



MCCRACKEN AFFIRMS TOP SPOT IN TDN DERBY 12



McCracken | SV Photography

by T.D. Thornton

This past weekend's on-track stakes action in Florida had significant impact on solidifying the pinnacle of the *TDN Derby Top 12* list, while a California prep caused a slightly smaller tremor at the bottom of the rankings. We are still a few weeks away from a "big thaw" Saturday that has the potential to cause major disruption throughout the list (circle Mar. 4 on your calendar for that). But such chaos will be welcomed--we're approaching the time of year on the Derby trail when the cadence starts to quicken and the plot begins to thicken.

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: MGSW, 4-4-0-0, \$310,848.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 1

Last Start: 1st, [Gill Sam F. Davis S.](#), TAM, Feb. 11

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.](#), CD, Nov. 26, 1st, [Street Sense S.](#), CD, Oct. 30

Next start: GII Tampa Bay Derby, TAM, Mar. 11

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

KY Derby Points: 20

LAMBHOLM SOUTH Training Graduate

Cont. p3

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS: MCCRAKEN

by Andrew Caulfield

The late great Bobby Frankel, with his five Eclipse Awards for Outstanding Trainer, landed many of America's top races, but the Kentucky Derby was not among them. He had a couple of reasonably close calls for Juddmonte, with Aptitude running Fusaichi Pegasus to a length and a half in 2000 and Empire Maker being beaten a length and a quarter in 2003.

Perhaps the pressure-cooker world of the Triple Crown didn't gel well with Frankel's patient approach and his concern for his horses' welfare. A fine example was his handling of Ghostzapper, so it was somewhat incongruous that Ghostzapper dominated the weekend's early action on the Kentucky Derby front.

His son **McCracken** collected 10 points in the [GIII Sam F. Davis S.](#), to add to the 10 he earned in last year's GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. His total of 20 points puts him level with **El Areeb** and **Gormley**, 12 points behind the clear leader **Classic Empire**.

Cont. p12

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

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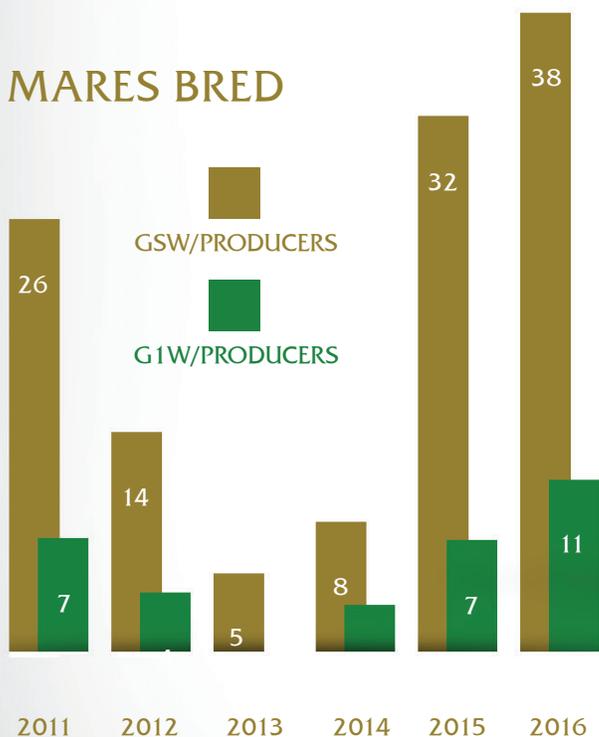
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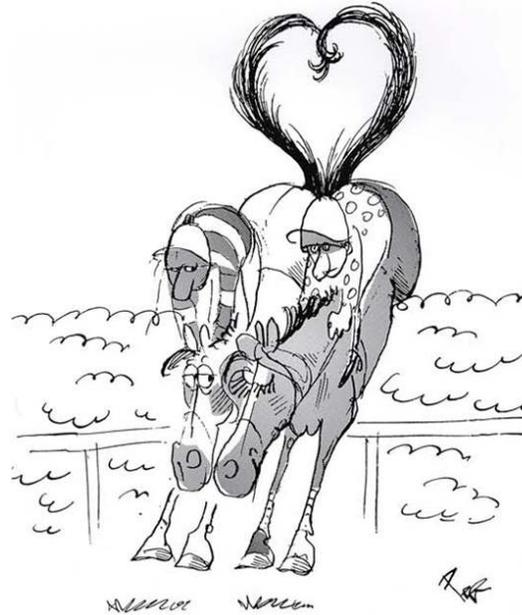
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Tuesday, February 14, 2017



TEENAGE SWEDISH JOCK HOPES TO MAKE IT IN U.S. 13

When Todd Pletcher named Annie Lindahl to ride My Life (Quality Road) in Sunday's 12th race at Gulfstream, a lot of people were undoubtedly scratching their heads. Where was John Velazquez or Javier Castellano and who, exactly, is Annie Lindahl?

PAIR OF AP STAKES MOVED TO CD SPRING MEET 14

The GI Kentucky Derby and the GI Kentucky Oaks once again headline Churchill Downs' spring meeting. The meet will also welcome two graded stakes races previously contested at Churchill Downs Incorporated's Arlington Park.



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TDN **TOP**



KENTUCKY DERBY

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McCraken (cont. from p1)

Last week, McCracken inherited the top spot on this list when juvenile champ Classic Empire (Pioneerof the Nile) faltered in his sophomore debut. This week, the undefeated son of Ghostzapper (Awesome Again) controlled his own destiny, and he not only retained the No. 1 ranking, but widened the talent gap back to his divisional peers in assertive fashion, dismantling a decent Sam F. Davis S. field in track-record time. McCracken's appeal stems from a sense of unflappability and maturity, and both contribute to the in-race impression that this 'TDN Rising Star' is in control of his own space at all times while measuring his effort so that at no point does he appear overextended. That

Tampa try was McCracken's first outing since Nov. 26, and trainer Wilkes said, "I knew I didn't have him 110% for this race." After being pushed out mildly at the break, McCracken methodically took up residence at the rail behind the main body of the field, saved ground down the backstretch, had the reins shaken at him to angle out 3 1/2 furlongs from the wire, then cornered into the stretch four wide, full of run, striding out willingly. McCracken showed nice spark when roused inside the final furlong, and never appeared to reach bottom under light left-handed encouragement (posted final quarter of :24.93) before galloping out smartly. Wilkes confirmed that the Tampa Bay Derby on Mar. 11 will be one of two preps on McCracken's pre-Louisville agenda.

THE BEST OF GIANT'S CAUSEWAY



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“Very nice sloping shoulder goes with overall length and scope. A good powerful hip and hind quarter. Good bone and correct for a colt of his age. Very happy with the foal overall.”

- Breeder Brad Heath
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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.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 2

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

Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GIII 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

While Mastery was minding his own business at Santa Anita, there was a brief window time before the running of last Saturday's Davis S. when I had to consider a contingency plan in case McCracken didn't fire in his comeback try. Would Mastery, by attrition, have inherited the No. 1 ranking? I can't quite say I would have pulled the trigger and



Mastery | Benoit Photo

moved him all the way up to the top. Part of my reluctance can be explained by something behaviorists call the "recency bias." Applied to Derby contenders, that theory explains how horses that have run well recently--like Irish War Cry (Curlin)--tend to stand out in our minds, while talented performances that occurred some time ago--like Mastery's Los Alamitos Futurity win Dec. 10--aren't as heavily weighted when making comparisons. And because it's going to be at least three more weeks before we see this 'TDN Rising Star' in a race, that gap is only going to widen until Mastery provides us with another useful benchmark to assess him. This undefeated colt is still cemented in my mind as the top West Coast 3-year-old. But I need to see more than a maiden win and two five-horse-field stakes scores (both run in the seasonal lull after the Breeders' Cup) before

considering this \$425,000 KEESEP grad as the nationwide topper. Until then, Baffert has this colt on a training regimen that resembles the name of his dam--Steady Course.

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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.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 3

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

Next start: Gill Risen Star S., FG, Feb. 25

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

KY Derby Points: 10

On the East Coast, Mo Town is in the similar "rency" boat as Mastery above. He hasn't raced since winning the Nov. 26 Remsen S. We got a bit of a "who beat whom" line on him though, from the Davis S., although it was not flattering for Mo Town in that the horse who ran second behind him in the Remsen, No Dozing (Union Rags), fired a blank with a non-threatening sixth in that Tampa stakes try. Still, the upside for this '[TDN Rising Star](#)' has been evident since before his debut, and his progression of races--second at Saratoga behind a well-meant fave, a win by open lengths in the mud at Belmont, and a proficient, athletic, annexation of the Remsen prior to getting an early-winter freshening--portends a strong showing leading into 2017. Mo Town's last two workouts have both been bullet five-furlong moves, and although he had preliminarily been pointed for the Mar. 4 Gotham S. at Aqueduct, *Daily Racing Form* broke the news Monday that trainer Dutrow now intends to ship Mo Town from Payson Park to Fair Grounds for the Risen Star S. on Feb. 25.



Mo Town | Coglianese Photo

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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.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 4

Last Start: 1st, [Gill Lambholm South Holy Bull S.](#), GP, Feb. 4

Accomplishments: 1st, [Marylander S.](#), LRL, Jan. 23

Next Start: Likely for Gill Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Irish War Cry](#)

KY Derby Points: 10

Brookdale Raised for Isabelle de Tomaso
Another Webb Carroll Training Center Graduate

If you want to take some whacks against Irish War Cry's chances of making it to the Derby as a top contender, there's low-hanging fruit you could try to pelt him with: He's a New Jersey-bred (a state that has only produced two Derby winners, and none since 1934), he's very light on seasoning (a May 2 foal that has raced only three times), and his only win outside of Maryland came as a first-time-Lasix user in the Holy Bull S. when the 1-2 favorite (Classic Empire) essentially threw in a non-performance. But if you pile on too many negatives, you'll be obfuscating the fact that this dynamic Curlin (Smart Strike) colt is capable of flashing raw, malleable talent fused with

sire-side class. It's a further bonus that Irish War Cry's program is being managed by a cerebral, horse-first trainer who is under no pressure from the breeder/owner to rush this visually striking



Irish War Cry | Adam Coglianese

'TDN Rising Star's development. "If we run in the Fountain of Youth, there's some question about whether or not he'd come back and run in the [Apr. 1 GI] Florida Derby," Motion told TDN over the

weekend. "It's possible we could do something like the [GII] Blue Grass [S. at Keeneland Apr. 8]. At some point, there's the opportunity to give him an extra week and the question is whether we do that sooner or wait to the lead up to the Kentucky Derby and give him the five weeks [after the Florida Derby.] But, yes, we are looking at three preps leading up to the Derby."

