

FINAL PREPS PROVIDE CLARITY IN DERBY 20



Top-ranked McCracken (pictured at Keeneland Monday) is set to compete in Saturday's GII Toyota Blue Grass S. | Coady photo

by T.D. Thornton

Definitive winners in both the GI Florida Derby and the GI Louisiana Derby over the weekend help to solidify the TDN Derby Top 20 rankings, and this coming Saturday a whopping 13 horses on this list will be in action in the GI Santa Anita Derby, GI Blue Grass S., and GI Wood Memorial as we approach the four-week mark to the GI Kentucky Derby. Please note the rankings below are independent from the "Road to the Derby" points leaderboard that Churchill Downs will use to determine starting berths; that list can be accessed [here](#).

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

'TDN Rising Star' O/B-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY). T-Ian R. Wilkes. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 4-4-0-0, \$310,848.

Mar. 28 TDN Top 20 Rank: 1

Last Start: 1st, GIII Sam F. Davis S., TAM, Feb. 11

Accomplishments Include: 1st, GII Kentucky Jockey Club S., CD,

Nov. 26, 1st, Street Sense S., CD, Oct. 30

Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on McCracken

KY Derby Points: 20 **Cont. p6**

LAMBHOLM SOUTH Training Graduate

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS: ALWAYS DREAMING

by Andrew Caulfield

A couple of weeks ago, I had my fingers firmly crossed that American Anthem would win the GII Rebel S. No, it wasn't my money which had helped this promising colt start a warm favorite. I simply wanted an opportunity to report that his sire, Bodemeister, was on the verge of justifying some of the hype generated by the popularity of his sales progeny.

Unfortunately, American Anthem trailed home only 10th of 11, but--as the French proverb states--all things come to those who wait. Another opportunity has presented itself following the impressive victory of Bodemeister's son **Always Dreaming** in the **GI Florida Derby**--a race once won even more impressively by Bodemeister's sire Empire Maker en route to his second place in the GI Kentucky Derby and victory in the GI Belmont S.

Bodemeister, of course, had also turned one of the main Derby trials into a rout, leaving Secret Circle trailing by nearly 10 lengths in the GI Arkansas Derby. **Cont. p3**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

RAIN DOESN'T DAMPEN EASTER PARADE

Inglis stages its flagship Easter Yearling Sale amidst its 150th anniversary celebrations at Newmarket beginning Tuesday. Kelsey Riley is on hand in Sydney. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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USA	\$863,200
AUSTRALIA	\$588,443

<i>Top 10 Freshman Sires Standing in:</i>	<i>First-Year Fee 5-Year Avg. (USD)</i>
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USA	\$24,300
GB	\$14,622
Ireland	\$11,706
France	\$4,899



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Tuesday, April 4, 2017



Aushorse/TBA CEO Tom Reilly, Teo Ah Khing of China Horse Club, Inglis Managing Director Mark Webster, NSW state government minister Niall Blair, Widden's Antony Thompson and Godolphin's Henry Plumtre take a moment from inspecting yearlings at the Inglis Australian Easter sale to pose for a photo. | Aushorse

GODOLPHIN LAUNCHES FANTASY STABLE LEAGUE 5

Godolphin has launched Round Two of its innovative online gaming competition, which is designed to allow fans the opportunity to experience life as a trainer.

TRANSYLVANIA HEADLINES KEENELAND OPENER

Keeneland drew entries for Friday's opening day card Monday, with the GIII Transylvania S. for sophomore turfers leading the way. See the graded stakes page at the end of the North American section for entries.

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PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



Always Dreaming (cont. from p1)

The free-running Bodemeister also emerged with tremendous credit when runner-up to I'll Have Another in the first two legs of the 2012 Triple Crown, his neck defeat in the GI Preakness S. being particularly cruel. Just as cruel was the news in the summer that Bodemeister was forced to be retired after

only six starts, because nerve damage in a shoulder had scotched hopes of winning the GI Breeders' Cup Classic.

In addition to his memorable efforts on the track, which included setting fractions of :45.2 and 1:09.8 in the Kentucky Derby, Bodemeister had quite a few other things going for him when he retired to WinStar Farm. For a start, he wasn't going to have to compete against his sire, as Empire Maker had been sold to Japan in November 2010. And although Bodemeister hadn't raced at two, his dam Untouched Talent had been a Grade III-winning juvenile by Storm Cat, a multiple champion sire of 2-year-olds.

ALWAYS DREAMING, c, 2014
Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-1, \$648,900

Bodemeister	Empire Maker	Unbridled	Fappiano	
		Toussaud	Gana Facil	
	Untouched Talent	Storm Cat	El Gran Senor	
		Parade Queen	Image of Reality	
Above Perfection 10-7-1-0 12Fls, 7wnrs, 2GSW	In Excess (Ire)	Siberian Express	Storm Bird	
		Kantado	Terlingua	
	Something Perfect Unraced, 12Fls, 1GSW, 1SW	Somethingfabulous	A.P. Indy	Spanish Parade
			Happening 12Fls, 6wnrs, 1SW	Caro (Ire)
		Northern Dancer	Indian Call	
			Somethingroyal	
Vi				
Terrang				
Lazy Mary				

Then there's his female line. He comes from an unbroken line of talented racemares, all sired by top stallions. His first five dams are black-type performers by Storm Cat, A.P. Indy, Roberto, Nijinsky and Habitat--the Habitat mare being the very speedy Bitty Girl, who remained unbeaten in her first five starts as a 2-year-old. Bodemeister's eight lines of La Troienne was also likely to appeal to breeders.

EMPIRE MAKER

THE MAKING OF AN EMPIRE

SIRE OF Sires

BODEMEISTER (G1)

ALWAYS DREAMING (G1)
BODE'S DREAM
O DIONYSUS
ROYAL COPY (G1SP)
AMERICAN ANTHEM (G3SP)

PIONEER OF THE NILE (G1)

Champion AMERICAN PHAROAH (G1)
Champion CLASSIC EMPIRE (G1)
MIDNIGHT STORM (G1)
CAIRO PRINCE (G2)
JOJO WARRIOR (G2)
CONQUEST COBRA (G3)
CASH CONTROL (G3)
LEVANTE LION (G3)
VINCEREMOS (G3)
DARK NILE (G3)

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Consequently, Bodemeister was very popular from the get-go, with his fee set at \$30,000 (beaten only by Union Rags among the freshman sires of 2013). It didn't take long for the market to demonstrate its high expectations. Careless Jewel, a Grade I-winning mare in foal to Bodemeister, sold for \$1.85 million in 2013. A year later it was the turn of the Bodemeister weanlings to impress, with nine achieving prices of \$150,000 or more, led by a \$230,000 colt. Move on another year and Bodemeister was the leading American-based first-crop sire at the yearling sales, with nine of his youngsters achieving prices of \$400,000 or more, with a top price of \$850,000. The success story continued at the 2-year-old sales, when sons of Bodemeister made \$650,000, \$435,000 and \$420,000.

Needless to say, expectations were high when the Bodemeisters finally reached the track. But whereas arch rival Union Rags did so well that his fee was raised from \$35,000 to \$50,000, Bodemeister's was reduced to \$25,000 from \$30,000. He had failed to hit the headlines, despite having comfortably more 2-year-olds than any of his first-crop rivals--131, compared to Shackleford's 119, Gemologist's 117, Union Rags' 106, The Factor's 105 and Dialed In's 103.



Bodemeister | WinStar Farm

His best efforts last year were Royal Copy's narrow defeat by Practical Joke in the GI Hopeful S. and Bode's Dream's black-type successes. There was good reason, though, for predicting an upturn in Bodemeister's fortunes. As I said earlier, he didn't race at two. His sire Empire Maker was another who didn't reveal the full extent of his talents until he was three, with his promising juvenile efforts being rated no higher than 106 on the Experimental Free H.

The broodmare sires of Bodemeister's highest-priced progeny included Smart Strike, Distorted Humor, Awesome Again and Speightstown, who collectively managed one juvenile start



Bodemeister's
ALWAYS DREAMING
Winner of the \$1,000,000 Florida Derby (G1)
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Distorted Humor's
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between them, so a bit of patience was likely to be required. Sure enough, the 3-year-old winners have begun to flow and his year's total of five black-type horses makes him joint-top with To Honor And Serve among the second-crop sires.

Always Dreaming complies with this progressive profile. Although placed in both his juvenile starts, it wasn't until Jan. 25, after a five-month absence, that this \$350,000 Keeneland purchase began to look like a colt with a future. Now a three-time winner, by margins of 11 1/2 lengths, four lengths and five lengths, he could well provide the Unbridled male line another Kentucky Derby success.

According to *Racing Post* ratings, Bodemeister is the best son of Empire Maker, with a rating of 126. This statement needs a little clarification, as it could be argued that Empire Maker is a more effective sire of fillies than colts. Nine of his 11 Grade I winners are fillies and so are six of his eight Grade II winners. A record like this might suggest that Empire Maker has far more to offer as a sire of broodmares than as a sire of sires.

Happily, that assumption is proving incorrect. His four male winners at Grade I and Grade II levels include Bodemeister, Pioneer of The Nile (sire of American Pharoah, Classic Empire, Midnight Storm and Cairo Prince) and the Japanese-based Battle Plan (sire of Bless Journey, officially ranked Japan's fourth-best 2-year-old colt of 2016).

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▲ Colt ex **Blindsidehit**, born Jan 24
Bred by **Tony Cabrera**



▲ Colt out of **Tiz a Brite Miss**
Bred by **Marvin Little**



▲ Filly ex **Jack's Flame**, born Feb 8
Bred by **Bridie Harrison**



▲ Colt ex **Repeat**, born Feb 18
Bred by **Nancy Shuford**

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Always Dreaming | *Kenny Martin*

The TDN's pedigree notes which accompanied the report on the Florida Derby stated that *"Always Dreaming's California-bred dam Above Perfection was an exceptionally fast sprinter and posted a pair of Beyer Speed Figures north of 110--when runner-up to champion Xtra Heat in the 2001 GI Prioress S. (112) and when winning the GIII Las Flores H. (113) in 2002."*

This would normally raise a question about Above Perfection's ability to produce a potential Kentucky Derby winner--especially when her previous Grade I winner, the Spinaway S. victress Hot Dixie Chick, was a sprinter. However, there is some reassurance to be found in the fact that she is a daughter of In Excess, the ex-English colt whose victories included a record-setting win in the GI Suburban H. over a mile and a quarter. In Excess also sired Indian Charlie, the 1998 Kentucky Derby third who ranks as the grandsire of Nyquist, last year's Kentucky Derby winner.

Second dam Something Perfect was an unraced daughter of Somethingfabulous, a Northern Dancer colt who won at up to a mile and an eighth. Somethingfabulous sired Sounds Fabulous, winner of the Canadian Derby over 1 3/8 miles, from a half-sister to Something Perfect.

Third dam Happening was by the admirably tough Terrang, a veteran of 66 races over five years. Terrang had the talent to match his toughness, as he showed with victories in the Santa Anita Derby and Santa Anita H. He stayed a mile and a quarter, so I am hopeful that Always Dreaming won't find the final sixteenth of the Derby as troublesome as Bodemeister did.

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GODOLPHIN LAUNCHES 'FANTASY STABLE LEAGUE'

Godolphin has launched Round Two of its innovative Godolphin Fantasy Stable League, it was announced Monday. The free online gaming competition, which is designed for fans of horse racing, offers participants the opportunity to experience life as a trainer, as users create their own fantasy horse racing stable and compete against friends for the opportunity to win a range of monthly prizes--including an all expenses paid trip to the 2018 G1 Dubai World Cup.



Godolphin's G2 Thunder Snow (Ire) (left) wins the G2 UAE Derby | *Neville Hopwood*

Round 1 of the Fantasy Stable League coincided with the recently concluded 2017 Dubai World Cup Carnival. Running until July 20, Round Two will be based on the Godolphin horses in training in America, the UK, Ireland and France. Participants will also receive complimentary membership in **Club Godolphin** [click link for registration information], which rewards fans loyalty with access to exclusive behind-the-scenes content and the chance to win stable tours and a chance to be invited as a guest of Godolphin at the races.

