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EMPIRE STRIKES BACK WITH MORELLO



Morello | *Coglianesse*

by Chris McGrath

If the early trials have produced a Derby horse to “rise without trace,” then that might well turn out to be **Morello** (**Classic Empire**). As winner of two sprints round Aqueduct this winter, he obviously still has a long way to go—in every sense. But there’s no mistaking his raw talent, nor the fact that we have only seen the tip of the iceberg even in that very stylish exhibition in the Jimmy Winkfield S.

Certainly Morello looks eligible to restore some deserved attention to his sire. Though they’re all gasping in the wake of the phenomenal **Gun Runner**, to me **Classic Empire** has been rather neglected among the four Ashford sires who featured among the next six in the freshman’s table last year. He’s standing this year at \$17,500—half his opening fee—and his fourth book came in at less than half of that assembled by **Practical Joke**, who has duly produced exactly the kind of precocious stock anticipated by all that sales buzz.

Yet **Classic Empire** laid very solid foundations with his first crop of juveniles, lacking only the kind of headline horse that so often covers a multitude of sins. Collectively they ranked fourth by prizemoney from 60 runners, fewer than each of his studmates: **Practical Joke** fielded 68, **Cupid** 75 and **Caravaggio**, having started his career in Europe, as many as 81. Five of **Classic Empire**’s 21 juvenile winners earned black type, including Classy Edition, who followed up her debut win at Saratoga with a couple of state-bred stakes. **Cont. p3**

BAFFERT LEGAL TEAM OPTIMISTIC AFTER KHRC HEARING

by Bill Finley

A full 289 days after the running of the 2021 GI Kentucky Derby, the Churchill Downs stewards finally got around Monday to holding a closed-door hearing regarding the positive post-race test for **Medina Spirit** (Protonico). And while a decision may not be imminent, Clark Brewster, the lawyer representing trainer Bob Baffert, emerged from the hearing hopeful that his side will prevail.

“Upon an honest and fair-minded review, Bob Baffert and Medina Spirit will be fully exonerated,” Brewster wrote in a text.

As has been the case with the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission (KHRC) since the running of last year’s Derby, the hearing was shrouded in secrecy, which left many questions unanswered. Brewster said he did not know when a decision would be announced. **Cont. p6**

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2022 LEADING SECOND CROP SIRES

(By cumulative Stakes winners)

1	Gun Runner	9
2	PRACTICAL JOKE	6
3	CARAVAGGIO	4
4	CLASSIC EMPIRE	3
-	CUPID	3

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PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Senior Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Editor

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

Racing Editor

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Deputy Editor

Christie DeBernardis @CDeBernardisTDN

Associate Editors

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

Joe Bianca @JBiancaTDN

Staff Writer

Patrycja Szpyra @QueenOfSuites

News and Features Editor

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Advertising Designers

Amanda Crelin

Amie Newcomb

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution

Kristen Zaidi

Advertising Assistant

Shoshana Rudski

Photographer/Photo Editor

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew
photos@thetdn.com

Social Media Strategist

Justina Severni

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Katie Petrunyak

Director of Customer Service

Vicki Forbes | customerservice@thetdn.com

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen @AlaynaCullen

Chief Financial Officer

Ray Villa

rayvilla@thetdn.com | accounting@thetdn.com

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

International Editor

Kelsey Riley @kelseynrileyTDN

kelseynriley@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry | emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary

caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com

Tuesday, February 15, 2022



2019 GI Belmont Oaks Invitational S. victress and MGSW Concrete Rose recently had her first foal, a filly by first-year sire *Instagrاند*. Katie Petrunyak visits the pair at Taylor Made Farm. | Photo courtesy of Taylor Made Farm

2022 MATING PLANS

7

Breeders Fred Hertrich and Rob Tribbett discuss 2022 mating plans for their broodmare band.

NOBLES IS BACK IN THE GAME

11

At 84, trainer Reynaldo Nobles is back in the game and celebrated his first win in eight years at Tampa Bay Downs.

CURLIN COLT FOR MIDNIGHT BISOU

12

Champion Midnight Bisou delivered her first foal, a colt by *Curlin*, at Hill 'n' Dale Monday.



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Empire Strikes Back with Morello (cont. from p1)

She had made \$550,000 as a Timonium 2-year-old, in the same session where Morello—who had similarly clocked :10 1/5--realized \$250,000 from BL Racing out of the Sequel Bloodstock draft. (He races in the silks of Blue Lion Thoroughbreds, Craig and Victoria Taylor.) That concluded his second pinhook cycle, having made \$200,000 as a yearling at Fasig-Tipton the previous year (sold to Autrey Bloodstock by Paramount Sales, in the same consignment as GII San Vicente S. winner Forbidden Kingdom {**American Pharoah**}); and \$140,000 when sold to American Equistock through Betz Thoroughbreds as a Keeneland November weanling.

Morello was bred in partnership by Robert Tillyer, who has meanwhile returned to Dixiana as farm manager after 18 years with Betz Thoroughbreds, and reproductive veterinarian Dr. Chet Blackey. They had bought his dam Stop



Social Inclusion | Lauren King

The Wedding (Congrats), a winner just once in 25 starts at claiming level, after breeding a good one from her half-sister Saint Bernadette (Saint Ballado).

Saint Bernadette had cost them just \$20,000 from Adena Springs as a 10-year-old at the 2009 Keeneland November sale and the following spring they sent her to the rookie Pioneer of The Nile. The result was eventual GI Preakness S. third Social Inclusion, who prompted Tillyer and Blackey to move privately for his dam's half-sister after he broke the Gulfstream track record in thrashing **Honor Code** (A.P. Indy) in an allowance on his second start.

Saint Bernadette became something of a goldmine thereafter. A brother to Social Inclusion made \$475,000 as a yearling; a **Curlin** colt brought \$575,000; and her last foal, a filly by **American Pharoah**, realized \$425,000.

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“We just felt she was one of those mares that deserved a chance,” recalls Tillyer. “She’d been graded stakes-placed, she was never off the board in eight starts, one of her early foals had made good money, and she was very attractive herself. So we got lucky, managing to buy her for that money and then breeding her to Pioneerof The Nile when he was just getting started. And then we got lucky again breeding her to **Curlin**, who was still only \$35,000, and would then make a great comeback before we sold that colt.

“Sadly we lost Saint Bernadette a couple of years ago, and overall she was just a bit unlucky with some of her offspring on the track. And it had looked like becoming a similar thing with Stop The Wedding. We were getting to the point where she was on the bubble, commercially, and opted to sell Morello as a weanling. He was always a lovely colt, really classy, and it was nice to see everybody making some money. Obviously Pat Costello [of Paramount] did a great job raising him, and I think he could have probably got a little more for him but for hitting the middle of a pandemic.”

As a son of Pioneerof The Nile, **Classic Empire** had been chosen for Stop The Wedding to try and hit the same kind of chord with the family as Social Inclusion.

“It was the usual thing of deciding what was going to be commercial, and what we could afford,” Tillyer says. “With where the mare was at the time, we couldn’t justify Pioneerof The Nile [standing at \$110,000 prior to his premature loss the following year], so we went with his son as the next best thing. **Classic Empire** was obviously a really talented horse, so it all made sense.”

If Tillyer’s record is anything to go by--besides being ahead of the curve with Pioneerof The Nile and **Curlin**, as just noted, he co-bred GII Fountain Of Youth winner Ete Indien (**Summer Front**) from a \$23,000 mare--then his approval augurs well for **Classic Empire**. But even the shrewdest horsemen need luck on their side and, having resolved to reorganise his own breeding interests on leaving Betz Thoroughbreds, he is now grateful that the market turned down the chance to buy Stop The Wedding at the 2020 Keeneland January sale. Instead, his good friend Nicky Drion stepped in to take a third after she failed to meet her reserve at \$11,000, and she now boards at Foxtale Farm.

“I don’t know what we’d have taken, to be honest, but obviously a lot more than she was making!” recalls Tillyer. “We knew she was a lovely mare. She’s nice-sized, pretty correct in front, and every foal she’s thrown has been beautiful. She’s just been a bit unfortunate with her offspring on the track.”

Voric Stables also got lucky in picking up the **Cairo Prince** filly Stop The Wedding was carrying that day, deep in the September sale for just \$16,000. They, too, will doubtless be following Morello’s progress with enthusiasm.

IMPRESSIVE BABIES!

Colt ex. **Celebrity Cat** (Storm Cat), already dam of Uncle Benny, a Belmont Park stakes winner at both 2 and 3 years



Filly ex. **Harriett Lane** (Giant’s Causeway), already dam of Graded Stakes performers Street Of Gold and Thomas Shelby



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“Yeah, it looks like he could be a good horse,” Tillyer says of Morello. “To me, knowing the family, he looks like a miler. But we'll see. Of course you'd love it if he can go a mile and a quarter. Time will tell and we're looking forward to seeing him in the [GIII] Gotham S. Mar. 5.”

With 50 starting points to the winner there, Morello could make it hard to turn down a tilt at the Derby. His first two dams are both by sons of venerable Classic influences in Congrats (A.P. Indy) and Runaway Groom (Blushing Groom {Fr}), and his fourth dam is by the sturdy turf/stamina influence Assagai. And of course **Classic Empire**, though a champion juvenile (and as precocious as they come from that sire-line), was consolidating as you would expect from his beautifully balanced pedigree when unfortunately derailing after a head defeat in the GI Preakness S.



Ete Indien | Ryan Thompson

Besides extending a resonant Classic sire-line, his maternal family is seeded through its first four generations by Cat Thief, Miswaki, Hoist The Flag and Princequillo. His third dam is a half-sister to champion sophomore filly Revidere (Reviewer) and the fifth dam, Alanesian (Polynesian), also features along the bottom line of Harlan's Holiday, Boldnesian and Ride The Rails. The lasting imprint shared by that trio, through Into Mischief, Bold Reasoning/Seattle Slew and **Candy Ride (Arg)**, qualify Alanesian as a real linchpin of the modern breed.

Overall I'm confident that **Classic Empire**, granted adequate support, will prove a most wholesome and progressive influence. We actually gave him a place on the Value Podium for this intake, in our annual winter survey of Kentucky stallions, and if that seems a dubious distinction then don't forget he has already caught up with his studmate **Practical Joke** once. Having dropped down the divisional standings when discarding his rider in the GI Hopeful S., where all the plaudits went to winner **Practical Joke**, he came through in the Fall to reduce his precocious rival to a distant third at the Breeders' Cup.



