

FOREIGN-WORKER HIRING WOES IMMINENT FOR U.S. TRAINERS



Sarah K. Andrew Photo

By T.D. Thornton

Thoroughbred trainers who rely on legal foreign workers for hands-on, day-to-day horse care will have to brace for difficulty in finding qualified help, the prospect of higher labor costs, or even having to reduce the number of horses in their stables.

That's because a federal funding bill filed late Dec. 6 now appears imminent to get passed Thursday or Friday without a last-ditch amendment to re-introduce exemptions for "returning workers" who are in America lawfully under H-2B visa status.

"If you start to lose staff, you could start to lose four horses for every one [lost worker]," said Eric Hamelback, chief executive officer for the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. "And that's just grooming. It doesn't really take into account an exercise rider and/or a hotwalker. It could ultimately lead to a financial issue for a trainer in that his stable could have to be reduced. To me, that's the ultimate consequence."

In just the past 10 weeks, the reinstatement of the H-2B visa exemption has gone from a non-issue to a potentially big headache for anyone who makes hiring decisions in a racetrack or training-center backstretch setting. To understand what might happen moving forward, it's helpful to first recap how the dilemma reached its current state: **Cont. p3**

O p / E D

OP/ED: ERIC HAMELBACK

The horse-racing industry is poised to take an incredibly important step forward this week in achieving true uniformity among jurisdictions on medication policies and penalties for violators.

Following the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) September meeting in Chicago, a subcommittee was formed to investigate and recommend the possibility of changes to the Multiple Medication Violation (MMV) penalty system of the National Uniform Medication Program (NUMP). **Cont. p5**



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TODAY in the **TDN**
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Thursday, December 8, 2016



Unbeaten 'TDN Rising Star' Mastery (Candy Ride {Arg}) headlines a field of five set for Saturday's GI Los Alamitos Cash Call Futurity | Benoit

IN QUEST FOR ECLIPSE, ORTIZ WON'T SLOW DOWN 6

Jose Ortiz has had a remarkable year. He's won every riding title in New York but one, leads the nation in wins with 336 and picked up his first Breeders' Cup victory. He's just not sure if it has been remarkable enough... Bill Finley has the story.

CLASSIC EMPIRE BACK TO WORK 9

John Oxley's dual Grade I winner **Classic Empire** (*Pioneer of the Nile*) galloped for the first time since his determined win in the Nov. 5 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Wednesday morning at Palm Meadows Training Center.



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For many years, United States law has capped at 66,000 the total number of foreign nationals who can be issued an H-2B visa during a fiscal year for the purpose of coming into the country to work for up to 10 months (they then must return to their home countries for the other two months).

However, at the same time, a long-standing exemption has also been on the books stating that if employers are able to demonstrate that a worker has qualified for the H-2B program in any of the three previous years, that worker does not count against the 66,000 federal cap.

The need for this H-2B exemption is not limited to the Thoroughbred industry. It affects numerous other industries in which hard labor and low pay deter American citizens from wanting to take those jobs.

The H-2B exemption had been in effect through the 2016 fiscal year, which ran through Sept. 30. But when federal lawmakers failed to pass a budget for the 2017 fiscal year, they instead relied on a “continuing resolution” (CR) to fund the government through Dec. 9, and that CR didn’t include the H-2B exemption. With that deadline looming this week, lawmakers filed another CR late Tuesday to keep the government afloat through Apr. 28, again omitting any mention of the H-2B exemption.

“It was a ‘clean’ CR as they call it in Washington, which meant it had very few riders,” said National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) president Alex Waldrop. “[This] confirmed our fear that this is going to be a very unusual lame-duck session in that very little [special] legislation would be in there, not just ours. So we weren’t singled out here, and that’s important for people to understand.”

On Wednesday the CR bill (HR 2028) was forwarded to the House Committee on Rules, where as of deadline for this story, it remained open to amendment. In separate phone interviews on Wednesday, both Hamelback and Waldrop used the term “last-ditch” to describe the likelihood that the H-2B exemption would be added back in.

“It’s unlikely to succeed because in these situations leadership controls the rules committee, and [that same] leadership controlled the contents of the CR,” Waldrop said. “It’s pretty much the end of the road right now, which really means there is nothing that can be done between now and late April at the earliest.”

Numerous published reports out of Washington cite Thursday as the likeliest vote on passage by the House, with affirmation by the Senate expected by Friday.

So assuming passage of the CR without the inclusion of the H-2B exemption language, the chief short-term issue now becomes, what should trainers do to mitigate immediate hiring difficulties?

Cont. p4

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In the longer term, the big question is, what can the Thoroughbred industry do to shape backstretch foreign-worker policies moving forward?

Waldrop addressed the hiring issue by first clarifying that H-2B visas only affect the Thoroughbred industry in terms of backstretch workers. Farm managers who hire employees



Alex Waldrop | NTRA

exclusively for non-racetrack work deal with a different visa category (H-B1).

"So this is purely a challenge for horse trainers," Waldrop said. "They can continue to use the H-2B program. They are just going to be using it subject to the 66,000 visa cap. They need to be proactive in putting in their applications for H-2B workers as soon as possible. They cannot

delay, because there will be extraordinary competition [from other industries] for that limited number of H-2B workers."

In a different interview earlier in the week, Waldrop said that he did not think the loss of the H-2B exemption would trigger federal backstretch raids targeting illegal employees, but "it will deplete or dry up the H-2B program for trainers who want to be in compliance with the law, and they're going to be forced into

the very bad decision to either hire undocumented workers or not have the staff to handle the horses."

The uncertainties associated with the change of U.S. presidential administration also play a role in shaping future policies, Waldrop said, adding that the NTRA will continue to work with colleagues and allies on Capitol Hill to seek a long-term solution.

Hamelback said the industry must hammer home the key point to lawmakers "that this is a legal operation, and that the racing industry really needs to have a functioning guest worker program."

Hamelback continued: "I think our best course going forward is to really look for a legislator or representative who can help champion this cause with us, [a person] who can and does understand the industry and our needs, and can help put a piece of legislation in place so we don't have to constantly be on an extender; a true piece of legislation that can resolve this going forward."

Hamelback said he also saw promise in uniting with other industries that reap the benefits of an active H-2B exemption program.

"Unfortunately, a lot of times our industry is reactionary instead of being proactive," Hamelback said. "I'm hoping to do that a little bit better going forward because there are so many

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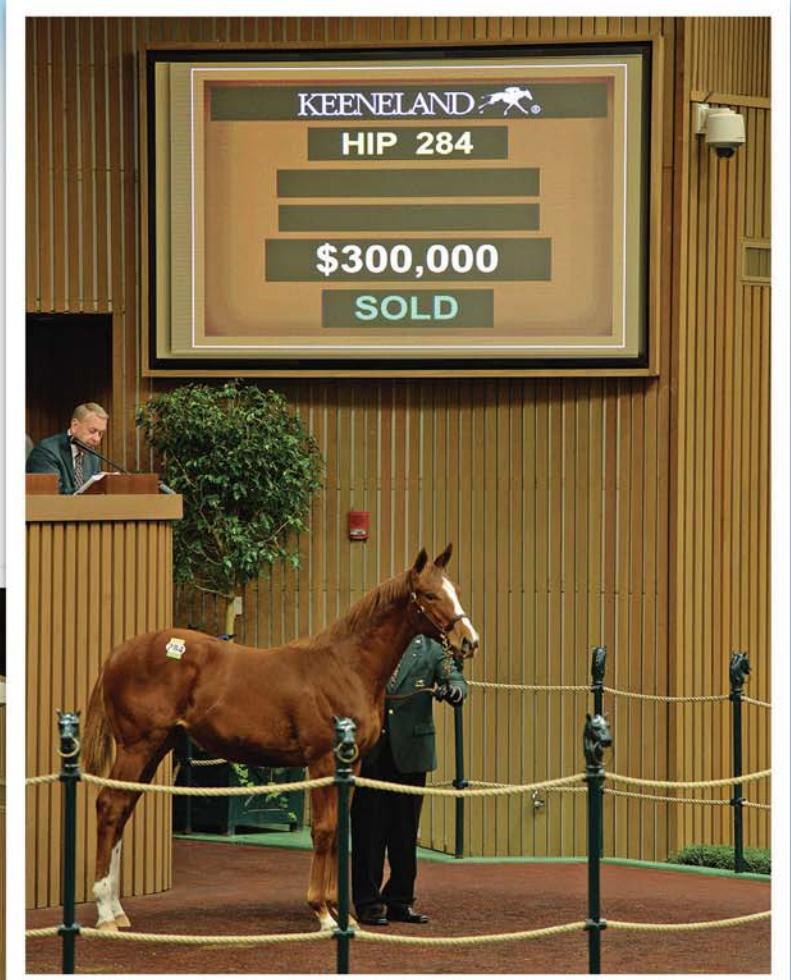
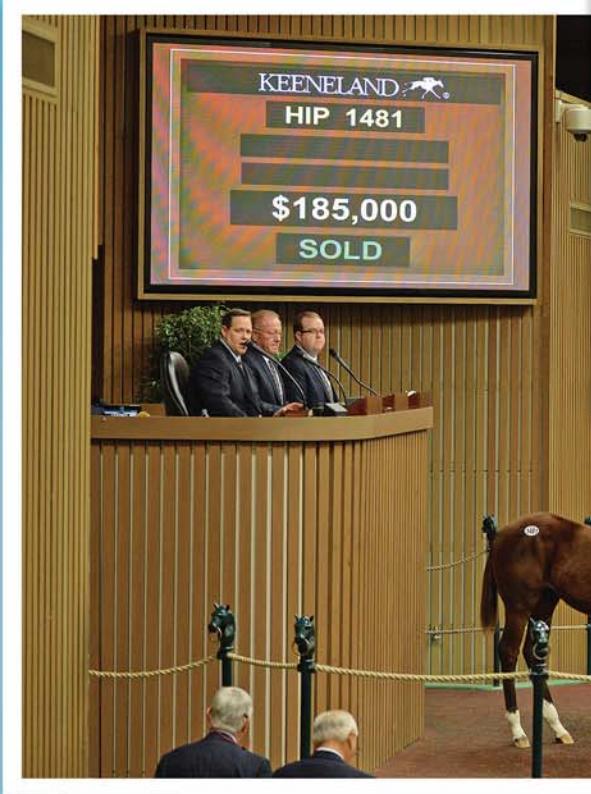
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other industries that rely on large migrant-worker programs, whether it's restaurants, casinos, hotels, et cetera. I truly feel that there are other industries that can help support and back and push something like this."

