



## FORMER CLAIMER GIVES 20-YEAR-OLD OWNER ANOTHER FIRST



**Carson McCord and KJ's Nobility** | photo courtesy Carson McCord

by Jessica Martini

Carson McCord became a first-time racehorse owner when she claimed **K J's Nobility** (Primary Suspect) back in 2018, and the 6-year-old gelding, trained by Cecil Borel and ridden by Calvin Borel, gave the 20-year-old college sophomore her first stakes win when he came home first in the Nodouble Breeders' S. at Oaklawn Park Mar. 29.

"We'd been waiting for that race since last year," McCord recalled. "We were really ready and pretty confident going into the race, which made us pretty nervous. I couldn't breathe until he passed the finish."

McCord was raised not far from Oaklawn Park and developed her love of the sport during days spent at the track with her father, Bill McCord.

"Oaklawn is about 10 minutes from where I grew up, so growing up I used to go to the track all of the time," McCord said. "My dad used to breed horses and owned horses. Cecil was his trainer for most of his career, too. So I grew up around them and grew up hanging out with them. And once I got into high school and was old enough to start handicapping and reading the *Racing Form*, I fell in love with gambling and watching the horses run and the animals themselves. It started out just as more of a bonding thing and then I really fell in love with the sport and wanted to participate myself." **Cont. p3**

## FROM THE TDN LOOK: DR. GARY LAVIN

by Chris McGrath

TDN is proud to partner with the Keeneland Library and the Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries in a very special collaboration: the Keeneland 'Life's Work' Oral History Project, a series of filmed interviews by TDN columnist Chris McGrath with significant figures in the Thoroughbred industry. An excerpt from current installment, with Dr. Gary Lavin, appears here.

As Will Rogers said, the best doctors in the world are the veterinarians—because their patients can't talk. "And that's true," says Gary Lavin. "But at the same time, they don't lie to you either. So that gives us an advantage right there."

His long intimacy with the physical structure of the Thoroughbred has taught Lavin to marvel, above all, at those intangibles housed within. Instructively, in fact, this doyen of racetrack veterinarians has observed a correlation between their performance as athlete and as patient. **Cont. p4**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### ROARING LION FOALS MAKING NOISE

Kelsey Riley chats with David Redvers of Tweenhills on the first-crop foals of the late Roaring Lion (Kitten's Joy). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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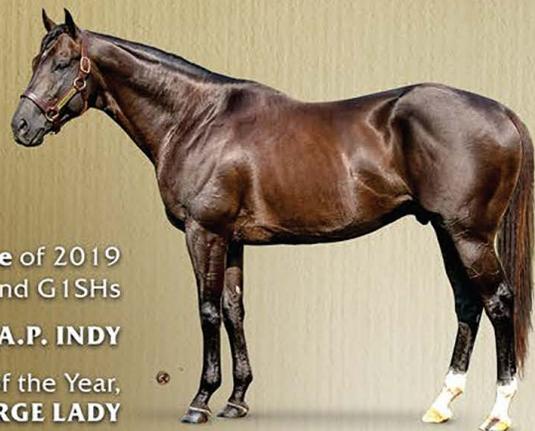


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**Tuesday, April 7, 2020**



**Reunited.** Trainer Ron Moquett shared the following in a social media post: "Had two young fillies come in at the same time. They were stabled beside each other in my barn for three years. They ran all over the country together...So, today I get a text from that farm to let me know they were in the foaling barn for the first time...together." Pictured are the former Moquett trainees Swing and Sway (Maclean's Music) and Torrent (Blame), reunited at Candy Meadows Farm in Lexington, KY. | Matt Lyons

**OAKLAWN TIGHTENS ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

**5**

Ahead of upcoming graded stakes weekends, Oaklawn Park has increased safety restrictions, particularly for ship-in jockeys.

**TODAY'S ACT OF KINDNESS: AIKEN SLASHES FEES**

**7**

In today's good news/random act of kindness, Aiken Training Center is cutting its stabling fees in half to assist trainers.

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**Carson McCord Gets Another First cont. from p1**

As she prepared to graduate from Lake Hamilton High School in 2018, McCord began thinking seriously of starting her own racing stable.

“I started saving up—my grandparents own a lot of businesses around here, as well as my parents, so I worked all through high school,” she said. “When it came time to graduate, I said, ‘You know what, I think I want a horse.’”

McCord and trainer Scott Mullins claimed K J’s Nobility for \$25,000 at Indiana Grand that summer.

“We have a box at Oaklawn and Scott’s stepdad had the box right beside us,” McCord said. “So he and my dad became really good friends. They were looking for horses to claim and I wanted to get into the business. We saw him and we saw he was Arky-bred. Oaklawn is my home track—it’s what is most important to me. So we claimed him.”



K J’s Nobility and Calvin Borel | Coady Photography

K J’s Nobility finished fourth in last year’s Nodouble Breeders’ S. before switching to the Borel barn and he has hit the board in each of his last eight races with four wins.

“He ran pretty good for the beginning part of when we had him,” McCord said. “But then when Cecil got a hold of him, he’s hit the board every single time. He’s really got that horse in shape. He’s only improved and he’s doing great now, too.”

McCord is currently a sophomore at Chapman University in suburban Los Angeles studying business management with an emphasis on finance. She made it home for the Nodouble just ahead of the quarantines.

“I came home Mar. 13,” McCord said. “School got cancelled the day before that. And all of our classes were moved online, so I flew home immediately for the races.

And then when I got home, they stopped having spectators at the races as soon as I got here. So I am here until the end of the meet because I don’t have classes.” **Cont. p4**

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Favored at 9-5 in the six-furlong Nodouble, K J's Nobility rolled to a three-length victory under Calvin Borel.

"I was at the track with my grandparents, so we got to watch it outside with Cecil and Renay, Calvin's wife," McCord said. "It was great because Renay and Calvin have both worked on the horse, as well as Cecil. So everyone who was there was very attached to the horse. There weren't many people there, so it was nice to be able to watch him in person."

K J's Nobility represented McCord's 11th victory from 52 starts overall and pushed her career purse earnings to \$406,911. The Nodouble victory moved her to five for eight for the Oaklawn meeting.

"I've had some claimed from me recently, but right now we have four in training," McCord said. "And then I have two at the farm. They just turned three this year. We got them at a yearling sale, so we've had them for a while and they are still kind of growing and developing. We tried to get them ready for Oaklawn, but they just weren't ready yet."

She continued, "I definitely want to grow in the sport, but only slowly. I am only 20 years old, so I have plenty of time. Maybe long-term I'd like to breed horses, but that's years away. For now, I just like to claim horses. I would be interested in the 2-year-old sales, but we're just taking it slow right now."

It was her father who first introduced her to racing and nurtured her love of the sport and her experiences are still centered around family.

"The Borels are really family to me, so it's really nice whenever you get to share your love for something with someone like that," she said. "Calvin and Cecil have been around for a while and they have been really good friends with my dad since the beginning of time. It's been really nice to be able to celebrate with all of them and share the experiences with them."

McCord will look to double her stakes wins when K J's Nobility makes an expected start in the \$165,000 Arkansas Breeders' Championship at Oaklawn May 1.

