



FRANKELS & DONEGAL RACING PARTNER ON KEEN ICE IN PEGASUS



Keen Ice | Sarah K. Andrew

GI Pegasus World Cup gate owners Jerry and Ronnie Frankel will partner with Jerry Crawford's Donegal Racing to race 2015 GI Travers S. hero **Keen Ice** (Curlin) in the inaugural running of the \$12-million test at Gulfstream Jan. 28, Donegal Racing announced Tuesday.

Trained by Todd Pletcher, the hulking bay ran third behind likely Pegasus favorites **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) and **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit) in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita Nov. 5 and most recently was runner-up to stablemate and possible Pegasus contender **Stanford** (Malibu Moon) in the GIII Harlan's Holiday S. at Gulfstream Park Dec. 17.

"Everyone knows that California Chrome and Arrogate are in a league by themselves, but we believed from day one that Keen Ice was the best 'other' horse available, and he has proven it in his last two races," said Jerry Frankel. "Of course, everyone thought that American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) was in a league by himself the day Keen Ice beat him in the Travers proving anything can happen."

Crawford added, "We are excited to partner up with the Frankels. Keen Ice could not be training better. We love the opportunity to run in the biggest race by purse in American racing history." *Cont. p3*

PEGASUS WORLD CUP MAY MOVE TO SANTA ANITA *By Bill Finley*

Already contemplating changes that could make future runnings of the \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup bigger and better, the Stronach Group is seriously considering moving the race to Santa Anita for the 2018 edition.

"Nothing has been confirmed, but, yes, there have been internal discussions about going to Santa Anita next year," said Mike Rogers, the Stronach Group's President of Racing. "The ultimate decision will be made by Frank and Belinda Stronach. While a beautiful facility, Gulfstream is a small facility and that has created challenges for us, challenges we are trying to work through. Santa Anita is a much bigger facility and many big events have been pulled off there." *Cont. p3*

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

OSCIETRA CROSS-ENTERED DOWN UNDER

Oscietra (Aus) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), the first foal from the undefeated Australian superstar Black Caviar (Aus) (Bel Esprit {Aus}), has been entered in a pair of 1000-metre juvenile races at Moonee Valley Dec. 31 and Flemington on New Year's Day. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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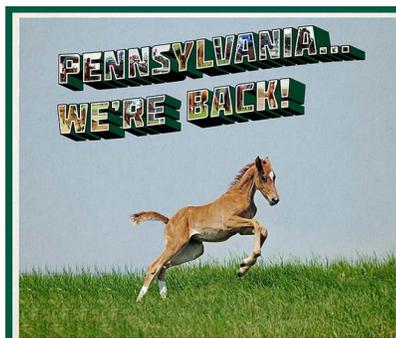


Juddmonte Farms' GI Breeders' Cup Classic hero **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) breezed a best-of-28 six furlongs in 1:12.20 at Santa Anita Tuesday under jockey Martin Garcia. The "**TDN Rising Star**" will run in Sunday's Gil San Pasqual S. in Arcadia as a prep for the \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Jan. 28. "He worked very easy and well like the machine that he is," remarked trainer Bob Baffert. "Looking forward to Sunday." | Gary Tasich

OPPENHEIM: THE SALES YEAR

5

Bill Oppenheim analyzes the 2016 sales year in its entirety, as well as the year's top sales sires.



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Frankels & Donegal Partner on Keen Ice in Pegasus cont.

Crawford continued, "Jerry and Ronnie really believe in this race and what it can do for horse racing, and we are glad to



Jerry Crawford | Horsephotos

provide them a quality horse to take a shot. Our partners are also very excited about the race and, as usual, scores of our partners and their guests will be on hand Jan. 28."

Pletcher was pleased by the announcement, commenting, "The Frankels and Donegal have put together a win-win arrangement and now one of the best horses in training is locked in."

The financial terms of the agreement are being kept confidential, but Brad

Weisbord of BSW Bloodstock assisted in the transaction.

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Pegasus World Cup May Move to Santa Anita cont. from p1

Rogers added that should the race move to Santa Anita, that does not mean the Southern California track will become its permanent home and that a Santa Anita-Gulfstream rotation is a possibility.



Mike Rogers | OwnerView

One downside of moving the Pegasus to Santa Anita is that the symbol of the race is the mammoth Pegasus statue at Gulfstream. It is 110 feet tall, 200 feet in length and 115 feet in width, and is the second biggest statue in the U.S., with only the Statue of Liberty being larger. It is far too big to be moved to Santa Anita, at least at any sort of reasonable cost. Rogers

believes the Pegasus and Stronach brands are strong enough that running the race some 2,300 miles removed from the statue won't be a major issue. **Cont. p4**

Maryland-bred Millionaires

There are two dozen of them, ranging from multiple G1 winner **URBANE** (Maryland-sired) all the way up to near \$10 million-earner and two time horse of the year **CIGAR**.

This Saturday's full card at Laurel Park includes five stakes, with past runnings won by many Maryland-breds. The \$100,000 Marylander was previously won by Maryland-bred, Maryland-sired millionaires **DAVE'S FRIEND** and **LITTLE BOLD JOHN**. The \$100,000 Dave's Friend is named after the first pure sprinter to earn over a million and arguably the best horse never to be honored with an Eclipse award.

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Pegasus World Cup May Move to Santa Anita cont.

“No matter where the race takes place, our branding is strong, Santa Anita and Gulfstream are both Stronach tracks and we think the race is going to develop a great reputation,” he said. “The race will still be branded the same way, even if it is in a different location.”

One complaint often heard about this year’s race is that it should be run at 1 1/4 miles instead of 1 1/8 miles because at Gulfstream horses breaking from outside posts in nine-furlong races are at a disadvantage. Rogers said that changing the distance to 10 furlongs is one of many things on the table.

“The stakeholders are becoming an integral part of the process,” Rogers said. “Right now, everybody is excited about this year’s race. After the race we are going to sit down as a group and talk about adjustments we can make that will make the race even better. That could include changing the distance. It’s great to see how engaged the stakeholders have become in the process. We’re trying to create a big event. It is

unfolding well and we hope that it will grow and that everyone will have a great experience this year. Afterward, we’re going to have a white board and look at ways of making it better. Nothing is off the table.”

Though the Pegasus is just one month away, the field is still far from certain as several stakeholders do not have horses that fit the race and have yet to make a deal with people owning top class horses that can take their slots. Yet, the Pegasus has attracted the top two horses in racing in **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit) and **Arrogate** (Unbridled’s Song). No matter who else may run, the presence of the “Big Two” all but ensures that the inaugural Pegasus will be a big hit.

“Without this race, we never would have seen a rematch between Arrogate and California Chrome,” Rogers said. “Just a little more than two months after they put on an incredible race in the [GI] Breeders’ Cup [Classic] they’re going to do it all over again. That

provides a very important milestone for this race and, I think, guarantees it will be a success.” **Cont. p5**



Likely Pegasus favorites **Arrogate (L)** & **California Chrome** | *Benoit*

Animal attraction

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Pegasus World Cup May Move to Santa Anita cont.

One thing the Stronach Group will continue to do is search for foreign horses to take part in the race. Not only does that add an international flare to the event, but it has the potential to open up important simulcasting markets across the globe. There will be at least one foreign starter this year as stakeholder Jim McIngvale



Eragon | HSI

has purchased **Eragon (Arg)** (Offlee Wild), a three time Group 1 inner in Argentina, to fill his spot.

Rogers said the connections of at least two other foreign horses have expressed interest in competing in the race. One is **Gun Pit (Aus)** (Dubawi {Ire}), who is Hong Kong's top dirt horse and is undefeated in seven dirt tries at home. He was also second in the G1 Maktoum Challenge Round 3 last year. The other is **Big Daddy (Chi)** (Grand Daddy), who is based in Chile. He is a three-time Group 1 winner.

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From the desk of...

BILL OPPENHEIM



THE SALES YEAR

Throughout the last six months of the North American and European auction sales season, the theme has been pretty much the same: the market struggled to match 2015 levels, and in fact finished up below 2015, though marginally. The graph and table of 'US And European Annual Sales' clearly show this biggest and most important part of the international Thoroughbred market made a \$300-million recovery (25%) from 2012 to 2013, having crashed by a massive 45% between 2007, when we tallied annual sales at \$1.942 billion, and 2010, when the market totaled just under \$1.07 billion. The 2013 recovery essentially gained back half the market losses from the 2008-09 crash, but there has been no further progress; in fact, since 2013, there have been 12% more horses catalogued, but the clearance rate from those catalogues has dropped from 67.1% in 2013 to 61.5% in 2016. Meanwhile the combined NA/EU annual auction gross, which was \$1.446-billion in 2013, edged up to \$1.533 billion in 2015, but dropped back to \$1.488 billion this year. So the market peaked at nearly \$2 billion in 2007; crashed to under \$1.1 billion in 2010; and recovered to around \$1.5 billion in 2013, where it has stayed since. **Cont. p6**

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1st dam

DREAMING OF ANNA. 10 wins, 2 to 4, \$2,024,550, champion 2yo filly, Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (gr. I), Summer S (Can-III), Pucker Up S (gr. IIIT), Hillsborough S (gr. IIIT), Early Times Mint Julep H (gr. IIIT), Endeavour S (gr. IIIT), Virginia Oaks, Tippett S, Double Delta S, 2nd Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup S (gr. IT), Churchill Distaff Turf Mile S (gr. IIIT), Gaily Gaily S, 3rd Old Hat S (gr. III). Dam of 3 foals—

FAST ANNA (Subject stallion).

