TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017

MAKING A 'GRAND' ENTRANCE

Brad & Misty Grady lead Risen Star hero Girvin into the winner's circle | *Hodges Photography*

by Steve Sherack

There are plenty of different paths to get a horse on the GI Kentucky Derby trail, but this isn't one that you hear about every day.

Meet pinhooker Brad Grady.

Named after the 37-year-old's hometown in Texas, the lightly raced sophomore **Girvin** (Tale of Ekati) announced his presence with a powerful 8-1 upset in the GII Risen Star S. at Fair Grounds Feb. 25 (video).

"I buy all of them to sell," Grady explained. "Mainly, I'm a pinhooker. I race by default, if you will."

Girvin, purchased for $130,000 as a FTKOCT yearling, was subsequently scratched due to "minor issues" at the following year's OBS April and Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old in training sales.

"Obviously, it wasn't anything really bad," Grady commented. "But we didn't feel comfortable selling the horse or working him at the sale. We were running out of time to sell him and my farm manager Bobby Dodd said, 'I think this is a nice horse. Let's try to run him.' We do that every once in a while. I don't mind racing one if they're not ready to sell." ***Cont. p2***

CASSE, CASTELLANO AMONG 2017 HALL OF FAME FINALISTS

Eight-time Sovereign Award winning trainer Mark Casse and four-time Eclipse Award-winning rider Javier Castellano are among five jockeys, three trainers and three racehorses that have been tabbed as finalists for the National Museum of Racing's 2017 Hall of Fame class. Fellow finalists named in a Wednesday morning announcement include jockeys Robby Albarado, Victor Espinoza, Craig Perret and the late Garrett Gomez; trainers John Shirreffs and David Whiteley; and racehorses **Gio Ponti** (Tale of the Cat), **Goldikova (Ire)** (Anabaa) and **Kona Gold** (Java Gold).

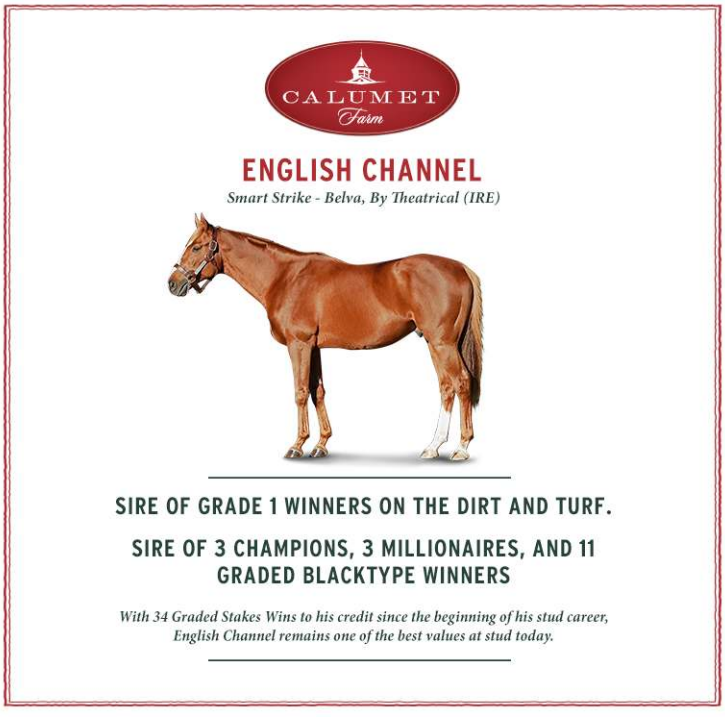
Casse, Castellano, Albarado, Shirreffs, Gio Ponti and Goldikova are first-time finalists selected by the Hall of Fame's Nominating Committee from a total of 86 initial candidates suggested by participants in the Thoroughbred industry. ***Cont. p5***

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

FRENCH PMU FACES THREAT FROM FDJ TEST

Horseracing authorities in France are rallying to fight off a new gaming option that could threaten its almost 90-year monopoly on the high street betting market.

Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.



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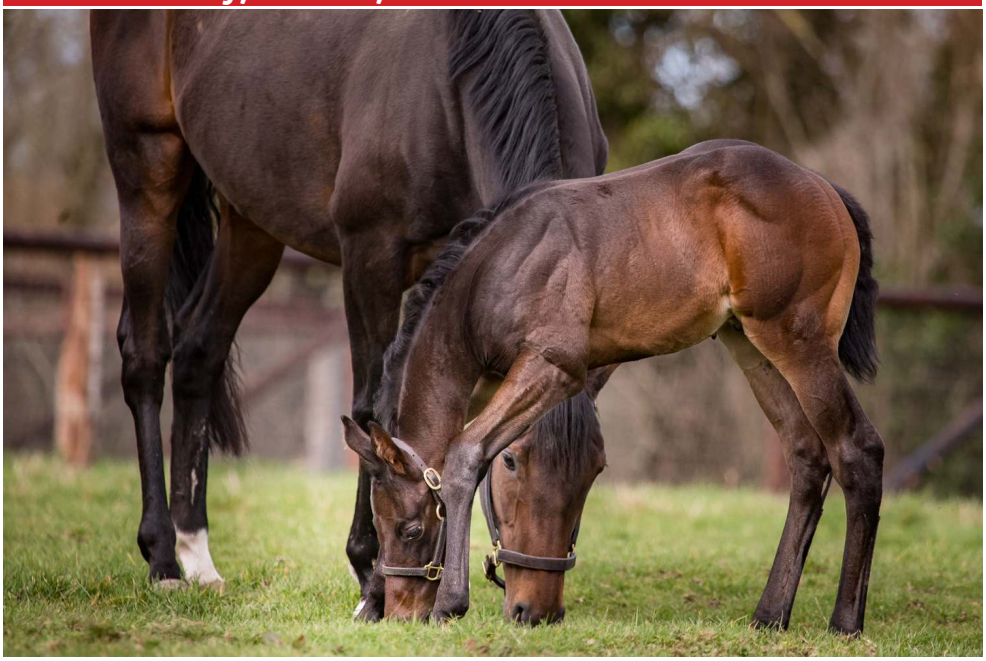
TODAY in the TDN

THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Thursday, March 9, 2017



One month old. *Dual Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Treve grazes with her February 1 Dubawi colt at Haras de Bouquetot, Normandy, France.* | *Al Shaqab Racing/Zuzanna Lupa*

MO TOWN BACK ON TRACK 7

GII Remsen S. winner Mo Town (Uncle Mo) returned to the work tab for the first time since a disappointing effort in the GII Risen Star S. Wednesday and remains possible for the Apr. 1 GI Xpressbet.com Florida Derby.

SAM MCKEE PASSES AWAY 1RR

Legendary race caller Sam McKee passed away Wednesday, a month after suffering a major stroke.

Making a Grand Entrance *(cont. from p1)*

Girvin, currently sitting in third place with 50 points in the Kentucky Derby qualifying standings, is being aimed at the GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby Apr. 1. Produced by the unraced Malibu Moon mare Catch the Moon, the half-brother to graded winner Cocked and Loaded (Colonel John) is trained by Joe Sharp.

"It's uncharted waters for me and my wife Misty," Grady said. "She loves the horses, too. I don't know how to feel yet. It's surreal--that would be the word I'd put on it right now. Just to have a horse of this caliber and also to be right and have these horses show up, it's pretty fulfilling. We're on cloud nine--me, my wife and my [three] kids."

Before Girvin takes the next step on the road to Louisville, it's back to business for Grady at next week's two-day OBS March 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale. Selling through consignor Bobby Dodd's draft, Grady's offerings include:

- Hip 68, colt, Curlin--Over the Edge, by Thunder Gulch, *$140,000 '16 KEESEP.
- Hip 170, colt, Flatter--Serious Vow, by Broken Vow, *$50,000 '16 FTKJUL.
- Hip 220, colt, Into Mischief--St. Croix, by Any Given Saturday, *$100,000 '16 KEESEP.
- Hip 323, colt, Union Rags--Alexandra Rylee, by Afleet Alex, *$135,000 '16 KEESEP.
- Hip 448, colt, More Than Ready--Cocoanut Row, by Mineshaft, *$80,000 '16 KEESEP.

"We buy anywhere from 30-40 a year," Grady said of his approach. "We've got a really good consignment [at OBS March] this year. They all prepped really well. Proper horses--it ought to be fun."

Girvin | *Hodges Photography*

CLOSES APRIL 15

DERBY WEEK STAKES

LONGINES KENTUCKY OAKS, GRADE I

$1,000,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Second Closing
Fillies, Three years old
ONE MILE AND ONE-EIGHTH, Dirt

WILLIAM WALKER

$100,000
Runs Sat., April 29
Three-year-olds
SIX FURLONGS, Dirt

KENTUCKY JUVENILE

$100,000
Runs Thurs., May 4
Two-year-olds
FIVE FURLONGS, Dirt

KENTUCKY OAKS DAY

LA TROIENNE, GRADE I
PRESENTED BY SPIRITED FUNDS

$300,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Dirt

ALYSHEBA, GRADE II

$400,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Four-years-old and Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Dirt

EIGHT BELLES, GRADE II

$200,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Fillies, Three years old
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

EDGEWOOD, GRADE III
PRESENTED BY FORCHT BANK

$150,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Fillies, Three years old
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Turf

TWIN SPIRES TURF SPRINT, GRADE III

$150,000
Runs Fri., May 5
Three-year-olds and Up
FIVE FURLONGS, Turf

KENTUCKY DERBY DAY

WOODFORD RESERVE TURF CLASSIC, GRADE I

$500,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Second Closing
Four-year-olds and Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-EIGHTH, Turf

HUMANA DISTAFF, GRADE I

$300,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

AMERICAN TURF, GRADE II
PRESENTED BY RAM TRUCKS

$300,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Three-year-olds
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Turf

CHURCHILL DISTAFF TURF MILE, GRADE II
PRESENTED BY LONGINES

$300,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
ONE MILE, Turf

CHURCHILL DOWNS, GRADE II

$500,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Four-year-olds and Up
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

PAT DAY MILE, GRADE III
PRESENTED BY LG&E AND KU

$250,000
Runs Sat., May 6
Three-year-olds
ONE MILE, Dirt

SPRING MEET: April 29 – June 30

To nominate, call **(502) 638.3806, (800) 928.3372** or fax **(502) 636.4479**
Ben Huffman, *Racing Secretary*
Dan Bork, *Asst. Racing Secretary, Stakes Coordinator*

CHURCHILL DOWNS

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Grady, a Texas-based businessman with "several different holdings in the oil and gas service industry," made immediate headlines acquiring the former Gulf Coast property in Northwest Marion County, Florida, in December 2012. Rebranded as the Grand Oaks Equine Training Center, a $1.3-million son of Malibu Moon quickly put Grady's fledgling operation on the map at the 2014 OBS March Sale.

"There's a veterinarian in Texas that grew up in the same town that my wife did--Dr. Joe Cannon--and he's been pinhooking for 30 years or so and he got me in the game," Grady said. "I had some successful businesses and had some extra money and I always loved horses. I grew up on a ranch in West Texas, Girvin to be exact, and I was always around horses. I roped and rodeoed, and always had a fondness for the racehorses, particularly Thoroughbreds. It was always pretty amazing how far and fast they could go--the good ones, you know?"

Stonestreet's four-time graded winner Kauai Katie (Malibu Moon), a $90,000 KEESEP yearling turned $490,000 Fasig-Tipton Florida 2-Year-Old, gave Grady his first taste of pinhooking success five years ago.

Other recent home runs in the sales ring for Grand Oaks include: a $650,000 daughter of Lemon Drop Kid at the 2015 OBS April Sale; a $575,000 son of Super Saver and $500,000 daughter of Unbridled's Song at the 2015 OBS June Sale; and a $530,000 son of Scat Daddy at the 2015 OBS March Sale.

"One of the first horses I bought was Kauai Katie and I was hooked from there," Grady said.

Currently with about 10-12 horses in training, including last year's Remington Springboard Mile S. and Kip Deville S. winner Cool Arrow (Into Mischief), the Grady family also owns 15 broodmares residing at Grand Oaks. Their first crop of homebreds will hit the racetrack and auction ring later this year.

"Me, my wife and kids genuinely love the sport and all facets of it," Grady concluded. "I'm a very A.D.D. individual, so a lot of action is for me. I love the claiming game with Joe Sharp--I sent him his first horse to train and it's built into a very strong friendship. We have a lot of fun together." The fun continues for Grady and company with the first of three breeze shows beginning in Ocala Thursday morning for next week's OBS March Sale.

Share this story

The happy connections of Girvin in the winner's circle following the GII Risen Star S. | *Hodges Photography*

Casse, Castellano Among '17 Hall of Fame Finalists *(cont. from p1)*

Casse, 56, began his training career in 1979 and has won 2,200 races to date with earnings in excess of $125 million. Inducted to the Canadian Racing Hall of Fame in 2016, Casse currently trains Eclipse Award winners Tepin (Bernstein) and Classic Empire (Pioneerof the Nile).

Shirreffs, 71, joins Casse as a contemporary on the final ballot. The Southern California stalwart is best known as the trainer of 2010 Horse of the Year and Hall of Famer Zenyatta (Street Cry {Ire}), as well as 2005 GI Kentucky Derby winner Giacomo (Holy Bull). Shirreffs holds a strong hand on the 2017 Kentucky Derby trail with the pair of Grade I winner Gormley (Malibu Moon) and recent GIII Robert B. Lewis S. hero Royal Mo (Uncle Mo) for long-time clients Jerry and Ann Moss.

Mark Casse | *Coady photo*

Whiteley, son of Hall of Famer Frank Whiteley, campaigned champions Waya, Revidere and Just a Game during his training career, which culminated in 1995 with 678 wins and earnings of $11,837,823. He also gained notoriety for spoiling Spectacular Bid's Triple Crown attempt in the 1979 GI Belmont S. with Coastal. Whiteley won with a remarkable 32.7% of his career starters.

Castellano, 39, has won the Eclipse Award for Outstanding Jockey in each of the past four years, notching 4,632 career wins to date. In addition to setting a single-year earnings record in 2015 with $28.1 million, he has won 348 graded stakes, seven Breeders' Cup races and the 2006 GI Preakness S. with Bernardini (A.P. Indy). The native Venezuelan's other top mounts have included Hall of Famer Ghostzapper (Awesome Again), as well as champions Flintshire (GB) (Dansili {GB}), Honor Code (A.P. Indy), Dayatthespa (City Zip) and Zagora (Fr) (Green Tune).

Albarado, 43, has won 5,026 races to date with purse earnings of more than $206 million in a career that began in 1990.

