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SIRE FUTURE BET A POSSIBILITY FOR 2015

By T.D. Thornton

The Kentucky Horse Racing Commission has approved a new wager that allows horseplayers to bet on which stallion will sire the winner of the Kentucky Derby.

Churchill Downs officials are still debating whether the future bet will debut in time for the 2015 running of the track's signature race.

Although the primary purpose of the Derby Sire Wager is to generate betting handle and stimulate fan



Big Brown, the sire of Dortmund, current Derby Future Book favorite
Dutchess View Farm photo

interest months in advance of the race, some industry officials envision that the new bet could have positive marketing implications for bloodstock operations because of the increased media attention top-level stallions will receive during the heart of the breeding season.

"It's certainly very intriguing," said Dan Metzger, president of

the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. "It heightens awareness of the breeding industry, which I think is a very positive sign. The stallion marketing game has changed dramatically over the past couple of decades. It's a competitive marketplace, especially with new stallions, and everybody's always looking at how to get their stallion out there beyond traditional advertising means."

Bets involving winning sires could be a natural tie-in for the Breeders' Cup, especially considering that the KHRC has jurisdiction over Keeneland Race Course, the site of the 2015 Breeders' Cup Championships.

"It's an interesting concept," said Ken Kirchner, lead consultant for the wagering and simulcasting operations of the Breeders' Cup. "We haven't discussed it internally at the Breeders' Cup yet, so I think it's a little early to say what the reaction would be. If Churchill implements it, we'd be very curious to see what the results of that type of future wager would be. It's certainly a unique way to place a bet, and I'll be very interested to see what happens."

Lindsey Flora, deputy executive director of the KHRC, confirmed that the Derby Sire Wager passed "with no modifications to the initial request" at the Dec. 2 commission meeting. Flora said that the request was "track-specific," and that if Keeneland wanted to implement a similar wager for the Breeders' Cup, it would have to file a separate request. **cont. p3**

BILL PREVENTS HORSE SLAUGHTER IN US UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2015

by Mike Kane

The \$1.1 trillion spending bill passed by the U.S. Senate on Saturday will prevent any horse slaughter plants from re-opening in this country for at least another year.

The omnibus appropriations bill does not provide any funding for the Department of Agriculture to pay personnel to inspect plants. Equine slaughterhouses are not permitted by law to operate without inspectors. The bill covers the fiscal year that ends on Sept. 30, 2015, but international equestrian and philanthropist, Victoria McCullough, the president of Chesapeake Petroleum, said that by being part of a continuing resolution, it will stay in effect at least through the next presidential election. McCullough has been leading the fight against horse slaughter for several years through a lobbying effort in Congress, and received the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's Earle Mack-TRF Champion Award in 2014 for her efforts.

"We're safe until 2016, until the tenure of this administration," she said. "I won't really be too worried about that because by then I will have the legislation that will end us from sending horses to slaughter anyway." McCullough said that the move to defund the Department of Agriculture for slaughterhouse inspection took place in 2013 because there were a total of three pending permits for facilities in New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wyoming. **cont. p6**



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SUPER SAVER	4, 4, 6
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Pedigree Insights

This week, Andrew Caulfield looks at the lineage of G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile winner Able Friend (Aus) (Shamardal) and the success of Ashford sire Giant's Causeway.

Page 8



rorymcilroy

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Had the most fascinating day at Ballydoyle and Coolmore stud today. When I die I wouldn't mind coming back as this guy!! #Galileo

Photo Courtesy Rory McIlroy Instagram

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NORTH AMERICAN NEWS

Sire Future Bet a Possibility for 2015 *(cont. from p1)*

According to an informational memo that was part of the commissioners' packet for that meeting, Churchill requested win and exacta wagering on a pool of 23 individual sires, with a 24th "mutuel field" betting interest encompassing all other stallions. The bet is



Tapit
Gainesway photo

styled after the existing Derby and Oaks future pools, with the twist that a Derby Sire Wager is valid for all registered offspring of a particular sire in that year's foal crop.

"So for example, if you gamble on the offspring of Tapit, and his leading son [being pointed for the Derby] goes by the

wayside, you've got all the other sons of Tapit still alive in your bet," said Darren Rogers, Churchill's senior director of communications.

"We're still discussing internally whether or not it will debut in advance of the 2015 Derby or whether we table it for the 2016 renewal," Rogers said. "We're still discussing whether or not we launch this maybe sometime in January."

Rogers said the genesis of the Derby Sire Wager came about when track officials were brainstorming ideas to broaden the window of time in which horseplayers focus on the Derby. Churchill at first considered future bets involving picking the winning Derby jockey or trainer, but Rogers said that those wagers carried a risk of confusion because the human connections of top horses can change.

Rogers said staff members believed betting on the Derby winner's sire had a lot of upside because the stallion doesn't change, the top sires are recognizable to the general public, and bettors have a chance to win with multiple horses represented by one sire.

"Most of the people who play the Kentucky Derby Future Wager are savvy horseplayers," Rogers said. "The challenge for us is to find the best way to communicate a field of 23 individual sires as to the quality of their offspring and present that into a program-page format. We're leaning towards one pool, one that does not coincide with the individual Derby Future Wager. We want it to stand alone. We don't want to make it confusing."

As an advance bet, the Derby Sire Wager opens up myriad wagering scenarios: A player could make bets on individual Derby Future pool contenders while hedging with Derby Sire Wagers, or vice versa. *cont. p4*

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Sire Future Bet a Possibility for 2015 cont.

At the same time, the Sire Wager introduces an element of historical familiarity: A bettor might recall cashing a wager on a horse in a previous Derby, and want to back its offspring as a way of rooting for that same horse as a sire.

“We don’t know what it will do,” Rogers said. “Will people lean toward established stallions or will they seek value with up-and-coming sires? Ideally, I do think it’s a wager that works six months out of the Derby as opposed to closer to it.”

Rogers said one of the questions asked by the commissioners was who would be deciding on which sires are represented, and that Churchill reported it would be their “usual committee” that included Rogers, director of racing Ben Huffman, vice president of communications John Asher, and director of programming Jill Byrne.

