

STEADY OPENER TO KEENELAND JANUARY



Session-topping hip 26 in the ring | Keeneland

by Jessica Martini and Christie DeBernardis

The four-day Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale opened with a workmanlike session in Lexington Monday as the industry continued to adjust to the market's new pandemic-induced reality.

"I think it was a continuation of the November sale," said Keeneland's Director of Sales Operations Geoffrey Russell. "I think people have adjusted to the marketplace and I think it was a good, steady start to the January sale. Consignors are very happy because they have adjusted to the new normal."

From a catalogue of 407, a total of 302 head went through the sales ring Monday with 207 selling for a gross of \$12,155,400. The average of \$58,722 dipped 8.8% from the 2020 January opener, while the median held steady at \$35,000. With 95 horses reported not sold, the buy-back rate for the session was 31.5%.

Ten horses sold for \$200,000 or more during the session, compared to 18 reaching that mark during last year's first session of the auction.

A colt by Munnings ([hip 26](#)) was the day's top-priced offering when selling for \$475,000 to Larry Best's OXO Equine.

"He was very highly touted beforehand," Russell said of the short yearling. "Munnings is starting to get the recognition that he deserves. I think this was the highest-priced of any Munnings progeny." *Cont. p3*

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THE TDN DERBY TOP 12 FOR JANUARY 12

by T.D. Thornton

Next-race plans are starting to solidify for some of the contenders among the Top 12, including a possible No. 1 vs. No. 4 matchup at Oaklawn in February. Farther down the list, Nos. 5 and 9 will clash this Saturday in the GIII Lecomte S. at Fair Grounds.

1) ESSENTIAL QUALITY (c, [Tapit--Delightful Quality](#), by Elusive Quality)

O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: GISW, 3-3-0-0, \$1,335,144.

Last Start: 1st [GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile](#), KEE, Nov. 6

Accomplishments Include: 1st [GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity](#), '[TDN Rising Star](#)'

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 30. *Cont. p12*

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

VALUE SIRES: FIRST YEARLINGS OF 2021

Kelsey Riley examines the European stallions with first yearlings in 2021. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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TODAY in the TDN

THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Tuesday, January 12, 2021



Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale coverage continues on page 3. | Keeneland

NJ HORSEMEN SETTLE WITH SPORTS LEAGUES

17

The years-long bid by the New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association to seek \$150 million in damages from the major sports leagues ended with a settlement for just \$3.4 million. T.D. Thornton reports.

SHANCELOT TO BUCK POND FARM

18

Recently-retired GSW sprinter Shancelot (*Shanghai Bobby*), who earned a 121 Beyer for a 12 1/2-length victory in the GII Amsterdam S., will stand at Buck Pond Farm in Kentucky for \$7,500 in 2021.

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Steady Opener to KEEJAN cont. from p1

"There was very competitive bidding until the last two broke out amongst themselves," Russell continued. It was very exciting--and to do so early in the sale helped us to build some momentum."

WinStar Farm made the day's second-highest bid when going to \$400,000 to acquire 2019 GII Prioreess S. winner Royal Charlotte (Cairo Prince) (**hip 17**). The 5-year-old mare, who sold as a racing or broodmare prospect, was consigned by Elite.

"It feels a little lighter to me than November," Elite's Liz Crow said of the January market.

"There just isn't quite as much energy. That being said, we did see a yearling bring \$475,000 today. Royal Charlotte sold well.

I am sure the dispersal will help it pick up tomorrow. We felt good about our results today and we were happy with the market. There have been people there for our horses, so the market seems steady."



Royal Charlotte | Keeneland

Tuesday's action at the January sale is expected to be highlighted by horses from the dispersals of Sam-Son Farm and the estate of the late Paul Pompa, Jr.

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

Best Gets Quick Start at Keeneland

Larry Best, who purchased 17 head for \$7,965,000 at the Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale, was quick to get on the board at the January Horses of All Ages Sale, going to a session-topping \$475,000 to acquire a short yearling by Munnings (**hip 26**) from the Hunter Valley Farm consignment. The chestnut colt

is out of stakes-winning Sea Shadow (Jump Start) and is a half-brother to stakes-placed Rising Seas (First Defence).

Cont. p3

CLASSIC WINNER BY SIRE OF SIRES TAPIT
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LOOK FOR MORE FIRST-CROP
YEARLINGS AT KEEJAN.

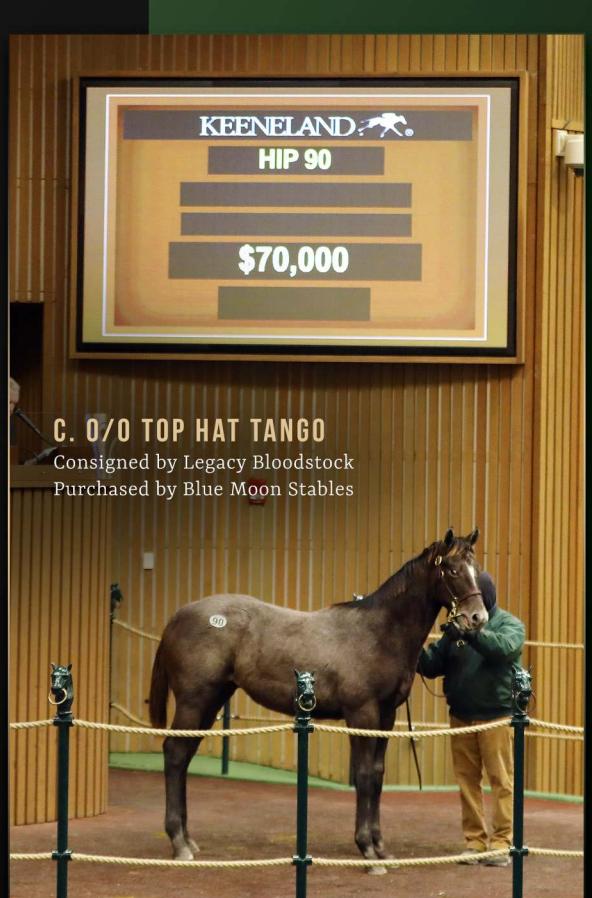
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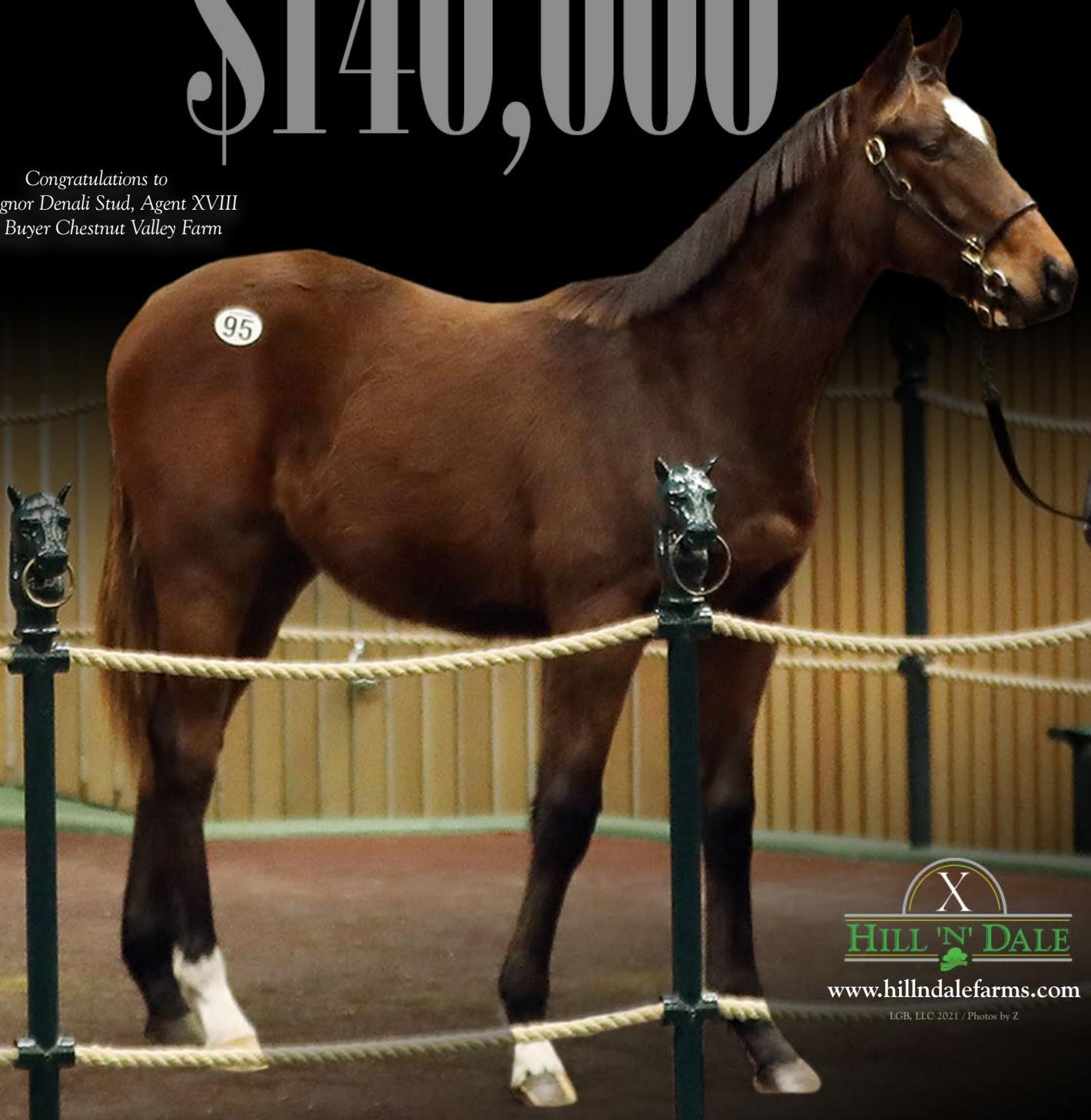
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"I think he was the standout weanling in the first session," Best said of the colt. "I bought him based on the physical, but then when you add in the pedigree with Munnings and Speightstown --which has been performing pretty well--it all just fit together very well. He was very popular, I knew that. A lot of the larger buyers were on the horse, so it didn't surprise me that the price got a little high."



Larry Best | Keeneland

Best also purchased the session's second-highest priced short yearling, going to \$320,000 to acquire a daughter of Munnings's sire **Speightstown** from the Buck Pond Farm consignment.

Hip 378 is out of the unraced Our Smile (Medaglia d'Oro), a half-sister to multiple Group 1 winner Order of St George (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). The dark bay filly was bred by La Bahia Stud, which purchased Our Smile for \$100,000 at the 2014 Keeneland January sale. Our Smile preceded her yearling into the ring, selling for \$80,000 to More Luck Bloodstock.

Also Monday, Best acquired a colt by **Nyquist** (**hip 107**) for \$185,000. Consigned by South Point Sales Agency, the short yearling is out of Venturini (Bernardini), a daughter of multiple Grade I winner Ventura (Chester House). He was bred by Brushy Hill.

"I have a Nyquist who is about ready to race who I bought as a weanling two years ago and so far he looks like a runner," Best said. "So the Nyquist sire line looks like it is starting to strengthen up and this was a nice specimen. I wasn't going to go too high on the horse, but I was able to get him at a price that I thought was worth the bet."

Best's weanling purchases at last year's November sale included a colt by Mastery (**hip 266**) for \$450,000 and a son of Into Mischief (**hip 818**) for \$400,000.

"I tend to buy more colts at the weanling sales because you take on a little more risk because you're early, but you don't have to invest quite as much into a bloodline in a racing prospect," Best said of the weanling/short yearling market.

Table toppers!

2020 Leading Sires by GSWs

Rk	STALLION	GSWs
1	UNCLE MO	14
2	Into Mischief	12
3	Tapit	11

2020 Leading Sires of 3YO's by GSWs

Rk	STALLION	GSWs
1	UNCLE MO	7
2	AMERICAN PHAROAH	5
3	MUNNINGS	4
-	Into Mischief	4
-	Speightstown	4
6	Liam's Map	3
7	LOOKIN AT LUCKY	2

2020 Leading 2nd Crop Sires by GSWs

Rk	STALLION	GSWs
1	AMERICAN PHAROAH	6
2	Liam's Map	3
3	Constitution	2

2020 Leading Sires of Weanlings

Rk	STALLION	SOLD	AVERAGE
1	JUSTIFY	9	\$421,737
2	War Front	2	\$325,000
3	Tapit	2	\$295,000
4	Into Mischief	9	\$281,666

Source: Bloodhorse.com & TDN, 1/1/21

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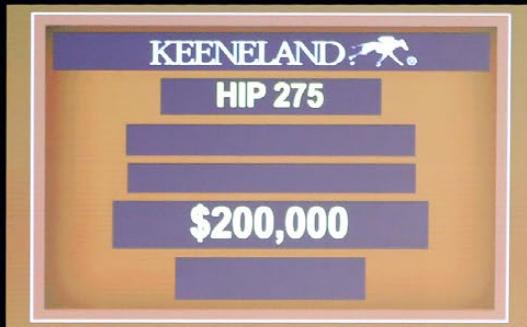
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"So for colts, it's risk-adjusted and probably smart to look at weanlings. Fillies, I tend to buy at the yearling sales."

Best, who has racetrack graduates like Instilled Regard and Rowayton standing at stud for the first time this year, also expects to be shopping for broodmares at the January sale.

"I am also buying mares, but I haven't bought one here yet," he said. "Right now, I'm kind of in all facets of the industry. I have a couple stallions, that's why I'm in the broodmare market."

From a relatively short time in the industry, Best's racing ventures cover the spectrum. Asked if he had found a favorite part of the industry, he said, "I'm still figuring it out." He added with a chuckle, "At least I'm still trying to figure it out."

@JessMartiniTDN

Munnings Colt a Score for Colebrook

Trainer Ben Colebrook enjoyed a win in the sales ring Monday at Keeneland when selling a colt by Munnings ([hip 26](#)) for \$475,000 to Larry Best's OXO Equine. Colebrook and his father, John, bred the short yearling, who was consigned by Hunter Valley Farm.

