

Pimlico – 2006

## Thirty-Four Horses Test Negative for EHV-1 in Laurel Park Barn

**LAUREL, MD. 03-02-06**---The Maryland Department of Agriculture will lift the “General Animal Hold Order” on Barn 9 at Laurel Park Friday morning after 34 of the 36 horses in the barn tested negative for equine herpesvirus (EHV-1) on blood sample and nasal swab tests. A filly stabled in the barn was euthanized January 26.

Rodney Jenkins, who conditions all the horses stabled in Barn 9, has elected to relocate the two horses which did not clear the testing process in an isolated barn on the grandstand side of the Bowie Training Center, pending negative test results. The remaining horses in the Jenkins barn will resume normal activities and are eligible to race Wednesday, March 8.

Meanwhile at Pimlico Race Course, four of the six horses in the Detention Barn tested negative for the virus in both blood samples and nasal swab tests and have been moved back to their original barns to resume normal activities. The two which did not clear are not showing symptoms of EHV-1 but are prohibited from mixing with the general horse population until they test negative.

Last month, the Department Of Agriculture lifted the Hold Orders on Barns 5, 6 and A at Pimlico while the Maryland Jockey Club lifted its self-imposed quarantine, allowing horses from the legendary Baltimore track to compete at Laurel. Three horses from three different Pimlico barns were euthanized in January. The last clinical case of the virus at Pimlico happened January 19.

There have been no outbreaks at the Bowie where approximately 600 horses are stabled.

Equine herpesvirus causes upper respiratory infection and can also cause neurological disease. There is currently no known method to reliably prevent the neurologic form of EHV-1 infection.

## Pimlico Spring Stakes Schedule Worth Nearly \$4.5 Million



Pimlico's spring meet will break from the gate on Thursday, April 20th.  
(Photo by Jim McCue)

**BALTIMORE 03-03-06**---The Maryland Jockey Club unveiled the 2006 Pimlico spring stakes schedule after reaching agreements with both the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and Maryland Horse Breeders Association.

The headline event of the eight-week stand that begins Thursday, April 20 is the 131st running of the \$1 million Preakness Stakes® (Grade I), the middle jewel of the famed Triple Crown, on May 20. The 31-day meeting at the historic Baltimore track will conclude Saturday, June 10, pending approval by the Maryland Racing Commission.

The marquee meet of the Maryland racing season will feature 27 stakes races for purses of \$4.455 million. Purses for thirteen races were increased from a year ago, while just one was decreased. Fourteen of the added-money races, including all 10 of the graded stakes for the meet, are slated for Preakness week, including nine on Preakness Day.

“Springtime in Maryland is always an exciting time,” said Lou Raffetto, Maryland Jockey Club President and Chief Operating Officer. “We believe that it will be even more appealing this year as a result of the nature of the program and increases in the stakes.”

The Grade I Pimlico Special tops the May 19 card that features four other stakes races. The Special's \$500,000 purse helps make the day the third biggest on the Maryland racing calendar.

The opening Saturday of the spring stand (April 22) includes five six-figure stakes races and showcases Maryland-bred and Maryland-sired horses. Purses for the three Maryland Million/Maryland-bred races are now \$125,000, up \$25,000 from a year ago.

Other changes to the stakes schedule include:

- Changed name of Pimlico Breeders' Cup Distaff to Allaire duPont Breeders' Cup Distaff.
- Increased purses of five graded races including Black-Eyed Susan (\$200,000 to \$250,000), Dixie (\$200,000 to \$250,000) and Adena Stallions' Miss Preakness (\$100,000 to \$125,000). Pimlico has increased its share of the purses to both Allaire duPont Breeders' Cup Distaff and Maryland Breeders' Cup Sprint, from \$100,000 to \$125,000.
- Added Baltimore Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint to Preakness undercard (formerly Ben Cohen Stakes). Purse doubled to \$100,000.
- Moved Woodlawn Stakes from Preakness day to Kentucky Derby day. Purse was dropped from \$100,000 to \$75,000.
- Discontinued Deputed Testimony Stakes-opting for Shine Again Stakes for Maryland-bred fillies and mares.
- Added Hoover Stakes to spring schedule (previously run during Laurel winter stand).

The Pimlico racing office expects to card 10 races a day on Thursday, Friday and Sunday and have an 11-race program on Saturday. The May 19 and 20 cards will feature 13 races.

"The four day racing week will allow us to create a stronger racing program for our fans across the country," added Raffetto. "The increases in the stakes, particularly during Preakness week, will make it more desirable than ever for horsemen to come to Pimlico to support the best racing Maryland has to offer."

First post for 27 days of the meeting will be 1:10 p.m. with adjustments on Preakness (10:30 a.m.), Pimlico Special-Black-Eyed Susan (12:15 p.m.), Kentucky Derby (12:45 p.m.) and Belmont Stakes (12:45 p.m.) days.