5. CLASSIC EMPIRE (c, [Pioneer of 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 KESEEP. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt, MGISW, 6-4-0-1, \$1,520,220. Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 5
 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, Oct. 8; 1st, [GIII Bashford Manor S.](#), CD, July 2.
 Next start: Possible for GII Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4
[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Classic Empire](#)
 KY Derby Points: 32



When a champion 2-year-old has difficulty walking around the shed row 48 hours after losing his 3-year-old debut at 1-2 odds, rarely is the immediate prognosis promising. But trainer Casse expressed relief when he revealed to TDN last week that Classic Empire, in the days after his lackluster third-place effort in the Holy Bull S., "had a huge pus pocket bust out of the bulb of his foot." Since other diagnostic tests came back fine, Casse has ruled out his previous theory that the \$475,000 KESEEP colt simply didn't ship well to Gulfstream, and after discussing the

Making a BIG impression!

Melissa Bauer-Herzog @mbauerherzog · Jan 12
 I expected to be impressed with Vancouver (Medaglia d'Oro) but he blew me away in person. He's an outstanding physical & has record to match

Jessica Morgan @acissej138 · Jan 8
 Gorgeous champion Vancouver (AUS) is a must-see at @coolmoreamerica

Matthew Houldsworth @Matthworth · Jan 6
 Great to see VANCOUVER @coolmoreamerica

"Vancouver is a physically-imposing horse with the bone and scope I've come to expect from the Australian Thoroughbred. He has a tremendous neck and shoulder that create a balanced topline, and he covers a ton of ground with a powerful walk."
 Nicole Russo, DRF.com, Jan 9

VANCOUVER

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matter with owner Oxley, the Fountain of Youth S. on Mar. 4 is now a viable option. "We feel some relief because we knew something was up and we just couldn't pinpoint it," Casse said. "Now racing at Gulfstream isn't out of the question, but we would do things differently. We have a division at Gulfstream, so probably we'd move him down there a little sooner and let him breeze there and we would do some schooling with him." Classic Empire will need that next race from a progression standpoint, because it did not appear as if he got anything out of the Holy Bull from the three-eighths pole home. Casse also disclosed that shipping to run in a Santa Anita stakes is a secondary option; that's the track over which Classic Empire won the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

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. Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 6



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

Last Start: 2nd, [GIII Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7
 Next start: Possible for either GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 11, or GII Rebel S., OP, Mar. 18

[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#). KY Derby Points: 4
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After American Anthem broke his maiden at six furlongs in December, beating eventual stakes winners Iliad (Ghostzapper) and So Conflated (Eskendereya), trainer Baffert said this brawny and aggressive \$435,000 Bodemeister (Empire Maker) colt looked like a "giant version" of his sire and had depth that extended beyond sprinting. That belief was vindicated by American Anthem's gutsy second in the Jan. 7 Sham S. at Santa Anita, which ranks as the most impressive last-race defeat by any horse on this

week's TDN Derby Top 12. American Anthem proved he can handle both the slop and being pinned down on the rail by a more experienced rival in that two-turn stakes debut, but we'll have to wait at least three more weeks before we see how

 Nancy Sexton @nancysexton · Jan 6
 Worth braving the Kentucky freeze to see Vancouver. Stunning



9 37 164

 HousatonicBloodstock @GWA4th · 11hours ago
 Vancouver is incredibly impressive @coolmoreamerica. Just wow

"He will stand for \$15,000 in Kentucky, and that's a bargain for the package of performance, looks, and pedigree that Vancouver brings to the table. In fact, he's the best-suited reverse shuttler we've ever had here. His sire is one of the best in N. America and a proven entity for our racing environment."

Sid Fernando, [werkhorse.com](#) Dec 29

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this physically imposing May 15 foal progresses. For the better part of a month now, Baffert has committed only so far as to say that American Anthem, like his other top sophomore, Mastery, will only have two starts leading to a Kentucky Derby berth, and the likelihood is that one will race in California while the other ships to Arkansas.

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. Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 7 Last Start: 1st, [Gill Withers S.](#), AQU, Feb. 4. Accomplishments Include: 1st, [Gill Jerome S.](#), AQU, Jan. 2, 1st, [James F. Lewis III S.](#), LRL, Nov. 19 Next start: Uncommitted, but likely another New York prep [Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#) KY Derby Points: 20



El Areeb | Sarah Andrew

He's won four races in a row while adeptly revealing new dimensions to his running style. But the biggest knock against this 'TDN Rising Star' has nothing to do with El Areeb himself. Rather, it's the less-than-overwhelming company he's been keeping. After dismantling so-so competition in a pair of Grade III wins at Aqueduct, trainer Lynch declared that the colt (deservedly) might skip a race in the New York series in an effort to not run him too often prior to taking aim at the Triple Crown. "He made his sixth start [in the Withers S.], he's got a good enough foundation there," the Maryland-based Lynch said. If El Areeb passes that race and instead points for the Gil Wood Memorial on Apr. 8, it will function as a logical scheduling break. He'll need to prove he can handle heavier hitting horses eventually, but why not wait

another few weeks if a slight breather is in the best long-haul interest of the horse?

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8. 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. Lifetime Record: GISW, 4-3-0-0, \$296,000.
 Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 8
 Last Start: 1st, [Gill Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7.
 Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI FrontRunner S.](#), SA, Oct. 6
 Next start: GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 11
[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#), [Caulfield on Gormley](#)
 KY Derby Points: 20

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Gormley (foreground) | Benoit Photo

Gormley, a high-energy colt with proven two-turn graded stakes experience, remains on target for the Mar. 11 San Felipe S. He worked five furlongs in 1:02.40 under regular rider Victor Espinoza Feb. 10, besting an older mare workmate named Shazara (El Corredor) by three-fifths of a second in an even maintenance move. Now that trainer Shirreffs has two top Derby contenders for the same owners--Gill Robert B. Lewis S.

winner Royal Mo (Uncle Mo) is the other--he faces the pleasant dilemma of having to keep the two colts apart in terms of race spacing. "This has been an amazing experience," co-owner Jerry Moss said. "We haven't had two horses in this position in a long time and it's fun. We're going to keep those two horses separated as long as we can. I'll have to talk to John about it, but I think we'll go to Arkansas with one and stay here with the other." Incidentally, that prep schedule mirrors trainer Bob Baffert's stated game plan for his stablemates, Mastery and American Anthem.

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.
 Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 9
 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: GII Gotham S., AQU, Mar. 4 or GII Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4
[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [EquineLine PPs](#)
 KY Derby Points: 14

de Meric Stables Graduate

Somewhat under the radar for a two-time Grade I winner (Hopeful and Champagne S.), Practical Joke continues training at Palm Meadows for a 3-year-old debut the first weekend in March. He was three-for-three entering the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, but got jostled at the break and was fanned five wide leaving the clubhouse turn before regrouping well enough to finish third behind eventual divisional champ Classic Empire. He displayed a nifty turn of foot winning races up to a one-turn mile last year, but needs a solid two-turn effort in his sophomore debut to prove he can progressively stretch to the Derby distance of 1 1/4 miles.

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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.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 10

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

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

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

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

KY Derby Points: 10

Lookin At Lee shipped from Fair Grounds to Oaklawn Feb. 8, traveling in tandem with GISW Gun Runner (Candy Ride {Arg}) to join trainer Asmussen's Hot Springs division. Both horses are scheduled to run Feb. 20, with Gun Runner making his 4-year-old debut in the GIII Razorback H. and Lookin At Lee kicking off his 3-year-old campaign in the Southwest S. Lookin At Lee schooled in the paddock prior to last Saturday's fifth race and breezed a half-mile in :50 1/5 (25/34) Monday. His company lines are dotted with top 2-year-olds from last year's campaign, and like several other lurkers on the lower tier of the Top 12, he has to establish sharp current form to avoid being overtaken by the tide of late bloomers.



Lookin At Lee | Coady Photography

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 Howard. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-3-0-2, \$203,840.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: 11

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

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

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

KY Derby Points: 10



A nice :47.80 half-mile breeze (2/25) Feb. 7 has the Lecomte S. winner on target for a Feb. 25 start in the GII Risen Star S. In the past 20 runnings, only two Lecomte victors--Fresian Fire (A.P. Indy) in 2009 and International Star (Fusaichi Pegasus) in 2015--



Guest Suite | Hodges

have repeated in the Risen Star. This gelding caught the eye though when he advanced at will on the far turn of the Lecomte and had plenty left to repel fresh challenges through the long Fair Grounds stretch. He has the makings of a versatile sort whose race is not at the mercy of the pace, and being tactically balanced at this stage of the 3-year-old season isn't something that many of his peers can claim to have mastered yet.

12. ILIAD (r, [Ghostzapper](#)--[Little Swoon](#), by You and I)

O-Kaleem Shah, Inc. B-Sungyeoun Lim (KY). T-Doug F. O'Neill. Sales history: \$50,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$80,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$285,000 2yo '16 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-2-0-0, \$147,345.

Feb. 7 TDN Top 12 Rank: not ranked

Last Start: 1st, [GII San Vicente S.](#), SA, Feb. 12

Next Start: Likely for GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 11

[EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 0



Iliad broke on top and ran hard the entire seven-furlong trip to win both the San Vicente S. and the final berth on this week's TDN Top 12. Winning trainer O'Neill last year had chosen this same Santa Anita prep sprint for eventual Derby winner Nyquist (Uncle Mo)'s seasonal unveiling, so that gives Iliad's spotting here a little extra Derby-potential cachet. But Nyquist was already proven around two turns when he won the 2016 San Vicente, while Iliad, at this early stage of his career, has yet to go farther than seven furlongs. At 2-for-3 lifetime, this ridgling son of Ghostzapper's only loss came in his debut, to No. 6 American Anthem. After this past Sunday's win, owner Kaleem Shah said, "I think we'll stay here and try to run in the San Felipe, and then hopefully, the [GI] Santa Anita Derby" Apr. 8.

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On the Bubble: The aforementioned **Royal Mo** was pretty much on even terms with Iliad in vying for that final Top 12 spot this week, and he had an edge in that he has twice won around two turns. But the deciding factor? Iliad's San Vicente featured



Royal Mo | Horsephotos

tougher competition and a more grueling pace than Royal Mo faced in the Lewis. Both were five-horse fields, which makes assessments tough.

