

HOLY BULL SHAKES UP TDN DERBY 12



McCracken | Coady Photography

by T.D. Thornton

The TDN Derby Top 12 had its first major shakeup in the rankings over the weekend, and the graded prep races at Gulfstream Park, Aqueduct and Santa Anita Park underscored that the balance of power in the division right now is firmly centered in Florida. Looking ahead, the new number one sophomore will be in action this Saturday at Tampa Bay Downs in the GIII Sam F. Davis S., and Sunday's GII San Vicente S. at Santa Anita is shaping up with an intriguing cast of characters that are light on seasoning but long on potential.

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

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O/B-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY). T-Ian R. Wilkes. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$190,848.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 2

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

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

Next start: GIII Sam F. Davis S., TAM, Feb. 11

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

Cont. p3

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS: IRISH WAR CRY

by Andrew Caulfield

When the TDN recently published a list of the most prolific sires of nominees for the 2017 Triple Crown, the top four were Tapit (with 19), Into Mischief (16), Uncle Mo (15) and Union Rags (14). Incidentally, Tapit and Into Mischief also topped the table of stallions with the most qualifiers for the 2016 Experimental Free Handicap (with eight and seven respectively).

Last weekend's 3-year-old action also went some way towards underlining the quality of some of these stallions' 2014 crops. The GII Las Virgenes S. saw Tapit's exciting '[TDN Rising Star](#)' Unique Bella trounce the Uncle Mo filly Mopotism; in the GIII Robert B. Lewis S. Uncle Mo's son Royal Mo led throughout for a decisive success; and in the GII Forward Gal S., Tequilita bettered Tapit's Grade I winner Pretty City Dancer to become the third graded stakes-winning filly from the first crop of Union Rags. **Cont. p14**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

BRANDT AIMS FOR MORE GROUP 1 GLORY

Tom Peacock gets the lowdown on some of Pia Brandt's string following the French-based trainer's breakout year in 2016. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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-BILL OPPENHEIM, TDN JAN. 17

ACTIVE LEADING SIRES BY 2016 YEARLING AVERAGE

	2017 FEE	2015 AVG.	2016 AVG.	TREND
1. TAPIT	\$300,000	\$615,290	\$629,069	+2%
2. WAR FRONT	\$250,000	\$587,750	\$613,276	+4%
3. MEDAGLIA D'ORO	\$150,000	\$352,500	\$331,749	-6%
★ 4. SPEIGHTSTOWN	\$100,000	\$221,807	\$304,537	+37%
5. CURLIN	\$150,000	\$226,230	\$238,062	+5%
★ 6. PIONEER OF THE NILE	BOOK FULL	\$168,196	\$230,346	+37%

Source: TDN Sales Statistics

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Tuesday, February 7, 2017



The Mig on the mic. NYRA analyst and former jockey Richard Migliore was one of the announcers for Monday's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale. See Regional Report p1 for sales coverage. | Image courtesy of Fasig-Tipton

TEPIN TO MISS ENDEAVOUR, COULD FACE MALES

12

Robert Masterson's Tepin (Bernstein), champion turf mare of the past two years, will miss an expected start in Saturday's GIII Lambholm South Endeavour S. at Tampa Bay Downs due to a minor bout with colic, trainer Mark Casse confirmed Monday.

SUPER MAJESTY TOPS F-T WINTER OPENER

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McCraken (cont. from p1)

McCraken inherits the kingpin spot because Classic Empire (Pioneer of the Nile)'s performance in the GII Holy Bull S. necessitated a correctional reshuffling of the rankings. Now it's up to the undefeated **'TDN Rising Star'** to defend his newly minted top billing. This son of Ghostzapper (Awesome Again) will go postward heavily (and deservedly) favored in his seasonal debut Saturday, and even trainer Wilkes concedes that the Davis



McCraken | Coady photo

S. at Tampa Bay Downs is not the most difficult spot for McCraken's return try. "I don't want a tough, tough race for him yet," Wilkes said. "I want a race that will enable him to move forward right now." This year the Davis carries slightly extra emphasis,

because for the first time since 2013, it has been included in the 'Road to the Kentucky Derby' points series (10-4-2-1); a win would enable McCraken to double his current points total. Should the colt's connections eventually aim for the Mar. 11 GII Tampa Bay Derby, that progression would have a ring of familiarity to it for Wilkes. Only one Tampa Derby winner, Street Sense (Street Cry) in 2007, has parlayed a score in that prep into a GI Kentucky Derby victory. Wilkes helped handle that colt, though--at the time he was an assistant to Hall of Fame trainer Carl Nafzger.

2. 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. Lifetime Record: GISW, 3-3-0-0, \$271,200.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 3

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

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

Next start: Either GII San Felipe S., SA Mar. 11 or GII Rebel S., OP, Mar. 18

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Mastery](#)
KY Derby Points: 10

'TDN Rising Star' Mastery is a May 3 foal. If he makes it into the starting gate for the Derby, will it make a difference that he's conceding several months of experience to somewhat older sophomore peers? In the past 30 years, only Mine That Bird (Birdstone), foaled on May 10, and Thunder Gulch (Gulch), on May 23, have won the Derby with a May foaling date (there have been at least 10 overall, but many pre-1935 foal dates were not recorded). Even if you think birth rank matters, is it enough to outweigh the trend that trainer Baffert has won four Kentucky Derbies and unquestionably knows how to get 3-year-olds to peak in the spring? This tall, broad-striding colt uncorked a bullet (1/30) half-mile training move Jan. 30 and a sharp (2/89) five-furlong move Feb. 5 in anticipation of a March start, which will be only one of just two planned races prior to the Derby if Baffert's stated game plan holds true. Right now Mastery is the fastest gun in the West, and whether he attempts to blaze a Derby trail via Oaklawn or remain at his training base of Santa Anita, it will likely result in some rethinking of plans by trainers whose lesser-ranked rivals might be better off avoiding him.



Mastery | Benoit Photo

3. 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. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-2-1-0, \$243,600.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 4

Last Start: 1st, [GII Remsen S.](#), AQU, Nov. 26

Next start: Likely for GII Gotham S., AQU, Mar. 4

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Mo Town](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

Sometimes minor decisions in a young horse's progression end up having significant impact down the road, and with the benefit of hindsight, it now seems that scratching **'TDN Rising Star'** Mo Town on the morning of the Nov. 4 GII Nashua S. at Aqueduct to help heal a strained hind-end muscle will pay dividends as the \$200,000 KEESEP colt prepares for his 3-year-old debut. Given an additional three weeks after that scratch, Mo Town proficiently pressed the tempo and opened up willingly under brisk urging to capture his first two-turn stakes, the GII Remsen S. That race stamped him as a major player on the Derby trail, and since then, Dutrow has maintained a patient approach, letting his Uncle Mo (Indian Charlie) trainee take it easy during the early part of winter at Payson Park. The regimen has been ratcheted upward in recent weeks though, and a five-furlong bullet in 1:02.40 (1/6) on Jan. 31 is a sharp sign of willing improvement as the colt comes within a month of his seasonal debut. "Mo Town has just been fantastic--both physically and mentally," Dutrow told *TDN* last week. "He's growing, filling out, eating great and he's very happy and training terrific."



Mo Town | Sarah K. Andrew

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J.S." with a stylized flourish.

John G. Sikura, President



4. IRISH WAR CRY (c, [Curlin--Irish Sovereign](#), by Polish Numbers)

'[TDN Rising Star](#)' O/B-Isabelle de Tomaso (NJ). T-H. G. Motion.

Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$295,460.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: On the Bubble.

Last Start: 1st, [GII Lambholm South Holy](#)

[Bull S.](#), GP, Feb. 4

Accomplishments: 1st, [Marylander S.](#), LRL,

Jan. 23

Next Start: Uncommitted, but likely to pursue Florida preps

[Equine PP](#)s, [Caulfield on Irish War Cry](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

The paradigm-shifting moment that everyone will point to in the Holy Bull S. will be at the quarter pole when Irish War Cry was opening up in hand while Classic Empire was under the whip and struggling.

But a more subtle sign of this '[TDN Rising Star](#)'s prowess actually occurred a furlong before that, when the undefeated New Jersey-bred sensed the odds-on divisional champion ranging up to within a length of his outside flank, primed to pounce, and Irish War Cry, all on his own, quickened away without being asked. That reaction alone was impressive, but to give the



Irish War Cry | Adam Coglianese

performance even more polish, this lightly raced Curlin (Smart Strike) homebred always looked comfortable leading under snug restraint, then closed willingly, with a nice reach, while only briefly encouraged with a show-and-tell crack of the crop at the sixteenth pole. His gallop back to the winner's circle was bouncy and spirited, and trainer Motion now has a pleasant dilemma on his hands about which prep race to pursue next. "I don't know if I want to run in every race [at Gulfstream--the GII Fountain of Youth and GI Florida Derby]. It will be hard enough to run back in one of them, obviously, but we'll figure it out."