HONOR CODE

A. P. Indy – Serena's Cat, by Storm Cat

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But credit for Morello is obviously shared by his breeders. For Tillyer to be involved on the early Derby trail for the second time in three years is quite a remarkable achievement, at the level he operates in what is only a sideline to his day job.

Ete Indien was co-bred with another good friend, Eric Buckley, and sold as a Keeneland September yearling for \$80,000. His dam East India (Mizzen Mast) is still only 10. She is in foal to War Of Will and, so long as she doesn't deliver too late, eyeing a date with **Gun Runner** next. Her 3-year-old daughter by **Runhappy**, sold as a weanling for \$100,000, progressed to win a Churchill maiden for Rusty Arnold in November and is evidently well regarded.

Tillyer stresses that it was Buckley who was strongly interested by East India's deeper family, her dam being a half-sister to the important producers Words Of War and Ascutney (both by Lord At War {Arg}). And he says there's no big secret to his own eye for a mare: you obviously want something that will throw a good physical, and you don't want two blank dams when you come to sell. Bottom line is that Tillyer relishes ventures like this, with his buddies, as a fun ancillary to working for the ambitious farm where he first started out in Kentucky (under a previous ownership) a couple of decades ago and where he has already presided over the sale of its first ever seven-figure yearling, at Keeneland last September.

"It's funny how things work out, and to come full circle this way is fun," he says of his return to Dixiana. "Working for Bill and Donna Shively is a bit of a dream come true, they've done an amazing job putting together three farms and some very nice mares, and they're just great people to work for. I've been very lucky, all round, and I'm very thankful to the people who have supported me. Chet and I have been friends for 20 years now, he's always been one of my biggest supporters, always willing to go in on a partnership, whether it's a pinhook or a broodmare. When these things go right, it's a lot of fun. And this mare deserves a good runner."

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Baffert Legal Team Optimistic After KHRC Hearing *(cont. from p1)*

"How long is a string?" he texted, using a phrase that meant he did not know the answer and did not want to venture a guess.

Medina Spirit tested positive for the medication betamethasone.

Should the Churchill stewards decide to disqualify Medina Spirit, Brewster, Baffert and owner Amr Zedan would have the option of appealing the decision to an administrative law judge. It seems likely that's an option they would take in a legal battle that could drag on interminably.



Medina Spirit | Coady Photography

At first Baffert denied that Medina Spirit had ever been treated with betamethasone, but then changed his story. He said the horse was treated with a skin ointment before the Derby to deal with a rash and the ointment contained betamethasone. The Baffert team subsequently had a split sample from the race tested and said it proved that the betamethasone came from the ointment, which meant that it was not injected into the horse, something that, possibly could have improved performance. The stewards may decide that it does not matter where the drug came from and that its presence in Medina Spirit warrants a suspension, no matter the circumstances.

"We are now left to trust that the stewards will apply the uncontroverted facts to the Kentucky Racing rules as they are written," Brewster said in his text. **Cont. p7**



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Brewster continued, “Medina Spirit was treated by veterinarian prescription with a topical salve for a skin infection. The Kentucky rules expressly permit use of topical salves and the treatment given to Medina did not violate any rule. The post-race specimen positive reporting 21 picograms of betamethasone was caused by the topical salve. The Kentucky Rules (and all other jurisdictions) restrict only Betamethasone Acetate or Sodium Phosphate (which appears in a horse’s system when injected with betamethasone). These formulations are Injectable solutions into a horse’s intra-articular joint. Medina Spirit was never injected with betamethasone and the evidence presented today proved that conclusively.”

Brewster wrote that Baffert has been treated unfairly.

“The false narrative regarding this case was sprung early and spread widely by uninformed or malevolent accusers and spread by careless reporting,” he said.

Even should the stewards decide to maintain Medina Spirit as the winner, Baffert could still be on the outside looking in when it comes to the 2022 and 2023 Derbies. He is under a two-year suspension issued by Churchill Downs and the track would be under no obligation to lift its ban if Baffert is cleared by the KHRC.

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Hertrich said he enjoys the in-depth strategic project that comes with drawing up mating plans for his commercial breeding operation each year. With over 100 mares visiting the breeding shed this year, the process is far from a one-day task.



Americanrevolution (**Constitution**), one of six Grade I winners for Hertrich’s breeding operation in 2021 | Sarah Andrew

2022 MATING PLANS

MATING PLANS: HERTRICH SEEKING THE LONG GAME IN A RISKY GAME

by Katie Petrunyak

Fred Hertrich III, along with partners John Fielding and Rob Tribbett, celebrated an exceptional year after their breeding program produced six Grade I winners in 2021:

Americanrevolution (**Constitution**), Beyond Brilliant (**Twirling Candy**), Hit The Road (**More Than Ready**), Juju’s Map (Liam’s Map), Maxim Rate (Exchange Rate) and Pinehurst (**Twirling Candy**).

Such an achievement has led to many asking Hertrich the warranted question, ‘What’s your secret?’

He doesn’t have one good answer other than this: “There’s no magic to it, but there is a secret sauce and that sauce is luck,” he said.

“Think of all the people involved in getting a horse to the winner’s circle for a Grade I,” Hertrich said. “One day we counted it up and guessed that 60 different individuals were involved in the process from when the mare was bred and when she foaled through when the foal went through the sale, and then the foal can take varied paths based on where it’s broken, who trains it and of course the jockey. All you have to have is one glitch in that entire process and that horse may never even get to the track.”

Before breeding season begins each year, Hertrich will sit down with a panel that includes partner John Fielding, partner/advisor Rob Tribbett and Shane Doyle, the farm manager for Hertrich’s Watercress Farm who Hertrich refers to as the conformation expert of the group.

As the panel makes plans for their young mares, Hertrich said their number one goal is to get winners on the mare’s progeny record early in her career.



“They have to produce a horse that can run so that everyone can look and say that mare is a great producer,” he explained. “If a mare can’t produce runners, it really doesn’t matter how well her foals sell.”

According to Hertrich, this approach doesn’t necessarily mean that an unproven mare will always visit a proven stallion.

“We do some analytics with it and while you’re trying to get a runner, it may be that a first-crop sire conformationally and genetically fits that mare better than anything else. For the six Grade I winners we had, they are by five different stallions. It’s not an exact science and that’s why the guy with the most money doesn’t always win.”



Fred Hertrich | Keeneland

When evaluating mares that have already produced runners, he said it comes down to the balancing act of producing a horse that will have commercial appeal but can also conceivably have success on the track.

“It becomes an economic decision as to how do we maximize value of the foals from that particular mare with a mating that will give us the individual that will produce the best results,” he said. “We always lean toward [a focus on] race performance.”

Hertrich’s strategy is perhaps atypical for many commercial breeders pointing their foals for the sales.

“There are some guys who just breed commercially and they’re always trying to get Miss America into the yearling ring,” he explained. “That’s great, except can Miss America go out and run? If she doesn’t, you’re only going to trick the market for so long.”

Hertrich acknowledged that his program does have the luxury of not always needing to have progeny by the flavor-of-the-month sire to have success at the sales because many people seek out horses coming from his operation.

“The great thing is that over time, because of the results owners and trainers have had with us, we have built-in clients who come to the farm and want to buy from us because they know how we raise a horse and care for a horse, so they want to be involved in that process.”

While Hertrich always has his eye on the long game in this business, he acknowledges the high risk involved in the game he plays, citing how just last week they had a dystocia with one mare and ended up losing the foal but then had two healthy fillies on the ground three hours later.

“When someone says they want to go into the breeding business, I always tell them to make sure they really look at it before they get into it,” he said. “The breeding business is not for the faint of heart. How many great horses either are never foaled or get injured? It’s a high-risk game.”

Hertrich passed the baton to advisor and partner Rob Tribbett to discuss mating plans for a few of their top mares.

ALWAYS AUDITIONING (m, 16, Mizzen Mast – Nawal (FR), by Homme de Loi (Ire)) to be bred to Catholic Boy

Always Auditioning is the dam of GII SW Ready to Act (**More Than Ready**). This year we are booking her to **Catholic Boy**. He’s a horse that we are obviously a bit biased on because we bred him, but we’re big believers in him with not only the speed that he showed but also his determination and versatility. There aren’t many stallion that have done what he’s done on the track. This mating will produce a three-quarters sibling to Ready to Act, who of course is by **More Than Ready**.

BRAZEN PERSUASION (m, 11, Indian Charlie – Beholden, by Cat Thief) to be bred to McKinzie

This mare was a recent purchase of ours at the November Sale last year. She was a really good 2-year-old. She won the 2013 GIII Schuylerville S.

We are going to breed her to **McKinzie**, who is a horse that we really like because he was brilliant at two as a Grade I winner, but he was also durable enough to be a Grade I winner at three and four. We also love that **McKinzie**’s dam, Runway Model (Petionville), won the GII Alcibiades S. We love to breed to those stallions that have a pedigree full of brilliance. I like this mating a lot because you’re taking the brilliance of the mare, who was such a good 2-year-old, and putting it with a lot of speed from both **McKinzie** and his dam.

CATCH MY EYE (m, 13, Unbridled’s Song – Sharp Eyes, by Storm Cat) to be bred to Curlin

This is the dam of GISW Maxim Rate (Exchange Rate). She’s by Unbridled’s Song, who we know is one of the best broodmare sires out there.

This year we are sending her to **Curlin**. Maxim Rate is a turf filly, but with matching this mare's pedigree to **Curlin**, we think it's a chance to produce that successful Classic-type runner. We think it's certainly within this mare's range of ability and **Curlin** is obviously one of the best stallions out there when it comes to getting that type of horse.

HOT CHA (m, 7, Bernardini – Hot Water, by Medaglia d'Oro) to be bred to Not This Time

Hot Cha is a young Bernardini mare that is from the family of champion Xtra Heat (Dixieland Heat). Again, I love mares that have speed in their family and there aren't too many fillies faster than Xtra Heat. This mare is a half to Hot and Sultry (Speightster), who just won really impressively at Oaklawn.

We are going to breed her to **Not This Time**. We think that the start he's gotten at stud with a lower stud fee was really impressive and is the mark of a stallion who could end up being a top-tier stallion after succeeding with those mares bred on a lower stud fee. As he gets these better books, I think the sky is really the limit for him.

LUNAR EMPRESS (m, 9, Malibu Moon – Holy Princess, by Holy Bull) to be bred to Liam's Map

This mare is from a really good family of stakes producers and she was very talented on the racetrack herself. She was a maiden special weight winner at Santa Anita and was fourth in the GI La Brea S. She's by Malibu Moon, who is another good broodmare sire.

