

AZ SYMPOSIUM PROBES PROVOCATIVE TOPICS ON FIRST DAY *By Dean Hoffman*

The 41st Global Symposium on Racing & Gaming got underway Tuesday at the Westin La Paloma in Tucson, AZ with a full day of sessions covering a wide variety of topics.

The impact of small fields in races was the subject of the first two panel discussions and speakers detailed how a decline in foaling rates resulted in declines in horses competing at the track.

Steve Koch, Vice President of Racing at Woodbine Entertainment Group, said that adding an extra horse to a seven-horse field boosts betting considerably, but he said that betting increases at a diminished rate as the field size increases.



Steve Koch

Even small increases in handle are welcome, Koch emphasized, but tracks cannot lose sight of the value customers place on

quality races. Each increase of \$10,000 in purse money results in an increase of 2.6% in the betting on that race, Koch noted.

Representing horseplayers on the panel, Chris Larmey of the NTRA NHC Players Committee, said that professional bettors often shy away from betting on races with small fields because a sizable bet can affect payoffs significantly.

"Professional bettors have a big hammer," said Larmey, referring to the size of their wagers. "If they use that hammer on a small field, they might wind up hitting their thumb by driving down the odds."

Dr. Jennifer Durenberger, a veterinarian who is Director of Racing for the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, understands the impact of small fields, but sounded a note of optimism for the students in the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program, the sponsor of the Symposium.

"We're all on the same airplane," Durenberger said to the attendees. "The tone of this panel has been sobering, but I want to say to the students in the audience that you're about to embark on a career in an industry that is just incredible."

A panel on the role of social media in crisis management in racing resulted in some provocative comments on how breaking news has been mishandled by the racing industry.

Maggi Moss, an owner, attorney, and equine welfare advocate, said that each track should have a designated staff person to convey news via social media. **Cont. p3**

ORTIZ TO FACE THE WORLD IN HONG KONG

Irado Ortiz Jr. has been a star on the rise ever since his arrival on the American racing scene in the summer of 2011, just six months after riding his first career winner at Hipodromo Camarero in Puerto Rico. Tonight, at the tight-turning and tricky Happy Valley Racecourse on Hong Kong Island, the 22-year-old will ride against 11 of the world's best jockeys in the Longines International Jockeys' Championship.

It has been a breakthrough year for Ortiz Jr., who earned his first Breeders' Cup success courtesy of Lady Eli (Divine Park) in the GI Juvenile Fillies Turf and currently ranks third among North American jockeys by number of winners through Dec. 9

(277 from 1393 rides, 20%) and by purse money (\$19,622,511). Ortiz Jr. tied with Javier Castellano for leading rider honors at the Belmont Spring/Summer meeting, was runner-up at the always-competitive Saratoga stand and got the upper hand over Castellano at the Belmont Fall Championship meeting. Ortiz Jr., who is accompanied on this trip to Hong Kong by his grandfather--also named Irado--is very much looking forward to the challenge the IJC will present. **Cont. p4**



Irado Ortiz Jr. at Happy Valley Tuesday morning HKJC.com

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IN THIS ISSUE

More From Asia



Lord Kanaloa
HKJC.com

Pat Cummings relives the super-impressive performance turned in by **Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)** (King Kamehameha {Jpn}) in last year's G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint; while Lucas Marquardt visits Macau's Taipa Racecourse.

Page 11

Loiselle Announces Retirement

Long-time Woodbine announcer Dan Loiselle announced yesterday that he will be retiring from his post in May after some 29 years as the voice of the Etobicoke oval.

Page 15

Santa Anita Box Controversy

T.D. Thornton examines the recent controversy sparked by Santa Anita raising the prices of its clubhouse boxes.



Santa Anita Boxes
Horsephotos

Page 16

Sale Toppers Work for Pletcher

Two juvenile colts--each sale toppers earlier this year--recorded their first official workouts at Palm Beach Downs Monday.

Page 18

TBDN

THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

CO-PUBLISHERS

President: Barry Weisbord
barryweisbord@thetdn.com @barryweisbord

Vice President: Sue Finley
suefinley@thetdn.com @suefinley

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Director of Business Development: Gary King
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief: Jessica Martini

Managing Editor: Alan Carasso

Racing Editor: Steve Sherack

Racing Analyst/Social Media Director: Brian DiDonato

Associate Editor: Justina Severni

Assistant Editor: Christie DeBernardis

Assistant Editor: Heather Likins

Assistant Editor: Ben Massam

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising: Alycia Borer

Art Director: Lia Kusch

Sr. Ad Coordinator/Dir. of Distribution: Sarah K. Andrew

Advertising Designer: Amanda Crelin

Advertising Assistant: Amanda Foster

Social Media Strategist: Nichola Henry

CUSTOMER SERVICE

customerservice@thetdn.com

Director of Customer Service: Vicki Forbes

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Director of IT: Robert Williams

robertwilliams@thetdn.com

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

International Editor: Kelsey Riley

kelseynriley@gmail.com

Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing: Sean Cronin

Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing: Tom Frary

caferacing@aol.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100 • Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | 732-747-8955 (fax)

www.thoroughbreddailynews.com www.thetdn.com





GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM ON RACING AND GAMING

Cont. from p1

Dave Grening of the *Daily Racing Form* admitted that the mainstream media is "out of the business of covering racing."

Rob Sine, VP Ticketing for the PAC 12 athletic conference, spoke to the conference on group sales and emphasized the importance of planning and detailed strategies.

"Hope is not a strategy," Sine said. "You have to tell your prospective customers what you have to offer them, how it will help their organization, and, most importantly, why they should buy your tickets."

Sine said that there is a difference between the value and the worth of an event to customers.

"You need to increase the value of your event to the customer," he said.

Oonagh Chan of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, speaking via Skype, dazzled attendees by telling how her company uses technology to improve the wagering experience.

"At the Hong Kong Jockey Club, we always look at customer preference," she said, "We don't look at things from the top down. We are customer-centric in our plans."

As part of the Symposium, legendary race announcer Tom Durkin was awarded with the "Big Sport of Turfdom" by the Turf Publicists Association. Durkin retired this summer after calling races for more than 40 years and gave a humorous and warm acceptance speech.



Tom Durkin

Taylor Kirby was named the Outstanding Student for 2014 at the University of Arizona's Race Track Industry Program.

The Global Symposium on Racing & Gaming continues on Wednesday and concludes at noon on Thursday.

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**RTIP SYMPOSIUM
2014 AGENDA**

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

Updates from the Global Wagering Markets
8:30-9:30 a.m.

Breaking With Tradition: The Supply Model
9:30-11:00 a.m.

Capitalizing on Digital Marketing
11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

ADW Issues – Funding and Fraud
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.

Making Everything Mobile
3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

**The Control Room: Monitoring the Heartbeat
of the Gambling Day at the Races**
5:00-5:45 p.m.



Ortiz cont. from p1

“It is very exciting for me to be invited to such a contest,” he said Tuesday afternoon as the 12 participants gathered for a meet-the-press function at Happy Valley. “And I can’t thank the Jockey Club enough for allowing me to represent the USA. The turns [at Happy Valley] are very tight and I will have to arrange my stirrups to deal with the right-hand course. Anyway I have watched lots of videos to get accustomed to the track and I cannot wait for the challenge to begin.”

The senior Ortiz suspects his grandson will adapt just fine.

“Ever since he was a little boy he has been extremely gifted in the saddle,” he explained. “Me and his father were also jockeys, at El Comandante in Puerto Rico as well as in New York, and as soon as he started to ride, Irad showed something very special.”

To be successful, Ortiz Jr. will have to be at his very best to defeat a group that includes two-time IJC winner and ‘world’s best jockey’ Ryan Moore and other previous IJC victors defending champion Kerrin McEvoy, local star Joao Moreira and Christophe Soumillon. The latter is expected to figure prominently in the outcome of the IJC after pulling two of the favorites from the four races that comprise the event.



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International Jockeys' Championship cont.

"I have not won in Hong Kong for a while and yet I always receive lots of support from the local fans so I am eager to please them," said Soumillon, who will try to take Sunday's G1 Hong Kong Cup with the globe-trotting Cirrus Des Aigles (Fr) (Even Top {Ire}) and exits a victory in the G1 Japan Cup aboard Epiphaneia (Jpn) (Symboli Kris S. {Jpn}) just 10 days ago. "I am drawn 12 of 12 in the first so that's a long shot. I have got a chance in the second leg, a 1000-meter sprint, and I ride a horse for Casper Fownes in the last leg with a live chance. I am glad that I got such good rides overall and we will probably have a good time on Wednesday night."