'TDN Rising

Star' Uncontested (Tiz Wonderful) slipped off the periphery of the Top 12, but perhaps not for long. The wire-to-wire winner of the Smarty Jones S. Jan. 16 will be one of the favorites in next Monday's GIII Southwest S. at Oaklawn; his task will be to prove he can handle additional pace pressure after getting away on the lead to his liking in the slop last time out. His only lifetime loss was against McCracken.

Tapwrit (Tapit), a \$1.2-million yearling, ran a decent enough second in the Davis behind top-seeded McCracken to earn a "bubble" mention. He was a reluctant loader, veered out at the break, had difficulty bulling through at the fence under vigorous



Tapwrit | Lauren King

encouragement on the far turn, then switched outward and kicked encouragingly when finally clear of traffic to finish 1 1/2 lengths behind the undefeated track-record setter.

Hence (Street Boss), a Steve Asmussen trainee who debuted at Saratoga last summer in the same deep maiden affair that produced next-out winner Mo Town, could be an outlier in the Southwest S. He also ran third to Guest Suite in an October maiden race at Keeneland going 1 1/16 miles, then finally graduated in start number four Jan. 16 at Oaklawn (despite trouble at the start and ducking in late while racing over a sloppy track). "He's caught some good company. He's got talent, and I think he'll run great," Asmussen said ... **Silver Dust** (Tapit), a \$510,000 OBSMAR buy who won his maiden convincingly at

Churchill in November, is also expected to enter the Southwest, trainer Randy Morse reported.

Huracan Americo (Drosselmeyer), who ran fourth in his debut in Peru before winning the 1 1/2-mile G1 Derby Nacional on Nov. 6 at Hipodromo De Monterrico in Lima, has been at Gulfstream Park since Jan. 20 and is aiming for the Florida Derby with a possible prep in the Fountain of Youth before that. Trainer Dante Zanelli, Jr. attempted a similar prep pattern in 2008 with Tomcito (Street Cry {Ire}), who won back-to-back Group 1 races in Peru prior to finishing third in the Florida Derby at 12-1 ... **En Hanse** (Hansen), was three ticks off the Turfway track record for 6 1/2 furlongs when wiring Saturday night's \$50,000 WEBN S., but he could not control his momentum, barreling off the turn and into the stretch some seven paths off the rail despite persistent right-hand encouragement by his jockey.



Third Day | Lauren King

Trainer Baffert said on Steve Byk's "At the Races" radio show last week that recent maiden winner **Reach the World** (Tapit) "looks the part" of an elite-level horse and that the colt could potentially be capable of handling 1 1/2 miles. A stakes assignment is "probably" next, but as per his patient custom, Baffert didn't commit to a particular spot ... **Third Day** (Bernardini), now 2-for-2, will race next in either the Fountain of Youth or Florida Derby after winning the \$60,000 Just One More overnight stakes at Gulfstream Feb. 8. "He'll come back in one of those stakes, we just don't know which one," trainer Todd Pletcher said of the \$575,000 OBSMAR buy. "There are a lot of options this time of year. I think he's a colt where we can look at those kinds of possibilities."

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



McCraken (cont. from p1)

A day after McCraken's victory, another of Ghostzapper's 3-year-old sons, **Iliad**, was a clear-cut winner of the [GII San Vicente S.](#) With the San Vicente being contested over seven furlongs, it doesn't carry Kentucky Derby points, but the winning owner, Kaleem Shah, hopes that Iliad will progress to the GII San Felipe S. and GI Santa Anita Derby, which, respectively, carry 50 and 100 points.



Iliad | Benoit photo

Ghostzapper himself had been sufficiently precocious to make a spectacular debut at Hollywood Park in the November of his juvenile season, when he stormed home nine lengths clear. However, Ghostzapper disappointed next time and didn't see action again until six months later. The 3-year-old wasn't asked to tackle stakes company until the end of August and he finally became a stakes winner a month later, when he trounced the opposition in the GI Vosburgh S. Even so, he still wasn't subjected to fierce competition in the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Needless to say, this patient approach reaped tremendous rewards in 2004, when the 4-year-old Ghostzapper earned the Horse of the Year title with a perfect record of four wins from four starts. Having enjoyed Grade I success over 6 1/2 furlongs at three, Ghostzapper proved that he could carry his speed over longer distances, reaching a new peak when he made all to take the GI Breeders' Cup Classic in a time of 1:59.02. Even though he made only one appearance at five, his victory in the GI Metropolitan H. was still good enough to secure him top weight of 128 among the older horses on the World Rankings.

Perhaps Frankel had been influenced by the record of Ghostzapper's sire, the late-maturing Awesome Again. Unraced at two before showing smart form at three, Awesome Again then blossomed at four, when he too ended an unbeaten

campaign with victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic.

Bearing this in mind, you could be forgiven for thinking that Ghostzapper must have received substantial help from the bottom half of McCraken's pedigree in siring this Grade II juvenile winner. In fact, this supposition is well removed from the truth, which raises the exciting possibility that McCraken could still be far from the finished article.

Here are the facts. McCraken's dam Ivory Empress didn't race at two and this versatile performer--a winner on dirt, turf and all-weather--was four before she earned black-type. Her best efforts were over sprint distances, including her second place in the GIII Endine S. over six furlongs, but she also ran well at stakes level over 1 1/16 miles. Prior to McCraken, she had produced **Bondurant**, a War Front colt who failed by only a neck to become a Grade III winner in last year's Commonwealth Turf S. over 1 1/16 miles.

Ivory Empress's sire Seeking the Gold raced only once at two, when he won a maiden at Hialeah, but he thrived during a busy campaign at three, when he showed his appreciation of a mile and a quarter with a victory in the GI Super Derby and second-place finishes in the GI Travers S. (a nose defeat by Forty Niner) and Breeders' Cup Classic.

McCraken's second dam, Madame Pandit, was another who didn't race at two and she didn't become a stakes winner until the ages of four and five. Her best win came in the GIII Monrovia H. over 6 1/2 furlongs at five, when she was also second in the GI Santa Monica H. over seven. Her sire Wild Again was at his most successful as a 4-year-old, when he won the Breeders' Cup Classic. Madame Pandit passed on her talent to her Dance Brightly filly Mea Domina, a smart miler in California who numbered the GI Gamely H. among her Graded successes. Yet again, this is a family member who didn't race at two and gained her graded successes at four and five.



Ghostzapper | Adena Springs

McCraken's third dam, Tuesday Evening, was a winning sister to M. Double M., a stakes winner at four years. Their sire Nodouble was another who kept the best till last, taking the title of champion handicap horse at the ages of four and five, in 1969 and 1970. Nodouble played a significant role in this family's success story. His partnership with McCracken's fifth dam, General Store, resulted in Double Discount, a Grade II winner at up to a mile and a quarter, and the stakes-winning Chain Store. The latter was to find fame as the dam of the classic-winning Al Bahathri and second dam of the 2,000 Guineas winner Haafhd and the GI Yellow Ribbon S. winner Spanish Fern. When McCracken's sixth dam, Generals Sister, visited Nodouble's sire, Noholme, the outcome was the high-class French colt General Holme.

Plenty of the horses in these further reaches of McCracken's family stayed a mile and a quarter but what are his own chances of doing so?



McCraken | SV Photography

Ghostzapper now has 28 graded stakes winners to his credit. It is encouraging that 12 of them--Arena Elvira, Go Maggie Go, Hunter's Bay, Molly Morgan, Moreno, Mr Maybe, Mystical Star, Shaman Ghost, Stately Victor, Whiskey Ticket, Wine Princess and Za Approval--have won over a distance as long as a mile and an eighth, but only four of them--Hunter's Bay, Mr Maybe, Mystical Star and Shaman Ghost--have scored over a mile and a quarter or more.

This suggests that McCracken is in with a chance of staying the Kentucky Derby distance. Also, the speed shown by his first two dams should be balanced by the fact that his sire and grandsire, together with the sires of his first two dams, all ran well in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

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McCRACKEN, c, 3

Ghostzapper	Awesome Again	Deputy Minister	Vice Regent
		Primal Force	Mint Copy
	Baby Zip	Relaunch	Blushing Groom (Fr)
		Thirty Zip	Prime Prospect
Ivory Empress GSP, 20-3-7-2 3Fls, 1GSW, 1GSP, 2 Wnrs	Seeking the Gold	Mr. Prospector	In Reality
		Con Game	Foggy Note
	Madame Pandit 17-7-5-1 9Fls, 5Wnrs	Wild Again	Tri Jet
		Tuesday Evening 11Fls, 2GSW, 6Wnrs	Sailaway
			Raise a Native
			Gold Digger
			Buckpasser
			Broadway
		Icecapade	
		Bushel-n-Peck	
		No Double	
		Mazda's Miracle	

TEENAGE SWEDISH JOCKEY HOPES TO MAKE IT IN U.S. *by Bill Finley*

When Todd Pletcher named Annie Lindahl to ride My Life (Quality Road) in Sunday's 12th race at Gulfstream, a lot of people were no doubt scratching their heads. Where was John Velazquez or Javier Castellano and who, exactly, is Annie Lindahl?

Just 19, she happens to be the leading apprentice in Sweden and is spending the winter galloping horses in the mornings for Pletcher in an effort to improve her skills. If the story sounds familiar, another Scandinavian, Norwegian William Buick, also worked with Pletcher during the winters before he shot to stardom in the major European racing countries. Pletcher would also give Buick the occasional mount on a longshot at Gulfstream.

Lindahl has many a mountain to climb before she can be compared to Buick, but she's ambitious and off to a good start. She's won 34 races in Sweden and still has her bug.

"I would really like to try to make it here," she said after My Life finished eighth in what was her first-ever mount in the U.S. "It would be amazing to try it. I will go back to Sweden, but I would love to come back here. I know it is tough and I would have to work hard. When would I like to come? As soon as possible."

She first came to Florida in 2016 to work with Pletcher, but could only stay a month because she was still in school. This time, she'll stick around until late March when the Thoroughbred season resumes in Sweden.

"I've learned a lot here and being here has helped me get better," she said. "I get to ride a lot of horses in the morning, break from gate. It's a lot different from Sweden. The training is different. They gallop slower in Sweden in the mornings and they gallop together. Here, we gallop alone. I like that."

