

TAKING STOCK: THE ART OF THE MATING



Dermot & Jack Cantillon (l to r) | Goffs

by Sid Fernando

Responding to the global coronavirus pandemic, people and organizations within this industry from around the world have stepped up to generate goodwill gestures every week it seems, whether it's owner-breeder Chuck Fipke offering no-fee breedings to his stallions, Finger Lakes HBPA and track management distributing \$827,000 in the form of "stimulus checks" to local trainers and owners, or an Irish lawyer galvanizing interest in more than 350 housebound fans and industry participants in "The Art of the Mating," a hypothetical exercise in stallion selection for some famous mares.

Jack Cantillon came up with the idea for "The Art of the Mating" while on Twitter recently, and I happened to see it germinate and come alive in real time with amazing response. Cantillon is a London-based attorney who is involved in the racing and breeding business and is the son of longtime breeders Dermot Cantillon and Meta Osborne, owners of the 215-acre nursery Tinnakill House in County Laois, Ireland, which has produced Group 1 winners Alexander Goldrun (Ire), Red Evie (Ire), and Casamento (Ire) among other talented racehorses.

I met Cantillon, along with his parents and sisters, three years ago over dinner at a lobster shack in an area of Brooklyn by the water called Red Hook, close to where his family was vacationing in a nearby rental. **Cont. p4**

SECOND CHANCES: UNCLE MO COLT

TARGETING ROYAL ASCOT by Steve Sherack

In this continuing series, TDN's Senior Editor Steve Sherack catches up with the connections of promising maidens to keep on your radar.

The highly regarded **Golden Pal** (Uncle Mo) set a blistering early pace and had to settle for second in one of the first baby races of the season on the Gulfstream Park dirt last week. What's the confidence level like now surrounding the 2-year-old colt after getting upset as the 1-2 favorite on debut?

"It's funny, about half an hour ago, I was booking airline reservations to Heathrow Airport to get to London in June," owner/breeder **Randy Lowe** replied from his Las Vegas base.

Cont. p3

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

WATERSHIP DOWN WELCOMES BROTHER TO TOO DARN HOT

Dar Re Mi (GB) (Singspiel (Ire)) produced a full-brother to Cartier champion 3-year-old Too Darn Hot (GB) (Dubawi (Ire)) at Watership Down Stud this week. Emma Berry has the scoop. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

A VALUE Equation
10.1%
Stakes Horses
*Lifetime SHs/Starters
Sire of Math Wizard (G1)
Call today for late-season deals!

ALGORITHMS
BERNARDINI - AVA KNOWSTHECODE | \$5,000 LFSN

Clairborne
ClairborneFarm.com
Bernie Sams : 859.987.2330

PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Managing Editor

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Editor

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

Racing Editor

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Deputy Editor

Christie DeBernardis @CDeBernardisTDN

Associate Editors

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

Joe Bianca @JBiancaTDN

News and Features Editor

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Advertising Designer

Amanda Crelin

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution

Rachel McCaffrey

Advertising Assistants

Amie Newcomb

Kristen Lomasson

Photographer/Photo Editor

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew
photos@thetdn.com

Social Media Strategist

Justina Severni

Director of Customer Service

Vicki Forbes

customerservice@thetdn.com

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen @AlaynaCullen

Director of IT/Accounting

Ray Villa

rayvilla@thetdn.com

accounting@thetdn.com

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

International Editor

Kelsey Riley @kelseynrileyTDN

kelseynriley@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry

emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary

caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | 732-747-8955 (fax)

www.TheTDN.com

Friday, April 24, 2020



Then and Now! Henry Beeby, Group Chief Executive of Goffs, pictured making his auctioneering debut in 1985 and a slightly more current photo. When contacted by TDN, Beeby said the photo, originally posted on Twitter, had resulted in an "equal measure of amusement and derision." | Goffs

TAMPA BAY ADDS DATES

8

Scheduled to end May 3, the Tampa Bay Downs meet will now be extended to May 30. The track made the announcement Thursday on its Twitter feed. "We wanted to assist the horsemen because it was not clear where they could go once we end our season," said Tampa Bay Downs Director of Marketing Margo Flynn.

TURF PARADISE BACKSTRETCH TO REMAIN OPEN

9

Turf Paradise management and the Arizona horsemen have come to an agreement that will see the track remain open for stabling an extra 10 days. The track was scheduled to close its doors to the roughly 740 horses currently stabled there on the last day of April.



#PABred foals are arriving (almost) daily!

Submit your foal photos to pabreeder@pabred.com

Follow us on social media for the latest arrivals!



pabred.com



Sherack Second Chances cont. from p1



Golden Pal (inside) battles on gamely | *Ryan Thompson*

Races like the G2 Norfolk S. at Royal Ascot, G1 Prix Morny in France and \$1-million GII Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint--all on grass--are currently being discussed with trainer Wesley Ward for the first foal out of Lowe's talented turf sprinter Lady Shipman (Midshipman).

After eyeing his four-furlong spin over the Palm Meadows lawn Apr. 11 with [this video courtesy of XBTv](#), you can certainly

see why.

"I spoke with Wesley Ward at length [Tuesday] and he keeps comparing Golden Pal to No Nay Never and those are big shoes to fill," Lowe said.

No Nay Never (Scat Daddy), of course, began his career with three straight victories for Ward, headed by wins in those aforementioned prestigious overseas targets in 2013. This year's Royal meeting, slated for June 16-20, is to be held behind closed doors, it was recently announced.

"I don't want to jinx ourselves, but he's been very positive and he's adamant about running at Royal Ascot," Lowe said. "After talking with him, I'm really hoping that The Queen still holds the meet."

Drawn in post seven in his unveiling, Golden Pal bumped with a rival one to his outside at the break before blasting off to a two-length advantage beneath Tyler Gaffalione through an opening quarter in :21.58 ([video](#)). He locked horns with Gatsby (Brethren) as they cornered for home and boxed on gamely down the stretch to make the winner fight for every inch.

"I can't remember ever seeing another 2-year-old run a :21 2/5 opening quarter mile, especially after not breaking on top, and he was still trying to fight back," Lowe said. "We knew he was fast, but when Tyler Gaffalione pushed the button, he really pushed the button. I think that race was a good learning



CITY OF LIGHT

Quality Road - Paris Notion, by Dehere

FIRST FOALS OF 2020



3 FILLIES BY CITY OF LIGHT

\$40,000

lanesend.com | t: 859.873.7300



LANE'S END



Lady Shipman | Leslie Martin

experience. I'd love for him to break his maiden on grass next time if we can find a race and then go on to Royal Ascot."

Lady Shipman, just a \$35,000 RNA as an OBS April 2-year-old, tired to third in her first career start over the Gulfstream Park West dirt, then switched to grass with a **'TDN Rising Star'** performance scoring by double digits in Miami at second asking. The Lowe homebred captured 13 career victories--11 in stakes--and was just a neck shy of a win against the boys in the 2015 GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint at Keeneland.

Golden Pal failed to meet his reserve when the hammer dropped at \$325,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale. He was just one bid shy of changing hands, per Lowe.

"Like mother, like son, I'm hoping," Lowe said. "He almost has Lady Shipman-type speed. I was hoping she'd pass it on to him."

Sadly, the 8-year-old mare lost her Justify foal earlier this year. She was covered by Omaha Beach for the 2021 season.

Lowe, a 63-year-old retired insurance executive, named Golden Pal in honor of his late colleague and longtime friend, John C. Mabee of Golden Eagle Farm and his legendary six-time Grade I winner Best Pal.

"John Mabee used to say to me, 'I've taken you to the Kentucky Derby, Breeders' Cup and all around the world,'" Lowe concluded. "'Now, get back on your own.'"

Through the exploits of Lady Shipman, and now her offspring, Lowe is certainly on his way.

Previous standouts featured in 'Second Chances' include: MGISW and 'TDN Rising Star' Paradise Woods (Union Rags), GSW Backyard Heaven (Tizway), MSW and 'TDN Rising Star' Gidu (Ire) (Frankel {GB}), the highly regarded GII San Felipe S. runner-up Honor A. P. (Honor Code) and GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S. runner-up Candy Tycoon (Twirling Candy).

[Share this story](#)

TAKING STOCK

by Sid Fernando



Taking Stock cont. from p1

If my memory is correct, the young lawyer was then working as an intern in Washington D.C., but his exuberance for the sport was well evident. He's since written at least 10 earnest Op/Ed pieces in *TDN*, including one particularly creative piece on Mar. 23 titled **"Creating Demand During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic,"** which I highly recommend to anyone involved in breeding, buying, and selling.

Cantillon is also involved as a syndicator of racehorses at his syndicates.racing and plays a part with his parents in the operation of Tinnakill House, a consignor to major sales.

The Art of the Mating

As for "The Art of the Mating," here's Kelsey Riley's description in *TDN* of Cantillon's spur-of-the moment idea: "Over a four-week period, 'students' who sign up for The Art of the Mating will try their hand at designing matings and receive expert feedback through a Zoom video conference. Cantillon will select the mares and provide information on and photos of the mares on a website that is currently in the works. The participants will submit their work and questions for the expert panel, which Cantillon will record on Zoom and post online and as a podcast. Cantillon had 388 participants register overnight on Monday within 24 hours of posting the sign-up portal, and he has signed Moyglare Stud's Fiona Craig on as one of his experts for week one. Students will start off with the blue chip broodmare band of Enable (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}), Deirdre (Jpn) (Harbinger {GB}) and Midnight Bisou (Midnight Lute)."

I watched the Zoom presentation on the segment on



Enable | Horsephotos

Juddmonte-bred Enable, which was informative. Aside from Craig, the other expert commenting on Enable was Alan Porter, and both did a fine job of discussing the champion's pedigree, which includes the unusually close inbreeding to Sadler's Wells 3x2. Both experts noted that such close duplications to sires aren't statistically successful, though occasionally found in high-class runners, and Porter used Marcel Boussac's Coronation (Fr) (Djebel {Fr}), who was 2x2 to Tourbillon (FR), as another example. Both experts, however, stayed away in their selections from stallions with another strain of Sadler's Wells in their pedigrees.

This, of course, ruled out a number of European horses--including Juddmonte star Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}). As it is, mates for a mare of the quality of Enable are limited, because only stallions at the highest echelons would normally be considered by most breeders and they are few in numbers. Craig chose Juddmonte's rising star Kingman (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}),

while Porter went with the safer play of Dubawi (Ire) (Dubai Millennium {GB}). The online participants voted for Dubawi as well.

Both are good matings based on good crosses and are safe commercially in preservation of top-end value, but neither is particularly interesting after that, and not close to being as daring as the one that created Enable herself with the 3x2 inbreeding to Sadler's Wells. Juddmonte, however, has done this type of thing before, and superstar sire Danehill (Danzig) was another example of this, except the duplicated ancestor in his pedigree was a mare. He was inbred 3x3 to Natalma (Native Dancer)--the dam of Northern Dancer.



Danehill | Arrowfield

Rasmussen Factor

The concept of inbreeding to superior females, as seen in the case of Danehill, is known in some circles as the Rasmussen

KLIMT

QUALITY ROAD'S FASTEST G1-WINNING 2YO

// I like both my Klimt yearlings. He seems to be stamping his babies with great body types and a balanced, athletic look. The weanlings I saw in November were a uniform group, with good substance, notable physical maturity, and strong eye appeal. //

—Nick de Meric, who purchased a \$170,000 Klimt colt and \$100,000 Klimt filly at the 2019 November sales.

DARBY DAN
C O M

Fee: **\$10,000 S&N**
Contact Ryan Norton: (859) 254-0424



Quiet American | Darley

Factor after Jack Werk, founder of Werk Thoroughbred Consultants (WTC), coined the term in honor of our mutual friend Leon Rasmussen, the great pedigree authority who penned the "Bloodlines" column for *DRF* and wrote frequently on the topic.

Rasmussen put his observations to practical use in the early-to-mid 1980s when top breeder John Nerud solicited his advice for matings to Nerud's Fappiano (Mr. Prospector), who was then standing in Florida at Tartan Farms, which Nerud managed. Leon suggested that Nerud inbreed to some of Tartan's top foundation mares that were in Fappiano's pedigree, notably Aspidistra, the dam of Dr. Fager and Ta Wee; and Cequillo, the third dam of Fappiano.

This advice resulted in the Tartan-bred Fappiano horses Quiet American (4x3 Cequillo and 3x2 Dr. Fager) and Unbridled (4x4 Aspidistra and 4x5 Rough'n Tumble). Both of these pedigrees, along with Danehill's, follow a similar and specific form of inbreeding to the superior female in question. In each case, the female that's duplicated is in direct descent to the horse through the tail-female line. In other words, Natalma is Danehill's third dam; Cequillo is Quiet American's third dam; and Aspidistra is Unbridled's fourth dam. This, Rasmussen had observed, was the preferred method of inbreeding to females.

Rasmussen, however, had observed that some successful breeders had refined this process even more, by breeding mares from the same family to sires from the same family--which means that the duplicated female ancestor would be in the tail-female lineage of both sire and dam. This isn't the case with Danehill or Unbridled, but it is true for Quiet American, whose dam and sire trace directly to Cequillo.

Chuck Fipke, a client of WTC, has a similar approach to matings. He meticulously composes pairings that will

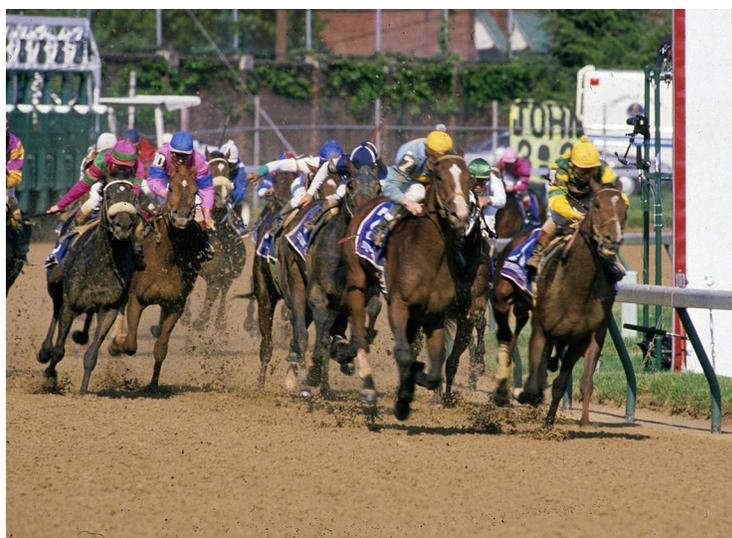
Blue Grass Farms Charities
Supporting the Thoroughbred Racing Community

Due to Covid19, BGFC has:
Provided 136 Food Packages to Families
Distributed 2,450 lbs. of Produce to Central KY Farm and Backstretch Workers
(thanks in partnership with God's Pantry and donors)

Please send tax-deductible contribution to:
"BGFC"
2339 Sandersville Road, Lexington, KY 40511
 Visit www.bgfcky.org for more information

incorporate parts of this philosophy, and his matings are planned with another generation in mind, too, because he and others, including Rasmussen, had observed that inbred ancestors frequently show up in the pedigrees of successful sires or dams.