:47 1/5

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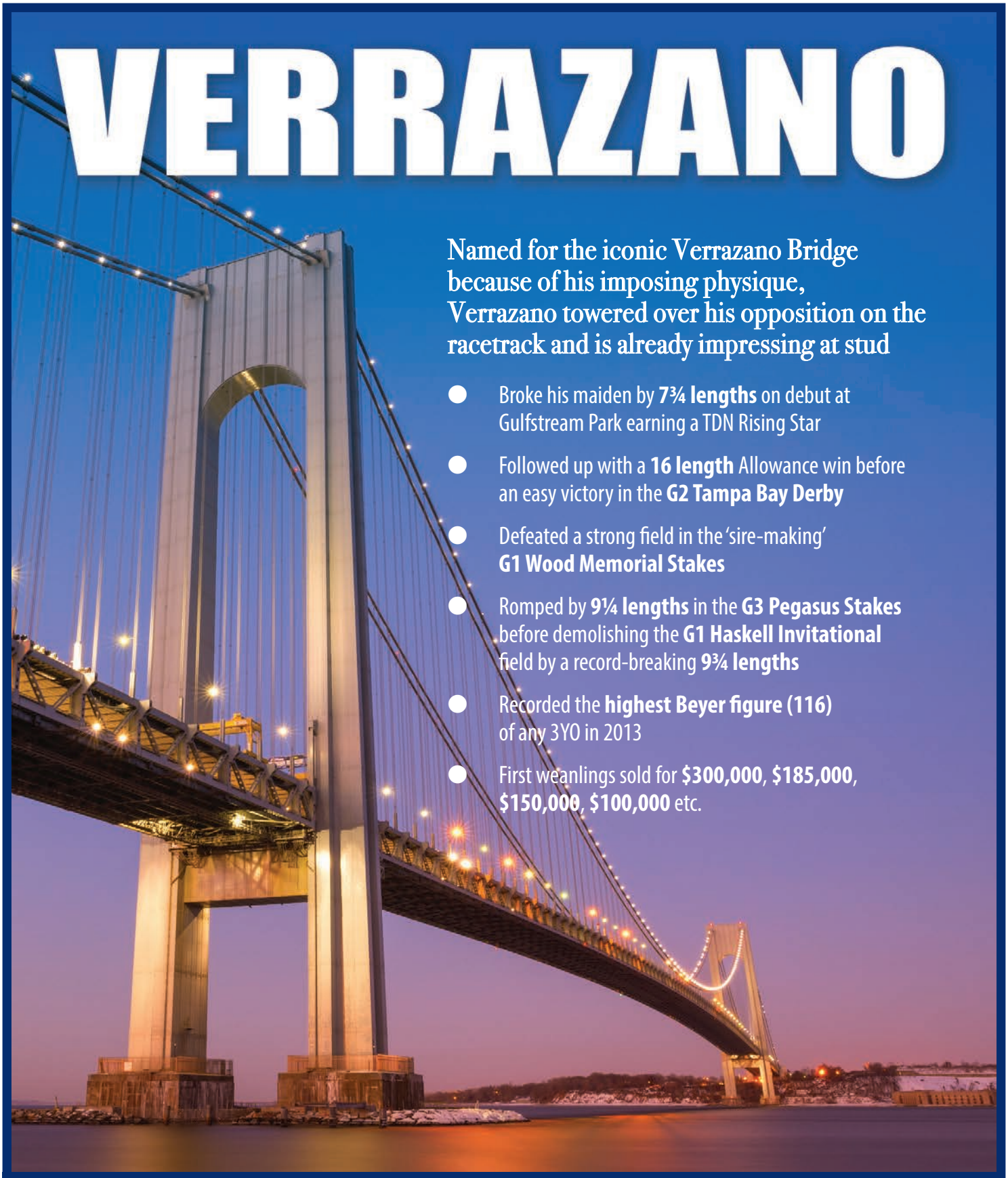
VERRAZANO



Named for the iconic Verrazano Bridge because of his imposing physique, Verrazano towered over his opposition on the racetrack and is already impressing at stud

- Broke his maiden by **7¾ lengths** on debut at Gulfstream Park earning a TDN Rising Star
- Followed up with a **16 length** Allowance win before an easy victory in the **G2 Tampa Bay Derby**
- Defeated a strong field in the 'sire-making' **G1 Wood Memorial Stakes**
- Romped by **9¼ lengths** in the **G3 Pegasus Stakes** before demolishing the **G1 Haskell Invitational** field by a record-breaking **9¾ lengths**
- Recorded the **highest Beyer figure (116)** of any 3YO in 2013
- First weanlings sold for **$300,000**, **$185,000**, **$150,000**, **$100,000** etc.

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Albarado was the regular rider of two-time Horse of the Year and Hall of Famer Curlin (Smart Strike), as well as 2003 Horse of the Year Mineshaft (A.P. Indy). He has won a total of 202 graded stakes races.

Javier Castellano | *Coady photo*

Espinoza, 44, has risen to the top of the game numerous times throughout his career, including a recent run of success as the pilot of 2015 Triple Crown winner and Horse of the Year American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) and 2014 and 2016 Horse of the Year California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit). Espinoza, who won the GI Kentucky Derby in 2002 with War Emblem, is one of only 10 jockeys to win the Run for the Roses three times or more.

Perret won 4,415 races in a career that spanned from 1967 through 2005. The Louisianan landed Eclipse Award honors as top rider in 1990 and achieved career highs with Bet Twice's 14-length victory in the 1987 Belmont and Unbridled's score in the 1990 Kentucky Derby--among 208 graded stakes wins throughout his time in the saddle.

Craig Perret at Keeneland | *Coady photo*

Gomez, who died in December 2016, won 3,769 races and racked up over $205 million in earnings during a career that began in 1988 and concluded in 2013. An Eclipse Award winner in 2007 and 2008, Gomez captured 13 Breeders' Cup races and was the leading North American rider by earnings each year from 2006 through 2009.

On the equine side of the ballot, versatile Castleton Lyons colorbearer Gio Ponti was named by virtue of a career that included 10 graded stakes victories, including eight Grade I events. Champion Turf Male in 2009 and 2010 and Champion Older Male in 2009, Gio Ponti posted a career record of 12-10-1 from 29 starts and retired with earnings of $6,169,800 for trainer Christophe Clement.

Gio Ponti | *Sarah K. Andrew*

Goldikova was honored in the same years as Gio Ponti, landing the Eclipse Award for Champion Turf Female in 2009 and 2010. In four North American starts, she won three consecutive runnings of the GI Breeders' Cup Mile from 2008 through 2010, contributing to her overall earnings of $7,176,551. Based in Europe, Goldikova was owned by Wertheimer and Frere and trained by Freddy Head.

Kona Gold won the Eclipse Award for Champion Sprinter in 2000 after winning that year's GI Breeders' Cup Sprint, setting a track record at Santa Anita in the process. Racing from 1998 through 2003, the gritty Bruce Headley trainee retired with a docket of 14-7-2 from 30 starts and 10 graded stakes victories to his credit.

Kona Gold in retirement at the Kentucky Horse Park | *Sarah K. Andrew*

Hall of Fame voters are permitted to select as many candidates as they believe are worthy of induction to the Hall of Fame. A maximum of four candidates with the highest vote totals--provided they receive majority approval of the voting panel--will be inducted to the Hall of Fame at the Fasig-Tipton Sales Pavilion in Saratoga Springs Friday, Aug. 4. An announcement of the inductees will be made after the conclusion of the voting process Apr. 24.

To view the Hall of Fame listings for horses, owners and jockeys, visit the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame website.

MO TOWN WORKS; FLORIDA DERBY POSSIBLE

Mo Town (Uncle Mo), winner of last year's GII Remsen S., but a disappointing fifth in his sophomore debut in the Feb. 25 GII Risen Star S., worked at Payson Park Wednesday morning and remains possible for the Apr. 1 GI Xpressbet.com Florida Derby. Trainer Tony Dutrow had planned the work to be four furlongs, but the bay colt, owned by Susan Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith and Team D, was officially credited with a five-furlong work in 1:02.40.

Mo Town | *A Coglianese*

"He breezed in :49 3/5 and galloped out five-eighths in 1:02 3/5," Dutrow said. "It was pretty close to what we were hoping for, so we're very happy."

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Cont. p8

TAPIT

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The work was Mo Town's first since the Risen Star.

"I felt Mo Town went into the Risen Star at the Fair Grounds in very good shape," Dutrow said. "I knew that he wasn't 100%, physically, to run his best race--by design. But I was feeling really good about how that horse was going into the Risen Star and going forward. [Jockey] Johnny Velazquez was adamant that he did not like the racetrack. The horse hit himself in both hind legs, which bothered us and made us think he wasn't getting over the surface as good as we would have liked. The horse has no history of hitting himself on any of the other racetracks he's been on. Back on the worktab, he didn't hit himself today. I have to feel like Mo Town did not care for the Fair Grounds surface ideally."

Of his charge's next start, Dutrow added, "There will be some discussion with ownership, of course, but he will be nominated and we will take a serious look at the Florida Derby."

Share this story

BOOKING AND BREEDING ETIQUETTE: A PRIMER

Breeding season is in full swing, and before it's over, somewhere around 17,000 mares will have passed through the doors of the breeding sheds in Central Kentucky. This year, the *TDN* was approached by a Central Kentucky farm with the idea of publishing a matings etiquette primer to help mare owners, stallion farms and their overworked booking staffs navigate the season. We reached out to the booking departments and stallion sheds at six top farms, and have combined their recommendations into a list of the top 25 dos and don'ts to successfully getting your mares bred while still remaining a beloved client.

Bodemeister in the WinStar breeding shed | Jon Siegel photo

NTRA REPORT FROM CAPITOL HILL

ATTN. AUCTION BUYERS & SELLERS:
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NTRA'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN

- The Legislative Action Campaign is an NTRA program that encourages industry members to support federal lobbying and government relations work to benefit the horse racing and breeding industry
- Thoroughbred buyers and sellers may participate by contributing through the ¼% Check-off Program at participating public auction houses: Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, OBS, Barretts, Washington Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners Association and Breeders Sales Company of Louisiana
- Nearly 1,000 industry members from around the world contribute each year
- The Legislative Action Campaign is open to participation by individuals and corporate entities, such as partnerships and farms
- Participants automatically become NTRA members who may then receive preferred pricing from NTRA Advantage purchasing partners like John Deere, Nationwide, Red Brand, Sherwin-Williams, Office Depot and more.

NTRA LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN

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

1. Please do not try to book a mare without a contract.

2. Read and fully understand the terms of your contract, and have the contract and all related paperwork, especially the mare information sheet, on file at the stud farm well before booking.

3. Book your mares in a timely fashion. If you are breeding to a busy stallion, try to get your mares on the book early. Calling the day of or day before you need to be bred generally ends up with the mare not getting in.

4. Be prepared when you call to book. For example, if booking a foaling mare, have her foaling information handy. During busy periods, our phones ring constantly so efficiency is the name of the game. It is a huge help to us and to everyone else trying to book if you are well prepared for the phone call.

5. Come to the shed with the complete, accurate paperwork for that particular farm, and not some other farm you have done business with. Each farm's requirements are different. Incorrect paperwork can result in a mare not being bred. Import mares should come to the shed with all the paperwork: CEM / ENDO / CF / release.

Have your mare's info on a neck strap | *Horsephotos*

6. Send your mare in a halter--preferably leather--in good condition so that it doesn't break at the shed. Your mare's ID should be on the halter or a neckstrap.

7. If requested by a stallion farm, tease and jump your maiden mares at home. You may not want your teaser kicked, but we do not want our stallion kicked.

8. Palpate your mares daily and provide booking secretaries with daily updates as early in the day as possible.

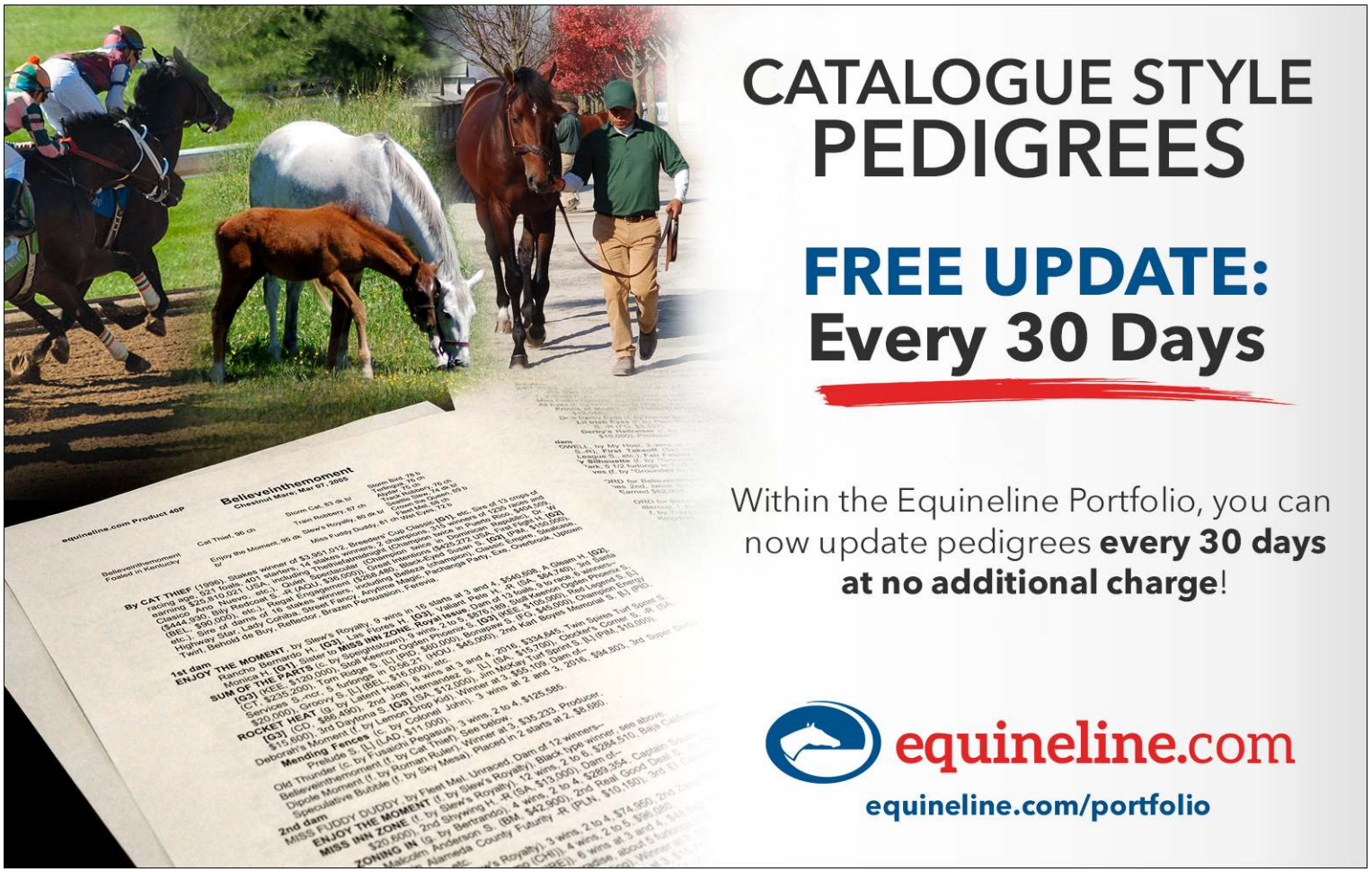
9. Have an up-to-date culture (within the month), not one that has been copied a thousand times and re-written for different mares.

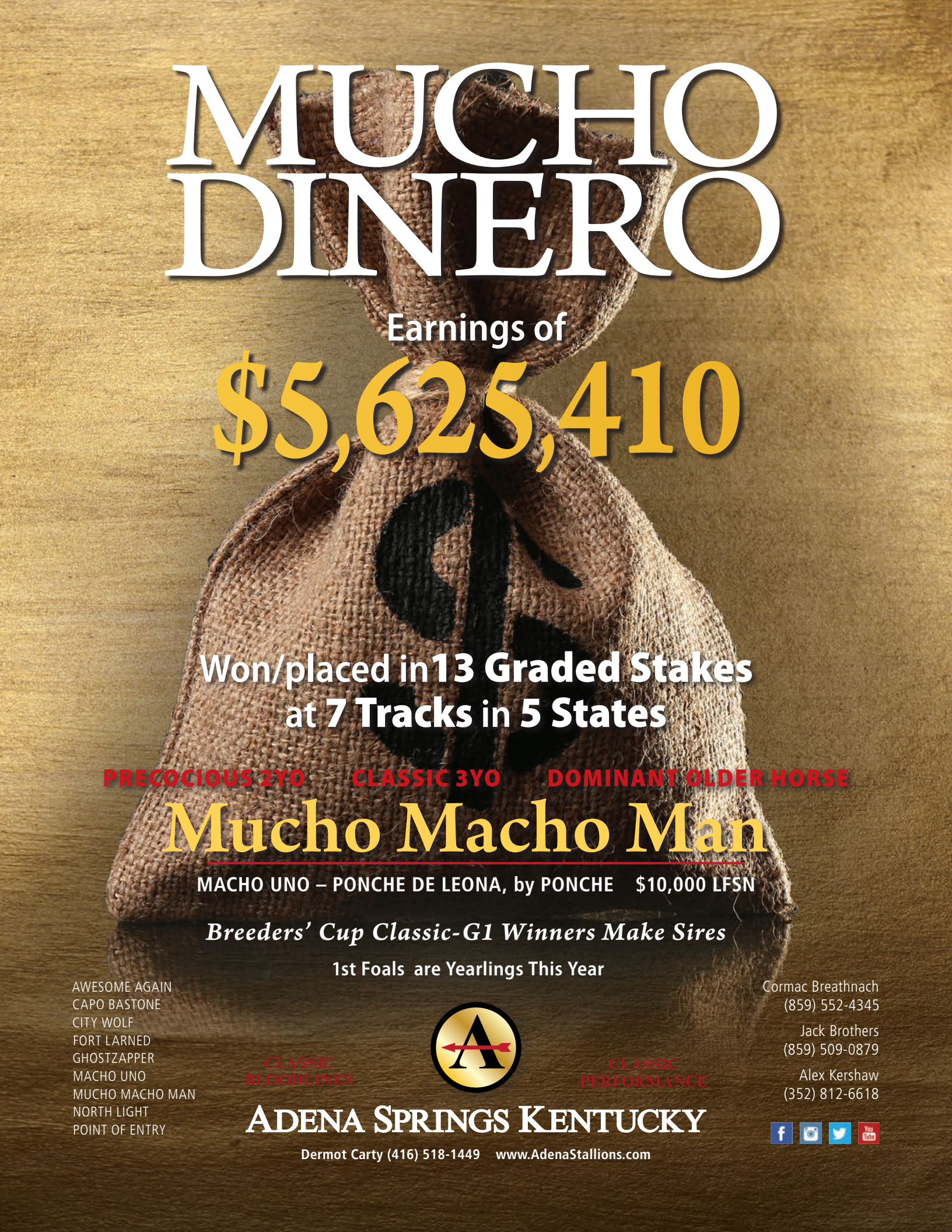
10. When we say come to the shed at 7:30 a.m., we really mean 7:30, and not 8:45. Just because you think we have plenty of mares on doesn't mean that we haven't scheduled your time for you. If you have a long distance to drive or are running late, please call. Along those lines...

