TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018

THE TDN DERBY TOP 12

Bolt d'Oro assumes the top spot in this week's rankings | *Alex Evers*

by T.D. Thornton

BROUGHT TO YOU BY WINSTAR

The news that rocked the GI Kentucky Derby Top 12 over the weekend involved No. 1-ranked McKinzie (Street Sense) having his training halted while conditioner Bob Baffert awaits further testing to determine the extent of a potential hind-leg injury. The colt was declared out of his expected start in Saturday's GI Santa Anita Derby, and he has been removed from this list--at least temporarily--until a more definitive diagnosis reveals whether he is off the Derby trail for good. Subsequent reverberations have altered the makeup of the remaining ranked horses, several of which have had their prep-race plans changed in response to this news. The timing is crucial--this Saturday marks the most important weekend of nine-furlong preps on the Triple Crown calendar, with significant stakes at Santa Anita, Keeneland, and Aqueduct, so be prepared for additional shuffling within this list in one week's time.

1) BOLT D'ORO (c, Medaglia d'Oro--Globe Trot, by A.P. Indy)
O-Ruis Racing. B-WinStar Farm (KY). T-Mick Ruis. Sales History: $630,000 yrl FTSAUG '16. Lifetime Record: MGISW, 5-4-0-1, $816,000.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 2

Cont. p3

AN AFTERNOON ON THE HILL

by Lucas Marquardt

It's nearing noon, just about an hour before first post at Keeneland. The crowd is already substantial, with rows of cars and trucks interrupted by the odd camper van or re-purposed school bus. Footballs are launched into the air. Games of corn hole are in full swing. Cans of beer are in full swig. A band plays nearby. It is springtime in Kentucky, and the horses and the people are happy.

Welcome to The Hill, the official tailgating lot at Keeneland. On a busy Saturday, as many as 5,000 people may gather here. The area is, yes, elevated, and sits above the track, a good mile away as the crow flies. Both are part of Keeneland's sprawling 1,000-acre campus. The Hill celebrates its five-year anniversary in 2018, and if it's too new to be called iconic, it's for sure become an integral part of what makes Keeneland, well, Keeneland.

Cont. p12 (click here)

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

O'BRIEN RELISHING SEARCH FOR SADLER'S HEIR

Chris McGrath has the second installment of his interview with the maestro of Ballydoyle, Aidan O'Brien. **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.**

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TODAY in the TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY **NEWS**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Arkansas traveler. *After Solomini (Curlin)'s five-furlong work in :59 4/5 (2/82) in company with Restoring Hope (Giant's Causeway) on Monday morning, trainer Bob Baffert announced that he will send the GII Rebel S. runner-up to Hot Springs for the April 14 Arkansas Derby. Story on page 14.* | *Zoe Metz*

TRIO SHARE BARRETTS BULLET **14**
Jessica Martini reports from trackside at the Barretts Spring 2-Year-Olds in Training sale, where three juveniles shared the bullet furlong time of :10 flat.

KEENELAND DEBUTING RACE-DAY PREVIEW SHOW **16**
Keeneland is unveiling a new, half-hour preview show every race day for its upcoming Spring Meet. The track has also partnered with Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance for its Handicapper of the Day series.

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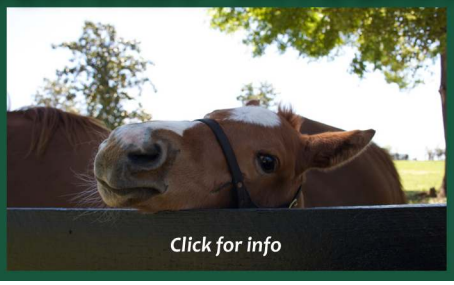
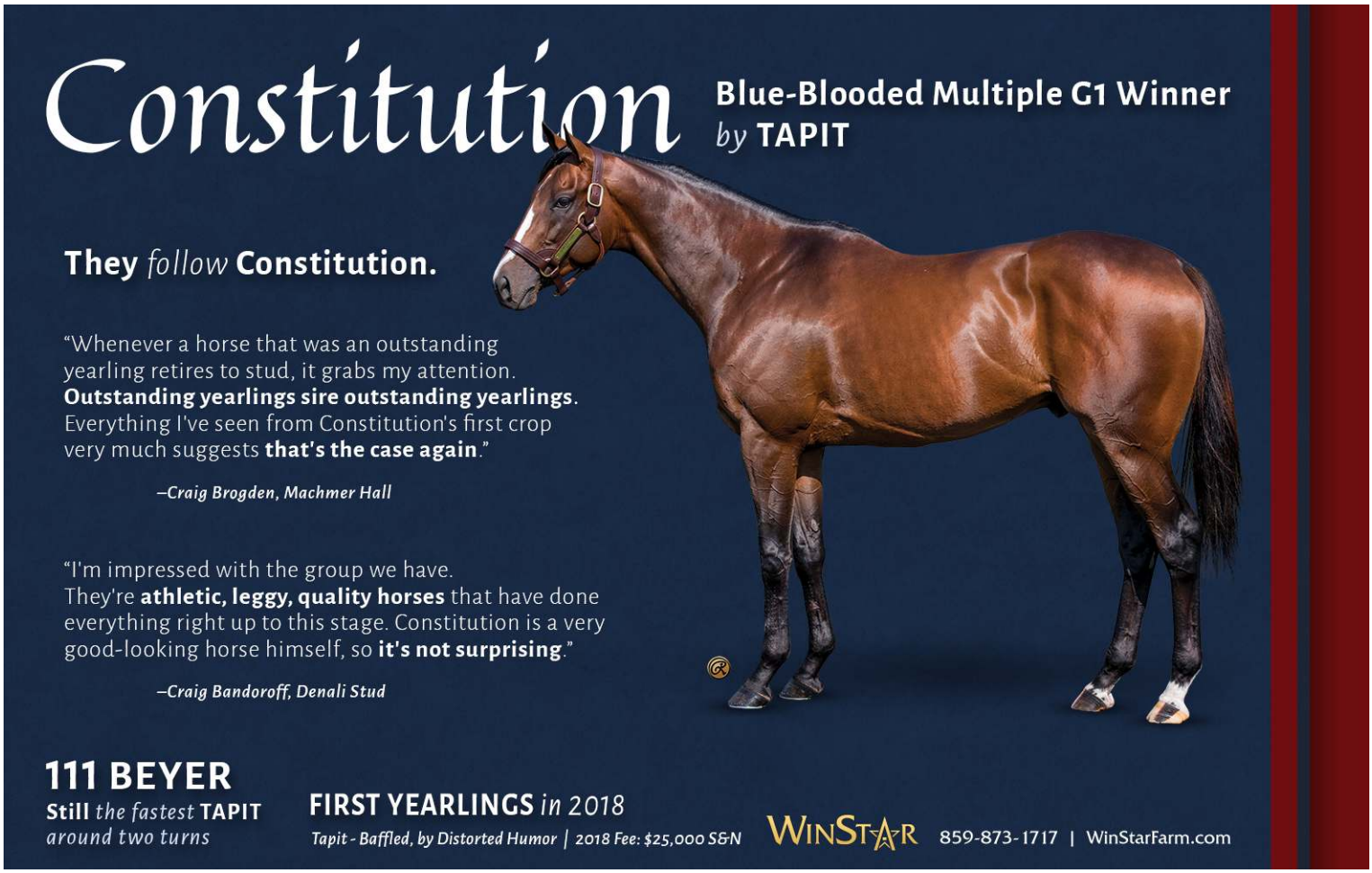


PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

1) BOLT D'ORO (c, Medaglia d'Oro--Globe Trot, by A.P. Indy)
Last Start: 1st GII San Felipe S., SA, Mar. 10
Accomplishments Include: 1st, GI Del Mar Futurity, DMR, Sept. 4; 1st GI FrontRunner S., SA, Sept. 30. 3rd GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile, SA, Nov. 4
Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs. Caulfield on Bolt d'Oro. KY Derby Points: 64

Sold by Denali

For awhile over the past few days it looked like Saturday's Santa Anita Derby would be a cakewalk for Bolt d'Oro. When arch-rival McKinzie defected from the race over the weekend, it initially seemed like we'd see the heaviest favorite of the year in a 3-year-old graded stakes. But Monday morning's confirmation that the up-and-coming Justify (Scat Daddy) will now be re-routed from a projected start in the GI Arkansas Derby to face "Bolt" puts some spice back into Santa Anita's showcase race for sophomores and tilts the playing field back to more of a challenge for the divisional kingpin. What makes this $630,000 FTSAUG Medaglia d'Oro colt's second start off a prolonged layoff even more tantalizing are owner/trainer Mick Ruis's repeated assertions that we still have not witnessed the fully cranked, 100% version of Bolt d'Oro. That's a scary-good prospect to consider, and it's an opinion shared by respected independent observers who have watched Bolt train this winter and spring.



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Ruis has also been on the record as saying that "we're not babying him going into this race," so get tied on for what could be a sublime performance that vaults this colt into the solid favorite's role for the first Saturday in May--provided the horse lives up to the hype and can fend off a fresh, undefeated rival and what will likely turn out to be a slightly larger field of long-shot hopefuls. In his final Santa Anita workout for Saturday's engagement, Bolt worked an in-company, no-pressure five furlongs Sunday in 1:10.20 (11/77).

2) MAGNUM MOON (c, Malibu Moon--Dazzling Song, by Unbridled's Song)

'TDN Rising Star' O-Robert E. & Lawana L. Low. B-Ramona S. Bass, LLC (KY). T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: $380,000 yrl KEESEP '16. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, $577,800.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 4
Last Start: 1st, GII Rebel S., OP, Mar. 17.
Next Start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 14
Equineline PPs. Caulfield on Magnum Moon.
KY Derby Points: 50

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Magnum Moon's lofty placement within this week's Top 12 represents a gamble on my part based on a belief that his unrealized potential will leapfrog him into contention as one of the Kentucky Derby favorites once we see what he delivers in the Apr. 14 GI Arkansas Derby. And yes, this is a highly speculative ranking, especially considering that trainer Todd Pletcher just saddled the winners of the GII Louisiana Derby and GI Florida Derby on back-to-back weekends, and those horses today occupy slightly lower spots on my 3-year-old totem pole. Certainly, you could cite statistical trends that suggest this May 9 foal who didn't begin his racing career until Jan. 13 is up against the grain of tradition for winning the Kentucky Derby. But we're embarking upon an era when training methods, the spacing of races, and a reliance on in-race experience are shifting dramatically in North American racing, and it's becoming increasingly more important to depend on a different set of emerging benchmarks to get young horses to peak in Classic races. This $380,000 KEESEP Malibu Moon colt gave the impression of a far more seasoned racehorse when he broke running, commandeered prime early-race placement, responded willingly to emphatic handling, then swatted away the favorite in the Mar. 17 GII Rebel S. at Oaklawn. To top it off, this 'TDN Rising Star' looked like he had more left to give, and a stamina-strong pedigree suggests that Magnum Moon is likely to be able to handle nine (and subsequently 10) furlongs with similar, unruffled aplomb. He leveled a bullet :48.07 half-mile at Palm Beach Downs (1/13) Mar. 31 as part of his preparation for a return engagement at Hot Springs.

3) MENDELSSOHN (c, Scat Daddy--Leslie's Lady, by Tricky Creek)

O-Michael B. Tabor, Mrs. John Magnier & Derrick Smith. B-Clarkland Farm (KY). T-Aidan O'Brien. Sales History: $3,000,000 yrl KEESEP '16. Lifetime Record: GISW, 7-4-1-0, $1,961,137. Mar. 27 TDN Top 12: N/A
Last Start: 1st, G2 UAE Derby, MEY, Mar. 31
Accomplishments: 1st, GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, DMR, Nov.3; 2nd, G1 Darley Dewhurst S., NEW, Oct. 14
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 5
Equineline PPs.
Kentucky Derby Points: 100.

Mendelssohn I *Coady*

On the superlatives side, on Saturday we witnessed an 18 1/2-length blowout win in track-record time by a $3 million KEESEP Scat Daddy colt who is a half-brother to four-time champion Beholder (Henny Hughes). But the field for the G2 UAE Derby was not overly deep in terms of competition, and the Meydan races on Saturday generously rewarded forwardly placed runners, so it's wise to temper Mendelssohn's front-running blowout with those caveats so it doesn't have such a too-good to-be-true aura. Yet even with that reality check under advisement, the performance resonates strongly, because this May 17 foal was attempting both his first start on dirt and his first go beyond a mile. He responded assertively when being asked to establish a prominent position straight from the starting stalls, was able to relax a bit in the middle stages of the race, then opened up at will in the home straight once the outcome had already been decided in his favor. "He is bred to handle the dirt, being by Scat Daddy," said trainer Aidan O'Brien. "But that was an unbelievable performance. We weren't sure how he would handle the distance, but you have to say he saw it out pretty well... He is naturally quick and has a lot of tactical early speed. He did it the hard way, but he did it so easily. He is very well bred, he has a great physique, and you can see why he cost the lads a lot of money at the sales. We will look forward to going to Kentucky with him now."

