

STORMY LIBERAL RETIRED



Stormy Liberal | Horsephotos

by Bill Finley

Champion **Stormy Liberal** (Stormy Atlantic), the center of controversy since it was announced that he had been taken away from trainer Peter Miller and could possibly run in 2020, has been retired. The announcement was made Wednesday by his owner, David Bernsen. The 7-year-old will be sent to Old Friends in Georgetown, Ky.

After Stormy Liberal finished eighth in this year's GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint, **a dispute arose among the owners and trainer Peter Miller** over whether or not the horse should be retired. Bernsen subsequently bought out his partner, Gary Hartunian, and had the horse sent to David Scanlon in Ocala. In a statement released Tuesday, Bernsen said that a "nuke scan" revealed an irregularity in the horse's ankles. Further tests were administered and they showed what Bernsen said were problems with both front fetlocks that "present a significant risk for future athletic soundness." After being given the results of those tests, and being told Stormy Liberal would require six to eight months rest to get over his issues, Bernsen decided to retire the horse.

Bernsen said that the "nuke scan" was part of a two-step process that began with x-rays, scans and blood work, which Bernsen said did not reveal any problems.

Bernsen found himself on the defensive after Miller issued a press release saying that the owners took the horse away from him because they disagreed with his advice that the horse be retired. **Cont. p3**

NICHOLSONS REFLECT ON THEIR SECOND BREEDERS' CUP CHAMPION

by Katie Ritz

Steven and Brandi Nicholson of Silver Fern Farm have much to celebrate as 2019 comes to a close. This year, they accomplished what many dream of as the breeders of their second Breeders' Cup champion in just three years.

In 2016, the Nicholsons traveled from their farm in Versailles, Kentucky to Santa Anita as the breeders of Classic Empire (Pioneerof the Nile), cheering on the colt as he secured the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile by a neck. Three years later, along with co-breeder Sandra Sexton, they again made the trip across the country to Santa Anita to watch undefeated juvenile filly British Idiom (Flashback).

Cont. p4

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

BRASME & MONFORT: FRIENDS AND RIVALS

Emma Berry chats with young French trainer Mathieu Brasme, who shares a stable with his friend and rival trainer Edouard Monfort. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)



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Thursday, December 19, 2019



2019 in Photos: March 18. Millionaire MGSW and two-time Texas Horse of the Year Texas Chrome (Grasshopper) grazes with his friend Antonio at Keene Thoroughbreds in Hot Springs, AR. Texas Chrome saw his first crop of foals this year. | Sarah Andrew

NEW GROUND FOR U.S. FARRIERS

8

A new graduate diploma is being offered in the U.S. to assist professional farriers in developing the skill set needed to produce original research.

JAPAN ROAD TO THE KY DERBY STOPS IN KAWASAKI

12

Vacation (Jpn) (Espoir City {Jpn}) captured the Zen-Nippon Nisai Yushun at Kawasaki in Japan, which offered points towards the GI Kentucky Derby.

The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association congratulates PA-Bred

PUMPKIN RUMBLE

on his win in the GIII Valedictory Stakes

and wishes jockey Eurico Rosa da Silva all the best in his retirement!



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Stormy Liberal Retired cont. from p1

Bernsen was also concerned about the horse's current form and the possibility that he had some sort of physical problem and said he asked that Stormy Liberal be taken to Rood & Riddle for evaluation after the Breeders' Cup. That inspection did not take place.

Stormy Liberal had two workouts after the Breeders' Cup and, according to Bernsen was entered in a race at Del Mar that did not fill. Bernsen also noted that Stormy Liberal tested positive for Bute in September.

"[I] was told that the trainer (whom I had no contact with since August) planned on running him in a race at Del Mar at the end of November," Bernsen said in the statement. "I disagreed with that plan and, as a minority partner, I asked for a complete independent vet exam (which never occurred) before any such race, and my partner and I agreed that following any race he would go to Rood & Riddle as I had requested. On Nov. 23, there was another registered work at San Luis Rey Training Center and I was told that he was being entered at Del Mar that weekend. My understanding was that he was entered for several days in a race that did not fill."

At Old Friends, Stormy Liberal will join a group of retirees that includes a number of champions and winners of Triple Crown races.

"Myself and Gary Hartunian of Rockingham Ranch are immensely grateful to have been able to race such a magnificent horse, and hope his retirement to Old Friends will benefit all retired horses," Bernsen said.

Stormy Liberal was claimed for \$40,000 in 2016 and would go on to win the 2017 and 2018 GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint. He was named male turf champion in 2018.

He didn't seem like the same horse when returning for his 7-year-old campaign this year. He went 0-for-7 on the season and was never a factor in this year's Breeders' Cup. Bernsen admitted that he was often at odds with Miller and their dispute became public when Miller issued his press release.

Despite a contentious week, Bernsen was pleased that Stormy Liberal has been guaranteed a safe and humane retirement.

"As painful as this was for me and my family, I was able to get the best and most transparent result for Stormy, which is all that I cared about," Bernsen said in a text message to the *TDN*.

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Nicholsons cont. from p1



Steven & Brandi Nicholson and Case Clay (left)
Breeders' Cup Eclipse Sportswire

"We were excited to be back in Santa Anita," Brandi said. "The three of us all traveled together and got there early on Wednesday. It was an absolute blast and a great experience to share together."

British Idiom already had two wins on her resume before shipping to California. The filly broke her maiden on debut this summer at Saratoga, and then went on to soundly claim the GI Darley Alcibiades S. at Keeneland by 6 1/2 lengths for owners Michael Dubb, The Elkstone Group, Madaket Stables, and Bethlehem Stables.

The Brad Cox trainee went off as the 5-2 second choice in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Although jostled going into the first turn, she was able to save ground under Javier Castellano and avoid a hot pace. Coming around the far turn, she collared favored Donna Veloce (Uncle Mo). The two battled in a long stretch drive, with British Idiom digging in to prevail by a neck.



British Idiom | Sarah Andrew

A large vertical advertisement for the Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale. The background is a close-up, black and white photograph of a horse's head, looking slightly to the right. At the top, the Keeneland logo (a running horse) and the word "KEENELAND." are visible. In the center, the word "JANUARY" is written in large, gold, serif capital letters, with "HORSES OF ALL AGES SALE" in smaller, gold, sans-serif capital letters below it. At the bottom, the text "SALE BEGINS MONDAY, JANUARY 13" is written in white, sans-serif capital letters. Below this text is a white rectangular button with rounded corners containing the text "VIEW CATALOG" in white, sans-serif capital letters.



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A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry



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Nicholsons cont.



The Nicholsons & Sandra Sexton accepting their breeder award for British Idiom | Eclipse Sportswire

"It's so rewarding when you put in all this work to get a horse to the sales ground and get to watch them go on to such great success," said Steven Nicholson. "We're good friends with Brad Cox, so it was even more enjoyable to get to celebrate with him."

Steven Nicholson has been involved in the Thoroughbred industry all his life. A New Zealand native, he grew up working alongside his parents at their family stud farm.

"We did it all-stallions, mares, and foals. We broke yearlings and had a track for pre-training and training," he explained.

Steven Nicholson's father, Graeme Nicholson, was a well-known New Zealand trainer. One of his most popular successes, Sir Slick, raced nine seasons and captured 22 victories, including six Group 1 races in New Zealand. Steven gained much of his foundation in the industry working as an exercise rider for his father.

"I basically lived on the track," he said. "I was there every day with my father, before school and after school."

He went on to make multiple trips to the United States with his brother, learning from numerous people in Kentucky, including trainer Jimmy Baker and Tom Evans of Trackside Farm.

"I traveled around a bit, including a stint in Australia, before making the move to the United States in 1997," Nicholson said. "I've been here since."

While Steven Nicholson grew up engulfed in the industry, Brandi Nicholson found her way into it.

"I worked at a riding camp in Midway during the summers while I was in college, and ended up moving to Lexington," she said. "I worked at Rood and Riddle for a while, which led to a job at Shadwell Farm."

The two met through a mutual friend, and began working at forming a business together before they were married. **Cont. p6**

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Nicholsons cont.

"Our first business venture was a weanling-to-yearling pinhook that had three partners," recalled Brandi Nicholson. "We made enough money to pay for our wedding, and that was the beginning of Silver Fern Farm."

Named after the national symbol of New Zealand, Silver Fern Farm began as a small farm in Paris, Kentucky with an assortment of broodmares, sales pinhooks, riding horses, and the Nicholson family ponies. In 2008, the duo partnered with Hargus and Sandra Sexton and moved their farm to Versailles.

"Our property sits between the two Sexton Farms, so we now run it as one farm," Brandi Nicholson said. "The Sextons gave us the opportunity to work at our business full time."

While Hargus Sexton passed away in June of 2017, Sandra Sexton continues to play an active role in the partnership.

The Nicholsons pride themselves in running all aspects of the operation.



Classic Empire winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile | Horsephotos

"Steven does most of the matings, and then the three of us go over what he comes up with," Brandi Nicholson explained. "We take all of the mares to the shed ourselves, and we are there for every foaling. Unfortunately, I get stuck doing most of the paperwork."

