

ARROGATE “HIS NORMAL SELF” AT GULFSTREAM



Arrogate & Barnes | Leslie Martin

by Ben Massam

HALLANDALE BEACH, FL - Juddmonte Farms' champion **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) had his first spin around the Gulfstream Park oval in preparation for Saturday's GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational Wednesday morning, galloping a spirited 1 1/2 miles beneath exercise rider Dana Barnes ([video](#)). The 4-year-old Bob Baffert trainee was named the Longines World's Best Racehorse while in transit from California to Florida Tuesday. Following Arrogate's gallop, assistant trainer Jimmy Barnes said he was pleased with the colt's first exercise over the surface.

"I saw his normal self," said Barnes, watching Arrogate cool out in Barn 15, which houses local runners trained by Peter Walder and Fernando Abreu. "That's him, he carries himself well on a racetrack. My rider, Dana Barnes, said that he handled the track well and went over it good. From what I can see, I concur with that."

When asked about potential challenges associated with shipping cross-country to Gulfstream, Barnes said that his routine remains more or less the same upon arrival. Barnes has logged many frequent flyer miles over the years, most notably accompanying 2015 Triple Crown winner American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) on his shipping assignments across the country. **Cont. p3**

COX CONTINUING IMPRESSIVE CLIMB

by Michael Adolphson

Trainer Brad Cox has done little wrong over the last few years. His operation has flourished, his numbers have impressed and his reputation as one of the top up-and-coming trainers in the game has been substantiated with consistency. A Louisville native, Cox has a clientele as diverse as his stock, with fledgling owners joining the ranks of powerful top-level players owning everything from mid-level claimers to multiple graded stakes winners. Currently setting up shop in Louisiana and Arkansas, the Kentucky-based operation is striking with a regularity as astute and equanimous as the 36-year-old, himself. **Cont. p5**



Brad Cox | Coady Photo

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Thursday, January 26, 2017



New Ar-RIVAL. 2010 GI Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic winner Unrivaled Belle (Unbridled's Song) admires her Tapit filly, who was foaled Tuesday night at Timber Town Stable in Lexington, KY. Unrivaled Belle, the 2016 Keeneland November sales topper, sold to Mandy Pope's Whisper Hill Farm for \$3.8 million. Her 2017 filly is a full-sister to TDN Rising Star Unique Bella. [Click here](#) to submit photos of your 2017 foals for consideration in the TDN. Please include sire, dam, owner, and photographer's name. | Photo courtesy of Timber Town Stable

BOOK REVIEW: BILL HARTACK

8

T.D. Thornton reviews Bill Christine's latest book, "Bill Hartack: The Bittersweet Life of a Hall of Fame Jockey"



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Arrogate cont. from p1

Nevertheless, Arrogate will be the Baffert barn's first starter at Gulfstream Park after a prolonged absence--something that Barnes attributed to geography and the GI Kentucky Derby trail.

"We have our spots that we go to, and there are a lot of other places that are closer that we ship to," he explained. "That's probably why our 3-year-old campaign usually goes through [Oaklawn Park in] Arkansas. It's such a short trip. And at that time of year, you

want to take it as easy as possible on the horse. Going 2 1/2 hours to Arkansas is nothing. Here, it's four hours one way, and it could be six hours the other way."



Arrogate

Similarly, Barnes said that the warm climate in South Florida and a nearly three-month gap following Arrogate's last race--a win in the Nov. 5 GI Breeders' Cup Classic--should play to his favor. The gray has worked eight times since his win over California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit) in the World Championships, including a recent string of four consecutive six-furlong works at Santa Anita Park.

"This horse does well with time between races," Barnes observed. "We can train him up to a race and he'll handle it fine. It is January, so if we were shipping elsewhere, we could get weather to worry about. Here, this is similar to California [normally]."

While California has been drenched with an atypically high amount of rainfall this winter, there is no significant precipitation in the local forecast in the coming days. Barnes said that Arrogate will follow a similar routine Thursday morning and likely school in the paddock during one of Gulfstream's early races in the afternoon.

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PEGASUS REPORT: ANTICIPATION BUILDS AS MORE RUNNERS ARRIVE *by Ben Massam*

HALLANDALE BEACH, FL - With 6-5 morning line favorite **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit) and 7-5 second choice **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) now both on the grounds and live racing underway, there was noticeably more activity on the Gulfstream Park backstretch Wednesday as Saturday's GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational looms. Both California Chrome and Arrogate, who finished second and first, respectively, in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita Nov. 5, demonstrated an abundance of energy in their morning gallops.

'Chrome' ended his gallop on the clubhouse turn and subsequently walked back down the homestretch toward the paddock. The chestnut stopped and stood in the saddling enclosure on his way to and from the walking ring, where he completed a few circuits before departing. The two-time Horse of the Year paused momentarily at the end of the



California Chrome departs the paddock in the pre-dawn at Gulfstream

walkway to the paddock before making his way back to the barn area.

It was Arrogate's turn to acquaint himself with the local strip shortly after the first renovation break, and the GI Breeders' Cup Classic hero made a decidedly favorable impression, galloping

1 1/2 miles with good spirit. The imposing gray arrived from California Tuesday afternoon (*for more, see "Arrogate His 'Normal Self' at Gulfstream" p1*).

Shaman Ghost (Ghostzapper) and **War Envoy** (War Front) also made their first appearances over the Gulfstream strip this week, coming on to the track at nearly the same time as Arrogate. Both Pegasus entrants galloped one circuit of the oval.

The Palm Beach Downs contingent of Todd Pletcher-trained **Keen Ice** (Curlin) and **Neolithic** (Harlan's Holiday) and

Reade Baker's **Breaking Lucky** (Lookin At Lucky) all shipped down to Gulfstream Wednesday and are expected to train Thursday morning.

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Cox cont. from p1

“Over the last few years, we’ve picked up a lot of quality stock and quality clients,” Cox said. “That’s one of the biggest things that’s helped our barn. One thing we still do is claim, but we claim from the higher end. We will continue to look for value when it’s available, of course, but yes, the barn has changed for the better. I like to joke and say that the payroll is probably the biggest thing that’s changed, but that’s what happens when your barn increases in size and we really enjoy having a larger operation and have done well with it.”

A former assistant to Jimmy Baker and Dallas Stewart--the latter for nearly five years--who also worked for Frankie Brothers, Jinks Fires and Burt Kessinger, Cox went out on his own 2005 and has since weathered his fair share of ups and downs within an often ruthless industry. Perhaps that is why the father of three has

kept such a level head through this calculated surge of success over the last few years. From his first few lean freshman seasons, to the highs (and subsequent post-employment lows) of his relationship with powerful owner Midwest



Cox trainee Green Mask takes the Bonapaw S.
Lou Hodges, Jr. / Hodges Photography

Thoroughbreds, to the revamping of his now 100-horse, three-assistant stable, Cox has shown that his enterprise is a force with which to reckon. In such, Cox is coming off a career year in which he finished 15th nationally in both wins (151) and earnings (\$6,288,972) and struck at a 28% rate matched only by Linda Rice (17th) among top-20 earning conditioners. Additionally, his 59% in-the-money rate was tops among said group.

“Obviously having a great staff and plenty of quality horses helps,” Cox said. “Happy, healthy and sound horses go a long way when it comes to doing well. And, of course, it’s always a combination of many things that make you successful, but we



“**He’s a beautiful horse and is training very forwardly. We are very pleased with him**”

JB McKATHAN, McKathan Brothers Training, on the colt ex **Sleeping Beauty** (€475,000 Goffs Orby - Ingordo/Casse for Zayat Stables)

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are very excited about what we've accomplished so far. As a trainer, I think winning graded stakes helps with letting current or future clients know that you can get that done and be successful. That's helped a lot. I also think it's important that you know, as a trainer, that the owner owns the horse. You as a trainer are there to let them know what's best for the animal and what will make them better.

"We're also not afraid to run our horses and are aggressive about trying to win races," Cox continued. "That's a big part of my operation. We are aggressive in a good way about trying to be successful and we're there to run and win."

And win he has--at nearly every class level.

It takes a certain combination of demeanor, determination and diligence to manage an operation of such aforementioned scope while it is beginning to appreciate on multiple levels. Like guiding a ship that is somehow picking up size and speed while the tide increases, such is not an enviable task, but Cox has captained with a tangible confidence that makes his operation appear like a Carnival cruise.

Currently with about 40 horses at both Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots and Evangeline Training Center in Louisiana and 20 at Oaklawn Park, Cox has picked up right where he left off last year, winning five of 15 (33%) and finishing in the money in 12 of those (80%) so far in 2017. At the Fair Grounds, he is

striking at a 30% rate on the meet, which began Nov. 19, which by his standards seems normal. In fact, in the last five weeks (since Dec. 15) at the New Orleans oval, he has won 15 of 36 races in which he was entered, from a \$15,000 claiming event he won with **Goblet of Fire** (Pleasantly Perfect) to the meet-leading four stakes races he has annexed with **Green Mask** (Mizzen Mast), **Cash Control** {Pioneer of the Nile}, **Western Reserve** {Indian Charlie} and **Believe in Bertie** {Langfuhr}.

"It's all about great horsemanship and running horses where they're supposed to run," Cox said. "I learned great organizational skills from Dallas Stewart in addition to being a good horseman and that is key. I learned a great deal from all the trainers I worked for, but I try to keep developing. We treat every horse differently and individually tailor their training to them. I'm not afraid to try new things or tweak what I'm doing if I think it can improve the program and I think that's important.

"You're always learning," he continued. "We've done well at the Fair Grounds because it works really well with our program, especially with how Churchill Downs runs right into the meet. The turf course and having more grass horses is a big part of that, as well. Until **Chocolate Ride** {Candy Ride {Arg}} came along, we didn't have that many and we've picked up a lot since and done well and won stakes with them. The training is a little



“He’s one of the nicest colts we have which is why he’s going to Miami. He’s very straightforward and looks like he could run all day. I love him!”

