

LATE FIREWORKS AT KEENELAND JANUARY



Enaya Alrabb | Keeneland

by Jessica Martini & Christie DeBernardis

LEXINGTON, KY - The Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale's second session was punctuated by a series of high-profile supplemental offerings, with multiple Grade I-placed **Enaya Alrabb** (Uncle Mo) (hip 795D) attracting the day's highest price when selling for \$640,000 Tuesday in Lexington. The 4-year-old mare, consigned by Paramount Sales, was purchased by bloodstock agent Jim Schenck. Three of Tuesday's four top offerings were supplemental entries.

"I thought today's session ended very well," said Keeneland's Director of Sales Operations Geoffrey Russell. "I think the supplements that we knew would be very popular with the buyers definitely shown bright tonight."

A total of 464 horses sold during Keeneland's two-session Book 1, for a total of \$32,167,100. The average was \$69,326 and the median was \$37,000. During the 2019 Book 1, 487 horses grossed \$40,270,800 for an average of \$82,692 and a median of \$37,000.

"We thought the first book was a very solid book of horses, a typical January catalogue without a major dispersal," Russell said. "The quality was good and we are happy with that. For the right foals, they were all over them today."

Cont. p3

JUMPING BLINDLY INTO UNCHARTED TERRITORY

by Dan Ross

For an animal blessed with the seemingly incompatible traits of bone-china fragility, jiu-jitsu flight instincts, and combustion engine top-speeds, the horse is understandably yoked to its vision for avoiding harm's way. Because of that, sight is arguably the sense most artificially manipulated in the racehorse to "enhance" performance.

Blinkers. Cheekpieces. Hoods to fool the recalcitrant into the starting gate. Mesh goggles for the fractious. Nor does the loss of an eye render a Thoroughbred's evolutionary purpose obsolete. Far from it.

Cont. p13

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TDN at KEEJAN. If you like your TDN hot off the presses, full-color newsletters are distributed daily at the Keeneland January Sale. | Justina Severni

POMEROYS PISTOL TO DROWN

6

Jeff Drown's Kindred Stables, which has a sophomore with potential on the Triple Crown trail in Eclipse finalist Structor, added the dam of another promising 3-year-old when bloodstock agent Mike Ryan made a final bid of \$475,000 to secure Pomeroy's Pistol Tuesday at Keeneland.

NEARLY 1000 ENTRIES FOR SAUDI CUP PROGRAM

17

The inaugural US\$29.2-million Saudi Cup program, to be held at King Abdulaziz Racetrack in the capital of Riyadh Saturday, Feb. 29, has attracted 964 entries from connections of horses from all corners of the globe.



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KEEJAN cont. from p1

Three short yearlings sold for over \$300,000 Tuesday, with Andre Lynch signing for the day's most expensive foal when going to \$365,000 for a filly from the first crop of Mastery (hip 623).

Paramount Sales' Pat Costello agreed there was plenty of demand at the top end of the market.

"If you bring the goods, you get well-paid, maybe even better paid than you thought," Costello said. "And then if you fall below the barrier, it's tough getting it done. So it's the same old thing."

Schenck purchased the top two lots during Tuesday's session. In addition to Enaya Alrabb, he signed the ticket on Confidently (War Front) at \$560,000, but declined to comment on either purchase.

"Jimmy Schenck was representing some new buyers who are just getting into the game," Russell said. "He definitely decided to do what the market is saying—aim for quality. He certainly picked the top quality mares that were on offer yesterday and today."

The Keeneland January sale continues through Friday with sessions beginning daily at 10 a.m.



Schenck Strikes Late for Enaya Alrabb



Enaya Alrabb | Keeneland

Jim Schenck, bidding on behalf of a new ownership group, made his biggest purchase of the January sale when going to \$640,000 to acquire multiple Grade I-placed **Enaya Alrabb** (Uncle Mo) (hip 795D) late in the day Tuesday at Keeneland.

Schenck, who declined to comment on his purchases, also acquired Confidently (War Front) for \$560,000 Tuesday and Hot

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Blooded Girl (Tapit) for \$280,000 Monday.

Racing for Enaya Racing and trainer Doug O'Neill, Enaya Alrabb missed by just a head when second in the 2018 GI Starlet S. and was second again in the GII Las Virgenes S. She sold Tuesday as a broodmare prospect through the Paramount Sales consignment.

"She was lovely," Paramount's Pat Costello said. "She didn't turn a hair. And she was a great racehorse. So she deserved to bring that price. The owners are delighted."

The 4-year-old filly is out of stakes winner and graded placed Lotta Rhythm (Rhythm) and is a half-sister to multiple graded-placed Hattaash (Strong Hope). Lotta Rhythm is a half-sister to the dam of champion Rachel Alexandra. [@JessMartiniTDN](#)



Confidently | Keeneland

Uncle Mo Sis in Demand at KEEJAN

Confidently (War Front), a half-sister to champion and leading sire Uncle Mo, sparked fireworks midway through Tuesday's session and in the end it was agent James Schenck left holding the \$560,000 ticket. Schenck declined to comment on his purchase.

Out of MSP Playa Maya (Arch), **Confidently** (**Hip 595**) was privately purchased by a group that included Craig Bernick's Glen Hill Farm as a foal. They sent her through the ring as a weanling at the 2016 Keeneland November Sale, where she RNA'd for \$1.25 million, and Bernick ended up as her sole

owner. In addition to Uncle Mo, she is a full-sibling to G1SP Could It Be Love. The 4-year-old won just one of her nine starts with her final race taking place at Laurel Nov. 16.

"She's a beautiful mare and she is going to a good home," Bernick said. "We thought about breeding her and selling her in November, but when I am buying a horse, I like to pick out the stallion. I thought whoever bought would rather breed her to the stallion they wanted. If you go to November, you have to

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worry about the right covering sire.”

Bernick had previously sold his horses with Hill ‘n’ Dale, but was consigning under the Glen Hill Farm banner for the first time since he took over operations.

When asked how his new venture was going, Bernick said, “My first horse we bought back for \$4,500 and we got her done for \$4,500. The people that work for me were kind of looking at me like do we know what we were doing. Thankfully we had some better ones to come. The horses have been well received and popular.”

Bernick’s operation sold a total of five of their six Book 1 offerings for a total of \$1,227,500.

“It was a good day,” he said. “It’s about the horses. And we have a great crew. Lindsay Schultz [who manages Glen Hill’s Florida farm] did the equine program at Louisville and was an assistant to Tom Proctor and was in Darley Flying Start. She has worked a sale or two, but never in a management position. This is her first sale where she’s ever run a barn and she sold two of the three most expensive horses in the sale, so she did a great job.” --*CDeBernardisTDN*

Inflamed Headed to Japan



Inflamed | Keeneland

Inflamed (Unusual Heat) is scheduled to fly to Japan next month after summoning \$525,000 from Naohiro Hosoda, who was acting on behalf on Shadai Farm. The chestnut does not have much of a race record, but her first foal is GI Hollywood Derby winner and Eclipse Award finalist Mo Forza (Uncle Mo).

“She has a nice catalogue page,” Hosoda said of the mare, who was supplemented to the sale as **Hip 795E**. “Mo Forza is a tough horse. Japanese racing is tough and is main track. She is a proven mare and still young, only 10-years-old. The key is Unusual Heat. He is a California sire and his progeny is active on fast ground. We have the same type of fast ground racing.”



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Naohiro Hosoda | *Keeneland*

He added, “Of course, I know she sold for \$170,000 at November, but her value has gone up.”

Craig Bernick, who offered the mare as part of the resurrected consignment of Glen Hill Farm, purchased the mare for \$170,000 carrying a foal by Tapiture at the recent KEENOV sale. That sale was just days after Mo Forza’s victory in the GII Twilight Derby and Bernick felt he had a strong chance to take the Hollywood Derby as well. Luckily, he was right and the colt

also added the GII Mathis Brothers Mile to his resume Dec. 28. “Mo Forza was on the page but...I just expected her to make more money in November,” Bernick said. “Mo Forza won the Hollywood Derby then followed it up with another win and he looks like he’s on a good track. It’s hard to find a 10-year-old mare in January that is a Grade I producer. She will go to Japan and they’ve got one of the best breeding programs in the world.”

A full-sister to GSW Burns and GISP Brushburn, Inflamed is also responsible for a now-3-year-old colt by Graydar and a yearling colt by Munnings. --*CDeBernardisTDN*

Pomeroy's Pistol to Drown

Jeff Drown’s Kindred Stables, which has a sophomore with potential on the Triple Crown trail in Eclipse finalist Structor (Palace Malice), added the dam of another promising 3-year-old to its burgeoning broodmare band when bloodstock agent Mike Ryan made a final bid of \$475,000 to secure **Pomeroy's Pistol** (Pomeroy) (hip 795K) Tuesday at Keeneland. The 12-year-old mare is the dam of GII Los Alamitos Futurity winner Thousand Words (Pioneerof the Nile).

“He wants to play on the upper end of the market with quality mares,” Ryan said of Drown. “She is obviously a very good mare, a brilliant race mare and who knows how good this horse

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Mike Ryan | *Keeneland*

[Thousand Words] is—she was a million-dollar yearling. She has only just turned 12 and she’s in great shape. She’s a mare hopefully that we can breed a couple of good ones out of her.”

Pomeroys Pistol won the 2011 GII Forward Gal S. and GII Gallant Bloom H. and was second in the GI Prioress S. and GI Test S. for owner, breeder and trainer Amy Tarrant. Tarrant’s Hardacre Farm, through the Brookdale Sales consignment, sold Thousand Words for \$1 million at the 2018 Keeneland September Sale.

“That’s what we were hoping for,” Brookdale’s Joe Seitz said of Tuesday’s result. “It was spot on. The fact that Thousand Words is undefeated and the leading horse on the “TDN Derby trail” is great. He was a million-dollar yearling, who looks just like his mother even down to the white socks. Spitting image. Put it this way, I think she might look inexpensive if things go the way we’re hoping.”

Drown burst onto the national racing scene with the unbeaten Structor, who won the GIII Pilgrim S. and GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Turf last season.

“He has a handful of very nice mares,” Ryan said of Drown’s broodmare band. “He’s starting to buy nicely bred fillies and wants to play the game. He wants to be on the quality end of things. He’s in it for the long haul. He’ll be a commercial breeder, but he’s not opposed to racing as well. I’m sure if he got a good filly out of her, he might want to keep her. So all the options are on the table.”

Pomeroys Pistol sold Tuesday not in foal and Ryan said there had only been preliminary discussions on who to send the mare to this spring.

“We’ve talked about a few horses,” he said. “Into Mischief would be very high on the list. She would suit him. She’s a big scopey mare. She’s a fast mare, but she’s produced a good horse. She’ll go to a top-end horse.” @JessMartiniTDN

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Tiz Breathtaking Set For a Date with Constitution



David Hanley | Keeneland

Grade III winner **Tiz Breathtaking** (Tiznow) (Hip 496) will officially retire from racing and head to the WinStar breeding shed for a date with hot young sire Constitution after being purchased by WinStar in partnership with Larry Taylor for \$375,000 Tuesday.

“We bought her to go to Constitution,” said WinStar’s David Hanley, after signing the ticket seated alongside Taylor and his wife, Denise. “Larry Taylor is partnering with WinStar on her. We love Tiznow broodmares. She is a beautiful, quality mare. We love the package, love the family. We have had some luck with the family, so we were keen to get her.”

When asked what makes her a good match for Constitution, Hanley said, “He loves Tiznow with [Grade I winner] Tiz the Law, obviously. I think physically she will suit him. She is just a lovely mare.”

Owned and bred by the late William Graham of Windhaven Farms in Ontario, Tiz Breathtaking was a debut winner at Woodbine in June of 2018 and was second next out in that venue’s My Dear S. Returning to winning ways in the Shady Well S., the bay captured the Gill Mazarine S. next out and was third in the Princess Elizabeth S. in November of her 2-year-old season. She was not seen again until November of this year when she was eased after incurring a lot of bumping at the start and being pinched back during an optional claiming event. The now 4-year-old retires with a record of 6-3-1-1 and earnings of \$198,715.