"We are really happy with this result," Colebrook said Monday morning. "The colt was a great individual and the stallion has been so hot. He seemed to be well-received and had all the right people on him. But you never expect that. We are super excited."

The Colebrooks bred and raced the yearling's stakes-winning dam, Sea Shadow (Jump Start). They also campaign the mare's first foal, Rising Seas (First Defence).

"We bought the dam of Sea Shadow [Evening Shadows] in 2008 with a partner and we bought the partner out," Colebrook said. "I raced the first one out of Sea Shadow, Rising Seas, just to see if we could get the mare off to a good start. And we did."

When Rising Seas finished third in the Qatar Fort Springs S. at Keeneland last October, the Colebrooks decided it was a good time to sell her half-brother."

"We made the decision not to sell in November because of COVID and everything," Colebrook said. "We were thinking about selling him as a yearling in September, but the market looked strong in November and the half-sister got the black-type, so we made the decision to sell him in January."

Monday's result was the second straight strong sales result for Sea Shadow. The mare's colt by [Speightstown](#), a foal-share with WinStar Farm, sold for \$350,000 to Shadwell Estate Company as a weanling at the 2019 Keeneland November sale.

"We will race a filly, it just seems like we've gotten three straight colts out of Sea Shadow," Colebrook said of plans for their foals.

Cont. p6



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In addition to Sea Shadow, Colebrook has one other broodmare in Just a Look (Lookin At Lucky), a half-sister to Fault who is currently in foal to that Grade I winner's sire, Blame.

That broodmare band will likely eventually expand to include Rising Seas.



Ben Colebrook | Sarah Andrew

"Absolutely, we will breed out of her," Colebrook said of the 4-year-old. "That was always the plan. She's very, very pretty. She is by First Defence, so she was never going to be very commercial. I bred to First Defence with the intent of racing. I was just looking to not have an expensive stud fee in her first season."

After an interrupted 3-year-old season, Rising Seas is gearing up for a 2021 campaign.

"I will probably try to run her in an allowance down at Oaklawn," Colebrook said of plans for the filly. "She still has that allowance condition and the money is so good down there. She seems to like the dirt more than the synthetic. We tried her on the synthetic at Turfway and I didn't really feel like she loved it. So we will try to keep her on the dirt and try to win a stakes with her and maybe get some graded stakes placings as a 4-year-old. She had a little hiccup last year--nothing major, we just couldn't get her perfect until the end of the year and then when I got her good she ran two really good races, but then her 3-year-old year was over quick."

"That was kind of 2020 in a nutshell," he added with a rueful chuckle.

The 10-year-old Sea Shadow was bred to Speightster last year. "The mare is kept at Amaroo Farm with Jamie Frost and Jaye McCracken and the colt was raised there," Colebrook said. "They do a great job." [@JessMartiniTDN](#)

Royal Charlotte Sparks Early Fireworks at KEEJAN

MGSW Royal Charlotte (Cairo Prince) got the action going early at Keeneland January's opening session Monday, hammering to WinStar Farm for \$400,000 just 13 hips into the day. [Hip 17](#) was consigned by Elite as a racing/broodmare prospect.

Elite's Liz Crow picked out Royal Charlotte for Steve Laymon's First Row Partners as a yearling, purchasing her for \$65,000 after she RNA'd for \$70,000 at Keeneland September. The gray opened her account with a quartet of victories, including the 2019 GIII Victory Ride S. Parkland Thoroughbreds bought in after that victory and she suffered her first loss at the hooves of dual champion Covfefe (Into Mischief) next out in the GI Longines Test S., but rebounded with a win in the GII Prioress S. at the Spa.

Winless in 2020, the Chad Brown trainee was third in the Oct. 3 GII Gallant Bloom H. and was off the board in the McConnell Springs S. at Keeneland last time Nov. 7. The 5-year-old mare's record currently stands at 12-5-2-1 with earnings of \$408,150. [Cont. p7](#)



Royal Charlotte | Sarah Andrew

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"She is a filly that means a lot to me because I bought her as a yearling in 2017 for \$65,000 for Steve Laymon and his partners," Crow said. "Steve was a very early supporter of mine. I was very thankful to him to let me buy some yearlings for them. She was a fun racehorse for them. She won the first four races of her career and then won the Prioress. All the partners were there that day at Saratoga. We have a lot of fun memories with her. She showed herself really well here. She is a very classy filly. We are happy with the price today."

The bloodstock agent continued, "I believe she will have quite the array of stallions and I am sure [WinStar's] Elliott [Walden] will do a great job mating her. It will be fun following her."

--@CDeBernardisTDN

The Elkstone Group Expands its Scope

Stuart Grant has experienced a lifetime of racing success, with his The Elkstone Group co-owning champions Monomoy Girl and British Idiom, and breeding Grade I winner Mor Spirit, but the Delaware attorney recently embarked on a new challenge in the industry with the purchase of stallion shares. Grant was shopping for mares for his new shares at Keeneland January when he purchased a pair of broodmares by Curlin for matching \$260,000 bids Monday.

"I have bought a few shares in some stallions, nice ones, too, so I was looking for quality mares that would cross well with the stallion shares that I bought," Grant said, while declining to name the specific stallions. "So that was what I was doing. These two happened to cross particularly well with both the stallions that I was looking for."



Elkstone Group purchase Theogony | Keeneland

Cont. p8

Selling Wednesday at Keeneland

VITALOGY
winning the G3 Palm Beach S.
at Gulfstream Park on 2/29/20

© Lauren King

Hip 1199H: VITALOGY (GB)
No Nay Never - Sylvestris(IRE), by Arch

STALLION PROSPECT

AT 2:

- Winner on Debut at Naas over 6f
- 3rd (*beaten by less than 2 lengths*) in the **G1 Summer S.** at Woodbine to **MGSW Decorated Invader**
- Fast Finishing 2nd (*from post 14*) in the **G3 Dixiana Bourbon S.** at Keeneland

AT 3:

- Impressive Winner of the **G3 Palm Beach S.** at Gulfstream Park on 3yo debut

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The Elkstone Group first struck Monday for the 11-year-old **Theogony** (hip 80). The multiple graded-placed mare sold in foal to Omaha Beach and was consigned by Hunter Valley Farm.

Later in the session, the operation acquired **Curlin's Fox**

(hip 203) from the Denali Stud consignment. The 9-year-old mare, a multiple stakes winner on the racetrack, sold in foal to Uncle Mo.

"I sort of got both things," Grant said. "They were quality mares and mares that would mate well to the stallions that I bought shares in. And they are also carrying what I thought were very attractive foals in utero."

Grant said the plan would be to race the foals, but he added, "But you know everything is for sale, we are just talking price."

Of his decision to venture further into the stallion business, Grant explained, "I've had some stallion shares before, but in the last year and a half this is the first time I've really stepped up

and put up significant money for proven stallions. I have basically done everything else in the business and it just seemed like this was the last aspect of the business that I really hadn't played in yet."

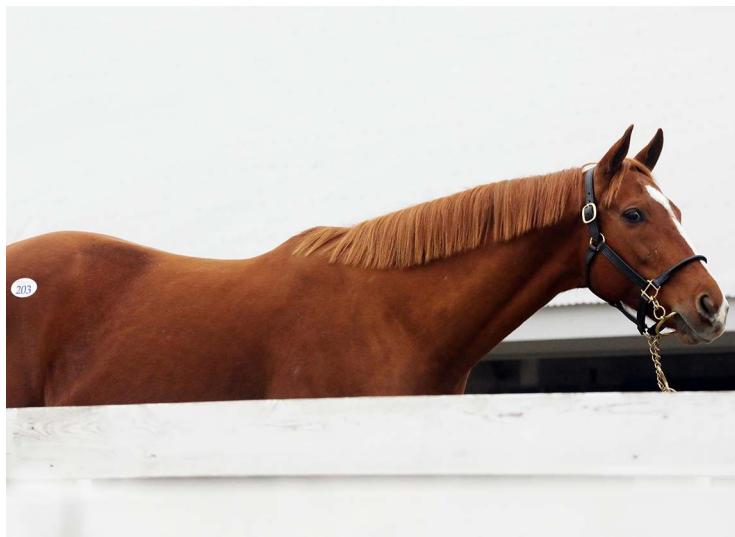
In addition to the two Curlin mares, The Elkstone Group also purchased **Really and Truly** (Pulpit) (hip 5) for \$30,000 and **Sokie** (Indian Charlie) (hip 42) for \$47,000 Monday at Keeneland. The four acquisitions bring the Maryland-based farm's broodmare band to 24 head.

While he paid more for Theogony than he expected and less than he expected for Curlin's Fox, Grant said early returns from the January sale might indicate a soft market.

"I think it has been [a soft market]," Grant said. "But that's

based on getting to see half of one day, so you've got to be careful drawing those conclusions."

Cont. p9



Curlin's Fox | Keeneland

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"There have been a couple that went for more, Elite sold a really nice broodmare prospect [Royal Charlotte for \$400,000] to WinStar and I thought she brought full price and there were a couple others that I thought brought full price. When we get to see the whole day, we can see, but I didn't think it looked that strong. But it's January, it's not November. It's easier for things to slip through, I think, in January."

Asked if he was done bidding at the January sale, Grant said, "We may be out buying tomorrow, but having gotten the two that I wanted to get, I am not sure we will be as aggressive tomorrow. But we will be there." [@JessMartiniTDN](#)

Into Mischief Filly Set to Return to Keeneland

A yearling filly ([hip 310](#)) by red hot sire Into Mischief became the third-highest priced foal and second highest-priced filly of the day when bringing \$210,000 from Beryl "Sonny" Stokes.

The filly is likely to return to the Keeneland auction ring this September, according to horseman Hoby Kight, who purchased the youngster on Stokes's behalf.

"She is by the right horse," said Kight. "He is the hottest sire in America. Her broodmare sire, Tapit, is the second or third hottest sire in America. She was one of the best individuals at the end of the shank for today and tomorrow. He will probably sell her back as a yearling, most likely in September."

Stokes did not attend the sale and instead remained home in Florida, saying the weather in Kentucky was too cold for him at this time of year.

"Hoby buys horses for me and we partner on them," Stokes said. "He has the experience and the ability. I just buy them and get them into a good place to be trained and sell them at the next sale, usually. This will make 12 for this year, so this will probably be my last one for the season."

He added, "I really wanted an Into Mischief. I tried to get one at the November Sale."

Consigned by Hunter Valley Farm for breeder Capital Bloodstock, hip 310 is out of the unraced Tapit mare Keesha, who was purchased by Horse France for \$220,000 in foal to Into Mischief at the 2017 KEENOV sale. The resulting colt, a now-3-year-old named Midway Mischief, was bought by Team Casse for \$300,000 at FTKOCT. Keesha is a half-sister to GSW Shumoos (Distorted Humor). This is also the family of GSW Jennifer Lynnette (Elusive Quality). --[@CDeBernardisTDN](#)

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KEENELAND JANUARY SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2021	*2020
• Catalogued	407	413
• No. Offered	302	307
• No. Sold	207	233
• RNAs	95	74
• % RNAs	31.5%	24.1%
• High Price	\$475,000	\$360,000
• No. Over \$200k	10	18
• Gross	\$12,155,400	\$15,003,300
• Average	\$58,722 (-8.8%)	\$64,392
• Median	\$35,000 (n/c)	\$35,000

*2020 Figures include post-sale transactions.

SESSION TOPPERS

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KEENELAND JANUARY SALE MONDAY'S TOP MARES

HIP	NAME	STATUS	PRICE (\$)
17	Royal Charlotte	racing/b'mare prospect	400,000
	(5, Cairo Prince--Sass and Class, by Harlan's Holiday)		
	Consignor: Elite, Agent		
	Purchaser: WinStar Farm		
167	Brandy	i/f Twirling Candy	350,000
	(7, Unbridled's Song--Alienated, by Gone West)		
	Consignor: Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agent XXX		
	Purchaser: Machmer Hall, Agent		
154	Beau Belle	racing/b'mare prospect	300,000
	(6, Giant's Causeway--Binya {Ger}, by Royal Solo {Ire})		
	Consignor: Denali Stud, Agent XIV		
	Purchaser: Thomas Clark Bloodstock		
80	Theogony	i/f Omaha Beach	260,000
	(11, Curlin--Upcoming Story, by Tale of the Cat)		
	Consignor: Hunter Valley Farm, Agent		
	Purchaser: The Elkstone Group, LLC		
203	Curlin's Fox	racing/b'mare prospect	260,000
	(9, Curlin--Foxysox {GB}, by Foxhound)		
	Consignor: Denali Stud, Agent XVI		
	Purchaser: The Elkstone Group, LLC		



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Race	Beyer
San Antonio S. (G2)	107
Gold Cup at Santa Anita S. (G1)	105
Santa Anita H. (G1)	102
San Antonio S. (G2)	101



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MONDAY'S TOP WEANLINGS

HIP	SEX	SIRE DAM	PRICE (\$)
26	colt	Munnings -- Sea Shadow	475,000
		Breeder: Ben & John Colebrook (Ky) Consignor: Hunter Valley Farm, Agent Purchaser: Oxo Equine LLC	
378	filly	Speightstown -- Our Smile	320,000
		Breeder: La Bahia Stud (Ky) Consignor: Buck Pond Farm (Douglas S. Arnold), Agent Purchaser: Oxo Equine	
310	filly	Into Mischief -- Keesha	210,000
		Breeder: Capital Bloodstock (Ky) Consignor: Hunter Valley Farm, Agent Purchaser: Beryl Stokes	
107	colt	Nyquist -- Venturini	185,000
		Breeder: Brushy Hill (Ky) Consignor: South Point Sales Agency, Agent VI Purchaser: Oxo Equine LLC	
168	colt	More Than Ready -- Brandy	175,000
		Breeder: Kingsport Farms (NY) Consignor: Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agent XXX Purchaser: Rosemont 2020, LLC	

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KEENELAND JANUARY -- MONDAY

SHORT YEARLINGS

HIP	SEX	SIRE	DAM	PRICE (\$)
115	filly	Distorted Humor	Winning Point	100,000
		B-Susan Bedwell (Ky)		
		Consigned by Legacy Bloodstock, Agent XII		

Purchased by Rustlewood Farm

Robert Wright signed the ticket to acquire Winning Point, with this foal in utero, for \$20,000 at last year's Keeneland January sale. The 17-year-old mare, multiple graded placed on the track, was bred back to Goldencents.

