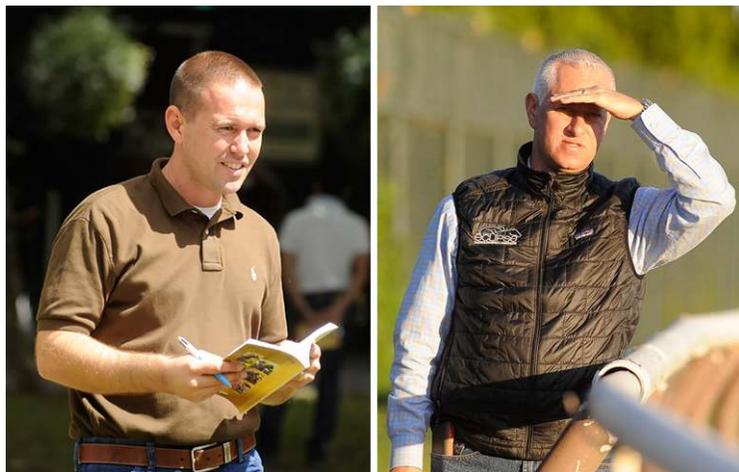




## BROWN, PLETCHER SHARING RARIFIED AIR



Trainers Chad Brown (left) and Todd Pletcher | Horsephotos

By Mike Kane

Although this has been the year of American Pharoah (Pioneer of the Nile) and trainer Bob Baffert has to be the leading contender to win the Eclipse Award, two other trainers--Todd Pletcher and Chad Brown--are completing outstanding, noteworthy seasons.

History shows us that a Triple Crown does not necessarily guarantee an Eclipse. Two Triple Crown-winning trainers, Lucien Laurin in 1973 and Billy Turner in 1977, did not receive the Eclipse Award after orchestrating the Kentucky Derby-Preakness-Belmont S. sweep. Laurin tied with Charles Whittingham for the most Grade I wins that year with six, but the Eclipse went to Allen Jerkens. In 1977, Laz Barrera won the second of his four straight Eclipse Awards. He had the most Grade I wins that year, also six.

Eclipse voters will receive their ballots soon, the finalists in all categories will be announced on Jan. 5 and the winners will be honored at the annual Eclipse Awards Dinner on Jan. 16 at Gulfstream Park.

Sometime this week, possibly Wednesday at Aqueduct, Brown will reach the \$20 million earnings plateau for the first time in his relatively short career. According to Equibase, through Tuesday his 752 starters in 2015 have earned \$19,990,489.

When he cracks \$20 million, Brown will join Pletcher and Steve Asmussen in this exclusive club. Pletcher was the first to reach \$20 million in 2005 and this will be his eighth season and fourth in a row at that level. Asmussen earned more than \$20 million in three consecutive years, 2007-2009. In 2007, both Pletcher and Asmussen surpassed \$20 million; 2015 will be the second time in history that two trainers have been there in the same year.

Cont. p3

## LADY ELI BACK ON TRACK

Undefeated multiple Grade I winner **Lady Eli** (Divine Park) was back on track Tuesday morning for the first time since contracting laminitis in her front feet following her win in the GI Belmont Oaks Invitational S. July 4. The Sheep Pond Partners star made significant progress throughout the fall at Dell Ridge Farm in Kentucky and recently joined trainer Chad Brown's string at Palm Meadows Training Center.

"It was her first day on the track," Brown explained. "She jogged a mile and an eighth. She spent two weeks tack-walking in my shedrow and looked terrific doing it. She was dying to get back to the track, so we let her today and she did terrific."

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)
[E-mail](#)
[Print](#)

in **TDN Europe** today...

### IS CAMACHO AN UNDERRATED SIRE?

*Kevin Blake outlines why Camacho might be an underrated sire, and Moyglare's Fiona Craig reflects on the season of Group 1 winner Free Eagle, who has been retired to the Irish National Stud after running at Sha Tin on Sunday.*

[Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

## PADDY O'PRADO

MOST VERSATILE G1 SON OF  
SIRE OF SIRES EL PRADO

### Top 10 Freshman Sire

First-crop graded stakes 2-year-olds include **Sutton's Smile**, a fast-closing 3rd in Saturday's G1 Starlet S. at Los Alamitos



The Breeders' Farm  
859.294.0030 | spendthriftfarm.com

El Prado - Fun House, by Prized  
Fee: \$5,000 Breed Secure

# ON THE RISE

Performance on  
**THE RACETRACK**  
and  
**IN THE SALES  
ARENA.**

## 2015 Sales Averages For The Top 10 General Sires

	Fee	Yearling Avg.	Weanling Avg.
Tapit	\$300,000	\$615,290	\$595,000
Medaglia d'Oro	\$150,000	\$352,500	\$480,000
<b>MALIBU MOON</b>	<b>\$95,000</b>	<b>\$211,263</b>	<b>\$264,166</b>
Speightstown	\$100,000	\$221,807	\$221,250
Pioneerof the Nile	\$125,000	\$168,196	\$212,142
Giant's Causeway	\$85,000	\$159,656	\$190,000
Scat Daddy - <i>Deceased</i>	\$100,000	\$195,515	\$185,294
Curlin	\$100,000	\$226,230	\$160,909
Candy Ride (Arg)	\$60,000	\$130,740	\$146,428
Kitten's Joy	\$100,000	\$125,670	\$69,500

Source: TDN Insta-Tistics

# malibu moon

A.P. Indy's Leading Sire  
7 Years Running



Fee: **\$95,000 S&N** | The Breeders' Farm | [www.spendthriftfarm.com](http://www.spendthriftfarm.com) | 859.294.0030





**PRESIDENT & CO-PUBLISHER**

Barry Weisbord @barryweisbord  
[barryweisbord@thetdn.com](mailto:barryweisbord@thetdn.com)

**SR. V.P. & CO-PUBLISHER**

Sue Finley @suefinley  
[suefinley@thetdn.com](mailto:suefinley@thetdn.com)

**V.P., INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS**

Gary King @garykingTDN  
[garyking@thetdn.com](mailto:garyking@thetdn.com)

**EDITORIAL**

[editor@thetdn.com](mailto:editor@thetdn.com)

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

**Managing Editor:**

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

**Senior Editor:**

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

**Racing Editor:**

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

**Associate Editors:**

Justina Severni @JSeverniTDN

Christie DeBernardis @CDeBernardisTDN

**Assistant Editors:**

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Ben Massam @BMassamTDN

**ADVERTISING**

[advertising@thetdn.com](mailto:advertising@thetdn.com)

**Director of Advertising:** Alycia Borer

**Art Director:** Lia Kusch

**Sr. Ad Coordinator/Dir. of Distribution:**

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew

**Advertising Designer:** Amanda Crelin

**Advertising Assistant:** Amanda Foster

**Social Media Strategist:** Nichola Henry

**MARKETING STRATEGIST**

Brittlan Wall @BrittlanWall

[brittlanwall@thetdn.com](mailto:brittlanwall@thetdn.com)

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

[customerservice@thetdn.com](mailto:customerservice@thetdn.com)

**Director of Customer Service:**

Vicki Forbes

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**Director of IT:** Robert Williams

[robertwilliams@thetdn.com](mailto:robertwilliams@thetdn.com)

**Director of Internal IT:** Ray Villa

[rayvilla@thetdn.com](mailto:rayvilla@thetdn.com)

**WORLDWIDE INFORMATION**

**International Editor:** Kelsey Riley

[kelseynriley@gmail.com](mailto:kelseynriley@gmail.com)

**Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing:**

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary

[caferacing@aol.com](mailto:caferacing@aol.com)

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

Red Bank, NJ 07701

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

[www.thoroughbreddailynews.com](http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com)

[www.thetdn.com](http://www.thetdn.com)

# in **this** issue...



*A very happy birthday to legendary jockey Frankie Dettori, who turned 45 Tuesday!*

Sarah K. Andrew

## HOW AMERICAN PHAROAH CHANGED RACING

8

*As 2015 comes to a close, we've asked a number of industry insiders how he or she believes American Pharoah changed the racing landscape on both a historic and personal level. Today we hear from Larry Collmus, Pete Bradley, Mark Casse and others who offer unique perspectives.*

## from **thetdn.com**

### *Who leads the third-crop sire ranks in North America?*

If you think it's Pioneerof the Nile--sire of the magnificent American Pharoah--you'd be correct! But in a top 10 full of Kentucky stallions, which other regional stallions are in the mix? [Click here for the leading third-crop sires in North America.](#)



**TDN** now

NOW AVAILABLE: TDN APP 2.2

You asked for it...you got it!

slide to view



Push notifications when the PDF is posted and for news alerts on your homescreen  
PDF re-orientates for portrait and landscape • Larger photo library • Minor bug fixes

**Brown, Pletcher cont.**

Through Tuesday, Pletcher was his usual position at the top of the earnings standings with \$26,309,656, which includes purses won in Dubai. His North American earnings mark, which tops Equibase's list of 5,885 trainers, is \$25,709,656.

This will be the 10th time and sixth year in a row that Pletcher has led the nation in earnings. He was second to the late Bobby Frankel in 2003 and second in the two years Asmussen was the earnings leader, 2008 and 2009. He has the single-season record of \$28.1 million set in 2007 and has been first or second for 13 consecutive years on his way to the career earnings lead of \$304.1 million.

Baffert, 62, won three straight Eclipse Awards, 1997-99, and has been among the leaders in Grade I wins and earnings most seasons since then. He has a career-high \$17 million in earnings, including Dubai, this year, is third nationally with \$15.8 million and has eight Grade I wins.

Pletcher, 48, has won the last two years and is the career leader with seven Eclipse Awards as outstanding trainer. While the leading money-winning trainer usually wins the Eclipse Award, three times in the past 15 years voters chose someone other than the money leader. Frankel was third behind D. Wayne Lukas and Baffert in earnings in 2000, but was selected for the first of four straight championship trophies when he was the dominant trainer in the sport. Bill Mott in 2011 and Dale Romans in 2012 were voted the Eclipse Awards when each had brilliant performances and ended up fourth on the earnings list.