11. Always be early. Most sheds are actually ready 30 minutes before the scheduled breeding time. First in, first served.

12. Foal-heat mares are last in line, so don't be shocked when your foal-heat mare doesn't get bred, especially to busy horses. Over the years, several farms have knowingly given the incorrect foaling date just to get the mares bred when they were foal-heat mares.

13. Do not bathe or use show sheen on your mares. Stallions like the natural smell of a mare.

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14. Have your mare's feet trimmed, especially her hind feet and no hind shoes--ever!

15. Drive respectfully at the farm. Slow down, and keep off the grass.

16. Some stallions take longer to do their business than others. There is nothing anyone can do about it; we all just have to be patient. Some sheds offer coffee and tea to those who are waiting.

17. Most stallions breed a maximum of three times a day. We try our best to get everyone booked where they want, but if eight mares show up wanting to be bred the same day, somebody is going to lose out. We are sorry, but nobody can help that. Remember our stallions are horses, not machines, and their welfare and physical and mental health have to be considered at all times also.

18. Booking staff must be mindful of the fact that some people have been up all hours of the night foaling mares. Be respectful and kind; you don't know what the person on the other end of the phone has been going through.

19. Remember the booking secretaries are trying to do the best job possible. Our job is to get all these mares bred. We don't want to miss mares any more than you do. Clients getting mad with us doesn't help. We are doing the best we can. There are generally only one or two booking staff per farm, answering easily 50+ calls per day. Please have patience; they can only speak to one person at a time and do need to eat lunch.

20. Be wary of the busiest times to call and book mares, which is generally from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and that more often than not, booking mares is not that person's only task. If you need something other than a mare booking, it's best to call later in the day.

21. When you put a mare on the books, remember where they are and check in with us promptly. Phone calls to move mares are just as important as calls to confirm. The spot you don't need might be someone else's saving grace.

22. Let us know when your mare checks in foal, and send a vet certificate immediately if your mare is barren.

23. Notify the stud farm immediately if your newborn foal has issues that may be life-threatening.

24. Although not getting a spot can be frustrating, please be assured that we are trying to do our best by you as well as by our stallions. It is also in our interest to breed your mare if at all possible so if you don't get a spot, you are unfortunately trying for a very busy day or have called later than others wanting that day. Please don't threaten to pull your mare (or all your mares) if you can't get in on the first try. We try our best to prioritize mares that have been missed first time around so we will get your mare bred.

25. Finally, let's all be polite and respectful to one another. We all have the same goal: we want to breed your mare and you want her to be bred. Civility costs us nothing.

Share this story

A filly by Palace Malice, out of Miss Prytania (Eskendereya), stands tall at Brookdale Farm in Versailles, KY. She is owned by J R Ward Stables. | *Danny Ward*

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TAPIZAR	$15,000	3	-
RACE DAY	$6,000	3	-
CONSTITUTION	$25,000	2	-
ANCHOR DOWN	$10,000	2	-

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Saturday, Aqueduct, post time: 4:20 p.m. EST

TOM FOOL H.-GIII, $200,000, 4yo/up, 6f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Spartiatis	Scat Daddy	Beler, Constantine, Peter	Blusiewicz	Maragh	115
2	Green Gratto	Here's Zealous	Grant, Gaston and Grant, Anthony	Grant	Carmouche	119
3	King Kranz	Munnings	Zayat Stables, LLC	Terranova, II	Arroyo	116
4	Chief Lion	Wildcat Heir	Jacobson, David	Jacobson	Velasquez	118
5	All Star Red	Five Star Day	Carl Lizza Racing Stables, LLC	Rodriguez	Bisono	115
6	The Great War	War Front	M Tabor, D Smith, S Magnier & Allen Stable, Inc.	Ward	Garcia	116
7	Sassicaia	Bernardini	LaPenta, Robert, V.	Rodriguez	Franco	116
8	Sir Rockport	Rockport Harbor	Amenta Racing Stables, LLC	Preciado	Davis	114

Breeders: 1-C. Peter Beler, 2-Kaz Hill Farm, 3-Bob Austin & Alice Austin, 4-Harold J. Plumley, 5-Steve C. Snowden & Dan Considine, 6-Claiborne Farm, 7-Masaichiro Abe, 8-Legacy Farm & R. Larry Johnson

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 4:25 p.m. EST

FLORIDA OAKS-GIII, $200,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Valentine Wish	Lemon Drop Kid	G. Watts Humphrey, Jr.	Oliver	Pizarro	116
2	Super Marina	Warrior's Reward	R. A. Hill Stable	Weaver	Ortiz, Jr.	116
3	Dynatail	Hightail	Ballybrit Stable, LLC	Dini	Bocachica	118
4	Daddys Lil Darling	Scat Daddy	Normandy Farm	McPeek	Albarado	120
5	La Coronel	Colonel John	John C. Oxley	Casse	Geroux	120
6	Fifty Five	Get Stormy	Empire Equines, LLC	Bush	Ortiz	116
7	Tamit (Ire)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Robert E. Masterson	Casse	Leparoux	116
8	Like a Hurricane	Street Boss	Rigney Racing, LLC	Bauer	Rosario	116
9	Compelled	War Front	Glen Hill Farm	Proctor	Lopez	116

Breeders: 1-Ridley Farm, 2-Frederick J. McEwan & Wilhelmina M.McEwan, 3-Calumet Farm, 4-Normandy Farm, 5-Kim Nardelli, Rodney Nardelli, Susan Bunning, A. Jaffreys & B. Jaffreys, 6-Empire Equines, LLC, 7-Roman Empress Syndicate, 8-Mineola Farm II, LLC, 9-Glen Hill Farm

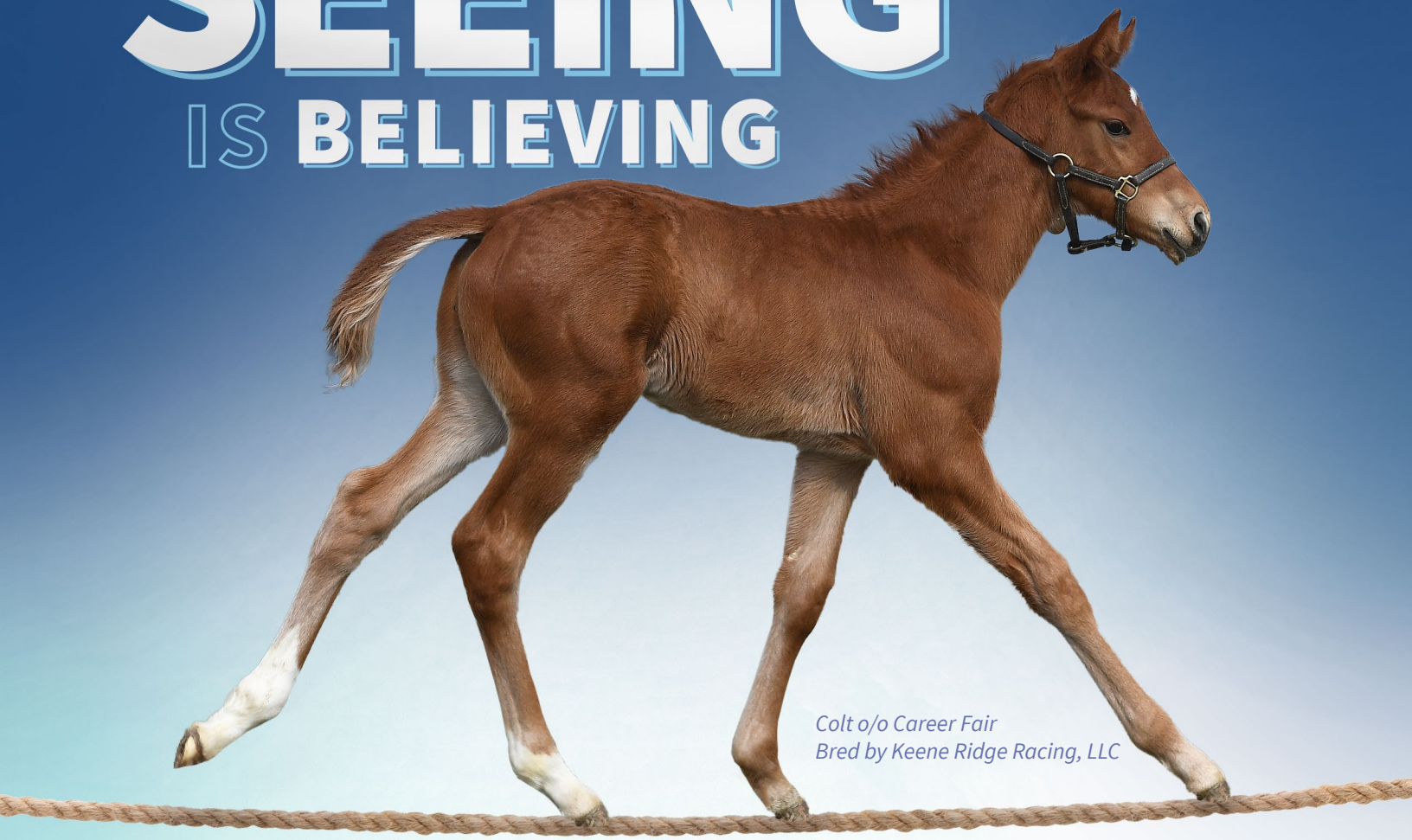
Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 4:55 p.m. EST

HILLSBOROUGH S.-GII, $200,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Swiss Range (GB)	Zamindar	Juddmonte Farms, Inc.	Mott	Leparoux	116
2	Family Meeting	Sky Mesa	Glen Hill Farm	Proctor	Geroux	118
3	Dickinson	Medaglia d'Oro	Godolphin Racing, LLC	McLaughlin	Lopez	118
4	Lots o' Lex	Kitalpha	Lisa Lex	Aschinger	Gonzalez	116
5	Elysea's World (Ire)	Champs Elysees (GB)	Sheep Pond Partners and All Pro Racing, LLC	Brown	Rosario	116
6	Isabella Sings	Eskendereya	Siena Farm, LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	120
7	Light In Paris (Ire)	Aussie Rules	Martin S. Schwartz	Brown	Centeno	116
8	Evidently	Smart Strike	Lambholm Stable	Lerman	Albarado	118
9	My Impression	Sky Mesa	Stuart S. Janney, III	McGaughey III	Ortiz	118
10	Emerald Pond	More Than Ready	John James Revocable Trust	Aschinger	Bocachica	116

Breeders: 1-Juddmonte Farms Ltd, 2-Glen Hill Farm, 3-Darley, 4-Kitalpha LLC & Paradise Productions, LLC, 5-Haras D'Haspel, 6-Siena Farms LLC, 7-Haras du Mezeray, 8-Lambholm, 9-Stuart S. Janney, III LLC., 10-Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding

SEEING IS BELIEVING



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Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 5:27 p.m. EST

LAMBHOLM SOUTH TAMPA BAY DERBY-GII, $350,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Tale of Silence	Tale of the Cat	Charles E. Fipke	Tagg	Lopez	116
2	The Money Monster	Majestic Warrior	R. A. Hill Stable and BlackRidge Stables LLC	Mott	Rosario	116
3	Basha	Uncle Mo	Gelfenstein Farm	Zerpa	Jaramillo	116
4	No Dozing	Union Rags	Lael Stables	Delacour	Centeno	116
5	Tapwrit	Tapit	Bridlewood Farm, Eclipse Tbred Partners & R LaPenta	Pletcher	Ortiz	116
6	Beasley	Shackleford	Lee Lewis and Mark B. Grier	Hennig	Ortiz, Jr.	116
7	Sonic Mule	Distorted Humor	Calumet Farm	Pletcher	Velazquez	118
8	State of Honor	To Honor and Serve	Conrad Farms	Casse	Leparoux	116
9	Wild Shot	Trappe Shot	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Albarado	116
10	Zion Valley	Congaree	Rice Racing	Rice	Villa-Gomez	116

Breeders: 1-Charles Fipke, 2-Ginny McKinlay, et al., 3-Normandy Farm LLC, 4-Mr. & Mrs. M. Roy Jackson, 5-My Meadowview LLC, 6-Nancy Shuford, 7-WinStar Farm, LLC, 8-Manfred Conrad & Penny Conrad, 9-Calumet Farm, 10-Lordan Equine

Saturday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 5:30 p.m. EST

SAN FELIPE S.-GII, $400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Term of Art	Tiznow	Calumet Farm	O'Neill	Baze	122
2	Vending Machine	Hard Spun	Sinnott Family Trust	Miller	Arroyo, Jr.	120
3	Ann Arbor Eddie	Square Eddie	Reddam Racing, LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	120
4	Mastery	Candy Ride (Arg)	Cheyenne Stable, LLC	Baffert	Smith	124
5	Gormley	Malibu Moon	Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Moss	Shirreffs	Espinoza	122
6	Iliad	Ghostzapper	Kaleem Shah, Inc.	O'Neill	Prat	120
7	Bluegrass Envy	Any Given Saturday	Looooch Racing Stables, J Stables or Courtney Schneider	Creque	Radosevich	120

Breeders: 1-Whisper Hill Farm, LLC, 2-Jellystone Holdings LLC, 3-Reddam Racing LLC, 4-Stone Farm, 5-Castleton Lyons & Kilboy Estate, 6-Sungyeoun Lim, 7-University of Kentucky

Saturday, Oaklawn Park, post time: 5:38 p.m. EST

HONEYBEE S.-GIII, $200,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Chanel's Legacy	Dominus	Poindexter Thoroughbreds LLC	Chleborad	Birzer	122
2	Elate	Medaglia d'Oro	Claiborne Farm & Adele B Dilschneider	Mott	Lezcano	115
3	Someday Soon	Proud Citizen	Tommy G. Ligon	Van Meter	De La Cruz	119
4	My Sweet Stella	Eskendereya	Zayat Stables, LLC	Lukas	Vazquez	115
5	Perfect Wife	Majesticperfection	Fern Circle Stables LLC	McPeek	Lanerie	119
6	It Tiz Well	Arch	Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC	Hollendorfer	Nakatani	117
7	Tapa Tapa Tapa	Tapit	Beau Ravine LLC	Hamm	Castanon	117
8	Ever So Clever	Medaglia d'Oro	Clearview Stable LLC	Asmussen	Contreras	117
9	Tap of War	War Front	Albaugh Family Stables LLC	Von Hemel	Borel	115
10	Lovely Bernadette	Wilburn	James M. Miller	DiVito	Canchari	119
11	Benner Island	Speightstown	Shortleaf Stable Inc.	Cox	Franco	115

Breeders: 1-H. Allen Poindexter, 2-Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider, 3-Tommy G. Ligon, 4-Zayat Stables, 5-Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bentley, 6-Allen Branch & Susan Branch, 7-Patricia Pavlish, 8-Clearsky Farms, 9-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. &Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC, 10-David E. Hager II, 11-Mercedes Stables LLC

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Saturday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 7:00 p.m. EST

TRIPLE BEND S.-GI, $400,000, 4yo/up, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Denman's Call	Northern Afleet	W. C. Racing, Inc., Westside Rentals.com. or Gilman Racing	O'Neill	Baze	120
2	Point Piper	Giant's Causeway	Gatto Racing LLC, Hollendorfer or Russo, et al.	Hollendorfer	Gutierrez	122
3	Kobe's Back	Flatter	C R K Stable LLC	Eurton	Castellano	122
4	Silent Bird	Summer Bird	Norman Stables, LLC	Glatt	Prat	120
5	Masochistic	Sought After	Los Pollos Hermanos Racing or Jay Em Ess Stable	Ellis	Smith	122
6	Nowalking	Hard Spun	A Venneri Racing, Inc.	D'Amato	Maldonado	120
7	Conquest Cobra	Pioneerof the Nile	Holly & David Wilson	Cerin	Bejarano	120

Breeders: 1-W C Racing, Milt Gilman & Mark Verge, 2-Barronstown Stud, 3-Joanne R. Mummert, 4-JMI, 5-Francoise Dupuis & Louise Julian, 6-Alex Venneri, 7-McKathan Bros.