For example, Fipke sent homebred Awesome Gal (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) to the Cantillons' Tinnakill House last year so she could be



Unbridled | Horsephotos

bred to Invincible Spirit, who stands at the nearby Irish National Stud. Fipke had planned Awesome Gal's own pedigree to be 3x3 to blue hen Allegretta (GB)--who is the second dam of Galileo and the third dam of Awesome Gal--and then he sent Awesome Gal to a stallion without any inbreeding within four generations --Invincible Spirit--who, incidentally, has done well with both Galileo and Allegretta. (Leon referred to this type of mating of breeding an inbred mare to an outcross sire as creating "hybrid vigor.")

The Invincible Spirit/Galileo cross, by the way, is what Fiona Craig had liked for Enable with Kingman, but both Invincible Spirit and his son Kingman have done well, too, with mares by King's Best--who was out of Allegretta--suggesting that Allegretta herself is as much the decider as her sons. In fact, Allegretta's daughter Urban Sea--the dam of Galileo and Sea the Stars (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire})--produced black-type winner Born to Sea to the cover of Invincible Spirit.

Awesome Gal, with two close doses of Allegretta, recently foaled an Invincible Spirit filly for Fipke on Apr. 4 in France, and she will visit Invincible Spirit again this year. In fact, she's due to leave for Tinnakill House any day now.

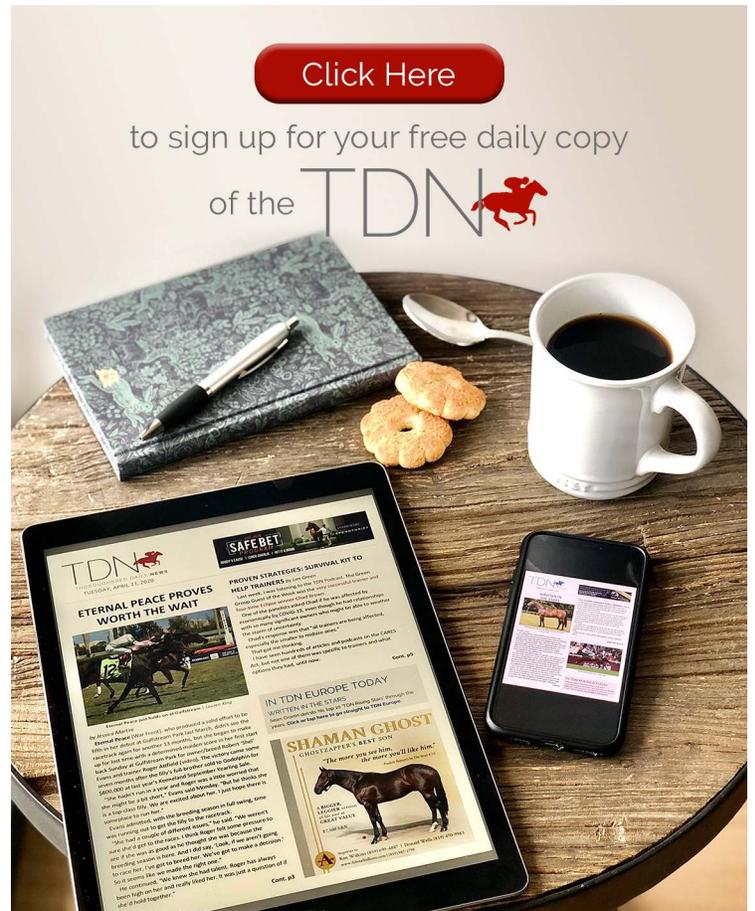
Fipke also has a promising Northern Hemisphere-bred 3-year-old stakes colt by Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danehill) named Choice of Mine (Aus), trained by Joseph O'Brien in Ireland, with a similar breeding pattern. Choice of Mine's fourth dam is blue hen Best in Show, who is also the fourth dam of Redoute's Choice, putting that mare 5x4 in Choice of Mine's pedigree.

Deja vu

The spirit of group participation that Cantillon synthesized for this exercise during this pandemic reminded me of another time and place when I'd done something like this to engage people in a mating back when I was the bloodstock editor of DRF. George Rowand, the breeder of Grade I winner Miss Josh, had asked me who I'd choose to breed her dam for the 1995 season. Rowand recounted this in his book, "Diary of a Dream: My Journey in Thoroughbred Racing," and I'll let him describe the event in his words:

"In 1994 I asked Sid Fernando, the breeding editor of *Daily Racing Form*, whom he would breed to Highland Mills, and he opened the question to readers. They printed fifty-eight responses, from all the well-respected pedigree experts in the world, as well as from casual racing fans. I was astonished. I had trouble believing that all those people would take the time to think about our mare, look at her pedigree, think about stallions, and write letters to the Form expressing their opinions."

What Rowand found then, and what we're seeing now with Cantillon's exercise, is the interest people have in the pedigrees



of horses and the vicarious thrills hypothetical matings provide. Like handicapping a race, constructing a mating to produce a racehorse is a puzzle that requires intellect, but it's a lesson we sometimes forget in this business when a mating is planned for the sales ring instead of the racetrack. Perhaps now is a good time to reflect on the art of the mating, instead of the art of the sales ring.

Sid Fernando is president and CEO of Werk Thoroughbred Consultants, Inc., originator of the Werk Nick Rating and eNicks.

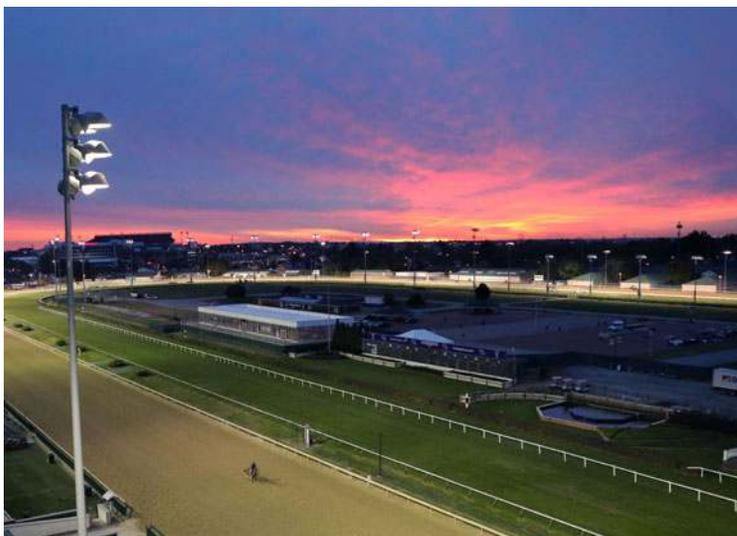
[Share this story](#)

TDN Traffic Trends
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

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

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

CD DELAYS STABLE AREA OPENING



Churchill Downs | Coady

As a result of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, Churchill Downs will delay the reopening of its stable areas at both Churchill Downs Racetrack and the auxiliary training center Trackside until at least Tuesday, May 5, CDI announced Thursday. The opening of the 2020 Spring Meet, originally scheduled for Apr. 25, will also be postponed and a determination of the exact starting date will be made closer to the opening of the backstretch.

Churchill Downs officials are in ongoing discussions with state and local officials and public health experts about reopening its stable areas and conducting spectator-free racing.

In conjunction with other Kentucky racetracks, Churchill has identified specific protocols to mitigate risks for its stabling and racing facilities as it relates to COVID-19. Precautions and procedures based on criteria set by public health experts will be implemented to ensure the safety of employees, stakeholders and horses.

"We remain hopeful that our horsemen can safely return to work here in Kentucky sooner rather than later," said Kevin Flanery, President of Churchill Downs Racetrack. "Horse racing is a unique agricultural business and serves as the prime economic driver for thousands of individuals in the Commonwealth. The Thoroughbreds we cherish need constant care and it's a testament to our horsemen who have constantly cared for them this winter and spring in different locales under unique circumstances. We're working hard to reopen in a responsible and safe environment that will satisfy our public officials."

Churchill Downs' stable areas have been closed since Dec. 31 for annual winter renovations and were originally scheduled to reopen Mar. 17. Churchill Downs has delayed the reopening its stable areas in response to executive orders issued by Gov. Beshear to contain and limit the spread of COVID-19.

[Share this story](#) 

TAMPA TO EXTEND MEET

by Bill Finley

Scheduled to end May 3, the Tampa Bay Downs meet will now be extended to May 30. The track made the announcement Thursday on its Twitter feed.

Tampa had revealed its intentions to expand the meet earlier this week, but could not make an official announcement until receiving permission from Florida Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering to add the extra days. Tampa currently races four days a week, but once the extended meet begins will cut back to three. There will be no racing on Sundays. Under the new schedule, 12 days of racing will be run that would not have been otherwise.

Horsemen at Tampa were in a difficult situation as nearly all of them relocate to another track once Tampa closes. Most of the tracks they normally go to are scheduled to race any time soon and some have not opened their backstretches to incoming horses.

"We wanted to assist the horsemen because it was not clear where they could go once we end our season," said Tampa Bay Downs Director of Marketing Margo Flynn. "To be able to help them through that process was first and foremost in our plans. Without the horsemen we are nothing. We wanted to make something work for everyone."

Tampa Bay Downs HBPA President Bob Jeffries commended track management for its efforts to keep racing going.

"I'll tell you something about Tampa Bay Downs, they've gone to every extent to keep things under control," he said. "They are doing everything they can to make this work and it's working super good for us. We couldn't have done it without the ownership. They worked hard to make this work and it's been a team deal."

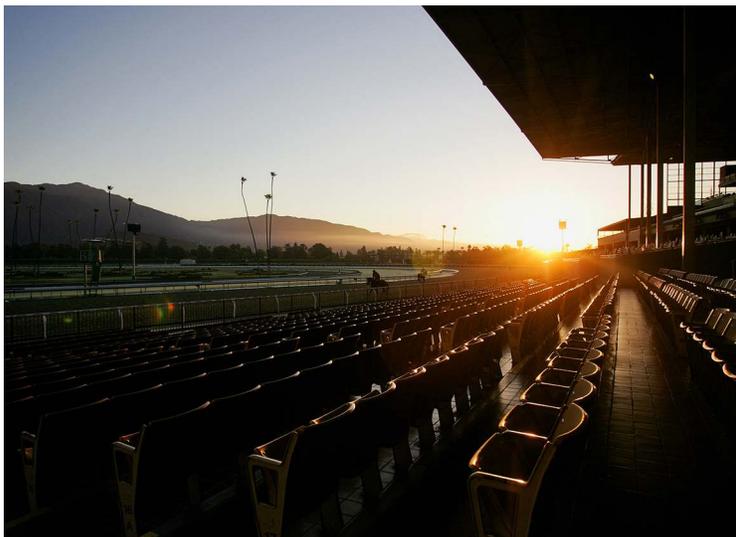
Tampa is one of five Thoroughbred tracks still operating, a list that will go down to four after Oaklawn closes May 2. The handful of tracks that have stayed opened have all benefitted from large increases in handle, a result of there being so little competition for the gambling dollar.

"Handle has been higher than our expectations," Flynn said. "We're thrilled that people are taking to our simulcast signal and betting our races with enthusiasm. We realize that is because of the limited opportunities that are out there for people to bet on."

[Share this story](#) 



SANTA ANITA ISSUES UPDATE REGARDING POTENTIAL RETURN OF LIVE RACING



Santa Anita | Horsephotos

Santa Anita issued the following statement Thursday regarding a possible resumption of live racing:

"Santa Anita is continuing discussions with the LA County Health Department and LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's office as they undertake a thorough and thoughtful review of the proposal submitted to resume live racing as soon as possible at Santa Anita. The comprehensive written proposal was submitted last Thursday (Apr. 16), following a meeting with Supervisor Barger earlier that day.

While Santa Anita is first and foremost in our minds, we are one of literally hundreds of businesses asking for attention during this Pandemic. The process, as thorough as it is, is time-consuming. However, we anticipate receiving an answer shortly.

To manage expectations, should we be able to resume live racing under the new protocols submitted, we anticipate there will be a delay of 7-10 days between acceptance of the plan and implementation of the protocols to return to live racing."

[Share this story](#) 

TURF PARADISE TO REMAIN OPEN EXTRA TEN DAYS *by Dan Ross*

Turf Paradise management and the Arizona horsemen have come to an agreement that will see the track remain open for stabling an extra 10 days. The track was scheduled to close its doors to the roughly 740 horses currently stabled there on the last day of April.

Nevertheless, the track will remain open those extra 10 days for stabling only, not training, meaning exercise will be limited

to the barn area.

"If this thing lasts longer than those 10 [days], then I think we'll probably be able to get a few more," speculated Bob Hutton, president of the Arizona Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA).

The HBPA will cough-up the expense of keeping the barn area open for stabling, said Hutton--what is roughly \$2,600 a day. "It gives us a bit of breathing room as far as trying to make decisions for everybody," he said.

The extension was sought due to the uncertainty surrounding the stabling and live racing situations at some of the other venues typically utilized by the Arizona-based trainers--tracks like Arapahoe Park, Canterbury Park, Lone Star Park and Emerald Downs.

"Race dates seem to be up in the air at these tracks, so that's what's slowing things down here," said Vince Francia, Turf Paradise general manager.

"The goal that they have--they, meaning the HPBA and us--is to get the horses off safely to wherever they're going," Francia said. "Whether they're going to a ranch or to a racetrack."

When asked why the track doesn't remain open for training beyond Apr. 29, Francia replied that the "skeleton staff" currently managing everyday operations at the facility are leaving for other race-meets. "Some are going to Canterbury," said Francia. "Some are going to Emerald [Downs]."

