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# TRACK RE-OPENS AT SANTA ANITA, AND THE DAY GOES OFF WITHOUT A HITCH



The Santa Anita main track, closed since Feb. 25, was given the green light late Wednesday and racing went ahead without incident Thursday  
*Horsephotos*

By Bill Finley

After being closed since 9 a.m. Monday morning, the main track at Santa Anita re-opened Thursday and there were no incidents or reports of serious injuries during training hours. Yesterday also marked the return of racing to Santa Anita after three regularly scheduled dark days and the races were also concluded without any reported incidents.

The track has been closed so tests could be taken to see if experts could find any specific problems with the racing surface. Nineteen horses have died at Santa Anita since Dec. 26, either during races or during training hours. The most notable horse among the group was 2017 GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile winner Battle of Midway (Smart Strike).

The green light was given to resume training after the track was inspected by a team headed by racetrack surface expert. Mick Peterson, the director of the University of Kentucky's Agricultural Equine Program.

Cont. p3

## CHURCHILL TO OFFER RECORD HIGH PURSES AT SPRING MEET *By T.D. Thornton*

Track-record high first condition book purses that represent a whopping 46% increase over last year will greet horsemen when the Churchill Downs spring meet opens Apr. 27.

The wave of the future has been bolstered by a blast from the past, as a top Churchill Downs Inc. (CDI) official explained on Thursday that the purse windfall has been created by a better-than-expected surge in wagering on historical horse race betting machines at the corporation's nearby Derby City Gaming venue that opened last September.

"Derby City Gaming has really exceeded our expectations," R. Alex Rankin, the chairman of CDI's board of directors, told *TDN* via phone. "We really thought it would be good--our team that does casino work, they really think they can win in any market--but sometimes you predict these things and they don't come true." **Cont. p5**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### ARC FACES FURTHER BOYCOTT DESPITE TEMPORARY FUNDING AGREEMENT

The Arena Racing Company reached a temporary funding agreement with industry leaders that would see prize-money return temporarily to 2018 levels, but ARC still faces a potential boycott.

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**Friday, March 1, 2019**



The Gowran maiden winner Western Australia (Ire) (Australia {GB}), who was third in the G1 Vertem Futurity Trophy S. at Doncaster in October, resumes in Dundalk's Listed Patton S. The Patton offers 20 points to the winner on the European Road to the Kentucky Derby. | [Racingfotos.com](http://Racingfotos.com)

**MUCHO GUSTO WORKS AT SANTA ANITA**

**7**

'TDN Rising Star' Mucho Gusto (Mucho Macho Man), last-out winner of the GIII Robert B. Lewis S. at Santa Anita, drilled four furlongs in :47.60 in the company of a stablemate as he continues towards a start in the GI Rebel S. Mar. 16 or the GIII Sunland Derby Mar. 24.

**SOPHOMORE ALLOWANCES FEATURE ON EITHER COAST**

Friday racing features a handful of potentially important 3-year-olds in allowance races at Gulfstream and at Santa Anita. In the Sunshine State, 'TDN Rising Star' Mucho (Blame), last seen finishing a closing second in the GI Hopeful S., makes his sophomore debut in a six-furlong test in Hallandale. In California, 'Rising Star' Roadster (Quality Road) is anything but a slam dunk in a two-turn allowance that also includes fellow 'Rising Star' and GII San Vicente S. runner-up Dessman (Union Rags) and impressive maiden winner Nolo Contesto (Pioneerof the Nile). Read more in 'North American Racing.'



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**Santa Anita Main Track Re-Opens With No Incidents cont.**

“Things went well during training,” Peterson said. “Everything is progressing positively and everything looks good. Santa Anita management is being proactive and they’re not taking this lightly. That’s when I get worried, when a track has been complacent and that isn’t the case here at all.”

Retired jockey Alex Solis, who doubles and as an exercise rider and a Member of the Board of Directors of the California Horse Racing Board, echoed Peterson’s sentiments.

“It went very well this morning,” Solis said.. “I thought they did a great job. I was very satisfied with the track and with the way the horses were moving this morning. We’re all trying to find solutions. I worked two horses around the racetrack and I galloped two others and was very satisfied with it. At this point, you don’t sense that there’s anything wrong with the track. Before it was inconsistent because they had to seal the track and open it up because of all the bad weather we’ve had. You never know what’s going to happen when that happens.”



*Horsephotos*

Trainers did not appear to shy away from normal work schedules as there were 45 recorded works on the main track. Bob Baffert sent out two of his better horses. GI Starlet S. winner Chasing Yesterday (Tapit), worked six furlongs in 1:12.40 ([video](#)). Mucho Gusto (Mucho Macho Man), who is among Baffert’s top contenders for the GI Kentucky Derby, also worked, going a half-mile in :47.60 (see related story).

Peterson, who has done extensive tests, has not been able to find anything wrong with the track.

“We’re not seeing anything wrong,” he said. “The comparison here is what they do with the National Traffic Safety Administration. We’ll put all our material together, we’ll give it to the California Horse Racing Board and they’ll combine that with the necropsy data. If we have an unusual pattern of injuries, that begins to raise questions about all sorts of issues that have nothing to do with the track. We have to look at everything.” **Cont. p4**

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**Santa Anita Main Track cont.**

Peterson will continue to study the track over the next few days and see if he can come up with some answers as to why its condition may have led to so many fatalities. So far, he has already tested the composition of the soil and compared it to similar tests done in October. He also used what he calls “ground penetrating radar” to take and study images of the base, the cushion and the pad.

“The weather has been unusual so that makes it a lot more challenging, but we really aren’t seeing anything wrong at this point,” he said.

Many believe that an unusual run of wet and cold weather might have played a role in whatever possible problems there have been with the track. Peterson agreed that could be a factor.

“One of the most important things we have to look at is moisture and how we respond with the maintenance to the rain and then the drying out,” he said. “That’s all part of the puzzle that we’re looking at. I think we should be fine, but until we’ve had a few more days of racing and training that are safe I don’t think anybody is going to be complacent.”

If Peterson is not able to find any answers, perhaps the California Horse Racing Board will, as it is in the process of performing necropsies on each of the horses who have died.

California State Equine Medical Director Rick Arthur said it may take as long as a month before all the necropsies are completed.

Arthur is of the opinion that pre-existing injuries are what normally lead to catastrophic breakdowns and said these sorts of problems are never just about the racetrack.

“I don’t find it surprising that the track is good now,” he said. “Nobody was on it for a couple of days and we’ve had fairly good weather here for 10 days or so. We certainly know from past experience that it takes 10 days to two weeks for a track to get back to good condition after a hard seal. I don’t want to blame the track, but I’m not going to take a position that the track was not a factor. Trainers get upset at me when I point out that 85 to 90% of the time, horses have pre-existing pathology at the site of the fatal injury. On the other hand, they want to blame the track for everything. What we really need to do is address this as an industry and use science.”

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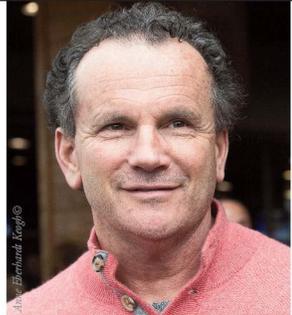
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**Churchill to Offer Record-High Purses cont. from p1**

But this time it did, and it's really a great story because this is a cooperative effort with the horsemen and the state of Kentucky, and it's really doing exactly what all the stakeholders hoped it would. This purse increase is because of that facility, and because of the statutory split that goes into purses."

The first condition book, which covers the first half of the 38-day spring meet, pegs purses for the 189 offered races at \$20.1 million, up from \$13.7 million in 2018. The daily average will be \$1,056,842 compared to \$722,579 last year, or \$106,243 per race versus \$72,640, according to a CDI press release.

More than \$30 million in total purses is expected to be offered over the entirety of the spring meet. Last year, \$22.2 million in total purses were paid out over the same time frame.

Additionally, the CDI release stated that purses during GI Kentucky Derby week will see further boosts, with maiden special weight races offering \$100,000 purses. Total purses on GI Kentucky Oaks Day will exceed \$3.6 million, and Derby Day prize money will be worth a record \$6.9 million.

After Derby week, maiden special weight races will reset to \$85,000 (up from \$53,000 in 2018), and allowance races will range from \$87,000 to \$94,000 (up from \$55,000 to \$61,000 in 2018).

"There's no question that maiden special weight purses are the proxy for the health of a racing program," Rankin said. "And as you saw in the past two or three years, those numbers have gone up dramatically in New York and Arkansas, so we're catching up now."

**Cont. p6**



**Churchill Downs** | *Coady photo*



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**Churchill Purses cont.**

Within the past four months, the national landscape has shifted significantly in terms of purses, particularly in Arkansas. Oaklawn Park in November won voters' approval to construct a full-blown casino on its property, and that news has sparked purse jumps and an increase in the duration of the meet, which will overlap with Churchill's for one week for the first time this year. There is the promise of more to come at Oaklawn, as the company is slated to start construction on a \$100-million hotel and casino right after the meet ends May 4.

"The timing of [the CDI purse increase] has been great because of Oaklawn's success and good fortune," Rankin said. "But what we're focused on is trying to make the Kentucky circuit such that our horsemen can run for competitive purses vis-a-vis Oaklawn, Saratoga, Belmont, and those places. That's the goal. Premier racing for our stakes program and solid purses for our Kentucky horsemen are really what we're trying to achieve. And that drives field size, that drives handle, that drives business for TwinSpires.com. That's what it's all about--that's the engine."

Asked about non-purse-related improvements that might be in the pipeline--like upgrading backstretch amenities at Churchill--Rankin said: "We've got some projects in the works and under consideration that I'm not really in a position to talk about in detail that will affect the backside and add some resources that we feel like we need for the horsemen."

He continued, "You know, we bought all this property around Churchill Downs, and some of that property is adjacent to the backstretch, which gives us flexibility," Rankin continued. "So there's room to do other things, and we're trying to model that and figure out how we're going to do that."

"But as far as being willing to commit the capital," Rankin summed up, "I think you would see from what we've done that [backstretch improvements] are going to be a positive [priority] when we start making those investments. This Derby City Gaming success obviously fuels the ability to really envision that, not just do what we think we can afford on a piecemeal basis."

Horsemen--no shocker here---warmly embraced the prospect of bolstered purses.

"Bigger purses are always a positive," said Dale Romans, the all-time leading trainer at Churchill. "I think the success of their new venture has been great, and the money is going right where it's supposed to."

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## MUCHO GUSTO WORKS FOR NEXT START

Michael Lund Petersen's **'TDN Rising Star'** **Mucho Gusto** (Mucho Macho Man), the powerful 4 3/4-length winner of the GIII Robert B. Lewis S. at Santa Anita Feb. 2, worked four furlongs in the company of his stablemate Honeyfromthesouth (Fed Biz) in a bullet :47.60 at Santa Anita Thursday morning ([XBTV video](#)) as he prepares for his next appearance in either the GII Rebel S. Mar. 16 or the GIII Sunland Derby Mar. 24.

Eclipse Award-winning juvenile **Game Winner** (Candy Ride {Arg}) and **Improbable** (City Zip), each a 'Rising Star,' are set to meet in the GII San Felipe S. Mar. 9 and trainer Bob Baffert is determined to keep the talented runners separated as long as possible.

"I've been working around the rain," said Baffert. "I want them to meet in the [May 4 GI Kentucky] Derby."

Joel Rosario has the call atop Game Winner in the San Felipe, while Drayden Van Dyke will pilot Improbable.

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Mucho Gusto | Horsephotos

## HOTLINE TIP LEADS TO TRAINER SUSPENSION FOR EQUINE NEGLECT

by T.D. Thornton

An equine neglect tip called in to Oaklawn Park's "whistleblower hotline" has resulted in local horsemen and track management partnering to care for seven underfed Thoroughbreds found languishing in filthy stalls for at least 10 days at an off-site training facility 12 miles from the track.

The anonymous call-in has also resulted in a six-month suspension for trainer Tina Marie Nicks, whom the Oaklawn stewards found responsible for violating Arkansas Racing Commission (ARC) rule #1269, which deals with the humane treatment of horses, plus a state statute that prohibits cruelty to animals. **Cont. p8**



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**Hotline Tip cont.**

The circumstances and timeline of the case were detailed in Oaklawn stewards' ruling 2019-OP-15 dated Feb. 24.

According to the ruling, Nicks had been assigned five stalls in Barn 27 at Oaklawn but also kept seven horses at an off-grounds training facility on Whited Farm Road in Hot Springs.

Oaklawn has a "whistleblower program" supported by the ARC and the Arkansas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association that is designated to receive confidential reports on any questionable activities or concerns. On Feb. 16, the hotline received the tip that Nicks' off-site horses were underfed and had not been out of their uncleaned stalls for several days.

Retired trainer Hal Wiggins, who now serves as Oaklawn's integrity officer, was dispatched by track management to the training center along with backstretch security manager James Ingram. The ruling states that the two documented with photographs "that the horses were lacking in proper care, were standing in unbedded stalls filled with urine and feces, and, in several cases, were showing they had been underfed."

The ruling further states that the owner of the training center, James Lovett, "had provided hay and feed for the horses [and] Sergio Vazquez, who works for Mr. Lovett, had provided feed and care to the horses."

Track officials subsequently purchased feed and hired Vazquez to make certain the horses received meals, water and clean bedding. But by the time the Oaklawn-purchased feed was being delivered to the training center, the ruling states, Nicks had reappeared and "was feeding her horses and stripping or cleaning the stalls."

A stewards' hearing was held Feb. 20. According to the ruling, "there was a 10-day period in which Ms. Nicks indicated she was sick and couldn't care for the horses."