Several months into a long, grey winter, it's hard to imagine that somewhere, people are somewhere sitting on a warm beach. In this month's TDN Weekend, you'll be inspired to do just that. It's February, and for those of who grew up in the Northeast (and grew tired of the cold-weather racing at Aqueduct, or Laurel) that means one thing: it's time for a visit to Gulfstream. Whether you're planning a trip for the big 3yo races, or the Gulfstream sale March 1, it's time to read up on what to see and where to be seen in South Beach. Further south still, we'll catch up with Teo Ah King, who is planning a racing paradise in St. Lucia. Graham Motion has also headed to Miami for winter racing, and he'll have this month's Last Word. Chris McGrath reminds us that winter in England doesn't mean sunbathing: it means steeplechasing, and there's no better place to do it than Cheltenham. And finally, before you get ready to breed your mare in Europe this year, take heed: there's a revolution happening in France.



Sue Finley, Co-Publisher

TDN WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 2017

A 48-HOUR RESPITE IN
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**GRAHAM
MOTION**
has The Last Word

TEO AH KING
and his **GAMEPLAN**

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Annie Lindahl aboard My Life

Leslie Martin

Lindahl's main client in Sweden is female trainer Bodil Hallencreutz. She campaigned one of the best horses ever to come out of Scandinavia in Let'sgoforit (Ire) (Verglas {Ire}). The gelding won 21 of 42 career starts, but his best performance may have come in defeat. Swedish racing is not nearly on par with the sport in England, Ireland and France, so it was somewhat surprising when Hallencreutz sent the horse to Dubai last year. In his first start there, he finished third in a \$150,000 listed stakes before finishing off the board in two subsequent tries at Meydan. He was retired in July.

Lindahl never got to ride Let'sgoforit, as his regular jockey was Oliver Wilson.

"Annie is very good and she won a lot of races for me," Hallencreutz said. "The horses like her. She sits still, they run for her and she won some races for me when we didn't expect she would win. She rides in work in the mornings, but I have some other jockeys that I use. I don't use her in some of the bigger races. We have a lot of South American male jockeys who ride here and do very well. She can't compare with them yet, but she was the top apprentice here."

Lindahl said that can be a problem for her and other female jockeys in Sweden.

"It's hard [for a female jockey] in Sweden, but I think it's harder in England and Ireland and even here," she said. "We get quite a lot of chances actually, but in the big races they pick the guys. They think boys are stronger and boys are better."

The other problem all Swedish jockeys face is that trotting is so popular in the country that Thoroughbred racing can seem almost invisible. The top harness drivers are big stars in the country, on par, even, with the Swedes playing in the NHL. Not so for jockeys.

"It's strange because Thoroughbred racing is so much more exciting than trotting and so much faster," Lindahl said. "I guess it is because there has always been a lot of trotting throughout the country. Everyone knows about trotting."

If she were to make it in the U.S., she would not be the first female jockey from Sweden to do so. Inez Karlsson won 468 races riding primarily at the Chicago tracks from 2007 until her retirement in 2012. But her journey to U.S. racing was far from typical. She was a boxer in Sweden and didn't get involved in racing until coming to this country.

Though young and inexperienced, Lindahl understands how hard it is going to be for her to make it here. But she wants to try.

"I think I can be a success here," she said. "I always do my best and I always think I can do better."

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A very energetic Gun Runner (Candy Ride {Arg}) worked five furlongs in :59.80 at Oaklawn Park Monday morning in preparation for an expected start in the GIII Razorback H. Feb. 20. | Coady

PAIR OF ARLINGTON STAKES MOVED TO CHURCHILL FOR SPRING MEET

The 143rd runnings of the GI Kentucky Derby and the GI Kentucky Oaks May 6 and May 5, respectively, once again headline Churchill Downs' 38-day spring meeting, which offers a total of 34 stakes events worth \$8.84 million, it was announced Monday. The meet will also welcome two graded stakes races previously contested at Churchill Downs Incorporated's Arlington Park that were otherwise in danger of being shelved for 2017--the May 20 GIII Matron S. and the June 24 GIII Chicago H.

The 2017 spring racing session will be launched by an "Opening Night" Saturday, Apr. 29, presented by Stella Artois and Old Forester, and will conclude with racing under the lights Friday, June 30.

The schedule is highlighted by three multi-stakes programs with total purses in excess of \$1 million among nine racing programs that feature two or more stakes races. The Kentucky Derby heads a line-up of seven stakes events Saturday, May 6 that features three Grade I events and total purses of \$4.15 million. The Kentucky Oaks Day program on the eve of Derby Day offers six stakes events with combined purses of \$2.2 million. The “Downs After Dark” program under the lights Saturday, June 17, presented Stella Artois and El Jimador, features the GI Stephen Foster H., which headlines five stakes contests with total purses of \$1.1 million.

“We’re very pleased with the stakes schedule Churchill Downs has assembled for the 2017 Spring Meet and we hope our horsemen in Kentucky and throughout North America will share in our enthusiasm,” said Racing Secretary Ben Huffman. “Our racing programs for Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks Days continue to rank among the most lucrative in American racing, and our overall stakes program offers attractive options in almost every racing division. We’re very happy to add a pair of stakes events from Arlington Park that would otherwise have gone on hiatus at our sister track and look forward to welcoming horsemen and owners from throughout the Midwest and beyond to compete in those races and all of the special events on our Spring Meet stakes schedule.”

The complete stakes lineup for the spring can be found [here](#).

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Coady photo



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UNIFIED TO STAND AT LANE’S END



Unified | Horsephotos

Centennial Farms’ ‘TDN Rising Star’ Unified (Candy Ride {Arg} --Union City, by Dixie Union) will stand at Lane’s End Farm following his retirement from racing, it was announced Monday. The colt captured the GIII Bay Shore S. and GII Peter Pan S. as a sophomore in 2016.

“I would like to credit Dr. Steve Carr and Paula Parsons for selecting another Centennial Stakes winner,” said Don Little, Jr., president of Centennial Farms. “Unified has lived up to all we thought from the beginning when he was showcased by Lane’s End at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Select yearling sale. We look forward to his future success and could not be more thrilled knowing upon retirement, he will have a stall at Lane’s End bringing his journey full circle.”

Bred in Kentucky by Blue Devil Racing, Unified is out of the Ned Evans homebred Dixie Union mare Union City. She is a full-sister to the GII Demoiselle S. winner Dixie City. Unified is from the immediate family of juvenile champion and influential sire Dehere, and was acquired by Centennial for \$325,000 as a Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling.

“Candy Ride is among the best stallions in America, and his best son Twirling Candy is one of the most exciting young sires out there,” Will Farish of Lane’s End said. “Securing the breeding career of Unified ensures that Candy Ride’s legacy will continue at Lane’s End.”

Unified is currently in training at Palm Meadows with Jimmy Jerkens.

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STALLIONS' FIRST FOALS

Spendthrift Farm's **Hampton Court (Aus)** (Redoubte's Choice {Aus}) sired his first reported Northern Hemisphere foal Feb. 2,



when a filly was born at Spendthrift's Lexington farm. The bay filly is also the first foal out of the young mare Dating Lady Luck (Arch), a half-sister to multiple graded stakes winner Frank Conversation (Quality Road). The filly was bred by Spendthrift.

"This is exactly the type of foal we were looking for when we brought Hampton Court over from Australia," said Ned Toffey, General Manager at Spendthrift. "The filly is extremely athletic looking, with tremendous bone and substance."

IN OTHER NEWS A DAILY ROUNDUP OF RACING ARTICLES IN OTHER MEDIA

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[Visa limits create looming labor shortage in horse racing industry](#)

If good help is hard to find, it is harder still around America's racetracks and unlikely to get any easier anytime soon. Tightening immigration policy and the elimination of an exemption for returning workers who have held visas in the previous three years has led to a manpower problem attorney Will Velie likens to a "slow-motion train wreck."

Tim Sullivan, Courier-Journal

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CENTRAL U.S.

Monday's Results:

9th-HOU, \$19,000, Msw, 2-13, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.68, ft.
ALL OUT OF ACES (g, 4, Proud Citizen--All in With Aces, by Quiet American) was fifth in his debut over a sealed Keeneland surface in October of 2015 and finished eighth at Fair Grounds that November. Returning to Lexington Apr. 9, the homebred set a blistering pace before fading to seventh in a field that contained five next-out winners. Unseen since then, the dark bay returned as a new gelding and was made the prohibitive 1-5 favorite here. Stalking the speed of Desert Harbor (Desert Party) through splits of :22.61 and :45.44, All Out of Aces hooked up with that foe at the top of the lane and gradually edged past in the final furlong to score by 1 1/2 lengths. The victor is a half to Hard Aces (Hard Spun), GISW, \$1,075,990. His dam is responsible for a juvenile colt by Creative Cause and foaled a Hard Spun colt last term before returning to the former sire. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$13,020. [Click for the Equibase.com chart.](#)
 O/B-Dreamchaser Thoroughbreds (KY); T-J. Larry Jones.

Fair Grounds and First American Bankcard Inc. Donate Over \$12,000 to United Way Tornado Relief:

Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots and First American Bankcard, Inc., made a donation of \$12,522 on Friday to the United Way of Southeast Louisiana to aid in relief efforts following Tuesday's tornadoes that impacted the Southern Louisiana region, it was announced Monday. The areas most heavily impacted were New Orleans East and Livingston Parish.

The donation included a portion of Friday night's Starlight Racing ticket sales. In addition, Fair Grounds' Official Soft Drink, Energy and Water Partner Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc. added to the relief efforts by including a pallet of Mutant 20oz Red Dawn and 15 cases of Fruit Punch Juice Boxes to the donation.

"We are pleased to partner with Anthony Rabito, Jr., President and CEO of First American Bankcard, Inc. to assist with the relief efforts following Tuesday's tornadoes," said Doug Shipley, Fair Grounds President and General Manager. "Our hearts are with those affected, and we are committed to helping the United Way of Southeast Louisiana provide food, clothing and other vital services to the affected communities."

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CALIFORNIA

Sunday Night's Results:

9th-GG, \$31,061, Msw, 2-12, 3yo, 6f (AWT), 1:10.50, ft.
CRAWFORD'S GLOVE (c, 3, Desert Code--A Bit Much, by In Excess {Ire}) showed some late interest to be fourth at 29-1 in his debut here Jan. 21 and was given a 24-5 chance to graduate second out. Stalking the pace from third through a :23.15 quarter, the bay was scrubbed on at the top of the turn and swept to the lead at the three-sixteenths pole before beating back the inside bid of Atta Boy Bear (Atta Boy Roy) for a half-length triumph. The winner's second dam is MGSW Work the Crowd (Political Ambition). He has a 2-year-old full-sister named Too Dry. Sales History: \$5,000 Ylg '15 NCAAUG. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$22,308. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)
 O-Sandra Matos & Daniel Rubendall; B-Harris Farms (CA); T-Gil Matos.