Baffert and American Pharoah completed the first possible so-called "Grand Slam" of the Triple Crown and the Breeders' Cup Classic in 2015. Neither Pletcher nor Brown were significant players in those major races. Brown had no Triple Crown or Classic starters and Pletcher's best finishes were sixths in the Derby and Belmont.

**\$20+ MILLION TRAINERS**

2014	Todd Pletcher	\$22,476,736
2013	Todd Pletcher	\$25,248,816
2012	Todd Pletcher	\$20,954,322
2010	Todd Pletcher	\$23,157,098
2009	Steve Asmussen	\$21,884,695
2008	Steve Asmussen	\$24,223,187
2007	Todd Pletcher	\$28,116,097
2007	Steve Asmussen	\$23,899,544
2006	Todd Pletcher	\$26,820,243
2005	Todd Pletcher	\$20,882,842

Statistics courtesy Equibase

# Things are heating up in February!

Over the past five years, KY Winter Mixed gross sales have grown by **274%**, the sale's average has increased by **69%**, and the median is up **110%**!

**2015 highlights include:**

**\$450,000** broodmare prospect (*Sale Topper*)

**\$375,000** racing/broodmare prospect

**\$210,000** in-foal mare

**\$180,000** "short" yearling

## KY Winter Mixed

February 8-9 Lexington, KY

**ENTER NOW**



**Fasig-Tipton**

859.255.1555 fasigtipton.com

Pletcher and Brown found success elsewhere. Each won a pair of Breeders' Cup races: Pletcher the GI Distaff with Stopchargingmaria (Tale of the Cat) and the GI Dirt Mile with Liam's Map (Unbridled's Song); and Brown the GI Filly and Mare Sprint with Wavell Avenue (Harlington) and the GI Filly and Mare Turf with Stephanie's Kitten (Kitten's Joy). Pletcher has 15 Grade I wins this season--two shy of his career high of 17 that he accomplished in both 2006 and 2007. His wins at the highest level this season came with 12 different horses.

Brown, who turns 37 on Friday, has had a remarkably fast start to his career, which began in Nov. 2007 with 10 horses. In eight full calendar years, the former Frankel assistant has built a reputation as a gifted



Liam's Map | Coady Photography

horseman, especially on turf, where he is again the earnings leader. He won three Breeders' Cup races in 2014, finished second in the earnings standings for the first time and was an Eclipse finalist. In 2010, he won 67 races and earned \$3 million. He climbed to \$11 million in 2012 and \$15.4 million in 2014. This season, he has a career-best 198 wins, a career-high nine Grade I victories and is less than \$10,000 from \$20 million in earnings. **Cont. p4**

**Brown, Pletcher cont.**

Brown's mentor, Frankel, set the single-season record for Grade I wins in a season with 25 in 2003. Lukas with 22 in 1987 is second on the list. Lukas was the leading Grade I winner a record 12 times, five more than his former assistant, Pletcher. Baffert has led the way or tied for the top spot six times.

This season, during his historic campaign, American Pharoah earned a single-season record of \$8,288,800. He eclipsed Smarty Jones, who earned \$7,563,535 in 2004. Hall of Famer and two-time Horse of the Year Curlin earned \$5,102,800.

Second on Equibase's earnings list this year was GI Breeders' Cup Mile winner Tepin (Bernstein) at \$2,092,520.

With his six Grade I victories this season, American Pharoah joined a group of 14 horses--all Hall of Famers--who have reached that mark in a single season. Lady's Secret set the standard with eight Grade I wins in 1986, a record Cigar matched in 1995. Bayakoa won seven in 1989.

Winners of six in a year prior to this season: Exceller (1978); Affirmed (1979); Spectacular Bid (1979); Bold 'n Determined (1980), Theatrical (1987); Personal Ensign (1988); Alysheba (1988); Easy Goer (1989); Go for Wand (1990); Paseana (1992); Serena's Song (1995). It's been 20 years since a horse won six Grade I races in a season.

Lady's Secret won a record 10 graded stakes in 1986. American Pharoah totaled seven this year.

While a Triple Crown sweep has not been a guarantee of an Eclipse Award for the trainer, all three of the Triple Crown winners of the 1970s were voted Horse of the Year.



**TOP 10 TRAINERS BY GRADE 1 VICTORIES 1973 - PRESENT**

1 - D. Wayne Lukas	218
2 - Robert Frankel	172
3 - Bob Baffert	155
4 - Todd Pletcher	140
5 - Charles Whittingham	138
6 - Shug McGaughey	126
7 - William Mott	109
8 - Ron McAnally	95
9 - Richard Mandella	76
10 - Neil Drysdale	66

Statistics courtesy Equibase



**NOW AVAILABLE: TDN App 2.2**

Push notifications when the PDF is posted and for news alerts on your homescreen, PDF re-orientates for portrait and landscape, Larger photo library, Minor bug fixes



BY UNBRIDLED OUT OF BROODMARE OF THE YEAR TOUSSAUD

# EMPIRE MAKER

The Making of an Empire

## PIONEER OF THE NILE

Multiple Grade 1 Winner  
Sire of Triple Crown Champion American Pharoah

**\$1,634,200**

POWER. PASSION. PERFORMANCE.

**Leading Annual Grade I Trainers 1973-present**

1973 - Lucien Laurin/Charles Whittingham	6
1974 - Charles Whittingham	6
1975 - LeRoy Jolley	9
1976 - LeRoy Jolley	9
1977 - Laz Barrera	6
1978 - Laz Barrera	8
1979 - Laz Barrera	11
1980 - Neil Drysdale	6
1981 - Ron McAnally/Charles Whittingham	5
1982 - Charles Whittingham	7
1983 - Woody Stephens	8
1984 - Woody Stephens	11
1985 - D. Wayne Lukas	13
1986 - D. Wayne Lukas	17
1987 - D. Wayne Lukas	22
1988 - D. Wayne Lukas/Shug McGaughey	15
1989 - D. Wayne Lukas	18
1990 - D. Wayne Lukas	13
1991 - D. Wayne Lukas/Shug McGaughey	8
1992 - Ron McAnally	11
1993 - Richard Mandella	8
1994 - D. Wayne Lukas	10
1995 - D. Wayne Lukas	17
1996 - D. Wayne Lukas	13
1997 - D. Wayne Lukas	10
1998 - Bob Baffert	7
1999 - Bob Baffert	20
2000 - D. Wayne Lukas	8
2001 - Robert Frankel	18
2002 - Robert Frankel	14
2003 - Robert Frankel	25
2004 - Robert Frankel	13
2005 - Todd Pletcher	10
2006 - Todd Pletcher	17
2007 - Todd Pletcher	17
2008 - Robert Frankel	13
2009 - Bob Baffert	10
2010 - Todd Pletcher	14
2011 - Bob Baffert	11
2012 - Bob Baffert	14
2013 - Todd Pletcher	13
2014 - Bob Baffert/Todd Pletcher	9
2015 - Todd Pletcher	15

# G1 VERSATILITY

**GOLDEN SHAHEEN**  
6 FURLONGS ALL-WEATHER

**PRIORESS**  
6 FURLONGS DIRT

**VANDERBILT**  
6 FURLONGS DIRT

**VOSBURGH**  
6 FURLONGS DIRT

**BALLERINA**  
7 FURLONGS DIRT

**HUMANA DISTAFF**  
7 FURLONGS DIRT

**CIGAR MILE**  
1 MILE DIRT

**PRIX JEAN PRAT**  
1 MILE TURF

**HOLLYWOOD DERBY**  
1 1/8 MILE TURF

**BELMONT DERBY**  
1 1/4 MILE TURF

**JOCKEY CLUB GOLD CUP**  
1 1/4 MILE DIRT

**TRAVERS**  
1 1/4 MILE DIRT

# SPEIGHTSTOWN

THE MOST VERSATILE SIRE IN TOWN.

GONE WEST - SILKEN CAT, BY STORM CAT | 2016 FEE: \$100,000 S&N



A TAYLOR MADE / WINSTAR VENTURE  
STANDING AT WINSTAR  
(859) 873-1717 • WWW.WINSTARFARM.COM

# NYTB's Annual Stallion Season Auction

January 18-20, 2016  
Starquine.com



Donations of stallion seasons are now being accepted for the **New York Thoroughbred Breeders' annual stallion season auction**, to be held on *Starquine.com* from Monday, January 18 to Wednesday, January 20.

The auction raises funds that enable NYTB to carry on its two-fold mission of promoting New York breeding and racing and protecting the welfare of industry stakeholders.

## Florida Stallions:

Bahamian Squall | First Dude | Overdriven

## Kentucky Stallions:

Artie Schiller | Giant Oak | Girolamo | I Want Revenge  
Jersey Town | Overanalyze | Paynter | Perfect Soul | Take Charge Indy  
Tale of Ekati | Taste Of Paradise

## New York Stallions:

Alpha | Big Brown | Boys at Tosconova | Central Banker | Cosmonaut  
Courageous Cat | Desert Party | D' Funnybone | Dr Large | Dublin  
Emcee | Forty Tales | Freud | Frost Giant | Giant Surprise | Golden Ticket  
Heavy Breathing | Here Comes Ben | Honorable Dillon | Japan | Majestic City  
Major Gain | Micromanage | Midas Touch (GB) | Mission Impazible  
Normandy Invasion | Posse | Rule By Night | Sir Whimsey  
Soaring Empire | Stonesider | Teuflesberg | The Lumber Guy | Trinniberg

Questions may be directed to NYTB at (518) 587-0777 or [info@nytbreeders.org](mailto:info@nytbreeders.org)

## STARLIGHT RUNNERS SHINING BRIGHT

by Ben Massam

Starlight Racing has enjoyed considerable success at the Gulfstream Park Championship Meet over the years, and the stable is off to another hot start with a trio of wins in the first two weeks of this year's stand. With several of the stable's



Itsaknockout | A. Coglianese

established stars also approaching a return to action, founder Jack Wolf and partners have much to look forward to in the coming months.