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2016 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf hero Oscar Performance (Kitten's Joy) is set to make his 2017 debut in the GIII Transylvania S. on Keeneland's opening day Friday. See graded stakes entries page for the full field. | *Horsephotos*

TDN **TOP**



KENTUCKY DERBY

CONTENDERS

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McCraken (cont. from p1)

Divisional leader McCraken is thriving at Keeneland according to his connections, but Saturday's Blue Gras S. looms as a corker of a prep race that will be extremely deep in talent, so he'll need to demonstrate further progression to retain his top ranking. Trainer Wilkes reports that this 'TDN Rising Star' is "bigger and stronger since he has been here," and jockey Brian Hernandez, Jr.--who drove 10 hours overnight from New Orleans to Lexington after winning the Louisiana Derby just to work McCraken on Sunday morning--added that he notices a change in the colt's attitude, too. "He does everything right on cue now," Hernandez said. "He [works furlongs] in perfect :12s and

gets faster as he goes. He's an amazing horse. Last year he worked five-eighths before the [GII] Kentucky Jockey Club [S.] and just went out there, but now he is focused on the job like he wants to do it." Considering that McCraken has already displayed a keen sense of being in control without being overly aggressive and an ability to shift into multiple gears when asked, it will be intriguing to see what new dimensions he might exhibit in the toughest prep race of the season on Saturday.

Click [here](#) for the story on McCraken's final tune-up for the Blue Grass Sunday.

DERBY MEISTER

ALWAYS DREAMING

dominated the \$1,000,000 Florida Derby (G1), like his sire dominated the Arkansas Derby (G1) five years prior.

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2. (2) TAPWRIT (c, ~~Tapit~~--Appealing Zophie**, by **Successful Appeal**)**

O-Bridlewood Farm, Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners & Robert V. LaPenta. B-My Meadowview, LLC (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$1,200,000 Ylg '15 FTNAUG. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-3-1-0, \$313,902.

Mar. 28 TDN Top 20 Rank: 2

Last Start: 1st, **GII Tampa Bay Derby**, TAM, Mar. 11

Accomplishments Include: 1st, **Pulpit S.**, GP, Dec. 10

Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 8

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

KY Derby Points: 54



Trainer Pletcher has five horses ranked in the *TDN Top 20*, and at this late juncture of the prep season, this \$1.2-million colt rates a slight edge among them based on seasoning, the spacing of his races, the fact that he's overcome in-race adversities to win or come close to it, and that he gives the impression there's more under the hood that we haven't yet seen. Asked what Tapwrit's main strengths were, Pletcher said in a Friday telephone interview that the high-spirited gray "has shown that he's adaptable. He took dirt well in the Tampa Derby. He got a good education there. He seems like he's handling the stretchout in distances. We just need to continue on an upward plane. He's had a good winter and early spring. We just need to keep it in that direction." Despite a downgrade from Grade I to Grade II status this season, the Blue Grass S. is shaping up as one of the most "loaded" prep races of the campaign, and the vibe is already out there that the connections of top competitors don't want to win the battle (Blue Grass) at the expense of losing the overall war (Derby). But if either McCracken or Tapwrit wins emphatically at Keeneland on Saturday, the victor will almost certainly head to Louisville as the solid favorite for the first leg of the Triple Crown.



Tapwrit galloping at Keeneland | Coady

3. (N/A) ALWAYS DREAMING (c, ~~Bodemeister~~--Above Perfection**, by **In Excess {Ire}**)**

O-Brooklyn Boyz Stables, Teresa Viola Racing Stables et al. B-Santa Rosa Partners (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$350,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-3-1-1, \$648,900.

Last Start: 1st, **GI Xpressbet Florida Derby**, GP, Apr. 1

Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 6

[EquineLine PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 100



The commanding performance by Always Dreaming in the Florida Derby vaults him to the elite level near the head of the division. He was keen and into the bit early on, nearly running up on heels entering the clubhouse turn, and after attempting to bull his way through some minor shuffling, he settled willingly

when jockey John Velazquez re-asserted his rating hold entering the backstretch. Gliding into stride just behind the expected pacemaker, Always Dreaming took dead aim on Three Rules (Gone Astray), and while stalking relentlessly from 4 1/2 furlongs out to the three-sixteenths pole, it was clearly a matter of "when" not "if" Velazquez would unleash him to rip away the lead. Once he blasted to the front, Always Dreaming appeared to relish being roused inside the final furlong, extending fluidly and with an authority that belied his light (just three starts in 2017) seasoning. A patient

approach earlier in the campaign (opting for a nine-furlong allowance race instead of a graded stakes try at 1 1/16 miles Mar. 4) is what trainer Pletcher is hoping will contribute to Always Dreaming peaking at the right time as a major Triple Crown presence.

4. (12) GIRVIN (c, ~~Tale of Ekati~~--Catch the Moon**, by **Malibu Moon**)**

O-Brad Grady. B-Bob Austin & John Witte (KY). T-Joe Sharp. Sales History: \$140,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$130,000 Ylg '15 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 4-3-1-0, \$874,400.

Last Start: 1st, **GII Louisiana Derby**, FG, Apr. 1

Accomplishments Include: 1st, **GII Risen Star S.**, FG, Feb. 25

Next start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 6

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

KY Derby Points: 150

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Gulfstream Park Oaks (G2) - Beyer: 88



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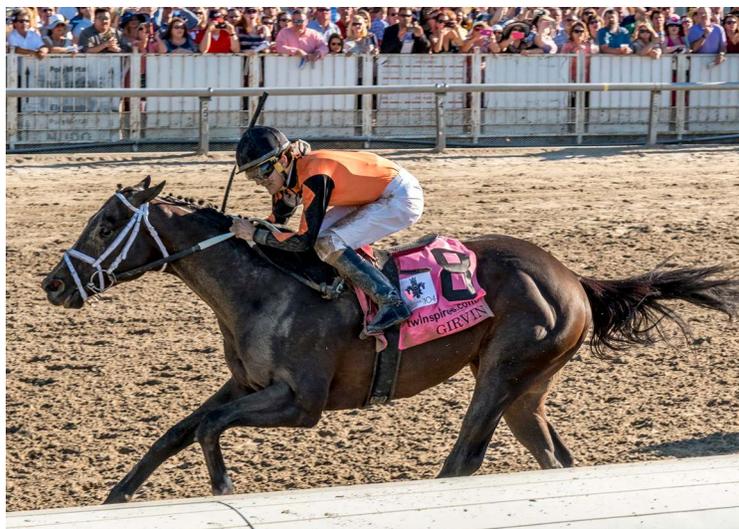
UNION RAGS

PATCH

2nd Louisiana Derby (G2)

TEQUILITA

2nd Gulfstream Park Oaks (G2)



Girvin | Lou Hodges

Girvin keeps stretching out and winning while displaying still-developing tactical prowess. Can he parlay what he's done in his brief four-race career into a win in the Derby? His jockey, Brian Hernandez, Jr., indicated after their 1 1/4-length Louisiana Derby victory that he thinks so, which could set up a tough choice for Hernandez, because he is also the regular rider of No. 1-ranked McCracken. "He's the type of horse where he's got enough athletic ability that he puts me in a good spot," Hernandez explained, adding that when he saw Local Hero (Hard Spun) settle off the pace behind Girvin's uncoupled 98-1 rabbit, Hotfoot (Aikenite), he used Local Hero as his target. And every time he cued Girvin to quicken, the colt responded. "Turning for home, he got to kind of switching leads back and forth, but he was just kind of messing around. He's going to go on and improve off of this," Hernandez said. That could be true, but objectively, it's also fair to question the quality of the competition Girvin beat in the Louisiana Derby. With the exception of Guest Suite (Quality Road), who was a non-threatening seventh as the second choice in the betting, no other horse in the field had ever won a stakes race.

5. (6) J BOYS ECHO (c, Mineshaft--Letgomyecho, by Menifee)
'TDN Rising Star' O-Albaugh Family Stable. B-Betz/Blackburn/J. Betz/Ramsby/CNHHNK (KY). T-Dale L. Romans. Sales History: \$485,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-2-1-1, \$299,600.
 Last Start: 1st, **GIII Gotham S.**, AQU, Mar. 4
 Next Start: **GII Blue Grass S.**, KEE, Apr. 8
Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on J Boys Echo
 KY Derby Points: 53

Barry Berkelhammer 352•804•3000

I'm always a little dubious about reading too much into victories that were earned under ideal conditions, like J Boys Echo's swooping move after a traffic-free rail trip to collar two all-out pacemakers in the Gotham S. But this **'TDN Rising Star'** has been growing on me as a sneaky sort of under-the-radar colt who is capable of another mild upset in the Blue Grass S., and could be further primed for a big effort going 10 furlongs on Derby Day. In his favor numbers-wise is a robust 102 Beyer Speed Figure generated in the Gotham, it will also be worth taking a close look at how Cloud Computing (Maclean's Music) does in the GII Wood Memorial, considering how that lightly raced rival (off his second in the Gotham) has suddenly emerged as a "wiseguy" Derby horse. Also of merit is the fact that this athletic son of Mineshaft (A.P. Indy) has been running in nothing but 1 1/16-mile races since lifetime start number two way back in October, and that he's already run well (second, beaten only 1 1/2 lengths despite a troubled trip) over a Churchill strip that trainer Romans considers home court.



J Boys Echo | Sarah K. Andrew

6. (5) MO TOWN (c, Uncle Mo--Grazie Mille, by Bernardini)
'TDN Rising Star' O-Susan Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith & Team D. B-John D. Gunther & Eurowest Bloodstock (KY). T-Anthony W. Dutrow. Sales History: \$200,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-2-1-0, \$251,600.
 Last Start: 5th, **GII Risen Star S.**, FG, Feb. 25
 Accomplishments Include: 1st, **GII Remsen S.**, AQU, Nov. 26
 Next Start: **GII Wood Memorial S.**, AQU, Apr. 8
Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on Mo Town
 KY Derby Points: 10

Roughly one-quarter of the horses ranked within the Top 20 are in need of rebounding sharply to get back to firmer footing on the Derby trail. Mo Town is the highest ranked among them, and the fact that he is returning to the surface and distance of his most decisive victory this Saturday tilts the balance in favor of his making the leap back into contention. It's been well-documented that this **'TDN Rising Star'** didn't care for the footing when he was a badly beaten favorite at the Fair Grounds, and one can only wonder how Mo Town's campaign might otherwise have unfolded had trainer Dutrow instead opted for the Mar. 4 Gotham S., which earlier in the year had

been mentioned as his potential starting point. Mo Town will be ridden by Javier Castellano in the Wood Memorial, replacing John Velazquez, who was reportedly unable to commit. "We've been training him the same way and he's been responding to it," Dutrow said prior to Mo Town shipping north from Payson Park. "Javier rode him in his first start and he's watched him in his other races, so he knows the horse. I think we're excellent."

7. (4) PRACTICAL JOKE (c, Into Mischief--Halo Humor, by Distorted Humor)

O-Klaravich Stables, Inc. & William H. Lawrence. B-Whispering Oaks (KY). T-Chad C. Brown. Sales History: \$135,000 Ylg '15 KEEJAN; \$240,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGISW, 5-3-1-0, \$815,800.

Last Start: 2nd, [GII Xpressbet Fountain of Youth S.](#), GP, Mar. 4

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

Next Start: [GII Blue Grass S.](#), KEE, Apr. 8

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

KY Derby Points: 34



When trainer Brown decided last week not to enter Practical Joke in the Florida Derby, instead opting for an additional week of training and the Apr. 8 Blue Grass S., it seemed to me like he was passing up a softer Grade I opportunity at Gulfstream in



Practical Joke | Sarah K. Andrew

exchange for running in a Grade II race at Keeneland that was likely to draw far heavier hitters. Yet with the benefit of hindsight--specifically, after having seen the flashy Always Dreaming demolish

the Florida Derby field--Brown's move now looks like a pretty wise option. A solid in-the-money finish in the Blue Grass will be good enough to stamp this two-time Grade I winner's ticket to Louisville. Although a win isn't necessary, it would sure go a long way to clearing up nagging doubts about Practical Joke's ability to win at two turns, because right now he's yet to prove himself beyond a one-turn mile at Belmont Park. In fact, a score on Saturday would also end what will be exactly a six-month win drought. Regardless of the race distance, Practical Joke hasn't graced the winner's circle since his GI Champagne S. way back on Oct. 8.

8. (7) MALAGACY (c, Shackleford--Classiest Gem, by Dehere)

'**TDN Rising Star**' O-Sumaya U.S. Stable. B-John Trumbulovic (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$45,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$130,000 Ylg '15 OBSAUG; \$190,000 2yo '16 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$586,800.