We are going to breed her to Liam's Map, the sire of GISW Juju's Map that we bred in 2019. We're trying to raise runners; that's our main goal and then the commercial thing comes after that. Liam's Map certainly gives you a chance to have a great runner and they're going to be commercially-appealing horses as well.

MISS ARRANGEMENT (m, 11, Mr. Greeley – Shy Greeting (Arg), by Shy Tom) to be bred to Honor A.P.

Miss Arrangement was a maiden special weight winner on debut at Keeneland and she already had a yearling sell at Saratoga for \$400,000.

We are going to breed her to **Honor A. P.** He's a horse that we have a lot of confidence in. He was such a talented horse and the win he had over Authentic in the GI Santa Anita Derby was really an impressive race. Like **McKinzie**, he's out of a top-class race mare which I think is such an added benefit when you're looking at a stallion prospect.

MO MUSIC (m, 4, Uncle Mo – Harmony Lodge, by Hennessy) to be bred to Authentic

Mo Music is carrying her first foal by **Street Sense** now. She is out of Harmony Lodge, who was another filly with a lot of speed. It's a really great female family.

We will be sending her to Authentic. With the natural speed that Authentic had and the stamina he had to carry that speed, we think it is a great match with this mare because there's already so much speed and class coming from her family.



Nagambie's 2021 **Audible** filly that topped Book 5 of the Keeneland November Sale | photo courtesy Rob Tribbett

NAGAMBIE (m, 9, Flatter – Charming N Lovable, by Horse Chestnut (SAF)) to be bred to Gun Runner

This is the dam of GISW Juju's Map (Liam's Map). She is currently in foal to **Not This Time**, who is the brother of Juju's Map's sire. This year she will be going to **Gun Runner**. Other than maybe **Uncle Mo**, it's hard to recollect another horse that had such a good first crop. **Gun Runner** was such a good racehorse and there's really no holes to him as a sire.

POLLY FREEZE (m, 9, Super Saver – Elusive Gold, by Strike the Gold) to be bred to Constitution

This is the dam of Americanrevolution (**Constitution**), who won the 2021 GI Cigar Mile H., as well as Bold Journey (**Hard Spun**), who just ran second in the Gander S. on Saturday. Polly Freeze has a really good **Collected** 2-year-old filly that brought \$210,000 as a yearling and she is currently in foal to **Frosted**. She's a mare that makes a really good foal and she's from a family of really good producers.

We're going to send her back to **Constitution**. Some people say that he's the next great stallion, but I would say he's already a great stallion with what he's done on these lower-priced books. That's the mark of what his sire did and what Into Mischief has done that makes them a breed-changing stallion when they can succeed with a variety of mares.

SUMMER ON THE LAWN (m, 12, First Defence – Summer Exhibition, by Royal Academy) to be bred to Charlatan

This is the dam of GISW Beyond Brilliant (**Twirling Candy**). She is booked to **Charlatan**. We were fortunate to be a part of his racing career as owners. He had so much speed and an ability to carry that speed a distance. Beyond Brilliant also has speed that can carry on both surfaces and I certainly think **Charlatan** could produce dual-surface runners given his pedigree.



Bold Journey (Hard Spun), the half-brother to GISW Americanrevolution, recently ran second in a stakes at Aqueduct for Bill Mott | photo courtesy Rob Tribbett

SWEET CAUSE (m, 7, Giant’s Causeway – Sweetness ‘n Light, by Distorted Humor)

We are big believers in Giant’s Causeway mares and Sweet Cause is from the family of MGISW Ms. Eloise (Nasty and Bold). We love mares with that type of race filly in her pedigree.

She will be booked to **Catalina Cruiser**. He is a horse that we really like and his first crop looked the part, which really didn’t surprise us much because he is a beautiful horse. He’s a big horse but he had a lot of speed for a big horse. We are going to be supporting him heavily this year.

YEAR OF PROMISE (m, 9, Gio Ponti – Shandra Smiles, by Cahill Road) to be bred to Twirling Candy

This mare is a half-sister to two Grade I winners—She’s a Tiger (Tale of the Cat) and Smiling Tiger (Hold That Tiger). This year she will be going to **Twirling Candy**. Of our Grade I winners in 2021, two of them were by **Twirling Candy**. When we bred those mares he stood for \$20,000 and really the best is yet to come for him.

This mare has already had a **More Than Ready** and a **Constitution** and now she will have a **Twirling Candy**. When we breed these young mares, we love to give them shots with these types of stallions. If she’s going to be a producer, these stallions will get her there. **Twirling Candy** is rightfully now at that stud fee range where he’s proven that he belongs.

The two Grade I winners that we produced were a dirt 2-year-old and a turf horse, so that’s a pretty impressive display of versatility.

Let us know who you're breeding your mares to in 2022, and why. We will print a selection of your responses in TDN over the coming weeks. Please send details to: garyking@thetdn.com.

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SIRES WITH NEW SWs/GSWs

**FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 13, 2022
NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS**

Sire (Sire’s Sire)	#SWs	#GSWs
Acclamation (Unusual Heat) <i>(Appreciated--Listed Curlin S.)</i>	5	1
Into Mischief (Harlan's Holiday) <i>(Drop A Hint--Minaret S.)</i>	108	47
Quality Road (Elusive Quality) <i>(Blackadder--El Camino Real Derby)</i>	56	30
Street Sense (Street Cry {Ire}) <i>(Azure Coast--G3 UAE 2000 Guineas)</i>	72	30

Italics indicate new activity, statistics include results for Northern Hemisphere-sired foals only. Want to promote your stallion? Email suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com.



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AT 84, REYNALDO NOBLES IS BACK IN THE GAME *by Bill Finley*

For Reynaldo Nobles, it was nice to have something to do. His jobs over the last few years included working as a security guard at Palm Meadows and as school crossing guard. But even as he got into his early eighties, he never gave up on the idea of training horses again. His dream became a reality last month at Tampa Bay Downs. Now 84 and more than eight years after he had run his last horse, Nobles was back in the entries and back in the winner's circle. The win was delivered by a \$10,000 claimer named **Indian Buzz (Creative Cause)**, who is owned by Nobles's daughter, Jennifer.

"This is his motivation and it keeps him going every day," Jennifer Nobles said. "It keeps him so happy. He still watches horse racing every day. Just to be a part of it again has been a dream come true."



Dehere breaks his maiden at Monmouth Park in the fifth race on 6/30/93 with Joe Bravo up. In the winners circle are Owner Robert Brennan (3rd from L) and Trainer Reynaldo Nobles (C).

Bill Denver/EQUI-PHOTO

Nobles, a native of Cuba, started his first horse in the U.S. in 1971 and won a training title at Gulfstream in 1983. He got his big break when Robert Brennan hired him to be his private trainer. He trained Deputy Minster during the latter part of his career and was the trainer of Dehere. A sensation as a 2-year-old, Dehere was named juvenile champion in 1993 after winning the GIII Sanford S, the GII Saratoga Special S., the GI Hopeful and the GI Champagne.

Brennan's legal problems, which included his conviction in 2001 on money laundering and bankruptcy fraud, meant the end of his Due Process Stable. For Nobles, the days of training quality stakes horses were over. He won only six races in 2004 and stepped away from the game for seven years. He launched a comeback in 2011 and had his best year in 23 years when

sending out 36 winners in 2013. But health problem caught up with him.

"I had a little problem with arthritis and it was getting bad so I decided to stop," he said.

Nobles still has physical issues that might have stood in his way of a comeback, but his daughter figured out a way to work around them. Her teenage son, Anthony, 19, got involved in racing and started working as a hotwalker and a groom. He could do the heavy lifting for his grandfather and Nobles could teach his grandson the business.

"Anthony has pretty much grown up with the horses," Jennifer Nobles said. "So I figured it's now time for us to start a family business. He helps my dad. My dad can't walk as good as he used to. It's a little bit harder for him to get back and forth, but with my son now helping him it's a lot easier."

Jennifer Nobles has owned Indian Buzz for about a year and had been using Tony Wilson as her trainer. With the timing right for her father to take over, Nobles was listed as the trainer for the Jan. 23 race, which Indian Buzz won by three-quarters of a length.

"To do this along with my grandson really makes me feel good," said Nobles, who lives with his daughter and grandson in Tampa. "It feels very good to be able to work with the horses again."



In the winner's circle with Indian Buzz | SV Photography

Nobles was a Monmouth Park mainstay for years and the plan is for him to return to the Jersey Shore track this summer. His daughter said she will be on the lookout for a few more horses for him to train.

"My father is so excited to be back," Jennifer Nobles said. "This is so good for him."

CURLIN COLT FOR MIDNIGHT BISOU

Champion **Midnight Bisou** (**Midnight Lute**) gave birth to her first foal, a colt by Horse of the Year **Curlin**, Hill 'n' Dale Farms and owners Allen Racing and Andrew Yaffe announced Monday evening.

"This colt was born to be a champion," said Jeff Bloom, founder of Bloom Racing, who purchased Midnight Bisou for \$80,000 at the 2017 OBS April sale. "He is the personification of the age-old adage 'breed the best to the best and hope for the best.' This exciting colt ushers in the next chapter in our amazing champion's story."



Curlin--Midnight Bisou colt | Hill 'n' Dale photo

Never out of the money in any of her 22 career starts for co-owners Bloom Racing, Madaket Stables LLC and Allen Racing LLC., the well-traveled mare raced at 10 tracks and was awarded an Eclipse Award in 2019 as champion older dirt female. Her Grade I victories came in the Santa Anita Oaks, Cotillion S., Apple Blossom H., Ogden Phipps S., and the Personal Ensign S.

Chuck Allen bought out the partners on the mare when acquiring her for \$5 million at the 2020 Fasig-Tipton November Sale.

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February 9, 2022
Todd Pletcher Talks Life Is Good, Colonel Liam, Top 3YOs



Seeing **RED?**

Click on a **stallion's name** to learn more about them on their page on the farm's website.



KBIF AWARDS \$15.9 MILLION IN 2021

The 2021 Kentucky Thoroughbred Breeders' Incentive Funds (KBIF) distributed funds totaling \$15.9 million to the state's breeders, the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission announced Monday.

"Every Thoroughbred farm, big or small, contributes to the equine industry's combined economic impact of \$6.5 billion, which also employs 60,494 Kentuckians," said Gov. Andy Beshear. "Kentucky is known as the 'Horse Capital of the World' for a reason and it's important we support those in this industry to ensure its continued success."

