

May 31, 2010

**GYPSY'S WARNING WINS \$150,000 EATONTOWN HANDICAP AT MONMOUTH, SOUTH AFRICAN MARE EDGES BREEDERS' CUP HERO MARAM IN GRADE 3, TEAM VALOR/GREEN LANTERN IMPORT TAKES HER UNITED STAKES BOW**

Team Valor International and Green Lantern Stable's Gypsy's Warning, making her United States debut, overcame a wide trip throughout to get up in the final stride for a nose victory in the Grade 3 Eatontown Handicap at Monmouth Park today going 1 1/16 miles on turf.

Racing on an inside ribbon of turf on a course with tight turns and a short stretch, Gypsy's Warning took all the worst of it from her outside draw in a field that originally drew 7 entrants but scratched down to 5 at post time.

Just inside the South African import was Maram, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Filly Turf heroine that was making her 4-year-old debut, for which she was dispatched at the 7 to 5 favorite by the Memorial Holiday crowd at the Jersey Shore.



*Gypsy's Warning looms up outside of favored Maram in Monmouth Grade 3.*



*Gypsy's Warning gets up in the final stride to deny Breeders' Cup hero Maram in the \$150,000 Eatontown Handicap on Memorial Day in N. J.*

bend, Maram began her rally in earnest to take the lead just inside the furlong marker and had about a 1 1/2-length lead over Gypsy's Warning.

Gypsy's Warning broke to her right, but broke running, and jockey Jose Valdivia was unable to tuck her inside going around the first turn, which she took in the 3 patch all the way around. Eye of Taurus, the 8 to 5 second choice and the lone speed in the starting line up, set the pace from her number 1 post position, with Maram sitting right outside of her, and Gypsy's Warning behind Maram.

Because the pace was unbelievably slow—fractions were :24.8 and 1:12.86—the field was fairly well bunched, so Gypsy's Warning took the 3 path all the way around the turn as well. As the field swung off the final

With about 125 yards remaining, Gypsy's Warning and Maram were locked in battle, with the Team Valor colorbearer wearing down the favorite to prevail in the very last stride. The winner was dismissed at odds of 7 to1 and was the longest shot in the race.

Final time of 1:41 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub> was excellent considering the lack of pace and the tactics employed by the riders. Gypsy's Warning went her final sixteenth in :05 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub> and must have come her final quarter-mile in 22 seconds. The winner gave the favorite 1 pound under a load of 117 pounds.



*Gypsy's Warning employed a final sixteenth of a mile in :05 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub> to reach favored Maram in the very last stride of the 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>-mile Eatontown Handicap to score in her U. S. debut on Monday at the elite meeting at Monmouth Park for stakes victory number 4 for her.*

Maram, trained in New York by former Bobby Frankel assistant Chad Brown, had won 4 of 6 career outings, her lone non-productive effort coming in her final outing at 3, when she took on older fillies and mares in the Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf, in which she finished a respectable sixth, beaten only 3 lengths.



Gypsy's Warning, bought after her season at 2 in South Africa and trained by veteran Ormond Ferraris, had 3 wins and 3 thirds in South Africa for her owners, winning the Grade 1 South African Fillies Classic over 9 furlongs.

In her career, the consistent mare has achieved a record of 6 wins and 5 thirds in her 12 outings, winning a pair of Grade 1 races and placing third in a pair of Grade 1 races, for earnings of more than \$230,000.

Graham Motion (left) has trained Gypsy's Warning since she arrived at his Palm Meadows barn last winter. "He's done a super job with her," noted Barry Irwin. "She is not an easy character to be around and she has a mind of her own.

"Fact is, we are lucky she is even healthy enough to still be in training, because in her first stop off with a trainer in the United States, she flipped over while being hosed off on a wash rack. She came away with scrapes on all four ankles, one of which was so severe that her attending veterinarian Dr. Gary Priest of Kentucky feared that her career had been compromised. "While trying to stand up, she suffered an asphalt burn on the ligament under an ankle and the tissue was literally burned. But Gary and the folks at the Kentucky Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center (KESMARC) did a sensational job in bringing her back to full health.

