



IS A SINGLE STAKE THE END OF DRACULA? A MOTORWAY CAFE? OR A CORAL BET AT CHELTENHAM?

The Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle
TODAY AT CHELTENHAM

9/4 Night Nurse	20 Decent Fellow
7/2 Sea Pigeon	22 Kybo
9/2 Birds Nest	25 Master Monday
9 Monksfield	25 Meladon
14 Beacon Light	100 Levaramoss
14 Prominent K	150 Koira Scott
16 Dramatist	

EACH WAY ONE FIFTH THE ODDS A PLACE 1; 2, 3. ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION



If you fancy a bet on the Champion Hurdle, the easiest way is a straight bet on your horse winning outright. Known as a Single Stake. Just ask our friendly experienced staff.

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To Penny Harrison, Dept. C, Coral Racing Ltd.
Glebe House, Vicarage Drive, Barking, Essex.

CORAL CARES ABOUT YOUR BET

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CHELTENHAM 78

IT SHOULD be third time lucky for Birds Nest at Cheltenham today.

Birds Nest, who has finished behind Night Nurse in the past two years, can take the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle (3.40).

Bob Turnell's horse wears blinkers for the first time.

The trainer had resisted the fitting of blinkers but now resorts to what may be a valuable aid as he considers this is the last real chance Birds Nest has of landing the title.

Ability

The ability of this chestnut has never been doubted, but he is liable to think he has done enough when taking the lead.

Stablemates Night Nurse and Sea Pigeon are obvious threats, though the jockeys have changed because of yesterday's accidents to Jonjo O'Neill and Colin Tinker (see Back Page).

Frank Berry rides Sea Pigeon, but the soft

going will certainly not assist him.

Ron Barry partners Night Nurse, who last year blew sky high the theory that the state of the going was a reason for opposing him.

Pick of the Irish, and a good one at that, is probably Prominent King and I expect him to go very close.

This is an extremely open race and having selected Birds Nest in previous attempts I shall go for him again to win from Prominent King and Night Nurse.

The Irish could capture at least four of the prizes. Their only runner in the Foxhunter Challenge Cup (4.50) is Underway, but he may be good enough to land the nap.

GOLDEN CYGNET'S BEST

By TONY SWEENEY

GOLDEN CYGNET has been a transformed horse since being put to jumping and showed a tremendous turn of acceleration to beat Midland Gayle at Punchestown last time out.

Today he should keep his win record by taking the Waterford Crystal

Supreme Hurdle (2.30). And it is impossible to oppose Straight Row in the Arkle Chase (3.05), a race the Dreapers are always keen to win.

Prominent King appeals as the best eachway value of the Irish team in the Champion Hurdle. He has had a light season and came good at Leopardstown last time out to beat Mr. Kildare and Monksfield.

TEESSIDE with exclusive Spotform ratings

NEWSBOY

1.45—MR. WICKER
2.15—LORD BRAE
2.45—WAITE
3.20—MARCUS LADY
3.55—EUROPLEASURE
4.25—KELSO CHANT

PRESTON SELLING H'CAP

1.45 HURDLE, 2m. 176y. Penalty Value £376. (13 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 1lb.

3 04-0941 MR. WICKER Hard 6-11-12 (C) J. Thomson 29

5 021340 RUST BURGESS Doyle 6-10-12 (C, F) J. Doyle 30

7 310233 LIKELY BOY Yeoman 5-10-12 K. Gray

9 000000 PRINCE OF POTS 6-10-11 S. Wiles 30

10 140002 SOLDIERS FIELD Wiles 6-10-10 C. Tinker 29

12 000003 BLESSED BOY McCain 6-10-9 (C, F) C. Tinker 29

12 000003 KING GLIMMER T. Taylor 5-10-5 (SF) G. Holmes 28

13 0-0FUR BIRDS WELL Green 6-10-4 P. Kelly

15 000000 PARK LASS Percival 5-10-1 K. McCauley 28

17 000000 GREEK SUN Whitaker 6-10-0 S. Charlton

19 000000 GOLDEN GUN Page 5-10-0 R. Page 30

20 0-000 FORTY THIEVES Falcate 5-10-0 J. Pearce

22 000000 MADEN Whitaker 5-10-0 J. Allen

Betting Forecast.—9-4 Mr. Wicker, 7-2 Blessed Boy, 5 Likely Boy, 6 Rust Burgess, 3 King Glimmer, Golden Gun, 10 Soldiers Field, 1977: SEATON SANDS, 6-10-5, 6-1, P. Mannan (J. Turner), 15 ran.