JIM CRUPI, Crupi’s New Castle Farm, on the colt ex **Miss Childrey** (\$200,000 FT Saratoga - Dylan Venosa)

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different with them, but I enjoy that it often keeps horses more sound and lets you race them longer, like Chocolate Ride.

The horse he considers his most accomplished, the unofficial mascot of the Cox barn is GenStar Thoroughbreds'

mentioned son of Candy Ride. A swift, classy and cleverly named dark bay, Chocolate Ride was claimed for \$40,000 out of a Nov. 2014 Churchill Downs one-turn dirt mile and came to the barn sporting some significant hoof issues. Through no small amount of patience and some serious T-L-C from assistant trainer Ricky Giannini, the Stall-Wilson turf course-loving fan favorite has won six of 13, including four graded stakes, while setting or equaling two course records at the Fair Grounds. He was third, one spot behind stablemate Western Reserve, when attempting to defend his GIII Colonel E. R. Bradley H. title this past Saturday.

"He's such a fantastic horse to have and train and is definitely

my most accomplished," Cox beamed. "He gave me my first Grade II win and hopefully has a couple more left in him.

"The most talented horse I've ever had on raw talent is probably Believe in Bertie," the 13-time graded stakes winner

continued. "We are going to have a lot of fun with her. She was out-working a filly like Cash Control, who has won multiple graded stakes, and then the other day broke the track record in a hand ride. I also really like **Sassy Little Lila** (Artie Schiller) moving forward. She's getting a break, but I think she's going to be a very good 4-year-old."

A Louisiana-bred homebred of Richard, Elaine and Bertram Klein, Believe in Bertie is a granddaughter of multiple graded stakes winner and Grade

I Alabama runner-up Allamerican Bertie who has now won four of nine and finished in the exacta seven times. Her nearly eight-length victory in the Pago Hop S. on New Year's Eve lowered the Fair Grounds turf mile track record to 1:34.22.



Chocolate Ride | Amanda Hodges Weird/Hodges Photography

“They’re big, powerful, good-actioned horses with very good temperaments. I couldn’t be more positive on them.”

AIDAN O'BRIEN, who has five Declaration of War colts and a filly in training at Ballydoyle



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Cox cont.

Sheep Pond Partners, et al.'s Sassy Little Lila led all the way in the GI American Oaks at Santa Anita on the same day, only to be nipped at the wire by a nose. Said effort was only her second attempt in stakes company, first in graded company and third race since breaking her maiden at Saratoga Sept. 5.

Undeterred by such a tough loss, Cox, the winner of nearly 600 races, has remained focused on upping the tempo and bringing home an even bigger season in 2017. His success, which has been aided by top assistants Giannini, Tessa Bisha and Jorge Abrego, has not gone unnoticed by such powerful outfits as Donegal Racing, Donald Dizney, Zayat Stables, Tracy Farmer and Abdullah Saeed Almaddah--who have all sent him horses over the past season. It appears that it is only a matter of time until a Grade I-winning photo-finish--or many of them, for that matter--falls his direction.

"At the end of the day, we just try to do right by the clients and be honest about how we feel after assessing a horse. That gives them the best possible information," Cox concluded. "We don't take days off and we're definitely out there to win."

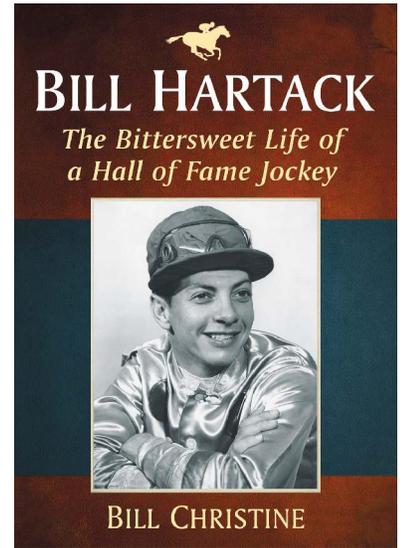
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BOOK REVIEW: BILL HARTACK--THE BITTERSWEET LIFE OF A HALL OF FAME JOCKEY by T.D. Thornton

In a perfect world, what would be the traits of the consummate jockey? For starters, how about someone who is intelligent, physically gifted, unabashedly honest, competitively driven, a stickler about honoring calls, and has a determined, diligent work ethic? Add to that the insightfulness to keenly assess Thoroughbreds while keeping the best interest of the animal at heart, and you have just described the horsebacking skill set of the late, great Bill Hartack.

But here's the rub--Hartack, a winner of a record-tying five GI Kentucky Derbies and a Hall of Fame inductee by the time he reached age 26--did not exist in a perfect world. Hartack, whose riding career spanned from 1953 to 1980, was a flawed,



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Hartack cont.

mercurial human being whose early life was scarred by one tragedy after another, and whose final years were difficult before he died alone and cut off from his family.

As fellow Hall-of-Fame jockey Johnny Longden once said of Hartack, "His riding and ethics are beyond reproach. He's as smart as they come. But where he can get along with horses, he can't seem to with people." Or, as Chick Lang--the only one out of scores of agents who was able to work with the choleric jockey for more than a month or two without quitting or being fired--bluntly put it when Hartack was at his professional zenith, "He's the leading rider in the country right now but he's dissatisfied all the time. He abuses everyone in the sport, from grooms and exercise boys to trainers....It's his world, and the rest of us are just supposed to let him run it."

For racing enthusiasts under age 50, the name "Hartack" only resonates in a record-book and yellowed-news-clips sort of way. Thankfully--for both Hartack's legacy and as a way for us to understand an era that too often gets glossed over by the sport's historians--we have author Bill Christine to set the story straight. His new book, "Bill Hartack--The Bittersweet Life of a Hall of Fame Jockey" (McFarland, \$35 softcover) reads as both an overdue homage and a cautionary tale about what it's like for a dark, brooding athlete to try and maintain a firm grip on the

pinnacle of his profession at the expense of driving off almost everybody who cared about him.

Given the redemption-strewn story arc of his lone-wolf life, it might surprise readers to learn that no one has previously written a comprehensive biography of the enigmatic Hartack. Christine, a multiple-award-winning California-based turf journalist, even admits in the book's preface that this came as a mild shock to him too, but it wasn't for a lack of trying by previous would-be biographers. At least three other people (including Hartack himself) had attempted to get his life story down on paper, and the research from those manuscripts (plus a massive scrapbook trove passed on by Lang's widow and an 80,000-word, three-part serial that ran in *Sports Illustrated*) helped to provide excellent source material that Christine augmented with his own deep-dive reporting. The result is an unflinching yet compassionate character illumination of Hartack.

Born in the Great Depression, Hartack was the son of a Pennsylvania miner who was known as strict disciplinarian and a no-nonsense overachiever who set records for digging coal. Clever but shy, the younger Hartack forever got picked on because of his diminutive size, but he never backed down from fights. When he was eight, his mother died on Christmas Day from injuries sustained in a car wreck. A year later, the family's house burned down in the middle of the night, leaving Bill, his

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two sisters, and dad homeless. Hartack would go on to excel in high school, but his career choices appeared limited. His father didn't want him in the mines, he was too young to work in the steel mills, and the United States Navy took a pass on his services because he was too small.

A family friend introduced Hartack to a Charles Town backstretch connection, suggesting riding as a profession in which his stature would work to his advantage. On this first-ever visit to a track, Hartack witnessed a vicious six-horse spill on a frozen surface and vowed never to climb atop the back of a horse.

Over time, Hartack changed his mind and proved a quick study. He rarely needed to be told he made mistakes because he generally figured out his own errors and sought to correct them himself. He wasn't pretty in the saddle, nor was he known as a "quiet" rider. Hartack's style was more about aggression and muscle, although that's not to say he wasn't intelligent about strategy and positioning. He gained notoriety as a rare but natural left-handed whipper; in his prime Hartack was so relentless with his stick that his left forearm was reportedly twice as thick as his right.



Hartack | Coglianese Photo

In the 1950s, Hartack rose from the "leaky roof" mid-Atlantic circuit to top-dog status in Chicago, New York and Florida. Christine is at his best when laying out the scuttlebutt behind how Hartack acquired (and sometimes frittered away) mounts

on prime, big-name Thoroughbreds, especially the tale behind his first Derby winner, Iron Liege, in 1957. Of his five Derby victories-- Venetian Way (1960), Decidedly (1962), Northern Dancer (1964), and Majestic Prince (1969) were the others--it's worth noting only Majestic Prince was favored. Hartack carved out a stellar reputation as a rider who could coax the best out of horses that weren't necessarily considered the best on paper.

Yet at the same time he excelled in big-money races, Hartack's antics and attitude were derailing his day-to-day business. He told trainers outright what he thought was wrong with their horses and ordered stakes mounts

scratched at the gate if he felt they weren't totally sound. He sometimes didn't show up to take part in winner's circle trophy presentations and often snubbed owners, refusing invitations to dinner because he thought sucking up to them was frivolous. Hartack rarely socialized with rival riders (he said it dulled his

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competitive edge), routinely berated his agent in public, got into petty arguments over rigid principles with racing officials, called out starters and gate crew members for perceived incompetence, and at least once doused a railbird heckler with water.

On top of all that, Hartack had a nasty, career-long feud with print reporters (television and radio were OK because those forms of media didn't twist his words) that extended to his even refusing interviews after winning Triple Crown races. As his career began to decline, some writers seemed eager to see the caustic jockey get what was coming to him. In 1963, the same week his father was shot to death in an altercation with a girlfriend, *Sports Illustrated* was putting the finishing touches on a takedown piece titled "Whatever Happened to Bill Hartack?"