Graham bought Tiz Breathtaking’s dam I’m Breathtaking (Elusive Quality) for \$130,000 at the 2010 KEENOV sale carrying a foal by Malibu Moon. The resulting foal turned out to be SW & GSP Matador. She is also the dam of MSP My Cousin Martha

KEENELAND JANUARY - 2020

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(Stay Thirsty). Her now-3-year-old Defeatisnotanoption (Honor Code) was purchased by Mike Ryan for \$400,000 at the 2018 KEESEP sale and is still unraced. I'm Breathtaking is a half-sister to MGSW Sapphire N' Silk (Pleasant Tap) and GSW Golden Itiz (Tiznow). This is also the family of GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf S. heroine Sharing (Speightstown).

Tiz Breathing was consigned by Eaton Sales, who was the day's second-leading consignor, selling 15 head for \$1.829 million.--*CDeBernardisTDN*

Mastery Filly Proves Popular

A filly from the first crop of Grade I winner Mastery attracted a host of admirers before ultimately selling for \$365,000 to the bid of bloodstock agent Andre Lynch.

"She's for a client who prefers to remain anonymous," Lynch said after signing the ticket on **hip 623**. "She's a lovely filly and she's been bought to race."



Andre Lynch | Keeneland

The dark bay filly was bred by The Neuman Group and was consigned by Damian and Braxton Lynch's Royal Oak Farm. Out of Dowry (Belong to Me), she is a half-sister to Grade I winner Nereid (Rock Hard Ten), who sold for \$1.25 million at last year's Keeneland November sale.

"Obviously, the Masterys are very popular, but she just showed herself so well," Braxton Lynch said. "She kept coming out of the stall and doing her walk. It was all her. These are the easy ones to sell. She was a pure athlete and I think that's why people went so strong on her. You just don't come across horses that move that well that often."

Hip 623 was the fifth purchase of the sale for Lynch, who also signed for a filly by Practical Joke (**hip 321**) for \$150,000 and the mare Painting Corners (Pleasant Strike) (**hip 1**) also for \$150,000.

@JessMartiniTDN

Practical Joke Colt a Career Score for Voss

Mina Voss, 11 years removed from breeding her first foal, had a career day in the Keeneland January sales ring Tuesday when she sold a colt by Practical Joke for \$320,000 to Larry Best's OXO Equine.

"I'm over the moon," Voss said as she accepted congratulations from the pavilion to the back walking ring. "This is by far my biggest sale. The best weanling price before this, I sold a Competitive Edge two years ago for \$40,000."

The short yearling (**hip 550**) is out of Bayou Miss (Dixie Union) and was consigned by Brookdale Sales.

"He was a superstar from day one," Voss said of the colt. "My mare is just a little Dixie Union mare with some speed and some nice family. I booked her back to Practical Joke because this colt was so nice. My mare gets runners and this is her superstar so far."



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING SALES SUMMARY:		
KEENELAND JANUARY - TUESDAY		
SESSION TOTALS	2020	2019
• Catalogued	411	409
• No. Offered	303	320
• No. Sold	233	253
• RNAs	70	67
• % RNAs	23.1%	20.9%
• No. \$300K+	9	10
• High Price	\$640,000	\$750,000
• Gross	\$17,288,800	\$18,341,600
• Average (% change)	\$74,201 (+2.35%)	\$72,496
• Median (% change)	\$40,000 (+14.29%)	\$35,000
CUMULATIVE	2020	2019
• Catalogued	824	817
• No. Offered	640	648
• No. Sold	464	487
• RNAs	176	161
• % RNAs	27.5%	24.8%
• No. \$300K+	14	19
• High Price	\$640,000	\$5,000,000
• Gross	\$32,167,100	\$40,270,800
• Average (% change)	\$69,326 (-16.16%)	\$82,692
• Median (% change)	\$37,000 (n/c)	\$37,000



Mina Voss | Keeneland

Voss, whose early successes as a breeder include multiple graded-placed Il Villano (Pollard's Vision), acquired Bayou Miss privately after the mare RNA'd for \$37,000 at the 2012 Keeneland January sale.

"She RNA'd at the January sale, she was a maiden off the track, so I bought her privately," Voss explained. "She wasn't super expensive, but she's one of my more expensive mares as far as I can afford."

A native of Texas, Voss spent time working in the registration department at The Jockey Club and has worked as a veterinary assistant. She currently has eight broodmares.

"I breed to sell as weanlings," she explained. "We missed November with this guy, he had some hiccups, but he came back for this sale and everything was great. I really appreciate Joe Seitz and Brookdale."

Asked if she would be reinvesting some of the colt's \$320,000 selling price, Voss said, "I just had to see what happened here. But I'm always looking for mares. There will be some money brought back here for sure."

Hip 550 was Best's second purchase of the January sale. He purchased a son of Gun Runner (**hip 397**) for \$300,000 during the auction's first session Monday. Taylor Made's Katie Taylor signed for both weanlings on his behalf.

"We were walking around short-listing for Bloodstock Investments and looking at all the weanlings on the grounds," Taylor said. "This one was just really good quality and he had good vetting and was sound of mind. And Larry Best really likes Practical Joke--he has another two really nice ones at the farm. He asked us to look at this one for him and we thought he was a really good colt. Everything lined up and he's a good horse for his program and he'll probably go on to the races."

Multiple Grade I winner Practical Joke (Into Mischief) is represented by his first crop of yearlings this year. Earlier in

Tuesday's session, Brookstone purchased a colt by the Coolmore stallion for \$210,000 from Pdraig Campion's Blandford Stud.

"We really like Practical Joke," Taylor said. "They are a little bit different than the Into Mischiefs, they have a lot of substance and size already on them. And they have a little more body to them, but they've got a lot of the same good characteristics, too. They are pretty straightforward and easy-going horses. And they all seem really athletic. They speak to me like the American Pharoahs did when they were yearlings. They all are really good movers."

Taylor also gave an update on GI Breeders' Cup Distaff winner Blue Prize (Arg) (Pure Prize), who Best purchased for a sale-topping \$5 million at the Fasig-Tipton November sale last fall. The mare is expected to visit Into Mischief this year.

"She is settling in and she's being spoiled," Taylor said. "She's living the dream life at the Aaron and Marie Jones barn on the farm. That's a barn full of mares that have made a lot of really nice babies." [@JessMartiniTDN](#)

Candy Ride Colt Back to Empire State



Miguel Clement (right) | Keeneland

Bloodstock agent Miguel Clement, bidding on behalf of a racing partnership, went to \$280,000 to acquire a New York-bred colt by Candy Ride (Arg) early in Tuesday's second session of the January sale. The short yearling will be trained by his father, Christophe Clement.

"We're very thankful to have very loyal and supportive owners," Clement said after signing the ticket on **hip 478**. "As you know, the stable is very much into the New York-bred program. So it's exciting and hopefully we can see him on the racecourse."

The chestnut colt is out of Sweet Aloha and is a half-brother to stakes winners Filibustin (Bustin Stones) and Indy's Lady (Take Charge Indy). He was consigned by Stuart Morris on behalf of

Positive reports on his first crop!

“ I love the two Air Force Blue's I have. They are big, quality colts with great minds and they look like they are going to show the same speed and class their sire did. Both are pointing for early spring campaigns with Keeneland or Belmont in mind, then hopefully onto Royal Ascot. ”

Wesley Ward, on the colts out of Union Prayer and Boom Boom Vroom



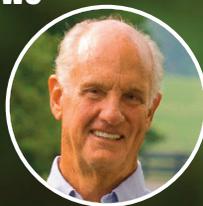
“ I love the Air Force Blue filly we purchased in September. She oozes quality and is incredibly athletic. Looking back after the sale she is the one that really stands out in my mind. ”

Marette Farrell on the yearling filly ex Secret Agenda she purchased for Peter Fluor's Speedway Stable at Keeneland September for \$290,000 which is going into training with Bob Baffert.



“ She was one of the nicest fillies we sold this year, and her weanling full-sister is equally as nice. ”

Arthur Hancock of Stone Farm, who bred both Air Force Blue and his daughter out of Secret Agenda.



“ TDN: What was your favourite yearling that you purchased this year? ”

David Redvers: We bought a smashing AIR FORCE BLUE colt [\$400,000] who is a half-brother to G3 Cornwallis S. winner Sergei Prokofiev (Scat Daddy) from Keeneland - he looks very fast indeed. ”
TDN, 11th Nov



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AIR FORCE BLUE

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breeder Dr. Jerry Bilinski's Waldorf Farm. Sweet Aloha was bred to Union Rags last spring.

Clement agreed the colt's state-bred status was an incentive in the purchase for his father's New York-based stable.

"The New York-bred program is a great program," he said. "And I thought this was probably the best colt here in the sale. So it was a no-brainer for us. We bid more, without a doubt, because it was a New York-bred. He's a very exciting horse and we're very lucky to get him." @JessMartiniTDN

Graves Hard at Work on next Pinhooking Project



Brian Graves | Keeneland

Brian Graves has enjoyed great success over the years with his weanling-to-yearling pinhooks and he was hard at work building his 2020 group Tuesday at Keeneland, topped by a \$260,000 filly by top sire Into Mischief (Hip 448).

"I liked everything about that filly," said Graves, who signed the ticket as Blue Sky Stables. "She is leggy, a very elegant type, long neck, a nice square behind to her. She is by a leading sire. He is number one. We will bring her back [to auction] and see how it goes."

Bred by Reiley McDonald's Athens Woods Farm and consigned by Eaton Sales, the bay filly is out of the Indian Charlie mare Silent Circle. She is also responsible for GSW Sonic Boom (More Than Ready) and GSP Galientos (More Than Ready).

"It was about what I expected," McDonald said. "She is a lovely filly and the mare is a good producer. The 3-year-old out of the mare looks quite good as well. I figured she would bring about that and I am glad that Brian bought her."

Silent Circle's 3-year-old is a filly named Tulanian (Twirling Candy), a \$120,000 KEESEP buy, who has hit the board in four of her five starts for owner Joel Politi and trainer Tom Amoss.

--CDeBernardisTDN

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KEENELAND JANUARY - TUESDAY'S TOP MARES

HIP	NAME	STATUS	PRICE (\$)
795D	Enaya Alrabb <i>(4, Uncle Mo-Lotta Rhythm, by Rhythm)</i>	Broodmare Prospect	640,000
	Consigned by Paramount Sales, agent LIV Purchased by James Schenck, agent		
595	Confidently <i>(4, War Front-Playa Maya, by Arch)</i>	Racing/Bmare Prospect	560,000
	Consigned by Glen Hill Farm Purchased by James Schenck, agent		
795E	Inflamed <i>(10, Unusual Heat-Little Hottie, by Afternoon Deelites)</i>	i/f Tapiture	525,000
	Consigned by Glen Hill Farm Purchased by Shadai Farm		
795K	Pomeroy's Pistol <i>(12, Pomeroy-Prettyatthetable, by Point Given)</i>	Broodmare	475,000
	Consigned by Brookdale Sales, agent for Hardacre Farm LLC Purchased by Mike Ryan, agent		
496	Tiz Breathtaking <i>(4, Tiznow-I'm Breathtaking, by Elusive Quality)</i>	Racing/B'mare Prospect	375,000
	Consigned by Eaton Sales, agent for the Estate of William D. Graham (Windhaven Farms) Purchased by WinStar and Larry Taylor		
603	Cry and Catch Me <i>(15, Street Cry {Ire}-Please Sign In, by Doc's Leader)</i>	Broodmare	300,000
	Consigned by Warrendale Sales, agent for Live Oak Stud Purchased by Eaton Bloodstock		
579	Celebrity Glitter <i>(5, Tapit-Shop Again, by Wild Again)</i>	Broodmare Prospect	250,000
	Consigned by Indian Creek, agent Purchased by Landrum Farm, LLC		
741	Lunch Hour <i>(9, Medaglia d'Oro-Sis City, by Slew City Slew)</i>	i/f Lea	230,000
	Consigned by Four Star Sales, agent for the Estate of William D. Graham (Windhaven Farms) Purchased by Zach Madden for Conrad Farms		
561	Black Dynamite <i>(4, More Than Ready-Heatherdoesntbluff, by Old Trieste)</i>	Racing/Bmare Prospect	210,000
	Consigned by Indian Creek, agent Purchased by Claiborne Farm Bloodstock, agent		
667	Gift of Glory <i>(i/f City of Light)</i>	i/f City of Light	200,000