Last Start: 1st, [GII Rebel S.](#), OP, Mar. 18

Next Start: [GI Arkansas Derby](#), OP, Apr. 15

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

KY Derby Points: 50



When a young colt is undefeated from three starts and aiming for the Kentucky Derby, it's often the case that he's displayed raw talent that has yet to be tempered by poise and maturity. That's not so with 'TDN Rising Star' Malagacy, according to his trainer. "He's got a great disposition and a good mind. He's got plenty of natural speed, and also at the same time he's very rateable and kind, and I think that's going to help him be able to stretch out in distance," Pletcher said in a phone interview. Malagacy will return to Oaklawn, the scene of his breakthrough stretch-out win in the Rebel S. last month, for the Apr. 15 Arkansas Derby. That's a race Pletcher has won a record four times, with Graeme Hall (Dehere) in 2000, Balto Star (Glitterman) in 2001, Overanalyze (Dixie Union) in 2013, and Danza (Street Boss) in 2014. But with the exception of Danza, who ran third in the Kentucky Derby, Pletcher's other three Arkansas Derby winners didn't fare as well when advancing to Louisville, with none placing higher than 11th.



Malagacy | Coady Photography

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9. (8) AMERICAN ANTHEM (c, Bodemeister--Indy's Windy, by A.P. Indy)

O-WinStar Farm, LLC, S F Bloodstock, LLC & China Horse Club. B-WinStar Farm (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$180,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$435,000 2yo '16 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: GSP, 3-1-1-0, \$54,200.

Last Start: 10th, **GII Rebel S.**, OP, Mar. 18

Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs

KY Derby Points: 4

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American Anthem will get a new jockey (Rafael Bejarano) for the Santa Anita Derby as trainer Baffert has assigned Mike Smith to his other lightly raced prospect, Reach the World (Tapit), for the same race. Will the talent American Anthem displayed in his first two races be enough for this May 15 foal to overcome being under the gun in terms of timing for the Derby? His thrown-shoe debacle in the Rebel S. is an obvious excuse for that clunker, but now it puts him in the difficult position of having to run an exceptionally strong race on Saturday just to prove he can win at two turns against stakes company. Visually, he has still run the best losing race in 2017 of any horse ranked on this week's Top 20 (pinned inside by more experienced foe, kicked again determinedly to only lose by a pip in the Sham S.). But that race was way back on Jan. 7, and its relevance diminishes with each passing week on the Derby trail.



One Liner | Coady

10. (9) ONE LINER (c, Into Mischief--Cayala, by Cherokee Run)

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

Last Start: 1st, **GIII Southwest S.**, OP, Feb. 20

Next start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 15

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs

KY Derby Points: 10

Arrived & Thrived at Woodstock Farm

Among his top-level 3-year-olds, trainer Pletcher weeks ago committed Tapwrit to the Blue Grass S. and expressed a desire to keep Always Dreaming and Battalion Runner (Unbridled's Song) separated. A potential plan to ship Battalion Runner cross-country for the Santa Anita Derby was nixed this past weekend when that colt was committed to the Wood Memorial instead. So with shipping to California out of the picture, that meant that four of Pletcher's top sophomores needing nine-furlong Derby preps in the next two weeks had only three races to choose from. One Liner and Malagacy, the two 3-for-3 trainees who both won stakes at Oaklawn last time out, will double up, clashing in the Arkansas Derby. Speaking via phone, Pletcher said One Liner "has performed well every time, at three different distances at three tracks, so he seems versatile in that regard. Like all of them at this time of year, he needs to continue to progress and he needs to handle the stretch out in distances. But he's got a lot of natural talent and we just need to keep building on that."

11. (10) ILIAD (r, Ghostzapper--Little Swoon, by You and I)

O-Kaleem Shah, Inc. B-Sungyeoun Lim (KY). T-Doug F. O'Neill. Sales history: \$50,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$80,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$285,000 2yo '16 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-2-1-0, \$227,345.

Last Start: 2nd, **GII San Felipe S.**, SA, Mar. 11

Next Start: Possible for GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs

KY Derby Points: 20

WOODS EDGE FARM GRADUATE
 Purchased by Donato Lanni/Hill 'n' Dale Bloodstock
 Bradley Thoroughbreds Pinbook Venture Graduate

Iliad tops what is projected to be a four-horse contingent for trainer O'Neill in a wide-open Santa Anita Derby. It is possible that he will "back into" the role of favorite for this race after the seismic shakeup among West Coast 3-year-olds in the wake of the injury which knocked 'TDN Rising Star' Mastery (Candy Ride {Arg}) off the Derby trail. This will be Iliad's second two-turn race, and he logged his final workout for Saturday's Grade I

attempt by putting away two-time older winner Hoffenheim (Midnight Lute) on Mar. 31, getting six furlongs pretty much in hand in 1:13.80 under Flavien Prat while his mate was mildly driven to get the same distance a fifth of a second slower. Iliad could run a decent second or third on Saturday and still earn a berth to Louisville. But, similar to Practical Joke, if he doesn't win the Santa Anita Derby, that puts him in the unenviable spot of attempting to win the first leg of the Triple Crown having never tasted victory in a two-turn race.

12. (3) GUNNEVERA (c, Dialed In--Unbridled Rage, by Unbridled)

O-Peacock Racing Stables, LLC. B-Brandywine Farm & Stephen Upchurch (KY). T-Antonio Sano. Sales

History: \$16,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 8-4-2-0, \$1,075,200.

Last Start: 3rd, GI Xpressbet Florida Derby, GP, Apr. 1

Accomplishments Include: 1st, GII Xpressbet Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4; 1st, GIII Delta Downs Jackpot S., DED, Nov. 19; 1st, GII Saratoga Special S., SAR, Aug. 14

Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 6

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on Gunnevera

KY Derby Points: 84



Irish War Cry | Adam Coglianesa

BRED & RAISED by Brandywine Farm (Jim & Pam Robinson)

Altamira Stable Training Graduate - Julio Rada

It's fairly safe to say that we've seen Gunnevera's "A" efforts already. And while his win-every-other-race sequence over his last six starts doesn't exactly stamp him as a major Kentucky Derby win threat, he has the makings of one of those robust stayers who can get the Triple Crown distances and can probably be counted upon to be in the hunt for an in-the-money placing. And under the right circumstances pace-wise, he could even surge to victory, provided there is a big enough meltdown in front of him. In his recent losses, his connections have cited being at the mercy of the surface and/or fractions as his undoing, and his Florida Derby pick-up-the-pieces third was no different. "I was riding, riding all the way in the race," said jockey Javier Castellano. "He never grabbed the bit, he never pulled like he always used to. Maybe he was affected by the track--the track was speed today." Gunnevera did exhibit one useful clue that could factor into a start before a big crowd at Churchill Downs: He was much calmer in the Gulfstream paddock prior to the running of the Florida Derby, and the ability to be a cool customer in Louisville would be a big plus to his chances.

13. (11) IRISH WAR CRY (c, Curlin--Irish Sovereign, by Polish Numbers)

'TDN Rising Star' O/B-Isabelle de Tomaso (NJ). T-H. G. Motion. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-3-0-0, \$299,460.

Last Start: 7th, GII Xpressbet Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 4

Accomplishments: 1st, GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 4, 1st, Marylander S., LRL, Jan. 23

Next Start: GII Wood Memorial S., AQU, Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on Irish War Cry

KY Derby Points: 10

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

Irish War Cry needs to establish himself in the Wood Memorial as a bona-fide stalker who has more than one dimension. Earlier in the year, this 'TDN Rising Star' burst upon the scene by parlaying a pair of Laurel scores into a breathtaking wire job in Gulfstream's Holy Bull S. But he couldn't rate effectively and caved as the fave in the Mar. 4 Fountain of Youth S. "I wanted to get him home [to Fair Hill in Maryland] and give him the extra week," said trainer Motion. "I just didn't feel like I could run back in the Florida Derby off

that performance. For me it was getting him home and getting him relaxed. The biggest factor was probably the extra week, to be honest. It's also running in a Grade II as opposed to a Grade I. [The Florida Derby] was a solid group and the winner looked very impressive, I thought."

14. (13) CLASSIC EMPIRE (c, Pioneerof the Nile--Sambuca Classica, by Cat Thief)

O-John C. Oxley. B-Steven & Brandi Nicholson (KY). T-Mark E. Casse. Sales History: \$475,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt, MGISW, 6-4-0-1, \$1,520,220.

Last Start: 3rd, GII Lambholm South Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 4

Accomplishments Include: 1st, GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile, SA, Nov. 5, 1st, GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity, KEE, Oct. 8; 1st, GIII Bashford Manor S., CD, July 2.

Next start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 15

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs, Caulfield on Classic Empire

KY Derby Points: 32

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The juvenile champ's only 3-year-old race was an odds-on flop. He then missed several weeks of training because of a foot abscess. After that, Classic Empire refused to break off into several planned workouts, either because of a presumed back problem or because he's a bit of an unpredictable head case, or maybe a little of both. Now trainer Casse has pushed the limits



Classic Empire | Horsephotos

of the Derby prep schedule by plotting a course for the Arkansas Derby, the very last opportunity to run in a Grade I sophomore stakes before the Kentucky Derby. None of this is

unfolding as a favorable scenario. And yet, Classic Empire persists, checking in as the No. 14-ranked contender this deep into the season. Perhaps that says something about the inconsistency of the division as a whole. It also has a bit to do with the respect for his connections and the flashes of superiority he unleashed during his 2-year-old campaign. The plan will be to ship to Hot Springs three or four days before the Arkansas Derby. Casse knows the biggest obstacle at Oaklawn might not be the on-track competition--it could be the cramped confines of the indoor saddling paddock, where he said he especially wants to school the notoriously flighty Classic Empire ahead of race day.

15. (15) BATTLE OF MIDWAY (c, 3, Smart Strike--Rigoletta, by Concerto)

'TDN Rising Star' O-Fox Hill Farms, Inc. B-Thor-Bred Stables, LLC (KY). T-Jerry Hollendorfer. Sales History: \$410,000 Ylg '15 SARAUG. Lifetime Record: GSP, 3-2-0-1, \$90,000.

Last Start: 1st, Allowance/Optional Claiming, SA, Mar. 9

Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs

KY Derby Points: 0

2nd TDN Rising Star out of Thor-Bred Stables' 2014 Crop

Bettors in the Kentucky Derby Future Wager pari-mutuels consistently overvalue horses that run well on the weekend that particular pool is offered while overlooking entrants scheduled to compete in subsequent weeks. With that in mind, Battle of Midway seems like a pretty juicy overlay at 64-1 in the pool that just closed on Sunday. This 'TDN Rising Star' figures to be an assertive pace presence in Saturday' Santa Anita Derby. He was a game winner when stretching successfully to 1 1/16 miles

against allowance company on Mar. 9, and nine furlongs is well within the scope of his pedigree. Even if you think Battle of Midway is a little light on racing experience with only three lifetime starts, he's also a Jan. 30 foal, which gives him up to a three-month edge in birth rank compared to some of the other 3-year-olds he'll be facing in the Santa Anita Derby.

16. (16) BATTALION RUNNER (c, 3, Unbridled's Song--Tamboz, by Tapit)

'TDN Rising Star' O-St. Elias Stable. B-Dell Ridge Farm, LLC (KY). T-Todd A. Pletcher. Sales History: \$700,000 Ylg '15 KEESEp.

Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$60,600.

Last Start: 1st, Allowance/Optional Claiming, GP, Feb. 3

Next Start: Gil Wood Memorial S. Apr. 8

Thoro-Graph sheet, EquineLine PPs

Trained at Crupi's New Castle Farm

The final Derby prep-race plans for trainer Pletcher's loaded hand came into clarity over the weekend with the decision to scratch 'TDN Rising Star' Battalion Runner from the Florida Derby and instead commit him to the Wood Memorial at Aqueduct. Pletcher said all along this season that Battalion Runner seems to benefit from generous spacing between races. "We feel like he's consistently run well fresh and we've been training all along with either running in the Florida Derby or the following weekend in mind so hopefully we have him fit enough and ready enough to run his best," Pletcher said. Battalion Runner has been forwardly placed in his two most recent efforts (both wins), but the Wood is shaping up with ample speed on paper, so it wouldn't be surprising to see if this gray is asked to back off a beat or two for his nine-furlong stakes debut.



Battalion Runner | Leslie Martin

17. (18) REACH THE WORLD (c, 3, Tapit--Reach The Stars (Ire), by Galileo {Ire})

O-Don Alberto Stable. B-Don Alberto Corporation (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$50,080.

