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GIRVIN JOINS TDN DERBY 12



McCracken remains on top off his Sam Davis score | SV Photography

by T.D. Thornton

With only one major prep race last weekend (GII Risen Star S.), the winds of change only slightly resorted the TDN Derby Top 12. But expect that breeze to intensify this coming weekend, as sophomore stakes action in both Florida and New York will involve three horses within the Top 12 and an intriguing cast of under-the-radar horses vying for firmer footing on the road to the GI Kentucky Derby.

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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 1

Last Start: 1st, [GIII 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. p12

ARROGATE WORKS STRONG MILE, CONFIRMED FOR DUBAI

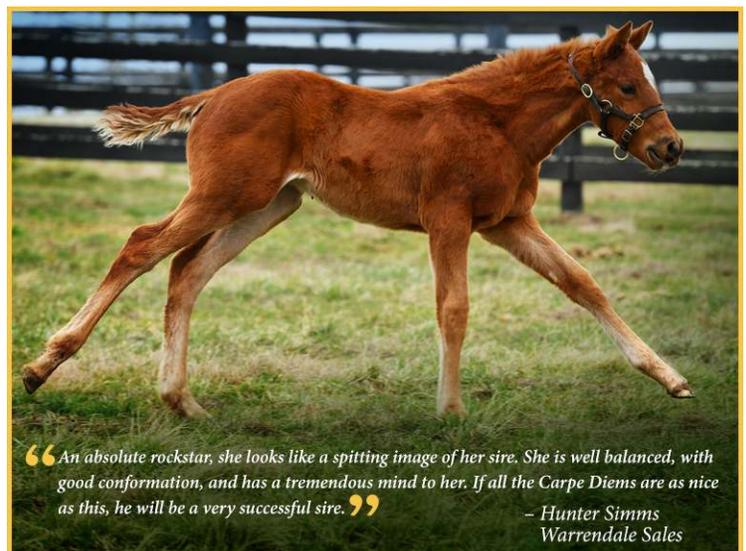
Juddmonte Farms' **Arrogate** (Unbridled's Song), champion 3-year-old of 2016 and recent winner of the inaugural GI Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Park Jan. 28, worked a mile in 1:38.40 at Santa Anita Monday morning, drawing praise from Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, who later confirmed to the TDN via text that his stable star will make his next start in the G1 Dubai World Cup Mar. 25. Baffert said that the GI Breeders' Cup Classic-winning '[TDN Rising Star](#)' will be joined by MGISW **Hoppertunity** (Any Given Saturday) for the trip to the United Arab Emirates.

"I love the way he went," Baffert said of Arrogate's Monday work with Martin Garcia aboard. "I had him in 12.21, 24.30, 36.32, 48.29, 59.96, 1:12, 1:24.40 and 1:38 and two (fifths). He gets stronger the further he goes...So far, he's handled everything well." **Cont. p3**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

SNITZEL ON TRACK FOR JUVENILE RECORD

John Berry examines the stellar season **Snitzel (Aus)** (Redoute's Choice (Aus)) is having with his juvenile winners. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)



“An absolute rockstar, she looks like a spitting image of her sire. She is well balanced, with good conformation, and has a tremendous mind to her. If all the Carpe Diems are as nice as this, he will be a very successful sire.”

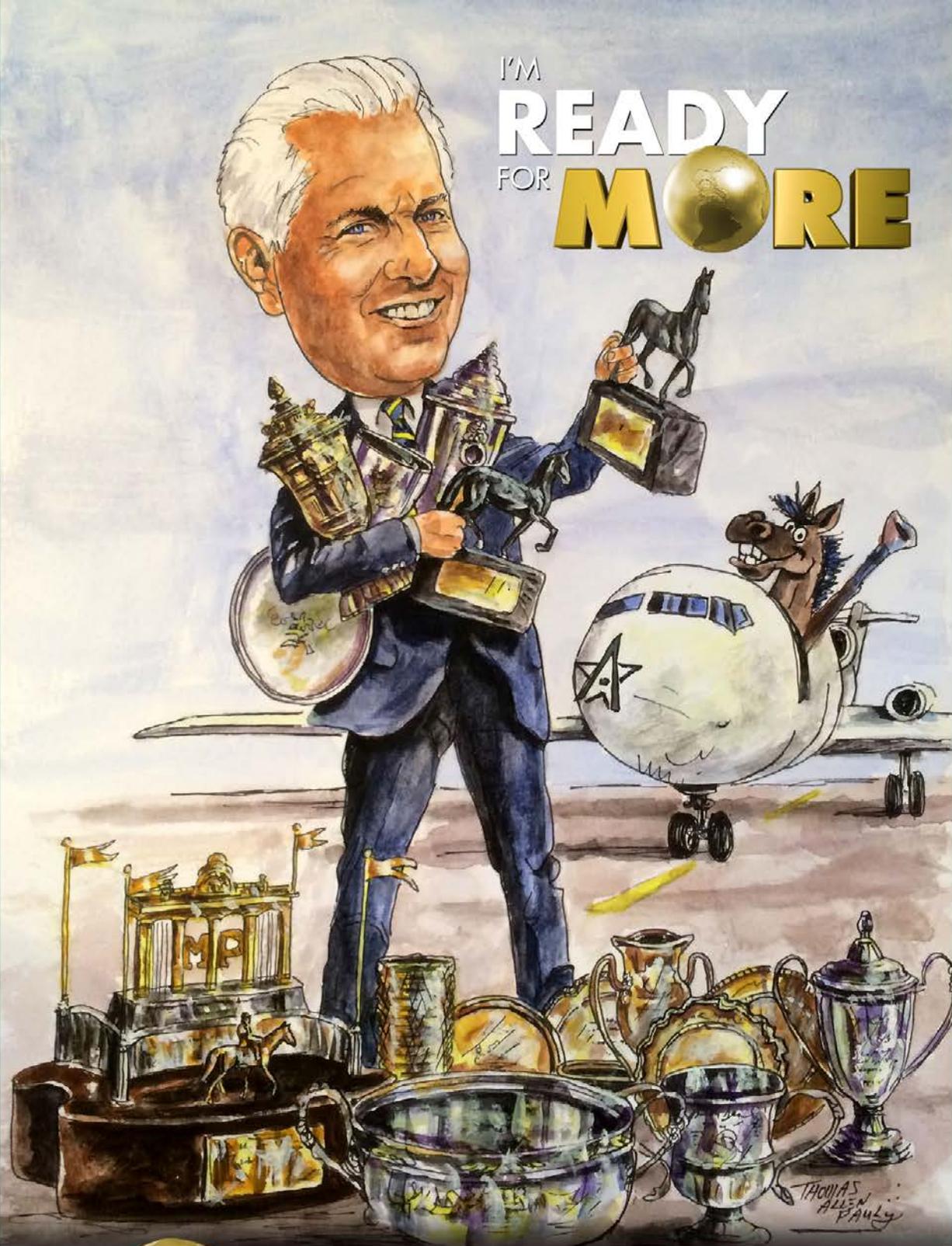
– Hunter Simms
Warrendale Sales

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– Todd Pletcher

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Tuesday, February 28, 2017



Milestones. This week marks historic anniversaries for Johnny Longden and Bill Shoemaker, whose statues are pictured here in the Santa Anita paddock alongside Laffit Pincay, Jr. On February 28, 1957, 47-year-old Longden was the first jockey in history to reach 5,000 career wins when he rode Bente to victory. On March 3, 1985, Shoemaker became the first jockey to surpass \$100 million in earnings. | *Horsephotos*

FIVE SHARE BULLET AT FASIG GULFSTREAM

4

Five juveniles shared the one-furlong bullet time of :10 flat during the under-tack preview of the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale, held Monday in South Florida. Jessica Martini reports from on-site.

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS: GIRVIN

7

Andrew Caulfield delves into the bloodlines of Saturday's GI Risen Star S. hero Girvin (Tale of Ekati), evaluating his prospects to tackle increasing distances as the path to the GI Kentucky Derby progresses.

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[VIEW CONSIGNMENT]



Eddie Woods

www.EddieWoods.com

Arrogate Confirmed for Dubai (cont. from p1)



Arrogate | Zoe Metz photo

Arrogate burst on to the scene with a powerhouse wire-to-wire score in the GI Travers S. at Saratoga last August and added a win over 2016 Horse of the Year California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit) at the World Championships at Santa Anita Nov. 5 before vanquishing that rival again in the Pegasus recently. His Monday work also brought praise from Santa Anita's clockers.

"He's come back from Florida stronger," said private clocker Andy Harrington. "His last two drills have been terrific, off the

charts. It doesn't look like he's missed a beat. He's come out of the Florida race fantastic."

While Arrogate was previously also under consideration for the Mar. 11 GI Santa Anita H., the gray's new focus on Dubai leaves Baffert with GII San Antonio S. runner-up **Mor Spirit** (Eskendereya) as a potential 'Big Cap' starter. Meanwhile, Hoppertunity--third in last year's Dubai World Cup--captured the Feb. 4 San Antonio and has worked twice since, recently drilling five furlongs in 1:01 flat in Arcadia Feb. 23.

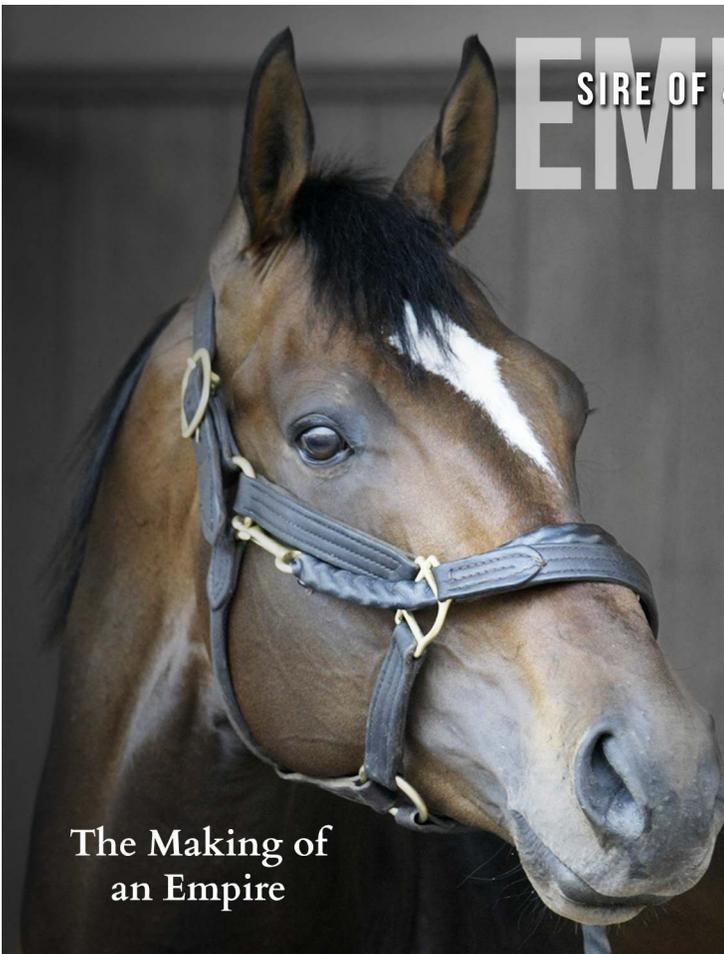
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FIVE SHARE BULLET AT FASIG GULFSTREAM



Top Line Sales James and Torie Gladwell watch breezes at Gulfstream Monday | *Fasig-Tipton photo*

HALLANDALE, FL - Five juveniles shared the one-furlong bullet time of :10 flat during the under-tack preview of the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale, held Monday under a brilliantly sunny sky but with persistent heavy winds throughout the day.

“All in all, I thought it was a very successful day,” said Fasig-Tipton President Boyd Browning, Jr. “I think we saw a really nice group of horses that presented themselves very professionally. The consignors brought a quality group of horses, both in terms of physical athletes and pedigrees, and they performed well today.”

Browning acknowledged the high winds were a concern, but added he thought conditions had remained largely consistent throughout the show.

“It wasn’t the easiest circumstances--it’s never a good thing when some of the local trainers are tweeting in the morning about how the conditions are going to be with the wind, but I thought, all in all, the conditions were pretty consistent throughout the day. There was definitely a headwind from start to finish, 15-20 miles an hour, but it was pretty much the same conditions for everybody.”