All Her Class (by Street Cry). Placed at 2, \$21,121, 2nd Lisa M Stakes.

WITH HONORS. (War Front). At 2, two wins incl: \$158,145, Del Mar Juvenile Turf S, 2nd Chandelier S (gr. I)

DREAMOLOGIST. (Tapit). Winner at 3, and 4, \$203,710, La Cienegas S. (gr. III)

2nd dam

JUSTENUFFHEART. 8 wins, 2 to 5, \$373,229, Frances A. Genter H, Marie P. DeBartolo Oaks, 2nd Calder Oaks, 3rd The Very One H (gr. IIIT), Bayou Breeders' Cup H, Edgewood S, Hialeah Breeders' Cup H, Summertime Promise S, Althea S. Dam of 10 foals, including—

LEWIS MICHAEL. 7 wins, 2 to 5, \$811,714, Pat O'Brien H (gr. IIA), Washington Park H (gr. IIA), Grand Canyon H, 2nd Commonwealth Breeders' Cup S (gr. IIA), Peter Pan S (gr. II), Perryville S (gr. IIIA), Hanshin Cup H (gr. IIIA), 3rd Tropical Park Derby (gr. IIIT), St. Louis Derby. Sire.

JUSTENUFFHUMOR. 6 wins at 4, \$533,900, Bernard Baruch H (gr. IIT), Fourstardave H (gr. IIT), 3rd TVG Breeders' Cup Mile (gr. IT). Sire.

CROWNED HEART. Winner at 4, 2015, \$24,400.

JUSTENUFFTIME. Unraced. Dam of **CASSATT** (\$605,233, Monmouth Oaks, gr. III, Houston Ladies Classic S, Zia Park Oaks, Tiffany Lass S, to 4, 2015).

3rd dam

KITTEN'S FIRST. Winner at 2. Dam of 6 foals, incl.—

KITTEN'S JOY. 9 wins, 2 to 4, \$2,075,791, champion turf male, Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational S (gr. IT), Secretariat S (gr. IT), Firecracker Breeders' Cup H (gr. IIT), Virginia Derby (gr. IIIT), Crown Royal American Turf S (gr. IIIT), Palm Beach S (gr. IIIT), Tropical Park Derby (gr. IIIT), 2nd John Deere Breeders' Cup Turf (gr. IT), Arlington Million S (gr. IT), Jefferson Cup S (gr. IIIT). Sire, 1.86 AEI.

PRECIOUS KITTEN. 8 wins, 3 to 5, \$1,912,543, Matriarch S (gr. IT), John C. Mabee H (gr. IT), Gamely S (gr. IT), Palomar H (gr. IIT), Mrs. Revere S (gr. IIT), Gallorette H (gr. IIIT), Martha Washington Breeders' Cup S, 2nd Matriarch S (gr. IT), First Lady S (gr. IT) twice, CashCall Mile Invitational S (gr. IIT), Jenny Wiley S (gr. IIA), Valley View S (gr. IIIA), Honey Fox H (gr. IIIT), Heavenly Cause H, 3rd Regret S (gr. IIIT). Dam of **DIVINING ROD** (4 wins, 2 to 4, 2016, \$731,604, Coolmore Lexington S. [G3], 2nd Cigar Mile H. [G1], Hagyard Fayette S. [G2], Sam F. Davis S. [G3], 3rd Xpressbet.com Preakness S. [G1], Indiana Derby [G2], Tampa Bay Derby [G2], etc.)

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- Byron Rogers

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- Carrie Brogden

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- Craig Bendoroff

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- Matt Lyons



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Oppenheim cont.



Keeneland sales grounds | Keeneland photo

As we've noted, the NA/EU Thoroughbred auction market advance in 2013 was 25%, from \$1.15 billion in 2012 to \$1.446 billion in 2013. This paralleled the continuing recovery in the Dow-Jones Industrial Average, which advanced 26.5% in 2013, to close out the year at 16,576. Crucially, though, the Thoroughbred market since then has grown by only 3%, to \$1.488 billion, while the Dow Jones opened this week at 19,933--20% higher than at the end of 2013. The North American and

European Thoroughbred market is clearly not keeping pace with general economic growth, or at least with one of the most recognized market metrics.

A recent article by Michele MacDonald in the *Racing Post* (Friday, Dec. 23) reminds us that, at the same time the Thoroughbred market is failing to advance, there has been a decline in the number of foals produced in the U.S. and the three biggest European racing countries, since 2007, of 30%--from 48,225 foals born in the U.S., Ireland, Britain, and France in 2007, to 33,949 in 2015. So there has been a 30% reduction in supply, yet there is also a 23% reduction in gross. The average price for 28,549 horses sold in 2007 was \$68,038; in 2016, over 6,000 fewer horses sold--22,425, a decline of 21%--for an average of \$66,357, which is 2.5% below the 2007 average. The number catalogued in 2016 was 36,459, and the percentage of listed sales from those catalogued was 61.5%. In 2007 also 61.5% of those catalogued sold, but 10,000 more horses (46,444) were catalogued in 2007.

So, in nine years, following a crash and a partial recovery, 21% fewer horses were catalogued and sold, for 23% less money, and the average declined by 2.5%. It can only mean one thing: the number of 'end-user' owners has declined at least at the rate of the foal crop, if not more; otherwise prices would rise.

Cont. p7

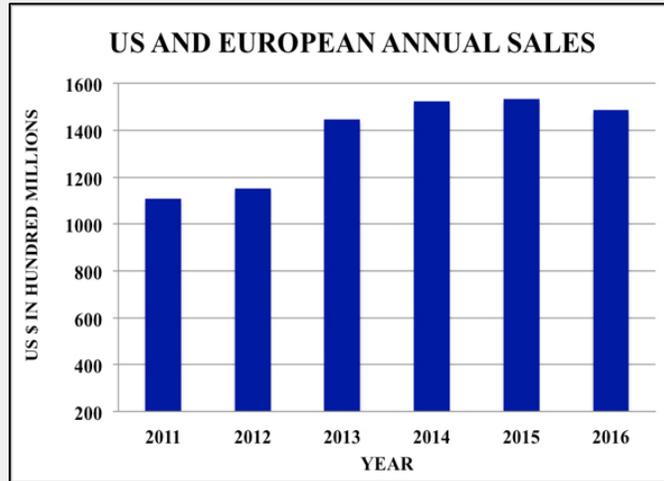
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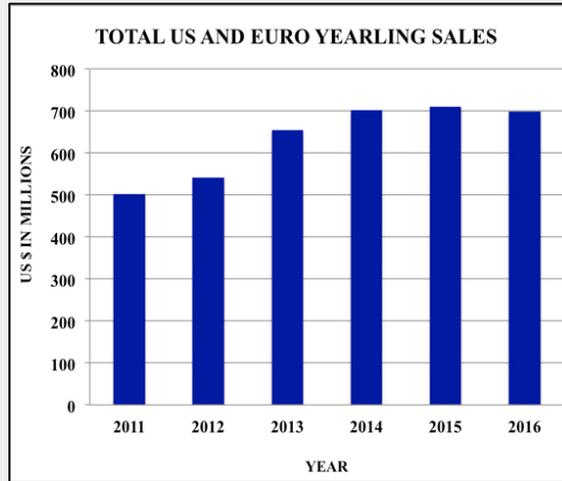
TOTAL US AND EUROPEAN ANNUAL SALES 2016

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2016	36,459	29,570	22,425	18.9%	75.8%	61.5%	\$ 1,488,053,906	\$ 66,357
2015	36,281	29,348	22,885	19.1%	78.0%	63.1%	\$ 1,533,302,132	\$ 67,000
2014	35,467	29,217	23,194	17.6%	79.4%	65.4%	\$ 1,526,198,823	\$ 65,801
2013	32,605	27,086	21,873	16.9%	80.8%	67.1%	\$ 1,446,067,997	\$ 66,112
2012	32,472	26,914	21,014	17.1%	78.1%	64.7%	\$ 1,150,595,033	\$ 54,754
2011	33,651	27,650	21,149	17.8%	76.5%	62.8%	\$ 1,109,214,025	\$ 52,448



TOTAL US AND EUROPEAN 2ND HALF BREEDING STOCK SALES

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2016	9,640	7,770	5,742	19.4%	73.9%	59.6%	\$ 425,393,688	\$ 74,085
2015	9,970	8,139	6,082	18.4%	74.7%	61.0%	\$ 444,398,743	\$ 73,068
2014	9,277	7,671	5,998	17.3%	78.2%	64.7%	\$ 443,652,496	\$ 73,967
2013	8,777	7,291	6,046	16.9%	82.9%	68.9%	\$ 476,568,645	\$ 78,824
2012	8,992	7,372	5,696	18.0%	77.3%	63.3%	\$ 341,048,705	\$ 59,875
2011	8,924	7,379	5,619	17.3%	76.1%	63.0%	\$ 375,515,842	\$ 66,830



TOTAL US AND EUROPEAN YEARLING SALES

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2016	13,870	12,072	9,100	13.0%	75.4%	65.6%	\$ 698,898,616	\$ 76,802
2015	13,503	11,473	9,145	15.0%	79.7%	67.7%	\$ 710,895,848	\$ 77,736
2014	13,332	11,720	9,316	12.1%	79.5%	69.9%	\$ 702,933,264	\$ 75,454
2013	12,565	11,149	9,112	11.3%	81.7%	72.5%	\$ 654,643,491	\$ 71,844
2012	12,345	10,958	8,633	11.2%	78.8%	69.9%	\$ 540,927,377	\$ 62,658
2011	13,189	11,455	8,908	13.1%	77.8%	67.5%	\$ 501,768,748	\$ 56,328



TOTAL US AND EUROPEAN BREEZE UP SALES

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2016	6,428	4,583	3,442	28.7%	75.1%	53.5%	\$ 243,506,573	\$ 70,746
2015	6,287	4,672	3,629	25.7%	77.7%	57.7%	\$ 261,430,510	\$ 72,039
2014	6,324	4,732	3,718	25.2%	78.6%	58.8%	\$ 240,494,700	\$ 64,684
2013	5,125	3,880	3,028	24.3%	78.0%	59.1%	\$ 198,282,180	\$ 65,483
2012	5,259	4,013	3,105	23.7%	77.4%	59.0%	\$ 168,136,503	\$ 54,150
2011	5,361	4,063	3,026	24.2%	74.5%	56.4%	\$ 147,604,211	\$ 48,779

Data compiled by Brianne Stanley

Click the links below for the following US and European sales charts:

[Annual Sales](#), [2nd Half Mixed Sales](#), [Yearling Sales](#), [2yo Sales](#) and [1st Half Mixed Sales](#)

Oppenheim cont.

