



MCCRACKEN AIMING FOR FEBRUARY RETURN



McCracken | Coady

by Steve Sherack

Fresh off the plane from a three-week trip to his native Australia, trainer Ian Wilkes is looking forward to getting back to business with his unbeaten GI Kentucky Derby hopeful **McCracken** (Ghostzapper).

“I’m going to work him again [Friday]--he’s just going to have another nice, maintenance work,” Wilkes reported from his Palm Meadows base. “I’m very happy with the horse.”

The Whitham Thoroughbreds homebred, last seen impressively capturing the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. in come-from-behind fashion at Churchill Nov. 26 ([video](#)), has already logged a pair of four-furlong breezes earlier this month in Florida under the watchful eye of Wilkes’s former boss, Hall of Famer Carl Nafzger.

“My Hall of Fame assistant didn’t let me down, he did a good job with him,” Wilkes said with a big laugh. “The horse looks good. I actually think he’s grown a little being away from him and he’s filled out a bit, too. That’s what you want to see.”

While admittedly in no rush to start mapping out his route to Louisville for the first Saturday in May, Wilkes does have a timeframe in mind when the road could begin.

“Where are we going with him?” Wilkes asked. “I don’t know yet. I’ve only been back for four days now, but I talked a little bit with Mrs. [Janis] Whitham and Clay Whitham about it.” **Cont. p3**

BETTOR-FRIENDLY TAX REGS NEARING REALITY

By T.D. Thornton

A framework of new horseplayer-friendly tax regulations that were jointly proposed by the United States Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on Dec. 29 could go into effect as early as April if the 31-page set of rules makes it unscathed through a 90-day public comment period.

The new regulations, titled “Withholding on Payments of Certain Gambling Winnings,” are designed to ease the burden of federal tax reporting and withholding requirements related to pari-mutuel betting.

For the better part of a decade, but most emphatically in the past two years, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) has lobbied hard at the federal level for such changes while recruiting a grass-roots corps of horseplayers to support the cause.

Cont. p4

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Friday, December 30, 2016



Dual Eclipse winner California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit) breezed a half-mile in :48.20 at his Los Alamitos home base Thursday in preparation for the \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup Jan. 28 at Gulfstream. | Gary Tasich

WAR STORY, SEMPER FORTIS TO PEGASUS

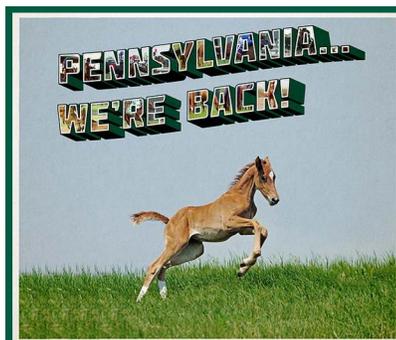
5

Looch Racing Stables' War Story (Northern Fleet) and Paul Reddam's Semper Fortis (Distorted Humor) have been added to the field for the GI Pegasus World Cup Jan. 28.

CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS: ERIC HAMELBACK

7

In our continuing series, National HBPA CEO Eric Hamelback shares his views on how to tackle racing's pressing issues.



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McCraken cont.

Wilkes continued, "It will probably be sometime in February, but this far out, I'm just not sure yet."

Unbeaten in three career starts, all at Churchill Downs,



Ian Wilkes | *Coady*

McCraken aced his first two-turn test beneath the Twin Spires with an eye-catching 1 1/4-length tally as the 4-5 chalk after a wide journey in Kentucky Jockey Club. A debut winner while overcoming some traffic in the stretch sprinting Oct. 2, he earned his 'TDN Rising Star' badge in style with a seven-wide rally in the one-mile Street Sense S. Oct. 30.

If it feels like Wilkes has been here before, he has. Well, sort of.

He partnered 1990 Kentucky Derby hero and GI Breeders' Cup Classic winner Unbridled in his morning preparations and also later served as an assistant to Nafzger for Street Sense (Street Cry {Ire})'s memorable 2006-07 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile-Derby double. While not able to draw any direct comparisons, the trio do share one common important thread, per Wilkes.

"I think he's a different horse compared to both of them," Wilkes commented. "One thing they all do have though is a good turn of foot. That's the important thing."

Wilkes enjoyed one of his biggest moments since going out on his own with the Whitham family's 2012 GI Breeders' Cup Classic hero Fort Larned (E Dubai). What's it like being in this position with an unbeaten Derby contender heading into the New Year?

"Well it's fun, isn't it?," Wilkes concluded. "It's fun. You can train a horse getting ready for the Breeders' Cup Classic, but there's so much more hype and excitement in having a young 2- year-old that looks to have the potential to be a Derby horse. There's just so much hype about the Derby and it's always fun. I'm blessed to be able to have a horse like this."

McCraken Pedigree Notes:

McCraken, named after a small town in Kansas, is a son of 2004 Horse of the Year and leading sire Ghostzapper. Runner-up in the GIII Endine S., McCraken's dam Ivory Empress (Seeking the Gold), a half-sister to GI Gamely Breeders' Cup H. heroine Mea Domina (Dance Brightly), has a yearling colt named Kearny County (Stroll) and a filly of this year named With Dignity (Declaration of War). She was covered by Majesticperfection this year. McCraken's second dam is GSW Madame Pandit (Wild Again), who was runner-up in the GI Santa Monica H. and is a half-sister to SW Sunlit Silence (Tremolino). **Cont. p4**

Prudence & brilliance



Seven G1 dirt horses in 2016.

Seven TDN 'Rising Stars' in 2016.

*No stallion has done better than **Bernardini**, whatever their fee.*

McCraken cont.

The latter is responsible for MGSW & GISP Greek Sun (Danzig) and this is also the family of GSW Fiscally Speaking (Belong to Me). McCraken’s lightly raced third dam Tuesday Evening (Nodouble), a runaway Santa Anita maiden winner in her career finale at second asking, was purchased for \$75,000 as a weanling by the Whitham family back at the 1983 FTKNOV sale. [Click here for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

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Tax Regulations cont. from p1

“We are going to be working over the next few days to make certain we have everything in the rule that we asked for,” NTRA President and Chief Executive Officer Alex Waldrop told TDN in a Thursday phone interview. “We think it’s there, and we will be coordinating a consistent response to the IRS and Treasury, essentially thanking them for listening to us and providing relief for the industry in the form of modernized withholding and reporting.”

According to an NTRA statement, “the proposed regulations will positively impact a significant percentage of winning wagers, particularly those involving multi-horse or multi-race exotic wagers, and result in tens of millions of dollars in additional pari-mutuel churn.”

The NTRA has long lobbied for changes to IRS code section 3402(q)(3)(c). It requires federal tax withholding if winnings of more than \$5,000 are derived from bets at the reporting level, which is 300 times as large as the base amount wagered.

That rule is unfair, the NTRA has argued, because it was conceived in an era when the daily double was the industry’s most exotic bet. Horseplayers have likewise bemoaned that this standard for reporting is outdated, because these days, withholding- and reporting-triggering scores are increasingly comprised of a complex array of horizontal and vertical bets that by their very nature end up producing numerous losing wagers on the same ticket that don’t count as losses for tax purposes.

An “Explanation of Provisions” section of the proposed new regulations addresses those concerns.

“The increase in exotic betting, and in particular the use of certain methods of exotic betting, has resulted in scenarios where [the outdated] rules may result in withholding that significantly exceeds the individual gambler’s ultimate income tax liability,” the Treasury/IRS document explains. “In light of this, the proposed regulations amend the rules regarding how payers determine the amount of the wager in pari-mutuel wagering transactions... by providing a new rule to determine the amount of the wager when wagers are placed in a single pari-mutuel pool and are reflected on a single ticket.” **Cont. p5**

NORTH AMERICA'S LEADING ACTIVE SIRES

BY PERCENTAGE OF BLACK TYPE WINNERS FROM STARTERS LIFETIME

★ Distorted Humor	12.2%
★ SPEIGHTSTOWN	11.4%
Medaglia d'Oro	11.1%
Tapit	10.8%
Kitten's Joy	10.5%
Giant's Causeway	9.7%

Source: Equineline Statistical Sire Summary, No. Hem. 12/22 - Minimum 500 starters



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- Hall of Fame Trainer D. Wayne Lukas



1st dam - BROODMARE OF THE YEAR

TAKE CHARGE LADY, b. Dehere. 11 wins in 22 starts, 2 to 4, \$2,480,377, S. [G1] (KEE, \$345,805), Overbrook Spinster S. [G1] (KEE, \$310,000), Walmac International S. [G2], Fair Grounds Oaks [G2] (FG, \$210,000), Arlington S. [G2] (AP, \$90,000), Silverbulletday S. [G3] (FG, \$90,000), etc. (CD, \$67,890), NTRA Great State Challenge Distaff Invitational S. [G1] (CD, \$120,000), 2nd Kentucky Oaks [G1] (CD, \$112,420), etc. [G1] (OP, \$100,000), Ogden Phipps H. [G1] (BEL, \$100,000), Delaware H. [G2] (DEL, \$150,000), etc. [G2] (CD, \$54,000), Golden Rod S. [G2]. Dam of 5 foals, 5 of racing age, 5 to race, 4 winners, including--
Champion 3YO Colt. 7 wins in 10 starts, \$3,924,648, Travers S. [G1] (SAR, \$600,000), Clark H. S. [G1] (PRX, \$562,000), Oaklawn H. S. [G1] (OP, \$360,000), Smarty Jones S. [L] (BC Classic [G1] (SA \$900,000) by a nose, etc.
ROY (c. by A.P. Indy). Winner at 2, 3, and 4, 2013, \$1,100,000, Derby [G1] (GP, \$600,000), Alysheba S. [G2] (CD, \$100,000), Clark H. [G1] (CD, \$85,824), Skip Away S. [G3] (GP, \$100,000), Washington Futurity [G3] (AP, \$18,400), 3rd Donn H. S. [G1] (AP, \$100,000), Fayette S. [G2] (KEE, \$15,000).
King of the Gold. Winner at 3. Dam of --
BRANDI (f. by Giant's Causeway). Winner at 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 126 in US. Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies [G1], etc. [G3], 2nd Schuylerville S. [G3].
al. Dam of --
cit. Dam of --
ota. Dam of --
NE. Dam of --
MM. Dam of --
TAIL (f. by Lear Fan). 5 wins at 3 and 5, \$300,895, Mount Vernon H. S. [G1] (BEL, \$50,475), New York Oaks-R (FL, \$36,000), etc. Dam of --
IGHT STORY (c. by Giant's Causeway). 6 wins, 2 to 5, \$736,393, Fort Marcy S. [G3] (BEL, \$60,000), 2nd Jamaica H. [G1], etc.