The KBIF is funded through a percentage of the sales tax paid when a stallion is bred to a mare in Kentucky. Since the fund's inception, more than \$200 million has been distributed to Kentucky breeders for winning eligible races worldwide.

Kentucky-bred horses won 315 group/graded races in 2021. The winners of 4,412 races, including 299 graded races, received an award from the KBIF.

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FHBPA BALLOTS IN THE MAIL

The ballots for the 2022 Election of the Florida Horsmen's Benevolent and Protective Association Board of Directors were sent out Monday. The FHBPA has hired Election Services Co. as its independent third-party election provider. Ballots will be sent by email to all FHBPA members who have a valid email address on file or by paper ballot to the mailing address on file if there is no email address available. Election day is set for Mar. 15.

A total of seven candidates will run in the election: owners Adam Lazarus, Troy Levy, and David Rousso; and trainers Kathy Davey, Michael Lerman, Joe Orseno, and Terri Pompay. Outgoing President Stephen Screnci has withdrawn his name from consideration for the 2022 FHBPA Election.

[Click here](#) for more information on the election.

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UK AG EQUINE SCIENCE TEAMS WITH BGFC FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

The University of Kentucky Ag Equine Program's Wildcat Wrangler equine student ambassador team has selected Blue Grass Farms Charities (BGFC) as their agency of choice for the semester for community service.

Club members will host a 'canned food, cleaning and hygiene' drive from Feb. 14-25 and will be collecting 'springtime' toys for farm children to play with outside on sunny days.

“We cannot wait to start collecting donations and distributing them to the community while connecting with the equine industry,” said sophomore Jen Zimmerman, a 'Wildcat Wrangler' in the UK equine science and management program.

From Feb. 28 through Mar. 3, the Wildcat Wranglers will meet at the charity to deliver food from Lexington's 'God's Pantry' distribution center to area farms and plan on restocking and organizing the pantry. Farms participating include Mill Ridge, Dixiana Farm and Don Alberto.

“There are days when you just can't reach everyone,” said Julie Kwasniewski, director of BGFC. “But then there's outreach of love and support like this, which brings hope to our farm families who work so hard keeping the horse and land healthy and safe.” The mission of the BGFC is to provide health and human services to those working in the Thoroughbred industry in Central Kentucky. The BGFC pantry is open Tuesday through Thursday.

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FOALING NEWS

VIA VILLAGGIO, 13, Bernardini--Hoh Buzzard (Ire), by Alhaarth (Ire)

Foal born Feb. 6, a filly by **Collected**.

Will be bred back to **Collected**.

Owned by and boarded at Woodford Thoroughbreds.

Accomplishments: GSW & GISP, \$373,419. Dam of Doubly Blessed (Empire Maker), GSP, \$243,730.



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Perfect timing! Chatham celebrated her daughter (American Heroine)'s victory at Gulfstream Sunday, by giving birth overnight to this strapping **Curlin** colt at Stone Farm. Chatham, a shrewd \$190,000 purchase by Arthur Hancock at Keeneland November in 2009, has produced six winners to date including the MG1SW Air Force Blue. | Sara Fagan

Saturday, Fair Grounds #13, post time: 6:58 p.m. EST

RISEN STAR S. PRESENTED BY LAMARQUE FORD-GII, \$400,000, 3yo, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Pappacap	Gun Runner	Rustlewood Farm, Inc.	Casse	Gaffalione	122
2	Russian Tank 🦄	Tourist	Glockenburg LLC	Dorochenko	Vega	122
3	Trafalgar	Lord Nelson	Columbine Stable LLC.	Stall, Jr.	Hernandez	122
4	Tawny Port 🦄	Pioneerof the Nile	Peachtree Stable	Cox	Geroux	122
5	Epicenter 🦄	Not This Time	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	122
6	Pioneer of Medina 🦄	Pioneerof the Nile	Sumaya U.S. Stable	Pletcher	Saez	122
7	Zandon 🦄	Upstart	Jeff Drown	Brown	Ortiz	122
8	Smile Happy 🦄	Runhappy	Lucky Seven Stable	McPeck	Lanerie	122
9	Bodock	Street Boss	Calumet Farm	Cox	Pedroza, Jr.	122
10	Slow Down Andy	Nyquist	Reddam Racing LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	122

Breeders: 1-Rustlewood Farm, Inc., 2-WinStar Farm, LLC, 3-Machmer Hall, 4-WinStar Farm, LLC, 5-Westwind Farms, 6-International Equities Holding, Inc., 7-Brereton C. Jones, 8-Moreau Bloodstock Int'l Inc. & White Bloodstock LLC, 9-Calumet Farm, 10-Reddam Racing, LLC

Saturday, Fair Grounds #12, post time: 6:27 p.m. EST

RACHEL ALEXANDRA S. PRESENTED BY FASIG-TIPTON-GII, \$300,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	La Crete	Medaglia d'Oro	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	122
2	North County	Not This Time	Hillen, Rebecca, Stonecrest Farm & De Julio, Bruno	Walsh	Beschizza	122
3	Miss Mattie B 🦄	Tonalist	Westlake Racing Stable	Hess, Jr.	Smith	122
4	Dream Lith	Medaglia d'Oro	Cypress Creek Equine and Bennewith, Arnold	Diodoro	Vazquez	122
5	Divine Huntress	Divining Rod	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners & Long Valley Stables	Motion	Ortiz	122
6	Candy Raid 🦄	Candy Ride (Arg)	Don't Tell My Wife Stables & Desormeaux, J. Keith	Desormeaux	Riquelme	122
7	Turnerloose 🦄	Nyquist	Thrash, Ike and Dawn	Cox	Geroux	122
8	Goddess of Fire	Mineshaft	Red Oak Stable	Pletcher	Saez	122
9	Awake At Midnyte 🦄	Nyquist	Reddam Racing LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	122
10	California Angel 🦄	California Chrome	Chris Walsh	Leonard, III	Parker	122
11	Hidden Connection 🦄	Connect	Hidden Brook Farm and Black Type Thoroughbreds	Calhoun	Gutierrez	122

Breeders: 1-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 2-Shadow Pond Stable, 3-R. S. Evans, 4-Southern Equine Stables, LLC, 5-Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky L. Buckley & Joshua Dreiband, 6-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 7-William Humphries & Altair Farms LLC, 8-Red Oak Stable, 9-Forty Oaks, 10-Irish National Stud, 11-St. Simon Place



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Saturday, Fair Grounds #10, post time: 5:25 p.m. EST**MINESHAFT S.-GIII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Sprawl	City Zip	Claiborne Farm and Dilschneider, Adele B.	Drury, Jr.	Gaffalione	118
2	Silver Prospector 🌿	Declaration of War	Orr, Ed and Orr, Susie	Asmussen	Rosario	118
3	Title Ready	More Than Ready	Charles E. Fipke	Stewart	Gutierrez	118
4	Olympiad 🌿	Speightstown	Grandview Equine, Cheyenne Stable & LNJ Foxwoods	Mott	Alvarado	118
5	Miles D 🌿	Curlin	Brant, Peter M. and LaPenta, Robert V.	Brown	Ortiz	122
6	Fort Peck	Fort Larned	Flying P Stable	Diodoro	Vazquez	118
7	Midcourt 🌿	Midnight Lute	C R K Stable LLC	Shirreffs	Geroux	118
8	O Besos	Orb	Bernard Racing LLC, Tagg Team Racing, West Point Thoroughbreds and Stephens, Terry L.	Foley	Hernandez, Jr.	118
9	Happy American 🌿	Runhappy	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Pessin	Graham	118
10	Untreated 🌿	Nyquist	Team Valor International, LLC	Pletcher	Saez	118
11	Big Dreaming	Declaration of War	Frank Carl Calabrese	Catalano	Loveberry	118

Breeders: 1-Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider, 2-Hargus Sexton, Sandra Sexton & Silver Fern Farm, LLC, 3-Charles Fipke, 4-Emory A. Hamilton, 5-River Bend Farm, 6-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC, 7-Dixiana Farms LLC, 8-L. Barrett Bernard, 9-Claiborne Farm, 10-Ashview Farm & Old Oak Farm, 11-Frank C. Calabrese

Saturday, Fair Grounds #11, post time: 5:56 p.m. EST**FAIR GROUNDS S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Cavalry Charge	Honor Code	West Point Thoroughbreds, Sandbrook, William & Masiello, Robert	Stewart	Hernandez, Jr.	118
2	Forty Under	Uncle Mo	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Murrill	122
3	Santin	Distorted Humor	Godolphin, LLC	Walsh	Gaffalione	118
4	Major Fed	Ghostzapper	Lloyd Madison Farms, IV LLC	Foley	Geroux	118
5	Monarchs Glen (GB) 🌿	Frankel (GB)	Hui, Michael M. and WSS Racing, LLC	Maker	Alvarado	118
6	Adhamo (Ire)	Intello (Ger)	Dubb, Michael, Madaket Stables & Lazzinnaro, Louis	Brown	Ortiz	118
7	Halo Again 🌿	Speightstown	Winchell Thoroughbreds & Willis Horton Racing	Asmussen	Rosario	122
8	Captivating Moon	Malibu Moon	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Block	Loveberry	118
9	Point Me By 🌿	Point of Entry	Homewrecker Racing LLC	Kenneally	Beschizza	118
10	Largent 🌿	Into Mischief	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners & Twin Creeks Racing Stables, LLC	Pletcher	Saez	118
11	Two Emmys 🌿	English Channel	Wolfe Racing LLC and Robertson, Hugh H.	Robertson	Graham	118

Breeders: 1-Glencrest Farm LLC, 2-Cedar Hill LLC, 3-Godolphin, 4-Lloyd Madison IV, LLC, 5-Juddmonte Farms Ltd, 6-Wertheimer et Frere, 7-Anderson Farms Ont. Inc., 8-Lothenbach Stables Inc, 9-Winchester Farm, 10-Lazy Lane Farms, LLC, 11-Tottenwood Thoroughbreds, Inc.