Last Start: 2nd, Allowance/Optional Claiming, SA, Mar. 9

Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 8

KY Derby Points: 0

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

Training Alum  **STONESTREET**

Trainer Baffert knew early on that sprinting wouldn't be Reach the World's game, and a foundation of three two-turn starts since Jan. 16 will stand this long-striding gray in good stead leading into the Santa Anita Derby. Watching his last two workouts, it appears as if Reach the World is just starting to get into rhythm by the time he hits the finish wire, and he's been keen to go on and extend himself at a geared-down clip well into the gallop out. Assuming he runs well enough Saturday to move ahead to the Kentucky Derby, Reach the World will still be rather light on experience, though. In the past decade, 13 horses have attempted the Derby on just four lifetime starts. Only Animal Kingdom (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}) in 2011 managed to win, but Baffert came close with another trainee, Bodemeister (Empire Maker), who was second in 2012. And don't forget that Reach the World's sire, Tapit (Pulpit), also tried to win the Derby on just four starts, but he finished ninth in 2004.

18. (19) GORMLEY (c, Malibu Moon--Race to Urga, by Bernstein)

O-Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Moss.

B-Castleton Lyons & Kilboy Estate

(KY). T-John A. Shirreffs. Sales

History: \$150,000 RNA Ylg '15

KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-3-

0-0, \$320,000.

Last Start: 4th, GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 11

Accomplishments Include: 1st, GI

FrontRunner S., SA, Oct. 6, 1st, GIII Sham S., SA, Jan. 7.

Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 8

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

KY Derby Points: 25

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Gormley, a high-energy stalker, holds down a spot near the bottom of the rankings but could leapfrog half this list with a win

or a solid second in Saturday's Santa Anita Derby. His past performances don't exactly reveal a "Wow!" factor that stamps him for Triple Crown greatness, but that doesn't mean he doesn't have an upside. The positives in Gormley's favor include the fact that he's been capably competing in nothing but two-turn graded stakes races since Oct. 1, and his only two defeats were handed to him by Classic Empire and Mastery, both of whom were considered at or near the top of the division at the time of their victories. Gormley has already been far more battle-tested than many of the rivals ranked above him, and it would be a mistake to underestimate his chances on the first Saturday in May should he run well enough Saturday for his patient, pragmatic trainer to send him on to Louisville.

19. (20) HENCE (c, Street Boss--Floating Island, by A.P. Indy)

O/B-Calumet Farm (KY). T-Steven M. Asmussen. Lifetime

Record: GSW, 6-2-1-1, \$542,601.

Last Start: 1st, GIII Sunland Derby, SUN, Mar. 26

Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 6

[Equineline PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 50

Training Alum  **STONESTREET**

Hence won't get mentioned much in the run-up to the Kentucky Derby, aside from the inevitable comparisons to 2009's 50-1 shocker Mine That Bird (Birdstone). The comparisons won't really be accurate though, because even though both share a far-off-the-pace running style, Mine That Bird was based in New Mexico but didn't even win the Sunland Derby (he was fourth), while Hence has previously been stabled at Churchill and shipped in from Oaklawn to circle the Sunland Derby field at 10-1. Trainer Asmussen said on "At the Races With Steve Byk" last week that even though he initially



Hence | Coady Photography

mulled an additional start prior to the Kentucky Derby for Hence, he decided within 48 hours of the Sunland win to give the exertion of the race and the taxing aspects of cross-country shipping the respect they deserve, so instead Hence will settle in at Churchill for a six-week gap between starts. This colt is filling in and muscling up nicely; if he grows into his pedigree's potential, he could have a legitimate shot to take down one of the top four Derby placings.

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20. (N/A) IT'S YOUR NICKEL (c, Dialed In--Bold American, by Quiet American) O-Harold Lerner LLC, AWC Stables, Scott K. Akman & Nehoc Stables. B-Stephen Wigmore (KY). T-Kenneth G. McPeek. Sales History: \$100,000 Ylg '15 FTKJUL. Lifetime Record: SW, 4-3-0-0, \$140,220.

Last Start: 1st, [John Battaglia Memorial S.](#), TP, Mar. 4

Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 8

[Equineline PPs](#)

KY Derby Points: 50

Hidden Brook Foaled, Raised & Sold

Spot No. 20 could have gone to one of the runner-ups in either the Louisiana or Florida Derbies, yet neither horse was truly getting to the winner and neither caught the eye in compelling fashion. But It's Your Nickel has comparable experience and more intriguing past performance lines, even if his sequence of preps does not exactly fit the traditional Derby contender profile. He sports a two-turn turf maiden win at Saratoga at age two, a dirt win via disqualification at Fair Grounds in January, and a Polytrack score in the \$100,000 Battaglia S. at Turfway in which he careened from seventh at the quarter pole to blast clear by 6 1/2 lengths after not "handling the track real well" according to jockey James Graham. He's posted three decent workouts at Keeneland since then and will go off as a longshot attempting to crash a Blue Grass S. party that is laden with more recognizable Derby contenders.

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Saturday, Palermo, Argentina

GRAN PREMIO DE HONOR-G1, ARG\$1,085,000 (US\$70,477), 4-1, Palermo, 3yo/up, 2000m, 2:00.85, ft.

1--**WILD STREAM (ARG)**, 125, c, 3, by **Boboman**

1st Dam: Mill Stream (Arg), by **Fitzcarraldo (Arg)**

2nd Dam: Miss Juventas (Arg), by **Babas Fables (Arg)**

3rd Dam: Miss Venencia (Arg), by **Luxemburgo (Arg)**

O-Stud El Granate; B-Ivan Rafael & Marcos Ayerza (Arg);

T-Alberto Aguirre; J-Mario Fernandez. Lifetime Record:

14-5-4-2. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#) **Werk Nick Rating: A++.**

2--**Fiskardo (Arg)**, 124, c, 3, Not For Sale (Arg)--Ride On Baby, by Forest Wildcat. O-Stud Mate y Venga; B-Roberto Jose McLaughlin (Arg); T-Luis Molina.

3--**El Margot (Arg)**, 134, h, 5, El Garufa (Arg)--Reina Margot (Arg), by Louis Quatorze. O-Stud Don Luis; B-Luis Maria Aramburu (Arg); T-Enrique Martin Ferro.

Margins: 2HF, 4, HF. Odds: 5.15, 5.40, 3.00.

Also Ran: Finneon (Brz), Emerging Talent, Laureliano (Arg), Giant Steps (Arg), Romano Escabiado (Arg), Quemacoco (Arg).

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

Saturday, Palermo, Argentina

GRAN PREMIO GILBERTO LERENA-G1, ARG\$884,000 (US\$57,421), 4-1, Palermo, 3yo/up, f/m, 2200mT, 2:14.03, fm. 1--**KIRIAKI (ARG)**, 132, f, 4, by **Catcher In The Rye (Ire)**

1st Dam: Kiria (Arg) (GSP-Arg), by **Interprete (Arg)**

2nd Dam: Key to Time (Arg), by **Fitzcarraldo (Arg)**

3rd Dam: Kefallinia (Arg), by **Saint Sever (Fr)**

O/B-Haras Santa Ines (Arg); T-Juan Udaondo; J-Gustavo

Calvente. Lifetime Record: 12-4-4-3. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++.**

***Triple Plus*. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)**

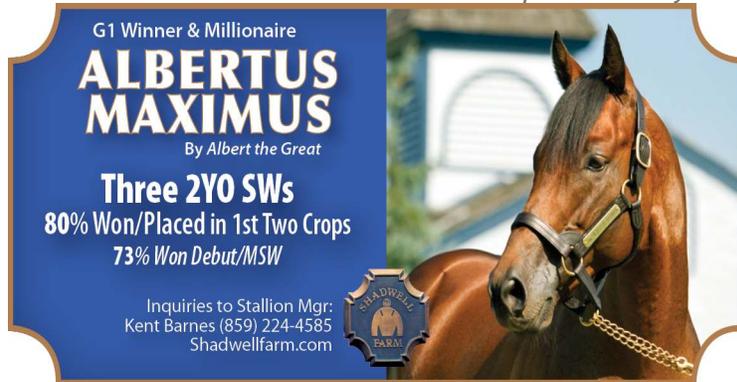
2--**La Extrana Dama (Arg)**, 123, f, 3, **Catcher In The Rye (Ire)**--**Toda Una Dama (Arg)**, by **Cipayo (Arg)**. O/B-Haras De La Pomme (Arg); T-Jose L. Palacios.

3--**Caitlin (Arg)**, 123, f, 3, **Pure Prize--Charlie's Sword**, by **Indian Charlie**. O/B-Haras Carampangue (Arg); T-Roberto Bullrich. Margins: 1HF, 3/4, HD. Odds: 3.05, 5.05, 19.70.

Also Ran: **Star of the City (Arg)**, **Mantera Rye (Arg)**, **American Song (Arg)**, **Magica Stripes (Arg)**, **Top Cats (Arg)**, **Babby Crush (Arg)**, **Safe Sabrina (Arg)**.

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

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AUSUS, 8, **Invasor (Arg)**--**El Raabi**, by **Fusaichi Pegasus**
Foal born Feb. 12, a filly by **Kitten's Joy**.

Will be bred back **Tapit**.

Owned by and boarded at **Shadwell Farm, LLC**.

Accomplishments: **GSW & GISP**, \$331,733.

CULINARY, 15, **El Amante--Volunteer (Arg)**, by **Ski Champ**
Foal born Feb. 14, a colt by **Orb**.

Will be bred back to **Munnings**.

Owned by **Dattt Farm LLC**.

Boarded at **Denali Stud**.

Accomplishments: **GSW** of \$271,680. Dam of **Coastline (Speightstown)**, **SW & MGSP**, \$409,151.



Friday, Keeneland, post time: 5:30 p.m. EDT

TRANSYLVANIA S. PRESENTED BY KEENELAND SELECT-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Profiteer	War Front	Stuart S. Janney, III	McGaughey III	Velazquez	120
2	Makarios 🌿	Giant's Causeway	Mossarosa	Zito	Juarez	118
3	Big Score	Mr. Big	George Krikorian	Yakteen	Castellano	123
4	Oscar Performance	Kitten's Joy	Amerman Racing Stables, LLC	Lynch	Ortiz	123
5	Ticonderoga 🌿	Tapit	Woodford Racing, LLC	Brown	Rosario	120
6	Sonic Boom 🌿	More Than Ready	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Wilkes	Leparoux	120
7	Dahog	Daaher	Wayne W. Rice	Rice	Cox	123
8	Cowboy Culture 🌿	Quality Road	Head of Plains Partners LLC and Cheyenne Stables LLC	Cox	Geroux	118
9	Holiday Stone 🌿	Harlan's Holiday	Susan and Jim Hill	Weaver	Saez	118

Breeders: 1-Stuart S. Janney, III LLC, 2-Commonwealth, 3-George Krikorian, 4-Mrs. Jerry Amerman, 5-Bryant H. Prentice, III, 6-Athens Woods, LLC & More Than Ready Syndicate, 7-Buck Pond Farm, Inc., 8-Rhineshire Farm LLC, 9-Nesco II Limited



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Those of us who have made horse racing our lives can certainly understand the fascination with it. One of the remarkable things about the sport is its ability to continually draw in new devotees, and to have it quickly become one of the most important things in their life. This month, we delve into the story of just such a person, Jaime Roth, one of racing's most successful new owners, who, along with her parents, operates LNJ Foxwoods. Also, if you love going to the races on days when the crowd gives you the feeling that something special is happening there, you'll love our off-the-beaten path story about racing in Sonoma's Wine Country, one of the sport's most enjoyable venues. In the Southern Hemisphere, if you're getting ready to go racing at the Sydney Carnival, we know just the woman to make sure you're properly outfitted. Back in Kentucky, spring means Keeneland, and we'll clue you in to Keeneland's hottest ticket—the annual Maker's Mark bottle signing, which has raised millions for charity, and has helped to keep the long bond between two Kentucky institutions strong. And finally, our popular TDN feature, This or That, makes its TDN Weekend debut in video form, just in time for OBS April.



Sue Finley, Co-Publisher



APRIL 2017

TDN WEEKEND

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NERITA
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EASTERN U.S.