(5, Lookin At Lucky–Glencoe Church, by Capote)

Consigned by Lane’s End, agent

Purchased by Fairview LLC

KEENELAND JANUARY - TUESDAY'S TOP YEARLINGS

HIP	SEX	SIRE DAM	PRICE (\$)
623	f	Mastery–Dowry Breeder: The Neuman Group (KY) Consignor: Royal Oak Farm (Damian & Braxton Lynch), agent Purchaser: Andre Lynch, agent	365,000
531	f	War Front–Agreeable Miss Breeder: Frank Hutchinson (KY) Consignor: Eaton Sales, agent Purchaser: Jamie Railton Sales Agency	345,000
550	c	Practical Joke–Bayou Miss Breeder: Vossfeld Bloodstock Group (KY) Consignor: Brookdale Sales, agent for Vossfeld Bloodstock Purchaser: OXO Equine, LLC	320,000
478	c	Candy Ride (Arg)–Sweet Aloha Breeder: Dr. Jerry Bilinski (NY) Consignor: Stuart Morris, agent for Waldorf Farm Purchaser: C. Clement, agent	280,000
786	c	Constitution–No Mo Lemons Breeder: Circular Road Breeders (KY) Consignor: Paramount Sales, agent III Purchaser: Northface Bloodstock	265,000
448	f	Into Mischief–Silent Circle Breeder: Athens Woods (KY) Consignor: Eaton Sales, agent Purchaser: Blue Sky Stables	260,000
686	f	Frosted–High Style Breeder: Sun Valley Farm and Godolphin (KY) Consignor: James B. Keogh (Grovendale), agent XXXV Purchaser: Tracy Farmer	250,000

Questroyal Stable purchased two-time winner Personal Sunset, in foal to promising young sire Constitution, for \$22,000 at this same sale last year. After RNA’ing for \$97,000 at Fasig-Tipton New York Saratoga Fall Mixed, her yearling bay colt by the WinStar stallion proved popular Tuesday.

421 f Practical Joke Ribbon Cutter 150,000
B-Sequel Stallions, NY & Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings (NY)
 Consigned by Sequel New York, agent
 Purchased by Empire Thoroughbreds, agent for Kingsport Farm Ribbon Cutter, in foal to Practical Joke, brought \$72,000 from Sequel New York/Stonestreet Stables at the 2018 KEENOV Sale. The resulting produce from that stallion’s first crop brought \$150,000 during Keeneland January’s second session. Hip 421 is from the extended female family of ‘TDN Rising Star’ and MGISW McKinzie (Street Sense).

KEENELAND JANUARY - BROODMARES

Hip	Name	Status	Price (\$)
667	Gift of Glory <i>(m, 5, Lookin At Lucky–Glencoe Church, by Capote)</i> Consigned by Lane’s End, agent Purchased by Fairview LLC	i/f City of Light	200,000
795e	Inflamed <i>(m, 10, Unusual Heat–Little Hottie, by Afternoon Deelites)</i> Property of Glen Hill Farm Purchased by Shadai Farm See Story, p5	i/f Tapiture	525,000

A RETIREMENT FIT FOR A QUEEN

By Christie DeBernardis

When Michelle Crawford came across the 25-year-old blue hen **Tizso** (Cee’s Tizzy), a full-sister to Hall of Famer Tiznow, in the Keeneland January catalogue, she immediately knew she had to have her. The longtime Standardbred owner/breeder, who operates **Crawford Farms** in Durhamville, N.Y., with her husband Al, wanted to ensure that the mare received the retirement she deserved.

“I started going through the catalogue and she was number 90, so I didn’t get very far before I said that is it, she is the one I’m getting,” Crawford said from St. Bart’s, where she had just arrived for what the racing industry would call a brief freshening. “Honestly, if she was 15 I probably would have turned the page, but when I saw she was 25, I said no that is not

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KEENELAND JANUARY - SHORT YEARLINGS

Hip	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
405	c	Constitution	Personal Sunset <i>B-Questroyal Stable & Hidden Lake Farm (NY)</i> Consigned by Mulholland Springs, Agent XXI Purchased by Empire Bloodstock	175,000

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Tizzo in hew new stall at Crawford Farms | Crawford Farms

happening.”

The horsewoman, who operates Bankers Healthcare Group with her husband in addition to running their farm, continued, “I did ask a couple of people if I could buy her out of the sale, but they suggested I let her go through. There was a little bit of interest in her, so she wouldn’t end up in harm’s way. Once I set my sights on her, I had to have her.”

Tizzo is already the dam of four black-type horses, headlined by Grade I-winning millionaire and sire Paynter (Awesome Again). She is also responsible for GSW Tiz West (Gone West), SW Tizakitty (Distinctive Cat) and SP Tizalovelylady (Western Fame).

“She produced Paynter and is a full-sister to Tiznow,” said Crawford, who has 100 Standardbred broodmares and just two other Thoroughbred mares. “I am not fluent in the Thoroughbreds like I am in the Standardbreds, but I thought I was being sneaky because a lot of people don’t know what to do with a 25-year-old mare. I love Frosted. I have another mare, Listenupnow, a half-sister to La Coronel, with a Frosted in the belly, so I was very excited.”

Crawford could not make it to Lexington for the sale, so she asked a longtime friend from the Standardbred world, Phillip Antonacci of Preferred Equine to check out her new addition and bid on her behalf.

“I called Phillip Antonacci with Preferred, who was a good friend of ours from the Standardbreds,” Crawford said. “He went and looked at her and said, ‘Michelle, this is a home run. She is beautiful and a class mare.’”

The co-owner of MGSW Shancelot (Shanghai Bobby) continued, “She had been well taken care of by the farm. I didn’t think much more of it and waited patiently for the sale. My husband was on board and I was already in love from the pictures Phillip sent me.”

Antonacci secured Tizzo for \$62,000 on Crawford’s behalf from the Taylor Made consignment. The unraced bay has produced 16 foals throughout her broodmare career with the most recent being a now-2-year-old filly by Into Mischief. Her upcoming 17th foal will be her last as Crawford bought her with the intention of retiring her to live out her days enjoying lush pastures at her 1500-acre facility.

“I just wanted to make sure she got a good home,” said Crawford. “We are very big on retirement and do a lot of rescue. She arrived at 4 a.m. at our farm in New York and was happy as a clam. She went out this morning and was grazing. My farm manager said she was just wild for 25. When she is done with this [pregnancy] and weans, she will go out to our green pastures and be spoiled with treats and live happily ever after.”

She continued, “I am very excited about her Frosted foal and I hope it is a filly so I can continue the line. I will be just as thrilled if it is a colt though and will keep him.”

Crawford has received a lot of attention on social media and has had many people reach out to her over the past 24 hours since she acquired the new queen of Crawford Farms.

“I had no idea until after [I bought her] how popular she was,” Crawford said. “People started emailing me and texting me. I think I have 120 new friends on Twitter because of this mare.”

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Jumping Blindly cont. from p1

One-eyed wonders like Hard Not to Love--recent winner of the GI La Brea S.--and the aptly-named Patch--a 2017 Kentucky Derby contender--have both given “Rooster” Cogburn a run for his money in the mythology of America’s monophthalmic.

But can any horse, Thoroughbred or other, not only survive without eyesight but thrive? Common sense says not. On the outskirts of Eugene, Oregon, however, an Appaloosa by the name of Endo proves otherwise.

“He likes to go fast,” said Morgan Wagner, 32, Endo’s owner and the person who, with the autodidact’s stoic resolve, has dedicated a large portion of her life to give Endo his own constitutional take on the pursuit of happiness. This includes jumping, trail riding, traveling and competitions. Oh yes: both his eyes were removed roughly ten years ago.

“He just wants to go,” said Wagner, who learned to ride on Endo. “He knows I steer him and keep him safe.”

Endo. “He knows I steer him and keep him safe.”

“It’s going to happen to the other one.”



Endo and Wagner | Morgan Wagner

It was toward the end of last year I took the 5 freeway from Los Angeles down along the frothing Pacific coastline to the Del Mar Horse Park--a good stone’s throw from Del Mar racetrack--to meet Wagner and Endo as they waited to compete that afternoon.

All the accoutrements of the show world surrounded Endo’s stall. Buckets. Bales of straw. Bulging tack boxes. Gleaming bridles and saddles. Certainly, the horse inside the stall--glossy-coated with a round belly betraying the owner’s liberal approach with the feed scoop--certainly looked the part, save a muck stain on his quarters. But a closer inspection revealed that he lacked two of those show world accoutrements essential, surely, for success.

“Around eight years old, he started having problems with moon blindness when he went out into the sun in the summer,” Wagner explained. Moon blindness is a chronic eye disease that causes agonizing inflammation. Flare-ups started becoming routine, she said. Sometimes in one eye, sometimes in the other. Then both.

“It was very painful,” Wagner said. “He stopped eating, kept his head in the corner of the stall.”

Eventually, her vet removed one of the eyes. “He said get ready, because it’s going to happen to the other one.” Six months later, that prophecy was fulfilled.

Ordinarily, this is where the story ends. With one eye, a high standard of life was pretty much guaranteed. Eyeless--well, Wagner and Endo were entering uncharted territory blindly, so to speak.

“The vet had been with Endo all his life, knew he would be in a safe environment,” said Wagner. “He just needed to be safe and happy.”

“He was very dizzy”

That work to equip Endo with the necessary survival tools began after he lost his first eye--Wagner would place a bag over the one remaining and give him lots of reassuring pats until he was ready to take a small step forward. “The first time I did it he just stood there and shook.”

Eventually, however, Endo learned how to remove the bag himself, and before Wagner felt they had made any meaningful progress, the witching hour arrived.

“When he went blind, we just had to figure it out,” she said. She went online for advice and found a black hole. Wagner was on her own, no blueprint, with the extensive Liberty work--a series of training exercises to heighten the bond between horse and human--she had conducted with the fully-sighted Endo lending a foundation from which she built anew, bit by bit, day by day.

For the first couple of months, Endo was stall-bound. “He was very dizzy,” she said. “He didn’t want to walk anywhere on his own.” Then, she began to take him out for short walks, grazing around the property.

The walks grew longer--the grass grew shorter. Wagner eventually took Endo to his paddock, walked him around to acclimatize him to the dimensions, graduated to leaving him loose. Bit by bit, day by day.

Firstly, she remained in the paddock. Then, she would leave him as she worked in the nearby barn, returning every so often, “so he knew I wouldn’t abandon him,” Wagner said. “Then, when he started hollering for the horses back home, I put him to work.”

Roughly a year after Endo lost his second eye, Wagner decided to ride him again, bareback to begin with. Bit by bit. Through the Liberty training she had employed for Endo’s dizziness, the two had perfected very specific cues, voice and otherwise. “If he was falling in, he had cues to fall back out,” she said. “Leg cues to



Endo in competition | Morgan Wagner

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Morgan Wagner

weave in and out of poles.”

When it came time to jump, she set up a small crossrail, led him over for a sniff, then let him walk over it. “He picked his feet up high, so he definitely knew,” Wagner said.

When it came time to clear the crossrail with Wagner on his back, Endo was already primed with the necessary tools—a cue to rear followed by a “kiss, kiss” for forward momentum, which Wagner subsequently changed to “jump, jump.” (In what can only be described as a grimly doctrinaire approach of the rules, judges mark Wagner and Endo down for using voice cues in competition.)

Now, Endo’s routine differs little from his days with vision, she said. This includes trail rides, his default role at the head of affairs—if he doesn’t begin the ride in pole position, he’ll power-walk his way there—often with a beginner on his back and a bumbling squadron of greenhorns in hot pursuit.

“I have a little girl who does lessons with me,” Wagner said. “We went out for ride. She led the way on [Endo]. My horse was freaking out—it was a training horse. But Endo was the perfect lead.”

“Makes a picture in his mind”

At this point, the questions turn to why Endo is able to function so highly. Wagner’s had plenty of time to sit and ponder this, and she credits in large part the Liberty training and the vast toolbox of cues they’ve developed over the years. Voice cues in particular.

