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EASY VICTORY FOR SANDY'S SURPRISE (\$7.40) IN FRIDAY FEATURE

CYPRESS, Calif. – Making her second start after a layoff of more than six months, Sandy's Surprise toyed with four opponents in the \$46,000 feature Friday at Los Alamitos.

Trained by Doug O'Neill for STD Racing Stable, John Fuller and Neil Haymes, the 3-year-old Drosselmeyer filly tracked the pace from the outside, took over early in the stretch and was geared down late by jockey Mario Gutierrez en route to a one length victory.

Out of the More Than Ready mare Sandi's Ready, Sandy's Surprise completed the mile in 1:35.76 for her second win in eight attempts. The \$27,600 payday increased her bankroll to \$103,570 and she returned \$7.40, \$4.40 and \$2.80 as the 5-2 second choice.

This was the initial start at Los Alamitos for Sandy's Surprise since she finished sixth in the Grade I Starlet last Dec. 10.

In her first race on dirt, La Force, the longest shot in the quintet at 6-1, paid \$7.40 and \$2.80 while finishing 11 ¾ lengths in front of 2-1 favorite That's a Lady. The show price on That's Lady was \$2.20.

Rosie My Rosie and Online Request completed the order of finish. What a Ten was scratched.

The start of Friday's program was delayed 20 minutes due to technical issues regarding the transmission of the satellite signal.

Racing resumes Saturday at Los Alamitos. Post time is 2 p.m.

The main event on the program is the \$100,000 Barretts Debutante. Restricted to 2-year-old fillies offered for purchase at any Barretts sale, the Debutante will be run at 6 ½ furlongs and is the eighth of nine races. Scheduled post time is 5:28 p.m.

Ismelucky, who broke her maiden by 2 ½ lengths May 18, is the 2-1 morning line favorite. The daughter of Lucky Pulpit, who is owned by Jerome Russell and trainer Jeff Bonde, will break from the inside in the field of nine and will be ridden by Hall of Famer Kent Desormeaux.

Los Alamitos will also offer three seats to the National Thoroughbred Racing Association National Handicapping Championship in Las Vegas with a live money contest Saturday.

The cost to enter the Los Alamitos Fall qualifier is \$400. Of that amount, \$100 will be placed in the contest prize pool with the remaining funds going towards a live-money wagering card.

Contestants must enter prior to post time for the first race. Players can begin entering the contest once track gates open at 9:30 a.m.

Tournament races will include the entire card at Los Alamitos. Permitted wagers are win, place, show and exactas. Each entry must bet at least \$50 on six races, but there is no wagering limit.

The player with the highest bankroll at the end of the day will be declared the winner and the player with the second highest bankroll will be the runner-up.

The winner will receive 50% of the prize pool, which will be capped at \$10,000. The remaining payoffs: 20% (2nd place), 15% (3rd place), 10% (4th place) and 5% (5th place).