5. 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. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt, MGISW, 6-4-0-1, \$1,520,220.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 1

Last Start: 3rd, [GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S.](#), GP, Feb. 4

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile](#), SA, Nov. 5, 1st, [GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity](#), KEE,

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Next start: Uncommitted

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Classic Empire](#)

KY Derby Points: 32

Classic Empire's lackluster third-place effort in the Holy Bull S. at 1-2 odds has to be viewed in the context of his esteemed status as juvenile champion and with all of the lofty expectations he carried into his seasonal debut, which is the reason for his



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

four-spot demotion on this list. Still, this \$475,000 KEESEP colt was such a dominant, athletic force as a 2-year-old that it is not a wise idea to write him off entirely, even if it is difficult to

come up with signs of positive progress from his 8 3/4-length loss. Classic Empire was mildly bumped on the clubhouse turn before asserting himself in a prime stalking spot for the run down the backstretch, but when it appeared as if he was about to inhale Irish War Cry three-eighths out, the pacemaker found several more gears and Classic Empire was not beaten up by jockey Julien Leparoux when it was obvious he was not going to reel in the winner. "There was really no excuse," said Leparoux. "He got a little bit warm [prior to the race] but after that we had a good trip and every chance and he just didn't kick at the end." Trainer Casse said the day after the race that "more than likely, you won't see him back at Gulfstream again. We're already thinking about where we want to go, but wherever it is, it will be somewhere he will train a little bit there before he runs. [His performance] came as a complete surprise to us, but the battle is far from over."

6. 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. Lifetime Record: GSP, 2-1-1-0, \$51,200.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 5

Last Start: 2nd, [GIII Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7

Next start: Uncommitted, but on a two-prep path to Derby

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 4

American Anthem marks an intriguing turn in the TDN Top 12 list where the rankings morph from proven ability to sheer potential. This \$435,000 Bodemeister (Empire Maker) colt has



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yet to do what every horse ranked higher on the list has done so far (win at least one graded stakes race impressively) but the brawny bay has the looks and attitude that suggest he won't at all be overmatched when thrown into the deeper end of the high-stakes pool.

American Anthem's pedigree portends distance ability: His dam is a half-sister to the 1998 champion 3-year-old filly Banshee Breeze (Unbridled), who won multiple Grade I races up to 1 1/2 miles, and sire



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

Bodemeister was a domineering 9 1/2-length winner of the GI Arkansas Derby who also finished second in both the Kentucky Derby and GI Preakness S. under Baffert's tutelage in 2012. Like stablemate Mastery (ranked number three), American Anthem is also on the two-prep path to the Derby (exact races undetermined for now). And, like Mastery, he is also a later foal compared to many of his peers--May 15.

7. 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.

Lifetime Record: GSW, 6-4-1-0,

\$334,200.

Jan. 17 TDN Top 12 Rank: 9

Last Start: 1st, [GIII Withers S.](#), AQU,

Feb. 4

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GIII](#)

[Jerome S.](#), AQU, Jan. 2, 1st, [James](#)

[F. Lewis III S.](#), LRL, Nov. 19

Next start: Uncommitted, but likely to pursue New York preps

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 20

Riding a four-race win streak, El Areeb is capably and without fanfare checking off many of the boxes that represent required qualities of serious Derby contenders. Is he a one-dimensional speedball that can't rate? That notion was put to rest in last Saturday's GIII Withers S. victory, in which El Areeb appeared



El Areeb | Sarah Andrew

comfortably within himself while guided patiently outside of two longshot pacemakers. The first two quarters (:24.29 and :25.02) weren't exactly blazing, so it's not like this 'TDN Rising Star'

benefited from a suicidal speed scenario when he moved three wide off the far turn to assume command. Well-focused into the Aqueduct stretch, he responded willingly to the hustling, arm-pumping finish by jockey Trevor McCarthy to win by 4 1/4 lengths at 55-100 odds. Even though that margin of victory pales in comparison to El Areeb's 11 1/4-length GIII Jerome S. win a month earlier, trainer Lynch said "I thought he did it a little easier today. I know he didn't win by as

far, but Trevor tapped him once on the neck just to keep his attention. He's shown maturity there, when he sat behind those guys." Added McCarthy: "He didn't prefer the [muddy] surface in the Jerome. Today, I felt a different horse underneath me. He had a bigger stride and was really running at the end."



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8. GORMLEY (c, [Malibu Moon](#)--[Race to Uрга](#), 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. Lifetime Record: GISW, 4-3-0-0, \$296,000.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 6

Last Start: 1st, [Gill 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

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Gormley](#)

KY Derby Points: 20

Gormley, whose namesake is the British sculptor Sir Antony Gormley, has been a work in progress since trainer Shirreffs took over the conditioning of the well-conformed, intelligent-minded bay after the \$150,000 KEESEP RNA was privately purchased by owners Jerry and Ann Moss. Gormley has always trained keenly in the mornings and displayed enough proficiency in his races to rack up a 3-for-4 record. But his stumble at the start of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile that cost him a better placing and his pre-load washiness prior to his hard-earned Sham S. win both

contribute to the feeling that the Malibu Moon (A.P. Indy) sophomore needs a little bit more assuredness and maturity if he is to achieve elite status within this year's Derby pecking order. Then again, perhaps a horse that is not so tightly wound is exactly what you want for the long, arduous Triple Crown chase. "The horse reminds me of California Chrome," Gormley's



Gormley (foreground) | Benoit Photo

regular rider, Victor Espinoza, told the Los Angeles Times prior to winning the Sham. "He's like a happy little kid just playing around. He can't sit still for one moment and that's how California Chrome was."

9. 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.

Lifetime Record: MGISW, 4-3-0-1, \$739,800.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 7

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.

Two more first crop winners on Saturday...

NONNA BELLA won MSW first out at Gulfstream Park for **Todd Pletcher** and owner/breeder **Mike Repole**

FULKERSON won MSW at Turfway Park by 5¾ lengths for owner/breeder/trainer **Lewis B. Carlisle**

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Next start: GII Gotham S., AQU, Mar. 4 or GII Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equine PP](#)s

KY Derby Points: 14

After Palm Meadows-based Practical Joke fired a bullet (1/40) half-mile breeze Jan. 31, trainer Brown said in a phone interview

that "he's going to run in the Fountain of Youth or the Gotham, one of the two."

His wins at six, seven and eight furlongs (the latter being a one-turn mile)

made him three-for-three

entering the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile. But he was jostled at the start and got fanned five wide prior to finishing third in that race, leading to speculation that two turns might not be his best game. Brown disagrees, though: "We've freshened him a little bit and he's been training very well. He just needs to improve with his age group. He showed a lot of talent at age two, he won two Grade Is, we think he's a top colt. He was beaten 7 3/4 lengths in the Breeders' Cup, but I want to give him another chance [going long] because he had a hard race in the Champagne S. and it might have taken something out of him. Now that he's fresh, I see a stronger horse in front of me, so I want to try him again around two turns."



Practical Joke | Sarah K. Andrew

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. Lifetime Record: GISP, 6-2-2-0, \$299,795.

Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 10

Last Start: 4th, [GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile](#), SA, Nov. 5



Lookin At Lee | Coady Photography

missed a week of working out since Dec. 24, and the seventh

Accomplishments

Include: 1st, Ellis Park Juvenile S., ELP, Aug. 6

Next start: Possible for GII Risen Star S., FG, Feb. 25

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equine PP](#)s

KY Derby Points: 10

Lookin At Lee hasn't

MORE

Kentucky Derby prospects from his second crop...

Royal MO

Went wire to wire in the **G3 Robert B. Lewis Stakes** at Santa Anita on Saturday for **John Shirreffs** and **Jerry Moss**

"the preliminary Beyer Figure he received of 93... represented a 20-point leap from his best Beyer at 2. That is a strong indication that Royal Mo has made the step forward from 2 to 3 that you would want to see."

Mike Watchmaker

Conquest MO Money

Won **Riley Allison Stakes** by 11 lengths at Sunland Park on Jan 29 to remain unbeaten

MO Town

G2 Remsen Stakes winner at Aqueduct and TDN Rising Star for **Anthony Dutrow**, now being aimed at the **G3 Gotham Stakes** on March 4

Uncle MO

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breeze of the bunch, a 1:01 move for five furlongs on Feb. 3 (3/53), is yet another signal of steady progression for the \$70,000 KEESEP Lookin At Lucky (Smart Strike) colt. A winner at second asking in an Ellis Park sprint last summer, he then won the Ellis Park Juvenile S. at seven furlongs before finishing second in the GIII Iroquois S. and GI Breeders' Futurity. The winners of those races were Not This Time (Giant's Causeway) and Classic Empire, who respectively ran second and first in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile (while Lookin At Lee ran fourth after breaking from the extreme outside and rating from last).

11. GUEST SUITE (g, [Quality Road](#)--[Guest House](#), by Ghostzapper)

O-W. S. Farish & Lora Jean Kilroy. B-W. S. Farish & Kilroy Thoroughbred Partnership (KY). T-Neil J. Howard.