The fact is that, even with a 30% decline in the foal crop, the North American and European markets are struggling to sustain values. Contrast that with Australia, which has also, according to statistics cited in MacDonald’s article, seen a 30% decline in its foal crop. According to figures produced for us last May by New Zealand’s Arion Pedigrees, the gross at the Australasian yearling sales has increased by 45% since 2013, from \$302-million in 2013 to \$436-million in 2016. The percentage sold from the catalogues has actually gone up by 6%, and last year stood at 76.4%--15% higher than in North America and Europe; and the average rose by a third between 2013 (A\$69,182) and 2016 (A\$93,108).

There are a number of metrics which suggest that the real growth in the Thoroughbred business internationally is in the East--Australasia and Asia. A lot of the younger people in the business believe this is the future, and the placement of bright young things in Australasia and Asia must be astronomical compared to North America and Europe. There isn’t a big secret about the big difference between the emerging East and the

possibly declining West--prize money. This is, of course a huge subject, and there are plenty of professionals who dispute whether prize money is such a critical incentive, citing the number of owners in Britain, who



Gold Coast | Magic Millions photo

basically have no chance of recouping their investment through prize money, which is why Britain is such a huge exporter of ‘used’ horses. People have to sell their horses for there to be any chance of the business paying for itself, plus the horses are good; the Australians may hold their own in producing world-class sprinters, but when it comes to the ‘two-turn’ horses, European imports routinely sweep the board in Australia. The U.S. has fallen way behind in supplying horses to Australia, much less the other lucrative Asian markets like Hong Kong. The American combination of dirt and race-day medication doesn’t play in these lucrative markets as long as they can source enough horses elsewhere, meaning Europe (and, in Asia, Australia and New Zealand), which they can. Another indicator that even though the prize money is better, it’s still not good enough, is the reduction in field size in American racing.

Cont. p8

Outstanding first yearlings sold for \$575,000, \$400,000, \$380,000, \$310,000 etc.

“Ashford’s **Shanghai Bobby**, who was an unbeaten champion 2-year-old by **Harlan’s Holiday**, sire of **Into Mischief** and now revealed as a serious influence for 2-year-old precocity, speed, and class. The buyers liked **Shanghai Bobby**... Given that it’s more or less impossible to get into **Into Mischief** at this point, and that **Shanghai Bobby** was an even better 2-year-old, he is likely to be very popular even given his stud fee raise.”

Bill Oppenheim, TDN, 23rd Nov. 2016



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2017 Feb: \$25,000

Oppenheim cont.

The arrival of new major owners in the last few years is welcome, and has made a big contribution to prices remaining high in the top commercial tier, but it's very striking that many of the new top-level players are much more into controlling the numbers than some of their predecessors have been. Yes, the Qataris have made big investments, especially in France, but throughout Europe as well; yet, the number of horses they own is nowhere near the numbers built up by the Maktoums and other Dubai interests, not to mention some of the remaining big owner-breeder operations like the Aga Khan or Juddmonte. Note, too, that they routinely acquire horses after they've started racing, which means horses are filtering through breeders, pinhookers, and even 'end-user' owners. Once a horse gets good there is no shortage of buyers for it; but how many really 'get good' like that--1 in 100? You could say the same about American racing; I listened to the very interesting *TDN* podcast when Bobby Flay interviewed Sol Kumin, and what was so striking is that both are interested in having smaller, relatively manageable 'boutique' operations of top horses. Kumin, who is probably getting a little tired of being the poster boy for new owners, even commented



Flay & Kumin during the podcast

at one point that, though they had bought Lady Eli (Divine Park) as a yearling, he has been shifting the model of what they want to buy to horses which have already run. It's fantastic that guys like him and Flay have discovered, and are enamored by, the business, and I wouldn't consider suggesting, for one nano-second, that they should do anything different from what they are doing. But note they are both being very selective about what they buy, and their numbers, in the context of even a shrunken foal crop, are quite small.

The big irony is that North America and 'Europe'--Britain, Ireland, France, and Germany, for our purposes--are still the world's best producers of top-class racehorses. Yet both North America and Europe have big problems--in many cases, different problems, but one that both now do have in common is that prize-money is not high enough to entice people in sufficient numbers to own racehorses. Australia and Asia have much better prize money models, yet still have a few pounds to find on form. But if North America and Europe do not find ways to change their prize money models to attract more owners, ultimately the popularity and enthusiasm of Australasian and Asian racing will match or outperform the current Number Ones; that's the way it works. **Cont. p8**

#1 FIRST-CROP SIRE



	Fee	Wnrs	Wins	Wnrs/ Starters	Earnings
1. DIALED IN	\$15,000	19	26	48%	\$1,501,007
2. Union Rags	\$50,000	18	22	35%	\$1,451,072
3. Bodemeister	\$25,000	15	19	28%	\$972,303
4. Tapizar	\$15,000	15	18	26%	\$943,877
5. Gemologist	\$25,000	13	15	28%	\$896,498
6. The Factor	\$25,000	14	18	27%	\$890,737

Source: BloodHorse.com, 12/27

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Oppenheim cont.

There is massive interest and enthusiasm among enough people who want to own good horses--'Saturday' horses--and there are even quite a few people, judging from the strength of the prices for broodmare and broodmare prospects, who want to breed them, and not just for money. But the polarity now between "what they want"--"they" in this case being a lot of people who are newly willing to put money in the Thoroughbred business--and "what they don't want" is starker than ever. There are horse racing economies--national, international, and local--and there need to be more efficient methods both of producing the horses with the potential to achieve the various levels, and of placing the horses where they belong once their level is identified. In short, in order to improve its chances of surviving and prospering, 'Horse Racing Inc.' needs to take a really serious look at how it can reorganize itself. One glaringly obvious imperative is that American racing has got to find a way to create a national organization which makes and enforces the rules; the 38-state approach clearly cannot work. One thing I'm certain of is that all of racing's entities and factions are in competition with each other only to a certain point. In a broader context, horse racing is in competition with many other sporting, gambling, and entertaining businesses, and North American horse racing for sure has got one hand tied behind its back in not having a real, decisive, effective national organization. Partnership can be a very effective approach to the extent the prospective partners really do share common objectives.

Yeah, I get all that from reading the sales results. Do you think I'm reading too much into them?

TOP SALES SIRES

About 47% of 2016 NA/EU auction sales were yearling sales. This is by far the biggest and most important sector of the



Dubawi | Darley

Thoroughbred auction market--about \$698-million this year. Five stallions--three in Europe and two in North America--which averaged over \$500,000 account for around \$99-million, or

14%, of these sales (click [here](#)): Darley's **Dubawi** (\$1,267,131), Juddmonte's **Frankel** (\$678,398) and Coolmore's **Galileo** (\$587,359) in Europe; Gainesway's **Tapit** (\$629,069) and Claiborne's **War Front** (\$613,276) in America.

Cont. p10



5 WINNERS IN 3 WEEKS

incl. promising 2-year-olds...



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Colt debuted with a 8 ¾-length romp in a Gulfstream MdSpWt 12/17



BODE'S DREAM

Multiple SW filly remained undefeated in Gulfstream's House Party S. 12/10



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Jack Milton	\$6,500	

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Oppenheim cont.

'Civilians', which is how we sometimes refer to people outside the industry, might be surprised that Dubawi averages double what Galileo does, but for anybody in the business, the difference in shall we say breeding strategies and the laws of supply and demand (at least 13 of the 17 Dubawi yearlings sold were bought by Maktoum family entities) definitely impact these figures. The 141 yearlings by these five sires averaged right around \$700,000.

Very significantly, I would say, the next group of five sires averaged under half that. All older proven sires, these were: Darley Kentucky's **Medaglia d'Oro**, Juddmonte's **Dansili**, WinStar's **Speightstown**, the Irish National Stud's **Invincible Spirit**, and Darley

Kildangan's **Shamardal**-- again, three European, two American. But the next four on average, the most up-and-coming younger proven sires (three living) are all American: Coolmore Ashford's deceased **Scat**



Curlin | Hill 'n' Dale

Daddy, Hill 'n' Dale's

Curlin, WinStar's **Pioneerof the Nile**, and Ashford's **Uncle Mo**.