Hartack was proud of the fact that even though he had numerous self-made enemies, almost every racetracker agreed he rode \$1,500 claiming races as smart and as hard as he rode the Derby. But unfiltered honesty was at once his most admirable trait and the undoing of numerous relationships. "Ask him what he thinks of your wife, and if he thinks your wife is ugly, he'll tell you so," said one owner who employed him. Hall-of-Fame trainer Jimmy Jones, who gave Hartack the leg up on Iron Liege, rationalized it this way: "He was a headstrong guy. Ill-tempered. You had to be a real diplomat to get along with him. But I put up with it because he could ride. My gosh, he could ride. Best finisher I ever saw in racing. I can't recall him ever getting beat in a photo finish."

By 1970 Hartack was scrounging for mounts wherever he could find them. A lifetime loner who never married but had plenty of girlfriends, he criss-crossed the country--northern California, Philly, Tampa--smoking three packs of menthols a day while running out of backstretch acquaintances who still tolerated playing racetrack rummy with him. He was self-aware enough to realize his own inflexibility had cost him dearly. "It was very easy for me to have principles when I was on top," Hartack said as he approached age 40. "Now's the time to see if I can take it."

Even as Hartack's mounts dried up and the Internal Revenue Service was after him for staggering back-tax debt (it's hinted he was bamboozled by a crooked accountant), Hartack frequented exclusive New York nightclubs with football star Joe Namath and was known as a big tipper who dated pop singer Connie Francis. In 1974, just when it appeared as if Hartack was out of options, he unexpectedly rebooted his career by moving his tack to Hong Kong.

The end of the book includes a poignant tale about how Hartack's true best friend provided a final resting place when Bill died and his kin were difficult to track down. But it's best to leave it up to Christine to artfully wind down Hartack's final

3yo colt
ALWAYS DREAMING
 dazzled in his seasonal debut Wednesday for trainer Todd Pletcher, romping by 11 ½ lengths in a MdSpWt race at Tampa.
[\[watch race\]](#)

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Hartack cont.

decades back in the U.S. as a part-time racing broadcast commentator, irascible racing official, and avid outdoorsman who was more at peace in the solitude of nature than among the company of racetrackers.

“That’s just the way he was,” one acquaintance explained after Hartack died. “It’s a shame, when you think about what a valuable asset to the sport he could have been, as a spokesman, for a lot of years. But his personality just wouldn’t let him do it.”

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24 MORE SUPPLEMENTAL ENTRIES ADDED TO FTKFEB

The latest round of supplemental entries to the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale are now available [online](#). Twenty four more offerings have been added to the sale, which will be held Feb. 6 and 7 in Lexington, KY. Catalogued as hips 617-640, they include stakes-winning broodmare prospect **Find Joy** (Drosselmeyer) ([hip 621](#)); **Andean** (City Zip), a stakes-placed racing or broodmare prospect and half to GISP Mr. Z (Malibu Moon); and MGSP **Glory** (Tapit) ([hip 640](#)), a racing or broodmare prospect. Each day’s sale session will begin at 10:00 a.m., with supplemental hips being offered Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the conclusion of the main catalogue.

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NTRA REPORT FROM CAPITOL HILL

NTRA RECOGNIZES SUPPORTERS AMONG ECLIPSE AWARDS CHAMPIONS

The NTRA congratulates the connections of all champions at the 46th annual Eclipse Awards and offers special thanks to those listed below who supported the NTRA’s [Legislative Action Campaign](#) through the ¼% Check-off and/or Foal programs in the past year.

- Frederick M. Allor, *Co-breeder of Drefong*
- Bob Baffert, *Trainer of Arrogate and Drefong*
- Michael T. Barnett, *Co-breeder of Drefong*
- Clarkland Farm, *Breeder of Beholder*
- Clearsky Farm, *Breeder of Arrogate*
- Juddmonte Farms, Inc., *Outstanding Owner, Owner of Arrogate, Owner & Breeder of Flintshire*
- Machmer Hall, *Breeder of Tepin*
- John C. Oxley, *Owner of Classic Empire*
- Taylor Made, *Co-owner of California Chrome*

This elite group of breeders, owners and trainers represents just a fraction of the hundreds of industry members from around the world who annually participate in the NTRA’s federal legislative fundraising effort, the Legislative Action Campaign. Buyers and sellers may contribute through all major domestic sale companies by donating one quarter of one percent of a horse’s sale price. Owners and breeders also may participate by contributing \$50 per foal in the NTRA Foal program.



For more information contact Joe Bacigalupo, senior director of government relations and membership development, (859) 422-2677 or visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org.



Listen to our Taylor Made TDN **PODCAST**

WITH MIKE ROGERS

The Stronach Group likes to think big--so big that it has created the richest horse race in the history of the world, the \$12 million Pegasus World Cup, which will be run Jan. 28 at Gulfstream Park. One of the people leading the team is Mike Rogers, the President of the Stronach Group, and he 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.




FLYING IN STYLE...Luxair Jets has reached an agreement with the owners of Neolithic to have jockey John Velazquez wear Luxair Jets branding on his pants and the collar of his silks during the Pegasus World Cup Saturday. Owner Jack Wolf and other Starlight Racing partners, as well as trainer Todd Pletcher and Neolithic himself, will also wear branded material during the rest of this week leading up to the event. Luxair Jets has recently become very active in horse racing, coming on board as a sponsor of the Eclipse Awards, and donating private air travel to be auctioned off at Saturday night's awards ceremony that raised \$82,000 for the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance.



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Thursday January 26th
12:01 a.m.

End:
Saturday January 28th
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Registration is free.



This year's stallions will be announced on pabred.com
as well as through PHBA email communication.

All proceeds benefit PHBA's political action committee
(PAC) and PA OTTB placement organizations.



2016 Leading Fifth-Crop Sires by Earnings

for stallions standing in North America through Saturday, Dec. 31

Earnings and Black-type represents North American/European figures for 2016

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Curlin <i>(2004) by Smart Strike FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farm KY (\$150,000)</i>	15	28	7	18	5	7	173	111	\$2,598,000	\$12,340,704
										<i>Exaggerator</i>	
2	Into Mischief <i>(2005) by Harlan's Holiday FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (\$45,000)</i>	8	15	3	6	1	2	161	82	\$739,800	\$5,332,841
										<i>Practical Joke</i>	
3	Street Boss <i>(2004) by Street Cry (Ire) FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Darley KY (\$17,500)</i>	5	14	2	5	2	3	155	87	\$1,139,720	\$5,054,302
										<i>Cathryn Sophia</i>	
4	Midnight Lute <i>(2003) by Real Quiet FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farms KY (\$25,000)</i>	4	12	2	5	--	1	160	90	\$163,200	\$4,251,541
										<i>Know It All Anna</i>	
5	Big Brown <i>(2005) by Boundary FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Dutchess Views Farm NY (\$7,500)</i>	5	9	1	3	--	1	149	69	\$270,000	\$3,535,045
										<i>Dortmund</i>	
6	Ready's Image <i>(2005) by More Than Ready FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Calumet Farm KY (\$7,500)</i>	1	6	--	--	--	--	119	64	\$313,440	\$2,422,022
										<i>Rivers Run Deep</i>	
7	Frost Giant <i>(2003) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Keane Stud NY (\$7,500)</i>	3	8	--	--	--	--	104	52	\$152,584	\$2,355,193
										<i>Frosty Margarita</i>	
8	Bustin Stones <i>(2004) by City Zip FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Waldorf Farm NY (\$2,500)</i>	2	3	--	--	--	--	73	52	\$252,201	\$2,319,950
										<i>Bust Another</i>	
9	Fairbanks <i>(2003) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Northview PA PA (\$2,500)</i>	--	1	--	1	--	--	99	45	\$110,640	\$2,190,352
										<i>Cosmic Destiny</i>	
10	First Defence <i>(2004) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Juddmonte Farms KY (\$7,500)</i>	1	9	1	2	--	--	86	50	\$220,300	\$2,159,143
										<i>Irish Jasper</i>	
11	Cowtown Cat <i>(2004) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm OH (\$3,000)</i>	1	2	1	1	--	--	89	47	\$281,735	\$2,102,587
										<i>Calgary Cat</i>	
12	Run Away and Hide <i>(2006) by City Zip FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (\$7,500)</i>	4	5	2	2	--	--	85	36	\$325,286	\$1,925,206
										<i>Are You Kidding Me</i>	
13	Notional <i>(2004) by In Excess (Ire) FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Rockin' Z Ranch OK (\$3,000)</i>	1	4	--	--	--	--	120	60	\$108,761	\$1,765,757
										<i>Victor Jara</i>	
14	Street Hero <i>(2006) by Street Cry (Ire) FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Rancho San Miguel CA (\$3,500)</i>	3	6	1	4	--	--	63	37	\$170,532	\$1,646,515
										<i>The Player</i>	
15	Nobiz Like Shobiz <i>(2004) by Albert the Great FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (n/a)</i>	4	4	--	--	--	--	64	38	\$167,473	\$1,605,313
										<i>The Great Whiteway</i>	

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SHANGHAI BOBBY LASS TOPS OBS OPENER

by Alan Carasso

A filly from the second crop of champion juvenile Shanghai Bobby (Harlan's Holiday) was the dearest of five horses purchased by Bill Heiligbrodt's East Hickman Bloodstock and topped the consignor preferred session of the OBS Winter Mixed Sale in Central Florida Wednesday afternoon on a bid of \$110,000.

For the consignor preferred session, a total of 84 horses sold for gross receipts of \$1,522,000 for an average of \$18,119 and a median of \$10,000. The percentage of buybacks was 47.8%.

