

# SUNFLASHES

## Breeders' Cup for the Bird

# Switchin' his ride

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The trainer of Kentucky Derby winner Mine That Bird says the horse will run next in the West Virginia Derby before eventually pointing to the Breeders' Cup Classic later this year.

**Chip Woolley** says Mine That Bird's next races will be the Grade II \$750,000 US race at Mountaineer Park on Aug. 1, then the Grade I \$1 million Travers at Saratoga, Fla., on Aug. 29.

From there, Woolley says, the course is uncharted, but the goal is the Nov. 7 Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita.

### Church to coach Canada

**CALGARY — Dan Church** will be behind the bench for Canada's women's under-18 team for the 2009-10 season, Hockey Canada announced.

Church's tenure begins with a three-game series versus the U.S. in late August, then the 2010 IIHF world women's under-18 championship next spring.

**Pierre Alain** and **Lisa Jordan** will serve as Church's assistants.

### Johansson retires

**STOCKHOLM —** Former Australian Open champion **Thomas Johansson** is quitting

## Thomson back in rear-wheel drive car

**DEAN McNULTY**  
Sun Media

**BOWMANVILLE —** Karl Thomson hasn't raced a rear-wheel drive car since, well, he can't remember exactly when. But he knows it has been a long, long time.

Thomson has five wins as a driver and team owner in the Grand AM KONI Challenge, all of them in front-wheel drive Acuras and the three Hondas his Compass360 Communications team currently fields.

In fact, his team sits second in points in that series.

So when officials of the Ford Racing Mustang Challenge Series offered up a ride in one of their big horsepower FR500S ponies at the Mosport High Octane Weekend, Thomson turned to a fellow Canadian who knows a little about driving those kinds of cars — Scott Maxwell.

Maxwell, a winner in just



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**Karl Thomson powers his No. 00 Mustang around the Mosport track yesterday in one minute, 33.475 seconds.**

So it was sort of a perfect teacher-student match.

Thomson said the first thing he wanted to know was how to react when the car got sideways.

Maxwell told him to do

his Toronto pal has to say. "(Scott) took the car out (yesterday) just for a few shake-down laps to give me some ideas on set-ups for the race (tomorrow)," Thomson said. "I told him he could

onds, good enough for fourth fastest in his first practice yesterday. The NASCAR Canadian Tire Series will be on Mosport's four-kilometre road course today for a qualifying session

patrick Racing Chevrolet, forcing Fitzpatrick to start from the rear of the grid tomorrow.

**Fellows to drive for Finch**  
Meanwhile, NASCAR Sprint Cup team owner **James Finch**