Moreira is likely to be well-backed in the Championship, while England's Richard Hughes and Japan's Yuichi Fukunaga are reputed to have good chances as well. However, Hughes is taking nothing for granted.

"You can never tell around Happy Valley, but I have got a couple of nice rides so we'll see. I am looking forward to it," Hughes commented.

Points will be awarded on a 12-6-4 basis. The winning jockey will take home a first-prize check of HK\$500,000 (about US\$64,500). Post time for the first of the IJC races is 8:10 p.m. (7:10 a.m. EST). **Click for the HKJC.com race form.**

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Hong Kong Trio Working for the Weekend...

Led by reigning Hong Kong Horse of the Year **Designs on Rome (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), three of the more prominent chances for Sunday's Longines Hong Kong International Races got in their final serious pieces of work over the Sha Tin turf course Tuesday morning.

A leading contender for the G1 Longines Hong Kong Cup, Designs on Rome made his way onto the flood-lit turf course

just after 6 a.m. and, with big-race rider Joao Moreira in the irons, worked over 1200 meters in sectionals of :26 and :29.1 before finishing his final quarter-mile in a slick :23.2 for a composite time of 1:18.2.

Alongside Cirrus des Aigles (Fr) (Even Top {Ire}) and former stablemate Military Attack (Ire) (Oratorio {Ire}), Designs on Rome is the joint-highest rated horse in the field on a ranking of 123, based mostly on his thrilling victory over Military Attack in the G1 Queen Elizabeth II Cup over this course and 2000-meter distance last April. The Moyglare Stud-bred gelding has lost four straight since that effort, including a close fifth to Blazing Speed (GB) (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) in the G2 Jockey Club Cup Nov. 23. **Cont. p6**



Designs on Rome (left) working under the cloak of darkness HKJC.com



Filly at three weeks

Filly at two weeks

Colt at two weeks

Filly at three weeks

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Hong Kong Trio cont.

Stablemate **Dominant (Ire)** (Cacique {Ire}) is looking to rediscover the form that saw him cause an upset in last year's G1 Longines Hong Kong Vase and breezed 1200 meters in the company of his Cup-bound stable companion **Same World (GB)** (Hawk Wing) in 1:19.2. With Moreira calling the shots, the longer-winded Dominant went in fractions of :27.4 and :28.6 before coming home in :23.2.

"I'm happy with that," said Moore. "They all worked well and both Dominant and Designs on Rome will go out again on Friday. I'll put them on the all-weather on Friday and they'll both go three-quarter pace.

Moreira was satisfied with the work too.

"Designs on Rome worked really well this morning on the grass. We went quite a strong gallop--they had a little bit of a slow but it's like we just adjusted the screws and I'm very happy with the way he pulled up, and I'm sure he's going to be ready on Sunday. Dominant crossed the line full of himself and he probably worked the best of them so I'm looking forward to him on the weekend. He's definitely going to be a good ride."

Trainer Richard Gibson, who sent out Akeed Mofeed (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) to a popular victory in the 2013 Hong Kong Cup, gave champion miler **Gold-Fun (Ire)** (Le Vie dei Colori

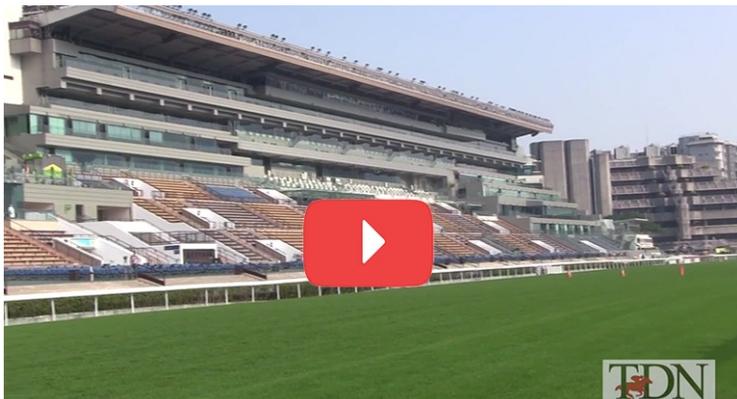


Gold-Fun (near) HKJC.com

{GB}) a 1200-meter gallop on the grass, which was accomplished in a leisurely overall clocking of 1:24.5, but more importantly finished with a smart final 400 meters in :22.8.

"He felt great, his action was clean and he felt pretty sharp," said jockey Douglas Whyte of the 5-year-old, who was runner-up to **Glorious Days (Aus)** (Hussonet) in last year's G1 Hong Kong Mile.

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Parish Hall Another Bolger Product Top and Bottom...

Trainer Jim Bolger is no stranger to the Hong Kong International Races winner's circle. In 2004, the successful conditioner sent across the 3-year-old filly Alexander Goldrun (Ire) (Gold Away {Ire}) for the Hong Kong Cup, and--with stable rider Kevin Manning along for the ride--outgamed local hero Bullish Luck (Royal Academy) for a 21-1 upset to become the first female to win the race. When Bolger sends one overseas, it behooves one to pay attention, and **Parish Hall (Ire)** (Teofilo {Ire}) will conclude a busy 2014 season in Sunday's G1 Hong Kong Vase.

Winner of the G1 Dewhurst S. at two in 2011, the 5-year-old, owned and bred by Bolger's wife Jackie, developed a hind-leg infection early in his 3-year-old season and was forced to miss the whole of 2012.

Winner of the G3 Diamond S. over the Dundalk all-weather track last season, Parish Hall was narrowly beaten in this year's G3 International S. at The Curragh June 29 before landing the G3 Meld S. in his next start July 20 ([video](#)).



Parish Hall *HKJC.com*

Third of four in the G3 Royal Whip S. Aug. 24, the bay was sixth over an insufficient trip in the G3 Boomerang Mile at Leopardstown Sept. 13, but improved dramatically with a strong runner-up effort behind Pether's Moon (Ire) (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) in the G3 Cumberland Lodge S. going 2400 meters at Ascot Oct. 4.

Parish Hall has made a favorable impression in morning trackwork and galloped over the dirt surface Tuesday morning at Sha Tin to the satisfaction of his groom Ger Flynn.

"He travelled over well and hasn't lost a whole load of kilos," Flynn commented. "He's eating well and really seems to be flourishing over here. We'll probably give him a look at the turf and let him point his toe on Thursday by which time his trainer will be here. He'll be an outsider Sunday, but he won't

know that and remember Alexander Goldrun was big odds when she won the Cup for us."

A legend among Irish trainers, Bolger is a breeder of any number of important horses and is intimately acquainted with Parish Hall's pedigree. **Cont. p8**

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RACING POST, 11 August 2014



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Parish Hall cont.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Bolger conditioned Saviour (Majestic Light) to a trio of victories in nine starts for owner Tom Gentry, took possession of the mare and bred two stakes winners from the mare's first six foals, including 2001 Irish 1000 Guineas Trial winner Speirbhean (Ire) to the cover of Danehill. Retired after an unplaced run in the G1 Irish 1000 Guineas, Speirbhean was bred to the young sire Galileo (Ire) in her first two years at stud. Her second produce was a colt of 2004 named Teofilo (Ire), who became the champion 2-year-old colt in Europe in 2006 with five wins in as many starts, including defeats of Holy Roman Emperor (Ire) (Danehill) in the G1 National S. and G1 Dewhurst S.

Bolger also bred and trained Siamsa (Quest for Fame {GB}) on behalf of his wife and John Corcoran, and while she only won minor handicaps at Killarney and Gowran Park during her racing career, her daughter, the Fairyhouse maiden winner Halla Siamsa (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}) produced Parish Hall as her first foal in 2009. Halla Siamsa is also the dam of Parish Hall's full-brother, this year's G2 Futurity S. third Hall of Fame (Ire), while Siamsa's produce of 2009, Light Heavy (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}), won the G3 Ballysax S. and G2 Derby Trial S. for Team Bolger in 2012.



IN OTHER NEWS...

A Daily Roundup of Racing Articles in Non-Industry Media

[Nine midweek races detracts from main IJC contest](#) Do we really need nine races at a midweek card for tonight's Longines International Jockeys' Championship? Really? But, of all the things we might have tossed up as possible improvements to the successful IJC meeting, more regular races would not have been last on the list, since it wouldn't have been on the list. **Alan Aitken, South China Morning Post**

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TDN TODAY

Headline News..... 18 pages

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Spalato Looking For Bounce-Back Effort in Sprint...