Indeed, Endo knows between 50-60 different words, she said. “I raise my voice a little so he knows that I’m now talking to him.”

Just how sophisticated are his language skills? According to Wagner, if she places a single apple slice among a pile of carrots

and tells Endo to find the lone apple, he will. “When he’s really good, he’ll do the opposite—find a carrot in a bunch of apples. He likes that game,” she said. “I’ll do this a lot in the winter, when he can’t go out as much.”

As for his navigational abilities, this is where we enter the murky territory of speculation. Understandably, his other senses—hearing and smell in particular—have heightened to compensate, she said. He’s able to distinguish Wagner’s footsteps from a crowd, for example. In what she believes is an adapted form of echolocation, like a bat, Endo knows when to duck his head when entering a stall.

His tactile senses, too, are vital. On the trail ride, “you don’t have to steer him,” she said. “He senses the grass and the leaves.”

Endo forms a kind of mental spatial map from memory, Wagner believes. “He absolutely remembers where things are in his area.” But over the years, this cognitive skill has sharpened, becoming even more evolved, prescient, so that in surroundings completely unfamiliar, he’s able to navigate himself safely without first being shown around. Wagner shared an anecdote of this from the day prior.

They had just arrived at the Del Mar show grounds on their first-ever visit. Wagner was in the middle of the stable area chatting to a group. Endo stood quietly at her side, loose. Suddenly, he strolled off into the lone empty stall nearby, looking for hay, lifting up his feet so as not to trip over a rail across the entrance. “He knew it was open without being able to see it.”

Accidents, I remarked, must have been inevitable—especially when Endo was getting accustomed to the dark. Bumped hips leaving the stall. Stumbles over the crossrails. Wagner shook her head.

“We fell once, when he was two, the first time he cantered,” she said. This was when Endo’s vision was fine. She was riding him on wet grass, she said, and he got up and stood over her. “He understood I got hurt.” Since then, theirs is a relationship forged on mutual trust—think Alexander and Bucephalus. Should Endo accidentally bump into her, Wagner pets him, says “it’s okay,” she said. “Me being hurt really bothers him.”

“This is an exceptional horse”

A blind horse that does everything his full-sighted peers can? Prior to meeting Endo and Wagner, I’d never heard of such a thing. Nor had any of the vets and trainers and other backstretch folks I quizzed. And so, I turned to a couple of equine behaviorists for their assessment (though it should be noted neither have direct experience with Endo).

“This is an exceptional horse with or without eyesight,” said Jim Heird, an internationally-renowned equine expert based at



Morgan Wagner

Texas A&M University. Like Wagner, he believes that Endo's other senses have evolved to compensate. "Their sense of smell is much higher than ours, and their sense of hearing is much greater than ours," he said.

"But I think the secret to what she's doing is he's developed an unbelievable level of trust in her, And she's done it correctly--the only way you can do that is he's obviously never been hurt or scared to any extent, and so, he's obviously built this incredible connection with her. He trusts that he's not going to get into trouble," Heird said.

"It may have been an advantage that she didn't know she wasn't supposed to do this. An experienced horse person would have said, 'Oh, this will never work,'" Heird said, adding that horses are innately gregarious. "They want connections. In fact, there's a lot of stories about how two horses will bond if one can't see."

Sue McDonnell, a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist and an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, has had hands-on experience with fewer than five totally blind horses, she said. Two of them were breeding stallions, who, with training, could navigate around the breeding shed.

"You could just tap on the dummy mount and they could orient to it," McDonnell said. "If you didn't know the horse was blind, you might wonder why the veterinarian was tapping on it."

There's a dearth of research into how the equine brain adapts to blindness, "but I think you can presume" that smell and hearing are particularly important, McDonnell agreed. And she suspects that vibrissae--the thick, long whiskers on the head which are connected to the brain--play a significant role.

"I've seen blind horses who, if they sense they're coming to an object, they will give out an audible blow," she said, adding that

the information returned through the vibrissae is a form of echolocation informing "how close" and "what kind of an object" is before them. "They get three-dimensional space information from these vibrissae," said McDonnell.

And while research into the sensory import of vibrissae in horses is limited, other research shows that a "huge" portion of a cat's brain responds when their vibrissae are touched, McDonnell said. "You can make assumptions that it's really important information coming from those whiskers," she said.

"I miss so much"

Endo was a foal, unbroken, when Wagner got him. She'd never had a horse before, couldn't ride, and so through trial and error, she and Endo together acquired their skills--a symbiosis which attains another layer of profound mutual preservation when you consider how Endo similarly helps Wagner manage her Lupus, a debilitating autoimmune disease, which renders her officially disabled.

If Wagner suffers a dizzy spell out on a ride, for example, "he'll just stop when I'm leaning to one side," she said. "He keeps me upright."

As Endo nears his 20th birthday, Wagner has started to cut back the competitions and the shows and the traveling. Though perfectly healthy, Endo's advancing age compels his owner to better chronicle the minutia of their relationship.

"I miss so much," Wagner said, which is why she aims to purchase a GoPro camera and attach it to her lapel to capture some of the more inexplicable examples of his behavior--like the time she had lined up trotting poles out in his paddock as part of a dressage court and turned him out without showing him them.

"I was watching him, and he trotted over it and didn't trip. I thought, 'This is lucky,'" she said. Endo did it again. The third time, he cantered over them without tripping. "I don't know how he did that," she said.

His relationship with other horses brooks similar exploration. Wagner rescued a miniature horse as a companion. "I didn't want him to be alone," she said, "and I didn't know if he could go out with other horses again."

Those fears turned out to be unfounded--she not only turns Endo out with other horses, he's a schoolmaster for the young and obnoxious. Wagner believes he can read their body language through breathing and the dance of their hooves. And do the other horses intuitively treat him with an over-abundance of caution? Depends, said Wagner.

"He can tell when a horse is pinning their ears at him," she said. "But then, some horses, like this mare who came to us, are just really gentle, and if he bumps into them, they don't pin their ears back or say, 'Get out of my space.'"

All too quickly, it was time for me to get out of their space, the

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Keeneland January Sale

First short yearlings sold for **\$320,000** (Oxo Equine, LLC), **\$210,000** (Brookstone), **\$150,000** (Andre Lynch), **\$150,000** (Empire Thoroughbreds, Agent for Kingsport Farm) etc.

Keeneland November Sale

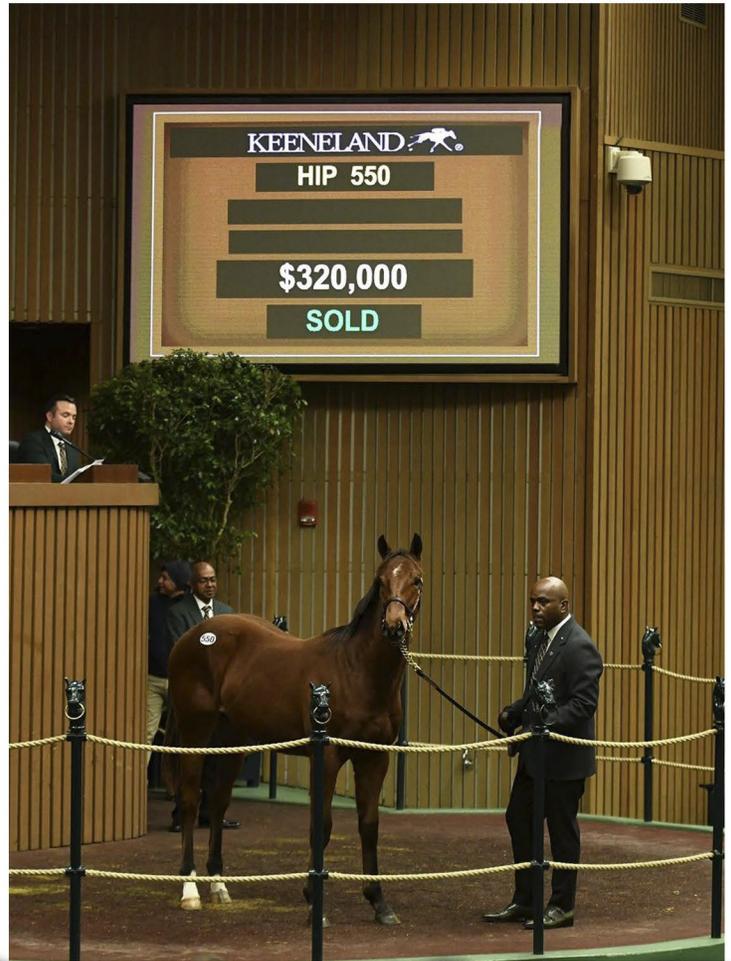
Weanlings sold for **\$260,000** (Oxo Equine), **\$210,000** (Waystar Co.), **\$185,000** (Brookstone Farm), **\$120,000** (De Meric Stables, agent), **\$115,000** (McMahon & Hill Bloodstock, agent), **\$110,000** (Red Devil Bloodstock) etc.

Fasig-Tipton November Sale

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

"I have had a lot of success with Into Mischief and from what I have seen so far I really like the Practical Joke's. This is the third one we have bought, they are all great-bodied, athletic, strong individuals, all the attributes that would make you hope Practical Joke could follow in the footsteps of his sire."

LARRY BEST



"He is just a super nice individual. We looked at him in the barn several times and he had a lot of class and carried himself very well. Larry Best has had a lot of success with Into Mischief and he likes Practical Joke a lot too. He already bought two who are back at the farm and doing very well, we're delighted to get another one today." KATIE TAYLOR who signed the ticket on behalf of Larry Best's Oxo Equine for Hip 550 for \$320,000

"He was a very good physical, straight forward and a good walking horse. I have been very impressed with the Practical Joke's overall. He was an exceptional racehorse, I'm a big fan of him as a sire and this was the horse we wanted today." ARCHIE ST GEORGE of Brookstone Farm



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competition looming. “Yesterday was dressage,” said Wagner. “Today’s the speed day.”

But on the long and less than speedy drive back to Los Angeles, I felt as one does when given a formula to solve a mathematical conundrum. You’re not yet quite sure why it solves the problem, or how it fits another. But it works. No ifs, buts or maybes.

And as horse racing continues along the road of dismantling and rebuilding using the Copernican model of putting horse welfare at the very center, maybe there are a few equine versions of the mathematical formula that we can glean from this story. For as the great Galileo--the man who picked up Copernicus’s mantle--put it: “The authority of thousands of opinions is not worth as much as one tiny spark of reason in an individual.”

To learn more about Endo and Wagner, visit their [Facebook page](#) and [website](#). Click [here](#) for a fan appreciation video, *Endo The Incredible*.

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NEARLY 1000 ENTRIES FOR INAUGURAL SAUDI CUP PROGRAM *by Alan Carasso*



Midnight Bisou | Sarah Andrew

The inaugural US\$29.2-million Saudi Cup program, to be held at King Abdulaziz Racetrack in the capital of Riyadh Saturday, Feb. 29, has attracted 964 entries from connections of horses from all corners of the globe.

The meeting’s centerpiece is the \$20-million Saudi Cup at 1800 meters on dirt and attracted over 140 nominations from 60 different trainers from four continents, representing 16 countries.



Saudi Cup Looking M-M-M Good...

The world’s richest horse race has entries from Argentina, Bahrain, Japan, Korea, Poland and Turkey, but American runners figure to take all the beating. **Midnight Bisou** (Midnight Lute), a shoe-in for the champion older female Eclipse Award, heads a trio of ‘Killer Ms,’ a group that also includes likely champion 3-year-old **Maximum Security** (New Year’s Day) and Eclipse finalist and ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ **McKinzie** (Street Sense). Other names of note from the U.S. include ‘**Rising Star**’ **Gift Box** (Twirling Candy), his stablemate **Higher Power** (Medaglia d’Oro), **Mo Forza** (Uncle Mo), **Seeking the Soul** (Perfect Soul {Ire}), GI Belmont S. hero **Sir Winston** (Awesome Again), GI Breeders’ Cup Dirt Mile winner **Spun to Run** (Hard Spun), **Tacitus** (Tapit) and **Tax** (Arch).

