

## AN ANGEL'S BLESSING ON WINDYLEA AMBITIONS



**Kip and Phil O'Neill** | photo courtesy Windylea Farms

by Chris McGrath

The docket was signed, in the name of Windylea Farm, and handed back to the Keeneland rep. Kip O'Neill and his father looked at each other, their expressions registering mutual bafflement. "What are we missing here?"

Unaccountably, their bid of \$3,000 had not been answered. They had set a budget of \$30,000 or so, and even that gave them limited confidence they could bring this young Hard Spun mare back to Hoosick Falls, New York. Yet the vendors, having been obliged to write off a Kitten's Joy covering fee after she lost her pregnancy, had evidently sent her into the ring with no reserve.

"And, as it turned out, we weren't missing anything," says O'Neill now, some 15 months later. "She did just fall through the cracks."

That was the final session of the 2019 January Sale. Whispering Angel, just turned seven, had already delivered two foals after flashing plenty of talent in a career spanning only 10 weeks for Todd Pletcher, winning two of three starts for Bobby Flay. Her second foal, a Karakontie (Jpn) filly, actually followed her into the ring, but failed to meet her reserve; while the first, a colt by Lookin At Lucky, had been picked up by Whitman Sales and Judy Karlin for \$18,000 at the September Sale.

Cont. p3

## LIVE RACING HINGING ON DEFINITION OF 'ESSENTIAL'

*The Week in Review, by T.D. Thornton*

Aqueduct Racetrack has been commandeered by the State of New York to be converted to a COVID-19 hospital.

One day after an official from Santa Anita Park predicted a humanitarian crisis could erupt if live racing got shut down, county health officials ordered the spectator-free racing there to cease.

Hall of Fame jockey Javier Castellano announced last Thursday that he has **tested positive for the coronavirus**, becoming the sport's most prominent participant to disclose an infection.

Later that same day, six Belmont Park backstretch workers were **additionally confirmed as COVID-19 positives**. Those members of the racing community aren't as well known as someone like Castellano, but their personal health is no less vital. Their illnesses also imperil all of the other horse caretakers who live in the dormitories at New York's largest track. **Cont. p7**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

**EXPERT FOALS CATCHING THE EYE** GI Breeders' Cup Mile hero **Expert Eye (GB)** (Acclamation [GB])'s first foals are hitting the ground this spring, and so far, breeders are delighted with the results. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

**KLIMT** QUALITY ROAD'S FASTEST G1-WINNING 2YO

"I bred some mares to him last year. After seeing the foals, I'm breeding twice as many mares this year. **They're THAT good.**"

- Chris Baccari,  
Baccari Bloodstock/Seclusive Farm

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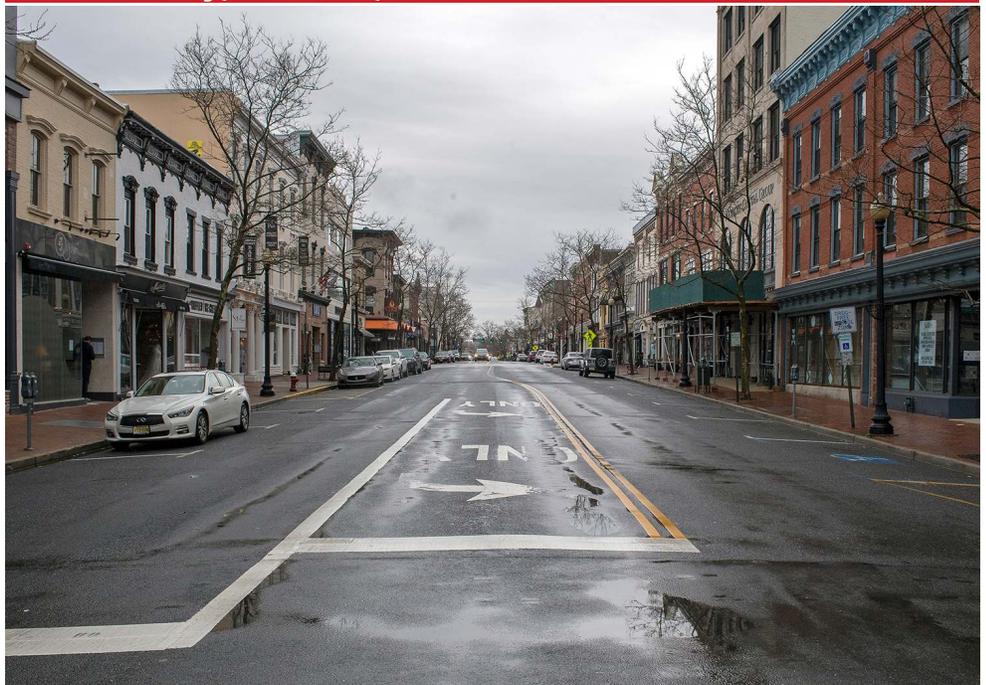
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**Monday, March 30, 2020**



*Broad Street in Red Bank, NJ is home to the TDN and typically hums with weekend activity and sidewalk dining. This weekend, the only cars on the road were those delivering food from local restaurants to those in home isolation. | Sarah K. Andrew*

**TRIPLE CROWN NOMINATION DEADLINE EXTENDED 9**

*The deadline for late nominations to this year's Triple Crown, originally scheduled for Monday, has been extended.*

**WHO'S THE LEADING FIRST-CROP SIRE OF 2020? 10**

*Bloodstock agent Charlie Boden gives his opinion in our on-going series..*

**FUTURE STAR FRIDAYS AT SPENDTHRIFT 10**

*Spendthrift Farm released its first virtual farm visit with a behind-the-scenes look at the "Future Stars of Tomorrow" last Friday.*

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## An Angel's Blessing on Windylea Ambitions

(cont. from p1)

He proved a good pinhook, realizing \$105,000 at OBS March last year. O'Neill, having meanwhile had Whispering Angel covered by Army Mule, monitored her son's progress. He joined Brad Cox and, though disappearing from the worktab in the summer, began to show increasing promise upon his resumption. In October, he clocked a bullet :46 4/5 at Keeneland, fastest of 75 half-mile breezes that day. That was enough for the O'Neills to book Whispering Angel to Lookin At Lucky for the 2020 season.

She kept that appointment at Ashford last Friday. Within 24 hours, her son had won the GII Louisiana Derby.

Whatever he does from here, **Wells Bayou's** emergence among the leading sophomores of 2020 already qualifies his dam as a wonderful boost to Windylea. She was, after all, just



Horses graze at Windylea Farms | courtesy Windylea

one of eight mares acquired at that same sale, testament to a recent determination by the O'Neill family to elevate their farm to the next level. None cost more than \$55,000--yet all had youth on their side; all were by copper-bottomed sires, such as Scat Daddy and Ghostzapper; and all offered genuine quality close up in the pedigree.

A \$27,000 maiden mare by Uncle Mo, for instance, was out of a half-sister to the dam of tragic GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Eight Belles (Unbridled's Song); and her granddam is a Mr. Prospector half-sister to Belong to Me (Danzig). As for Whispering Angel herself, she is out of a Theatrical (Ire) half-sister to the dam of dual Classic winner Big Brown (Boundary).

Findings like this can only be made by the most diligent prospecting; besides, perhaps, a willingness to absorb the odd quibble with a transfusion of quality into your broodmare band.



"It's time to respect the Law."

Gulfstream Park race announcer  
Peter Aiello



# Tiz the Law

CURLIN FLORIDA DERBY (G1) WINNER  
(\$945,300, 5-4-0-1)

The New York State Thoroughbred Breeding & Development Fund congratulates the winning connections.

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Trainer: Barclay Tagg  
Jockey: Manuel Franco



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NY-BREDS START WITH AN ADVANTAGE

In the case of Whispering Angel, for instance, O'Neill suspects that the failure of her latest pregnancy will have caused many to strike a line through her page.

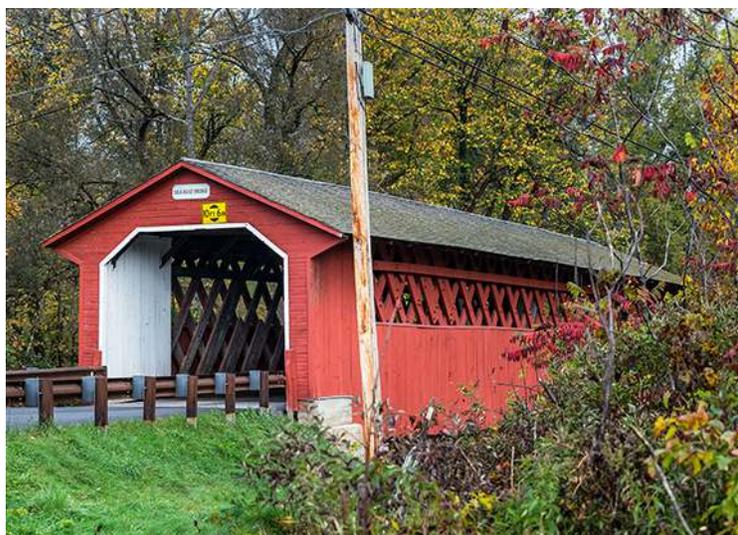
"When there are so many others being offered, I think that a possible early propensity of that kind will tend to lose a mare a lot of favor in the U.S. market," he says. "But a farm our size is maybe more willing to take a shot, if she has everything else going for her.