“Todd Quast at Goldmark Farm was extremely patient with her while she was training for him on his Safe T Track in Ocala and got her over the hump of trusting her legs again.”



Gypsy’s Warning had been entered in 3 allowance races and none of them were used by the tracks, so last week Barry Irwin (left) huddled up with Graham Motion and suggested the Eatontown, which required a \$5,000 supplementary payment to make her eligible.

“I told Graham that the filly had been training too well for too long and that I was worried she might wither on the vine,” Team Valor’s CEO said. “He agreed and we put her in the Monmouth Stakes.”

Jose Valdivia took the overland route throughout, but he always had the mare going well within herself and she had enough class to concede a lot of extra yardage to secure the win.

Gypsy’s Warning is a 5-year-old mare by Mogok, a Kentucky-bred son of Storm Cat, and out of the Royal Chalice mare Gypsy Queen, and was bred in South Africa by the Rathmor Stud of Michael and Tanya McHardy.

From the *Asbury Park Press* comes the following:

## **ATTENDANCE REMAINS STRONG AT MONMOUTH PARK**

By Steve Edelson

The numbers roll off the tongue as smoothly as track announcer Larry Collmus calling a three-horse photo finish.

For the Memorial Day weekend, some 38,543 patrons made their way through the Monmouth Park turnstiles, a 15.5 percent increase from a year ago, while total handle was up some 122 percent with \$24,912,191 wagered over the three-day period. As the summer officially got underway at the Shore, Monmouth Park’s grand experiment continued to gain momentum. The three days of racing over the holiday weekend were critical in terms of building on the success of opening weekend.

"This has always been one of my personal barometer," said general manager Robert Kulina. "If you can carry it through Memorial Day weekend, with so much else to do, it's a good sign for the meet.

"Those numbers make us feel pretty good. I've been doing this long enough, and those numbers are like a flashback in terms of attendance. That's what we got 10 or 15 years ago for this weekend."





*Last year at Monmouth, Team Valor's South African yearling bargain Captain's Lover splashed her way to a win in the \$200,000 Matchmaker Stakes, which was moved to dirt.*

are so many people I recognize and they say how great it is, and the positive feedback from our employees."

If you were looking for drama on the track, the \$150,000 Eatontown Stakes, a Grade III fixture, gave you all you wanted.

Making her first start in this country, South African-bred Gypsy's Warning poked a nose in front at the wire in a head-bobbing finish with 7-to-5 favorite Maram, winner of the 2008 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf.

Gypsy's Warning, a 5-year-old mare, was making her first start in nearly a year. But the fact that she was running at all is nothing short of miraculous.

"All you need to know about this horse is that she's extremely highly strung," said owner Barry Irwin, who purchased Gypsy's Warning, a Grade I winner in South Africa, with a partner after her 2-year-old season.

"The third day she was in this country she was getting a bath and flipped over backwards, scrapping all four of her ankles. One was so bad it looked like it would never heal. But we did 15 to 20 treatments in a hyperbaric chamber and eventually it did heal. Her trainer (Graham Motion) has done a fabulous job with her."

Sitting off the pace in the 1-1/16th-mile event on the turf, jockey Jose Valdivia Jr. began to move Gypsy's Warning as they rounded the turn. As they came down the home stretch, Maram put Eye of Taurus away, but was unable to hold off the winner in the final strides of the meet's first graded stake. "We entered her in three allowance races and none of them filled," added Irwin. "So we finally supplemented her to this race.

"We have about 25 horses in South Africa. They breed very good horses and they're pretty cheap."

Now seven days into a 50-day meet with \$50 million in purse money up for grabs, the track has exceeded expectations by putting higher quality horses in the starting gate, racing just three times a week.

"The racing has been so solid," Kulina added. "You just look at the last race (No. 8). It's like a graded stake, but it's an allowance race. These are very tough races.

"Just walking through the plant, the energy and enthusiasm you feel. You can see it and feel it. There