Some interesting names appear among the foreign entries, including champion Japanese dirt horse **Chrysoberyl** (Jpn) (Gold Allure {Jpn}); Korean-based **Blue Chipper** (Tiznow), third in the Dirt Mile; fellow Korean star **Dolkong** (Afleet Alex); Godolphin turf stars **Benbatl** (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) and **Ghaiyyath** (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}); GI Belmont S. and G1 Dubai World Cup runner-up **Gronkowski** (Lonhro {Aus}); **Magic Wand** (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}); and Japanese turf G1SW **Moza Ascot** (Frankel {GB}).

“The response to the Saudi Cup from the international racing community has been fantastic,” said Tom Ryan, Director of Strategy and International Racing for the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia. “We couldn’t be happier with the entries that we’ve received and we are now fully focused on putting on a spectacular first Saudi Cup race day to live up to the calibre of these entries.”

Stayers Go For Night’s Second-Biggest Pot...

At US\$2.5 million, the Red Sea Turf H. is the night’s next-richest event, for which weights have already been assigned.

Last seen getting the better of Stradivarius (Ire) (Sea The Stars {Ire}) in the G2 QIPCO British Champions Long Distance Cup at Ascot in October, **Kew Gardens** (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) could make his 5-year-old debut in the 3000-meter test. The 62kg (136 pounds) highweight could square off with the likes of 2018 G1 Melbourne Cup hero **Cross Counter** (GB) (Teofilo {Ire}, 61.5kg); the now Dubai-based 2018 G1 Investec Derby runner-up **Dee Ex Bee** (GB) (Farhh {GB}, 61.5kg); and the globe-trotting **Prince of Arran** (GB) (Shirocco {Ger}, 59kg), placed in the Flemington feature in 2018 and 2019.

More Big Names On the Undercard...

A potentially more attractive and logical spot for Benbatl is the Neom Turf Cup, to be held over 2100 meters of the newly installed turf course at the King Abdulaziz Racetrack. Aidan O’Brien has given reigning Investec Derby hero **Anthony Van**



Magic Wand, shown here winning the G1 Mackinnon S., holds a pair of entries for the Saudi Cup program | Bronwen Healy

Dyck (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) an entry, as well as stablemate **Circus Maximus (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), Magic Wand and **Mount Everest (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}). Japan's **Deirdre (Jpn)** (Harbinger {GB}), who traveled the world with credit in 2019, is also nominated to the \$1-million race, as is Jockey Club Oaks Invitational winner **Edisa** (Kitten's Joy). The Todd Pletcher-trained **Channel Cat** (English Channel) and Mo Forza could fly the U.S. flag.

The \$1.5-million Riyadh Dirt Sprint (1200m) is headlined by top American short-tracker **Imperial Hint** (Imperialism) and fellow American-bred **Firenze Fire** (Poseidon's Warrior). Gladiator King (Curlin), last-out winner of the G3 Dubawi S. at Meydan, has been entered alongside **Kimbear** (Temple City), who took the G3 Al Maktoum Challenge-Round 1 over 1600 meters Jan. 9. Blue Chipper has proven equally adept at sprint trips, having won the Keeneland Korea Sprint, while multiple Japanese GSW sprinter **Copano Kicking** (Spring At Last) has also been given a longshot entry.

Bound For Nowhere (The Factor) and **Shekky Shebaz** (Cape Blanco {Ire}) could take in the \$1-million 1351 Turf Sprint at that about seven-furlong trip, while the \$800,000 Saudi Derby (1600m) has attracted recent GIII Sham S. runner-up **Azul Coast** (Super Saver), 'TDN Rising Stars' **Chestertown** (Tapit) and **Shoplifted** (Into Mischief) from the Steve Asmussen barn and Japan-based, but American-conceived **Danon Pharaoh (Jpn)** (American Pharoah).

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A WOMAN AMONG MEN

By *Christie DeBernardis*



Linda Rice | Horsephotos

It was about 9:15 a.m. on a chilly day at Belmont and as I headed down the aisle toward the back door of Barn 44 for what felt like the 50th time since arriving at 5:15 a.m., a hot walker stopped me in my tracks saying with a laugh, "You two started neck and neck earlier, but now she has 10 lengths on you." The woman he was referring to was top trainer Linda Rice and he couldn't have summed her up much better.

A client once compared Rice to a champion boxer, you knock her down and she comes right back swinging. You may start on her level, but it won't be long before she blows right by you because she has no quit. Hard-working doesn't even begin to describe Rice, who started her training in the world of horse racing at birth under the expert eye of her father Clyde Rice. A pioneer in the pinhooking game, his lifelong friend D. Wayne Lukas referred to him as a great horseman with an incredible eye for a horse.

On Sunday, Rice reached a career milestone, winning her 2,000th race with **Scilly Cay** (Fed Biz) in the Rego Park S. She is the third woman to do so in North America, but is well clear of her fellow female trainers in other categories, such as stakes wins with 199 and graded stakes wins with 46, eight of those being Grade Is, as well as over \$80 million in earnings.

People tend to focus on Rice's career achievements in relation to her gender, which is irrelevant as far as she is concerned. Rice always says racing is a tough game for anyone, male or female. And, despite the often discussed gender gap, she is absolutely



APP UPDATE

For those subscribers who have been having problems opening the TDN in the app, there is now an update in the App Store. Please update your app, which will fix the bug.

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right. The veteran conditioner's success shouldn't be measured by her gender because she is 50 lengths clear of the next female trainer on the North American standings. She had a personal best season as far as earnings in 2019 with over \$7.25 million and scored 145 wins overall, landing her at 15th in the nation.

The petite blonde, born in Wisconsin and raised in Pennsylvania, has not only survived but thrived on what is arguably the most competitive circuit in the country. With several leading trainer titles to her credit, including one at Saratoga, Rice has finished in the top five on the NYRA circuit in the past seven years and last year was second to only soon-to-be four-time Eclipse winner Chad Brown with 106 wins.

What is remarkable about this is not the fact that a woman finished second to Brown on the toughest circuit in the country or that a woman beat the likes of Todd Pletcher, Steve Asmussen, Bill Mott and Mark Casse to do so. The truly noteworthy aspect is that Rice accomplished this feat with a third of the number of horses Brown has and a barn that is not littered with seven-figure purchases or pedigrees overflowing with champions and Grade I winners.

Rice's best runners have come from much more modest beginnings, such as dual Grade I-winning sprinter **Palace** (City Zip), whom she claimed for just \$20,000 and retired to the Spendthrift stallion barn with over \$1.5 million in earnings. Or champion and millionaire **La Verdad** (Yes It's True), who is out of a mare Rice purchased for \$115,000 as a 2-year-old. The horsewoman also trained her Eclipse winner's younger sister **Hot City Girl**, a Grade III winner and Grade I-placed daughter of top stallion **City Zip**, who is also a former Rice pupil. Let's not forget her most recent top-level scorer **Voodoo Song** (English Channel), winner of four races at Saratoga in 2017 and the 2018 GI Fourstardave H.

Rice has one of the sharpest eyes in the game when it comes to claiming, dropping a slip on the likes of MGSW **Kid Cruz** (Lemon Drop Kid) and MSW **Do Share** (Candy Ride {Arg}) early in their careers. One of her most recent claiming scores is **Wicked Trick** (Hat Trick {Jpn}), who has won three straight since being haltered by Rice for \$16,000, earning more than seven times his tag. The one-eyed gelding is being pointed at the Jan. 17 GIII Toboggan S.

Like her father, Rice has a highly trained eye at the sales, purchasing accomplished runners such as GSW **Holiday Disguise** (Harlan's Holiday) and multiple stakes winners **Newly Minted** (Central Banker), **Split Time** (Take Charge Indy), **Startwithsilver** (Jump Start) and **Sower** (Flatter).

It was the fleet-footed La Verdad who first put Rice on my radar back when I was a more casual fan of the game. Once I joined the *TDN* in 2013 and racing became my life, I followed the razor-sharp conditioner's career diligently and she became

to me what Michael Jordan might be to a high school basketball player or Derek Jeter to a young baseball fanatic.

When I had the opportunity to meet her in June of 2016 while on assignment at Belmont, it was a dream come true for a young woman in the industry and lifelong horse lover. A few years later, we became good friends and I have been lucky enough to shadow her on the job. As that hot walker said, Rice's day will wear you out. She starts at 4 a.m., her sharpest hour as she says, and does not stop for a minute until about 6 p.m.

Not many people are lucky enough to meet the top-level professionals they admire from afar, never mind have them become their mentor. And those that do are often disappointed as the person they imagined is usually not the person they find in real life. However, that could not be further from the truth for me. Linda Rice is everything I pictured she would be during my time spent studying her career and much, much more. She is a role model, not just for women in racing, but for anyone in racing.

A full-time staff writer for the TDN, author Christie DeBernardis also does freelance work for Linda Rice Racing among others.

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FORMER BLUEGRASS FARM GM LARRY RICHARDSON PASSES AT 75



Larry Wayne Richardson
1944-2020

Surrounded by his family, Larry Wayne Richardson passed away at his Lexington, Kentucky, home Jan. 13. He was 75. The Maryland native is survived by his wife of 50 years, Marilyn Richardson; his sons Justin (Jessica) and Cody (Daisy); and grandchildren, Rowlin, Reed, Annslee and Tate.

Services will be held Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020 at Kerr Brothers Funeral Home on Harrodsburg Road, Lexington, Kentucky. Visitation will be from 12:30-2:30 p.m. followed by the funeral service at 2:30 p.m., officiated by Gordon Walls.

Memorial contributions can be made to Bluegrass Hospice Care, 2312 Alexandria Dr., Lexington, KY 40504 and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908.

The son of the late J.D. and Margaret Richardson, Larry Richardson had extensive experience in the cattle and Quarter Horse industries prior to moving his family to Lexington in 1982 as General Manager of Nelson Bunker Hunt's Bluegrass Farm.

"Mr. Bunker Hunt wanted to breed 400 mares a year—unheard of at the time—and dad, who had a background in ranching, was well accustomed to breeding thousands of head of cattle a year," explained Richardson's son, Cody. "It was a bit of a culture shock for dad, going from a ranching background to a global Thoroughbred operation, but he took to it like a duck to water. The greatest times in his life were spent in the Thoroughbred business."

Subsequent to the dispersal of Bunker Hunt's Thoroughbred holdings in 1988, Richardson went on to establish multiple racing syndicates and other bloodstock ventures. He most recently held the position of business development manager at Tufco Flooring.

"Even though he left the Thoroughbred industry and got into other businesses about five years ago, he was still very much a lover of the game," said Cody. "He loved to bet the horses and really enjoyed the industry."

Among those in racing who Richardson left a lasting impression on is trainer Todd Pletcher, who became acquainted with Richardson via his own father, Jake, who trained for Bluegrass Farm and became friends with the general manager during their respective tenures with Bunker Hunt's operation.

"He was a great man," said Pletcher. "He had a lot of skills with horses and he was an all-around great guy. He was always in a good mood, always laughing. He was a happy guy that really seemed to enjoy life. He'll be missed."

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EXPANDED MATCH SERIES OFFERS \$3.75M IN PURSES IN 2020



Mitchell Road (English Channel) winning the 2019 GIII Galoprette S.
Horsephotos

The popular Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships Series (MATCH) has been renewed for 2020, with an expanded schedule and an increase in owner, trainer and breeder bonus money thanks to new partner racetracks, horsemen's groups and breeder associations, the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association announced Tuesday. The Series, which returned in 2018 after a 16-year hiatus and works toward the larger goal of coordination in a region with the largest concentration of daily racing in the United States, has grown to 35 stakes at eight tracks with a combined \$3.75 million in purses for its 2020 renewal. Colonial Downs and Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races, both of which were part of the MATCH Series during its initial run from 1997-2001, have rejoined the series, as have the Virginia and Charles Town HBPA's.

The 2020 Series, which expands from four divisions to five, will begin Apr. 18 with a split schedule at Laurel Park and Charles Town and run until Championship Day at Parx Racing Oct. 10. Except for the split sites on opening day to accommodate Charles Town's entry into the Series, and Pimlico Race Course's races split between Black-Eyed Susan Day and Preakness Day, the Series will continue the concept begun in 2019 of conducting a race in each of the divisions on a single-card format at each participating track, roughly one month apart over a six-month period. Last year, there were 20 stakes spread over five MATCH Series days.