WESTERN U.S.

Southwestern Heat Succumbs to Colic:

New Mexico stallion **Southwestern Heat** (Gone West--Xtra Heat, by Dixieland Heat) was euthanized Jan. 13 after developing a case of colic. The son of Hall of Fame sprinter Xtra Heat was taken to a medical clinic, where it was determined the horse would most likely not survive surgery. Ranking among the top five New Mexico stallions in recent years, the chestnut's most notable progeny is Bryn's Fancy Pants, a multiple stakes winner.

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INDUSTRY INFO

Thoroughbred Artist Robert Clark Announces Fundraising Program With Grayson-Jockey Club:

Racing artist Robert Clark has pledged 10% of all art commissions in 2017 to the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation (GJCRF). Through a partnership with the foundation, the commissions will specifically fund research initiatives that help horses of all breeds.

"I had the pleasure of collaborating with Bob Clark on a book about Grade I winners, *A Brush With Greatness*," said Edward

Bowen, president of the GJCRF. “That process made me keenly aware of his dedication to his art and his clients, but also his deep knowledge and compassion for the horse themselves.”

The goal of the campaign is to generate art sales and raise \$10,000 to fund research.

“It is an honor every time I receive a call requesting a portrait of a horse,” said Clark. “I treat every request with respect and attention to detail.”

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Second-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, February 14

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

ASTROLOGY (A.P. Indy), Taylor Made Stallions, \$7.5K, 156/16/2
8-SUN, Alw 1m, Evolve, \$25K KEE SEP yrl, 8-1

MACEDONIAN (Pulpit), 3/0/0
1-HOU, Msw 6f, Eyesonthepreacher, 10-1

SHACKLEFORD (Forestry), Darby Dan Farm, \$20K, 208/25/1
8-SUN, Alw 1m, All Shacked Up, \$12K OBS APR 2yo, 3-1

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IN JAPAN:

Gold Hat, c, 3, **Hat Trick (Jpn)**--Patti O'Rahy, by Rahy. Kyoto, 2-12, Novice Race, 8fT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$64,912. O-Eiichi Kobayashi Holdings; B-Lester Kwok & Dr. Naoya Yoshida; T-Katsuhiko Sumii.

Dashing Blaze, h, 5, **Kitten's Joy**--Blazing Bliss, by Honour and Glory. Kyoto, 2-11, Rakuyo Stakes, 8fT. Lifetime Record: SW-Jpn, 15-6-2-0, \$1,026,219. O-Green Fields Inc.; B-Kenneth L. & Sarah K. Ramsey; T-Keiji Yoshimura. *\$65,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP; \$400,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR. **Full to Honor the Kitten (Kitten's Joy), SP, 4174,274.

◆ **Narvick Int'l / Riki Takahashi** ◆

Golden Barows, h, 5, **Tapit**--Mother Russia (MSW & MGSP, \$528,996), by Mayakovsky. Tokyo, 2-11, Plate Race, 8f. Lifetime Record: SW-Jpn, GSP-UAE, 13-4-2-1, \$774,754. O-Hirotsugu Inokuma; B-Crossed Sabres Farm; T-Noriyuki Hori. *\$130,000 Wlg '12 KEENOV; \$175,000 Ylg '13 FTKJUL; \$450,000 2yo '14 FTFMAR.

WINNERS BY AMERICAN SIRE

IN JAPAN:

Santa Evita (Jpn), m, 6, **Smart Strike**--Evita Argentina (GISW, \$611,400), by Candy Ride (Arg). Kyoto, 2-12, Plate Race, 9f. Lifetime Record: 17-3-2-4, \$426,780. O-Silk Co; B-Shiraoi Farm; T-Masayuki Nishimura.

Pointblank (Jpn), h, 7, **Ghostzapper**--Point Ashley (GISW, \$237,200), by Point Given. Tokyo, 2-11, Gintei S., 7f. Lifetime Record: 19-5-3-2, \$697,070. O-Carrot Farm; B-Northern Farm; T-Takeshi Matsushita.

BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

2nd-MVR, \$26,200, (S), 2-13, (NW2L), 3yo, f, 6f, 1:14.87, ft.

CUT RATES (f, 3, U S Ranger--Holiday Rates, by Concorde's Tune) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-2, \$35,789. O-Mast Thoroughbreds LLC; B-R Gorham & Mast Thoroughbreds LLC (OH); T-Robert M. Gorham. *1/2 to My Bellamy (Bellamy Road), SW, \$190,957.

3rd-TUP, \$22,000, 2-13, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.31, ft.

DEAR LILLY (m, 7, Graeme Hall--Lilly Marlene, by Lost Soldier) Lifetime Record: SP, 22-12-2-2, \$143,963. O-Mark DeDomenico LLC & North American Thoroughbred Horse Company, Inc.; B-Dee-Ellen Cook (FL); T-Sandi Gann. *\$3,000 RNA Ylg '11 OBSAUG.

5th-HOU, \$20,000, 2-13, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:04.45, ft.

POCKETFULLOFGREEN (m, 5, Maimonides--Prayfromthewordgo, by Songandaprayer) Lifetime Record: 16-4-0-2, \$44,593. O-Clark O. Brewster; B-McKathan Bros. (FL); T-Sтивен M. Asmussen.

10th-HOU, \$20,000, 2-13, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 5ft, :58.20, fm.

ALL DAT BREES (g, 7, Ide--Isla Contadora, by War Chant) Lifetime Record: 36-7-3-5, \$109,795. O-Terry McBride & Terry W. Vance; B-Divine Equine, LLC (LA); T-Terry W. Vance.



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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Cat's Kitten, f, 3, **Early Flyer**--The Cat Who (MSP, \$228,521), by Magic Cat. HOU, 2-13, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:05.18. B-Tommy Joe Hoyt (TX).

U S S Hawk, g, 5, **U S Ranger**--Batuka (HotY, Ch. 3yo Filly & MG1SW-Per, SW & GSP-US, \$495,759), by Bates Motel. HOU, 2-13, 1 1/16mT, 1:46.81. B-Stanley Inman & William Koester (KY). *\$1,200 Ylg '13 KEEJAN; \$12,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP.

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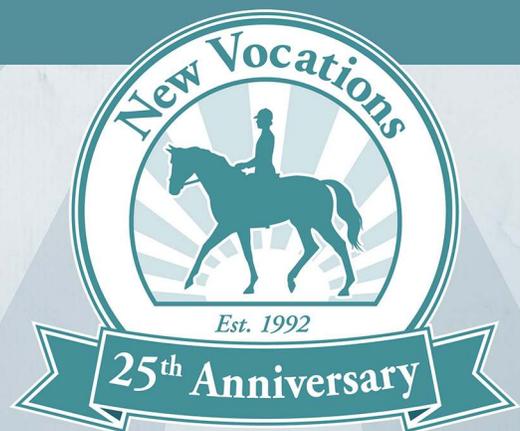
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ASHFORD NEWCOMERS HAVE GLOBAL APPEAL



Air Force Blue at Ashford Stud | Coolmore America

by Kelsey Riley

When breeding sheds officially open in Kentucky this week, Coolmore's Ashford Stud will have two new champion 2-year-olds on its roster. Coolmore is well accustomed to standing top-rated juveniles, having stood five of the last six 2-year-old champions in the U.S. retired to stud. What is significant about 2017 is that its two new juvenile champions come from Ireland and Australia.

Air Force Blue (War Front--Chatham, by Maria's Mon), the Cartier champion 2-year-old of 2015 and Europe's highest-rated juvenile of that year, starts out at \$25,000, while **Vancouver (Aus)** (Medaglia d'Oro--Skates {Aus}, by Danehill), the 2015 G1 Golden Slipper winner and champion Australian 2-year-old, shuttles from Coolmore's Australian satellite. He stands for \$15,000. While both horses raced overseas, American breeders will be able to find plenty of familiarity in their pedigrees. That is especially true of Air Force Blue, who was bred by Arthur Hancock's Stone Farm and bought by MV Magnier for \$490,000 at Keeneland September in 2014. He is out of the stakes-placed Chatham, and his second dam, the unraced Circle of Gold (Seeking The Gold), is a full-sister to champion 2-year-old filly Flanders, herself the dam of another champion filly in the four-time Grade I winner Surfside (Seattle Slew).

Cont. p3

STELLAR WINX MAKES IT 'APOLLO 14'

Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) reaffirmed her status as the world's best turf runner with another commanding display in the rescheduled G2 The Star Apollo S. ([Video](#)) at Randwick Racecourse on Monday. The Chris Waller trained 5-year-old was making it 14 wins in a row, equaling a feat achieved by the great Phar Lap. The 1/7 favourite was partnered by regular jockey Hugh Bowman and the rider appeared to have little or no anxious moments on the mare as she showed her usual class to beat old rival **Hartnell (GB)** (Authorized {GB}) by 2 3/4 lengths with her stable-mate **Endless Drama (Ire)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}) a further four lengths behind in third. Settled in mid-pack early on in the 1400m contest Winx improved to track the pace as they approached the turn in.

Cont. p7

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

MCCRACKEN ANCHORS THE TDN DERBY TOP 12

'**TDN Rising Star**' **McCracken** (Ghostzapper), who added his second graded stakes victory in the Gill Sam F. Davis S. at Tampa Bay Downs Saturday, is on top in T.D. Thornton's TDN Kentucky Derby Top 12 for the second consecutive week. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)


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Ashford Newcomers Have Global Appeal Cont. from p1

Air Force Blue won four of his five starts at two, his only loss coming when second in Royal Ascot's G2 Coventry S., and he promptly bounced back to add the G1 Keeneland Phoenix S., G1 Goffs Vincent O'Brien National S. and G1 Dubai Dewhurst S. As such, the bay could have undoubtedly found favour with European breeders, but Ashford's Scott Calder said his pedigree, combined with the popularity of his sire line, prompted the decision to stand him in Kentucky.

"Air Force Blue is rated as one of the best 2-year-olds to have raced in Europe in nearly 20 years, so that would obviously have opened doors for him in Ireland, but he also has a lot of connections to Kentucky," Calder said. "He's by one of the best sires in America, is from an Overbrook family and was bred and sold by Stone Farm. War Front stands for \$250,000 and is very sought after, so the opportunity to stand his best 2-year-old was very appealing."