Another factor weighing on any decision surrounding stabling concerns the imminent arrival of triple-digit temperatures to Phoenix, said Francia. Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the race-meet at Turf Paradise was scheduled to run through May 2, but according to Francia, the summer heat-wave is arriving early this year.

"This weekend, Saturday, will be the first of the triple-digits," he said. "Turf Paradise is no place for a horse to be in a stable when we hit triple-digits."

Both Hutton and Francia mentioned that another possible stabling option is Arizona Downs, formerly known as Yavapai Downs, which reopened for live racing in 2019. However, it's not yet clear if the facility will indeed open its doors to horses this summer.

The *TDN* has reached out to Tom Auther, an Arizona Downs owner and partner, and will update the story as needed. These latest stabling negotiations at Turf Paradise have capped what has been a rather tumultuous period for the Arizona racing industry.

Earlier in the year, [a simulcasting dispute](#) led The Stronach Group's Monarch to pull its signal from the state, dealing a sizeable blow to the industry's coffers. In response, the HBPA [voted to withdraw](#) the Turf Paradise signal from all Stronach Group affiliates.

Before that could happen, the Covid-19 pandemic erupted, and the operators of Turf Paradise gave the horsemen days to **vacate the premises**--they later backtracked from that demand under pressure from the HBPA.

According to Hutton, the suspension of live racing in Arizona has had a financial impact on the smaller operators especially. But the larger outfits have put their hands in their pockets to help supply them hay, straw and feed when needed, he added.

"The horsemen here have been very resilient in helping each other out greatly," said Hutton. "It's really a tight-knit group, and it's very easy to be a part of representing them, as they're all really solid people."

[Share this story](#) 

OPEN LETTER TO THE INDUSTRY

JOHN PHILLIPS



John Phillips | *Shandon Cundiff*

Despite the world seemingly on hold, the TAA is moving forward, albeit with some improvisation given the circumstances, but forward nonetheless.

Specifically, the accreditation process for 2020 is well underway and functioning as normal as the team is currently reviewing the submitted applications.

Now more than ever, our 74 accredited organizations with their 160 facilities need support. We are striving to maintain regular contact with these aftercare soldiers on the ground and provide them with as much information and assistance as possible. Although informal surveys do not suggest a wave of heightened demand for aftercare at this point, we are working

on strengthening triage systems and monitoring capacity at various facilities. The circumstances have enhanced the communication with the TAA and the networking between our aftercare partners.

You may already know that when the magnitude of the pandemic became clear, our midyear grants were expedited so that our accredited organizations could receive those grants in early April, nearly four weeks ahead of the typical disbursement.

In times of trial, you learn who your real friends are. I am so pleased to tell you that so many of our relationships have stepped up, especially financially. One such impressive example of support is from NYRA and NYTHA. Despite racing's suspension in New York, NYRA and NYTHA calculated their estimated contribution based on the \$10 per starter fee and made a corresponding contribution. This gesture is more than just money, it is a commitment to and understanding of our financial ecosystem and unique equine culture. The TAA cannot thank them enough for their support and leadership, and we hope you join us by expressing your appreciation to them as well.

While many of our events have been rescheduled and the staff is working mostly from home, the TAA remains focused on its mission of accreditation and awarding grants. Watch for our updates on our website and postings on social media. We will keep you informed and we will join you in keeping the faith. We will get through this together.

John Phillips
Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance President

[Share this story](#) 

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ROBB LEVINSKY

As a New Jersey-based owner, the FBI indictments of 27 people including Monmouth Park leading trainers Jason Servis and Jorge Navarro resonated particularly strongly with me. I put together my first racing partnership in 1981, as a teenager in love with the horses and the sport. As is the case in any endeavor involving people and money, there have always been and will always be those who attempt to come out ahead by dishonest means. The difference between Thoroughbred racing and other sports--businesses, is that our industry has for decades simply chosen to put our collective heads in the sand, ignore the obvious abuses and allow cheaters free rein to continue to do business. The charges are an indictment of our entire industry and the way it operates beyond the individuals cited. Many people have expressed concerns that illegal,



Robb Levinsky | *Courtesy Robb Levinsky*

performance-enhancing drugs were likely being used by well-known trainers. Had regulators and other industry leaders taken action, the bad apples might have been ruled off the track long ago without the need for federal law enforcement intervention.

Our company, Kenwood Racing, has long advocated for industry-wide strict standards, including uniform national medication regulations administered by an independent body. We continue to strongly support legislation to create uniform medication rules and prohibit the use of performance-enhancing drugs as a vital 'first step'. An independent anti-doping program run by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) can help address issues of both legal and illegal drug use and put U.S. racing jurisdictions in step with international standards. The racing public, owners, trainers and the horses themselves deserve nothing less.

The real victims here are the many honest owners and trainers, the racing public, and the magnificent animals, all being abused by a minority of unscrupulous individuals being allowed to operate with impunity by those in charge. Kudos to the F.B.I for doing what our industry should have been doing ourselves years ago.

These indictments should be a wake-up call for all of us who share a common bond based on our love of the thoroughbred racehorse and, properly conducted, a sport millions of people have enjoyed for centuries. The time for talk and dithering is up. To survive as a sport we need new leadership at all levels who are committed to ferreting out cheaters, not only by testing but with vigorous monitoring, inspections and ongoing investigations. Reforms must go far beyond medication, to include all aspects of racing such as owner rights, respect for racing fans, track safety, training standards, and quality aftercare for all retired racehorses. In recent months we've seen

Joe Besecker, perennially one of the leading owners in the industry, disperse his entire Thoroughbred portfolio and Barry Irwin of Team Valor move his operation to Europe. If racetracks think it's hard to get full fields now, just wait. Unless we move swiftly to implement genuine reforms, the flood of owners leaving the business will leave racetracks, breeders and sales companies high and dry.

H. Robb Levinsky
 Founder
 Kenwood Racing, LLC

[Share this story](#) 

JASON WILSON



Jason Wilson | *The Jockey Club*

I am writing in response to the Open Letter to the Industry by the Thoroughbred Idea Foundation ([TDN, April 18](#)) :

This has been a challenging time for horse racing and the country as a whole. As sports shut down last month, Equibase examined what it could do to help support efforts to promote horse racing. With expanded television coverage on FOX Sports and NBC Sports, potential new fans are being exposed to horse racing in unprecedented ways. We have been working with NYRA to provide free past performance products in support of its *America's Day at the Races* programming on FOX Sports, and we are evaluating ways for other tracks to provide past performance information digitally. In addition, we recognized that all betting would be done online through advanced deposit wagering companies because there are no spectators allowed at tracks. These companies typically provide free past performance data to their customers, and over the past month the level of free past performance products has almost doubled on some of these platforms. As such, the marketplace is already providing this benefit to racing's customers.

Traditional past performances can be daunting to new customers, so since Mar. 19 Equibase has offered free selections and STATS True Odds to customers. This offer has been promoted through America's Best Racing as well as televised racing shows on TVG, FOX Sports and NBC Sports. As racetracks reopen, we will continue to find ways to support their efforts to get information into the hands of their customers in light of the fact that they will be watching from home for the foreseeable future.

Jason Wilson
President & COO
Equibase Company LLC

[Share this story](#) 

WHO'S YOUR
FAVORITE HORSE?

BILL FINLEY



Easy Goer | Horsephotos

Favorite: Easy Goer (Alydar). Every once in a while, a horse comes around that makes you believe that nothing is impossible. They don't just win, they win effortlessly. They don't just run fast, they break track records. They have the perfect pedigree. They're in the right hands. What can they accomplish? What can't they accomplish?

That was the way I felt about Easy Goer. After losing his debut by a nose, Easy Goer reeled off four straight wins, including the 1988 GI Champagne S. He would win by four, five lengths, but it always appeared that he could have won by 20. It wasn't just me. Just about everyone in New York racing thought this was as

good a prospect as they had ever seen.

Back then, newspapers mattered and newspapers actually covered horse racing. I was the racing writer for the *New York Daily News*, but in this case, was not the greatest fit for that job. Reporters aren't supposed to have favorites. Impartiality is a must. To do so, though, I'd have to stop being a fan. That was something I just could not do. Here comes this horse who embodied everything about the sport that I loved and I wasn't supposed to root for him? Was never going to happen. I became Easy Goer's biggest fan and didn't do a very good of hiding it in my writing.

The 1988 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile was going to be the race that completed a brilliant 2-year-old campaign and leave little doubt who the horse to beat would be six months later in the GI Kentucky Derby. Only it didn't work out that way. Over a muddy track at Churchill, Easy Goer spun his wheels and finished second.

Looking back, the defeat was a sign that while Easy Goer was a very good horse he probably was not the second coming of Secretariat. But that would take objectivity, which was in short supply among his legion of admirers. Plus, there was an easy built-in excuse. Clearly, he did not like the off track. He would make amends in the Derby.

The story didn't change as Shug McGaughey began to prepare him for the Derby. He won the Swale at Gulfstream by 8 3/4 lengths and then returned home to New York for the GI Gotham S. The Gotham is far from the biggest race Easy Goer ever won, but it might have been his best single best performance. Never asked for his best by jockey Pat Day, he won by 13 lengths and his time for the mile, 1:32 2/5, shattered Secretariat's stakes record (1:33 2/5) and the track record (1:33 1/5) and just missed Dr. Fager's historic world record (1:32 1/5).

"What do you think he would do if I asked him to run?" Day said afterward. It was a question everyone was asking.

Easy Goer came back two weeks later (yes, horses used to do that) in the GI Wood Memorial and won again, by three lengths, in a victory that was more workmanlike than brilliant. But that didn't matter. The Breeders' Cup loss was behind him and he had spent the spring doing his best to prove that the hype was justified.

Out West, a colt trained by Charlie Whittingham named Sunday Silence was also doing some pretty special things, but the Easy Goer believers never imagined he could topple our hero in the Derby. With each race, we had grown not just more confident, but more arrogant. Our horse wasn't just good. He was invincible.

Or maybe he just didn't like the mud. Back at Churchill, again asked to race over a muddy track, Easy Goer finished second behind Sunday Silence. It was a staggering defeat, but we did

have our excuse and a quick turnaround before everything would again be right with the world. Despite losing the Derby, Easy Goer was still the star of the GI Preakness, the 3-5 favorite. The track was fast and, surely, the real Easy Goer would show up. That didn't turn out to be the story. In what was easily one of the best races ever run, Sunday Silence beat him again, by a nose after a stirring stretch duel.

At last, there was room on the Easy Goer bandwagon. Some were quick to make Day the scapegoat, but it was still hard to argue that Easy Goer was the better horse of the two when he had lost two in a row to Sunday Silence. Many of Easy Goer's most ardent cheerleaders picked Sunday Silence to win the Belmont and even I wavered. But I wasn't ready to give up on him. I didn't know why he was losing to Sunday Silence but I was not going to admit that I was wrong when I decided that this was one of the most extraordinary horses I had ever seen.

It's hard, though, when so much of what you believe is shown to be wrong. My faith needed to be justified.

Again breaking every rule of journalism, the 1989 GI Belmont became personal. I was tired of the California crowd gloating and relishing in our misery. I realize now that it was unfair, but I came to really resent Sunday Silence. He went from the underdog to a villain, the horse that had spoiled not only Easy Goer's dreams but ruined my fantasy and shaken my beliefs.

All of which is why the Belmont is my favorite race ever and nothing will ever change that. In the matter of two minutes and 26 seconds, everything I had believed in had come true. Winning by eight lengths in the second fastest Belmont ever, Easy Goer was the Easy Goer I fell in love with again. This was a lot more than one win. The pain of the Derby and the Preakness had been forgotten. The story of the day was not just that Easy Goer had won but that he had been vindicated. That night is now a hazy recollection of hitting bars near Belmont, accepting congratulations from those who realized I was one of the few who stuck with Easy Goer and knowing what it is like to float 10 feet off the ground.

After the Belmont, the story continued along a familiar path. Easy Goer would win five straight Grade 1's, again living up to the hype, again giving credence to the theory that the real Easy Goer did not show up in the first two legs of the Triple Crown. The stars were aligning again and, surely, he would beat Sunday Silence in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. Once again, he came up short, this time losing to his nemesis by a neck. For the first time in print, I caved in and wrote that Sunday Silence was the better horse. It seemed only fair to finally give that horse his due, but my heart wasn't in it.

Being an Easy Goer fan was not easy. He was defeated in four of the five biggest races of his life, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, the Breeders' Cup Classic, the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness.

He sure could break your heart. But it was worth it. He made you dream that there could be such a thing as a perfect horse, and it was a wonderful feeling.

Email Gary King (garyking@thetdn.com) to have your say.

[Share this story](#) 

AUSTRALIAN-BASED ONLINE AUCTION SITE NEARS U.S. DEBUT

by Bill Finley



Anthony Gafa | *Bloodstockauction.com* photo

The concept of selling bloodstock online has never caught on in the U.S., but an Australian named Anthony Gafa thinks he can change that. Gafa runs Bloodstockauction.com, which has been selling horses based in Australia and from every imaginable category since 2014, and will be launched in the U.S. May 7.

"When we started, the plan was to reach out all over the world," Gafa said. "The next country we are going to is America. We have a staff in America and have established an office there. For us, it is an exciting time. It's definitely something the industry there needs. Nobody over there is doing it on a regular basis at the moment."

Gafa said it was always his intention to launch in the U.S. later this year, but he moved up the date due to the coronavirus. With several major U.S. sales postponed and with some owners looking to sell their horses due to the uncertain state racing is in, Gafa said he believed the U.S. market needs to have an online option. Just last week, **Fasig-Tipton announced that all of their future auctions would offer online bidding**, and said they were also planning to launch a timed, online-only auction at a future date.

"The timing to launch Bloodstockauction.com has the potential to help the industry during these times of uncertainty

and has come at a crucial time to allow for the industry to continue to trade horses,” said Gafa.

Bloodstockauction.com said they planned to hold two auctions per month with the auctions starting on the first and third Thursday of every month. Each one will conclude five days later, on a Tuesday.

There are not many industries left that don’t rely heavily on internet sales, but the Thoroughbred bloodstock industry has been one of the last to embrace the concept. The vast majority of all auctions take place at the sales grounds. It’s not about tradition or racing being behind the times, but that most buyers have traditionally not felt comfortable purchasing a horse unless they and their advisors can go over it from top to bottom in person.