The other 2020 racetrack partners are Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course, PARX, Delaware Park and Monmouth Park. On the horsemen's side, the Delaware THA, Maryland THA, New Jersey THA, Pennsylvania THA, and Pennsylvania HBPA are participating again this year.

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David Redvers

Randy Bradshaw, agent

Joseph O'Brien

Dermot Farrington

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Klaravich Stables; Mike Ryan, agent

White Birch Farm; Oceanic Bloodstock, agent

*Hip 733 sold for \$260,000
at Keeneland September*



The 3-Year-Old Sprint--Dirt Division will join the four divisions from last year: 3-Year-Olds and Up Sprint--Dirt; Filly and Mare Sprint--Dirt; 3-Year-Olds and Up Sprint--Turf; and Filly and Mare Long--Turf. The division for 3-year-old sprinters was part of the MATCH Series before it went on hiatus.

"The MATCH Series is a testament to the extraordinary cooperation amongst all of the stakeholders in the region to promote our sport, advance the need for cooperation and coordination and our leadership role in advancing health, welfare and safety reforms for our horses," said Alan Foreman, creator of MATCH and Chairman of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association. "We welcome Colonial Downs and Charles Town back to the Series. We developed one of the best rivalries in racing last year, and look forward to a great competition this year."

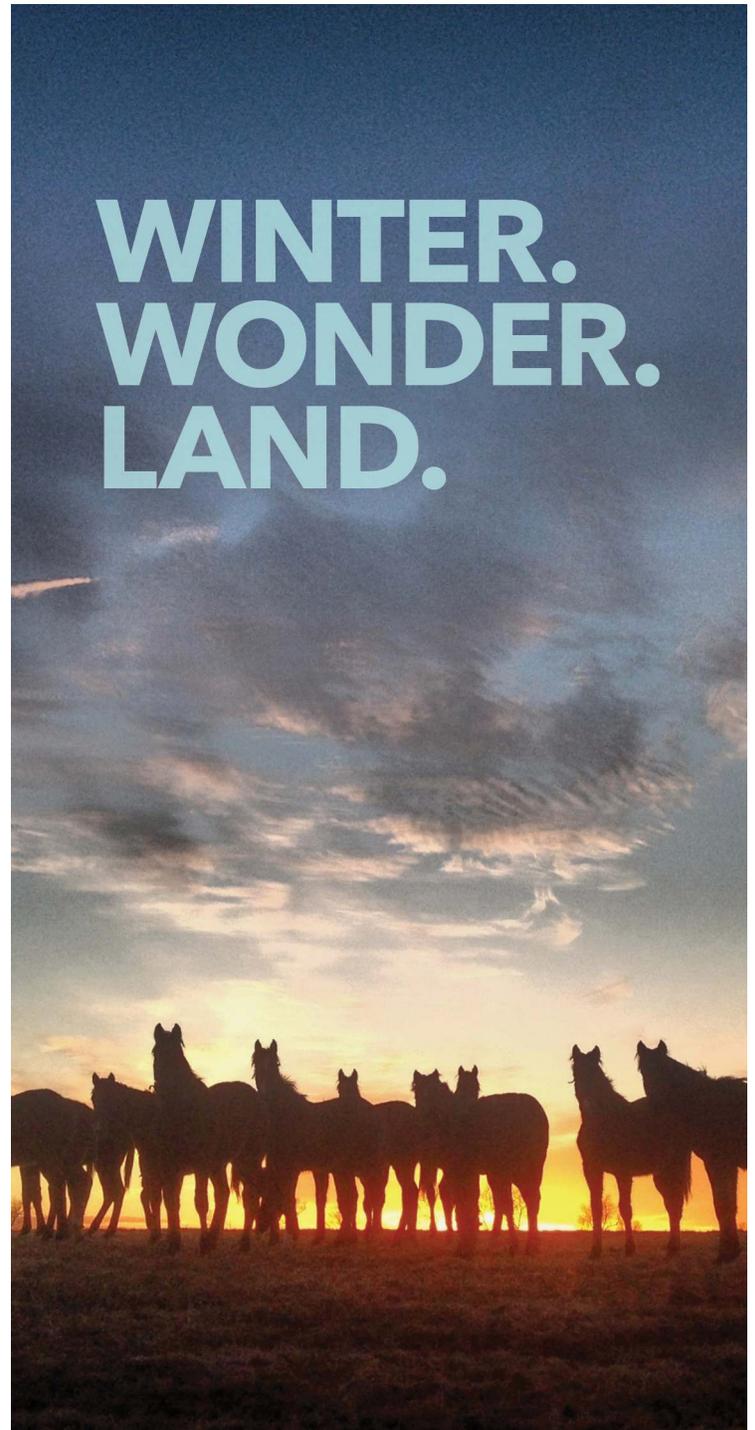
To see the entire 2020 MATCH Series schedule, [click here](#).

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FIRST FOAL FOR CHAMPION WEST COAST

The first foal by champion 3-year-old **West Coast** has arrived. The filly out of the young Harlan's Holiday mare Harlee Honey was born at Elm Tree Farm in Paris, Kentucky. Harlee Honey is a half-sister to Grade II winner California Nectar (Stormy Atlantic). "She has a ton of quality, beautiful shape and head," said Jody Huckabay of Elm Tree. "She's an exceptionally classy foal. We're very pleased." West Coast bred 168 mares in 2019 and is standing for \$35,000 at Lane's End in the 2020 season.

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Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	American Pharoah (2012) by Pioneerof the Nile FYR: 2017	4	12	3	8	--	3	73	28	692,500	2,935,038
										Four Wheel Drive	
2	Constitution (2011) by Tapit FYR: 2017	5	10	4	9	1	2	72	29	347,000	2,345,018
										Tiz the Law	
3	Palace Malice (2010) by Curlin FYR: 2017	2	4	1	2	1	1	67	20	709,500	1,786,418
										Structor	
4	Liam's Map (2011) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2017	2	4	2	2	2	2	48	19	329,500	1,532,424
										Wicked Whisper	
5	Tapiture (2011) by Tapit FYR: 2017	2	6	--	--	--	--	75	28	171,436	1,512,705
										Axiomo	
6	Competitive Edge (2012) by Super Saver FYR: 2017	4	6	--	--	--	--	60	29	219,308	1,512,108
										My Italian Rabbi	
7	Bayern (2011) by Offlee Wild FYR: 2017	--	3	--	--	--	--	57	23	107,112	1,389,032
										Tempers Rising	
8	Khozan (2012) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2017	2	8	--	1	--	--	48	19	233,800	1,305,917
										Liam's Lucky Charm	
9	Wicked Strong (2011) by Hard Spun FYR: 2017	1	4	--	--	--	--	68	28	74,542	1,214,813
										Forever Wicked	
10	Carpe Diem (2012) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2017	2	4	--	--	--	--	59	17	141,140	1,085,631
										Bella Aurora	
11	Tonalist (2011) by Tapit FYR: 2017	1	4	--	--	--	--	51	16	117,300	1,031,020
										Playtone	
12	Summer Front (2009) by War Front FYR: 2017	2	3	1	2	--	--	53	19	146,862	1,014,312
										Fighting Seabee	
13	Race Day (2011) by Tapit FYR: 2017	4	5	--	--	--	--	39	18	120,448	888,088
										Josie	
14	Fast Anna (2011) by Medaglia d'Oro FYR: 2017	3	3	--	--	--	--	42	11	211,280	858,646
										Been Studying Her	
15	Commissioner (2011) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2017	3	5	1	2	--	--	41	17	129,740	833,300
										Island Commish	

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D'Wildcat--Racene, by Miner's Mark

2020 Fee: \$7,500 LFSN



See **Hip 1353** at **KEEJAN**,
a 1/2-sister to **G2SW Hawkish**,
due early to **WILDCAT RED!**



Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 6:55 p.m. EST

LECOMTE S.-GIII, \$200,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Finnick the Fierce	Dialed In	Monge, Arnaldo and Hernandez, Rey	Hernandez	Leon	122
2	Mr. Monomoy 🌿	Palace Malice	Madaket Stables LLC, Dubb, Michael and Doheny Racing Stable	Cox	Geroux	122
3	Perfect Star 🌿	Into Mischief	Anton Kubacak	Gelner	Albarado	122
4	Scabbard 🌿	More Than Ready	Joseph W. Sutton	Kenneally	Lanerie	122
5	Excession 🌿	Union Rags	Calumet Farm	Asmussen	Hernandez	122
6	New Eagle 🌿	Street Boss	Calumet Farm	Maker	Saez	122
7	Halo Again 🌿	Speightstown	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC and Willis Horton Racing LLC	Asmussen	Talamo	122
8	Jack the Umpire	Bodemeister	P. Dale Ladner	Brinkman	Bridgmohan	122
9	Silver State 🌿	Hard Spun	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC and Willis Horton Racing LLC	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	122
10	Enforceable 🌿	Tapit	John C. Oxley	Casse	Leparoux	122
11	Bango	Congrats	Tamaroak Partners LLC	Foley	Pedroza	122
12	Shashashakemeup 🌿	Shackleford	Calumet Farm	Desormeaux	Graham	122
13	Sycamore Run 🌿	Street Sense	Dilworth, Scott and Dilworth, Evan	Sharp	Beschizza	122
14	Lynn's Map 🌿	Liam's Map	HRH Prince Sultan Bin Mishal Al Saud	Casse	Mena	122

Breeders: 1-Paige Jillian Blu Sky Stables, 2-FPF LLC & Highfield Ranch, 3-S. D. Brilie, L.P., 4-Joseph W. Sutton, 5-Randal Family Trust, R David & Marylyn ARandal Trustees, 6-Joe Mulholland Jr., John P. Mulholland& Karen Mulholland, 7-Anderson Farms Ont. Inc., 8-Brett A. Brinkman & P. Dale Ladner, 9-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 10-Clearsky Farms, 11-Tamaroak Stable, 12-Larkspur Thoroughbreds & Darby Dan, 13-Anderson Farms Ont. Inc., 14-Alastar Thoroughbred Company, LLC

Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 5:21 p.m. EST

LOUISIANA S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	My Boy Jack 🌿	Creative Cause	Don't Tell My Wife Stables & Monomoy Stables	Desormeaux	Desormeaux	118
2	Silver Dust 🌿	Tapit	Tom R. Durant	Calhoun	Gilligan	124
3	Blended Citizen 🌿	Proud Citizen	Sayjay Racing LLC, Hall, Greg & Hubbard, Brooke	Cox	Geroux	118
4	Gun It 🌿	Tapit	Whisper Hill Farm LLC and Three Chimneys Farm	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	120
5	Captivating Moon	Malibu Moon	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Block	Hernandez, Jr.	122
6	Roiland	Successful Appeal	Durlacher, James and Mary	Amoss	Graham	118
7	Tone Broke 🌿	Broken Vow	L and N Racing LLC	Asmussen	Talamo	118
8	Kukulkan (Mex)	Point Determined	St. George Stable LLC	Gutierrez	Mena	122

Breeders: 1-Brereton C. Jones, 2-Don Alberto Corporation, 3-Ray Hanson, 4-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC andBesilu Stables, LLC, 5-Lothenbach Stables Inc, 6-James M. Durlacher & Mary Durlacher, 7-Sean Fitzhenry, 8-Rancho San Jorge



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Competitive Edge (Super Saver), Ashford Stud, \$12,500
155 foals of racing age/30 winners/4 black-type winners
2-Sam Houston Race, Msw 1m, SUPER LEGS, 8-1
\$7,000 RNA KEE JAN wnl; \$3,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$27,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Constitution (Tapit), WinStar Farm, \$40,000
233 foals of racing age/29 winners/5 black-type winners
7-Gulfstream, Aoc 7f, SMALL REASON, 10-1
\$20,000 KEE SEP yrl

Tapiture (Tapit), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
246 foals of racing age/28 winners/2 black-type winners
7-Gulfstream, Aoc 7f, PERUVIAN BOY, 7-2
7-Gulfstream, Aoc 7f, PREMIER STAR, 6-5
\$105,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$100,000 OBS OPN 2yo



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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:
9th-Parx Racing, \$49,930, 1-14, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m,
1:46.72, ft.
FLASHNDYNAMITE (m, 5, Flashstorm--Dynamite Jewel, by
Badge) Lifetime Record: 22-8-2-5, \$184,180. O-Kasey K Racing
Stable LLC & Michael Day; B-Rae Marie Smith (FL); T-Michael M.
Moore.