258	colt	City of Light	Ginger Tap	160,000
		B-Pippa's Hurricane (Ky)		
		Consigned by Hunter Valley Farm, agent		
		Purchased by Dingo Bloodstock		

Hunter Valley Farm purchased Ginger Tap, with this colt in utero, for \$90,000 at the 2020 Keeneland January sale. The 11-year-old mare was bred to Triple Crown winner Justify last spring.



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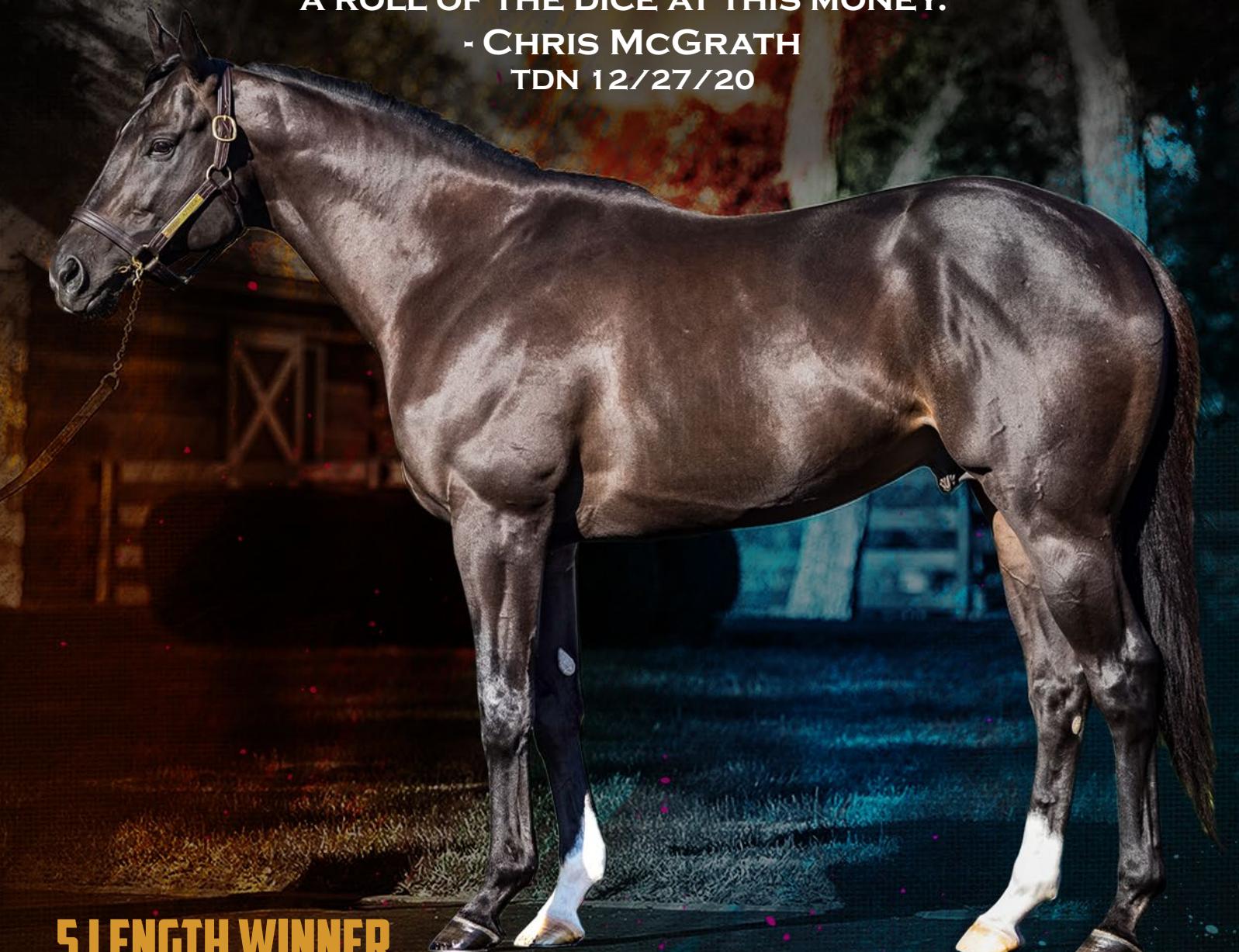
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TOP KENTUCKY DERBY CONTENDERS

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Derby Top 12 cont. from p1

The connections of 3-for-3 'TDN Rising Star' Essential Quality are mapping out a campaign for the presumptive divisional champ that could end up with the high-energy gray prepping in the GII Louisiana Derby prior to taking aim at the GI Kentucky Derby. But the first race of this Tapit colt's sophomore season is still a moving target. After winning the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, "we didn't give him time off but we backed off on him and he seems to have responded well," trainer Brad Cox said. "He was really good [in his early January training] and we just need to keep him that way until the middle of February." Cox said the nine-furlong GII Risen Star S. Feb. 13 at Fair Grounds is "on the table," as is the 1 1/16 miles GIII Southwest S. Feb. 15 at Oaklawn. "The one thing about the Fair Grounds race is it's a lot more [Derby qualifying] points, so that makes it a little more attractive. But the distance is the question; do we want to go a mile and an eighth off not having a race in three months?" Cox added that even if the Godolphin homebred does ship from New Orleans to race at Hot Springs, "I'm 99% sure that he would go back to Fair Grounds, and the Louisiana Derby would be in play after that."

2) LIKEABLE (c, Frosted--Dashing Debby, by Medaglia d'Oro)

O-Repole Stable, St. Elias Stable & Stonestreet Stables LLC. B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings, LLC (KY). T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: \$350,000 yrl '19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$49,050.

Last Start: 13th **GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile**, KEE, Nov. 6

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

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Elm Tree Farm Sales Graduate

Likeable, a \$350,000 KEESEP colt, owns a dazzling 8 1/2-length MSW score at Belmont last September sandwiched by a much-better-than-it-looks runner-up debut at Saratoga and a "too fast to last" effort in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. If trainer Todd Pletcher can hone this colt's sharp, natural gate speed into a more efficient version of what we saw from Likeable at age

two, look out. Dam Dashing Debby (Medaglia d'Oro) won her debut sprinting by 10 1/4 lengths in a Calder stake back in 2009 and was acquired shortly thereafter by Stonestreet Stables, right on the heels of another Medaglia d'Oro filly acquired by Stonestreet--eventual champ Rachel Alexandra. Since then, Dashing Debby has produced two black-type winners--one sprinting on dirt and the other around two turns on grass--plus a yearling colt by Speightstown who hammered for \$800,000 at the 2020 KEESEP sale. Likeable's MGISW sire Frosted figures to add depth and bottom to the pedigree equation, and this colt is now breezing up to five furlongs at Palm Beach Downs in prep for his sophomore unveiling.



Likeable | Sarah Andrew

3) PRIME FACTOR (c, Quality Road--Haylie Brae, by Bernardini)

O-CHC Inc. & WinStar Farm LLC. B-Two Hearts Farm LLC (KY). T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: \$900,000 yrl '19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$24,000.

Accomplishments: **'TDN Rising Star'**

Last Start: 1st **Msw**, GP, Dec. 12

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

LEGACY Bloodstock SALES GRAD

The most authoritative maiden win among the Top 12? That would belong to Prime Factor, a \$900,000 KEESEP Quality Road colt who ran roughshod over what looked like a pretty decent crew Dec. 12 at Gulfstream, earning a 'TDN Rising Star' distinction. This Todd Pletcher trainee widened under wraps to bowl home by 8 3/4 lengths in a 1:10.38 clocking (85 Beyer) that went .08 seconds faster than the only other six-furlong race on the card, the GIII Sugar Swirl S. for older female sprinters. The fourth-place finisher from that race, Broadway (Quality Road), a \$500,000 FTSAUG buy, won a Tampa MSW route race this past Friday at 4-5 odds, while the second- and third-place runners both came back to run third in their respective races Saturday at Gulfstream. Longer distances appear to be Prime Factor's sweet spot based on his pedigree. He's out of a Bernardini mare, and second dam Dance Swiftly is a full-sister to Canadian Horse of the Year and U.S. Eclipse Award winner Dance Smartly, winner of the 1991 GI Breeders' Cup Distaff.



Prime Factor | Ryan Thompson

4) JACKIE'S WARRIOR (c, Maclean's Music--Unicorn Girl, by A. P. Five Hundred)

O-J Kirk & Judy Robison. B-J & J Stables (KY). T-Steve Asmussen. Sales History: \$95,000 yrl '19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGISW, 5-4-0-0, \$502,564.

Last Start: 4th GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile, KEE, Nov. 6
Accomplishments: 1st GII Saratoga Special, 1st GI Runhappy Hopeful S., 1st GI Champagne S.

Next Start: Possible for GIII Southwest S., OP, Feb. 15

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 12.

With blowout speed and an aura of being in a different league than his overmatched foes, Jackie's Warrior dominated the division last summer through early autumn.

Cont. p14

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• Ole Kirk winning
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This \$95,000 KEESEP Maclean's Music colt appeared primed to pounce in the Breeders' Cup, yet even though he carved out a no-excuse stalking trip behind the Juvenile's fastest opening quarter since 2014 and its fastest half-mile split since 2003 and got first run at the wilting leaders a quarter mile from the short-stretch finish, "Jackie" couldn't sustain his bid in deep stretch. He's now two breezes into his return, but even though he's based at Fair Grounds, trainer Steve Asmussen told the *Blood-Horse* last week that the Oaklawn preps might be this colt's path to Louisville, based on the lucrative purses, qualifying points, and "pace being as effective as it is at Oaklawn." The connections of No. 1-ranked Essential Quality are also considering the Feb. 15 Southwest S. for that colt's 2021 debut, potentially setting up an early season showdown of two of the division's heaviest hitters.

5) PROXY (c, *Tapit*--*Panty Raid*, by *Include*)

O/B-Godolphin (KY). T-Michael Stidham. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$67,700.

Last Start: 1st *Alw*, FG, Dec. 19

Next Start: GIII Lecomte S., FG, Jan. 16

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

Proxy should be a pace component in Saturday's GIII Lecomte S., and this Tapit homebred for Godolphin has the unique advantage of already having won twice around two turns at this Fair Grounds meet. Even though his Dec. 19 N2L allowance win came only against three other rivals and earned a so-so 76 Beyer, Proxy was tag-team pressured by every horse in the race at some point and appeared emboldened when mixing it up in close quarters in his stretch fight. Jockey Angel Suarez recently suffered a broken femur, so he's off Proxy in favor of Mitchell Murrill, whose only lifetime graded stakes victory was at this distance over this track. Proxy will also be going back off Lasix (he raced on Lasix for both of his Fair Grounds wins, but not in his runner-up Monmouth debut in October, in which he was beaten only by a neck). "He's like a big, immature kid who is still learning with racing," trainer Michael Stidham said. "Last time when he won, he was a little green about switching leads coming down the lane, but once he leveled off, he drew away at the end, so we were pleased with that."

6) LIFE IS GOOD (c, *Into Mischief*--*Beach Walk*, by *Distorted Humor*)

O-CHC Inc & WinStar Farm LLC. B-Gary & Mary West Stable (KY). T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$525,000 yrl '19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 2-2-0-0, \$94,200.

Last Start: 1st *GIII Sham S.*, Jan. 2, Santa Anita

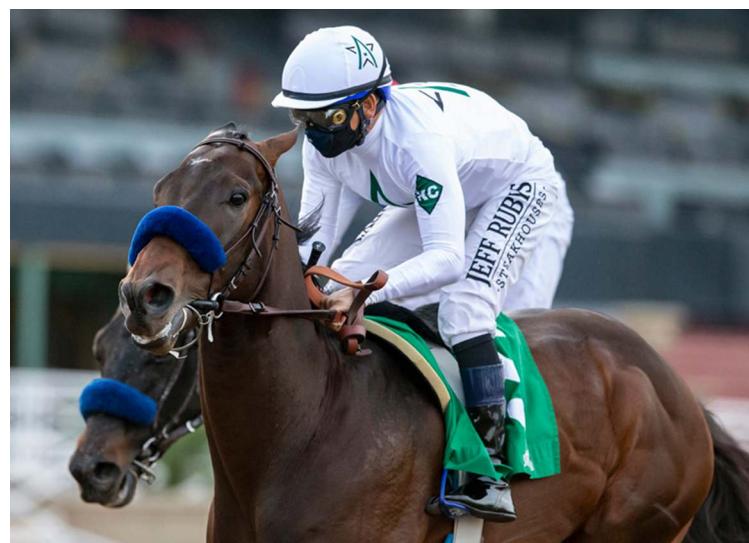
Accomplishments: '**TDN Rising Star**'

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 10.

 Congratulations to all the connections from Paramount Sales 

'TDN Rising Star' Life Is Good won the Jan. 2 GII Sham S. in wire-to-wire fashion, ticking the two-turn box on his progression checklist. This \$525,000 KEESEP colt by Into Mischief earned a 101 Beyer for clocking a mile in 1:36.63, pulsing around the track largely unopposed though quarter-mile splits of :23.56, :23.11, :23.99 and :25.97. The 1-5 fave broke inward at the start and bumped mildly with a rival, then cleared the field from the outermost five hole while giving up four paths of real estate on the turn, bounding along by his lonesome onto the backstretch. Life Is Good remained hand-ridden until deep stretch when 9-1 stablemate Medina Spirit (Protonico) closed the gap while under a vigorous drive, and Life Is Good drifted out while asked for a more by Mike Smith, who showed (but did not utilize) the whip.



Life Is Good | Benoit

Cont. p15



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"I always tell Mike to try and save something," Baffert said post-race. "Life Is Good wasn't as tired as I thought he could have been. He needs to learn to relax a little bit better, but he will." Look for him in about two months, most likely in the Mar. 6 GII San Felipe S. at Santa Anita.

7) SPEAKER'S CORNER (c, Street Sense--Tyburn Brook, by Bernardini)

O/B-Godolphin (KY). T-William Mott. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$43,290.