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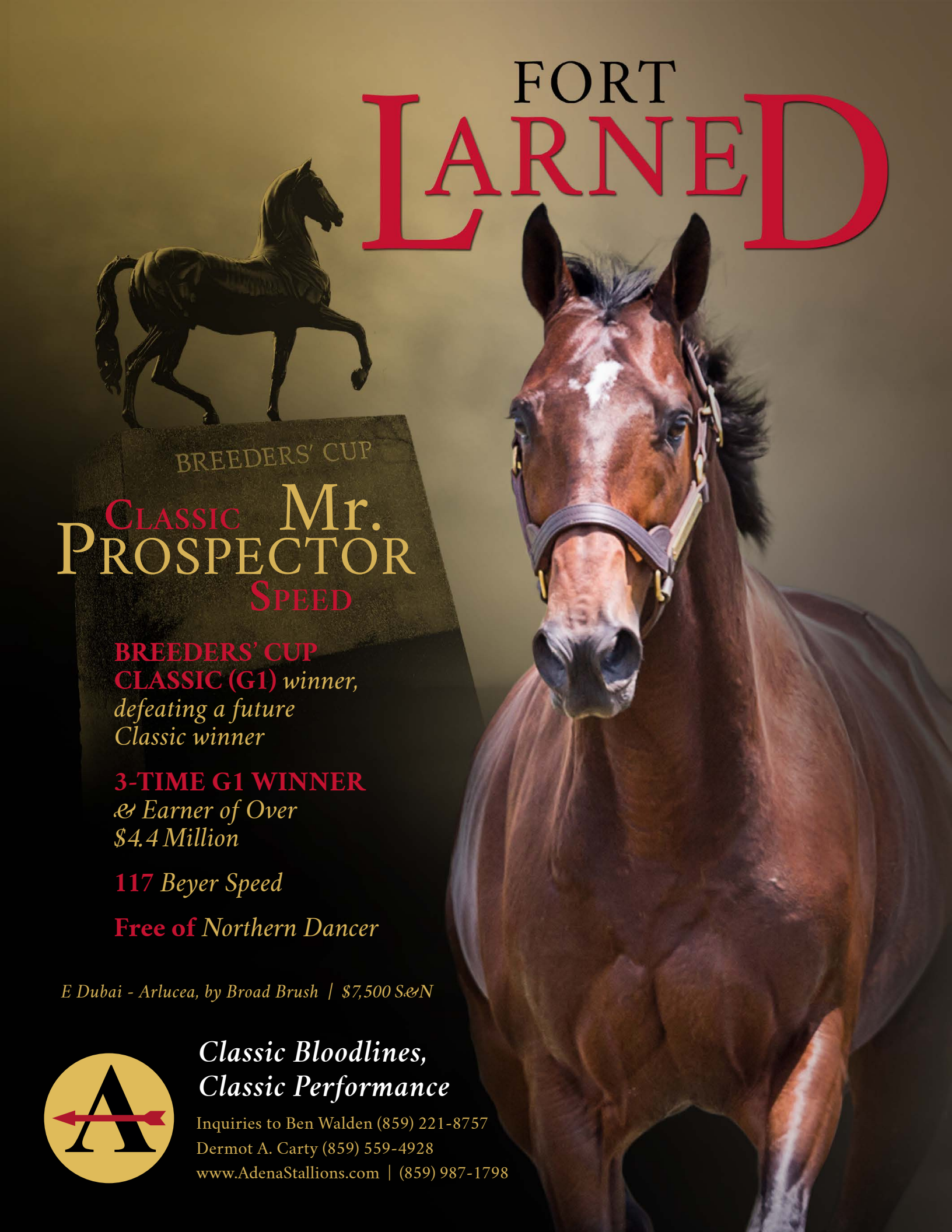

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4) AUDIBLE (c, Into Mischief--Blue Devil Bel, by Gilded Time)
O-WinStar, China Horse Club & SF Racing. B-Oak Bluff Stables LLC (NY). T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: $175,000 FTNSAR yrl '16; $500,000 FTFMAR 2yo '17. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 5-4-0-1, $882,920.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 7
Last Start: 1st, GI Florida Derby, GP, Mar. 31
Accomplishments: 1st, GII Holy Bull S., GP, Feb. 3.
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 5.
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 110

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Audible stepped up in class, shouldered the burden of favoritism, and punched out another open-length victory in Saturday's GI Florida Derby by doing what he does best--showing up and executing his task in straight-up, professional fashion. What this $500,000 FTFMAR New York-bred son of Into Mischief (Harlan's Holiday) might lack in flash or panache, he more than makes up for with consistency, capability, and an adaptable demeanor. Audible broke alertly, put himself into stalk mode without any fuss, then seemed a little too relaxed about five-eighths out, losing position at one point while widest on the backstretch. But he had the benefit of a colossally helpful pace boil-over percolating on the front end, and by the time the field hit the far turn, Audible was targeting and reeling in the horses in front of him, all under his own power. When jockey John Velazquez finally cued him to quicken, the bay responded immediately, and he drew off as much the best while being kept busy down the lane. "I think the farther he goes, the better he gets," Velazquez added post-race. If you want to take the contrarian position, it's true that Audible will be headed to Louisville without having faced a stern, multi-horse stretch-drive test at the graded stakes level: In his GII Holy Bull S. win, the favorites simply never fired and he opened up unopposed through the lane. And in the Florida Derby, the third- and fourth-faves in the betting dueled themselves into defeat while the second favorite reportedly bled. But it's hardly Audible's fault those races turned out that way. If anything, it's to his credit that he's an opportunist who reliably puts himself in good position and has the athletic ability to take advantage of whatever circumstances arise.

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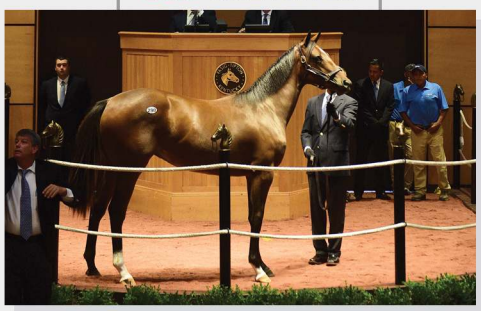

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5) JUSTIFY (c, Scat Daddy--Stage Magic, by Ghostzapper)
'TDN Rising Star' O-China Horse Club, Head of Plains Partners LLC, Starlight Racing & WinStar Farm. B-John D. Gunther (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: $500,000 yrl KEESEP '16. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $66,000.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 9
Last Start: 1st Allowance Optional Claiming, SA, Mar. 11.
Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 0

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Justify will stay home to contest Saturday's Santa Anita Derby instead of shipping to Oaklawn next week for the Arkansas Derby. That's part of the fallout from the previous No. 1-ranked horse on this list, McKinzie, being declared out by trainer Baffert, who conditions both colts. Will fate now deliver us a better matchup than Bolt d'Oro vs. McKinzie? It's unusual for a two-for-two allowance-level winner to be ranked so highly on a Derby list this deep into the season, but this $500,000 KEESEP Scat Daddy colt's first two afternoon attempts were so freakishly good that he has drawn glowing accolades and now has dizzyingly high expectations tacked onto his slim (but stacked) resume. He needs to deliver a first- or second-place try on Saturday to garner enough qualifying points to earn a berth into the Kentucky Derby, and a powerful six-furlong workout in 1:13.20 Monday morning at Santa Anita has him primed to attempt the jump into Grade I company at nine furlongs. "We'll run here," said Baffert, who was holding off on a next-race commitment until he got back from Dubai and watched Justify work in person. "He went nice and it looked like he handled it pretty well. As long as he comes out of it well, he runs." This long-striding athletic specimen hasn't been bounced around in a tenacious in-race battle just yet, but through the first three weeks of his racing career he already handled the shift from sprinting to routing, responded positively to an equipment change (blinkers off), and has proven himself both on a fast, dry track and a sealed muddy surface. "The sky's the limit," jockey Mike Smith said after Justify's Mar. 11 shredding of an allowance field.

6) GOOD MAGIC (c, Curlin--Glinda the Good, by Hard Spun)
O-e Five Thoroughbreds & Stonestreet Stables. B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings (KY). T-C Brown. Sales History: $1 million yrl KEESEP '16. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo, GISW, 4-1-2-1, $1,255,000.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 5
Last Start: 3rd, GII Fountain of Youth S., GP, Mar. 3

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Accomplishments Include: 1st GI Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile, SA, Nov. 4.; 2nd GI Champagne S., BEL, Oct. 7.
Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 34

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Big news elsewhere on the Derby trail has allowed the 2-year-old champ to prepare relatively quietly for Saturday's GII Blue Grass S., and over the weekend Good Magic drilled a half-mile bullet at Palm Meadows Training Center in :48 (1/54). This million-dollar KEESEP Curlin colt will start favored at Keeneland, where he'll be looking to regroup off a beaten-fave third in the GII Fountain of Youth S. Although his lone career win was a very smart score in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile over some imposing foes, the fact remains that Good Magic is still just one-for-four lifetime and direly needs a big win or an impressively close finish to be considered a top Triple Crown threat. Will he continue to employ a stalking style or will Good Magic attempt to force the issue a little more assertively in what is shaping up to be a sizable field for the Blue Grass? Trainer Chad Brown has predicted "a big forward move," and depending on how Saturday's other two important Derby preps shake out, a dominant performance could vault Good Magic forward several spots within the Top 12 heading into the final four weeks before the first Saturday in May.

Good Magic | *Eclipse Sportswire*

7) INSTILLED REGARD (c, Arch--Enhancing, by Foresty)
O-OXO Equine LLC. B-KatieRich Farms (KY). T-Jerry Hollendorfer. Sales History: $110,000 RNA yrl KEESEP '16, $1,050,000 2yo OBSMAR '17. Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 6-2-2-1, $244,000. Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 8

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Last Start: 4th, GII Risen Star S., FG, Feb. 17
Accomplishments: 1st, GIII Lecomte S., FG, Jan. 13; 2nd, GI Los Alamitos Futurity, LRC, Dec. 9.
Next Start: GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs. Caulfield on Instilled Regard.
KY Derby Points: 19

The repercussions of McKinzie's defection from the Santa Anita Derby trickle all the way down to spot No. 7 in this weeks' rankings. In Instilled Regard's instance, trainer Jerry Hollendorfer had indicated about a week ago that he'd prefer to race this $1.05 million OBSMAR son of Arch in a larger field as opposed to a shorter one. Although the floodgates weren't exactly thrown wide open just because McKinzie was declared out of Saturday's race, a couple more additional entries might emerge from the woodwork before Wednesday's draw, and a slightly bigger bunch might afford a small pace-and-placement advantage to this talented colt's attempted comeback off a puzzling, beaten-fave fourth in the GII Risen Star S. Draw a line through that one flawed effort in New Orleans, and Instilled Regard would still be ranked with the upper crust of the division at this stage of the season. A sharp-looking physical specimen with a deep pedigree, this multi-dimensional stalker was able to fuse tactical early prowess with a commanding late turn of foot to produce an eye-catching GIII Lecomte S. win back in January, but that breakthrough effort is now some 2 1/2 months in the rear-view mirror, and he needs to step up again on Saturday to prove he belongs in Louisville. Instilled Regard has now worked eight times since his last race, and a 1:01.60 (28/70) five-furlong maintenance move Mar. 31 served as his final timed tune-up prior to Saturday's Grade I try.

Instilled Regard | *Jamie Hernandez*

8) NOBLE INDY (c, Take Charge Indy--Noble Maz, by Storm Boot)
O-WinStar Farm LLC & Repole Stable. B-WinStar Farm LLC. T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: $45,000 RNA yrl KEESEP '16.
Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-3-0-1, $691,600.
Mar. 13 TDN Top 12 Rank: 10
Last Start: 1st, Louisiana Derby, FG, Mar. 24.
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 5
Equineline PPs. Caulfield on Noble Indy.
KY Derby Points: 110

Sold by Denali

Noble Indy might be the most under-the-radar of the three Todd Pletcher prospects ranked on this week's Top 12, but he's not yet over the top, talent-wise. Even looking beyond his past performance lines, progression was evident leading up to his GII Louisiana Derby win because this 'TDN Rising Star' keeps getting better at handling intrinsics like shipping, being saddled in front of large crowds, and responding positively to equipment changes like the addition of blinkers. More importantly, this $45,000 KEESEP Take Charge Indy colt showed at the Fair Grounds that he is capable of getting first run on a front-end target then being able to fend off multiple challengers through the stretch (even when they briefly wrested away the lead from him). He'll have six weeks of spacing between the Louisiana and Kentucky Derbies, and it will be intriguing to see how Pletcher hones Noble Indy, especially knowing that through only four lifetime starts, the colt has already displayed a willingness to fight that some of the higher-ranked horses on this list haven't proven they possess just yet.