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After years of stalled efforts to reform tax rules, the NTRA embarked upon a strategy shift in January 2015. Instead of continuing to ask for federal legislative changes to withholding and reporting, the organization decided to go straight to the Treasury, which has the power to re-interpret the tax code without changing it.

“We believe the strategy that we undertook of enlisting the support of key lawmakers...to get the attention of staffers in the Treasury department who understood our issues,” was the big breakthrough in getting the new regulations to the brink of passage, Waldrop said.

When asked if the NTRA was aware of any entities that would try to block or oppose the proposal, Waldrop said, “not that we are aware of. No one emerged in 2015 when we went through the original comment period, so we don’t anticipate any opposition.”

That original public input period drew some 12,000 comments, many of which were written by supportive horseplayers who spoke up via an online submission portal. In the coming days, the NTRA will again be getting the word out to bettors about how to submit comments for this close-to-final rules package.

Waldrop said “depending on how [the comment period] goes, if there are no objections to the rule, it could become law in as quickly as 90 days.”

Waldrop was quick to credit numerous legislators involved in the plan, but he added “it was also horseplayers” who helped to push the tax initiative to its present point.

“It was the thousands of people who submitted positive comments to the changes that we proposed.” Waldrop said. “As they say, ‘Victory has a thousand fathers.’”

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WAR STORY, SEMPER FORTIS TO GO IN PEGASUS *By Bill Finley*

Two more slots have been filled for the Jan. 28 GI Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream as **War Story** (Northern Afleet) and **Semper Fortis** (Distorted Humor) have been added to the lineup for the \$12-million race.

The primary owner of War Story, the recent winner of the Queens County H., is Ron Paolucci’s Looch Racing. Paolucci reached a deal with Pegasus stakeholder Dan Schafer and will use his spot to run in the race. Schafer, who does not own any horses of his own, declined to reveal any details of the transaction.

Cont. p6

No stallion at under \$75,000 can match **Hard Spun’s** seven G1 winners since 2012. Hard Spun doesn’t stand for \$60,000, or \$75,000. He stands for \$45,000. **Hard** to refuse...



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War Story, Semper Fortis cont.

“I just feel excited,” Schafer said. “I’m excited for the race and I’m excited for my position in it now. Obviously, not having a **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit) or an **Arrogate** (Unbridled’s Song) doesn’t



War Story training towards the Breeders’ Cup | Horsephotos

discourage me, but at the same time it’s a pretty big task to try to tackle them. You would imagine it is going to be those two finishing one-two in some order, but with horse racing you never know. War Story gives me a fighter’s chance.”

The Dec. 17 Queens County seemed to be a turning point in War Story’s career as he won by 7 1/4 lengths and showed much more early speed than normal, leading at every call. In his prior start he was fourth in the GI Cigar Mile H. Paolucci said that the horse has improved since they took the blinkers off prior to the Cigar and made some other adjustments. The trainer is Mario Serey Jr.

“The reality is this is the richest race ever run in the history of racing,” he said. “When you look at it from that perspective, it’s hard not to be excited about it. I’m a lot more excited since we took the blinkers off and we got a little contraction in his ears to have him not hear things at the break. If this horse breaks, which we think he will, he’s a very viable option as an upsetter. I’ll say this: other than Arrogate and California Chrome, there’s not another horse in the race I’d trade places with.”

Paolucci is not convinced that Arrogate will in fact make the Pegasus World Cup.

“I know Bob Baffert relatively well because he trained Ria Antonia (Rockport Harbor) for us,” he said. “If Arrogate runs in the [GI] San Pasqual S. [on Sunday], which it looks like he will, I think it’s a case of a lot of smoke and mirrors. Bob likes to have time between races and time to get them ready. If he runs on Jan. 1 he won’t go back to the track until the seventh or eighth and then he’s got to get on the plane. That doesn’t give him much time to train and that’s not very Bob-like.”

Paolucci also pointed out that Baffert doesn’t seem to be a big fan of Gulfstream. He is only 2 for 17 there in his career, has not run a horse there since 2007 and last won a race at Gulfstream in 2001. That winner came with Captain Steve (Fly So Free) in the GI Donn H., which has been reincarnated as the Pegasus.

Cont. p7

SHACK ATTACK

**LEADING FIRST-CROP SIRES
by 2-Year-Old Winners**

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Maclean's Music	20
3. Dialed In	19
4. Union Rags	18
5. Creative Cause	17
Stay Thirsty	17

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. C O M

Source: TDN Sire Lists 12/29

Bill Finley cont.

Semper Fortis' presence in the race was first reported by the *Daily Racing Form*. He is owned by Reddam Racing, which bought a spot hoping to run 2016 Kentucky Derby winner Nyquist (Uncle Mo), who has been retired. Semper Fortis broke his maiden in a \$30,000 maiden claimer at Del Mar and most recently finished sixth in the GI Malibu.

"We'll run a horse to get some of the money back," Paul Reddam told the *Form*. "If you don't have a realistic shot of running 1-2 and you're more likely to finish in the pack, you have to take your lumps."

The owner of any horse starting in the Pegasus will earn \$250,000 just for running, plus a cut of the handle and other revenue sources. It is estimated that the total amount paid out to the also-rans will be about \$400,000. It costs \$1 million to secure a spot.

With the additions of War Story and Semper Fortis, four spots remain open for the race. **Gun Runner** (Candy Ride {Arg}), the winner of the GI Clark H. and **Stanford** (Malibu Moon) remain two of the bigger names among the "free agents." Stanford kicked off his 4-year-old campaign with a three-length win in the Dec. 17 Harlan's Holiday S.

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UNCONTESTED SMARTY JONES BOUND

"TDN Rising Star" **Uncontested** (Tiz Wonderful) will make his sophomore debut in Oaklawn's Smarty Jones S. Jan. 16 for



Uncontested | *Coady*

owners Harry Rosenblum and Robert LaPenta.

"He's probably the most talented 2-year-old I've ever had," said Rosenblum, who won the 2015 Smarty Jones with Far Right (Notional).

Uncontested scored a front-running six-length

victory on debut at Keeneland Oct. 19 and checked in fourth next out in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. last time Nov. 26. The Wayne Catalano pupil most recently breezed five furlongs in 1:00.60 (3/62) in Hot Springs Dec. 23.

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Challenges & SOLUTIONS

Challenges and Solutions is an ongoing series in the TDN.

ERIC HAMELBACK, CEO National HBPA

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

It's hard to narrow down and prioritize which problems are "the" most important--not to mention those which are not a reality, but are proclaimed as a problem by some within our industry. However, I strongly believe one of the most real problems revolves around protection and procurement of our national owners and trainers.

How many times have we heard, "We need to get more owners in the game?" My response: "Are we taking the best care of the owners we currently have?" While I certainly advocate for acquiring more owners, it is of greater importance to strengthen the ties we have with our current owners and trainers (many of whom also are owners).



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Challenges & Solutions cont.

A critical step is ensuring that owners are fairly compensated for their property and their horses' images and statistical records being used for wagering in this tech era by entities that benefit without contributing toward the care and upkeep of our horses. Also, today's owners deserve to feel good about being in our sport, instead of enduring the self-immolation by segments within our industry proclaiming--without facts--that we have public-perception issues, or that our sport is inundated with performance-enhancing drugs.

This is not denial. This is knowing the facts do not support those declared issues. We continue to see record crowds at our marquee events such as the Kentucky Oaks, Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Breeders' Cup and for local meets such as Keeneland and Oaklawn Park. The massive money spent from around the world at the top end of our auctions show no lack of confidence in the American product.

Fact: the amount of medication violations is less than 1%. Obviously we all want it to be zero, and there is more work to be done. But let's be truthful about how good of a job we are doing. We should be letting current and prospective owners know our sport strives very hard to keep everyone on a level playing field. There are winners and there are losers every day in our sport. On a day when your "team" is not a winner, let's not bash an entire industry to proclaim there had to be cheating.

We always will have concerns that need to be addressed, problems that need to be fixed, and yes, even rule breakers who must be punished. In that regard, we are no different from any other profession.

Meanwhile, our owners and trainers continue to see dwindling purse accounts. That is the problem we should be attacking in order to protect current and gain future owners and trainers. How can we procure more owners if we mishandle the ones we have now?

There are several companies making money off of our trainers' efforts and our owners' property. Are those owners being properly compensated? No.

We must stand up for our owners and trainers. What defines the rights of an owner? What rights do we have that we are not claiming in today's media and data-rich technological world? We are in a situation where the racetracks, advance-deposit wagering platforms and other media sources pat owners on the head and say, "What is mine is mine and what is yours is mine..."

For our success and survival, horsemen must have a genuine understanding of what belongs to us and what rights we have to the equine athletes' images and the data they produce. It is imperative that owners and trainers get a fair portion of the "product" their properties produce every day.

Owners must come together and decide if purse accounts are

being properly supplemented from the fees collected by others in this business. There are entities selling statistics to horseplayers and fans as handicapping tools or to the racetrack programs. Do percentages of those sales go back to the purse structures? Who actually owns the collective rights of a horse race? Why should a bet placed through any ADW platform have less of a percentage going back to the purse accounts than a bet made on track? Especially, if those bets are made within the bricks and mortar of the very racetrack racing.

These questions are food for thought. The answers also are complicated. But what is clear is our representative horsemen's groups are the only organizations which can institute beneficial change. We are the only federally-authorized entities mandated to represent owners and trainers. Those who say otherwise are simply wrong.

What I consider as the pressing problem of our industry can be solved, but only through the coming together as a group with pooled resources to, if necessary, force change.

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

Having brought first-time spectators to the track, I believe complexity is the problem we must address to gain traction among those not involved with racing on a daily basis. There are many aspects of a day at the races that are intimidating to the uninitiated.

We must produce a positive experience for everyone, especially for those who are new to handicapping.

In this day of instant gratification on the entertainment and social levels, we need to initiate and cultivate ways for increasing the churn of our handle.

We must recognize horse-racing data has been primarily in the same format for the last 50 years and change. We need to embrace being an industry so superbly suited for technological advances and use it to our advantage for horseplayers, be they rookies or regulars.

We must understand betting horses as a monopoly is gone and the competition for the gambling entertainment dollar will continue to be fierce. As such, we must do a better job of demystifying the sport and the acquisition of data for those new to racing.

We need to continue a focus on attracting new fans. Part of that is making racing less complex in hopes of generating more handle for our national owners and trainers.