Air Force Blue joins another Kentucky-bred son of War Front, Declaration Of War, at Ashford. Declaration Of War stood one season at Coolmore in Ireland and is preparing for his third season at Ashford, where he will stand for \$35,000.

"We were overrun with people wanting to breed to Declaration Of War when he relocated, so we expected there to be demand for Air Force Blue too," Calder added. "Air Force Blue is also a great fit for the mare population here. His dam is by Maria's Mon

so he's open to a lot of the sire lines that have been successful with War Front. A.P. Indy, Mr. Prospector, Sadler's Wells, Storm Cat, all those major lines are open to him so there are a lot of options to work with."

Retired in late summer last year, Air Force Blue has had plenty of time to settle in at Ashford, having arrived in October.

"We've had a number of top 2-year-olds retire here in recent years and they all seem to have very good temperaments," Calder said. "He's settled in very well and hasn't turned a



Air Force Blue | Coolmore America

hair since day one. Physically he's all quality and is a great mover; a lot of people have commented that he has more size and scope than they often expect from a War Front too. It seems like you get a premium at the sales for horses that walk well, and he was a standout yearling himself so if he passes that on we will be in good shape." **Cont. p3**

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Ashford Newcomers Have Global Appeal Cont.

Despite his expatriation to America, European breeders haven't forgotten about Air Force Blue. Calder said he is getting strong support from overseas, and he noted Coolmore will support the horse as well.

"We'll be getting behind him with our own mares in addition to the outside support he's getting," Calder explained. "No doubt some of those foals will end up back in Europe so he's likely to have a representation over there regardless of the fact he is standing in Kentucky. He has Group 1 winners from both sides of the Atlantic booked into him along with the dams of horses like [Grade I winners] Stormy Lucy and Watsdachances as well. He's getting support from a wide range of top breeders from both here and abroad so it will give him every opportunity to put his best foot forward."

Vancouver was similarly well supported in his first season Down Under last year. He finished the season with 80 stakes performers or producers in foal, including Group 1 winners



Vancouver | *Coolmore*

Headway (Aus) (Charge Forward {Aus}), Pasadena Girl (NZ) (Savabeel {Aus}), Precious Gem (Aus) (Econsul {NZ}) and Miss Mossman (NZ) (Mossman {Aus}), as well as the dams of Group 1 winners Japonisme (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), Albany Reunion (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) and Preferment (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}).

"One benefit of standing a stallion from Australia is that he already has a season under his belt so that is a nice luxury to have with a first-year stallion; there will be no questions marks about him taking to the job," Calder said.

It seems Vancouver has taken to his second job just as well as his first. Named a '**TDN Rising Star**' when winning the Listed Breeders' Plate on debut early in his 2-year-old campaign for trainer Gai Waterhouse, he added the G3 Canonbury S., G2 Todman S. and G1 Golden Slipper S. before his juvenile season was out. Vancouver spent a stint at Ballydoyle with Aidan O'Brien but ultimately didn't start in Europe after an unsatisfactory blood picture ruled him out of Royal Ascot. **Cont. p4**

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Ashford Newcomers Have Global Appeal Cont.

While reverse shuttling from Australia has been well tested in Europe with quite a few success stories—including Coolmore’s own Fastnet Rock (Aus), Choisir (Aus) and his son Starspangledbanner (Aus) (the latter two were familiar to European breeders being Group 1 winners at Royal Ascot)—the phenomenon has been tried fewer times in the U.S. All American (Aus), the sire of standout filly Yankee Rose in Australia, shuttled to Darby Dan in Kentucky early in his career without making much of a splash, but Darley had more success with its champion Australian sire Lonhro (Aus), and his son Denman (Aus) later shuttled for a season. Spendthrift currently shuttles G1 Spring Champion S. winner Hampton Court (Aus) (Redoute’s Choice {Aus}) to its Kentucky headquarters.



Vancouver during his racing days | Coolmore

Coolmore has added dual Australian Group 1-winning juvenile Pride Of Dubai (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) to its Irish roster this year, but Vancouver will be its first reverse-shuttler to the U.S.

Calder said, “When it was announced we would be standing an Australian champion by Medaglia d’Oro it created a lot curiosity from breeders, but it is fair to say it is his looks that have really sold him. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and he has created a real buzz since he got here. He’s got real presence when he stands out in front of the barn, he’s got great size and strength and is very correct. If anyone has been on the fence about breeding to him, seeing him in the flesh has been the deciding factor.”

The case for Vancouver’s pedigree will be helped by the fact that he is by a leading American sire and out of a mare by Danehill, a universally influential shuttler. The bottom of his pedigree is decidedly Australian, however. His second dam is G1 Doncaster H. winner Skating (Aus) (At Talaq), also the dam of stakes-winning turf sprinters Murtajill (Aus) (Rock Of Gibraltar {Ire}), Bradbury’s Luck (Aus) (Redoute’s Choice {Aus}) and Sunset

Run (Aus) (End Sweep), the former two also going on to be useful sires.

In addition, Vancouver has a pair of stakes-winning siblings by American sires: Group 1-winning filly Juste Moment (Aus) (Giant’s Causeway) and listed winner Captain Coltish (Aus) (Fusaichi Pegasus).

“Even though he comes from an Australian family his pedigree is actually very easy for breeders here to relate to,” Calder noted. “His sire obviously needs no introduction and his dam is by Danehill, who is by one of the best stallions ever to stand in America [Danzig]. He also has a Group 1-winning half-sister by Giant’s Causeway and a stakes-winning half-brother by Fusaichi Pegasus. It’s a very good pedigree from top to bottom and there are many names in there that are familiar to breeders here.”

“It’s great to see him get such a positive reception,” Calder added. “With the support he is getting in year one it will give him a big chance to make a name for himself up here. The horse business seems to be getting more and more international so it will be exciting to see what he can do on the world stage.”

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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PRIZE-MONEY BOOST FOR YORK FEATURE

York Racecourse has announced a prize-money boost for its flagship race, the G1 Juddmonte International, with this year’s renewal set to be worth £1,000,000, up from £900,000 in 2016. Also benefitting from a purse injection are the G1 Darley Yorkshire Oaks and the G1 Coolmore Nunthorpe S. with both races to be worth £350,000 this year. The Juddmonte



Postponed at York last year | Racing Post

International is ranked the best race in Britain on international ratings and last year **Postponed (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) saw off subsequent G1 Breeders’ Cup Turf winner **Highland Reel (Ire)** (Galileo

{Ire}), joining some of the previous illustrious winners of the last decade such as Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), Australia (GB) (Galileo {Ire}) and Sea The Stars (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire}). **Cont. p5**

Prize-Money Boost for York Feature Cont.

Teddy Grimthorpe, York chairman and racing manager for Khalid Abdullah's Juddmonte Farms, said, "Attracting the best horses to run in competitive races on the Knavesmire is what we are all about; so I am pleased that the unstinting support from long standing sponsors has allowed us to increase prize-money for our feature races again this year. The Juddmonte International will reach a notable landmark demonstrating the generous support of Prince Khalid for a race that I know he cherishes."

Incidentally last year's Juddmonte International winner Postponed was reported by Roger Varian to be on target for a return trip to Dubai having pleased the trainer in a workout on Saturday morning. "All's well with Postponed and he worked nicely this morning. He's where he was at this stage last year fitness-wise and he'll have a couple more bits of work before heading out to Dubai," Varian said. Last year Postponed warmed up for success in the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic with a win in the G2 Dubai City Of Gold and Varian is happy to follow a similar path this year with Sheikh Mohammed Obaid's 6-year-old.

"Running him in the City Of Gold as a prep worked out well last year and there's no reason to change that. I couldn't be happier with him," he added.

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DEATH OF FAME AND GLORY

Five time Group 1 winner and Coolmore stallion **Fame And Glory (GB)** (Montjeu {Ire}--Gryada {GB}, by Shirley Heights {GB}) died on Monday morning of a suspected heart attack. The 11-



Fame And Glory | *Racing Post*

year-old was apparently covering a mare at the time. Bred by Ptarmigan Bloodstock and Kirsten Rausing, Fame And Glory was purchased as a foal by Tim Hyde at Tattersalls for 190,000gns before going into training with Aidan O'Brien. A late maturing 2-year-old he made a successful debut in a Navan maiden in Oct. 2008 before winning the G1 Criterium de Saint Cloud on his only other juvenile start. He confirmed his Derby potential as a 3-year-old running second to Sea The Stars (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire}) at Epsom before winning the G1 Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby by five lengths under Johnny Murtagh. He landed further Group 1 success in 2010 when he was successful in the G1 Coronation S. at Epsom and the G1 Tattersalls Gold Cup at The Curragh. Connections decided to up Fame And Glory in trip for the 2011 season and that strategy paid off as the then 5-year-old proved a brilliant stayer when winning the G1 Ascot Gold Cup when ridden by Jamie Spencer. In 2012 he resumed his season with a win in the Listed Vintage Crop S. at Navan, which would end up being his final victory. He was retired to Coolmore satellite Grange Stud at the end of the 2012 season with a race record of 26-14-3-1 and career earnings of over £2.3m. His first 2-year-olds came on the scene in 2016, but as he began covering mostly national hunt mares, none of his stock were expected to make an impact for another year at least.

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PLUSVITAL TARGET TRAINER MARKET

Plusvital, the Irish equine science company which acquired genetics specialists Equinome last year has launched a new product aimed at trainers. The Racing GenePak, which provides objective and scientific information to support training and race entry decisions combines Plusvital's most popular genetic tool, the Speed Gene Test, with the more advanced Distance Plus Test, which predicts a horse's optimum race distance to within a couple of furlongs. The quality of the information provided makes these tests a leading genetic tool for racehorse trainers with the new Genepak available for purchase for €435.

Commenting on the launch of this new product, Plusvital CEO Mike Shelly said, "This new genetic test makes it easier than ever for our clients to gain an edge with the amount of information we can provide from their horse's DNA. This combination of tests alone can help a trainer determine a horse's optimum race distance, increase their strike rate and even manage expectations on 2-year-old performance."

Shelly added, "Overall, we feel the additional information in these tests will further strengthen the use of this technology across the industry, where it is used as a tool to complement existing horsemanship and pedigree analysis."

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NEW OWNER FOR LADYSWOOD STUD

Ladyswood Stud in Wiltshire has been purchased by Alex and Olivia Frost, who plan to develop a band of up to 20 broodmares on the 90-acre farm.