Noble Indy | *Lauren King*

9) ENTICED (c, Medaglia d'Oro--It's Tricky, by Mineshaft)
O-Godolphin Racing. B-Godolphin (KY). T-Kiaran McLaughlin.
Lifetime Record: MGSW & GISP, 5-3-0-1, $410,680.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 11
Last Start: 1st GIII Gotham S., AQU, Mar. 10
Accomplishments Include: 1st, GII Kentucky Jockey Club S., CD, Nov. 25 3rd, GI Champagne S., BEL, Oct. 7.
Next Start: GII Wood Memorial S., AQU, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 63

Enticed will attempt to get to Louisville via the New York route, which so far this season has proven to be a path of least resistance. But that level of difficulty could change if the shuffling at the top of this list causes some unexpected late action at the entry box for the GII Wood Memorial S. Judging by his last three races, it's tough to know which Enticed will show up on Saturday. The version we saw storming down the Churchill stretch to fight out a photo in the Nov. 25 GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. was this homebred Medaglia d'Oro colt's most impressive performance to date. His Feb. 3 GII Holy Bull S. fourth as a flat, beaten favorite came without an obvious excuse. And Enticed's last-out, one-turn mile score in the GIII Gotham S. doesn't really tell us much because he coasted home under wraps after putting away a spent 35-1 pacemaker as his main stretch challenger. Enticed takes a while to wind up to hit his best cruising speed, and he does seem capable of torquing into higher gears when needed. But the in-race danger for this big-framed, robust colt is that he'll get stopped or have to shift momentum so suddenly that he won't be nimble enough to recover on the fly. "We had a perfect draw last time out and he was able to stay in the clear," trainer Kiaran McLaughlin said. "Hopefully, we draw well and he runs well. He's been training well and a mile and an eighth shouldn't be a problem."

10) SOLOMINI (c, Curlin--Surf Song, by Storm Cat)
O-Zayat Stables LLC. B-Glenna R. Salyer (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: $270,000 KEESEP '16 yrl. Lifetime Record: MGISP, 4-1-2-1, $472,000
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: 12
Last Start: 2nd, GII Rebel S., OP, Mar. 17
Accomplishments Include: 3rd GI Los Alamitos Futurity, LRC, Dec.9; 2nd GI Frontrunner S., SA, Sept. 30; 2nd GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, DMR, Nov. 4
Next Start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 14.
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 34

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The shock waves from McKinzie having his training put on hold with a potential injury filtered all the way down to stablemate Solomini's ranking and next-race plans, as trainer Baffert confirmed to the Santa Anita press notes team on Monday that he will be detouring this $270,000 KEESEP Curlin colt from a projected start in the Wood Memorial to race in the Apr. 14 Arkansas Derby instead. Although the Wood is coming up on paper as a softer spot, both Baffert and Solomini's owners, Zayat Stable, have had good luck at Oaklawn Park in the past, and Solomini himself handled that track when second despite trip trouble in the GII Rebel S. He'll now get a rematch with Magnum Moon, who was 3 1/2 lengths clear of him last month, but expect a tighter, fitter Solomini in his second start back off a December layoff. This colt always seems on the verge of breaking through to a higher level, but at times he appears to be his own impediment to further progression, like when he lost focus in the stretch of the Breeders' Cup, got DQ'd in the stretch run of the GI Los Alamitos Futurity, or got caught in tight and on the heels of a rival in his 2018 debut.

Solomini I *Benoit*

11) QUIP (c, Distorted Humor--Princess Ash, by Indian Charlie)
O-Winstar Farm LLC, China Horse Club International & SF Racing LLC. B-WinStar Farm LLC (KY). T-Rodolphe Brisset. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-3-1-0, $282,800.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: N/A
Last Start: 1st, GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby, TAM, Mar. 10.
Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 50

WinStar Bred

Quip is a difficult read at this stage of the season. He's lightly raced but owns a three-for-four record, and this 'TDN Rising Star' was a 19-1 upsetter of the GII Tampa Bay Derby after chasing a favored pacemaker through moderate splits all the way around the track coming off a 2 1/2-month winter layoff. The final clocking for the Tampa Derby came back as the slowest for that stake in 21 years, but the Beyer Speed Figure held up as a respectable 94, which represents a 17-point jump over his previous best number. How will he fire second back off the break, especially against a more talented bunch in Saturday's Blue Grass? Note that this Distorted Humor colt has already posted an impressive wire job over the Keeneland strip going two turns (6 1/2-length allowance win back on Oct. 19), and looking farther down the road to a potential Derby berth in Louisville, it's a plus that Quip broke his maiden over the Churchill surface. A Sunday in-company breeze in 1:00.40 (2/15) at Keeneland while ridden by jockey-turned-trainer Rodolphe Brisset featured Quip tracking a workmate from about two lengths back before finishing up on even terms.

12) FLAMEAWAY (c, Scat Daddy--Vulcan Rose, by Fusaichi Pegasus)

O-John Oxley; B-Phoenix Rising Farms (ON). T- Mark Casse. Sales History: $150,000 yrl KEEJAN '16; $400,000 yrl SARAUG '16.
Lifetime Record: MGSW, 8-5-1-0, $504,834.
Mar. 27 TDN Top 12 Rank: N/A
Last Start: 2nd, GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby, TAM, Mar. 10.
Accomplishments: 1st, GIII Bourbon S., KEE, Oct. 8; 1st, GIII Sam F. Davis S., TAM, Feb. 10.
Next Start: GII Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 7
Equineline PPs.
KY Derby Points: 30

Flameaway is currently parked at 18th on the Road to the Kentucky Derby points list that determines entry eligibility, so a solid, point-earning showing in Saturday's Blue Grass at Keeneland is imperative to his chances at landing a spot in the starting gate for the Kentucky Derby. He slid off the TDN Top 12 rankings after his second-place try in the Tampa Derby, but he endured an eventful enough go in that race (bumped at break, steadied, closed fast off the turn into a speed duel but was slightly erratic down the lane) to think that a cleaner trip this weekend could produce a more solid, representative showing of what he can do. I appreciate the fact that this $400,000 FTSAUG Scat Daddy colt is a fighter on the lead and seems to thrive under pace pressure (go watch his six-way photo turf score in Gulfstream's Kitten's Joy S. as the prime example), and his versatility regarding footing is evident in that he's the only Top 12 contender to have won so far over fast dirt, firm turf, mud, slop, and a synthetic surface.

On the Bubble (in alphabetical order)

Blended Citizen (Proud Citizen): Blinkers-on, synth stakes winner at Turfway advances to Blue Grass S.; trainer O'Neill upset same Keeneland prep last year at 31-1.
Bravazo (Awesome Again): Currently ranked sixth on points and will go straight to Derby per Lukas: "He's assured himself a spot, so I've got the luxury of having [several extra] weeks to fine tune him. I'll have a nice fresh horse for the Derby, it looks like."
Free Drop Billy (Union Rags): Currently ranked 20th on points; most recently third in GIII Gotham. Will try to be only third horse to sweep both GI Breeders' Futurity S. and Blue Grass S. at Keeneland.
Gronkowski (Lonhro {Aus}): Qualifies for Derby via European points. Noseda: "He hasn't got real gears but if he can get into a rhythm, he can keep in a rhythm a long time."
Hofburg (Tapit): Very nice try when widest off turn in Florida Derby; couldn't run down Audible yet never looked discouraged giving chase. Much better-than-looks try considering relative inexperience. If/when Mott sends one to Derby, pay attention.
Promises Fulfilled (Shackleford): Dueled into defeat in Florida Derby but has accrued enough qualifying points (ranked seventh) to start in Louisville. Romans: "You live by the sword, you die by the sword. We went wire to wire last time, but that doesn't mean we don't regroup and go back in the Derby."
Restoring Hope (Giant's Causeway): Baffert trainee missed San Felipe with minor foot issue, then failed to make earnings cut to enter GIII Sunland Derby. As of Monday Baffert was still undecided about next-race start.
Runaway Ghost (Ghostzapper): Qualifies on Sunland Derby victory points (ranked ninth). Will work once in New Mexico, followed by two works at Churchill.
Sporting Chance (Tiznow): Rerouted to Blue Grass instead of Arkansas Derby. Would likely have to win or finish second to earn Derby points berth.

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An Afternoon on the Hill cont. from p1

"For years, the hot spot for tailgating was the gate house parking lot," says Christa Marrillia, Keeneland's chief marketing officer. "But we were outgrowing the space, and while a big party at our front door was great, but there was a need to provide more amenities for our customers."

Click above to experience an afternoon on The Hill at Keeneland.

The Hill was envisioned, and if there were skeptics at first, Keeneland quelled them with its unique stamp on tailgating. A jumbotron with the live race feed was erected, as was a tent with betting windows staffed with "Betologists," there to educate neophytes on the ins and outs of handicapping. Local food trucks were invited. A gift shop with souvenirs, attire and fashion accessories was established. Keeneland began a free shuttle service to and from the track. That, assuming that fans want to vacate the party on The Hill. Many, as it turns out, don't.

"It's been wildly popular, a destination for people," says Marrillia. "When we first sat around and talked about it, we assumed the average Hill customer would be the college kids, the sorority girls in dresses and frat boys in bow ties. But it's also become an area for corporate events and meetings, for family reunions and wedding showings. It's a mixed bag of wonderful people up there, kicking off and spending their day at the races."

On this particular day, all those demographics are represented. Armed with a video camera and a microphone, tools of immense magnetic attraction to many here, we set out to see what makes for a good day on The Hill. (The "we" is the author, hauling the camera, and Jim Mulvihill, the NTRA's director of communications.)

We are not disappointed with what and who we find. Under a tent, two musicians, a drummer and guitarist, jam out to ZZ Top's "Cheap Sunglasses." The guitarist has a long gray beard and, who knows, maybe have *been* in ZZ Top. The drummer, once aware of the camera, sucks in his gut.

Tailgating on The Hill at Keeneland

We talk to Jessica, a young lady whose friends are throwing her a baby shower. Jessica is having a girl, and says her daughter will soon join the Keeneland fan base. "Absolutely," she says. "My parents brought me--I've been coming my whole life--and I'll bring her whenever we can take her out in the stroller."

We talk to a group of University of Kentucky coeds who don't seem to have slowed down from the night before.

"We've been coming here every weekend for the last four years," said two female students. Presumably seniors, they nonetheless look a little a little confused when Jim says, "You mean, when you're not studying."

We talk to Jimmy, proprietor of the Princess Party Bus, a bright pink contraption that Jimmy gives us a personal tour of. There are tiaras embroidered on the seats and a dancer pole and, at this point in time, "Devil Went Down to Georgia" is playing through the sound system.

(In what turns out to be the most interesting interview of the day, Jimmy reveals, with very little prodding, that he's a retired WWE wrestler formerly known as… Jimmy Wang Yang. He tussled with, among others, John Cena and Hacksaw Jim Duggan!)

It's hard to imagine that Keeneland's founders didn't imagine this sort of star power when the doors first opened here in 1936.

Marrillia has her own stories to tell about The Hill, including the one time when a bank, having a function there, inflated a 20-foot dog so that invitees could find the party easily.

"I was guilty of having to deflate the dog, but they were having a great time and didn't mind," she says with a laugh.

If The Hill's open spaces offer Keeneland's fans more space to stretch out--inflatable dogs aside--it also provides opportunities for business partners. After all, the tight proximity inside the grandstand doesn't allow for much in the way of sponsorship tents or displays.

"The real estate here allows us to work with our partners and be creative," says Marrillia. "This spring, for example, Maker's Mark is going to be doing this cool experiential destination on The Hill, where people can learn more about the bourbon industry. It's something we could have never fit inside the gates."

Tailgating on The Hill at Keeneland

At 1:05 p.m., the day's first race goes off. Some people begin to make their way down to the shuttles, but from what we can tell, many are content to sit back, soak up the sunshine and enjoy the races from their current vantage point. And that, really, is the point of The Hill.

"The Hill is a way for us to bring the sport to a group of customers looking to experience racing in a different way," says Marrillia. "Maybe they don't want to be right on the rail in the thick of the action. Maybe they want to be sitting on a blanket, having a picnic and eating a sandwich from a food truck. It adds variety, and people love it."

If you're planning on a visit to The Hill this spring, here is a quick list of some Do's and Dont's.

DON'T: Expect to pay an entrance fee. Access to The Hill is free.

DO: Bring a dog. Bring eight or 10, even, if you have access to that many. But attach a leash to them. Otherwise they won't be welcome.

DON'T: Bring giant inflatables and/or helium balloons. We know, we know. These things are great fun. But due to Keeneland's proximity to the Blue Grass Airport, and the killjoys over at the FAA, you can't have them at The Hill.

