



THE TDN DERBY TOP 12



Omaha Beach | Coady

by T.D. Thornton

The long prep season is over, and now the racing world locks its focus on the main event, the May 4 GI Kentucky Derby. Please note the rankings below are independent from the “Road to the Derby” points leaderboard Churchill Downs uses to determine starting berths. That list can be accessed [here](#).

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1) OMAHA BEACH (c, War Front--Charming, by Seeking the Gold)
O-Fox Hill Farms, Inc. B-Charming Syndicate (KY). T-Richard Mandella. Sales History: \$625,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 7-3-3-1, \$1,121,800.
Last Start: 1st, GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 13
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 137.5.

Lynwood Stable Graduate

If Omaha Beach goes on to be a major factor in the Triple Crown after his GI Arkansas Derby win, you can point to his bold, aggressive move off the clubhouse turn and onto the backstretch as the moment that signified he's the real deal. Jockey Mike Smith has been known to attempt this early-stage seize-the-lead move with high-level horses in the past (it doesn't always work), and even trainer Richard Mandella said after the race his first thought was “Jeez, don't move too quick,” before he rationalized, “Don't be second-guessing Mike Smith.”

Cont. p11

PINHOOKING JOINS THE PHOENIX

PORTFOLIO by Jessica Martini

During just three years of operation, Phoenix Thoroughbreds has already amassed a remarkable record of success on the racetrack and recently become active in the commercial breeding venue with its first group of homebred yearlings selling in Australia. Now the Thoroughbred investment fund, launched by Dubai-based businessman Amer Abdulaziz in 2017, is in the midst of its first season of pinhooking 2-year-olds in the U.S. Active sellers at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March Sale and the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale, Phoenix will offer, alone or in partnership, a handful of juveniles at next week's OBS April Sale.

“As an investment fund, I felt like it was important to show different activity throughout a calendar year,” Phoenix vice president Tom Ludt explained of the operation's expansion into pinhooking. **Cont. p3**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

CRAVEN SALE A BREEZE-UP BAROMETER

Chris McGrath has a preview for the two-day Tattersalls Craven Breeze-Up Sale on tap in Tuesday's edition.

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Tuesday, April 16, 2019



Who's in the TDN Stall? Nilus (*Pioneer of the Nile*), bred and raced by Godolphin, recently made his way to *New Vocations* at Mereworth Farm in Lexington, Kentucky. He will start his transitional training for his next career and then will be adopted out to a new home. For more information, or to sponsor your own stall, [click here](#). | Photo courtesy of *New Vocations*

OBS APRIL BREEZE SHOW OPENS

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While battling a persistent headwind throughout the day, three fillies shared the fastest quarter-mile time during Monday's first of six sessions of under-tack shows in Ocala this week.

DARREN FOX TALKS ABOUT ASTERN

6

Darley America Sales Manager Darren Fox sat down with the TDN to discuss the prospects of young stallion Astern (*Aus*).

TODAY'S GRADED STAKES

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Pinhooking Joins the Phoenix Portfolio

(cont. from p1)

“So we bought some horses with the intention that they would be pinhooked,” Ludt continued. “I just thought it would be a smart play for the group, as we develop more and more investors, to have something going on in all aspects of the game.”

Observers might be curious about the fund’s business plan, but Ludt said the pinhooking prospects are at auction to sell.

“We buy to race, we bought some weanlings to pinhook and we breed to sell,” Ludt said. “We’re in every aspect of the game and this [pinhooking juveniles] was just the next step.

I’m a little nervous because I’m sure people are going to say, ‘Why are they selling?’ But it’s just part of an investment program. We think these are horses that we bought that can be sold at a profit and it will help the overall investment fund.”



Tom Ludt with Amer Abdulaziz and Bob Baffert | Keeneland photo

The Phoenix team purchased 11 pinhooking prospects last fall, but Ludt said he didn’t go into the yearling sales with a specific number of individuals in mind.

“One of the good things about being a large investment fund, it’s not traditionally a set number of horses or a set dollar amount,” Ludt explained. “At this point, I’ve been given the luxury of having the freedom to pick and choose and do what’s best. I probably bid on 25 horses to pinhook and got 11. I could have bought some more, but when you’re pinhooking, to me—and I don’t have the experience of some of these guys in Ocala—there is just a price point that I didn’t want to gamble and get too high. Then you are almost forcing yourself to potentially buy back to race and that goes against what our business plan was.”

After selecting the horses and the horsemen to handle them, Ludt has taken a more hands-off approach in the run-up to the sales.



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“I put the horses with Eddie Woods, Niall Brennan and Ciaran Dunne,” Ludt said. “Obviously, very seasoned, experienced guys that do this. I picked who I thought were really good guys who do this for a living and, once the horses are in their hands, all I am is a coach. I let them do all the work.”

Among Phoenix’s early-season successes at the 2-year-old auctions, the operation sold a colt by Constitution (**hip 174**) through Eddie Woods’s consignment at the Gulfstream sale for \$600,000. The youngster was purchased by Phoenix for \$200,000 at last year’s Keeneland September sale.

Phoenix was the name on the tickets last fall for a pair of yearlings who will head through the ring at the OBS April sale next week. **Hip 225** is a daughter of Lemon Drop Kid out of Knysna (Maria’s Mon), a half-sister to graded stakes winner Seaspeak (Mizzen Mast). Consigned by Dunne’s Wavertree Stables, the bay was a \$250,000 Keeneland September yearling purchase. **Hip 1017** is a filly by Into Mischief out of multiple stakes winner Callmethesqueeze (Awesome Again). Consigned by Niall Brennan, the youngster was also purchased for \$250,000 at Keeneland September.

With a few home run horses mixed in with less profitable transactions, Ludt stressed the importance of maintaining a big-picture focus in determining the success of the new pinhooking arm of the Phoenix operation.

“When I broached this idea with Amer, I told him, ‘I don’t want you to judge me per horse. Judge me on the crop.’ We are a fund, so I have to let horses go. And if it’s at a loss, it’s at a loss. You have to be careful you don’t get caught looking at things individually versus the business model. That’s the hard part about the whole pinhooking deal. If you paid \$100,000 and the market saying it is worth \$70,000 now, as much as your ego is hurt, you’ve got to let them go or you’re going to get stuck with them. We have a couple going to the Timonium sale and after that I’ll be able to evaluate if this was a successful venture.”

Phoenix has campaigned horses in partnership and that approach has carried over to the pinhooking arena.

“We are a fund, it’s good to play in a very diversified portfolio and it’s fine to play as a partner,” Ludt said. “We race some horses in partnership and it’s no different in pinhooking. Obviously, if Ciaran liked a horse, and we were going to bid on it, let’s go together and let him run the show. And that’s what we did. We did the same thing with Niall on a couple.”

Ludt has wracked up the frequent flyer miles this spring, with trips between Dubai, Australia and his California base as Phoenix continues to find success across the globe. The stable was represented by G1 Dubai World Cup runner-up **Gronkowski** (Lonhro {Aus}) at Meydan in March and **Loving Gaby** (Aus) (I Am Invincible {Aus}) was recently second in the G1 Inglis Sires S. in Australia.

SKY MESA



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The Phoenix colors will make a second straight appearance in the American Classics after **Lady Apple** (Curlin), owned in partnership with KatieRich Stables, earned a spot in the GI Kentucky Oaks with a win in the GIII Fantasy S. at Oaklawn Park last Friday. That sets the operation up for a busy Oaks/Derby weekend at Churchill Downs, with **Captain Von Trapp** (Trappe Shot) expected to start in the GIII Pat Day Mile, **Dream Tree** (Uncle Mo) in the GI Humana Distaff and **Lyrical Lady** (More Than Ready) in the GII Eight Belles S.

“We couldn’t be happier,” Ludt said. “The success we are having is just unbelievable. We are getting ready to get on a roll again in Europe as it fires up. We have an incredible crop of 2-year-olds in the Northern Hemisphere and we obviously have some great horses currently running. Obviously you always hope for the best, but this is a game that is tough and we are hitting on all cylinders right now and doing really well, so we couldn’t be more thankful.”

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OBS April Breeze Show Opens

The first of six sessions of under-tack previews for next week's OBS April sale took place Monday in Central Florida with the first of 203 catalogued juveniles battling a persistent headwind throughout the day. Three fillies shared the day's fastest quarter-mile breeze time of :21 flat.

A bay filly by Twirling Candy (**hip 109**) recorded the **:21 flat** time for de Meric Sales. The youngster is out of Henley (Corinthian), a half-sister to multiple graded stakes winner Mr. Commons (Artie Schiller).

Envision Equine sent out **hip 115** to work in **:21 flat**. The bay filly is from the first crop of Grade I placed Fast Anna and is out of graded placed Hermione's Magic (Forest Wildcat).

Completing the trio of **:21 flat** works was **hip 167**. Consigned by Wavertree Stables, the chestnut filly is from the first crop of Grade I winner Danza and is out of multiple stakes placed Irish Ridge (Cactus Ridge).

Four juveniles shared the day's fastest furlong time of :10 flat.

Hip 6 is a daughter of Shanghai Bobby out of stakes winner Fast Resource (Bob and John). The **:10 flat** worker is consigned by Hartley/DeRenzo Thoroughbreds LLC, agent. Hartley DeRenzo also sent out **hip 129**, a filly from the first crop of Grade I winner Daredevil, to work in **:10 flat**. Out of Holy Blitz (Holy Bull), the juvenile is a half-sister to sprint champion Judy the Beauty (Ghostzapper).

From the Off the Hook consignment, **hip 31** also worked in **:10 flat**. By Tapizar, the dark bay colt is out of the unraced Franchesca (Henrythenavigator), a half-sister to stakes winner Abbey Bridge (Irish River {Fr}).

Hip 198 completed the list of **:10 flat** workers. Consigned by Whitman Sales, the bay colt is a son of Bodemeister out of Just Fabulous (Include). He is a half-brother to graded placed Midnight on Oconee (Midnight Lute).

The under-tack show continues Tuesday at 8 a.m. with hips 204 through 406 scheduled to breeze. The April sale will be held next Tuesday through Friday with sessions beginning daily at 10:30 a.m.

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TDN Q & A

DARREN FOX TALKS ABOUT ASTERN



Click above to watch *TDN* video on Astern.

Darley has a potential successor to the formidable throne of the great Medaglia d'Oro in his young son Astern (Aus), a speedy Group 1 winner who is standing his second season at Jonabell in 2019. With high hopes that this well-pedigreed sprinter will make his mark on American soil, Darley America Sales Manager Darren Fox sat down with the *TDN* to discuss his prospects.

TDN: Can you start by telling us what your thoughts are and what you've been hearing from breeders on Astern's first foals?

DF: I've been hearing great reports on Astern's first foals, and that's certainly been backed up by our visits to our clients' farms. To summarize, they just have a lot of quality which he has as an individual himself. I would say they're freshly marked, strong foals--they have great hips and just have a lot of presence and quality. One filly in particular that comes to mind who went to one of our clients who is a leading owner and breeder. They had an Astern filly out of a Grade III-winning Giant's Causeway mare and she was everything I just described. All the size, all the leg you would want, immense strength through her shoulder, great hip--just an attractive filly. But, the cherry on top was getting to watch her move in the paddock. She was so light on her feet, and just watching her move to her gait, she just floated. She was so light on her feet.

TDN: Can you tell us about his first two books? How many mares did he cover last year?

DF: In his first year we had a limit of 120 mares, which he was booked full in his first season. You know we are very excited

about him being a speedy, precocious son of Medaglia d'Oro, who we can then cross over with two-turn American dirt mares. That's something that we're particularly excited about. Obviously, with Medaglia d'Oro we have a really extensive body of work upon which to judge what broodmare sire lines work best with him and his sons...His book is comprised of a high percentage of impact mating. So, we're very excited that there was no guesswork, and we really could funnel high-impact mares to him. Hopefully that will bear out in his first crop.

TDN: In that same light, how important is it for you to have a potential heir to Medaglia d'Oro on the roster?

DF: Hugely. I cannot understate how important it is. Obviously he is the linchpin of our stallion operation, but he is 20 years old. So, to find his heir and successor is something we are very focused on. Obviously Astern with his looks, female family, and race record--he was a natural face to slot in, and hopefully assume that mantle and carry on the line for us.



Astern | Bronwen Healy

TDN: Of all his accomplishments on the racetrack, is there anything in particular that stands out to you?

DF: He was a very fast and precocious horse. That really sums him up. He won the G2 Silver Slipper, which is a prep for the G1 Golden Slipper, which is obviously the biggest race in Australia, and the richest 2-year-old race in the world. So, it's a hugely important commercial race for the Australian industry. But, his big win came as a 3-year-old in the seven-furlong G1 Golden Rose. So, it's the equivalent of our GI H. Allen Jerkens S. He won that in authoritative fashion, and just stamped himself as one of the best sprinters in the country.

Cont. p7

TDN: Can you describe the physical attributes that stamp him as a potential standout stallion?

DF: His jockey declared that he has never ridden a horse that moved like Astern. Let's not forget this is the high-class jockey, James McDonald, who at 27 years young has 35 Group 1 wins to his credit. So, he's certainly a high-class jockey who knows what he's talking about. But, to hear him talk about Astern's movement, and when you watch his action, such an efficient, fluid, beautiful action. When you watch him at the end of his races, particularly the [2016 G1] Golden Rose, when he was fully extended, he almost has a moment of suspension in between each stride. That just indicates his athleticism and his incredible balance, which I feel are characteristics which will hopefully transfer to the U.S. dirt racing or dirt surface, and hopefully allow him to be effective on both surfaces like his sire.

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UNDER THOMAS, THE MMSC FORGES A UNIQUE PATH IN AFTERCARE *by Diana Pikulski*

The Maker's Mark Secretariat Center (MMSC) is located in the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. Founded in 2004, with major donations from Marylou Whitney, the late Dr. Frank Lyons, and Maker's Mark, through their Triple Crown commemorative bottle sales, the MMSC gives off-track Thoroughbreds a world stage in the heavily trafficked horse lovers destination. Retraining at MMSC is based on the Horse Centered Reschooling Program, developed by MMSC Director Susanna Thomas. I caught up with Thomas, who just recently announced a new satellite location for MMSC in Illinois. The MMSC is a TAA-accredited organization.

DP: What is your background in horses and how has it influenced the mission and work at MMSC?

ST: Horses have been my lifelong interest and passion. I grew up a horse crazy little girl in New York and in Europe, and was constantly seeking out ways to be close to and to learn about horses. Because of where I have lived, I have an eclectic background with horses. In addition, I am ceaselessly curious and forever fascinated by the art, philosophy and science of horses and horsemanship.

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Over the years I have competed in dressage and hunt seat, done extensive groundwork training, foxhunted, driven carriages and I've ridden sidesaddle. I taught riding, spent many years writing for horse magazines, worked in many aspects of the racing industry from working with broodmares, breaking yearlings, working at the sales, being a vet tech, night watching, and breeding a few sport horses. Add all of this to my holistic approach to wellness in life--a constant balance of--mind, body, spirit, relationship--and what we get is the Horse Centered Reschooling Program, a training methodology where each of these factors is addressed to give the horse the best chance of success in whatever job it is being asked to do.

When I took over the Center in 2008, I wanted to move as many horses as possible but in doing so, I had to stay true to my personal beliefs and make sure that we were fulfilling our duty to the horses in every way. You sometimes feel in the business of racing, the best interest of the horses isn't or can't always be the number one priority. The horses have to fit into the racehorse mold--perform or move on. That makes sense at the track, but not so when putting horses up for adoption.

The end goal is to make sure that these horses have successful new careers and homes. The best way to achieve that in my opinion, is to make sure that each horse is prepared for a new job, and placed properly. Instead of running horses through the center speedily because that is the foremost need of the industry, we flip the ratio and make each horse's individual needs the focus first. Taking the time it takes, as expeditiously as possible--we do whatever is necessary to give every horse the best chance to succeed in a new job and to have longevity in a new home.

Education matters, right? As Alois Podhajsky, head of the Spanish Riding School always said, "one makes haste slowly with horses." So we go as fast and as slow as we can and it has really paid off because we have adopters who love our methods and approach, very few mismatches and many, many repeat customers who want an additional MMSC horse in their barn.