Saturday, Laurel #8, post time: 3:55 p.m. EST

BARBARA FRITCHIE S.-GIII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Fille d'Esprit	Great Notion	C J I Phoenix Group and No Guts No Glory Farm	Robb	Perez	122
2	Glass Ceiling 🌿	Constitution	Baker, Charlton and Foster, Michael S.	Baker	Davis	122
3	Kaylasaurus	Munnings	Bush Racing Stable, Liberty House Racing, Black Ridge Stables LLC and Saufley, George	Kreiser	Hernandez	122
4	Regal Retort 🌿	Jimmy Creed	Charlton, David, MarchFore Thoroughbreds and Bradley Thoroughbreds	Asmussen	Ruiz	122
5	Prodigy Doll 🌿	Shanghai Bobby	HnR Nothhaft Horse Racing, LLC	Schoenthal	Toledo	122
6	Bold Confection 🌿	Candy Ride (Arg)	Ben Rollins	Servis	Pennington	122
7	Jakarta	Bustin Stones	Three Diamonds Farm	Trombetta	Carrasco	122
8	Belle of the North	Street Boss	Stronach Stables	Corrales	Karamanos	122

Breeders: 1-Sweet Spirits Stables, LLC, 2-Twin Creeks Farm, 3-Arrowwood Farm, Inc, 4-Robert Landry & Glenna Laureano, 5-Tolo Thoroughbreds & Michael A. Spirito, 6-Twin Hopes Farm, LLC, 7-Arrowwood Farm, Inc, 8-Adena Springs

Saturday, Laurel #9, post time: 4:27 p.m. EST

GENERAL GEORGE S.-GIII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	War Tocsin 🌿	Violence	Trin-Brook Stables, Inc.	St. Lewis	Haddock	122
2	Cordmaker	Curlin	Hillwood Stable LLC	Jenkins	Carrasco	122
3	Shackqueenking 🌿	Shackleford	Pocket 3's Racing LLC	Capuano	Rodriguez	122
4	Sir Alfred James 🌿	Munnings	Built Wright Stables, LLC.	Cash	-	122
5	Threes Over Deuces 🌿	Flat Out	Pocket 3's Racing LLC	Capuano	Perez	122
6	Timeless Bounty	Elusive Hour	Willow's Green Stables, LLC	Wilson, Jr	Franklin	124
7	Air Token	Golden Lad	Corrales Racing, LLC	Corrales	Acosta	122

Breeders: 1-Hare Forest Farm, Ltd., 2-Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss, 3-Ledgelands LLC & Andrew C. Ritter, 4-Mt. Joy Stables, Pope McLean, Marc McLean & Pope McLean Jr., 5-Machmer Hall & Montese LLC, 6-Elkhorn Oaks Inc., 7-Carol Ann Kaye



NORTH AMERICAN RACING



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 2021 Stud Fees Listed

American Freedom (Pulpit), Airdrie Stud, \$6,000
191 foals of racing age/25 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Mahoning Valley, 1:40 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Juju Nineteen, 7-2

Keen Ice (Curlin), Calumet Farm, \$7,500
191 foals of racing age/20 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Mahoning Valley, 3:04 p.m. EST, Alw 6f, She's Pure Silver, 3-1
\$4,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$15,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Klimt (Quality Road), Jockey Club of Turkey, \$7,500
282 foals of racing age/32 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Mahoning Valley, 1:40 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Dondada, 5-1



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IN JAPAN:

Conch Pearl, f, 3, **American Pharoah**. See 'US-Bred & -Sired
Winners in Japan'

Maschietta, f, 3, **Into Mischief**. See 'US-Bred & -Sired Winners in
Japan'

Air Fanditha, h, 5, **Hat Trick (Jpn)**. See 'US-Bred & -Sired Winners
in Japan'

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Black Musk, c, 4, **Flat Out**--Upjumpedthedevil, by Tizdejavu.
Seoul, 2-12, Hcp. (C2), 1400m. B-Scott Moran (KY). *\$10,000
Ylg '19 FTKOCT; \$35,000 2yo '20 OBSJUN. **VIDEO (SC 5)**

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Mighty Chip, c, 4, **Uncaptured**--Baganara (SP-Can, \$292,802), by
Peaks and Valleys. Seoul, 2-12, Hcp. (C3), 1800m. B-Kelly
Callaghan (FL). *\$23,000 Ylg '19 OBSOCT. **VIDEO (SC 6)**

Iron Socks, h, 5, **Mineshaft**--Centurian Lady, by Cat Thief. Seoul,
2-13, Hcp. (C1), 1800m. B-V Gail Ray (KY). *\$65,000 Wlg '17
KEENOV; \$42,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$37,000 2yo '19
FTMMAY. **VIDEO (SC 7)**



IN PERU:

Dwarka, f, 3, **Morning Line**--Striking Success, by Smart Strike.
Monterrico, 2-13, Maiden, 1000m. B-Mark Secrest (KY).
*1ST-TIME STARTER. **\$3,500 2yo '21 KEEJAN. **VIDEO (SC 3)**



Saturday's Results:

11th-Hanshin, Rakuyo S.-Listed, ¥48,130,000 (\$416,548),
4yo/up, 1600mT, 1:31.9, gd/fm.

AIR FANDITHA (h, 5, Hat Trick {Jpn})--Nokaze, by Empire Maker
registered his first black-type success in dramatic fashion in a
swiftly run renewal of the Rakuyo S. Outrun and settled behind
midfield early on, Air Fanditha raced in heavy traffic on the turn
and remained locked away as they turned for home. Remaining
inside, full of run, into the final 200 meters, the 18-5 second
betting choice was angled out into the clear and stormed home
to just peg back Godolphin's Darlington Hall (GB) (New
Approach {Ire}). Air Fanditha is a half-brother to connections' Air
Almas (Majestic Warrior), GSW-Jpn,\$1,693,063, and was
winning the Rakuyo S. one race after his half-brother Air Sage
(Point of Entry) finished a close third in a hot allowance over
2000 meters. Nokaze, whose stakes-winning half-sister Yuzuru
(Medaglia d'Oro) is the dam of GSP Yuugiri (Shackleford), is also
responsible for debut winner Air Anemoui (Point of Entry), a
2-year-old Goldencents colt and most recently visited **Gun
Runner**. Lifetime Record: 14-5-3-0, \$799,605. **VIDEO (SC 6)**
O-Lucky Field Inc; B-Sekie & Tsunebumi Yoshihara (KY);
T-Manabu Ikezoe.

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6th-Hanshin, ¥14,250,000 (\$123,295), Allowance, 3yo, 1400m, 1:24.8, ft.

CONCH PEARL (f, 3, American Pharoah--A Z Warrior {GISW, \$286,906}, by Bernardini) set a Kokura course record when graduating in her first dirt appearance at start three last September and was the 33-10 third choice to snap a three-race skid here. Drawn widest in a field of 16, the \$340,000 Keeneland September graduate broke very alertly and managed to cross down onto the rail by the end of the opening quarter-mile. Traveling on a loose rein around the turn, the chestnut was put to a Yuichi Fukunaga drive a furlong from home and stayed on to take it by a length. Conch Pearl is a half-sister to Cole Porter (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), SP-Sin, \$215,874; and Key To My Heart (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), SW-Ire. A Z Warrior is one of four **'TDN Rising Stars'** out of Carson Jen (Carson City), joining MGSW Jojo Warrior (Pioneerof the Nile), MSW & GSP J Z Warrior (Harlan's Holiday) and GSW & GISP E Z Warrior (Exploit). A Z Warrior is the dam of the 2-year-old filly Justa Warrior (**Justify**), a yearling colt by the Triple Crown winner and is due to **Uncle Mo** this season. Sales history: \$340,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-2, \$167,304. **VIDEO (SC 16)** O-Kodai Maeda; B-Triemore Stud (KY); T-Kazuya Nakatake.

2nd-Hanshin, ¥9,900,000 (\$85,659), Maiden, 3yo, 1200m, 1:14.5, ft.

MASCHIETTA (f, 3, Into Mischief--Star Billing {GISW, \$415,067}, by Dynaformer) was fractionally disappointing when favored in her first two trips to the post, but atoned for the in-form Yuichi Fukunaga at third asking. Soon in front, the \$180,000 KEESEP acquisition showed the way at a modest pace, was asked to quicken off the final corner and had 1 1/2-lengths on her rivals at the wire. The 16th winner from 18 Japanese starters for her all-conquering sire, Maschietta is out of a winner of the GI Matriarch S. whose half-sister Screen Goddess (Giant's Causeway) is the dam of American Face (**Tapit**), second in listed company at Saga on the NAR circuit Feb. 8. Star Billing, purchased by Mt. Brilliant for \$2.6 million in foal to Giant's Causeway at KEENOV in 2013, is also the dam of an **Uncle Mo** filly that fetched \$350,000 at KEESEP last fall and a yearling full-sister to Maschietta. Sales history: \$180,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$77,391. O-Kanayama Holdings; B-Mt Brilliant Broodmares LLC (KY); T-Kenji Nonaka.



Monday Cancellations
PARX



IN AUSTRALIA:

More Than Exceed (NZ), g, 6, More Than Ready--Exceedingly Regal (Aus) (SP-Aus), by Exceed and Excel (Aus). Hobart, 2-13, Thomas Lyons S.-Listed, 1400mT, 1:24.79. B-Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd. *1ST STAKES WIN. **A\$260,000 Ylg '17 MMGCYS.



ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Fair Grounds, \$49,000, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$80,000), 2-14, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:47.33, fm, head.

CASH LOGISTICS (g, 5, Unbridled Express--Trip to the Stars, by Trippi) Lifetime Record: MSP, 17-8-3-2, \$385,548. O-James B. & Charlie A. Hancock; B-Charlie A. Hancock (IN); T-Genevieve Londono.

7th-Mahoning Valley, \$40,900, (S), 2-14, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.99, ft, nose.

GOLDEN MONEY (g, 5, Goldcents--Music Thunder, by Distorted Humor) Lifetime Record: SP, 31-6-5-9, \$202,309. O-Edwin Mundo; B-Peter Shepell & K. C. Garret Farm (OH); T-Nestor Rivera. *\$11,000 Ylg '18 FTKOCT; \$16,000 2yo '19 OBSOPN.

4th-Turf Paradise, \$35,700, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000-\$50,000), 2-14, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09.22, ft, nose.

RAMBLIN' MAN (g, 7, Uh Oh Bango--Double Punch, by Two Punch) Lifetime Record: 23-6-4-7, \$115,709. O/B-Kevin R. Owens (AZ); T-R. Kory Owens. *1/2 to Two the Punch (Top Hit), SP, \$185,679; and Rocked Twice (Rocky Bar), SP, \$189,185.

5th-Mahoning Valley, \$33,700, (S), 2-14, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12.78, ft, 2 1/4 lengths.

DUKE OF DARKNESS (g, 4, Northern Afleet--Dark Darling {SP}, by Ready's Image) Lifetime Record: 10-2-4-2, \$63,416. O-Dare To Dream Stable LLC (Michael Faber); B-John Rankin (OH); T-Danny Werre.