“It sounds for me like an absolute win-win for everybody involved, whether you’re a fan, or Churchill Downs, or whether you’re the breeding industry.” Metzger said. “I would applaud Churchill Downs for being innovative and coming up with a cross-promotion between racing and the breeders. I think it’s a great tie-in.”

Although the bloodstock industry relies a great deal upon traditional methods to market stallions, farms have shown flexibility in how they advertise their sires’ accomplishments in recent years. One example is the inclusion of speed figures in stallion advertisements. Once unheard of, citing a horse’s triple-digit Beyer Figure prowess is now routine.

Could advertisements that tout how strongly horses are backed in the Derby Sire Wager be far behind?

“I can see that,” said Dan Pride, chief operating officer for Darley America. “Obviously it’s more powerful if they’re the Derby-winning sire. But if there is a short price on them as a stallion in that future bet, then most likely they’ll be represented by multiple runners, and that would be a good thing for your stallion.”

Metzger said to imagine for a moment what the buzz about the Derby Sire Wager might have meant to Harris Farms of California had this type of bet been offered in the spring of 2014.

“If you’re Harris Farms, standing Lucky Pulpit, what great recognition for a farm in California that often gets overshadowed by the great Kentucky powerhouses,” Metzger said. “Here’s an obscure son of Pulpit standing out in California, and all of a sudden California Chrome brings him this great notoriety.”

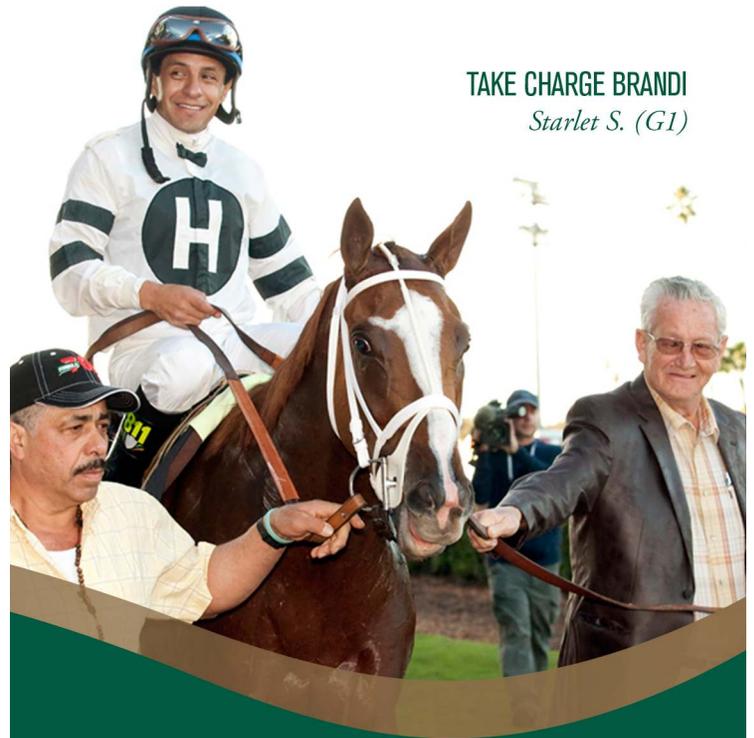
But the prospect of advance publicity only applies if a stallion is included as one of the 23 individual sires and is not relegated to the mutuel field.

If Churchill goes with only a single pool for the Derby Sire Wager, there won’t be updates throughout the winter and spring to the betting interests as there are with the Derby Future pools.

“Last year, I’m fairly confident that if we had this wager, the field would have won,” Rogers said. “I don’t think six months out, we would have had Lucky Pulpit as one of the individual 23 betting interests.”

TAKING CHARGE IN THE ECLIPSE AWARD RACE

TAKE CHARGE BRANDI
Starlet S. (G1)



Willis Horton’s TAKE CHARGE BRANDI capped off a terrific season in winning the Starlet Stakes (G1), cementing her status as leading candidate for the Two-Year-Old Filly Eclipse Award and increasing her career earnings to \$1,620,126.

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Sire Future Bet a Possibility for 2015 cont.

But a larger operation like Darley might expect to be represented in the Derby Sire Wager with multiple stallions far in advance of the race. At No. 5, Ocho Ocho (Street Sense) is currently the highest-ranked prospect on the Road to the Derby points list that is sired by a Darley stallion.

“Any time a stallion can be associated with the Kentucky Derby, it’s a good thing,” said Pride. “Anything that can create interest around what we do on the stallion farms, we’re all for it.”

But it might take a while before the Derby Sire Wager catches on as a marketing tool with other bloodstock operations.

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STALLION	2015 FEE
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ENGLISH CHANNEL (Smart Strike)	\$25,000
OXBOW (Awesome Again)	\$17,500
RED ROCKS (IRE) (Galileo {Ire})	\$12,500
MUSKETIER (GER) (Acatenango {Ger})	\$7,500
POINT GIVEN (Thunder Gulch)	\$7,500
RAISON D'ETAT (A.P. Indy)	\$7,500
SNAPY HALO (ARG) (Southern Halo)	\$7,500
READY'S IMAGE (More Than Ready)	\$5,000
Ireland	
AMERICAIN (Dynaformer)	TBD
GREY SWALLOW (IRE) (Daylami {Ire})	TBD
Canada-Colebrook Farm	
Eye of the Leopard (A.P. Indy)	\$5,000
Arkansas-Trophy Club Training Center	
Hightail (Mineshaft)	\$2,500
Florida-Bridlewood Farm	
Aikenite (Yes It's True)	\$5,000
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Bill Prevents Horse Slaughter in US Until September 2015 (cont. from p1)

While working on a bill that would have bi-partisan support to keep any equine slaughterhouses from operating in the U.S. and prevent the exportation of horses for slaughter, the defunding approach was adopted as a short-term solution to the problem. She said that Vice President Joseph Biden decided to use the Department of Agriculture's budget as a way to prevent the plants from re-opening and then asked for the support of the Senate's leaders.

"It was the vice-president's idea and was inserted by him," McCullough said. "He was the only one who could get Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell to approve. This is solely the vice-president, who is the greatest animal lover. He's the most amazing person."