"We really liked the look of her. Physically she's a very well put together young mare, with a very nice disposition. We've always liked Hard Spun, and her daughter by Karakontie was also at the sale, so we could see what type of foal she was able to produce. So yes, we were very surprised."

Like every professional horseman, O'Neill acknowledges the role of luck. But the success of Wells Bayou actually vindicates a key plank of their strategy.

"Very often we'll be looking for mares that have been decently bred in their first couple of years," he explains. "That way they may have something to support them, by the time our own foals reach either the track or the sales ring. So she did fit into our formula, and I guess just all the dots connected to make this one successful."

Whispering Angel, bred by Patinack Farm and originally a \$140,000 weanling purchase by James Delahooke, had been culled at the 2016 Keeneland November Sale for \$50,000 to Knowles Bloodstock, carrying Wells Bayou in utero. Both the mare (with her Karakontie cover) and her short yearling were then sold to Willow Pond at the 2018 January Sale, for \$35,000 and \$50,000 respectively--investments that did not pay off as they deserved. Within a year, as we've seen, both had been sold for an aggregate \$21,000.

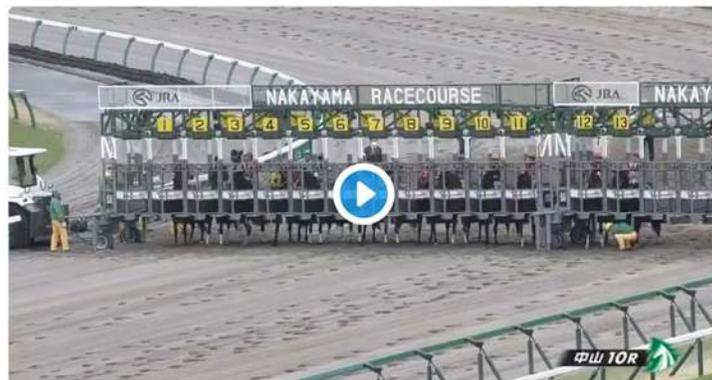


The Bennington/Hoosick Falls area is known for its covered bridges, like this one, the Silk Road Bridge | Getty Images

## DERBY CONTENDER

**HERRSCHAFT** 🇺🇸 (Will Take Charge x Love Ava Love (Mr. Greeley)) wired the 1800m Fukuryu Stakes in grand style to pick up **40 points for the Kentucky Derby.**

2nd T O KEYNES (Sinister Minister)  
3rd MIYAJI KOKUO (Victoire Pisa)



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### WILL TAKE CHARGE

By UNBRIDLED'S SONG OUT OF BROODMARE OF THE YEAR TAKE CHARGE LADY

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Among horsemen, however, the one that got away is always someone else's home run.

"We obviously have a lot of downside protection on the mare now, which probably wasn't there until Wells Bayou placed in the [GIII] Southwest S.," O'Neill says. "Once he did that, and now that he's won the Louisiana Derby, this mare's established. I understand her Karakontie filly is in training, and she has meanwhile had a beautiful Army Mule filly, with really good size and good bone."

Windylea was founded in 1978 in Bennington, Vermont, by O'Neill's father Philip, a pharmacist who had built up a small stable at the nearby Green Mountain racetrack and, subsequent to its closure, at Finger Lakes.

"Dad would take me to Green Mountain as a young lad in the 70s," recalls O'Neill. "They ran races mostly at five-eighths, though the oval was 13/16ths. And they didn't allow under-18s on the front side, so I could only watch races from the clockers' stand. As I understand it, Saratoga did not race Sundays back then and Green Mountain, being only an hour away, would fill up with thousands of people looking for action over the border. Anyhow, Dad bought this small farm, put up a couple of barns, and used a couple of mares he'd raced early on to start a little breeding operation."

# Arrogate

2020 Foal Crop

Foal by Arrogate out of Villamay,  
a half sister to MG1SW and Champion Drefong (\$1,538,385).

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ARROGATE  
VILLAMAY

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From that acorn has grown an oak now spreading its branches ever wider. The New York division was purchased three years ago, with 30 stalls and 75 acres of pasture; and soon afterwards the O'Neills added a property in Naples, Florida, for retraining and rehoming. At the same time, as mentioned, they were undertaking an upgrade in their racing and breeding stock. Having patiently developed a viable model at a lower level, they now felt ready to test the same principles at a higher level: still outsourcing the foaling and breeding, and still trying to strike a balance between sales ring and their green-and-gold racing silks.

"I think my dad's passion probably leans a little more heavily to the breeding side of the business, and mine a little more towards the racing," says O'Neill. "Though Whispering Angel may just be swaying me a little bit! But while it all starts with enjoyment, that is going to wane if you don't get some kind of revenues coming in, too. We've just over 100 horses in our portfolio: about one-third mares, one-third racing stock, and one-third younger horses preparing either for the sales ring or the track. What we're trying to do now would be very similar to any other type of business model. We'll retire the lower 20% of our broodmares every year, find them good homes, and try to replace them with better quality.



**Wells Bayou Wins the Louisiana Derby | Hodges Photo**

"And from a racing standpoint, we're looking to compete at a higher level, too. So where our focus up to 2018 had primarily been on Finger Lakes, and down at Turf Paradise in Phoenix, Arizona, now our efforts are expanded to include the top level circuits in New York, Florida, Louisiana and Kentucky."

At present about 80% of their mares foal New York-breds, and Windylea intends to continue support of the state program; and to maintain a long-standing relationship with trainer Jon Buckley, a Finger Lakes mainstay since 1977. ("A very good caretaker of a horse," enthuses O'Neill. "And very conservative in his approach with young horses until he can realize their true strengths.")

# LAYING DOWN THE LAW!



NY BRED YEARLINGS SALE GRADUATE

## TIZ THE LAW

wins the Curlin Florida Derby (G1)

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But some mares are now being sent to farms in Florida, while racetrack opportunities are soon likely to be embraced in Louisiana and Texas.

Auspiciously, O'Neill grasps something that eludes so many who operate at the level to which Windylea aspires: namely, that nothing should be more commercial than a mare who produces runners.

"As we improve our mare inventory, we're trying to breed mostly commercial--but we're not looking just for good-looking early babies that will do well in the ring," he says. "If you're still breeding a mare that has white paper through the first and second dams, that's probably not one you're ever going to get something commercial with. Of course, she may still throw a nice, healthy foal that you can race, so we might just breed her very conservatively."



**Mares graze in front of the backdrop of the Green Mountains**  
*Windylea Farms photo*

Those that don't make the grade, however, are treated in exemplary fashion. A few are retired to the Vermont farm, but the dedicated division in Florida is a lesson in taking responsibility.

"Any horse we retire, we're always looking to do the right thing by them," O'Neill says. "Up here in the Northeast we've had some go on to barrel racing, and some into the hunter world, but we thought it was time to invest in a small facility of our own, in a part of the country more conducive to finding a home for these types."

That same, intimate connection, moreover, is where O'Neill hopes Windylea can set itself apart as it strives to match deeper competition.

**Cont. p7**

## FASIG YEARLING GRADS **GOLDEN** AT GULFSTREAM!



KY WINTER MIXED SHORT YEARLING **BEMMA'S BOY**  
WINS THE **KITTEN'S JOY PAN AMERICAN S. (G2)** ON 3/28



JULY SELECTED YEARLING **SOCIAL PARANOIA**  
WINS THE **APPLETON S. (G3)** ON 3/28

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"Ninety percent of what we all do in this business is basically the same," he acknowledges. "What we may have, versus others, is that we are very hands-on. Where we know our strengths end, we do outsource to other experienced professionals. But we have a very good feeding program, and very good staff, very well educated from a care standpoint. They've been with us a long time. As we've learned the business, so have they.

"And we're very transparent with them as to our vision, as to where we want to be heading. We may never get to that top echelon, but our goal is to get everything in place to try--while at the same time recognizing where we came from; and respecting that, and enjoying racing at the lower levels as well. We won an \$8,000 claimer at Tampa last Friday and, you know, I was probably almost as deeply excited by that as by the Louisiana Derby, because I knew what it meant to the farm in a more immediate sense."

That said, O'Neill accepts that their \$3,000 mare could become a symbol of hope for many others striving to beat the odds. At the best of times, this is a tough business; and these, as we all know, are not the best of times. Certainly O'Neill won't be getting ahead of himself with the prospect of a sibling to Wells Bayou. Much will have to go right, before he can start dreaming of a filly eligible to become a foundation mare; or maybe a colt to outshine every other New York yearling offered for sale in 2022.