The breeze show attracted a large number of trainers, including Chad Brown, Steve Asmussen, Todd Pletcher, Shug McGaughey, Brian Koriner, Mark Casse, Wesley Ward, Eddie Kenneally, Ralph Nicks, Ian Wilkes and Scooter Dickey. Among the prominent owners in attendance were Everett Dobson and Peter Brant, as well as West Point Thoroughbreds’ Terry Finley, Centennial Farms’ Don Little and Hill ‘n’ Dale owner John Sikura. Darley’s John Ferguson, Jimmy Bell and Dan Pride were in attendance, as were WinStar Farm’s



Hip 66 | *Fasig-Tipton photo*

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became his sire's 56th Graded winner on Saturday, winning the Mineshaft H. (G3) at Fair Grounds and raising another \$10,000* in WIN Awards for breeder Juddmonte Farms.

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Elliott Walden and Stonestreet Stable’s John Moynihan. Among the many bloodstock agents were Patrick Lawley-Wakelin, Donato Lanni, Steve Young, Pete Bradley, Hubert Guy, Chris Brothers, Jamie McCalmont, Jason Litt and Patti Miller.

The McKathan Brothers shipped three juveniles down from their Ocala base and came away with two bullet workers; [hip 66](#), a daughter of Into Mischief out of Greer Lynn (Speightstown) was the first of the day to hit the :10 flat mark, while [hip 118](#), a

colt by Bodemeister out of Pink Diamond (Mineshaft), was the final bullet worker of the preview.

“I thought if everything went as planned, [hip 66] was going to come down here and be hard to outrun,” Kevin McKathan admitted. “It all worked out well. She had a good week down here and everything just set up perfectly. She did her job. She went out there and laid it down. The

Bodemeister was the same thing. We brought three horses down here and I

thought all of them could do :10 flat. When I prepped them, you could throw a blanket over all of them time-wise. You never know, with it being the first breeze show of the year and over this track, I didn’t know if they would go in :9 4/5, :10 flat or if

:10 1/5 would be the fastest, but I figured they would be right there. I thought all three of them would come down here and perform well and they did.”

Rounding out the McKathan Brothers trio was [hip 41](#), a colt by Candy Ride (Arg) who worked in :10 1/5.

Kevin McKathan said the biggest factor the wind may have played on the breeze show was on how quickly the Gulfstream track, watered in between each of the day’s five sets, dried out.

“The wind is always a factor,” he said. “I think it’s a negative for us when we’re in a drag race, really, and a lot of these young horses aren’t used to running into it. The biggest thing down here is how fast the track dries. It dries so fast and it only gets water every break, so it only gets water on it every two hours and it takes it 15 minutes to dry. So if you’re in a later break, like my Candy Ride was right at the end of the fourth, it’s just hard to keep the track with the moisture in it. And the wind is obviously a huge factor in drying out the track.”

A son of Bernardini ([hip 135](#)), consigned by Hartley/DeRenzo

Thoroughbreds, turned in the second bullet furlong breeze of the day. The visually impressive work was as expected for Dean DeRenzo, who had watched the youngster mature over the last few weeks.

“It was amazing, but it wasn’t a surprise,” DeRenzo said of the breeze. “We knew he was one of our top colts. He came down here and bloomed and really went in the right direction. It’s wonderful and pleasant, but we really knew when we came down what he was and he showed all the traits that he showed us at the farm. He is pretty special.”

Out of Winner (Horse Chestnut {Saf}), the bay colt is a half-brother to graded stakes winner Ocho Ocho Ocho (Street Sense). He was purchased by Hartley/DeRenzo for

\$350,000 at last year’s Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale.

DeRenzo acknowledged the colt’s price tag was representative of the game plan he and Randy Hartley had going into last year’s yearling auctions to compensate for a polarization in the marketplace and what has seemed like a demand for only top quality offerings.



Trainer Todd Pletcher watches on | Fasig-Tipton photo

● ● :47 1/5

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HIP 102

:10²

“ My colt selling at (Fasig-Tipton) Gulfstream is one beautiful horse, and he is **really fast**. I don't just like him, I love him. ”

—**J.J. CRUPI**

Crupi's New Castle Farm

HIP 150

:10¹

“ I really like the Flat Outs. They have good minds and are **exceptional movers**. The Flat Out I have in the sale is a big, scopey horse who is very fast and the type that can get two turns. ”

—**QUINCY ADAMS**

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“We have always had very deep pedigrees in all of our horses, but this year we actually made a bigger jump into better pedigrees and distance horses with deep female families,” DeRenzo explained. “We bought a lot fillies and colts with really deep pedigrees. They cost a lot more, of course, but they also perform a lot better as well.”

The third horse to post the :10 flat bullet time Monday was [hip 35](#). From the consignment of Top Line Sales, the dark bay colt is by Spring At Last out of Celadon (Gold Halo) and from the family of French Group 1 winner Creator (GB).

Crupi’s New Castle Farm sent out 16 horses to work Monday at Gulfstream Park and hit the bullet furlong mark with [hip 126](#), a daughter of Pioneer of the Nile out of Ribbon Taffy (Hard Spun).

“She’s a good horse,” confirmed consignor J J Crupi. “She breezed really well, like we expected her to. And she galloped out really well. She went in :10 flat, :22, :34 4/5. So she is the real deal.”

Crupi added all his horses appeared to come out of their works in fine shape, a tribute to the condition of the Gulfstream oval.

“I think they did a real good job [with the track], considering the wind and everything else, they really did a nice job. We’re X-raying and so far we’ve X-rayed eight or nine of the 16 and they are all clean. And that’s a good indication that the track was ok.”

Two horses worked a quarter-mile, with [hip 146](#), a colt by Super Saver consigned by Crupi’s New Castle Farm, earning the fastest time of :22 1/5. One horse worked on the turf. [Hip 131](#), a colt by Smart Strike consigned by Kings Equine, opened the breeze show with a furlong work over the lawn in :10 1/5.

As buyers seek more long-term success with 2-year-old sales graduates, Browning thinks there might be less emphasis put on time.

“There were an awful lot of impressive breezes and an awful lot of impressive breezes from two-turn horses who don’t necessarily have the bullet works, but who went really, really well,” Browning commented. “I

think we are seeing more and more a trend in 2-year-old sales of buyers looking for horses that can win important races down the road. They’re not necessarily looking to capture a race with a 2-year-old sales graduate immediately coming out of the gate.



Fasig-Tipton photo

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They are looking for, and the market is telling these consignors when they buy at the yearling sales, to buy horses who are two-turn type of horses. It has changed the game a little bit in that the fastest horse is not always the most valuable horse. There is a great awareness in the buying group that there are a lot of ingredients to a good work and time is just one of those elements. The videos are crucial, the way they did it and the way they come out of it.”

The under-tack show had to be halted briefly early in the day Monday when [hip 28](#), a colt by Into Mischief, appeared to take a bad step while changing leads nearing the wire. The juvenile was quickly pulled up and vanned off the track in the horse ambulance.

The Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale will be held Wednesday in the Gulfstream Park paddock beginning at 4 p.m.

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PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



TALE OF EKATI'S GIRVIN

After the success of Tale of Ekati's son **Girvin** in the GII Risen Star S., I found myself wondering whether this is going to be another example of like father, like son.

When I covered Tale of Ekati's pedigree (click [here](#)) following his victory in the 2008 GI Wood Memorial S., I pointed out that his sire Tale of the Cat had once been described by his trainer John Forbes as just a little too fast for his own good.

I also mentioned that none of Tale of the Cat's best winners had--up to that point--succeeded in winning a graded race over a distance longer than 1 1/8 miles. In fact only three had managed to score over that distance prior to Tale of Ekati (though one of Tale of Ekati's predecessors, Lion Heart, had finished second in the GI Kentucky Derby.) These statements needed revision before the end of the year, with Gio Ponti taking the GII Virginia Derby over a mile and a quarter. Gio Ponti, of course, went on become champion turf male and champion older horse the following year, when his Grade I successes ranged from a mile to 1 3/8 miles.

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GIRVIN, c, 3

Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-2-1-0, \$274,400.

Tale of Ekati	Tale of the Cat	Storm Cat	Storm Bird
		Yarn	Terlingua
	Silence Beauty (Jpn)	Sunday Silence	Mr. Prospector
		Maplejinsky	Narrate
			Halo
Catch the Moon Unraced 4Fls, 2Rnrs, 2Wnrs, 2GSW,	Malibu Moon	A.P. Indy	Seattle Slew
		Macoumba	Weekend Surprise
	Catch My Fancy MSW, 9-3-0-1, \$147,676 8Fls, 3Wnrs	Yes It's True	Mr. Prospector
		Walk Away Rene	Maximova
			Is It True
			Clever Monique
			Gold Alert
		Monique Rene	

I ventured the thought that, if any son of Tale of the Cat was going to be suited by the Kentucky Derby distance, you would have to think that it would be Tale of Ekati, even though he is inbred 4 x 3 to Mr Prospector.

This optimism was based on the fact that his first two dams were by Sunday Silence and Nijinsky II, winners of six classics between them, and Tale of Ekati is also inbred 4 x 4 to Northern Dancer and 5 x 3 to Nijinsky II. Tale of Ekati didn't perform badly in the Derby, finishing fourth of 20, but he was beaten 11 lengths by Big Brown and he then appeared to run out of stamina in the GI Belmont S.

After one more attempt to prove his stamina--a seventh-place finish in the GI Travers S.--Tale of Ekati's connections finally took the hint. Dropped back to a mile, he proceeded to win the GI Jerome H. and the GI Cigar Mile.



Girvin | Hodges Photography



March Grad ILLUMINANT G1

The Two Year Old Source

Track Performance

Two Year Old Sales Graduates in North America 2016

	OBS Safetrack	FT Dirt	BAR
G1 Winners	11	2	0
G1 Horses	32	6	2
Graded Winners	43	9	1
Graded Horses	118	26	12

Two Year Olds of 2016

G1 Winners	5	0	0
G1 Horses	14	1	0
Graded Winners	10	0	0
Graded Horses	29	3	3

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Girvin comes from Tale of Ekati's third crop. None of the three is large, but the first contained Tale of Verve, a remote second to American Pharoah in the GI Preakness S., and Ekati's Phaeton, a Grade III winner over six furlongs and a Grade II scorer over a mile. The second produced Verve's Tale, successful in the GIII Comely S. over a mile and an eighth. Add Girvin into the mix and you have a respectable record for a stallion who has never stood for more than \$15,000 and is currently available for \$7,500.

But will Girvin stay any better than Tale of Ekati and Tale of the Cat? Although he showed no signs of stopping at the end of the Risen Star, there must be a few doubts about his ability to shine over an extra 330 yards. Hopefully the GII Louisiana Derby will tell us more.

Girvin has a very appropriate pedigree for a winner of one of the top prizes at Fair Grounds. His second dam, the Yes It's True mare Catch My Fancy, has a somewhat unusual pedigree, in that she is out of a daughter of Monique Rene, a mare who also produced the dam of Yes It's True. In other words, she is inbred 3 x 2 to Monique

Rene, a racemare whose record earned her entry to the Fair Grounds Hall of Fame.

This duplication to Monique Rene is perhaps understandable, as Catch My Fancy's breeder, the late John Franks, also campaigned Monique Rene in the latter part of her racing career.

In winning 29 of her 45 starts, Monique Rene earned more than \$450,000--a record at the time for a Louisiana-bred--and she was named the champion Louisiana-bred older filly of 1982 and '83. This daughter of Prince of Ascot--a grandson of Princequillo--proved her toughness beyond doubt, winning 11 of her 17 starts as a 4-year-old, plus 10 of her 14 starts the following year. No wonder her trainer Frank Brothers once recalled that Monique Rene had been a "big strapping filly who trained like a colt. I never trained another horse who wanted to run as much as



Tale of the Cat | Coolmore America

she did."

Monique Rene raced mainly over sprint distances on dirt, but her best effort as a broodmare, her Mt. Livermore colt Prince of

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the Mt., won the GIII Ark-La-Tex H. over a mile and an eighth.

