

# THOROUGHBRED™ DAILY NEWS



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1997

\$2 Daily

## NEWS TODAY

### FORMAL GOLD, NAD AL SHEBA IN GREAT

**SHAPE** After three days of fine weather, the main sand track at Nad Al Sheba was open for horses preparing for Thursday's rescheduled Dubai World Cup. Commented trainer Richard Mandella: "The track is in fantastic shape. It is even better than before the rain. Steve Grigg (track manager) has done a fantastic job." American challenger **Formal Gold** (Black Tie Affair {Ire}) impressed in his workout yesterday. Ridden by jockey Joe Bravo, the William Perry-trained GI Donn H. winner covered a half mile in :48.74. After the work Perry said, "I was thrilled with his workout, every fraction quicker than the last and he finished in hand, which was just what we wanted." Current Ladbroke odds for the Dubai World Cup are: **Siphon (Brz)** (Itajara {Brz}), 11-4; **Sandpit (Brz)** (Baynoun {Ire}), 7-2; **Singspiel (Ire)** (In The Wings {GB}), 6-1; **Kammtarra** (Zilzal) and **Flemensfirth** (Alleged), 8-1; **Key Of Luck** (Chief's Crown), 14-1; **Hokuto Vega (Jpn)** (Nagurski), 20-1; **Bijou D'Inde (GB)** (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}), **Even Top (Ire)** (Topanoora {Ire}) and **Luso (GB)** (Salse), 33-1; and **Juggler (Aus)** (Jugah), 40-1.

### AUSTRALIAN GUINEAS WINNER MOUAWAD

**RETIRED** Australia's top three-year-old colt **Mouawad (NZ)** (Zabeel {NZ}, by \*Sir Tristram), winner of three Group 1 races on his last three starts, has been retired and will be sold for stud duty. The full-brother to Horse Of the Year Octagonal (NZ) was scratched from last Saturday's G1 Doncaster H. after he suffered a tear in his off-fore tendon. Explaining the decision to retire him, Rob McAnulty, his managing owner, said: "It is disappointing that the public has not seen the best of him, but the decision has been made in the best interests of the horse. We were advised that the rehabilitation process would be long and he wouldn't be ready to race in the spring. It was a unanimous decision amongst the shareholders and we will decide in the next few days where he will go. He will either stand in Australia or New Zealand. It would be a dream to get as much as \$10 million (\$7.9 million U.S.) for him, but that is the figure which has been suggested. I think most of the present owners will try to retain a share in him. It's exciting to think that his and Octagonal's yearlings will be for sale at the same time." Unraced at two, Mouawad, a \$316,606 yearling named after a diamond given to Elizabeth Taylor by her husband Richard Burton, won seven of his eight starts and earned more than \$633,212.

### SADLER'S WELLS DOMINATES EASTER SALE

Tuesday's opener of the three-day William Inglis Easter Yearling Sale in Sydney saw a filly by European Champion Sire Sadler's Wells out of Group 2 winner Circus Ring (Ire) (High Top {Ire}) top the bidding, going to New Zealand trainer Graeme Rogerson for \$395,757; Rogerson also paid \$356,182 for a daughter of Sadler's Wells--Darazina (Fr) (Labus {Fr}). Both fillies were conceived at Coolmore Stud in Ireland to Southern Hemisphere time. Said Rogerson: "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to buy the progeny of the world's best sire. I really liked these two fillies and I think there could be an Oaks winner here." The trainer, who won last Saturday's G1 AJC Australian Derby with Ebony Grosve (NZ), reported that he had bought both fillies for a syndicate headed by Sydney publisher George Kranitis. Two colts by the stallion were also sold Tuesday, one going to Domeland Pty Ltd for \$213,709 and the other to Hawkesbury trainer Robert Johnson for \$229,539. Coolmore's General Manager in Australia, Duncan Grimley, said: "We thought the fillies were a little better than the colts and that's how the buyers have seen it. The chance to buy Sadler's Wells offspring in Australia won't come along again. Sadler's Wells had a virus and the foals were conceived to test his fertility in the Northern Hemisphere off-season, an experiment that has certainly worked. The mares were brought to Australia in foal and will stay here. All have since been mated to Danehill." Coolmore's stallion sensation Danehill was not totally overshadowed by his illustrious studmate. A full-sister to his 1996 Golden Slipper-winning filly Merlene (Aus), out of Bold Promise (Aus) (Luskin Star {Aus}), was sold to bloodstock agent Simon O'Donnell acting for Hong Kong owners for \$387,842.