"At this point, I wouldn't change what we always hope for," O'Neill says. "And that's just for a healthy, correct foal. You know, the world's going through some turmoil at the moment. Depending how all this shakes out, who knows, the sales ring may not be the place you want to be in a year or two. But so long as you have young mares that are producing, that will allow you to keep upgrading."

So feet are being kept firmly on the ground, up in the wooded hills between the Vermont and New York farms. At the same time--with an octogenarian father who has nurtured first a passion, and now a family business--O'Neill does not need telling to enjoy the ride.

"Certainly [last] Saturday was a very fulfilling day," he says. "I know what it means to my dad, and to our farm operation, to have a young mare with a horse like this as her first foal. With everything else going on in the world, I was just really happy they ran the Louisiana Derby. And remember Wells Bayou is not even a true 3-year-old yet, as an April foal.

"We need to keep everything in perspective, and stay reasonable about what our expectations can be. But you have to enjoy things like this, when they happen, because we can never forecast the future. So I think this is something all of us, who are long-time horse lovers and investors in the game, can appreciate and hope for."

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## The Week in Review *(cont. from p1)*

Looking ahead, six Thoroughbred tracks are soldiering on with racing programs scheduled at least through this Friday: Gulfstream Park, Tampa Bay Downs, Oaklawn Park, Fonner Park, Will Rogers Downs and Golden Gate Fields.

The racing will be conducted, as it has been since mid-March, in front of empty grandstands closed to everyone but essential personnel.

As Santa Anita found out this week, the definition of "essential" is very much open to interpretation, because state and local governments across the nation have mandated that only "essential businesses" remain open to keep the virus from spreading.

But racing is not in a vacuum in this respect. All sorts of businesses and industries are being called out as to whether or not they are borderline "essential" in the midst of the pandemic.

Establishments that sell video games have been allowed to remain open in some parts of the country, presumably to keep people from going stir crazy. And stores that sell arts and crafts products have been allowed to supply yarn and beads to cooped-up creative folks practicing social distancing.

Liquor stores are largely still open, and in states where it's legal, so are some cannabis dispensaries. In New York City, you can even arrange for your neighborhood bar to bring over a \$60 bag of potato chips. That expensive snack delivery just happens to come with a free shaker full of pre-mixed martinis, effectively skirting strict laws about off-site alcohol sales.

"The optics of us racing while the rest of the world is at home, I understand, are terrible," Aidan Butler, the chief strategy officer and acting executive director of California racing operations for The Stronach Group (TSG), which owns Santa Anita and Golden Gate Fields, told the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) last Thursday.

**Cont. p8**



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“But the context of how we’re different, and how we’re a very specialized industry that really is self-contained, needs to be explained,” Butler said.

Butler made the cogent argument that the 1,700 horses at Santa Anita have to be cared for and exercised every morning regardless of whether money-making opportunities are going on at the track in the afternoon. So if protective health measures are in place, why not give the Thoroughbred community the chance to earn purses by staging the races?



Start of the Florida Derby | Ryan Thompson

“There are far more people involved in a morning’s training than in an afternoon’s racing,” Butler pointed out.

But the CHRB didn’t opt for the final say on whether or not Santa Anita got to race. The board instead mandated that TSG follow the orders of the Los Angeles County Health Department, which imposed a shutdown about an hour before Friday’s first race.

Given the fluidity of the “essential” interpretations, the six remaining open Thoroughbred racing venues could be in an unintentional race to be the last track standing until life gets back to some form of pre-virus normal.

As New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association president Joe Appelbaum told *TDN* last week in the aftermath of Aqueduct stopping live racing, “In a few days or a week, it will be amazing if any of the jurisdictions that are currently racing are still running.”

A notice posted on the Tampa Bay Downs overnights informed horsemen of a 10% across-the-board purse cut as of Sunday.

A separate notice stated that only jockeys from the Tampa Bay Downs jockey colony will be allowed to ride there, and “if a jockey rides outside of Tampa, they will not be allowed to return.”

*Cont. p9*

## Gulfstream Park, Palm Meadows and GPW Horses



Helping horsemen at Gulfstream Park, Palm Meadows and Gulfstream Park West during the Coronavirus pandemic to ensure that horses are given the most acceptable care in every way, and to also make sure that the backstretch employees are fed and receiving proper health care if needed.

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Carlo Vaccarezza is organizing this fundraiser.



Oaklawn’s overnight also announced restrictions related to ship-ins: “Horse(s) only, no humans from the states of Louisiana or New York will be allowed on the grounds. All other states the horse(s) and the trainer and/or assistant trainer only allowed at this time.”

The Will Rogers Downs overnight warned that “Jockeys coming from Florida, Illinois and Louisiana must provide documentation of a negative test for the COVID-19 virus within 14 days of race day before they will be permitted to ride.”

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## TRIPLE CROWN NOMINATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

The late Triple Crown nomination deadline, which was scheduled for Monday, will be extended to an as-yet undetermined later date under an extension agreed upon by racing officials at Churchill Downs Racetrack, the Maryland Jockey Club and the New York Racing Association. While the date of the GI Kentucky Derby has already been pushed back to Sept. 5, officials are still considering possible alternate dates for the GI Preakness S. and GI Belmont S.

When all three Triple Crown dates appear to be firm, a late Triple Crown nomination closing date will be announced.

Three-year-olds from the 2017 foal crop that were not made eligible for \$600 during the early nomination phase, will be able to be nominated for \$6,000 via a payment at [www.thetriplecrown.com](http://www.thetriplecrown.com) or by calling the Churchill Downs Racing Office at (502) 638-3825.

A total of 347 horses were nominated to this year’s Triple Crown during the early phase, which closed Jan. 25.

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## TIZ THE LAW FINE SUNDAY

Sackatoga Stable’s **Tiz the Law** (Constitution) was in fine shape Sunday morning, a day after his authoritative win in the GI Curlin Florida Derby at Gulfstream Park.

“He’s doing great this morning,” said trainer Barclay Tagg. “He’s very happy. He takes life easy.”

Tiz the Law covered the nine furlongs in 1:50 flat and earned a 96 Beyer Speed Figure for Saturday’s winning effort.

“It could have been faster, but he didn’t need to go faster so it’s better to save a little,” said Tagg.



The TDN offices (second floor of the building with the green roof) in Red Bank, New Jersey, normally overlook a bustling Broad Street, now eerily quiet. | Sarah K. Andrew photo

With racing dates still up in the air, Tagg is taking a wait-and-see approach to mapping out the rest of Tiz the Law's 3-year-old campaign.

"Ideally, if I had my choice, I'd like to run him in the Preakness, Belmont, Travers and then the Derby," said Tagg. "If I could set it up, I'd set it up that way. They can't start the Triple Crown with the Derby or we'd run into the Breeders' Cup."

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## SO... WHO'S THE LEADING FIRST-CROP SIRE OF 2020?

*Even if most racing is delayed, we're all hoping it will get underway sometime this spring or early summer, if for no other reason than so we can all find out the answer to our annual favorite question. We surveyed some top judges on who their leading first-crop sire is, and to give us some under-the-radar picks as well.*



**Charlie Boden**

**CHARLIE BODEN**

I want to disclose my opinion by saying that most of it is based on the 2-year-olds I saw at the OBS sale. Most of my clients want proven sires at yearling sales, so I don't have a great reference point from what I looked at in September other than what I've seen training for this first 2-year-olds sale.

If I were a betting man, however, the horses I really like and that have enamored me at the sale are **Upstart** and **Outwork**. I think for both of them, their progeny favor their grandsire.

The Upstarts really remind me of Flatter. They are big, stretchy types. They look like two-turn type horses, but they trained fast and looked well.

The Outworks favored Uncle Mo. There were a couple of them at the sale that struck me as good-looking physicals. They look like what they should look like in my mind based on their pedigree.

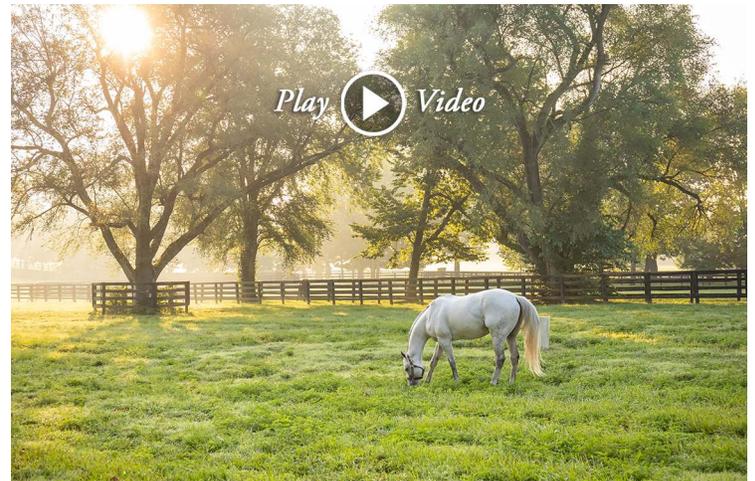
I'm also a big fan of **Frosted** for sentimental reasons because he was a baby when I was at Darley.