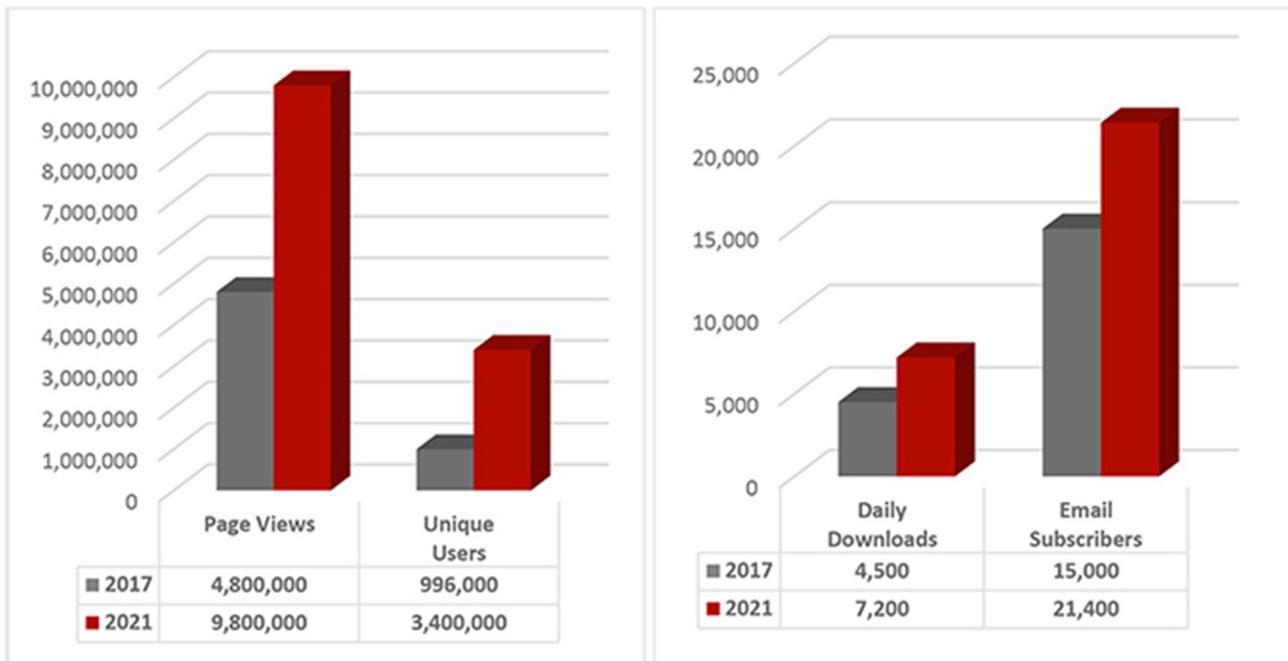
TWICE THE TRAFFIC, FOUR TIMES THE READERS

FOUR-YEAR TRENDS AT THE TDN

Recently, we were looking at some four-year trends at the TDN and the news was so good we wanted to share it with you.

The past four years have been turbulent ones, in the world and in the market, and so it was interesting to see just how strong our reader support has been.

2017 and 2021 TDN Users Comparison



When comparing our figures to those from **2017**, here's what we found:

Annual pageviews have *more than doubled*.

2017: 4.8 million

2021: 9.8 million

Annual unique users have *quadrupled*.

2017: 996,000

2021: 3.4 million

Daily downloads are *up 60 percent*.

2017: 4,500

2021: 7,200

Email subscribers are the *highest in the industry*.

2017: 15,000

2021: 21,400

On top of all that, we are showing **4 million** video streams a year, with features on your farms and stallions, podcasts, and interviews. And already, the **January, 2022** traffic to the site is *double* what it was in **January, 2021**.

Of course, we couldn't do any of it without our daily readers and advertisers, so wanted to both bring you the good news, and to say

THANK YOU for your steadfast support of the TDN.

Sincerely,
TeamTDN 

8th-Mahoning Valley, \$33,700, (S), 2-14, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:13.45, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

DYNAMIC REACH (g, 4, Dynamite Bob--Reachforthecastle {SW, \$144,211}, by Castle Gandolfo) Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-1, \$45,040. O-Steve Platt; B-Susan Miller & Bobby Rankin Estate (OH); T-Rodney C. Faulkner. *1/2 to Riding in the Wind (Tiz Wonderful), SP, \$282,965.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Brody's Jessica, f, 3, Brody's Cause--Blazing Bella, by Yonaguska. Mahoning Valley, 2-14, 6f, 1:12.69. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$19,440. B-Moss Lake Farm (KY). *\$3,700 RNA Ylg '20 FTKOCT.

Indelible Image, f, 4, Ready's Image--Music Miss, by Prospector's Music. Mahoning Valley, 2-14, (S), 6f, 1:14.90. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-0, \$40,149. B-Nancy J Lavrich (OH). *Full to Rivers Run Deep, MSW, \$1,187,945.

Doggy Dreams, m, 5, Acclamation--Mesaatmimiscafe, by Sky Mesa. Golden Gate Fields, 2-13, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.75. Lifetime Record: 6-1-3-0, \$48,030. B-Old English Rancho (CA). *\$6,000 Ylg '18 BARJAN; \$15,000 Ylg '18 BARSEL.

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

sponsored by

Acclamation, Doggy Dreams, m, 5, o/o Mesaatmimiscafe, by Sky Mesa. MSW, 2-13, Golden Gate

Brody's Cause, Brody's Jessica, f, 3, o/o Blazing Bella, by Yonaguska. MSW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Dynamite Bob, Dynamic Reach, g, 4, o/o Reachforthecastle, by Castle Gandolfo. ALW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Goldencents, Golden Money, g, 5, o/o Music Thunder, by Distorted Humor. ALW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Northern Afleet, Duke of Darkness, g, 4, o/o Dark Darling, by Ready's Image. ALW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Ready's Image, Indelible Image, f, 4, o/o Music Miss, by Prospector's Music. MSW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Uh Oh Bango, Ramblin' Man, g, 7, o/o Double Punch, by Two Punch. AOC, 2-14, Turf Paradise

Unbridled Express, Cash Logistics, g, 5, o/o Trip to the Stars, by Trippi. AOC, 2-14, Fair Grounds

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WINTER SALE ACTION SWITCHES TO DEAUVILLE



The curtain rises on the February Sale in Deauville on Tuesday
Zuzanna Lupa

Following positive starts to the sales year in Britain and Ireland, this week the midwinter auction action switches to France for the two-day Arqana February Sale, which starts on Tuesday in Deauville.

Trade begins with a session of 85 horses-in-training, both Flat and Jumps, and then progresses to yearlings and 2-year-olds, followed by breeding stock.

A rare opportunity in this part of the world to buy a daughter of Deep Impact (Jpn)'s promising young son Kizuna (Jpn) is presented as **lot 164**, from the draft of Wertheimer et Frere. Named **Anacronique (Ire)**, the unraced 4-year-old filly is out of the G2 Prix Daniel Wildenstein and G2 Prix de Sandringham winner Impassible (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), herself a half-sister to the group winners Spotify (Fr) (Rediute's Choice {Aus}) and Attendu (Fr) (Acclamation {GB}). Another sibling, the mare's listed-winning full-sister Foreign Tune (Ire), is the dam of G3 Prix La Force winner Adhamo (Fr) (Intello {Ger}).

Haras de Bouquetot is offering the young Olympic Glory (Ire) mare **Helcia (Ire)** in foal to Mehmas (Ire) as **lot 231**. A winning juvenile, Helcia is a daughter of the highly credentialed Mizdirection (Mizzen Mast), who won back-to-back runnings of the GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint.

Cont. p2

SNOW LANTERN RETIRED; TO VISIT DUBAWI

By Kelsey Riley

The Keswick Family's homebred G1 Falmouth S. winner **Snow Lantern (GB)** (**Frankel {GB}**) has been retired from racing and will be covered by Dubawi (Ire) this season.

Trained by Richard Hannon, as was her Classic-winning dam **Sky Lantern (Ire)** (Red Clubs {Ire}), Snow Lantern was second in her lone start at two. With Hannon making no secret of the level at which he regarded the filly, Snow Lantern won on seasonal debut at Newbury last April, earning 'TDN Rising Star' status. After finishing third as the favourite in the Listed Michael Seely Memorial S. at York, Snow Lantern was second to Alcohol Free (Ire) (**No Nay Never**) in the G1 Coronation S. at Royal Ascot before getting her Group 1 in the Falmouth over G1 1000 Guineas winner Mother Earth (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}), Alcohol Free and Lady Bowthorpe (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}).

Cont. p3

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

EMPIRE STRIKES BACK WITH MORELLO

Chris McGrath investigates the pedigree of Jimmy Winkfield S. winner **Morello** (Classic Empire). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

FEBRUARY MIXED SALE

15 - 16 FEBRUARY
DEAUVILLE



I CATALOGUE ONLINE

Arqana February Mixed Sale Preview Cont. from p1

From the same draft comes **lot 283**, the 8-year-old dual winner **Middle East (Ire)**, a **Frankel (GB)** three-quarter-sister to the dual Group 3 winner and Group 1 runner-up **Nayef Road (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) who was covered on May 27 by **Ectot (Ire)**. The mare also has a 2-year-old filly by **Le Havre (Ire)** and a yearling colt by **Shalaa (Ire)**.

Among the National Hunt mares, the only one catalogued in foal to Haras du Mesnil's popular stallion **Doctor Dino (Fr)** is the well-related **Crystal Reef (GB) (lot 411)**, a King's Best half-sister to **Martaline (GB)**, **Reefscape (GB)** and **Coastal Path (GB)**, all of whom have made an impact as National Hunt sires. Now 17, the mare's five winners in both codes include the G2 Prix Chaudenay winner **Doha Dream (GB)** (**Shamardal**) and **Matfog**

(Fr) (**Style Vendome (Fr)**), whose six victories include the G2 Grand Steeple-Chase de Compiègne.

Of the 70 yearlings standing their ground for the sale, there is one youngster by last year's champion first-season sire in

France, **Zarak (Fr)**. Catalogued as **lot 364** and already named **Zinayak (Fr)**, the colt from Haras de Precolette is a son of the winning **Anabaa Blue (Fr)** mare **Zina Blue (Fr)**, who is a half-sister to the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud winner **Morandi (Fr)** (**Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}**).