DO: Bring your own beer and/or cocktails. But be cool about it. Only if you're of age, obviously, and no kegs or full bars.

DON'T: Make a fire pit. Again, fun, but...

DON'T: Bring your own DJ. We're sympathetic that your friend has crafted a giant styrofoam helmet shaped like a chipmunk and is now calling himself DJ EvilAlvin, but any amplified sound is going to be shut down. And really, DJ EvilAlvin just is not that good anyway.

DO: Come on Fridays and Saturdays--these are the only days that The Hill is open.

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JUSTIFY REROUTED TO SANTA ANITA DERBY, SOLOMINI ARKANSAS-BOUND

Justify working Monday at Santa Anita | *Zoe Metz*

Undefeated **'TDN Rising Star' Justify** (Scat Daddy), originally scheduled to make his stakes debut in the GI Arkansas Derby Apr. 14 at Oaklawn, will instead stay home to run in this Saturday's GI Santa Anita Derby, trainer Bob Baffert said Monday. In his place, Baffert will send GII Rebel S. runner-up **Solomini** (Curlin) back to Hot Springs. The shakeup comes after an injury to barn star McKinzie (Street Sense), who was slated to go in the Santa Anita Derby, was discovered Saturday.

Baffert made his decision after Justify worked six furlongs in 1:13 1/5 (2/8) Monday morning at Santa Anita. The chestnut colt is two-for-two so far, having dominated his debut by 9 1/2 lengths Feb. 18 in Arcadia before cruising again going two turns Mar. 11. With zero GI Kentucky Derby qualifying points, he likely will have to win the Santa Anita Derby to ensure himself a spot in the Run for the Roses.

"We'll run here," Baffert told the Santa Anita notes team. "He went nice and it looked like he handled it pretty well. As long as he comes out of it well, he runs."

Solomini, who crossed the wire first in the GI Los Alamitos Derby before being disqualified, ran a quality second in his seasonal debut at Oaklawn and punched his return ticket with a five-furlong work in :59 4/5 (2/82) Monday. Justin Zayat of Zayat Stables confirmed the decision on Twitter shortly thereafter.

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TRIO SHARE BARRETTS BULLET

Hip 167, one of three :10 flat breezers Monday | *Barretts Sales/Cecilia Gustavsson*

by Jessica Martini

The training preview for the Barretts Spring Sale of 2-Year-Olds in Training was held beneath overcast skies and temperatures in the low 60s at Del Mar Monday and a trio of juveniles shared the bullet furlong time of :10 flat. The preview was held in four sets and the Del Mar oval remained fairly consistent throughout the day.

"They are training here now, so they have the track just a little bit slow," said Barretts General Manager Kim Lloyd. "It is very, very safe. The horses are getting a hold of it well and they are showing themselves off well. Which is very important. People can see their action well over this track. And the main thing is that they come back good. So far, so good. Horses that prepped last week for the preview today came back good and we didn't hear any talk of any problems. That's the main thing. We need to get through these previews with horses that are usable and sound."

The Del Mar grandstand was packed with prospective buyers Monday.

"We are very pleased with the turnout today," Lloyd said. "A lot of people showed up. There will be plenty of people to buy the ones they want."

Among the trainers in the stands Monday were Phil D'Amato, Paddy Gallagher, Nick Hines, Bob Hess, Art Sherman, Brian Koriner, Ron Ellis, Dan Hendricks and Simon Callaghan. The bloodstock contingent included Dennis O'Neill, Ben McElroy, David Ingordo, Alex Solis, Jason Litt and Shawn Dugan. West Point's Terry Finley was on hand, as were Aron Wellman of Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Billy Koch of Little Red Feather Racing, and Stonestreet's John Moynihan.

The first bullet furlong work was recorded during the day's third session, when hip 167 covered the distance in :10 flat for Ciaran Dunne's Wavertree Stables.

Out of Cape Discovery (Cape Town), the bay colt was purchased by Ronald Fein's Superfine Farms for $110,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale and was supplemented to the Spring sale.

"He was supposed to go to OBS [March], but he had a little bit of a setback," said Dunne. "We took the high road and gave him the time and we came here. It looks like he rewarded us for it. We always thought he was a nice horse from day one."

Bruno DeBerdt's Excel Bloodstock sent out hip 58 to work the co-bullet during Wednesday's fourth set. By Mineshaft, the filly is out of Noble Grey (Forestry) and was purchased by DeBerdt for $85,000 at last year's September sale.

Hip 58 also clocked in :10 flat | *Barretts Sales/Cecilia Gustavsson*

"She had the athleticism that we look for in a horse," DeBerdt said of the filly's appeal as a yearling. "When we broke her, she was a really nice filly all the way through. When we started working her a little bit at the farm, she didn't show a lot of talent, but she was always right in with the pack. It's just been recently that she has really separated herself. She acclimated to this track really well. We knew she had a lot of ability and I thought if I had any horse that would go in :10 flat, it would be her."

DeBerdt agreed the Del Mar surface played fair throughout the day.

"I think it's a good track," he said. "If you have a good horse, they are going to work in :10 1/5, or :10 flat and :10 2/5 is a very good move on this track. I'd much rather see a track like this than a bunch of :9 3/5s and :9 4/5s. I'm really happy with it. And it was consistent all day long."

Rounding out the trio of :10 flat workers was hip 63, a colt by Smiling Tiger. He is consigned by Havens Bloodstock Agency on behalf of breeder Phil Lebherz's Premier Thoroughbreds. Out of Perfect Feat (Pleasantly Perfect), he is a full-brother to stakes winner Spiced Perfection.

Of the handful of juveniles to work a quarter-mile, hip 121, a colt by Graydar, turned in the fastest time of :21 flat. The gray colt is out of Witch Princess (Exchange Rate) and is consigned by Top Line Sales.

In the lone hiccup of the under-tack show, hip 7, a son of Champ Pegasus, lost the rider and galloped down the stretch before being corralled by the outrider on the backstretch. The incident caused some confusion for the next horse to work, hip 40, a son of He's Had Enough out of graded stakes winner Le Me Geaux (First Samurai). The youngster, consigned by Wavertree Stables, eventually worked in :10 2/5.

"He got halfway around the turn and the horse got loose," Dunne explained. "He had to come back and he was back and forth in the chute because they couldn't figure out whether they were going to stop or go. By the time he actually got around to breezing, he didn't know whether he was coming or going.

Coming out here, we thought he was every bit as fast as the Into Mischief. So he was our big disappointment for the day. We know he is a really good horse from everything he has done at home, so it is a little disappointing when one of yours works and it comes down to a moment that wish you could have back."

The Barretts Spring Sale will be held Wednesday with bidding scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

NY STATE BUDGET INCLUDES PROVISIONS FOR HORSEMEN

The New York State Budget, which was released late Friday night, includes two provisions lobbied for by New York horsemen that have the potential to offer both near and long-term relief for insurance-related costs.

The budget provides the New York Jockey Injury Compensation Fund with the ability to use up to $2 million from the New York Racing Association purse cushion to offset the cost of the premium for the policy that covers jockeys and exercise riders. Under the second provision, NYRA will establish an account utilizing funds from the purse cushion that can be used by the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association as collateral for future workers' compensation insurance programs.

"We have to thank Governor [Andrew] Cuomo and his staff, as well Senator John Bonacic and Assemblyman Gary Pretlow, for their efforts in getting these important provisions included in the budget," NYTHA President Joe Appelbaum said. "This is an example of what NYTHA and NYRA can do when we work together, and we thank [NYRA CEO] Chris Kay for his support and collaboration on this initiative."

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KEENELAND DEBUTING RACE-DAY PREVIEW SHOW AT SPRING MEET

Keeneland will present a new race-day preview show called "Today at Keeneland" during its 2018 Spring Meet, which opens Friday. The show will be 30 minutes long and begin at 11:30 a.m. ET, previewing the day's card and including handicapping discussions. It will be hosted by Keeneland handicappers Katie Gensler and Jesse Ullery.

Elsewhere, Keeneland announced that its @BetKeeneland Twitter handle will benefit the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance through its Handicapper of the Day series. Kicking off Friday with *TDN*'s own racing editor Brian DiDonato, the series features a different notable handicapper each day playing with a $200 bankroll to raise money for TAA.

"The TAA is proud to partner with Keeneland as the beneficiary of @BetKeeneland during the 2018 Spring Meet," TAA President John Phillips said. "Handicappers are some of our biggest supporters and we're grateful for the continued support from the Keeneland Association, one of our seed-money donors."

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COX, BRIDGMOHAN, MOSS, GRADY EARN FAIR GROUNDS MEET TITLES

Trainer Brad Cox and jockey Shaun Bridgmohan added another Fair Grounds championship title to their respective resumes, while Maggi Moss and Brad Grady tied for winningest owner at the meet, which concluded Saturday.

Cox earned his second consecutive training crown at the New Orleans oval with 54 winners, while Bridgmohan picked up his first Fair Grounds crown since the 2009-10 meet by booting home 66 winners. Moss and Grady each had 12 trips to the winner's circle. This was Moss's second Fair Grounds title and Grady's first.

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TDN CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

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

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TDN NORTH AMERICA REGIONAL REPORT

AMERICAN ALLOWANCES

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

8th-LRL, $50,442, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm ($40,000-$50,000), 4-2, 3yo, 1m, 1:37.63, ft.

CORDMAKER (g, 3, Curlin--Tanca, by Polish Numbers) graduated in his second start here Sept. 15 and just missed the winner's circle by a neck when facing winners for the first time Oct. 15. He was last seen running fifth in the Maryland Juvenile Futurity S. locally Dec. 9. Making his sophomore debut, the 9-2 third choice sat a good stalking trip while five lengths off the leader through the first half mile in :48.25 before steadying sharply shortly before going into the far turn. The chestnut was angled out five wide at the quarter pole for clear running room and took the advantage at the furlong marker. He continued to pull away from there to a convincing 5 1/2-length score. Lonely Weekend (Tiznow) rallied from last to grab second. Cordmaker is a half to Corvus (Dance With Ravens), SW, $120,277. Their dam has recently produced a juvenile filly by Seville (Ger) and a yearling filly by Imagining. Sale history: $150,000 Ylg '16 EASOCT. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, $80,178. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Hillwood Stable LLC; B-Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss (MD); T-Rodney Jenkins.

Cordmaker I *Jim McCue/Maryland Jockey Club*

2nd-LRL, $46,350, Alw (NW2X)/Opt. Clm ($20,000-$25,000), 4-2, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.62, ft.

CAIRENN (f, 4, First Dude--Expect Nothing {SP, $134,469}, by A. P Jet) finally earned her cap and gown in her seventh start here Dec. 22 before finishing second in her first try against winners at Aqueduct Jan. 26. The $30,000 OBSOPN purchase scored by open lengths last time out in a local allowance event Feb. 9. Breaking from the rail, the 7-10 favorite stalked three lengths off the pacesetters down the backstretch. The bay saved ground on the rail around the far turn before moving out three wide turning for home. She quickly took command outside the eighth pole and easily pulled away to a 5 1/2-length victory. Everlasting Secret (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}) completed the exacta. The winner's dam is responsible for a yearling colt by Drill and was bred to Effinex last year. Lifetime Record: 9-3-3-2, $109,860. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Smart Angle LLP; B-Best A Luck Farm LLC (FL); T-Mark J. Reid.

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IN GERMANY:

Peace In Motion, f, 4, **Hat Trick (Jpn)**. See "*Germany*".

IN JAPAN:

Old Bailey, c, 4, **To Honor and Serve**--Passion Du Coeur, by Distorted Humor. Hanshin, 4-1, Plate Race, 6f. Lifetime Record: 9-3-0-2, $287,736. O-Godolphin; B-Elm Tree Farm LLC (KY); T-Mitsumasa Nakauchida. *$220,000 Ylg '15 FTNAUG. **"The trainer told me to keep him in a good rhythm during the trip," said winning hoop Yuji Nakai. "I am happy with him."

Bella Posa, m 5 Tapit--Livin Lovin (GSW, $162,153), by Birdstone. Nakayama, 3-31, Plate Race, 9f. Lifetime Record: 13-310-1, $260,849. O-Kazuko Yoshida; B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY); T-Noriyuki Hori. *$325,000 RNA Ylg '14 KEESEP; $575,000 2yo '15 FTFMAR.

HAVE A NEW FOAL?
Click here to submit your Foaling News for Stakes Winning and/or Stakes Producing Mares for publication in the TDN.

Moanin, h, 6, **Henny Hughes**--Giggly, by Distorted Humor. Hanshin, 3-31, Coral S., 7f. Lifetime Record: G1SW-Jpn, 19-7-2-2, $2,397,358. O-Yukio Baba; B-Empire Equines LLC (NY); T-Sei Ishizaka. *$90,000 Ylg '13 FTNAUG; $335,000 2yo '14 OBSMAR. **"He had a good draw," said winning jockey Ryuji Wada. "He traveled nicely and ran well, even with the weight (58.5kg)."