The fourth horse to go through the ring, [hip 10](#) was consigned to the sale by Francis and Barbara Vanlangendonck's Summerfield agency and is the latest produce for the stakes-



Shanghai Bobby | Coolmore photo

placed mare Yankee Victoria (Yankee Victor), who was purchased by Lorenzo Del Guidice for \$17,000 carrying the Shanghai Bobby filly in utero at this auction 12 months back.

"That quality of horse

looks very good in this market and there is plenty of money around for them if you have what they want," commented Francis Vanlangendonck, who indicated that Olin Gentry was the immediate underbidder on the filly. "She had really good size, a beautiful shoulder, walked out well and vetted really well."

The veteran horseman is bullish on the future for the once-beaten Shanghai Bobby, who capped an undefeated season in 2012 with a determined success in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

"There are a lot of good reports about Shanghai Bobby and the rumor is that he has some of the best 2-year-olds in town," Vanlangendonck offered. "It certainly doesn't hurt when that sort of word is floating around."

Another paternal granddaughter of Harlan's Holiday, this one by Into Mischief, provided another solid success on the afternoon, when [hip 136](#), a Florida-bred half-sister to MSW Pashito the Che (Flatter), fetched a final bid of \$85,000 from Fox Hill Paso Fino Farm LLC

"She's another that was an athlete. We're fortunate that people that were here to buy and we had plenty of people on her," Vanlangendonck commented.

East Hickman Farm was easily the consignor preferred session's leading buyer, accounting for over 20% of the day's turnover with five lots for \$318,000. The operation was also responsible for the session's second highest-priced offering in [hip 115](#), a Select Sales-consigned daughter of Into Mischief and the first foal from Maren's Melody (Unbridled's Song). Wednesday's purchases by Heiligbrodt are in addition to a half-dozen short yearlings he picked up at Keeneland January, topped by a \$160,000 son of [Street Sense--Giant Leap](#) (Giant's Causeway).

"I was pretty much able to buy everything I short-listed, so that was good," Heiligbrodt commented when reached by phone Wednesday evening. "This sale has been very good to me over the years, and being in January, I like it that the horses are now yearlings instead of weanlings from the old October sale."

Of his session-topping buy, he added, "I really thought she was the best in the sale and I guess others agreed. I've been trying to buy a Shanghai Bobby, and if they run the way they look, they are going to be good. The Flat Out I bought ([hip 30](#) for \$65,000 from Stuart Morris, agent) falls into the same category and I was happy to get both."

The owner of a once far-flung racing operation, Heiligbrodt dispersed at a variety of Fasig-Tipton sales in 2011, but has recently re-engaged and currently has seven horses in training with Steve Asmussen.

"I could see myself having 15 horses or so, but nothing that would require the level of management than it once did," he explained.

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SESSION TOPPERS

KENTUCKY

OBS WINTER MIXED SALE

Wednesday's Top Yearlings

Hip	Sex	Sire	Dam/Status	Price (\$)
10	f	Shanghai Bobby	Yankee Victoria	110,000
(\$17,000 in utero '16 OBSWIN)				
B-Kris R Del Guidice (FL)				
Consigned by Summerfield (F & B Vanlangendonck), Agent LXIII				
Purchased by East Hickman Bloodstock				
115	f	Into Mischief	Maren's Melody	90,000
B-Machmer Hall & Golden Pedigree LLC (KY)				
Consigned by Select Sales, Agent XVIII				
Purchased by East Hickman Bloodstock				
136	f	Into Mischief	Pashmina	85,000
B-Off the Hook Partners LLC & Farm III Enterprises LLC (FL)				
Consigned by Summerfield (F & B Vanlangendonck), Agent CXII				
Purchased by Fox Hill Paso Fino Farm LLC				
135	f	Shanghai Bobby	Paisley Park	80,000
B-Chris Seale (FL)				
Consigned by Bird In Hand Stables				
Purchased by Stripes Stable				
11	c	City Zip	Zadig	70,000
(\$47,000 RNA Wlg '16 KEENOV)				
B-Capucine Mourier (KY)				
Consigned by Stuart Morris, Agent III				
Purchased by T J Jackson				

KEEP Organizing Day in Frankfort:

The Kentucky Equine Education Project has scheduled KEEP Day in Frankfort during the 2017 legislative session Feb. 22. "Twenty-eight new legislators were elected in the Kentucky State House of Representatives in the November elections, ushering in a change in leadership for the first time in nearly 100 years," said Joe Clabes, KEEP's executive director. "With important topics like tax reform expected to be considered in 2017, we need to educate new and returning members on the important role horses play in Kentucky's economy and there are no better messengers than their own constituents."

KEEP's top priority for 2017 remains the push for equine sales-tax equity, achieving the same exemption from 6% sales tax on feed, equipment and supplies that other livestock producers receive.

Those wanting to meet with their State Senator and/or Representative as part of KEEP Day can go to horseswork.com/advocacy and confirm their attendance by simply filling in their name and address.

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APPOINTMENTS

W. Craig Robertson III: Partner in charge of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP Lexington, KY office

- In his new position, Robertson will maintain his full-time litigation practice, which includes equine law.
- Robertson is also an active Thoroughbred owner, and has raced in partnership the likes of graded stakes winners Soldat and Cairo Prince.
- Click [here](#) for an Oct. 2016 piece written by Robertson that was published in the TDN.



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

OBS WINTER MIXED SALE CONSIGNOR PREFERRED

SESSION TOTALS	2017	2016
• Catalogued	192	230
• No. Offered	161	198
• No. Sold	84	137
• RNAs	77	61
• % RNAs	47.8%	30.8%
• No. \$100K+	1	4
• High Price	\$110,000	\$150,000
• Gross	\$1,522,000	\$2,471,100
• Average (% change)	\$18,119	\$18,037
• Median (% change)	\$10,000	\$8,500



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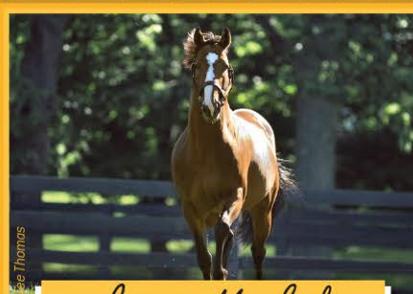
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FLORIDA

Yesterday's Results:

7th-TAM, \$20,000, Msw, 1-25, 3yo, 1m 40y, 1:40.54, ft.
ALWAYS DREAMING (c, 3, Bodemeister--Above Perfection {GSW & GISP, \$380,737}, by In Excess {Ire}), third on debut at Belmont July 1, looked home free in the stretch before settling for second going six furlongs at Saratoga Aug. 20 in his final outing for trainer Dominick Schettino. The 1-5 favorite raced between rivals on the front end through an opening quarter in :24.18. He took control after a half in :48.28 and powered clear into the stretch before sailing under the wire 11 1/2 lengths in front. Watch Your Words (Arch) was second. Always Dreaming, a \$350,000 KEESEP yearling, is a half-brother to Hot Dixie Chick (Dixie Union, GISW, \$343,252). Above Perfection, who RNA'd for \$1.15 million at the 2009 Fasig-Tipton November sale, produced a filly by Medaglia d'Oro in 2015 and a filly by Pioneer of the Nile in 2016. She was bred back to Honor Code last year. Her Medaglia d'Oro filly sold for \$485,000 at the 2015 Keeneland November sale. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$35,900. O-MeB Racing Stables LLC, Viola Racing Stables, St. Elias Stables, LLC, et al.; B-Santa Rosa Partners (KY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.

BRED, BORN, RAISED AND SOLD AT DROMOLAND FARM
Trained at Crupi's New Castle Farm

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8th-TAM, \$20,000, Msw, 1-25, 3yo, 1mT, 1:37.95, fm.
NO BOUNDARIES (g, 3, Fort Prado--Roaming Free, by Out of Place), second on debut over the Keeneland lawn Oct. 29, never threatened when seventh going one mile over the Churchill turf as the 2-1 Nov. 26. Sent off the 6-5 favorite, the gray gelding was shuffled back to midpack while racing along the rail going into the first turn. In tight quarters rounding the bend, he was under a snug hold while moving up to third. Tipped off the rail and niggled at after a half in :48.88, No Boundaries stormed to the lead and bound away down the lane to score by 5 1/4 lengths. D C Nine (Santiva) was second. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$21,712. O/B-Team Block (IL); T-Chris M. Block.



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7th-FG, \$41k, Msw, 3yo, 1m70y, post time: 5:19 ET

Three Chimneys and Bridlewood Farm's **HEARTWOOD (Tapit)**, a \$500,000 FTKNOV weanling in 2014, makes his debut for trainer Steve Asmussen. The gray colt is the first foal out of graded stakes placed Maple Forest (Forestry). E Five Racing's **Local Hero (Hard Spun)**, a \$500,000 FTFMAR juvenile, looks to improve on a pair of runner-up efforts over seven furlongs in Kentucky last fall for Asmussen. [TJCS PPs](#)

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INDUSTRY INFO

Pegasus World Cup Connections Pledge to Support New Vocations:

Two owners of starters in Saturday's \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup have pledged to support New Vocations. Jan Vandebos-Naify, a partner in the syndicate that owns **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit), will donate \$10,000 if the newly crowned Horse of the Year wins. Starlight Racing has also pledged to donate a percentage of **Neolithic** (Harlan's Holiday)'s earnings.

"I am so honored to be part of the California Chrome Syndicate," said Vandebos-Naify. "As Horse of the Year once again, he has shown his diversity on the track, as well as his ability to bring people together to help other horses in need. I am so pleased to be able to take a portion of my earnings to honor OTTBs. New Vocations is the leader in the aftercare community and one that I am so proud to be affiliated with."

"The costs associated with rehabbing, retraining and rehoming retired racehorses continue to rise each year, so the pledged funds are greatly needed and appreciated," said Program Director Anna Ford. "Jan Vandebos-Naify and Starlight Racing have been wonderful, ongoing supporters of our efforts, and we are thrilled to have their kind and generous pledges during the exciting Pegasus World Cup."

