

MASTERY TO CLAIBORNE UPON RETIREMENT



Mastery | Benoit photo

Undefeated Grade I winner and '[TDN Rising Star](#)' Mastery (Candy Ride {Arg}--Steady Course, by Old Trieste), injured following a dominant performance in the GII San Felipe S., will stand at Claiborne Farm in Paris, Kentucky upon his retirement, according to a press release issued by the farm Tuesday morning. The 3-year-old colt is a perfect four-for-four in his career, with wins in the GI Los Alamitos CashCall Futurity, GIII Bob Hope S. and the San Felipe.

Following his seven-length win in the San Felipe, his first start of the season, Mastery was quickly pulled up by jockey Mike Smith and subsequent X-rays revealed a condylar fracture in his left front leg. The bay underwent successful surgery Mar. 13, according to the press release, which quoted Baffert as saying he was "back at the barn and looking good."

"He'll stay there for at least a month," Baffert continued. "We'll just wait. It takes like 90 days for that to heal up, and then we'll decide [if he'll race again]. Right now our main concern is to make sure he's comfortable and happy."

Owner Everett Dobson added, "It's possible for horses to come back from a condylar fracture, but he'll have to be 100% to go back into training. He's a very exciting stallion prospect; he showed brilliance on the track. If he does retire, he'd retire undefeated, and by a very hot sire with a very good pedigree, so that's the positive side."

Cont. p3

HARRINGTONS GET CREATIVE AT BARRETT'S

by Jessica Martini

Mike and Patricia Harrington, more often a presence at the racetrack than in the sales ring, enjoyed a strong showing at last year's Barretts May Sale when their homebred Milton Freewater brought the auction's second highest price of \$250,000. The gray colt was already a winner when he went through the ring last May, in fact he was the first winner for his freshman sire, the Mike Harrington-trained millionaire Creative Cause. The Harringtons will be looking for more sales success next week when they offer a pair of juveniles at the Barretts Select 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale at Del Mar. Both offerings are consigned by Havens Bloodstock Agency.

"We are mostly breeding to race, but we need to sell some once in a while to support the racehorses," explained Mike Harrington, a fourth-generation horseman who has been training full time in Southern California since retiring from his veterinary practice in 1993. **Cont. p3**

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Wednesday, March 22, 2017



... and life will be gravy. Amid rain showers, Grade I winner Mind Your Biscuits (Posse) blew out 400m in :22.20 Tuesday morning on the Meydan main track in his final serious move before Saturday's G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. See TDN Europe for all the latest TDN coverage from Dubai. | Dubai Racing Club/Neville Hopwood

'RISING STAR' TO TACKLE NEW SURFACE IN SPIRAL

6

Ben Massam chats with Eddie Kenneally, trainer of 'TDN Rising Star' Parlor (Lonhro {Aus}), who will try a synthetic for the first time in Saturday's GIII JACK Cincinnati Casino Spiral S. at Turfway Park.

THE 'HOME RUN' MARCH 2-YEAR-OLD

7

Bill Oppenheim examines the risk/reward factors in trying to cultivate high-priced 2-year-olds in training.

GRAYDAR COLT TOPS PEGASUS SALE

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Steve Sherack reports from the Pegasus 2-year-olds in training sale, which was topped by a Graydar colt Tuesday.

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Mastery to Claiborne upon retirement, cont. from p1

Dobson continued, “We look forward to him standing at Claiborne Farm upon retirement, whenever that may be. Given their tradition and reputation in the marketplace for making top stallions, we felt it was a great fit for Mastery.”

“Clearly, his pedigree and race record make him an exciting stallion prospect,” said Claiborne’s Bernie Sams. “He’s in good hands and has a bright future no matter what.”

Accorded Rising Star status for his six-furlong debut at Santa Anita Oct. 22 ([video](#)), Mastery led throughout to annex the Bob Hope in his next start Nov. 19 ([video](#)), then romped by better than seven lengths when trying two turns for the first time in the CashCall Futurity ([video](#)). Mike Smith was merely a passenger in the San Felipe, as the duo cruised home 6 3/4 lengths to the good of GII San Vicente S. hero Iliad (Ghostzaper) ([video](#)), an effort good for a 105 Beyer Speed Figure, the highest recorded by any 3-year-old thus far in 2017.

Mastery was bred in Kentucky by Stone Farm from Steady Course, a winning daughter of MGSP Steady Cat (Storm Cat) and closely related to GSW & GISP Jump Start (A.P. Indy). Stone Farm’s Arthur Hancock paid \$20,000 to acquire Steady Course, not in foal at the time, at the 2009 Keeneland November Sale. Mastery was purchased for \$425,000 by Cromwell Bloodstock, agent, at the 2015 Keeneland September sale, and is a half-brother to stakes winner Clear Sailing (Empire Maker).

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Harringtons Get Creative at Barretts, cont. from p1

The couple, both licensed trainers, have a broodmare band of “more than 10, but less than 20,” Harrington said. Harrington-bred

pedigrees are littered with names the Washington native is very familiar with. In addition to Creative Cause, who won the 2011 GI Norfolk S.



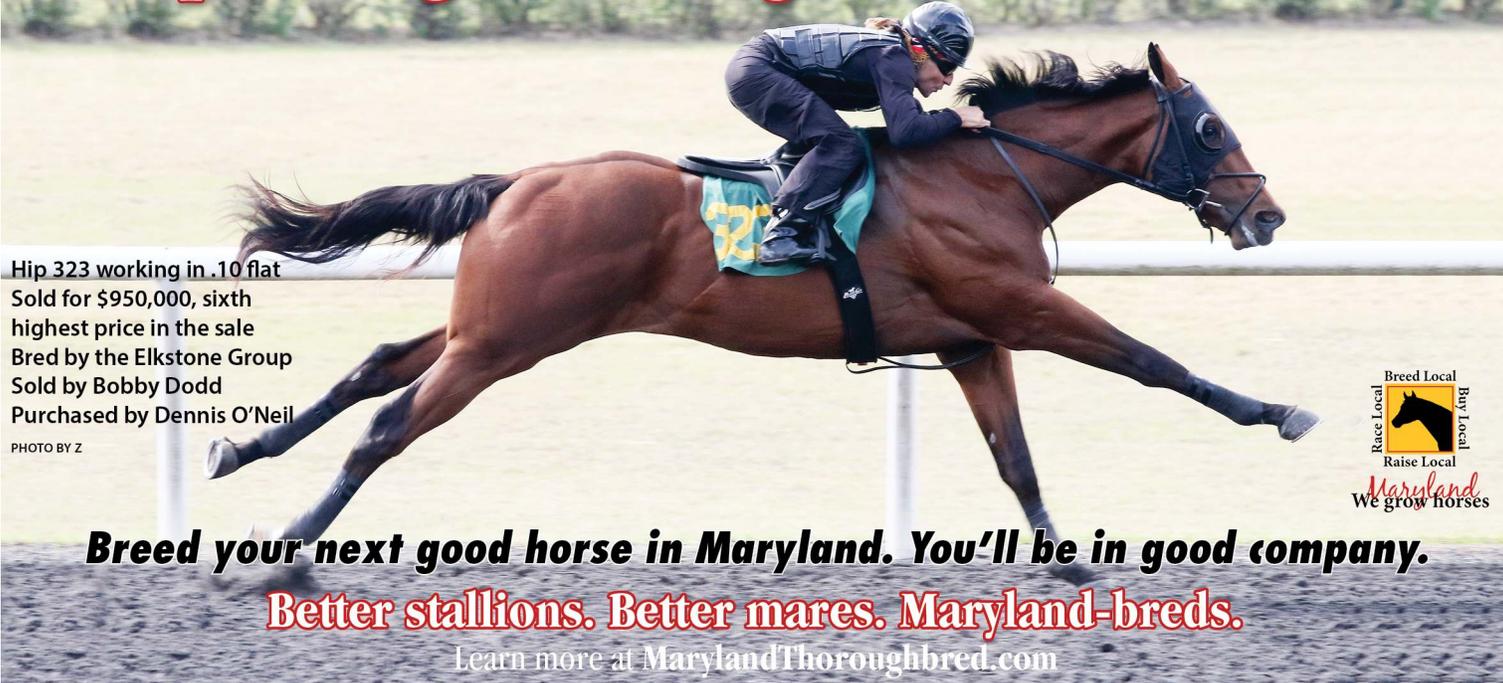
Creative Cause | *Horsephotos*

and was third in the 2012 GI Preakness S., Harrington also trained Swiss Yodeler, who is the broodmare sire of Milton Freewater, and the young stallion Empire Way (Empire Maker), a full-brother to champion Royal Delta.