Gafa said that’s why there is a five-day period from the beginning to end of an auction. That should give potential buyers a chance to contact the seller and arrange for an in-person inspection.

“The five days gives you ample time to conduct a search on that horse,” he said. “We’re all about networking, so the vendors can be contacted by the potential purchasers. People are encouraged to contact the vendors and ask questions and set up a time for an inspection. We encourage people to inspect the horse.”

Another factor that may make the U.S. market harder to crack than the Australian market is that there are no claiming races in Australia. Without the claiming option, Australian owners and trainers hoping to acquire or sell racing stock don’t have a lot of options, which makes an online sale more appealing. Gafa said he believed Americans will discover that moving horses online is more practical than trying to do so via the claiming game.

“The advantage of moving a horse through an online auction is a horse can be sold much more frequently as auctions go live on the first and third Thursday of every month, giving vendors the opportunity to sell horses without having to wait sometimes up to four or five months for a suitable sale or to get a racehorse fit for a specific claiming race,” he said. “This also opens a much larger buying bench as not only licensed trainers can buy the horse but anyone who is a member of Bloodstockauction.com.

If the U.S. version of Bloodstockauction.com follows the Australian version, the website won’t compete with the high-end sales at places like Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, or OBS. Gafa said about 60% of the website’s sales are race horses that are in training. The most anyone ever sold a horse for on the site is \$275,000 (AUD), which converts to \$169,000 US. Gafa said the Australian version of the website will have about 5,000 listings in 2020 and that 75% of all horses listed will be sold.

“We sell a lot of horses for around \$100,000 to \$120,000,” Gafa said, referring to Australian dollars. “Then there are the



NEW VOCATIONS RACEHORSE ADOPTION PROGRAM

-  Top-notch rehabilitation & retraining care
-  Thorough screening of adopters
-  Follow-up after adoption
-  TAA accredited



REHAB. RETRAIN. REHOME.®

horses that sell for \$10,000. We sell off-the-track horses as well and one of them might sell for \$600. Our average is growing every year. We encourage people at all levels to list horses with us and sell them.”

He said about 75% of all horses listed will sell. In Australia, a \$600 minimum price has been set so that no one will buy a horse from the auction site and immediately send it to slaughter.

“The key to what we do is work with realistic vendors and realistic purchasers and we always encourage people to list with a realistic reserve. We want to sell horses and we don’t want to just collect listing fees.”

Gafa said Bloodstockauction.com has been a “game changer” in Australia. But will what works in Australia work in the U.S.? Gafa said he thought it would.

“Given our market research, along with feedback from breeders, trainers, owners, industry participants and large commercial breeding and racing organizations in America, this is an opportunity Americans are wanting to embrace.”

[Share this story](#) 



CD HOSTS VIRTUAL DERBY FOR CHARITY MAY 2



Horsephotos

Churchill Downs, in conjunction with the Kentucky Derby Museum, will host a day-long ‘Derby at Home’ party in an effort to raise \$2 million for COVID-19 emergency relief efforts. With this season’s Kentucky Derby postponed until Sept. 5 due to the coronavirus pandemic, a special broadcast will be aired on *NBC* May 2, from 3 to 6 p.m. ET. The telecast will feature American Pharoah’s 2015 Kentucky Derby in addition to Churchill Downs’ first ever virtual horse race--The Kentucky Derby: Triple Crown Showdown, a computer-simulated version of a race.

“For many fans around the country, the First Saturday in May has become a part of their family’s yearly traditions,” said Kevin Flanery, President of Churchill Downs.

“While we eagerly look forward to the 146th Kentucky Derby this year on the first Saturday in September, we will celebrate the annual excitement of our traditional date with our fans and community by offering ways for us to join together for a great cause. Our fans will be captivated by the realistic view of the virtual race and we can debate, as we do each year, our favorite to win.”

The virtual race, created by Inspired Entertainment, will feature the 13 past Triple Crown winners and use data algorithms including historical handicapping information about each horse, which helps to determine the probability of their potential finishing positions.

Beginning Apr. 30, fans will be able to visit www.KentuckyDerby.com to choose their favorite horse to win the virtual race and join Churchill Downs in making a donation to COVID-19 emergency relief efforts.

All participants who select the winning horse will be entered to win the ultimate Kentucky Derby 146 VIP Experience.

Churchill Downs has pledged to match up to \$1 million of donations with funds to be directed to the Team Kentucky Fund and Direct Relief. A small percentage will be earmarked for the R.E.I.N. Fund (Relief for Equine Industry Needs), a program managed by Churchill Downs Foundation which benefits workers of the backside impacted by COVID-19 and to help ensure essential care for horses throughout the pandemic.

“The anticipation of which Triple Crown winner will emerge as the ultimate champion is thrilling,” said Bill Carstanjen, CEO of Churchill Downs Incorporated, “but most importantly, we are proud to use this platform as a force for good by raising money for these worthy COVID-19 emergency initiatives. We urge fans to join us by donating and celebrating with us from home.”

[Share this story](#)

KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE
QUALITY
KENTUCKY REAL ESTATE
SINCE 1994

Tom Biederman
 BiedermanRealEstate.com
 Call 859.277.2030

TDN @thetdn
 THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
 Thoroughbred Daily News

@kelseynrileyTDN	@BDiDonatoTDN	@SteveSherackTDN
@JessMartiniTDN	@CDeBernardisTDN	@BMassamTDN
@EquinealTDN	@HLAndersonTDN	@suefinley
@MKane49	@thorntontd	@garykingTDN
@SarahKAndrew	@CBossTDN	@JBiancaTDN

2020 Sires of Dirt 3yos by Earnings

for stallions standing in North America through Wednesday, Apr. 22

Earnings and Black-type represents Worldwide figures & stud fees are for 2020

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Into Mischief <i>(2005) by Harlan's Holiday Crops: 9 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$175,000</i>	6	10	2	4	--	--	64	18	300,000	1,581,438
2	Uncle Mo <i>(2008) by Indian Charlie Crops: 6 Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$125,000</i>	4	6	4	5	--	--	41	16	377,400	1,227,534
3	Constitution <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2 Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$40,000</i>	2	5	1	3	1	1	37	11	598,300	1,218,649
4	Munnings <i>(2006) by Speightstown Crops: 7 Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$30,000</i>	4	6	3	4	--	--	36	10	291,600	1,121,667
5	Blame <i>(2006) by Arch Crops: 7 Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$35,000</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	17	3	753,000	949,104
6	Lookin At Lucky <i>(2007) by Smart Strike Crops: 7 Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$20,000</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	14	3	801,600	939,403
7	Tonalist <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$15,000</i>	1	2	1	2	--	--	32	9	213,110	724,776
8	Curlin <i>(2004) by Smart Strike Crops: 9 Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$175,000</i>	--	3	--	3	--	--	42	13	105,000	665,765
9	Liam's Map <i>(2011) by Unbridled's Song Crops: 2 Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$35,000</i>	--	1	--	1	--	--	38	15	110,000	653,745
10	Tapiture <i>(2011) by Tapit Crops: 2 Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY Fee: \$7,500</i>	2	4	--	--	--	--	45	17	90,000	646,317
11	Khozan <i>(2012) by Distorted Humor Crops: 2 Stands: Journeyman Stud FL Fee: \$8,500</i>	1	3	--	2	--	--	36	11	109,000	627,779
12	Congrats <i>(2000) by A.P. Indy Crops: 11 Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$10,000</i>	--	3	--	--	--	--	52	16	81,000	565,300
13	Tapit <i>(2001) by Pulpit Crops: 13 Stands: Gainesway Farm KY Fee: \$200,000</i>	1	5	1	4	--	--	29	6	220,000	563,721
14	Violence <i>(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro Crops: 4 Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$25,000</i>	1	1	--	--	--	--	34	15	94,266	563,445
15	Competitive Edge <i>(2012) by Super Saver Crops: 2 Stands: Ashford Stud KY Fee: \$12,500</i>	--	1	--	--	--	--	39	11	83,900	546,300

FOR ALL TDN SIRE LISTS--INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL CROP-YEAR REPORTS--VISIT WWW.THETDN.COM/TDN-SIRE-STATS/

Shining examples,
rising stars, bright prospects...

Seeking enlightenment?
Answers at www.darleyamerica.com

Darley

FRIDAY'S RACING INSIGHTS: NO NAY NEVER FILLY MAKES U.S. DEBUT *by Alan Carasso*

Sponsored by Alex Nichols Agency



Nope | *Racing Post photo*

8th-GP, \$46k, AOC, 3yo, f, 1 1/8mT, post time: 4:46 p.m. ET
NOPE (IRE) (No Nay Never) made five European starts for Alpha Racing and trainer Jessie Harrington, defeating the boys in a Fairyhouse maiden at second asking before concluding that portion of her career with a close fourth in the G3 Oh So Sharp S. at Newmarket in October. A half-sister to European MGSP Wall of Fire (Ire) (Canford Cliffs {Ire}), the 135,000gns Tattersalls October yearling is out of a daughter of Jewel In the Sand (Ire) (Bluebird), winner of the 2004 G2 Cherry Hinton S. **Eve of War (Declaration of War)** and **Apogee (Malibu Moon)** loom the chief protagonists. **TJCIS PPs**

9th-GP, \$46k, AOC, 3/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, post time: 5:17 p.m. ET
SLAM DUNK (Into Mischief) missed narrowly in a seven-furlong Saratoga maiden Sept. 1, but connections pressed on nonetheless to the GI Frizette S. and the \$450K Fasig-Tipton Saratoga graduate validated that trust with a third-place effort behind 'TDN Rising Star' Wicked Whisper (Liam's Map). The bay, who was bought back on a bid of \$40K when offered in utero at KEENOV in 2016, is a half-sister to Grade III-winning turf Kitten Kaboodle (Kitten's Joy) and was last seen romping by 5 1/2 lengths in a one-mile Churchill maiden in the slop Nov. 7. **TJCIS PPs**

10th-OP, AOC, 3yo, 6f, post time: 6:38 p.m. ET
NO PAROLE (Violence) bossed his fellow Louisiana-breds by a combined 27 1/2 lengths in his first two starts at the Fair Grounds, earning 'Rising Star' status Jan. 11, before rolling

home a 6 1/2-length winner of the state-bred restricted Premier Night Prince S. at Delta Feb. 8. He cuts back to one turn after finishing a distant last of eight in the GII Rebel S. over this strip Mar. 14. **TJCIS PPs**

[Share this story](#) 

SHIP YOUR HORSE

ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

We are the company that experienced horse people contract to ship their horses.



ALEX NICHOLS
AGENCY

OUR EXPERT SERVICES INCLUDE:

- EXPORT TO ALL DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE
- IMPORT FROM EUROPE TO ALL MAJOR U.S. PORTS
- DOMESTIC FLIGHTS COAST TO COAST

www.anaht.com  516.678.9100  info@anaht.com



IN ORDER OF PURSE:
9th-Oaklawn, \$61,000, Alw (NW1\$X), Opt. Clm (\$80,000), 4-23, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:45.93, ft.
LUCKY BETTY (f, 3, Munnings--Cherokee Beads, by Street Sense) sat a perfect inside trip behind a strong early pace and whooshed home to close out the Oaklawn card in rousing fashion. Drawn gate one beneath Declan Cannon, the \$145,000 Keeneland September graduate drafted in behind the pace from about fourth position and traveled on the steel entering the far turn. Shuffled back a bit, but still on the bridle at the quarter pole, she found daylight about four off the inside entering the final eighth of a mile and sprinted home to score by xx over Auction Fever (Super Saver) as the 14-5 second choice. Favored Seattle Slang (Tapit) raced near the back of the pack, but was steadied sharply at the three-eighths, costing her all chance. She re-rallied in the stretch and came home a courageous third. Lucky Betty was running her record going a route of ground to two wins from as many starts, having graduated by 3 1/4 lengths in a sloppy local maiden Apr. 4. Sales history: \$145,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$89,948. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**
 O-Dennis Park; B-TK Stables LLC (KY); T-William B VanMeter.

Another Webb Carroll Training Center Graduate



TAPROOT

YEARLING PURCHASE

6th-Gulfstream, \$40,640, (S), Alw (NW1X), Opt. Clm (\$16,000), 4-23, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:35.23, ft.

UNTITLED (c, 3, Khozan--Cindy Says, by Elusive Quality) dismantled a field of state-bred juveniles by 11 lengths on debut Dec. 14 (98 Beyer) for Brent Fernung and Mike Sebastian after which Gary Barber purchased a majority interest, with co-owner Sebastian retaining a small piece. Fourth as the 7-5 favorite behind Mischievous Alex (Into Mischief) in the GIII Swale S. Feb. 1, the bay was a sound second to **'TDN Rising Star'** Gouverneur Morris (Constitution) in a two-turn Tampa allowance Feb. 14 and was most recently seen rounding out the exacta underneath his Swale conqueror in the one-mile GIII Withers S. at Aqueduct Mar. 7. Prohibitively favored here at a dime on the dollar, Untitled set a strong pace in advance of his chief market rival Roman Empire (Empire Maker), had his three rivals hard at it on the turn and galloped home an unextended 3 3/4-length winner. Tag horse Gray Beau (Imperialism) completed the exacta.



Untitled scores at 1-9 Thursday at Gulfstream | Ryan Thompson

“He broke perfect. He was right there and it was like another work for him,” winning jockey Luis Saez said. “It was pretty easy. He came to the stretch and he took off. I had so much horse. He felt very good. He was sharp today. He felt amazing.” The dam of Untitled’s 2-year-old full-brother Aw Heck, Cindy Says--a half to MGSW turfer Cloud Scapes (Smart Strike)--produced a filly by Mo Tom in 2019. Third dam Missed the Wedding (Blushing Groom {Fr}) was a half-sister to champion Chris Evert and produced GISW Missed the Storm (Storm Cat) and MGSW Green Means Go (Green Dancer). Sales history: \$45,000 RNA Ylg '18 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSP, 5-2-2-0, \$120,775. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Gary Barber & Michael B Sebastian; B-Brent & Crystal Fernung, Mike Sebastian Jr & Mike Sebastian Sr (FL); T-M Casse.

[Share this story](#)

9th-Gulfstream, \$40,000, Alw (NW2\$X), Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 4-23, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:47.33, fm.