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Race for Education's 2017 Scholarships Now Available:

The Race for Education is now accepting applications for all of their 2017 scholarships, which range from \$500 to \$5,000 and are for tuition only. Some of the scholarships included this year are: the 4H Leg Up Scholarships, the Xpressbet Scholarship, the Frankel Scholarship and the Judy Willard Memorial Scholarship. They also continue to offer the Winner's Circle Program, a partnership with the American Association of Equine Practitioners and Platinum Performance, providing a \$1,500 scholarship to third or fourth year students at AAEP chapters at every veterinary school in North America.

"The rising cost of veterinary school continues to present challenges to talented students who endeavor to enter the equine veterinary profession," said Hagyard Equine Medical Institute Veterinarian and Race For Education Board Member, Dr. Stuart Brown, DVM. "We are grateful to all of our donors and especially thank our partners AAEP Foundation and Platinum Performance for all their support. It's hard to imagine we have been able to assist so many veterinary students with now more than \$830,000 in support since we started this program."

All of the organization's scholarships recipients are required to take a financial literacy course, to help them better understand basic finance. All students are invited to participate in The Race For Education's Assets for Independence Program and if eligible may receive \$4,000 in scholarship funds from a federal matching grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families.

Deadline for most scholarships is Mar. 31 and applications can be found [online](#).

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Second-crop starters to watch: Thursday, Jan. 26

- Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2013 Fee, # foals of racing age/Winners/
BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)
- BODEMEISTER** (Empire Maker), WinStar Farm, \$30K, 262/16/1 7-FG, Msw 1m, Pleasant Empire, \$425K FTS AUG yrl, 6-1 2-SA, Msw 6f, Kenda, \$110K RNA BAR MAR 2yo, 5-2
 - CREATIVE CAUSE** (Giant's Causeway), Airdrie Stud, \$15K, 174/18/1 7-FG, Msw 1m, Because It's Time, \$105K KEE SEP yrl, 10-1
 - DIALED IN** (Mineshaft), Darby Dan Farm, \$7.5K, 172/19/3 2-SA, Msw 6f, Delitefull Lady, \$72K BAR MAR 2yo, 4-1
 - SHACKLEFORD** (Forestry), Darby Dan Farm, \$20K, 208/22/1 7-TP, Msw 1m, Lady Shackelford, \$70K RNA OBS MAR 2yo, 3-1 5-FG, Msw 6f, House Cat, \$35K OBS OPN 2yo, 15-1

- STAR GUITAR** (Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud, \$4K, 80/3/0 5-FG, Msw 6f, +Shamrock Star, \$45K EQL 2YO 2yo, 5-2
- STATELY VICTOR** (Ghostzapper), OH, \$5K, 18/1/0 7-TP, Msw 1m, Double Oaked, \$20K KEE NOV wnl, 5-2
- STAY THIRSTY** (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 160/20/1 7-TP, Msw 1m, Mydrinkselection, \$125K OBS APR 2yo, 3-1
- TO HONOR AND SERVE** (Bernardini), Gainesway Farm, \$30K, 171/15/1 7-FG, Msw 1m, Blueridge Traveler, \$100K FTK JUL yrl, 4-1 4-GP, Aoc 6f, Salute With Honor, 6-1
- UNION RAGS** (Dixie Union), Lane's End Farm, \$35K, 220/19/3 2-SA, Msw 6f, Paradise Woods, 3-1

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BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-GP, \$41,000, 1-25, (NW3L), 4yo/up, 7 1/2ft, 1:27.72, fm. CRONINTHEBARBARIAN (h, 5, [Stroll](#)--Sweet Ober Melissa, by Tale of the Cat) Lifetime Record: SW & GSP, 17-3-3-4, \$247,744. O/B-Ol' Memorial Stables (KY); T-George Weaver.

1st-PEN, \$33,300, (S), 1-25, (NW1X), 3yo, 1m, 1:40.10, ft. SEPICATO (g, 3, [Got the Last Laugh](#)--Candy Buttons, by Candy Ride {Arg}) Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$46,620. O/B/T-John Joesph Wames (PA).

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Irish Fix, f, 3, [Paddy O'Prado](#)--Contested Election (Ire), by Intikhab. GP, 1-25, (C), 5ft, :55.84. B-Isabelle H de Tomaso (NJ).

Another Webb Carroll Training Center Graduate

Pegasus World Cup Selfie to Benefit Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital: For a \$5 donation that will benefit the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation, fans can take a photo in the Gulfstream winner's circle Saturday between 10 a.m and 4 p.m.

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS sponsored by 

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Fasig-Tipton

Always Dreaming (Bodemeister) sails home an easy winner at Tampa Bay Downs.



NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR BREEDERS' CUP AND QREC



(l to r) Josh Christian, Craig Fravel, Nasser Sherida Al Kaabi and Bryan Pettigrew at the partnership announcement of Breeders' Cup and QREC | Dan Abraham

By Emma Berry

LONDON, UK--The emergence of Qatar's HH The Emir's Sword Festival has been an interesting addition to world racing in recent years, and its increasing appeal to international runners has led to a first-time partnership with the Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships.

Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club and Breeders' Cup will exchange sponsor titles at their respective meetings in 2017, with Breeders' Cup being represented at Doha next month as title sponsor of the Breeders' Cup Dukhan Sprint at the HH The Emir's Sword Festival, which takes place from Feb. 23 to 25. In exchange, the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club Juvenile Turf Sprint S. will be run at Del Mar on Nov. 4.

Speaking at a press conference in London the day after the GI Breeders' Cup Classic had been recognised as the highest-rated race of 2016 at the Longines World Thoroughbred Rankings, Breeders' Cup President and chief executive officer Craig Fravel said, "We are thrilled to take this next step in expanding our relationship with the renowned Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club."

Cont. p2

WINNING RUPERT RETIRED TO NEWGATE

Track record-setting sprinter **Winning Rupert (Aus)** (Written Tycoon {Aus}--Winaura {Aus}, by Show A Heart {Aus}) has been retired from racing and will stand at Newgate Farm in 2017. The 3-year-old was purchased by Newgate, China Horse Club and a syndicate of leading breeders.

Beaten once in six starts, Winning Rupert won the G2 Champagne Classic in his second outing at two before running away with the first three starts of his 3-year-old campaign, including a three-length tally in the G3 BRC Vo Rogue Plate on New Year's Eve. Winning Rupert suffered his only loss when fourth in the Gold Coast 3YO Guineas on Magic Millions Raceday Jan. 14, and he emerged from that effort with a bone chip in his near fore knee.

Cont. in Worldwide News p5

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

PEGASUS BUILD UP CONTINUES

The TDN's Ben Massam provides an update on Longines World's Best Racehorse and 'TDN Rising Star' **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) prior to the \$12-million GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational S. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



New Partnership For Breeders' Cup and QREC Cont. from p1

Fravel added, "As we look to ways to elevate our international presence with similar calibre Thoroughbred racing leaders around the world, the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club is a natural fit. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship and encouraging the international Thoroughbred community to support and race in Qatar."

Fravel, who will travel to Doha for the first time next month, added, "If we can attract the best horses from around the world, then that's really what we are about. Sheikh Joaan [Al Thani] has been a big supporter of ours and this is an amazing connection for us with the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club. It's about building relationships and getting to know each other better."

Representatives from the Breeders' Cup were joined in London by Nasser Sherida Al Kaabi, the General Manager of Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club, who commented, "The Breeders' Cup World Championships is one of the most iconic international race meetings in the world and the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club is very proud to have formed this prestigious partnership."



Craig Fravel and Nasser Sherida Al Kaabi
Dan Abraham

The HH Emir's Sword Festival is Qatar's flagship international race meeting of the year and we look forward to running the inaugural Breeders' Cup Dukhan Sprint on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017."

Entries for Qatar's premier racing festival--a mixture of Thoroughbred and Arabian racing at Doha's Al Rayyan racecourse--closed this week and Al Kaabi pointed to the

potential increased international participation at this year's event.

"The entries are more attractive and in the years to come we hope they will be more interesting still. We need to attract the best horses from around the world--that is our aim."

Potential starters in the inaugural Breeders' Cup Dukhan Sprint include the veteran Medicean Man (GB) (Medicean {GB}) and the fellow British-trained Gracious John (Ire) (Baltic King {GB}) and

Eastern Impact (Ire) (Bahamian Bounty {GB}). Ireland's dual Group 1 winner Gordon Lord Byron (Ire) (Byron {GB}) is also entered and America could be represented in the form of Green Mask (Mizzen Mast). **Cont. p3**



The Group 1-Winning Dariyan (Shamardal) impressed visitors at Haras de Bonneval last weekend. | Zuzanna Lupa

