



HORSE GOSSIP

Pin Oak Stud – February 16, 2018

RACE RESULTS

SECRET PASSAGE

TAMPA – Finished 5th in an allowance race on Saturday afternoon for Malcolm Pierce. Stalked the pace nicely and just kind of ran even and came out of the race in good shape. Malcolm will look down the road to see what the best opportunity is for his next start to get him back on track to his winning way.

NOBLE THOUGHT

TAMPA – Finished 5th in the Tampa Bay-G3 on the grass on Saturday for Malcolm Pierce. He laid back, his usual style of racing, and made a big move. Some horses clipped heels in the turn and went down and he had to avoid all that traffic but seemed to run on at the end. He came out of the race in good shape. Malcolm will look back for an allowance for him some time in March before heading north to Woodbine.

SCIENCE FICTION

TAMPA – She lost all shot at the gate, spotted the field 8-10 down the backside, made up a lot of ground, but just not enough time, finishing 4th on Thursday for Malcolm Pierce.

UPCOMING RACES

ZESTFUL

TODAY – Scheduled to run this afternoon at Laurel in an *other than* allowance race going a mile. The horse has been training well for his first time against winners. This will be a good test to see where he fits in with his generation. Graham Motion is looking forward to getting him back to the races.

ARMAMENT

SATURDAY – Entered in a maiden special at Tampa, going 1 1/16 on the turf, for Malcolm Pierce. He's trained well since his last race in which he had a very troubled trip.

SYNCHRONY

SATURDAY – Scheduled to make his 2018 debut in the Fair Grounds H.-G3, going 1 1/8 mi. on the grass. He's been training super, coming off a long lay off not having run since last May, but his works have been strong. Mike Stidham is very pleased with him and thinks this is a great place to get started back. Mike feels like he should be plenty competitive in this spot.

BROODMARE NEWS

Due	Mare	In Foal To
1/24	Rumors Are Flying	Alternation
2/05	Always in My Heart	Runhappy
2/12	Bedanken	Blame
2/19	Moving Away	Super Saver
2/19	Winsome Ways	Flatter
2/24	Really and Truly	Curlin
2/27	Whimsicality	Into Mischief



SWEET RELISH foaled Feb. 12, about 10:15 p.m., a very nice filly by Nyquist, weighing 137 lbs. Mare and foal are doing well. Sweet Relish will be bred to Twirling Candy.

TRAINER NEWS

GRAHAM MOTION

FAIR HILL -- NUMEROLOGIST missed this week due to a slight lung infection and was placed on antibiotics and some hyperbaric treatment. Hopefully, he won't miss too much time and will be back on track before long. POINT SYSTEM is doing well and back galloping, getting some miles under her after her vacation. At Tampa, FULL OF ZIP worked a nice, easy 5/8's last week while Clifford was there on a visit. He said she looked really good, has matured nicely.



FULL OF ZIP training very well at Tampa Bay Downs

MALCOLM PIERCE

TAMPA – ARMAMENT is in the entries for Saturday. NOBLE THOUGHT and SECRET PASSAGE both came out of their races in good shape. YOU'RE MINE worked a nice, easy 3/8's breeze this week. VERBOTEN is doing really well. Malcolm is eyeing a stake race on the turf on March 10th for him. Clifford thought he looked a picture of health when he visited Malcolm's barn.



Secret Passage



Verboten



Armament



Science Fiction

MIKE STIDHAM

FAIR GROUNDS – MISSIVE is training really well on a regular breezing schedule. A couple of options for her are an allowance race on the turf on Feb. 26 and a stake on Mar. 10. It will depend on whether the allowance will fill or not. So, Mike will make a decision on which to enter.

DONNIE VON HEMEL

OAKLAWN – BROKEN PROMISE is looking for a race, having a problem getting a race to go. HIGHER POWER is back on the track after a few days missed with a temperature. He breezed this week and is doing well. MAKE AMENDS is on a regular breezing schedule. PLENTY QUICK came out of her race in great shape according to Donnie. We'll look to see her back in about three weeks in a similar maiden race. READY TO CONFESS is also back on track after her race in Houston and is training nicely. Donnie will keep all his options on where he will go with her. He would like to get an allowance race to go some time early March.