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North America, unless otherwise indicated**

Triple Crown hero American Pharoah wrapped up his career on the track the easiest of GI Breeders' Cup Classic winners.... **"I'm so proud of this horse,"** offered Hall of Fame trainer **Bob Baffert. "This is the greatest horse I'll ever see."**

TDN, 1st Nov. 2015



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Sunday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 7:00 p.m. EST

SAN PASQUAL S.-GII, \$200,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Prospect Park	Tapit	Pam & Martin Wygod	Sise, Jr.	Arroyo, Jr.	120
2	Accelerate 	Lookin At Lucky	Hronis Racing, LLC	Sadler	Baze	125
3	Dalmore 	Colonel John	Big Chief Rcg, Head of Plains Ptnrs, Rocker O Ranch, Et Al	Desormeaux	Desormeaux	122
4	Midnight Storm 	Pioneerof the Nile	A Venneri Racing, Inc. or Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Bejarano	125
5	Arrogate 	Unbridled's Song	Juddmonte Farms	Baffert	Smith	125

Breeders: 1-Pam & Martin Wygod, 2-Mike Abraham, 3-Sally J. Andersen, 4-Alex Venneri & Marjorie Post Dye, 5-Clearsky Farms

Sunday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 1:30 p.m. EST

MR. PROSPECTOR S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 6f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	El Deal 	Munnings	Passion Stables Inc	D'Angelo	Velazquez	119
2	Squadron A 	Unbridled's Song	Carolyn Vogel	Romans	Lanerie	117
3	Candip 	Candy Ride (Arg)	K Town Partners	Tomlinson	Gaffalione	121
4	Yourdreamsormine	Mr. Sekiguchi	N. T. S. Stable, Inc.	Wolfson	Lopez	121
5	Shaft of Light	Smart Strike	Monster Racing Stables	Navarro	Zayas	121
6	Delta Bluesman	Wagon Limit	Monster Racing Stables	Navarro	Jaramillo	123

Breeders: 1-Martha Buckner, 2-Patterson Bloodstock & Taylor MadeStallions Inc., 3-WinStar Farm, LLC, 4-Bridlewood Farm, 5-Sam-Son Farm, 6-Denis A. Dwyer

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2016 General Sire List by Earnings

for stallions standing in Northern America through Wednesday, Dec. 28

Earnings and Black-type represents worldwide year-to-date figures

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Tapit <i>(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (\$300,000)</i>	21	53	15	36	5	10	304	147	\$1,910,000 <i>Frosted</i>	\$19,870,249
2	Curlin <i>(2004) by Smart Strike FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farm KY (\$100,000)</i>	14	27	7	18	5	7	195	118	\$2,598,000 <i>Exaggerator</i>	\$12,703,780
3	Uncle Mo <i>(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 2 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (\$75,000)</i>	18	30	10	19	2	5	157	90	\$3,575,600 <i>Nyquist</i>	\$12,401,610
4	Empire Maker <i>(2000) by Unbridled FYR: 2005 Crops: 10 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (\$100,000)</i>	3	7	1	3	--	1	358	171	\$513,459 <i>Eterna Minoru (JPN)</i>	\$11,463,307
5	Medaglia d'Oro <i>(1999) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Darley KY (\$150,000)</i>	15	32	6	18	3	6	223	100	\$2,210,000 <i>Songbird</i>	\$11,358,750
6	Candy Ride (Arg) <i>(1999) by Ride the Rails FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$60,000)</i>	15	22	8	11	2	5	285	161	\$1,970,880 <i>Gun Runner</i>	\$11,210,824
7	Bernardini <i>(2003) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2008 Crops: 7 Stands: Darley KY (\$100,000)</i>	14	31	10	21	1	7	254	127	\$1,125,000 <i>Cavorting</i>	\$11,008,014
8	Kitten's Joy <i>(2001) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2007 Crops: 8 Stands: Ramsey Farm KY (\$100,000)</i>	17	32	10	19	3	3	334	148	\$868,865 <i>Camelot Kitten</i>	\$10,885,631
9	Lucky Pulpit <i>(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2008 Crops: 7 Stands: Harris Farm CA (\$7,500)</i>	2	3	1	1	1	1	161	75	\$8,180,000 <i>California Chrome</i>	\$10,723,690
10	Unbridled's Song <i>(1993) by Unbridled FYR: 1998 Crops: 17 Stands: Taylor Made Stallions USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	7	15	4	4	3	3	183	82	\$4,084,600 <i>Arrogate</i>	\$10,700,055
11	Giant's Causeway <i>(1997) by Storm Cat FYR: 2002 Crops: 13 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (\$85,000)</i>	12	27	6	14	1	4	306	138	\$678,000 <i>Destin</i>	\$10,638,291
12	City Zip <i>(1998) by Carson City FYR: 2003 Crops: 12 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$40,000)</i>	13	28	6	9	2	4	275	157	\$1,154,033 <i>Catch a Glimpse</i>	\$10,035,806
13	Smart Strike <i>(1992) by Mr. Prospector FYR: 1998 Crops: 17 Stands: Lane's End Farm USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	12	25	5	10	--	2	219	104	\$967,247 <i>Amour Briller</i>	\$9,929,263
14	Scat Daddy <i>(2004) by Johannesburg FYR: 2009 Crops: 6 Stands: Ashford Stud USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	17	32	8	13	5	6	283	147	\$667,608 <i>Dacita (CHI)</i>	\$9,832,621
15	Malibu Moon <i>(1997) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2001 Crops: 14 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (\$95,000)</i>	11	22	5	9	2	2	316	140	\$905,160 <i>Stanford</i>	\$9,551,058

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NEW YORK

Friday, Aqueduct, post time: 1:20 p.m. EDT

EAST VIEW S., (S), \$100,000, 2yo, f, 1m70yds

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ML
1	Messer Misfit	Drosselmeyer	J Davis	Ibrahim	20-1
2	Overnegotiate	Overdriven	Maragh	Pletcher	3-1
3	Bonita Bianca	Curlin	I Ortiz	Rodriguez	6-5
4	Bree's Got Heart	Colonel John	Pennington	Reid	8-1
5	Tiznow's Smile	Tiznow	Franco	Baker	2-1

Thursday's Results:

DAMON RUNYON S., \$100,000, AQU, 12-29, (S), 2yo, 1m 70y, 1:45.69, my.

1--**#HAUL ANCHOR, 118, c, 2, by Bernardini**

1st Dam: Whichwaydidshego, by Storm Cat

2nd Dam: Spunoutacontrol, by Wild Again

3rd Dam: Yarn, by Mr. Prospector

O/B-Chester Broman & Mary R. Broman (NY); T-Kiaran P. McLaughlin; J-Cornelio H. Velasquez. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: 6-2-3-0, \$143,000. *1/2 to Mark My Way (Noonmark), MSW, \$243,094; and Hard to Stay Notgo (More Than Ready), MSW, \$212,440.

Sequel Bloodstock graduate

2--**Mo Maverick, 118, c, 2, Uncle Mo--Lemon Splendor, by Lemon Drop Kid.** (\$200,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP). O-R. A. Hill Stable & Gatsas Stables; B-Gentry Stable (NY); T-George Weaver. \$20,000.

3--**Carradine, 118, c, 2, Grasshopper--Summer Moon, by Maria's Mon.** (\$39,000 RNA Ylg '15 EASOCT). O-D A S L Stable LLC; B-W.

S. Farish (NY); T-Linda Rice. \$10,000.

Margins: 4HF, 3HF, 2. Odds: 13.60, 3.05, 11.20.

Also Ran: D'yer Mak'er, Voodoo Song, Tellmeafookystory, Mollica, Macho Miah. Scratched: Bourbon Empire.

Haul Anchor broke through third out over Mo Maverick at the Spa Sept. 1, and dead-heated for second over seven panels of good ground in Belmont's restricted Bertram F. Bongard S. Oct. 2. He dueled and stopped in that venue's one-mile Sleepy Hollow S. 20 days later, and was dismissed in the betting over similarly wet conditions here. It hadn't hurt to possess speed throughout Thursday's card, and Haul Anchor was hard-ridden by pilot Cornelio Velasquez to make the lead into the first turn. Pestered by Mo Maverick through fractions of :23.67, :47.84 and 1:13.85, he continued on straight and strong in the stretch, and built on his advantage under confident handling while clearly relishing the footing.

"He was training well so we thought he'd run well," offered Joe Lee, assistant to winning conditioner Kiaran McLaughlin. "We weren't crazy about the rain, but it was more of a sealed type of track, so we thought he'd get it over it well. As far as his breeding, we always thought he'd go long. In the mornings, he gallops really well at a mile-and-a-half and it doesn't really take anything out of him, so I didn't think the distance would be a problem for him."



Haul Anchor | NYRA/Chelsea Durand

The winner's dam is a half-sister to MGSW/MGISP Fed Biz (Giant's Causeway), as well as the stakes-winning dam of this year's GI Vosburgh S. winner Joking (Distorted Humor). She produced a Bernardini filly in 2015 and a Will Take Charge filly earlier this term before being bred back to Malibu Moon. Haul Anchor hails from the deep female family of GISW Preach, MG1SW Minardi, GSW sire Tale of the Cat, champion Johannesburg, etc. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

6th-AQU, \$67,000, Alw, 12-29, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.61, my.

PLAY UNIFIED (f, 3, Exchange Rate--Carson City Sham {SP, \$111,070}, by Carson City) belied 20-1 odds when she won her debut by daylight at the Spa in August of 2015, and resurfaced here Dec. 4 to check in third after setting the pace. Outfitted with first-time Lasix and blinkers for this second try off the bench, the grey splashed right to the front and was taken a hard hold of as she doled out splits of :23.30 and :47.06. Coming a touch wide into the lane, the 4-1 shot struggled to switch leads for almost the entire stretch, but she was never seriously threatened up top and hit the line four lengths to the good of Malibu Princess (Malibu Moon). Play Unified is a half-sister to Fast City (Half Ours), SP, \$223,987; and Heatseeker Sharon (Heatseeker {Ire}), SW, \$214,680. Her dam, a daughter of MGISW Sham Say (Oh Say), produced an Astrology colt in 2015 and a Half Ours filly in 2016 before being bred back to the latter. Sales history: \$70,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEESEP; \$55,000 2yo '15 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-1, \$95,025. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#) O-Bona Venture Stables; B-Keith & Earl Hernandez & John Duvieilh (LA); T-George Weaver.

FLORIDA

Thursday's Results:

8th-GP, \$38,000, Alw (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 12-29, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT, 1:47.00, fm.