DP: Let's talk about MMSC by the numbers. How many stalls do you have at MMSC? Does that determine the number of horses in training at MMSC? How many horses are in the MMSC barn at this time?

ST: We have 10 stalls at MMSC, all named for donors who sponsored them, and 10-15 horses on the grounds at a time throughout the year. We try to keep them outdoors as much as possible, although we generally have five or six up at night if they need special attention. Over the year, we will move between 40 and 50 horses through our program.

DP: How many staff and volunteers does it take to keep it running?

ST: We have four full-time employees who handle the horse care, training, adoptions, marketing, educational outreach, fundraising and office management. We all do barnwork, and groundwork, whatever it takes, and we have a covey of the most wonderful volunteers and amazing interns to help us keep the place up.

DP: Are you launching any new initiatives in 2019?

ST: I am thrilled about a new program conceived of by our chair, Dorothy Crowell, an international level event rider and Olympian, granddaughter of Leslie Combs, a Thoroughbred aficionada, called the Allstar Program which aims to bring the Thoroughbred back to the highest levels of sport. There are many owners who get into the business of racing because of the love of the horse and seeing it compete. Dorothy's thought was why does the fun have to stop when the racing days are done? For a cost that is minimal in comparison to racing expenses (\$4,000 a year), the owners can support their horse--if it seemingly has the talent--in a competition syndicate and cheer it on, perhaps even to the highest levels of equestrian sport. We have one international level rider already, Jonathan Holling and his MMSC graduate Ragtime Rebel (Union Rags) who was given to us by Charlie LoPresti. And we have received quite a few calls from upper level riders all over the country who want to join the effort to showcase the Thoroughbred as America's elite sport-horse. Now, all we need are more owners to join in.



Jonathan Holling on Ragtime Rebel | Secretariat Center

DP: The MMSC is located in the much-revered Kentucky Horse Park. Tell us how that affects the day-to-day operations of the MMSC and how has that location helped or hurt your mission?

ST: The great thing about being in the Horse Park is that Lexington is not only the Horse Capital of the World, it is the Thoroughbred Horse Capital of the World. That gives us a huge stage from which to shout out the wonders of this amazing breed and the value of our industry. The challenges are that we have a very small campus, so we are limited to the amount of horses that we can take on. We also do tours and get many drop-in visitors which one might call “interruptions” because it does curtail our work routine. I take them not as interruptions at all but, as opportunities to share our passion and knowledge and make new friends for the MMSC and for racing. We are very proud of our location and we want to do anything we can to showcase the Kentucky Horse Park as the amazing facility that it is. We have discussed a variety of ways that the Horse Park and the MMSC can work together for the mutual goal of educating and celebrating the horse—in this case, the Thoroughbred horse. I would welcome the TB industry reaching out to us more and using our stage to broadcast their good works in aftercare.

DP: What is unique or special about the training program at MMSC?

ST: What is special about the MMSC is our laser-like focus on each horse—what it tells us with its body, its reactions, its actions. Then we make an individualized plan using the deductive skills of Sherlock Holmes and the compassionate tact of Anne Sullivan, Helen Keller’s companion, to search out the mysteries of each horse and to teach it in a way that it can best understand. Every horse receives, not only the dental and farrier care it needs, we also do bodywork, chiropractic adjustments, integrative therapies, proceed through desensitization and trust-building exercises using natural horsemanship, problem solving skills by introducing Tellington-Jones techniques. We start from the ground, lunging, and long-lining, and free jumping.

When we ride, we give them a curriculum based on the fundamental principles of dressage, introduce them to cavelletti and small jumping courses, take them trail riding, and even sometimes foxhunting or to horse shows. Finally, we insist that people come ride the horses they are interested in before they can adopt one. We don’t get as many horses adopted this way as those organizations which allow horses to be adopted sight unseen, but we believe it is the best way for the horse, the adopter, and the reputation of the breed. Think about it—if a horse is shipped to a new home and the fit is not right, the adopter could get hurt, the horse could get hurt or confused, and you reinforce the belief that “Thoroughbreds are only fit for racing.”

DP: What is the biggest challenge facing your organization in 2019?

ST: We have two huge challenges. The first is funding. I am honored that professionals and amateurs alike have called us the “Gold Standard of Thoroughbred Reschooling,” but Gold Standards are pricey to uphold. The racing industry is beleaguered by charities doing good work, but clamoring for the same funds. It is a constant struggle to be able to afford to give these horses what they need.

The second challenge is that our campus is really small—17 acres of paddock. This limits the number of horses we can take in. Not only that we don’t have an indoor arena so training is often limited by the weather and the season. If we had more funding, we could solve both of those things, so I guess, the biggest challenge is truly funding.



War of Ideas | Catherine Flowers

DP: You recently announced a satellite facility. Can you tell us a little about it?

ST: It seemed to us that the way to help more horses was to open additional facilities. This was something the board had discussed over the years, but it seemed really challenging to find a way to ensure that our “Gold Standard” would be upheld. Over the last two years, the MMSC has adopted out five horses to the lesson program at a showcase facility in Frankfort, Illinois called the Ranch. As a result we have come to know Rick Bulthuis, owner of the Ranch in Frankfort Illinois and his general manager, Daniele Turner, really well and we realized that they were very much in line with our philosophy. We began talking about a satellite arrangement in the spring of last year and we are super excited to announce that we are open for business now in Illinois. In fact, in the short time since the announcement, we have adopted out two lovely reschooled horses from the MMSC at the Ranch.

DP: Is there a horse you have in training today to whom you'd like to introduce us?

ST: Yes, War of Ideas. He was a \$470,000 sales yearling, who ran a bit, and was felled by a guttural pouch infection that threatened his life. With the support of Dr. Liz Barrett at Hagyard Medical Center, he was nursed back to health at the MMSC and is the RRP Makeover horse of our talented trainer, Kara Toye. He's a gorgeous, gray masterpiece of a horse--which goes English, or western, has a great jump, and is wonderful field hunter. Please follow him on our social media and come cheer him on at the Makeover!

For more information go to www.secretariatcenter.org
 Diana Pikulski is the editor of the Thoroughbred Adoption Network.

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FOALING NEWS sponsored by



PHOTO CALL (IRE), 8, Galileo (Ire)--Theann (GB), by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire).

Foal born Mar. 17, a colt by Uncle Mo.

Owned by St. Elias Stables.

Boarded at Denali Stud, KY.

Accomplishments: MGISW-US, \$827,102.



Photo Call and Uncle Mo colt

SAFE JOURNEY, 14, Flatter--Safe at the Plate, by Double Zeus

Foal born March 17, a filly by Bodemeister.

Will be bred back to Union Rags.

Owned by/boarded at Dark Hollow Farm. MD.

Accomplishments: Dam of: O Dionysus (Bodemeister), MSW, \$338,199; Joy (Pure Prize), MSW, \$250,544; and Combat Diver (Line of David), SP, \$153,080.

Indiana Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association 2018 Champions

ITBDP Horse of the Year: The Money Dance (Jimmy Creed)

ITOBA Horse of the Year: Bucchero (Kantharos)

Indiana-bred 2yo Male: Fortin Hill (Mucho Macho Man)

Indiana-bred 2yo Filly: Discreet Beauty (Discreetly Mine)

Indiana-sired 2yo Male: Ace of Aces (Unbridled Express)

Indiana-sired 2yo Filly: Fireball Baby (Noble's Promise)

Indiana-bred 3yo Male: The Money Dance

Indiana-sired 3yo Male: Its Just Fate (Skylord)

Indiana-bred 3yo Filly: Flurry (Old Fashioned)

Indiana-sired 3yo Filly: Entrusted (Noble's Promise)

Indiana-bred Older Mare: Marina's Legacy (Divine Park)

Indiana-bred Older Horse: Bucchero (Kantharos)

Indiana-sired Older Horse: Operation Stevie (Lantana Mob)

Indiana-sired Older Mare: Expect Indy (Mr Mabee)

ITOBA Hall of Distinction: State Representative Bob Cherry

ITBDP Breeder of the Year: Michael and Penny Lauer

ITBDP Stallion Owner of the Year: Richard Rigney

ITOBA Broodmare of the Year: Whistlin Jean



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TDN TOP KENTUCKY DERBY CONTENDERS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
WINSTAR

The TDN Derby Top 12 (cont. from p1)

Omaha Beach:

This War Front colt torqued to the front and maintained an energetic tempo with a high cruising speed, and when Smith sensed main rival Improbable (City Zip) ratcheting up the pressure as the far turn loomed, Omaha Beach deftly clicked into a higher gear and seemed to relish the challenge. Off the far turn, the main visual takeaway was that Omaha Beach remained hand-ridden while Improbable was under a full-out drive while not truly slicing into the lead, and when Omaha Beach was set down for the final furlong he responded like a pro and kicked away to the finish--essentially making three well-executed moves over nine furlongs without giving any hint he was

scraping bottom, stamina-wise. This colt is clearly thriving at the right time, and he has now purposefully defeated the two horses--Improbable and Game Winner (Candy Ride {Arg})--who have dominated the Derby talk for the last six months.

2) GAME WINNER (c, Candy Ride {Arg})--Indyan Giving, by A.P. Indy)

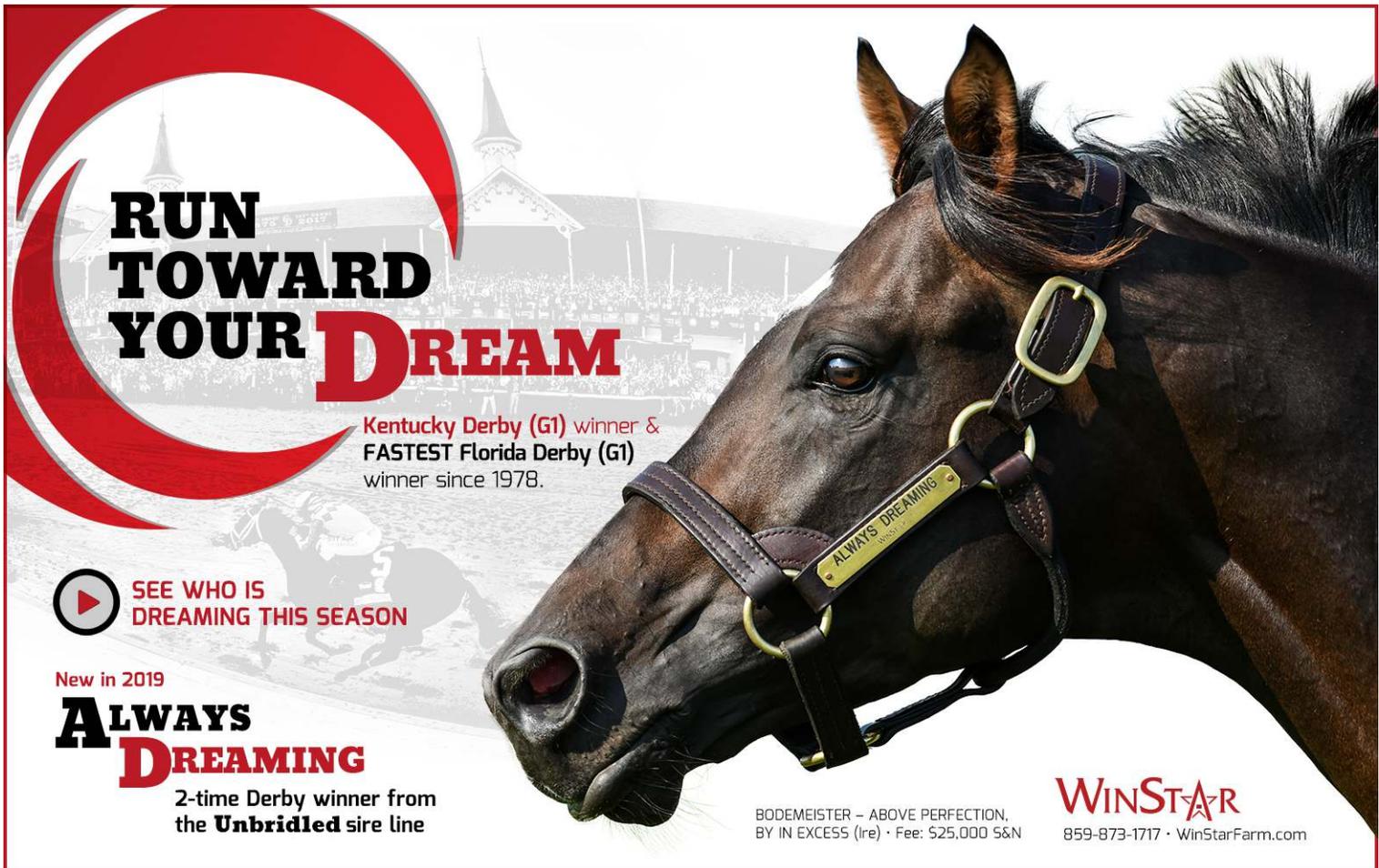
'TDN Rising Star'. O-Gary & Mary West. B-Summer Wind Equine (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$110,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP.

Lifetime Record: MGISW, 6-4-2-0, \$1,846,000.

Last Start: 2nd, GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 6

EquineLine PPs. KY Derby Points: 85.

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'TDN Rising Star' Game Winner has made it through his two-race prep season in perfunctory fashion, and there shouldn't be much doubt that Bob Baffert has enough Derby-winning training experience to have this \$110,000 KEESEP Candy Ride (Arg) bay peaking right when he wants him to. But to be clear, Game Winner didn't punch through to any new level of dominance in either the GII Rebel S. (where he had to be scrubbed on vigorously to finish a nose behind Omaha Beach) or the GI Santa Anita Derby (where he finished a half-length behind a longer-priced stablemate). Still, both races yielded enough clues to ascertain that Game Winner willingly fights through adversity. He wasn't fully conditioned for his "A" effort at Oaklawn, then in the Santa Anita Derby, Game Winner was wide on both turns, led between stretch calls, and galloped out past Roadster (Quality Road) after the wire. All season long I've been writing about how difficult it is for a GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner to also win the Derby--only two horses have done it in 34 years. But if Game Winner scores in Louisville, he will be the only Juvenile winner to have won the Derby without winning any race in the interim: Nyquist (2016) won both of his preps, and Street Sense (2007) won off the layoff and then ran second.

3) WAR OF WILL (c, War Front--Visions of Clarity {Ire}, by Sadler's Wells)

O-Gary Barber. B-Flaxman Holdings Limited (KY). T-Mark Casse. Sales History: \$175,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP; €250,000 2yo '18 ARQMAY. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 8-3-1-1, \$501,569. Last Start: 9th, GII Louisiana Derby, Mar. 23
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 4

Equine PPs. Caulfield on War of Will. KY Derby Points: 60.

 **Selected by Team Casse, prepared by CASSE TRAINING CENTER**

 LANE'S END FOALED, RAISED & SOLD 

War of Will's formidable three-race win tear from November through February is going to get obscured by his debacle of a GII Louisiana Derby, but I'm taking the mindset that that slip out of the starting gate (he lost his hind action and never recovered) is not indicative of his true ability. From a pari-mutuel standpoint, that ninth-place try will only fatten his price in the Derby, and this €250,000 ARQMAY War Front colt appears poised to resume his upward progression arc. War of Will has displayed numerous in-race traits that will serve him well in a 20-horse melee: He has consistently created his own opportunities by breaking alertly in large fields, settling into a rhythmic stalk mode, relishing the pursuit of front-running prey, and responding when cued to quicken with a nice reserve of power that has yet to be fully tapped by jockey Tyler Gaffalione. War of Will bulleted five furlongs from the Keeneland gate in :59.00 Saturday (1/44).

"He broke sharp and had running on his mind," Gaffalione said. "He did everything very easy. [Trainer] Mark [Casse] said he wanted a good five-eighths, so I just let him do his thing. He cruised along and pulled up great and came back happy. He is really proud of himself."

4) IMPROBABLE (c, City Zip--Rare Event, by A.P. Indy)

'TDN Rising Star'. O-WinStar Farm LLC, China Horse Club International Ltd. & Starlight Racing. B-St. George Farm LLC & G. Watts Humphrey Jr. (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$110,000 Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$200,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-3-2-0, \$619,520.

Last Start: 2nd, GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 13

Equine PPs. Caulfield on Improbable. KY Derby Points: 65.

 LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE 
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'TDN Rising Star' Improbable ran a gallant second in the Arkansas Derby considering he was fractious in both the post parade and the gate, then veered out approaching the clubhouse turn before finally settling back in on the turn. This \$200,000 KEESEP City Zip chestnut angled about five paths off the rail onto the backstretch (in search of firmer footing on the sloppy track) and started picking off half the pack under his own power. With a four-wide surge he got within a length of Omaha Beach three-eighths out, but jockey Jose Ortiz was already urging him in earnest 2 1/2 furlongs out and had to resort to stick work at the quarter pole while Omaha Beach was still being hand-encouraged. Improbable zeroed in on the eventual winner with improved focus (no head-cocking like in previous races and works), but could not cut into Omaha Beach's one-length margin at the wire while 5 3/4 lengths clear of everyone else. Trainer Bob Baffert indicated that the one-race blinker experiment (that was supposed to have sparked better early speed) is over. "I don't think he needs the blinkers," Baffert said post-race. "I think they got him a little upset. That's probably why he acted up in the gate." Ortiz did a good job of keeping Improbable as calm as he could, but the in-demand jock has ridden Tacitus (Tapit) to three straight wins, and it's possible Ortiz could vacate the call on Improbable.

5) ROADSTER (c, Quality Road--Ghost Dancing, by Silver Ghost)

'TDN Rising Star'. O-Speedway Stable LLC. B-Stone Farm (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$525,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 4-3-0-1, \$706,200.

Last Start: 1st, GI Santa Anita Derby, SA, Apr. 6

Equine PPs. KY Derby Points: 100.

 **STONE FARM** "We're trying to raise you a good horse."  **Bred, Raised & Sold**

‘TDN Rising Star’ Roadster is certainly picking the right time of year to cycle back into top-notch form. His career arc includes being considered the top Derby prospect within Bob Baffert’s barn at Del Mar last summer, missing several months of training to correct a displaced soft palate, an easy two-turn allowance score in his comeback try, and an off-the-pace, wide-and-driving move to beat stablemate and juvenile champ Game Winner in the Santa Anita Derby. He’s a lighter-bodied horse who gives the appearance of “punching above his weight” against heavier hitters, and this \$525,000 KESEP gray (second-priciest Quality Road sold at auction in 2017) has a distance-loving turf specialist half-brother in GISW Ascend (Candy Ride {Arg}). Roadster’s dam, Ghost Dancing, was more adept over shorter distances (stakes winner sprinting on the turf at Colonial Downs), but sire Quality Road would have been the favorite in the 2010 Kentucky Derby had not a quarter crack sidelined him the week before the race. As of right now, jockey Mike Smith has conflicting calls on both Omaha Beach and Roadster.



Roadster | Benoit

6) TACITUS (c, Tapit--Close Hatches, by First Defence)

O/B-Juddmonte Farms, Inc. (KY). T-Bill Mott. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 4-3-0-0, \$653,000.

Last Start: **GII Wood Memorial S.**, AQU, Apr. 6

EquineLine PPs. KY Derby Points: 150.

Tacitus and Omaha Beach are the only horses ranked within the Top 12 to be riding three-race win streaks into the Kentucky Derby, and it’s hard to argue that this homebred Tapit gray hasn’t shown demonstrable progression in each of those starts over a five-month span. The stamina-centric Tacitus gets style points for admirably fighting for position through the first turn of the Gil Wood Memorial, and he had plenty of strength left in reserve to swat away a determined rival in deep stretch over nine furlongs. But how will he adjust to rating from off the pace in a 20-horse field in a race where closers traditionally have to

either get lucky by bulling through traffic or by giving up significant real estate? The quality of company lines in his Gil Tampa Bay Derby and Wood wins also remains an open question, as the only horses he beat who appear headed to the Derby are Win Win Win (Hat Trick {Jpn}) and Tax (Arch), who figure to be 20-1 and 40-1 shots, respectively.



Tacitus | Sarah Andrew

7) WIN WIN WIN (c, Hat Trick {Jpn}–Miss Smarty Pants, by Smarty Jones)

O-Live Oak Plantation. B-Live Oak Stud (FL). T-Michael Trombetta. Lifetime Record: SW & MGSP, 6-3-2-1, \$367,300.

Last Start: 2nd, **GII Blue Grass S.**, KEE, Apr. 6

EquineLine PPs. KY Derby Points: 50.



Win Win Win started his 2019 season with a track-record score over seven furlongs at Tampa. He next stretched to 1 1/16 miles in the Tampa Bay Derby and ran third, (beaten only 2 1/2 lengths despite being hooked five wide off the turn), and that effort looked even more promising when the winner, Tacitus, came back to impressively annex the Wood Memorial. This Hat Trick (Jpn)-sired homebred’s subsequent start in the Gil Blue Grass S. was also a credible effort, as Win Win Win got bumped offstride at the break, rated comfortably while parked in 13th, encountered moderate traffic on the far turn, then was winging it late with a wide run against the grain of a fairly solid Keeneland speed bias. His paternal grandsire, Sunday Silence, won the 1989 Kentucky Derby. Then 15 years later, his maternal grandsire, Smarty Jones, won the 2004 Derby. Another 15 years have now passed--is the timing (and pedigree) aligning for Win Win Win to keep the streak alive?

8) VEKOMA (c, Candy Ride {Arg}--Mona de Momma, by Speightstown)

O-R. A. Hill Stable & Gatsas Stables. B-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC (KY). T-George Weaver. Sales History: \$135,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 4-3-0-1, \$788,850. Last Start: 1st, **Gil Blue Grass S.**, KEE, Apr. 6
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 110.



Will Vekoma be a main pace presence in the Derby? His running style suggests he's not a needs-the-lead-to-win horse. But approaching two weeks to the race, no one else within the Top 12 is a truly confirmed frontrunner either, so you wonder if this light-framed May 22 foal might be best served in a field of 20 by attempting to secure the top spot straight out of the gate to avoid the first-turn crush that would likely put him at a tactical disadvantage (in his three wins, Vekoma has never been more than a length off the leader at the second call). This \$135,000 KEESEP Candy Ride (Arg) colt got nine furlongs successfully in the Blue Grass S., but his shifting and drifting stretch run was assisted by a speed-friendly Keeneland surface that hampered closers. And until he actually proves his stamina over 10 furlongs in the Derby, having a champion sprinter (Speightstown) as his dam-sire is another credible concern that will shadow Vekoma into the starting gate.

9) SIGNALMAN (c, General Quarters--Trip South, by Trippi)

O-Tommie M. Lewis, David A. Bernsen, LLC & Magdalena Racing (Sherri McPeek). B-Monticule (KY). T-Kenneth G McPeek. Sales History: \$32,000 Ylg '17 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSW & MGISP, 7-2-2-2, \$552,990. Last Start: 3rd, **Gil Blue Grass S.**, KEE, Apr. 6 **Equineline PPs.** KY Derby Points: 38.



Despite being ranked within the Top 12 on this list, Signalman is on the outside looking in where it counts--on the Derby qualifying points list (currently 22nd and needs defections to start). Assuming he makes the cut, I keep going back and forth over whether Signalman is a "glass half full" or "glass half empty" type of horse. On the plus side, this \$32,000 FTKOCT General Quarters colt has legitimate excuses for both of his 2019 defeats: He lost a shoe when seventh in the Gil Fountain of Youth S., then in the Blue Grass S. he was trying hard but couldn't make up ground behind a frontrunning winner on a speed-favoring surface. On the negative side, Signalman would head into the Derby without having won a sophomore race, and he really hasn't uncorked an emphatic performance since winning the Nov. 24 Gil Kentucky Jockey Club S., which will be nearly six months in the rearview mirror by the time Derby day rolls around.

10) PLUS QUE PARFAIT (r, 3, Point of Entry--Belvedera, by Awesome Again)

O-Imperial Racing LLC. B-Calloway Racing LLC (KY). T-Brendan Walsh. Sales History: \$24,000 RNA Wlg KEENOV '16; \$135,000 Ylg KEESEP '17. Lifetime Record: GSW, 7-2-1-2, \$1,590,400. Last Start: 1st, G2 UAE Derby, MEY, Mar. 30
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 104.



Plus Que Parfait is ranked fourth on the qualifying points list, but trainer Brendan Walsh is taking a wait-and-see approach before committing to a start in the Derby for the G2 UAE Derby winner. "The next week to 10 days will be very important," he said Friday. "If he is not [100%] we will rethink his [next race]." Currently stabled at Churchill, plans call for an easy half-mile breeze either this Friday or Saturday. "He has the right mentality for the Derby; nothing really bothers him," Walsh said. "We saw that with the way he handled everything in Dubai," where this \$135,000 KEESEP Point of Entry ridgling unleashed a sustained run through traffic. Plus Que Parfait will have to outrun history if he does start in Louisville: Ten winners of the UAE Derby have gone on to compete in the Kentucky Derby, and the best finish among them was sixth (along with two DNF's and a 20th-place try).

11) TAX (g, Arch--Toll, by Giant's Causeway)

O-R. A. Hill Stable, Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Lynch, Hugh and Corms Racing Stable. B-Claiborne Farm and Adele Dilschneider (KY). T-Danny Gargan. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-2-2-1, \$326,300. Last Start: 2nd, **Gil Wood Memorial S.**, AQU, Apr. 6
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 52.



Tax has the pedigree depth (by Arch out of a Giant's Causeway mare) to stay the Derby distance, and he's never been off the board in three graded stakes (two of them over nine furlongs). He doesn't shy away from in-race engagement (he's a stalker by trade), and although some handicappers might discount the Classics chances of a gelding who broke his maiden for a \$50,000 claiming tag, this could be shaping up as one of those offbeat years when conventional Triple Crown wisdom is best left to theorists. In the Wood Memorial, Tax got first run on the tiring pacemakers and held his own pretty well before submitting to the more physically imposing Tacitus. Tax was second, beaten 1 1/4 lengths, but galloped out on even terms with the favored winner. I've got him on my bet list as a potential "bombs away" inclusion for exotics.

Cont. p15

12) CODE OF HONOR (c, Noble Mission {GB}--Reunited, by Dixie Union)

O/B-W. S. Farish (KY). T-Shug McGaughey. Sales History: \$70,000 RNA Ylg '17 KESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 4-2-1-0, \$384,820.

Last Start: 3rd, **GI Florida Derby**, GP, Mar. 30

EquineLine PPs. KY Derby Points: 74.



LANE'S END BRED & RAISED



This nimble first-crop Noble Mission (GB) homebred certainly has a stayer's pedigree to handle the Derby distance. But he's a light-bodied May 23 foal whose inability to put together solid, back-to-back tries as a sophomore leaves the impression of a horse who does not seize control of race dynamics to make his own breaks. But when he does put it all together and hit his best stride, Code of Honor is a very efficient mover. After a one-paced third behind lone speed in the GI Florida Derby, trainer Shug McGaughey shipped Code of Honor to Keeneland, where he said he hoped "a change in weather will jump start him some." The colt worked last Friday, breezing a half mile in :49.00 (9/27), galloping out in 1:00.80 for five furlongs. "He looked good," McGaughey said. "I was pleased with the way he went off and he galloped out well. I will probably have [regular jockey] Johnny [Velazquez] work him [this Friday or Saturday] and then have his final work at Churchill."



Code of Honor | Lauren King

Rounding Out the Starting Gate...**13) Cutting Humor (First Samurai):** Talk about under the radar.

This could conceivably be a \$400,000 FTSAUG track-record holder (Gill Sunland Derby) from the barn of a two-time Derby-winning trainer (Todd Pletcher) going off north of 50-1 in the Derby. Exclude from exotics at your own peril.

14 Country House (Lookin At Lucky): Earned a Derby berth based on points with his third-place Arkansas Derby try. But a trip to Louisville is not etched in stone for this 'TDN Rising Star.' "He came with a good run. On the middle of the turn, he was creeping up," said trainer Bill Mott. "I thought he might have started waiting a little bit and then the fourth horse came up on his inside and kind of pushed him along a little bit."

15) Long Range Toddy (Take Charge Indy): The step up to stiffer Grade I competition resulted in a punchless sixth-place Arkansas Derby try, but he qualifies for a Derby berth via points. A solid foundation of six races at a mile or longer certainly won't hurt his chances over 10 furlongs.

16) Maximum Security (New Year's Day): Without much early speed among the probable favorites, this undefeated former \$16,000 maiden-claiming frontrunner has the makings of a sacrificial pacemaker who could lead the field past the Twin Spires for the first quarter mile of the race. His "stolen" Florida Derby win is suspect because of the no-pressure fractions he got away with, and that gift-trip win occurred in his only lifetime try around two turns. Different ballgame in the Derby.

17) Spinoff (Hard Spun): Bumped leaving post 10, then hooked four wide on club turn while seeking the lead in Louisiana Derby before getting run down in the long Fair Grounds stretch. Should contribute to what looks like a fuzzy, in-flux Derby pace scenario.

18) By My Standards (Goldencents): Louisiana Derby upsetter has had two easy works with two more planned at Churchill prior to the Derby. "Quite frankly, horses either can get a mile and a quarter or not," said trainer Bret Calhoun. "It's a very demanding distance and I don't want to push him or go overboard with his training. He's ready and where he needs to be."

19) Gray Magician (Graydar): Nice late-race rally behind Plus Que Parfait in the UAE Derby earned him enough qualifying points to make the trek to Louisville. But he's still winless beyond the maiden ranks.

20) Haikal (Daaher): Never off the board from five starts but best races have been pick-up-the-pieces efforts behind cave-in pace scenarios over shorter distances.

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MONMOUTH TAPS BEEM AS INTERIM RACECALLER

Jason Beem, a veteran racecaller with more than a decade of experience, will handle Monmouth Park’s announcing duties until the return of Frank Mirahmadi following the conclusion of the Santa Anita meet June 23, general manager Bill Anderson announced Monday.

Beem, a Washington state native who called races at Portland Meadows for 10 years starting in 2006, will begin his new assignment when Monmouth Park kicks off its 74th season of Thoroughbred racing Saturday, May 4. Mirahmadi will return for his fifth season at the Jersey Shore track starting with the June 28 card. He was hired as the full-time announcer by Santa Anita last fall.

“I was happy to recommend Jason for this opportunity,” said Mirahmadi. “Jason does an excellent job calling races and I know the fans and horsemen will appreciate his talents.”

“If you look at Monmouth Park’s last three announcers--Larry Collmus, Travis Stone and Frank Mirahmadi--you’re talking about the guy who calls the Breeders’ Cup, the guy who calls the Kentucky Derby and the guy who calls Santa Anita,” added Beem. “So I’m flattered even as a fill-in to get the opportunity to call there. I’m certainly nervous but it’s a good nervous. I’m excited for this opportunity.”

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GARRETT SMITH NAMED TRAINER AT DOUBLE DIAMOND

Garrett Smith has been hired as the new trainer at Donald Dizney’s Double Diamond Farm in Ocala, Fla. the farm announced Monday.

Smith, who has already taken up his post, joins Double Diamond following a four-year stint at GoldMark Farm in Ocala. Prior to that, he managed a training center in South Carolina where he worked with such stakes stars as Congrats, Flatter, First Samurai, and Madcap Escapade, and he also served as Farm and Racing Manager at Stonecrest Farm, where he worked with multiple graded stakes-winning multi-millionaire Perfect Drift.

“I am very excited about the opportunity to work with this first-class operation that Mr. Dizney and General Manager Roger Brand have assembled here at Double Diamond,” Smith said. “The sky is the limit. It’s a beautiful farm, we can train on dirt and turf, and we have lush, spacious paddocks which make it beneficial for lay-ups and rehabilitation as well.”

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KENTUCKY HORSE PARK PARTNERS WITH VISIT HORSE COUNTRY

The Kentucky Horse Park is partnering with Visit Horse Country, the premier resource for equine-related tours in Kentucky, it was announced Monday. The Park will serve as a convenient location for guests to purchase one-of-a-kind equine tours based on their specific interests.

“The Kentucky Horse Park was developed to get people close to the horse, and for more than 40 years has done an excellent job pursuing that mission,” said Anne Sabatino Hardy, executive director of Visit Horse Country. “We’re proud to be joining the resources and experiences of our privately-owned locations as a complement to the work of the Commonwealth at the park.”

