

# THE MORNING LINE

Thursday, April 23, 2009

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*All the Polo News that's Fit to Run*

Editor & Publisher: Frederic Roy • phone: 561 753 8882 • fax: 561 793 6835 • [polo@themorningline.com](mailto:polo@themorningline.com) • © 2009 Trophy Inc. all rights reserved

## U.S. OPEN POLO CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIFINALS & HALL OF FAME FINAL



Where, in this wide world,  
Can man find nobility without pride,  
Friendship without envy,  
Or beauty without vanity?

Here, where grace is laced with muscle,  
And strength by gentleness confined.  
He serves without servility.  
He has fought without enmity.

There is nothing so powerful,  
Nothing less violent.  
There is nothing so quick,  
Nothing more patient.

The world's past has been borne on his back,  
All our history is his industry.  
We are his heirs,  
He our inheritance.

Ladies and gentleman,

**The Horse.**

*This "Tribute to the Horse," attributed to Ronald Duncan, was read at the Horse of the year show in New Zealand, at the Horse of the year show in the UK and various race meets. It was sent to the Morning Line by Kim McCall. Photo by David Lominska.*





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**INTERNATIONAL POLO PALM BEACH****2009 U.S. OPEN Polo Championship**

8 Teams - 26 Goal - April 3 - 26, 2009 - International Polo Club Palm Beach

**Bracket I**

Victor Vargas 1	<b>LECHUZA</b>
Guillermo Caset Jr. 8	
Juan Martin Nero 10	Withdrew
Nicolas Espain 7	
26	
Frederick Mannix 6	<b>BLACK WATCH 0-2</b>
Nacho Figueras 6	
Sugar Erskine 7	Lost to Las Monjitas
Luis Escobar 7	Lost to White Birch
26	
Camilo Bautista 0	<b>LAS MONJITAS 2-0</b>
Adam Snow 8	
Eduardo Astrada 9	Def. Black Watch
Nacho Astrada 9	9-7
26	Def. White Birch
Pancho Bensadon 8	8-7
Jeff Blake 6	<b>WHITE BIRCH 1-1</b>
Mariano Aguerre 10	
Peter Brant 2*	Def. Black Watch
*Rob Stenzel 2 26	15-14 OT
	Lost to Las Monjitas

**Bracket II**

Marc Ganzl 1	<b>AUDI 3-0</b>
Nicolas Pieres 6	
Gonzalito Pieres 9	Def. Zacara 15-8
Facundo Pieres 10	Def. Orchard Hill 10-8
26	Def. Pony Express 11-8
Lyndon Lea 1	<b>ZACARA 1-2</b>
Magoo LaPrida 8	
Carlos Gracida 8	Lost to Audi
Jeff Hall 8	Lost to Pony Express
26	Def. Orchard Hill 13-11
Steve van Andel 0	<b>ORCHARD HILL 1-2</b>
Hector Galindo 7	
Lucas Criado 9	Def. Pony Express 13-10
Pablo MacDonough 10	Lost to Audi
26	Lost to Zacara
Bob Daniels 0	<b>PONY EXPRESS 1-2</b>
Pelon Stirling 9	
Nicolas Roldan 8	Lost to Orchard Hill
Matias Magrini 9	Def. Zacara 12-10
26	Lost to Audi

**2009 Hall of Fame Cup**

2 Teams - 26 Goal - April 23, 2009

International Polo Club Palm Beach

tba 6	<b>BLACK WATCH</b>
Nacho Figueras 6	
Sugar Erskine 7	Final scheduled for
Luis Escobar 7	Thurs 23
26	11 am, field #3
Bob Daniels 0	<b>PONY EXPRESS</b>
Pelon Stirling 9	
Nicolas Roldan 8	
Matias Magrini 9	
26	

**LAS MONJITAS**

1st Bracket I

Semifinal  
Thurs 23  
1 pm  
field #5**ORCHARD HILL**

2nd Bracket II

Final  
Sun 26  
3 pm**AUDI**

1st Bracket II

Semifinal  
Thurs 23  
5 pm  
field #1**WHITE BIRCH**

2nd Bracket I

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**LAS PALMAS****April Invitational**