ELYSEA'S WORLD (IRE) (f, 3, [Champs Elysees {GB}](#)--[Ideal World {Ire}](#), by [Singspiel {Ire}](#)), a debut winner at Chantilly in June of 2015, resurfaced Stateside for these connections and rallied impressively to remain unbeaten at Belmont May 11. Subsequently sixth in the Wonder Again S. the following month, the bay was second behind stablemate Ancient Secret (Kantharos) in Saratoga's GII Lake George S. July 22 and fourth behind subsequent GI Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup heroine Time and Motion (Tapit) in the GII Lake Placid S. Aug. 21. She had last been seen checking in sixth in the GII Sands Point S. back in Elmont Sept. 17, and was backed down to 4-5 off what looked to be a significant class edge. Bobbling slightly at the break, Elysea's World was hung widest into the first turn before moving up to sit a distant third behind a runaway leader. Given her cue at the quarter pole, she blew by the stopping pacesetter in the blink of an eye and kept finding to hold Trigger Finger (U S Ranger) at bay by 1 1/4 lengths. The winner hails from the extended female family of GISW Housebuster. She has a soon-to-be 2-year-old half-sister named Ideal Day (Fr) (Zoffany {Ire}) and a 2016-born half-brother named Ideal Man (Fr) (Waldpark {Ger}). Sales history: €25,000 Ylg '14 AR14. Lifetime Record: GSP, 7-3-1-0, \$150,803. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O-Sheep Pond Partners & All Pro Racing LLC; B-Haras D'Haspel (IRE); T-Chad C. Brown.

CENTRAL U.S.

Thursday's Results:

7th-FG, \$45,000, Alw (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43.99, ft.

DECEMBER SEVEN (c, 3, [Street Sense](#)--[Date to Remember](#), by [Bernardini](#)) further suggested that he'll be one to watch for next year with an effortless success here at 3-5. Third for his particularly patient conditioner at Ellis Aug. 21, the \$160,000 KEESEP yearling aired by six lengths when stretched out and given first-time Lasix at Churchill Sept. 24. Third at Keeneland Oct. 22 when ridden extremely passively, he bounced back after showing more speed to take a 1 3/16-mile allowance by 3 1/4 lengths under the Twin Spires Nov. 12, and fired a five-furlong bullet in 1:01 flat (1/33) in preparation for this. Always in complete command, December Seven posted splits of :25.26, :49.74 and 1:14.02 en route to a facile four-length tally. Flashlight (Ire) (Shamardal) outran his 20-1 odds for second. The winner's dam is a half to GISW Eddington (Unbridled). She was a \$450,000 KEESEP yearling and \$200,000 KEEJAN '13 purchase carrying December Seven. Her 2-year-old filly Bernina Star (Harlan's Holiday), a \$300,000 KEESEP yearling, was most recently a close third in a Del Mar maiden special weight Nov. 26. Her yearling colt by Speightstown brought \$600,000 from China Horse Club/Maverick Racing at this year's Keeneland September sale. She was bred to Into Mischief this spring. December Seven's victory Thursday was the 1000th of trainer Paul McGee's career. "It feels great," McGee offered. "Samantha [Siegel] has been a great client for many years and a great friend. I don't know how many of the thousand were for Jay Em Ess Stable, but it was a lot and it's good to do it for Samantha." Sales history: Lifetime Record: 5-3-0-2, \$98,800. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#).

O-Jay Em Ess Stable; B-Siena Farms LLC (KY); T-Paul J. McGee.

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Central Report cont. p3

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Haul Anchor (Bernardini) goes box to wire in Damon Runyon.



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DOMINUS

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**A LEADING
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	BT 2YOs	% BTH	Avg. Earnings
Dialed In	2	5%	\$37,525
DOMINUS	4	19%	\$31,833
Mission Impazible	3	14%	\$29,310
Union Rags	4	8%	\$28,724
Maclean’s Music	7	18%	\$21,580
Gemologist	4	9%	\$19,489

Source: TDN Sire Lists, 12/29. minimum 20 starters


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Smart Strike - Cuando, by Lord At War (Arg)
Fee: \$7,500 S&N

6th-FG, \$38,000, Msw, 12-29, 2yo, 5 1/2ft, 1:04.54, fm.
KISS THE TOAD (c, 2, Exchange Rate--Ms Proud Destiny, by Artax) was looking to provide New York-based conditioner Tom Morley with his first local victory in his inaugural winter in New Orleans, and the colt came through emphatically as a heavy favorite. The grey checked in third behind talented turfers Good Samaritan (Harlan's Holiday) and Ticonderoga (Tapit) when stretched out on the Saratoga sod Aug. 13, but settled for fourth behind the latter at Belmont Sept. 10. He was second when cut back to six panels in Elmont Oct. 7, and the money poured in for him here as he left the gate at 7-10. Always in control, Kiss the Toad blew his competition away after a half in :47.16 to cruise under the wire 6 1/4 lengths clear. Longshots Wildcat Saint (Wildcat Heir) and It Is Dejavu (Tizdejavu) spiced up the exacta and trifecta, respectively. The winner is a half to Hamazing Destiny (Salt Lake), GSW & MGISP, \$853,008. His dam produced an Akeed Mofeed (GB) colt earlier this year. Sales history: \$230,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$150,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-1, \$53,600. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**
 O-MMM Stables, LLC; B-Goldin Australia Pty. LTD. (KY); T-Thomas Morley.

Sold by Hunter Valley Farm
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Jockey Florent Geroux scored his 1,000th career victory Thursday aboard Mr. Misunderstood (Archarcharch) in the second race at the Fair Grounds. "It's a great feeling," Geroux said. "I've had a big year and it has been lots of hard work. It's been a big team effort with the owners, trainers and my agent Doug Bredar. A lot of miles and sacrifice with my family, but it feels great to get the first thousand. I can't wait to get another and I hope it comes even quicker." | Coady

10th-FG, \$41,000, Msw, 12-29, 2yo, f, 1m 70y, 1:44.38, ft.
SONG OF SPRING (f, 2, Spring At Last--Adream, by Bernardini) rallied for third going a one-turn mile at Churchill Oct. 30, but was a no-show seventh going an extra sixteenth and around one more bend back in Louisville Nov. 26. She was still supported as the 2-1 second choice for this, however, and got the job done after a hard-fought stretch battle. Away in midpack from her rail draw, the \$80,000 Fasig-Tipton October yearling took up a pocket spot down the backside while under stout restraint. She was switched out for clear sailing at the quarter pole as favorite Harkness (Harlan's Holiday) turned up the pressure on game pacesetter She'sagraciouslady (Gemologist), and finally wore down the latter in the waning stages to prevail by a neck. Song of Spring's dam is a half to MGISW Dream Rush (Wild Rush), who in turn produced GISW Dreaming of Julia (A.P. Indy). She has a yearling colt by Bodemeister who brought \$225,000 at KEESEP and a weanling filly by Super Saver. Adream was bred back to Empire Maker. Sales history: \$80,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$30,683. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

O-Stoneway Farm; B-Susan Casner (KY); T-Neil J. Howard.

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CALIFORNIA

Friday, Santa Anita, post time: 6:30 p.m. EDT

EDDIE LOGAN S., \$75,000, 2yo, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ML
1	Oopper Wallah	Congrats	Talamo	Chew	12-1
2	Soglio	Scat Daddy	Van Dyke	Motion	7-2
3	Hootie	Candy Ride (Arg)	Espinoza	McCarthy	5-1
4	Vending Machine	Hard Spun	Arroyo Jr	Miller	8-1
5	Curly's Waterfront	More Than Ready	Baze	Oviedo	6-1
6	Cistron	The Factor	Contreras	Sadler	4-1
7	Interrogator	Afleet Alex	Bejarano	Morey	10-1
8	Calli Way	Unusual Heat	Elliott	Yakteen	12-1
9	Offshore	Exchange Rate	Desormeaux	Drysdale	8-1

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Thursday's Results:

BLUE NORTHER S., \$84,225, SA, 12-29, 2yo, f, 1mT, 1:36.24, fm. 1--**#MISS SUGARS (GB), 119, f, 2, by Harbour Watch (Ire)**

1st Dam: Three Sugars (Aus), by Starcraft (Nz)

2nd Dam: Hoh Dear (Ire), by Sri Pekan

3rd Dam: Miss Kristin (Ire), by Alzao

(10,000gns Ylg '15 TAOCT). O-Red Baron's Barn LLC & Rancho Temescal; B-Chippenham Lodge Stud (GB); T-Jeff Mullins; J-Tyler Baze. \$46,800. Lifetime Record: 8-2-3-1, \$71,985.

2--**Princess Roi**, 121, f, 2, Roi Charmant--Stormin Lucy, by Native Storm. O-GGG Stables & Russell J. Sarno; B-GGG Stables (CA); T-Richard Baltas. \$20,100.

3--**Tap It All**, 119, f, 2, Tapizar--Yawkey Way, by Grand Slam. (\$120,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$800,000 2yo '16 FTFMAR). O-ERJ Racing, LLC & Reddam Racing LLC; B-Dell Ridge Farm, LLC, Des Ryan, Ken Donworth & Tony Dardis (KY); T-Doug F. O'Neill. \$9,360.



Margins: HD, NO, 1. Odds: 6.30, 15.80, 28.80.

Also Ran: Journey Home, Cynthiana, Joe'sgoldenholiday, Partyinthepaddock, Mo'vette, La Force (Ger), Simmy's Temple (GB). Scratched: Yuvetsi.

Miss Sugars kicked off her career with a nose success at Thirsk in June for trainer David Simcock, and added runner-up finishes at Kempton and Doncaster before a third-place effort in a Newmarket handicap July 30. Second at Goodwood in her final overseas start Aug. 30, she checked in fifth with some traffic trouble here Oct. 10. The chestnut had last been seen finishing fourth as one of a number of fillies affected by debris on the course during the running of Del Mar's GIII Jimmy Durante S. Nov. 26, and was adding blinkers this time while looking to turn the tables on Durante heroine Journey Home (War Front).

Showing decidedly more early interest this time with the equipment change, Miss Sugars settled into a joint third in the clear early as longshots Princess Roi and Tap It All tussled up front. Those two forgot to stop as they straightened, but Tyler Baze implored Miss Sugars for more as the winning line loomed and she obliged with a late surge. Journey Home seemed to be in a good spot, but just didn't kick like she did last out.

Miss Sugars is a relative of globe-trotting GISW Wigmore Hall (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}). She has a yearling half-brother by Sir Percy (GB) and a weanling half-sister by Poet's Voice (GB).

Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

3rd-GG, \$31,139, Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 12-29, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.67, ft.

TURKISH TABBY (f, 3, Eskendereya--Miss Stonestreet, by Mr. Greeley) was a distant second first up at Pleasanton Sept. 30,

and donned cap and gown by 5 1/2 lengths when stretched to a mile here Oct. 23. She failed to reproduce that effort at 4-5 when facing winners Nov. 19, but bounced back with a nose success cutting back to six furlongs here Dec. 10. Off as the 34-10 second choice here, the \$72,000 KEESEP yearling enjoyed a clear lead and held off favored Toomuchisnotenough (Trapper) by 3/4 of a length. Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-0, \$54,740. Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O-KMN Racing LLC; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Jerry Hollendorfer.