TEMPLE (g, 4, Temple City--Desant, by Quiet American), haltered by this prolific claiming outfit out of a victory in a \$35,000 claimer last at this venue July, won the Gio Ponti S. by a nose last November and closed out the season with a third in this track’s Tropical Park Derby Dec. 28. He filled the same spot in the Feb. 17 Old Man Eloquent S. and was a latest allowance third to the very useful Largent (Into Mischief) on the Florida Derby undercard Mar. 28. Settled in mid-field after breaking from pole position, the 8-5 chalk saved ground throughout and was steadied ever so slightly nearing the stretch. Railing through inside of the tiring, drifting pacesetter Thunder Ride (Pioneer of the Nile), he kicked home to score by 1 1/4 lengths. Arthur Kitt (GB) (Camelot {GB}), drawn 11, was four and five wide out of the stretch the first time, but was able to get in to save some ground down the back. Pulled out three wide at the three-eighths, the 2018 Listed Chesham S. winner was flushed deepest into the stretch and finished gamely for second, covering 68 feet (about seven lengths) more than the winner. Temple has a 2-year-old half-brother named Scar the Man (Can the Man) and a yearling half-sister by Jack Milton. Sales history: \$19,000 RNA Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$75,000 Ylg '17 FTKTUR; \$75,000 RNA 2yo '18 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: SW, 17-5-3-4, \$254,075. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Paradise Farms Corp & Mad Dog Racing Stable; B-Mark Toothaker & Dan White (KY); T-Michael J Maker.



U.S.-BRED/SIRED RUNNERS IN JAPAN



In this continuing series, Alan Carasso takes a look ahead at US-bred and/or conceived runners entered for the upcoming weekend at the tracks on the Japan Racing Association circuit, with a focus on pedigree and/or performance in the sales ring. Here are the horses of interest for this weekend running at Fukushima and Tokyo Racecourses and while Group 1 racing takes a break this weekend, the very promising Lecce Baroque (Uncle Mo) makes her second trip to the races. She'll attempt to follow up on a spectacular debut performance in early February:

Saturday, April 25, 2020

1st-FKS, ¥9,680,000 (\$90k), Maiden, 3yo, 1150m

MIAMI TESORO (c, 3, Speightstown--Run a Risk, by Distorted

THE WORLD'S **NUMBER #1** ONLINE THOROUGHBRED AUCTION LAUNCHING IN THE USA THIS MAY



Bloodstockauction.com

.com

Bloodstockauction.com is proud to be the pioneer of online thoroughbred auctions in the southern hemisphere, and is now set to provide services in North America.

Our online auction platform is simple to use, convenient, and cost effective.

We conduct auctions on the **1st** and **3rd Tuesday** of every month. Our catalogs are available to view, and open for bidding, 5 days prior.

To become a member, visit us at www.bloodstockauction.com, or call us on +1 (800) 501-0218, it's free to join

#RealResultsRealPeople

Humor was a respectable fifth on Kyoto debut Feb. 1, but caught a sloppy track at Kokura Feb. 23 and finished midfield. A \$160K Keeneland September purchase, the chestnut is out of a multiple stakes-placed half-sister to MGSW Rey de Cafe (Kingmambo), GSP El Crespo (A.P. Indy) and SW Tricky Causeway (Giant's Causeway). The colt's third dam, Tricky Game (Majestic Light), was a half-sister to Seeking the Gold (Mr. Prospector) and was responsible for MGSW/MGISP turfer King Cugat (Kingmambo). *B-G Watts Humphrey Jr (KY)*

7th-TOK, ¥13,830,000 (\$128k), Allowance, 3yo, 1400m
LECCE BAROQUE (f, 3, Uncle Mo--My Fast One, by Elusive Quality), a \$410K KEESEP yearling turned \$525K OBS March breezer, was pounded into 11-10 favoritism for her Feb. 8 unveiling over track and distance and made no mistake, shooting clear under hands and heels from Christophe Lemaire to defeat Precious Girl (Speightstown) by a highly impressive 10 lengths (video, gate 10). The January foal is out of a half-sister to the late SW No Mo Dough (Uncle Mo) and MSP Terrific Storm (Storm Cat) and hails from the female family of the top dirt handicap horse Wekiva Springs (Runaway Groom). Lemaire has a return call. *B-MMM Stables (KY)*

[Share this story](#) 



IN RUSSIA:

Conard Lord, h, 8, **Congrats**--Remoulade, by Lemon Drop Kid. Krasnodar, 4-18, Entrance S. (NBT), 2000m. B-Stuart E Huston & Helen C Alexander (KY). *\$55,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP. **Now a winner of 23 of 37 career starts for earnings of approximately \$450,000.

Consigned by  GAINESWAY

Brought to you by:



Thanks for flying IRT
 IRT Chicago: +1 630 377 2300
 IRT LA: +1 310 306 0262
 Click here to visit irt.com



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, APR. 24

American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile), Ashford Stud, private
 318 foals of racing age/37 winners/6 black-type winners
 10-Oaklawn, Aoc 6f, AMERICAN BUTTERFLY, 9-2
 \$390,000 RNA OBS APR 2yo

Honor Code (A.P. Indy), Lane's End Farm, \$30,000
 213 foals of racing age/21 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, CAVALRY CHARGE, 6-1
 \$375,000 FTS AUG yrl

Liam's Map (Unbridled's Song), Lane's End Farm, \$35,000
 232 foals of racing age/31 winners/2 black-type winners
 10-Oaklawn, Aoc 6f, LIAM'S PRIDE, 6-1
 \$160,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$245,000 RNA FTS ANA 2yo

Mr Speaker (Pulpit), Lane's End Farm, \$10,000
 79 foals of racing age/15 winners/1 black-type winner
 10-Oaklawn, Aoc 6f, MR. TIP, 12-1
 \$30,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$90,000 OBS APR 2yo

Tapiture (Tapit), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
 246 foals of racing age/40 winners/3 black-type winners
 7-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, BACKSHOT, 8-1
 \$100,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$350,000 FTS ANA 2yo
 7-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, MISTER KELLY, 15-1
 \$7,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$75,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Tonalist (Tapit), Lane's End Farm, \$15,000
 179 foals of racing age/26 winners/1 black-type winner
 9-Gulfstream, Aoc 1 1/16m, MARIALUISA, 20-1
 \$27,000 RNA OBS APR 2yo; \$15,000 OBS OPN 2yo



 [CLICK HERE](#)
 to view the largest selection of farms
 for sale in Kentucky's Bluegrass Region
www.kyhorsefarms.com | 859.255.3657 | LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

HIVE YOU SEEN THESE BEEAUTIFUL FOALS?



Filly o/o Secretariat Humor



Colt o/o ShirI's Soul



Colt o/o Bourbon Gleam



Colt o/o Risky Agenda



Colt o/o Perfect Lady



Filly o/o Jersey's Soul

BEE JERSEY

FAST WINNER OF THE MET MILE (G1)
FROM THE SPEIGHTSTOWN LINE



Contact Ryan Norton: (859) 254-0424

JERSEY TOWN – BEES, BY RAHY

BOOKED FULL IN 2020



ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

1st-Oaklawn, \$61,000, (S), 4-23, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:47.24, gd.

FLORIDA BIRD (m, 7, Summer Bird--Boca Juniors {SW, \$151,215}, by Peteski) Lifetime Record: 31-5-3-2, \$167,151. O/T-William N Martin; B-Dr K K Jayaraman & Dr V Devi Jayaraman (AR).

8th-Oaklawn, \$61,000, 4-23, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:46.50, ft.

LUNA FORTIS (f, 4, Will Take Charge--Alec's Moon {SW, \$125,930}, by Malibu Moon) Lifetime Record: 15-3-2-3, \$80,215. O-Contreras Stable Inc B-Machmer Hall (KY); T-Cipriano Contreras. *\$160,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP.

BRED BY, FOALD & RAISED AT MACHMER HALL

9th-Will Rogers Downs, \$20,900, 4-22, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.04, sy.

VALLESTINA (m, 6, Leroidesanimaux {Brz}--Darling Kitty, by Tale of the Cat) Lifetime Record: 12-4-0-2, \$75,312. O-DA Meah Racing & Timothy Mickelson; B-Carl Bowling (FL); T-Anna Meah. *\$7,000 Ylg '15 OBSAUG.



Untitled was extremely impressive in taking a Florida-bred allowance Thursday afternoon at Gulfstream | *Ryan Thompson*

KHOZAN, Untitled, c, 3, o/o Cindy Says, by Elusive Quality. AOC, 4-23, Gulfstream

LEROIDESANIMAUX (BRZ), Vallestina, m, 6, o/o Darling Kitty, by Tale of the Cat. ALW, 4-22, Will Rogers

MUNNINGS, Lucky Betty, f, 3, o/o Cherokee Beads, by Street Sense. AOC, 4-23, Oaklawn

SUMMER BIRD, Florida Bird, m, 7, o/o Boca Juniors, by Peteski. ALW, 4-23, Oaklawn

TEMPLE CITY, Temple, g, 4, o/o Desant, by Quiet American. AOC, 4-23, Gulfstream

WILL TAKE CHARGE, Luna Fortis, f, 4, o/o Alec's Moon, by Malibu Moon. ALW, 4-23, Oaklawn

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

CLICK HERE to watch all of our featured video replays.

sponsored by



Fasig-Tipton

Untitled (Khozan) makes light work of a Florida-bred allowance test Thursday at Gulfstream.



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
Thoroughbred Daily News

@kelseynrileyTDN	@BDiDonatoTDN	@SteveSherackTDN
@JessMartiniTDN	@CDeBernardisTDN	@BMassamTDN
@EquinealTDN	@HLAndersonTDN	@suefinley
@MKane49	@thorntontd	@garykingTDN
@SarahKAndrew	@CBossTDN	@JBiancaTDN

35 YEARS OF TRF SECOND CHANCES



RESCUE RACEHORSES TRANSFORM LIVES

Here, both horses and humans get a second chance

YOU CAN HELP | TRFinc.org



TATTERSALLS CRAVEN BREEZE UP SALE
featuring the £15,000 Tattersalls Craven Breeze Up Bonus
 Tuesday 23rd June

REVISED DATE

DONJUAN TRIUMPHANT, Gr. 1
sold for 30,000gns



WATERSHIP DOWN WELCOMES TOO DARN HOT'S BROTHER



Too Darn Hot's full-brother with his dam, Dar Re Mi
Lara Surman/Zvari Marketing

By Emma Berry

While all about us nothing is quite as it should be, some pleasing normality can be found on stud farms, where the foaling and covering season has continued largely uninterrupted.

At Lord and Lady Lloyd Webber's Watership Down Stud, an eagerly awaited delivery was made this week when **Dar Re Mi (GB)** (Singspiel {Ire}) produced a colt by her regular partner Dubawi (Ire). The ninth foal for the treble Group 1 winner is her seventh by Darley's coveted sire. The youngster is, of course, a full-brother to Too Darn Hot (GB), last year's Cartier champion 3-year-old, who is currently romping through a book of prized mares at Dalham Hall Stud before boarding a plane for Australia this summer.

Traditionally the Lloyd Webbers sell their colts as yearlings and race the fillies. The potency of the Dubawi--Dar Re Mi mating had already been ably expressed through their daughters So Mi Dar (GB) and Lah Ti Dar (GB)—Group 3 and Group 2 winners, respectively and also Group 1 performers. So when the colt who would become known as Too Darn Hot had "an issue with an X-ray" as a foal, it must have been, from a commercial viewpoint, pretty galling. **Cont. p2**

PLENTY OF CLASSIC PROSPECTS FOR KLUG

By Sean Cronin & Christa Riebel

Germany's juvenile contingent of 2019 was led with distinction by G1 Criterium International hero **Alson (Ger)** (Areion {Ger}), who has since transferred stables from Jean-Pierre Carvalho to Andre Fabre; and the Henk Grewe-trained MGSW domestic Horse of the Year **Rubaiyat (Fr)** (Areion {Ger}), **whose ambitions were detailed** in these columns last week.

With the country now set to gain a European foothold when racing resumes on May 1, a positive focus turns to programming and the usually unwelcome headaches associated with formulating plans for the months ahead. Multiple champion and Classic-winning conditioner Markus Klug is no stranger to wrestling with such logistics, having realised his vocation earlier this century.

Born in Romania, Klug's childhood years in close proximity of Baden-Baden's Iffezheim track provided the grounding for a training career which kicked into gear at the end of 2002 and was upgraded to public status, located at Gestut Rottgen's Heumar complex, in August 2010. Gestut Gorldorf's homebred **Hey Little Gori (Ger)** (Sternkonig {Ire}) secured a first Classic triumph, in the 2013 G3 Deutsches St Leger, and the trainer's arrival was heralded when **Sea the Moon (Ger)** (Sea the Stars {Ire}) added another in the following year's G1 Deutsches Derby.

Cont. p6



Kaspar | *BBAG photo*

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

UNCLE MO COLT POINTS TO ROYAL ASCOT

In his latest Second Chances column, Steve Sherack has an update on the highly regarded Golden Pal (Uncle Mo), who is targeting Royal Ascot in June. **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.**

Watership Down Cont. from p1

But, retained to race, even without the rubber stamp of the vet, Too Darn Hot repaid his breeders handsomely. The unbeaten European champion 2-year-old went on to become a champion miler at three, with consecutive Group 1 wins in the Prix Jean Prat and the Sussex S.

In the wings waits his 3-year-old brother Darain (GB), owned in partnership by Qatar Racing and the Lloyd Webbers after being sold for 3.5 million gns to David Redvers at the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale, as well as 2-year-old and yearling sisters plus the new arrival.

"We are very happy with the colt foal, and it's her ninth foal in a row," says Simon Marsh, who oversees Watership Down Stud and its sister farm Kiltinan Castle Stud in Ireland.

"Dar Re Mi is going to Kingman (GB) this year. We now have four sisters to Too Darn Hot and I think we just need to try to get some other blood. Putting some miling speed into her seemed to be the right thing to do with Dubawi, and Kingman looks like he's going to be a very good stallion. I think he'll suit her very well."

Of Dar Re Mi's other offspring, he adds, "Darain would have run by now and he is ready to make his debut once racing gets going. Her 2-year old is also going to John Gosden this year."

One anomaly of this year's foal is the colour of his coat. "He's chestnut and she's never had a chestnut before," notes Marsh. "There has to be a chestnut on both sides of the family to allow that to happen. On Dubawi's side it's in the fourth dam and goes back to Fall Aspen, who was herself dam of four Group 1 winners. In Dar Re Mi's pedigree it's coming from the fifth dam Marilla (Fr), who was chestnut as well, as was the dam of Slightly Dangerous, so this latent gene is all as far back as the fourth and fifth generation."