4 Teams - 8 Goal - April 25-26, 2009

Las Palmas Polo Club

Javier Guerra Jr -1	<b>QUANTEK</b>
Javier Guerra 1	
Juan Ghirlanda 3	
Francisco Ayala 4	
7	
Wesley Finlayson -1	<b>EL SUR</b>
Tito Robledo 2	
Roberto Narvaja 1	
Carlucho Arellano 5	
7	
Scott Swerdlin 0	<b>TONCHALA</b>
Eduardo Barco 1	
Pablo Pulido 3	
Caco Basualdo 4	
8	
Luis Alberto Guerra 0	<b>BULLTICK</b>
Miguel Torres 4	
Juan Velardi 4	
Omar Treviño 0	
8	

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Match  
 Sat 25  
 10 am  
 at Las Palmas

Final  
 Sun 26  
 Noon  
 at Las Palmas

Match  
 Sat 25  
 Noon  
 at Las Palmas



***You are invited to join us for a festive evening  
to benefit the **Polo Training Foundation**  
at the Coppola barn.***

***Tasty cuisine and beverages will be served.***

***Live music by **Whiskey Creek.*****

**Time & Place:** Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, 7:30 pm at Coppola barn  
located on 13281 South 57<sup>th</sup> St. Please RSVP 561-371-2250.

**Donations :** *Donations accepted at the door.*

**To Benefit :** The Polo Training Foundation, a charitable 501C3  
foundation that promotes the growth of polo by supporting training programs for  
players and umpires of all levels and ages. The PTF offers the following:

Junior Polo Grants	Instructors' Seminars
Club Development	Brushy Creek Polo Camp
Umpire Clinics	Umpire Certifications
Junior Advisory Funds	I/I Programs
Adult Player Clinics	Junior Player Clinics

**Directions to Barbeque**



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# OUR BLACK SUNDAY

## A TRIBUTE BY SAM MORTON

“Nothing really prepares you for what happened Sunday; the horror of over twenty horses dropping at our biggest polo tournament of the year. Young athletes cut down in their prime. It is our Black Sunday or 9/11 in polo. There are lots of rumors running around which doesn't really change the end result. Lots of horsemen who happened to be there scrambled over to help but there was nothing they could do. One witness told me it looked like there were twenty people around each horse trying to do something, anything.

“People who work behind the scenes in polo learn to work fast. We pride ourselves on it. Horses are tacked up, stripped, and washed in minutes. At the U.S. Open Sunday, and at any Florida function all winter, there are people from all over the world in the polo community. For over an hour, South Africans, Argentines, French, Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Brazilians, Costa Ricans, Cubans, and several other countries, worked shoulder to shoulder with the best horse vets in the world to save lives. They were scrambling as one, at a moment's notice. I can tell you no one could have worked faster in any sport, equestrian or human, and for that I am extremely proud to be part of it. The polo team, Isla Carol mounted a substitute team in little over an hour. I'm not sure people realize what went into that.

“Grooms, sponsors, vets, players, photographers and spectators are all bonded by a passion for horses. It's who we are as a community. The last time we were brought together was the herpes virus scare a few years back. I sat in a room and looked at

pros, blacksmiths, grooms, vets, owners and fans of polo that pulled together for the love of our horses and I think it was probably the first time I truly thought about being part of a community. I was proud then and I am proud now.

“In Plains Indian society, less than two hundred years ago, it was believed that when a man dies, his horse would accompany him in the next life. That's how much horses were deeply involved in their life, and in a way they are that much a part of our lives in polo. I can tell you every polo player, groom, owner, trainer and fan of the game feels the pain right now. We are deeply hurt and saddened as a people over the loss of our horses. To Lechuza we send our condolences.

“God bless the souls of our horses that run with the angels now.

“Gotta go.”