"I know we are going to run him in the Arkansas Breeders' Championship," McCord said. "It's a longer race for Arky-breds. That's where we are going to run him for sure. We are trying to find somewhere to put him before then just to give him a little freshen-up before the big race. But that's our end goal there."

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## *Life's Work: Dr. Gary Lavin*

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Ruffian, sadly, was an exception. Otherwise, however, Lavin has found that the better the horse, the easier he or she will be to manage. "Even under anaesthesia," Lavin remarks. "Their pulse and respiration were all just textbook."

In the 100th running of the Kentucky Derby, the roughhouse contested by 23 starters in 1974, the outsider Flip Sal broke down in the backstretch.

"When I got over there, he was in that spot where they take horses they're going to euthanize," Lavin recalls. "It was an ankle, same thing that had done Ruffian in. He wasn't pawing or anything, he was just standing there. The hospital was just off the racetrack, and I suggested that we just take him over there, see how he would cool out and go from there."

Lavin and his esteemed colleague Dr. Robert Copelan found the horse still composed and quiet the next morning. "He had a good pulse in his pastern and we decided, well, we'll just see what happens," he says. "We snugged him up in a tight bandage and, day by day by day, finally we put a cast on him. And he spent the entire summer there. And, of course, Dr. Copelan and I got all the credit for doing a wonderful job. All we did feed him, clean [his] stall and change the cast. That horse saved himself, is what happened."

Maybe so; though perhaps Lavin's characteristic modesty contributes to this assessment. This, after all, is a man whose work with the racehorse—from claimers to champions, for over three decades as racetrack vet—is measured by an alphabet soup spelling out his peers' esteem: past president of the American Association of Equine Practitioners and Kentucky Thoroughbred Association; winner of the Bellwether Medal for Distinguished Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania; steward of The Jockey Club; trustee of T.O.B.A. and the Breeders' Cup; director of Keeneland; vice-chairman of the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, etc.

So here's a man who has long put the practical into the practitioner, trusted by elite horsemen to maintain that fragile margin where their dreams meet sinew, bone and ligament. He was born among them, after all, "a racetrack brat." Though his family has Kentucky roots, and his grandfather was a doctor, the medical and Bluegrass strands only became entwined when Lavin—himself born in New Orleans; raised in Arkansas; and trained in Pennsylvania—cut his teeth, after qualifying in 1962, by sitting in with Dr. William R. McGee of Hagyard-Davidson-McGee.

The idea was to learn about broodmares. The racetrack, young Lavin knew about. **Cont. p5**

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His father, an assistant trainer for Greentree in California before the war, had then “dug bullets out of mules coming off the Burma trail” before working his way from gate crew to racing secretary at Keeneland; and then to similar appointments from Churchill to Oaklawn to Delaware.

“He was very good at the job and knew everybody,” Lavin says. “He was that kind of person, well liked and very successful. Having grown up in that atmosphere, I knew more than a little something--maybe not as much as I thought, but a whole lot--about the front side and how all that worked.”

[Click here to read more.](#)

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## OAKLAWN TIGHTENS ACCESS RESTRICTIONS AHEAD OF GRADED STAKES WEEKENDS

by T.D. Thornton

As one of the few remaining tracks still running races during the COVID-19 pandemic, Oaklawn Park has put jockeys and horsemen on notice that ship-in restrictions will be tightened in advance of the track's upcoming graded stakes races in April and May, which annually bring an influx of shippers to Arkansas.

Ship-in jockeys must be named on a stakes mount in order to be cleared for riding on that day's card, and they will be denied access to both the backstretch and the main jockeys' quarters as part of health precautions designed to minimize the spread of coronavirus.

Those ship-in riders must utilize a separate, quarantined changing area that will not have a shower or sauna. And if a jockey wants the services of a valet, he or she must make separate arrangements to hire one.

Those restrictions were listed on the Oaklawn overnight for the Apr. 10 races.

The policies are explained below in greater detail:

“Jockeys coming to Oaklawn named in stakes races will not be allowed to access to the backside and will need to report to the health screening desk by the American Pharoah statue upon arrival the day of the stakes race. The rider will be escorted to the quarantine area where they will remain until an Oaklawn Security Guard escorts them to the paddock for the race they are entered to ride.



Jockeys at Oaklawn | Coady

“The quarantine area will have restrooms, TV and food but will not have a shower, hot box, etc...” the notice continues. “At the paddock they will be weighed at the winner's circle scale with their tack then escorted to the horse they will ride. When the race is over, the valet MUST sanitize that saddle before it is brought upstairs to the jocks room. The rider is then escorted, by the Oaklawn Security Guard, back to the quarantine area. The rider is asked to take all their belongings with them and exit the premises without having any contact with anyone else.”

Those health protocols are in addition to an Arkansas Department of Health mandate that has been in effect since Mar. 30 that reads, “Travelers from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Louisiana, or outside the continental U.S. ... are required to quarantine outside these Designated Areas for a minimum of 14 days prior to being allowed” on the grounds.

“There are a lot of places doing that. It's not just at Oaklawn Park,” said John Beech, a regional director for the Jockeys' Guild whose territory includes Arkansas.

Beech deferred further comment to Terence Meyocks, the Guild's president, but TDN could not reach Meyocks prior to deadline for this story. “That was an agreement struck with Mr. Meyocks, the riders, and the management there, I understand,” Beech said. **Cont. p6**

Oaklawn also detailed expanded restrictions for shipping horses:

“1) Trainers with horses on Oaklawn grounds who have been shipping horses in during the Oaklawn 2020 season (or who have been participating in racing at Oaklawn during the 2020 racing season shipping horses from Arkansas stable areas), will be allowed to continue to do so with permission from the Racing Secretary.

“2) Otherwise, horses from other states are allowed to be sent to trainers currently stabled on Oaklawn grounds for allowance and maiden special weight races, with permission from the Racing Secretary. However, no trainer, assistant or groom from outside Arkansas will be allowed in or on Oaklawn grounds with the horse.

“3) Trainers are allowed to send horses to Oaklawn who are going to take part in Oaklawn's 2020 Stakes program with permission from the Racing Secretary.

These stakes horses may be accompanied on Oaklawn grounds by the trainer or assistant trainer only--no groom is allowed,” provided the same 14-day Arkansas Department of Health mandate (listed above) is followed.

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## UPWARD TRAJECTORY FOR UP IN SMOKE

by Jessica Martini

Black Type Thoroughbreds and R.A. Hill Stable's **Up in Smoke** (The Big Beast) streaked to her third straight victory at Gulfstream Park Sunday and, while her late-running theatrics may cause anxious moments for her connections, if her powerful late kicks keep propelling her to victory, it's all ok with bloodstock agent Jake Ballis.

“It's hard to watch because you can't see her for the entire race until they turn for home,” said Ballis, who purchased the filly at last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May sale. “But the replay is a lot more fun. It's not as agonizing. It kind of seems like she doesn't want to be in tight quarters, she resents the kick-back a little bit. [Jockey] Luis [Saez] said he just let her break and do her own thing, let her get comfortable and she has an amazing turn of foot.”

Ocala horseman Ciaran Dunne purchased Up in Smoke for \$45,000 at the 2018 OBS October Yearling Sale. Following a :10 flat work, the gray filly (hip 535) sold for \$230,000 at the May sale.