At home in Singapore, **Spalato (NZ)** (Elusive City) was an unstoppable force, and between May and July of 2014, went from being unraced to winning his maiden by nearly 10 lengths going 1000 meters over the Kranji Polytrack to proving imperious in adding the Singapore Derby by better than four lengths going



Spalato HKJC.com

10 furlongs on the turf.

Given a breather by trainer John O'Hara and with an international raid clearly in the crosshairs, the gelding dominated his rivals in a pair of grass sprints at Kranji and was penciled in for the G2 Jockey Club Sprint Nov. 23.

For all intents and purposes, Spalato's fate was sealed when he drew post 13 in that field of 14, and while the victorious Peniaphobia (Ire) (Dandy Man {Ire}) over came the widest post that day, Spalato petered out in the straight to finish next to last as the 11-2 third choice. He was also racing right-handed for the first time on that occasion, and connections are cautiously optimistic that he'll improve for the experience this weekend. Regular rider Manoel Nunes, who missed the Jockey Club Sprint, with a wrist injury, replaces James McDonald in the saddle.

"He cantered this morning and he looks alright," assistant trainer David Shepherd reported. "He had a few problems after his first run here, but he seems to be over them now. Racing the opposite direction for the first time, we think he just tweaked a few muscles behind. It's handy we've had the extra time here for him to get over those few issues. He'll have a gallop [Wednesday] morning."

John O'Hara began his training career in 1992 as an assistant to his cousin Ivan Allan, who won the 1998 G1 Hong Kong Vase with Indigenou (Ire) (Marju {Ire}). After relinquishing his license in 2000, he reapplied and returned to the training ranks in Singapore in 2009. Spalato is by far his most-accomplished runner.

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Farraaj 'Chilling' in Hong Kong..

Farraaj (Ire) (Dubai Destination) may ring a bell for American racegoers, as the 2013 G3 Winter Derby winner made the trip over to the U.S. for last year's GI Pacific Classic, finishing 11th of 12 behind Game On Dude (Awesome Again) after taking some action at 7-1.

Owned by Sheikh Ahmed al Maktoum, the 5-year-old has eased back into European turf racing this season, and successfully at that, with handicap victories at Epsom June 6 and in the valuable John Smith's Cup H. at York July 12 before faltering in fourth as the favorite in the G3 Strensall S. back at the latter track Aug. 23.
Cont. p10



Michael Pegram, Karl Watson, and Paul Weitman's Tiz Midnight

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Farraaj cont.

Sent to Australia, Farraaj last raced in the G1 Mackinnon S. at Flemington Nov. 1 and nearly overcame the 14 hole, finishing 3/4 of a length behind Happy Trails (Aus) (Good Journey) in third.

Prepping for Sunday's G1 Hong Kong Cup, Farraaj was given a solid workout Tuesday beneath Andrea Atzeni, going six furlongs in 1:24.6 with the final



Farraaj HKJC.com

400 meters in :23.5. "He's where we want him to be right now," confirmed Joan Banks, assistant to trainer Roger Varian. "He has been a lot more chilled here than he was in Australia. Over there our other horse seemed to wind him up a

bit, but here, he's settled in with Red Cadeaux (GB) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}) in his barn and is much more relaxed."

Atzeni, visiting Hong Kong on a short-term contract from the HKJC, confirmed, "He's in good form, very calm, and did what I asked of him very nicely today."

In one additional Cup workout on the morning, G1 Australian Derby hero Criterion (NZ) (Sebring {Aus}) finished his preparations by closing off a 1200-meter gallop with a :23.5 final sectional.

"I was happy with that," said trainer David Hayes. "He worked home nicely over the last 400 metres and recovered very quickly from the gallop. He's fit enough. That'll be his final piece of work for the week."

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Buffering, Ambitious Dragon Ailing, 'Lacrima' Out...

Top Australian sprinter **Buffering (Aus)** (Mossman {Aus}) did not appear for morning trackwork Tuesday morning, and news later emerged that the G1 Moir S. winner was nursing a foot abscess, casting at least some doubt on his participation in Sunday's G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint. However, trainer Robert Heathcote tried to allay fears when addressing the media a bit later in the day.

"I was concerned when we arrived at the stables around 7:30 this morning and the horse could hardly put his foot down," the conditioner explained. "But the farrier was there in no time and did a brilliant job. He took the shoe off, found the source of the problem straight away; drained the infected area and the relief for the horse was almost instantaneous."

He continued, "We then gave the hoof a good clean, a good soak and we were walking him again within half an hour. He should be fine and we might even be able to shoe him again this afternoon. I suspect he'd be fine to work [Wednesday], but we might play it safe and work him Thursday morning. We had planned to gallop him this morning on the turf, but working him later in the week is not a problem. No drama, I think he'll be fine." Cont. p11



Buffering at Monday trackwork HKJC.com



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Buffering cont.

Less encouraging was news that former two-time Hong Kong Horse of the Year **Ambitious Dragon (NZ)** (Pins {Aus}) was off in his right front leg as the result of a possible foot infection. The 8-year-old, who has made an admirable comeback from a career-threatening tendon injury and was most recently third to ante-post favorite Able Friend (Aus) (Shamardal) in the G2 Jockey Club Mile Nov. 23, will be monitored over the coming days by HKJC veterinarians.

The Japanese contingent is down to nine horses after **Meiner Lacrima (Jpn)** (Chief Bearhart) pulled up lame following a Tuesday morning workout and was declared from his intended appearance in the G1 Hong Kong Cup.

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A GREAT WIN LOOKS EVEN GREATER

by Pat Cummings

It's one thing to put a horse's performance in perspective immediately following a race, but like much in life, time has a way of revealing the true impact.

On a gorgeous afternoon last December, **Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)** (King Kamehameha {Jpn}) earned his second straight win in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint, and I had chills following his utter demolition. At the time, I thought it was one of the greatest race performances I had ever witnessed. Horses simply don't win Group 1 turf sprints like *that*, I said to my flummoxed self.

Then, 2014 happened. The initial feeling only got better as the year went on.

Eddie Lynam was in Hong Kong for the second time in the last three years, saddling both Sole Power and Slade Power in the Sprint. "Sole" was returning to HK after running ninth in the 2011 edition of the race. "Slade" was making his first voyage outside of the UK or Ireland. On a bus returning to the Wanchai district after one morning's trackwork, we conversed about the race, his chances, and the one overarching question that Lynam could not shake.

"How is that horse," referring to Lord Kanaloa, "rated only 120?"



Lord Kanaloa in a different area code in the 2013 Sprint
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BRIS Speed Ratings

Top Weekly Stakes Races

Horse	Sire	Race	BRIS Speed
Eightfastcatch	Not for Love	Jennings H.	106
Lady Sabelia	Majestic Warrior	Willa On the Move S.	102
Catholic Cowboy	Heatseeker (IRE)	Jewel S.	100
Golden Years	Not for Love	Marylander S.	99
Loverbil	Not for Love	Express S.	99
Saffron Hall	Giant's Causeway	Emerald S.	99
Catalina Red	Munnings	Inaugural S.	98
Atreides	Medaglia d'Oro	Aventura H.	97
J B's Unc	Cactus Ridge	Iron Horse S.	97
Turkish	Istan	Valedictory S.-G3	97
Buster Rose	Pioneering	Canterbury S.	96
Grande Shores	Black Mambo	Rapid Transit S.	96
Nasa	Smarty Jones	Pennsylvania Nursery S.	96
Reaper	Attila's Storm	Johnie L. Jamison H.	96
Tiz Midnight	Midnight Lute	Bayakoa S.-G2	96
Luv Bandit	Yonaguska	Lightning Jet H.	94
Best Behavior	Into Mischief	Glass Slipper S.	91
Lake Sebago	Munnings	Gin Talking S.	91
Jac's Fact	Kentucky Dane	Ruff/Kirchberg Memorial H.	89
R Sassy Lass	Exclusive Quality	Sandpiper S.	89
St. Borealis	War Chant	Tiara S.	89
Kingsport	Milwaukee Brew	Kingarvie S.	88
Omar	Bertrando	KLAQ H.	88

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The number was inconsequential at that point. It was going to take a herculean effort to get close to the son of King Kamehameha. Up to that point in his career, Lord Kanaloa was beaten five times in his career, never by more than a length, and was never out of the top three. He had 12 wins to his credit before this career finale in HK.

The Wednesday prior to the race, standing trackside at Sha Tin, Lord Kanaloa got in a final piece of speed work and glided over the grass. The Hong Kong Jockey Club reported his final 400 meters were timed in :21.50.

Just a few days before the race, that might seem a liberal piece of work, but after one crack of the whip, his exercise rider was motionless, and the defending champion seemed poised for an easy title defense.