All three stallions were owned by Harrington’s longtime client Heinz Steinmann and all three feature in the Harringtons’ upcoming Barretts offerings. **Cont. p4**

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Harringtons Get Creative at Barretts, cont.

Hydrostatic, [hip 32](#), is a son of Creative Cause out of Short Sentence (Swiss Yodeler). The mare is a full-sister to multiple stakes winner Tilde and has produced stakes winner Better Bet (Southern Image). **Positive Ways**, [hip 134](#), is a son of graded placed Empire Way and out of My Yolady (Mineshaft), a half-sister to Steinmann's stakes winner Theonewwaitedor (Creative Cause).

Creative Cause got off to a strong start with his first crop to race last year with the multiple stakes placed Milton Freewater and Theonewwaitedor, who captured the Landaluce S. last July, leading the charge. The Airdrie stallion was represented by his second stakes winner last weekend when Twisted Tom won Laurel's Private Terms S., a day before Milton Freewater was a strong second in his comeback allowance race at Santa Anita. While Theonewwaitedor has been sidelined, Harrington is hopeful to have the filly back on the track this fall.

Asked if Creative Cause's offspring remind him of the stallion that took him to the GI Kentucky Derby five years ago, the

veteran horseman explained, "Last year, none of them much reminded me of him, but this year I have several that remind me of him. He was a fireball, getting to the track and getting back, I'd take him with a pony all the time. He was a big, energetic horse and some of his colts are starting to act like that."

Empire Way, who stands at Lovacres Ranch in California, has four winners from two crops to race, including Mr Ability, who the Harringtons sold last May for \$75,000.

Two of the Harringtons four offerings at last year's May sale were already winners when they went through the sales ring and, while their Select duo haven't made it to the starting gate in a race yet, they both have registered works at Los Alamitos. Hydrostatic, with three works on view, most recently went a furlong in :11.80 Mar. 10. With

two posted works, Positive Ways most recently covered an eighth in :12.00 Mar. 8.

That experience should serve the two juveniles well when Barretts holds its under-tack show at Del Mar Monday, according to Harrington. **Cont. p5**



Milton Freewater | *Benoit photo*

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Harringtons Get Creative at Barretts, cont.

“Last year, we chose the May sale because two of those horses had already run and we knew they were runners,” Harrington said. “I think when these horses preview, they are going to preview better. My agent Andy Haven has said those horses are very prepared to preview, so they are going to preview better than some of the other horses.”

The juvenile sales season will be making its third stop at Barretts after registering strong, but polarized, results at the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale and at the OBS March sale. Harrington is expecting more of the same at Barretts, but hopes having two California-bred offerings will attract buyers looking to take advantage of the state’s breeding program.

“The last two 2-year-old sales have been positive,” Harrington said. “But the trouble with the market nowadays, as everybody knows, is that there is a top and a bottom and not much middle. So unless your horse makes the top tier, you’re probably going to have to take him home. But Andy says that Cal-breds are kind



Mike Harrington
Horsephotos

of a different deal. He thinks that there are a lot of people interested in Cal-breds just because of the Cal-bred program, so we’re hoping that that is a stimulus for the local market.”

Heading into Barretts third year of selling 2-year-olds at Del Mar, Harrington acknowledged that it is important for the California breeding industry to have a strong sales outlet for its product.

“It’s definitely important to have somebody because if we don’t have an opportunity to sell them, then we’ve got to race them all,” he said. “There are a lot of people breeding Cal-breds just to sell, so we have to have a strong sales presence in California.”

Two Juveniles Supplemented to Barretts

A pair of juveniles have been supplemented to next week’s Barretts Select 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale. [Hip 135](#) is a son of leading sire Tapit and is the first foal out of Grade I winner Lady of Fifty (After Market). The chestnut colt is consigned by Wavertree Stables. [Hip 104](#) is a daughter of Stay Thirsty out of Social Amber (War Front). The bay is consigned by Crane Thoroughbreds Services.

The under-tack preview for the Barretts sale will be held Monday at Del Mar beginning at 10 a.m. The sale will be held Mar. 29 beginning at 2 p.m.

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'RISING STAR' TO TACKLE NEW SURFACE, TOUGHER COMPANY IN SPIRAL



Parlor | SV Photography

by Ben Massam

While much focus on the 3-year-old crop through the winter and spring months understandably centers on the road to the May 6 GI Kentucky Derby, trainer Eddie Kenneally has quietly been developing a promising turf prospect in Brad Anderson's ['TDN Rising Star' Parlor](#) (Lonhro {Aus}), recently an easy winner of a Feb. 22 allowance test at Tampa Bay Downs [\[video\]](#). With a maiden victory at Ellis Park and a hard-luck runner-up finish in the Sept. 3 Kentucky Downs Juvenile S. on his 2016 resume, the dark bay will get his chance to seize the spotlight in Saturday's GIII JACK Cincinnati Casino Spiral S. at Turfway Park--the fourth start of his young career and his first on a surface other than turf.

"He has plenty of ability and he's a little unlucky to not be undefeated," Kenneally said, referring to the colt's Kentucky Downs effort, where he steadied at a crucial point in the race before rallying to miss by a neck. "His comeback race at Tampa was very good. He won convincingly and he did it quite easily."

Parlor overcame a moderate early tempo and rallied from last to comfortably dispatch five overmatched rivals at Tampa, striding clear under minimal encouragement from jockey Jesus Castanon. Despite Parlor's obvious talent on the turf, Kenneally said the Spiral will provide insight into the horse's ability to adapt to an unfamiliar synthetic racing surface, while tackling the toughest competition of his career.

"He hasn't done anything wrong so far," Kenneally continued. "We don't know who's going to love that track at Turfway, it's a different track for almost all of the horses that are running in

there. Some of them are going to love it and some of them not so much. He hasn't trained on [synthetic] at all, so it's a little bit of an unknown."

Kenneally's plans for Parlor following the Spiral are also an unknown. Although a win in the race would earn the colt a sufficient 50 points toward a spot in the Kentucky Derby spotting gate, the Irish-born trainer is in no hurry to punch his ticket for the First Saturday in May.

"We'll evaluate him again after he runs, and then decide where we want to go from there," Kenneally explained. "We're just taking it one race at a time. We know we have a pretty good grass horse, but we don't know about synthetic or dirt. We'll learn a little bit more about the horse on Saturday, and hopefully we'll have a decision to make after that."

Kenneally has another pair of **'Rising Stars'** who are expected to return to the races this spring and summer in GIII Sanford S. winner [Bitumen](#) (Mineshaft) and [Lucy Goosey](#) (Into Mischief). The latter caught the eye with a dominant 9 1/4-length debut triumph at Churchill Downs Nov. 26, and is targeting a return to action later this spring in Kentucky.

"She was very impressive when she broke her maiden in November, and she is a very good filly," Kenneally said. "She just had some very minor issues, so we opted to give her the winter off."

Meanwhile, Kenneally said he is extremely pleased with Bitumen's training, which has included a string of seven workouts at Palm Meadows Training Center. The dark bay is on schedule to make his sophomore debut early at Keeneland's Spring Meet, which begins Apr. 7.

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Eddie Kenneally | Keeneland photo



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From the desk of...

BILL OPPENHEIM



THE 'HOME RUN' MARCH 2-YEAR-OLD

by Bill Oppenheim and Dr. Emily Plant

At the two major 2-year-old in training sales held this month in Florida--Fasig-Tipton in Miami Mar. 1 and OBS in Ocala last week--a total of 62 2-year-olds (24 at Fasig, 38 at OBS) were listed as sold for \$400,000 or more. Obviously the only way a consignor can lose money selling a \$400,000 2-year-old is if they paid way too much for it as a yearling, so for the purpose of this discussion we're going to refer to those 62 2-year-olds as 'home-run' sales horses.

	SALE TOTALS		
	Fasig	OBS	TOTAL
Cat	160	677	837
Out	73	263	336
Ring	87	414	501
RNA	13	114	127
Sold	74	300	374
Gross	25,115,000	56,627,000	81,742,000
Avg	339,392	188,757	218,561
+400k	24	38	62
% sold	32.4%	12.7%	16.6%
+400k gross	15,600,000	27,210,000	42,870,000
% total gross	62%	48%	52%

This is what all consignors are trying to do--sell a home-run horse who hopefully will go on to justify its purchase price but, most importantly, is a commercial home run. We hear an awful lot about how the market is 'polarized' between the few 'haves' which everybody wants and the overwhelming majority of 'have nots'--2-year-olds which are not home-run horses.

