



CLASSIC EMPIRE TOPS FIRST TDN DERBY 12



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

by T.D. Thornton

The inaugural TDN Derby Top 12 for 2017 dawns with the big guns on the list having earned their berths via promising 2-year-old performances, but they are pursued by an intriguing collection of up-and-comers vying for footholds in the rankings. So far this season--a subplot to limited on-track action--a pelting of wet weather has wreaked havoc with training for California-based sophomores, and repercussions from the ongoing Fair Grounds quarantine could cloud prep-race plans for 3-year-olds aiming for the Louisiana route to Louisville on the first Saturday in May.

1. CLASSIC EMPIRE (c, [Pioneerof the Nile](#)--[Sambuca Classica](#), by [Cat Thief](#))

O-John C. Oxley. B-Steven & Brandi Nicholson (KY). T-Mark E. Casse. Sales History: \$475,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP.
Last Start: 1st, [GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile](#), SA, Nov. 5
Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity](#), KEE, Oct. 8; 1st, [GIII Bashford Manor S.](#), CD, July 2.
Next start: GII Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 4

[EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Classic Empire](#)

KY Derby Points: 30

Cont. p3

UNCONTESTED, INDEED, IN THE SMARTY JONES

Uncontested (Tiz Wonderful), a 'TDN Rising Star' who showed immense promise in his first two outings, broke out with a dominant victory in the Smarty Jones S. at Oaklawn, going straight to the lead and romping through the slop in the first leg of the Hot Springs track's GI Kentucky Derby prep series.

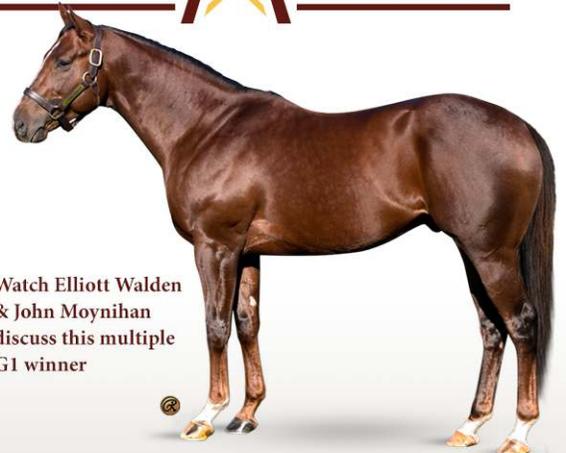
An impressive six-length victor on debut Oct. 19 at Keeneland to earn his 'Rising Star' badge, the LaPenta and Rosenblum colorbearer ran a solid fourth behind undefeated fellow 'TDN Rising Star' McCracken (Ghostzapper) after setting a fast pace in the two-turn GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. Nov. 26 at Churchill. Bet down to 6-5 favoritism here, Uncontested was just that on the front end, cruising clear through strong splits of :23.04 and :46.21. Second choice Petrov (Flatter) got within striking distance of the front nearing the turn for home, but he was discarded quickly after the leader straightened, and Uncontested bounded home under wraps while drifting out some late to a dazzling first stakes score. **Cont. Regional p1**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

LORDAN JOINS BALLYDOYLE

Jockey Wayne Lordan, who previously spent many years riding for David Wachman and the Stack family, joined Aidan O'Brien at Ballydoyle this week. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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Stormy Atlantic	99
Malibu Moon	97
Medaglia d'Oro	95
Tapit	89

Source: Equineline Statistical Sire Summary, 1/16

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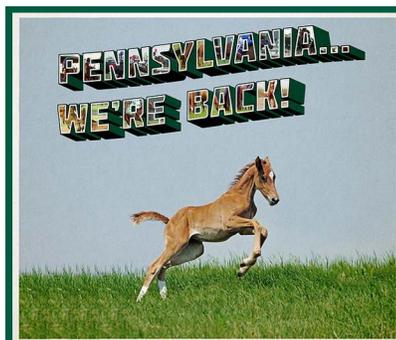
#2,000. On Monday, Hall of Fame trainer Nick Zito saddled the 2,000th winner of his career at Gulfstream Park, where *Forever Plus* registered a gate-to-wire victory under Nik Juarez. | Horsephotos

NOBLE BIRD, 'PRAYER' COMPLETE PEGASUS LINEUP 12

Prayer for Relief (Jump Start) and Noble Bird (Birdstone) have been added to the prospective starting field for the GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational, which means that all 12 shareholders in the Jan. 28 race now have filled their allotted slots.

GREEN GRATTO, PRIZE EXHIBIT LAND STAKES 15

Green Gratto (Here's Zealous) landed Aqueduct's GIII Toboggan S., while Prize Exhibit (GB) (Showcasing {GB}) captured the GIII Megahertz S. at Santa Anita, highlighting coast-to-coast Monday stakes action.



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Classic Empire (Cont. from p1)

Make no mistake: This is not one of those years in which the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner gets granted the top-ranked 3-year-old spot based on polite deference to past accomplishments. Classic Empire has earned the billing and commands respect entering 2017. The presumed 2-year-old champion colt (four-for-five lifetime, only loss when he dislodged the jockey in the GI Hopeful S. at Saratoga) deftly puts himself into races early and is highly rateable while sustaining a keen cruising speed. When he came over the top of the field at the quarter pole in the GI Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland, Classic Empire was unchallenged to the wire under only mild

rousing; in the Breeders' Cup he both pressured the early pace and had the late stamina to win a visually impressive and physically taxing stretch battle. In December, trainer Casse (who does not fling superlatives lightly) called the \$475,000 KEESEP purchase "without a doubt the most talented 2-year-old that I've ever trained," while outlining a battle plan that ideally would include the GII Fountain of Youth S. and GI Florida Derby. Classic Empire won't have to be lights-out brilliant in his 2017 debut to retain his firm hold on the number one ranking. But with such lofty expectations, he must win while demonstrating obvious forward momentum in order to keep perceptions of vulnerability at bay.

Constitution

Blue-Blooded Multiple G1 Winner
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	Bred-On Fee	2016 Average
★ CONSTITUTION	\$25,000	\$508,143
American Pharoah	\$200,000	\$440,000
Honor Code	\$40,000	\$166,800
Liam's Map	\$25,000	\$156,133
Tonalist	\$30,000	\$124,286
Palace Malice	\$20,000	\$106,059

Source: Bloodhorse.com, Thru 12/31/16

Tapit - Baffled, by Distorted Humor
2017 Fee: \$25,000 S&C

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2. MCCRAKEN (c, [Ghostzapper](#)--[Ivory Empress](#), by Seeking the Gold)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O/B-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY). T-Ian R. Wilkes.

Last Start: 1st, [GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.](#), CD, Nov. 26

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [Street Sense S.](#), CD, Oct. 30

Next start: Possible for either GII Holy Bull S. or GII Swale S., both at GP, Feb. 4

[EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

The undefeated McCracken (all three wins at Churchill Downs) is a lean, professional-looking router who possesses the dangerous combination of being a deep closer with a lively turn of foot. He was an 8-1 outlier when winning the one-turn mile Street Sense S. while seven wide Oct. 30, but surprised no one as the 4-5 favorite when besting 11 rivals in the

GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. Nov. 26. In that race, McCracken (named after a small town in Kansas) caught the eye with his professional demeanor: he rated kindly to the back of the pack, advanced when ready three-eighths out, looped the group with



McCraken | Coady Photography

a methodical march, then gamely split rivals at the quarter pole while opening up stylishly through the lane. Trainer Wilkes has indicated a desire to take a patient approach with this still-developing 'TDN Rising Star,' but a bullet five-furlong breeze Jan. 13 at Palm Meadows Training Center could be a signal that McCracken is eager for a more aggressive assignment.

3. MASTERY (c, [Candy Ride \(Arg\)](#)--[Steady Course](#), by Old Trieste)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O-Cheyenne Stables, LLC. B-Stone Farm (KY). T-Bob Baffert.

Sales History: \$425,000 Ylg '15 [KEESEP](#).

Last Start: 1st, [GI Los Alamitos CashCall Futurity](#), LRC, Dec. 10

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GIII Bob Hope S.](#), DMR, Nov. 19

Next start: Uncommitted

[EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Mastery](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

Hype was high for this tall,

long-striding \$425,000 [KEESEP](#) yearling long before the colt made it to the races and Mastery has lived up to his advance billing by winning all three of his lifetime starts, including a commanding 7 1/4-length victory as the 1-5 favorite in the GI

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TDN WEEKEND

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Los Alamitos Futurity. The **'TDN Rising Star'** is the top 3YO currently campaigning in California (although the Left Coast crop does not represent the deepest segment of the division at this



Mastery | Benoit Photo

juncture of the season), and Mastery's natural, efficient speed straight from the starting stalls is his most formidable weapon. Jockey Mike Smith credited Baffert's use of blinkers in the

Futurity with helping to keep the colt focused, because Mastery did try to coast a bit once he put away the early competition and grabbed the lead all by himself. Yet watching him subsequently shift into an extra gear under left-handed urging while swatting away a late challenge from 23-1 closer Irap (Tiznow), gives the impression that Mastery's raw speed has the potential to be buttressed by a sizable reserve of staying power. It will be Baffert's job to sync those two traits seamlessly if Mastery is to flourish as he matures.

4. MO TOWN (c, [Uncle Mo--Grazie Mille](#), by Bernardini)
'TDN Rising Star' O-Susan Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith & Team D. B-John D. Gunther & Eurowest Bloodstock (KY). T-Anthony W. Dutrow. Sales History: \$200,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Last Start: 1st, [Gil Remsen S.](#), AQU, Nov. 26
 Next start: Possible for Gil Gotham S., Aqu, Mar. 4
[EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Mo Town](#)
 KY Derby Points: 10

At this early stage in the season, spot number four marks a fairly clear line of demarcation separating the top trio from the remainder of contenders, and Mo Town lays claim to this ranking based on his proficient, workmanlike annexation of the Gil Remsen S. at Aqueduct in November. That race was both his first two-turn venture and stakes attempt, and the Uncle Mo (Indian



Mo Town | Coglianese Photo



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Charlie) colt settled behind a breakaway pacemaker, reeled him in on the backstretch, stalked while slowing the tempo, then opened up under steady urging. After the race, trainer Dutrow marveled at his **'TDN Rising Star'**s level of cardio fitness, noting that his charge was unfazed and unwinded in the winner's circle. There's an old-school cachet about winning the nine-furlong Remsen, traditionally the final distance stakes of the year for top-level 2-year-olds in New York. But a glance at the list of winners is somewhat surprising in that only three horses in the last 53 years--Thunder Gulch, Go For Gin and Pleasant Colony--have successfully parlayed the Remsen into a win in the GI Kentucky Derby.