McCullough said Monday that she has been involved in saving more 9,000 horses from being sold for slaughter and is determined to have federal legislation adopted that will effectively stop the exporting of horses to be slaughtered.

"Piece by piece we're getting what we need," McCullough said. "The budget was a fail-safe. It's just a plug in the dike at the moment, a good second-showing that the United States and this administration is against the slaughtering of horses in the United States for human consumption."

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RECORD TURNOVER FOR ARQANA IN 2014

Arqana has posted increases in most areas annually since it was formed in 2006, and this year was another landmark one for France's flagship sales company. Arqana's 10 sales posted a record turnover of €119,945,600, with the 80.8% sold and average of €45,384 also records.



Eric Hoyeau
Arqana

Arqana's yearling market was especially dynamic, with 1079 yearlings changing hands at four sales (including National Hunt) for €62,492,200 (up 15.5% from 2013), an average of €57,917 (up 6.8%) and a clearance rate of 81.1%.

The Arqana August Yearling Sale, which was tightened to three days for the second year, produced the company's most expensive transaction for the year when a filly by Monsun (Ger) commanded €1.2 million ([click here for TDN sale report](#)). cont. p7

His Stakes winners to date are...

- 1 LUCKY PLAYER** (Steve Asmussen)
Won **Iroquois Stakes-Gr.3** at Churchill Downs from Gr.1 placed Bold Conquest
- 2 GOOD LUCK GUS** (Rudy Rodriguez)
Won **Damon Runyon Stakes** at Aqueduct on 14th Dec.
Won **New York Breeders' Futurity** by 5¼ lengths
- 3 FOUR LEAF CHIEF** (Steven B. Flint)
Won **Louisiana Cup Juvenile Stakes** by 2 lengths
Won **Louisiana Legacy Stakes** by 4½ lengths on 22nd Nov.
- 4 SPIDER'S ALIBI** (Charles Edwin Smith)
Won **Graduation Stakes**
2nd **Winnipeg Futurity**

“ Since we got him, he's been very special to us ”

Rudy Rodriguez,
trainer of Good Luck Gus,
TDN 15th Dec.

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The August Sale was supported by the second renewal of the v.2 sale, which posted a clearance rate of just under 93%.

Arqana's May Breeze Up sale posted a record average (€76,067) and median (€55,000); the horses-in-training market saw sharp increases in average and turnover with fewer horses offered from last year and the December Breeding Stock Sale posted record figures for the third consecutive year.

"We have had an extraordinary year in every respect," said Arqana Chairman Eric Hoyeau. "Horses presented at our sales over the last few years have impressed on the track, winning 11 Group 1s on the flat, 59 group races and 124 stakes races. These magnificent successes underline the quality of French breeding and more generally the trust placed in us by French breeders by entrusting us with their best representatives throughout the year. Thanks to this, the French market has reached its highest level ever. Just before the creation of Arqana in August 2006, the market was worth about €50 million--it now amounts to €120 million. This is the spectacular result of the dynamics which Arqana and its vendors have created together for now eight years."

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NEW SALES, RECORD FOAL FOR GOFFS IN 2014

A €1.8 million record-priced foal and two new sales were a few of the highlights of a strong 2014 for Goffs. The sales company's total turnover of €109,670,464 was up 10% from last year, when it was up 45% from 2012. The average for 2,780 horses sold was also up 10% to €39,308.

"Our turnover of nearly €110,000,000 is the third-best in Goffs' history, and is only beaten by the Celtic Tiger highs of 2006 and 2007 when we sold around 1000 horses more each year, whilst the average of just under €40,000 sets a record for the company," said Goffs Chief Executive Henry Beeby. "These statistics represent a remarkable resurgence for Goffs as turnover has grown by 143% in just four years."

Goffs also enjoyed successful inaugural renewals of the Goffs London Sale on the eve of Royal Ascot--topped by the £1.3 million 2-year-old Cappella Sansevero (GB) (Showcasing {GB}) and which also included the £1.15 million Crystal Gaze (Rainbow Quest) with her Frankel (GB) colt foal at foot--and the Goffs Champions Sale the morning of the inaugural Irish Champions Weekend. **cont. p8**



Henry Beeby
Goffs

TDN TODAY
Headline News..... 10 pages

Potential Stakes winners include...

MAYBELLENE (Bob Baffert)

Won MSW at Del Mar and Allowance at Santa Anita
3rd **Starlet Stakes-Gr.1**, btn ¾ length by Take Change Brandi, on **13th Dec.**

ONE LUCKY DANE (Bob Baffert)

9½-length MSW winner at Santa Anita earning a **95** Beyer Figure

CONQUEST BIGLUCK E (Mark Casse)

Unbeaten, won MSW at Churchill and Allowance at Keeneland

SKILL NOT LUCK (Chad Brown)

Won MSW and Allowance both impressively at Parx Racing

LUCKY'SSTORMWARNING (Wesley Ward)

Won MSW at Gulfstream Park on only start by 2¾ lengths



Bob Baffert

“ LUCKY'SSTORMWARNING and ASIA (unraced) are both above average and will be out in the coming weeks ” Wesley Ward



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Frankel was again the subject of headlines after his daughter out of the champion Finsceal Beo (Ire) (Mr. Greeley) set an Irish record when topping the Goffs November Foal Sale at €1.8 million ([click for TDN sale report](#)). That sale generated great gains in aggregate (+52%), average (+41%) and median (+29.4%).

The Goffs Orby yearling sale also did well to post gains off a stellar 2013 renewal.

“Our flagship Orby Sale had a hard act to follow after 2013’s 30 year high of €2,850,000 for the yearling that turned out to be OI’Man River and is one of the winter favorites for next year’s Epsom Derby,” Beeby said. “However a catalogue of unprecedented strength topped by a €1.5 million colt and a €1.1 million filly led to yet more growth with the middle market proving as strong as the top as demonstrated by a 23% rise in median and a superb 87% clearance rate. One of the most pleasing aspects of the sale was record numbers of horses selling for over €100,000, €250,000 and €500,000.”

Beeby concluded, “We extend a very sincere thank you to our vendors and to the global audience who continue to descend on our sales in increasing numbers as they invest in Ireland’s best at Goffs.”