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### STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2:

4-13 \$100/100,000 *Commonwealth*  
*Breeders' Cup-Gil, Kee, 4/4p, 7f (\$100)*

TOMORROW, THURSDAY, APRIL 3:

4-5 \$750,000 *Santa Anita Derby-GI, SA,*  
*3yo, 9f (\$20000s)*



### TELL IT TO THE TDN...

Want to send a "Letter to the Editor" of the *Thoroughbred Daily News*? Our address is 811 River Rd., Fair Haven, NJ, 07704; or send a fax to: (908) 747-8955; or an e-mail to: MediaVista@AOL.com.



## News cont.

**SECRET SAVINGS RETIRED** Saturday's G1 Doncaster S. hero **Secret Savings** (Seeking the Gold) has completed his racing career and will retire to stud at the Emirates Park Stud of his owner His Excellency Nasser Looat of Dubai. A winner of six of 17 starts, the six-year-old triumphed in three of his four Australian outings. Secret Savings captured the G3 STC Frederick Clissold H. and the G3 Newmarket H. He will stand his first season for a fee of \$10,000 live foal.

**SUFFOLK FORCED TO CANCEL AGAIN** Suffolk Downs has canceled today's racing card for the second time in two days after a winter storm dumped two feet of snow on the Boston area. The next live racing card isn't scheduled until Saturday afternoon with a 12:45 post time. Simulcasting is scheduled to resume Wednesday and the track will offer simulcast wagering on the \$4 million Dubai World Cup Thursday.

## ◆ PREVIEW ◆

**Saturday, Santa Anita Park:****SANTA ANITA DERBY-GI, \$750,000, 3yo, 9f**

Jockey Chris McCarron, injured in a spill in the Jim Beam last weekend, has been cleared to ride **Hello (Ire)** (Lycius) in Saturday's race. "I'll ride a couple of horses Friday and I'll be ready for Saturday," McCarron said.

**Saturday, Keeneland:****ASHLAND S.-GI, \$500,000, 3yo, f, 8½f**

The 1996 Champion Two-Year-Old **Storm Song** (Summer Squall) breezed five furlongs Monday in 1:02 2/5 over a sloppy track...**Southern Playgirl** (Western Playboy) worked five furlongs Tuesday in 1:02 2/5.

## ◆ FOREIGN ◆

**Weekend Results:**

**PREMIO PISA**, \$54,095, Pisa, Italy, 3-30, 3yo, 7f 110ydsT, 1:29.80, gd.

1--**WAR DECLARATION (IRE)**, c, 3, **Persian Bold (Ire)--Lutoviska (Ire)** (GSP-Ity), by **Glenstal**. O-Scuderia Il Poggio; B-Azienda Agricola Il Tiglio; T-B Grizzetti; J-M Tellini; \$30,053. \*1/2 to **Karpacka (Ire)** (Rousillon), Hwt. Older Mare-Ity at 9.5-11f, GSP-Ity.

2--**Stato King (Ire)**, 128, c, 3, **Statoblest (GB)--Sinking (GB)**, by **Midyan**. \$13,223.

3--**Berni's Hope**, 128, c, 3, **Afleet--Sister Of Habit**, by **Habitony**. (\$20,000 wnl '94 KEENOV). \$7,213.

Margins: 1 3/4, 3/4, NK.

**PREMIO SIGNORINO**, \$54,095, Rome, Italy, 3-30, 4yo/up, 8fT, 1:39, gd.

1--**TAXI DE NUIT**, 131, h, 5, **Runaway Groom--Mot D'Amour (Fr)**, by **Bon Mot (Fr)**. (\$7,000 yrl '93 OBSJAN; \$22,000 yrl '93 KEESEP) O-Gerecon Italia; B-Le Haras Inc; T-A Verdesi; J-M Monteriso; \$30,053. \*1/2 to **Son Of Love (Fr)** (Jefferson {GB}), G1SW-Eng, G1SP-Fr. \*\*GSW-Ity.

2--**Tuareg Blu (GB)**, 121, c, 4, **Dowsing--Timarete (Ity)**, by **Green Dancer**. \$13,223.

3--**Alabastro (Ire)**, 121, c, 4, **Fairy King--Fatal Charm**, by **Sham**. \$7,213.

Margins: 1 ½, 1 ½, 1.