In view of Catch My Fancy's pedigree, it was hardly surprising that her stakes victories at two and three were gained at around six furlongs. Her tough sire Yes It's True made his name at distances short of a mile, with his Grade I success coming over six furlongs as a 3-year-old.

Girvin's dam Catch the Moon, an unraced daughter of Malibu Moon, was sold in January 2013 for only \$30,000, in foal to Colonel John. The fact that her price rose to \$240,000 when she was returned to Keeneland in November 2015 tells us that Catch the Moon had achieved something good. Her 2013 Colonel John colt was Coked and Loaded, who showed a lot of speed early in his career, before becoming a Grade III winner in the Iroquois S. over 1 1/16 miles in his juvenile season. Girvin boosts her record to an impressive two graded stakes winners from her first two foals. Her third is a Shanghai Bobby colt born in April 2016, after which she visited Curlin.

Even though Malibu Moon is 20 years old this year, it is still comparatively early days for this son of A.P. Indy as a broodmare sire. It mustn't be forgotten that he started out in Maryland at a fee of only \$3,000 as a 3-year-old in 2000, after his racing career had been halted only two starts in. His first four crops were all sired at that lowly fee, but the emergence of graded-winning 2-year-olds from each of his first two crops, including the champion Declan's Moon, rapidly earned him a transfer to Kentucky. Even so, his fee didn't rise above \$40,000 until 2011. In the circumstances, his daughters from his early crops could be forgiven if they didn't possess the depth of pedigree one normally looks for in a successful broodmare.

The signs are that Malibu Moon is going to enjoy a long and rewarding career as a broodmare sire. Girvin will hopefully soon be bidding to become the fourth Grade I winner with a dam by the Spendthrift resident.

It is worth mentioning that Girvin and his half-brother Coked and Loaded are the exceptions among the seven graded winners produced so far by Malibu Moon mares, as the other five are all fillies. Perhaps Malibu Moon's career as a broodmare sire is going to follow a similar path to his stallion career, which has seen him sire 27 winners at Grade I or Grade II levels. No fewer than 18 of the 27 are fillies, including eight of his 11 Grade I winners.

Despite this bias towards the fillies, Malibu Moon still counts a Kentucky Derby winner--Orb--among his colts, and Girvin's connections must be hoping that he also bucks the early trend. The three Grade I winners with a dam by Malibu Moon are all fillies. First came My Conquestadory (2013 GI Alcibiades S.), and she was followed by By The Moon (2014 GI Frizette S.). Best of the three, though, is Stellar Wind, a triple Grade I winner.

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UNIQUE BELLA TOPS KENTUCKY OAKS NOMINATIONS

Don Alberto Stable's **Unique Bella** (Tapit) topped a list of 109 fillies nominated for the 142nd \$1 million GI Longines Kentucky Oaks, it was announced Monday. The Jerry Hollendorfer-trained **'TDN Rising Star'** won the Jan. 8 GII Santa Ynez S. and Feb. 5 GII Las Virgenes S. in authoritative fashion, contributing to her current status as the even-money favorite for the May 5 fixture at Churchill Downs when the Kentucky Oaks Future Wager closed Sunday evening.

Other notable nominations for the Oaks include GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner **Champagne Room** (Broken Vow) and MGSW **Farrell** (Malibu Moon)--winner of Saturday's GII Rachel Alexandra S. at Fair Grounds and current Oaks qualifying points topper.

In addition to Unique Bella, trainer Jerry Hollendorfer also nominated fellow **'TDN Rising Star'** and Santa Ynez runner-up **It Tiz Well** (Arch). Other **'Rising Stars'** included in the nominations are **Ever So Clever** (Medaglia d'Oro), **American Cleopatra** (Pioneerof the Nile), **Noted and Quoted** (The Factor), **Aspen Hilltop** (Bernardini), **Life's Blessings** (Tapit), **Sweeping Paddy** (Paddy O'Prado), **Cursor** (Quality Road), **Valadorna** (Curlin), **Untapped** (Tapit), **Elate** (Medaglia d'Oro), **Jenda's Agenda** (Proud Citizen), and **Selcourt** (Tiz Wonderful).

The late nomination phase for the Kentucky Oaks is underway and continues through Saturday, Apr. 15. It requires payment of a \$1,500 late fee to make a filly Oaks-eligible. After that date, owners will have a final opportunity to make their fillies eligible for the Oaks through a \$30,000 supplemental nomination required at the race's time of entry on Tuesday, May 2.

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From the

TDN WEEKEND

48 HOURS IN SOUTH FLORIDA

By Bill Finley

Coming to South Florida for the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream sale or a big race at Gulfstream? Take advantage of your time there. A handful of days in South Florida at this time of year is a prescription for rejuvenation, particularly for those frigid masses in the Northern U.S., Europe, or anywhere else the cold is finding you.

Not only does Gulfstream Park host some of the best racing in the country, it's just one facet of an area in the United States that offers sunshine, warmth, excitement, luxury and a thirst for fun. Some tips to get the best out of your time in South Florida:

Day 1: Indulge, Relax

Noon | Joe's Stone Crab, 11 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach

Its reputation is deserved. You will not have a better meal in the Miami area than the one you will have at Joe's Stone Crab.

The problem: you can't get in. Particularly when the snowbirds start flocking to Miami, the wait for a table for dinner is in the two-hour neighborhood. They don't take reservations. The solution: go for lunch. When I arrived at noon the place was three-quarters empty, I was seated immediately and then enjoyed a meal every bit as good as what you get during the dinner hour.

Don't think outside the box when it comes to ordering. Yes, they have a wide variety of fish on the menu as well as steaks, but the name of the restaurant is not Joe's Steak and Fish, is it? Joe's is a legendary dining spot because it serves the best stone crabs and key lime pie you've ever had. Do not order



Jumbo stone crab claws at Joe's
Joe's Stone Crab photo

anything else. I had the "Joe's Classic Meal," which consists of three stone crab claws, an order of cole slaw (which is delicious), hash browns, creamed spinach and a slice of key lime pie. Marvelous doesn't begin to describe how good the meal was.

1:30 p.m. | The 1 Hotel, 2341 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach

The new 1 Hotel on the northern end of South Beach is the best hotel in Miami Beach to get your zen on.

The 1 chain, which also has a hotel on Central Park and another opening soon at the foot of the Brooklyn Bridge, prides itself on being eco-friendly, with room keys made from balsa wood instead of plastic and a recycled cardboard "do not disturb sign." The glasses are made of recycled wine bottles and the tap water goes through a triple filtered purification system so that guests know they should not be wasting money on the water that comes in plastic bottles. The idea is to combine luxury and the ecologically sensitive advancements.



The rooftop bar and lounge at 1
1 Hotel photo

While staying at 1 Hotel may make you feel like you've done right by the planet, the better reason to stay there is that it is luxurious, but not stuffy, with every amenity you can imagine. In fact, Conde Nast named it one of the top 10 best new hotels in the world to open in 2016. You might not want to leave the place. There are four pools, the best of which is an adults-only pool on the rooftop, four restaurant/bars and a spa. You have easy access to the public beach, where the hotel will provide you with chairs, towels and umbrellas. Starting at 700 square feet for a King, the rooms are bigger than a typical one-bedroom Manhattan apartment.

When you leave the hotel, take advantage of the ride they'll give you to any place you want to go within a three-mile radius of the hotel. The car they use is, of course, the environmentally friendly Tesla.

After six hours lounging around two of the four pools, it's time to move on.

To read the rest of this story, [click here](#).

TDN **TOP**

KENTUCKY DERBY

CONTENDERS

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McCraken (cont. from p1)

Undefeated TDN Derby Top 12 kingpin McCraken will next target the Tampa Bay Derby, and watching him progress from his juvenile to sophomore seasons has been like observing an imposing wave forming far off the shoreline. Will he peak prior to the first Saturday in May or precisely on that date? Tough to tell this far out, because even though the pecking order of Triple Crown contenders is starting to sort itself out, the entire list will undergo a not-so-subtle shift starting Mar. 25, when the majority of the important Derby preps extend to nine furlongs. In this 'TDN Rising Star's' favor for remaining near the top of the list are his keen, in-race sense of being in control without being overly aggressive, and an impressive ability to shift into multiple gears while responding willingly to encouragement in the late stages of races. Working against McCraken is the low-percentage path of productivity that is the Tampa route to Louisville, as only one Tampa Derby winner in 35 runnings has gone on to win the Kentucky Derby.

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. 21 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: GII San Felipe S., SA Mar. 11 [Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Mastery](#) KY Derby Points: 10

Trainer Baffert has solidified next-race plans for his pair of TDN

Derby Top 12 horses: Mastery will remain at Santa Anita for the Mar. 11 San Felipe S., while American Anthem (Bodemeister) hits the road to Hot Springs for an engagement in the GII Rebel S. Mar. 18. Baffert has said he will give his pair of May-foaled colts only two prep races prior to aiming for Derby berths, banking on raw talent over the benefit of repeated seasoning. This 'TDN Rising Star' owns an undefeated record, and his



Mastery | Benoit Photo

natural, efficient speed has been an obvious tactical weapon so far. But Mastery's resume also can be read as a path of least resistance, with a maiden win followed by two five-horse-field stakes scores, both run in the lull after the Breeders' Cup. In his Feb. 21 six-furlong bullet workout, Mastery tracked older MGSP workmate Cat Burglar (Unbridled's Song) at a measured clip before edging away in the final furlong, then smoothly shifting into another gear on his own power in the final hundred yards to the wire. "I love this horse," Baffert told TDN after the move. "He went really well. He's improving. He's maturing. He's doing it the right way."

3. 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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 4 Last Start: 1st, [GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S.](#), GP, Feb. 4 Accomplishments: 1st, [Marylander S.](#), LRL, Jan. 23 Next Start: GII 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

'TDN Rising Star' Irish War Cry is an easy horse to like (in the sense of rooting for him) because he's undefeated, has risen from underdog status on a smaller circuit to knock off the juvenile champ, owns an eye-catching turn of foot, and is conditioned by a thinking-man's type of trainer who sets a tone of enjoying the ride at racing's elite levels. But likeability from a betting-to-win-the-Derby standpoint isn't quite as solid, because being a lightly raced, May-foaled, New Jersey-bred doesn't exactly match the profile for vanquishing 20-horse fields at 1 1/4 miles on the first Saturday in May. On Saturday, 'Irish' had his first and only workout in prep for this weekend's Fountain of Youth S., breezing five furlongs in company with MGSW turfster Divine Oath (Broken Vow) in 1:01.65 (14/17) at Palm Meadows. "It's going to be a little different this time," Motion said, contrasting the Fountain of Youth to his colt's Holy Bull S. score. "We didn't have a target on our back last time ... This time, it's going to be a little bit different because people will have expectations, as they should. Look, I just would like to see him run a similar race. He's doing great and I see no reason not to run in the Fountain of Youth. We're looking forward to it."



Irish War Cry | Adam Coglianese

4. 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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 5

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

Next start: GII Rebel S., OP, Mar. 18

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

KY Derby Points: 4

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

American Anthem has gained two positions by attrition on this list in the past three weeks, and No. 4 is a pretty lofty ranking for a 3-year-old who has not yet won a graded stakes. His upside is a tremendous reserve of untapped potential, and considering a four-time Derby-winning trainer is calling the shots, that adds a level of confidence to his chances. Without a doubt, American Anthem has run the best last-out losing race of any horse ranked on the Top 12 (pinned on the inside by a more experienced foe, then kicked again determinedly to lose by a bob in the Sham S.). When the brawny bay ships to Oaklawn for the Mar. 18 Rebel S., he will be attempting to follow in the footsteps of sire Bodemeister (Empire Maker), another Baffert trainee who won the 2012 GI Arkansas Derby by nearly ten lengths, then subsequently finished second in both the Kentucky Derby and GI Preakness S. Baffert is on record as saying American Anthem needs to learn how to relax (he has trained without blinkers even though he races in them). As a lightly seasoned colt, he'll need a measure of composure to handle the shipping experience to an unfamiliar track where the competition for the Rebel is bound to include a solid mix of local horses and several late-blooming shippers seeking Derby points.