5. AMERICAN ANTHEM (c, [Bodemeister](#)--Indy's Windy, by A.P. Indy)
 O-WinStar Farm, LLC, S F Bloodstock, LLC & China Horse Club. B-WinStar Farm (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$180,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$435,000 2yo '16 OBSMAR. Last Start: 2nd, [GIII Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7
 Next start: Uncommitted
[EquineLine PPs](#)
 KY Derby Points: 4

Yes, Gormley (Malibu Moon) beat American Anthem in the GIII Sham S. at Santa Anita, but they are flipped in the rankings here because Baffert's \$435,000 Bodemeister (Empire Maker) colt left the impression there is plenty more horsepower under the hood that we have not seen yet. The top two Sham finishers were a bob apart, but 13 lengths in front of all other rivals at the wire, and American Anthem was visually impressive considering he was stepping up off a debut maiden win to two-turn stakes company. Brawny and aggressive, he appeared to have no problem with being pinned on the inside by a more experienced foe over a sloppy/sealed track, and when headed by Gormley, he kicked again with a determination that belies his light seasoning. "For only his second time out, that was pretty impressive," jockey Mike Smith said after the race. "If we'd been on the outside...I think that probably would've helped a little bit getting beat [a head]."

Baffert also trained the colt's sire, who took the GI Arkansas Derby path to being the runner-up in both the Kentucky Derby and GI Preakness S., making one wonder if a trip to Hot Springs in April might be in American Anthem's future.



Gormley & American Anthem (r) battle in the Sham | Benoit Photo

6. GORMLEY (c, [Malibu Moon](#)--[Race to Urga](#), by Bernstein)
O-Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Moss. B-Castleton Lyons & Kilboy Estate (KY). T-John A. Shirreffs. Sales History: \$150,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP.

Last Start: 1st, [GIII Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7.

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI FrontRunner S.](#), SA, Oct. 6

Next start: Possible for GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 11

[EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Gormley](#)
KY Derby Points: 20

Gormley's rank in the pecking order depends a lot on how one views his seventh-place clunker in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, which was run over his home track at Santa Anita. If you cross out that race (he did stumble at the break), he's won all three of his other starts, and it's worth noting he carried five more pounds when outlasting American Anthem in his

spirited Sham S. victory. Although a bit washy entering the gate, Gormley was all business in the Sham, pressing an aggressive pacemaker while looking nimble and relaxed over the off going. Neither colt wanted to give in while alternating the lead through

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the lane, finishing a pole in front of their overmatched rivals. “It didn’t surprise me how well he broke out of there today,” trainer Shirreffs said after the race. “When he’s feeling good, he breaks quickly and already running.”

7. PRACTICAL JOKE (c, [Into Mischief](#)--[Halo Humor](#), by Distorted Humor)

O-Klaravich Stables, Inc. & William H. Lawrence. B-Whispering Oaks (KY). T-Chad C. Brown. Sales History: \$135,000 Ylg ‘15 KEEJAN; \$240,000 Ylg ‘15 KEESEP.

Last Start: 3rd, [GI Sentient Jet Breeders’ Cup Juvenile](#), SA, Nov. 5.

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI Hopeful S.](#), SAR, Sept. 5; 1st, [GI Champagne S.](#), BEL, Oct. 8.

Next start: Uncommitted

[EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 14

Practical Joke was three-for-three entering the Breeders’ Cup, but he was jostled at the start and got fanned five wide leaving the clubhouse



Practical Joke | Sarah K. Andrew

turn before regrouping well enough to finish third behind presumed champ Classic Empire and the since-retired Not This Time (Giant’s Causeway). He ended up 4 1/4

lengths clear of the rest of the field, and it’s interesting to note that only two months after the Juvenile, only four colts from that 11-horse championship field have managed to make this list. The two-time Grade I winner (Hopeful and Champagne S.) is wintering at Palm Meadows training center in Florida with an expected return to serious training by the end of this month.

8. GUNNEVERA (c, [Dialed In](#)--[Unbridled Rage](#), by Unbridled)

O-Peacock Racing Stables, LLC. B-Brandywine Farm & Stephen Upchurch (KY). T-Antonio Sano. Sales History: \$16,000 Ylg ‘15 KEESEP.

Last Start: 1st, [GIII Delta Downs Jackpot S.](#), DED, Nov. 19.

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GII Saratoga Special S.](#), SAR, Aug. 14

Next start: GII Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 4

[EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Gunnevera](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

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Gunnevera is certainly the overachiever of the bunch, and while fun to root for from that perspective, one gets the feeling he is going to have to spend his winter and spring constantly proving he belongs with Triple Crown-caliber horses if he is to



Gunnevera | Coady Photography

wind up in the starting gate for the Churchill Downs feature on the first Saturday in May. A \$16,000 KEESEP bargain who has now bankrolled \$771,000 in purses, it took the gangly Dialed In (Mineshaft) colt three tries to break

his maiden at the Gulfstream summer meet, but he springboarded from his first career win to a 9-1 upset of the GII Saratoga Special S. in his next try. Two outings later, he won the \$1-million GIII Delta Downs Jackpot, loping along at the back by his lonesome before inhaling the field on a tight-turn (six furlongs) track with a five-wide sweep before opening up at will. He seemed a tad unfocused through the lane, but so long as he got a learning experience out of that 5 3/4-length romp, Gunnevera can build off that effort. He'll need to, because his scheduled next start in the Holy Bull is shaping up to be a stern test.

9. EL AREEB (c, [Exchange Rate--Feathered Diamond](#), by A.P. Indy)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O-M M G Stables, LLC. B-Dixiana Farms, LLC (KY). T-Cathal A. Lynch. Sales History: \$100,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$340,000 2yo '16 OBSMAR.

Last Start: 1st, [GIII Jerome S.](#), AQU, Jan. 2

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [James F. Lewis III S.](#), LRL, Nov. 19

Next start: GIII Withers S., Aqu, Feb. 4

[Equineline PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 10



El Areeb | Coglianese Photography

After an 11 1/4-length trouncing of the GIII Jerome S. field earlier this month, Maryland-based trainer Lynch, who annually gets a string of 20 or so 2-year-olds to condition, praised this \$340,000

\$750,000 \$250,000 \$140,000

\$600,000 \$130,000 \$155,000 \$250,000

\$450,000 \$145,000 \$250,000 \$110,000

\$125,000 \$120,000 \$170,000 \$290,000

\$250,000 \$155,000 \$425,000

\$250,000 \$150,000 \$250,000 \$230,000

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LANE'S END

OBSMAR grad as “probably the best horse I’ve trained in 20 years.” Defeated when well-backed at both Parx and Laurel in his first two tries, ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ El Areeb blossomed with back-to-back, open-length sprint wins against maiden and \$100,000 stakes company over his home track before dictating the pace and winning for fun in the Jerome. As he pursues a New York prep path to the Derby, it remains to be seen whether that big-margin blowout will hold up: El Areeb was only lightly pressured by even-money chalk Takaful (Bernardini) in the Jerome, and when the fave caved and struggled home last with no apparent excuse, there were really no other legitimate contenders swooping in to offer fresh, serious challenges to the runaway roan.



Lookin At Lee | Coady Photography

Last Start: 4th, [GI Sentient Jet Breeders’ Cup Juvenile](#), SA, Nov. 5
 Accomplishments Include: 1st, Ellis Park Juvenile S., ELP, Aug. 6
 Next start: Possible for GII Risen Star S., FG, Feb. 25

[EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

Lookin At Lee has six races under his belt. Only two of them are wins, and both came at Ellis Park last summer, which doesn’t exactly match the prep-race profile of a typical Derby winner. But when you consider that he has drawn the extreme outside post for both of his Grade I forays, and that he finished second and fourth behind top-ranked Classic Empire in both of those efforts, this \$70,000 KEESEP buy becomes intriguing enough to merit inclusion on this list. Trainer

10. LOOKIN AT LEE (c, [Lookin At Lucky](#)–Langara Lass, by Langfuhr)

O-L and N Racing. B-Ray Hanson (KY). T-Steven M. Asmussen.
 Sales History: \$70,000 Ylg ‘15 KEESEP.

Asmussen reports that his Lookin At Lucky (Smart Strike) colt is progressing well at Fair Grounds coming off his Breeders’ Cup freshening, and is about a month away from a race.

What do you want to win and where do you want to win it?

Bernardini had more Graded Stakes winners on dirt in 2016 than every other stallion bar one.



ACTIVE STALLIONS BY 2016 DIRT GRADED STAKES WINNERS

		2017 FEE
1	Tapit	11 \$300,000
2	Bernardini	10 \$100,000
3	Uncle Mo	8 \$150,000
4	Curlin	6 \$150,000

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11. FACT FINDING (c, [The Factor](#)--Sweet Belle, by Deputy Commander)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O-Michael Tabor, Mrs. John Magnier, Derrick Smith & Stonestreet Stables, LLC. B-Nursery Place & Partners (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$100,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; 350,000gns 2yo '16 TATAPR. Last Start: 1st, [Smooth Air S.](#), GP, Dec. 30 Next start: GII Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 4

[Equine PPs](#)

Fact Finding has won at Saratoga, Keeneland and Gulfstream over three different distances while building nice 2-year-old foundation via a maiden/allowance/\$75,000 stakes progression. He won by seven lengths in a one-turn mile over sloppy going in the Smooth Air S. last time out, but will have his work cut out for him against more formidable Holy Bull S. foes on the first Saturday in February. Pletcher said on Steve Byk's radio show last week that the '[TDN Rising Star](#)' is getting bigger, stronger, taller, and more aggressive in his training; a sharp performance in his first two-turn test could have him leapfrogging several horses above him on this list that are being more patiently handled.