Hamelback said he bases the backstretch laborer-to-horse ratio on the basis of needing one groom to care for every four Thoroughbreds, or even one groom for every five if an outfit is stretched thin for manpower.

For the average trainer who relies on legal foreign workers, not having the H-2B exemption in effect "means an increased overall payroll budget [and] a shortage of staff, which could then lead to a shortage of horses that could be in that stable," Hamelback said. -@thorntontd

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OP/ED: ERIC HAMELBACK cont.

The subcommittee was comprised of a wide array of industry stake-holders, and the consortium board approved the recommendations, which was then proposed to the RMTC Board. The RMTC board voted in favor to approve the changes proposed by the subcommittee. Those approved changes will now be presented Thursday to the Association of Racing Commissioners International.

Today's high sensitivity of testing requires that the industry

craft policy that goes hard after cheaters illegally seeking an advantage while recognizing that the overwhelming majority of horsemen follow the rules but can face, because of horses' different metabolisms and other variables, trace-level overages of legal therapeutic medications which do not impact a horse's performance. Along with that, and possibly more importantly, is the constant presence of environmental contamination, which before now has not been formally addressed in the context of disallowing points due to these mitigating circumstances.

The subcommittee drafted important recommendations that will help state racing regulators to come together in adopting a true national policy. These changes do not go soft on lawbreakers. The subcommittee unanimously approved these changes and recommended the RMTC full board accept the changes and propose as a model rule for the ARCI.

Upon presentation to the RMTC board of directors by the subcommittee chair Alan Foreman, only one member opposed the changes.

It is beyond disappointing that The Jockey Club, in a statement blasting the modifications, once again has chosen to be divisive and deliberately blur illegal drugs with the legal therapeutic medication that help keep equine athletes in their best health possible. **Cont. p6**



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Why then, would one entity make a statement on record that contradicts the overwhelming majority--and fail to mention there was only one opposition vote?

Much time, thought and understanding of horses and science went into these recommendations. This recognition is one more important movement that proves uniformity is most certainly achievable if the majority, and those whom actually have the power to implement change, work together. The Multiple Medication Violation penalty phase in its present form clearly possesses concerns for regulators and has been the least adopted phase of the National Uniform Medication Program.

The recommendations passed by the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium board saw the following equine organizations vote in favor of those changes to the Multiple Medication Violation phase: the National HBPA, Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, California Thoroughbred Trainers, National Thoroughbred Racing Associations, American Association of Equine Practitioners, Del Mar, Jockeys' Guild, New York Racing Association, Stronach Group, Churchill Downs, Oak Tree, Keeneland, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association, Kentucky Equine Drug Research Council, Association of Racing Commissioners International, American Quarter Horse Association and Hambletonian Society.

These groups on occasion reflect disparate interests and opinions on how to better the sport. In this instance, we are unified, with the lone exception.

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IN QUEST FOR ECLIPSE, ORTIZ WON'T SLOW DOWN

By Bill Finley

BENSALEM, Pa.—Jose Ortiz has had a remarkable year. He's won every riding title in New York but one, leads the nation in wins with 336 and picked up his first Breeders' Cup victory with **Oscar Performance** (Kitten's Joy) in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. He's just not sure if it has been remarkable enough.

The younger brother of Irad Ortiz, Jr., Ortiz spent his Monday and Tuesday afternoons this week riding at Parx. With the money he has made this year he didn't need to be there. But he's young, energetic and wants to make a statement. **Cont. p7**



Jose Ortiz | Coady

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The more races he wins, the better chance he has of winning the Eclipse Award as the nation's outstanding jockey.

"I'm just 23 years old. I could stop if I wanted to. I'd rather keep going, keep working hard every day," Ortiz said from the jockeys room at Parx Monday. "If my agent sends me here to ride horses with a good shot I will come. Being leading rider in the country means a lot because if I win the country that will put me in a good position to win the Eclipse Award. I'm not saying I will win it, but I should be in a good position."

After Tuesday's races at Parx, Ortiz had 336 wins on the year, 14 more than runner-up Antonio Gallardo. Ortiz got a break when Gallardo, the dominant rider at Presque Isle Downs and Tampa Bay Downs, shifted his business to New York, which lessened his trips to the winner's circle. Ortiz looks to have a comfortable lead on Gallardo, but his last day of riding in 2016 will be Dec. 18. Two days later, he will get married to former jockey Taylor Rice and will not return until 2017, after

his honeymoon. He doesn't want to give Gallardo an opportunity to catch him.

Perhaps more impressive than Ortiz's win total on the year is his dominance in New York, widely considered the top riding colony in the nation. The only title he did not win was Belmont Fall, and the primary reason for that was that he rode regularly at Keeneland. He won the prestigious Saratoga riding title by a 65-57 margin over his brother, despite accepting 18 fewer mounts.

"I think I was the best jockey in New York," he said. "Of course, you can't take anything away from Irad and Javier [Castellano]. They both have had great years

and won a lot of big races. I think Javier is the favorite [for the Eclipse Award], but if I win the country I will earn more votes."

With the possible exception of his brother, few U.S. based jockeys have come as far as fast as Ortiz. Like his brother, Ortiz is a product of the jockey school in Puerto Rico and he began his



Jose Ortiz & Oscar Performance

Horsephotos

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career at Camarero Racetrack in San Juan in 2012. By March of that year he was in the U.S. and won his first race that same month aboard a horse named **Country Green** (Country Be Gold) at Parx. He soon moved on to New York and won the 2014 Aqueduct spring riding title. In 2015, he was the regular rider of female sprint champion **La Verdad** (Yes It's True).

But he was always riding in the shadow of bigger names like Castellano, John Velazquez and even his brother. In some respects, he still is. While Ortiz has a loyal client in La Verdad's trainer, Linda Rice, Taylor's aunt, he only gets a handful of mounts from New York's two powerhouse stables, those of



Jose Ortiz & La Verdad
Joe Labozetta

Chad Brown and Todd Pletcher. Hall of Fame trainer Shug McGaughey is giving him more and more business, but Ortiz does not have a major stable, besides, Rice's, that he can count on.

"Irad and Javier, they each ride half of Chad Brown's horses and Johnny [Velazquez] gets most of

the business from Pletcher," Ortiz said. "I've gotten in good this year with Shug, who has put me on a lot of horses. But I don't really have a big stable. I have to go ride for everybody else."

That is among the reasons Castellano is some \$4.5 million in front of him in earnings. Ortiz is third in the nation in that category, also trailing his brother, by about \$300,000. Ortiz also trails in the stakes-won category. He has ridden 23 graded stakes winners on the year, only four of them Grade I. Castellano has won 34 graded races, eight of them Grade I.

It makes for an interesting Eclipse battle. Do you take the rider who has earned the most money or the one who won the most races and the most New York riding titles? Irad Ortiz, Jr., Florent Geroux and Mike Smith are others who will likely get votes.

With or without an Eclipse Award, Ortiz has had a phenomenal year and is no longer a star of the future but a star of the present. He won't change anything in 2017 after returning from his honeymoon. He'll grind it out in the winter at Aqueduct rather than go to Florida, reasoning that he simply makes too much money in New York in the winter to venture into the deep waters of the Gulfstream riding colony. He will continue to ride Mondays and Tuesdays at Parx whenever the opportunity arises. On Twitter, he likes to send out the hashtags #workinghard #nodayoff.

And he will continue to think big.

"Like everybody else, I want to win the [GI] Kentucky Derby, but the main goal for me is to be a Hall of Famer," he said. "I want to be someone that everybody remembers."

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“He may well be on his way to reaching top rank as a stallion” John Sparkman, DRF

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CLASSIC EMPIRE RETURNS TO TRAINING IN FLORIDA

John Oxley's dual Grade I winner **Classic Empire** (Pioneerof the Nile) galloped for the first time since his determined win in the Nov. 5 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Wednesday morning at Palm Meadows Training Center, trainer Mark Casse confirmed Wednesday. The bay is currently expected to begin his 3-year-old season in the GII Holy Bull S. at Gulfstream Park Feb. 4.

"He started back [Wednesday]," Casse said. "He's back doing some exercise under tack. He just started."

Classic Empire, the heavy favorite to win Eclipse Award honors as the champion juvenile colt of 2016, had previously been walking twice a day at Palm Meadows. Casse noted that if everything goes according to plan, the \$475,000 Keeneland September purchase will likely follow Gulfstream Park's series of prep races on the path to the GI Kentucky Derby May 6.

"If everything went right, he'd run in the Holy Bull--that's what we'd aim for," Casse said. "That's the plan right now--the Holy Bull, the [Mar. 4 GII] Fountain of Youth. We'll worry about those two races, but there could be a chance to run in the [Apr. 1 GI]



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

Florida Derby."

Keeneland's GII Blue Grass S. is also under consideration for the juvenile, who captured the GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity at the Lexington oval Oct. 8.

"I love the way horses do in the spring in Kentucky, and I was kind of wanting to get him to Kentucky for that reason," the trainer explained.

Classic Empire graduated at first asking going 4 1/2 furlongs at Churchill Downs May 4 and added a late-running score in the GIII Bashford Manor S. there July 2. The lone blemish on the colt's record came in the GI Hopeful S. at Saratoga Sept. 5, when he wheeled at the start and lost his rider as the 8-5 favorite. Casse elected to add blinkers following that effort, and Classic Empire

responded with a pair of convincing pace-pressing wins in the Breeders' Futurity and Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

"He's an extremely talented horse--without a doubt the most talented 2-year-old that I've ever trained," Casse added. "I think that kind of goes without saying. He amazes me. He amazes me, one, how fast he is and, then, his ability to carry it...The blinkers made a huge difference. He breaks much faster."

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From the desk of...