MICKEY PREGER, JR.

CAMDEN – All the 2yos are doing well, galloping every day – going to the track and learning their lessons. Not much to report on them right now, just going through the motions of early conditioning and learning to be professional. Galloping up sides, learning to go the front, doing gate work – all the things that one would do at this stage in their careers. TIME TRAVELLER arrived in this week and will start back light training and will get back on track after some immature issues last fall. He had a little time at Pin Oak and at Kesmarc and looked a picture of health when he departed the farm on Tuesday morning.

When life hands you a rainy day-play in the puddles!



WEEKEND WATCH

Post times are Eastern Standard Time

Saturday, February 17

1:50p	AQU	Haynesfield S. (\$100,000)
2:30p	LRL	John B Campbell s. (\$100,000)
3:00p	LRL	Miracle Wood S. (\$100,000)
3:30p	LRL	MD Racing Media S. (\$100,000)
4:00p	LRL	Wide Country S.-L (\$100,000)
4:05p	FG	Mineshaft H.-G3 (\$150,000)
4:20p	TAM	Pelican S. (\$100,000)
4:30p	LRL	Gen. George S.-G3 (\$250,000)
5:00p	LRL	Barbara Fritchie S.-G2 (\$300,000)
5:05p	FG	Rachel Alexandra S.-G2 (\$200,000)
5:35p	FG	Fair Grounds H.-G3 (\$150,000)
6:00p	SA	Buena Vista S.-G3 (\$200,000)
6:03p	FG	Risen Star S.-G2 (\$400,000)
6:09p	OP	Bayakoa S.-G3 (\$150,000)
6:45p	GG	El Camino Real Derby-L (\$100,000)

Sunday, February 18

1:50p	AQU	Gander S. (\$100,000)
4:25p	AQU	Broadway S. (\$100,000)
7:00p	SA	Las Flores S.-G3 (\$100,000)

FROM THE BLOOD-HORSE

STEVE HASKIN'S DERBY DOZEN

Feb. 13, 2018--One horse on whom I am extremely high, **HIGHER POWER**, was sidelined with a fever following his victory in a one-mile allowance race at Oaklawn and missed enough training to force trainer Donnie Vom Hemel to skip the Southwest Stakes. But the son of Medaglia d'Oro has made a quick recovery and was back on the worktab Tuesday, breezing an easy half in :50. One of the main reasons I love this colt is the rich tradition from which he comes. He is a throwback, owned and bred by the classy Pin Oak Stud, which has been a fixture in the bluegrass for decades, and owner Josephine Abercrombie is a true sportswoman, who has led an amazing life and always does things the right way, putting the horse before everything else. **Higher Power** is old school breeding, passed down from generation to generation, with Pin Oak owning and breeding the first three dams. **Higher Power** is a half-brother to Pin Oak owned and bred Alternation, winner of the Oaklawn Handicap, Pimlico Special, and Peter Pan, who stands at Pin Oak. His dam, Alternate, won or placed in 10 stakes and is a half-sister to Pin Oak owned and bred Peaks and Valleys, Canada's Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old and winner of the grade 1 Molson Million and Meadowlands Cup and the Illinois Derby, while placing in the Whitney and Saratoga Cup. This is also the family of Pin Oak owned and bred Broken Vow, a multiple graded stakes winner and top sire, who stands at Pin Oak. In addition, farm manager Clifford Barry has worked for Pin Oak for 30 years, and says Mrs. Abercrombie always believes in letting the horses do the talking and never rushes them. She has extreme patience when it comes to the horses and takes great pride in developing the families and contributing to the matings. If you have any sense of tradition, it's hard not to root for a horse like this. **Higher Power** was an above average-sized foal at 140 pounds, well muscled and a joy to be around, according to Barry, who added that the colt has always been extremely professional and never turned a hair, and even as a yearling he acted more like a 2-year-old. With **Higher Power** back on the work tab, it is hoped he can be back in top form for the Rebel Stakes.



Alternation



Broken Vow

STALLION NEWS

Breeding season is now in full swing. Both stallions have bred mares and all is good. ALTERNATION is currently 3rd on the 2018 Second Crop Leading Sires list. He has 10 winners and a stakes-placed horse this year.