Fact Finding | Sarah K. Andrew

12. UNCONTESTED (c, Tiz Wonderful--Galileo's Star, by Lil E. Tee)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O-Robert V. LaPenta & Harry T. Rosenblum. B-Richard Forbush (KY). T-Wayne M. Catalano. Sales History: \$20,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Last Start: 1st, [Smarty Jones S.](#), OP, Jan. 16 Next start: Likely for GIII Southwest S., OP, Feb. 20

[Equine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 11

Uncontested jumped right into the bridle and rolled through lively splits in the Jan. 16 Smarty Jones S. to assert himself as a legitimate threat on the Arkansas path to the Kentucky Derby. When challenged by eventual runner-up Petrov (Flatter) on the far turn, Uncontested was still hand-ridden, while Petrov was being scrubbed upon vigorously. Turning for home, when jockey Channing Hill did finally shake up the '[TDN Rising Star](#)' for the short Oaklawn stretch, the Tiz Wonderful (Tiznow) colt leveled off fluidly before wandering slightly in the final few jumps to the wire. Breaking his maiden on debut at Keeneland Oct. 19, Uncontested



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narrowly missed the 6 1/2-furlong track record, and trainer Catalano attributed a subsequent fourth-place try in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. to getting “killed” by post 12.

“The horse has got natural speed, so obviously on this kind of [wet] racetrack, you want to use that speed, you don’t want dirt in their face when they’re not a real seasoned horse,” Catalano said in an Oaklawn post-race interview, “I told Channing, you



Uncontested | Coady Photography

know, at the end if he [was leading and could try to] peek under his arm, just ease up on him. We don’t want to do too much.”

On the Bubble:
Guest Suite (Quality Road) was four deep

through the turn in the Street Sense S. at Churchill Downs while beaten only five lengths by McCracken back in October, and displayed a nifty turn of foot when seeking the lead in an optional claimer/first-level allowance score (also at Churchill) by open lengths on Nov. 26. **‘TDN Rising Star’ Battalion Runner** (Unbridled’s Song) was dominant enough in a Dec. 31 Gulfstream maiden trouncing to stretch into a stakes try next time out for Pletcher, and stablemates and fellow **‘Rising Stars’ Faja** (Bodemeister) and **Malagacy** (Shackleford) might not be far behind...Another to earn the **‘Rising Star’** moniker is **Beach Bum** (Arch), a \$400,000 KESEEP Baffert trainee, dismantled a deep field of babies on debut at Santa Anita Nov. 6 and took a subsequent hit on the William Hill Derby future book, where he is currently listed at 25-1...New Jersey-bred **‘Rising Star’ Irish War Cry** (Curlin) is a 30-1 future book attention-getter based on a maiden and \$100,000 stakes score in Maryland for trainer H. Graham Motion... **Silver Dust** (Tapit), a \$510,000 OBSMAR buy who won his maiden at Churchill in November with plenty in reserve, missed some training because of winter weather but recently resurfaced on the Oaklawn worktab with no specific next race in mind, according to trainer Randy Morse.

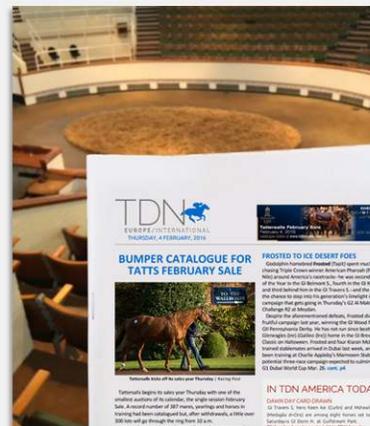
For more on the WinStar Derby Top 12, including photos, videos and past performances, click [here](#).

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The Sovereign Awards for 2016 will now be held Thursday, Apr. 13 to accommodate the first day of racing at Woodbine Saturday, Apr. 15. The ceremony will be held at Palais Royale in Toronto.

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NOBLE BIRD, PRAYER FOR RELIEF FILL OUT PEGASUS LINEUP *by Bill Finley*

Prayer for Relief (Jump Start) and **Noble Bird** (Birdstone) have been added to the prospective starting field for the GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational, which means that all 12 shareholders in the Jan. 28 race now have filled their allotted slots.

There remains a chance **Gun Runner** (Candy Ride {Arg}) could still make the race and substitute for one of the announced starters, but he remains in quarantine at the Fair Grounds and his chances of getting out grow slimmer by the day.

Ahmed Zayat owns Prayer For Relief and has joined forces with Rosedown Racing Stables, an original slot holder. Zayat is realistic about his chances of winning the \$12-million race. When told that his horse would be 75-1, Zayat said, "No. No, he'll be at least 100-1."

Prayer for Relief's greatest asset is his durability. He is still racing at age 9 and has made 45 career starts. The bad news is that he has lost 20 straight races. His last win came in the Dec. 21, 2013 Tenacious H. at the Fair Grounds.

Zayat said he was encouraged to explore a start in the Pegasus after Prayer for Relief worked five furlongs in :59.25 Saturday at Gulfstream.

"The horse is sound, happy and fit," Zayat said. "He is probably one of the most fun horses I have ever owned because of his tenacity and his demeanor. Look at how many starts he has had.



Noble Bird | *Coady photo*

He makes every dance. After his work the other day, the clockers were raving and I asked [trainer] Dale [Romans] what he thought and he said this was the best the horse had ever been doing."

That said, Zayat understands he has

very little chance of winning.

"I am not delusional," he said. "Do I think he will win? No. I am hoping he will run well and not embarrass us. In his last race [a ninth-place finish in the GI Clark H.], he hates Churchill Downs, so you can throw that race out. Yes, the chance at a \$12-million purse is important, but we're also doing this to support the sport, support an innovative concept and to have some fun."

Zayat would not disclose any details of the financial arrangement with Rosedown, but said, "Sometimes, we all do things that are not rational from an economic standpoint. This was not done as a financial decision."

Noble Bird is also coming out of the Clark, where he finished

seventh for trainer Mark Casse and owner John Oxley. However, he has far stronger credentials than Prayer for Relief does as he is a four-time stakes winner and won the Clark in 2015. Oxley worked out a deal to partner with slotholders Moustapha Fostock, Earle I. Mack and Chester Broman, Sr.

"If I said to you, you had a 20-1 shot with a chance to win a \$12-million race, wouldn't you take that shot?" trainer Mark Casse said. "I tend to be a realistic person. I'll wake up that morning and probably think, 'I hope we finish third,' but I'm not going to think that winning the race is impossible. I've had crazier things happen to me in racing."

The problem with Noble Bird is that he is erratic and seems to only run his best when able to get to the lead. Casse admitted his plan will be to try to win the race in front-running fashion, which should guarantee an honest pace and could cause some problems for the two biggest names in the race, **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song) and **California Chrome** (Lucky Pulpit), two horses that also like to race near the front end.

"We've learned that when you fight with him he shuts off, so we have to let him roll," Casse said. "I don't see where we have any other choice. We've just figured out he's got to go and that's because he has to have his own way and he likes to roll."

The other eight horses confirmed for the Pegasus are: **Breaking Lucky** (Lookin at Lucky), **Shaman Ghost** (Ghostzapper), **Keen Ice** (Curlin), **Neolithic** (Harlan's Holiday), **Eragon (Arg)** (Offlee Wild), **War Story** (Northern Afleet), **War Envoy** (War Front), and **Ralis** (Square Eddie).

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PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



REYNALDO, SANDIVA ONLY BETTER WITH AGE

Not a lot happened last week, with little action among the budding 3-year-old stars, but this at least gives me the chance to pay tribute to Reynaldothewizard and Sandiva. These two hard-working Thoroughbreds are just the type that any owner would love to own.

Reynaldothewizard, at the age of 11, took last Thursday's [Dubawi S.](#) over Meydan's six-furlong dirt track. This was the sixth stakes victory of his career and came more than eight years after the son of Speightstown earned 'TDN Rising Star' status with a debut win at Churchill Downs.

This \$775,000 2-year-old purchase later finished third, as favorite, behind Run Away And Hide, in the GII Saratoga Special

in 2008. To illustrate the different paths these two have taken, Run Away And Hide was ably represented last year by Heaven's Runway and Are You Kidding Me, a pair of then-6-year-old graded winners from his first crop.

In winning the Dubawi S., Reynaldothewizard got the better of Muarrab, winner of last year's G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen--a race which, in 2013, provided the highlight of Reynaldothewizard's career. That win carried a prize of \$1.2 million and the gelding's earnings are now heading towards \$2.2 million. In this form, Reynaldothewizard is entitled to contest his fourth Golden Shaheen on Mar. 25, having also finished fourth in 2014 and 2016.

The late-blooming nature of Reynaldothewizard's career reminded me of some quotes made by Eugene Melnyk after the 2004 Breeders' Cup victory of the gelding's sire Speightstown.

"I learned a lot with the experience with Speightstown," Melnyk said. "And what I learned is not to push a horse when he is not ready. We really believed that he was ready as a 2-year-old and we pushed a little bit, and finally nature took its course and said, 'Forget about it, pack it in' and we did that."



Reynaldothewizard | DRC/Watkins

For the record, his \$2 million son of Gone West made just a single start at two. Although Speightstown then rebounded to win four of his seven starts during the first eight months of his second season, further problems surfaced. Sidelined for 21 months, Speightstown returned to make two starts in May 2003, only to be out of action again until the end of March 2004. Of course, the 6-year-old then justified all the patience shown him by winning five of his six starts and by becoming a Grade I winner on his final start.

In the circumstances, perhaps it wasn't so surprising that Reynaldothewizard's transformation from debut 2-year-old winner to Group 1 winner also took a long time, with his Golden Shaheen victory coming at the age of seven.

He is by no means the only Speightstown Grade I winner who took a little time to score at the highest level. The recently retired Tamarkuz emulated his sire by becoming a Breeders' Cup winner at the age of six, but in the Dirt Mile rather than the Sprint. The 4-year-old Rock Fall had dominated the older sprint division in 2015 prior to his untimely death just weeks before the Breeders' Cup. Others to become

BILL OPPENHEIM: FOUR-FIGURE BARGAINS

“He’s at \$7,500 for 2017, which is a whole lot of proper Group 1 form for not a whole lot of money.” TDN, Dec 14th

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- Won Irish 2,000 Guineas-Gr.1 by 3½ lengths in a fast time.
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Grade I winners at the age of four were Haynesfield (Jockey Club Gold Cup), Dance to Bristol (Ballerina S.), Mona de Momma (Humana Distaff S.) and Poseidon’s Warrior (Alfred G. Vanderbilt H.). These older horses just have the edge over Speightstown’s team of six Northern Hemisphere 3-year-old Grade I winners, comprising Force The Pass, Golden Ticket, Jersey Town, Lighthouse Bay, Lord Shanakill and Seek Again.

