

**MISS SINGHSIX BECOMES A STAKES WINNER SATURDAY AT LAUREL PARK, IRISH IMPORT IS TEAM VALOR'S FIRST STAKES WINNER OF THE NEW YEAR, DAVE MUNRO, BARRY IRWIN OWN HER MOTHER CARRYING A FULL SIBLING**



Miss Singhsix, benefitting from a rehabilitation job full of merit by Marty Wolfson, became a stakes winner Saturday when she easily won the Maryland Racing Media Stakes at Laurel Park in Maryland.

Barry Irwin, who was on hand for the \$70,000 fixture, asked winning rider Luis Garcia if he would have to pay the four other jockeys in the race, because “all of them were riding our horse as well!”

Garcia laughed. Irwin said, “Well, since I don’t have to pay those other guys, I’m going to give you a bonus.”

In a field of 5, Miss Singhsix was boxed in while racing along the rail in last place through very slow fractions, a circumstance that elicited an “Oh fork, we’re dead now” from Irwin. Miss Singhsix, who broke from the rail, is a dyed-in-the-wool closer whose most recent race saw her mount a finish from a far outpost in the Milky Way. Basically, each of the first three quarters were run in 25 seconds. The fourth quarter was run in :24 3/5 to reach the mile in 1:39.78 on a track that was playing pretty fast all day long.

Irwin said “This was a two-horse race—Miss Singhsix and Love’s Blush. Both went off at odds-on, with the Maryland-based filly a slight favorite over our horse. Love’s Blush controlled the race, allowed a bad horse to set the slow pace and helped to keep our horse blocked inside.

“We had a lot to overcome, between the dawdling pace and being boxed in. Our jockey, however, was more than up to the task. He took her wide, put away the favorite at the eighth pole and won in hand. He never panicked. I was so thankful for what Luis was able to do for us that after the race, I went to the horsemen’s bookkeeper and signed a chit to double his jock mount from 10 to 20 percent. “I don’t make a habit of spending other people’s money like this on a regular basis, but Luis made our partnership and I thought he deserved it.”

The 5-year-old Irish-bred mare now has won four races, earned \$190,000 and is a stakes winner and Graded placed. The win was doubly celebrated by Barry Irwin and Canadian Dave Munro, Both guys not only own an interest in Miss Singhsix, but they also own a yearling sibling that they bred from the dam of Miss Singhsix that they bought a couple of years ago. She is due to foal this season to Singspiel, sire of Miss Singhsix. The mare has been booked back to Singspiel for the 2010 season.

Miss Singhsix was slated to stay at Laurel for 4 or 5 days, as Wolfson wanted to allow the mare to come back to herself before putting her on a van back to Florida. He may decide to have her stop off at Eisaman Equine for another week or two of rest and relaxation.



“I love the way she got low and laid the body down in the final furlong,” Wolfson said. “I was proud of her and impressed. I am thinking about running her back in 6 weeks in the Grade 2 Rampart down here at Gulfstream Park.”

Miss Singhsix ran her last furlong in less than 12 seconds, which is smoking for a filly or mare going 9 furlongs on dirt regardless of how slow the pace is.

Aron Wellman, who syndicated 50 percent of the mare to his former LGL Stable partners when he purchased half of her along with Team Valor a few seasons ago, said “Marty is unbelievable I never saw this mare moving so well. It’s like she’s not even the same horse.”

When Barry Irwin (Ray Bans) decided to move Miss Singhsix to Marty Wolfson, he told Aron Wellman that the Calder-based trainer “will test our patience, but he will get the job done.” Wolfson has been able to completely transform a lackluster grass/synthetic filly into an effective dirt mare, overcoming a tendon scare in the bargain.

“Now that Bobby Frankel is gone,” Irwin said, “Wolfson is the most gifted horseman in the country. If he wanted to, he could have the most powerful stable in North America. He’s that good.”

From Laurel Park’s website comes the following:

### **Miss Singhsix Scores In Maryland Racing Media Stakes**



Team Valor International’s Miss Singhsix circled her rivals and drew off to victory in the \$70,000 Maryland Racing Media Stakes at Laurel Park.

Five fillies and mares met the starter in the 1-1/8th mile test. Longshot Nasreen set a slow pace through the far turn but gave way gradually as the other 4 runners moved past her. Widest of all was Miss Singhsix under jockey Luis Garcia, who raced with Love’s Blush down the stretch before pulling away to win by 1½ lengths in 1:51.67. Love’s Blush held for second and My Main Starr finished another four lengths back in third.

“Not much pace in the race,” said Garcia. “I just sat right there waiting to push the button. I wasn’t expecting to be that close to the four horse (Love’s Brush), but I was there. I just didn’t want her to go up in there on me and then have to rush to get out and get her.”

“It’s big for us because we not only own this mare but I bought her dam and I have a yearling half-brother, also,” said owner Barry Irwin. “There were two good races today. One was in New York, the Rare Treat and the other was this one. Basically, what landed us here was the plane. If the plane had gone to Newark, we’d have gone to New York. Marty Wolfson (above), the trainer, a very nervous guy, kept calling me up and told me, ‘Barry, you picked the wrong race. In New York we’re 6-5. In this race, we’re 7-5’. I said don’t worry, we’ll be 3-5.”

Irwin was close. Miss Singhsix was 4 to 5 and paid \$3.80 to win.