EUROPEAN 2-YEAR-OLD CLASSIFICATION 2016

RATING	NAME	SEX	OWNER	TRAINER	COUNTRY
122	Churchill (IRE)	C	M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs J. Magnier	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
121	Lady Aurelia (USA)	F	Stonestreet Stables, G. Bolton & P. Leidel	Wesley Ward	USA
118	National Defense (GB)	C	Sun Bloodstock SARL	Christianne Head-Maarek	FR
118	Thunder Snow (IRE)	C	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor	GB
117	Lancaster Bomber (USA)	C	M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs J. Magnier	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
116	Blue Point (IRE)	C	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby	GB
116	Brave Anna (USA)	F	Mrs E. M. Stockwell	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
116	Caravaggio (USA)	C	Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
116	Rhododendron (IRE)	F	Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
116	The Last Lion (IRE)	C	John Brown & Megan Dennis	Mark Johnston	GB
115	Roly Poly (USA)	F	M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs J. Magnier	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
115	Mehmas (IRE)	C	Al Shaqab Racing	Richard Hannon	GB
115	Rivet (IRE)	C	The Starship Partnership	William Haggas	GB
114	Queen Kindly (GB)	F	Jaber Abdullah	Richard Fahey	GB
114	Waldgeist (GB)	C	Ammerland/Newsells Park/Magnier	Andre Fabre	FR
114	Wuheida (GB)	F	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby	GB
113	Best Solution (IRE)	C	Godolphin	Saeed bin Suroor	GB
113	Boynnton (USA)	C	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby	GB
113	Capri (IRE)	C	D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier & M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
113	Peace Envoy (FR)	C	Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
113	War Decree (USA)	C	A Rosen, Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
112	Dabayah (IRE)	F	Abdullah Saeed Al Naboodah	John Gosden	GB
112	Intricately (IRE)	F	Mrs C. C. Regalado-Gonzalez	Joseph O'Brien	IRE
112	Promise To Be True (IRE)	F	Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
112	Tis Marvellous (GB)	C	Miss J. Deadman & S. Barrow	Clive Cox	GB
111	Akihiro (JPN)	C	Wertheimer & Frere	Andre Fabre	FR
111	Hydrangea (IRE)	F	D. Smith, Mrs J. Magnier & M. Tabor	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
111	Kontrastat (FR)	C	B. Plainfosse & Ecurie Palos de Moguer	Stephane Wattel	FR
111	Yucatan (IRE)	C	Flaxman Stables, Magnier, Tabor & Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
110	Al Johrah (GB)	F	Al Shaqab Racing	Henri-Francois Devin	FR
110	Alrahma (GB)	F	Hamdan Al Maktoum	Freddy Head	FR
110	Al Wukair (IRE)	C	Al Shaqab Racing	Andre Fabre	FR
110	Best of Days (GB)	C	Godolphin	Hugo Palmer	GB
110	Cavale Doree (FR)	F	Martin Schwartz	Christophe Ferland	FR
110	Douglas Macarthur (IRE)	C	Jooste, Magnier, Tabor & Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
110	Exemplar (IRE)	C	M. Tabor, D. Smith & Mrs J. Magnier	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
110	Fair Eva (GB)	F	Khalid Abdullah	Roger Charlton	GB
110	Harry Angel (IRE)	C	Peter Ridgers	Clive Cox	GB
110	Intelligence Cross (USA)	C	Mrs J. Magnier, M. Tabor & D. Smith	Aidan O'Brien	IRE
110	Landfall (FR)	C	Carl Howell, Pauline Condon & R. J. Condon	Kevin Condon	IRE
110	Larchmont Lad (IRE)	C	Michael Geoghegan	Richard Hannon	GB
110	Raheen House (IRE)	C	J. L. Day	Brian Meehan	GB
110	Salouen (IRE)	C	H. Balasuriya	Sylvester Kirk	GB
110	Senga (USA)	F	Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd	Pascal Bary	FR
110	South Seas (IRE)	C	Qatar Racing Ltd	Andrew Balding	GB
110	Spain Burg (FR)	F	Roberto Cochetoux Tierno	Xavier Thomas-Demeaulte	FR
110	Syphax (USA)	C	K & J Bloodstock Ltd	Kevin Ryan	GB

New Partnership For Breeders' Cup and QREC Cont.

This year could also see a first runner in Qatar for Sir Michael Stoute, who has entered Ballymacoll Stud's Arab Spring (Ire) (Monsun {Ger}) for the HH The Emir's Trophy, in which recent German-trained Qatar Derby winner Noor Al Hawa (Fr) (Makfi {GB}) is likely to reappear. Aidan O'Brien is another powerful trainer with a debut entrant, with Group 2 winner Cougar Mountain (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) having been nominated for the Irish Thoroughbred Marketing Cup.

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Challenges & SOLUTIONS

DEREK ICETON - TARA STUD

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

DI: I believe racing needs a world-class way to market itself, something on the lines of soccer or Formula 1 Racing. It is the usual bugbear in this part of the world to suggest that if bookmakers were to pay their fair share, all would be fine. I agree in part, but any sport that does not actively promote itself and widen its base in these competitive times is on a very slippery slope. A sport needs mass appeal and if marketed properly its many dimensions need to be shown--most importantly how accessible it is. If you were to consider Formula



Derek Icton | *Racing Post*

1 Racing, with its limited number of competitors (many which, at any one time, are not competitive) and its small number of venues, and compare this sport with horse racing, where you can be a fan, a bettor, a social attendee, and most importantly you can get a stake in the sport readily, irrespective of your budget--we have quite a story to tell. This is something that racing needs to promote. There are very few sports that transcend all generations, all social groupings, are equally attractive to both men and women and have an excellent social dimension.

1 Racing, with its limited number of competitors (many which, at any one time, are not competitive) and its small number of venues, and compare this sport with horse racing, where you can be a fan, a

Most importantly, however, if the sport was properly marketed it could bring in the one element that it seriously lacks: sponsorship. A sport with mass appeal is a marketer's dream. To illustrate this and show how far we are falling behind, let me forward a somewhat extreme example. Total UK prize money (flat and National Hunt) in 2016 was circa £120-million--compare this with just the "kit" sponsorship alone for Manchester United or Chelsea at circa \$190-million, or in the case of the McLaren Formula 1 Team, who receive \$140-million from just two of their sponsors, Vodafone and Santander. There are many other sponsorship deals that I could identify that show what a big trick the racing industry is missing.

How would you introduce a newcomer to the racing/breeding industry?

DI: I would answer this question in a slightly different way. Our inability to attract new players into the sport amazes me. Take two of the most vibrant cities in Europe, London and Paris. They both have millions of high-wealth individuals, of which a huge proportion are looking for entertainment and social interaction and who are not afraid to pay for it. These cities have wonderful racing "on their door step," but seem to be unable to attract these individuals in. I would suggest that the sport is seen as somewhat of a fortress: difficult to gain admission and acceptance. Following on from my earlier proposition about marketing the sport properly, I believe that this is a function that needs to be attended to, as we are leaving a lot of leisure dollars behind.

"There are very few sports that transcend all generations, all social groupings, are equally attractive to both men and women and have an excellent social dimension."

If you would like to provide feedback on this series please email Gary King: garyking@thetdn.com.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

presented by:  Destination Europe
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PRINCE FAISAL TO SUPPORT MAKE BELIEVE

Prince A A Faisal, who campaigned Make Believe (GB) (Makfi {GB}) to wins in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and the G1 Prix de la Foret, will support the Ballylinch resident with his best mares in 2017 in his second year at stud. Among the six mares from Prince Faisal's boutique Nawara Stud committed to Make Believe are Canadian champion 2-year-old filly Spring in the Air (Spring At Last). Nawara purchased Spring in the Air, winner of the G1 Darley Alcibiades, for \$1.65-million in foal to War Front at Keeneland November in 2015, and the mare is currently back in foal to War Front.

Also traveling to Ireland from the U.S. to visit Make Believe will be Affectionately (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), a daughter of Prince Faisal's great producer Rafha (GB) (Kris {GB}). Rafha is the dam of sires Invincible Spirit (Ire) and Kodiak (GB), who both raced as homebreds for Prince Faisal, as well as the second dam of G1 Gran Criterium winner Nayarra (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire}) and G3 Silver Flash S. winner Wonderfully (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). Affectionately has a 2-year-old colt by Mizzen Mast and a yearling colt by Bodemeister, and is in foal to Distorted Humor.



Make Believe | *Racing Post*

Prince Faisal's advisor Ted Voute said, "I can only reaffirm Prince Faisal's determination to support Make Believe by sending a substantial number of his mares to him both last year and this. He kept a third of Make Believe and has retained breeding rights in Invincible Spirit, Kodiak, Belardo, etc."

Indeed, Prince Faisal will breed four to Kodiak this year, two to G1 Dewhurst S. and G1 Lockinge S. winner Belardo (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}) and one to Invincible Spirit.

Also among Prince Faisal's broodmare band is Nayarra, who returns to Europe in foal to Empire Maker and will visit Frankel (GB) this year. Silver Cloud (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), an unraced granddaughter of triple German Group 1 winner Albanova (GB) (Alzao), visits Gleneagles (Ire) in her first season at stud.

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The ITBA Awards will be streamed live at ITBA.ie on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 10:30 p.m. local time.

BRITAIN

 Destination Europe
www.destinationeuropacing.com

Wednesday's Results:

4th-NC, £4,500, Mdn, 1-25, 3-5yo, 8f 5y (AWT), 1:42.60, st. SHAMROKH (IRE) (c, 3, [Invincible Spirit {Ire}](#)--Alshakr {GB} {GSW-Eng & G1SP-Fr, \$108,903}, by Bahri), a 200,000gns TATOCT yearling, was seventh on debut over this trip at Chelmsford last month and shaped with more professionalism this time when seizing the early lead. Gradually drawing clear under hand riding from the quarter pole, the 8-13 favourite hit the line strong with five lengths to spare over Shabeeh (Ire) (Raven's Pass). The winner is out of Alshakr, who captured Newmarket's Falmouth S. when it was still a Group 2, having finished third in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches. Her less-distinguished half-sister Saffaanh (Shareef Dancer) produced Harayir (Gulch), who was successful in the G1 1000 Guineas having won the G2 Lowther S. at two and later added the G2 Challenge S. and G2 Celebration Mile to her tally. The second dam, Give Thanks (GB) (Relko {GB}), was a Classic winner herself, this time in the G1 Irish Oaks, which secured her champion 3-year-old Irish filly status in 1983. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$3,645. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#) O-Al Shaqab Racing; B-Diomed Bloodstock Ltd & Herbertstown House Stud (IRE); T-John Gosden.