Saturday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 7:30 p.m. EST

FRANK E. KILROE MILE S.-GI, $400,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Bal a Bali (Brz)	Put It Back	Calumet Farm	Mandella	Castellano	120
2	Flamboyant (Fr)	Peer Gynt (Jpn)	Bienstock or Winner	Gallagher	Blanc	120
3	Bolo	Temple City	Golden Pegasus Racing, Inc. & E.I. Mack, LLC	Gaines	Smith	122
4	Dortmund	Big Brown	Kaleem Shah, Inc.	Sherman	Espinoza	120
5	Ring Weekend	Tapit	St. Elias Stable or West Point Thoroughbreds	Motion	Bejarano	122
6	Conquest Enforcer	Into Mischief	Loooch Racing Stables, Inc., Imaginary Stables or Ritchie	D'Amato	Prat	122
7	What a View	Vronsky	Finish Line Rcng, Ellwood Johnston Trst or T.O.V Stabls	Black	Baze	122

Breeders: 1-Haras Santa Maria de Araras, 2-SNC Regnier & San Gabriel Inv. Inc., 3-Spendthrift Farm, LLC, 4-Emilie Gerlinde Fojan, 5-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd., 6-Tall Oaks Farm, 7-Old English Rancho, Patsy Berumen &Sal Berumen

Saturday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 8:00 p.m. EST

SANTA ANITA H. PRESENTED BY SAN MANUEL INDIAN BINGO AND CASINO-GI, $750,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/4m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Midnight Storm	Pioneerof the Nile	A Venneri Racing, Inc. or Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Bejarano	122
2	Gangster	Street Boss	Reddam Racing, LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	115
3	Shaman Ghost	Ghostzapper	Stronach Stables	Jerkens	Castellano	122
4	Isotherm	Lonhro (Aus)	Matthew Schera	Weaver	Prat	119
5	Hard Aces	Hard Spun	Hronis Racing, LLC	Sadler	Espinoza	119
6	Follow Me Crev	Quality Road	Holly & David Wilson	Cerin	Desormeaux	116
7	Twentytwentyvision	Pollard's Vision	Ellen & Peter O. Johnson	Mandella	Smith	116
8	Hi Happy (Arg)	Pure Prize	La Providencia LLC	Souza	Domingos	116
9	Imperative	Bernardini	Loooch Racing Stables, Inc or Imaginary Stables	Hess, Jr.	Gallardo	119

Breeders: 1-Alex Venneri & Marjorie Post Dye, 2-Adena Springs, 3-Adena Springs, 4-H. Allen Poindexter, 5-Dreamchaser Thorobreds, 6-Lynn B. Schiff, 7-Peter O. Johnson, 8-La Providencia, 9-Glencrest Farm LLC & Darley

2017 Leading Third-Crop Sires by YTD Earnings

for stallions standing in North America through Tuesday, Mar. 7

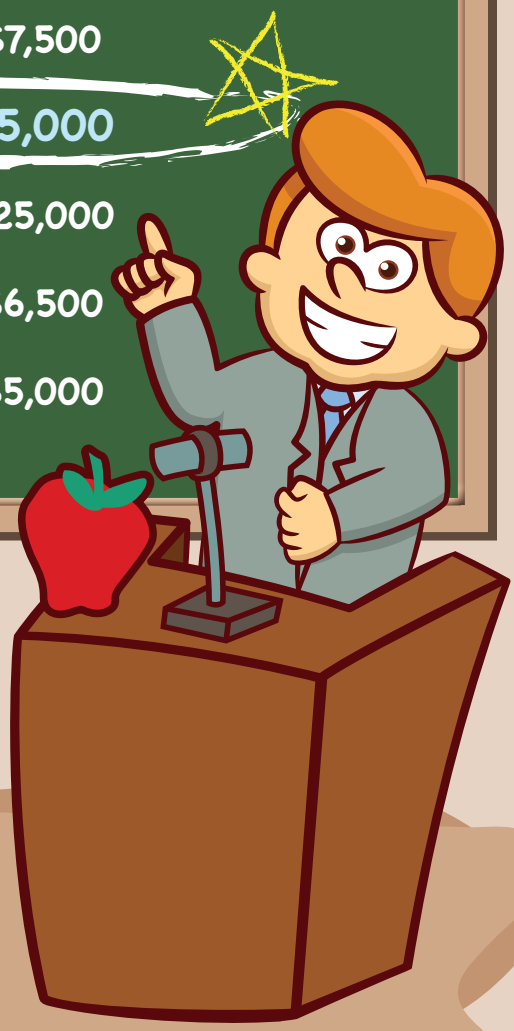
Earnings represent North American/European figures for 2017

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	**Uncle Mo**	3	5	2	4	--	--	78	19	$240,000	$1,179,245
	(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Ashford Stud KY ($150,000)									*Unbridled Mo*	
2	**First Dude**	--	--	--	--	--	--	70	19	$88,920	$651,503
	(2007) by Stephen Got Even FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Double Diamond Farm FL ($10,000)									*Skye Diamonds*	
3	**Twirling Candy**	2	5	--	1	--	--	47	14	$72,400	$650,398
	(2007) by Candy Ride (Arg) FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY ($20,000)									*Law Abidin Citizen*	
4	**Trappe Shot**	--	3	--	1	--	--	67	16	$120,000	$633,150
	(2007) by Tapit FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Claiborne Farm KY ($7,500)									*Untrapped*	
5	**Archarcharch**	--	3	--	--	--	--	83	22	$60,029	$580,043
	(2008) by Arch FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY ($6,000)									*P C Cowboy*	
6	**Gio Ponti**	1	2	--	--	--	--	74	23	$54,000	$557,744
	(2005) by Tale of the Cat FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Castleton Lyons KY ($7,500)									*Taco*	
7	**Haynesfield**	--	1	--	1	--	--	55	16	$92,400	$505,918
	(2006) by Speightstown FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Rancho San Miguel CA ($5,000)									*She's So Fine*	
8	**Wilburn**	1	2	--	--	--	--	70	17	$65,700	$499,839
	(2008) by Bernardini FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: River Oaks Farms-- Inc OK ($3,500)									*Wilburnmoney*	
9	**Girolamo**	--	1	--	--	--	--	47	16	$70,400	$490,833
	(2006) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Darley KY ($10,000)									*Palladian Bridge*	
10	**Tizway**	1	4	--	1	--	--	57	19	$60,760	$462,452
	(2005) by Tiznow FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY ($7,500)									*Our Way*	
11	**Adios Charlie**	--	1	--	1	--	--	42	12	$61,400	$450,513
	(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Ocala Stud Farm FL ($2,500)									*She's Stunning*	
12	**Drosselmeyer**	--	1	--	--	--	--	57	16	$43,200	$441,171
	(2007) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)									*Five O One*	
13	**Sidney's Candy**	--	1	--	--	--	--	48	17	$41,110	$400,512
	(2007) by Candy Ride (Arg) FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)									*J. J.'s Candy*	
14	**Friesan Fire**	--	--	--	--	--	--	44	15	$41,000	$396,119
	(2006) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Country Life Farm MD ($4,000)									*Shoe Loves Shoe*	
15	**Gone Astray**	--	3	--	1	--	--	54	14	$77,600	$335,679
	(2006) by Dixie Union FYR: 2013 Crops: 3 Stands: Northwest Stud FL ($5,000)									*Three Rules*	

FOR ALL TDN SIRE LISTS–INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL CROP-YEAR REPORTS--VISIT WWW.THETDN.COM/TDN-SIRE-STATS/

CA Active Stallions	Crops to race	'17 Earnings	'17 Stud Fee
1. Bluegrass Cat	7	$818,146	$7,500
2. Haynesfield	2	$566,241	$5,000
3. Square Eddie	4	$490,846	$25,000
4. Vronsky	9	$441,262	$6,500
5. Ministers Wild Cat	8	$347,202	$5,000

Statistics from The Blood-Horse 3/8/17



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'VOICE OF MEADOWLANDS' MCKEE DIES FROM STROKE COMPLICATIONS

by T.D. Thornton

Sam McKee, best known as the signature voice of the Meadowlands for the past two decades, died Mar. 7 while attempting a gallant rehabilitation from a major stroke he suffered Feb. 2. The Blairstown, N.J., resident would have turned 55 later this month.

McKee, a 2012 communications inductee in the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, was well respected among announcing peers and fans alike because of his strong sense of professionalism and unbounded enjoyment of all things related to horse racing. He coupled a deep knowledge of the intricacies of race broadcasting with an easygoing, affable manner that sometimes made his hard work and meticulous preparation seem effortless. McKee's willingness to be an enthusiastic mentor to newcomers breaking into the racing industry will return dividends to the sport long after his passing.

Sam McKee

McKee's friends and admirers took to social media on Wednesday to recall him fondly, but with shock at his passing at a relatively young age.

"Gone is one of our greatest talents & an even better man. Not a piece of the industry Sam McKee did not touch," the United States Trotting Association posted on Twitter.

"There are so few in the world like Sam McKee and certainly none to spare. Simply an enormous, incomprehensible loss," read a Twitter post on the Breeders' Crown championships account.

"Saddened by the news of the passing of our friend Sam McKee. He was a great ambassador, announcer, but most importantly, he was a great man," read a Twitter post from The Little Brown Jug.

Although McKee was most closely associated with Standardbred racing, he was a versatile enough broadcaster to handle the crossover to Thoroughbred announcing, too. Early on in his career, he called Thoroughbreds at the now-defunct Detroit Race Course, and he was part of the Thoroughbred fill-in rotation at the Meadowlands and Monmouth Park. In 2007, when Monmouth hosted the Breeders' Cup World Championships, McKee was invited to participate in the "all-star announcers" promotion that featured racecallers from around the globe.

Larry Collmus, the current New York Racing Association and NBC television Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup announcer, recalled a day in 2014 when McKee invited him up to the Meadowlands booth to do a promotional harness race call. Part of the fun, Collmus said, was watching how McKee prepared for his nightly assignments.

"I watched him call a race, and [fellow announcer] Travis Stone was up in the booth with me," Collmus said via phone. "And Sam was chatting with us right up until it's time do the race. The race starts, and his program is on the desk behind him. Literally, he worked with nothing in front of him, and he was absolutely flawless--descriptive, dead-on, every horse right, no hesitation. It was just him and binoculars. And he wasn't showing off--that was how he did it. I point to the program, and Travis and I are just shaking our heads, thinking, 'Oh my God, this guy's a legend.' He was as good as it gets in harness racing, and he could call a Thoroughbred race, too. He was just one of those guys who was very talented, and not an egotistical bone in his body."

In the first race at Gulfstream Park Wednesday, another Thoroughbred announcer, Pete Aiello, honored McKee by saying, "Sam, this one's for you," as the field entered the final furlong before incorporating a McKee-esque "slugging it out ... charging hard and edging away!" into his call (video).

McKee also adeptly juggled executive duties with his on-mic assignments, working as the broadcast director for the Meadowlands.

According to a biography posted on Harnessracing.com, McKee grew up on his family's 32-acre Standardbred farm in Linden, MI, which had its own half-mile training track. As young as age four, he developed a fascination with horse race broadcasts and began entertaining his family with imaginary race calls.

"Being from Michigan, our family started going to the Little Brown Jug in 1968 when I was six years old," McKee once told Harnesslink.com. "I loved the excitement, the drama, and the tempo of [Roger Huston's] race calls. I wrote him a fan letter when I was 10 and went out to The Meadows when I was 14 where he let me call qualifying races. He opened a lot of doors

KEEP UP

Unbridled's Song – Keeper Hill, by Deputy Minister

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"Against all odds, KEEP UP overcame a life threatening injury as a yearling to eventually race and succeed at the highest level. His pedigree alone suggests he can become a successful stallion, yet when you absorb his story, and consider the quality of his foals, he just might be the one – crazier things have happened in this business!" – Headley Bell

- Out of Kentucky Oaks (**G1**) winner **Keeper Hill**, earner of over **$1.6 million**
- Inbred to **Killaloe**, the dam of (**G1**) sire **Fappiano**
- Won the River City H. (**G3**) defeating (**G1**) winner **Boisterous** and **Optimizer**
- Made 18 starts, winning 7, earning over **$300,000** …

By UNBRIDLED'S SONG (1993). Stakes winner of $1,311,800, Breeders' Cup Juvenile **[G1]**, etc., Sire of Midshipman (Champion in U.S.,$1,584,600 USA, Breeders' Cup Juvenile **[G1]**(OSA, $1,150,200), Will Take Charge (to 3, 2013, $3,055,148, Travers S. **[G1]** (SAR, $600,000), Unrivaled Belle ($1,854,706, Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic **[G1]** (CD, $1,080,000), etc. Sire of Leading Freshman Sire of 2013, Dunkirk, and First Defence.

1st dam

KEEPER HILL. 4 wins at 3 and 4, $1,661,281, Kentucky Oaks (gr.I), Three Chimneys Spinster S (gr. I), Las Virgenes S (gr I), 2nd Coaching Club American Oaks (gr. I), Mother Goose S (gr I), Santa Anita Oaks (gr. I), etc. Dam of 7 foals, incl.—

KEEP UP (Subject stallion).

MILANIA (by Bernardini). Winner at 2 and 3, $73,188.

SHAAMI (Gone West). Winner at 4, $30,004.

2nd dam

Fineza. 4 wins, 2 to 4, $128,239, 3rd Cape May County S. Dam of 14 foals, including—

GOLDEN GEAR. 12 wins, 2 to 5, $634,009, Commonwealth Breeders' Cup S (gr.II), Equipoise Mile H (gr. III), Phoenix S, etc. Sire.

Chasm. Winner at 2 and 3, $96,669, 3rd Cicada S (gr. III). Producer. Dam of **Hiatus** ($91,860).

3rd dam

JEDINA. 6 wins at 3 and 4, $120,324, High Voltage S, 2nd First Flight H, Dark Mirage S. Dam of 12 foals, including—

CLABBER GIRL. 8 wins, 2 to 5, $1,006,261, Top Flight H (gr.I), Chula Vista H (gr. II). etc. Producer. Dam of **Running Dog** ($209,382, 2nd New York Stallion NOVEMBER ROSE. Winner at 3, $24,960. Dam of **ELIZABETH ROSE** ($1,201,226, Centaur S, Jpn-III, etc.). Granddam of **LIMITLESS BID** ($5,072,764, Tokyo Hai, Jpn-II twice, etc.), **AGNES GOLD**

4th dam

KILLALOE. 4 wins at 3 and 4, $67,065. Dam of 10 foals, including—

FAPPIANO. 10 wins, 2 to 4, $370,213, Metropolitan H (gr.I), Discovery H (gr. III), Forego H, Morven H, 2nd Paterson H (gr. II), etc. Sire, 4.40 AEI.

TORRENTIAL. 3 wins at 3 in Fr and Eng, placed in NA and UAE, $182,070, Prix Jean Prat (Fr-I), 2nd American Derby (gr.IIT). Sire.