ROOKIES

First-crop starters to watch: Friday, December 30

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2013 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

ALGORITHMS (Bernardini), Claiborne Farm, \$7.5K, 89/12/1
6-GP, Msw 7 1/2fT, +Scorched Earth, \$6K OBS MAR 2yo, 20-1
6-GP, Msw 7 1/2fT, Three Illusions, \$20K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
9-DED, Alw 6 1/2f, Crown and Seven, \$16K OBS OPN 2yo, 3-1
BIONDETTI (Bernardini), Woodford Thoroughbreds, \$4K, 69/10/0
7-SA, \$75K Eddie Logan S., 1mT, Conscripted, \$37K RNA OBS OPN 2yo, 8-1
BODEMEISTER (Empire Maker), WinStar Farm, \$30K, 131/15/1
6-GP, Msw 7 1/2fT, A Rose for Lizzy, \$140K KEE SEP yrl, 15-1
CALEB'S POSSE (Posse), Three Chimneys Farm, \$10K, 37/9/1
9-GP, Aoc 5fT, I Shod the Sheriff, \$10K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
COUNTRY DAY (Speightstown), Crestwood Farm, \$5K, 25/2/0
7-HAW, Msw 6 1/2f, Country Cool, 9-5
DIALED IN (Mineshaft), Darby Dan Farm, \$7.5K, 103/19/2
9-GP, Aoc 5fT, Vencedor, \$5K OBS OPN 2yo, 15-1
DUSTY OL' COGNAC (Dusty Screen), 1/0/0
8-TP, Msw 6 1/2f, +Two Shota Cognac, 20-1
GEMOLOGIST (Tiznow), WinStar Farm, \$15K, 117/13/2
7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, Gemstorm, \$245K RNA OBS OPN 2yo, 10-1
8-TP, Msw 6 1/2f, Brenda's Gem, \$3K KEE SEP yrl, 30-1
8-TAM, Msw 7f, Jammin Gemi, \$15K EAS MAY 2yo, 20-1
8-TAM, Msw 7f, Schema, \$135K OBS APR 2yo, 3-1
8-TAM, Msw 7f, +My Gema, \$24K RNA EAS MAY 2yo, 20-1
GET STORMY (Stormy Atlantic), Crestwood Farm, \$5K, 70/7/0
6-GP, Msw 7 1/2fT, Storm the Hill, 5-1
HANSEN (Tapit), KOR, \$12.5K, 102/19/1
7-HAW, Msw 6 1/2f, +Prince Hansen, \$100K KEE SEP yrl, 9-2
INDIAN FIREWATER (Indian Charlie), Doubletree Farm, \$3K, 25/4/0
6-SUN, Msw 1m, City Lights Who, 5-2
6-SUN, Msw 1m, Fancy Firewater, 6-1

MCKENNA'S JUSTICE (Medaglia d'Oro), 6/0/0
 6-SUN, Msw 1m, McFirst, 3-1
MISSION IMPAZIBLE (Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York,
 \$7.5K, 50/7/1
 4-AQU, Msw 1m, Disavow, \$24K FTN MIX wnl, 6-1
 4-AQU, Msw 1m, Jaime's Angel, \$15K FTN MIX yrl, 8-1
 4-AQU, Msw 1m, Flux Capacitor, 20-1
OVERDRIVEN (Tale of the Cat), Ocala Stud Farm, \$3K, 59/9/0
 9-GP, Aoc 5fT, Red Crescent, 6-1
 3-AQU, \$100K East View S., 1m, Overnegotiate, 3-1
STAY THIRSTY (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 91/17/1
 6-GP, Msw 7 1/2fT, Mydrinkselection, \$125K OBS APR 2yo, 20-1
TAPIZAR (Tapit), Gainesway Farm, \$15K, 100/15/1
 9-GP, Aoc 5fT, Draft Beer, \$23K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
THE FACTOR (War Front), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 105/14/2
 7-SA, \$75K Eddie Logan S., 1mT, Cistron, \$180K KEE SEP yrl, 4-1
UNION RAGS (Dixie Union), Lane's End Farm, \$35K, 106/18/3
 8-TP, Msw 6 1/2f, Kathy's Chance, \$140K OBS APR 2yo, 20-1
 8-TAM, Msw 7f, Shabby Chic, \$135K FTK OCT yrl, 8-1

Second-crop starters to watch: Friday, December 30

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2012 Fee, # foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available) Please note: from Jan. 1-Apr. 30 all starters will be listed here. From June 1-Dec. 31, only offspring that are first-time starters or starting in a stakes race will be listed here.*

ALBERTUS MAXIMUS (Albert the Great), Shadwell Farm, Pvt., 94/25/2
 8-TP, Msw 6 1/2f, +See Dan's Revenge, 12-1
DROSSELMAYER (Distorted Humor), WinStar Farm, \$17.5K, 176/53/3
 8-DED, \$65K Lookout S., 1m, Illusion Artist, \$80K ESL YRL yrl, 7-5
 3-AQU, \$100K East View S., 1m, Messer Misfit, \$3K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
GIO PONTI (Tale of the Cat), Castleton Lyons, \$20K, 198/48/3
 7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, +Justice Prevails, \$20K EAS OCT yrl, 8-1

BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-SA, \$58,070, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2fT, 1:12.74, fm.
SHEHASTERITESTUFF (f, 3, Unusual Heat--Strut Your Stuff {SP, \$233,137}, by Bold Badgett) Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-1, \$77,620.
 O-Estate of Ronald Day, Mary Rita DePietro & Doug Phillips;
 B-Old English Rancho (CA); T-Patrick Gallagher.

9th-FG, \$43,240, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$17,500), 12-29, 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:42.34, ft.
EGYPTIAN (g, 3, Eskendereya--Street Talk, by Street Cry {Ire})
 Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-1, \$39,623. O/B-Kathryn Nikkel & Sanford Robertson (KY); T-Brendan P. Walsh. *\$170,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP.



11th-FG, \$43,240, 12-29, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.19, ft.
ADENS DREAM (g, 3, Wildcat Heir--Missunitednations {GSP, \$199,291}, by Peace Rules) Lifetime Record: 9-2-3-1, \$72,010.
 O-Hugh H. Robertson & Mark Kane; B-Laurence Leavy (FL);
 T-Hugh H. Robertson. *\$47,000 RNA 2yo '15 OBSAPR; \$7,000
 2yo '15 OBSOPN.

8th-FG, \$40,000, 12-29, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2fT, 1:04.42, fm.
EUROBOSS (f, 4, Street Boss--Mega, by Horse Chestnut {SAf})
 Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-3, \$52,985. O-DARRS, Inc.; B-Ben McElroy (KY); T-Michael Stidham. \$70,000 RNA Wlg '12 KEENOV; \$105,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP.

8th-DED, \$40,000, (S), 12-28, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.58, ft.
KING'S SHARE (g, 3, K One King--Share, by Stravinsky) Lifetime Record: 11-2-0-2, \$60,150. O/B-Steve Crowe (LA); T-Eric D. Nelson, Jr.

1st-PEN, \$33,300, (S), 12-28, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:44.95, ft.
CELESE (f, 3, Line of David--Cherokee Moonlight, by Cherokee Run) Lifetime Record: 18-3-3-4, \$63,775. O-Tuozzo Racing LLC; B-Horseshoe Valley Equine Center LLC & Randy L Cohen (PA); T-Nick Joseph Caruso. *\$70,000 Ylg '14 EASSEP.



8th-SUN, \$30,900, (S), 12-28, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:43.64, ft.
SINGING SOFIA (f, 3, Roman Emperor--Sapello Serenade, by Sadler Slew) Lifetime Record: 7-2-2-0, \$44,728. O/B-Gallegos del Norte Racing (NM); T-Jose R. Gonzalez, Jr. *1/2 to Sapello Cantador (Valet Man), SW, \$152,920.

8th-TP, \$24,185, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 12-28, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.00 (NTR), ft.
BLUE WINGS (c, 3, Giant's Causeway--Rhineshark, by Fusaichi Pegasus) Lifetime Record: SP, 15-5-2-1, \$177,233. O-Patrick Huffman; B-Clearsky Farms (KY); T-Patrick Huffman. *\$45,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEESEP.

8th-CT, \$24,000, 12-28, (NW2LX), 3yo/up, 4 1/2f, :52.90, ft.
CAT COME HOME (g, 3, Fiber Sonde--Kusadasi, by Came Home)
 Lifetime Record: 15-4-6-3, \$92,847. O/B/T-John D. McKee (WV).



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- **PALACE MALICE [G1]** (\$2,691,135)
- **VERRAZANO [G1]** (\$1,878,013)
- **UNDRAFTED [G1]** (\$1,300,813)
- **HABIBI (NZ) [G1]** (\$702,711)
- **JOHA [G1]** (\$613,182), etc.

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7th-HAW, \$20,700, 12-29, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:48.40, ft.

MISS MAMACITA (f, 3, Monarchos--Kokena, by Grindstone)
 Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-1, \$27,076. O-Nancy A. Vanier & Charles Nuckols, Jr.; B-Nuckols Farm Inc (KY); T-Brian Williamson.

8th-HAW, \$20,700, (S), 12-29, (C), 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:46.43, ft.

HIGH DIVER (g, 6, Sky Diving--Ft. Mann, by Fort Chaffee)
 Lifetime Record: 35-9-5-5, \$91,900. O/T-John Rednour, Jr.; B-Lanny Yates (IL).

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Mariah's Galaxy, f, 2, Greeley's Galaxy--Black Mariah, by Devil His Due. DED, 12-29, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:21.97. B-Margie K. Averett (LA).

Little Matt, g, 2, In Summation--Catch the Ghost, by Silver Ghost. GP, 12-29, (S), 1mT, 1:37.88. B-Centaur Farms, Inc. & Ocala Stud (FL). *\$18,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

Theoryintopractice, g, 2, Into Mischief--Cayman Colada, by Yonaguska. DED, 12-28, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:21.10. B-Cypress Bend Farm (LA). *\$120,000 Ylg '15 OBSAUG.

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Six Point Rack, c, 2, Lucky Pulpit--Tamarack Bay (GSP, \$218,965), by Dehere. SA, 12-29, (S), 1m, 1:39.23. B-Larry D. Williams (CA). *Full to Luckarack, MSW, \$608,387; Pulmarack, MSP, \$226,097; 1/2 to Tamarando (Bertrando), GISW, \$715,078; U'narack (Unusual Heat), SW, \$194,080; Tamarack Smarty (Smart Strike), SP, \$284,296.

Admiral Blue, c, 3, Admiral Alex--Dirty Harryette, by Unaccounted For. AQU, 12-29, 1m, 1:41.05. B-Daniel T. & Katherine S. O'Ryan (MD).

