

TDN WEEKEND
CONDE NAST TRAVELER'S
#6 HOTEL IN THE SOUTH?
IT'S IN LEXINGTON

[CLICK HERE]
to download the
FEBRUARY
edition

LEAHY REWARDED FOR HIS AUDIBLE



Audible at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale with consignor Don Robinson | Ferran Robinson photo

by Chris McGrath

So often, it pays to be out of step. In fact, there's something of a clue in the name of the investment management company of which Richard Leahy is co-founder. Episteme Capital is named for the Ancient Greek term for true knowledge or understanding, as distinct from common belief or opinion. Yes, like everyone else who gets involved in breeding, Leahy stresses the role of luck. After all, on both the occasions he tried to sell her, over the past four years, even his own valuation of Blue Devil Bel (Gilded Time) fell well short of what she is worth now, as dam of one of the leading contenders for the GI Kentucky Derby. Even so, nobody remotely approached the kind of bidding he had in mind.

Blue Devil Bel was actually carrying **Audible** (Into Mischief)--such an impressive winner of the GII Holy Bull S. last month--in utero when offered at the Keeneland November Sale in 2014. She was only nine, she had won plenty of races, her third dam was a triple Grade I winner, and she had been covered by a hot young sire. Just a few days previously, in fact, Goldencents had promoted Into Mischief afresh with a second GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile win. Yet Blue Devil Bel was led out unsold for \$57,000.

Cont. p3

OP/ED: DERBY TOO MUCH, TOO SOON FOR JUSTIFY

by Bill Finley

I realize my telling Bob Baffert how to train and manage a horse is right up there with my asking to give Sinatra singing lessons or telling Picasso I have some suggestions on how he should use more blue in his paintings. But, Baffert is talking about pointing **Justify** (Scat Daddy) to the GI Kentucky Derby, and here is my two cents: forget about it.

There's no doubting this horse has talent, perhaps, extraordinary talent. When he broke his maiden Feb. 18 by 9 1/2 lengths, while earning a 104 Beyer figure, Justify became the talk of the sport. Fast horse, talented trainer, good pedigree, smart ownership in WinStar Farm LLC, China Horse Club and SF Racing LLC. He has everything going for him, everything but time, which is not on his side. **Cont. p7**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

POULES' ENTRIES FULL OF PROMISE

The French 2000 and 1000 Guineas will be back at their traditional home at Longchamp this year, and John Berry looks at some of the intrigue in the early entries. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

116 BEYER SPEED
SARATOGA GI WINNER

FIRST 2YOS THIS YEAR
CROSS TRAFFIC

SPENDTHRIFT
The Breeders' Farm

Unbridled's Song - Stop Traffic, by Cure the Blues | 2018 Fee: \$7,500 S&N
spendthriftfarm.com | 858.284.0030

FLAT OUT

A LEADING SECOND-CROP SIRE



12 WINNERS already this year, including **WESTERDALE**, a 14 ³/₄-length MdSpWt winner at Aqueduct on Sunday.



Flatter / Cresta Lil, by Cresta Rider // 2018 Fee: \$7,000 S&N


SPENDTHRIFT
The Breeders' Farm

spendthriftfarm.com // 859.294.0030

PRESIDENT & CO-PUBLISHER
Barry Weisbord @barryweisbord
barryweisbord@thetdn.com

SR. V.P. & CO-PUBLISHER
Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

V.P., INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS
Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL
editor@thetdn.com
Editor-in-Chief
Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN
Managing Editor
Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN
Senior Editor
Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN
Racing Editor
Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN
News and Features Editor
Ben Massam @BMassamTDN
Associate Editors
Christie DeBernardis @CDeBernardisTDN
Joe Bianca @JBiancaTDN
Assistant Editor
Bobby Klatt

ADVERTISING
advertising@thetdn.com
Director of Advertising
Alycia Borer
Advertising Manager
Lia Best
Advertising Designer
Amanda Crelin
Advertising Assistants
Alexa Reisfield
Michelle Benson

Photo Editor/Dir. of Distribution
Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew
photos@thetdn.com

Social Media Strategist
Justina Severni

Director of Customer Service
Vicki Forbes
customerservice@thetdn.com

Marketing Manager
Alayna Cullen @AlaynaCullen

Director of Information Technology
Ray Villa
rayvilla@thetdn.com

Bookkeeper
Terry May
media.vista@verizon.net

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION
International Editor
Kelsey Riley @kelseynrileyTDN
kelseynriley@thetdn.com
European Editor
Emma Berry
emmaberry@thetdn.com
Associate International Editor
Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN
Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing
Sean Cronin & Tom Frary
caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100
Red Bank, NJ 07701
732-747-8060 | 732-747-8955 (fax)
www.TheTDN.com

Wednesday, February 28, 2018



Maryland-bred bonus. Judy Hartman's Copper Beech Stables in Tracys Landing, MD will sponsor a \$2,500 prize for the top Maryland-bred horse at the 2018 Retired Racehorse Project Makeover, which takes place October 4-7 at the Kentucky Horse Park. Nine Maryland-breds competed last year, including Brookwood Farm Sport Horses' Love's Not Fair (Fairbanks), pictured above with Nick Larkin. The pair placed fourth in the Eventing division. | GRC Photography

ROAD TO THE MONGOL DERBY: GETTING THE TRIP **8**
TDN International Editor Kelsey Riley provides her latest blog on her preparations for the 1,000-kilometer Mongol Derby.

FIRST MARES IN FOAL **9**
Horse of the Year Gun Runner (Candy Ride {Arg}) and MGISW Lord Nelson (Pulpit) both have covered their first mares and those mares have been pronounced in foal.

BREED, OWN & EARN IN PENNSYLVANIA

400+ Restricted Races Annually  **22 Restricted Stakes Annually**

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

[Click for info](#)

Leahy Rewarded for His Audible cont. from p1

"Into Mischief was really taking off," Leahy explained, contacted at his New York office. "I expected people might be a bit more enthusiastic than they were. I don't remember the reserve, but they got nowhere near."

Leahy decided he was just too early: he also owned the dam and two half-sisters, and knew things were happening in the family. By last November, when Blue Devil Bel returned to the same sale with a cover by Constitution (Tapit), things had fallen promisingly into place. Her GSP half-sister, Akilina (Langfuhr), had meanwhile produced not one, but two elite operators. Her 2013 colt, Governor Malibu (Malibu Moon), had been fourth in the GI Belmont S. and runner-up in the Gil Jim Dandy S.; and her 2014 filly, Rieno Tesoro (Speightstown), had been a multiple stakes-winning juvenile in Japan before finishing second in the G1 NHK Mile in Tokyo.



Audible | Lauren King

Lurking in the produce record of Hip 1255, moreover, was Blue Devil Bel's 2015 colt by Into Mischief--"unraced." As it happened, that was no longer true. Audible had made a

promising debut since the publication of the catalogue, finishing strongly for third in a Belmont maiden race. Regardless, it should have counted for something that he had raised \$500,000 at Fasig-Tipton's Florida sale of 2-year-olds in training that March, an auspicious pinhook by J.J. Crupi after drawing \$175,000 at the same company's auction of New York-breds in Saratoga the previous August.

"Audible's first race was only in the small print, an update,"

Leahy said. "When I put the mare in the sale, I had been hoping he might even have won a stakes by then. Because I knew he'd been training well, I'd been watching his works. And with the success of her half-sister Akilina, I thought someone might look at the family and think she too might breed superior runners."

In 2018, send your mare to Maryland

After she foals here, breed to one of our stallions and your foal is eligible to be a registered Maryland-bred who earns 30% MORE* and gives you back 30% BREEDER BONUSES— Your 2019 Maryland-sired foal has even more earning potential!**

50% breeder bonus for Maryland-bred/Maryland-sired maiden race winners! The regular 30% breeder bonus, plus an additional 20% on purse earned for registered Maryland-breds by registered Maryland stallions, who win any maiden race in Maryland!***

Restricted Maryland-bred/Maryland-sired stakes! Maryland's annual schedule of restricted stakes and stakes with purse enhancements for Maryland-bred and/or Maryland-sired includes stakes worth nearly \$1.5 million!***

OWNER BONUSES for Maryland Million-sired maiden winners! \$2,500 for maiden special weight; \$2,500 for maiden-claiming \$40,000; \$2,000 for maiden-claiming \$25,000; \$1,500 for maiden-claiming \$16,000, \$1,000 for maiden-claiming \$10,000!

MORE opportunities in every Maryland condition book: FOUR Maryland-sired (or Maryland-bred) "non-winners of a race other than" events AND maiden claiming races for a tag of \$40K-32K carry an option of waiving the claiming price for Maryland-sired (or Maryland-bred)!

Maryland Million-sired horses run for \$1 million in stakes! On Maryland Million Day, there are 11 opportunities for Maryland Million-eligible and registered Maryland-Bred horses

*In all overnight races (1st thru 3rd) in Maryland
**In all races (1st thru 3rd) on purses earned in Maryland, stakes capped at \$100K
***For registered Maryland-breds, stallion must be a registered Maryland stallion

MARYLAND: IT'S THE PLACE TO BE
Better stallions. Better mares. Maryland-breds.

Race Local Buy Local
Raise Local

Maryland
We grow horses
MarylandThoroughbred.com

Leahy Rewarded for His Audible cont.

Leahy continued, "So, yes, I was thinking she might make a fair amount of money. That was why I was interested in trying the sale. But I told the auction house I had a reserve and, again, she got nowhere near."

In fact, she stalled at much the same level as in the 2014 sale--at just \$55,000, despite all the boons to her reputation since. So Leahy took her home again, and watched with growing excitement as Audible progressed from a maiden success at Aqueduct just four days later, to romping in an allowance moved off the turf at the same track by 9 3/4 lengths. Since the Holy Bull, needless to say, he has been hearing from plenty of people who watched indifferently as Blue Devil Bel walked right under their noses just a few weeks earlier.

"Since then, I have been offered a lot of money for her," Leahy admitted. "And I'm torn. On the one hand, they are very serious offers. On the other, it's not many times you might own the dam of a Kentucky Derby winner. My reason says I should accept. But I have to tell you, the emotional part is hard to overcome!"

And this, to be fair, is the consummation of a small but painstaking project tracing back 15 years to the vexation shared by Waterville Lake Stable--a small partnership between Leahy and, over the years, one or two buddies--when a filly by Gulch, Fahamore, broke down in her only start. Feeling they had been sold a dud, the partners decided to move her on as a breeding prospect.