“She breezed very well at Timonium,” Ballis said of the filly's appeal last spring. “I send a lot of the videos to Angel Cordero to review and he thought she stood out among all the videos that I sent. [Trainer] George Weaver was there and he thought she was one of the better fillies in the sale. We had one 2-year-old at

that point, but we wanted to get another one and that was the last sale. She was the only one we really focused on. Her gallop-out was very fast and she was sound. So we went ahead and took the risk and as of now, knock on wood, it seems like it is working out.”



Up in Smoke | Lauren King

Up in Smoke was the 5-2 second choice in her six-furlong debut at Gulfstream Park and Ballis admitted he wasn't quite sure what to expect from the filly.

“She is very calm and relaxed in the mornings, so her works were ok,” he said. “There was nothing that just jumped out that said she would be this good. So I was pleasantly surprised with how she ran.”

After running wide throughout in her unveiling, the sophomore filly powered to the lead in upper stretch and drove clear to an easy 4 3/4-length versus fellow Florida-breds (video), but it was in her second start that things really got interesting. Again facing state-bred company and again going six furlongs at Gulfstream Mar. 5, Up in Smoke was sent off the heavy 4-5 favorite. In the mix early, the filly suddenly dropped back to last and appeared, if not injured, at least hopelessly beaten. But she burst back into contention and soared down the center of the track before drawing clear to win by four lengths (video).

“I thought something had happened to her,” Ballis admitted. “Johnny [Velazquez] was urging her early and she wasn't keeping up and she was dead last. I just remember George looked at me and we were just wondering what was going on. He was in shock and I just put my head in my hands thinking, ‘Please don't let anything bad happen.’ Then I started hearing George and Randy Hill yelling, ‘Come on Johnny.’ And I looked back up thinking, ‘What are they talking about?’ That was an unbelievable range of emotions from thinking you're 4-5 and she'd win and then maybe we are going to get eased and get beat by 20-30 lengths, to we're going to win and not only win, but win going away by four. When she made that move, I've never seen anything like that.” **Cont. p7**

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With uncertainty on the racing calendar looming, connections decided to have Up in Smoke face older fillies and in open company for the first time Sunday at Gulfstream.

“We were hoping for a straight 3-year-old race, there is one next week, but we didn’t know if they were going to shut down, so George said, ‘She’s doing well. Let’s enter,’” Ballis explained.

Sunday’s company may have been different, but the result was the same as Up in Smoke came powering down the lane to win by three lengths as the even-money favorite ([video](#)).

As for what might be next for the talented filly, Ballis said, “It’s hard to map out a plan when we don’t know what’s going to happen. We do want to stretch her out. We don’t think she is a true sprinter. Her pedigree would say she is, but her running style makes me think she’s going to stretch out. So ideally, we are going to go stakes races now from here on out. And hopefully we can progress, go seven-eighths or a mile. And if she handles that, keep going distance-wise. She may be a one-turn mile type, we won’t know until we try it. Hopefully, if Saratoga runs, and if she keeps doing well, the goal would be to try and run in the GI Test S.”

The Black Type Thoroughbreds ownership group includes six partners, with only Reagan Swinbank, who owned a share in multiple graded placed Join in the Dance (Sky Mesa), a returning owner.

“They are all new people minus one guy and he has been a part of one other horse with us,” Ballis said. “He got back in. But the rest are all new people, and the majority are from Texas.”

Also on the filly’s ownership line is Randy Hill’s R.A. Hill Stable.

“I’ve known Randy for years just through George,” Ballis said. “He said he would partner with us if we found something nice. This is the first horse we’ve partnered on.”

With a group of mostly new owners, Ballis agreed the biggest challenge was to enjoy the ride while setting realistic expectations.

“That’s the hard part,” he said with a rueful chuckle. “Trying to temper the expectations and let them know it’s not that easy. We were on a good run for a couple of years and then we had two pretty bad years. So it’s nice to have a good filly again. And hopefully they don’t think this is the norm.”

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## TODAY'S GOOD NEWS/ RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

### AIKEN TRAINING TRACK SLASHES STABLING FEES

by Bill Finley

*In every crisis, it's possible to find examples of kindness and generosity, of people reaching out to help total strangers out of the goodness of their heart. To focus attention on the many people in the industry who have stepped forward to help those who have been impacted by the coronavirus, the TDN has launched a series that we hope will put a smile on your face during these difficult times. We'll do our best to bring you a little bit of good news every day.*

Most of the trainers who winter at the Aiken Training Track would be gone by now, their horses headed to tracks like Keeneland, Churchill Downs and Belmont. But with the coronavirus having shut down most racing across the country and many tracks not accepting new horses, many of Aiken’s trainers have nowhere to go and no income coming in. It’s a precarious situation to be in, but the management of the historic training track is trying to make things easier for its horsemen.

The Aiken Training Track, which includes about 300 stalls, has cut the usage fee trainers must pay in half, from \$200 a month to \$100 a month.



Aiken Training Track | Sarah Andrew

“The Board of Directors had a meeting in which we were trying to figure out ways to help the horsemen,” said Cary Frommer, who is a member of the track’s Board of Directors and a past president. **Cont. p8**

“In this day and age, it’s hard to figure things out. Everybody is under financial pressure with what has happened to the economy. Somebody came up with idea of cutting in half the rate for training and everybody thought it was a great idea. We are a small community and the trainers are hard-working people who are trying to make ends meet. The track wanted to do something to reach out to them.”

The Aiken training facility opened in 1941 and one of its first residents was Shut Out, the winner of the 1942 Kentucky Derby. It became the winter home for many of the horses from the prestigious “society” stables of the time, like Rokeby Stable, Greentree, the Phipps Family, King Ranch, C.V. Whitney and Claiborne Farm. With many of those stables folding, Aiken had to redefine itself and did so by bringing in some smaller stables and people like Frommer, who deal with 2-year-olds, either preparing them for the sales or getting them ready for racing before they are sent to their regular trainers.



Cary Frommer | Fasig-Tipton

Frommer said Aiken would be glad to give new trainers a place to train and care for their horses, but said the cutback in the usage fee is primarily meant for those who are already at Aiken.

“There are no sales to go to for people like me,” Frommer said. “There are no racetracks available for people to send their horses to.”

Charging a reduced rate, Aiken will take a hit to its bottom line, but Frommer doesn’t see it that way.

“Ultimately, the people who are here are the core people who come here every year,” she said. “We want them to stay in business and we wanted to do what we could do to help them. That doesn’t go just for trainers. Aiken is a small, community-minded place and everybody wants to help in any way they can. The track will be okay. We’ll be fine.”

Among the reasons why the training center is in a strong enough position financially where it can cut its rates is that it

held the annual Aiken Trials Mar. 14. The trials draw a large and festive crowd and bring in a substantial amount of money for the training center. The races were held before South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster put in place any rules regarding large gatherings.

“We squeaked them out,” Frommer said. “Up until the day before, we were talking about canceling it. It turned out to be a really successful day. As far as we know, nobody got sick. There is a lot less of the virus in this county than in other places. There was a lot of separation going on, but we all had fun and enjoyed the racing. That was before this tipped into no man’s land like it did the next week.”