◆ Narvick Int'l / Riki Takahashi ◆

Hidden Brook Raised & Sold

FIRST & SECOND-CROP RUNNERS

First-/second-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, Apr. 3

Farm and fee represent current information

Declaration of War (War Front), Ashford Stud, $40,000
255 foals of racing age/19 winners/3 black-type winners
6-SUN, Msw 6f, K P PERGOLISCIOUS (IRE), 5-1
$70,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; $52,000 FTK OCT yrl

Flat Out (Flatter), Spendthrift Farm, $10,000
230 foals of racing age/29 winners/1 black-type winner
2-WRD, Msw 6f, GOLDEN GUN, 15-1
$9,000 OKC YRL yrl

Violence (Medaglia d'Oro), Hill 'n' Dale Farms, $15,000
248 foals of racing age/43 winners/5 black-type winners
6-SUN, Msw 6f, LOVABLE LILLY, 5-1
$22,000 RNA BAR MAR 2yo

ADDITIONAL RACING

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-LRL, $46,326, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm ($40,000-$50,000), 4-2, 3yo, 1m, 1:38.38, ft.
TAKEDOWN (c, 3, Take Charge Indy--Pure Sarah, by Pure Prize) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, $49,120. O-Loooch Racing Stables, Inc.; B-E. H. Beau Lane (KY); T-Lacey Gaudet. *$120,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP; $65,000 2yo '17 KEENOV.

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8th-GG, $33,633, 4-1, (NW1$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m (AWT), 1:37.53, ft.
BELLA LUMA (f, 4, Ministers Wild Cat--Bold Roberta {MSW, $449,704}, by Bold Badgett) Lifetime Record: 12-3-2-1, $96,917. O-Thomas W. Bachman & Linda J. Brown; B-Thomas W Bachman (CA); T-Ed Moger, Jr.

5th-WRD, $26,400, (S), 4-2, (C), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.33, ft.
EXY XANADU (m, 5, Euroears--Edith Ann, by Haymarket {GB}) Lifetime Record: 14-7-2-2, $76,480. O/T-Donald G. Trett; B-Robert Albright (OK).

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Point Guard, g, 3, **Concord Point**--Jivin', by Grand Reward. SA, 4-1, (C), 1mT, 1:35.86. B-J. D. & M. A. Squires (KY). *$12,000 Wlg '15 KEENOV; $29,000 RNA Ylg '16 FTKOCT; $70,000 2yo '17 OBSMAR.

Oklahoma Long Shot, f, 3, **Dominus**--Spirited Maiden (MSP, $152,952), by Saint Ballado. WRD, 4-2, (S), 6f, 1:10.60. B-Center Hills Farm (OK). *$1,300 Wlg '15 KEENOV; $22,000 2yo '17 EASMAY. **1/2 to Delancy (Primary Suspect), SW, $101,215.

Qualify, g, 3, **Exclusive Quality**--Fly Express, by Concorde's Tune. MVR, 4-2, 6f, 1:13.38. B-Herman Wilensky (FL).

Silver Excess, f, 3, **Flower Alley**--Stormy Story, by Stormy Atlantic. PRX, 4-2, 6 1/2f, 1:20.13. B-Melvin Kendrick (KY). *$14,000 RNA Ylg '16 FTKOCT.

Jail Aint Jolly, c, 3, **Gio Ponti**--Dancing Daisy, by More Than Ready. WRD, 4-2, 5 1/2f, 1:04.51. B-Ed Few (KY). *$1,700 RNA Ylg '16 KEESEP; $20,000 2yo '17 TTAAPR.

Blue Strike, f, 3, **Smart Strike**--Owl Moon, by Ghostzapper. LRL, 4-2, 1m, 1:39.12. B-Lakland Farm (KY). *$170,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP.

Hidden Brook Recommended Purchase & South Grad

Aigle, g, 3, **Unusual Heat**--Crazy Ensign (Arg) (MG1SW-Arg & MGISP, $563,557), by Firery Ensign. GG, 4-1, (S), 1 1/16mT, 1:46.20. B-Charles Fipke (CA). *$45,000 Wlg '15 KEENOV. **1ST-TIME STARTER. ***1/2 to Distorted Dave (Distorted Humor), GSP,$135,545.

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ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

CONCORD POINT, Point Guard, g, 3, o/o Jivin', by Grand Reward. MCL, 4-1, Santa Anita
CURLIN, Cordmaker, g, 3, o/o Tanca, by Polish Numbers. AOC, 4-2, Laurel Park
DOMINUS, Oklahoma Long Shot, f, 3, o/o Spirited Maiden, by Saint Ballado. MSW, 4-2, Will Rogers
EUROEARS, Exy Xanadu, m, 5, o/o Edith Ann, by Haymarket (GB). ALW, 4-2, Will Rogers
EXCLUSIVE QUALITY, Qualifly, g, 3, o/o Fly Express, by Concorde's Tune. MSW, 4-2, Mahoning Valley Race Course
FIRST DUDE, Cairenn, f, 4, o/o Expect Nothing, by A. P Jet. AOC, 4-2, Laurel Park
FLOWER ALLEY, Silver Excess, f, 3, o/o Stormy Story, by Stormy Atlantic. MSW, 4-2, Parx Racing
GIO PONTI, Jail Aint Jolly, c, 3, o/o Dancing Daisy, by More Than Ready. MSW, 4-2, Will Rogers
MINISTERS WILD CAT, Bella Luma, f, 4, o/o Bold Roberta, by Bold Badgett. ALW, 4-1, Golden Gate
SMART STRIKE, Blue Strike, f, 3, o/o Owl Moon, by Ghostzapper. MSW, 4-2, Laurel Park
TAKE CHARGE INDY, Takedown, c, 3, o/o Pure Sarah, by Pure Prize. AOC, 4-2, Laurel Park
UNUSUAL HEAT, Aigle, g, 3, o/o Crazy Ensign (Arg), by Firery Ensign. MSW, 4-1, Golden Gate

Congratulations to last week's JockeyTalk360.com Jockey of the Week, Luis Saez, who won seven races Thursday at Gulfstream and three stakes Saturday, including the GII Gulfstream Park Oaks aboard Coach Rocks (Oxbow) and the GII Pan American S. aboard Hi Happy (Arg) (Pure Prize).

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

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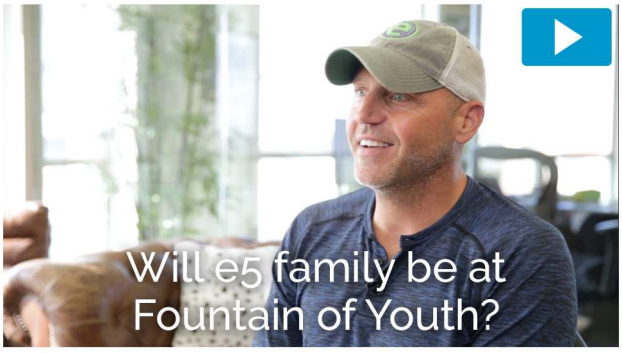
***Cordmaker** (Curlin) made a successful sophomore debut at Laurel Park Monday*



Bob Edwards on Why He Reads the TDN

The Last Word with Terry Finley

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O'BRIEN RELISHING SEARCH FOR SADLER'S HEIR

Camelot & Aidan O'Brien | *Racingfotos.com*

By Chris McGrath

This is the second part of a wide-ranging interview with the record-breaking master of Ballydoyle. Read the first part here.

Nothing succeeds like succession. With each year that passes, Aidan O'Brien's tenure at Ballydoyle increasingly defines an epoch on the modern Turf. And, in the process, he is able to savour a new form of fulfilment: the regeneration of brilliance, as his champions past embark on their stud careers.

Certainly, the 2012 Derby winner Camelot (GB) (Montjeu {Ire}) made a promising start with his first juveniles last year. Having stayed in training at four--a sporting decision that didn't really pay off--Camelot has the 2014 Epsom winner, Australia (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), following hard on his heels at stud. That gives O'Brien the opportunity to renew comparisons between the stock of their mighty patriarchs.

"The Camelots are very much on the stamp of Montjeu," he says. "And the Australias look very much on the stamp of Galileo: very relaxed horses, doing everything lovely and smooth, they have great minds. Camelots are like Montjeu, they have a lot of nervous energy and we think this year we'll see the best of them. We thought they'd be back-end 2-year-olds and middle-distance 3-year-olds. That can change. But there's a lot of Montjeu in them, to train, and we think there will be to race, that's why we're so looking forward to them this year."

"I suppose what made Camelot unusual is that it was very rare for a Montjeu to be able to win the Guineas. Galileos have always been very genuine, every single day they give you everything, and that's the way he always was. But Montjeus were highly strung, with a lot of nervous energy. And these Camelots are very like him: they're very active, very light on their feet, they handle all types of ground and can produce that bit of brilliance for a middle-distance horse."

As O'Brien points out, that acceleration could also be seen in the grandson of Montjeu who gave him a surprise sixth success in the Derby last year, Wings Of Eagles (Fr) (Pour Moi {Ire}). It is always fascinating to hear how, being so familiar with these recurring traits, O'Brien modulates his approach accordingly: Camelot himself, for instance, being a template for his handling of the Montjeu line.

Cont. p2

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

TDN DERBY TOP 12 FOR APR. 3

T. D. Thornton is back with the latest TDN Derby Top 12 brought to you by WinStar Farm. The list is in a state of flux, as the previous number one, **McKinzie** (Street Sense), is out with a hind leg injury. **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.**

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O'Brien Relishing Search for Sadler's Heir Cont. from p1

"Because Camelot would easily turn himself inside out, we didn't ask him too much," O'Brien recalls. "He just came there very quick, in the middle of the summer, it shocked us a little bit because we wanted him really for the last quarter of the season. So after he won his maiden we stopped on him, we didn't want to put him through those 2-year-old races in the middle of the season. Even though he was a Montjeu, he wanted to do it and we didn't let him really; we didn't want to do that to him."

Nelson | *Racing Post*

"Galileos, you could run them over six furlongs and there'd not be a bother on them," he says. "They might get beat, but it wouldn't harm them. But it maybe wouldn't be the right thing to do with a Montjeu. What makes Galileo different is that mental genuineness. That gene is so strong, it's unbelievable the way it comes through. They can be all types of physicals, but whatever's in their mind makes them so determined, so genuine. Montjeus have that other kink: they have the brilliance, but you just have to be a little bit more careful with them."

For all the competition among sons of Galileo joining him on his own farm, none has quite made a start to match that of Frankel (GB)--famously a Coolmore foal-share-over at Juddmonte. O'Brien is intrigued by the way Frankel's sons have been carrying their speed over middle distances, and has corresponding expectations for one in his own care, Nelson (Ire). Just run out of the G2 Royal Lodge by Roaring Lion (Kitten's Joy), who subsequently ran so well against Saxon Warrior (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) at Doncaster, Nelson is out of G1 Irish Oaks winner Moonstone (GB) (Dalakhani {Ire}). While her son US Army Ranger (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) failed to go on after finishing second in the 2016 Derby, Nelson looks an intriguing Epsom prospect himself.

"Nelson looks like he will get a mile and a half, and could get farther," O'Brien says. "When John [Gosden]'s horse beat him at Newmarket, he was just getting going again at the line. With Frankel the stamina I imagine comes from Galileo. We had Powerscourt (GB) (Sadler's Wells) out of that pedigree [half-brother to Frankel's dam] and we felt he was best at a mile and a quarter."

"But what makes Galileo different is that they have class as well as stamina," he says. "Some staying horses you can get are slowish horses but keep going. But his have that ability to travel at a high cruising pace for a long time and then quicken off it. Frankel had that, he'd cruise at a very high tempo and maintain it and then go again if he had to: those were all Galileo qualities, if you saw him in his races."

Given fast mares, on the Frankel model, Galileo has progressively proved capable of siring horses with outright sprint speed, last year producing his first elite winner at short of 7f when Clemmie (Ire) won the G1 Cheveley Park S. His one deficiency, in terms of his stock's versatility, has so far been on dirt. O'Brien has spoken memorably in the past about Galileo's discomfort when himself trying the surface, and it is an intriguing dimension of Coolmore's outcross experiments that a better fit for dirt may result.

Ballydoyle's two near-misses in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic, Giant's Causeway (Storm Cat) and Declaration Of War (War Front), both had feasible genetic antecedents. So who can say whether the influence of Sunday Silence, as grandsire, may yet enable Deep Impact--now looking such a promising outcross for Coolmore--to bring Galileo mares across? In the meantime, of course, the stable has a new dirt monster in Mendelssohn (Scat Daddy), such a spectacular winner of the G2 UAE Derby.