"But when we'd bought her, all our advisers had her rated excellent," Leahy recalled. "They never all agree on a horse but they all agreed on her. She was a beautiful filly and from an interesting family. So I said to my partner at the time: 'Do you mind if I bid in the auction, because I wouldn't mind breeding her myself?' And they said no problem.

"As partners, you make a lot of joint decisions. And, you know, sometimes I agree with our decisions--and sometimes I don't! And I really enjoy the breeding aspect of it, so I wanted to make some individual decisions; really just to see if I was any good at it. Not to have a joint-product: if it goes wrong, I can always

blame myself."

He has not had a great deal over which to reproach himself since buying out Fahamore for \$37,000 at Keeneland November in 2003: the inception of his solo venture, Oak Bluff Stable.

"Blue Devil Bel was Fahamore's second foal," Leahy said. "She was quick and precocious, but got hurt in her third race. That injury really limited her racing career. She continued to run, and won something like \$120,000, but that does not really tell the talent she had. She always tried. I always had great respect for her, because I knew she wanted to run faster. That's why I kept her: she was good-looking, she had talent, and she tried all the time. And those are three elements I like in a horse."

Akilina was the next foal and Leahy also retained Fahamore's 2010 filly, Kitty Panda (Sky Mesa).

"If you look at these three half-sisters, their first three races you can't hardly tell them apart," he said. "They all started so well, so quick and precocious, I decided to keep all three. They were all very good-looking, too."

Waterville Lake is still going strong: all three partners, who share Irish ancestry, also have a stake in the golf links of that name in County Kerry. Typically they will have a roster of eight mares, compared with five feeding Oak Bluff Stable, both operations in the New York-bred program and training with Christophe Clement. But it is Leahy who appears to be cornering the luck of the Irish, having also bought out his partners to breed from a Smart Strike mare named Lady Renaissance. Her son **Therapist** (Freud) was unbeaten in three juvenile starts last year, including two at stakes level.

So even if he does decide to cash in on Blue Devil Bel, Leahy will still have plenty going on. Fahamore is herself still in business, at 19, having delivered a Declaration of War filly last spring. She has had a year off, and Leahy is in no hurry to decide the old girl's next partner.

"She needs the springtime to perk her up these days," he said. "Akilina has an Uncle Mo filly, while I also have a full-sister to Therapist. So I do have all these fillies coming along. It's a question of how big a barn do you want to have?" **Cont. p5**

If you like STREET BOSS take a look at ...

CAPO BASTONE

By Street Boss \$4,000 LFSN • 1st 2YOs Race This Year!

On the Board in ALL Four Starts at TWO

- 1st Del Mar Debut MSW
- 3rd Breeders' Cup Juvenile-G1
- FrontRunner S.-G1
- 4th Del Mar Futurity-G1

Top Rated Sprinter at Three

1st King's Bishop-G1 at Saratoga

ADENA SPRINGS

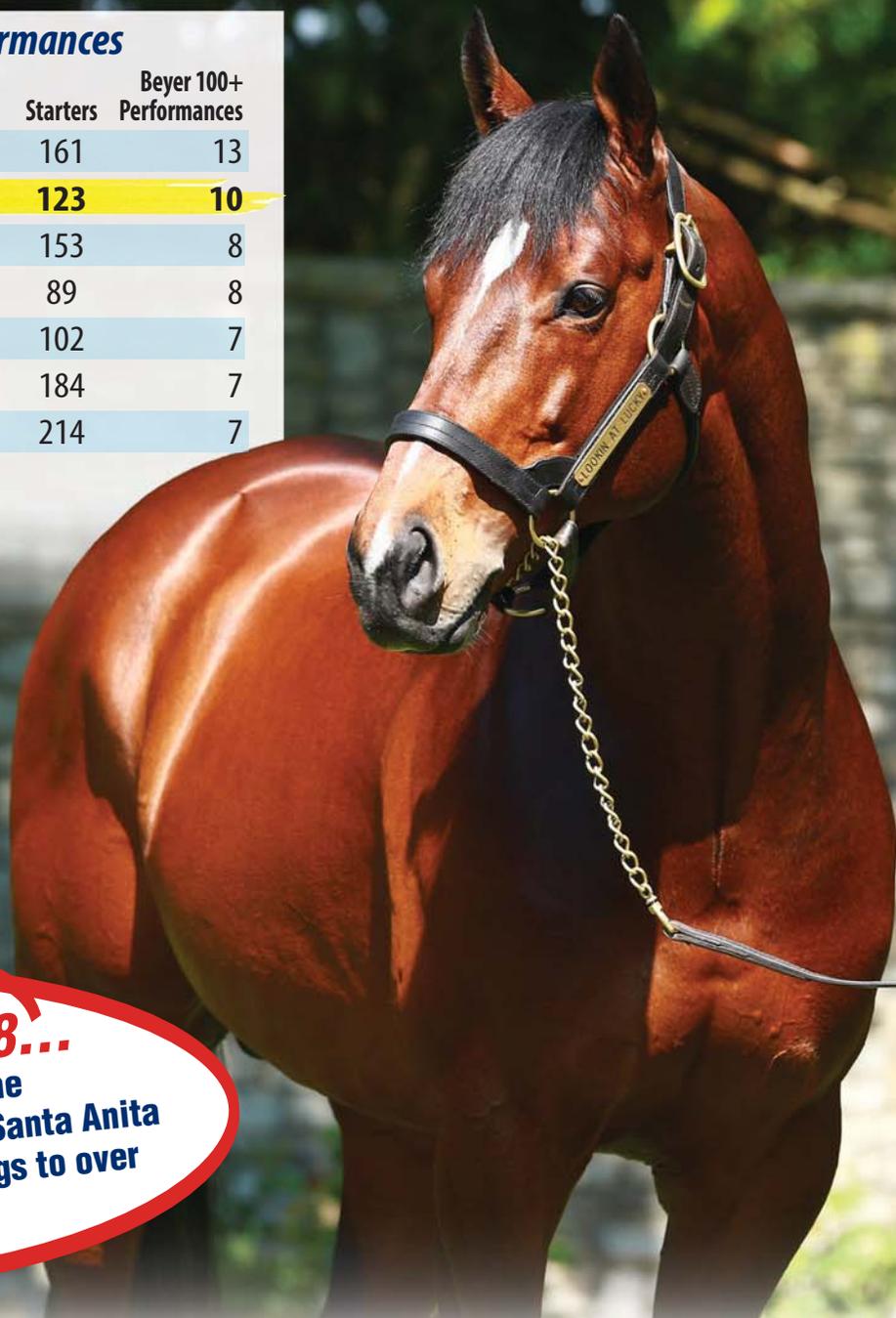
Farm Office (859) 987-1798
Dermot Carty (859) 559-4928

Leading Dirt Sires in 2017

by Beyer 100+ Performances

Rk	Stallion (Fee)	Starters	Beyer 100+ Performances
1	CURLIN (\$150,000)	161	13
2	LOOKIN AT LUCKY (\$17,500)	123	10
3	BERNARDINI (\$85,000)	153	8
4	SMART STRIKE (Died)	89	8
5	UNBRIDLED'S SONG (Died)	102	7
6	CANDY RIDE (ARG) (\$80,000)	184	7
7	TAPIT (\$300,000)	214	7

Source: DRF.com



Already in 2018...
ACCELERATE won the
 Gr.2 San Pasqual Stakes at Santa Anita
 bringing his career earnings to over
\$900,000

LOOKIN AT LUCKY

5 Gr.1 horses in 2017... That's more than *Tapit, Pioneer of The Nile, Distorted Humor, Bernardini, Into Mischief* etc.

• ASHFORD • ASHFORD • ASHFORD •

COOLMORE
 A M E R I C A

2017 yearlings sold for
**\$300,000, \$200,000,
 \$200,000** etc.

Leahy Rewarded for His Audible cont.

As a rule, Leahy will always sell a colt. He was reluctant to do so, however, in the case of both Audible and Governor Malibu. The latter sold for exactly the same money, \$175,000, likewise as a New York-bred Saratoga yearling. Leahy was so underwhelmed that he followed the colt to his next auction appearance as a 2-year-old in training. When his pinhookers washed their hands of Governor Malibu at just \$135,000, he had to step back in.



Governor Malibu | Christie DeBernardis

"I could tell he was somewhat out of favor at the sale, so I ended up buying him back and getting in partners," Leahy explained. "Because when you own a mare, you want to make sure the first baby, if it's any good, is in the right hands--and luckily Jump Sucker Stable, who came in, were also training with Christophe."

Leahy had a similar exercise in mind with Audible.

"But it became crystal clear that he was going to trade for pretty good dough," he said. "And he did."

Audible duly ended up racing for a heavyweight partnership comprising WinStar Farm, China Horse Club and SF Racing, and in the same barn as last year's Kentucky Derby winner, Always Dreaming (Bodemeister). Todd Pletcher is sending him the same route, via the GI Florida Derby, though many wonder whether Audible might lack stamina to last a tenth furlong if making it to Churchill Downs. So what does his breeder think?

"Well, going back to Blue Devil Bel's third dam, Classy Cathy (Private Account), her three Grade Is included the Alabama S. over a mile and a quarter," Leahy remarked. "To the best of my knowledge it's an old Claiborne family, so if he's lucky enough to get those genes, who knows? In the Holy Bull he certainly looked to handle the increase in distance very easily."

Cont. p6

MIZZEN MAST

BIG, BOLD & BRILLIANT



BREEDERS' CUP CHAMPION
MIZDIRECTION (G1)

**ESTABLISHED SIRES
WHERE'S THE VALUE?**



THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2018

**YOU CAN STILL SET YOUR WATCH
BY HIS METRONOMIC PRODUCTION
OF STAKES HORSES.**

AND HOW MANY SIRES STANDING FOR BIGGER FEES WILL EVER GET TWO BREEDERS' CUP WINNERS, NEVER MIND TWO THE SAME YEAR, AS MIZZEN MAST FAMOUSLY DID IN 2012? (BOTH, TYPICALLY, WENT ON FROM THERE: FLOTILLA TO WIN A CLASSIC BACK IN FRANCE, AND MIZDIRECTION TO RETAIN THE TURF SPRINT THE FOLLOWING YEAR.)

\$10,000 LFSN



Contact Leif Aaron or Erin Frey
(859) 272-7629 • www.juddmonte.com

Leahy Rewarded for His Audible cont.

Classy Cathy imparted sufficient staying power to her son Placerville (Mr. Prospector), who was hardly by a stamina influence, for him to see off none other than Urban Sea in the 10-furlong Prince of Wales's S. at Royal Ascot. Placerville proceeded to be seven-time champion sire of India.