Subsequent events in Aiken, like the Aiken Spring Steeplechase Meet, were canceled. The steeplechase races traditionally draw a crowd of about 30,000. It’s part of the new normal in Aiken, a town, like most every other one in America, that is still figuring out how to get through these difficult times. That includes the horsemen who come each year to South Carolina. At the very least, though, they have a place to train their horses and can do so without having to worry about onerous stabling charges.

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## TIZ THE LAW CROWNED NY-BRED HOTY



Tiz the Law | Derbe Glass

Sackatoga Stable’s **Tiz the Law** (Constitution) was remotely crowned 2019 New York-Bred Horse of the Year and champion 2-year-old male Monday, the same day the New York Thoroughbred Breeders was to host its annual awards banquet at the Saratoga National Golf Club. The live event was canceled due to the coronavirus crisis.

Bred by Twin Creeks Farm, which raced leading first-crop sire Constitution in partnership with WinStar Farm, Tiz the Law was a \$110,000 graduate of the 2018 Fasig-Tipton New York-Bred Sale.

**Cont. p9**

# TAPIT'S VALUE SIRE.

2019 Freshmen  
by Black Type Winners

Constitution	5
<b>RACE DAY</b>	<b>4</b>
American Pharoah	4
Palace Malice	2
Liam's Map	2
Tapiture	2
Tonalist	2

## RACE DAY



\$7,500 S&N

 SPENDTHRIFT

Breaking his maiden by 4 1/4 lengths at first asking in restricted company, he walloped open rivals by four lengths in the GI Champagne S. He closed the season with a troubled third in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. The blaze-faced bay has cemented his status as a leading candidate for the GI Kentucky Derby in two starts this term, annexing the GIII Holy Bull S. by three lengths Feb. 1 ahead of a 4 1/4-length tally in the GI Curlin Florida Derby Mar. 28. Tiz the Law's Grade II-winning dam Tizfiz (Tiznow) was named Broodmare of the Year.

In lieu of the live awards ceremony, NYTB published the list of state-bred champions to its website ([www.nytbreeders.org](http://www.nytbreeders.org)) and social media channels Monday morning. NYTB simultaneously launched a microsite ([www.nytbawards.com](http://www.nytbawards.com)) to host a video presentation produced by PM Advertising, including top performances from all nominees while showcasing the winners. A commemorative program, produced by ST Publishing, is being mailed to all NYTB members.

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**NEW YORK-BRED CHAMPIONS – 2019**

**Horse of the Year, Champion 2YO Male  
TIZ THE LAW (Constitution)**

**Champion 2YO Filly  
CRITICAL VALUE (Bodemeister)**

**Champion 3YO Make  
SOMELIKEITHOTBROWN (Big Brown)**

**Champion 3YO Filly  
NEWLY MINTED (Central Banker)**

**Champion Older Dirt Male  
MR. BUFF (Friend or Foe)**

**Champion Older Dirt Female, Female Sprinter  
PAUSEFORTHECAUSE (Creative Cause)**

**Champion Male Sprinter  
BUILD TO SUIT (Dominus)**

**Champion Turf Male  
GUCCI FACTOR (Gio Ponti)**

**Champion Turf Female  
FIFTY FIVE (Get Stormy)**

**Broodmare of the Year  
TIZFIZ (Tiznow)**

**Trainer of the Year:** Linda Rice  
**Jockey of the Year:** Manuel Franco  
**Breeder of the Year:** Chester and Mary Broman

OPEN LETTER TO THE  
INDUSTRY

**FASIG-TIPTON ON 2020 YEARLING SALES**

All of us at Fasig-Tipton hope that you are staying healthy and safe during this COVID-19 pandemic.

We know that many of you have questions about Fasig-Tipton's 2020 selected yearling sales. Below, please find some information that we hope will be helpful:

- In order to create the best possible marketplace for the 2020 yearling sales, we believe it is imperative that the start of yearling sales season occur after the vast majority of 2-year-old sales have been conducted.
- This could result in a modification to the originally announced Kentucky July Yearling sale dates. However, it would be premature to make such a determination at this time. We will carefully evaluate and monitor the health conditions throughout the United States in the next few weeks before making that decision. Should there be any changes in dates, formats, etc., they will be quickly communicated.
- Currently, it is not possible to conduct yearling inspections due to various stay-at-home orders and travel restrictions in place throughout the United States. As soon as it is safe and practical, we will resume the inspection process. We are fortunate to have the ability to utilize several qualified inspection teams for this process, and the vast majority of selected yearling sale candidates are concentrated in specific geographic areas.
- Please go ahead and nominate any yearlings that are under consideration for our selected yearling sales in Kentucky and New York--The July Sale, The Saratoga Sale, and New York Bred Yearlings Sale. There is no fee to nominate, and you are not obligated or committed to these sales by nominating. By nominating now, it will allow us to better plan and coordinate our efforts moving forward. Nomination forms are available on our [website](#), or by following [this link](#). You may also nominate through our [Consignor Portal](#) if you have an account.
- Fasig-Tipton is a highly flexible and adaptable sales company. We will make needed adjustments, as conditions dictate, to properly serve the marketplace in 2020. This is an unprecedented situation for all of us, and it is important for our industry to work together to help each during these trying times.

*Cont. p10*

As always, please feel free to contact any member of the Fasig-Tipton staff if we can be of service. We look forward to working with you throughout this process, and rest assured, we will be with you every step of the way.

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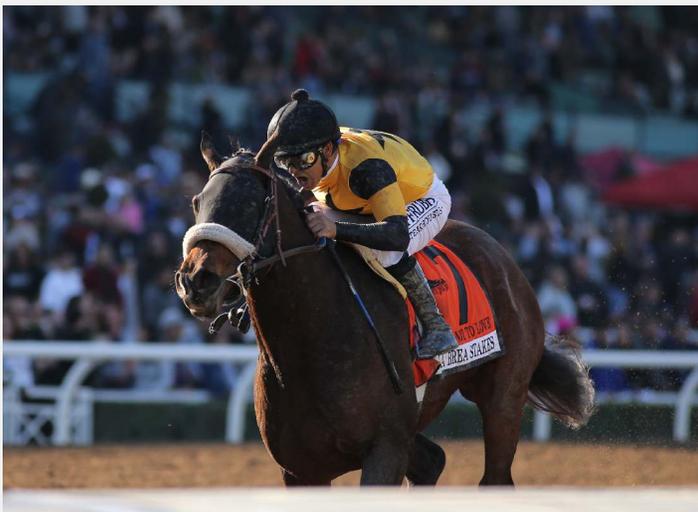
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*April 1, 2020*  
**Sackatoga Stable's Jack Knowlton**  
**Talks Florida Derby Winner Tiz the Law**



 **Traffic Trends** 

*Through the first three months of 2020, traffic is up compared to 2019 as follows:*

Pageviews.....	<b>up 41% (1.8m to 2.6m)</b>
Unique Users.....	<b>up 66% (453k to 754k)</b>
28 Day Active Users.....	<b>up 111% (196k to 413k)</b>
PDF Downloads.....	<b>up 3%</b>