Last Start: 1st, GIII LeComte S., FG, Jan. 21

Next start: Likely for GII Risen Star S., FG, Feb. 25

[Equineline PPs](#)



Guest Suite | Hodges

KY Derby Points: 10

Trainer Howard [told TDN](#) last week that Guest Suite hasn't shown any adverse signs since his Jan. 21 off-the-pace score in the GIII LeComte S. and will be tentatively pointed to the GII Risen Star S. Feb. 25, the next logical step in the Fair

Grounds' prep race schedule for 3-year-olds. Delving back into his juvenile past performances, it's noteworthy that the gelded son of Quality Road (Elusive Quality) 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 he displayed a nifty turn of foot when seeking the lead in an optional claimer/first-level allowance score (also at Churchill) by open lengths Nov. 26. He can rate or force the issue a little closer to the pace if need be, and those two wins at

Churchill will become even more important assets should he continue to perform well enough to be on a path for Louisville on the first Saturday in May.

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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. Lifetime Record: SW, 3-2-0-0, \$135,300. Jan. 24 TDN Top 12 Rank: 12

Last Start: 1st, [Smarty Jones S.](#), OP, Jan. 16

Next start: GIII Southwest S., OP, Feb. 20

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 11

Locally based horses tend to do pretty well in the early part of Oaklawn's series of sophomore prep stakes, but once March and



Uncontested | Coady Photography

April roll around, you get top-name trainers shipping in from California and Florida with more formidable foes trying to make their marks in the GII Rebel S. and GI Arkansas Derby. Trainer Wayne

Catalano, though, saddled Crypto Star (Cryptoclearance) to a favored win the 1997 Arkansas Derby, setting up a respectable fifth in the Kentucky Derby. Could he pull it off again 20 years later? Despite some decent performances by emerging horses who ran decently in this past weekend's prep races nationwide, this **'TDN Rising Star'** retains his top-12 ranking for at least one more week because he has an emphatically quick turn of foot from the gate and, according to his connections, displays an uncommon level of maturity and unflappability for his age--a desirable combination of traits you don't often see coupled.

On the Bubble: Royal Mo (Uncle Mo) is on the cusp of giving owners Jerry and Ann Moss two contenders in the *TDN* Derby Top 12 after his 3 1/2-length win in last Saturday's GIII Robert B. Lewis S. The lack of depth in the Lewis makes it difficult to gauge



Royal Mo | Horsephotos

how good the performance was, however. He dueled the maiden **Irap** (Tiznow) into defeat before drawing away, but never faced any fresh challenge from the other three overmatched entrants in the race ...

True Timber (Mineshaft)

ran the best losing race out of this past weekend's trio of graded

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Derby preps. He stumbled to his nose at the break of the Withers S., made a deft rail-skimming move into the first turn to attain the lead, then hung on for second at 29-1 and was clearly best of the rest when El Areeb powered past ... **Gunnevera** (Dialed In) ran second behind Irish War Cry in the Holy Bull, but it was too much of a pick-up-the-pieces effort to retain his placing within the Top 12. The late-running colt was closer to the pace than usual, but ran up on heels on the far turn and briefly lost momentum when steadying.

'**TDN Rising Star**' **Battalion Runner** (Unbridled's Song) is headed to stakes company for trainer Todd Pletcher after a dominant Feb. 3 allowance route score at Gulfstream. The 1-5 favorite enjoyed a perfect stalking trip and advanced at will on the far turn to throttle the pacemaker before clicking into a slightly higher gear and winning in measured fashion ... The Jerry Hollendorfer-trained **Battle of Midway** (Smart Strike), who earned a '**TDN Rising Star**' status on debut at Santa Anita



Battalion Runner | Lauren King

Jan. 21, is probable for the Feb. 12 GII San Vicente S. The Baffert-trained Jan. 13 debut winner **Aquamarine** (Gemologist) is on target for the same race, as is the ridgling **Iliad** (Ghostzapper), set to make his first start for trainer Doug

O'Neill since being transferred from Baffert's barn by Kaleem Shah ... Two weeks ago in this column, Baffert predicted a next-out maiden victory for Reach the World (Tapit), although at 3-5 odds, that was not exactly a shocker when it happened Feb. 4. Expect a stakes start for the highly regarded gray next time out ... Last-to-first GII Swale S. winner **Favorable Outcome** (Flatter) won't be stretching out to any two-turn Derby preps. He's not even nominated to the Triple crown. "It's going to be a campaign of just one-turn dirt races this whole year," said trainer Chad Brown. "There are a lot of good races for 3-year-olds in that category."

Chief Know It All (Flashy Bull), a Jan. 27 front-running allowance/optional claiming winner at Oaklawn after two trip-troubled races at Churchill last autumn, will be considered for the Southwest S., trainer Brad Cox reported. "He's a very hard-trying horse. He's got some ability and talent. It almost looks like he gets himself in a little bit of a tight spot sometimes." Cox added that long-striding maiden **Arklow** (Arch), fourth in the LeComte S., will target the Risen Star S. at Fair Grounds on Feb. 25 ... **Takeoff** (Arch) returned to the worktab

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Feb. 4 for the first time since a hard-trying third in the LeComte, breezing five furlongs in 1:01 (4/41). "He's fit, he looks well and came out of his effort well," said Mark Casse's Louisiana-based assistant, David Carroll. "Right now, we're planning on the Risen Star. After that, we'll decide what will happen with him as far as the Kentucky Derby trail, but right now we're very happy with him" ... **It's Your Nickel** (Dialed In), an allowance winner via disqualification at Fair Grounds Jan. 27, is nominated to the Risen Star S. But trainer Ken McPeck said "I'm not sure that's where we'll run. We may just wait for the (GI) Louisiana Derby (on Apr. 1). We think he's that kind of horse. He came together real quick for this race. He was working so well. Any horse that breaks his maiden at Saratoga is a nice horse, obviously. I was shocked they didn't get a lot of respect on the board."

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TEPIN TO MISS ENDEAVOUR, COULD FACE MALES NEXT

by Ben Massam

Robert Masterson's **Tepin** (Bernstein), champion turf mare of the past two years, will miss an expected start in Saturday's

GIII Lambholm South Endeavour S. at Tampa Bay Downs due to a minor bout with colic, trainer Mark Casse confirmed Monday. The bay, who gained international acclaim for her wins in prestigious races such as the 2015 GI Breeders' Cup Mile and the 2016 G1 Queen Anne S., was in fine condition as of Monday morning, according to Casse.

"It's really not a big deal," Casse said. "She does this every now and then to us. She did it the day we entered her for the [GII] Hillsborough last year, but she came right out of it. She just got a little gassy yesterday and was acting kind of funny. I was there with her and watched her, and we went ahead and gave her a little something to give her some relief. At that point in time, we said, 'You know what, it's been one thing after another with her trying to make this



Tepin | Sarah K. Andrew

race.' We missed a work with weather, and sometimes, you just have to say it's not working. It's not the end of the world."

Casse added that the colic incident was "about as minor as it gets," but troublesome enough to put her weekend plans on hold. Tepin was scheduled to breeze Monday as a final tune-up for her seasonal debut in the Endeavour, which she captured in 2016 as well. Casse said he has spoken about future plans in general terms with Masterson, who is open to the possibility that his mare could face male rivals again in her next start.

"I still have to talk [more] to Mr. Masterson, but after reviewing some stuff and looking at it, I think if all goes well, we may look at the Canadian Turf [GIII, Gulfstream Park, Mar. 4] for her. She's one-for-one at Gulfstream over their turf course, and it gives us a little more time. So that's our new goal."

Casse's audible with Tepin's plans comes just three days after his other stable star, 2016 champion juvenile colt **Classic Empire** (Pioneerof the Nile) finished a head-scratching third as the heavy favorite in



ENGLISH CHANNEL

Smart Strike - Belva, by Theatrical (IRE)

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G1 Northern Dancer Turf Stakes
G2 Fr. Lauderdale Stakes
G3 Knickerbocker Stakes
G3 Canadian Turf Stakes

2ND

G1 Beverly D. Stakes
G1 Maker's 46 Mile Stakes
G3 Modesty Handicap
G3 Stars and Stripes
G3 Bewitch Stakes

3RD

G2 Summer Stakes
G3 Ontario Derby
G3 Stars and Stripes Stakes
G3 Airlie Stud Gallinule Stakes

With 34 Graded Stakes Wins to his credit since the beginning of his stud career, English Channel remains one of the best values at stud today.

Gulfstream's GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S. With Classic Empire emerging from the race in seemingly fine condition, Casse said he is unable to pinpoint the exact reason behind his 8 3/4-length defeat behind undefeated **'TDN Rising Star'** Irish War Cry (Curlin). Classic Empire became noticeably washy in the post parade and balked when approaching the starting gate.

"We don't know what upset him," Casse said. "He's one of the smartest horses I've ever trained, but every now and then something upsets him. We don't really know, but [Sunday] he was as happy as can be."

As for future plans for Classic Empire, Casse said he will try to control as many variables as possible—including a longer period of time for the two-time Grade I winner to acclimate to his surroundings.

"We'd like to get two more races in," Casse explained. "Wherever we decide to run him, he's going to go and be there for a little bit. We shipped him down the morning of the race [Saturday], and we won't do that again."

Casse previously suggested that he would likely ship the bay out of South Florida for his next start, but did not rule out the possibility of another try at Gulfstream Monday. Regardless of the decision, the eight-time Sovereign Award winning trainer said that his charge remains a work in progress.

