25. "That will give her an opportunity to become acclimated, to have a workout over the course, and to settle into her normal daily routine," explained Rivelli.

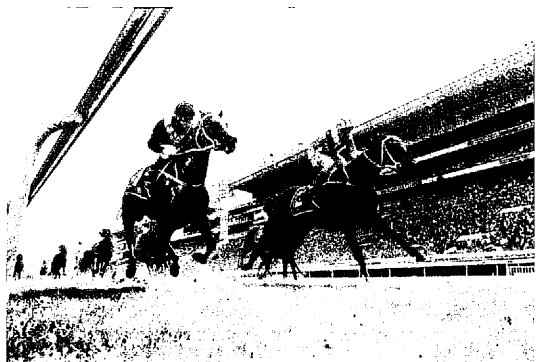
Nicole's Dream will be followed on December 7 by the remainder of her entourage. Not only will Rivelli travel to Hong Kong, but so will regular jockey E. T. Baird and the Faber brothers, Michael and Allen, majors domo of the Dare to Dream Stable partnership that owns Nicole's Dream.

"This is very, very big for the Dare to Dream partnerships," declared Michael Faber. "We always seek to find and develop young horses that can become competitive in the top ranks of Thoroughbred racing. This invite to Sha Tin is the epitome of what we are striving to accomplish."

Reached in his office in Hong Kong, Mark Player, Manager of International Races for the Hong Kong Jockey Club, stated, "We are delighted that the connections of Nicole's Dream are so keen to come to Hong Kong.

"We expect a full field of 14 for the Sprint," Player continued. "Race order is still being finalized for the day, but my guess is that the Sprint will go off as race three. We will need to confirm this, and the time, closer to race day." Such scheduling would mean that Nicole's Dream's race will go off shortly after midnight, Chicago time. The CPHK International Races will be drawn on Thursday, December 8.

We will revisit the Nicole's Dream quest here. Stay tuned.



Horses at the wire at Sha Tin.

Last Sunday Nicole's Dream ran in the five-furlong Crafty Drone. Carded for the grass, the race was moved to the main track when Saturday rains made the turf course too soggy for racing. Nicole's Dream set the fast pace for four furlongs then faded to finish fifth. "The Crafty Drone was to be a grass prep for her," Rivelli

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SATURDAY, 11/12

- ★ Phil Georgeff Festival of Racing
- ★ Pick 5 Handicapping Challenge

SUNDAY, 11/13

- ★ Day 3 - Hawthorne Mini-Series Tournament

SATURDAY, 11/19

- ★ Pick 5 Handicapping Challenge

SUNDAY, 11/20

- ★ Sign-up Deadline for DRF/NTRA Qualifier
- ★ NTRA Satellite Open Handicapping Tournament

THURSDAY, 11/24

- ★ Thanksgiving Day, No Live Racing

FRIDAY, 11/25

- ★ Fan Friendly Friday

SATURDAY, 11/26

- ★ Day 1 - DRF/NTRA NHC Qualifier Tournament
- ★ Pick 5 Handicapping Challenge

SUNDAY, 11/27

- ★ Day 2 - DRF/NTRA NHC Qualifier Tournament

Post Time: 1:10 p.m.

Thursday, November 10, 2005

36th Racing Day

Phil Georgeff Festival of Racing Saturday, November 12