As for Dar Re Mi's daughters now in the Watership Down broodmare band, **Lah Ti Dar** is currently boarding in France at Andreas Putsch's Haras de Saint Pair, and is in foal for the first time to Siyouni (Fr). Her elder sister **So Mi Dar** is off to Frankel (GB) this year and has a yearling filly by Galileo (Ire) as well as a colt foal by his half-brother Sea The Stars (Ire).

The stud has retained a 50% share in Too Darn Hot and has naturally been keen to support him in his new career.

"It was an extreme piece of good fortune that allowed us to race him and we bought a couple of mares last autumn to go to him," says Marsh.

These include **Frankel Light (Ire)**, a listed-winning daughter of Frankel (GB) bought for €1.3 million at Arqana in December.

[Cont. p3](#)



Dar Re Mi and her latest foal, a full-brother to champion Too Darn Hot | Lara Surman/Zvari Marketing



Senior Vice President

Gary King
 Twitter: @garykingTDN
 garyking@thetdn.com
 + 1.732.320.0975

International Editor

Kelsey Riley
 Twitter: @kelseynrileyTDN
 kelseynriley@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry
 Twitter: @collingsberry
 emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson
 Twitter: @HLAndersonTDN

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen
 Twitter: @AlaynaCullen
 alaynacullen@thetdn.com

Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso
 Twitter: @EquinealTDN

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin
 Tom Frary
 caferacing@thetdn.com

Irish Correspondent

Daithi Harvey

Regular Columnists

Chris McGrath | John Berry
 John Boyce | Amy Lynam
 Melissa Steele

Watership Down Cont.

He adds, "She's a beautiful mare who goes back to Aviance, one of the best Niarchos families, and she has had a Dark Angel (Ire) filly and has been covered by Too Darn Hot this year," Marsh notes. "We also bought **Gale Force (GB)**, who is a stakes-winning daughter of Shirocco (Ger) and a half-sister to [G1W] Seal Of Approval (GB). She's just had an Australia (GB) filly and was covered by Too Darn Hot on Apr. 17."

Claba Di San Jore (Ire) (Barathea {Ire}), the dam of Group 1 winners Jakkalberry (Ire), Crackerjack King (Ire) and Awelmarduk (Ire), was another Watership Down purchase back in 2012, and she, along with her Shamardal daughters **Joyful Hope (GB)** and **Trapani (GB)**, is also among Too Darn Hot's first book.

"Joyful Hope, who we own in partnership with Andrew Rosen, is a stakes winner and she has a Dubawi filly this year," Marsh says, and adds that **Kelly Nicole (Ire)** (Rainbow Quest), the dam of G2 Summer Mile winner Aljamaaheer (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), and the group-placed **Montalcino (Ire)** (Big Bad Bob), owned in partnership with Ben Sangster, are also going to Too Darn Hot.

Along with Darain, another 3-year-old the Lloyd Webbers will be looking forward to seeing at the races this year is Shimmering (Ire), a Lope De Vega (Ire) great grand-daughter of one of the stud's foundation mares Crystal Spray (Beldale Flutter). The Lingfield maiden winner's dam **Crysdal (GB)** (Dalakhani {Ire}) is also on the Too Darn Hot list.

"Shimmering won her maiden for John Gosden and he was planning to run her in the Fred Darling but obviously that's changed now," Marsh says.

Even with some exciting prospects ready to be unleashed, it will be hard to top last year for the team at Watership Down and Kiltinan Castle which saw three of its graduates crowned champion in their respective divisions. Along with Too Darn Hot, the much-loved stayer Stradivarius (Ire) (Sea The Stars {Ire}) and the G1 Cheveley Park S. winner Millisle (Ire) (Starspangledbanner {Aus}) represent another important aspect of the operation which boards a host of well-credentialed mares for clients. [Cont. p4](#)

WE WERE VERY PROUD TO HAVE
 THREE CHAMPIONS FROM THE FARMS
 IN THE SAME YEAR.

SIMON MARSH

IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

HIGH-PRICED YEARLINGS TO THE FORE

Bren O'Brien investigates the performance of the priciest yearlings in the 2-year-old Group 1 races. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

Watership Down Cont.

"We were very proud to have three champions from the farms in the same year," Marsh says. "Stradivarius has been an extraordinary story. His owner-breeder Bjorn Nielsen has had mares at Kiltinan for many years and has bred some fantastic horses from there, but obviously Stradivarius is the flag-bearer. Two years ago Bjorn bought a mare called **Parade Militaire (Ire)** (Peintre Celebre) in America, and she is out of a sister to the dam of Stradivarius. She has just had a Sea The Stars filly, who is obviously a very close relation to Stradivarius, and she will visit Sea The Stars again."

Another of Nielsen's mares at Kiltinan Castle is **Danilovna (Ire)** (Dansili {GB}), a half-sister to Lillie Langtry (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}), who is in turn the dam of Minding (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). Closely replicating the cross that produced the seven-time Group 1 winner, Danilovna has visited Galileo in the last two seasons and has a yearling filly by him as well as a colt foal. She will visit Sea The Stars this year.

"It's fantastic for the breed that there are still breeders like Bjorn out there who are not too obsessed with speed and are focused on breeding middle-distance horses," Marsh adds. "I admire John Magnier and the Coolmore team for the way that they breed brilliant middle-distance horses and dominate those races."

Stonethorn Stud Farms, the owner-breeder of last season's European champion 2-year-old filly Millisle, played a part in the phenomenal success story that is Juddmonte Farms. Stonethorn's late principal Gerry Jennings raced Sorbus (GB) (Busted {GB}) and bred her daughter Bahamian (GB) (Mill Reef), who was sold to Prince Khalid Abdullah as a yearling for 310,000gns in 1986. From that purchase has sprung the likes of Wemyss Bight (GB), Oasis Dream (GB), Zenda (GB) and Kingman (GB). Jennings was also the breeder of **Green Castle (Ire)** (Indian Ridge {Ire}), one of the mares now owned by his son Francis, who bred her daughter **Millisle**.

"Stonethorn Stud Farms have had their mares at Kiltinan now for about 15 years. Millisle is now a Cheveley Park winner and will be a fantastic mare to bring back to the farm when her racing career is over," says Marsh. "She's in training with Jessie Harrington, who is very pleased with her, though obviously

frustrated that she won't be running in the 1000 Guineas at the beginning of May. But she's on track to run either in Ireland or England or wherever, and Jessie is very confident that she will stay a mile. She seemed to be running on at the end of the Cheveley Park. She's grown and she's furnished and is a very exciting prospect."

Millisle's dam, now 21, is now back in foal to Starspangledbanner. Stonethorn Stud Farms also has listed winner **Drumfad Bay (Ire)** (Acclamation {GB}) at the stud, who has been tested in foal to Blue Point (Ire) and has a Siyouni yearling filly, as well as listed winner Trethias (GB), an Invincible Spirit (Ire) mare out of Dar Re Mi's half-sister Evita (GB) (Selkirk).

"She was bred by Watership Down Stud and Francis Jennings bought her from us. She is now in foal to Dubawi. **Greenisland (Ire)**, who is Millisle's half-sister, has a really nice Sea The Stars yearling filly which they will put into training. She is due to foal a

Starspangledbanner filly on 25 Apr."

Among the other breeders on the client list at Watership Down and Kiltinan Castle is Philip Freedman of Cliveden Stud, who has four mares boarding, including his G2 Lancashire Oaks winner **Horseplay (GB)** (Cape Cross {Ire}). She has recently delivered her first foal, a colt by Kingman, and is visiting Dubawi.

American owner-breeder Andrew Rosen has his dual Group 3 winner **J Wonder** (Footstepsinthesand {GB}) at the farm.

"Her Dubawi 3-year old named

Boccaccio (GB) has won both his starts and would be running in a Classic trial now if there were any," says Marsh. "We sold him for 850,000gns to Godolphin and he looks like a very good horse."

J Wonder now has as a full-brother to Boccaccio on the ground, a 2-year old filly by Galileo who is going into training to with John Gosden, and she will visit Kingman this year.

Another American client is Vinnie and Teresa Viola's St Elias Stables, which has three mares at Watership Down including **Dazzling (GB)** (Galileo {Ire}). The sister to Group 1 winner Roderic O'Connor (Ire) is another on her way to Too Darn Hot, while the same breeder's **Limonar (Ire)** (Street Cry {Ire}), the dam of G3 Bahrain Trophy and Belmont Derby winner Spanish Mission, is now in foal to Frankel, a full-brother to Spanish Mission's sire Noble Mission (GB). [Cont. p5](#)



Dar Re Mi's 2019 Dubawi filly | Lara Surman/Zvari Marketing

Watership Down Cont.

Marsh says, "We also board mares for the Niarchos family including Group 2 winner **Bocca Baciata (Ire)** (Big Bad Bob), who has had a beautiful Dubawi yearling filly. We are waiting for her to foal and she's due a Galileo on 8 May."

The international representation continues through the Rifa Mustang operation, which is managed by Paul Hensey and boards nine mares at the farm.

"We sold a very good-looking No Nay Never filly out of Aspasi (GB) (Dalakhani {Ire}) for them last year. She was bought by Charlie Gordon-Watson for 325,000gns," Marsh adds.

Al Wasmiyah Farm, owned by Ali and Mohammed bin Hamad Al Attiyah, is a relatively new client for Watership Down and has sent four mares to board, including **America Nova (Fr)** (Verglas {Fr}). She too had a high-priced yearling last year when her Siyouni colt was bought by Shadwell for 800,000gns. The dam of stakes winners Sir Patrick Moore (Fr) and Stellar Path (Fr), both by Astronomer Royal, and also of Nyaleti (Ire) (Arch), has recently foaled a Kingman colt and was covered by Frankel last week.

Among the Lloyd Webbers' own broodmare band, it's not solely descendants of Darara (Ire) (Darshaan {GB}) which hold pride of place, though the aforementioned **Evita** is extending another branch of the foundation family and is visiting Night Of Thunder (Ire). Her Australia (GB) yearling filly will be retained.

Not long after Dar Re Mi, Watership Down Stud had another top-class race filly on their hands in **The Fugue (GB)** (Dansili {Ire}). The winner of four Group 1 races was represented at last year's October Yearling Sale by her Dubawi colt, who sold for 1 million gns to Qatar Racing and is now named Mahomes (GB).

Marsh says, "She is in foal to Sea The Stars and has a very strong Shamadal colt foal on the ground. Mahomes is with John Gosden who seems very happy with him at the moment."

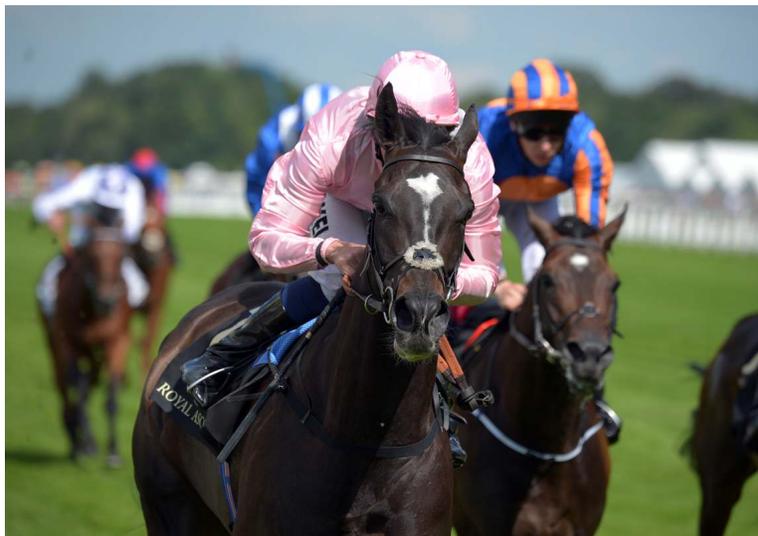
Another daughter of Dansili at Watership Down is the Group 2-placed **Earring**, who is out of the Grade 1 winner Together (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). The 7-year-old mare now has a yearling filly by Lope De Vega, to whom she is returning, and she has a colt foal at foot by Kingman.

Group 2-winning sprinter **Royal Intervention (GB)** (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), who runs for the Lloyd-Webbers in partnership

with Will Farish, has already been seen in action this year at the Saudi Cup meeting. The Ed Walker-trained filly is being aimed at the G1 King's Stand S. Her dam **Exciting Times (Fr)** (Jeune Homme) is currently in foal to Mastercraftsman (Ire).

Like most other people in racing, Simon Marsh is anxious for the Flat turf season to get properly underway but is grateful that the breeding season has been able to continue during the coronavirus crisis.

He says, "At the moment everyone is having to follow government protocols but the covering season has carried on and that's thanks to all the staff on the stud farms and for the stallion farms for keeping everything going and allowing mares to be covered. That takes a lot of effort and dedication from a lot of people. Everyone in the game is concerned for the breeze-up market and then for the yearlings, but luckily there are a lot of people working incredibly hard to get racing and the sales going as soon as it's safe to do so."



One of the casualties of the currently suspended season was Newbury's Greenham meeting where, for the second year running the stud would have been supporting the colts' Classic trial, which was to be run this year as the Too Darn Hot Greenham S.

Marsh explains, "Newbury is our local track and Madeleine is a director there. The sponsorship became available and it seemed a very sensible race for us to support. It's a great shame that it hasn't been

able to be run this year but obviously we are looking forward to supporting it next year. "

Too Darn Hot meanwhile is a name being given a wider airing as the marketing campaign for his first Southern Hemisphere covering season gathers pace.

"He's stopping his mares fantastically. We couldn't be happier with his fertility and he's covering the most amazing book of mares for a first-season stallion," Marsh says.

"So everything here is going according to plan and the Australian arm of Darley was extremely keen to have him go down to Australia. By all accounts, since it's been announced that he's going there he's been very popular and hopefully he will get some nice mares. It's very exciting—it's another chapter."

Markus Klug Cont. from p1

Berlin Berlin (GB) (Dubai Destination) ran second in Hoppegarten's G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin soon after and contributed to a haul which culminated in a first trainers' championship that year.