"This is not the first time he's thrown a curve ball at us," Casse joked, alluding to Classic Empire wheeling and losing his jockey at the start of last summer's GI Hopeful S. "This time it was a slider. We just have to practice some more."

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PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



Irish War Cry (cont. from p1)

One noteworthy aspect of Uncle Mo's tally of 15 Triple Crown nominees—all males—is that they come from a second crop numbering 96 foals—less than two-thirds the size of its spectacular predecessor.

Numbers also need factoring into the story of **'TDN Rising Star'** Irish War Cry, the unbeaten Curlin colt who smoothly upset the GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S. In doing so, he accounted for Gunnevera (117 on the Experimental) and the out-of-sorts Classic Empire (who topped the Experimental on 126).

One of the clichés in British soccer is to describe it as a game of two halves, and this phrase could equally be applied to Curlin's stallion career. Of course, he is currently riding high, with his fee

of \$150,000 placing him among the top half-dozen sires in Kentucky. The way his fee has soared over the last three years reflects the growing success of his progeny. After a solid 2014 performance which saw him finish 11th on the general sires' list, Curlin backed it up with sixth place in 2015 and an excellent second place behind Tapit last year.

However, the first half of his stallion career had seen Curlin's



Irish War Cry | Lauren King

popularity go in the opposite direction. Having started out at \$75,000 on the strength of his accomplishments, which included the Horse of the Year title, his fee soon slid down to \$40,000. Then,

when Curlin finished a disappointing ninth among 2012's first-crop sires, his fee was reduced to \$25,000 for 2013. The emergence of Palace Malice from his first crop came a bit too late to help Curlin in 2013, with his first stakes success—in the GI Belmont S.—coming on June 8. The Jockey Club credits him with covering only 54 mares at this comparatively low fee, with 39 producing live foals in 2014. Happily, Palace Malice's efforts in 2013 and early 2014 were hard to overlook and, with Curlin's fee pegged at \$25,000, the son of Smart Strike was much, much busier in 2014, with 152 mares producing more than 110 foals.

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Consequently Curlin's 2014 crop potentially represented the low point of his career, with his smallest crop sired at his joint-lowest fee. In practice, though, this gloomy forecast is proving well wide of the mark. With fewer than 40 named foals this crop has produced four qualifiers for the Experimental Free H. and six Triple Crown nominees.

The Experimental qualifiers are headed by the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies runner-up Valadorna, who ranked second to Champagne Room with a figure of 121. The better of the two colts was the Swynford S. winner Undulated, on 111. Irish War Cry and Valadorna are the most proven of Curlin's Triple Crown nominees.

There was a great deal to like about Irish War Cry's performance in the Holy Bull S.--a race whose last six winners included Mohaymen (who went on to win the GII Fountain of Youth and finish fourth in the GI Kentucky Derby), Upstart (who finished second in the Fountain of Youth and the GI Florida



Exaggerator | Horsephotos

Derby), Itsmyluckyday (runner-up in the Florida Derby and the GI Preakness) and Dialed In (winner of the Florida Derby).

So what might the future hold for Irish War Cry? It is far from impossible that

he might develop into another Exaggerator, Palace Malice or Keen Ice for the Hill 'n' Dale resident. All three of these major winners stayed a mile and a quarter, as, of course, did Curlin, a winner of the GI Jockey Club Gold Cup, GI Breeders' Cup Classic and G1 Dubai World Cup.

An initial look at Irish War Cry's pedigree raises a few doubts about whether he will possess as much stamina. For a start, he is out of Irish Sovereign, a successful dirt sprinter whose sire, the royally-bred Polish Numbers, gained all four of his wins around six furlongs. However, Polish Numbers was a son of Numbered Account, a champion filly who produced Private Account and Dance Number, both Grade I winners over 1 1/4 miles.

Irish War Cry's second dam, Irish Genius, was another who did her winning over sprint distances. However, her sire, the ultra-tough Beau Genius, won the Arlington Challenge Cup over a mile and a quarter as a 5-year-old, when Beau Genius collected a remarkable nine stakes victories from 14 starts. A note of caution is sounded by the fact that Beau Genius had previously done all his winning at up to 1 1/16 miles, with six of his wins as a 5-year-old coming at around seven furlongs. His name also cropped up last year as the broodmare sire of Cupid,

a triple Grade II winner over a mile and an eighth.

All is not lost, though. Irish War Cry's third dam Irish Trip had a European pedigree with no shortage of stamina. Her sire Saint Crespin III rounded off his career with victory in the 1959 G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe before siring some high-class mile-and-a-half fillies. Irish Trip's broodmare sire, Tambourine II, was a Princequillo colt who won the G1 Irish Derby, and Irish War Cry's fifth dam, Nectandra, was a half-sister to Psidium, a shock winner of the G1 Epsom Derby. With the likes of Northern Dancer, Buckpasser and Swaps also to be found in the bottom half of Irish War Cry's pedigree, the son of Curlin has reasonable prospects of staying further, provided he continues to settle on the lead as well as he did in the Holy Bull. Remember that he had been much harder to rate in the early stages of the Marylander S. Hopefully he is learning with experience, and the fact that he has a May birthdate suggests he will continue to progress.

IRISH WAR CRY, C, 3

Curlin	Smart Strike	Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native
			Gold Digger
	Sherriff's Deputy	Classy 'n' Smart	Smarten
			No Class
		Deputy Minister	Vice Regent
			Mint Copy
Barbarika	Bates Motel		
	War Exchange		
Irish Sovereign 13-3-2-2, \$109,014 7FLs, 1GSW, 1SP, 6Wnrs	Polish Numbers	Danzig	Northern Dancer
			Pas de Nom
		Numbered Account	Buckpasser
	Irish Genius 12-2-1-2 8FLs, 6 Wnrs		Intriguing
		Beau Genius	Bold Ruckus
			Royal Colleen
		Irish Trip (GB) 11FLs, 1 SW, 7 Wnrs	Saint Crespin III (GB)
			Tabebuia II (GB)

Footnote: I have been interested by the recent discussion, fueled by Bill Finley, about the concept of stallions returning to the racetrack (click [here](#)). The pedigree of one of the weekend's graded winners, Favorable Outcome, reminded me of another example, as his second dam is a daughter of Shananie.

Shananie, who apparently stood only 15 hands, covered his first mares as a 5-year-old in 1984 and this son of In Reality was returned to the track to win the J. O. Tobin H. in October 1984. In 1985, when he became the father of four named foals, Shananie again covered some mares, siring 11 named foals, before returning to the track once again, this time to win the Engine One S. at Belmont Park on Oct. 5.

There is a difference, though, between covering a handful of mares, as Shananie did, and covering the numbers expected of a popular modern stallion. Last year no fewer than 65 Kentucky

stallions were bred to 120 mares or more, with 36 covering upwards of 140 mares. Four--Uncle Mo, Into Mischief, American Pharoah and Kitten's Joy--covered more than 200, with Uncle Mo coping with 253.

To manage this sort of workload, which can involve multiple coverings per day, stallions have traditionally been allowed to bulk up prior to the breeding season. California Chrome won't have much time to bulk up, or let down, following his Pegasus World Cup appearance, so perhaps he would have less weight to lose before returning to the track. I wonder whether the Taylor Made team are having to use different management techniques with California Chrome to enable him to cope with the demands of his stallion duties, while at the same time having an eye on a relatively speedy return to training.

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TROUTT JOINS STARLADIES IN ESKENFORMONEY PARTNERSHIP

A half interest in StarLadies Racing's GSW **Eskenformoney** (Eskenformoney) has been sold to Lisa Troutt of WinStar Farm, it was announced Monday. The partnership will campaign the 5-year-old Todd Pletcher trainee for the 2017 racing season.



Eskenformoney | *Lauren King*

"We are so excited to have Lisa Troutt join us," Laurie Wolf, co-managing partner of StarLadies Racing, said of the deal which was brokered by Bradley Weisbord of BSW Bloodstock.

"Eskenformoney has really come into her

own and we are looking forward to a really exciting year."

Eskenformoney became StarLadies' first graded stakes winner with a score in the Dec. 17 GIII Rampart S. and is currently being pointed toward a start in the GII Royal Delta S. at Gulfstream Feb. 18. Originally acquired by Starlight for \$225,000 as a Keeneland September yearling, the dark bay has gone on to bank a total of \$407,316 in earnings from 20 career starts.

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FASIG FEBRUARY STARTS STRONG

by Amanda Duckworth

As expected, graded stakes-winning mares proved to be popular during the opening session of the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale, which started its two-day run Monday in Lexington with Grade III winner **Super Majesty** (Super Saver), offered as a broodmare prospect, topping the session when selling for \$475,000. The opening session saw 164 horses sell for a gross of \$4,702,300, an average of \$28,673, and a median of \$9,750. The RNA rate, from 74 horses not sold, was 31.1%.

Compared to 2016, gross increased 42.7%, while the average was up 60.1% and the median was up 21.9%. Last year, 184 horses sold for \$3,294,500 during the opening session, leading to an average of \$17,905 and a median of \$8,000. The RNA rate was 25.4%.