6th-LIN, £4,500, Mdn, 1-25, 3yo, 6f 1y (AWT), 1:13.19, st. WINNING WAYS (IRE) (c, 3, [Lope de Vega {Ire}](#)--Sahara Sky {Ire}, by Danehill), who was fourth when last seen racing for the William Haggas stable in a maiden over this trip at Haydock in June, tracked the leading duo travelling strongly throughout the early stages. Driven to take command passing the furlong marker, the 1-3 favourite, who sported a first-time hood and tongue-tie, surged clear to a five-length success from Edged In Blue (GB) (Acclamation {GB}). The winner is a half-brother to the G1 Phoenix S. scorer Dick Whittington (Ire) (Rip Van Winkle {Ire}), G1SW-Ire & SP-Eng, \$308,889. Their dam is a half to the highweight European sprinter Owington (GB), who conquered in the G1 July Cup. Also related to last year's G3 Nell Gwyn S. winner and G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches runner-up Nathra (Ire) (Iffraaj {GB}), she has a 2-year-old colt by Declaration of War and a yearling colt by Rip Van Winkle (Ire) to follow. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$5,314. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#) O-Mr P. Makin; B-Swordlestown Stud (IRE); T-Jeremy Noseda.

RECORD PRICE AT GOFFS UK FOAL SALE

Goffs UK's two-day January Sale at Doncaster wrapped up on Wednesday with a National Hunt mare and foal session. A top price of £100,000 was achieved for Hurst Farm's stakes-winning Legacy Gold (Ire) (Gold Well {GB}) ([lot 308](#)), who was bought by Eamonn Phelan, and the top price of £66,000 for a foal--a Kayf Tara colt--was a record for the sale. The colt ([lot 178](#)) was bought by Aiden Murphy.

The mare and foal session posted an average that was up 30% at £11,665 and a median that was up 25% at £7,500, while the



Top-priced mare Legacy Gold | Goffs UK

clearance rate was 71%. The sale as a whole saw 230 sold (76%) for £2,710,600 (up 90%) at an average of £11,785 (up 40%) and a median of £6,500 (up 30%).

Goffs UK Chairman Henry Beeby and

Managing Director Tony Williams said, "The last two days have been an excellent start to 2017 with growth in every area of the Doncaster January Sale. Our day one horses-in-training returned a vibrant sale from start to finish with massive rises in every statistic to demonstrate, yet again, that Doncaster is the measure of any venue for the category."

"Today's National Hunt foals also enjoyed a strong trade especially for those stand-out lots with the looks and pedigree to most recommend them. Doncaster has always been a rich source of top-class National Hunt potential and we are confident that several of today's foals will make their mark in future sales and then on the racecourse."

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FRANCE



CONDITIONS RESULT:

1st-PAF, €18,000, 1-25, 4yo, 12f (AWT), 2:35.40, st.
FASTNET SQUALL (IRE) (g, 4, [Fastnet Rock {Aus}](#)--Flamingo Sea, by Woodman) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, €18,100. O-OTI Management Pty Ltd & Susan Magnier; B-Lynch-Bages Ltd & Camas Park Stud (IRE); T-Simone Brogi. *1/2 to Frozen Fire (Ger) (Montjeu {Ire}), Hwt. Older Horse-Ire at 10 1/2-13f, G1SW-Ire, MGSP-Eng, \$1,433,824.

IRELAND



HRI OFFERS SUMMER INTERSHIPS

Student summer internship positions are available beginning in June 2017, Horse Racing Ireland announced Wednesday. The six positions offered are full-time paid placements over a 10-12 week period with roles available in HRI Marketing and Tote Ireland, a subsidiary of HRI based in HRI's head office in Ballymany, The Curragh, Co Kildare. There are also positions open at Fairyhouse, Leopardstown, Navan and Tipperary racecourses.

Now in its fourth year, the internship program is a unique opportunity for students to expand their industry contracts, broaden their knowledge and gain valuable experience in all aspects of the racing industry including marketing, communications, social media, sales, racecourse operations, race day planning and event management. Open to students from all backgrounds with an interest in the promotion of racing and the sport itself, the internship programme is open to students in any year of any course.

The closing date for applications is Mar. 20. Applicants can download the application forms [here](#) and must be sent, with a CV, to internship@hri.ie. For more information about the program, go to www.hri.ie.

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EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Marvel Hero (Ire), g, 5, Lord Shanakill--Roskeen (Ire), by Grand Lodge. Happy Valley, 1-25, Hcp. (£179k/€210k), 1650mT, 1:39.57. B-David Harrison. *Formerly Dark Kingdom (Ire). **1/2 to Orvar (Ire) (Dandy Man {Ire}), SW-Tur, \$157,748. ***18,000gns Wlg '12 TATDEF; 58,000 Ylg '13 TATOCT. [VIDEO](#)

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Winning Rupert Retired To Newgate Cont. from p1

Trainer Bjorn Baker paid tribute to the chestnut, saying, "From a training point of view he is the fastest horse I've ever put a saddle on. He was just so natural, we never had to use blinkers or urge him in any way to get him to show us speed. He had raw ability in spades. A gifted athlete." [Cont. p6](#)

Winning Rupert Retired to Newgate Cont.

Newgate Director of Stallions and Sales, Bruce Slade, said, "Winning Rupert is a no-brainer. The history of Australia's champion stallions tells us that to pass on elite speed you must possess it yourself first. Winning Rupert won five from six and broke two track records. His wins were impressive to the eye and impressive on the clock. We will be supporting him heavily along with many of Australia's leading breeders, with a long-term view."

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MAGICS MARCH CATALOGUE ONLINE

The 2017 Magic Millions Gold Coast March Yearling Sale catalogue is now available [online](#). There are 400 select lots to be offered over two days, Mar. 20-21, with all buyers at the sale to receive a 33% discount on the Magic Millions Race Series nomination fee to make their purchase eligible for the A\$11-million plus suite of graduate races held over six states of Australia.

An additional incentive for prospective buyers is that all lots offered have been subject to the first payment for QTIS and buyers will have the opportunity to gain A\$64,700 every Saturday for a metropolitan 2-year-old and 3-year-old win, as well as a further 19% boost for fillies for fully paid QTIS youngsters. Eighty-six sires are represented, with past graduate and first-season sire Spirit of Boom (Aus) (Sequalo {Aus}) leading the way with 44 yearlings. Other notable sires with yearlings catalogued, include Rothersey (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) (31), Love Conquers All (Aus) (Mossman {Aus}) (29) and Golden Archer (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}) (16).

The unbeaten five-for-five Paradis Imperial (Aus) (Instinction {Aus}) cost just A\$9,000 at the sale last year, while other graduates number top sprinters Buffering (Aus) (Mossman {Aus}) and Winning Rupert (Aus) (Written Tycoon {Aus}).

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Saturday, Trentham, post time: 4:58 p.m. local time (10:58 p.m. EDT)

HARCOURTS THORNDON MILE-G1, NZ\$200,000

(US\$145,333/£115,183/€135,353), Open, 1600mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Volkstok'n'barrell (NZ)	Tavistock (NZ)	Cameron	D/C Lgan & Gibbs	130
2	Authentic Paddy (NZ)	Howbaddouwantit	No Rider	Latta	123
3	Ringo (NZ)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Parkes	Breslin	123
4	The Justice League (NZ)	I Am Invincible (Aus)	McCulloch	Tiley	123
5	Stolen Dance (NZ)	Alamosa (NZ)	No Rider	Greene	121
6	Abidewithme (NZ)	Rdute's Chce (Aus)	Bosson	S/J Autrdge & Rchrds	121
7	Seize the Moment (NZ)	Pins (Aus)	NcNab	Marsh	121
8	Ruud Not Too (NZ)	Bernardini	Johnson	Marsh	121
9	Prince of Passion (NZ)	Castledale (Ire)	No Rider	Miller	121
10	Shadow Fox (NZ)	Keeninsky (NZ)	Hannam	Gulliver	121
11	Son of Maher (Aus)	Al Maher (Aus)	Wynne	M/M Pitman	121
12	Girl of My Dreams (NZ)	Gold Centre (Aus)	Allpress	Tiley	119
13	Thee Auld Floozie (NZ)	Mastercraftsman (Ire)	Myers	Marsh	118
14	Serious Satire (Aus)	More Than Ready	Du Plessis	Marsh	118

DE KOCK THE LEADING LIGHT

Trainer Mike de Kock has been nothing short of dominant in Meydan's G2 Al Rashidiya in recent years. The South African has won eight renewals in total including the last five straight, all of those having been ridden by Christophe Soumillon and four in the silks of owner Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa al Maktoum. That trio relies on **Light The Lights (Saf)** (Western Winter) on Thursday to add to their haul in the 1800-metre turf contest. The 5-year-old, a Group 2 winner in his native country last



Light The Lights | DRC/Andrew Watkins

January for trainer Glen Kotzen before entering quarantine to ship to Dubai, won the Listed Singspiel S. over this track and trip on his local debut Jan. 5. The form of that race was franked last week when the runner-up

Championship (Ire) (Exceed and Excel {Aus}) took the G2 Al Fahidi Fort.

"He delighted us on the first night and has come on for that run," said De Kock. "That form has worked out particularly well with Championship winning last week and we are very hopeful of a big run on Thursday."

De Kock's perennial archrival in the trainers' standings, Saeed bin Suroor, sends out **Promising Run** (Hard Spun) for Godolphin. The 2015 G2 Rockfel S. winner had to settle for second behind the 'TDN Rising Star' and standout of her generation Polar River (Congrats) in two local runs last season. She won Turkey's G3 Istanbul Trophy in September and, after finishing fourth in Newmarket's Listed Rosemary S. Sept. 23, was a distant 11th in the G1 QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares S. Oct. 15.

"Promising Run always tries her very best and is thriving here in Dubai," said bin Suroor. "Obviously it is a tough race but the trip should suit and we are hoping for a big run."