Those exotic details aside, there are certainly some hard-knocking influences in Audible's background. For while many people dismiss the remoter tiers of a pedigree, some of us enjoy stumbling across curios like this: both the dam of Gilded Time (sire of Blue Devil Bel) and grand-dam of Classy Cathy count Princequillo and Bold Ruler as their two grandsires. Or turning up, in the bottom line, a name like Classy Cathy's grand-dam, Ponte Vecchio (Round Table), whose visit with Damascus produced the dam of Boundary (Danzig). Not many people would have expected a sprinter like Boundary to sire a Kentucky Derby winner in Big Brown, so maybe another fast horse, Gilded Time, himself a grandson of Damascus, can offer Audible rather more mileage than might be expected through Blue Devil Bel.

Leahy will be well aware of all this, between his own diligent research and the breadth of his expert assistance. The Waterville Lake partners deploy Clement as principal trainer; John Donaldson as bloodstock agent; Don Robinson as



Audible | A. Coglianese

consignor, from Winter Quarter Farm (where Robinson foaled Zenyatta [Street Cry {Ire}] for one of his other clients); and Dr. Doug Koch, to board their mares at Berkshire Stud in Pine Plains, New York. With Oak Bluff, meanwhile, Leahy adds a fifth player: Suzanne Smallwood of Equix, who informs his interest in biomechanics.

"Almost anything I delve into, I delve in as carefully as I can--with enough respect for what I don't know," Leahy said. "That's why I consult with people with far more experience than I do. But I do a fair amount of research myself. Actually, not a fair amount; I do a lot of research myself!"

"I look at pedigree very carefully. I like to pick stallions that match the mare, but also that I think are on the improve. I might tend to overbreed a mare because I think their quality is very good, and I want to give them a chance to be excellent. A lot of people will tell you: 'Breed to this horse, he's great-looking.' But I like to breed like-to-like: I'm not going to breed a 17-hand horse to a 15.3 mare. And I get involved in what has worked before, all the combinations and inbreedings; I use a number of the tools that are available that way. So I do a lot of analysis. But given that I have a small number of mares, I think you need a lot of luck, too. With such a small sample size, you don't really know if you're any good or not."

But they say you earn your own luck, and the game plainly gained an unusually inquiring mind when Leahy--originally from Boston, but in New York now for 38 years--first got involved in 1990.

"Because of the Tax Act of 1986, Thoroughbred prices were coming down as my income was going up," he said wryly.

And, to be fair, Blue Devil Bel herself is overdue a change of fortune. Since Audible, it has been a melancholy tale. She lost her next foal, and Leahy reported that the Lookin At Lucky filly she delivered last year recently suffered a fatal colic. But the Constitution foal she carried to Keeneland in November is due in a couple of weeks, and the idea is that she will then return to Into Mischief.

Leahy doesn't begin to claim to know all the answers. At the most, he can see similarities with the challenges that engage him professionally.

"Part of it is very similar: you're looking for smart things to do," he said. "But I couldn't do it without all the advisors I have. I do take information from a lot of people and just try to filter it. And I'm quite excited. I don't know what else Audible can still do. But I'm rooting for him!"

[Share this story](#) 

HRRN will provide coverage of the Barbados Gold Cup and GII Fountain of Youth S. Saturday, Mar. 3, beginning at 3p.m.

Op/Ed: Derby Too Much, Too Soon For Justify cont. from p1**Justify** | Benoit photo

When you break your maiden Feb. 18 in impressive fashion, you might be a Grade I winner, just not a Kentucky Derby winner. Justify broke his maiden one day shy of 11 weeks prior to the Derby. The obstacles that stand in the way of him and a victory in the Derby seem insurmountable, ones that are so difficult that few trainers would even dream of trying to pull off what seems impossible.

But Baffert was surprisingly upbeat about his chances of getting Justify to the Derby after the race and said he had a plan to do so. He has had little to say since.

By text, he told me last week, "All my plans are on hold. No need to rush him back. Too early to tell [if he could make the Derby]. Let the horse tell us."

Yet, it still seems like Baffert and the owners are seriously thinking about the Derby. Though it's unclear where they got the information, the *Daily Racing Form's* "Derby Watch" lists Justify's next race as the March 25 GIII Sunland Derby. If you are indeed pointing for the Derby, the Sunland race makes sense. It's normally not that tough of a spot and it offers 50 qualifying points for the Derby. Should Justify win, which would be far from a surprise, he would surely have enough points to make the Derby field.

But making the Derby field, winning the Derby and even belonging in the Derby are three separate issues. The Sunland race is six weeks before the Derby and it would be doubtful that Baffert would give him another prep before May 6. That would mean he'd be running a horse in the Kentucky Derby that didn't start his career until 11 weeks before the race and came in with only two career starts.

Could he pull it off? It's unlikely, but, actually, not impossible. Baffert is a magician and Justify may be just that good. This is one of those risk and reward scenarios and the reward is obvious--a win in the Kentucky Derby.

But what Baffert and the ownership group cannot overlook are the risks, and they are big ones. The Kentucky Derby is the toughest race in America and it chews up and spits out horses--experienced horses who have raced six, seven, eight times, who have not been rushed into the race and started as 2-year-olds. With any horse coming into the race 11 weeks after his debut and in his third lifetime start you're taking a huge chance that they'll never again be the same. Is it worth the risk?

One of the ironies of this situation is that no trainer of late has had more success than Baffert has had with horses that were not rushed into the Triple Crown series. Baffert has trained the last two 3-year-old champions, West Coast (Flatter) and Arrogate (Unbridled's Song). Arrogate did not make his debut until April 17 of his 3-year-old year and we know how he turned out. West Coast made his debut exactly one year prior to Justify's first start. While he ran second, he showed enough talent that Baffert had him in the GIII Lexington S. by his third start. He also finished second there, not earning enough points for the Derby. But, rather than rush him into the GI Preakness S. or GI Belmont S., Baffert went the slow and steady route, the Easy Goer S., the GIII Los Alamitos Derby and then unleashed a monster in the GI Travers S.

Today, West Coast is arguably the best horse in training. And with him and Arrogate, at the end of the day and when the stud deals are being negotiated, no one cares that neither one so much as ran in a Triple Crown race, let alone won one. The same will go for Justify, if he's that good and if he's pointed to a late spring, summer campaign.

So how about this for a plan? Keep telling everyone you're planning on the Derby to throw the competition off guard. That way you can sneak Justify into the March 11 one-mile allowance at Santa Anita and get the race to fill.

Cont. p8

**Bob Baffert** | Keeneland photo



AFTERCARE IS NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

As an owner, there is no stronger demonstration of responsibility to the Thoroughbred than vigorously supporting aftercare. Without it, not only do we commit the ultimate disservice to our horses, but we expose our entire industry to well-deserved scrutiny by the public.

Five years ago, dedicated industry organizations, breeding farms and individuals helped create the most effective aftercare initiative in the sport's history. The Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance has since accredited, awarded and inspected over 64 entities dedicated to aftercare.

But they remain seriously underfunded in addressing the role they were tasked to pursue for Thoroughbred racing. Another bold step is needed for the TAA to fulfill its mission.

For our Thoroughbreds and for our sport, we cannot afford to do otherwise.



Accredit | Award | Inspect

Op/Ed: Derby Too Much, Too Soon For Justify cont.

Next up is your stakes debut in the May 5 Gill Pat Day Mile at Churchill Downs, then the June 9 Easy Goer S. at Belmont. From there, Baffert should have the horse right where he wants him so far as seasoning goes, so he can pick spots that can include the GI Haskell Invitational, the Travers, the GI Pennsylvania Derby, the GI Breeders' Cup Classic and the GI Pegasus World Cup. That's the same Pegasus World Cup that, in 2018, didn't include a single winner of a 2017 Triple Crown race, and only one horse, Gunnevera (Dialed In), who so much as ran in a 2017 Triple Crown event. The others--and that's a lot of horses--were all spent by then.

Okay, so maybe I'm getting a little ahead of myself and, yes, it's premature to already conclude off one race that Justify is another Arrogate (Unbridled's Song) or Gun Runner (Candy Ride {Arg}). But there's the short-range plan--defy all conventional wisdom and run this horse in the Kentucky Derby. And there's the long-range plan--take your time, have a healthy and fresh horse for big races later on in the year and quite possibly win a boat load of money, many Grade I's and the 3-year-old championship.

The long-range plan is more rational and will probably reap more dividends by the time Justify has been retired and, presumably, sent off to stud. I know my opinion doesn't matter. I also know that starting a horse with so little seasoning in the Derby is asking for trouble.

[Share this story](#) 

ROAD TO THE MONGOL DERBY: GETTING THE TRIP

TDN International Editor Kelsey Riley will be riding in the Mongol Derby in August 2018, and will be regularly blogging about her preparations and ultimately, her 1000-kilometer, 10-day ride across Outer Mongolia. Every rider chooses a charity for which they raise money as part of the process. Kelsey has chosen the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's Second Chances Program at the Blackburn Correctional Complex in Lexington, KY. To learn more about Blackburn, [click here](#).

Hello, followers of my awesome, crazy Mongol Derby adventure. Since I brought you my last blog about [battling Lexington's arctic conditions](#) to get in some riding time, I've been coming to grips with the fact that in August, I'll be riding 1000 kilometres across Mongolia (on half-broke horses with no showers, stables or course markers, albeit). One thousand, that's a reasonable number to come to grips with. Sure, until your creative mind gets going and you think, 'wouldn't it be fun

to convert that to distances applicable to racing?



A five-horse photo finish to the Mongol Derby! | The Adventurists

The Mongol Derby, recognized in 2011 by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's longest multi-horse race, is 4,960 furlongs. Or 1,000,000 metres. That's 496 Kentucky Derbys. Four hundred thirteen Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Three hundred twelve Melbourne Cups. Eight hundred thirty three Golden Slippers!

So, as a rider in the Mongol Derby, what do you do to maximize your chances of getting the trip? Fitness, obviously, both in the saddle and out of it. But in extreme conditions like this, the race could be won or lost based on what you decide to wear and include in your allotted 11 pounds (5 kgs) of kit, so some valuable clues to avoid the dreaded DNF could be found within one's packing list.

My riding plans were badly hindered earlier this month by the continued deep freeze and frozen tracks in Lexington, so I used the time to start strategizing on what to include in my saddle bag, and on me. Turns out those frozen tracks may have been a calling from the universe for me to get started early, because I could never have imagined researching and buying all this stuff would take so much time.