In the elaborate barrier draw held in the imposing Sha Tin parade ring, a gasp went up when the hot pot favorite drew out wide in gate 12. It was no trouble for jockey Yasunari Iwata, however. A leading Japanese rider who won the 2006 Melbourne Cup on Delta Blues, Iwata settled wide around the lone turn and allowed Lord Kanaloa to progress to the lead with ease at the 300-meter marker and powerhoused away from the class field, winning by a massive five lengths.

Now, Lord Kanaloa won the 2012 Hong Kong Sprint by 2 1/2 lengths. Sure, that was good. But it really does not hold a candle to his repeat performance in 2013.

The quality of the competition in this field, and what they would go on to do, was mindblowing. **Cont. p12**



Great Win cont.

Second home Sole Power, a G1 Coolmore Nunthorpe S. winner as a juvenile in 2010 and the 2013 G1 King's Stand S. victor would follow his Hong Kong Sprint placing with repeat successes in both races in 2014. He is due to lineup for a third crack at the race this Sunday.

Sterling City was fifth and would go on to win the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen in March. Rich Tapestry (Ire) won the G3 Mahab Al Shimaal S. at Meydan's Super Saturday meeting and later won the GI Santa Anita Sprint Championship on dirt in October.

Seventh-placed Lucky Nine won his second consecutive G1 KrisFlyer International Sprint at the Singapore International Racing Festival in May.

Slade Power was only 10th behind Lord Kanaloa, but came back in 2014 with three group-level wins, including the G1 Diamond Jubilee S. at Royal Ascot, then the G1 Darley July Cup three weeks later at Newmarket.

Eleventh-placed Charles the Great came back in April to win the Sprint Cup at Sha Tin, besting eventual KrisFlyer winner Lucky Nine.

Only twice in stakes company did the great Black Caviar record a victory as wide as Lord Kanaloa's. Take a sampling of the best turf sprints in the world and it is near impossible to find a margin as wide as the one earned at Sha Tin last December. Comb through the



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history of every turf race in the current Global Sprint Challenge Series (which includes the King's Stand, Diamond Jubilee S., Takamatsunomiya Kinen, Sprinters' S., Black Caviar Lightning S., Darley Classic, Darley July Cup, KrisFlyer International

Sprint), plus a few other major Group 1 sprints including the Prix de l'Abbaye.

In the last 20 years, just one horse out of nearly 200 races that fit this profile matched Lord Kanaloa's five-length tour de force (Mayson, 2012 Darley July Cup, on heavy ground). The vast majority did not come close. Said again, horses simply don't run away from Group 1 company in turf sprints and win by five widening lengths. Lord Kanaloa did... easily.

It is understandable why the international panel of handicappers rates performances on their individual merits at the time of the race. The process is consistent and unemotional. But when the final 2013 Longines World's Best Racehorse Rankings (WBRR) were released, Lord Kanaloa's 128 was, somewhat surprisingly, only tied for fifth.

One spot ahead at 129 was Wise Dan, given that mark for his three-length GI Woodbine Mile win in September 2013. He defeated Za Approval, who came back to run second, again, behind Wise Dan in the Breeders' Cup Mile, and was just a two-time Grade III winner. This year, he has a lone overnight stakes win to his credit.

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Third in the Woodbine Mile, Trade Storm--scheduled to run in Sunday's G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile--came back to win the 2014 Woodbine Mile and was third in the GI Breeders' Cup Mile, but was rated at least below 120 as of the WBRR's last publishing. Fourth home, Riding the River, was winless in four starts following the 2013 Woodbine Mile. Dimension, fifth in the race, won a listed stakes at Kentucky Downs in six starts since Wise Dan's win. The last home, Excaper, won an allowance race along with the GI Connaught Cup S. in seven starts since.

Yet, on "in-the-moment" ratings, Wise Dan's performance warranted a higher rating than Lord Kanaloa's near historic win.

In the aftermath of Lord Kanaloa's win, a marching band played the thought-provoking, poetic, and brief, Japanese national anthem, *Kimigayo*.

"May your reign continue for a thousand, no, eight thousand generations, until the pebbles grow into boulders lush with moss."

None of us will be around for more than a few generations, but in our collective time, Lord Kanaloa's win in the 2013 Hong Kong Sprint was definitely one of the best individual races we have ever seen. Time can make the great look even greater.

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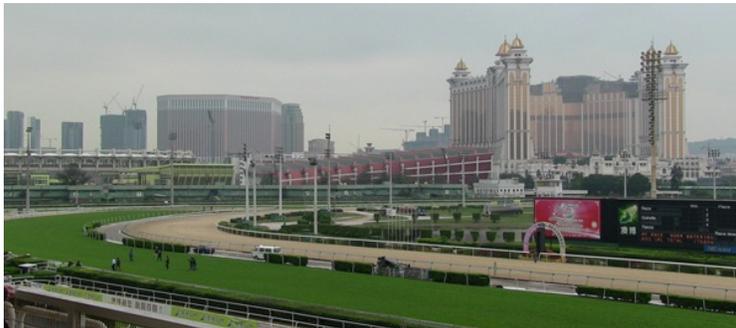
A VISIT TO MACAU'S TAIPA RACECOURSE

Photos and Words by Lucas Marquardt

In 1984, when I was eight, my parents made a trip to Macau to visit a harness racing friend who had gone there to train. They left my brother, sister and me in Seattle with my aunt and uncle. I remember a lot about that trip. I listened to the *Footloose* soundtrack on a pseudo Walkman (made by...Emerson?). My aunt showed me what happens when you put salt on slugs. But I especially remember how far away and alien Macau seemed, like my folks were off visiting Venus.

So I got a big kick out of standing on the second floor of Taipa Racecourse on Saturday, overlooking the same track that our friend Valentine Staker had trained over exactly 30 years ago.

Before settling in at Hong Kong to cover the International Races Dec. 14, I shot over to Macau this past weekend for two nights of fun and racing. A ferry connects the two--a one-way fare will run you about \$17--and the trip only takes an hour from Hong Kong Island.



Taipa, with the Venetian (left) and Galaxy Macau

Macau, if you don't know, is a former Portuguese colony that emerges as a peninsula from the southeast coast of China. It is, along with Hong Kong, one of two "Special Administrative Regions," as termed by China, following Portugal's handover in 1999. ("One country, two systems," has been the principle China has embraced with its two capitalist domains.) By area, Macau isn't all that big--just 12.1 square miles. But with 624,000 living there, it's the most densely populated region in the world.

It isn't for everybody. There are very few Western-style restaurants and almost no pubs (at least in the areas I visited). Certain crosswalks, with no walk signs, and with taxis, mopeds and lorries screaming past, seem only to indicate where a horrific accident will soon take place. Billion-dollar resorts sit next to rundown tenement housing. But if you like casino gambling, and I emphasize the gambling part, this is your place.

One of the reasons horse racing is so popular in Hong Kong is that it's the only game in town when it comes to gambling. It's the exact opposite in Macau. Gambling was legalized here in 1850, and these days, Macau dwarfs Las Vegas's numbers. Macau's gambling revenue in 2013 was \$45 billion, over four times what Las Vegas took in. That leaves horse racing in the shadows of Macau's casinos--figuratively and literally. From Taipa's grandstand, one can see the stately Venetian to the southeast. The \$1.9-billion Galaxy Macau looms closer, with its six massive cupolas covered in 24-carat gold leaf (enough to span 87 soccer fields).

Val's been gone for some time, as has Harness racing in Macau. Converted into a flat track in 1989, Taipa now conducts year-round racing on both dirt and turf. On the day I went, six races were to be held, all on dirt. The purses averaged from US\$25-35,000, not including the day's feature, the \$68,000 Lisboa Sand Challenge. Not Sha Tin, but not terrible. Most of the horses were Australian or New Zealand-breds, and represented sires included Fasnet Rock (Aus) and More Than Ready. **Cont. p14**



Casinos and Tenements

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Taipa cont.

Now, to be fair, Taipa appears to have a proper, well-appointed clubhouse, where, according to one site, “well-heeled ex-pats” and members of the Macau Jockey Club “cheer for their chosen horse.”

But since I'm not a member of the MJC, I was turned away at the entrance of the clubhouse by an irritated guard, who pointed to a much more modest entrance 50 yards away. I walked down to that entrance, where a pleasant Nepalese guard helped me out.

The grandstand at Taipa is, if we're being honest, not in terrific condition. Paint is peeling from the walls in areas. Railings are rusted. Mildew's formed where the concrete has cracked and chipped. At one point, I took the elevator to the fourth floor, just to see what was up there. Nothing but abandoned space, strewn with paper and old office equipment. (I'm guessing track regulars call it The Floor That Must Not Be Named. Or maybe just The Murder-y Place.) I didn't get out of the elevator.