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All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated



PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

BY ANDREW CAULFIELD

LONGINES HONG KONG MILE-G1, HK\$23,000,000 (US\$2,967,223), Sha Tin, 12-14, 3yo/up, 1600mT, 1:33.49, gd/fm.

1--▲**ABLE FRIEND (AUS)**, 126, g, 5, by [Shamardal](#)

1st Dam: [Ponte Piccolo \(NZ\)](#), by [Volksraad \(GB\)](#)

2nd Dam: [Baronia \(NZ\)](#), by [Half Iced](#)

3rd Dam: [Barron Fey \(GB\)](#), by *[Scottish Rifle](#) (A\$550,000 yr1 '11 INGEAS). O-Dr & Mrs Cornel Li Fook Kwan; B-Ramsey Pastoral Co Ltd; T-John Moore; J-Joao Moreira; HK\$14,250,000. Lifetime Record: 14-8-4-1, HK\$30,900,430. **Werk Nick Rating:**

B. Click for the [eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree](#).

Click for the [HKJC.com chart](#) and [HKJC.com PPs](#).

VIDEO. Click for the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#).

Now I don't want to tempt fate, so I am busily touching wood while I type this one-handed, but--with luck--Giant's Causeway should be around for plenty more years. After all, this multiple champion sire will be no older than 18 next year, whereas his sire Storm Cat and broodmare sire Rahy were respectively 25 and 24 when their last few foals were conceived. His dam Mariah's Storm has also proved durable, producing her 13th foal--a filly by Galileo-- at the age of 23 this year, when she again visited Galileo. **cont. p9**

NEW

Epsom Derby winner by **GALILEO**



Ruler Of The World wins the Prix Foy-Gr.2 from Sunday's Hong Kong Vase-Gr.1 winner Flintshire

Sheikh Joann Al Thani, part owner of Ruler Of The World



Ruler Of The World

“truly a top-class colt” TIMEFORM

COOLMORE

Fee: €15,000
(Stg. £11,250)





Caulfield cont.

The current year has been very rewarding for the Ashford star. He is now more than \$1 million clear on the sires of 2-year-olds list, thanks largely to his Group 1 winners Carpe Diem and Take Charge Brandi (who has



Able Friend HKJC.com

landed three valuable prizes in the space of less than two months in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, the GIII Delta Down Princess S. and the GI Starlet S.). Giant's Causeway also stands second behind Tapit on the general sires' list.

He is also making his presence felt through his stallion sons and grandsons. His son Shamardal ranks third behind Galileo among the leading sires in Britain and Ireland and has racked up a total of 14 group winners in the Northern Hemisphere this year. For good measure, Shamardal's son Lope de Vega is heading for the first-season sires' championship in Britain and Ireland.

Shamardal made it a memorable weekend for Team Giant's Causeway, when--just hours after Take Charge Brandi's Starlet S. success--his Australian-bred son Able Friend was highly impressive in landing the G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile. This was the gelding's eighth win in 14 starts.

Australia has played quite an important role in Shamardal's stallion career, which began earlier than expected.

Apart from a glitch in the G2 UAE Derby on the only occasion he ventured off turf, Shamardal was unbeaten in six starts. Having headed the European 2-year-old rankings in 2004, Shamardal was busily staking his claim to a second championship when he reeled off front-running victories in three Group 1 races in the space of 31 days. He was then scheduled to take on the Derby winner Motivator and the older horses in the G1 Eclipse S. but chipped a bone in an ankle.

ABLE FRIEND (AUS), g, 2009

Shamardal	Giant's Causeway	Storm Cat	Storm Bird
		Mariah's Storm	Terlingua
	Helsinki (GB)	Machiavellian	Rahy
		Helen Street (GB)	Immense
			Mr Prospector
	Volksraad (GB)	Green Desert	Coup De Folie
Celtic Assembly		Troy (GB)	
		Waterway (Fr)	
		Danzig	
Ponte Piccolo (NZ) 8-3-3-0 7 Fls, 1 GSW	Baronia (NZ) 6 Fls, 1 GSW 1 SW	Half Iced	Foreign Courier
		Barron Fey (GB) 10 Fls, 1 SW	Secretariat
		Welsh Garden (Ire)	
		Hatchet Man	
		Winter Memory	
	Scottish Rifle		
	Royal News (GB)		

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f i t @three_chimneys

As surgery would have been required for him to continue racing, the decision was taken to retire him to stud. And as it was only the start of July, it was decided to add the 3-year-old to Darley's shuttle team to Australia.

Shamardal was to visit Australia in each of the next five years, but things didn't always go totally smoothly. Having started out at AUS\$55,000 in 2005, his fee was down to half that amount by his fourth season in 2009. It was quite early in the 2009 season that Shamardal injured his withers in a fall, forcing him out of action, and he was given the rest of the season off.

The end result was that he covered only 34 mares that year and his total of live foals from his five Australian seasons stood at 313, for an average of just over 62 per crop. Among his 20 stakes winners were the Group 1 winners Captain Sonador, Faint Perfume (VRC Oaks), Maybe Discreet (SAJC Schweppes Oaks) and now Able Friend. Northern hemisphere breeders may not have noticed that Maybe Discreet is inbred 4x3 to Storm Bird, while Faint Perfume is inbred 4x4 to the same son of Northern Dancer.

It is going to be interesting to see whether Shamardal's impressive son Lope de Vega replicates his European success with the 90 2-year-olds from his first Australian crop.

There will be no stallion career for Able Friend, as he is a gelding, but the *Racing Post* handicappers consider him to be Shamardal's finest effort. He is rated 4lb superior to Shamardal's Eclipse S. winner Mukhadram, a recent recruit to the Shadwell stallion team. **cont. p10**



Of course Lope de Vega's eye-catching start has helped focus attention on other young stallion sons of Shamardal, principally the Racing Post Trophy winner Casamento. His first weanlings, sired at a modest €5,000, recently averaged over 30,000gns.