But what does this polarity really mean in financial terms? We all have the sense that pinhookers and consignors need at least one 'home run' for the numbers to pencil out, but can we quantify the risk/reward ratio? Of course we can, otherwise we wouldn't bring it up! With the assistance of my associate, statistical whiz Dr. Emily Plant, Associate Professor in the Business School at the U. of Montana, we have looked at the pair of sales from two standpoints: what percentage of 2-year-olds in the sales are home-run horses, and what can we estimate is the overall profit or loss of pinhookers in the two sales?

There were 837 2-year-olds catalogued to the two sales; of those, 736, or 85%, went through at least one previous sale and were listed as either sold (564) or RNA'd (172).

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	PREVIOUSLY SOLD PINHOOKS		
	Fasig	OBS	Total
Cat	160	677	837
#prev RNA/sold	154	582	736
% cat	96%	86%	88%
#prev RNA	24	148	172
#prev sold	130	434	564
% cat	81%	64%	67%
\$ prev paid	20,517,208	35,521,271	56,038,479
\$ avg prev paid	157,825	81,846	99,359

We cannot establish a sale price for the RNA's, but the 564 which were previous listed sales had cost their buyers a total of \$56,038,479, for an average of \$99,359--we can round that up to \$100,000. A study we did some years ago told us horses bought back were then sold for an average of 85% of their hammer prices. If we make the global assumption they, too, were \$100,000 horses, 85% of \$100,000 x 172 works out to \$14,620,000--our other assumption being, if they were catalogued for sale, the idea was to sell them. Then, if we project \$20,000 per horse to train them from purchase to attempted re-sale, 736 x \$20,000 equals another \$14,720,000.

Cont. p8

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Bill Oppenheim, cont.

Conclusion: we're projecting the total cost of getting the 736 2-year-olds to the sale comes out to about \$85.3-million. Now that is for the 736 which had been through a sale; we're not making any estimates about the 101 2-year-olds catalogued which had not been through the ring.

Of the 837 horses which were catalogued, 374 were listed as sales by the end of the sale days (OBS will have added to this through private sales which were added later, but it doesn't materially alter the analysis), and 463 were not listed as sales, of which 336 were withdrawn and 127 were RNA'd at Gulfstream or OBS.

Of the 374 listed sales at Gulfstream and Ocala, 329 had been through a ring before, including 52 of the 62 'home-run horses' (84%) which sold for \$400,000 or more. Since we are not trying to establish a cost basis for the 15% of catalogued 2-year-olds which had not previously been through the ring, one calculation we can make is the percentage of 2-year-olds which became home-run horses. We don't calculate this using the 329 listed 2-year-old sales which had gone through the ring, rather we must use the 736 (of 837 catalogued) which their consignors must have intended to sell, and which had been through a ring previously. Fifty-two divided by 736 works out to 7.06%; so the odds of selling a home-run 2-year-old (defined as listed as being sold for \$400k+) were approximately 13-1. Let's see how that compares to a couple of other key percentages/ranges:

- 11.5-1: Odds of any runner being an ABC Runner in a season (8.00% of runners);
- Between 3.5-1 and 6-1: Odds of any sale yearling making a profit (ranges from 14% in bad years to 22% in the most profitable years);
- 13-1: Odds of selling a 2-year-old catalogued to Fasig Gulfstream or OBS March for \$400k+.

Given those odds, it's not hard to figure out why pinhookers need at least one home-run 2-year-old sale to keep going.

PREVIOUSLY SOLD PINHOOKS: EST. COSTS TO SALE		
Cost	# Horses	\$
Sale Purchases	564	56,038,479
Sale RNA's	172	14,620,000
Training	736	14,720,000
Total		~85,378,000

We can also take a stab at calculating the total revenue generated by the 736 2-year-olds which had previously been through a sale. Recall above we estimated a cost of \$85.3 million to buy and train these 736 horses. So 329 of those were listed as sales at Gulfstream or OBS, 407 were not. The 52 home-run

2-year-olds (which had previously been through a ring) grossed \$36,900,000--an average of \$709,615! Wow; great business if you can get it: 16% of the horses sold generated 51% of the revenues. The other 277 2-year-olds listed as sold (which had previously been through a ring) grossed \$34,965,500--an average of \$126,232, in other words pretty much a break-even proposition if their average cost was \$100,000 and it cost \$20,000 to train them. But what of the other 407 2-year-olds (which had previously been through a ring), which did not sell, were either withdrawn or RNA'd? Let's be incredibly generous and say they averaged 85% of their original prices, which at \$85,000 per horse for 407 horses would work out to \$34,595,000.

Then we add \$36,900,000 (52 home-run horses) plus \$34,965,500 (277 not home-run 2-year-olds) plus \$34,595,000 (407 2-year-olds catalogued but not sold); total--\$106,461,500. If we deduct 5% commission for the sales company and no deduction for the consignor the net revenues would be \$101,138,425--a gain of 18%. If you are an investor and the consignor also earns a well-deserved 5% agent's fee, the net revenues would total \$95,806,350--a gain of 12%.

PREVIOUSLY SOLD PINHOOKS: EST. 2YO REVENUE		
Revenue	# Horses	\$
Sold OBS/FT	329	81,742,000
400k+	52	36,900,000
<400	277	34,965,500
Out/RNA OBS	407	34,595,000
		106,461,500
Total	736	-5% (101,138,425)

So this is our conclusion about the results of the two sales:

- Including purchase and training offset by sales (or projected sales) less commission (but not including insurance), there was a projected net gain of 12%-18% for horses catalogued to Fasig Gulfstream or OBS March; and
- 7% of the horses catalogued sold for \$400,000 or more (and averaged around \$700,000), meaning the odds of selling a 'home-run' 2-year-old in these two sales was 13-1.

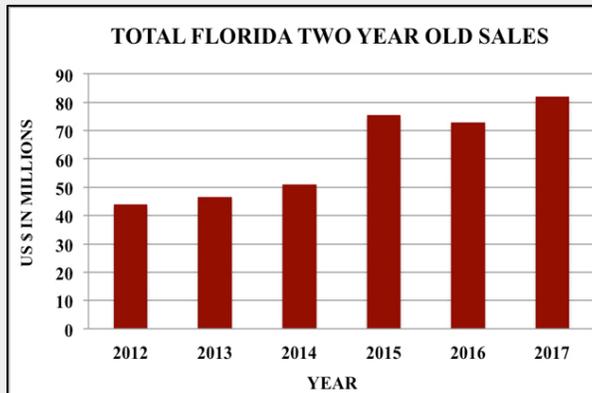
Contact Bill Oppenheim at bopp@erb.com (cc suefinley@thetdn.com).

“The 38 OBS March 2-year-olds which sold for \$400,000+ comprised 48% of the sale total and averaged \$716,052; the other 266 reported sales (updated since following day reported totals) averaged \$111,109. We discuss the market polarity in some detail in the accompanying column, but as the average price paid for 434 pinhooks catalogued to OBS March was \$81,846, when you consider carrying costs it didn’t leave much room for maneuver; if you didn’t have a \$400k+ ‘home run’ 2-year-old, at either sale, it was tough sledding. At OBS, 28 of the 38 \$400k+ two-year-olds had previously been through a sale, which was just 5% of the 582 horses catalogued which had been through a sale. That meant it was about a 20-1 shot to hit a home run.”



OBS MARCH SELECT 2YO SALE

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2017	677	414	304	38.8%	73.4%	44.9%	\$ 56,765,000	\$ 186,727
2016	613	434	320	29.2%	73.7%	52.2%	\$ 51,288,000	\$ 160,275
2015	610	422	326	30.8%	77.3%	53.4%	\$ 55,432,000	\$ 170,037
2014	411	261	201	36.5%	77.0%	48.9%	\$ 37,627,500	\$ 187,201
2013	345	236	182	31.6%	77.1%	52.8%	\$ 28,871,000	\$ 158,632
2012	362	244	179	32.6%	73.4%	49.4%	\$ 24,819,000	\$ 138,654



THE TWO FLORIDA 2YO SALES COMBINED (FT & OBS MARCH)

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2017	839	501	378	40%	75%	45%	\$ 81,880,000	\$ 218,561
2016	767	530	386	31%	73%	50%	\$ 72,878,000	\$ 188,803
2015	785	554	415	29%	75%	53%	\$ 75,527,500	\$ 181,994
2014	568	346	248	39%	72%	44%	\$ 50,997,500	\$ 205,635
2013	481	314	228	35%	73%	47%	\$ 46,596,000	\$ 204,368
2012	529	328	239	38%	73%	45%	\$ 44,034,000	\$ 184,243

QATAR RACING BUYS INTO NEOLITHIC



Neolithic | *Lauren King*

Starlight Racing has reached an agreement to sell a half interest in G1 Dubai World Cup contender **Neolithic** (Harlan's Holiday) to Sheikh Fahad al-Thani's Qatar Racing. The 4-year-old colt, who is coming out of a third-place finish in the \$12 million G1 Pegasus World Cup, has won two of eight starts with total earnings over \$1.1 million.