“We are incredibly excited about Ladyswood,” said Alex Frost, a longstanding owner, predominantly with Henry Candy, whose colours have been carried to success by the likes of G3 Acomb S. winner Treaty Of Paris (Ire) (Haatef) and Signor Peltro (GB) (Bertolini). “It’s a huge project and incredibly daunting, but we hope to make it into a stud that proves to be a happy family home as well as a well as a highly respected breeding operation.”

Initially, the stud will be home to 10 of the couple’s mares, with foals expected this year by Golden Horn (GB), Shamardal, Iffraaj



Alex & Olivia Frost

(GB) and Exceed And Excel (Aus). While Ladyswood will be focused on breeding horses for the Flat, the Frosts also have a keen interest in National Hunt racing and breeding, and own Dalamine (Fr) (Sillery), the dam of

treble Grade 1-winning steeplechaser Don Poli (Ire) (Poliglote {GB}) in partnership with Harry and Lorna Fowler. The 17-year-old mare, who has a 3-year-old filly by Beat Hollow (GB) and a Kayf Tara (GB) yearling among those still to race, lives at the Fowlers’ Rahinston Stud in Ireland.

Ladyswood Stud was previously owned by trainer Martyn Meade, who bought Snailwell Stud just outside Newmarket last April. Situated in Malmesbury, close to the border of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire, the farm boasts woodchip and sand gallops along with the regular stud facilities.

Frost added, “We have two large barns and 23 boxes, along with offices and staff accommodation in two cottages. We have all the facilities we could wish for and are now looking for an outstanding stud groom to complete the team.”

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CLARIFICATION: North America (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), winner of the G3 Firebreak S. at Meydan, and Kitaaby (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}), second in the Listed HH The President Cup at Abu Dhabi, were both graduates of the Tattersalls December Foal Sale. Apologies for the confusion.

APPOINTMENTS

Tammy O’Brien, International Client Relations and Strategic Development, Tattersalls.

- Tattersalls has appointed Tammy O’Brien in the role of International Client Relations and Strategic Development. O’Brien, will join the Newmarket-based firm Mar. 1 and will continue to be based in Ireland.



Tammy O’Brien | Tattersalls

- O’Brien joins Tattersalls after more than 20 years with Coolmore in Tipperary, latterly in the role of Racing Manager with primary responsibility for overseeing the Coolmore string at Ballydoyle Stables, reporting directly to owners John Magnier, Derek Smith and Michael Tabor.
- Tattersalls Chairman Edmond Mahony commented, “To say that Tammy brings with her a wealth of experience would be a massive understatement. She has achieved a huge amount in the racing and bloodstock industry over more than 20 years with Coolmore and is known and respected throughout the world. Tammy’s role will perfectly complement our existing Bloodstock Sales and Marketing teams with whom she will work closely.”
- O’Brien added, “I am proud to have spent more than 20 years working for a team respected and admired throughout the world and it is appropriate that I will be joining another firm which sets standards to which others aspire. The Tattersalls ethos combines a unique history and complete integrity with a global vision, and I am enormously looking forward to representing the company throughout Britain, Ireland and further afield.”



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BRITAIN



Monday's Result:

1st-WOL, £4,500, Mdn, 2-13, 3yo/up, f, 8f 141y (AWT), 1:53.97, stn.

FLOOD WARNING (GB) (f, 3, Pivotal {GB}--Sabreon {GB}, by Caerleon) a debut fifth going seven panels at Lingfield in her only prior start Dec. 14, was sharply into stride and led from the bell in this sophomore return. Holding sway throughout, the 11-8 chalk was shaken up rounding the home turn and kept on strongly under whipless cajoling in the straight to comfortably account for Shankara (Ire) (Mastercraftsman {Ire}) by two lengths. The 130,000gns TATOCT yearling is a full sister to the dual stakes winner and G1 Nassau S. third Moneycantbuymelove (Ire), herself the dam of G2 Nikkei Shinshun Hai victor Mikki Rocket (Jpn) (King Kamehameha {Jpn}). She is also kin to the 2-year-old colt Toshima (Ire) (Sea the Stars {Ire}) and a yearling colt by Australia (GB). Her dam is a winning half to G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and GI Keeneland Turf Mile hero Landseer (GB) (Danehill) and G1SP sire Ikhtyar (Ire) (Unfuwain). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$3,635. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#) O-Cheveley Park Stud; B-New England Myriad Stanley & Cheveley Park (GB); T-Clive Cox.

FRANCE



Monday's Results:

4th-PTB, €15,000, Cond, 2-13, 4yo, 12f (AWT), 2:13.41, stn.
QATAR RUBY (FR) (c, 4, Mr. Sidney--Riziere {Fr}, by Groom Dancer) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-3, €43,250. O-Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani; B-Haras du Quesnay (FR); T-Yan Durepaire. *€45,000 Ylg '14 AROCT. **1/2 Rouvres (Fr) (Anabaa), G1SW-Fr & MGSP-US, \$427,826; Right One (Fr) (Anabaa), GSW-US & GISP-Can, \$462,055; and Realisatrice (Fr) (Numerous), MSP-Fr, \$131,767.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Miss Albane (Fr), f, 3, [Choisir \(Aus\)](#)--Seba (GB) (SW-Eng & GISP-US, \$196,634), by Alzao. PTB, 2-13, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:16.85. B-Haras du Cadran, Pascal Deshayes & Antoine Gilibert (FR). *€42,000 Ylg '15 AROCT.

Tres Belaffair (Fr), g, 3, [Zambezi Sun \(GB\)](#)--Affair (Fr), by Montjeu (Ire). PTB, 2-13, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:15.10. B-Denis Lemarie & Mme Annie Praud (FR). *€10,000 RNA Ylg '15 OSANOV.

IRELAND



Tatts Ireland Adds 11 Wildcards to January Sale:

The Tattersalls Ireland Cheltenham January Sale, scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 16, has added 11 Wild Card lots to the entries, bringing the total offerings to 48. A variety of winning and placed bumper performers, winning French horses and the opportunity to buy 4-year-old point to pointers make up the catalogue. For more information, or the full catalogue, go to www.tattersalls.ie.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Stellar Winx Makes It 'Apollo 14' Cont. from p1

At that stage Endless Drama had taken over but he had only just wrestled the advantage from **Shiraz (Aus)** (Zariz {Aus}) when Winx responded to a squeeze from Bowman to surge alongside and quickly stride clear. It was left to Hartnell to pick up the pieces but he was never going to bother Winx who was in a league of her own.

"It was a genuinely run 1400m race and I was able to travel really comfortably throughout," Bowman said afterwards. "When the sprint came on at the 600-metre mark, she was left flat-footed for four strides and if I was on anything else I might have been worried but I just encouraged her to get on to the heels of the leaders and in the blink of an eye it was all over. She is great for our industry and its just great to be a part of it."



Winx & Hugh Bowman | Bronwen Healy

Stellar Winx Makes It 'Apollo 14' Cont.

Bowman continued, "Chris has done a great job to get her here in shape to perform at this level. It's a fine balancing act to get her forward enough to win but to still have improvement in her as the season develops."

Waller was relieved more than anything, as at this stage Winx has such a public following that it adds even more pressure to keep her winning streak intact. "We know where she is now and she should continue to improve through the autumn," he said.

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GLOBAL GLAMOUR CLINGS ON

The Gai Waterhouse & Adrian Bott trained **Global Glamour (Aus)** (Star Witness {Aus}) was back in the winner's enclosure following her pillar to post victory in the G2 TAB Light Fingers S.

[\(Video\)](#) at Randwick.

A dual Group 1 winner last year for her International female syndicate of owners, Global Glamour built on her encouraging run last time out when second to Flying Jess (Aus) (Hinchinbrook



Global Glamour | *Racing And Sports*

{Aus}) in the Listed Gold Coast Magic Millions 3YO Guineas last month but she needed the line fast as **Foxplay (Aus)** (Foxwedge {Aus}) flashed home under Hugh Bowman to get to within a short head of the winner. Spright (Aus) (Hinchinbrook {Aus}) kept on nicely in the closing stages to finish third behind the winning 5-4 favourite.

Jockey Joshua Parr was a relieved man when the photo was announced and he told *Racing And Sports*, "Gai, Adrian and I thought the only way we could possibly beat these horses was to make it a proper test. She's a fit horse, a classy horse and she showed that today."

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FROLIC WALTZES HOME IN INGLIS CLASSIC

Another horse that advertised her claims for future stakes success was the juvenile filly **Frolic (Aus)** (Husson {Arg}). She chose the A\$250,000 Inglis Classic [\(Video\)](#) to make her breakthrough racecourse success and she did it with some authority. Trained by Michael Freedman, Frolic was ridden with great confidence by Tommy Berry who was content to sit last in the early stages. Covering more ground than his rivals Berry



Godolphin's Hartnell, a two-time Group 1 winner, finished second to Winx in the G2 Apollo S. Monday. | *Bronwen Healy*

steered Frolic wide of everything and she produced a sustained burst of acceleration to chase down **Sweet Deal (Aus)** (Casino Prince {Aus}) and win by a cosy length and a half with the cleverly named **Lets Get Nauti Gal (Aus)** (Harbour Watch {Ire}) over six lengths adrift in third. Frolic showed promise when running second in a maiden at Beaumont Jan. 7 before filling the same position at Canterbury Jan. 20. She obviously came forward significantly from that experience with further progress likely. [Cont. p9](#)



Frolic | Bronwen Healy

Frolic Waltzes Home in Inglis Classic Cont.

"I've always genuinely thought this filly will be better once she gets to 1400m and a mile," Michael Freedman told *news.com.au*. "There are plenty of options to consider but I want to see how she pulls up first then we will make some decisions." One major option could be the G1 Golden Slipper and her jockey reckons Frolic could be up to the task. "I wouldn't say she's a Slipper horse just yet, but she's heading that way. She's got to keep improving," Berry added.

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WILLIAMS SIDES WITH CATCHY

Craig Williams faced a tricky decision after partnering both **Catchy (Aus)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) and **Property (Aus)** (Starcraft {NZ}) to victory in their respective Diamond Prelude wins at Caulfield on Saturday and the jockey announced his intention on Monday to stick with the Hayes/Dabernig trained filly Catchy in the G1 Ladbrokes Blue Diamond S. Feb. 25.