In addition to the above-mentioned ARC rule and the state statute dealing with neglect, the stewards also cited ARC violations pertaining to "questionable conduct" and "the trainer's responsibility to guard and protect all horses in the trainer's care."

During her suspension Nicks is not permitted on the grounds of Oaklawn or any training facility in Arkansas. The horses may not be transferred to any family member or employee of Nicks, and all horse transfers from her care must all be approved by the stewards.

According to Equibase, Nicks has been a licensed trainer since 2017 with six wins from 97 starts in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. She is 0-for-12 at the current Oaklawn meet.

**GOGGLES-AS-WHIP EFFORT EARNS TOP JOCK \$200 FINE**

Ricardo Santana, Jr. | Coady photo

by T.D. Thornton

Oaklawn Park's leading jockey, Ricardo Santana Jr., was on the lead in the third race Feb. 17 and half a furlong from victory aboard Rockport Kat (Rockport Harbor) when the whip accidentally slipped out of his left hand. He hand-rode the horse hard for a few strides, then snatched his goggles from atop his helmet and flailed right-handed with them in an attempt to win the \$27,000 race.

The effort came up three-quarters of a length short. One week later, the Oaklawn stewards added an additional \$200 sting to the defeat by hitting Santana with a fine for violating state Rule #1214, which states, in part, that no device "other than the ordinary whip, shall be possessed by any one or applied by any one to a horse at any time."

Such spontaneous use of goggles or a nylon cap cover is hardly unprecedented in United States racing, but it does not always result in a fine.

In 2015, John Velazquez got docked \$300 for the same infraction in a stakes race at Saratoga Race Course. And one year and one day prior to Santana's violation, jockey David Cabrera had his wallet lightened by \$200 by the Oaklawn stewards for using goggles as a substitute whip to propel a horse to victory after he too had dropped his crop. At the time, his agent told *TDN* the fine was worth winning a \$76,000 race.

Similarly, Santana's longtime agent, Ruben Munoz, said via phone on Thursday that he also thought his jockey was just trying to be resourceful. They won't be appealing the fine, he added.

"You want to give a 100% effort. The goggles just keep the horse interested," Munoz said.

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Cont. p9

**Goggles As Whip Fine cont.**

“The thing is, the goggles never hit the horse, because with the length of Ricardo’s arm, I don’t think he can even reach down and hit the hindquarters of a horse with goggles, if you want to look at it that way. It was just something to keep the horse going, to encourage him.

Munoz said he didn’t even want to discuss which object hits a horse more forcefully--a standard whip or a much smaller, lighter and flimsier pair of plastic riding goggles.

“I’ve seen [jockeys using goggles or a cap] a lot of times before, but it’s the first time I’ve seen it [result in a penalty],” Munoz continued. “But I didn’t question it. I didn’t ask them why. I don’t even go up to the stewards. I don’t even think an appeal is worth it, honestly. I didn’t even give it a second thought. I try to do the opposite of anything that is drama.”

Santana has won every riding title at Oaklawn since 2013 and currently tops the 2019 standings in both wins and purse earnings.

“He’s trying to win the race,” Munoz summed up. “If you don’t do that, if you don’t put in the effort, then you get penalized. You know, we’re in a sport that punishes excellence, so what are you going to do?”

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**RICHARD BUDGE NAMED MARGAUX FARM G.M.**

Richard Budge has been hired as Margaux Farm’s new general manager beginning Mar. 4, it was announced Thursday.

“I am thrilled to have Richard, with his extensive Thoroughbred training and management experience, join the team at Margaux,” said Jim Hill, Margaux Farm owner. “The farm has many experienced, but still young managers, who are looking forward to the mentorship that Richard can provide.”

Budge, a respected horseman, brings over 40 years of international experience to Margaux. He comes to the farm following 17 years at WinStar Farm as head trainer, where he oversaw the training of many Grade I winners, including Triple Crown winner Justify (Scat Daddy), Songbird (Medaglia d’Oro), Honor Code (A.P. Indy), Super Saver (Maria’s Mon), Forever Unbridled (Unbridled’s Song) and Uncle Mo (Indian Charlie).

“I am honored by the confidence and trust put in me by owners Jim and Susan Hill,” said Budge. “I am excited about this opportunity, along with the new set of challenges that will be presented, and I look forward to continuing the growth of Margaux into an elite farm, rehabilitation and training center.”

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**TURFWAY BARN SEARCH YIELDS INJECTABLES** *by T.D. Thornton*

A Turfway Park barn search that turned up injectable medications, syringes, and needles has led to a pair of 90-day suspensions for trainer Amanda Dimmett and owner Jerry Dimmett.

According to three Kentucky Horse Racing Commission stewards’ rulings dated Feb. 21 and 22, the Jan. 11 search of Turfway’s Barn 14 came in the wake of a Dec. 26 positive post-race test result for ibuprofen and naproxen in Miss Discreet, who won a \$6,250 claiming sprint at 10-1 odds.

Both ibuprofen and naproxen are non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications commonly administered by tablet in human usage.



Turfway Park | Coady photo

As Miss Discreet’s trainer, Amanda Dimmett was fined \$1,000 and suspended an additional 10 days for the Class 4/Penalty Category C violations. The horse was disqualified and purse money will be redistributed.

Jerry Dimmett was not the owner of Miss Discreet, but he has partnered with Amanda Dimmett in other ownerships. According to Equibase, they have an 0-for-36 combined partnership record. As a solo owner, Jerry Dimmett’s career record is 1-for-14.

Amanda Dimmett has been a licensed trainer since 2017 with a 1-for-51 lifetime record per Equibase.

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## STRYCHNINE DETECTED IN THREE TURF PARADISE HORSES *by T.D. Thornton*

Strychnine, the active ingredient in rat poison, has been detected in post-race drug testing of three horses from the same owner/trainer at Turf Paradise.

All three horses additionally tested positive for caffeine. A fourth horse from the same outfit tested positive for caffeine alone.

Alex Torres-Casas, the owner/trainer of all four horses, was fined \$2,625 and suspended 180 days for the offenses according to Arizona Department of Racing (ADR) ruling 18-19TP107 dated Feb. 27.

Torres-Casas appealed the ruling the same day it was issued, according to Caroline Oppeleman, the public information officer for the Arizona Department of Gaming.

Strychnine is listed as a Class 1 Penalty/Category A substance on the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Uniform Classification of Substances list--the most dangerous level. Caffeine is listed as 2/B.

The ARCI's recommended penalty for a 1/A violation is a minimum one-year suspension and a minimum fine of \$10,000.

But this is not the first Class 1/A offense for Torres-Casas. According to the May 30, 2017, ADR ruling 16-17TP126, he was also fined \$2,650 and suspended 180 days for a cocaine positive in horse he raced at Turf Paradise in February of that year.

The ARCI guidelines for a trainer's second lifetime Penalty Category A offense in any jurisdiction call for a minimum three-year suspension and a minimum fine of \$25,000.

A voicemail left with ADR director Rudy Casillas was returned by Oppeleman, who said she did not know whether investigators are pursuing the case as intentional doping or if the horses accidentally ate rat poison.

Although strychnine would seem like an unlikely performance-enhancer given its widespread use as a rodenticide, over a century ago it was one of the first substances to cause a major sports doping scandal in America. At the time, it was believed that in very small concentrations, strychnine boosted neuromuscular capabilities.

In 1904, Thomas Hicks, the Summer Olympics marathon winner in St. Louis, openly downed a mixture of egg whites and brandy laced with strychnine handed to him by an assistant during the running of the race. A formal protest was lodged, but the Olympic Games director refused to consider it and the results stood.

According to published reports at the time, it was not Hicks's chemical consumption that caused the controversy. Rather, the outrage stemmed from strychnine cocktails not being available to all Olympic runners in the searing, 90-degree heat.

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*It's always among the key questions on everyone's mind as 2-year-olds begin racing when Keeneland opens in April and the first-year sires have their first chance to show off their progeny. In this ongoing series, we have sought the opinion of several top judges as to who will be on top of the podium when 2019 is in the books.*

### Terry Finley, President & CEO, West Point Thoroughbreds: HONOR CODE



Honor Code, at Lane's End | Sarah K. Andrew photo

"I think it will be a dead-heat between **Honor Code** and **Liam's Map**. I have spent a lot of time in Ocala over the last three months, as has David Ingordo, and every time we go that's one of the first things we talk about, the new sires. You're on the rail and your watching horses train and you see one that really impresses you. You ask someone, 'Who is that horse by?' On a regular basis, the answer we kept getting was Honor Code or Liam's Map. West Point owns a couple of Honor Codes and we actually own a piece of Liam's Map as a stallion. We tried to buy a couple of Liam's Maps and couldn't buy them. We also own an **American Pharoah**. We have access to all three of these stallions and they are all coming to the racetrack and the 2-year-old market in very good shape. There's definitely been a lot of buzz about Liam's Map and Honor Code, especially Honor Code, in large part because they are stamping them pretty well and most of them have a good bit of chrome on them. If any, he's the one I'm hearing the most talk about."

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### TVG TO SPONSOR ORTIZ BROTHERS

Irado Ortiz, Jr. and his younger brother Jose, who between them have won the last two Eclipse Awards as champion jockey, will be sponsored by TVG, officials at the network announced Thursday. The jockeys will carry the TVG logo on their riding pants, while their likenesses will appear in TVG advertisements and promotions and will make special appearances for the network. The Ortizes join Hall of Famers Mike Smith and John Velazquez as jockeys to be sponsored by TVG.

“TVG has a legacy of supporting the racing industry and jockeys, in particular, and we are proud to partner with these two talented young riders at the top of their profession,” said Enrico Rusi, General Manager of TVG, Racing. “We are also excited to give TVG viewers and account holders the chance to get to know Irado and Jose a little better through enhanced content and features throughout the year.”

Added Jose Ortiz: “We are excited to partner with TVG. We are big fans of TVG and when we aren’t on the track riding, we usually are watching. This is a great opportunity to get to use our platform to give back to the racing community through the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund and the Puerto Rico Vocational Jockey School (Escuela Vocacional Hipica).”

For the second consecutive year, TVG is planning to hold a telethon to benefit the PDJF. The inaugural event in 2018 raised over \$217,000 to aid former riders who have suffered catastrophic on-track injuries.

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### SCAT DADDY STALLION TOPS COURT-ORDERED DISPERSAL

**Finale** (Scat Daddy--Twinkle, by Lively One), a 10-year-old stallion and winner of the 2011 GIII Summer S., was purchased by Dani Dougerty for \$35,000 to finish as the top-priced horse at a U.S. District Court-ordered dispersal of the Thoroughbred horses once owned by Rust Rare Coin Inc., a disgraced Utah-based coin dealer that was accused of running a multi-million dollar Ponzi scheme that resulted in at least 200 people being defrauded out of \$170 million since 2013.

Finale, a winner of four of 19 career starts for earnings just over \$320,000, and was listed as one of four stallions standing at Hunter Creek Farms in Roswell, New Mexico. He stood the 2018 season for a fee of \$3,000, according to the farm website.

Johnathan O. Hafen oversaw the auction as the court-appointed receiver. Bidding was conducted exclusively online by Flashpoint Bloodstock and a total of 67 horses were sold without reserve for \$334,750.

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## SOUTH AMERICA

### MASTERCRAFTSMAN TO SHUTTLE TO ARGENTINA IN 2019

by *Diego H. Mitagstein*

Champion **Mastercraftsman (Ire)** will shuttle to South America again in 2019. The son of Danehill Dancer (Ire) will return to Argentina for the Southern Hemisphere breeding season to stand at Haras Firmamento, where the gray stood in 2016.

Sire of champion Alpha Centauri (Ire) and MGISW A Raving Beauty (Ger), Mastercraftsman is currently leading Chile's stallions ranks, with his son Yo Primo (Chi) winning G1 El Derby earlier this month.

A four-time Group 1 winner, Mastercraftsman stands at Coolmore Stud in Ireland for a fee of €30,000.

"It is a great pleasure for us to again have this great stallion at the farm," said Ezequiel Valle of Haras Firmamento. "His first crop foaled here will hit the rings this year and we are very happy with them. Not all the sires can have good records in both hemispheres, but Mastercraftsman is one of them who does. We will run a lot of his fillies next year under our name".

Mastercraftsman will stand alongside GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner Hit It a Bomb (War Front), another former Coolmore horse.