REYNALDOWHEWIZARD, h, 2006

Speightstown	Gone West	Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native		
		Secrettame	Gold Digger		
	Silken Cat	Storm Cat	Secretariat	Tamerett	
			Silken Doll	Storm Bird	
		Meadowlake	Hold Your Peace	Terlingua	Chieftain
			Suspicious Native	Insilca	Speak John
Holiday Runner MSW & GSP 4Fls, 2GSW, 1GSP	Dixie Holiday 21-4-4-3, \$101,781 15Fls, 1SW, 1GSP	Dixieland Band	Blue Moon		
		Really Fancy 15Fls, 1GSP, 2SP	Raise a Native		
			Be Suspicious	Northern Dancer	
				Mississippi Mud	
			In Reality		
			Native Fancy		

This analysis exposes one major omission from Speightstown’s record—a 2-year-old Grade I winner. Indeed, with nearly 800 progeny aged three or more, the WinStar stalwart is still awaiting his first 2-year-old graded winner in the United States (there have been two in Britain, one in Italy and one in Canada).

This is a reminder that it can be dangerous to confuse speed with precocity. The two do not always go hand in hand, as is illustrated by some of Speightstown’s fastest sons. In addition to Reynaldothewizard, they include Rock Fall (unraced at two, first stakes win at four), the smart British sprinter Tropics (first group success at five and second in the G1 July Cup at the ages of six and seven), Fast Bullet (first graded success at five), Country Day (unraced at two, first stakes win at four) and Essence Hit Man (a graded winner at four, five and six). Perhaps the demands of producing exceptional speed are sometimes too much for immature limbs and muscles.

Moving on to Sandiva, this Irish-bred daughter of Footstepsinthesand showed with her success in the [GIII Marshua’s River S.](#) three days ago that she is as good as ever, despite a demanding career. Now six, she made a winning debut as long ago as May 10, 2013. During that time, she has enjoyed group/graded success in each of her five seasons in trainings. All of her graded/group successes have come since Sheikh Joaan’s Al Shaqab Racing purchased her from Middleham Park Racing after she had won her first two starts.

Her sire Footstepsinthesand probably qualifies for the unflattering description of journeyman, which my dictionary defines as “a competent workman.” This is reflected in his 2017 fee, which stands at only €10,000 even though his tally of six individual group/graded winners in 2016 was the same as that of his sire Giant’s Causeway and better than numerous stallions standing at far higher fees than Sandiva’s sire.

Footstepsinthesands’ image problems almost certainly date back to his abbreviated racing career. A winner of both his starts as a juvenile, he kept his unbeaten record intact when he reappeared in no less a race than the G1 2,000 Guineas, where the opposition included those top-class colts Oratorio and Dubawi. Unfortunately, he never raced again and was retired less than two months after his Classic success.

What breeders didn’t know at the time was that his dam Glatissant would become the dam of a second Group 1 winner and second dam of two more, including the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner Power. Power, of course, made an eye-catching start with his first runners in 2016.

Fears that Footstepsinthesand’s progeny would inherit his apparently delicate constitution have proved baseless. Sandiva has now raced 23 times, while his Irish-bred Group 1 winners Shamalgan, Chachamaidee and Steinbeck/Pure Champion raced 39 times, 21 times and 50 times respectively, showing the influence of “Iron Horse” Giant’s Causeway.

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Sandiva | Lauren King

Monday, Aqueduct

TOBOGGAN S.-GIII, \$125,000, AQU, 1-16, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.74, ft.
 1--**GREEN GRATTO, 118, h, 7, by Here's Zealous**

- 1st Dam: Starship Smokester, by Smokester**
- 2nd Dam: Admiral Minnie, by Golden Eagle II**
- 3rd Dam: Amiga La G., by Delaware Chief**

O-Gaston & Anthony Grant; B-Kaz Hill Farm (NJ); T-Gaston Grant; J-Kendrick Carmouche. \$75,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 51-8-9-8, \$859,538. **Werk Nick Rating: A+.** [Click for eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**All Star Red**, 115, h, 5, Five Star Day--My Sweet Caroline, by Salt Lake. O-Carl Lizza Racing Stables, LLC; B-Steve C. Snowden & Dan Considine (KY); T-Rudy R. Rodriguez. \$25,000.

3--**Stallwalkin' Dude**, 123, g, 7, City Place--Chelle Spendabuck, by Dare and Go. O-Head of Plains Partners LLC & David Jacobson; B-Mary M. Haire (FL); T-David Jacobson. \$12,500.

SALLUSTO & ALBINA PRIVATE PURCHASE

Margins: HD, NK, 3/4. Odds: 2.65, 13.70, 0.90.

Also Ran: Life in Shambles, Story to Tell, Classy Class. Scratched: The Great War. [Click for the Equibase.com chart, the TJCIS.com PPs or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#) [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

Gaston and Anthony Grant's Green Gratto has developed a reputation as a hard-knocking sprinter in recent years and the New Jersey-bred showed his customary tenacity in capturing the GIII Toboggan S. at Aqueduct Monday. With his victory, the 7-year-old notched the second graded stakes win of his career and made amends for a narrowly beaten third-place finish in last year's renewal of the Toboggan.

Green Gratto has made 22 starts since arriving in the barn of Gaston Grant in July 2015, including a win in the GIII Fall



Green Gratto (right) turns for home in front NYRA/Robert Mauhar

Highweight H. in November of that year. He spent much of the first half of 2016 facing tougher competition, but found some class relief with a win in Delaware Park's Hockessin S. July 16. Following a runner-up finish in the New Jersey Breeders' H. at Monmouth Aug. 28, he finished off the board in three tries at the graded stakes level before recently rebounding with a gritty second-place finish behind Stallwalkin' Dude in the trip-and-track Gravesend S. Dec. 18.

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Sent postward as the second choice while Stallwalkin' Dude took the bulk of the play, Green Gratto jetted away from the gate and was immediately engaged by Story to Tell (Bluegrass Cat) to his outside. He edged ahead to a half-length advantage through a quarter-mile in :22.60, rebuffed another challenge from Story to Tell in upper stretch and dug in determinedly to hold off a late lunge from All Star Red to prevail. Stallwalkin' Dude closed belatedly between horses to finish a close third.

Grant said an adjustment to Green Gratto's blinkers made the difference in the stretch.

"Last time, Kendrick [Carmouche] told me he saw Stallwalkin' Dude a bit late and he tried to fight him back, but by that time it was too late," Grant noted. "That's why he said to put the cheaters on him to see who's coming at him, and it showed. Kendrick thought nobody could run with him. He knew he had the controlling speed...We'll see how he comes out of this race. We'll try to see if we can get a Grade I out of him. Our main goal this year is to get him to the [GI] Carter [H. in April]."

Pedigree Notes:

Bred by Peter Kazamias's Kaz Hill Farm, Green Gratto was privately acquired by the Grants prior to his career debut. Starship Smokester--a half to MSW and GSP Adminniestrator (Incinderator)--is also responsible for an unraced 3-year-old filly named Smokester's Heist (Bank Heist). This is also the extended family of MGSW and GISP Kingdom Found (The Bart).

Monday, Santa Anita Park

MEGAHERTZ S.-GIII, \$100,690, SA, 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:35.56, gd.

1--**PRIZE EXHIBIT (GB), 118, m, 5, by Showcasing (GB)**

- 1st Dam: Roodeye (GB) (SP-Eng), by Inchinor (GB)**
- 2nd Dam: Roo (GB), by Rudimentary**
- 3rd Dam: Shall We Run (GB), by Hotfoot (GB)**

(28,000gns Ylg '13 TAOCT). O-D P Racing; B-Mrs R. F. Johnson Houghton (GB); T-James M. Cassidy; J-Mike E. Smith. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW & GISP-US & GSP-Eng, 31-7-3-2, \$637,045. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++.** *Triple Plus*.

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

2--**Jeremy's Legacy (Ire)**, 118, f, 4, Jeremy--Altogether (Ire), by King's Best. (€9,500 RNA Ylg '14 TISEP). O-Bada Beng Racing LLC, Great Friends Stable, Head of Plains Partners LLC et al.; B-Laurence & David Gleeson (IRE); T-Doug F. O'Neill. \$20,000.

3--**Into The Mystic (Ire)**, 118, m, 5, [Galileo \(Ire\)](#)--Tamazirte (Ire), by Danehill Dancer (Ire). (€320,000 Ylg '13 ARAUG). O-Fox Hill Farms, Inc.; B-Ecurie La Vallee Martigny (IRE); T-Richard E. Mandella. \$12,000.

Margins: 1 1/4, HD, 1 1/4. Odds: 3.40, 10.30, 3.10.

Also Ran: Kenriya (Fr), Do the Dance, Poster Girl (GB), Tiz a Kiss.

Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#), the [TJCIS.com PPs](#) or the [free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [VIDEO](#), sponsored by [Fasig-Tipton](#).

Prize Exhibit made the final move the winning one, sweeping past a trio of rivals in the stretch to end a prolonged winless streak and earn her fourth career graded stakes success in Monday's GIII Megahertz S. in Arcadia. The British-bred raced in mid-flight early and rallied outside in the stretch beneath Mike Smith to score a comfortable victory.

"She finally got the trip that she needed," said owner Deron Pearson of DP Racing. "Mike rode her perfectly. I think she got the ground that she wanted and it worked out well."



Prize Exhibit | Benoit photo

Prize Exhibit remained in America with trainer James Cassidy after initially traveling across the Atlantic to finish fourth in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf in 2014. She won the one-mile GII San

Clemente H. and GIII Seniorita S. in 2015 and proved her versatility with a hard-fought tally in the 6 1/2-furlong GII Monrovia S. in January 2016. Winless in 10 subsequent starts, she was last seen reporting home eighth in the wake of MGISW and Eclipse Award finalist Miss Temple City (Temple City) as a 49-1 outsider in the GI Matriarch S. at Del Mar Dec. 4.

Sent postward as the third choice in the Megahertz, Prize Exhibit raced behind rivals through a half mile in :47.93 and was shifted outwardly in search of a clear path on the far turn. Left with Jeremy's Legacy and a pair of battling rivals to her inside to catch in the lane, Prize Exhibit responded gamely and kicked on down the center of the strip to prevail decisively.