PORTROE. 2 wins at 2, $143,750, Iroquois S (gr.III), 3rd Jamaica H (gr. II). Sire.

ROYAL TROON. 5 wins, 3 to 5, $106,848, Lake Minnetonka S, 2nd Essex H (gr. III), etc. Sire.

Lambros. 5 wins at 3 and 4, $144,790, 3rd Interborough Breeders' Cup H (gr. III), Vagrancy H (gr. III). Producer.

BOUGHT TWICE. 3 wins at 3 and 4, $62,401. Dam of **COMMENDABLE** ($907,470, Belmont S, gr. I, 2nd Super Derby, gr. I, 3rd Travers S, gr. I, sire). Granddam of **PRIMARY** ($180,354, champion 3yo colt in Italy Betfred Classic Trial S, Eng-III

RACE RECORD, 18 starts, 7 wins, including River City H (gr. III), $300,545 career earnings.

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for me when I was young and I doubt if I would be where I am today without his help early on. I got to call a race at Delaware, Ohio, at 14 and announced some races at The Meadows that year as well."

As a teen, McKee began training and jogging horses at his family's facility, and at 18 he won several races driving on the Michigan fairs circuit. All the while he kept calling practice races into a tape recorder to hone his announcing skills, and the day after he graduated from high school, he was hired as the track announcer at Saginaw Valley Downs. Gigs at Sports Creek Raceway, Raceway Park, and Detroit followed, and after picking up simulcast directing and other general track management know-how, McKee worked as director of operations at Northville Downs.

McKee earned a big break in 1998 when he was hired to call races at the Meadowlands, first on a fill-in basis before impressing his bosses enough that he got signed on full time to be one of the voices of the nation's premiere harness venue (he split duties with Ken Warkentin). As he became more prominent, other high-profile jobs came his way, like being broadcast coordinator for The Little Brown Jug and calling races at Kentucky's historic Red Mile.

McKee was elected to the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association's Hall of Fame in 2009. Three years later, the national Hall of Fame honor followed.

In the aftermath of McKee's stroke and subsequent surgery, a GoFundMe page was established to help pay for his medical and rehabilitation expenses. In one month, 630 people donated $154,220, well beyond the fund's stated goal of $100,000.

Funeral arrangements are pending. According to Harnessracing.com, McKee is survived by his wife, Chris; daughters Meagan, Melissa and Lindsey; his sister, Sally; and his father and stepmother.

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AFTERCARE DISCUSSION KICKS OFF NHBPA CONVENTION

by Jennie Rees

LAS VEGAS, NV.--Taking care of Thoroughbreds after their racing careers have ended not only is the right thing to do for the horse, but the right thing for owners and trainers to do for their business.

That was the message of a panel on the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance entitled "The TAA: Protecting your investment in retirement," a session kicking off the National Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association convention Wednesday at the South Point Hotel and Casino.

TAA Panel | *Jennie Rees*

Since its 2012 inception, the TAA has quickly emerged as a game-changer, getting a fragmented industry to pull together for the common good by accrediting organizations involved in the retirement, retraining and adoption of retired racehorses. As importantly, the TAA also raises and provides funding for those organizations meeting its rigorous accreditation standards, now up to 64 throughout North America.

"If we don't take care of our own industry, we will get the helping hand--and I'm very sarcastic--of the government," said prominent owner-breeder Madeline Auerbach, an aftercare pioneer in California and a member of the TAA's executive committee. "If the government has to step in and do the things that we should be doing ourselves, it will not be done with the same gentle and loving hand. It will not be as cost effective. A lot of us in this industry work on a very fine margin. We don't have room for a lot of expenditures that are not essential. What we're trying to tell you today is this is not a pleasant diversion. This is a necessity for all of us.

"... This is as important as paying your taxes and insurance. This is part of our insurance that the industry survives."

Joell Dunlap, founder of Square Peg Foundation in northern California that uses off-the-track Thoroughbreds to work with developmentally challenged children, said TAA funding has allowed her organization to increase from helping 30 to 60 families with autistic children. She said story-telling is an incredibly powerful tool to changing perception of the racing industry.

"Why invest in aftercare and why can you say aftercare is an investment?" she said. "Here's the deal: From the first time a soldier said to his mounted regiment, 'Last one to the top of the hill is a rotten egg,' there was a horse race. More than the horse race, after that there was a story. And the story lasted a whole longer than the horse race.

"Racing is going to thrive, or racing is going to struggle because of the stories. The public perception of racing has suffered because we forgot to tell [the public] these great stories. If you don't believe me, go ahead and Google Ferdinand. The first two [topics], you're not going to see Bill Shoemaker's amazing ride in the 1986 Derby. You're going to get a slaughter story. Ferdinand, amazing animal--and we get a slaughter story. That's a failure to tell these great stories

"... If we don't, we know the news is going to get us stories of those horses in the kill-pen, with their tattoos burned off. Investing in accredited aftercare produces great stories. These stories aren't just Pollyanna, do-good fluff. These are stories that change the perception of racing. These are the stories that make the public trust us again ... Investing in aftercare isn't just the right thing to do, it's the best investment."

Trainer Rick Hiles, president of the Kentucky HBPA and a vice president of the National HBPA, discussed the partnership forged among the horsemen, Churchill Downs and Keeneland and the TAA for a voluntary program that makes it convenient for horse owners to donate $5 for each starter, with Churchill and Keeneland matching the amount. He said that has resulted in $170,000 going to the TAA and its accredited programs the past two years.

"I would ask each one of you go back and make a presentation to your racetracks and your horsemen's group and say, 'Look, we want to be part of this,'" Hiles said. "If you can't give $5, give $3. But get involved."

Stacie Clark Rogers, the consultant overseeing TAA operations, said the alliance also mentors aftercare programs that are just falling short of accreditation. She said TAA is helping to break down the barriers between aftercare entities, changing their view of each other from competitor to community.

"If you like the horse, do it," she said of contributing to aftercare. "If you like the business, do it. If you don't like the business, but like to make money in this business, you should do it."

In reference to issues facing the industry, Rogers said, "If we don't take care of aftercare ... we don't have any issues."

The convention runs through Friday, with the National HBPA board meeting Saturday.

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Forgive (Sidney's Candy) scores a game upset in a turf allowance at Gulfstream

NEW PARTNERS UNITE FOR NOBLE FREUD

By Christie DeBernardis

La Verdad | *Joe Labozzetta*

A majority interest in impressive maiden winner **Noble Freud** (Freud), a half-sister to champion La Verdad (Yes It's True), has been privately purchased by a partnership formed by BSW Bloodstock's Liz Crow. The partnership includes Sol Kumin's Head of Plains Partners, Michael Kisber, Taylor Made's Medallion Racing, Ten Strike Racing and Little Red Feather Racing. Original owner Dwight Pruett's Xpress Thoroughbreds will stay in for a piece.

A $30,000 FTKOCT purchase, the sophomore filly sped from gate to wire to don cap and gown by an eye-catching six lengths in her Feb. 16 unveiling at Oaklawn for trainer William "Jinks" Fires (video).

"We bought her last week and she is shipping to New York to join Chad Brown's string," Crow said Wednesday afternoon. "She ran a six Thoro-Graph first time out, which we thought was really impressive, and just the way she did it. Jinks does a good job getting his horses ready and he's also a really good guy to buy from. He treats his horses well, so we felt comfortable buying off of him."

In addition to millionaire and 2015 champion female sprinter La Verdad, Noble Freud is also a half-sister to Grade III winner and Grade I-placed Hot City Girl (City Zip), who most recently captured the restricted Broadway S. Feb. 18 at Aqueduct.

"I watch a lot of racing at Oaklawn and was definitely impressed," Crow added. "I looked up the family and the fact that she was a New York-bred to fall back on too was huge. That mare [Noble Freud's dam Noble Fire (Hook and Ladder)] has been incredible. We are just really excited to be able to buy something in the family."

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FLORIDA

Wednesday's Results:
9th-GP, $40,000, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm ($25,000), 3-8, 4yo/up, 5fT, :54.74, fm.
FORGIVE (g, 4, Sidney's Candy--Three Graces {SW}, by Doneraile Court) graduated at third asking over course and distance Dec. 16 and followed up with a good second at 15-1 Jan. 12 before running eighth with a wide trip here one month later. Overlooked at 12-1 in this spot, the dark bay was the first to leave the blocks before settling in fourth past a :20.80 quarter. Put to the whip by the five-sixteenths pole, the gelding grinded down the pacesetter, swept to the front with 100 yards remaining and held off Run for Logistics (Bernstein) to tally by a neck. The victor is a half to Euphrosyne (Harlan's Holiday), GSW, $206,950. His dam is responsible for a juvenile Pioneerof the Nile filly named Luxor Lady and foaled an Into Mischief colt last season. Sales History: $145,000 2yo '15 OBSMAR; $110,000 2yo '15 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, $63,480. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**
O-Patricia's Hope LLC; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (NY); T-Michael A. Tomlinson.

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CENTRAL U.S.

Wednesday's Results:
7th-MVR, $27,100, (S), Alw, 3-8, (NW2LX), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:14.26, ft.
NIKKI MY DARLING (f, 3, Creative Cause--Zamindarling, by Zamindar) was sixth on debut in the state-bred Miss Ohio S. July 23 at Thistledown and graduated there next out Aug. 1. Fourth as the favorite in the Ohio-bred Tah Dah S. Aug. 27 at Belterra, the gray was shipped out west to run seventh in the GI Chandelier S. Oct. 1 at Santa Anita and hadn't been seen since. Made the 4-5 chalk in this full field, the $100,000 OBSMAR buy stalked the pace from the second flight through the opening half-mile. Advancing while spinning five-wide into the stretch, she surged to the lead just inside the furlong grounds and kicked clear to score by 2 3/4 lengths. Ali Blue (Bluegrass Cat) won a photo for the place. The winner's dam has a 2-year-old Shackleford filly named Cassie Is Darling and foaled a filly by Archarcharch last term before visiting Commissioner. Sales History: $47,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; $47,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, $38,713. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.**
O-Loooch Racing Stables, Inc. & Imaginary Stables; B-Sheltowee Farm & James E. Evans (OH); T-Jeffrey A. Radosevich.

KENTUCKY

Papa John's Teams With TAA:

Papa John's Pizza has announced the return of its special promotion on behalf of the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance. The fundraiser, which raised $24,000 for the organization last year, kicked off Wednesday and runs for eight weeks to correspond with racing in Lexington and Louisville.

"Papa John's is honored to partner with the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance by offering the TAA Special, a fundraising offer that is available during this year's spring racing season. The TAA Special has raised more than $30,000 over the past two years. As our relationship has grown with the TAA we have come to know many of their accredited partners, and we are proud to give back to these organizations that care for the horses that leave an everlasting impression on us," said Lynn McQuillen, Operations Vice President of Papa John's.

John Phillips, owner of Darby Dan Farm and president of the TAA said, "The TAA is thrilled to be involved in this community promotion to raise funds for our 64 accredited organization across North America. This partnership opportunity with Papa John's allows us to provide grants to those approved by the TAA but also to spread awareness of the TAA mission to their clientele. Making sure everyone knows what the TAA is and what we do is just as important as the funds we raise. "

To participate in the program, visit PapaJohns.com and enter promo code TAA12 to receive One Large Two-Topping Pizza and Garlic Knots for just $12. Papa John's will donate $1 from each TAA Special to the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance. This offer is valid online only at participating Lexington and Louisville area locations until May 7.

Suzie-Picou-Oldham photo

Based in Lexington, Kentucky, the non-profit Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance accredits, inspects and awards grants to approved aftercare organizations to retire, retrain and rehome Thoroughbreds while utizling industry-wide funding.

To learn more about the TAA, visit thoroughbredaftercare.org.

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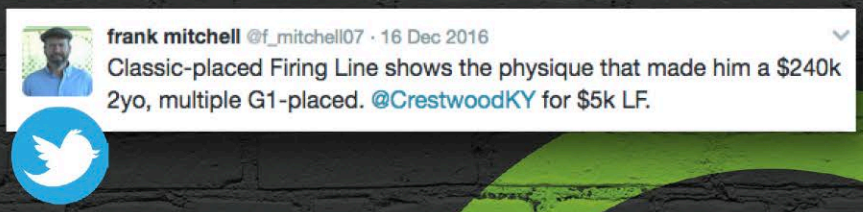

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CALIFORNIA

Thoroughbred Classic Show Set for Mar. 25-26:

The 10th edition of the Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show will be held Mar. 25 and 26 at Galway Downs near Temecula and the two-day event, sponsored by the Siegel CARMA (California Retirement Management Account) Foundation is open to all registered Thoroughbreds.

The weekend's events include the $1,500 Hunter Derby, $1,500 Jumper Stakes, $1,500 Event Challenge and $1,000 Dressage Challenge. A special class will be introduced at this year's show and is open to all Thoroughbreds available for sale or adoption in an effort to encourage Off Track Thoroughbred adoptions. The non-judged and free-formatted presentation is designed to showcase the horse to potential new owners. Options for disciplines include jumping, dressage, pole bending, barrels and trail obstacles.

"I can't think of a better way to showcase the potential of an OTTB," CARMA Executive Director Lucinda Mandella said. "It really is another way for these horses to prove what they're capable of, and I'm excited to see the future stars of our Thoroughbred Classics in this class and even more excited to see these horses find their forever homes."

Class lists and fees are available at ThoroughbredClassic.org and quick entry links can be found at Horseshowtime.com.

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BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-SUN, $31,900, (S), 3-7, (NW1X), 3yo, 1m, 1:37.01, ft.
STORMING BACK (g, 3, Attila's Storm--Accomodate, by Pleasantly Perfect) Lifetime Record: SP, 10-2-1-3, $73,524. O/B-Dale Taylor (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher. *Full to Hit a Lick, SP, $150,542.

3rd-MVR, $21,000, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm ($20,000), 3-8, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:41.24, ft.
THIRTYSILVERPIECES (g, 5, Badge of Silver--Crumbs of Comfort, by Pulpit) Lifetime Record: MSP, 33-7-1-7, $206,246. O-Charles M. Golden; B-Kenneth L. & Sarah K. Ramsey (KY); T-John T. Brown. *1/2 to Amen Kitten (Kitten's Joy), SW & GISP, $244,205.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

True Appeal, c, 3, Successful Appeal--True Deception, by Yes It's True. MVR, 3-8, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:07.83. B-Choctaw Racing Stable & John TL Jones III (OH). *$20,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; $7,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP.

STALLION SEASON AUCTION

TCA has entered seasons in Starquine's Spring Fling Stallion Season Auction, March 8-10.

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

ASTROLOGY (A.P. Indy), Taylor Made Stallions, $7.5K, 156/19/2
8-PEN, Msw 5 1/2f, +Star That Shines, $60K KEE SEP yrl, 7-2
BODEMEISTER (Empire Maker), WinStar Farm, $30K, 262/22/2
7-FG, Msw 1 1/16mT, Pleasant Empire, $425K FTS AUG yrl, 4-1
GEMOLOGIST (Tiznow), WinStar Farm, $15K, 205/23/3
7-FG, Msw 1 1/16mT, +Fat Daddy, $105K OBS APR 2yo, 8-1
INDY SQUALL (Jump Start), 3/0/0
9-OP, Msw 6f, +Hackashaq, 30-1
MAD FLATTER (Flatter), Diamond B Stables, 36/3/0
8-PEN, Msw 5 1/2f, Madly Precise, $22K EAS OCT yrl, 6-1
MYKINDACANDY (Candy Ride {Arg}), Robert's Racing Stable, 17/0/0
9-OP, Msw 6f, Tetons Candy, 15-1
TAPIZAR (Tapit), Gainesway Farm, $15K, 181/22/2
7-FG, Msw 1 1/16mT, Untimed Play, $85K FTK OCT yrl, 3-1
THE FACTOR (War Front), Lane's End Farm, $15K, 218/21/3
6-CT, Msw 6 1/2f, Factfull, $72K FTK FEB 3yo, 7-5

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FRENCH PMU FACES THREAT FROM FDJ TEST

France's Deauville Racecourse | *Emma Berry*

By Emmanuel Roussel

Horseracing authorities in France are rallying to fight off a new gaming option that could threaten its almost 90-year monopoly on the high street betting market.