So, it should be said, Floor 2 is where you want to be if you visit. There were maybe 200 or so regulars spread out the length of the grandstand, most filling out betting slips, since tellers here (there were three) don't accept verbal bets. There is a broad upper area by the betting windows, then 15 rows of seating below that leading down to doors that open onto a patio. The patio overlooks the track, as well as the parked cars that occupied the track apron.

The track itself is actually very nice. The sand track sits inside the turf course, and there is a good-sized pond and several types of pines and low bushes lining the backstretch. Beyond that are the hills of Taipa Island--the racecourse sits on this bit of land, connected to Macau by three long bridges--but the horizon is interrupted by huge, orange cranes that spring into view everywhere you look. I counted at least 15; Taipa may look very different in a few years.

As the lone gringo in the crowd, I probably stood out, but no one paid me any mind, except for the Nepalese guard, who would come around every 45 minutes or so to chat. (He was new to the gig, wasn't really fan of horse racing, and when I was filming the track outside with my camcorder, he came out to ask if that was allowed. I shrugged. We decided I could film *outside*, but not *inside*.)

There was one forlorn-looking food stand. A printed sheet of paper taped to cash register listed five options in Chinese. I approached one of the two elderly ladies working there, said, “Chicken?” and she smiled and gave me a heaping serving of chicken, green peppers and onions over rice. We had a harder time with “Diet Coke,” until a fellow handicapper stepped in to help out. “Coke *Zero*,” he corrected. **Cont. p15**



Taipa Finish Line

TDN Video Update



▣ On the Scene in Macau

[A Two-Minute Tour of Macau's Taipa Racecourse](#)

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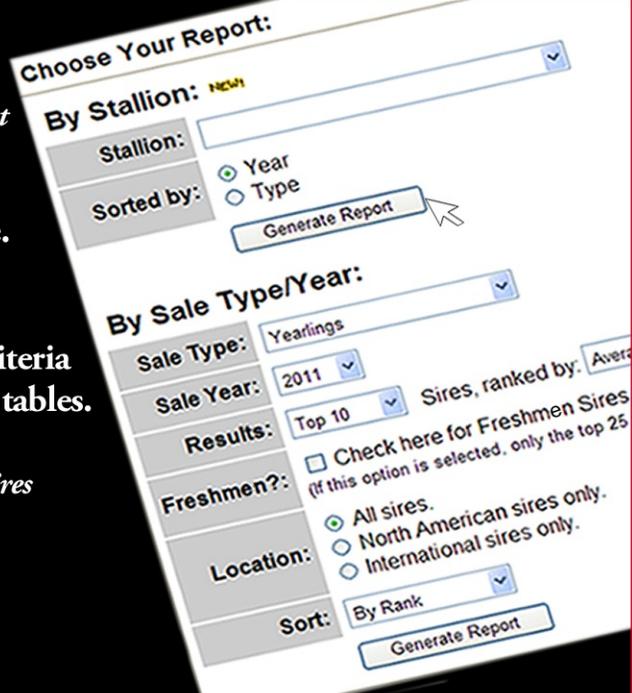
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Taipa cont.

From a betting standpoint, I couldn't track down an English-language racing form, but did okay just handicapping on looks and using the toteboard. Form or not, there was one recognizable name--the young French jockey Ryan Curatolo, who had nearly 200 winners in the States a few years ago, rode several races on the card. It did take me a race or two to learn how to fill out the betting slips, but the young lady at the betting window spoke some English, and after frowning and fixing my ticket, would explain what I did wrong.

The in-track simulcast feed showed one other track, in Malaysia, I believe, and the races were perfectly synchronized. The big video screen on the toteboard showed the Malaysian races, then after a given race went official, switched over to show pre-recorded morning works of the horses about to race at Taipa--a helpful handicapping tool.

I was having a good enough time that after the last race concluded, I stayed around to watch a few more from Malaysia while treating myself to a beer and a bag of peanuts.

Seriously--is there any racetrack in the world that isn't fun to be at? What a sport.

Oh, I almost forgot. The 4-year-old **Healthy Life (Aus)** (Northern Meteor {Aus}), the 2-1 co-favorite, won the Lisboa Dirt Challenge ([video](#)). Didn't mean to leave you hanging! (The victor was produced by a UAE/Darley-bred daughter of the G1 Moyglare S. winner Flamenco Wave, herself purchased as a yearling by Mike Ryan back in 1987.)

Well, that's it for now. Click on the link in the accompanying video box to check out more visuals of the track.



Healthy Life and the Winning Connections

NEWS TODAY

WOODBINE'S LOISELLE TO RETIRE IN MAY

Woodbine track announcer Dan Loisel will call his last race at that track May 31, 2015 after 29 years as a Thoroughbred race caller.

A Scarborough, Ontario native, Loisel started as an assistant racing secretary in the Standardbred division and backup announcer for the the Ontario Jockey Club in 1967. After 17 years announcing Standardbreds, he made the successful switch to Thoroughbreds in 1986 and has been at it ever since.



Dan Loisel
WEG/Michael Burns Photography

"It's been an absolute privilege to announce some of Canada's greatest races," said Loisel. "My family and I owe everything we have to horse racing. I want to thank the racing fans for all the kind things they have said to me over the years, my fellow employees at Woodbine Entertainment and the horse people. We are family here at Woodbine and I have formed friendships that will last a lifetime."

During Loisel's long tenure as the voice of Canadian horse racing, he called five Canadian Triple Crown champions--With Approval (1989), Izvestia (1990), Dance Smartly (1990), Peteski (1993) and Wando (2003). More recently, Loisel called Wise Dan (Wiseman's Ferry)'s second G1 Ricoh Woodbine Mile triumph last September.

"The name Dan Loisel is synonymous with Woodbine Racetrack," said Nick Eaves, Woodbine's President and CEO. "Wherever I travel in North America, racing customers and industry players alike instantly ask about Danny and recount one of his many memorable calls. His distinctive voice and ability to build a race call such that we are all hanging off every word separates him from the rest. Beyond being one of the industry's very best race callers, Danny is a wonderful human being, always putting others ahead of himself."

Loisel has already accumulated more than 55,000 race calls and has called at other race tracks across the continent, including Belmont Park (twice), Churchill Downs, Arlington Park and Monmouth Park. He has also performed master of ceremony duties at Canada's Sovereign Awards.

Added Eaves, "His loyalty to the company and his proud promotion of it at every opportunity make him one of the rare few. Woodbine has benefitted immeasurably from Danny's 47 years of dedicated service. It would be difficult to argue that he hasn't earned his retirement, however his presence will be missed by the entire racing community. Although, everyone who knows Danny knows full well that we will still be hearing from him, just in a different way."

Cont. p16



Loiselle cont.

Loiselle concluded, "It just feels like the right time. In 2015, I'll have worked at Woodbine Entertainment for 48 years. It's time for my family and myself to enjoy our summers, travel this great country of ours, and enjoy some time at the cottage."

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• Dan Loiselle Race Calls •

[Dancethruthedawn's victory in the '01 Queen's Plate](#)

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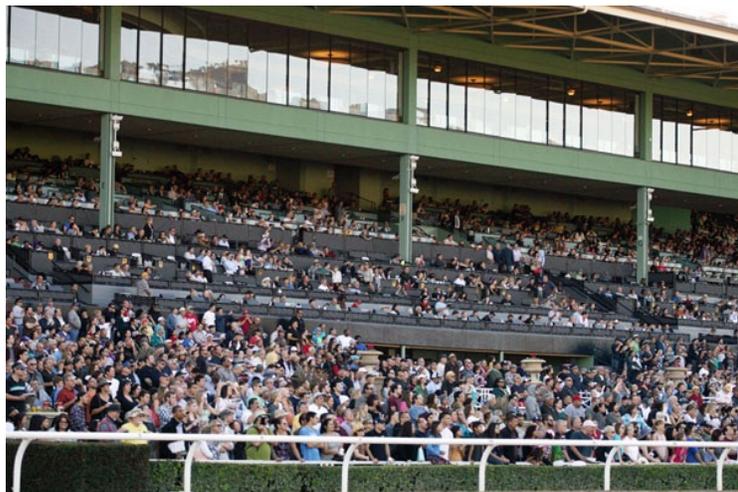
CONTROVERSY AFTER SANTA ANITA INCREASES BOX PRICES *by T.D. Thornton*

Santa Anita Park will be charging a premium to sit in the track's most coveted areas adjacent to the finish line and winner's circle this season, and the notification has rankled longtime clubhouse box holders who feel slighted at both the price increase and the way the changes have been announced and implemented.

