WRONG SIDE
OF THE TRACK
CRUSHED, REJECTED

By Janet Patton
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER

Almost six years ago, James “Junior” Sweeting was crushed under a 2000-pound filly, and he learned just how ruthless racing can be.

As he recuperated from severe injuries, Sweeting, 49, says he got little help from Keeneland, where he had been galloping the filly.

He got no help from the horse’s owner, he says, nor from the trainer.

Sweeting, who spent decades as a popular exercise rider known among top trainers for his way with horses, lost his nerves in the accident.

“I have no leg from the waist down,” Sweeting said Tuesday. “It all happened so fast.”

He lives in pain and walks in a slow shuffle, with barely enough energy to take him several steps before stopping to catch his breath.

Thousands of workers like Sweeting — exercise riders, grooms and hot walkers — accept injury as a part of life on the backsides of racetracks.

But few realize that they might be just one catastrophic accident away from losing everything — their health, their homes, their futures.

Some think that there’s a safety net waiting for them, whether it’s actual or imagined.

What bitterness he has is aimed at a $2 billion Army Depot. Plans had been galloping the filly.

At his apartment in Lexington, James “Junior” Sweeting said the horse industry abandoned him after he was severely injured.

Injury’s aftermath shows track workers’ vulnerability

的实际内容如下：

### Budget deficit expected to rise, hit $427 billion

By Edmund L. Andrews
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The White House announced yesterday that the federal budget deficit was expected to rise this year to $427 billion — a figure that includes a new request from President Bush to help pay for the war in Iraq.

The announcement marks the fourth year in a row in which the deficit has grown, as recently as July, the administration had predicted that the deficit would fall this year to $321 billion.

The deficit figure announced by the White House, which includes part of an estimated $600 billion that Bush requested for Iraq, was higher than the $358 billion estimate announced earlier in the day by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, but that figure did not include supplemental spending for the war in Iraq.

Neither estimate includes the costs of the war in Iraq and the re-building of Iraq and Afghanistan.

### Richmond votes against moving chemical weapons

By Peter Mathews
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER

RICHMOND — City com- missioners rejected a proposal to move chemical weapons stored at Blue Grass Army Depot.

The measure is aimed at the 322 tons of lethal, aging chemical weapons stored at Blue Grass Army Depot. Plan had called for them to be chemical- ly neutralized at a $2 billion plant to be built at the depot.

But the Pentagon, facing tight budgets because of actions in Iraq and Afghanistan, directed that other disposal methods be studied.

One of those alternatives would be to ship the weapons to Utah or Alabama to be incin- erated.

So Richmond, which stands between the depot and Interstate 75, is moving to keep the weapons off its roads and miles.

The commission will have to vote again on the matter.

City Attorney Garrett Granger told the commissioners that, although the law probably can’t be changed, it is “highly valuable as a symbolic gesture.”

Police Chief Robert Smo- yers acknowledged after the vote that it would be “hard” for my officers to stop an Army truck.

“We do what the govern- ment tells us to do,” he said. “But the commission has made it clear that they want to keep us from eating funding for the neutralization project.”

Federal law bars transports of those 322 tons of war- time chemical weapons to Utah or Alabama to be incin- erated.

### Independence Day rentals

The leading element of Bush’s domestic agenda. Estimates of the cost of creating those accounts range from $1 tril- lion to $2 trillion over the next 10 years.

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