Laurel to Host Decanter Wine and Racing Festival Apr. 8:

Laurel Park will host its seventh annual Decanter Wine & Racing Festival presented by the Maryland Wineries Association Saturday at Laurel Park, it was announced Monday. The event, scheduled to run from noon to 6 p.m., includes live music, local food and craft vendors and a best-dressed competition. One male and female winner will receive two tickets to a future Maryland wine event and a pair of Flute Club tickets for Black-Eyed Susan Day at Pimlico May 20. For more information, visit the event's [website](#).

CENTRAL U.S.

Monday's Results:

3rd-WRD, \$25,740, (S), Alw, 4-3, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:08.73, my.

SONIC RUN (f, 4, Song of the Sword--Millenium Beauty, by New Way) pulled a 20-1 upset over Oklahoma-breds second out at Remington Sept. 8 and was third in a state-bred allowance there Oct. 12 before beating open allowance foes on the Sam Houston turf Mar. 13. Bet to 9-10 favoritism in this four-horse field, the dark bay broke well and dueled for command through a :21.78 quarter. Edging away past a sharp :44.35 half, she spurted well clear in the lane to score impressively by 10 lengths. Js Pearljam (Dance Master) was second-best. The victress is a half to Yukonrun (Lucky Lionel), SP, \$215,147, as well as a juvenile colt by Line of David named Oklahoma Line. Her dam was bred to Mister Lucky Cat last term. Sales History: \$6,000 2yo '15 HEROCT. Lifetime Record: 5-3-0-1, \$58,817. [Click for the Equibase.com chart.](#)

O-Larry Darter; B-Cowboy Stables,LLC (OK); T-Mindy J. Willis.

Plaisance, Cox, Geroux Land Fair Grounds Titles:

Owner Keith Plaisance, trainer Brad Cox and jockey Florent Geroux won the championship titles at the 2016-17 Fair Grounds winter meet. 14 victories propelled Keith Plaisance to his first meet title at the Fair Grounds, just nosing out defending champion Midwest Thoroughbreds by one victory. After finishing fourth last season with 28 wins, the Brad Cox barn went on a tear during the 2016-17 meet, winning 43 races and

finishing eight clear of Joe Sharp. Meanwhile, Geroux won his second consecutive meet title at the New Orleans oval with 98 victories and \$2,856,618 in earnings. David Ross's DARRS Inc.'s **Honorable Duty** (Distorted Humor) was named Horse of the Meet, capturing three stakes, including the GIII Mineshaft H. and Saturday's GII New Orleans H.

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Redding Colliery Colt Fastest at Texas Under-Tack Show:

A colt by Redding Colliery (**hip 31**) turned in the fastest time during Monday's rescheduled under-tack preview of the Texas 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale when he worked a furlong in :10 1/5 at Lone Star

Park. Out of Bond's Babe (Johannesburg), the gray colt is from the family of Soviet Sojourn and Indian Charlie. He is consigned by Richardson Bloodstock, agent.



Hip 31 | Dennis Blake/TTA

The under-tack show was originally scheduled for Sunday, but was pushed back a day due to heavy rain.

"We really appreciate all the consignors and buyers being flexible to make the revised schedule work," said sales director Tim Boyce. "It's never an ideal situation to push back the under-tack show, but today's weather was perfect and we had some very nice workouts."

The sale, originally slated to begin at noon Tuesday, will commence at 2 p.m. For the complete catalogue, visit www.ttasales.com.

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INDUSTRY INFO

Registration Open for Thoroughbred Owner Conference at Del Mar:

Registration is now open for the fourth edition of the Thoroughbred Owner Conference, which is scheduled to take place at Del Mar from Oct. 30 to Nov. 1, 2017, immediately preceding the Breeders' Cup World Championships, OwnerView announced Monday. A limited number of reserved seats are available for the Breeders' Cup races on both Friday, Nov. 3, and Saturday, Nov. 4, to those attending the conference and will be included with the full registration fee on a first-come, first-served basis.

"OwnerView once again is excited to partner with Breeders' Cup and expose owners and prospective owners to two days of championship racing," said Gary Falter, project manager for OwnerView. "The Breeders' Cup World Championships provide a grand finale for a conference that caters to people interested in owning Thoroughbred racehorses and experiencing the thrill that accompanies it."

Prospective attendees can register at ownerview.com. Additional information about the conference is also available on that website.

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First Free NHC Qualifier Sunday on Horseplayers.com:

The year's first Free-to-Play online National Horseplayers Championship (NHC) qualifier is set for Sunday on HorsePlayers.com, the new official qualifying site for the prestigious handicapping tournament, it was announced Monday. The contest offers five berths to January's NHC and is open exclusively to NHC Tour members. NHC 18 offered in January a record prize pool worth more than \$2.9 million, including an \$800,000 first-place prize won by Ray Arsenault, whose finish also earned him an Eclipse Award as Horseplayer of the Year.

To register for Sunday's free contest, visit Horseplayers.com. To sign up for the NHC Tour, go to NTRA.com.



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APPOINTMENTS

Sally Walker: Executive Director, Blue Grass Farms Charities

- "Ms. Walker comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in both the horse industry and nonprofit management," said Board Chair Dennis Brawner. "Her experience as Field Director of the Virginia Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association (VaHBPA) will prove invaluable to BGFC's mission of serving those who work in all aspects of Central Kentucky's Thoroughbred racing industry."
- A lifelong horsewoman, Walker served as Executive Director of a Lexington-based national equine breed association. Prior to that, she led two conservation organizations, as well as the Virginia HBPA. She has written numerous Horsemen feature articles for the Mid Atlantic Thoroughbred magazine. As an equine video producer, Walker pioneered global video marketing techniques for top Virginia Thoroughbred breeders' yearling sales in Kentucky and Saratoga.

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Second-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, April 4

- Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2013 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*
- ALGORITHMS** (Bernardini), Claiborne Farm, \$7.5K, 155/19/1 5-MVR, Msw 1m, Merengon, \$10K RNA EAS MAY 2yo, 12-1
 - ASTROLOGY** (A.P. Indy), Taylor Made Stallions, \$7.5K, 156/24/2 3-PRX, Msw 1m, Star That Shines, \$60K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1
 - DIALED IN** (Mineshaft), Darby Dan Farm, \$7.5K, 174/25/5 5-SUN, Alw 6f, Facts Are Stubborn, \$70K KEE SEP yrl, 5-1
 - DOMINUS** (Smart Strike), Spendthrift Farm, \$6.5K, 85/13/2 7-WRD, Msw 6f, +Pipefighter, \$9K OKC YRL yrl, 12-1
 - GEMOLOGIST** (Tiznow), WinStar Farm, \$15K, 205/26/3 5-MVR, Msw 1m, Deliberate Diamond, 4-1
 - MR. GOLD MOVER** (Mr. Greeley), Bar Y Equine, 37/4/0 8-SUN, Aoc 6f, Que Pasa, 5-1
 - RULE** (Roman Ruler), Montesacro Farm, \$6.5K, 36/2/0 3-PRX, Msw 1m, Graymond, \$22K EAS MAY 2yo, 12-1
 - STAY THIRSTY** (Bernardini), Ashford Stud, \$17.5K, 160/34/2 3-PRX, Msw 1m, Jamminwithbrandon, \$100K OBS OPN 2yo, 3-1
 - WICKED B. HAVIOR** (Unbridled's Song), 3/0/0 7-WRD, Msw 6f, Ameripoint, 8-1

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IN FRANCE:

+Rueing, f, 3, **Street Cry (Ire)**. See "France."

Absalon, g, 6, **Giant's Causeway**. See "France."

IN JAPAN:

#Resonator, c, 3, **Blame**--Bluegrass Sara (MSW, \$153,052), by Tabasco Cat. Nakayama, 4-2, Fukuryu S., 9f. Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-0, \$283,387. O-Silk Racing; B-Hubert Vester; T-Koji Maki. *\$130,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. ***"He appears to be in a different class," said jockey Takuya Kowata. "He was very keen, but showed a burst of speed in the stretch. He's also developed a lot physically. I hope he becomes smoother in his lead changes."

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Lead the Field, c, 3, **Haynesfield**--Da River Hoss, by River Special. Nakayama, 4-1, Novice Race, 9F. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$86,867. O-Makio Okada; B-Brereton C. & B. Ned Jones; T-Noboru Takagi. *1/2 to River Proud (Proud Citizen), GSW-Eng, G1SP-Fr, \$285,931. **\$50,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. ***"We were lucky to start from the outside draw, as he was not trapped," said winning hoop Takuya Ono. "He traveled comfortably and held on well all the way to the line."

BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-PRX, \$40,400, (S), 4-3, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:46.72, ft.

THESE BLUES (g, 4, **Hard Spun**--Quantum Miss {GSW, \$251,950}, by Smoke Glacken) Lifetime Record: 13-3-1-4, \$98,170. O-Stanley J. Trzcinski; B-Smart Angle, LLP (PA); T-James F. Noble. *\$22,000 RNA Wlg '13 KEENOV.

9th-GG, \$35,127, 4-2, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:10.01, ft. HOT LIGHTNING (g, 5, Stormin Fever--Two Punch Gal {SW, \$141,583}, by Two Punch) Lifetime Record: 29-5-7-7, \$160,915. O-Scott Herbertson; B-Thomas W. Bachman (CA); T-Ari Herbertson. *\$47,000 Ylg '13 KEEJAN; \$50,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP; \$85,000 2yo '14 BARMAY.

6th-WRD, \$20,900, 4-3, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:03.53, gd. BASIC CHANCE (g, 3, **Yes It's True**--Swede {SW, \$106,400}, by Yankee Victor) Lifetime Record: 10-3-2-1, \$45,848. O-End Zone Athletics, Inc.; B-William Hobbs (IA); T-Karl Broberg. *Full to It's the Swede, SW, \$183,958.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Unashamed, f, 3, **Street Magician**--Economic Stimulus, by Aptitude. MVR, 4-3, 1m, 1:44.03. B-Larry E. Rabold (MD).



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RAIN DOESN'T DAMPEN EASTER PARADE



Shadwell's Angus Gold, Easter's leading buyer the last four years, inspects yearlings on Monday | Sam D'Agostino

by Kelsey Riley

Sydney, AUSTRALIA--Inglis stages its flagship Easter Yearling Sale amidst its 150th anniversary celebrations at Newmarket in Sydney this week, with the action kicking off at 12 p.m. on Tuesday and continuing through Thursday. Part I of the sale has 404 yearlings catalogued, with 75 set to sell in Part II on Thursday afternoon.

The persistent rain in Sydney was punctuated by intermittent sunny skies on Monday, and Inglis National Bloodstock Director Jonathan D'Arcy said even the clouds throughout the weekend had kept few away.

"Apart from Thursday, when it pretty much rained all day, most of the horses got in Monday or Tuesday and a lot of the buyers started looking Wednesday," said D'Arcy. "Talking to a couple vendors yesterday, they said it was their busiest Sunday for years. I don't think the weather has really impacted on it. People have got around and done their inspections so we're looking forward to seeing good competition."

The Australian yearling market has drawn increased attention from international buyers in recent years, and many of the same faces have flown in for the sales this week.

THE WEEKLY WRAP FOR APR. 4

by Emma Berry

The overlapping of the racing seasons can make this transitional time of the year disconcerting for some while offering an abundance of riches for others. Just over a week ago, the world's richest race day was staged in unusually boggy conditions in the desert, 24 hours before the Irish Turf season cranked into gear. Last Saturday may have signalled the start of the British Turf season, but come this weekend the focus will be back on National Hunt for the most famous jumps race of them all, the Grand National.

Forty years ago, Red Rum (Ire) (Quorum {GB}) won his third Grand National to become the most successful horse in the race's long and colourful history and to spark a lifelong obsession with horseracing for this correspondent. [Cont. p5](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS: ALWAYS DREAMING

Andrew Caulfield evaluates Bodemeister's improving prospects as a stallion in the afterglow of Always Dreaming's GI Florida Derby win. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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17	Exceed and Excel	2012/13

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Rain Doesn't Dampen Easter Parade Cont. from p1

"It's been great to see some new faces on the grounds, people like Jacob West and Gatewood Bell and some of the Europeans that haven't been down for a while, and I understand that quite a few people are now looking at Australia seriously in terms of investing," D'Arcy said. "I think that's because the racing here is seen to be for everyone. It's not dominated by the elite, and I think that's proven by the result of the Golden Slipper. The winner is raced by a group of battlers who paid A\$20,000 for a filly, and then the following week you get an expensive Snitzel colt [Invader] winning the [G1] Sires' Produce and in between you've got the Galaxy winner [Russian Revolution] who was an expensive yearling. All in all it's been pleasing to see a wide cross-section of buyers in town this week. A smaller catalogue has meant that there's more horses coming out more often, so the vendors are happy. Hopefully no one leaves having not spent some money or filled an order."