*“My horse fights with me and fasts with me because if he is to carry me into battle, he must know my heart and I must know his or we shall never become brothers. I have been told that the white man who is almost a god, and yet a great fool, does not believe the horse has a soul. This cannot be true. I have many times seen my horse's soul in his eyes.*

*-Plenty Coups Chief of the Crow”*

Sam Morton

*Sam Morton is a horseman, the author of the book “Where the Rivers Run North” published in 2007. He has been a practicing Equine Dentist for more than 25 years and he splits his time between Big Horn, WY. and Wellington, FL.*



ph David Lominska [www.polographics.com](http://www.polographics.com)

## Crossing the river

3 Haiku by David Lominska

Tentative steps  
to the water's edge, the mare  
shows the herd the way.

One by one, the herd,  
in search of greener pastures,  
crosses the river.

On the other side,  
their journey ended, they find  
water, shade and rest.

Please turn to page 7

*Our Condolences to Victor Vargas and his family, Juan Martin Nero, Guillermo Caset Jr., Nicolas Espain, team managers Esteban Scott and Roberto Gonzalez, the great team of grooms and the whole supporting group of Lechuza Caracas.*

*Frederic Roy*



# MIAMI BEACH POLO RETURNS



**MIAMI BEACH POLO WORLD CUP V**  
Come Watch Nacho Figueras, premier Argentine Polo player and face of Ralph Lauren

EVENT SCHEDULE	
<b>Thursday, April 30, 2009</b> 1:00 PM - Gates Open 1:30 PM - South Beach Women's Polo Cup 7:30 PM - Press Conference (Guests Only) 10:30 AM - Official After Party, Lounge at Gainsborough	<b>Saturday, May 2, 2009</b> 1:00 PM - Gates Open 2:30 PM - Polo Match Play 7:30 PM - Cocktail Party (Guests Only) 10:30 AM - Official After Party, Set Nightclub
<b>Friday, May 1, 2009</b> 1:00 PM - Parade on the Beach 2:30 PM - Polo Match Play 7:00 PM - Cocktail Party (Guests Only) 9:00 PM - Player Dinner (Guests Only) 10:30 AM - Official After Party, Lounge at Gainsborough	<b>Sunday, May 3, 2009</b> 1:00 PM - Gates Open 2:30 PM - Polo Match Play 5:30 PM - Trophy Presentation 6:45 PM - Polo Raffle, Polo Test 10:30 AM - Official After Party, Set Nightclub

For More Information or Tickets, Call (305) 530-3003 or visit [www.miamiipolo.com](http://www.miamiipolo.com).



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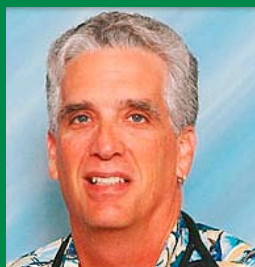
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## PLAYERS CLUB

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### "Letter to the Editor" from Gonzalo Avendaño.

"There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man" - Sir Winston Churchill

Today, more than ever before in my life, I understand what Churchill meant when he said this famous words.

The emptiness feeling left after the tragedy I witnessed last Sunday will never be forgotten. I will carry those scenes the rest of my life and will change my relationship with this beloved animals.

For polo players, grooms, vets, wives, kids and the rest of the members of the teams, our horses are an indivisible part of us, we ride them, we take care of them, we love them, we think more on them that in the game itself. The satisfaction of a good horse who performs well at any given time is something that I cannot describe with words. Part of me left with them on Sunday too.

Today, I am a member of the Lechuza-Carcas team and I grieve their loss, our loss, and I send them my deepest condolences.

Specially, because I know that right now they might feel under attack by sectors of the press that are taking advantage of our tragedy, and are making all kind of false accusations to create controversy and profit for them. The press has all the rights in the world to cover this tragedy but some accusations that have been made are unacceptable and untrue. They should wait until the results of the investigations are ready to reach to a conclusion. Then inform. We have the right to know too.