Able Friend's dam Ponte Piccolo was sold in 2013 and her buyers were understandably surprised to get her for as little as AUS\$35,000. When Able Friend came on the market as a yearling in 2011, his price had been an impressive AUS\$550,000 but he hadn't raced by the time his dam came under the hammer.

Ponte Piccolo is a half-sister to Global News, a Group 1 winner in South Africa, and the next dam, Baronia, was a sister to the Group 2 Australian winner Baronia. Able Friend's fourth dam, Royal News, was a sister to Sovereign Edition, a classic-placed English miler who sired two winners of one of Australia's top races, the G1 W.S. Cox Plate.

Half Iced, the sire of Able Friend's second dam, was very much at home over a mile and a half, as he showed when he defeated those top-class mares All Along and April Run in the 1982 G1 Japan Cup.

Able Friend's broodmare sire, the Green Desert horse Volksraad, was a speedier type who earned a *Timeform* rating of 109 during a brief career. Sent to New Zealand, he sired numerous Group 1 winners in the process of becoming New Zealand's champion sire for six consecutive years.

It comes as no surprise that Shamardal sired Able Friend from a Danzig line mare. Three of his other Group 1 winners--Amaron, Dan Excel (formerly Dunboyne Express) and Casamento--are others from this line.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

IN OTHER NEWS...

A Daily Roundup of Racing Articles in Non-Industry Media

Horse to watch in 2015 A year ago, before California Chrome even hinted at his potential and before Bayern ever made his debut, Honor Code was the early favorite to win the Kentucky Derby. And so a year after becoming the early favorite for the Kentucky Derby, Honor Code has become the most intriguing horse in the country. Is it possible his greatness was only deferred, put on hold, and the potential's still there? **Gary West, ESPN.**

Plea in HC: Probe fixing in horse races Inspired by the Supreme Court-mandated Justice Mudgal committee probe into cricket betting and IPL franchise scam, a writ petition in Madras high court has demanded a similar investigation into the affairs of Madras Race Club (MRC), alleging rampant horse-fixing, jockey-fixing, illegal betting, conflict of interests, and fraudulent sale of prime properties, all involving several hundreds of crores of rupees. **The Times of India.**

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New York

NYRA Announces 'Spring Showcase' at Aqueduct:

Aqueduct will host a 19-day 'Spring Showcase' meet from Apr. 1 to Apr. 26, featuring increased purses and 13 additional stakes races to support the meet's traditional centerpiece, the GI Twinspires.com Wood Memorial, NYRA announced Monday. The Wood Memorial will be contested Apr. 4, the first Saturday of the meet, along with the GI Carter H., the GII Gazelle S., the GIII Bay Shore S. and the inaugural Danger's Hour S. The schedule features seven graded stakes in total with the GIII Top Flight H. Apr. 11, the GII Distaff H. Apr. 18 and the GIII Excelsior S. Apr. 25. Three other boutique meet additions are the Plenty of Grace S. Apr. 11, the Memories of Silver S. Apr. 19 and the Belle Harbor S. closing day, Apr. 26.

"The 'Spring Showcase' meet at Aqueduct will usher in the season with at least one stakes race on every Saturday and Sunday that we run," said Martin Panza, NYRA's Senior Vice-President of Racing Operations. "As well, the addition of four new stakes races on the turf in conjunction with the return of racing to the main track will further enhance the meet for horsemen and fans alike."

Overnight purses will also receive a boost, with all maiden special and allowance events carrying a purse above \$70,000.

Panza explained, "Overnight races comprise the backbone of our racing schedule, and the purses will rise in accordance with the new focus on this special meet."

Eastern U.S.

Yesterday's Results:

8th-PRX, \$48,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000), NW2X, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:18 3/5, ft.

CU CHULAINN (c, 3, Pioneer of the Nile--Cheeksandpeanuts {MSW}, by Pioneering), a 5 1/4-length debut winner over track and trip Aug. 24, missed by a nose in an allowance at this venue Sept. 20. Fifth after ducking out when shortened to six furlongs in Bensalem Oct. 12, the dark bay was looking to make it back-to-back wins after taking a muddy 6 1/2-panel affair here last time Nov. 1. The 11-1 shot secured a narrow lead down the backstretch and extended his advantage turning for home. Three wide into the lane, the sophomore began to tire in late stretch, but had built up enough cushion to prevail by 2 3/4 lengths. Longshot No Free Lunch (Successful Appeal) finished second in a blanket finish. The winner is a half to Key Lime Baby (Champali), SP, \$167,990. Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-0, \$100,350. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).**

O/B-Gryphon Investments LLC (KY). T-Dee Curry.

All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated

6th-PRX, \$29,600, Msw, (S), 2yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:07 3/5, ft. + SHARP AND SASSY (f, 2, Sharp Humor--Secret Hills {GSP, \$118,535}, by Secret Hello), who posted a solid series of works at Fair Hill in preparation for this debut, battled for command from the break and briefly conceded the lead to even-money chalk Trusty Roll (Trust N Luck), but was full of run and took up the baton after a first quarter in :22.92. Well ahead of her nearest rival after slowing the pace down after a half mile in :47.53, the 5-2 shot coasted down the stretch to get off the mark by four lengths over C R S Angels (Medallist). Trusty Roll faded to fourth. Sales history: \$1,000 yrl '13 KEEJAN; \$30,000 yrl '13 FTMSEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$17,400. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).**

O-Matthew Schera. B-Highfield SF Ltd & Webadd Partnership (PA). T-James L Lawrence II.

Florida

Big Drama to Bridlewood in 2015:

Harold L. Queen's GI Breeders' Cup Sprint hero **Big Drama** (Montbrook--Riveting Drama, by Notebook), winner of the Eclipse Award for Champion Sprinter in 2010, will relocate from Hallmarc Stallions to Bridlewood Farm in Ocala, in time for the 2015 breeding season. Trained by David Fawkes, Big Drama also captured the GII Smile Sprint H. the year he earned divisional honors and the GIII Mr. Prospector S. in 2011. He retired with \$2,746,060 in earnings from 19 starts. The dark bay will stand for \$10,000 stands and nurses.