If you want to call him an under-the-radar sire, I think that **Air Force Blue** is making a really good impression. He was such a great 2-year-old himself, so I wouldn't be surprised if that's not a little hint of what might be in store for his first crop.

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## FUTURE STARS FRIDAY AT SPENDTHRIFT FARM

by Katie Ritz



**Click on the photo above to ride along on a virtual tour of Spendthrift Farm with Autry Graham**

The virtual parade of Visit Horse Country tours rolls on as farms continue to release online tours, providing stir-crazy racing fans access to the breathtaking landscape exclusive to the Bluegrass Region.

Friday, Spendthrift Farm released its first virtual farm visit with a behind-the-scenes look at the "Future Stars of Tomorrow."

"People are pretty familiar with our stallion tour, but I think they love to get a peek of the behind-the-scenes bit that they don't normally experience," said Spendthrift General Manager Ned Toffey. "And of course, the younger horses always provide great content and everyone gets a huge kick out of them."

Assistant Marketing Director Autry Graham led Friday's tour with a look at Spendthrift's yearlings, mares, and foals. At the yearling division, viewers met a full-brother to the multiple graded stakes-winning Kanthaka (Jimmy Creed). Graham talked through the movement and management of young horses as they grow up from foaling through weaning and on. Viewers also caught a glimpse of Spendthrift's new training track, which opened last summer.

Toffey said that he sees this as an opportunity to bring in new fans and to educate viewers on the daily life of a working Thoroughbred breeding farm.

"We see this as a nice distraction for people, but it's also an effective way of introducing people who might not be familiar with what we do," he said. "We're always happy to be able to share that with people, but particularly at a time like this, when people could really stand to see these nice, upbeat images."

On top of the positive vibes brought on by the virtual tours, Spendthrift has also conducted a social media challenge for the horse industry. Its post asks members of the equine community to upload a favorite racing memory or a fun Visit Horse Country experience, or to share what they love about Kentucky.

Spendthrift kicked off the challenge with a picture of Beholder nosing past Songbird to take the 2016 Breeders' Cup Distaff before they extended an invitation to Claiborne Farm to participate as well. From there, the post took off with hundreds of fans chiming in with their memories, and many top farms, sales companies, and Kentucky venues joining in by posting favorite photos and videos of their own.

Toffey said, "People are spending a lot of their time on social media, and they need distractions from what's going on in this unprecedented time. We see this as an opportunity for social media to have a more positive influence than it oftentimes has. This is inspiring for people and a lot of fun for us all to go back and reminisce."

Spendthrift will continue its virtual tours with the release of another video Monday featuring the Spendthrift Stallions.

The series is produced by Bryan Starr Cinematography, highlighting the sunshine and scenery that fans can't directly access with the cancellation of all tours for the foreseeable future.

"We're all very lucky at Spendthrift to be able to come to work at such a beautiful place," said Toffey. "The horse farms of Kentucky are truly unique, and we see this as an opportunity to showcase a little part of that."

"Thanks to Visit Horse Country, the interest in farm tours has increased greatly over the last year or so," he continued. "So we wanted to provide something for all the folks who had planned a visit and had to cancel. Plus, there are so many people stuck in their houses right now maybe going a little stir-crazy.

"If we can give them a break from that, then that's a great thing."

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## PLETCHER, ORTIZ CLAIM GULFSTREAM TITLES

Todd Pletcher, who had a string of 15 straight titles ended last year, returned to the top of the Gulfstream Park trainer's standings when the Championship Meet concluded in Hallandale Sunday. Pletcher finished with a seven-win cushion over Mike Maker, 48-41.

"We had a good run, missed it last year, but happy to get it back this year. I'm proud of the whole team. They did a great job," Pletcher said. "We were able to have a lot of maiden winners so, hopefully, we can continue to develop some of them. We've been fortunate."

With options limited due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, Pletcher is leaving his entire string of horses in South Florida rather than bring the bulk back with him to New York, which is among many tracks across the country to have temporarily suspended racing.

"Right now, like everyone else, we're taking it a day at a time. We have all of our horses either here [at Gulfstream] or Palm Beach Downs, so we're just trying to see what tomorrow brings," Pletcher said. "We're thankful that Gulfstream has been able to keep racing going. It's critical to the racing economy for a lot of people, so I'm hoping that they can continue to do that."

Irad Ortiz Jr. held off a late run from Luis Saez to capture his second straight Championship Meet riding title. Ortiz, who last rode Mar. 19, ended with a 115-113 advantage over Saez, who won with two of nine mounts Sunday. Ortiz led Saez by 21 wins when he opted not to finish the meet, but Saez moved into striking range by winning 17 races through Saturday's Florida Derby program, including back-to-back five-win days Mar. 26 and 27. Ortiz edged Saez, 135-134, for last year's title.

Ken and Sarah Ramsey finished as the Championship Meet's leading owner with 16 wins, six ahead of Arindel, Imaginary Stables and Drawing Away Stable, who finished with 10 apiece. It was the seventh meet title for the Ramseys, including six in a row from 2012-13 to 2017-18.

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Listen to this week's podcast  
March 26, 2020

**Craig Fravel Talks Gulfstream,  
Santa Anita Staying Open for Business**



## EQUINE SALES COMPANY ACCEPTS 2-YEAR-OLD ENTRIES FOR YEARLING SALE

The Equine Sales Company has announced that, due to the uncertainty of juvenile sales dates this spring, it will be offering a limited number of stalls to owners and consignors of 2-year-olds in training to be entered into its upcoming Consignor Select Yearling Sale. The auction will be held Sept. 3 in Opelousas, Louisiana. There will not be an under-tack show before the sale.

Any 2-year-old in training contracted to sell must have the following:

1. Video of horse training/galloping under tack;
2. A full series of repository X-rays submitted to Equine Sales Company repository within 30 days of going through sales ring; and,
3. In addition, if (not required) consignor has an official published work at a recognized training center and/or race track within 30 days of sale, it is to be submitted to Equine Sales Company for verification.

The 2-year-olds will be cataloged and sold after the Consignor Select Yearling portion of the sale. Deadline to submit the consignment contract and fee will be June 12.

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**DREAM OF SUMMER, 21**, Siberian Summer--Mary's Dream, by Skywalker

Foal born Jan. 25, a filly by Uncle Mo

Will be bred back to Justify.

Owned by James Weigel

Boarded at Nicholasville, KY

Accomplishments: GISW, \$1,191,150; Dam of Creative Cause (Giant's Causeway), GISW, \$1,039,000; Destin (Giant's Causeway), MGSW/GISP, \$947,800; and Vexatious (Giant's Causeway), GSW, \$408,325.

**MOM'S DEPUTY, 15**, War Chant--Minister's Mom, by Deputy Minister

Foal born Feb. 27, a colt by Speightstown

Will be bred back to Audible.

Owned by Courtney & Chad Meagher

Boarded at Trysting Tree Farm, Lexington KY

Accomplishments: Dam of Mom's On Strike, MGSW, \$594,550.

## IN OTHER NEWS...

A Daily Roundup of Racing Articles in Non-Industry Media

### Proud to Represent Top Horsemen

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**Historic Kentucky sites to visit**, Lexington Herald-Leader



**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**3rd-Oaklawn, \$61,000, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$80,000), 3-29, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:44.66, ft.**

**DAPHNE MOON (f, 3, Cairo Prince--Crozat, by Street Sense)** was a clear-cut debut winner at Saratoga Aug. 4, but was fifth in the GI Frizette S. at Belmont in October after stumbling at the break and was eighth in the GII Demoiselle S. going nine panels at Aqueduct Dec. 7. She was backed as the 8-5 choice here getting some class relief after a chance to reset. Gliding into a midpack spot along the first turn among a compact field, the dark bay cranked up the pressure a bit on the leading duo and was on even terms with them after a :47.78 half heading for home. Favorite Jilted Bride (Wicked Strong) became the main danger as she ranged up out wide into the stretch, but Daphne Moon wouldn't relinquish her advantage and held sway by

3/4 of a length. The winner is half to Perfect Wife (Majesticperfection), SW, \$107,699 and a yearling colt by Creative Cause. Her dam, a half to GSW and MGISP Jungle Prince (Sir Cat), was bred to Bernardini for 2020. Sales history: \$65,000 RNA Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$182,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$525,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$103,600. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Gold Square LLC; B-Nick Bentley (KY); T-Jeremiah C. Englehart.