5. 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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 6

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



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

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

KY Derby Points: 20

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LANE'S END Sales Graduate

A few days ago El Areeb was thrust back into the mix for Saturday's Gotham S. after several weeks of weighing the pros and cons of either racing a colt who was giving all the signs of being ready, or trying to map out a schedule that gives him a

breather.



El Areeb | Sarah Andrew

Stopping on an in-form, developing horse has its risks. Yet there are also risks in making plans that require shipping away from Aqueduct (where he has won two

stakes by a combined 15 1/2 lengths), and in tweaking the 'TDN Rising Star's' prep race schedule so it leaves imperfect gaps leading up to the Derby. Judging by the confident, well-within-himself way he carries himself in races, El Areeb appears to be a horse that does not require being babied, so why not let him do his thing in the Gotham? There are "a few less variables for us going [to Aqueduct]," trainer Lynch said. "Knowing that your horse likes the inner track is definitely an advantage. That can be a quirky track sometimes; some horses handle it and some don't." El Areeb is growing on me as the type of sophomore who might get cuffed around a bit the first time he finally engages stiffer competition, but his solid foundation and resiliency make it likely he'll learn from the experience. He could solidify into a "wiseguy horse" by the time the Derby nears.

6. 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 KESEF.

Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-2-1-0, \$251,600.

Feb. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 3

Last Start: 5th, [GII Risen Star S.](#), FG, Feb. 25

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

Next start: Uncommitted

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

KY Derby Points: 10



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-Mike Ryan



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Horses ranked No. 6 and No. 7 on this week's version of the Derby list belong to formerly higher-ranked 3-year-olds who sputtered in their seasonal debuts. Each showed so much spark at age two however, that it would be foolhardy to demote them further without seeing second chances. Mo Town flat-out never fired in the Risen Star S. despite attaining gift positioning behind a breakaway pacemaker. "Perfect trip," jockey John Velazquez said after the race. "I just don't think my horse was too happy with the surface." Trainer Dutrow added, "I thought [Mo Town] broke well and got himself into position and just wasn't able to maintain it. Johnny's comments were that the horse was struggling over the surface and never got a hold of it. He felt strongly that it was a surface Mo Town didn't care for. So, we will see if he was right or not. No disrespect to Fair Grounds's surface--it's one of the reasons we came--it just didn't work out for him today." Not relishing a racing surface over which he'll probably never compete again certainly won't ruin this 'TDN Rising Star's' long-range plans, but let's face it: A highly hyped horse with the top-shelf level of athletic prowess that Mo Town is blessed with shouldn't be so drastically disadvantaged by the footing. A regroup is obviously in order, most likely at the nine-furlong distance he's already proven he can handle. But the path to the Derby just got a tad more arduous for Mo Town.

7. 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. Feb. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 7
 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: Uncommitted
[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Classic Empire](#)
 KY Derby Points: 32



Classic Empire | *Horsephotos*

Warrendale Sold, Congratulations To All The Connections

Classic Empire is in recovery mode after being derailed by a foot abscess in the Holy Bull S., a race where he appeared primed to pounce, but didn't show his characteristic kick from the three-eighths pole home. Trainer Casse reported Sunday via phone that the 2-year-old champ has been showing signs of his

former self in light training at Palm Meadows: "We've been real happy with him the last few days. The plan is probably to breeze him towards the end of the week. We kind of feel like it's not that big a rush. This was a pretty severe abscess, so we're just kind of letting him get himself back together. Our feeling is that he can go into the Derby off of one race if need be. I think we're just going to let him tell us. He'll come back with an easy work, and as long as he handles that well, then come back with something a little stronger, then start thinking about what we're going to do."

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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 8
 Last Start: 1st, [GIII Sham S.](#), SA, Jan. 7.
 Accomplishments Include: 1st, [GI FrontRunner S.](#), SA, Oct. 6
 Next start: Either [GII San Felipe S.](#), SA, Mar. 11, or [GII Rebel S.](#), OP, Mar. 18
[Thoro-Graph sheet](#), [Equineline PPs](#), [Caulfield on Gormley](#)
 KY Derby Points: 20

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Will Gormley be sharing a plane ride to Arkansas with the Baffert-trained American Anthem so the two can renew their rivalry in the Mar. 18 Rebel S., or will he remain at his home base of Santa Anita to run against Mastery, the committed favorite for the Mar. 11 San Felipe S.? It's a split, multifactorial decision for trainer Shirreffs, who has two Derby contenders for the same owners, including "On the Bubble" Grade III winner Royal Mo (Uncle Mo). Gormley is a quick, high-energy horse who already has three races of two-turn graded stakes experience, and the fact that he's more nimble than flashy partially explains why he doesn't have a reputation as an intimidating contender. His next race will go a long way toward figuring out where he stands in the Triple Crown hierarchy, because although Gormley doesn't need to win his next prep by a pole to prove he belongs, he does need to assert himself a touch more aggressively against either one of the two California-based sophomores that are ranked above him on this list.

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. 21 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 Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4

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

KY Derby Points: 14



Practical Joke | Sarah K. Andrew

He's a two-time Grade I winner with bullet morning moves in three of his last five workouts, yet Practical Joke figures to go off as an under-the-radar horse in Saturday's Fountain of Youth S. Even toward the end of his 2-year-old campaign, trainer Brown routinely described the Hopeful S. and Champagne S. winner as mentally ahead of his peers, and now that he's been training forwardly in Florida for the past two months, the adjective "stronger" is often added to the mix when Brown describes the colt's progression. Although positionally, Practical Joke has closed from as far back as seventh to both win and hit the board in graded stakes, he wasn't really that far off the action in terms of lengths, so the hunch here is that he won't be attempting a prolonged back-of-the-pack run at 1 1/16 miles, especially if expected fave Irish War Cry is humming along loose on the lead like he was in his Holy Bull S. wire job. A good showing in the Fountain of Youth keeps Practical Joke in this section of the Derby Top 12; a decisive win vaults him into the top tier.

10. ONE LINER (c, [Into Mischief](#)--[Cayala](#), by Cherokee Run)

O-WinStar Farm LLC, China Horse Club & SF Racing, LLC. B-Kingswood Farm (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$150,000 Ylg '15 KEEJAN. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$373,800.

Feb. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 11

Last Start: 1st, [GI Southwest S.](#), OP, Feb. 20

Next start: Uncommitted

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

KY Derby Points: 10

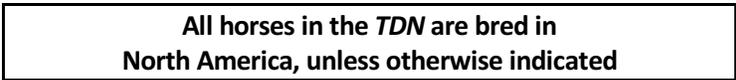


One Liner has an athletic build and the looks of a developing colt that will flesh out nicely as he puts on a bit more muscle, but he'll need to improve his mental focus to handle the duress of the Derby experience.



One Liner | Adam Coglianese

After his Southwest S. victory, jockey John Velazquez said he had to keep after the "relaxed" colt on the backstretch run to make sure he was aware of the horses in front of him, although once engaged, One Liner did respond with competitive aggression. In his Jan. 26 allowance sprint win at Gulfstream, One Liner earned an "asked to gallop out" chartcaller's comment, which meant a right-handed tap of the whip at the wire was required to instruct the colt to keep his mind on business after cruising home unchallenged by 2 1/2 lengths. One Liner earned a 102 Beyer Speed Figure (BSF) in the Southwest S., which ties for top BSF among all active 3-year-olds on the Derby trail (Classic Empire's Breeders' Cup Juvenile win was the other). Experience can only improve One Liner, although he might get only one more start prior to taking aim at the Derby.



11. 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. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: 12

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

Next Start: [Gill San Felipe S.](#), SA, Mar. 11

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

KY Derby Points: 0



Save for his debut loss to American Anthem in a strong Dec. 3 maiden try, Iliad has taken over at the top of the stretch and extended his margins through the lane in each of his two victories since then. The most recent was a pace-pressured seven-furlong score in the San Vicente S. Feb. 11, and he'll have a daunting task in trying to repeat while stretching out to two turns against more battle-tested foes in the San Felipe S. on the second Saturday in March. In a :50.20 half-mile maintenance move last Friday (43/60), the ridgling worked solo, was never seriously urged, and gave the impression that he wanted to do more. He holds a tenuous position on the bottom tier of this list, because two major East Coast preps will be run the week before his next expected start at Santa Anita, and the TDN Derby Top 12 is likely to undergo a serious shakeup before he gets a chance to prove his mettle.

12. GIRVIN (c, [Tale of Ekati](#)--[Catch the Moon](#), by Malibu Moon)

O-Brad Grady. B-Bob Austin & John Witte (KY). T-Joe Sharp.
Sales History: \$140,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$130,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-2-1-0, \$274,400.

Feb. 21 TDN Top 12 Rank: N/A

Last Start: 1st, [Gill Risen Star S.](#), FG, Feb. 25

Next start: Likely for [Gill Louisiana Derby](#), FG, Apr. 1

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

KY Derby Points: 50



There was a fair amount of pre-race chatter about Girvin being an overlooked local hopeful in the Risen Star S. Much of it centered on how swiftly he broke his maiden sprinting in December and then got caught up in the quarantine crisis at Fair Grounds, leaving him with only a Feb. 4 turf stakes prep (in which he was second) prior to Saturday's return to dirt against graded stakes company. His 8-1 upset was admirable, but when you dissect the Risen Star, it comes across as being better on paper prior to the race than how it actually played out on the

track. Neither of the two obvious favorites--Mo Town or Guest Suite (Quality Road)--ran a lick despite each getting their preferred trips position-wise. And winner Girvin skimmed the rail almost the entire way before shifting and drifting in the lane under intermittent urging while no true closers threatened him. The fact that he's the new Derby points leader (50) does come with some status, but if Girvin continues to progress, jockey Brian Hernandez, Jr. might eventually be forced to choose between him and the call he has on the No. 1 horse on this list, McCracken.

On the Bubble:

After drawing post 14 and initially telling the Fair Grounds notes team "I don't mind being on the outside," trainer Doug O'Neill scratched **So Conflated** (Eskendereya) from last Saturday's Risen Star S., citing a poor post. The ridgling will instead detour to this weekend's Gotham S. It could be the big bust-out race for So Conflated coming off of his better-than-it-looks Jan. 21 California Derby win. But with the benefit of hindsight, having seen how the two top faves never fired in the Risen Star, it's fair to say So Conflated might have a tougher time reeling in inner-track specialist El Areeb, especially if the race draws light in terms of other pace-pressers.

Takaful (Bernardini) didn't have to fully extend himself, gliding five furlongs in :59.95 (1/17) while working solo at Palm Meadows last Saturday in preparation for this weekend's Fountain of Youth S. engagement. This '**TDN Rising Star**'s' monster maiden win at Belmont Park Oct. 29 generated considerable buzz about him being a leading Derby contender, but he's been in regroup mode since finishing an okay third in the Remsen S. and caving badly without an apparent excuse when favored in the Jan. 2 GIII Jerome S ... The \$1.2-million yearling **Tapwrit** (Tapit) appears on the cusp of breaking through to the Top 12, especially if he gives McCracken a run for his money in the Mar. 11 Tampa Bay Derby. He was beaten only 1 1/2 lengths by the No. 1 contender despite balking at the gate and enduring a difficult trip; trainer Todd Pletcher has indicated this is a colt that is really starting to get the hang of things and definitely could resonate as a late bloomer.

The trainers of the horses that ran 2-3-4 in the Southwest S. at Oaklawn last week--**Petrov** (Flatter), **Lookin At Lee** (Lookin At Lucky), and **Silver Dust** (Tapit)--all reported they're likely to take a crack at running back in the Rebel S. Mar. 8 at Oaklawn ... **Conquest Mo Money** (Uncle Mo), a New York-bred based in New Mexico, is now 3-for-3, including two stakes wins, after winning Sunday's \$100,000 Mine That Bird Derby at Sunland Park by two lengths over a field that included three maidens. Next up for him is the Mar. 26 GIII Sunland Derby.

MONMOUTH LIKELY TO REDUCE MEET TO 50 DAYS

by Bill Finley



Monmouth Park | Sarah K. Andrew

Hoping a shorter racing season will help it maintain its purse structure, Monmouth Park officials are seeking to conduct a meet that will include only 50 days of racing this year. The New Jersey Thoroughbred schedule could also include six days of turf racing in the fall at the Meadowlands.