> "We're lucky that the lads aren't frightened to have a go at things, to take a chance. Because they're very conscious that those pedigrees need to be knitted back together. Which is vital, for everyone."
>
> Aidan O'Brien

O'Brien knows that he will not be restrained by any want of adventure in his patrons. "We're lucky that the lads aren't frightened to have a go at things, to take a chance," he says. "Because they're very conscious that those pedigrees need to be knitted back together. Which is vital, for everyone." **Cont. p3**

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O'Brien Relishing Search for Sadler's Heir Cont.

"When you go on the dirt, you do need a very hard mind; and a lot of natural pace, a kind of coarse pace," says O'Brien. "You know, it's a different thing: it's rugged, tough, where often the grass horses can be milder in their mentality, and kinder. But listen, it's all a changing environment as you go along, dipping you toe in and out."

Should O'Brien happen to go on and win a GI Kentucky Derby, or a Breeders' Cup Classic, it should be pretty obvious to everyone--by this stage of his career--just why that could be. For the key to this man is that his humility is every bit as unrelenting as his achievement. So often, high achievers in sport are driven by an egotistical thirst to dominate their peers. Perhaps, among horsemen at any rate, personalities of that type would actually achieve more if clearing their decks of vanity in the same way.

It is telling that O'Brien's principal satisfaction, when Saxon Warrior took him past Bobby Frankel's record at Doncaster, was simply to have his daughter Ana present. She had been seriously injured in a terrifying race fall in Killarney back in July.

"That was the greatest thing about the day," he says. "We knew we could go to the end of the year without winning another Group 1, everyone was very conscious of that. But the only thing that mattered was that Ana said she wanted to go racing. For the horse then to win, on top of that, was great--but to have Ana there, that was the most unbelievable thing of all."

"Ana had so many things she had to pass through, to say she was going to be okay," he recalls. "The reality of life is that all the stuff we're doing and talking about, every day, it's only stuff. None of it matters. Money, work, everything's stuff. It makes no difference whatsoever, winning or losing, when we're just so lucky to get through days like that [at Killarney]."

Cont. p4

> "The reality of life is that all the stuff we're doing and talking about, every day, it's only stuff. None of it matters..... It makes no difference whatsoever, winning or losing, when we're just so lucky to get through days like that [at Killarney]."
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O'Brien Relishing Search for Sadler's Heir Cont.

For the rest, he sets himself the same standards as he does his children, or his horses. Whatever hand they have all been dealt by nature, all you can do is be conscientious about the nurture--and then only day by day. Records? They can take care of themselves.

"All we think of is doing our best," he stresses. "I promise we don't ever think of anything like that. You just try and make the decision you think right on the day. You might look back and say: 'I shouldn't have done that.' But all you can do, on the day, is make the decision you think best there and then."

"It's all the same, horses and people," he notes. "You've all the families, some have the same traits but because the gene pool is so massive they won't all have the same genes. Then the environment they were in, up along, mightn't be the same. So they might have had different experiences that either shut genes or kick them off."

"With horses, you're trying to switch on genes that aren't switched on; and maybe shut down the ones that aren't in the right place," says O'Brien. "It's a very fine line, really. Everything depends on the character and the mentality of those horses. Like human beings, they're all made up of different things. Every single one of them is different. And there's no law."

So there's the secret: that there is no one secret. Yes, those priceless Coolmore pedigrees give him a palette of vivid paints; but the trainer treats each horse as a blank canvas. And that's what makes springtime so special. "This time of year, anything is possible," O'Brien says lightly. "Anything."

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THE WEEKLY WRAP by Emma Berry

'THUNDER' RUMBLES IN DUBAI WORLD CUP

It's hard to find fault with **Thunder Snow (Ire)**, who, despite being a Group 1 winner at two, three and now so early in his 4-year-old season, seems never to have captured the public imagination as some other horses have. It would be a travesty if he becomes remembered best for his buckaroo routine at the start of the GI Kentucky Derby. That high-profile blot on his copybook aside, he has done little wrong and managed to pick up two Meydan Classics last season before his eventful trip to Churchill Downs, which was later absolved when he finished second to Churchill (Ire) in the G1 Irish 2000 Guineas and won the G1 Prix Jean Prat.

Thunder Snow is the stand-out performer for his sire Helmet (Aus), though an equal amount of his talent must be attributed to his Darley-bred dam Eastern Joy (GB).

Thunder Snow | *Dubai Racing Club/Andrew Watkins*

The daughter of Dubai Destination has turned out to be prophetically named as three of her first five foals have won Classics in Dubai, including this year's UAE 1000 Guineas winner Winter Lightning (Ire) (Shamardal), and all five are stakes winners. What's more, they are all by Darley stallions, with her first foal Ihtimal (Ire) also being by Shamardal, and Always Smile (Ire) and First Victory (Ire) by Cape Cross (Ire) and Teofilo (Ire), respectively.

Eastern Joy has twice subsequently visited Dubawi (Ire), who by a wide margin was the most ubiquitous stallion at Meydan on Saturday, which is perhaps only fitting for the best son of the horse who presumably remains Sheikh Mohammed's favourite World Cup winner, Dubai Millennium (GB) (Seeking the Gold).

Dubawi's sole winner of the night was Benbatl (GB) in the G1 Dubai Turf, but he provided the runner-up in the G2 Godolphin Mile, the second, third and fourth in the G2 Dubai Gold Cup, in which he was the sire of six of the 16 runners, and the third home in the World Cup, Mubtaahij (Ire), another former G2 UAE Derby winner.

If World Cup night was a Godolphin rout, the same was true for the Darley stallions, with Helmet's sire Exceed And Excel (Aus), Manduro (Ger), and Iffraaj (GB) also providing a major winner each. And with the very juicy cherry on top being a homebred Dubai World Cup hero from a homebred sire and dam, no wonder Sheikh Mohammed was dancing on the podium on Saturday night.

Mendelssohn Calls The Tune…

By far the most visually stunning performance of World Cup night--and perhaps the most arresting we'll see all year--belonged to **Mendelssohn** (Scat Daddy). It's unlikely that he'll have the run of Churchill Downs the way he did Meydan for his UAE Derby tour de force. **Cont. p5**

Mendelssohn | *Coady Photography*

The Weekly Wrap Cont.

He is now an intriguing contender for the Run for the Roses. The only downside for his connections will be the headache he will give Ryan Moore in trying to decide between whether he should side with Mendelssohn in America or Saxon Warrior (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) in the G1 2000 Guineas at Newmarket.

Mendelssohn's win is likely to have made for uncomfortable viewing for the team from Phoenix Thoroughbreds, whose **Gronkowski** (Lonhro {Aus}) had staked his own Kentucky Derby claim a day earlier at Newcastle. The latter is unbeaten in his last four starts but remains untried on dirt. Though there will be 18 other horses in the field that he'll also have to beat, the Phoenix hearts will have sunk lower with every lengthening stride Mendelssohn took along the Meydan home straight.

Gronkowski came about as a result of the shuttling stints to Jonabell of former Australian Horse of the Year and champion sire Lonhro (Aus), whose sire Octagonal (NZ) was also Horse of the Year, father and son winning 10 and 11 Group 1 races, respectively. The family of Octagonal, a son of Zabeel (NZ) and the outstanding broodmare Eight Carat (GB), was to the fore in Group 1 company again on Saturday when Eight Carat's great grand-daughter **Hiyaam (NZ)** (High Chaparral {Ire}) won the Vinery Stud S., but more importantly for the sireline was the G2 Tulloch S. victory of **Levendi (Aus)**, by Lonhro's young son Pierro (Aus). The colt's triumph sparked mid-morning celebrations at Meydan from trainers Peter and Manny Gelagotis, who later that day saddled their first overseas runner **Illustrious Lad (Aus)** to finish fifth in the G1 Al Quoz Sprint. Levendi is now one of the leading fancies for Saturday's G1 AJC Australian Derby.

Rathasker's Rampant Start…

Maurice and Madeline Burns of Rathasker Stud will be hoping that the Flat season can continue in the way it has begun. Their young stallion **Bungle Inthejungle (GB)** has already been represented by seven runners and the first winner by a freshman sire in Europe, Jungle Jane (Ire), who struck at Dundalk last Wednesday for Willie McCreery.

Rathasker is also the breeder of the leading 2-year-old of the very young season to date in **Izzer (Ire)**, who added to his Brocklesby victory by becoming one of four winners ridden by Franny Norton at Bath on Friday. With continuing wet conditions in Britain meaning that only Bath's sprint track could be used, the Good Friday meeting was reduced to four races and Norton followed Gordon Richards, Alec Russell and Frankie Dettori on the short list of jockeys to have gone through the card. He landed a double each for Izzer's trainer Mick Channon and Ron Harris.

Izzer's sire Clodovil (Ire) has stood at Rathasker since retiring to stud in 2004, and he has been joined there by his son Es Que Love (Ire), who also has first 2-year-old runners this season.

Madeline Burns & Clodovil | *Emma Berry*

Good Friday For French…

French trainers had to suffer many of their country's big prizes being plundered by their British counterparts last season, and Ralph Beckett has already landed the first turf group race of 2018 in Paris, the G3 Prix Exbury, with Air Pilot (GB) (Zamindar), while Ed Walker sent out **Stormy Antarctic** (Stormy Atlantic) to win yesterday's G3 Prix Edmond Blanc. But a successful cross-Channel raiding party gained some revenge on Good Friday after being dispatched to Lingfield's All-Weather Championships. **Cont. p6**

The Weekly Wrap Cont.

Four French trainers had runners at the seasonal finale and three had winners, with Christophe Ferland's **Funny Kid** (Lemon Drop Kid), Stephane Wattel's **City Light (Fr)** (Siyouni {Fr}) and the Joel Boisnard-trained **Lucky Team (Fr)** (Namid {GB}) collectively taking home just over €300,000.

City Light and Lucky Team, the winners of the sprint and mile races on the card, had met in their last race prior to Lingfield, finishing first and third in the Prix Anabaa at Chantilly on Mar. 6. The horse who separated them that day was the Andre Fabre's filly Rosa Imperial (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}), who was also in action at the weekend, finishing a decent fifth in the G2 Godolphin Mile at Meydan.

City Light wins the All-Weather Sprint Championships Conditions S.
Racing Post

Walking With God...

As a Lent pilgrimage, the Bishops of Dunwich and St Edmundsbury conducted a walking tour of the diocese, within which Newmarket falls. Racing Welfare's excellent chaplain Simon Bailey was on hand to guide them around the parish along with Newmarket trainer and former town mayor John Berry, who, the bishops would have been disappointed to hear, gave up his place to read theology at Oxford in order to pursue a somewhat less spiritual life in horseracing.

During the tour, the group called in at Bedford House Stables where the first horse introduced to the men of the cloth by the quick-witted Luca Cumani was the Group 3 winner **God Given (GB)** (Nathaniel {Ire}).

Share this story

God Given is pictured with the visiting Bishops of St Edmundsbury and Dunwich and trainers Luca Cumani and John Berry

ANY PORT IN A STORM

Much water has flowed under the bridge since **Stormy Antarctic (GB)** (Stormy Atlantic) flaunted Classic potential in the 2016 G3 Craven S., but it all came together again for the 5-year-old as Christophe Soumillon continued his purple patch with an enterprising ride in Monday's G3 Prix Edmond Blanc at Saint-Cloud. In front from the outset, the chestnut who had also been runner-up in the 2015 G1 Criterium International and G1 Prix Jean Prat at Chantilly as a sophomore was sent stand's side and despite racing alone had enough in the tank to score by a length from the far-side "winner" **Nice To See You (Fr)** (Siyouni {Fr}), with a half-length back to Godolphin's defending title-holder **Jimmy Two Times (Fr)** (Kendargent {Fr}).

Only 7-1 for the 2016 G1 2000 Guineas, Stormy Antarctic was 11th in that Newmarket feature before his Jean Prat rebound but it has not been plain sailing for the Ed Walker stable subsequently. Gelded after a third in the G3 Minstrel S. over seven furlongs at The Curragh in July and last of 13 in the G2 Lennox S. also at that trip at Glorious Goodwood at the start of August, he scored by four lengths on his return in Chantilly's Listed Prix du Ranelagh over this trip in October before finishing sixth in the Listed Hyde S. on Kempton's Polytrack the following month.

Pedigree Notes...

The winner is a half-brother to Al Shaqab's homebred G2 Prix Robert Papin and G2 Queen Mary S. runner-up Al Johrah (GB) (Bated Breath {GB}) whose third dam Miss Turnberry (Ire) (Mummy's Pet {GB}) was third in the G3 C. L. Weld Park S. before producing the Listed Mooresbridge S. scorer Cheviot Amble (Ire) (Pennine Walk {Ire}). **Cont. p7**

Stormy Antarctic & Christophe Soumillon | *Scoop Dyga*

G3 Prix Edmund Blanc Cont.