"Sheikh Fahad was keen to purchase Neolithic, as he felt he has potential to go on and win his Grade 1s when he returns from Dubai and potentially make a stallion," said David Redvers, manager for Qatar Racing. "If he can run a place in the World Cup then all the better, but he's an exciting prospect."

While details of the agreement have not been disclosed, Neolithic will remain with trainer Todd Pletcher. He is scheduled to carry Qatar Racing's silks in the \$10 million Dubai World Cup Saturday, and will alternate between Starlight Racing and Qatar Racing silks in his subsequent starts.

"We are excited to partner with a world class operation like Qatar Racing," said Jack Wolf, co-managing partner of Starlight Racing. "Neolithic has given our partnership a lot of thrills already and we are looking forward to the race on Saturday."

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TDN CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

- Stakes: purses of \$50,000/up
- Allowance Races: purses of \$20,000/up
- Optional Claiming Races: purses of \$20,000/up
- Maiden Special Weight Races: purses of \$18,000/up
- Maiden Claiming Races: purses of \$18,000/up & a minimum claiming price of \$40,000

MILLER, ROCKINGHAM SEEK NEW HEIGHTS IN DUBAI

By Michael Adolphson

California speed is dangerous, no matter if it is shipping to the East Coast or the Middle East, but the racing world has been aware of such for years. Trainer Peter Miller, whose powerful West Coast operation is firing on all cylinders in 2017, has shipped two horses across the world on said premise for Dubai's top two sprints. **Richard's Boy** (Idiot Proof) will run in the \$1 million G1 Al Quoz Sprint over a straight six-furlong (1200m) grass course; and **St. Joe Bay** (Saint Anddan) is entered in the \$2 million G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen over the same distance, but on an American-style dirt course around one bend. Striking at an impressive 27.6% so far this year, the former Charlie Whittingham assistant garners respect, but also must prove he can win on the global stage for the first time.

Rockingham Ranch's Richard's Boy is the lesser known of the Miller pair. A consistent, wickedly quick multi-surface specialist, he will meet a salty renewal of the Al Quoz that includes such international turf sprint heavyweights as English multiple Group 1 winner Limato (Ire) (Tagula {Ire}), swift Hong Kong straight course specialist Amazing Kids (NZ) (Falkirk {NZ}) and top-ranked global sprinter and 2016 runner-up Ertijaal (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}). The California-bred son of 2008 Dubai Golden Shaheen runner-up Idiot Proof has hit the board in eight consecutive starts for Miller and won three of his last four in turf sprints. Signaling his solid current form, the eight-time winner produced a career-high 121 Equibase Speed Figure two back in the two back in the Jan. 28 California Cup Sprint on dirt, which his conditioner believes is his lesser-preferred surface.

"Both horses shipped very well and I'm really happy with them," Miller said. "Richard's Boy is better on the grass and is sitting on a big race. He's consistent and quick, but tractable in the race." **Cont. p10**



Peter Miller | *Benoit*

On my list of top five things in the world (following my two children, of course), I am fairly certain that France, the beach and racing would run 3-4-5. So you can only imagine how exciting it is to present Jocelyn Targett's whimsical tale about a winter respite at Cagnes-sur-Mer, a race-track in France. On the beach. With wine (#6). Dive on in. We also give you a guide to the birthday celebration for Man o' War, who turns 100 this month; introduce you to McCracken, Kansas, population 190, which is about to become famous for its Kentucky Derby namesake and give 85-year-old Janis Whitham the thrill of a lifetime; show you what's new in Dubai (it's always something!) and let Australian trainer Chris Waller have the last word. Hint: we're all going to want that sleeping app of his...



Sue Finley, Co-Publisher



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Miller, Rockingham Seek New Heights in Dubai, cont.

Miller continued, “We wouldn’t be in there if we didn’t think he had a chance and he’s a tough, honest horse who will give you everything. Like St. Joe Bay, he doesn’t require a lot of medication and is doing as well as he ever has going into this race.”

Gary Hartunian’s Rockingham Ranch has made a concerted effort to up its game over the last two seasons. The Southern California-based operation has gone from a highly effective, mostly claiming-based operation to what is now a quality-over-quantity-focused enterprise with its hand in multiple facets of the industry. According to its director of operations, Brian Trump, who is Hartunian’s son-in-law, Rockingham has 58 horses in training—43 with Miller, 11 with Jorge Navarro in South Florida and four with Jeff Runco in West Virginia—as well as 12 broodmares, 13 weanlings and one stallion, Miller-trained Grade I winner Finnegan’s Wake {Powerscourt (GB)}. Rockingham also seeks redemption in 2017 after having suffered through a heartbreaking head loss with its 2016 Dubai Golden Shaheen favorite X Y Jet {Kantharos}.

“[Richard’s Boy] traveled very well and looks like a healthy, happy horse,” Trump said. “He’s nice and rested and that’s one of the reasons we brought him to Dubai. Peter said he came out of his last race better than ever and we think the straight six furlongs on the grass will be perfect for him. We have been pointing to this race since December and it’s going to be a good fit for him. We’re going in as a longshot and we know that, but the horse is giving us confidence.”

“Within the last year, especially, [Hartunian] has really spent a lot of time making better purchase decisions and focusing on spreading the wealth and the risks around to different parts of the industry,” Trump continued. “It’s been a conscious decision to try and put us on a larger scale map and going to Dubai with a horse we feel could give a good account of himself is part of that.”

Like his stablemate, St. Joe Bay is in peak form for Miller, who co-owns the streaking dark bay gelding with David Bernsen. Like his sire, St. Joe Bay ran respectably at a variety of trips and surfaces before finally optimizing his potential as a sprint specialist. After finishing second in a second-level allowance going a two-turn mile at Santa Anita Oct. 30, the Florida-bred great-grandson of iconic champion racemare Susan’s Girl shortened up for the same condition at 6 1/2 furlongs at Del Mar Dec. 4. The result was a 6 1/2-length romp and a solid 121 Equibase Speed Figure. Since then, the 5-year-old has reeled off two graded stakes victories, including a 2 3/4-length triumph in the GII Palos Verdes S. at Santa Anita Feb. 24.

“Well, if I had to pick one to win, it would be St. Joe Bay because I own half of him and it’s twice the purse,” Miller



St. Joe Bay | Andrew Watkins/DRC

quipped. “But, joking aside, I’m going in there with a couple warriors and I feel pretty good about our chances. [St. Joe Bay] is in top form and he’s a very fast horse, so they’re going to have to catch him. He’s won his last three since I turned him into a sprinter and I feel like this race suits him.”

“It takes a lot to win at this level, but that is why it’s such a great accomplishment whenever you do,” Miller concluded. “If we can win on the world stage, it will be huge for our barn. I’ve had chances to go to Dubai before, but I didn’t have the right horses. I do with these two and we feel good about our chances.”

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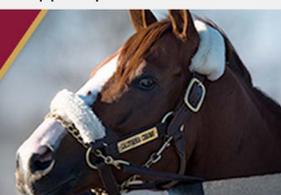


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GRAYDAR COLT TOPS PEGASUS SALE



Pegasus Topper by Graydar | Sherackatthetrack

by Steve Sherack

REDMOND, WA - A colt from the first crop of freshman sire Graydar topped Tuesday's Pegasus 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale, bringing \$90,000 from West Point Thoroughbreds. The handsome gray, a \$50,000 KEESEP yearling purchase, was produced by the stakes-placed Salt Lake mare Veronica's Lake. Hall of Famer Jerry Hollendorfer will train. "We saw this horse at the September Yearling Sale and it's funny how horses sometimes chase you," West Point's Jeff Lifson commented. "We loved him at the sale, but you can't buy 'em all and he was relatively late in the sale, too. I talked to [West Point CEO] Terry [Finley] last night and said that this horse was showing like a house of fire. He's beautifully balanced, comes from a great family and Graydar is going to be a very good sire. We're delighted."

Complete onsite coverage of Tuesday's Pegasus Sale will appear in Thursday's TDN.