"She's a tough girl," said Cassidy, who noted that he previously tried to enter his trainee in the off-the-turf Las Cienegas S. scheduled for the downhill turf course Jan. 7. "She can be tricky. We've had to do a lot of different things with her and she's just been happier lately. We've been working her from the gate and she seems to like that...She's something else."

Pedigree Notes:

Prize Exhibit's dam, a half-sister to G1SP Gallagher (GB) (Bahamian Bounty {GB}), is also responsible for the 3-year-old colt Harbour Master (GB) (Harbour Watch {Ire}), who is also in training with Cassidy. She also has a 2-year-old colt named Roodeparis (GB) (Champs Elysees {GB}) and a yearling full-brother to the winner.

CLASSIC EMPIRE WORKS TOWARD POSSIBLE HOLY BULL START

John Oxley's **Classic Empire** (Pioneerof the Nile), winner of the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Santa Anita Nov. 5, worked five furlongs in 1:02.55 in company with three-time graded stakes winner **Kaigun** (Northern Afleet) Monday at Palm Meadows Training Center. Monday's work was the second breeze of the year for the colt, who is under consideration for a return to action in the Feb. 4 GII Holy Bull S. at Gulfstream Park. Classic



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

Empire's work was overseen by Mark's son and assistant, Norman.

"Norman was very enthusiastic about the breeze," Casse said. "When you look at it from a time standpoint, it is more

about what he does after the breeze. He amazes us because you can't get him tired. There's been a lot of discussion about the Holy Bull between Mr. Oxley, Norman, and myself. I think we're going to make it because I just think it's good timing. I would say today is another step closer to the Holy Bull."

Casse joked that Classic Empire's willingness to tackle an increasing workload occasionally makes him a handful in the mornings.

"He's a bit of a bad boy, there is no doubt about that," Casse quipped. "I was talking to Mr. Oxley this morning and said to him, 'He's different than most horses. He's absolutely brilliant, but what makes him so good, also makes his bad.' The fact that he is tireless, makes him tough. Somebody the other day said he walks like a panther, and that's what he does--he always ready to pounce."

Classic Empire is considered the heavy favorite to capture the Eclipse Award as the champion juvenile colt of 2016, by virtue of a campaign that also included wins in Keeneland's GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity Oct. 8 and Churchill's GIII Bashford Manor S. July 2, in addition to his Breeders' Cup victory at Santa Anita. Classic Empire's lone defeat came in the GI Hopeful S. at Saratoga Sept. 5, when he wheeled at the start and lost his rider.

Quintessential Racing Florida, Horse'n Around Racing Stable and Gary Barber's 7-year-old Kaigun, meanwhile, is likely to return in an allowance race in February, according to Casse.

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Green Gratto (Here's Zealous) wins the GIII Toboggan S. at the Big A.

FOALING NEWS

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Untouched Talent (Storm Cat), foaled a filly by American Pharoah on Sunday night at Coolmore America. Manager Dermot Ryan commented, "She's got lovely quality, size, strength, and bone. Both mother and daughter are doing well, we couldn't be happier." Untouched Talent was the first mare to scan in foal to American Pharoah. Click on the photo to watch the newborn half-sister to Bodemeister take her first steps under the watchful eye of her dam.

STALLIONS' FIRST FOALS

PALACE MALICE (by Curlin; Three Chimneys Farm)



- Sired his first reported foal Thursday, Jan. 12 when a filly was born at Three Chimneys Farm.
- The filly, out of Ekati's Phaeton (Tale of Ekati), GSW, \$248,206, is owned by Three Chimneys and partners.

"We are very pleased with the foal," said Grant Williamson, Director of Stallion Nominations and Sales at Three Chimneys. "The filly is a lovely type and we couldn't be happier."

JAPAN (by Medaglia d'Oro; Waldorf Farm)

- Sired his first reported foal Friday, Jan. 13 when a filly was born at Waldorf Farm, NY.
- The filly is out of Lovely Daniella (Gold Token), MSW, \$171,942, who has already produced SP A Lovely Rose (Flower Alley).

UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
1/21	GIII Lecomte S.	FG
	GIII Col. E.R. Bradley H.	FG
	GII Santa Monica S.	SA
1/28	GI Pegasus World Cup	GP
	GIII W.L. McKnight H.	GP
	GIII Hurricane Bertie S.	GP
	GIII La Prevoyante H.	GP
1/29	GIII Houston Ladies Classic	HOU
	GIII John B. Connally Turf Cup	HOU
2/4	GIII Withers S.	AQU
	GII Holy Bull S.	GP
	GII Forward Gal S.	GP
	GII Swale S.	GP
	GII Palos Verdes S.	SA
	GII San Antonio S.	SA
	GII San Marcos S.	SA
	GIII Sweetest Chant S.	GP
	GIII Robert B. Lewis S.	SA

BARRETT'S JANUARY SALE TUESDAY

The Barretts January Mixed Sale will be held Tuesday at the company's old stomping grounds at Fairplex in Pomona. A total of 213 lots have been catalogued for the one-session auction, which gets underway at 11 a.m. PT. There are 116 newly turned yearlings and 2-year-olds in the catalogue, as well as a selection of broodmares and horses of racing age. A 2-year-old filly by High Cotton attracted the highest price at the 2016 January sale, when selling for \$55,000. In total, 143 horses grossed \$1,188,000 last year, for an average of \$8,308 and a median of \$5,000. Barretts will return to Del Mar for the next sale on its 2017 calendar, the March Select 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale on Mar. 29.

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FLORIDA

Monday's Results:

8th-GP, \$38,000, Msw, 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.96, fm.

+VOLATILITY INDEX (f, 4, [Mizzen Mast](#)--Zula, by Medaglia d'Oro) took a lot of play for this debut and graduated with a powerful stretch kick at Gulfstream for Chad Brown and Klaravich Stables. Coming in with a steady series of half-mile drills over the Palm Meadows turf, wrapping up her preparation by going an easy :49 2/5 (9/17) Jan. 9, the bay was made a narrow 13-5 second favorite and broke alertly to stalk the pace from a distant second through a :23.04 quarter. Moving up to the leader's flank as the pace slowed to a :49.33 half up the backstretch, Volatility Index was under very confident handling nearing the top of the lane and exploded away once given her cue to score by 5 3/4 lengths. Believe in Angels ([Flatter](#)) finished second. The victress has an unraced 3-year-old Dunkirk half-sister named Aeroscout and a juvenile half-sister by Run Away and Hide. Sales History: \$45,000 Wlg '13 KEENOV; \$120,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$22,800. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)**



Volatility Index | Lauren King

O-Klaravich Stables, Inc. & William H. Lawrence; B-Sangreal Investments, LLC & Dapple Bloodstock (KY); T-Chad C. Brown.

de Meric Stables Graduate
St George SALES GRADUATE

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CENTRAL U.S.

Monday's Results:

SMARTY JONES S., \$150,000, OP, 1-16, 3yo, 1m, 1:36.32, sy.

1--#UNCONTESTED, 117, c, 3, by Tiz Wonderful

1st Dam: Galileo's Star, by Lil E. Tee

2nd Dam: June Gale, by Run For Nurse

3rd Dam: Sharyn Dear, by Duc de Fer

(\$20,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP). O-Robert V. LaPenta & Harry T. Rosenblum; B-Richard Forbush (KY); T-Wayne M. Catalano; J-Channing Hill. \$90,000. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$135,300. *1/2 to Solitary Ranger (U S Ranger), MGSW, \$231,932.

Bred, Raised and Sold by FORBUSH FARM

2--Petrov, 115, c, 3, [Flatter](#)--Saracina, by Bertrando. (\$25,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$55,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$55,000 2yo '16 OBSOPN). O-Rialto Racing Stables & Southern Springs Stables; B-Sun Valley Farm (KY); T-Ron Moquett. \$30,000.

Graduate of Grovendale Sales (James B. Keogh, agent)

3--Rowdy the Warrior, 117, c, 3, [Warrior's Reward](#)--Lovely Sage, by Gentlemen (Arg). O/B-Robert H. Zoellner (OK); T-Donnie K. Von Hemel. \$15,000.

Hip 571: Sells at FTK Winter Mixed Sale 2/7 with VINERY

Margins: 5 1/4, 4HF, 2 1/4. Odds: 1.20, 1.80, 9.90. Also Ran: Warrior's Club, Cu Rahy, Unbridled Eagle, Romeo O Romeo, Love That Lute.

(Cont. from Page 1):

"It worked out how we wanted it to," winning trainer Wayne Catalano said. "The goal was break and go. You think you want to be on the front end, but when you do that, there's always a cavalry charge. You just have to let it play out. You never want an off-track, but he handled it before OK. Sometimes it rains on the first Saturday in May, so you better be ready."

Victorious pilot Channing Hill added, "I almost feel bad getting after him. He's a horse that fools you. At the top of the lane, he was traveling really nicely and he was handling the track well. He's such a cool, classy little guy. He doesn't lollygag, but he can get a little lazy on you. He was still moving forward, but I just gave him a few taps as a reminder about what we were doing today and he absolutely cruised from there."

Purchased for just \$20,000 in 2014 as a Keeneland November weanling, Uncontested earned 10 Kentucky Derby qualifying points from the victory and solidified a spot in TDN's Derby Top Twelve for his performance. His dam's most recent produce is a juvenile Data Link filly named Data Diva, and she was bred to Gemologist last spring. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)**

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6th-OP, \$75,000, Alw (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$35,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09.86, sy.

CONQUEST TWISTER (c, 4, [Twirling Candy](#)--Nasty Fever, by Stormin Fever), a winner on debut at Woodbine in August of 2015, was second by a nose next out there in the OLG Simcoe S. and filled the same position in the Coronation Futurity S. that November. Last seen finishing third in an Etobicoke optional claimer Sept. 18, the bay made his first start for these new connections here after going through the ring as part of the Conquest Stables dispersal at Keeneland November. Made the public's choice at 19-10, Conquest Twister settled in third up the backstretch behind a runaway leader through a :22.12 quarter. Moving to tackle at the three-sixteenths marker, he fought gamely between horses to edge out Double Ours (Half Ours) by a half-length. Nasty Fever has a 2-year-old Haynesfield colt named Hayne's Fever and foaled a colt by Victor's Cry last term before returning to the winner's sire. Sales History: C\$100,000 Ylg '14 CANSEP; \$55,000 3yo '16 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: MSP, 9-3-2-1, \$186,901. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-Rialto Racing Stables & Southern Springs Stables; B-Tall Oaks Farm (ON); T-Ron Moquett.