Last Start: 1st **Mdn**, Belmont, Oct. 11

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. Ky Derby Points: 0.

Scanlon Training Graduate

Speaker's Corner, a Godolphin homebred by Street Sense out of a Bernardini mare (same cross as Godolphin's highly-rated Maxfield) competed in two of the stronger MSWs at Saratoga and Belmont last season. This colt's debut on closing day at the Spa was a green third, but both Speaker's Corner and the runner-up came back to win. And this colt's maiden-breaking tally despite minor trip trouble over seven furlongs at Belmont also has the makings of a key race, featuring sharp splits and a reeling in of a next-out winner--Caddo River (Hard Spun)--who earned 'TDN Rising Star' status upon his own graduation (the eighth-place finisher from that MSW also came back to win). With a sire who won the 2007 Derby and a second dam who scored in the 2006 GI Breeders' Cup Distaff, the colt's pedigree has a longer-the-better-slant.

8) HIGHLY MOTIVATED (c, Into Mischief--Strong Incentive, by Warrior's Reward)

O/B-Klaravich Stables, Inc (KY). T-Chad Brown. Sales history: \$240,000 wlg '18 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: SW, 3-2-1-0, \$124,050.

Last Start: 1st **Nyquist S.**, KEE, Nov. 6

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. Ky Derby Points: 0.



LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE



Every year there's an undercard 2-year-old winner from Breeders' Cup weekend whose buzz carries over, and this season Highly Motivated qualifies as that colt. This Into Mischief bay won the Nyquist S. to run his record to 2-for-3 (all sprints), and three rivals who finished behind him have since come back to win. Klaravich Stable bred Highly Motivated after racing his Chad Brown-trained dam, the seven-furlong black-type stakes winner Strong Incentive. But this colt went through the auction ring for \$240,000 at KEENOV because Klaravich was buying out a partner who co-owned the weanling. Authentic's decisive wins in the Derby and GI Breeders' Cup Classic last season certainly

helped to answer questions about the ability for Into Mischief's progeny to carry speed up to 10 furlongs. But this colt's dam-sire, Warrior's Reward, made his mark as a sprinter, registering his lone stakes win at seven furlongs in the 2010 GI Carter H.

9) MANDALOUN (c, Into Mischief--Brooch, by Empire Maker)

O/B-Juddmonte Farms Inc. (Ky). T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$91,252.

Last Start: 1st **Alw**, CD, Nov. 28

Accomplishments: '**TDN Rising Star**'

Next Start: GIII Lecomte S., FG, Jan. 16

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

'TDN Rising Star' Mandaloun will start favored in Saturday's Lecomte S. at Fair Grounds. That will be the route debut for this Juddmonte homebred by Into Mischief out of an Empire Maker mare. "We've always felt he was cut out to be a two-turn horse based on his physical makeup and how he trains," trainer Brad Cox said. "It shows how much talent he's got to be able to win his first two races at sprint distances, and now we're going to do what we've thought he's wanted to do all along, and that's go long." Mandaloun drew post 10 with no shortage of speed to his inside, which could end up being a tactical advantage if he seeks a stalking trip like in his previous two wins. Mandaloun needed (and responded to) a rousing ride from the five-sixteenths pole home in his 82-Beyer Churchill allowance score.

10) CADDO RIVER (c, Hard Spun--Pangburn, by Congrats)

O/B-Shortleaf Stable (Ky). T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, \$76,092.

Last Start: 1st **Msw**, CD, Nov. 15

Accomplishments: '**TDN Rising Star**'

Next Start: Smarty Jones S., OP, Jan. 22

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

Cox confirmed Thursday that 'TDN Rising Star' Caddo River will make his debut at two turns in Oaklawn's Smarty Jones S., the track's Jan. 22 opening-day feature. This Hard Spun colt demonstrated ability to withstand serious pace pressure while forcing the issue on or near the lead against top-notch maiden fields at Saratoga and Belmont prior to punching through in a Churchill MSW that he commandeered by 9 1/2 lengths. Even though Caddo River has already won at the eight-furlong distance of the Smarty Jones, he'll have to adapt from the one-turn mile configuration that he relished at Churchill to a short-stretch finish around two bends at Oaklawn, where mile races start and end at the sixteenth pole. Well-bet, wire-to-wire horses have won each of the last three editions of the Smarty Jones--but none of them went on to make an impact on the Derby trail.

Caddo River's speed should stand him in good stead at Oaklawn. But he's a rangy, leggy colt, and short-stretch route races are often won by horses built more like compact cruisers (taller, lankier striders don't have that extra sixteenth in the straight to fully uncoil).



Caddo River | Coady

11) KEEPMEINMIND (c, **Laoban--Inclination**, by Victory Gallop)

O-Cypress Creek LLC & Arnold Bennewith. B-Southern Equine Stables, LLC (KY). T-Robertino Diodoro. Lifetime Record: GSW & MGISP, 4-1-2-1, \$394,320.

Last Start: 1st **GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.**

Accomplishments: 2nd **GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity**, 3rd **GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile**

Next Start: Possible for **GIII Southwest S.**, OP, Feb. 15

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 18.

Keepmeinmind worked a half-mile in :50.20 Wednesday at Oaklawn (39/94) under regular rider David Cohen, his first breeze since rallying from last to win the GII Kentucky Jockey Club Stakes as a maiden Nov. 28. "Very easy half, with a nice long gallop out," Cohen said post-work. "He seemed to have matured since his last race." Breaking a maiden in a stakes must run in the family: His sire, Laoban, wired the 2016 GII Jim Dandy S. at 27-1 odds for his only career win. Prior to his first career victory, Keepmeinmind ran second then third behind No. 1-ranked Essential Quality in the GI Breeders' Futurity S. and the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, beaten only 5 1/4 combined lengths. You've heard that stat about the 36 winners of the Juvenile scoring in only two Kentucky Derbies? Second- and third-place Juvenile horses don't fare any better. Those 72 placings have accounted for only one Derby win, with Spend A Buck (third in the inaugural Juvenile back in 1984) the lone exception.

12) KING FURY (c, **Curlin--Taris**, by Flatter)



O-Fern Circle Stables & Three Chimneys Farm, LLC. B-Heider Family Stables LLC (Ky). T-Ken McPeek. Sales history: \$950,000 yrl '19 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: SW, 5-2-0-0, \$142,739.

Last Start: 5th **GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.**, CD, Nov. 28

Accomplishments: 1st **Street Sense S.**

Next Start: Uncommitted

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 0.

With a foaling date of Jan. 12, King Fury is the only member of the Top 12 to reach his actual third birthdate. This \$950,000 FTSAUG yearling by Curlin is a smooth mover with an ample (five races at 1 1/16 miles) foundation of two-turn experience. His form, on paper at least, lost a bit of shine with off-the-board finishes in the Juvenile and Kentucky Jockey Club S. But he had minor trip trouble when wheeling back into the Breeders' Cup on just 12 days between starts and his blinkers-on experiment as a frontrunner under the lights Nov. 28 might have been a tactical aberration. Still plenty of upside here, and a 2-for-3 record at Churchill won't hurt as the first Saturday in May comes more clearly into focus.

On the Bubble (in alphabetical order):

Brooklyn Strong (Wicked Strong): This 5,000 OBSAPR gelding upset the GII Remsen S. over nine furlongs and will aim for repeat at same distance in the Feb 6 GIII Withers S.

Capo Kane (Street Sense): Speed in hand to top of stretch then responded when roused (although a touch green) in his 84-Beyer Jerome S. score. Now aims for Withers S.

Hot Rod Charlie (Oxbow): Half to 2019 sprint champ Mitole (\$17,000 FTKFEB; \$110,000 FTKOCT) pointed toward GIII Lewis S. Jan. 30 off 94-1 second behind Essential Quality in the Juvenile.

Manor House (Upstart): Saturday's Lecomte is glutted with speed, but this colt's debut wiring of a Laurel MSW by 12 1/4 lengths still stands out in the past performances (76 Beyer; fourth-place horse from that race came back to win). This colt is cross-entered in a 1x/optional claimer earlier on Saturday's Fair Grounds card and could opt for that spot instead.

Mutasabeq (Into Mischief): Rallied from long way last to win GII Bourbon S. on turf, then no-impact 10th in GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. Change of surface and tactics when winning the Jan. 2 Mucho Macho Man S. earns this colt another likely stakes date on dirt.

NJ HORSEMEN SETTLE WITH SPORTS LEAGUES FOR \$3.4M, FAR BELOW SOUGHT-AFTER \$150M

by T.D. Thornton

The years-long bid by New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (NJTHA) to seek \$150 million in alleged damages from the four major team sports leagues and the college sports regulatory body (NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL and NCAA) ended Jan. 11 with a far lesser settlement approved by a federal judge, who wrote that the case has been "amicably resolved" among the parties.

According to the three-page "stipulation and order" signed Monday by United States District Court (New Jersey) Chief Judge Freda Wolfson, in exchange for ending its legal pursuit for more money, the NJTHA will be entitled to collect on a \$3.4-million escrow bond posted by the leagues back in 2014 when the leagues first tried to block Monmouth Park's initial attempt at getting sports betting up and running.

That was four years before the May 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that struck down the federal law that had prohibited sports betting in all but a few grandfathered states.

Soon after that 2018 Supreme Court ruling, the NJTHA-run Monmouth opened for legalized sports betting. But the NJTHA continued to chase after the money that had been placed in escrow back in 2014 to cover a one-month period when the case was first being adjudicated.

That pursuit for damages above the bond amount seemed to be emboldened when a September 2019 decision by a U.S. Court of Appeals (Third Circuit) panel of judges ruled that because Monmouth had initially been unlawfully subjected to a no-sports-betting injunction for 28 days in 2014, it had been "wrongfully enjoined" because it "had a right all along to do what was enjoined when the leagues first tried to block sports betting."

The NJTHA then claimed in court filings that it was entitled to damages of \$150 million, far higher than the amount that had been escrowed. The association's argument was that it got wrongfully shut out of sports betting for four years, not the original four weeks that the escrow period covered.

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January 6, 2021

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Charmaine's Mia became the ninth graded winner for The Factor in the GIII Las Cienegas S. | Horsephotos

Sire (Sire's Sire)	#SWs	#GSWs
CAIRO PRINCE (Pioneerof the Nile) <i>(Qahira--Kalookan Queen S.)</i>	13	5
COURAGEOUS CAT (Storm Cat) <i>(Our Last Buck--Say Florida Sandy S.)</i>	8	---
HALF OURS (Unbridled's Song) <i>(Standing Perfect--Louisiana Legacy S.)</i>	24	---
MUNNINGS (Speightstown) <i>(Boldor--Sam's Town S.; Perfect Munnings--Rego Park S.)</i>	46	18
THE FACTOR (War Front) <i>(Charmaine's Mia--GIII Las Cienegas S.)</i>	29	9

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SHANCELOT TO BUCK POND FARM

Graded stakes winner **Shancelot** (Shanghai Bobby--True Kiss, by Is It True), who was **retired from racing** Thursday, will stand at Buck Pond Farm in Kentucky for a fee of \$7,500 in 2021.

"We're excited to stand Shancelot in Kentucky where we recently purchased a farm close by," said Al Crawford of Crawford Farms Racing. "We feel his incredible speed will attract a lot of breeders and we are very actively purchasing mares at the Keeneland January Sale to support him ourselves."

A history-making sprinter when winning the GII Amsterdam S. by 12 1/2 lengths with a 121 Beyer Speed Figure--the highest Beyer ever by a 3-year-old sprinter--Shancelot won his first three races by a combined 19 lengths. In his six starts, Shancelot never finished worse than third and registered four career triple-digit Beyer Speed Figures. After his Amsterdam victory, the dark bay was a hard-fought second in both the GI Santa Anita Sprint Championship S. and GI Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Bred in Kentucky by Charles Muth and Patrick Murphy, Shancelot retired with a record of 6-3-2-1 and earnings of \$624,300.

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FED BIZ RELOCATING TO CANADA

Fed Biz (Giant's Causeway--Spunoutacontrol, by Wild Again), a graded winner short and long and Grade I placed on both dirt and turf, is being relocated from WinStar Farm to Highfield Stock Farm in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

A \$950,000 Keeneland September yearling, Fed Biz was a six-time winner at the races of over \$770,000 and retired to stud at WinStar Farm. From three crops of racing age, Fed Biz is the sire of 10 black-type winners, including GSW Inthemidstofbiz.

"Fed Biz was an incredibly talented racehorse," said Adrian Munro, President of Highfield. "And with his outstanding pedigree and stunning looks, we are thrilled to welcome him to Alberta. We think Alberta is poised for growth and the team at Highfield look forward to Fed Biz joining Cape Canaveral at the farm."

Added WinStar's Elliott Walden: "We wish Fed Biz and Highfield Stock Farm the best of success in Western Canada. He has gotten runners on all surfaces and distances and he is so well bred. I see him being a top stallion in that region for years to come."

Fed Biz will stand for C\$4,000 (LFSN).

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BOBBY'S WICKED ONE TO STAND IN LOUISIANA

Graded stakes winner **Bobby's Wicked One** (Speightstown--Wicked Charm, by Ghostzapper) will stand the 2021 season at Acadia Equine at Copper Crowne in Opelousas, LA.

One of the few horses to beat champion Mitole (Eskendereya) when winning his debut by five lengths, Bobby's Wicked One scored a victory in the 2019 GIII Commonwealth S. at Keeneland before running second to Mitole in the GI Churchill Downs S. He went on to add two more stakes victories at Fair Grounds and retired with a record of 18-6-4-1 and earnings of \$547,673 for trainer Al Stall. Bred in Kentucky by Ramona S. Bass, Bobby's Wicked One is out of a half-sister to champion and leading turf sire English Channel (Smart Strike).

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TAA ACCREDITATION APPLICATION AVAILABLE

Edited Press Release

The 2021 application for accreditation by the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance is now available on OpenWater and can be accessed through ThoroughbredAftercare.org/Accreditation.

Thoroughbred aftercare nonprofits interested in applying must complete the application by Apr. 1 at 6 p.m. ET. Organizations with accreditation status ending in 2021 that want to remain accredited need to re-apply.

