

The Perfect Trip

Blood-Horse Magazine is pleased to present this week's nominees for the third annual **Perfect Trip Award presented by Sentient Jet**.



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Wickedly Perfect 2010 Darley Alcibiades S.
Keeneland, KY | Owned: STD Racing Stable, Peter Moehrke, Rafter JR Ranch
Trainer: Doug O'Neill | Breeder: Y-Lo Racing Stables

With Rafael Bejarano in the irons, Wickedly Perfect took advantage of a soft pace, as she took her six 2-year-old rivals wire-to-wire for a two-length victory. It was the third win in four lifetime starts for the gray/roan filly.



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Wise Dan 2010 Phoenix S.
Keeneland, KY | Owned: Morton Fink
Trainer: Charles Lopresti | Breeder: Morton Fink

Despite facing a talented lineup with more experience, Wise Dan handled his stakes debut in fine fashion, saving ground under Rafael Bejarano until angling out for a determined stretch drive en route to a half-length victory on the Keeneland Polytrack.



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Uncle Mo 2010 Champagne S.
Belmont Park, NY | Owned: Repole Stable
Trainer: Todd Pletcher | Breeder: D. Michael Cavey

All eyes were on the highly-touted juvenile Oct. 9 at Belmont Park. Uncle Mo handled early pressure through a quick opening-mile, edged clear nearing the quarter-pole, and scooted home for an impressive 4¾-length score under John Velazquez.



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J. B.'s Thunder 2010 Dixiana Breeders' Futurity
Keeneland, KY | Owned: Columbine Stable
Trainer: Al Stall Jr. | Breeder: Coffeepot Stable

The 2-year-old colt broke sharply and led at every call in his stakes debut Oct. 9 at Keeneland, taking a full field of juveniles all the way in a four-length romp under Shaun Bridgmohan to remain undefeated in two starts.



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Proviso 2010 Abu Dhabi First Lady S.
Keeneland, KY | Owned: Juddmonte Farms
Trainer: Bill Mott | Breeder: Juddmonte Farms

Unleashing a powerful move at the top of the lane, Proviso rallied from off the pace and reeled in the leaders in deep stretch for a thrilling half-length triumph on the Keeneland turf. It was the fourth consecutive grade I score for the 5-year-old mare.



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Gio Ponti 2010 Shadwell Turf Mile S.
Keeneland, KY | Owned: Castleton Lyons
Trainer: Christophe Clement | Breeder: Kilboy Estate

After being caught at the wire three times this season, champion Gio Ponti turned the tables at Keeneland, skillfully splitting horses in deep stretch before winning by a length with Ramon Dominguez aboard.



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Dubai Majesty 2010 Thoroughbred Club of America S.
Keeneland, KY | Owned: Martin Racing Stable & Dan Martin
Trainer: Bret Calhoun | Breeder: Harold J. Plumley

Sitting a perfect three-wide stalking trip under Jamie Theriot, Dubai Majesty wore down longshot Old Time Religion in deep stretch to post a narrow victory in the sprint for fillies and mares.

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A Z Warrior 2010 Frizette S.
Belmont Park, NY | Owned: Zayat Stables
Trainer: Bob Baffert | Breeder: Zayat Stables

Facing a top field of juvenile fillies, A Z Warrior proved much the best, as she tracked the pacesetter for five furlongs under Alan Garcia before taking over and easily pulling clear for her first stakes win Oct. 9 at Belmont Park.

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Liberian Freighter 2010 Oak Tree Mile S.
Oak Tree at Hollywood Park, CA | Owned: King Edward Racing Stable, Shawn Dugan & Charles Winner
Trainer: Neil Drysdale | Breeder: King Edward Racing Stable

Sent off at 22-1 in a field of six, Liberian Freighter caught a pair of rivals in the final yards to win by a nose. It was the first graded stakes win for the 5-year-old gelding.

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Smiling Tiger 2010 Ancient Title S.
Oak Tree at Hollywood Park, CA | Owned: Alan Klein & Philip Lebherz
Trainer: Jeff Bonde | Breeder: Dr. Rodney Orr

Having tracked the pacesetter for five furlongs, Smiling Tiger caught his rival inside the eighth-pole and inched clear in the late stages to win by a half-length with Russell Baze in the irons.

This year's Perfect Trip Award will recognize a Breeders' Cup Challenge race winner from this season's North American races that best exemplifies a "Perfect Trip." The winner will be selected from a panel of racing experts and will have the opportunity to experience his or her own "Perfect Trip" through Sentient Jet, with complimentary round-trip private jet travel for six people to the 2010 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Churchill Downs. The Perfect Trip Award winner will be announced the week of November 1st, and the owner will be awarded the Perfect Trip trophy on ESPN during the Championships weekend.