5th-OP, \$72,000, Msw, 1-16, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10.43, sy.

+TREBLE (f, 3, [Macho Uno](#)--Yolanda B. Too {SW & GISP, \$340,335}, by Two Punch) came into this unveiling off a sharp half-mile breeze over this strip in :48 1/5 (4/121) Jan. 11 and was hammered down to 5-2 favoritism off a 12-1 morning line quote. Tracking the pace from third through a :21.91 quarter, the gray drew alongside pacesetter Jersey Heist (Jersey Town) nearing the turn for home, appeared rebuffed by that one at the eighth pole, but kept to her task to overhaul that one in the final 100 yards for a two-length tally. The winner's dam is responsible for a 2-year-old Dialed In colt and foaled a colt by Violence last spring. Sales History: \$9,000 Ylg '15 KEEJAN; \$50,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$35,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$43,200. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-Rialto Racing Stables & Southern Springs Stables; B-Dixiana Farms LLC (KY); T-Ron Moquett.

7th-OP, \$72,000, Msw, 1-16, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:44.75, sy.

HENCE (c, 3, [Street Boss](#)--Floating Island, by A.P. Indy) finished a distant seventh in his career bow Aug. 27 at Saratoga, but improved markedly to be third Oct. 8 at Keeneland and went one better when missing by a neck Nov. 13 at Churchill. Hammered down to 1-2 as part of an entry here, the homebred

stumbled a bit leaving the blocks before recovering to travel in fifth behind a :23.23 quarter and :46.88 half. Ranging up four deep on the latter half of the far bend, he took charge at the top of the lane, but drifted in sharply and suddenly at the sixteenth pole, nearly hitting the rail. Passed by stablemate Horse Fly (Mineshaft) at that point, Hence somehow recaptured momentum quickly enough to take the lead again late for an eventful three-quarter length graduation. The victor's dam is a half to MGSW/MGISP Pico Teneriffe (Red Ransom), the dam of dual Canadian champion Marchfield (A.P. Indy). She is represented by a juvenile English Channel filly named Mad Grace and dropped a filly by Risque Remarque last season before visiting Calumet stallion Oxbow. Calumet purchased Floating Island with this foal in utero for \$55,000 at the 2013 KEENOV sale. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-1, \$61,172. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O/B-Calumet Farm (KY); T-Steven M. Asmussen.

Training Alum — **STONESTREET**

2nd-OP, \$72,000, (S), Msw, 1-16, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.71, wf.

+CHECKMATE CHARLIE (g, 3, [Tactical Cat](#)--Malawi, by Bwana Charlie) showed an above-average worktab for this debut, most notably going a bullet half-mile over the local slop in :48 3/5 (1/10) Jan. 2, and was bet down to 2-1 favoritism in this full field. Breaking sharply, the homebred quickly made the point and dictated a :21.65 quarter in the clear. Taken on by rail-skimming Ridethrustorm (Mykindacandy) at the top of the lane, he easily repelled that foe and drew clear to score by 3 3/4 lengths despite racing on his left lead. Alvin's Touch (Macho Rocket) got up late for second. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$43,200. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O/B-Libbie Eileen & John Francis Thiel & Little Bear Racing Stable (AR); T-Ingrid Mason.

Mahoning Valley to Increase Purses 5%:

Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley Race Course will enact a 5% purse increase beginning Jan. 30, it was announced Monday.

"[Support from horsemen] along with solid VLT revenues has allowed Mahoning Valley Race Course to gain momentum in the simulcast market nationwide allowing for the purse increase," said Mark Loewe, Vice President of Ohio Racing for Penn Gaming. "Our overnight daily purse distribution will now average more than \$105,000, excluding stakes races, and the median purse will be more than \$13,000."

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CALIFORNIA

Monday's Results:

5th-SA, \$55,725, Msw, 1-16, 3yo, 1m, 1:38.83, ft.

DABSTER (c, 3, [Curlin--On a Roll, by A.P. Indy](#)), disqualified to fourth for drifting out after grimly holding on in his debut Dec. 26, fought gamely again in this second outing and was spared the stewards' wrath this time to earn his diploma. Off as the 13-10 favorite, the \$1-million Fasig-Tipton March purchase set a contested pace through a :23.20 quarter and :47.29 half. Fighting off a myriad of challengers on the far turn, the chestnut bore out some at the top of the lane, but straightened soon after and held off longshot Camino de Estrella (Mineshaft) by a half-length, with barnmate Reach the World (Tapit) another half-length back in third. Dabster is out of a half to MSW/MGSP Ender's Sister (A.P. Indy), the dam of MGISW A. P. Indian. She produced his full sister, Let's Roll, in 2015 and dropped a colt by Street Sense last spring before visiting The Factor. Sales History: \$430,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$35,640.

Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa al Maktoum; B-G. Watts Humphrey Jr., Susan Keller, Victoria Oliver & G. Watts Humphrey III (KY); T-Bob Baffert.



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4th-SA, \$55,704, Msw, 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2fT, 1:13.41, gd.

CEEME RUN WILD (f, 4, [Tiznow--Ravish Me, by Wild Again](#))

filled the trifecta twice on the Del Mar dirt to start his career in 2015 and was runner-up next out at Los Alamitos before running sixth on the local main track Dec. 30 of that year. Laid up since then, the \$200,000 KEESEP buy was dismissed at 22-1 in this turf debut and broke quickly to sit third past a :22.20 quarter. Moving strongly towards the lead passing the five-sixteenths pole, the bay drifted out a bit leaving the dirt crossing, but finished full of run to best Lori's Attitude (Temple City) by 1 1/2 lengths. The winner is a half to Foxy Danseur (Mr. Greeley), MSW & MGSP, \$340,153. Her dam is responsible for a 2-year-old Malibu Moon colt in Japan named Road Bullet and produced a filly by Street Sense last term. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-2, \$56,290. Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O-Mark Dedomenico LLC, Jerry Hollendorfer & George Todaro; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Jerry Hollendorfer.

Bred and Raised by **STONESTREET**

Metaboss to Harris Farms:

Graded stakes winner **Metaboss** (Street Boss--Spinning Yarns, by Free House), will begin his stud career next month at Harris Farms in California, reported the stallion's managing partner Mersad Metanovic.

"We are pleased to have him standing at Harris Farms, which we think is the best Thoroughbred breeding farm in California," Metanovic said. "We would like to thank John Harris and David McGlothlin."

The 5-year-old stallion will stand for \$2,000.

"We already have over 20 mares committed to him," Metanovic said.

Metaboss won the 2015 GIII El Camino Real Derby and was second in last year's GII Del Mar H. On the board in seven of 12 starts, he retired with three wins and earnings of \$300,420.

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INDUSTRY INFO

TAA Official Partner of the Eclipse Awards:

The Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA) has been named the Official Aftercare Partner of the 46th Annual Eclipse Awards presented by *Daily Racing Form*, Breeders' Cup and The Stronach Group, it was announced Monday. The Eclipse Awards, which will honor the 2016 champions of Thoroughbred racing, will take place on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Gulfstream Park. The TAA will be the beneficiary of the Eclipse Awards Cocktail Reception, which is held the night before.

"We are thrilled to be named as the Official Aftercare Partner of the 46th Annual Eclipse Awards," said Stacie Clark, the TAA's operations consultant. "The support of the NTRA over the years has been extremely valuable, and we appreciate its continued efforts."

Donations received from the event will go toward assisting the TAA's 64 accredited aftercare organizations, which support 180 facilities.

"The NTRA is always proud to support the important work of the TAA," said Alex Waldrop, NTRA President & CEO. "We are crowning the best of the best during the Eclipse Awards, but it is important to make sure all of our Thoroughbred athletes are well cared for when their racing days are behind them."

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Qualifying Begins for Second Annual Kentucky Derby Betting Championship:

The second annual Kentucky Derby Betting Championship (KDBC) will be held May 5-6 at Churchill Downs, coinciding with the respective runnings of the GI Kentucky Oaks and GI Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, it was announced Monday. Featuring a \$12,000 buy-in and the ability to play anywhere through TwinSpiresTournaments.com, the KDBC is a live-money handicapping tournament with \$4,000 of the entry fee going to an estimated prize pool of \$300,000 and a top prize of \$150,000. Last year's winner, Ron Myeress, won \$152,752 in cash and prizes.

"After the success of our inaugural Kentucky Derby Betting Championship, we're looking forward to growing and improving it this year thanks to our players and Churchill Downs Race Track," TwinSpires.com President Ted Gay said. "The addition of 'play-from-anywhere' through TwinSpires.com should add to the player and prize pool, truly making this one of the top live-money tournaments on the circuit."

For more information about the KDBC, visit the event's [website](#).

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BOYS AT TOSCONOVA (Officer), Questroyal North, \$5K, 47/3/0 4-PRX, Msw 6f, Bertranda, \$15K EAS MAY 2yo, 3-1

MACLEAN'S MUSIC (Distorted Humor), Hill 'N' Dale Farms, \$6.5K, 146/22/2

4-PRX, Msw 6f, Tin N Lint, \$20K EAS MAY 2yo, 9-5

STAY THIRSTY (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 159/18/1 4-PRX, Msw 6f, Stay Special, \$22K OBS OPN 2yo, 6-1

STREET TALK'N MAN (Street Cry {Ire}), 7/0/0 1-MVR, Msw 6f, Streets of Miesque, 30-1

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IN JAPAN:

Anna Perenna, f, 4, **Tale of Ekati**--Maria's Storm, by Maria's Mon. Kyoto, 1-14, Cond., 1800m. O-Akira Nakatsuji; B-Extern Developments (KY); T-Masato Nishizono. *\$27,000 Ylg '14 KEEJAN.

Beau Sancy, c, 4, **Tiz Wonderful**--Izzy Kate, by The Cliff's Edge. Chukyo, 1-14, Cond., 1200m. O-Kazumi Yoshida; B-Terrazas Thoroughbreds, Albert & Joyce Bell, BGHA#1, LLC & R-Cher F (KY); T-Manabu Ikezoe. *\$19,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEEJAN; \$35,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP; \$160,000 2yo '15 OBSAPR.