"It is really hard to compare the context of the February sale from year-to-year," said Fasig-Tipton President Boyd Browning. "The composition of the catalogue can change pretty significantly. Last year, we had an imbalance in the two days. Day two was much stronger than day one, just because of how the catalogue fell. All in all, the reality is that the market is probably stronger on the upper level horses and weaker on the lower level horses."

"It is a continuation of the market we have seen in recent years," Browning said. "I think it is a pretty good idea of what we can expect throughout 2017. There was significant bidding activity and great competition on the upper-end offerings, and unfortunately, there was very little market on some of the less expensive horses."

Midway through the day there was plenty of bidding for Super Majesty ([hip 238](#)), who sold for a session-best to Susan Chu's Baoma Corp. The 5-year-old was consigned by Darby Dan Farm on behalf of her owners, LNJ Foxwoods.

Early in the session, millionaire **She's All In** (Include) fetched \$325,000 from RML, agent. She's All In ([hip 96](#)), the second highest-priced offering of the day, was consigned by Vinery Sales, who was acting as agent for the dispersal of Rockin' Z Ranch.

"There was plenty of activity, and the market was generally as expected," Browning continued. "It goes to show you there is certainly a vibrant market even in February. If someone has a nice broodmare prospect or mare in foal, they can bring her here with complete confidence and know there is going to be

plenty of buyers willing to compete for any horse of quality."

In total, 12 horses sold for six figures, compared to just five at last year's opening session of the auction. The leading short yearling was a colt by The Factor ([hip 157](#)) who sold for \$135,000 to Blue Sky Sales. Out of the Cat Thief mare Tazarine, he was consigned by Stuart Morris, agent.

The two-day sale concludes Tuesday with hips 327-640. For catalogue, results and outs, or to watch the sale live, visit www.fasigtipton.com.

A Super Choice

Graded stakes winner **Super Majesty** (Super Saver) was expected to sell well Monday at Fasig-Tipton, and she did not disappoint. After some spirited bidding, the broodmare prospect went to Susan Chu's Baoma Corp. for \$475,000 to top the opening session.

"This is February, so I thought she stood out here," said Donato Lanni, Hill 'n' Dale's bloodstock services director, who signed the ticket on behalf of Chu. "We are happy to have her. She was a really good racemare. She never got the chance to win a Grade

I or Grade II, but she was that type of filly, I thought."

On the track, Super Majesty's biggest victory came in the GIII Dogwood S. at Churchill Downs in 2015. In addition to her talent, she was selected out of the sale for a very specific purpose.

"Susan, like everybody else, is a fan of American Pharoah," said Lanni. "She wanted a mare to breed to American Pharoah, so this was our last stop. Super Majesty will come back to Hill 'n' Dale, and we will get her bred. Susan won an Eclipse a few weeks ago with Drefong, and she's a lucky woman. She's easy to work for."

Darby Dan Farm consigned Super Majesty on behalf of her owners, the Roth family's LNJ Foxwoods. The 5-year-old mare had originally been entered in the Fasig-Tipton November Sale last year, but her connections decided to point for February instead.

"This is a fantastic marketplace for a mare coming off the track," said Carl McEntee, Darby Dan's sales and bloodstock director. "Stakes horses, they just do very well. We are a week away from the breeding season, and everyone has one mare that they want or they have no other chances to grab one. Fasig-Tipton does a great job and makes sure everyone is in town. We knew we were going to come here all along. We had



Super Majesty | Fasig-Tipton photo



Donato Lanni | Fasig-Tipton photo

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nominated her for the November Sale, but I think this was a better marketplace for her.

"I am very pleased for the owners, LNJ Foxwoods. It was one of their first big offerings at the sales. I think it was a solid price. She will go to a good home, so we are delighted for the new client. We had heard lots of people say she was one of the best mares in the sale. It is nice when they look like that, perform at the racetrack, and go on and actually do well in the sales ring."

All in on Getting Out

A dispersal always gives a sale an added bit of intrigue, and the February sale was no different. Horses of all ages from Robert Zoellner's Oklahoma-based Rockin' Z Ranch were offered without reserve, but drew plenty of attention.

Leading the way during the opening session was millionaire **She's All In** (Include), who hammered down for \$325,000 to RML, agent, making her the second highest price lot on Monday.

On the track, the Oklahoma bred won the GIII Sixty Sails H. and was second to champion Royal Delta (Empire Maker) in the GI Delaware H.

"I bought her for an undisclosed buyer," said Ran Leonard. "I am from Oklahoma, and I am a long-time friend of Dr. Zoellner, so obviously I have been a fan of this mare. I own a mare named Tiz Miz Sue, and she and She's All In ran against each other all the time. We would have dinner bets over who would finish in front."

"I am lucky enough to buy and sell horses for different people. I had some people interested in her, and obviously I could provide a lot of information about her because I have been around the mare since she was little."

Vinery Sales consigned the Rockin' Z Ranch horses at the February sale. The operation is being liquidated due to personal reasons surrounding the Zoellner family.



She's All In | Fasig-Tipton photo



Derek MacKenzie | Fasig-Tipton photo

"I thought it was a nice price for her," said Vinery's Derek MacKenzie. "She was really hard to appraise. Everybody asked me what she was going to bring, and I had a hard time appraising her. In this market, which I would call soft, I thought she did fine. For a mare in a February sale, she showed a lot. She is a real classy mare and easy to work with. She looked great."

One Rockin' Z Ranch horse who was withdrawn is homebred Rowdy the Warrior, who was slated to sell on day two of the sale. The Warrior's Reward colt picked up two GI Kentucky Derby qualifying points after running third in the Smarty Jones S. at Oaklawn Park this January.

"He has not been sold," said MacKenzie. "I am not privy to any particular reason, but I do know he was supposed to get on the van, and an hour or two before it was decided he wouldn't get on it. I am disappointed because we figured he would top the sale."

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SESSION TOPPERS

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FASIG-TIPTON KENTUCKY WINTER MIXED SALE

Monday's Top Mares

Hip	Name	Status	Price (\$)
<u>238</u>	Super Majesty	broodmare prospect	475,000
	(5, Super Saver--Gins Majesty, by Go For Gin)		
	Consigned by Darby Dan Farm, Agent I		
	Purchased by Hill 'n' Dale Bloodstock, agent for Baoma Corp		
<u>096</u>	She's All In	i/f Magna Graduate	325,000
	(10, Include--Georgia Ok, by Hickory Ridge)		
	Consigned by Vinery Sales, Agent for Dispersal of Rockin Z Ranch		
	Purchased by RML, agent		
<u>243</u>	Bamboche	i/f Uncle Mo	275,000
	(5, Tapit--Diplomat Lady, by Forestry)		
	Consigned by Bluewater Sales LLC, Agent XX		
	Purchased by International Equities Holding		
<u>181</u>	Vickie Wins	broodmare prospect	270,000
	(4, Unbridled's Song--Mistical Plan, by Game Plan)		
	Consigned by Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency, agent		
	Purchased by Bayern Partnership		
<u>242</u>	Back Flip	i/f Bodemeister	250,000 PS
	(5, Super Saver--For Royalty, by Not For Love)		
	Consigned by Select Sales, Agent I		
	Purchased by Josh Stevens, agent		



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Monday's Top Yearlings

Hip	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
157	colt	The Factor	Tazarine	135,000
<i>B-Highclere (Ky)</i>				
Consigned by Stuart Morris, Agent VI				
Purchased by Blue Sky Stables				
281	colt	Dialed In	Caseys Irish Pride	130,000
<i>B-Reggie & Tim Beeson (Ky)</i>				
Consigned by St George Sales, agent				
Purchased by Whitehorse Stables LLC				
134	colt	Into Mischief	Skygusty	105,000
<i>B-Martha Jane & John Henry Mulholland (Ky)</i>				
Consigned by Warrendale Sales, Agent IX				
Purchased by Cougar Ridge Stables				



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

FASIG-TIPTON WINTER MIXED SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2017	2016
• Catalogued	326	296
• No. Offered	238	248
• No. Sold	164	184
• RNAs	74	64
• % RNAs	31.1%	25.8%
• No. \$100K+	12	5
• High Price	\$475,000	\$210,000
• Gross	\$4,702,300	\$3,294,500
• Average (% change)	\$28,673 (+60.1%)	\$17,905
• Median (% change)	\$9,750 (+21.9%)	\$8,000

JOCKEY CLUB OF CANADA STAKES REVIEW

The Jockey Club of Canada's Graded Stakes Committee held its annual review of the graded and listed stakes in Canada. While the number of graded stakes in Canada remains unchanged at 44, Woodbine's Trillium S. and Hastings's Delta Colleen H. have both been upgraded from non-listed to listed status for 2017.

TDN CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

- Stakes: purses of \$50,000/up
- Allowance Races: purses of \$20,000/up
- Optional Claiming Races: purses of \$20,000/up
- Maiden Special Weight Races: purses of \$18,000/up
- Maiden Claiming Races: purses of \$18,000/up & a minimum claiming price of \$40,000

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Brian Graves

Hip 153

(f, Cairo Prince--Tart's Knickers, by Ghostzapper)

Buyer: Austin & Brenda Paul

Price: \$90,000

"The buy of the day was hip 153, a Cairo Prince filly out of Tart's Knickers, who was purchased by Marettte Farrell. She has a beautiful neck and shoulder and a ton of quality. After it was all over, I wish I had bid again."