Speaking to the *Sydney Morning Herald* Williams admitted the



Catchy | Bronwen Healy

decision was "extremely difficult" and added. "They are both in fabulous form and they've all got an excellent racing style and it seemed every time they went to the races they won. When they came home they thrived and licked the bin out. It was a wonderful position to be in but at the same time I had to be totally sure the horse I was riding was the way to go. There are some good friends and some very good trainers involved but at the end of the day Catchy is the race favourite, she is unbeaten and she's a very easy filly to ride."

Williams is just hoping the status quo remains for the next 12 days and is well aware that a lot can happen a 2-year-old within that timescale. "Two-year-old races like this are not that easy. They can go shin sore one minute, they can go off their feed or they could just lose form. When they're this young they're very unpredictable. I've just got to hope that Catchy remains in one piece in the next fortnight. I didn't have the luxury of waiting for the barrier draw but all of these owners and trainers have been sensationally patient, but they all needed an answer."

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DOYLE OUT WITH FRACTURED HAND

Godolphin retained jockey James Doyle, who was originally treated for minor injuries after his mount **Pearls (Aus)** (Exceed And Excel {Aus}) fell in the G3 Rوبرick Lodge Triscay S. Monday, has sustained a non-displaced fracture of his right hand and will be off mounts indefinitely, Godolphin announced early Tuesday morning. A two-time Group 3 winner, Pearls was immediately transported to the Randwick Equine Centre for evaluation, but was diagnosed with multiple shoulder fractures and could not be saved.

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FIGURES UP AS INGLIS CLASSIC CONCLUDES

Inglis began their 150th year in business in style, following the conclusion of their Classic Yearling Sale which posted an improved set of figures on almost all fronts. After three days of trade the aggregate settled at A\$35,653,500, the clearance rate was a solid 88% and the average for the 497 yearlings sold came in at A\$71,593. The median rose strongly to A\$57,500 while the top price of A\$400,000 was just shy of last year's amount of A\$410,000.

Inglis managing director Mark Webster was thrilled with the success of the sale and commented, "I'd really like to thank all the vendors and breeders for trusting us with their better quality yearlings and I'm so happy that we were able to get the vast majority sold for them. I also want to mention the vast array of buyers who attended the sale, all the stable staff who worked tirelessly through some very hot conditions and very long days and nights." [Cont. p10](#)

Figures Up as Inglis Classic Concludes Cont.

The health of the Australian sales market was evident from the fact that 47 vendors finished the sale with a 100% clearance rate. Of these, Yarraman Park, Bhima Thoroughbreds and Newgate Farm were the most successful, selling all 19, 18 and 17 respectively in their drafts, which is an impressive achievement by any standards. The leading vendor by average (with three or more sold) was Tyreel Stud, selling seven lots at an average of A\$198,667 and the stud's Linda Mond's was understandably pleased with such a outcome.

"I'm very proud of the product we've bought to this sale and it was really good to be able to present the ones we did in the Gold Riband session as well," Mond's said. "We're a small farm, a small team and I'm very proud of what my team has produced from their hard work. They deserve this result."

The buying bench at the sale was as broad as ever seen at Newmarket, highlighted by the fact there were 276 different



Lot 470 | Inglis Photo

individual buyers on the results sheet. Topping proceedings on the final day was a filly by Fastnet Rock (Aus) which Matt Laurie Racing purchased for A\$230,000. The filly offered by Newgate Farm as [lot 470](#) is out of the stakes winner Espirit De Bleu and is a family Laurie knows a bit about. "She's a lovely bodied filly. I've got the [Smart Missile] half-brother at home and he's certainly shown us a bit so I was keen to get my hands on this filly," Laurie said. "He hasn't raced yet, so I might be proven an idiot, but I really like the family and I love this filly," he added.

Also breaching the A\$200k barrier was [lot 562](#), a colt by Savabeel (Aus) offered by Sledmere Stud and purchased by Lyndhurst Farm for A\$220,000. Paul Perry Horse Training finished up leading buyer by aggregate (A\$834,500) while Darby Racing/de Burgh Equine, Paul Perry Horse Training and Triple Crown Syndications each purchased nine lots to share top buying honours by number of lots. The leading stallion by average (3 or more sold) was Vinery Stud stalwart More Than Ready at A\$176,667, while all 27 progeny of Yarraman Park's star sire I Am Invincible (Aus) sold, leaving him as easily the leading sire by aggregate (A\$4,015,000).

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SESSION TOPPERS

Lot	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
470	f	Fastnet Rock (Aus) <i>B-Love Racing Pty Ltd (Vic)</i>	Esprit de Bleu Consigned by Newgate Farm Purchased by Matt Laurie Racing	230,000
562	c	Savabeel (Aus) <i>B-S H R Davison & Waikato Stud Ltd (NZ)</i>	La Belle Epoque (NZ) Consigned by Sledmere Stud Purchased by Lyndhurst Farm	220,000
508	c	I Am Invincible (Aus) <i>B-Emirates Park Pty Ltd (NSW)</i>	Ghaliah (Aus) Consigned by Emirates Park Purchased by G Waterhouse/A Bott	180,000
541	c	Fighting Sun (Aus) <i>(A\$54,000 W/g '16 MMNWS)</i> <i>B-Mr RD Hannon (NSW)</i>	Imtops (Aus) Consigned by Middlebrook Valley Lodge Purchased by A Freedman/Waterford Bloodstock	165,000



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

INGLIS CLASSIC YEARLING SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2017	2016
• Catalogued	150	232
• No. Offered	140	209
• No. Sold	119	193
• RNAs	21	16
• % RNAs	15%	8%
• High Price	A\$230,000	A\$305,000
• Gross	A\$7,422,000	A\$10,885,000
• Average (% change)	A\$62,370 (+10.6%)	A\$56,399
• Median (% change)	A\$52,500 (+31.3%)	A\$40,000
CUMULATIVE	2017	2016
• Catalogued	600	575
• No. Offered	564	520
• No. Sold	498	474
• RNAs	66	46
• % RNAs	12%	9%
• High Price	A\$400,000	A\$410,000
• Gross	A\$35,653,500	A\$27,043,000
• Average (% change)	A\$71,593 (+25.5%)	A\$57,053
• Median (% change)	A\$55,000 (+29.4%)	A\$42,500

Sunday, Gavea, Brazil

GRANDE PREMIO HENRIQUE POSSOLO-G1, BRZ\$166,000 (US\$53,352 /£42,587/€50,346), 2-12, Gavea, 3yo, f, 1600mT, 1:33.00, fm. 1--&**NO REGRETS (BRZ), 125, f, 3, by Fluke (Brz)**

1st Dam: Buy Me Love (Brz), by Jules

2nd Dam: Feel So Good (Brz), by Trojanos (Brz)

3rd Dam: Dearly Girl (Brz), by Duke of Marmalade

O/B-Haras Doce Vale (Brz); T-Venancio Nahid; J-W.S. Cardoso. Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-0. *1/2 to Grapette Repete (Brz) (Know Heights (Ire), GSW & MG1SP-Brz; Kijoliamour (Brz) (Northern Afleet), MSW & MG1SP-Brz; My Cherie Amour (Brz) (Ay Caramba {Brz}), G1SW-Brz. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++.** *Triple Plus*. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Vega Sicilia (Brz), 125, f, 3, Vettori (Ire)--Pera Manca (Brz), by Grand Slam.** O/B-Haras Old Friends Ltda (Brz); T-R.L. Feltran.

3--**Etapa Vencida (Brz), 125, f, 3, Wild Event--Lychee (Brz), by De Quest (GB).** O-Stud Verde; B-Haras Santa Maria de Araras (Brz); T-L. Esteves.

Margins: 2, 2 1/4, NK. Odds: 4.20, 40.00, 5.70.

Also Ran: Expense Account (Brz), Envoi de Fleurs (Brz), Kings Gate (Brz), Et La Vie Comptine (Brz), Domenica (Brz), Friendly's (Brz), Electora (Brz), Isla de Flores (Brz), Estella Rossa (Brz), Kobe Beef Good (Brz), No No Caroline (Brz), Holy Byblos (Brz), Kanton (Brz), Etoile des Etoiles (Brz), Pista Olimpica (Brz).

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

Sunday, Gavea, Brazil

GRANDE PREMIO ESTADO DO RIO DE JANEIRO-G1, BRZ\$166,000 (US\$53,352/£42,587/€50,346), 2-12, Gavea, 3yo, c, 1600mT, 1:32.90, fm.

1--#&**GUARUMAN (BRZ), 125, c, 3, by Siphon (Brz)**

1st Dam: Ukulele (Brz), by Yagli

2nd Dam: Ukrainian Lady (Ire), by Polish Patriot

3rd Dam: Ukraine Girl (Ire), by Targowice

O-Haras Planicie; B-Stud La Nave Va (Brz); T-J.M.B. Aragao; J-Muriel S. Machado. Lifetime Record: 8-4-2-0. **Werk Nick Rating: A.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**New In Town (Brz), 125, c, 3, Fluke (Brz)--Isadora Catapora (Brz), by Know Heights (Ire).** O-Haras Regina; B-Haras Done Vale (Brz); T-R. Solanes.

3--**Impeachment (Brz), 125, c, 3, [Holy Roman Emperor \(Ire\)](#)--Basileia (Brz), by Broken Vow.** O/B-Haras Figueira do Lago (Brz); T-Venancio Nahid.

Margins: 2HF, NK, NK. Odds: 18.60, 3.50, 16.10.

Also Ran: Edotto (Brz), English Major (Brz), Purebred (Brz), Up Money (Brz), Em Cima Do Laco (Brz), Devil Cat (Brz), Enter the Best (Brz), Kaiser Toya (Brz), King David (Brz), Empavado (Brz), El Shaklan (Brz), Voador Magee (Brz), Enologo (Brz), D'Artagnan (Brz), Gargallo's Hill (Brz).

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

CARIBBEAN

Midnight Hawk to Stand at Rising Sun Farm in Jamaica:

GIII Sham S. hero **Midnight Hawk** (Midnight Lute--Miss Wineshine, by Wolf Power {SAf}) has been retired and will take up stallion duties at Rising Sun Farm, Portmore, Jamaica for the 2017 season. The deal was brokered by Chad Schumer of Schumer Bloodstock Agency. Placed in an additional five graded stakes throughout his career, the grey retires with a mark of 17-5-4-3 and \$591,750 in earnings. Out of SW Miss Wineshine, who ran third in the GI Spinaway S., Midnight Hawk is also a half-brother to SW Mayor Marv (Distorted Humor).

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DID YOU KNOW?

G1 Darley Prix Morny winner Lady Aurelia (Scat Daddy) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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