"Hallmarc Stallions is excited to announce that Big Drama will stand the 2015 season at Bridlewood's beautiful facilities," said Hallmarc owner Marc Haisfield. "Big Drama is the top sire by yearling average in Florida and Hallmarc Stallions looks forward to continued success as his 2-year-olds start to race in 2015."

Big Drama is already responsible for the two highest-priced yearlings at the OBS August Sale this year, with colts out of SW mares Doc's Doll (Out of Place) and Kickapoo Princess (Unreal Zeal) selling for \$230,000 and \$185,000 respectively.

"We are pleased to welcome champion Big Drama to the Bridlewood Stallion Roster for 2015," said Bridlewood Farm General Manager George Isaacs. "His yearlings looked the part at the sales this year and my scouting reports indicate they should come out running."

✍ ✍

CORRECTION: Freshman sire Tizdejavu (Tiznow) sired his first stakes winner Saturday when Tizgorgeous won the Pat Whitworth Illinois Debutante S. at Hawthorne. The Crestwood Farm resident is represented by six winners from 11 runners to date. Tizgorgeous was originally credited as the first winner for her sire. We regret the error.



INDUSTRY INFO

Craig Bendoroff Joins WHOA:

The Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA) gained another member Monday, when owner/breeder Craig Bendoroff of Denali Stud joined the movement. His statement reads:

"I have been involved in the Thoroughbred industry for over 40 years beginning as a hot walker, groom, exercise boy and jockey in my teens and for the past 25 years as a breeder, farm owner and leading consignor in Kentucky. My passion for the horse has never diminished. I am convinced that a big part of the reason our sport has not progressed is because we are a fragmented industry with no central authority. A major step to accomplishing central authority would be to remove the 33 states from regulating our sport and have one governing body overseeing race day medication. I see WHOA as a means to accomplish this goal. I fully support their effort and see their objective as a means for our industry to move forward with one set of rules and penalties and return horse racing in the U.S. to a premiere level sport again."

WHOA is a grassroots movement consisting of people who support the passage of federal legislation to prohibit the use of race-day drugs in horse racing. To read more member statements or learn more about WHOA go to www.waterhayoatsalliance.com.

HRRN Debuts New "Jock Talk" Program This Evening:

Horse Racing Radio Network (HRRN) will add a new weekly "Jock Talk" program to their regular schedule beginning this evening at 6 p.m. The hour-long program will be hosted by HRRN President Mike Penna and former jockey Kristina McManigell. Hall of Fame jockey Mike Smith will join the program as tonight's featured guest. The Eclipse Award-winning radio station will air the show Tuesday evenings during the 6-7 p.m. time slot.

"The format will be similar to our Wednesday night Trainer Talk Show presented by Fasig-Tipton, which has become extremely popular," noted Penna. "Our goal is to give listeners a unique look into the lives of jockeys, so they can get to know them on a more personal level. As a former rider, Kristina is the perfect co-host."

Equibase Providing Leaders Lists by Foal Crop:

New leaders' lists organized by foal crop have been added to the 'Stats Central' section of the Equibase website, the company announced Monday. The data can be sorted within various categories, including earnings, total wins and stakes victories.

"Comparing professional athletes by their draft year has always made for interesting water-cooler conversations and great debate on sports radio talk shows," observed Equibase Company President and COO Hank Zeitlin. "Now, horse racing fans have the data to spark similar dialogue about which horses were the best of their respective crops--not only by wins and earnings, but by age, on dirt versus turf, etc."

Statistics for all foal crops dating back to 1998 are available at www.equibase.com.

California, North Dakota Renew WatchandWager Licenses:

Edited Press Release

WatchandWager.com renewed licenses from the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) and the North Dakota Racing Commission (NDRC) to conduct Advance Deposit Wagering, as well as agreeing to a new contract with Monarch Content Management, LLC.

WatchandWager, LLC, holds a multi-jurisdictional ADW operator license with the North Dakota Racing Commission, which was renewed by the NDRC at its commission meeting Nov. 13. The license from the NDRC is valid for 2015.

The California Horse Racing Board granted a renewal of WatchandWager's Application to Conduct Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) for an out-of-state multi-jurisdictional wagering hub for a period of up to two years at its monthly board meeting Nov. 19. As such, WatchandWager can provide ADW services to California residents through the end of 2016. In addition to holding an ADW license in California, WatchandWager supports pari-mutuel racing in California by operating Cal Expo Harness Racing in Sacramento.

WatchandWager also obtained a new contract with Monarch Content Management, LLC, a subsidiary of The Stronach Group which sells simulcast horse racing content to tracks and ADWs. By successfully negotiating a new contract with Monarch Content Management, LLC, WatchandWager is able to provide its customers with wagering on races from Santa Anita Park, Del Mar, Gulfstream Park, Pimlico, Laurel Park, Lone Star Park, Golden Gate Fields, Los Alamitos Race Course, the California Authority of Racing Fairs, Portland Meadows, The Meadowlands, and Monmouth Park in 2015.



Earlier this month, members of the Fair Grounds jockey colony paid two visits to Ochsner Children's Hospital in New Orleans. Marcelino Pedroza, Willie Martinez, Forest Boyce and Brian Hernandez, Jr. visited the Ochsner Pediatric Unit and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Dec. 10 (above). Another group of jockeys brought holiday cheer to the patients during a Dec. 3 visit to the Pediatric Outpatient Clinic.