## DID YOU KNOW?

GISW **Hard Not to Love** (Hard Spun) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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## Leading Dirt Sires of 3-Year-Olds by Black-Type Winners

for stallions standing in North America through Sunday, Apr. 5

Earnings represent North America/Europe figures, stud fees listed are 2020 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	<b>Into Mischief</b> <i>(2005) by Harlan's Holiday Crops: 9</i>	6	10	2	4	--	--	63	18	300,000	1,563,496
				Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$175,000						Authentic	
2	<b>Uncle Mo</b> <i>(2008) by Indian Charlie Crops: 6</i>	4	6	4	5	--	--	41	16	377,400	1,184,304
				Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$125,000						Modernist	
3	<b>Munnings</b> <i>(2006) by Speightstown Crops: 7</i>	4	6	3	4	--	--	34	10	291,600	1,106,798
				Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$30,000						Bonny South	
4	<b>Constitution</b> <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2</i>	2	5	1	3	1	1	36	11	598,300	1,213,255
				Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$40,000						Tiz the Law	
5	<b>Tapiture</b> <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2</i>	2	4	--	--	--	--	44	15	90,000	610,157
				Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY Fee: \$7,500						Steph'sfullasugar	
6	<b>Palace Malice</b> <i>(2010) by Curlin Crops: 2</i>	2	2	1	1	--	--	38	5	260,000	523,390
				Stands: Three Chimneys Farm KY Fee: \$25,000						Mr. Monomoy	
7	<b>Paynter</b> <i>(2009) by Awesome Again Crops: 4</i>	2	3	--	1	--	--	27	5	136,100	449,326
				Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$10,000						Ring Leader	
8	<b>American Pharoah</b> <i>(2012) by Pioneerof the Nile Crops: 2</i>	2	4	--	1	--	--	24	1	55,000	292,052
				Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: Private						Harvey's Lil Goil	
9	<b>Blame</b> <i>(2006) by Arch Crops: 7</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	15	2	753,000	936,190
				Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$35,000						Nadal	
10	<b>Lookin At Lucky</b> <i>(2007) by Smart Strike Crops: 7</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	12	2	801,600	915,862
				Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$20,000						Wells Bayou	
11	<b>Tonalist</b> <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	31	9	213,110	687,254
				Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$15,000						Tonalist's Shape	
12	<b>Khozan</b> <i>(2012) by Distorted Humor Crops: 2</i>	1	3	--	2	--	--	35	10	109,000	600,634
				Stands: Journeyman Stud FL Fee: \$8,500						Liam's Lucky Charm	
13	<b>Tapit</b> <i>(2001) by Pulpit Crops: 13</i>	1	5	1	4	--	--	28	6	220,000	551,697
				Stands: Gainesway Farm KY Fee: \$200,000						Enforceable	
14	<b>Violence</b> <i>(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro Crops: 4</i>	1	1	--	--	--	--	32	14	94,266	548,823
				Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$25,000						No Parole	
15	<b>Cross Traffic</b> <i>(2009) by Unbridled's Song Crops: 3</i>	1	2	--	1	--	--	21	6	266,400	528,996
				Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$15,000						Ny Traffic	

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**Saturday's Results:**

**5th-Hanshin, ¥13,830,000 (\$126,714), Allowance, 3yo, 1400m, 1:24.6, gd.**

**AURORA TESORO (c, 3, Malibu Moon--For Passion, by Not For Love),** a good fourth in the first leg of the Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby, the Cattleya Sho (1600m) in November, was exiting a tough-trip eighth in a six-furlong allowance at Nakayama Jan. 19. Ridden for speed from gate three, the 23-10 second choice took up the running after the opening furlong, traveled strongly on the lead and sprinted clear in the stretch to score by four lengths. Aurora Tesoro, a \$140,000 Keeneland January yearling turned \$450,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling, is a half-brother to Soul Driver (Street Boss), MSW & GSP, \$224,850. Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-2, \$191,743.

O-Kenji Ryotokuji Holdings; B-John R Penn & Spendthrift Farm (KY); T-Yoshihiro Hatakeyama.



**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, APR. 7**

**Dramedy** (Distorted Humor), Sau, private  
29 foals of racing age/5 winners/1 black-type winner  
4-Will Rogers Downs, Msw 6f, DRAMACIDE, 12-1



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<a href="#">@SarahKAndrew</a>	<a href="#">@CBossTDN</a>	<a href="#">@JBiancaTDN</a>

**STAKES RESULTS:**

**WILMA MANKILLER S.**, \$50,300, Will Rogers Downs, 4-6, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.02, ft.

**1--WHOLEHEARTED, 121, m, 6, Awesome Again--My Baby Baby (GSW, \$509,744), by Bernstein. 1ST BLACK TYPE WIN.** O-Mike Sisk; B-Magdalena, Catalyst Stable, Horses R Us & M. Regan (KY); T-Robertino Diodoro; J-Ty Kennedy. \$30,000. Lifetime Record: 34-5-6-12, \$258,727.

**2--Drip Brew, 120, m, 6, Yes It's True--Sonorous, by Unbridled's Song.** (\$70,000 Wlg '14 KEENOV). O-Danny R. Caldwell; B-Frank T. Batten (NC); T-Scott E. Young. \$10,000.

**Baccari Bloodstock Sales Graduate**

**3--Ima Discreet Lady, 124, f, 4, Discreet Cat--Ima Three Blinger, by Too Much Bling.** (\$38,000 2yo '18 TTAAPR). O-Raymond Todd White & Duane Coker; B-Larry S Huntsinger (TX); T-Karl Broberg. \$5,500.

Margins: 1 3/4, NO, 2 1/4. Odds: 2.20, 9.20, 32.70.

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**7th-Will Rogers Downs, \$21,736, 4-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:40.39, ft.**

**KARATE HOTTIE (f, 4, Bold Warrior--Bee Home Soon, by Home At Last)** Lifetime Record: 18-6-6-3, \$122,164. O-End Zone Athletics, Inc.; B-Nancy Vanier & Lyda Williamson (KY); T-Karl Broberg.

**2nd-Will Rogers Downs, \$20,900, 4-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:04.88, ft.**

**BLENDED LUTE (g, 5, Midnight Lute--Yoursmineours {MSW, \$143,290}, by Belong to Me)** Lifetime Record: 23-4-2-0, \$69,042. O-Keene Thoroughbreds LLC; B-James M. Herbener Jr., Matthew & Kathy L. Herbener (KY); T-Andy Gladd. \*\$50,000 Ylg '16 KEEJAN; \$80,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP. \*\*1/2 to Whiskey Romeo (Forestry), MSW, \$219,000; Shared Property (Scat Daddy), GSW, \$179,111.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Hoyam, f, 4, Fort Larned--Dreaminadream, by Eltish.** Will Rogers Downs, 4-6, 1m, 1:40.73. B-Sunshine Thoroughbred Corp. (FL). \*\$24,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR.

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**AWESOME AGAIN,** Wholehearted, m, 6, o/o My Baby Baby, by Bernstein. Wilma Mankiller S., 4-6, Will Rogers

**BOLD WARRIOR,** Karate Hottie, f, 4, o/o Bee Home Soon, by Home At Last. ALW, 4-6, Will Rogers

**FORT LARNED,** Hoyam, f, 4, o/o Dreaminadream, by Eltish. MSW, 4-6, Will Rogers

**MIDNIGHT LUTE,** Blended Lute, g, 5, o/o Yoursmineours, by Belong to Me. ALW, 4-6, Will Rogers

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# HAVE A NEW FOAL?