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Mastercraftsman | Coolmore photo



**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 5:32 p.m. EST**

**XPRESSBET FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH S.-GII, \$400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Code of Honor 🐾	Noble Mission (GB)	W.S. Farish	McGaughey III	Velazquez	116
2	Epic Dreamer	Orb	Epic Racing, LLC	Breen	Gaffalione	116
3	Gladiator King 🐾	Curlin	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Solorzano	120
4	Bourbon War 🐾	Tapit	Bourbon Lane Stable and Lake Star Stable	Hennig	Ortiz, Jr.	116
5	Vekoma 🐾	Candy Ride (Arg)	R. A. Hill Stable and Gatsas Stables	Weaver	Franco	122
6	Signalman	General Quarters	Lewis, Tommie, David Bernsen & Magdalena Racing	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	122
7	Hidden Scroll	Hard Spun	Juddmonte Farms, Inc.	Mott	Rosario	116
8	Global Campaign 🐾	Curlin	Sagamore Farm, LLC and WinStar Farm, LLC	Hough	Saez	116
9	Everfast 🐾	Take Charge Indy	Calumet Farm	Romans	Landeros	116
10	Frosted Grace 🐾	Mark Valeski	Reeves Thoroughbred Racing and Branch, William	Ritvo	Gonzales	116
11	Union's Destiny	Union Rags	Los Samanes LLC	Avila	Reyes	116

**Breeders:** 1-W. S. Farish, 2-J.D. Stuart, P.C. Bance, A REnterprises, J Hollendorfer & G Todaro, 3-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 4-Conquest Stables, LLC, 5-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC, 6-Monticule, 7-Juddmonte Farms Inc, 8-WinStar Farm, LLC, 9-Extern Developments, 10-Brereton C. Jones, 11-CESA Farm

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 5:01 p.m. EST**

**DAVONA DALE S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo, f, 1m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Jaywalk 🐾	Cross Traffic	D. J. Stable LLC and Cash is King LLC	Servis	Rosario	122
2	Cookie Dough	Brethren	Arindel	Gold	Sanchez	120
3	Another Time 🐾	Munnings	Hoolie Racing Stable, LLC	Minshall	Ortiz, Jr.	116
4	Jeltrin 🐾	Tapizar	ADR Racing Stable, LLC	Delgado	Reyes	116
5	Champagne Anyone 🐾	Street Sense	Six Column Stables, LLC and Bloch, Randall L.	Wilkes	Landeros	116
6	Bold Script	Speightstown	Chiefswood Stable	Simon	Ortiz	120
7	High Regard 🐾	Will Take Charge	G. Watts Humphrey, Jr.	Oliver	Castellano	116

**Breeders:** 1-Gaineway Thoroughbreds LTD, 2-Arindel, 3-Machmer Hall, 4-C. Kidder, N. Cole, J. K. Griggs & Linda Griggs, 5-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 6-Chiefswood Stables Limited, 7-Coteau Grove Farms, LLC

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 6:06 p.m. EST**

**MAC DIARMIDA S.-GII, \$200,000, 4yo/up, 1 3/8mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Golden Dragon	Skipshot	Olympia Star, Inc.	Yanakov	Reyes	117
2	Village King (Arg)	Campanologist	Angels of Catalina, Inc.	Pletcher	Velazquez	119
3	Melmich	Wilko	Chesney, Stephen and Hoffman, Cory S.	Attard	Castellano	119
4	Hunter O'Riley 🐾	Tiz Wonderful	Shay, Sean and Ryan, Michael J.	Toner	Gaffalione	119
5	Vettori Kin (Brz)	Vettori (Ire)	Fern Circle Stables, Stud TNT and Old Friends, Inc.	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	119
6	Zulu Alpha	Street Cry (Ire)	Michael M. Hui	Maker	Ortiz, Jr.	123
7	The Best Candy 🐾	Candy Ride (Arg)	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Solorzano	117
8	Highland Sky	Sky Mesa	Young, Joyce, McManis, G & McManis, Jerrie Stewart	Tagg	Franco	119
9	Kulin Rock	Lonhro (Aus)	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Ortiz	117
10	Montclair (Ire)	Montjeu (Ire)	Bruno Schickedanz	Belsoeur	Leparoux	119
11	Channel Maker 🐾	English Channel	Wachtel Stable, Barber, Gary, R. A. Hill Stable and Reeves Thoroughbred Racing	Mott	Rosario	123

**Breeders:** 1-Mikhail Yanakov, 2-Santa Maria de Araras, 3-Andrew Stronach, 4-Mike G. Rutherford, 5-Haras Old Friends LTDA, 6-Calumet Farm, 7-Jon Marshall, 8-Bonner Young, 9-J. Bonner Young, 10-Elisabeth Fabre, 11-Tall Oaks Farm

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 1:00 p.m. EST****PALM BEACH S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo, 1 1/16mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Stirling Drive	Verrazano	N. T. S. Stable, Inc.	Wolfson	Jaramillo	118
2	Art G Is Back 🌿	Exchange Rate	Monarch Stables, Inc.	Spatz	Gaffalione	114
3	King Ottokar 🌿	Temple City	BG Stables	Casse	Leparoux	114
4	Castlewood Terrace	El Padrino	Kenneth E. Fishbein	Winebaugh	Perez	114
5	A Thread of Blue 🌿	Hard Spun	Leonard C. Green	McLaughlin	Saez	118
6	Louder Than Bombs 🌿	Violence	Sandra New	Fawkes	Ortiz, Jr.	118
7	Casa Creed 🌿	Jimmy Creed	LRE Racing LLC and JEH Racing Stable LLC	Mott	Velazquez	118
8	Hard Belle 🌿	Hard Spun	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Solorzano	114

Breeders: 1-Farm III Enterprises LLC, 2-Isabella A Rio & Caballo Grande TB's LLC, 3-Nathan John McCauley, 4-David H. Wade, 5-Flaxman Holdings Limited, 6-Hidden Brook Farm & Spruce Lane Farm, 7-Silver Springs Stud, LLC, 8-Charles Fipke

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 1:30 p.m. EST****CANADIAN TURF S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, 1mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Siem Riep 🌿	Tapit	Marc Detampel	Colebrook	Jimenez	119
2	Cowboy Culture 🌿	Quality Road	KCA Stables	Casse	Leparoux	119
3	Holiday Stone 🌿	Harlan's Holiday	Hill, Jim and Susan	Weaver	Franco	117
4	Sand Dancer	Eskendereya	Sea Gull Capital	Sanner	Bravo	117
5	Krampus	Shakespeare	William C. Schettine	Mott	Velazquez	117
6	Hembree 🌿	Proud Citizen	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Ortiz	121
7	Breaking the Rules	War Front	Phipps Stable	McGaughy III	Ortiz, Jr.	121

Breeders: 1-R. A. Hill Stable, 2-Rhineshire Farm LLC, 3-Nesco II Limited, 4-Seagull Associates, LLC, 5-William C. Schettine, 6-Derby Lane Farm, LLC, 7-Phipps Stable

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 2:30 p.m. EST****THE VERY ONE S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 3/16mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Danceland	Tapit	Joseph Allen LLC	McGaughy III	Velazquez	119
2	The Tulip (Ire)	Lawman (Fr)	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners	Gallagher	Rosario	117
3	Holy Helena	Ghostzapper	Stronach Stables	Jerkens	Ortiz, Jr.	119
4	Semper Sententiae	The Factor	John M. B. O'Connor	Hennig	Castellano	117
5	Lafta	Kitten's Joy	D P Racing LLC	Biancone	Leparoux	121
6	Ickymasho (GB)	Multiplex (GB)	Triton Stable	Attfield	Ortiz	119
7	Tricky Escape 🌿	Hat Trick (Jpn)	Jon A. Marshall	Servis	DeCarlo	121
8	A. A. Azula's Arch 🌿	Arch	A & A Farms	Attard	Saez	123
9	Eskimo Kisses	To Honor and Serve	Gainesway Stable, Harold Lerner LLC, Rosen, Andrew, Nehoc Stables and Magdalena Racing	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	117

Breeders: 1-Mr. Joseph Allen LLC, 2-Airlie Stud, 3-Adena Springs, 4-Anastasia Astrid Christiansen-Croy, 5-Shadwell Farm, LLC, 6-Allseasons Bloodstock, 7-Robert B. Trussell Jr. & John T.L. Jones III, 8-Fox Hill Farms, 9-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd.

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 3:00 p.m. EST****HERECOMESTHEBRIDE S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Vow to Recover 🌿	Broken Vow	Imaginary Stables and Braverman, Paul	Dobles	Landeros	118
2	Belle Laura	Mucho Macho Man	GU Racing Stable, LLC	Casse	Leparoux	114
3	Primela (Fr)	Orpen	Dixiana Farms LLC	DeVaux	Rosario	116
4	My Gal Betty 🌿	Point of Entry	William K. Werner	Attfield	Velazquez	118
5	Princesa Carolina	Tapit	Three Chimneys Farm	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	114
6	Golconda (Fr)	Planteur (Ire)	Dubb, Michael and Madaket Stables LLC	Brown	Castellano	114
7	Cambier Parc 🌿	Medaglia d'Oro	OXO Equine LLC	Brown	Ortiz	114
8	Connectivity	Midshipman	Klaravich Stables, Inc.	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	114

Breeders: 1-Rustlewood Farm, Inc., 2-Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, 3-Haras D'Haspel, 4-Hidden Brook Farm, 5-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 6-Patrick Chedeville & Jean-Yves Chazal, 7-Bonne Chance Farm, LLC, 8-C. Kidder, N. Cole, J. K. Griggs & Linda Griggs

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 4:30 p.m. EST**

**HONEY FOX S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Precieuse (Ire)	Tamayuz (GB)	Peter M. Brant	Brown	Castellano	117
2	Valedictorian	Temple City	Epic Racing	Breen	Gaffalione	123
3	Fire Key	Friesan Fire	Backwards Stable	Catanese, III	Franco	121
4	La Signare (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Madaket Stables LLC, Cambron, Tim, Cambron, Anna and Bradley Thoroughbreds	Lynch	Ortiz	117
5	Valentine Wish 🌿	Lemon Drop Kid	G. Watts Humphrey, Jr.	Oliver	Landeros	117
6	Scotty's Model	Mr. Scotty	Bruno Schickedanz	Belsoeur	Leparoux	119
7	Conquest Hardcandy 🌿	Candy Ride (Arg)	Alfonso Cammarota	Sano	Bravo	117
8	Hogans Holiday 🌿	The Factor	John Grossi's Racing Corp.	Vitali	Ortiz, Jr.	121
9	Bellavais 🌿	Tapit	Bortolazzo Stable LLC	Pletcher	Rosario	123
10	Dolce Lili	Scat Daddy	Don Alberto Stable	Mott	Velazquez	121

Breeders: 1-Knocktoran Stud, 2-John Bowers, Jr., 3-Backwards Stable, 4-Moussa Mbacke, 5-Ridley Farm, 6-Bruno Schickedanz, 7-The New Hill Farm LLC, 8-Hunter Valley Farm, 9-Phillips Racing Partnership, 10-Don Alberto Corporation

**Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 2:00 p.m. EST**

**GULFSTREAM PARK SPRINT S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 6f**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Recruiting Ready 🌿	Algorithms	Sagamore Farm LLC	Hough	Saez	121
2	My Chinumado 🌿	Into Mischief	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Solorzano	117
3	Millionaire Runner 🌿	Warrior's Reward	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Batista	117
4	Quijote	Pomero	Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc.	Baxter	Ortiz, Jr.	121
5	Santiamen	Dialed In	Cairol Racing Stable	Sano	Gaffalione	117
6	Sweetontheladies	Twirling Candy	The Four Horsemen Racing Stable & Lady Lindsay Racing Stables	Collazo	Meneses	119
7	Pass the Butter 🌿	Oxbow	Michelle Winters	Londono, Jr.	Ramgeet	117
8	Storm Advisory	Weigelia	Ron Paolucci Racing, LLC	Quartarolo	Albarado	119

Breeders: 1-Claiborne Farm, 2-WinStar Farm, LLC, 3-Brandywine Farm (Jim & Pam Robinson), 4-Ramiro Rosas Medina, 5-Bridle Oaks Farm Inc., 6-English Range Farm, 7-Ramspring Farm, 8-Epona Equine, LLC, Otto Draper & Wyn Oaks Farm



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for stallions standing in North America through Wednesday, Feb. 27

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

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	<b>Tapit</b> <i>(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2006 Crops: 12</i>	9	14	5	7	--	--	145	38	149,244	2,310,795
					Stands: Gainesway Farm KY Fee: \$225,000					Timing Now	
2	<b>Street Sense</b> <i>(2004) by Street Cry (Ire) FYR: 2009 Crops: 9</i>	3	9	2	4	--	--	117	29	183,943	1,289,466
					Stands: Darley KY Fee: \$50,000					Savvy (Jpn)	
3	<b>Curlin</b> <i>(2004) by Smart Strike FYR: 2010 Crops: 8</i>	4	9	--	1	--	--	129	25	70,000	1,279,752
					Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$175,000					Timeless Curls	
4	<b>Scat Daddy</b> <i>(2004) by Johannesburg FYR: 2009 Crops: 8</i>	4	7	1	4	--	--	106	28	200,000	1,077,965
					Stands: Ashford Stud USA (Dead)					Divine Image	
5	<b>English Channel</b> <i>(2002) by Smart Strike FYR: 2009 Crops: 9</i>	4	6	--	1	--	--	102	24	442,708	1,504,153
					Stands: Calumet Farm KY Fee: \$30,000					Channel Maker	
6	<b>Uncle Mo</b> <i>(2008) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2013 Crops: 5</i>	2	6	--	3	--	--	115	26	110,000	1,149,684
					Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$125,000					Galilean	
7	<b>The Factor</b> <i>(2008) by War Front FYR: 2014 Crops: 4</i>	--	6	--	3	--	--	125	37	100,019	1,145,551
					Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$15,000					Zuar	
8	<b>Into Mischief</b> <i>(2005) by Harlan's Holiday FYR: 2010 Crops: 8</i>	1	5	--	2	--	--	158	29	550,000	2,025,697
					Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$150,000					Audible	
9	<b>Street Cry (Ire)</b> <i>(1998) by Machiavellian FYR: 2004 Crops: 12</i>	2	5	1	3	--	1	77	16	575,521	1,630,547
					Stands: Darley USA (Dead)					Delta Prince	
10	<b>Bernardini</b> <i>(2003) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2008 Crops: 10</i>	1	5	--	--	--	--	92	25	251,500	1,324,325
					Stands: Darley KY Fee: \$50,000					Imperative	
11	<b>Malibu Moon</b> <i>(1997) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2001 Crops: 17</i>	1	5	--	3	--	--	128	33	80,000	1,128,780
					Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$75,000					Moonlit Garden	
12	<b>Midnight Lute</b> <i>(2003) by Real Quiet FYR: 2010 Crops: 8</i>	2	5	1	1	--	--	108	29	180,000	1,044,913
					Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$15,000					Midnight Bisou	
13	<b>Violence</b> <i>(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro FYR: 2015 Crops: 3</i>	2	5	1	2	--	--	73	15	143,746	872,269
					Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$40,000					Jasper Prince	
14	<b>Munnings</b> <i>(2006) by Speightstown FYR: 2012 Crops: 6</i>	2	5	--	--	--	--	92	28	46,200	757,659
					Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$20,000					Miss Munnings	
15	<b>Blame</b> <i>(2006) by Arch FYR: 2012 Crops: 6</i>	2	5	2	5	--	--	69	14	120,000	751,589
					Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$30,000					Marley's Freedom	

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## FRIDAY'S RACING INSIGHTS: MUCHO RETURNS AT GULFSTREAM

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Mucho | Sarah Andrew

2nd-GP, \$51K, Opt. Clm. (\$75K), 3yo, 6f, 1:05 p.m.