Fair Grounds Race Course



TODAY'S INSIGHTS

4th-GP, \$40K, Msw, 2yo, 2:02 p.m. ET

Trainer Todd Pletcher, seeking his 12th Gulfstream Park Winter Meet training title, saddles Alto Racing's **BLAME GAME** ([Blame](#)) in his career bow. Out of the French stakes winner La Pascua (Swi) (Caerleon), the bay was a \$200,000 Keeneland September yearling purchase and is a half to SWs Hot Hot Mama (Menifee) and Pascal (Menifee). This is also the extended family of multiple champion, Classic winner and 'Arc' hero Dancing Brave (Lyphard) as well as GSW Cozzetti (Cozzene). Darley homebred **Fitzgerald** ([Elusive Quality](#)) also makes his debut today for trainer Tom Albertrani and will race without Lasix. The juvenile's dam, MG1SW-Arg Filarmonia (Arg) (Slew Gin Fizz), is a half to GSW & MG1SP-Arg Fiereze (Political Ambition) and they are out of MGSW & MG1SP Fijeza (Arg) (Pepenador). [Brisnet.com PPs](#)

[twinspires.com](#) **GET A \$100 SIGN-UP BONUS.**

ROOKIES

First-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, December 16

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2011 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

BLAME (Arch), Claiborne, \$30K, 76/7/0

4-GP, Msw, 6f, +Blame Game, \$200K KEE SEP yrl, 2-1

DISCREETLY MINE (Mineshaft), Lane's End, \$10K, 97/17/0

8-PRX, Alw, 6f, Discreetly Placed, \$35K OBS OPN 2yo, 5-1

MACH RIDE (Pentelicus), Bridlewood Farm, \$2K, 9/1/0

8-PRX, Alw, 6f, Ackeret, \$53K OBS OPN 2yo, 5-2

MIDSHIPMAN (Unbridled's Song), Darley, \$8K, 67/17/1

6-PRX, Msw, 6f, +A Blossom Fell, 12-1

WARRIOR'S REWARD (Medaglia d'Oro), Spendthrift Farm, \$13K, 104/13/1

8-GP, Msw, 1mT, Undertherain, \$75K OBS APR 2yo, 20-1

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IN JAPAN:

Wide Excellent, c, 4, [Midnight Lute](#)--Clay's Rocket (MSP-US, \$104,983), by American Chance.

Nakayama, 12-13, Plate Race, 6f. Lifetime Record:

5-1-0-1, \$119,916. O-Shinichi Koga; B-Gulf Coast Farms LLC; T-Kazuyuki Ogata. * \$170,000 wnlng '10

KEENOV; \$250,000 yrl '11 KEESEP. **1/2 to

Greeley's Rocket (Mr. Greeley), SW-US, \$210,181;

Laurie's Rocket (Bluegrass Cat), SW & MGSP-US,

\$515,858. ***Winning jockey Hiroyuki Uchida

commented, "I had to push him on the turf part of

the surface just after the start, but once he started

his engine, he ran very well. I think he did not like the

turf surface. He should be better next time."

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Bersagliere, c, 4, **Smarty Jones**--Knight Prospector (GSW-US, \$236,825), by Native Prospector.

Nakayama, 12-13, Hokuso S., 9f. Lifetime Record:

14-5-2-2, \$398,908. O/B-Takeshi Fujita; T-Yasutoshi

Ikee. *1/2 to Estreno (Holy Bull), SP-Jpn, \$288,918;

In Orario (Holy Bull), SW-Jpn, \$1,210,794.



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Yesterday's Results:

7th-WOL, £4,500, Mdn, 3yo/up, 8f 141y (AWT), 1:49.68, ft.

NEW YEAR'S NIGHT (IRE) (g, 3, [Raven's Pass](#)--Nighttime {Ire} {G1SW-Ire, \$299,770}, by [Galileo](#) {Ire}) went off

as the 2-9 favorite coming back from a fourth at Kempton five days earlier and settled in second soon

after the break. Assuming control with 2 1/2 furlongs remaining, the 800,000gns TATOCT yearling surged

ever clear before gearing down late to easily best Mustafiz (Distorted Humor) by eight lengths. Lifetime

Record: 4-1-1-0, £4,270. [VIDEO, courtesy](#)

[attheraces.com](#).

O-Godolphin. B-Exors of the Late Mrs C L Weld (Ire).

T-Charlie Appleby.

6th-WOL, £3,500, Mdn, 2yo, 9f 103y (AWT), 2:01.55, ft.

COUNTERPROOF (IRE) (c, 2, [Authorized](#) {Ire})--[Ellasha](#) {GB}, by [Shamardal](#)), who hit the board over course

and distance last time Nov. 15, was positioned in third after the initial exchanges of this one. Sent to the fore

turning onto the back straight, the 5-4 chalk remained in front thereafter and was ridden out in the closing

stages to score by three lengths from Amadeity (Ire)

(Amadeus Wolf {GB}). Sales history: €135,000 yrl '13 GOFORB. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, £2,697. [VIDEO,](#)

[courtesy attheraces.com](#).

O-HRH Princess Haya of Jordan. B-Ellasha Partnership

(Ire). T-John Gosden.



OBSERVATIONS

on today's European racing scene

4.20 Kempton, Mdn, £6,300, 2yo, f, 8f (AWT)

ZAMZAMA (IRE) (Shamardal), a Saeed bin Suroor trainee, is out of the 1999 G1 Nassau S. heroine and G1 Epsom Oaks placegetter Zahrat Dubai (GB) (Unfuwain), and is thus a full-sister to the 2011 G2 Prix de Royallieu third Modeyra (GB). One of three Godolphin entries, the homebred bay faces 13 rivals in this unveiling. They include Newsells Park Stud's **Waldnah (GB) (New Approach {Ire})**, a homebred half-sister to the 2011 G1 St Leger victor Masked Marvel (GB) (Montjeu {Ire}), who has finished second in all three prior starts for the John Gosden stable.

Middle East

UAE TRAINER OERTEL BANNED

Former champion UAE trainer Ernst Oertel has been handed a four-month ban by the Emirates Racing Authority after two Purebred Arabians in his care tested positive for ibuprofen at Sharjah Nov. 1 and Abu Dhabi Nov. 16. Oertel pled guilty to both charges. He will serve his term concurrently, effective immediately, and will be out until Apr. 15, 2015.

EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

IN JAPAN:

A Shin Allonsy (Ire), c, 3, **Sea the Stars (Ire)**--Ice Mint, by Awesome Again. Chukyo, 12-13, Nagaragawa Tokubetsu, 11fT. Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-1, \$211,597. O-Eishindo Inc; B-Knighton Hse Eadling Farm & Marengo; T-Masato Nishizono. *225,000gns wnl '11 TATDEC; \$675,000 yrl '12 KEESEP.