They are probably two separate lists anyway, European sires and North American sires, with the occasional 'crossover' War Front or Scat Daddy. Gilltown's **Sea The Stars** (#19 by 2016 yearling sire average--\$192,074) and Frankel are the leading 'younger' proven sires in Europe (well, Frankel will be in a few months, when his 3-year-olds run). Curlin, Pioneerof The Nile, and Uncle Mo are the top younger proven sires in the States. Note all will be standing for six-figure fees in 2017.

Behind Frankel, among freshman sires which had their first 2-year-olds in 2016, Australian champion sire **Redoute's Choice**, with his second Northern Hemisphere crop, finished second among NH F2014 sires with 18 yearlings averaging \$140,125; Lane's End's **Union Rags**, who is in a ding-dong battle with Darby Dan's **Dialed In** for leading North American freshman sire, was the top US F2014 sire by yearling average, with 59 yearlings averaging \$99,989. Among 'sophomore' sires (F2013, first 3-year-olds 2016), Uncle Mo was the only one to have a six-figure yearling average; Coolmore's **Zoffany** was a distant second in that group, with 67 yearlings averaging \$68,633.

Top first-year NA/EU sire at the sales by yearling average (click [here](#)) was Oakgrove Stud's **Al Kazeem** (Dubawi), who originally retired to the Royal Studs, where this small crop was sired, before being returned to training as sub-fertile, but covered again in 2016 at Oakgrove. **Cont. p11**

MIND YOUR BISCUITS

MALIBU S. (G1)



Congratulations to Keeneland January Sale Graduate MIND YOUR BISCUITS on winning the Malibu S. (G1).

Owner: J Stables, Head of Plains Partners LLC, Summers, Summers, Kisber and Summers

Breeder: Jumping Jack Racing LLC

Consignor: Allied Bloodstock, Agent

Buyer: Machmer Hall

KEENELAND®



Oppenheim cont.

Seven yearlings from that first small crop averaged \$180,700, which made him leading first-year sire by average. Three Europeans (arguably four) filled the next slots: Coolmore's **Camelot** (Montjeu) had 88 yearlings sell for an average of \$136,798; the Haras Du Quesnay's **Intello** (Galileo), from the first of two crops sired at Cheveley Park in England, averaged \$132,290, with 53 yearlings sold; Darley Kildangan's **Dawn Approach** (New Approach) had 42 average \$121,814; and **Declaration of War** (War Front), who stood his first season at Coolmore in Ireland, but then moved to Ashford in Kentucky, had 77 yearlings from his Irish-sired crop average \$119,785. Claiborne's **Orb** (Malibu Moon) topped North American sires, with 55 yearlings averaging \$148,318 (an impressive mark nearly six times his stud fee, which was and is \$25,000), followed by Ashford's **Shanghai Bobby** (Harlan's Holiday, 64 averaged \$115,804); Calumet's **Oxbow** (Awesome Again,

24 averaged \$111,129); and Darley Jonabell's **Animal Kingdom** (Leroideasanimaux, 50 averaged \$99,388).

Among sires with their first weanlings selling at the mixed sales, the leaders



American Pharoah | Sarah K. Andrew

by average (click [here](#)) were: Juddmonte's **Kingman** (Invincible Spirit, seven averaged \$288,855); Coolmore's **Australia** (Galileo, seven averaged \$148,668); Three Chimneys' **Will Take Charge** (Unbridled's Song, 18 averaged \$128,444); and Airdrie's new 'market darling' **Cairo Prince** (Pioneerof The Nile, 20 averaged \$87,750). Among sires with their first mares sold in-foal, WinStar's **Constitution** (Tapit) topped all sires with seven mares in foal averaging \$508,142 (click [here](#)), but one of those was lthinkisawapudycat, dam of GI Spinaway S. dead-heat winner Sweet Loretta (Tapit), who brought \$2.2-million at Keeneland; the other six mares in foal to him did still average \$226,166. Ashford's **American Pharoah** (Pioneerof the Nile) had 10 mares in foal average \$440,000; and three European sires had in-foal averages over \$300,000: Shadwell's **Muhaarar** (Oasis Dream, six averaged \$396,432); Ashford's **Gleneagles** (Galileo, six averaged \$318,677); and Darley Dalham Hall's **Golden Horn** (Cape Cross, seven averaged \$310,295).

Contact Bill Oppenheim at bopp@erb.com (cc suefinley@thetdn.com).

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CONSTELLATION

LA BREA S. (G1)



Congratulations to Keeneland September Sale Graduate **CONSTELLATION** on winning the La Brea S. (G1).

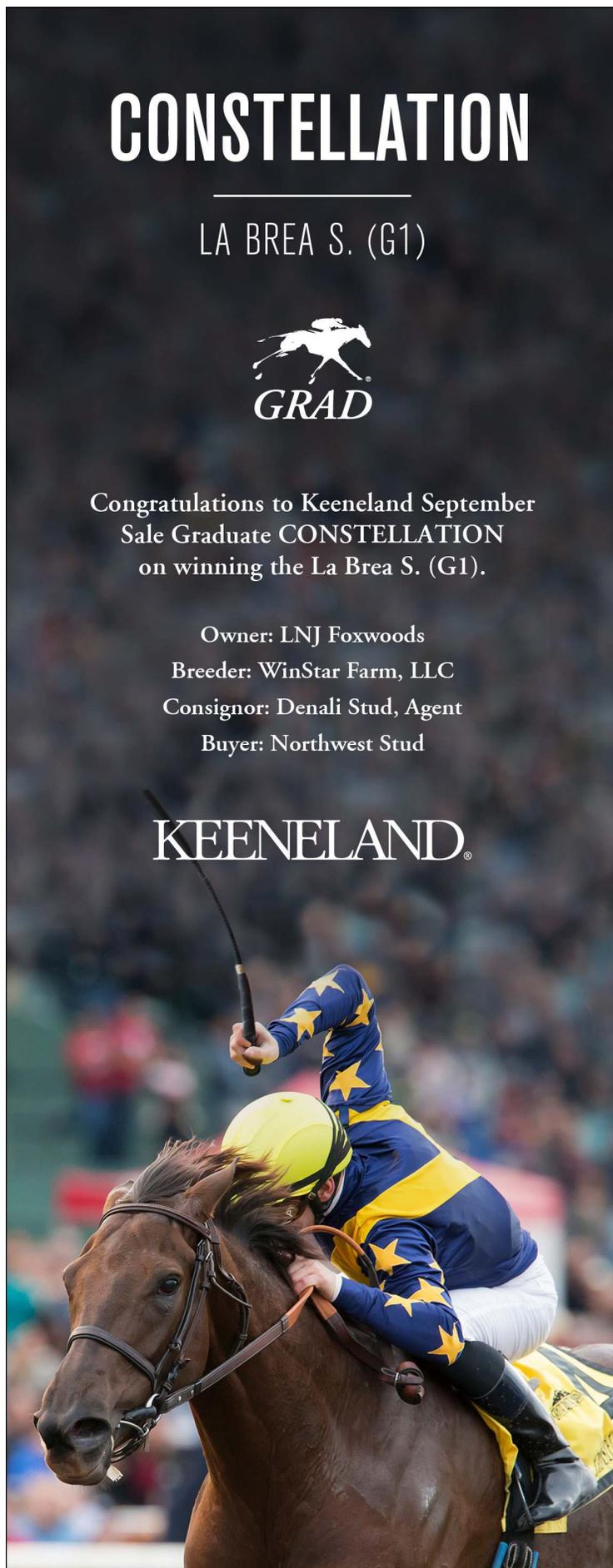
Owner: LNJ Foxwoods

Breeder: WinStar Farm, LLC

Consignor: Denali Stud, Agent

Buyer: Northwest Stud

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Challenges & SOLUTIONS

Challenges and Solutions is an ongoing series in the TDN.

HEADLEY BELL, Mill Ridge Farm

What is the most pressing problem that needs to be tackled in racing, and how would you solve it?

You know, no one has to own a horse or involve themselves in our business. Yet, the horse is so compelling, so giving, that we



Headley Bell | Mill Ridge photo

are drawn to it and all it represents. For me, our pressing problem is ourselves and this bickering amongst ourselves. Naturally, we are of strong character and feel that we are always right (thus the reason for my comment).

Yet, through all this we have become bogged down with ourselves and lost sight of how many "very positives" exist in our business..many, many positives. If we were to emphasize the positives, address our issues after doing so, and not take ourselves so seriously--always remembering it is all about the horse--then I think we could move forward.

What do you think somebody from the outside looking in-- somebody not involved in racing--would say the problem that most needs solving is?

Again, if you let the horse be your driver, then an outsider is going to question, "how are you caring for the horse?" And look how much progress has been made with TAA, track safety and protocol, horse health and welfare, racetracks and farms emphasizing fan experience, education and much more...just to name a few. As an industry, we have made tremendous strides with awareness that our fan is our life-blood, and that our industry is driven by the horse. Let's recognize this and continue to build and polish and look forward to the future. Welcome 2017, and our belief that we have the greatest game going and that we will continue to share our story.