Europe is also well-represented by visitors to Sydney this week, and they will see plenty of familiarity in the catalogue, with progeny of Frankel (GB), Sea The Stars (Ire) and Shamardal alongside yearlings from plenty of Europe's most prolific families.

"We're seeing the same old faces like Angus Gold and Hubie de Burgh, and it's good to see Harry Herbert down with Highclere. They bought last year and I think they're looking to get more involved in Australian racing. They've got a young Australian fellow on their staff now, Dane Robinson, and I think that's an indication that they're interested in pushing Australia on a world stage, which I think can benefit both Australia and Highclere."

Cont. p3



(l to r) Harry Herbert, Adrian Nicoll and Dane Robinson at Inglis Sam D'Agostino

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Georges Rimaud | Sam D'Agostino

Rain Doesn't Dampen Easter Parade Cont.

Another European-based operation making a significant impact in Australia is the Aga Khan's Studs, which teams with Arrowfield Stud again to offer five yearlings.

"We're very happy with the inspections," said the Aga Khan's French studs manager Georges Rimaud. "The reports are very good from the Arrowfield team and we're very lucky to be a part of the team with a very good draft this year."

The Aga Khan/Arrowfield offerings include a pair by Arrowfield shuttler Animal Kingdom, who has enjoyed two first-crop winners in recent weeks including 'TDN Rising Star' Earth Angel (Aus).

"We have two Animal Kingdoms, one of them at the beginning (lot 1)," Rimaud said. "He's a beautiful horse, with a lot of scope and correct. Animal Kingdom is a new promising sire. There's been quite a few good words about his offspring and a couple winners."

The partnership will also offer a trio by Arrowfield's three-time champion sire and former Aga Khan shuttler Redoute's Choice: lot 47, a colt out of a half-sister to Azamour (Ire); Lot 193, a filly out of G3 Prix du Bois winner Keratiya (Fr) (Iron Mask); and lot 220, a filly out of the stakes-placed Mandistana (Fr) (Azamour {Ire}) from the immediate family of triple Australian Group 1 winner Manighar (Ire) (Linamix {Fr}).

The Aga Khan Studs is in its sixth year selling yearlings in partnership with Arrowfield, and currently has nine mares Down Under. Rimaud said with the success they have had, there are plans to expand.

"We've had a few runners now that are really showing good quality," he noted. "Azazel (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}) was one of them who won a stakes first-time out, and Whisky Baron (Aus) (Manhattan Rain {Aus}) was another horse in South Africa who won the richest race there [the G1 Sun Met], and a few others here and there. We're very hopeful that people are starting to recognize the capacity of our families to perform here and hopefully this will translate to good sales." **Cont. p4**



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Rain Doesn't Dampen Easter Parade Cont.

It isn't just the Aga Khan's graduates that are returning results. D'Arcy noted that the Easter sale from two years ago has already yielded five Group 1-winning colts including Heavenly Blue (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}), winner of the G1 SA Classic on the weekend for trainer Mike de Kock.

"A lot of people come to Easter to try to buy a colt with stallion potential, and to produce five Group 1-winning colts out of one sale is quite phenomenal," D'Arcy said. "The people who bought [G1 Sistema S. winner and Sires' Produce second] Summer Passage are on the grounds here again looking to replicate what they did, and Mike de Kock and his owners from South Africa are just delighted with the success they've had the last couple years. The graduates from our sales rings have done a very good job and that's the greatest advertisement we can have."

"Some of the agents I've spoken to, there just seems to be a great appreciation of the opportunities with Australian bloodstock at the moment," D'Arcy added. "Whether it's buying colts to become stallions or fillies with international pedigrees, I think they're affordable here and on the world stage they're great value for money."

American-based agent Jacob West of Three Chimneys Farm is visiting the Easter sale for the first time, while agent Gatewood Bell is back after a lengthy hiatus. Both said they are enjoying their experience at the sales as well as at The Championships on Saturday.

"It's a global game and I like to see what everyone else is doing," Bell said. "Down here it's a model that's a lot of fun, with great communication and great prize money, so I think it's something some American owners would enjoy, and really I came down just to check it out."

"There are a lot of really nice horses, which you'd expect to see, and they've taken good care of us," he added. "It definitely beats going on spring break with my mother-in-law."



Jacob West (left) and Gatewood Bell | Sam D'Agostino

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West said, "I got approached in September by the guys here to come down and see it. You read in the publications everything that's going on down here but you don't really understand the magnitude of what it is until you get down here. Once you get down here you see that it's pretty unbelievable. Going to Randwick on Saturday and seeing the race day was unbelievable, from the attendance to the way everything was at the track."

West said he has seen some differences between American and Australian yearlings, and a high level of quality.

"The horses here are different types as to what's back home, but they're athletic in their own way and you can see why they can run," he said. "They have good bone and structure, good builds and frames, good walks and all the stuff we like back home too."

Perennial leading consignor John Muir offers 13 yearlings through his Milburn Creek consignment, and he said inspection numbers have been high.

"There are 58 scratches in the sale so that diminishes the catalogue a bit, but I've been coming here for many years and I think we've been as busy as we've ever been. We've had showers but it hasn't been torrential in the last couple of days and it hasn't kept anyone away--they want to have a look rain, hail or shine." **Cont. p5**

Rain Doesn't Dampen Easter Parade Cont.

Milburn Creek's draft includes an Exceed and Excel (Aus) colt who is the first foal out of Muir's multiple Group 1 winner Secret Admirer (Aus) (Dubawi {Ire}) (lot 334).

"I raced Secret Admirer myself," Muir said. "She won the Flight S. and the Epsom H. and she was placed in another eight Group 1 races. She never knew how to give in and her foal is very well grown. He's been very popular."

Muir also offers a Tapit colt (lot 122) on behalf of breeder Spendthrift Australia. He is out of Gill Honeybee S. winner Euphrosyne (Harlan's Holiday).

"He's been extremely popular," Muir said. "Tapit is a great sire in the United States. Spendthrift Farm have given us the honour of preparing the horse for them and he's been very, very popular."

The Inglis Easter sale kicks off daily at 12 p.m. local time.

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Inglis Easter Yearling Sale Day One Outs
3, 7, 8, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 33, 36, 40, 49, 58,
78, 83, 100, 106, 115, 128, 129, 131, 145

THE WEEKLY WRAP by Emma Berry



Cont. from p1

As a Newmarket resident for the last 14 years, my focus is now largely on matters of the flat, but a teary eye will turn to the television on Saturday afternoon as the obligatory replay of the 1977 Grand National shows, on faded celluloid, the little sprint-bred bay with his sheepskin noseband galloping past the post alongside which he was eventually laid to rest some 18 years later.

Nahrain's Firstborn a Star in the Making...

Sentimentality may play a larger part in jump racing but it has its place on the flat, too. Even if we don't always have time enough to attach ourselves to some horses before stud careers come calling for them, it's possible to develop a fondness for certain families. For this reason alone, the horse I was most longing to see prove himself last weekend was **Benbatl (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), the first foal of the G1 Prix de l'Opera and GI Flower Bowl Invitational winner Nahrain (GB) (Selkirk).

Cont. p6



(l to r) Henry Field, Elliott Walden and Mick Flanagan, fresh off success with Invader in Saturday's G1 Sires' Produce S., inspect yearlings at Easter
Sam D'Agostino

THE FUTURE IS HERE



WINX

VEGAS SHOWGIRL, dam of the world's best turf racehorse Winx, sold for \$455,000 at the 2008 National Broodmare Sale



ATLANTIC JEWEL

REGARD, dam of 4-time Gr1 winner Atlantic Jewel, sold for \$340,000 at the 2008 National Broodmare Sale

MONTOYA'S SECRET

DIVINE SECRET, dam of Gr1 winner Montoya's Secret, sold for \$70,000 at the 2013 National Broodmare Sale

TULIP

MUSIDORA, dam of Gr3 winning 2YO TULIP, sold for \$1,000,000 at the 2008 National Broodmare Sale

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Weekly Wrap Cont.

He didn't disappoint, earning **TDN Rising Star** status for his seven-length romp in the hands of the excellent Josephine Gordon.

Nahrain was the standout performer during Roger Varian's first season as a trainer, having started her training under the guidance of his former boss and mentor Michael Jarvis. The robust chestnut filly didn't race until she was three, but was nigh-on faultless throughout 2011. On Oct. 2 of that year, she became Varian's first top-level winner, that joyful afternoon at Longchamp providing some comfort to a stable which, less than a fortnight earlier, had lost the much-loved man who had been at its helm since the late 1970s.



Nahrain under Iva Milickova in 2012 | Emma Berry

Nahrain raced in Sheikh Ahmed's yellow silks with black epaulettes, seen less frequently these days but, in this mind at least, synonymous with Jarvis, whose first Classic winner, Ameerat (GB) (Mark Of Esteem {Ire}), carried those colours, as did the wayward Hala Bek (Ire) (Halling), who provided the trainer with an agonising near miss in the 2006 G1 Derby.

Her son bears the royal blue of Godolphin and, while he'll have to prove himself further still to be considered a serious Derby horse, genetically he has every right to be in the reckoning. A top-class miler, Dubawi nevertheless had the guts to hang on for third at Epsom behind the Montjeu (Ire)-sired pair of Motivator (GB) and Walk In The Park (Ire) in the 2005 Derby. Nahrain was at her imperious best at 10 furlongs but her dam Bahr (GB)--by a Derby winner in Generous (Ire) out of a daughter of another, Mill Reef--failed by just three-quarters of a length to land the G1 Oaks in 1998, before bouncing back to win the G2 Ribblesdale S. over the same distance.

Dubawi Dominant at Doncaster...

Dubawi has had just two Derby runners in the eight years in which his offspring have been eligible for the race, with both Mickdaam (Ire) and Red Galileo (GB) finishing fifth in 2012 and 2014 respectively. As the quality of his mares has improved along with his burgeoning reputation, it surely shouldn't be long before we see him having greater representation in the Derby and the Oaks.

His name figured prominently in some informative races at Doncaster over the weekend, mostly in tandem with Saeed Bin Suroor's branch of the Godolphin empire which has sent out five winners from its last five runners. A couple of hours after Benbatl had blazed his trail, Dubawi provided the quinella in the classy 10-furlong handicap with two well-related individuals. The winner, perhaps surprisingly, was **Bin Battuta (GB)**, a half-brother to Dream Ahead (Diktat) from a properly fast family, while his runner-up by a neck, **First Nation (GB)**, has the St Leger winner Mastery (GB) (Sulamani {Ire}) among his talented half-siblings. The previous day, **Dubawi Prince (GB)** struck for his sire's owner Sheikh Mohammed Obaid in a 10-furlong maiden at the track.

Perhaps more significant is the appearance of Dubawi's name in the pedigree of **Dream Castle (GB)** (Frankel {GB}), who won the second division of Sunday's maiden after Benbatl had landed the first. A son of G2 Flying Childers S. winner Sand Vixen (GB), Dream Castle could yet provide Dubawi with a first stakes victory as a broodmare sire, thus rectifying a glaring omission to his otherwise excellent stud record.

From Doncaster to Bendigo...

We're unlikely to see any Aidan O'Brien runners in Britain before the Craven meeting but the trainer nevertheless played a part in the big race at Doncaster on Saturday when **Bravery (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), whom he bred with wife Annemarie under their Whisperview Trading banner, won the valuable Betway Lincoln H. on his first start for trainer David O'Meara.

Bravery left Ballydoyle for O'Meara's Yorkshire stable after being bought for 44,000gns at last October's Horses-in-Training Sale, while his erstwhile stablemate **Hans Holbein (GB)** (Montjeu {Ire}) has flown further afield to the Australian stable of Robert Hickmott.

The winner of the 2015 G3 Chester Vase initiated a long-range Saturday double for O'Brien exiles when coming within quarter of a second of breaking the 2400-metre track record at Bendigo, which is held by another European import Puissance de Lune (Ire) (Shamardal), who now stands at Swettenham Stud in Victoria.

The Champion Returns...

Jim Crowley has wasted no time in reminding everyone that he's the defending champion jockey since his return from Dubai. He notched a victory for his new boss Sheikh Hamdan on his first day back in action in the UK aboard **Wurood (Ire)** (Dark Angel {Ire}) before firing in a four-timer at Lingfield and Kempton on Wednesday. On Sunday, he contributed to Saeed Bin Suroor's good run of form when winning on Bin Battuta and, while winless on Saturday, his seven rides at two different meetings were preceded by his appearance in Roger Varian's string on Newmarket's Limekilns gallop early that morning.