BILL OPPENHEIM



NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

We've always taken the view that 'value sires' are to some degree a matter of opinion, and we value the opinions of our readers, who are a knowledgeable community

(else why would you be reading *TDN*?). So please let us know of any sires in NA or Europe, standing for 40,000 or under, which you feel we've missed out in the last two columns, and we will include them with next week's essay. In the US, we have not one, but two judges who have mentioned the first foals by WinStar's **Fed Biz** (\$10,000), a son of

Giant's Causeway who won three Grade II races for owner Kaleem Shah and trainer Bob Baffert: the 1 1/16m. San Fernando S. on the dirt at Santa Anita; and the seven-furlong Pat O'Brien S. and 1 1/16m. San Diego H. on the synthetic at Del Mar. But what really has the judges excited are the foals they are seeing from his first crop. He had 20 sell of 22 offered (91%, a tip in itself) at the November sales, for an average of \$65,200



Fed Biz | Benoit

(Over 5x his entering stud fee of \$12,500), and a median of \$48,500 (almost 4x). One of the judges we heard from is a pinhooker, another represents primarily end-users; but to get two independent reports with the same message, with no prompting whatsoever--you could do worse than take the hint. For 100% certain he is throwing foals at least two of the experts like.

An advocate for **Congrats** points out that he and California Chrome's sire Lucky Pulpit are the only sires in the top 20 on the North American General Sire List (worldwide earnings - click [here](#)) which stand for under \$40,000. This is absolutely the case, and since Congrats stands for \$20,000 that does qualify as very good value. Moreover, it's worth mentioning that Congrats did not arrive in Kentucky from Florida until the 2011 breeding season, which means his

first Kentucky foals are just 4-year-olds of 2016. His 157 winners this year ranks him among the top five in that category, too.

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

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1	Dangerfield	Into Mischief	W. C. Racing or Zayat Stables, LLC	O'Neill	Van Dyke	120
2	Bobby Abu Dhabi	Macho Uno	Rockingham Ranch	Miller	Arroyo, Jr.	120
3	Mastery	Candy Ride (Arg)	Cheyenne Stable, LLC	Baffert	Smith	120
4	Show Me Da Lute	Midnight Lute	Watson or Weitman	Baffert	Garcia	120
5	Irap	Tiznow	Reddam Racing, LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	120

Breeders: 1-Joe B. Murphy, 2-T/C Stable, LLC, 3-Stone Farm, 4-Karl Watson & Paul Weitman, 5-Aaron & Marie Jones

Saturday, Los Alamitos Race Course, post time: 6:58 p.m. EST

STARLET S.-GI, \$300,000, 2yo, f, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Go On Mary	Broken Vow	McShane Racing, LLC	O'Neill	Van Dyke	120
2	Union Strike	Union Rags	Ruis Racing LLC	Dollase	Stevens	120
3	Tapped	Tapit	LNJ Foxwoods	Hollendorfer	Desormeaux	120
4	Mopotism	Uncle Mo	Reddam Racing, LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	120
5	Sandy's Surprise	Drosselmeyer	STD Racing Stable, Fuller or Haymes	O'Neill	Gonzalez	120
6	Abel Tasman	Quality Road	Clearsky Farms	Callaghan	Talamo	120
7	American Gal	Concord Point	Kaleem Shah, Inc.	Baffert	Smith	120
8	Fact of Life	The Factor	Fog City Stable or VanMeter II	Baffert	Elliott	120
9	Berned	Bernardini	Three C Stables, West Point Th'breds or Masiello	Albertrani	Arroyo, Jr.	120

Breeders: 1-WinStar Farm, LLC, 2-Pollock Farms, Brian Kahn, TaylorBrothers Property, et al., 3-LNJ Foxwoods, 4-Frank T Batten, 5-WinStar Farm, LLC, 6-Clearsky Farms, 7-Kaleem Shah, Inc., 8-Turner Breeders LLC, 9-AR Enterprises, LLC.

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Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Tapit	20	51	15	36	5	10	300	143	\$1,910,000	\$19,427,696
	(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (300,000)									Frosted	
2	Curlin	14	27	7	17	5	7	194	117	\$2,598,000	\$12,538,016
	(2004) by Smart Strike FYR: 2010 Crops: 5 Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farm KY (100,000)									Exaggerator	
3	Uncle Mo	18	28	10	18	2	4	155	84	\$3,575,600	\$12,150,928
	(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 2 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (75,000)									Nyquist	
4	Medaglia d'Oro	15	32	6	18	3	6	220	100	\$2,210,000	\$11,314,769
	(1999) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Darley KY (150,000)									Songbird	
5	Candy Ride (Arg)	14	22	8	11	1	4	282	158	\$1,970,880	\$10,856,207
	(1999) by Ride the Rails FYR: 2006 Crops: 9 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (60,000)									Gun Runner	
6	Empire Maker	2	6	1	3	--	1	354	162	\$513,459	\$10,701,275
	(2000) by Unbridled FYR: 2005 Crops: 10 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY (100,000)									Eterna Minoru (JPN)	
7	Bernardini	14	31	10	21	1	7	250	122	\$1,125,000	\$10,672,136
	(2003) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2008 Crops: 7 Stands: Darley KY (100,000)									Cavorting	
8	Kitten's Joy	16	30	10	19	3	3	326	144	\$868,865	\$10,669,173
	(2001) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2007 Crops: 8 Stands: Ramsey Farm KY (100,000)									Camelot Kitten	
9	Lucky Pulpit	2	3	1	1	1	1	161	74	\$8,130,000	\$10,589,028
	(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2008 Crops: 7 Stands: Harris Farm CA (7,500)									California Chrome	
10	Unbridled's Song	7	14	4	4	3	3	179	81	\$4,084,600	\$10,555,894
	(1993) by Unbridled FYR: 1998 Crops: 17 Stands: Taylor Made Stallions USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)									Arrogate	
11	Giant's Causeway	12	27	6	14	1	4	301	137	\$678,000	\$10,363,278
	(1997) by Storm Cat FYR: 2002 Crops: 13 Stands: Ashford Stud KY (85,000)									Destin	
12	City Zip	13	28	6	9	2	4	271	152	\$1,154,033	\$9,890,623
	(1998) by Carson City FYR: 2003 Crops: 12 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY (40,000)									Catch a Glimpse	
13	Scat Daddy	16	31	7	12	5	6	269	139	\$667,608	\$9,641,283
	(2004) by Johannesburg FYR: 2009 Crops: 6 Stands: Ashford Stud USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)									Dacita (CHI)	
14	Smart Strike	12	24	5	9	--	1	216	101	\$702,507	\$9,439,635
	(1992) by Mr. Prospector FYR: 1998 Crops: 17 Stands: Lane's End Farm USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)									Amour Briller	
15	Malibu Moon	11	22	5	9	2	2	311	133	\$890,625	\$9,270,380
	(1997) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2001 Crops: 14 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (95,000)									Carina Mia	



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1ST DAM

ALITTLEBITEARLY, by Thunder Gulch. Unraced. Dam of 3 foals to race, all winners--

BAYERN Black type winner, see records.

2ND DAM

AQUILEGIA, by Alydar. 8 wins, 2 to 5, \$446,081 in NA. Won New York Handicap [G2], Black Helen Handicap [G3].

2nd Sheepshead Bay Handicap [G3]. 3rd New York Handicap [G2], Boiling Springs Handicap [G3], Mrs.

Revere S. [L] (CD, \$8,647). Sister to **ALTHEA**, **AISHAH**. Dam of 6 foals to race, 5 winners--

BERTOLINI (c, by Danzig). Winner at 2 and 3, in Eng, 179,669 GBP. Placed at 2 and 3, in Fr, 39,768 EUR. Won T.n.t. International July S. [G3] (ENG), Victor Chandler European Free H. (ENG). 2nd Middle Park S. [G1] (ENG), Stanley Leisure Sprint Cup [G1] (ENG), Victor Chandler Nunthorpe S. [G1] (ENG), Pr Robert Papin [G2] (FR), Dubai Golden Shaheen (UAE). 3rd July Cup [G1] (ENG), Pr Maurice De Gheest [G1] (FR), King's Stand S. [G2] (ENG), Jersey S. [G3] (ENG), Dubai Golden Shaheen [G3] (UAE). (Total: \$324,537) Sire.

ALCHEMILLA (f, by Deputy Minister). 5 wins, 2 to 4, \$208,756 in NA. Won Affirmed S.-R (BEL, \$39,540).

AMELIA (f, by Dixieland Band). 4 wins at 3, \$179,565 in NA. Won Frances A. Genter S. [L] (CRC, \$60,000). Dam of 5 winners, including--

ASSATEAGUE (f, by Stormy Atlantic). 5 wins, 2 to 5, \$398,059 i Won Dr. James Penny Memorial H. [G3], De La Rose S.-R (SAR, \$60,000). 2nd Finney S. (BEL, \$20,000). 3rd Pebbles S. [L] (BEL, \$15,000).

KINDERGARDEN KID (g, by Dynaformer). 5 wins, 3 to 5, \$338,959 in US. Won Sycamore S. [G3], Pay the Butler S. (AQU, \$36,000). 3rd Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational S. [G1], Kentucky Turf Cup S. [G3], Ft. Lauderdale S. [G3], Three Coins Up S. (BEL, \$6,000). (Total: \$338,959)

RAINHA DA BATERIA (f, by Broken Vow). 2 wins at 2, placed at 3, 2015, \$193,536 in US. Won JPMorgan Chase Jessamine S. [G3]. 2nd Jimmy Durante S. [G3]. 3rd Blue Norther S. [L] (SA, \$9,360).

He's Had Enough (c, by Tapit). Winner at 2, \$492,910 in US. 2nd Grey Goose Breeders' Cup Juvenile [G1]. 3rd Robert B. Lewis S. [G2], Sam's Town S.-R (DED, \$7,500). At 3 Sent to UAE, Sent to USA. Unplaced at 3, in UAE. (Total: \$492,910)

Acadiana. Placed at 2 and 3, \$19,706 in US. Dam of **Duff One** (f, by Harlan's Holiday). 2 wins at 2, placed at 3, \$173,886 in US. 2nd Knob Creek Lake Placid S. [G2], P. G. Johnson S. [L] (SAR, \$20,000), etc.)