Track management counters that the new policies are completely in line with the way premium seating is handled at other venues, and that the changes are based on enhancing the overall experience at Santa Anita, where the best seats in the house sometimes remain vacant for days at a stretch.

Shortly after the Breeders' Cup, subscribers received renewal packets in the mail accompanied by a letter in which Santa Anita president Tom Ludt cited a renewed "emphasis of energy on the finish line" as the primary reason for the repackaging of the box seats at a price that nearly triples the cost to longtime horsemen and customers.

The changes sparked a counter-letter from Thoroughbred Owners of California president Joe Morris that called the move a "flawed and a serious mistake."



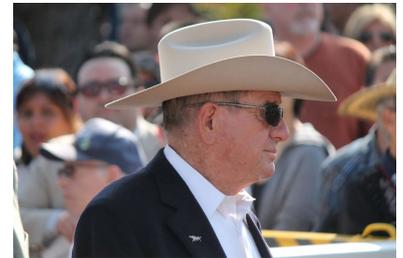
Santa Anita Boxes
Horsephotos

Ludt agreed to meet with several hundred TOC members at a Dec. 3 forum to discuss the changes, but 90 minutes of debate only led to acrimonious accusations of unfairness on the part of the Stronach Group, which owns Santa Anita.

Ben Bollinger, who has subscribed to a five-seat Section A clubhouse box for the last 40 seasons as both a horse owner and a racing fan, said he was asked by a group of trainers to articulate their concerns at the meeting.

"I'd have to say it was the largest meeting I've ever seen at Santa Anita in all my years there," Bollinger said. "Please believe me when I tell you, in my case and for all the box-holders around me, it has nothing to do with money. It was the way they approached it and what they said in that letter. This is absolutely wrong. It's a situation where a corporate structure takes advantage of the people who have supported it all these years, and I will not be part of it."

Bruce Headley, who has been training since 1959 and for decades has been invited to sit in a finish-line box that descendants of noted owner Ray Bell have owned for three generations, called the changes "a kick in the head," adding that Santa Anita has "alienated all the horsemen and all the people that put on the races."



Bruce Headley
Horsephotos

Ludt said he was dismayed that his attempts to have a back-and-forth dialogue with the box holders disintegrated into repeated demands for Santa Anita to abandon the price increases, and that other accommodations the track is willing to make have been drowned out in the discord.

"We're trying to eliminate the perception that we're chasing people away," Ludt said. "I mean, that's the last thing that we're trying to accomplish. It's impossible in a letter, it's impossible at a meeting, and it's impossible even in this article to completely cover all this. But the emphasis is this: We've put a ton of money into our facility because we're gambling on putting the excitement back into at-the-track racing. We feel we really need to emphasize for those that come, we want them to sit in the best seats in the house."

To understand why the repackaging went into effect, it is important to note that Bollinger, Headley and Ludt all agree on one matter: With the exception of about eight or 10 important days in the racing season, attendance in the box seats is embarrassingly sparse.

"I'm not joking. Sometimes on Thursdays and Fridays there are only six or eight of us there in the entirety of sections A and B," Bollinger said. **Cont. p17**



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Santa Anita Boxes cont.

"We've got arguably the best seats in America in terms of the [mountain] view and viewing the races," Ludt said. Since taking over as the track's president last April, he has been trying to come up with solutions as to why these coveted seats remain empty. "We want the energy on a Thursday and Friday to be right there at the winner's circle. If you've got five or six thousand people there, why scatter them among 40,000 seats?"

One reason the best seats in the house go unused, Ludt said, is that the price point has traditionally been low enough to encourage subscriptions, but not high enough to make box-holders think they are giving up something of value if they decide not to come.

"If you hold season tickets at the Lakers in the lower level, the days you don't go, you give you tickets away because you want someone to sit there," Ludt said. "I'm not saying we're the L.A. Lakers, but we want you to feel the same way. If you're going to buy your box and you're not going to come, try to give your tickets away so somebody will be sitting in that box."

Ludt explained that under the new plan, there will be three tiers of subscriptions: Five-seat finish-line boxes have risen from roughly \$3,750 to \$9,375. Box-holders who don't want to pay the increase have the option of moving to "premium" boxes between the sixteenth pole and the wire (\$5,250) or boxes at the sixteenth pole for the same \$3,750 they were previously paying to sit at the wire. He noted that unlike most other tracks, these costs include the price of admission, and there is no mark-up for special days during the 130-day season.

Ludt said that by way of comparison, when he was president of Vinery Farm, he had to endure a waiting list to purchase a non-finish wire box at Saratoga, where the cost was \$7,200 for a 40-day meet.

Ludt also pointed out that many box holders are unaware of other accommodations Santa Anita is offering. Even if subscribers don't re-up, the track is offering everyone who previously owned a finish line box to have their old seats for the Dec. 26 Opening Day card for just \$50, the same price point at which Santa Anita will be selling the boxes to walk-ups during the remainder of the season.

And there are additional perks. Approximately 25 of the 78 finish line boxes will be retained for horsemen, who get first privilege on those seats 72 hours in advance of race days for \$50. Also, Santa Anita is keeping the very front row of section A boxes—about 12 boxes total—available for free to horsemen who just walk up and show their credentials to the usher on a first-come basis.

"So if you only come 10 times, and you're a regular horse owner, I've just saved you a lot of money," Ludt said. "It's just not going to have your name on the box and you won't be in the exact same spot every time you come."

Bollinger said he appreciates the track's desire to infuse energy into the box seats, but still thinks Santa Anita could have gone about it differently.

"Many of us stood up and gave them some ideas of what we thought could be done, and it was like what we said fell on deaf ears," Bollinger said. "They are not interested. They will not listen. They are going to do this whether we like it or not. It's imperative for them to understand that not only do we come to the races, but that we bring many new guests to the races. Our point was, why don't you let us help you get done what you wish to get done? They were not interested in that. It's really a sad commentary on what's happened since Frank Stronach came in."

Headley rattled off the names of horsemen who will not be renewing their box seating, and the list sounded like a Who's Who of California racing. Ludt admitted that so far, only about 50% of the finish line box holders have re-upped.

"People don't realize we've put \$3.5 million dollars into that area to renovate it. That does come with it," Ludt said. "You start putting money into [improving premium seating] and everybody expects it to be perfect, yet they don't want to pay for it. Our emphasis is, we want those seats occupied."

"This is where I get so frustrated of being accused of being arrogant. We believe that what we're doing is right, so I have to be proud. We think we've got to grind it out. It's not going to be easy. We're not saying we've got it all figured out, but we're going to try our damndest. Everyone says, 'Well Tom, nobody [among casual fans] wants those seats. But the last 10 years we haven't owned them, so we don't know that. Once we start marketing them and [if] people don't come, then you might be right. But give me a year or two to try.'"

Bollinger said that some of his friends have gone ahead and paid the price increase to keep their seats "because it's their whole social base." But he won't. For the first time in 38 years, he plans not to attend Opening Day.

"It really breaks my heart that it happened. But I'm 76, so maybe it's time to go in another direction," Bollinger said.

Ludt admitted he's put himself under the gun to make sure his new seating plan does not backfire.

"There's no doubt about it. Truthfully, yes, there's pressure," Ludt said. "But we've got to be realistic. We'll market them, we'll push them. But I'm going to be very cautious the first few months about making sure that when [former] season box-holders want a box for the day, I'm going to make sure they get one."



Tom Ludt



RACETRACK ROUND-UP

Sale Toppers Work for Pletcher...

Monday marked the first appearance of a pair of Todd Pletcher-trained sale-topping juvenile colts on the worktab at Palm Beach Downs. While the Malibu Moon--Lizzy's Bluff colt, a \$1.2-million Fasig-Tipton



Giant's Causeway--Dixie Dreamer colt
Louise Reinagel

Florida purchase (:10 flat breeze); and the Giant's Causeway--Dixie Dreamer colt who topped Barretts March at \$1.15 million (:9 4/5 breeze) are still developing, Pletcher says his initial impressions of each are favorable.

"We like them both. They're obviously two well-bred, good-looking horses," said the six-time Eclipse Award-winning trainer.

"There's been some typical baby stuff that's held them up a little bit, but both are very impressive-moving horses based on the little bit of work they've done so far."

Pletcher noted that the colts, both purchased by Coolmore representative Demi O'Byrne, have been in his barn for about 45 days at Palm Beach Downs and have trained over the surface in recent weeks. On Monday, the tandem breezed three furlongs in :37.60.