Accreditation status is determined after a complete review of five areas of an aftercare organization: operations, education, horse health care management, facility standards and services, and adoption policies and protocols. Organizations passing the application review will be subject to site inspections of all facilities housing Thoroughbreds.

Organizations that receive accreditation are eligible to receive financial grants from the TAA, but prior grants awarded are no indication of potential future awards. In 2020 the TAA awarded \$3.5 million to accredited organizations as grants earmarked specifically for equine care, totaling more than \$20.7 million awarded since 2012.

For more information on the TAA accreditation process, please visit ThoroughbredAftercare.org.

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Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 6:49 p.m. EST

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

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Midnight Bourbon	Tiznow	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	122
2	Arabian Prince	Mshawish	West Point Thoroughbreds and Sandbrook, William	Stewart	Hernandez, Jr.	122
3	Beep Beep	Tapizar	Marylou Whitney Stables	Casse	Talamo	122
4	Proxy	Tapit	Godolphin, LLC	Stidham	Murrill	122
5	Regular Guy	Bernardini	Coffeepot Stables	Catalano	Mena	122
6	Game Day Play	Violence	Tom R. Durant	Calhoun	Saez	122
7	Santa Cruiser	Dialed In	Calumet Farm	Desormeaux	Graham	122
8	Red N Wild	Bayern	Terry Eoff	Eoff	Carroll	122
9	Manor House	Upstart	Newtown Annex Stud Farm	Stidham	Beschizza	122
10	Mandaloun	Into Mischief	Juddmonte Farms, Inc.	Cox	Geroux	122
11	Dyn O Mite	Goldencents	Brad Allhouse	Desormeaux	Hernandez	122

Breeders: 1-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 2-M. Taylor, J. Taylor, BGT LLC, G. E. Saufley & Louis Brooks Ranch LP, 3-Marylou Whitney Stables LLC, 4-Godolphin, 5-Coffee Pot Stable, 6-Tom Durant, 7-Calumet Farm, 8-Lunsford & Sikura Racing, LLC, 9-David Berman, 10-Juddmonte Farms Inc, 11-Thoroughbred Acadiana

Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 5:23 p.m. EST

LOUISIANA S.-GIII, \$125,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Grand Luwegee	El Corredor	Gerard Perron	Perron	Hernandez	122
2	Captivating Moon	Malibu Moon	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Block	Bridgmohan	118
3	Silver Prospector	Declaration of War	Orr, Ed and Orr, Susie	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	124
4	Blackberry Wine	Oxbow	Calumet Farm	Sharp	Beschizza	118
5	Indimaaj	Tapit	Lea Farms, LLC	Engler	Talamo	118
6	Title Ready	More Than Ready	Charles E. Fipke	Stewart	Hernandez, Jr.	118
7	My Boy Jack	Creative Cause	Don't Tell My Wife Stables, Monomoy Stables, LLC and West Point Thoroughbreds	Desormeaux	Saez	118
8	Wells Bayou	Lookin At Lucky	Gasaway, Clint, Gasaway, Lance, Madaket Stables and Wonder Stables	Cox	Geroux	124
9	Sonneman	Curlin	Courtlandt Farms	Asmussen	Graham	118

Breeders: 1-Gerard Perron, 2-Lothenbach Stables Inc, 3-Hargus Sexton, Sandra Sexton &Silver Fern Farm, LLC, 4-Calumet Farm, 5-Shadwell Farm, LLC, 6-Charles Fipke, 7-Brereton C. Jones, 8-Knowles Bloodstock, Inc., 9-Arnold Zetcher LLC



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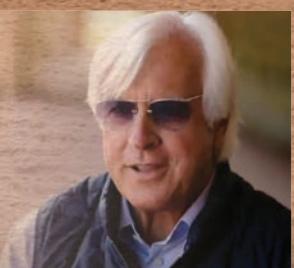
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WINNERS BY U.S. SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Top the Bill (Jpn), c, 3, American Pharoah. See 'US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan.'



U.S. BRED & SIRED WINNERS IN JAPAN

Monday's Results:

1st-Chukyo, ¥9,680,000 (\$92,949), Maiden, 3yo, 1800m, 1:56, ft.

TOP THE BILL (JPN) (f, 3, American Pharoah--Top Decile {MGISP, \$520,291}, by Congrats) was stretching out to a distance of ground for the first time, having placed once from three tries at sprint trips as a juvenile. Favored at 41-10, Top the Bill jumped fairly from her outside box, but did not take the bend particularly well, hanging to her right, and was last turning up the backstretch. The immaculately bred bay took off with better than five furlongs to race, weaving her way through traffic to remarkably be in striking position three wide at the 600-meter peg. She hit the front in upper stretch and rebroke when challenged at the furlong grounds to post a very impressive 1 1/2-length victory, going away at the finish.



Top Decile at Santa Anita ahead of the 2014 Breeders' Cup
Horsephotos

Top the Bill is the first produce for her dam, second in the 2014 GI Darley Alcibiades S. and in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Shadai Farm acquired Top Decile for \$950,000 with this filly in utero at Keeneland November in 2017 and the mare is also responsible for a 2-year-old Heart's Cry (Jpn) and a yearling filly by Daiwa Major (Jpn). She is due to Epiphaneia (Jpn)--sire of Filly Triple Crown winner Daring Tact (Jpn)--for 2021. Top the Bill is the 12th winner from 14 Japanese starters for American Pharoah. Sales history: \$950,000 in utero '17 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$73,221. [VIDEO](#)
O-Chizu Yoshida; B-Shadai Farm; T-Koshiro Take.

3rd-Chukyo, ¥9,680,000 (\$92,949), Maiden, 3yo, 1800m, 1:54.3, ft.

JASPER DREAM (c, 3, Speightstown--Liberated {GSP, \$169,808}, by Curlin) was no factor at longshot odds in a pair of appearances in 2020, but was the 28-5 second favorite making his sophomore debut here. Showing good gate speed from a double-digit draw, the \$125,000 Keeneland September yearling attended the pace from the outside, was held together on the turn, got first run on his rivals in upper stretch and easily accounted for odds-on Voix d'Ange (Curlin x Love and Pride) by 2 1/2 lengths. Jasper Dream is out of a graded-placed daughter of SW & GISP Lady Melesi (Colonial Affair), whose offspring include SW/MGSP Seruni (Saint Liam), GSW English Affair (English Channel), SW Roman Emperor (Empire Maker) and MGSP Doc Cheney (Saint Ballado). Liberated is the dam of the 2-year-old colt Dallas Gold (Medaglia d'Oro), a yearling Honor Code filly and was most recently bred to Frosted. Jasper Dream, whose year-older half-sister Mediate (Candy Ride {Arg}) sells as [hip 728](#) at Keeneland January Tuesday, is the 32nd Japanese winner from 36 starters for his sire. Sales history: \$125,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$48,975. [VIDEO](#)

O-Kazuo Kato; B-G Watts Humphrey Jr (KY); T-Hideyuki Mori.

1/2-SIS SELLS WITH LANE'S END AT KEEJAN - HIP 728

LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE



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QUIET DANCE, by Quiet American. 6 wins, 2 to 4, \$224,240, Gala Lil S.-R (PIM, \$19,170), 2nd Demoiselle S. [G2]. Dam of 12 foals to race, all winners, incl.-- **JAM** (c. by Saint Ballado). 9 wins, 3 to 5, \$4,456,995, horse of the champion older horse, Breeders' Cup Classic [G1] (BEL, \$2,433,- Foster H. [G1] (CD, \$513,360), Donn H. [G1] (GP, \$300,- etc.; 2nd in 1:48 2/5, Woodward S. [G1] (BEL, \$2,433,- Foster H. [G1] (CD, Whitney H. [G1] (SAP, etc.

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**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, JANUARY 12***2020 Stud Fees Listed***Jac's Fact** (Kentucky Dane)

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

9-Mahoning Valley, Msw 5 1/2f, I'M JAC'D, 8-1

Mshawish (Medaglia d'Oro), Taylor Made Farm, \$7,500

133 foals of racing age/14 winners/0 black-type winners

2-Delta Downs, \$75K Louisiana Jewel S., 7 1/2f, TAYLOR AVENUE, 3-1

\$70,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$110,000 FTK OCT yrly

Quick Change (Awesome Again), Raimonde Farms

7 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners

9-Mahoning Valley, Msw 5 1/2f, SAMEOLSONGDANCE, 20-1

Runhappy (Super Saver), Claiborne Farm, \$10,000

199 foals of racing age/10 winners/0 black-type winners

3-Delta Downs, Msw 6 1/2f, FASTHAPPY, 2-1

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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:****6th-Delta Downs, \$33,610**, 1-11, (NW3L), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:43.17, wf, 1 1/2 lengths.**LAURIEANN** (f, 4, Mucho Macho Man--Guanahani {SP, \$131,827}, by Pleasant Tap) Lifetime Record: 7-3-1-2, \$52,682. O-Stanley Fisk; B-Duco Sytsma (KY); T-Timothy E Martin. *\$2,000 Ylg '18 TTAMIX.**6th-Mahoning Valley, \$31,200**, 1-11, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:07, ft, neck.**VALLEY OF MO'ARA** (f, 4, Overanalyze--Pola Golden R N, by Golden Missile) Lifetime Record: SW, 8-4-3-0, \$128,835.

O-Blazing Meadows Farm LLC & TEC Racing (Elliott S Logan); B-Michael William Soehnlen (OH); T-Timothy E Hamm. *\$58,000 RNA Wlg '17 PEDOH; \$13,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP.

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3rd-Mahoning Valley, \$30,500, (S), 1-11, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:47.18, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.**POWER BANKER** (m, 5, Power Broker--Boffo, by Banker's Gold)

Lifetime Record: 16-5-2-1, \$82,634. O-William D Pickerrell; B-Robert Maro (OH); T-Robert C Cline.

1st-Mahoning Valley, \$29,000, (S), 1-11, (NW2L), 3yo, 6f, 1:13.62, ft, 1/2 length.**HENRY MAC** (g, 3, Midshipman--Boom Boom Bertie, by Thunder Gulch) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, \$44,710. O/B-Dustin J Thomson & James Slaughter (OH); T-Ethan W West.**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:****Sarah's Vision**, g, 3, Court Vision--My Holy Belle, by Holy Bull.

Delta Downs, 1-11, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:22.29. B-Perform Stables Inc (LA). *1/2 to Sarah's Passion (Songandaprayer), SW, \$132,340.

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

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**Fasig-Tipton****Standing Perfect (Half Ours) nails down his first stakes victory in the Louisiana Legacy S. at Delta.****CINCO CHARLIE**, Five Pics Please, f, 3, o/o No Pictures Please, by Congrats. AOC, 1-10, Santa Anita**COURT VISION**, Sarah's Vision, g, 3, o/o My Holy Belle, by Holy Bull. MSW, 1-11, Delta Downs

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CLIMAX
STALLIONS

HALF OURS, Standing Perfect, c, 3, o/o Stand by for News, by Majesticperfection. Louisiana Legacy S., 1-11, Delta Downs
MIDSHIPMAN, Henry Mac, g, 3, o/o Boom Boom Bertie, by Thunder Gulch. ALW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley
MUCHO MACHO MAN, Laurieann, f, 4, o/o Guanahani, by Pleasant Tap. ALW, 1-11, Delta Downs
OVERANALYZE, Valley of Mo'ara, f, 4, o/o Pola Golden R N, by Golden Missile. ALW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley
POWER BROKER, Power Banker, m, 5, o/o Boffo, by Banker's Gold. ALW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley

UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
Jan. 16	GIII Lecomte S.	Fair Grounds
	GIII Louisiana S.	Fair Grounds
Jan. 18	GIII Megahertz S.	Santa Anita
Jan. 23	GI Pegasus World Cup	Gulfstream
	GI Pegasus World Cup Turf	Gulfstream
	GII Inside Information S.	Gulfstream
	GIII La Prevoyante S.	Gulfstream
	GIII W. L. McKnight S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Fred W. Hooper S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Palos Verdes S.	Santa Anita

TAKING STOCK

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Standing Perfect (Half Ours) validates 13-10 favoritism in Monday's Louisiana Legacy S. at Delta Downs | Coady

VALUE SIRES: FIRST YEARLINGS OF 2021



Saxon Warrior was the leading first-crop sire at the foal sales in 2020 | Coolmore

By Kelsey Riley

In the third installation of our Value Sires series, we will dig into the sire crop with its first foals born in 2020, and therefore with its first yearlings this year. After some two years in waiting since most of these retired to stud, the judges got the chance at the recently concluded foal sales to lay eyes on the first progeny of most of them, and though it is still incredibly early days, their opinions, corroborated through their actions in the ring, will have an impact on the perception of these horses and the support they receive in their crucial third and fourth seasons.

It is interesting to note that the top four first-season sires by average at the European foal sales in 2020 were all born abroad, and are all by sires that stand outside Europe. It's not like any of them have snuck up on us, of course—**Saxon Warrior (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}), **Roaring Lion** (Kitten's Joy), **Zoustar (Aus)** (Northern Meteor {Aus}) and **US Navy Flag** (War Front) were four of the top five most expensive horses of their crop to retire to stud in 2019. But it is affirmation of the global nature of the game.

We noted in our prior edition of Value Sires that all bar three of the 18 sires with their first foals to be born in 2021 are taking fee cuts, and the nature of the pandemic and the global economic uncertainty means of course that much of this sire crop, too, has had its fees reduced. [Cont. p2](#)

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FRANCE GALOP TO REDISTRIBUTE PURSE FUNDS FOR SOME 2020 RACES

All races in France since May 11, 2020 which carried a reduced purse due to the COVID-19 pandemic will receive part of their original prizemoney back in the second half of January, France Galop announced on Monday. At the end of 2020, France Galop's funding budget was €185 million instead of €248 million, a 25% decrease due to the two-month period racing ceased in France during the first French lockdown. In August, the France Galop Board of Directors determined that a positive funding result—if there was one—at the end of the year should be redistributed in the form of incentives to partially compensate for the decrease applied from May 11. The expected amount of excess funding is supposed to be greater than €8 million, but France Galop and the PMU are still confirming the amount.