FLORIDA

Uncle Vinny to Prestige Stallions:

Starlight Racing's 2015 GIII Sanford S. winner **Uncle Vinny** (Uncle Mo--Arealhotlover, by Untuttable) has been retired to



Uncle Vinny | NYRA photo

Stonewall's Prestige Stallions in Ocala, principal Jack Wolf announced Monday. In addition to his graded stakes success, the Todd Pletcher trainee was also third in the GI Hopeful S. as a 2-year-old.

"Uncle Vinny provided our partners with many thrills during

his racing career, and we are very encouraged by the Ocala breeders' enthusiasm for our Sanford S. winner," Wolf said.

Pletcher added, "Uncle Vinny was well balanced, correct and very precocious, as well as demonstrating a good turn of foot."

Out of the stakes-winning mare Arealhotlover, Uncle Vinny retires with earnings of \$224,500 and a record of 2-1-2 from 12 starts. He will stand as the property of Starlight Racing. For more information, contact Prestige Stallions at 352-895-8910.

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PARK STUD

KENTUCKY

CKRH Names New Board Members:

Central Kentucky Riding for Hope (CKRH), which offers a variety of equine-assisted activities and therapies at its base at the Kentucky Horse Park, has named Dr. Kristina Lu, VMD, DACT, and Dr. Stuart Brown, DVM, to their Board of Directors.

Lu has been a longtime advocate for CKRH and has helped the non-profit obtain a number of in-kind donations. Meanwhile, Brown has also advocated for CKRH and supports the organization's "Night of the Stars" gala. Both new directors practice at Hagyard Medical Institute.

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CENTRAL U.S.

Monday's Results:

8th-HOU, \$20,000, Alw, 2-6, (NW1X), 3yo, 1 1/16mT, 1:45.80, fm.

FAST TALKIN MAN (g, 3, Oratory--Dancingwithfortune, by Festival of Light) ran second in his debut Sept. 17 at Retama and reported home third there against Texas-breds Oct. 1 before graduating first time over turf Nov. 19. Dismissed at nearly 12-1 here, the bay settled in fifth while saving ground behind loose leader I'm a Rock (Gemologist) through splits of :25.46 and :50.45. Awaiting room on the latter half of the far turn, he burst to the lead between horses at the eighth pole and held off the resurgent pacesetter late to score by a head. Even-money favorite Kielbasa (City Zip) finished last with no visible excuse. The winner's dam is responsible for a 2-year-old Special Rate colt named Kuvutia and a yearling filly by the same sire. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$24,813. [Click for the Equibase.com chart.](#) O/B-Carl & Betty Davis, Marietta Burks & Born to Run, LLC (TX); T-Danny Pish.

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OLD BUSHMILL (North Light {Ire}), 2/1/0

4-HOU, Msw 1m, +Jacare, \$40K TTA APR 2yo, 4-1

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IN JAPAN:

Cool Zephyr, f, 4, Street Cry (Ire)--Desert Song, by Unbridled's Song. Kyoto, 2-4, Plate Race, 6f. Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-2, \$195,357. O-Yuki Hashimoto; B-Rabbah Bloodstock LLC; T-Keiji Yoshimura. *\$200,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP. ***"The trainer told me I should have raced in third or fourth position, but she broke well and strode out well and I did not hold her up," commented winning hoop Shane Foley. "She is tense sometimes, so if she is allowed to roll, she will be more relaxed."



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BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-PRX, \$51,750, 2-6, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 7f, 1:26.09, ft.

MATCH UP (g, 6, Broken Vow--Change Up {GSW, \$375,420}, by Distorted Humor) Lifetime Record: 33-5-5-5, \$170,886.

O-Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc.; B-Bertram W. Klein & Reklein Stables (KY); T-Danny Gargan.

8th-GG, \$28,773, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$32,000), 2-5, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m (AWT), 1:38.89, ft.

OPTIMISM AND HOPE (IRE) (f, 4, Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}

--Medicean Star {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}) Lifetime Record:

15-4-1-2, \$114,704. O-Michael House; B-Michael Begley (IRE); T-John F. Martin.

5th-MVR, \$26,200, (S), 2-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:14.95, ft.

PRINCESS ARYA (f, 4, Borrego--Saphira Bluestone, by Jade Hunter) Lifetime Record: 12-6-1-0, \$75,987. O/B-Bruce K. & Nancy A. Hudson (OH); T-William D. Cowans.

4th-HOU, \$21,000, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-6, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.95, fm.

BLEU BRAVE (g, 6, Northern Afleet--Ruban Bleu {SP}, by Broken Vow) Lifetime Record: 30-9-3-6, \$133,665. O/T-Steven M.

Asmussen; B-Haras Santa Maria de Araras S.A. (FL). *\$85,000 Ylg '12 KEESEP. **1/2 to Tiznow R J (Tiznow), GSP, \$181,742.



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6th-HOU, \$20,000, 2-6, (NW2L), 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:39.62, fm.
WITT'S TOWN (f, 3, Drums of Thunder--Fortunistic, by Cape Town) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, \$20,720. O-Henry S. Witt, Jr.; B-Henry S. Witt (TX); T-Amanda Barton.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Straitouttathefunk, g, 3, [Midshipman](#)--Midnight Angel, by Housebuster. MVR, 2-6, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:07.81. B-Raimonde Farms Ltd. (OH).

Everywheruwanttobe, f, 3, [Stormy Atlantic](#)--Pleasant Quality, by Elusive Quality. HOU, 2-6, 1mT, 1:40.80. B-Jerry Jamgotchian (KY). *\$10,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$65,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$40,000 RNA 3yo '17 KEEJAN. **1/2 to Noholdingback Bear (Put It Back), GSW & GISP, \$519,980.



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Easy Money Man, g, 4, **Save Big Money**--Gracinha, by Siphon (Brz). HOU, 2-6, 5fT, 1:00.37. B-Rendell Saddler (OK). *\$12,000 Ylg '14 TEXOCT. **1/2 to Devious Rumor (Street Boss), SW, \$191,016.



Photo by Suzie Picou-Oldham

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BRANDT AIMING FOR FURTHER GROUP 1 GLORY



Pia Brandt all smiles as she welcomes Mont Ormel after his Group 1 victory last summer | *Scoop Dyga*

by Tom Peacock

It seems unlikely that Pia Brandt will be waiting another decade for a second Group 1 winner, even if her first helper has now departed. **Mont Ormel (Fr)** (Air Chief Marshall {Ire}), who claimed last summer's G1 Juddmonte Grand Prix de Paris, was the subject of an offer too generous to refuse by owner Gerard Augustin-Normand and is now running in Hong Kong under the guise of Helene Charisma. But Brandt, the Swede who arrived in Chantilly at the end of 2005, should still reap some benefits.

"The goals are getting bigger for us," she said. "We had a good year and a few group and listed winners. Unfortunately some have been sold, I can understand it. Mr. Augustin-Normand has the whole family and has put many more horses in training with us this year, so I hope I have a new Mont Ormel in the group. Why not?"

Others to join the exodus of talent included **Camprock (Fr)** (Myboycharlie {Ire}), who finished runner-up in the G1 Prix Saint-Alary before picking up an injury in the G1 Prix de Diane. She was bought by Katsumi Yoshida's Northern Farm for €850,000 at Deauville's December Sales and is to be covered by Deep Impact (Jpn).

Cont. p2

WINX AMONG 17 FOR APOLLO STAKES

The G2 Apollo S. at Randwick on Saturday features the eagerly awaited return of **Winx (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}) and the world's top-rated turf horse could face a field of up to 16 challengers in the 1400-metre event. Winx is going for her 14th consecutive victory and she was last seen doling out an eight length beating to **Hartnell (GB)** (Authorized {Ire}) in the G1 William Hill Cox Plate last October. Hartnell who subsequently ran third in the G1 Emirates Melbourne Cup is also among the nominations. Chris Waller intends to provide some competition for his stable star who he described as "in great shape." The trainer has a total of six entered in the race including the former Ger Lyons trained **Endless Drama (Ire)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}), runner up in the G1 Tattersalls Irish 2000 Guineas in 2015.

Cont. p5

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

WINSTAR DERBY TOP 12

'TDN Rising Star' **McCracken** (Ghostzapper) leads the third edition of the WinStar TDN Derby Top 12 for Feb. 7. T.D. Thornton has all of the information on where the rest of the top GI Kentucky Derby hopefuls ended up. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



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International Ratings - 2yo European 2015

RPR	Horse	Fee at Stud/Comment
125	Air Force Blue	\$25,000
120	Shalaa	€27,500
119	Minding	8x Gr.1 Winner
118	Marcel	£5,000
114	Hit It A Bomb	Breeders' Cup Winner
113	Acapulco	Royal Ascot Winner
113	Ribchester	Group 1 Winner
111	Alice Springs	Triple Gr.1 Winner
110	Galileo Gold	2000 Guineas Winner

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Brandt Aiming for Further Group 1 Glory Cont.

G3 Prix Allez France winner **Marypop (Fr)** (Layman) and promising juvenile **Rymska (Fr)** (Le Havre {Ire}) moved to America, the latter winning last Saturday's G3 Sweetest Chant S. at Gulfstream for Chad Brown. All is not lost, according to a roll-call that should reach a new peak of 90 horses.