'TDN Rising Star' MUCHO (Blame) makes his highly anticipated return to the races after receiving time off for an ankle issue that did not require surgery. Romping by 9 3/4 lengths at second asking at Saratoga Aug. 4, the homebred finished second by just 3/4 of a length when last seen in the Spa's GI Hopeful S. Sept. 3. The bay, who will receive Lasix for the first time in this test, displays a trio of bullet works leading up to this comeback, most recently breezing three panels in :36 2/5 (1/7) at Payson Feb. 25. **TJCIS PPs**

## ROADSTER MAKES 3YO DEBUT IN ARCADIA



Roadster | Horsephotos

8th-SA, \$57K, Opt. Clm. (\$80K), 3yo, 1m, 7:53 p.m.

Mucho is not the only 'TDN Rising Star' making his return to the races Friday. Over on the West Coast, fellow 'Rising Star' ROADSTER (Quality Road) will be heavily favored in his comeback race at Santa Anita after six months on the sidelines. An impressive and well-hyped debut winner at Del Mar July 29, the \$525,000 KEESEP buy was favored to repeat in the Sept. 3 GI Del Mar Futurity, but finished third behind his less-fancied stablemate and fellow 'Rising Star' Game Winner (Candy Ride {Arg}), who went on to win the GI American Pharoah S., the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile and an Eclipse Award. About 2 1/2 weeks after that race, Hall of Famer Bob Baffert announced the colt would be sidelined due to a displaced palate and freshened for a sophomore campaign. **TJCIS PPs**

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**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

8th-Oaklawn, \$85,000, Alw (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 2-28, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09.44, ft.

CURATE (g, 5, Bernardini--Majestically, by Gone West) donned cap and gown decisively on debut at Ellis Park in August and followed suit with a front-running score in the slop at Keeneland Oct. 14. He faded to fourth last time in a Churchill Downs optional claimer Nov. 10 and was given a 5-2 chance to get back on track here. The gelding showed good early initiative on the outside for a four-horse duel for control, but settled into a three-wide, but close up fourth through a first quarter in :22.28. Ranging up outside the leader turning for home, the bay forged clear late for a two-length success over Mojo Man (Stay Thirsty). **Cont. p2**

**OP8 - Curate cont.**

Curate | Coady

The winner is a half to Dust and Diamonds (Vindication), MGSW & GISP, who is the dam of GSP Much Better (Pioneer of the Nile). Majestically produced a Tapit filly in 2017 and a Frosted colt last year. This is also the family of GISW millionaire Sand Springs (Dynaformer) and English and French champion Dancing Brave (Lyphard). Sales history: \$575,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-0, \$121,700. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Marc Detampel & Sunshine State Racing, LLC; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.

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**10th-Gulfstream, \$45,100, Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 2-28, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:24.44, ft.**

**RAZORBACK LADY (f, 4, Overdriven--C D Player, by Montbrook)** won a five-panel turf test here Dec. 22 and was third next out behind 'TDN Rising Star' Cherry Lodge (Bernardini) in a sloppy off-the-turf renewal of the Ladies' Turf Sprint in Hallandale Jan. 26. Entering this off a best-of-25 half-mile in :47 flat at Palm Meadows Feb. 19, the 5-1 shot bobbled a step at the start, but still shot straight to the lead, dueling Awesome Mass (Brethren) through a :22.33 opening quarter while well clear of the rest of the field. Continuing to battle through a :45.13 half-mile, the dark bay shook free of her foe in early stretch and rolled clear for a two-length score. Quick Quick Quick (Tiago) closed strongly for second, out-nosing last term's GII Gulfstream Park Oaks winner Coach Rocks (Oxbow). The winner is a half to C D Gold (Gottcha Gold), SP, \$211,759; and a 2-year-old colt named Captain Don (Flat Out). C D Player visited Street Strategy last year. Sales history: \$18,000 Wlg '15 OBSOCT; \$54,000 2yo '17 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: MSP, 9-3-3-1, \$132,780. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Patrick L. Biancone Racing LLC; B-McDowell Farm (AR); T-Patrick L. Biancone.

 **SGV THOROUGHBREDS GRADUATE** 

**5th-Fair Grounds, \$45,000, (S), Alw (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 2-28, 3yo, 6f, 1:11.94, ft.**

**SHARP WITTED (c, 3, Jimmy Creed--Sharp Tongue Lady, by Eddington)** opened his account with a victory against fellow LA-breds at Delta Downs Feb. 8 and was favored at 7-5 to repeat here. The chestnut was quite keen as he raced in a close-up fourth through an opening quarter in :22.54. Sweeping up three wide to challenge turning for home, Sharp Witted took command at the top of the stretch and drew clear in the final sixteenth for a two-length score. Greeley's Banker (Greeley's Galaxy) filled the place spot. The winner has a 2-year-old half-sister named Sienna Breeze (Custom for Carlos) and a yearling half-brother named Shardial (Dialed In). Sharp Tongue Lady was bred back to Iron Fist last spring. Sales history: \$62,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP; \$35,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$54,000. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Maggi Moss; B-Joey R Agular (LA); T-Thomas M. Amoss.

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**7th-Gulfstream, \$44,180, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 2-28, 3yo, f, 5fT, :57.44, fm.**

**ABYSSINIAN (f, 3, Cairo Prince--Shesakitty {GSP}, by Tapit)** finished second as the favorite behind stablemate Mae Never No (Ire) (No Nay Never) after setting the early pace in her career bow on the Belmont main track May 3. She took the field from gate to wire next out for a seven-length triumph in the slop in Elmont May 19 and was heavily favored at 4-5 in this switch to the grass. Taking up her preferred position at the head of affairs, the gray zipped through a :22.55 first quarter and turned for home full of steam. Clocking a half in :45.67, Abyssinian cruised further clear down the lane under a motionless John Velazquez to score a facile 6 3/4-length victory. Charmaine's Mia (The Factor) completed the exacta. Shesakitty is also responsible for a juvenile filly by Competitive Edge and visited Cairo Prince last spring. Sales history: \$70,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$96,400. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Hat Creek Racing; B-Dede McGehee (KY); T-Wesley A. Ward.

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*EASMAY grad Hoffa's Union (Union Rags)  
romped by 15 1/2 lengths on debut at Laurel.*

**5th-Gulfstream, \$44,120, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-28, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:45.89, ft.**

**BARRIER ISLAND (f, 4, Speightstown--Boca Grande {MGSW & MGISP, \$515,570}, by A.P. Indy)** checked in third in Tampa's Gasparilla S. in January 2018 and was subsequently sidelined. Fifth in her return at Belmont Oct. 17, the homebred was third when last seen in a seven-panel test at Aqueduct Nov. 17. Hammered down to 4-5 favoritism in this seasonal bow, the bay chased from second through early fractions of :24.21 and gained a narrow advantage as they hit the half in :48.46. Pressed along on the backstretch run, Barrier Island punched clear in the lane for a 2 1/4-length success over Saracosa (Bernardini). Dual Grade II winner and MGISP Boca Grande has just two other foals, the now-3-year-old Fabulous Fun (Distorted Humor), who was off the board in his lone start at Saratoga in August, and a juvenile filly named Seaside Retreat (Blame). The winner hails from the family of GI Breeders' Cup Distaff heroine Pleasant Home (Seeking the Gold); and MGISWs Point of Entry (Dynaformer), Pine Island (Arch) and Tale of Ekati (Tale of the Cat). Lifetime Record: SP, 7-2-1-3, \$89,680. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O/B-Phipps Stable (KY); T-Claude R. McGaughey.



**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**4th-Oaklawn, \$83,000, Msw, 2-28, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:45.68, ft. JO MARIE (f, 3, Elusive Quality--Omnitap, by Tapit)** kicked off this season with a third in her first try around two turns over this track and trip Jan. 27 and was fourth last time going a mile here Feb. 15. Pressing from second through modest early fractions, the 9-5 chalk took control turning for home and drew clear to graduate by 1 1/2 lengths over Cairo Cutie (Cairo Prince). The winner's dam Omnitap produced a Tiznow filly in 2017 and a Union Rags filly in 2018. She was bred back to Street Sense last season. Out of MSW Classic Olympio (Olympio), Omnitap is a half-sister to MSW Classify (Unbridled's Song) and SW & GSP Simplify (Pulpit). Sales history: \$40,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-1, \$81,140. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-Dwight Pruet; B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. (KY); T-William H. Fires.

**3rd-Aqueduct, \$58,200, (S), Msw, 2-28, 3yo, 1m, 1:43.20, ft. WHISTLING BIRDS (c, 3, Jimmy Creed--Unshuttered, by Unbridled)** finished fourth in his state-bred debut sprinting in the mud here Dec. 22 and made his next two starts at Parx, finishing second there Jan. 19 and Feb. 5. Given a 5-2 chance in this return to state-bred company, the chestnut showed early initiative, pressing favored Daring Disguise (Verrazano) on the front end through an opening half in :48.70. Taking control while running off the fence, he kicked clear in the lane and held off a late rally from Pier Forty (Forty Tales) to win by a half-length under come-backing jockey Kendrick Carmouche. Sales history: \$50,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$54,600. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Bran Jam Stables & David Clark; B-Pinnacle Farms Bloodstock LLC (NY); T-Louis C. Linder, Jr.



**5th-Laurel, \$41,200, Msw, 2-28, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:43.61, ft. HOFFA'S UNION (g, 3, Union Rags--Malibu Red {SP, \$141,684}, by Malibu Moon),** unveiled at 7-1, seized the early advantage, ticking off comfortable splits of :23.71 and :48.57. The \$11,000 EASMAY buy was in a race of his own in the lane, cruising clear, while drifting out a few paths, to win by a whopping 15 1/2 lengths. Favored Candy Store (Twirling Candy) was best of the rest in second. Hoffa's Union is the first foal out of Malibu Red, who is also responsible for a juvenile filly by Cairo Prince and a Frosted filly born earlier this year. The winner hails from the family of last term's GI American Oaks winner Competitionofideas (Speightstown). Sales history: \$40,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP; \$11,000 2yo '18 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$22,800. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Non Stop Stable, Rose Petal Stable and Foard Wilgis; B-Frederick Allor (KY); T-Gary Capuano.



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**6th-Penn National, \$27,696, Msw, 2-27, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10.99, ft. JENNEMILY (f, 3, **Strong Mandate**--Paloma Mesa {SW, \$162,856}, by Sky Mesa),** dispatched at 6-1 in this unveiling, dove right when exiting the far outside post in this 12-horse affair, but was quickly corrected by her pilot to rejoin the pack. Running off the rail in mid-pack through a :22.40 opening quarter, the homebred made rapid progress up the outside to sit in a three-wide third as they hit the half in :45.75. Jennemily charged to the lead in early stretch and kept on rolling to graduate by five lengths over favored Shanghai Bonnie (Shanghai Bobby). Paloma Mesa has produced just one foal since the winner, a now-2-year-old colt named Dontmesawithme (Fast Anna). She was bred to Mshawish last season. Click [here](#) for a TDN feature on owner/breeder Dr. Stephen Jackson. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$16,260. Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O/B-Dr. Stephen & Debbie Jackson (KY); T-Flint W. Stites.



*This weekend's notable US-bred activity in Japan is confined to Saturday. In today's installment, we take a look at the horses of interest running at Hanshin Racecourse, including the return to the races of the admirably consistent Shivaji (First Samurai) and of Avance (Uncle Mo), who seeks to retain his undefeated record in his young career. Saturday's TDN will feature a trio of US-bred runners entered for the Saturday program at Nakayama, where the talented Mozu Superflare (Speightstown) will take her chances against the boys in the G3 Ocean S. (1200mT).*

**Saturday, March 2, 2019**

**4th-HSN, ¥9,550,000 (\$86k), Maiden, 3yo, 2000mT**

**ESCALADE FUJI (c, 3, **Noble Mission {GB}**--Seal of Approval, by Vindication)** was his sire's most expensive first-crop foal after hammering for \$210K at Keeneland November in 2016 before fetching \$200K as a KEESEP yearling, joint-second priciest of 48 sold in 2017. A half-brother to SP Paid Admission (Candy Ride {Arg}), his dam is kin to MGSW & GISP turfer Gulch Approval (Gulch), MGSW Rusty Slipper (Lemon Drop Kid), SW & MGSP Approval Rating (Lemon Drop Kid), MGSP Highest Class (Mineshaft) and Moyne Abbey (Charismatic), dam of GISW and young sire Wicked Strong (Hard Spun). *B-Bugle Hill Farm LLC (KY)*

**6th-HSN, ¥13,720,000 (\$124k), Allowance, 3yo, 1800m**

**AVANCE (c, 3, **Uncle Mo**--Above Heaven, by Mr. Greeley)** looks to make it two wins from as many starts, having graduated by two solid lengths over this distance at Kyoto Jan. 19 ([video](#), gate 9). Racing as a homebred for Dr. Masatake Iida, the bay is out of an unraced daughter of GISW Lady Joanne (Orientate), the 2007 GI Alabama S. winner who was purchased by Iida for \$1.6 million in foal to Tiznow at Fasig-Tipton November in 2009. Lady Joanne's younger half-brother is Classic winner and Darby Dan stallion Shackleford (Forestry), while she is also a half-sister to treble GSW Baghdaria (Royal Academy), MGSW Afleeting Lady (Afleet Alex) and SW & MGSP Stephanoatsee (A.P. Indy). *B-Dr Masatake Iida (KY)*

**10th-HSN, ¥34,620,000 (\$312k), Allowance, 4yo/up, 1400m**

**SHIVAJI (c, 4, **First Samurai**--Indian Bay, by Indian Charlie)** has amassed a strong record of 3-3-2 from his eight career appearances, including a victory over this course and distance last April ([video](#), gate 11). The \$90K KEESEP yearling turned \$540K OBS April juvenile purchase is a maternal grandson of GSW Buy the Barrel (E Dubai), dam of European MGSP Mise en Rose (War Front). *B-Hinkle Farms (KY)*

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**Dolkong, h, 5, **Afleet Alex**.** See "Dubai".