Easily identified by a striped silk cap in Sheikh Hamdan's colours, matching that worn by Shadwell's former retained jockey-turned-assistant racing manager Richard Hills in the same bunch of gallopers, Crowley is just one of a number of leading jockeys who can be seen regularly on Newmarket work mornings now that the Classic countdown has begun in earnest.



Richard Hills leads Cameron Noble and Jim Crowley (r) | Emma Berry

Another famous face among the riders on Saturday morning was Kieren Fallon, who last week announced that he is preparing to "reveal all" in an autobiography, entitled *Insolence*, to be published later this year.

In signing up the skilled writer Paul Haigh to collaborate on the project, Fallon has ensured that the story of his dramatic racing career will be well told. However, despite the fact that he announced his retirement from the saddle last July, seeing him return from exercise on one of William Haggas's string, smiling, relaxed and looking considerably younger than his 52 years, one has to wonder whether there will be several chapters of the Fallon story still to be written, even after the book is published in September.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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'REFLECTION' SET FOR HAYDOCK COMEBACK

Last year's dual Group 1 winner **Quiet Reflection (GB)** (Showcasing {GB}) could make a return to Haydock for her seasonal reappearance in the G2 Temple S. on May 27. Karl Burke's filly, on the mark in the G1 Commonwealth Cup at Ascot, added the G1 Sprint Cup to her collection at the Lancashire track last September. Connections would now like to test her capabilities over five furlongs with the G1 Coolmore Nunthorpe S. at York in August being her main long-term objective.

Simon Bridge, director of owning syndicate Ontowinner, said, "I was up at the yard last week. She looks like a proper racehorse now. She's strengthened up. Physically she looks stronger and we're really excited about this year."

He continued, "We'll probably go for the [G2] Duke of York [May 17] or the Temple. The Temple is just edging it right now because we quite fancy a crack at the Nunthorpe. We'll try the five and see how it goes. Karl's very happy with her."

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Quiet Reflection | Racing Post

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GODOLPHIN AWARD NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

Twenty-one finalists for next month's Irish Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards 2017 have been revealed. Three names have been short-listed by the judging panel for seven awards and one of those winners will scoop the most prestigious prize



Mark Byrne is nominated for the Newcomer Award | Patrick McCann

of all, the Irish Racing Excellence Award. The finalists were selected from more than 150 nominations and each winner will receive a specially-commissioned trophy and €5,000. The winning newcomer will

receive a trip to Dubai and €2,500, while each successful yard, stud or company from each category will receive a cash prize.

The prizes for best racecourse, chosen from a survey by the Irish Stable Staff Association, and the Racing and Breeding Support Services Awards will also be announced at the ceremony at the Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny on Tuesday, May 9.

Chairman of the judging committee, Michael O'Rourke, said, "It is inspiring to review the nominations for these awards because they reveal the true heart and spirit within Irish racing. The level of skill and dedication demonstrated across so many disciplines shows how Ireland has achieved such an envied position in the racing world. The finalists are the best of the best in the judge's eyes and each one can be very proud. Godolphin's generous support for these awards has allowed us to give proper recognition to their achievements and to publicise the contribution of everyone in the stud, stable and racing support sectors."

For the complete list of finalists, go to www.godolphin.com.

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ASCOTBET TO LAUNCH IN 2018

Ascot Racecourse is to launch its own pool betting operation when arrangements with Totepool and the statutory monopoly of the British system comes to an end in July 2018. Racecourses will be free to manage their own on-course operations, but what is to be known as AscotBet will continue to be supported by Totepool's existing infrastructure. It plans to launch new bets for the likes of the Shergar Cup and explore collaborations with overseas markets.

Ascot's chief executive Guy Henderson said, "AscotBet's first priority is to provide the very best service and experience that

we can to our 600,000 annual racegoers, 300,000 of whom join us for the five days of Royal Ascot and place around 1.5 million pool bets. AscotBet's customer service, supported by Totepool's proven systems, will deliver this."

He added, "In addition, and importantly, we will also continue to provide the UK's off-course customers with access to the liquidity available on our races through the Tote Direct service, which is offered in the vast majority of the UK's high street betting shops and through the remote channels of the major betting providers."

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HAVLIN UNSUCCESSFUL IN FINAL APPEAL

Robert Havlin has failed in his final appeal to France Galop against a six-month ban for failing a doping test. The jockey, who



Robert Havlin | Racing Post

rides primarily for John Gosden, was found to have returned a positive sample when riding at Saint-Cloud on Oct. 30. He is banned until Oct. 4 but will be making an application to the

British Horseracing Authority not to reciprocate the suspension.

France Galop will be requesting the sanctions to be imposed by its counterpart in Britain, with the BHA adding that any application by Havlin "would be considered by the disciplinary panel".

Havlin said at the time the ban was announced that he was "deeply upset and shocked", describing it as an "outrageous miscarriage of justice and defamation of my character."

Meanwhile Aidan O'Brien has confirmed that he will be appealing the controversial punishment over the running and riding of **Music Box (Ire)** at Dundalk last Friday. The filly stayed on for third in a maiden, a length behind winning stablemate Asking (Ire), but connections were deemed by the stewards to have fallen foul of the Turf Club's Rule 212 (A) (ii) & (iii), which concerns whether a genuine attempt has been made to obtain the best possible position. O'Brien was fined €2,000, jockey Wayne Lordan was banned for five days and Music Box suspended for 42 days.

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BRITAIN



RMG ANNOUNCES INTERNSHIP FOR JOCKEYS

A new media internship aimed at jockeys and former jockeys has been unveiled by Racecourse Media Group (RMG), the parent company of Racing UK, and the Jockeys Employment Training Scheme (JETS). The idea of the 10-week course, held in London, is to cover all aspects of the media, including presentation, punditry, production, digital, marketing and public relations and is open to any rider who has held a professional licence issued by the British Horseracing Authority and has had at least one ride.

RMG are making two spaces available and will pay each trainee £5,000 each plus travel expenses. Applications close on Apr. 24.

Seb Vance, director of PR & communications at RMG, said, "Recent events on the track, such as Freddy Tylicki's accident at Kempton, have highlighted just how precarious a jockey's career is. RMG wants to make a lasting and meaningful contribution to their future by giving something back to the ambassadors of the sport, who risk their health every day for our sport and livelihoods. We are hopeful that the training could conceivably lead to a career in the racing media."

Lisa Delany, JETS manager added, "We are extremely grateful to RMG for creating this Internship for jockeys. Working in the media has proved a popular career choice for many former jockeys and we encourage any jockeys interested in this area to take advantage of this unique and exciting opportunity."

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FRANCE



Monday's Results:

2nd-CHY, €25,000, Debutantes, 4-3, 3yo, c/g, 9 1/2f (AWT), 2:00.55, st.

+SANABAD (FR) (c, 3, Cape Cross {Ire}--Sanaya {Ire} {SW & G1SP-Fr, SW-UAE, \$333,496}, by Barathea {Ire}), sent off the 9-5 market-leader, was settled towards the rear early and as he was asked to gain closer order in the back straight, tended to race lazily for Alexis Badel. Staying on to gain the lead in the final 75 metres, the homebred had a head to spare over Second Attempt (Fr) (New Approach {Ire}) at the line. Literary Society (Ire) (Dansili {GB}), the son of the G1 Coronation S. and G1 Prix Jacques le Marois heroine Immortal Verse (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}),

ran green throughout but made late inroads to be just over two lengths back in eighth in a race where the field was clustered at the finish. Sanaya's career was highlighted by a second placing in the G1 Prix Saint-Alary, having also filled that spot in the G3 Prix des Reservoirs, G3 Prix Cleopatre and G3 Prix Penelope. She is a half to three black-type performers, with much the best of those being the G1 Prix de Diane, G1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud and G1 Prix Saint-Alary-winning European champion Sarafina (Fr) (Refuse To Bend {Ire}), who was also third in the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Her 2016 offering is a son of Makfi (GB). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-His Highness The Aga Khan; B-H H The Aga Khan's Studs SC (FR); T-Alain de Royer-Dupre.

4th-CHY, €25,000, Debutantes, 4-3, 3yo, f, 9 1/2f (AWT), 1:59.92, st.

+RUEING (f, 3, Street Cry {Ire}--Wavering {Ire} {G1SW-Fr, \$243,653}, by Refuse To Bend {Ire}), backed into 27-10 favouritism, travelled strongly in third throughout the early stages. Looming on the front end with 300 metres remaining, the homebred only needed to be pushed out to stave off the threat of Jedi Princess (Ire) (Sea the Stars {Ire}) and record a comfortable 1 1/4-length success. Troarn (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}), the full-sister to the G1 Prix du Jockey Club and G1 English and Irish Champion S. hero Almanzor (Fr), ran a race full of promise after finding herself too far back at the top of the straight, finishing strongly to be fourth. Rueing is only the second foal out of the operation's G1 Prix Saint-Alary winner Wavering, the first being the G3 Prix de Flore runner-up Switching who is also by Street Cry. The second dam is another who made an impact in the Saint-Alary in Summertime Legacy (GB) (Darshaan {GB}), who was third in that top-level contest having captured the G3 Prix des Reservoirs as a juvenile.

Cont. p10



Rueing | Scoop Dyga

WITHOUT PEER!

Leading Sires of Season 2016-2017

RANK	STALLION	EARNINGS
1	FASTNET ROCK	13,469,722
2	Snitzel	13,064,943
3	I Am Invincible	11,206,177
4	Street Cry	10,004,006
5	Not a Single Doubt	8,928,199
6	High Chaparral	8,474,064

Leading Sires of Season 2015-2016

Rank	Stallion	Earnings
1	FASTNET ROCK	15,122,407
2	Not a Single Doubt	14,924,568
3	Street Cry	13,645,790
4	Savabeel	13,201,740
5	Encosta de Lago	12,454,652
6	Written Tycoon	11,999,259
7	Snitzel	11,907,567

Source:
Bloodhound.net.au 03/04/17
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4th-CHY Cont.

Aside from Wavering, she also produced another to win in elite company in Mandaeen (GB) (Manduro {Ger}), whose finest hour came in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud, while her daughter Winters Moon (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) was third in the G1 Fillies Mile. From the extended family of Golden Fleece, Wavering has a 2-year-old full-sister to the winner and a yearling colt by Medaglia d'Oro. She has been bred to War Front for 2017. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Godolphin SNC; B-Darley (KY); T-Andre Fabre.



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CONDITIONS RESULTS:

8th-CHY, €33,000, 4-3, 4yo/up, 7f (AWT), 1:24.26, st.

ABSALON (g, 6, Giant's Causeway--Wakigoer, by Miswaki)
Lifetime Record: 13-6-0-3, €94,800. O/B-Wertheimer et Frere (KY); T-Freddy Head. *1/2 to Acago (Royal Academy), GSW-Fr & GSP-US, \$165,794, to Quiet Royal (Royal Academy), GSW & G1SP-Fr, SW & GISP-US, \$435,783, & to Sandwaki (Dixieland Band), GSW-Fr, \$130,605.

6th-CHY, €18,000, 4-3, 4yo/up, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:12.95, st.
PINK (FR) (m, 5, Elusive City--Unbaka {GB}, by Red Ransom)

Lifetime Record: 35-3-1-2, €59,740. O-Helen Barbe & S Kobayashi; B-Haras d'Etream & Ecurie Monastic (FR); T-S Kobayashi. *€6,000 Ylg '13 ARQOCT.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Sayo (GB), g, 3, Dalakhani (Ire)--Tiyi (Fr), by Fairy King. HYR, 4-3, 12 1/2fT, 2:43.99. B-Wertheimer et Frere (GB). *1/2 to Tiganello (Ger) (Acatenango {Ger}), GSW & G1SP-Ger, MSW & MGSP-Fr, MSW-US, \$395,987.

Gigarette (Fr), f, 3, Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)--Allegrete (Fr), by Johann Quatz (Fr). HYR, 4-3, 1850mT, 2:00.82. B-J-C Seroul (FR). *1/2 to Splendido (Fr) (Slickly {Fr}), SW-Fr, \$135,768.