Trainer Todd Pletcher sent out two Starlight juvenile maiden winners over this past weekend, highlighted by **Neolithic** (Harlan's Holiday)'s rallying victory in a 1 1/16-mile test Saturday. Wolf noted

that while Neolithic still has significant room for improvement, he is hopeful that the colt will follow a similar trajectory to **Itsaknockout** (Lemon Drop Kid), who captured the GII Fountain of Youth S. for Starlight at last year's meet.

"[Rider] Johnny Velazquez said [Neolithic] was very green," commented Wolf. "He had to ride him the whole way. I haven't

seen the [Ragozin] numbers yet, but he was five and six wide the whole time. He had a 79 Beyer, so I would suspect his Rag number might be significantly better than you would think it would be. The fractions weren't slow, but for a horse to close into those fractions was pretty impressive."

With a win in his first try around two turns under his belt, Starlight and Pletcher will decide a plan for Neolithic on a race-by-race basis.

"We'll probably look for an allowance race for him next time going two turns," Wolf said. "If he gets a little more professional and runs a nice race there, the dream is still alive."

Sunday's card at Gulfstream saw two successful first-time turf performances for Starlight and Pletcher, who is clicking at a remarkable 45% win rate at the young meet. The 2-year-old filly **Castor** (Malibu Moon) captured a 7 1/2-furlong maiden event, while sophomore **Tasunke** (Indian Charlie) completed a Pletcher-trained exacta in a contentious allowance race. Wolf said that based on feedback from Velazquez, Pletcher plans to keep both fillies on the grass in the future.

Pletcher is also busy plotting a schedule for Itsaknockout, who won three times in Hallandale last winter and has not competed since a ninth-place finish in the GI Kentucky Derby May 2. The bay recently worked a bullet five furlongs in 1:00.69 at Palm Beach Downs Sunday and is nearing a race in the next few weeks. **Cont. p7**

# CLASSIC PERFORMANCE

Runner-up by a head to four-time G1 winner **TONALIST** (\$40,000 S&N) in the **\$1,500,000 Belmont S. (G1)**, setting all the fractions and defeating G1 winner **WICKED STRONG** and Horse of the Year **CALIFORNIA CHROME**

"We bred him to win a Classic, and he nearly pulled it off"

– Elliott Walden



New in 2016  
 Fee: \$7,500 S&N  
 A.P. Indy - Flaming Heart,  
 by Touch Gold

WINSTAR

859.873.1717  
 winstarfarm.com

COMMISSIONER BRED TO LEAD

**Starlight cont.**

"We saw the horse breeze [Sunday] morning," Wolf explained. "He's really doing well and he looks fantastic. I was talking to the exercise rider and she's been around him since the get go and she thinks he's matured a lot--he's a lot more laid back. We'll be no worse for the wear with his time off, and hopefully even better. As far as when we're bringing the horse back, I think it



Uncle Vinny | A. Coglianese

will be relatively soon if we can find an allowance race or one of these stakes races like the [Gill Hal's Hope S. Jan. 9]."

Itsaknockout is joined on the comeback trail by classmate **Two Weeks Off** (Harlan's Holiday), who likewise has been off since a fifth-place run in the Gil Woody Stephens

S. in June; and Grade II-winning and GISP 2-year-old **Uncle Vinny** (Uncle Mo). Although both colts will soon return to breezing at J.J. Pletcher's Payton Training Center, Wolf cautioned that there is no pressure to get Uncle Vinny back into race shape in time for the major Kentucky Derby preps.

"[Uncle Vinny] had a chip in his ankle, and we removed that," explained Wolf. "There was no other damage, so we should see him back breezing at J.J.'s within two weeks. I don't know that we're going to have him back for the early races [on the Triple Crown trail], but he'll be no worse for the wear."

As disappointing as it may have been to miss a number of important races with their absent runners, Wolf said he is optimistic about the coming year with an arsenal that is nearing full restoration.

"I'll tell you what, about six months ago, we were loaded," quipped Wolf. "Well, the good news is that they all are going to come back. We should hopefully really have a nice year--knock on wood. But hopefully they come back stronger and do what we think they would have done over the second half of last year."

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [E-mail](#)
- [Print](#)

**Correction:** Our statistics in the Scat Daddy obituary in Monday's newsletter were misleading. As a sire, Scat Daddy sired 43 stakes winners and 16 graded winners worldwide in 2015. He sired nine graded stakes winners in the Northern Hemisphere, while the others were from Southern Hemisphere-foaled crops. We regret the confusion.

# CLASSIC PEDIGREE

## A.P. Indy's Last Classic Son

**Retired sound with earnings of \$962,237**  
*More than PULPIT, MALIBU MOON, FLATTER, GIROLAMO, and other influential sons of A.P. Indy at stud*

New in 2016  
 Fee: \$7,500 S&N  
 A.P. Indy - Flaming Heart,  
 by Touch Gold

# COMMISSIONER

BRED TO LEAD

**WINSTAR** 859.873.1717  
 winstarfarm.com

### COMMISSIONER Bay Horse; foaled 2011



**By A.P. INDY** (1989). Horse of the year, classic winner of \$2,979,815, Belmont S. **IG11**, etc. Leading sire twice, sire of 18 crops of racing age, 1224 foals, 946 starters, 155 black-type winners, 11 champions, 692 winners of 2278 races and earning \$134,544,965, 11 champions, including Mineshaft (\$2-283,402, Jockey Club Gold Cup **IG11** (BEL, \$600,000), etc.), Rags to Riches **IG11** (\$1,342,528), Bernardini **IG11** (\$3,060,480), Mineshaft **IG11** (\$2-283,402), and of Honor Code **IG11** (to 4, 2015, \$2,518,260), Aptitude **IG11**.

**1st dam**  
**FLAMING HEART**, by Touch Gold. 4 wins at 4 and 5, \$185,914, in N.A./U.S., Strolling Belle S.-R (AQU, \$37,350), 2nd Next Move H. **IG31** (AQU, \$21,364); winner in 2 starts at 5, \$67,500, in Canada, Hill 'n' Dale S. [L] (WO, \$60,000). (Total: \$245,961). Dam of 5 foals, 4 winners, including--  
**COMMISSIONER** (c. by A.P. Indy). Black-type winner, below.  
**LAUGH TRACK** (c. by Distorted Humor). 3 wins at 3 and 4, \$214,006, in Canada, Vigil S. **IG31** (WO, \$94,500), 3rd Connaught Cup S. **IG21** (WO, \$20,000); winner at 4, \$387,663, in N.A./U.S., 2nd Xpressbet Breeders' Cup Sprint **IG11** (SA, \$270,000), Stoll Keenon Ogden Phoenix S. **IG31** (KEE, \$40,000), 3rd Commonwealth S. **IG31** (KEE, \$17,500). (Total: \$598,014). Saint X. (c. by Tiznow). Winner at 3, placed at 5, 2015, \$76,430.

**2nd dam**  
**HOT LEAR**, by Lear Fan. 4 wins in 7 starts to 4, \$106,050, Santa Clara H. (BM, \$25,230), Bay Meadows Debutante S. (BM, \$19,670), Courtship S. (BM, \$19,600), etc. Half-sister to **INTERN [L]**, **LOVE MEDICINE**. Dam of--  
**FLAMING HEART** (f. by Touch Gold). Black-type winner, above.  
**Dash for Money** (f. by General Meeting). Winner at 2, \$53,202, 3rd Railbird S. **IG31** (HOL, \$12,864). Dam of 6 foals, 5 to race, all winners, including--  
**SO LONESOME** (g. by Awesome Again). 4 wins at 2 and 3, \$394,067, Albany S.-R (SAR, \$150,000), Virgo Libra S.-R (AQU, \$60,000), 2nd Empire Classic H.-R (BEL, \$60,000), 3rd Manila S. (BEL, \$10,000), etc.  
**NO SPIN** (g. by Johannesburg). 8 wins, 2 to 5, placed at 6, 2015, \$375,378, Arapahoe Park Classic S. (ARP, \$60,000), etc.  
**Ack Naughty** (f. by Affleet Alex). Winner at 2 and 3, 2015, \$144,600, 2nd Chelsea Flower S. (BEL, \$20,000).  
 Love Torch. Unraced. Dam of 4 foals, 3 to race, 2 winners, including--  
**Reserve Love** (f. by Philanthropist). 3 wins at 2 and 3, 2015, \$152,761, in Canada, 3rd South Ocean S.-R (WO, \$12,500). (Total: \$126,796).

**RACE RECORD:** At 2, one win, once 2nd in 2 starts; at 3, one win, twice 2nd (Belmont S. **IG11** (BEL, \$280,000), Peter Pan S. **IG21** (BEL, \$40,000)), once 3rd (Sunland Derby **IG31** (SUN, \$96,000)); at 4, three wins (Hawthorne Gold Cup H. **IG21** (HAW, \$150,000), Pirmico Special S. **IG31** (PIM, \$180,000), Skip Away S. **IG31** (GP, \$92,070)), once 3rd. Totals: 5 wins, 3 times 2nd, twice 3rd. Earned \$962,237.

## How American Pharoah Changed Racing: An Insider's Perspective

*As 2015 comes to a close, the importance of American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile)'s incredible year has had time to sink in.*



**American Pharoah winning the Belmont** | Sarah K. Andrew

*From his stellar spring campaign, to his historic Triple Crown run, his breathtaking GI Haskell Inv., gutsy GI Travers S. and absolutely unbelievable GI Breeders' Cup Classic, American Pharoah certainly made an impact on sports and the news worldwide. We've asked a number of*

*industry insiders how he or she believes American Pharoah changed the racing landscape on both a historic and personal level.*

### Pete Bradley of Bradley Thoroughbreds:

It's been a huge plus for the industry and, yes, it buoyed it. But the question is: Who is the next star? Two years ago we had California Chrome and he really got a following, especially on

the West Coast. I was lucky enough to be at Del Mar when he ran there. The crowd that came out and the enthusiasm was infectious. That in itself you could see it was a boost, him being there. That phenomenon was eclipsed by American Pharoah, who has been the story of the 21st century, as far as race horses go. Not that you expect to have one every year, but it sure would be nice not to have a 37-year respite before our next superstar.