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IN OTHER NEWS A DAILY ROUNDUP OF RACING ARTICLES IN OTHER MEDIA

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[In Horse Racing, the Show \(Bet\) Still Goes On](#)

"Lately, this low-risk, low-reward bet is in serious need of a makeover. If it were at a family gathering, it would be the crazy uncle or the hideous Christmas sweater your grandma made for you to wear." **John Cherwa**, Los Angeles Times/Courier-Journal



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FAIR GROUNDS BARN UNDER QUARANTINE

Barn 14 at the Fair Grounds has been placed under quarantine by the State of Louisiana’s Department of Agriculture after a horse residing in the barn tested positive for a strain of Equine Herpes Virus known as EHV-1. The infected horse, an unraced 2-year-old filly trained by Alice Cohn, was euthanized Monday.

Horses currently stabled in Barn 14 will not be permitted to leave the property until the quarantine has been lifted and will only be permitted to train during a specific period after regular training hours. All residents of Barn 14 will continue to be monitored and if none show signs of or test positive for the virus, the quarantine will be lifted at the end of the standard 14-day period.

The quarantine will not affect horses shipping in for races as long as they have the proper vaccination documents.

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IN SHARPER FOCUS

A ROYAL GRADUATION *by Jessica Martini*

Stronach Stables’ royally bred **Delta Prince** (Street Cry {Ire}), on the board in pair of main-track maiden races in New York this fall, tried the turf for the first time Monday at Gulfstream Park and duly delivered a ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ performance to graduate by an authoritative four lengths.

“He ran a powerful race,” Stronach Stables’ racing manager Michael Doyle confirmed Tuesday. “He had trained fantastic and he looked unbelievable in the paddock. He was big and strong--he’d grown up a lot from the last time I saw him.”

The final foal out of Delta Princess (A.P. Indy), Delta Prince is a half-brother to three-time Eclipse champion Royal Delta (Empire Maker).



Delta Prince | Leslie Martin

Delta Princess was purchased by Frank Stronach’s Adena Springs for \$2.6 million at the 2011 Keeneland November sale, the same auction which saw Royal Delta sell to Besilu Stables for \$8.5 million. Both horses were sold as part of the dispersal of the late Saud bin Khaled’s Palides Investments.

In addition to Royal Delta, the multiple graded stakes winner Delta Princess also produced graded stakes placed Empire Way (Empire Maker) and Carnival Court (Street Sense), as well as Grade I winner Crown Queen (Smart Strike).

With his maiden score Monday, Delta Prince became the sixth ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ out of Delta Princess, who died in 2014. He follows Royal Delta, Empire Way, Carnival Court, Crown Queen and the unbeaten Khozan (Distorted Humor).

“He is a beautifully bred horse and you’re always hoping good things happen,” Doyle said. “Royal Delta’s record speaks for itself and you hope when you have one bred like that, he’ll show some of that same stuff.”



Royal Delta | Susie Raisher

Delta Prince showed his inexperience while running third in his debut sprinting at

Belmont Oct. 2 and was an improved second when stretched out to a mile at Aqueduct Nov. 12.

In addition to the switch to the turf, Doyle thinks the dark bay has matured mentally and physically and the racing manager would not rule out a move back to the dirt.

“The first maiden race, he ran really, really green,” Doyle said. “Dirt hit him in the face and he was jumping up and down--he was all over the place. The second time he actually ran a bit green, too. [Trainer] Jimmy [Jerkens] just said, ‘Let’s go on the grass.’ The mare had done some stuff on the turf, so it just sort of made sense.”

Doyle continued, “I’d say there is still a chance that he’ll go back on the dirt, although it seems that the turf helped him out. Things went well for him Monday, when they didn’t go quite as well the first two times he ran. I think he’s just catching on, I really do.”

Asked where Delta Prince might start next, Doyle said, “It will be up to Jimmy where he goes next. I’d say chances are he’ll look forward to another allowance race and we’ll try and figure things out as the winter goes on. We’re in no hurry. We’re very optimistic about his future and obviously we’re hoping for good things to happen down the road. We hope it all falls into place.”

8th-GP, \$36,000, Msw, 12-26, 3yo/up, 1mT, 1:35.01, fm.

DELTA PRINCE c, 3, Street Cry (Ire)

1st Dam: Delta Princess (MGSW, \$740,918), by A.P. Indy

2nd Dam: Lyphard’s Delta, by Lyphard

3rd Dam: Proud Delta, by Delta Judge

Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$41,100. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Stronach Stables; B-Adena Springs (KY); T-James A. Jerkens.

Bred & raised by 8-time Eclipse Award-winning Breeder **ADENA SPRINGS**

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WESTERN U.S.

Tuesday's Results:

LASENORA S., \$85,000, SUN, 12-27, (S), 2yo, f, 6f, 1:10.55, ft.

1--**SIPPIN, 120, f, 2, by Swissle Stick**

1st Dam: Samba Queen, by Giant's Causeway

2nd Dam: Misty Moon (Brz), by Baronius (Brz)

3rd Dam: Fashion Dancer, by Dancer's Image

O/B-R. D. Hubbard (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher; J-Tracy J. Hebert. \$51,000. Lifetime Record: 6-6-0-0, \$268,047.

2--**Rappakuba, 120, f, 2, Rapper S S--Kuba a Noqua, by Marquetry. O-Benny Vanaeck; B-Lathrop G. Hoffman (NM); T-Henry Dominguez. \$18,700.**

3--**Ivy Gimlet, 120, f, 2, Diabolical--Toll Taker, by Bernstein. O/B-J. Kirk Robison & Judy Robison (NM); T-Henry Dominguez. \$8,500.**

Margins: HF, 3, 2 1/4. Odds: 0.20, 17.20, 6.00.

Also Ran: Pink Cadillac, Rational Decision, Miss Twister, Proud Cecilia, Fastinating Allie, Ritzy Waon. Scratched: Turk's Cat.

Sippin found racing room late and surged to the lead in the dying strides to maintain her perfect record with six wins from six starts. A debut winner at Ruidoso Downs in July, the chestnut filly romped home by seven lengths in a Aug. 13 allowance before earning a half-length victory in the Sept. 4 Rio Grande Senorita Thoroughbred Futurity. She moved to Zia Park to annex the Oct. 10 Permian Basin S. and the Oct. 30 New Mexico Classic Cup Lassie Championship S., both at six furlongs. Sent off the prohibitive favorite, Sippin broke alertly from her outside post, but was taken in hand and settled well off the pace through an opening quarter in :21.78. She began her forward progression on the turn, was forced to angle out for running room at the top of the lane and split foes in deep stretch to just get the better of Rappakuba. Owner/breeder R.D. Hubbard purchased the winner's dam Samba Queen for \$50,000 at the 2004 Keeneland September sale. A daughter of Misty Moon (Brz) (Baronius {Brz}), Samba Queen is a half-sister to Brazilian champions Virginie (Brz) (Legal Case {Ire}) and Be Fair (Brz) (Fast Gold). The mare produced a colt by Attila's Storm in 2016 and was bred back to that stallion. Her Southwestern Heat filly sold for \$21,000 at this year's Ruidoso August yearling sale. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)**

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IN SOUTH KOREA:

Dolkong, c, 2, [Afleet Alex](#)--Swampoodle, by Broken Vow. Seoul, 12-25, Alw (\$124k), 1200m. B-Ellen B Kill Kelley (KY). *\$52,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT; \$35,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

Penacova, c, 2, [Birdstone](#)--Flip Side (MSW, \$156,039), by Devil His Due. Seoul, 12-25, Hcp. (\$62k), 1200m. B-Dr Harold Fishman (OH). *1/2 to Flip Daddy (The Daddy), SW, \$114,939. **\$20,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT.

Hwanggeum Sori, c, 2, [Old Fashioned](#)--Malibu Gem, by Malibu Moon. Seoul, 12-25, Hcp. (\$50k), 1200m. B-Don & Pam Mattox (FL). *Won by five lengths as the 2-1 favorite. **\$50,000 2yo '16 FTMMAY.

Thunder Light, c, 2, [Repent](#)--White Diamond Girl, by Pioneering. Seoul, 12-24, Hcp. (\$50k), 1300m. B-George W Brown (KY). *Won by six lengths. **\$20,000 2yo '16 FTMMAY.

Mighty Gem, f, 4, [Macho Uno](#)--Shimmer, by Pulpit. Seoul, 12-25, Hcp. (\$91k), 1400m. B-Mr & Mrs Jerome S Moss (KY). *1/2 to Sister Moon (Dixie Union), GSP, \$107,350. **\$22,000 Ylg '13 FTKOCT.



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ROOKIES

First-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, December, 28

Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2013 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/
 BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)
MACLEAN'S MUSIC (Distorted Humor), Hill 'N' Dale Farms, \$6.5K, 80/20/2
 9-TAM, Aoc 6f, Music Makes Sense, \$3K OBS APR 2yo, 20-1
SHACKLEFORD (Forestry), Darby Dan Farm, \$20K, 119/19/1
 9-TAM, Aoc 6f, My Ticket Home, \$47K RNA OBS OPN 2yo, 3-1
 9-TAM, Aoc 6f, Neuqua, \$20K RNA KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
STAR GUITAR (Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud, \$4K, 41/3/0
 3-DED, Msw 6 1/2f, Big Joe, \$6K BSC YRL yrl, 5-1

BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-SUN, \$34,600, (S), 12-27, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.07, ft.
HIT A LICK (g, 3, Attila's Storm--Accomodate, by Pleasantly Perfect) Lifetime Record: SP, 10-3-3-2, \$85,282. O-Dale Taylor; B-Spence, LLC (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher.

8th-SUN, \$26,900, 12-27, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:04.66, ft.