**Durr/Englehart 2YO purchase**

**9th-Gulfstream, \$44,000, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$35,000), 3-29, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:36.40, ft.**

**REMARKABLE SOUL (f, 4, Medaglia d'Oro--Precious Soul, by Distorted Humor)**, transferred from Graham Motion to the Nicks barn ahead of this season, was a well-beaten third behind the flashy Royal Flag (Candy Ride {Arg}) last out here Feb. 7. The 4-1 shot found herself on the front end for the first time since her maiden breaker here, and ran her rivals off their feet, posting splits of :23.01 and :45.26 before running up the score to 12 3/4 lengths. Longshot Bargainaire (Super Saver) was second best. **Cont. p2**



Daphne Moon | Coady Photo

**9th-GP cont.**

The winner is a granddaughter of GSW and GISP Love That Jazz (Dixieland Band), making her dam half to MGISW Society Selection (Coronado's Quest). She has a 2-year-old half-brother by Liam's Map and a yearling half-sister by Twirling Candy. Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-1, \$66,740. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**  
O/B-Irving Cowan (KY); T-Ralph E. Nicks.

**3rd-Golden Gate Fields, \$34,562, Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm** (\$50,000), 3-29, 3yo, f, 1m (AWT), 1:37.94, ft.

**DYNASTY OF HER OWN (f, 3, Shanghai Bobby--Lady Dynasty {MSP, \$140,418}, by Richter Scale)** donned cap and gown first out sprinting here in November, and resurfaced to romp in the Borderplex S. at Sunland Jan. 26. She was third at odds-on going this distance back at Sunland in the Feb. 23 Island Fashion S., and was somewhat chilly on the board at 3-1 with a Southern California invader taking the bulk of tote attention. Rushing to the front after an awkward start, the dark bay controlled things throughout and had 1 1/4 lengths to spare on stablemate Reiwa (James Street) at the wire. The winner is half to Bluegrass Angus (Bluegrass Cat), MSW & GSP, \$185,228, a 2-year-old filly named Miller's Maiden (Vancouver {Aus}) and a yearling filly by Goldcents. Her dam was bred back to Gormley for 2020. Sales history: \$95,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: SW, 4-3-0-1, \$83,700. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Richard S. Kaster (KY); T-Jonathan Wong.

**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**4th-Gulfstream, \$43,700, Msw, 3-29, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10.11, ft.**  
**CENTER AISLE (f, 3, Into Mischief--Specification, by Empire Maker)**, the third-highest lot when selling to OXO Equine for \$1.5 million at Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream last spring, returned to the scene of her :20 3/5 quarter-mile breeze to score a well-bet debut success Sunday in Hallandale. Showing a steady and progressive Palm Meadows worktab for Chad Brown going back to early February, the bay capped off preparations with a half-mile bullet from the gate in :48 1/5 (1/52) Mar. 21. Breaking sharply with all the money on at 3-5, she tussled for the lead in the opening furlong before deferring to sit third behind speedball Senora Roma (Verrazano) through a sharp :21.97 quarter.

Appearing to be struggling a bit midway on the turn, Center Aisle came alive when Bill Mott debutante Say Moi (Union Rags) advanced to her outside, and those two inhaled the tiring pacesetter at the top of the lane. Starting to get the better of her rival outside the sixteenth pole, the chalk edged away from there to score by 3 3/4 lengths. Say Moi was clear for the place. "She broke well. There were two horses who really wanted to get the lead. I took a little hold and she did the rest," jockey Joel Rosario said. "It was a nice performance for her first time out, very impressive." The winner's dam is a half-sister to dual GI Pacific Classic winner Skimming (Nureyev) out of five-time graded stakes victress Skimble (Lyphard). A \$37,000 Keeneland November purchase by Todd and Shawn Hansen in 2017 when followed into the ring by then-weanling Center Aisle, Specification is responsible for a juvenile Kantharos filly named Skeemin N Dreamin and foaled a Mineshaft colt last term before visiting both Honor Code and Twirling Candy. Sales History: \$165,000 Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$450,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$1,500,000 2yo '19 FTFMAR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$25,800. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**  
O-OXO Equine LLC; B-Breffni Farm (KY); T-Chad C. Brown.



**Center Aisle | Lauren King**

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**10th-Gulfstream, \$43,700, Msw, 3-29, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:35.77, fm.**  
**URBAN FAIRYTALE (f, 3, Distorted Humor--Fairytale Ending {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire})**, far back in a dirt sprint at Ellis last July, improved somewhat to be fifth at Kentucky Downs Sept. 12. She checked in second at 11-1 going a mile on the Keeneland turf Oct. 4, and was installed the 19-10 favorite here while looking to provide rider Chris Landeros with his first win of the championship meet in the last race of it. Saving ground from fifth early, the bay advanced three wide after a :47.15 half. She took over in midstretch under energetic handling, and held off foes on either side to graduate by a half-length. Longshot firster Renata (Medaglia d'Oro) was second. The winner's well-bred dam is out of G1SW Airwave (GB) (Air Express {Ire}) and hails from the family of highest-level winners Churchill (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), Clemmie (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) and Jwala (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}). She has a 2-year-old colt by Declaration of War and a yearling filly by Lemon Drop Kid. She was bred back to Hard Spun. Sales history: \$250,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$40,320. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Winchester Place Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Audley Farm Equine (VA); T-Ian R. Wilkes.

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**6th-Gulfstream, \$43,000, Msw, 3-29, 3yo, 7f, 1:22.37, ft.**  
**DR POST (c, 3, Quality Road--Mary Delaney {GSW-USA, \$305,879}, by Hennessy)** was hammered down to 1-2 favoritism debuting July 4 at Belmont, but faded to finish fourth behind subsequent GSW Green Light Go (Hard Spun) and SW/GSP Another Miracle (American Pharoah). Bet hard again off the bench to be even-money here, the dark bay broke sharply but outwardly from his wide draw and settled in fifth as debuting stablemate Nocturnal (Palace Malice) cleared through a :22.51 quarter. Driven three wide, he started to pick up his feet three furlongs from home and drew alongside the pacesetter passing the eighth pole. Those two bumped soon thereafter, dueling until Dr Post proved just a bit superior in closing strides to prevail by 1 1/4 lengths. The winner's dam, bought for \$25,000 with him in utero at Keeneland January in 2017, has a juvenile Super Saver filly and a yearling filly by Klimt. Sales History: \$200,000 Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$400,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$30,600. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-St. Elias Stable; B-Cloyce C Clark (KY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.

**6th-Tampa Bay Downs, \$18,000, Msw, 3-29, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 1:43.89, fm.**  
**APOGEE (f, 3, Malibu Moon--My Limit {SP, \$135,360}, by Wagon Limit)**, bidding to become the second debut-winning filly by Malibu Moon conditioned by the red-hot Clement barn here in as many days, was backed as the 32-10 second choice off an unassuming series of drills at Payson Park. A bit slow into stride, the dark bay took up a spot out wide near the back of the pack. She began to inch closer heading for home while down at the fence, and sliced through a seam in midstretch to prevail by 1 1/2 lengths. Longshot fellow firster Fashion Mo (Uncle Mo) ran on well from the back after being forced very wide for the stretch run. The winner is half to Birdatthewire (Summer Bird), GISW, \$808,430. She has a yearling full-sister and her dam was bred back to Violence. Sales history: \$240,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$10,260. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**  
 O-Waterville Lake Stable; B-Castleton Lyons (KY); T-Christophe Clement.

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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**9th-Oaklawn, \$62,000**, 3-29, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:03.68, ft.  
**STRIKE THAT (g, 4, Biondetti--Crooked Answer, by Smart Strike)** Lifetime Record: 4-3-1-0, \$104,800. O-M and M Racing (Mike Sisk); B-Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC (FL); T-Robertino Diodoro. \*\$1,000 Ylg '17 OBSWIN; \$47,000 2yo '18 OBSMAR.

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**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Pardon My Heart**, f, 4, **Declaration of War--Heart Rate**, by Mr. Greeley. Gulfstream, 3-29, 1mT, 1:34.26. B-Gabe Grossberg (KY). \*1/2 to Conquest Pacemaker (Eskendereya), SW, \$104,466.



**BIONDETTI**, Strike That, g, 4, o/o Crooked Answer, by Smart Strike. ALW, 3-29, Oaklawn

**CAIRO PRINCE**, Daphne Moon, f, 3, o/o Crozat, by Street Sense. AOC, 3-29, Oaklawn

**DECLARATION OF WAR**, Pardon My Heart, f, 4, o/o Heart Rate, by Mr. Greeley. MSW, 3-29, Gulfstream

**DISTORTED HUMOR**, Urban Fairytale, f, 3, o/o Fairytale Ending (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). MSW, 3-29, Gulfstream

**INTO MISCHIEF**, Center Aisle, f, 3, o/o Specification, by Empire Maker. MSW, 3-29, Gulfstream

**MALIBU MOON**, Apogee, f, 3, o/o My Limit, by Wagon Limit. MSW, 3-29, Tampa Bay

**MEDAGLIA D'ORO**, Remarkable Soul, f, 4, o/o Precious Soul, by Distorted Humor. AOC, 3-29, Gulfstream

**QUALITY ROAD**, Dr Post, c, 3, o/o Mary Delaney, by Hennessy. MSW, 3-29, Gulfstream

**SHANGHAI BOBBY**, Dynasty of Her Own, f, 3, o/o Lady Dynasty, by Richter Scale. AOC, 3-29, Golden Gate



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## EXPERT FOALS CATCHING THE EYE



Expert Eye | Racing Post

By Kelsey Riley

Earning a ticket into the Banstead Manor stallion barn is an advertisement in itself of the quality of a young sire, and Juddmonte's newest recruit **Expert Eye (GB)** (Acclamation {GB}) is thus far living up to expectations with his first cluster of foals to hit the ground.