6th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,500, 1-14, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f,
1:13.43, gd.

HOLLYWOOD HUMOR (f, 4, **Distorted Humor--Cloakof
Vagueness** {MGSP, \$433,078}, by El Prado {Ire}) Lifetime
Record: 16-4-2-4, \$59,512. O-Sheltowee Farm & Patricia M.
Adams; B-Kendall E. Hansen, M.D. Racing, LLC (KY); T-Michael
Evans II. *\$20,000 Ylg '17 FTKOCT; \$5,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR.

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3rd-Mahoning Valley, \$23,500, 1-14, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m,
1:41.82, gd.

TUXEDO LEMON (f, 4, **Lemon Drop Kid--Formal Affair, by
Dynaformer**) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-2, \$31,738. O/B-KatieRich
Farms (KY); T-Mark Hubley. *1/2 to Rezif (Distant View), GSW,
\$188,418.

4th-Mahoning Valley, \$23,500, 1-14, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 1m,
1:40.44, gd.

OVERBEARING (g, 4, **Bear's Kid--Miss Yankee, by Yankee
Gentleman**) Lifetime Record: 10-2-0-1, \$32,061. O/B-Colebrook
Farms (ON); T-Kevin Buttigieg.

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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Cristalinda, f, 3, **Cryptolight**--Vallinda, by General Meeting. Mahoning Valley, 1-14, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:07.14. B-Ronald DeWolf (OH).

Shore of Eden, f, 3, **Unbridledwood**--Sassy Shore Breeze, by Shore Breeze. Mahoning Valley, 1-14, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:07.29. B-Robert A. Rowe (OH). *\$3,700 Ylg '18 OHIOCT.

Canustaytonight, f, 4, **Bold Warrior**--Positive Thinker, by Storm Boot. Mahoning Valley, 1-14, (S), 6f, 1:16.29. B-Hal Snowden Jr. & William C. Snowden (OH).



- BEAR'S KID**, Overbearing, g, 4, o/o Miss Yankee, by Yankee Gentleman. ALW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley
- BOLD WARRIOR**, Canustaytonight, f, 4, o/o Positive Thinker, by Storm Boot. MSW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley
- CRYPTOLIGHT**, Cristalinda, f, 3, o/o Vallinda, by General Meeting. MSW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley
- DISTORTED HUMOR**, Holywood Humor, f, 4, o/o Cloakof Vagueness, by El Prado (Ire). ALW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley
- FLASHSTORM**, Flashndynamite, m, 5, o/o Dynamite Jewel, by Badge. ALW, 1-14, Parx Racing
- JUMP START**, Incite, c, 3, o/o Majestic Forestry, by Forestry. WMC, 1-14, Parx Racing
- LEMON DROP KID**, Tuxedo Lemon, f, 4, o/o Formal Affair, by Dynaformer. ALW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley
- UNBRIDLEDWOOD**, Shore of Eden, f, 3, o/o Sassy Shore Breeze, by Shore Breeze. MSW, 1-14, Mahoning Valley

UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Track</u>
Jan. 18	Gill Toboggan S.	Aqueduct
	Gill Lecomte S.	Fair Grounds
	Gill Louisiana S.	Fair Grounds
Jan. 19	Gill Astra S.	Santa Anita
Jan. 20	Gill Megahertz S.	Santa Anita
Jan. 25	GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational S.	Gulfstream
	GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational S.	Gulfstream
	Gill Inside Information S.	Gulfstream
	Gill Palos Verdes S.	Santa Anita
	Gill Fred Hooper S.	Gulfstream
	Gill W.L. McKnight S.	Gulfstream
	Gill La Prevoyante S.	Gulfstream



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SIVOLIERE A STAR IN FEBRUARY CATALOGUE



Sivoliere | Scoop Dyga

Tattersalls has released the catalogue for its two-day February Sale on Jan. 30 and 31, with the listed-winning and Group 3-placed **Sivoliere (Ire)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}) (lot 136), in foal to Kingman (GB), expected to be among the highlights of the 401 fillies, broodmares, colts and geldings, yearlings and 2-year-olds catalogued.

The 8-year-old Sivoliere is carrying her fourth foal. Her third foal, a Frankel (GB) filly, realized 360,000gns at last year's Tattersalls December Foal Sale before Sivoliere herself sold for 575,000gns the following week. Sivoliere is a granddaughter of the G1 Coronation S. winner Sophisticat (Storm Cat) and therefore a great granddaughter of the great American champion Serena's Song.

The broodmare section of the catalogue also includes mares in foal to the likes of Dark Angel (Ire), New Approach (Ire), Night of Thunder (Ire) and Sea the Moon (Ger).

The Castlebridge Consignment brings the largest draft (28), while Godolphin has 20 including the fillies **Memphis (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) (lot 156), a half-sister to G1 Fillies' Mile winner Lyric of Light (GB) (Street Cry {Ire}); and **Paschalia (Ire)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}) (lot 141), a daughter of G1 Preis von Europa winner Baila Me (Ger) (Samum {Ger}).

Cont. p2

Europe's Premier Midwinter Sale

Tattersalls February Sale

January 30 - 31



MOTION LASS
dam of **A'Ali**
sold Tattersalls
February Sale
for 9,000gns

NICK RUST TO STEP DOWN FROM BHA

British Horseracing Authority Chief Executive Officer Nick Rust will step down from his position at the end of 2020 after nearly six years of leading British racing's governing body and regulator.

Rust said in a letter to BHA staff on Tuesday, "I've spent much of the past year reflecting on my situation after my personal bereavement at the end of 2018. I wanted to let you and the BHA know my decision and plans well ahead of leaving to allow plenty of time for a successor to be identified and appointed."

"With the committed support of our new Chair, Annamarie Phelps, the BHA has put itself, and helped put our sport, in a place where we can be optimistic about our future. Only this afternoon, I spent several hours with our Executive team reviewing our plans for 2020. We have a busy and exciting year ahead."

Cont. p3

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

ENAYA ALRABB TOPS KEEJAN

A GISP filly by Uncle Mo topped KEEJAN Tuesday. Jessica Martini and Christie DeBernardis report from Lexington. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Tattersalls February Catalogue cont.

Godolphin also offers the listed-placed **Strings of Life (GB)** (Slade Power {Ire}) (lot 152) from the great family of Alidiva (Ire), Ali-Royal (Ire) and Sleepytime (Ire).

Other fillies to catch the eye include the listed-winning and group-placed **I'll Have Another (Ire)** (Dragon Pulse {Ire}) (lot 120); the winning **I'm Available (Ire)** (Nathaniel {Ire}) (lot 119), a daughter of the G3 Coral Charge Sprint S. winner and GI Nearctic S.-second Night Carnation (GB) (Sleeping Indian {GB}); **Irish Steps** (Giant's Causeway) (lot 8), an unraced daughter of GI Canadian International winner Sarah Lynx (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}); and **Jasmine B (Ire)** (Exceed and Excel {Aus}) (lot 14), a half-sister to Group 3 winner and multiple Group 1-placed Jack Naylor (GB) (Champs Elysees {GB}). The colts and geldings in training include Gormanstown Racing's **Raise You (Ire)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}) (lot 129). The 4-year-old colt won the Listed Fairway S. at Newmarket last spring and was third in the G3 Rose of Lancaster S. in August and is rated 114 by Timeform.



A'Ali's dam was purchased at Tattersalls February | *Racing Post*

“The Tattersalls February Sale continues to be a source of high-quality breeding stock and horses in training with the dam of last year’s multiple group-winning 2-year-old A’Ali being a prime example as is Dramatic Device, a 20,000gns purchase at last year’s February Sale who subsequently sold for 220,000gns at the Autumn Horses in Training Sale,” said Tattersalls Chairman Edmond Mahony. “Along with the 2-year-olds and yearlings on offer, this year’s February Sale looks certain to attract the usual diverse mix of domestic and international buyers who have made the Tattersalls February Sale such a consistently popular fixture.”

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PHOTO GALLERY

BY ZUZANNA LUPA

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Nick Rust To Step Down From BHA cont. from p1

Rust offered some insight into the BHA's short-term goals for the year ahead.

"The industry's Horse Welfare Board, which the BHA and our members set up only eight months ago, is finalising an ambitious strategy for further improvement of racing's exceptional standards of care for our horses. For me, it will be a landmark moment after an unrelenting focus on this issue over the past few years."



Nick Rust | *Racing Post*

"The BHA has also completed some other important work over the past few months, which I have personally championed. We published the review of the buying and selling of horses just before Christmas. We have established a safeguarding team to protect young and vulnerable people in our sport. Our new approach to raceday stewarding is bedding in and the industry is picking up the challenge on diversity and inclusion."

"If I look back further, I'm very proud of the way the sport came together to secure a very important change to the Levy in 2017," Rust added. "Without it, racing's finances would be in a more difficult place than they currently are. The BHA team I lead worked hard over several years to put forward the arguments to government and the industry ensured that a consistent, simple message was communicated to Parliamentarians and the media. It's an important reminder of the influence that racing can exert when we work together in a common purpose."

BHA Chair Annamarie Phelps added, "We're all going to miss Nick's passion and drive. It is typical of his deep commitment to British racing that he's given us plenty of time to find a new leader, avoiding a vacuum and ensuring a seamless transition."

IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

EXCEED AND EXCEL: EXCEEDINGLY GOOD

John Boyce examines the accomplishments of Exceed and Excel. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)



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Nick Rust cont.

"He's been a great help to me personally over the last few months as I've got to know the sport and the industry. We'll be using all our complementary skills over the next few months to keep racing moving forward."

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FIRST ROARING LION FOAL BORN



Roaring Lion | *Racing Post*

The first foal from the lone crop of 2018 Cartier Horse of the Year **Roaring Lion** (Kitten's Joy), a colt, was born on Jan. 11 at Jeffrey and Phoebe Hobby's Brightwalton Stud in Newbury. He is the second foal out of Counterweight (Ire) (Azamour {Ire}), who is a sister to a trio of stakes horses including the G1 Irish Oaks and G2 Ribblesdale S. second Scottish Stage (Ire) (Selkirk) and the G2 Blandford S. winner Eleanora Duse (Ire) (Azamour {Ire}).

Brightwalton Stud Manager Sean Keane said, "He is a well-made, attractive colt with plenty of athleticism. He is full of energy and is a joy to be around."

"The Hobbys are delighted with him."

Roaring Lion stood at Tweenhills Stud, and that farm's **Zoustar (Aus)** also had his first Northern Hemisphere foal born late last week, a filly at Peter Winkworth's Merton Place Stud in Surrey. Zoustar stands for £30,000 in 2020 and had yearlings sell at Magic Millions last week for A\$900,000, A\$600,000, A\$580,000, etc.

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O p / E D

DANZIG: THE UNIVERSAL DONOR

By Jennifer Cullen

Horse breeding is a science of sorts, or more specifically a series of science experiments. In every stud farm there are categories of 'scientists': the careful technician, the white lab coats and protective goggle-wearers that use tried and tested formulas, with slight variations, to create newer versions of successful models; career professionals who have done their homework and work with what works for good reason.

Then there are the creative geniuses/mad scientists that test the limits and push beyond, creating new theories that only see the light of day if successful—who knows what monsters lurks behind some stable doors.

Then there are the renegades, chucking together whatever is at hand and seeing what comes out the other end. Who is to say which way is right? Only the horses, when they finally reach the track, can decide.

But whatever your type, there is one type that mixes well with all, the breeding equivalent of O negative, the universal donor: Danzig. Born on Feb. 12, he was sold to Polish owner Henryk de Kwiatkowskia for \$310,000 at the Saratoga yearling sales and named Danzig after the port city on the Baltic coast of Poland.

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Op/Ed: Danzig, The Universal Donor cont.

His first crop, debuting in 1984 and counting the Grade I winners Chief's Crown and Quality amongst it, made him champion first-season sire and champion juvenile sire--titles he continued to build on in subsequent years, siring 200 stakes winners and ranking in the top 10 eight times, including leading the general sires' table for three consecutive years in 1991, 1992 and 1993, as well as making it three times onto the top 10 broodmare sires' list.