The government has agreed to let Française Des Jeux (FDJ), a state-owned lottery and sports betting operator, test live sports betting in about 100 outlets in the country, starting in April. It is reported that FDJ has ordered 18,000 new betting machines regardless of the outcome of the test--an implication that the organisation is already confident of the result.

The government owns and manages FDJ and has pocketed about €2.5-billion through its 2016 results, whereas it has only an advisory role in the Pari Mutuel Urbain (PMU) board, which pays about €1-billion a year in return and supports around 70,000 employees.

"We are going through a rough patch but that could lead to the establishment of a full and comprehensive gaming policy in France," commented Olivier Delloye, director general of France Galop. "The country is in the process of electing our new president, and a new assembly a few weeks later, but we need to address the situation at some stage, and although there are always better times to do that, now could be as good as any other time to draw a clear roadmap for the years to come."

Cont. p2

AIR FORCE BLUE TO SHUTTLE TO AUSTRALIA

European champion 2-year-old **Air Force Blue** (War Front–Chatham, by Maria's Mon) will shuttle to Coolmore Australia for the 2017 Southern Hemisphere breeding season later this year, where he will stand for A$16,500. The three-time Group 1 winner is currently standing his first season at Coolmore's Ashford Stud in Kentucky.

Bred by Stone Farm and purchased by MV Magnier for $490,000 at Keeneland September, Air Force Blue won four of five starts as a juvenile for trainer Aidan O'Brien and the Coolmore partners, his lone loss coming when second in his second start in Royal Ascot's G2 Coventry S. He rebounded to win three consecutive Group 1s–the Keeneland Phoenix S., Goffs Vincent O'Brien National S. and Dubai Dewhurst S.–and was rated 128p by Timeform, making him the highest-rated 2-year-old in Europe in 20 years with the exception of Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}).

Cont. in Worldwide News p6

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

MAKING A 'GRAND' ENTRANCE

Steve Sherack chats with pinhooker Brad Grady, whose **Girvin** (Tale of Ekati) won the GII Risen Star S. at Fair Grounds Feb. 25.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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French PMU Faces Threat From FDJ Test Cont. from p1

FDJ is not exactly a new competitor for the PMU, which was created in 1930. There are 31,000 FDJ outlets spread throughout the country--almost three times the 12,000-strong PMU network. FDJ enjoys a monopoly on lotteries (Loto, Euromillions, etc), scratch cards and sports betting offline, just as PMU is still the only authorised betting operator on horseracing in shops.

However, the online market opened in 2010 on horseracing, sports betting and poker games. Although it hasn't directly affected the high street market, the new competition has boosted French interest in sports betting by 45% on both networks. Total handle on online sports betting in France (€2-billion in 2016) is now more than twice as big as that on horseracing (€924-million), which has been declining for 15 consecutive quarters. Last year, the total turnover for the PMU online and in shops was €9.7-billion, while FDJ boasted over €14-billion. The last time PMU had the upper hand over FDJ was in 2008.

With the concern being that the online trend online could be repeated in offline business if those 18,000 live sports betting machines are introduced, racing industry officials are appealing to the French Government's sense of fairness to either stop the test altogether or at least amend the offline market so that PMU can also sell sports live betting in its high street outlets.

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NATIONAL DEFENSE WORKS ON TURF

Last year's G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere winner **National Defense (GB)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) had his first work over the turf for the season on Tuesday. The Sun Bloodstock colourbearer was among 69 entries on Wednesday for the G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas at Newmarket on May 6, and trainer Criquette Head-Maarek said a decision is still to come on whether National Defense will target that race or the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains a week later. Cont. p3

Destined for greatness? Treve's one month old colt foal (by Dubawi) enjoying life at Haras de Bouquetot. | *Al Shaqab Racing/Zuzanna Lupa*

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National Defense Works on Turf Cont.

"National Defense has done extremely well over the winter and worked on the grass for the first time [this year on Tuesday]," Head-Maarek said. "The going was terribly soft but that didn't seem to be an issue for him and he went nicely. He looks really good at the moment--he has put on a lot of weight and has a shiny coat--but he does need some sun."

She added, "I plan to run him in the Prix Djebel over the straight seven furlongs at Maisons-Laffitte on Apr. 10, by which time I hope to have him at about 90%, leaving a little to work on. After that we will decide between the QIPCO 2000 Guineas and the Poule d'Essai des Poulains."

National Defense winning the Lagardere | *Scoop Dyga*

The 2000 Guineas entry also includes 11 from the Aidan O'Brien stable, including 2-year-old champion **Churchill (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}); the unbeaten **Caravaggio** (Scat Daddy); and G2 Vintage S. winner **War Decree** (War Front). Other notable entries include Godolphin's G1 Criterium International and G3 UAE 2000 Guineas winner **Thunder Snow (Ire)** (Helmet {Aus}) and G1 Racing Post Trophy winner **Rivet (Ire)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}).

The G1 QIPCO 1000 Guineas the following day has drawn 57 entries. Godolphin and Coolmore each hold eight entries, headed by Group 1 winners **Wuheida (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) and **Rhododendron (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), respectively. Wuheida has spent the winner with trainer Charlie Appleby in Dubai, and he said, "She is going great and has strengthened up--she's always been a lovely scopey filly and everything that you would like to see happen in terms of physical development has happened. Her preparation is all being geared towards the QIPCO 1000 Guineas and it has always been the plan for her to go straight there without a prep race as she is a very clean-winded, straightforward filly." **Cont. p4**

The Source of

GREATNESS

ARROWFIELD GRADUATES *quinella the* G2 TODMAN STAKES

GUNNISON *(left)*
by **Not A Single Doubt,**
$850,000 from Inglis Easter
defeats **INVADER** *(right)*
by **Snitzel, *$475,000 from***
Magic Millions

Lot 84 at the ***Inglis Easter Yearling Sales is* a ¾ sister to GUNNISON *by* SNITZEL**

44 yearlings *by* SNITZEL to be offered at the *Inglis Easter Yearling Sale*

DISCOVER GREATNESS www.arrowfield.com.au

National Defense Works on Turf Cont.

Also among the 1000 Guineas entries are Aidan O'Brien's G1 Cheveley Park S. one-two **Brave Anna** (War Front) and **Roly Poly** (War Front); and G3 Princess Margaret Juddmonte S. winner **Fair Eva (GB)** (Frankel {GB}).

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JUDDMONTE ANNOUNCES 2017 MATING PLANS

The European Juddmonte broodmare band will visit a total of 35 different stallions in 2017, the stud announced Wednesday. Juddmonte always strongly supports its stallion roster at Banstead Manor Stud and unbeaten champion Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), who is off to a great start at stud and has his first 3-year-olds in 2017, will receive the likes of Group 1 winner **African Rose (GB)** (Observatory)--the dam of his Group 3 winner Fair Eva (GB); **Arabesque (GB)** (Zafonic), the dam of Group 2 winner and G1 Middle Park S. third-place finisher Showcasing (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}); Group 1 winners **Heat Haze (GB)** (Green Desert) and **Emollient** (Empire Maker); and Group 1 producers **Argumentative (GB)** (Observatory), **Binche** (Woodman) and **Winter Sunrise (GB)** (Pivotal {GB})

Some of the mares to visit Juddmonte veteran Dansili (GB) number **Soviet Moon (Ire)** (Sadler's Wells), the dam of G1 Derby hero Workforce (GB) (King's Best); and **Photographic (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}), a daughter of G1 Cheveley Park S. heroine Prophecy (Ire) (Warning {GB}). Oasis Dream (GB) (Green Desert) will see the returning **Milford Sound (GB)** (Barathea {Ire}), herself a half-sister to G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Rail Link (GB) (Dansili {GB}); and the four-time Grade I winner **Ventura** (Chester House), among others.

Young sire Bated Breath (GB) (Dansili {GB}) has been matched with **Bouvardia (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}), a sister to Showcasing (GB); as well as **Tarocchi** (Affirmed), the dam of GISW Price Tag (GB) (Dansili {GB}). Juddmonte's champion miler Kingman (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), whose oldest foals are yearlings of 2017, sees MGSW Big Break (GB) (Dansili {GB}), a full-sister to MGSW Famous Name (GB); and Exemplify (GB) (Dansili {GB}), a half-sister to MG1SW Special Duty (GB) (Hennessy), to name a few. New Bay (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) will cover blue-hen mare Hasili (Ire) (Kahyasi {GB})'s daughter **Very Good News** (Empire Maker) and the black-type performer **Midweek (GB)** (Motivator {GB}).

Juddmonte will also send several mares to Coolmore giant Galileo (Ire) (Sadler's Wells): **Kind (Ire)** (Danehill), the dam of the aforementioned Frankel and her daughter **Joyeuse (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}), as well as MG1SW **Midday (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}); and fellow Breeders' Cup heroine **Banks Hill (GB)** (Danehill), who is already responsible for Group 1 winner Romantica (GB) to Galileo. Galileo's half-brother Sea the Stars (Ire) will be covering the Breeders' Cup winner **Intercontinental (GB)** (Danehill) and Midday's dam **Midsummer (GB)** (Kingmambo). Group 1 winners **Zenda** (Zamindar), **Timepiece (GB)** (Zamindar) and **Romantica** will all go to Dubawi (Ire).

Midday winning the G1 Yorkshire Oaks | *Racing Post*

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BAKER ARRIVES IN BRITAIN TO HEAL

George Baker has returned to Britain to continue his recovery from the injuries he sustained in a fall at St Moritz in Switzerland nearly two weeks ago. The jockey, who won the G1 St Leger last September on Harbour Law (GB) (Lawman {Fr}), was riding Boomerang Bob (Ire) (Aussie Rules) for Jamie Osborne on the frozen lake track when the horse was brought down and fatally injured in the first race of the day. Baker was airlifted to a trauma hospital in Chur and after having undergone a MRI scan last Friday, it was confirmed he had suffered bleeding in his brain. The Injured Jockeys Fund said Baker is back in Britain and is in intensive care in a London hospital as he continues what is expected to be a long recovery process.

A statement issued by the IJF said, "George and his wife, Nicola, returned to England on Monday where George was admitted to the Wellington Hospital, London. In due course, George will leave the intensive care area and move to the rehabilitation wing of the hospital. Nicola and George have many people to whom they would like to express their gratitude. They would like to thank the medical staff who attended to George immediately after his fall together with the air ambulance crew, whose initial treatment was so important--the staff at Graubunden Hospital, Dr. Jerry Hill of the BHA, the PJA and Guy Jewell, George's agent, for all that he did to assist the family." Cont. p5

Baker Arrives in Britain to Heal Cont.

"Finally, the family would like to reiterate their sincere thanks for all the messages of support from family and friends, George's colleagues and the wider racing public."

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THIS or THAT?

PHILIPPA COOPER, NORMANDIE STUD

Early to bed/early to rise, or night owl?
Early to bed/rise
Real books or Kindle? Real books
Cinema or box set? Cinema
Dog or cat? Cat
Win the Derby or at Royal Ascot? Derby
Homecooked Sunday roast or smart restaurant?
Smart restaurant
Skiing or beach holiday? Beach holiday
Flat or jumps? Flat
Click the box to share.

NEW LEVY DRAFT PUBLISHED

The British government has published a draft of the legislation that will replace the country's levy system in April, according to *Racing Post*. The new levy, which will cover offshore bookmakers that have until now been outside the levy's reach, requires consent by both houses of parliament as well as state aid approval from Europe. The rate for the new system will be 10% on gross profits on British racing above £500,000, and is expected to bring in an additional £30 to £40 million per year for the sport. The 10% rate comes up for review after seven years.

The new system is set to go into effect from Apr. 1, but state aid approval from Europe is required before it can do so.

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BRITAIN

Destination Europe
www.destinationeuroperacing.com

Wednesday's Results:

5th-KEM, £4,500, Mdn, 3-8, 3yo, 8f (AWT), 1:38.99, stn. **SURREY HOPE (c, 3, Lemon Drop Kid--She Be Classy, by Toccet)**, a debut sixth going one mile on the Newbury turf last time Oct. 21, raced close up in a handy fifth through the initial fractions of this sophomore return. Making smooth headway in the straight, the 7-2 second choice quickened to the fore soon after passing the two pole and surged clear under mild urging in the closing stages to score by four lengths from Hold Sway (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}). The $70,000 KEEJAN yearling and €70,000 ARQMAY breezer is out of the stakes-winning She Be Classy (Toccet), who is a half-sister to MGSW Storm Mesa (Sky Mesa) and a granddaughter of MGSW European highweight sprinter Flowing (El Gran Senor). He is kin to the 2-year-old filly She Be Sweet (Candy Ride {Arg}) and a yearling colt by City Zip. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, $3,551. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
O-Surrey Racing Ltd; B-Nancy Mazzoni (KY); T-Joseph Tuite.

Another Big Fish from BLUEWATER
USBRED KYBRED

4th-LIN, £4,500, Mdn, 3-8, 3yo, 10f (AWT), 2:08.16, stn. **SOLAJAN (IRE) (c, 3, Lope de Vega {Ire}--Undercover Glamour, by Kingmambo)**, a belated debut second at Wolverhampton last time Feb. 23, was keen behind a soft pace through early stages until striding to the front before halfway here. Holding sway thereafter, the 9-4 joint-favourite was stoked up rounding the home turn and ridden out in the short straight to prevail by a half-length from Waterville Dancer (Ire) (Nathaniel {Ire}). "They went ridiculously slow, which wasn't ideal, and I couldn't really teach him a lot," admitted rider Adam Kirby. "He had a hard time of things, but he'll be a nice horse and there's a lot of improvement to come from him." Solajan is the second winner produced by a granddaughter of the stakes-winning Elegance in Design (Ire) (Habitat), who in turn is the dam of of G1 Irish Oaks-winning multiple Irish highweight Dance Design (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), from a family which includes MG1SW sire Creator (GB) (Mill Reef). Sales history: €110,000 Wlg '14 GOFNOV; €200,000 2yo '16 ARQMAY. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $4,689. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
O-Saeed Jaber; B-G Devlin (IRE); T-Ed Dunlop.

JOB OPENINGS

A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry

Darley is seeking an experienced horse person to join its management team based in Hokkaido, Japan.

The successful candidate should be a highly self-motivated, consummate professional with a strong work ethic, and someone who enjoys working as part of a team.

The position will largely deal with the management of our stallions, mares and youngstock. Typically candidates will have worked in the industry at the highest international standards for at least 10 years, or have an appropriate third-level qualification.

The successful candidate will also assist in the management of our estate lands and buildings, and the promotion of a safe and professional working environment. The salary and benefit package will reflect the seniority of the role.

Applications (to include CV and three references) should be e-mailed to Harry Sweeney **hsweeney@darley.co.jp** or Hiroyuki Fukuda **h.fukuda@darley.co.jp**

Closing date for applications: **Wednesday, March 22, 2017.**

Darley
www.darley.co.jp

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OWEN TO RIDE IN CHARITY RACE

Former star footballer and racehorse owner Michael Owen, who sat on a horse for the first time just this year, will ride in The Prince's Countryside Fund Charity Race on Nov. 24 at Ascot. Owen, the owner of Manor House Stables in Cheshire, said, "It has been a long-term ambition of mine to learn how to ride and race, but as a professional footballer it was not possible. Now I have set myself the target of competing in The Prince's Countryside Fund Charity Race on Nov. 24 at Ascot. It's a brilliant cause and I can't wait to get started; it is going to take a lot of hard work over the next few months, but I am really looking forward to it."

The Prince's Countryside Fund was founded by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2010 to help secure a brighter future for British farmers and the countryside. Each year it provides over £1.5-million in grants to projects across the UK as well as running its own programmes such as The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme.

Share this story

Michael Owen and Brown Panther | *Racing Post*

CATALOGUE ONLINE FOR MARCH SALE

The catalogue for Tattersalls Ireland's Ascot March Sale Mar. 23 is online. The sale features consignments from the likes of Godolphin, Luca Cumani, Ed Dunlop, John Gosden, Charlie Hills and Mark Johnston, and includes 76 winning and placed form horses under both codes. There are 2-year-olds set to sell by Archipenko (GB), Equiano (Fr), Harbour Watch (Ire), Havana Gold (Ire), Helmet (Aus), Royal Applause (GB), Society Rock (Ire) and Swiss Spirit (GB), and wildcard entries will be taken.