"I do hopefully have some nice 3-year-old fillies," Brandt explained. "Mont Ormel's half-sister **Normandel (Fr)** (Le Havre {Ire}) won her maiden, was second behind Toulifaut (Ire) (Frankel {GB}) in a Group 3 and then sixth, not beaten far, in the [G1] Prix Marcel Boussac."

"She has really come on during the winter, it will be quite nice to see her. She will probably run in a listed fillies' race, and her goal is the [G1] Poule d'Essai des Poulaches for the beginning of the season."

"**Normandie (Ger)** is a Redoute's Choice (Aus) filly who won very nicely on her last run last year and is probably a horse we're going to try to get ready for the [G1] Prix de Diane. We'll see if we can find something easy for her first time out, then see if we go for the Prix Saint-Alary or another group race."

"I can't forget **Fas (Ire)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), who was placed in group races and fourth in the [G2] Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte. He's not a big horse but he's picked up more volume and I hope I can make him stay 1600m. He's quite intelligent so hopefully he can."

Brandt's words often have a Scandinavian directness and her deeds are backed up by a profound sense of competence.

Despite initial success with her husband, former jockey Joakim, in Stockholm, they sought better facilities and it can hardly have

been easy to uproot to the competitive French scene. After a few years making quiet progress, **Dastarhon (Ire)** (Dansili {Ire}) emerged second at 50-1 in the 2013 French Guineas. The following year she had the good stayer **Bathyrhon (Ger)** (Monsun {Ger}), while **L'Amour De Ma Vie** (Dansili {GB}) won the G2 Balanchine S. in Dubai before running an honourable second to the top-class Integral (GB) (Dalakhani {Ire}) in the G2 Duke Of Cambridge S. at Royal Ascot, Brandt's first British runner. She has also

successfully targeted Lingfield's All-Weather Championships in 2015 with **Fresles (Ire)** (Royal Applause {GB}), with **Metropol (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}) taking third last year.

"I like going abroad—I don't need to stay in France if I have the right horses for the right races," she said. "I'm trying to get Metropol into the final at Lingfield again. He won the other day here and his next run is Mar. 2, they have some prep races for Dubai at Chantilly."

"I've got some fillies in Dubai, I was very pleased with their runs in the [G2] Cape Verdi S. **Silver Step (Fr)** (Silver Frost {Ire}) was a close fourth and **Via Firenze (Ire)** (Dansili {GB}) finished very well and was only beaten three and a quarter lengths in sixth. They will go for the [G2] Balanchine in two weeks' time and then come back home. Hopefully they will have been so good they can

come for the Duke Of Cambridge."



Normandel | Scoop Dyga



Pia Brandt and Cristian Demuro | Scoop Dyga

Cont. p3

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Richard Hannon, Trainer

Brandt Aiming for Further Group 1 Glory Cont.

Brandt rode 80-odd winners as a professional during three seasons in Sweden until she decided to concentrate on training, while Joakim still partners one lot a day on the gallops.

"We work as much as we can together and if one is away, the other is always in the yard, keeping an eye on everything," she said. "I had fun riding and I like that I have that experience behind me--hopefully the jockeys think so too! That's not one of my things, I try to give the jockeys white card to make the decisions themselves and it's nice to work with some of the best, like Maxime Guyon, Mickael Barzalona and Cristian Demuro."

As much as Brandt brought her own ideas with her, she feels Chantilly has been a major influence in her development. "We've had our own place for over two years now, that makes you feel more comfortable," she said. "It has been a pleasure to see how Andre Fabre and Alain de Royer-Dupre are training. They are training in different ways but with a lot of success. It's nice to see how they work in that environment, I've always had an eye on what they're doing. They won't come to you and give you advice, but you can ask them, and they like it."

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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TURF CLUB NOT FOLLOWING FRENCH LEAD

In the wake of the decision of France Galop to introduce a 2kg allowance for female jockeys, the Turf Club have confirmed no such move is likely in Ireland any time soon. French female jockeys will be permitted a 2kg allowance in 90% of French races with group and listed races exempt from the initiative but Turf Club Chief executive Denis Egan poured cold water on any prospects of it being introduced in Ireland.

"There are no plans to replicate it," said Egan. "There is a European doctors' meeting at the end of February, where I'd imagine it will be up for discussion. There will also be an international conference in relation to jockeys' health, safety and welfare, which I chair, at the end of October, where it will be discussed, too. But it's not on our agenda at the moment."

[Cont. p4](#)





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Turf Club Not Following French Lead Cont.

The Irish Jockeys Association also made its views on the move known with spokesman Andrew Coonan describing it as potentially "discriminatory" against male jockeys. "I can't see it being brought in here," said Coonan, who is also a solicitor. "It's anti-competitive and any male jockey would be entitled to feel it is discriminatory against him. Legislatively, I would imagine there would be significant difficulty with it."

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THREE-DAY FEBRUARY SALE BEGINS

Goffs kick off the first of three days of their extended February Sale Tuesday. Day One action, which commences at 10 a.m. local time, begins with a mixture of 2- and 3-year-olds, horses in training and even a potential stallion prospect in G1 Darley Dewhurst S. winner **Parish Hall (Ire)** (Teofilo {Ire}), offered as [lot 84](#). From that lot onwards, the focus switches to 'short yearlings' as the sale bids to recapture the ground it lost last year following a very successful 2015 edition. A larger catalogue should help




Parish Hall | *Racing Post*

ensure the aggregate surpasses last year's total of €4,361,750, while the increased numbers will test the clearance rate which suffered at a number of Irish sales in 2016.

Wednesday's session is again dedicated to yearlings and unfortunately a Siyouni (Fr) (Pivotal {GB}) filly from the Wildenstein Dispersal has been withdrawn. That still leaves one by the Haras de Bonneval stallion, a colt offered by The Castlebridge Consignment as [lot 451](#). Castlebridge also offer a colt by the equally upwardly mobile Dark Angel (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}). [Lot 369](#) is out of the stakes placed Bee Eater (Ire) (Green Desert) who has also bred two winners from four runners. Kodiak (GB) (Danehill) continues to be the darling of both pinhookers and trainers alike and his daughter of the dual winner and stakes placed Shifting (Ire) (Oratorio {Ire}) ([lot 263](#)) should be popular.


Thursday at Goffs is breeding stock day when breeders will have an opportunity to buy into some famous, high achieving families, as Ballymacoll Stud offer five mares as part of their initial dispersal. Top of the list is possibly Edith Wharton (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), offered through Jockey Hall Stud as [lot 498](#). Unraced, the 3-year-old is out of the champion racemare Islington (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), who recently gave birth to her 11th filly from 11 foals. [Cont. p5](#)



OLYMPIC GLORY

"The Olympic Glory foals at Goffs were particularly nice. We bought two of them, including a beautiful filly who for me was the best filly on offer on that day of the sale"
David O'Callaghan, Yeomanstown Stud

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"Our Toronado colt is an extremely strong, good-boned, high-quality foal. He is a tremendous walker and has great presence, we are very pleased with him and will be using the stallion again."
Harry McCalmont

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Michael Swinburn
GENESIS GREEN



John Troy



Sara Cumani



SackvilleDonald



Dwayne & Wendyll Woods
BROOK



Chris Budgett
Kirtlington



John Deer
Oakgrove

Three-Day February Sale Begins Cont.

Godolphin continue the process of trimming their herd number and have 30 mares catalogued. A good number of these mares are offered with attractive coverings to the likes of Night Of Thunder (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Dawn Approach (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) and Epaulette (Aus) (Commands {Aus}). A maiden mare offered by Godolphin that catches the eye is [lot 519](#) Leyburn (GB) (Shamardal). The once raced 4-year-old is a half-sister to stakes winners Centennial (Ire) (Dalakhani {ire}) and Siren's Song (Ire) (Azamour {Ire}) from the great family of Ali-Royal (Ire) and Taipan (Ire). A chance to buy a half-sister to a recent Classic winner presents itself when [lot 530](#) enters the ring. Saphira Silver (Ire) (Verglas {Ire}) is a half sister to Jet Setting (Ire) (Fast Company {Ire}) and will surely attract interest despite showing rather less racing ability than her illustrious sibling.

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Willie Mullins has confirmed that his seven-time Grade 1 winning hurdler Faugheen will miss the Cheltenham Festival due to a stress fracture. The gelding has only been beaten once in 13 starts, but has not been in action since Jan. 2016 | [Racingfotos.com](#)

BRITAIN



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Right Action (GB), g, 3, **Dandy Man (Ire)**--Rockaby Baby (Ire), by Beckett (Ire). WOL, 2-6, 5f 216y (AWT), 1:14.96. B-Auntly Ifl (GB). *€11,500 Ylg '15 GOFFEB; £16,000 Ylg '15 DNPRM.

FRANCE



Monday's Results:

8th-MRV, €18,000, Cond, 2-6, 4yo, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:28.94, stn.

ENJOY THE SILENCE (FR) (c, 4, Elusive City--Cerita {Ire} {MSP-Fr}, by Wolfhound) Lifetime Record: 27-4-6-5, €116,630.