**Mountain Hunter, g, 5, **Lonhro (Aus)**.** See "Dubai".

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**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, MARCH 1**

**Atreides** (Medaglia d'Oro), Hill 'n' Dale Farms, \$6,500  
102 foals of racing age/13 winners/2 black-type winners  
4-Sam Houston Race, Msw 6f, PALADINS WARRIOR, 8-1  
\$2,000 KEE SEP yrl

**Boisterous** (Distorted Humor), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds, \$5,000  
86 foals of racing age/8 winners/1 black-type winner  
7-Santa Anita, Msw 6 1/2f, FOSTER BOI, 5-2  
\$15,000 BAR SEL yrl  
7-Santa Anita, Msw 6 1/2f, NO PARKING HERE, 6-1

**Can the Man** (Into Mischief), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000  
137 foals of racing age/15 winners/0 black-type winners  
6-Fair Grounds, Aoc 5 1/2ft, SUGAR BOLT, 9-2  
\$11,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$17,000 RNA EAS MAY 2yo; \$60,000 OBS  
OPN 2yo

**Central Banker** (Speightstown), McMahan of Saratoga  
Thoroughbreds, \$7,500  
135 foals of racing age/14 winners/2 black-type winners  
7-Aqueduct, Aoc 1m, INTOXICOLOGIST, 3-1

**He's Had Enough** (Tapit), Woodford Thoroughbreds, \$5,000  
139 foals of racing age/14 winners/0 black-type winners  
4-Golden Gate Fields, Aoc 6f, GORGEOUS IN GREY, 10-1  
\$46,000 KEE NOV wnl

**Noble Mission (GB)** (Galileo {Ire}), Lane's End Farm, \$25,000  
151 foals of racing age/16 winners/0 black-type winners  
6-Fair Grounds, Aoc 5 1/2ft, NOBLE LOVE, 8-1  
\$20,000 KEE SEP yrl

**Revolutionary** (War Pass), WinStar Farm, \$7,500  
148 foals of racing age/21 winners/2 black-type winners  
6-Gulfstream, Msw 7f, OBSESSION, 12-1  
\$24,000 RNA OBS OCT yrl; \$24,000 OBS APR 2yo

**Shanghai Kid** (Lemon Drop Kid), Willow Tree Farm  
1 foal of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners  
4-Golden Gate Fields, Aoc 6f, COZZE KID, 3-1  
\$4,500 NCA AUG yrl

**Super Ninety Nine** (Pulpit), Country Life Farm, \$4,000  
68 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners  
6-Laurel, Msw 1 1/16m, ORTINOLA, 5-1

**Typhoon Slew** (Stormy Atlantic), Rancho San Miguel, \$1,000  
4 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
7-Santa Anita, Msw 6 1/2f, MASTER JUBA, 20-1

**Uncaptured** (Lion Heart), Ocala Stud Farm, \$6,000  
141 foals of racing age/11 winners/4 black-type winners  
6-Gulfstream, Msw 7f, ELITE APPEAL, 6-1

**Verrazano** (More Than Ready), Ashford Stud, \$22,500  
268 foals of racing age/20 winners/2 black-type winners  
4-Sam Houston Race, Msw 6f, MIGHTY MERLE, 5-2  
\$95,000 KEE SEP yrl

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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**7th-Oaklawn, \$84,000**, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$16,000), 2-28,  
4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.32, ft.

**NORTHERN TRAIL (g, 4, Northern Afleet--Picture Trail, by Storm Boot)** Lifetime Record: SP, 21-5-3-3, \$153,433. O-Danny R. Caldwell; B-Patricia Moseley (KY); T-Federico Villafranco. \*\$1,500 Wlg '15 KEENOV; \$16,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP.



**4th-Laurel, \$58,327**, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 2-28, 4yo/up,  
1 1/16m, 1:44.01, ft.

**CLUBMAN (g, 5, Not For Love--Otherwise Perfect, by Lemon Drop Kid)** Lifetime Record: SP, 26-7-3-4, \$272,547. O-Caonabo Stable, LLC; B-Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman & Rebecca Davis (MD); T-Rodolfo Sanchez-Salomon. \*\$75,000 2yo '16 EASMAY. \*\*1/2 to I Stand Alone (Dance With Ravens), SW, \$242,960.

**9th-Gulfstream, \$44,240, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$16,000), 2-28, 4yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:36.19, fm.**

**UNA LUNA (f, 4, Dunkirk--Eleven Moons, by Indian Charlie)**  
Lifetime Record: 9-3-2-1, \$73,070. O-Robert J. Amendola;  
B-Caroni Stable (FL); T-Jose A. Gallegos.

**7th-Laurel, \$34,650, (C), 2-28, (C), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:36.81, ft.**  
**WORTH HIS SALT (g, 5, Roman Ruler--Saltster, by Salt Lake)**  
Lifetime Record: 29-6-6-5, \$185,263. O-Triple K Stables and  
Jagger Inc.; B-Charles McGinnes (MD); T-Jamie Ness. \*\$9,000 Ylg  
'15 EASOCT. \*\*1/2 to Ridgester (Cactus Ridge), MSP, \$176,245.

**7th-Charles Town, \$24,500, 2-27, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 4 1/2f, :51.04, ft.**  
**COMPLETED PASS (g, 5, Pass Rush--Christina's Gold {SP}, by Gold Token)** Lifetime Record: 6-4-1-0, \$82,380. O-Robert D.  
Bone; B-Swifty Farms Inc. (IN); T-Claudio A. Gonzalez.

**2nd-Charles Town, \$24,000, 2-27, (NW2LX), 3yo/up, f/m, 4 1/2f, :52.59, ft.**  
**GHOST FEVER (f, 4, Fiber Sonde--Ghost Canyon, by Indian Charlie)** Lifetime Record: 14-5-4-1, \$96,043. O-Javier Contreras;  
B-John D. McKee (WV); T-Javier Contreras. \*Full to Hidden  
Canyon, MSW, \$319,338; and Bullets Fever, MSW, \$227,424.

**3rd-Charles Town, \$24,000, 2-27, (NW2L), 3yo, 6 1/2f, 1:20.06, ft.**  
**SUCCESS HURRICANE (c, 3, Trappe Shot--Broad Sound, by Broad Brush)** Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-2, \$42,917. O-Top Hat  
Thoroughbreds; B-Glencrest Farm LLC (KY); T-Wayne Potts.  
\*\$7,500 Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$16,500 Ylg '17 EASJAN; \$35,000 Ylg  
'17 KESEP. \*\*1/2 to Brimstone Island (Tiznow), MSP, \$302,593.

#### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Craigville Beach, g, 3, Big Brown--Twirly Girly, by Johannesburg.**  
Aqueduct, 2-28, (S), (C), 1m, 1:45.23. B-Patricia Generazio (NY).

**Dr Wysong, f, 3, Cyclotron--Hi Ho Yodeler (SW, \$139,090), by Swiss Yodeler.** Santa Anita, 2-28, (S), 6f, 1:12.93. B-Todd  
Marshall & Andrew Molasky (CA).

**Bridging the Gap, f, 3, Fiber Sonde--Seetsang, by Fusaichi Pegasus.** Charles Town, 2-27, (S), 4 1/2f, :54.35. B-Don E. Cain  
(KY). \*1ST-TIME STARTER.

**Jus Dream Big, c, 3, Half Ours--First Lady (Arg) (SW & GSP-Arg), by Luhuk.** Fair Grounds, 2-28, (S), 1m (off turf), 1:42.27. B-Pine  
Knoll, LLC (LA). \*1/2 to Sunday's Child (Any Given Saturday),  
SW, \$141,370,

**Izzy's Baby Boy, c, 3, Shackleford--Lady Carmen (SP), by Yankee Victor.** Delta Downs, 2-27, (S), 7 1/2f, 1:35.74. B-Kendel  
Standlee (LA).

**Mr. Edgar, c, 3, Verrazano--Smart Magic, by Smart Strike.**  
Gulfstream, 2-28, (C), 5fT, :57.97. B-Dormellito Stud (KY).  
\*\$40,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR. \*\*Won by 8 1/2 lengths.

**Cajun Treasure, c, 4, Treasure Beach (GB)--Cajun Dawn, by Awesome Again.** Santa Anita, 2-28, 6 1/2fT, 1:13.61. B-Curtis  
Mikkelsen & Patricia Horth (FL). \*\$250,000 2yo '17 OBSAPR.  
\*\*1/2 to Mom'z Laugh (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}), SW, \$292,435;  
Cajun Delta Dawn (Kantharos), MSW, \$488,105; Cajun Breeze  
(Congrats), MSP, \$246,860; and Peace at Dawn (Peace Rules),  
GSP, \$227,689.



**BERNARDINI, Curate, g, 5, o/o Majestically, by Gone West.** AOC,  
2-28, Oaklawn

**BIG BROWN, Craigville Beach, g, 3, o/o Twirly Girly, by Johannesburg.** MCL, 2-28, Aqueduct

**CAIRO PRINCE, Abyssinian, f, 3, o/o Shesakitty, by Tapit.** AOC,  
2-28, Gulfstream

**CYCLOTRON, Dr Wysong, f, 3, o/o Hi Ho Yodeler, by Swiss Yodeler.** MSW, 2-28, Santa Anita

**DUNKIRK, Una Luna, f, 4, o/o Eleven Moons, by Indian Charlie.** AOC, 2-28, Gulfstream

**ELUSIVE QUALITY, Jo Marie, f, 3, o/o Omnitap, by Tapit.** MSW,  
2-28, Oaklawn

**FIBER SONDE, Bridging the Gap, f, 3, o/o Seetsang, by Fusaichi Pegasus.** MSW, 2-27, Charles Town

**FIBER SONDE, Ghost Fever, f, 4, o/o Ghost Canyon, by Indian Charlie.** ALW, 2-27, Charles Town

**HALF OURS, Jus Dream Big, c, 3, o/o First Lady (Arg), by Luhuk.** MSW, 2-28, Fair Grounds

**JIMMY CREED, Sharp Witted, c, 3, o/o Sharp Tongue Lady, by Eddington.** AOC, 2-28, Fair Grounds

**JIMMY CREED, Whistling Birds, c, 3, o/o Unshuttered, by Unbridled.** MSW, 2-28, Aqueduct

**NORTHERN AFLEET, Northern Trail, g, 4, o/o Picture Trail, by Storm Boot.** AOC, 2-28, Oaklawn

**NOT FOR LOVE, Clubman, g, 5, o/o Otherwise Perfect, by Lemon Drop Kid.** AOC, 2-28, Laurel

**OVERDRIVEN, Razorback Lady, f, 4, o/o C D Player, by Montbrook.** AOC, 2-28, Gulfstream

**PASS RUSH, Completed Pass, g, 5, o/o Christina's Gold, by Gold Token.** ALW, 2-27, Charles Town

**ROMAN RULER, Worth His Salt, g, 5, o/o Saltster, by Salt Lake.** ALW, 2-28, Laurel

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JERSEY TOWN – BEES, BY RAHY | FEE: **\$5,000** S&N

**SHACKLEFORD**, Izzy's Baby Boy, c, 3, o/o Lady Carmen, by Yankee Victor. MSW, 2-27, Delta Downs

**SPEIGHTSTOWN**, Barrier Island, f, 4, o/o Boca Grande, by A.P. Indy. AOC, 2-28, Gulfstream

**SQUARE EDDIE**, Smoovie, f, 4, o/o Smoove, by Distorted Humor. MSW, 2-28, Santa Anita

**STRONG MANDATE**, Jennemily, f, 3, o/o Paloma Mesa, by Sky Mesa. MSW, 2-27, Penn National

**TRAPPE SHOT**, Success Hurricane, c, 3, o/o Broad Sound, by Broad Brush. ALW, 2-27, Charles Town

**TREASURE BEACH (GB)**, Cajun Treasure, c, 4, o/o Cajun Dawn, by Awesome Again. MSW, 2-28, Santa Anita

**UNION RAGS**, Hoffa's Union, g, 3, o/o Malibu Red, by Malibu Moon. MSW, 2-28, Laurel

**VERRAZANO**, Mr. Edgar, c, 3, o/o Smart Magic, by Smart Strike. MCL, 2-28, Gulfstream



## DID YOU KNOW?

Undefeated GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf heroine **Newspaperofrecord (Ire)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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Jimmy Creed was represented by two winners Thursday | *Spendthrift*

## DESPITE FUNDING, BOYCOTT STILL LOOMS



Greybychoice completing a walkover at Lingfield last Saturday after many trainers boycotted the meeting | *Racing Post*

By Emma Berry

Emotions continue to run high in an escalating row over prize-money cuts primarily by Britain's largest racecourse group Arena Racing Company (ARC).

In a bid to halt a proposed boycott of all ARC-run meetings from Mar. 6 to 8, the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) announced at 11 a.m. on Thursday--just one hour ahead of the deadline for race entries for Mar. 6--that a temporary agreement had been reached between industry leaders which would see prize-money restored to 2018 levels from that date.

