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HORSE RACING; Yankee Affair Captures The Man o' War by 5 1/2

By STEVEN CRIST

LEAD: Yankee Affair, who was beaten by just a length after a wide trip in the Arlington Million three weeks ago, found a soft Belmont Park turf course and a softer field to his liking yesterday and bounded away to a 5 1/2-length victory in the \$470,400 Man o' War Stakes.

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Yankee Affair, a 7-year-old New Jersey-based gelding, was close to Nediym's moderate early pace, circled the leader and Alwuhush on the stretch turn and drew away. My Big Boy outfinished Alwuhush by a head to be second, and it was another three lengths back to Nediym in fourth with Prince Ruffian fifth.

El Senor, the 7-5 favorite, trailed early and finished a distant sixth, beaten 15 lengths. Prince Daniel and Ninety Years Young completed the finish in that order, and Milesius was a late scratch. Trainer Baffled

"I don't have a clue," said Billy Wright, El Senor's trainer, about the favorite's dull effort. "I guess he didn't like the turf course at all. Either that or he woke up on the wrong side of bed."

Yankee Affair, trained by Henry Carroll and ridden by Jose Santos, paid \$8.20 for \$2 to win as the second choice and slogged through 11 furlongs of soft turf in 2:20.81, more than 9 seconds off the course record.

The victory, his fourth of the year and 19th in 44 career starts, raised his earnings to more than \$1.4 million for the Ju Ju Gen Stable, so named because the three principal owners refer to themselves as "two Jews and a Gentile."

The Man o' War was the first of five Grade I grass races around the country in the next six weeks that lead up to the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Turf on Nov. 4. Several of yesterday's contestants are likely to return in the next rich spot, the \$600,000 Turf Classic at Belmont on Oct. 7. PENN DERBY FOR NORQUESTOR

Norquestor, the lightly raced 3-year-old who won the \$300,000 Pegasus Handicap at the Meadowlands on Friday night, will make his next start in the Pennsylvania Derby at Philadelphia Park on Oct. 14. If he runs well there, he might try the nation's top horses in the Breeders' Cup Classic on Nov. 4.

Norquestor, a Conquistador Cielo-Linda North colt, won for the fourth time in five starts Friday night when he held off Rampart Road's late bid to win by a long neck with Fast Play a distant third. Julie Krone rode the winner. **STRONG FIELD OF FILLIES**

Two major races will be contested today, when the year's strongest field of fillies clashes in the Ruffian Handicap at Belmont and Sunday Silence begins his comeback in the Super Derby at Louisiana Downs.

In the Ruffian, at a mile and an eighth, the 3-year-old Open Mind will be bidding for her 11th consecutive victory while meeting the nation's two sharpest older fillies for the first time: Bayakoa, who won five stakes races in a row earlier this year, and Miss Brio, who won the Maskette at Belmont on Sept. 9. Nastique, Colonial Waters and Rose's Cantina complete a field of six fillies who have all won Grade I races this year.

In the Super Derby, Sunday Silence will be trying to bounce back from consecutive defeats in the Belmont and the Swaps while going a mile and a quarter in his first start since July 23. His opponents are Awe Inspiring, Dispersal, Le Voyageur, Bruho, Harmony Creek, Big Earl and Dale's Shotgun.

The Super Derby will be televised by ESPN on a tape delay between 6 and 7 P.M. **ANTLEY DUE BACK**

Chris Antley, who has been sidelined with an injured knee since a spill at Saratoga on Aug. 19, is expected to return to riding tomorrow. Antley and his longtime agent, Drew Mollica, announced yesterday they were ending their partnership. . . . Hialeah Park has denied stall space to all the New York stables that usually spend the winter there, including those trained by Woody Stephens and John Veitch. Hialeah is allocating all its stalls to the much cheaper horses who will race there during its seven-month meeting that begins Nov. 18. . . Several racing groups in Kentucky have filed suit to enjoin the state from implementing a lottery game next month based on the results of National Football League games. The racing groups contend that the point-spread-based game crosses the line between lotteries and parimutuel sports betting. . . . Peter Ferriola has been ordered to serve his long-delayed 120-day suspension, beginning Oct. 4. Aqueduct stewards suspended Ferriola in November 1987 for racing three horses on Lasix, a diuretic that is prohibited in New York.