Hargus and Sandra Sexton purchased Rose and Shine (Mr. Sekiguchi) at the 2017 Keeneland January sale, in foal to Flashback, for \$21,000. The mare had raced exclusively at Woodbine from two to four, claiming two stakes races over her career.

"Sandra liked Rose and Shine because she was a good commercial prospect as a stakes winner with Storm Cat in the sire line," Steven Nicholson said. "She was a very pretty mare. When it comes down to the commercial market, we look for mares that will produce good-looking foals, because we know they will sell well." **Cont. p7**

SIZZLING First Weanlings!

Keeneland November Sale

Weanlings sold for **\$260,000** (Oxo Equine), **\$210,000** (Waystar Co.), **\$185,000** (Brookstone Farm), **\$120,000** (De Meric Stables, agent), **\$115,000** (McMahon & Hill Bloodstock, agent), **\$110,000** (Red Devil Bloodstock) etc.

Fasig-Tipton November Sale

His only weanling offered sold for **\$240,000** (Oxo Equine)

Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Fall Sale

Sire of the two top-priced weanlings **\$160,000** (Steven Weston) & **\$150,000** (Exclusive Equine Investments)

Larry Best of Oxo Equine has enjoyed tremendous success with Practical Joke's sire Into Mischief and it looks like he's a fan of Practical Joke too after purchasing his two top-priced weanlings!



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Nicholsons cont.

Two months after her purchase, Rose and Shine foaled a filly by Flashback, later named British Idiom.

"You could ask her to do anything, and she would do it for you," Steven Nicholson said. "She was so well mannered and was never getting into trouble. She was just one of those foals that you enjoy working with because she took care of herself and was so laid back."

According to Nicholson, British Idiom later grew into a well-developed yearling.

"She had plenty of size and carried good condition," he recalled. "She was very forward, which helped in the sales ring. She presented herself well at the sale with a great walk and a calm attitude."

The filly caught the attention of agent Liz Crow at the 2018 Fasig-Tipton October Yearling Sale, who purchased her for \$40,000.

"You get to the point where you have to let them go and they're out of your hands, but it's always gratifying to watch them grow up and succeed," Steven Nicholson said.

The Nicholsons attribute much of their success to their tight-knit partnership with the Sextons, as well as their emphasis on creating a relaxed environment for their horses as they grow up.

"I think it goes back to how we raised horses in New Zealand," said Steven Nicholson. "We try to let them grow up and just be a horse. We don't pamper them too much when it's not necessary. We want them to be relaxed and happy, and I think that helps them in the long run."

With two Breeders' Cup Champions in three years, the Silver Fern theory has served the farm well.

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At Least 15 Kentucky Horses Found Shot to Death at Strip Mine Site

"At least 15 roaming horses were fatally shot at a Kentucky strip mine site, authorities said, describing it as a "battlefield for just horses." **Louis Casiano, FOX News**



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MUNNINGS

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NEW GROUND FOR U.S. FARRIERS



by Christina Bossinakis

The saying of ‘No hoof, No horse’ is a phrase often used in the horse world and based on the reasoning that, farriers, as the custodian of the foot, quite literally hold the success, or the lack thereof, of the performance horse in their hands. Often dubbed the ‘second oldest profession’ in the world, farriery has come a long way since its humble beginnings and over time, the techniques and materials used have evolved from rudimentary to highly sophisticated.

In an effort to advance farriery, the Royal Veterinary College (University of London) in England created the Graduate Diploma

in Applied Equine Locomotor Research (Grad Dip ELR). First offered to UK-based students in 2017, the program was extended to U.S.-based farriers for the first time in 2018. Devised to offer professional farriers the chance to develop the skill-set necessary to produce original research and increase an evidence base behind farriery, the program is led by its architect Dr. Renate Weller, Professor in Comparative Imaging and Biomechanics, and Dr. Weller’s husband, Dr. Thilo Pfau, Senior Lecturer in Bioengineering. With the majority of funding for the RVC’s equine-based research originating from the Horseracing Betting Levy Board and being used toward the study of movement and safety in performance horses, the road was paved for the creation of a first-of-its-kind program specializing in equine locomotion.

“Shoeing is something that has come onto the horizon a lot more over the last few years,” Pfau explained. “It was a bit of a concurrent development: our research shifted a little more towards farriery and shoeing-related studies, and we came to deal a lot more with farriers. From that came the arrival of the graduate diploma in equine locomotor research.”

With a minimum of two and a maximum of five years to complete, the program is divided into two principal sections: contemporary study skills and applied equine locomotion.

Cont. p9

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New Ground for U.S. Farriers cont.

Using a variety of delivery methods, including webinars, podcasts and face-to-face learning weekend sessions, the course was structured to facilitate the participation of the working practitioner.

“Farriery is such an important tool and a lot of the work farriers are doing is fantastic,” said Pfau. “However, they lack some of the evidence: what are the things that are working well and those that are not working. Of course, farriers already know what works and what doesn’t, but in order to give other people the chance to make use of this knowledge, it is absolutely critical to create evidence-based results. The goal is to help create that data base that’s out there and help vets and farriers dealing with horses that have problems with their feet and by extension, with performance. That is the basis of this program.”

Pfau continued, “From doing research projects, [we found] there was a need for these professionals to do more than they actually do. At least here in the UK, the veterinary profession originated from farriers and we aimed to bring the two professions back together. The goal was to reunite the vets and the farriers and give them a common language in addition to giving farriers the ability to answer their own evidence-based questions.

“Also, we have a team of academics on staff [at the RVC], and



the idea is for the farriers to come here with their own ideas, and for us to tell them how feasible those ideas might be,” said Pfau. “We advise them in the best way of investigating a question or a part of their question. Our role is to channel those ideas into the right direction. And that is the most exciting part of the whole course. It brings together the experience of the farriers with the academic side of it. It is to make the most out of their experience and investigating new things. That’s the fantastic thing about it.” **Cont. p10**

Bernaqueenies
He’s the leading broodmare sire of 2019 with five individual G1 winners.

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Making Strides with the Inaugural U.S. Cohort

The inaugural American-based program, which was custom crafted to the stateside farrier, is facilitated by the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center, which serves as a base where students from all over the country converge for the program's residential weekends.

Among the 12 farriers currently enlisted in the initial American cohort, New Jersey-based Jude Florio, who has parlayed 20 years of experience into serving numerous top-end operations armed with high-caliber performers in showjumping and dressage, enrolled in the program to take his craft to the next level.

"From a personal standpoint, it's given me a great deal of specialized knowledge in equine biomechanics and anatomy," said Florio, who apprenticed under former U.S. Equestrian team farrier and International Horseshoeing Hall of Famer Seamus Brady. "In the states, those



Farrier & RVC Grad. Dip. student Jude Florio at work

interested in pursuing a career in farriery are not required to go to school, so many opt to apprentice. Many do go to schools that offer some instruction, however, the hands-on experience and knowledge one can hope to gain is often limited."

Through the network and resources afforded by the RVC through the equine locomotor program, Florio, who shifts his operation to the epicenter of the equestrian world in Wellington, Florida, during the winter months, has used the opportunity to explore the oft-debated issue of 'backing' of the shoe to serve as the basis of his course-concluding research project.

"Oftentimes, we encounter horses that have a low-heel, high-heel scenario," he

explained. "Some of the veterinarians that are really podiatry-centric in their practice look at these feet and prescribe certain ways of placing the shoe. Some of those ways can be very drastic." **Cont. p11**

H-2B VISA PROGRAM RELIEF PASSED AS PART OF HOUSE SPENDING BILL

Language included in the 2020 spending bill that the House of Representatives passed on Tuesday could provide some relief for racehorse trainers who rely on the H-2B guest worker visa program to fill backside positions, including grooms and hot walkers. The bill gives the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the discretion to release additional visas above the statutory cap and includes related labor provisions that have been in place for several years.

The H-2B nonimmigrant visa program allows U.S. employers who meet specific statutory and regulatory requirements to bring foreign nationals to the United States to fill temporary non-agricultural jobs. There is a statutory cap on the total number of foreign nationals who may be issued an H-2B visa or otherwise granted H-2B status during a fiscal year. Congress has set the H-2B cap at 66,000 per fiscal year, with a maximum of 33,000 available during the first half of any given fiscal year and 33,000 for workers who begin employment in the second half of the

fiscal year. Demand for H-2B visas far outpaces the supply and employers quickly reach the cap levels each fiscal year.

If the spending bill is passed, then for the fourth year in a row, Congress would delegate to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to allocate visas above the 66,000 cap if the Secretary determines, after consultation with the Secretary of Labor, that the needs of American businesses could not be satisfied with U.S. workers who are willing, qualified, and able to perform temporary nonagricultural labor. The bill would potentially increase the total number to 129,547 new and returning H-2B foreign temporary workers.

Once passed, the NTRA legislative team will work with other industries such as hotel/hospitality, landscaping and seafood processing that also rely heavily on the H-2B visa program, to convince the Secretary of Homeland Security to allocate the full number of visas authorized by the 2020 spending bill.

NTRA REPORT FROM CAPITOL HILL



Contact the NTRA's Joe Bacigalupo at (859) 422-2677/joeb@ntra.com for more information.

New Ground for U.S. Farriers cont.