From ARC's perspective, this will involve the reassignment of £235,000 from elsewhere in its programme. This reallocation to lower-grade races currently falling below the level required to earn extra Levy funding means that, during this temporary arrangement, those events will now have access to this pool. In announcing in December that it would cut its prize-money budget by around £3 million for 2019, ARC had effectively denied itself access to an extra £4.5 million which would have been available through this scheme.

Cont. p2

## FIRST-SEASON SIRE VERDICTS: ANTHEA GIBSON FLEMING

The countdown is on towards the first juvenile races at the end of the month, and the buzz about the stock of young stallions always starts early, along with the betting for champion first-season sire. We've been asking a number of horsemen and women for their opinions over recent weeks and today, breeder and TBA board member Anthea Gibson Fleming gives us her view.

**TDN: Who do you think will be leading first-season sire?**

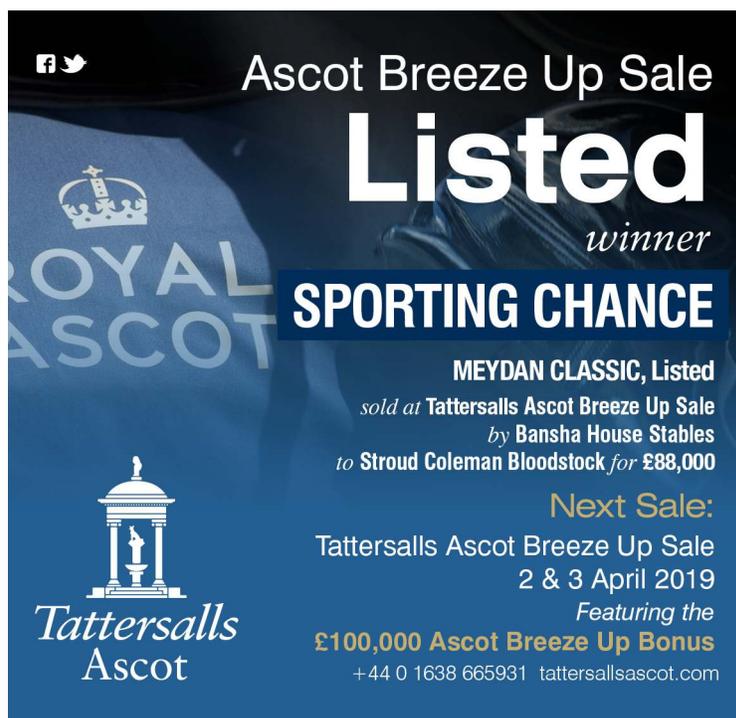
**AGF:** The Muhaarar (GB) yearlings were full of quality. It looks a competitive year, but I would go with him. Hot Streak (GB) could have a good season as well.

Cont. p4

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### CHURCHILL TO OFFER RECORD PURSES AT SPRING MEET

Track-record high first condition book purses will greet horsemen when the Churchill Downs spring meet opens on Apr. 27. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



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**Despite Funding, Boycott Still Looms Cont. from p1**

A statement released by ARC on Thursday read, "At a BHA Board meeting last night, ARC Chief Executive Martin Cruddace and Ann Duffield (representing the NTF) agreed that ARC would fully unlock all relevant races for a period of one month while all parties continue to work towards a resolution of this issue.

"In a deal brokered by BHA, it was made clear that ARC would adjust its future race programme to fund this period of unlocking, which represents circa £235,000. This will unlock circa £364,000 in Levy funding, which has been budgeted to support these races. To be clear, ARC's position remains that we are anxious that the £4.5 million for these races is allocated as soon as possible and that agreement is reached."

Two meetings are scheduled to be staged at ARC tracks on Mar. 6--an all-weather Flat meeting at Lingfield and a jumps card at Fontwell. The entry deadline for both was extended by an hour to 1 p.m. on Thursday and while Fontwell attracted a total of 82 entries with at least 11 horses per race, Lingfield

received just 39 entries across six races, with four in single figures being reoffered for entry until 11 a.m. on Friday.

In announcing the agreement reached at Wednesday night's meeting, BHA Chief Executive Nick Rust said that he was pleased to see "commitment from all to work together on this which has to be in the long-term interests of the sport," while the Racehorse Owners Association (ROA) Chief Executive Charlie Liverton stated his delight at "constructive discussions" with the Racecourse Association and BHA.

However, Thursday's announcement was met with some scepticism by a number of owners and trainers who remain frustrated at ARC's stance on prize-money.

Mick Appleby, the leading trainer on the all-weather this winter, is in favour of boycotting certain meetings. He told *TDN* on Thursday, "I'm 100% behind it. We have to stand firm. I've spoken to my owners and they are all in agreement that the prize-money for some races is shocking. Of course I want to have runners but this is affecting all of us." **Cont. p3**

**IF WE DON'T MAKE A STAND OTHER TRACKS WILL FOLLOW SUIT AND IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE.**

**Trainer Mick Appleby**

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### **Despite Funding, Boycott Still Looms Cont.**

He added, "I've been training for eight years and I've never taken a wage. I live on my percentage money so if that's going down so is my income, as well as the pool money for all the staff. If we don't make a stand other tracks will follow suit and it will only get worse. As it stands, even if you win a Class 6 race, half your prize-money is gone paying your expenses to get to the races."

Trainer Stuart Williams, another to be enjoying a particularly good winter on the all-weather, shares Appleby's opinion. He said, "My owners are of the same view as me--it's wrong of ARC to have withdrawn its contribution which would have triggered the extra money. And to then say it will cream the money off the top of somewhere else to make up for it isn't helping the situation at all, it's taking the value down in other parts."



**"My owners are of the same view as me--it's wrong of ARC to have withdrawn its contribution which would have triggered the extra money" - Trainer Stuart Williams | racingfotos.com**

The National Trainers Federation (NTF) held its AGM in London on Thursday, after which it released a statement which read, "The National Trainers Federation is clarifying its position following the statements issued by the British Horseracing Authority and Arena Racing Company this morning. Trainers have informed the NTF that they do not support the terms of the agreement reached last night to restore prize-money levels. In their opinion, funding for Class 4, 5 and 6 races should not be sourced from other parts of the race programme. We have been told that trainers and owners will continue to make their own choices with regard to upcoming ARC fixtures."

David Haddrell, who has a horse in training with Julia Feilden, is one of a number of owners aiming to avoid ARC tracks where possible.

**Cont. p4**

## **IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY**

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR WINX

**Winx (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}) is in fine form ahead of a start in Saturday's G1 Chipping Norton S. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

**Despite Funding, Boycott Still Looms Cont.**

He said, "We're running at Chelmsford next week. Our horse could have gone to Lingfield or Newcastle but we will go where there is decent prize-money instead. With the news today, at least we can see that ARC is prepared to do something but their under-investment in some racecourses is absolutely shocking. There needs to be a bigger debate in this country about prize-money. There is an imbalance in the programme."

ARC has already felt the brunt of action by trainers and owners when two races on last Saturday's Winter Derby card at Lingfield collectively received just one declared runner.

While the country's second-largest racecourse group Jockey Club Racecourses has pledged to maintain its prize-money levels for 2019, the projected mass closure of bookmaker shops in the wake of the cut in FOBT stakes to £2 from £100, which comes into force in April, seems likely to continue to hit prize-money levels in Britain. On Thursday, *Racing Post* reported that the independently owned Pontefract racecourse will reduce its purses by 11% in 2019. However, that reduction is likely to come in at Class 3 level and above, with the track pledging that all of its races will meet minimum values for prize-money, thus unlocking the extra Levy funding.

Staging races with paltry prize-money levels is not restricted to ARC tracks, however. Jumps trainer Jo Davis highlighted on her website blog that a hurdle race in which she has a horse entered at Fontwell during the planned boycott on Mar. 6 is worth £6,200 to the winner while an equivalent race on Friday at Newbury, an independent track, is worth just £4,500.

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**First-Season Sire Verdicts Cont. from p1**

**TDN: Did you see/purchase many by first-season sires at the yearling sales?**



Anthea Gibson Fleming says she liked Free Eagle's stock | *Irish National Stud*

**Gr.3**  
*winner* **ISPOLINI**  
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AGF: I bought a Free Eagle (Ire) colt foal, and I particularly liked his yearlings, but they will perhaps be for later in the season.

**TDN: Which stallion do you think will go on to be the best of this intake?**

AGF: Gleneagles (Ire) must have a very good chance.  
[\(Click here to return to p1\)](#)

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EUROPEAN NEWS

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**PROTEST THREAT FORCES MOVE TO CHANTILLY**

Saturday's scheduled meeting at Deauville has been transferred to Chantilly owing to concerns surrounding potential disruption by the 'gilets jaunes' protestors. France Galop issued a notice on Thursday which read, "Due to a high risk of a blockade at Deauville racecourse by a group of 'gilets jaunes' that threatens the safety of the meeting on Saturday, Mar. 2, the races will be moved to Chantilly." **Cont. p5**



**Gilets Jaunes protesters on the track at Chantilly in January | *Scoop Dyga***

**Protest Threat Forces Switch to Chantilly Cont.**

On Jan. 12, protestors wearing yellow vests took to the streets of Chantilly--France's largest training centre--and, after finding their way onto the racecourse, caused a two-hour delay to that day's meeting. Five of the nine scheduled races were run the following morning.

Friday's meeting at Deauville will go ahead as planned.

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**GROUP 1-WINNING BREEDER BERRY DIES**

Claude Berry, breeder of three-time Group 1 winner Old Country (GB) (Quiet Fling), passed away at his home in Devon on Tuesday night, aged 80.

Berry was a successful amateur rider in the 1950s and 60s and trained a small string of jumpers under permit for himself and his first wife Caroline when living in the Scottish Borders. They subsequently started breeding horses, establishing Firth Stud at their farm.

Easily the best horse whom he bred was Old Country, whose victory in G1 Derby Italiano in 1982 made him not only a rare Scottish-bred Classic winner but also the first Group 1 winner trained by Luca Cumani. Old Country (whom Berry bred from the Aggressor mare Little Miss {GB} whom he had bought, in foal to Balliol (GB), for 2,000 guineas at the Tattersalls December Sale in 1974) subsequently added to his haul by taking the G1 Prix Royal-Oak in 1983 and the G1 Premio Roma in 1985 as well as the G3 Jockey Club Cup in 1984. During this period, Berry served as the Scottish small breeders' representative on the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association.

While living in Scotland, Berry served as a steward at Kelso, Carlisle and Hamilton.

[Cont. p6](#)



**2019 Classic Hopes: Shadwell's Madhmoon (Ire) (Dawn Approach {Ire}) impressed as a juvenile for Kevin Prendergast. | [racingfotos.com](#)**



Claude Berry after winning on Majestic Prince at Carlisle in 1962

### Group 1-Winning Breeder Berry Dies Cont.

Subsequently returning to his native Devon, he was more recently a steward at Exeter and Taunton until compulsorily stepping down from that role when he reached 70 in 2008. Over the years he owned or part-owned several horses in training with Nigel Angus, Peter Bailey and Philip Hobbs as well as his younger son John, the Newmarket-based trainer and *TDN* columnist.

Berry spent the final couple of decades of his working life at the Tryon Gallery in London, of which he became a director. He wrote one book while working there, 'The Racehorse in Twentieth Century Art' and subsequently wrote 'Racing at the Top', a history of Exeter racecourse.

Berry remained in relatively good health right up to his death, and enjoyed an afternoon at Taunton races only last week. He is survived by his two sons, John and his elder brother Dominic, a lecturer in Classics at Edinburgh University, and one grandson, Anthony.

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### FIRST MARES IN FOAL FOR ROARING LION

Last year's Cartier Horse of the Year Roaring Lion (Kitten's Joy) has had his first mares scanned in foal. That group includes multiple stakes-producing mare Common Knowledge (GB) (Rainbow Quest). Roaring Lion has also been visited by G1 Falmouth S. winner Giofra (GB) (Dansili {GB}) at Tweenhills Stud, and also on the books are at least seven other Group 1 winners, including Lightening Pearl (Ire) (Marju {Ire}), Just The Judge (Ire) (Lawman {Fr}), Simple Verse (Ire) (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}), Bateel (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) and Golden Lilac (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}).

David Redvers, Qatar Racing manager and owner and manager of Tweenhills, said, "In everything Roaring Lion has done so far he has excelled and therefore it is no surprise to see that his first three mares have all been scanned in foal. He is having a busy season but has taken to his new role with aplomb."

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Roaring Lion | Tweenhills Stud

### RE-WRITTEN RULES IN EFFECT SEPT. 1

The British Horseracing Authority's re-written Rules of Racing will come into effect from Sept. 1. The project of re-writing the rules was taken on to ensure the rules are presented in a way which is simple, clear and easy to follow, and that they are available in a convenient and accessible format.

First launched in late 2016, the re-write has primarily been focused on the structure and presentation of the rules rather than widespread substantive rule changes. The new rulebook will be available on the BHA website from early July, and the BHA will hold educational workshops to assist participants with adjusting to and accessing them.

Tim Naylor, Director of Integrity and Regulation at the BHA, said, "There has been a move within the wider area of sports regulation to try and simplify rules as far as possible so everyone, whether participating or not, can understand them.

"There was feedback anecdotally for a number of years, particularly from those bound by the rules, that they could be easier to follow which was why the initial project was undertaken. It has been a long and complex piece of work but I'm confident that the new format of the rules makes them as clear as they have ever been."