**PREMIO SEREGNO**, \$54,095, Milan, Italy, 3-30, 3yo, f, 8fT, 1:39.30, hd.

1--**SOPRAN MARIDUFF (GB)**, 120, f, 3, **Persian Bold (Ire)--Marina Duff (Ire)** (Co-Ch. 2yo Filly-Ity, GSW-Ity), by **Caerleon**. O/B-Azienda Agricola S Umberto; T-R Rossini; J-E Botti; \$30,053. \*GSP-Ity.

2--**She Bat (GB)**, 125, f, 3, **Batshoof (Ire)--Premiere Cuvee (GB)**, by **Formidable**. \$13,223.

3--**Woopi Gold (Ire)**, 120, f, 3, **Last Tycoon (Ire)--Borough Counsel (Ire)**, by **Law Society**. \$7,213.

Margins: 1 ½, 3 1/4, 3 ½.

**Monday's Results:**

**AJC THE GALAXY-G1**, \$237,454, Randwick, Sydney, 3-31, 3yo/up, 5f 110ydsT, 1:02.38 (NTR), gd.

1--**ACCOMPLICE (AUS)**, 114, g, 3, **Canny Lad (Aus)--With Me (Aus)** (G1SW-Aus), by **Covetous (Aus)**.

O-Woodlands Stud; B-Ruane Breeders, NSW; T-John Hawkes; J-L V Cassidy; \$161,469.

2--**Lion Hunter (Aus)**, 110, c, 4, **Danehill--Pure Of Heart (Ire)**, by **Godswalk**. O-R J Green, W Gazal, O Pozzebon, S Islander, T Wells & J Ryan; B-Arrowfield Stud, NSW; \$42,742.

3--**Unison (Aus)**, 110, f, 3, **Marauding (NZ)--Zedagal (Aus)**, by **The Judge (Aus)**. O-C R & Mrs H E Tidy, R J, Mrs S & R C & J W Kelly; B-C R Tidy & Mrs H E Tidy; \$18,996.

Margins: 1 1/4, 2 1/4.

Also ran: **Sovereign State (Aus)**, **Citi Success (NZ)**, **Ruffles (Aus)**, **Cangronde (Aus)**, **Wavertree (NZ)**, **Dashing Eagle (Aus)**, **Alsolaire (Aus)**.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a @ will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a + will denote winners who are first-time starters, an (S) will be used for state-bred races, a (C) will be used for maiden-claiming races, and an (R) will be used for other restricted races.

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## Foreign Report cont.

**AJC SIRES PRODUCE S.-G1**, \$237,454, Randwick, Sydney, 3-31, 2yo, 7fT, 1:22.40, gd.

1--**ENCOUNTER (AUS)**, 122, c, 2, **Tierce (Aus)**--**Fancy Babe, by Sharpen Up (GB)**. O-Newhaven Park Stud Ltd Syndicate; B-Newhaven Park Stud, NSW; T-Clarrie Conners; J-R S Dye; \$161,469.

2--**Guineas (Aus)**, 122, c, 2, **Crown Jester (Aus)**--**Foreign Bank (NZ)**, by Sir Tristram (Ire). O/B-Woodlands Stud, NSW; \$42,742.

3--**Adewin (Aus)**, 119, f, 2, **Snaadee--Elated Lady (Aus)**, by Vain (Aus). O-S W Y Yam & A Cheung; B-Emirates Park, NSW; \$18,996.

Margins: 1/2, 1 1/4.

Also ran: Mr Right (Aus), Special Dane (Aus), Millward (NZ), Tricove (Aus), Irish Air (Aus), Game Warrior (Aus), Port Lairge (Aus), You Called Sir (Aus).

## AMERICAN-BRED WINNER IN IRELAND:

**Lil's Boy**, c, 3, **Danzig--Kentucky Lill**, by Raise A Native. Tipperary, 3-30, Silvermines, 3yo, 7fT, \$6,397 to winner. O-Sheikh Maktoum al Maktoum; B-Gainsborough Farm Inc; T-Jim Bolger. \*GSP-Ire.

## AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS IN ENGLAND:

**Sedbergh**, g, 4, **Northern Flagship--Crumbaugh Pike**, by Within Hail. Southwell, 4-1, April Fool Apprentices' H., 4yo/up, 14f (All-weather), \$3,682 to winner. O-Peter Savill; B-Mulholland Brothers; T-Mrs Mary Reveley. \*\$10,000 wnl '93 KEENOV.