Florio continued, "Currently, there is no existing science behind what, if anything, happens to the unrollment [commonly known as breakover] of the foot as we apply the shoe in proximity to [at varying degrees from] the apex of the frog. So in regard to this backing the question is: what does in fact happen? To help answer that question, I've developed a proto-type shoe which allows the user to 'back' the toe of the shoe without adding more variables to the equation [changes to the hoof]. That's the area I'm specifically looking at with my research project."

With the initial group U.S. farriers set for graduation in June of 2020, Florio acknowledges that the course of study has provided him with an important edge in a highly competitive industry.

"I've been very fortunate in my career having had the chance to apprentice under two top-class horse men: Seamus Brady and [New Jersey-based farrier] Jim Cahill. Their professionalism, compassion and dedication to the horse are the cornerstone to my business. So when the opportunity came up to add some of the science to the skill I have spent the better part of two decades developing, I jumped at the chance. As the industry has changed and the business has advanced, it has created the need for farriers to advance as well. Not only has the program

expanded my scientific and clinical knowledge and given me the ability to perform evidence-based farriery, it has also given me another tool in my arsenal to tackle any situation on a day-to-day basis."

When asked about the more far-reaching effects of the program, Florio added, "Since we're dealing with sport horses, we want them to perform at the highest level, but we also want them to remain sound in the process. When it comes to farriery, we have come a long way but we still have a long way to go. A horse's health and safety is paramount, and bringing farriers into the conversation, scientifically speaking, has opened the door to progress in the field. It definitely has for me."

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MAJORITY OF HOUSE MEMBERS CO-SPONSOR HIA

In excess of 218 members, representing a majority of 435 voting members in the U.S. House of Representatives, have co-sponsored the Horseracing Integrity Act of 2019 (HIA). The bill was introduced in the House by Reps. Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Andy Barr (R-KY). **Cont. p12**



2019 in photos: October 31. Aidan O'Brien's Breeders' Cup contenders visit the track at Santa Anita. | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

Majority House Members Co-Sponsor HIA cont.

“Bi-partisan support from more than 218 members is a critical milestone because it demonstrates to House leadership that the bill will pass on the House floor,” said Shawn Smeallie, executive director of the Coalition for Horse Racing Integrity. “Clearly Congress recognizes that the current patchwork quilt of state regulations that govern the industry is failing and an effective anti-doping program with a national set of drug standards is needed to bring equine safety and integrity back to the sport.”

The bill, also being considered by the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, is supported by the chair and original co-sponsor, Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL). Subsequent to the passage by the sub and full committees, the bill would advance to the House floor for a vote by the House of Representatives.

The HIA would create a private, independent horse racing anti-doping authority, the Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority (HADA), responsible for developing and administering a nationwide anti-doping and medication control program for horse racing. The new authority would create a set of uniform anti-doping rules, including lists of permitted and prohibited substances and methods in line with international anti-doping standards and veterinarian ethical standards. The new nationwide rules would replace the current state-by-state regulatory mechanism that governs horse racing’s 38 separate racing jurisdictions.

The HIA, which was originally introduced by Congressmen Barr and Tonko in 2015 and later re-introduced in 2017 and 2019. The amended 2017 version of the bill, which is nearly identical to the current version. The modifications include the increase of the number of HADA board members with horse racing-related expertise; the addition of active members from the racing industry to technical advisory committees and increased protection against retrospective enforcement of pre-HIA rules. Changes also include a ban on the use of medication on race days.

“Momentum is building to reform the horse racing industry and establish a meaningful and effective drug control program,” continued Smeallie. “This past year highlighted many of the challenges facing the horse racing industry, and the Horseracing Integrity Act will go a long way to improving the health of our equine athletes.”

A companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Martha McSally (R-AZ) and currently has 17 co-sponsors.

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WOODBINE HANDLE DOWN, STILL EXCEEDS \$500M FOR THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR

Woodbine’s 2019 Thoroughbred meet, which concluded Sunday, produced an all-sources handle of \$516,189,880.80, which is the second largest total in the track’s history and the third straight year it has exceeded half a billion dollars.

The 131-date (two cancellations) meet included 1,212 races, 45 fewer than last year, which contributed to the all-sources handle being down 3.2% compared to 2018. Average field size per race was 8.2 in 2019 compared to 8.3 last year. Average handle per race in 2019 was \$425,898.86, compared to \$424,239.38 in 2018, a slight increase of 0.4%.

Woodbine’s handle during the test period (Oct. 18 to Dec. 15) for the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) rule that limits urging in Thoroughbred racing to underhand use of the crop only **was not negatively impacted**. In fact, average handle per race during the test period increased.

“It was an extremely busy year for Thoroughbred racing at Woodbine and we are very proud of our accomplishments,” said Jim Lawson, CEO of Woodbine Entertainment. “However, we are experiencing challenges in horse supply and home market area wagering. We look forward to continuing our collaborative approach in working with our stakeholders to focus on addressing those challenges and growing horse racing for a sustainable future for decades to come.”

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JAPAN ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY STOPS IN KAWASAKI

by Alan Carasso

The locally based **Vacation (Jpn)** (Espoir City {Jpn}), sent off the fifth wagering choice at odds of 39-5, was given an outstanding ride by Hiroro Yoshihara and managed to grab the long-time leader, JRA invader **Iolite (Jpn)** (Laurel Guerriero {Jpn}), on the wire to take Wednesday’s Listed Zen-Nippon Nisai Yushun at Kawasaki Racecourse south of Tokyo. **T’s Dunk (Jpn)** (Smart Falcon {Jpn}) defied massive odds to finish third, while **Meisho Tensui (Jpn)** (Dunkirk) could do no better than fourth as the 3-2 chalk.

Settled in the second half of the field after breaking from the two hole, Vacation saved ground as Iolite--stretching out to a mile off two daylight victories sprinting at Nakayama--showed the way. Taken out into the clear in the middle stages, Vacation rallied three deep on the second turn and opted for an inside run into the lane. That decision proved critical, as he went on the attack three off the inside at the furlong marker and dropped his nose on the wire first. **Cont. p13**

Japan Road to KY Derby cont.



Vacation | Horsephotos

Vacation won his first two career starts at Kawasaki by approximately 22 lengths combined, returned from a three-month freshening to be third at Ohi Sept. 17 and was an allowance winner trying 1600 meters for the first time at Funabashi when last seen Oct. 30.

A paternal great-grandson of Sunday Silence, Vacation led home a 1-2-3 result for the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association's yearling sales series. The winner's dam produced a full-sister to Vacation this past Feb. 11 and was most recently covered by treble Group 3 winner and two-time G1 February S.-placed Best Warrior (Majestic Warrior).

The Zen-Nippon Nisai Yushun is the second of four races on the Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby, offering points on a 20-8-4-2 scale. Dieu du Vin (Jpn) (Declaration of War) annexed the first leg, the Nov. 23 Cattleya Sho, earning 10 points in the process. The series continues with the Listed Hyacinth S. (1600m) at Tokyo Feb. 16 and concludes with the Fukuryu allowance (1800m) at Nakayama Mar. 29.

Wednesday's Results:

ZEN-NIPPON NISAI YUSHUN-Listed, ¥59,500,000 (\$542,915), Kawasaki, 12-18, 2yo, 1600m, 1:41.9, ft.

1--**VACATION (JPN)**, 121, c, 2, by **Espoir City (Jpn)**

1st Dam: Tenno Benibara (Jpn), by **Soccer Boy (Jpn)**

2nd Dam: Fate Green (Jpn), by **Fate Maker (Jpn)**

3rd Dam: Tochino Midori (Jpn), by **Great Heron**

1ST STAKES WIN. (¥4,320,000 Ylg '18 HOKSUM). O-Masahiro Ogishi; B-Takanori Maekawa; T-Kenichi Taktasuki; J-Hiroto Yoshihara; ¥35,000,000. Lifetime Record: 5-4-1-0, ¥54,630,000.

2--**Iolite (Jpn)**, 121, c, 2, **Laurel Guerriero (Jpn)**--**Stellar Actress (Jpn)**, by **Opera House (GB)**. (¥2,700,000 Ylg '18 HOKSUM).

¥12,250,000.

3--**T's Dunk (Jpn)**, 121, c, 2, **Smart Falcon (Jpn)**--**Before Dark (Jpn)**, by **King Kamehameha (Jpn)**. (¥4,536,000 Ylg '18 HOKAUT). ¥7,000,000.

Margins: NO, HF, 2. Odds: 7.80, 6.10, 116.70. [Video](#)

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FINGER LAKES THOROUGHBRED ADOPTION PROGRAM TRAINER WINS AWARD

Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FLTAP) trainer Melissa Porter was recently selected as an inaugural winner of the Good People for Good Horses Awards, presented by the Right Horse Initiative. Porter is one of just eight individuals to be selected throughout the country for the award, which recognizes individuals for exceptional work towards promoting equine welfare. Her contributions and commitment to helping at-risk horses in her role as trainer at FLTAP, the only adoption center located on the grounds of a racetrack in the United States, led to her selection.

Porter joined the FLTAP team in March 2018 as trainer and helped the program nearly double the number of horses adopted in 2019 to over 50.

"I never thought this job would turn into such a passion of mine," says Porter. "These horses have a special place in my heart, and I enjoy watching them blossom in their new homes. I'm excited to end 2019 on such a strong note with this award from The Right Horse Initiative, and can't wait to see where next year takes us."