The GI Breeders' Cup Mile winner covered a full book of 140 mares in his debut season last year (from 277 applications) at a fee of £20,000, and at this point he has just over 30 foals on the ground.

"Breeders are expressing their delight with the resulting foals," said Juddmonte's Stallion Nominations Manager Shane Horan. "They are predominantly strong-bodied individuals with attractive heads and an athletic walk, and they are all bay like their sire. This is as good a start as the team at Juddmonte could have hoped for."

Raced as a homebred by Khalid Abdullah with trainer Sir Michael Stoute, Expert Eye won the G2 Vintage S. by 4 1/2 lengths in his second start at two. He narrowly missed victory in the G3 Greenham S. on debut at three when second by three-quarters of a length to James Garfield (Ire) (Exceed and Excel {Aus}).

Expert Eye tracked Saxon Warrior (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) through the opening stages of the G1 2000 Guineas but failed to fire in the closing furlong after being carried out and hampered by the runner-up Tip Two Win (GB) (Dark Angel {Ire}), ultimately checking in 10th. [Cont. p2](#)

## ITBA RELEASES MOVEMENT OF MARES PROTOCOL DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK

A new protocol for safe mare movement during the breeding season was announced by the Irish Thoroughbred Breeders' Association on Sunday. Despite **Irish racing being halted on Mar. 24 due to the COVID-19 outbreak** and Ireland beginning its own lockdown, breeding practices are allowed to continue. The ITBA statement is as follows:

- When transporting your mare to stud/boarding farm breeders should make sure they have one official form of picture identification with them and if an employee, have a letter from your employer indicating that you are an essential employee.
- Ensure you have the mares passport and any documentation provided by the stud farm.

[Cont. p3](#)

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### AN ANGEL'S BLESSING ON WINDYLEA AMBITIONS

Chris McGrath speaks with Kip O'Neill of Windylea Farm about Whispering Angel (Hard Spun), dam of GII Louisiana Derby winner Wells Bayou (Lookin At Lucky). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



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## Expert Eye: First Foals Cont. from p1

It was a different story at Royal Ascot the following month, however, when Expert Eye posted an eye-catching 4 1/2 length win in the G3 Jersey S. A win over Gordon Lord Byron (Ire) (Byron {GB}) in the G3 City of York S. was bookended by placed efforts in the G1 Sussex S. and G1 Prix du Moulin de Longchamp, and Expert Eye at last got his Grade I at the Breeders' Cup at Churchill Downs.

"I was fortunate enough to attend the 2018 Breeders' Cup at Churchill Downs when Prince Khalid had just the two runners, and both won," Horan recalled. "Expert Eye reaffirming his place on Juddmonte's stallion roster with victory in the Mile, and Enable creating history by winning the Turf--it was a thrilling day.

"Expert Eye's win in the Vintage S. at Goodwood as a 2-year-old was also something special. We knew everyone at Sir Michael Stoute's yard were excited by him and it was in this race in which Expert Eye exploded onto the scene and made

everybody take note. It was still early days, however you could not help but think, 'we might have a stallion prospect here.' Winning at Royal Ascot too was a huge deal and the way he sprinted clear from his rivals in the Jersey S. was devastating."

Horan added, "A high-class sprinter/miler with top 2-year-old form is arguably the most appealing profile you can have in a stallion prospect in today's marketplace. If you also have a notable pedigree along with the physique to match then you have something very exciting. It is what every stallion farm wants to stand because it is what every breeder wants to breed to. Expert Eye showed himself to be a 2-year-old of exceptional ability and proved it again at three with dominant victories over seven furlongs at Royal Ascot and at York. His trademark acceleration won the day in the Breeders' Cup Mile when coming late to take the prestigious race in the dying strides. Remaining in training as a 4-year-old had been considered as it was felt the horse was only getting better but in terms of timing, his race record and the price range Expert Eye fitted perfectly amongst the current stallion roster at Juddmonte, so the decision was made for him commence stallion duties at Banstead Manor stud ahead of the 2019 breeding season."

Practically a given considering the program he was bred from, Expert Eye has a stout pedigree behind him, too. His dam, Exemplify (GB) (Dansili {GB}), won on debut at Deauville and is a

half-sister to champion 2-year-old filly dual Classic winner Special Duty (GB) (Hennessy). His second dam Quest To Peak (Distant View) is a full-sister to Sightseek who, Horan points out, was Juddmonte's most accomplished mare with seven Grade I wins before Enable came along. They are also a sister to the two-time Grade I winner Tates Creek (Rahy).

Interestingly, Horan points out that Expert Eye's mating was the first time Juddmonte had used Acclamation.

"Needless to say they have availed of his services on numerous occasions since, including returning Exemplify in 2020," Horan said. "Acclamation is widely respected for his ability to sire speed and class and along with the Group 1 Winners Dark Angel (Ire), Equiano (GB), Aclaim (Ire) and his star filly Marsha (GB), Expert Eye is in good company. Dark Angel and Equiano are both Group 1-producing sires while Aclaim will have his first runners in 2021. It is also worth noting that Dark Angel and Expert Eye are the only Group 1 winners by Acclamation to have won a group race as a 2-year-old while Expert Eye holds the singular

distinction of being his only progeny to have won a Group 1 over a mile."

"Dansili featuring as broodmare sire is another very positive attribute to Expert Eye's pedigree," Horan added.

"Dansili's influence as a broodmare sire continues to have a global impact with 10 Group 1 winners to his name including the last two winners of the Breeders' Cup Mile."

Horan said Expert Eye's second

book remains a "work in progress," but that it is beginning to fill quickly now that breeders have seen his first foals. Expert Eye stands this season for £17,500, and his 2020 book so far includes 20 sisters to Group 1 winners. Juddmonte is supporting him with the likes of dual Grade I winner and group producer Heat Haze (GB) (Green Desert); Atone (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}), a winning full-sister to six-time Group 1 winner Midday (GB); Group 2 winner and group producer Modern Look (GB) (Zamindar); Across The Floor (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}), a half-sister to champion Flintshire (GB); Palmette (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}), a full-sister to Showcasing (GB); Tiadargent (Fr) (Kendargent), a full-sister to 2-year-old Group 2 winner Restiadargent (Fr) and listed winners Rostova (Arch), Swiss Range (GB) (Zamindar), Scottish Jig (Speightstown) and Variable (GB) (Sea The Stars {Ire}).

A HIGH-CLASS SPRINTER/MILER WITH  
TOP 2-YEAR-OLD FORM IS ARGUABLY  
THE MOST APPEALING PROFILE IN A  
STALLION PROSPECT IN TODAY'S  
MARKETPLACE.

Shane Horan

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**IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY**

SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT FOR SEGENHOE  
 Segenhoe Stud will offer a full-sister to G1SW Shout the Bar (Aus) (Not a Single Doubt {Aus}) at the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

**EUROPEAN NEWS**

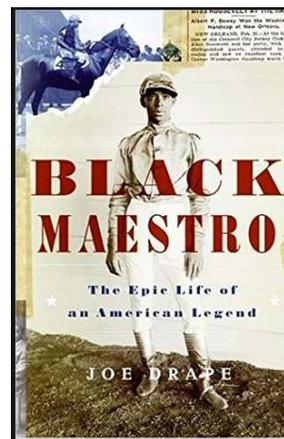
**Mare Movement Cont. from p1**

- You should make direct contact with the stud farm prior to departure, familiarise yourself with their protocols and ask for confirmation of your covering time to be sent to your phone. In the unlikely event you are stopped by the authorities, inform them that you are carrying out a permitted farming activity.
- There should be no unauthorised stops on route from your farm to the stud farm.
- Click [here](#) for a template for an employers' letter, which should be made available all employees. This needs to be printed on headed note paper of the employer stud farm and signed by the owner/manager of that stud farm

All paperwork must be in order before leaving for the stud farm. For more information, please go to [www.itba.ie](http://www.itba.ie).

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**— THE GREAT RACING READ —**



**JOHN HAMMOND**

*Black Maestro: The Epic Life of an American Legend*

By Joe Drape

A fascinating story about Jimmy Winkfield, a black American jockey riding around 1900. He rode the winner of the Kentucky Derby twice before he was 20. At that time racing was the best attended sport in the US (hell, what happened?). It also had more skulduggery than today.