3RD DAM

COURTLY DEE, by Never Bend. At 15 Broodmare Of The Year. 4 wins at 3 and 4, \$19,426 in NA. Half-sister to **TOM TULLE**, **AUHSAN**, **Our Special Jet**. Dam of **ALTHEA**, **ALI OOP**, **KETOH**, **TWINING**, **AISHAH**, **NATIVE COURIER**, **PRINCESS OOLA**, **Press Card**. Granddam of **YAMANIN PARADISE**, **ALDIZA**, **AZZAAM**, **GREEN DESERT**, **ATELIER**, **=KING OF ROME (IRE)**, **SEATTLE DAWN**, **SUPER ESPRESSO**, **DEFACTO**, **NAMAQUALAND**, **DESTINY DANCE**, **AURORA**, **TRUCKEE**, **ARABIS**, **ALYSSUM**, **YOUSEFIA**, **ISLAND OF SILVER**, **BALWA**, **Aunt Anne**, **Elajjud**, **They Call Me Giant**, **Lord Charmer**, **Rush for Gold**, **Lemon Dove**.

Race Record: (In USA) at 3, six wins (Breeders' Cup Classic [G1], William Hill Haskell Invitational S. [G1], Pennsylvania Derby [G2], Woody Stephens S. [G2]), once 2nd (Derby Trial S. [G3]), once 3rd (Arkansas Derby [G1]); at 4, 2015, twice 3rd (Awesome Again S. [G1], San Diego H. [G2]). At 3 Ntr Parx Racing 1 1/8m 01:46.96. Total: 6 wins, once 2nd, 3 times 3rd.

Career Earnings

\$4,454,930



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ARIZONA GLOBAL RACING & GAMING SYMPOSIUM WRAPS UP

by Dean A. Hoffman

Two days of speakers and panel discussions focusing on innovation in horse racing concluded Wednesday evening in Tucson. The 43rd annual Global Symposium on Racing & Gaming was sponsored by the Race Track Industry Program at the University of Arizona.

Two Wednesday morning speakers addressed the animal rights agenda and the threat that it poses to racing. Marcia Kelly, a veteran of conflicts with animal rights activists, said small problems can quickly become a big headache for racing.

"It's not hard to find one example of a bad apple, and from that one bad apple a propaganda campaign can explode," said Marcia Kelly, a veteran activist. "Most industries have more than one bad apple."

She encouraged racing regulators and executives to take a hard line on punishments for animal welfare issues to maintain credibility on the issue and to stave off a backlash from animal rights groups.

Kelly believes that horse racing has done a good job of addressing animal welfare issues, but has done a poor job of publicizing their efforts.

"Tell the media what you're doing," she urged.

Kelly added that when a racing executive says "no comment" to inquiries about animal welfare or refuses media access for photos, it appears that racing has something to hide.

She was forthright in her advice: "Be proactive and be open. Communicate to the media."

Kelly said the animal rights activists can undermine events by persuading sponsors to drop support, and, as an example, cited the efforts of the Humane Society of the United States to end the Iditarod dog sled race.

Patti Strand of the National Animal Interest Alliance stressed to the audience that people involved in animal rights organizations want to end all use of animals and sport and can muster widespread public support.

Joe Harper, president of Del Mar Racetrack, urged symposium attendees to take the animal welfare issue seriously and detailed the protests that Del Mar has endured by people wanting to shut down the track.

"They tell people that we're killing horses at Del Mar," Harper said. "These people are going to come to all your racetracks, too. Get a plan together now. Medication issues are something

we must deal with. We've had a necropsy program at Del Mar for years, but I think we need to take it further. I think that every horse that dies on the track should have its veterinary records open for inspection. This is the most dangerous issue I've seen in my 40 years in racing."

In a session on racing innovation, Walter Hessert of Derby Games said that horse racing has been lagging in providing enticing online betting opportunities. He pointed out that many of the horse racing apps easily found online are low-budget and unattractive.

His firm has introduced new product called "Race Champ" aimed at filling that void. The mobile app will be introduced in May, 2017.

Hessert noted that half of all American adults play mobile games while children spend seven hours a week playing mobile games. He said that those findings demonstrate a great opportunity for horse racing.

"The appeal of gaming crosses all demographics," he said. Hessert said that if racing misses the social gaming opportunity, it will be like repeating the mistake when horseracing turned its back on TV a half-century ago.

Yenni Vance of Remington Park discussed the success of the "My Remington Park" app, and said that tracks must have a fully integrated mobile strategy or they're destined to fail.

"You must have a direct relationship with fans," Vance told attendees.

Cont. p2



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Arizona Racing and Gaming Symposium Wraps Up Cont.

One of the most compelling panels late on the first day of the symposium was titled "Racinos: Is The Marriage Headed For A Divorce?"

Lonny Powell, CEO of the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders Association, explained the challenge that breeders and horsemen in the Sunshine State face with the prospect of decoupling racing from gaming operations, potentially affecting purse money dramatically.

Powell remains confident the marriage between racing and casinos in Florida will remain intact, but spelled out several steps that each partner in the marriage must take to keep the bonds strong.

Chris McErlean, vice-president of racing for Penn National Gaming, outlined his organization's efforts in various states. He pointed to Ohio as a success story as purses at both Thoroughbred and Standardbred tracks have skyrocketed, and that Ohio has returned to the top of the list of states producing Standardbred foals.

Greg Martin, vice-president-wagering for Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG) in Ontario, outlined how his province has gone through the marriage-divorce-settlement process with its Slots At Racetracks Program (SARP) at tracks. In 1996, when Ontario faced a budget shortfall, the government approved VLTs at tracks and thus began the "marriage" of gaming and racing. The Ontario Lottery Commission operated the slots under the agreement but tracks and horsemen would benefit with generous percentages of the revenues.

Initially, optimism prevailed and WEG invested \$400 million in new and improved facilities.

"We rebuilt barns and refurbished the tracks," Martin said. "We built the best sports bar in Toronto."

Everything changed in March, 2012 when without warning the provincial government decided to divorce its gaming operations from tracks. The slots program was termed a "subsidy" and tracks were given a one year notice of termination of the partnership.

"WEG spent 12 years investing in this program only to be told that we had a year to transition into not having the slots," said Martin.

The overall impact to WEG and the Ontario racing and breeding industries was devastating.

The Ontario government later admitted that it had "dropped the ball" in making the changes and attempted to repair the damage with a new commitment to racing. Wagering has rebounded, but WEG and the Ontario horse racing industry adjusted to a new reality with a lower income from slots.

A popular afternoon panel on Wednesday titled "Making Wagering Great Again" was moderated by Ray Paulick, publisher of *The Paulick Report*. Paulick noted that pari-mutuel wagering in the United States has declined 27 percent over the last decade, mirroring a 25 percent decline in the number of races.

Klaus Ebner from the Woodbine Entertainment Group

NTRA REPORT FROM CAPITOL HILL

H-2B VISA RETURNING WORKER EXEMPTION NOT REINSTATED IN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

The U.S. House of Representatives did not reinstate the H-2B visa returning worker exemption in the continuing resolution (CR) to fund the federal government through April 28, despite an industry-wide call for its inclusion over the past several weeks. Congress is expected to soon pass the CR and adjourn for the year.

"The short-term continuing resolution (H.R. 2028) released by the House Appropriations Committee last evening (December 6) failed to include the H-2B returning worker exemption sought by the Thoroughbred racing industry and many other industries that rely upon seasonal non-agriculture foreign workers," commented Alex Waldrop, president and CEO of the NTRA. "This is very disappointing, but not surprising given the current environment in Washington which includes a lame duck session of Congress and the uncertainties associated with the incoming presidential administration. We will continue to work with our colleagues and allies on Capitol Hill to seek a long term solution to this complex issue."

The NTRA will continue to stress the need for temporary, non-agricultural foreign workers to fill jobs that U.S. citizens are not filling. Without access to documented, seasonal foreign workers, the industry will experience a potentially damaging worker shortage.



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

explained efforts in Ontario to increase handle, including lowering bet minimums and lowering takeout. WEG has also pushed its multiple bets to entice bettors wanting to hit a big payoff.

"Big fields are the key to driving wagering," stressed Ebner. "Also, adjust your post times so that you don't step on post times from major tracks. Don't force your customers to decide which one to bet."

Andrew Offerman, director of racing operations at Canterbury Park, showed how wagering and purses at the Minnesota track have increased in recent years.

Canterbury decided to reduce its takeout rates, and Offerman added, "Results were mixed in that handle increased but overall revenue did not go up due to the takeout reductions."

David Haslett from Sky Racing World in Australia said that wagering on racing is increasing in Australia while the US pari-mutuel is declining. He attributed the increases to providing customers with options such as fixed odds wagering, flexible betting amounts, and allowing a customer to cash out early on a Pick 4 bet.

Bart Barden, the US director for Betfair, explained that exchange wagering customers match bets against each other.

"One person thinks a horse is going to win, and another person thinks a horse is going to lose," he said. "Exchange wagering increases customer engagement and churn."

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CASTELLANO RETURNS TO GULFSTREAM

Courtesy Gulfstream Park

Though he missed the opening weekend of Gulfstream Park's 2016-2017 Championship Meet with commitments out of town, jockey Javier Castellano is gearing up for a return to South Florida with his sights set on a sixth consecutive riding title.

Currently leading the country in stakes wins, graded stakes wins and purses earned, Castellano figures to be favored again for a fourth straight trophy as North America's top jockey when Gulfstream hosts the Eclipse Awards Jan. 21.

Behind the scenes, Castellano is in the initial stages of a new journey. This will be his first Championship Meet with new agent Mike Lakow, a former racetrack executive in New York and California who replaced Matt Muzikar at the start of Belmont Park's fall meet in September.

Castellano, 39, rose to national prominence under Muzikar during their seven years together, including setting the single-season record for earnings in 2013 and topping it in 2015. Prior to that, Castellano had been represented by Mike Kelly also for seven years.

"I was very blessed to work with Matt Muzikar," Castellano told the Gulfstream Park notes team. "He put me on the map. He was a guy that worked hard every single day, every single meet, at every single track. I give all the credit to him because he did a great job for my career, and I will always be thankful for that."