First, what you wear: past Derby experts insist on minimal seams. Seams=chafing, so absolutely no seams anywhere that will touch the saddle. As you can imagine, 11 pounds of kit doesn't allow for many wardrobe changes, and most Derbyists, from what I gather, change two, three times max over the 10 days allotted to finish the race. Three to four days in the same clothes while riding in the heat and potentially the rain with no access to showers means minimizing sweat and stink is a must! From what I gather merino wool is the best material for this, and I'm sure by August I'll be able to provide a definitive answer, as in various fits of panic I have ordered just about every merino wool product that is sold on the internet.

Cont. p9



Mongolian horses await their riders | *The Adventurists*

One former Derbyist was kind enough to send me her packing list, and what is immediately alarming is the length of the column titled ‘medical.’ One of the first items, quoted verbatim, is ‘Tramadol (to balance pain with losing your mind).’ This is immediately followed by ‘Other pain killers x 3 types’ and ‘pain killer gel.’ So, I guess the consensus is that riding 4,960 furlongs (1,000,000 metres) is going to be painful? Other packing suggestions include ‘wet wipes (these will be your shower)’; ‘heavy duty needle and thread, in case of tears to saddle bag or even you’; bed sore bandaids, and cigarettes. The latter is intended as gifts for the Mongolian nomads that help us out along the way, but I feel like there’s a chance I may take up the habit myself between my wet wipes showers, doses of Tramadol and bed sore bandaid applications.

Once the aforementioned frozen track epidemic finally lifted in mid February, I made my debut as an exercise rider at the Thoroughbred Center in Lexington with trainer Jimmy Corrigan. Just over two weeks in, I can so far say it’s been fabulous: an awesome workout, great fun and no mishaps. Well, no mishaps if you don’t include a brief moment hanging from a wall after bailing from a filly known just as ‘Redhead.’ But I think that’s just good old fashioned gymnastics practice, always useful in the name of functional fitness.

The most important part of this crazy adventure is that I am doing it to benefit the wonderful Second Chances Program at the Blackburn Correctional Complex in Lexington. I am thrilled with the fundraising effort thus far: just shy of \$8,500 raised in three months. Every little bit really does count, and I can’t thank the donors enough ([Click here](#) for my fundraising page).

Alright, five months to post time for the Mongol Derby! Topics still to explore in this space include ‘how to get hopelessly lost when learning to use your GPS’; ‘what happens when you don’t shower for 10 days’; and ‘Kelsey Riley: No Reservations, Mongolian Food Edition.’ Stay tuned!

[Share this story](#)

FIRST MARES IN FOAL

LORD NELSON, Spendthrift Farm

- Lord Nelson covered the stakes-winning and Graded stakes-placed Awesome Again mare Jennie R., who has been pronounced in foal.
- The son of Pulpit has recovered from a well-documented battle with Laminitis that caused him to miss the 2017 breeding season and is standing his first season at stud this year for \$25,000 S&N.
- “It’s very gratifying to see this horse clear yet another hurdle—he’s really a remarkable animal,” said Ned Toffey, General Manager at Spendthrift. “We appreciate all of the breeders’ faith in sticking with him, and we believe he’s going to reward them handsomely for it.”

GUN RUNNER, Three Chimneys Farm

- Horse of the Year Gun Runner covered But For Money (Not For Love), the dam of GSW Eskenformoney, and Untapped (Tapit), a full-sister to champion Untapable. Both mares have scanned in foal.
- “We couldn’t be happier with the response from breeders to Gun Runner, and we are delighted that Gun Runner has adapted to his new job smoothly and with the kind of class he has always shown throughout his career” said Grant Williamson, Director of Stallion Seasons at Three Chimneys.



DID YOU KNOW?

Undefeated GISW **Rushing Fall** (More Than Ready) was tabbed as a “TDN Rising Star”

Visit the **TDN Rising Stars** section on our website!

KENTUCKY

UK Equine Career Fair Mar. 6:

The University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs will host its 10th annual UK Equine Career and Opportunity Fair from 4:30-7 p.m. Mar. 6 at Spindletop Hall in Lexington. This is a free event open to all college students interested in a career in the equine industry.

Confirmed participants include: Bourbon Lane Bloodstock, Central Kentucky Riding for Hope, CMW Architects & Engineers, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, The Jockey Club, Kentucky Equine Education Project, Kentucky Equine Humane Center, Kentucky Equine Management Internship, Kentucky Equine Research, League of Agriculture and Equine Centers, Life Adventure Center, Maker's Mark Secretariat Center, Masterson Station, McMahon & Hill Bloodstock, McPeck Racing and Horse Races Now, Miramonte Equine, New Vocations, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, Spy Coast Farm, UK Ag Equine Programs, UK Equine Alumni Affiliate Network, UK Saddleseat Club, US Equestrian and Wingswept Farm.

CANADA

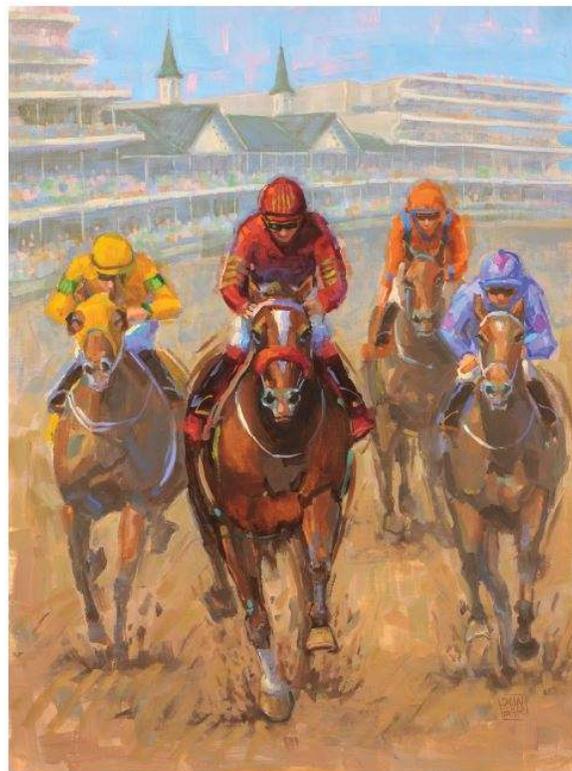
Groom, Handicapper & Special Sovereign Awards Announced:

The Jockey Club of Canada has unveiled the winners for the Groom, Handicapper and Special Sovereign Awards. The Groom Award will go to Alfredo Ramos, who has worked for Hall of Famer Roger Attfield for the past 10 years. The Handicapper Award was won by Michael Eisen, former Microsoft of Canada Chief Legal Officer and winner of Woodbine's Player of the Year Award. Sam Lima is the winner of the Special Sovereign Award, which recognizes someone who has significantly contributed to the horse racing industry in Canada. Lima is a horseman, HBPA official and driving force of the Toronto Thoroughbred Racing Club. The Sovereign Awards will be given out Apr. 19.

[Share this story](#) 

HAVE A NEW FOAL?

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



THE 144TH RUNNING OF THE KENTUCKY DERBY

CHURCHILL DOWNS - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY - MAY 5, 2018

Official Art of the Kentucky Derby by Kentucky painter Lynn Dunbar

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ABROAD

Brought to you by:

IRT 

Thanks for flying IRT

IRT Chicago: +1 630 377 2300

IRT LA: +1 310 306 0262

Click here to visit irt.com

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Mighty Ssing, c, 3, **Congrats**--Fantasy Forest, by Forestry. Seoul, 2-25, Hcp. (\$70k), 1400m. B-Woodford Thoroughbreds (KY). *\$55,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP; \$50,000 2yo '17 OBSAPR. **1/2 to Lady Racer (Biondetti), SP.

Winning with Woodford

Raon Porteous, c, 3, **Street Boss**--Harbor Cruise, by Boston Harbor. Seoul, 2-25, Hcp. (\$56k), 1200m. B-Walnut Green LLC & C Biscuit Racing (PA). *\$8,000 Wlg '15 KEENOV; \$55,000 Ylg '16 FTKOCT.



SKY KINGDOM

Track Record-Setting, Multiple GSW
by Sire of Sires **EMPIRE MAKER**



Sons of **EMPIRE MAKER**
have sired 4 of the last 9
American classic winners,
including 2017 Kentucky Derby
winner **ALWAYS DREAMING**
and Triple Crown winner
AMERICAN PHAROAH.

FIRST YEARLINGS IN 2018

Empire Maker – Sky Beam, by Kingmambo
Contact Ryan Norton: (859) 254-0424

Fee: \$5,000 S&N



Places To Go, g, 4, **More Than Ready**--Pola's Place (SW, \$150,550), by Out of Place. Seoul, 2-24, Hcp. (\$103k), 1800m. B-John O'Meara, Charlie Goldberg, Richard Rosee & More Than Ready Syndicate (KY). *Won by five lengths. **\$15,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP; \$25,000 2yo '16 OBSAPR.

Sinjo Daehyeop, g, 5, **Summer Bird**--Cupids Revenge (MSW, \$215,694), by Red Ransom. Seoul, 2-25, Hcp. (\$140k), 2300m. B-Westwind Farms (KY). *Ran his record to 7-7-4 from 19 starts with a six-length victory to take his earnings to approximately \$577,000. **1/2 to B G Suavecito (Suave), SW, \$103,424; and Latent Revenge (Latent Heat), GSP, \$221,146. ***\$30,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP.

IN PANAMA:

El Tracio, c, 3, **Trappe Shot**--Don'ttalktome (MSW & GSP, \$211,498), by Cactus Ridge. Presidente Remon, 2-25, Maiden, 1100m. B-Stoneway LLC (KY). *1ST START WIN. **\$10,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP.

IN BRITAIN:

Walk in the Sun, c, 3, **Street Sense**. See "Britain".

FIRST & SECOND-CROP RUNNERS

Brought to You by
JUSTICE
REAL ESTATE

CLICK HERE

to view the largest selection of farms for sale in Kentucky's Bluegrass Region

www.kyhorsefarms.com | 859.255.3657 | LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

First-/second-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, Feb. 28

Farm and fee represent current information

Animal Kingdom (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}), Jonabell Farm, \$35,000
215 foals of racing age/12 winners/3 black-type winners
7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, NAKAMURA, 6-1
\$110,000 KEE SEP yrl
7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, RAILROADER, 10-1
\$120,000 KEE SEP yrl

Data Link (War Front), Claiborne Farm, \$7,500
186 foals of racing age/14 winners/1 black-type winner
7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, BIG AGENDA, 5-2
8-TAM, Aoc 7f, DI MARIA, 5-1
\$4,500 KEE SEP yrl

Orb (Malibu Moon), Claiborne Farm, \$25,000
195 foals of racing age/14 winners/1 black-type winner
7-TAM, Msw 1 1/16mT, SHILOH LANE, 3-1
\$100,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$315,000 EAS MAY 2yo

Soldat (War Front), Woodford Thoroughbreds, \$5,000
158 foals of racing age/18 winners/0 black-type winners
8-TAM, Aoc 7f, CHARCUTERIE, 5-2
\$155,000 OBS AUG yrl

BREEDERS' EDITION

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-PRX, \$62,540, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:46.18, ft.