BELLA ANATOLA (f, 3, Eskendereya--Diamond Tags, by Seeking the Gold) Lifetime Record: 11-2-5-1, \$63,018. O-Danna Buechler; B-Bob Baffert & D & E Racing Stable (KY); T-Simon J. Buechler.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Ballinouttacontrol, f, 3, Prince of Fame--Miss Silver Mouse, by Silver Season. SUN, 12-27, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:04.92. B-Seth Jacob Howard (NM).

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Sippin (Swissle Stick) remains unbeaten with late-running victory at Sunland Park.

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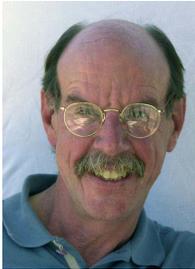


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PODCAST

WITH ANDY BEYER

From his writing to his railing against drug trainers to his speed figures, which revolutionized handicapping, Andy Beyer's impact on the sport is immeasurable. He is semi-retired now, but he still has plenty to say about racing. Beyer is this week's guest on the Thoroughbred Daily News podcast. Click here to listen, or subscribe in your Podcast app on your iPhone or iPad.



Leading First-Crop Sires

for stallions standing in North America through Monday, Dec. 26

Earnings and Black-type represents worldwide figures

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Dialed In <i>(2008) by Mineshaft FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (\$7,500)</i>	2	2	1	1	--	--	40	19	\$771,000 <i>Gunnevera</i>	\$1,501,007
2	Union Rags <i>(2009) by Dixie Union FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$35,000)</i>	3	4	2	3	2	2	51	18	\$295,360 <i>Dancing Rags</i>	\$1,464,915
3	Tapizar <i>(2008) by Tapit FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (\$15,000)</i>	1	2	--	2	--	--	57	15	\$183,060 <i>Tip Tap Tapizar</i>	\$1,053,682
4	Bodemeister <i>(2009) by Empire Maker FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: WinStar Farm KY (\$30,000)</i>	1	2	--	1	--	1	55	15	\$180,105 <i>Bode's Dream</i>	\$972,303
5	The Factor <i>(2008) by War Front FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$25,000)</i>	2	3	1	1	1	1	52	14	\$259,580 <i>Noted and Quoted</i>	\$921,288
6	Creative Cause <i>(2009) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Airdrie Stud KY (\$15,000)</i>	1	3	--	--	--	--	51	17	\$118,680 <i>Theonewewaitedfor</i>	\$899,969
7	Gemologist <i>(2009) by Tiznow FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: WinStar Farm KY (\$15,000)</i>	2	4	2	3	1	1	46	13	\$285,345 <i>Yellow Agate</i>	\$896,498
8	Maclean's Music <i>(2008) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farms KY (\$6,500)</i>	2	7	--	1	--	--	40	20	\$90,960 <i>Made Me Shiver</i>	\$863,199
9	Stay Thirsty <i>(2008) by Bernardini FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (\$10,000)</i>	1	4	--	1	--	--	56	17	\$113,265 <i>Thirstforlife</i>	\$797,600
10	Shackleford <i>(2008) by Forestry FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (\$20,000)</i>	1	2	1	1	--	--	53	19	\$162,091 <i>Wellabled</i>	\$720,182
11	Dominus <i>(2008) by Smart Strike FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (\$3,500)</i>	2	4	--	1	--	1	21	9	\$224,621 <i>All Right</i>	\$668,485
12	To Honor And Serve <i>(2008) by Bernardini FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (\$15,000)</i>	1	4	--	--	--	--	41	13	\$83,748 <i>State of Honor</i>	\$630,879
13	Astrology <i>(2008) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Taylor Made Stallions KY (\$6,500)</i>	2	3	1	1	--	--	42	15	\$150,000 <i>Arella Rockstar</i>	\$626,281
14	Mission Impazible <i>(2007) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Sequel Stallions New York NY (\$7,500)</i>	1	3	--	--	--	--	21	7	\$179,102 <i>Silver Mission</i>	\$615,508
15	Algorithms <i>(2009) by Bernardini FYR: 2014 Crops: 1 Stands: Claiborne Farm KY (\$5,000)</i>	1	4	--	1	--	--	37	12	\$82,948 <i>Vanish</i>	\$549,456

NYTB's Annual Stallion Season Auction

January 9-11, 2017
Starquine.com



New York Thoroughbred Breeders' annual stallion season auction, to be held on *Starquine.com* from Monday, January 9 to Wednesday, January 11.

The auction raises funds that enable NYTB to carry on its two-fold mission of promoting New York breeding and racing and protecting the welfare of industry stakeholders.

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Perfect Soul | Super Saver | Tale of Ekati | Taste of Paradise | Tizdejavu | Upstart

New York Stallions:

Al Khali | Alpha | Bellamy Road | Big Brown | Boys at Tosconova | Bustin Stones
Central Banker | Courageous Cat | Desert Party | D' Funnybone | Dr Large | Dublin
Effinex | Emcee | Forty Tales | Freud | Frost Giant | Giant Surprise | Golden Ticket
Here Comes Ben | Hold Me Back | Honorable Dillon | Japan | Laoban | Majestic City
Marsh Side | Micromanage | Mission Impazible | Normandy Invasion
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ENGLISH ON A HIGH IN IRELAND



Trainer Damien English | *Racing Post*

by Daithí Harvey

"I really don't want 2016 to end," says Damien English, as he reflects on a year that has seen the young trainer saddle 14 winners from as many individual runners sent out from his small base in north county Dublin. His rich vein of form has been maintained over a 12-month period, beginning with a victory for stable star **Tribal Path (Ire)** (Giant's Causeway) at Dundalk in January. It continued right through to December when the 30-year-old registered his first double courtesy of **Geological (Ire)** (Rock Of Gibraltar {Ire}) and **Dance Alone (GB)** (Bahamian Bounty {GB}) also on the Polytrack. In fact, if one were to have had a euro on each one of English's runners this year, it would have yielded a healthy €43 return.

Neither English nor his horses are household names just yet, but his current flagbearer Tribal Path did achieve a notable feat for the trainer by winning six Flat handicaps in the space of six months, a rare achievement in Ireland and one that serves to showcase the talents of his trainer who is making his way quietly through the ranks without the use of many modern facilities taken for granted by most. He doesn't have a horse walker, currently has room for only a dozen horses and utilises the most natural of all-weather gallops, his local beach. These simple methods certainly didn't hinder the incredibly tough 6-year-old Tribal Path this year, as he elevated his rating from 53 to 87, running 15 times for the trainer who says he just concentrates on "keeping his horses fresh and healthy" at home. **Cont. p2**

OSCIETRA CROSS-ENTERED DOWN UNDER

Oscietra (Aus) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), the first foal out of undefeated Australian superstar Black Caviar (Aus) (Bel Esprit {Aus}), has officially been entered in a pair of 1000-metre juvenile races at Moonee Valley Dec. 31 and at Flemington New Year's Day, reported *Racing and Sports*. Co-trainer David Hayes prefers the Flemington feature for his charge versus her own sex Jan. 1, as the latter only has 18 nominations compared to the 28 of the open race at Moonee Valley. Black Caviar won her debut at Flemington going 1000 metres in 2009 for the same group of owners. Oscietra has jumped out twice to date, winning an 800-metre test at Flemington Dec. 9. With her dam's regular pilot Luke Nolen in the irons, Oscietra finished up in the forefront of the field in a Dec. 23 jump out, once again at Flemington.

"Everything's in order," Hayes told *Racing and Sports*. "She's ready to go."

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IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

FRANKELS PARTNER W/DONEGAL ON 'ICE' IN PEGASUS

Jerry and Ronnie Frankel partnered with Donegal Racing on GI Travers S. hero **Keen Ice** (Curlin) in the \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Park Jan. 28. **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.**

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English on a High in Ireland Cont. from p1

Another notable feature of his success is the raw material English is winning with. His team is made up predominantly of cast offs from UK trainers, the majority bought cheaply at the sales at Tattersalls, and they seem to thrive for the change in routine, often rediscovering a unique zest for racing that has been especially evident this year.

Although English also invested in a few yearlings this autumn, he has decided to concentrate on a niche that has proved so successful for him thus far.

"I have two yearlings, one by Dandy Man (Ire) the other by Zoffany (Ire), they're with Ian McCarthy on The Curragh at the moment. He is pre-training them and will continue to do so until April. They'll come back to me then when the all-weather horses will be taking a short break and hopefully we can kick on with them and get them to the track."

He continued, "However, I can't see myself going back for more yearlings next autumn. It's just too difficult to compete for the nicer ones at the sales and we've done so well buying out of

the horses-in-training sales that I think we'll concentrate on that approach for the time being. I've built up a good relationship with David Spratt and Philip Burns of Gaelic Bloodstock, they put a lot of research into the sales and everything they have advised me to buy has won, so I think I will pursue that strategy while it is yielding such success."

English is certainly not exaggerating when he elaborates on the fruitful results he has enjoyed from the HIT sales. He bought his warrior Tribal Path out of the Mark Johnston stable for 3,000gns and although it took English a while to find the key to him, once he did the floodgates opened. He has also found favour sourcing stock from the Richard Hannon stable. Two of his winners this year, **Bluesbreaker (Ire)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) and Geological, were both unearthed from the Hannon draft at the Tattersalls October Horses-in-Training Sale for the princely



Tribal Path | *Racing Post*

sum of 800gns each. Bluesbreaker won three times this season and Geological make his breakthrough for English this month, netting over €14,000 for his efforts.