Continued Castellano, "Now we're looking forward with a new agent. Mike Lakow knows a lot of people. He's a great horseman. He used to be a racing secretary so he knows about the horses and about the races, and I'm very lucky to be working with him. It's been great. Everything's going in the right direction. I'm really looking forward to the future."

The Venezuelan-born Castellano enjoyed another spectacular winter at Gulfstream in 2015-2016, finishing with a meet-high 113 wins and nearly \$4.3 million in purse earnings. He won 14 stakes, six of them graded including the GII Davona Dale S. with '**TDN Rising Star**' and subsequent GI Kentucky Oaks heroine Cathryn Sophia (Street Boss).

No jockey has won more than three straight riding titles in Gulfstream history, and Castellano is the only one to reach triple digits in wins having done it in each of the past five years, topped by his record 132 in 2013-2014.

He entered the first week of December with 60 stakes wins, 34



Sol Kumin has had an extraordinary run in his very short 2+ years in racing. This week, he stops in at Bobby Flay's Manhattan studio to talk successful-owner-to-successful owner about his business, his family's involvement in the sport, the highs and lows of Lady Eli's career, and what he loves about the game of racing. [Click here](#) to listen to the podcast, or subscribe on your iOS podcast app.

of them graded, nine in Grade I company, and purses of more than \$26.5 million--all tops in North America--while his 290 wins ranked fourth. He has topped 300 wins every year since 2012.

"It's always special to come to South Florida and Gulfstream," Castellano said. "That's where I started my career and it feels like I'm coming back home to ride. To win five titles in a row is not easy, and I'm very lucky and very fortunate to be in that spot. I'm ready and willing to work to get another riding title."

"When you are at the top you have to work even harder, because everyone is chasing you and you don't want to lose your title," said a circumspect Castellano. "It's very competitive. I was born to be a jockey and I love to ride horses. I love the sport and I love what I do. Not too many people are in that position and I am very appreciative of that."

Overall at Gulfstream, Castellano owns 63 career graded stakes victories led by his lone GI Florida Derby in 2014 with Constitution (Tapit).



Javier Castellano | Horsephotos

Cont. p4

DECEMBER 2016

TDN WEEKEND

Owner

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Castellano Returns to Gulfstream Cont.

"As always I'm very excited and looking forward to it," concluded Castellano. "Every single year in the winter it's the greatest meet in the country with the horses and the horsemen. It's a tough colony because they come from everywhere. I don't want to take anything for granted, and I never do. I've been very blessed to be able to compete with the best jockeys in the country, and I'm very humbled and thankful to be able to ride the best horses in the country."

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DEL MAR TO MAKE SPECIAL PAYOUTS FOR CLOSING DAY PICK SIX CONSOLATIONS

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club has announced that it will make special consolation payouts to those who picked five of six winners in its Sunday, Dec. 4 Pick Six wager, wanting to "make it right" for its fans following confusion on how the closing day pool was to be distributed.

Del Mar paid out the entire Pick Six pool to 44 bettors who correctly selected the day's final six winners for a total of \$15,660.40 each. This was done as required by the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Rule 004-105G, a rule that had been used at the start of its fall meeting to set up the modified version of the bet that included a Single Ticket Jackpot provision. The rule does not allow for consolation payouts on "mandatory payout" days, which was the case on Sunday.

Because of the confusion caused by application of the ARCI rule, Del Mar has decided to provide a special payment of \$81.60 to those with five of six winners. The track's pari-mutuel records show that there were 1,095 tickets with five winners and they would have divided 15% of the net pool, which would have amounted to the sum of \$89,352.00, or \$81.60 per ticket.

The track has set up a series of options for those who correctly bet five of six winners to access their return according to how they made their bets. They include Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) accounts and actual tickets purchased at Del Mar or through brick and mortar satellites or locations.

"We realize the confusion that existed on closing day and we want to make this right for our valued customers," said Bill Navarro, Del Mar's director of mutuels. "We not only value our customers, but we also value a sense of fairness. In this case we're going to say to everyone involved that we hear you and understand how you feel that the letter of the law unfairly affected you. There is no better way to do that than to pay those who believed they had a consolation prize coming their way."

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GEORGE WOOLF MEMORIAL JOCKEY AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Santa Anita Park has announced five finalists for the 2017 Santa Anita George Woolf Memorial Jockey Award, with the winner to be announced in February following a vote of jockeys nationwide.

Veteran jockeys Kerwin Clark, Stewart Elliott, Julien Leparoux, Glen Murphy and Scott Stevens are the finalists for the prestigious trophy that has been presented annually by Santa Anita since 1950.

The Woolf Award, which can only be won once, is presented to a different jockey each year and it recognizes those riders whose careers and personal character earn esteem for the individual and the sport of Thoroughbred racing. The trophy is a replica of the life-sized statue of legendary jockey George Woolf, which adorns Santa Anita's Paddock Gardens area.

Woolf, who died following a spill on Santa Anita's Clubhouse turn on Jan. 3, 1946, was regarded as one of the top big-money riders of his era. Known affectionately as "The Iceman," he was revered by his colleagues, members of the media and fans across America as a fierce competitor and consummate professional who was at his best when the stakes were high.

The 2017 Woolf ballot, which will be distributed to active jockeys across the country, features five highly regarded riders who have plied their trade with honor and distinction.

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NEW YORK

Wednesday's Result:

5th-AQU, \$57,000, (S), 12-7, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.97, my. PICCO UNO (f, 3, [Macho Uno](#)--[Piccola Isola](#), by [Western Expression](#)), second behind future MSW Super Surprise (Giant Surprise) in a Spa allowance versus fellow state-breds July 24, was taken out of her element when 10th after racing too far back in another contest there Aug. 19. Only missing by a half-length trying a sloppy Belmont surface Oct. 21, the 9-5 crowd's pick kept a close eye on the leading pair racing three deep through a first quarter in :22.99. Gliding to the head of affairs shortly thereafter while clearly relishing the muddy going, the grey romped home 11 lengths to the good of Five Star Rampage (Quality Road). Piccola Isola was covered by Flashback this spring. Sales history: \$35,000 Ylg '14 KEEJAN; \$27,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP; \$34,000 RNA 2yo '15 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 7-2-3-1, \$115,400. Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.

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5th-FG, \$38K, MSW, 2yo, 5 1/2fT, 4:21 p.m. EDT

Originally a \$110,000 KEENOV weanling turned \$435,000 KEESEP RNA yearling, **FINEST (Scat Daddy)** commanded \$535,000 at OBSMAR, after breezing a furlong in :9.4/5. Racing for the Coolmore contingent of Michael Tabor, Mrs. John Magnier and Derrick Smith, the Wesley Ward trainee fired a bullet sprinting five panels at Palm Meadows in :59 3/5 (1/14) Nov. 23. The bay is a half-sister to GI Del Mar Debutante S. heroine Set Play (Van Nistelrooy). **TJCIS PPs** --Heather Anderson

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KENTUCKY

Blue Grass Farms Charities Hosts "Festival of Christmas" Party:

Blue Grass Farms Charities held its annual Festival of Christmas charity event Tuesday and Wednesday at Keeneland's Thoroughbred Training Center in Lexington. The 2016 event, geared toward the families of those who work with Thoroughbreds in the greater Lexington area, welcomed 1,072 individuals--including 574 children--to a Christmas party that included live music and a visit from Santa Claus.

Every child in attendance received a gift bag complete with toys, books, gloves and a hat, while adults were treated to poinsettias, household items and gift cards to Kroger grocery stores. Each night featured a gift raffle of a bicycle donated by the Race for Education. Executive director Wade Haga said that providing holiday cheer for families with limited financial resources is of the utmost importance.

"It's our biggest outreach event of the year and, of course, it's very popular," Haga said. "It's a very hard-working community of people, and they often just don't make enough to make ends meet during the holidays. So this is a really great opportunity for them to dress their children up and spend some quality time with Santa and have that memory together as a family."

Blue Grass Farms has had a busy year in 2016, growing its emergency assistance program and delivering fresh produce to hundreds of farm workers on a weekly basis. In addition to promoting education, the organization also expanded its annual

Farm Soccer Tournament at Dixiana Farm to 15 teams. Haga added that events like the Festival of Christmas serve to heighten awareness about their mission.

"Several of our programs have increased their reach and impact in a great way this year," Haga added. "We signed up between 20-25% more people for the Festival of Christmas this year, compared to last year. The amount of backpacks and school supplies also increased greatly this year. So I'm thankful that word is getting out about how we are able to serve these families, and it's obvious that the programs we're providing are meeting the needs of people. We're continuing to grow and more and more people are wanting to participate."



Children meet Santa at the Festival of Christmas event

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UK Celebrates 25 Years of Partnership with Lloyd's of London:

The long-term partnership between the insurance marketer Lloyd's of London and the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment celebrated 25 years of continued financial support when representatives from Lloyd's recently presented a \$50,000 check to UK, it was announced Wednesday.

"Lloyd's has long been a leading bloodstock insurer in Kentucky, and a quarter century of financial support demonstrates the underwriters' commitment to good equine health and cutting-edge research," said Patrick Talley, U.S. central region manager for Lloyd's America.

The partnership supports the Lloyd's Equine Disease Quarterly, a publication dedicated to equine health and welfare, produced by the UK Department of Veterinary Science Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center. The Quarterly reaches more than 18,000 readers in 102 countries, and is available in online and paper formats.

"The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is grateful to Lloyd's of London for this long-standing and unique support of the veterinary science department in general since 1985, and of the Equine Disease Quarterly for 25 years," said Dean Nancy Cox. "Because of Lloyd's support, this publication has achieved iconic status in the international equine industry, and we are so grateful."

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INDUSTRY INFO

Norby Elected President of Turf Publicists, Three Tabbed VPs:

Rhonda Norby of Equibase Company has been elected to serve as president of the Turf Publicists of America (TPA) for 2017 and 2018, it was announced Tuesday at the University of Arizona Symposium on Racing & Gaming. Norby served as a vice president for 2014-16 and succeeds Jim Mulvihill of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA).