Dennis Drazin, who heads the management team at Monmouth, said legislation has been introduced to amend regulations that require Monmouth and the Meadowlands to race for a combined minimum of 71 days. All expectations are that the legislation will pass. If that proves to be the case, Drazin said Monmouth will go ahead with the plans to run for 50 days, plus the six at the Meadowlands.

Last year, Monmouth had a 56-day meet with 15 additional days of racing scheduled at the Meadowlands. One Meadowlands card was washed out. The 2017 plans mark another move to downsize New Jersey racing, but Drazin argues that is the only way for Monmouth's purses to remain in the same ballpark as those in competing states. A renewed need to make cuts arose last year after Monmouth's handle was down 25%.

"If our meet does go down to 50 days, that probably would be the ideal number for us to keep our purses as strong as possible," Drazin said. "We do expect to have a strong meet and we don't anticipate any more cuts. The purse levels will be similar to what they were last year, and we will try to card 12 races every racing day."

"It is very difficult to compete with surrounding states that have alternative sources for revenue from gaming when we don't have any. The good news is that Monmouth Park has been successfully running the meet since [the New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association] took over from the state. We have no fears that we are going to close. We intend to be operating Monmouth Park for all time to come. I don't envision there being any problems with the survival of Monmouth Park."

Despite the reduced schedule, Drazin said he and his staff have gotten a strong response from horsemen and he doesn't expect a problem with defections. Todd Pletcher, the most high-profile trainer who stables at Monmouth, confirmed to the *TDN* that he will be back for the 2017 meet.

In addition to reducing the number of racing days, Monmouth has also announced cuts to its stakes schedule. Thirty-three stakes are scheduled for 2017, down from 41 last year. The amount paid out in the 2017 stakes program will be \$3.725 million, down from \$4.65 million in 2016. Drazin said a choice had to be made between trimming the stakes program or eliminating a program whereby the track pays for workmen's compensation for its trainers. He admitted the workmen's compensation program is a major incentive for people to race at Monmouth.

"There was a huge question when it came to our finances and whether we continue to offer something I don't think any other track offers horsemen, which is worker's compensation," he said. "Monmouth Park has traditionally offered trainers an industry compensation fund, not only for jockeys and exercise riders, but for all their help. With premiums continuing to go up, that number for this year is in excess of \$1.6 million. That money had to come from some place and the only place it could have come from was the purse account. We took a hard look at our stakes schedule. We all know it is very difficult to get large fields in stakes. So many tracks in the Mid-Atlantic are competing for the same stakes horses and the public doesn't want to see five and six-horse fields."

Drazin and his team continue to search for answers to Monmouth's problems, but one possible solution he said is not on the table is a take-over by The Stronach Group. The Stronach Group, which operates Laurel and Pimlico, has let it be known that it is interested in taking over the racing programs at other tracks in the area.

"We have absolutely no intention to let The Stronach Group take over Monmouth Park," he said. "We will continue running Monmouth Park. We also keep hearing rumors about The Stronach Group and keep hearing they will take over the racing operations at Parx. Assuming for argument's sake that Stronach is successful in taking over racing at Parx, we have had some preliminary discussions regarding what that would mean for everyone. We would anticipate some cooperation with them; we would anticipate everyone trying to work together with condition books that worked for the entire region and that they may eliminate some days against us in the summer and we would eliminate some days in the fall so both tracks have more horses available to them. We would welcome them to the region and we would cooperate with them as much as possible, but there is no vision whatsoever of Stronach taking over Monmouth Park."

NY TWEAKS, RE-PROPOSES ANTI-STACKING RULE FOR NSAIDS *by T.D. Thornton*

By unanimous voice vote, the New York State Gaming Commission (NYSGC) tweaked and re-proposed a rule Feb. 27 regarding the use of multiple non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) before horse races in order to eliminate the practice known as “stacking” of those medications while still allowing a second NSAID to be used if it is administered at least 96 hours prior to post time.

According to a brief written by NYSGC general counsel Edmund Burns that was included in the informational packet for Monday’s meeting, “current NYSGC rules specifically permit the use of six NSAIDs if administered prior to 48 hours before a race. The commission also has adopted the four national regulatory thresholds for NSAIDs. All other NSAIDs are impermissible within one week of racing. The pending rulemaking proposal [that had been] published in the Nov. 9, 2016, State Register, was intended to disallow the use of more than one NSAID within one week of racing, as NSAIDs can be administered in combinations that increase the potency and duration of effect of the drugs.”

Yet after considering comments from the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium and the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association that expressed concern about the prohibition on using more than one NSAID for one week before a race, NYSGC staffers have decided that in some cases, it may be beneficial to the health of a horse to administer a second NSAID during the week before racing.

According to Burns’s brief, “the comments further suggest that the proposed rules [that had been published Nov. 9] would put New York out of step with other jurisdictions that remedy NSAID stacking by establishing a second set of thresholds lower than the national thresholds for NSAIDs that were widely adopted (including by New York) in 2014. The Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) model rule also permits unlimited NSAIDs to be administered in preparation for upcoming races. This has resulted in an unintended consequence: administering different NSAIDs at 72, 48 and 24 hours before races.

“Furthermore, the ARCI model rule has no thresholds for many NSAIDs that could be stacked before racing. The ARCI model rule has no restrictions on the use of NSAIDs for which ARCI has not yet adopted a threshold. Accordingly, while recommending that another NSAID be permitted within one week before racing, commission staff does not recommend what it believes is a deficient ARCI model rule.”

In revamping the proposal, NYSGC staff conferred with Dr. George A. Maylin, Director of the New York Drug Testing and Research Program. The Burns brief stated: “As a laboratory director with more than 40 years of experience at inferring

times of administration (assuming a clinical dose) of drugs, Dr. Maylin advised that a 96-hour restricted time period would be more enforceable than a 72-hour one (which was considered), given the state of knowledge about such thresholds. The 96-hour restricted period for a second NSAID would prevent stacking while allowing the use of more than one NSAID in the week before racing and provide trainers with the assurance that compliance with the restricted time periods will prevent a drug positive.”

Therefore, the summation of the new NYSGC recommendation authored by Burns now reads as follows:

“There are circumstances in which a second NSAID might be useful to provide veterinary care. This revision would allow such veterinary care to be given closer to race day while still meeting the objectives of the pending rule-making proposal. The revision would also be consistent with other jurisdictions’ rules. Provided a second NSAID cannot be used within 96 hours of the scheduled post time of the race, a person could still not combine NSAIDs in sub-clinical doses to conceal the administration of both substances within 48 hours before the horse’s race. The rule would also prevent an adverse effect on the horse on race day based on the synergy of combined NSAID administrations. In addition, the overuse of NSAIDs aggressively to prepare a horse for racing would be restricted by the use of only two NSAIDs during the week before racing.”

The new rule language that got advanced on Monday must be re-published in the State Register and pass another 30-day public comment period. At the earliest, it could come up for a final vote at the NYSGC meeting tentatively scheduled for Apr. 24.

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NEW YORK

Top New York Broodmare Wake Up Kiss Dies:

Wake Up Kiss (Cure the Blues), the dam of A Shin Forward (Forest Wildcat)—the second highest all-time New York-bred money earner—passed away Monday afternoon at Vivien Malloy’s Edition Farm in Hyde Park due to the infirmities of old age. She was 19 years old.

“Wake Up Kiss made me the breeder I am today, she gave me a [Group 1] as a breeder,” Malloy said, adding that Wake Up Kiss will be buried at Edition Farm. “She was stoic and classy to the end of her life.”

Malloy continued, “A Shin Forward still holds the record as the second highest earning New York-bred after Funny Cide



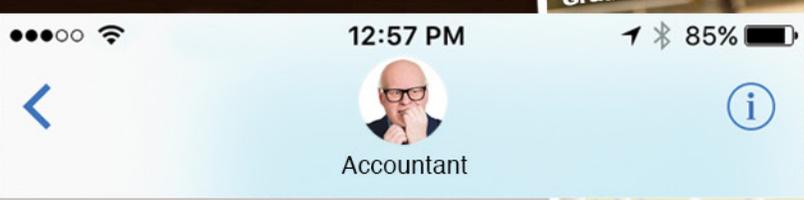
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Breeders' Cup Juvenile Champion New Year's Day

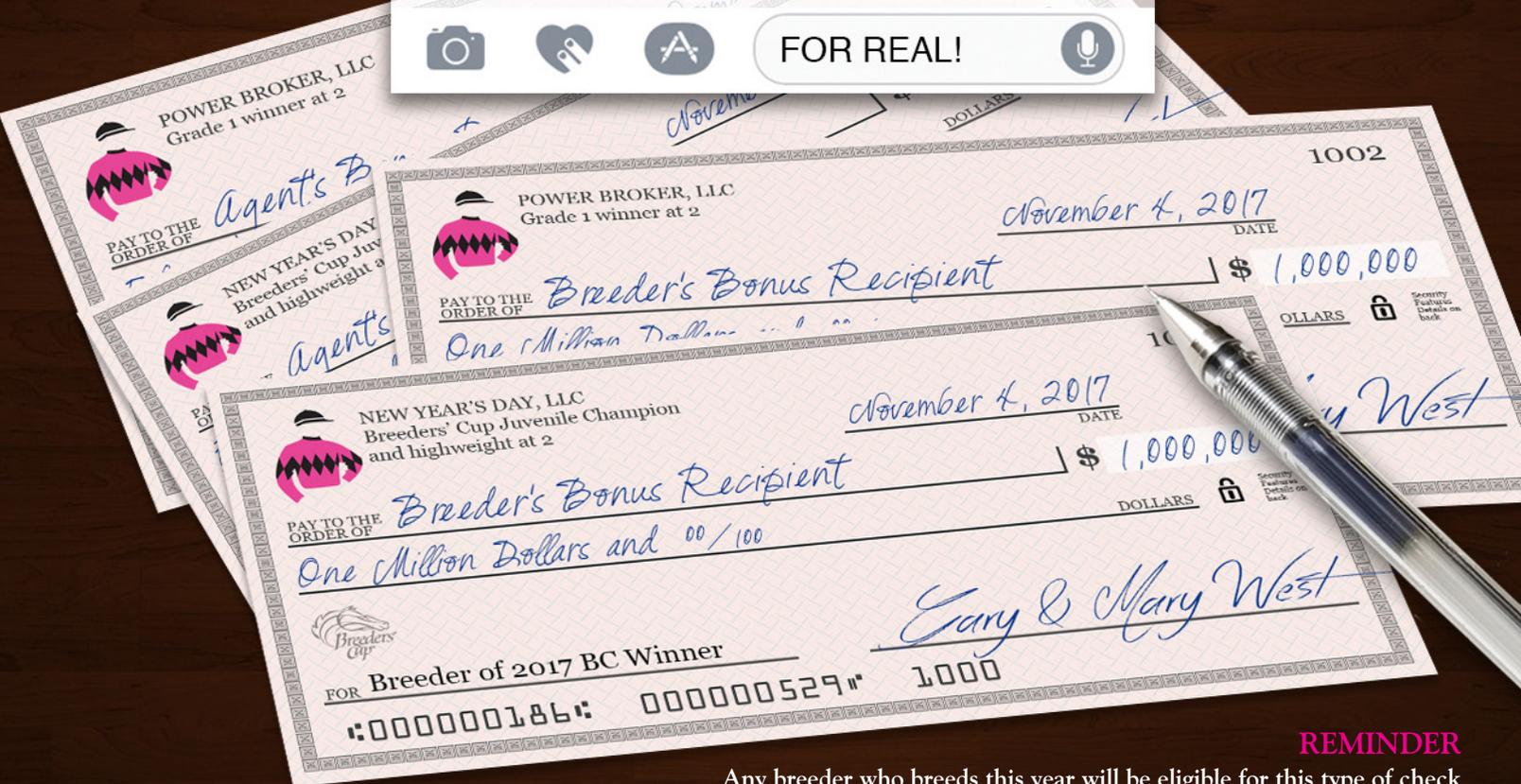


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(Distorted Humor). A Shin Forward also won [Group 2s] and [Group 3s] on the turf and excelled at a mile. He had an explosive turn of foot and the Japanese loved his 'American Speed.'"