Visit Horse Country, founded in 2014, is a not-for-profit organization representing 39 members across Kentucky. Tours are available at stallion farms, nurseries, clinics, feed mills and aftercare organizations including the Maker’s Mark Secretariat Center and Spy Coast Farm--both located on or near the Kentucky Horse Park.

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

HILLIARD LYONS-BAIRD DOUBLEDGDARE S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Jala Jala (Mex)	Point Determined	St. George Stable LLC	Gutierrez	Saez	118
2	Blue Prize (Arg)	Pure Prize	Merriebelle Stable LLC	Correas, IV	Bravo	123
3	Electric Forest	Curlin	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Brown	Ortiz	118
4	Promise of Spring	Drosselmeyer	Best Of Times Racing, LLC	Margolis	Lanerie	118
5	Moonlit Garden 	Malibu Moon	Town and Country Racing, LLC	Davis	Rosario	118
6	La Force (Ger)	Power (GB)	Williford, Roberta & Ward and Winner, Charles N.	Gallagher	Van Dyke	118
7	Go Google Yourself	Into Mischief	Jay Em Ess Stable	McGee	Hernandez, Jr.	118
8	Golden Award	Medaglia d'Oro	Summer Wind Equine	Mott	Gaffalione	118
9	Eqho	Giant's Causeway	Crystal Racing Enterprises & Contreras Stable Inc.	Contreras	Prescott	118

Breeders: 1-Rancho San Jorge, 2-Bioart S. A., 3-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 4-Bottom Line Stables Inc., RowlandHancock & Dick Walker, 5-Town & Country Farm, Corp, 6-Gestut Karlshof, 7-Samantha Siegel, 8-Harvey A. Clarke, 9-Marc Keller



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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

9th-Oaklawn, \$93,000, (S), Alw, 4-14, (C), 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45.39, gd.

HOONANI ROAD (g, 4, Jonesboro--Nana, by Father Steve), a winner of four of his first six outings, including the Arkansas-bred Rainbow S. here last spring, was a very good fourth after contesting a sizzling pace in the Ellis Park Derby Aug. 12 and filled the same slot in a Churchill optional claimer Sept. 14. Back on track in a local state-bred allowance Feb. 14, he repeated in the Arky-bred Nodouble Breeders S. Mar. 23 and was made the 7-5 favorite to keep it going in this spot. Tracking from second past splits of :23.32 and :47.45, the chestnut overhauled the pacesetter at the top of the lane and skipped clear to a three-length success. Glacken's Ghost (Smoke Glacken) came on late for the place. The winner's dam produced a filly by Hightail last term before visiting Moonshine Mullin. Lifetime Record: SW, 11-7-1-0, \$332,838. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Jerry Caroom; B-Bobby Lee Hall (AR); T-Wayne M. Catalano.

2nd-Mahoning Valley, \$31,000, Alw, 4-15, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.74, gd.

HEAVENHASMNIKKI (f, 4, Majestic Warrior--Floral Park, by Forest Wildcat) captured the Ohio-bred Diana S. and First Lady S. locally last fall and was fifth in the GI La Brea S. Dec. 26 at Santa Anita before running a close third at 31-1 in the GIII Houston Ladies Classic S. last out Jan. 27 at Sam Houston. Crushed down to 1-5 dropping in class here, the \$150,000 Fasig-Tipton October grad led narrowly through a :23.23 quarter, shook loose in hand going by a :46.13 half and drew off strongly down the stretch to a 9 1/4-length romp. Fionetta (Silver Train) completed the exacta. The victress is a half to Dougs Buddy (Badge of Silver), MSW & GSP, \$213,959; and Floral Sky (Sky Mesa), SW, \$206,732. Her dam is responsible for a juvenile Twirling Candy colt named Chip Chop and a yearling colt by Runhappy. Sales History: \$150,000 Ylg '16 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: MSW & MGSP, 13-6-0-2, \$264,980. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

O-Ron Paolucci Racing, LLC; B-Langsem Farm, Inc (OH); T-Robert B. Hess, Jr.

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IN JAPAN:

Maria's Heart, f, 3, Shanghai Bobby--Maria's Dance (SP-US, \$116,660), by Maria's Mon. Nakayama, 4-13, Plate Race, 6fT. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$117,857. O-Normandy Thoroughbred Racing; B-Sally J. Andersen (FL); T-Takanori Kikuzawa. *\$52,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP; \$75,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR.

Broken, Trained & Sold by Julie Davies

Top Soliste, f, 3, War Front--Moth (Ire) (G1SP-Eng, \$121,393), by Galileo (Ire). Fukushima, 4-13, Novice Race, 6fT. Lifetime Record: 8-1-4-0, \$1,343,750. O-North Hills; B-Orpendale Chelston & Wynatt (KY); T-Kazuya Nakatake. *\$650,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP.

Er Faina, c, 3, Justin Phillip. See "France".

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IN MAINLAND CHINA:

Overwhelm, h, 7, Lemon Drop Kid--Beautyandthebeast (GB) (SW-Eng, GSW-US, \$278,184), by Machiavellian. Wuhan, 4-13, 1700m (A\$10,387), Sand Track, 1:52.24. O-Huayu Horse Industry. B-Ballycroy Training Centre (ON). VIDEO. *\$115,000 Wlg '12 KEENOV; \$180,000 RNA 2yo '14 KEEAPR.

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SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Mister Lucky Cat (Storm Cat), Oklahome Equine Reproductive Center

9 foals of racing age/2 winners/1 black-type winner

5-Will Rogers Downs, Alw 6f, CONTRABAND, 7-2

Strong Mandate (Tiznow), Three Chimneys Farm, \$10,000

138 foals of racing age/20 winners/0 black-type winners

8-Parx Racing, Aoc 6f, GOTTA BE STRONG, 9-5

\$2,100 EAS OCT yrl

Vertiformer (Dynaformer), Poplar Creek Horse Center, \$2,000

14 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners

4-Mahoning Valley, Alw 6f, SEEKING A JEWEL, 6-1

Weekend Wildcat (Lion Heart)

5 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners

7-Indiana Grand, Aoc 1m, LADY'S WEEKEND, 30-1

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Santa Anita, \$58,755, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 4-14, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:18.61, ft.

ROYAL TRUMP (g, 4, Ministers Wild Cat--Royal Woodman, by Woodman) Lifetime Record: 16-3-3-4, \$111,445. O-Rodney E. Orr; B-Larry D. Williams (CA); T-Mark Glatt. *1/2 to Woodmans Luck (Lucky Pulpit), MSP, \$521,395; and Old Man Lake (Salt Lake), MSP, \$276,202.

8th-Golden Gate Fields, \$34,660, 4-14, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.39, ft.

LEFT ALONE (GB) (f, 4, Reckless Abandon {GB}--Akhmatova {GB}, by Cape Cross {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-2, \$42,225. O-Ronald L. Charles & Samuel Gordon; B-Ropsley Bloodstock LLP (GB); T-Manuel Badilla. *47,000gns Wlg '15 TATFOA; €120,000 Ylg '16 GOFORB; 20,000gns 3yo '18 TATJUL.

7th-Golden Gate Fields, \$33,460, 4-14, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:43.08, fm.

BUILDER (g, 4, Gio Ponti--Rumba Punch, by Green Dancer) Lifetime Record: 14-3-5-2, \$69,090. O-Peter McGoldrick, John Tipton & Savvy Racing; B-Redmon Farm (KY); T-Isidro Tamayo. *\$27,000 RNA Wlg '15 KEENOV; \$17,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP.

THINK INDIAN CREEK

6th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,500, 4-15, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:45.00, gd.

CRITICAL HUMOR (m, 5, Justenuffhumor--Critical, by Malibu Moon) Lifetime Record: 39-8-4-3, \$94,981. O/T-Alejandro Gomez; B-Carapan Farm, LLC (NY). *\$1,000 RNA Wlg '14 FTNMIX.

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5th-Will Rogers Downs, \$22,990, 4-15, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:03.85, ft.

INCA CHIEF (g, 5, Uncle Mo--Five Star Dream {SW, \$128,320}, by Two Punch) Lifetime Record: 10-2-2-1, \$40,830. O-Doyle Williams; B-Candyland Farm (KY); T-Scott E. Young. *\$90,000 Ylg '15 EASOCT; \$1,000,000 2yo '16 FTFMAR; \$55,000 3yo '17 FTKHRA.

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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Persephone, f, 3, **Real Solution**--Treqqer, by Cape Cross (Ire).
Santa Anita, 4-14, (C), 1mT, 1:36.36. B-Kenneth L. & Sarah K.
Ramsey (KY). *\$35,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR.

True Meridian, f, 4, **Fierce Wind**--Abha, by Unbridled's Song.
Mahoning Valley, 4-15, 5 1/2f, 1:06.40. B-Susan Minor (VA).



- FIERCE WIND**, True Meridian, f, 4, o/o Abha, by Unbridled's Song. MSW, 4-15, Mahoning Valley
- GIO PONTI**, Builder, g, 4, o/o Rumba Punch, by Green Dancer. ALW, 4-14, Golden Gate
- JONESBORO**, Hoonani Road, g, 4, o/o Nana, by Father Steve. ALW, 4-14, Oaklawn
- JUSTENUFFHUMOR**, Critical Humor, m, 5, o/o Critical, by Malibu Moon. ALW, 4-15, Mahoning Valley
- MAJESTIC WARRIOR**, Heavenhasmynikki, f, 4, o/o Floral Park, by Forest Wildcat. ALW, 4-15, Mahoning Valley
- MINISTERS WILD CAT**, Royal Trump, g, 4, o/o Royal Woodman, by Woodman. AOC, 4-14, Santa Anita
- REAL SOLUTION**, Persephone, f, 3, o/o Treqqer, by Cape Cross (Ire). MCL, 4-14, Santa Anita
- RECKLESS ABANDON (GB)**, Left Alone (GB), f, 4, o/o Akhmatova (GB), by Cape Cross (Ire). ALW, 4-14, Golden Gate
- UNCLE MO**, Inca Chief, g, 5, o/o Five Star Dream, by Two Punch. ALW, 4-15, Will Rogers

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Boyd Browning
President & CEO of Fasig-Tipton
and TAA board member



CRAVEN SALE A BREEZE-UP BAROMETER



War Front colt out of Quarter Moon breezes | Emma Berry

by Chris McGrath

NEWMARKET, UK--With the breeze-up calendar this year lurching straight from the blue-collar to the blueblood, it's not easy to read the barometer. Will the Tattersalls Craven Sale take its cue from the uplifting spring sunshine that favoured the youngsters who exhibited their wares on the Rowley Mile yesterday; or from the residue of winter that laced the icy headwind into which they galloped?

Last year, consignors arrived in Newmarket reeling. They had endured a particularly dispiriting start at Ascot, where only half those into the ring managed to find a new home, and found little respite in the intermediate market at Doncaster. This time round, however, the latter sale has been pushed back to later in the month. And it would be rash to treat a sale as different in emphasis as the one staged at Ascot a couple of weeks ago as any kind of signpost, for better or worse, to the likely trade when the first of two evening sessions is staged after racing concludes up the road on Tuesday.

Nonetheless consignors enter the fray with guarded optimism, recognising that there were lessons to be learned last year, and hoping that a new bonus scheme will help their cause.

[Cont. p2](#)

THE WEEKLY WRAP: LONG MAY THEY RUN

by Emma Berry

Apologies for the tardy start of this weekly digest. It's certainly not a case of taking the Newmarket resident's view that the Flat only really begins today with the start of the Craven meeting, more that family matters rendered this correspondent a non-runner in the first fortnight of the season. Fortunately we have had the excellent Pat Smullen to give us his take on the racing scene, and his much-enjoyed weekly column will be back tomorrow.

Even ahead of today's racing action, Newmarket's Rowley Mile has already been the scene of plenty of activity this week, with around 120 breezers having been put under the spotlight yesterday morning ahead of the Tattersalls Craven Breeze-up Sale, which starts its two-day run later today. The 2-year-old sales are not universally loved but a good reminder that such auctions can offer more than just blink-and-you'll-miss-'em juveniles was served by the admirable **Stormy Antarctic (GB)** (Stormy Atlantic) on Sunday.

Now six, the Ed Walker-trained gelding added the G3 Kalkmann Frujahrs-Meile at Dusseldorf to his record on his 2019 debut, extending his tally to seven wins and 11 places from 26 starts. [Cont. p4](#)



Stormy Antarctic | Scoop Dyga

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

TDN DERBY TOP 12 FOR APR. 16

T. D. Thornton has the latest TDN Derby Top 12. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

Tattersalls Craven Preview Cont. from p1

There was a consensus last year that the sector had become bloated, partly thanks to those opportunists--emboldened by the headline coups of those specialists whose expertise had driven a boom in the market--who "dumped" unsold yearlings on the breeze-ups. Even this sale expanded its catalogue, from 152 to 172, but has been trimmed back to 147 before withdrawals this time.

John Cullinan of Horse Park Stud, who has earned so many plaudits for his work heading the Breeze-Up Consignors' Association, knows that it can be tough for yearling vendors just to write off a hit--for the very good reason that he is also one himself. "But people were losing sight of the fact that this is a specialist sector," he said. "Just because a yearling is unsold doesn't necessarily mean it will be suitable for the breeze-ups. When we make those decisions, as yearling vendors, it's based on the horse.

"Remember the breeze-ups were never a mainstream activity. The breeze-ups were a way for trainers to top up their 2-year-old stock for the current season, typically adding a couple more provided what they already had at home was paid for. The sector was never capable of absorbing the kind of numbers that ended up in the system last year."

Tattersalls have certainly done their bit, introducing a £15,000 bonus scheme modelled on the success of its £25,000 Book 1 incentive at the October Sale. Ascot, likewise, had come up with a new carrot, in a £100,000 bonus for any graduate that proceeds to win at the Royal meeting. So while the postponement of the Doncaster sale removes a wider base for judging the market's morale, Cullinan feels the signs are positive.

"There has been a correction, both on the sales companies' side and the consignors' side," he said.



David and John Egan | Emma Berry

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"Numbers have been tightened up, which needed to happen. Ascot cut back considerably, because they had too many last year when the clearance rate was very poor. I think they've cleverly created an identity for that sale, as a place to find your early 2-year-old; coupled with the bonus, which was a good marketing ploy, the clearance rate was much better."

Admittedly the increased traffic at Ascot made it hard for the median to recover. But this sale is a whole different ball game, with many lots pinhooked for sums far greater than that given for the top lot at Ascot. There will be plenty of interest, for instance, in the American Pharoah colt consigned by jockey John Egan and his Alliance Bloodstock team as **lot 29**--not least after an impressive success by the Triple Crown winner's first runner in Ireland last week. This half-brother to Group 3 winner and G2 Queen Mary S. runner-up Shumoos (Distorted Humor) was bought for \$375,000 at Keeneland last September and Egan will be hoping for another exciting day, having pinhooked \$270,000 yearling Global Prospector (Scat Daddy)--a striking debut scorer at Wolverhampton last month--through Mocklershill when he realised 800,000gns here last year.

But the poster girl for the 2018 sale, adorning the back of the catalogue, is La Pelosa (Ire) (Dandy Man {Ire}), who was sold to Godolphin by Tally-Ho Stud for 280,000gns and proceeded to win the GI Natalma S. at Woodbine five months later. **Cont. p3**



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Tattersalls Craven Preview Cont.

As one consignor put it, you seldom get any pleasant surprises from a breeze. The most you can hope is that they do themselves justice according to what you have seen at home, and that you get no reaction--in the shins or elsewhere--to what were pretty firm conditions yesterday for those adolescent limbs.

Needless to say, the timing spreadsheets will have their usual impact at the top of the market--whatever agents might claim about treating the clock as just one among umpteen factors--but at least disaster was averted when Norman Williamson's Invincible Spirit (Ire) colt ([lot 122](#)) was unable to stretch out because of a broken rein. The Oak Tree Farm consignor was relieved that the colt showed such a sensible disposition that he was able to regroup, after an hour's rest, and show what he could do.

"And he breezed well," Williamson said. "I'm very hopeful: I have four nice colts by the right sires. That Invincible Spirit is the only one in the sale, and the same goes for a beautiful horse by Farrh (GB) [[lot 41](#)]. And we've a very quick, sharp 2-year-old by Dark Angel (Ire) [[lot 127](#)], who breezed very well, and a Kodiak (GB) with a very good pedigree [[lot 117](#), out of a group-winning sister to Classic scorer King Of Kings (Ire) (Sadler's Wells)]. All ours did what we thought they would, and they all moved well, which is a big help. They're in good shape, so fingers crossed.