[Cont. p9](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

THE TDN DERBY TOP 12 FOR JAN. 12

T. D. Thornton has the latest TDN Derby Top 12 in Tuesday's paper. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont. from p1

Leading the way on first-crop foal sale averages was Coolmore's G1 Racing Post Trophy and G1 2000 Guineas winner Saxon Warrior, who had 16 sold for an average of €108,315/£98,679–3.6x his debut stud fee of €30,000, and he was the only member this sire crop to crack six figures on foal sale averages. His median of €82,502/£75,162 was 2.75x his fee. Saxon Warrior had 94 foals registered from his first crop and covered a further 166 mares last year at a fee of €27,500, and he stands for €20,000 in 2021.

Unbeaten in three starts at two, Saxon Warrior won the G2 Beresford S. before besting Roaring Lion in the Racing Post Trophy. He once again bettered that rival as well as the likes of Derby winner Masar (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) and GI Breeders' Cup Mile victor Expert Eye (GB) (Acclamation {GB}) in the Guineas first up at three. Though that proved his final win, Saxon Warrior put in fine performances in some of Europe's greatest races over the remainder of the summer, including second-place finishes by a neck to Roaring Lion in both the G1 Coral-Eclipse and G1 Irish Champion S. Saxon Warrior is the second foal out of the G1 Moyglare Stud S.-winning and Classic-placed Maybe (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) who, after a stint in America to visit American Pharoah and War Front, returned to Japan and produced a full-brother to Saxon Warrior in 2020. Maybe is herself out of Sumora (Ire) (Danehill), a three-quarter-sister to G1 Oaks winner and multiple stakes producer Dancing Rain (Ire)



U S Navy Flag | Coolmore

(Danehill Dancer {Ire}), while sires Dr Devious (Ire) and Shinko King (Ire) and last year's G1 Irish Oaks winner Even So (Ire) (Camelot {GB}) appear under the third dam.

Second on the first-crop foal sale averages was Horse of the

Year Roaring Lion, who tragically died in the summer of 2019 after covering a book of 133 mares that resulted in 90 registered foals for a fee of £40,000 at Tweenhills Stud. Roaring Lion's eight foals sold at the sales averaged €69,603/€63,411, with a median of €62,272/£56,732. While his legacy will be sadly fleeting, he nonetheless has an excellent chance to make a lasting impact, with Group 1 winners Bateel (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Giofra (GB) (Dansili {GB}), Golden Lilac (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) and Simple Verse (GB) (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}) among those to have produced by him, as well as excellent young mares like Kiyoshi (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), Purr Along (GB) (Mount Nelson {GB}) and Wekeela (Fr) (Hurricane Run {Ire}).

The team at Tweenhills are afforded some consolation by the fact that they have another exciting young sire among this group, the Australian shuttler Zoustar (Aus) (Northern Meteor {Aus}). Zoustar's popularity in his first season shuttling was such that he sired 102 foals in his first crop, and he covered a further 124 mares last year. Zoustar started at £25,000 in 2019, took a rare second-season fee hike last year to £30,000 and is back down to £25,000 in 2021. His 18 first-crop foals sold at the breeding stock sales averaged €67,281/£61,295, 2.7x his stud fee, with a median of €49,971/£45,525, 2x his stud fee. [Cont. p3](#)

New for 2021 MOHAATHER

— Showcasing - Roodeye (Inchinor) —

“ He clearly has many attributes breeders should want to replicate and it is a well-worn cliché that a prospective stallion ticks all the boxes but in the case of Mohaather, it would be hard to disagree. ” - Martin Stevens, *Thoroughbred Stallion Guide*



Fee: £20,000 Jan 1st, SLF

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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY**FBAA REFORM ATTRACTS NEW PLAYER**

The reform of the FBAA Code of Ethics has proved a boon to the organisation. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

**Zoustar | Tweenhills****Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.**

The team at Qatar Bloodstock, which had bought into Zoustar during his racing career, made the strategic decision to not shuttle the horse until he had proven himself Down Under, and that decision has paid dividends, with Zoustar having an excellent body of work behind him in his homeland before he even set foot on UK soil. Zoustar won two key sire-making races in Australia, the G1 Golden Rose S. and G1 Coolmore Stud S., over seven and six furlongs at three, and it took him no time at all to fulfill that prophecy in the stud barn. He was far and away the leading first- and second-crop sire of his generation in Australia, and in his first season among the general sire ranks in 2019/20 wound up seventh with just three crops of racing age. Zoustar thus far has 16 stakes winners with his fourth crop of juveniles having just hit the racetracks Down Under, with 12 of those emanating from his first crop including his brilliant sprinting mare Sunlight (Aus), who led home a trifecta for her sire in the Coolmore Stud S. of 2018. Sunlight is one of five pattern race winners by Zoustar with dams or second dams by Sadler's Wells or Danehill, which bodes well for the European broodmare population.

European breeders may be less familiar with Zoustar's sire Northern Meteor—another winner of the Coolmore Stud S. who got off to a brilliant start at stud before an untimely death. He is a son of the excellent Australian sire Encosta de Lago (Aus), who is by Sadler's Wells's full-brother Fairy King, and out of a daughter of the influential American sire Fappiano. European breeders will be plenty familiar, however, with Zoustar's damsire Redoute's Choice (Aus), who not only hails from one of the most international families in the stud book but who is himself proven in the Northern Hemisphere through the likes of G1 Grosser Dallmayr Preis winner Danceteria and the excellent staying filly Enbihaar, the winner of five Group 2s. [Cont. p4](#)

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

Like Zoustar, US Navy Flag started out at €25,000 at Coolmore in 2019, and after dropping to €17,500 last year he is down to €12,500 for 2021. US Navy Flag's 10 foals to sell at the sales last year averaged €39,971/£36,415, with a median of €41,297/£37,623. Like Saxon Warrior, US Navy Flag is out of a Group 1-winning daughter of Galileo, his dam being the four-time Group 1 and Classic winner Misty For Me (Ire), a full-sister to the G1 Prix Marcel Boussac scorer Ballydoyle (Ire) who has also produced the triple Group 1 winner Roly Poly (War Front). US Navy Flag's second dam, Butterfly Cove (Storm Cat), is a half-sister to the dual Group 1-winning juvenile and sire Fasliyev (Nureyev).

US Navy Flag embodied the precocity his pedigree suggested he should. He ran a remarkable 11 times at a 2-year-old, finishing worse than fourth just twice and winning the G1 Middle Park S. and the G1 Dewhurst S. over his subsequent GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf-winning stablemate Mendelssohn (Scat Daddy). US Navy Flag returned at three to win the G1 July Cup in a performance that was a joint career-best with his Dewhurst win (RPR 122). He sired 60 first-crop foals last year and covered an additional 143 mares in his second book.

Darley's Champions

Rounding out the top five first-crop sires by average at the foal sales last year was Darley's **Cracksman (GB)** (Frankel {GB}), who had 16 foals sell for an average of €35,958/£32,759. Cracksman has stood for £25,000 the past two seasons and is down to £17,500 for 2021.

Cracksman has earned the gold medal on the value sire podium in this column the past two years based on his racetrack merits; he was one of the best racehorses we've seen in the past 10 years, his official rating of 130 trailing only Frankel (140), Sea The Stars (Ire) (136) and Harbinger (135) among European colts in the past decade.

A debut winner in October of his 2-year-old campaign, Cracksman won an Epsom Derby trial conditions race next out before finishing a length off Wings Of Eagles (Fr) (Pour Moi {Ire}) when third in the Derby in his third start. He split that rival and the winning Capri (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) in the G1 Irish Derby before embarking on a three-race win streak that began with the G2 Great Voltigeur S. and G2 Prix Niel and culminated in a seven-length score in the G1 Champion S. (RPR 131), good enough to earn him champion 3-year-old honours at the Cartier awards.

Cont. p5

FARMFLIX

View Ireland's stream of stellar stallions:

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www.itm.ie/irishstallionshowcase

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

Cracksman added victories in the G1 Prix Ganay and G1 Coronation Cup and a title defense in the G1 Champion S.—in which he won by six lengths, equaling his RPR of 131 from the year prior—at four. He packs plenty of power on pedigree, too, being out of the stakes-winning and multiple stakes-producing Pivotal (GB) mare Rhadegunda (GB), who is herself a granddaughter of the G1 1000 Guineas and G1 Sussex S. scorer On The House (Be My Guest). Cracksman sired 98 first-crop foals last year and covered 112 mares in his second book.

Cracksman is joined at Dalham Hall by another Cartier champion in **Harry Angel (Ire)** (Dark Angel {Ire}). A half-brother to the G2 Mill Reef S. victor Pierre Lapin (Ire) (Cappella Sansevero {GB}) out of Beatrix Potter (Ire) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}), a half-sister to Hong Kong star Xtension (Ire) (Xaar {GB}), Harry Angel was a sprinter of the highest quality. He also won the Mill Reef at two and leapt into

the big leagues at three with back-to-back scores in the G1 July Cup and G1 Sprint Cup. Harry Angel has had 89 foals reported from his first crop and bred an additional 98 mares last year.

After standing for £20,000 his first two seasons, Harry Angel is down to £12,500.

Expert Selection

Another young Group 1 winner who has been well supported is Juddmonte's GI Breeders' Cup Mile scorer **Expert Eye (GB)** (Acclamation {GB}), who has 96 first-crop foals and covered 105 mares in his second book including a handful of Juddmonte bluebloods. Expert Eye was precocious enough to win the G2

Vintage S. at two, and add the G3 Jersey S. at Royal Ascot by 4 1/2 lengths and the G3 City Of York S. before shipping to Churchill Downs to take the Breeders' Cup Mile. There have been fewer sire lines hotter than Acclamation as of late, he having supplied the likes of Dark Angel and Mehmas (Ire), and Expert Eye has the female side to match. [Cont. p6](#)



Cracksman | Amy Lynam

50 G1 winners, or their dams, daughters or sisters, are carrying first-crop foals by Shamardal's fastest son,
Blue Point...



Prix de Diane winner
Golden Lilac

The dam of
Palace Pier

A sister to
Territories

Ascot's 6f record-breaker covered a bigger, better first book of mares than either his sire, or his sire's leading stallion son, Lope de Vega. **Use Blue Point in 2021 and those mares are working for you.**

€40,000 Oct 1, SLF. Kildangan Stud, Ireland

Darley

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

His dam Exemplify (GB) (Dansili {GB}) is a half-sister to champion and dual Classic winner Special Duty (GB) (Hennessy), and it is also the family of multiple Grade I winners Sightseek (Distant View) and Tates Creek (Rahy). Expert Eye is down to £12,500 after standing for £20,000 and £17,500, with his first-crop foals (22 sold) having averaged €35,857/£32,667.

Completing the Coolmore clan with its first yearlings in 2021 are the Castlehyde Stud duo of **Sioux Nation** (Scat Daddy) and **Gustav Klimt (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}). Sioux Nation shares a likeness with No Nay Never not only through their sire by also through the fact that they both won the G2 Norfolk S. at two and followed it up with a Group 1 score; for No Nay Never it was the Prix Morny, and for Sioux Nation it was the Phoenix S. Both also trained on to win Group 3 sprints at three, and Sioux Nation was just three quarters of a length behind Havana Grey (GB)

(Havana Gold {Ire}) when third in the G1 Flying Five S. Sioux Nation was the busiest first-season flat sire in Britain and Ireland last year, covering 241 mares which yielded a first crop of 133 foals. His second book numbered 158 mares. Sioux Nation was well received at the foal sales, his 28 sold averaging €29,622/£26,987, 2.4x his opening stud fee of €12,500. Sioux Nation, who is out of the Oasis Dream (GB) mare Dream The Blues (Ire), is down to €10,000 for 2021.

Gustav Klimt hails from the same Galileo over Danehill cross that has produced the excellent sires Frankel and Teofilo. His race record didn't nearly hit the heights of either of those two, but nonetheless he won the G2 Superlative S. at two and, in

addition to taking the Listed 2000 Guineas Trial S. at Leopardstown at three, placed in the G1 Irish 2000 Guineas, the G1 St James's Palace S., G1 Prix Jean Prat and G1 Sprint Cup during a busy 10-race 3-year-old campaign. [Cont. p7](#)



Sioux Nation | Coolmore

A TOP-CLASS INTERNATIONAL SIRE

"At stud Mastercraftsman has built a strong reputation for himself as a source of top-class international runners. In recent years the brilliant **Alpha Centauri** was one of the best of her sex... successful in four Group 1 races. Mastercraftsman's first crop included the classic winners **The Grey Gatsby** and **Kingston Hill**, as well as the dual Group 1 winner **Amazing Maria**. By my reckoning Mastercraftsman has sired Group 1 winners on the flat in Argentina, Australia, Chile, England, France, Ireland, New Zealand and the USA."

Breeding Insights by Leo Powell, **IRISH FIELD**, 9th January 2021



MASTERCRAFTSMAN

2020 yearlings made €375,000, €245,000, €160,000, €150,000,
€145,000, €135,000 etc., foals made up to €150,000

Fee: €15,000

COOLMORE

76 Group/Stakes
winners worldwide.

Latest news: French Gr.3 winner
NEUFBOSC landed the Aus\$400,000
Perth Cup-Gr.2 on 2nd Jan.

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

Gustav Klimt has a sire's pedigree, too, being out of Massarra (GB), who has produced five stakes winners and is herself a daughter of Rafha (GB) (Kris {GB}), the dam of Invincible Spirit (Ire) and Kodiak (GB). It is also the family of Pride Of Dubai (Aus), who made an eye-catching start with his first 2-year-olds last year, and future sire power could be added to the page by not only Gustav Klimt but also Pinatubo (Ire), who is the most expensive first-season sire of 2021, and **James Garfield (Ire)** (Exceed and Excel {Aus}), who also stands his second season in 2021. Gustav Klimt is down to €4,000 after standing for €7,500 and €6,500 the past two seasons.