"[Monday] was their first published work but they've been gate-schooling and such," Pletcher noted. "They're a little further along than the worktab would suggest."

Pletcher kicked off opening weekend of Gulfstream Park's Championship Meet in style, winning the first race Saturday and saddling the winning exacta in Sunday's seventh race, a seven-furlong maiden contest for 2-year-olds. Starlight Racing's first-time starter **Itsaknockout** (Lemon Drop Kid), a \$350,000 FTSAUG yearling, prevailed by a nose over **Old Mountain Lane** (War Front), who went for \$520,000 at EASMAY earlier this year.

"We'll probably run Itsaknockout back in a two-turn allowance race in a month or so," offered Pletcher. "We feel like he's a colt who should appreciate some added distance and he trained very well prior to his maiden race."

Old Mountain Lane, making his second career start for E.H. Beau Lane and Bortolazzo Stable LLC, unleashed a late rally to nearly catch his stablemate on the wire. Pletcher says he sees longer races in the colt's future.

"Old Mountain Lane will stretch out as well in a maiden race and build from there."

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SALES NEWS

MONTMARTRE SHARE TOPS ARQANA CLOSER

The stallion prospect **Montmartre (Fr)** (Montjeu {Ire}--Artistique {Ire}, by Linamix {Fr}) was hammered down for €180,000 to Ghislain Bozo's Meridian International SARL to top Tuesday's final session of the Arqana December Sales. Racing for His Highness the Aga Khan, Montmartre won his maiden at second asking, but was unplaced behind Vision d'Etat (Fr) (Chichicastenango {Fr}) in the G1 Prix du Jockey Club. He bounced back to annex the G3 Prix du Lys less than three weeks later and concluded his brief career with a four-length success in the G1 Grand Prix de Paris. Montmartre previously stood at Haras du Pin. "We are delighted to have secured Montmartre as he's already shown that he can produce good horses," Ghislain Bozo told *Racing Post*. "The plan now is for him to stand at Anthony Baudouin's Haras de Hoguenet." From only small crops, Montmartre has been represented by Amour a Papa (Fr), second by a length to Avenir Certain (Fr) (Le Havre {Fr}) in this year's G1 Prix de Diane.

Statistically, this year's December Sales held up well with those of 2013. Turnover of €27.1 million represented a slight increase over last year, while the average price advanced by 4.2%. The median figure of €17,000 was a 30.8% rise from 2013.



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ARQANA DECEMBER MIXED SALE

<u>CUMULATIVE</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Catalogued	976	954
No. Offered	871	846
No. Sold	675	686
RNAs	196	160
% RNAs	22.5%	18.9%
Gross	€27,107,000	€26,430,000
Average (% change)	€40,159 (+4.2%)	€38,528
Median (% change)	€17,000 (+30.8%)	€13,000



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Yesterday's Results:

5th-PRX, \$44,616, Msw, 2yo, 7f, 1:26 1/5, sy.
CAT FIFTYFIVE (c, 2, [Tale of the Cat](#)--Chemise, by Secret Hello) finished fourth behind next out GII Saratoga Special S. winner I Spent It (Super Saver) in his five-panel Belmont unveiling July 2 and was subsequently shelved. Bet down to 3-5 for this return, the gray pressed from second right on the heels of the pacesetter through a first quarter in :23.82. Seizing control at the half, Cat Fiftyfive splashed home a decisive 5 3/4-length victor over Unrivaled (Super Saver). The winner is a half to Miss Lombardi (Unbridled Jet), SW, \$301,670; Coquettish (Not For Love), SW, \$192,503; and Hello Lover (Not For Love), MSP, \$451,255. Sales history: \$185,000 yrl '13 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$30,150. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).**

O-Matthew Schera. B-Corner Farm & John T Behrendt (VA). T-James L Lawrence II.

Purchased by Ghost Bloodstock/Jake Ballis

Florida

Florida Sire Stakes Increases Purses to \$4 Million:

Edited Press Release

There will be significant changes in the Florida Sire Stakes Program to be run at Gulfstream Park in 2015, as agreed upon by the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' and Owners' Association, Gulfstream Park and the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. There will be \$600,000 in purse increases to the FSS races run for 2-year-olds, plus the addition of two divisions of three races for each sex in the 3-year-old ranks with purses totaling \$900,000.

The 2015 FSS for juveniles will be made up of the \$200,000 Desert Vixen and the \$200,000 Dr. Fager S., the \$300,000 Susan's Girl and \$300,000 Affirmed S. while the My Dear Girl and the In Reality S. will offer purses of \$500,000 each. The distances for each of the juvenile races will remain the same as will the time of year for each race.

The sophomores will be running in the yet to be named first, second and third legs with all six races offering \$150,000 purses. The first legs will be run at seven furlongs on the main track, the second legs at a mile on turf and the third legs at 1 1/16 miles on dirt.

"This is a very good thing," said FTBOA president George Russell. "The FSS for Florida-breds is an important program administered by the FTBOA. The recent running of our modified FSS program this past season at Gulfstream clearly showed that there is a growing enthusiasm for it. It can only have a positive impact for our members, stallions, sales and Florida-bred racing in our Sunshine State."

INDUSTRY INFO

Medication Reforms Make Progress in 2014:

The Racing Medication and Testing Consortium and the Association of Racing Commissioners International have made strides this past year in developing and adopting model rules in their part as regulators in multiple jurisdictions. "Throughout 2014, the RMTC staff has traveled extensively and spent innumerable hours consulting with state regulators and others to assist in the full implementation of these new model rules that are so important to the safety and integrity of horse racing," said Dr. Dionne Benson, executive director of the RMTC. "We thank all of those who have worked in good faith to accomplish an unprecedented level of uniformity in 2014, and look forward to continuing the effort in 2015 and beyond."

By 2015, racing states operating under the Controlled Therapeutic Medication Schedule are slated to increase from four to 16 and the number of horse racing states using RMTC-accredited labs for equine drug and medication testing will increase from six to 23. States requiring third-party Lasix administration will also increase from 13 to at least 16 by 2015. "We are very encouraged by the industry's willingness to embrace reform and urge all horse racing jurisdictions in the United States to adopt the reforms in their entirety without further delay," said Alex Waldrop, chairman of the RMTC and president and CEO of the NTRA.

ROOKIES

First-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, December 10

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2011 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*
ESKENDEREYA (Giant's Causeway), Taylor Made, \$18K, 104/6/0
 3-GP, Msw, 1m, Eskenformoney, \$225K KEE SEP yrl, 1-1
HONEST MAN (Unbridled's Song), Red River Farms, \$2K, 171/1/0
 6-DED, Msw, 1m, Getcha Mind Rite, \$25K OBS OPN 2yo, 5-1
IT'S A BIRD (Birdonthewire), 14/0/0
 2-PEN, Msw, 1m, Nancy Pants, 12-1
LOOKIN AT LUCKY (Smart Strike), Ashford Stud, \$15K, 100/24/3
 6-DED, Msw, 1m, Lucky Stranger, \$85K KEE SEP yrl, 3-2
MAJESTICPERFECTION (Harlan's Holiday), Airdrie Stud, \$10K, 79/18/0
 2-PEN, Msw, 1m, Let's Go Vegan, \$190K RNA KEE SEP yrl, 2-1
SUMMER BIRD (Birdstone), Japan, \$15K, 93/8/0
 8-DED, Alw, 5f, Limeade, \$35K EAS MAY 2yo, 2-1

First/second-crop starters to watch: Weds., December 10

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2010 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*
JUSTAWALKINTHEPARK (Ecton Park), 4/0/0
 3-CT, Msw, 4 1/2f, +Walkwithmysista, 12-1
NOONMARK (Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York, \$5K, 90/18/2
 3-GP, Msw, 1m, +Tzi Our Destiny, \$15K OBS OPN 2yo, 20-1

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IN BRITAIN:

Bognor, g, 3, [Hard Spun](#)--Ms. Blue Blood, by A.P. Indy. SWL, 12-9, 8f (AWT). 1:43.67. B-Klawervlei Stud (Pty) Ltd (KY). *\$30,000 yrl '12 KEESEP; 38,000gns RNA 2yo '13 TATAPR. **1/2 to Crazy About Me (Lawyer Ron), SP-US, \$123,873.

IN FRANCE:

Sierra Luna, f, 3, [Hat Trick \(Jpn\)](#). See "Breeders' Edition Europe."