Run out of America by the Irish jocks who ganged up on him, he fled to Europe. First Poland, where he became champion jockey and learnt Polish, then Russia where he learnt Russian and became part of Russian high society and married a white Russian wife. Then came the Russian Revolution when he fled, initially to Crimea, from where he and a Polish cavalry officer walked a herd of the best Russian bloodstock to Poland to save them from the Bolsheviks. And then he walked to Paris, started training in Maisons-Laffitte and married another white Russian (many of them had fled to Paris). [Cont. p4](#)

**TGRR: John Hammond Cont.**

Each time he 'got going' he has knocked down by a wave of history, and so it was again with World War II and the German invasion. The hero of the book flees back to America where, owing to segregation, he can't walk down the street with his white wife. After the war, he returns to Maisons-Laffitte, where he died.

In the early 1960s the American magazine *Sports Illustrated* honoured Winkfield with an award. He went back to Louisville to receive it, where the black guy on the door of Brown's Hotel, which was hosting the ceremony, wouldn't let him in. An unbelievable but true story, and his personal life was colourful too.

*If you would like to share your favourite racing book with us, please email [emmaberry@thetdn.com](mailto:emmaberry@thetdn.com).*

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WORLDWIDE NEWS

**SPEIGHTSTOWN'S SUPERFLARE TAKES TAKAMATSUNOMIYA KINEN**

**Mozu Superflare** (Speightstown) won the 1200m G1 Takamatsunomiya Kinen at Chukyo on Sunday after a game effort on the front end and a timely disqualification. Disregarded at 31-1 in this full 18-horse field, the blinkered chestnut shot straight to the front and quickly opened up several lengths on the chasing pack, clearly relishing the soft going. She clicked off fractions of :22.90 for the opening quarter and :45.60 for the first 800 metres. Rivals began to wind up with their runs inside the final furlong and **Kurino Gaudi (Jpn)** (Screen Hero {Jpn}) came charging up with **Diatonic (Jpn)** (Lord Kanaloa {Jpn}) trying to get through in between them to challenge the 5-year-old mare. She rebuffed Kurino Gaudi's initial challenge and 2019 Japanese champion 3-year-old filly **Gran Alegria (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) launched a belated rally up the center of the course.

The quartet hit the line en masse, with Kurino Gaudi just the bare minimum ahead of the stubborn pacesetter. Gran Alegria was a nose back of Mozu Superflare and a head better than the luckless Diatonic in fourth. After a stewards' inquiry, it was ruled that Kurino Gaudi had interfered with both Mozu Superflare and Diatonic and he was disqualified and placed fourth. Favoured 5-2 shot **Tower of London (Jpn)** (Raven's Pass) was a one-paced 12th.

"She broke well as I hoped she would and was able race in her own rhythm," said winning jockey Fuma Matsuwaka. "With the

sun coming out in the afternoon, the ground was not as bad as we had anticipated, which I think worked in her favor. To be honest, I thought that we had lost when we crossed the wire but I'm genuinely happy that we were able to win our first Group 1 title."



**Kurino Gaudi, Diatonic & Mozu Superflare | Horsephotos**

Mozu Superflare scored her first group win in the G3 Yukan Fuji Sho Ocean S. last March and was unplaced later that month in this event. Given some time off, she returned on Aug. 18 with a fourth in the G3 TV Nishinippon Corp. Sho Kitakyushu Kinen. An encouraging second in the G1 Sprinters S. at Nakayama on Sept. 29, the mare was eighth in her final start at four, the G3 Keihan Hai at Kyoto, and she opened 2020 with a fourth-place effort in the G3 Silk Road S. on Feb. 2.

**Pedigree Notes**

The 17th Grade/Group 1 winner for her WinStar-based sire Speightstown, Mozu Superflare is one of 52 graded/group winners and 111 black-type winners for the chestnut. The winner is a half-brother to GIII Old Hat S. victress Sacristy (Pulpit), the dam of SW and GI Santa Anita Oaks bridesmaid Flor de la Mar (Tiznow); and the placed Tapit dam of G1 South Australian Derby heroine Qafila (Aus) (Not a Single Doubt).

Since foaling Mozu Superflare in 2015, Christies Treasure, who ran second in the Tweedside S. at Belmont, has produced four consecutive colts--the winning Mubarmaj (Curlin), sophomore Don V. (Street Sense), an Exaggerator juvenile and a yearling by Honor Code. Out of a full-sister to MGSW Valid Wager (Valid Appeal) and a half-sister to the dam of GI Cigar Mile H. Victor Purge (Pulpit), she was barren to the cover of Frosted for this term. This is also the family of MGISW Jersey Girl (Belong to Me) and her GI Cigar Mile H.-winning son Jersey Town, who is bred on the same cross as Mozu Superflare, while farther back are the sires Valid Expectations (Valid Appeal) and his full-brother Littleexpectations (Valid Appeal).

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**Sunday, Chukyo, Japan**

**TAKAMATSUNOMIYA KINEN-G1**, ¥253,640,000  
 (US\$2,350,883/£1,887,550/€2,108,693), Chukyo, 3-29, 4yo/up,  
 1200mT, 1:08.70, sf.

1--**MOZU SUPERFLARE**, 121, m, 5, **Speightstown**  
 1st Dam: Christies Treasure (SP-US, \$113,602), by **Belong to Me**  
 2nd Dam: Roses At Sunset, by **Valid Appeal**  
 3rd Dam: Bid Gal, by **Bold Bidder**  
**1ST GROUP 1 WIN.** (\$125,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP). O-Capital  
 System; B-Alpha Delta Stables LLC (KY); T-Hidetaka Otonashi;  
 J-Fuma Matsuwaka. ¥133,948,000. Lifetime Record: 20-7-2-1.  
 \*1/2 to Sacristy (Pulpit), GSW-US, \$252,112. **Werk Nick**  
**Rating: A+.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

**LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE**

2--**Gran Alegria (Jpn)**, 121, f, 4, Deep Impact (Jpn)--Tapitsfly, by  
 Tapit. O-Sunday Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥53,128,000.  
 3--**Diatonic (Jpn)**, 126, h, 5, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)--To Harmony  
 (Jpn), by Sunday Silence. O-Silk Racing; B-Sakai Farm (Jpn);  
 ¥33,564,000.

Margins: NO, NO, HD. Odds: 31.30, 3.10, 8.20.  
 \**Kurino Gaudi (Jpn) finished 1st, but following a stewards' inquiry, was demoted 4th.*

Also Ran: Kurino Gaudi (Jpn), Shivaji, Groove It (Jpn), Seiun Kosei  
 (Jpn), Teehaff (Jpn), Stelvio (Jpn), Danon Smash (Jpn), A Will a  
 Way (Jpn), Tower of London (Jpn), Mozu Ascot, Nac Venus (Jpn),  
 Normcore (Jpn), Love Kampf (Jpn), Daimei Princess (Jpn), I Love  
 Tailor (Jpn). [Click for the JRA chart & video or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

Japan's **G3 March S.** was cancelled due to snow and will be rescheduled.

AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2020		
Date	Race	Track
THE CHAMPIONSHIPS		
Apr. 4	G1 The Star Doncaster Mile S.	Randwick
	G1 T J Smith S.	Randwick
	G1 Harrolds Australian Derby	Randwick
	G1 Inglis Sires' S.	Randwick
Apr. 11	G1 Longines Queen Elizabeth S.	Randwick
	G1 Schweppes Sydney Cup	Randwick
	G1 Heineken 3 Australian Oaks	Randwick
	G1 Coolmore Legacy S.	Randwick
Apr. 18	G1 Schweppes All-Aged S.	Randwick
	G1 Moet & Chandon Champagne S.	Randwick
May 2	G1 TAB Classic (Robert Sangster S.)	Morphettville
	G1 Schweppes Oaks	Morphettville
May 9	G1 TAB Doomben 10,000	Doomben

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## SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT FOR SEGENHOE



Peter O'Brien (right) | TDN AusNZ

By Bren O'Brien

Ahead of an Inglis Easter Yearling Sale featuring a draft of unprecedented quality offered in an environment of unprecedented uncertainty, Segenhoe Stud's staff celebrated a big pedigree boost for one of their yearling fillies on Saturday.

As **Shout The Bar** (Not A Single Doubt) was fending off her rivals to claim Group 1 success in the Vinery Stud S., in front of empty stands at Rosehill, around 250km away at Segenhoe Stud, a cheer went up among the appropriately socially distanced staff.

In troubled times, small successes mean a lot and for a group of 10 of Segenhoe's staff, who are invested in Shout The Bar's yearling full-sister, and were hoping for a huge pedigree boost before she goes through the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale next week, it was a victory well worth celebrating.

"Kevin and Lesley Maloney kindly assist the lads each year to buy a weanling. Last year we picked out Shout The Bar's sister. There are 10 of the longest serving staff who have shares in the yearling going to the sale. For most of them, it's their first-ever horse," Segenhoe General Manager Peter O'Brien said. "It was fantastic yesterday, but you can't really celebrate. There was lots of social distancing and leaping. It's wonderful and amazing for them. They're all young people and like anywhere, they are dedicated. They work 24/7, in particular in these times. This is

the first opportunity for some of them to get a little nest egg to start their trading career."