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TATTERSALLS CRAVEN BREEZE UP SALE

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## ROARING LION FOALS MAKING NOISE



Roaring Lion filly out of Strawberry Martini | David Redvers

By Kelsey Riley

“It’s one of those cruel things where you don’t know whether to laugh or cry.”

There is a noticeable conflict of emotions, too, in David Redvers’s voice as he talks about some of the first foals on the ground by Tweenhills’s late Cartier Horse of the Year **Roaring Lion** (Kitten’s Joy). They are as good as could be hoped for, but they will be all there will be.

“If the horse was still alive, we’d be making some deafening clamour over the quality of the foals he has produced,” Redvers said. “We supported him hugely as you’d expect because he was the best horse we’ve ever had anything to do with and was just such the complete package. A lot of our best mares went to him and as a result we have the most extraordinary bunch of foals by him.”

The momentum began with the first Roaring Lion foal to be born at Tweenhills, a half-sister to Group 3 winner Astrophysical Jet (GB) (Dubawi {Ire})—“she’s just a queen, she has so much presence”—and has continued through to G1 St Leger winner Simple Verse (Ire), who produced a filly on Apr. 5.

Cont. p2

## FRANKEL FILLY ANCHORS GOESBRIDGE CATALOGUE

The Tattersalls Ireland Goresbridge Breeze Up Sale catalogue, featuring a daughter of Frankel (GB) (lot 142) out of Irish MGSW and G1 Matron S. third Ainippe (Ire) (Captain Rio {GB}) from Longways Stables, was released online on Monday. Slated for May 22 with the breezes at Fairyhouse Racecourse the day before, the 225-lot sale will be held in the Tattersalls Ireland sales ring from 10:30 a.m. local time. The breezes will begin at 10 a.m.

C. H. Thoroughbreds offers a Kingman (GB) filly (lot 25) from the family of English/Italian highweight Novellist (Ire) (Monsun {Ger}); while Grove Stud consigns lot 28, a bay filly by Siyouni (Fr) whose second dam is G3 Ballyogan S. Winner and G1 Golden Jubilee S./G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest third Lesson in Humility (Ire) (Mujadil).

In 2019, 179 2-year-olds found new homes for a gross of €5,010,500. The average was €27,992 and the median settled at €18,000. Topping the sale at €175,000 was a son of Lope de Vega (Ire)—Legal Lyric (Ire) (Lawman {Fr}), who was later named Haqeeqy (Ire). [Cont. p3](#)



Past graduate Fiesolana winning the G1 Matron S. | Racing Post

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

K J’S NOBILITY GIVES MCCORD ANOTHER FIRST

**K J’s Nobility** (Primary Suspect) gave Carson McCord her first stakes win as an owner in the Nodouble Breeders’ S. at Oaklawn Park on Mar. 29. Jessica Martini has the story. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)



Zoustar colt out of Wind Fire | David Redvers

### Roaring Lion Foals Cont. from p1

There is “an absolute belting colt” out of G2 May Hill S. winner Rich Legacy (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}); a “very smart filly” from the Group 3-placed Stroll Patrol (GB) (Mount Nelson {GB}); an “absolutely stunning” colt out of Gadfly (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), a half-sister to Classic winner Speciosa (Ire) (Daneshill Dancer {Ire}); a “gorgeous colt” out of the winning Lope de Vega (Ire) mare Exceedingly Rare (Ire); and a “very smart one” out of G1 Falmouth S. winner Giofra (GB) (Dansili {GB}). Grade III winner and multiple Grade and Group 1-placed Wekeela (Fr) (Hurricane Run {Ire}), bought by Qatar Racing for 1.8-million at Tattersalls December in 2017, had her first foal, a Dubawi (Ire) colt, last year, and she has followed up this year with a Roaring Lion colt that Redvers described as “as quality a foal as we have on the farm at the moment, a very smart colt.”

“They’ve maintained that quality right the way through, foal after foal that’s been born by him is coming out with huge presence, great girth, his incredible shoulder and head,” Redvers said. “It’s really quite moving to see them. Every one of them seems to think they’re a king. It’s going to be very, very exciting seeing them on the racetracks in a few years’ time.”

Roaring Lion headed a formidable trio to start out at Tweenhills in 2019—well, in the case of **Zoustar (Aus)** (Northern Meteor {Aus}), start out in the Northern Hemisphere. The Group 1-winning sprinter has led his sire crop Down Under by a wide margin ever since they hit the ground running in 2017/18, and Redvers said his first European foals are in a similar mould physically.

“We’ve had the benefit of seeing several crops in Australia to know what to expect, and he certainly hasn’t disappointed,” he said. “We have some absolute corkers here from his first Northern Hemisphere crop and the exciting thing is that there seems to be plenty of them around other big establishments as

well. Peter Stanley tells me that three or four of his best foals on the farm are Zoustars. Henri Bozo tells me the same at Monceaux. One of the best foals I’ve seen in a long time is the Zoustar out of La Collina (Ire), who is a Group 1 winner. We have outstanding foals here by him. Probably one of the better foals on the farm is a colt out of Wind Fire, who was third in the G2 Norfolk S. and a stakes-winning sprinter. They’re exactly what you’d expect; they all have that amazing head, great eye, huge hip and great action. That’s what has made them stand out in Australia and that’s the sort of horse that’s going to really excite people if we ever get to the stage where we’re having a bloodstock auction happening again.”

Qatar Racing has supported Zoustar heavily in both hemispheres since buying into him while he was in training. One vote of confidence was the private purchase of Group 1-winning sprinter Mabs Cross (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}) to join his second book after she had been bought back for 1.1-million gns at Tattersalls last December. She has recently been scanned in foal.

“We’ve gone all in again,” Redvers said. “We went all in in Australia and bought mares like Solar Charged [the dam of triple Group 1 winner Sunlight] to go to him and he’s repaid us time and time again. We’ve done the same here. We’ve spent a large amount of money buying sprinting mares from the December sales or privately afterwards. Sheikh Fahad is really committed to the horse and I think he’s sending him the best part of 30 mares this year of his own. He’s got absolutely stuck in, as have we at Tweenhills.”

Zoustar stands for £30,000 this year, a tick more than the £25,000 he cost in 2019 but an apparent bargain compared to the A\$154,000 he commands at Widden Stud in Australia.

**Lightning Spear (GB)** joined the Tweenhills roster last year after racing until the age of seven. And his last year was his best, with a career marked by many big-race placings culminating his final season with a win in the G1 Sussex S. [Cont. p3](#)



Lightning Spear colt out of Dark Reckoning | David Redvers



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## IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

### SLIPPER WINNER KIAMICHI RETIRED

Kiamichi (Aus) (Sidestep {Aus}), who won the G1 Golden Slipper, has been retired.. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)



Roaring Lion filly out of Heartless | David Redvers

### Roaring Lion Foals Cont.

Lightning Spear was advertised at £8,500, but fertility issues means he has only around 26 foals to be born this year. Redvers said, however, that things are looking up and Lightning Spear will cover around 50 mares this year.