A member of **Wootton Bassett's** final French-conceived crop is offered as **lot 148** by Haras de la Haie Neuve and is a half-sister to the G2 Prix Greffulhe winner and Arc fourth **Gold Trip (Fr)** (**Outstrip**

{GB}), who is now in training in Australia with **Ciaron Maher** and **David Eustace**. **Cont. p3**



The two-day sale features a variety of bloodstock | *Zuzanna Lupa*

New Successes

for the Al Shaqab Stallions

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41% wnrs/rnrs & already
7 successes in 2022,
inc. 4 debut winners amongst which
JORDANELLA who remained undefeated
at Chantilly 🇫🇷 this weekend & **SHMALIYAH**
impressive 3L winner at Toulouse 🇫🇷

ZELZAL

New first crop Stakes success
with **OURAIKA** becoming
his 1st Graded Stakes winner landing
the Sweet Life Stakes **G3**
at Santa Anita 🇺🇸

AL WUKAIR

43% wnrs/rnrs
& one more first crop winner this
weekend with **INISHNEE** breaking
her maiden at Chantilly 🇫🇷

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Senior Vice President

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

International Editor

Kelsey Riley
 Twitter: @kelseynrileyTDN
 kelseyriley@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry
 Twitter: @collingsberry
 emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson
 Twitter: @HLAndersonTDN

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen
 Twitter: @AlaynaCullen
 alaynacullen@thetdn.com

Contributing Editors

Alan Carasso
 Christina Bossinakis

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin
 Tom Frary
 caferacing@thetdn.com

Irish Correspondent

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Arqana February Mixed Sale Preview Cont.

In addition to the 435 lots originally catalogued, the sale has been boosted by a wildcard and 27 supplementary entries, including **lot 446**, the Monsun (Ger) mare **Alexandrina (Ger)** from the family of Melbourne Cup winner Almandin (Ger) (Monsun {Ger}). The 16-year-old, who is the dam of the G2 Prix de Pomone runner-up Mango Tango (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), is offered carrying a foal from the first crop of Siyouni's son **Sottsass (Fr)**.

The sale gets underway each day at 11 a.m. local time.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Snow Lantern Retired Cont. from p1

Snow Lantern was third behind Alcohol Free and the G1 2000 Guineas and G1 St James's Palace S. winner Poetic Flare (Ire) (**Dawn Approach {Ire}**) in the G1 Sussex S. and fourth in ParisLongchamp's G1 Prix du Moulin, and disappointed when last in the G1 Sun Chariot S. in October.

Snow Lantern's resulting foal will be bred on the reverse of the **Frankel** over Dubawi cross that has produced three stakes winners from 29 named foals, including last year's G1 Derby winner Adayar (GB) and Godolphin's G1 Jebel Hatta scorer Dream Castle (GB).

The Keswicks' advisor Ed Sackville said, "We felt that Snow Lantern has done her job." [Cont. p4](#)



Snow Lantern won the 2021 Falmouth S. | [Racingfotos.com](#)

IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

SNITZEL ENJOYING ANOTHER STELLAR SEASON

Snitzel's stakes winners already number 13 this season. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)



Pepita, who won at the listed level, is carrying to Kingman and will visit him again in 2022 | [Racingphotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

Snow Lantern Cont.

He added, “She’s a Group 1 winner and we’re aware that Dubawi isn’t getting any younger and we’re very keen to send her to Dubawi. It’s kind of a no-brainer because the Derby winner was by Frankel out of a Dubawi mare. Physically, she’ll suit Dubawi; she’s a mare with plenty of size and scope.”

Sky Lantern was selected by Sackville for the Keswicks for €75,000 from Goffs Orby in 2011. She won the G1 Moyglare Stud S. at two and the G1 1000 Guineas, G1 Coronation S. and G1 Sun Chariot S. at three. Sky Lantern’s first three foals are winners, headed by Snow Lantern. Her 3-year-old colt First Emperor (GB) (Galileo {Ire}) is unraced but is in training with Donnacha O’Brien, while her 2-year-old Kingman (GB) colt who sold to Oliver St Lawrence on behalf of Bahraini clients for 625,000gns at Tattersalls October Book 1 is with John and Thady Gosden. Sky Lantern has a yearling colt by Kingman, is currently in foal to Frankel and will visit Snow Lantern’s sire again this season.

Sackville said the Keswicks are focused on quality in building their commercial operation.

“The Keswick family have studied the business models of commercially successful studs and are seeking to replicate that with the emphasis on quality,” he said. “Keeping the fillies and selling the colts is the most recognizable way to achieve this.”

Sky Lantern isn’t the only member of the Keswicks’ boutique broodmare band at Rockcliffe Stud who will visit Frankel this season; she will be joined by Canton Queen (Ire) (Shamardal), a winning granddaughter of the champion filly Queen’s Logic (Ire) (Grand Lodge) from the deep family of Classic winners Dylan Thomas (Ire), Homecoming Queen (Ire) and Serpentine (Ire).

Canton Queen, like Sky Lantern, is currently in foal to Frankel. The listed-winning and group-placed Pepita (Ire) (Sir Prancealot {Ire}) is in foal to Kingman (GB) and set to visit him again, while the group-placed Black Cherry (GB) (Mount Nelson {GB}) and her listed-placed daughter Little Rollright (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}) are headed to Ireland to visit Dark Angel (Ire) and Kodiak (GB), respectively. Black Cherry is currently in foal to Night Of Thunder (Ire), while it will be the first mating for Little Rollright.

Also headed to Ireland for Coolmore sires are Marsh Hawk (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), dam of the winning and listed-placed Mohawk King (Ire) (Siyouni {Fr}); and the three-time winning Tai Hang Dragon (Ire) (Tamayuz {GB}). Marsh Hawk is in foal to Wootton Bassett (GB) and will visit No Nay Never, while Tai Hang Dragon is the reverse: she is currently in foal to No Nay Never and will visit Wootton Bassett.

The winning Pivotal (GB) mare Raincall (GB), a daughter of Australian Group 1 winner Lone Rock (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) from a deep Group 1 family Down Under, is in foal to Mehmas (Ire) and visits Ardad (Ire) in 2022.

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DUNNE APPEAL TO BE HEARD ON MAR. 30

Jockey Robbie Dunne’s appeal will be heard on Mar. 30. The appeal is against the findings of and penalty imposed by the independent Disciplinary Panel of the British Horseracing Authority after a hearing last year regarding Dunne’s conduct toward fellow rider Bryony Frost. An 18-month suspension was handed down with three months suspended by the BHA Disciplinary Panel in December. [Cont. p5](#)

This outstanding colt, pictured at 7 days old, is one of the first foals by World Champion 3YO **SOTTASS**. He is out of **We Are Ninety**, a Stakes winner from the family of Gr.1 winners **Listen**, **Sequoyah** & **Henrythenavigator**.



COOLMORE



Robbie Dunne | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

LORD NORTH SWITCHED TO WINTER DERBY ENGAGEMENT

Group 1 winner **Lord North (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) will not race next in the **Neom Cup** on Saturday, Feb. 26 as planned, and instead will point to G3 Winter Derby at Lingfield. The G1 Prince Of Wales's S. hero was last seen winning the G1 Dubai Turf by three lengths at Meydan last March. The news was first reported by *Racing Post*.

Co-trainer John Gosden, "Lord North is fine but he has been off for so long we didn't think sending him all the way to Saudi for his first run in nearly a year was the way forward. The plan is to send **Harrovian (GB)** (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}) in his place for the Neom Cup and hopefully Lord North can then head for the Winter Derby."

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Dunne Appeal Hearing Cont.

The full written reasons can be found [here](#).

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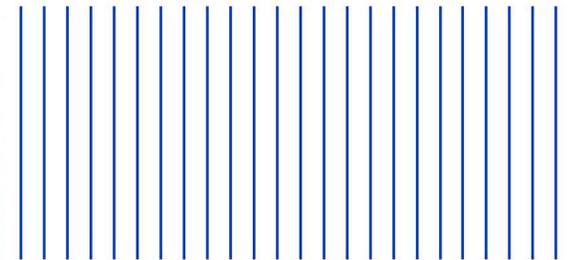
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The best by the best:
Dubawi's Horse of the Year
GHAIIYYATH, the world's
outstanding racehorse of 2020.



Breeding the future

Darley

BRITAIN

Monday's Result:

5th-Wolverhampton, £7,300, Novice, 2-14, 3yo/up, f/m, 9f 105y (AWT), 2:02.40, st.

WILLOW COVE (GB) (f, 3, Sea the Stars {Ire}--Devonshire {Ire} {Hwt. Older Mare-Ire at 7-9 1/2f, GSW & G1SP-Ire, \$226,520}, by Fast Company {Ire}), a 6-1 chance on this debut, raced in mid-division against the rail early. Three lengths adrift of Show Lights (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) at the top of the straight, the homebred finished strongly to overwhelm that stablemate with half a furlong remaining and register a highly promising 3/4-of-a-length success. Willow Cove is the second foal and first winner for the talented dam, who took the G2 Ridgewood Pearl S. and was third in the G1 Irish 1000 Guineas. A half-sister to the Listed Rosebery S. winner Hurryupharriet (Ire) (Camacho {GB}), who is in turn the dam of the Listed Kachy S. scorer Exalted Angel (Fr) (Dark Angel {Ire}), she hails from the family of last year's G1 Nunthorpe S. heroine Winter Power (Ire) (Bungle Inthejungle {GB}). Next up from Devonshire is a 2-year-old filly by Dubawi (Ire), while she also has a yearling colt by Blue Point (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,343. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Godolphin (GB); T-Charlie Appleby.

FRANCE

Monday's Result:

4th-Toulouse, €16,000, Debutantes, 2-14, 3yo, 10fT, 2:15.90, vs.

SHMALIYAH (FR) (f, 3, Ectot {GB}--Vicieuse {Fr}, by Planteur {Ire}), sent off at 10-1, raced in the box seat throughout the early stages. Receiving an ideal opening turning for home, the homebred grabbed the lead approaching the furlong pole and stayed on to record a three-length success from Mardash (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}). The winner is the first foal out of an unraced granddaughter of the G2 Diadem S. scorer Nice One Clare (Ire) (Mukaddamah), whose 2-year-old colt is by Toronado (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €8,000. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Khalifa Mohammed Al Attiyah (FR); T-Didier Guillemin.