The dam Bea Remembered (GB) (Doyen {Ire}), who was third in the G3 Meld S., also has a 2-year-old colt by Toronado (Ire). **Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree**.

Monday, Saint-Cloud, France
PRIX EDMOND BLANC-G3, €80,000, SCD, 4-2, 4yo/up, 8fT, 1:48.48, vhy.

1--**STORMY ANTARCTIC (GB), 126, g, 5, by Stormy Atlantic**
1st Dam: Bea Remembered (GB) (GSP-Ire, SP-Eng & Swe), by Doyen (Ire)
2nd Dam: Leinster Mills (Ire), by Doyoun (Ire)
3rd Dam: Miss Turnberry (Ire), by Mummy's Pet (GB)
(68,000gns Wlg '13 TATFOA; 200,000gns 2yo '15 TATBRE). O-Pak Kwan Siu; B-East Bloodstock Ltd (GB); T-Ed Walker; J-Christophe Soumillon. €40,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Eng, MG1SP-Fr & GSP-Ire, 18-5-4-3, €396,899. *1/2 to Al Johrah (GB) (Bated Breath {GB}), GSP-Eng & Fr, $129,933. **Werk Nick Rating: C. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree**.

2--**Nice To See You (Fr)**, 126, h, 5, Siyouni (Fr)--Around Me (Ire) (SP-Fr), by Johannesburg. (€70,000 Ylg '14 ARAUG; €98,000 RNA 4yo '17 ARQJUL). O-Mme Didier Ricard, Mlle Micheline Vidal, Mlle Charlotte Ricard & Yannick Cornec; B-Joseph Hayoz (FR); T-Robert Collet. €16,000.

3--**Jimmy Two Times (Fr)**, 126, h, 5, Kendargent (Fr)--Steel Woman (Ire), by Anabaa. (€85,000 Ylg '14 AROCT). O-Godolphin SNC; B-Francis Teboul & Jean Boniche (FR); T-Andre Fabre. €12,000.

Margins: 1, HF, HF. Odds: 3.50, 10.00, 1.50.
Also Ran: Marie d'Argent (Fr), Dallas Affair (GB), Vilaro (Fr), Zalamea (Ire), Enlighted (Ire). **Click for the Racing Post result. Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.

EUROPEAN NEWS

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BARRAQUERO AT A CROSSROADS

by Chris McGrath

Following a minor but untimely hold-up, **Barraquero (Ire)** (Zebedee {GB}) is approaching a crossroads in his young career, as Brian Meehan prepares to decide between a possible crack at the G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas or keeping him at sprint distances.

The Manton trainer reports that the exciting colt, who won the G2 Richmond S. on his stakes debut last summer, has recovered well from the shin issue that sidelined him for the rest of the season. But a brief return to the easy list has put a question mark against his scheduled reappearance in the G3 Greatwood Greenham S. at Newbury on Apr. 21--a race intended to allow Barraquero to test the water over a seventh furlong, with the Guineas mile in mind.

Barraquero | *Racing Post*

"He got a bit of a cough 10 days ago," Meehan explained on Monday. "So it depends how this next week goes. He's had three days off, but is back cantering this morning and has been very forward and fit--so it wouldn't take very much at all to get him ready. But we're in a lucky position. Ten years ago, where would you go with a highly-rated 3-year-old that misses the Guineas? Now you can make an alternative plan and look at the [G1] Commonwealth Cup. So if he doesn't make the Greenham and Guineas, he can go to the Sandy Lane and then to Ascot."

Barraquero's dam, by Oasis Dream (GB), did stay a mile at a modest level but was out of a 6f listed winner in Just Ice (GB) (Polar Falcon). **Cont. p8**

Barraquero at a Crossroads Cont.

There are mixed messages deeper in the pedigree, but Barraquero certainly showed plenty of his sire's dash in three starts at two: running third on his Newbury debut behind Expert Eye (GB) (Acclamation {GB})--such an impressive winner himself at Goodwood, two days before the Richmond--before bolting up at Chepstow by six lengths.

The one guarantee is that the current wet weather would not hinder him in the Greenham, as the going was unseasonably soft when he won at Goodwood. If he does go to Newbury, moreover, Meehan believes the colt's straightforward disposition would aid the attempt to draw out his speed.

"If you're being absolutely honest, looking at the way he won at Goodwood and his form so far, then it might well be sensible to look at sprinting anyway," Meehan said. "But you've got to give the horse the [Guineas] option, if you can. And with the Greenham you're in the middle [in terms of trip], he doesn't get the penalty, and you might get that ground as well."

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'SECRET' VOTED GERMAN HORSE OF THE YEAR

Dschingis Secret | *Galopponline.de*

Dschingis Secret (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}), owned by Hong Kong entrepreneur Horst Pudwill and trained by Markus Klug, was voted German Horse of the Year in a public vote, *Galopponline.de* reported on Monday. The 2017 G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin hero was well clear of stablemate and last year's G1 Deutsches Derby victor Windstoss (Ger) (Shirocco {Ger}) with 56.6% of the German public's vote, to the latter's 32.8%. Dschingis Secret was also in front of German MG1SW Guignol (Ger) (Cape Cross {Ire}), who came in third with 10.6% of the votes. The ceremony took place at Cologne on Easter Monday.

By 2004 German honoree Soldier Hollow, the Gestut Park Wiedingen-bred won four of his seven starts in 2017, beginning with the G2 Gerling-Preis at Cologne in May, and added his second victory of the campaign two starts later in the G2 Grosser Hansa-Preis on July 1. Stretching his winning skein to three, the €200,000 BBAGSEP yearling defeated G1 Dubai Sheema Classic scorer Hawkbill (Kitten's Joy) in the Grosser Preis von Berlin that August, and also scooped Chantilly's G2 Prix Foy on Sept. 10. Winless in his next two starts, Dschingis Secret was third to Guignol in the G1 Grosser Preis von Bayern on Nov. 1.

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'TEMPTRESS' EYEING FRENCH 1000 GUINEAS

Team Valor's GI Natalma S. heroine **Capla Temptress (Ire)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}) has returned to the care of original trainer Marco Botti from American Hall of Famer Bill Mott and her connections are eyeing the G1 French 1000 Guineas as a potential target. The April-foaled bay holds entries in both the May 6 G1 QIPCO 1000 Guineas at Newmarket and the French equivalent at Longchamp a week later.

"She is back with us and I'm very pleased with her," said Botti of his charge, who ran seventh in her lone start for Mott in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf at Del Mar on Nov. 3 when last seen. "She ran at the Breeders' Cup, then the owners had a meeting afterwards and decided to send her back to Europe. She had 40 days in quarantine after the Breeders' Cup and arrived back in Newmarket in December. She did well for us last year and I thought she was going to America for good, but thanks to Team Valor she is back."

Added the Italian, "She will not go for a trial in the [G3] Fred Darling [S. on Apr. 21] or [G3] Nell Gwyn [on Apr. 18]. We are entered in the English Guineas and the French Guineas. We will see how she is mid-April and it would be silly not to consider the English Guineas, but at this stage I would say she is more likely to take her chance in the French Guineas. She has not grown much, but she has done well physically and I think she looks stronger than last year. There is no doubt she has the ability and a great mind and that is a big plus."

Capla Temptress made her first two starts for Capla Developments and Les Boyer, resulting in a pari of wins over the Chelmsford all-weather on June 21 and in the Lettergold Fillies' Novice Auction S. that July, before being purchased privately by Team Valor. She lost her unbeaten tag in the G3 Sweet Solera S. at headquarters in August, prior to her Woodbine triumph.

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H.H. The Aga Khan's 2008 G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe heroine Zarkava (Ire) (Zamindar) foaled a colt by Sea The Stars (Ire) near the end of March, Aga Khan Studs announced on Twitter Saturday. Click here to watch a video of the duo courtesy The Aga Khan Studs. Undefeated on the racecourse, Zarkava is the dam of G1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud victor and young sire Zarak (Fr) (Dubawi {Ire}). She will visit Dubawi (Ire) later this spring. | *Scoop Dyga*

FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS

Apr. 3, 2018:

UNITED KINGDOM:

Bungle Inthejungle (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), Rathasker Stud
95 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
14:55-LINGFIELD PARK, 5f, JUNGLE INTHEBUNGLE (IRE)
€8,000 Tattersalls Ireland September Yearlings 2017

Sommerabend, a MGSW in France and a GSW in Germany, is looking for his first winner on Tuesday at Chantilly | *Haras de Saint Arnoult*

FRANCE:

Sommerabend (GB) (Shamardal), Haras de Saint Arnoult
41 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-CHANTILLY, 1000m, STORM KATY (FR)
€6,000 Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale 2016 - English Version

Xtension (IRE) (Xaar {GB}), Rathbarry Stud
24 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-CHANTILLY, 1000m, ICEBEE (IRE)
€4,500 Goffs Open Yearlings HIT Sale 2017

BRITAIN

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Sunday's Results:

6th-WOL, £15,000, Hcp, 4-2, 3yo, 7f 36y (AWT), 1:29.04, st. **SOCIETY POWER (IRE) (c, 3, Society Rock {Ire}--Yajala {GB} {SP-Ity}, by Fasliyev)**, last seen winning a novice contest at Chelmsford in October, was anchored last of the trio early trading as the even-money favourite. Tackling Vale of Kent (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}) approaching the final furlong, the €160,000 GBMBR 2yo got the better of that rival soon after and held on to record a neck success. The useful dam, who is a half to the G3 Gran Premio Citta di Napoli runner-up Dasami (GB) (Prince Sabo {GB}), is also responsible for Evil Spell (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}) who captured two renewals of the Listed Premio Carlo Chiesa and was third in the G3 Premio Carlo e Francesco Aloisi. Her yearling colt is by Sir Prancealot (Ire). Lifetime Record: 4-3-1-0, $24,743. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
O-Sheikh Rashid Dalmook Al Maktoum; B-Tally-Ho Stud (IRE); T-William Haggas.

5th-WOL, £5,800, Cond, 4-2, 3yo, 9f 104y (AWT), 1:58.96, st. **BARTHOLOMEU DIAS (GB) (c, 3, Mount Nelson {GB}--Lady Francesca {GB} {SP-Eng & Fr, $104,074}, by Montjeu {Ire})**, who was fourth in the Listed Chesham S. at Royal Ascot in June before disappointing when only third in a Yarmouth maiden also over seven furlongs next time in August, traded as the 2-9 favourite and started out in front. Never seriously pressed at any stage, the 60,000gns TAOCT yearling who sports the silks of the day's G3 Prix Edmond Blanc winner Stormy Antarctic (GB) (Stormy Atlantic) strode on to score by 13 lengths. Out of the useful Lady Francesca, the winner is kin to a yearling colt by Muhaarar (GB). The dam is a half to the G3 Prix du Calvados and G3 Ridgewood Pearl S. winner and G2 May Hill S. runner-up Purr Along (GB), also by Mount Nelson. **Cont. p10**

5th-WOL Cont.

This is also the family of the G2 Falmouth S. and G3 Prix de Sandringham scorer Ronda (GB) (Bluebird), who was third in the GI Garden City Breeders' Cup H. and runner-up in the G2 German 1000 Guineas, and the MGSW Istan (Gone West). Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-2, $13,210. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
O-Mr P K Siu; B-Newsells Park Stud (GB); T-Charlie Hills.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:
Last Page (GB), g, 3, **Pastoral Pursuits (GB)**--No Page (Ire), by Statue of Liberty. WOL, 4-2, 6f 20y (AWT), 1:14.80. B-Philip Graham Harvey (GB).

OBSERVATIONS
on the European racing scene

2.20 Chantilly, Mdn, €30,000, 3yo, f, 10fT
ZALZALAH (FR) (Dubawi {Ire}) is a daughter of the G2 Windsor Forest S. winner and G1 Sun Chariot S. runner-up Strawberrydaiquiri (GB) (Dansili {GB}) who debuts for Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani and Andre Fabre. He saddles three in total, including fellow newcomer **C'est Ca (Ire) (Galileo {Ire})**, a 750,000gns TAOCT daughter of the GI Frizette S. heroine A Z Warrior (Bernardini) who represents Mayfair Speculators and Michael Tabor.

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FRANCE

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Monday's Results:
1st-SCD, €30,000, Mdn, 4-2, 3yo, f, 12fT, 2:51.50, vhy.
POLLARA (IRE) (f, 3, Camelot {GB}--Brooklyn's Storm, by Storm Cat) raced in fourth for most of this debut. Angled into a clear path with 350 metres remaining, the 71-10 chance quickened to challenge entering the final eighth and was pushed out in the closing stages to comfortably best Lolldaiga (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}) by two lengths. The 160,000gns TATOCT yearling is the fifth scorer out of Brooklyn's Storm and is a half-sister to MSW G2 Prix de Sandringham third Stormina (Gulch), who in turn is the dam of G1 Prix Marcel Boussac and G1 Prix Saint-Alary victress Silasol (Ire) (Monsun {Ger}). Brooklyn's Storm, who has also produced a 2-year-old filly by Camelot (GB) and a yearling filly by Galileo (Ire), is herself a daughter of G3 Prix Cleopatre winner Brooklyn's Dance (Fr) (Shirley Heights {GB}) and thus a sibling of seven black-type performers headed by G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe heroine Solemia (Ire) (Poliglote {GB}). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
1ST-TIME STARTER. O-Ilse Smits; B-Paget Bloodstock (IRE); T-Francis-Henri Graffard.