The following season would not reach such heady heights, though standout performances include a G3 Prix der

Winterkonigin win for **Dhaba (Ger)** (Areion {Ger}), a second for subsequent MGSW G2 German 2000 Guineas runner-up **Degas (Ger)** (Exceed and Excel {Aus}) in the G3 Preis des Winterfavoriten and a third for **Wunder (Ger)** (Adlerflug {Ger}) in Munich's G1 Grosser Dallmayr-Preis.

Klug regained his trainers' crown in 2016 after **Near England (Ire)** (Lord of England {Ger}) garnered a third Classic for the yard in the G3 Deutsches St Leger and **Well Spoken (Ger)**

(Soldier Hollow {GB}) prevailed in the G3 Preis der Winterkonigin. **Dschingis Secret (Ger)** (Soldier Hollow {GB}) posted a third in that term's G1 Deutsches Derby and played his part with victory in the 2017 G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin as the Heumar franchise headed the trainers' standings once more. He was aided, in no small measure, by **Windstoss (Ger)** (Shirocco {Ger}) saluting in both G1 Deutsches Derby and G1 Preis von Europa while a failed three-pronged attempt on the G3 Herzog von Ratibor-Rennen meant the team fell short in its quest for a clean sweep of the domestic juvenile pattern.

Weltstar (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}) was one step ahead of stablemate **Destino (Ger)** (Soldier Hollow {GB}), when fourth in that Krefeld event, and he maintained that edge as the pair embarked on an exactafest in the G2 Union-Rennen and G1 Deutsches Derby.

Another trainers' accolade followed with a fourth G3 Preis der Winterkonigin, courtesy of **Whispering Angel (Ger)** (Soldier

Hollow {GB}), the icing on 2018's cake. While the trainers' title was relinquished to Henk Grewe last year, Gestut Brummerhof's homebred **Diamanta (Ger)** (Maxios {GB}) led the way for Klug's first renewal of Dusseldorf's G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks, and a sixth domestic Classic conquest.

With those achievements now consigned to the annals, the trainer's attention is very much on the present and he evidenced this by taking time out of his schedule to give a taste

of upcoming plans for promising sophomores under his care, nominating a quartet yet to appear on the radar.

Coming good, and then some, on the faith invested by Gestut Rottgen, he has celebrated a fair slice of top-level success alongside that advocate, having annexed consecutive editions of the G1 Deutsches Derby for Rottgen with Windstoss and Weltstar. While that duo remain on duty for connections--both are entered in Cologne's May 3 G2 Gerling-Preis--the trainer

pinpointed a once-raced maiden lurking in the ranks. **Kaspar (Ger)** (c, 3, Pivotal {GB}--Kastila {Ger}, by Sternkonig {Ire}), from a strong Rottgen family featuring G1 Derby Italiano-winning sire Kallisto (Ger) (Sternkonig {Ire}), was betrayed by inexperience in his lone freshman outing--running very greenly and finishing fourth of six--when handed a low-key introduction over 7 1/2 furlongs on good-to-soft ground at Halle as October drew to a close.

The March-foaled homebred, knocked down for €140,000 when passing through BBAG's September fixture the year before, is kin to three black-type performers, namely G1 Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 runner-up Kassiano (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}), G1 Preis

von Europa third Kasalla (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}) and three-time Group 3-placed Kastano (Ger) (Nathaniel {Ire}). He has come along greatly for that initial effort and Klug has outlined lofty targets for the chestnut.



Snow | Gestut Gorldorf



Sea the Gold | Gestut Gorldorf

Sea The Gold is regally bred and should be ideally suited by distances between 10 and 11 furlongs...and her main target is the G1 Preis der Diana.

Markus Klug on Sea The Gold

Markus Klug Cont.

He explained, “Kaspar is definitely a stayer and holds entries for all the leading races of his generation. His targets are the [May 24] G3 Fruhjahrs Preis - Derby Trial [at Baden-Baden], [Cologne’s June 14] G2 Union-Rennen and [Hamburg’s July 5] G1 Deutsches Derby, in that order. He is set to make his seasonal debut [in a 10-furlong maiden] at Hannover on May 1.”

It’s been a year or three since **Ordonnanz (Ger)** (Fulmen {GB}) emerged from the 19th century to secure a first Preis der Diana for Gestut Gorlsdorf. Sea the Moon (Ger) (Sea the Stars {Ire}) has since created a high water mark in the G1 Deutsches Derby, but victories in the former contest remain scarce for the circa 137-year-old wellspring. With Germany’s authorities adapting and improvising to produce an impressive calendar, hopes are high for the hitherto unbeaten homebred **Snow (Ger)** (f, 3, Sea the Moon {Ger}--Snow Ballerina {GB}, by Sadler’s Wells), who posted a one-length debut win in a 7 1/2-furlong maiden heat--and wouldn’t it be the Sea the Moon-Rennen--on soft ground at Dresden one Wednesday morning in November. Produced by a half-sister to MG1SW sire Lammtarra (Nijinsky), the February-foaled chestnut is kin to G3 Prix Fille de l’Air victress Powder Snow (Dubawi {Ire}) and Listed Woodcote S. third Sea of Snow (Distorted Humor).

“Snow is the winner of her only race to date and will, ultimately, be one for the longer trips,” Klug revealed. “She is entered in all the big fillies’ races [including Dusseldorf’s Aug. 2 G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks] with the [May 17] G3 Karin Baronin von Ullmann - Schwarzgold-Rennen [at Cologne] her first planned option.”

Klug will relish an opportunity to mark the tenth anniversary of his tenure as a public trainer with a second victory in Dusseldorf’s Aug. 2 G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks. The aforementioned Snow (Ger) (Sea the Moon {Ger}) is one of 14 still engaged in the 11-furlong Classic for the Heumar stable and that barrage includes the hitherto unraced **Sea the Gold (Ger)** (f,

3, Golden Horn {GB}--Sanwa {Ger}, by Monsun {Ger}), another one to slide off Gorlsdorf’s relentless conveyor belt. The trainer has the benefit of recent experience in this field, having scooped his lone Preis der Diana success in last year’s edition with Diamanta (Ger) (Maxios {GB}), who also went untried as a juvenile and thus the profile is familiar.

Sea the Gold, who was bought back for 475,000gns as a Tattersalls December foal, is bred in the purple being a half-sister to Sea the Moon (Ger). Her dam Sanwa (Ger) (Monsun {Ger}) is a full-sister to the G1 Deutsches Derby-winning pair Samum (Ger) and Schiaparelli (Ger) and to G1 Preis der Diana heroine Salve Regina (Ger). Stamina, the trainer states, is not cause for undue concern.

“Sea the Gold is regally bred and should ideally be suited by distances between 10 and 11 furlongs. Her first option could be a maiden [over 11 furlongs] at Cologne in May [17] and her main target is the [Aug. 2] G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks [at Dusseldorf].”

Gestut Park Wiedingen has achieved major success, not least with resident sire Soldier Hollow (GB) (In the Wings {GB}), in its fledgling existence and another product of the stud’s banner mating is the latest to provide Classic aspirations going forward. **Deia (Ger)** (f, 3, Soldier Hollow {GB}--Divya {Ger}, by Platini {Ger}) is as yet unraced and also fits the profile of last year’s G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks heroine Diamanta (Ger) (Maxios {GB}) at this stage. The March-foaled bay is her dam’s fifth foal, all four older siblings are winners and black-type performers by Soldier Hollow, headed by G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin-winning German Horse of the Year Dschingis Secret (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}) and GSW G1 Deutsches Derby second Destino (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}). She is another homebred poised for action in the higher echelons, according to her trainer.

Cont. p8



Deia as a foal | Gestut Park Wiedingen

Markus Klug Cont.

“Deia is a staying type and entered for all the leading fillies’ races, including the [May 31] G2 Diana-Trial [at Hoppegarten] and, naturally, the [Aug. 2] G1 Preis der Diana-German Oaks [at Dusseldorf],” Klug explained. “She has shown considerable talent and I would be very much surprised if she is not able to gain black-type.”

[Share this story](#) 



Starlet in the making: a Dubawi filly out of Starlet’s Sister is pictured at just a few hours old at Monceaux on Thursday. She is a half-sister to last year’s G1 Prix du Jockey Club winner Sottsass and American champion turf mare Sistercharlie. See Saturday’s *TDN Europe* for the latest developments in Monceaux’s broodmare band

Photo courtesy Henri Bozo

EUROPEAN NEWS

presented by:  Destination Europe
www.destinationeuropereading.com

DORTMUND MEETING KICKS OFF GERMAN RACING MAY 4

Dortmund Racecourse will hold the first German race meeting since the coronavirus halted racing in that country earlier this year, *Galoponline.de* reported on Thursday. Racing was originally **scheduled to resume** on May 1, but government regulations have prevented three meetings—Hannover (May 1), Mannheim (May 2) and Cologne (May 3) from going forward. It is hoped they will be rescheduled beginning on May 5th.

“We have worked a lot in the past few days and have been in constant contact with governments, local authorities and the racecourses since then, Michael Vesper, President of German Gallop, said during a press briefing on Thursday. “We are also

deliberately focusing on this week, because we would then have the advantage that not much else is happening elsewhere, so we hope to boost betting turnover.

“On race days without an audience, it is not so important that they take place at the weekend. If we add May 9 in Munich, we are talking about four federal states with which the votes must be taken: North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony, Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria.”

The next meeting between the German Prime Ministers and Chancellor Angela Merkel is slated for Apr. 30, but racing must be greenlit beforehand.

Vesper added, “It is fundamentally permitted to hold events such as race days again from May 4. The regulations apply until May 3. We are now preparing to start then and talk to the municipalities and those who do have to decide.”

[Share this story](#) 

HEAD GIVES UPDATE ON STABLE STARS

Exciting filly **Khayzaraan (GB)** (Kingman {GB}) could reappear at ParisLongchamp on May 11 if racing in France gets the go-ahead to resume on that date. France Galop announced on Wednesday evening that plans were in place for a resumption of the sport behind closed doors next month, subject to the necessary Government clearance. Should that be the case, Freddy Head has the option of taking in the G3 Prix de la Grotte with the Sheikh Hamdan-owned daughter of Kingman, before hopefully heading back to Paris for the G1 Poule d’Essai des Pouliches (French 1000 Guineas).

The Chantilly-based handler said, “Khayzaraan might run on the first day, the 11th, they plan to run the Group 3 prep race for the French 1000, so maybe we will go there. I don’t know yet, I haven’t made up my mind. The idea is to go to the French 1000. She was very impressive last year, but all the family had a lot of speed and didn’t stay, so I don’t know yet. Her sister was very fast and was a sprinter, so I don’t know if she will get a mile. We’ll see.”

At the other end of the stamina and age scale to Khayzaraan is stablemate G1SW **Call The Wind (GB)** (Frankel {GB}), who was last seen winning the Longines Turf H. over a mile and seven furlongs at the inaugural Saudi Cup meeting in Riyadh in February. Head reported the 6-year-old, who runs in the colours of George Strawbridge, to be back at his yard after being in Dubai for what would have been a run in the G2 Dubai Gold Cup.

Head said, “Call The Wind is very well. He came back from Dubai, he’s had a lot of trips this year with Riyadh and Dubai, but he’s very well. I’m going to run him in a Group 3 in May over 3000 metres. He is a stayer, he wants a distance so we’ll go for all those staying races and see about the Gold Cup [at Royal Ascot]. If there is a Gold Cup this year, we don’t know.” **Cont. p9**



Call the Wind | Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia

Freddy Head Yard Update Cont.

Head is also looking forward to a fruitful campaign for the once-raced **'TDN Rising Star' Another Sky (Fr)** (Le Havre {Ire}), who created quite an impression on the all-weather at Chantilly last month.

He said of the half-brother to Almanzor, "Another Sky is another horse in the George Strawbridge colours and is a horse I like a lot. He won first time out in March and won very easily. He is a nice horse, I think. We'll run somewhere and then afterwards go up in group races and see if he is good enough to run in a Derby or something like that."

"I've been very lucky, I've had all my people and been able to work as usual and train the horses as usual, so things are not too bad," he said of the coronavirus lockdown. "We hope to run in France on May 11, so we will see."

[Share this story](#)

UK RACING INDUSTRY RECEIVES MORE AID

Another £6.5 million has been made available to certain racecourses by the **Horserace Betting Levy Board** in a financial boost for the racing industry during the COVID-19 pandemic. HBLB operates a capital credits scheme whereby racecourses can elect to waive the receipt of their racing fixture-related grants from HBLB which then holds the funds. Racecourses are normally able to make use of these capital credits in the future for use on capital improvement projects approved by HBLB, but now the 18 qualifying tracks who have capital credits balances may now liquidate some or all of those assets for their immediate cash needs.

In other UK racing developments, three schemes designed to support jockeys, valets and jockey agents during the coronavirus were launched on Thursday. The three schemes are as follows:

- the PJA Income Support Scheme is open to all

professional jockeys, agents and master valets who do not qualify for the government's Self-Employed Income Support Scheme (SEISS). This scheme will pay 80% of average monthly income (not greater than £2,500) until the end of June and will be backdated to Mar. 18.

- **Racing Foundation Repayable Cash Flow Grants:** For those who do qualify for the SEISS, any government money will not be paid until June, and the Racing Foundation will provide grants to professional jockeys, agents, valets, and BHA jockey coaches. The grants will need to be repaid from any SEISS moneys.
- **Jockeys Association Trust & IJF Hardship Grants:** Further support will be available from The Jockeys Association Trust and The Injured Jockeys Fund, with almost £300,000 allocated for its grant scheme, which the IJF will match. The Peter O'Sullivan Charitable Trust has also contributed.

For more information on these schemes, please go to www.thepja.co.uk.

[Share this story](#)

ALBERT HOUSE STABLES ON MARKET



Albert House Stables | Racing Post

Albert House Stables, owned by Rebel Racing, is now on the market, as their training operation, led by Richard Spencer, has expanded and moved to Sefton Lodge. Offered by Windsor Clive International, the 23-box yard is located at the foot of Warren Hill. The property, which also features a four-reception room house, two flats and a horsewalker, has been completely renovated in the last few years. Offers north of £1.35 million will be entertained.

"Albert House has been a fantastic base for Rebel Racing," said Rebel's Phil Cunningham. "We have outgrown it and would like to sell it, even though it has given us so much fun and success."