Danzig was, in the beginning, an unlikely candidate to be such a compatible companion. The universal donor must, after all, offer the unique power of helping those in need, while providing the lowest possible risk of serious negative reactions. Brilliant but brittle, he showed signs

of excellence winning his only three lifetime starts impressively. He raced just once at two years over 5 1/2 furlongs and twice at three, never further than 7 1/2 furlongs and never in any

black-type races. Danzig stood at 15.3 hands, diminutive by American standards, and had a slight lightness of bone and off-set knees. It was his trainer Woody Stephens's faith in his young athlete's untapped ability that persuaded Seth Hancock to stand him at his Claiborne base--a decision that would elevate a good racehorse into one of the greatest stallions in the modern era, allowing him to stand in the Thoroughbred pantheon alongside his own sire Northern Dancer and

propelling one of the most prolific lineages to even loftier heights and global dominance.



Danzig | *Patricia McQueen*



Asmara, one of the most influential broodmares in the Aga Khan dynasty, has died aged 27. She was the dam of four-time Group 1 winner and sire Azamour and is pictured here with Azmiyna, herself the dam of five-time Group 1 winner The Autumn Sun. | *The Aga Khan Studs*

Have you **READ** the list of mares in his first book? It's all here in **BLACK** and **WHITE**...



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 A HALF-SISTER TO UNDEFE**A**TED **FRENCH CHAMPION JUVENILE**, ULTRA
 A DAUGHTER OF DANSILI'S SISTER INTERCO**N**TINENTAL, WHO BEAT OUIJA BOARD AT THE BREEDERS' CUP
 BEAN FEASA, DUBAWI **'S** G3-WINNING HALF-SISTER TO EUROPEAN CHAMPION TEOFILO
 PHOTOGRAPHI**C**, DAM OF G3 WINNER SHUTTER SPEED
 A HALF-SISTER TO FILLIES' MILE AND FALMOUTH WINNE**R**, SIMPLY PERFECT
 STAKES WINNER MOUNT ELBRUS, A ST**A**KES PRODUCER AND SECOND DAM OF **PINATUBO**
 A HALF-SISTER TO THE BRILLIANT PEINTRE **C**ELEBRE
 A HALF-SISTER TO JAPANESE SUPERSTAR VOD**K**A
 A HALF-SISTER TO **DERBY HERO**, W**I**NG**S** OF EAGLES
 A HALF-SISTER TO CI**M**A DE TRIOMPHE, GALILEO'S G1 ITALIAN DERBY WINNER
 A DAUGHTER OF THE 1,000 GUINE**A**S WINNER VIRGINIA WATERS
 DYNAFORCE, WINNE**R** OF TWO G1S AND DAM OF ALJEZEERA, A G2 FILLY BY FRANKEL
 A BEAUTIFULLY BRED HALF-SISTER TO FR**E**NCH DERBY WINNER **ANABAA BLUE**, FROM GALILEO'S FAMILY
 A HALF-SISTER TO REBECCA **S**HARP, FROM CRACKSMAN'S OWN FAMILY

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Op/Ed: Danzig, The Universal Donor cont.

Whatever the continent, the Danzig line has the qualities needed to make a successful stallion or broodmare, passing on speed, precociousness and ability in abundance, factors that have enhanced and contributed so greatly to the Thoroughbred gene pool throughout the world. In Europe the likes of Danehill, Green Desert and Anabaa have cemented his dominance. Equally in America it is War Front, War Chant, Chief's Crown, Langfuhr, Belong to Me, Exchange Rate and Hard Spun. In Australia, where their modern racehorse has been built on the very foundation that is Danzig, through his son Danehill and grandsons, his legacy has been assured by the likes of Danzero (Aus), Commands (Aus), Fastnet Rock (Aus) and Redoute's Choice (Aus), through to Snitzel (Aus) and the leading sire I Am Invincible (Aus), a great-grandson of Green Desert.



Danzig's prolific son Danehill | *Racing Post*

Travel the globe and look through any stallion book from A-Z and one would be hard-pressed not to find a successful nick with the dazzling Danzig blood, in many cases too numerous to mention, on both paternal and maternal lines. He blends well with all bloodlines from Ahonoora (GB) to Mr Prospector, Storm Cat, Darshaan (GB), Royal Applause (GB), Sunday Silence, Pivotal (GB), Dubawi (Ire) and Galileo (Ire), not to mention inbreeding with his own rich dynasty. On and on through the list you will discover that everything mixes with Danzig. Name the bloodline and you'll discover that Danzig is its universal donor.

Fourteen years after his death on Jan. 3, 2006, Danzig still stands as one of the most potent bloodlines in the studbook. His distinctive characteristics having carried down through the generations; the dominant bay gene, making him incapable of producing a chestnut, has passed on to many of his progeny.

Enjoy original content with TDN Europe during the winter months

Op/Ed: Danzig, The Universal Donor cont.

He also passed on his irregular knees with irritating regularity. But it was the traits of talent, pace and precocity that he distributed with such consistency that allowed him to adapt so readily the world over.

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FRANCE

Tuesday's Result:

3rd-Cagnes-sur-Mer, €21,000, Debutantes, 1-14, 3yo, f, 7 1/2ft, 1:35.38, vs.

SIXA (FR) (f, 3, Acclamation {GB}--Santa Ponsa {Fr} {SW & GSP-Fr}, by Slickly {Fr}), sent off at 4-1, broke alertly to lead. Asked to put her rivals at full stretch inside the final two furlongs, the homebred responded willingly to carve out a two-length verdict over Cayras Side (Fr) (Sidestep {Aus}). The winner is the first foal out of the listed winner Santa Ponsa, who was also runner-up in the G3 Prix Cleopatre. A half to two other listed scorers in Fadela Style (Fr) (Desert Style {Ire}) and Toungi (Ire) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}), the relative of Pentire (GB) (Be My Guest) and Shirley Heights (GB) also has the 2-year-old filly Santella (Ire) (Intello {Ger}) and a yearling colt by Lope de Vega (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €10,500.

O/B-Jean-Claude Seroul (FR); T-Jerome Reynier.



DID YOU KNOW?

G1SW **Siyarafina (Fr)** (Pivotal {GB}) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

2nd-Cagnes-sur-Mer, €28,000, 1-14, 5yo/up, 12ft, 2:38.06, vs. SOLEIL D'OCTOBRE (FR) (h, 6, Great Journey {Jpn}--Marie Octobre {Fr}, by Daylami {Ire}) Lifetime Record: MSW-Fr, 28-7-4-4, €212,350. O-Serge Francois & Haras de Lonray; B-Xavier Leredde (FR); T-Ronny Martens. *1/2 to Octoking (Fr) (Kingsalsa), MSP-Fr, \$310,145.

5th-Cagnes-sur-Mer, €28,000, 1-14, 4yo/up, 8f (AWT), 1:35.38, st.

RONCEY (FR) (h, 6, Pivotal {GB}--Mixed Intention {Ire} {MSW & MGSP-Fr, \$206,795}, by Elusive City) Lifetime Record: 18-10-2-1, €147,870. O-Gerard Augustin-Normand; B-Franklin Finance S.A. (FR); T-Edouard Monfort.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Memory Dream (Fr), g, 2, **Motivator (GB)**--Ascot Memory (Ire) (SP-Fr), by Iffraaj (GB). Cagnes-sur-Mer, 1-14, 7 1/2ft, 1:35.22. B-Ecurie Ascot (FR).



IN JAPAN:

Ryoga (Ire), c, 3, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Jenny Lind (GB), by Singspiel (Ire). Nakayama, 1-13, Maiden (£68k/€79k), 9f, 1:55.2. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$46,364. O/B-Godolphin; T-Hiroyasu Tanaka. *1/2 to Fleet Street (Jpn) (Street Sense), GSW-Jpn, \$1,226,061.

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Exceed and Excel | Darley

by John Boyce

Exceed And Excel is everything an Australian sire should be. He's uniquely suited to the rhythms and demands of Australian racing in that he produces fast early and classy 2-year-olds that progress to the top at the business end of the juvenile season and then train on to make excellent 3-year-olds.

Since the 2007/08 season, when his first runners arrived on the track, no sire anywhere in the world has matched his volume of juvenile stakes horses (149) or stakes winners (72) and there is only one Australian stallion that has ever sired more 2-year-old Group winners and that's his own great sire Danehill (USA).

With 38 juvenile Group winners already in the bag, it won't be a surprise to see Exceed And Excel overtake the two sires above him on the worldwide leaderboard--Mr Prospector (USA) (43) and Scat Daddy (USA) (41)--in the coming years to sit behind the world superstars Danehill and Galileo (Ire).

And the reason that statement can be made with confidence is that the Godolphin stallion is producing some of his best work of late at the advanced age of 19. Buyers have clearly taken note too, confidently splashing out on some excellent future prospects at the recent Magic Millions Gold Coast Sale, including three for over \$1 million.

Group 1 Prowess

Given his prowess for producing the very best of youngsters, it's no surprise that Exceed And Excel has an envious record in Australia's big four juvenile races. His stock have won three runnings of the G1 Sires' Produce and three of the G1 Blue Diamond, plus two renewals of the G1 Champagne. His daughter Overreach won the G1 Golden Slipper and he had three other horses fill second place in Australia's greatest contest for 2-year-olds.

But it's his 2016 crop that has made the racing and breeding world sit up and realise that this stallion is capable of his very best at just about any time in his life. His three individual Australian Group 1 winners born in 2016--not matched by any other sire--are the most he's had from any of his previous 11 crops. And with the likes of Champion 2-year-old Microphone among them, the yearling buyers at Magic Millions were always going to be on high alert.

If there were ever more proof needed that Exceed And Excel was as potent as ever, just look at the list of his leading Australian-conceived runners. His three most recent Group 1 winners are among his six lifetime's best horses. Exceedance, winner of the G1 Coolmore Stud S. from G1 Golden Rose hero Bivouac, is rated 125 by *Timeform*, which puts him behind only multiple Group 1 winner Helmet (127) and Hong Kong star Mr Stunning (126) among Exceed And Excel's Southern Hemisphere stock on ratings.



Microphone | Bronwen Healy



Bivouac | Bronwen Healy

And Bivouac is only a pound behind on 124, which Microphone on a mark of 121. Both Exceedance and Bivouac are tied for best and second-best 3-year-olds in Australia this season according to the Timeform ratings. Exceed And Excel was champion sire in 2012/13, the season his daughter Overreach won the G1 Golden Slipper. He also led the 2-year-old rankings that season and again two seasons later in 2014/15. But the strongest evidence of his potency can be found in his core numbers. He has sired 9.3 per cent stakes winners to runners, which is an excellent score given he's been around for such a long time.

More importantly, that number is higher than the 8.3 percent produced from his mares by other sires. This is no mean feat given that Exceed And Excel has always had access to many of Godolphin's own elite broodmares. Moreover, it's also a commendable achievement given that he's had virtually no access to many of the nation's best broodmares, those that carry his own sire's blood. When he has had runners inbred to Danehill, there have been major success stories, including Group 1 winners Guelph and Bivouac.

The fact that Exceed And Excel is primarily a speed influence is

backed up by the 1200 metre average winning distance of his mature stock, compared to the 1400 metre of his mares' other foals.

Support from Both Hemispheres

Perhaps the biggest compliment that can be paid to Exceed And Excel is the fact that commercial breeders in both hemispheres have consistently supported him throughout his long career. In Europe he's sired 71 stakes winners at a rate of 7 per cent to runners which is an excellent score for a speed sire given the intense competition among that cohort in Britain and Ireland. He's also making a name for himself as a sire of sires, with eight sons already responsible for stakes winners, and as a sire of broodmares, his daughters having already produced top-class runners as diverse in aptitude as Group 1-winning juvenile and sprinter Ten Sovereigns (Ire) and G1 Epsom Derby hero Anthony Van Dyck (Ire).

It is fair to say that there has been no other sire since the days of Danehill that has had comparable recognition in Australia and Europe. He is perhaps the modern-day standard bearer for what a dual hemisphere stallion can achieve.

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