



THOUGHTS ON BIG RED



"Secretariat was a hero for his age and the ages. No animal other than Lassie likely captured the hearts and minds of more Americans."
-Phil Hersh, writer for the Chicago Tribune (11)

"He was the only honest thing in the country at the time, this huge magnificent animal that wasn't tied up in scandal and money."
-George Plimpton, Sports Journalist (1)

"He's moving like a Tremendous Machine!"
-Chic Anderson, CBS sportscaster at the Belmont Stakes (1)

"He looked like a Rolls-Royce in a field of Volkswagens."
-Chick Lang, Pimlico general manager (12)

"The Derby confirmed what many of us secretly believed: Secretariat was the fastest and most powerful horse in the last half-century."
-Kate Chenery Tweedy, Secretariat's Meadow (1)

RAKING IN THE ACCOLADES

In 1973 Big Red was voted for the second year in a row, Horse of the Year. He also was voted Three Year Old Male champion. (8)

A COVER HORSE

The week of June 10th in 1973, Secretariat became the first athlete to appear on the cover of Time, Newsweek, and Sports Illustrated in the same week. (6)

1974
Inducted into the National Museum of Racing & Hall of Fame. (3)

OUT TO STUD
Secretariat sired 10% stakes winners, most notably Lady's Secret. In 1992 he was the leading broodmare sire. (3)

DEATH-
After battling laminitis, America's Super Horse was euthanized on October 4, 1989. (1)

BIG HEART
During an autopsy, Secretariat's heart weighed in at an estimated 21 lbs, 3x larger than an average thoroughbred's heart of 7 lbs. (1)

1973 BELMONT STAKES
Secretariat won the Belmont Stakes by a whopping 31 lengths. (13)

US POSTAGE STAMP
In 1999, Secretariat became the first thoroughbred to be featured on a United States Postage Stamp (10)

1973 KENTUCKY DERBY
Secretariat still holds the fastest Derby time in history at 1:59 2/5. Turns out, each quarter of a mile he ran faster than the previous! (13)

1973 PREAKNESS STAKES
Wins this second leg of the Triple Crown at a highly disputed time of 1:54 2/5. (13)

A LEGEND'S LEGACY...

A few of Secretariat's lifetime highlights

NOVEMBER 5, 2000
ESPN Series, Sports Century names Secretariat number 35 in the Top Fifty North American Athletes of the Twentieth Century. (2,9)

NAMING THE GREAT SECRETARIAT
Big Red was named after the United Nations Secretariat body that is headed by the Secretary-General. The word suggested leadership and power without referring to royalty. (1)

MARCH 1973
In March 1973, Secretariat was sold to a breeding syndicate for the then large sum of \$6.08 million thus becoming most expensive animal in history at the time. (1,5)

DISNEY'S™ SECRETARIAT
This full length feature film was released in the United States on October 8, 2010. The film starred acting greats Diane Lane & John Malkovich among others. (7)

1973 PREAKNESS STAKES, REVISITED
On June 19th 2012, Secretariat's preakness record was reviewed by the Maryland Racing Commission and was given a time of 1:53, beating the Preakness Stakes record of 1:53 2/5. With this new record, Secretariat now hold the record for the all three races in the Triple Crown. (4)



AND HE'S OFF...

A LEGACY WAS BORN
Secretariat was born on March 30, 1970, just past midnight. The foal was out of Somthingroyal & from Bold Ruler. Immediately he was noted for his size & good looks. (1)

MARCH 30th 1970

KENTUCKY DERBY MUSEUM SECRETARIAT

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

OPEN THIS SPRING SEE THE NEW SECRETARIAT EXHIBIT ON THE FIRST FLOOR

Sources
(1) Secretariat's Meadow: The Land, The Family, The Legend. (2) <http://espn.go.com/sportscentury/athletes.html> (3) <http://www.racingmuseum.org/hall-of-fame/horses-view.asp?varID=135>
(4) <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/20/sports/secretariat-awarded-prekness-record-39-years-later.html> (5) <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1005682/index.htm>
(6) http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/multimedia/photo_gallery/0806/triple.crown.winners/content.3.html (7) <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1028576/> (8) <http://www.tra-online.com/eclipse.html>
(9) <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0568358/> (10) <http://www.secretariat.com/> (11) http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1989-10-08/sports/8901210053_1_secretariat-helen-chenery-triple-crown
(12) <http://espn.go.com/classic/biography/s/Secretariat.html> (13) Kentucky Derby Museum