Cont. p3

Look out for his first yearlings at the Magic Millions!

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DECLARATION OF WAR

Out of a half-sister to **UNION RAGS**, sire of two Gr.1 winning 2YO's from his first crop

COOLMORE
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English on a High in Ireland Cont.

Continued English, "The horses-in-training sales are a different ball-game altogether--you're buying horses that have already shown ability but have lost their way for whatever reason. We seem to have developed an ability to restore these types of horses to their former selves, so I think I will stick to what I'm good at for the time being."

Normally when a trainer arrives home with a horse that cost 800gns, a litany of physical afflictions are waiting in the wings. However, English seems to have been either extremely lucky or else has made wise, calculated decisions over most of his cheap acquisitions.

"With Bluesbreaker, I was told he had problems with his knees," he commented. "When I got him home I gelded him, got his wind done and let him out for a month. He hasn't given a moment's trouble since and has turned into a decent horse who I think can progress further. Geological had a problem with a hind joint that kept him on the sidelines for a while after I got him but that has been ironed out and his last win suggests he can also progress into a smart horse next year. I



Red Avenger | *Racing Post*

actually couldn't believe it took me a year to win with him after his first run for me."

Another prime example is **Red Avenger** (War Front), who is two from two for English since being bought in October for 14,000gns, a price English admits is the highest he has ever paid for a horse. It was a shrewd investment, however, given that the 6-year-old won the valuable Betfred Mile H. at Glorious

Goodwood in 2014 off a rating of 96 when trained by Ed Dunlop. His two wins for English have recouped his purchase price and see him currently rated 86, a mark which English still believes provides scope for further success. The trainer is eyeing the valuable All-Weather Finals at Lingfield on Good Friday for which he must first qualify, hopefully at Dundalk in the New Year.

So what does he think has been the secret to unlocking Red Avenger's appetite for competition since his departure from previous trainer Gary Moore?

"Well there was no point replicating his previous routine, even if I wanted to I couldn't as I don't have the facilities or the set up, so it's just a case of him fitting into our routine and hoping he thrives off it," said English. **Cont. p4**



The majestic Douvan, and Ruby Walsh, en route to GI Paddy Power Cashcard Chase success at Leopardstown. | *racingfotos.com*

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English on a High in Ireland Cont.

Explaining the system that he has implemented English continues, "We box them to Mornington beach around three times a week and we also bring them to the equine swimming pool in The Curragh maybe once a week. I also like them to spend as much time out in paddocks as possible, even in winter. We certainly don't over-gallop them."

English took out his trainer's licence in 2011 at the age of 25. He had been a student at RACE and had a short and inglorious career as an amateur jockey which was brought to an end after a serious knee injury. He learned the rudimentary basics of training from a five-year stint with neighbouring trainer Peter Casey, and he admits that it was basically trial and error at the beginning of his own career. He also counts himself fortunate that his main patron is his father Joseph, whose judgment in backing his son in a notoriously competitive career is now being justified.

"My dad has been brilliant. He loves the game and I'm delighted that I've repaid him with all the winners this year as I literally couldn't have done it without his backing," he says. "My younger brother Craig is also a great asset, I can count on him to keep things ticking over if I'm away racing or at the sales, so it's really a tight family run business. Though my father has his own adhesives company so I need him to keep working hard, so he can keep paying those training fees."

Looking back on his early days with a licence, English recognises that he had a relatively easy introduction to training.

"I was lucky to come by Cash Or Casualty (Ire) (Footstepsinthesand {GB}) in my first year. He was a star for us winning nine races, so he ended up teaching me a lot. We also got lucky with a few cheap yearlings, but in a way that ended up spoiling us a bit as we thought the game was easy. We soon found out the pitfalls and after a few promising years we got a bit derailed in 2014 when we only had the one winner and that didn't come until November. We discovered we had aspergillus in the yard and since then I've learned that you can't cut corners when it comes to things like bedding, feed, hay and water, etc. These are simple things, but if they aren't put right you can't train the horses properly."

English is constantly looking for an edge to keep improving his results and added, "Most trainers can get a horse to win once, but the good trainers seem to be able to keep horses improving and winning and that's something I've tried to learn how to do. How to keep a horse consistent for six or eight months, that's the edge I'm seeking to gain. I think to achieve that you have to train their minds as much as their bodies, to me keeping them fresh and happy seems to be the basic element of success."

A now recognisable trademark of the English runners is their ability to bounce out smartly from the stalls and gain a

prominent early position, even if they are poorly drawn. When quizzed about whether intensive gate training is part of his regime he replied in the negative.

"I've been asked a few times about this but I honestly don't put any emphasis on stalls training, in fact I don't even have a set at home. The only thing I can put it down to is that I like to have them fresh and keen before a race, so maybe that has something to do with it."

The year 2017 will be an important and challenging one for English as he tries to maintain and build on the progress made this season, and he is well aware that the competitive scene in Ireland means you have to be constantly driving forward to stay in business.

"We're planning on investing in the yard next year, building a few more boxes, but taking it a step at a time," English concluded. "I'd like to develop a few more syndicates also, but again the main objective will be to get better at what we are doing. I'm just happy to have had a successful year and I'm grateful for everyone that has helped make it happen and hopefully we can keep up the momentum."

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Altior takes the GII 32 Red Wayward Lad Novices' Chase at Kempton.

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REFLECTIONS | 2016

From the Editors of the TDN

Over the next week the team of Editors of TDN Europe/International will look back on 2016 and pick their most memorable racing moment of the year. We continue today with European Editor, Emma Berry.

ANNIE POWER, GI CHAMPION HURDLE, CHELTENHAM

by Emma Berry

She was bred to be a smart Flat stayer, but in being aimed at the National Hunt sphere, **Annie Power (Ire)** (Shirocco {Ger}) has proved herself to be one of the most flamboyant jumpers in training, and sees in this New Year as the Champion Hurdler.

In her 17 starts to date, the 8-year-old has been flawless in 15 of them, and finished runner-up to More Of That (Ire) (Beneficial {Ire}) in the GI Ladbrokes World Hurdle of 2014. Returning to the Cheltenham Festival the following year, she invoked near-heart failure among her legion of fans when falling for the only time in her career at the final flight of the GI OLBG Mares' Hurdle with the race seemingly at her mercy.

It was a different story at this year's Cheltenham Festival, however, where Annie Power dominated her 11 male rivals when taking the lead from flag fall of the GI Stan James Champion Hurdle, the race which thrilled this observer more than any other in 2016.



Annie Power | Emma Berry

Of course there have been some memorable horses and performances on the Flat--**Almanzor (Fr)** (Wootton Bassett {GB}) beating an outstanding line-up in the G1 QIPCO Irish Champion S., two Derbys for **Harzand (Ire)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}) and the wonderfully consistent **Found (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) upholding the great record for fillies in the G1 Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe all rank highly. But standing in the Cheltenham paddock as Annie Power was led home triumphant--only the fourth mare to be crowned Champion Hurdler in the 90-year history of the race--was a privilege never to be forgotten. There's plenty of talk about the 'Cheltenham roar' as the tapes fly for the opening race of the Festival, but there's nothing quite like the rousing reception given to a winner beloved of the National Hunt faithful, and fiery redhead Annie is a pin-up girl like no other.

"She bossed the race," Willie Mullins said simply after the

Champion Hurdle. And while nothing stirs my soul quite like a good jumping mare, I wonder whether her sporting trainer and owner have considered letting Annie Power boss her way around Ascot for the Gold Cup in June? Just a thought.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

presented by:  Destination Europe
www.destinationeuropereading.com

CHANNEL 4 RACING SIGNS OFF IN STYLE

Channel 4 Racing brought the curtain down on 32 years of terrestrial TV coverage with its final broadcast from the Welsh Grand National at Chepstow and the second day of Kempton Park's Christmas meeting on Tuesday.

With rival company ITV set to offer free-to-air racing coverage from New Year's Day, the Channel 4 team reflected on its decades covering racing with a poignant montage featuring some of the greatest names to have graced the sport, both equine and human. Introduced by lead presenter Nick Luck, who said, "The real stars are the horses, men and women who have made it all so special," the footage ended, fittingly, with a clip of Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}) blasting his way to victory in the G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas of 2011.

The final programme also included a telephone interview with jockey Freddy Tylicki, who was paralysed in a race fall at Kempton on Oct. 31. The 30-year-old, who left St. George's Hospital in Tooting last week to continue his rehabilitation in the London Spinal Cord Injury Centre at Stanmore, was allowed to spend Christmas Day at home with his mother Irene and sister Madeleine.

In his interview with Luck, he said, "I was absolutely delighted to be home--it was only for the day--but it was obviously a step in the right direction. There are a lot of things on my plate right now but the main thing is to stay positive. I left hospital a week ago and I'm now in Stanmore and it's one of the best spinal clinics in the country so I'm looking forward to spending my time here."

Tylicki, who rode Speedy Boarding (GB) (Shamardal) to win the G1 Darley Prix Jean Romanet and G1 Prix de l'Opera Longines earlier this year, added, "The support I'm getting from everyone in racing is absolutely unbelievably. I don't really know how to thank everyone. It's been tremendous. There's a lot of money being raised for me and it will all be very helpful. A lot of friends are coming to visit me and that's given me a lot of help in staying positive. I appreciate it very much."