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FRANCE

Destination Europe
www.destinationeuroperacing.com

Thursday, Fontainebleau, post time: 3.55 p.m.

PRIX MAURICE CAILLAULT-Listed, €55,000, 3yo, c/g, 9fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	5	Saglawy (Fr)	Youmzain (Ire)	Pasquier	Clement
2	2	Al Motasim	Elusive Quality	Benoist	Rouget
3	6	Fox Tin (Fr)	Tin Horse (Ire)	Auge	Ferland
4	4	Just a Formality (Fr)	Spirit One (Fr)	Guyon	Escuder
5	1	Phoceen (Fr)	Myboycharlie (Ire)	Soumillon	Chappet
6	3	Speedo Boy (Fr)	Vision d'Etat (Fr)	Lemaitre	Williams

All carry 125 pounds.

Wednesday's Results:

2nd-CMP, €33,000, Cond, 3-8, 4yo/up, 12fT, 3:07.98, vhy. **MAUVE (GB) (c, 4, Slickly {Fr}--Penne {Fr} {MSP-Fr}, by Sevres Rose {Ire})** Lifetime Record: 5-3-0-0, €49,500. O/B-Famille Rothschild (GB); T-Andre Fabre. *Full to Meandre (Fr), Ch. Stayer-Cze, MG1SW-Fr & Ger, $1,692,990.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Troizilet (Fr), c, 3, **Wootton Bassett (GB)**--Misty Heights (GB) (SW & MGSP-Ire, $129,214), by Fasliyev. MRV, 3-8, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:29.32. B-Haras d'Etreham (FR). *€70,000 Ylg '15 AROCT. **1/2 to Greyfriarschorista (GB) (King's Best), SP-Eng, $115,988.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Air Force Blue To Shuttle To Australia Cont. from p1

Coolmore Australia Sales and Nominations Manager Colm Santry said, "I am a strong believer in the best racehorses making the best sires, and Air Force Blue was an incredible 2-year-old. We have received an overwhelming response to American Pharoah, with great breeders like John Camilleri, Gerry Harvey, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum, Gooree, George Altomonte and many more booking quality mares within hours of his announcement. He is now fully booked with plenty of others on a waiting list. There is a real appetite amongst breeders for these elite racehorses, and Air Force Blue sits comfortably in that category."

Santry added, "I was very excited to travel to see Air Force Blue this week and couldn't have been more impressed with him. He's got a great hind part with a massive hip, plenty of strength and real quality. He is a lovely walker and given how important action is at yearling sales, I think commercial breeders here will be very taken with him when they see him in the spring." Cont. p7

AUSTRALASIA TOP 25 SIRES BY A INDEX (200+ YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo	5yo+
REDOUTE'S CHOICE	1996	DANEHILL	2001	AUS	1648	114	3.46	319	2.42	1.82	2.19	2.49	2.69
SNITZEL	2002	REDOUTE'S CHOICE	2007	AUS	1310	81	3.09	267	2.55	3.48	2.34	1.76	2.57
SAVABEEL	2001	ZABEEL	2006	NZ	1313	77	2.93	208	1.98	0.86	1.30	1.86	2.72
STREET CRY	1998	MACHIAVELLIAN	2004	Dead	1060	62	2.92	186	2.19	1.50	2.12	1.80	2.99
FASTNET ROCK	2001	DANEHILL	2006	AUS	2101	120	2.86	362	2.15	2.18	1.95	1.86	2.34
MEDAGLIA D'ORO	1999	EL PRADO	2006	AUS	321	18	2.80	64	2.49	2.43	2.23	2.18	2.21
EXCEED AND EXCEL	2000	DANEHILL	2005	AUS	1676	87	2.60	247	1.84	2.87	1.66	1.70	1.75
COMMANDS	1996	DANEHILL	2001	Dead	1744	86	2.47	255	1.83	1.73	1.65	1.64	2.17
HIGH CHAPARRAL	1999	SADLER'S WELLS	2005	Dead	1364	65	2.38	191	1.75	0.96	1.48	1.53	2.25
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	2006	DANEHILL DANCER	2011	NZ	321	15	2.34	38	1.48	0.31	1.00	1.61	2.78
I AM INVINCIBLE	2004	INVINCIBLE SPIRIT	2011	AUS	520	24	2.31	88	2.12	2.06	2.00	2.02	1.55
AUTHORIZED	2004	MONTJEU	2008	AUS	314	14	2.23	30	1.19	0.00	0.61	0.79	3.12
HINCHINBROOK	2007	FASTNET ROCK	2012	AUS	229	10	2.18	35	1.91	2.88	1.69	0.54	0
STREET BOSS	2004	STREET CRY	2010	AUS	236	10	2.12	35	1.85	1.41	1.44	2.26	2.42
STAR WITNESS	2007	STARCRAFT	2012	AUS	259	11	2.12	29	1.40	1.62	1.36	0.66	0
TAVISTOCK	2005	MONTJEU	2011	NZ	284	12	2.11	50	2.20	1.50	1.31	2.08	3.34
EKRAAR	1997	RED RANSOM	2005	NZ	310	13	2.10	34	1.37	0.00	0.48	1.20	2.20
HARD SPUN	2004	DANZIG	2009	AUS	692	28	2.02	90	1.63	1.51	1.59	1.30	1.71
ENCOSTA DE LAGO	1993	FAIRY KING	1998	AUS	1862	75	2.01	272	1.83	1.16	1.53	1.92	2.21
DARCI BRAHMA	2002	DANEHILL	2008	NZ	875	35	2.00	127	1.81	1.46	1.32	1.86	2.34
LONHRO	1998	OCTAGONAL	2004	AUS	2095	84	2.00	280	1.67	2.02	1.57	1.33	1.94
MOSSMAN	1995	SUCCESS EXPRESS	2001	AUS	1246	49	1.97	171	1.72	1.61	1.69	1.52	2.26
AL MAHER	2001	DANEHILL	2006	AUS	1096	43	1.96	127	1.45	0.79	1.34	1.27	2.12
SEBRING	2005	MORE THAN READY	2010	AUS	939	36	1.92	127	1.69	1.67	1.77	1.09	1.55
STREET SENSE	2004	STREET CRY	2009	AUS	499	19	1.90	55	1.38	1.14	1.27	1.03	1.79

AUSTRALASIA TOP 10 SIRES BY A INDEX (FEWER THAN 200 YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo	5yo+
MAKFI	2007	DUBAWI	2012	NZ	116	8	3.45	14	1.51	0.64	1.62	1.17	0
SO YOU THINK	2006	HIGH CHAPARRAL	2013	AUS	80	5	3.13	10	1.56	1.23	1.49	0	0
ALFRED NOBEL	2007	DANEHILL DANCER	2012	NZ	86	5	2.91	12	1.74	3.37	1.28	1.03	0
POUR MOI	2008	MONTJEU	2013	NZ	36	2	2.78	2	0.69	2.00	0.36	0	0
BENETEAU	2007	REDOUTE'S CHOICE	2012	Dead	170	9	2.65	26	1.91	3.01	1.72	0.77	0
ROGANO	2006	REDOUTE'S CHOICE	2013	AUS	21	1	2.38	2	1.19	1.46	1.01	0	0
LOPE DE VEGA	2007	SHAMARDAL	2012	AUS	158	7	2.22	18	1.42	0.87	1.17	1.63	0
WARHEAD	2004	VISCOUNT	2010	AUS	101	4	1.98	13	1.61	2.91	0.56	1.34	3.18
SHOWCASING	2007	OASIS DREAM	2012	NZ	156	6	1.92	14	1.12	2.85	0.67	0.29	0
ATACANTA	2004	TRADITIONALLY	2011	AUS	61	2	1.64	5	1.02	1.60	1.04	0.54	0

SOUTH AMERICA TOP 20 SIRES BY A INDEX (200+ YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo	5yo+
KEY DEPUTY	2000	DEPUTY MINISTER	2009	ARG	360	33	4.58	74	2.57	3.87	2.13	1.91	1.95
PUT IT BACK	1998	HONOUR AND GLORY	2003	BRZ	579	41	3.54	84	1.81	1.48	1.97	1.81	1.52
SEEKING THE DIA	2001	STORM CAT	2009	CHI	464	28	3.02	61	1.64	1.48	1.47	1.71	1.65
ECCLESIASTIC	2001	PULPIT	2009	URU	289	16	2.77	50	2.16	1.72	2.36	1.23	3.63
MUTAKDDIM	1991	SEEKING THE GOLD	1998	Dead	918	48	2.61	137	1.87	2.03	1.68	2.04	1.35
PURE PRIZE	1998	STORM CAT	2004	ARG	1456	66	2.27	196	1.68	0.68	2.25	1.64	1.27
SIGNAL TAP	1991	FAPPIANO	1998	BRZ	339	15	2.21	27	1.00	0.30	0.76	1.36	1.25
EXCHANGE RATE	1997	DANZIG	2003	ARG	614	27	2.20	96	1.95	1.42	2.39	1.58	0.42
IVAN DENISOVICH	2003	DANEHILL	2008	CHI	283	12	2.12	31	1.37	0.64	1.68	1.55	1.75
ORPEN	1996	LURE	2001	ARG	1251	52	2.08	182	1.82	1.81	2.20	1.70	1.15
HAT TRICK	2001	SUNDAY SILENCE	2009	ARG	386	16	2.07	48	1.55	1.20	1.97	1.05	0.96
FREUD	1998	STORM CAT	2003	ARG	345	14	2.03	53	1.92	0.62	1.75	1.81	1.59
CHRISTINE'S OUTLAW	2000	WILD AGAIN	2006	BRZ	401	15	1.87	50	1.56	0.56	1.46	1.58	3.30
WILD EVENT	1993	WILD AGAIN	2001	BRZ	1238	46	1.86	125	1.26	0.47	1.53	1.14	1.34
GRAND REWARD	2001	STORM CAT	2007	ARG	768	28	1.82	92	1.50	1.34	1.76	1.27	1.11
INDY DANCER	2000	A.P. INDY	2005	CHI	642	23	1.79	78	1.52	0.18	1.03	2.15	2.67
FLANDERS FIELDS	2003	A.P. INDY	2008	PER	259	9	1.74	28	1.35	3.39	1.04	0.65	0.91
GSTAAD	2004	STORM CAT	2009	CHI	264	9	1.70	28	1.33	1.47	1.38	0.91	0.91
APPRENTICE	1990	FORTY NINER	1998	PER	327	11	1.68	35	1.34	2.76	1.40	0.86	1.57
CATCHER IN THE RYE	2000	DANEHILL	2005	ARG	1448	48	1.66	157	1.36	0.60	1.74	1.24	1.01

SOUTH AMERICA TOP 20 SIRES BY A INDEX (FEWER THAN 200 YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo	5yo+
YAZAMAAN	2004	GALILEO	2011	PERU	119	10	4.20	17	1.79	0.64	1.77	1.61	2.31
GRAND DADDY	2006	JOHANNESBURG	2013	CHI	102	8	3.92	14	1.72	1.54	1.81	0	0
ARCHIPENKO	2004	KINGMAMBO	2011	ARG	78	6	3.85	18	2.88	1.34	3.50	0	0
DROSSELMEYER	2007	DISTORTED HUMOR	2013	BRZ	80	5	3.13	11	1.72	0.64	1.86	0	0
BOBOMAN	2001	KINGMAMBO	2011	CHI	89	5	2.81	13	1.83	2.19	1.68	1.40	1.41
AGNES GOLD	1998	SUNDAY SILENCE	2005	BRZ	168	9	2.68	19	1.41	0.63	1.81	1.23	1.16
GLORIA DE CAMPEAO	2003	IMPRESSION	2012	BRZ	58	3	2.59	4	0.86	1.60	0.37	0.93	0
ACTEON MAN	1998	BE MY CHIEF	2006	BRZ	98	5	2.55	12	1.53	0.00	1.64	1.62	1.27
MINISTER'S JOY	2002	DEPUTY MINISTER	2012	PERU	64	3	2.34	5	0.98	1.14	0.84	0.73	0
DEMOSTRADO	1996	CANDY STRIPES	2005	URU	108	5	2.31	9	1.04	0.84	1.40	0.91	0.00
CITY BANKER	2005	LODE	2011	ARG	ARG	6	2.27	17	1.61	0.94	1.53	1.47	0.91
MAYAKOVSKY	1999	MATTY G	2005	CHI	88	4	2.27	7	0.99	0.00	1.18	1.54	0.00
AWZAAN	2007	ALHAARTH	2013	URU	23	1	2.17	1	0.54	1.60	0.00	0	0
LOOKIN AT LUCKY	2007	SMART STRIKE	2012	CHI	188	8	2.13	21	1.40	1.44	1.41	0.73	0
CURLINELLO	2008	SMART STRIKE	2013	ARG	24	1	2.08	5	2.60	0.00	3.14	0	0
EVER PEACE	2005	ALPHA PLUS	2012	ARG	74	3	2.03	4	0.68	0.00	0.94	0.00	0
DESEJADO THUNDER	2007	DURBAN THUNDER	2013	BRZ	25	1	2.00	7	3.50	1.78	3.77	0	0
T. H. APPROVAL	2001	WITH APPROVAL	2009	URU	179	7	1.96	18	1.26	0.84	0.68	1.68	1.36
RODERIC O'CONNOR	2008	GALILEO	2013	BRZ	105	4	1.90	11	1.31	0.43	1.48	0	0
LAND OF THE GIANTS	2006	GIANT'S CAUSEWAY	2012	URU	80	3	1.88	11	1.72	2.37	1.55	0.73	0

SOUTH AFRICA TOP 10 SIRES BY A INDEX (200+ YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo	5yo+
SILVANO	1996	LOMITAS	2003	SAF	1387	63	2.27	195	1.76	0.56	1.36	1.83	2.37
TRIPPI	1997	END SWEEP	2003	SAF	775	35	2.26	100	1.61	1.26	1.39	1.61	1.97
DYNASTY	1999	FORT WOOD	2006	SAF	890	37	2.08	136	1.91	0.13	1.85	1.97	2.40
CAPTAIN AL	1996	AL MUFTI	2002	SAF	1325	50	1.89	180	1.70	1.46	1.69	1.37	1.96
KAHAL	1994	MACHIAVELLIAN	2002	Dead	1195	41	1.72	125	1.31	0.12	0.87	1.54	2.24
WESTERN WINTER	1992	GONE WEST	1998	Dead	940	30	1.60	110	1.46	0.72	1.44	1.49	1.21
JUDPOT	2005	A.P. INDY	2010	SAF	427	12	1.41	34	1.00	0.80	0.99	0.83	1.03
GO DEPUTY	2000	DEPUTY MINISTER	2008	SAF	285	8	1.40	31	1.36	0.00	0.99	2.16	0.94
GREYS INN	2000	ZABEEL	2008	SAF	SAF	13	1.40	35	0.94	0.34	0.79	1.13	1.56
MAMBO IN SEATTLE	2005	KINGMAMBO	2011	SAF	317	8	1.26	23	0.91	0.21	0.74	1.09	3.81

SOUTH AFRICA TOP SIX SIRES BY A INDEX (FEWER THAN 200 YEAR-STARTERS)

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1st Fls	ST	TOT Rnrs	As	A Index	ABCs	ABC Index	2yo	3yo	4yo
GIMMETHEGREENLIGHT	2008	MORE THAN READY	2013	SAF	112	4	1.79	10	1.12	0.68	1.24	0
QUERARI	2006	OASIS DREAM	2012	SAF	114	4	1.75	14	1.54	1.27	1.46	1.47
BOLD SILVANO	2006	SILVANO	2013	SAF	61	2	1.64	2	0.41	0.73	0.26	0
PATHFORK	2008	DISTORTED HUMOR	2013	SAF	64	2	1.56	6	1.17	0.62	1.32	0
JUST AS WELL	2003	A.P. INDY	2012	SAF	69	2	1.45	3	0.54	0.00	0.61	0.79
A LITTLE WARM	2007	STORMIN FEVER	2012	SAF	70	2	1.43	6	1.07	0.00	1.03	1.03

Air Force Blue to Shuttle to Australia Cont.