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## EFTBA DELEGATION VISITS BRUSSELS

Joe Heron, Chairman of the European Federation of Thoroughbred Breeders (EFTBA), led a delegation to Brussels on Feb. 21 to share the concerns of the European Thoroughbred industry as a possible Brexit approaches in late March. Other members of the delegation included Hubert Honore and Paul Marie Gadot of France, Andreas Tiedtke of Germany, Giovanna Romano of Italy, and Des Leadon, EFTBA Veterinary Consultant along with Michael Treacy, EU lobbyist. The delegation met with many senior EU officials over a two-day period including, EU Commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan, Dr. Alf-Eckbert Fussel, EU Commission’s Directorate General on Animal Health as well as David Bruck, Donal O’Donnell, Tom Tynan and Bernard Van Goethem to discuss the many issues and concerns facing EU Thoroughbred breeders as a result of the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, which included free movement and transportation of Thoroughbreds post Brexit. If a hard Brexit or a no-deal Brexit occurs, breeders will face increased paperwork due to the possibility of border inspection posts coming into effect for horses entering the EU.

“The visit proved to be informative,” said Heron. “The EU Commission and the respective Departments of Agriculture appear to be well versed in our needs and desires for international trade to continue.”

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## OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

### 5.45 Dundalk, Mdn, €12,500, 3yo/up, 6f (AWT)

**U S S MICHIGAN (War Front)** makes his eagerly-anticipated 3-year-old debut for Ballydoyle, having created a lasting impression when second on his sole juvenile start in a Curragh maiden over this trip at the end of June. Coolmore and Joseph Allen’s grey is a full-brother to the G3 Prix de Guiche scorer War Dispatch, who had the stamina to be third in the G1 Prix du Jockey Club behind New Bay (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) and Highland Reel (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}).

### 6.45 Dundalk, Cond, €26,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f (AWT)

**I CAN FLY (GB) (Fastnet Rock {Aus})** is another high-profile Ballydoyle runner on a card in which the stable is well represented. Last year’s G2 Boomerang S. winner and G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. runner-up faces just three rivals.

She is looking for a direct entry into the £150,000 Ladbrokes Fillies and Mares’ Championship over this distance and surface at Lingfield on the £1-million All-Weather Championships Finals Day on Apr. 19. --Tom Frary

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## IRELAND



### Friday, Dundalk, post time: 7.45 p.m.

#### BETVICTOR PATTON S.-Listed, €75,000, 3yo, 8f (AWT)

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	8	Van Beethoven	Scat Daddy	D O'Brien	A O'Brien
2	2	Albuquerque (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Heffernan	A O'Brien
3	5	Barys (GB)	Kodiac (GB)	Greatrex	Watson
4	6	Colfer Me (Ire)	Canford Cliffs (Ire)	Foley	J O'Brien
5	1	Manjeer (Ire)	Footstepsinthesand (GB)		Coakley Oxx
6	3	Numerian (Ire)	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)		Lord O'Brien
7	7	Playa Del Puente (Ire)	Elzaam (Aus)	Whelan	Halford
8	4	Western Australia (Ire)	Australia (GB)	Moore	A O'Brien

All carry 129 pounds bar Van Beethoven, 134.

Dundalk’s Listed Patton S. carries GI Kentucky Derby implications, offering a 20-8-4-2 point spread to the first four finishers on the European Road to the Kentucky Derby. Unsurprisingly, Ballydoyle is well represented in Ireland, with Ryan Moore on **Western Australia**, who was last seen finishing third in the G1 Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster in October. Stablemate **Van Beethoven**, who is penalised for his win in the G2 Railway S. at The Curragh last June, and the promising Gowran Park maiden winner **Albuquerque** provide able back-up, while Mick Halford saddles an intriguing course specialist in **Playa Del Puente**. **Cont. p8**



Albuquerque | Racingfotos.com

**Listed Patton S. Preview Cont.**

“Playa Del Puente has done well over the winter and his preparation has been good,” his trainer said. “On the ratings, he has to find a bit with couple of them but he is an improving horse, his confidence is good and we are looking forward to a good run. He was sold to an owner from Hong Kong [Huang Kai Wen] after his first run. The owner was actually here with us this morning to see the horse and we are looking forward to him being at the races tomorrow. This race has been the plan for a while, so we will see how we go and then take it from there.”

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BRITAIN

**Thursday's Results:**

**2nd-Newcastle, £5,000, Novice, 2-28, 3yo, 10f 42y (AWT), 2:19.20, st.**

**FOREST OF DEAN (GB) (c, 3, Iffraaj {GB}--Forest Crown {GB} {MSP-Eng}, by Royal Applause {GB})**, last seen finishing runner-up over seven furlongs here in November, sauntered through the early stages in second. Committed on the front end with three furlongs remaining, the 11-8 second favourite stayed on strongly to account for Almost Midnight (GB) (Siyouni {Fr}) by four lengths. The useful dam, who has produced one in her own image in the listed-placed Rionach (GB) (Sea The Stars {Ire}), is a half to the G1 Racing Post Trophy hero and GI Pacific Classic runner-up Crowded House (GB) (Rainbow Quest). From Storm Cat's family of Ticker Tape (GB) (Royal Applause {GB}), heroine of the GI American Oaks Invitational and GI Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup, and the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest hero Brando (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), she has a 2-year-old filly by Siyouni (Fr) named Golden Crown (GB) and a yearling full-sister to the winner to come. Sales history: 450,000gns Ylg '17 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$6,530. **Video, sponsored by**

**Fasig-Tipton.**

O-H. R. H. Princess Haya of Jordan; B-Car Colston Hall Stud (GB); T-John Gosden.

**4th-Kempton, £6,000, Mdn, 2-28, 3yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:13.30, st/sl.**

**EARDLEY ROAD (IRE) (c, 3, No Nay Never--Corking {Ire}, by Montjeu {Ire})**, a 6-1 shot, was off the bridle from the outset racing towards the rear. Staying on strongly as the pace collapsed ahead, the bay struck the front passing the furlong pole en route to a three-length verdict over Turn To Rock (Ire) (Slade Power {Ire}).

The dam is a half to Sobriety (Ire) (Namaqualand), Hong Kong's champion older horse when racing as Industrial Pioneer, and to the dam of Starlarks (Ire) (Mujahid) who captured the GII San Clemente H. and was runner-up in the GI La Brea S. Sales history: €52,000 Wlg '16 GOFNOV; 130,000gns Ylg '17 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,165. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Mr Paul Smith; B-Emiliano Colabolleta (IRE); T-Clive Cox.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:**

**Sandret (Ire), g, 3, Zebedee (GB)--Sava Sunset (Ire), by Manduro (Ger).** Newcastle, 2-28, 6f (AWT), 1:13.99. O-Ben Haslam Racing Syndicate; B-Tallyho Stud (IRE); T-Ben Haslam. \*€15,000 Ylg '17 TIRSEP.

FRANCE

**CONDITIONS RESULT:**

**7th-Lyon-la-Soie, €17,000, 2-28, 4yo, 12f (AWT), 2:34.56, st.**

**BOULEVARD (IRE) (c, 4, Galileo {Ire}--Walzerkoenigin {Hwt. Older Mare-Ity at 7-9.5f, Hwt. Older Mare-Ger at 9.5-11f, GSW-Fr, Ger & Ity, GISP-US & GSP-Eng, \$417,565}, by Kingmambo)** Lifetime Record: 9-4-1-2, €59,920. O-Valentin Bukhtoyarov, Vartan Vartanov & Evgeny Kappushev; B-Gestut Schlenderhan (IRE); T-Charley Rossi. \*€110,000 HRA '18 ARQARC. \*\*Full to Port Douglas (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), GSW-Ire & GSP-Eng, \$185,538; & 1/2 to Wiener Walzer (Ger) (Dynaformer), Hwt. 3yo-Ger at 11-14f, MG1SW-Ger & G1SP-Fr, \$785,837; Walzertakt (Ger) (Montjeu {Ire}), Hwt. Older Horse-Ger at 14f+, MGSW-Fr & GSP-Ger, \$204,584; Walzertraum (Rahy), GSW-Ger & SP-Swe, \$154,586.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Pedro Cara (Fr), g, 3, Pedro the Great--Magic Cara (Fr), by Akarad (Fr).** Lyon la Soie, 2-28, 2150m (AWT), 2:16.83. B-SAS Regnier & O Lesage (FR). \*€23,000 Ylg '17 ARQNOV.

**Aspertinella (Fr), f, 3, Wootton Bassett (GB)--Arena Sempione (Fr), by Desert Style (Ire).** Lyon la Soie, 2-28, 2150m (AWT), 2:20.16. B-A Miceli & Mme M C Miceli (FR).

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## WORLDWIDE NEWS

### ISPOLINI SURGES AWAY IN NAD AL SHEBA

by Heather Anderson

Godolphin's **Ispolini (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) landed the biggest win of his career in the 2810-metre G3 Nad Al Sheba Trophy at Meydan on Thursday. The lightly raced 4-year-old proved an able deputy to heavily favoured Charlie Appleby stablemate MGSW **Brundtland (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}), who went amiss on the back straight to win by 10 1/2 lengths. Fellow Godolphin silksbearer **Red Galileo (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) was 11 1/2 lengths clear of another Saeed bin Suroor-trained horse in **Bin Battuta (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}).

Red Galileo led the way through the stretch the first time while closely shadowed by Brundtland just off his right flank. Ispolini was nestled against the fence last bar one and positions were largely unchanged as the first mile was covered in 1:41.90. William Buick asked Brundtland for his bid as noses pointed toward home, but the favourite took a bad step 1000 metres out and was pulled up. Red Galileo subsequently scampered a length clear, but Bin Battuta appeared to have dead aim at the 400-metre mark and Ispolini was winding up on the outside. In the end, the later bounded away to an easy win, with the field well spaced.

"He ran well last time and he showed a good turn-of-foot," said rider Mickael Barzalona. "Today I had instructions to make him settle well in the first part of the race and then to see how it goes. He did it very well and he has been very impressive today. I could wait for ages, but he was going so much better than the others. Last time he showed he could travel strongly and today the plan was just to make him relax, but he has got some speed as well."

Added Appleby "I always knew that stepping up in trip was going to open new doors for him and he showed that in his last start, his first one over this trip. We thought he was going the right way going into this evening. He was a horse we felt was going to be very competitive. Going forward, he could be a



Ispolini | Erika Rasmussen/DRC

potential horse for the [G2] Dubai Gold Cup on World Cup night. There are plans for him to potentially go to Australia, as well. We'll make a decision over the next 24 hours on what we're going to do."

Brundtland, fourth in the G1 Prix Royal-Oak, was later euthanised. "Unfortunately, Brundtland broke down after sustaining a leg injury and had to be put down by the vets," Appleby said on [www.godolphin.com](http://www.godolphin.com). "It is a big loss for the whole team, as we felt that he was an exciting horse for the future."

A winner at second asking over the Kempton all-weather at two, Ispolini missed by only a nose in Sandown's G3 Bet365 Classic Trial last April. He rolled a pair of fours in Chester's G3 Chester Vase S. on May 9 and in the G3 Prix du Lys at ParisLongchamp later that month before being put away for the year. Resuming off a seven-month break, the gelding ran second

to Bin Battuta in a 2400-metre handicap locally on Jan. 3, and was back in the winner's circle over this course and distance in another handicap last out on Jan. 17, defeating **Suspicious Mind (Den)** (Appel Au Maitre {Fr}) and Red Galileo.

#### Pedigree Notes...

Ispolini is the 164th black-type winner and 107th group winner for his Darley sire. A half-brother to SP Playful Sound (GB) (Street Cry {Ire}), Ispolini has a juvenile full-sister and a yearling half-brother by

Frankel (GB). Giants Play's best win was in the GII New York S., and she is out of \$10.5-million KEENOV 2007 purchase Playful Act (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), an English highweight juvenile filly and winner of the G1 Meon Valley Stud Mile. In addition to Giants Play, she has also produced GIII Orchid S. heroine Anjaz (Street Cry {Ire}) and English SW Tearless (GB) (Street Cry {Ire}). Ispolini's third dam is the influential blue hen Magnificent Style (Silver Hawk), dam of highweights Nathaniel (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), a MG1SW, and G1 Darley Irish Oaks heroine Great Heavens (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), as well as MGSWs Percussionist (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), GI Flower Bowl Invitational S. runner-up Changing Skies (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), and Echoes in Eternity (Ire) (Spinning World). [Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

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**Thursday, Meydan, Dubai**

**NAD AL SHEBA TROPHY SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY DISTRICT ONE-G3**, \$300,000, Meydan, 2-28, NH4yo/up & SH3yo/up, 2810mT, 2:55.96, gd.

1--**ISPOLINI (GB)**, 121, g, 4, by **Dubawi (Ire)**

1st Dam: **Giants Play (GSW-US, \$159,449)**,

by **Giant's Causeway**

2nd Dam: **Playful Act (Ire)**, by **Sadler's Wells**

3rd Dam: **Magnificent Style**, by **Silver Hawk**

**1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 1ST GROUP WIN.** (1,200,000gns Ylg '16 TAOCT). O-Godolphin; B-Newsells Park Stud (GB); T-Charlie Appleby; J-Mickael Barzalona. \$180,000. Lifetime Record: SP-Eng, 8-3-2-0, \$362,473. \*1/2 to **Playful Sound (GB)** (Street Cry {Ire}), SP-Eng. **Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.**

2--**Red Galileo (GB)**, 126, g, 8, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Ivory Gala (Fr), by Galileo (Ire). (41,000gns Ylg '12 TAOCT2; 180,000gns 2yo '13 TATBRE; 155,000gns HRA '15 TATAUT). O-Godolphin; B-T R G Vestey (GB); T-Saeed bin Suroor. \$60,000.

3--**Bin Battuta (GB)**, 126, h, 5, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Land of Dreams (GB), by Cadeaux Genereux (GB). O-Godolphin; B-Darley (GB); T-Saeed bin Suroor. \$30,000.

Margins: 10HF, 11HF, SHD.