Rathbarry Stud's James Garfield bested Invincible Army (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) in the G2 Mill Reef S. in 2017 and trained on to beat Expert Eye (GB) (Acclamation {GB}) in the G3 Greenham S. before being beaten a half-length in the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest. He had 45 first-crop foals last year before covering another 31 mares and is down to €4,000 from an opening fee of €7,000.

Speed Proves Popular

Whitsbury Manor Stud's **Havana Grey (GB)** (Havana Gold {Ire}) was the busiest of this sire crop at the foal sales last year, with 44 offered and 36 sold for an average of €26,161/£23,834 (3.3x his opening fee of £8,000) and a median of €18,812/£17,139. His first crop numbered 108 foals, and he maintained his popularity when covering a further 130 mares in 2020 dropped to £6,500. He is available for £6,000 this year. From the family of the great Al Bahathri (Blushing Groom {Fr}) and her sire son Haafhd (GB) (Alhaarth {Ire}), Havana Grey is out of the Dark Angel (Ire) mare Blanc de Chine (Ire). He is best remembered for his victory at three in the G1 Flying Five S. over the likes of Sioux Nation, but he was also prolific at two, running eight times and winning the G3 Molecomb S., two listed contests and finishing second in the G1 Prix Morny.



James Garfield | racingfotos.com



Havana Grey | racingfotos.com

Havana Grey looks to follow in the footsteps of Whitsbury Manor incumbent Showcasing, and it is a son of his, **Tasleet (GB)**, who represents Shadwell here. Tasleet turned heads at the mare sales in 2019, his first in-foal mares selling for an average of 5.3x his opening fee of £6,000. The G3 Greenham S. and G2 Duke of York Clipper Logistics S. winner remained popular at the foal sales last year, with 17 sold averaging 3.8x his fee at €22,834/£20,803 and returning a median 3.3x his fee at €19,605/£17,861. Tasleet's dam Bird Key (GB) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}) is a half-sister to the dam of Sheikh Hamdan's outstanding sprinter Battaash (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}), who continued to enhance the page last year with wins in the G1 King's Stand S., G1 Nunthorpe S. and G2 King George S. While Tasleet can't claim to have reached the racecourse status of that illustrious relative, he has some upside down to £5,000 in 2021. He ran six times at two and was a listed winner and placed in the G2 Richmond S. and G3 Somerville Tattersall S. before winning a three-runner Greenham S. when it was switched to Chelmsford's all-weather course in 2016. Despite running just once more at three he returned at four to win the Duke of York before finishing second in three Group 1s—the Diamond Jubilee, Sprint Cup and British Champions Sprint S. Tasleet has a first crop of 63 foals and covered 51 mares last year.

Another Shadwell-bred among this crop is **Massaat (Ire)**, a son of the red-hot Teofilo (Ire) who stands at Mickley Stud for £4,000, down from £5,000 the last two seasons. Massaat finished second to Air Force Blue (War Front) in the G1 Dewhurst S. in his third start and confirmed that form by finishing second to Galileo Gold (Ire) (Paco Boy {GB}) in the G1 2000 Guineas before going on to win the G2 Hungerford S. at four and finish third in the G1 Prix du Moulin. **Cont. p8**

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

Massaat boasts a page littered with high-class runners; he is a half-brother to G1 Commonwealth Cup winner Eqtidaar (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), who has his first foals in 2021, and last year's G3 Horris Hill S. scorer Mujbar (GB) (Muhaarar {GB}). His dam, Madany (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) is a half-sister to the four-times stakes producer Zeiting (Ire) (Zieten), who is also the second dam of French Classic winner Precieuse (Ire) (Tamayuz {GB}).

If toughness is what you're after, Bearstone Stud's **Washington DC (Ire)** may be the way to look. The son of Zoffany (Ire) ran 32 times over four seasons on the track and won a stake in all but his final year. Washington DC won the Listed Windsor Castle S. at Royal Ascot and was second to champion Air Force Blue (War Front) in the G1 Phoenix S., and went on to win two listed races and place in two Group 1s and an overall five pattern races in 11 starts at three before registering a career high at four in the G3 Phoenix Sprint S. His first foals earned plaudits at the foal sales, too, averaging 3.9x his opening fee of £6,000 at €23,376/£21,296. After standing for £5,000 in 2020, Washington DC is down to £4,500 in 2021.

Tweenhills's Lightning Spear (GB) is down to £5,000 from an opening fee of £8,500. Lightning Spear won his lone starts at two and

three, but he didn't truly get going until four. From that point, he rarely had an off day through his 7-year-old campaign, and after winning the G2 Celebration Mile at five and six and placing six times in Group 1s, he at last got that elusive top level prize to his name when beating Expert Eye (GB) (Acclamation {GB}) in the G1 Sussex S. in 2018. Free of Northern Dancer in his first three generations, he is a son of the influential Pivotal.

Though he is down to £3,000 for 2021, the National Stud's G2 Coventry S. scorer **Rajasinghe (Ire)** (Choisir {Ire}) turned heads at the foal sales last year; off a debut fee of £5,000, his six first-crop offerings brought 50,000gns, 46,000gns, 37,000gns, etc. for an average of €33,936/£30,941 that was 6.8x his stud fee, and a median of €32,827/£29,906.

Irish Value

Available for €5,000 in Ireland this year are **Kessaar (Ire)** (Kodiak {GB}) and **Smooth Daddy (Ire)** (Scat Daddy). Kessaar was

Ireland's busiest first-season sire in 2019 standing outside the Coolmore banner, with a book of 97 mares at Tally-Ho Stud yielding 75 registered foals. Kessaar is the latest juvenile group winner to be ushered off to stud after early success on the racecourse, he having won the G3 Sirenia S. and the G2 Mill Reef S. during a seven-race 2-year-old campaign. His second book dipped to 42 mares last year, but strong debuts by Kodiak sons Adaay (Ire), Kodi Bear (Ire), Prince Of Lir (Ire) and Coulsty (Ire) last year alone should ensure Kessaar still has his fans, especially as he dips from an opening price of €8,000 to €5,000.

Smooth Daddy will have the weight of numbers against him on the racecourse, having sired 25 foals in his first crop before covering a further 37 last year at Starfield Stud, but what he does have going for him is that he is a graded stakes-winning son of Scat Daddy who was tough and sound throughout a five-year,

32-start career, the highlight of which was a win in the GIll Fort Marcy S. going 1800 metres on the turf over Time Test (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}).

Unfortunately (Ire) (Society Rock {Ire}), winner of the G1 Prix Morny and G2 Prix Robert Papin at two and the G3 Renaissance S. at three, stands for €4,500 at Oak Lodge Stud in Ireland. He has 32 first crop foals and covered 50 mares in 2020 with substantial support from his joint owners

Cheveley Park Stud and Linda and Reddy Coffey.

Group 1 Winners In France

France welcomed a pair of classy Group 1 winners in 2019, and heading those on fee at the time was Haras du Quesnay's **Recoletos (Fr)** (Whipper). The G1 Prix d'Ispahan and G1 Prix du Moulin scorer debuted at €8,000 and is down to €6,500 in 2021, and he is a classy individual that trained on to win a further four pattern races after defeating the future G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe victor Waldgeist (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) in the G2 Prix Greffulhe at three and finishing third in the G1 Prix du Jockey Club. Recoletos retired with a rating of 121 and hails from a stout family; in addition to being a half-brother to the dual pattern race winner Castellar (Fr) (American Post {GB}), he is a grandson of Pharatta (Ire) (Fairy King), a graded/group winner in Britain and America and is also related to the dual Derby winner Shahrestani (Nijinsky II). **Cont. p9**



Washington DC | racingfotos.com

Value Sires: First Yearlings 2021 Cont.

On both pedigree and race record one has to imagine that Haras du Logis's **Cloth Of Stars (Ire)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}) has a great chance to stand for much more than €7,000 down the road. The winner of the G3 Prix des Chenes in his second start at two before finishing second in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud, Cloth Of Stars won the G3 Prix la Force and G2 Prix Greffulhe during a four-race 3-year-old campaign. He returned at four to win the G3 Prix Exbury, G2 Prix d'Harcourt and G1 Prix Ganay consecutively before finishing second to Enable (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}) in the Arc, and he came back the following October to fill third in the great race, and on both occasions was the first colt across the line in the Arc. Cloth Of Stars retired as a tough, consistent Group 1 winner rated 123 and holds further clout as a sire prospect being out of a full-sister to Oaks winner Light Shift and a half to G1 Tattersalls Gold Cup winner Shiva (Jpn) (Hector Protector), both of whom are excellent producers.

Haras De La Haie Neuve offers **Seahenge**, a \$750,000 yearling by Scat Daddy, for €4,000, down from €5,000. Seahenge won the G2 Champagne S. at two and was third in the G1 Dewhurst S., and is one of four stakes horses out of the listed-winning Fools In Love (Not For Love), those also including last year's GI Belmont S. and GI Runhappy Travers S. third Max Player (Honor Code). Another son of Scat Daddy available in France for €5,000 this year is the 1700m GIII Pilgrim S. winner **Seabhac**, who is enshrined at Haras de Saint Arnoult.

Germany's flagbearer of this sire crop is the nation's 2016 Horse of the Year **Iquitos (Ger)** (Adlerflug {Ger}), who stands at Gestut Ammerland for €6,000. Iquitos was Group 3 placed at three but really got going the following season when he won the G1 Grosser Preis von Baden and the G2 Grosser Preis der Badischen. First or second in all but two of his seven starts at five, Iquitos added the G1 Grosser Dallmayr-Preis and was twice second at Group 1 level. The bay wrapped up a prolific career with a victory over Defoe (Ire) (Dalakhani {Ire}) in the G1 Grosser Preis von Bayern in November of 2018.



Recoletos | Scoop Dyga



Cloth Of Stars | Scoop Dyga

Value Podium

Gold: Cracksman (£17,500) - he has occupied this space the last two years and deserves to more than ever down in price. One of the best colts we've seen of the past 10 years.

Silver: Expert Eye (£12,500) - a world-class Group 1 winner by sire-maker Acclamation. Juddmonte rarely misses the mark.

Bronze: Havana Grey (£6,000) - a quality sprinter at two and three who was popular at the foal sales and has the book sizes to sustain him.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

French Purse Redistribution Cont. from p1

The prize money that will be available for each race will increase exactly the same amount in any race, with premiums to owners and breeders also increased. The annual closing of the professional accounts is scheduled for Jan. 12 and then France Galop must proceed to invalidate more than 3200 races before recalculating the allowance and bonuses on all of the affected events. This revaluation of all race winnings will replace the annual revaluation of the owner premium. For more information, please visit www.france-galop.com.

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COLM O'DONOOGHUE ACQUITTED

Group 1-winning jockey Colm O'Donoghue won his trial on Monday, the *Racing Post* reported. O'Donoghue was acquitted on two counts of physical assault on his ex-partner Jill Macken in 2018. Carrick-on-Suir district court heard the case, where Judge Finn ruled O'Donoghue was innocent of the charges. The incidents were alleged to have occurred in O'Donoghue's home in County Tipperary in October and at the Pillo hotel in November of 2018 prior to the couple's break up. Macken did not report the incidents to the authorities until February of 2019 after the two separated. In the first instance, O'Donoghue was not in Ireland after riding in Newmarket that day and in the second instance, the court found issue with Ms. Macken's claims. A WhatsApp message displayed to the court from Macken to O'Donoghue stated, "Now to ruin ur life."

Only 40, O'Donoghue had ceased riding in late 2019 and is once again based at Ballydoyle after earlier riding for Jessica Harrington as well as the Aidan O'Brien outfit earlier in his career.

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Colm O'Donoghue | Racingfotos.com

SIRE'S FIRST FOAL

TEN SOVEREIGNS

- The Coolmore Ireland resident sired a bay filly born at Richie Fitzgerald's Ballinasilla Stud on Jan. 10.
- She is out of the winning Dweezil (Ire) (Rip Van Winkle {Ire}), herself a half-sister to G1 Italian Derby hero De Sica (Ire) (Sri Pekan), who is owned by Allevamento Le Gi.
- Fitzgerald described the new arrival as "a good, big bay filly. She's strong, correct and healthy."

- The two-time Group 1-winning son of No Nay Never, who won the Middle Park S. and July Cup S., stands for €20,000.



Ten Sovereigns celebrated his first foal on Monday | Coolmore Stud

BRITAIN

CONDITIONS RESULT:

6th-Wolverhampton, £19,000, 1-11, 4yo/up, 9f 104y (AWT), 1:58.77, st.

FELIX (GB) (g, 5, Lope de Vega {Ire}—Luminance {Ire}, by Danehill Dancer {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 12-6-1-1, \$81,347. O-K Sohi & Partner; B-Fitocks Stud (GB); T-Marco Botti. *32,000gns RNA Ylg '17 TAOCT; 24,000gns HRA '19 TATAHI.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Night Narcissus (Ire), f, 3, **Kodi Bear (Ire)**—Midnight Martini (GB) (GSP-Eng, \$305,556), by Night Shift. Wolverhampton, 1-11, 6f 20y (AWT), 1:14.39. B-Karis Bloodstock Ltd & Rathbarry Stud (IRE). *€25,000 Ylg '19 GOFFEB; £90,000 Ylg '19 GOFFPR.

IRELAND

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

The Highway Rat (Ire), c, 3, **Dandy Man (Ire)**—Suzette de Bavay (Ire), by Whipper. Dundalk, 1-11, 7f (AWT), 1:28.02. B-Honeypig Stud (IRE).

Woodrow (Ire), c, 4, **Ivawood (Ire)**—Stormy Larissa (Ire), by Royal Applause (GB). Dundalk, 1-11, 6f (AWT), 1:13.54. B-Roger O'Dwyer (IRE). *€22,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; €7,500 Ylg '18 TIRSEP.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

KIZUNA FILLY WORKS HER MAGIC IN FAIRY S.

Fine Rouge (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}) made it two on the bounce with a come-from-behind victory in the G3 Fairy S. at Nakayama on Monday. Third choice on the board at 9-2, the bay outkicked fellow closers **Ho O Ixelles (Jpn)** (Rulership {Jpn}) by 2 1/2 lengths, while **Bella Nova (Jpn)** (Epiphaneia {Jpn}) took third another length behind.