SWEET MAGGIE MAE (m, 5, Wild and Wicked--Tacky Affair {SP, \$256,889}, by Mutakddim) Lifetime Record: 27-6-6-8, \$288,936. O-Elizabeth Martin & Rebecca Williams; B-Ocean Breezes Racing Stable (PA); T-Silvio L. Martin.

5th-PRX, \$49,318, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:18.35, ft.

GIANT TRICK (h, 5, Neko Bay--Subterfuge, by Favorite Trick) Lifetime Record: 39-6-9-8, \$262,469. O-Just In Time Racing LLC; B-Eureka Thoroughbred Farm (TX); T-Mario Serey, Jr. *\$3,000 Ylg '14 TEXOCT; \$15,000 2yo '15 TEXAPR.

3rd-MVR, \$31,500, 2-27, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:41.07, ft.

BLACKTIEANDTUX (g, 5, Hold Me Back--Sheena's Gold, by Fast Gold) Lifetime Record: 29-4-5-6, \$127,863. O-Infront Racing LLC; B-Sparks View Farm LLC & Ginger Emerson (OH); T-Gary L. Johnson. *\$37,000 Ylg '14 FTKOCT. **1/2 to The Groom Is Red (Runaway Groom), GISW, \$401,153.

3rd-HOU, \$23,000, (NW26M)/Opt. Clm (\$35,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.21, ft.

RUMPOLE (g, 4, Too Much Bling--Dehere's Dream, by Dehere) Lifetime Record: MSW, 10-5-0-1, \$141,610. O/B-Fletcher Properties, Inc. (TX); T-Robert A. Young.

6th-HOU, \$22,000, 2-27, (C), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.83, ft.

ANOTHER BOND GIRL (m, 5, Don't Get Mad--She's a Bond Girl {MSP, \$130,565}, by Truluck) Lifetime Record: 28-4-4-5, \$218,619. O/B-William H. Higgins & Brent M. Davidson (OK); T-M. Brent Davidson.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Follow the Facts, g, 3, **Algorithms**--First Shift, by War Front. SUN, 2-27, 5 1/2f, 1:04.62. B-Bradley Purcell (KY). *\$28,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP.

Pay as You Go, f, 4, **Attila's Storm**--Paga (Arg) (Ch. Miler & MG1SW-Arg & GSW-US, by Montreal Marty. SUN, 2-27, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:06.85. B-R. D. R D Hubbard (NM). *1ST-TIME STARTER.

Mula Mano, c, 4, **Mula Gula**--Zolena (SP), by Dance Brightly. HOU, 2-27, 5FT, :59.77. B-Sonny Ellen (TX).

Regent Diamond, f, 4, **Tale of Ekati**--Soul of the Forest, by Perfect Soul (Ire). MVR, 2-27, 6f, 1:15.44. B-Charles Fipke (KY). *\$11,000 Ylg '15 KEEJAN; \$24,000 RNA Ylg '15 KEESEP.



• Georgetown, KY •

RENOVATE YOUR PASTURE AFTER A HARD WINTER

≡ No job too big or small! ≡



— PRICING DEPENDENT ON ACREAGE —

Fully insured | References available

TOLLGATE HAY & STRAW LLC • 5444 Paris Pike • Georgetown, KY 40324
David Whitley | 502.370.8553 or 502.542.8343 • Cory Stamper | 859.509.2565
tollgatehay@gmail.com

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

- ALGORITHMS**, Follow the Facts, g, 3, o/o First Shift, by War Front. MSW, 2-27, Sunland Park
- ATTILA'S STORM**, Pay as You Go, f, 4, o/o Paga (Arg), by Montreal Marty. MSW, 2-27, Sunland Park
- DON'T GET MAD**, Another Bond Girl, m, 5, o/o She's a Bond Girl, by Truluck. ALW, 2-27, Sam Houston
- HOLD ME BACK**, Blacktieandtux, g, 5, o/o Sheena's Gold, by Fast Gold. ALW, 2-27, Mahoning Valley Race Course
- MULA GULA**, Mula Mano, c, 4, o/o Zolena, by Dance Brightly. MSW, 2-27, Sam Houston
- NEKO BAY**, Giant Trick, h, 5, o/o Subterfuge, by Favorite Trick. AOC, 2-27, Parx Racing
- TALE OF EKATI**, Regent Diamond, f, 4, o/o Soul of the Forest, by Perfect Soul (Ire). MSW, 2-27, Mahoning Valley Race Course
- TOO MUCH BLING**, Rumpole, g, 4, o/o Dehere's Dream, by Dehere. AOC, 2-27, Sam Houston
- WILD AND WICKED**, Sweet Maggie Mae, m, 5, o/o Tacky Affair, by Mutakddim. AOC, 2-27, Parx Racing



DID YOU KNOW?

Undefeated GISW **McKinzie** (Street Sense) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

Visit the **TDN Rising Stars** section on our website!

The
**Werk
 Nick
 Rating**®
 Is the
 Reliable
 Nick
 Rating

only from

eNicks®

A service of Werk Thoroughbred Consultants, Inc.
 PO Box 1926, Fremont, CA 94538 **510-490-1111**

2018 Leading Second-Crop Sires by Earnings

for stallions standing in North America through Monday, February 26th

Earnings and Black-type represents worldwide figures & stud fees are for 2018

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Graydar <i>(2009) by Unbridled's Song</i>	1	2	1	1	--	--	41	13	\$128,880 <i>Lombo</i>	\$459,950
										<i>Stands: Taylor Made Stallions KY Fee: \$7,500</i>	
2	Violence <i>(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro</i>	1	5	--	1	--	--	47	9	\$70,400 <i>Violent Ridge</i>	\$402,994
										<i>Stands: Hill 'N' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$25,000</i>	
3	Alternation <i>(2008) by Distorted Humor</i>	--	1	--	--	--	--	28	10	\$46,200 <i>First Alternate</i>	\$365,687
										<i>Stands: Pin Oak Stud KY Fee: \$6,000</i>	
4	Justin Phillip <i>(2008) by First Samurai</i>	--	2	--	--	--	--	25	5	\$177,569 <i>Ryano Tesoro</i>	\$360,000
										<i>Stands: Castleton Lyons KY Fee: \$5,000</i>	
5	Jimmy Creed <i>(2009) by Distorted Humor</i>	2	2	1	1	--	--	28	6	\$120,000 <i>Kanthaka</i>	\$352,476
										<i>Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$15,000</i>	
6	Paynter <i>(2009) by Awesome Again</i>	--	2	--	--	--	--	44	7	\$54,300 <i>Pryor</i>	\$329,905
										<i>Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$12,500</i>	
7	Flat Out <i>(2006) by Flatter</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	33	12	\$45,600 <i>Cheponera</i>	\$316,778
										<i>Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$7,000</i>	
8	Morning Line <i>(2007) by Tiznow</i>	1	4	--	--	--	--	22	7	\$70,000 <i>Empire Line</i>	\$270,706
										<i>Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$7,500</i>	
9	Poseidon's Warrior <i>(2008) by Speightstown</i>	1	1	--	1	--	--	22	5	\$140,000 <i>Firenze Fire</i>	\$244,217
										<i>Stands: Pleasant Acres Stallions FL Fee: \$6,500</i>	
10	Oxbow <i>(2010) by Awesome Again</i>	--	1	--	--	--	--	29	8	\$46,800 <i>Proximus</i>	\$232,751
										<i>Stands: Calumet Farm KY Fee: \$20,000</i>	
11	Overanalyze <i>(2010) by Dixie Union</i>	--	2	--	--	--	--	52	9	\$24,000 <i>Racing Raven</i>	\$229,928
										<i>Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$15,000</i>	
12	Shanghai Bobby <i>(2010) by Harlan's Holiday</i>	--	3	--	1	--	--	39	3	\$39,600 <i>Gotta Go</i>	\$219,260
										<i>Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$15,000</i>	
13	Orb <i>(2010) by Malibu Moon</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	29	5	\$61,628 <i>Nishino Trans Am</i>	\$216,391
										<i>Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$25,000</i>	
14	El Padrino <i>(2009) by Pulpit</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	13	6	\$40,612 <i>Whereshetoldmetogo</i>	\$200,472
										<i>Stands: Northview PA USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>	
15	Data Link <i>(2008) by War Front</i>	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	5	\$67,080 <i>Masked</i>	\$193,557
										<i>Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$5,000</i>	

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

Shining examples,
rising stars, bright prospects...

Seeking enlightenment?
Answers at www.darleyamerica.com

Darley

BACK AT LONGCHAMP, POULES' FULL OF PROMISE



Prix du Jockey Club winner **Intello** has two entrants in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains | *Scoop Dyga*

By John Berry

Winter is still biting in Europe, but it's easy to believe that spring is somewhere around the corner when the entries for the French Classics are published. The first ones, the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches, the equivalents of the 2000 and 1000 Guineas in Great Britain, are always terrific races and they will have particular appeal this year on their return to their traditional home at Longchamp.

A further aspect of both races is that they have often given a boost to the nascent careers of young stallions. Most recently, Rajsaman (Ire) (Linamix {Fr}) was thrust into the spotlight last year as one of France's most interesting young sires when his first-crop son Brametot (Ire) won the Poule d'Essai des Poulains before following up in the G1 Prix du Jockey-Club. The Poule d'Essai des Pouliches had previously done a similar favour for the now-proven stallions Le Havre (Ire) (Noverre) and Siyouni (Fr) (Pivotal {GB}). Each received similar publicity at the same crucial stage, courtesy respectively of 2014 heroine Avenir Certain (Fr) and 2015 winner Ervedya (Fr). Le Havre, of course, came up with the winner of the race again two years later when La Cressonniere (Fr) emulated Avenir Certain in initiating the same Poule d'Essai des Pouliches/Prix de Diane double.