IT PAYS TO BREED MARYLAND-BREDS

Fire Moon, g, 3, Friesan Fire--Blue Moon Dancer, by Benchmark. CT, 12-28, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:19.78. B-Black Horse Tavern LLC (WV).

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IN UAE:

Capezzano, c, 2, Bernardini. See Middle East.
Somerset House, c, 2, Hard Spun. See Middle East.
Dehbashi, g, 3, Blame. See Middle East.

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TOP TEN MOMENTS OF 2016



Minding | racingfotos.com

By Kevin Blake

This year is unlikely to be remembered too fondly in the context of the "real world" due to the seemingly endless succession of much-loved celebrities and athletes that passed away during the course of the 2016, but in the world of great triviality of horse racing, it has been another tremendous year with no end of memorable moments. Here are just 10 of them.

● **Frankel's First Winner**

Never before have a sire's first runners been as anticipated as **Frankel's** were in 2016 and they didn't disappoint, with him putting up some incredible numbers and topping off the campaign by producing a Group 1 winner in the shape of **Soul Stirling**. It all began for him at Newbury on May 13 when the John Gosden-trained **Cunco** was declared to run in a six-furlong maiden and become Frankel's first representative. While the vibes seemed to be cautiously optimistic at best in the face of massive public attention, no one told Cunco, as he powered home to lead in the closing stages and to give Frankel's stallion career the perfect start.

● **Awtaad Secures Fairy Tale Success For Kevin Prendergast**

Few things engage the emotions of sports fans than a grizzled veteran defying those that had written them off to make a glorious return to the top table and that is exactly what 83-year-old trainer Kevin Prendergast did when saddling **Awtaad** to win the Irish 2,000 Guineas in May. **Cont. p2**

OSCIETRA DEBUT A NEW YEAR DELICACY

A racecourse debut which is likely to eclipse any of the hype surrounding the first runners of the mighty Frankel (GB) takes place on New Year's Day when Black Caviar (Aus)'s first foal **Oscietra (Aus)** (Exceed And Excel {Aus}) takes to the track for the 1000-metre maiden down Flemington's straight.



Black Caviar & Oscietra
Racing and Sports

Following a highly impressive recent jump-out at the course, the juvenile filly has been installed as the short-price favourite among the field of 12 and is set to jump from stall three under Luke Nolen, who rode her famous dam to 22 of her 25 victories.

Trained by David Hayes and Tom Dabernig, Oscietra faces the unprecedented challenge of attending a press conference at Flemington this morning [Friday] prior to her debut. **Cont. p5**

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

MCCRAKEN AIMING FOR FEBRUARY RETURN

Steve Sherack catches up with trainer Ian Wilkes on his plans for GI Kentucky Derby contender McCracken (Ghostzapper).
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Awtaad Secures Fairy Tale Success For Kevin Prendergast cont.

In doing so, Prendergast became the first Irish-based trainer other than Aidan or Vincent O'Brien to win the Irish 2,000 Guineas since 1986 and it represented his eighth career win in an Irish Classic. The joy that greeted the winning connections as they returned to the parade ring could perhaps only be rivaled in recent times at the Curragh by those that followed the win of the Paddy Mullins-trained Vintage Tipple in the Irish Oaks back in 2003 and it was a day that will live long in the memory of those that witnessed it.

● **Jet Setting Writes A Rags-To-Riches Story For The Ages**

The Curragh was the scene of another remarkable story just 24 hours after Awtaad's victory courtesy of a truly memorable renewal of the Irish 1,000 Guineas. The race was expected to be all about the 1,000 Guineas winner Minding, with her being sent



Jet Setting (r) bests Minding in the 1,000 Guineas | *Racing Post*

off as the 4/11 favourite, but the rain-softened ground brought the mud-loving Jet Setting into the equation and after the two engaged in the terrific battle in the closing stages, it was Jet Setting that took the spoils by a head. Jet Setting was giving her

trainer Adrian Keatley, who had saddled his first winner as recently as June 2014, and her rider Shane Foley their first Group 1 wins, but it was the fillies' background that really topped off the story. She had failed to win in four starts as a 2-year-old in England prior to being sold for just 12,000gns at the conclusion of the campaign and sent to Keatley. In just five starts, he transformed her from an 85-rated maiden into a Classic winner. It really was an underdog story worthy of Hollywood.

● **Lady Aurelia Stuns At Royal Ascot**

American-based trainer Wesley Ward and his remarkably precocious 2-year-olds have become a standing dish at Royal Ascot. While his runners have produced some wonderful winning performances over the years, the bar was raised to all-new levels by the truly spectacular success of Lady Aurelia in this year's Queen Mary S. The daughter of Scat Daddy set out to make the running at what seemed a fast pace in the soft conditions, but rather than folding in the closing stages, she surged further clear to prevail by a sensational seven lengths in what was one of the most visibly impressive performances seen on a British racecourse since Frankel was on the scene.

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● **Quiet Reflection Strikes For The Syndicates**

Royal Ascot is arguably the most prestigious race meeting in the world and the majority of the most powerful owners would give their eyeteeth for a winner there, so when a Group 1



Quiet Reflection | *Racing Post*

winner at the meeting is owned by a syndicate, it tends to garner plenty of attention. That was the case this year when the Karl Burke-trained Quiet Reflection stormed to victory in the Commonwealth Cup, as the Ontoawinner

Syndicate that own a significant share of her made their presence felt by celebrating in refreshingly rambunctious style in a Royal Ascot winner's enclosure that usually hosts far more reserved post-race scenes. While it may have raised some eyebrows amongst the traditionalists, it made for one of the most memorable scenes of the British racing season.

Cont. p3

Top 10 Moments of 2016 cont.



Mrs Danvers | *Racing Post*

● **Mrs Danvers An Unlikely Success Story**

Rags-to-riches stories in horse racing are what keep many people in the game in the hope that they might be the subject of one of them in the future and there is little doubt that **Mrs Danvers** will be the inspiration for many a dream in the years ahead. Bought back by her breeder Connie Hopper for just 1,000gns at the Ascot Sales in February, she sent emails to a variety of trainers trying to find someone to lease her to race. Jonathan Portman took a chance on her and the rest is history, as the filly that would be named Mrs Danvers won all five of her starts as a 2-year-old including the valuable Weatherbys Super Sprint at Newbury and the G3 Cornwallis S. at Newmarket.

● **Almanzor Stuns In Irish Champion Stakes**

Up until Irish Champions Weekend, the merit of both this year's crop of 3-year-old colts and lack of top-class horses trained in France were hot topics of discussion, but in one fell swoop, the Jean-Claude Rouget-trained **Almanzor** struck a blow against both lines of thought by winning the feature race at Leopardstown. Given an ultra-confident ride by Christophe Soumillon, the son of Wootton Bassett produced a searing turn of foot to see off the future Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Found and stamp himself as one of the leading middle-distance horses in the world.

● **O'Brien Creates History With Arc 1-2-3**

Just when you think Aidan O'Brien has set every record worth setting, he goes and achieves something that few would have even considered possible. Prior to this year, the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe hadn't been the happiest of hunting grounds for O'Brien, with his 35 runners in the race yielding just one winner and a handful of placed horses. However, he left all that behind him this October by saddling a scarcely-believable 1-2-3 in the race, with **Found** leading home **Highland Reel** and **Order Of St George**. It was a truly remarkable achievement in what is arguably one of the hardest Group 1 races in the world to win.

● **Minding Stays The Course**

Aidan O'Brien has many highlights to look back on in 2016 and a couple of them are sure to involve **Minding**. The 3-year-old daughter of Galileo proved to be a phenomenon this season, winning five Group 1 races from a mile up to a mile-and-a-half. As remarkable as that is in itself, it is the fact that she began her season on May 1 when winning the 1000 Guineas at Newmarket and held her form all the way through the season over a variety of trips until producing arguably her best effort of all when beating the colts in the Queen Elizabeth II S. at Ascot on Oct. 15 that makes her season so impressive. That win at Ascot was the cherry on top of an amazing campaign.

● **Highland Reel Trots the Globe**

Few horses have trotted the globe to the extent that the Aidan O'Brien-trained Highland Reel has. From the beginning of his



Highland Reel | *Horsephotos*

3-year-old campaign last year up until now, he has travelled over 140,000km to racecourses around the world. Despite his arduous travel schedule, the son of Galileo has held his form remarkably well and provided one of the highlights of the international racing year in the Breeders' Cup

Turf at Santa Anita in November. The 4-year-old was given a sublime front-running ride by Seamie Heffernan and duly made the best of the rope he was given by his rivals, running out the easy victor. It was a ruthless performance from a horse that clearly has an iron constitution.

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REFLECTIONS | 2016

From the Editors of the TDN

Over the last week, the team of Editors of TDN Europe/International have looked back on 2016 to pick their most memorable racing moment of the year. We conclude the series today with TDN Assistant Editor & Euro/International Contributing Editor, Heather Anderson.

What's the Story, New Zealand Derby

I stumbled across a [video](#) of **What's the Story (NZ)** (Savabeel {Aus})'s Feb. 20 2100-metre Benchmark 65 victory at Ellerslie and was immediately hooked on the horse, especially when connections said the strapping brown colt would be pointing toward the G1 New Zealand Derby stepped up 300 metres Mar. 5. There was something about his measured neck victory that day, after sitting near the back third of the field, encountering more than his share of traffic issues to avoid a



What's the Story | Racing and Sports

stricken rival, surging widest in the straight, and gobbling up ground--like a Cookie Monster let loose in a patisserie--to salute, that stuck in my mind.

Fast forward to the Classic itself,

and I was thrilled with the result, despite the fact that What's the Story ran second by a short head ([video](#)). Kept to the inside for the majority of the race in midpack, pilot Sam Spratt sent the son of Savabeel two off the fence for his run turning into the home straight, before switching him back to the rail. What's the Story produced another stirring turn of foot, but ran out of time, missing by a short head to Rangipo (Aus) (Stryker {Aus}), who had enjoyed a trouble-free run on the front end. A delayed arrival to Randwick for the G1 Australian Derby produced a sixth-place finish Apr. 2, and a fifth-place run in a Benchmark 85 is What's the Story's lone start this season. I am still holding out hope that he will deliver a group win in the New Year.

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WALTER SWINBURN LAID TO REST

The Church of Our Lady Immaculate & St Etheldreda in Newmarket was packed beyond capacity at noon on Thursday for a Requiem Mass to celebrate the life of the three-time Derby-winning jockey Walter Swinburn, who passed away on Dec. 12 at the age of 55.

The service was conducted by Fr Simon Blakesley, who assured mourners that, although we cannot know whether 'The Choirboy' is singing in the heavenly choir, he is now with the Lord. He advised that the best tribute that Swinburn's family and friends could give would be to live their lives as he would have wished them to do, with the enthusiasm and zest for life which he himself had shown.