Tiny Romance (Jpn) (Novelist {Ire}) seized command from the bell and Fine Rouge was relegated to the back third of the chasing pack. She made steady progress after the first quarter mile and had improved to midpack for the backstretch run. However, the Northern Farm-bred wasn't done and continued to rally, picking off foes and drawing within a length or so of the lead by the quarter pole. She loomed five deep out in the center of the course and kept finding more, bursting past the pacesetter inside the final 200 metres and motoring away to an impressive win. Both Ho O Ixelles and Bella Nova arrived on the scene too late to take top honours, but fought out the minor prizes. Favoured **Ten Happy Rose (Jpn)** (Epiphaneia {Jpn}) ran fourth another length back.

Runner-up at first asking going 1200 metres at Niigata in August, Fine Rouge broke her maiden upped 200 metres at Tokyo on Oct. 24.

Pedigree Notes

The first black-type winner from her sire's second crop, Fine Rouge is one of eight overall stakes winners for Kizuna (Jpn). Of the octet, six have struck at the group level. One of three winners from five foals of racing age, the newly minted sophomore has a juvenile half-brother by Mikki Isle (Jpn), a yearling half-brother by Satono Aladdin (Jpn) and her dam was

covered by Suave Richard (Jpn) last spring. Her second dam is responsible for G3 Niigata Nisai S. hero Sarastro (Jpn) (White Muzzle {Jpn}) and the GSP Prenotato (Jpn) (Jungle Pocket {Jpn}); while her third dam took the G3 Prix des Chenes in France and was third at the group level in Italy.

[Share this story](#) 

Monday, Nakayama, Japan

FAIRY S.-G3, ¥67,400,000 (US\$647,239/£479,981/€532,008), Nakayama, 1-11, 3yo, f, 1600mT, 1:34.40, fm.

1--FINE ROUGE (JPN), 119, f, 3, Kizuna (Jpn)

1st Dam: **Passion Rouge (Jpn)**, by **Boston Harbor**

2nd Dam: **Sexy Coconuts (Jpn)**, by **Dance in the Dark (Jpn)**

3rd Dam: **Coco Passion (Fr)**, by **Groom Dancer**

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 1ST GROUP WIN. (¥33,000,000 Wlg '18

JRHAGUL). O-Genichi Mutsui; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); T-Tetsuya Kimura; J-Christophe Lemaire. ¥35,560,000. Lifetime Record:

3-2-1-0. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree](#). Werk Nick Rating: A.

2--Ho O Ixelles (Jpn), 119, f, 3, Rulership (Jpn)--Mejiro Audrey (Jpn), by Special Week (Jpn). (¥16,000,000 Ylg '19 JRHAJUL). O-Yoshihisa Ozasa; B-Lake Villa Farm. ¥14,160,000.

3--Bella Nova (Jpn), 119, f, 3, Epiphaneia (Jpn)--Bella Regina (Jpn), by Neo Universe (Jpn). O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥8,880,000.

Margins: 2HF, 1, 1. Odds: 4.50, 19.80, 12.90.

Also Ran: Ten Happy Rose (Jpn), Next Story (Jpn), Tiny Romance (Jpn), Nishino Elsa (Jpn), Atomic Flare (Jpn), Shadow Fax (Jpn), Cool Cat (Jpn), Rastrillo (Jpn), Optimismo (Jpn), Pretty in Pink (Jpn), Glorieux Noir (Jpn), Kala Patthar (Jpn), Vip Elena (Jpn).

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Cumulative Lifetime Active Sires by Earnings

for stallions standing in Europe through Sunday, Jan. 10

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2021 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Galileo (Ire) <i>(1998) by Sadler's Wells FYR: 2003 Crops: 17</i>	305	484	210	357	84	156	1797 1183	10,530,964	242,549,572
	<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: Private</i>								<i>Highland Reel (Ire)</i>	
2	Dubawi (Ire) <i>(2002) by Dubai Millennium (GB) FYR: 2007 Crops: 13</i>	171	258	112	180	38	71	1143 825	7,726,701	158,147,549
	<i>Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £250,000</i>								<i>Benbatl (GB)</i>	
3	Pivotal (GB) <i>(1993) by Polar Falcon FYR: 1998 Crops: 22</i>	150	237	83	147	30	56	1355 963	7,865,831	105,315,512
	<i>Stands: Cheveley Park Stud Eng Fee: Pvt. African Story (GB)</i>									
4	Exceed and Excel (Aus) <i>(2000) by Danehill FYR: 2006 Crops: 14</i>	83	137	41	76	6	17	1206 778	7,674,105	88,878,023
	<i>Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: €40,000 Mr Stunning (Aus)</i>									
5	Invincible Spirit (Ire) <i>(1997) by Green Desert FYR: 2004 Crops: 16</i>	121	226	59	116	19	33	1445 992	2,250,214	85,422,905
	<i>Stands: Irish National Stud Ire Fee: €80,000 Moonlight Cloud (GB)</i>									
6	Rock of Gibraltar (Ire) <i>(1999) by Danehill FYR: 2004 Crops: 16</i>	82	162	43	84	7	19	1289 779	3,522,735	77,173,834
	<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €5,000 Eagle Mountain (GB)</i>									
7	Oasis Dream (GB) <i>(2000) by Green Desert FYR: 2005 Crops: 15</i>	121	200	58	119	17	38	1252 823	3,438,502	75,732,440
	<i>Stands: Banstead Manor Stud Eng Fee: £20,000 Midday (GB)</i>									
8	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire) <i>(2004) by Danehill FYR: 2008 Crops: 12</i>	69	130	33	55	8	18	989 654	8,028,921	73,209,787
	<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €12,500 Designs On Rome (Ire)</i>									
9	Teofilo (Ire) <i>(2004) by Galileo (Ire) FYR: 2009 Crops: 11</i>	80	131	41	75	16	29	796 482	10,117,877	63,136,134
	<i>Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: €30,000 Exultant (Ire)</i>									
10	Footstepsinthesand (GB) <i>(2002) by Giant's Causeway FYR: 2006 Crops: 13</i>	52	100	24	54	3	13	963 576	2,132,753	53,986,070
	<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €12,500 Beauty Flame (Ire)</i>									
11	Dark Angel (Ire) <i>(2005) by Acclamation (GB) FYR: 2009 Crops: 11</i>	67	124	34	72	7	20	1008 621	2,260,148	52,704,620
	<i>Stands: Yeomanstown Stud Ire Fee: €60,000 Battaash (Ire)</i>									
12	Acclamation (GB) <i>(1999) by Royal Applause (GB) FYR: 2005 Crops: 15</i>	55	131	24	69	5	17	1143 716	1,827,455	51,153,568
	<i>Stands: Rathbarry Stud Ire Fee: €27,500 Expert Eye (GB)</i>									
13	Fastnet Rock (Aus) <i>(2001) by Danehill FYR: 2011 Crops: 9</i>	46	76	28	46	9	20	556 333	1,854,318	49,235,730
	<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €50,000 Fiano Romano (Aus)</i>									
14	Sea the Stars (Ire) <i>(2006) by Cape Cross (Ire) FYR: 2011 Crops: 9</i>	73	122	45	82	14	28	600 393	3,704,719	48,576,708
	<i>Stands: Gilltown Stud Ire Fee: €150,000 Stradivarius (Ire)</i>									
15	Royal Applause (GB) <i>(1993) by Waajib (Ire) FYR: 1999 Crops: 21</i>	51	93	19	39	1	10	1168 703	1,452,396	45,619,453
	<i>Stands: The Royal Studs Eng Fee: Pvt. Ticker Tape (GB)</i>									

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FBA REFORM ATTRACTS NEW PLAYER



Craig Rounsefell & Henry Field | TDN AusNZ

by Bren O'Brien

The Federation of Bloodstock Agents Australia (FBAA) has capitalised on the momentum gained by the recent review of its Code of Ethics and membership criteria to attract new agents to the organisation, including respected international bloodstock figure, Mark Player.

The FBAA underwent a substantial change of leadership in late October which saw Craig Rounsefell of Boomer Bloodstock elected President of the organisation, with Dave Mee of Pinhook Bloodstock appointed Vice-President and Louis Le Metayer of Astute Bloodstock as Treasurer.

The leadership change came off the back of an extensive review FBAA's standards and membership criteria, conducted by Rounsefell, which resulted in the proposed implementation of a new Code of Ethics and a review of membership criteria, which were approved at the FBAA's most recent meeting of members in December.

"Since the new Code Of Ethics and membership criteria were brought in on October 30, we then moved forward working with Hamish Esplin, our legal counsel, to develop and completely replace the constitution, which was very outdated. That was done when we had a meeting a few days before Christmas," Rounsefell told TDN AusNZ.

"We put that to a vote and it was 22-1 in favour, almost unanimous. Through bringing in that new constitution, that then enacts the new Code of Ethics and membership criteria. It's a clear set of rules for the company, which everyone can understand."

The clarification of the role of the FBAA, and its commitment to transparency has proven a lure to others to join, with Player becoming a member at the December meeting.

Player has worked extensively in the thoroughbred industry, including with the Hong Kong Jockey Club as its Head Of International Races, Sale and Development, before returning to Australia to set up his bloodstock business, International Thoroughbred Solutions.

"The integrity principles recently introduced by the FBAA are an important standard for all bloodstock agents to respect. It made the Federation a must-join for me," Player said.

"The modern market we're operating in demands a higher measure of business conduct and the FBAA has leadership that advocates, promotes and upholds those standards for its members.

"The role of an agent is more important than ever, as travel limitations have meant more bloodstock buyers need on-the-ground assistance. It's great that Australia has such a strong Agents Federation to provide that buyer confidence in its members.

"Integrity has always been an important part of my business dealings, I'm proud to join the FBAA and be part of a group of colleagues that have those same standards and expectations."



Mark Player | TDN AusNZ



Vin Cox | Bronwen Healy

Rounsefell said Player was one of several agents who have expressed an interest in joining the FBAA since the changes were announced last year.

"There are quite few agents looking to join in the coming months based on the direction we are heading in. It's fantastic the way the members have got on board and really want to start driving things forward," he said.

Increasing Influence of Agents

The role of a bloodstock agent has become even more influential in the industry in the past 12 months, with travel restrictions preventing many buyers from attending sales across the world. Rounsefell said the FBAA changes were designed to provide investors with greater confidence, especially when they were not able to attend the sales themselves.

"This is going to be an important year for those buyers overseas who can't travel. They can use reputable, experienced agents that are bound by a strict set of standards," Rounsefell said.

The FBAA's Complaints Advisory Panel is empowered to oversee the Code of Ethics, which it hopes will help give the market assurance that agents will abide by the promise of greater transparency.

"If there is a complaint made about a member, there is a process in place to see that complaint through and to test its validity. If those rules are broken, we will be able to enforce them. They are there to be abided by and all the members have agreed and signed off for that," he said.

"That's one of the biggest things that sets our members apart. There are others who are operating out there, who aren't subject to the same code. There is not a process there to protect the client, should something go awry."

Rounsefell, Godolphin Australia's Managing Director Vin Cox

and Tartan Fields breeder and renowned solicitor Hamish Esplin make up the Complaints Advisory Panel.

Fbaa Pursues Broader Purpose

The changes in the FBAA are about much more than ethics and membership criteria, with a focus on promoting the work of bloodstock agents to the wider industry, generating a greater understanding of how agents operate.

"There's a lot of things in the works. There is a podcast series we are working on, and a lot of other different tools, which we are looking to action going forward. The website we are building will provide information for new buyers, and I think this year providing information like this will be as important as ever," Rounsefell said.

"There are also a lot of trainers who won't be able to get to the sales that they usually get to. The role of the agent will be as important as ever in 2021."

Rounsefell said it was also very important that bloodstock agents played a role in lowering the barrier of entry for those looking to invest in the thoroughbred industry, by enabling people to access their expertise with the assurance of transparency.

"It can be very daunting for new people entering the industry, and this process is very time consuming. We want to be able to provide advice for people who might be looking to breeding and stallion matings," he said.

"We are immersed in the industry and we are looking at it every single day. This is our full-time job. We aren't doing this in conjunction with anything else."

"We need to make it a clear path for new buyers that come in that they can seek out this professional expertise, as they would in any part of their businesses. There are people there to advise them and give them well-educated and sound advice for their investment."

Changes Well Received

The impact of the FBAA changes are set to be felt well beyond its membership base, with Rounsefell saying the overwhelming industry reaction to the changes has been very positive.

"Even walking around the sales here on the Gold Coast, it has been some time since I've seen a lot of the vendors and various people in the industry face-to-face, and the majority I go up to tell me they are completely behind the changes and it's a great direction we are heading in. They are all very supportive," he said.

"That's the way the industry is going. Transparency and integrity is important to the future success of the industry. The public and the buyers demand it, and I'm excited that the members are on board with it."

With the structures now in place, Rounsefell said it was important that the FBAA continued to push initiatives which fostered greater investment in the industry, while protecting its ongoing integrity.

"The past six months has been very important because to action change, you need to make significant adjustments and get the support to do that properly," he said.

"Having done that, has set the platform to go forward and focus on other issues about trying to draw in new buyers and educate them. There are significant advantages for these people to pursue an FBAA member."

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[Trainers Revealed for Racing League](#)

The Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale will begin at noon (AEST) on Tuesday. The sale will be covered in these pages over the coming days. Click [here](#) for an interview with Barry Bowditch.

2020/2021 Australian Group Races

Date	Race	Track
Jan. 22	G2 Australia S.	Mooney Valley
Jan. 26	G3 Blue Diamond Preview (f)	Caulfield
Jan. 30	G2 Expressway S. G3 Canonbury S. G3 Widden S. G3 Chairman's S. G3 Manfred S.	Rosehill Rosehill Rosehill Caulfield Caulfield
Feb. 6	G3 Eskimo Prince S. G1 C.F. Orr S. G2 Autumn S. G2 Blue Diamond Prelude (f) G2 Rubiton S. G3 Blue Diamond Prelude (c/g) G3 Carlyon Cup G3 Geoffrey Belmaine S. G3 Kevin Hayes S.	Warwick Farm Caulfield Caulfield Caulfield Caulfield Caulfield Caulfield Caulfield



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