At the same time it was announced Joe Bacigalupo, of the NTRA, and Jennie Rees, who handles publicity work for Ellis Park, Kentucky Downs and the Kentucky Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA), were elected as 2017-18 vice presidents. Additionally, Jeff Maday of Canterbury Park will serve out the remaining year of Norby's existing term as vice president. This will be a second term for Bacigalupo while Rees and Maday will serve for the first time. The trio will join current vice president Lynne Snierson and secretary-treasurer Dave Zenner, each of whom were elected last year to serve two-year terms in 2016 and 2017.

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BARRETT'S 2017 SALES CALENDAR

January Mixed Sale

Sale Date: Tuesday, Jan. 17

Select Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale

Sale Date: Wednesday, Mar. 29

Training Preview: Monday, Mar. 27

May Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training

Sale Date: Wednesday, May 17

Training Preview: Monday, May 15

The Paddock Sale of Race Ready Horses

Training Preview: Friday, July 27

Sale Date: Sunday, July 29

August Select Yearling Sale

Sale Date: Tuesday, Aug. 29

Fall Sale of Yearlings and Horses of Racing Age

Sale Date: Tuesday, Oct. 17

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IN SOUTH KOREA:

Jjarit, c, 2, [Gemologist](#)--Blissful Trip (SP), by Trippi. Seoul, 12-3,

Hcp. (\$51k), 1000m. B-WinStar Farm LLC (KY). *Scored by four lengths to graduate at third asking as the 13-10 chalk.

**\$32,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$30,000 2yo '16 FTMMAY.

***14th winner for freshman sire (by Tiznow).

Winning with Woodford

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Mustang Strong, c, 2, [Gemologist](#)--First To Come Home, by

Came Home. Seoul, 12-3, Hcp. (\$51k), 1300m. B-Dr Jerry Bilinski (NY). **\$12,500 Ylg '15 FTKOCT. **15th winner for freshman sire (by Tiznow).

Hippocrene, c, 2, [Shackelford](#)--Catnip (MSW, \$123,224), by

Flying Paster. Seoul, 12-4, Hcp. (\$51k), 1700m. B-Fiona Craig & Dermot Cantillon (KY). *Won by three lengths as the 2-1 favorite. **1/2 to Indescribable (Pleasant Tap), MGSW, \$476,159; and Micromanage (Medaglia d'Oro), GSW & GISP, \$790,551. ***\$95,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$20,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$50,000 2yo '16 FTFMAR. ****14th winner for freshman sire (by Forestry).

WOODS EDGE FARM GRADUATE

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First-crop starters to watch: Thursday, December 8

Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2013 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race # -track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

AIKENITE (Yes It's True), Calumet Farm, \$7.5K, 14/1/0

7-FG, Msw 5 1/2ft, Aiken to Be, \$28K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1

7-FG, Msw 5 1/2ft, Bold Lady, 10-1

ALGORITHMS (Bernardini), Claiborne Farm, \$7.5K, 89/12/1

9-TP, Msw 6f, Queen of Corona, \$11K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1

AMERICAIN (Dynaformer), Calumet Farm, \$20K, 40/2/0

7-FG, Msw 5 1/2ft, +Bella Bella, \$40K KEE SEP yrl, 12-1

Rookies Cont.

BODEMEISTER (Empire Maker), WinStar Farm, \$30K, 131/13/1
 6-LRC, Msw 5 1/2f, +Kenda, \$110K RNA BAR MAR 2yo, 6-1
 7-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, Graceful Heart, \$400K FTS AUG yrl, 12-1
DOMINUS (Smart Strike), Spendthrift Farm, \$6.5K, 50/9/2
 6-LRC, Msw 5 1/2f, +Dominating Woman, \$50K OBS MAR 2yo, 3-1
GEMOLOGIST (Tiznow), WinStar Farm, \$15K, 117/13/2
 9-TP, Msw 6f, Brenda's Gem, \$3K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1
 7-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, +Emmie's Gem, \$28K FTK OCT yrl, 12-1
 6-LRC, Msw 5 1/2f, Diamondinthecenter, \$170K OBS MAR 2yo, 8-1
HANSEN (Tapit), KOR, \$12.5K, 102/17/1
 9-TP, Msw 6f, Hansen's Girl, \$17K RNA OBS OPN 2yo, 2-1
MESSNER (Bernardini), PA, 16/2/0
 1-PEN, Alw 5 1/2f, Wildcat Cartridge, 5-1
SKIPSHOT (Skip Away), Considine Farm, 15/1/1
 9-TP, Msw 6f, +Routetoo, 20-1
STAY THIRSTY (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 91/16/1
 5-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, +Reaction, \$85K RNA OBS APR 2yo, 8-1
THE FACTOR (War Front), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 105/11/1
 9-TP, Msw 6f, Factfull, \$37K RNA OBS APR 2yo, 3-1
 6-LRC, Msw 5 1/2f, Starlet Storm, \$295K RNA FTF MAR 2yo, 6-1
UNION RAGS (Dixie Union), Lane's End Farm, \$35K, 106/17/3
 9-TP, Msw 6f, Kathy's Chance, \$140K OBS APR 2yo, 10-1
UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN (Limehouse), 9/2/0
 1-PEN, Alw 5 1/2f, True Sweetheart, 4-1

Second-crop starters to watch: Thursday, December 8

Sire (*Sire's Sire*), current farm, 2012 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/
BlackTypeWnrs * Race # -track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available) Please
 note: from Jan. 1-Apr. 30 all starters will be listed here. From June 1-Dec. 31, only
 offspring that are first-time starters or starting in a stakes race will be listed here.
ALBERTUS MAXIMUS (Albert the Great), Shadwell Farm, Pvt., 94/23/2
 7-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, +Din's Fire, 12-1
FIELD COMMISSION (Service Stripe), Solera Farm, \$2.5K, 36/5/0
 5-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, +Royal Commish, \$17K OBS AUG yrl, 12-1
 5-FG, Msw 5 1/2fT, +My Pal Al, \$26K OBS AUG yrl, 12-1

BREEDERS' EDITION**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

7th-AQU, \$57,000, (S), 12-7, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m,
 1:41.92, my.

UNREPENTED (m, 5, Repent--Nobody But Me, by Trust N Luck)
 Lifetime Record: 36-9-8-6, \$275,127. O-My Purple Haze Stables;
 B-Blue Devil Racing (NY); T-Chris J. Englehart.

1st-PEN, \$33,300, (S), 12-7, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:43.38,
 gd.

AGAINST THE ODDS (g, 3, Silver Train--Mlle Ballerina, by Posse)
 Lifetime Record: 17-3-3-2, \$93,490. O-Z & Z Stables; B-Angelo
 Zalalas (PA); T-Michael Zalalas.

5th-TAM, \$27,500, Opt. Clm (\$100,000), 12-7, 3yo/up, 5fT,
 :57.23, gd.

BILL'S PASSION (g, 3, Lerooidesanimaux {Brz}--Premier Roma, by Burning Roma) Lifetime Record: 12-3-7-1, \$108,420. O-Winning Stables, LLC & Harold L. Queen; B-Harold L. Queen (FL); T-Gerald S. Bennett.

2nd-MVR, \$26,700, (S), 12-7, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.98, my.
FAST JUSTICE (f, 3, Regal Ransom--Fast Included, by Include)
 Lifetime Record: SP, 12-3-2-2, \$99,242. O-Tommy G. Ligon & Anthony J. Granitz; B-Justice Farm & Greg Justice (OH); T-Anthony J. Granitz. *\$7,500 Wlg '13 KEENOV; \$15,000 Ylg '14 OBSAUG; \$55,000 RNA 2yo '15 OBSAPR.

Graduate of MJK Bloodstock**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

Timely Tradition, f, 2, **First Defence**--True Believer, by Smart Strike. AQU, 12-7, (S), (C), 6f, 1:13.44. B-Bertram R. Firestone (NY). **Won by 13 1/2 lengths.
+Treatherlikestar, f, 2, **Kitten's Joy**--Treatherlikealady, by Harlan's Holiday. AQU, 12-7, (S), (C), 6f, 1:14.44. B-Kenneth L. & Sarah K. Ramsey (NY). *\$16,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT.

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

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Picco Uno (Macho Uno) added an allowance victory at Aqueduct to her resume Wednesday.

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TREVE TO VISIT SHALAA IN 2017



Treve will be among Shalaa's first book of mares | *Scoop Dyga*

By Emma Berry

Dual G1 Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner **Treve (Fr)** (Motivator {GB}) will be covered in 2017 by Shalaa (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), who joins the Al Shaqab stallion roster at Haras de Bouquetot for the coming season.

Treve retired at the end of 2015 with six Group 1 victories to her name and nine wins in total from 13 starts. Now six, the standout among 120 well-credentialed mares at Sheikh Joaan Al Thani's Normandy farm is currently carrying her first foal by Dubawi (Ire).

Haras de Bouquetot's manager Benoit Jeffroy said, "It is important for us to support our stallions and this year Treve will go to Shalaa, along with Twyla Tharp (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), the dam of The Fugue (GB) (Dansili {GB}) and between 20 and 30 good black-type mares."

He added, "We're going to breed about 150 mares to Shalaa and about 25% of those are Irish and 25% English. The rest are split between our own mares and French mares." [Cont. p2](#)

SIR PERCY

"He's always been a very straightforward horse, with a good mind and attitude. I hope he can continue to improve – he's all about next year and hopefully he will develop."

SIMON CRISFORD, who trains 2yo debut winner Percy's Word

- Sire of **TWO GROUP 1** winners in 2016
- Sire of **37** individual **Stakes** horses, from 6 to 12 furlongs
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"For a small horse he's really progressed and he's really tough. I'd thoroughly recommend the Sir Percys – they are very nice horses to deal with."

EVE JOHNSON HOUGHTON, trainer of the 109-rated 3-year-old Scarlet Dragon

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ROGER CHARLTON, trainer of treble-winning 3yo Blakeney Point

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JAPANESE HORSES THRIVING AT SHA TIN

by Alan Carasso

HONG KONG -- Flashback 12 months ago to the Wednesday morning prior to the Longines Hong Kong International Races, when the skies opened over Sha Tin Racecourse and again later that evening over Happy Valley Racecourse, dampening the mood of those on hand, at least slightly. There were no such meteorological concerns this time around, as overcast skies gave way to gradual clearing as the international entrants for Sunday's four Group 1 tests were put through their paces before a growing number of media.