"The whole sector has tightened up a bit on last year and, while it's hard to read [this sale] after Ascot, it looked like there was trade there: plenty of horses being sold for £20,000-£30,000. But here will tell a lot about the future. There are well-bred horses that cost a bit of money, and the standard looked good out there. It was quite quick ground, but there'd be no excuses on it for Flat horses; and while there was the headwind it didn't inconvenience anyone, because it was the same all the way through."

Cullinan, for his part, was largely happy enough with his team--as usual presented in partnership with Roger Marley of Church Farm.

"It was the usual mixed bag," he said. "We do have one very smart horse there, [lot 80](#), a naturally quick 2-year-old by Tagula (Ire). But he changed his legs half a dozen times in the Dip. So he didn't breeze quite as well as we would have liked, but our opinion of the horse hasn't changed. We've two Kodiak colts who aren't five-furlong horses, they're seven-furlong horses, but a nice horse is a nice horse and we think they're racehorses [[Lots 45 & 108](#)]. Like the Tagula, the Dandy Man [[lot 133](#)] is also ready to rock, so hopefully there will be punters out there for them. And we've a filly, another Kodiak, who again won't be a Queen Mary filly [[lot 54](#)] but she'll win her races and has a residual value with a good book and a good physical, so hopefully she'll have her admirers." [Cont. p4](#)

IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

BAFFERT BELIEVES JUSTIFY, PHAROAH SUITED TO AUS

Bill Finley gets Bob Baffert's views on his Triple Crown winners' chances at stud in Australia. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)



Gavin Cromwell and Daithi Harvey | Emma Berry

soundness, ability, you can listen to their wind, see their action. But in doing so we're also exposing the ordinary beasts. So we're taking 20% of the yearling market, sorting out the good ones and culling the bad ones. That makes it a very valuable selection process for our customers."

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THE **WEEKLY WRAP** by Emma Berry

Long May They Run Cont. from p1

Those victories, spread between Britain, France and Germany, include the G3 Craven S. of 2016—run, appropriately enough, during a sudden lightning storm—a year after he had been sold at the eponymous breeze-up sale by Grove Stud for 200,000gns. He was also beaten just a head by Johannes Vermeer (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) while aiming for Group 1 success at two in the Criterium International.

When interviewed for the *TDN* last summer, Walker said, "Stormy has kind of saved our bacon every year. He's been a flag-bearer and a star." He is unlikely to have revised his opinion of his stable favourite and the trainer deserves equal plaudits for keeping Stormy Antarctic in such good shape both physically and mentally.

The Wonder of Winx

While we are on the subject of longevity, the above statement of course applies to Chris Waller in his handling of **Winx (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}). There's little left to say about Australia's darling that hasn't already been said, but alongside her legion of fans there are those who will continue to feel that her connections' reluctance to travel beyond her home country means that we'll never know how good she really was. That debate is largely irrelevant, however. The true wonder of Winx is her extraordinary retention of form, soundness and will to win. **Cont. p5**

Tattersalls Craven Preview Cont.

His faith in the Tagula colt typifies the scenario in which a bond of trust between consignors and past clients can be worth even more in this sector than is the case with yearlings or foals.

"Yes, vendor input can be much more influential because, by and large, we know what we have," Cullinan said. "From seeing them on a daily basis, we know which horses are going to be trainable. All we hope is that they show on the day what we think they can do. They never find an extra leg here!"

And that takes us back to his original point. This is a highly specialised business, and you can't chuck just any yearling into the process. "Breeze-up consignors know what might work and what won't," Cullinan said. "But it's tricky. We've a lot of risks involved. Between us we have spent £90 million over the last four years and, typically, this sale here and the one at Arqana would have about £6-7 million apiece [of stock] coming in. So there's a lot at stake. Thankfully, we've very good people at it and the results on the track have been very, very good.

"So we just hope people recognise the way we're adding huge value to the raw material that is your yearling. We show

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Winx | Bronwen Healy

The Weekly Wrap Cont.

In every racing stable in every jurisdiction there will be horses whose trainers feel that they've never really shown their true potential because they've been difficult to keep sound, or that they didn't really have the heart for the job.

In truth, those two things usually go hand in hand. A sound horse, free of aches and pains, is usually a happy horse, prepared to go out there and run as he or she was bred to do.

For those knocking Winx, it's worth remembering that during her 33-race winning streak which lasted just shy of four years, an American Triple Crown winner has come and gone in just six—albeit brilliant, unbeaten—starts, not to mention countless other horses now being feted at stud whose race records don't amount to a hill of beans in comparison to that of the great mare. Thanx, Winx.

Turgeon, Too



Antonia & Henri Devin with Turgeon | Emma Berry

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The award for longstanding services to racing must however go to **Turgeon** (Caro {Ire}). There can be few, if any, stallions with a new crop of foals on the ground at the age of 33. That was the remarkable benchmark reached by the Haras du Mesnil stallion, who died last week. He will be missed terribly by Henri and Antonia Devin, who stood him for the entirety for his stud career, which began in 1994.

In the week before the Cheltenham Festival, at which the Mesnil team was represented by the Close Brothers Novices' Chase winner A Plus Tard (Fr) (Kaggarde {Fr}) and G1 Queen Mother Champion Chase runner-up Politologue (Fr) (Poliglote {GB}), Antonia Devin was celebrating the arrival of a good filly foal by Turgeon but admitted that the stallion would for the first time not be covering this season.

Turgeon himself posted a new Festival winner this year in the form of Siruh Du Lac (Fr), while he features as broodmare sire not just of Politologue but also one of the stars of the season, La Bague Au Roi (Fr), a daughter of his Mesnil stud mate Doctor Dino (Fr).

A stayer in every sense of the word, Turgeon met his end peacefully in the place that had been his home for a quarter of a century, but his name will be remembered for many years to come. [Cont. p6](#)

More Power to the Champion

Silvestre de Sousa claimed his second jockeys' championship last year on the same day he met King Power Racing's Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha to discuss a retainer for the owner's horses this season. A week later, Srivaddhanaprabha, a major investor in racehorses in recent years, was killed in a helicopter crash while leaving the ground of his Leicester City Football Club.

His family's decision to continue racing the team of horses which had been assembled for him by Alastair Donald has been rewarded so far this season with a terrific strike-rate for King Power Racing and de Sousa, and, with a number of Classic prospects under their ownership, it will be hoped that greater success is yet to come.



Silvestre de Sousa | *Racing Post*

On Saturday, **Fox Chairman (Ire)**, a Kingman (GB) half-brother to Group 1 winner La Collina (Ire), was the impressive four-length winner of a Newbury maiden, following up the previous day's success at the same track, and also for trainer Andrew Balding, of **Happy Power (Ire)** (Dark Angel {Ire}). The same team also has today's European Free H. runner **Shine So Bright (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}), who holds a 2000 Guineas entry, as well as the portentously named **King Power (GB)**, a Frankel (GB) half-sister to Oaks winner Talent (GB) (New Approach {GB}), who is entered for that same Classic.

On Saturday morning, de Sousa was spotted in Sir Michael Stoute's string aboard last season's maiden winner **Queen Power (Ire)** (Shamardal), the sister to Australian Group 2 winner Puissance De Lune (Ire). She too has potential Classic engagements.

Fine and Dandy

A good run last season for Ballyhane Stud's Dandy Man (Ire) shows no sign of abating. In consecutive weekends he has been represented by Classic trial winners **Lady Kaya (Ire)** and **Dandhu**

(GB), while Godolphin's **La Pelosa (Ire)**, a graduate of last year's Tattersalls Craven Breeze-up Sale from the Tally-Ho Stud draft and subsequent winner of the GI Natalma S. at Woodbine, has entries in the Irish and French Guineas.

Chatez (Ire) gilded the lily at Newbury on Saturday, winning the valuable Spring Cup after Dandhu had triumphed in the G3 Fred Darling S. for the redoubtable veterans David Elsworth and Gerald Mosse. These results have combined to leave Dandy Man out in front in the British and Irish sires' table at this early stage of the season, ahead of Dark Angel (Ire) and Kodiak (GB). Five of his offspring are catalogued to sell at Tattersalls this week.

Success No Accident

As the G1 Queen Anne S. winner **Accidental Agent (GB)** (Delegator {GB}) nears his seasonal return, perhaps in the G1 Al Shaqab Lockinge S., his owner-breeder Gaie Johnson Houghton will have been buoyed by more success for the family via G3 Greenham S. winner **Mohaather (GB)**. The son of Showcasing (GB) is a half-brother to Accidental Agent's dam Roodle (GB) (Xaar {GB}) and was the final foal of his listed-placed dam Roodeye (GB) (Inchiner {GB}) and was sold to Shadwell as a yearling for 110,000gns. Two of his three victories have come at Group 3 level at Newbury and he is now around 12-1 for the 2000 Guineas to give trainer Marcus Tregoning a second Classic after the Derby victory of Sir Percy (GB) in 2006.

Five generations of this particular equine family, which descends from the foundation mare Sirmelta (GB), have raced for the Johnson Houghtons. The breeder's daughter Eve trains not just Accidental Agent but also his half-sisters, **Madame Tantzy (GB)** (Champs Elysees {GB}) and **Roodica (GB)** (Due Diligence).

The 3-year-old Madame Tantzy made her debut at Newbury on the same day that Mohaather won the G3 Horris Hill S. last October. [Cont. p7](#)



Accidental Agent | *Horsephotos*

The Weekly Wrap Cont.

Though she was down the field when again appearing on the same card as her relation on Saturday in the G3 Fred Darling S., she became a winner last month at Kempton. The siblings' dam, one of two mares owned by Johnson Houghton, is booked to be covered by Showcasing this season. [\(Return to p1\)](#)

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PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

by Andrew Caulfield



MUNITIONS

History, of a minor sort, was made at Lingfield on Feb. 23 when Wissahickon landed the G3 Winter Derby to become the first European group winner by America's two-time champion sire Tapit.

The same 4-year-old colt had already become his sire's first black-type winner in any of the major European racing powers when he won the Listed Quebec S. on his final start of 2018. I should add, though, that Tapit had gone very close to notching up that elusive first European group success nearly 10 years earlier when his Spanish-trained son As de Trebol--a member of

Tapit's first crop--had narrowly landed the G3 Prix du Palais-Royal, only to lose the race in the stewards' room.

Bearing in mind that the 18-year-old Tapit has been represented by well over 100 black-type winners in North America, his previous lack of high-level European success seems extraordinary. The knee-jerk reaction is that it must be because Tapit raced exclusively on dirt and is a grandson of A.P. Indy, another stallion who made a far greater impact in his native U.S. than in Europe.

It mustn't be forgotten, though, that doubts about the adaptability of dirt stallions often become self-fulfilling prophecies. European breeders and buyers usually demand that such stallions prove themselves in Europe before they are prepared to support them, but how can the stallions prove themselves if only a few of their offspring are brought to Europe?

Although Tapit has had well over 900 starters in North America, statistics show that he has had just 16 runners in Britain, 13 in France and six in Ireland. This didn't deter George Strawbridge from sending Wissahickon to be trained by John Gosden and he's had no cause to regret the decision. A highly progressive son of that excellent broodmare No Matter What, Wissahickon has won eight of his 10 starts, including six of his seven appearances on all-weather tracks. [Cont. p8](#)

THE MONDAY JURY

Monday, April 15, 2019 racingpost.com



CHARLIE FELLOWES
Trainer

Which of the first-season sires should we watch out for?

It's a very strong group this year and I'm pleased with my lot. I've got two by **Gleneagles** and really like them, particularly a filly of Lady Bamford's.



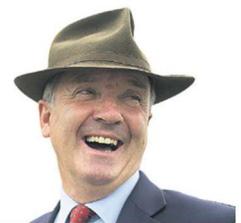
CHRIS HAYES
Jockey

I've sat on a few **Gleneagles** two-year-olds. They go well and I like them. He had his first winner on Friday and I think he's set for a good season.



DAVID LANIGAN
Trainer

Gleneagles got off to a great start at Newbury and you'd imagine he'll have had a good book of mares.



MARCUS TREGONING
Trainer

Gleneagles has made a fast start.

GLENEAGLES

Also by Galileo at Coolmore: **AUSTRALIA CHURCHILL GUSTAV KLIMT HIGHLAND REEL RULER OF THE WORLD THE GURKHA**

COOLMORE



Munitions is out of a daughter of Tapit | *Gainesway*

Pedigree Insights: Munitions Cont.

However, the BHA considers his best effort came when he ran to a figure of 117 in winning the Cambridgeshire H. on a fast turf course.

Of course, it's said that one swallow does not a summer make, and I would still be somewhat wary of Tapit's progeny in Europe. However, there are now encouraging signs that any such prejudice need not be applied to the progeny of Tapit's broodmare daughters. In the last few weeks we have seen them represented by Scat Daddy's fast son Sergei Prokofiev, who added the Listed Cork S. to his 2018 win in the G3 Cornwallis S., and War Front's Munitions, who was winning for the third time in five starts when he narrowly landed the G3 Prix Djebel.

Sandwiched between these two wins was the Japanese 1000 Guineas victory of Deep Impact's daughter Gran Alegria, with this winner of the G1 Oka Sho being a daughter of Tapit's GI turf winner Tapitsfly. This success has also spread as far as Australia, where this year's Group 2 seven-furlong winner Qafila was sired by Not A Single Doubt from Zighy Bay, a Tapit mare who was placed in the French Provinces.

It was a bold move by Godolphin to send Munitions to be trained in Europe after purchasing the Winchell-bred colt for \$550,000. After all, the Djebel winner is by War Front, a stallion who raced only on dirt during a 13-race career, and he is out of War Echo, a four-time winner on dirt, including in the GIII Silverbulletday S. over 1 1/16 miles and the Daily Racing Form Distaff S. over a mile and an eighth. War Echo is herself a three-parts-sister to Pyro, a Grade I-winning dirt specialist sired by Tapit's sire Pulpit.

As I've already mentioned, War Echo is by Tapit, another who raced only on dirt. The next dam, Wild Vision, won on dirt on her only appearance and was a sister to Wild Wonder, a multiple graded winner at up to 1 1/16 miles on dirt.

Perhaps the Godolphin team remembered that War Echo's brother Farrier handled turf well enough to finish second to Tryster in the G1 Jebel Hatta in 2016. Of course the Godolphin team will also have witnessed the turf exploits of numerous European-raced progeny of War Front, such as Roly Poly, U S Navy Flag, Declaration of War, Air Force Blue, Brave Anna and War Command. It will be interesting to see whether Munitions can become another European Group 1 winner for the Claiborne stallion. His chances of doing so will improve if he stays a mile, which he should.

Munitions belongs to a crop which promises to be one of War Front's best, and most versatile. Other members include Omaha Beach and War of Will, both of whom have done so well on dirt that they are on the Kentucky Derby trail. Omaha Beach ranks second on the points table behind Tapit's son Tacitus, having amassed 137.5 points, principally from his victories in the GII Rebel S. and the GI Arkansas Derby. War of Will ([whose pedigree I reviewed](#) on Jan. 21) ranks 12th, with 60 points, having won the GIII Lecomte S. and the GII Risen Star S.

Omaha Beach RNA'd at \$625,000 as a yearling, despite possessing a first-rate pedigree. His dam, the Seeking The Gold mare Charming, has already produced a champion in the top American juvenile filly Take Charge Brandi. Charming is also a daughter of the outstanding racemare Take Charge Lady, which makes her a half-sister to the top colts Will Take Charge (GI Travers S.) and Take Charge Indy (GI Florida Derby). This reads like a dirt pedigree, but Omaha Beach's older brother Courage Under Fire chased home Caravaggio after setting the pace for his long-odds-on stablemate in the G1 Phoenix S. in 2016.

Other members of War Front's 2016 crop, which was sired at \$150,000, include Fog of War (GI Summer S.), Dogtag and Simmering (both listed winners on turf at two in the U.S.) and the group-placed fillies Secret Thoughts and Happen.