The Right Horse Initiative is a collective of industry professionals and equine welfare advocates working together to improve the lives of horses in transition through a dialogue of kindness and respect.

"We are thrilled to be recognizing a group of outstanding individuals with the Good People for Good Horses awards. We had an incredible group of nominees and each winner has made a powerful impact in their field," stated Christy Counts, President of the Right Horse Initiative.

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HALL OF FAMER ASHADO TO BE FEATURED ON FOAL PATROL



Ashado with Angel Cordero aboard | *Horsephotos*

Hall of Fame mare **Ashado** (Saint Ballado), a two-time Eclipse Award winner, will be on the roster of featured horses for the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame’s Foal Patrol Season 3, which will debut online Friday, Dec. 27 at www.foalpatrol.com. The live stream will coincide with a special free kickoff event at the Museum that day, the family-friendly “Foal Patrol Kids!” open house, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Campaigned by Starlight Racing in partnership with Johns Martin and Paul Saylor, Ashado was bred in Kentucky by Aaron and Marie Jones and trained by Todd Pletcher. Racing from 2003 through 2005, Ashado won 12 of 21 starts and earned more than \$3.9 million. She captured the 2004 GI Breeders’ Cup Distaff en route to Champion 3-Year-Old Filly honors and took home the Champion Older Mare trophy the following year. Inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2014, Ashado was sold at the 2005 Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale to Darley Stud, John Ferguson agent, for \$9 million, a world record at the time for a broodmare prospect. She resides at Godolphin’s Gainsborough Farm near Versailles, Ky. and is in foal to Frosted with an expected foaling date of Feb. 23, 2020.

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Leading Second-Crop Sires by Black-Type Horses

for stallions standing in North America through Tuesday, Dec. 17

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

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Fed Biz (2009) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2016 Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$7,500	4	12	--	2	--	--	119	57	161,917	3,033,441
2	Cairo Prince (2011) by Pioneerof the Nile FYR: 2016 Stands: Airdrie Stud KY Fee: \$25,000	5	11	2	4	--	--	155	73	628,373	4,841,344
3	Goldencents (2010) by Into Mischief FYR: 2016 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$25,000	4	10	2	2	--	1	159	83	1,136,820	5,569,391
4	Cross Traffic (2009) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2016 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$15,000	3	9	1	1	--	1	100	44	284,300	2,228,176
5	Will Take Charge (2010) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2016 Stands: Three Chimneys Farm KY Fee: \$15,000	2	7	--	4	--	--	118	43	135,983	2,852,330
6	Mucho Macho Man (2008) by Macho Uno FYR: 2016 Stands: Adena Springs KY Fee: \$10,000	4	7	2	3	--	1	74	40	635,800	2,746,220
7	Can the Man (2011) by Into Mischief FYR: 2016 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$3,500	2	6	--	--	--	--	78	44	136,305	1,773,826
8	Souper Speedy (2009) by Indian Charlie FYR: 2016 Stands: T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm ON Fee: 4,000	5	6	--	1	--	--	44	19	267,352	1,466,416
9	Central Banker (2010) by Speightstown FYR: 2016 Stands: McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds NY Fee: \$7,500	3	5	--	--	--	--	94	46	378,225	3,438,901
10	Strong Mandate (2011) by Tiznow FYR: 2016 Stands: Three Chimneys Farm KY Fee: \$5,000	2	3	--	1	--	--	85	43	280,090	2,032,499
11	Itsmyluckyday (2010) by Lawyer Ron FYR: 2016 Stands: Maro Veterinary Services OH Fee: \$2,000	2	3	--	--	--	--	88	49	153,921	1,854,528
12	He's Had Enough (2010) by Tapit FYR: 2016 Stands: Woodford Thoroughbreds FL Fee: \$2,500	--	3	--	--	--	--	90	35	83,248	1,300,934
13	Atreides (2011) by Medaglia d'Oro FYR: 2016 Stands: River Oaks Farm OK Fee: \$2,000	--	3	--	1	--	--	54	24	240,000	1,101,929
14	Drill (2009) by Lawyer Ron FYR: 2016 Stands: Get Away Farm FL Fee: \$4,500	1	3	--	--	--	--	57	31	92,610	1,078,952
15	Handsome Mike (2009) by Scat Daddy FYR: 2016 Stands: Pleasant Acres Stallions FL Fee: \$4,000	--	3	--	--	--	--	62	28	116,060	1,048,796

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ALLOWANCES

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

7th-Fair Grounds, \$47,000, Alw (NW2X), Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 12-18, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45.62, ft.

WARRIOR'S CHARGE (c, 3, Munnings--Battling Brook {SP}, by Broken Vow) was highly impressive in winning his maiden and first-level allowance at Oaklawn by six and 6 1/2 lengths in March and April, respectively, earning himself a crack at the GI Preakness S. Sent off at just 12-1, the dark bay was hustled to the front, set a strong pace and gave ground in the final stages to finish fourth, just 2 1/2 lengths in back of the victorious War of Will (War Front). Favored at 4-5, Warrior's Charge made the front with relative ease and was allowed a soft time of things through fractions of :25.87 and :50.47. He upped the tempo over the course of the next couple of furlongs, but pace-pressing 'TDN Rising Star' Gun It (Tapit) came to tackle in upper stretch, appearing to have momentum on his side. However try as he might, the 13-10 second choice could not claw his way past the pacesetter, who covered his final five-sixteenths of a mile in a sharp :30.78 to score by two lengths. Battling Brook's foals of 2018 and 2019 are both fillies by Khozan and she was most recently bred back to Munnings. Lifetime Record: 7-3-0-3, \$265,310. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Ten Strike Racing & Madaket Stables LLC; B-Al Shaqab Racing (FL); T-Brad H Cox.



TEN STRIKE RACING
LIZ CROW YEARLING PURCHASE



MAIDENS

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

5th-Gulfstream, \$40,000, Msw, 12-18, 2yo, 1m, 1:38.71, ft. TIZ RYE TIME (c, 2, Tiznow--Shanon Nicole {MSW & GSP, \$452,965}, by Majestic Warrior) failed to land a meaningful blow in his 6 1/2-furlong debut over the Churchill main track, finishing a distant eighth to 'TDN Rising Star' Mr Monomoy (Palace Malice). Hung out four deep as long odds-on favorite

Candy Tycoon (Twirling Candy) set a pressured pace inside of Point Driven (Tapiture), Tiz Rye Time began to warm up to the task with 2 1/2 furlongs to race, bore down on the chalk entering the final eighth of a mile and was along late to score by a half-length at odds of 10-1. The winner has a yearling half-sister by Into Mischief and a weanling half-sister by Quality Road. Shannon Nicole was most recently covered by Uncle Mo. Sales history: \$200,000 Ylg '18 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$25,071. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Bourbon Lane Stable (J Hill, M McMahon), Cleber J Massey & Jim Gladden; B-Sierra Farm (KY); T-Ian R Wilkes.



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FIRST & SECOND-CROP RUNNERS

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FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19
American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile), Ashford Stud, \$100,000
162 foals of racing age/26 winners/4 black-type winners
2-Meydan, Maiden, 7f, RAWWANI
\$30,000 FTK OCT yrl; 110,000gns 2yo TAT APR 2YO

Bourbon Courage (Lion Heart), Anchor & Hope Farm, \$5,000
46 foals of racing age/6 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Aqueduct, Msw 1m, COURAGEOUS GIRL, 8-1

Carpe Diem (Giant's Causeway), WinStar Farm, \$25,000
124 foals of racing age/14 winners/0 black-type winners
8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, ICECAP, 8-1
\$180,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$60,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl
5-Turfway, Msw 1m, UNFORESEEN, 3-1
\$115,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$150,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$195,000 RNA OBS APR 2yo

Constitution (Tapit), WinStar Farm, \$15,000
123 foals of racing age/26 winners/4 black-type winners
8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, DUKE OF CARTHANIA, 3-1
\$70,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$75,000 RNA OBS MAR 2yo

Daredevil (More Than Ready), WinStar Farm, \$7,500
81 foals of racing age/10 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, DYNAMO KID, 15-1
\$50,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$52,000 FTK OCT yrl

First-Crop Runners cont.