Like the Shout the Bar, the yearling filly was bred by Ron Finemore, who also raced Not A Single Doubt. Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott had paid \$200,000 for Shout The Bar, who was the first foal out of the mare, at the 2018 Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale on behalf of a bunch of clients headed by Francis and Christine Cook of Mystery Downs from the draft of Newhaven Park.

Finemore retained the next Not A Single Doubt filly, named She's A Survivor, but the third filly went through the 2019 Magic Millions Gold Coast National Weanling Sale, again offered by Newhaven Park, where she caught O'Brien's eye.

"She was an unbelievable mover. She has an incredible action. She's a typical Not A Single Doubt in that she is not big but it was her action that caught our eye. That dam had already had two by the stallion to run for her, of which one was of course Shout The Bar," O'Brien said. "We are always conscious of what farms we buy foals off. Newhaven has an incredible history of breeding good racehorses and their integrity is unquestionable. John Kelly knew the foal well and knew how good the sister was as a yearling, so that was good enough for me. I'd always listen to the Kelly family.

"She was a late foal and a lot of people at the weanling sale thought she would have been a bit small. But since the sale, she has done everything right. She's lengthened, she's grown. I was looking at a yearling picture of Shout The Bar and she is the absolute image of her."

### A Huge Boost to the Page

O'Brien was always confident that the \$130,000 she cost Segenhoe would give every chance of a good return and in his regular conversations with Bott on the development of her older sister, that confidence only grew. On Saturday, Shout The Bar was having only her fourth start, having won her first two, and being narrowly defeated at her first stakes test in the G3 Kembla Grange Classic.

That it was a Group 1 race was a tough enough of an assignment, but that she was taking on two of the best fillies of recent years in Funstar (Adelaide {Ire}) and Probabeel (NZ) (Savabeel), seemed an enormous task for a horse just six weeks into her racing career. But she showed every bit of grit and courage you could want, leading all the way to give jockey Adam Hyeronimus his first Group 1 victory.

Understandably, there was much celebration at Segenhoe, given the likely impact on the desirability of her sister at the modified Easter Sale, albeit with the knowledge that the current circumstances will make it trickier for any horse to sell next week.

"When you pinhook a foal, you never expect that foal will be a full to a Group 1 winner the week before you sell. Any normal year, you'd be counting your money. We are realistic. We are going to be selling into a very depressed market. So she'll be going in at a reasonable reserve because we want to sell her for the guys," O'Brien said. "But when the filly goes through the ring--and we will have a social distancing plan in place--for the last half hour of the bidding, we'll all have a beer, and hope for the best."

### **Buyers Interest Gives Reason for Hope**

Optimism is a prerequisite for anyone in the bloodstock and breeding game and while there is so much uncertainty about both the confidence of the market and the new format of the sale, the interest in Segenhoe's draft of 16 in the past week has given O'Brien reason to be hopeful.

"If you asked me a week ago, I would have expected to sell about 40%. But it's an absolute credit to everyone, we have been run off our feet all week. We had seven parades yesterday and six today. Not only have the vendors shown a united front, leading into the sale, but the purchasers have done the same. They are showing positivity by coming and looking at the animals," he said. "I would think now that I am far more confident that it is going to be a better sale than people realise. Yes, the pass-in will be higher than normal, that's a given, but judging on the interest and the people making the effort to see the animals, I'm looking at it in a far more positive light.

"These are Easter yearlings. They are the cream of the crop from every farm. John Hawkes was here yesterday and he said he can't remember seeing such a nice bunch of horses on every farm, not just ours. Inglis has turned every leaf trying to help us and in times of struggle, unity is important and this unified front from the farms is exactly what we need."

The Easter Sale is traditionally the biggest week of revenue for

Segenhoe's year and last year they were the third biggest vendor, with \$8.67 million in sales across 17 lots. Given it doesn't stand stallions, it is particularly vulnerable to the impact the current coronavirus crisis will have on the market.

O'Brien said, like all vendors involved, Segenhoe would be particularly realistic in how it approaches its reserves.

"If we can clear 60% it will be unbelievable. The clearance is the key. Gauging the market is going to be really hard. We will be putting realistic reserves on every horse we sell, with the view that we are looking to sell," he said. "Our income is from sales. We have to trade and to trade you have to meet the market. Obviously, like any farm, we aren't going to give horses away, particularly fillies. But they will all have selling reserves."

### **A Top Quality Draft Ready for Easter**



**Lot 416, a filly by Not a Single Doubt and a full-sister to Group 1 winner Shout the Bar | Inglis**

The end results are unlikely to reflect it, but O'Brien believes the Segenhoe draft of 16 for Easter is the best he and his team have presented. Big pedigrees and beautiful horses abound, headed by Lot 467, a colt by triple Champion Sire Snitzel out of Girl Hussler (Hussonet {USA}), who has produced Group 1 winner Manuel (Commands), as well as Group 3 winner Taking Aim (Choisir), stakes-placed Witherspoon (Exceed And Excel) and the recent Hong Kong winner Sun Patch (Exceed And Excel).

"Girl Hussler is a blue hen.

Every foal she has had has been a runner," O'Brien said.

Lot 408, the Fastnet Rock colt out of Diana's Star (Northern Meteor), the half-sister to champion Dissident is another favourite of O'Brien's, who sees marked similarities to a Group 1 winning Segenhoe graduate by the same sire.

"He looks the image of Merchant Navy, in my mind in terms of physique. He's a precocious early going 2-year-old type," he said.

Lot 489, the Snitzel colt who is a full brother to recent stakes-placed 2-year-old Philizy out of stakes-placed Houston Benefactor (Encosta De Lago), is another colt O'Brien believes will create plenty of interest.

"He's a later foal, but he's magnificent and you wouldn't know that. He's got great balance, should be sharp and go early and probably has a bit more scope than most Snitzels."



Lot 368, a filly by I Am Invincible | Inglis

Of the fillies Segenhoe is offering, aside from Lot 416 mentioned above, O'Brien is expecting huge interest in Lot 368, who is by I Am invincible out of Captivating Claire (NZ) (O'Reilly {NZ}), making her a sister to multiple Group winner Catch Me and the colt which Segenhoe sold for \$1.4 million to Coolmore and Hermitage Bloodstock at last year's Easter Sale.

"Every foal Captivating Claire has is a belter, and it's hard to split them. I know that it's typical sales talk to say this, but it's not, she is the best yearling to come off our property since I have been here," he said. "Not only is she good looking and has the pedigree, but she has an unbelievable mind. While nothing is ever a given, to me she is a dearest racehorse. Any normal year, I would be confident she would be the highest priced filly at the sale.

"We have to be realistic with her in this market, but if anybody is looking for a well-bred class filly, who will make a racehorse, look no further."



**IN HONG KONG:**

**War of Courage, g, 3, Declaration of War (USA)**--Arms Wide Open, by Encosta de Lago. Sha Tin, 3-29, Hcp. (\$304k), 1000m, :56.40. B-K Biggs Enterprises Pty Ltd, Horseshoe Investments (WA). \$80,000 Ylg '18 INGFEb. **VIDEO**

**Fantasy, g, 4, Sizzling--Bon Fire, by Octagonal (NZ).** Sha Tin, 3-29, Hcp. (\$203k), 1200m, 1:09.67. B-Galaxy Breeding Syndicate, Wilkes Thoroughbreds (NSW). \*1/2 to Heat of the Fire (Strategic), GSP-Aus. \*\*\$52,000 Wlg '16 MGLMAY; NZ\$240,000 2yo '17 NZBRTR.

**VIDEO**

**Shining Ace, g, 4, Testa Rossa--Dance Idol, by Danehill Dancer (Ire).** Sha Tin, 3-29, Hcp. (\$440k), 1200m, 1:09.31. B-Ms A Clarke (Qld). \*Formerly Todaro. \*\*\$60,000 Ylg '17 INGFEb.

**VIDEO**



**IN HONG KONG:**

**Juneau Park, g, 4, Ocean Park--Hula Here (Aus), by Dehere (USA).** Sha Tin, 3-29, Hcp. (NZ\$207k), 1400m, 1:22.84. B-Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd. \*1/2 to Sacred Hustler (Hussonet {USA}), SW-Mac; and Sacred Missile (Smart Missile), SP-Mac. \*\*NZ\$80,000 Ylg '17 NZBJAN.

**VIDEO**

**Band of Brothers, g, 5, Sakhee's Secret (GB)**--Jan Valachi (SW & GSP-NZ), by Kingdom Bay. Sha Tin, 3-29, Hcp. (NZ\$310k), 1600m, 1:35.25. B-K J Hickman. \*Full to Secret Agent, GSP-NZ.

**VIDEO**

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