**Daawe**, h, 6, **Danzig--Capo Di Monte (Ire)** (GSW-U.S., MSW & GSP-Eng, GSP-Fr, \$201,079), by Final Straw (GB). Southwell, 4-1, David Armes H., 4yo/up, 5f (All-weather), \$4,863 to winner. O-Mrs. Andrea M Mallinson; B-Gainsborough Farm Inc; T-Mrs V A Aconley.

## Local News, England:

The \$4 million Dubai World Cup will be seen live by viewers of BBC television when it is run Thursday at Nad Al Sheba. Post time for the reconvened Dubai World Cup will now be 19.35 local time (16.35 BST). BBC Television will be broadcasting coverage of the first day of the Aintree Grand National Meeting at the time, but will devote a 15 minute slot between 16.30 and 16.45 to coverage of the World Cup. The race will also be covered on a delayed basis by the Channel 4 Morning Line program Saturday April 5, the morning of the Grand National.

# ◆ CANADA ◆

## Local News, Woodbine:

The Ontario Jockey Club will be taking wagers (into a separate Canadian pool) on the rescheduled Dubai Thoroughbred races this Thursday morning. Post time for the Duty Free is 9:50 a.m. and 10:35 for the World Cup. Simulcasting will be available only at Woodbine, with admission free between 9 and 11:30 a.m.

# ◆ EAST ◆

## Yesterday's Results:

**8th-HIA**, \$20,200, Alw, 4/up, a1 1/16T, 1:41 1/5, fm.

**TOUR'S BIG RED** (c, 4, **Tour D'Or--Rose Rasha, by Super Concorde**), winless since taking last year's Gill Federico Tesio in April, had his best finish in eight starts since when second in a March 22 allowance test in his last start. Sent off at 5-1, the chestnut colt chased the pacesetter early, challenged for the lead at midstretch and held off **TEN TIMES NOBILITY** (Mark of Nobility) for a 3/4-length win. Lifetime Record: GSW, 23-4-4-2, \$218,215.

O-William Penn. B-J. D. Scott & W. E. Penn (FL). T-Enrique Alonso.

**2nd-HIA**, \$16,000, Msw, 2yo, f, 3f, :33 2/5, ft. **ZEALYALATER** (f, 2, **Unreal Zeal--Tax Exempt, by Val de L'Orne {Fr}**), a \$4,700 OBSOCT weanling, rallied late for a second-place finish in her two-furlong debut March 20. Favored at 9-5 here, the filly pressed the pace of **GENE'S OTHERCOYOTE** (Heff) before outfinishing that rival by 1 1/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$12,920.

O-Gay Miller. B-Mekamy Oaks (FL). T-Miller Rory.

**10th-HIA**, \$15,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:12 3/5, ft. **+ SUN WASH** (f, 3, **Affirmed--End of Night, by Grey Dawn II**), little fancied by the Hialeah bettors, was sent off at 14-1 in her debut. The filly rallied five-wide into the stretch and drew off authoritatively to the wire for a nine-length triumph over 93-1 shot **MISS DONNYBROOK** (Fight Over). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$9,000.

O/B-Cullman E & Wimpfheimer Jacques D. T-Wimpfheimer Donald.

## GRAPESHOT (USA)

*"3 b c Hermitage...Proved very useful juvenile in 1996; got off mark at second time of asking in hot 6f maiden at Newmarket, making most to beat subsequent dual Group 1 winner Bahamian Bounty...likes fast ground and should get 1m without any problems; likely sort for Guineas."— Racing Post's Horses to Follow 1997*

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## ◆ MIDWEST ◆

### Yesterday's Results:

**8th-SPT, \$31,680, Alw, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11 3/5, ft.**  
**DAISY JUNEBUG** (c, 3, **Air Forbes Won--Bonita Elizabeth, by Rare Performer**), trying open company for the first time in his career, took back-to-back stakes against fellow Illinois-breds last fall. Off since finishing second in the Illinois Cavalier S. Nov. 9, the colt was made the 8-5 favorite here. Always up close, Daisy Junebug took the lead at the top of the stretch and scored by one length. Lifetime Record: MSW, 6-4-2-0, \$140,367. O/B-Asiel Stable, L.C. (IL). T-Richard P Hazelton.