2nd-SCD, €30,000, Mdn, 4-2, 3yo, c/g, 12fT, 2:47.29, vhy.
RABDAN (GB) (c, 3, Frankel {GB}--Shotgun Gulch {G1SW-US, $528,976}, by Thunder Gulch) was runner-up going 10 panels at this track in his only prior start Nov. 24 and, apart from a brief period after passing the judge first time, led throughout this sophomore bow. Stoked up passing the two pole, the 11-10 pick was soon clear and stayed on strongly under mild urging in the closing stages to score by nine lengths from Ziyad (GB) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}). Half-brother to the 2-year-old colt Watan (GB) (Toronado {Ire}), the homebred chestnut becomes the second scorer from as many foals to race produced by GI Vinery Madison S. heroine Shotgun Gulch (Thunder Gulch), herself one of five stakes performers out of a winning half-sister to GIII Essex H. victor Maysville Slew (Slew City Slew). Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, €20,400. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.
O/B-Al Shaqab Racing (GB); T-Andre Fabre.

HANDICAP RESULTS:
3rd-SCD, €55,000, Hcp, 4-2, 3yo, 8fT, 1:48.54, vhy.
SAYANN (FR) (c, 3, Spirit One {Fr}--Metal Rocket {Fr} {MSP-Fr, $135,384}, by Muhtathir {GB}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, €42,600. O/B-Abdelhafidh Dridi (FR); T-Frederic Rossi.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:
5th-SCD, €35,000, Cond, 4-2, 3yo, 10 1/2fT, 2:25.57, vhy.
HELLO PRINCESS (FR) (f, 3, Sageburg {Ire}--Victoria Princess {Fr}, by Muhtathir {GB}) Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-1, €47,510.
O-Jean-Philippe Dubois, Louis Baudron & Ecurie Victoria Dreams; B-Jean-Philippe Dubois (FR); T-Louis Baudron.

GERMANY

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Monday's Results:
GROSSER PREIS DER VGH-VERSICHERUNGEN-Listed, €25,000, HNO, 4-2, 4yo/up, f/m, 8fT, 1:47.18, sf.
1--**PEACE IN MOTION, 125, f, 4, Hat Trick (Jpn)--Peace Royale (Ger) (Hwt. Older Mare-Ger at 7-9.5f & MGSW-Ger, $262,357), by Sholokhov (Ire)**.
1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. O/B-Dr Christoph Berglar (KY);

Listed Grosser Preis Der VGH-Versicherungen Cont.

T-Waldemar Hickst; J-Marc Lerner. €14,000. Lifetime Record: MGSP-Ger, 5-2-1-1, €60,000. *1/2 to Peace Society (Iffraaj {GB}), MSW-Ger & SP-Fr.

2--**Prima Violetta (Ire)**, 128, f, 4, Areion (Ger)--Power Penny (Ger), by Galileo (Ire). O-Rennstall Darboven. €6,500.
3--**Diamond Daisy (Ger)**, 125, m, 5, Shirocco (Ger)--Daytona (Ger), by Lando (Ger). O-Gestut Haus Ittlingen. €3,000.
Margins: 1HF, 3/4, 4. Odds: 1.50, 2.80. 19.80.
Also Ran: Attica (GB), Icecapada (Ire), Gokena (Fr), Kanji (Ger).
Scratched: Clear For Take Off (GB).

GROSSER PREIS DER LANDSCHAFTLICHEN BRANDKASSE HANNOVER-Listed, €25,000, HNO, 4-2, 4yo/up, 6fT, 1:17.24, sf.
1--**SCHANG (GER), 128, h, 5, Contat (Ger)--Shaheen (Ger), by Tertullian**. O-Stall Biancolino; B-Albert Jorres (GER); T-Pavel Vovcenko; J-Jaromir Safar. €14,000. Lifetime Record: Hwt. 3yo-Ger & Ity at 5-7f, GSW-Ger & SW-Ity, 20-6-2-3, €101,300.
2--**Mata Utu (Ire)**, 126, g, 7, Slickly (Fr)--Efisia (Fr), by Efisio (GB). O-Stall Estrada. €6,500.
3--**Scapina (Ger)**, 122, f, 4, Tai Chi (Ger)--Sunshine Story (Ire), by Desert Story (Ire). (€20,000 Ylg '15 BBAGS; €31,000 RNA 4yo '18 ARQFEB). O-Rennstall Gestut Hachtsee. €3,000.
Margins: 1HF, 1 1/4, 1 1/4. Odds: 2.60, 12.40, 18.40.
Also Ran: Artistica (Ger), Tinnitus (Ire), Making Trouble (Ger), Shining Emerald (GB), Celebrity (Ger), Westfalica (Ger), Alwina (Ger).

DEINSCHRANK.DE-GRAND PRIX AUFGALOPP-Listed, €25,000, COL, 4-2, 4yo/up, 10 1/2fT, 2:20.67, sf.
1--**VENETO (GER), 128, h, 5, New Approach (Ire)--Venia Legendi (Ger), by Zinaad (GB)**. (€160,000 Ylg '14 BBAGS). O-Gestut Winterhauch; B-Matthias Barth (GER); T-Andreas Suborics; J-Alexander Pietsch. €14,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Ger, 10-6-0-0, €82,500. *1/2 to Vanjura (Ger) (Areion {Ger}), Hwt. 3yo-Ger at 7-9.5f, Hwt. Older Mare-Ger & Ity at 7-9.5f, GSW & G1SP-Ity, MGSW-Ger & MSW-Tur, $913,740; and Vancovia (Fr) (Dream Well {Fr}), SW-Ger.
2--**Panthelia (Fr)**, 120, f, 4, Gentlewave (Ire)--Panthesilea (Fr), by Kendor (Fr). O-Guy Pariente. €6,500.
3--**Incantator (Ger)**, 120, h, 6, Areion (Ger)--Independent Miss (Ger), by Polar Falcon. O-Rennstall Wohler. €3,000.
Margins: 7, 2, HF. Odds: 3.30, 13.60, 4.60.
Also Ran: Capitano (Ger), Monreal (Ire), Erica (Ger), Devastar (Ger), Northsea Star (Ger), Cassilero (Ger).

Sunday's Result:
1st-HAN, €5,100, Mdn, 4-2, 3yo, 1750mT, 1:55.02, sf.
TARAJA (GER) (f, 3, High Chaparral {Ire}--Taita {Ger} {SP-Ger}, by Fasliyev), who was a well-beaten 11th on her sole start at two over nine furlongs at Chantilly in November, was the 6-4 second favourite and quickly led. Drifting right on her own in the straight, the homebred kept on despite showing greenness to score by 3 1/4 lengths from Granja (Ger) (Oasis Dream {GB}). Taraja is a full-sister to the G3 Preis des Winterfavoriten-winning sire Tai Chi (Ger), who was also third in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud, Hwt. 2yo Colt & GSW-Ger, G1SP-Fr, $332,951. The useful Taita, whose second foal was also a black-type performer in the listed-placed Takenja (Ger) (Dubawi {Ire}), has a 2-year-old filly by Dabirsim (Fr) named Tamara (Ger) and a yearling colt by Soldier Hollow (GB) named Thorin (Ger). She hails from the family of the G2 German 1000 Guineas third Turning Leaf (Ire) (Last Tycoon {Ire}), whose G3 Kolner Herbst-Stuten-Meile-winning daughter Turning Light (Ger) (Fantastic Light) went on to produce the SW and MGSP Surrey Star (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, €3,000.
O/B-Gestut Hachtsee; T-Henk Grewe.

AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:
My Winner (Aus), g, 3, **Denman (Aus)**--Kiss and Cuddle (Aus), by Foreplay (Aus). Sha Tin, 4-2, Hcp. *(A$146k)*, 1200mT, 1:09.57. B-Vieira Group Pty Ltd (NSW). *A$45,000 Ylg '16 INGSYD; NZ$240,000 2yo '16 NZBRTR. **VIDEO**
Harmony Hero (Aus), g, 3, **Elvstroem (Aus)**--Cloanthy (Aus), by Statue of Liberty. Sha Tin, 4-2, Hcp. *(A$218k)*, 1400mT, 1:21.62. B-P Kopke (Vic). *Formerly Lina's Hero (Aus). **VIDEO**
Star Shine (Aus), g, 4, **Magic Albert (Aus)**--Kvarena (Aus), by Arena (Aus). Sha Tin, 4-2, Hcp. *(A$218k)*, 1200mT, 1:08.97. B-Mrs L McGrath (NSW). *Formerly Kalvena (Aus). **VIDEO**
What Else But You (Aus), g, 5, **Duporth (Aus)**--Fortune Princess (Aus), by Danehill. Sha Tin, 4-2, Hcp. *(A$309k)*, 1400mT, 1:21.14. B-Miss V Chow (NSW). *Formerly Eminent Knight (Aus). **A$70,000 RNA Ylg '14 MMGCYS. **VIDEO**

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Leading General Dirt Sires

for stallions standing in Europe through Sunday, Apr. 1.

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2018 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	**Helmet (Aus)**	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	$6,280,000	$6,329,623
	(2008) by Exceed and Excel (Aus)	*Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £12,000*								*Thunder Snow (Ire)*	
2	**Dubawi (Ire)**	3	6	2	4	1	2	42	11	$1,141,000	$2,304,366
	(2002) by Dubai Millennium (GB)	*Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £250,000*								*Mubtaahij (Ire)*	
3	**Exceed and Excel (Aus)**	1	4	1	3	--	--	28	7	$905,000	$1,367,018
	(2000) by Danehill	*Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: €50,000*								*Heavy Metal (GB)*	
4	**Workforce (GB)**	--	--	--	--	--	--	114	17	$287,953	$920,438
	(2007) by King's Best	*Stands: Knockhouse Stud Ire Fee: €4,500*								*Hatto Love (Jpn)*	
5	**Thewayyouare**	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	4	$650,000	$681,162
	(2005) by Kingmambo	*Stands: Haras de Corlay EUR (Dead)*								*Toast of New York*	
6	**Statue of Liberty**	--	--	--	--	--	--	27	8	$177,086	$670,257
	(2000) by Storm Cat	*Stands: Coolmore Stud EUR (Dead/Ret/Exp)*								*Wonder Viva (Jpn)*	
7	**Shamardal**	1	1	--	1	--	--	43	11	$235,000	$500,396
	(2002) by Giant's Causeway	*Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: Private*								*Winter Lightning (Ire)*	
8	**Offlee Wild**	--	--	--	--	--	--	31	10	$46,280	$280,900
	(2000) by Wild Again	*Stands: Turkey Jockey Club Silivri Stallion Complex EUR (Dead)*								*Reanimate*	
9	**Leroidesanimaux (Brz)**	--	--	--	--	--	--	40	14	$59,310	$259,423
	(2000) by Candy Stripes	*Stands: Lanwades Stud EUR (Dead/Ret/Exp)*								*Albertine (Jpn)*	
10	**Makfi (GB)**	--	1	--	--	--	--	9	3	$103,735	$256,118
	(2007) by Dubawi (Ire)	*Stands: JBBA Shizunai Stallion Station Fr Fee: Private*								*Qatar Dream (Ire)*	
11	**Pivotal (GB)**	--	--	--	--	--	--	26	5	$54,270	$242,137
	(1993) by Polar Falcon	*Stands: Cheveley Park Stud Eng Fee: £40,000*								*Mallard The Record (GB)*	
12	**Equiano (Fr)**	--	1	--	1	--	--	16	5	$92,961	$239,827
	(2005) by Acclamation (GB)	*Stands: Newsells Park Stud Eng Fee: £8,000*								*Nuclear Power (GB)*	
13	**Oasis Dream (GB)**	--	1	--	1	--	--	19	4	$132,246	$233,435
	(2000) by Green Desert	*Stands: Banstead Manor Stud Eng Fee: £30,000*								*Chater Thunder (Fr)*	
14	**Poet's Voice (GB)**	1	1	--	--	--	--	12	7	$115,831	$200,832
	(2007) by Dubawi (Ire)	*Stands: Dalham Hall Stud EUR (Dead)*								*Montsarrat (Ire)*	
15	**Duke of Marmalade (Ire)**	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	2	$137,059	$195,616
	(2004) by Danehill	*Stands: Coolmore Stud EUR (Exp)*								*Get The Dukes Out (Aus)*	

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