“His fertility seems to have improved quite a lot for management this year,” he said. “He has a better book of mares again this year and at the moment he’s stopping them. There aren’t a huge number of [foals] but they’re exactly what you’d hope for from a son of Pivotal. They have size, scope and a great bit of presence about them. He’s never going to make anyone a fortune of money because we’ll be limiting the size of his books, but he’s a horse that’s going to prove, I’m sure, very capable of getting top-class horses. Pivotal has proven such a sensation as a sire of sires, and he’s out of a stakes-winning 2-year-old by Royal Academy. It’s no wonder he was as sound and tough as he was, because she won a race every year from two to six. He’ll be a great horse for the owner/breeder that doesn’t want to spend a ton of money but who wants to give themselves a good chance.”

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

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### Goesbridge Cont. from p1

Tattersalls Ireland will make every effort to stage the sale as scheduled, however, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the situation is constantly being reviewed and the sales date is subject to change.

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## TATE GIVES UPDATE ON UNDER THE STARS



Under the Stars | *Racing Post*

**James Tate** provided an update on GSW **Under The Stars (Ire)** (Night of Thunder {Ire}) who will take her chances at a mile in her stride when she gets her chance in the G1 QIPCO 1000 Guineas. The Newmarket handler reports Under The Stars to be in top form and to have strengthened up over the winter. With her sire--2014 Guineas winner Night Of Thunder--and dam Jumeirah Palm Star (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) both victorious over a mile, Tate believes the Saeed Manana-owned filly is well equipped to see out the new trip.

He said, "Under The Stars is waiting for the 1000 Guineas, whenever that is going to be. The filly has strengthened during the winter and is in great form. She is jumping around and her coat looks fantastic. I think she will run well in the Guineas, as she has that great cruising speed and travels well and therefore the mile should be no problem."

Having claimed Group 3 glory in the Princess Margaret S. at Ascot on her second start, Under The Stars followed up with creditable runs in defeat at Group 1 and 2 level before ending last season on a winning note in a sales race at Newmarket.

Tate added, "She did well to win the Princess Margaret on her second start and acquitted herself well in defeat in the Moyglare and Rockfel. Right now her optimum trip would be seven furlongs, but I would be very surprised if she didn't get a mile--the drop back to six on her last start would have been sharp enough.

"It was a case of where to go and it was a good opportunity to win £80,000 and in her typical fashion she only just won--she doesn't do much in front."

MGSP **Dream Shot (Ire)** (Dream Ahead) acquitted himself well at Pattern-race level on more than one occasion last year without winning, ending his season with a run in the GII Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf at Santa Anita.

Tate hopes he still has more to offer.

He said, "He has been great considering he was a cheap as chips purchase. He is listed, Group 3 and Group 2-placed and ran well at the Breeders' Cup on his last start. He seems to have improved physically, and hopefully he will be a fun sprinter."

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## O p / E D

### MUSINGS ON OUR MAGNIFICENT TRIVIALITY *By John Hammond*

For the first time in my memory, maybe since the war, there is a complete shutdown of racing in France, Ireland and the UK. It goes without saying that we in racing live in our own little bubble and the effects of the coronavirus are considerably more dramatic on other areas of society. We are in uncharted territory however. So, for the moment, all we can do is to hunker down and ride out the storm.

'Our magnificent triviality' was the description used by the much missed Hugh McIlvanney, Scotland's greatest sports journalist, to describe our occupation/passion of horseracing. He himself said he nicked the phrase from Phil Bull, another giant in his own domain, the founder of Timeform which became the bible of anyone following British racing in a serious fashion. It's an apt phrase maybe but our sport can also be seen as a wonderful and fascinating way of spending some time during these brief few years that we individually spend on earth.

Racing is never bland; it always touches our senses. We never know what we are about to receive, elation or disappointment, but it is not a game of total chance either. Each race is a game of three-dimensional chess played out not only by the players on the field but also by the owners, trainers and even breeders too.

[Cont. p5](#)



John Hammond | *Emma Berry*



Jim Dreaper with Midlands National winner Goonyella | *Racing Post*

**John Hammond Op/Ed Cont.**

Every race has a result with a knock-on effect to all involved and while we all have our individual views and opinions, ultimately we are dealing with nature and one of nature's finest creations at that. Personally, each time I look at a racehorse it engages my mind.

I was fortunate to spend much of my childhood and adolescence in Ireland, the home of the horse. Anyone with more than 10 square metres behind their house had a horse. A hunter, a showjumper, a pony or a potential racehorse. Ireland is the largest breeder of Thoroughbred horses in Europe with a human population of only five million. In Ireland racehorses are bred in the bone.

I began riding out for Jim Dreaper in my school holidays aged 14, weighing in at a similar mass to a large family dog. Very small, I grew late. It was, at the time, one of the best 'jumping' stables in Ireland. Only steeplechasers and hurdlers, no Flat horses. Jim had just taken over from his legendary father, Tom, a man of few words and dry wit--he was a stockman as much as trainer.

It was a stable bathed in history. Often the horses would not be broken in until the end of their 4-year-old season, not getting to their best until they were seven or eight. Yes, it was a wait, but year after year for a couple of decades or more those champions, Ten Up, Brown Lad, Lough Inagh et al, rolled off the production line. The sugar was indeed found in the bottom of the cup.

It was where the mighty Arkle, universally acknowledged as the best steeplechaser ever to put his head through a bridle, had been trained only a few years earlier. A winner of three Gold Cups, this was an animal who gave 16lbs to the second-best horse in training, Mill House--a champion in his own right--and still beat him.

The 'lads' (work riders) had, at a guess, an average age of 45. Most had been there all of their working lives. Everyone rode out wearing only cloth caps, helmets were donned only for schooling over fences. A different era, most went to work on bikes, few owned cars but the warmth and banter of morning work was theatre and I felt part of the play. To me, a young Brit, these cheerful, humorous, Irish horsemen, big-hearted if small in stature, were my idols. They were kind and they minded me, as riding those massive, raw-boned, magnificent steeplechasers I was a pea on a drum who spent most of his time 'hanging off one side', as the saying went. As, totally out of control, I went flying past the horse in front the cry would go out 'if you can't hold him, pull him up!' It took me a while to get the joke.

That was how I spent eight years of school and university holidays. They were special times, riding memorable horses, working with memorable people.

It might seem trite to be writing and reminiscing about our little sport at a time when we appear to be having the perfect storm of a world health crisis and global economic meltdown, but maybe at such times it is important to be thankful for what gives us pleasure in life too. Right now, rightly so, racing is stopped here but we miss it. There is still the great pleasure of seeing the horses at exercise but...no racing, no horses. It is the Thoroughbred's reason to be.