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Munitions, by War Front out of a Tapit mare | *Scoop Dyga*

ON TO THE CRAVEN

“Happy New Year” used to be the traditional greeting at Newmarket’s Craven meeting and for aficionados of racing on the level it was apt, even allowing for the excitement of the Cheltenham festival and Grand National that preceded it. Tuesday sees it come around again on racing’s welcome continuous cycle with a storm of some of the world’s finest bloodstock cutting through the vibrant spring air. This year, due to the nature of a late Easter, the Suffolk venue’s first major feast of the season takes place after Newbury and ParisLongchamp’s Classic trials so there is a sense that we are already well underway. Nevertheless, these three days at “HQ” have a unique appeal as the true high-board of the flat and a glance down the honour roll of the Nell Gwyn and Craven S. certainly says so.

The former, a Group 3 contest over seven furlongs for the fillies whose connections are set on the 1000 Guineas, graces the opening fixture on Tuesday with it now being 13 years since *Speciosa (Ire)* (Daneshill Dancer {Ire}) won it and the main event. Despite that statistic, it is always a trial of substance, more so for the beaten fillies of late with the Hannon-trained pair of *Billesdon Brook (GB)* (*Champs Elysees (GB)*) and *Sky Lantern (Ire)* (*Red Clubs (Ire)*) turning around reversals in the 2 1/2-week gap between this and the mile Classic.

Roger Varian has a strong contingent this time, with the stable’s G3 *Oh So Sharp S.* winner **Mot Juste** (*Distorted Humor*) carrying the famous silks of Robert Barnett just three days after the owner-breeder’s *Star Terms (GB)* (*Sea the Stars (Ire)*) ran a creditable fourth in the *Fred Darling*. Alongside her is Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani’s course-and-distance maiden winner **Qabala** (*Scat Daddy*) and despite the gulf in experience that exists between the duo their trainer is highly complimentary of both.

“*Mot Juste* has wintered well and strengthened up considerably,” he said. “I am pleased with the way she has been working but, although she is ready for a run, the *Nell Gwyn* will bring her on and we are treating it as a stepping stone to the rest of the season for her. She has a fast ground action--the ground is quite important to her--so the dry forecast is in her favour. I hope that she is a filly good enough to merit a place in the 1000 Guineas line-up.

“*Qabala* is a filly full of potential and I think that she is a

group-race performer of the future. This will tell us a lot about her current level and if she is more of a filly for later in the season.”

Racecourse savvy is supplied in abundance by Saif Ali’s **Main Edition (Ire)** (*Zoffany (Ire)*), who was out last May and scooped the prizes on offer in the G3 *Albany S.* at Royal Ascot and the G3 *Sweet Solera S.* on the July Course here before winding up third behind *Just Wonderful (Dansili (GB))* and Saturday’s *Fred Darling* winner *Dandhu (GB)* (*Dandy Man (Ire)*) in the G2 *Rockfel S.* over this track and trip in September. Charlie Johnston, assistant to father Mark, is in confident mood. “She’s the highest-rated filly in the race and on her *Albany* and *Sweet Solera* runs, she’s the one they all have to beat,” he commented. “It looks a decent opportunity for her and hopefully she can give us some confidence that we can come back to Newmarket next month with a realistic each-way chance.”

Charlie Appleby’s performance at this meeting 12 months ago



Roger Varian holds a strong hand in the *Nell Gwyn* | *Racing Post*

was outstanding and his pair of fillies by *Dubawi (Ire)*, **Nashirah (GB)** and **Orchid Star (GB)**, will provide a guide as to where he stands with his Classic crop. *Nashirah* has the benefit of a Dubai winter behind her and is obviously considered better than her latest fifth in the Jan. 31 *Meydan Classic Trial* over this trip, while *Orchid Star* has been on the all-weather during the cold months. An impressive winner of a mile novice contest on Newcastle’s *Tapeta* last time Feb. 15, she may have a touch of last

year’s winner *Soliloquy (GB)* about her. “We feel that going back up in trip will probably be on the cards for *Orchid Star* in time,” Appleby commented. “She has made all on her last two starts and will be ridden forwardly again, especially as she is coming back to seven furlongs.”

It is 28 years since the winner of the Listed *European Free H.* went on to 2000 Guineas glory and while it seems fanciful to suggest that any of this year’s cast of seven can end the drought, there is a promising type in the John Gosden-trained **Azano (GB)** (*Oasis Dream (GB)*). Last seen finishing runner-up to Saturday’s impressive G3 *Greenham S.* winner *Mohaather (GB)* (*Showcasing (GB)*) in Newbury’s G3 *Horris Hill S.* over this seven-furlong trip, Martin and Lee Taylor’s bay gets six pounds from Saeed bin Mohammed Al Qassimi’s G3 *Tattersalls S.* winner **Arctic Sound (GB)** (*Poet’s Voice (GB)*) with the racing weights determined by the horses’ positioning in the World Rankings. [Cont. p10](#)



Phoenix Thoroughbreds' Kadar | *Racing Post*

Craven Meeting Day 1 Preview Cont.

Despite having to give weight to all, Arctic Sound carries high hopes into his comeback. “He’s a course-and-distance winner and I’d like to think he’s the one they all have to beat,” Charlie Johnston said of him.

Nestled between the Nell Gwyn and European Free is the Listed Feilden S., where Phoenix Thoroughbred’s **Kadar** (Scat Daddy) will be seen for the second time after missing two group engagements last season due to rain-softened ground. Having beaten ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ and strong-staying type Waldstern (GB) (Sea the Stars {Ire}) in a mile novice race at Haydock in September, he is moving up to nine furlongs rather than tackling the speedier Classic trials. “We’ll learn a lot about him,” trainer Karl Burke commented. “I’ve said plenty about him in the last year—probably too much—but I think he’s a lovely horse.”

Burke has made no secret of the regard in which the €700,000 Arqana May Breeze-Up graduate is held, but said he feels that the Guineas may be on the sharp side. “I hope I’m wrong, but he is just showing that a mile in the top grade might just catch him out for a turn of foot which is why I’m happy to run him over an extra furlong,” he added. “For me he’s a mile-and-a-quarter-horse plus. If he wins then we have the option of coming back for the Guineas, because he’ll have had a look at the track as well. I was probably over cautious last year—he was a big baby of a horse, but he’s much more mature now.”

Kadar’s material will be measured in his performance against Aidan O’Brien’s G1 Futurity Trophy third **Western Australia (Ire)** (Australia {GB}) and he is race-fit after a return second in Dundalk’s Listed Patton S. Mar. 6.

Newmarket’s Craven meeting is not just about the black-type races, however, with abundant promise in evidence in the various maidens and novice races. Last year, Sea of Class (Ire)

(Sea the Stars {Ire}) managed to get beaten on her debut in the second division of the mile fillies’ maiden on this card and the next time she tasted defeat was at the hands of Enable (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}) in the Arc. Even the closing 10-furlong handicap has proved a surprisingly fertile source of classy individuals in recent times, with Papal Bull (GB) (Montjeu {Ire}), Wigmore Hall (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}), Main Sequence (Aldebaran) and Old Persian (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) all winning before achieving on a more grandiose scale. Perhaps Papal Bull’s trainer Sir Michael Stoute has high hopes for Saeed Suhail’s Newcastle novice winner **Solid Stone (Ire)** (Shamardal) in this year’s renewal, with the colt being his only runner on the opening card. In the five-furlong 2-year-old fillies’ maiden, Charlie Appleby unleashes Godolphin’s 750,000gns Tattersalls October purchase **Chasing Dreams (GB)** (Starspangledbanner {Aus}) as the operation’s first juvenile runner of 2019.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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2000 GUINEAS CONTENDERS TO GALLOP BEFORE RACING

G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas contenders **Phoenix Of Spain (Ire)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}) and **Advertise (GB)** (Showcasing {GB}) will both work publically on Newmarket’s Rowley Mile Racecourse in advance of racing on the first day of the three-day Craven Meeting on Tuesday. GSW Phoenix Of Spain, who won the G3 Acomb S. and ran second in the G1 Vertem Futurity S. in October for trainer Charlie Hills, will work over seven furlongs in company with a lead horse at 11:55 a.m. local time. G1 Phoenix S. victor and Phoenix Thoroughbred-owned Advertise is slated to work at 12:15 p.m. over six panels with a lead horse for trainer Martyn Meade. The first day of the Craven Meeting will feature eight races, with the first race going off at 1:15 p.m.

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FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS

Tuesday, Apr. 16, 2019:

UNITED KINGDOM

Due Diligence (War Front), Whitsbury Manor Stud
 85 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 16:10-NEWMARKET, 5f, GOOD VIBES (GB)
 £35,000 Goffs UK Premier & Silver Yearling Sale 2018



Due Diligence, runner-up in the G1 Diamond Jubilee S. and a listed scorer, is aiming at a first winner at Newmarket on Tuesday.
Whitsbury Manor Stud

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

4.10 Newmarket, Mdn, £8,000, 2yo, f, 5fT

CHASING DREAMS (GB) (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**) is Godolphin's first 2-year-old runner in Europe in 2019 and cost 750,000gns as a Tattersalls October yearling. A half-sister to the dual listed scorer Mrs Gallagher (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}), the Charlie Appleby trainee hails from the family of the Hong Kong celebrity Xtension (Ire) (Xaar {GB}).

4.45 Newmarket, Mdn, £10,000, 3yo, f, 8fT

ALANDALOS (GB) (**Invincible Spirit {Ire}**) bids to build on the promise of her debut fourth over this trip on Lingfield's

Polytrack in December for Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum and Charlie Hills in the second division of this maiden in which Sea of Class (Ire) (Sea the Stars {Ire}) was second 12 months ago. A daughter of the operation's G1 1000 Guineas and G1 Coronation S. heroine Ghanaati (Giant's Causeway), the late April-foaled bay is joined by fellow Shadwell representative **Tatweej (GB)** (**Invincible Spirit {Ire}**), an unraced Owen Burrows-trained 650,000gns TATOCT relative of the smart Bonfire (GB) (Manduro {Ger}) and Joviality (GB) (Cape Cross {Ire}).

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BRITAIN



Tuesday, Newmarket, post time: 2.25 p.m.

BET365 EUROPEAN FREE HANDICAP S.-Listed, €50,000, 3yo, 7fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	1	Arctic Sound (GB)	Poet's Voice (GB)	J Doyle	Johnston	133
2	5	Shine So Bright (GB)	Oasis Dream (GB)	S de Sousa	Balding	129
3	6	Kuwait Currency	Kitten's Joy	Marquand	Hannon	128
4	3	Azano (GB)	Oasis Dream (GB)	Dettori	Gosden	127
5	7	Victory Command (Ire)	War Command	Moore	Johnston	126
6	4	Space Traveller (GB)	Bated Breath (GB)	Tudhope	Fahey	125
7	2	Dubai Dominion (GB)	Pivotal (GB)	Murphy	Vaughan	123

Tuesday, Newmarket, post time: 3.00 p.m.

BET365 FEILDEN S.-Listed, €40,000, 3yo, 9fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	2	Boerhan (GB)	Sea the Stars (Ire)	J Doyle	Haggas
2	7	Kadar	Scat Daddy	Tudhope	Burke
3	5	Kick On (GB)	Charm Spirit (Ire)	Murphy	Gosden
4	6	Spanish Mission	Noble Mission (GB)	Spencer	Simcock
5	1	Walkinthesand (Ire)	Footstepsinthesand (GB)	Marquand	Hannon
6	4	Western Australia (Ire)	Australia (GB)	Moore	A O'Brien
7	3	I'll Have Another (Ire)	Dragon Pulse (Ire)	S de Sousa	Johnston

All carry 126 pounds bar I'll Have Another, 124.

Monday's Results:

1st-Pontefract, £6,000, Cond, 4-15, 2yo, 5f 3yT, 1:04.76, g/f.

ALMINOOR (IRE) (c, 2, **Kodiac {GB}**--**Aravonian {GB}**, by **Night Shift**), a neck second in his Apr. 2 debut over this at Musselburgh last time, broke sharply and led from flagfall here. Holding sway throughout, the 4-9 favourite was shaken up at the top of the straight and extended his advantage under mild urging in the closing stages to hit the line 4 1/2 lengths in advance of Bendy Spirit (Ire) (Helmet {Aus}). He is the latest foal and fifth winner produced by Aravonian (GB) (Night Shift).

1st-Pontefract Cont.

The bay is kin to G3 Ballyogan S. victress Age of Chivalry (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), GI Hollywood Derby second Sebastian Flyte (GB) (Observatory) and to the dam of G2 Flying Childers S. runner-up Astrophysics (GB) (Paco Boy {Ire}). Sales history: €52,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; £135,000 Ylg '18 GOUKPR. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$6,941. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum; B-Mrs P K O'Rourke (IRE); T-Mark Johnston.

2nd-Royal Windsor, £5,800, Cond, 4-15, 2yo, f, 5f 21yT, 1:01.77, gd.

LAMBETH WALK (GB) (f, 2, Charm Spirit {Ire}--Cockney Dancer {GB}, by Cockney Rebel {Ire}) was quickly into stride and raced in the vanguard from the outset of this first go. Nudged along with a quarter-mile remaining, the well-backed 4-5 favourite was ridden into a narrow lead approaching the final furlong and kept on strongly in the closing stages to assert by 2 1/2 lengths from Dr Simpson (Fr) (Dandy Man {GB}). "We haven't had her too long and I think she'll have learnt plenty there," said winning trainer Archie Watson. "I'm delighted and hope there's more to come yet." She is the latest of three living foals and lone scorer out of a winning half-sister to five stakes performers including Listed Dick Poole Fillies' S. third Roodeye (GB) (Inchior {GB}), who in turn is the dam of GII Monrovia S. and GII San Clemente H. victress Prize Exhibit (GB) (Showcasing {GB}), G3 Horris Hill S. and recent G3 Greenham S. winner Mohaather (GB) (Showcasing {GB}) and the stakes-placed Harbour Master (GB) (Harbour Watch {Ire}). Roodeye is also the granddam of G1 Queen Anne S. hero Accidental Agent (GB) (Delegator {GB}). Sales history: 22,000gns Ylg '18 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,905. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** 1ST-TIME STARTER. O-Blackbrier Racing; B-The Kathryn Stud (GB); T-Archie Watson.



A PERFORMANCE GENETICS SELECTION

5th-Pontefract, £6,000, Novice, 4-15, 3yo/up, f, 6fT, 1:18.69, g/f.

MELROSE WAY (GB) (f, 3, Mayson {GB}--Winter's Night {Ire} {MSP-Eng, \$104,606}, by Night Shift), a 20-1 shot, was a slow starter from her widest draw and found herself in rear as a result. Working her way into contention after the home turn, the homebred denied Texting (GB) (Charm Spirit {Ire}) in the shade of the post by a short head. Yet another promising performer for her owner-breeder David Armstrong whose star was first placed in the ascendant by this filly's sire, she is the first foal out a useful miler who was third in Royal Ascot's Listed Sandringham H. From the family of the G2 Diadem S. scorer and G1 Golden Jubilee S. third Baron's Pit (GB) (Night Shift), she also

has a 2-year-old filly by Garswood (GB) named Yarrow Gate (GB) and a yearling full-sister to the winner. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,074. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-Mr David Armstrong; B-Highfield Farm LLP (GB); T-James Bethell.

5th-Royal Windsor, £5,800, Novice, 4-15, 3yo, 10fT, 2:06.87, gd. TELECASTER (GB) (c, 3, New Approach {Ire}--Shirocco Star {GB} {G1SP-Eng, MG1SP-Ire & GSP-Fr, \$485,970}, by Shirocco {Ger}), a son of the stable's G1 Epsom and Irish Oaks runner-up, had caught the eye when runner-up to the useful Bangkok (Ire) (Australia {GB}) in a Doncaster maiden on debut Mar. 30 and tanked his way to the front after the first quarter mile. Always in total command, the 10-11 favourite powered clear under Oisín Murphy to record an emphatic nine-length success from Deal a Dollar (GB) (Frankel {GB}). Trainer Hughie Morrison was letting all know his regard for the G2 Dante S. entry afterwards. "He's obviously a very nice horse--he proved that at Doncaster against a very good one of Andrew [Balding]'s," he said. "He's not his mother's son for nothing, he's jig-joggy. We had to canter his mother every day of the year, otherwise she'd do somersaults on the way home. We've got a week or two to think about what next. He's in the Dante, we know he's good, we worked that out at home and he did what we expected today. The Dante is a very good option, but I'm told there are an awful lot of good horses in Ireland and an awful lot of good horses in Newmarket--and not to mention some good ones at Kingsclere, so we'll see how we go." Telecaster is the second foal out Shirocco Star, who aside from her Oaks placings was also third in the G1 Pretty Polly S. and runner-up in the G2 QIPCO British Champions Fillies & Mares S. and G2 Prix de Royallieu. From the family of Ballydoyle's G3 Tetrarch S. winner and G1 Irish 2000 Guineas runner-up France (GB) (Desert Prince {Ire}), she is also connected to the listed scorer Hippy Hippy Shake (GB) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) whose daughter Twist 'n' Shake (GB) (Kingman {GB}) runs in a maiden at Newmarket's Craven meeting on Tuesday. Shirocco Star's 2-year-old colt by Dubawi (Ire) was bought for 1.1million gns by Stroud Coleman Bloodstock at last year's Tattersalls October Sale and that sizeable investment looks even better now. Sales history: 180,000gns RNA Ylg '17 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$6,361. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Castle Down Racing; B-Meon Valley Stud (GB); T-Hughie Morrison.