Cont. p2

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION RETIRED

Last weekend's G1 Oakleigh Plate winner **Russian Revolution (Aus)** (Snitzel {Aus})--Ballet d'Amour, by Stravinsky) has been retired from racing to stand at Newgate Farm. Trained by Peter and Paul Snowden for a partnership including Newgate SF, China Horse Club, Sir Owen Glenn's Go Bloodstock and breeder John Stuart, Russian Revolution won twice at two before taking the G3 Vain S. and G2 Roman Consul S. in the spring of his 3-year-old campaign. He added the G1 The Galaxy H. last March over The Everest winner Redzel (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}) followed by the G2 McEwen S. on Sept. 9. Off the board in the Sept. 29 G1 Moir S., he bounced back last weekend to post a second Group 1 win and retires with seven wins in 11 starts for earnings of \$992,125. "Russian Revolution has nothing more to prove and the owners have elected to retire him on a winning note," said Peter Snowden. "He's absolutely one of the quickest horses we have ever trained."

Share this story 

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

LEAHY REWARDED FOR HIS AUDIBLE

Chris McGrath speaks with Richard Leahy, who bred GII Holy Bull S. hero **Audible** (Into Mischief). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

THE LATEST

SCOOP

The most recent world-class research from KER has resulted in significant changes to our Racing & Bloodstock Feeds. Our new ingredients can:

- Maximise bone density
- Support gastric health
- Maintain hindgut stability

Saracen
Horse
Feeds

working
with

Kentucky
Equine
Research®

Contact the Thoroughbred Office. Tel: +44 (0) 1488 73 456
or visit www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred



Back At Longchamp, Poules' Full Of Promise Cont. from p1

Another good sire to have received a timely boost was the 2010 G1 2000 Guineas and G1 Prix Jacques le Marois winner Makfi (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), whose first crop contained the 2015 Poule d'Essai des Poulains winner Make Believe (GB).

The greatest decade for the Poule d'Essai des Poulains came in the 10 years beginning 1968 when the race's winners included the subsequent top-class stallions Zeddaan (GB) (Grey Sovereign {GB}), Caro (Ire) (Fortino {Fr}), Riverman (Never Bend), Kalamoun (GB) (Zeddaan {GB}), Green Dancer (Nijinsky {Can}), Blushing Groom (Fr) (Red God) and Irish River (Fr) (Riverman). Are we currently in a similarly golden spell? Only time will tell. The Coolmore team obviously hopes that we are, with the unproven sires on the Coolmore roster including the 2016 winner The Gurkha (Ire) Galileo {Ire}). The team looks keen to make a serious challenge for the race this year with 16 Ballydoyle inmates entered including last year's Grade/Group 1 winners **U S Navy Flag** (War Front), **Mendelssohn** (Scat Daddy) and **Saxon Warrior (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) as well as the usual swag of high-quality Galileo colts, possibly headed by G2 Superlative S. winner **Gustav Klimt (Ire)**. The team will no doubt also be keeping a paternal eye on the Harry Dunlop-trained **Fighting Irish (Ire)**, who could be bidding to give his 2000 Guineas and Derby-winning sire Camelot (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}) a first-crop Classic victory. The bay colt has already done plenty to advertise Camelot's claims, having taken the G2 Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte last October.

While Fighting Irish was the star of Camelot's first batch of 2-year-olds last year, he was not the only colt who showed enough ability to merit a Poule d'Essai des Poulains entry: also engaged is his paternal half-brother **Msayyan (Ire)** whom John Gosden saddled to land an 8 1/2-furlong maiden race at Nottingham last autumn, just as he had done with the mighty Golden Horn (GB) (Cape Cross {Ire}) three years previously.



Fighting Irish is a first-crop Classic entrant for Camelot | Scoop Dyga

 **DESIGNER PEDIGREES**
Professional Pedigree Consultancy

**Special Offer to Breeders
for the 2018 Breeding Season**

**FREE Pedigree Consultancy
for ONE Mare per client
and a 50% discount
for any subsequent mares**



For more information please contact:

Peter Ebdon
07876573922

designerpedigrees.org@gmail.com
www.designerpedigrees.org

Another Classic winner with a first-crop entrant in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains is Style Vendome (Fr) (Anabaa), winner of the race in 2013. He is responsible for **Al Mashrab (Ire)**, twice a winner in the Al Shaqab silks last year. French Classic form of 2013 is also represented in the sires' ranks by Intello (Ger) (Galileo {Ire}), successful in that year's Prix du Jockey-Club. He has two sons entered in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains: the stakes-placed Deauville winner **Louis D'Or (Ire)** and **Intellogent (Ire)**, a winner at Saint-Cloud last October.

The other stallions with a pair of first-crop 3-year-olds engaged in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains are Maxios (GB) (Monsun {Ger}) and Declaration Of War (War Front). The former has the G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere fourth **Woodmax (Ger)** and the Aga Khan's **Parabak (Fr)** among the entrants; the latter has the Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere runner-up **Olmedo (Fr)** and the unraced Ballydoyle inmate **North Face (Ire)** on the list.

Other entrants in the race who could be bidding to give their sire a first-crop Classic victory include the unbeaten triple winner **Snazzy Jazzy (Ire)** (Red Jazz), last summer's Deauville winner **Epic Adventure (Fr)** (Shamalgalan {Fr}), **El Patron (Fr)** (Penny's Picnic {Fr}) and **Nice Piorno (Fr)** (George Vancouver). Also in this category is the maiden **Moral Gagnant (Ger)** (Dabirsim {Fr}).

Cont. p3



Vice President, International Operations

Gary King
 Twitter: @garykingTDN
 garyking@thetdn.com
 + 1.732.320.0975

International Editor

Kelsey Riley
 Twitter: @kelseynrileyTDN
 kelseynriley@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry
 Twitter: @collingsberry
 emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson
 Twitter: @HLAndersonTDN

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen
 Twitter: @AlaynaCullen
 alaynacullen@thetdn.com

Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso
 Twitter: @EquinealTDN

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin
 Tom Frary
 caferacing@thetdn.com

Irish Correspondent

Daithi Harvey

Regular Columnists

Andrew Caulfield
 John Berry
 Kevin Blake
 Tom Peacock



Style Vendome | Haras de Bouquetot

Back At Longchamp, Poules' Full Of Promise Cont.

Unraced as a juvenile, this colt recently finished second on debut at Chantilly and is in the care of the same trainer, Christophe Ferland, who prepared his sire to take the G1 Prix Morny and G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere in 2011.

Another Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere winner to feature among the sires of the entrants is Wootton Bassett (GB) (Iffraaj {GB}), winner of France's premier juvenile race in 2010. His stud career got off to a sparkling start when his first crop contained Almanzor (Fr), winner of Group 1 races in three countries in 2016: the Prix du Jockey-Club at Chantilly, Irish Champion S. at Leopardstown and Champion S. at Ascot. He now looks potentially to have another star to represent him as the unbeaten listed winner **Wootton (Fr)** looked very good last year. The Godolphin representative ranks as one of Wootton Bassett's two Poule d'Essai des Poulains entrants, along with the listed-placed dual winner **Patascoy (Fr)**.

Five stallions who have first-crop sons entered in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains are also represented in the list of Poule d'Essai des Pouliches entrants. Aidan O'Brien's squad includes the eye-catchingly well-bred **Athena (Ire)** (Camelot {Ire}), whose sire clearly has a chance of striking gold in both races. Athena is a daughter of Cherry Hinton (GB) (Cape Cross {Ire}), a Group 3-placed half-sister to Galileo and Sea The Stars who has already bred two pattern winners including 2014 G1 Irish Oaks victrix Bracelet (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}). Camelot's other entrant in the race is the Richard Hannon-trained **Vitamin (Ire)**, last seen when winning impressively at Newmarket last August.

Dabirsim, Intello and Style Vendome also have appealing bunches of fillies entered in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches. Dabirsim has some particularly interesting daughters engaged in the race, headed by last summer's Royal Ascot heroine **Different League (Fr)**, who is now trained by Aidan O'Brien after being sold out of Matthieu Palussiere's stable for 1,500,000gns at the Tattersalls December Sale. [Cont. p4](#)



Dabirsim's Different League sells for 1.5-million gns at Tattersalls | Tattersalls photo

Back At Longchamp, Poules' Full Of Promise Cont.

The stallion's strong squad also includes last-start Prix Zeddaan victrix **Couer De Beaute (Fr)** and Chantilly winner **High Dream Milena (Fr)**. Intello, himself a Wertheimer homebred, has two interesting Wertheimer-bred daughters in the race: Prix Saraca winner **Sonjeu (Fr)** and the unraced **Gravitas (Fr)**. Style Vendome also has a brace of entrants in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches, arguably headed by the dual winner **Princess Gold (Fr)**. His other potential representative **Style Presa (Fr)**, who broke her maiden at Chantilly last month, could, though, have huge scope for improvement, being a half-sister to triple G1 Sun Chariot S. heroine Sahpresa (Sahm).

Two very promising fillies who could each give their sire a chance of early glory are **Narella (Ire)** (Reliable Man {GB}) and **Worship (Ire)** (Havana Gold {Ire}). The former's victory in the G3 Steinhoff Zukunftsrennen at Baden-Baden last September got the stakes ball rolling in great style for her Prix du Jockey-Club-winning sire; while Worship looked very promising when making a stylish winning debut at Kempton before Christmas. Other fillies who have been given a chance to credit their sire with a first-crop Classic triumph are the twice-raced **Plantlove (Fr)** (Planteur {Ire}) and the unraced **Monneypenny's (Fr)** (Penny's Picnic {Fr}). The fact that Jean-Claude Rouget has given the latter three Group 1 entries even though she has yet to make her debut is interesting. She thus takes her place in an eye-catching bunch of unraced entrants for the race, a group which includes the blue-bloods **Zarkamiya (Fr)** and **Park Bloom (Ire)**.

Cont. p5

Quality first foals...



Filly ex **Divine Authority**, bred by James Hanly



Colt ex **Larceny**, bred by Petra Bloodstock



Filly ex **Praskovia**, bred by Sebastian and Thea Curran

THE GURKHA

Dual Gr.1 winning Champion Miler by GALILEO

COOLMORE

Back At Longchamp, Poules' Full Of Promise Cont.

These two fillies are blessed with mouth-watering pedigrees. The former is by Frankel out of the great Zarkava (Ire) (Zamindar) and the latter is by Galileo out of Alluring Park (Green Desert) and is thus a full-sister to 2012 G1 Oaks heroine Was (Ire) and a very close relation to 2008 Derby winner New Approach (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}).

[Share this story](#) 

CHARLIE FELLOWES BLOG: MENTORS

This is the first installment in what will be a regular blog from Newmarket trainer Charlie Fellowes, who is entering his fifth season of training.