Michael Haggas, the jockey's agent from 1989 until 1995, gave a moving eulogy in honour of his friend. As well as outlining his meteoric rise to the top as a jockey, he recalled Swinburn's sporting prowess as a schoolboy rugby player, in the hunting field in Galway and on the Cresta Run during his winter holidays, as well as his proudest sporting moment, as detailed in the score-book of the Kensington Oval: 'Sir Garfield Sobers, bowled W. R. Swinburn'.

Haggas recalled that the confidence and swagger which had been Swinburn's trademark as a rider had not been his style when out of the saddle, but that at all times he had faced life's ups and downs with courage and with dignity. He observed that "there was not a bad bone in his body - although there were plenty of naughty ones!"

A son of dual Irish champion jockey Wally Swinburn, against whom he rode several times in the early years of his career, Walter Swinburn Jr was a titan of the saddle. Fittingly, the congregation included many of the other race-riding greats of the era including Geoff Lewis, Joe Mercer, Willie Carson, Mick Kinane, Ray Cochrane, Johnny Murtagh, Richard and Michael Hills, Billy Newnes, Seb Sanders and Jamie Spencer.

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BRITAIN



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Nuzha (GB), f, 2, **Mayson (GB)**--Always On My Mind (GB), by Distant Relative (Ire). SOU, 12-29, 5f (AWT), 1:01.51. B-Mascalls Stud (GB). *2,500gns Ylg '15 TAOCT. **19th winner for freshman sire (by Invincible Spirit {Ire}).

Napoleon Solo (GB), g, 4, **Cockney Rebel (Ire)**--Trump Street (GB), by First Trump (GB). SOU, 12-29, 7f (AWT), 1:32.79. B-Southill Stud (GB). *6,500gns RNA Wlg '12 TATFOA; £20,000 Ylg '13 DNPRM; £5,500 4yo '16 TTIFEB. **1/2 to Thunder Strike (GB) (Sakhee's Secret {GB}), SW & GSP-Eng, SP-US, \$185,869.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Oscietra Debut A New Year Delicacy cont. p1

Speaking on Australia's RSN radio station on Thursday, Hayes said, "She's kicking off at Flemington where her mother kicked off. It's always a slight concern because she hasn't been down the straight but she's worked alongside the straight and her last trial was down the back straight. But it's probably just the same as any of the others going into the race--none of them have experience of the straight. We'd love her to win first start but we can only do our best. We've prepared her well for the race and hopefully she can do the rest."

He continued, "What I'm seeing is that she's a 2-year-old with black-type ability. If you didn't know her pedigree and you were working her and she was just by a good stallion, like she is, and out of a reasonable mare, then you'd be pretty happy with what you've got. Then you read the pedigree and it's quite exciting."

Asked about Oscietra's likely future campaign, Hayes said, "We'll take it race by race. I'd just love her to get this first run under her belt, and hopefully win, and then we probably wouldn't run her for a while and give her a chance to run in a black-type race, whether it be the [G3 Blue Diamond] Prelude or the [G3] Chairman's S. at Caulfield."

Oscietra is the first of Black Caviar's three foals to date, with a yearling colt by Sebring (Aus) and a Snitzel (Aus) filly foal waiting in the wings.

The trainer added, "[Oscietra] hasn't got her mother's physique but she has a lovely laid-back attitude, and the other thing she does have which is similar to her mother is that she looks to have a very high cruising speed."

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Thursday, Ohi, Japan

TOKYO DAISHOTEN-G1, ¥136,000,000, Oi, 12-29, 3yo/up, 2000m, 2:06.60, hy.

1--&**APOLLO KENTUCKY, 126, c, 4, by Langfuhr**

1st Dam: Dixiana Delight, by Gone West

2nd Dam: Lake Lady, by Salt Lake

3rd Dam: Slinkylady, by What a Hoist

(\$55,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP). O-Apollo Thoroughbred Club; B-Doug Branham (KY); T-Kenji Yamauchi; J-Hiroyuki Uchida; ¥80,000,000. Lifetime Record: 19-8-3-2, ¥238,237,000. **Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the [eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree](#).**

IN THE **DARBY DAN TRADITION**

USBRED KYBRED

2--**Awardee, 126, h, 6, Jungle Pocket (Jpn)**--Heavenly Romance (Jpn), by Sunday Silence. O-Koji Maeda; B-North Hills Management (KY); ¥28,000,000.

USBRED KYBRED

3--**Sound True (Jpn), 126, g, 6, French Deputy--Kyoei Truth (Jpn)**, by Fuji Kiseki (Jpn). O-Hiroshi Yamada; B-Okada Stud; ¥16,000,000.

Margins: 1HF, NK, 4. Odds: 15.30, 0.60, 3.00.

Also Ran: Nonkono Yume (Jpn), Copano Rickey (Jpn), Mozu Raijin (Jpn), Kazenoko (Jpn), Happy Sprint (Jpn), Sand Platina (Jpn), Spire (Jpn), Studium (Jpn), Wagenseil (Jpn), Cosmo Kaupili (Jpn), Major Presence (Jpn).

A respectable fifth to Sound True and Awardee when last seen in the G1 Champions Cup at Tokyo 3 1/2 weeks back, Apollo Kentucky led home a 1-2 finish for US-bred runners in Thursday's G1 Tokyo Daishoten at Ohi Racecourse.

A dual listed winner on the dirt earlier this campaign, the



Apollo Kentucky | *Horsephotos*

\$55,000 Keeneland September bargain defeated top Japanese dirt sophomore Glanzend (Jpn) (Neo Universe {Jpn}) for a first success at group level in the G3 Miyako S. at Kyoto Nov. 6. He gave a good account of himself from a hellish draw in the

Champions Cup at odds of 20-1, rallying from worse than midfield to finish fifth, beaten around two lengths.

Assigned gate 11 for this season-ending tilt, Apollo Kentucky was ridden for speed and landed in a great spot from third, stalking the pacesetting Copano Rickey (Jpn) (Gold Allure {Jpn}) who in turn was hounded along by Awardee, the half-brother to G2 UAE Derby and GI Belmont S. third Lani (Tapit). **Cont. p6**

G1 Tokyo Daishoten cont.

The front-runner took them a long way on the engine, but Awardee and Apollo Kentucky went on the attack leaving the quarter-pole and Copano Rickey called it a day outside the 200-metre mark. The heavy favorite fought on gamely between rivals, but Apollo Kentucky did the better work three away from the fence and got home comfortably in front. Sound True rallied up four wide on the turn and stayed on well for third without troubling the top two.

Dixiana Delight, a daughter of 2002 GII Fair Grounds Oaks and GII Fantasy S. runner-up Lake Lady (Salt Lake), is the dam of the 2-year-old filly Basic Principals (Archarcharch) and was most recently bred to Shackleford. [Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. VIDEO.](#) --Alan Carasso

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MIDDLE EAST

DERBY DELIGHT FOR WOHLER

By Daithí Harvey

Unlike the opening night's racing at Al Rayyan when the card was tilted more towards Thoroughbred action over their Arabian counterparts, Derby Day is the opposite, with five of the seven contests confined to Purebred Arabians.

For jockeys however these races come alike and the familiar faces of Harry Bentley, Alan Munro and Dutch-born Adrie de Vries all continue to ride their fair share of winners, with Bentley in particular enjoying another good season, leading the 2016 jockey's table with 21 winners, though that figure was augmented by another couple during the evening.

An unfamiliar feature of the night was a series of match races that took place during the interval between each official race. Explaining the relevance of these head to heads out of stalls QREC's Patricia Musial explained, "This is a traditional spectacle, a 400m race for Pure Arabian horses but partnered by riders instead of licensed jockeys. The winner of each match goes forward for the final which is run before the Derby." As one can imagine the speed in which a horse jumps from the stalls is fairly important when racing over two furlongs so quite a few participants over the evening had their hopes of success dashed just as the race commenced.

Qatari owner Mubarak Al Naemi has enjoyed success at Irish and British racecourses in recent years with the likes of Group 3-winning sprinter Hamza (Ire) (Amadeus Wolfe {GB}) and Qatari Hunter (Ire) (Footstepsinthesand {GB}), who was trained by Jim Bolger to win four races in a row during the summer. Al Naemi was represented in the evening's feature race by **Al Mohalhal**

(Ire) (Acclamation {GB}), another former Bolger trainee that won at Naas during the summer but is now under the care of Qatari trainer Majed Seifeddine. Al Naemi made a sizable investment in the Irish bloodstock industry a few years ago when he purchased Kilfrush Stud in Limerick in 2013. The farm is a proven nursery of high class racehorses with dual Group 1 winner and 4.7m gns Tattersalls sale topper Immortal Verse (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}) probably the most illustrious graduate from when the farm was owned previously by the Strauss family. Al Naemi has ambitious plans for Kilfrush as current stud manager David Ryan, who was in Doha, outlined.

"Kilfrush is going very well. We've been building up the broodmare band since we purchased it in 2013 and have about 50 at present," Ryan said. "Our first homebreds have been running this year and one of them Qatar Man (Ire) (Archarcharch) looks very promising. He will go to Dubai to target their Guineas and his trainer Marco Botti thinks a lot of him."

According to Ryan the majority of stock raised at Kilfrush will be retained to race which is good news for his trainers, in particular Jim Bolger who appears likely to benefit from increased patronage from Al Naemi.

"Mubarak loves his racing and he is looking forward to seeing his homebred stock running, says Ryan. "He has also gotten involved with sponsoring races and now supports two races at The Curragh including the G2 Royal Whip S. and a stakes race at Tipperary. He has a young family and they all spend quite a few weeks of the year at Kilfrush so it is something that he really enjoys and wants it to be a long-term success."

Given last year's Qatar Derby was shared by two international runners it is slightly surprising that this year's \$500,000 contest only attracted three overseas runners, one less than last year, especially when the QREC offer financial assistance towards both human and equine travel expenses. The race itself saw a second German trained winner in as many years when the Andreas Wohler trained **Noor Al Hawa (Fr)** (Makfi {GB}) proved much too good for his rivals, quickening away up the straight under De Vries to beat **Gerrard's Quest (GB)** (Captain Gerrard {Ire}) by three lengths with Al Mohalhal running well to finish third.

"He showed a nice turn of foot and has always been quite a good horse," said Wohler, himself no stranger to international success thanks to the exploits of Protectionist (Ger) (Monsun {Ger}) and Novellist (Ire) (Monsun [Ger]) in recent years. [Cont. p7](#)



Kilfrush Stud's David Ryan

DECEMBER 2016

TDN WEEKEND

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Derby Delight for Wohler cont.