2016 2-Year-Old Group 1 Winners in England

Race	Horse
G1 Cheveley Park S.	Brave Anna
G1 Middle Park S.	The Last Lion (Ire)
G1 Fillies Mile	Rhododendron (Ire)
G1 Dewhurst S.	Churchill (Ire)
G1 Racing Post Trophy	Rivet (Ire)

OBSERVATIONS
on the European racing scene

12.40 Chantilly, Debutantes, €25,000, 3yo, f, 6 1/2f (AWT)
MAARIYAH (FR) (Oasis Dream {GB}) debuts in the Al Shaqab Racing silks for the Andre Fabre stable, having cost €290,000 as a foal and 350,000gns as a yearling. A daughter of the proven Group 1 performer Ana Marie (Fr) (Anabaa), she is joined by three stablemates including the Wertheimers' **Pas Prete (GB) (More Than Ready)**, a daughter of the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies heroine Halfbridled (Unbridled) and Lady Bamford's **Pamplemousse (Ire) (Siyouni {Fr})**, a €400,000 half-sister to the G1 Prix Jean Romanet scorer Odeliz (Ire) (Falco).

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WORLDWIDE NEWS

ANOTHER STAR FOR EDINGLASSIE

by Kelsey Riley

Sydney, AUSTRALIA--Edinglassie Stud enjoyed a big sale result last June when it sold its prized broodmare Listen Here (Aus) (Elusive Quality) for a sale-topping A\$3.4-million to the China Horse Club at the Magic Millions National Broodmare Sale. That was 10 years after Edinglassie manager Mick Talty had purchased Listen Here as a yearling at Inglis Easter for A\$150,000, and five years after she produced consecutive homerun horses in Group 2-winning sprinter Deep Field (Aus) (Northern Meteor {Aus}) and G1 Caulfield Guineas winner Shooting To Win (Aus) (Northern Meteor {Aus}), both now at stud.

Things have truly come full circle for Listen Here and Edinglassie, as on Wednesday's second day of the Inglis Easter sale the nursery will offer its last retained foal out of the mare: a filly by Northern Meteor's first-crop sire son Zoustar (Aus) (**lot 207**).

Talty said from Inglis during inspections, "We have 12 yearlings down here, seven colts and five fillies. It's a lovely range of yearlings, 2-year-old types and staying-type horses. Probably our number one yearling is the Zoustar--Listen Here filly. She's a beautiful filly and very well-related, and fingers crossed she should sell well."

"She's very commercial, this filly," Talty added. "She's very correct and she's been very well received. She's a very good-natured filly and very powerfully built." **Cont. p11**



Lot 207, Zoustar filly out of Listen Here | *Inglis*

Another Star for Edinglassie Cont.

While Listen Here officially came under the ownership of then Edinglassie owner Bob Oatley at the 2006 Easter yearling sale, the farm's history with the family dates back four generations. Talty, who has been with Edinglassie for 26 years, purchased Listen Here's second dam, Theme Song (NZ) (Sackford), for a group of clients. While unraced herself, Theme Song is a half-sister to champion 3-year-old Danewin (Aus) (Danehill) and Commands (Aus) (Danehill), a Group 3 winner who went on to be a successful sire for Darley. They are out of the similarly unraced Cotehele House (GB) (My Swanee {GB}), herself a half-sister to the great champion Octagonal (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}) from the famed Eight Carat (GB) (Pieces of Eight) family. Theme Song produced a pair of stakes winners headed by the New Zealand Group 1 winner Emerald Dream (Aus) (Danehill), who herself went on to be a productive stakes producer. Theme Song's unraced daughter Announce (Aus) (Military Plume {NZ}) later joined the broodmare band at Edinglassie, and in addition to Listen Here she is the third dam of the G1 Manawatu Sires' Produce S. winner Luna Rossa (Aus) (Written Tycoon {Aus}).

Listen Here is the sixth foal out of Announce and was bred at Edinglassie by Indian Pacific and Millennium Thoroughbreds. Talty explained that he liked the filly so much that he bought her on Bob Oatley's behalf at Easter to bring back to the stud.

"She was owned by other clients and at the time Bob Oatley was looking to buy fillies for Edinglassie," Talty noted. "She was a very strong filly, very powerfully put together. She looked more like a colt, really. Elusive Quality was going well at the time and we just needed a bit of the non-Danehill line blood so we could match her pretty easily down here, and the Eight Carat family is the best in Australia. She had a lot of pluses and she was so fast. We didn't see the best of her."

Put into training with David Hayes, Listen Here raced for two seasons and won three of 14 starts, including the Listed Pewsey Vale S. Her true value has been realized as a broodmare, however, as she has thus far produced three winners from three to race. Her first foal was Shooting To Win, a A\$160,000 yearling who won the G1 Caulfield Guineas and G2 Stan Fox S. before being snapped up by Darley for dual hemisphere stud duties. Next came his full-brother Deep Field, a A\$440,000 Easter yearling who was one of the most exciting sprinters of his crop, with a win in the G2 Tab.com.au S. to his credit as well as a third in the G1 Lightning S. Deep Field stands at Newgate Farm.

While Northern Meteor made an explosive start to his tragically short stud career, Listen Here has proven to be successful without the partnership of that mate. Her third foal, the 3-year-old filly Look and Listen (Aus) by Snitzel's half-brother Hinchinbrook (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), has notched one win from one start for trainer Kris Lees, giving Listen Here a perfect three-for-three record from her runners.

Look and Listen was one of a very select number of mares retained when Edinglassie owner Bob Oatley died last January.

"Bob's children just wanted to keep a couple fillies and she was one," Talty explained. "They kept one other mare and that was it."

The decision to breed Listen Here to Northern Meteor's best son Zoustar is an understandable one, and that first-season sire has enjoyed plenty of success at Australia's yearling sales this season. His 61 yearlings sold this year have averaged A\$195,368, with a top price of A\$550,000 for a filly and A\$510,000 for a colt. Edinglassie sold a Zoustar colt for A\$400,000 on the Gold Coast.

"We sold one well up at the Gold Coast and she's right up there with that one type-wise," Talty noted. **Cont. p12**



Listen Here | *Edinglassie Stud*

Another Star for Edinglassie Cont.

Talty, who has been with Edinglassie for 26 years after roles with Inglis and Tattersalls, has recently taken over the lease of the farm from the Oatley family.

"Myself and my wife Michelle run the place, and it's our business now," he said. "We have 400 acres right on the Hunter River. We have some mares and agist mares, sale yearlings, weanlings; basically everything that happens on farms."

While Listen Here has moved on, Edinglassie retains some other high-profile residents among its 100 mares.

"We have a good mare called Amelia's Dream who was a very good 2-year-old, and she has a More Than Ready colt in this sale (lot 35). We have the mother of Nechita, who won the [G1] Coolmore [Stud S.] at Flemington. We have a lot of mares that produce stakes winners, a wide variety from the cheaper mares right through to the expensive ones. Edinglassie itself has produced a lot of Group 1 winners over the years so hopefully one of these can carry it on."

With a tried and true Edinglassie foundation behind her, there is every chance Listen Here's Zoustar filly will be the one to do that.

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I AM INVINCIBLE ON THE RISE AGAIN

Yarraman Park Stud has announced that its high-flying resident **I Am Invincible (Aus)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) will stand for A\$110,000 (including GST) this season. The Mitchell family's New South Wales operation has enjoyed remarkable fortunes with its stallion, whose fee was first set at A\$10,000 but soon produced G1 Coolmore Stud S. winner Brazen Beau (Aus). I Am Invincible has been represented well of late by G1 Myer Classic winner I Am A Star (NZ) and his fee has more than doubled within a year. Recently a pair of his colts have sold for A\$1.4m at the Premier Sale in March and A\$900,000 at the Gold Coast in January and he has 18 yearlings on offer at this week's Inglis Easter yearling sale.

The fee for Yarraman's other resident stallion, **Hinchinbrook (Aus)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), has also risen and is now A\$44,000. The half-brother to the outstanding Snitzel (Aus), he was leading first-season sire in 2014/15 after the emergence of dual Group 1 winner Press Statement (Aus).

Arthur Mitchell said, "I Am Invincible sired his second Group 1 winner in the spring, he is the sire of 19 stakes winners now and he consistently churns out the winners. His current rate is 56% which is leaps and bounds ahead of any other stallion in the country and it is resonating with buyers in the sale ring."

"Hinchinbrook has only had three relatively small crops to race and is producing real quality," Mitchell continued. "Both stallions have done what they have off low fees and they are upgrading their mares which is a real and rare attribute in stallions. We're

lucky to have them and appreciate the continued support of our clients."

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I Am Invincible | Yarraman Park Stud

EXTREME CHOICE AT CHAIRMAN'S SALE

Shares in stallion prospect **Extreme Choice (Aus)** (Not A Single Doubt (Aus)) are among the wildcard additional entries for this Friday's Inglis The Chairman's Sale at Newmarket in Sydney. This will be the second part of the inaugural boutique event, the first stage of which was held for horses in training last week.

The Extreme Choice shares have been added as **lots 90 and 91** and successful purchasers will be entitled to send two mares for the first four years of his career and one mare for the remainder of his life. The Mick Price-trained colt, winner of last year's G1 Blue Diamond S., is to stand at Newgate Farm in 2017.

Wildcard entries were also received for two mares. **Lot 92**, from the account of Aston Bloodstock and partners, is **French Fern (Aus)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}), winner of the G2 Reising S. last year. **Lot 93**, from Rothwell Park Thoroughbreds, is the Listed winner **Shigeru Sendan (Aus)** (Denman {Aus}). She comes with a Written Tycoon (Aus) colt foal at foot.

The results of the first afternoon of The Championships at Randwick last Saturday have seen some substantial pedigree updates ahead of the sale. One of the mares going under the hammer is **Flame Of Sydney (Aus)** (Encosta De Lago {Aus}) (**lot 51**), whose son Invader (Aus) (Snitzel {us}) won the G1 Inglis Sires' Produce S. She has also produced the smart Hong Kong sprinter Not Listenin'tome (Aus). **Opalize (Aus)** (Anabaa) (**lot 70**), the dam of G3 Widden 150th Anniversary S. winner Property (Aus) (Starcraft {NZ}) and **lot 41, Adonia Queen** (Cherokee Run), whose Acatur (Aus) (Sebring {Aus}) won the G3 Carbine Club S., are other notable inclusions.

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Invader & Hugh Bowman | Bronwen Healy

CARPENTER HAS CHAUTAUQUA AT THE TOP

Long-serving Australian handicapper Greg Carpenter believes the performance of **Chautauqua (Aus)** (Encosta De Lago {Aus}) at Randwick last Saturday will maintain his position as the finest sprinter on the planet. The Hawkes family's speedball was confirmed as the joint-best in the sprint division alongside **Limato (Ire)** (Tagula {Ire}) with a rating of 122 at the 2016 Longines World's Best Racehorse Rankings, having collected a sequence of Group 1 wins.

At The Championships, Chautauqua bounced back after three straight defeats this year, including to Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) in the G1 George Ryder S. to beat English (Aus) (Encosta De Lago {Aus}) by a head in the G1 Darley T J Smith S. It was the 6-year-old's third consecutive victory in the race.

Carpenter, who is Racing Victoria's executive general manager of racing, said, "For a horse to come back and win that race for the third year in a row is amazing and puts him in the realms of

three-time G1 Cox Plate winner Kingston Town (Aus) and G1 Melbourne Cup champion Makybe Diva (GB). Last year he was the equal-best sprinter in the world with Limato, the English sprinter, at 122, and the previous year he had a rating of 123 and again at 122 in 2014. Mathematically, Chautauqua comes out of Saturday with at least a rating of 120, but the manner of the performance was enormous so I wouldn't be surprised if he was put up to the same mark as last year on 122."

Speaking to *racing.com*, Carpenter said he was also impressed with the victory of **Jon Snow (NZ)** (Iffraaj {GB}) in the G1 Australian Derby.

"That was the fourth ATC Derby that Murray Baker has won in the last decade and I'll be looking forward to Jon Snow coming to Melbourne in the spring and hopefully running in a race like the Caulfield Cup," he added.

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Chautauqua with Tommy Berry in the irons | Bronwen Healy

AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2016/2017

Date	Race	Track
Apr. 8	Queen Elizabeth S.	Randwick
	Sydney Cup	Randwick
	ATC Oaks	Randwick
	Queen of the Turf S.	Randwick
Apr. 15	All Aged S.	Randwick
	Champagne S.	Randwick
May 6	Schweppes Oaks	Morphettville
	UBET Classic	Morphettville