Sold twice at auction, A Shin Forward competed exclusively in Japan and captured the 2010 G1 Mile Championship S. at Kyoto before retiring with total earnings of \$3,416,216. Wake Up Kiss enjoyed success of her own on the racetrack, winning five of her 10 career starts, including the Perfect Arc S. and Yaddo H., en route to becoming New York's champion female turf horse in 2003. She was acquired by Edition Farm for \$380,000 at the 2004 Keeneland November sale.

The gray mare has produced six foals to race--all of which were winners--including Wake Up in Malibu (Malibu Moon), who won the restricted Saginaw S. at Belmont in July 2016. She also leaves behind a yearling colt by Scat Daddy.

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EASTERN U.S.

Monday's Results:

3rd-PRX, \$50,000, Msw, 2-27, 3yo, 1m 70y, 1:45.23, ft.

MR. DOUGIE FRESH (c, 3, [Ghostzapper](#)--Patience Drive {SP, \$166,915}, by Pulpit) finished well after a slow start to be fourth sprinting on debut at Aqueduct Nov. 19, but could do no better than sixth in a pair of route attempts there Jan. 14 and Feb. 5. Made a 3-1 proposition in this spot, the \$175,000 KEESEP buy stalked the speed of favored Outplay (Bernardini) from second while a bit headstrong through splits of :24.14 and :48.95. Dueling with that one throughout the far turn and stretch runs, the dark bay just got the measure of his foe in the final yards to earn a head decision. The winner's dam, who failed to produce a foal in 2015 or 2016, was bred to Giant's Causeway last season. Sales History: \$200,000 Wlg '14 FTKNOV. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$33,640. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).**

O-Victory Racing Partners; B-Stephen J McDonald (KY); T-Kieran P. McLaughlin.

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CENTRAL U.S.

Monday's Results:

5th-FG, \$38,000, Msw, 2-27, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2ft, 1:04.39, fm.
A DIXIE TWISTER (f, 4, [Hard Spun](#)--Briar Hill Dixie, by Dixieland Band) ran second in a sloppy off-the-turfer first out here Jan. 1 and closed strongly to be third as the favorite over course and distance Jan. 28. Made the narrow 9-5 second choice in this spot, the dark bay tracked from third through a tepid :23.02 quarter. Going three-wide on the turn, she surged past the pacesetter inside the eighth pole and inched clear to graduate by 1 1/4 lengths. Molly O'Shea (Cape Blanco {Ire}), the 17-10 favorite, was up late for second. The winner's second dam She Looks Wicked (Seattle Slew) is a half to champion The Wicked North (Far North). Briar Hill Dixie is responsible for a juvenile colt by Congrats named Bravo Dixie and she foaled a Stay Thirsty filly last term before visiting Paynter. Sales History: \$45,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$34,580. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).** O/T-Steven M. Asmussen; B-Randal Family Trust (KY).

1st-HOU, \$19,000, Msw, 2-27, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:12.21, ft.

+DREAMERS VISION (f, 3, The Visualiser--One Hip Wonder, by Offlee Wild) tipped her hand with a sharp local five-furlong breeze in 1:00 4/5 (2/32) Feb. 7, and was given a 49-10 chance in this debut. Off about a length slowly, the bay recovered to stalk the pace from third through a :22.34 quarter. Rallying to the lead at the sixteenth pole, she edged away late to beat fellow firster Beads and Blings (Too Much Bling) by three-quarters of a length. The winner's dam, a half to MGSW/GISP Cat by the Tale (Tale of the Cat), has a 2-year-old Tiz Wonderful colt named Wildscore. She foaled a full-brother to the victress last term and produced another filly by The Visualiser Feb. 17. Sales History: \$4,000 Ylg '15 OKCYRL. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$11,280. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

O-RML Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Center Hills Farm (OK); T-Kari Craddock.

10th-HOU, \$19,000, Msw, 2-27, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:47.20, fm.

DETERMINED (c, 4, [Malibu Moon](#)--Dixie Holiday, by Dixieland Band) showed late interest to be fifth in his career bow Mar. 26 over the Tampa turf for trainer Christophe Clement and set the pace before fading to sixth Dec. 23 at Fair Grounds in his first start for this barn. Crushed down to 1-10 in here, the \$210,000 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic grad was allowed to run clear through a :25.30 quarter and :50.54 half. Challenged by Pure Bingo (Pure Prize) approaching the five-sixteenths pole, the big favorite dug in to prevail by a neck after that rival wandered about through

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the stretch. Determined is a half to Holiday Runner (Meadowlake), MSW & GSP, \$232,073--the dam of MGISW Seventh Street (Street Cry {Ire}) and G1SW Reynalothewizard (Speightstown)--and Smash (Smart Strike), GSP, \$193,117. Dixie Holiday is represented by a juvenile Lemon Drop Kid filly named Holiday Time and she was bred to Tapizar last year. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$11,360. [Click for the Equibase.com chart.](#) O-Speedway Stable LLC; B-Peter E. Blum Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY); T-Michael Stidham.

Prominent Ohio Breeder George Smith Passes Away:

George A. Smith, an Ohio breeder and owner of Thoroughbreds, passed away at the age of 84 after a bout with a sudden illness. Over the years, Smith played a major role in the shaping of the state's breeding industry with his Woodburn



George Smith and Edgar Prado

Farm in Centerville, Ohio. The 110-acre farm became one of the most prominent thoroughbred facilities in the Midwest, raising numerous stakes winners, state champions and graded stakes winners.

Smith served as President of the Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners from 1978-1979, in addition to serving as a Governor appointee on the Thoroughbred Advisory Board.

Smith is a graduate of Ohio State University and was a three-year letterman and captain of the varsity golf team.

In his senior season, he led the team to win the Big Ten Championship by 22 strokes and was regarded as one of the top amateur players in the nation.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 2 at the Saint George Episcopal Church in Centerville. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in George's memory to Old Friends Farm, 1841 Paynes Depot Rd., Georgetown, Kentucky, 40324.

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Second-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, February 28

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

- AMERICAIN** (Dynaformer), Calumet Farm, \$20K, 69/2/0
3-FG, Msw 1mT, Speeding Home, RNA KEE NOV wnl, 30-1
- ASTROLOGY** (A.P. Indy), Taylor Made Stallions, \$7.5K, 156/16/2
5-PRX, Msw 5 1/2f, +Before, \$7K OBS OPN 2yo, 4-1
- GEMOLOGIST** (Tiznow), WinStar Farm, \$15K, 205/22/3
3-FG, Msw 1mT, She'sagraciouslady, \$37K OBS OPN 2yo, 6-1
- HANSEN** (Tapit), KOR, \$12.5K, 129/25/2
2-SUN, Msw 6 1/2f, Eye of the Hunter, 5-1
- MACLEAN'S MUSIC** (Distorted Humor), Hill 'N' Dale Farms, \$6.5K, 147/26/2
5-PRX, Msw 5 1/2f, Tin N Lint, \$20K EAS MAY 2yo, 2-1
- STAR GUITAR** (Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud, \$4K, 80/5/0
9-FG, Msw 1mT, Bermuda Star, \$20K EQL 2YO 2yo, 8-1
- THE FACTOR** (War Front), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 218/20/3
6-SUN, Msw 5 1/2f, Wicked Factor, \$90K KEE SEP yrl, 9-2
- 5-PRX, Msw 5 1/2f, Alexia, \$31K OBS APR 2yo, 10-1
- 5-FG, Aoc 1mT, Senora Acero, \$40K KEE SEP yrl, 10-1
- TO HONOR AND SERVE** (Bernardini), Gainesway Farm, \$30K, 172/17/1
7-PRX, Aoc 1m, Honorable Service, \$22K OBS OPN 2yo, 10-1
- UNION RAGS** (Dixie Union), Lane's End Farm, \$35K, 220/21/3
3-FG, Msw 1mT, Mighty Nice Rags, 12-1
- UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN** (Limehouse), Diamond B Farm, 16/3/0
7-PRX, Aoc 1m, Alan's Legacy, 6-1

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IN JAPAN:

Weiss Genie, c, 3, **Paddy O'Prado**--Indylyn, by A.P.Indy. Nakayama, 2-25, Alw, 8fT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$58,250. O-Hidaka Breeders Union; B-James & Janeane Everatt, Arika Everatt-Meeuse & Calmar Stables; T-Masamichi Wada. *\$8,000 Ylg '15 KEEJAN.

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-FG, \$43,000, (S), 2-27, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.02, ft.
D J SOUL SISTA (m, 6, Yankee Gentleman--Short Skirt Flirt, by Pentelicus) Lifetime Record: 22-6-1-2, \$85,195. O/B-Jed Steffee (LA); T-Jed Steffee. *\$20,000 RNA 3yo '14 ESLMIX.

9th-FG, \$40,000, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$12,500), 2-27, 4yo/up, 1mT, 1:36.69, fm.

HONEYMOON BRIDGE (g, 4, Grand Slam--Wanton, by Unbridled's Song) Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-1, \$59,220. O-Autumn Hill Farms Racing Stables, Inc.; B-Autumn Hill Farms Racing Stables, Inc. (LA); T-Edward J. Johnston.

8th-GG, \$30,717, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$32,000), 2-26, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m (AWT), 1:44.78, ft.

CLOSE THE SHOW LO (f, 4, Pure Prize--Carrie Can {MSW, \$309,562}, by Saratoga Six) Lifetime Record: 10-2-2-0, \$41,348. O-Ron Crockett, Inc.; B-Ron D. Crockett (KY); T-Frank Lucarelli. *1/2 to Harvard Avenue (You and I), MGSW & GISP, \$606,345.

2nd-MVR, \$26,200, (S), 2-27, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:46.15, ft.

CATMAR (f, 4, Mercer Mill--Thedoctorscat, by Tale of the Cat) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$39,719. O/B-Dr. Harold Fishman (OH); T-William D. Cowans.

8th-HOU, \$22,000, 2-27, (C), 4yo/up, f/m, 5fT, :57.57, fm.
D'BOLDEST (m, 7, D'wildcat--Boldest of All {SW, \$249,864}, by Bold Executive) Lifetime Record: 23-9-4-0, \$158,825. O-Antonia B. Noonan; B-Soundview Farm (FL); T-Jose M. Camejo.

2nd-HOU, \$20,000, 2-27, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.98, ft.
CHAOTIC KITTY (m, 6, Big Top Cat--Lemon Yellow, by Red Ransom) Lifetime Record: SP, 40-8-11-4, \$207,905. O-End Zone Athletics, Inc.; B-Circle H Farms (LA); T-Karl Broberg.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+G Zap, g, 3, Ghostzapper--Aroma de Mujer (SW, \$229,166), by Trippi. PRX, 2-27, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:07.06. B-Marilyn Doetsch (KY). *\$37,000 Ylg '15 EASOCT.

Our Wild Dancer, g, 4, Half Ours--Shutupanddance (SW, \$227,715), by Brassy Wells. FG, 2-27, (S), 6f, 1:12.25. B-Bill Morrison (LA).

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SNITZEL ON HIS WAY TO JUVENILE RECORD



Snitzel at Arrowfield Stud | Bronwen Healy

by John Berry

Competition is fierce at the head of this season's Australian General Sires' Table. With many valuable races set to be run in both Melbourne and Sydney over the next couple of months, we are likely to see the lead change a few more times between now and the end of July. At present, though, **Snitzel (Aus)** (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) holds a narrow lead over **Fastnet Rock (Aus)** (Danahill). Each is an excellent sire, notable for both quality and quantity of winners. Along with **I Am Invincible (Aus)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) and **Not A Single Doubt (Aus)** (Redoute's Choice {Aus}), they are on the way to posting remarkable seasonal totals of individual winners and races won. Of the quartet, though, Snitzel is streets ahead of his peers in one category: success with 2-year-olds. As so much of the focus in Australia is currently directed towards juvenile races, it is easy to see why Snitzel is making as big an impact in the sales ring as he is on the track.