He couldn't have done anymore. In some ways, it's a shame that he couldn't run as a 4-year-old, but in this industry you have an understanding of how his value just ballooned as a stallion. The unfortunate part of our game is that when we get a star they are usually only shooting stars. While he will be remembered for the next 25 years without anyone blinking to recall what he did, it's unfortunately just recollection. I'm looking forward to the next horse trying to step into his shoes.

The one thing I think is that there is such a genuine appreciation in the Thoroughbred industry for the horse that goes beyond what we all hope we could ever get. When you have one that is that special a racehorse, that gives you his all every time and is just a magnificent athlete, it's as feel-good as you can get in this business. The appreciation factor from the professionals, the non-professionals. Horses capture imagination and a horse like him captures everyone's.

## CLASSIC LOOKS

**"He is a great-looking son of A.P. Indy, and an awesome value at \$7,500. Look at his head and eye. He's gorgeous. A real no-brainer."**

— Mike McMahon



New in 2016  
Fee: \$7,500 S&N  
A.P. Indy - Flaming Heart,  
by Touch Gold



859.873.1717  
winstarfarm.com

**COMMISSIONER** BRED TO LEAD



# SKY KINGDOM

Empire Maker - Sky Beam, by Kingmambo

Track Record-Setting Multiple GSW  
by Sire of Sires **EMPIRE MAKER**

---

From the direct family of preeminent  
sire of sires **A.P. INDY** - 3rd dam is  
blue hen **WEEKEND SURPRISE**

*New For 2016*

**Fee: \$5,000 S&N**

Available for inspection



Contact Ryan Norton: (859) 254-0424



**Jennie Rees, former turf writer at the Louisville Courier-Journal:**

For me, personally, after covering 11 unsuccessful attempts going back to '87 with Alysheba, it's just so terrific to finally cover a Triple Crown winner.

We've never seen what it would be like in the Digital Age. Now what we know is that I think he set the gold standard. It shows that it's possible to be done, which is a great thing for the sport because it will stop the discussion whether they should change the Triple Crown. It's supposed to be hard and it shows the value of not cheapening it up. Keep it hard, and when it is accomplished, it's so terrific for the sport.

I don't think it will be a thing where if it's accomplished in a couple of years, people will say it's too easy. I think people will remember what happened, that in the 70s there was the cluster of the Triple Crown winner and then we went through this long drought.

What it also showed was the best practices for winning a Triple Crown.

What his connections did to make the horse as public as they could was something that a lot of people should take a page from. When people have, if not a Triple Crown winner a very good horse, show how you can make the public feel more a part of it--up close and personal.

Obviously, it doesn't work for every horse, but I think it shows from their openness and willingness to try.

From interviewing people about it, everybody had the same sense that I had, that you felt so good about horse racing after a time when it had taken some PR hits. It brings out the best about horse racing and these amazing animals who are the great equalizer of people from different backgrounds.

**Larry Collmus, track announcer, who called American Pharoah's Triple Crown and the final three traces of his career for NBC:**

For me, it was a dream come true. The day before the Belmont S. was the 30th anniversary of the first race that I ever called on the mic at Bowie Racetrack at age 18. To think that 30 years later I would get a chance to call history, a horse going for the Triple Crown, and then have it actually happen was incredible.

Then to be able to follow that story and after the Belmont to be able to call him after he was a Triple Crown winner in the Haskell, the Travers and the Breeders' Cup was really neat, too. The most memorable thing for me was the day before the Travers when I got to finally meet him and hang out with him and realize what an unusual horse he is and how he acts around people. Compared to your average high-level race horse, he's just so laid-back and cool.

It was just an amazing year to be a part of something like this that hardly ever happens. **Cont. p10**

**The only stallion in North America with progeny earnings of over \$10m in**

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>

Source: bloodhorse.com



**Brody's Cause wins the 2015 Breeders' Futurity-Gr.1**

**GIANT'S CAUSEWAY**

- **Champion sire (x3)**
- **Champion juvenile sire (x2)**

• ASHFORD • **COOLMORE®** • ASHFORD •  
A M E R I C A

Aisling Duignan, Dermot Ryan, Charlie O'Connor, Adrian Wallace or Scott Calder. Tel: 859-873-7088. Fax: 859-879 5756.

**Collmus cont.**

What it did, which I'm very happy about, is that it ended the discussion about changing the Triple Crown. That is a very positive thing. I've always been a fan of 'if it ain't broke don't fix it.' That was one thing about racing that worked, the Triple Crown, but because no horse had won it, people kept talking about wanting to change it. Then here comes this horse along proving that it can be done by the right horse. That might have been one of the most positive things that came out his winning the Triple Crown.

Obviously, the sport got more interest than it had media-wise in quite a while, but long term to me that is the most important thing.

**Trainer Mark Casse:**

He was wonderful. I don't know that I have ever cheered for a horse harder that wasn't my own. Honestly, I cheered for him pretty hard. I tell you, I tip my hat to the entire group, not just American Pharoah, but to Bob [Baffert]. It's one thing to have a horse in training to win the Triple Crown. There is a lot of pressure getting to that point, but after you win the Triple Crown the pressure doubles. But you know what, Bob and the Zayats, I truly believe they tried to do what is best for the game and I commend them for that. They made me proud to be in the sport we are in.

**Chris Dragone, Director, National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, Saratoga Springs:**

To me, personally, because I love horse racing, it was special. I guess it would be like Ted Williams batting .400. It had that kind of feel. It was so special. We've been waiting so long and it was especially neat that it happened a year after a lot of people thought it was getting impossible for a Thoroughbred to accomplish. That was also what was special about it. There were a lot of people after California Chrome that had their doubts that it might happen and to watch this horse do it--and I don't know if would say made it look easy--but clearly in such a dominating manner, was so impressive. Then to so him go on and dominate the entire the season was very special to me. I think anyone who loves the sport appreciates that kind of performance, that kind of champion.

I can only speak for a person who was in Saratoga this summer. If you were in Saratoga you saw the buzz, not just when he committed to the Travers, but before it. You saw more people up here. Definitely the attendance at the Museum was up and I think across the street at the track, a lot of that has to do with American Pharoah and the fact that public really started to take another look at the sport. In that sense he was very special and very important to the sport that way.

And that public workout is one of those things that you'll remember forever, much more so than the Travers. It was the public workout the day before where I think all of the tumblers kind of fell into line. The public, the connections of the horse, everything was just perfect that day.



## Sign up *now* for TDN Alerts

Find out what's going on in racing or at the sales **as it happens** with TDN alerts-- accessible from your computer or specially formatted for your mobile phone.

**CLICK HERE**

  
 to sign up

### IN OTHER NEWS

A daily roundup of racing articles in non-industry media

Sponsored by *Haras des Capucines*

NOW ACCEPTING BOARDERS

Raise and sell your horse with France's finest breeding and consignment operation.

*The International Connection.*

HARAS DES CAPUCINES • EUROPEAN SALES MANAGEMENT

Michel Zerolo • Eric Puerari • US: 305-538-2080 • FR: 011-33-6-08-91-04-34

**[The Worst Controversy on the Internet Today Is Serena Williams vs. a Horse](#)** *Tennis superstar Serena Williams was named Sports Illustrated's 2015 Sportsperson of the Year [Monday]--but there's apparently a contingent of people on the internet who think American Pharoah, a rare Triple Crown-winning horse (important: not a person), was more deserving of the award. Jay Hathaway, New York Magazine*

**[Serena Williams Wins Sportsperson Of The Year; Poll Favored American Pharoah](#)** *Normally, that's where the story would end. Instead, horse-racing fans made themselves heard, complaining that the Triple Crown-winning Thoroughbred American Pharoah was snubbed. NPR*

## A FAN'S TAKE ON AMERICAN PHAROAH

Although **American Pharoah** didn't secure *Sports Illustrated's* coveted *Sportsman of the Year* award this week, he has meant a great deal to racing fans the world over. We asked our readers what *American Pharoah's* historic season meant to them and how it changed their year.

### Jean Derench, Methuen, MA:

What does American Pharoah mean to horse racing?

Hopefully, he has helped to put an end to those folks who kept crying to change the distances and the dates for the Triple Crown races!

I was privileged to be there for Pharoah as well as Secretariat, Seattle Slew and Affirmed....each of those horses helped put racing back on the front page and has obtained new fans for a sport that desperately needs them.

And Espinoza has been a wonderful representative for the sport as well. Please don't forget him!

### Mary Darden McLeod, Boone, NC:

I was born and live in North Carolina, a state which does not have horseracing. My immediate family preferred football and basketball to horseracing. Somehow, the racing gods found me and made certain I watched Secretariat, Ruffian, Alydar, and others.

I have attended the Secretariat Festival in Paris and the Secretariat Birthday Celebration at The Meadow more than once and have been constantly amazed by the love shown for Secretariat by people who were not alive when he raced or stood stud. The Triple Crown Winner of my youth has transcended flesh and blood. Having met him at Claiborne, I am certain he knew he would! Back then, there was scarce publicity about some of the not so wonderful things about horse racing. However, our country was faced with many challenges. My Secretariat represented hope, love, hard work, and zest.

Then, as you know, we went through The Wilderness. Not only did we not have a Triple Crown winner, Barbaro, Smarty Jones, Spectacular Bid, and others broke our hearts. Many fans took their broken hearts and disgust with the negative news about the industry away from horse racing. We true believers and lovers of the magnificent athletes waited, much like concertgoers holding candles, lighters, cellphones, hoping for an encore. We waited and waited, and more people left the sport for another sport in which a champion is crowned each year. At times, it was difficult when folks teased about that sport you love. **Cont. p12**



*Patience. Affection.  
Wisdom. Forgiveness.*

HORSES GIVE SO MUCH TO US.