Favourites: - - - 3.

2.15 —ROPNER NOVICES' CHASE, 2m. 4f. 66y.

Penalty Value £742. (9 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 1lb.

2 081122 LORD BRAE T. Tate 7-11-10 (C, SF) T. Tate 36

3 000000 BURGESS W. A. Stephenson 7-11-2 P. Charlton

4 0-0FF CORALITY W. A. Stephenson 7-11-3 J. Toland

6 0-4-2UFD FLAP JACK Wilkinson 9-11-3 (F) M. Tinker 35

8 0-000000 KRUGANKO Crump 7-11-3 D. Atkins 34

11 300000 PICKWOOD KNIGHT Leigh 6-11-1 D. Nelson 34

12 000000 POU DEVER 6-11-3 S. Charlton

13 000000 PROTEUS CHOICE Dods 9-11-3 W. Rafter

Betting Forecast.—4-6 Lord Brae, 3 Kruganko, 6 Flap Jack, 8 Burgess, 12 Pickwood Knight, 1977: FRANK THE YANK (USA), 5-10-12, 8-1; L. Luno (Mrs. S. Chesmore), 19 ran.

Favourites: - - - 0.

2.45 —STEWART H'CAP HURDLE, 3m. Penalty Value £611. (10 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 1lb.

4 12/0010 WAITE Dickinson 8-11-2 (D2, BF) N. Tinker 36

6 020426 EATWELL W. A. Stephenson 6-11-6 D. Atkins 34

7 01-3003 HUGGY Blackshaw 5-10-5 (SF) P. Tuck 35

8 201332 FOOTBOUND Norton 7-10-4 (F) J. Pearce 35

9 143403 ISLAND STAR Felgate 5-10-0 (EW) J. Pearce 35

11 340300 BARCLAY'S OWN Singham 7-10-0 (D) J. McLaughlin 35

12 00033P MONTREAL BOY Calvert 7-10-0 M. Tinker 35

13 0-000000 BELKOTIME Tinning 7-10-0 Mrs. J. Tinning 31

14 00-0000 ROMNEY CHASE Lamb 5-10-0 S. Grant

15 0-040F CAPTAIN'S DEAR Mainer 6-10-0 Ann Hares

Betting Forecast.—5-2 Waite, 3 Eatwell, 9-2 Footbound, 5 Hunst, 7 Island Star, 10 Barclay's Own, 1977: HEMINGWAY, 5-9-9, 7-1, P. A. Charlton (J. Skilling), 13 ran.

Favourites: - - - 0.

BOUVERIE

1.45—MR. WICKER
2.15—FLAP JACK
2.45—WAITE
3.20—WEST END LAD
3.55—DUSKY DALE
4.25—KELSO CHANT

SPOT FORM

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Favourites: - - - 0.

It's the turn of Birds Nest

By NEWSBOY
(Bob Butchers)



Timmie's Battle, High Prospect, Mountolive and Happy Warrior are useful representatives of the home team, but Underway won four races last season.

Underway was a disappointing favourite at Leopardstown last Wednesday, but had travelled badly.

Expected

I'm told the longer journey to Cheltenham has not bothered him.

Golden Cygnet, who is unbeaten in four races this season, is confidently expected to give the Irish a winning start in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Hurdle (2.30).

Without him it would be an open race. I reckon

Honeyger may be the danger.

The Arkle Trophy (3.05) is regarded as a clinch for Ireland's Straight Row. He will probably score, but I'm sure Alverton will let him know that he has been in a race.

Jock Scobie carries the Arkle colours in the Midway of Flete Chase (3.25). This one may not be anything out of the ordinary, but may not have to be to account for such as Graigue House and Fjord.

A race England may win is the Waterford Crystal Slayers' Hurdle (4.15). This should go to John Cherry.

MONTREIN IN TRAP TWO

By HARRY LLOYD

MONTREIN, last year's winner, has drawn Trap Two in the first of the three televised heats of the BBC TV Trophy at Walthamstow next Wednesday.