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

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Jet-Setting Pets Get a New Place to Be Pampered at Kennedy Airport A 20,000-square-foot equine import and quarantine center, with 48 stalls, will open by June. It will serve racing, polo, sport and show horses being imported into the United States. Special vehicles will transport the horses directly from jet stalls to the center, and Olympic grooms will be able to exercise the horses there. **Jane L. Levere, *The New York Times***

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- Champion **DYNAMIC SKY [G3]** (\$1,098,956)
- Champion **ARE YOU KIDDING ME [G2]** (\$981,852)
- **GOLDENCENTS [G1]** (\$3,044,000, Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile **[G1]** twice)
- **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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Leading Sires of 3YOs by Earnings

for stallions standing in North America through Monday, Mar. 20

Earnings represent North American/European figures

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Tapit <i>(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2006 Crops: 10 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (\$300,000)</i>	6	8	4	5	--	--	46	14	\$300,000 <i>Unique Bella</i>	\$1,247,324
2	Into Mischief <i>(2005) by Harlan's Holiday FYR: 2010 Crops: 6 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (\$75,000)</i>	2	8	1	3	--	--	72	20	\$324,000 <i>One Liner</i>	\$1,243,563
3	Shackleford <i>(2008) by Forestry FYR: 2014 Crops: 2 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (\$15,000)</i>	1	3	1	1	--	--	50	14	\$586,800 <i>Malagacy</i>	\$1,027,136
4	Malibu Moon <i>(1997) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2001 Crops: 15 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (\$75,000)</i>	2	2	2	2	--	--	44	17	\$210,000 <i>Farrell</i>	\$707,400
5	Dialed In <i>(2008) by Mineshaft FYR: 2014 Crops: 2 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY (\$15,000)</i>	2	3	1	1	--	--	32	6	\$304,200 <i>Gunnevera</i>	\$635,082
6	Mineshaft <i>(1999) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2005 Crops: 11 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$25,000)</i>	1	3	1	2	--	--	42	6	\$205,000 <i>J Boys Echo</i>	\$628,926
7	Trappe Shot <i>(2007) by Tapit FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Claiborne Farm KY (\$7,500)</i>	--	4	--	2	--	--	38	11	\$210,000 <i>Untrapped</i>	\$592,304
8	Uncle Mo <i>(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (\$150,000)</i>	2	3	1	2	--	--	42	9	\$132,900 <i>Conquest Mo Money</i>	\$584,326
9	Ghostzapper <i>(2000) by Awesome Again FYR: 2007 Crops: 9 Stands: Adena Springs KY (\$75,000)</i>	2	3	2	3	--	--	28	8	\$200,000 <i>Iliad</i>	\$573,387
10	Stay Thirsty <i>(2008) by Bernardini FYR: 2014 Crops: 2 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (\$10,000)</i>	1	3	--	--	--	--	43	17	\$49,800 <i>Have Another</i>	\$559,119
11	Maclean's Music <i>(2008) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2014 Crops: 2 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farms KY (\$8,500)</i>	2	4	--	1	--	--	33	13	\$119,400 <i>Rockshaw</i>	\$552,544
12	Exchange Rate <i>(1997) by Danzig FYR: 2003 Crops: 13 Stands: Three Chimneys Farm USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	2	3	1	1	--	--	27	7	\$270,000 <i>El Areeb</i>	\$496,724
13	The Factor <i>(2008) by War Front FYR: 2014 Crops: 2 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (\$25,000)</i>	1	4	--	--	--	--	44	17	\$43,140 <i>Cistron</i>	\$489,655
14	Kantharos <i>(2008) by Lion Heart FYR: 2012 Crops: 4 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farms KY (\$15,000)</i>	2	5	--	--	--	--	34	8	\$150,000 <i>Yorkiepool Princess</i>	\$489,141
15	Harlan's Holiday <i>(1999) by Harlan FYR: 2005 Crops: 10 Stands: USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	--	1	--	--	--	--	69	13	\$56,700 <i>Impressive Edge</i>	\$474,220

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EASTERN U.S.

Tuesday's Result:

7th-PRX, \$47,000, Msw, 3-21, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:21.88, ft.

PIONEER SPIRIT (c, 4, [Malibu Moon](#)--Hafifah, by [Machiavellian](#)), runner-up to subsequent allowance winner Heckuvashot (Trappe Shot) over seven panels at Gulfstream Park West in November of 2016, tired late to take third in his route bow going one mile and 70 yards over the Aqueduct inner Jan. 22. Pounded down to even-money favoritism Tuesday, the dark bay attended the pace set by Siralfredthegreat (Belgravia), but seized the initiative after a half-mile in :46.26. He edged further clear in the lane, winning by an 1 3/4 lengths over Siralfredthegreat. The winner is a half to Virgil Caine (Dixieland Band), SP-Sin, \$186,995; Devious Intent (Dixie Union), GSW, \$279,041; and Devious d'Oro (Medaglia d'Oro), SP, \$169,047. Pioneer Spirit also has a year younger half-sister named Greek Mythology (Medaglia d'Oro), a juvenile half-sister named Fabriana (Skipshot) and a yearling half-brother by Super Saver. Hafifah, a half-sister to GSW Runspastum (Woodman), was covered by Uncle Mo this past spring. Sales history: \$380,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$40,200. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).** O-Gary & Mary West; B-Mikhail Yanakov (KY); T-Jason Servis.

CENTRAL U.S.

Tuesday's Result:

8th-MVR, \$26,300, (S), Msw, 3-21, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:16.23, ft.

SHELTOWEE'S GOLD (f, 3, [Dialed In](#)--Philadelphia Gold, by [Touch Gold](#)), runner-up over this strip against fellow Ohio-breds when unveiled Mar. 6, was tabbed the 7-5 crowd's pick in this second go. In an ideal position stalking from second, the sophomore miss gained the upper hand by the half-mile marker and stretched clear easily to win by 5 1/4 lengths over Custom Justice (Haynesfield), who made up some late ground to take second. The winner is a half-sister to Ohio Gold (Wilburn), SW, \$208,105, as well as a juvenile colt by Alternation and a yearling colt by Take Charge Indy. Philadelphia Gold, a half-sister to MGSP Moyer's Pond (Monarchos), was bred back to Shackleford. Sales history: \$30,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEEJAN; \$26,500 RNA Ylg '15 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$20,777. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

O-Sheltowee Farm; B-Sheltowee Farm, Michael E. Evans II & Travis A. Evans (OH); T-Michael Evans II.

KENTUCKY

143 Cancer Survivors to March in Kentucky Oaks Parade:

Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI) and its charitable partner The Breast Health Program at Norton Cancer Institute has selected 143 breast and ovarian cancer survivors to walk in the 2017 Longines Kentucky Oaks Survivors Parade Presented by Kroger, it was announced Tuesday. The public can read the survivors' stories and donate to Norton Cancer Institute [here](#).

The ninth annual Survivors Parade will take place on the racetrack prior to the 143rd running of the GI Longines Kentucky Oaks May 5. The parade is part of Churchill's Pink Out, during which the track conducts fundraising, provides outreach and attempts to increase breast and ovarian health awareness. Churchill Downs has donated more than \$820,000 to breast cancer organizations through the Pink Out celebration during the past nine years.

"The Survivors Parade has been one of the highlights of the Kentucky Derby weekend for the past nine years," said Lauren DePaso, director of community relations for CDI. "We are proud to join Norton Cancer Institute Breast Health Program and our fans to celebrate these incredible survivors, help raise critical funds and drive national awareness of the fight against breast and ovarian cancer."

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INDUSTRY INFO

NBCSN To Air Three-Hour Telecast of Dubai World Cup:

NBC Sports Network will present three hours of live G1 Dubai World Cup coverage Saturday, Mar. 25, starting at 10:30 a.m. ET. In addition to the \$10-million World Cup, NBCSN will air the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen, G1 Dubai Turf and G1 Dubai Sheema Classic live. The telecast will also include an encore presentation of the G2 UAE Derby from earlier in the card. Nick Luck is set to host from Meydan Racecourse.

NBCSN's coverage will be streamed live on NBCSports.com and the NBC Sports app.

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IN JAPAN:

Blanc Megere, f, 3, **Hansen**--Debit Or Credit, by Cat Thief.

Nakayama, 3-19, Novice Race, 6f. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-1, \$93,913. O-Normandy Thoroughbred Racing; B-White Fox Farm (KY); T-Noboru Takagi. **\$260,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

[VIDEO](#)

G Plumeria, f, 4, **Street Sense**--Song of Africa (SW & GSP, \$223,538), by Alzao. Hanshin, 3-18, Naniwa S., 6f. Lifetime Record: 11-4-1-0, \$416,991. O-Capital Syste; B-Betz Thoroughbreds Werner & Humphrey (KY); T-Katsumi Minai. *1/2 to Around the Cape (Carson City), GSW, \$366,813.