Francis Rohaut sends out Qatar Racing's **Mr Owen** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) off a win in Deauville's Listed Prix Lyphard over a half-furlong longer than this on the all-weather Nov. 30. **Elite Excalibur (Aus)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) was a tame fifth in his local debut Jan. 5, but the gelding boasts promising overseas form. Fourth in last year's G1 Australian Guineas and fifth in the G1 Rosehill Guineas for trainer Gai Waterhouse, Elite Excalibur was transferred to Singapore trainer Steven Burridge after the Australian autumn and won over seven furlongs at Kranji Nov. 20.

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Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 7:40 p.m.

AL RASHIDIYA EMPOWERED BY IPIC-G2, \$200,000, NH4yo/up, SH3yo/up, 1800mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Gabrial (Ire)	Dark Angel (Ire)	Atzeni	Fahey
2	Master The World (Ire)	Mastercraftsman (Ire)	O'Neill	Elsworth
3	Farrier 🐾	Tapit	Mullen	Seemar
4	Promising Run	Hard Spun	Crowley	bin Suroor
5	Elite Excalibur (Aus)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Fayd'Herbe	Burridge
6	Mr Owen 🐾	Invincible Spirit (Ire)	Murphy	Rohaut
7	Earnshaw	Medaglia d'Oro	Barzalona	bin Ghadayar
8	Light The Lights (SAf)	Western Winter	Soumillon	de Kock

All carry 125 pounds bar Promising Run, 120 pounds.

'SPECIAL' TO DEFEND CAPE VERDI CROWN

Godolphin seeks their fifth edition of the 1600-metre G2 Cape Verdi at Meydan Thursday evening and their **Very Special (Ire)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}) will attempt to defend her title. A winner of the G2 Balanchine in her next start stretched to 1800 metres Mar. 3, the Saeed bin Suroor trainee found the G1 Dubai Turf on World Cup night a bridge too far and settled for sixth that day. She returned to Europe and performed with credit in her lone start since, running second to Alice Springs (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) in Newmarket's one-mile G1 Falmouth S. July 8.

"Very Special won twice here in Dubai last year and has been working very well," said bin Suroor, who has three editions of the Group 2. "She is a tough mare of whom we expect a big run, as she proved herself competitive in Group 1 company last year."

The hot-handed Mike De Kock and jockey Christophe Soumillon unite with **Tahanee (Arg)** (Stormy Atlantic) and could prove the main threat to Very Special. A MGSW in her native land for Los Criollos and trainer Roberto Pellegatta in San Isidro's G3 Omega last June and G3 Eudoro J. Balsa a month later, Tahanee wrapped up her South American career with a third-



Very Special | DRC/Andrew Watkins

place run in the G3 Premio Ricardo P. Sauze Aug. 19. Purchased by Mohd Khaleel Ahmed and transferred to De Kock, she was hampered in her Meydan bow in a handicap going

1600 metres over good turf Jan. 12.

"She is a very nice filly who enjoyed no luck at all on her first start," said De Kock. "With a clear run we think she would have nearly won that day, but Thursday is a lot tougher race and

probably the strongest renewal of the Cape Verdi I can remember. Tahanee will run well I am sure, but Godolphin's Very Special is going to be hard to beat."

Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum's **Muffri'Ha (Ire)** (Iffraaj {GB}) is riding a three-race win streak and has definite upside Thursday. An Oct. 1 handicap winner at Newmarket, the William Haggas charge stepped up with a 1 1/2-length win in the G3 Goldophin Stud And Stable Staff Awards Darley S. going 1 1/8 miles there just seven days later. She made it three on the bounce in Lingfield's all-weather Listed Fleur De Lys Fillies' S. Oct. 27.

Silver Step (Fr) (Silver Frost {Ire}), who lifted the Sept. 25 G3 Premio Elena e Sergio Cumani, could also be a factor for Pia Brandt and owner Nils-Petter Gill, but she faces much stiffer competition here. [@HLAndersonTDN](#)

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Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 8:50 p.m.

CAPE VERDI EMPOWERED BY CEPESA, AN IPIC GROUP-G2, \$200,000, NH4yo/up, SH3yo/up,f/m, 1600mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Very Special (Ire)	Lope De Vega (Ire)	Crowley	bin Suroor
2	Opal Tiara (Ire)	Thousand Words (GB)	Murphy	Channon
3	Realtra (Ire)	Dark Angel (Ire)	Atzeni	Varian
4	Via Firenze (Ire)	Dansili (GB)	Mullen	Brandt
5	Arabda (GB)	Elnadim	Graberg	Wahl
6	Silver Step (Fr)	Silver Frost (Ire)	Barzalona	Brandt
7	Muffri'ha (Ire)	Iffraaj (GB)	Cosgrave	Haggas
8	Anahita (Fr)	Turtle Bowl (Ire)	Ffrench	bin Ghadayar
9	Queen's Parade 🐾	Giant's Causeway	Hayes	Selvaratnam
10	Tahanee (Arg)	Stormy Atlantic	Soumillon	de Kock

All carry 125 pounds.

MIDDLE EAST

COBALT OVERAGE FOR ARABIAN TRAINER

Jameel Salman, a Purebred Arabian trainer in the UAE, has been banned for two years after a horse under his care returned a sample that contained a cobalt overage after it ran at Al Ain on Dec. 2. The horse in question, Malzom (AE), was disqualified from 14th place in the maiden race.

It is the second time in the space of a week that a UAE Purebred Arabian trainer has been banned two years for a cobalt overage: trainer Majed Al Jahouri was handed the same penalty on Jan. 18.

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ASIA

Wednesday's Result:

TCK JO-OH HAI-Listed, ¥37,400,000, Oi, 1-25, 4yo/up, f, 1800m, 1:54.10, gd.

1--**#ONE MILLONTH (JPN)**, 121, f, 4, **Gold Allure (Jpn)--She's Impossible (SP-US)**, by **Yankee Victor**. O-Sunday Racing; B-Northern Farm; T-Ken Kozaki; J-Keita Tosaki; ¥22,000,000. Lifetime Record: 10-5-1-2.

2--**Linda Linda (Jpn)**, 121, f, 4, French Deputy--Crimson Rouge (Jpn), by End Sweep. O-MMC Inc; B-Utopia Farm; ¥7,700,000.

3--**White Fugue (Jpn)**, 128, m, 5, Kurofune--Marine Winner (Jpn), by Fuji Kiseki (Jpn). O-Tsuru Nishimori; B-Umeda Farm; ¥4,400,000.

Margins: 3/4, HD, 3HF. Odds: 4.70, 46.10, 0.70.

[VIDEO](#)

STEWARDS' CUP 'WERTH' THE WAIT

by Alan Carasso

It's been nearly eight months since he's been seen at the races, but reigning Hong Kong Horse of the Year **Werther (NZ)** (Tavistock {NZ}) is set to make his seasonal debut in the G1 Stewards' Cup (1600m), the featured event on the Chinese New Year program Monday at Sha Tin.

The bay, trained by John Moore for owner Johnson Chen, won half of his six trips to the post, highlighted by a narrow victory in the prestigious Hong Kong Derby (2000m) ahead of a jaw-dropping success in the G1 Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II



Werther winning the QE II | HKJC photo

Cup (2000m) over rain-affected turf in April. Werther was put away following a disappointing third in the G1 Champion and Chater Cup (2400m) last May, with an eye on the 2016 Longines Hong Kong

International Races, but he injured a suspensory ligament in late August and was given three months to recover. He has steadily picked up his work since, having registered an easy barrier Jan. 17 ([video](#)) and pleased Moore with a strong gallop Tuesday, finishing his final quarter-mile in :22.8 in the company of fellow Stewards' Cup chance **Joyful Trinity (Ire)** (Zanzibari) ([24/01, J Moore, from 2:12](#)).

Sam Clipperton, who registered his 20th victory of the season Wednesday at Happy Valley, rode Werther in his work and has the call in Monday's test.

"He galloped very, very well with Joyful Trinity," Moore told HKJC's David Morgan. "Werther worked the place down--Sam was excited to be on him. He's very clean-winded but there'll be further improvement, fitness-wise, from this race. The [G1] Hong Kong Gold Cup (2000m) next month would be the target for him but how close he is to being primed, well, it's hard to know with him--he does funny things, he's such a quirky horse."

Those petulant antics include hanging out while cantering, tossing his head and even tossing the occasional rider. Moore acknowledges things have not been straight forward, but remains optimistic.

"As far as I'm concerned, Werther's had an interrupted training programme because of his quiriness," the conditioner explained. "After his barrier trial last week, he's as sound as we can have him. His work was impressive [Tuesday] morning considering everything. He's going into this race underdone... but he can still run a big race."

Werther and Joyful Trinity are set to be joined in the gate by stable companions **Able Friend (Aus)** (Shamardal), the former Horse of the Year and winner of the 2015 Stewards' Cup; and fellow former HOTY **Designs on Rome (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}); as well as **Beauty Only (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), winner of last month's G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile.

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AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Good Companion (Aus), g, 4, **Exceed and Excel (Aus)**--Dyna Slam (SW-US, \$212,975), by Grand Slam. Happy Valley, 1-25, Hcp. (A\$143k), 1200mT, 1:10.54. B-Luskin Park Stud, David Carter, Malcolm McGuinness, Aston Bloodstock (NSW). *A\$180,000 Ylg '14 INGEAS. [VIDEO](#)

IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Irish Grey (Aus), f, 3, **Domesday (Aus)**--Irish Edition (NZ), by O'Reilly (NZ). Fairview, 1-25, Maiden Plate, 1200m (AWT), 1:11.23. O-Messrs M J Jooste & H Adams; B-M L Flannery (Vic); T-T J Laing. *1/2 to Orator's Daughter (Aus) (Oratorio {Ire}), MGSW-SAf. **A\$50,000 Wlg '14 MMNWNL; R350,000 Ylg '15 EMPNAT.