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Dragon Kingdom, h, 6, **Roman Ruler**--Earlybird Road (SP, \$110,351), by Cherokee Run. Nakayama, 1-15, Cond., 1800m. O-Yoshiro Kubota; B-Stonehaven Steadings (KY); T-Yoshitaka Ninomiya. *\$50,000 Ylg '12 KEESEP; \$140,000 2yo '13 OBSMAR. **1/2 to Four Inch Heels (Afleet Alex), SP, \$242,099.



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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

4th-OP, \$74,000, 1-16, (NW2L), 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:04.95, wf. **GAME TIME DECISION** (f, 4, **Put It Back--Royal Taat {NZ} {GSP-NZ & MSP-US, \$151,498}**, by **Faltaat**) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-2, \$78,695. O-GenStar Thoroughbreds & Ten Strike Racing; B-Doubledown Stables Inc (IL); T-Brad H. Cox.

8th-AQU, \$59,000, (S), (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:48.70, ft.

LEGALLY BAY (m, 7, **Read the Footnotes--Try N Sue {MSW & GSP, \$236,590}**, by **Sir Harry Lewis**) Lifetime Record: 39-3-6-8, \$235,523. O/B-Coffeepot Stables (NY); T-Marialice Coffey.

1st-SA, \$57,380, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:35.61, gd.

MOSCATO GIRL (m, 6, **Desert Code--Trapunto**, by **Deposit Ticket**) Lifetime Record: 40-6-7-13, \$181,964. O-S. Broetzman, C. Carpenter, G. Esposito, C. Hauck, B. McLean, & T. Miller; B-Mark Devereaux (CA); T-Bill McLean. *1/2 to Heat Trap (Unusual Heat), GSP, \$292,206.

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8th-LRL, \$47,000, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$35,000-\$40,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:23.20, gd.

AFLEET WILLY (g, 4, Wilburn--Afleet Frio, by Afleet Alex)
 Lifetime Record: 18-7-6-2, \$216,735. O-BB Horses; B-Bryant H. Prentice (KY); T-Claudio A. Gonzalez. *\$34,000 RNA Ylg '14 FTKOCT; \$50,000 2yo '15 OBSOPN.

10th-GP, \$40,000, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$16,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.98, fm.

JOJO'S DREAM (g, 4, Discreetly Mine--Almost Aprom Queen, by Montbrook) Lifetime Record: 7-3-2-0, \$59,680. O-Asterace Group, LLC; B-Ocala Stud (FL); T-Ralph Ziadie. *\$50,000 2yo '15 OBSAPR. **1/2 to Rigoletta (Concerto), GISW, \$184,070; and Evening Concerto (Concerto), SP, \$249,501.

6th-GG, \$28,782, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$32,000), 1-16, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m (AWT), 1:46.46, ft.

ZIP N BAYOU (m, 5, City Zip--Auntie Mame {GISW, \$961,480}, by Theatrical {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 15-2-3-2, \$115,425. O-Bad Boy Racing LLC & Whizway Farms; B-Lazy F Ranch (KY); T-Jerry Hollendorfer. *\$55,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP.

LANE'S END Foaled, Raised & Sold

2nd-MVR, \$26,700, (S), 1-16, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12.51, ft.

BUCKEYE BULLET (g, 4, Dark Kestrel--Buckler, by Concerto)
 Lifetime Record: 10-3-3-1, \$92,039. O-Ruberto Racing Stable, Inc.; B-Louis V. Ruberto (OH); T-Sharon Ruberto.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

She's Stunning, f, 3, **Adios Charlie**--Comacina (MSW, \$169,105), by Dixie Union. AQU, 1-16, (C), 6f, 1:13.20. B-Our Sugar Bear Stable, Ocala Stud & White Owl Stable (FL). *\$45,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

Unbridled Holiday, c, 3, **Harlan's Holiday**--Song of Royalty, by Unbridled's Song. GP, 1-16, (S), 1m, 1:38.01. B-Don Ming (FL). *\$420,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. **1/2 to Elusive Lady (Van Nistelrooy), GSW, \$358,162; and Sir Silver Fox (Kelly Kip), MSP, \$480,981.

Singleforareason, f, 3, **Shackleford**--Single, by Pulpit. SA, 1-16, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:05.49. B-Rustlewood Farm, Inc. (FL). *\$90,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

Tiz Rude, f, 3, **Tiznow**--Mildly Offensive (MSW, \$285,826), by Sharp Humor. PRX, 1-16, 1m 70y, 1:44.70. B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY). *\$50,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$97,000 RNA 2yo '16 EASMAY.

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UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Track</u>
1/21	GIII Lecomte S.	FG
	GIII Col. E.R. Bradley H.	FG
	GII Santa Monica S.	SA
1/28	GI Pegasus World Cup	GP
	GIII W.L. McKnight H.	GP
	GIII Hurricane Bertie S.	GP
	GIII La Prevoyante H.	GP
1/29	GIII Houston Ladies Classic	HOU
	GIII John B. Connally Turf Cup	HOU
2/4	GIII Withers S.	AQU
	GII Holy Bull S.	GP
	GII Forward Gal S.	GP
	GII Swale S.	GP
	GII Palos Verdes S.	SA
	GII San Antonio S.	SA
	GII San Marcos S.	SA
	GIII Sweetest Chant S.	GP
	GIII Robert B. Lewis S.	SA
	GII Las Virgenes S.	SA
2/5	GI Gulfstream Park Turf H.	GP
	GII Gulfstream Park H.	GP
2/11	GIII Suwannee River S.	GP
	GII Arcadia S.	SA
	GII Santa Maria S.	SA
	GIII Lambholm South Endeavour S.	TAM
	GIII Tampa Bay S.	TAM
	GIII Sam F. Davis S.	TAM
	GII San Vicente S.	SA
2/12		

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LORDAN RELISHING NEW CHALLENGE FOR 2017



Wayne Lordan | *Racing Post*

by Tom Peacock

With a career defined by two of the longer working arrangements between jockey and trainer in this cutthroat sport, a first morning on the roster at Ballydoyle this week will have felt very different for Wayne Lordan.

The announcement by David Wachman last August that he would retire at the end of the season had left the 34-year-old briefly at a crossroads, then later Tommy Stack decided to hand over the reins to his son, Fozzy. Luckily, Aidan O'Brien had come calling.

"It came a month or two after all that," Lordan explained. "I've been with the Stacks a long time, the plan was to stay riding for them and maybe try to go somewhere else in the mornings, as I used to be with David, but as it happened things turned out differently and there's a new chapter for me as well."

He continued, "I'm after having some fantastic years with the Stacks, 16 with them, and I've been with David for 11. I suppose with the change to Ballydoyle I'm really looking forward to it. It's going to be something new.

"I've met [O'Brien] on numerous occasions and I have ridden for him, and I have ridden work for him, and I know everyone apart from actually being in Ballydoyle, that's going to be the new bridge," said Lordan. "I've been in once or twice, really just having a look around, but with regards riding out, I've not been there before." [Cont. p2](#)

WINX THIRD IN ROSEHILL TRIAL

Australian superstar **Winx (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}) finished third in her first trial since taking her winning streak to 13 when claiming her second consecutive G1 Cox Plate in October, www.racenet.com.au reported early Tuesday. The Chris Waller trainee was a member of heat one going 900 metres at Rosehill Tuesday, sitting in a close up fourth, before steaming up the inside to take third while given an easy time of it in her first work back from a spell ([video](#)).

"She began well, put herself into the trial, travelled comfortably and was never really let off the bridle," Waller told www.racenet.com.au. "She'll have another trial, similar to this morning. More to settle the nerves than anything else and just make sure everything is working right. It's [the 1400m G2 Apollo S. at Randwick Feb. 11] a good starting point for her. I feel over that distance she's sharp enough to sprit well."

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IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

CLASSIC EMPIRE LEADS TDN WINSTAR DERBY TOP 12

Classic Empire (Pioneerof the Nile), winner of the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, headlines the first 2017 edition of the WinStar *TDN* Derby Top 12. T.D. Thornton has the scoop. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



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EUROPEAN NEWS



Lordan Relishing New Challenge for 2017 Cont. from p1

As a multiple Group 1 winner who has finished as high as third in the Irish championship, it seems a shade unusual for a man of Lordan's calibre not to be moving to a stable as a number one. Ballydoyle, of course, is no ordinary stable and his arrival can be viewed similarly to one of Real Madrid's galactico signings. He will not be likely to challenge Ryan Moore's Cristiano Ronaldo for supremacy, but should join Seamie Heffernan in offering solid support behind.

"They have the best horses in the world and if you ever have the opportunity to go there, you have to take it with two hands," he said. "Hopefully it'll work out in some way--they'll have plenty of horses to run, it's just about getting the opportunities, that's all you'll be looking for. There are a lot of good jockeys in there but you have to put yourself in a position,



Lordan & Wachman | *Racing Post*

if one of those good rides come along, you're there." He remains on the best of terms with Stack and Wachman and has also continued his association with trainer Thomond O'Mara, who spotted Lordan on the pony racing circuit and led him to his job with Stack, the decorated former jump jockey.

"The Stacks are a very close family and luckily enough we got on really well. Any day I've gone to the breakfast table, they'd all be in there, if anything was to be discussed it would be with the whole family. I suppose they've brought me a long way.

"We had many good days with Myboycharlie (Ire) (Danetime {Ire}), Alexander Tango (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}), but for me Lolly For Dolly (Ire) (Oratorio {Ire}) winning the Windsor Forest S. at Royal Ascot was one I really enjoyed. I think it was Tommy's first Royal Ascot winner as well, and those horses for Ascot don't come around too often. I got a good kick out of that."

He hopes to continue his partnership with Fozzy Stack when time permits, although the fledgling trainer has appointed Chris Hayes as his number one.

Cont. p3

OLYMPIC GLORY

— ❁ —

"We have 4 foals by Olympic Glory at home, all of them are athletic with scope, substance and bone. They should all turn into lovely yearlings."

Philippe Brosset, Haras de Mezeray

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PODCAST

WITH WILLIAM BUICK

He was once so small he was considered to be perhaps even too small to be a jockey. He made his debut in US racing in 2008 as an obscure apprentice/exercise



rider who got all of three mounts for Todd Pletcher at Gulfstream. But few riders in the history of racing have come so far so fast. Today, at the age of 28, William Buick is recognized as one of the top jockeys in the world. Buick is this week's guest on the Thoroughbred Daily News podcast. Click here to listen, or subscribe in your Podcast app on your iPhone or iPad.

Lordan Relishing New Challenge for 2017 Cont.