**\$200,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. [VIDEO](#)

Nanchinnon, r, 6, **Parading**--Etro, by Silver Deputy. Nakayama, 3-19, Chiba S., 6f. Lifetime Record: 26-6-4-0, \$1,069,202. O-Makoto Kato; B-Henrietta K Alexander (KY); T-Kazuya Nakatake. *1/2 to Viramundo (Stephen Got Even), SW-Pan, GISP-US, \$155,946. **\$40,000 Wlg '11 KEENOV; \$70,000 2yo '13 BARMAR.

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Hippocrene, c, 3, **Shackleford**--Catnip (SW, \$123,224), by Flying Paster. Seoul, 3-18, Hcp. (\$81k), 2000m. B-Fiona Craig & Dermot Cantillon (KY). *1/2 to Elaflaak (Gulch), SW-Eng; Indescribable (Pleasant Tap), MGSW, \$476,159; and Micromanage (Medaglia d'Oro), MSW & GISP, \$790,551. **\$95,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$20,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$50,000 2yo '16 FTMMAY.

WOODS EDGE FARM GRADUATE

Tiz Run, c, 3, **Tizway**--Parisian Gem, by El Corredor. Seoul, 3-19, Hcp. (\$54k), 1000m. B-Terrazas Thoroughbreds LLC (KY). *\$20,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$37,000 RNA Ylg '15 FTKJUL; \$30,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

IN PERU:

La Blanquirroja, f, 3, **Eskendereya**--Great Morning (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Monterrico, 3-18, Cond., 1600m, 1:41.40. B-Brandywine Farm (Jim & Pam Robinson) (KY). *\$20,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. [VIDEO](#)

Ghawar, c, 4, **Hat Trick (Jpn)**--Shirazeri, by Jade Hunter. Monterrico, 3-17, Cond., 1000m, :56.77. B-Woods Edge Farm LLC (KY). *1/2 to Miss Elegancia (Flatter), SP-Pan. **\$4,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. [VIDEO](#)

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ASTROLOGY (A.P. Indy), Taylor Made Stallions, \$7.5K, 156/21/2 3-MVR, Msw 5 1/2f, Act the Part, \$5K E '17 KEE JAN, 8-1

BIONDETTI (Bernardini), Woodford Thoroughbreds, \$4K, 102/14/0 6-TAM, Msw 1m, Rigoletto, \$15K OBS OPN 2yo, 20-1

DIALED IN (Mineshaft), Darby Dan Farm, \$7.5K, 174/22/4 6-TAM, Msw 1m, Anotador, 2-1

1-PEN, Msw 5 1/2f, Tanya's Gem, \$19K RNA FTK OCT yrl, 8-1

GET STORMY (Stormy Atlantic), Crestwood Farm, \$5K, 141/13/1 1-MVR, Msw 6f, Sheena's Song, \$17K RNA FTK OCT yrl, 3-2

JERSEY TOWN (Speightstown), Darby Dan Farm, \$10K, 90/5/0 3-MVR, Msw 5 1/2f, Jilly From Jersey, \$27K KEE SEP yrl, 9-2

STAY THIRSTY (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 160/32/2 1-PEN, Msw 5 1/2f, Stay Special, \$22K OBS OPN 2yo, 3-1

THE FACTOR (War Front), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 218/28/3 1-PEN, Msw 5 1/2f, Alexia, \$31K OBS APR 2yo, 12-1

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-WRD, \$25,080, (S), 3-20, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.65, ft.

JS PEARLIAM (f, 3, Dance Master--Katie's Pearl, by Alamocitos)

Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$35,761. O/B-Shirley Wheeler (OK); T-Scott E. Young.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Bold Mandate, g, 3, **Bold Warrior**--Birdie Sets Sail, by Skip Away. WRD, 3-21, 1m, 1:37.83. B-Tracy Strachan (OK).

Visual Punch, g, 4, **The Visualiser**--Best Punch, by Two Punch. WRD, 3-21, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:04.41. B-Center Hills Farm (OK).

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Pioneer Spirit (Malibu Moon) graduates in the seventh at Parx Tuesday.

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MEDICEAN MAN EYES FAIRYTALE CARNIVAL ENDING



Medicean Man wraps up his fifth Dubai carnival in the Al Quoz Sprint
DRC/Andrew Watkins

By Emma Berry

So often in racing, a terrible low can be followed by a restorative high. For owners Stuart and Kate Dobbs, that high was not only fairly instantaneous, but also longstanding.

On Saturday, their venerable veteran **Medicean Man (GB)** (Medicean {GB}) will line up for the 77th time in his career for what may well be his Meydan swansong in the G1 Al Quoz Sprint. The well-traveled gelding only came into their ownership after another horse owned by the father-and-daughter team broke a leg after the line at Doncaster in 2009. That same day at the track, the then 3-year-old Medicean Man surrendered his maiden tag at the third attempt in the Gask stable colours of Horses First Racing, ridden by the trainer's old friend and fellow South Australian, Clare Lindop.

"We couldn't sell him as a youngster--we owned him as a maiden for this first three starts," Gask recalls as he and his wife Kerrie grab a much-needed caffeine boost after arriving in Dubai on the red eye on Tuesday morning.

[cont. p2](#)

DOYLE TO CONTINUE AUSTRALIAN ROLE

Godolphin retained rider James Doyle, who has been riding for Sheikh Mohammed's stable in Australia this season, is set to continue riding Down Under, and will ride for a limited time in Britain this summer. Doyle had previously been based in Britain, and went to Australia to fill in this season after Godolphin Australia's former retained rider, James McDonald, was banned for 18 months in December for betting on a race.

Godolphin chief executive John Ferguson told the *Daily Mail*, "James has done very well while he's been in Australia. He will probably do the same as what James McDonald did and ride here for a couple of months in the summer."

After a strong start to his Australian stint, Doyle has been on the sidelines after enduring hand and knee injuries in a fall at Randwick last month. The 28-year-old is set to return to riding this week.

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IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

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Undefeated 'TDN Rising Star' Mastery (Candy Ride {Arg}) will stand at Claiborne Farm when his racing days are over, it was announced Tuesday. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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Medicean Man Eyes Fairytale Carnival Ending cont. from p1

"After losing a lovely horse, Stuart then bought Medicean Man and he's been a dream owner to have in a horse like this," Gask continued. "He has never tried to influence where the horse was going to run--even in Singapore when his shoe came off and he didn't run, Stuart took it like a gentleman. His daughter Kate is the same. They are genuine horse lovers and totally appreciate what a horse like him has done for them. I think that's why he's raced on as long as he has because we've been able to run him only on tracks we're happy with."

Officially a resident of Gask's Danebury Stables in Hampshire,



Jeremy Gask | Emma Berry

the 11-year-old has spent plenty of time on the road and in the air while accruing his 13 wins and 15 placed efforts, and Dubai is certainly his favourite second home. Over the last five Carnivals, he has become a standing dish at Meydan, notching three victories from his 15 starts there, plus a close-up fourth-place finish in the Al Quoz in 2014.

Having previously trained in his native Adelaide, Gask arrived in England to continue his career almost 10

years ago and his life in his adopted home has always included Medicean Man.

"He was in the first batch that came to me," says the trainer. "He turned up at the yard a couple of weeks after I arrived in England. It's a scary thought that we don't know what it's like not to have him in the stable."

Naturally, at Medicean Man's age, his connections are starting to contemplate retirement and Gask concedes that this may be the horse's last stay in Dubai.

"I haven't said it categorically but I would expect it to be his last year here. We always said that if he ever drops down to a mark below what I think is respectful to him then we would retire him. Last year he wasn't that well--we had a bit of a bug around the whole yard last year and he didn't thrive when he was here but this year everything has gone really smoothly."

It has indeed. On Jan. 19, one week after fellow old-timer Reynaldothewizard (Speightstown)--who is officially Medicean Man's senior by six days--signaled his wellbeing with a comeback win in the Listed Dubawi S., Medicean Man followed suit with a swooping late run to win the Meydan Sobha Trophy, much to the delight of his many fans.

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"He has a bit of a following now. All the lads here, and even in Doha, they know him and all wanted to know how he is. Kerrie and the kids are very attached to him," says Gask. "He loves getting the sun on his back in the winter. As Neil [Walsh, assistant trainer] says, he's solar-powered. He looks awful in the winter--he's very thin-skinned and his coat changes at the drop of a hat. His coat has started to turn now--I think Qatar brought it on--and he's looking great."