Date	Track	Stakes	Grade	Conditions	Distance	Purse
22-Apr	Pimlico	Jim McKay Breeders' Cup Handicap		3 & UP	1 1/8 mile	200,000
22-Apr		Tesio		3 YO	1 1/8 mile	150,000
22-Apr		Maryland Stallion Station		3 YO	6 furlongs	125,000
22-Apr		Country Life Farm		3 YO Fillies	1 1/16 mile	125,000
22-Apr		Northview Stallion Station		F& M 3 & UP	1 1/8 mile	125,000
23-Apr		Hoover		3 & UP	6 furlongs	75,000
29-Apr		Henry Clark		3 & UP	1 mile (T)	85,000
30-Apr		Xtra Heat		3 YO Fillies	5 furlongs	60,000
6-May		Woodlawn		3 YO	1 1/16 mile (T)	75,000
13-May		Hilltop Breeders' Cup		3 YO Fillies	1 1/16 mile (T)	85,000
19-May		Pimlico Special	I	3 & UP	1 3/16 mile	500,000
19-May		Black-Eyed Susan	II	3 YO Fillies	1 1/8 mile	250,000
19-May		Allaire duPont Breeders' Cup Distaff	III	F& M 3 & UP	1 1/16 mile	200,000
19-May		Adena Stallions' Miss Preakness	III	3 YO Fillies	6 furlongs	125,000
19-May		The Very One		F& M 3 & UP	5 furlongs (T)	75,000
20-May		Preakness	I	3 YO	1 3/16 mile	1,000,000
20-May		Dixie	II	3 & UP	1 1/8 mile (T)	250,000
20-May		Maryland Breeders' Cup Sprint	III	3 & UP	6 furlongs	200,000
20-May		William Donald Schaefer	III	3 & UP	1 1/8 mile	100,000
20-May		Gallorette	III	F&M 3 & UP	1 1/16 mile (T)	100,000

20-May	Hirsch Jacobs	III	3 YO	6 furlongs	100,000
20-May	Sir Barton		3 YO	1 1/16 mile	100,000
20-May	Baltimore Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint		3 & UP	5 furlongs (T)	100,000
20-May	Murmur Farm Starter		3 & UP	1 1/16 mile	50,000
27-May	Shine Again		F& M 3 & UP (MD-breds)	1 1/16 mile	50,000
3-Jun	Pearl Necklace		3 YO Fillies (MD-breds)	1 1/16 mile (T)	75,000
10-Jun	Skipat		F& M 3 & UP	6 furlongs	75,000

## Final Four Horses Test Negative for Equine Herpesvirus

**LAUREL, MD. 03-08-06**---The Maryland Department of Agriculture has lifted the "General Animal Hold Orders" on the Detention Barn at Pimlico Race Course and an isolated barn at the Bowie Training Center after the final four horses in those barns tested negative for equine herpesvirus (EHV-1) on nested PCR tests. The four are free to be moved back to their original barns to resume normal activities.

"These negative tests bring this EHV-1 outbreak to official closure in Maryland as all hold orders have been lifted and there are no reported neurologic signs of the virus anywhere in the state," said State Veterinarian Guy Hohenhaus. "This is good news for all of Maryland's horse owners and related businesses. We thank all parties involved for their patience and diligence in stopping the spread of the virus. While this event is now over, we remind all horse owners that a robust vaccination program is important and to consult with their private veterinarian on which vaccines are most appropriate for a particular horse and its activities."

EHV-1, which causes upper respiratory infection and can also cause neurological disease, hit Pimlico Race Course in January as three different horses from three separate barns at the legendary Baltimore track were euthanized. The Maryland Jockey Club placed Pimlico on quarantine for an 18-day period, restricting movement to and from the facility for the 500 horses based there. Two horses still had not cleared the testing process as of last week and were prohibited from mixing with the general horse population. After more than two months of quarantine and isolation, all horses in the affected barns have tested negative.

At Laurel Park, where 900 horses are stabled, Barn 9 was on a Hold Order for more than a month after a filly was euthanized January 26. Last Thursday, after five weeks of quarantine, 34 of the 36 horses based in the barn cleared the testing process. Trainer Rodney Jenkins relocated the other two to the Bowie Training Center until they tested negative. Negative results on those two were returned today.

There have been no outbreaks at Bowie where approximately 600 horses are stabled.

The virus caused Maryland Jockey Club officials to cancel three days of live racing and the 2006 runnings of the Grade II Barbara Fritchie Breeders' Cup Handicap and the Grade II General George Breeders' Cup Handicap, the marquee races of the Laurel Park winter meeting because of the situation in the state which has caused restrictions on movement of horses into Maryland.

"It has been a two-month process, one in which we learned a great deal about this virus," said Lou Raffetto, Maryland Jockey Club President and Chief Operating Officer. "We hope this knowledge will help us in the future should they occur. We are relieved to have the situation behind us. I would think this would act as a catalyst to open the borders of the surrounding states but those decisions will have to be made by the veterinarian in those jurisdictions. There is a great deal of uncertainty out there as it relates to the equine herpesvirus. The protocol about how to handle the virus seems to change from year-to-year as more is learned and we hope our situation helps to improve the understanding of EHV-1. Guy Hohenhaus and his staff have been outstanding. They have dealt with very tough questions in a professional manner. I would have to give them a 10 on a scale of 1-10 for cooperation."