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,  
PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THEM  
WITH A DONATION TO THE  
*Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation.*

**PLEASE GIVE NOW**



THOROUGHBRED  
RETIREMENT  
FOUNDATION

WWW.TRFINC.ORG  
P.O. BOX 834 · 10 LAKE AVENUE · SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866 · (518) 226-0028

**Mary Darden McLeod cont.**

Then, an exceptional athlete arrived: one that not only loved to run and refused to lose, but also one who has an amazing connection with our species. American Pharoah has shown so many people what it is like to win with talent, grace, and determination, and he has shown that it is possible to have a strong bond with humans. Decades and generations from now, there will be people who were not alive to see him race and/or to meet him. However, they will have the same love for him that Secretariat Nation has for that magnificent gentleman. American Pharoah is the Grand Slam winner of my mid-life. I was at the Breeders' Cup to witness history, and, with any luck, I will be able to meet him one day. I know in my soul, just as others in American Pharoah Nation, that, if I do, I will have the honor of being in the presence of a representative of his species who, just like Secretariat, represents hope, love, hard work, and zest for so many. Hopefully, the industry will embrace This New Nation.

**Daniel Lewis:**

It's hard to put into words what this horse has meant to me. As a racing fan (who has also worked for two incredible TB Facilities in Florida for over a decade) I felt appreciated by the owners. Mr. Zayat always would favorite my tweets and even made a few replies which, even at my age, made me feel more connected and a part of the American Pharoah Team. I got to enjoy a horse that tried, that had kindness and personality and it gave me so much enjoyment to watch him run and watch people from all walks of life from kids to celebrities enjoy the horse. After the Preakness S. I became ill with a bad flu, I went downhill and on Belmont Day I was so weak with what was diagnosed later as heart failure. Watching him win was breathtaking and I thought to myself "if I die tomorrow I will be able to say it did happen in my lifetime". When he ran in the Haskell Invitational, I could not and still don't know how to express the awe-inspiring way he did it, and his defeat in the Travers to me showed his heart, showed why we breed these athletes, why we spend hours as night watch, grooms, exercise riders, etc. etc. devoted to these animals. That was heart. And then to read how Mr. Zayat felt for the fans, I just remember tweeting something along the lines of, "I'm not disappointed. In fact, I cried tears of admiration watching him show his heart." American Pharoah was what racing needed. He united us as fans! American Pharoah is a gift to all of us, and he did not disappoint me or the racing world. He gave me a little oomph to battle through my health issues. He inspired me and I will always be thankful for the Zayats and Bafferts for the way they gave us the horse to enjoy.

THE 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



STALLION SEASON  
AUCTION

*Please help support TCA  
with stallion season donations or  
an auction sponsorship.*

The auction makes it possible for TCA to provide grants to qualified charities that work to help Thoroughbreds and the people who care for them. These grants are only made possible by our generous supporters.

*For more information call (859) 276-4989  
or visit [www.tca.org](http://www.tca.org).*

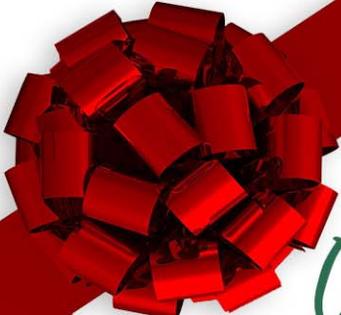
**ARCI COMMITS TO UNIFYING INDUSTRY IN '16, WILL HOLD TOWN HALL MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors of the Association of Racing Commissioners International has voted to focus in 2016 on "unifying the racing industry behind efforts to strengthen integrity efforts and possibly a central rule making process in the U.S. to achieve uniform medication policies and consistent implementation," it was announced Tuesday in a press release.

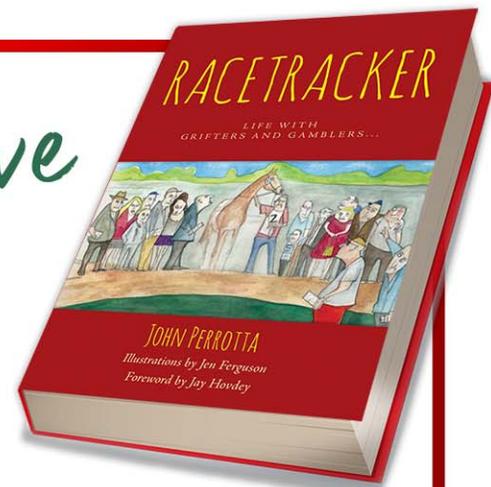
To that end, the ARCI plans to hold town hall-style meetings among racing industry participants and racing fans.

"The political divide that currently exists in the racing industry is destructive to the sport," said current ARCI Chairman Mark Lamberth, who indicated "significant progress has been made and continues to be made on a variety of fronts to implement agreed upon reforms." Lamberth noted that the ARCI Compliance Committee that he formed earlier this year has identified the issues in specific jurisdictions that have been an obstacle to achieving uniformity.

"We believe it is time to take a holistic approach to these issues and develop a consensus on how to achieve this," added ARCI President Ed Martin.



Order soon to arrive  
by Christmas!



[CLICK HERE](#)  
to purchase

## **RACETRACKER: LIFE WITH GRIFTERS AND GAMBLERS...** by John Perrotta

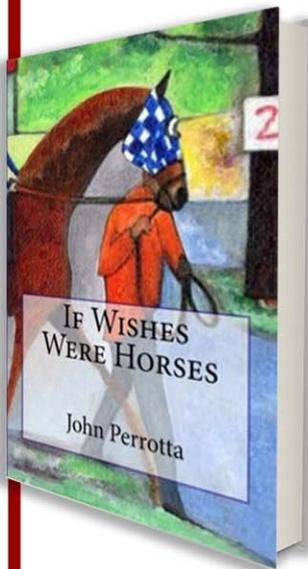
Perrotta's story digs deep into the thoroughbred racing world through a unique insider's perspective on the strategies, emotions, and personal lives of those involved in high-risk gaming. In his travels, he meets an array of colorful characters who populate the racetracks, wheeling and dealing in the search for the fastest horse and the biggest prize.

*"Whether you are a hardened lifer, or a mere novice, you will marvel in the glamorous, exciting, and always unpredictable life of a racetracker."*

-Amazon review by Dennis Lynch, Fasig-Tipton

*"John writes with first hand experience about people from every strata of the racing world and his book mirrors that fact in that it will appeal to many different types of individuals, whether they are 'racetrackers' or not."*

-Amazon Customer Review



## **IF WISHES WERE HORSES** by John Perrotta

[CLICK HERE](#)  
to purchase

Hamilton Greer is a sixteen year old runaway from Vermont. He hops a Greyhound bus and flees a rocky home life as he seeks validation in a world he barely understands. Ending up on the backstretch of Saratoga Race Track in the summer of 1972 is the last place he expects to land, but it opens doors to the unique world of Thoroughbred racing as he follows the horses from track to track in the company of a sage named Willie. Sometimes light, sometimes dark, Hamilton's tastes of life begin to shape his sense of values through bittersweet victories and tearful losses.

*"Great read for teens on up. Gives insight into an industry most of us know little about, and how you can hold onto a dream. Good companion to his other book Racetracker."*

- Amazon Customer Review

*"A well written and deeply human account of [the main character's] travels and experiences. A great companion to 'Racetracker.'"*

-Amazon Customer Review



**Stephen Got Even (A.P. Indy--Immerse, by Cox's Ridge)** has been pensioned from stud duty at Lane's End Farm and will spend his retirement at Old Friends Farm in Georgetown, Kentucky, the farm announced in a post on their website Tuesday. The stallion sired champion Stevie Wonderboy, as well as Grade I winners First Dude and I Want Revenge. | Lane's End Farm

## ROOKIES

### First-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, December 16

Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2012 Fee, # foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs \* Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

**FRIESAN FIRE** (A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm, \$4K, 61/9/0  
2-PEN, Msw, 6f, Thea's Reign, 20-1

**GIROLAMO** (A.P. Indy), Darley, \$15K, 87/19/1

6-AQU, Msw, 1 1/16m, Out of Nowhere, 15-1

6-AQU, Msw, 1 1/16m, Bareeqa, \$13K FTK OCT yrl, 15-1

### First/second-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, 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, 152/50/5

2-PEN, Msw, 6f, +Suzy Moonlight, \$7K EAS SEP yrl, 15-1

#### Sunrise Stallions 2016 Stud Fees

Big Brown	\$10,000, LFSN
Frost Giant	\$7,500, LFSN
Heavy Breathing	\$2,500, LFSN

Big Brown and Heavy Breathing will be available for viewing at Dutchess Views Jan. 16 from 1 to 4 p.m., while Frost Giant will be shown at Keane Stud Jan. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## American-Bred Winners Abroad

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Thanks for flying IRT.

Phone +1 630 377 2300  
Click here to visit [irt.com](http://irt.com)

### IN BRITAIN:

+Mandrell, f, 2, Dubawi (Ire). See "TDN Europe/International."

## BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**8th-PRX, \$44,400**, (S), 12-15, (NW2BX), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:06.31, ft.

**ELEVATED (g, 4, Jump Start--We Wak Harbor, by Waquoit)**

Lifetime Record: SP, 22-5-3-2, \$225,662. O-D Hatman

Thoroughbreds and Kingdom Bloodstock Inc; B-Nina H. Gardner (PA); T-Phil Schoenthal. \*\$30,000 Ylg '12 EASSEP. \*\*1/2 to Serene Harbor (Valley Crossing), SW, \$276,426.

**8th-ZIA, \$33,085**, (S), 12-15, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:15.46, ft.

**CITIZEN GELLER (g, 3, Pro Prado--Ghostly Belle, by Ghostly Moves)** Lifetime Record: 16-3-1-2, \$72,276. O-UKUSA Stables; B-Larry Nichols & Denise Nichols (NM); T-Eric D. Mikkelson.