"He's given me an appetite for traveling horses. I used to find even going from Sydney to Melbourne an ordeal. Now no trip is daunting any more. A horse like him gives you the confidence to spread your wings."

Gask is quick to credit Walsh, a former trainer in Australia, with keeping Medicean Man in good order this time around in Dubai. He says, "Neil has been a great help to me--he knows training on tracks from Australia and he would train very similarly to me. It's been great, we discuss when he's working but in between that he gets on with it and he and the horse have become best mates." **Cont. p3**



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Medicean Man cont.

Gask also readily acknowledges the boost the horse himself has given his stable over many years. "Being a small Adelaide trainer and finding yourself going around the world with him has been amazing. He's given me an appetite for traveling horses. You need the right horse, but I used to find even going from Sydney to Melbourne an ordeal. Now no trip is daunting any more. A horse like him gives you the confidence to spread your wings, and fortunately he has the ideal temperament for it."

Despite his straightforward nature, Medicean Man, like every good horse, has the odd foible. He hates vaccinations and his aforementioned thin skin means he's ticklish and resents visits from the physiotherapist.

"He can be a bit of a grump sometimes as he hates being fussed," says Gask, turning to his wife and adding, "Listen to me, I sound like I'm talking about one of the kids."

Without hesitation, she replies, "He is one of the kids."

And just like any proud father, the trainer is entitled to be protective of his stable star.

"He's run in five different countries now--it should have been six but he didn't run when he went to Singapore--and he always steps up to the big occasion," he notes. "Although he is popular and liked I still don't think he quite gets the credit for the races he's run. He was beaten half a head in the [G1] King's Stand and I felt sick that day--it would have been a massive thing for me but I was more gutted for him and I still am to this day. He just deserved it--he's a marvel."

Securing an invitation for Medicean Man to reappear in the Al Quoz has been an extra fillip during a start to the year which has seen the Gask team in great form at home, with 11 wins so far this year in Britain at a strike-rate of 18%. Yet still, like so many of the country's smaller trainers, Gask finds himself in the position of having fewer horses with which to go to battle.

"There's no question that the challenge we have is numbers, and this year the focus we have is to get the numbers up," he admits.

Undoubtedly, a major victory on the world stage for the hardy little sprinter would help the cause, but whatever the outcome, it's clear that Medicean Man would lose nothing in the eyes of his adoring 'family'.

"Being invited to run on Saturday was a bit of a thrill in itself," says Gask. "We didn't come out here planning on World Cup night being part of his campaign, we just hoped he'd run well in the lead-up races during the Carnival. They've been so very hospitable to us here for five years and it's great that he has another chance to run on the big night. It's just a privilege to be here."



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POL ROGER TO SPONSOR PALMER

Champagne Pol Roger has signed a three-year sponsorship deal with trainer Hugo Palmer’s Hugo Palmer Racing. Pol Roger is the official champagne of the Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe Park, the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials, leading rugby club Bath as well as being the champagne sponsor of men’s and women’s professional and amateur Real Tennis.

Classic-winning trainer Palmer, who has won races at prestigious meetings such as Royal Ascot, the Qatar Goodwood Festival and the Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe meeting, said, “I am delighted to welcome Champagne Pol Roger on board as our new sponsor. To have such a prestigious brand supporting our yard is testament to the success we, as a team, have enjoyed. Let’s hope we will have reason to toast many winners with a few glasses of Pol Roger over the course of the season.”

Charles Hamer, director of racing at Champagne Pol Roger, said, “We are thrilled to be involved with one of the leading stables in the UK and look forward with anticipation to the season ahead and beyond with Hugo Palmer Racing.”

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European News cont.

NEW BURSARY FUND FOR TB CLUB

The Thoroughbred Club will offer a new bursary fund for its full members that will provide grant aid for professional development. The bursary will enable full members of the club to submit an application for a grant of up to £500 to fund an educational course or continued professional development activity that will allow them to develop or further their career in the breeding industry.

Harry Williams, chairman of TTC, said, "One of the central aims of The Thoroughbred Club is to help members establish and develop their career within the breeding and racing industry and we are always looking for ways in which we can better support members to achieve their aspirations. By introducing our new bursary we are not only able to build on the success of last year's Careers Course, but we are committing to the long-term support of the industry's next generation."

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BRITAIN



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Whosyourhousemate (GB), g, 3, **Bahamian Bounty (GB)**--Starlit Sky (GB), by Galileo (Ire). SOU, 3-21, 8f (AWT), 1:48.40. B-Heather Raw (GB). *32,000gns Ylg '15 TAOCT.

FRANCE



Tuesday's Results:

1st-CHY, €25,000, Mdn, 3-21, 3yo, f, 7f (AWT), 1:26.94, st. **+LIGHTUPTHENIGHT (GB) (f, 3, Dutch Art {GB}--Nuit Polaire {Ire}, by Kheleyf)**, sent off the 9-5 favourite, was settled towards the rear throughout the early stages. Moving ominously strongly once straightened for home, the bay gained the lead with a furlong remaining and was not fully extended to comfortably beat Cool Esprit (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) by a length. The winner's second dam Night Teeny (GB) (Platini {Ger}), whose son Melon (GB) (Medicean {GB}) just missed out in Tuesday's Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham, is also responsible for Night of Magic (Ire) (Peintre Celebre), who captured the G2 Oaks d'Italia and later produced the dual G1 Preis von Europa heroine Nightflower (Ire) (Dylan Thomas {Ire}). Another of her daughters, Neele (Ire) (Peintre Celebre), is the dam of the G1 Deutsches Derby winner Nutan (Ire) (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}) and also Nymphaea (Ire) (Dylan Thomas {Ire}), who annexed the G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin.

Also from the family of the G2 Preis der Diana scorer Night Petticoat (Ger) (Petoski {GB}) and her G1 Deutsches Derby-winning sire son Next Desert (Ire), Nuit Polaire has a 2-year-old colt by Intello (Ger) named Intellogent (Ire) and a yearling colt by Excelebration (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. [Video sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-H H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani; B-Ecurie des Monceaux (GB); T-Francis-Henri Graffard.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

4th-CHY, €28,000, 3-21, 4yo, 9f (AWT), 1:50.97, st.

RAJKUMAR (FR) (c, 4, Lope de Vega {Ire}--Ramora, by Monsun {Ger}) Lifetime Record: 11-3-3-2, €72,800. O-Mme Andre Fabre; B-Ecurie Peregrine SAS (FR); T-Andre Fabre.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Aluqdah (Fr), f, 3, **Zoffany (Ire)**--Halo de Lune (GB), by Halling. CHY, 3-21, 7f (AWT), 1:25.49. B-Haras du Logis Saint Germain (FR). *€77,000 Ylg '15 ARQOCT; €62,000 2yo '16 ARQMAY.

IN JAPAN:

Tanino Urban Sea (GB), f, 4, **Sea The Stars (Ire)**--Vodka (Jpn) (2x Horse of the Year, 2x Ch. Older Mare & Ch. 2yo Filly-Jpn, MG1SW-Jpn, \$13,147,826), by Tanino Gimlet (Jpn). Hanshin, 3-18, Suma Tokubetsu, 9fT. Lifetime Record: 10-3-4-2, \$367,522. O/B-Yuzo Tanimizu; T-Katsuhiko Sumii. [VIDEO](#)

IN HONG KONG:

Mambo Rock (Ire), c, 4, **Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)**--Amaya, by Kingmambo. Sha Tin, 3-19, Hcp. (£128k/€147k), 2000mT, 2:03.41. B-Churchtown House Stud. *90,000gns Ylg '14 TATOCT. [VIDEO](#)

WORLDWIDE NEWS

DE ROYER DUPRE SEEKS DUBAI HAT TRICK

French trainer Alain de Royer Dupre has enjoyed victories with Aga Khan colourbearers on the last two renewals of Dubai World Cup night, and on Saturday he counts on **Vazirabad (Fr)** (Manduro {Ger}) and **Zarak (Fr)** (Dubawi {Ire}) to make it three straight.

The 5-year-old Vazirabad won last year's G2 Dubai Gold Cup on his seasonal debut, but this year the grey prepped for his title defense with a second in the G3 Nad Al Sheba trophy at Meydan on Feb. 23. De Royer Dupre explained, "Last year Vazirabad had to battle to win. It was a hard race, as he hadn't had a prep race.

De Royer-Dupre's Dubai Hat-Trick cont.

So this year we thought it better to bring him over early and give him a run. He doesn't do much in the morning. Since we have had him, we have always known that he is better on his second or third start."