Winner of his previous two starts at Group 3 level in Germany, Noor Al Hawa was bred by Rabbah Bloodstock and formerly owned by Jaber Abdullah and is a recent acquisition for Al Wasmiyah Farm.



The trophy presentation | Daithi Harvey

According to Wohler the horse will remain in his care to be trained for the Emir's Sword Trophy back at Al Rayyan in February. Despite David Ryan's pre-race fears that the 2000m trip might stretch the stamina of

Al Mohalhal, the horse acquitted himself well with Ryan also feeling the lack of a recent run may have counted against him. The 3-year-old will continue his career in Qatar. Noor Al Hawa is kin to the 2-year-old Majestic Lord (GB) (Youmzain {Ire}), a yearling colt by Dansili (GB) and a weanling filly by Sea the Moon (Ger).

So having just gotten my bearings it feels a bit strange to be leaving again in a few hours to go back to Ireland but having been so well looked after by the team at QREC the trip certainly made for a very pleasant end to 2016.

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Thursday, Al Rayyan (Doha), Qatar

QATAR DERBY (NB), \$500,000, Al Rayyan, 12-29, 3yo, 2000mT, 2:00.51, gd.

1--**NOOR AL HAWA (FR)**, 128, c, 3, **Makfi (GB)--Majestic Roi (G1SW-Eng, \$346,585), by Street Cry (Ire)**. O-Al Wasmiyah Farm; B-Rabbah Bloodstock Limited; T-Andreas Wohler; J-Adrie de Vries; \$285,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW-Ger, SW-Fr, 9-5-1-3, \$439,261. *1/2 to Majestic Jasmine (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}), SW-Ger.

2--**Gerrard's Quest (GB)**, 128, c, 3, Captain Gerrard (Ire)--Ryan's Quest (Ire), by Mukaddamah. (7,000gns Ylg '14 TATFEB; 13,000gns Ylg '14 TATOCT; 100,000gns HRA '15 TATOCT). \$110,000.

3--**Al Mohalhal (Ire)**, 128, g, 3, Acclamation (GB)--Secret Question, by Rahy. (€41,000 Wlg '13 GOFNOV). \$55,000. Margins: 3, 3/4, 1 3/4.

Also Ran: Opera Baron (GB), Open 'N Shut (GB), Barwod (GB), Cameraman (GB), Top Face, Life Imitates Art, French Encore (GB), Thewayyouwish (Ire), Noble House (Ger), Fourioso (Fr), Scarlet Dragon (GB), Ard San Aer (Ire), More Than a Dream (Ire).

2nd-MEY, Dhs180,000, Cond., NH2yo/SH3yo, 1400m, 1:25.56, ft. VAN DER DECKEN (c, 2, Dutch Art (GB)--Celeste (GB) {SW & MGSP-Can, \$122,035}, by Green Desert), third in a Newmarket conditions event July 23, was having his first start on dirt and



Van Der Decken | Andrew Watkins photo

first overall since finishing seventh in the G3 Solario S. at Sandown Aug. 20. Clearly last into stride, Van Der Decken was busily ridden by Dane O'Neil and had tacked on to the remainder of the field passing the

800m marker. The 52,000gns Tattersalls October yearling improved into third while deep on the turn, ranged up outside of stable companion Fly At Dawn (Discreet Cat) to lead with a furlong to race and came away to score by 1 3/4 lengths. Produced by a half-sister to the pint-sized, but very talented Megahertz (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), Van Der Decken is kin to a weanling colt of 2016 by Cheveley Park inmate Garswood (GB), the winner of the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest, also by Dutch Art (GB). Lifetime Record:

5-2-0-1, \$48,889. [VIDEO](#)

O-Godolphin; B-Cheveley Park Stud; T-Charlie Appleby.

7th-MEY, Dhs160,000, Hcp., NH/SH3yo+, 2200m, 2:21.57, ft.

DEHBASHI (g, 3, Blame--Fiscal Policy (SW), by Wildcat Heir), a debut third behind fellow Thursday winner North America (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) Nov. 17, graduated over 2000m a fortnight ago and was adding a bit more real estate for this rated handicap.



Dehbashi | Andrew Watkins photo

Drawn gate two, Dehbashi raced handy to a modest early pace, but was under Pat Dobbs's whip prior to the midway point and was under heavy urging from about fifth spot entering the second turn.

Still having to be urged along nearing the stretch, Dehbashi kept plugging away in the final 300 metres and proved the superior stayer to score by 3/4 of a length. [Cont. p8](#)

MEY7 - Dehbashi cont.

The winner is out of a stakes-winning dam who brought \$125,000 with this foal in utero at the 2012 Keeneland November sale. Fiscal Policy subsequently sold for \$80,000 at the following year's November sale. That produce, a filly named Sweet Cyd, was third on her Dec. 23 debut at Delta Downs, and the mare is represented by a yearling colt by The Factor and a weanling Trappe Shot filly. She was most recently bred to City Zip. Sales history: \$45,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEEJAN; \$67,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. Lifetime Record:

3-2-0-1, \$56,141. [VIDEO](#)

O-Mohammed Khalifa al Basti; B-SF Bloodstock (KY); T-Doug Watson.



1st-MEY, Dhs150,000, Mdn, NH2yo/SH3yo, 1400m, 1:24.41, ft.

CAPEZZANO (c, 2, Bernardini--Cableknit, by Unbridled's Song)

improved for a runner-up effort behind the promising Cosmo Charlie (Stay Thirsty) on his dirt debut Dec. 15 and reported home a comfortable two-length winner in the evening's first race at Meydan Racecourse. Given a perfect stalking trip



Capezzano | Andrew Watkins

beneath Colm O'Donoghue, the homebred colt relaxed nicely off the flank of the well-regarded Bee Jersey (Jersey Town) before coming after that one in earnest once into the stretch. Bee Jersey kicked on

at the rail, but Capezzano was always ready to pounce, hit the front outside the eighth pole and ran out a good-looking winner.

Fawree (Candy Ride {Arg}) was slow away from the stalls and was trapped out on the track for most of the trip, but came on very nicely in the final 200m to be a good runner-up. The winner's dam, a \$1.7-million Keeneland September yearling, is a daughter of Silken Cat (Storm Cat), making her a half-sister to the outstanding sire Speightstown. Cableknit produced fillies by More Than Ready in 2015 and 2016 and was most recently bred to Macho Uno. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$32,676. [VIDEO](#)

O-Godolphin; B-Darley (KY); T-Charlie Appleby.



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3rd-MEY, Dhs150,000, Mdn, NH2yo+/SH3yo+, 1600m, 1:39.36, ft.

+SOMERSET HOUSE (c, 2, Hard Spun--From Afar, by Empire Maker) gave Godolphin and trainer Charlie Appleby a sweep of the first three races on Thursday's Meydan program and jockey



Somerset House | Andrew Watkins

Colm O'Donoghue a double with a smart debut over 1600 meters. Drawn gate nine, the homebred was away alertly, but there was plenty of other speed signed on and that consigned the Godolphin runner to

a five-deep trip down the back of the course. Asked to improve his position on the turn, he was able to slide up into second from the two path and was ready to roll at the head of the lane. Somerset House claimed the scalp of pacesetting Shillong (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) at the quarter pole, pinched a break and got home three lengths to the good. Fellow juvenile Mazeed (Street Cry {Ire}) sat a good trip behind the speed, came out for the drive and rallied, but was one-paced in the final 100 metres. The winner's dam is a half-sister to Darley stallion Midshipman (Unbridled's Song) and to Fast Cookie (Deputy Minister), the dam of MGISW Frosted (Tapit). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$24,507. [VIDEO](#)

O-Godolphin; B-Darley (KY); T-Charlie Appleby.



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HANDICAP RESULTS:

5th-MEY, Dhs190,000, NH/SH3yo+, 1400m, 1:23.97, ft.

DESERT FORCE (g, 4, Equiano {Fr}--Mail the Desert {Ire}) {G1SW-Ire, G1SP-Eng & GSP-Ger, \$278,262}, by Desert Prince {Ire})

Lifetime Record: 17-4-2-2, \$107,781. O-Mohammed Khalifa al Basti; B-Newsells Park Stud; T-Doug Watson. *Won by 7 3/4 lengths. **€90,000 Wlg '12 GOFNOV; 140,000gns Ylg '13 TATOCT. [VIDEO](#)

6th-MEY, Dhs170,000, NH/SH3yo+, 1600m, 1:37.75, ft.

NORTH AMERICA (GB) (g, 4, Dubawi {Ire}--Northern Mischief {GISP-US, \$123,918}, by Yankee Victor) Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-

1, \$57,017. O-Imhande M I Nagem; B-Qatar Bloodstock Ltd; T-Satish Seemar. *100,000gns Wlg '12 TATDEC. [VIDEO](#)

Handicap Results cont.

4th-MEY, Dhs160,000, NH2yo+/SH3yo+, 1200m, 1:11.42, ft. MATHEMATICS (GB) (g, 5, [Exceed and Excel {Aus}](#)--Mindsharp, by Gone West) Lifetime Record: 14-3-3-0, \$69,900. O-Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed al Maktoum; B-Colts Neck Stables LLC; T-Doug Watson. *\$36,000gns Ylg '12 TATOCT; 145,000gns 2yo '13 TATAPR. [VIDEO](#)

8th-MEY, Dhs150,000, NH/SH3yo+, 1600m, 1:38.35, ft. SHEEBA (GB) (g, 4, [Nayef--Hope Island {Ire}](#), by Titus Livius {Fr}) Lifetime Record: 15-2-1-2, \$40, 534. O-Mohammed Khalifa al Basti; B-Moyns Park Estate & Stud Ltd; T-Doug Watson. *Won by 8 1/2 lengths. **20,000gns Ylg '13 TATOCT. [VIDEO](#)

AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Unrehearsed (Aus), g, 3, [New Approach \(Ire\)](#)--Bodacious Harmony (Aus), by Danehill. Vaal, 12-29, Maiden Plate, 1400mT, 1:24.30. O-Mrs M Slack & M B Javett; B-Three Bridges Thoroughbreds & G Johnson (Vic); T-Michael F De Kock. *A\$130,000 Ylg '15 INGMEL.

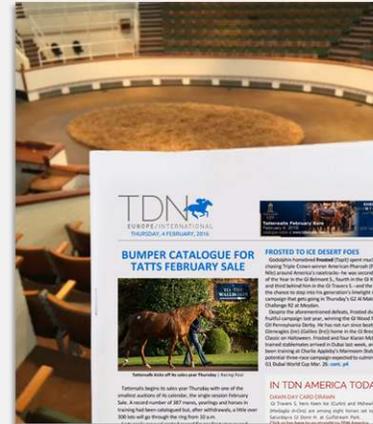


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