**3rd-HAW, \$27,720**, 12-15, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.21, gd.

**FLASHA (g, 3, Closing Argument--Xcellent Lisa, by Devil His Due)** Lifetime Record: 15-5-1-0, \$60,786. O/B-Lamont H. Nienast LLC (IL); T-Percy E. Scherbenske.

### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+**Diamond N the Skye**, f, 2, **Disappearing Trick--Dela's Diamond**, by Half High. ZIA, 12-14, (S), 5f, :58.27. B-Lucky Six Inc. (NM). \*1/2 to Jenson's Miracle (Rocket Included), SW, \$201,529.

**Terras Song**, g, 2, **Song of Navarone--Teras Baby**, by To Teras. ZIA, 12-15, (S), 1m, 1:39.24. B-Henry Dominguez (NM). \*SP.

**Silken Wildcat**, g, 3, **D'wildcat--Lilly Marlene**, by Lost Soldier. HAW, 12-15, 6f, 1:10.81. B-Dee-Ellen Cook (FL). \*\$16,000 Ylg '13 OBSAUG; \$47,000 Ylg '13 FTKOCT; \$50,000 2yo '14 OBSOPN.



Did You Know?...  
Songbird (Medaglia d'Oro)  
was tabbed as a  
"TDN Rising Star"

Visit the [TDN Rising Stars](#) section on our website!

## AN UNDERRATED SIRE



Camacho could be about to take off | Yeomanstown Stud

By Kevin Blake

There is a cautionary saying in trading circles that goes, "The graveyards of Wall Street are full of traders that were right too soon." Essentially, it is a warning that it isn't necessarily enough to be right, one must be right at the right time in order to succeed.

The same wisdom can very much be applied to commercial breeders who are looking for value at the lower end of the nomination fee ladder. Groundwork and research can lead to the identification of a stallion that is underrated based on their achievements and seems a value proposition at their current fee. However, even if the breeder is proven to have been 100% correct in their assessment of that stallion in the fullness of time, they are unlikely to get fully rewarded in the sales ring unless their timing is right.

So, how is a breeder to find a value stallion and know when the right time to support them is? Two weeks ago, the appeal of using Dandy Man in 2016 was discussed in this space ([click here](#)), and he is a classic case of what to look for. He is a stallion that has shown the ability to get the job done from relatively limited opportunities and has bigger and better crops that are about to hit the track for him in the next couple of seasons. This makes 2016 the right time to take a chance on him in the hopes of him becoming more widely appreciated by the market in the time between one's mare being covered and when the resulting offspring is sold as either a foal or a yearling. [cont. p2](#)

## CRAIG REFLECTS ON EAGLE SEASON

This year's G1 Prince of Wales's S. scorer **Free Eagle (Ire)** (High Chaparral {Ire}--Polished Gem {Ire}, by Danehill) has been retired to join the Irish National Stud roster in 2016, and owner/breeder Moyglare Stud's breeding advisor Fiona Craig said the 4-year-old exited his planned swansong in the G1 Hong Kong Cup "fine, just very tired." After appearing poised for a run rounding the turn in Sunday's race, Free Eagle faded to finish last of 13 at Sha Tin.

"He looked great before the race and his weight was spot-on. The Rosewell staff who traveled with him--Patrick O'Brien and Carlos Athilas--did a great job, but we think the year and the travel just caught up with him," Craig explained. "[Jockey] Pat [Smullen] felt the ground was as fast as he would want and when asked for an effort he just ran flat." *Cont. p3*

in **TDN America** today...

### BROWN, PLETCHER SHARING RARIFIED AIR

Mike Kane takes a look at banner years for trainer Todd Pletcher and Chad Brown, who both eclipsed the \$20 million mark in earnings in 2015.

[Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

## 2015 LEADING EUROPEAN FIRST CROP SIRES

(IN ORDER OF WORLDWIDE WINNERS)

STALLION	WNRS	SWs	TOTAL
1 <b>Canford Cliffs</b>	33	3	€648,537
2 <b>Zoffany</b>	30	5	€1,051,287
3 Lilbourne Lad	25	0	€321,828
4 Frozen Power	20	0	€240,391

Hyperion Promotions, 6/12/15

2015 yearlings sold for €340,000, €285,000, €280,000, €255,000, €200,000, €170,000 etc.

COOLMORE

# op/ed by Kevin Blake



## An Underrated Sire cont. from p1

Whether he takes off to the commercial heights that Kodiak has in recent years remains to be seen, but all the evidence suggests he has an excellent chance of proving to be a good value decision for those that weigh in with him.

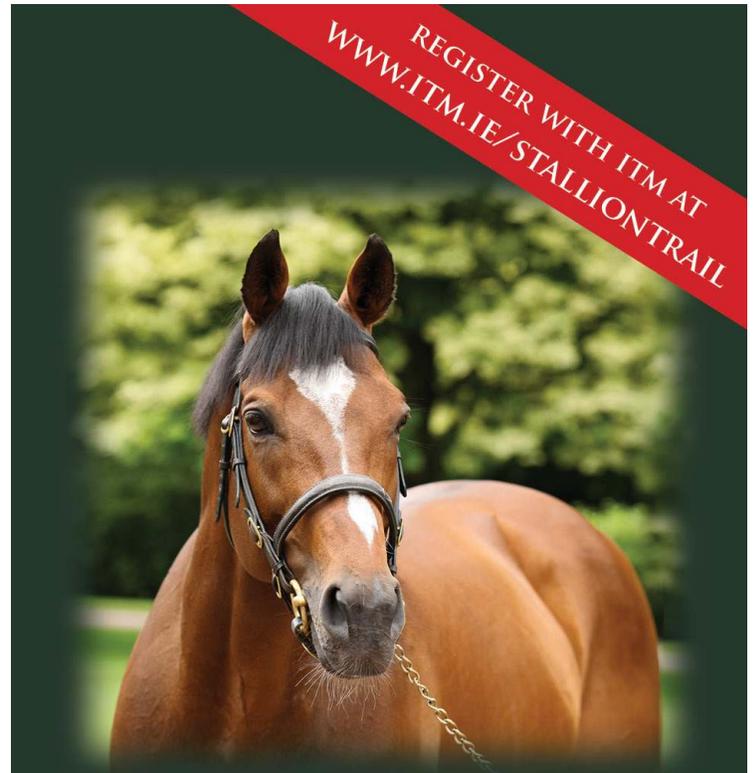
Another stallion with a sneakier but not dissimilar profile to Dandy Man that also ticks the aforementioned boxes is Camacho, who will stand for €7,500 at Morrinstown Lattin Stud in Kildare. The reason I suggest he is a sneakier proposition than Dandy Man is that while he has been covering mares for almost twice as long as Dandy Man, he hasn't had as many opportunities and his case needs a bit more explaining.

Camacho produced just 99 live foals in his first three crops and while he made a positive start with his first runners, he didn't capture the imagination of breeders straight away. Following a rush of mares in 2010 that produced 76 live foals in 2011, his support dropped substantially in the years that followed, with him producing just four live foals in 2013. Indeed, this lack of support saw him switched to Mickley Stud in England for the 2013 season.

However, 2013 was also the year that his biggest crop of 2011 hit the track and that increased support translated to increased success on the track, with him having his best-ever year with his 2-year-olds, in addition to his older horses also having a very good year. Those results saw him return to Morrinstown Lattin for 2014 at a fee of €7,500 with a renewed momentum behind him that yielded 82 live foals in 2015. The support for him continued to grow this year, with him covering 118 mares at a fee of €7,500.

Thus, the case for using Camacho in 2016 and/or 2017 is a clear one. Considering that he has only had 240 live foals in his first seven seasons which are now of racing age, all of which were sired at nomination fees of no more than €4,000; the fact that he has produced five horses that have earned Racing Post Ratings of 105 or more as well as 12 other horses that have run to an RPR of 90 or more showcases his merits as a stallion.

Year of Foaling	Nomination Fee	Live Foals	Median Yearling Price (Gns)	Average Yearling Price (Gns)	RPR of 90+ From Each Crop Up To End of 2012	RPR of 105+ From Each Crop Up To End of 2012
2007	€4,000	42	9,762	14,552	4	2
2008	€4,000	39	12,510	12,535	2	0
2009	€4,000	18	9,132	11,518	2	0
2010	€3,000	41	6,624	12,146	1	1
2011	€4,000	76	7,968	12,985	8	2
2012	€4,000	20	19,357	35,136	0	0
2013	€4,000	4	17,143	17,119	0	0
2014	€2,750	29	9,524	17,110		
2015	€7,500	82				



# THE IRISH STALLION TRAIL

JANUARY 22ND-23RD

A great opportunity to view many of the world's leading stallions as Ireland's top Flat and National Hunt Stud farms open their doors over two days.



T: +353 45 443060  
E: info@itm.ie • www.itm.ie

**An Underrated Sire cont.**

In terms of commercial appeal, another factor to consider is that Camacho has also been done no harm at all by the exploits of his half-brother Showcasing, who has established himself as one of the more promising young sires in Great Britain in the last two years.

To bring the discussion back to the matter of timing for those that are considering breeding their mare to Camacho in 2016, his much-improved crops in terms of quality and quantity are imminent. The first of those improved crops have just gone through the sale ring as foals. They established an average and median price of 18,540gns and 15,135gns, respectively, from 26 foals sold, which compares very favorably to his average and median of 8,661gns and 6,979gns respectively from 19 foals sold from his previous biggest foal crop of 2011.

For those that send mares to Camacho in 2016, the resulting offspring will be selling as foals just after Camacho's first improved crop has raced as 2-year-olds in 2017. If those breeders wait until those offspring are yearlings, Camacho will have had two improved crops on the track by the time the 2018 yearling sales come around.

Of course, nothing can ever be guaranteed, but with the promise of his best very much being yet to come, the odds are in Camacho's favor more than most and the next two seasons are the right time to take a chance on him.