### Local News, Delta Downs:

Delta Downs closed its 1997 Thoroughbred meet Friday. Jockey Steve Bourque won his third consecutive riding title at the Vinton, Louisiana track. Defending trainer champ Tommy Delahoussaye pulled even with Don Cormier, Jr. on the final day of the meet and the two finished the season with 14 wins apiece.

### Local News, Churchill Downs:

**Stop Watch** (Lord At War {Arg}) breezed five furlongs in 1:02 over a fast track at Churchill Tuesday morning; trainer Frank Brothers said the gelding's next start will likely be the Arkansas Derby on April 12 at Oaklawn.

### Local News, Keeneland:

**Acceptable** (Capote) worked five furlongs Tuesday in 1:02 with jockey Craig Perret in the irons. The three-year-old is pointing towards the April 12 Gil Toyota Blue Grass S.

Former jockey Jean Cruguet, who rode Seattle Slew to victory in the 1997 Triple Crown, has moved from New York to Lexington and plans to embark on a career as a trainer. Cruguet retired from race riding last winter. "My goal is to try to win the Triple Crown as a trainer," said the 58-year-old, who won his first race as a jockey in 1956.

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# 1:08:1 Speed

## G2 SW by Mr. Prospector

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## ◆ So. CALIFORNIA ◆

### Local News, Santa Anita:

Mutuel windows will open at 6:30 a.m. Thursday at Santa Anita for the Dubai World Cup card. The \$500,000 Dubai Duty Free will run at 6:50 a.m. and the World Cup has a 7:35 a.m. post time. Wagering and viewing of both races will take place at the Top O' The Stretch near Clockers' Corner.

**Del Mar Dennis** (Dixieland Band), who joined the legendary John Henry last year as the only horse to win the same stakes race three years in a row, tries for his fourth consecutive San Bernardino win when he goes to the post in Sunday's \$150,000 Grade II event for older horses.

## B • R • E • E • D • E • R • S E D I T I O N

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**7th-SPT, \$29,120, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.**  
**MYSTICAL TRICKS** (f, 4, **Zen--Classy Tricks {MSW, \$175,972}**), by **Hold Your Tricks**) Lifetime Record: 21-6-3-4, \$96,955. O-Roulette Stable. B-Harry Katz & Sid Port (FL). T-Roy D Houghton.

**3rd-SPT, \$22,000, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 3/5, ft.**  
**GRECIAN ISLAND** (c, 4, **Bob's Dusty--Nivin's Girl {MSP, \$101,674}**), by **Ward McAllister**) Lifetime Record: 8-3-0-0, \$21,300. O-Jack Lucchesi. B-James Kekeris (IL). T-Norman H Smith. \* 1/2 to Demetri's Evzone (Bob's Dusty), SW, \$130,957.

**6th-HIA, \$17,500, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m, 1:53, ft.**  
**STORM OUT FRONT** (c, 4, **Silver Buck--Squire of Fire, by Always Gallant**) Lifetime Record: 18-2-1-1, \$36,074. O/B-Edward R Devries (FL). T-Phil Marino.

### MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Zealyalater**, f, 2, **Unreal Zeal--Tax Exempt**, by Val de L'Orne (Fr). HIA, 4-1, 3f, :33 2/5. B-Mekamy Oaks (FL). \*\$4,700 wlng '95 OBSOCT.  
 + **Sun Wash**, f, 3, **Affirmed--End of Night**, by \*Grey Dawn II. HIA, 4-1, 6f, 1:12 3/5. B-Jacques D Wimpfheimer & Edgar Cullman (Ky).  
 + **Bucett**, f, 3, **Buckaroo--Pannie's Sister**, by Pan Dancer. SPT, 4-1, (S), 6f, 1:13 3/5. B-Bredeson G (IL)

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## WRITERS UP

### PULPIT: A TALE OF TWO MOMS

By Mary Jean Wall

At Claiborne Farm in Paris, Kentucky, a Percheron mare named Dolly has gained some notoriety as the unsung hero in the story of Pulpit's success. Dolly played a key role in the colt's early development as the foster mother who raised him in place of his dam, the well-bred Preach.

Dolly raised Pulpit from a few days after his birth until he was weaned. Preach was so overly protective of the new foal--her first--that farm management began to fear she would injure some of the barn personnel while they were trying to work with the mare and her A. P. Indy colt. Preach was replaced by Dolly in young Pulpit's life, and each of her subsequent foals have also been placed on a nurse mare.