Time will tell what happened and hopefully we will all learn how to avoid this happening again, but I can assure to anybody that want to hear that we, polo people, at least the vast majority that I know, are horse loving people and would never do anything to harm them.

Again, my condolences and support for the great Lechuza-Carcas Team that has lost it all. All, except the spirit and energy to start over and come back again next year. I am sure they will, we will be waiting for you and count with our help and support to make it happened.

To the horses that left us: I'll see you in heaven. I am sure that there is polo in heaven and we will have a great time there for ever."

Sincerely,  
Gonzalo Avendaño  
Patagones Polo Team



ph David Lominska [www.polographics.com](http://www.polographics.com)



## 2009 US Open APHA Registered Horses

### LAS MONJITAS



#### AMY

Played by Adam Snow

### ORCHARD HILL



#### SLOANE

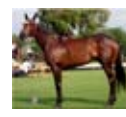
Played by Steve Van Andel

### AUDI



#### CLASSICA

Played by Marc Ganzi



#### QUEBELLA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### AMANTI

Played by Marc Ganzi



#### GAMBETA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### NAFTALINA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### POMELO

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### CAPERUSITA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### AUTOPISTA

Played by Nicolas Pieres



#### NIKITA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### CLEOPATRA

Played by Nicolas Pieres



#### ANTORCHA

Played by Gonzalito Pieres



#### CHISMOSA

Played by Facundo Pieres

### WHITE BIRCH



#### CERREJA

Peter Brant



#### CALIFA

Played by Mariano Aguerre



#### RUMBA

Played by Peter Brant



#### CRIOLLITA

Played by Mariano Aguerre



#### GEMELA

Played by Peter Brant



#### SABINA

Played by Mariano Aguerre



#### VERSACE

Played by Francisco Bensadon



#### PJ HOP

Played by Jeff Blake



#### JACK

Played by Jeff Blake



#### ZIGGY

Played by Rob Stenzil



#### MARY

Played by Jeff Blake

\*Horses' full profiles are viewable online at [americanpolohorse.com](http://americanpolohorse.com)



# HOBE SOUND POLO CLUB



**H**obe Sound Polo Club is located on the South end of Martin County, 15 minutes North of the PGA-Jupiter area and 25 minutes from Palm Beach. It is within 20 minutes of the two other first class polo Clubs built in the last 2 years on the East West corridor of Port St. River that joins the Atlantic Ocean to Lake Okeechobee: Port Mayaca and Sunlight Ranch.

The Polo Club is a mile from I-95 and five minutes from the Ocean in a land area that has been very well protected by Martin County, see the Conservation Land Map below.

When the property received its final approval by the County, it also became

permitted for all and each of the lot buyers, which for example allowed Mike Price to have his barn and landscape ready for season last December in a matter of a few short months.

Bob Whitley and Tucker Frederickson who are developing the property in partnership with Rockwood Capital Corporation are the developers of the acclaimed Bear's Club and Ritz Carlton Golf Club & Spa, both located in Jupiter, Florida, and it is not surprising that Farm Credit of South Florida, ACA is now offering very attractive terms for new buyers of 20-acre lots. For more information call Bill Bliss, Director of Sales, at 772.546.2020, email [bill@hspolo.com](mailto:bill@hspolo.com)



Hobe Sound Polo Club hosted Junior Polo every Saturday morning in April.





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## PORT MAYACA POLO CLUB

### TO HOST MAY DAY DRIVING EVENT IN HONOR of NATIONAL CARRIAGE AND DRIVING MONTH

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gian Drafts, to more traditional Morgan's of the horse and buggy days, to the sporty fast Welsh, the Inaugural Port Mayaca Plantation May-Day Horse Driving Trial will be an eye-opener for those not familiar with this sport. The gate is open at 9 AM **Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3rd.** Admission is Free. For further information please e-mail Bettina Scherer: [bascher@bellsouth.net](mailto:bascher@bellsouth.net), or call 561-301-9548.



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