Also Ran: Suspicious Mind (Den), Zamaam (GB), Pinzolo (GB).

DNF: Brundtland (Ire). **Click for the Meydan chart, the AM Wager PPs or the Meydan Video.**

# DUBAI

**Thursday's Results:**

**MEYDAN CLASSIC SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY DISTRICT ONE-Listed**, \$175,000, Meydan, 2-28, 3yo, 1600mT, 1:38.31, gd.

1--**SPORTING CHANCE (GB)**, 126, c, 3, by **Kodiac (GB)**

1st Dam: **Elpida**, by **Giant's Causeway**

2nd Dam: **Swan Nebula**, by **Seeking the Gold**

3rd Dam: **Bright Tiara**, by **Chief's Crown**.

(41,000gns Ylg '17 TAOCT; ,88,000 2yo '18 TATABR). O-Mr Abdulla Al Mansoori; B-Ropsley Bloodstock & St Albans Bloodstock (GB); T-Simon Crisford; J-Pat Cosgrave. \$105,000. Lifetime Record: SW-Eng, GSW-Fr, 11-4-1-1, \$320,248.

2--**Golden Jaguar**, 126, c, 3, **Animal Kingdom**--Golden Sunray, by Crafty Prospector. (\$90,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP; \$60,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR). O-Phoenix Ladies Syndicate; B-William J Betz & Peter V Lamantia (KY); T-Ahmad bin Harmash. \$35,000.

**NBS SUCCESS**

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3--**Irish Trilogy (Ire)**, 126, g, 3, **Gregorian (Ire)**--Maya De La Luz (GB), by **Selkirk**. (€5,000 2yo '17 GOFFEB). O-360 North Horse Racing AB; B-Mrs Clive O'Connor (IRE); T-Andrew Kidney. \$17,500.

Margins: NK, NK, NK.

Also Ran: Shanty Star, Nayslayer (Ire), Good Fortune (GB), Prince Elzaam (Ire), Burj (GB), Trolius (Ire), Lady Parma, Al Fajir Mukbile (Ire), Victory Command (Ire), Muthhila (Ire). Scratched: Salayel (GB), Woven (GB).

Sporting Chance ecked out a gritty score in the Listed Meydan Classic going a mile at Meydan on Thursday and it was the first of two wins on the card for trainer Simon Crisford, who would land the third race with African Ride (GB) (Candy Ride {Arg}). The 3-year-old had won a listed race at Ripon last August followed by the G3 Prix Eclipse at Maisons-Laffitte a month later, and signed off his juvenile year with a fifth as the favourite in the G2 Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte on Oct. 13. Off the board in the Dubai Trophy in his Meydan debut Jan 10, he improved to be a solid third in the Meydan Classic Trial over 1400 metres on Jan. 31, but ran fourth after running out of petrol upped to a mile over the Meydan dirt in the Feb. 7 G3 UAE 2000 Guineas behind Godolphin's Estihdaaf (Arch). Not one of the quickest into stride, the dark bay tugged his way up to third under Pat Cosgrave as Victory Command (Ire) (War Command) established a narrow advantage. Fanned three deep to challenge for the lead leaving the bend, he seized command at the 350-metre mark, but had to deal with a rallying Golden Jaguar (Animal Kingdom) along the extreme outside and Irish Trilogy (Ire) (Gregorian {Ire}) was also coming up the inner with a stiff bid. Sporting Chance and SP Golden Jaguar battled for the better part of the stretch, with the former's superior race experience standing him in good stead to salute by a neck. Irish Trilogy was the same distance back in third. **Cont. p11**



Sporting Chance narrowly bests Golden Jaguar | Erika Rasmussen/DRC

**Listed Meydan Classic Cont.**

“He’s been a credit since he got here,” said Cosgrave. He’s improved coming into the race. I took him around and knew that if he stays, he wins. He was fine on the dirt last time (in the Group 3 UAE 2000 Guineas). He’s a strong traveller and I was wide that day. A credit to the horse for running as well as he did that day, but he’s probably better on the grass, which we saw today.”

Added Crisford, “I am really delighted for the horse and I think he put up a great performance. He battled strongly and is such an honest horse who had a good 2-year-old campaign and proved that class again today. At this stage, there are no plans for the horse. It was all about today and he delivered. We will get him back to England and decide on the summer. We love the Carnival. It’s hard to win a race anywhere, but especially difficult at the Carnival. Dubai is my second home, so this is a great feeling to have.”

The first foal from the winning Giant’s Causeway mare Elpida, the winner is followed by a 2-year-old colt by Champs Elysees (GB) and his dam produced a filly by Ardad (Ire) this winter. This is the same family as G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. hero and late sire Poet’s Voice (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), a half-brother to Japanese MSW Gold Tiara (Seeking the Gold). Her descendants include Japan Group 3 hero and MG1SP Staphanos (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}). G1 Queen Elizabeth II Cup victress Mozu Katchan (Jpn) (Harbinger {GB}) is also under the third dam. Sales history: 41,000gns Ylg ’17 TATOCT; 83,810gns 2yo ’18 TATAPR. Lifetime Record: GSW-Fr, SW-Eng, 11-4-1-1, \$. [Click for the Meydan chart](#) or the [Meydan video](#).

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**CURLIN H. SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY DISTRICT ONE-Listed**, \$160,000, Meydan, 2-28, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 2000m, 2:05.37, ft.

1--**DOLKONG, 127, h, 5, Afleet Alex--Swampoodle, by Broken Vow**. (\$52,000 Yrl ’15 FTKOCT; \$35,000 2yo ’16 OBSAPR). O-Lee Tae In; B-Ellen B Kill Kelley (KY); T-Simon Foster; J-Olivier Doleuze. \$96,000. Lifetime Record: 13-7-3-1, \$745,023.



2--**Etijaah, 128, g, 9, Daaher--Hasheema (Ire), by Darshaan (GB)**. O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum; B-Shadwell Farm LLC (KY); T-Doug Watson. \$32,000.



3--**Galvanize, 125, h, 6, Medaglia d’Oro-Enthused, by Seeking The Gold**. (48,000gns HRA ’16 TATAUT; AED525,000 HRA ’18 ERAHIT). O-Hamid Radan; B-Flaxman Holdings Limited (KY); T-Doug Watson. \$16,000.



Margins: 9HF, 4, 5.

Also Ran: Key Bid (GB), Earnshaw, Saltarin Dubai (Arg), Irish Freedom, Parsifal (Spa), Very Talented (Ire).



**Dolkong | DRC/Erika Rasmussen**

South Korea’s Dolkong needed a few starts to get going this season in Dubai, but there were absolutely no signs of rust on Thursday when the chestnut powered to a easy score in the 2000 metre Listed Curlin H.

The 5-year-old had finished 17 1/2 lengths adrift of North America (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) in the G2 Al Maktoum Challenge R1 on Jan. 10, but he was much more of a factor upped to this trip and dropped to handicap class two weeks later at the carnival, checking in third, beaten 1 3/4 lengths.

Hustled by Olivier Doleuze first time past the stands to stay in touch with the leaders on Thursday, Dolkong watched from a couple lengths off the pace as Earnshaw (Medaglia d’Oro) set the tempo on the rail. Doleuze had put his mount to a drive in behind runners a long way out and wouldn’t have looked a likely winner approaching the quarter pole. When he straightened for home, however, the chestnut kicked into high gear, easily running down Galvanize (Medaglia d’Oro)--who had inherited the lead from Earnshaw--to win wrapped up by 9 1/2 lengths.

“We thought they would go quick, but perhaps not as fast as they did,” said trainer Simon Foster. “Olivier is a class jockey and has given him a great ride. The horse is starting to mature and improving with age because he has not had that many races. We will have to look at Round 3 on Super Saturday for him, now.”

**Listed Curlin H. Cont.**

Doleuze added, “I am very happy for the connections. I was lucky to ride this horse last time, when he ran a very good race. Since then I have been working him and he looked like he really improved from the first time that I rode him. Today he showed what I was expecting him to show. He has already had a fantastic Carnival, he won a very good race today and everyone is happy. Now everything from here is a bonus.”

Dolkong had been a consistent performer in his adopted country of South Korea, winning six of 11 starts there over the previous two years. Transplanted to Dubai, he’s never finishing worse than fourth. He was second in September in the Keeneland Korea Cup against an international field. **Click for the Emirates Racing chart. VIDEO.**

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**HANDICAP RESULTS:**

**6th-Meydan, Hcp, \$175,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 1400mT, 1:23.52, gd.**

**ON THE WARPATH (GB) (g, 4, Declaration Of War—Elusive Pearl {MSW-US, \$162,475}, by Medaglia d’Oro)** Sales history: \$150,000 Ylg ’17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 9-3-3-1, \$162,436. O-Godolphin; B-Sahara Group & Eurowest Bloodstock (GB); T-Charlie Appleby.

**3rd-Meydan, Hcp, \$135,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 1600m, 1:39.44, ft.**

**AFRICAN RIDE (GB) (h, 5, Candy Ride {Arg}--Paiota Falls {SP, \$177,354}, by Kris S.)** Sales history: €460,000 HRA ’17 ARQARC. Lifetime Record: 13-4-3-2, \$212,431. O-Nabil Mourad; B-Wertheimer et Frere (GB); T-Simon Crisford. \*1/2 to Rafting (Tapit), SW & GSP-US, \$207,402.

**8th-Meydan, Hcp, \$135,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 2000mT, 2:03.75, gd.**

**MOUNTAIN HUNTER (g, 5 Lonhro {Aus}--Tamarillo {GB}, by Daylami {Ire})** Lifetime Record: 12-5-1-0, \$312,587. O-Godolphin; B-Darley (KY); T-Saeed bin Suroor. \*1/2 to Summer Fete (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}), GSW-Eng, \$125,102.

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## ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR WINX



Winx | Bronwen Healy

By Michael Cox

Jockey Hugh Bowman and Chris Waller are adamant record-breaking mare Winx is getting smarter as she carves out her place in racing history.

She knows; where the winning post is, what she is out on the racetrack to do – even how to pose in a photo shoot – and jockey Hugh Bowman is happy to be along for the ride as Winx (Street Cry {Ire}) attempts to extend her incredible winning sequence to 31 on Saturday.

Bowman doesn't go as far as to use the word passenger to describe his role in the streak, which should continue with a record-equaling fourth G1 Chipping Norton Stakes at Randwick, but he says his is a support role and that the champion mare now has a race awareness all of her own.

"With the maturity and knowledge of where she is these days, she could almost do it without me, in fact I'm sure she could," Bowman said with a laugh. "But somebody has got to ride her, so I guess I'll have to do it."

When asked if Winx was aware of where the winning post is in a race, Bowman was adamant, "oh, she knows," he said.

"When I really feel it is when there's a few in front of me and she really strides and attacks to get to the front," he added.

"She is the most competitive individual I have ever had anything to do with, you can see the ears go back and it's smooth and finesse, but it's also power."

"Along with her ability, it's that will to win and that extreme purpose she moves with that sets her apart."

### *The close ones*

Bowman recalled the 2017 G1 Warwick Stakes where a bombed start saw the mare trail the field by four lengths, and the streak almost ended at 17, before Winx extended to nab then-stablemate Foxplay (Foxwedge).

"When we missed the start, I could see Ecuador (NZ) (High Chaparral {Ire}) but I couldn't see Foxplay," Bowman said. "I was casually wheeling in Ecuador, knowing I had him covered, and I got to him, but Foxplay was another length in front and Winx just found again. She did that, I had her balanced and poised, but you could see the effort she put in late."

Then there was the following start, number 19 of the streak, when Winx pinned those ears back again and gunned down tearaway leader Red Excitement (Excites) in the 2017 G2 Chelmsford Stakes.

"She breaks the rules," Bowman said, who had dropped the whip at the top of the straight that day. "Red Excitement was about six lengths in front, I dropped the whip, but she just chased him down and won pulling up. No other horse could have possibly done that."

### *Uncanny awareness*

An early morning press call three days before raceday has become a part of the Winx routine and there were more than 20 media members on hand, including mainstream TV outlets, to watch Bowman take the 7-year-old through her paces at 5.30am on Thursday.

Trainer Chris Waller said that Winx is not only blessed with an "uncanny" awareness, but that she is getting smarter.

"I would say if you were comparing her to a person she is a little bit smarter, she knows where the winning post is and she has just become used to winning and it has become habit," he said. "Just the fact that she knows what she is doing is the most uncanny part of Winx. I think that helps Hugh get out of situations... and helps me. Whether she is a little bit over done or underdone, or doesn't have a perfect preparation, she just seems to pull it all together and make us look pretty good. She knows her job better than ever."

Even off-track commitments, which have become ever more frequent as the Winx phenomenon has grown, have become second nature for the veteran.

"She is different to most horses," Waller said. "All horses have different attributes and some might be better than others but she is the complete model. After the races, when she is in her box at home she is happy to meet kids and be pampered, probably more so than she ever has in her career."

And when Waller calls Winx a "model", he might mean literally after a recent example of that uncanny awareness.

**SHE IS THE MOST COMPETITIVE INDIVIDUAL I HAVE EVER HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH. YOU CAN SEE THE EARS GO BACK AND IT'S SMOOTH AND FINESSE, BUT IT'S ALSO POWER.**

Hugh Bowman

"She had a model shoot for a big fashion company a couple of weeks ago, and we were all on tenterhooks wondering how she would cope with it, but she just posed out there and strut her stuff," Waller said. "She didn't move a muscle, the models were petrified of working with a horse, but she mixed in with them and I think that's a good example of what this horse does. She does what she is required to do and she is happy doing it. That's Winx."

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Winx (Street Cry {Ire}), pictured at Altona beach in October 2018, attempts to extend her winning sequence to 31 on Saturday | Bronwen Healy