Admittedly Snitzel has had considerably more individual juvenile runners this season (46) than anyone else, but even so, the extent of his success has been remarkable. He has currently been represented by 22 individual 2-year-old winners in Australia this season; only one other sire (I Am Invincible, who has had 10) is in double figures. In fact, aside from these two, only Fastnet Rock (with eight) has had more than five individual 2-year-old winners this term. [Cont. p2](#)

BAKER STABLE, REMAINS IN ICU

George Baker remains in intensive care following his fall at St. Moritz on Sunday. The Professional Jockey's Association provided the latest update on the jockey's condition on Monday afternoon when it posted on Twitter, "George Baker remains in intensive care in a stable condition. His wife Nicola is with him and we hope to issue a further update tomorrow."

Baker was riding Boomerang Bob (Ire) (Aussie Rules) for Jamie Osborne when his mount was brought down after another of the runners put its foot in a hole and fell. The accident caused the remainder of the racing to be abandoned and led to a number of British trainers in attendance to question the future viability of the meeting in its current time-slot.

"The best thing is, he's out of a coma, breathing on his own and able to move of his own accord," Nicola Baker told *Racing Post* later that day. "Everything else is a bonus. He had a very severe concussion, but his CT scan came back okay and the best thing for him is sleep and time."

Ralph Beckett, John Best and the injured jockey's namesake, George Baker, were all there to saddle runners and Baker, who has trained winners at the meeting in the past, was the least impressed with the situation. "It's all very sad as it's a magical place, but I will never bring another horse over again for the meeting," Baker said.

On the other hand John Best spoke out in defense of the track and told the *Racing Post*, I walked the track with my jockey Kieran Fox and we all thought it was perfectly safe. There was nothing to suggest anything like this was going to happen."

Ralph Beckett is another to have had success at St Moritz in the past and he felt the later start date was not a help. "It is sad as they have been racing quite safely here since 1907," said Beckett. "However, this is the latest they have ever raced and you have to question that."

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IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

ARROGATE DUBAI WORLD CUP BOUND

Champion and 'TDN Rising Star' Arrogate (Unbridled's Song) has been green-lighted for the \$10-million G1 Dubai World Cup Bob Baffert confirmed Monday. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

op/ed by John Berry



Snitzel on His Way to Juvenile Record Cont.

Snitzel's dominance as regards juvenile races won is equally absolute. He is easily the most successful of the only three stallions with a double-figure total. He is on 26, with I Am Invincible on 13 and Fastnet Rock on 12. (And it should also be noted that one of Snitzel's best juveniles does not feature in his figures, his stakes-winning NZ-trained son Summer Passage (Aus) never having raced outside New Zealand).

For a stallion to have registered 22 individual juvenile winners when the season is only seven months old would be hugely creditable in any country, but in Australia it is astonishing. For all that juvenile races attract so much attention in Australia, relatively speaking there are not many of them. In the early months of the Australian season there is a solid programme of prestigious 2-year-olds' races, but there are very few races for lower-grade juveniles. Registering the volume of juvenile success which 'cheap-speed' sires can compile in other countries, most notably the USA and Great Britain, is not possible, as the lower-grade horses generally have to wait until they are a bit older before there are plentiful suitable opportunities for them.

It is rare for a stallion to be represented by as many as 20 individual juvenile winners in Australia during a whole season, never mind merely in its first seven months. Only one reached this milestone last season: Snitzel (of course!) who had 29. He could, incidentally, be said to have equalled the long-standing Australian record (30, set in 1976) of Without Fear (Fr) (Baldric) thanks to having additionally had one juvenile winner overseas. In the previous 2014/'15 term, three stallions hit the 20-winner mark (Not A Single Doubt, Snitzel and I Am Invincible), but none managed more than 22. What total Snitzel will have reached by the end of term on July 31 is anyone's guess, but an outright Australian record looks likely. In fact, one could say that a crack at the world record, although extremely unlikely, is not totally out of the question when one considers that when Snitzel sired his 21st individual juvenile winner this season, he did so on a date (Feb. 16) by which last season only five of his ultimate tally of 29 individual



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juvenile winners had saluted the judge. The tallies set elsewhere, of course, are very hard for Australian stallions to match. The overall record of 2-year-old winners from a single crop was set posthumously by the great Sunday Silence (Halo) in Japan in 2004, when his penultimate crop contained 51 individual juvenile winners. Of European-based stallions, the 43 individual juvenile winners sired by Kodiak (Ire) (Green Desert) in 2015 stands as the benchmark; while in the USA Florida-based Wildcat Heir (Forest Wildcat) registered a notable first-season achievement in 2009 with 39 individual juvenile winners among his first crop of runners.

What is particularly creditable about Snitzel's record as a stallion is that he has established himself as a prolific sire of good 2-year-old winners without having become typecast as only a specialist sire of juveniles. In fact, he is at least as notable for his good older horses as for his good 2-year-olds. **Cont. p3**

Snitzel on His Way to Juvenile Record Cont.

So far only six of the 28 Group 1 performances (i.e. first three finishes) by sons or daughters of Snitzel have been posted by 2-year-olds. Snitzerland (Aus) ranks as arguably his best juvenile for having finished runner-up to Pierro (Aus) (Lonhro {Aus}) in the G1 Golden Slipper S. in 2012, but she did not register her best win until the age of four, when she won the G1 Lightning S. at Flemington. The career of his other Golden Slipper place-getter Sweet Idea (Aus), who finished third to Overreach (Aus) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}) in the 2013 Slipper, followed a similar pattern: she too enjoyed her finest hour as a 4-year-old, taking the G1 Galaxy S. at Rosehill in 2015.

Shamus Award (Aus) ranks as arguably Snitzel's most distinguished son. He was precocious enough to finish in the frame in the G3 Maribyrnong Plate in the spring of his 2-year-old season; but he only really came good at three, achieving the unusual feat of winning the G1 Cox Plate as a maiden before following up in the G1 Australian Guineas, a race which the Snitzel 3-year-old Wandjina (Aus) won the following season. One of the stars of last season's HK Triple Crown Series was the Snitzel 4-year-old Sun Jewellery (Aus), who won the first two legs, beating subsequent HK Derby winner Werther (NZ) (Tavistock {NZ}) on each occasion. An even more durable and progressive son of Snitzel has been Hot Snitzel (Aus), who recorded his best win when he landed the G1 BTC Cup over 1200m at Doomben in 2015 as an autumn 6-year-old.

It is easy to understand why Snitzel is adept at siring both precocious horses and tough, progressive ones because his racing career showed that he ticked both boxes himself, notwithstanding that he only raced for two seasons. Those two seasons, though, were enough to show him to be a proper racehorse. Trained by Gerald Ryan, he ran six times as a juvenile in the 2004/'05 season, winning four races. Three of these were black-type events, including the G3 Skyline S. over 1200m at Rosehill. His only unplaced run that season came in the Golden Slipper. The following season he ran nine times, again running well every time. The best of his three Group wins came in the G1 Oakleigh Plate over 1100m at Caulfield; and he also finished second to the international champion sprinter Takeover Target

(Aus) (Celtic Swing {GB}) in the G1 Newmarket H. at Flemington. Overall, his record puts him in the same category as both his sire Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danehill) and his maternal grandsire Snippets (Aus) (Lunchtime {GB}). Both were both top-class juveniles who became terrific super-tough 3-year-olds en route to a stellar stud career.

It has been plain now for several seasons that, whether one is looking for a top juvenile, a leading 3-year-old or a high-class weight-for-age horse, Snitzel is a stallion who should be on one's short-list. Results from yearling sales consistently show that buyers have realised this. In 2016, he was responsible for the top-priced yearling at each of Australia's three principal yearling sales. At the Magic Millions his colt ([lot 430](#)) out of Mirror Mirror (Aus) (Dehere) fetched A\$1,600,000 (and is now named Chauffeur (Aus) and won at Rosehill in December). In Melbourne, his colt ([lot 474](#)) out of Beauty World (Aus) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) topped the Inglis Premier Sale at A\$700,000 (and



Ducimus | Bronwen Healy

now, named Ducimus (Aus), ranks as the last-start winner of the Talindert S. at Flemington a couple of weeks ago). At the Inglis Sydney Easter Sale, his half-brother to Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) ([lot 135](#)) was sold for A\$2,300,000.

This year, Snitzel's sales are going in similar vein. He was represented by four of the top 10 yearlings at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Sale in January, headed by his son ([lot 409](#)) of Sabanci (Aus) (Encosta De Lago {Aus}) who was sold to

Chris Waller, working with Guy Mulcaster Bloodstock, for A\$1,100,000. The Inglis Melbourne Premier Sale kicked off at the weekend with a Snitzel colt ([lot 68](#)) out of Mightier (Aus) (Zabeel {NZ}) topping the first day's trade at A\$620,000. Looking ahead to the Inglis Easter Sale in Sydney, it's long odds-on that yearlings by Snitzel will be making headlines there. Just as sons and daughters of the stallion, both 2-year-olds and older horses, will be doing at the races.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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WHITE MUZZLE, 27, DIES

Dual European highweight **White Muzzle (GB)** (Dancing Brave-Fair Of The Furze {GB}, by Ela-Mana-Mou {GB}), winner of the G1 Derby Italiano at Capannelle in 1993, has died in Japan at the age of 27. Bred by Airlie Stud and trained by Peter Chapple-Hyam originally for Luciano Gaucci, White Muzzle was then sold to the Yoshida family but remained in Chapple-Hyam's care. He



White Muzzle, far right, finishing second to Opera House in the 1993 King George
Racing Post

also won a Group 2 in Deauville in 1994 but it was in defeat that he ran some of his best races. This included finishing a neck second to subsequent 'blue hen' Urban Sea (Miswaki) in the 1993 G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and also finishing second in consecutive runnings of the G1 King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond S. at Ascot in 1993 and 1994. He returned to Longchamp in 1994 well fancied to make amends for his defeat the previous year, but he finished a never dangerous sixth to Carnegie (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) with jockey Yutaka Take coming in for severe criticism, most notably from Chapple-Hyam, who felt the Japanese jockey gave the horse far too much to do. White Muzzle retired to stud in Japan for the 1995 season and among his 15 black-type winners are: G1 Singapore Airlines International Cup hero **Shadow Gate (Jpn)**, champion **Asakusa Kings (Jpn)** and G1 Japan Cup Dirt victor **Nihonpiro Ours (Jpn)**.

Paying tribute to White Muzzle on Twitter Chapple-Hyam said, "He was a cracker, a wonderful horse, missed so Big Muz."

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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Poetic Queen (Ire), f, 4, **Dylan Thomas (Ire)**--Jubilant Lady, by Aptitude. WOL, 2-27, 5f 216y (AWT), 1:14.16. B-Mr & Mrs G. Middlebrook (IRE).



The first foal by MGSW & MG1SP Hot Streak (Ire) (Iffraaj {GB}), who stands at Tweenhills in Gloucestershire, is a filly foaled Jan. 14. Bred by Patrick Cosgrove, the bay is pictured strutting her stuff in Co. Meath and is out of the listed-placed Breedj (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}). "My Hot Streak foal looks really racy," commented Cosgrove. "She has loads of quality, a lovely step and I am really happy with how she is developing. I really like Hot Streak's first foals and I will definitely be using him again." | Tweenhills

FRANCE

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Monday's Results:

2nd-CGN, €16,000, Mdn, 2-27, 3yo, c/g, 10f (AWT), 2:03.87, st. LAAMATHEEL (GB) (c, 3, [New Approach \(Ire\)](#)--Safwa {Ire}, by **Green Desert), runner-up on debut over this course and distance Jan. 26, was sent off the 1-2 favourite and gradually crept up to second. Taking control at the top of the straight, the homebred tended to lug right but was always doing enough to win a shade comfortably by a length from Be My Sheriff (Ger) (Lawman {Fr}). Safwa, whose Munaaser (GB) also by New Approach (Ire) was second in the G3 Abu Dhabi Championship, GSP-UAE, \$185,736, also has a 2-year-old colt by Dubawi (Ire) named Moojib (Ire). She is a half-sister to the dual G2 Hardwicke S.-winning sire Maraahel (Ire) and the G3 Prestige S. third Huja (Ire) who later produced Tazahum (Redoute's Choice {Aus}), successful in the Listed Heron S. and placed twice at group level. Two relatives to have added gravitas to the family in recent times are the G2 Prix Robert Papin and G2 Flying Childers S. scorer and G1 Prix Morny runner-up Gutaifan (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}) and Ventura Storm (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}) who took last year's G1 Premio Jockey Club after running second in the G1 St Leger. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, €12,800. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)
O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum; B-Shadwell Estate Co. Ltd (GB); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.**

FEBRUARY 2017

TDN WEEKEND

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French Report Cont.