"He has got an ideal profile for Australia," added Coolmore Australia Bloodstock Sales Manager Shane McGrath, who also travelled to Ashford to inspect Air Force Blue this week. "It is the Holy Grail for commercial breeders in Australia to produce a racehorse like Air Force Blue. War Front is the most potent source of elite 2-year-old speed in the world and it's going to be a great opportunity to have his best juvenile son available to breeders in Australia."

Share this story

(l to r) James Bester, Colm Santry and Shane McGrath with Air Force Blue at Ashford Stud | *Coolmore*

ACCEPTANCES RISE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The fourth edition of The Championships, held at Royal Randwick Apr. 1 and Apr. 8, saw a total of 660 first acceptances spread across the 10 group races, an increase of 9%. Australian wonder-mare **Winx (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}) headlines the 2000-metre A$4-million G1 Longines Queen Elizabeth S., with **Black Heart Bart (Aus)** (Blackfriars {Aus}), **Hartnell (GB)** (Authorized {Ire}) and **Le Romain (Aus)** (Hard Spun) also among the 61 first acceptances. The 1400-metre A$1-million G1 Inglis Sires' acceptances rose by 37% to 107 from 78 in 2016, while the 2400-metre A$1-million G1 James Boag's Premium Australian Oaks attracted 69 (+24%) from 56 for last year. The speedy grey **Chautauqua (Aus)** (Encosta de Lago {Aus}) is among the 81 first acceptances (75 in 2016) for the 1600-metre A$3-million G1 The Star Doncaster Mile.

"The Championships are now entering their fourth year and have firmly established themselves as the Grand Finals of Australian racing," said Peter V'landys, Racing New South Wales's Chief Executive. "The concept presents two of the best days of racing witnessed anywhere in the world carrying over A$20 million in prize money. The quality of horses this year will be outstanding, including Sydney's own superstar Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}), as well as English trainer Charlie Appleby's Godolphin horses."

Added the Australian Turf Club's CEO Darren Pearce, "This 9% rise in first acceptances underlines the great strength of Sydney racing and the stature The Championships already holds. We are looking forward to showcasing so many world-class horses, jockeys and trainers at Royal Randwick."

For the Apr. 1 The Championships acceptances, click here and for the Apr. 8 acceptances click here.

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Winx | *Bronwen Healy*

MURRAY DISQUALIFIED FOR COBALT

Racing New South Wales stewards ruled Wednesday that Australian trainer Paul Murray would be disqualified a total of 3 1/2 years and fined A$1,000, due to finding elevated levels of cobalt in a stored sample taken from a runner in his care, Alma's Fury (Aus) (Refuse to Bend), who finished second in the Doncaster Prelude at Royal Randwick Apr. 13, 2013. The ban is effective immediately and lasts until Mar. 8, 2021.

Paul Murray | *Bradley Photos*

The stewards found Murray guilty of all five charges brought against him, including administering a prohibited substance to the gelding with the premise of affecting the performance of the horse on race day.

Murray Disqualified for Cobalt Cont.

They also found him guilty of having in his possession at his Kembla Grange yard substances that had not been registered, prescribed, dispensed or labelled in compliance with relevant State and Commonwealth legislation in a June 17, 2017 stable inspection, as well as being in possession of a substance labelled 'Concentrated Trace Mineral' found to contain elevated levels of cobalt. The first three breaches entailed three years, the fourth rule breach resulted in the A$1,000 fine and the fifth breach of the rules resulted in another year ban, but six months will be served concurrently during the three-year time period.

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Wednesday's Results:

FIRST WINNER FOR SIRE

3rd-BLR, A$23,000, Mdn, 2yo, f, 1200mT, 1:12.56, gd.

+EARTH ANGEL (AUS), f, 2, by Animal Kingdom

1st Dam: Miss Finland (Aus) (Ch. 2yo & 3yo Filly, 5x G1SW-Aus, A$4,632,775), by Redoute's Choice (Aus)

2nd Dam: Forest Pearl, by Woodman

3rd Dam: Moonshell (Ire), by Sadler's Wells

Miss Finland, one of the finest horses to carry the black-and-yellow diamonds of John Messara's Arrowfield Stud, provided GI Kentucky Derby and G1 Dubai World Cup-winning stallion Animal Kingdom with his first winner with this smart first-out success by Earth Angel. Drawn gate seven in a field of 11 and equipped with a shadow roll for the debut, the homebred settled in mid-division early on beneath Damien Oliver and improved her position while being coaxed along to do so nearing the 400m marker. In behind runners in the straight, the $2.90-1 favorite finally found daylight inside the final furlong and leveled out beautifully to defeat chief market rival Holy Mind (Aus) (I Am Invincible {Aus}) by a half-length before galloping out strongly. Earth Angel was following in the considerable hoofprints of her champion dam, who landed her career bow at Ballarat in early 2006 and transitioned into Group 1 company two starts later. Trainer David Hayes expects Earth Angel to come along more gradually. "Miss Finland wasn't any more impressive than that when she won her debut at Ballarat but it is fair to say that Earth Angel isn't as precocious," Hayes told *Racing.com*. "It is hard to compare the two of them and probably isn't fair on either horse. You can maybe compare her to a filly like [G1 Schweppes Thousand Guineas winner] Stay With Me (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}), and my thought is that she won't be as sharp as her up to a mile but beyond that, I think she will develop in to a better filly." Stay With Me is one of two black-type performers from three previous foals to race out of Miss Finland, an A$450,000 purchase out of the 2005 Inglis Easter Yearling Sale who was precocious enough to win the 2006 G1 Golden Slipper S. (1200m) and scopey enough to add the G1 Crown Oaks (2500m) a little over six months later. Hayes told *Racing.com* that his charge would likely make her next start in the Listed Fernhill H. (1600m) at The Championships Apr. 8, with Group 1 targets on the agenda later this season. "Everything about her indicates she is going to be a filly that will develop into a serious 3-year-old," Messara told *Racing.com*. "Her sire...is a Derby winner and anything that his progeny are doing at two is simply a bonus. Earth Angel is still learning but what I liked most about her win was the last 50m, she exploded through the line, we think she is pretty special." Miss Finland is the dam of a yearling colt by Arrowfield's first-crop sire Dundeel (NZ) (High Chaparral {Ire}), who was knocked down to Craig Rounsefell's Boomer Bloodstock for A$900,000 to top day one of this year's Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale *(click for Kelsey Riley's sales coverage).* She was covered by Deep Impact (Jpn) (Sunday Silence) last year. The winner's third dam won the G1 Epsom Oaks in 1995, while fourth dam Moon Cactus (GB) (Kris {GB}) was a Group 3 winner in England, second in the G1 Prix de Diane and produced champion Doyen (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) in addition to Moonshell. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, A$12,650. **Click for the Racing Australia chart and Racing.com VIDEO. Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.** *–Alan Carasso*

O-Arrowfield Pastoral Pty Ltd, Belford Productions Pty Ltd, Planette Thoroughbred Trading Pty Ltd; B-Arrowfield Pastoral Pty Ltd & Planette Thoroughbred, Belford Productions (NSW); T-David & Ben Hayes & Tom Dabernig.

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Earth Angel as a foal alongside Miss Finland | *lindsaypark.com.au*

TDN EUROPE/INTERNATIONAL GROUP ENTRIES

Saturday, Ellerslie, New Zealand, post time: 4:15 p.m. (10:15 p.m. EST)

SISTEMA S.-G1, NZ$200,000 *(US$139,127/£114,006/€131,691)*, 2yo, 1200mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Felton Road (NZ)	Pins (Aus)	Pike	No Rider	124
2	Summer Passage (Aus)	Snitzel (Aus)	L/A O'Sullivan & Scott	Purton	124
3	Irish Flame (NZ)	Zed (NZ)	Wheeler	Allpress	124
4	Star Treasure (NZ)	Lonhro (Aus)	McKee	No Rider	124
5	Super Phan (NZ)	Nadeem (Aus)	Wiles	Spratt	124
6	Melody Belle (NZ)	Commands (Aus)	S/J Autridge & Richards	McNab	120
7	Hasahalo (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	McKee	No Rider	120
8	Gold Fever (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	S/J Autrirdge & Richards	Lammas	120
9	Princess Rihanna (NZ)	Showcasing (GB)	L/A O'Sullivan & Scott	Grylls	120
10	Ujjayyi (NZ)	Iffraaj (GB)	Pike	No Rider	120
11	Aquamosa (NZ)	Alamosa (NZ)	Ritchie	No Rider	120

Saturday, Ellerslie, New Zealand, post time: 4:51 p.m. (10:51 p.m. EST)

BONECRUSHER NEW ZEALAND S.-G1, NZ$200,000 *(US$139,127/£114,006/€131,691)*, WFA, 2000mT,

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Kawi (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Sharrock	Waddell	130
2	Volkstok'n'barrell (NZ)	Tavistock (NZ)	D/C Logan & Gibbs	No Rider	130
3	Benzini (Aus)	Tale of the Cat	A/H Bull	No Rider	130
4	Authentic Paddy (NZ)	Howbaddouwantit	Latta	No Rider	130
5	Maygrove (Aus)	Authorized (Ire)	Baker & Forsman	Grylls	130
6	Sound Proposition (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	L/A O'Sullivan & Scott	Coleman	130
7	Von Tunzelman (NZ)	Zabeel (NZ)	James	No Rider	130
8	Seventeen Seventy (NZ)	Captain Rio (GB)	M, Mf & Mi Rogers	No Rider	130
9	Consensus (NZ)	Postponed	McKee	No Rider	125
10	Sofia Rosa (NZ)	Makfi (GB)	Marsh	No Rider	125
11	Lizzie L'Amour (NZ)	Zabeel (NZ)	Baker & Forsman	Cameron	125
12	Sierra Beel (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Allen	No Rider	125

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Saturday, Ellerslie, New Zealand, post time: 5:28 p.m. (11:28 p.m. EST)

BARFOOT & THOMPSON AUCKLAND CUP.-G1, NZ$500,000 *(US$347,822/£285,004/€329,229)*, Open, 3200mT,

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	El Soldado (NZ)	Colombia (NZ)	Devcich	Bradley	128
2	Mister Impatience (GB)	Hernando (Fr)	Moroney	No Rider	125
3	Nymph Monte (NZ)	Tavistock (NZ)	Nicholson	No Rider	123
4	Jacksstar (NZ)	Zed (NZ)	Vile	Lammas	123
5	Storming the Tower (NZ)	Storm Creek	Bell	No Rider	123
6	Pentathlon (NZ)	Pentire (GB)	Wheeler	No Rider	121
7	Five to Midnight (NZ)	Domesday (Aus)	Latta	No Rider	121
8	Megablast (NZ)	Shinko King (Ire)	Tiley	Coleman	121
9	Marciano (NZ)	Faltaat	P/D Williams	No Rider	121
10	King Kamada (NZ)	Shinko King (Ire)	Latta	No Rider	121
11	Gentil Tonton (Ire)	Yeats (Ire)	L/A O'Sullivan & Scott	Purton	121
12	Smedley (NZ)	Colombia (NZ)	Stevenson	No Rider	121
~~13~~	~~Pop 'n' Scotch (Aus)~~	~~Husson (Arg)~~	~~SCR~~	~~SCR~~	~~SCR~~
14	Fanatic (NZ)	Shocking (Aus)	G/D Sanders & Sweeney	No Rider	120
15	Chenille (NZ)	Pentire (GB)	Pike	No Rider	118
16	El Pistola (NZ)	El Hermano (NZ)	N/K Hanley & Whiting	No Rider	117
17	Perfect Start (NZ)	Perfectly Ready (Aus)	Hillis	No Rider	117
18	Snow Secret (NZ)	Sakhee's Secret (GB)	Ritchie	No Rider	117

Saturday, Flemington, Victoria, Australia, post time: 3:55 p.m. (11:55 p.m. EST)

LEXUS NEWMARKET H.-G1, A$1,250,000 *(US$943,256/£775,818/€893,536)*, Open, 1200mT,

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Terravista (Aus)	Captain Rio (GB)	Pride	Brown	125
2	Spieth (NZ)	Thorn Park (Aus)	Heys	Bowman	122
3	The Quarterback (Aus)	Street Boss	Griffiths	Newitt	121
4	Sheidel (Aus)	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)	D/B Hayes & Dabernig	Oliver	119
5	Voodoo Lad (Aus)	I Am Invincible (Aus)	Weir	Lane	119
6	Extreme Choice (Aus)	Not a Single Doubt (Aus)	Price	Moreira	117
7	Illustrious Lad (Aus)	I Am Invincible (Aus)	Gelagotis	Darmanin	117
8	Tivaci (Aus)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Moroney	Moloney	117
9	Star Turn (Aus)	Star Witness (Aus)	M/W/J Hawkes	Boss	116
10	Super Cash (Aus)	Written Tycoon (Aus)	Noblet	Allen	116
11	Counterattack (Aus)	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Waller	Baster	116
12	Redkirk Warrior (GB)	Notnowcato (GB)	D/B Hayes & Dabernig	Bayliss	116
13	Inspector (Aus)	California Dane (Aus)	White	Yendall	116

Saturday, Rosehill, New South Wales, Australia, post time: 4:15 p.m. (12:15 a.m. EST)

COOLMORE CLASSIC-G1, A$600,000 *(US$452,739/£372,351/€428,875)*, Open, 3yo/up, f/m, 1500mT,

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	First Seal (Aus)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Thompson	Shinn	128
2	Dixie Blossoms (Aus)	Street Sense	Quinton	Clark	123
3	In Her Time (Aus)	Time Thief (Aus)	Smith	Parr	123
4	Global Glamour (Aus)	Star Witness (Aus)	Waterhouse & Bott	McEvoy	122
5	Heavens Above (Aus)	Street Cry (Ire)	Martin	Angland	121
6	Single Gaze (Aus)	Not a Single Doubt (Aus)	Olive	O'Hara	121
7	La Bella Diosa (NZ)	So You Think (NZ)	M/M Brown	Ford	120
8	Danish Twist (Aus)	Dane Shadow (Aus)	Lees	Schofield	120
9	Silent Sedition (Aus)	War Chant	Noblet	Clipperton	120
10	French Emotion (Aus)	Snitzel (Aus)	Waller	Lever	119
11	Euro Angel (NZ)	Rip Van Winkle (Ire)	M/W/J Hawkes	Thompson	117
12	Thames Court (Aus)	Commands (Aus)	Brideoake	Moor	117
13	Zanbagh (Aus)	Bernardini	Thompson	Reith	117
14	Omei Sword (Aus)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Waller	Avdulla	116
15	Abbey Marie (Aus)	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Kent	Mertens	115
16	Denmagic (Aus)	Denman (Aus)	Pfieffer	Wells	115
17	Daysee Doom (Aus)	Domesday (Aus)	Quinton	Adkins	112
18	Sold for Song (Aus)	Collate (Aus)	Kemp	Tarrant	112
19	Shillelagh (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Waller	Victoire	112

Saturday, Flemington, Victoria, Australia, post time: 4:35 p.m. (12:35 a.m. EST)

TAB AUSTRALIAN CUP-G1, A$1,500,000 *(US$1,131,849/£930,631/€1,072,064)*, Open, WFA, 2000mT,

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Stratum Star (Aus)	Stratum (Aus)	Weir	Zahra	130
2	Awesome Rock (Aus)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	L/T Corstens	Baster	130
3	The United States (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Hickmott	Melham	130
4	Mourinho (Aus)	Oratorio (Ire)	Gelagotis	Darmanin	130
5	Ecuador (NZ)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Waterhouse & Bott	Hyeronimus	130
6	Exospheric (GB)	Beat Hollow (GB)	L/A Freedman	Oliver	130
7	Tally (Aus)	Street Cry (Ire)	O'Shea	Moreira	130
8	Tom Melbourne (Ire)	Dylan Thomas (Ire)	L/A Freedman	Oliver	130
9	Boom Time (Aus)	Flying Spur (Aus)	D/B Hayes & Dabernig	Bayliss	130
10	Humidor (NZ)	Teofilo (Ire)	Weir	Lane	130
11	Jameka (Aus)	Myboycharlie (Ire)	Maher	Bowman	125
12	Real Love (Aus)	Desert King (Ire)	Weir	Rawiller	125

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