While the local contingent, including G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile hopeful **Able Friend (Aus)** (Shamardal) got in their work prior to the renovation of the dirt

track at around 8:30, the internationals began to emerge, led by defending G1 Longines Hong Kong Vase and GI Breeders' Cup Turf winner **Highland Reel (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}).

Highland Reel lumbered up the stretch just in advance of stable companion **Cougar Mountain (Ire)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}). The duo took a lap of the Sha Tin turf, opening the pipes just a bit down the lane, then each returning with a bit of kidney sweat on a seasonably cool morning. [Cont. in Worldwide News p4](#)



Highland Reel | *HKJC photo*

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

IN QUEST FOR ECLIPSE, ORTIZ WON'T SLOW DOWN

Bill Finley catches up with Jose Ortiz on his remarkable season, which included a Saratoga riding title and his first Breeders' Cup victory, and what the jockey is doing to try to clinch the Eclipse Award. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

Treve to Visit Shalaa in 2017 cont. from p1

At €27,500, Shalaa is the most expensive stallion to retire to stud in Europe for 2017 on a list which numbers just over 40 new recruits to the stallion ranks for next year. Trained by John Gosden, Shalaa was bought as a yearling for 170,000gns and won six of his eight races in the Al Shaqab silks, including the G1 Darley Prix Morny and G1 Juddmonte Middle Park S.

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Landikusic, a full-sister to Zoffany, breaks her maiden at Dundalk for LNJ Foxwoods and trainer Jim Bolger | *Racing Post*

BRITAIN



Wednesday's Results:

1st-KEM, £5,000, Mdn, 12-7, 2yo, 6f (AWT), 1:13.72, st/sl.
+MEDAHIM (IRE) (c, 2, Kodiak {GB}—Novel Fun {Ire}, by Noverre), a €130,000 GOFNOV foal and 360,000gns TATOCT yearling, was sent off a big 12-1 and raced in mid-division early before emerging with his challenge in the straight. Storming by Saluti (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) with 150 yards remaining, the bay drew away to record an impressive success by 3 1/4 lengths. The dam, who has a yearling filly by Approve (Ire), is a half to the G3 Prix de Cabourg winner Hunan (Ire) (College Chapel {GB}) and to the dam of the German highweight sprinter Exciting Life (Ire) (Titus Livius {Fr}). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,100. [Video](#), [sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-Al Shaqab Racing; B-Paul McEnery (IRE); T-Richard Hannon.

Want to send a "**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**"
of the Thoroughbred Daily News?

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The Year In Pictures: Galileo Gold (Paco Boy) and Frankie Dettori after the G1 St James's Palace S. at Ascot. | racingfotos.com

Britain Report cont.

3rd-KEM, £5,000, Mdn, 12-7, 2yo, 8f (AWT), 1:41.59, st/sl.
+SON OF THE STARS (GB) (c, 2, Delegator {GB}—Michelle Shift {GB}, by Night Shift), sent off at 8-1, raced freely tracking the leading pair against the rail throughout the initial stages. Sent to the front with 1 1/2 furlongs remaining, the bay forged clear to register a convincing 3 1/4-length success from Opinionate (GB) (Cacique {Ire}). Mikey Ready (Frankel {GB}), the relative of Peeping Fawn (Danehill), made no major impact in seventh looking as if a sterner test of stamina would suit. Son of the Stars, who becomes the eighth winner for his first-season sire, by Dansili (GB), is out of a relative of the G2 Premio Regina Elena (Italian 1000 Guineas) winner Ancestral Dancer (Siberian Express) who also has a yearling colt by Hellvelyn (GB) named Holdenhurst (GB) and a filly foal by Swiss Spirit (GB). Sales history: 9,500gns Wlg '14 TATFOA; 7,000gns RNA Ylg '15 TAOCT; €25,000 2yo '16 GBMBR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,100.

[Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Mr Ahmad Abdulla Al Shaikh; B-Southill Stud (GB); T-Richard Hannon.

4th-KEM, £5,000, Mdn, 12-7, 2yo, 8f (AWT), 1:41.16, st/sl.

INTERMODAL (GB) (c, 2, Rail Link {GB}—Rule of Nature {GB}, by Oasis Dream {GB}), fifth on debut over this trip at Lingfield Nov. 15, led initially before taking a lead from Pete So High (Ger) (High Chaparral {Ire}). Engaging with that rival from early straight, the 11-4 joint-favourite gained a slight edge 100 yards from the line and stayed on to score by a nose. The dam is a half to Preferential (GB) (Dansili {GB}), successful in stakes company in France and the States from the family of the G1 Prix de la Foret and GII Palomar Breeders' Cup H. winner Etoile Montante (Miswaki). She has a colt foal by Bated Breath (GB) to come. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$4,100. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Khalid Abdullah; B-Juddmonte Farms Ltd (GB); T-Amanda Perrett.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Senses of Dubai (GB), g, 3, Royal Applause (GB)—Umseyat, by Arch. KEM, 12-7, 8f (AWT), 1:41.40. B-Shadwell Estate Company Limited (GB). *€20,000 Ylg '14 TISEP; 8,000gns 3yo '16 TAJUL.



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IRELAND**Wednesday's Results:**

1st-DUN, €11,000, Mdn, 12-7, 3yo/up, 8f (AWT), 1:39.17, st.

LANDIKUSIC (IRE) (f, 3, Dansili {GB}—Tyranny {GB}, by Machiavellian), a 700,000gns TATOCT yearling by virtue of the fact that she is a full-sister to the G1 Phoenix S.-winning sire Zoffany (Ire), G1SW-Ire, G1SP-Eng & Fr, \$523,650, was third last time over this course and distance Nov. 25 and showed prominently from the outset. Committed on the front end with a quarter mile to race, the 11-4 second favourite battled hard to win by a head from Ellaria (Ire) (Exceed and Excel {Aus}). Aside from being a full-sibling of Ballydoyle's aforementioned top-class miler who excelled when getting closest to Frankel (GB) at the end of the G1 St James's Palace S., the winner is also a half-sister to the stakes-placed That's Plenty (Ire) (Dr Fong) and another from Rosegreen in the G3 Anglesey S. scorer Wilshire Boulevard (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), GSW-Ire & GSP-Eng, \$173,305. The dam is a half to the GII Lake Placid H. winner Spotlight (GB) (Dr Fong) from the family of the equally-talented Hesmonds Stud representatives Bulaxie (GB) (Bustino {GB}) and Claxon (GB) (Caerleon). She has a yearling colt by Frankel (GB) and a filly foal by Dubawi (Ire) to follow. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-2, \$9,591.

[Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-LNJ Foxwoods Partnership; B-Denis Brosnan (IRE); T-Jim Bolger.

4th-DUN, €11,000, Mdn, 12-7, 2yo, 7f (AWT), 1:26.67, st.

+YULONG XIONGYIN (IRE) (c, 2, Footstepsinthesand {GB}—Cloudy Bay {Ger}, by Zilzal), sent off the 4-1 second favourite, showed dash to gain the lead after the initial yards and was still travelling strongly in hand at the top of the straight. Shaken up to take control approaching the final furlong, the €15,500 GOFFEB and £48,000 GOFLON 2yo stayed on to score by a length from Thomas O'Malley (Ire) (Henrythenavigator). The dam is like the Scandinavian and German pattern-race performers Calrissian (Ger) (Efisio {GB}) and Cliffrose (Ger) (Monsun {Ger}) respectively out of the G2 Preis der Diana heroine Centaine (GB) (Royal Academy). This is also the family of the GI Yellow Ribbon Invitational S. winner Bonne Ile (GB) (Ile de Bourbon) and the sire Ile de Nisky (GB). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$7,251. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Zhang Yuesheng; B-A. Pereira (IRE); T-Mick Halford.

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FRANCE



Wednesday's Result:

1st-DVL, €44,000, Cond, 12-7, 2yo, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:28.15, st. **MARKAZI (FR) (c, 2, Dark Angel {Ire}–Marasima {Ire}, by Barathea {Ire})**, who scored over this trip on turf at Tarbes last time Oct. 16, was restrained early to track the leading trio. Driven to gain the lead with a furlong remaining, the 4-5 favourite stuck to his guns in dogged fashion to ward off Incampo (Fr) (Campanologist) and prevail by a head. Marasima, who has a yearling colt by Zoffany (Ire), is distantly related to the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches heroine Riverqueen (Fr) (Luthier {Fr}). Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-1, €44,430. [Video](#), [sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-His Highness The Aga Khan; B-H H The Aga Khan's Studs SC (FR); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

CONDITIONS RESULT:

2nd-DVL, €44,000, 12-7, 2yo, 9 1/2f (AWT), 1:56.57, st.

JUST A FORMALITY (FR) (c, 2, Spirit One {Fr}–Formalite {Fr}, by Equerry) Lifetime Record: MSP-Fr, 12-2-3-4, €105,860. O/B-Le Haras de la Gousserie (FR); T-C Escuder.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Sao Paolo Menina (Fr), f, 3, Elusive City–Vezara (Ire), by Grand Lodge. DVL, 12-7, 9 1/2f (AWT), 1:55.17. B-Robert Nahas (FR).

KAYF TARA COLT TOPS GOFFS OPENER

A colt foal by Kayf Tara (GB) topped the opening session of Goffs's two-day December National Hunt Sale on Wednesday when hammered down to Aiden Murphy for €57,000. Murphy was also responsible for the purchase of the third most expensive lot of the day, a Fleminsforth colt that cost €50,000. Falling between those two was a son Shantou who cost Jimmy Murphy €52,000. A total of 160 foals were sold on the day for €1,758,000, at an average of €10,988 and a median of €8,000.