It is 6:10 on a freezing cold February morning, and I feel that--as I wait for first lot to pull out--now is as good a time as any to commence writing my first-ever column for the *TDN*. My name is Charlie Fellowes, and at 32 years old, I am one of the younger members of the training ranks in Newmarket. This year will be my fifth year with a licence and so far, it has been one hell of a ride.

The subject title of this first piece refers to my mentors in racing, and for me this is an incredibly easy starting point. To be honest I have only one. However, I will get on to that one in a minute. There are various people to whom I am incredibly grateful, and without whom I would not be where I am today.

I did not come from a racing background and my interest in this sport was fuelled by my mum's involvement in a syndicate and my infatuation with *Channel 4* racing. It was, therefore, a real stroke of luck when I found out that my sister was in the same class at school as Simon Crisford's daughter Georgina, and before I knew it I was on my way to Dubai to work for the 'Boys in Blue.' I learnt a huge amount in my time there (eight months on my gap year) and I have no doubt that the road to training would have been very different without Simon's help.



James Doyle and Charlie Fellowes at Meydan | racingfotos.com

ALTHOUGH I APPRECIATE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, I TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN WATCHING MY HORSES IMPROVE WITH AGE

Charlie Fellowes

John Ferguson has also played a huge part in getting me to where I am today, as it was he that offered me a role at Darley pre-training during my university holidays and also got me a job in Australia with Lee Freedman. I had a great time with the Freedman brothers and learnt a huge amount during my year-long stay in Melbourne, but it was my next move that was to truly mould my beliefs on how racehorses should be trained.

On returning to England, word got to me that James Fanshawe might be looking for an assistant, and a phone call later I had secured myself a trial at his stunning yard on the edge of Newmarket. It quickly became apparent that James and I had rather a lot in common; music taste, sense of humour, moderate dress sense and a natural patience with horses. During my five years at his stable we never had more than 80 horses in the yard, and yet routinely he produced a Group 1 horse every year. There are many larger yards that would not be able to say the same thing. Society Rock, Spacious, Deacon Blues, High Jinx, Dandino, Seal of Approval and Ribbons all went through the yard during my time there.

So, what was the key? As is always the case it wasn't just one thing in particular. In Pegasus Stables, James has created a very happy and relaxed environment for the horses. The paddocks are beautifully looked after and used regularly by the horses after exercise and in the afternoons. With the yard situated on the edge of town it is also much quieter than most stables and so when the horses were supposed to be relaxing, they genuinely were switching off. But most importantly of all James never asked them to do things they weren't ready to. We see more and more pressure on quick results and early 2-year olds, but James knows that if you can afford to be patient then the horse will fly higher in the long run. I would like to think that this is something I have taken on board, and although I appreciate that time is of the essence, I take great pride in watching my horses improve with age, and then hold on to their form for as long as possible.

Cont. p6

Charlie Fellowes Blog: Mentors Cont.

I have two horses in my yard that have been with me since the first day I set up training: Accession (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) (nine years old) and Carolinae (GB) (Makfi {GB}) (six years old). Both horses are on career high marks as we speak. Surely owners will get more enjoyment from that than a short, sharp one-hit wonder?

I adored my time at James’s yard and to this day, barring a couple of my own personal training highlights, the Royal Ascot double our yard had with Deacon Blues and Society Rock was the best day of my racing career. Sadly, I wasn't even there that day as I was required at Newmarket, something I will never forgive the Guv'nor for!

[Share this story](#) 



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
Thoroughbred Daily News

@garykingTDN	@kelseynrileyTDN	@collingsberry
@DaithiHarvey	@EquinealTDN	@HLAndersonTDN

EUROPEAN NEWS

presented by:  Destination Europe
www.destinationeuropereading.com

ARQANA RECORD-SETTER WINS AGAIN

Walk In The Sun (Street Sense), who gained a narrow verdict going seven panels at Kempton in his Jan. 26 debut, was slick from the gate and led all three rivals from the outset here. Maintaining control throughout, the 1-12 favourite was scrubbed along on the home turn and pushed out in the short straight to easily account for New Orleans (Ire) (Red Jazz) by seven lengths.

“It was a good performance and it was how we expected him to do it,” said Kerri Radcliffe, who signed the docket for Phoenix Thoroughbreds when the bay jumped from a \$15,000 Keeneland September yearling to become a record-setting €1.4-million breezer at Arqana’s May sale last year. “He was quite babyish [turning for home] and has a bit to learn yet. Long-term plans are for the trainer to decide, but he’s a big, leggy colt and needs to fill out.” ([Click here](#) for a recent TDN feature on Phoenix Thoroughbreds.) **Cont. p7**



Phoenix Thoroughbreds's Walk In The Sun (Street Sense), the €1.4-million Arqana breeze-up record setter, goes two-for-two at Lingfield on Tuesday racingfotos.com

Arqana Record-Setter Wins Again Cont.

The May 26 G1 Irish 2000 Guineas entry is one of three scorers produced by MGSP Listed Prix Coronation victress Mystic Melody (Seattle Slew), herself kin to four black-type performers headed by GI Travers S. and GI Woodward S. hero Alpha (Bernardini). She was covered by both Animal Kingdom and Elusive Quality last year. His second dam is Listed Lingfield Oaks Trial winner Munnaya (Nijinsky II), one of three stakes winners produced by G3 Princess Margaret S. victress Hiaam (Alydar), who in turn is kin to MGSW sire Key to the Moon (Wajima), MGISW Gorgeous (Slew o' Gold) and GI Kentucky Oaks heroine Seaside Attraction (Seattle Slew). The latter was responsible for MGISW US champion juvenile distaffer Golden Attraction (Mr. Prospector) and sires Cape Town (Seeking the Gold) and Cape Canaveral (Mr. Prospector), and she is also a half-sister to the dam of European Horse of the Year and MG1SW sire Fantastic Light (Rahy) and stakes-winning G1 Prix Saint-Alary and GI E. P. Taylor S. placegetter Hi Dubai (Rahy).

[Share this story](#) 

Tuesday's Results:

2nd-LIN, £5,800, Cond, 2-27, 3yo, 7f 1y (AWT), 1:23.19, st. WALK IN THE SUN (c, 3, **Street Sense--Mystic Melody {SW & MGSP-Fr}, by Seattle Slew) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$10,727.**

Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.

O-Phoenix Thoroughbred Ltd; B-Godolphin (KY); T-Jeremy Nosedá.



DONCASTER BREEZE-UP CATALOGUE OUT

The catalogue for the Goffs UK Breeze Up Sale at Doncaster, featuring 207 lots, is now **available**. Breezes will take place at 11 a.m. at Doncaster Racecourse on Apr. 9, with the single-day sale held on Apr. 10 at 10 a.m. local time. Already there have been 44 juvenile winners out of last year's sale. Other graduates have been successful at the group level in 2017, among them G3 Cornwallis S. hero Abel Handy (Ire) (Arcano {Ire}); and G1SW Quiet Reflection (GB) (Showcasing {GB}), who won the G3 Renaissance S. Also, for the second year in a row, every horse catalogued has been nominated for the €1-million 2019 Swedish Derby & Oaks Series.

Lots of interest include: **lot 3**, a colt by Dark Angel (Ire) who is a half-brother to GSW Eastern Impact (Ire) (Bahamian Bounty {GB}); a son (**lot 11**) of top juvenile sire Kodiak (GB) who is a half-brother to GSW Hamza (Ire) (Amadeus Wolf {GB}); and a daughter (**lot 49**) of Group 3 heroine Princess Iris (Ire) (Desert Prince {Ire}) by Exceed And Excel (Aus).

Lot 139, a Born To Sea (Ire) half-sister to G2 Coventry S. hero Rajasinghe (Ire) (Choisir {Aus}); and **lot 195**, a half-brother to Group 2 hero Goodyearforroses (Ire) (Azamour {Ire}) by Zoffany (Ire), also look promising.

"Following last year's record sale and another good year on the track, we were inundated with entries for 2018 and, as a result, the catalogue has increased in size reflecting the quality of entries received," said Goffs UK Managing Director Tony Williams. "The catalogue has certainly taken a step forward in 2018. This is Europe's best breeze-up for 2-year-old winners and has also become a leading outlet for buyers looking for Royal Ascot horses. We will be visiting buyers around the world in the coming weeks to spread that message and look forward to welcoming an international audience to Doncaster."

[Share this story](#) 



Quiet Reflection, a Doncaster graduate | *Racing Post*

ASCOT BREEZE-UP CATALOGUE RELEASED

The **catalogue** for the 146-strong single session Tattersalls Ireland Ascot Breeze Up Sale was released on Tuesday. The breeze-ups will be held beginning at noon at Ascot Racecourse on Apr. 4, with the sale kicking off at 12 p.m. local time at the Tattersalls Ireland Ascot Sales Arena on Apr. 5. Highlighting past graduates, is Sands Of Mali (Fr) (Panis), who saluted in the G2 Gimcrack S. at York in 2017.

Lot 7, a filly by one of 2017's top first-season sires in Havana Gold (Ire), is out of a full-sister to European champion sprinter Fleeting Spirit (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) and is noteworthy, as is a colt (**lot 16**) by Kodiak (GB) out of Irish MGSW Redstone Dancer (Ire) (Namid {GB}). There is also a son of Born To Sea (Ire) offered as **lot 23**, out of a full-sister to GSW Fantastic Moon (GB) (Dalakhani {Ire}), making his dam a half-sister to none other than G1 QIPCO Champions S. hero Cracksman (GB) (Frankel {GB}). **Cont. p8**

Ascot Breeze-Up Catalogue Released Cont.

Another juvenile to consider is a colt (lot 46) by Shamardal, the only one catalogued. He is out of a daughter of G1 1000 Guineas victress Virginia Waters (Kingmambo) and from the family of GSW & MG1SP Rain Goddess (Ire).

Share this story 

BRITAIN



CONDITIONS RESULTS:

4th-LIN, £23,000, Cond, 2-27, 4yo/up, f, 8f 1y (AWT), 1:35.89, st.

ZEST (IRE) (m, 5, Duke of Marmalade {Ire}--Affinity {GB}, by Sadler's Wells) Lifetime Record: MSP-Eng, 18-4-2-4, \$80,249. O/B-Elite Racing Club (IRE); T-James Fanshawe.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Make Magic (Ire), f, 3, Makfi (GB)--Maramba (SP-Eng), by Hussonet. CHD, 2-27, 7f (AWT), 1:27.44. B-D G Iceton (IRE). *19,000gns Wlg '15 TATFOA; 8,500gns 2yo '17 TATAHI. **1/2 to Dream Mover (Ire) (Dream Ahead), GSP-Ity.