[Share this story](#)

WORLDWIDE NEWS

CHAMPIONS DAY BARRIER DRAW GOOD TO TEAM MOORE *by Alan Carasso*

In his final year of training in Hong Kong, the legendary John Moore will saddle two of the three favourites on Sunday's FWD Champions Day program at Sha Tin. Thursday's barrier draw only enhanced the chances of the stable's two-time Horse of the Year **Beauty Generation (NZ)** (Road to Rock {Aus}) and rising star **Aethero (Aus)** (Sebring {Aus}), who each drew gate five for the G1 FWD Champions Mile and G1 Chairman's Sprint Prize, respectively.

Beauty Generation became the first horse in Hong Kong racing history to crack the HK\$100-million mark in career earnings with a last-out victory in the G2 Chairman's Trophy over the course and distance and Apr. 5 and he will attempt to be the first to win the race three times this weekend. It would be the ninth Champions Mile for Moore and his eighth since 2010.



Aethero | HKJC photo

“Five is perfect--we've got the speed influence on our inside so that will give us the chance to come out and come over, and no doubt camp outside **Ka Ying Star (GB)** (Cityscape {GB}) unless something foreseen transpires,” Moore told the HKJC's David Morgan. “Everything has gone to plan and it's all systems go.”

By contrast, Moore has won the Chairman's Sprint Prize just three times, his last in 2011. Aethero was precocious enough to start as odds-on in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint in December, but was just bloused out in the final 100 meters by the sidelined Beat the Clock (Aus) (Hinchinbrook) and **Hot King Prawn (Aus)** (Denman {Aus}). He'll need to break better than he did when last to **Voyage Warrior (Aus)** (Declaration of War) in the G2 Sprint Cup three weeks back. A recent blowout 'win' in an all-weather barrier trial should have him on his toes, Moore believes.

“I expect him to ping and get to the front. We might see the best of him,” Moore said. “This is a good gate for him, I think. I preferred the middle for him because on the inside, if you break a fraction slowly, you can get knocked down.”

Moore will also be represented in the G1 FWD QE II Cup (2000m) by **Eagle Way (Aus)** (More Than Ready), who will start one of the rough chances behind **Exultant (Ire)** (Teofilo {Ire}). The latter, ironically enough, will also jump from barrier five.

The coronavirus crisis leaves this year's Champions Day an exclusively domestic affair, but 16 of the top 20 rated horses in Hong Kong are signed on for Sunday's three Group 1 features.

[Share this story](#)



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
Thoroughbred Daily News

@garykingTDN

@kelseynrileyTDN

@collingsberry

@DaithiHarvey

@EquinealTDN

@HLAndersonTDN

LOVE THE TDN VIDEO, AND WANT TO CATCH UP ON WHAT YOU'VE MISSED?

Subscribe to the TDN **YouTube Channel**

and watch hundreds of TDN videos on stallions, racing personalities, *and more!*



Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 4:40 p.m.

FWD QE II CUP-G1, HK\$25,000,000 (£2,616,309/€2,991,253/A\$5,062,513/US\$3,225,618), 3yo/up, 2000mT (PPs)

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	5	Exultant (Ire)	Teofilo (Ire)	Purton	Cruz	126
2	4	Time Warp (GB)	Archipenko	Moreira	Cruz	126
3	1	Furore (NZ)	Pierro (Aus)	Teetan	Cruz	126
4	3	Eagle Way (Aus)	More Than Ready	Callan	Moore	126
5	6	Elusive State (Aus)	All American (Aus)	Borges	Millard	126
6	7	Playa del Puente (Ire)	Elzaam (Aus)	Shinn	Shum	126
7	2	Glorious Dragon (Ire)	Teofilo (Ire)	Schofield	Millard	126

Breeders: 1-Ballygallon Stud Limited; 2-Miss K Rausing; 3-G S A Bloodstock Pty Ltd; 4-Segenhoe Thoroughbreds Australia Pty Ltd (NSW); 5-Mrs K & Mr A Chrysiliou; 6-Dermot Kelly; 7-Team Hogdala AB

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 4:00 p.m.

FWD CHAMPIONS MILE-G1, HK\$20,000,000 (£2,092,435/€2,392,177/A\$4,051,166/US\$2,580,497), 3yo/up, 1600mT (PPs)

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	5	Beauty Generation (NZ)	Road to Rock (Aus)	Purton	Moore	126
2	9	Waikuku (Ire)	Harbour Watch (Ire)	Moreira	Size	126
3	1	Ka Ying Star (GB)	Cityscape (GB)	Hamelin	Cruz	126
4	7	Rattan (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Callan	Gibson	126
5	6	Southern Legend (Aus)	Not A Single Doubt (Aus)	Ho	Fownes	126
6	8	More Than This (Ire)	Dutch Art (GB)	Teetan	Lui	126
7	3	Singapore Sling (SAf)	Philanthropist	Schofield	Millard	126
8	4	Fat Turtle (Aus)	Smart Missile (Aus)	Leung	Lor	126
9	2	Thinkin' Big (Aus)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Shinn	Whyte	126

Breeders: 1-Nearco Stud Ltd; 2-Shane Molan; 3-Kingsclere Stud; 4-M H S & S H R Davison & Mrs M P Schick; 5-Corumbene Stud (NSW); 6-Cheveley Park Stud Ltd; 7-Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert); 8-Gooree Park Stud Pty Ltd (NSW); 9-Dodmark Thoroughbreds (Qld)

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 2:50 p.m.

CHAIRMAN'S SPRINT PRIZE-G1, HK\$18,000,000 (£1,881,073/€2,151,183/A\$3,644,135/US\$2,322,476), 3yo/up, 1200mT (PPs)

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	1	Hot King Prawn (Aus)	Denman (Aus)	Moreira	Size	126
2	11	Thanks Forever (Aus)	Duporth (Aus)	Shinn	Moore	126
3	7	Mr Stunning (Aus)	Exceed and Excel (Aus)	Teetan	Lor	126
4	6	Full of Beauty (Aus)	Darci Brahma (NZ)	Schofield	Size	126
5	4	Wishful Thinker (Aus)	I Am Invincible (Aus)	Hamelin	Gibson	126
6	8	D B Pin (NZ)	Darci Brahma (NZ)	Callan	Size	126
7	10	Voyage Warrior (Aus)	Declaration of War	Ho	Yiu	126
8	2	Big Party (Aus)	Exceed and Excel (Aus)	Leung	Lor	126
9	9	Big Time Baby (Ire)	Dandy Man (Ire)	Chadwick	Man	126
10	3	Jolly Banner (Aus)	Lonhro (Aus)	Borges	Yiu	126
11	5	Aethero (Aus)	Sebring (Aus)	Purton	Moore	126

Breeders: 1-Torryburn Stud (NSW); 2-Mr AC Lloyd Jones (NSW); 3-Makybe Racing & Breeding (Vic); 4-Nearco Stud Ltd (NSW); 5-J Davies (Qld); 6-Mrs K N & W E Calder; 7-R A Emery (NSW); 8-G S A Bloodstock Pty Ltd (Vic); 9-Paul & Billy McEnergy; 10-Makybe Breeding & Racing (Vic); 11-Wallings Bloodstock Pty Ltd (NSW)



HIGH-PRICED YEARLINGS TO THE FORE



Estijaab | Bronwen Healy

By Bren O'Brien

Is the recent run of high-priced yearlings winning Australia's 2-year-old Group 1 races a trend or is at all just part of the cycle? *TDN AusNZ* took a deeper look into how market demand is correlating with juvenile racetrack success.

With just one Group 1 2-year-old race remaining in Australia this season, the influence of those at the top end of the previous year's yearling sales has never been as strong among Australian juveniles, with the average yearling price of the winners of the four races contested so far in 2020 at a record high of \$912,500.

The dual Group 1 victories of \$1.4 million 2019 Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale purchase **King's Legacy** (Redoute's Choice) are certainly a strong influence in that, but Golden Slipper S. winner **Farnan** (Not A Single Doubt), who cost \$550,000, and Blue Diamond S. winner **Tagaloo (Jpn)** (Lord Kanaloo {Jpn}) at \$300,000, both also sit in the top six most expensive Group 1-winning juveniles in Australia since 2010.

To give that statistic some context, there have been 54 Group 1 2-year-old races held in Australia in the past 11 seasons. Of the 54 winners of those races, 24 were homebred, while 30 of them were sold through a yearling sale ring. The average yearling price for those 30 horses is \$312,217, while the median price is a relatively modest \$170,000.

To give that further context, the average yearling price across Australia's two top sales, the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling

Sale and the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale over those same 11 crops was \$215,197.

The most expensive future juvenile Group 1 winner purchased in that time was 2018 Golden Slipper S. winner **Estijaab** (Snitzel) at \$1.7 million, while the cheapest was 2016 Inglis Sires', winner **Yankee Rose** (All American) at just \$10,000.

But while the past decade has seen some superb shopping being done, with eight horses purchased at \$50,000 or less going on to win Group 1 races the following season, the trend has skewed dramatically in favour of more expensive horses in the past three years.

In 2018, the average price of the three 2-year-old Group 1 winners that went through a yearling sales ring was \$828,333, and while in 2019, a year where Godolphin homebreds won three of the five Group 1s, that average slipped back to \$185,000, it has exploded again in 2020, to nearly a million dollars.

Big Buyers Get it Right on the Gold Coast

All the horses who have won Group 1 2-year-old races so far in 2020 were sold at Magic Millions' Gold Coast Yearling Sale in 2019, a sale which has gone from strength to strength in recent years because of the demand for elite and precocious stock in the Australian market.

"From Magic Millions' perspective, having these key lots succeed at Group 1 level shows that the market in this circumstance has been very well educated, selecting horses they thought were likely to succeed on the racetrack," Magic Millions Managing Director Barry Bowditch said.



King's Legacy | Dan Hirsch/AAP Photos

"There is obviously an element of luck in it, but the good judges are finding their way to the Gold Coast. From our perspective, they are doing a lot of work on the catalogue and this year in particular, they have hit it out of the park."

The 2020 trend plays out beyond just the winners of these big races. The average yearling price for the top three placegetters in the four Group 1 races to date stands at \$725,000. \$1.6 million colt **Prague** (Redoute's Choice) was second in the G1 Inglis Sires' while G1 Golden Slipper S. runner-up **Away Game** (Snitzel) cost \$425,000.

When **Away Game** won the Magic Millions 2YO Classic in January, she became the second most expensive horse to win that race, behind \$600,000 **Exhilarates** (Snitzel), who won the race in 2019, while the third most expensive was **Sunlight** (Zoustar) in 2018 at \$300,000.

"It's hard to believe that before **Sunlight**, a horse hadn't won the race that had cost more than \$300,000," Bowditch said. "That's great, because everyone is a chance, but the last three years, obviously it's more evident that the results have come from those horses which have gone for well above sale average."

The trend undoubtedly owes something to the growth in yearling sales prices in the past five years, which has powered the depth at the top end of the market and a higher volume of million-dollar horses than seen before, but there are also several other factors at play.

Agents and Trainers Combine to Get the Edge

Bowditch also pointed to the acumen of agents and trainers, who have formed close alliances in order to ensure they have a better prospect of success when buying at the very top end.

"I feel that agents and trainers are working together more than they ever have come sale day. The agents are buying horses that the trainers are keen on as well and they are working as one," Bowditch said. "Obviously the formula these guys are working on, and there are plenty of them out there doing it now, they are creating the stronger racetrack results for these more sought after horses."

Bloodstock agent James Harron has a strong record of purchasing Australia's future juvenile stars, and as well as King's Legacy, he has been part of the purchase of two recent Golden Slipper S., winners **Capitalist** (Written Tycoon) and **Vancouver** (Medaglia D'Oro {USA}).

It is his co-signer for **Vancouver**, trainer Gai Waterhouse, who has had more success than anyone else since 2010 in sourcing future 2-year-old Group 1 winners from the sale. The first lady of racing's name has been on the docket of winners of five of the 54 Group 1 races held in that timeframe, including the only Triple Crown winner, **Pierro**.

Pierro cost \$230,000 from Musk Creek Farm from the 2011 Magic Millions Gold Coast Sale, having been sold to David Kobritz for \$115,000 as a weanling.

Darley/Godolphin has been by far the most successful owner in the last 11 seasons, with 12 2-year-old Group 1 wins, all of them homebreds.

The most successful vendor through the sales in that period has been Arrowfield Stud, who have sold five individual Group 1 winners since 2017, **The Autumn Sun** (Redoute's Choice), **Estijaab**, **Castelvecchio** (Dundeel {NZ}), **Tagaloo** and **Invader** (Snitzel).

Magic Formula for Group 1 Success

In terms of the most successful sales across that

time, Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale has been the source of more Group 1 2-year-old winners than anywhere else since 2010, with 15 of those 54 races won by graduates, including as mentioned, four this year.

"The vendors are allowing us the opportunity to market their very best yearlings," Bowditch said. "Our guys are selecting the ones that are ready for an early sale, the most precocious and quality types. The market is reflecting what both the vendors and us as a selling agent are doing."

The average purchase price of the winners of those 15 races has been \$387,833, compared to an overall Book 1 sale average of \$173,911 on the Gold Coast in that period. Put simply, the high end buyers are on the money--paying just over two times average to source their Group 1 winners.



Golden Slipper hero **Farnan** | *Bronwen Healy*



Capitalist | *Bronwen Healy*

Inglis has sold the winners of 13 Group 1 2-year-old races since 2010 across its three select yearling sales. Inglis Easter Sale has had five of those, with an average price of \$575,000, while Inglis Classic has six 2-year-old Group 1 winners at an average price of \$60,667 and Inglis Premier Sale two winners at an average of \$55,000. In addition, two other subsequent 2-year-old Group 1 winners were offered though Inglis sales and not sold as such retained to race by their breeders.

There has been one Australian Group 1 2-year-old winner sourced out of New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale at Karaka in 2016 JJ Atkins S., victor Sacred Elixir (NZ) (Pour Moi {Ire}), while Capital Gain (Ad Valorem {USA}), who won the Brisbane feature the following year, came through the Magic Millions Gold Coast 2YOs in Training Sale.

Click [HERE](#) to read today's edition of 
Highlights Include:

No Slowing Down for Leon Macdonald

Swettenham Stud Announces Stud Fees

Cumani Hoping to Deliver Double

Offers Flow for Reliable Man's Kinane


australia new zealand

Click here for
all of today's information
from **TDN AusNZ.**



www.tdnAusnz.com.au