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BET365 EXTENDS CRAVEN MEETING SPONSORSHIP



Masar winning the 2018 Craven S. | *Racing Post*

A deal has been struck between Newmarket Racecourse and bet365, which sees Newmarket’s three-day Craven Meeting sponsorship extended another three years, it was announced on Monday. The bet365 Craven Meeting is the first of 39 fixtures held at HQ in 2019 and begins on Tuesday, with the G3 bet365 Craven S., won last year by subsequent G1 Investec Derby hero Masar (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}), on tap for Wednesday’s card.

“We are delighted to have agreed an extended deal with bet365 ahead of what is sure to be another fantastic curtain raiser to the 2019 season at the Home of Horseracing,” said Amy Starkey, Regional Director of The Jockey Club, East Region. “bet365 have long been valued supporters of Newmarket Racecourses and we are excited to discover which star names will emerge at bet365 Craven Meetings in the seasons to come.”

Added bet365 Head of Racing PR Pat Cooney, ““We are delighted to continue our support of the Craven Meeting for a further three years, maintaining our close relationship with Newmarket Racecourses. Our association with this meeting goes back many years and we are looking forward to welcoming in the new Flat season at the Home of Horseracing.”

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BIG ORANGE TO STAY AT PALACE HOUSE UNTIL JUNE

2017 G1 Ascot Gold Cup hero **Big Orange (GB)** (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}), will be on a working holiday to do meet and greets with museum visitors at the Rothschild Yard at Palace House in Newmarket until June, Palace House announced on Monday. The yard is the flagship yard for the charity Retraining of Racehorses (RoR) and is part of the National Heritage Centre

for Horseracing & Sporting Art. Retired in February of this year, the Bill and Tim Gredley colourbearer won nine of his 27 starts for trainer Michael Bell.

“We are so pleased that Big Orange will continue his retirement at Palace House, having been born and bred at Stetchworth and trained locally by Michael Bell, he really is a Newmarket boy through and through,” said Tim Gredley of the bay, who will return to Stetchworth Park Stud later this summer. “It’s great that he’s going to spend a few months in the heart of the town where visitors to the museum can meet him and importantly see the great work of the RoR.”

“It really is such an honour to have Big Orange join the Retraining of Racehorses yard here at Palace House,” said Palace House Director Chris Garibaldi. “ We are incredibly grateful to Bill and Tim Gredley for their long-standing support of Palace House and for their generosity in lending us their much loved racehorse to highlight the wonderful work the RoR does.”

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Michael Bell, Bill Gredley, Sue Molloy & Tim Gredley pictured with Big Orange in the Rothschild Yard | *Palace House*

FRANCE



Monday’s Results:

2nd-Maisons-Laffitte, €25,000, Mdn, 4-15, unraced 3yo, 12fT, 2:39.10, g/s.

PSARA (GB) (f, 3, Invincible Spirit {Ire}--Pacifique {Ire} {GSW-Fr, \$154,107}, by Montjeu {Ire}) tracked the leaders in fifth for the most part. Making smooth headway in the straight, the 27-10 favourite quickened to challenge approaching the final furlong and was pushed clear to score by an impressive five lengths from Kendancer (Fr) (Kendargent {Fr}). [Cont. p14](#)



Psara skips home a five-length winner | Scoop Dyga

2nd-Maisons-Laffitte Cont.

Kin to the hitherto unraced 2-year-old filly Paix (Ire) (Muhaarar {GB}), she becomes the second scorer produced by G3 Prix de Lutece victress Pacifique (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}), herself a half-sister to Listed Prix de la Seine winner Prudenzia (Ire) (Dansili {GB}), who in turn is the dam of G1 Irish Oaks heroine Chicquita (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}) and MG1SP G2 Ribblesdale S. victress Magic Wand (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). Sales history: €250,000 Ylg '17 ARAUG. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

1ST-TIME STARTER. Ecurie d'Authuit, Langlais Bloodstock, Ecurie des Monceaux & Ecurie Skymarc Farm; B-Ecurie des Monceaux & Ecurie Skymarc Farm (GB); T-Henri-Francois Devin.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

6th-Maisons-Laffitte, €28,000, Cond, 4-15, 4yo/up, 12fT, 2:34.96, g/s.

VILLA ROSA (FR) (f, 4, Doctor Dino {Fr}--Villa Joyeuse {Fr}, by Kahyasi {Ire}) Lifetime Record: SP-Fr, 7-3-1-1, €65,050. O/B-Mme Antonia Devin (FR); T-Henri-Francois Devin. *1/2 to Zemindari (Fr) (Zanzibari), SP-Fr, \$121,299.

4th-Maisons-Laffitte, €28,000, Cond, 4-15, 4yo/up, 8fT, 1:37.54, g/s.

BUTHELA (FR) (g, 5, Acclamation {GB}--Tribune {SW-Fr}, by Grand Slam) Lifetime Record: GSP-Fr, 6-3-2-0, €95,525. O-Al Shaqab Racing; B-Ecurie des Monceaux (FR); T-Andre Fabre. *€240,000 Ylg '15 ARAUG. **1/2 to Deemster (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), SW-Fr.

1st-Toulouse, €22,000, Cond, 4-15, 3yo, 8fT, 1:36.50, gd.
ER FAINA (c, 3, Justin Phillip--Escape to Victory {GB}, by Salse) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, €18,500. O-Marco Bozzi; B-Castleton Lyons Inc (KY); T-Christophe Ferland. *38,000gns RNA 2yo '18

TATGNS. **1/2 to Benbaun (Ire) (Stravinsky), 2x Hwt. Older Horse-Ire at 5-6f, Hwt. Older Horse-Eng & Fr at 5-7f, G1SW-Fr, MGSW-Ire, G1SP-Eng & HK, GSP-Ity, \$1,495,382; and Captain Colby (Bernstein), SP-Eng, \$176,236.

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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

La Yakfi (Fr), c, 3, **Makfi (GB)**--Really Lovely (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Fontainebleau, 4-14, 8fT, 1:40.03. B-Stud RDI (FR). *€30,000 Ylg '17 AROCT. **1/2 to Falcao Negro (GB) (Canford Cliffs {Ire}), SW-Fr, \$174,270; and Gipoia (Fr) (Medicean {GB}), SW-Fr.

Miss Ipanema (Fr), f, 3, **Sepoy (Aus)**--Miss Santiago (Fr), by Smadoun (Fr). La-Roche-sur-Yon, 4-14, 12fT, 2:37.70. B-SCEA des Prairies & Ecurie Celtica (FR).

Coeur de Pierre (Fr), g, 3, **Zanzibari**--Twilight Tear (GB), by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire). Strasbourg, 4-14, 7fT, 1:30.81. B-Haras de Grandcamp EARL (FR). *€47,000 Ylg '17 OSLATE. **1/2 to Coeur de Beaute (Fr) (Dabirsim {Fr}), GSW & G1SP-Fr, \$303,398.



IN MAINLAND CHINA:

Wu Zhui Ta Xue (GB), c, 3, **Girolamo**--Love Dancing (Arg) (GSW-Arg, SP-UAE), by Salt Lake. Wuhan, 4-13, 1000m (A\$10,387), Sand Track, 1:02.38. O-Huayu Horse Industry. B-Godolphin (GB). **VIDEO.** *€4,500 Ylg '17 TATSEP.

WINNERS BY EUROPEAN SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Territorial (Jpn), h, 5, **Teofilo (Ire)**--Conservatoire, by Street Cry (Ire). Hanshin, 4-14, Namba S., 9fT. Lifetime Record: 20-5-4-4, \$802,679. O-Godolphin; B-Darley Japan Farm (Jpn); T-Katsuichi Nishiura.

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Tuesday, Newmarket, Britain, post time: 3.35 p.m.

LANWADES STUD NELL GWYN S.-G3, £60,000, 3yo, f, 7FT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	5	Angel's Hideaway (Ire)	Dark Angel (Ire)	Havlin	Gosden	126
2	10	Come On Leicester (Ire)	Kodiac (GB)	S de Sousa	Hannon	126
3	8	Look Around (GB)	Kingman (GB)	Murphy	Balding	126
4	9	Main Edition (Ire)	Zoffany (Ire)	Moore	Johnston	126
5	11	Mercenary Rose (Ire)	Sepoy (Aus)	Probert	Cole	126
6	2	Mistress of Love 	Scat Daddy	Tudhope	Burke	126
7	6	Mot Juste	Distorted Humor	Atzeni	Varian	126
8	1	Nashirah (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Buick	Appleby	126
9	4	Orchid Star (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	J Doyle	Appleby	126
10	7	Qabala	Scat Daddy	D Egan	Varian	126
11	3	Sunday Star (GB)	Kodiac (GB)	Mosse	Walker	126

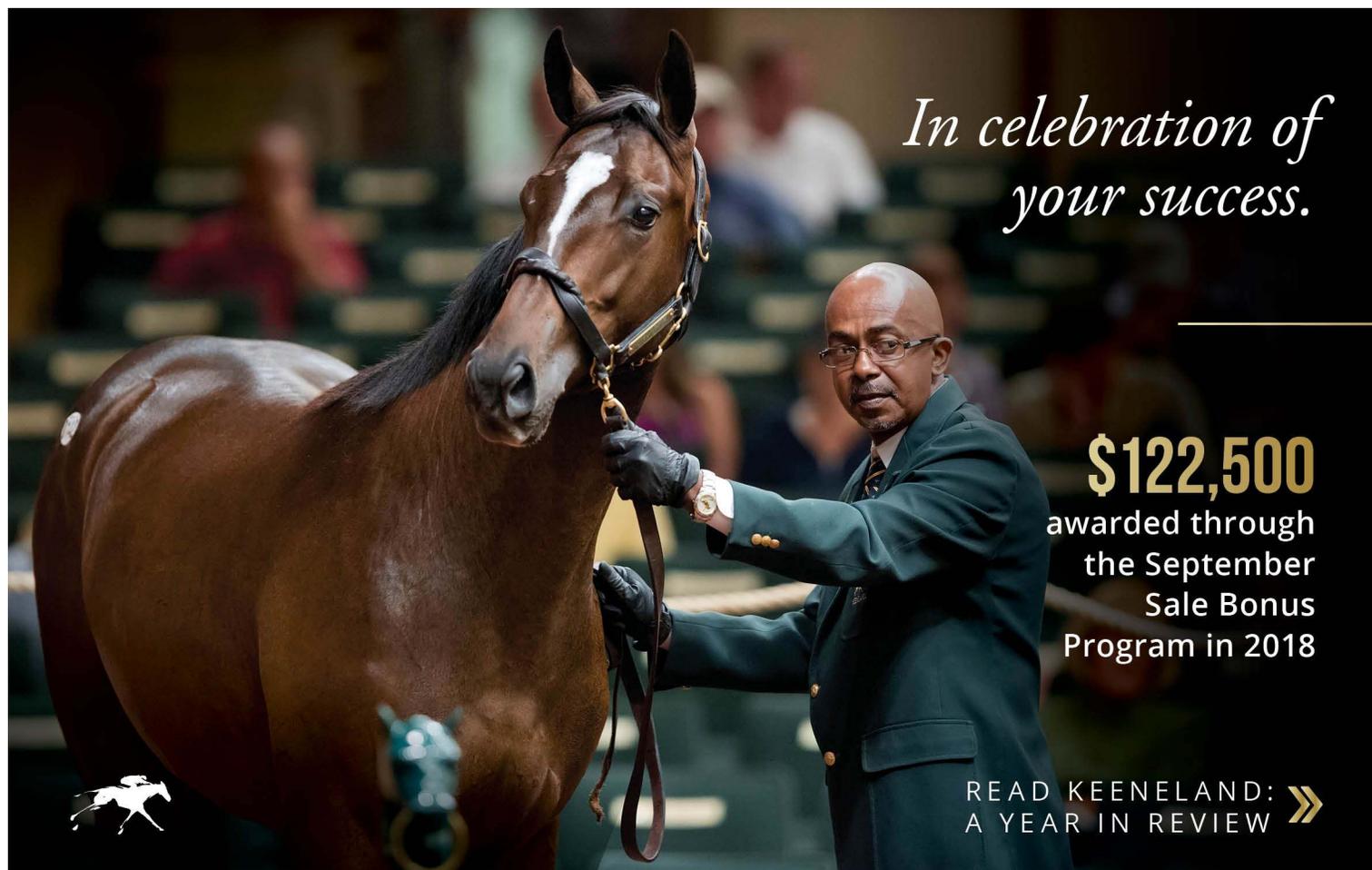
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Leading Sires of 3-Year-Olds by GSH

for stallions standing in Europe through Sunday, Apr. 14

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2019 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Le Havre (Ire) <i>(2006) by Noverre Crops: 7</i>	2	4	2	4	--	--	57	15	410,649	791,117
				<i>Stands: Haras de Montfort & Preaux Fr Fee: €45,000</i>				<i>Pourville (Jpn)</i>			
2	Siyouni (Fr) <i>(2007) by Pivotal (GB) Crops: 6</i>	1	3	--	2	--	--	61	12	63,520	369,210
				<i>Stands: Haras de Bonneval Fr Fee: €100,000</i>				<i>Caen Tesoro (Fr)</i>			
3	Invincible Spirit (Ire) <i>(1997) by Green Desert Crops: 14</i>	2	3	1	2	--	--	31	6	128,000	345,167
				<i>Stands: Irish National Stud Ire Fee: €120,000</i>				<i>Swift Rose (Ire)</i>			
4	Olympic Glory (Ire) <i>(2010) by Choisir (Aus) Crops: 2</i>	2	4	1	2	--	--	45	10	45,048	259,591
				<i>Stands: Haras de Bouquetot Fr Fee: €8,000</i>				<i>Watch Me (Fr)</i>			
5	Dandy Man (Ire) <i>(2003) by Mozart (Ire) Crops: 7</i>	2	2	2	2	--	--	65	13	44,486	231,431
				<i>Stands: Ballyhane Stud Ire Fee: €12,500</i>				<i>Dandhu (GB)</i>			
6	Shamardal <i>(2002) by Giant's Causeway Crops: 12</i>	2	2	2	2	--	--	23	8	76,019	203,965
				<i>Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: Private</i>				<i>Shaman (Ire)</i>			
7	Frankel (GB) <i>(2008) by Galileo (Ire) Crops: 4</i>	--	2	--	2	--	--	22	5	23,426	163,883
				<i>Stands: Banstead Manor Stud Eng Fee: £175,000</i>				<i>Steen (Ire)</i>			
8	Wootton Bassett (GB) <i>(2008) by Iffraaj (GB) Crops: 5</i>	--	2	--	2	--	--	20	5	33,908	148,328
				<i>Stands: Haras d'Etream Fr Fee: €40,000</i>				<i>Wookie (Fr)</i>			
9	Kodiac (GB) <i>(2001) by Danehill Crops: 10</i>	4	5	--	1	--	--	69	20	150,000	598,227
				<i>Stands: Tally-Ho Stud Ire Fee: €65,000</i>				<i>Silva (Ire)</i>			
10	Planteur (Ire) <i>(2007) by Danehill Dancer (Ire) Crops: 3</i>	--	1	--	1	--	--	28	6	360,000	482,525
				<i>Stands: Haras du Grand Courgeon Fr Fee: €2,500</i>				<i>Manguzi (Fr)</i>			
11	No Nay Never <i>(2011) by Scat Daddy Crops: 2</i>	2	5	--	1	--	--	35	9	91,505	440,206
				<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €100,000</i>				<i>Unicorn Lion (Ire)</i>			
12	Kendargent (Fr) <i>(2003) by Kendor (Fr) Crops: 9</i>	1	2	--	1	--	--	52	18	41,914	367,190
				<i>Stands: Haras de Colleville Fr Fee: €17,000</i>				<i>Veronesi (Fr)</i>			
13	Dubawi (Ire) <i>(2002) by Dubai Millennium (GB) Crops: 11</i>	1	2	--	1	--	--	30	6	186,392	330,887
				<i>Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £250,000</i>				<i>Vachement (GB)</i>			
14	Society Rock (Ire) <i>(2007) by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire) Crops: 3</i>	1	1	1	1	--	--	31	6	123,638	228,596
				<i>Stands: Tally-Ho Stud EUR (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>				<i>The Mackem Bullet (Ire)</i>			
15	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire) <i>(2004) by Danehill Crops: 10</i>	--	3	--	1	--	--	25	6	64,396	228,150
				<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €15,000</i>				<i>Luchador (GB)</i>			

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BAFFERT BELIEVES JUSTIFY, PHAROAH SUITED TO AUS



American Pharoah | Coolmore

by Bill Finley

What did trainer Bob Baffert have to say when asked about who Winx should go to in her first season?