4th-CGN, €16,000, Mdn, 2-27, 3yo, f, 10f (AWT), 2:06.35, st.

MUSTANGA (FR) (f, 3, Le Havre {Ire}--Molene {Fr}, by Legend of France), sixth on her racecourse bow over this track and trip Jan. 26, started sluggishly at 7-1 and was sent up to race in a close-up second after the first half mile. Committed with 300 metres to race, the €35,000 OSASEP yearling was driven out to record a 1 1/4-length verdict over Mina Love (Fr) (Kendargent {Fr}). Mustanga is a half-sister to the G2 Prix du Conseil de Paris runner-up Makt (Fr) (Chichicastenango {Fr}), GSP-Fr, \$131,306. Her extended family includes the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches and G1 Irish 1000 Guineas heroine L'Attrayante (Fr) (Tyrant) who also captured the GII E. P. Taylor S. and was second in the GI Yellow Ribbon Invitational S. Her daughter Madeleine's Dream (Theatrical {Ire}) also proved triumphant in the Pouliches for the Allen Paulson-Francois Boutin partnership 10 years after her dam in 1993, while two other notables to fly her flag were the GIII Bewitch S. scorer Miss Lenora (Theatrical {Ire}) and sire Ozal. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, €8,000. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Gerard Augustin-Normand; B-M & Mme B de la Motte Saint-Pierre & Mme K Beneton; T-Nicolas Caullery.

CONDITIONS RESULT:

1st-MMN, €24,000, 2-27, 3yo, 10fT, 2:15.80, g/s.

VOISCREVILLE (IRE) (f, 3, Le Havre {Ire}--Vidiyna {Fr}, by Danehill Dancer {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, €28,250. O-Gerard Augustin-Normand; B-Franklin Finance SA (Ire); T-Christophe Ferland.



Willie Mullins hosted a pre-Cheltenham media morning on Monday and pictured on her way to work is one of his leading Cheltenham candidates Vroum Vroum Mag (Fr) | *Racing Post*

WORLDWIDE NEWS

'INVINCIBLE' COLT BREAKS INGLIS RECORD

Trade moved up a gear at the Inglis Melbourne Premier Yearling Sale on Monday when a colt by I Am Invincible (Aus) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) laid down a marker as the world's most expensive yearling this year when selling to Ciaran Maher for A\$1.4m. The colt ([lot 259](#)), offered and bred by Rick Jamieson's Gilgai Farm, is the most expensive yearling ever sold in Victoria and it is also the highest price achieved for one by his sire so far.

After two days of trade the aggregate sits at A\$33,330,000 with the sale topper helping to raise the average slightly to A\$126,730. The clearance rate is steady at 82% and Inglis Victorian Bloodstock Manager Simon Vivian was thrilled with the success of the day and how the sale is performing in general.

"We came into day two knowing we had some outstanding yearlings to offer the market and this was ultimately supported by the vast buying bench in attendance, where those quality yearlings realised very pleasing results," Vivian said.

"Undeniably, the highlight was selling Gilgai Farm's I Am Invincible colt for A\$1.4million. Such theatre has not been seen in the Oaklands ring before and I am delighted for the vendor, excited for the purchaser and respectful for the underbidders."

EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

IN JAPAN:

Tanino Urban Sea (GB), f, 4, Sea The Stars (Ire)--Vodka (Jpn) (2x HotY, Ch. 2yo Filly, 2x Ch. Older Mare-Jpn, MG1SW-Jpn, \$13,147,826), by Tanino Gimlet. Hanshin, 2-26, Alw, 9fT. Lifetime Record: 9-2-4-2, \$234,375. O-Yuzo Tanimizu; B-Y.Tanimizu; T-Katsuhiko Sumii.

IN UAE:

Jaaref (Ire), g, 4, Sea The Stars (Ire)--Tabassum (Ire) (GSW-Eng), by Nayef. 2-25, Abu Dhabi, Hcp., 2200m, 2:18.48. B-Shadwell Estate Co. Ltd. (Ire).



lot 259 | Bronwen Healy

'Invincible' Colt Breaks Inglis Record Cont.

The current sale topper had caught the eye of trainer Ciaron Maher fully six months ago when he visited Gilgai Farm. Maher showed great determination to secure the half-brother to Group 1 winner The Quarterback (Aus) (Street Boss). Bidding opened at A\$200,000 for the Sept. 7-born son of Soorena (Aus) (Encosta De Lago {Aus}) and moved swiftly beyond A\$500,000 with Maher facing stern competition from The Quarterback's trainer

Robbie Griffiths. As the bids kept coming in increments of A\$100,000 the price soon eclipsed the previous Premier Yearling Sale record of A\$750,000 and the previous best of A\$900,000 for a son of Yarraman Park's I Am Invincible.

After signing the docket for A\$1.4m Maher said, "I thought then [six months ago] he was a lovely type and obviously he's got a cracking type and I've loved the way he's



Kelly Skillecorn congratulates Ciaron Maher | Inglis

developed the past six months. He's a great mover, got a great temperament, he's got what it takes."

Maher continued, "I don't always inspect before looking at my catalogue, but I did with this particular draft and I quite like that way of doing it. You're not influenced by pedigrees or fashionable stallions or anything like that. Gilgai have done a great job again. They seem to do it year after year. I'm very

excited to be able to get him home and I can't wait to get him into the stable."

Gilgai Farm's Kelly Skillecorn was naturally ecstatic with the result. "Unbelievable, it's amazing, it really is," he said. "We were hopeful of a figure in the highish hundreds of thousands, but to see him do that, it's quite extraordinary. During the sale, I was nervous the whole time. I was nervous from when we got him back from Segenhoe as a foal when I saw how good he was because anybody that's seen him since fell in love with him from the moment they saw him. We're just thrilled that Ciaron is getting him, he's in the top half-dozen trainers and the obvious young trainer that's just skyrocketed to the top. He's an extraordinary horseman."



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

MELBOURNE PREMIER YEARLING SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2017	2016
• Catalogued	200	212
• No. Offered	184	199
• No. Sold	147	169
• RNAs	37	30
• % RNAs	20%	15%
• No. \$500K+	3	0
• High Price	A\$1,400,000	A\$340,000
• Gross	A\$19,129,500	A\$17,584,000
• Average (% change)	A\$130,133 (+25%)	A\$104,047
• Median (% change)	A\$100,000 (+25%)	A\$80,000
CUMULATIVE	2017	2016
• Catalogued	350	362
• No. Offered	321	322
• No. Sold	263	291
• RNAs	58	45
• % RNAs	18%	13%
• No. \$500K+	4	1
• High Price	A\$1,400,000	A\$675,000
• Gross	A\$33,333,000	A\$33,647,000
• Average (% change)	A\$126,730 (+9.6%)	A\$115,625
• Median (% change)	A\$100,000 (+11%)	A\$90,000

Two other horses reached the A\$500k mark on Monday. The first of these was a colt by Not A Single Doubt (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) bought by Sun Bloodstock for A\$520,000, after a good bidding tussle with Aquis Farm. [Lot 205](#) was offered by Lauriston Thoroughbred Farm and is the second produce out of the eight-time winner Rhodamine (Aus) (Success Express). Sun Bloodstock certainly made their presence felt on day two at Oaklands as they were also under-bidders on the third- and fourth-highest lots. [Cont. p7](#)

'Invincible' Colt Breaks Inglis Record Cont.

They came out second best to the Hong Kong Jockey Club for [lot 163](#), a colt by Written Tycoon (Aus) (Iglesia {Aus}), knocked down for A\$500,000, while John Saddlers Aquanita Racing fended them off successfully for [lot 167](#), a colt by Lonhro (Aus) (Octagonal {NZ}), bought for A\$440,000.

Spieth (NZ) (Thorn Park {Aus}) has been chinned in his last two starts in Group 1 races and his trainer Bryce Heys, got in on the action at the upper end, when giving A\$400,000 for [lot 230](#), a colt by Snitzel (Aus) offered by Burnewang North Pastoral.

Following two days of trade, Gilgai Farm is the leading vendor for both aggregate (A\$2,745,000) and average (A\$274,500) for drafts with three or more sales. Not surprisingly, I Am Invincible is the leading stallion by aggregate with \$A3,505,000, while Snitzel leads the way by average (three or more sold) on A\$348,750. The third session of the Melbourne Premier Sale continues on Tuesday at 10 a.m. local time.

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SESSION TOPPERS

MELBOURNE PREMIER YEARLING SALE DAY TWO TOP LOTS

Lot	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
259	c	I Am Invincible (Aus)	Soorena (Aus) <i>B-Gilgai Farm (Vic)</i> Consigned by Gilgai Farm Purchased by Ciaron Maher Bloodstock	1,400,000
205	c	Not A Single Doubt (Aus)	Rhodamine (Aus) <i>B-Lauriston Thoroughbred Farm (Vic)</i> Consigned by Lauriston Thoroughbred Farm Purchased by Sun Bloodstock Pty Ltd	520,000
163	c	Written Tycoon (Aus)	Octangle (Aus) <i>B-Miss B Douglas, Mr C Morey (Tas)</i> Consigned by Supreme Thoroughbreds Purchased by Hong Kong Jockey Club	500,000
167	c	Lonhro (Aus)	Original Choice (Aus) <i>B-O E & D R Pope Pty Ltd (Vic)</i> Consigned by Blue Gum Farm Purchased by Aquanita Racing	440,000
230	c	Snitzel (Aus)	Seaside Home <i>B-Burnewang North Pastoral (Vic)</i> Consigned by Burnewang North Pastoral Purchased by Ellerslie Lodge	400,000

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PRICE SNAPS UP MOREIRA FOR 'ARTIE'

Trainer Mick Price has enlisted the services of Brazilian ace Joao Moreira for his charge **Flying Artie (Aus)** (Artie Schiller) in the G1 Newmarket H. at Flemington Mar. 11. The 3-year-old has been ridden most often by Damien Oliver, but with Oliver unlikely to be able to make the weight for the Newmarket, Price has moved to ensure he has a top replacement for the job.

"With all due respect to Ollie--we spoke to Ollie about it--we've got to do our homework early and get prepared for these things and Ollie couldn't ride under 53.5kg," Price explained to *Racing.com*. "We're thinking Flying Artie's weight should be roughly 52.5kg so we got in early and got permission from the Hong Kong Jockey Club to get Joao out here and I'm looking forward to it."



Flying Artie | *Racing And Sports*

Flying Artie's finest hour to date came over the Newmarket's course and distance when he won the G1 Coolmore Stud S. last October. He reappeared this year in the G1 Black Caviar Lightning over 1000m at Flemington Feb. 18 where he could finish only seventh behind Terravista (Aus) (Captain Rio {GB}) albeit only beaten a little over two lengths.

"The horse didn't have a hard run in the Lightning and we get three weeks between runs so he's certainly nice and bright and fresh," Price added.

Owned by a syndicate that includes China Horse Club and Newgate Farm, Flying Artie is expected to erase the memory of his last outing when he lines up in the Newmarket.

"It was a very messy day in the Lightning for us, but I'm sure he'll turn up on the day and he loves the straight and he should run really well," Price concluded.

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MM 2YO SALE DATES ANNOUNCED

Magic Millions announced their Gold Coast 2YOs in Training Sale will take place Oct. 10-11. The 2015 sale saw a 60% increase in returns to vendors across the board while last year again led the way on clearance rate, a key performance indicator of any sale. Breeze-up sessions in the lead up to the auction will again be held at Seymour, Warwick Farm and the Gold Coast--these dates will be confirmed in due course.

"We are proud of the fact that the Gold Coast 2YOs in Training Sale has produced the highest clearance rate of any Australasian 2YO sale each and every year for the past five years," said Magic Millions Managing Director Vin Cox. "The sale hosts the biggest international and Australian buying bench of any comparable sale and we will be making a concerted effort in attracting an even stronger domestic market. The sale has a great story to tell and the success of graduates around Australia and the world is outstanding--we'll be encouraging everyone in Australia to participate."

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Magic Millions ring | *Magic Millions*



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