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BATED BREATH

A strong hand in 2022

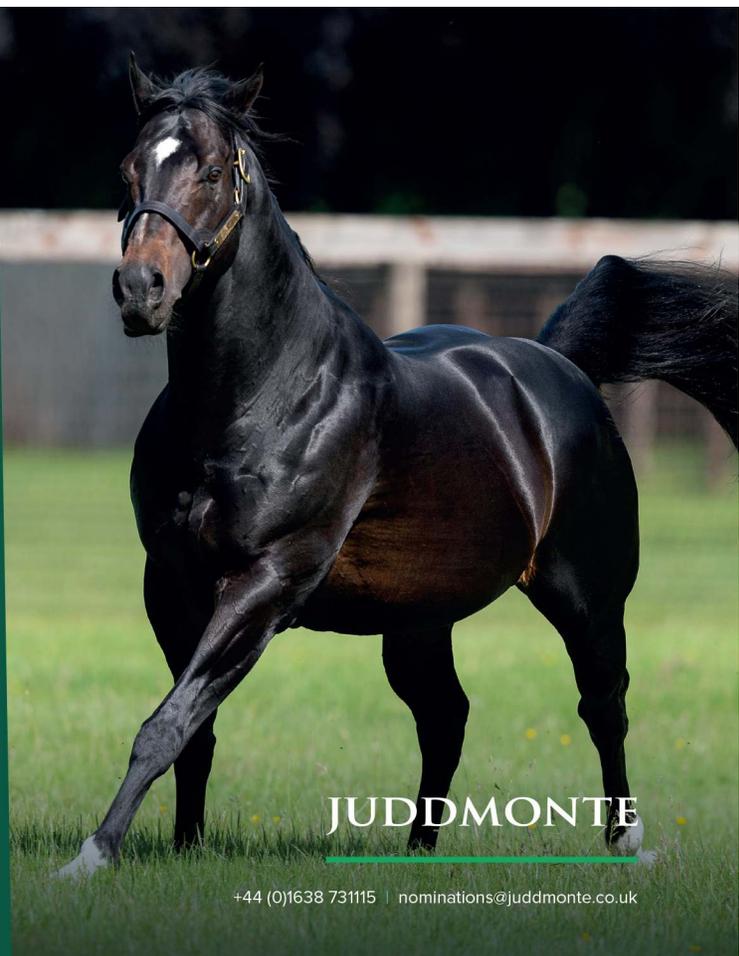


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Joe Foley, Bloodstock advisor to Clipper Logistics



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IN JAPAN:

Satono Giverny (Fr), h, 5, **Siyouni (Fr)**--Bal de La Rose (Ire) (GSW-Fr, \$130,289), by Cadeaux Genereux (GB). Kokura, 2-12, Hobashirayama Tokubetsu, 6fT. Lifetime Record: 21-3-4-2, \$416,870. O-Satomi Horse Company; B-Mr. Berend Van Dalfsen (Fr); T-Hidetaka Otonashi. *€220,000 Ylg '18 ARQAug. **1/2 to Blossomtime (GB) (Shamardal), SW-Fr; and Danceteria (Fr) (Redoute's Choice {Fr}), Hwt. Older Horse-Ger at 9 1/2-11f, GSP-Eng, G1SW-Ger, GSW-Fr, \$338,741.

DUBAI

Monday's Result:

HH THE PRESIDENT CUP-Listed, AED380,000, Abu Dhabi, 2-14, NH 4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 1400mT, 1:22.84, gd.

1--**HAQEEQY (IRE)**, 128, g, 5, **Lope de Vega (Ire)**

1st Dam: **Legal Lyric (Ire)**, by **Lawman (Fr)**

2nd Dam: **Flaming Song (Ire)**, by **Darshaan (GB)**

3rd Dam: **Pale Blue (GB)**, by **Kris (GB)**

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. (€28,000 Ylg '18 TATSEP; €175,000 HRA '19 TATMAY). O-Shadwell. B-John O'Connor (Ire). T-John Hyde. J-D O'Neill. AED228,000. Lifetime Record: 10-5-0-0, \$168,798.

2--**Spirit of Light (Ire)**, 128, g, 5, Dark Angel (Ire)--Inspiriter (GB), by Invincible Spirit (Ire). O-Sayed Hashish. B-Godolphin (Ire). T-Erwan Charpy. AED76,000.

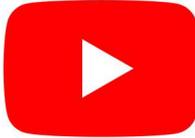
3--**Ajwad (GB)**, 128, h, 9, **Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)**--Afrodita (Ire), by Montjeu (Ire). **1ST BLACK-TYPE.** £26,000 Ylg '14 DNPAUG. O-Bouresly Racing Syndicate. B-Litex Commerce (GB). T-Rashed Bouresly. AED38,000.

Margins: 4, 1 3/4, 1.

Also Ran: Thunder Of Niagara (Ire), Turjomaan, Hawa Bilady, On The Warpath (GB), Rodaini, Boerhan (GB), Ekhtiyyar (GB), Vasari, Buffer Zone (GB), Jumaira Bay (Fr), Hakeem (GB), Partenit (Fr), Zamaani (Ire). Scratched: Good Fortune (GB).

VIDEO.

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SNITZEL ENJOYING ANOTHER STELLAR SEASON



Snitzel has 13 Australian stakes winners this season | Bronwen Healy

by Bren O'Brien

Snitzel's remarkably consistent accumulation of black-type sire successes has him on track to be crowned the leading producer of Australian stakes winners for the fifth season. The Arrowfield Stud sire also remains an outside chance of breaking the seasonal record of his great rival **I Am Invincible**.

With Lofty Strike's impressive victory in the G3 Blue Diamond Prelude (Colts and Geldings) on Saturday, Snitzel now has 13 Australian stakes winners for the season (14 inc New Zealand), putting him two stakes winners clear of I Am Invincible in the battle to be crowned Australia's top stakes producer of 2021/22.

With stakes racing building up towards its autumn peak, the past few weeks have been particularly successful for Snitzel progeny with four individual stakes winners since Jan. 29.

That Australian tally of 13 stakes winners is the equal second-biggest haul ever for Snitzel to this point of a season and puts him in with a chance of matching his own seasonal best tally of 26 Australian black-type winners by July 31.

The first time he achieved that total of 26 was 2016/17, and to Feb. 14 of that campaign, he had accumulated the exact same amount of stakes winners, 13. The following season, 2017/18, he set up his feat to equal that record by siring an incredible 20 seasonal stakes winners by Feb. 14, 2018.

The mark of 26 had only previously been matched by his own

grandsire Danehill (USA), who did it in 2001/02. In that season, Danehill has compiled 17 stakes winners by February 14, adding another nine over the back end of the season.

In 2018/19, I Am Invincible would make the record all his own, siring 28 Australian stakes winners to supplant Snitzel and Danehill on top of the pile. That success was set-up by a monster first half of the season, where Vinnie had 22 stakes winners by February 14, adding another six in the final five and a half months.

The nature of the stakes winner metric obviously makes it harder for sires to add to it later in the season as it relies on new horses elevating to black-type success.

So it may seem unlikely that Snitzel will find another 16 stakes winners this campaign, but it is not beyond the realms of possibility. He has another 10 of his progeny who have been stakes-placed in Australia this season.

Even if he can get to 20, it would enable him to create history as just the second stallion ever to sire 20 or more Australian stakes winners in a season on three separate occasions.

Where Are They Coming From?

Snitzel's very strong first half of the season has been driven by his emerging 3-year-olds. He has had seven individual 3-year-old Australian stakes winners in 2021/22, a list led by Group 1-winning pair In The Congo and Yearning.

Looking back across his career, it is the second highest amount of 3-year-old stakes winners he has ever had to this point of the season, only behind 2017/18, when he had 10 to this point.



Yearning and John Allen | Bronwen Healy

In his best seasons, Snitzel's top 3-year-olds have often been to the fore. When he first won the overall Champion Sire title in 2016/17, he had four more (nine) 3-year-old seasonal stakes winners than any other sire, while it was similar differential the following season when he had 12 3-year-old stakes winners.

The current batch of 3-year-olds were conceived in 2017, a year where, off the back of his emergence as Australia's leading sire, his fee jumped from \$110,000 (inc GST) to \$176,000 (inc GST). That was also the last year he served over 200 mares.

As well as In The Congo and Yearning, there is the Group 2 winner Four Moves Ahead and stakes winners Bruckner, Mr Mozart and Bend The Knee. Remarque, Royalzel and Star Waltz all look stakes-winners-in-waiting along with a host of others.

With a crop big of quantity and quality, it is little wonder the 3-year-old successes have flowed this season. Snitzel is also the leading 3-year-old sire in terms of winners produced, with 38 (from 87 runners), six more than Capitalist (32 from 103) and seven more than I Am Invincible (31 from 94).

I Am Invincible is the leading 3-year-old sire on progeny earnings, some \$460,000 clear of Snitzel.

The autumn also gives these top sires a chance to rack up the 2-year-old winners. Snitzel has five of those already, including the recent stakes winners Lofty Strike and Best Of Bordeaux, who are both high up in the markets for the Group 1 juvenile features.

He also has three of his current 2-year-olds place at stakes level in Snitcat, Satin Love and Calgary Stampede. Sandpaper, second in the Pierro Plate on Saturday, also looks a big chance to make his mark at stakes level, while Stroll and Williamsburg also look promising.

The season sets up well for the stakes success to continue to flow for Snitzel, whose legacy also seems well-poised through his sire sons. Shamus Award has had a brilliant season and sits fourth in the General Sires' table just below his sire.

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Mumbai Rock Produces The Goods

Profondo Back On Track At Trials

Another Winner For Flying Artie

Astern's Alenia Wins At Scone



Saturday also saw Snitzel's son Russian Revolution secure his first stakes winner with Revolutionary Miss and the Newgate resident is leading the First Season Sires' standings.

AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2022		
Date	Race	Track
Feb. 19	G1 Black Caviar Lightning S.	Flemington
Feb. 26	G1 Neds Blue Diamond S.	Caulfield
	G1 Neds Oakleigh Plate	Caulfield
	G1 Futurity S.	Caulfield
	G1 TAB Chipping Norton S.	Randwick
Mar. 5	G1 Surround S.	Randwick
	G1 Kennedy Australian Guineas	Flemington
	G1 Randwick Guineas	Randwick
Mar. 12	G1 Canterbury S.	Randwick
	G1 Newmarket H.	Flemington
	G1 TAB Australian Cup	Flemington
Mar. 19	G1 Coolmore Classic	Randwick
	G1 Longines Golden Slipper S.	Rosehill
	G1 George Ryder S.	Rosehill
	G1 Ranvet S.	Rosehill
	G1 The Galaxy	Rosehill
	G1 Rosehill Guineas	Rosehill