 Facebook
  Twitter
  E-mail
  Print

Feedback: Kevin Blake at [@kevinblake2011](https://twitter.com/kevinblake2011) (or [garyking@thetdn.com](mailto:garyking@thetdn.com)).

**Craig Reflects On Eagle Season cont. from p1**

Craig added, "He vetted out sound after the race; there was a trace of mucus on the scope, which would not have helped, but we're not using it as an excuse."

'TDN Rising Star' Free Eagle displayed brilliance early on in his interrupted career, winning last year's G3 KPMG Enterprise S. off a year layoff and finishing third in the G1 Champion S., and his Prince of Wales's score came first-up off eight months' rest. Free Eagle was third in the G1 Qipco Irish Champion S. after falling victim of interference from the winner, Golden Horn (GB) (Cape Cross {Ire}), in the stretch, and was sixth in the G1 Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe prior to his Hong Kong sojourn.



Fiona Craig (right) and Moyglare owner Eva Haefner with Free Eagle | *Racing Post*

"We have had great times and a great range of emotions with Free Eagle," Craig reflected. "He is a gorgeous individual and a brilliant talent, but at the same time we also had our share of frustrations, plus the odd bump along the way. But he is a star and is now off to stud and we look forward to racing some of his offspring in a few years' time."

 Facebook
  Twitter
  E-mail
  Print

**ROTHSCHILD VOTED FRANCE GALOP PRESIDENT**

Edouard de Rothschild has been voted president of France-Galop, according to *Jour de Galop*. Rothschild, who had previously served in that post from 2003-2011, selected two vice presidents: Jean d'Indy for jumps racing and Jean-Pierre Colomby for flat racing.

Rothschild, whose stable includes this year's dual Group 1-winning miler Esoterique (Ire) (Daneshill Dancer {Ire}), studied law in Paris and business at New York University. He worked as an investment banker in London and Paris before co-founding Rothschild & Cie. Banque in 1987. Rothschild left that business in 2003 and in 2005 he became the major shareholder of the French daily newspaper Liberation. Rothschild is also involved with his family's winery, Chateau Lafite, as well as his family's stud farm, Haras de Meautry, in Normandy.

France Galop also elected its board of directors Tuesday. They are, according to *Jour de Galop*, Charles- Henri de Moussac, Guillaume de Saint-Seine, Christiane Head-Maarek, Loïc Malivet, Georges Rimaud, Jean-Baptiste Andreani, Axelle de Negro Watrigant, Marcel Chaouat, Hubert Tassin, Jean d'Indy, Jean-Pierre Colomby and Edouard Rothschild.

 Facebook
  Twitter
  E-mail
  Print



Edouard de Rothschild with Esoterique | *Racing Post*

## KEENELAND EXTENDS SPONSORSHIP

Keeneland has extended its sponsorship of The Curragh's G1 Keeneland Phoenix S. a further three years. The Lexington-based sales company has held that sponsorship since 2010 and the extension will see it run through 2018, when the redeveloped Curragh Racecourse is scheduled to be unveiled.

The Keeneland Phoenix S. is Europe's first juvenile Group 1 of the calendar year. It was this year won by Keeneland graduate



Air Force Blue winning the Keeneland Phoenix S. | *Racing Post*

Air Force Blue (War Front), the Cartier champion 2-year-old colt. Other recent winners include Holy Roman Emperor (Ire), George Washington, Johannesburg, Mastercraftsman (Ire), Saoirse Abu and Zoffany (Ire).

"Keeneland greatly appreciates the longstanding participation of clients from Ireland in our sales and racing," said Keeneland President and Chief Executive Officer Bill Thomason. "We are especially delighted about the success of Keeneland September Yearling Sale graduate Air Force Blue, who won this year's Keeneland Phoenix S. during his championship campaign. Keeneland is privileged to once again partner with The Curragh as the Phoenix S. race sponsor. With the changes to come for The Curragh, we look forward to many exciting times ahead."

Facebook
 Twitter
 E-mail
 Print

## GOFFS CONSOLIDATES IN STRONG YEAR

Goffs Chief Executive Henry Beeby described 2015 as a "year of highs" for the Irish sale company when Goffs released its annual comparative figures Tuesday. High points for the sale



Henry Beeby | *Racing Post*

company in 2015 included the sale of six €1 million-plus lots--including a top price of €2 million; the highest-priced colt foal in Europe; the top-priced horse in training in the UK and two European Classic winners.

"We are, of course, delighted to have all but matched last year's annual turnover at just short of €110 million and consolidated the remarkable growth we have recorded over the last five years," Beeby said.

### Goffs Comparative Annual Figures

	Offered	Sold	Turnover (€)	Average (€)
2014	3,448	2,790 (81%)	109,670,464	39,308
2015	3,849	3,024 (79%)	109,207,462	36,114

"Four millionaires at the Orby Sale for the first time and to four different buyers was backed up by another two European Classic winners to exemplify the Orby Sale's position as a premier European yearling sale," Beeby continued. "The November Foal Sale set a record for the second year in succession when the Dubawi--Nighttime foal became the highest-priced colt foal ever in Ireland at €1.1 million. His price proved to be the highest-priced colt foal in Europe and Europe's highest-priced Irish foal of the year."

"The November Foal Sale was immediately followed by a strong renewal of our Breeding Stock Sale, which recorded some impressive statistics with turnover up by 26% and the average growing by 20%," Beeby said. "As referenced following our November and December Sales, the one note of caution is the clearance rates that have demonstrably dropped as catalogue sizes have grown this year, and that should cause us all to reflect on a rising foal crop given what we learned a few short years ago. It is certainly worth thinking hard about a market that is enjoying fierce trade for some but little interest in others. So perhaps we should pause for a moment as we consider plans for 2016 and beyond, as it behooves us all to ensure we learned from the tough times we endured in 2009/10."

Beeby concluded, "we make no apology for repeating our cry to Irish breeders to send us more of their best, at the same time as thanking every single vendor who has supported us in 2015, as we are nothing without them. We also extend our thanks to the growing number of buyers from home and abroad who recognize and enjoy the unique Goffs service; we look forward to welcoming clients old and new back to our sales in 2016."

Facebook
 Twitter
 E-mail
 Print

## LEADING SIRES OF YEARLINGS IN 2015

### Ranked by Average Price

Stallion	Standing	Ring	Sold	Median	Average
Dubawi	Dalham Hall Stud	19	16	\$799,140	\$995,560
Deep Impact	Shadai Stallion Station	22	20	\$577,940	\$738,705
Frankel	Banstead Manor Stud	26	19	\$500,000	\$712,617
Galileo	Coolmore Stud	43	34	\$466,284	\$643,664
Tapit	Gainesway	58	42	\$487,500	\$615,290
War Front	Claiborne Farm	37	26	\$500,000	\$587,750
Dansili	Banstead Manor Stud	12	4	\$414,605	\$478,110
Oasis Dream	Banstead Manor Stud	29	26	\$322,890	\$418,218

Data provided by TDN Instatistics. [Click here](#) for more.  
Data as of Dec. 14. \$1 = €0.91 = £0.66

**BRITAIN** results sponsored by  **Destination Europe**  
www.destinationeuropereading.com

**Tuesday's Results:**

**5th-KEM, £6,600, Mdn, 12-15, 2yo, f, 8f (AWT), 1:41.61, st. +CAJOLED (FR) (f, 2, [High Chaparral {Ire}](#)--Dolphina, by Kingmambo),** who started at 16-1, was tardy from the gates but soon recovered to race in mid-division against the rail. Switched out with over two furlongs remaining, the homebred delivered a surge to lead with 150 yards to race en route to a convincing 1 1/2-length verdict over Andaz (GB) (Makfi {GB}). The dam, who descends from the Gill Jenny Wiley S. winner Sea of Showers (Seattle Slew) and the MG1SW highweight performer Chimes of Freedom from the family of Aldebaran, Good Journey and Spinning World, has a yearling colt by Acclamation (GB) and a foal colt by Exceed and Excel (Aus). Laugh Aloud (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), the half-sister to Debussy (Ire) (Diesis {GB}), was sent off the even-money favorite and after leading for the majority of the contest was inhaled at the furlong pole and faded into sixth. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$6,466. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O/B-Niarchos Family (FR); T-George Scott.

**6th-KEM, £6,600, Mdn, 12-15, 2yo, f, 8f (AWT), 1:39.59, st. +MANDRELL (f, 2, [Dubawi {Ire}](#)--Country Star {MGISW-US, \$668,865}, by Empire Maker),** sent off at 6-1, missed the kick and raced with one behind early. Making stealthy progress on the home turn, the homebred--whose second dam is the GISW Rings a Chime--grabbed the lead with 1 1/2 furlongs remaining and quickly asserted under hand riding to score by three lengths from Shypen (GB) (Archipenko). The dam, who was successful in the 2007 GI Darley Alcibiades S. and GI Hollywood Starlet S., has yearling and foal colts by Bernardini. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$6,466. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

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

 Facebook  Twitter  E-mail  Print

**OBSERVATIONS**  
on today's European racing scene

**11.30 Lingfield, Mdn, £5,200, 2yo, c/g, 8f (AWT)**

**DANGEROUS THOUGHT ([Super Saver](#))** is yet another significant newcomer from the John Gosden stable, being a \$250,000 KEESEP graduate who descends from the MGISW Dispute. Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum's representative is a half-brother to the pattern-race performers Tiz Now Tiz Then (Tiznow) and Maoineach (Congaree), who managed to win the G3 Round Tower S. on her debut for Jim Bolger.

**12.30 Lingfield, Mdn, £5,200, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT)**

**DUFAY (IRE) (Dubawi {Ire})** debuts for Godolphin, in whose silks the dam White Moonstone (Dynaformer) managed to win the G1 Fillies Mile, G2 May Hill S. and G3 Sweet Solera S. during an unbeaten sequence five years ago before injury intervened. Lining up against her with vital experience on her side is Anthony Oppenheimer's **Auntinet (Ire) ([Invincible Spirit {Ire}](#))**, a John Gosden-trained full-sister to Zebedee (GB) who was sixth on debut at Chelmsford last month.