Wachman, John Magnier's son-in-law, remains involved in the bloodstock department of the Coolmore-Ballydoyle axis, so should be in even more regular contact.

Lordan had not been too surprised about his former employer's choice to bow out after 20 years.

"It was in the background but you'd be always hoping it wasn't going to happen," he said. "I believe it mustn't have been an easy decision for him but it was probably the best decision. Not only was he my boss, but we're good friends. Life goes on, sometimes you have to make changes, some people get affected by it, more people don't. There's not much you can do about it, once you're happy at the end of the day, that's the most important thing."

Dependability has characterised Lordan, in and out of the saddle. He was capable of being silky when Moore's injury allowed him back aboard Wachman's Legatissimo (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) in the 2015 Nassau and Matron S. Likewise he can drive one home in a finish, as demonstrated by his maiden Group 1 with 100-1 chance Sole Power (GB) (Kyllachy {GB}) in the 2010 Nunthorpe S., or threading Gordon Lord Byron (Ire) (Byron {GB}) through the eye of a needle in the G2 British Champions Sprint S. One achievement missing so far is a Classic victory, and chances should come from Ballydoyle's hoard.

O'Brien, to whom hobbies away from racing are seemingly anathema, will find a kindred spirit. Lordan hunted with his father as a boy in Cork and a few days with the Tipperary in his off-season are a rare extra-curricular pleasure.

"When you're brought up with horses at home, you're always outside doing something with them. Whatever I enjoy, it's around horses, it seems."

Even those days could be precious soon, as Lordan's wife Carey Anne is expecting their first child in the summer. "2017 is going to be exciting anyway," he chuckled.

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APPOINTMENTS

Arnault Leraître: Bloodstock Director, Osarus

- "We are delighted to welcome Arnault who has worked in the industry for many years," commented Osarus Managing Director Emmanuel Viaud. "He is receptive and meticulous in his work and has developed an expert eye for selecting horses. His rich experience will be a great asset to the existing team."
- Leraître got his start in harness racing before interning with Dr. V. Pouret and discovering Thoroughbreds. After two years observing young horses with Dominique Sepulchre, Leraître then worked at Haras de Fresnay-le-Buffard for over 20 years.
- "After helping the bloodstock team in 2016 to select yearlings for the La Teste sale, I am very pleased to join the team permanently," said Leraître. "After 23 years spent alongside horses having won the [Group 1s] Arc de Triomphe, Jockey Club, Prix de Diane, Poules d'Essai, Grand Prix de Paris, Jacques le Marois, Breeders' Cup and many more, I am very eager to participate in the development of Osarus."



Arnault Leraître | Osarus



DID YOU KNOW?

Zarak (Dubawi) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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

BRITAIN

**Saturday Night's Result:**

6th-WOL, £5,500, Mdn, 1-14, 3yo/up, 5f 216y (AWT), 1:13.20, st.

BOOST (GB) (f, 3, Pivotal {GB}--Hooray {GB} {Hwt. 2yo Filly & G1SW-Eng, \$326,750}, by Invincible Spirit {Ire}), third over this trip when last seen at Kempton in June, raced close to Alfonso Manana (Ire) (Dutch Art {GB}) before taking over ahead of the halfway mark. Staying on strongly in the straight, the 4-9 favourite had 3 3/4 lengths to spare over that rival at the line. The winner is a daughter of the stable's G1 Cheveley Park S. and G2 Lowther S. heroine Hooray, who is a half to the listed winner Hypnotic (GB) (Lomitas {GB}) related to the similarly precocious Dazzle (GB) (Gone West). Her 2015 colt by Intello (Ger) is named Restive Spirit (GB), while she also has a yearling colt by that sire. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-2, \$5,724. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Cheveley Park Stud; B-Cheveley Park Stud Ltd (GB); T-Sir Mark Prescott Bt.

CONDITIONS RESULT:

5th-WOL, £20,000, 1-16, 4yo/up, 16f 119y (AWT), 3:34.39, st. ANTIQUARIUM (IRE) (g, 5, [New Approach {Ire}](#)--Antillia {GB}, by Red Ransom) Lifetime Record: 13-5-3-0, \$201,546.
O-Godolphin; B-Darley (IRE); T-Charlie Appleby.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Pete So High (Ger), c, 3, [High Chaparral \(Ire\)](#)--Paulaya (Ger), by Peintre Celebre. WOL, 1-16, 9f 103y (AWT), 1:59.14. B-Stiftung Gestut Fahrhof (GER). *€130,000 Ylg '15 BBAGS.

**GERMAN HORSEPOWER**

FRANCE

**Monday's Result:**

2nd-CHY, €25,000, Mdn, 1-16, 3yo, f, 9 1/2f (AWT), 2:00.00, st.

+FLOWER FASHION (FR) (f, 3, Flower Alley--Winter Fashion {Fr} {SW-Fr, \$121,826}, by Kendor {Fr}), sent off the 17-5 favourite, broke well from her widest draw and inched her way into mid-division travelling strongly on the outer. Full of running entering the home straight, the homebred took control passing the quarter pole and drew away for a commanding 3 1/2-length success from Zoe la Gribouille (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}).

Flower Fashion is out of a useful stakes winner who has already bred one in her mold in Street Fashion (Street Sense), MSP-US, \$162,659. Her third dam Heartbreak (Stage Door Johnny), a half to the GII Louisiana Derby-winning sire Prince Valiant, was responsible for the GI Wood Memorial winner and GI Belmont S. runner-up Thirty Six Red and Corrazona (El Gran Senor), who captured the GI Beverly Hills H. The latter produced Olmodavor, winner of the GIII Native Diver H. and GIII Whirlaway H. and runner-up in the GI Hollywood Gold Cup. The dam has two colts to come by another former Clement star in Style Vendome (Fr), a 2-year-old and yearling. Sales history: €50,000 RNA Ylg '15 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)
O-Derek M James & N Clement; B/T-Nicolas Clement (FR).

CONDITIONS RESULT:

3rd-CHY, €44,000, 1-16, 3yo, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:31.89, st.

ECRIN DES BIEFFES (FR) (c, 3, Shakespearean {Ire}--Nova Luz {GB}, by Divine Light {Jpn}) Lifetime Record: SP-Fr, 6-2-0-2, €48,680. O/T-Jose Alberto Remolina Diez; B-M Bridoux (FR). *€15,000 Ylg '15 OSASEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Rhenius (Fr), g, 3, Soldier of Fortune (Ire)--Rhenania (Ire) (SW-Fr, \$154,743), by Shamardal. CHY, 1-16, 9 1/2f (AWT), 2:01.13. B-Mme C Zass (FR).

FOALS, FOALS, FOALS!

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to submit your photos of 2017 foals for consideration in the TDN. Please include sire, dam, owner, & photographer's name.

Must have photographer's permission to publish photos in the TDN and online.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

YANKEE ROSE RETURNS POSITIVE TEST

Racing NSW stewards have confirmed that the dual Group 1-winning filly **Yankee Rose (Aus)** (All American {Aus}) has tested positive for a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory. The



Yankee Rose | *Racing And Sports*

3-year-old returned a positive reading for Ketorolac from her post-race urine sample following her runner-up finish to Global Glamour (Aus) (Star Witness {Aus}) in the G1 Flight S. at Randwick on Oct. 1, 2016. An inquiry will

be held in Sydney on Friday, Jan. 20.

A A\$10,000 yearling purchase, Yankee Rose enjoyed a stellar juvenile campaign, being beaten just a half-length by 'TDN Rising Star' Capitalist (Aus) (Written Tycoon {Aus}) in the G1 Longines Golden Slipper S. and winning both the G1 Inglis Sires' Produce S. and G1 Moet & Chandon Spring Champion S. She is trained by David Vandyke for an 18-strong syndicate headed by Scott Darby.

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STARSPANGLED BANNER'S RELATION II CAVALLO INFERTILE

Five-time winner **Il Cavallo (Aus)** (Choisir {Aus}) is being returned to training after proving to be severely subfertile during his first season at New Zealand's Chequers Stud, according to a report on *nzracing.co.nz*. The 6-year-old is out of

Gold Chant (Aus), an El Moxie half-sister to Starspangledbanner (Aus), who is also by Choisir and has had fertility issues which have led to him covering a restricted book of mares. Il Cavallo was bought as a stallion prospect by Mark Fraser-Campin and Chris Campin to stand at their Cambridge



Il Cavallo | *Racing And Sports*

farm, but the brothers have been forced to admit defeat with the former Peter Moody trainee.

"He's basically infertile, he only got three mares officially in foal. Obviously, it was a disaster of a season for us. We got him for all the right reasons and it's just been very unfortunate," said Fraser-Campin. "We had 80 mares booked to him so we would like to thank all those breeders for their support and patience during what was a tough and disappointing time for all concerned."

A precocious juvenile, Il Cavallo was also listed-placed in both Australia and New Zealand before retiring to stud. He has now been gelded ahead of his planned racecourse comeback.

Fraser Campin added, "As a stallion it was hard to get weight off him, he was a big, heavy horse and now he's come down from 650 to 595kg. He's done six weeks on the treadmill and has been back in full work for a couple of weeks. He'll probably have a trial in February and by the time he's ready all the big sprints will have gone so we'll look for an open race for him. We could possibly look at Brisbane if he came up really well."

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AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2016/2017

Date	Race	Track
Feb. 11	C. F. Orr S.	Caulfield
Feb. 18	Lightning S.	Flemington
Feb. 25	Chipping Norton S.	Warwick Farm
	Blue Diamond S.	Caulfield
	Futurity S.	Caulfield
	Oakleigh Plate	Caulfield
Mar. 4	Randwick Guineas	Randwick
	Canterbury S.	Randwick
	Australian Guineas	Flemington
Mar. 11	Coolmore Classic	Rosehill
	Australian Cup	Flemington
	Lexus Newmarket H.	Flemington
Mar. 18	Golden Slipper S.	Rosehill
	George Ryder S.	Rosehill
	Ranvet S.	Rosehill
	The Galaxy S.	Rosehill
	Rosehill Guineas	Rosehill
Mar. 24	William Reid S.	Moonee Valley
Mar. 25	The BMW S.	Rosehill
	Vinery Stud S.	Rosehill

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Apr. 1	Doncaster H.	Randwick
	T. J. Smith S.	Randwick
	ATC Australian Derby	Randwick
	ATC Sires' Produce S.	Randwick