This colt by **Le Havre** is the first foal out of the G1 Irish 1000 Guineas winner **Jet Setting**. He was born Jan. 22 at Baroda Stud. Mick Flanagan, representative of breeder China Horse Club, said, "We are delighted with this colt by Le Havre. So much so that I can see Jet Setting going back to Le Havre very soon. This colt foal has excellent conformation and physique along with excellent action, a trait that we continuously see being passed through from Le Havre to his progeny."

WORLDWIDE NEWS

O'BRIEN, KAVANAGH AVOID BANS

The three-year cobalt saga of Flemington trainers Danny O'Brien and Mark Kavanagh has come to end, with both trainers picking up fines but avoiding bans for presenting horses to race with cobalt in their systems' above the permitted threshold. O'Brien, who had four horses test positive, was fined A\$8,000, while Kavanagh was fined A\$4,000 for one. Each of the embroiled horses will be disqualified from their races in question.

Racing Victoria had initially slapped O'Brien and Kavanagh with bans of four and three years, respectively, but the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal deemed that the trainers were unaware that cobalt had been present in substances administered to their horses. The Court of Appeal, the state's highest court, upheld that decision on Tuesday.

"If we had been charged with presentation in the first place, the matter would have been over in two weeks," O'Brien told *Racing.com*. "We would have pleaded guilty and paid the fine. Instead, we have been pursued for three years over administration and it is there in black and white in the judgement that we had no knowledge of the administration. I'm glad it is basically all over and we can move on from here."

Dr. Tom Brennan, former head of Flemington Equine Clinic, was banned five years for administering drips containing cobalt, but he too contends he did not know the medications contained cobalt.

Cont. p9



Danny O'Brien (foreground) and Mark Kavanagh | Getty

TDN APP

version 2.5

Available on the App Store

Free Download

O'Brien, Kavanagh Avoid Bans Cont.

Birchley Banned From NSW...

Liam Birchley, one of eight individuals charged as part of the Aquanita bi-carb scandal, has been banned from nominating horses to race in New South Wales. The Queensland-based trainer has been allowed to carry on in his home state.

[Share this story](#) 

**DIAMOND WINNER'S CONNECTIONS
LEANING TOWARD SLIPPER**

Written By (Aus) (Written Tycoon {Aus}), winner of the G1 Blue Diamond S., has his connections considering a start in the G1 Golden Slipper on Mar. 24, reported *Racenet.com.au*. Trainer Grahame Begg is seriously considering the A\$3.5-million Rosehill feature, but an official decision will not be made until early next week.

“He’s come through his Blue Diamond run in great shape, a lot better than what he did the run before that,” Begg told *Racenet.com.au*. I am very, very happy with him and he would have to make me not happy with him for us not to go onto the Golden Slipper with him. You can read into that what you will.”

Begg is mulling a potential trial for the chestnut at Randwick on Mar. 13. If Written By did succeed, he would be the sixth Blue Diamond/Golden Slipper winner and the second Slipper winner for Written Tycoon after champion juvenile and ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ Capitalist (Aus) struck in 2016.

[Share this story](#) 



Written By | Bronwen Healy

CHAUTAUQUA TWICE REFUSES TO TRIAL



Chautauqua | Bronwen Healy

The speedy grey **Chautauqua (Aus)** (Encosta de Lago {Aus}), twice Australia’s champion sprinter, refused to jump from the stalls in the **third and fourth** heats of the Royal Randwick barrier trials on Tuesday, *Racenet.com.au* reported. The six-time Group 1 winner, pointing toward a title defence in the G1 T.J. Smith S., appeared all set to go in the 1050-metre third trial, but refused to leave the barriers, as GSW Houtzen (Aus) (I Am Invincible {Aus}) covered the distance in 1:03.15.

“Now, where’s Chautauqua,” remarked race caller Mitch Manners on Sky Racing. “He didn’t leave the stalls. Unbelievable.”

Despite his first refusal, the Hawkes Racing trainee was allowed another shot in the fourth heat over the same trip. Once again, he refused, although implored by pilot Brenton Avdulla, as Conquest (Aus) (Uncle Mo) scored in 1:02.23.

“They’re away and he’s stayed in the stalls again,” Manners said.

Chautauqua has now been barred from racing, but he would be cleared if he trails once to the stewards’ satisfaction. The next Sydney trials are on Mar. 5 at Rosehill.

“I’ve spoken to Dale Jeffs [starter] and to stewards and there is no particular reason as to why he didn’t jump,” said Chief Steward Marc Van Gestel. “He was afforded his opportunity both times. He just refused to jump. He’s officially barred and needs to go back to the trials before we’ll clear him to race again. One trial will clear him at this point in time, but we’ll monitor his next trial and assess it after that.”

[Share this story](#) 

ASIA

GUNNISON SET FOR HONG KONG DEBUT*by Alan Carasso*

Gunnison (Aus) (Not a Single Doubt {Aus}), who topped last year's inaugural Inglis Chairman's Sale of Elite Racing Prospects on a bid of A\$1.4 million ([click for Kelsey Riley's sales coverage](#)), is entered for his Hong Kong debut in a Class 2 handicap going 1200 metres on dirt Wednesday evening at Sha Tin Racecourse.

Originally purchased by bloodstock agent James Harron for A\$850,000 at the 2016 Inglis Easter Yearling Sale, the chestnut was gelded and turned over to trainers Peter and Paul Snowden, for whom he won a Canberra maiden on debut and the G2 Todman S. a fortnight later. He was consigned to the Chairman's Sale with an entry for the G1 Sires' Produce S., but was subsequently withdrawn from that race, ultimately won by Invader (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}), who finished a nose behind Gunnison in the Todman.

Gunnison is trained by John Size, who explained his rationale for starting out on the dirt to the Hong Kong Jockey Club's Andrew Hawkins.

"I think he's a horse that would appreciate getting his foot in the ground a little bit," the trainer said. "I think the harder tracks are not something that he'd relish just yet, although next season as a 4-year-old he might handle them a little bit better, but from what we saw of him on a wet track in Australia, I think the dirt might help him out a little bit."

For his part, Gunnison has appeared to handle the underfoot conditions nicely, including a front-running score in a 1050m barrier trial Feb. 13 ([video](#)), but Size is taking his typically low-key approach to this first local run.

"His preparation has been OK, there have not been many complications with the horse--he has good speed and he does everything correctly," the Australian said. "He knows his job. He's a little bit young though and he's not as strong as some of his competitors, but he's been here for a while and I've given him plenty of time, so he may as well go to the races and we can find out where he is.

He added, "It's very tough for a 3-year-old to start in Class 2, but it's been well-explained to the connections. That's why I've taken my time with him. [Young horses] do find it quite difficult, but that's where we are and we have to start somewhere."

Post time for the evening's seventh race ([HKJC form](#)) is 10:20pm local time (1.20am Thursday AEST/2.20pm BST/9.20am US Eastern time). Gunnison, who carries 119 pounds off a debut rating of 86, is drawn eight with Mauritian Karis Teetan at the controls.

[Share this story](#) 

Gunnison pictured here in a recent trial at Happy Valley | *HKJC photo*

SINGAPORE STAKES TREBLE SET FOR MAY*by Alan Carasso*

Having recently announced that the S\$1.5-million Kranji Mile was to be contested as an invitational race for 2018, officials at the Singapore Turf Club have decided to consolidate three stakes races to be staged on a single twilight program Saturday, May 26, 2018, at Kranji Racecourse.

The Kranji Mile and S\$1-million Lion City Cup (1200m) were originally scheduled for Sunday, May 20, while the S\$1-million Singapore Guineas (1600m) had been programmed for Friday, May 18. The meetings previously scheduled for that day will take place as planned. The May 26 meeting will replace the programme scheduled for Friday, May 25.

According to a release from the Club, it is "hopeful that such high-quality racing in one day will have all the elements of an international racing carnival that will not only attract the best horses from here and around the world, but also racegoers and racing fans and put Kranji back on the global stage."

The Kranji Mile, which will extend as many as four invitations to overseas runners in 2018 and offer bonuses to the first two locally placed runners, and the Lion City Cup will be formally reintroduced as international races in 2019, with prize money of S\$3 million and S\$1.35 million, respectively. The Singapore Airlines International Cup and KrisFlyer Sprint (1200m) served as the jurisdiction's lone Group 1 races prior to their abrupt cancellation in 2015.

[Share this story](#) 

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/thoroughbreddailynews

Thursday, Meydan, United Arab Emirates, post time: 7:40 p.m. (10:40 a.m. EST/3:40 p.m. BST)

UAE OAKS SPONSORED BY AL NABOODAH CONSTRUCTION GROUP-G2, \$250,000, NH & SH 3yo, F, 1900m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Rayya	Tiz Wonderful	Watson	Dobbs	125
2	Line House (GB)	Kheleyf	Burke	Mullen	125
3	Expressiy (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Appleby	Buick	125
4	Sa'ada	Bellamy Road	bin Harmash	Fresu	125
5	Queen Estoril (Ire)	Camacho (GB)	Olsen	Chaves	125
6	Winter Lightning (Ire)	Shamardal	bin Suroor	Cosgrave	125

Thursday, Meydan, United Arab Emirates, post time: 8:50 p.m. (11:50 a.m. EST/4:50 p.m. BST)

NAD AL SHEBA TROPHY SPONSORED BY AL NABOODAH CIVIL ENGINEERING-G3, \$200,000, NH 4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 2810mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Canndera (Fr)	Dalakhani (Ire)	De Royer-Dupre	Berto	117
2	Rare Rhythm (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Appleby	Buick	125
3	Rembrandt Van Rijn (Ire)	Peintre Celebre	bin Ghadayer	Ziani	125
4	Natural Scenery (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	bin Suroor	Mosse	121
5	Carbon Dating (Ire)	The Carbon Unit	Seemar	O'Shea	125
6	Red Galileo (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	bin Suroor	Cosgrave	125
7	Tiaemah (KSA)	Premium Tap	Bruss	De Sousa	121
8	Sheikhzayedroad (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Simcock	Harley	125
9	Barreesh (Ire)	Giant's Causeway	Ramadhan	Morris	125
10	Vazirabad (Fr)	Manduro (Ger)	De Royer-Dupre	Soumillon	125
11	Prince Of Arran (GB)	Shirocco (Ger)	Fellowes	Doyle	125

*All post times are displayed in local time.

TDN Progeny PPs

Type Sire Name: [Go](#)

[\[click here\]](#)

to view a detailed report of all the races contained in the TDN, plus selected additional maiden winners from around the U.S. and Europe from the previous 13 months sorted by stallion.