Fast Anna (Medaglia d'Oro), Three Chimneys Farm, \$7,500
 83 foals of racing age/11 winners/3 black-type winners
 7-Turfway, Aoc 6f, ANNA'S FAST, 9-5
 \$17,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$32,500 FTK JUL yrl; \$470,000 OBS
 MAR 2yo

Palace Malice (Curlin), Three Chimneys Farm, \$15,000
 123 foals of racing age/19 winners/2 black-type winners
 3-Meydan, Maiden, SAND WARRIOR
 \$45,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; \$30,000 OBS APR 2yo
 8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, YOU SAY, 30-1
 \$30,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$6,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

Stephanoatsee (A.P. Indy), Sequel New York, private
 11 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 8-Aqueduct, Msw 1m, MY MY MICHELLE, 5-1

Summer Front (War Front), Airdrie Stud, \$10,000
 97 foals of racing age/16 winners/2 black-type winners
 7-Turfway, Aoc 6f, CITY FRONT, 20-1
 \$5,500 FTK OCT yrl

Tapiture (Tapit), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
 123 foals of racing age/26 winners/2 black-type winners
 8-Aqueduct, Msw 1m, IMPRSSTHEPROFESSOR, 7-2
 \$45,000 RNA SAR AUG yrl
 2-Meydan, Maiden, 7f, TAPI SIOUX
 \$20,000 RNA FTK OCT yrl; \$140,000 FTM MAY 2yo
 3-Meydan, Maiden, MAJOR CINNAMON
 \$45,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$120,000 RNA KEESEP yrl; \$100,000 OBS
 MAR 2yo

The Big Beast (Yes It's True), Ocala Stud, \$6,000
 69 foals of racing age/15 winners/0 black-type winners
 8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, UNTHROTTLED, 15-1
 \$52,000 OBS APR 2yo

Wicked Strong (Hard Spun), Spendthrift Farm, \$7,500
 130 foals of racing age/23 winners/1 black-type winner
 8-Fair Grounds, Msw 1mT, WICKED WORRY, 10-1
 \$140,000 KEE SEP yrl



ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Zia, \$51,000, (S), 12-18, 2yo, c/g, 6f, 1:10.06, ft.
(DH)--FRANCHISE TAGGED (g, 2, Attila's Storm--Streakin Excess, by In Excess {Ire}) Lifetime Record: SP, 5-2-0-2, \$60,480.
 O-Ted Rushing, Lee Owens, B4 Farms LLC, Beaux Davis, Tim Broadfoot & Dale Alan Doby; B-Brad King & Todd Fincher (NM); T-Todd W Fincher. *\$50,000 Ylg '18 RUIAUG.

(DH)--WEST DAWN (g, 2, Train Rider Blues--It's a Rainbow, by Menifee) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, \$30,920. O-Marina Velazquez; B-Freda Howard McSwane (NM); T-Dawna Z Anderson.

9th-Zia, \$51,000, (S), 12-17, 2yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:17.20, ft.
COUNT THEM AGAIN (f, 2, Premeditation--Count Your Cards, by Royal Orleans) Lifetime Record: MSW, 4-4-0-0, \$159,780.
 O-Lola L Cuellar; B-Jim Volk (NM); T-J Jaime Fuentes.

9th-Gulfstream, \$40,000, (S), Opt. Clm (\$12,500), 12-18, 3yo/up, 7f, 1:24.74, ft.
JOE DI BAGGIO (g, 3, Brethren--Baggio, by Formal Dinner) Lifetime Record: 15-3-1-1, \$78,530. O/B-Arindel (FL); T-Oscar M Gonzalez. *1/2 to Archer Road (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}), SW, \$214,754.

6th-Zia, \$34,300, Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 12-18, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:16.40, ft.
EATON'S MEMORY (f, 3, Eaton's Gift--Sallys Memo, by Memo {Chi}) Lifetime Record: 7-3-1-1, \$54,450. O/T-Mark N Hibdon; B-Virginia, Rebecca & Madeleine Bonney (TX).

Cont. p3

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TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

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Warrior's Charge (Munnings) makes his first start since the GI Preakness S. a winning one in New Orleans.

Additional Racing cont.

5th-Mahoning Valley, \$34,000, 12-18, (NW2L), 2yo, 1m, 1:37.92, gd.

LETSGETITSEVENTEEN (g, 2, Kentucky Dane--Light the Candles, by Mutakddim) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-0, \$55,844.

O-Ernest Chloe Investments, LLC & Langley, Joshua; B-Raymond E Donald (OH); T-Joshua Langley.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Min It to Win It, f, 2, Big Drama--Min d'Oro, by Medaglia d'Oro. Gulfstream, 12-18, (C), 5fT, :56.14. B-Hallmarc Stallions LLC (FL). *\$16,000 RNA 2yo '19 OBSOPN.

Linda's Legacy, f, 3, Afleet Alex--Fortune Quest, by Seeking the Gold. Fair Grounds, 12-18, (S), 6f, 1:14.10. B-EPIC Thoroughbreds LLC (LA).

Cobra Casablanca, f, 3, Tizway--Poetic Riches, by Songandaprayer. Fair Grounds, 12-18, 5 1/2fT, 1:06.33. B-Erin Knehr & Catalyst Bloodstock (KY). *\$2,200 Ylg '17 KEEJAN; \$24,000 RNA Ylg '17 OBSOCT; \$30,000 2yo '18 OBSMAR.

Duncastle, g, 4, Dunkirk--Jazil's Song, by Jazil. Fair Grounds, 12-18, 5 1/2fT, 1:05.73. B-Peggy L McFadden (KY). *\$9,000 Ylg '16 FTKOCT.

Spit's Image, f, 4, Mobil--Little Spit, by Allied Forces. Mahoning Valley, 12-18, (S), 6f, 1:13.20. B-Robert Donald (OH).

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AFLEET ALEX, Linda's Legacy, f, 3, o/o Fortune Quest, by Seeking the Gold. MSW, 12-18, Fair Grounds

ATTILA'S STORM, Franchise Tagged, g, 2, o/o Streakin Excess, by In Excess (Ire). ALW, 12-18, Zia

BIG DRAMA, Min It to Win It, f, 2, o/o Min d'Oro, by Medaglia d'Oro. MCL, 12-18, Gulfstream

BRETHREN, Joe Di Baggio, g, 3, o/o Baggio, by Formal Dinner. AOC, 12-18, Gulfstream

DUNKIRK, Duncastle, g, 4, o/o Jazil's Song, by Jazil. MSW, 12-18, Fair Grounds

EATON'S GIFT, Eaton's Memory, f, 3, o/o Sallys Memo, by Memo (Chi). AOC, 12-18, Zia

KENTUCKY DANE, Letsgetitseventeen, g, 2, o/o Light the Candles, by Mutakddim. ALW, 12-18, Mahoning Valley

MOBIL, Spit's Image, f, 4, o/o Little Spit, by Allied Forces. MSW, 12-18, Mahoning Valley

MUNNINGS, Warrior's Charge, c, 3, o/o Battling Brook, by Broken Vow. AOC, 12-18, Fair Grounds

PREMEDITATION, Count Them Again, f, 2, o/o Count Your Cards, by Royal Orleans. ALW, 12-17, Zia

TIZNOW, Tiz Rye Time, c, 2, o/o Shanon Nicole, by Majestic Warrior. MSW, 12-18, Gulfstream

TIZWAY, Cobra Casablanca, f, 3, o/o Poetic Riches, by Songandaprayer. MSW, 12-18, Fair Grounds

TRAIN RIDER BLUES, West Dawn, g, 2, o/o It's a Rainbow, by Menifee. ALW, 12-18, Zia

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BRASME AND MONFORT: FRIENDS AND RIVALS



Edouard Monfort & Mathieu Brasme | Diana Pikulski

By Emma Berry

On Monday in Deauville, the curtain came down on the distinguished training career of France's adopted son, John Hammond, whose penultimate runner Nisreen (Ire) (Raven's Pass) became his final winner. The following race was won by Mathieu Brasme, a trainer who is not yet as widely known as Hammond but is steadily making a name for himself from his picturesque base in the west of the country, just outside Le Mans.

In fact, Brasme, who sent out his first runner in December 2017, shares the training centre at Luché-Pringé with another young trainer, Edouard Monfort, who has held a licence for the last year and about whom we will also certainly be hearing more in the seasons to come.

The two relatively new recruits to the French training ranks have much in common: they are both the sons of trainers—Brasme's father Olivier trained at Mont Saint-Michel, while Monfort's father Patrick trains in partnership with Edouard's brother Francois at Sennones. Furthermore, they met while both riding as amateurs. Most importantly, they are good friends, a helpful factor while they run their separate businesses, effectively in competition with each other but also side by side, at the training establishment still owned by record-breaking former trainer Guy Henrot. [Cont. p2](#)

HRI 2020 BUDGET APPROVED

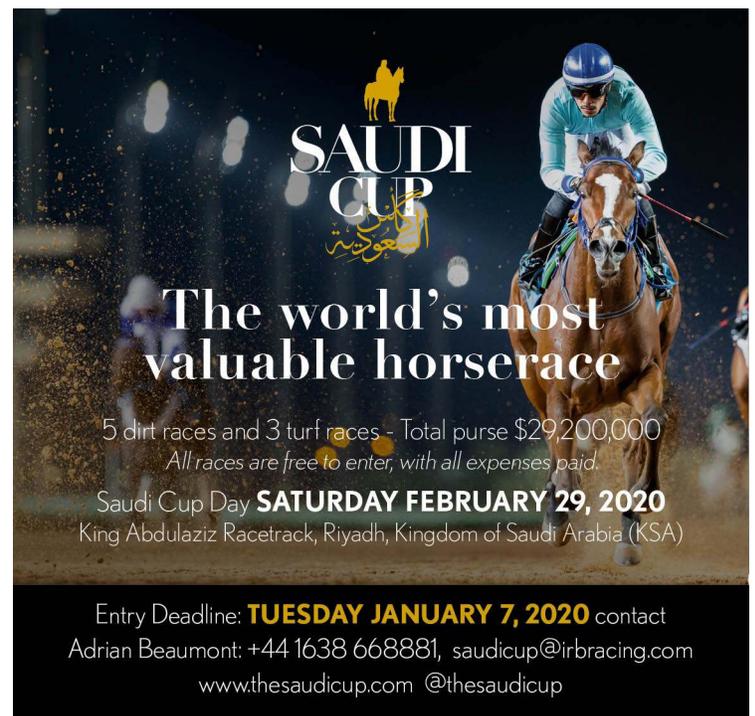
The 2020 budget for Horse Racing Ireland was approved by the organization's board on Dec. 16, HRI announced. Prizemoney, integrity and equine welfare, industry training and education and broadening the interest of the sport with a nationwide advertising campaign in 2020 are the priorities, as is staff recruitment. The details of the 2020 budget include:

- prizemoney will increase by €1.7 million to €68 million, with the higher purses going toward key festivals and major races—€500,000 specifically set aside to boost prizemoney among 20 Group 2s and Group 3s, as well as seven extra fixtures next term
- integrity and welfare spend will exceed €15.5 million with €9.2m going toward integrity support costs like IHRB integrity running costs, anti-doping, EFU & integrity security. [Cont. p4](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

STORMY LIBERAL RETIRED

Champion Stormy Liberal (Stormy Atlantic), a two-time winner of the GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint, has been retired to Old Friends Farm in Kentucky. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



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Mathieu Brasme's string | Emma Berry

Brasme & Monfort Cont. from p1

"I discovered this place five years ago when I used to work for Mikel Delzangles, who decided to rent the place as a pre-training centre, and I was his assistant in Chantilly. He asked me to come to look after the string here and I accepted, so I discovered this wonderful place and, little by little, the idea to start training here was born," says Brasme, whose six years with Delzangles included some long-distance travelling as the rider of Dunaden (Fr), winner of the Melbourne Cup, Caulfield Cup and Hong Kong Vase.

"We are lucky. It is so quiet here, with natural sand tracks through the woods. Guy Henrot was very successful from here—he was the first provincial trainer to lead the trainers' championship by number of winners."

In Brasme's first full year as a trainer, the 36-year-old sent out eight winners last season from a string of just 22. As his stable has grown in 2019, so has his tally, with the table showing 17 winners for the year to date. Among the owners of the 30 horses in his stable is successful owner-breeder Antonia Devin of

the nearby Haras du Mesnil, whose son Henri-Francois trains in Chantilly and also has a horse with Brasme. Al Shaqab Racing features on the list, while recent Deauville winner, the juvenile filly Salsa Chic (Fr) (Rio De La Plata), is owned by a partnership which includes Sebastian Desmontils and Brasme's fellow trainer Alessandro Botti.

Monfort, 30, has also trained 17 winners this year, including the listed-winning duo of Just Sherry (Ire) (Intense Focus) and Plegastell (Fr) (Planteur {Ire}), who finished fifth in the G1 Qatar Prix Marcel Bousac. His stable's client list is on the rise, too, and currently includes Gérard Augustin-Normand, John Halley and the Queen's former trainer Lord Huntingdon.

Both trainers eulogise about the stable which served its owner well, and standing within its expansive grounds, even in the middle of one of the wettest Decembers for northern Europe in years, it is easy to understand how they fell for its charms. Guy Henrot, whose numerous successes include victory in the 1997 G2 King's Stand S. with Don't Worry Me (Ire) (Dancing Dissident), still lives on the property which sits on the banks of the River Loire. **Cont. p3**



Mathieu Brasme | Emma Berry



STUDY OF MAN

CLASSIC WINNING SON AND GRANDSON OF LEGENDS

- Winner of the 'Stallion Making' Gr.1 French Derby also Gr.1-placed twice at 4
- Only son of **DEEP IMPACT** at stud in England
- **DEEP IMPACT's** sons **KIZUNA**, **REAL IMPACT** & **WORLD ACE** are 1-2-3 on Japan's Leading First Crop Sires list in 2019
- A grandson of the Racing/Breeding Legend **MIESQUE**, a dual Classic winner and dam of Classic winners **KINGMAMBO**, **EAST OF THE MOON**, etc.

OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL OUTCROSS PEDIGREE

2020 fee: **£15,000** (1st October SLF)

Also standing: **BOBBY'S KITTEN** • **SEA THE MOON** • **SIR PERCY**



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Brasme & Monfort Cont.

The 73 boxes in the square stableyard were installed by Henrot within the site of an old walled garden and are now split between Brasme and Monfort, who have added turnout paddocks for their horses just outside the ancient walls.

"It's important that we get on well and that the staff get on well as this place wasn't made to be shared, but we have rules in place and everything is going well so far," says Brasme. "There are many benefits to being here together as it helps with the maintenance of the tracks and the upkeep of the place."



The beautiful listed mill at the training centre | Emma Berry

Luché-Pringé's proximity to a number of provincial racecourses, as well as it being less than a three-hour drive to Paris or Deauville, was also a draw for Monfort, who says, "I looked at a few places in Chantilly, Deauville and Senonnes, and I knew that Mathieu needed another trainer to rent this place so I came to visit and I decided that this would be the best place to train, especially as I had known Mathieu for a long time from when we were amateur riders together."

He adds, "It is peaceful here and we have good gallops and tracks in the woods. It's like a small Chantilly."

A small Chantilly it may be, but it has already proved to be the perfect place to make it big.

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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

MAHER/EUSTACE BUILD MAGIC ARMY

Ciaran Maher and David Eustace are assembling a strong group pointing toward the upcoming Magic Millions. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)



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Success Breeds Success

*We would like to say thank you to
 all breeders and buyers who have
 supported us this year and wish
 everyone a highly successful
 and memorable 2020!*



EUROPEAN NEWS



HRI 2020 Budget Cont. from p1

- €200,000 has been set aside for equine welfare promotion like the Irish Horse Welfare Trust and the Irish Equine Centre through both HRI and Foal Levy-funded grant aid, as well as an equine welfare function within HRI
- HRI will conduct a nationwide TV and digital advertising campaign to broaden the interest and appeal of racing; while the goal of having free wifi at all racecourses is almost complete; the Racecourse Marketing Support grants have been reduced to €180,000 (-50%)
- industry training and education continues to be a major budget point, with HRI increasing funding allocation to RACE for its Exercise Rider Programme and lengthening the course to 12 weeks from six; also there will be a mobile training unit with simulators for skills development of work riders among the suite of services offered by RACE

- increasing and retaining owners sees further funding for the trainer marketing support scheme, owner racecourse days, the Trainer Open Morning, and continued development of a CRM system. There will also be podcasts, roadshows and a new members' club in an effort to increase the pool of owners for all levels of the industry
- Grants of €1.32 million and €1.095 million were approved for the Irish Equine Centre and Irish Thoroughbred Marketing respectively, both of which also receive funds from the Thoroughbred Foal Levy (€900,000 and €450,000)
- There will be no change to funding levels in point-to-points for 2020. Prizemoney and administration grants to Hunts will remain at 2019 levels.
- Tipperary is the preferred location for a second all-weather track (AWT) the HRI Board agreed, but there is no funding in place at present for the project. No formal approval can be given at this stage and the plan will need to be submitted for re-consideration by HRI's Evaluation Committee once HRI capital grant aid is available and Tipperary Racecourse has sourced their required funding, with options to be explored by Tipperary in this regard. [Cont. p5](#)

SPOT THE VALUE!

5 Group winners from his first crop and Group-winning 2YO and Group 1 prospect **CAYENNE PEPPER** from his second.

3 juvenile Stakes winners in GB & IRE in 2019. Only **GALILEO** & **NO NAY NEVER** have more!

WORLD CHAMPION 3YO BY SIRE OF SIRE **GALILEO**

AUSTRALIA

2019 yearlings sold for **€525,000, €365,000, €340,000, €280,000, €245,000 etc.**

LEADING 2ND CROP SIRE IN EUROPE IN 2019
(CUMULATIVE - BY G1 HORSES)

RK	STALLION	GSWs	G1s	2020 FEE
1	No Nay Never	9	5	€175,000
2	AUSTRALIA	6	4	€27,500
3	Kingman	6	2	€150,000

Source: TDN, 18th Dec.

COOLMORE

HRI 2020 Budget Cont.

If a funded proposal has not been approved by HRI by the end of June 2021, then Tipperary's status as the preferred location will cease and fresh applications for a second AWT may be sought from other potential venues at that point.

"The 2020 budget for the industry is extremely tight and while we have been able to fund the increased fixture list, there have been cutbacks or standstill situations in other areas," Horse Racing Ireland Chief Executive Brian Kavanagh said in a statement. "The basis for funding the industry in the future lies in the increased yield which is now being generated from betting tax which is expected to generate close to €100m in revenue this year.

"The HRI board has aligned its spend in 2020 with its strategic priorities for the industry. However the reality is that a number of important capital projects such as the Irish Equine Centre redevelopment, the development of a second All-Weather Track and a new racecourse capital development scheme, are on hold due to the lack of certainty around the longer term funding of the industry.

"The Government has been clear that Budget 2020 was a standstill budget, written under the threat of a 'No Deal' Brexit. The recent general election result in the United Kingdom at least

removes some uncertainty in that regard and should allow us to move on to discuss the future trade relationship and make plans accordingly.

"In these circumstances, it is vital that the interests of the racing and breeding industry, which exports over 60% of its annual output, are protected and the HRI budget for 2020 aims to do that."