• ON THE WORKTAB •

AQUEDUCT
Belle Gallantey (After Market), 6f, 1:15.07, 1/1
Dads Caps (Discreet Cat), 5f, 1:02.01, 1/10

BELMONT
El Kabeir (Scat Daddy), 4f, :48.69, 15/59
FAIR GROUNDS

Villandry (Mr. Greeley), 5f, 1:02.80, 22/28
GULFSTREAM PARK WEST
Lady Shipman (Midshipman), 4f, :51.60, 8/12
Lochte (Medaglia d'Oro), 5f, 1:02.20, 3/7

PALM MEADOWS
Stonetastic (Mizzen Mast), 5f, 1:00.10, 1/14
Three Alarm Fire (Pyro), 4f, :49.95, 14/22

SANTA ANITA
Dortmund (Big Brown), 5f, 1:00.00, 4/145

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WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 31, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
• All stallions will be available for inspection at that time. Lunch will be served all afternoon. Drawings will be held for one free season to each stallion, and everyone in attendance will be eligible to win.

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BREEDERS' EDITION

AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-AQU, \$57,000, NW1\$X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 4/5, ft.

LAURA CAN DISCO (f, 3, Disco Rico--Laura's Jewel, by Jules) Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$67,800. O/B-C Robert Valeri (NY). T-Gary P Gullo.

7th-AQU, \$57,000, NW1\$X, (S), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:41, ft.
PAX IN TERRA (g, 3, Mizzen Mast--Pumpkin's Pride, by Louis Quatorze) Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-2, \$95,878. O/B-Eric Fein (NY). T-Todd A Pletcher. *\$130,000 RNA yrl '12 FTNAUG. **1/2 to Ostrolenka (Musket Man), SW, \$187,292; and Great Gracie Dane (Royal Academy), MSP, \$344,529.

STONESTREET TRAINING ALUMNI

7th-PRX, \$50,100, NW1X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 4/5, ft.

WHEREHERE'S FIRE (f, 3, Forestry--Smokinatthefinish, by Smoke Glacken) Lifetime Record: 7-3-1-3, \$99,040. O-Larry Johnson & RDM Racing. B-Jon A Marshall (PA). T-Michael J Trombetta. *\$15,000 wnlg '11 KEENOV; \$30,000 yrl '12 FTMOCT.

7th-SUN, \$30,600, NW1\$X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:09 3/5, ft.

D CAT'S TRIP (m, 6, Dominique's Cat--Trip's Eclipse {SW}, by Look See) Lifetime Record: 39-9-10-4, \$124,523. O-Jackie & Sylvia Herron. B-Leslie Arnold (NM). T-Justin R Evans.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Lyrical Miracle, g, 3, **Miracle Man--Five Songs**, by Forestry. AQU, 12-15, (S), 1 1/16m, 1:48. B-Miracle Man Racing Partners LLC (NY).



WINNERS BY AMERICAN SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Tamarama (Jpn), g, 5, **Red Ransom--Katoomba** (GB) (SP-Fr), by Forest Wildcat. Hanshin, 12-13, Plate Race, 8fT. Lifetime Record: 36-4-5-2, \$585,798. O-H H Sheikh Mohammed; B-Darley Japan Farm; T-Kazuya Nakatake.

Mt Fuji (Jpn), m, 6, **Orientate--Cocktail** (GB) (Hwt. Older Mare-Ity at 5-7f, SW-Ity, \$158,521), by Most Welcome (GB). Chukyo, 12-13, Plate Race, 6f. Lifetime Record: 43-3-6-3, \$422,269. O-Green Farm; B-Yoshida Farm; T-Hiroshi Miyamoto.

BREEDERS' EDITION

EUROPE

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Undulate (GB), f, 3, **Three Valleys--Singleton** (GB) (MSP-Eng), by Singspiel (Ire). WOL, 12-13, 7f 32y (AWT), 1:27.93. B-Juddmonte Farms Ltd (GB). *£3,500 HRA '13 DONAGH.

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WINNERS BY EUROPEAN SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Hawker Tempest (Jpn), h, 5, **Hawk Wing**--Rich Dancer (GB), by Halling. Hanshin, 12-14, Orion S., 12fT. Lifetime Record: 29-5-3-1, \$777,059. O-Carrot Farm; B-Northern Farm; T-Kazuo Fujisawa. *145,000gns i/u '08 TATDEC. **Full to Stubbs Art (Ire), G1SP-Eng, \$195,632; 1/2 to Floor Craft (Jpn) (Fuji Kiseki {Jpn}), SP-Jpn, \$645,630; and Bounce Shasse (Jpn) (Zenno Rob Roy {Jpn}), GSW & G1SP-Jpn, \$780,265.



James Graham
Coady
Photography

Congratulations to last week's JockeyTalk360.com Jockey of the Week **James Graham**, who won the Magic City Classic S. aboard Buggin Out (Indy), the Louisiana Champions Day Turf S. aboard String King (Crowned King) and the Louisiana Champions Day Juvenile S. aboard Mr. L.S. Shoe (Forefathers).

APPOINTMENTS

Lonny T. Powell

- Appointed chairman of the Florida Horse Park board of directors and appointed as a new board member for the Chamber and Economic Partnership of Ocala.
- Powell currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Ocala-based Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' & Owners' Association.
- "Lonny Powell has the experience and dedication to help lead the Florida Agricultural Center and Horse Park board of directors as it faces an exciting future," said Florida State Agricultural Center commissioner Adam Putman. "Florida's equine industry contributes \$5 billion to our state's economy, and the Horse Park's expansion will help Central Florida continue to be known as the Horse Capital of the World."
- "I would like to thank my fellow Horse Park board of directors for the faith and confidence they have shown in electing me as their Chairman," remarked Powell. "The Horse Park is very near and dear to the hearts of many of us. This is such a pivotal time for the Park now that we have opened up our new and wonderful covered arena. Now, thanks to the continued support we receive from the legislature, our governor and Agricultural Commissioner Putnam; we are able to think big with core, top-flight facilities either in place or underway, begin putting some time and energy in ramping up from an operational perspective. These are exciting, opportunistic and hardworking times for our Park."

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Cape Premier Yearling Sale
January 21-23

OBS Winter Mixed Sale
January 26-29

Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale
February 8-9

Barretts Select 2-Year-Olds Sale
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