Dolly's role points out the importance of nurse mares who are called in as surrogate mothers for a variety of reasons each Thoroughbred foaling season.

"We won't arbitrarily do it," said Gus Koch, assistant farm manager in charge of breeding stock at Claiborne. "We don't like to interfere if a mare is doing her job. But we've raised some champions on nurse mares (Heavenly Prize was one) so we know we can raise a good horse that way."

Peter Ensich, one of two broodmare managers at Three Chimneys Farm in Midway, Kentucky, can think of quite a few reasons why a nurse mare might be needed. Beyond the most dreaded--if a mare dies and leaves a foal--he can recall some unusual situations.

The most unusual, perhaps, was a maiden mare he'd had at Woodstock Farm in Maryland when he worked there some years ago. "The mare foaled and everything went fine," Ensich said, "until the following afternoon when we fed her." Ensich figures the mare must have started feeling territorial about her feed. "She savaged the foal, picked it up by the scruff of the neck and shook it," he said. The foal was immediately put on a nurse mare. All ended well for the mare, too, for after a few more foals she learned to accept the presence of her offspring so that a nurse mare was no longer needed.

At Three Chimneys, Ensich had a nurse mare on order since last November for an arthritic mare who lived in a paddock alone due to her infirmity. "We want a mare and a foal to run with the others," he said, pointing out that exercise with other mares and foals is necessary for good bone development in the babies. "A couple of days after this mare's foal is born, we will put it on a nurse mare and that way it can be put out to pasture with the others, while the arthritic mare stays in her paddock."

Dolly, Pulpit's foster mom, came from a Future Farmers of America project of farm manager Koch's son, Anthony. Claiborne also uses a variety of professional nurse mare suppliers in Kentucky to provide an average of 10 or 11 nurse mares for a about 200 foals.

Ensich might use anywhere from no nurse mares to perhaps four in a season for about 100 foaling mares on his two divisions of Three Chimneys' four broodmare farms. His favorite supplier, Roseberry's Nurse Mares, Inc., provides about 50 mares each season to farms in Kentucky and as far away as Illinois and Wisconsin. Don and Tammy Roseberry said they recently supplied a nurse mare to a Kentucky farm in another unusual situation, when a mare traveling with her foal on a van coming from the East suffered colic during the trip. She was dropped off for surgery at Ohio State University, and the Roseberry's had a nurse waiting for the foal when it arrived alone in Lexington.

The Roseberrys have built up a herd of about 60 to 65 mares, many of them quarter horse mares or Tennessee Walking horses, along with some Belgians. Mares of draft-horse breeds have been traditionally used for this purpose because they are "good milkers" along with being good-natured. But Don Roseberry said they are getting outdated, at least in his business. "They eat twice as much, and you clean up twice as much," he said.

There is also some evidence to suggest that foals raised on draft mares might grow faster, which is one factor involved in developmental orthopedic disease.

"This data is not conclusive, but it says we need to be careful what kind of mares we get," said Dr. Steve Jackson, vice president of Kentucky Equine Research in Versailles. "We've said to watch, and if the foals are growing too fast you may have to wean early."

Yet not all horsemen agree. Koch, who prefers draft mares, said he's familiar with that discussion but thinks draft mares manage to adjust the amount of their milk to the foals so that "the mare's milk production drops," he said.

Different horsemen have different ways of introducing the nurse mare to the foal, but the idea always is to get the two to accept each other as quickly as possible. Koch makes sure the foal is hungry, then rubs spirit of peppermint in the tranquilized mare's nostrils and on the foal's poll, mane and withers to eliminate the smell recognition.

He puts a gate in the stall to separate nurse mare and foal. The gate has a place cut out where the foal can nurse. "By the second day, 90 percent of them accept the foal," he said. "You have to make sure the mare is letting her milk down, because it might look like the foal might be nursing but it might not be getting any milk. That's why we like to use draft mares, because they're so good-natured."

What becomes of the foals of the nurse mares, who lose their dams when they are taken away to raise the Thoroughbred foals? Roseberry said they raise these foals on buckets of milk, then sell them as riding horses. The bucket method serves those horses well, but it is not preferred for raising a future athlete such as racehorse. Bucket-raised horses turn into pets and do not seem to develop as well as a foal raised on a mare.

Most nurse mares become forgotten footnotes in the life of a racehorse once it leaves for the track. But they play such a key role early on, most farms feel they cannot be replaced.