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BRITAIN



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Ferocity (Ire), g, 2, **Poet's Voice (GB)**--Foreign Language, by Distant View. WOL, 12-27, 5f 20y (AWT), 1:14.30. B-Anglia Bloodstock Ltd & C Humber (IRE). *20,000gns RNA Wlg '14 TATFOA; 10,000gns Ylg '15 TATOCT.

Makaarim (GB), c, 2, **Tamayuz (GB)**--Dubawi Cheetah (Ire), by Dubawi (Ire). WOL, 12-27, 8f 141y (AWT), 1:48.72. B-Essafinaat Ltd (GB).

EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Pakistan Star (Ger), g, 3, **Shamardal**--Nina Celebre (Ire) (MSW-Ger, SP-Itly), by Peintre Celebre. Sha Tin, 12-27, Griffin Trophy (R) (£211k/€247k), 1400m, 1:22. B-Gestut Wittkindshof. *€180,000 Ylg '14 ARQAUG; HK\$6,000,000 HRA '16 HKIS. **1/2 to Ninas Terz (Ger) (Tertullian), MSP-Ger. [VIDEO](#)

+Super Sixteen (GB), g, 3, **Showcasing (GB)**--Roodeye (GB) (SP- Eng), by Inchinor (GB). Sha Tin, 12-27, Hcp. (£88k/€104k), 1200m, 1:10.38. B-Mrs R F Johnson Houghton. *140,000gns Ylg '14 TATOCT; HK\$4,000,000 HRA '16 HKIS. **Full to Prize Exhibit (GB), MGSW & GISP-US, GSP-Eng, \$577,045. [VIDEO](#)

WORLDWIDE NEWS

PAKISTAN STAR BOUNCES BACK IN GRIFFIN TROPHY *by Alan Carasso*

The bloom had fallen off the proverbial rose ever so slightly for **Pakistan Star (Ger)** (Shamardal), the 'TDN Rising Star' who snagged victory from the jaws of defeat in two astonishing wins to begin his career, only to be rolled at long odds-on in his last three efforts. But facing his fellow 'griffins' at level weights, the bay snapped back into form with a smooth success in Tuesday's Griffin Trophy at Sha Tin.

Backed into \$12.50 (1-4) favoritism, the typically slow-starting Pakistan Star broke running this time and though he was fifth upon settling, he was no more than four lengths away from pacesetter **Sea Jade (Aus)** (Star Witness {Aus}), who had things very much his own way up front. Kept busy throughout by Joao Moreira, in the boot for the first time, Pakistan Star made

eyecatching progress while wide on the turn and loomed upsides the front-runner at the top of the lane. Asked to quicken



Pakistan Star takes care of business in the Griffin Trophy | HKJC photo

with 200m to travel, Pakistan Star still showed signs of greenness, hopping onto his incorrect lead, but he came away to score by a relatively hasslefree 2 3/4 lengths from Sea Jade ([video](#)).

"I'm very happy with that, Joao looked to have his hands full of

horse at the top of the straight and he took the chance, sent him out early and won the race. We couldn't ask for more," commented trainer Tony Cruz, who confirmed the Jan. 22 Hong Kong Classic Mile is next on the agenda. The conditioner hopes to have the 'Magic Man' along for the ride, but the Brazilian--who will have his pick among many of the Classic generation--wasn't playing his hand just yet.

"I can say that now he is definitely not mature enough to be facing the top horses at this stage, but he indicates to me that he will be one of those top horses in time. It's just a matter of time," Moreira opined.

An €180,000 purchase by the Hong Kong Jockey Club at the Arqana August Yearling Sale in 2014, Pakistan Star was knocked down for HK\$6 million at the Hong Kong International Sale last March. With his win Tuesday, his earnings now stand at HK\$4.3 million through six career starts.

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CLASSIC CROP TAKING SHAPE

by Alan Carasso

A pair of races later on the Tuesday program will have shed some light on the upcoming 4-Year-Old Classic Series, in particular the afternoon's finale. A Class 2 going 1400 metres, it featured the Hong Kong debut of **Beauty Generation (NZ)** (Road to Rock {Aus}), runner-up in the 2016 G1 Rosehill Guineas when raced as Montaigne.

Sent off a well-backed 4-1 with Zac Purton taking the call for John Moore, Beauty Generation settled in the latter half of the field early on and made some progress while following the move of favored **My Darling (Aus)** (Mossman {Aus}) around the turn. The latter, in receipt of eight pounds from Beauty Generation, hit the front in upper stretch, dug in gamely and managed to last by 3/4 of a length over Beauty Generation, who just got his nose down for second ([video](#)). [Cont. p7](#)

DECEMBER 2016

TDN WEEKEND

GUY HARWOOD

likes things that **GO FAST**

Navigating busy, bustling

HONG KONG

Owner

KALEEM SHAH

is living the **AMERICAN DREAM**

South Africa's

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

is the **MOST GLAMOROUS**
racing event on the continent

Magic Man **JOAO**

MOREIRA

Writing this from high up in the Northern Hemisphere as winter sets in, it seems odd to be talking about next month's "summer" racing festival, but summer it is in South Africa, and if your seasonal affective disorder is setting in, do we have the cure for you. The G1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate is Africa's oldest and most exclusive raceday, and we'll tell you everything you need to know as it expands to two days in 2017 for the first time. Also in this issue, former Executive Director, Racing, of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Bill Nader, helps you navigate the city for this year's international races, and we'll introduce you to Hong Kong's "Magic Man." Back home in America, we sit down with owner Kaleem Shah, and over in England, Chris McGrath reacquaints readers with a famous racing man who has replaced fast horses with fast cars.



Sue Finley, Co-Publisher

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Classic Crop Taking Shape Cont.

“Given he was in need of that and they’ve run pretty solid sectionals, for him to only go down by three-quarters of a length, he’s right on track,” Moore said of Beauty Generation. “He’ll come on leaps and bounds for that and we’ll go to the Classic Mile with a trial in between.”



My Darling gets home in the nightcap, w/Beauty Generation (pink blinkers) second | HKJC photo

In that race, he could face My Darling yet again. Or maybe not.

“This preparation, in Class 2 he struggled a little bit, and probably today too, he struggled to win,” said the typically cautious John Size

of the winner. “Maybe I’ll try him at the 1600m, I’m not sure. He’s by Mossman, and even though the sire can run that far I’m not sure that he will.”

Dinozzo (Ire) (Lilbourne Lad {Ire}) entered a 2000-metre Class 2 Tuesday as a fringe Derby candidate and more or less exited the event the same way after staying on to finish second, beaten a half-length. Ground-saving a good bit of the trip, he was shuffled back and found himself in some traffic on the second turn. He got home well once into the clear while still a bit green and rallied, but just missed ([video](#)).

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AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

My Darling (Aus), g, 4, **Mossman (Aus)**--Syrian Bride (NZ), by Golan (Ire). Sha Tin, 12-27, Hcp. (A\$314k), 1400mT, 1:21.67. B-Ramsey Pastoral Co Pty Ltd (Qld). *Formerly Caifu (Aus). **A\$26,000 Ylg ‘14 INGCLS.

IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Gio Ponti’s Legacy (Aus), g, 3, **Gio Ponti**--Intimation (Aus), by Hussonet. Kenilworth, 12-24, Maiden Plate, 1000mT, 1:00.54. O-H Adams; B-Arrowfield Pastoral Pty Ltd, Favretto Bloodstock (NSW); T-D R Hodgson. *A\$20,000 Ylg ‘15 MMNAT.

Raasmaal (Aus), c, 3, **Snitzel (Aus)**--Coast to the Post (Aus) (SP-Aus), by Anabaa. Turffontein, 12-24, Maiden Plate, 1000mT, :57.61. O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum; B-Bylong Park (NSW); T-Michael F De Kock. *A\$240,000 Ylg ‘15 INGEAS.

Ferrero Rocha (Aus), f, 4, **High Chaparral (Ire)**--Larrocha (Aus) (G1SW-Aus. A\$240,540), by Danehill. Kenilworth, 12-24, Maiden Plate, 1600mT, 1:42.82. O-Ridgemont Stud (Nom: Craig Carey); B-Linley Investments, Cobra Bloodstock Australia Pty Ltd, Austramore Pty Ltd (NSW); T-C L Bass-Robinson. *1/2 to Rocha (Aus) (Encosta de Lago {Aus}), GSW-Aus, A\$238,150. **A\$140,000 Ylg ‘14 INGEAS.

CARIBBEAN

‘BRENNIE’ RETIRED TO RANCHO SAN ANTONIO

Uncle Brennie (Uncle Mo--Moon Music, by Malibu Moon) has been retired and will stand his first season at Rancho San Antonio, founded by Dr. Angel R. Contreras and currently



Uncle Brennie | Coady Photography

managed by his son Dr. Angel B. Contreras, in the Dominican Republic, the stud announced Tuesday. From the standout first crop of leading freshman sire Uncle Mo, Uncle Brennie won the Sunday Silence S. for

Flurry Racing Stables, LLC and trainer Brad Cox as a juvenile and was also placed in the Street Sense S. at Churchill Downs. Privately purchased from his connections for stallion duty, the 3-year-old retires with a mark of 12-3-2-2 and \$118,469 in earnings. Uncle Brennie is out of a half-sister to GIII Arlington Matron H. heroine Euphony (Forest Wildcat)and SW Strike Again (Dixie Union), while his second dam is a MSW. His fee has been set at \$3,000.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Zarak (Dubawi) was tabbed as a “TDN Rising Star”

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