For the full details of the 2020 budget, go to www.hri.ie.

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NON-STANDARD RACE TIMES TO BE TRIALLED IN FEBRUARY

A trial of non-standard race times will be held in February, the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) announced on Wednesday. Non-standard race times are races not programmed on the standard five-minute marks (i.e. 3:08), and the objective of the trial is to explore the potential benefits to the sport and its customers when the volume of racing in Britain and Ireland is relatively high. The trial, discussed and supported by the Levy Board's Betting Liaison Group, will last four weeks. [Cont. p6](#)



2019 in photos: Anthony Van Dyck (Ire) (Galileo {ire}) and Seamie Heffernan winning the G1 Investec Derby at Epsom. | Racingfotos.com

Non-Standard Race Times Cont.

Racecourses, media rights companies and broadcasters have reportedly welcomed the opportunity to trial and assess the concept.

Non-standard times would only be employed on days when there are four or more meetings being staged concurrently in Britain or Ireland, with February slated to have 11. Any fixtures that will be broadcasted by terrestrial television in Britain or Ireland will continue to use standard race times, except any third ITVG Racing meetings on a Saturday, which would have non-standard times for non-televised races.

Richard Wayman, the BHA's Chief Operating Officer, said, "Working closely with our colleagues in Ireland and other partners across the sport, we are always looking for ways to improve our scheduling of races to benefit racing's customers. The impacts, both positive and negative, of non-standard race times will only be known once the initiative is trialed. The hope is that they allow for a more even spread of races without requiring longer intervals between races, and potentially fewer clashes or delays. However, we'll be taking in feedback from all parties before deciding on whether to make the trial permanent."

HRI Director of Racing Jason Morris added, "All stakeholders in Ireland have been consulted, including HRI's betting committee and programmes committee, and have agreed to a trial of non-standard race times in February. We are grateful to the Association of Irish Racecourses for their support and have accepted their request that the opening race time for all Irish meetings should continue to be scheduled as a standard time for promotional purposes.

"Irish race times are coordinated through SIS and involve close co-operation with Racing TV and we will collectively review the effectiveness of the trial working alongside our colleagues in the BHA."

A full draft of race times for the proposed trial will be presented in due course.

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**FIRST-SEASON SIRE
WITH RUNNERS**

Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019:

FRANCE

Evasive's First (Fr) (Evasive {GB}),

7 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners

7-MAR.P VIVAUX, 1500m, LA FRIPOUILLE (Fr)

€3,000 Arqana Deauville Autumn Mixed Sale 2018

Prince Gibraltar (Fr) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}), Haras de Montaigu
51 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
7-MAR.P VIVAUX, 1500m, MARSELHA PRINCE (Fr)
€15,000 Osarus September La Teste Yearling Sale 2018

UNITED KINGDOM

Anjaal (GB) (Bahamian Bounty {GB}), Rathasker Stud
149 foals of racing age/18 winners/0 black-type winners
16:50-WOLVERHAMPTON, 9.5f, ISLAND STORM (Ire)
€10,000 Goffs November Foals Sale 2017; €12,000 Tattersalls Ireland September Yearlings 2018; 15,000gns RNA Tattersalls Guineas Breeze-Up & HIT Sale 2019

Due Diligence (War Front), Whitsbury Manor Stud
85 foals of racing age/18 winners/3 black-type winners
14:30-SOUTHWELL, 6f, SLINGSHOT (GB)
£10,000 Goffs UK Premier & Silver Yearling Sale 2018

Summer Front (War Front), Airdrie Stud
97 foals of racing age/16 winners/2 black-type winners
16:50-WOLVERHAMPTON, 9.5f, SUMMERONSEVENHILLS
\$12,000 Keeneland Association November 2017 Breeding Stock Sale; \$45,000 RNA Keeneland Association September Yearling Sale 2018; £85,000 Tattersalls Ireland Ascot 2yo Breeze Up Sale 2019



Anjaal seeks his 19th winner on Thursday. | Rathasker Stud



2019 Traffic Trends



Unique users:	212,606 (up 20% in 2019 from 177,722)
Sessions	548,113 (up 8% in 2019 from 507,355)
Page views	800,333

BRITAIN

**Wednesday's Results:**

2nd-Lingfield, £5,300, Novice, 12-18, 2yo, f, 7f 1y (AWT), 1:24.51, st.

DISCO FEVER (GB) (f, 2, Oasis Dream {GB}--Penelopa {GB} {G1SW-Ger, \$326,689}, by Giant's Causeway), who was fourth on debut over this trip at Kempton Dec. 5, had the lead after a furlong. Always in control on the front end, the 6-4 favourite surged clear from the top of the straight to register a five-length success from Zenaida (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}). The winner is the first runner for the G1 Preis der Diana (German Oaks) heroine Penelopa, a daughter of Lady Linda (Torrential) who was placed three times at grade III level including when runner-up in the All Along Breeders' Cup S. From the family of the triple Grade II scorer and Grade I-placed Miss Isella (Silver Charm) and the GII Arkansas Derby-winning sire Sir Cherokee, she also has a yearling filly by Frankel (GB) who sold for 450,000gns at the recent Tattersalls December Foal Sale, and a filly foal by Muhaarar (GB). Sales history: 260,000gns Wlg '17 TATFOA. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$4,881. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Lady Bamford; B-Litex Commerce (GB); T-John Gosden.

5th-Lingfield, £5,300, Novice, 12-18, 2yo, 8f 1y (AWT), 1:37.48, st.

SHIMMERING (IRE) (f, 2, Lope de Vega {Ire}--Crysdal {GB}, by Dalakhani {Ire}), who shaped with promise when third on her racecourse bow over seven furlongs at Kempton Oct. 28, was able to cross over from her wide draw and gain the early lead. Asserting after the home turn, the 7-4 favourite was pushed out to secure a comfortable 1 1/4-length verdict over Orczy (Ire) (Sir Percy {GB}). The dam is a daughter of Watership Down's G1 Fillies' Mile heroine and G1 Irish 1000 Guineas and G1 Coronation S. runner-up Crystal Music (Nureyev). A half to three black-type performers and to the dam of the G2 Prix Greffulhe-winning sire Ocovango (GB) (Monzun {Ger}), the relative of the group winners Dubai Success (GB) (Sadler's Wells), State Crystal (Ire) (High Estate {Ire}) and Solar Crystal (Ire) (Alzao) has a yearling filly and colt foal by Sea the Stars (Ire). The former was bought by Rabbah Bloodstock for 150,000gns at the recent Tattersalls October Book 2 Sale. Sales history: 150,000gns RNA Ylg '18 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$5,241. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Lord Lloyd-Webber; B-Watership Down Stud (IRE); T-John Gosden.

3rd-Newcastle, £4,300, Novice, 12-18, 2yo, 6f (AWT), 1:11.12, st. SPLENDIDLY (GB) (g, 2, Garswood {GB}--Regal Riband {GB}, by Fantastic Light), who was off the mark on debut over this course and distance Dec. 9, tracked the early leader Baileys Blues (Fr) (Supplicant {GB}). Subduing that rival passing the furlong marker, the 15-8 favourite asserted to score by 2 1/2 lengths. The winner is a half-brother to the G3 Oak Tree S. and G3 Prestige S. winner Regal Realm (GB) (Medicean {GB}), MGSW-Eng, \$116,452, who in turn was later responsible for the G3 Thoroughbred S. and G3 Brigadier Gerard S. winner and G1 Eclipse S. third Regal Reality (GB) (Intello {Ger}). With a yearling filly by Dutch Art (GB) named Dutch Light (GB) to come, she is out of the G1 Cheveley Park S. heroine Regal Rose (GB) (Danehill). Sales history: £35,000 Ylg '18 GOUKPR. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$8,157. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-Mr J Laughton & Mrs E Burke; B-Cheveley Park Stud Ltd (GB); T-Karl Burke.

NSFA AWARD FOR HAZELWOOD

Nick Angus-Smith & Adrian O'Brien | Emma Berry

The Newmarket Stud Farmers' Association (NSFA) held its AGM and board elections this week, as well as the presentation of its annual award.

"The Association's Annual Award is given to one of its members who has upheld the highest standards expected in Newmarket," said NSFA Chairma Nick Angus-Smith. "It must be very rare indeed for a stud to board a mare who is covered, conceived, subsequently foaled and her offspring raised, sold at Tattersalls and then go into training all within 10 miles of the Newmarket clock tower. We refer of course to the Dubawi yearling out of Alina offered at Tattersalls by Adrian O'Brien's Hazelwood Bloodstock and bought by Godolphin for 3.6 million gns. Hazelwood's three lots sold at Tattersalls October Book 1 made a total of 5.875 million gns. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that we presented our award to one of the association's newest members." **Cont. p8**

NSFA Award Cont.

At the AGM, Louise Kemble of The Elms Stud, Tim Lane (National Stud), Martin Redmond (Godolphin), Ed Murrell (Juddmonte Farms), James O'Donnell (Shadwell Stud), Adrian O'Brien (Hazelwood Bloodstock) and John James (Brookside Stud) all retained their seats on the board. Andrew McGladdery of Rosssdales veterinary practice was elected as an *ex officio* board member in the role of veterinary advisor, and Nick Angus-Smith will serve a further period as chairman of the association.