 Facebook  Twitter  E-mail  Print

**FRANCE** results sponsored by  **Destination Europe**  
www.destinationeuropereading.com

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Olympic Torch (Fr), c, 2, Country Reel--Risque de Verglas (Fr)** (MSP-Fr, \$109,913), by Verglas (Ire). MPV, 12-15, 10f (AWT), 2:10.58. B-Mme R W Allen.



**HKIR 2015: A POSTSCRIPT**

by Alan Carasso

Just when you thought you were done with me...HA! I'm like that itch that won't go away. If you'll indulge me for a few more minutes, I promise not to bother you again for a while. I find myself in one of those spots. You know, you've been there--vacation for a week, come back and need a vacation? Yeah, that's where I'm at. I estimate that I got conservatively 25 hours of sleep over the six nights I lodged in Hong Kong and I don't sleep particularly well on planes. Instead, I write.

I boarded the first of the media 'coaches' to Sha Tin around 9:45 a.m. Sunday morning and, with better than two hours until the 12:25 p.m. first post, the place was jammed. *South China Morning Post* blogged that there were 50,000 people there at that stage and I believe it. [Cont. p6](#)



**A packed house Sunday at Sha Tin**  
HKJC photo

**HKIR 2015: A Postscript cont.**

More than 85,000 showed for the day overall, an impressive 9% more than last year. I can attest to the fact that it was pretty crowded, as I tried to watch the Vase outside from one of the aisles and it took me forever and one day to find my way back to the press center.

Anyways, let me review the four international races in brief. As expected, the Vase remained a European phenomenon, but just when it looked like **Flintshire (GB)** (Dansili {GB}) would pull a Doctor Dino, along came **Highland Reel (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}). First 3-year-old male, first HK winner for Aidan O'Brien. Ponder this for a minute: Highland Reel began the season in France, ran next in Ireland, won in England, traveled to the U.S. and won, placed in one of the Australian biggies and closed the year victoriously in Hong Kong. Pretty impressive. Great ride from Ryan Moore (no shock), as he didn't panic when **Harbour Master** (Mizzen Mast) made that middle move and he knew he had enough beneath him to grab the more-seasoned Juddmonte runner. Not sure what kind of money it takes to move a win pool of this size by four full points, but that's what happened, and as is so often the case, this late infusion proved smart.

I'd pretty much settled on **Peniaphobia (Ire)** (Dandy Man {Ire}) as my best of the meeting shortly after the Jockey Club Sprint a few weeks ago, didn't love the draw, but knew if anyone could pull it off, it was Joao Moreira. You also have to have the engine to get you there, but Peniaphobia crossed and cleared relatively easily, went hard in the second 400 and had just enough to hold out **Gold-Fun (Ire)** (Le Vie Dei Colori {GB}). Our American runners didn't embarrass themselves completely. **Mongolian Saturday** (Any Given Saturday) couldn't go with the winner early and drifted noticeably towards the stands at the quarter pole, but finished fifth with some decent horses behind him. **Green Mask** (Mizzen Mast) was really always against it despite those fast works and was never a threat in eighth.

I didn't really love **Maurice (Jpn)** (Screen Heo {Jpn})'s win in the Yasuda Kinen, tough though it is to win that race. More



**Maurice was the first of the two Japanese winners | HKJC photo**

impressive was his tough-trip score in the Mile Championship, the same race used by Hat Trick (Jpn) before he came to Hong Kong to annex the 2005 Mile. I was really taken aback by his body language during the week. He was very hot Thursday morning on a

morning that was cool and not especially humid, but was better Friday and Saturday.

Again, Moore was passed by a rival, this time none other than **Able Friend (Aus)** (Shamardal), but quickened home best to enter the Japanese Horse of the Year discussion. As for Able Friend, I was relieved that he was cleared to run, but he's certainly lacked the dazzling turn of speed that won him all those races. Three losses in a row now at a mile, let's see what happens in the Stewards' Cup next month, assuming he shows up there, with last year's Derby winner Luger lying in wait. I went for **Danon Platina (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) at massive odds, who found as much traffic as our buses from Sha Tin back to Hong Kong Island.

Not sure what to make of the Cup. I said a few weeks ago that I could envision a Japanese quinella, but **A Shin Hikari (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) wasn't one of those. **Staphanos (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) was and he was pretty much a no-show Sunday. Not sure why I didn't consider A Shin. I mean, he'd only won eight of 10 from the front, he was probably always going to be loose. Bygones. **Nuovo Record (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) was the one I'd warmed up to over the course of the week and she certainly ran well. I was and remain a **Designs on Rome (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}) fan and given the dynamics of the race, he performed admirably to be fourth. Given a less-than-ideal preparation, however, I could never have had him at under 2-1.

Some odds and ends from the day: Richard Gibson, who trained the aforementioned Doctor Dino to those back-to-back wins in the Vase, was either elated or really disappointed that Gold-Fun and **Giant Treasure** (Mizzen Mast) ran second in the Sprint and Mile, respectively. Both of those runners were imported to Hong Kong by Pan Sutong, the uber-successful businessman, whose Akeed Mofeed (GB) won the Cup a few years ago. Highland Reel made it a good day for Coolmore, and the stud's day was further enhanced by third-placings by sons of their Dylan Thomas, whose sire Danehill is nothing short of legendary in Hong Kong. **Blazing Speed (GB)** turned in a typically honest effort in the Cup and should be tough in races like the Hong Kong Gold Cup and Queen Elizabeth II S. going forward, while **Not Listenin'tome (Aus)** anchored the Hong Kong trifecta in the Sprint. He looks an interesting sort for the HK Speed Series in the New Year.

Speaking of 2016, let's take a quick peek ahead. Trainer John Size elected not to try to rush Luger (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}) to make the Mile and instead is set to bring the 2015 Hong Kong Derby winner back in the Stewards' Cup in a mile division that is suddenly a bit more open than one would have thought. The turn of the calendar also means the 4-year-olds are the focus in the Classic Mile, Classic Cup and Hong Kong Derby in January, February and March, respectively. **Cont. p6**



# WHY MARKET YOUR €5000\* STALLIONS IN TDN EUROPE THIS WINTER?

With our new European-first format, the TDN has never been more popular in Europe than it is now, and we're growing all the time. In fact, we are currently adding five to seven new subscribers every day!

While full-page advertisements at the front of the paper cost up to \$900, a full page for a stallion standing for €5000 or less (or £3,500) costs just \$350 on the penultimate page of the TDN European edition.

The ad is also available to people selling products and services: boarding, feed, vanning, veterinary services and more. The \$350 price includes agency commission and is the price for camera-ready art. Please add \$250 if you would like the TDN design staff to produce your ad.

It's the ultimate way to use our expanding reach into Europe to get your stallion, products and services noticed.

**BUT HURRY...**we only sell one of these spots per day!

**TDN**  **europa**  
& INTERNATIONAL

Contact: [garyking@thetdn.com](mailto:garyking@thetdn.com)  
+1 732.747.8060

\* and under

**HKIR 2015: A Postscript cont.**

HKIR day showcases some of the horses that will go on to those races, such as **Sun Jewellery (Aus)** (Snitzel {Aus}), who defeated a group of older horses in the always-contentious 1400-meter Class 1 following the Cup Sunday afternoon. **Werther (NZ)** (Tavistock {NZ}), already a Group 2 winner in New Zealand and Australia, Group 1-placed in Oz and one of the high-priced imports this year, belied odds of 16-1 to win over a mile Sunday and bears watching. **Thewizardofoz (Aus)** (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) was perfect in three tries last year, but has been rolled at odds-on in each of his starts this season, including a first-up loss to the progressive **Blizzard (Aus)** (Starcraft {NZ}), who also figures prominently in the 4YO series. Also keep an eye on **Hero Look (Ire)** (Lope de Vega), winner of this year's G3 Premio Parioli in Rome, who finished an eye-catching second ahead of Thewizardofoz on his local debut Nov. 29.

Tip of the cap to the HKJC's on-air talent of Mark Richards, newcomer John Blance, who's doing a fine job and paddock analyst Jen Chapman, who seems to always be on the mark. They put on an entertaining and informative show. Special thanks to Barry and Sue for allowing me to make the trip and to cover the event as I like, and, as mentioned in my blog Saturday, thanks to Pat Cummings for making all this happen and to the Club for their hospitality. Having concluded my third trip, one thing has not changed and that is that we visitors are treated first-class. It's always a pleasure to come back to Hong Kong and here's hoping I'll be back, perhaps as early as this time next year.

International week is a source of tremendous passion for me and I hope that came through in my various writings, of the serious and less-serious varieties. Happy holidays to all TDN readers and followers on social media. I truly appreciate you taking the time to read.

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)
[E-mail](#)
[Print](#)

**DARLEY JAPAN 2016 STUD FEES**

King's Best	¥2.5 million (US\$20,647)
Admire Moon	¥2 million (US\$16,518)
Pyro	¥2 million (US\$16,518)
Monterosso	¥1.5 million (US\$12,389)
Furioso	¥0.5 million (US\$4,130)



**Upcoming Sales Distribution Dates:**

**Magic Millions  
Gold Coast Yearling Sale**  
January 5-12, 2016

**Keeneland January  
Horses of All Ages Sale**  
January 9-15

**OBS Winter Mixed Sale**  
January 25-28

**Fasig-Tipton  
Midlantic Winter Mixed**  
January 30-31

**Tattersalls February Sale**  
February 4-5

**Fasig-Tipton Kentucky  
Winter Mixed**  
February 7-9

**Goffs February Sale**  
February 10-11



To see YOUR AD in the **TDN** at upcoming sales worldwide, **CONTACT US TODAY!**

732.747.8060

advertising@thoroughbreddailynews.com

**CLICK HERE FOR**

**TDN** subscription  
**IT'S FREE and ALWAYS WILL BE**