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WIENER WALZER TO STAND IN TURKEY

Former German sire **Wiener Walzer (Ger)** (Dynaformer–Walzerkoenigin, by Kingmambo) will stand in Turkey next year after being bought by the Turkish Jockey Club. The now 10-year-old stallion won the G1 Deutsches Derby and G1 Rheinland-Pokal, and is a half-brother to G2 Beresford S. winner Port Douglas (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}); G2 Prix Maurice de Nieuil winner Walzertakt (Ger) (Montjeu {Ire}); and G3 Bavarian Classic scorer Walzertraum (Rahy). His best progeny to date is the Group 2 winner Skarino Gold (Ger).

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NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR: We've always taken the view that 'value sires' are to some degree a matter of opinion, and we value the opinions of our readers, who are a knowledgeable community (else why would you be reading TDN?). So please let us know of any sires in NA or Europe, standing for 40,000 or under, which you feel we've missed out in the last two columns, and we will include them with next week's essay. In Europe, we have a nomination for Coolmore's The Gurkha, by Galileo - Chintz, by Danehill Dancer. He won the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulaillers-French 2000 Guineas; ran second, in soft ground, to Galileo Gold (Paco Boy) in the G1 St. James's Palace S.; second again, at 10 furlongs, to Hawkbill (Kitten's Joy) in the G1 Eclipse; and turned the tables on Galileo Gold to win the G1 Sussex S. at Goodwood at the end of July, before he was sidelined by injury and ultimately retired. His form is certainly good enough, but The Gurkha also got a big endorsement from a top judge who saw him at Coolmore recently: "oozed class", was this judge's remark. That all makes him a pretty interesting play at €25,000.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Japanese Horses Thriving at Sha Tin cont. from p1

The Andre Fabre-trained 5-year-old **Elliptique (Ire)** (New Approach {Ire}) soon appeared and looked very well within himself galloping down the straight, as did his compatriot **Garlingari (Fr)** (Linngari {Ire}). The latter is trained by Corine Barande-Barbe, who called the shots on the career of the wildly popular Cirrus des Aigles (Fr) (Even Top {Ire}), a six-time visitor to Hong Kong.

Making a big impression--quite literally--was **Takedown (Aus)** (Stratum {Aus}), the last-out winner of the G1 Winterbottom S.



Takedown | HKJC photo

for trainer Gary Moore, who will face brother John's **Not Listenin'tome (Aus)** (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint. This observer has never seen a more robust racehorse in the flesh, as Takedown

tips the scale at better than 1360 pounds. He took the eye, and filled the camera lens, during his morning work.

[Cont. p5](#)

Japanese Horses Thriving at Sha Tin cont.



A Shin Hikari | HKJC photo

Big Orange (GB) (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}), who will try to give Highland Reel a test in the Vase, led New Zealand's **Benzini (Aus)** (Tale of the Cat) onto the Sha Tin dirt track, but soon to follow was the 13-strong entry from Japan, one looking bigger and better than the next.

Lovely Day (Jpn) (King Kamehameha {Jpn}), a latest ninth to **Maurice (Jpn)** (Screen Hero {Jpn}) in the G1 Tenno Sho, looked bright and alert as he made his way onto the dirt, while the latter, who takes in the Cup this year after winning the Mile last December, was also quite full of himself. **Satono Aladdin (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}), a rich dark bay, tugged his way along nicely and looks like he might be ready to keep the Mile in the Land of the Rising Sun, while G1 Yasuda Kinen winner **Logotype (Jpn)** (Lohengrin {Jpn}) also advertised himself nicely. **A Shin Hikari (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) was his playful self, moving more laterally than forward at times, but those who know will tell you this is the A Shin Hikari they'd want to see in the morning. On his day, Staphanos (Jpn) (King Kamehameha {Jpn}) is one of Japan's top 10-furlong horses and, making his third trip down to Hong Kong in the last 20 months, looked to be carrying good flesh Wednesday morning. **Big Arthur (Jpn)** (Sakura Bakushin O {Jpn}), the better-fancied of Japan's two entries for the Sprint, could never be mistaken for anything but a short-track specialist. A big, blocky type and hard to miss in his yellow tack, he too struck an imposing figure on the track Wednesday morning. **Red Falx (Jpn)** (Swept Overboard) proved the beneficiary last time in the G1 Sprinters' S., running over the top of horses to win while Big Arthur could never get out of traffic. To be sure, he is far less impressive physically than many of the other Japanese horses, but the talent is there and Mirco Demuro sees fit to ride. The morning's final worker was **Nuovo Record (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}), runner-up to A Shin Hikari in last year's Cup, but taking her shot in the Vase this time around.

Also unmistakable in her green hood, she'll have her work cut out for her, but shows no ill effect from her recent busy schedule which saw her win the GIII Red Carpet H. at Del Mar in Southern California less than two weeks ago.

Thursday morning is always an important one ahead of the International Races, as many of the Japanese runners will be given a searching gallop and asked to quicken home, while the locally based John Moore will oversee the final major move of his half-dozen HKIR runners from the 1800-metre point and down the riverside part of Sha Tin. We'll have that report Thursday, plus reaction to the draw, which takes place at 11 a.m.

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BOWMAN EDGES MOORE TO SCOOP LONGINES IJC

by Alan Carasso

Four different riders from four different jurisdictions each won a single event during Wednesday night's Longines International Jockeys' Championship at Happy Valley Racecourse, but by virtue of an additional runner-up effort, Australia's Hugh Bowman added to what has been a fairy tale season with a narrow victory over England's Ryan Moore. Italian Mirco Demuro and Keita Tosaki were the night's other winning jockeys.

Bowman got the night off to a reasonably formful start when partnering with 17-5 second favorite **Premiere (NZ)** (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) for trainer John Size in race four ([video](#)), but Moore leveled the score in the second leg of the series with a 1 3/4-length victory atop the Tony Millard-conditioned favorite **Giant Turtle (NZ)** (Zabeel {NZ}) ([video](#)).

Bowman appeared to be on his way to a second victory in leg three when 21-10 second choice **Kiram (Fr)** (Elusive City) led deep into the final furlong, but Demuro tossed his name into the hat by throwing 8-1

Mutual Joy (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}) over the line first in a dramatic finish ([video](#)). Moore added two points to his total with a dead-heat for third to take the tally to 18-14 in favor of the Aussie entering the final leg. Also alive into the finale with longshot chances were Florent Geroux on eight points and Douglas Whyte with six points.

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Hugh Bowman receives the IJC trophy | HKJC

Bowman Edges Moore to Scoop Longines IJC cont.

Moore had the call on favored **Beauty Prince (GB)** (Arcano {Ire}), but the duo got too far back in the field and lost a photo for third. With Bowman out of the reckoning and down the field in eighth, Tosaki earned a share of third with Demuro, guiding **Big Bang Bong (Ire)** (Big Bad Bob {Ire}) to a 28-1 upset ([video](#)). Moore could have tied Bowman with 18 points had the eighth-race photo gone in his favor.

For Bowman, a three-time champion in Sydney, it was another feather in the cap of a brilliant season. The regular rider of Australia's Horse of the Year Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}), his association with Hong Kong-based trainer John Moore yielded victories in the Hong Kong Derby and G1 Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup. Wednesday's IJC victory was worth HK\$500,000.

"I thought in the last either I had to beat Ryan or we both had to score no points, and he was on the even-money favourite," a relieved Bowman explained. "In the run I was supremely confident that my horse could run a place, but he didn't let down, and I must admit on the line, I thought Ryan had run third, so it was an anxious few moments, but we got the victory. I came here quietly confident I could figure, because I had significantly enough rides to score enough points, but you need luck in running."

Bowman remains in Hong Kong for the International Races meeting, where he has rides in all four events, three for Moore.

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LONGINES, HKJC RENEW PARTNERSHIP

During an early-afternoon reception held at Longines Star House flagship boutique in Kowloon, officials from Longines and the Hong Kong Jockey Club announced the renewal of a

partnership that will see the Swiss watchmaker continue as the title sponsor and official timekeeper of the Hong Kong International Races and the International Jockeys' Championship. Longines began its sponsorship of the two events back in 2012.

"The Hong Kong Jockey Club and Longines have a proud



Longines' Juan-Carlos Capelli (left) & HKJC CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges | HKJC photo

heritage and share many of the same values, striving for excellence in all that we do and being committed to delivering world-class performance," said Mr. Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges, Chief Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. "Over the last five years, with the tremendous support of

Longines, Hong Kong International Races week has achieved new heights. With this track record of success, we are delighted that Longines will continue as a sponsor of the Longines International Jockeys' Championship and the Longines Hong Kong International Races for another term."

Added Juan-Carlos Capelli, Vice President of Longines and Head of International Marketing: "We are delighted to celebrate the renewal of our partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club and would like to thank them for their collaboration in transforming these events into tremendous successes year after year. Being associated with such a remarkable institution, which is not only a reference in terms of horseracing events, but also Hong Kong's premier charity and community benefactor, is a great pride for Longines. We look forward to the 2016 Longines Hong Kong International Races and to the many editions to come."

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O'FARRELL NAMED RACING AUSTRALIA CEO

Barry O'Farrell has been named Chief Executive Officer of Racing Australia. O'Farrell, who has a strong background in public administration and financial management, served with distinction in the NSW parliament for 20 years, and was premier of NSW from 2011 to 2014, managing complex policy, legal and financial issues with a diverse range of stakeholders.

O'Farrell will take up the position in late January.

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INGLIS PREMIER CATALOGUE ONLINE

The catalogue for Inglis's Premier Yearling Sale Feb. 26 to 28, which has in recent years produced the likes of Black Caviar (Aus) (Bel Esprit {Aus}) and Jameka (Aus) (Myboycharlie {Ire}), is online and can be viewed at [inglis.com.au](#). The catalogue includes strong representation for some of Australia's leading sires, including Written Tycoon (Aus) (30), Sebring (Aus) (20) and I Am Invincible (Aus) (20). First-season sires with strong representation include Fiorento (Ire) (29), Shamus Award (Aus) (23) and Fighting Sun (Aus) (19). There are 52 progeny of group winners slated to sell, and 54 siblings to group winners (nine of those Group 1 winners). There are 507 yearlings nominated for the Super VOBIS scheme, and 439 that are BOBS eligible.

The Inglis Premier Yearling Sale has enjoyed growth for seven consecutive years, its average doubling from A\$55,000 to A\$110,000 over that time period due to the increase in quality of the catalogue.

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