The Manchester-based bitch should not be unduly extended to make the first two who go through to the final on April 5.

HEAT 1—Shakchande, 2 Montrein, 3 Dyrton Molly, 4 Iza of Mayfair, 5 Dallas Dollie, 6 Westown Adam.

HEAT 2—1 City Major, a Westmoor Sprinter, 2 Go Ahead Girl, 3 Lancford Dacot, 4 Top Touch, 5 Island Jet.

HEAT 3—1 Tell You What, 2 Bodiam Bridge, 3 Harbana Alm, 4 Pils Irish Imp, 5 Westpack Kail, 6 Glass.

GOING: Hurdle Good to soft, Chase Good, COURSE (Group 4, altitude 35ft.): Left-hand oval circuit of 1m. 6f. with a finishing straight of 4f.

DAILY TOTE DOUBLE: 2.45, 3.55.

DAILY TOTE TREBLE: 2.15, 3.20, 4.25.

TOP JOCKEYS (riding today): T. Stack 19, C. Tinker 18, D. Atkins.

TOP TRAINERS (with runners today): W. A. Stephenson 29, N. Crump 21, A. Dickinson 14, C. Lamb 8.

3.20 —ALBERT H'CAP CHASE, 3m. 31y. Penalty Value £864. (6 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 6lb.

3 302100 CANTABET W. A. Stephenson 9-11-10 (C, D2, B4) T. Stack 40

4 0-0-1P1P ARCTIC MIST Blackshaw 8-11-6 G. Holmes 39

6 2-0234P WILLOW WALK Calvert 8-10-11 (C2) N. Tinker 38

7 121034 ORMONDE TUDOR Mrs. Lomas 9-10-8 (C, D) M. Brisbane 39

8 040212 MARCUS LADY Lamb 9-10-2 (C, BF, SF) P. Mannan 40

9 03P122 WEST END LAD Crump 10-10-0 (D2, F) D. Atkins 41

Betting Forecast.—11-4 West End Lad, 3 Marcus Lady, 4 Ormonde Tudor, 31-2 Cantabet, 7 Arctic Mist, 8 Willow Walk.

1977 (22m): ROOKERY NOOK, 10-9-11, 10-2, C. Hawkins (N. Crump), 11 ran.

Favourites: - - - 0.

3.55 —AYRESOME HUNTERS' CHASE, 2m. 4f. 66y. Penalty Value £459. (7 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 7lb.

1 01/31P1P EUROPLEASURE R. Tate 10-2-7 (D, SF) T. Tate 36

4 01/0F02 SCALBY CRESTA A. Johnson 9-12-4 H. Johnson 31

7 0-0-0-0 P CADDAM WOOD C. Nicholson 6-10-0 G. Nicholson

7 0-0-2-4 DUSKY DALE W. A. Stephenson 9-10-0 (F) T. Dun 31

8 0-0-0-0 GEORGES PRIDE Waggott 9-12-0 M. Jewitt

10 0-0-0-0 MY MINOSA Murray 6-12-0

13 0000F-P ROMAN KING Watson 7-12-0

Betting Forecast.—11-8 Europleasure, 2 Scalby Cresta, 7-2 Dusky Dale, 8 Caddam Wood.

1977 (2m, 21yd.): BORDER BRIG, 6-11-13, 5-6 f, P. Craigs (R. Brevin), 9 ran.

Favourites: - - - 1.

4.25 —LITTLEBOY NOVICES' HURDLE, 2m. 176y. Penalty Value £529. (10 runners).

WEIGHTS RAISED 7lb.

1 312220 KELSO CHANT Wilkinson 6-12-3 (SF) A. Harrison 33

2 000000 BALLYGERASS Page 5-11-7 R. Page

4 400203 BITTER END W. A. Stephenson 6-11-7 (F) T. Stack 34

5 0-000000 CARAVINO Whitaker 5-11-7 S. Charlton

7 300-0-0 EVENING FLIGHT Harley 7-11-7 N. Tinker 31

8 0-000000 GARBALLY GIRL Leigh 5-11-7 T. Casey

14 000000 VALLEY OF ROCKS McCain 5-11-7 N. Tinker 30

16 0 MANTON CASTLE Camacho 4-10-8 P. Oldham

17 0001 MOOR CLOSE Palmer 4-10-3 (EW) M. Lantry 32