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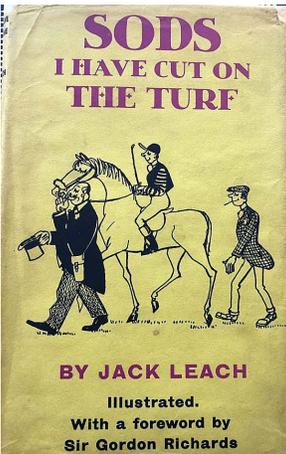
Arkle's old box at Jim Dreaper's stable | *Racing Post*



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— **THE GREAT RACING READ** — 



**ANTHONY PENFOLD**  
*Sods I have cut on the Turf*  
 By Jack Leach

Not only does this slim volume win the prize for the best title but it is also streets clear in the category for the best racing book ever written by a jockey or a trainer (Jack Leach was both) not to have been ghosted. In his foreword, Sir Gordon Richards describes Leach as "always the stylist, on or off a horse." That style is evident throughout the book. I

recommend that you beg, borrow, buy or steal a copy.

Leach weaves many amusing little vignettes into this gem of a book, such as this: "The greatest feat of jockeyship I ever saw: Steve Donoghue's perfect ride on Humorist in the Derby will always stick in my memory--the way he nursed the frail horse with the big heart, and slipped through on the inside at the critical moment. Humorist died soon afterwards, Steve has gone, and so has the money I won on them. They were all three wonderful while they lasted."

He introduces the reader to a host of celebrities and characters from all walks of life, notably his friendship with Fred Astaire.

"Edgar Wallace was a friend of mine, and what a fantastic man he was, but there was one very weak link in his make up--he thought he knew everything about racing. I never met a man who knew less. He fought a continuous battle against the bookmaker and hardly won a round."

Leach paints a vivid picture of the racing world in the years between the wars--tales of great horses, races, trainers and their methods, legendary jockeys and so much else. It is the perfect read to lighten the mood of any self-isolating racing professional or enthusiast.

*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

**JAPAN GETS CLASSIC SHO ON THE ROAD**

While the European Classics look likely to suffer some reshuffling, Japanese racing is continuing behind closed doors and the country is set to stage its first Classic on Sunday, the G1 Oka Sho (1000 Guineas).

Final declarations for the Hanshin contest will be made on Thursday, but the 18 likely runners at this stage include no fewer than six daughters of Deep Impact (Jpn), who died last August. At this early stage of the year, it is no surprise to see the late Shadai resident out in front on the Japanese sires' table--equally it will be no surprise to see him there at the end of the season, either. He has already been responsible for 11 group stakes winners in 2020, including **Miyamazakura (Jpn)**, **Smile Kana (Jpn)** and **Sanctuaire (Jpn)**, all of whom are likely starters for the Oka Sho.

Heart's Cry (Jpn), runner-up to Deep Impact in last year's sires' table, has three fillies in the reckoning for Classic Glory--**Woman's Heart (Jpn)**, **Cravache d'Or (Jpn)** and **Chain of Love (Jpn)**--while another of Japan's leading sires, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn), looks set to be represented by **Yamakatsu Mermaid (Jpn)**.



**Epiphaneia looks set to have his first Classic runner on Sunday**

*Emma Berry*

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Featuring a weekly racing discussion--the TDN Writers' Room--along with stories from the TDN Look and longer stories in the TDN which have been made into podcasts.





The 2017 Japanese Derby is shown before packed stands in Japan. A state of emergency will be declared in the Land of the Rising Sun due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Racing is still allowed for the time being, but it has been taking place behind closed doors. | Getty Images

### Oka Sho Cont.

However, two stallions have a chance of their names being etched in the Classic roll of honour for the first time this weekend. Japan's champion first-season sire of 2019, Deep Impact's son Kizuna (Jpn), is the sire of **Fiori Chiari (Jpn)** and **Maltese Diosa (Jpn)**. The latter, winner of the G2 Tulip Sho on Mar. 7, is current co-third favourite and has been beaten just once in her four starts, when runner-up to **Resistencia (Jpn)** (Daiwa Major {Jpn}), in the GI Hanshin Juvenile Fillies over course and distance in December. Resistencia has not raced since then and heads to Sunday's contest as likely favourite. Just behind her in the market is **Daring Tact (Jpn)**, a first-crop daughter of Epiphaneia (Jpn) who is unbeaten in two starts including the Listed Elphin S. at Kyoto in early February. Epiphaneia, a son of Symboli Kris S., was responsible for the highest number of winners among Japan's freshman sires last season.

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## JAPAN TO DECLARE STATE OF EMERGENCY, RACING TO CONTINUE FOR NOW

Coronavirus cases in Japan spiked on Sunday, leading to a state of emergency in some regions set to be declared by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the *South China Morning Post* reported on Monday. One-hundred forty-three new coronavirus cases in Tokyo were confirmed on Apr. 5, bringing the total in Japan to 4,563. The state of emergency, made possible by a recently amended law, empowers local authorities to instruct the public to stay at home and request the closure of schools and other facilities.

Racing in Japan, which has continued behind closed doors for several weeks, is still allowed to continue, but the sport's fate now depends on the local governors' discretion. The first **Classic of the season**, the G1 Oka Sho for 3-year-old fillies, is slated for Apr. 12.

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## SLIPPER WINNER KIAMICHI RETIRED



Kiamichi and Damian Lane | Bronwen Healy

By TDN AusNZ

Godolphin has confirmed that 2019 G1 Golden Slipper S. winner **Kiamichi** (Sidestep) has been retired. The filly led home a Godolphin sweep of the Slipper trifecta in 2019 in the highlight of a 13-start career which saw her win three races, including the G3 Magic Night S.

Trainer James Cummings said Kiamichi was a genuine Group 1 star. "She was our first 2-year-old winner of the season and she just grew stronger and better as her preparations progressed," Cummings said. "I have nothing but praise for her win in such a high-pressure race. We trained her for strength and she was the toughest on the day. They all had the chance to run her down, but they didn't threaten her.

"The Golden Slipper is a race that shapes the breed in Australia, and she now gets her chance to contribute to that tradition."

Godolphin Australia Managing Director, Vin Cox, confirmed Kiamichi retires sound and healthy to Godolphin's broodmare band and that a mate would be confirmed. She is out Ouachita, a daughter of the 1990 Slipper winner Canny Lad and her family also features the Slipper winners Vain, Marscay, Dark Eclipse and Storm Queen.

### Bosson Versus Belle

By TDN AusNZ

Jockey Opie Bosson admits it will be strange taking on his

favourite mare **Melody Belle (NZ)** (Commands) in Saturday's G1 Queen Elizabeth S. aboard stablemate **Te Akau Shark (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle {Ire}). Bosson has opted to ride Te Akau Shark with Kerrin McEvoy to partner Melody Belle, the first time in her past seven starts Bosson hasn't ridden her.

"It will be a bit weird," Bosson said. "She's one of my favourites and has been really good to me. I wish her all the best and you know she's a real competitor too. With the right run she'll be right in it," said Bosson. "They're two totally different types of horses but there's not a lot between them. I've got a good association with both horses but I've always been committed to Te Akau Shark, so that's why I've gone that way but you can't take anything away from Melody Belle."

Bosson will partner **Probabeel (NZ)** (Savabeel) in the G1 Australian Oaks and believes the filly is up to staying the 2400m.

"Probabeel just wants a better track," Bosson said. "Apparently we're meant to get some better weather this week so that should be ideal and back at Randwick should suit her as well. She's just thrived since she's been here, she got home from the races the other day and ate everything, she's a very happy horse."



Melody Belle & Opie Bosson | Bronwen Healy

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