'TDN Rising Star' Zarak, meanwhile, got his season off to a winning start with a smart score in Meydan's G3 Dubai Millennium S. on Feb. 16. Despite winning just one of six starts last year at three Zarak ran with credit, finishing second to Almanzor (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}) in both the G1 Prix du Jockey Club and G2 Prix Guillaume d'Ornano. He runs in the G1 Dubai Turf on Saturday.



Zarak and Christophe Soumillon win the G3 Dubai Millennium S. on seasonal debut Feb. 16 | Andrew Watkins photo

"He has grown quite a bit since last year and while the race is tough, with some serious horses like last year's [G1] Prix Jacques Le Marois winner Ribchester, I'm hopeful he will run well. What is important for us is that the horse is well."

De Royer Dupre was in attendance for the final piece of serious work for both horses last Tuesday.

"I took them to work on the grass on the training track, as the track is slightly softer than the track at Meydan," he noted. "Zarak worked with a lead horse who came from France. He worked well and quickened well and I'm very happy with him. He wasn't 100% fit for his last race, which he won well. And he has come on from that. As to Vazirabad, he did a good canter, but didn't need to work like Zarak, as he only ran four weeks ago. From now on, they are just doing some light exercise."

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MAGIC MILLIONS MARCH ENDS ON PAR

The two-day Magic Millions Gold Coast March Yearling Sale ended on Tuesday with results nearly mirroring last year's, but

with slight gains in average, median and gross. From 400 catalogued, 368 were offered and 298 sold at a buyback rate of 19%, which matched last year's from four more sold. The gross was up to A\$8,587,000 from A\$8,355,500, while the average climbed 1.4% to A\$28,815, and the median 4.8% to A\$22,000.

"Uncannily, this sale is a mirror image of the 2016 version," Magic Millions Managing Director Vin Cox said. "For three years running the gross of the sale has been sitting over A\$8-million, where up until that time it struggled to reach A\$6-million. The breeders have had the benefit of the 30% increase for three years now and it would be assumed that their windfall will lead to increased investment of bloodstock across the board."

Cox added, "The market was aggressive on quality bloodstock and there are obvious reasons why others struggled. In closing I would like to congratulate our own James Dawson, who has been widely recognised for the effort he has put in to the sale both from a buyers and vendors perspective."

The top lot of the session—and of the sale—came late in the day when trainer Gary Moore signed for a son of first-crop sire Sizzling (Aus) ([lot 398](#)) for A\$160,000. The chestnut, bred and consigned by Gleeson Thoroughbred Connections, is the fourth foal out of Crimson Belle (Aus) (Red Ransom).

"He was the colt of the sale," said Moore. "I really like Sizzling—he was a great Magic Millions graduate and I'm hoping this colt will run as well as he looks. The colt looks a natural early 2-year-old and he will be set for the A\$2-million Magic Millions 2YO Classic in January."

The session's second top seller was [lot 301](#), a full-brother to G1 Tattersalls Tiara winner Miss Cover Girl (Aus) (Monashee Mountain) bought by Dave Mee's Pinhook Bloodstock and trainer Tony Sears for A\$130,000. The day's top-priced filly was [lot 375](#), a daughter of Star Witness (Aus) bought by leading local trainer Toby Edmonds for A\$105,000. Edmonds trains this year's Magic Millions 2YO Classic winner Houtzen (Aus) (I Am Invincible {Aus}).

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Magic Millions March Yearling Sale

CUMULATIVE	2017	2016
• Catalogued	400	395
• No. Offered	368	365
• No. Sold	298	294
• RNAs	70	71
• % RNAs	19%	19%
• High Price	A\$160,000	A\$170,000
• Gross	A\$8,587,000	A\$8,355,500
• Average (% change)	A\$28,815 (+1.4%)	A\$28,420
• Median (% change)	A\$22,000 (+4.8%)	A\$21,000

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SESSION TOPPERS

Magic Millions March Yearling Sale

Lot	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
398	c	Sizzling (Aus)	Crimson Belle (Aus)	160,000
<i>B-Gleeson Thoroughbred Connections Pty Ltd (Qld)</i>				
Consigned by Gleeson Thoroughbred Connections				
Purchased by Gary Moore Racing				
301	c	Monashee Mountain	Tolart (Aus)	130,000
<i>B-Mr K O'Keefe (Qld)</i>				
Consigned by Kenmore Lodge				
Purchased by Pinhook Bloodstock				
375	f	Star Witness (Aus)	Casuarina (Aus)	105,000
<i>B-Mrs. J Brown (Qld)</i>				
Consigned by Jorson Farm				
Purchased by Edmonds Racing Pty Ltd				



Platinum, pictured at Caulfield last October, on Tuesday became the second winner for first-season sire Animal Kingdom when he won at Ballarat in the Godolphin colours. Animal Kingdom has 11 yearlings catalogued for the upcoming Inglis Easter sale | Bronwen Healy

AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Strathclyde (Aus), g, 3, **Toorak Toff (Aus)**--Lady's Light, by Toolighttoquit. Sha Tin, 3-19, Hcp. (A\$140k), 1000mT, :57.99. B-Rosemont Stud (Vic). *1/2 to Matambo (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}), SP-Sin, \$351,441; Light Express (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), SP-Aus, A\$131,060; and Alboran Sea (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}), Ch. 3yo Filly-SAf, MG1SW-SAf, \$181,891. **A\$300,000 Ylg '15 INGEAS. [VIDEO](#)

Western Express (Aus), g, 4, **Encosta de Lago (Aus)**--Alsatia (Aus), by Marauding (NZ). Sha Tin, 3-19, Hcp. (A\$292k), 1400mT, 1:23.09. B-F Peisah (NSW). *1/2 to Whitefriars (Aus) (Arena {Aus}), MGSW-Aus, A\$618,765; and Ringmeister (Aus) (Arena {Aus}), SW-Aus, A\$270,700. **Formerly Cardless Cash (Aus). ***A\$80,000 Ylg '14 INGMEL. [VIDEO](#)

Dashing Fellow (Aus), g, 5, **Duporth (Aus)**--Moon Fever (Aus) (SP-Aus), by Fusaichi Pegasus. Sha Tin, 3-19, Hcp. (A\$417k), 1400mT, 1:23.23. B-Springton Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd (Qld). *1/2 to Aeronautical (Aus) (Encosta de Lago {Aus}), MSW & G1SP-Aus, A\$540,140. **SW & GSP-Aus, \$1,315,892. ***A\$160,000 Ylg '13 INGEAS. [VIDEO](#)

IN JAPAN:

Campbell Junior (Aus), c, 4, **Encosta de Lago (Aus)**--Melito (Aus) (MG1SW-Aus, A\$1,934,050), by Redoute's Choice (Aus). Nakayama, 3-19, Makuhari S. (A\$406k), 8fT, 1:33.3. Lifetime Record: 10-5-2-1, \$717,699. O-Kazumi Yoshida; B-Katom Chelsaus Wynaus & China Horse Club Investment Holdings Ltd (NSW); T-Noriyuki Hori. *A\$400,000 Ylg '14 MMGCYS. [VIDEO](#)

IN SINGAPORE:

Oxbow Sun (Aus), g, 4, **Encosta de Lago (Aus)**--Cornersoff (Aus), by Octagonal (NZ). Kranji, 3-19, Hcp. (A\$74k), 1400mT, 1:23.02. B-Ramsey Pastoral Co Pty Ltd (Qld). *Formerly Oxbow (Aus). **A\$160,000 Ylg '14 MMGCYS. [VIDEO](#)

KYLLACHY GELDING TOPS ERA SALE

Rocket Power (g, 4, Kyllachy {GB}--Rhal {Ire}, by Rahy), winner of a Mar. 17 handicap at Jebel Ali, was knocked down to trainer Ahmad bin Harmash for AED220,000 (£47,961/€55,297/US\$59,898) to top Monday's 2017 Emirates Racing Authority Horses in Training Sale held in the saddling enclosure at Meydan Racecourse.

Bred by Crossfields Bloodstock Limited, the 27,000gns Tattersalls October yearling purchase was a maiden winner at second asking over the Southwell all-weather last February for trainer James Tate and was purchased by Al Tariq Stud for 18,000gns at Tattersalls' October Horses of Racing Age Sale. Conditioned in the Emirates by Helal al Alawi, the chestnut was third in a non-Carnival handicap at Meydan eight days prior to his most recent appearance.

A total of 107 horses changed hands for a total of AED2,402,800 (£524,294/€605,227/US\$654,197) for an average of AED22,456. Some 10 horses were reported as unsold.

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