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Eye Say Who Dey, c, 2, [Bluegrass Cat](#)--Radiant Avie (SW, \$148,103), by Lord Avie. Seoul, 12-6, Cond. (\$63k), 1300m. B-SJ Stables (KY). *\$12,000 wnlg '12 KEENOV; \$30,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

Consigned by **de Meric Sales**

Pearl Shine, c, 2, [Discreet Cat](#)--Ivy Summer, by Summer Squall. Seoul, 12-7, Maiden (\$45k), 1200m. B-Carlos & Tara Tobon (FL). *\$23,000 yrl '13 OBSAUG; \$20,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

Yeongung Champ, c, 2, [More Than Ready](#)--Word of Mouth, by Saint Ballado. Busan, 12-7, Maiden (\$36k), 1000m. B-The Robert & Beverly Lewis Trust (KY). *\$12,000 yrl '13 KEESEP. **Runner-up on his Oct. 31 debut, the colt demolished his rivals by 10 lengths at second asking at odds of 1-10. [VIDEO](#).

+ **Cheon Gu**, c, 2, [Old Fashioned](#)--So Much Fun, by Speightstown. Seoul, 12-6, Maiden (\$45k), 1200m. B-Capistrano Bloodstock LLC (NY). *\$11,000 yrl '13 FTNAUG; \$25,000 2yo '14 FTMMAY.

Sold by **Sequel** STALLIONS NY

Gangho Daese, f, 2, [Read the Footnotes](#)--Royal Conquest, by Conquistador Cielo. Seoul, 12-6, Cond. (\$45k), 1000m. B-Hidden Lake Farm LLC & Spirit Horse Farm Inc (NY). *\$7,500 RNA yrl '13 OBSJAN; \$30,000 2yo '14 OBSJUN.

sold by **SEQUEL BLOODSTOCK**

Kwaesok Jilpung, g, 2, [With Distinction](#)--Eva's Way, by Dixie Union. Seoul, 12-7, Cond. (\$56k), 1400m. B-Buddy Jones (FL). *\$30,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

Black Box, c, 3, [High Cotton](#)--Royal Cadence, by Rhythm. Busan, 12-7, Cond. (\$51k), 1300m. B-Cheryl Janine & James Patrick McGuire (FL). *\$37,000 wnlg '11 OBSOCT; \$85,000 yrl '12 OBSAUG; \$30,000 2yo '13 OBSJUN.

Purchased & Consigned by **de Meric Sales**

Fly Top Queen, f, 4, [Henny Hughes](#)--Cape Discovery, by Cape Town. Seoul, 12-6, Hcp. (\$87k), 1400m. B-Brandywine Farm (KY). *\$30,000 yrl '11 FTKOCT; \$225,000 2yo '12 OBSAPR. **SW-Kor. ***The most expensive horse ever imported into Korea, Fly Top Queen snapped a three-race skid with a four-length victory under top weight. Sent off the 9-2 fourth choice as a result of her recent inconsistency, Fly Top Queen caught a flyer at the start and crossed over from gate 12 to lead fairly easily. The filly was always full of run, widened in upper stretch and easily defeated second favorite Bichui Jeongsang (Wildcat Heir). In winning for the seventh time from 13 starts, Fly Top Queen took her career earnings to over \$406,000. [VIDEO](#).

Congratulations to the Connections! **Brandywine Farm (Jim & Pam Robinson)**

Jeongsang Nuri, g, 4, [Pleasantly Perfect](#)--Gold 'N Sugar (MSP, \$226,428), by Java Gold. Seoul, 12-7, Hcp. (\$70k), 1400m. B-Robert C Baker & Sugar Maple Farm (NY). *\$19,000 RNA yrl '11 FTNAUG; \$20,000 2yo '12 OBSJUN. **1/2 to Erin Enchanted (Lion Heart), SP, \$164,884.

sold by **SEQUEL BLOODSTOCK**

IN SINGAPORE:

Royal Ruler, g, 2, [Roman Ruler](#)--Weekend Star, by Confide. Kranji, 12-7, Initiation Race (\$49k), 1200m (AWT). B-Roman Ruler Syndicate & TCR Ranch (KY). *\$11,500 wnlg '12 KEENOV; \$35,000 yrl '13 FTKJUL. [VIDEO](#).

Boutte Purchased & Training Graduate

Consigned by **Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency**

Golden Brilliant, g, 3, [Mr. Greeley](#)--Lipstick Sunset, by Maria's Mon. Kranji, 12-7, Hcp. (\$60k), 1100m (AWT). B-Trackside Farm, Tenlane Farm & Oratis (KY). *\$25,000 yrl '12 KEESEP.

IN PERU:

Sweet Nana, f, 3, [Candy Ride \(Arg\)](#)--Countess Peggy, by Fusaichi Pegasus. Monterrico, 12-7, Cond., 1000mT. B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY). *\$20,000 yrl '12 KEESEP.

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Don Pascuale, c, 3, [Heatseeker \(Ire\)](#)--Quicaria, by Unbridled's Song. Monterrico, 12-7, Cond., 1000mT. B-Bridlewood Farm (FL). *\$14,500 yrl '12 KEEJAN.

Nagla, f, 3, [Street Boss](#)--Fly Borboleta (GSP, \$247,403), by Pulpit. Monterrico, 12-7, Cond., 1300m. B-Windhaven Farms Ltd (ON). *\$45,000 yrl '12 KEEJAN; \$20,000 yrl '12 KEESEP. **Full to Bosco, SW.

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By Winners/
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#3

(TIED)
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Horses

#4

By Average
Earnings/Runner

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Yesterday's Result:

2nd-SWL, £4,500, Mdn, 2yo, 8f (AWT), 1:43.72, ft. + **WELD AL EMARAT (GB)** (c, 2, [Dubawi {Ire}](#)--Spirit of Dubai {Ire} {SW-Eng}, by Cape Cross {Ire}) recovered from a sluggish exit to stalk a steady pace trapped wide after the initial stages of this unveiling. Tanking to the front on the bridle at the top of the three-furlong straight, the 4-1 joint-second choice was stoked up approaching the final eighth and kept on well under mild urging from there to resist the tenacious bid of even-money chalk Reetaj (GB) (Medicean {GB}) by a half length. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £2,911. [VIDEO, courtesy attheraces.com](#).
O-Ahmad Abdulla Al Shaikh. B-Rabbah Bloodstock Ltd (GB). T-Kevin Ryan.

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-PRX, \$35,890, NW2BX, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:26 4/5, sy.
SEA SHADOW (f, 3, Jump Start--Evening Shadows, by Dixieland Band) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-4, \$122,226. O-Ben & Mary Colebrook. B-John Bonziglia & Ben & John Colebrook (PA). T-Ben Colebrook. *\$17,000 RNA yrl '12 FTKJUL. **Raced without Lasix.

Hidden Brook Sales Graduate

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BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

7th-MPV, €18,000, 2yo, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:30.90, ft. **BYBURG (FR)** (f, 2, Sageburg {Ire}--By the Best {Fr}, by King's Best) Lifetime Record: 8 starts, 2 wins, 5 places, €26,200. O-Arnaud de Seyssel, Jacques Ravier, Jean-Louis Valerien Perrin, Thierry Ravier & Jean-Claude Ravier. B-Ecurie D (Fr). T-Philippe Decouz. *€8,000 RNA yrl '13 ARQNOV.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

San Marcos (Ire), c, 2, [Alfred Nobel \(Ire\)](#)--Maclura (GB), by Observatory. CAP, 12-9, 8fT, 1:46.97. B-Dalila Dolfi (Ire). *€10,000 yrl '13 ITYSEP. **Eighth individual winner for first-season sire (by Danehill Dancer {Ire}).
Tadai (GB), f, 3, [Dai Jin \(GB\)](#)--Taita (Ger) (MSP-Ger), by Big Shuffle. NEU, 12-9, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:35.48. B-Gestut Hachtsee (GB). *1/2 to Tai Chi (Ger) (High Chaparral {Ire}), Hwt. 2yo Colt & GSW-Ger, G1SP-Fr, \$332,841.
Sierra Luna, f, 3, [Hat Trick \(Jpn\)](#)--Sarluna, by Unbridled's Song. MPV, 12-9, 13f (AWT), 2:47.30. B-Dream With Me Stable Inc (ON). *\$55,000 RNA yrl '12 FTKOCT.

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- ON THE WORKTAB •
GOLDEN GATE FIELDS
Shared Belief (Candy Ride {Arg}), 6f(AW), 1:14.20, 1/1
GULFSTREAM PARK
Silver Speight (Speightstown), 5f, 1:01.71, 4/13
SANTA ANITA
Dortmund (Curlin), 5f, 1:00.80, 7/18

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