A radio station wanted to know what American trainer Bob Baffert thought of **Winx** (Street Cry {Ire}). Like virtually everyone else, he used every superlative he could think of to describe her racing career and then offered some advice to her owners.

"They should breed her to Justify," he said. "That would be like breeding the perfect horse to the perfect horse. I can't imagine the possibilities of what that baby could amount to."

Team Winx will have that chance now that it has been announced that the 2018 U.S. Triple Crown winner Justify (USA) (Scat Daddy {USA}) will shuttle to Coolmore Australia for the 2019 Southern Hemisphere breeding season, where he will stand for a private fee. Justify will stand alongside fellow Triple Crown winner American Pharoah (USA) (Pioneer of the Nile {USA}), who was also trained by Baffert.

Brilliance Not a Guarantee

Brilliance on the racetrack does not always guarantee that a horse will turn out to be a good sire.

Of the three American Triple Crown winners in the 1970s, only Seattle Slew (USA) proved to be an outstanding stallion. Secretariat (USA) was not a bad sire, but did not live up to the very high exceptions set on him when he retired. Affirmed (USA) was not a particularly productive stallion.

Yet, Baffert said that both Justify and American Pharoah have all the tools to become top stallions. And, though neither one ran on the grass, he believes their offspring will handle that surface without any problems.

Baffert describes Justify as the type of horse you rarely see, in that he was absolutely the perfect horse, that there was not one box that was not checked off.

"With Justify, his body, the way he was built, if he were a bodybuilder, he would have been Mr. Universe," the Hall of Fame trainer said. "He could do it all. Justify, it's very rare to see a horse like him. He was perfect."

His jockey, Mike Smith, concurs, "He certainly has the pedigree to be a great stallion," Smith said. "He had everything it takes that you want to see in a horse that's going to be a stallion. He was naturally quick with a very high cruising speed. Has a lot of stamina. Has the looks to go along with it, not to mention the athleticism and balance that he had."

When a U.S. campaigned dirt horse goes over to Australia as a shuttle sire, there's always the question of whether or not their progeny will take to the turf. With Justify, that probably won't be a problem because his sire, Scat Daddy, is renowned for his ability to produce top turf horses. **Cont. p2**



Justify | Horsephotos

Truly Versatile

Baffert said when he first looked at Justify’s pedigree he thought he had a turf sprinter on his hands. He was not a sprinter and he was untested on the turf, but Baffert believes he would have thrived on that surface. He could not take him to Royal Ascot because the races there conflicted with the American Triple Crown, but he wishes he had had the chance.

“I would have loved to take him over there for the race they have for 3-year-olds, [the G1 St. James’s Palace S.],” Baffert said. “He would have smoked them. When they’re that great they can run on anything. When he gets to Australia and they look at him they are going to go ‘wow’. He’s always had the wow factor.”

While both great horses, American Pharoah and Justify were not the same physically, Baffert said.

“They’re actually two different types of horses,” he said. “Pharoah was more of a leaner horse. He could get over the ground. Justify was a big strong heavy horse. He weighed 1,300 pounds. But both had the trait where there was something dominant about them. If another horse tried to run with them they would just shake them off.”



American Pharoah | Sarah K. Andrew

American Pharoah may not have as much grass in his pedigree as Justify does, but Baffert doesn’t see that as a problem.

“I think Pharoah could have been a grass horse too,” he said. “His mechanics, he just glided over the track. You watch him breeze, his mechanics were beautiful. He would just skip over the ground and that tells me he could have run on the grass.”

The results will be in on American Pharoah first as his horses bred in the Northern Hemisphere are now 2-year-olds. **Cont. p3**



Mike Smith pictured with Triple Crown winner Justify (Scat Daddy). Coolmore America

Baffert on His Triple Crown Winners Cont.

He's already had his first winner. 'TDN Rising Star' Monarch of Egypt (USA) won on Apr. 13 at Naas in Ireland for the co-owners Coolmore and Peter Brant. The race was, of course, on the turf.

From what U.S. horsemen have seen so far from American Pharoah's first crop, most think he has all the attributes to be exceptional stallion. The consensus is that, as 2-year-olds, they will come out relatively early but will reach their peak in the Autumn of their juvenile season.

"When you have a horse like that who stands for a lot of money, you're not going to put them through the early rigors like you would with a horse by a \$20,000 sire," Baffert said. "You're going to train them a little bit differently. There were a lot in the sales, but, the really good ones, people kept them. He's going to come up with a lot of good horses. He almost has to. He was one of the greatest ever."

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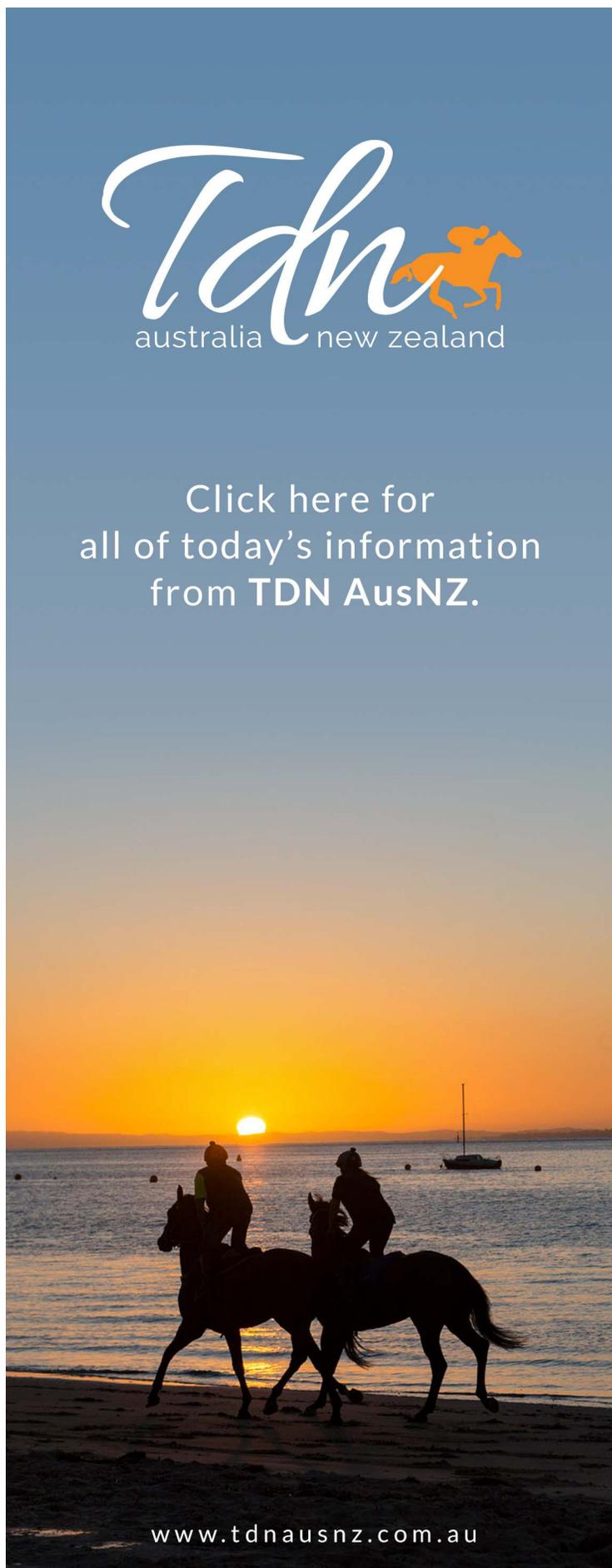
IN MAINLAND CHINA:

Teng Hui Zhan Shen (Aus), c, 3, **Denman (Aus)**--Candy Stripes (Aus) (SP-Aus), by Commands (Aus). Chengdu, 4-13, 1000m (A\$10,387), Sand Track, 1:01.86. O-Zhang Jian. B-Lauriston Thoroughbred Farm (Vic). **VIDEO**. *A\$20,000 Ylg '17 INGMAR.

Ling Jun Tian Shi (Aus), m, 5, **Snippetson (Aus)**--Story (Aus), by Encosta de Lago (Aus). Wuhan 4-13, 1200m (A\$10,387), Sand Track, 1:15.17. O-Ma Junping. B-Newhaven Park Stud, Mr E J Smith (NSW). **VIDEO**. *A\$4,500 Wlg '14 MGLMAY; A\$17,000 Ylg '15 MMLIAN.


australia new zealand

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**TATTERSALLS CRAVEN BREEZE UP
SALE - DAY 1**

PINHOOK GUIDE

Lot	Sex	Pedigree	Price	Sale	Buyer
1	c	Shamardal x Saltanat	45,000	TATOCT2	Blandford BS
2	c	Make Believe x Sandslide	10,000	GOFSP0	Vendor
3	c	Kodiac x Savana Pearl	57,000	SGSEP	C Marnane
4	c	Competitive Edge x Savannah	40,000	KEESEP	Star Bloodstock
5	c	Intello x Shake The Moon	40,000	GOFORB	Vendor
6	f	Kingman x Shyrl	92,000	TADEY	Stroud Coleman BS
7	f	Kodiac x Sindjara	140,000	GOFORB	Vendor
8	c	No Nay Never x Sivensen	35,000	GUKPRE	Pegasus BS
9	c	Declaration of War x Snooki	52,000	KEESEP	Margaret O'Toole
10	c	Kingman x Soul of Houdini	100,000	TATOCT2	BBA Ireland
11	f	Sea The Stars x Spinaminnie	120,000	TATOCT1	J B BS
12	f	Exceed And Excel x Starry Messenger	100,000	TATOCT1	J B BS
14	c	The Wow Signal x Storia Dell'isola	22,000	OSASEP	C Marnane
15	c	Night of Thunder x Sunset Avenue	48,000	TATOCT2	Brown Island Stables
16	c	Flatter x Suzee Sunrise	90,000	KEENOV	S.W. Stable
17	c	Carpe Diem x Sweet Maya	35,000	KEESEP	Lock 17 Bloodstock
18	c	Exceed And Excel x Switcher	80,000	TATOCT2	Vendor
19	c	No Nay Never x Sylvestris	80,000	TATOCT2	J B BS
20	c	Dansili x Time Saved	110,000	TATOCT1	Vendor
22	c	Camacho x Toparali	10,000	TATOCT3	Emerald BS
23	c	Night of Thunder x Travel	200,000	TATDEC	Jamie Railton
24	c	Tamayuz x Tumooch	15,000	TATIRESEP	All Seasons Farm
25	c	Kingman x Upper Street	90,000	GOFORB	Vendor
26	c	Slade Power x Vetlana	60,000	TATOCT1	Richard Knight BS Agent
27	c	Muhaarar x Weekend Fling	400,000	GOFORB	BBA (Ireland)
28	c	Starspangledbanner x Welcome Spring	300,000	GOFORB	Ric Wylie BS
29	c	American Pharoah x Wile Cat	375,000	KEESEP	Alliance Bloodstock / Dale Brennan
30	c	Muhaarar x Xceedingly Xcited	65,000	TATOCT2	Vendor
31	f	Exceed And Excel x Ya Latif	35,000	TATOCT2	Howson & Houldsworth BS
32	c	Hard Spun x You Make Luvin Fun	60,000	KEESEP	Friars Lough Stables
33	c	Kodiac x Absolutely Cool	180,000	TATOCT1	Sheikh Abdullah Alsabah
34	f	Iffraaj x Ajaadat	11,000	TATIRESEP	Highfield Stud
35	c	Lemon Drop Kid x Alec's Moon	20,000	KEESEP	J B Bloodstock
36	c	Kodiac x Alexander Youth	110,000	TATOCT2	Tally-Ho Stud
37	f	Night of Thunder x Aljaazya	60,000	GUKPRE	Rabbah BS
38	f	Dandy Man x Amethystos	60,000	GUKPRE	Vendor
39	c	Gutaifan x Anadolu	50,000	GOFORB	Yeomanstown Stud (P.S.)
40	c	Violence x Anysaturdayinmay	90,000	KEESEP	MC Bloodstock
41	c	Farhh x Anything Goes	35,000	TATOCT3	Margaret O'Toole
42	c	Dutch Art x Apasionata Sonata	28,000	GOFSP0	Leamore Horses
43	c	Dark Angel x Artistic Jewel	68,000	GUKPRE	A C Elliott
44	c	Fulbright x Baileys Forever	19,000	GOFEB	Model BS
45	c	Kodiac x Baltic Belle	62,000	TATOCT2	Church Farm Stables
46	f	Super Saver x Bayou Tortuga	150,000	KEESEP	Tally Ho Stud

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PINHOOK GUIDE

TATTERSALLS CRAVEN BREEZE UP SALE - DAY 1 (continued)

Lot	Sex	Pedigree	Price	Sale	Buyer
48	c	Poet's Voice x Billowing	12,000	TATOCT3	Five Star BS
49	c	Street Sense x Black Tunic	80,000	KEESEP	Margaret O'Toole
50	c	Daredevil x Bluster	50,000	FTJUL	Star Bloodstock
51	c	Kitten's Joy x Bonita Donita	150,000	KEESEP	Wycombe House
52	c	Iffraaj x Brimful	28,000	GUKPRE	Brown Island Stables
53	c	Street Boss x But She's Ours	80,000	GUKPRE	Vendor
54	f	Kodiac x Call Later	60,000	GOFORB	Church Farm (P.S.)
55	c	Exceed And Excel x Centred	37,000	TATOCT2	Howson & Houldsworth BS
56	c	Oxbow x Charlies Love	15,000	KEESEP	Beechlawn Bloodstock
57	f	Uncle Mo x Cherokee	90,000	KEESEP	Alliance Bloodstock
58	c	Oasis Dream x Clenor	185,000	GUKPRE	Vendor
59	f	Dandy Man x Coincidentally	15,000	TATIRESEP	Vendor
61	c	Kitten's Joy x Crumbs of Comfort	50,000	KEESEP	Greenhills Farm
63	c	Wootton Bassett x Darice	120,000	ARQOCT	Five Star BS
64	c	Bated Breath x Dead Cool	45,000	OSASEP	C Marnane
65	f	Kodiac x Dolphina	75,000	TATOCT2	Vendor
66	f	Outstrip x Dularame	25,000	TATOCT1	Vendor
67	c	Poet's Voice x Duljanah	20,000	TATIRESEP2	Hyde Park Stud
68	c	Gleneagles x Eastern Appeal	150,000	TATDEC	Amanda Skiffington
69	c	Dandy Man x Elusive Bonus	24,000	TATASCY	Five Star BS
71	c	Acclamation x Enigmatique	120,000	TATOCT1	Vendor
72	c	Dutch Art x Expect	40,000	TATASCY	Howson & Houldsworth BS
73	c	Zoffany x Fabulous	45,000	KEESEP	Margaret O'Toole

*Information sourced from Weatherbys. **Price is in currency of sale sold at.

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