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IRELAND



www.destinationeuropacing.com

Wednesday's Result:

Dundalk, €15,000, Cond, 12-18, 2yo, 8f (AWT), 1:40.52, st. CHOICE OF MINE (AUS) (c, 2, Redoute's Choice {Aus}-- Thisiloulmine {SP-Can, \$147,860}, by Perfect Soul {Ire}), fourth on debut over seven furlongs on a British visit to Chelmsford Nov. 7, was pushed along from the break to race behind the pace. Green when asked for his effort in the straight, the 7-1 shot reeled in Karbasann (Ire) (Siyouni {Fr}) inside the last 200 yards and asserted for a 1 1/4-length success. The useful dam, who also has yearling and foal full-sisters to the winner, is a half to the dam of the Listed Celebration S. winner Insignia of Rank (Ire) (Epaulette {Aus}). She is a granddaughter of the famed broodmare Minnie Hauk (Sir Ivor), whose descendants include the Niarchos celebrities Chimes of Freedom (Private Account) and Denon (Pleasant Colony). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$10,437. O/B-Charles E Fipke (AUS); T-Joseph O'Brien.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Bashful Boy (Ire), g, 3, Magician (Ire)--Bacheliere, by Include. Dundalk, 12-18, 12f (AWT), 2:39.31. B-Lynn Lodge Stud & Pier House Stud (IRE). *€20,000 Ylg '17 GOFOR.

FRANCE



www.destinationeuropacing.com

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Loria Bere (Fr), f, 3, Peer Gynt (Jpn)--Miss Fine (Fr), by Kaldoun (Fr). Pornichet, 12-17, 8 1/2f (AWT), 1:43.41. B-SAS Regnier & San Gabriel Inv. Inc. (FR). *€16,000 Ylg '17 OSASEP. **1/2 to Happy Bere (Fr) (Pedro the Great), SW-Fr.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

SOUTH AFRICAN EXPORT PROTOCOL AUDIT CONFIRMED BY EU

South Africa's export protocols will be audited in April or May of 2020 the European Union confirmed following a Dec. 17 meeting between the South African Department of Agriculture's Director of Animal Health, Dr. Mpho Maja and Kiki Kruger, Chief Director of Trade Negotiations, International Trade and Economic Development Division (ITED), *Racing Post* reported. Currently, horses cannot be exported directly from South Africa to most of the world following a 2013 EU audit that found the country was unable to guarantee the absence of African Horse Sickness (AHS) in the controlled zone for horses leaving the country.

"The EU will be sending a pre-audit questionnaire early in the new year so that final preparations can be done," said South African Equine Health and Protocols Managing Director Adrian Todd to *Racing Post*. "This is a most exciting development for all of us in the South African breeding and racing industries. It shows what can be done when the private and government sectors cooperate and work towards the same goal."

South African champion trainer Mike de Kock told *Racing Post*, "I'm excited for South African racing, the audit still has to be completed and there will be a few technical issues after that, but we're as close now as we've been which is wonderful."

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DUBAI

Thursday, Meydan Racecourse, post time: 8:50 p.m.

DUBAI CREEK MILE SPONSORED BY MUBADALA, AED265,000, NH & SH
3yo/up, 1600m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Yulong Warrior	Street Cry (Ire)	Mullen	Seemar	125
2	Rodaini	Exchange Rate	Beasley	bin Harmash	125
3	Kimbear	Temple City	Dobbs	Watson	125
4	Secret Ambition (GB)	Exceed And Excel (Aus)	O'Shea	Seemar	58
5	Manguzi (Fr)	Planteur (Ire)	Jara	Al Rayhi	124
6	Thegreatcollection	Saint Anddan	Hitchcott	Watson	125
7	Heavy Metal (GB)	Exceed And Excel (Aus)	Ffrench	bin Ghadayer	125



MAHER/EUSTACE BUILD MAGIC ARMY



David Eustace & Ciaron Maher | Bronwen Healy

By Bren O'Brien

A dramatic post-script to Wednesday's delayed Listed Spirit Of Boom Phelan Ready S. at Doomben saw three jockeys dislodged past the post after **Rathlin** (Fastnet Rock) had franked his credentials for the upcoming The Star Magic Millions 2YO Classic with a soft win.

The Ciaron Maher and David Eustace-trained Rathlin had just completed a 3l win when he shied going over the crossing, dislodging Luke Currie. Then in a chain reaction, Jim Byrne, who rode the second-placed **Kavak** (Deep Field), also fell as Rathlin veered out, and then Larry Cassidy, on **War Memorial** (Fastnet Rock), who finished third, followed suit. That left **Count The Coin** (Spirit Of Boom), who finished fourth and his jockey Luke Tarrant as the only ones to return to scale.

While the three horses were captured without any harm and Currie escaped injury, unfortunately veteran hoop Byrne looks to have suffered a serious leg injury and he has been transported to hospital, while Cassidy was sidelined for the remainder of a day with a sore hand.

The incident cast a bit of a pall over an intriguing race which had already been rescheduled from last Friday when a freak storm hit Doomben forcing two stakes races to be transferred.

Rathlin, having his third start, couldn't have been more impressive as he swept past his rivals down the straight after Currie had taken a sit off the early leaders Kavak and Count The Coin. He loomed large at the furlong mark and while Kavak kicked back briefly, Currie let the favourite down and he strode away to win with authority over the 1110 metres.

He subsequently moved into \$11 from \$15 in betting for the \$2 million Magic Millions 2YO Classic on January 11, which is headed by another Aquis Farm horse in Farnan (Not A Single Doubt).

Rathlin was bred by Neil Werrett and purchased for \$725,000 by Aquis Farm from the Kitchwin Hills draft at the 2019 Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale. He boasts an imposing pedigree, being out of stakes-placed mare Wiener (More Than Ready {USA}), the half-sister to three-time Champion Australian sire Snitzel as well as Hinchinbrook. He is the first stakes winner from Wiener, who has produced two previous stakes placed horses in Redoutable Heart (Redoute's Choice) and Za Zi Ba (All Too Hard). She also has a yearling filly by I Am Invincible and a foal colt by Redoute's Choice. Rathlin becomes stakes winner number 154 for Coolmore's Fastnet Rock.

Away Game Follows Suit in Calaway Gal

Maher, Eustace and Currie doubled up the stakes success with **Away Game** (Snitzel) proving too strong for her rivals in the Listed Boomer Bloodstock Calaway Gal S. The filly will also head to the Magic Millions 2YO Classic, having sat outside the early pace and then kicked clear to notch her first win at her second start.



Fastnet Rock | Coolmore Australia

Maher/Eustace Build Magic Army Cont. from p1

She beat debutante **Smart 'n' Sexy** (Smart Missile) by 2.25l, with the same margin further back to **Miss Lot Won** (Sidereus) in third.

Stable representative Annabel Neasham said credit for picking the filly out for \$425,000 at the Magic Millions Sale last January needs to go to former Maher Racing employee Hannah Mathieson, who now runs pinhooking and racing syndicate Oakmont Horse Club.

"That's our seventh individual 2-year-old winner this season. Full credit to Hannah Mathieson, who picked out and purchased the horse," Neasham said.

The Snitzel filly was bred by Mill Park Stud and is out of stakes placed Elusive Wonder (Elusive Quality {USA}) and she is the second stakes winner in the family, joining her full-sister Modern Wonder. Elusive Wonder is a half-sister to listed winner Tantra (Royal Academy {USA}) and closely related to another stakes winner in Oak Park (More Than Ready {USA}). Elusive Wonder's yearling filly by Not A Single Doubt will be offered by Segenhoe Stud as Lot 270 at next month's Magic Millions Gold Coast Sale, while the mare also has a filly foal by Merchant Navy who she is back in foal to.

**IN HONG KONG:**

Flying Genius, g, 3, **All Too Hard**--Sacha Royale, by Fasliyev (USA). Happy Valley, 12-18, Hcp. (\$181k), :57.10. B-Rockmount (Vic). *1/2 to Ana Royale (Anacheeva), GSW & MG1SP-Aus, \$281,620. **\$150,000 Ylg '18 INGMAR; \$150,000 2yo '18 INGRTR. **VIDEO**

Big Party, g, 4, **Exceed and Excel**--De Groove, by Dehere (USA). Happy Valley, 12-18, Hcp. (\$393k), 1200m, 1:08.64. B-G S A Bloodstock Pty Ltd (Vic). *1/2 to General Groove (General Nediym), GSP-Aus, \$257,250; and full to Top Me Up, GSP-Aus, \$325,600. **\$420,000 Ylg '17 INGEAS. **VIDEO**

**IN HONG KONG:**

Highly Proactive, g, 4, **Coats Choice (Aus)**--Blue Blond, by Stravinsky (USA). Happy Valley, 12-18, Hcp. (NZ\$283k), 1200m, 1:09.77. B-M G Houlahan. *Formerly The Last Won.

VIDEO

Amazing Star, g, 5, **Darci Brahma**--Bright Abyss (USA) (SP-US, US\$355,483), by Royal Academy (USA). Happy Valley, 12-18, Hcp. (NZ\$283k), 1200m, 1:08.75. B-Mrs H G & W B Bax. *\$30,000 Ylg '16 NZBJAN. **VIDEO**

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