O-Benoit Cambier & Cedric Boutin; B-Carlos Laffon-Parias & Stilvi Compania Finaciera SA (FR); T-Cedric Boutin. *1/2 to Alava (Ire) (Anabaa), SW-Fr; and Almageur (GB) (Spectrum {Ire}), SP-Fr, \$442,302.

WINNERS BY EUROPEAN SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Treasure State (Jpn), m, 5, **Oasis Dream (GB)**--Wyola, by Sadler's Wells. Kyoto, 2-4, Plate Race, 7f. Lifetime Record: 11-3-1-0, \$275,982. O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm; T-Yutaka Okumura. *Full to Approve (Ire), MGSW & G1SP-Eng, GSP-Fr, \$320,262; and a 1/2 to Cape of Approval (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire}), SW-Ire, \$106,406. **\$25,000gns i/u '11 TATNOV.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Winx Among 17 for Apollo Stakes cont.

"Endless Drama and Grand Marshal will run and I'm keen to start Libran because he has had a long time off," Waller confirmed. While **Grand Marshal (GB)** (Dansili {GB}) and **Libran (Ire)** (Lawman {Fr}) have shown their best form over much further than 1400m Endless Drama has looked smart in his trials despite disappointing on his southern hemisphere debut last year.

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SHE WILL REIGN DELIGHTS PORTELLI

She Will Reign (Aus) (Manhattan Rain {Aus}), early joint favourite for the G1 Golden Slipper next month delighted connections in a barrier trial at Warwick Farm on Monday morning. Not much new was learned about the unbeaten filly as she coasted home nine lengths clear of mainly unraced horses in the 800-metre trial. [Cont. p6](#)

She Will Reign Delights Portelli Cont.

However her trainer Gary Portelli couldn't hide his enthusiasm for the juvenile and commented, "She is just so relaxed and she came through it well. We were planning and hoping to see something come out of the gates and put on a bit of tempo but they were all unraced things and she just jumped out and did her thing."

Speaking to *Racing.com* Portelli continued, "At some point there are going to be horses that will go with her early. I was hoping that we'd get an opportunity to do it under trial conditions rather than race day but looking at the way she went today, if something takes us on, they'll be doing it at their own peril." She Will Reign impressed in two racecourse starts late last year, winning her maiden at Kembla



She Will Reign | *Racing And Sports*

Grange in December by eight lengths before following up in equally impressive fashion in the Inglis Nursery at Randwick a week later. Mapping out a plan of action for She Will Reign Portelli explained, "We go to the [G2] Silver Slipper in a couple of weeks' time and then we end up in the [G2] Riesling I hope and that should have her spot on for the Golden Slipper a fortnight later."

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INCREASE IN ENTRIES FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Australian Turf Club have revealed a significant increase in entries for The Championships in Sydney, run over two consecutive Saturdays in early April. A total of 1371 nominations



Trip To Paris | *Racing Post*

have been received over the 10 feature races, up 81 on 2016. A number of international names feature among the nominations including horses from Ireland, England and Japan. Willie Mullins has entered three horses for the G1 Sydney Cup including **Max Dynamite (Fr)**

(Great Journey {Jpn}), runner up in the 2015 G1 Emirates Melbourne Cup. Another European on the list for that 3200-metre race is Ed Dunlop's **Trip To Paris (Ire)** (Champs Elysees {GB}), winner of the G1 Ascot Gold Cup in 2015.

"We are thrilled the overall number of nominations is up so strongly, and that so many races have increased entries from last year," said ATC chief executive Darren Pearce. "The ATC is particularly pleased with the increased interest from international stables in Japan, the UK, Ireland and Hong Kong, with some very well-performed horses nominated for several races. We will now continue to work hard to ensure as many of these overseas nominations as possible make the trip and compete against Australia's very best. This increase in international nominations demonstrates a growing awareness of The Championships across the racing world."

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MCKEEVER & FERGUSON BLOODSTOCK TEAM UP

Bloodstock agents Johnny and Susie McKeever of McKeever Bloodstock in Newmarket have joined forces with young Australian bloodstock agent James Ferguson, who will begin



Johnny & Susie McKeever & James Ferguson
Ferguson Bloodstock

operating his international Sydney-based Ferguson Bloodstock this week in advance of the Inglis Classic Sale Feb. 11-13. Ferguson has been assisting the McKeever's for the previous 10 months in Europe finding horses for

Australia and Hong Kong and short listing at all major European sales for bloodstock agent David Ingordo and Irish breeder James Hanly. He also spent six months working with trainer Hugo Palmer in Newmarket. Assistant manager at his family's Bell River Thoroughbreds in Australia at the age of 18--responsible for recent MG1SW Extreme Choice (Aus) (Not a Single Doubt {Aus})--Ferguson has also worked at Arrowfield Stud, Haunui Farm, Highclere Stud and has assisted The Queen's racing manager John Warren at the sales.

Already with 35 years in the industry--10 of them active in Australia--the McKeever's have purchased 18 Group 1 winners worldwide and will be working in close association with Ferguson for clients throughout the world.

For more information, please contact James Ferguson at +61 409 899 448 or at james@fergusonbloodstock.com.

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FEBRUARY 2017

TDN WEEKEND

LA CAUVINIÈRE

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in droves **VIVE LA
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AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN UAE:

Taaj (Aus), g, 4, **Street Cry (Ire)**--Star On High, by Fusaichi Pegasus. Abu Dhabi, 2-5, Hcp., 1600mT, 1:34.34. B-Gilgai Farm (Vic). *A\$1,500,000 Ylg '14 INGAPR.

Sunday, Valparaíso Sporting Club, Chile

CLASICO EL DERBY-G1, P81,000,000

(US\$126,871/£101,929/€118,178), Valparaíso Sporting Club, 2-5, 3yo, 2400mT, 2:26.46, ft.

1--&FULL OF LUCK (CHI), 127, c, 3, by [Lookin At Lucky](#).

1st Dam: Fusaichi, by Fusaichi Pegasus.

2nd Dam: Shemita (Ire), by Sadler's Wells

3rd Dam: Shemaka, by Nishapour.

O-Stud Quinchao; B-Haras Paso Nevado; T-Juan Pablo Baeza; J-Jorge Gonzalez; P60,000,000. Lifetime Record: 8-4-1-1, \$156,279. *1/2 to Dona Sarita (Chi) (Powerscourt {GB}), GSW-Per. **Werk Nick Rating: F.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Tinku (Chi)**, 127, c, 3, [Lookin At Lucky](#)--Tiaras (Chi) by Powerscourt. O-Stud Los Pickles; B-Haras Paso Nevado. P12,000,000. T-Oliverio Martínez.

3--**Hachi (Chi)**, 123, f, 3, 123, Seeking the Dia--Habibti (Chi), by Dushyantor. O/B-Haras Don Alberto. P6,000,000. T-Antonio Abarca.

Margins: 1,NK, 3/4. Odds: 7.30, 13.40, 45.00.

Also Ran: Kurilov (Chi), Rayo Nocturno (Chi), Brillo de Sol (Chi), Big Daddy (Chi), Marie Madelaine /Chi), Sandy Bay (Chi), Vin Rye (Arg), Honrada Soy (Chi), Magia para Todos (Chi), Color Rosa (Chi), Fuiste Mio (Chi), Nieta Querida (Chi), Sarona (Chi).

[Click for the Racing Post chart](#), or the [free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [Valparaíso Sporting Club Video](#).

Saturday, San Isidro, Argentina

GRAN PREMIO MIGUEL ALFREDO MARTINEZ DE HOZ-G1,

ARG\$1,152,000 (\$US73,051/£58,553/€68,002), 2-4, San Isidro, 3yo/up, 2000mT, 2:01.16, sf.

1--&PUERTO ESCONDIDO (ARG), 122, c, 3, by Hurricane Cat

1st Dam: Surf Point (Arg), by Louis Quatorze

2nd Dam: Surfing (Arg), by Southern Halo

3rd Dam: Surface (Arg), by Logical

O-Stud Facundito; B-Haras El Mallin (Arg); T-Pablo Sahagian; J-Adrian Osvaldo Alderete. Lifetime Record: 8-1-2-1. *1/2 to Lange (Arg) (Aptitude). **Werk Nick Rating: A.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Crazy Icon (Arg)**, 122, c, 3, Sixties Icon (GB)--Crazy Arrow (Arg), by Orpen. O-Stud Las Canarias; B-Haras La Manija (Arg); T-Roberto Pellegata.

3--**Ordak Dan (Arg)**, 134, h, 8, Hidden Truth--Duna Ter (Arg), by Sir Chester (Arg). O-Stud Misterio; B-Haras Caryjuan (Arg); T-Juan Carlos Etchechoury Jr.

Margins: NK, 5, 5. Odds: 3.85, 2.00, 8.70.

Also Ran: Giant Steps (Arg), Cat's Away (Arg), Emerging Talent (Arg).

[Click for the Racing Post chart](#), or the [free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [San Isidro Video](#).

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
Apr. 8	Queen Elizabeth S.	Randwick
	Sydney Cup	Randwick
	ATC Oaks	Randwick
	Queen of the Turf S.	Randwick